



March 30, 2007

Ms. Diane Smith
Water Quality Protection Division (6WQ-NP)
U S Environmental Protection Agency
1445 Ross Avenue
Dallas, TX 75202

RE: Submittal of Notice of Intent for Application for Coverage Under the USEPA NPDES Phase 2 MS4 Permit

Dear Ms. Smith,

The City of Farmington, located in San Juan County, New Mexico, intends to apply for coverage under the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Phase 2 Permit for Small Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems (MS4s), which was finalized on September 29, 2006, and became effective January 1, 2007.

In accordance with Section 3.2 of the Permit, the City of Farmington presents the following information:

- 1 Legal Name of **MS4** Operator City of Farmington
- 2 Mailing Address: City of Farmington
800 Municipal Drive
Farmington, New Mexico 87401
(505) 599-1301
3. Contact Person: Michael D. Sullivan
Director of Community Development
(505) 599-1285
- 4 Topographic Location Map – is presented within the enclosed Storm Water Management Plan (SWMP)
5. Area of Land within City of Farmington – 32.92 square miles
6. The MS4 is located within the San Juan County New Mexico Urbanized Area (Farmington, San Juan County and Aztec). Latitude and longitude within the approximate center of the City of Farmington was recorded as N36°44'3.762" and W108°12'10.704"
- 7 Major receiving waters are: **San Juan River, Animas River, and La Plata River.**

- 8 City of Farmington is not relying on any other entity to satisfy any portion of the permit obligations.
- 9 A description of the storm water management plan (SWMP), including best management practices (BMPs) that will be implemented and the measurable goals for each of the storm water minimum control measures specified in Part 5.3 of the this permit: the month and year in which the MS4 operator will start and fully implement each of the minimum control measures or the frequency of the action, the name of the persons or positions responsible for implementing or coordinating the SWMP, and supporting documentation required by Parts 1.5 and 1.6 is attached. **See the attached Storm Water Management Plan.**
10. **Eligibility Criteria for Listed Species and Critical Habitat** – In accordance with Section 1.5 of the Permit, the City of Farmington is in the process of evaluating eligibility criteria with regard to listed threatened and endangered species which may be impacted by storm water discharges from the Farmington's MS4. The City of Farmington has elected **not** to engage in agency consultation as a non-Federal representative (50 CFR § 402.08). Rather, City of Farmington retained Ecosphere Environmental Services (Ecosphere) in January 2007 to complete a Biological Assessment on behalf of the City. The Biological Assessment is currently in process and will be forwarded to USEPA upon completion--estimated date, April 30 2007. USEPA can then complete agency consultation with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to finalize eligibility criteria for the City of Farmington. See **Section 14** of the SWMP for more information.
- 11 **Eligibility Criteria for Historic Properties** – City of Farmington retained San Juan College (SJC) Cultural Resources Management Program (CRMP) in January 2007 to assist in identifying properties listed or eligible for listing that will be affected by MS4 storm water discharges. As required in Section 7.6 of the Permit, the City of Farmington has initiated consultation with the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) in order to determine whether City of Farmington is in compliance with the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA). Please see **Section 15** of the SWMP for further information.
- 12 The City of Farmington MS4 discharges to the San Juan, Animas, and La Plata Rivers, all of which have had Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs) developed for reaches within or adjacent to City of Farmington limits. According to the NMED TMDL Program staff, TMDLs do not currently specify a wasteload allocation applicable to storm water discharges. Therefore, in accordance with Section 1.4.6 of the Phase II MS4 Permit, adherence to a SWMP that meets the requirements of the Permit will generally be assumed to be consistent with any currently approved TMDL. If any EPA-approved or established TMDL specifically precludes such discharges in the future, the MS4 operator may not be eligible for coverage. See **Section 4** of the SWMP for more information.

