MONO COUNTY
PLANNING COMMISSION

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AGENDA

November 15, 2018 – 10 a.m.
Supervisors Chambers, County Courthouse, Bridgeport
***Videoconference:** Town/County Conference Room, Minaret Village Mall, Mammoth Lakes

Full agenda packets, plus associated materials distributed less than 72 hours prior to the meeting, will be available for public review at the Community Development offices in Bridgeport (Annex 1, 74 N. School St.) or Mammoth Lakes (Minaret Village Mall, above Giovanni's Pizzeria). Agenda packets are also posted online at www.monocounty.ca.gov / boards & commissions / planning commission. For inclusion on the e-mail distribution list, interested persons can subscribe on the website.

**Agenda sequence (see note following agenda).*

1. **CALL TO ORDER & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

2. **PUBLIC COMMENT:** Opportunity to address the Planning Commission on items not on the agenda

3. **MEETING MINUTES:** Review and adopt minutes of September 20, 2018 *(no October meeting)* – ***p. 1***

4. **PUBLIC HEARINGS**

   10:10 A.M.

   CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT/Suppa. A farm-stay use of the property that may include four temporary yurts (May-Oct), a kitchen to serve yurt guests similar to a bed-and-breakfast use, class A cottage food permit, farm stand/store, massage/esthetics room, market garden, native-plant nursery, livestock barn, two RV sites for farm labor housing, and a small aquaculture pond. Land use designation agriculture (AG). A CEQA addendum is proposed. *Staff: Gerry Le Francois* – ***p. 6***

   10:30 A.M.

   A. BASELINE MATERIAL SITE/Caltrans: Public hearing to approve Mining Operations Permit and associated Reclamation Plan. The Baseline pit is on public land managed by the U.S. Department of the Interior Bureau of Land Management. The site was used for over 50 years for mining aggregate materials until the late 1990s when mining operations ceased, and it was partially reclaimed. Caltrans is proposing resuming mining operations at an estimated 12,000 cubic yards per year in addition to the existing material storage use. The mining area has been redefined from its originally approved 120 acres to 30.22 acres to vacate previously reclaimed acreage. The proposed end land use is material and maintenance storage. The project site (APN 021-130-036) is located near the community of Lee Vining and within the watershed for Mono Lake, in Mono County and it includes portions of Parker Creek and Rush Creek (T1N, R26E, Section 34). In accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act, the County proposes to certify, as a responsible agency, a Mitigated Negative Declaration prepared by Caltrans under its lead agency status. *Staff: Nick Criss* – ***p. 27***

More on back…

5. WORKSHOP

10:50 A.M.

A. GPA 18-02: MFR CLEANUP. Currently, inconsistencies exist between minimum lot size and allowed density for multi-family residential land use designations. The land use designations in question consist of Multi-Family – High (MFR – High), Multi-Family - Medium (MFR – M), and Multi-Family – Low (MFR-L). The amendment proposes to adjust the minimum lot sizes for developments to match current density standards. The amendment allows for greater consistency across MFR parcels, creates flexibility to build on smaller MFR parcels, and encourages more efficient use of land. The General Plan Amendment also includes language for permitting historically allowed transient rental use in MFR units. Transient rentals (fewer than 30 consecutive days) are prohibited in MFR-L and MFR-M, except in areas of historical use. The amendment allows the County to document the existing complexes where transient rentals will continue to be allowed. *Staff: Bentley Regehr* – ***p. 234***

6. REPORTS
   A. DIRECTOR
   B. COMMISSIONERS

7. INFORMATIONAL

8. ADJOURN to regular meeting December 20, 2018

***NOTE:** Although the Planning Commission generally strives to follow the agenda sequence, it reserves the right to take any agenda item – other than a noticed public hearing – in any order, and at any time after its meeting starts. The Planning Commission encourages public attendance and participation.

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, anyone who needs special assistance to attend this meeting can contact the Commission secretary at 760-924-1804 within 48 hours prior to the meeting to ensure accessibility (see 42 USCS 12132, 28CFR 35.130).

*****The public may participate in the meeting at the teleconference site, where attendees may address the Commission directly. Please be advised that Mono County does its best to ensure the reliability of videoconferencing but cannot guarantee that the system always works. If an agenda item is important to you, you might consider attending the meeting in Bridgeport.

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Commissioners may participate from a teleconference location. Interested persons may appear before the Commission to present testimony for public hearings, or prior to or at the hearing file written correspondence with the Commission secretary. Future court challenges to these items may be limited to those issues raised at the public hearing or provided in writing to the Mono County Planning Commission prior to or at the public hearing. Project proponents, agents or citizens who wish to speak are asked to be acknowledged by the Chair, print their names on the sign-in sheet, and address the Commission from the podium.

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DRAFT MINUTES

September 20, 2018

COMMISSIONERS: Scott Bush, Roberta Lagomarsini, Chris I. Lizza, Mary Pipersky, Dan Roberts.

STAFF: Wendy Sugimura, CDD director; Gerry Le Francois, principal planner (video); Michael Draper & Bentley Regehr, planning analysts; Nick Criss, code compliance (video); Julie Aguirre, permit tech; Tony Dublino, assistant CAO; Garrett Higerd & Walt Lehmann, public works; Christy Milovich, assistant county counsel; CD Ritter, commission secretary

GUESTS: John DeCoster, Eric Edgerton, Connie Lear

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** Chair Scott Bush called the meeting to order at 10:04 a.m. at the board chambers in Bridgeport with teleconference to Town/County Conference Room in Mammoth Lakes.

2. **PUBLIC COMMENT:** No items

3. **MEETING MINUTES**

   MOTION: Adopt minutes of June 14, 2018, as submitted *(Pipersky/Lagomarsini. Ayes: 4. Absent: Lizza.)*

   MOTION: Adopt minutes of August 16, 2018 as submitted *(Lagomarsini/Roberts. Ayes: 3. Abstain: Pipersky. Absent: Lizza.)*

Sugimura: At last PC meeting, joint meeting with BOS was proposed. Rescheduled to Sept. 28, 1-4 pm on housing only. Redundant information plus consultant. No need to be at meeting unless to interact with BOS.

4. **PUBLIC HEARINGS**

   A. **CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT 18-008/Prince** for a non-owner occupied (Type III) short-term rental use in a 2-BD single-family residential unit at 46 Leonard Ave. (APN 015-101-004) in June Lake, and the LUD is SFR. Maximum occupancy of six persons and two vehicles. A CEQA exemption is proposed.

   Michael Draper discussed last month, continued today. Non-owner, type III rental, 2BD/loft, 801 sf, two parking areas identified. Maximum six people of single party. Access via Leonard Avenue, so parking needs paving to meet standards. A few other STRs nearby approved last week by BOS. Size of second space not meet requirements: only 5'10 not 10'20' (angular beam in way). Options: Deny based on parking, or approve and apply commercial lodging parking standards, limiting occupancy to four, CEQA Categorical Exemption 15301. One parking space/bedroom. Conditions of option: single party of four, one vehicle, paved parking, sleep in dwelling, not in vehicle, comply with Ch 25, TOT certificate, business license, EH requirements, CofO (outstanding building permit sign-off).

   Sugimura noted not have full commission, so applicant can continue to different date if affect outcome. Connie Lear wanted to hear deliberation first. Bush reminded three votes are needed to pass.
   Milovich stated at any time prior to end of hearing, decision can be made to postpone.

   Bush indicated usually recommendations are to approve, but this one is denial. Maybe want five? Asked staff if limit on apps. *Draper: Not this tract. Property owners contacted, no comment back.*

   OPEN PUBLIC COMMENT: None. **CLOSE PUBLIC COMMENT.**

   DISCUSSION: Milovich stated no exception to parking requirement. Go back, reopen comment.

   REOPEN PUBLIC COMMENT: Connie Lear OK'd option 2. Small house, four people, one car. Planning to pave driveway regardless of PC input. Continue. **CLOSE PUBLIC COMMENT.**

   DISCUSSION: Non-parking spot prohibited? *Draper: List within rental agreement, post signs.*

Pipersky thought Prince showed reasonability, operate with alternative, have sign no parking in other spot (add to conditions). Get CUP, maybe never use it, still have a year, some options.

Roberts is familiar with property, watched upgrade work, former workforce rental. Applicants interested in family visits, wanted flexibility to rent. Parking space practically in the street, so not allow renters to park there. *Draper: STR requires on-site parking.*

Bush noted small vehicle in photos. Understand where to park. Protect Princes from car getting hit coming down road. Maybe not illegal, but dangerous.

Sugimura noted STR requires interior signage document posted with parking map. Concern is property boundary, overhanging conflict with snow removal.

Address parking space? *Sugimura: Interior signage not part of rental contract, enforcement for CDD.*

Helpful to sign that parking space? *Criss: Would help.*

Bush wanted to post sign on wall: unloading only, no guest parking.

MOTION: Approve Conditional Use Permit 18-008/Prince with categorical exemption 15301 maximum of four, one parking space, no guest parking. *(Roberts/Pipersky. Ayes: 4. Absent: Lizza.)*

B. **CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT 18-003/DeCoster** for retail cannabis in the existing building at 2555 Hwy 158 (APN 015-085-010). Land use designation is Commercial (C). A CEQA exemption is proposed.

Bentley Regehr presented background. Intersection of 158 and Lakeview Drive. Most surrounding properties are commercial, some SFRs along Lakeview east, Multifamily, Mixed Use west. Phase I, no expansion; phase II, expand use but not building footprint. Study from 1973 showed avalanche element, so consultant hired for site-specific avalanche study. In "white" zone; i.e., lower risk than 1973. Relatively harmless zone, safe for year-round use. Discrepancy due to lack of precision in 1973.

Michael Draper reminded no prohibited facilities within 600 ft. Noticed all property owners, one opposed, four supported. Setback requirements met. Project not generate significant odors, simply retail. All products received in packaging, no on-site consumption of product, so minimal or negligible odor. Signage: High Sierra June Lake below Insane Audio sign. Visual screening from public right of way. No product visible from outside. Dark Sky regulations followed. One parking space/200 sf of retail space; one space required but site has two plus loading area. Room for five more spaces if needed.

Opposition letter: Odors. Support: Business would promote economic growth consistent with commercial core of that area. Staff recommended approval subject to Conditions.

Lighting already in compliance. Approve phases I and II together? *Draper: Expansion of retail, but not building footprint.*

Parking adequate for retail, what about audio? *Regehr: Other space for existing audio. Draper: Audio not have storefront, so cannabis only open to public.*

Conditional Use Permit vs. Use Permit? *Sugimura: Semantics and nomenclature. Either term used.*

OPEN PUBLIC COMMENT: Want full commission? *DeCoster: Review packet, proceed.* Landlord concerns of drug culture? *DeCoster: Adjacent to property, not next door to business. Move forward.* **CLOSE PUBLIC COMMENT.**

DISCUSSION: Bush stated cannabis is here, we all voted for it, knew this day was coming. Legal business. Test the waters. Roberts: Opposition letter implied no cannabis at all. Pipersky: Confident with conditions, business like any other. Bush: Mammoth's Wellness Center has no adverse effects.

MOTION: Find that project qualifies as a Categorical Exemption under CEQA guideline 15303, instruct staff to file Notice of Exemption, make required findings in project staff report, and approve Conditional Use Permit 18-003 subject to Conditions of Approval. *(Pipersky/Roberts. Ayes: 4. Absent: Lizza.)*

--- Break: 11:05-11:15 ---

5. WORKSHOPS

A. **Capital Improvement Program:** Tony Dublino cited roads, facilities and radios. Five-year program needs consistency with General Plan. Non-real program in effect for several years. Details on prioritizing, funding, and development of projects.

Sugimura indicated CDD director would make finding, as not on PC agenda.

Consistent? *Sugimura: Staff finds yes, facilities, roads from LTC in RTP/Circulation, other projects of maintenance or improvement to County facilities.*

New jail, new civic center? *Dublino: Both. Civic center prior to jail.*

Landfill at Benton Crossing? *Dublino: Yes.*

Consider equipment like diesel graders? *Dublino: Most are diesel. Unaware of hybrid or electric options. Taking comprehensive view of major financial considerations.*

Turn over to Sugimura to make finding. Sugimura asked PC to not debate projects themselves, just consistency with General Plan.

Posted publicly? *Dublino: GIS team has map showing projects with costs. Will educate public. Some projects not programmed in next five years.*

B. **Housing Toolbox:** Wendy Sugimura went to RPACs with toolbox from 2017 housing needs assessment. To BOS in June, working on fee-based structure of housing mitigation ordinance. BOS wants to understand funding. Engaged with ETS Consultants for matrix with broad housing goals, strategies, implementation actions to address housing needs.

Bentley cited goals: increase housing supply, community housing, retain existing community housing. Terminology: "Community housing" preferred to affordable or workforce now. Development readiness refers to barriers to ADU (Affordable Dwelling Unit), tiny houses. Better review and streamlining. Partnerships with outside agencies, land banking.

Water, sewer barriers to tiny houses? *Regehr: Definition of tiny houses overlaps with motorhomes.*

Sugimura cited two types: Mobile or on foundation. Usually mobile, how fit into housing stock.

Julie Aguirre: Mobile is like RV. Allowable if on permanent foundation. Phrase usually refers to RV style. 2018 building code: less than 400 sf. Changing clearances. Shipping containers as dwelling units.

Sugimura stated wheeled tiny houses, like RVs, are not allowed. Either type has challenge meeting building code. Try to address in future. Fresno ordinance allows tiny homes. San Luis Obispo looking as well. Differentiate from RVs.

Bush saw water, septic as safety issues. Just a fad or way to low-cost housing? Understand why. Maybe smaller RVs would be easier as mobile home.

Sugimura thought tiny home reality TV shows might define better. Bush noted people love these.

Sugimura saw market segment attracted to tiny houses. May be part of solution for community housing needs. Cheaper to build, easier to install because of mobility. Building regulations haven't changed to accommodate them yet. Bush thought mobile-home park setting might work.

Sugimura noted treated like SFR with well and septic. Counterpoint is installed and treated like SFRs even though on wheels. Required to meet setbacks and other land use requirements. Believes Fresno treats them as ADU, not primary residence. Cheap to build, easy to install, rent as long-term housing.

Pipersky noted even mobile-homes not on wheels anymore. Le Francois mentioned mobile-home/RV parks like Crowley Lake Fish Camp. County sets density for number of units. Two or more on individual parcel go to HCD for regulation. Not required to be on permanent foundation, could be pier-type system. If manufactured home is residence, wheels come off.

Regehr wanted to focus on things staff can review. Bush noted PC can't look at everything. Community housing not cheap in Mono.

Regehr cited inclusionary housing: purchase, deed restrict, sell. Partnerships with entities/agencies.

Bush recalled getting housing developments, Specific Plans. Mandatory housing component disbanded. Ever coming back? *Sugimura found it hard to say. Tioga Inn SP in process. Addition of housing units. Rodeo Grounds never completed. Inquiries picking up after trough.*

Le Francois recalled several big projects: Lakeridge Ranch Estates at Crowley (30- to 35-lot subdivision). Another 70 lots expired (infrastructure cost). Last SPs were Rock Creek Canyon and Rock Creek Ranch.

Bush thought if no projects, more expense into developing. Drastically changed from sprawl concerns. If nobody interested in building, how to get them to build? Lagomarsini suggested reaching out to developers. Bush noted Gardnerville built $125,000-$150,000 homes. People bought them.

Sugimura observed Mono does not have a lot of development. Inclusionary only if project big enough. Partial units possible. No single solution to housing issue. Can't simply rely on development projects. Prioritize actions. Create requirements but need private side to develop. Incentivize it better? Limited authority and control. Does Mono build projects? Whole other strategy. Take-home message: Do what can do within our control, create options.

Bush stated half of sheriff's staff live outside Mono. Sugimura cited affordability, number of houses quality of housing stock.

Discussion on wages so easier to afford housing? *Sugimura: Studies on wages, gap with housing market. No control. Can't tell businesses what they should pay.*

Pipersky thought minimum wage could change. At least discuss it. Roberts saw wealth gap as national issue. Bush could not buy his house in today's market. No in-between costs. Mono's location is a problem. Where to put workforce? Lagomarsini recalled Chalfant project died, should have let it happen. Any other properties identified?

Bush noted deputies formerly required to live in area they serve. Whole world has changed. Need affordable apartment buildings, quarter-acre lots instead of larger. If Mono had land, lots people could get affordable house. No private contractor; community fights against it. Miss those, no place to live.

Regehr indicated Housing Element will analyze viable sites. Sugimura indicated other tools have higher priority. Set of things to do but can't do them all at once. Inventory County properties, maybe build housing project. How to do that?

Roberts mentioned one or two units in June Lake and Benton. Mahaffey confirmed two Benton selling to tribe. Sale of June Lake unit.

Sugimura indicated Mono getting out of property manager business at direction of BOS. Funding to go toward other housing projects. June Lake unit potentially deed restricted to stay with intent.

Habitat for Humanity? Sugimura suggested creating public/private partnerships with developers.

Where are employers on community housing? *Sugimura noted four employees live with parents. No way could pay enough.*

Employers find housing? Bush has never had paycheck himself, but his workers do. Walker has $350 motel rentals, houses $1,500-$2,000/mo rent. Nothing else exists. Marine Base duplexes are always full. Get somebody to acquire land, build units.

Regehr cited zero-sum development of housing. Employee for new commercial business.

Bush named County as biggest offender. No employee housing, so employees move elsewhere. Need nice starter homes. People take care of things they buy not rent.

Need for higher-density subdivision? Bush suggested building somewhere to serve Bridgeport/Walker, June Lake/Mammoth Lakes. Bedroom communities within community. Other communities have it – we don't. Our tax base has gone away.

Walt Lehmann brought up subdivision at Conway Ranch. Water issue, visual impact. Problem is tied up in Caltrans, other sources, deed restrict. Can't undo what's been done. Nice central location in middle of county for Bridgeport, Lee Vining, Mammoth Lakes, June Lake. Infrastructure partially in, road deteriorated. Anti-growth pushback at the time. Preserve large landscape.

Bush recalled 1990s-2000s people wanted big houses.

Lehmann noted subdivided into many parcels. Inexpensive land within Chalfant is flood-plain. Higher densities are problem. Building structures on higher flood plain channels, culverts, etc. has its own set of challenges.

Lagomarsini recalled push for secondary units at Chalfant as unpopular. *Sugimura: Strategy in past is inclusionary housing in subdivisions of smaller units.*

Lagomarsini thought everyone get own stand-alone house with higher density. Two-story boxes close by. All self-contained.

Roberts indicated ADUs wanted STR option. Lagomarsini noted ADUs become Airbnb. Roberts saw Colorado as model: rent to tourists not workers.

Bush indicated no house to look at to buy for new deputy. Lagomarsini noted workers not spending money in Mono or Inyo. Bishop Main Street half empty.

Sugimura noted Mono communicates but has no direct authority over land use.

Regehr indicated demand for 50-100 rentals in next five years, 135-250 owners. He suggested STR units convert to long-term. Educate realtors. Lagomarsini suggested Habitat for Humanity could help with refurbishing. Will research.

Sugimura reminded STR type II moratorium still in effect countywide. Probably set highest bar for STR approvals. Only to certain residential land uses. Roberts noted extra income for taxes from STRs. Bush saw lots of theories, ideas but need plan to get there.

Mahaffey mentioned aligning ideas with plan of action. HMO collected fees 2006-11, since was suspended. Funding source fluctuated from $266,000 into revolving loan fund. If another, could bring funds for housing. Another option would be private bond backed by rent revenues. TOT in place, could allocate toward housing. Sales tax add-on (property increment tax). General obligation bond for Mono to build. Revolving loan fund. Public land disposition. Selling County rental properties. First-time homebuyer program (federal and State funded). Source decreasing not increasing. Loans through USDA to finance home purchase. Proposition 41 for veterans.

Mahaffey cautioned not solve housing problem overnight, not alone, problem throughout country. Curb problem so not self-fulfilling. Huge need of 100+ units. Not move forward with solutions not fully vetted, have support of everybody.

Mono still own sheriff substation? *Sugimura: Yes.*

Roberts noted TOT (Transient Occupancy Tax) as possible source of funding. Has TOT appreciably increased with STR permits? June Lake citizens complained about primary source of TOT in county, not enough back. Sugimura indicated specific discussion of TOT beyond knowledge base of staff present. At least from STR in residential locations subject to Ch. 25, not have very many. Additional in condo units. TOT as revenue source not substantial. Increment increase would require 2/3 vote of public.

Regehr closed workshop, requested priorities from each commissioner.

Bush: If housing does not exist, it's a problem. Mono has no middle-class housing to rent or to own. Priority is lack of availability, inventory. Does Mono want to get into housing? No County workforce housing for employees. If build it, people will come. Bush noted beautiful hilltop house turns upside down when owe $500,000.

Roberts: HMO suspended 2011 to stimulate development. Mobile-home park for motorhomes.

Lagomarsini: Identify parcels ripe for community housing (tiny houses, condos, apartments), get word out. Landowner could make money on vacant land. Tiny houses good for retirees, singles, families. Need diverse housing to attract diverse people. Small-lot development needed.

Pipersky: Get employers involved, wages. Land acquisition first step. Things take time. Go beyond fees, taxes, capital gains.

6. REPORTS

A. DIRECTOR: 1) Vacancies: Assistant planner and planning analyst both allocated, interviews next week; 2) Projects: June Lake for Use Permit/TTM with variance for four units; internal inconsistences within General Plan; cannabis active use permit in progress, lots of cultivation inquiries; Caltrans reclamation plan for pit; water export issue with Coyote Springs in Tri-Valley; LADWP lawsuit on watering practices, not renew leases with ranches (should have done environmental review); sage grouse population (Boot Fire impacted); hazard mitigation plan; Inyo Forest Plan record of decision (Mono comments on wilderness not included in plan, so will comment again); Mammoth base exchange into USFS ownership; LTC noted YARTS working on short-range transit plan; Lee Vining street rehab project took community feedback, document within next year; North County water transfer project, identify project boundaries, maximum amount of transfer (involves water rights, climate change), restoration of Walker Lake.

Garrett Higerd: Ongoing topic related to CIP reviewed earlier. Many transportation projects funded by SB 1/gas tax. Funds secured for transportation. Prop 6 would eliminate funds, projects listed on CIP. No other funding source identified for projects. If repealed, $1.7 million of Mono projects in fiscal year, next 10 years loss of $30 million local transportation projects, many more on state highway system, including Lee Vining project. Tuesday BOS resolution opposed Prop 6.

B. COMMISSIONERS: None.

7. INFORMATIONAL: No items

8. ADJOURN at 1:17 p.m. to special meeting Sept. 28, 2018 (interact with BOS if desired, notice it properly) or regular meeting October 18, 2018

Prepared by CD Ritter, PC secretary

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November 15, 2018

To: Mono County Planning Commission

From: Gerry Le Francois, Principal Planner

Re: Use Permit 18-002 / Suppa Farm-Stay

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended the Planning Commission take the following actions:

1. Determine none of the conditions in CEQA §15162(a) applies and adopt the prepared addendum under §15164;
2. Make the required findings as contained in the project staff report; and
3. Approve Use Permit 18-002 subject to Conditions of Approval.

PROJECT

The project proposes to create a limited-scale, seasonal lodging opportunity from May-October for visitors to the Mono Basin. This is a farm-stay where visitors would have the opportunity to observe the activities of a rural farm. The parcel's Agriculture (AG) Land Use Designation (LUD) allows for related agricultural uses. The project would utilize a combination of existing and new structures. Table 1 lists the proposed uses, required new structures, and if the use is permitted or subject to a Conditional Use Permit (CUP).

TABLE 1: PROPOSED USES

Proposed Use	New Construction	AG Permitted use
4 - Temporary Yurts (~190 sf each), including onsite wastewater treatment system and 2,500-gallon water tank	Yes	Subject to Use Permit
Kitchen to serve yurt guests (~900 sf)	No	Subject to Use Permit
Class A Cottage Food Permit	No	Permitted Use
Farm Stand 'Store' (200 sf)	Yes	Permitted Use
Massage/Esthetics Room (200 sf)	No	Subject to Use Permit

Proposed Use	New Construction	AG Permitted use
2 x 10,000 sf Market Garden, and 10,000 sf Native Nursery	No	Subject to Use Permit
Livestock barn (900 sf)	Yes	Permitted Use
2 RV sites for farm labor housing	Minor Utilities for each space	Permitted Use
Aquaculture pond (3,000 sf)	Yes	Permitted Use

PROJECT SETTING

The property is located at 100 North Bodie Hills Rd. (APN 013-210-024) in Lee Vining. The property is developed with a single-family residence, hoop houses, two storage containers (one temporary) and a storage shed. There is currently an active building permit on the property for construction of an Accessory Dwelling Unit (ADU). The parcels surrounding the project are designated Rural Residential (RR) and Open Space (OS).

FIGURE 1: LOCATION OF PROJECT. 100 N. Bodie Hills Road

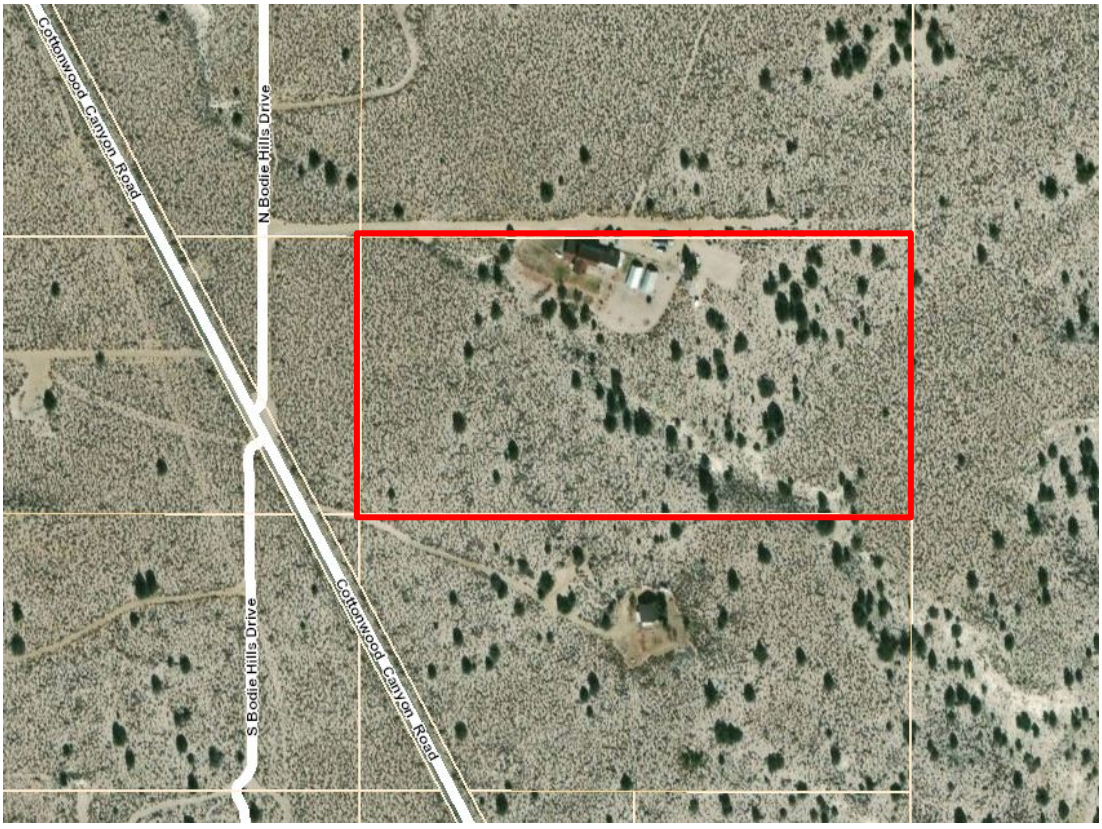


FIGURE 2: LAND USE DESIGNATION MAP

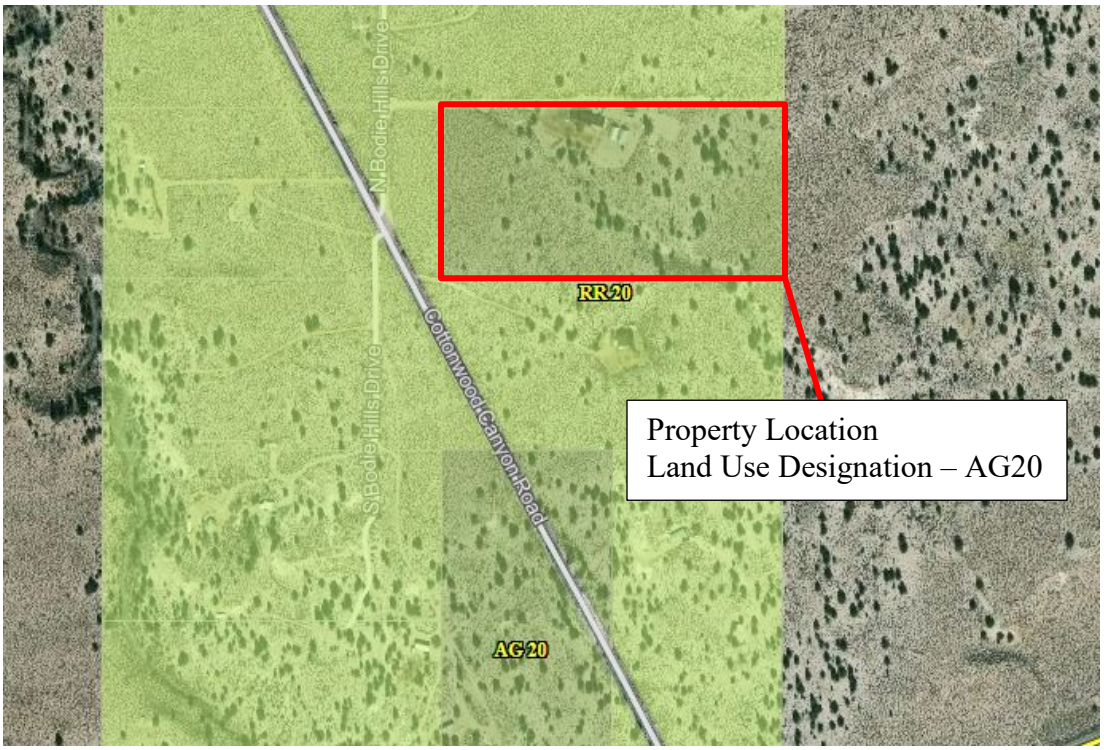


FIGURE 3: NE Cottonwood Canyon Road to Bodie Hills Road; red triangle indicates approximate location of 200 sf farm stand and parking

FIGURE 4: SW view of private road entrance

FIGURE 5: Yurt location looking southwest

FIGURE 6: Existing house and pond location

FIGURE 7: Market-garden plot area

DISCUSSION

The proposed project is consistent with development standards in the General Plan, including parking, lot coverage, and signage. In addition, the project conforms with General Plan Mono Basin Area Policies, and CEQA.

PARKING

Use	**Standard**	**Spaces Required**
4 Temporary Yurts (approximately 190 sf/unit)	One space per sleeping room plus one space for each two employees on largest shift	Four spaces plus two for two to three employees
Kitchen to serve yurt guests (existing structure)	Same as above	No additional spaces
Farm Stand 'Store' (200 sf)	One space for each 200 sq. ft. of gross leasable floor area	One space
Massage/Esthetics room (200 sf)	Same as above	One space
Livestock barn (900 sf)	For any uses not specifically mentioned, the Commission shall determine the number or amount of parking required	Suggested – project site has space for additional parking if 12 spaces are not adequate
2 RV sites for farm-labor housing	Two spaces / unit	Four spaces
	Total	**12 spaces**

LOT COVERAGE

The Agriculture Land Use Designation allows for a maximum lot coverage of 40 percent. For a 20-acre parcel, 40 percent would be equal to eight acres. Project lot coverage is estimated to be approximately 2.5 acres. Less than 40 percent allowed in the Agriculture (AG) Land Use Designation (LUD).

SIGNAGE

The project proposes two signs on the farm stand: wall-mounted letters building face and a wall or attached sign. The signs are consistent with Chapter 07 Signs of the Mono County General Plan.

Wall-mounted letters allow for letters to be individually mounted or painted (or otherwise imprinted) on a building wall without a border or decorative enclosure (07.040.A.1.b.). The sign area is that of the smallest single rectangle within which all letters and words can be enclosed.

A wall or attached sign is proposed consistent with Chapter 07.030 A. Wall signs are subject to a Director Review and incorporated into this Conditional Use Permit.

> Chapter 070.030. A. Attached Sign**:**
> Definition**:** A sign mounted flush and affixed securely to a building wall that projects no more than six inches from the face of a building wall and does not extend vertically or horizontally beyond the building.
>
> Requirements:
> 1. Attached signs may occupy one sq. ft. for each two lineal feet of business frontage upon which the sign is located. In intensive commercial and industrial areas (e.g., C, IP and I), the maximum area of any attached sign shall not exceed a 100 sq. ft., but need not be less than 25 sq. ft. In rural, agricultural, residential and neighborhood commercial areas, the maximum area of any attached sign shall not exceed 50 sq. ft., but need not be less than 15 sq. ft.

The total of the two sign faces shall not exceed 50 sq. ft. per the allowed in agricultural areas.

Farm stand and associated signage

GENERAL PLAN CONSISTENCY

As noted, the General Plan Land Use Designation (LUD) for this property is Agriculture (AG). According to the Mono County General Plan, the 'AG' designation is intended to preserve and encourage agricultural uses, to protect agricultural uses from encroachment from urban uses, and to provide for the orderly growth of activities related to agriculture.

Conditional Use Permit 18-002 is proposing the following permitted uses under the AG LUD:

- Class A Cottage Food Permit
- Farm Stand 'Store'
- Livestock barn
- Two RV sites with hookups for farm-labor housing
- Aquaculture pond
- Market garden

Conditional Use Permit 18-002 is proposing the following uses subject to a Conditional Use Permit under the AG LUD:

- Four temporary yurts
- Kitchen to serve yurt guests
- Massage/Esthetics Room
- Native Nursery

MONO COUNTY LAND USE ELEMENT, Mono Basin Policies
Project is consistent with several Mono Basin General Plan Policies, such as:

GOAL 11. Grow a sustainable local economy with diverse job opportunities that offers year-round employment and wages that reflect the cost of living in the area.

Objective 11.B.
Enhance and support the existing tourism-related economy.

Policy 11.B.1. Cultivate tourism-related programs and attractions that promote longer, multi-day visits.

Policy 11.C.6. Encourage locally produced goods and services, including food production for local consumption of locally produced food.

Action 11.C.9. Support continued and new agricultural and grazing uses in the Mono Basin, the potential for agricultural tourism, and consider incentives or other mechanisms to increase viability of agricultural operations.

ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW
An addendum to the 2015 Regional Transportation Plan, General Plan, Countywide Integrated Waste Management Plan, and Noise Ordinance Updates; and Repeal of the Conway Ranch Specific Plan Final EIR (SCH #2014061029) has been prepared for this project.

USE PERMIT FINDINGS
In accordance with Mono County General Plan, Chapter 32, Processing-Use Permits, the Planning Commission may issue a Use Permit after making certain findings.

Section 32.010, Required Findings:

1. *All applicable provisions of the Mono County General Plan are complied with, and the site of the proposed use is adequate in size and shape to accommodate the use and to accommodate all yards, walls and fences, parking, loading, landscaping and other required features because:*
    a) The project is 20 acres in size and can accommodate the current and proposed uses that are permitted outright and subject to this CUP.
    b) Project will provide 12 on-site parking spaces and comply with lot coverage and setback requirements of the AG LUD.
    c) The proposed signs comply with Mono County General Plan Chapter 07 – Signs.
2. *The site for the proposed use related to streets and highways is adequate in width and type to carry the quantity and kind of traffic generated by the proposed use because:*
    a) The parcel is accessed by Cottonwood Canyon Road and is adequate for the kind of traffic generated by the proposed farm-stay use. Parking is sufficient for employees and visitors.
3. *The proposed use will not be detrimental to the public welfare or injurious to property or improvements in the area in which the property is located because:*

a) The proposed use is not expected to cause significant environmental impacts. Some of the structures are existing and some new structures are proposed. The AG LUD does allow limited scale lodging subject to a CUP.

b) The proposed project is a use according to the Mono County General Plan's Land Use Element. The use permit process provides the public the opportunity to comment on the proposal, and no comments have been received in opposition to the project.

4. *The proposed use is consistent with the map and text of the Mono County General Plan because:*

a) The proposed project has LUD of Agriculture and allows a combination of permitted uses outright and some uses subject to a CUP. In addition, the project is consistent with Mono Basin Area Plan goal and policies such as: Goal 11, Objective 11.B, Policies 11.B.1, 11.C.6, and 11.C.9.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Draft Notice of Decision and Use Permit with Conditions of Approval
2. Site Plan
3. CEQA Addendum

MONO COUNTY

Planning Division

DRAFT NOTICE OF DECISION & USE PERMIT

USE PERMIT: UP 18-002 **APPLICANT:** Jake Suppa

ASSESSOR PARCEL NUMBER: 013-210-240
PROJECT TITLE: **Suppa Family Farm-stay**

PROJECT LOCATION: 100 North Bodie Hills Road, Lee Vining, CA 93541

CONDITIONS OF APPROVAL
See attached Conditions of Approval

ANY AFFECTED PERSON, INCLUDING THE APPLICANT, NOT SATISFIED WITH THE DECISION OF THE COMMISSION, MAY WITHIN TEN (10) DAYS OF THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THE DECISION, SUBMIT AN APPEAL IN WRITING TO THE MONO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS.

THE APPEAL SHALL INCLUDE THE APPELLANT'S INTEREST IN THE SUBJECT PROPERTY, THE DECISION OR ACTION APPEALED, SPECIFIC REASONS WHY THE APPELLANT BELIEVES THE DECISION APPEALED SHOULD NOT BE UPHELD AND SHALL BE ACCOMPANIED BY THE APPROPRIATE FILING FEE.

DATE OF DECISION/USE PERMIT APPROVAL:
EFFECTIVE DATE USE PERMIT

This Use Permit shall become null and void in the event of failure to exercise the rights of the permit within one (1) year from the date of approval unless an extension is applied for at least 60 days prior to the expiration date.

Ongoing compliance with the above conditions is mandatory. Failure to comply constitutes grounds for revocation and the institution of proceedings to enjoin the subject use.

MONO COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION

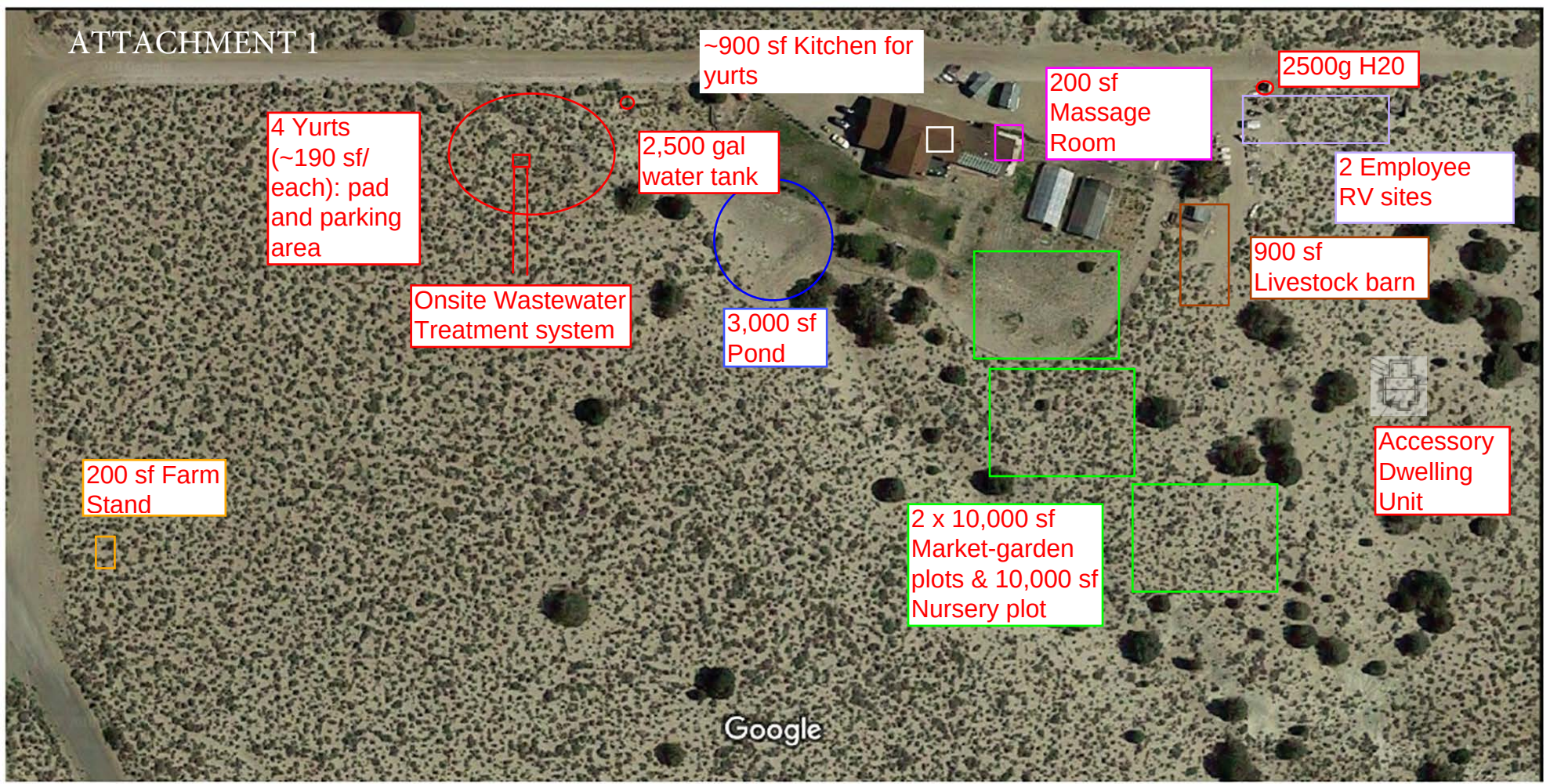
DATED: _____

cc: X Applicant
X Public Works
X Building
X Compliance

Conditions of Approval:
Use Permit 18-002/Suppa Family Farm-Stay

1) Future development shall meet requirements of the Mono County General Plan, Mono County Code, and project conditions.
2) The project shall be in substantial compliance with the site plan as shown on Attachment 1 found in the staff report.
3) Project shall provide a minimum of 12 on-site parking spaces.
4) The total of the two sign faces shall not exceed 50 sq. feet.
5) Building permits shall be obtained for the erection and deconstruction of the yurts on a seasonal basis.
6) All exterior lighting shall be shielded and directed downward to comply with Chapter 23, Dark Sky Regulations.
7) Project shall comply with Chapter 22, Fire Safe Regulations.
8) In the event of the accidental discovery or recognition of any human remains, work shall immediately be stopped and the steps in CEQA §15064.5(e) shall be followed.
9) Project shall comply with all Mono County Building Division, Public Works, and Environmental Health requirements.
10) If any of these conditions are violated, this permit and all rights hereunder may be revoked in accordance with Section 32.080 of the Mono County General Plan, Land Development Regulations.

ATTACHMENT 1



SUPPA FARM-STAY CUP 18-002
ADDENDUM TO THE MONO COUNTY GENERAL PLAN EIR (SCH #2014061029)
November 2018

LEAD AGENCY:
Mono County Community Development Department, Planning Division
PO Box 347
Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546

INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

This Addendum is to the 2015 Regional Transportation Plan, General Plan, Countywide Integrated Waste Management Plan, and Noise Ordinance Updates; and Repeal of the Conway Ranch Specific Plan Final EIR (SCH #2014061029), also known as 2015 RTP/GPU EIR. The complete documents can be accessed at https://monocounty.ca.gov/planning/page/general-plan-eir.

The project is located at 100 North Bodie Hills Drive off of State Route 167 in the Mono Basin. The parcel is 20 acres in size, in a rural portion of Mono Basin. The assessor parcel number is 013-210-024. See Figure 1.

Figure 1
Project Location - 100 North Bodie Hills Drive,
Project is north of State Route 167 in the Mono Basin
APN 013-210-024

The project proposes to create a limited-scale, seasonal lodging opportunity from May-October for visitors to the Mono Basin. This is a farm-stay where visitors would have the opportunity observe the activities of a rural farm. The parcels' Agriculture (AG) Land Use Designation (LUD) allows for related agricultural uses. The project would utilize a combination of existing and new structures. Table 1 lists the proposed uses, required new structures, and if the use is permitted or subject to a Conditional Use Permit (CUP).

TABLE 1: PROPOSED USES

Proposed Use	New Construction	AG Permitted use
4 - Temporary Yurts (~190 sf each)	Yes	Subject to Use Permit
Kitchen to serve yurt guests (~900 sf)	No	Subject to Use Permit
Class A Cottage Food Permit	No	Permitted Use
Farm Stand 'Store' (200 sf)	Yes	Permitted Use
Massage/Esthetics Room (200 sf)	No	Subject to Use Permit
2 x 10,000 sf Market Garden, and 10,000 sf Native Nursery	No	Subject to Use Permit
Livestock Barn (900 sf)	Yes	Permitted Use
2 RV sites for farm labor housing	Minor Utilities for each space	Permitted Use
Aquaculture Pond (3,000 sf)	Yes	Permitted Use

In December, 2015, the Mono County Board of Supervisors adopted the 2015 RTP/GPU and the EIR.

I. AUTHORITY FOR EIR ADDENDUMS

Section 15164 of the CEQA Guidelines allows a lead agency to prepare an addendum to a previously certified EIR "… if some changes or additions are necessary but none of the conditions described in Section 15162 for preparation of a subsequent EIR have occurred" [Section 15164 (a)].

Section 15162 of the CEQA Guidelines requires a subsequent EIR for a project with a certified EIR "… on the basis of substantial evidence in the light of the whole record, on one or more of the following:

(a)(1) Substantial changes are proposed in the project which will require major revisions of the previous EIR … due to the involvement of new significant environmental effects or a substantial increase in the severity of previously identified significant effects;

(2) Substantial changes occur with respect to the circumstances under which the project is undertaken which will require major revisions of the previous EIR … due to the involvement of new significant environmental effects or a substantial increase in the severity of previously identified significant effects; or

(3) New information of substantial importance, which was not known and could not have been known with the exercise of reasonable diligence at the time the previous EIR was certified as complete …, shows any of the following:

(A) The project will have one or more significant effects not discussed in the previous EIR …;

(B) Significant effects previously examined will be substantially more severe than shown in the previous EIR;

(C) Mitigation measures or alternatives previously found not to be feasible would in fact be feasible, and would substantially reduce one or more significant effects of the project, but the project proponents decline to adopt the mitigation measure or alternative; or

(D) Mitigation measures or alternatives which are considerably different from those analyzed in the previous EIR would substantially reduce one or more significant effects on the environment, but the project proponents decline to adopt the mitigation measure or alternative".

The 2015 General Plan EIR analyzed the potential impacts of identified projects and/or policies contained in the 2015 General Plan update. Significant changes in the General Plan policies have not occurred, therefore new significant environmental effects or an increase in the severity of previously identified effects is not likely. The circumstances in Mono County have changed minimally and no new information of substantial importance regarding potential environmental impacts has arisen. Since significant changes have not occurred in this update, therefore mitigation measures or alternatives are not considerably different from those analyzed previously. Due to these circumstances, this addendum to the existing 2015 General Plan EIR has been prepared.

II. EIR ADDENDUM PROCESS

An addendum need not be circulated for public review but can be included in or attached to the final EIR [CEQA Guidelines Section 15164 (c)]. The decision-making body shall consider the addendum with the final EIR prior to making a decision on the project [CEQA Guidelines Section 15164 (d)]. A brief explanation of the decision not to prepare a subsequent EIR pursuant to Section 15162 should be included in an addendum to an EIR, the lead agency's findings on the project, or elsewhere in the record. The explanation must be supported by substantial evidence [CEQA Guidelines Section (e)].

IV. FOCUS OF EIR ADDENDUM

Conditional Use Permit 18-002 / Suppa:

1) Allow up to 4 yurts, which is very similar to the allowance of cabins for limited-scale lodging;
2) Permit the existing single family home for a kitchen in support of the limited-scale lodging, similar to a bed-and-breakfast operation;
3) Issue a Class A Cottage Food Permit;
4) Allow for construction of a Farm Stand ‘Store’;
5) Allow a Massage/Esthetics Room in an existing building;
6) Operate a Market Garden and Native Plant Nursery;
7) Construct a Livestock Barn;
8) 2 RV sites with hook ups for farm labor housing; and.
9) Allow for construction of an Aquaculture Pond (3,000 sf)

The adoption of the 2015 GP EIR, with mitigation measures imposed for the 2015 General Plan EIR, included a and statement of overriding considerations indicating the project has a significant adverse effect on the environment. The proposed project as defined in Conditional Use Permit 18-002 / Suppa considered new construction or disturbance area of up to

TABLE 2: PROPOSED CONSTRUCTION OR DISTURBANCE AREA

USE	Proposed construction or disturbance area in sq. ft.
4 Temporary Yurts (approximately 190 sf/unit)	760
Kitchen to serve yurt guests	None – existing building
Farm Stand 'Store' (200 sf)	200
Massage/Esthetics Room (200 sf)	None – existing building
Livestock Barn (900 sf)	900
2 x 10,000 sf Market Garden, and 10,000 sf Native Nursery	20,000 (one 10,000 sf plot is existing)
2 RV Hook Up (Employee Housing)	Size of the RV pad
Aquaculture pond	3,000
Total	~24,860

TABLE 3: CURRENT USES & PROPOSED USES UNDER cup 18-002

USE PERMIT FEATURE	Current or Exisiting Uses	PROPOSED USE CUP 18-002
Lot size	20 acres	No change
Proposed Uses		24,860 sq ft of construction or lot disturbance
Lot Coverage	< 40% or 8 acres	Approximately 2.5 acres maximum
Parking	2 spaces	Additional 10 spaces
Snow Storage	Not an issue	Not an issue
Max. Building Height	35 feet	< 35 feet
Setbacks	Front: > 50 feet Sides: > 50 feet Rear: > 50 feet	Front: 50 feet or greater Sides: 50 feet or greater Rear: 50 feet or greater

Provided in the section that follow is an assessment of whether any of the above CEQA requirements would necessitate preparation of a subsequent EIR to address changes proposed with CUP 18-002. Mitigation measures from the 2015 RTP/GPU EIR are not repeated throughout Table 4. Instead, they are incorporated by reference and can be accessed in Appendix D of the EIR, available at https://monocounty.ca.gov/planning/page/general-plan-eir.

