



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

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

May 2, 2008

Regulatory Division (SPK-2006-00062)

Robert Sellman
Planning Director
Calaveras County
891 Mountain Ranch Road
San Andreas, California 95249

Dear Sellman:

We are responding to your March 28, 2008 Notice of Preparation for a Revised Draft Environmental Impact Report for The Ridge at Trinitas project (2004-114). This project is located in Section 12, Township 3 North, Range 3 East, MDB&M, in Western Calaveras County, California.

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.

This project is currently under investigation for the unauthorized fill that was placed into waters of the United States with the creation of the golf course. To ascertain the extent of waters on the project site, the applicant 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.

Since waters of the United States were impacted, and more may be proposed to be impacted, cultural resource sites within the defined federal permit area will need to be evaluated according to the standards of the National Environmental Policy Act. All eligible or potentially eligible cultural resource sites to the National Register of Historic Places within the permit area will be subject to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, 1966, as amended. The Corps of Engineers must also comply with the terms and conditions of the Federal Endangered Species Act with regards to our permitting process. A recent biological assessment of the project site will be required for us review and to use to comply with the federal Endangered Species Act. Waters of the United States, cultural resources, and federal endangered species are all of a concern to us on this site.

Exhibit

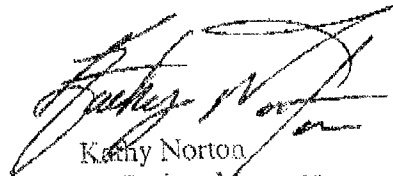
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The range of alternatives considered for this project should include alternatives that avoid additional impacts to wetlands or other waters of the United States. Every effort should be made to avoid project features which require the discharge of dredged 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-2006-00062 in any correspondence concerning this project. If you have any questions, please contact Kathy Norton at our letterhead address, email kathy.norton@usace.army.mil, or telephone 916-557-5260. You may also use our website: www.spk.usace.army.mil/regulatory.html.

Sincerely,



Kathy Norton
Sr. Project Manager
California North Branch

Enclosure

Copy furnished without enclosure

Susan Jones, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Endangered Species Division, San Joaquin Valley
Office, 2800 Cottage Way, Suite W2605, Sacramento, California 95825-3901
William Marshall, California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Storm Water and Water
Quality Certification Unit, 11020 Sun Center Drive #200, Rancho Cordova, California 95760-
6114
Kim Hudson, Quad Knowledge, Inc., One Sierragate Plaza, Suite 270C, Roseville, California 95678



FACSIMILE HEADER SHEET

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Sacramento District1325 J Street
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5 May 08

TO: <i>Robert Sellman</i> <i>Planning Director</i>	Fax Phone: <i>916-754-6540</i> Voice Phone: <i>916-754-</i>
FROM: Kathy Norton Regulatory Branch (CESPK-CO-R)	Fax Phone: (916) 557-6877 Voice Phone: (916) 557-5260

Number of Pages to follow: 2

(Releaser's Signature)

COMMENTS:

NOP (2004-114)

Trinitas Response letter.