According to the current CWA § 303(d) List for New Mexico, the TMDL Program established TMDLs for fecal coliform (E. coli) and sedimentation/siltation for stretches of the Animas and San Juan Rivers on August 31, 2005. The NMED SWQB and the San Juan Watershed Group are currently developing TMDLs for

eutrification (i.e. nutrients) and for mercury in fish issue. Current TMDL standards for portions of the San Juan, Animas, and La Plata Rivers are summarized in Table 1 of the SWMP

I certify under penalty of law that this document and all attachments were prepared under my direction or supervision in accordance with a system designed to assure that qualified personnel properly gathered and evaluated *the* information submitted. Based on my inquiry of the person or persons who manage the system, or those persons directly responsible for gathering the information, the information submitted is, to the best of my knowledge and belief, true, accurate, and complete. I am aware that there are significant penalties for submitting false information, including the possibility of fine and imprisonment for knowing violations.

Sincerely,



Michael D. Sullivan, Director
Community Development Department
City of Farmington

Enclosure: City of Farmington Storm Water Management Plan
City of Farmington Consultation Correspondence with SHPO

Cc: Program Manager
Point Source Regulations Section
Surface Water Quality Bureau
New Mexico Environment Department
P.O. Box 26110
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87502



20070517 10:00 AM
MICHILLE E. ENSEY
HISTORIC PRESERVATION DIVISION

May 17, 2007

Michelle M. Ensey
Historic Preservation Division
Bataan Memorial Building
407 Galisteo Street, Suite 236
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501

RE: Determination of Effect – City of Farmington Existing Storm Water System and Farmington's Application for Coverage Under the USEPA NPDES Phase 2 MS4 Permit

Dear Ms. Ensey:

Animas Environmental Services, LLC (AES) recently received correspondence from the Historic Preservation Division (HPD) dated May 3, 2007. Noted within the HPD correspondence were references by HPD to two pieces of additional information that should be incorporated into the City of Farmington's Storm Water Management Plan (SWMP).

First, AES has conducted additional database searches containing state and national registered properties to confirm that no registered properties are located in the areas of City of Farmington's storm water **outfalls**. AES consulted the databases noted below and found that the following properties (located within the City of Farmington) were included on the National and State Registers.

National Register

Farmington Historic Downtown Commercial District, Approx. 8 blks, along Main St. and Broadway, from Auburn Ave. to Miller Ave. 2002-12-20
(<http://www.nr.nps.gov/nrloc1.htm>)

State Register

- 1616 Andrews Building, 101 E. Main, Listed 10/20/1995
- 715 Arrington House, 506 W. Arrington, Listed 6/22/1979
- 1812 Farmington Downtown Historic District, Listed 4/5/2002 1212012002
- 1591 Hopkins Place, 503 N. Auburn, Listed 5/16/1994
- 1631 Farmington Rolling Waters Building, 101 W. Main, Listed 3/15/1996
- <http://www.nmhistoricpreservation.org/documents/PropertiesByCounty.pdf>

Review of the properties confirms that the properties are not likely to be impacted by municipal storm water discharges by the City of Farmington.

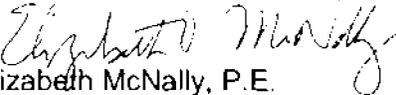
HPD also noted that one other state law, Section 18-6A-5 of the Cultural Properties Protection Act (18-GA-1 through 18-6A-6 NMSA 1978) states that state agencies shall cooperate with the State Historic Preservation Officer and exercise due caution to ensure that cultural properties are not inadvertently damaged or destroyed. Under this



law, the City of Farmington must consult with the SHPO if they plan any new construction or best management practices (BMPs) on city property. Reference to this provision will be incorporated into the City of Farmington's SWMP.

If you have any questions regarding the City of Farmington's SWMP, please do not hesitate to contact me at (505) 564-2281. We appreciate your assistance in providing consultation with the City of Farmington.

