

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT
OTTER POINT RESTORATION
National Park Service
Lewis and Clark National Historical Park
October 2010

INTRODUCTION

This Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) has been prepared in accordance with the NPS Director's Order 12 for the Otter Point Restoration, Clatsop County, Oregon. The FONSI, along with the Environmental Assessment (EA), comprise the complete record of environmental impact analysis for the project. Two alternatives, the No Action alternative (Alternative 1) and Active Restoration of Tidal Wetlands (Alternative 2) were identified and fully analyzed. Alternative 1 would not change the existing management of the site beyond exotic invasive plant control. In contrast, to address degraded tidal wetlands, Alternative 2 would actively restore the site according to the goals set by the June 1995 General Management Plan, as well as the 2008 Biological Opinion for the Federal Columbia River Power System.

The selected alternative will provide the Lewis and Clark National Historical Park staff with an appropriate active approach to addressing tidal wetland restoration at Otter Point. As described in the EA, restoration of Otter Point will be completed through a two-phase approach. The first phase involves work inside the existing levee. Correspondence between the US Army Corps of Engineers and National Marine Fisheries Service recommended a determination of "no effect" on listed anadromous fish species for Phase I. Phase II which involves a breach in the levee, is scheduled for summer 2011 and will require a biological assessment that is in progress and is expected to be completed prior to any construction elements of Phase II.

PURPOSE & NEED FOR FEDERAL ACTION

The National Park Service (NPS) will partner with Clatsop Diking District 11 (District), the Bonneville Power Administration, the US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) and others to restore salmon habitat, freshwater wetlands, and the historic landscape at a location known as Otter Point within Lewis and Clark National Historical Park. At the time of the Lewis and Clark Expedition, the site of Fort Clatsop was a hill above the river surrounded by tidal marsh on both the north and south. These tidelands were diked in the 19th and early 20th centuries and converted from wetland to pastureland.

In 1995, the park completed a General Management Plan/Environmental Impact Statement. The GMP envisioned restoring diked pasturelands to tidal wetland by modifying dikes, where feasible. The area south of the Fort Clatsop hill, called South Clatsop Slough, was restored to tidal slough and wetland in 2007. Otter Point, the subject of this project, is north of the fort hill. Completing this project would re-create the historic riverine setting of Fort Clatsop.

A secondary purpose is to restore historic salmon habitat in the Columbia River estuary. The Otter Point Restoration Project will not only improve salmonid habitat within the wetland site

itself, it will also have cumulative benefits as part of a larger-scale effort to improve the habitat value and overall function of the Lewis and Clark River basin. Several projects have already been completed on the Lewis and Clark River including 2 dike breaches further upstream on City of Seaside property, and the South Clatsop Slough wetland restoration located within the Lewis and Clark National Historical Park immediately upstream from Otter Point. The South Clatsop Slough restoration project showed that juvenile salmon return to wetlands in the Lewis and Clark basin immediately after tidal barriers are removed. Together these projects create more contiguous salmonid habitat and help improve the overall water quality of the river.

Restoration is needed now to help the Federal government satisfy its legal responsibility to restore anadromous fish in the Columbia River Basin. The 2008 Biological Opinion for the Federal Columbia River Power System (2008 Bi-Op) requires the federal government to take actions to restore salmon throughout the Columbia River basin, when feasible. Though this project has been contemplated since 1995, federal funds were not available for design and compliance until the completion of 2008 Bi-Op and a corresponding legal obligation.

SELECTED ALTERNATIVE & OTHER ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED

In addition to No Action (Alternative 1), the EA considered Alternative 2 (Active Restoration of Tidal Wetlands at Otter Point). Alternative 2 is selected for implementation. There are no modifications due to public comment incorporated herein.

The approved project involves active restoration methods to restore historic tidal connection between the Lewis and Clark River and the Otter Point wetland. Preliminary designs for this project were completed in 2008. This initial design phase included ground surveys, soil surveys, hydraulic and hydrologic analysis, geotechnical analysis, a wetland delineation, a preliminary cultural analysis, and an engineering feasibility study to develop a restoration design with the goal of improving estuarine habitat connectivity with the greatest ecological benefit possible while at the same time ensuring that there will be no negative impacts to adjacent landowners. The preliminary design work enabled the park, along with its partners to determine the most practical alternative, and to seek additional funding for advanced design work. Full project designs were completed in March 2010. The refined designs further developed the ideas and models presented in the preliminary project designs, and clarified specifications for construction of the realigned northern levee.

