

Department of Agriculture, gives notice of a Finding of No Significant Impact according to the Environmental Assessment of the Big Delta State Historical Park Streambank Protection Project.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Shirley Gammon, State Conservationist, Natural Resources Conservation Service, 800 West Evergreen, Suite 100, Palmer, Alaska 99645-6539; telephone: 907-761-7760.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Environmental Assessment of this Federally assisted action indicates that there will be no significant environmental impacts. As a result of these findings, Shirley Gammon, State Conservationist, has determined that the project should be completed as outlined in the assessment document.

The objective of the Big Delta State Historical Park Streambank Protection Project is to install streambank protection measures to control erosion and protect the historic district while minimizing disturbance to the fall chum spawning habitat. The selected alternative is four rock bars extending approximately 65 feet into the river, angling about 45 degrees upstream rising 1.4 feet above the riverbed. In conjunction with the barb installation, a vegetation re-establishment plan will be implemented to address the eroding sections of the bank between the bars and enhance the existing landscape and riparian buffer. Alternatives evaluated were No Action, relocation of threatened facilities, modification of existing vegetation maintenance practices, groins, riprap revetment, riprap revetment with soil wraps and brush layers, and rock bars. The selected alternative is rock bars. This alternative was selected because it protects the riverbank adjacent to the Big Delta State Historical Park, minimizes the constructed footprint in the fall chum spawning habitat, and maintains the aesthetic qualities of the site. The bars result in no significant rise in the flood waters in Tanana River.

A limited number of copies of the EA are available to fill single copy requests at the above address. Basic data developed during the environmental assessment are on file and may be reviewed by contacting Shirley Gammon, State Conservationist, at the above address. Further information on the proposed action may be obtained from Shirley Gammon, State Conservationist.

Dated: March 8, 2004.

Shirley Gammon,

State Conservationist.

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Natural Resources Conservation Service

Rehabilitation Plan/Environmental Assessment for the White Tanks No. 3 Project, Maricopa County, AZ

AGENCY: Natural Resources Conservation Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of finding of no significant impact.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to Section 102(2)(c) of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969; the Council on Environmental Quality Regulations (40 CFR Part 1500); and the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Regulations (7 CFR Part 650); the NRCS, U.S. Department of Agriculture, gives notice that an environmental impact statement is not being prepared for the Rehabilitation Plan/Environmental Assessment for the White Tanks No. 3 Project, Maricopa County, Arizona.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Michael Somerville, State Conservationist, USDA/NRCS, 3003 North Central Avenue, Suite 800, Phoenix, Arizona 85012; telephone: (602) 280-8801.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The environmental assessment of this Federally assisted action indicates that the project will not cause significant local, regional, or national impacts on the environment. Based on evidence presented, Michael Somerville, State Conservationist, has determined that the preparation and review of an environmental impact statement are not needed for this project.

The project proposes to rehabilitate the White Tanks No. 3 FRS to meet NRCS standards and State of Arizona dam safety criteria.

The Notice of Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) has been forwarded to the Environmental Protection Agency and to various Federal, State, and local agencies and interested parties. Copies of the FONSI are available to fill single copy requests at the above address. Basic data developed during the environmental assessment are on file and may be reviewed by contacting Don Paulus, Assistant State Conservationist for Programs, at the above address.

No administrative action on implementation of the proposal will be taken until 30 days after the date of this publication in the **Federal Register**.

(This activity is listed in the Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance under No. 10.904, Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention, and is subject to the provisions of Executive Order 12372, which requires intergovernmental consultation with State and local officials.)

Michael Somerville,

State Conservationist.

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Rural Utilities Service

Rural Broadband Access Loans and Loan Guarantees Program

AGENCY: Rural Utilities Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of funds availability.

SUMMARY: The Rural Utilities Service (RUS) announces funding available for the Rural Broadband Access Loan and Loan Guarantee program. For FY 2004, no less than \$2.211 billion in loans is available, \$2.051 billion for direct cost-of-money loans, \$80 million for direct 4 percent loans, and \$80 million for loan guarantees.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Roberta D. Purcell, Assistant Administrator, Telecommunications Program, Rural Utilities Service, STOP 1590, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20250-1590, Telephone (202) 720-9554, Facsimile (202) 720-0810.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

General Information

During FY 2004, no less than \$2.211 billion will be made available for loans and loan guarantees for the construction, improvement, and acquisition of facilities and equipment for broadband service in eligible rural communities. Of the total loan funds available, \$2.051 billion will be available for direct cost-of-money loans, \$80 million for 4 percent direct loans, and \$80 million for loan guarantees. The funding levels for the 4 percent direct loans and the loan guarantees is derived from the budget authority carried over from prior years' mandatory funding. The Rural Broadband Access Loan and Loan Guarantee Program is authorized by the Rural Electrification Act (7 U.S.C. 601) (the Act), as added by the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 (Farm Bill), Public Law 101-171.