Sincerely,


Elizabeth McNally, P.E.
Animas Environmental Services, LLC

Cc: ✓ Diane Smith
Water Quality Protection Division (6WQ-NP)
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
1445 Ross Avenue
Dallas, TX 75202

Nica Westerling, P.E.
City Engineer
City of Farmington
800 Municipal Drive
Farmington, NM 87401



STATE OF NEW MEXICO
DEPARTMENT OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS
HISTORIC PRESERVATION DIVISION

BATAAN MEMORIAL BUILDING
407 GALISTEO STREET, SUITE 236
SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO 87501
PHONE (505)827-6320 FAX (505) 827-6338

BILL RICHARDSON
Governor

May 3, 2007

Elizabeth McNally, PE
Animas Environmental Services
624 E. Comanche
Farmington, NM 87401

Re Request for Determination of Effect – City of Farmington MS4 Permit

Dear Ms. McNally:

Thank you for submitting the information that was prepared for Farmington's MS4 permit. We received this information April 4, 2007.

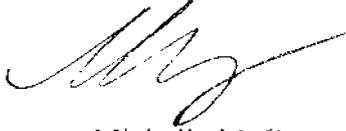
The State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) has determined that storm water discharges within the City of Farmington will not affect properties listed on the National Register of Historic Places or properties that are eligible for listing to the Register. However, two pieces of information was not included in the documentation that might have a bearing on future consultation with this office if the City of Farmington needs to construct new storm water structural controls or BMPs.

1. The documentation and map provided shows only archaeological sites. There are properties (buildings, ditches, etc.) listed on the National Register that are not archaeological sites. Although none of these other properties will be affected, it was not clear from the documentation provided if they were considered as part of the records review. In addition, not all registered properties are included in the New Mexico Cultural Resource Information System, so a separate database containing state or national register properties should have been consulted and referenced in the documentation that was compiled in order to ensure that there were no registered properties at the locations of storm water outfall.
2. There is one other state law that should be referenced under section 3.3, Mitigative Measures. Section 18-6A-5 of the Cultural Properties Protection Act [18-6A-1 to 18-6A-6 NMSA 1978] states that state agencies shall cooperate with the State Historic Preservation Officer and exercise due caution to ensure that cultural properties are not inadvertently damaged or destroyed. Under this state

law, the City of Farmington must consult with the SHPO if they plan any new construction or BMPs on city property.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions on these comments. I can be reached by telephone at (505) 827-4064 or by email at michelle.ensey@state.nm.us.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M. Ensey', with a long, sweeping horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Michelle M. Ensey
Archaeologist

Log: 80904



March 30, 2007

Katherine Slick
State Historic Preservation Officer
Bataan Memorial Building
407 Galisteo Street, Suite 236
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501

RE: Request for Determination of Effect – City of Farmington Existing Storm Water System and Farmington's Application for Coverage Under the USEPA NPDES Phase 2 MS4 Permit

Dear Ms. Slick:

Anirnas Environmental Services, LLC (AES) on behalf of the City of Farmington is submitting the results of a archaeological and listed properties literature search conducted by San Juan College (SJC) Cultural Resources Management Program (CRMP) for archaeological sites located within Farmington City Limits and also within close proximity to known outfalls of Farmington's Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) along the La Plata, Animas, and San Juan Rivers in San Juan County, New Mexico.

The City of Farmington, located in San Juan County, New Mexico, intends to apply for coverage under the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Phase 2 Permit for Small MS4s, which was finalized on September 29, 2006, and became effective January 1, 2007. Farmington's Notice of Intent (NOI) will be submitted to the USEPA before April 1, 2007.

1.0 City of Farmington MS4 General Information

In accordance with Section 3.2 of the Permit, the City of Farmington presents the following information:

- 1. Legal Name of MS4 Operator: City of Farmington
2. Mailing Address: City of Farmington, 800 Municipal Drive, Farmington, New Mexico 87401, (505) 599-1301
3. Contact Person: Michael D. Sullivan, Director of Community Development, (505) 599-1285



