



FEMA

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

Clark Creek Water Main Relocation Project

City of Longview

Cowlitz County, Washington

FEMA-1671-DR-WA

The City of Longview applied, through the Washington State Emergency Management Division (EMD), to the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for Public Assistance funding to relocate and construct a 350-foot long segment of 10-inch diameter water main outside an active landslide area. The purpose of the Public Assistance program is to award financial grants to assist state and local governments, federally recognized Tribal governments, and certain private nonprofit entities with the response and recovery from disasters.

During a November 2006 rainstorm event, a landslide above the west bank of Clark Creek caused several sections of 10-inch diameter water main to separate and dislodge. Emergency water service was installed to temporarily restore domestic water service to the area residents but fire hydrants at the end of Clark Creek Road remain out of service due to inadequate water pressure. The damaged water main is located in the SE $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 12 and the SW $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 7, in Township 8 North, Range 2 West, Willamette Meridian. The water main alignment traverses unimproved land (parcel WL1204001) beginning near 150 Clark Creek Lane, continuing in an easterly direction over the hillside and crossing under Clark Creek before connecting with an existing water main along Clark Creek Road.

The method of construction includes constructing a trench approximately 3 feet wide and up to 5 feet deep, constructing a temporary bypass of Clark Creek, installing the water main, backfilling the trench, and restoring the creek and upland area. Work will take place during the dry summer season and include erosion and sediment control and other best management practices (BMPs).

In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations implementing NEPA (40 Code of Federal Regulations [CFR] Part 1500 through 1508), and FEMA's implementing regulations (44 CFR 10.9), FEMA prepared a Draft EA to identify and evaluate potential environmental impacts resulting from the alternatives presented in the EA and to determine whether to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) or a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI).

Alternatives evaluated in the EA include: (1) the No Action Alternative, and (2) the Preferred Alternative (or Proposed Action) toward which FEMA would contribute funding. Two other alternatives were considered but not carried forward. After comparing the potential impacts from construction of the various alternatives, Alternative 2 (the Proposed Action) is also the environmentally preferred alternative because significantly less construction would be required compared to the other alternatives, and the active landslide area would be avoided. The Draft EA was available for public comment for 30 days. FEMA did not receive any comment letters on the Draft EA.

CONDITIONS

The proposed project includes numerous Best Management Practices (BMPs) and mitigation measures. In addition, the following conditions apply, and failure to comply with these conditions may jeopardize the receipt of Federal funds:

1. The applicant shall obtain all required local, state, and federal permits and approvals prior to implementing the Proposed Action and comply with any and all conditions imposed.
2. Any change to the approved scope of work will require re-evaluation for compliance with NEPA and other laws and Executive Orders.
3. During ground disturbing activities, the applicant will monitor the ground disturbance, and if any potential archaeological resources are discovered, the applicant will immediately cease construction in the area and notify the State Historic Preservation Office and FEMA.

FINDING

Based upon the PA grant application and Final EA; and in accordance with FEMA's regulations in 44 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 10 for environmental consideration, including Executive Orders (EO) addressing floodplains (EO 11988), wetlands (EO 11990), and environmental justice (EO 12898), FEMA determined the proposed project will not significantly affect the quality of the natural and human environment. As a result of this FONSI, an EIS will not be prepared (44 CFR Part 10.8) and the project as described in the PA grant application and Final EA may proceed.

APPROVALS



Mark G. Eberlein
Regional Environmental Officer
FEMA Region 10

10-11-11

Date