TABLE 4
COMPARISON OF POTENTIALLY SIGNIFICANT IMPACTS FOR PROPOSED CUP 18-002

IMPACT OF CURRENT PROJECT & MITIGATIONS[1] 2015 RTP/GPU EIR	**IMPACT OF PROPOSED PROJECT** UP 18-002/Suppa
LAND USE	
IMPACTS: Implementation of the RTP/General Plan Update would not have significant and unavoidable impacts due to physically dividing a community or conflicting with an applicable land use plan.	No Change. The proposed project does not divide a community and is consistent with General Plan permitted uses and uses subject to a Director Review or Use Permit.
TRANSPORTATION/CIRCULATION	
IMPACTS: Implementation of the RTP/General Plan Update would not have significant and unavoidable impacts due to conflicts with circulation planning, conflicts with congestion management program, changes in air traffic patterns, or result in inadequate emergency access.	No Change. Project would not change any potential impact identified in the 2015 General Plan EIR. Theproject is expected to generate 8 to 12 trips / day on Cottonwood Canyon Road, which will not have a significant impact to transportation on Cottonwood Canyon Road, circulation planning, air traffic, or emergency access.
AIR QUALITY & GREENHOUSE GASES	
IMPACTS: Implementation of the RTP/General Plan Update would not have significant and unavoidable impacts due to conflicts with an applicable air quality plan, violating an air quality standard, exposure of sensitive receptors to pollutants, creating objectionable odors, or conflicts with an applicable GHG-reduction plan.	No Change. If the project is within the area subject to the Mono Basin State Implementation Plan, it is consistent with that plan which primarily address PM10 emissions from windblown dust off the exposed lakebed that resulted from reduced water levels due to LADWP water diversions. The project has no emissions of any criteria pollutants or odors, other than agricultural odors that are addressed in Mono County General Plan Chapter 24, Right to Farm Regulations. The project is consistent with the County's Resource Efficiency Plan which promotes, but does not require, energy efficiency by private development.
BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES	
IMPACTS: Implementation of the RTP/General Plan Update could have significant and unavoidable impacts on candidate, sensitive, or special status species; riparian habitat; federally protected §404 wetlands; fish or wildlife movement or migration; and conflict with local biological protection ordinances. Implementation would not have an impact on conflicts with an adopted habitat conservation plan.	No Change. The National Wetlands Inventory mapper does not indicate any potential wetlands or riparian habitat on the property, nor is there any naturally occurring water bodies on the property. The upland sage vegetation is not within sage-grouse habitat nor a deer migration corridor. Deer are known to use the area as winter holding grounds, however, this holding area is very large and the project would not have a detrimental impact on deer use. Therefore, the project would not intensify the potential impacts identified in the 2015 General Plan EIR.

[1] Mitigation measures are listed in Appendix D of the 2015 RTP/GPU EIR and are available at: https://monocounty.ca.gov/planning/page/general-plan-eir. The measures are incorporated by reference rather than repeated for efficiency.

IMPACT OF CURRENT PROJECT & MITIGATIONS[1] 2015 RTP/GPU EIR	IMPACT OF PROPOSED PROJECT UP 18-002/Suppa
	The 2015 General Plan EIR Mitigation Measures for Biological Resources are found in: TABLE 4.4-10. MITIGATING GOALS, POLICIES & ACTIONS FOR BIOLGICAL RESOURCES
GEOLOGY	
IMPACTS: Implementation of the RTP/General Plan Update would have significant and unavoidable impacts due to exposure of people and structures to seismic effects, causing substantial soil erosion, exposure of people and structures to unstable geology, and loss of mineral resources. The RTP/GPU would not have significant effects due to soils unsuited to alternative wastewater systems.	No Change. The proposed project is not located in a fault region or an area with unstable geology, does not include excavation that would cause soil erosion, and will not deplete mineral resources.
HEALTH & SAFETY HAZARDS	
IMPACTS: Implementation of the RTP/General Plan Update would have significant and unavoidable impacts due to the potential for release of hazardous materials, inadequate emergency response, exposure to wildland fire risks, and exposure to avalanche, rockfall, storms, and volcanism. The RTP/GPU would not have significant effects due to activities on known hazardous materials sites and exposure to airport hazards.	No Change. The proposed project does not utilize any hazardous materials, the impact to emergency response remains as identified in the EIR, and is not in an area exposed to avalanche or rockfall. The site is in a Moderate CalFire State Responsibility Area Zone and a 2,500 gallon water tanks will be installed for fire suppression. The project does not exacerbate exposure to storms and volcanism (same exposure as the rest of the county). The project does not include any activities on known hazardous materials site or exposure to airport hazards. No airport is nearby.
CULTURAL RESOURCES	
IMPACTS: Implementation of the RTP/General Plan Update could have significant and unavoidable impacts on prehistoric or historic resources, paleontological resources, and sacred lands.	No Change. A statement of overriding considerations was adopted for 2015 General Plan Update EIR for Cultural Resources. No cultural resource sites are known, and no springs or other features likely to attract historical uses exist on the property. Project would not change any potential impact identified in the 2015 General Plan EIR. The 2015 General Plan EIR Mitigation Measures for Cultural Resources are found in: TABLE 4.7-2. MITIGATING GOALS, POLICIES & ACTIONS FOR IMPACTS TO CULTURAL RESOURCES In addition, the project is subject to CEQA Guidelines section 15064.5 (e) in the event of the accidental discovery or recognition of any human remains.
HYDROLOGY	
IMPACTS: Implementation of the RTP/General Plan Update would have significant and unavoidable impacts due to violation of water quality objectives, violation of waste	No Change. The National Wetlands Inventory mapper does not indicate any potential wetlands or riparian habitat on the property, nor is there any naturally

IMPACT OF CURRENT PROJECT & MITIGATIONS[1] 2015 RTP/GPU EIR	IMPACT OF PROPOSED PROJECT UP 18-002/Suppa
discharge requirements, availability of adequate water supplies, and erosion and siltation from altered drainage. The RTP/GPU would not have significant effects due to exposure of people and structures to 100-year flood, risk of dam failure, and risk of seiche and tsunami.	occurring water bodies on the property. Water quality will be protected and waste discharge processed by a new septic system subject to the requirements and permitting of the Environmental Health Department.
RECREATION	
IMPACTS: Implementation of the RTP/General Plan Update would have significant and unavoidable impacts on recreational facilities. The RTP/GPU would not have significant effects due to increased demand for recreational facilities.	Reduced Impact: The project itself is a recreational facility related to agricultural uses, and therefore reduces demand for and impacts upon recreational facilities.
AESTHETICS, LIGHT & GLARE	
IMPACTS: Implementation of the RTP/General Plan Update would have significant and unavoidable impacts on scenic resources in a State Scenic Highway and due to degradation of visual character or quality, creation of new sources of light and glare.	No Change: The project is not located in a State Scenic Highway corridor. The visual quality of the project is compatible with the agricultural nature of the parcel's land use designation, and any new exterior lighting will be subject to General Plan Land Use Element Chapter 23, Dark Sky Regulations.
AGRICULTURE	
IMPACTS: Implementation of the RTP/General Plan Update would not impact conversion of prime farmland to nonagricultural use or result in loss of forest land.	No Change: The project is in support of agricultural uses and is not on forested land.
POPULATION	
IMPACTS: Implementation of the RTP/General Plan Update would not have impacts due to significant population growth or displacement of residents or housing.	No Change: The project does not create significant population growth (2-3 employees + 8-12 visitors) and provides housing on site for employees. No residents are displaced.
UTILITIES & PUBLIC SERVICES	
IMPACTS: Implementation of the RTP/General Plan Update would have significant and unavoidable impacts on police, fire, schools, and other services. The RTP/GPU would not have significant effects on wasteful, inefficient energy consumption or adequacy of landfill capacity.	No Change: Due to the dispersed project location, police, fire and other emergency response services could be impacted as identified in the GPU EIR. School services would not be impacted. The project will be reviewed by CalFire at the building permit stage. The project will not have an impact on wasteful energy consumption or landfill capacity.
NOISE	
IMPACTS: Implementation of the RTP/General Plan Update would not have significant impacts due to an increase in ambient noise levels, exposure of people to groundborne vibration or noise or airport noise.	No Change: The project does not have any increased noise sources and is not located near an airport.

MITIGATION MONITORING AND REPORTING PLAN (MMRP)

Section 15097 of the CEQA Guidelines states "*In order to ensure that the mitigation measures… identified in the… negative declaration are implemented; the public agency shall adopt a program for monitoring* ***or*** *reporting on the revisions which it has required in the project and the measures it has imposed the mitigate or avoid significant environmental effects.*" (Emphasis added.)

No additional mitigation measures have been identified for the proposed project, and therefore no additional MMRP is required.

CONCLUSION

Based on the considerations and analyses presented above and based on the provisions contained in CEQA §15164[a]) as presented in its entirety in this Addendum, it is concluded that none of the conditions calling for preparation of a subsequent EIR have occurred. The County of Mono, acting as Lead Agency, has therefore determined that an Addendum to the adopted 2015 General Plan EIR is the appropriate CEQA document for the proposed Suppa Farm-Stay CUP 18-002.

CEQA §15164(c-e) states that "*an Addendum need not be circulated for public review but can be included in or attached to the final EIR or adopted negative declaration. The decision-making body shall consider the addendum with the final EIR or adopted negative declaration prior to making a decision on the project. A brief explanation of the decision not to prepare a subsequent EIR pursuant to §15162 shall be included in an addendum to an EIR, the lead agency's findings on the project, or elsewhere in the record. The explanation must be supported by substantial evidence.*"

All of the mitigation measures adopted by Mono County as part of the 2015 General Plan EIR remain in full force and effect. The complete list of mitigation policies and measures for the 2015 General Plan EIR is found in Appendix D at https://monocounty.ca.gov/planning/page/general-plan-eir.

Mono County
Community Development Department

PO Box 347
Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546
(760) 924-1800, fax 924-1801
commdev@mono.ca.gov

Planning Division

PO Box 8
Bridgeport, CA 93517
(760) 932-5420, fax 932-5431
www.monocounty.ca.gov

November 15, 2018

To: Mono County Planning Commission

From: Nick Criss, Community Development Analyst

Re: Mining Operations Permit Application 18-001/Baseline Material Site
Reclamation Plan Application 18-001
Initial Study/ Negative Declaration

RECOMMENDATION

If the Planning Commission wishes to approve the project, the Planning Commission should take the following actions:

1. Adopt the Initial Study/Negative Declaration (IS/ND), subject to the identified mitigation measures. Find that, on the basis of the IS/ND, there has been no substantial evidence presented at the public hearing indicating that the proposed project will have a significant adverse effect on the environment, and direct staff to file a Notice of Determination with the County Clerk;

2. Make the required Mining Operations Permit Findings contained in the project staff report;

3. Approve Mining Operations Permit 18-001, subject to the noted conditions of approval;

4. Make the required Reclamation Plan Findings contained in the project staff report; and

5. Approve Reclamation Plan 18-001, subject to the noted conditions of approval.

ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW

Mining will occur under the proposed Mining Operations Permit which triggers the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The parcel is federally owned; however, no permitting, other discretionary action, or funding by the Federal government is involved and so the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) is not applicable. Therefore, an Initial Study/Negative Declaration (IS/ND) under CEQA was prepared, and it determined that although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, revisions to the project would eliminate potential environmental effects or reduce those effects to a less-than-significant level.

PROJECT

Baseline 1 material site is on public land managed by the U.S. Department of Interior Bureau of Land Management (APN 021-130-036-000). The site had been used for over 50 years for mining aggregate materials until the late 1990s when mining ceased, and partial reclamation took place. Since then the site has continually been used as a staging area and material storage for road maintenance operations.

Caltrans is proposing to resume mining operations beginning in the east pit area. Reclamation of the pit will occur concurrently with mining under the proposed Reclamation Plan and Mining Operations Permit. The proposed end land use is material storage for highway maintenance operations. Mining will be conducted in 3 phases over approximately the next 54 years at a projected extraction rate of 12,000 CY per year.

Phase 1 of mining would entail material extraction of the current east pit. The pit floor elevation in this area would be lowered approximately 10 feet from the current elevation, making the final Phase 1 pit floor elevation approximately 35 feet below the existing mixing table. There is an estimated 26,000 cubic yards (CY) of raw material in Phase 1, which should yield approximately 13,000 CY of quality aggregate, assuming 50 percent waste. With an estimated 12,000 CY per year average demand, this phase would last 1-2 years. Equipment such as loaders, excavators, and screening grizzlies, as well as production material stockpiles, would be stored in this area, which is out of the primary viewshed; however, the existing paved mixing table would continue to be used for cinder stockpiles and other material storage.

Phase 2 mining would continue north of the current east pit/Phase 1 area. This phase contains approximately 360,000 CY of raw material, which should yield approximately 180,000 CY of quality aggregate, assuming 50 percent waste. Estimating 12,000 CY per year average demand, this phase would provide an approximate 15-year supply of quality aggregate. During the entirety of Phase 1 and 2, the existing asphalt mixing table at the west side of the site would continue to be utilized for material storage (e.g., cinders, asphalt and grindings), Caltrans equipment, and as an occasional contractor temporary construction staging area for storing equipment and material. Partial reclamation in accordance with SMARA regulations would occur to those portions of the site (final slopes) where extraction is complete.

Phase 3 mining would move west towards and into the existing mixing table providing an additional 920,000 CY of raw material, yielding approximately 460,000 CY of quality aggregate. This would provide approximately a 38-year supply of quality aggregate. The maximum depth of the Phase 3 extraction is approximately 55 feet below the elevation of the existing mixing table. The Phase 1 area would be maintained as a storage area during this phase. When the existing paved mixing table is no longer available, this Phase 1 area would be paved during Phase 3 to create an impervious surface for storage operations. The access road would also be paved or gravel-lined from the site entrance into the Phase 1 Storage Area to provide road stabilization and dust minimization. The Phase 2 pit floor may also be utilized for storage, as needed, during Phase 3 operations. The northeast corner of the Phase 2 pit floor would continue to be designated as the primary stormwater/sediment retention basin during the final phase. Upon completion of the extraction of all material, the final slopes would be reclaimed in as depicted in the reclamation plan in accordance with SMARA regulations.

The Mono County General Plan designates the site as Resource Management (RM). Surrounding properties are owned by LADWP and are designated as Open Space (OS) and Mixed Designation (MD). The MD designation parcels constitute a combination of the land use designations Open Space (OS) and Resource Extraction (RE) due to the presence of two permitted aggregate mining operations. The only exception is an approximately 40-acre parcel northeast of the site, which is also federal land managed by BLM and designated RM. The site is currently used as materials storage, equipment storage, and construction staging, and it would return to this use after mining is completed. The future storage area, however, would be 35 feet or lower from the existing ground elevation, meaning that the future use would be less visible from US 395, a State Scenic Highway.

GENERAL PLAN CONSISTENCY

The subject parcel is owned by the Bureau of Land Management and the County has no land use authority over federal lands. Therefore, consistency with the General Plan land use designation is not applicable to this project.

MONO COUNTY CODE CONSISTENCY

Chapter 7.10, Mining Operations, of the Mono County Code requires any entity engaged in extraction, processing, or other mining within Mono County to possess, at the time of such activity, all of the following: Mining Operations Permit in the case of mining operations on land over which the County lacks full land use and zoning authority, Reclamation Plan, CEQA document, and Indemnification Agreement.

The Mining Operations Permit "is intended to establish, through a purely environmental (non-land use) permit process, legally permissible regulatory requirements designed to protect the environment of Mono County, and not

to create a de facto ban on mining or create a "clear obstacle" to accomplishing the objectives of the Mining Act" (Section 7.10.010.G.).

Per Section 7.10.010.H, a Reclamation Plan is required under the County's authority as a lead agency for purposes of the Surface Mining and Reclamation Act (SMARA; Section 2710 et seq. of the California Public Resources Code). The County previously adopted an ordinance implementing the Act (Ordinance No. 94-02), which was duly certified by the State Mining and Geology Board, and subjects all mining operations on all land in the county, including public land, to the County's certified reclamation ordinance.

The following requirements are set forth under Section 7.10.050.D and provides for conditions of approval to be imposed on mining operations permits by the Planning Commission in order to meet the intent of Chapter 7.10 or CEQA:

1. Require that all mining operations, before and during mining, characterize the potential of their ore and waste rock to generate acid mine drainage. Operators may be required to use both static and kinetic testing to make this determination.

   This requirement is not applicable to the proposed mining operation.

2. Require pollution prevention and pollution containment techniques in all phases of mine operation.

   The proposed project will not create a significant hazard through routine transport or use of hazardous materials. It will implement all standard best management practices to control and contain any hazardous material spills. All Caltrans maintenance activities will comply with the Caltrans Stormwater Management Plan (see Reclamation Plan 18-001 sections 4.3.6, 4.3.7 and 4.3.8).

3. Require mining operations to use the best available technology and practices in order to protect the environment, including but not limited to preventing or minimizing acid mine drainage.

   Acid mine drainage is not applicable to the proposed mining operation. Proposed mitigation measures for the project include best available practices, in order to protect the environment.

4. Impose specific contamination standards for water, air and other environmental components that the project may not exceed.

   The primary BMP proposed for water quality would be to manage the site such that it is maintained as internally draining. Any areas draining externally, such as the perimeter berms and access roads, should be stabilized immediately after construction in those areas is complete (See Reclamation Plan section 4.2.2.2).

   The proposed project would not contribute to or significantly impact the status of PM IO or any other criteria pollutant. Short-term construction activities will have a temporary impact on local air quality near the project site due to dust and tailpipe emissions from construction equipment. All appropriate standard practices to control fugitive dust and reduce equipment idling times will be implemented on this project to minimize any short-term air quality impacts (Chapter 2 Negative Declaration).

5. Require post-mining water quality monitoring to ensure that acid mine drainage does not develop (or worsen, to the extent it is present before the proposed mining or processing occurs) over time.

   This requirement is not applicable to the proposed mining operation.

6. Require inspections of mining operations, especially water-related facilities, by county staff or consultants at frequent intervals.

   In compliance with SMARA, mining operations are inspected annually to ensure that the operation is in compliance with its adopted Reclamation Plan and that all financial assurances are current. In addition, the Reclamation Plan requires the site to be reclaimed in phases until closure and annually until the County and the BLM are satisfied that the performance standards for reclamation and revegetation have been met (Section 5.6 Monitoring and Reporting, Reclamation Plan 18-001).

7. Require adequate financial assurances in order to cover the estimated costs of cleaning up or otherwise remediating any reasonably foreseeable environmental contamination that could result from the project despite any imposed mitigation measures, including but not limited to natural and artificial causes of such potential contamination, including but not limited to spills, leaks and other releases or discharges resulting from negligent design or construction, negligence of extraction or processing operators, as well as rainfall, snowfall, snow melt, floods, fires, earthquakes and other potential natural forces and events.

   In compliance with SMARA requirements for Reclamation Plans, the Conditions of Approval for Reclamation Plan 18-001 require Caltrans to provide adequate surety to ensure completion of the required reclamation and to cover the estimated costs for the potential remediation efforts noted above (Reclamation Plan Condition of Approval RP3). Surety shall be in a form acceptable to Mono County and shall be provided prior to the commencement of any mining activities.

8. Require any other appropriate mitigation measures and associated monitoring programs. Significant adverse environmental impacts associated with mining operations shall be mitigated to a level of nonsignificance to the extent feasible without violating or conflicting with the Federal Mining Act of 1872 (30 U.S.C. §§ 21 et seq.), as the same may be amended from time to time, or with other applicable federal or state laws, unless a statement of overriding considerations is made through the CEQA process.

   Proposed mitigation measures are included in the Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration and Environmental Assessment. The project will not result in significant environmental impacts. Potential impacts have been mitigated to a less-than-significant level.

MINING OPERATION PERMIT FINDINGS

Mining operations permits shall be granted only after a duly noticed public hearing and only if the Planning Commission (or the Board of Supervisors in the event of an appeal) makes all of the following findings based on the evidence before it: (Mono County Code, Section 7.10.050.C.):

1. The application and any documentation submitted with it for purposes of complying with or facilitating CEQA review are complete and adequate.

   County staff has determined that the application and accompanying documentation are complete. As required by Section 7.10.050 of the Mono County Code, the application includes a complete application form, and complete and detailed supporting materials, including maps and specifications, and site-specific studies. See Attachment 1.

2. The proposed project is consistent and compliant with Chapter 7.10 of the Mono County Code, other applicable provisions of the Mono County Code, and any applicable environmental policies, regulations, or standards set forth in the Mono County General Plan, as the same may be amended from time to time, as well as any applicable state or federal laws, orders of state or federal agencies having jurisdiction, and applicable court orders, except to the extent that such consistency or compliance is impossible to achieve through any feasible modification or mitigation of the proposed project without violating or conflicting with the Federal Mining Act of 1872 (30 U.S.C. §§ 21 et seq.), as the same may be amended from time to time, or with other

applicable federal or state laws.

As noted previously, the project is consistent and compliant with Chapter 7.10 of the Mono County Code and with the Mono County General Plan.

3. The proposed project, as mitigated, will not cause any significant adverse environmental impacts, except to the extent that such impacts are impossible to avoid through any feasible mitigation measures without violating or conflicting with the Federal Mining Act of 1872 (30 U.S.C. §§ 21 et seq.), as the same may be amended from time to time, or with other applicable federal or state laws, unless a statement of overriding considerations is made through the CEQA process.

   Baseline material site is on federal land managed by the BLM. Mining activities on site have occurred, and will continue to occur in the future, under a highway easement deed held by Caltrans from the BLM. Mining activities are also subject to Chapter 7.10 of the Mono County Code, Mining Operations, which requires a Mining Operations Permit for "mining operations on land over which the county lacks full land use and zoning authority" (Section 7.10.030).

   The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) requires public agencies to consider the effects that development projects will have on the environment. The proposed project was designed and revised to avoid potential significant effects to the environment. The Initial Study/MND prepared for the project determined that although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, the revisions to the project would eliminate potential environmental effects or reduce those effects to a less-than-significant level.

RECLAMATION PLAN FINDINGS

The Planning Commission may approve or conditionally approve a Reclamation Plan only when all of the following findings can be made [Mono County Land Development Regulations, Chapter 35—Reclamation Plans, Section 35.030 (B)(3)]:

a. That the reclamation plan complies with the provisions of CEQA.

   The proposed project was designed and revised to avoid potential significant effects to the environment. An Initial Study prepared for the project determined that although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, the revisions to the project would eliminate potential environmental effects or reduce those effects to a less-than-significant level.

b. That the reclamation plan is consistent with the objectives and policies set forth in this General Plan and any applicable area or specific plans.

   The subject parcel is owned by the Bureau of Land Management and the County has no land use authority over federal lands. Therefore, consistency with the General Plan land use designation is not applicable to this project.

c. That appropriate conditions have been imposed to ensure and verify that the site during and after reclamation will not cause a public hazard, nor be detrimental to the public health, safety, or welfare.

   Section 4.3.5 of the Reclamation Plan contains provisions for public safety on site; i.e.,

   > *"No permanent administrative structures are proposed at the site. The site is currently gated along its entry road, with an adjoining chain-link fence. Although no permanent fencing around the site is proposed, the perimeter of the site would be defined by the use of earthen berms. Access to the site is also geographically restricted by large creek channels on all but the entrance side of the site."*

d. That an approved end use has been identified and that the reclamation of the site shall be finally completed as soon as is feasible, considering the particular circumstances of the site to be reclaimed, and that the plan provides for concurrent reclamation, where appropriate and feasible.

Section 2.8 of the Reclamation Plan establishes an end land use for the site:

> *"Upon final site configuration (see Appendix A), once slopes are revegetated, a final SMARA reclamation inspection would be performed to retire the mine and commence with the intended end use. At this point, no further mining activities would occur at the site, and only the Department's standard maintenance activities and construction staging would occur on the Project site. Post-reclamation site end uses would include:"*
>
> - *Department maintenance forces equipment operation training.*
> - *Stockpiling and storing natural materials such as cinders, rock, excess base material, and reusable plant materials for erosion control.*
> - *Stockpiling and storing of non-natural materials, such as metal beam guardrail, treated beams, reusable asphalt grindings (stored on impervious surface only), and poles.*
> - *Potential construction of a metal storage shed to shield some maintenance materials from the elements. Such a shed would likely be an open three-sided structure with approximate dimensions of 50 feet deep by 70 feet wide by 30 feet tall. The shed would be located within the pit floor out of sight of most visual receptors and painted a blending color.*
> - *Temporary utilization as a construction contractor staging area for equipment and material.*

f. That the estimated cost of the reclamation reasonably approximates the probable cost of performing the reclamation work as proposed in the plan and that adequate surety (consistent with applicable provisions of SMARA for surface mining operations) will be posted to ensure completion of the required reclamation.

In compliance with SMARA requirements for Reclamation Plans, the Conditions of Approval for Reclamation Plan 18-001 require Caltrans to provide adequate surety to ensure completion of the required reclamation and to cover the estimated costs for the potential remediation efforts noted above (Reclamation Plan Condition of Approval RP3). Surety shall be in a form acceptable to Mono County and shall be provided prior to the commencement of any mining activities.

g. That the person or entity responsible for reclamation plan compliance has a public liability insurance policy in force for the duration of the reclamation that provides for personal injury and property protection in an amount adequate to compensate all persons injured or for property damaged as a result of the proposed reclamation activities.

Caltrans will operate the Baseline pit and will be responsible for reclamation efforts at the site. Caltrans currently has a public liability insurance policy. Conditions of Approval for Reclamation Plan 18-001 (Reclamation Plan Condition of approval RP4) require Caltrans to maintain adequate liability coverage for the life of the project.

MONO COUNTY
Planning Division

DRAFT NOTICE OF DECISION
1) MINING OPERATIONS PERMIT & 2) RECLAMATION PLAN

MINING OPERATIONS PERMIT #: MOP 18-001 & Reclamation Plan 18-001

APPLICANT: Caltrans, Forest Becket, Caltrans District 9 Office Chief

PROJECT TITLE: Baseline Mining Site, Mining Operations Permit & Reclamation Plan

PROJECT LOCATION: In Mono Basin, on the east side of Highway 395, approximately 4.5 miles south of the town of Lee Vining and .8 miles north of the junction of Highway 395 and Highway 120 East.

ASSESSOR PARCEL NUMBER(s): 021-130-036

On November 15, 2018, a duly advertised and noticed public hearing was held and the necessary findings, pursuant to MCC 7.10 (Mining Operations Permit) and MCGP Section 35.030 (Reclamation Plans), of the Land Development Regulations, Mono County General Plan Land Use Element, were made by the Mono County Planning Commission. In accordance with those findings, a Notice of Decision is hereby rendered for Mining Operations Permit 18-001 and Reclamation Plan 18-00 subject to the following conditions, at the conclusion of the appeal period.

CONDITIONS OF APPROVAL
See attached Conditions of Approval

ANY AFFECTED PERSON, INCLUDING THE APPLICANT, NOT SATISFIED WITH THE DECISION OF THE COMMISSION, MAY WITHIN FIFTEEN (15) DAYS OF THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THE DECISION, SUBMIT AN APPEAL IN WRITING TO THE MONO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS.

THE APPEAL SHALL INCLUDE THE APPELLANT'S INTEREST IN THE SUBJECT PROPERTY, THE DECISION OR ACTION APPEALED, SPECIFIC REASONS WHY THE APPELLANT BELIEVES THE DECISION APPEALED SHOULD NOT BE UPHELD AND SHALL BE ACCOMPANIED BY THE APPROPRIATE FILING FEE OF $ 540.00.

DATE OF DECISION/MINING OPERATIONS PERMIT APPROVAL: November 15, 2018
EFFECTIVE DATE OF MINING OPERATIONS PERMIT: November 15, 2018

This Mining Operations Permit shall become null and void in the event of failure to exercise the rights of the permit within one (1) year from the date of approval unless an extension is applied for at least 60 days prior to the expiration date.

Ongoing compliance with the above conditions is mandatory. Failure to comply constitutes grounds for revocation and the institution of proceedings to enjoin the subject use.

MONO COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION
DATED: November 15, 2018

cc:
- X Applicant
- X Public Works
- ___ Animal Control
- X Compliance

CONDITIONS OF APPROVAL

MINING OPERATIONS PERMIT 18-001 Baseline

MOP1 Use of mined materials from the Baseline *shall* be limited to Caltrans and their contactors.

MOP2 Operator shall adhere to standards and conditions of approval contained within the Reclamation Plan 18-001 and Operations Plan Appendix B in the Reclamation Plan.

MOP3 In compliance with SMARA, mining operations shall be monitored annually to ensure ongoing compliance with Mining Operations Permit 18-001, Reclamation Plan 18-001, and mitigation measures for the project.

CONDITIONS OF APPROVAL

RECLAMATION PLAN 18-001 Baseline

RP1 Reclamation shall occur as stated in Reclamation Plan 18-001.

RP2 Caltrans shall comply with all standards and requirements found in Reclamation Plan 18-001 for all mining operation and reclamation activities.

RP3 Caltrans shall provide adequate surety to ensure completion of the required reclamation. Surety shall be in a form acceptable to Mono County and shall be provided prior to the commencement of any mining activities. In compliance with Mono County Code requirements (Section 7.10.050 (D)(7), the surety shall also be adequate to:

"…cover the estimated costs of cleaning up or otherwise remediating any reasonably foreseeable environmental contamination that could result from the project despite any imposed mitigation measures, including but not limited to natural and artificial causes of such potential contamination, including but not limited to spills, leaks and other releases or discharges resulting from negligent design or construction, negligence of extraction or processing operators, as well as rainfall, snowfall, snow melt, floods, fires, earthquakes and other potential natural forces and events."

RP4 Caltrans shall maintain adequate liability coverage for the life of the project and shall provide proof of such coverage to Mono County prior to the commencement of any mining activities.

Final
Surface Mining and Reclamation Plan
Baseline Pit (MS 190)

Lee Vining, Mono County
Mine ID 91-26-0016

Volume 1 of 1

State ID 091500024
EA 09-365604

Final Surface Mining and Reclamation Plan
August 2018

Lead Agencies:

Mono County
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Contact Person: Nick Criss

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Contact Person: Lawrence Primosch

Applicant:

California Department of Transportation
District 9
500 South Main Street
Bishop, CA 93514
(760) 872-0681
Contact Person: Forest Becket

Final Surface Mining and Reclamation Plan

Baseline Pit (MS 190)

Aggregate Surface Mine and Processing Facilities Caltrans

Lee Vining, Mono County, California

Mine ID 91-26-0016

August 2018

California Department of Transportation

500 South Main Street

Bishop, California 93514

(760) 872-0681

Contact Person: Forest Becket

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List of Abbreviated Terms

°F	degrees Fahrenheit
APN	Assessor's Parcel Number
amsl	Above Mean Sea Level
bgs	Below ground surface
BLM	U.S. Department of Interior, Bureau of Land Management
BMP	Best Management Practice
BSS	BLM Sensitive Species
Caltrans	California Department of Transportation
CDFW	California Department of Fish and Wildlife
CGP	Construction General Permit
CEQA	California Environmental Quality Act
CESA	California Endangered Species Act
CFR	Code of Federal Regulations
cfs	Cubic Feet Per Second
CIP	Capital Improvement Project
CNDDB	California Natural Diversity Database
CNPS	California Native Plant Society
CSC	California Species of Special Concern
CUP	Conditional Use Permit
CWA	Clean Water Act
CY	Cubic Yard
Department	California Department of Transportation
DMR	Department of Conservation, Division of Mine Reclamation
DWR	California Department of Water Resources
EA	Environmental Assessment
ERA	Exceedance Response Action
FESA	Federal Endangered Species Act
FLPMA	Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976
g	gravity
h:v	Horizontal:vertical
IGP	General Industrial Activity Storm Water Permit
IPaC	USFWS Information, Planning, and Consultation
IS	Initial Study
LADWP	Los Angeles Department of Water and Power
lbs	Pounds
LID	Low Impact Development
MCE	Maximum Credible Earthquake
MD	Mixed Designation
MDBM	Mount Diablo Base and Meridian
mph	miles per hour
MS	Material Site
MSGP	Multi-Sector General Permit
N	Nitrogen
NAICS	North American Industrial Classification System

NAL	Numeric Action Level
NEC	No Exposure Certification
NEPA	National Environmental Policy Act
NOI	Notice of Intent
NOT	Notice of Termination
NPDES	National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System
NRCS	Natural Resource Conservation Service
NSWD	Non-Stormwater Discharge
NWI	National Wetlands Inventory
OM	Organic Matter
OS	Open Space
PLS	Pure Live Seed
PRC	California Public Resources Code
PRD	Permit Registration Document
Project	MS 190 Baseline Materials Project
Reclamation Plan	Surface Mining and Reclamation Plan for MS 190
RECP	Rolled Erosion Control Product
RM	Resource Management
RMP	Resource Management Plan
ROW	Right-of-Way
RWQCB	Regional Water Quality Control Board
SF	Standard Form
SIC	Standard Industrial Classification
SMARA	Surface Mining and Reclamation Act of 1975
SMARTS	Storm Water Multiple Application and Report Tracking System
SPCC	Spill Prevention, Control, and Countermeasures
SR	State Route
STA	Seal of Testing Assurance
SWPPP	Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan
SWRCB	State Water Resources Control Board
TRM	Turf Reinforcement Mat
US	United States Route
USCC	United States Composting Council
USDA	United States Department of Agriculture
USEPA	United States Environmental Protection Agency
USFS	United States Forest Service
USFWS	Department of the Interior, United States Fish and Wildlife Service
USGS	Department of the Interior, United States Geological Survey

1.0 INTRODUCTION

This Surface Mining and Reclamation Plan (Reclamation Plan) addresses operation and reclamation of the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans or Department) Material Site (MS) 190, also known as the Baseline Pit. The Baseline Pit is located near the community of Lee Vining and within the watershed for Mono Lake, in Mono County (County) and it includes portions of Parker Creek and Rush Creek. The total Caltrans right-of-way (ROW) area is 30.22 acres, encompassing a portion of an extensive area of alluvial, aggregate materials that can serve as a source of sand and gravel to be used for road construction and maintenance. The Baseline Pit was previously used as an aggregate source for more than 50 years until it was deactivated and underwent reclamation during the 1990s. The property has since been used primarily by Caltrans for general storage and training of maintenance personnel. It is the intent of Caltrans District 9 to continue using the property for these purposes but to also reactivate the gravel extraction functionality for a period of 54 years. This Reclamation Plan is designed to ensure compliance with 14 California Public Resources Code (PRC) § 3700-3713 Reclamation Standards of the Surface Mining and Reclamation Act (SMARA) of 1975, as amended, and Mono County General Plan Chapter 15, Reclamation Plans.

Mining occurred at the property for more than 50 years until the late 1990s, when the mining activities were halted, and the area was partially reclaimed. Although commercial sites exist in the area, Caltrans has identified a need for this property to be made available to contractors to set up portable material extraction/processing operations on a project-by-project basis to leverage savings by material proximity. The perpetual availability of this site would avoid full future dependency on the uncertain supply of private commercial sources.

Of the total 120 acres of Caltrans ROW, approximately 41 acres were previously mined and/or disturbed for approximately 50 years until the early 1990s. The 120 acres encompass portions of Parker Creek and Rush Creek, as well as lands between these two waterbodies.

The proposed mining area has been redefined via a map application from its originally approved 120 acres to 30.22 acres to vacate previously reclaimed acreage. The current boundary primarily includes areas currently used by Caltrans, including the mixing table, east pit, and some additional acreage in the northeast corner. The new site boundary has been clearly delineated with metal posts, survey markers, and material site boundary signs. Rush Creek and Parker Creek are now outside of the current mining footprint and proposed to be substantially buffered from the planned mining activities.

The proposed primary use of the Baseline Pit (Project), subject of this Reclamation Plan, includes material storage for Caltrans maintenance operations, and material extraction activities for Caltrans maintenance operations and Capital Improvement Projects (CIPs). Materials to be stored would consist of traction sand, cinders and rock, gravel, soil debris from slides, and other associated materials. Extraction activities by Caltrans would provide materials for shoulder fill material and other materials for maintenance operations and CIPs. A secondary use of the site would be to provide Caltrans Construction Contractors with a staging area for nearby projects. Typically, this would occur on the mixing table or on other impervious surfaces within the property.

The third tier use of this site would be aggregate extraction on a project-by-project basis by individual Caltrans Construction Contractors, entailing establishment and use of aggregate processing facilities such as aggregate screening equipment, asphalt or concrete batching plants, and aggregate material stockpiles. Other parts of the Project include a paved aggregate mixing table, construction and maintenance of access roads, and final reclamation of the site.

Current plans for the Project are provided in Appendix A.

1.1 Description of the Project

1.1.1 Site Location and History

The site is located in Mono County, approximately 4.5 miles south of Lee Vining near the south junction of State Route (SR) 120 and United States Route (US) 395 at post-mile marker 46.5 (Appendix B, Project Vicinity and Project Location). The site corresponds to a portion of Sections 34 and 35, Township 1 North, and Range 26 East (Mount Diablo Base and Meridian [MDBM] of the "Lee Vining, California" 7.5-minute quadrangle – U.S. Geological Survey [USGS], 2013). The approximate center of the site is located at 37.899964° North and -119.090191° West within the Mono Lake Watershed (Hydrologic Unit Code #18090101 – USGS, 1978).

Access to the property is from US 395, south of Lee Vining and north of Mammoth Lakes. At this point, US 395 is a divided four-lane highway, and access to the site is via an unnamed, two-lane access road with a stop sign on the east side of the highway. The property is secured by a chain-link gate. The 30.22-acre site boundary has been clearly delineated with metal posts, survey markers, and material site boundary signs.

Since 1960, Caltrans has held the ROW grant from Bureau of Land Management (BLM) to mine sand and gravel at the site. MS 190 was originally United States Forest Service (USFS) land, but it was part of a land exchange in the early 1990s between BLM and USFS. A lease with Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP) was previously in place to mine adjoining LADWP ownership (MS 116-12) for sand and gravel. During the previous active mining of the property, approximately 36.6 acres were disturbed. Mining activities on the site ceased in 1993, and the property was reclaimed under an approved reclamation plan in 1999.

During the previous mining effort, waste materials and oversized materials were used to establish an at-grade crossing of Parker Creek by filling the canyon with a plug to a depth of approximately 20 feet. Parker Creek, at the time, was dry because of water extraction activities upstream. After the water diversions and subsequent legal actions involving LADWP during the late 1990s, the portion of mining adjacent to Parker Creek was closed and reclaimed to the satisfaction of SMARA by removal of the plug and restoration of the natural topography. The reclamation plan under which these activities were performed described stream characterization criteria for post-reclamation monitoring and evaluation, including thalweg measurements after a 5-year flow event of at least 65 cubic feet per second (cfs). Parker Creek is currently a perennial stream harboring important riparian habitat resources for wildlife. Rush Creek, to the south, also contains perennial flows and abundant riparian habitat.

The 120-acre property is currently used to support Caltrans' maintenance operations and CIPs. For this Project, the site has been redefined via a map application from its originally approved 120 acres to 30.22 acres to vacate previously reclaimed acreage.

1.1.2 Project Description

The Department proposes mining operations at MS 190, also known as the Baseline Pit, and has prepared a Surface Mining and Reclamation Plan.

The Project includes mining a total of 1,306,000 cubic yards (CY) of raw material (sand and gravel), yielding approximately 653,000 CY of aggregate over a period of approximately 54 years. The Project site is approximately 30.22 acres, of which approximately 18.4 acres are proposed for excavation and 4.2 acres are proposed for storage, for a total of 22.6 acres that would be used by the Project. Although production would vary with the number of Caltrans maintenance and CIPs that are approved in the State budget each year, it is estimated that approximately 12,000 CY per year would be extracted from the Project, on average.

The primary use of the site would be for the Department standard maintenance and operations, including:

- Material mining, sorting, and stockpiling for use in routine and emergency maintenance activities on the State Highway System.
- Caltrans maintenance forces would perform mining activities mostly with graders, loaders, dozers, and sorting grizzlies.
- Cinders for winter operations would be stored at site (typically on paved surfaces).
- Asphalt grindings may be stored at the site for future reuse but will only be stored on paved impervious surfaces with piles encircled by straw waddles.
- Manmade materials, such as metal beam guardrail, treated posts, signs, etc. may be stored at site.
- Only reusable imported natural materials collected from highway clean-up or Caltrans construction activities, such as dirt and rock, would be stored at the site. All other non-reusable materials would be disposed of elsewhere, likely at the County landfill.

A secondary use of the site would be to provide Caltrans construction contractors with a staging area for nearby projects. Contractors sometimes need an area off the highway to temporarily store construction equipment and materials. Typically, this would occur on the mixing table or on a future paved impervious surface.

As a third tier use of the site, due to unknown frequency, the site would be made available to Caltrans construction contractors for material extraction and possible production of asphalt and concrete. Projects that make the pit available to a contractor for a construction project shall ensure that temporary impacts to the pit for such heightened operations are addressed in project specific environmental analysis. Temporary impacts for heightened operations will be analyzed on a project-by-project basis to ensure proper contract conditions such as visual screening, dust control, stormwater best management practices (BMPs), re-grading, and appropriate partial site reclamation. Such heightened operations by a contractor utilizing the pit could include:

- Material mining, rock crushing, and asphalt plant production.

- Material mining, rock crushing, and concrete plant production.
- Material mining and rock crushing, with production material trucked off site for further processing.
- Material mining with production material trucked off site for further processing.

After Reclamation Plan approval, prior to any mining activities, a 50-foot offset boundary would be clearly demarcated with metal stakes to ensure a buffer from the pit boundary and to provide a visual cue for excavation activities. The stakes would consist of black poles, similar to those used to assist snow plows, elevated approximately six (6) feet above the ground. The distance between stakes would vary from 30 to 50 feet, depending on contours and configuration of the boundary. Generally, the stakes would be placed so as to most effectively assist operators to stay within the boundaries. For straight line portions of the Project boundaries, stakes may be farther apart than the 30 to 50 feet as practical. Stakes may be closer together on curved lines of the boundary where visual line-of-sight is more limited.

The easterly portion of the site (east pit area) would be graded to ensure internal drainage into the site by establishing a stabilized earthen berm. The berm would be about six feet in height and would have 2 (horizontal) :1 (vertical) slopes with a two-foot wide ridge on top. A temporary silt fence would be installed downslope during berm construction. Additionally, maintenance personnel would be trained on operations plan and methods from which to operate on the site to ensure SMARA compliance and final configurations. During material extraction operations, duff/topsoil (the top six inches, including woody debris) may be collected and stored at the outer perimeter of the pit, near the upper hinge point of final slope. Mining overburden/waste material may be stored at the outer perimeter near the base of the outer slopes. Upon final slope configuration, overburden material would be used to reach final slope configuration (3:1) and duff would be used as a final slope cap. Slopes would be contoured to final grade (3:1) and slope re-vegetation would commence in phases as sections of the site are fully developed. Final slopes would be hand seeded with the approved seed mix to enhance slope naturalization/re-vegetation. All phases of operations would ensure that the site remains internally draining, with final slope configurations of 3:1 or flatter. Temporary visual impacts will be minimized and any permanent structures would be painted a blending color to mitigate visual impacts.

During the life of the surface mining operation, three phases of use of the property are being proposed as well as an end use, as detailed below.

1.1.2.1 Phase 1

Phase 1 of mining would entail material extraction of the current east pit as identified in the plan sheets (Appendix A). The pit floor elevation in this area would be lowered approximately 10 feet from current elevation, making the final Phase 1 pit floor elevation approximately 35 feet below the existing mixing table. There is an estimated 26,000 CY of raw material in Phase 1, which should yield about 13,000 CY of quality aggregate, assuming 50 percent waste. With an estimated 12,000 CY/year average demand, this phase would only last just over one year.

Equipment such as loaders, excavators, and screening grizzlies, as well as production material stockpiles would be stored in this area, which is out of the primary view shed. However, the

existing paved mixing table would continue to be used for cinder stockpiles and other material storage.

1.1.2.2 Phase 2

Phase 2 mining would continue north of the current east pit/Phase 1area. This phase contains approximately 360,000 CY of raw material, which should yield about 180,000 CY of quality aggregate, assuming 50 percent waste. Estimating 12,000 CY/year average demand, this phase would provide about a 15-year supply of quality aggregate.

Due to the potential for limited space below the current mixing table for this phase, if a Caltrans contractor ends up utilizing the site for asphalt or concrete production with a mobile batch plant, such equipment associated with the plant may need to be located on the existing mixing table instead of down in the pit. It is anticipated that any such activity would only last for a single construction season and only create temporary environmental impacts.

Also, during the entirety of Phases 1 and 2, the existing asphalt mixing table at the west side of the site would continue to be utilized for material storage (i.e. cinders, asphalt grindings), Caltrans equipment, and as an occasional contractor temporary construction staging area for storing equipment and material.

Partial reclamation in accordance with SMARA regulations would occur to those portions of the site (final slopes) where extraction is complete (per plan sheets, see Appendix A) while retaining adequate area for storage and access to the Phase 3 area. The partial reclamation areas for Phase 2 would be the north, east, and south slopes of the Phase 2 extraction area excluding the access road, pit bottom, and west slope.

A water/sediment retention basin is proposed at the northeast corner of the Phase 2 pit floor. The basin would be present during active operations of the site and may need to be adjusted periodically to accommodate those operations. All site drainage would be directed to the basin and would be kept within site boundaries. To reduce dust, the basin would be lined with pea gravel and cleaned of sediment periodically. Other BMPs that might be used include riprap.

Access road grades would be seven percent maximum.

1.1.2.3 Phase 3

Extraction would proceed from the Phase 2 area in a southwestward direction into the existing mixing table area. Mining in this phase would provide an additional 920,000 CY of raw material, yielding about 460,000 CY of quality aggregate. This would provide approximately a 38-year supply of quality aggregate. The maximum depth of the Phase 3 extraction is about 55 feet below the elevation of the existing mixing table.

The Phase 1 area would be maintained as a storage area during this phase. When the existing paved mixing table is no longer available, this Phase 1 area would be paved in Phase 3 to create an impervious surface for storage operations. Also, the access road would be paved, or gravel lined from the site entrance into the Phase1 Storage Area in order to provide road stabilization and dust minimization.

The Phase 2 pit floor may also be utilized for storage as needed during Phase 3 operations. The northeast corner of the Phase 2 pit floor would continue to be designated as the primary stormwater / sediment retention basin during the final phase.

Upon completion of the extraction of all material to the grade lines as shown on the Phase 3 plan sheet (Appendix A), the final slopes would be reclaimed in accordance with SMARA regulations.

1.1.2.4 End Use

Upon final site configuration (see Appendix A), once slopes are revegetated, a final SMARA reclamation inspection would be performed to retire the mine and commence with the intended end use. At this point, no further mining activities would occur at the site, and only the Department's standard maintenance activities and construction staging would occur on the Project site. Post-reclamation site end uses would include:

- Department maintenance forces equipment operation training.
- Stockpiling and storing natural materials such as cinders, rock, excess base material, and reusable plant materials for erosion control.
- Stockpiling and storing of non-natural materials, such as metal beam guardrail, treated beams, reusable asphalt grindings (stored on impervious surface only), and poles.
- Potential construction of a metal storage shed to shield some maintenance materials from the elements. Such a shed would likely be an open three-sided structure with approximate dimensions of 50 feet deep by 70 feet wide by 30 feet tall. The shed would be located within the pit floor out of sight of most visual receptors and painted a blending color.
- Temporary utilization as a construction contractor staging area for equipment and material.

The usable areas of the final site configuration would be limited to the unreclaimed pit floors, excluding the stormwater/sediment settling basin, as all slopes would be set to 3:1 and revegetated. This usable area would include 2.02 acres of the Phase 1 Storage Area; 3.49 acres of the Phase 2 pit floor, which includes the settling basin; and 10.25 acres of the Phase 3 pit floor. The total unreclaimed area to remain for the intended end use is approximately 15.76 acres plus the access road.

Because the operations plan for mining is based on estimates for extraction, it is also estimated that the final site configuration would likely not be realized for 50 to 80 years, depending on several potential conditions.

1.2 Purpose and Intent

With limited available aggregate sources statewide, including the Caltrans District 9 area, there is a need to thoughtfully utilize the few remaining available quality material sites. This pit is adjacent to US 395 and strategically located in central Mono County. The purpose of the Project would be to increase feasible options for the Department for aggregate sources in proximity to Caltrans District 9 maintenance projects, thus saving costs and reducing the impacts of trucking aggregate from more remote sources on the environment.

Caltrans operations has also identified a need for material storage, such as traction sand/cinders and rock/gravel/soil debris from slides. The property would continue to serve this purpose during and after proposed mining activities.

Caltrans maintenance and CIP division have also identified a need for material extraction. Maintenance day labor needs are approximately 1,000 CY shoulder fill material per year. Maintenance operations and capital project needs (i.e., overlays, rehabs, shoulder widening) are estimated at approximately 50,000 CY aggregate per year total in Mono County. Assuming that most of that supply would be served by commercial sources, a rough estimate needed for those operations would be approximately 10,000 CY per year on average.

Although commercial sites exist in the area, this site could be made available to contractors to set up portable material extraction/processing operations on a project-by-project basis to leverage savings by material proximity. The perpetual availability of this site would avoid full future dependency on uncertain private commercial sources.

It is Caltrans' intent to keep this site in perpetuity as a maintenance, storage, and operations area, even after all mining material is exhausted and slopes are reclaimed.

This Reclamation Plan was also prepared to provide Mono County, BLM, and reviewing agencies with general information and specific dates regarding the proposed mine site. This Reclamation Plan describes the condition of the Project site prior to the commencement of excavation and processing activities and provides guidelines for the surface mining and concurrent reclamation of the two proposed mining phases.

1.3 Review Procedures

Legislation (Senate Bill 668, Chapter 869, Statutes of 2006) amended PRC Section 2774 with respect to lead agency approvals of reclamation plans, plan amendments, and financial assurances. These new requirements are applicable to this Reclamation Plan. Once the Department of Conservation – Division of Mine Reclamation (DMR) has provided comments on the Reclamation Plan, a proposed response to the comments must be submitted to the DMR at least 30 days prior to lead agency approval. The proposed response must describe whether DMR comments have been adopted. If not, the reason(s) for not doing so must be specified in detail. At least 30 days of prior notice must be provided to the DMR of the time, place, and date of the hearing at which the Reclamation Plan is scheduled to be approved. If no hearing is required, then at least 30 days of notice must be given to the DMR prior to its approval. Finally, within 30 days following approval of the Reclamation Plan, a final response to these comments must be sent to the DMR. Caltrans needs to ensure there is adequate time in the approval process to meet these new SMARA requirements.

Mono County is the SMARA Lead Agency for this site and thus a responsible agency under CEQA. Caltrans is the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Lead Agency as applicant. Caltrans holds a Highway Easement Deed for property ROWs, but the underlying fee owner of the property is BLM, who has Federal approval authority as to the use of the property.

