

MEMORANDUM

March 17, 2021

TO: Reclamation District No. 2025

FROM: Nathan Hershey

SUBJECT: **March 2021 Engineer's Report**

Described below are the engineering items to be discussed at your March 17, 2021 meeting.

Subventions 2019-20 – The District submitted an application for participation in the Program in the amount of \$845,000. DWR has lowered the Program funding amount to \$10 million for FY 2019-20. The District submitted a claim in the amount of \$211,282.60 for the fiscal year.

Subventions 2020-21 – The District submitted an application in the amount of \$845,000. \$12 million has been approved for Program funding for FY 2020-21.

Subventions 2021-22 – Applications are due April 1. Attached is a draft application for the upcoming fiscal year. If acceptable, we will submit the application on behalf of the District. DWR has informed us they will be seeking \$10 million for the Program for FY 2021-22.

Annual Maintenance – Attached are the current maintenance items we are tracking.

Five Year Plan – Work on the Five-Year Plan is currently in progress. A draft of the plan was distributed via email and we have incorporated many of the comments received to date. We will be sending a draft to DWR staff for review and comment. DWR has extended the expiration date of the funding agreements to December 31, 2021.

SB 88 – Work under Phase 3 of the measurement experiment (Feb. 2020 through Feb. 2021, and currently being extended) is underway. Phase 3 efforts primarily involve installing 8 additional flange magnetic meters on the water side of the highest use siphons, with at least one flow meter on each island. MWD has received the new equipment which is currently stored on Bacon Island. A pre-bid walk through on Bouldin Island with representatives from MWD, MBK Engineers, Asta Construction, Eaton Pumps, and Gornto Ditching occurred on March 3rd, 2021. MWD is accepting bids until March 16th from the contractors and then will select a contractor and proceed with scheduling installation of the Phase 3 equipment.

MWD and the RDs are in compliance for calendar year 2021 under an approved extension of time. Current direction by MWD is to proceed with strict compliance. Therefore, MBK is currently developing a draft plan for compliance, which will include a combination of flange magnetic meters installed on the water side for the largest and highest use siphons and alternative measurement methods at the smaller, less frequently used siphons.

Development of the Delta-wide ACP by the Delta Measurement Experiment Consortium to utilize Open ET for measuring and reporting diversions continues. MBK and MWD continue to participate in the Consortium

and will provide feedback on the future development of this ACP as needed. The next Consortium meeting is scheduled for April 29, 2021.

RECLAMATION DISTRICT NO. 2025 – HOLLAND TRACT

DELTA LEVEE SUBVENTIONS PROGRAM APPLICATION

MARCH 2021

TOTAL AMOUNT REQUESTED 2021–2022: \$465,000

District Summary

The levee system surrounding Holland Tract is under the jurisdiction of Reclamation District No. 2025 (District). The District plans to perform annual maintenance on the 10.97 miles of non-project levees surrounding Holland Tract (**Sheet 1**); this includes 3.96 miles along Old River/Holland Cut, 4.60 miles along Sand Mound Slough, and 2.41 miles along Rock Slough.

The District was formed in 1918 to maintain the levee system that protects 4,060 acres of agricultural land, an estimated 10 residents¹, local infrastructure, and on-island assets.

Financial Information and Method of Assessment

The District obtains revenues primarily through property assessment. The District has the ability to assess landowners up to \$328,851.98 each year. The District uses the assessment to pay for District operations, levee maintenance and levee rehabilitation. Assessment rates are determined by dividing the total benefit by the number of Benefit Units (BUs) in order to determine an assessment rate per BU. The base rate for the benchmark Vacant/Open Range parcel is set at \$68.40 per year per acre. Rates for other types of parcels are based upon relative replacement costs. As of June 30, 2020, the District's liabilities total \$1,206,905, see page 6 of the audit report for additional information regarding the District's long-term obligation. The District does not receive any ad valorem property tax.

Work Plans

Long-Range Plan

The District submitted its Five Year Plan to DWR in January 2011, which includes its maintenance and rehabilitation plans, target dates, cost estimate, centerline profiles and cross-sections. The District did not include a listing of encroachments. The encroachment listing is on file with the District and will be updated during the District survey. The District's goal has been, and will continue to be, to improve and maintain the levees. The District is currently updating their Five-Year Plan.

