



CITY OF SACRAMENTO

CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE
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DEPARTMENT OF ENGINEERING
915 I STREET SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA 95814
CITY HALL ROOM 207 TELEPHONE (916) 449-5281

R. H. PARKER
CITY ENGINEER
J. F. VAROZZA
ASSISTANT CITY ENGINEER

September 15, 1981

City Council
Sacramento, California

Honorable Members in Session:

SUBJECT: Resolution Approving Negative Declaration for MILLER PARK EROSION CONTROL PLAN

SUMMARY:

The Environmental Coordinator has reviewed the subject project and finds that it will not have a significant adverse effect on the physical environment and therefore recommends that the project and a Negative Declaration be approved by the City Council.

BACKGROUND:

In accordance with State EIR Guidelines for Implementation of the California Environmental Quality Act of 1970, dated December 1976, an Initial Study was performed. As a result of this study, it was determined that the MILLER PARK EROSION CONTROL PLAN would not have a significant adverse effect on the physical environment and a draft Negative Declaration was prepared. On August 31, 1981 the Negative Declaration was filed with the County Clerk. On September 4, 1981 Notice of Opportunity for Public Review of the draft Negative Declaration was published in The Sacramento Union. The appropriate length of time has elapsed for receipt of comments regarding the Negative Declaration, with no comments having been received.

RECOMMENDATION:

The Environmental Coordinator recommends that the attached resolution be passed which will:

1. Determine that the proposed project will not have a significant effect on the environment.
2. Approve the Negative Declaration.
3. Approve the project.

APPROVED
BY THE CITY COUNCIL

SEP 23 1981

OFFICE OF THE
CITY CLERK

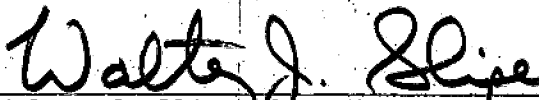
4. Authorize the Environmental Coordinator to file a Notice of Determination with the County Clerk.

Respectfully submitted,



R. H. PARKER
City Engineer

Recommendation Approved:



Walter J. Slipe, City Manager

F/Ref.
C.C. 2218

RHP/hma

att.

September 23, 1981
District No. 1

RESOLUTION NO. 81-687

ADOPTED BY THE SACRAMENTO CITY COUNCIL ON DATE OF

September 23, 1981

RESOLUTION APPROVING NEGATIVE DECLARATION FOR MILLER PARK EROSION CONTROL PLAN

WHEREAS, on August 31, 1981 R. H. Parker, the Environmental Coordinator of the City of Sacramento, filed a Negative Declaration with the County Clerk of Sacramento County for the following proposed City initiated project: MILLER PARK EROSION CONTROL PLAN

WHEREAS, the prescribed time for receiving appeals has elapsed and no appeals were received,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SACRAMENTO:

1. That the proposed project, MILLER PARK EROSION CONTROL PLAN, will not have a significant effect on the environment.
2. That the Negative Declaration for the above-described project is hereby approved.
3. That the above-described project is hereby approved for the construction of 3 to 1 graded slope along 2,000± feet of the east bank of the Sacramento River at Miller Park.
4. That the Environmental Coordinator is authorized to file with the County Clerk a Notice of Determination for said project.

ATTEST:

APPROVED
BY THE CITY COUNCIL

MAYOR

CITY CLERK

SEP 23 1981

OFFICE OF THE
CITY CLERK

NEGATIVE DECLARATION

Pursuant to Division 6, Title 14, Chapter 3, Article 7, Section 15083 of the California Administrative Code and pursuant to the Procedures and Guidelines for preparation and processing of Environmental Impact Reports (Resolution 78-172) adopted by the City of Sacramento, pursuant to Sacramento City Code Chapter 63, the Environmental Coordinator of the City of Sacramento, California, a municipal corporation, does prepare, make, declare, publish, and cause to be filed with the County Clerk of Sacramento County, State of California this Negative Declaration regarding the project described as follows:

1. Title and Short Description of Project:
MILLER PARK EROSION CONTROL PLAN - CONSTRUCTION OF 3 TO 1 GRADED SLOPE ALONG 2,000 ± FEET OF THE EAST BANK OF THE SACRAMENTO RIVER AT MILLER PARK.

