

Public Notice – 401 Certification Application

Date:

January 27, 2020

Applicant:

U.S. Bureau of Reclamation

7301 Calle Agua Salada

Yuma, Arizona 85364

Contact: Christopher M. Wallis

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Project Name:

Maintenance Dredging Above Imperial Dam, WDID No. 7B133043001

Receiving Water:

Portion of Colorado River immediately upstream from the Imperial Dam, including the headwaters of the All-American Canal, the California Sluiceway Gates, and the Gila Gravity Main Canal Headworks.

Location:

The project area is near the City of Bard in Imperial County, California, and is located in the Imperial Dam Reservoir at river mile 49.2 on the lower Colorado River, approximately 18 miles northeast of Winterhaven, California and 20 miles northeast of Yuma, Arizona. The area is generally bounded by State Route 24 to the south, Interstate Highway 95 to the east, undeveloped land to the west, and Senator Wash Reservoir to the north. A portion of the project area is within the Palo Verde Valley Area Plan. The area surrounding the project is currently used as for recreational resorts.

City or area: City of Bard, Imperial County, California

Longitude/ Latitude: 32.88296/ -114.46393

Section/Township/Range: Sections 4 and 9, T15S/ R24E; Section 30, T15S/R21W

Project Description:

The U.S. Bureau of Reclamation determined that maintenance to the water delivery system must occur so that deliveries may continue to be made through the headworks to the All-American Canal and the Gila Gravity Main Canal. Without the project, sediment deposits near the entrance to these canals would constrict and/or prevent the operation and storage capacity of the Imperial Dam facilities, whose operations are critical for the year-round delivery of water to over 500,000 acres of farmlands, as well as municipalities and military bases in California and Arizona. Dredging at this site is routine and recurring, taking place triennially since 1960.

Proposed maintenance activities associated with the project will include dredging operations and sediment disposal. The dredging operations will entail removing approximately 1,950,000 cubic yards of material from previously dredged areas approximately 25 feet below the normal high-water surface elevation. The dredge will be launched from an existing boat ramp located at Hidden Shores Resort, Arizona. A total area of 69 surface acres are to be dredged, 54 of which are located in California. The dredged sediment will be transported downstream via a temporary hydraulic pipeline to a disposal site upstream of the Laguna Settling Basin. The

pipeline will extend from the Imperial Reservoir, passing under State Highway 24, following the Gila Sluiceway to the California Sluiceway, until reaching the disposal site. Retention dikes will be constructed around the perimeter of the disposal area to prevent water runoff from transporting sediment back to the Colorado River.

The proposed project would begin May 2020 and is anticipated for completion during December 2023.

Action:

Pending

Water Board Contact:

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