



STATE OF IDAHO
DEPARTMENT OF
ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

1410 North Hilton • Boise, Idaho 83706 • (208) 373-0502
www.deq.idaho.gov

C.L. "Butch" Otter, Governor
John H. Tippetts, Director

February 1, 2017

Lynn Moser, General Manager
Eagle Sewer District
44 N Palmetto Ave
Eagle, Idaho 83616

RE: Draft finding of no significant impact for the Eagle Sewer District Wastewater Improvements

Dear Mr. Moser:

The Idaho Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) has completed a review of the environmental information document for the Eagle Sewer District Wastewater Improvements. The potential impacts on a number of environmentally sensitive resources were evaluated in the environmental review. The Eagle Sewer District's project engineer consulted with a number of appropriate state and federal agencies regarding relevant issues. The project meets state and federal criteria for issuance of a finding of no significant impact (FONSI) since the environmental review process indicated no significant environmental impacts would result from the proposed project.

A FONSI legal notice will be published in the *Idaho Statesman*, newspaper of record for the Eagle Sewer District. DEQ has requested the *Idaho Statesman* publish the legal notice one time, on one day, on February 4, 2017. The legal notice will explain how the public can obtain a copy of the full FONSI for review and will give instructions on how they can submit comments. A 30-day public comment period will follow the FONSI legal notice publication. If public comments and concerns arise related to the project or FONSI, DEQ may ask your help in preparing responses.

Following the 30-day public comment period, any significant comments or concerns will be considered and incorporated as appropriate into the final FONSI determination for the referenced project. After issuance of the final FONSI, and with approval of all technical considerations in the planning document, the Sewer District may proceed with the State Revolving Fund loan.

Kevin Ryan at the DEQ Boise Regional Office, (208) 373-0184, is your local DEQ contact on the referenced project. Please keep him informed of progress on the project. Refer comments regarding the environmental review to Aimee Hill in the State Office at (208) 373-0556 or via aimee.hill@deq.idaho.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Barry N. Burnell".

Barry N. Burnell
Water Quality Division Administrator

BNB:ah:tg

Enclosures

c: MaryAnna Peavey, DEQ State Office, maryanna.peavey@deq.idaho.gov
Kevin Ryan, DEQ Boise Regional Office, kevin.ryan@deq.idaho.gov
Neil Jenkins, CH2MHill, neil.jenkins@ch2m.com

LEGAL NOTICE OF FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

Date: February 1, 2017
To: All Interested Government Agencies, Public Groups, and Individuals
Subject: Environmental determination for the Eagle Sewer District Wastewater Improvements

In accordance with the State Environmental Review Process (SERP), "Rules for Administration of Wastewater Treatment Facility Grants" (IDAPA 58.01.04) and "Rules for Administration of Water Pollution Control Loans" (IDAPA 58.01.12), an environmental review has been performed and a finding of no significant impact (FONSI) issued by the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) for the following project:

Eagle Sewer District Wastewater Improvements
Ada County
Eagle, Idaho

This environmental determination was made as a result of the review process indicating no significant environmental impacts would result from the proposed project. There may be several environmental effects from the referenced project as described below.

- Soils: approximately 5.7 acres of soil will be excavated to construct permanent project facilities.
- Wetlands: a small drainage ditch traversing the location of the planned lagoons will be permanently impacted during construction when the ditch is relocated around the facility. Impacts to wetlands are addressed through a U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Section 404 permit, as noted below.
- Vegetation and Wildlife: approximately 5.7 acres of mainly grassland habitat along with a number of small trees will be permanently lost during construction. However, the abundance of similar habitat in the area should not result in long-term adverse effects to habitat accessible to wildlife.
 - Removal of structural vegetation would impact nesting birds if vegetation is removed during breeding season. With implementation of conservation measures to cut and chip all woody vegetation during the non-breeding season (September to February), impacts to nesting birds would avoid "take" under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA).
 - The Townsend's pocket gopher has the potential to be impacted by the proposed project. Areas to be excavated will be surveyed by a qualified biologist prior to construction and conservation measures such as trapping and relocating may be implemented if burrows are identified to reduce direct impacts to this species.