2. Location of Project: *MILLER PARK, CITY OF SACRAMENTO. BOUNDED BY THE SACRAMENTO RIVER, BROADWAY AND THE SOUTHERN PACIFIC RAILROAD TRACKS.*

3. The Proponent of the Project: City of Sacramento

4. It is found that the project will not have a significant effect on the environment. A copy of the initial study is attached, which documents the reasons supporting the above finding and any mitigation measures included in the project to avoid any potentially significant effects identified in the initial study.

5. The Initial Study was Prepared by S. STUART WILLIAMS, CH₂M HILL

6. A copy of the Initial Study and this Negative Declaration may be obtained at 915 - I Street, Room 207, Sacramento, California 95814.

APPROVED
BY THE CITY COUNCIL

SEP 23 1981

OFFICE OF THE
CITY CLERK

DATED: *AUGUST 26, 1981*

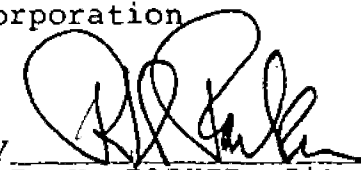
ENDORSED

AUG 31 1981

J.A. SIMPSON, CLERK
By R. WEESHOFF, Deputy

Environmental Coordinator of
the City of Sacramento,
California, a municipal
corporation

By



R. H. PARKER, City Engineer

INITIAL STUDY

MILLER PARK EROSION CONTROL PLAN

CITY OF SACRAMENTO
915 I STREET, ROOM 207
SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA 95814

Prepared By
CH2M HILL
555 Capitol Mall
Sacramento, California 95814



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Section 1 PROJECT DESCRIPTION

PROJECT LOCATION

Miller Park is located in the southwest portion of the City of Sacramento. It is approximately 1,500 feet to the west of the I-80/I-5 junction and is on the east bank of the Sacramento River. The park is bordered by the Sacramento River to the west, north, and south, and by Southern Pacific railroad tracks to the east. It is accessed via Broadway Street. The locks to the Sacramento ship channel are opposite the park on the west bank of the river.

PROJECT CONTEXT

Through the years the river bank of Miller Park has been subject to erosion. This erosion has resulted in the continued loss of trees along the shoreline and the development of near vertical 8- to 10-foot high banks. In an effort to deal with the problem, some concrete rubble has been placed at random shoreline locations. This dumping has been uncontrolled and leaves much of the shoreline unprotected. The shoreline around the marina in the southeast portion of the park has recently been graded and covered with rock riprap and does not appear to be eroding.

CH2M HILL was retained by the City of Sacramento to prepare a Shoreline Erosion Survey Report. This report, dated March 4, 1981, evaluated conditions at the park and recommended measures to minimize the erosion problem. Following review of the Survey Report and its findings, the City engaged CH2M HILL to prepare design drawings for the slope grading alternative and to work with the City in obtaining permits for the construction. This report addresses the potential environmental effects of regrading and dressing the Miller Park shoreline slopes to reduce erosion.

PROJECT PURPOSE AND NEED

Miller Park is a popular central city recreational facility. Park uses include shoreline fishing, soccer, picnicking, boating, and similar activities.

The proposed construction is intended to reduce shoreline erosion along the eastern bank of the river. Without this corrective action, dangerous tree falls and cliff development will continue. Eventually, the park will experience substantial alteration of its current character and facilities.