Annual Routine Maintenance Plan

The District plans to continue its routine maintenance practices, which it has done consistently for a number of years, as evidenced by the current state of the levee system. Routine tasks

¹ Contra Costa LAFCO, Directory of Local Agencies, August 2015

include levee patrol; rodent control; all weather roadway repairs; repair of minor subsidence sloughing or slipouts; debris removal; drain and toe ditch cleaning; vegetation control; waterside slope protection; flood emergency planning and preparation; removing or modifying encroachments; surveying; engineering services; and other maintenance and permitting as needed.

The District has executed a Routine Maintenance Agreement (RMA) (#II-064-91) under Section 1600, et seq., of the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) Code. This Agreement defines the District's maintenance work on the waterside of the levee.

District staff patrols the levee daily. The District's Superintendent conducts periodic inspections when something is found during the routine patrols. If applicable, a levee maintenance inspection report for non-project levees will be prepared for reimbursement of inspection-related expenses in accordance with the reporting guidelines provided in Appendix D of the Guidelines.

The District will exterminate burrowing rodents and fill the burrows with compacted material, on an as needed basis. As designated by CDFW, no filling of burrows in burrowing owl areas shall take place during the period of March 15 through August 15, with the exception of the filling of beaver and muskrat dens near the waterline. Application of County-permitted and restricted bait materials, or any other approved method of rodent eradication, shall be done in accordance with labeled instructions and regulations.

The District will repair, grade, and shape the levee crown as needed, so that the levee crown will maintain a uniform shape, resulting in the drainage of water equally throughout the surface, and eliminating the risk of pocketing or excessive runoff locations. Levee patrol road areas require placement of all-weather road surfacing for wet weather accessibility. Work will be performed in a manner that will keep dust to a minimum and prevent siltation from impacting the adjacent waterways. The weight and speed of all vehicles using the patrol or levee access roads shall be restricted.

A seepage/irrigation ditch is located near the levee toe extending almost the entire perimeter of Holland Tract. Typically, the seepage/irrigation ditch is 4 to 8 feet wide on top and 2 feet at bottom. The ditch depth ranges from 3 to 7 feet. For years, this ditch has been annually cleaned by removal of silt deposited at its bottom. This sediment removal is performed using an excavator to reach down into the ditch with a perforated bucket and depositing the sediment to the side. On average, any particular portion of the ditch system is cleaned every three years. Vegetation loss is insignificant and is not long-term since the process removes only sediment from the bottom of the ditch. Ditch cleaning is likely to occur in the late fall or, weather permitting, during the winter.

Vegetation control consists of four features: spraying, hand clearing, burning, and grazing. Spraying is performed using land-based equipment, typically a boom-mounted sprayer or hand sprayer. Herbicides are applied to the crown, waterside slope, and landside slope after July 1 to avoid impacts to wildlife. Noxious vegetation not controlled by spraying is removed either by

District forces (hand tools, choppers, and brush hogs) or by small-scale burning. Sheep are allowed to graze on the levee periodically. This farming practice assists in the District's vegetation control.

The District's RMA for controlling vegetation on the waterside slopes includes, but is not limited to the following additional conditions:

- To protect ground nesting birds and other breeding wildlife species, herbicides may not be applied between March 15 and July 1.
- Soil sterilants may only be applied to control *Arundo donax*.
- Removal of branches, stems, and shoots of weeds, brush, berry vines, and shrubs may be removed except between March 15 and June 30.
- Except between March 15 and June 30, the District may remove trees under 2 inches and over 18 inches in diameter at diameter breast height (DBH). Roots must remain in place when removing trees under 2 inches in diameter at DBH. Removal of trees over 18 inches in diameter at DBH require special permission; if permission is granted, the roots may be removed.

The District repairs waterside erosion when required.

The District is working on an Emergency Operations Plan. In 2016, the District procured flood supplies, which the District maintains on an ongoing basis.

As needed, the District may remove, raise, or modify encroachments that endanger the levee or interfere with levee maintenance; survey the levee; and replace missing station markers to ensure there are station markers at least every one-half mile or 2,500 feet.

The routine maintenance of the levee under the jurisdiction of the District for 2021–2022 will likely consist of the following items along with the estimated cost.

Annual Routine Maintenance Items	Estimated Cost \$
Levee Patrol	60,000
Rodent Control	5,000
All Weather Road	35,000
Subsidence, Sloughing, and Slipouts	30,000
Debris Removal	10,000
Seepage Control	10,000
Clean Drains and Toe Ditches	15,000
Vegetation Control	45,000
Waterside Slope Protection	50,000
Flood planning and preparation	10,000
Remove or Modify Encroachments	50,000
Surveying	5,000

Engineering	30,000
Misc. (gates, signage, etc.)	4,000
Environmental (CDFW permits, etc.)	1,000
Total Routine Maintenance	\$360,000

Rehabilitation Plan

Multiple sites may require rehabilitation during the fiscal year. Details regarding limits of the work will be finalized prior to construction.