4. Topographic Location Map – is presented within the enclosed Storm Water Management Plan (SWMP).
5. Area of Land within City of Farmington = 32.92 square miles
6. The MS4 is located within the San Juan County New Mexico Urbanized Area (Farmington, San Juan County and Aztec). Latitude and longitude within the approximate center of the City of Farmington was recorded as: N36°44'3.762" and W108°12'10.704".
7. Major receiving waters are: **San Juan River, Animas River, and La Plata River.**
8. City of Farmington is not relying on any other entity to **satisfy** any portion of the permit obligations.
9. A description of the storm water management plan (SWMP), including best management practices (BMPs) that will be implemented and the measurable **goals for each of** the storm water minimum control measures specified in Part 5.3 of the **this** permit, the month and year in which the **MS4** operator will start and fully implement each of the minimum control measures or the frequency of the action, the name of the persons or positions responsible for implementing or coordinating the SWMP, and supporting documentation required by Parts 7.5 and 1.6 is attached. **See the enclosed Storm Water Management Plan.**

2.0 National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) Consultation

As required in Section 1.6 of the Permit, City of Farmington retained SJC-CRMP in January 2007 to assist in identifying properties listed or eligible for listing that may be affected by MS4 storm wafer discharges. The City of Farmington is required to comply with the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) as part of the MS4 Phase II Permit.

2.1 Listed Property Records Search

City of Farmington retained SJC-CRMP in January 2007 to prepare a 7.5" USGS quadrangle map showing the boundaries of the City of Farmington and all eligible recorded sites within City boundaries. The **New** Mexico Cultural Resource Information System (NMCRIS) and Archaeological Resource Management System (ARMS) were utilized by SJC-CRMP to obtain site data. The topographic site map with plotted eligible properties is also being submitted to USEPA as part of the Notice of Intent. Note that *the topographic site map with eligible historic properties will be omitted from all copies of the SWMP made available to the public.*

2.2 Potentially Impacted Sites

After careful review of eligible historic properties plotted on the topographic site map, it was initially determined that a total of five listed properties may potentially be impacted by existing storm water discharges by the Farmington MS4. SJC-CRMP obtained additional *site* specific information on these five sites, which are summarized below:

Site LA 68213/Farmers Mutual Ditch

Recorded segments of the Farmers Mutual Ditch are in Sections 16, 17, and 18 (T29N, R13W) and in the southwest portion of Farmington. The original documentation for the noted a construction date of 1920 (Rayl 1988), but during later documentation of a different segment, a local resident stated that the construction was initiated in about 1875 (Matthews 2005). Regardless, the ditch is more than 50 years old. The Farmers Mutual Ditch is still a functioning irrigation ditch which is predominantly dirt-lined, but with numerous modifications of concrete supports, metal pipe culverts, updated head gates, etc. There is no determination of eligibility on record for site LA 68213/Farmers Mutual Ditch by SHPO.

Site LA 99157

Site LA 99157 is located in south Farmington near Boyd Park. The site consists of an abandoned gauging station consisting of a fenced metal platform on the south side of the Anirnas River with a metal cable extending north across the river. The site was built some time around 1952 and used to gage the depth in the river. The site is no longer in use. The site was determined to be an ineligible cultural property by SHPO in 1993.

Site LA 115032/Echo Ditch

The Echo Ditch is also known as the Farmington Echo Ditch and the Farmington-Allen Ditch. Three portions of the ditch have been documented in Section 19 (T29N, R12W) and Section 24 (T29N, R13W) in the south central portion of Farmington, adjacent to the Anirnas River. The initial construction date for the irrigation ditch is in the late 1890s. The Echo Ditch is a functioning ditch that has been heavily modified over the years. The first segment of the Echo Ditch documented was determined to be an ineligible cultural property by SHPO in 2004. However, there is no record of an eligibility determination by SHPO for the other two recorded segments of the ditch.

Site LA 137433/Denver and Rio Grande Western Railroad Grade

A short segment of the Denver and Rio Grande Western Railroad grade has been documented in Section 31 (T30N, R12W), in the east-southeast portion of Farmington. The railroad grade was built in 1905 and abandoned by the railroad company in 1968 (Moore 2002). The portion of the documented railroad grade has been heavily impacted by construction activities and did not retain structural integrity. The portion recorded was recommended ineligible for nomination to the National Register, but there is no record of eligibility determination by SHPO.

