

MITIGATED DETERMINATION OF NON-SIGNIFICANCE

File No. TD 2025-01

DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED ACTION: The Main Canal Mile Post 8.4 to 9.6 Canal Grading and Multiple Siphon Removals Project will decommission the existing Main Canal (MC) 9.0 siphon, the MC 7.2 siphon, the MC 7.5 siphon and the MC 10.4 siphon. It will also re-align and re-construct the canal prism of the KID Main Canal. Upon siphon decommissioning, the KID Main Canal will be realigned and re-graded to construct an open channel canal within the area of the decommissioned siphons. A concrete access ramp will be installed within the canal at the removed siphons of MC 10.4, MC 9.0 and MC 7.2 to provide KID vehicular access, to provide a safe stormwater discharge point into the canal and a safe exit point from the canal for trapped animals. Areas of the canal prism outside of a concrete structure will be lined with high density polyethylene (HDPE). The existing concrete lined section of the KID Main Canal directly adjacent to Webber Canyon Road will be raised and lined with HDPE. The installation of a new turnout and 16-inch delivery pipe will also occur.

PROPONENT: Kennewick Irrigation District (KID)

LOCATION: This project is in Division II of the Kennewick Irrigation District Main Canal within Benton County, Washington. The project is bound by the entrance to the KID Main Canal mile post 7.2 siphon entrance and the exit of the KID Main Canal mile post 10.4 siphon exit, with several work areas identified within the project boundary.

RESPONSIBLE SEPA OFFICIAL: Seth Defoe, Land and Water Resources Manager

THRESHOLD DETERMINATION:

KID, the lead agency for this proposal, has determined that the proposal will not have a probable significant adverse impact on the environment. An Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is not required under RCW 43.21C.030 (2) (c) and Chapter 197-11 WAC. This decision was made after review of a completed SEPA Environmental Checklist dated August 18, 2025, and other information on file with the lead agency. The responsible official finds this information reasonably sufficient to evaluate the environmental impact of this proposal. This information is available to the public on request. The checklist attachments and reference documents can be viewed at www.kid.org.

In accordance with KID Policy 8.1 and WAC 197-11-350, the lead agency for this proposal has determined that certain mitigation measures are necessary in order to issue a Determination of Non-Significance (DNS) for this proposal; that such conditions are necessary to mitigate specific probable adverse environmental impacts identified in environmental documents prepared pursuant to this policy; that the mitigation measures included in such conditions are reasonable and capable of being accomplished; that it has considered whether other local, state, or federal

mitigation measures applied to the proposal are sufficient to mitigate the identified impacts; that such conditions are based on one or more policies in KID Policy 8.1; and that such conditions will be in writing in a decision document.

These mitigation measures are conditions of approval imposed pursuant to RCW 43.21C.060 and KID Policy 8.1; and are enforceable under the procedures of KID Policy 8.1. These mitigation measures include the following:

Mitigated Determination of Non-significance Terms and Conditions

1. Earth

- a. Best Management Practices will be utilized to reduce erosion at the project site during construction activities.
- b. All fill materials for this project shall be sourced from local borrow sites in the KID right-of-way or adjacent KID-owned parcels.
- c. Any work on this project occurring outside of the KID right-of-way or KID-owned parcels (such as canal bank encroachments, for example) will require written permission from adjacent landowners, and, if required, permits and other related requirements. This condition includes accessing adjacent parcels to perform construction in the KID right-of-way.

2. Air

- a. Best Management Practices, such as watering, will be used to minimize and control fugitive dust during the construction project.
- b. Compliance with the applicable regulations of the Benton County Clean Air Authority regarding dust control shall be met.
- c. Construction vehicles and machinery will not be allowed to idle during periods when they are not in use.
- d. Utilize equipment and machinery that meets relevant state and federal emissions standards.

3. Historic and Cultural Preservation

- a. If any possible cultural material is encountered during the project, work must be suspended at that location and the authorized KID official contacted, along with DAHP and the appropriate Native American Tribes.
- b. In the event of the inadvertent discovery of human remains, all work in the vicinity of the find will be halted and the authorized KID official notified immediately, along with DAHP and the appropriate Native American Tribes.

- c. Compliance with all other applicable laws pertaining to archaeological resources is required, including KID's Inadvertent Discovery Plan (IDP).

4. Plants

- a. If the project begins in the fall or early winter season, sagebrush laden with seed that is found on site that will be impacted by the project will be lopped and staked into the ground per the methodology described by McAdoo and Schultz in suitable areas located in the KID right-of-way, including in the ephemeral drainages located upslope of the siphon removal sites and in the KID right-of-way.
- b. Hydroseeding with a native seed mix will occur in disturbed areas within the KID right-of-way that are not part of the canal maintenance road or rock-armored canal embankment sections.

5. Animals

- a. Grading and/or additional berms will be installed as necessary within the canal right-of-way to contain the stormwater near the original siphon locations and provide a source of water for wildlife. The water pooled in this location will enter the canal via the ramp when it reaches the elevation necessary to safely enter the canal.
- b. The design of the access ramp at MP 10.4 will include a concrete surface that spans the canal cross-section to provide passage for animals to cross the canal.
- c. All work shall begin before the spring and summer songbird nesting season (February 1 – July 31), as any birds that move into an area with pre-existing construction noise and activities are often more acclimated to the noise and therefore less likely to experience disturbance due to construction. If this requirement cannot be met, as an alternative, a nesting bird survey will need to be completed before work commences that disturbs standing vegetation on the site.
- d. All work that disturbs sagebrush shall be completed before the spring and summer songbird nesting season begins (February 1 – July 31). If this requirement cannot be met, as an alternative, a nesting bird survey will need to be completed before work commences that disturbs standing vegetation on the site.
- e. To reduce disturbance to known Ferruginous Hawk nests located nearby, no work on the MC 10.4 siphon removal site shall occur from March 1 to July 31. As an alternative to the site specific "no work" window, surveying and potentially monitoring for nest activity or disturbance during the project will need to occur, if work cannot be avoided at the MC 10.4 site, from March 1 to July 31.

6. Water

- a. The concrete access ramp and emergency spillway that is planned to be constructed in the canal at the MC 10.4 siphon site over Webber Canyon shall be designed to accept

the runoff from the Probable Maximum Precipitation (PMP) event to ensure that the rebuilt canal can handle such a storm runoff event.

- b. The emergency spillway at the MC 10.4 siphon site shall be designed in a manner that reduces the impacts of Webber Canyon runoff on property downstream of the spillway.

Kennewick Irrigation District

RESPONSIBLE	_____	DATE: <u>09/25/2025</u>
OFFICIAL:	Seth Defoe	
TITLE:	Land and Water Resources Manager	
ADDRESS:	Kennewick Irrigation District 2015 South Ely Street Kennewick, WA 99337 sdefoe@kid.org (509) 586-6012	

APPEALS: This DNS is issued under KID Regulation and WAC 197-11-340(2); the lead agency will not act on this proposal for 14 days. There is no administrative appeal provided. Any appeal of this DNS must be filed with the governmental action. RCW 43.21C.075.