

## DRAFT FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

**Date:** September 30, 2020

**To:** All Interested Government Agencies, Public Groups, and Individuals

**Subject:** Environmental determination for the Carlin Bay Property Owners' Association drinking water improvements project

In accordance with the State Environmental Review Process (SERP), "Rules for Administration of Planning Grants for Drinking Water Facilities" (IDAPA 58.01.22), and "Rules for Administration of Drinking Water Loan Program" (IDAPA 58.01.20, an environmental review has been performed and a draft finding of no significant impact (FONSI) is hereby issued by the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ).

Project:	Carlin Bay Property Owners' Association Drinking Water Improvements Project
Location:	City of Carlin Bay, Kootenai County, Idaho
DEQ Grant Number:	DWG-206-2020-2
DEQ Grant Costs:	\$38,750
DEQ Loan Number:	DW2006
Total Loan Project Cost:	\$2,500,000

### PURPOSE/SUMMARY OF IMPACTS:

**Purpose of Project:** The purpose of the proposed project is to address deficiencies in drinking water distribution and storage.

**Description of the Project:** The proposed project involves:

- Upsizing source treatment, adding open bay rapid sand filtration near existing lot, with backwash to sewer system;
- Upsizing lake intake pump location, and addition of shore-based pump location;
- Adding system bypass Pressure Reducing Valves;
- Repairing existing storage facilities;
- Replacing and upsizing booster pumps;
- Replacing and upsizing lake transmission main;
- Adding a storage tank to the higher reservoir;
- Replacing and upsizing leaking distribution mains; and
- Addressing system loss through the distribution system.

**Direct and Indirect Impacts:** An environmental information document (EID) was prepared by Welch-Comer Engineering (Welch-Comer), consulting engineer for the Carlin Bay Property Owners' Association (Association). Welch-Comer and DEQ consulted with the appropriate state and federal agencies regarding relevant environmentally sensitive resources. Based on consultation with agency experts, Welch-Comer and DEQ evaluated the potential short-term and long-term impacts, and the direct, indirect, and cumulative impacts of the drinking water project. The evaluation emphasized site-specific components of the environment that are most likely to be impacted by the construction and operation of the proposed improvements. The results of the project evaluation indicate there will be environmental effects from the referenced project as described below.

Short-term impacts may occur during project construction that includes temporary disruption of the distribution system, increased noise, increased dust pollution, increased potential for stormwater runoff, and disruption of localized traffic conditions. The project contractor is responsible for managing the temporary disruptions of the system as follows:

- Air Quality: Temporary dust pollution impacts will be controlled as a condition of the construction specifications in accordance with the "Rules for the Control of Air Pollution in Idaho" (IDAPA 58.01.01.651). IDAPA 58.01.01.651 states that reasonable precautions shall be taken for dust control and suppression by using water or chemicals, applying dust suppressants, covering trucks, paving, and removing materials. In addition to the rule requirements, DEQ recommends that a dust prevention and control plan be implemented during construction of the project that includes best management practices (BMPs) to minimize dust pollution for fugitive dust control.
- Cultural Resources: The State Historical Preservation Office (SHPO) was consulted and as a result archeological monitoring will be utilized to minimize impacts to cultural resources for the known site located near the shoreline. If archeological artifacts (such as beads, arrow heads, pottery, fabric, grave goods, glass, metal fragments, or other human-made objects that appear to predate 1960) or human remains (such as bones, bone fragments, or teeth) are inadvertently discovered during construction, ground disturbing activities shall cease and the State Historical Preservation Officer (SHPO), and the Coeur d'Alene Tribe shall be notified. Mitigation measures will be implemented as directed by SHPO and the tribe, and work will not resume at the discovery site without their consent.
- Stormwater: Stormwater runoff shall be handled through an Environmental Protection Agency Stormwater Construction General permit and the development of a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP). The SWPPP and stormwater BMPs will be implemented prior to, during, and after project construction to reduce the potential for erosion from runoff.
- Floodplains & Wetlands: The Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE) was consulted regarding the wetland locations for this project. With exception of the wastewater pond, it does not appear that there are any wetlands in the project areas. However, water of the U.S. consists of wetlands and other water bodies, which in most cases are under the jurisdiction of the ACOE. Based on the ACOE consultation, the areas (waters of the U.S.) that may be filled will likely be covered under the nationwide permit (NWP) 12. Depending on the location and impact, the Association may be required to submit a pre-construction notification (PCN), which is satisfied through submitting a Joint Application. A Joint Application may also be required, depending on the location and extent of projects within Lake Coeur d'Alene. However, it is