Short-term impacts may occur during project construction that include temporary disruption of the collection and treatment 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.
- Soils: In addition to permanent impacts to soils, an additional 1 acre of soil will be temporarily disturbed for construction of pipelines and other underground facilities. The area will be revegetated with native seed mix immediately after construction to minimize open ground where weeds can germinate.

- **Vegetation:** approximately 1 acre of grassland habitat will be temporarily disturbed during construction. The area will be revegetated immediately after construction to minimize open ground where weeds can germinate.
- **Cultural Resources:** 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), the Shoshone-Bannock Tribe, Shoshone-Paiute Tribe, and the Burns-Paiute General Council, shall be notified. Mitigation measures will be implemented as directed by SHPO and the tribes, and work will not resume at the discovery site without their consent.
 - As agreed upon with the SHPO, an unanticipated discovery plan/protocol will be developed prior to any significant ground disturbing activity; and,
 - A professional archaeologist will be retained to provide training for construction managers and/or relevant staff.
- **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.
- **Wetlands:** The project is located adjacent to the Boise River and Dry Creek, and several irrigation canals and ditches traverse the area. Where possible, use borings, pipe bursting or cured-in-place pipe for crossings of drainage ditches and canals. Wetlands will be delineated in order to obtain a Section 404 permit from U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.
- 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 obtained for the project:

- Section 404 permit from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (see above); and
- 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 to water quality through improving collection and treatment of wastewater.

Description of the Project: The proposed project involves the following construction activities and their approximate implementation schedule:

- Installation of aerators in existing lagoons (2017);
- Construction of an additional aerated lagoon treatment train with ancillary pumps and valves, adjacent to the existing treatment train (2018-20); and,
- Ongoing maintenance to existing collection lines.

The following projects are proposed in the future and will require further investigation and review as necessary:

- Upgrade effluent pump station (~2034); and,
- Additional pipeline to West Boise wastewater treatment plant (WWTP)(~2027).

Copies Available: Copies of the full FONSI, the *February 2016 Wastewater Collection and Treatment Facilities Plan*, the *December 2016 Eagle Sewer District Facility Plan Update*, and supporting documentation upon which it is based are available for public review on DEQ's website at www.deq.idaho.gov/public-comment-opportunities or at the following locations:

Idaho Department of Environmental Quality
 Water Quality Division
 1410 North Hilton
 Boise, Idaho 83706
 Grant/loan SERP contact: Aimee Hill (208) 373-0556

Idaho Department of Environmental Quality
Boise Regional Office
1445 North Orchard
Boise, Idaho 83706
Regional Office contact: Kevin Ryan (208) 373-0184

Eagle Sewer District
44 N Palmetto Ave
Eagle, Idaho 83616
Contact: Lynn Moser, General Manager (208) 939-0132

Public Comments: Comments supporting or disagreeing with this decision must be submitted on DEQ's website at www.deq.idaho.gov/public-comment-opportunities or addressed to the contacts listed above.

Such comments must be postmarked or delivered on or before March 7, 2017. Public comments will be considered in finalizing the planning phase of the project. No administrative action will be taken on the project for at least 30 calendar days from the date of publication.

Barry N. Burnell
Water Quality Division Administrator

DRAFT FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

Date: February 1, 2017
To: All Interested Government Agencies, Public Groups, and Individuals
Subject: Environmental determination for the Eagle Sewer District Wastewater Improvements

In accordance with the State Environmental Review Process (SERP), “Rules for Administration of Wastewater Treatment Facility Grants” (IDAPA 58.01.04), and “Rules for Administration of Water Pollution Control Loans” (IDAPA 58.01.12), 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: Eagle Sewer District Wastewater Improvements
Location: Eagle, Ada County, Idaho

PURPOSE/SUMMARY OF IMPACTS:

Purpose of Project: The purpose of the proposed project is to facilitate the District’s ability to provide reliable, cost effective wastewater treatment services to their service area by updating their treatment facilities and optimizing their level of treatment before discharging the wastewater to the City of Boise.

Description of the Project: The proposed project involves the following construction activities and their approximate implementation schedule:

- Installation of aerators in existing lagoons (2017);
- Construction of an additional aerated lagoon treatment train with ancillary pumps and valves, adjacent to the existing treatment train (2018-20); and,
- Ongoing maintenance to existing collection lines.