The project engineer reviewed LiDAR data provided by NPS, while concurrently conducting ground surveys of the site. Both LiDAR and field survey data were then integrated into a baseline data set that established boundaries and topographic conditions for the entire project area (Henderson Land Services 2010: 5). Examination of LiDAR imaging, as well as ground surveys indicated that 2 historic channel networks transect the Otter Point wetland. Design engineers determined that by removing dredge material within the historic channel networks, and breaching the dike at the 2 locations, the park could effectively restore tidal connectivity to the Otter Point wetland. In order to ensure that the neighboring pasture would not also be inundated, design engineers proposed utilizing the excavated dredge materials from the historic tidal channels to construct a realigned section of the dike along the northern border of the wetland. Along with the constructed enhanced levee, an additional culvert and tide gate would be installed

below the levee in the northwestern corner of the property in order to provide additional drainage to the adjacent pasture. The existing culvert and tide gate in the northeastern corner would be replaced with a new culvert and tide gate in the existing location to ensure that current drainage patterns are not negatively altered. Furthermore, a bioswale would be constructed on the northern side of the enhanced levee to provide adequate water storage capacity for surface water drainage during high water events.

Alternative 2, the enhanced partial levee removal, balances excavation and fill activities on the Otter Point Restoration site. This preferred design restores tidal influence within Otter Point and provides a surface hydrologic connection to the Lewis & Clark River. Restored dendritic tidal channels (totaling 4,952 lineal feet) transecting the site provide tidally influenced habitat with diverse salinity profiles for salmonid refugia and rearing. Freshwater input from upslope seeps, springs, and intermittent streams is directed into these channels to increase diversity and seasonal productivity of this estuarine habitat. Establishment of small scale channels and alcoves off of the larger restored channels will provide a diversity of refugia for juvenile salmonids. With reestablished surface connectivity with upslope seeps, springs and intermittent streams, coupled with the anticipated intersection of channel excavation with ground water *in situ*, juvenile salmonids will be presented with a diversity of salinities throughout the project site; this will allow these fish to undergo osmotic regulation and transition while occupying the restored project site. The juxtaposition of small channels and alcoves with upland margin vegetation on portions of the site will enhance opportunities for macroinvertebrate recruitment – an essential component of juvenile salmonid use of historical estuarine channels that has been lost throughout large portions of the Columbia River estuary (Henderson Land Services 2010: 13).

Other Alternatives Considered and Dismissed

During the scoping phase several technical restoration options were considered, including “Full Levee Removal”. This option involved removing the entire levee, as opposed to portions in specific areas. Ultimately this option was not carried forward for analysis in the EA for the following reasons:

1.) Pacific Power and Light has a high voltage transmission line, known as the “Warrenton Spur” that bi-sects the project site. It is the main electrical connection between Astoria and Tillamook. Full removal of the levee could mean complete flooding of the property during extreme flood events. Recent extreme flooding events and severe windstorms in December, 2007 resulted in many downed power lines that crews were not able to access because of flooding and left many customers without power for an extended period of time. This poses a health and public safety concern. Pacific Power and Light must have access to this transmission line in order to repair or protect the transmission line when necessary; if this line goes down, Warrenton and Tillamook are without power. Pacific Power and Light possesses an easement within the project site that allows them access for maintenance, repair and construction. Full removal of the existing levee would compromise the right of access granted in the easement, and would result in potentially intrusive methods of alternate access to the power poles that would nullify portions of the restoration benefits.

2.) Preliminary estimates for grading for full levee removal would have required approximately 50,000 cubic yards of excavation. Construction of the northern levee would ‘use’ 30,000 cubic

yards. The remaining 20,000 cubic yards would have to be disposed of offsite at considerable expense as well as the difficulty in finding a legal location to take the material.

3.) Maintaining or preserving winter habitat for the resident Roosevelt elk in the park is a priority for the NPS. Full levee removal would allow flooding of the Otter Point site, even though it may be an uncommon event; it may prevent higher elevation vegetation communities from transitioning to a spruce/hemlock forest that provides habitat and cover for the resident elk.