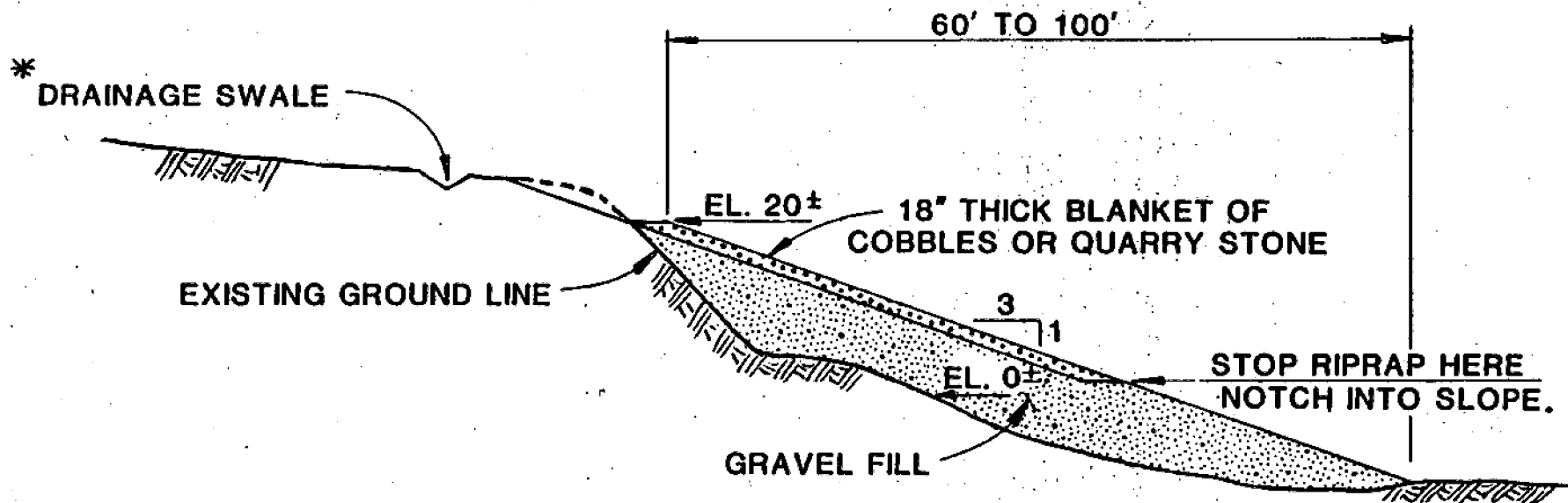
PROJECT FACILITIES

CH2M HILL's engineering evaluation attributes the erosion to three principal causes: (1) wind and boat generated wave erosion, (2) natural sloughing due to fluctuating water levels, and (3) uncontrolled rainfall and irrigation runoff flowing over the unprotected slope. The design for the selected erosion control plan is described below. (See Figure 2.)

The construction will provide a finished slope of three horizontal on one vertical (3:1), with ± 100 -foot long transition sections to conform at each end. Tree and brush clearing will provide access for construction and a uniform slope base. Shoreline tree clearing will be selective, disturbing only diseased trees and those that cannot practicably be protected through the construction. The shoreline grading and filling will avoid many of the larger trees in order to save them for shade and aesthetic purposes.

Cut material from the bank and barged or trucked-in granular material will be used as fill to provide the uniform shoreline slope. All imported fill material shall be bank run gravel such as relatively clean dredge tailings. End dumping will be used for most of the slope fill placement. Based on preliminary cross section profiles, some 20,000 cubic yards of imported granular fill will be used to regrade the slopes.

The finished 3:1 shoreline slopes will be flat enough for future placement of cobble or quarried riprap slope protection. Delaying the riprapping of the graded slopes for at least 1 year following initial grading will be considered.



ROCK SLOPE PROTECTION

* PROVIDE DOWNDRAIN TO PASS WATER FROM SWALE TO RIVER

FIGURE 1



Section II ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST

The following checklist identifies potential impacts of the erosion control facilities proposed at Miller Park. The effects of these potential impacts were determined by site visits by technical staff, discussions with concerned agencies, and review of available literature.