not anticipated that any of the projects will require a PCN, since none of the lines would exceed 500 feet within a water of the U.S. Short-term direct impacts are anticipated for floodplains or wetlands due to potential for sediment to leave the construction site and enter wetlands and floodplains near to the proposed project site. This will be mitigated through the use of BMPs. In addition, submittal of and compliance with a floodplain development permit from Kootenai County may be required for the construction activities. Cumulative impacts are not anticipated.

- **Plants & Wildlife:** Proposed intake work, in Lake Coeur d'Alene, may fall within ACOE Nationwide Permit authorization, and the ACOE has consulted with the United States Fish & Wildlife Service (USFWS) for work authorized under the Nationwide Permits. However, the intake work may generate some sediment disturbance that exceeds the recommended levels. Thus, the Association intends to perform a Biological Assessment as part of the Joint Application project phase. This will detail construction methods and assess the biologic impact of the project. The intent of the methods will be to have no significant impact on the habitat and conduct the work during the proposed window to reduce the likelihood of the presence of Bull Trout in the vicinity. Therefore, short-term impacts to plants and wildlife, Bull Trout in South Fork of Coeur d'Alene River, may occur due to ground disturbance near surface water bodies, but additional BMPs will be utilized during construction, especially in areas in close proximity (40-50 feet) to the River, in order to reduce the likelihood of any impacts. Indirect, long-term, and cumulative impacts are not anticipated.
- Noise impacts from the project construction will be reduced by restricting work hours to reasonable times identified in the construction specifications.
- Implement any other appropriate BMPs, wherever possible, to avoid or minimize impacts from other construction activities.

The following permits will be required for this project:

- Any other local, state, or federal permit required for activities taking place during project construction.

**Beneficial Impacts:** Overall, the completion of the proposed project will have long-term positive effects through increased storage capacity and enhanced water distribution.

**Finding:** The review process did not indicate significant environmental impacts would result from the proposed action. Consequently, a preliminary decision has been made that an environmental impact statement does not need to be prepared for the proposed project. Instead, a FONSI is hereby issued by DEQ. This decision is made following a careful review of the September 2019, *Carlin Bay Property Owner's Association Facility Plan*, and the September 2020, *Carlin Bay Property Owner's Association Water System Improvements Environmental Information Document*, and supporting documentation.

#### **AVAILABILITY OF COPIES:**

The documentation to support this decision is on file and available for review by submitting a public records request, pursuant to Idaho Code § 74-101, et seq. A request may be submitted at

<http://www.deq.idaho.gov/contact-us/public-records-request/online-prr-request-form/> or by contacting the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality's Records Officer, Marcella Mink, at [Marcella.Mink@deq.idaho.gov](mailto:Marcella.Mink@deq.idaho.gov) or (208) 373-0149.

The records may also be available for public review by contacting:

Carlin Bay Property Owners' Association  
13113 S. Ridgeview Lp.  
Harrison, ID 83833  
Contact: David Henderson, President, [president@cbpoa.info](mailto:president@cbpoa.info), (208) 389-9376

The public will be informed about the proposed project and their opportunity for comment through the *Coeur d'Alene Press*, one time in the October 2, 2020 publication.

**Public Comments:** Comments supporting or disagreeing with this decision must be submitted on DEQ's website [www.deq.idaho.gov/public-comment-opportunities](http://www.deq.idaho.gov/public-comment-opportunities) or addressed to the following contact:

LaDonn Kaylor  
Idaho Department of Environmental Quality  
Water Quality Division, Grant and Loan Program  
1410 North Hilton  
Boise, Idaho 83706

All comments must be postmarked or delivered on or before November 1, 2020. After an evaluation of public comment, DEQ will make a final decision. No administrative action will be taken on the project for at least 30 calendar days after publication of the draft FONSI notice.



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Jerri Henry  
Drinking Water Protection & Finance Division Administrator