



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
U.S. ARMY ENGINEER DISTRICT, SACRAMENTO
CORPS OF ENGINEERS
1325 J STREET
SACRAMENTO CA 95814-2922



REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

April 19, 2010

Regulatory Division SPK-2010-00490

Mr. David Bryant
Tulare County Resource Management Agency
Government Plaza
Visalia, California 93277

Dear Mr. Bryant:

We are responding to your March 25, 2010 request for comments on the Tulare County General Plan 2030 Update. The study area is located near Section 2, Township 20 South, Range 29 East, MDB&M Survey, and encompasses all of Tulare County, California. Your identification number is SPK-2010-00490.

The Corps of Engineers' jurisdiction within the study area is under the authority of Section 404 of the Clean Water Act for the discharge of dredged or fill material into waters of the United States. Waters of the United States include, but are not limited to, rivers, perennial or intermittent streams, lakes, ponds, wetlands, vernal pools, marshes, wet meadows, and seeps. Project features that result in the discharge of dredged or fill material into waters of the United States will require Department of the Army authorization prior to starting work. Thank you for noting the extent of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' (Corps) jurisdiction in the re-circulated Draft Environmental Impact Report.

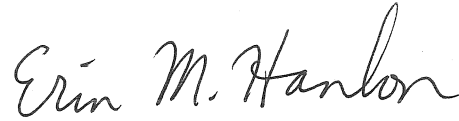
To ascertain the extent of waters on individual project sites, applicants should prepare a wetland delineation, in accordance with the "Minimum Standards for Acceptance of Preliminary Wetland Delineations", under "Jurisdiction" on our website at the address below, and submit it to this office for verification. A list of consultants that prepare wetland delineations and permit application documents is also available on our website at the same location.

The range of alternatives considered for any project should include alternatives that avoid impacts to wetlands or other waters of the United States. Every effort should be made to avoid project features which require the discharge of dredged or fill material into waters of the United States. In the event it can be clearly demonstrated there are no practicable alternatives to filling waters of the United States, mitigation plans should be developed to compensate for the unavoidable losses resulting from project implementation.

Please refer to identification number SPK-2010-00490 in any correspondence concerning the 2030 Update. If you have any questions, please contact Erin Hanlon at U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Regulatory Division, 1325 J Street, Rm 1480, Sacramento, CA 95814, email

Erin.M.Hanlon@usace.army.mil, or telephone 916-557-5250. For more information regarding our program, please visit our website at *www.spk.usace.army.mil/regulatory.html*.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Erin M. Hanlon". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Erin M. Hanlon
Regulatory Project Manager,
California South Branch