Prior to initiation of mining activities, the BLM Bishop Field Office will review and approve the proposed mining plan, intended site reclamation, and end use proposed. The property is

designated as Resource Management (RM) in the Mono County General Plan, meaning that low-intensity rural uses are allowable in a manner that recognizes and maintains the resource values of the parcel. The designation is also recognition that the Project site is located within a scenic area associated with the Mono Basin. Mono County defers land use authority to the federal or other agency land authority; therefore, the Project does not require a land use approval, such as a Conditional Use Permit (CUP), from Mono County. However, Mono County is the designated Lead Agency under SMARA and has the authority to review and approve the Reclamation Plan. Mono County's Reclamation Plan guidelines are found in Chapter 35 of the General Plan. Additionally, the Reclamation Plan and Draft Pledge of Revenue prepared by Caltrans must be reviewed and approved by DMR pursuant to the requirements of SMARA.

2.0 PROJECT DETAILS

2.1 Operator, Owner, Representative, and Lead Agency Information Mine Name

Mine Name:	MS 190 "Baseline Pit"
California Mine ID Number:	91-26-0016
Operator:	Caltrans District 9 500 South Main Street Bishop, CA 93514 (760) 872-0681 Contact Person: Forest Becket
Property Owner and Owner of Mineral Rights:	U.S. Department of Interior BLM Bishop Field Office 351 Pacu Lane, Suite 100 Bishop, CA 93514 (760) 872-5000 Contact Person: Larry Primosch
Lead Agency Information:	Mono County Planning Division P.O. Box 347 437 Old Mammoth Road, Suite P Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546 (760) 924-1800 Contact Person: Nick Criss

2.2 Project Location

The site is located in Mono County, approximately 4.5 miles south of Lee Vining near the south junction of SR 120 and US 395 at post-mile marker 46.5 (Appendix B, Project Vicinity and Project Location). The site is accessed by Mixing Table Road from US 395. The Project site is located on the Lee Vining, California USGS 7.5' Quadrangle Map in Township 1 North, Range 26 East, in the east ½, southeast ¼ of Section 34. The approximate center of the proposed mine site is located at latitude 37.899964° North, longitude 119.090191° West.

2.3 Assessor's Parcel Map Numbers (APNs), General Plan and Zoning

APN:	021-130-036
Mono County General Plan Designation:	RM
Mono County Zoning:	None
BLM Bishop Resource Management Plan (RMP) Designation:	No Designation.

(The parcel was transferred from USFS to BLM and has not yet received a land use designation in the RMP.)

2.4 Size of Project Area

The site is approximately 30.22 acres, of which approximately 5 acres were previously mined and not reclaimed. Approximately 4.2 acres are proposed for storage in Phase 1, and 18.4 acres are proposed for excavation (7.9 acres in Phase 2 and 10.5 acres in Phase 3) for a total of 22.6 acres that would be used by the Project.

2.5 Site Access

The Project is accessible from a gated paved Caltrans road (Mixing Table Road) via US 395 north at post-mile marker 46.5.

2.6 Maximum Anticipated Depth

SMARA Section 2772(c) requires that a reclamation plan identify the maximum depth of the surface mine operation.

The maximum anticipated depth of surface mining at the proposed Baseline site is 55 feet. The material site slopes would be regraded to the final 3:1 slope. Final elevations are expressed in terms of elevation above mean sea level (amsl). Final mining depths would range from approximately 6,805 feet amsl at the northeast portion of the Phase 1 mining pit to 6,782 feet

amsl at the southwest portion of the Phase 2 mining pit. The final Phase 3 depth would be at 6,788 feet amsl. Mine tailings would be backfilled into the pits prior to reclamation to assist with final contouring. This material would be used to help construct the final slopes of the mine.

2.7 Dates of Initiation and Termination

SMARA Section 2772(c)(3) requires that a reclamation plan identify the proposed dates for the initiation and termination of surface mining operation. For the Baseline mine site, Caltrans has estimated that the mine would have a life of 54 years, based on the likely average materials requirements from Caltrans maintenance operations and CIPs. Caltrans would commence mining on approval by the final decision-making body. Assuming the approval is obtained by the Fall of 2018, mining would commence later 2018 and would cease in 2072. Although reclamation activities would be initiated in each area as mining is completed, complete reclamation of the site, including monitoring for performance standards, would continue beyond November 2072.

2.8 End Use

Upon final site configuration (see Appendix A), once slopes are revegetated, a final SMARA reclamation inspection would be performed to retire the mine and commence with the intended end use. At this point, no further mining activities would occur at the site, and only the Department's standard maintenance activities and construction staging would occur on the Project site. Post-reclamation site end uses would include:

- Department maintenance forces equipment operation training.
- Stockpiling and storing natural materials such as cinders, rock, excess base material, and reusable plant materials for erosion control.
- Stockpiling and storing of non-natural materials, such as metal beam guardrail, treated beams, reusable asphalt grindings (stored on impervious surface only), and poles.
- Potential construction of a metal storage shed to shield some maintenance materials from the elements. Such a shed would likely be an open three-sided structure with approximate dimensions of 50 feet deep by 70 feet wide by 30 feet tall. The shed would be located within the pit floor out of sight of most visual receptors and painted a blending color.
- Temporary utilization as a construction contractor staging area for equipment and material.

The usable areas of the final site configuration would be limited to the unreclaimed pit floors, excluding the stormwater/sediment settling basin, as all slopes would be set to 3:1 and revegetated. This usable area would include 2.02 acres of the Phase 1 Storage Area; 3.49 acres of the Phase 2 pit floor, which includes the settling basin; and 10.25 acres of the Phase 3 pit floor. The total unreclaimed area to remain for the intended end use is approximately 15.76 acres plus the access road.

Because the operations plan for mining is based on estimates for extraction, it is also estimated that the final site configuration would likely not be realized for 50 to 80 years, depending on several potential conditions.

3.0 PROJECT SETTING

The site is located southwest of Mono Lake within an area known as the Pumice Valley, near the northern end of the Inyo-Mono chain of craters. Volcanism and seismic activity have shaped the region over geologic time. For many centuries, the region was a source of obsidian and other resources for trade for Native American peoples on both sides of the Sierra Nevada. The first European settlers came to the region during the late 1800s in search of gold. Many boomtowns, such as Bodie, appeared across the valley during this era. During the 1930s, water resources of the region were purchased and used to develop large urbanized sections of southern California. Other resource extraction interests have also influenced the area, such as aggregate mining, pumice mining, and attempts at geothermal development. In 1984, the Mono Basin National Forest Scenic Area was created to preserve the view shed and curtail the threat of new mining interests for most of the region.

The landform of the site consists of an alluvial terrace between Parker Creek and Rush Creek, sloping northeast towards Mono Lake. The terrace is elevated approximately 65 feet above the two creeks, with the high point at approximately 6,854 feet amsl. Parker Creek ranges from 6,810 to 6,840 feet amsl, and Rush Creek ranges from 6,720 to 6,780 feet amsl. The underlying geologic formation of the site is a dissected Pleistocene-age lake terrace deposit consisting of gravels, deltaic deposits, and interbedded fluvial and lacustrine sediments. An overlay of float material derived from glacial moraine deposits is also present. Rock types within the area to be mined consist primarily of alluvium that varies in texture from poorly graded gravel to silty sand. The mining aggregate resources are known to occur up to 230 feet deep from the surface in this 120-acre area.

In addition to the MS 190 site, two other aggregate facilities exist within the Mono Lake vicinity owned by Granite Construction and Marzano & Sons, respectively. Both of these other aggregate facilities are currently active. Directly adjacent to the property to the west is a power line easement and US 395, both within 150 yards of the property.

Rush Creek is identified as a Special Treatment Area within the 1999 Reclamation Plan, due to its environmental sensitivity and legally mandated restoration requirements for the purpose of maintaining aquatic and riparian habitats. Water diversions for agricultural purposes began in the 1860s on Rush Creek and Parker Creek and continued until the 1930s, when LADWP constructed Grant Lake Dam and the Mono Craters tunnel upstream from the site to divert water for use in their system (Trihey and English, 1991). Over the next 3 decades, water diversions from Rush Creek and Lee Vining averaged approximately 57,000 acre-feet annually. After completion of a second conduit for the Los Angeles Aqueduct in 1970, water diversions increased to an average of 102,000 acre-feet annually.

As a result of these diversions, aquatic habitat and wildlife populations within Rush Creek and Lee Vining Creek decreased dramatically, and the surface water elevation of Mono Lake lowered substantially. During the higher snow pack conditions present during the early 1980s, overflows from Grant Lake Dam caused the re-establishment of much riparian vegetation and aquatic habitat within Rush Creek. After these events, when snowpack conditions had again normalized, LADWP intended to cease allowing water releases into Rush Creek altogether.

Public concern over the lowering of Mono Lake and the prospect of additional losses of newly developing aquatic habitats within Rush Creek and its tributaries resulted in a series of legal actions. Subsequent court rulings resulted in requirements to maintain a minimum of 28 to 40 cfs within Rush Creek, maintenance of its channel, and provision for regular "flushing flows" to mimic natural conditions. A subsequent restoration agreement was adopted in October 1990 and implemented, along with a long-term monitoring program. Currently, Parker Creek is a perennial stream harboring important riparian habitat resources for wildlife. Rush Creek, to the south, also contains perennial flows and abundant riparian habitat.

3.1 Geologic Setting

The site is primarily an alluvial, lake terrace deposit dating from the Pleistocene age, lying within the western edge of the Basin and Range Geomorphic Province within the southwestern portion of the Mono Basin, a lacustrine depression that has no natural drainage outlet. Surface water flows into Mono Lake, a strongly alkaline lake that has expanded and contracted several times over the last 30,000. At its known peak, Mono Lake rested at approximately 7,200 feet amsl. Current elevations of the lake rest at approximately 6,500 feet amsl.

The underlying materials present consist of gravels, deltaic deposits, and various interbedded fluvial and lacustrine sediments. The deposits are coeval with Wisconsin-age glaciation and have a maximum exposed thickness of approximately 230 feet along Rush Creek. To the west of the site, outwash from glacial moraine deposits of the Tioga, Tenaya, Tahoe, and Mono Basin tills crop out. These deposits consist mainly of boulders, cobbles, gravels, and sand in a matrix that was deposited from 22,000 to 218,000 years prior. These materials have, through fluvial processes, been carried to and deposited on the surface of the site.

Mono Basin contains extensive volcanic and seismic activity zones stemming from the end of the Cenozoic era, approximately 200,000 years ago. During this timeframe, volcanic eruptions began along several concentric basaltic flows along a north-south alignment. This area is known as the Mono Craters caldera. The caldera eruptions began approximately 40,000 years ago and continue to recent historic time. Minor deposits of ash are also present on the site originating from eruptions in the Mono Craters.

Although the site is considered to be within an area of active seismicity, the nearest active fault is the Mono Lake Fault, which is located approximately 2.4 miles to the northwest. The Mono Lake Fault has a maximum credible earthquake (MCE) of magnitude 7.0. The estimated random, mean peak ground acceleration at the mine site from an MCE event on the Mono Lake Fault is 0.50 gravity (g) using the deterministic methodology of Joyner and Boore (1982). According to the research, the greatest magnitude event recorded nearby was a magnitude 6.5 event in 1872 located 42 miles from the site. The event was likely triggered by the 1872 Lone Pine Earthquake, estimated at 8.0 magnitude. If such an event recurred, the ground acceleration at the mine site is estimated to peak at 0.10 g. According to research of seismic events within the past 200 years, the regional seismic risk for a 50-year event is a magnitude 7.5 event. This level of risk is consistent with the Uniform Building Code.

3.2 Soils

The soil survey for the Benton-Owens Valley Area Parts of Inyo and Mono County (Natural Resources Conservation Service [NRCS], 2016) provided information on known soil types within the study area. Three soil types were identified within the site according to NRCS: Alamedawell-Orecart complex, zero to 4 percent slopes; Fluvaquentic Endoaquolls-Xerofluvents complex, zero to 4 percent slopes; and Pits-Dumps complex, zero to 50 percent slopes (Appendix B, NRCS Soil Types). These soil series are described in more detail below.

The following descriptions also provide hydric soil information for each recorded soil. Hydric soils include those commonly associated with wet areas, such as riverine habitats, alluvial fans, or wetlands. The presence of hydric soils may indicate that an area is prone to flooding, if part of an alluvial system, or it could indicate presence of alluvial deposits from recent historic times. The Mono Basin contains many alluvial soils identifiable as hydric that are present due to the alluvial processes associated with drainage from the eastern Sierra Nevada.

3.2.1 Alamedawell-Orecart Complex

This soil complex consists of two named soil series in combination, occurring on lake terraces with zero to 4 percent slopes. Both individual soil series consist of alluvium and sand originating from glacial moraine and deposited over ancient lacustrine deposits. Both Alamedawell and Orecart series soils are very deep and excessively drained, with slow runoff and rapid permeability. Alamedawell soils are stratified into many layers, each having several inches of thickness, with the soil color varying from light gray to light brownish gray. Orecart soils are equally stratified as Alamedawell soils, but they tend to have a more predominantly brown coloration. The soil texture tends to consist of loamy sand. The Alamedawell-Orecart complex is listed as a hydric soil on the Benton-Owens Valley hydric soils list.

3.2.2 Fluvaquentic Endoaquolls-Xerofluvents Complex

This soil complex is a mixture of different taxonomic classes of soils, undifferentiated, alluvium derived from mixed rock sources and volcanic ash. In addition to the two named taxonomic classes, which make up 85 percent of the soil, there are other contrasting inclusions. They tend to be very deep and poorly drained with moderate permeability. Typical areas where this soil type occurs include oxbows and creek meanders. Like the other major soil type on the site, these soils are stratified into many layers, each having several inches of thickness, but the soil color varies from light gray to greenish gray. Soil textures range from clay to cobbles to any size boulders. This soil type is not listed as a hydric soil on the Benton-Owens Valley hydric soils list.

3.2.3 Pits-Dumps Complex

This soil type corresponds with two types of land uses. Pits encompass open excavations where soil and underlying materials have been removed or heavily manipulated, leaving behind either rock or other material. Dumps are locations where the landform has been smoothed to accommodate piles of waste rock or general refuse. Textures of these soils vary from sand to clay, and they can contain a wide variety of rock sizes based on the former or current land use. Flooding

for these areas is rare, but the wind and water erosion risk is considered to be high. This soil type is not listed as a hydric soil on the Benton-Owens Valley hydric soils list.

Note that previously recorded soil mapping for the site originated from BLM mapping of their entire holdings. The soil type present under that survey was considered to be Brantel Variant-Brantel Complex soils. This has been superseded by the current NRCS mapping.

3.3 Land Use Setting

Land use of the Project site is RM. Land uses in the Project vicinity consist primarily of undeveloped lands that are not paved or developed with structures. Lands surrounding the site are large individual parcels of equally vacant land ranging from approximately 116 to 720 acres, owned by LADWP. These parcels are all designated in the Mono County General Plan as MD (Mixed Designation) or OS (Open Space). The approximately 40-acre parcel located northeast of the site is also federal land managed by BLM and is designated in the Mono County General Plan as RM. There are no known plans to develop these parcels. There is an existing private aggregate mine located approximately 0.5 mile northeast of the site. US 395 is located immediately west of the site and provides the primary site access. The site is currently used as storage and is gated; there is no known dumping or illegal activity on the site. The closest residences are in Lee Vining, which is located approximately 4.5 miles to the north.

3.4 General Biological Resource Assessment

This section of the document discusses natural communities of concern, sensitive plant or animal species, and information on wildlife corridors and habitat fragmentation.

Because the Project is being implemented on federal land managed by the BLM, that agency's regulations, policies, and plans are followed. The relevant BLM plans include:

- BLM Strategic Plan
- BLM Land Use Plan
- BLM RMP

Federal laws and regulations relevant to natural communities include the following:

- NEPA
- Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (FLPMA)

State laws and regulations relevant to natural communities include the following:

- CEQA
- California Fish and Game Code, Section 1900
- California Desert Native Plants Act
- Native Plant Protection Act
- California Penal Code 384a

Local laws and regulations relevant to natural communities include the following:

- Mono County General Plan
- Mono County Code
- Mono County Environmental Handbook

A general biological resource assessment was conducted by literature research and field survey. The assessment was conducted to identify habitats, plants, animals, and other resources considered sensitive by BLM, California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW), United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), and Caltrans for the site.

Plant communities identified within the site were mapped and classified in general accordance with *A Manual of California Vegetation* (Sawyer *et al.,* 2009) to identify habitat values for plants and wildlife within the site and to identify plant communities of conservation concern. Native plant communities observed onsite represent only the upland plant community, Big Sagebrush Scrub (Appendix B, Vegetation Community Map). One land cover described as disturbed/ developed was observed onsite. Disturbed/developed lands are usually denuded or barren of most vegetation, but because there are portions of these areas that contain soil substrate, some weedy species are typically present.

The site occurs in upland areas outside the influence of Rush Creek and Parker Creek, where riparian vegetation occurs. The only native plant community observed was Big Sagebrush Scrub *(Artemisia tridentata* Shrubland Alliance). This community is dominated by big sagebrush and antelope brush *(Purshia tridentata)*. Other shrub species observed in this community included desert peach *(Prunus andersonii),* spiny hop-sage *(Grayia spinosa),* and rubber rabbitbrush *(Ericameria nauseosa)*. Other plant species observed within this community included grasses, woody sub-shrubs, and herbaceous annuals and perennials such as sulphur flower buckwheat *(Eriogonum umbellatum),* Davidson's buckwheat *(Eriogonum davidsonii),* silvery lupine *(Lupinus argenteus)*, and pine bluegrass *(Poa secunda)*. Big Sagebrush Scrub has a state ranking of 5 and is not considered sensitive by CDFW.

The disturbed/developed land cover did not support plant species and consisted of dirt and paved roads. These roads are maintained to provide access to an onsite staging/stockpiling area. Developed areas dominate much of the site, with native upland communities being restricted to the northern portion of the site.

Prior to conducting biological surveys, documentation relevant to the site was gathered and reviewed, including:

- California Native Diversity Database (CNDDB) information (RareFind 5), administered by CDFW. This database inventories the status and locations of rare plants, animals, and natural communities in California.
- California Native Plant Society (CNPS) Online Electronic Inventory of Rare and Endangered Vascular Plants of California.
- Bishop BLM California Special-Status Plants (2015).
- Special-Status Animals in California, including BLM-Designated Sensitive Species (2010).
- USFWS Information, Planning, and Consultation (IPaC) System.

- Critical Habitat Mapper, administered by USFWS.
- National Wetlands Inventory, administered by USFWS.
- General Soil Survey (NRCS).
- Material Site #190 (Baseline Pit) Reclamation Plan. August 18, 1998.
- Material Site #190 (Baseline Pit) Reclamation Plan. March 26, 1997.
- Parker Creek Stream Characterization Study. November 2013.

Forty (40) species were identified during the CNDDB search of the Lundy, Negit Island, Sulphur Pond, Mount Dana, Lee Vining, Mono Mills, Koip Peak, June Lake, and Crestview 7.5-minute USGS quadrangles (Appendix H). Seventeen (17) additional plant species were identified during a CNPS search of the same area.

The site is not within critical habitat for any species listed under the Federal Endangered Species Act (FESA) or California Endangered Species Act (CESA) (see Appendix B).

A field survey of the Project site was conducted on August 25, 2016 by biologists Scott Taylor and Keith Kwan. The survey was conducted from 6:00 a.m. until 11:30 a.m., in order to capitalize on the period of highest diurnal animal activity. The survey methods entailed a pedestrian survey of the entire Project site, using binoculars to identify animal species from a distance. A plant and animal list was maintained during the survey.

One sensitive species was observed during the biological assessment of the site: northern sagebrush lizard *(Sceloporus graciosus graciosus).* The northern sagebrush lizard is considered a BLM sensitive species:

> **Status:** BLM Sensitive Species
>
> **Habitat:** Sagebrush scrub, pinyon-juniper woodland, and other desert scrub habitats.
>
> **Distribution:** Within California, these lizards are known from Inyo and Mono counties, and within the far northeastern quadrant of the state.
>
> **Status Onsite:** These lizards were detected along Rush Creek, within adjacent scrub habitat. It is likely that they inhabit most of the site.

No sensitive plant communities were identified on the site. Within Parker Creek and Rush Creek, however, there were abundant riparian forest habitats, which are considered a sensitive habitat type. The riparian forest habitat consists of coyote willow *(Salix exigua),* arroyo willow *(Salix lasiolepis),* black cottonwood *(Populus trichocarpa),* quaking aspen *(Populus tremuloides),* wood rose *(Rosa woodsii),* and buffalo berry *(Shepherdia argentea).* These sensitive habitat areas were noted due to the potential for them to be indirectly impacted by the proposed mining activities, if not protected.

Jurisdictional waters were absent from the site. Jurisdictional Waters of the State were identified offsite in both Rush Creek and Parker Creek. Limits of jurisdiction within these waterbodies are generally defined by the riparian area surrounding each creek. Both creeks contained flowing water at the time of the survey and are believed to be perennial. These creeks provide a permanent

water source for wildlife in the area, and linear strips of riparian habitat along their length support aquatic species and several riparian bird species.

3.4.1 Sensitive Natural Communities

The CNDDB identifies one sensitive plant community in the vicinity of the extraction area: the Mono Pumice Flat community. Mono Pumice Flats are absent from the Project site as the only native plant community occurring within the Project site is Big Sagebrush Scrub. Although no riparian areas were identified within the Project site, there are riparian areas in Rush Creek and Parker Creek that are considered sensitive habitat types. These are riparian forest habitat comprised mainly of coyote willow, arroyo willow, black cottonwood, quaking aspen, wood rose and buffalo berry. These sensitive habitat areas were noted due to the potential for them to be indirectly impacted by the proposed mining activities, if not protected. Protection for the offsite areas is being implemented by the Project in the form of staking of work boundaries, establishment of a 50-foot buffer from riparian habitat areas, and establishment of berms in key locations along the Project site perimeter. Indirect impacts to Big Sagebrush Scrub areas immediately offsite will be similarly avoided through preventative measures.

Cumulative impacts to Big Sagebrush Scrub due to Project implementation within the Mono Lake region are expected to originate primarily from highway projects and minor improvements to structures associated with park facilities or with towns such as Lee Vining. This plant community is abundant within the region surrounding Mono Lake and throughout the western United States. Within the United States, the plant community 'Big Sagebrush Scrub' is estimated to cover approximately 150 million acres of land surface (USDA 2005). Due to the relative small amount of impact to this natural community associated with the Project (22.5 acres), impacts to the natural community across the entire range and in the region are not considered adverse.

3.4.2 Sensitive California Desert Native Plants

No plant species protected by CDFW or under the California Desert Native Plants Act were observed during the 2016 site visit or have been documented on the site.

3.4.3 Special-Status Plant Species

Because the Project is being implemented on federal land managed by the BLM, that agency's regulations, policies, and plans are followed with regard to special status plant species. The relevant BLM plans include:

- BLM Strategic Plan
- BLM Land Use Plan
- BLM RMP

Federal laws and regulations relevant to special status plant species include the following:

- NEPA
- FLPMA

State laws and regulations relevant to special status plant species include the following:

- CEQA
- California Fish and Game Code, Section 1900
- California Desert Native Plants Act
- Native Plant Protection Act
- California Penal Code 384a

Local laws and regulations relevant to natural communities include the following:

- Mono County General Plan
- Mono County Code
- Mono County Environmental Handbook

No special-status plant species were observed on the site. Four special-status plant species were described in previous reclamation plans for the site and include Mono Lake lupine *(Lupinus duranii),* Masonic Mountain jewelflower *(Streptanthus oliganthus),* Mono buckwheat *(Eriogonum ampullaceum),* and narrow-leaved cottonwood *(Populus angustifolia).* CNDDB identifies one other plant species in the vicinity of the extraction area, the Utah monkeyflower *(Mimulus glabratus ssp. utahensis).* These species and others found during a literature search are summarized in Table 3-1. No listed plant species were identified during the literature review of the site.

CNDDB identifies one plant community in the vicinity of the extraction area, the Mono Pumice Flat community. Mono Pumice Flats are absent from the site as the only native plant community occurring onsite is Big Sagebrush Scrub. Riparian areas in Rush Creek and Parker Creek are located offsite.

3.4.4 Special-Status Animal Species

Many state and federal laws regulate impacts to wildlife. The USFWS, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's National Marine Fisheries Service (NOAA Fisheries Service) and the CDFW are responsible for implementing these laws. This section discusses potential impacts and permit requirements associated with animals not listed or proposed for listing under the ESA or the California ESA. Species listed or proposed for listing as threatened or endangered are discussed in the Threatened and Endangered section below. All other special-status animal species are discussed here, including CDFW fully protected species and species of special concern, and USFWS or NOAA Fisheries Service candidate species.

Because the Project is being implemented on federal land managed by the BLM, that agency's regulations, policies, and plans are followed. The relevant BLM plans include:

- BLM Strategic Plan
- BLM Land Use Plan
- BLM Resource Management Plan

Federal laws and regulations relevant to wildlife include the following:

- NEPA
- Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA)
- Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act

State laws and regulations relevant to wildlife include the following:

- CEQA
- Sections 1600 – 1603 of the California Fish and Game Code
- Sections 4150 and 4152 of the California Fish and Game Code

Local laws and regulations relevant to wildlife include the following:

- Mono County General Plan
- Mono County Code
- Mono County Environmental Handbook

Forty animal species were identified during the CNDDB search of the Lundy, Negit Island, Sulphur Pond, Mount Dana, Lee Vining, Mono Mills, Koip Peak, June Lake, and Crestview 7.5-minute USGS quadrangles. Four special-status wildlife species were described in previous reclamation plans for the Project site and include northern goshawk (*Accipiter gentilis;* California species of special concern [CSC]), California gull (*Larus californicus*), yellow warbler (*Dendroica petechial brewsteri;* CSC), and Mono brine shrimp (*Artemia monica*). The gull and the brine shrimp currently have no formal listing status with federal or state agencies. These reclamation plans also encompassed a larger area than the current Project configuration, including Parker and Rush Creeks. The Project area, as currently defined, no longer supports habitat for the four previously-identified species.

The site was not found to be within critical habitat for any species listed under the FESA or CESA (see Appendix B). The nearest critical habitat occurs approximately 4.5 miles to the west of the site for the Sierra Nevada bighorn sheep *(Ovis canadensis sierrae).* Eight listed species were identified during the literature review and include Yosemite toad *(Anaxyrus canorus),* Sierra Nevada yellow-legged frog *(Rana sierrae),* Swainson's hawk *(Buteo swainsoni),* willow flycatcher *(Empidonax traillii),* bank swallow *(Riparia riparia),* California wolverine *(Gulo gulo),* Pacific fisher *(Pekania pennanti)*, and Sierra Nevada red fox *(Vulpes vulpes necator).* Although not formally listed, two additional species are of high concern in the area: greater sage grouse *(Centrocercus urophasianus)* and pygmy rabbit *(Brachylagus idahoensis).*

The previously listed special-status wildlife species above and others found during a literature search of the Project area are summarized in Table 3-2. As shown in Table 3-2, 14 special-status species have the potential to occur on the Project site. These species include long-eared myotis, pygmy rabbit, Yuma myotis, bald eagle, golden eagle, greater sage-grouse, northern goshawk, Swainson's hawk, western white-tailed jackrabbit, and white-tailed kite. Of these, most are expected to only uncommonly use the Project site on occasion as they fly over. For instance, golden eagles may occur while hunting in the area but no breeding areas are located nearby. Likewise, some bat species may be found foraging over the site at times due to the proximity to

water and associated insect fauna, but roosting habitat is not present on site. Pygmy rabbits are known from the area, though none were observed on site during the survey. White-tailed jackrabbits are also known from near Mono Lake and could occur on site.

One sensitive species was observed during the biological assessment of the site: northern sagebrush lizard *(Sceloporus graciosus graciosus)*. The northern sagebrush lizard is considered a BSS and occupies sagebrush scrub, pinyon-juniper woodland, and other desert scrub habitats. Within California, these lizards are known from Inyo and Mono counties, and within the far northeastern quadrant of the state. On the Project site, these lizards were detected along Rush Creek, within adjacent scrub habitat. However, it is likely that they inhabit most of the site.

The Project site measures ±30 acres. Much of the Project site is developed or disturbed (paved and dirt roads) and does not provide suitable habitat for most of the special-status species that were analyzed. Below is an analysis of impacts to animal species by animal group.

Birds

The following bird species have a potential to occur on the Project site: bald eagle, golden eagle, greater sage-grouse, northern goshawk, Swainson's hawk, and white-tailed kite.

The Project site is within the South Mono Sage-Grouse Management Unit. Greater sage-grouse are a CSC and a BLM sensitive species associated primarily with Big Sagebrush Scrub and various chaparral plant communities. Within California, the grouse are only known from Mono and Inyo counties, and within the far northeastern quadrant of the state. The greater sage-grouse currently occupies between 50 and 60 percent of its historic range after declines in population size occurring over four decades (USDA 2017). The site is within a priority area for conservation of the sage-grouse by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS 2013). A map of the known sage-grouse use, provided by BLM, is included as Figure 2-2. Sage-grouse have been documented near the site, with breeding pairs known to occur west of US 395 in the area. Sage-grouse have not been documented on the site, including wintering and summer birds, breeding pairs, or leks.

Table 3-1. Lee Vining (MS 190) Special-Status Plant Species				
COMMON NAME	**LATIN NAME**	**OCCURRENCE ON BLM LAND (BISHOP OFFICE)**	**HABITAT TYPE****	**OCCURS IN PROJECT ANALYSIS AREA***
Silver-leaved milkvetch	*Astragalus argophyllus* var. *argophyllus*	Y	r, m	P
Long Valley milkvetch	*Astragalus johannis-howellii*	Y	s	P
Fish slough milkvetch	*Astragalus lentiginosus* var. *piscinensis*	Y	r	P
Mono milkvetch	*Astragalus monoensis*	Y	s, mc	P
Lavin's milkvetch	*Astragalus oophorus* var. *lavinii*	Y	s	P
Tonopah milkvetch	*Astragalus pseudiodanthus*	Y	s	P
Bodie Hills rock cress	*Boechera bodiensis*	Y	s, wo	P
Inyo mariposa	*Calochortus excavatus*	Y	m	P
Bristlecone cryptantha	*Cryptantha roosiorum*	P	mc	P
Bodie Hills cusickiella	*Cusickiella quadricostata*	Y	s, wo	P
July gold	*Dedeckera eurekensis*	Y	d	N
Bald daisy	*Erigeron calvus*	P	s	P
Alexander's buckwheat	*Eriogonum alexanderae*	P	s, wo	P
Wild Rose Canyon buckwheat	*Eriogonum eremicola*	P	wo, mc	U
Panamint Mountains buckwheat	*Eriogonum microthecum* var. *panamintense*	Y	wo	U
Jaeger's hesperidanthus	*Hesperidanthus jaegeri*	Y	wo, mc, rk	U
Alkali ivesia	*Ivesia kingii* var. *kingii*	Y	s, r, m	P
Sagebrush loeflingia	*Loeflingia squarrosa* var. *artemisiarum*	Y	s, d	P
Mono Lake lupine	*Lupinus duranii*	Y	s, mc	P
McGee Meadows lupine	*Lupinus magnificus* var. *hesperius*	Y	s, mc	P
Panamint Mountains lupine	*Lupinus magnificus* var. *magnificus*	P	s, mc, d	P
Inyo blazing star	*Mentzelia inyoensis*	P	s, wo	P

Table 3-1. Lee Vining (MS 190) Special-Status Plant Species				
COMMON NAME	**LATIN NAME**	**OCCURRENCE ON BLM LAND (BISHOP OFFICE)**	**HABITAT TYPE****	**OCCURS IN PROJECT ANALYSIS AREA***
Inyo rock daisy	*Perityle inyoensis*	P	wo	N
Inyo phacelia	*Phacelia inyoensis*	Y	m	P
Mono County phacelia	*Phacelia monoensis*	Y	s, wo	P
Williams's combleaf	*Polyctenium williamsiae*	Y	r, aq	P
Owens Valley checkerbloom	*Sidalcea covillei*	Y	s, m	P
Masonic Mountain jewel-flower	*Streptanthus oliganthus*	Y	wo	U

*OCCURRENCE INFORMATION:	**HABITAT TYPES/HABITAT COMPONENTS:
N = Outside known distribution/range of the species and/or no suitable habitat exists P = Occurrence of the species is possible; suitable habitat exists U = Occurrence of the species is unlikely based on habitat present Y = Species is known to occur	aq = aquatic; lakes, reservoirs, ponds, vernal pools/puddles u = urbanized areas wo = woodlands; pinyon-juniper, oaks w = washes and alluvial fans d = desert; Joshua tree woodlands, creosote bush scrub, black brush scrub mc = mixed conifer forests; Jeffrey pine, ponderosa pine, big-cone Douglas fir, coulter pine, sugar pine, white fir overstory, red fir forest, yellow pine forest

Table 3-2. Lee Vining (MS 190) Special-Status Animal Species					
COMMON NAME	**LATIN NAME**	**STATUS**	**HABITAT TYPE****	**OCCURRENCE ON BLM LAND (BISHOP OFFICE)**	**OCCURS IN PROJECT ANALYSIS AREA***
MAMMALS					
California leaf-nosed bat	*Macrotus californicus*	BSS, CSC	d, rk, sc	N	N
Cave myotis	*Myotis velifer*	BSS, CSC	d, rk, sc	N	N
Desert bighorn sheep	*Ovis canadensis nelsoni*	BSS	d, mc, rk	N	N
Fringed myotis	*Myotis thysanodes*	BSS	d, mc, wo, rk, sc	N	N
Long-eared myotis	*Myotis evotis*	BSS	s, mc, rk, sc	N	U
Pallid bat	*Antrozous pallidus*	BSS, CSC	d, rk, sc	N	N
Pygmy rabbit	*Brachylagus idahoensis*	BSS, CSC	s	P	P
Sierra Nevada bighorn sheep	*Ovis canadensis sierrae*	FE, SE	mc, rk	P	N
Small-footed myotis	*Myotis ciliolabrum*	BSS	g, m, aq, rk, sc	N	N
Spotted bat	*Euderma maculatum*	BSS, CSC	mc, rk	N	N
Townsend's big-eared bat	*Corynorhinus townsendii*	BSS, CSC	mc, wo, d, r, rk, sc	N	N
Western mastiff-bat	*Eumops perotis californicus*	BSS, CSC	rk, sc	N	N
Western white-tailed jackrabbit	*Lepus townsendi townsendi*	CSC	s	P	P
Yuma myotis	*Myotis yumanensis*	BSS	r, aq, rk, sc	N	U
BIRDS					
Bald eagle	*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*	BSS, SE	a, m, aq	Y	U
Bank swallow	*Riparia riparia*	BSS	r, g, m, aq	Y	N
Golden eagle	*Aquila chrysaetos*	BSS	a, g, mc	Y	P
Gray vireo	*Vireo vicinior*	BSS, CSC	wo	N	N
Greater sage-grouse	*Centrocercus urophasianus*	BSS, CSC	s	Y	P
Greater sandhill crane	*Grus canadensis tabida*	BSS	m, g, aq	N	N

Table 3-2. Lee Vining (MS 190) Special-Status Animal Species

COMMON NAME	LATIN NAME	STATUS	HABITAT TYPE**	OCCURRENCE ON BLM LAND (BISHOP OFFICE)	OCCURS IN PROJECT ANALYSIS AREA*
Inyo California towhee	*Pipilo crissalis eremophilus*	FT, SE	s, wo	N	N
Lucy's warbler	*Vermivora luciae*	BSS, CSC	d, wo	N	N
Mountain plover	*Charadrius montanus*	BSS, CSC	g	N	N
Northern goshawk	*Accipiter gentilis*	BSS, CSC	a, mc	Y	P
Swainson's hawk	*Buteo swainsoni*	BSS	a, g	Y	P
Tricolored blackbird	*Agelaius tricolor*	BSS, CSC	g, m	N	N
White-tailed kite	*Elanus leucurus*	BSS	a, r, g, m	N	P
REPTILES					
Mojave fringe-toed lizard	*Uma scoparia*	BSS, CSC	d	N	N
Northern sagebrush lizard	*Sceloporus graciosus graciosus*	BSS	wo, mc	N	N
Panamint alligator lizard	*Elgaria panamintinus*	BSS, CSC	d	Y	N
AMPHIBIANS					
Couch's spadefoot toad	*Scaphiopus couchi*	BSS, CSC	d	N	N
Desert slender salamander	*Batrachoseps major aridus*	FE, SE	d	N	N
Inyo Mountains slender salamander	*Batrachoseps campi*	BSS, CSC	aq	N	N
FISH					
Mojave tui chub	*Gila bicolor mohavensis*	FE, SE	aq	N	N
Owens pupfish	*Cyprinodon radiosus*	FE, SE	m	Y	N
Owens speckled dace	*Rhinichthys osculus robustus*	CSC	aq	Y	N
Owens tui chub	*Gila bicolor snyderi*	FE, SE	aq	Y	N
INVERTEBRATES					
Big Bar hesperian snail	*Vespericola pressleyi*	BSS	m, aq	N	N
Ciervo aegialian scarab beetle	*Aegialia concinna*	BSS	d	N	N
Hirsute Sierra sideband snail	*Monadenia mormonum hirsuta*	BSS	m, aq	N	N

Table 3-2. Lee Vining (MS 190) Special-Status Animal Species

COMMON NAME	LATIN NAME	STATUS	HABITAT TYPE**	OCCURRENCE ON BLM LAND (BISHOP OFFICE)	OCCURS IN PROJECT ANALYSIS AREA*
Hooded lancetooth	*Ancotrema voyanum*	BSS	m, aq	N	N

*OCCURRENCE INFORMATION:	**HABITAT TYPES/HABITAT COMPONENTS:	STATUS
N = Outside known distribution/range of the species and/or no suitable habitat exists P = Occurrence of the species is possible; suitable habitat exists U = Occurrence of the species is unlikely based on habitat present Y = Species is known to occur	a = aerial; usually seen in flight, often over several habitat types r = riparian (streamside thickets and woodlands) g = grasslands, fields, and agricultural areas m = marshes, meadows; both freshwater areas and moist meadows rk = cliffs and rocky outcrops aq = aquatic; lakes, reservoirs, ponds, vernal pools/puddles u = urbanized areas wo = woodlands; pinyon-juniper, oaks w = washes and alluvial fans d = desert; Joshua tree woodlands, creosote bush scrub, blackbush scrub sc = snags and cavities mc = mixed conifer forests; Jeffery pine, ponderosa pine, big-cone Douglas fir, coulter pine, sugar pine, white fir overstory, red fir forest, yellow pine forest s = sagebrush scrub and chaparral	FE = Federal Endangered SE = State Endangered BSS = BLM Sensitive Species CSC = California Species of Special Concern

A lek is a specialized breeding area typically formed in an open area, with a combination of bare dirt and short grasses that is surrounded by dense brushland. Leks can occur naturally or be formed opportunistically adjacent to nesting habitat areas. Within proximity to the site, there is a recorded lek west of US-395, approximately two miles away. Although greater sage grouse was not detected on the Project site, the northern portion of the site may serve as wintering grounds due to the presence of limited amount of suitable contiguous Big Sagebrush Scrub habitat. Much of the site is developed or disturbed and does not provide suitable habitat for greater sage-grouse.

Sage-grouse have not been documented on the Project site, including wintering and summer birds, breeding pairs, or leks. The nearest active leks are two miles west of the Project site across US-395. Although the northern portion of the site may serve as wintering grounds due to the presence of limited amount of suitable contiguous Big Sagebrush Scrub habitat, most of the site is developed or disturbed and does not provide suitable habitat for greater sage-grouse. As such, no direct, significant impacts to this species are anticipated. Indirect impacts of the Project due to noise or dust on the lek areas to the west were considered. According to Blickley, et. al (2012), anthropogenic noise at sage grouse leks can result in a decrease in abundance of males and females, in particular, when the noise is intermittent rather than continuous.

The USGS also published a report entitled Conservation Buffer Distance Estimates for Greater Sage-Grouse – A Review (USGS 2014), which provides summarized information from existing scientific literature. According to the literature, the level of human footprint (surface disturbance) within three miles of a lek was negatively associated with lek persistence. Studies have also shown a negative association between leks and linear features such as roadways, especially when roadways are located within three miles or less of the lek, finding declined lek attendance by males and females even with distances of up to 4.7 miles between the road and the lek.

Over the past decade, the BLM has been preparing Greater Sage-Grouse Resource Management Plan Amendments, each with an associated EIS, to amend existing Resource Management Plans for its field offices and district offices containing greater sage-grouse habitat. The purpose of these plan amendments is to identify and incorporate appropriate measures in existing land use plans to conserve, enhance, and restore sage-grouse habitat by avoiding, minimizing, or compensating for unavoidable impacts to sage-grouse habitat within the context of the BLM's mission under FLPMA and its multiple use allowances on its administered lands. The plans specify various land uses, including surface mining; the plans also discuss buffer distances between leks and areas of disturbance. Although a plan specifically covering the Project site has not been prepared, generally the recommended buffer distance within the existing plans are 3.1 miles between leks and disturbances.

The Project site is located less than the recommended 3.1 miles away from known leks, which are west of US-395. But US-395 presents an existing source of noise and disturbance for those known leks. Because of the distance away from known leks, and because of the highway and its associated noise levels, the Project is not anticipated to generate significant noise levels that would adversely affect sage grouse breeding behavior over what currently exists in the area.

Bald eagle, golden eagle, Swainson's hawk, and white-tailed kite are only expected to potentially hunt on the Project site but would not be expected to nest on the Project site because of the lack of suitable nesting areas. Impacts to the foraging habitat of these and other bird species would be considered less than significant because these species are mobile and ample foraging area occurs in the Project vicinity. However, several common bird species protected under the MBTA could nest on the Project site in areas that contain suitable plant communities (Big Sagebrush Scrub). If these bird species are present and nesting in the Project area, significant and adverse impacts may occur during ground-disturbing construction activities from the direct removal or destruction of nests. Significant and adverse impacts to nesting birds can also occur from indirect noise impacts as a result of Project implementation.

If ground-disturbing activities occur within the bird breeding season (February 1 – August 31), then the Department shall retain a qualified biologist to conduct a pre-construction nesting bird survey no more than 30 days prior to the start of ground disturbing activities. The nest survey shall include the Project site and areas immediately adjacent to the site that could potentially be affected by Project activities such as noise, human activity, dust, etc. If active bird nests are found on or immediately adjacent to the Project site, then the qualified biologist will establish an appropriate buffer zone around the active nests, typically a 250-foot radius for songbirds and a 500-foot radius for raptors. Project activities shall be avoided within the buffer zone until the nest is deemed no longer active by the biologist. Weekly nesting surveys and biological monitoring may be necessary if nesting birds are found on the Project site.

Mammals

The undisturbed portions of the 30-acre Project site offer potential habitat for the white-tailed jackrabbit and pygmy rabbit. The loss of this habitat would not be significant because it only represents a small portion of the available suitable habitat in the region. If these species are present during ground-disturbing activities, some losses of individual animals could occur due to the various activities associated with the Project. Loss of individuals, if it were to occur, would be less than significant to the long-term viability of these two species because the Project site is not likely to support substantial populations due to the size of suitable habitat available on the Project site. Furthermore, it is anticipated that mobile species would leave the area and use adjacent suitable habitat, which is abundant. Impacts would be less than significant.

Bats

The Project site is within the range of several sensitive bat species that were discussed in the previous reclamation plan. These include the pallid bat (*Antrozous pallidus*), Townsend's big-eared bat (*Corynorhinus townsendii*), and spotted bat (*Euderma maculatum*). All three of these species are California Species of Special Concern, with Townsend's bat a candidate threatened species under the CESA. These three species can be found in a variety of habitat types but require suitable roosting substrate in the form of rock crevices, hollow trees, cliffs, caves, or manmade structures for extended dwelling. Although the Project site contains suitable foraging habitat due to its location between two creeks that contain running water and associated riparian vegetation, roosting substrates are absent on the Project site.

No impacts to bat roosting populations are expected. If bat species are present during Project implementation, they would be present to forage over the Project area rather than roost.

Fish

No sensitive fish are known from the area nor are any expected to occur on the Project site. No impact is anticipated

Invertebrates

No sensitive invertebrates are known from the area nor are any expected to occur on the Project site. No impact is anticipated.

3.4.5 Wildlife Movement

The Project site is within the Mono Lake Mule Deer (*Odocoileus hemionus*) herd range. Deer in this area generally winter in Benton, California, approximately 30 miles to the east of the Project site and spend summer on the Glass Mountains, in Mono Basin, or in the eastern Sierra Nevada. A known mule deer migration corridor exists in the area with a majority of the movement occurring between South June Lake Junction and the east junction of SR 120, located to the south of the Project site. The Project site is outside of this important movement zone, but undisturbed portions of the Project site contain suitable plant communities to support local mule deer movement in the area. Deer also are likely to use riparian corridors in Rush Creek and Parker Creek to move through the area in limited numbers. The combination of Big Sagebrush Scrub and permanent water sources in Rush Creek and Parker Creek likely provide suitable foraging and fawning habitat for a small number of mule deer. However, the Project site is not located in any known critical summer range, winter range, fawning range, or intermediate holding areas for mule deer.

The Project site is within the South Mono Sage-Grouse Management Unit. Greater sage-grouse (*Centrocercus urophasianus*) are a California species of special concern and a BLM sensitive species. Sage-grouse have not been documented on the Project site, including wintering and summer birds, breeding pairs, or leks. Leks are specialized breeding grounds that consist of large, flat openings in sagebrush scrub that attract mating pairs of sage grouse for courtship behavior. Much of the Project site is developed or disturbed and does not provide suitable habitat for greater sage-grouse. The nearest known sage grouse leks to the Project site are within two or three miles to the west, across US-395. Because of the distance between the Project site and the known lek areas, and because suitable leks have not been recorded on the Project site, our conclusion is that potential sage grouse use of the Project site is restricted to transitory use during the winter months.

The offsite creeks, Rush and Parker, were likely important drainages historically for nonnative brown trout *(Salmo trutta)* and rainbow trout *(Oncorhynchus mykiss)* in the area. It is unknown how important they are to trout movement in recent times, as both drainages have been heavily altered in the past. Alterations include structures that restrict in-channel movement, such as the Parker Creek plug and a weir on the upstream portion of Parker Creek, and dewatering of the lower portions of Rush Creek that occurred between the 1940s and mid-1980s. Rush Creek and

Parker Creek, under their current hydrologic conditions, may support yearlong populations of trout and other species.

3.4.6 Jurisdictional Waters

A review of National Wetlands Inventory (NWI) data of the site indicated potential jurisdictional waters offsite in Rush Creek and Parker Creek (Appendix B, National Wetlands Inventory Map). These two jurisdictional perennial creeks were verified during the site visit and contained running water. Habitat along the two creeks included a slim band of coyote willow thickets. No other potential jurisdictional waters were identified during the literature review or were observed during the site visit. The site is located in upland areas outside of Rush Creek and Parker Creek and their associated riparian habitats.

As discussed previously, three soil types were identified within the site and include Alamedawell-Orecart complex, zero to 4 percent slopes; Fluvaquentic Endoaquolls-Xerofluvents complex, zero to 4 percent slopes; and Pits-Dumps complex, zero to 50 percent slopes (Appendix B, Soils Map). Of these, the Fluvaquentic Endoaquolls-Xerofluvents complex, zero to 4 percent slopes, was the only soil indicated as being a hydric soil. The remaining soils were well drained and not indicated as being a hydric soil.

3.5 Groundwater Setting

Mono Basin consists of approximately 800 square miles, ranging in elevation from 6,200 to more than 13,000 feet in elevation, surrounded on three sides by mountain ranges and by the Long Valley Caldera. Mono Lake and several contributing streams dominate the water resources of the area. The basin is not currently adjudicated and is not planned for adjudication. LADWP owns many of the local water rights and has been extracting water from many of the local sources in the basin since the 1930s. Lawsuits during the 1970s and 1980s over habitat losses associated with dewatering of Rush Creek and Parker Creek and the lowering of Mono Lake surface water levels resulted in a legal decision to stipulate increased water resource protection for the basin. In particular, Rush Creek and Parker Creek were restored to a more natural aquatic state.

The proposed extraction plan is not expected to encounter groundwater. The depth to groundwater will be monitored as the pit depth increases (approximately 50 to 60 feet below the current mixing table elevation). Groundwater is being protected by the Project by designing the depth of maximum excavation to avoid exposure and dewatering of local water tables associated with Parker Creek and Rush Creek. According to SMARA standards, preparation of a Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) is required to regulate protection of all water sources near the site, including groundwater.

3.5.1 Local Water Wells

The nearest well to the Project site is located west of US 395 between Parker Creek and Rush Creek, approximately 1 mile southwest of the site (State Well # 01S26E03C001M). Although this well is considered active, the only readings from it range from 1965 to 1984 (California Department of Water Resources [DWR], 2016). According to the measurements taken at this well, the lowest groundwater depth was 6,764.9 feet elevation (1982), and the highest groundwater depth

recorded was 6,851.14 feet elevation (1978). The last reported depth in 1984 was 6,783.91 feet elevation.

3.6 Surface Water Setting

Surface waters within the site originate primarily from the east side of the Sierra Nevada flowing across naturally deposited alluvial fans of the Mono Basin. Rush Creek and Parker Creek convey most of the surface water flows in the immediate vicinity of the site and are the nearest waterbodies. Rush Creek is the largest stream in the Mono Basin, draining approximately 140 square miles with an average annual discharge of 75,000 acre-feet. Parker Creek contains an estimated flow pattern of 38 to 65 cfs.

US 395 and its grading and drainage planning have drastically reduced the flooding potential for the site. Surface flows across the highway are minimized to occur only within the respective creeks that are near the site. Surface flows on the mine site itself are, therefore, expected only to originate from immediate rainfall events across the mine surface area, not drawing from a larger drainage area.

Rainfall intensity-duration-frequency data were developed as part of the previous reclamation plans for the larger mining area. Estimates of peak flows and 6- and 24-hour runoff volumes from 20-year return period storm events were presented. According to these previous findings, sufficient storage occurs on the mine site for a 20-year, 24-hour storm event.

Parker Creek and Rush Creek are avoided by the proposed mine footprint, and they are being protected by placement of a berm surrounding the mining areas in addition to a minimum 50-foot buffer from the active mining footprint. The buffer varies in width, but it reaches up to 200 feet in sections of both creeks.

3.7 Climate

The Mono Basin supports a semi-arid climate of very cold winters and mild summers, with precipitation occurring primarily as winter snow with some summer monsoon moisture. The area sits within the rain shadow of the Sierra Nevada, so most storms moving west to east from the Pacific Ocean drop their precipitation before reaching the basin. The site is located closer to the Sierra Nevada than much of the basin and gets a little more precipitation for that reason. Mean annual snowfall near the mine site is estimated at 65 inches, with total precipitation estimated at 12 to 18 inches annually.