Each impact identified in the checklist as generating potential effects is discussed in further detail in the Impact Analysis, Section III.

INITIAL STUDY
ENVIRONMENTAL SIGNIFICANCE CHECKLIST

	<u>EFFECT?</u>			<u>SIGNIFICANT?</u>		
	<u>YES</u>	<u>MAYBE</u>	<u>NO</u>	<u>YES</u>	<u>MAYBE</u>	<u>NO</u>
I. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS						
1. <u>Earth</u>. Will the proposal result in:						
a. Unstable earth conditions or in changes in geologic substructures?	---	---	X	---	---	---
b. Disruptions, displacements, compaction or overcovering of the soil?	X	---	---	---	X	---
c. Change in topography or ground surface relief features?	X	---	---	---	---	X
d. The destruction, covering or modification of any unique geologic or physical features?	---	---	X	---	---	---
e. Any increase in wind or water erosion of soils either on or off site?	---	X	---	---	---	X
f. Changes in deposition or erosion of beach sands, or changes in siltation, deposition or erosion which may modify the channel or a river or stream or the bed of the ocean or any bay, inlet or lake?	---	X	---	---	---	X
g. Exposure of people or property to geologic hazards such as earthquakes, landslides, mudslides, ground failure, or similar hazards?	---	---	X	---	---	---
2. <u>Air</u>. Will the proposal result in:						
a. Substantial air emissions or deterioration of ambient air quality?	---	---	X	---	---	---
b. The creation of objectionable odors?	---	---	X	---	---	---
c. Alteration of air movement, moisture or temperature, or any change in climate, either locally or regionally?	---	---	X	---	---	---
3. <u>Water</u>. Will the proposal result in:						
a. Changes in currents, or the course or direction of water movements, in either marine or fresh waters?	X	---	---	---	---	X

	<u>EFFECT?</u>			<u>SIGNIFICANT?</u>		
	<u>YES</u>	<u>MAYBE</u>	<u>NO</u>	<u>YES</u>	<u>MAYBE</u>	<u>NO</u>
b. Changes in absorption rates, drainage patterns, or the rate and amount of surface water runoff?	---	---	<u>X</u>	---	---	---
c. Alterations to the course or flow of flood waters?	---	---	<u>X</u>	---	---	---
d. Change in the amount of surface water in any water body?	---	---	<u>X</u>	---	---	---
e. Discharge into surface waters, or in any alteration of surface water quality, including, but not limited to, temperature, dissolved oxygen or turbidity?	---	<u>X</u>	---	---	---	<u>X</u>
f. Alteration of the direction or rate of flow of ground waters?	---	---	<u>X</u>	---	---	---
g. Change in the quantity of ground waters, either through direct additions or withdrawals, or through interception of an aquifer by cuts or excavations?	---	---	<u>X</u>	---	---	---
h. Substantial reduction in the amount of water otherwise available for public water supplies?	---	---	<u>X</u>	---	---	---
i. Exposure of people or property to water related hazards such as flooding or tidal waves?	---	---	<u>X</u>	---	---	---
4. <u>Plant Life.</u> Will the proposal result in:						
a. Change in the diversity of species or number of any species of plants (including trees, shrubs, grass, crops, microflora and aquatic plants)?	<u>X</u>	---	---	---	<u>X</u>	---
b. Reduction of the numbers of any unique, rare or endangered species of plants?	---	---	<u>X</u>	---	---	---
c. Introduction of new species of plants into an area, or in a barrier to the normal replenishment of existing species?	---	---	<u>X</u>	---	---	---
d. Reduction in acreage of any agricultural crop?	---	---	<u>X</u>	---	---	---
5. <u>Animal Life.</u> Will the proposal result in:						
a. Change in the diversity of species, or numbers of any species of animals (birds, land animals including reptiles, fish and shellfish, benthic organisms, insects or microfauna)?	<u>X</u>	---	---	---	---	<u>X</u>
b. Reduction of the numbers of any unique, rare or endangered species of animals?	---	---	<u>X</u>	---	---	---

