

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF
AGRICULTURE

FOREST
SERVICE

Downieville RD

FILE CODE: 1950
ROUTE TO:

Date: April 15, 1998

SUBJECT: DARK DAY PARKING FACILITY CONSTRUCTION

TO: FILES

The Revised Exhibit R for the Yuba River Development Project, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission(FERC) No. 2246, was approved by FERC on February 4, 1991. Licensee proposed recreation facility development approved by FERC in Exhibit R includes the construction of a 70,000 square foot parking lot near Dark Day Boat Ramp. A site specific environmental analysis was conducted for this action. Members of the District team had no concerns with the proposed project. It was determined through the environmental analysis that there were no extraordinary circumstances existing with this proposal that might cause the action to have significant effects. Specifically, this determination is based upon the absence, among others, of the following:

1. Steep slopes or highly erosive soils.
2. Effects on threatened or endangered species or their critical habitat.
3. Flood plains, wetlands, or municipal watersheds.
4. Congressionally designated areas, such as wilderness, wilderness study areas, or National Recreation Areas.
5. Inventoried roadless areas.
6. Research Natural Areas.
7. Native American religious or cultural sites, archaeological sites, or historic properties or areas.

All management practices and activities of the action are consistent with the management direction, including standards and guidelines, in the final Land and Resource Management Plan for the Tahoe National Forest (June 14, 1990), as amended, and provisions, which were developed in accordance with the National Forest Management Act of 1976. 16 USC 1604(i) and 36 CFR 219.10(e).

An archaeological survey and a report have been completed. There are no sites within the project area.

No known Federally listed Threatened or Endangered plant species or Region 5 Forest Service Sensitive plants have been identified with the project area.

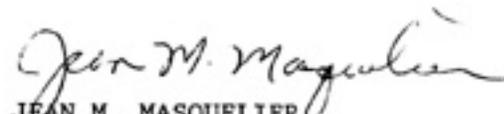
No known Federally listed Threatened or Endangered species have been identified within the proposed project area. Habitat for several listed species may be impacted but a biological evaluation has determined that whereas this project may affect individuals it is not likely to result in a trend toward Federal listing or loss of viability for these species.

Mitigation measures include a limited operating season with a closure between March 1 and August 31 during the breeding season for spotted owl and northern goshawk. Consultation with wildlife biologist to determine a monitoring plan for bald eagles for activities after November 15. Notifying contractor of the possibility that turtles may be in the area. If turtles are sighted during construction, the contractor will take the following measures to protect them:

- a. The contractor should notify the COR of the time and location of the sighting.
- b. Move the turtle 50 feet below the site, closer to the Reservoir.

Specific information on species listed and there relationship to this project may be found in the Biological Evaluation.


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Recreation Planner


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District Ranger