Temperatures at Mono Lake average around 48 degrees Fahrenheit (˚F) annually, with the monthly averages ranging from 30˚ to 67˚F. The mean highest temperature recorded is 93˚F, and the lowest mean temperature is 3˚F. The growing season is considered to be around 156 days, with the frost-free season around 125 days.

Prevailing winds are from the north and south, with average speeds of 5 to 10 miles per hour (mph). The windiest months are in early spring or during the summer in concert with monsoon events. Air quality in the basin tends to be excellent, with high visibility and low particulate amounts. Dust storms, however, are becoming a more frequent occurrence due to climate change,

as more and more fine sediments remain exposed due to lack of inundation around the Mono Lake shore.

3.8 Vegetation

The 30.2 acres of ground disturbance from material extraction for this site occurs within the Big Sagebrush Scrub natural community. Riparian vegetation is established along Parker Creek to the north and Rush Creek to the south, but will be well buffered from any direct impacts due to mining operations. Approximately 80% of the area proposed for mining was previously disturbed by prior mining operations. However, baseline vegetation conditions were established based on transects performed in undisturbed areas within the site and near the site that reflect surrounding undisturbed Big Sagebrush Scrub conditions between Parker Creek and Rush Creek.

Since 15.76 acres of the disturbed area will not be reclaimed due to end use needs, eight 50 meter line/belt transects were performed in order to reach an 80% confidence level on baseline vegetation conditions. The following transect results will be used to establish the revegetation conditions for percent coverage, density, and species richness for the 14.44 acres to be reclaimed:

Table 3-3 Vegetation Baseline Conditions – MS 190

Transect	% Coverage	Density	Richness
T1	34	63	4
T2	50	95	11
T3	38	58	7
T4	43	79	12
T5	26	57	8
T6	52	91	7
T7	28	53	8
T8	40	101	8
Averages	**39**	**75**	**8**

Plant Species	# of Plants
Achnatherum hymenoides	16
Artemesia tridentata	177
Chrysothamnus nauseosus	21
Chrysothamus viscidiflorus	110
Elymus elymoides	22
Grayia spinosa	21
Linanthus pungens	52
Lupinus sp.	22
Prunus andsersonii	3
Purshia tridentata	19
Stephanomeria sp.	8
Stipa hymenoides	50
Stipa pultra	6
Tetradymia canescens	59
Unknown grass	9

4.0 SURFACE MINING PLAN

4.1 Proposed Starting Date and Duration

Caltrans anticipates that mining activities will begin in November 2018, assuming approval of the Reclamation Plan in October 2018. Phase 1 is anticipated to span 1 year, Phase 2 is anticipated to span 15 years, or until 2033, and Phase 3 is anticipated to span 38 years, or until 2071. These estimates are based on annual average estimates of aggregate needs for Caltrans maintenance operations and CIPs, and they may vary.

4.2 Proposed Surface Mining Operation

4.2.1 Amount and Type of Material to be Mined and Processed

Although production would vary with the State budget and Caltrans requirements, the extraction rate of unprocessed material over the life of the Project is expected to be approximately 12,000 CY per year. It is anticipated that the mine would be used on a project-by-project basis, and there would be no mining on a daily basis if there is no Project-related demand. A 50-foot setback from the parcel boundary was assumed when calculating the volume. The volume calculations are based on mining the approximately 22.6 acres to a depth of 55 feet below ground surface (bgs).

Gross volume of the material proposed to be excavated from the mining area is estimated to be approximately 1,306,000 CY of material (sand and gravel), yielding approximately 653,000 CY of aggregate. Finished products would be cement-grade aggregate and aggregate-using products such as concrete and asphalt. The remainder of the material would be used as fill material. Table 4-1 provides a Mining Phase summary.

Table 4-1. Mining Phase Summary – MS 190

MINING PHASE	MINED MATERIAL (TOTAL RAW MATERIAL, CUBIC YARDS)	FINISHED AGGREGATE (NET QUALITY MATERIAL, CUBIC YARDS)	AREA (ACRES)	DURATION[1] (YEARS)
Phase 1	26,000	13,000	4.2	1
Phase 2	360,000	180,000	7.9	15
Phase 3	920,000	460,000	10.5	38
TOTAL	**1,306,000**	**653,000**	**22.6**	**54**

[1] The estimated duration is based on an average production of 12,000 CY per year.

4.2.2 Mining Method

The general operation for mining involves extraction of aggregate from previously and/or newly created pits within the property. Mined materials would be excavated by dozers and loaders and screened within pit or in staging area to develop usable stockpiles. Aggregate processing equipment such as asphalt or concrete batching plants would be staged on the existing paved mixing table during phase 1 and 2, given the available space during those phases. Once the phase 1 area is mined and developed as a storage area, the phase 2 area is further mined, aggregate

processing equipment, such as mobile batch plants for asphalt and concrete production will be located down in the phase 1 storage area. Stockpiled products would be transported offsite via haul trucks. The following operational strategies apply to this process:

- All phases of operations would ensure that the site remains internally draining, with final slope configurations of 3 (horizontal): 1 (vertical) (h:v) or flatter.
- Temporary visual impacts for equipment visible from scenic visual receptors will be minimized as much as possible by screening/shielding with earthen berms or placement within subgrade detentions.
- The proposed extraction plan is not expected to encounter groundwater. The depth to groundwater would be monitored as the pit depth increases (approximately 50 to 60 feet below the current elevation of the mixing table). If groundwater is encountered, then operations would cease and BLM would be consulted as to how to proceed.
- During material extraction operations, duff/topsoil (the top 6 inches, including woody debris) would be stockpiled within the 50 foot buffer zone for future slope reclamation. Mining overburden/waste material would be stored at the outer perimeter near the base of the outer slopes. Upon final slope configuration, overburden material would be used to reach final slope configuration if necessary.
- Slopes would be contoured to final grade (3:1), and slope revegetation would commence in phases as sections of the site are fully developed. Final slopes would be hand or hydro seeded with the approved seed mix and mulch to enhance slope naturalization/revegetation while mining continues in phases.

4.2.2.1 Best Management Practices for Pre-Mining Preparation

After Reclamation Plan approval, prior to any mining activities, a 50-foot offset boundary would be clearly demarcated with metal stakes to ensure a buffer from the pit boundary and to provide a visual cue for excavation activities. The stakes would consist of black poles, similar to those used to assist snowplows, elevated approximately 6 feet above the ground. The distance between stakes would vary from 30 to 50 feet, depending on contours and configuration of the boundary. Generally, the stakes would be placed to most effectively assist operators to stay within the boundaries. For straight-line portions of the Project boundaries, stakes may be farther apart than 30 to 50 feet, as practical. Stakes may be closer together on curved lines of the boundary where visual line-of-sight is more limited.

The easterly portion of the site (east pit area) would be graded to ensure internal drainage into the site by establishing a stabilized earthen berm. The berm would be approximately 6 feet in height and would have 2:1 slopes with a 2-foot-wide ridge on top. A temporary silt fence would be installed downslope during berm construction. Additionally, maintenance personnel would be trained on operations plans and methods from which to operate on the site to ensure SMARA compliance and final configurations. During material extraction operations, duff/topsoil (the top 6 inches, including woody debris) would be collected and stored at the outer perimeter of the pit, near the upper hinge point of final slope. Mining overburden/waste material would be stored at

the outer perimeter near the base of the outer slopes. Upon final slope configuration, overburden material would be used to reach final slope configuration (3:1) if necessary, and duff would be used as a final slope cap. Slopes would be contoured to final grade (3:1), and slope revegetation would commence in phases as sections of the site are fully developed. Final slopes would be hand or hydro seeded with the approved seed mix and mulch to enhance slope naturalization/revegetation. All phases of operations would ensure that the site remains internally draining, with final slope configurations of 3:1 or flatter. Temporary visual impacts would be minimized, and any permanent structures would be painted a blending color to mitigate visual impacts.

4.2.2.2 Best Management Practices for Water Quality

The primary BMP proposed for water quality would be to manage the site such that it is maintained as internally draining. Any areas draining externally, such as the perimeter berms and access roads, should be stabilized immediately after construction in those areas is complete.

Mining and soil disturbance would occur in phases throughout the life of the mine. Each phase of work would incorporate three primary erosion and sediment control approaches, as follows:

1. Drainage practices would be employed that direct runoff safely (in a nonerosive manner) down the slope to sediment-retention structures located at the bottom of the pit(s).
2. The sediment retention structures would be designed using state-of-the-art sediment Low Impact Development (LID) pond design features. The LID system is most appropriate for the mine pits over conventional stormwater management practices because the LID system would manage the stormwater at the source similar to how rainwater would naturally act on the landscape (California LID Portal, 2016). The LID ponds would be designed using the California Phase II LID Sizing Tool and the Documentation Manual available from Sacramento State University Office of Water Programs.[1]
3. The overall effectiveness of the LID Sediment Retention Structures, such as maintaining infiltration and permeability, would be dependent on the effectiveness and prompt implementation of Soil Stabilization and Erosion Control BMPs. This Project would rely on the Erosion Control Treatment BMPs outlined in the Caltrans Erosion Control Toolbox, Landscape Architecture Program. BMPs such as the following would be employed:
    a. Preserve existing vegetation
    b. Soil rehabilitation
    c. Roughened soil surface
    d. Contour grading and slope rounding
    e. Decompact soils
    f. Incorporate materials – compost

[1] http://www.owp.csus.edu/LIDTool/Content/PDF/LID_Tool_Manual.pdf

g. Mulch and compost

h. Hydroseed and hydromulch

i. Rolled erosion control products (RECPs) – Netting, blankets, turf reinforcement mats (TRMs), flap

j. Biofiltration swales

k. Fiber rolls and compost socks

Disturbed slopes would be stabilized as soon as practicable with temporary erosion control before being revegetated. To reduce concentrated flows, slopes would be rounded or shaped accordingly as discussed in Section 5.2.3. For example, Soil Surface Roughening and Mulch or Hydromulch may be used after soil disturbance is completed to minimize erosion prior to revegetation.

4.2.2.3 Personnel Training

Maintenance personnel would be trained on the operations plan and methods from which to operate on the site to ensure SMARA compliance and final configurations. Training would be conducted by Caltrans for all Caltrans staff. The training would include sections on sensitivity of the area, ways to reduce dust, working parameters, and all other pertinent operational measures specified in this Reclamation Plan and the associated Initial Study (IS) that workers would need to know. Contractors coming onto the site would also be required similar training prior to site utilization.

4.2.3 Post-Mine Uses

Upon final site configuration, as described in Plan Sheet L-2 (Appendix A), once slopes are revegetated, a final SMARA reclamation inspection would be performed to retire the mine and commence with the intended end use. At this point, no further mining activities would occur at the site, and only Caltrans standard maintenance activities and construction staging would occur on the site. Post reclamation site end uses would include:

- Caltrans maintenance forces equipment operation training.
- Stockpiling and storing natural materials, such as cinders, rock, excess base material, and reusable plant materials for erosion control.
- Stockpiling and storing of non-natural materials, such as metal beam guardrail, treated beams, reusable asphalt grindings (stored on impervious surface only), and poles.
- Potential construction of a metal storage shed to shield some maintenance materials from the elements. Such a shed would likely be an open three-sided structure with approximate dimensions of 50 feet deep by 70 feet wide by 30 feet tall. The shed would be located within the pit floor out of sight of most visual receptors and painted a blending color.
- Temporary utilization as a Construction Contractor staging area for equipment and material.

The usable areas of the final site configuration would be limited to the unreclaimed pit floors, excluding the Stormwater/sediment settling basin, as all slopes would be set to 3:1 and revegetated. This usable area would include 2.02 acres of the Phase 1 Storage Area; 3.49 acres of the Phase 2 pit floor, which includes the settling basin; and 10.25 acres of the Phase 3 pit floor. The total unreclaimed area to remain for the intended end use is approximately 15.76 acres plus the access road.

Because the operations plan for mining is based on estimates for extraction, it is also estimated that the final site configuration would likely not be realized for 40 to 80 years depending on several potential conditions.

4.2.4 Mining Phases

The following phases are being proposed for the Project. See Appendix A for the Project Plans as reference.

4.2.4.1 Phase 1

Phase 1 of mining would entail material extraction of the current east pit as identified in the plan sheets. The pit floor elevation in this area would be lowered approximately 10 feet from the current elevation, making the final Phase 1 pit floor elevation approximately 35 feet below the existing mixing table. There is an estimated 26,000 CY of raw material in Phase 1, which should yield approximately 13,000 CY of quality aggregate, assuming 50 percent waste. With an estimated 12,000 CY per year average demand, this phase would last 1-2 years.

Equipment such as loaders, excavators, and screening grizzlies, as well as production material stockpiles, would be stored in this area, which is out of the primary viewshed; however, the existing paved mixing table would continue to be used for cinder stockpiles and other material storage.

4.2.4.2 Phase 2

Phase 2 mining would continue north of the current east pit/Phase 1 area. This phase contains approximately 360,000 CY of raw material, which should yield approximately 180,000 CY of quality aggregate, assuming 50 percent waste. Estimating 12,000 CY per year average demand, this phase would provide an approximate 15-year supply of quality aggregate.

Due to the potential for limited space below the current mixing table for this phase, if a Caltrans contractor uses the site for asphalt or concrete production with a mobile batch plant, such equipment associated with the plant may need to be located on the existing mixing table instead of in the pit. It is anticipated that any such activity would last for a single construction season and would only create temporary environmental impacts. The construction season is generally from mid-May through September. Some construction projects may take multiple seasons to complete, meaning that batch plants may be overwintered on the site; however, operations are not expected to be in place for more than 2 years at any one time. The BLM guidelines only allow for 2 to 3 years for temporary visual impacts.

In addition, during the entirety of Phase 1 and 2, the existing asphalt mixing table at the west side of the site would continue to be utilized for material storage (e.g., cinders, asphalt and grindings),

Caltrans equipment, and as an occasional contractor temporary construction staging area for storing equipment and material.

Partial reclamation in accordance with SMARA regulations would occur to those portions of the site (final slopes) where extraction is complete (as per plan sheets) while retaining adequate area for storage and access to the Phase 3 area. The partial reclamation areas for Phase 2 would be the north, east, and south slopes of the Phase 2 extraction area, excluding the access road, pit bottom, and west slope.

A water/sediment retention basin is proposed at the northeast corner of the Phase 2 pit floor. The basin would be present during active operations of the site and may need to be periodically adjusted to accommodate those operations. All site drainage would be directed to the basin and would be kept within site boundaries. To reduce dust, the basin would be lined with pea gravel and periodically cleaned of sediment. Other BMPs that might be used include riprap and straw waddles.

Access road grades would be 7 percent maximum.

4.2.4.3 Phase 3

Mining in this phase would provide an additional 920,000 CY of raw material, yielding approximately 460,000 CY of quality aggregate. This would provide approximately a 38-year supply of quality aggregate. The maximum depth of the Phase 3 extraction is approximately 55 feet below the elevation of the existing mixing table.

The Phase 1 area would be maintained as a storage area during this phase. When the existing paved mixing table is no longer available, this Phase 1 area would be paved during Phase 3 to create an impervious surface for storage operations. The access road would also be paved or gravel-lined from the site entrance into the Phase 1 Storage Area to provide road stabilization and dust minimization.

The Phase 2 pit floor may also be utilized for storage, as needed, during Phase 3 operations. The northeast corner of the Phase 2 pit floor would continue to be designated as the primary stormwater/sediment retention basin during the final phase.

Upon completion of the extraction of all material to the grade lines as shown on the Phase 3 plan sheet, the final slopes would be reclaimed as depicted in Layout Sheet 1 in accordance with SMARA regulations.

4.3 Operational Considerations

4.3.1 Water Use and Wash Water Recycling

There would be no well at the site, in accordance with BLM coordination. Dust control would be reactive if winds are high and a dust-generating use is present. Caltrans maintenance operations would likely maintain a 5,000-gallon plastic water storage tank on the property. A contractor with a mobile batch plant would be permitted to use one or two 10,000-gallon elevated tanker trailers.

There also should be no trackout expected, because the entrance road is asphalt; thus, no truck wash is currently being proposed. If needed, individual operations by contractors may utilize a

standard truck wash for waterless dirt and dust removal. Generally, due to restrictions on nonnative plant seed spreading, trucks entering the site would be cleaned offsite before being allowed on the property. The methods of preventing nonnative plant seed spreading would follow standard BLM practices for this area.

4.3.2 Project Traffic

For an average aggregate production of 12,000 CY per year, the Project-generated daily truck trips would be approximately 25 roundtrips per day, assuming truck capacity of 4 CY. All of the haul trucks would deliver materials to Caltrans projects in the District 9 Service Area. Employee trips are estimated to be no more than 12 roundtrips per day for peak operations.

4.3.3 Hours and Days of Operation and Employment

The Project would operate up to 120 days per year, employing less than 10 people working one or two shifts per day, depending on need and availability, up to 6 days per week depending on demand and construction schedules. Because the site would be used on a project-by-project basis, operations at the site would occur on demand and may not occur every day. Batch plant operators would be required to complete subsequent environmental review when proposing to operate at the Baseline Pit, and only operators with existing permits to operate within Mono County would be considered to use the Baseline Pit site. Hours would be limited to 6:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. No nighttime operations are proposed.

4.3.4 Proposed and Alternative Water Sources

The proposed water source consists of onsite storage consisting of a 5,000-gallon plastic water storage tank on the property. A contractor with a mobile batch plant would be permitted to use one or two 10,000-gallon elevated tanker trailers. No new wells are being proposed for the Project. Alternate water sources consist of water trucks brought in from off of the site.

4.3.5 Administration, Security, and Public Safety

No permanent administrative structures are proposed at the site. The site is currently gated along its entry road, with an adjoining chain-link fence. Although no permanent fencing around the site is being proposed, the perimeter of the site would be defined by the use of earthen berms. Access to the site is also geographically restricted by large creek channels on all but the entrance side of the site.

4.3.6 Onsite Hazardous Materials

The Project would require the use and onsite storage of a loader most of the time, which would contain hazardous materials (i.e., fuel, oil, hydraulic fluid). The loader would be parked on an impermeable surface (i.e., paved or plastic lined). Other sources of hazardous materials to be stored on the property may include fuel, lubricating oils, and other vehicle and equipment fluids.

The following BMPs would be used to reduce the potential for the discharge of materials from hazardous material storage areas by minimizing exposure of the materials to stormwater and safeguarding against accidental release of materials (Caltrans, 2003).

- Store hazardous materials in a designated area containing chemically compatible materials. Do not store incompatible products in the same storage area without some type of physical barrier separating the containers. For example, do not store strong oxidizers with organics or flammable/combustible materials. Where feasible, store hazardous materials under cover and away from areas that might drain into the stormwater drainage system or watercourses. Ensure container covers or caps are secure.
- Do not remove original product label from paint or hazardous materials containers because it contains important spill cleanup and disposal information. Use the entire product before properly disposing of the container. Appropriately label all secondary containers.
  - Install safeguards, such as overflow protection devices, automatic shutdown transfer pumps, protection guards around tanks, and piping to prevent vehicle or forklift damage, to prevent accidental releases. Limit access to unauthorized persons.
  - Review Material Safety Data Sheets with personnel on proper labeling requirements, spill cleanup procedures, and disposal of hazardous materials.
- Regularly inspect and maintain hazardous materials storage areas to minimize exposure to stormwater. Store hazardous materials on impervious surfaces if possible.
- Maintain spill cleanup materials near the storage area. Clean up spills or leaks immediately if it is safe to do so.
  - Store used lead acid batteries in spill or secondary containment. All cracked batteries shall be stored in spill containment.
- Inspect outdoor container storage areas as required. Ensure all containers are properly labeled, with lids securely fastened and in good condition.
- If an outdoor container storage area is corroded or leaking, contact the District Hazardous Material Coordinator or Manager to have the waste or material transferred to a new container by trained and qualified personnel. Label the new container appropriately and properly dispose of the old container.

Hazardous and nonhazardous waste will be disposed of according to state and local health and safety ordinances. The following BMPs are applicable to hazardous wastes for the site:

- Hazardous waste shall be stored in appropriate containers, with lids securely fastened, constructed of compatible materials and properly labeled in accordance with federal, state, and local regulations.
- Containment facilities shall provide for appropriate spill containment volume.
- Maintain an ample supply of appropriate spill cleanup materials near hazardous materials storage areas.
- In the event of a spill, dry cleanup methods should be used. Contaminated cleanup materials, contaminated materials, and recovered spill material shall be disposed of properly.

4.3.7 Spill Prevention, Control, and Countermeasure Plan

Federal (Title 40, *Code of Federal Regulations* [CFR], Part 112) and state (California Health and Safety Code, Chapter 6.67, § 25270 – Aboveground Petroleum Storage Act) laws require the preparation and implementation of a Spill Prevention, Control, and Countermeasure (SPCC) Plan if more than 1,320 gallons of oil is stored at the site. The purpose of an SPCC Plan is to identify procedures and controls to prevent accidental releases of petroleum products and to minimize the impact if a release occurs. This Project would not store more than 1,320 gallons of oil on the site, and an SPCC is not required. Batch plant operators would be required to do subsequent environmental review when proposing to operate at the Baseline Pit, and only operators with existing permits to operate within the county would be considered to use the Baseline Pit site.

4.3.8 Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan

The Clean Water Act (CWA) is the primary federal law protecting the nation's surface waters, including lakes, rivers, and coastal wetlands. The objective of the CWA is "*to restore and maintain the chemical, physical, and biological integrity of the Nation's waters*." CWA Section 402, National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Program, is an important section of the CWA. Section 402 establishes a permitting system for the discharges (except for dredge or fill material) of any pollutant into waters of the U.S. and requires an NPDES permit for discharges.

To facilitate compliance with the CWA, the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) issued two statewide general NPDES permits for stormwater discharges: one for stormwater from industrial sites (NPDES No. CAS000001, General Industrial Activity Storm Water Permit [IGP]) and the other, a statewide general NPDES permit for stormwater discharges from construction sites (NPDES No. CAS000002, NPDES General Permit for Storm Water Discharges Associated with Construction and Land Disturbance Activities [Order No. 2009-0009-DWQ], adopted on September 2, 2009, and amended by Order 2010-0014-DWQ and Order 2012-0006-DWQ [Construction General Permit, CGP]). Facilities discharging stormwater from construction projects with a disturbed area of 1 acre or more would be required to be covered by the CGP by completing and filing a Notice of Intent (NOI) with the SWRCB (2009).

The IGP, Order No. 2014-0057-DWQ, was reissued on April 1, 2014, and became effective on July 1, 2015 (SWRCB, 2014). Facilities discharging stormwater associated with industrial activities are required to obtain individual NPDES permits for stormwater discharges or to be covered by a statewide general permit by completing and filing an NOI with the SWRCB. The IGP requires a broad range of industrial facilities to be permitted. These facilities include manufacturing facilities, mining operations, disposal sites, recycling yards, and transportation facilities. Category 1, Attachment A, of the IGP identifies the applicable mining operations that fall under the North American Industrial Classification System[2] (NAICS) 21231, which is associated with establishments primarily engaged in one or more of the following: (1) operating commercial grade (i.e.,

[2] Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) is a federal government system for classifying industries by a four-digit code. It is being supplanted by the NAICS, but SIC codes are still referenced by the Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB) in identifying development sites subject to regulation under the NPDES permit. Information and an SIC search function are available at http://www.bls.gov/bls/NAICS.htm.

construction) sand and gravel pits; (2) dredging for commercial grade sand and gravel; and (3) washing, screening, or otherwise preparing commercial grade sand and gravel.

According to the U.S. Department of Labor,[3] industry group 144 includes establishments primarily engaged in operating sand and gravel pits and dredges, and in washing, screening, or otherwise preparing sand and gravel for construction uses. Therefore, given that the Baseline Pit (MS 190) facility would be involved in mining construction and gravel, the facility would be required to comply with the IGP. The IGP requires that the Project:

- Eliminate unauthorized non-stormwater discharges (NSWDs);
- Develop and implement an SWPPP that includes BMPs;
- Implement minimum BMPs, and advanced BMPs as necessary, to achieve compliance with the effluent and receiving water limitations;
- Conduct monitoring, including visual observations and analytical stormwater monitoring for indicator parameters;
- Compare monitoring results for monitored parameters to applicable numeric action levels (NALs) derived from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) 2008 Multi-Sector General Permit for Storm Water Discharges Associated with Industrial Activity (2008 Multi-Sector General Permit [MSGP]) and other industrial stormwater discharge monitoring data collected in California;
- Perform the appropriate Exceedance Response Actions (ERAs) when there are exceedances of the NALs; and
- Certify and submit all permit-related compliance documents via the Storm Water Multiple Application and Report Tracking System (SMARTS). Documents include, but are not limited to, Permit Registration Documents (PRDs) including an NOI, No Exposure Certification (NEC), an SWPPP, as well as Annual Reports, Notice of Termination (NOT), Level 1 ERA Reports, and Level 2 ERA Technical Reports.

5.0 DESCRIPTION OF RECLAMATION ACTIVITIES

5.1 Subsequent Use

It is estimated that the mine site will be in operation for approximately 54 years. The Mono County General Plan designates the site as RM. Surrounding properties are owned by LADPW and are designated as OS and MD, with the exception of the approximately 40-acre parcel northeast of the site, which is also federal land managed by BLM. It is reasonable to predict that the open space nature of the Project area and surrounding land would not change significantly during and after the 54-year mining period. The site is currently used as materials storage, equipment storage, and construction staging, and it would return to this use after mining is completed. The future storage area, however, would be 35 feet or lower from the existing ground elevation, meaning that the future use would be less visible from US 395, a State Scenic Highway.

[3] http://www.osha.gov/pls/imis/sic_manual.display?id=33&tab=group

It is Caltrans' intent to keep this site in perpetuity after mining resources are exhausted and slopes are reclaimed. Upon final site configuration, as described in Plan Sheet L-2 (Appendix A), once slopes are revegetated, a final SMARA reclamation inspection would be performed to retire the mine and commence with the intended end use. At this point, no further mining activities would occur at the site, and only Caltrans standard maintenance activities and construction staging would occur on the site. Post-reclamation site end uses would include:

- Caltrans maintenance forces equipment operation training.
- Stockpiling and storing natural materials such as cinders, rock, excess base material, and reusable plant materials for erosion control.
- Stockpiling and storing of non-natural materials, such as metal beam guardrail, treated beams, reusable asphalt grindings (stored on impervious surface only), and poles.
- Potential construction of a metal storage shed to shield some maintenance materials from the elements. Such a shed would likely be an open three-sided structure with approximate dimensions of 50 feet deep by 70 feet wide by 30 feet tall. The shed would be located within the pit floor out of sight of most visual receptors and painted a blending color. This structure would only be established post mining and reclamation.
- Temporary utilization as a Construction Contractor staging area for equipment and material.

The usable areas of the final site configuration would be limited to the unreclaimed pit floors, excluding the Stormwater/sediment settling basin, as all slopes would be set to 3:1 and revegetated. This usable area would include 2.02 acres of the Phase 1 Storage Area; 3.49 acres of the Phase 2 pit floor, which includes the settling basin; and 10.25 acres of the Phase 3 pit floor. The total unreclaimed area to remain for the intended end use is approximately 15.76 acres plus the access road.

Because the operations plan for mining is based on estimates for extraction, it is also estimated that the final site configuration would likely not be realized for 50 to 80 years, depending on several potential conditions.

Please refer to the associated plan sheets for further details as described in this document.

5.2 Reclamation Standards

Reclamation activities must comply with 14 PRC § 3700-3713 Reclamation Standards. The following is a discussion of how the Project would comply with each of these standards.

5.2.1 Performance Standards for Wildlife Habitat (PRC § 3703)

Existing biological conditions are described in Section 3.4 of this Reclamation Plan. Additional information will be contained within the EA for the Project. No state- or federally listed plant or animal species were observed or are expected within the Project area, but several sensitive species have potential to occur.

The special-status plant species that have the potential of being onsite are listed in Section 3.4.2. Further investigations are planned during spring 2017 to better ascertain presence or absence for

these species. Continued coordination with Caltrans, BLM, and Mono County is being undertaken to identify additional measures needed to avoid the accidental take of these species.

The special-status wildlife species that have the potential of being onsite are listed in Section 3.4.3 and include the greater sage-grouse, pygmy rabbit, and northern sagebrush lizard. Further investigations are planned during spring 2017 to better ascertain presence or absence for these species. Continued coordination with Caltrans, BLM, and Mono County is being undertaken to identify additional measures needed to avoid the accidental take of these species.

Additional mitigation measures for plant and animal species would be identified during the NEPA process. Upon reclamation of the mine site, the area would again be available for use by these special-status plant and wildlife species.

Night lighting, which could affect nocturnal wildlife, would not be used in normal operations. The only potential use of night lighting would be during emergencies, when emergency road repairs must operate 24 hours per day.

5.2.2 Performance Standards for Backfilling, Regrading, Slope Stability, and Recontouring (PRC § 3704)

PRC Section 3704(d) requires that all final reclaimed fill slopes, including permanent piles or dumps of mine waste rock and overburden, shall not exceed 3:1 (h:v), except when site-specific analysis demonstrates that the proposed final slope will have a minimum slope stability factor of safety that is suitable for the proposed end use, and when the proposed final slope can be successfully revegetated.

5.2.2.1 Slope Stability

Cut and fill slopes constructed for development of the aggregate production facility would not exceed 50 feet in vertical height and would not be steeper than 3:1 h:v overall. Final fill slopes, including permanent piles, berms, or dumps of waste rock or overburden shall not exceed 3:1 h:v overall.

5.2.2.2 Recontouring

Permanent reclaimed slopes, both cut and fill, are those slopes visible from the adjacent viewshed or those slopes completed at each phase of construction. Permanent slopes to be revegetated shall not exceed 3:1 h:v and shall conform to the surrounding topography, with curvilinear (rounded top of slope, with concave/convex) cross sections (Gray, 2013). Curvilinear slope shapes have been shown, with conceptual and mathematical models, as well as results of laboratory tests and field observations, that concave slope profiles are more stable and generate less sediment than uniform planer slopes (Schor and Gray, 2007). Curvilinear slopes conforming to the local topography would increase stability, reduce erosion, and improve the success of reclamation planting.

5.2.2.3 Drainage, Erosion, and Sediment Control

Temporary and/or permanent stormwater interceptors and down drains would be used to capture, collect, and deliver the stormwater down the slopes to the constructed LID sediment retention basins or infiltration structures. The drainage would be maintained on the site during all phases of development. Roads and pads would be graded to maintain sheet flow. If concentrated runoff is eminent, down drains would be utilized to reduce erosion on the slopes. During each phase, as the pit is deepened, the down drains would be appropriately modified. Permanent down drains can utilize rock or pipe. Vegetated drainage channels utilizing RECPs such as TRMs, may require less maintenance and help infiltrate runoff. Information regarding RECPs/TRMs is provided in the Caltrans Erosion Control Toolbox guidance.

Table 5-1 Qualitative Description of Soil Surface Status

Class 1	No soil loss or erosion; topsoil layer intact, well-dispersed accumulation of litter from past year's growth plus smaller amounts of older litter.
Class 2	Soil movement slight and difficult to recognize; small deposits of soil in form of fans or cones at end of small gullies or fills, or as accumulations back of plant crowns or behind litter, litter not well dispersed or no accumulation from past year's growth obvious.
Class 3	Soil movement or loss more noticeable; topsoil loss evident, with some plants on pedestals or in hummocks; rill marks evident, poorly dispersed litter and bare spots not protected by litter.
Class 4	Soil movement and loss readily recognizable; topsoil remnants with vertical sides and exposed plant roots, roots frequently exposed, litter in relatively small amounts and washed into erosion protected patches.
Class 5	Advanced erosion; active gullies, steep sidewalls on active gullies; well-developed erosion pavement on gravely soils, litter mostly washed away.

5.2.3 Revegetation

Revegetation of semi-arid lands is often difficult; constraints to revegetation are natural and human-induced. Low levels of rainfall, diurnal and seasonal temperature extremes, and soils having a low water-holding capacity and minimal organic material, and desiccation are significant naturally occurring constraints to semi-arid land revegetation. Colonizing plants are common in the disturbed areas of these sites. These species possess seeds that are easily dispersed or have rootstocks from which they resprout. The use of native, naturally invading species as a basis for revegetation would greatly aid in-site reclamation.

The goal of revegetation at this site would be to reestablish components of the native Big Sagebrush Scrub vegetation on the terraces to integrate the site with the surrounding area. Native vegetation naturally occurring in the area would be used. These species would be chosen for their

capability for sustainable, self-regeneration without dependence on irrigation or fertilizer. Soil may be ameliorated with composted organic matter (OM) if necessary.

Revegetation would be performed in phases as the slopes and soils receive final grading. Because of the scarcity of topsoil and the depth of the pits, reclamation would primarily be on soils that are blended tailings, likely low in nutrients, soil organisms, and mycorrhizae. As per the Caltrans Erosion Control Toolbox, Materials Incorporate – Composts are shown to provide a suitable replacement source of slowly available nitrogen (N) for plant establishment on drastically disturbed, low nutrient soils (Claassen and Carey, 2004). Before permanent revegetation is conducted, soil tests would be conducted to determine the amount of OM or carbon available in the soil surface (1 to 6 inches deep). Specifications for Incorporate Materials, Caltrans Erosion Control Toolbox would be used.

Revegetation Success Criteria:

- *Percent Coverage* – Undisturbed, site indigenous shrub cover on the terrace was estimated at 39%, therefore a reasonable threshold for success in this category is to achieve a minimum cover of 20%.
- *Plant Density* – Undisturbed, shrub density for the site was estimated at 75 shrubs per 50 square meters, therefore a reasonable threshold for success in this category is to achieve a minimum of 38 shrubs per 50 square meters.
- *Species Richness* – Due to low shrub species richness on the terrace, a species richness success criteria has not been established.

5.2.3.1 Preparing Soils for Revegetation

Soil preparation for reclamation and revegetation would include:

- Decompaction of soils
- Incorporation of compost materials and topsoil
- Roughening soil surface (e.g., trackwalking, scarification, harrowing on contour for slopes 2:1 [h:v] or flatter, or roughen with sheepsfoot roller [1 pass] for slopes >2:1 [h:v] and <1.5:1 [h:v]). Stepped slopes may be utilized on steep cut slopes (steeper than 2:1 [h:v]) prior to final grading
- Contour grading and slope rounding would be completed before revegetation/ reclamation.

5.2.3.2 Decompaction of Soils

Prior to reclamation the soils would be decompacted. The accepted criteria for soil preparation are compaction between 80 and 85 percent of the standard Proctor maximum dry density. This criterion provides many of the stabilizing benefits of soil compaction without jeopardizing the viability of vegetation development and growth (Goldsmith *et. al.,* 2001).

5.2.3.3 Incorporation of Compost Materials

Compost must meet U.S. Composting Council (USCC) Seal of Testing Assurance (STA) Program. Caltrans Erosion Control Toolbox maintains a list of compost producers and participants.

This specification involves tilling or mixing compost into the top 6 inches of the soil. The recommended application rates are based on a target OM rate of 8 to 13 percent, a Total N per acre range of 1,000 to 3,000 pounds (lbs) per acre, and an available N amount of 100 to 300 lbs per acre. Lower application rates are recommended in arid regions or areas that typically receive less than 10 inches of precipitation per year; therefore, it is recommended that this site receive approximately 1 to 1.25 inches of compost incorporated into the top 3 to 6 inches of soil depth. The compost application rate is 150 CY per acre (approximately 50 tons per acre depending on moisture content). This recommended rate is estimated to provide more than 1,000 lbs total N per acre and more than 100 lbs of N per acre in the first year.

Arbuscular mycorrhizae would also be added to the soil surface with the compost and incorporated. The recommended application rate of Arbuscular mycorrhizae would be 20 to 40 lbs per acre for this site.

5.2.3.4 Roughen Soil Surface, Contour Grading, and Slope Rounding

These techniques, as specified in Caltrans Erosion Control Toolbox, are often completed together. Surface roughening, like trackwalking, can reduce erosion by more than 50 percent. Likewise, techniques that increase infiltration and soil permeability would also reduce runoff, thereby reducing erosion.

Vegetative cover, density, and species diversity shall be similar to the naturally occurring habitats. The cover, density, and species richness goals would incorporate the results of the soil test plots.

5.2.3.5 Revegetation Mix (Seed)

The revegetation mix (Table 5-1) consists of plant species native and within the immediate vicinity of the site. These plant species would be used for the entire site. If seed conforming to the requirements for purity or germination is not readily available, seed not conforming to these requirements may be used, provided that the application rate for such seed is increased to compensate for the lower level of pure live seed (PLS). The seed application rate can be adjusted (Equation 1) to compensate for germination or purity above or below that specified. Changes to the revegetation mixes would only be allowed with the concurrence of BLM and the Mono County Planning Department.

Table 5-2. Revegetation Mix

SCIENTIFIC NAME	COMMON NAME	MINIMUM PERCENT PURITY	MINIMUM PERCENT GERMINATION	PLS POUNDS/ ACRE
Achnatherum hymenoides	rice grass	90	75	2
Artemisia tridentata	big sagebrush	10	65	2

Achnatherum occidentalis	western needlegrass	50	50	1
Elymus elymoides ssp. *Elymoides (=Sitanion hystrix)*	squirreltail	70	50	2
Hesperostipa comata	needlegrass	50	50	1
Encameria viscidiflorus	Rabbitbrush			1
			Total:	**9**

Seeding rates are given in pounds of PLS per acre and are based on percent purity and germination rates. Percent PLS can be calculated from commercial or custom collected seed by the following formula:

$$\% \text{ PLS} = \frac{\% \text{ pure seed X } \% \text{ germination}}{100} \quad \text{(Equation 1)}$$

5.2.3.6 Seeding Methods

Seed would be broadcast and then mixed into the top 0.5 inch of the substrate by either raking or dragging a chain across the seedbed, or other suitable method. The seed mix would be broadcast following the first application of straw mulch. The straw would be applied in two applications, each at 1 ton per acre. The first application would be punched or crimped into the site at 1 ton per acre. Seeding with the mix defined in Table 5-1 would follow the punching or crimping of the first straw application. After seeding, the final straw application would be punched or crimped into the site at a rate of 1 ton per acre. A guar with tackifier or boded fiber matrix may be used in lieu of straw as a final slope treatment to provide soil stabilization and temporary seedbed protection from erosion.

5.2.3.7 Topsoil Salvage

The site consists of mostly coarse-grained deposits that have a low water-holding capacity. Well-developed soil horizons are not present at the site; therefore, distinct soil horizons would not need to be reestablished to revegetate. The upper layer of soil that has been salvaged would be respread on currently disturbed areas. Waste fines from past mining would also be utilized as a growing medium. Revegetation of these soils would need to be limited to native species that are adapted to the drought conditions.

5.2.4 Performance Standards for Stream Protection, including Surface and Groundwater (PRC § 3710)

There would be no offsite drainage associated with the Project and all water use would be contained within site boundaries. The Project would operate in accordance with the IGP, NPDES No. CAS000001, Order No. 2014-0057-DWQ. The IGP requires a site-specific SWPPP. Relevant sections of the SWPPP that address stream protection, including surface and groundwater are:

- Monitoring Implementation Plan

  - This plan would include a description of visual observation procedures and locations, as well as sampling procedures, locations and methods.
- Spill and Leak Prevention and Response
  - This plan would include a procedure such as labeling of containers that are susceptible to a spill or a leakage, establishing containment measures for such industrial materials, procedures for stopping leaks/spills, and provisions for notification of the appropriate personnel about any occurrence. The IGP requires implementation of four BMPs to address spills. These BMPs include developing a set of spill response procedures to minimize spills/leaks; developing procedures to minimize the discharge of industrial materials generated through spills/leaks; identifying/describing the equipment needed and where it will be located at the facility; and identifying/training appropriate spill response personnel.

The IGP does not address long-term site drainage as a permit condition. Most likely, long-term drainage would be based on the Caltrans Statewide Permit, NPDES CAS 000003.

5.3 Plant Eradication Measures

Tamarisk is not currently established around the creeks and with no mining activities proposed near the creek beds, tamarisk establishment post reclamation activities is not expected. Since slopes will be reclaimed in phases, close inspection of revegetation efforts will be maintained in order to identify early establishment of undesirable invasive species. In particular, after the first year of revegetation of a slope, a biological assessment will be performed in order to identify vegetative species establishment, including identifying any invasive species of concern. First year growth of Russian thistle is particularly prevalent in this area, so if such invasive species are identified, an eradication plan will be developed to address the issue quickly before further spreading.

5.4 Security and Public Safety

The reclamation slopes would be seeded to stabilize the soil, minimize erosion and slope failure, and alleviate any potentially dangerous conditions. Access to the slopes would not be permitted except to enter the reclamation area. No fencing is being proposed around the property because of the restricted access point from US 395 and because access is naturally restrictive due to the surrounding steep topography.

5.5 Suggested Remedial Measures

The remedial measures listed in Table 5-3 will be implemented if reclamation treatments do not perform satisfactorily or problems are observed during annual monitoring.

5.6 Monitoring and Reporting

Phased reclamation of slopes will allow initial phases to be used as test plots in order to adjust, as necessary, reclamation/revegetation strategies as future phases commence. Year 0 monitoring of reclaimed slopes will consist of general vegetation and erosion review in order to document successes and failures to possibly address with remedial measures. Starting the second year after reclamation of a phase, an annual biological assessment will be performed utilizing random 50 meter line and belt transects where possible. A report recording conditions, with photo points, and recommendations for reaching success criteria will be developed annually. Typically, field work and reporting will be performed in the spring time. A copy of this report will be supplied to the County along with the annual SMARA report for this site.

5.7 Future Mining

The excavation of sand and gravel at the site to the proposed mining depth would preclude the availability of additional materials at that location. It does not affect the availability of aggregate in the surrounding areas, which were also designated as having significant mineral resources.

Table 5-3 Remedial Measures

FEATURE	OBJECTIVE	MONITORING FREQ.	FINDINGS	ACTION
Wind Erosion	Soil Stabilized, no nuisance dust from site.	Continuously during mining and reclamation implementation; annually following reclamation.	Soil drifts found behind plants and rises, blowing dust.	Consider soil stabilization. I.e. straw or rock mulching and revegetation.
Water Erosion	Soil Stabilized, no evidence of rilling or gullying.	After first major storm event (>0.5 inch rain in 24- hour period) following construction; once a year during annual monitoring of reclamation.	Rilling or gullying or erosion judged to be excessive; or evidence of washouts or erosion in established drainage ways.	Repair area, consider additional stabilization (water bars, berms, diversion channel, rock lining, or mulches.
Creek Channel Erosion, Rush Creek	No evidence of undercutting or erosion of creek banks.	Monitor twice a month after repair and during spring runoff for the first 12 months following repair. Monitor after first major storm event (>0.5 inch rain in a 24- hour period) every year and during annual monitoring of reclamation, until reclamation deemed complete.	Erosion of streambank.	Repair damage and consider using plantings or cuttings
Slope Stability	No evidence of slope failures on constructed slopes.	Monitor continuously during mining operations; and annually during reclamation.	Slope failures, slumping.	Reconstruct slope, lessen angle or slope, and implement erosion control measures.
Sedimentation	Little accumulation of sediment in basins (pit); basin maintain adequate capacity.	After first major storm event (>0.5 inch rain in a 24-hour period) following construction; annually during reclamation.	Sedimentation basins filling up; diminished capacity.	Clean out basin; analyze watershed for source of sediment; implement erosion control measures to correct problem.
Invasion by tamarisk, bouncing bet, or other exotics	No tamarisk or bouncing bet on-site; no interference with establishment of negative vegetation.	Once per year, note areas of infestation of exotic species.	Infestation of exotics interfering with establishment of native vegetation.	Apply weed eradication measures; hand-pulling, hand- cutting, and possibly hand applied herbicide.
Revegetation: seeded areas	Terrace: perennial cover average 20 percent.	Annually following implementation.	Terrace: perennial cover < 25 percent. Signs of herbivory that may significantly effect outcome.	Consider fertilizing and irrigating plants; consider reseeding; analyze soil for problems, analyze for pest problems (consider fencing individual plants)
Resoiling	Decomposed native soils or fines respreads to a depth of 6 inches.	Monitor during implementation.	Fines absent from substrate surface or a compacted substrate.	Respread additional fines; rip or disc site to alleviate compaction.

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INDEX OF PLANS

Appendix A

STATE OF CALIFORNIA
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

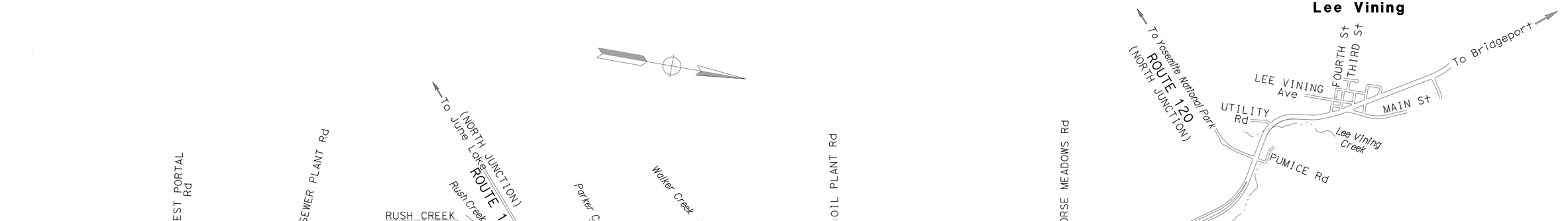
PROJECT PLANS FOR CONSTRUCTION ON
STATE HIGHWAY

IN MONO COUNTY NEAR LEE VINING
AT MIXING TABLE ROAD
AT BASELINE MATERIAL SITE No. 190

TO BE SUPPLEMENTED BY STANDARD PLANS DATED 2015

Dist	COUNTY	ROUTE	POST MILES TOTAL PROJECT	SHEET No.	TOTAL SHEETS
09	Mno	395	46.9	1	6

LOCATION MAP



LOCATION OF CONSTRUCTION
PM 46.9

NO SCALE

THE CONTRACTOR SHALL POSSESS THE CLASS (OR CLASSES) OF LICENSE AS SPECIFIED IN THE "NOTICE TO BIDDERS."

PROJECT ENGINEER DATE
REGISTERED CIVIL ENGINEER

PLANS APPROVAL DATE

REGISTERED PROFESSIONAL ENGINEER No. Exp. CIVIL STATE OF CALIFORNIA

THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA OR ITS OFFICERS OR AGENTS SHALL NOT BE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE ACCURACY OR COMPLETENESS OF SCANNED COPIES OF THIS PLAN SHEET.

PROJECT MANAGER

DESIGN ENGINEER

LAST REVISION 04-16-18
DATE PLOTTED => 4/24/2018
TIME PLOTTED => 11:26:58 AM

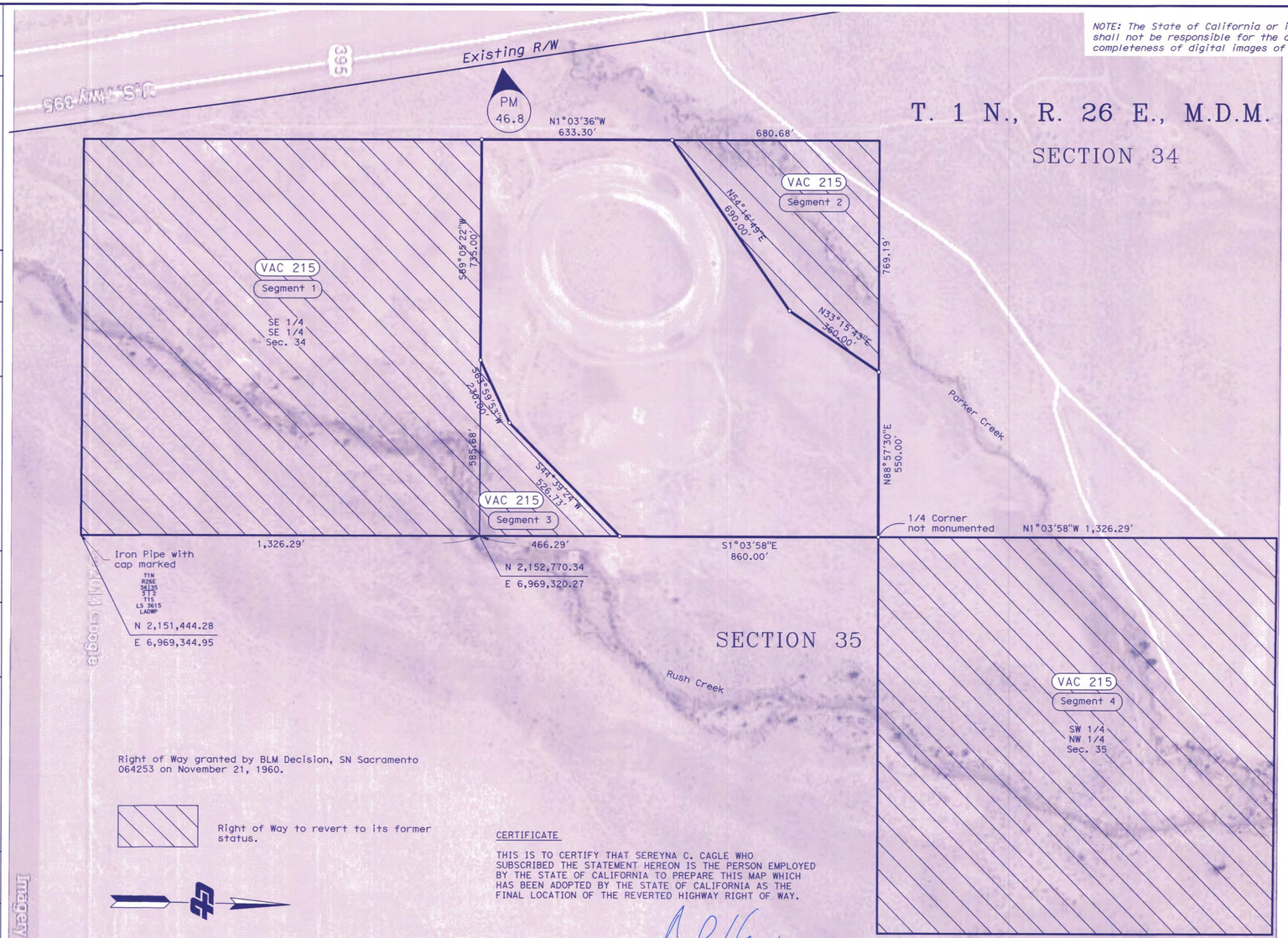
CONTRACT No.	09-365604
PROJECT ID	0915000024

BORDER LAST REVISED 7/2/2010 | CALTRANS WEB SITE IS: HTTP//WWW.DOT.CA.GOV/ | RELATIVE BORDER SCALE IS IN INCHES 0 1 2 3 | USERNAME => "s146062" DGN FILE => ...\936560ab001.dgn | UNIT 2462 | PROJECT NUMBER & PHASE 09150000241

BY	DATE	REVISIONS

R/W PROJECT SURVEYOR: Sereyna Cagle

DATE | BY | REVISIONS



T. 1 N., R. 26 E., M.D.M.

SECTION 34

Right of Way granted by BLM Decision, SN Sacramento 064253 on November 21, 1960.