Site LA 137434/Star Ditch

The portion of the Star Ditch that has been documented is just north of the above-mentioned railroad grade and is in Section 31 (T30N, R12W) in east-southeast Farmington. The initial construction date for the ditch is 1877, and the original ditch was about 5 miles long (Moore 2002). The ditch was potentially taken out of use for irrigation about 1959, abandoned by the ditch company in 1960, and was officially abandoned by the City of Farmington in the late 1980s or early 1990s. The segment of the ditch documented had been modified and partially converted into an underground storm drain system. The portion recorded was recommended ineligible for nomination to the National Register, but there is no record of determination by SHPO.

Of the five recorded sites in close proximity to Farmington's storm water outfall locations, three consist of irrigation ditches. Of the three ditches, two are still in use (Farmers Mutual Ditch and Echo Ditch). The ditches have either been determined to be ineligible for nomination to the National Register or there is no eligibility determination on record from SHPO. The remaining two sites consist of an abandoned gauging station (determined to be ineligible for listing by SHPO in 1993) and a section of the Denver and Rio Grande Western Railroad Grade (for which the site was recommended ineligible for listing, but there is no record of determination made by SHPO).

2.3 Mitigative Measures

At present, City of Farmington does not pipe or drain storm water into the Echo Ditch or Farmers Mutual Ditch; however, sheet flow does reportedly drain into the Farmers Mutual Ditch. City of Farmington anticipates that more information will be obtained from the **proposed** Master Drainage Study, which should be initiated in 2008. Based upon the results of the Master Drainage Study, specific mitigative measures can be developed in order to protect listed properties or potentially listed properties from adverse impact from existing storm water flows.

For any new storm water structural controls or BMPs that are implemented as a result of the Master Drainage Study, City of Farmington will ensure that the regulations are met:

- Cultural Properties Act, NMSA 1978 Section 18-6-8.1 requires state agencies to consider affects to properties listed on the State Register. Section 18-6-11.2 protects unmarked human burials on state and private **land**. Any discoveries of unmarked human burials will be reported to the local law enforcement agency and the Office of Medical Investigator immediately. The Office of Medical Investigator will terminate jurisdiction to SHPO if the burial is not a crime scene.

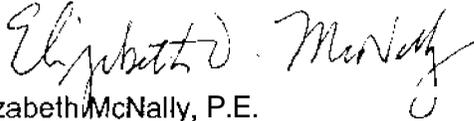
Cultural Properties Act, NMSA 1978 Section 18-6A-5 requires state **agencies** (departments, agencies, institutions, and political subdivisions of the state) to ensure that cultural properties on state land are not inadvertently damaged or destroyed.

Prehistoric and Historic Sites Preservation Act, NMSA 1978 Section 18-8-7 requires that state agencies and political subdivisions consider feasible and prudent alternatives to a use (adverse effect) of a registered cultural property if public funds are **expended**.

Attached please find the NMCRIS Investigation Abstract Form and SJC-CRMP report entitled "*Results of a Cultural Resources Review for the City of Farmington MS4 Application*" and dated March 23, 2007. The cultural resources map for the City of Farmington is also enclosed.

If you have any questions regarding the City of Farmington's Storm Water Management Plan, please do not hesitate to contact me at (505)564-2281. If you have any questions regarding the cultural resources described within SJC-CRMP's report, please contact Meredith Matthews with SJC-CRMP at (505) 566-3344.