ENVIRONMENTALLY PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE

As documented in the EA, the National Park Service (NPS) determined the “environmentally preferred” alternative is Alternative 2. The environmentally preferred alternative is the course of action that will promote the national environmental policy expressed in NEPA (sec. 101 (b)):

- Fulfill the responsibilities of each generation as a trustee of the environment for succeeding generations.
- Ensure for all Americans safe, healthful, productive, and esthetically and culturally pleasing surroundings.
- Attain the widest range of beneficial uses of the environment without degradation, risk of health or safety, or other undesirable and unintended consequences.
- Preserve important historic, cultural, and natural aspects of our national heritage and maintain, whenever possible, an environment that supports diversity and variety of individual choice.
- Achieve a balance between population and resource use that will permit high standards of living and a wide sharing of life’s amenities.
- Enhance the quality of renewable resources and approach the maximum attainable recycling of depletable resources.

The Council on Environmental Quality Regulations (CEQ) regulations implementing NEPA and the NPS NEPA guidelines require that “the alternative or alternatives which were considered to be environmentally preferable” be identified (Council on Environmental Quality Regulations, Section 1505.2). Ordinarily, this means the alternative that causes the least damage to the biological and physical environment; it also means the alternative that best protects, preserves, and enhances historic, cultural, and natural resources.

Alternative 2 was determined to be “environmentally preferred” through evaluation by NPS staff based on its ability to meet restoration objectives, as well as its beneficial effect on the environment and surrounding properties. In addition the project satisfies the requirements of the General Management Plan/EIS and the 2008 Biological Opinion, while also meeting other project goals such as having no foreseeable adverse impacts on adjacent properties. In contrast Alternative 1, the No Action Alternative, is not “environmentally preferred” because it would fail to enhance the quality of renewable resources. The Otter Point wetlands system would continue to exist in its degraded condition that provides minimal habitat value to native fish and wildlife. The wetland site would also continue to exist in a condition that does not reflect the historic conditions that were experienced by Lewis and Clark’s Corps of Discovery during the 1805-1806 occupation of Fort Clatsop.

Decision Rationale

Selecting the partial dike removal method comports with the park's General Management Plan by restoring the cultural landscape of Otter Point back to the tidal marsh environment that existed during the 1805-1806 occupation by the Corps of Discovery. This design also complies with the 2008 Biological Opinion by restoring 13 acres of off-channel juvenile salmonids forage and rearing habitat within the Columbia River Basin.

This alternative also restores topographical diversity found in similar salt marshes by placing and shaping excavated native material adjacent to portions of the levee where spruce trees have become established (typically above the 11-foot NAV88 elevation). These restored and/or enhanced 'islands' will add to the habitat diversity of the Otter Point site, providing such functions as shading and macroinvertebrate recruitment over salmonid-bearing channels, nesting and roosting areas for passerines and waterfowl, and the like. Enhancement of these islands will provide for placement of excess excavated material over that required for enhancement of the northern levee. Slopes of these shaped upland islands are very gradual (minimum 3:1) providing for establishment of a diversity of native plantings. At the toe of each slope, a broad, shallow swale provides for introduction of freshwater and saline-tolerant native herbaceous species as well as provides opportunities for surface drainage back into the Lewis & Clark River (Henderson Land Services 2010: 16).

MITIGATION

The selected alternative primarily results in beneficial effects. In areas where there is the potential for short- or long-term adverse effects, the following mitigation measures and best management practices will be implemented.

Resource Area	Mitigation	Responsible Party
General Considerations	All disturbed areas of the project will be seeded with native grass seed and covered with straw after construction is complete to prevent erosion and sedimentation out to the Lewis and Clark River.	NPS in cooperation with the selected contractor.
	Clearing/grading will be limited to minimum practicable extent.	NPS in cooperation with the selected contractor.
Vegetation	No tree cutting or vegetation removal will occur outside of the designated project area.	NPS in cooperation with the selected contractor.
Water Quality	Sediment fencing will be installed along the ordinary high water line to prevent siltation from any adjacent upland work.	NPS in cooperation with the selected contractor.
	All completed bank sloping and stream channel work will be covered with biodegradable coconut mesh netting and re-vegetated.	NPS in cooperation with the selected contractor.

PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT & AGENCY COORDINATION

The NPS interdisciplinary team conducted multiple internal scoping meetings throughout the proposed project's inception from 2008 to 2010 to identify purpose and need for wetland restoration actions, establish objectives and goals for restoration, inventory an initial array of possible restoration techniques and methods for consideration, identify key environmental issues and analysis topics, and set screening and evaluation criteria against which method effectiveness would be judged and impacts would be analyzed.