Right of Way to revert to its former status.

CERTIFICATE

THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT SEREYNA C. CAGLE WHO SUBSCRIBED THE STATEMENT HEREON IS THE PERSON EMPLOYED BY THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA TO PREPARE THIS MAP WHICH HAS BEEN ADOPTED BY THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA AS THE FINAL LOCATION OF THE REVERTED HIGHWAY RIGHT OF WAY.

10-14-15

BRENT L. GREEN DATE
DISTRICT DIRECTOR
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

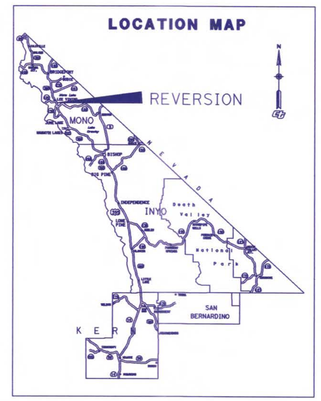
NOTE: The State of California or its officers or agents shall not be responsible for the accuracy or completeness of digital images of this map.

PROFESSIONAL LAND SURVEYOR

10-5-2015
DATE

PROFESSIONAL LAND SURVEYOR — Sereyna C. Cagle — No. 8175 — Exp. 12/31/16 — STATE OF CALIFORNIA

LOCATION MAP



THIS REVERSION MAP DEPICTS HIGHWAY RIGHT OF WAY THAT IS TO REVERT TO ITS FORMER STATUS. SAID RIGHT OF WAY WAS VACATED BY THE CALIFORNIA TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION VACATION RESOLUTION RECORDED IN MONO COUNTY OFFICIAL RECORDS AS DOCUMENT NO. 2015003733 ON SEPTEMBER 23, 2015.

PARCEL#	TITLE CODE ②	GRANTOR/GRANTEE	AREAS (square feet or as noted) TOTAL	REQUIRED①	[UF]	EXCESS①	[UF]	REMAINDER	REMARKS	RECORDATION TYPE③	DATE	DOC.#④
MS 190	E	U.S.A. B.L.M.	120.00 AC						DECISION: SAC 064253	MAP	11/21/1960	
VAC 215	VAC	STATE OF CALIFORNIA	89.78 AC						MAP FILED IN SHMB 3, P 67, 7/23/2015	VAC	9/23/2015	2015003733

GRANTOR NOTES

① Areas shown exclude underlying fee in the adjoining public way. Acreages
[ ] Indicates Underlying Fee (UF) Area
(Y) Indicates Indeterminate UF
② TITLE CODES:
A=Access Rights Only
F=Fee
E=Easement (Ease)
TCE=Temp Construction Ease
T=Other Temp Ease (see Remarks)
O=Other (see Remarks)
③ TYPE:
GD=Grant deed
ED=Easement deed
QC=Quitclaim
DD=Director's deed
DE=Director's easement deed
DK=Director's quitclaim deed
FOC=Final Order of Condemnation
HE=Highway easement deed
REL=Relinquishment
VAC=Vacation
JUA=Joint use agreement
CCUA=Consent to common use agreement
④ Document or Instrument number

NOTES

Coordinates and bearings are on CCS NAD 83 (1991.35) Zone 3. Distances and stationing are grid distances.
Divide by 0.99961137 to obtain ground distances.
All distances are in feet unless otherwise noted.

LEGEND

Access Prohibited
Access Superseded
Existing R/W Superseded
Access Opening (Private)
(R) Indicates Radial Bearing
● Indicates Found Monument as noted
○ Indicates calculated point. (Does not imply monument set)
Title to State
Required for Others

STATE OF CALIFORNIA
CALIFORNIA STATE TRANSPORTATION AGENCY
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

RIGHT OF WAY
REVERSION MAP

FOR PREVIOUS R/W INFORMATION SEE MAP(S)

SCALE: 1" = 200'

FEET 0 100 200 400 600

DATE: 10/5/2015 **EA(s):** 09-35390 **FA#:**
DRAFTED BY: SCC **CHECKED BY:** ----

DISTRICT	COUNTY	ROUTE	SHEET PM	SHEET NO.	TOTAL SHEETS
09	MNO	395	46.8	1	1

PROJECT ID: 09 1200 0020

Dist	COUNTY	ROUTE	POST MILES TOTAL PROJECT	SHEET No.	TOTAL SHEETS
09	Mno	395	46.9	2	7

REGISTERED CIVIL ENGINEER DATE

PLANS APPROVAL DATE

REGISTERED PROFESSIONAL ENGINEER No. Exp. CIVIL STATE OF CALIFORNIA

THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA OR ITS OFFICERS OR AGENTS SHALL NOT BE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE ACCURACY OR COMPLETENESS OF SCANNED COPIES OF THIS PLAN SHEET.

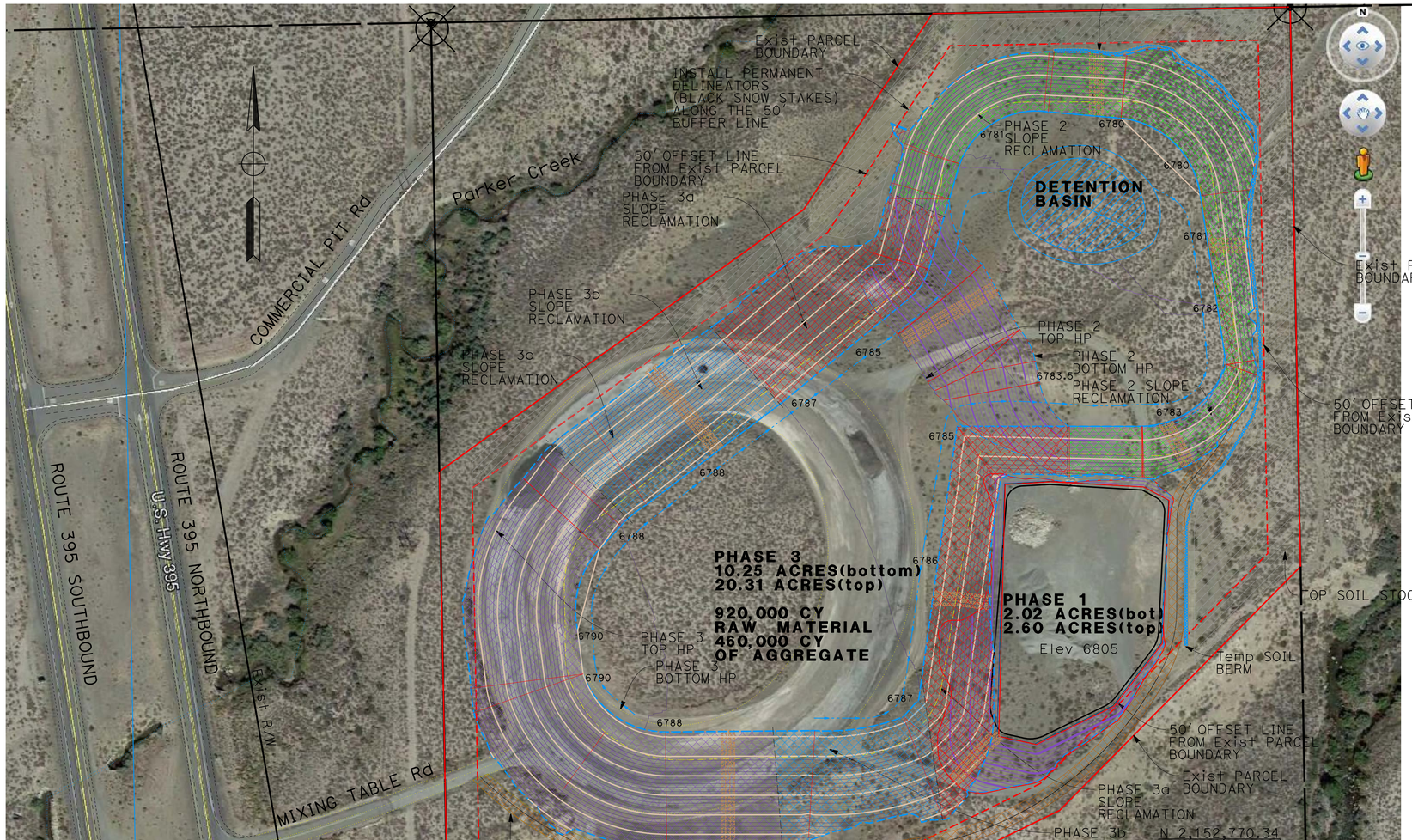
NOTES:

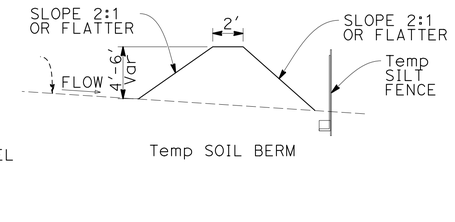
1. FOR COMPLETE RIGHT OF WAY AND ACCURATE ACCESS DATA, SEE RIGHT OF WAY RECORD MAPS AT DISTRICT OFFICE.
2. INSTALL PERMANENT DELINEATORS (BLACK SNOW STAKES) EVERY 20' ALONG THE 50' OFFSET BUFFER LINE.
3. PHASE 1 AREA WILL BE PAVED DURING THE PHASE TRANSITION.
4. COLLECT AND PROPERLY STORE TOP SOIL AND DUFF FOR FUTURE SLOPE RECLAMATION.
5. INSTALL INFORMATIVE SIGNS ALONG THE TOP SOIL/DUFF STOCKPILE AREA.
6. DURING MINING OPERATIONS THE SLOPES WILL BE EXCAVATED TO A SAFE ANGLE OF REPOSE (2:1 SLOPE).
7. "MINE TAILINGS" LEFT OVER FROM AGGREGATE SCREENING WILL BE STOCKPILED WITHIN THE PIT TO FLATTEN PIT SLOPES TO THE FINAL 3:1 OR FLATTER CONDITION DURING SLOPE RECLAMATION WORK.

LEGEND:

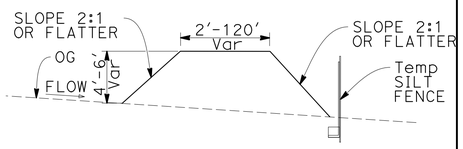
- Exist PIT PARCEL BOUNDARY
- 50' OFFSET LINE FROM Exist PIT PARCEL BOUNDARY
- PHASE 2 RECLAMATION (SLOPE) - WILL OCCUR AFTER COMPLETION PHASE 1 MINING
- PHASE 3a RECLAMATION (SLOPE) - WILL OCCUR AFTER COMPLETION 30-40% PHASE 2 MINING
- PHASE 3b RECLAMATION (SLOPE) - WILL OCCUR AFTER COMPLETION 60-70% PHASE 2 MINING
- PHASE 3c RECLAMATION (SLOPE) - WILL OCCUR AFTER TOTAL COMPLETION PHASE 2 MINING
- ACCESS ROAD
- POTENTIAL TOP SOIL/DUFF STOCKPILE AREA

	AREA (bottom) ACRES	AREA (top) ACRES	VOLUME RAW MATERIAL CY	VOLUME AGGREGATE CY
Exist PARCEL BOUNDARY	30.4	30.4		
PHASE 1	2.02	2.60	26,000	13,000
PHASE 2	3.49	7.29	360,000	180,000
PHASE 3	10.25	20.31	920,000	460,000
TOTAL	15.76	30.20	1,306,000	653,000





Temp SOIL BERM



Temp TOP SOIL AND DUFF STOCKPILE

OPERATIONS PLAN

LAYOUT SCALE: 1" = 100' **L-1**

CALCULATED- DESIGNED BY | CHECKED BY | REVISED BY | DATE REVISED | FUNCTIONAL SUPERVISOR

STATE OF CALIFORNIA - DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Caltrans® PROJECT COORDINATION

LAST REVISION 04/16/18 | DATE PLOTTED => 4/24/2018 | TIME PLOTTED => 11:13:52 AM

BORDER LAST REVISED 7/2/2010 | USERNAME => "s146062" | DGN FILE => ...\936560ea001.dgn | RELATIVE BORDER SCALE IS IN INCHES 0 1 2 3 | UNIT 2462 | PROJECT NUMBER & PHASE 09150000241

Dist	COUNTY	ROUTE	POST MILES TOTAL PROJECT	SHEET No.	TOTAL SHEETS
09	Mno	395	46.9	3	7

REGISTERED CIVIL ENGINEER DATE

PLANS APPROVAL DATE

REGISTERED PROFESSIONAL ENGINEER No. Exp. CIVIL STATE OF CALIFORNIA

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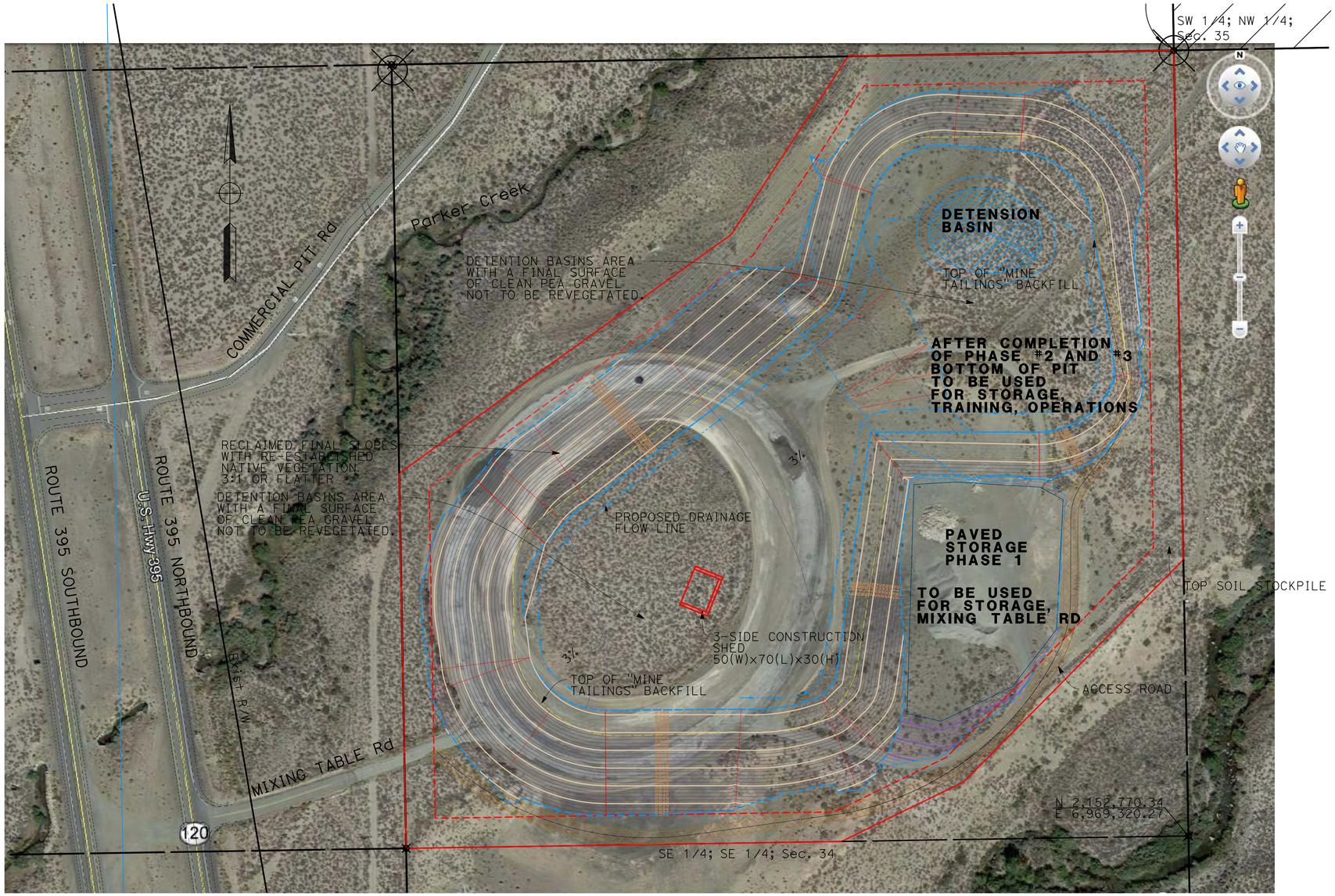

FINAL SITE CONFIGURATION

LAYOUT
SCALE: 1" = 100' **L-2**

STATE OF CALIFORNIA - DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
Caltrans® PROJECT COORDINATION
FUNCTIONAL SUPERVISOR
CALCULATED-DESIGNED BY
CHECKED BY
REVISED BY
DATE REVISED

LAST REVISION 04/16/18
DATE PLOTTED => 4/24/2018
TIME PLOTTED => 11:19:02 AM

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UNIT 2462
PROJECT NUMBER & PHASE 09150000241

Dist	COUNTY	ROUTE	POST MILES TOTAL PROJECT	SHEET No.	TOTAL SHEETS
09	Mno	395	46.9	4	7

REGISTERED CIVIL ENGINEER DATE

REGISTERED PROFESSIONAL ENGINEER No. Exp. CIVIL STATE OF CALIFORNIA

PLANS APPROVAL DATE

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TOP SOIL STOCKPILE

Exist PARCEL BOUNDARY

50' OFFSET LINE FROM Exist PARCEL BOUNDARY

PHASE 3

PHASE 2

PHASE 1

ACCESS ROAD

Temp SOIL BERM

Exist PARCEL BOUNDARY

50' OFFSET LINE FROM Exist PARCEL BOUNDARY

TOPSOIL STOCKPILE

SE 1/4, SE 1/4, Sec. 34

Imagery Date: 9/

PHASE 1-2 CONTOUR GRADING G-1

SCALE: 1" = 50'

STATE OF CALIFORNIA - DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
Caltrans® PROJECT COORDINATION

FUNCTIONAL SUPERVISOR

CALCULATED-DESIGNED BY

CHECKED BY

DETAILED BY

REVISED BY

DATE REVISED

LAST REVISION | DATE PLOTTED => 4/24/2018
04/16/18 | TIME PLOTTED => 11:27:06 AM

BORDER LAST REVISED 7/2/2010

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DGN FILE => ...\936560ha001.dgn

RELATIVE BORDER SCALE IS IN INCHES 0 1 2 3

UNIT 2462

PROJECT NUMBER & PHASE 09150000241

Dist	COUNTY	ROUTE	POST MILES TOTAL PROJECT	SHEET No.	TOTAL SHEETS
09	Mno	395	46.9	5	7

REGISTERED CIVIL ENGINEER DATE

PLANS APPROVAL DATE

REGISTERED PROFESSIONAL ENGINEER No. Exp. CIVIL STATE OF CALIFORNIA

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TOP SOIL STOCKPILE

Exist PARCEL BOUNDARY

50' OFFSET LINE FROM Exist PARCEL BOUNDARY

PHASE 3

Exist PARCEL BOUNDARY

50' OFFSET LINE FROM Exist PARCEL BOUNDARY

TOPSOIL STOCKPILE

ACCESS ROAD

SE 1/4; SE 1/4; Sec. 34

PHASE 3 CONTOUR GRADING G-2

SCALE: 1" = 50'

REVISED BY | DATE REVISED

CALCULATED-DESIGNED BY

CHECKED BY

FUNCTIONAL SUPERVISOR

STATE OF CALIFORNIA - DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Caltrans® PROJECT COORDINATION

LAST REVISION DATE PLOTTED => 4/24/2018

TIME PLOTTED => 11:35:06 AM

04/16/18

Dist	COUNTY	ROUTE	POST MILES TOTAL PROJECT	SHEET No.	TOTAL SHEETS
09	Mno	395	46.9	6	7

REGISTERED CIVIL ENGINEER DATE

PLANS APPROVAL DATE

REGISTERED PROFESSIONAL ENGINEER No. Exp. CIVIL STATE OF CALIFORNIA

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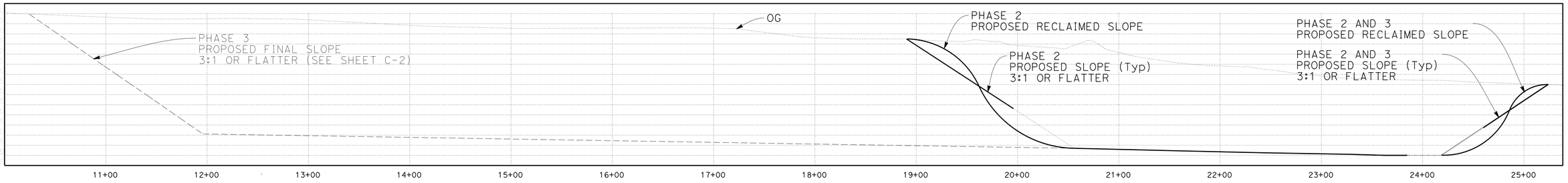
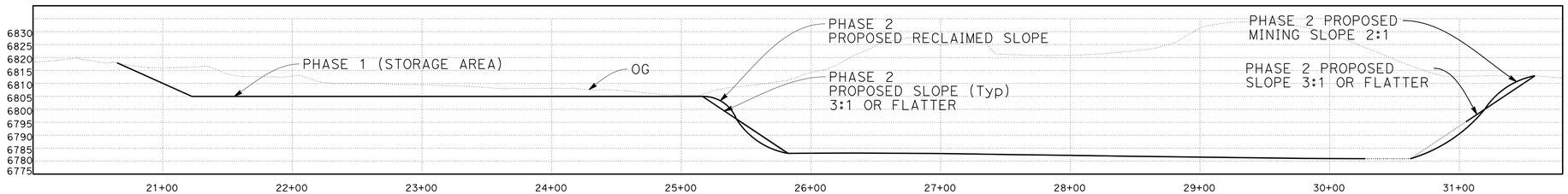
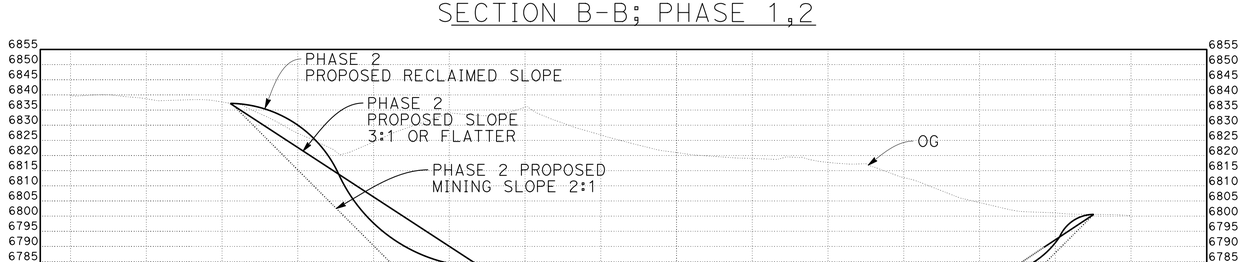


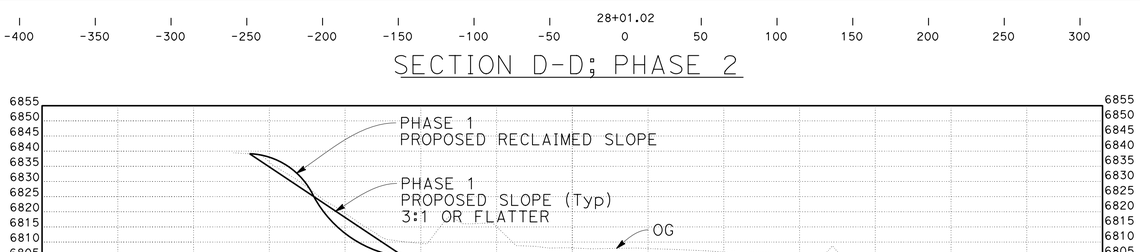
SECTION A-A; PHASE 2



SECTION B-B; PHASE 1,2



SECTION D-D; PHASE 2



SECTION C-C; PHASE 1

CONSTRUCTION DETAILS

NO SCALE

C-1

STATE OF CALIFORNIA - DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
Caltrans® PROJECT COORDINATION
FUNCTIONAL SUPERVISOR
CALCULATED-DESIGNED BY Helen Y. Song
CHECKED BY Becket Forest
REVISED BY
DATE REVISED

LAST REVISION DATE PLOTTED => 4/24/2018
TIME PLOTTED => 11:26:59 AM
04/16/18

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UNIT 2462
PROJECT NUMBER & PHASE 09150000241

Dist	COUNTY	ROUTE	POST MILES TOTAL PROJECT	SHEET No.	TOTAL SHEETS
09	Mno	395	46.9	7	7

REGISTERED CIVIL ENGINEER DATE

PLANS APPROVAL DATE

REGISTERED PROFESSIONAL ENGINEER No. Exp. CIVIL STATE OF CALIFORNIA

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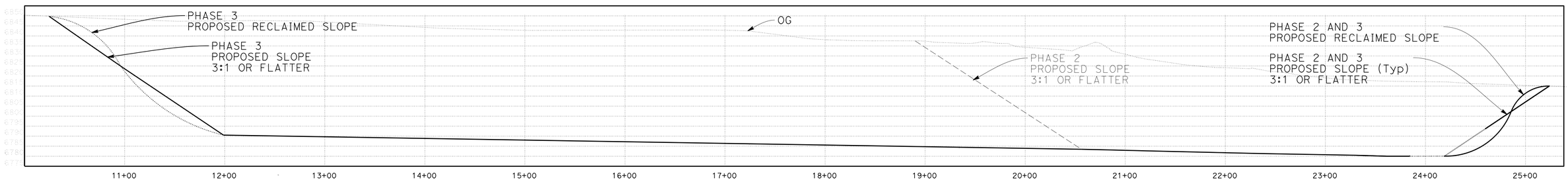
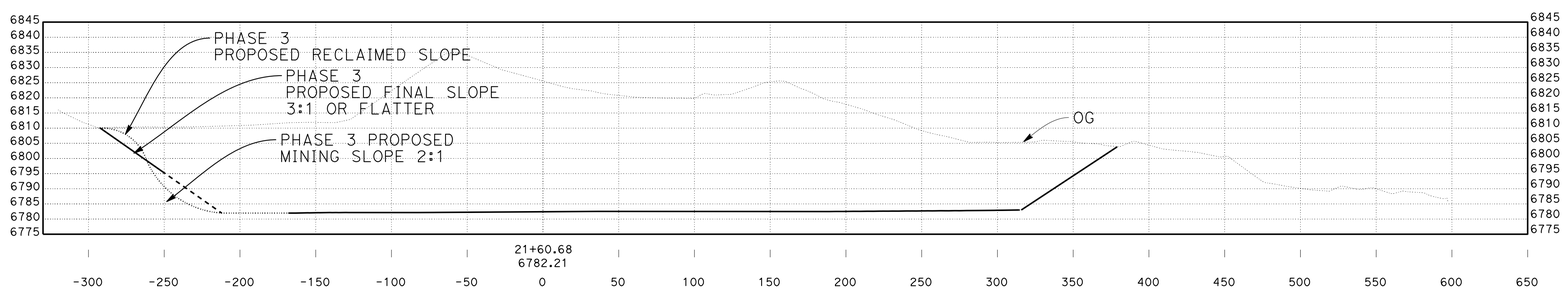
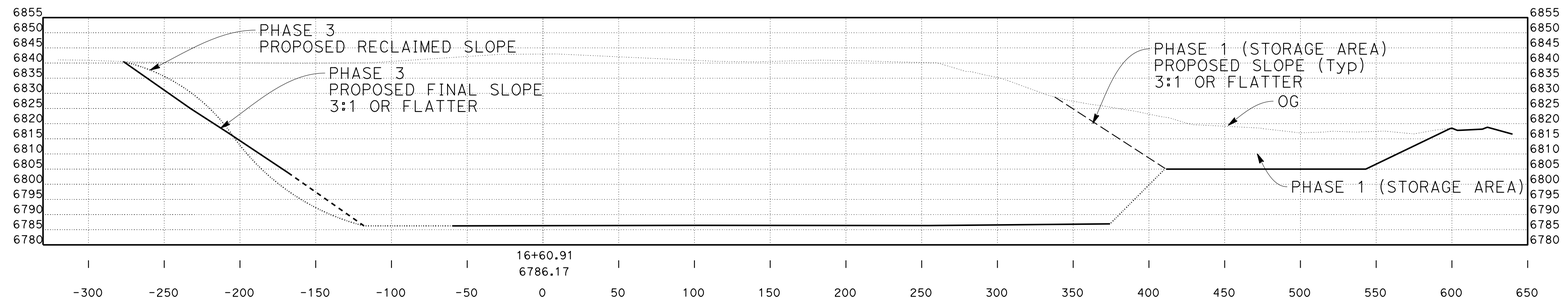


SECTION A-A; PHASE 3



SECTION F-F; PHASE 3



SECTION E-E; PHASE 3

CONSTRUCTION DETAILS

NO SCALE

C-2

STATE OF CALIFORNIA - DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
Caltrans® PROJECT COORDINATION
FUNCTIONAL SUPERVISOR
CALCULATED-DESIGNED BY
CHECKED BY
REVISED BY
DATE REVISED

LAST REVISION DATE PLOTTED => 4/24/2018
TIME PLOTTED => 11:27:00 AM
04/16/18

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RELATIVE BORDER SCALE IS IN INCHES 0 1 2 3
UNIT 2462
PROJECT NUMBER & PHASE 09150000241

Appendix B

MATERIAL SITE 190 (MINE ID 91-26-0016)

12/5/2016

Operations Plan / Project Description

Caltrans District 9 ceased mining MS 190 in the early 1990's and is proposing to commence mining operations on a remaining 30 acre portion with the approval of a new SMARA reclamation plan and associated operations plan.

Material Site 190 (Mine ID 91-26-0016)

OPERATIONS PLAN / PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Background

With limited available aggregate sources statewide, including from within the Caltrans District 9 area, there is a need to thoughtfully utilize the few remaining available quality material sites. This pit is adjacent to US 395 and strategically located in central Mono County.

Maintenance has identified a need for material storage: Traction sand/cinders and rock/ gravel/soil debris from slides, etc.

Maintenance and Capital have also identified a need for material extraction. Maintenance day labor needs are approximately 2,000 cubic yard (CY) shoulder fill material per year. Maintenance and Capital project needs (overlays, rehabs, shoulder widening) are estimated at about 10,000 CY aggregate per year total in Central Mono County. Assuming that the majority of Capital projects in Mono County would be served by commercial sources, a rough estimated demand for material extraction from MS 190 would be about 12,000 CY per year average.

Although commercial sites exist in the area, this site could be made available to contractors to set up portable material extraction/processing operations on a project by project basis to leverage savings by material proximity. The perpetual availability of this site would avoid full future dependency on the uncertain supply of private commercial sources. The adjoining Granite pit site is nearing the end of its available material production.

The pit boundary has been redefined from its originally approved 120 acres, reduced to 30.22 acres via a map application in order to vacate previously reclaimed acreage. The current boundary primarily includes the mixing table, east pit, and some additional acreage in the northeast corner. The new site boundary has been clearly delineated with metal posts, survey markers, and material site boundary signs. Rush Creek and Parker Creek are now substantially buffered from the current mine site footprint.

Day One Operations (post reclamation plan and operations plan approval)

A 50 foot offset boundary will be clearly demarcated with metal stakes to ensure a buffer from the pit boundary and to provide a visual cue for excavation activities. The easterly portion of the site (east pit area) will be graded to ensure internal drainage into the site by establishing a stabilized earthen berm.

Maintenance personnel will be trained on operations plan and methods from which to operate on the site to ensure SMARA compliance and final configurations.

General Operational Strategies

- All phases of operations will ensure that the site remains internally draining, with final slope configurations of 3 (horizontal): 1 (vertical) or flatter.
- Temporary visual impacts will be minimized and any permanent structures will be painted a blending color to mitigate visual impacts from the viewshed.
- The proposed extraction plan is not expected to encounter groundwater. The depth to groundwater will be monitored as the pit depth increases (approximately 50-60 feet below the current mixing table elevation.
- During material extraction operations, duff/topsoil (the top 6 inches, including woody debris) will not be stockpiles for reclamation activities, since it has been determined that incorporating compost to final slopes will be more effective in revegetating. Mining overburden/waste material will be stored at the outer perimeter near the base of the outer slopes. Upon final slope configuration, overburden material will be used to reach final slope configuration.
- Slopes will be contoured to final grade (3:1) and slope re-vegetation will commence in phases as sections of the site are fully developed. Final slopes will be hand seeded with the approved seed mix to enhance slope naturalization/re-vegetation while mining continues in phases.
- The primary use of the site will be for Caltrans standard maintenance and operations, including:
    - Material mining, sorting, and stockpiling for use in routine and emergency maintenance activities on the State Highway System.
    - Caltrans Maintenance Forces will perform mining activities mostly with graders, loaders, dozers, and sorting grizzlies.
    - Cinders for winter operations will be stored at site (typically on paved surface).
    - Asphalt grindings may be stored at the site for future reuse, but will only be stored on paved impervious surfaces with piles encircled by straw waddles.
    - Manmade materials, such as metal beam guardrail, treated posts, signs, etc. may be stored at site.
    - Only reusable imported natural materials, such as dirt and rock, collected from highway clean-up or Caltrans Construction activities, will be stored at the site. All other non-reusable natural materials will be disposed of elsewhere, likely County landfill.
- A secondary use of the site will be to provide Caltrans Construction Contractors with a staging area for nearby projects. Contractors sometimes need an area off the highway to temporarily store construction equipment and materials. Typically this will occur on the mixing table or on a future paved impervious surface.
- As a third tier use of the site, due to unknown frequency, the site would be made available to Caltrans Construction Contractors for material extraction and possible end product production, such as asphalt and concrete. Projects that make the pit available to a contractor for a construction project shall ensure that temporary impacts to the pit for such heightened operations are addressed in project specific environmental analysis. Temporary impacts for heightened operations will be analyzed on a project by project basis to insure proper contract conditions such as visual screening, dust control, stormwater BMP's, re-grading, and appropriate partial site reclamation. Such heightened operations by a contractor utilizing the pit could include:
    - Material mining, rock crushing, and asphalt plant production.
    - Material mining, rock crushing, and concrete plant production.

  - Material mining and rock crushing, with production material trucked off site for further processing.
  - Material mining with production material trucked off site for further processing.
- It is Caltrans intent to keep this site in perpetuity as a maintenance, storage, and operations area, even after all mining material is exhausted and slopes are reclaimed. So the proposed "end use" should be a designation conducive for this purpose.

Three phases of mining / operations and reclamation are proposed:

Phase 1

Phase 1 of mining will entail material extraction of the current east pit as identified in the plan sheets. The pit floor elevation in this area will be lowered approximately 10 feet from current elevation, making the final Phase 1 pit floor elevation approximately 35 feet below the existing mixing table. There is an estimated 26,000 cubic yards (CY) of raw material in Phase 1, which should yield about 13,000 CY of quality aggregate, assuming 50% waste. With an estimated 12,000 CY/year average demand, this phase will only last just over one year.

Equipment such as loaders, excavators, and screening grizzlies, as well as production material stockpiles will be stored in this area, which is out of the primary view shed. However, the existing paved mixing table will continue to be used for cinder stockpiles and other material storage.

Phase 2

Phase 2 mining will continue north of the current east pit/Phase 1area. This phase contains approximately 360,000 CY of raw material, which should yield about 180,000 CY of quality aggregate, assuming 50% waste. Estimating 12,000 CY/year average demand, this phase will provide about 15 years supply of quality aggregate.

Due to the potential for limited space below the current mixing table for this phase, if a Caltrans Contractor ends up utilizing the site for asphalt or concrete production with a mobile batch plant, such equipment associated with the plant may need to be located on the existing mixing table instead of down in the pit. It is anticipated that any such activity will only last for a single construction season and only create temporary environmental impacts.

Also during the entirety of Phase 1 and 2, the existing asphalt mixing table at the west side of the site will continue to be utilized for material storage (i.e. cinders, asphalt grindings, etc.), Caltrans equipment, and as an occasional Contractor temporary construction staging area for storing equipment and material.

Partial reclamation in accordance with SMARA regulations will occur to those portions of the site (final slopes) where extraction is complete (per plan sheets) while retaining adequate area for storage and access to the Phase 3 area. The partial reclamation areas for Phase 2 will be the north, east, and south slopes of the Phase 2 extraction area excluding the access road, pit bottom, and west slope.

A water / sediment retention basin is proposed at the northeast corner of the Phase 2 pit floor.

Access road grades will be 7% maximum.

Phase 3

Extraction will proceed from the Phase 2 area in a southwestward direction into the existing mixing table area. Material extraction operations will be as described in Phase 3 plan sheets.

Mining in this phase will provide an additional 920,000 CY of raw material, yielding about 460,000 CY of quality aggregate. This will provide approximately a 38 year supply of quality aggregate. The maximum depth of the Phase 3 extraction is about 55 ft. below the elevation of the existing mixing table.

The Phase 1 area will be maintained as a storage area during this phase. When the existing paved mixing table is no longer available, this Phase 1 area will be paved in Phase 3 to create an impervious surface for storage operations. Also the access road will be paved or gravel lined from the site entrance into Phase1 Storage Area in order to provide road stabilization and dust minimization.

The Phase 2 pit floor may also be utilized for storage as needed during Phase 3 operations. The northeast corner of the Phase 2 pit floor will continue to be designated as the primary stormwater / sediment retention basin during the final phase.

Upon completion of the extraction of all material to the grade lines as shown on Phase 3 plan sheet, the final slopes will be reclaimed as depicted in Layout Sheet 1 in accordance with SMARA regulations.

Final Configuration

As mentioned in the General Operations Strategies, it is Caltrans intent to keep this site in perpetuity even after mining resources are exhausted and slopes are reclaimed. Upon final site configuration, as described in plan sheet L-2, once slopes are re-vegetated, a final SMARA reclamation inspection will be performed in order to retire the associated mine ID and commence with the intended end-use. At this point, no further mining activities will occur at the site, and only Caltrans standard maintenance activities and construction staging will occur on the site. Post reclamation site end uses will include:

- Caltrans Maintenance Forces equipment operation training.
- Stockpiling and storing natural materials such as cinders, rock, excess base material, reusable plant materials for erosion control, etc.
- Stockpiling and storing of manmade materials such as metal beam guardrail, treated beams, reusable asphalt grindings (stored on impervious surface only and encircled with straw waddles), poles, etc.
- Potential construction of a metal storage shed to shield some maintenance materials from the elements. Such a shed would likely be an open three sided structure with approximate dimensions of 50 feet deep x 70 feet wide x 30 feet tall. The shed would be located within the pit floor out of sight of most visual receptors and painted a blending color.
- Temporary utilization as a Construction Contractor staging area for equipment and material.

The usable areas of the final site configuration will be limited to the un-reclaimed pit floors, excluding the Stormwater / sediment settling basin, as all slopes will be set to 3:1 and re-vegetated. This usable area will include 2.02 acres of the Phase 1 Storage Area, 3.49 acres of the Phase 2 pit floor (which includes the settling basin), and 10.25 acres of the Phase 3 pit floor. The total un-reclaimed area to remain for the intended end-use is approximately 15.76 acres plus the access road.

Since the operations plan for mining is based on estimates for extraction, it is also estimated that the final site configuration will likely not be realized for 50-80 years depending on a number of potential conditions.

Please refer to the associated plan sheets for further details as described in this document.

Appendix C

Surface Mining and Reclamation Plan for Baseline Pit (MS 190) Mine ID 91-26-0016 Lee Vining, Mono County

MONO COUNTY, CALIFORNIA
DISTRICT 9
State ID 0915000024
EA 09-36560

Initial Study

with Negative Declaration

Prepared by the
State of California Department of Transportation

July 2018

Caltrans

General Information About This Document

The California Department of Transportation (Department), as assigned by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), has prepared this Initial Study with Negative Declaration for the proposed project located in Mono County, California. The Department is the lead agency under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The document tells you why the project was proposed, what alternatives have been considered for the project, how the existing environment could be affected by the project, the potential impacts of each of the alternatives, and the proposed avoidance, minimization, and/or mitigation measures. The Initial Study circulated to the public for 32 days between June 8, 2018 and July 10, 2018. No comments were received from the public or any agency during this time. The letter from the State Clearinghouse noting the end of the public comment period is included in Appendix C. Elsewhere throughout this document, a vertical line in the margin indicates a change made since the draft document circulation. Minor editorial changes and clarifications have not been so indicated. Additional copies of this document and the related technical studies are available for review at:

Caltrans District 9 Office, 500 S. Main Street, Bishop, CA, 93514.

This document may be downloaded at the following website:
http://www.dot.ca.gov/d9/projmgt/projects.html

For individuals with sensory disabilities, this document is available in Braille, in large print, on audiocassette, or on computer disk. To obtain a copy in one of these alternate formats, please call or write to Caltrans, Attn: Attn: Forest Becket, SMARA Coordinator, 500 South Main Street, Bishop, California 93514; (760) 872-0681 (Voice), or use California Relay Service 1 (800) 735-2929 (TTY), 1 (800) 735-2929 (Voice), or 711.

State ID 091500024
EA 09-36560
SCH # 2018061025

Surface Mining and Reclamation Plan for Baseline Pit (MS #190)
Mine ID 91-26-0016
Lee Vining, Mono County

INITIAL STUDY
with Negative Declaration

Submitted Pursuant to: Division 13, California Public Resources Code

THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA
CEQA Lead Agency – California Department of Transportation
Responsible Agency - Mono County

1-August-2018
Date of Approval

for...
Ryan Dermody
Deputy District 9 Director
Planning and Environmental Programs
California Department of Transportation
CEQA Lead Agency

If you have any concerns about the project, please send your written comments to Caltrans via U.S. mail at the following address:

Forest Becket
Local Assistance Office Chief
Caltrans District 9
500 South Main Street, Bishop CA 93514
Submit comments via email to: forest_becket@dot.ca.gov

Negative Declaration

Pursuant to: Division 13, Public Resources Code

Project Description

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) will initiate mining operations at the existing Material Site (MS) 190, also known as the Baseline Pit (Mine ID 91-26-0016) (project), and has prepared a Surface Mining and Reclamation Plan. Further information beyond what is contained within this Initial Study can be found in the 2017 Draft Reclamation Plan for MS-190 (Reclamation Plan), located online at http://www.dot.ca.gov/d9/projmgt/projects.html

Determination

The Department has prepared an Initial Study for this project, and following public review, determined from this study that the proposed project would not have a significant effect on the environment for the following reasons:

The proposed project would have no effect on land use, wetlands and other waters, traffic and transportation, hydrology and floodplain, water quality and storm water runoff, geology/soils/seismic/topography, hazardous waste/materials, air quality, noise, natural communities, plant species, threatened and endangered species, invasive species, and climate change.

The proposed project will have a less than significant effect on temporary and permanent noise without additional avoidance or minimization measures.

With the following avoidance and minimization measures incorporated as project features, the proposed project would have less than significant effects on aesthetics and biological resources:

AES-1: The materials of the water storage tank and the shed shall be painted in a blending, earth-toned color to minimize impacts on the viewshed in coordination with the Caltrans Landscape Architect and the Bureau of Land Management.

B-1: Work will be avoided during nesting bird season if feasible. If ground-disturbing activities occur within the bird nesting season (February 1 – September 30), the Department shall retain a qualified biologist to conduct a pre-construction nesting bird survey no more than 2 days prior to the start of ground-disturbing activities. The nest survey shall include the project site and areas immediately adjacent to the site that could potentially be affected by project activities such as noise, human activity, dust, etc. If active bird nests are found on or immediately adjacent to the project site, then the qualified biologist will establish an appropriate buffer zone around the active nests, typically a 250-foot radius for songbirds and a 500-foot radius for raptors. Project activities shall not take place within the buffer zone until the biologist determines nesting birds are not being disturbed by project activities. Nest monitoring by the qualified biologist will be

required to make these determinations. Preconstruction nesting bird surveys will occur prior to implementation of each Phase of work (1-3) as described in the Project Description.

Preconstruction sensitive plant surveys will be conducted by a qualified biologist prior to implementation of each Phase of work as described in the Project Description. Plant surveys will be conducted in all project impact areas.

Focused preconstruction surveys for pygmy, western white-tailed jackrabbit and American badger will be conducted by a qualified biologist prior to implementation of each Phase of work as described in the Project Description.

Sensitive BLM species will be reviewed prior to implementation of each Phase, as described in the Project Description, and surveys for BLM species may be required prior to each Phase.

All survey guidance will be provided by Caltrans and scheduling of biological surveys will occur in coordination with the Caltrans Surface Mining and Reclamation Act (SMARA) Coordinator.

B-2: Preconstruction bird surveys for Willow Flycatcher near Parker and Rush Creeks. Surveys will adhere to California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) protocols. If determined present, Caltrans will coordinate with CDFW staff to determine any additional avoidance or minimization measures needed.

Mark G. Yarbrough for...

Ryan Dermody
Deputy District 9 Director
Planning and Environmental Programs
California Department of
Transportation
CEQA Lead Agency

1-August-2018
Date

Chapter 1. Project Description and Background

Project Title

Surface Mining and Reclamation Plan for Baseline Pit (MS 190)

Project Location

The project is located at the Department's Baseline Pit (MS 190) (Mine ID 91-26-0016) in Mono County, approximately 4.5 miles south of the community of Lee Vining near the south junction of SR 120 and US 395, at post-mile marker 46.5 (Figures 1 and 2).

Description of Project

The California Department of Transportation (Department) is the lead agency under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

Caltrans District 9 Maintenance and Capital have identified a need for material (e.g., traction sand/cinders, rock/gravel/soil debris from slides) storage. Maintenance and Capital have also identified a need for material extraction. Maintenance day labor needs are approximately 2,000 cubic yards (CY) of shoulder fill material per year. Maintenance and Capital project needs (overlays, rehabs, shoulder widening) are estimated at about 10,000 CY aggregate per year total in central Mono County. Assuming that the majority of Capital projects in Mono County are currently served by commercial sources, a rough estimated demand for material extraction from MS 190 would be about 12,000 CY per year average.

Although commercial sites exist in the area, MS 190 would be made available to contractors to set up portable material extraction/processing operations on a project-by-project basis to leverage savings by material proximity. The perpetual availability of this site would avoid full-future dependency on uncertain and more expensive private and commercial sources. Use of the site by contractors for Caltrans projects will be included in the environmental impacts analysis for each individual project. This environmental analysis and clearance specifically covers Caltrans maintenance uses of the material site (Phases 1 and 2, described below).

It is the Department's intent to keep this site in perpetuity as a maintenance, storage, and operations area after all mining material is exhausted and slopes are reclaimed.

Project Purpose – To address the lack of material storage space and local sources of aggregate material in Mono County.

Project Need – Current available storage areas for slide debris material and traction sand/cinders are not large enough to meet maintenance needs. Caltrans does not have a reliable local public source of aggregate materials for roadway maintenance and depends on private sources or imported material to meet maintenance needs.