Rehabilitation Items	Estimated Cost \$
Rehabilitation Work	100,000
Environmental Documentation (CDFW, CEQA etc.)	5,000
Total Rehabilitation	\$105,000

Compliance with Applicable Laws

The District will abide by all applicable laws including, but not limited to, labor compliance and mileage reimbursement rates.

- All work, subject to labor compliance laws, will be required to meet the Department of Industrial Relations Labor Compliance Program requirements.
- The District acknowledges that reimbursement of automobile mileage, as it relates to eligible work, will follow the prevailing Federal Standard Mileage Rate for the cost of operating an automobile.

Environmental Compliance

The District has concluded that its long-range, routine maintenance practices and levee rehabilitation are Categorically Exempt under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The District will file a Notice of Exemption with Contra Costa County to that effect.

The District's work activities, for the fiscal year of the application, will be carried out in a manner consistent with the requirements set forth under California Water Code (CWC) Section 12987. The District does not anticipate habitat impacts that would result in a net long-term loss of habitat; therefore, no mitigation is planned. If habitat impacts associated with levee maintenance activities occur, the District will mitigate the impacts to meet the requirements of CWC Section 12987. The District proposes, and hereby requests, to utilize the programmatic enhancement habitat credits, if necessary. The District will comply with the net habitat improvement mandates of the CWC Section 12987.

The District's maintenance plan complies with the California Endangered Species Act, the Federal Endangered Species Act, and California Fish and Game Code § 1600 et seq., regarding Lake and Streambed Alteration Agreements. The District's maintenance plan is consistent with the Clean Water Act, and the Rivers and Harbors Act, as administered by USACE.

Minor erosion repair may be performed under a project specific, or a RMA CDFW Streambed Alteration Agreement, and/or USACE Nationwide Permit, depending on repair requirements. All applicable parties will be informed of the activity as required.

The District will notify responsible and trustee agencies of any actions that fall within these agencies' jurisdiction as required by law.

Federal Disaster Assistance

In any given year, the District's expectation is to be ready for potential emergency operations during the flood season. While the District is unable to predict the potential outcome in a given year, there is always the potential for emergency flood fighting, and subsequent levee repairs and rehabilitation. In the case that an emergency (federal, state or local) occurs, the District will properly administer the emergency and seek reimbursement for eligible expenses through all available programs including under PL 93-288. If federal assistance is unavailable, the District will coordinate with the Delta Levees Maintenance Subventions Program for possible reimbursement.



NL/nh

4275.6 SUBVENTIONS APPLICATION 2021-2022



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RECLAMATION DISTRICT NO. 2025 HOLLAND TRACT

SUBVENTIONS 2021-2022

SCALE:	1" = 3000'
JOB NUMBER:	4275.6
DRAWN BY:	MN
DATE:	02/24/2021
SHEET:	1 OF 1

Reclamation District No. 2025 Holland Tract
Issue Tracking Summary
3/12/2021

IssueID	Priority	Report Date	Reporter	Location	Issue Type	Description	Action	Field Notes
2	Medium	9/13/2016	Russ Ryan	Station 185	Crack	Crack in splash cap near leak	Monitor	Monitor; See photos
22	Low	2/10/2017	Nate Hershey	Station 545+80	Boil	Boil in landside slope	Monitor	Directed Asta to build a containment berm; Berm constructed; continue to monitor. 2/13/17 No flow coming through levee, relatively dry
25	Medium	2/13/2017	Nate Hershey	Station 105	Erosion	Erosion site	Repair	Repair; Monitor and repair when feasible
28	Low	2/18/2017	Russ Ryan	Station 315+75	Rodent Activity	Rodent Activity	Repair	Repair; Monitor and repair when feasible
60	Medium	1/18/2018	Brian Janowiak	Station 414-417	Other	Rodent activity	Monitor	Minor squirrel activity, mostly on upper LS slope. One larger void in levee crest (Sta 417) may need to be excavated.
98	Medium	6/10/2020	RalphHeringer	Sta 470 to 480 from LS of county road to toe ditch	Other	Fire	Monitor	Fire
98.1		8/11/2020	Nate Hershey	July 4 fire reported at Marina #1				
98.2		8/11/2020	Nate Hershey	July 20 fire reported at Mainstone property				