The following projects are proposed in the future and will require further investigation and review as necessary:

- Upgrade effluent pump station (~2034); and,
- Additional pipeline to West Boise wastewater treatment plant (WWTP)(~2027).

Direct and Indirect Impacts: An environmental information document (EID) was prepared by CH2MHill, consulting engineer for the Eagle Sewer District. CH2MHill and DEQ consulted with the appropriate state and federal agencies regarding relevant environmentally sensitive resources. Based on consultation with agency experts, CH2MHill and DEQ evaluated the potential short-term and long-term impacts, and the direct, indirect, and cumulative impacts of the wastewater improvement 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.

- Soils: approximately 5.7 acres of soil will be excavated to construct permanent project facilities.
- Wetlands: a small drainage ditch traversing the location of the planned lagoons will be permanently impacted during construction when the ditch is relocated around the facility. Impacts to wetlands are addressed through a U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Section 404 permit, as noted below.
- Vegetation and Wildlife: approximately 5.7 acres of mainly grassland habitat along with a number of small trees will be permanently lost during construction. However, the abundance of similar habitat in the area should not result in long-term adverse effects to habitat accessible to wildlife.
 - Removal of structural vegetation would impact nesting birds if vegetation is removed during breeding season. With implementation of conservation measures to cut and chip all woody vegetation during the non-breeding season (September to February), impacts to nesting birds would avoid “take” under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA).
 - The Townsend’s pocket gopher has the potential to be impacted by the proposed project. Areas to be excavated will be surveyed by a qualified biologist prior to construction and conservation measures such as trapping and relocating may be implemented if burrows are identified to reduce direct impacts to this species.

Short-term impacts may occur during project construction that includes temporary disruption of the collection and treatment 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.
- Soils: In addition to permanent impacts to soils, an additional 1 acre of soil will be temporarily disturbed for construction of pipelines and other underground facilities. The area will be revegetated with native seed mix immediately after construction to minimize open ground where weeds can germinate.
- Vegetation: approximately 1 acre of grassland habitat will be temporarily disturbed during construction. The area will be revegetated immediately after construction to minimize open ground where weeds can germinate.
- Cultural Resources: 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), the Shoshone-Bannock Tribe, Shoshone-Paiute Tribe, and the Burns-Paiute General Council, shall be notified. Mitigation measures will be implemented as directed by SHPO and the tribes, and work will not resume at the discovery site without their consent.

- As agreed upon with the SHPO, an unanticipated discovery plan/protocol will be developed prior to any significant ground disturbing activity; and,
 - A professional archaeologist will be retained to provide training for construction managers and/or relevant staff.
- **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.
 - **Wetlands:** The project is located adjacent to the Boise River and Dry Creek, and several irrigation canals and ditches traverse the area. Where possible, use borings, pipe bursting or cured-in-place pipe for crossings of drainage ditches and canals. Wetlands will be delineated in order to obtain a Section 404 permit from U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.
 - 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:

- Section 404 permit from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (see above); and
- 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 to water quality through improving collection and treatment of wastewater.

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 *February 2016 Wastewater Collection and Treatment Facilities Plan*, the *December 2016 Eagle Sewer District Facility Plan Update*, and supporting documentation.

AVAILABILITY OF COPIES:

Copies of the notice of a FONSI, *February 2016 Wastewater Collection and Treatment Facilities Plan*, the *December 2016 Eagle Sewer District Facility Plan Update*, and supporting documentation upon which it is based are available for public review on DEQ's website at www.deq.idaho.gov/public-comment-opportunities or at the following locations:

Idaho Department of Environmental Quality
 Water Quality Division
 1410 North Hilton
 Boise, Idaho 83706
 Grant/loan SERP contact: Aimee Hill (208) 373-0556

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Boise Regional Office
1445 North Orchard
Boise, Idaho 83706
Regional Office contact: Kevin Ryan (208) 373-0184

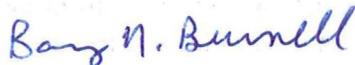
Eagle Sewer District
44 N Palmetto Ave
Eagle, Idaho 83616
Contact: Lynn Moser, General Manager (208) 939-0132

The public will be informed about the proposed project and their opportunity for comment through the *Idaho Statesman*, one time in the February 4, 2017 publication.

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

Aimee Hill
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 March 7, 2017. 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.



Barry N. Burnell
Water Quality Division Administrator