	<u>EFFECT?</u>			<u>SIGNIFICANT?</u>		
	<u>YES</u>	<u>MAYBE</u>	<u>NO</u>	<u>YES</u>	<u>MAYBE</u>	<u>NO</u>
c. Introduction of new species of animals into an area, or result in a barrier to the migration or movement of animals?	---	---	X	---	---	---
d. Deterioration to existing fish or wildlife habitat?	---	---	X	---	---	---
6. <u>Noise</u> . Will proposal result in:						
a. Increases in existing noise levels?	---	---	X	---	---	---
b. Exposure of people to severe noise levels?	---	---	X	---	---	---
7. <u>Light and Glare</u> . Will the proposal produce new light or glare?	---	---	X	---	---	---
8. <u>Land Use</u> . Will the proposal result in a substantial alteration of the present or planned land use of an area?	---	---	X	---	---	---
9. <u>Natural Resources</u> . Will the proposal result in:						
a. Increase in the rate of use of any natural resources?	---	---	X	---	---	---
b. Substantial depletion of any non-renewable natural resource?	---	---	X	---	---	---
10. <u>Risk of Upset</u> . Will the proposal involve:						
a. A risk of an explosion or the release of hazardous substances (including, but not limited to, oil pesticides, chemicals or radiation) in the event of an accident or upset conditions?	---	---	X	---	---	---
b. Possible interference with an emergency response plan or an emergency evacuation plan?	---	---	X	---	---	---
11. <u>Population</u> . Will the proposal alter the location, distribution, density or growth rate of the human population of an area?	---	---	X	---	---	---
12. <u>Housing</u> . Will the proposal affect existing housing, or create a demand for additional housing?	---	---	X	---	---	---
13. <u>Transportation/Circulation</u> . Will the proposal result in:						
a. Generation of substantial additional vehicular movement?	---	---	X	---	---	---
b. Effects on existing parking facilities, or demand for new parking?	---	---	X	---	---	---
c. Substantial impact upon existing transportation systems?	---	---	X	---	---	---
d. Alterations to present patterns of circulation or movement of people and/or goods?	---	---	X	---	---	---

	<u>EFFECT?</u>			<u>SIGNIFICANT?</u>		
	<u>YES</u>	<u>MAYBE</u>	<u>NO</u>	<u>YES</u>	<u>MAYBE</u>	<u>NO</u>
e. Alterations to waterborne, rail or air traffic?	---	---	X	---	---	---
f. Increase in traffic hazards to motor vehicles, bicyclists or pedestrians?	---	---	X	---	---	---
14. <u>Public Services.</u> Will the proposal have an effect upon, or result in a need for new or altered governmental services in any of the following areas:						
a. Fire protection?	---	---	X	---	---	---
b. Police protection?	---	---	X	---	---	---
c. Schools?	---	---	X	---	---	---
d. Parks or other recreational facilities?	---	X	---	---	---	X
e. Maintenance of public facilities, including roads?	---	X	---	---	---	X
f. Other governmental services?	---	---	X	---	---	---
15. <u>Energy.</u> Will the proposal result in:						
a. Use of substantial amounts of fuel or energy?	---	---	X	---	---	---
b. Substantial increase in demand upon existing sources of energy, or require the development of new sources of energy?	---	---	X	---	---	---
16. <u>Utilities.</u> Will the proposal result in a need for new systems, or substantial alterations to the following utilities:						
a. Power or natural gas?	---	---	X	---	---	---
b. Communications systems?	---	---	X	---	---	---
c. Water?	---	---	X	---	---	---
d. Sewer or septic tanks?	---	---	X	---	---	---
e. Storm water drainage?	---	---	X	---	---	---
f. Solid waste and disposal?	---	---	X	---	---	X
17. <u>Human Health.</u> Will the proposal result in:						
a. Creation of any health hazard or potential health hazard (excluding mental health)?	---	---	X	---	---	---
b. Exposure of people to potential health hazards?	---	---	X	---	---	---