Sincerely,



Elizabeth McNally, P.E.
Animas Environmental Services. LLC

Enclosure: Archaeological Sites Map for City of Farmington, New Mexico
NMCRIS Investigation Abstract Form and SJC-CRMP Report,
Dated March 23, 2007
City of Farmington Storm Water Management Plan, March 2007

Cc: **Diane Smith**
Water Quality Protection Division (6WQ-NP)
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
1445 Ross Avenue
Dallas, TX 75202

(w/o Storm Water Management Plan)
Nica Westerling, **P.E.**
City Engineer
City of Farmington
800 Municipal Drive
Farmington, NM 87401



March 30, 2007

Ms. Diane Smith
Water Quality Protection Division (6WQ-NP)
U S Environmental Protection Agency
1445 Ross Avenue
Dallas, TX 75202

RE: Submittal of Notice of Intent for Application for Coverage Under the USEPA NPDES Phase 2 MS4 Permit

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Sincerely,



Michael D. Sullivan, Director
Community Development Department
City of Farmington

Enclosure: City of Farmington Storm Water Management Plan
City of Farmington Consultation Correspondence with SHPO

Cc: Program Manager
Point Source Regulations Section
Surface Water Quality Bureau
New Mexico Environment Department
P.O. Box 26110
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87502

NMCRIS INVESTIGATION ABSTRACT FORM

1. NMCRIS Activity No. 104286	2. Agency NMSHPO	3. Agency Report No.
4. Title of Report: Results of a Cultural Resources Review for the City of Farmington MS4 Application. Author(s): Steven Dye and Meredith Matthews		5. Type of Report: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Negative <input type="checkbox"/> Positive

6. Investigation Type:

Research Design
 Survey/Inventory
 Test Excavation
 Excavation
 Collections/Non-Field Study
 Overview/Lit Review
 Monitoring
 Other:

7. Description of Undertaking: The City of Farmington is applying for a MS4 permit and requested a review of documented cultural properties within storm water discharge outfalls. Project consisted of a records review, no field work	8. Dates of Investigation 2/1/07- 3/22/07
9. Report Date: 3/23/07	

10. Performing Agency/Consultant: San Juan College CRMP Principal Investigator: Meredith Matthews Field Supervisor: Steven Dye Field Personnel Names:	11. Client/Customer Project No.:
12. Performing Agency/Consultant Report No.: 2007-SJC-007	

13. Client/Customer Name: City of Farmington, Department of Community Development Contact: Nicca Westerling Address: 800 Municipal Drive, Farmington, NM 87401 Phone (505) 327-7701	14. Applicable Cultural Resource Permit No (s): NM-07-015-S
--	--

15. Land Status:	Owner Status	Acres Surveyed	Acres in APE
Owner Name	(State, Federal, Tribal, Private)		
TOTALS			N/A

16. Records Search(es):

Date(s) of ARMS File Review: 2/2/07 **Name of Reviewer(s):** Steven Dye
Date(s) of Other Agency File Review: : 3/1/07 **Agency name:** BLM **Name of Reviewer(s):** Steven Dye
Date(s) of NWSR check: 3/21/07 **Name of Reviewer(s):** Meredith Matthews
 See report and oversized map.

17. Survey Data

a. Source Graphics: NAD 27 NAD 83
 USGS 7.5' (1:24,000) topo map Other Topo map, Scale:
 GPS Unit Accuracy: <1.0m <1-10m <10-100m >100m

b. USGS 7.5' Map Name	USGS Quad Code
Farmington North, NM 1979	36108-G2
Farmington South, NM 1979	36108-F2

c. County (ies): San Juan

17. Survey Data (cont.)

d. Nearest City or Town: Farmington

e (1). Legal Description: N/A

e (2). Other Description (e.g. well pad footages, mile markers, plats, land grant name, etc.):

18. Survey Field Methods Narrative:

19. Intensity: 100% coverage <100% coverage

Configuration: block survey units linear survey units (l x w):

other survey units (specify):

Scope: X non-selective (all sites recorded) selective/thematic (selected sites recorded)

Coverage Method: systematic pedestrian coverage other method (describe).

