

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

INTEGRATED FEASIBILITY REPORT AND ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT
Continuing Authorities Program
Section 14
Emergency Streambank Protection
Mary Rhodes Pump Station
Bay City, Matagorda County, Texas

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Galveston District (Corps) has conducted an environmental analysis in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended. The final Integrated Feasibility Report and Environmental Assessment (IFR/EA) dated 1 September 2022 for the Mary Rhodes Pump Station addresses Lower Colorado River bank protection works opportunities and feasibility in Bay City, Matagorda County, Texas.

The Final IFR/EA, incorporated herein by reference, evaluated various alternatives that would address streambank erosion in the study area. The recommended plan is the National Economic Development (NED) Plan and includes:

Rebuilding the bank out, bank sloping and toe rip rap (longitudinal fill stone toe protection), approximately 2,630 feet in length. The recommended plan also includes 50-foot riprap tiebacks, three feet in thickness, embedded under the bank's top roughly every 500 feet along the project length.

In addition to a "no action" plan, three alternatives were evaluated. The alternatives included Alternative 1 – No Action; Alternative 5 (the recommended plan) – Rebuild bank + Bank sloping + Toe riprap; Alternative 6 – Rebuild bank + Bank sloping + Slope riprap + Toe riprap; Alternative 9 – Facility Relocation.

For all alternatives, evaluate the potential effects as appropriate. A summary assessment of the possible impacts of the recommended plan is listed in Table 1:

Table 1: Summary of Potential Effects of the Recommended Plan

	Insignificant effects	Insignificant effects as a result of mitigation*	Resource unaffected by the action
Aesthetics	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Air quality	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Aquatic resources/wetlands	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Invasive species	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Fish and wildlife habitat	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Threatened/Endangered species/critical habitat	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Historic properties	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other cultural resources	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Floodplains	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

	Insignificant effects	Insignificant effects as a result of mitigation*	Resource unaffected by the action
Hazardous, toxic & radioactive waste	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Hydrology	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Land use	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Navigation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Noise levels	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Public infrastructure	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Socio-economics	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Environmental justice	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Soils	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Tribal trust resources	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Water quality	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Climate change	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

All practicable and appropriate means to avoid or minimize adverse environmental effects were analyzed and incorporated into the recommended plan. Best management practices (BMPs) as detailed in the IFR/EA will be implemented, if appropriate, to minimize impacts. BMPs and conservation measures included in the project design are utilizing existing accesses and channels to the greatest extent practicable, employing construction BMPs, and utilizing the smallest construction footprint possible. Site visits are recommended during the preconstruction engineering and design phase to confirm the presence or absence of freshwater mussels and cultural resources.

No compensatory mitigation is required as part of the recommended plan.

A public review of the draft IFR/EA and FONSI was completed on 15 September 2022. All comments submitted during the public review period were responded to in the Final IFR/EA and FONSI.

Pursuant to section 7 of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers determined that the recommended plan will not affect federally listed species or their designated critical habitat.

Pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers determined that the recommended plan does not affect historic properties.

A water quality certification pursuant to section 401 of the Clean Water Act was obtained from the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality on 30 September 2022. Shall implement all terms and conditions of the water quality certification to minimize adverse impacts on water quality.

Technical, environmental, economic, and cost effectiveness criteria used in the formulation of alternative plans were those specified in the Water Resources Council's 1983 Economic and Environmental Principles and Guidelines for Water and Related Land Resources Implementation Studies. All applicable laws, executive orders, regulations, and local

government plans were considered in evaluating alternatives. Based on this report, the reviews by other Federal, State, and local agencies, Tribes, the input of the public, and the review by my staff, I determine that the recommended plan would not cause significant adverse effects on the quality of the human environment; therefore, preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement is not required.

Date

Rhett A. Blackmon
Colonel, Corps of Engineers
District Commander