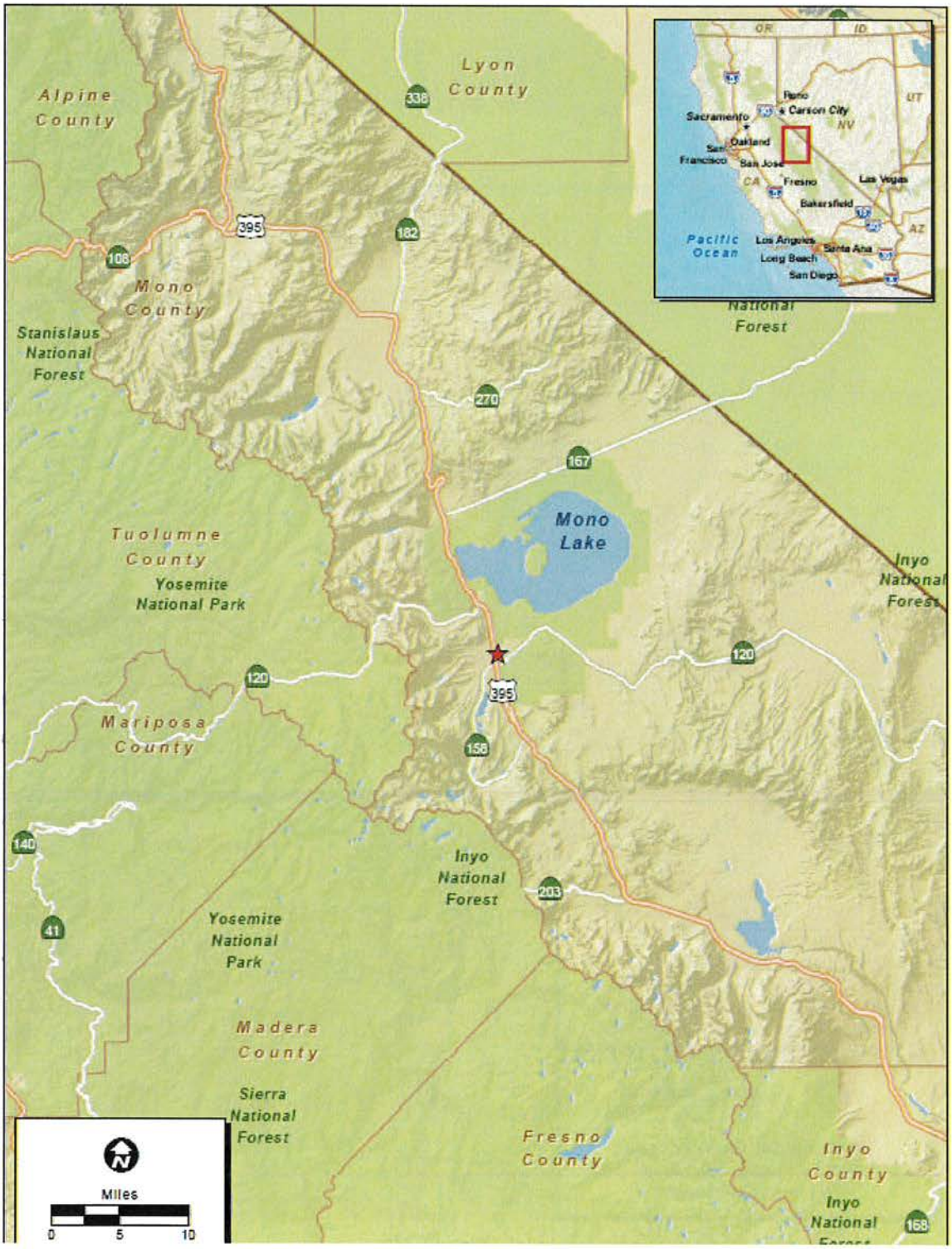

Figure 2 - Project Vicinity Map

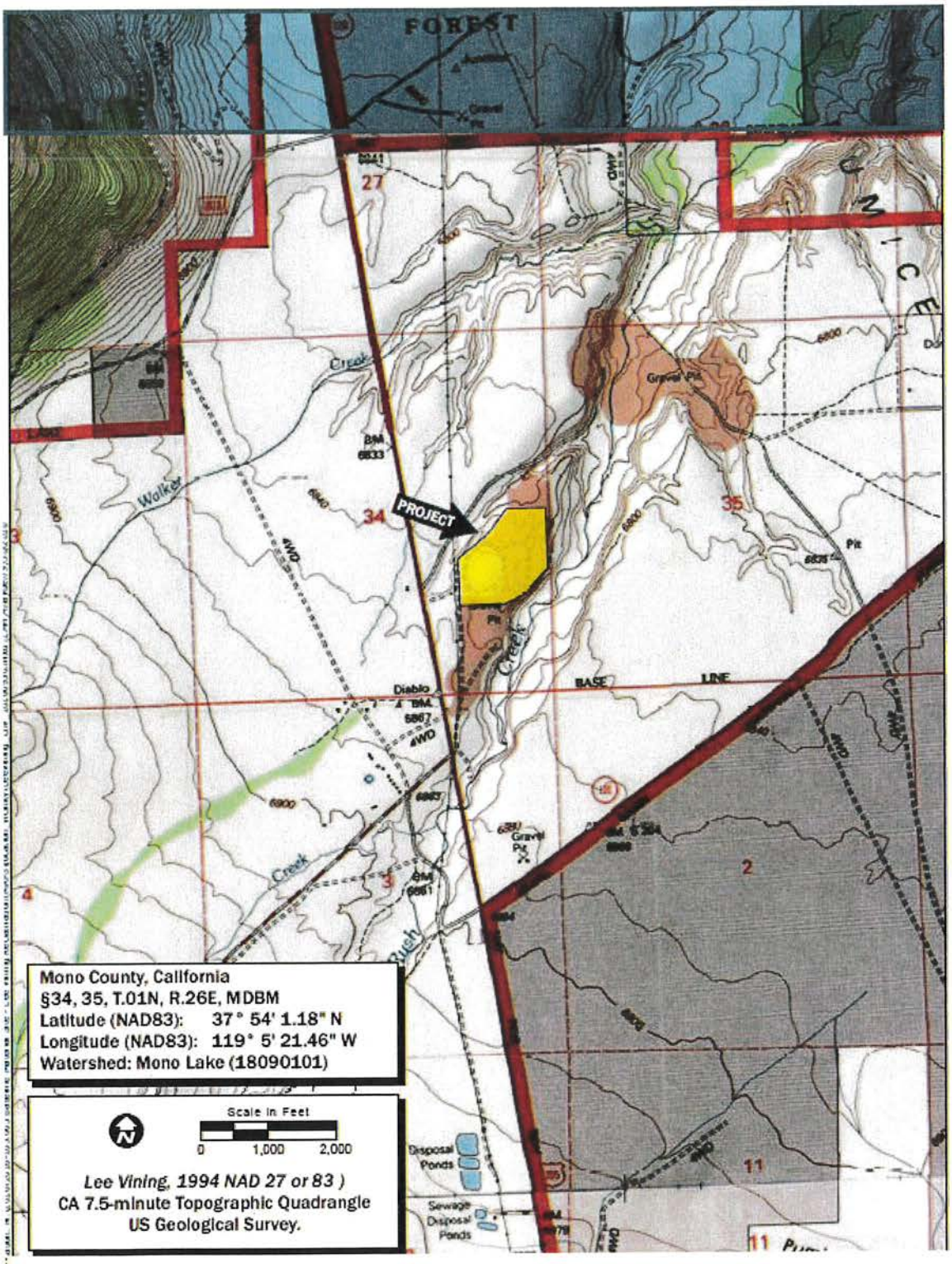

Figure 1 - Project Location Map

Project Description

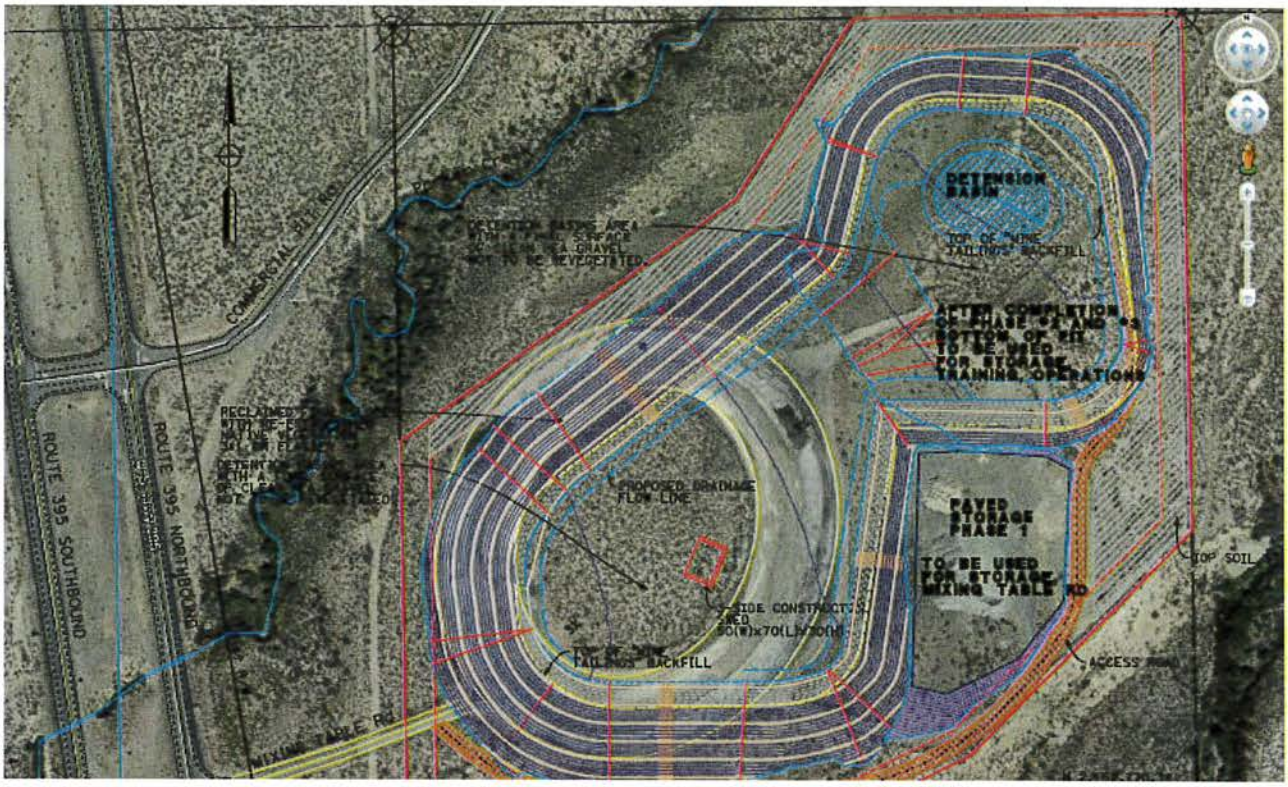

Figure 2 - Mine Site Final Configuration Map

This section describes the proposed action and the project alternatives developed to meet the purpose and need of the project, while avoiding or minimizing environmental impacts. There were one build alternative and one no-build alternative. Unless otherwise stated, all analyses refer to the build alternative.

The Department ceased mining Baseline Pit in the early 1990s and the site currently includes the previous mining area (partially reclaimed), a paved mixing table, storage area, access road, and some additional undisturbed area in the northeast corner of the project parcel. The Department is proposing to commence mining operations again. The purpose of the project is to provide material storage and material extraction for the Department's Maintenance and Capital project needs.

Caltrans proposes mining operations at Baseline Pit and has prepared a Surface Mining and Reclamation Plan. Project plans are provided in Appendix A. The Final Operations Plan prepared by Caltrans is provided in Appendix B.

The project includes mining a total of 1,306,000 CY of raw material (sand and gravel), yielding approximately 653,000 CY of aggregate over a period of approximately 54 years. The project site is approximately 30.22 acres, of which approximately 18.4 acres

are proposed for excavation and 4.2 acres are proposed for storage, for a total of 22.6 acres that would be used by the project. Although production would vary with the number of Caltrans Maintenance and Capital improvement projects that are approved in the State budget each year, it is estimated that approximately 12,000 CY per year would be extracted from the material site, on average.

The primary use of the site would be for the Department's standard maintenance and operations, which includes:

- Material mining, sorting, and stockpiling for use in routine and emergency maintenance activities on the State Highway System.
- Caltrans Maintenance forces would perform mining activities mostly with graders, loaders, dozers, and sorting grizzlies.
- Cinders for winter operations would be stored at the site (typically on paved surface).
- Reusable asphalt grindings may be stored at the site for future use, but would only be stored on paved impervious surfaces with piles encircled by straw waddles.
- Manmade materials, such as metal beam guardrail, treated posts, and signs, may be stored at the site.
- Only reusable imported natural materials collected from highway clean-up or Caltrans construction activities, such as dirt and rock, would be stored at the site on non-paved surfaces. All other non-reusable materials would be disposed of elsewhere, likely at the County landfill.

A secondary use of the site is to provide Caltrans construction contractors with a staging area for nearby projects. Contractors sometimes need an area off the highway to temporarily store construction equipment and materials. Typically, this would occur on the mixing table or on a future paved impervious surface within the material site.

As a third-tier use, with unknown frequency, is to make the material site available to Caltrans' construction contractors for material extraction and possible end-product manufacturing, such as asphalt and concrete. Projects that make the pit available to a contractor for a construction project shall ensure that temporary impacts to the pit for such heightened operations are addressed in project-specific environmental analyses. Temporary impacts for heightened operations will be analyzed on a project-by-project basis to ensure proper contract conditions such as visual screening, dust control, stormwater best management practices (BMPs), re-grading, and appropriate partial site reclamation. Such heightened operations by a contractor utilizing the pit could include:

- Material mining, rock crushing, and asphalt plant production.
- Material mining, rock crushing, and concrete plant production.
- Material mining and/or rock crushing, with production material trucked off site for further processing.

After Reclamation Plan approval, prior to any mining activities, a 50-foot offset boundary will be clearly demarcated with metal stakes to ensure a buffer from the pit boundary and to provide a visual cue for excavation activities. The stakes will consist of black poles, like those used to assist snow plows, elevated approximately six feet above the ground. The distance between stakes would vary from 30 to 50 feet, depending on contours and configuration of the boundary. Generally, the stakes will be placed to most-effectively assist operators stay within the site boundaries. For straight-line portions of the project boundaries, stakes may be farther apart than the 30 to 50 feet as practical. Stakes may be closer together on curved lines of the boundary where visual line-of-sight is more limited.

The easterly portion of the site (east pit area) will be graded to ensure internal drainage into the site by establishing a stabilized earthen berm. The berm will be about six feet in height and would have 2:1 (horizontal to vertical) slopes with a two-foot wide ridge on top. A temporary silt fence will be installed downslope during berm construction. Additionally, Maintenance personnel will be trained on operations plan and methods from which to operate on the site to ensure Surface Mining and Reclamation Act (SMARA) compliance and final configurations.

During material extraction operations, duff/topsoil (the top six inches, including woody debris) may be collected and stored at the outer perimeter of the pit, near the upper hinge point of final slope (SW-1). Mining overburden/waste material may be stored at the outer perimeter near the base of the outer slopes. Upon final slope configuration, overburden material would be used to reach final slope configuration (3:1 horizontal to vertical) and duff would be used as a final slope cap. Slopes would be contoured to final grade (3:1) and slope re-vegetation would commence in phases as sections of the site are fully developed. Final slopes would be hand seeded with the approved seed mix to enhance slope naturalization/re-vegetation. All phases of operations would ensure that the site remains internally draining, with final slope configurations of 3:1 or flatter. Temporary visual impacts would be minimized and any permanent structures would be painted a blending color to mitigate visual impacts. As the site is mined and the pit floor elevation drops, mining operations and associated equipment will become less visible from any visual receptors.

During the life of the surface mining operation, three phases of use of the property are being proposed, as detailed below. The environmental clearance and evaluation in this document refer to Phase 1 and Phase 2 uses by Caltrans; Phase 3 uses by contractors will require separate environmental evaluations.

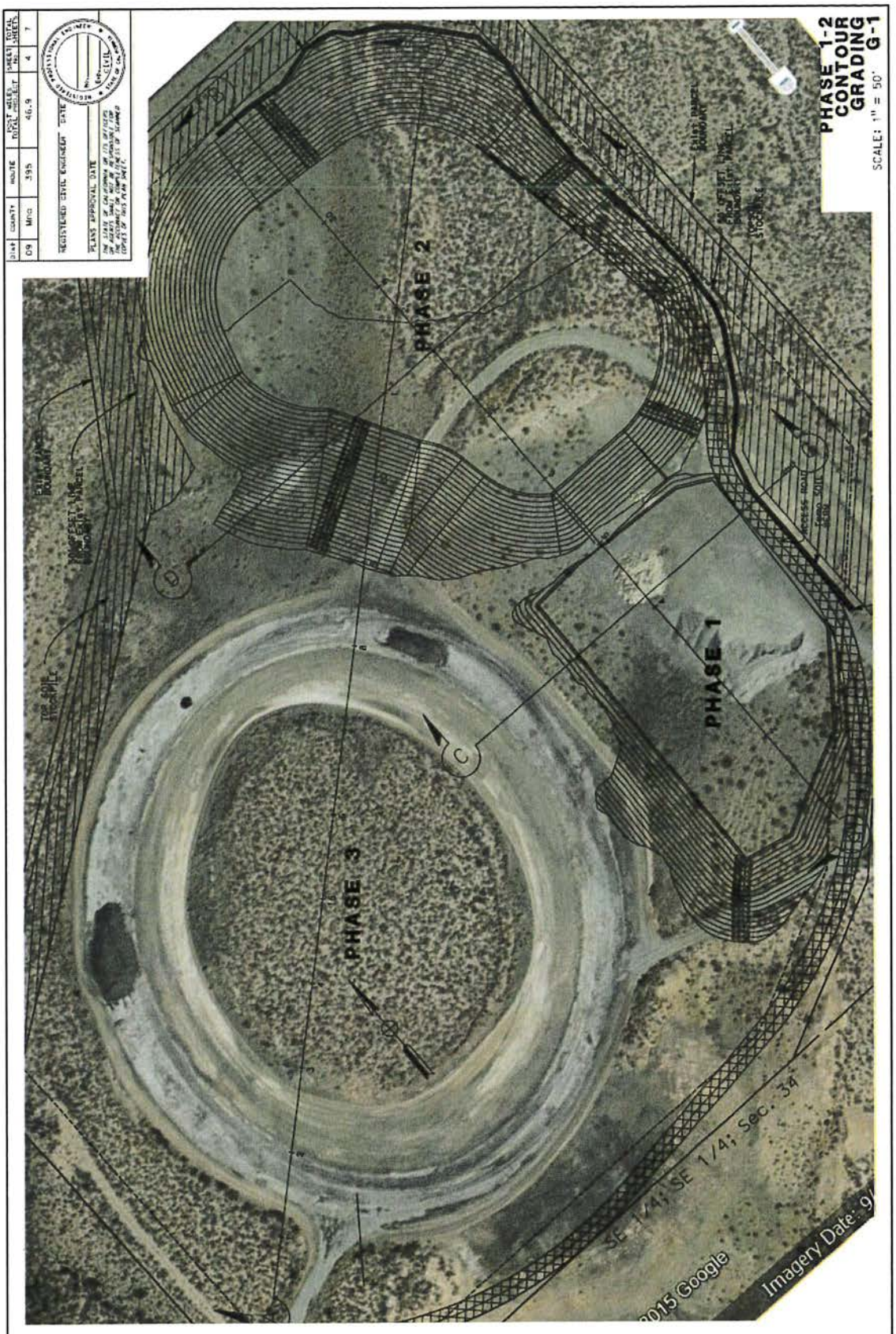

Figure 3 - Mining Plan Phases Map

Phase1

Phase 1 of mining would entail material extraction of the current east pit as identified in the plan sheets (Appendix A). The pit floor elevation in this area would be lowered approximately 10 feet from current elevation, making the final Phase 1 pit floor elevation approximately 35 feet below the existing mixing table. There is an estimated 26,000 cubic yard (CY) of raw material in Phase 1, which should yield about 13,000 CY of quality aggregate, assuming 50 percent waste. With an estimated 12,000 CY/year average demand, this phase would last just over one year.

Equipment such as loaders, excavators, and screening grizzlies, as well as production material stockpiles would be stored in this area, which is out of the primary view shed. However, the existing paved mixing table would continue to be used for cinder stockpiles and other material storage.

Phase 2

Phase 2 mining would continue north of the current east pit/Phase 1 area. This phase contains approximately 360,000 CY of raw material, which should yield about 180,000 CY of quality aggregate, assuming 50 percent waste. Estimating 12,000 CY/year average demand, this phase would provide about a 15-year supply of quality aggregate.

Due to the potential for limited space below the current mixing table for this phase, if a Caltrans contractor utilizes the site for asphalt or concrete production with a mobile batch plant (for another project), such equipment associated with the plant may need to be located on the existing mixing table instead of down in the pit. It is anticipated that any such activity would only last for a single construction season and only create temporary environmental impacts. Such contractor use would require separate project-specific environmental clearance for temporary activities at the site. In other words, any environmental impacts from the use of the material site for asphalt or concrete production on future projects will be assessed in the environmental clearance analysis for each specific project.

Also during the entirety of Phases 1 and 2, the existing asphalt mixing table at the west side of the site would continue to be utilized for material storage (i.e., cinders, asphalt grindings), Caltrans equipment, and as an occasional Contractor temporary construction staging area for storing equipment and material. Use of the material site for material storage and equipment staging on other projects will be assessed for project-specific environmental impacts and including in the environmental clearance for each of these projects.

Partial reclamation in accordance with SMARA regulations would occur to those portions of the site (final slopes) where extraction is complete (per plan sheets, see Appendix A) while retaining adequate area for storage and access to the Phase 3 area. The partial reclamation areas for Phase 2 would be the north, east, and south slopes of the Phase 2 extraction area excluding the access road, pit bottom, and west slope.

A water/sediment retention basin is proposed at the northeast corner of the Phase 2 pit floor. The basin would be present during active operations of the site, and may need to be adjusted periodically to accommodate those operations. All site drainage would be directed to the basin and would be kept within site boundaries. To reduce dust, the basin would be lined with pea gravel and cleaned of sediment periodically. Riprap is another BMP that may be used, if determined necessary during design. Access roads would have a maximum grade of seven percent.

Phase 3

Extraction would proceed from the Phase 2 area in a southwestward direction into the existing mixing table area. Mining in this phase would provide an additional 920,000 CY of raw material, yielding about 460,000 CY of quality aggregate. This would provide approximately a 38-year supply of quality aggregate. The maximum depth of the Phase 3 extraction is about 55 feet below the elevation of the existing mixing table.

The Phase 1 area would be maintained as a storage area during this phase. When the existing paved mixing table is no longer available, this Phase 1 area would be paved in Phase 3 to create an impervious surface for storage operations. Also, the access road would be paved or gravel lined from the site entrance into the Phase 1 Storage Area to provide road stabilization and dust minimization.

The Phase 2 pit floor may also be utilized for storage as needed during Phase 3 operations. The northeast corner of the Phase 2 pit floor would continue to be designated as the primary stormwater and sediment retention basin during the final phase.

Upon completion of the extraction of all material to the grade lines as shown on the Phase 3 plan sheet (Appendix A), the final slopes would be reclaimed in accordance with SMARA regulations.

End Use

Upon final site configuration (see Appendix A), once slopes are revegetated, a final SMARA reclamation inspection would be performed to retire the mine and commence with the intended end use. At this point, no further mining activities would occur at the site, and only Caltrans standard maintenance activities and construction staging would occur on the project site. Post-reclamation site end uses would include:

- Department Maintenance forces equipment operation training.
- Stockpiling and storing natural materials such as cinders, rock, excess base material, and reusable plant materials for erosion control.
- Stockpiling and storing of non-natural materials, such as metal beam guardrail, treated beams, reusable asphalt grindings (stored on impervious surface only), and poles.
- Potential construction of a metal storage shed to shield some maintenance materials from the elements. Such a shed would likely be an open, three-

sided structure with approximate dimensions of 50 feet deep by 70 feet wide by 30 feet tall. The shed would be located within the pit floor out of sight of most visual receptors and painted a blending color (AES-1).

- Temporary utilization as a construction contractor staging area for equipment and material on future projects.

The usable areas of the final site configuration would be limited to the unreclaimed pit floors, excluding the stormwater/sediment settling basin, as all slopes would be set to 3:1 and revegetated. This usable area would include 2.02 acres of the Phase 1 Storage Area; 3.49 acres of the Phase 2 pit floor, which includes the settling basin; and 10.25 acres of the Phase 3 pit floor. The total unreclaimed area to remain for the intended end use is approximately 15.76 acres plus the access road.

Because the operations plan for mining is based on estimates for extraction, it is also estimated that the final site configuration would likely not be realized for 50 to 80 years, depending on several potential conditions.

Mining Site Best Management Practices (BMP's)

All applicable approved Caltrans Construction Site & Maintenance BMPs per the Caltrans Stormwater Management Plan will be followed for Phases 1 and 2. Phase 3 uses will require separate environmental clearance(s) which may require contractors to prepare and follow appropriate Caltrans Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) and/or Water Pollution Control Program (WPCP) practices. Conditions of these plans will be employed during site operations and will contain standard methods to reduce construction-related impacts. Such Best Management Practices include, but are not limited to:

- Air Quality / Dust Control
  - WE-1 Wind erosion control - Wind erosion control consists of applying water or other dust palliatives to prevent or alleviate dust nuisance. Dust control shall be applied in accordance with Caltrans standard practices.
- Invasive Species / Weed Management
  - B-3 Invasive Species Management - Prior to construction, equipment must be cleaned of mud and/or debris that may contain invasive plants or seeds to reduce the potential of spreading noxious weeds before mobilizing at the site.
  - Establishment or spreading of invasive weeds will be managed by hand pulling, spraying or cutting.
- Hazardous Materials/Stormwater
  - SW-2 Stormwater Management - Hazardous wastes should be collected, stored, and disposed of using practices that prevent contact with storm water. The following types of wastes are considered hazardous: petroleum products, concrete curing compounds, palliatives, septic wastes, paints, stains, wood preservatives, asphalt products, pesticides, acids, solvents, and roofing tar. There may be additional wastes on the project that are

considered hazardous. It is also possible that non-hazardous waste could come into contact with these hazardous wastes, such that they become contaminated and are therefore considered hazardous waste.

Four general categories of BMPs have been identified for use in the Stormwater Management Plan (SWMP):

- **Design BMPs:** Design BMPs incorporate permanent water quality protection or control onto a project after construction is completed. These include both Design Pollution Prevention and Treatment BMPs. Design Pollution Prevention BMPs are those BMPs that the Department uses when project create DSAs. Treatment BMPs are those BMPs that have been scientifically proven to reduce pollutant discharges.

- **Administrative BMPs:** These are indirect practices and policies that are employed to ensure that stormwater protection is addressed during the construction of a project or during maintenance of the Department's highways or facilities.

- **Erosion and Sediment Control BMPs:** These BMPs are intended to limit the amount of sediment entering drainages. Most of these BMPs are employed during highway construction projects but may also be used for maintenance activities.

- **Non-Stormwater Pollutant Control BMPs:** These practices address the control of authorized non-stormwater discharges as listed in the SWMP permit. These BMPs are used during both construction and ongoing maintenance of highway facilities.

For the project, a combination of Erosion and Sediment Control BMPs and Non-Stormwater Pollution Control BMPs will be applied during construction activities to minimize the pollutants in stormwater and non-stormwater discharges throughout construction. Construction Site BMPs will provide temporary erosion and sediment control, as well as control for potential pollutants other than sediment. Within the proposed project area, construction materials and debris, including fuels, oil, and other liquid substances, shall be stored in a manner to prevent any runoff from entering receiving water bodies.

A combination of Administrative and Design BMPs will be implemented to manage the site such that it is maintained as internally draining. Any areas draining externally, such as the perimeter berms and access roads, should be stabilized immediately after construction in those areas is complete. Mining and soil disturbance will occur in phases throughout the life of the mine. Each phase of work will incorporate three primary erosion and sediment control approaches, as follows:

1. Drainage practices will be employed that direct runoff safely (in a non-erosive manner) down the slope to sediment-retention structures located at the bottom of the pit(s).

2. The sediment retention structures will be designed using state-of-the-art sediment LID pond design features. The LID system is most appropriate for the mine pits over conventional stormwater management practices because the LID system would manage the stormwater at the source similar to how rainwater would naturally act on the landscape. The LID ponds will be designed using the California Phase II LID Sizing Tool and the Documentation Manual available from Sacramento State University Office of Water Programs.

3. The overall effectiveness of the LID Sediment Retention Structures, such as maintaining infiltration and permeability, will be dependent on the effectiveness and prompt implementation of Soil Stabilization and Erosion Control BMPs. This Project relies on the Erosion Control Treatment BMPs outlined in the Department's Erosion Control Toolbox, Landscape Architecture Program. BMPs such as the following will be employed:

    a. Preserve existing vegetation

    b. Soil rehabilitation

    c. Roughened soil surface

    d. Contour grading and slope rounding

    e. Decompact soils

    f. Incorporate materials – compost

    g. Mulch and compost

Surrounding Lands Uses and Setting

The project site is located at the Department's Baseline Pit, which is approximately 4.5 miles south of Lee Vining. State Route (SR) 120 and US 395 are located immediately to the west and provide access to the project site via an unnamed two-lane access road with a stop sign on the east side of the highway. Baseline Pit was previously mined for aggregate material by the Department. Mining activities ended in 1993 and the site was partially reclaimed under an approved reclamation plan in 1999. Currently the Department (District 9) uses Baseline Pit for material storage and training of maintenance personnel.

The project site is located on an alluvial terrace situated between Parker Creek and Rush Creek and sloping northeast towards Mono Lake. The project site is located in upland areas and does not overlap Rush Creek or Parker Creek.

Disturbed/developed areas dominate much of the project site, with native upland vegetation communities being restricted to the northern portion of the site. Disturbed/developed areas include access roads (paved and unpaved) and a paved area

mixing table. The Department's maintenance staff currently stores material for maintenance activities on the mixing table.

Lands surrounding the site are large individual parcels of vacant land ranging from approximately 116 to 720 acres owned by Los Angeles Department of Water and Power. These parcels are all designated in the Mono County General Plan as Mixed Designation or Open Space. The approximately 40-acre parcel located northeast of the site is also federal land managed by the U.S. Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and is designated in the Mono County General Plan as Resource Management (RM). The RM designation by the County recognizes that the land may be valuable for a wide variety of uses, including mining. In some cases, including the proposed project, the RM designation also recognizes that the land is subject to the land use authority of an agency other than the County (BLM). There are no known plans to develop these parcels. There are two active private aggregate mines located approximately 0.5 to 1.5 miles east of the site. A power line easement is located directly adjacent to the project site to the west.

Alternatives

There was one proposed build alternative, and one no-build (no-action) alternative. This document, unless otherwise stated, discusses the potential impacts of the build alternative.

Build – Meets purpose and need by providing a material source and storage area close to project sites in Mono County. This alternative avoids the costs and environmental impacts of importing commercial materials and exporting excess material outside of the area for disposal.

No-Build – The No-Build alternative does not meet the purpose and need and would not address the lack of a local material source and material storage areas. It would result in elevated costs and extended construction and maintenance schedules due to the lack of available local materials, disposal space, and contractor staging areas. The additional haul trips and vehicle miles required to import and export materials would increase tailpipe emissions for Caltrans projects in Mono County.

Identification of a Preferred Alternative

After comparing and weighing the benefits and impacts of all feasible alternatives (build and no-build) and after giving agencies and the public an opportunity to provide comments on both alternatives (none received, Appendix C), the Project Development Team has identified the Build Alternative as the preferred alternative as it meets the identified purpose and need.

Other Public Agencies Whose Approval is Required

The following permits, reviews, and approvals would be required for project construction:

Table 1 - Required Permits, Licenses, Agreements and/or Certifications (PLACs)

Agency	Permit/Approval	Status
Bureau of Land Management	Letter of Concurrence for mining operations plan	Coordination has occurred throughout the planning and environmental phases of this project. BLM concurrence is required prior to initiating mining operations
Mono County	Reclamation Plan Application approval; CEQA document approval	Agency has reviewed and commented on draft reclamation plan and submitted comments to the Department. The Department has addressed those comments and resubmitted the reclamation plan. The County did not comment on the CEQA document during the public review period (Appendix C). County approval of the reclamation plan and CEQA document are required prior to initiating mining operations

Chapter 2. Affected Environment, Environmental Consequences, and Avoidance, Minimization, and/or Mitigation Measures

As part of the scoping and environmental analysis carried out for the project, the following environmental issues were considered but no adverse impacts were identified. As a result, there is no further discussion about these issues in this document.

Agriculture and Forest Resources – The proposed project will reactivate and expand a previous mine site. Per the California Resources Agency Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program, the project will not convert any designated Prime, Unique, or Farmland of Statewide Importance to a non-agricultural use. It will not conflict with existing zoning for forestland or timberland or result in the loss or conversion of forestland to non-forest use.

Air Quality – According to the Air Quality Planning Branch, AQPSD, Mono County is a non-attainment area for PM 10, in attainment for all other criteria pollutants, and is under the jurisdiction of the Great Basin Unified Air Pollution Control District (GBUAPCD). The GBUAPCD Mono Basin Planning Area PM10 State Implementation Plan (1995) and Reasonable Further Progress Report for Mono Basin PM10 (2015), the cause of PM10 non-attainment is windblown salts and dust from the exposed lakebed of Mono Lake. The solution to controlling windblown particulates in this area is to raise the lake level to submerge the exposed areas. The proposed project would not contribute to or significantly impact the status of PM10 or any other criteria pollutant. Short-term construction activities will have a temporary impact on local air quality near the project site due to dust and tailpipe emissions from construction equipment. All appropriate standard practices to control fugitive dust and reduce equipment idling times will be implemented on this project to minimize any short-term air quality impacts (WE-1 and others).

Coastal Resources – There will be no effects to coastal resources because the project is not located within a coastal zone. Additionally, the project lies outside of the National Marine Fisheries Service's (NMFS) jurisdiction and therefore does not require a NMFS species list.

Cultural Resources - No historical or archaeological resources will be impacted by the proposed project. A previous survey of the entire project area was conducted in 1996, which did not locate cultural resources within the proposed material site development. A review of the 1996 survey report and the conditions of the current project area confirmed that the survey data is still accurate. Additionally, the project area has been subject to modern-era disturbance as part of a 50-acre material site that was previously reclaimed. Standard provisions, used on all Caltrans projects, will be in place and implemented in the event unanticipated cultural resources or human remains are discovered.

Floodplains – According to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) #06051C0925D, the proposed project does not occur within a special flood hazard area and therefore does not encroach upon an existing floodplain.

Geology and Soils – The proposed project area is located on an alluvial terrace in the Mono Lake Basin, east of the Sierra Nevada Mountains. The terrace boundaries have been down-cut by Parker and Rock Creeks (cover image). The project area is mapped for seismic hazards per the Alquist-Priolo Special Studies Zones Act on the State of California Special Studies Zones - NE ¼ Mono Craters Quadrangle. It is discussed in the California Division of Mines and Geology Fault Evaluation Report FER-155 (Bryant, 1984). The Mono Basin is bounded on the west by the moderately well-defined Mono Lake fault zone. Seismicity in the project area is relatively dormant, and more active north of the project in the Bridgeport Valley area. The proposed project does not lie within an Alquist-Priolo "Special Studies Zone" and is not expected to expose people or structures to increased risk of fault rupture, ground shaking, liquefaction, landslides, or substantial topsoil erosion.

Hazards and Hazardous Materials – The proposed project will not create a significant hazard through routine transport or use of hazardous materials. It will implement all standard best management practices to control and contain any hazardous material spills. All Caltrans maintenance activities will comply with the Caltrans Stormwater Management Plan. For tier 3 uses, the contractor(s) will be required to submit a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) or a Water Pollution Control Plan (WPCP) prior to construction to cover their activities. This plan will outline specific measures to avoid, control, and contain any spills and prevent resource contamination. Design of the mine includes a boundary berm with depressed center to contain all mining activities within the berms. The project will not interfere with emergency response plans or expose people or structures to increased risk of wildfires.

Hydrology and Water Quality – The proposed project is located on an alluvial terrace generally bounded by Parker Creek and Rush Creek. The water surfaces are approximately 10-15 feet below the surface of the terrace, and the creeks are outside of the project impact area (Figure 3). The design of the mining pit includes raised berms around the boundary of the mine with a lowered sediment/stormwater basin on the interior. These design features will contain all in-mine activities and impacts and separate them from the creek waters. Temporary silt fences and other standard erosion and water pollution project features will be in place while the boundary berms are being constructed. No work will occur in the bed, bank, or channel of a water resource. Some common best management practices for stormwater control are listed in Chapter 1 - Mining Best Management Practices.

Land Use Planning – The proposed project area is in a rural area between the communities of June Lake and Lee Vining. There are no residences or businesses within a reasonable vicinity of the project. It will not divide an established community, and does not conflict with any known conservation plan, land use plan or related regulation. The proposed project site is on a Caltrans easement on federal lands managed by the Bureau of Land Management, and all proposed work is within the scope of the previously-approved easement (when the mine was first active). No new easement is needed for this project.

Mineral Resources – The proposed project's purpose is to utilize existing aggregate resources by reactivating a material mine. It is intended to use a mineral resource for the betterment of the residents of the State and Mono County by reducing the costs, construction schedules and emissions resulting from importing aggregate material from other areas.

National Marine Fisheries – This project is located outside of the jurisdiction of the National Marine Fisheries Service's (NMFS); therefore, an NMFS species list is not required and no effects to NMFS species are anticipated.

Noise – Due to the rural uninhabited setting and proximity of the proposed project to U.S. 395, it is unlikely the project will result in the exposure of persons to excessive noise or vibration above current levels. Construction equipment noise will be more noticeable during the early stages of the project as the boundary berms are built, however after the berms are in-place and the mine floor depth increases, most construction equipment noise will be contained within the berms and noise outside of the berms will become less perceptible.

Population and Housing – The proposed project is in a remote rural area between the communities of Lee Vining and June Lake. There are no known residential community in the immediate project vicinity. No minority or low-income populations that would be adversely affected by the proposed project have been identified as determined above. Therefore, this project is not subject to the provisions of Executive Order 12898. There will be no reduction in existing housing or displacement of residents.

Public Services – The proposed project area is located at the terminal end of a dirt road off U.S. 395. The mine area is the only eastbound destination on this road. Construction and continued use of the project will not impact government or emergency response facilities.

Recreation – Due to its setting, the proposed project will not affect neighborhood or regional parks or other recreational facilities. The project area is a previously-active mine site.

Transportation and Traffic – As stated under Public Services, the project will occur at the terminal end of a dirt access road. There are no residences or businesses which would be affected by increased truck traffic on this road to build and use the mine site. When the mine site is reactivated, localized truck traffic entering and exiting U.S. 395 near the mine site will increase, however the use of this mine site will decrease the distance haul trucks will need to travel for projects in Mono County thereby reducing regional truck traffic throughout the entire U.S. 395 corridor.

Tribal Cultural Resources – The proposed project would not cause a substantial adverse impact on any known Tribal Resources. The project will reactivate a previously-active mine, and no additional Tribal Resources have been identified in the impact area during scoping for the proposed project. Caltrans transmitted AB 52 notification letters to local Native American Tribes on April 23, 2018, and Caltrans did not receive any responses or formal requests for consultation during the AB 52 notification period.

Utilities and Service Systems – The proposed project will not result in the relocation or movement of any existing utility lines. No new wastewater, water supply, or landfill facilities will need to be constructed to accommodate the project.

Aesthetics

Scenic Resources within a State Scenic Highway

Regulatory Setting

- The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, as amended, establishes that the federal government use all practicable means to ensure all Americans safe, healthful, productive, and *aesthetically* (emphasis added) and culturally pleasing surroundings (42 United States Code [USC] 4331[b][2]). To further emphasize this point, the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), in its implementation of NEPA (23 USC 109[h]), directs that final decisions on projects are to be made in the best overall public interest taking into account adverse environmental impacts, including among others, the destruction or disruption of aesthetic values.

- The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) establishes that it is the policy of the state to take all action necessary to provide the people of the state "with...enjoyment of *aesthetic*, natural, scenic and historic environmental qualities" (CA Public Resources Code [PRC] Section 21001[b]).

Affected Environment

The project site is located at the Caltrans Baseline Pit, which is approximately 4.5 miles south of Lee Vining. SR 120 and US 395 are located immediately to the west and provide access to the project site via an unnamed two-lane access road with a stop sign on the east side of the highway. Baseline Pit was previously mined for aggregate material by the Department. Mining activities ended in 1993 and the site was partially reclaimed under an approved reclamation plan (1999). Currently the Department uses the Baseline Pit for material storage and training of maintenance personnel.

The project site is located on an alluvial terrace situated between Parker Creek and Rush Creek and sloping northeast towards Mono Lake. The terrace is elevated approximately 65 feet above the two creeks, with the high point at approximately 6,854 feet above mean sea level (amsl). Parker Creek ranges from 6,810 to 6,840 feet amsl, and Rush Creek ranges from 6,720 to 6,780 feet amsl. Parker Creek, to the north, is currently a perennial stream harboring important riparian habitat resources for wildlife. Rush Creek, to the south, also contains perennial flows and abundant riparian habitat. The project site is in upland areas and does not overlap Rush Creek or Parker Creek.

Disturbed/developed areas dominate much of the project site, with native upland vegetation communities being restricted to the northern portion of the site. Disturbed/developed areas include access roads (paved and unpaved) and a paved area mixing table. Caltrans maintenance staff currently stores material for maintenance activities on the mixing table.

Vegetation within the project site and surrounding areas generally consists of Big Sagebrush Scrub (*Artemisia tridentata* Shrubland Alliance). This community is dominated by big sagebrush and antelope brush (*Purshia tridentata*). Other shrub species observed in this community include desert peach (*Prunus andersonii*), spiny hop-sage (*Grayia spinosa*), and rubber rabbitbrush (*Ericameria nauseosa*). Other plant species observed within this community included grasses, woody sub-shrubs, and herbaceous annuals and perennials such as sulphurflower buckwheat (*Eriogonum umbellatum*), Davidson's buckwheat (*Eriogonum davidsonii*), silvery lupine (*Lupinus argenteus*), and pine bluegrass (*Poa secunda*).

Lands surrounding the site are large individual parcels of equally vacant land ranging from approximately 116 to 720 acres, owned by Los Angeles Department of Water and Power. These parcels are all designated in the Mono County General Plan as Mixed Designation or Open Space. The approximately 40-acre parcel located northeast of the site is also federal land managed by BLM and is designated in the Mono County General Plan as Resource Management (RM). The RM designation by the County recognizes that the land may be valuable for a wide variety of uses, including mining. In some cases, including for the proposed project, the RM designation also recognizes that the land is subject to the land use authority of an agency other than the County (BLM). There are no known plans to develop these parcels. There are two active private aggregate mines located approximately 0.5 to 1.5 miles east of the site. A power line easement is located directly adjacent to the project site to the west.

Adjacent to the project area, US 395 is an Officially Designated State Scenic Highway. Sensitive visual receptors in the project area include the public travelling on US 395. Views from US 395 include the Sierra Nevada Mountain Range to the west, specifically of Williams Butte, Mount Dana, and Mount Lewis. Views to the east of US 395 are of Pumice Valley and include views of Mono Lake (located approximately 3.5 miles to the northeast of the project site) and Crater Mountain (located approximately five miles to the southeast of the project site).

Environmental Consequences

The proposed project would result in low to very low impacts to the viewshed from US 395, a State Scenic Highway. Mining operations may include the use of heavy construction equipment for excavating, sorting, and stockpiling material. Current use of Baseline Pit includes use of this equipment for stockpiling of materials, such as cinders, gravel, and sand; however, with the proposed project, the use of heavy equipment would increase at the site. The proposed project would also result in exposed surfaces due to the proposed mining operations. Due to the distance from the highway and local micro-topography, only larger-sized equipment located in the mixing table area would be visible from US 395. As mining progresses, the floor elevation of Location 3 would be lowered below the elevation of the existing mixing table, and any equipment or activity will become increasingly out of view. This grading plan would avoid or minimize views of mining activities and equipment from sensitive visual receptors travelling on US 395.

An aboveground water storage tank would be used on the site during operation of the mine, and a metal storage shed would be built as part of the end use of Baseline Pit. The shed would likely be an open three-sided structure and would be located within the pit floor out of sight of most sensitive visual receptors. The end use of Baseline Pit also includes temporary use of the site by the Caltrans maintenance crews and construction contractors for capital projects as a staging area for equipment and material. The usable areas of the final site configuration would be limited to the un-reclaimed pit floors out of the viewshed of sensitive visual receptors.

Avoidance and/or Minimization Measures

AES-1: The materials of the water storage tank and the shed should be painted using a natural color to minimize impacts to the viewshed in coordination with the Caltrans Landscape Architect and the Bureau of Land Management.

Biological Resources

Animal Species

Regulatory Setting

- Many state and federal laws regulate impacts to wildlife. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's National Marine Fisheries Service (NOAA Fisheries Service), and the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) are responsible for implementing these laws. This section discusses potential impacts and permit requirements associated with animals not listed or proposed for listing under the federal or state Endangered Species Act. Species listed or proposed for listing as threatened or endangered are discussed in the Threatened and Endangered Species Section below. All other special-status animal species are discussed here, including CDFW fully protected species and species of special concern, and USFWS or NOAA Fisheries Service candidate species.

- Federal laws and regulations relevant to wildlife include the following:
    - National Environmental Policy Act
    - Migratory Bird Treaty Act
    - Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act

- State laws and regulations relevant to wildlife include the following:
    - California Environmental Quality Act
    - Sections 1600 – 1603 of the California Fish and Game Code
    - Sections 4150 and 4152 of the California Fish and Game Code

Affected Environment

A field survey of the project site was conducted on August 25, 2016 by biologists Scott Taylor and Keith Kwan. The survey was conducted from 6:00 a.m. until 11:30 a.m., to capitalize on the period of highest diurnal animal activity. The survey methods entailed a pedestrian survey of the entire project site, using binoculars to identify animal species from a distance. A plant and animal list was maintained during the survey.

Prior to conducting biological surveys, documentation relevant to the site was gathered and reviewed, including:

- CNDDB information (RareFind 5), administered by CDFW. This database inventories the status and locations of rare plants, animals, and natural communities in California.
- California Native Plant Society (CNPS) Online Electronic Inventory of Rare and Endangered Vascular Plants of California.
- Bishop BLM California Special-Status Plants (2015).
- Special-Status Animals in California, including BLM-Designated Sensitive Species (2010).

- USFWS Information, Planning, and Consultation (IPaC) System.
- Critical Habitat Mapper, administered by USFWS.
- National Wetlands Inventory, administered by USFWS.
- General Soil Survey (NRCS).
- Material Site #190 (Baseline Pit) Reclamation Plan. August 18, 1998.
- Material Site #190 (Baseline Pit) Reclamation Plan. March 26, 1997.
- Parker Creek Stream Characterization Study. November 2013.

In May 2018, the species lists were updated and reviewed to identify any special status species with the potential to occur in or near the project area. Table 2 shows these species and the rationale for any proposed avoidance or minimization measures. Species highlighted in green will be covered by preconstruction surveys (commitments B-1 and/or B-2) which will occur prior to Phase 1 and 2. All Phase 3 activities will require project-specific environmental clearance and analysis. Unless otherwise noted, the project is expected to have no effect on all species in this list.