The NPS conducted public scoping for this project during May-June, 2010 and solicited input from the public through direct mailing and presentations. On June 16, 2010, NPS notified local, state, and federal agencies, other interested organizations, and the general public of the proposed actions at Otter Point through a public scoping letter. This letter was posted on both the Lewis and Clark National Historical Park and the NPS Planning, Environment, and Public Comment websites and mailed out to individuals and groups on the park's mailing list. In addition, a news release was sent out on June 16, 2010 announcing the public and agency scoping meetings on Thursday June 24, 2010. The public and agency scoping meeting consisted of presentations with design drawings and a public site walk.

During the scoping period, multiple individuals supported the project and its benefits to habitat. Public issues of concern addressed in preparing the EA were dike realignment construction for adjoining property *Land Use*. Altogether two written and four oral comments were received at the public scoping meeting (all responses were in favor of the project).

The EA was made available for public review and comment during a 30-day period from August 25 to August 26, 2010. Public notice of the availability of the EA was provided to individuals, organizations, and agencies through notification on the park website (www.nps.gov/leiw) and the NPS Planning, Environmental and Public Comment website (<http://parkplanning.nps.gov/lewi>). The EA was sent to two public libraries: Astoria Public Library and Warrenton Public Library as well as park headquarters. Two press releases were published in the Daily Astorian newspaper inviting the public to the scoping meetings and a guided tour of the project site.

Agency Consultation

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

The Army Corps of Engineers administers regulatory programs under federal laws such as Section 404 of the Clean Water Act and Section 10 of the Harbors Act. These laws require that prior to conducting removal or filling in the waters of the state of Oregon, a permit must be obtained from the Army Corps of Engineers and the Oregon Department of State Lands. On March 31, 2010, the NPS submitted a joint permit application for both federal and state permits. Additional correspondence with Army Corps personnel was conducted by phone and email between April and September, 2010. In a letter dated September 24, 2010 the Army Corps of Engineers authorized activities proposed in Phase I of the Otter Point Restoration Project under the terms and limitations of the Nationwide Permit. Phase II activities will require further authorization from the Army Corps of Engineers; the park is aware of these pending project stipulations and all mitigations are incorporated by reference in this FONSI.

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service conducted an informal review of proposed actions through an on-site visit on January 5, 2010. U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service personnel also reviewed project designs and provided informal comments on the Environmental Assessment on September 14, 2010.

Region State and Tribal Historic Preservation Officers

The NPS initiated the Section 106 consultation in June 2010, when they sent a letter to Oregon SHPO with the findings of their archeological survey. NPS also offered consultations with the Clatsop-Nehalem Confederated Tribes, Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians, Confederated Tribes of the Grand Ronde and the Chinook Indian Nation. On August 17, 2010 Oregon SHPO concurred with the NPS determination of affect that the Otter Point Restoration project will have no affect on any known cultural resources.

Oregon Department of State Lands

A joint permit application for fill and removal activities was also submitted to ODSL to gain consent to work within the submersed and submersible lands of the State of Oregon. ODSL approved the permit application on July 7, 2010.

WHY THE SELECTED ALTERNATIVE HAS NO SIGNIFICANT EFFECT ON THE QUALITY OF THE HUMAN ENVIRONMENT

The NPS used the following NEPA criteria and factors defined in 40 CFR §1508.27 to evaluate whether the Selected Alternative would have a significant impact on the environment.

Degree of effect on Public Health or Safety.

Otter Point Restoration will comply with the Section 408 authorization for dike realignment and the park will obtain final approval by the Chief of Engineers from USACE prior to each construction phase.

Phase I:

Army Corps of Engineers Nationwide permit (obtained)

Oregon Department of State Lands Fill/ Removal permit (obtained and valid through both phases)

Clatsop County Development permit (obtained and valid through both phases)

NEPA compliance (obtained)

Phase II:

Army Corps of Engineers Nationwide permit (Re-apply for phase II)

Army Corps of Engineers 408 process

The Section 408 process involves risk analysis to determine whether the project will result in increased risk to public safety. Variables in a risk analysis include geotechnical and structural analysis, as well as evaluation of hydraulic and hydrologic parameters. USACE has provided technical guidance for this process in the EM 1110-2-1619 document, but has yet to fully develop the guidance needed to analyze risk and uncertainty for the geotechnical and structural

performance of a system. Until such guidance is developed, deterministic procedures are appropriate for demonstrating geotechnical and structural integrity under full range loading conditions (U.S. Army Corps of Engineers 2008).