Section III IMPACT ANALYSIS

This section explains the criteria by which the degree of significance was determined for each impact topic identified as a "yes" or "maybe" in the Environmental Checklist. The numbering system used in the checklist is continued; missing numbers indicate potential effects that are clearly minimal or nonexistent and need no further discussion. This checklist addresses all phases of the project from initial grading and site preparation through final construction activities. (See Figures 2, 3, and 4.)

I. ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS

Ib. - Disruption, Displacement of Surface Soils

Most of the project grading will involve imported material, so there will be little disruption of on-site soils. Of the total $\pm 23,000$ cubic yards of project earthwork, approximately 20,000 cubic yards will be clean granular material brought in by truck or barge. The shoreside zone of disruption will be limited to less than about 20 feet from the bank crest.

Ic. - Change in Topography

To achieve the objectives of the project, it will be necessary to alter the river bank from its current steep and irregular slope to a consistent slope of three horizontal to one vertical (3:1). The current slope is the result of ongoing erosion and in some areas is nearly vertical. Upon completion of the project, the existing slopes between Section 1 and 6 will be of uniform slope between the approximate elevations of -10 feet and +20 feet. (See Figures 2, 3, and 4.)

Ie. - Increase in On-Site Erosion

To reduce future erosion of the finished slope by irrigation and storm-water, site grading will include installation of "top-of-slope" swales to channel flows. These flows will be directed to several "outfall" points where the erosive energy of the flow will be dissipated before entering the river. Revegetation of the access road following construction will preclude erosion and increased turbidity.

If. - Changes in Erosion That May Modify the River

Sediment loads in the river will be reduced as a result of the project. The proposed granular fill material will be less susceptible to erosion than the existing river bank material. The proposed "top-of-slope" drainage swales will further reduce deposits of eroded material in the river by reducing sheet erosion and filtering some particulates.

3a. - Changes in Currents

The project will cause a minor increase in flow velocities as a result of straightening and smoothing the bank. Stagnant water will be eliminated. The small increase in flow velocities is not expected to cause downstream problems (i.e., scour, erosion, etc.). Even during periods of peak flow, the net effect of the project on current direction and velocity will be minimal.

3e. - Discharge into Surface Waters (Especially Turbidity)

One cause of turbidity in the immediate vicinity of Miller Park is erosion and sloughing of the river bank. This erosion control project should result in a decrease in turbidity in the area adjacent to Miller Park.

Construction will generate some temporary, minimal turbidity as soils are graded and deposited. If examination of the final project plans by affected agencies proves that measures to eliminate any construction-related turbidity are necessary, the project requirements can be amended to include check or coffer dams or similar mitigating measures.

4a. - Change of Plant Species

During construction, it will be necessary to remove some trees and shoreline vegetation to facilitate grading activities. Wherever possible the large shoreline trees will be retained; the shrubs and saplings between the trees, however, will be removed. As a part of the project, diseased and unstable trees will be removed. Where construction makes tree removal unavoidable, new trees will be replanted. A tree removal plan will need to be prepared prior to construction to identify trees which will need to be taken down.

Both the California Department of Fish and Game and the City Parks Department have indicated that replacement of removed trees is desirable. Revegetation efforts should also include some restoration of the shrubs and saplings between the larger trees to restore aesthetic and wildlife values (Bramble, Watkins).

Revegetation efforts can augment existing vegetational diversity by introducing more native species. The Parks Department has indicated that vandalism (i.e., removal) of newly planted saplings in City Parks has led to a policy of revegetating with 24-inch boxed specimens. Trees of this size discourage vandalism and also provide more immediate aesthetic and wildlife values. A revegetation plan will be prepared and reviewed prior to the completion of construction to ensure a coordinated approach to restoring the park's tree cover (Bramble, interview).