Table 2: Sensitive species that have the potential to occur within the proposed project area

Common Name	Status	General Habitat Description	Habitat	Rationale
AMPHIBIANS				
Mount Lyell salamander *Hydromantes platycephalus*	CDFW_WL	Distributed in isolated patches in the Sierra Nevada from Sierra County south to Tulare County; usually common where they occur, individuals are active on the surface only when free water in the form of seeps, drips, or spray is available; occurs in massive rock areas in mixed coniferous, red fir, lodgepole pine, and subalpine habitats; because of secretive habits and relative absence of potential predators in the habitats where they normally occur, this species is probably not taken in large numbers as prey by any vertebrate species; 4130-11940 ft.	A	No suitable habitat; project area occurs in upland habitat
Sierra Nevada yellow-legged frog *Rana sierrae*	FE, ST	Sierra Nevada mountains at elevations above 4,500. Streams, lakes, and ponds in montane riparian, lodgepole pine, wet meadow habitat. Always encountered within a few ft. of water.	A	No suitable habitat; project area occurs in upland habitat
Yosemite toad *Anaxyrus canorus*	FT, SSC	Vicinity of montane wet meadows in central High Sierra, 6,400 to 11,300 ft. in elevation. Also in seasonal ponds associated with lodgepole pine and subalpine conifer forest.	A	No suitable habitat; project area occurs in upland habitat
BIRDS				
Bank swallow *Riparia riparia*	ST	Colonial nester; nests primarily in riparian and other lowland habitats west of the desert. Requires vertical banks/cliffs with fine-textured/sandy soils near streams, rivers, lakes, ocean to dig nesting hole.	A	No suitable habitat; project area occurs in upland habitat and creeks near the project area do not contain vertical banks
Brewer's sparrow	CNDDB;	Salt ponds, estuarine waters, lakes, quiet riverine backwaters. For nesting they prefer	HP	Potential nesting habitat; not observed during field surveys in 2016; preconstruction

Spizella breweri		high sagebrush plains, slopes & valley with Great Basin sagebrush & antelope brush.		surveys will be conducted prior to implementation of each Phase of work
California gull *Larus californicus*	CDF W_WL	Fairly common nester at alkali and freshwater lacustrine habitats east of the Sierra Nevada and Cascades; non- breeding season in coastal and interior lowlands; nests on northeastern plateau at Mono Lake in California; feeds on garbage, carrion, earthworms, adult insects, and larvae; frequents landfill dumps, fields and pastures	A	No suitable habitat; project is not located at/adjacent to Mono Lake
Northern harrier *Circus cyaneus*	CDF W_SSC	Occurs from annual grassland up to lodgepole pine and alpine meadow habitats, as high as 10000 ft.; breeds from sea level to 5700 ft. in the Central Valley and Sierra Nevada, and up to 3600 ft. in northeastern California; frequents meadows, grasslands, open rangelands, desert sinks, fresh and saltwater emergent wetlands; seldom found in wooded areas; nests on ground in shrubby vegetation, usually at marsh edge; may nest in grasslands, grain fields, or on sagebrush flats several miles from water	HP	Potential nesting habitat; not observed during field surveys in 2016; preconstruction surveys will be conducted prior to implementation of each Phase of work
Northern goshawk *Accipiter gentilis*	SSC	Within, and in vicinity of, north coast coniferous forest, Subalpine coniferous forest, Upper montane coniferous forest. Uses old nests, and maintains alternate sites. Usually nests on north slopes, near water. Red fir, lodgepole pine, Jeffrey pine, and aspens are typical nest trees.	HP	Potential habitat for this species; not observed during field surveys in 2016; preconstruction surveys will be conducted prior to implementation of each Phase of work
Osprey *Pandion haliaetus*	CDF W_WL	Breeds in northern California from Cascade Ranges south to Lake Tahoe, and along the coast south to Marin Co.; feeds mostly on fish; requires open, clear waters for foraging; uses large trees, snags, and dead-topped trees in open forest habitats for cover and nesting; nests on platforms of sticks at top of large snags, dead-topped trees, on cliff, or on human made structures	A	No suitable habitat; project area occurs in upland habitat; large trees that may provide nesting habitat do not occur
Prairie falcon *Falco mexicanus*	CDF W_WL	Primarily open situations, especially in mountainous areas, steppe, plains or prairies. Typically nests in pot hole or well-sheltered ledge on rocky cliff or steep earth embankment, 10 to more than 100 meters above base.	A	No suitable habitat; rocky ledges do not occur within/near project area
Swainson's hawk *Buteo swainsoni*	ST	Breeds in grasslands with scattered trees, juniper-sage flats, riparian areas, savannahs, & agricultural or ranch lands with groves or lines of trees. Requires adjacent suitable foraging areas such as grasslands, or alfalfa or grain fields supporting rodent populations.	A	No suitable foraging/nesting habitat; riparian habitat exists along adjacent creeks, however, foraging areas are absent
Willow flycatcher *Empidonax traillii*	SE	Riparian woodlands. Inhabits extensive thickets of low, dense willows on edge of wet meadows, ponds, or backwaters; 2000-8000 ft. elevation	HP	There may be suitable habitat along Parker and Rush Creeks; species was not documented during surveys in 2016; further surveys may be needed prior to implementation of certain Phases of work
Yellow-headed blackbird *Xanthocephalus xanthocephalus*	CDF W_SSC	Breeds commonly, but locally, east of the Cascade Range and Sierra Nevada; nests in fresh emergent wetland with dense vegetation and deep water, often along borders of lakes or ponds; forages in emergent wetland and moist, open areas, especially cropland and muddy shores of lacustrine habitat	A	No suitable habitat; project area occurs in upland habitat; no wetlands, lakes or ponds near project area

Yellow rail *Coturnicops noveboracensis*	CDF W_SSC	Occurs year round in California: local breeder in northeast interior and winter visitor on the coast and in the Suisun Marsh region; breeding season most likely from May through early Sept; secretive nature; habitat in densely vegetated marshes	A	No suitable habitat; project area occurs in upland habitat
Yellow warbler *Setophaga petechia*	CDF W_SSC	Breeds in riparian woodlands from coastal and desert lowlands up to 8000' in the Sierra Nevada; also breeds in montane chaparral, and in open ponderosa pine and mixed conifer habitats with substantial amounts of brush; usually found in riparian deciduous, open-canopy habitats; in summer gleans and hovers in upper canopy of deciduous trees and shrubs; open-canopy riparian woodland	HP	There may be suitable habitat along Parker and Rush Creeks; species was not documented during surveys in 2016; further surveys may be needed prior to implementation of certain Phases of work
		FISHES		
Owens sucker *Catostomus fumeiventris*	SSC	Tributary streams of Owens River and Crowley Lake	A	No suitable habitat; aquatic resources will not be impacted by project activities
		INVERTEBRATES		
Wong's springsnail *Pyrgulopsis wongi*	CND DB	Habitat is restricted to seeps, headsprings, and upper reaches of spring runs	A	No suitable habitat; aquatic resources will not be impacted by project activities
		MAMMALS		
American badger *Taxidea taxus*	CDF W_SSC	Uncommon, permanent resident found throughout most of the state, except in northern North Coast area; most abundant in drier open stages of most shrub, forest, and herbaceous habitats, with friable soils; needs open and uncultivated ground	HP	Potential suitable habitat; not observed during field surveys in 2016; preconstruction surveys will be conducted prior to implementation of each Phase of work.
California wolverine *Gulo gulo*	FPT, ST	Alpine, Alpine dwarf scrub. Found in a wide variety of high elevation habitats. Needs water source. Uses caves, logs, burrows for cover & den area. Hunts in more open areas.	A	No suitable habitat; cover habitat in the form of caves or logs do not occur in project area; burrows were not documented during surveys in 2016
Fisher *Pekania pennanti*	SCT	Occurs in intermediate to large-tree stages of coniferous forests and deciduous-riparian habitats with a high percent canopy closure.	A	No suitable habitat; no large trees with high canopy cover occur in project area
Mount Lyell shrew *Sorex lyelli*	CDF W_SSC	Possible distribution in high montane and cold steppe communities of the central and eastern slopes of the Sierra Nevada; historically known from only a few locations at high elevations in the central Sierra Nevada near Mt. Lyell (Yosemite National Park); requires moist soil; lives in riparian sites; uses logs, stumps and other surface objects for cover; found in grass or under stream-side willows	A	No suitable habitat; project occurs in upland habitat
Pygmy rabbit *Brachylagus idahoensis*	SSC	Sagebrush, bitterbrush, and pinyon-juniper habitats. Sagebrush obligates typically dig their burrows into gentle slopes or mound/inter-mound areas of more level or dissected topography	HP	Potential suitable habitat; not observed during field surveys in 2016; preconstruction surveys will be conducted prior to implementation of each Phase of work.
Sierra marten *Martes caurina sierrae*	CND DB	High elevation forests with dense canopy cover, especially late successional forests where old-growth characteristics are abundant. riparian lodgepole pine associations (with lush herbaceous cover) and selected against brush, mixed conifer, and Jeffrey pine associations	A	No suitable habitat; forests do not occur in project area

Sierra Nevada mountain beaver *Aplodontia rufa californica*	CDF W_FS SC	Found throughout the Cascade, Klamath, and Sierra Nevada ranges; populations local and uncommon in the Sierra Nevada and other interior areas; typical habitat in the Sierra Nevada is montane riparian; unlike other rodents, this species depends on the availability of ferns in its environment (primary food source); favors early seral vegetative stages with an abundance of shrubs, forbs, and young trees; the highest densities appear to be in deciduous forests of mountain parks (frequent dense riparian-deciduous vegetation); require a large daily intake of water; deep friable soils are required for burrowing, along with a cool, moist microclimate	A	No suitable habitat; project area occurs in upland habitat
Sierra Nevada red fox *Vulpes vulpes necator*	FC, ST	Subalpine coniferous forest, upper montane coniferous forest. Historically found from the Cascades down to the Sierra Nevada. Use dense vegetation & rocky areas for cover & den sites. Prefer forests interspersed w/ meadows or alpine fell-fields.	A	No suitable habitat; project area occurs in upland habitat with patchy/disturbed vegetation; forests do not occur in project area
Spotted bat *Euderma maculatum*	SSC	Occupies a wide variety of habitats from arid deserts and grasslands through mixed conifer forests. Feeds over water and along washes. Feeds almost entirely on moths. Needs rock crevices in cliffs or caves for roosting.	A	No suitable roosting habitat in project area
Western mastiff bat *Eumops perotis californicus*	CDF W_SS C	Uncommon resident in southeastern San Joaquin Valley and Coastal Ranges from Monterey Co. southward through southern California, form the coast eastward to the Colorado Desert; occurs in many open, semi-arid to arid habitats, including conifer and deciduous woodlands, coastal scrub, annual and perennial grasslands, palm oases, chaparral, desert scrub, and urban; cover in crevices in cliff faces, high buildings, trees, and tunnels are required for roosting; vertical faces required to drop off to take flight from rock crevices	A	No suitable cover habitat in project area
Western white-tailed jackrabbit *Lepus townsendii townsendii*	SSC	Prefer open grasslands, pastures and field. Resort to shrubs during the winter months. Also found in pine forests and high alpine tundra.	HP	Potential suitable habitat; not observed during field surveys in 2016; preconstruction surveys will be conducted prior to implementation of each Phase of work.
PLANTS				
Bodie Hills cusickiella *Cusickiella quadricostata*	1B.2	Great Basin scrub. Pinyon and juniper woodland (clay or rocky soils). 6560-9190 ft. Blooms: May-Jul	HP	Potential suitable habitat; not observed during field surveys in 2016; preconstruction surveys will be conducted in project impact areas prior to implementation of each Phase of work.
Bodie Hills rockcress *Boechera bodiensis*	1B.3	Alpine boulder and rock field. Great Basin scrub. Pinyon and juniper woodland. Subalpine coniferous forest. 6841-11581 ft. Blooms June - July (August)	HP	Potential suitable habitat; not observed during field surveys in 2016; preconstruction surveys will be conducted in project impact areas prior to implementation of each Phase of work.
Bog sandwort *Sabulina stricta*	2B.3	Alpine, Alpine boulder & rock field, Alpine dwarf scrub, Meadow & seep. Moist, granitic gravelly sites in sedge meadows and other alpine habitats. 8005-12992 ft. Blooms: Jul-Sep	A	No suitable habitat; project area occurs in upland habitat

Booth's evening-primrose *Eremothera boothii spp. boothii*	2B.3	Joshua tree woodland. Pinyon and juniper woodland. 2674-7874 ft. Blooms Apr - Sept	A	No suitable habitat; Joshua/pinyon and juniper woodland do not occur in project area
Booth's hairy evening-primrose *Eremothera boothii ssp. intermedia*	2B.3	Great Basin scrub, pinyon & juniper woodlands. Sandy sites. 2887-8809 ft. Blooms: (May), Jun; months in parentheses are uncommon.	HP	Potential suitable habitat; not observed during field surveys in 2016; preconstruction surveys will be conducted in project impact areas prior to implementation of each Phase of work.
Canescent draba *Draba cana*	2B.3	Alpine boulder and rock field. Meadows and seeps. Subalpine coniferous forest. 9843-11499 ft. Bloom: July	A	No suitable habitat; project area occurs in upland shrub habitat
Common moonwort *Botrychium lunaria*	2B.3	Meadows and seeps. Subalpine coniferous forest. Upper montane coniferous forests. 6496-11155 feet. Blooms: Aug	A	No suitable habitat; meadows and seeps do not occur in the project area
Davy's sedge *Carex davyi*	1B.3	Subalpine coniferous forest. Upper montane coniferous forest. 4900-10500 ft. Blooms: May-Aug	A	No suitable habitat; subalpine coniferous forest does not occur in the project area
Dune horsebrush *Tetradymia tetrameres*	2B.2	Great Basin scrub (sandy); 3935-7005 ft. Blooms: Aug	HP	Potential suitable habitat; not observed during field surveys in 2016; preconstruction surveys will be conducted in project impact areas prior to implementation of each Phase of work.
Fiddleleaf hawksbeard *Crepis runcinata*	2B.2	Mojavean desert scrub, pinyon & juniper woodlands. Moist, alkaline valley bottoms. 1247-10203 ft. Blooms: May-Aug	A	No suitable habitat; moist valley bottoms do not occur in the project area
Foxtail thelypodium *integrifolium ssp. complanatum*	2B.2	Great Basin scrub, Meadow & seep. Alkaline or subalkaline soils; mesic sites. 3609-8202 ft. Blooms: Jun-Oct	A	No suitable habitat; project area is not mesic environment
Frog's-bit buttercup *Ranunculus hydrocharoides*	2B.1	Marshes and swamps (freshwater). 3600-8860 ft. Blooms Jun-Sep.	A	No suitable habitat; project area does not occur in marshes and swamps
Golden viola *Viola purpurea ssp. aurea*	2B.2	Great Basin scrub. Pinyon and juniper woodland. 3281-8202 ft. Blooms April - June.	HP	Potential suitable habitat; not observed during field surveys in 2016; preconstruction surveys will be conducted in project impact areas prior to implementation of each Phase of work.
Great Basin onion *Allium atrorubens var. atrorubens*	2B.3	Great Basin scrub, pinyon & juniper woodlands. In sandy, rocky, gravelly, or sometimes clay soils in the White Mountains. 3937-7595 ft. Blooms: May-Jun	HP	Potential suitable habitat; not observed during field surveys in 2016; preconstruction surveys will be conducted in project impact areas prior to implementation of each Phase of work.
Intermontane lupine *Lupinus pusillus var. intermontanus*	2B.3	Great Basin scrub (sandy). 4000-6760 ft. Blooms: May-Jun	HP	Potential suitable habitat; not observed during field surveys in 2016; preconstruction surveys will be conducted in project impact areas prior to implementation of each Phase of work.
Inyo phacelia *Phacelia inyoensis*	1B.2	Meadows and seeps (alkaline). 3200-10500 ft. Blooms: Apr-Aug	A	No suitable habitat; meadows and seeps do not occur in project area
Lance-leaved scurf-pea	2B.3	Great Basin scrub. 4000-8205 ft. Blooms: Apr-Aug	HP	Potential suitable habitat; not observed during field surveys in 2016; preconstruction surveys will be conducted in project impact

Ladeania lanceolata				areas prior to implementation of each Phase of work.
Many-flowered thelypodium *Thelypodium milleflorum*	2B.2	Chenopod scrub, Great Basin scrub (sandy). 4000-8205 ft. Blooms: Apr-Jun	HP	Potential suitable habitat; not observed during field surveys in 2016; preconstruction surveys will be conducted in project impact areas prior to implementation of each Phase of work.
Masonic Mountain jewelflower *Streptanthus oliganthus*	1B.2	Sagebrush scrub, Pinyon and juniper woodland (volcanic or granitic, rocky). 6496-10007 feet. Blooms June - July.	HP	Potential suitable habitat; not observed during field surveys in 2016; preconstruction surveys will be conducted in project impact areas prior to implementation of each Phase of work.
Masonic rockcress *Boechera cobrensis*	2B.3	Great Basin scrub. Pinyon and juniper woodland. Sandy. 4511-10187 ft. Blooms June - July	HP	Potential suitable habitat; not observed during field surveys in 2016; preconstruction surveys will be conducted in project impact areas prior to implementation of each Phase of work.
Mono Lake lupine *Lupinus duranii*	1B.2	Great Basin scrub. Subalpine coniferous forest. Upper montane coniferous forest, volcanic pumice, gravelly. 6562-9843 feet. Blooms: May - August	HP	Potential suitable habitat; not observed during field surveys in 2016; preconstruction surveys will be conducted in project impact areas prior to implementation of each Phase of work.
Mono milk-vetch *Astragalus monoensis*	1B.2	Great Basin scrub. Upper montane coniferous forest. Pumice, gravelly, or sandy. 6923-11007 ft. Blooms June-August	HP	Potential suitable habitat; not observed during field surveys in 2016; preconstruction surveys will be conducted in project impact areas prior to implementation of each Phase of work.
Mountain bent grass *Agrostis humilis*	2B.3	Alpine boulder and rock field. Meadows and seeps. Subalpine coniferous forest. 8759-10500 ft. Blooms: Jul-Sept	A	No suitable habitat; meadows and seeps do not occur in project area
Northern meadow sedge *Carex praticola*	2B.2	Meadows and seeps (mesic); 0-10500 ft. Blooms: May-Jul	A	No suitable habitat; meadows and seeps do not occur in project area
Oregon campion *Silene oregana*	2B.2	Great Basin scrub, subalpine coniferous forest. 4920-8205 ft. Blooms: Jul-Sep	HP	Potential suitable habitat; not observed during field surveys in 2016; preconstruction surveys will be conducted in project impact areas prior to implementation of each Phase of work.
Robbins' pondweed *Potamogeton robbinsii*	2B.3	Marshes and swamps. 5000-10830.	A	No suitable habitat; marshes and swamps do not occur in project area
Scalloped moonwort *Botrychium crenulatum*	2B.2	Lower montane coniferous forest, Marsh & swamp, Meadow & seep, Upper montane coniferous forest, freshwater marsh, and near creeks. 3888-10203 ft. Blooms: Jun-Sep	A	No suitable habitat; meadows and seeps do not occur in project area
Scribner's wheat grass *Elymus scribneri*	2B.3	Alpine boulder and rock field. 9514-13780 ft. Blooms Jul - Aug	A	No suitable habitat; alpine boulder and rock field do not occur in project area
Short-fruited willow *Salix brachycarpa var. brachycarpa*	2B.3	Alpine dwarf scrub. Meadows and seeps. Subalpine coniferous forest. 9843-11483 ft. Blooms: June - July.	A	No suitable habitat; meadows and seeps do not occur in project area
Slender-leaved pondweed	2B.2	Marshes and swamps (assorted shallow freshwater). 2150-7055 ft. Blooms: May-Jul	A	No suitable habitat; marshes and swamps do not occur in project area

Stuckenia filiformis ssp. Alpina				
Small flowered fescue *Festuca minutiflora*	2B.3	Alpine boulder and rock field. 10490-13290 ft. Blooms: Jul	A	No suitable habitat; alpine boulder and rock fields do not occur in project area
Small-flowered grass-of-parnassus *Parnassia parviflora*	2B.2	Meadow & seep, Wetland. Wet areas, rocky seeps. 6594-9104 ft. Blooms: Aug-Sep	A	No suitable habitat; wetlands do not occur in project area
Snow willow *Salix nivalis*	2B.3	Alpine dwarf scrub. 10171-11483 ft. Blooms: July - August.	A	No suitable habitat; alpine dwarf shrub habitat does not occur in project area
Tahoe draba *Draba asterophora var. asterophora*	1B.2	Alpine boulder and rock field. Subalpine coniferous forest. 8202-11499 feet. Blooms: July - August (September)	A	No suitable habitat; alpine boulder and rock fields do not occur in project area
Tall draba *Draba praealta*	2B.3	Meadows and seeps. 8202-11204 ft. Blooms July - August.	A	No suitable habitat; meadows and seeps do not occur in project area
Tiehm's rockcress *Boechera tiehmii*	1B.3	Alpine boulder and rock field. 9744-11778 feet. Blooms July - August	A	No suitable habitat; project does not occur in alpine boulder and rock field
Tioga Pass sedge *Carex tiogana*	1B.3	Meadows and seeps. 10171-10827 feet. Blooms: July - August	A	No suitable habitat; meadows and seeps do not occur in project area
Torrey's blazing star *Mentzelia torreyi*	2B.2	Great Basin scrub, Mojavean desert scrub, pinyon & juniper woodlands. Sandy or rocky sites; alkaline, usually volcanic soils. 3839-9301 ft. Blooms: Jun-Aug	HP	Potential suitable habitat; not observed during field surveys in 2016; preconstruction surveys will be conducted in project impact areas prior to implementation of each Phase of work.
Tulare rockcress *Boechera tularensis*	1B.3	Subalpine coniferous forest. Upper montane coniferous forest. Rocky slopes, sometimes roadsides. 5988-10991 ft. Blooms (May) June-July (August)	A	No suitable habitat; project does not occur in coniferous forest
Tundra thread moss *Pohlia tundrae*	2B.3	Alpine boulder and rock field (gravelly, damp soil). 8850-9845 ft.	A	No suitable habitat; project does not occur in alpine boulder and rock fields with gravely and damp soils
Upswept moonwort *Botrychium ascendens*	2B.3	Lower montane coniferous forest. Meadows and seeps. Mesic. 3658-8858 ft. Blooms July - August	A	No suitable habitat; mesic environment does not exist in project area
Utah monkeyflower *Erythranthe utahensis*	2B.1	Meadows and seeps. Pinyon and juniper woodland. 2000-6565 ft. Blooms: Apr	A	No suitable habitat; meadows and seeps do not occur in project area
Western single-spiked sedge *Carex scirpoidea ssp. pseudoscirpoidea*	2B.2	Alpine boulder & rock field, Limestone, Meadow & seep, Subalpine coniferous forest, Wetland. Often on limestone; mesic sites. 6988-12008 ft. Blooms: Jul-Sep	A	No suitable habitat; meadows and seeps do not occur in project area
Western valley sedge *Carex vallicola*	2B.3	Great Basin scrub. Meadows and seeps (mesic). 5000-9205 ft. Blooms: Jul-Aug	A	No suitable habitat; meadows and seeps do not occur in project area

Wheeler's dune-broom *Chaetadelpha wheeleri*	2B.2	Desert dunes. Great Basin scrub. Mojavean desert scrub (sandy). 2600-6235 ft. Blooms: Apr-Sept.	HP	Potential suitable habitat; not observed during field surveys in 2016; preconstruction surveys will be conducted in project impact areas prior to implementation of each Phase of work.

Species Status Key		
FE = Federal Endangered	SE = State Endangered	SSC = State Species of Special Concern
FT = Federal Threatened	ST = State Threatened	1.B.1-3 = CA Native Plant Society Ranking. 1B plants are rare, threatened or endangered in CA and elsewhere. (1.B.1 more threatened than 1.B.3)
FPT = Federal Proposed Threatened	CNDDB = On CA Natural Diversity Database	2.B.1-1 = CA Native Plant Society Ranking.2B plants are rare, threatened or endangered in CA but more common elsewhere. (2.B.1 more threatened than 2.B.3)
WL = Watch List	SCT = State Candidate Threatened	Habitat Column: A = Absent HP = Habitat Present

One BLM sensitive species was observed during the 2016 biological assessment of the site: northern sagebrush lizard (*Sceloporus graciosus graciosus*). The northern sagebrush lizard is considered a BLM sensitive species (BSS) and occupies sagebrush scrub, pinyon-juniper woodland, and other desert scrub habitats. Within California, these lizards are known from Inyo and Mono counties, and within the far northeastern quadrant of the state. On the project site, these lizards were detected along Rush Creek, within adjacent scrub habitat. All BLM special-status animal and plant species will be surveyed for prior to Phase 1 and 2 (commitment B-1).

The project site is within the South Mono Sage-Grouse Management Unit. Greater sage-grouse are a CSC and a BLM sensitive species associated primarily with Big Sagebrush Scrub and

various chaparral plant communities. Within California, the grouse are only known from Mono and Inyo counties, and within the far northeastern quadrant of the state. The greater sage-grouse currently occupies between 50 and 60 percent of its historic range after declines in population size occurring over four decades. The site is within a priority area for conservation of the sage-grouse by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. A map of the known sage-grouse use, provided by BLM, is included as Figure 4. Sage-grouse have been documented near the site, with breeding pairs known to occur west of US 395 in the area. Sage-grouse have not been documented on the site, including wintering and summer birds, breeding pairs, or leks.

Among the crucial habitat elements for greater sage grouse are leks, which are specialized breeding areas. A lek is typically formed in an open area, with a combination of bare dirt and short grasses, surrounded by dense brushland. Leks can occur naturally or be formed opportunistically adjacent to nesting habitat areas. Within proximity to the site, there is a recorded lek west of US-395, approximately two miles away. Although greater sage grouse was not detected on the project site, the northern portion of the site may serve as wintering grounds due to the presence of limited amount of suitable contiguous Big Sagebrush Scrub habitat. Much of the site is developed or disturbed and does not provide suitable habitat for greater sage-grouse.

Because the site supports nesting bird habitat, there is a potential that clearing of vegetation could result in impacts to nesting birds if conducted during the breeding season. Nesting birds are protected under the federal Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) and California Fish and Game Code.

Environmental Consequences

The project site measures ±30 acres. Much of the project site is developed or disturbed (paved and dirt roads) and does not provide suitable habitat for most of the special-status species that were analyzed. Below is an analysis of impacts to animal species by animal group.

Birds

The following bird species have a potential to occur on the project site: greater sage-grouse, golden eagle, Swainson's hawk, white-tailed kite, and northern goshawk. Although the bald eagle has been recorded within the Mono Basin, it is not expected to use habitats near the project site.

Sage-grouse have not been documented on the project site, including wintering and summer birds, breeding pairs, or leks (an area where males assemble and display courtship behavior). The nearest active leks are approximately two miles west of the project site and on the west side of US 395. Although the northern portion of the site may serve as wintering grounds due to the presence of limited amount of suitable contiguous Big Sagebrush Scrub habitat, most of the site is developed or disturbed and does not provide suitable habitat for greater sage-grouse. As such, no direct impacts to this species are anticipated.

Indirect impacts of the project due to noise or dust on the lek areas to the west were considered. According to Blickley, et. al (2012)[1], anthropogenic noise at sage grouse leks can result in a decrease in abundance of males, and females, in particular, when the noise is intermittent rather than continuous.

[1] Blickley, JL, Blackwood, D., and Patricelli, GL. 2012. Experimental Evidence for the Effects of Chronic Anthropogenic Noise on Abundance of Greater Sage-Grouse at Leks. Conservation Biology 2012 Jun;26(3):461-71.

The USGS also published a report entitled Conservation Buffer Distance Estimates for Greater Sage-Grouse – A Review (2014)[2], which provides summarized information from existing scientific literature. According to the literature, the level of human footprint (surface disturbance) within three miles of a lek was negatively associated with lek persistence. Studies have also shown a negative association between leks and linear features such as roadways, especially when roadways are located within three miles of the lek, with declined lek attendance by males and females even with distances of up to 4.7 miles between the road and the lek.

Over the past decade, the BLM has been preparing Greater Sage-Grouse Resource Management Plan Amendments, each with an associated Environmental Impact Statement, to amend existing Resource Management Plans for its field offices and district offices containing greater sage-grouse habitat. The purpose of these plan amendments is to identify and incorporate appropriate measures in existing land use plans to conserve, enhance, and restore sage-grouse habitat by avoiding, minimizing, or compensating for unavoidable impacts to sage-grouse habitat within the context of the BLM's mission under the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 and its multiple use allowances on its administered lands. The plans specify various land uses, including surface mining; the plans also discuss buffer distances between leks and areas of disturbance. Although a plan specifically covering the project site has not been prepared, the generally recommended buffer distance within the existing plans are 3.1 miles between leks and disturbances.

[2] [USGS] United States Geological Survey. 2014. Conservation buffer distance estimates for Greater Sage-Grouse—A review: U.S. Geological Survey Open-File Report 2014–1239, 14 p., https://dx.doi.org/10.3133/ofr20141239

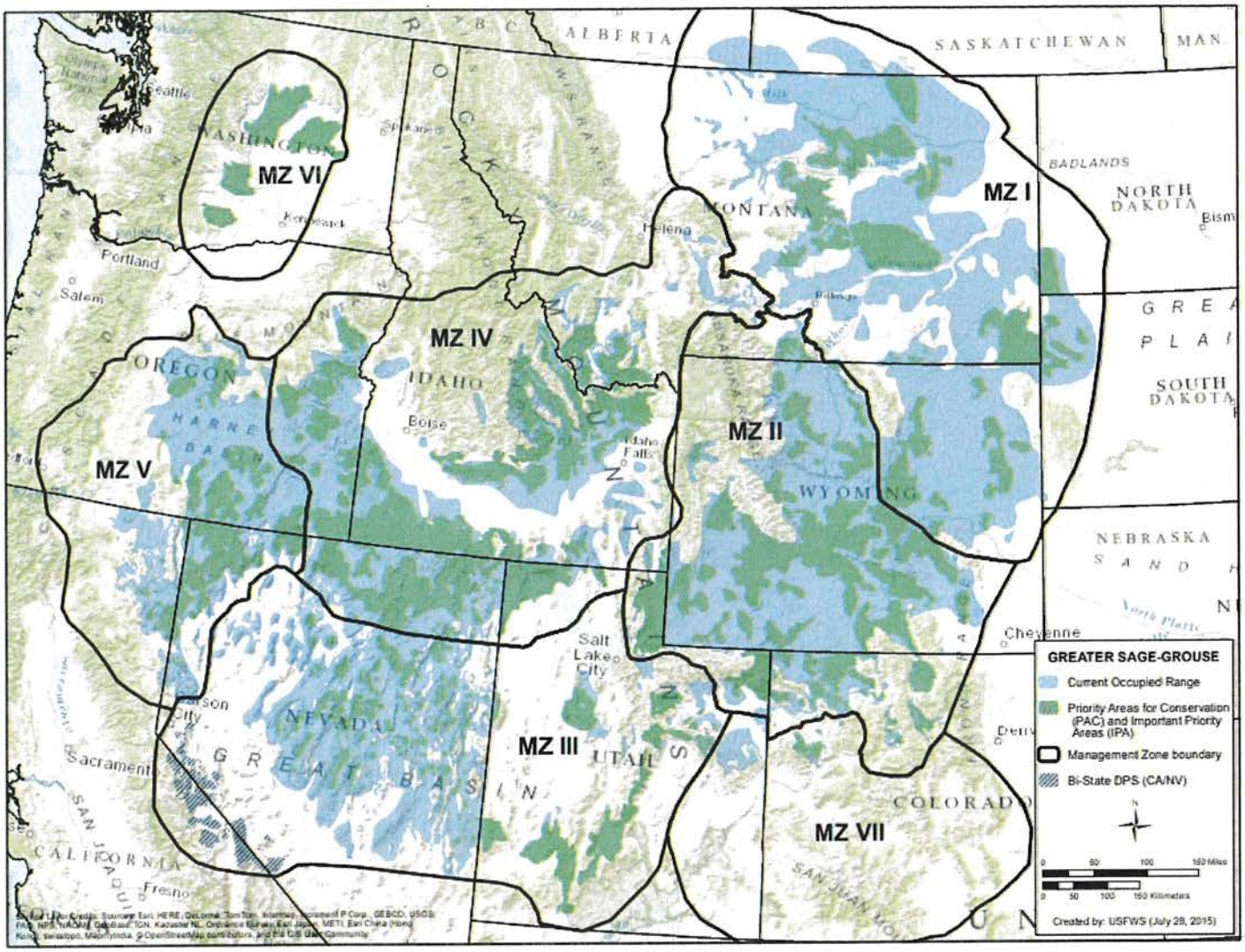

Figure 4 - Continental Greater Sage-Grouse Habitat

The project site is located less than the recommended 3.1 miles away from known leks, which are west of US 395. However, US 395 presents an existing source of noise and disturbance for those known leks. Because of the distance from known leks, and because of the noise levels associated with US 395, the project is not anticipated to generate significant noise levels that would adversely affect sage grouse breeding behavior over what currently exists in the area.

Golden eagle, Swainson's hawk, white-tailed kite, and northern goshawk are only expected to potentially hunt on the project site, if present in the area, but are not expected to nest on the project site because of the lack of suitable nesting areas. Impacts to the foraging habitat of these and other bird species would be considered less than significant because these species are mobile and ample foraging area occurs in the project vicinity. However, several common bird species protected under the MBTA could nest on the project site in areas that contain suitable plant communities (Big Sagebrush Scrub). If these bird species are present and nesting in the project area, adverse impacts may occur during ground-disturbing construction activities from the direct removal or destruction of nests. Adverse impacts to nesting birds can also occur from indirect noise impacts as a result of project implementation. With the implementation of Minimization Measure B-1, direct and indirect impacts to nesting birds would be less than significant. This commitment requires surveys for nesting birds to occur prior to construction activities and would implement protective, no-work buffers around identified active nests. It should also be noted that the depression containing all mining activities in conjunction with the surrounding berm will have a sound-containing effect which could naturally reduce noise impacts on biological resources.

Mammals

The undisturbed portions of the 30-acre project site offer potential habitat for several mammal species. The loss of this habitat would not be significant because it represents a small portion of the available suitable habitat in the region. Most mammal species that may be present during ground-disturbing activities are expected to leave the area and use adjacent suitable habitat, which is abundant.

Bats

No impacts to bat roosting populations are expected. If bat species are present during project implementation, they would be present to forage over the project area rather than roost. Impacts would be less than significant.

Fish

There are no aquatic resources in the project area, therefore no impacts to Rush Creek or Parker Creek will occur. No sensitive fish species will be impacted by project activities.

Invertebrates

There are no aquatic resources in the project area, therefore no sensitive invertebrate species will be impacted by project activities.

Avoidance and/or Minimization Measures

B-1: If ground-disturbing activities occur within the bird nesting season (February 1 – September 30), the Department shall retain a qualified biologist to conduct a pre-construction nesting bird survey no more than 2 days prior to the start of new ground-disturbing activities. The nest survey shall include the project site and areas immediately adjacent to the site that could potentially be affected by project activities such as noise, human activity, dust, etc. If active bird nests are found on or immediately adjacent to the project site, then the qualified biologist will establish an appropriate buffer zone around the active nests, typically a 250-foot radius for songbirds and a 500-foot radius for raptors. Project activities shall not take place within the buffer zone until the biologist determines nesting birds are not being disturbed by project activities. Nest monitoring by the qualified biologist will be required to make these determinations, and the nest monitoring guidance will come from the Department. Preconstruction nesting bird surveys will occur prior to implementation of each Phase of work as described in the Project Description. All coordination for nesting bird surveys prior to project Phases will be made through the Caltrans Surface Mining and Reclamation Act (SMARA) coordinator.

Preconstruction sensitive plant surveys will be conducted by a qualified biologist prior to implementation of each Phase of work as described in the Project Description. Plant surveys will be conducted in all project impact areas. Survey guidance will come from the Department (Caltrans), and all coordination for surveys prior to Phases will be made through the SMARA coordinator.

Focused preconstruction surveys for pygmy and western white-tailed jackrabbit will be conducted by a qualified biologist prior to implementation of each Phase of work as described in the Project Description. Survey guidance will come from the Department and all coordination for surveys prior to Phases will be made through the SMARA coordinator.

All Sensitive BLM species will be reviewed prior to implementation of each Phase, as described in the Project Description, and surveys for appropriate BLM species will be required prior to each Phase. Survey guidance will come from the Department and all coordination for surveys prior to Phases will be made through the SMARA coordinator.

THREATENED AND ENDANGERED SPECIES

Regulatory Setting

The primary federal law protecting threatened and endangered species is the Federal Endangered Species Act (FESA): 16 United States Code (USC) Section 1531, et seq. See also 50 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 402. This act and later amendments provide for the conservation of endangered and threatened species and the ecosystems upon which they depend. Under Section 7 of this act, federal agencies, such as the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) (and the Department, as assigned), are required to consult with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's National Marine Fisheries Service (NOAA Fisheries Service) to ensure that they are not undertaking, funding, permitting, or authorizing actions likely to jeopardize the continued existence of listed species or destroy or adversely modify designated critical habitat. Critical habitat is defined as geographic locations critical to the existence of a threatened or endangered species. The outcome of consultation under Section 7 may include a Biological Opinion with an Incidental Take statement or a Letter of Concurrence. Section 3 of FESA defines take as "harass, harm, pursue, hunt, shoot, wound, kill, trap, capture or collect or any attempt at such conduct."

California has enacted a similar law at the state level, the California Endangered Species Act (CESA), California Fish and Game Code Section 2050, et seq. CESA emphasizes early consultation to avoid potential impacts to rare, endangered, and threatened species and to develop appropriate planning to offset project-caused losses of listed species populations and their essential habitats. The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) is the agency responsible for implementing CESA. Section 2080 of the California Fish and Game Code prohibits "take" of any species determined to be an endangered species or a threatened species. Take is defined in Section 86 of the California Fish and Game Code as "hunt, pursue, catch, capture, or kill, or attempt to hunt, pursue, catch, capture, or kill." CESA allows for take incidental to otherwise lawful development projects; for these actions an incidental take permit is issued by CDFW. For species listed under both FESA and CESA requiring a Biological Opinion under Section 7 of FESA, the CDFW may also authorize impacts to CESA species by issuing a Consistency Determination under Section 2080.1 of the California Fish and Game Code.

Another federal law, the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act of 1976, was established to conserve and manage fishery resources found off the coast, as well as anadromous species and Continental Shelf fishery resources of the United States, by exercising (A) sovereign rights for the purposes of exploring, exploiting, conserving, and managing all fish within the exclusive economic zone established by Presidential Proclamation 5030, dated March 10, 1983, and (B) exclusive fishery management authority beyond the exclusive economic zone over such anadromous species, Continental Shelf fishery resources, and fishery resources in special areas.

Affected Environment

Field surveys for all special-status species, including threatened and endangered species, were completed on August 25, 2016 (see Animal Species – Affected Environment, above). No threatened or endangered species were found during this survey. Species lists were updated in May 2018 (Table 2 and appendix F).

One California Endangered Species, the avian Willow Flycatcher (*Empidonax traillii*), could potentially occur within the general project vicinity. Review of the proposed project by a Caltrans biologist in May 2018 indicated that there may be suitable Willow Flycatcher habitat along Parker and Rush Creeks (north and south of the project area, respectively). Although the species was not documented during the 2016 wildlife surveys, further surveys will be needed prior to implementation of each Phase to ensure Willow Flycatchers are not impacted by the project (Commitment B-2). These surveys must meet and follow the California Department of Fish and Wildlife survey protocol "A Willow Flycatcher Survey Protocol for California" (Bombay et al. 2003).

Suitable habitat for the Willow flycatcher includes riparian woodlands and extensive thickets of low, dense willows on the edge of wet meadows, ponds, and backwaters. There is no suitable habitat within the project's direct impact area and removal of flycatcher habitat is not proposed as part of this project. Preconstruction protocol surveys prior to Phase 1 activities will inform Caltrans biologists of the potential for flycatchers to occur near the project during Phase 2. Phase 3 activities performed by contractors will require separate environmental clearances prior to initiation. Phase 3 activities may also require protocol-level Willow flycatcher surveys, however, this will be determined based on the results of Phase 1 surveys and assessed prior to each individual Phase 3 project.

If Willow flycatchers are found on-site prior to Phase 1-2 activities, California Department of Fish and Wildlife staff will be contacted to determine appropriate measures to avoid and minimize impacts. With these project features in place, the project is expected to have no effect on threatened or endangered species.

Avoidance, Minimization and/or Mitigation Measures

B-2: Preconstruction bird surveys for Willow Flycatcher near Parker and Rush Creeks. Surveys will adhere to California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) protocols. If determined present, Caltrans will coordinate with CDFW staff to determine any additional avoidance or minimization measures needed.

Chapter 3. CEQA Environmental Checklist

9-Mono-MS190	46.5	09-365604
Dist.-Co.-Rte.	P.M/P.M.	E.A.

This checklist identifies physical, biological, social, and economic factors that might be affected by the proposed project. In many cases, background studies performed in connection with the projects will indicate that there are no impacts to a particular resource. A NO IMPACT answer in the last column reflects this determination. The words "significant" and "significance" used throughout the following checklist are related to CEQA, not NEPA, impacts. The questions in this form are intended to encourage the thoughtful assessment of impacts and do not represent thresholds of significance.

Project features, which can include both design elements of the project, and standardized measures that are applied to all or most Caltrans projects such as Best Management Practices (BMPs) and measures included in the Standard Plans and Specifications or as Standard Special Provisions, are considered to be an integral part of the project and have been considered prior to any significance determinations documented below; see Chapters 1 and 2 for a detailed discussion of these features. The annotations to this checklist are summaries of information contained in Chapter 2 in order to provide the reader with the rationale for significance determinations; for a more detailed discussion of the nature and extent of impacts, please see Chapter 2. This checklist incorporates by reference the information contained in Chapters 1 and 2.

	Significant and Unavoidable Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
I. AESTHETICS: Would the project:				
a) Have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista?	☐	☐	☐	☒
b) Substantially damage scenic resources, including, but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a state scenic highway?	☐	☐	☐	☒

	Significant and Unavoidable Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
c) Substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of the site and its surroundings?	☐	☐	☒	☐
d) Create a new source of substantial light or glare which would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area?	☐	☐	☐	☒

Aesthetics (a) – No Impact - There are no scenic vistas in the immediate area which will be substantially impacted by the proposed mine site. Scenic vistas on Conway Summit are on the north side of Mono Lake and will not be affected by reactivating the mine site.

Aesthetics (b) - No Impact – U.S. 395 is a designated state scenic highway; however the project area is an existing mine site with disturbed soils and there are no scenic resources within the project area. The project will not dramatically alter the existing character of the viewshed and no scenic resources will be affected. Additionally, permanent structures in the mine will be colored to blend into the surroundings in coordination with the Bureau of Land Management (AES-1).

Aesthetics (c) – Less than Significant Impact – The existing visual character of Baseline Pit is a combination of mining and construction related activities that have been active for many decades. of the project site is industrial in nature. It has a long history of highway construction related activities and mining.

Aesthetics (d) – No Impact – Permanent structures will receive color treatment to blend into the surroundings and will not create a new source of light reflection or glare.

II. AGRICULTURE AND FOREST RESOURCES: In determining whether impacts to agricultural resources are significant environmental effects, lead agencies may refer to the California Agricultural Land Evaluation and Site Assessment Model (1997) prepared by the California Dept. of Conservation as an optional model to use in assessing impacts on agriculture and farmland. In determining whether impacts to forest resources, including timberland, are significant environmental effects, lead agencies may refer to information compiled by the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection regarding the state's inventory of forest land, including the Forest and Range Assessment Project and the Forest Legacy Assessment Project; and the forest carbon measurement methodology provided in Forest Protocols adopted by the California Air Resources Board. Would the project:	Significant and Unavoidable Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance (Farmland), as shown on the maps prepared pursuant to the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program of the California Resources Agency, to non-agricultural use?	☐	☐	☐	☒
b) Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or a Williamson Act contract?	☐	☐	☐	☒
c) Conflict with existing zoning for, or cause rezoning of, forest land (as defined in Public Resources Code section 12220(g)), timberland (as defined by Public Resources Code section 4526), or timberland zoned Timberland Production (as defined by Government Code section 51104(g))?	☐	☐	☐	☒
d) Result in the loss of forest land or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?	☐	☐	☐	☒
e) Involve other changes in the existing environment which, due to their location or nature, could result in conversion of Farmland, to non-agricultural use or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?	☐	☐	☐	☒
Ag and Forest (a-e) – No Impact – The proposed project will not convert farm or forest land to a different use.				

	Significant and Unavoidable Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
III. AIR QUALITY: Where available, the significance criteria established by the applicable air quality management or air pollution control district may be relied upon to make the following determinations. Would the project:				
a) Conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan?	☐	☐	☐	☒
b) Violate any air quality standard or contribute substantially to an existing or projected air quality violation?	☐	☐	☐	☒
c) Result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is non- attainment under an applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard (including releasing emissions which exceed quantitative thresholds for ozone precursors)?	☐	☐	☐	☒
d) Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations?	☐	☐	☐	☒
e) Create objectionable odors affecting a substantial number of people?	☐	☐	☐	☒

Air Quality (a-e) – No Impact – The proposed project is not expected to violate any air quality standard, conflict with any air quality plan, or result in a considerable net increase in PM10 due to standard dust control measures. There are no sensitive receptors in the project vicinity for localized pollutants or odors.

IV. BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES: Would the project:	Significant and Unavoidable Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Game or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?	☐	☐	☒	☐
b) Have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, regulations or by the California Department of Fish and Game or US Fish and Wildlife Service?	☐	☐	☐	☒
c) Have a substantial adverse effect on federally protected wetlands as defined by Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means?	☐	☐	☐	☒
d) Interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites?	☐	☐	☐	☒
e) Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance?	☐	☐	☐	☒
f) Conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan?	☐	☐	☐	☒

Biological Resources (a) – Less than Significant Impact – The project vicinity contains habitat which could be used by special-status species and nesting birds. The previously-disturbed nature of the project area means the habitat in the impact area has already been degraded and is less than suitable for these species. Preconstruction surveys (Appendix E, B-1 and B-2) will be completed to ensure they are not impacted by the project.

Biological Resources (b-f) – No impact – The project will not impact riparian or water resources, or obstruct any biological corridors. It will not conflict with any known conservation plan or local ordinance.

V. CULTURAL RESOURCES: Would the project:	Significant and Unavoidable Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource as defined in §15064.5?	☐	☐	☐	☒
b) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to §15064.5?	☐	☐	☐	☒
c) Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature?	☐	☐	☐	☒
d) Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of dedicated cemeteries?	☐	☐	☐	☒

Cultural Resources (a-d) – No Impact – There are no historical or archaeological resources within the impact area of the proposed project. No paleontological resources are known in the underlying rock unit, and the area to be disturbed was previously developed for mining activities. Standard specifications will be in place and implemented in the event unanticipated cultural resources or human remains are discovered.

VI. Geology and Soils

Would the project:	Significant and Unavoidable Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Expose people or structures to potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving:	☐	☐	☐	☒
i) Rupture of a known earthquake fault, as delineated on the most recent Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Map issued by the State Geologist for the area or based on other substantial evidence of a known fault? Refer to Division of Mines and Geology Special Publication 42?	☐	☐	☐	☒
ii) Strong seismic ground shaking?	☐	☐	☐	☒
iii) Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction?	☐	☐	☐	☒
iv) Landslides?	☐	☐	☐	☒
b) Result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil?	☐	☐	☐	☒
c) Be located on a geologic unit or soil that is unstable, or that would become unstable as a result of the project, and potentially result in on- or off-site landslide, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction or collapse?	☐	☐	☐	☒
d) Be located on expansive soil, as defined in Table 18-1-B of the Uniform Building Code (1994), creating substantial risks to life or property?	☐	☐	☐	☒
e) Have soils incapable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative waste water disposal systems where sewers are not available for the disposal of waste water?	☐	☐	☐	☒

Geology and Soils (a-e) – No Impact – The proposed project will not increase risks due to rupturing an earthquake fault, causing ground shaking or failure, landslides, erosion or liquefaction. It is not located on expansive soils and will not require sewer or septic utilities.

VII. GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS: Would the project:

a) Generate greenhouse gas emissions, either directly or indirectly, that may have a significant impact on the environment?

b) Conflict with an applicable plan, policy or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases?

Caltrans has used the best available information based to the extent possible on scientific and factual information, to describe, calculate, or estimate the amount of greenhouse gas emissions that may occur related to this project. The analysis included in the climate change section of this document provides the public and decision-makers as much information about the project as possible. It is Caltrans' determination that in the absence of statewide-adopted thresholds or GHG emissions limits, it is too speculative to make a significance determination regarding an individual project's direct and indirect impacts with respect to global climate change. Caltrans remains committed to implementing measures to reduce the potential effects of the project. These measures are outlined in the climate change section that follows the CEQA checklist and related discussions.

VIII. HAZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS: Would the project:	Significant and Unavoidable Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials?	☐	☐	☐	☒
b) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment?	☐	☐	☐	☒
c) Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school?	☐	☐	☐	☒
d) Be located on a site which is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5 and, as a result, would it create a significant hazard to the public or the environment?	☐	☐	☐	☒
e) For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area?	☐	☐	☐	☒
f) For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area?	☐	☐	☐	☒
g) Impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?	☐	☐	☐	☒
h) Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving wildland fires, including where wildlands are adjacent to urbanized areas or where residences are intermixed with wildlands?	☐	☐	☐	☒

Hazards and Hazardous Materials (a-h) – No Impact – The project will not routinely transport, use or dispose of hazardous materials, create additional public spill hazards, or emit or dispose of hazardous waste. It is not located on a Cortese List site (Gov Code Section 65962.5). There are no private airstrips nearby. It will not interfere with emergency plans or expose people or structures to significant risks from fires.

IX. HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY: Would the project:	Significant and Unavoidable Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements?	☐	☐	☐	☒
b) Substantially deplete groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that there would be a net deficit in aquifer volume or a lowering of the local groundwater table level (e.g., the production rate of pre-existing nearby wells would drop to a level which would not support existing land uses or planned uses for which permits have been granted)?	☐	☐	☐	☒
c) Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, in a manner which would result in substantial erosion or siltation on- or off-site?	☐	☐	☐	☒
d) Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, or substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner which would result in flooding on- or off-site?	☐	☐	☐	☒
e) Create or contribute runoff water which would exceed the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems or provide substantial additional sources of polluted runoff?	☐	☐	☐	☒
f) Otherwise substantially degrade water quality?	☐	☐	☐	☒
g) Place housing within a 100-year flood hazard area as mapped on a federal Flood Hazard Boundary or Flood Insurance Rate Map or other flood hazard delineation map?	☐	☐	☐	☒

h) Place within a 100-year flood hazard area structures which would impede or redirect flood flows?	☐	☐	☐	☒
i) Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving flooding, including flooding as a result of the failure of a levee or dam?	☐	☐	☐	☒
j) Inundation by seiche, tsunami, or mudflow	☐	☐	☐	☒

Hydrology and Water Quality (a-j) – No Impact – The proposed project will not violate any water regulations, deplete groundwater supplies, alter drainage patterns, create runoff water which would exceed drainage systems, or otherwise degrade water quality.

X. LAND USE AND PLANNING: Would the project:	Significant and Unavoidable Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Physically divide an established community?	☐	☐	☐	☒
b)Conflict with any applicable land use plan, policy, or regulation of an agency with jurisdiction over the project (including, but not limited to the general plan, specific plan, local coastal program, or zoning ordinance) adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect?	☐	☐	☐	☒
c) Conflict with any applicable habitat conservation plan or natural community conservation plan?	☐	☐	☐	☒

Land Use and Planning (a-c) – No Impact – The proposed project site is a rural, unpopulated, existing mine site. It will not divide a community, conflict with land use plans or conflict with any known conservation plans.

XI. MINERAL RESOURCES: Would the project:	Significant and Unavoidable Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource that would be of value to the region and the residents of the state?	☐	☐	☐	☒
b) Result in the loss of availability of a locally-important mineral resource recovery site delineated on a local general plan, specific plan or other land use plan?	☐	☐	☐	☒

Mineral Resources (a,b) – No Impact – The proposed project will reactivate a previously-used aggregate mine site for the benefit of State projects in Mono County.

XII. NOISE: Would the project result in:	Significant and Unavoidable Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Exposure of persons to or generation of noise levels in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance, or applicable standards of other agencies?	☐	☐	☐	☒
b) Exposure of persons to or generation of excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels?	☐	☐	☐	☒
c) A substantial permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project?	☐	☐	☒	☐
d) A substantial temporary or periodic increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project?	☐	☐	☒	☐
e) For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?	☐	☐	☐	☒
f) For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?	☐	☐	☐	☒

Noise (a,b) – No Impact – The rural, uninhabited setting of the project precludes any impacts on people from noise or vibration.

Noise (c,d) – Less than Significant Impact – Noise levels in the immediate vicinity of the mine pit will increase due to the use heavy equipment and haul trucks. There are no residences or businesses within a reasonable distance from the mine, and the mine design includes boundary berms and a depressed center which will help to contain noise within the mine site. The nearby U.S. 395 is the major existing source of noise in the area. The material resource is estimated to be viable for 54 years, at which point the mine will be closed and reclaimed. The mine design and lack of sensitive receptors nearby contribute to the project having a less than significant impact on short and long term noise levels.

Noise (e,f) – No Impact – The project is not within the vicinity of an airstrip or airport.

XIII. POPULATION AND HOUSING: Would the project:	Significant and Unavoidable Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Induce substantial population growth in an area, either directly (for example, by proposing new homes and businesses) or indirectly (for example, through extension of roads or other infrastructure)?	☐	☐	☐	☒
b) Displace substantial numbers of existing housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?	☐	☐	☐	☒
c) Displace substantial numbers of people, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?	☐	☐	☐	☒

Population and Housing (a-c) – No Impact – The proposed project will not induce population growth or displace people or housing.

XIV. PUBLIC SERVICES:				
a) Would the project result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered governmental facilities, need for new or physically altered governmental facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times or other performance objectives for any of the public services:	Significant and Unavoidable Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
Fire protection?	☐	☐	☐	☒
Police protection?	☐	☐	☐	☒
Schools?	☐	☐	☐	☒
Parks?	☐	☐	☐	☒
Other public facilities?	☐	☐	☐	☒

Public Services (a) – No Impact – The project will not physically alter public parks or buildings and will not affect emergency response times.

XV. RECREATION:	Significant and Unavoidable Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Would the project increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility would occur or be accelerated?	☐	☐	☐	☒
b) Does the project include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities which might have an adverse physical effect on the environment?	☐	☐	☐	☒

Recreation (a,b) – No Impact – The proposed project site is a previously-active mine and it will not impact parks or recreational facilities.

XVI. TRANSPORTATION/TRAFFIC: Would the project:	Significant and Unavoidable Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Conflict with an applicable plan, ordinance or policy establishing measures of effectiveness for the performance of the circulation system, taking into account all modes of transportation including mass transit and non-motorized travel and relevant components of the circulation system, including but not limited to intersections, streets, highways and freeways, pedestrian and bicycle paths, and mass transit?	☐	☐	☐	☒
b) Conflict with an applicable congestion management program, including, but not limited to level of service standards and travel demand measures, or other standards established by the county congestion management agency for designated roads or highways?	☐	☐	☐	☒
c) Result in a change in air traffic patterns, including either an increase in traffic levels or a change in location that results in substantial safety risks?	☐	☐	☐	☒
d) Substantially increase hazards due to a design feature (e.g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses (e.g., farm equipment)?	☐	☐	☐	☒
e) Result in inadequate emergency access?	☐	☐	☐	☒
f) Conflict with adopted policies, plans or programs regarding public transit, bicycle, or pedestrian facilities, or otherwise decrease the performance or safety of such facilities?	☐	☐	☐	☒

Transportation (a-f) – No Impact – Due to the location and scope of the proposed project, it will not conflict with land use plans, significantly congest highways, change air traffic patterns, increase hazards due to design, or result in inadequate emergency access.

XVII. TRIBAL CULTURAL RESOURCES: Would the project cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a tribal cultural resource, defined in Public Resources Code section 21074 as either a site, feature, place, cultural landscape that is geographically defined in terms of the size and scope of the landscape, sacred place, or object with cultural value to a California Native American tribe, and that is:	Significant and Unavoidable Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Listed or eligible for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources, or in a local register of historical resources as defined in Public Resources Code section 5020.1(k), or	☐	☐	☐	☒
b) A resource determined by the lead agency, in its discretion and supported by substantial evidence, to be significant pursuant to criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resources Code Section 5024.1. In applying the criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resource Code Section 5024.1, the lead agency shall consider the significance of the resource to a California Native American tribe.	☐	☐	☐	☒

Tribal Cultural Resources (a,b) – No Impact – The proposed project is not anticipated impact any listed or eligible historical resource or any resource significant to a California Native American Tribe. CEQA AB 52 requirements were met with a 30-day notification period ending May 26th. No responses or requests for formal consultation were received during this time or prior to public circulation.