Unique characteristics of the geographic area such as proximity to historic or cultural resources, park lands, prime farmlands, wetlands, wild and scenic rivers, or ecologically critical areas.

As envisioned in the approved GMP/EIS the park is protecting and enhancing wetlands in the park, as much to maintain the “historic scene,” as to meet the park’s other compliance mandates. Planners have consistently noted that most of the wetlands in Fort Clatsop have been altered by diking, however, and so wetland restoration in the park would often require more than simple hydrological fixes – instead, this restoration would require the reconstruction of entire wetland landscapes, perhaps to their early 19th century condition (Deur 2008: 3).

Based on the Preliminary Cultural and Historical Assessment conducted in 2008, project designers would:

- 1) Restore, to the extent possible, the open salt marsh landscape and associated channel morphology that will, in turn, accentuate the promontory of the Fort Clatsop site from the vantage point of current or proposed visitor access (Deur 2008: 5).
- 2) Restore, to the extent possible, the historical shoreline along the upland-wetland interface through such actions as road decommissioning and contouring at the conclusion of restoration earthwork (Deur 2008: 5).
- 3) Retain, where possible, visual barriers from points of current or proposed visitor access, so that the development north and northeast of the park is shielded from view, but landmarks from Saddle Mountain southward are equally or more visible than today (Deur 2008: 5).

In consultation with NPS Water Resources Division the Otter Point Restoration project was determined to warrant an “exception” to the requirement to prepare a Wetland Statement of Findings. Defined in the Procedural Manual actions designed specifically for the purpose of restoring degraded natural wetland, stream, riparian, or other aquatic habitats or ecological processes are exceptions and therefore exempt.

Degree to which effects on the quality of the human environment are likely to be highly controversial.

Actions which are approved include adding an additional culvert and tide gate to drain the neighboring pastureland. Currently, there is only one drainage outlet. A crown in the middle of the field isolates water on the western portion of the field from this drainage outlet. As a result, there is ponding in the western corner of the pasture. Installation of an additional culvert and tide gate in the western corner of the property would eliminate ponding in the field in most conditions. However, construction activities may create minor short-term adverse effects from excavation activities along the border of the neighboring property that would require temporary removal of the existing culvert. During the scoping phase these measures were supported by the public.

Degree to which the possible effects on the quality of the human environment are highly uncertain or involve unique or unknown risks.

Construction of this project would not temporarily exclude park visitors from previously accessible park amenities. Construction efforts may temporarily impact the viewshed of the area, thereby creating negligible short-term adverse effects. However, this alternative would create opportunities to use the project as an educational tool and provide future capacity for trail expansion with the Warrenton Trail system.

Whether the action is related to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant impacts.

Restoring the Otter Point wetland will improve the cultural landscape of the park and help to restore salmon populations in the Columbia River Basin, it will also have cumulative benefits as part of a larger-scale effort to improve the habitat value and overall function of the Lewis and Clark River. Several projects have already been completed on the Lewis and Clark River including a wetland restoration immediately upstream from Otter Point, also within the park (See Figure 1-3). This restoration project, entitled the South Clatsop Slough Restoration, was completed in 2007 and entailed reconnecting 45 acres of historic pasture with the Lewis and Clark River by replacing a failing tide gate with a bridge to reestablish tidal connection. Post-project fish presence surveys at the South Clatsop Slough site have indicated a 10-fold increase of juvenile salmonids using the wetland habitat.

Further upstream on the Lewis and Clark River, in 2006, the City of Seaside breached 2 dikes on their property, effectively reconnecting 25 acres of wetland with the mainstem of the river. Together, these projects increase the habitat benefit for Lower Columbia River salmonids by providing contiguous off-channel refugia within the same river basin.

In addition, to the cumulative restoration efforts within the Lewis and Clark River Basin, these individual restoration projects are part of an even larger scale effort to restore salmon habitat and floodplain function within the Youngs Bay Watershed, and greater yet the Columbia River Estuary. Numerous projects have been accomplished over the past decade to improve fish passage to upstream spawning and rearing habitat, restore off-channel refugia, and improve the quality of instream habitat and riparian condition.