Survey Interval (m): Crew Size: Fieldwork Dates

Survey Person Hour: Recording Person Hours: Total Hours: N/A

19. Environmental Setting (NRCS soil designation; vegetative community: elevation; etc.): N/A

a. Condition of Survey area (grazed, bladed, undisturbed, etc.):

b. Percent Ground Visibility:

21. CULTURAL RESOURCE FINDINGS: Yes, See Page Three No, Discuss Why: NA

22. Required Attachments:

- USGS 7.5 (1:24,000) topo map with sites, I.O.'s, and survey area clearly drawn
- Copy of Mapserver Map Check
- LA Site Record Forms
- Historic Cultural Property Inventory Forms
- List and Description of IO's, if applicable
- List and Description of Collections, if applicable

23. Other Attachments:

- Photographs and Log
- Other Attachments Report, over sized map

23. I certify the information provided above is correct and accurate and meets all applicable agency standards.

Principal Investigator/Responsible Archaeologist: Meredith Matthews

Title (if not PI):

Signature: Meredith Matthews

Date: March 23, 2007

24. Reviewing Agency:

Reviewer's Initials/Date

Accepted () Rejected ()

Tribal Consultation (if applicable): Yes No

25. SHPO Reviewer's Initials/Date

HPO Log # _____

Date sent to ARMS: _____

Cultural Resources Management Program

San Juan College

**RESULTS OF A CULTURAL RESOURCES REVIEW FOR THE
CITY OF FARMINGTON MS4 APPLICATION**

**BY
STEVEN DYE AND MEREDITH MATTHEWS**



**REPORT 2007-SJC-007
MARCH 23, 2007**

**Results of a Cultural Resources Review for the
City of Farmington MS4 Application**

**Prepared by:
Steven Dye and Meredith Matthews**

**Submitted by:
Meredith Matthews and Linda Wheelbarger
Co-Directors
San Juan College
Cultural Resources Management Program
4601 College Boulevard
Farmington, New Mexico 87402**

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New Mexico State Historic Preservation Office
Department of Cultural Affairs
Bataan Memorial Building
407 Galisteo Street, Suite 236
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501**

**Prepared for:
City of Farmington
Department of Community Development
800 Municipal Drive
Farmington, New Mexico 87401**

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INTRODUCTION

A cultural resources records review was conducted between February 1 and March 22, 2007 by San Juan College Cultural Resources Management Program (SJC-CRMP) for the City of Farmington (COF) to determine if cultural properties that are presently on the State and/or National Register of Historic Properties or cultural properties that are eligible for listing on the National Register are within the COF storm drain and discharge system, and consequently susceptible to impacts from storm water discharge/outfall. Identification of such cultural properties will allow the COF to devise measures to mitigate the potential adverse impact to the properties from storm water discharge

A master map of all sites recorded to date within the City of Farmington municipal boundaries was developed by Steven Dye, SJC-CRMP Supervisory Archaeologist, using boundary information provided by the COF and overlaying site location information provided by the State of New Mexico Archaeological Resource Management System (ARMS). This oversized map is a companion document to this summary. Locations of the outfalls of COF storm water discharge were identified by Nicca Westerling, Engineer for the COF Department of Community Development, and Elizabeth McNally of Animas Environmental Services. Based on this information, four sites were identified within or adjacent to discharge outfalls that could be potentially impacted. These sites are briefly described below.

SITES NEAR STORM WATER DISCHARGE OUTFALLS

Site LA 68213/Farmers Mutual Ditch

Recorded segments of the Farmers Mutual Ditch are in Sections 16, 17 and 18 (T29N, R13W) and in the southwest section of Farmington. The original documentation for the ditch noted a construction date of 1920 (Rayl 1988), but during later documentation of a different segment, a local resident stated that construction was initiated in 1875 (Matthews 2005). Regardless, the ditch is more than 50 years old. The Farmers Mutual Ditch is still a functioning irrigation ditch that is predominately dirt lined, but with numerous modifications of concrete supports, metal pipe culverts, updated head gates and so forth. The historic records of the ditch are actually more valuable than the ditch as a physical entity because of the impacts/modifications to the ditch over time. There is no determination of eligibility on record for site LA 68213/Farmers Mutual Ditch by the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO).

