DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Natural Resources Conservation Service

Environmental Assessment; Rehabilitation of Grade Stabilization Structure W–3, Papillion Creek Watershed, Washington County, NE

AGENCY: Natural Resources Conservation Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of Availability, Finding of No Significant Impact.

SUMMARY: The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) has prepared an Environmental Assessment in compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), as amended. Pursuant to the implementing regulations for NEPA (40 CFR parts 1500–1508); the USDA Departmental Policy for the NEPA (7 CFR part 1b); the Natural Resources Conservation Service Regulations (7 CFR part 650); and the Natural Resources Conservation Service policy (General Manual Title 190, Part 410); the Natural Resources Conservation Service gives notice that an environmental impact statement is not being prepared for the rehabilitation of grade stabilization Structure W3 in Papillion Creek Watershed, Washington County, Nebraska. The Environmental Assessment was developed in coordination with the sponsoring local organization (Papio-Missouri River Natural Resources District) for a federally assisted action to address grade stabilization and incidental flood control prevention in the Papillion Creek Watershed and the status of grade stabilization Structure W–3. Upon consideration of the affected environment, alternatives, environmental consequences, and comments and coordination with concerned public and agencies, the State Conservationist for NRCS, Nebraska found that based on the significance and context and intensity that the proposed action is not a major federal action significantly affecting the quality of the human environment. Thus, a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) was made.


SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The sponsoring local organization concurs with this determination and agrees with carrying forward the proposed project. Structure W–3 does not meet NRCS safety and performance standards for a High Hazard Class structure. The proposed action is to rehabilitate Structure W–3 to current NRCS High Hazard Class requirements and extend its life for 90 years. The following actions are proposed: The existing principal spillway would be removed and replaced, the auxiliary spillway would be raised and an additional auxiliary spillway would be constructed, and the top of dam would be raised to increase storage capacity.

Information regarding this finding may be obtained at the contact information listed above. No administrative action on implementation of the proposed funding action will be taken until 30 days after the date of this publication in the Federal Register.

Signed in Lincoln, Nebraska on July 17, 2008.

Stephen K. Chick,
State Conservationist.

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