The removal of diseased specimens combined with bank stabilization and localized revegetation will ensure the long-term maintenance of a viable, aesthetically pleasing, and productive biotic community.

5a. - Change in Diversity or Number of Animal Species

Although squirrels, gophers, moles, and rabbits have been observed on the site, no known rare or endangered animal species inhabit the site. The primary wildlife value of the park results from the bankside vegetation. The extensive lawn areas do not provide adequate forage, shelter, or nesting areas to sustain a large or varied animal or bird population. The riparian vegetation provides nesting, shelter, and foraging areas and contributes to the overall density and diversity of the Sacramento River habitat. However, the value of the site is only moderate due to the relatively small number of trees and shrubs. In any case, the area back of the shoreline, which will not be affected during construction, will afford temporary habitat for those species are displaced during construction. Overall the project will not significantly alter the site value to wildlife if revegetation is accomplished.

The Sacramento River is an important fishery. Seasonal migrations could occur during construction, depending on project timing. However, as long as turbidity is kept to a minimum and no channel obstructions are constructed, no long-term or significant effects on migration patterns are expected (Watkins, DFG).

14d. - Effects Upon Recreational Facilities

The primary effects of the project on the resources of Miller Park will be short-term and construction related. Noise levels will increase, access to the river will be disrupted, construction traffic will use parking and access areas, and dust levels could increase. However, these effects will be limited to the 3 to 4 month construction period and can be minimized by phasing construction in nonpeak months (spring or fall), designating construction vehicle holding areas and access routes, and watering dirt access roads to minimize dust. These measures will be incorporated into the project wherever feasible (Williams, CH2M HILL). The Park District has indicated that replacement of trees will maintain aesthetic values, preserving both shade and visual resources. The immediate revegetation of the access road will also minimize long-term effects (Bramble, interview).

14e. - Effects Upon Maintenance of Public Facilities

During the construction phase, access to the construction area will be restricted for safety and security reasons. The long-term effect, however, will be a reduction in maintenance as the bank is stabilized, diseased trees removed, and new trees planted. Several picnic tables within the probable construction area will need to be replaced following construction.

Access to the "Courtesy Ramp" which gives boaters access to park restroom facilities will need to be restricted during construction. The Park District has said that an alternative to total closure during construction will be to allow use during the hours when construction is not ongoing (before 8 and after 5 during the peak season of May-September).

Disrupting the underground irrigation system may be unavoidable, depending on its location. If that is the case, the system will need to be replaced (Bramble, interview).

18a. - Will the Proposal Alter Site Aesthetic Values?

During construction visual values will be altered as access routes are created, trees are removed, the bank area is filled, and construction vehicles enter and leave the site. After construction, the lawn will be re-established, trees planted, and views of the river enhanced by selective brush cleaning; noise levels will drop to preconstruction levels.

19a. - Alteration of Existing Recreational Values

The stabilization and revegetation effort will promote the long-term viability of Miller Park.









PERSONS CONTACTED

Ted Allen, State Reclamation Board - Assistant Secretary of the Reclamation Board

John Bramble, City of Sacramento - Assistant Parks Superintendent

Robert M. Clark, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers - Chief of Permit Processing (Unit I - Regulatory Section)

Steve Dalrymple, CH2M HILL - Water Resources Engineer

Jerry Mensch, California Department of Fish and Game - Environmental Services Supervisor

Don Reese, State Lands Commission - Associate Land Agent

Dale Watkins, California Department of Fish and Game - Water Quality Biologist

Greg Vaughn, Regional Water Quality Control Board - Water Resources Control Engineer (Delta Watershed)

Stuart Williams, CH2M HILL - Geotechnical Engineer