Examples of projects recently completed within the Youngs Bay Watershed include a 2006 project on the Walluski River that restored 4,800 feet of stream by placing 295 pieces of large woody debris within the river for in-stream habitat complexity. Also, during the 2008-2009 planting seasons, the Youngs Bay Watershed Council utilized grant funding to replant over 6 acres of riparian area on the North Fork Klaskanine River.

Examples of recently implemented projects within the Columbia River Estuary include a 2002 project on Blind Slough to reopen fish passage by replacing 2 undersized culverts with 5 60-inch culverts; as well as a 2008 project on the Alderbrook Slough to remove invasive plants and revegetate the slough with native wetland plants.

Degree to which the action may adversely affect districts, sites, highways, structures, or objects listed on National Register of Historic Places or may cause loss or destruction of significant scientific, cultural, or historical resources.

No adverse affects to historic district, highways, structures or objects listed o the National Register of Historic Places. Pedestrian surveys of the project site did not yield pre-Contact or historic sites within the current project areas. No historical properties, cultural features, artifacts, or modern refuse were identified during either pedestrian or subsurface survey investigations. Archival research does not locate any historical structures within the Otter Point project area. Therefore, data obtained during archaeological reconnaissance survey indicates that the project as proposed will have **no adverse effect** on historic properties, and may proceed as planned (Horton 2010: 49). However, an archeological monitor would be on site during all ground disturbing activities that exceed depths of 35 inches. Furthermore, NPS follows the standard operating procedure that mandates a cessation of all work, and immediate contact of the State Historic Preservation Office, if anthropogenic materials are encountered.

Degree to which the action may adversely affect an endangered or threatened species or its critical habitat.

No adverse affects to endangered or threatened species or critical habitat. The project involves restoring approximately 8 acres of off-channel juvenile salmonids habitat in the Lower Columbia River Estuary. Off-channel habitat would be enhanced by installation of large woody debris to provide in stream complexity and cover from predation. Riparian plantings would provide shade cover and potential for inputs of macrodetritus. Minor short- term adverse impacts during construction would be mitigated using soil plugs, erosion control methods and revegetating disturbed areas of the site. Phase I construction activities will have no effect on threatened and endangered species. NPS will conduct a biological assessment of the site prior to Phase II implementation as part of the Endangered Species Act Section 7 Consultation.

Alternative 2 would result in major long- term beneficial impacts to threatened and endangered species as a result of increased off-channel habitat for salmonids. Potential minor short-term adverse effects would be mitigated.

Whether the actions violate Federal, state or local environmental protection law.

All permits will be obtained prior to construction and no violation of Federal, state or local environmental protection laws will occur.

IMPAIRMENT

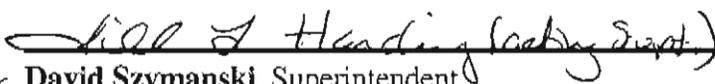
The National Park Service has determined that implementation of the Selected Alternative and associated mitigation measures will not constitute an impairment to Lewis and Clark National Historical Park's resources and values. The approved project actions will achieve goals identified in the park's GMP/EIS. There will be no major adverse or unacceptable impacts to a resource or value whose conservation is 1) necessary to fulfill specific purposes identified in the park's

establishing legislation; 2) key to the natural or cultural integrity of the park or to opportunities for enjoyment of the park; or 3) identified as a goal in the park's general management plan or other relevant NPS planning documents. This conclusion is based on a thorough analysis of the environmental impacts described in Otter Point Environmental Assessment, the mitigation measures, agency consultations, considerations of the public comments received, relevant scientific studies, and the professional judgment of the decision-maker guided by the direction in NPS Management Policies.

CONCLUSION

Implementation of the Otter Point Restoration as described above will not have significant impacts on the human environment. The determination is sustained by the analysis in the EA, agency consultations, the inclusion and consideration of public scoping comments, and the capability of mitigations to reduce or avoid impacts. Adverse environmental impacts that could occur are negligible to minor in intensity, duration, and context. As described in the EA, there are no highly uncertain controversial or unacceptable impacts, unique or unknown risks, significant cumulative effects, or elements of precedence. There are no previous, planned, or implemented actions, which in combination with the selected alternative would have significant effects on the human environment. Requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act have been satisfied and preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement is not required. The park will implement the Selected Alternative as soon as practical.

Recommended:

for  10/6/2010
David Szymanski, Superintendent Date
Lewis and Clark National Historical Park

Approved:

for  10/8/2010
Christine S. Lehnertz, Regional Director Date
Pacific West Region, National Park Service