Site LA 99157

Site LA 99757 is in Section 16 (T29N, R13W), in the southern part of Farmington near Boyd Park. As documented (Pino 1992), the site consists of an abandoned gauging station. In addition, two sections of a nearby wood-post fence were also documented. The gauging station consisted of a fenced metal platform on the south side of the Animas River with a metal cable extending north across the river. The site was built sometime after 1952 and used to gage the depth of the river, but at the time of documentation was no longer used. The site was determined to be an ineligible cultural property by the SHPO in 1993.

Site LA 115032/Echo Ditch

The Echo Ditch is also known as the Farmington Echo Ditch and Farmington-Allen Ditch. Three portions of the ditch have been documented in Section 19 (T29N, R12W) and Section 24 (T29N, R13W), in the south central area of Farmington, adjacent to the Animas River. The initial construction date for the irrigation ditch is sometime in the late 1890s. The Echo Ditch is a functioning ditch that has been heavily modified. The first segment of the Echo Ditch documented was determined to be an ineligible cultural property by the SHPO in 2004. However, there is no determination of eligibility by SHPO on record for the subsequent documentation of the other two segments of this ditch. As with the Farmers Mutual Ditch, the historic records would provide more information and are of more historic value than the actual ditch.

Site LA 137433/Denver & Rio Grande Western Railroad Grade

A short segment of the Denver & Rio Grande Western Railroad grade has been documented in Section 31 (T30N, R12W), in the east-southeast area of Farmington. The railroad grade was built in 1905 and abandoned by the railroad company in 1968 (Moore 2002). The portion documented had been heavily impacted by construction activities and did not retain structural integrity. The portion recorded was recommended ineligible for nomination to the National Register, but there is no record of determination by the SHPO.

Site LA 137434/Star Ditch

The portion of the Star Ditch that has been documented is just north of the above mentioned railroad grade and is in Section 31 (T30N, R12W), in the east-southeast area of Farmington. The initial construction date for the ditch system is 1877 and the original ditch was about 5 mi long (Moore 2002). The ditch was potentially taken out of use for irrigation about 1959, abandoned by the ditch company in 1960, and was officially abandoned by the COF in late 1980s or early 1990s. The segment of the ditch documented had been modified and partially converted to an underground storm drain system. The portion recorded was recommended ineligible for nomination to the National Register, but there is no record of determination by the SHPO.

SUMMARY AND MANAGEMENT RECOMMENDATIONS

Based on the review of the available cultural resources records, there are no cultural properties on the State or National Registers, nor any cultural properties eligible for listing on the National Register that are within identified COF storm water discharge outfalls. Nonetheless, four sites that have either been determined ineligible for listing on the registers or have no SHPO determination on record have been identified that are within or adjacent to COF storm water discharge outfalls. Site LA 99157 has been determined ineligible for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) and therefore should require no further work or protection. The remaining three sites include a railroad grade (LA 137433) that has been almost completely destroyed by development and three historic ditches. Two of these ditches, the Farmers Mutual Ditch (LA 68213) and Echo Ditch (LA 115032) are still functioning irrigation ditches. The Star Ditch (LA 737434) has been abandoned. The documentation of the ditches represents only segments of each ditch, not the entire system. In all cases, however, the segments documented do not appear to have significant value as physical entities. Rather, their value is in the archival records of each system. For the most part, if the ditches are still in use they have been modified quite a bit with the addition of concrete sides, piping, modified head gates, etc., as a means of maintaining the ditches. Based on the information provided by ARMS, a determination of eligibility has not been made for either the Farmers Mutual Ditch or the Star Ditch and for two of three sections documented of the Echo Ditch. One section of the Echo Ditch, however, has been determined ineligible for listing on the National Register.

At present the COF does not pipe/drain storm water into any of the ditches described above, although sheet flow water does enter the Farmers Mutual Ditch naturally. Until a determination of eligibility can be provided by SHPO, it is recommended that the COF continue to avoid draining storm water into these ditches. Furthermore, to ensure that previously unidentified cultural properties are not impacted, it is recommended that the COF ensure that a cultural resources inventory be conducted at the proposed locations of any new drainage control structures.

REFERENCES CITED

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