XVIII. UTILITIES AND SERVICE SYSTEMS: Would the project:	Significant and Unavoidable Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Exceed wastewater treatment requirements of the applicable Regional Water Quality Control Board?	☐	☐	☐	☒
b) Require or result in the construction of new water or wastewater treatment facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?	☐	☐	☐	☒
c) Require or result in the construction of new storm water drainage facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?	☐	☐	☐	☒
d) Have sufficient water supplies available to serve the project from existing entitlements and resources, or are new or expanded entitlements needed?	☐	☐	☐	☒
e) Result in a determination by the wastewater treatment provider which serves or may serve the project that it has adequate capacity to serve the project's projected demand in addition to the provider's existing commitments?	☐	☐	☐	☒
f) Be served by a landfill with sufficient permitted capacity to accommodate the project's solid waste disposal needs?	☐	☐	☐	☒
g) Comply with federal, state, and local statutes and regulations related to solid waste?	☐	☐	☐	☒

Utilities and Service Systems (a-g) – No Impact – The proposed project will not require new or expanded wastewater treatment or supply facilities, or additional landfills. It will comply with all federal, state, and local waste regulations. There are no planned utility movements or realignments for this project.

	Significant and Unavoidable Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
XIX. MANDATORY FINDINGS OF SIGNIFICANCE				
a) Does the project have the potential to degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, substantially reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory?	☐	☐	☐	☒
b) Does the project have impacts that are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable? ("Cumulatively considerable" means that the incremental effects of a project are considerable when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, the effects of other current projects, and the effects of probable future projects)?	☐	☐	☐	☒
c) Does the project have environmental effects which will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?	☐	☐	☐	☒

Mandatory Findings (a-c) – No Impact – The proposed project does not have the potential to substantially degrade existing fish or wildlife habitat, does not have cumulatively significant impacts, and will not have direct or indirect substantial adverse effects on human beings.

Chapter 4. Climate Change

Climate change refers to long-term changes in temperature, precipitation, wind patterns, and other elements of the earth's climate system. An ever-increasing body of scientific research attributes these climatological changes to greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, particularly those generated from the production and use of fossil fuels.

While climate change has been a concern for several decades, the establishment of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) by the United Nations and World Meteorological Organization in 1988 has led to increased efforts devoted to GHG emissions reduction and climate change research and policy. These efforts are primarily concerned with the emissions of GHGs generated by human activity, including carbon dioxide (CO_2), methane (CH_4), nitrous oxide (N_2O), tetrafluoromethane, hexafluoroethane, sulfur hexafluoride (SF_6), HFC-23 (fluoroform), HFC-134a (s, s, s, 2-tetrafluoroethane), and HFC-152a (difluoroethane).

In the U.S., the main source of GHG emissions is electricity generation, followed by transportation.[3] In California, however, transportation sources (including passenger cars, light-duty trucks, other trucks, buses, and motorcycles) are the largest contributors of GHG emissions.[4] The dominant GHG emitted is CO_2, mostly from fossil fuel combustion.

Two terms are typically used when discussing how we address the impacts of climate change: "greenhouse gas mitigation" and "adaptation." "Greenhouse gas mitigation" is a term for reducing GHG emissions to reduce or "mitigate" the impacts of climate change. "Adaptation" refers to planning for and responding to impacts resulting from climate change (such as adjusting transportation design standards to withstand more intense storms and higher sea levels).

Regulatory Setting

This section outlines federal and state efforts to comprehensively reduce GHG emissions from transportation sources.

Federal

To date, no national standards have been established for nationwide mobile-source GHG reduction targets, nor have any regulations or legislation been enacted specifically to address climate change and GHG emissions reduction at the project level.

The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) (42 United States Code [USC] Part 4332) requires federal agencies to assess the environmental effects of their proposed actions prior to making a decision on the action or project.

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) recognizes the threats that extreme weather, sea-level change, and other changes in environmental conditions pose to valuable transportation infrastructure and those who depend on it. FHWA therefore supports a sustainability approach that assesses vulnerability to climate risks and incorporates resilience into planning, asset management, project development and design, and

[3] https://www.epa.gov/ghgemissions/us-greenhouse-gas-inventory-report-1990-2014
[4] https://www.arb.ca.gov/cc/inventory/data/data.htm

operations and maintenance practices.[5] This approach encourages planning for sustainable highways by addressing climate risks while balancing environmental, economic, and social values—"the triple bottom line of sustainability."[6] Program and project elements that foster sustainability and resilience also support economic vitality and global efficiency, increase safety and mobility, enhance the environment, promote energy conservation, and improve the quality of life. Addressing these factors up front in the planning process will assist in decision-making and improve efficiency at the program level, and will inform the analysis and stewardship needs of project-level decision-making.

Various efforts have been promulgated at the federal level to improve fuel economy and energy efficiency to address climate change and its associated effects.

The Energy Policy Act of 1992 (EPACT92, 102nd Congress H.R.776.ENR): With this act, Congress set goals, created mandates, and amended utility laws to increase clean energy use and improve overall energy efficiency in the United States. EPACT92 consists of 27 titles detailing various measures designed to lessen the nation's dependence on imported energy, provide incentives for clean and renewable energy, and promote energy conservation in buildings. Title III of EPACT92 addresses alternative fuels. It gave the U.S. Department of Energy administrative power to regulate the minimum number of light-duty alternative fuel vehicles required in certain federal fleets beginning in fiscal year 1993. The primary goal of the Program is to cut petroleum use in the United States by 2.5 billion gallons per year by 2020.

Energy Policy Act of 2005 (109th Congress H.R.6 (2005–2006): This act sets forth an energy research and development program covering: (1) energy efficiency; (2) renewable energy; (3) oil and gas; (4) coal; (5) Indian energy; (6) nuclear matters and security; (7) vehicles and motor fuels, including ethanol; (8) hydrogen; (9) electricity; (10) energy tax incentives; (11) hydropower and geothermal energy; and (12) climate change technology.

Energy Policy and Conservation Act of 1975 (42 USC Section 6201) and Corporate Average Fuel Standards: This act establishes fuel economy standards for on-road motor vehicles sold in the United States. Compliance with federal fuel economy standards is determined through the Corporate Average Fuel Economy (CAFE) program on the basis of each manufacturer's average fuel economy for the portion of its vehicles produced for sale in the United States.

Executive Order 13514, *Federal Leadership in Environmental, Energy, and Economic Performance*, 74 *Federal Register* 52117 (October 8, 2009): This federal EO set sustainability goals for federal agencies and focuses on making improvements in their environmental, energy, and economic performance. It instituted as policy of the United States that federal agencies measure, report, and reduce their GHG emissions from direct and indirect activities.

Executive Order 13693, *Planning for Federal Sustainability in the Next Decade*, 80 Federal Register 15869 (March 2015): This EO reaffirms the policy of the United States that federal agencies measure, report, and reduce their GHG emissions from direct and indirect activities. It sets sustainability goals for all agencies to promote energy conservation, efficiency, and management by reducing energy consumption and GHG emissions. It builds on the adaptation and resiliency goals in previous executive orders to ensure agency

[5] https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/sustainability/resilience/
[6] https://www.sustainablehighways.dot.gov/overview.aspx

operations and facilities prepare for impacts of climate change. This order revokes Executive Order 13514.

U.S. EPA's authority to regulate GHG emissions stems from the U.S. Supreme Court decision in *Massachusetts* v. *EPA* (2007). The Supreme Court ruled that GHGs meet the definition of air pollutants under the existing Clean Air Act and must be regulated if these gases could be reasonably anticipated to endanger public health or welfare. Responding to the Court's ruling, U.S. EPA finalized an endangerment finding in December 2009. Based on scientific evidence it found that six GHGs constitute a threat to public health and welfare. Thus, it is the Supreme Court's interpretation of the existing Act and EPA's assessment of the scientific evidence that form the basis for EPA's regulatory actions.

U.S. EPA in conjunction with the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) issued the first of a series of GHG emission standards for new cars and light-duty vehicles in April 2010[7] and significantly increased the fuel economy of all new passenger cars and light trucks sold in the United States. The standards required these vehicles to meet an average fuel economy of 34.1 miles per gallon by 2016. In August 2012, the federal government adopted the second rule that increases fuel economy for the fleet of passenger cars, light-duty trucks, and medium-duty passenger vehicles for model years 2017 and beyond to average fuel economy of 54.5 miles per gallon by 2025. Because NHTSA cannot set standards beyond model year 2021 due to statutory obligations and the rules' long timeframe, a mid-term evaluation is included in the rule. The Mid-Term Evaluation is the overarching process by which NHTSA, EPA, and ARB will decide on CAFE and GHG emissions standard stringency for model years 2022–2025. NHTSA has not formally adopted standards for model years 2022 through 2025. However, the EPA finalized its mid-term review in January 2017, affirming that the target fleet average of at least 54.5 miles per gallon by 2025 was appropriate. In March 2017, President Trump ordered EPA to reopen the review and reconsider the mileage target.[8]

NHTSA and EPA issued a Final Rule for "Phase 2" for medium- and heavy-duty vehicles to improve fuel efficiency and cut carbon pollution in October 2016. The agencies estimate that the standards will save up to 2 billion barrels of oil and reduce CO_2 emissions by up to 1.1 billion metric tons over the lifetimes of model year 2018–2027 vehicles.

Presidential Executive Order 13783, *Promoting Energy Independence and Economic Growth*, of March 28, 2017, orders all federal agencies to apply cost-benefit analyses to regulations of GHG emissions and evaluations of the social cost of carbon, nitrous oxide, and methane.

State

With the passage of legislation including State Senate and Assembly bills and executive orders, California has been innovative and proactive in addressing GHG emissions and climate change.

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[7] http://www.c2es.org/federal/executive/epa/greenhouse-gas-regulation-faq

[8] http://www.nbcnews.com/business/autos/trump-rolls-back-obama-era-fuel-economy-standards-n734256 and https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2017/03/22/2017-05316/notice-of-intention-to-reconsider-the-final-determination-of-the-mid-term-evaluation-of-greenhouse

Assembly Bill 1493, Pavley Vehicular Emissions: Greenhouse Gases, 2002: This bill requires the California Air Resources Board (ARB) to develop and implement regulations to reduce automobile and light truck GHG emissions. These stricter emissions standards were designed to apply to automobiles and light trucks beginning with the 2009-model year.

Executive Order S-3-05 (June 1, 2005): The goal of this executive order (EO) is to reduce California's GHG emissions to: (1) year 2000 levels by 2010, (2) year 1990 levels by 2020, and (3) 80 percent below year 1990 levels by 2050. This goal was further reinforced with the passage of Assembly Bill 32 in 2006 and SB 32 in 2016.

Assembly Bill 32 (AB 32), Chapter 488, 2006: Núñez and Pavley, The Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006: AB 32 codified the 2020 GHG emissions reduction goals as outlined in EO S-3-05, while further mandating that ARB create a scoping plan and implement rules to achieve "real, quantifiable, cost-effective reductions of greenhouse gases." The Legislature also intended that the statewide GHG emissions limit continue in existence and be used to maintain and continue reductions in emissions of GHGs beyond 2020 (Health and Safety Code Section 38551(b)). The law requires ARB to adopt rules and regulations in an open public process to achieve the maximum technologically feasible and cost-effective GHG reductions.

Executive Order S-20-06 (October 18, 2006): This order establishes the responsibilities and roles of the Secretary of the California Environmental Protection Agency (Cal/EPA) and state agencies with regard to climate change.

Executive Order S-01-07 (January 18, 2007): This order sets forth the low carbon fuel standard (LCFS) for California. Under this EO, the carbon intensity of California's transportation fuels is to be reduced by at least 10 percent by the year 2020. ARB re-adopted the LCFS regulation in September 2015, and the changes went into effect on January 1, 2016. The program establishes a strong framework to promote the low-carbon fuel adoption necessary to achieve the Governor's 2030 and 2050 GHG reduction goals.

Senate Bill 97 (SB 97), Chapter 185, 2007, Greenhouse Gas Emissions: This bill requires the Governor's Office of Planning and Research (OPR) to develop recommended amendments to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines for addressing GHG emissions. The amendments became effective on March 18, 2010.

Senate Bill 375 (SB 375), Chapter 728, 2008, Sustainable Communities and Climate Protection: This bill requires ARB to set regional emissions reduction targets for passenger vehicles. The Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for each region must then develop a "Sustainable Communities Strategy" (SCS) that integrates transportation, land-use, and housing policies to plan how it will achieve the emissions target for its region.

Senate Bill 391 (SB 391), Chapter 585, 2009, California Transportation Plan: This bill requires the State's long-range transportation plan to meet California's climate change goals under AB 32.

Executive Order B-16-12 (March 2012) orders State entities under the direction of the Governor, including ARB, the California Energy Commission, and the Public Utilities Commission, to support the rapid commercialization of zero-emission vehicles. It directs these entities to achieve various benchmarks related to zero-emission vehicles.

Executive Order B-30-15 (April 2015) establishes an interim statewide GHG emission reduction target of 40 percent below 1990 levels by 2030 in order to ensure California meets its target of reducing GHG emissions to 80 percent below 1990 levels by 2050. It further orders all state agencies with jurisdiction over sources of GHG emissions to implement measures, pursuant to statutory authority, to achieve reductions of GHG emissions to meet the 2030 and 2050 GHG emissions reductions targets. It also directs ARB to update the Climate Change Scoping Plan to express the 2030 target in terms of million metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalent ($MMTCO_2e$). Finally, it requires the Natural Resources Agency to update the state's climate adaptation strategy, *Safeguarding California*, every 3 years, and to ensure that its provisions are fully implemented.

Senate Bill 32, (SB 32) Chapter 249, 2016, codifies the GHG reduction targets established in EO B-30-15 to achieve a mid-range goal of 40 percent below 1990 levels by 2030.

Environmental Setting

In 2006, the Legislature passed the California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006 (AB 32), which created a comprehensive, multi-year program to reduce GHG emissions in California. AB 32 required ARB to develop a Scoping Plan that describes the approach California will take to achieve the goal of reducing GHG emissions to 1990 levels by 2020. The Scoping Plan was first approved by ARB in 2008 and must be updated every 5 years. ARB approved the *First Update to the Climate Change Scoping Plan* on May 22, 2014. ARB is moving forward with a discussion draft of an updated Scoping Plan that will reflect the 2030 target established in EO B-30-15 and SB 32.

The AB 32 Scoping Plan and the subsequent updates contain the main strategies California will use to reduce GHG emissions. As part of its supporting documentation for the Draft Scoping Plan, ARB released the GHG inventory for California.[9] ARB is responsible for maintaining and updating California's GHG Inventory per H&SC Section 39607.4. The associated forecast/projection is an estimate of the emissions anticipated to occur in the year 2020 if none of the foreseeable measures included in the Scoping Plan were implemented.

An emissions projection estimates future emissions based on current emissions, expected regulatory implementation, and other technological, social, economic, and behavioral patterns. The projected 2020 emissions provided in Figure ## represent a business-as-usual (BAU) scenario assuming none of the Scoping Plan measures are implemented. The 2020 BAU emissions estimate assists ARB in demonstrating progress toward meeting the 2020 goal of 431 MMTCO2e[10]. The 2017 edition of the GHG emissions inventory (released June 2017) found total California emissions of 440.4 $MMTCO_2e$, showing progress towards meeting the AB 32 goals.

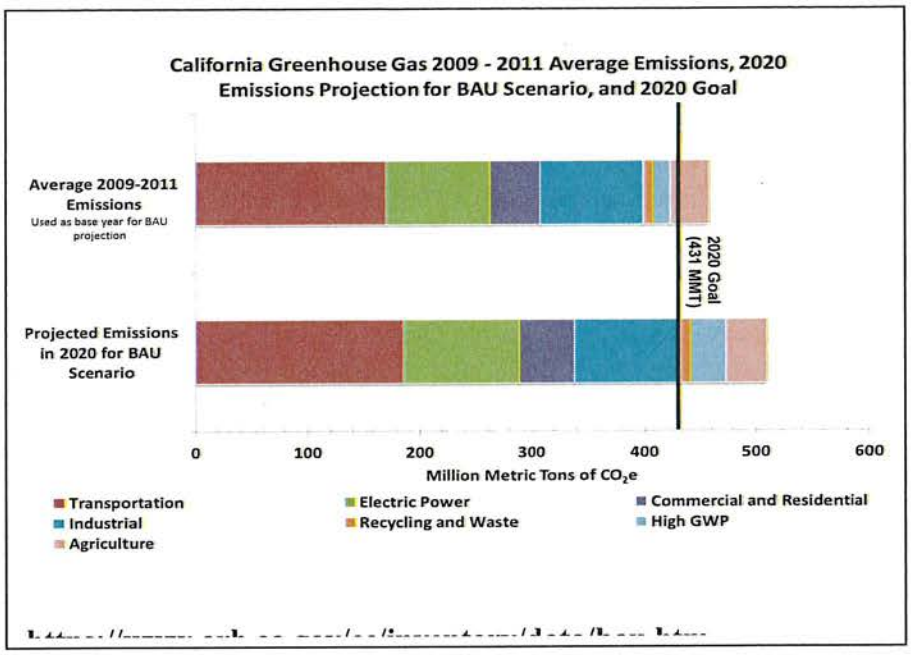
The 2020 BAU emissions projection was revisited in support of the First Update to the Scoping Plan (2014). This projection accounts for updates to the economic forecasts of fuel and energy demand as well as other factors. It also accounts for the effects of the 2008 economic recession and the projected recovery. The total emissions expected in the 2020 BAU scenario include reductions anticipated from Pavley I and the Renewable Electricity

[9] 2016 Edition of the GHG Emission Inventory Released (June 2016): https://www.arb.ca.gov/cc/inventory/data/data.htm

[10] The revised target using Global Warming Potentials (GWP) from the IPCC Fourth Assessment Report (AR4)

Standard (30 $MMTCO_2e$ total). With these reductions in the baseline, estimated 2020 statewide BAU emissions are 509 $MMTCO_2e$.

FIGURE 7 2020 Business as Usual (BAU) Emissions Projection 2014 Edition



Project Analysis

An individual project does not generate enough GHG emissions to significantly influence global climate change. Rather, global climate change is a cumulative impact. This means that a project may contribute to a potential impact through its *incremental* change in emissions when combined with the contributions of all other sources of GHG.[11] In assessing cumulative impacts, it must be determined if a project's incremental effect is "cumulatively considerable" (CEQA Guidelines Sections 15064(h)(1) and 15130). To make this determination the incremental impacts of the project must be compared with the effects of past, current, and probable future projects. To gather sufficient information on a global scale of all past, current, and future projects to make this determination is a difficult, if not impossible, task.

GHG emissions for transportation projects can be divided into those produced during operations and those produced during construction. The following represents a best faith effort to describe the potential GHG emissions related to the proposed project.

Construction GHG emissions would result from material processing, on-site construction equipment, and traffic delays due to construction. These emissions will be produced at different levels throughout the construction phase; their frequency and occurrence can be

[11] This approach is supported by the AEP: *Recommendations by the Association of Environmental Professionals on How to Analyze GHG Emissions and Global Climate Change in CEQA Documents* (March 5, 2007), as well as the South Coast Air Quality Management District (Chapter 6: The CEQA Guide, April 2011) and the US Forest Service (Climate Change Considerations in Project Level NEPA Analysis, July 13, 2009).

reduced through innovations in plans and specifications and by implementing better traffic management during construction phases.

In addition, with innovations such as longer pavement lives, improved traffic management plans, and changes in materials, the GHG emissions produced during construction can be offset to some degree by longer intervals between maintenance and rehabilitation activities.

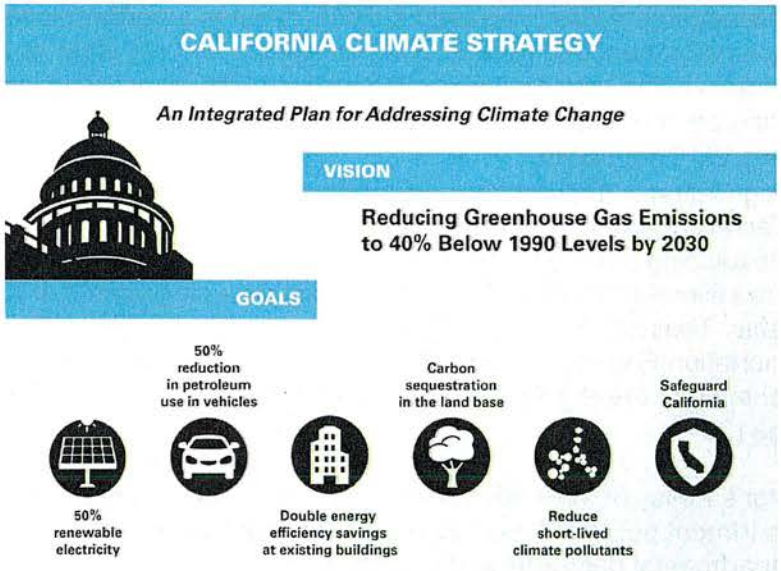
The proposed project is not classified as "capacity-increasing" and therefore is expected to result in minimal or no increase in operational GHG emissions. Short-term construction emissions will be unavoidable, however the use of this mine site in Mono County will reduce the vehicle miles required to import and store materials to meet the maintenance and capital project needs of the highway system.

Greenhouse Gas Reduction Strategies

Statewide Efforts

In an effort to further the vision of California's GHG reduction targets outlined an AB 32 and SB 32, Governor Brown identified key climate change strategy pillars (concepts). These pillars highlight the idea that several major areas of the California economy will need to reduce emissions to meet the 2030 GHG emissions target. These pillars are (1) reducing today's petroleum use in cars and trucks by up to 50 percent; (2) increasing from one-third to 50 percent our electricity derived from renewable sources; (3) doubling the energy efficiency savings achieved at existing buildings and making heating fuels cleaner; (4) reducing the release of methane, black carbon, and other short-lived climate pollutants; (5) managing farm and rangelands, forests, and wetlands so they can store carbon; and (6) periodically updating the state's climate adaptation strategy, *Safeguarding California*.

Figure 8 The Governor's Climate change pillars: 2030 Greenhouse gas reduction goals



The transportation sector is integral to the people and economy of California. To achieve GHG emission reduction goals, it is vital that we build on our past successes in reducing criteria and toxic air pollutants from transportation and goods movement activities. GHG emission reductions will come from cleaner vehicle technologies, lower-carbon fuels, and

reduction of vehicle miles traveled. One of Governor Brown's key pillars sets the ambitious goal of reducing today's petroleum use in cars and trucks by up to 50 percent by 2030.

Governor Brown called for support to manage natural and working lands, including forests, rangelands, farms, wetlands, and soils, so they can store carbon. These lands have the ability to remove carbon dioxide from the atmosphere through biological processes, and to then sequester carbon in above- and below-ground matter.

Caltrans Activities

Caltrans continues to be involved on the Governor's Climate Action Team as the ARB works to implement EOs S-3-05 and S-01-07 and help achieve the targets set forth in AB 32. EO B-30-15, issued in April 2015, and SB 32 (2016), set a new interim target to cut GHG emissions to 40 percent below 1990 levels by 2030. The following major initiatives are underway at Caltrans to help meet these targets.

California Transportation Plan (CTP 2040)

The California Transportation Plan (CTP) is a statewide, long-range transportation plan to meet our future mobility needs and reduce GHG emissions. The CTP defines performance-based goals, policies, and strategies to achieve our collective vision for California's future statewide, integrated, multimodal transportation system. It serves as an umbrella document for all of the other statewide transportation planning documents.

SB 391(Liu 2009) requires the CTP to meet California's climate change goals under AB 32. Accordingly, the CTP 2040 identifies the statewide transportation system needed to achieve maximum feasible GHG emission reductions while meeting the state's transportation needs. While MPOs have primary responsibility for identifying land use patterns to help reduce GHG emissions, CTP 2040 identifies additional strategies in Pricing, Transportation Alternatives, Mode Shift, and Operational Efficiency.

Caltrans Strategic Management Plan

The Strategic Management Plan, released in 2015, creates a performance-based framework to preserve the environment and reduce GHG emissions, among other goals. Specific performance targets in the plan that will help to reduce GHG emissions include:

- Increasing percentage of non-auto mode share
- Reducing VMT per capita
- Reducing Caltrans' internal operational (buildings, facilities, and fuel) GHG emissions

Funding and Technical Assistance Programs

In addition to developing plans and performance targets to reduce GHG emissions, Caltrans also administers several funding and technical assistance programs that have GHG reduction benefits. These include the Bicycle Transportation Program, Safe Routes to School, Transportation Enhancement Funds, and Transit Planning Grants. A more extensive description of these programs can be found in Caltrans Activities to Address Climate Change (2013).

Caltrans Director's Policy 30 (DP-30) Climate Change (June 22, 2012) is intended to establish a department policy that will ensure coordinated efforts to incorporate climate change into departmental decisions and activities.

Caltrans Activities to Address Climate Change (April 2013) provides a comprehensive overview of activities undertaken by Caltrans statewide to reduce GHG emissions resulting from agency operations.

Project-Level GHG Reduction Strategies
The following measures will also be implemented in the project to reduce GHG emissions and potential climate change impacts from the project.

The project will incorporate all applicable best management practices to reduce GHG emissions during construction, which may include items such as limits on equipment idling times and tailpipe emissions technology.

Adaptation Strategies
"Adaptation strategies" refer to how Caltrans and others can plan for the effects of climate change on the state's transportation infrastructure and strengthen or protect the facilities from damage—or, put another way, planning and design for resilience. Climate change is expected to produce increased variability in precipitation, rising temperatures, rising sea levels, variability in storm surges and their intensity, and the frequency and intensity of wildfires. These changes may affect the transportation infrastructure in various ways, such as damage to roadbeds from longer periods of intense heat; increasing storm damage from flooding and erosion; and inundation from rising sea levels. These effects will vary by location and may, in the most extreme cases, require that a facility be relocated or redesigned. These types of impacts to the transportation infrastructure may also have economic and strategic ramifications.

Federal Efforts
At the federal level, the Climate Change Adaptation Task Force, co-chaired by the CEQ, the Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP), and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), released its interagency task force progress report on October 28, 2011[12], outlining the federal government's progress in expanding and strengthening the nation's capacity to better understand, prepare for, and respond to extreme events and other climate change impacts. The report provided an update on actions in key areas of federal adaptation, including: building resilience in local communities, safeguarding critical natural resources such as fresh water, and providing accessible climate information and tools to help decision-makers manage climate risks.

The federal Department of Transportation issued *U.S. DOT Policy Statement on Climate Adaptation* in June 2011, committing to "integrate consideration of climate change impacts and adaptation into the planning, operations, policies, and programs of DOT in order to ensure that taxpayer resources are invested wisely and that transportation infrastructure, services and operations remain effective in current and future climate conditions."[13]

To further the DOT Policy Statement, in December 15, 2014, FHWA issued order 5520 (*Transportation System Preparedness and Resilience to Climate Change and Extreme Weather Events*).[14] This directive established FHWA policy to strive to identify the risks of climate change and extreme weather events to current and planned transportation systems. The FHWA will work to integrate consideration of these risks into its planning, operations, policies, and programs in order to promote preparedness and resilience; safeguard federal investments; and ensure the safety, reliability, and sustainability of the nation's transportation systems.

[12] https://obamawhitehouse.archives.gov/administration/eop/ceq/initiatives/resilience
[13] https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/sustainability/resilience/policy_and_guidance/usdot.cfm
[14] https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/legsregs/directives/orders/5520.cfm

FHWA has developed guidance and tools for transportation planning that fosters resilience to climate effects and sustainability at the federal, state, and local levels.[15]

State Efforts

On November 14, 2008, then-Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger signed EO S-13-08, which directed a number of state agencies to address California's vulnerability to sea-level rise caused by climate change. This EO set in motion several agencies and actions to address the concern of sea-level rise and directed all state agencies planning to construct projects in areas vulnerable to future sea-level rise to consider a range of sea-level rise scenarios for the years 2050 and 2100, assess project vulnerability and, to the extent feasible, reduce expected risks and increase resiliency to sea-level rise. Sea-level rise estimates should also be used in conjunction with information on local uplift and subsidence, coastal erosion rates, predicted higher high water levels, and storm surge and storm wave data.

Governor Schwarzenegger also requested the National Academy of Sciences to prepare an assessment report to recommend how California should plan for future sea-level rise. The final report, Sea-Level Rise for the Coasts of California, Oregon, and Washington (Sea-Level Rise Assessment Report)[16] was released in June 2012 and included relative sea-level rise projections for the three states, taking into account coastal erosion rates, tidal impacts, El Niño and La Niña events, storm surge, and land subsidence rates; and the range of uncertainty in selected sea-level rise projections. It provided a synthesis of existing information on projected sea-level rise impacts to state infrastructure (such as roads, public facilities, and beaches), natural areas, and coastal and marine ecosystems; and a discussion of future research needs regarding sea-level rise.

In response to EO S-13-08, the California Natural Resources Agency (Resources Agency), in coordination with local, regional, state, federal, and public and private entities, developed The California Climate Adaptation Strategy (Dec 2009),[17] which summarized the best available science on climate change impacts to California, assessed California's vulnerability to the identified impacts, and outlined solutions that can be implemented within and across state agencies to promote resiliency. The adaptation strategy was updated and rebranded in 2014 as Safeguarding California: Reducing Climate Risk (Safeguarding California Plan).

Governor Jerry Brown enhanced the overall adaptation planning effort by signing EO B-30-15 in April 2015, requiring state agencies to factor climate change into all planning and investment decisions. In March 2016, sector-specific Implementation Action Plans that demonstrate how state agencies are implementing EO B-30-15 were added to the Safeguarding California Plan. This effort represents a multi-agency, cross-sector approach to addressing adaptation to climate change-related events statewide.

EO S-13-08 also gave rise to the State of California Sea-Level Rise Interim Guidance Document (SLR Guidance), produced by the Coastal and Ocean Working Group of the California Climate Action Team (CO-CAT), of which Caltrans is a member. First published in 2010, the document provided "guidance for incorporating sea-level rise (SLR) projections into planning and decision making for projects in California," specifically, "information and recommendations to enhance consistency across agencies in their development of

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[15] https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/sustainability/resilience/

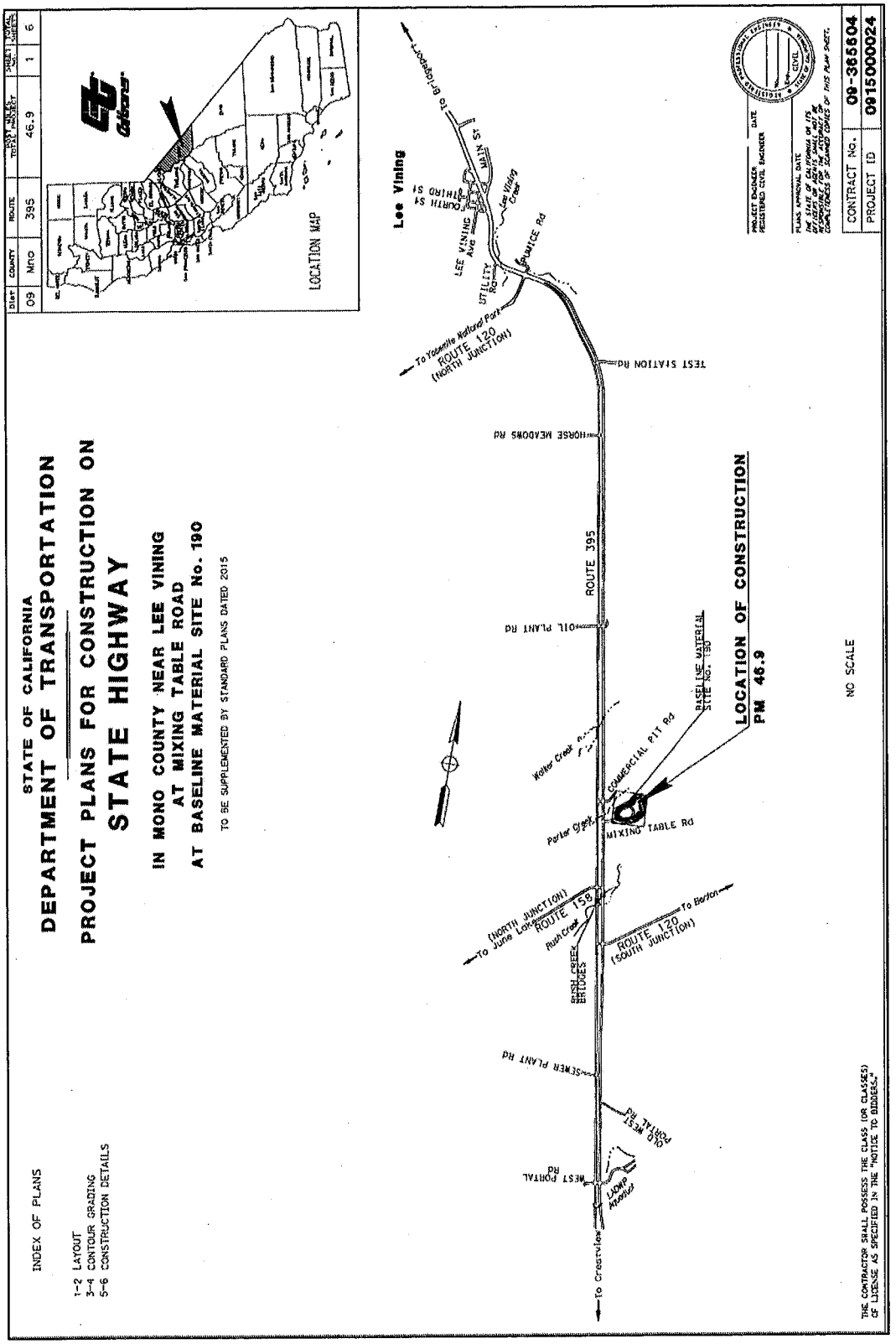
[16] *Sea Level Rise for the Coasts of California, Oregon, and Washington: Past, Present, and Future* (2012) is available at: http://www.nap.edu/catalog.php?record_id=13389.

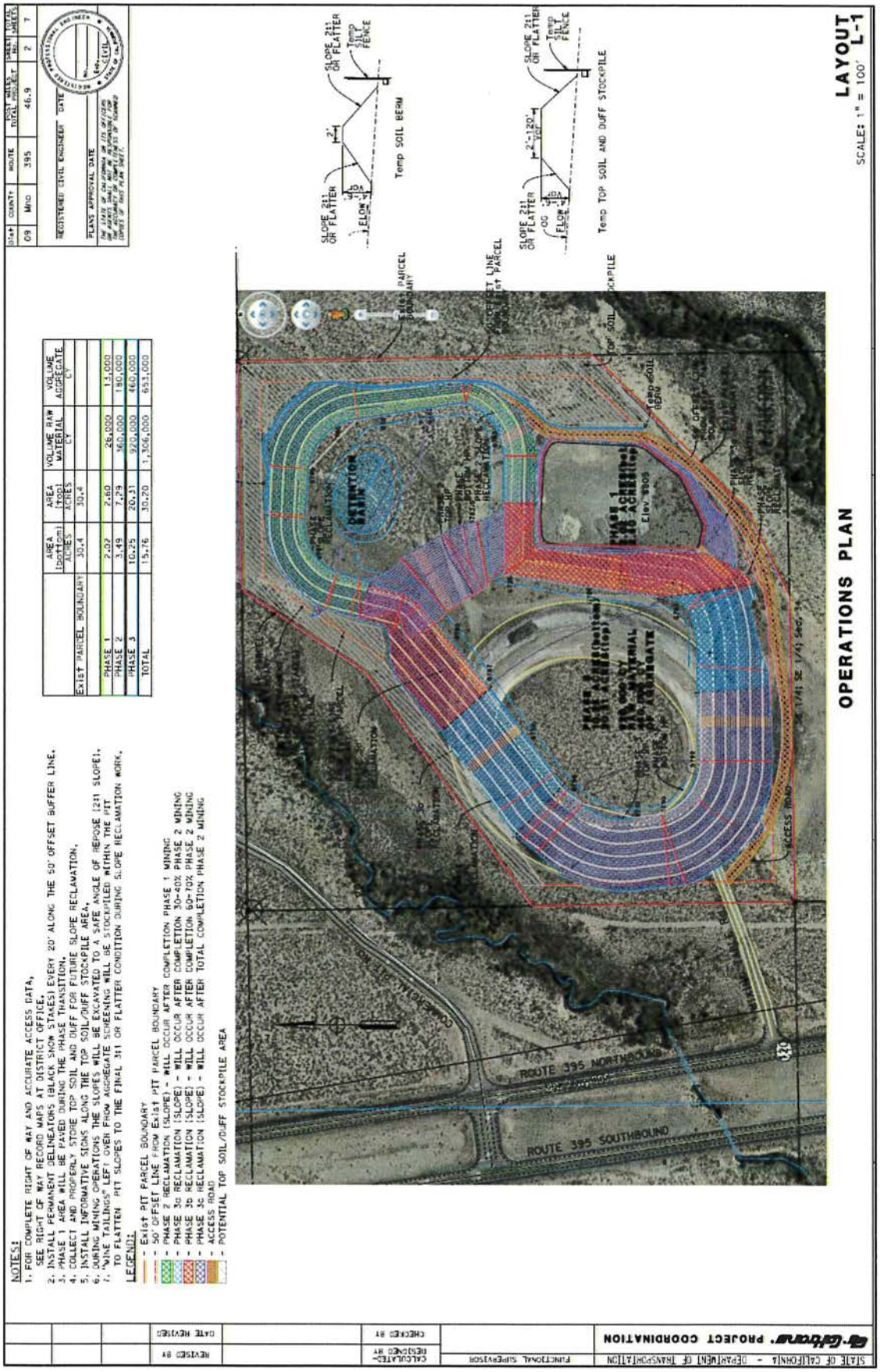
[17] http://www.climatechange.ca.gov/adaptation/strategy/index.html

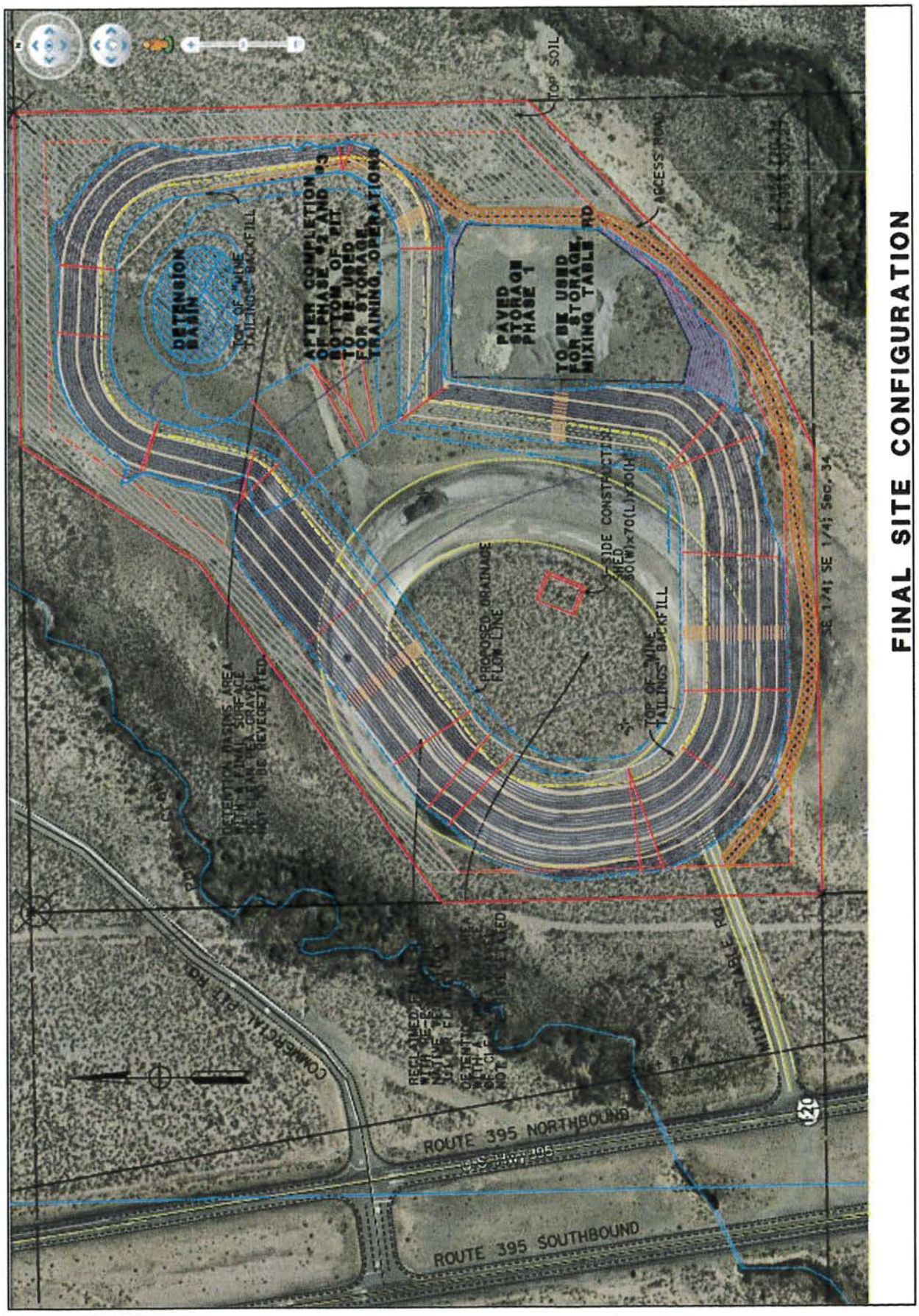
approaches to SLR." The March 2013 update[18] finalizes the SLR Guidance by incorporating findings of the National Academy's 2012 final Sea-Level Rise Assessment Report; the policy recommendations remain the same as those in the 2010 interim SLR Guidance. The guidance will be updated as necessary in the future to reflect the latest scientific understanding of how the climate is changing and how this change may affect the rates of SLR.

Climate change adaptation for transportation infrastructure involves long-term planning and risk management to address vulnerabilities in the transportation system from increased precipitation, and flooding; the increased frequency and intensity of storms and wildfires; rising temperatures; and rising sea levels. Caltrans is actively engaged in in working towards identifying these risks throughout the state and will work to incorporate this information into all planning and investment decisions as directed in EO B-30-15.

Appendix A Project Plans




NOTES:
1. FOR COMPLETE RIGHT OF WAY AND ACCURATE ACCESS DATA, SEE RIGHT OF WAY RECORD MAPS AT DISTRICT OFFICE.
2. INSTALL PERMANENT DELINEATORS (BLACK SNOW STAKES) EVERY 20' ALONG THE 50' OFFSET BUFFER LINE.
3. PHASE 1 AREA WILL BE PAVED DURING THE PHASE TRANSITION.
4. COLLECT AND PROPERLY STORE TOP SOIL AND DUFF FOR FUTURE SLOPE RECLAMATION.
5. INSTALL INFORMATIVE SIGNS ALONG THE TOP SOIL/DUFF STOCKPILE AREA.
6. DURING MINING OPERATIONS THE SLOPES WILL BE EXCAVATED TO A SAFE ANGLE OF REPOSE (2:1 SLOPE).
7. "MINE TAILINGS" LEFT OVER FROM AGGREGATE SCREENING WILL BE STOCKPILED WITHIN THE PIT TO FLATTEN PIT SLOPES TO THE FINAL 3:1 OR FLATTER CONDITION DURING SLOPE RECLAMATION WORK.
LEGEND:
- EXIST PIT PARCEL BOUNDARY
- 50' OFFSET LINE FROM EXIST PIT PARCEL BOUNDARY
- PHASE 2 RECLAMATION (SLOPE) - WILL OCCUR AFTER COMPLETION PHASE 1 MINING
- PHASE 3a RECLAMATION (SLOPE) - WILL OCCUR AFTER COMPLETION 30-40% PHASE 2 MINING
- PHASE 3b RECLAMATION (SLOPE) - WILL OCCUR AFTER COMPLETION 50-70% PHASE 2 MINING
- PHASE 3c RECLAMATION (SLOPE) - WILL OCCUR AFTER TOTAL COMPLETION PHASE 2 MINING
- ACCESS ROAD
- POTENTIAL TOP SOIL/DUFF STOCKPILE AREA
Exist PARCEL BOUNDARY
AREA (bottom) ACRES
AREA (top) ACRES
VOLUME RAW MATERIAL CY
VOLUME AGGREGATE CY
Exist PARCEL BOUNDARY 30.4
PHASE 1 2.02 2.60 26,000 13,000
PHASE 2 3.49 7.29 140,000 180,000
PHASE 3 10.25 20.31 320,000 460,000
TOTAL 15.76 30.20 1,306,000 653,000
SLOPE 2:1 OR FLATTER
Temp SOIL BERM
Temp SILT FENCE
FLOW
Temp TOP SOIL AND DUFF STOCKPILE
OFFSET LINE FROM Exist PARCEL
Exist PARCEL BOUNDARY
ROUTE 395 NORTHBOUND
ROUTE 395 SOUTHBOUND
ACCESS ROAD
OPERATIONS PLAN
LAYOUT
SCALE: 1" = 100'
L-1
DIST | COUNTY | ROUTE | POST MILES TOTAL PROJECT | SHEET NO. | SHEETS
09 | Mno | 395 | 46.9 | 2 | 7
REGISTERED CIVIL ENGINEER DATE
PLANS APPROVAL DATE
STATE OF CALIFORNIA - DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
PROJECT COORDINATION
FUNCTIONAL SUPERVISOR
CALCULATED-DESIGNED BY
CHECKED BY
REVISED BY
DATE REVISED


FINAL SITE CONFIGURATION
DETENTION BASIN
TOP OF MINE TAILINGS BACKFILL
AFTER COMPLETION OF PHASE #2 AND #3 BOTTOM OF PIT TO BE USED FOR STORAGE, TRAINING, OPERATIONS
PAVED STORAGE PHASE 1
TO BE USED FOR STORAGE, MIXING TABLE RD
TOP SOIL
ACCESS ROAD
PROPOSED DRAINAGE FLOW LINE
TOP OF MINE TAILINGS BACKFILL
SE 1/4; SE 1/4; Sec. 34
ROUTE 395 NORTHBOUND
ROUTE 395 SOUTHBOUND
MIXING TABLE RD
COMMERCIAL PIT ROAD


PHASE 1-2
CONTOUR
GRADING
G-1
SCALE: 1" = 50'
© 2015 Google
Imagery Date: 9
REGISTERED CIVIL ENGINEER
PLANS APPROVAL DATE
DIST
COUNTY
ROUTE
POST MILES TOTAL PROJECT
SHEET NO.
TOTAL SHEETS
09
MNO
395
46.9
4
7
STATE OF CALIFORNIA - DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
FUNCTIONAL SUPERVISOR
CALCULATED-DESIGNED BY
CHECKED BY
REVISED BY
DATE REVISED
PROJECT COORDINATION

STATE OF CALIFORNIA - DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
PROJECT COORDINATION
FUNCTIONAL SUPERVISOR
CALCULATED-DESIGNED BY
CHECKED BY
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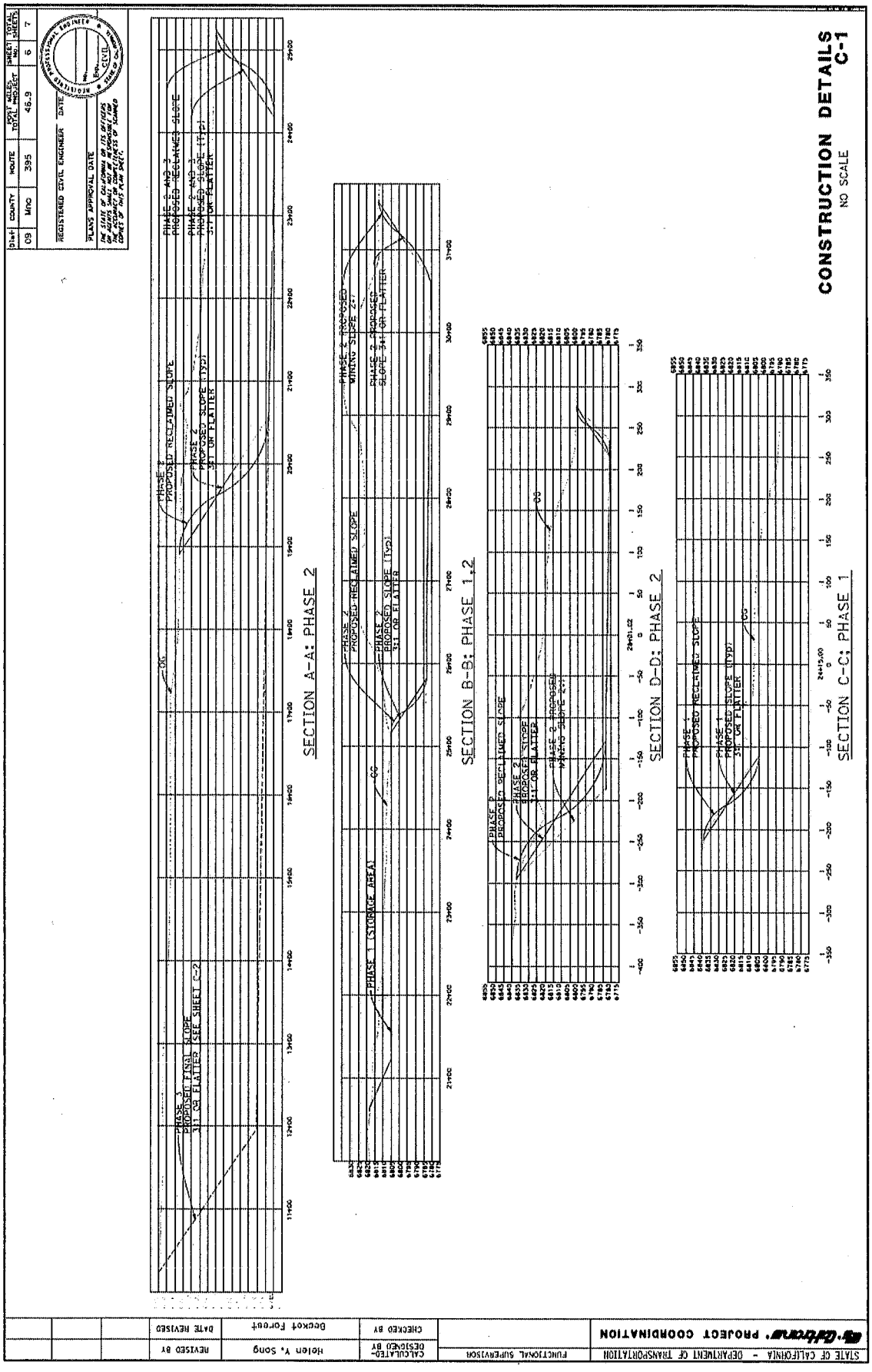
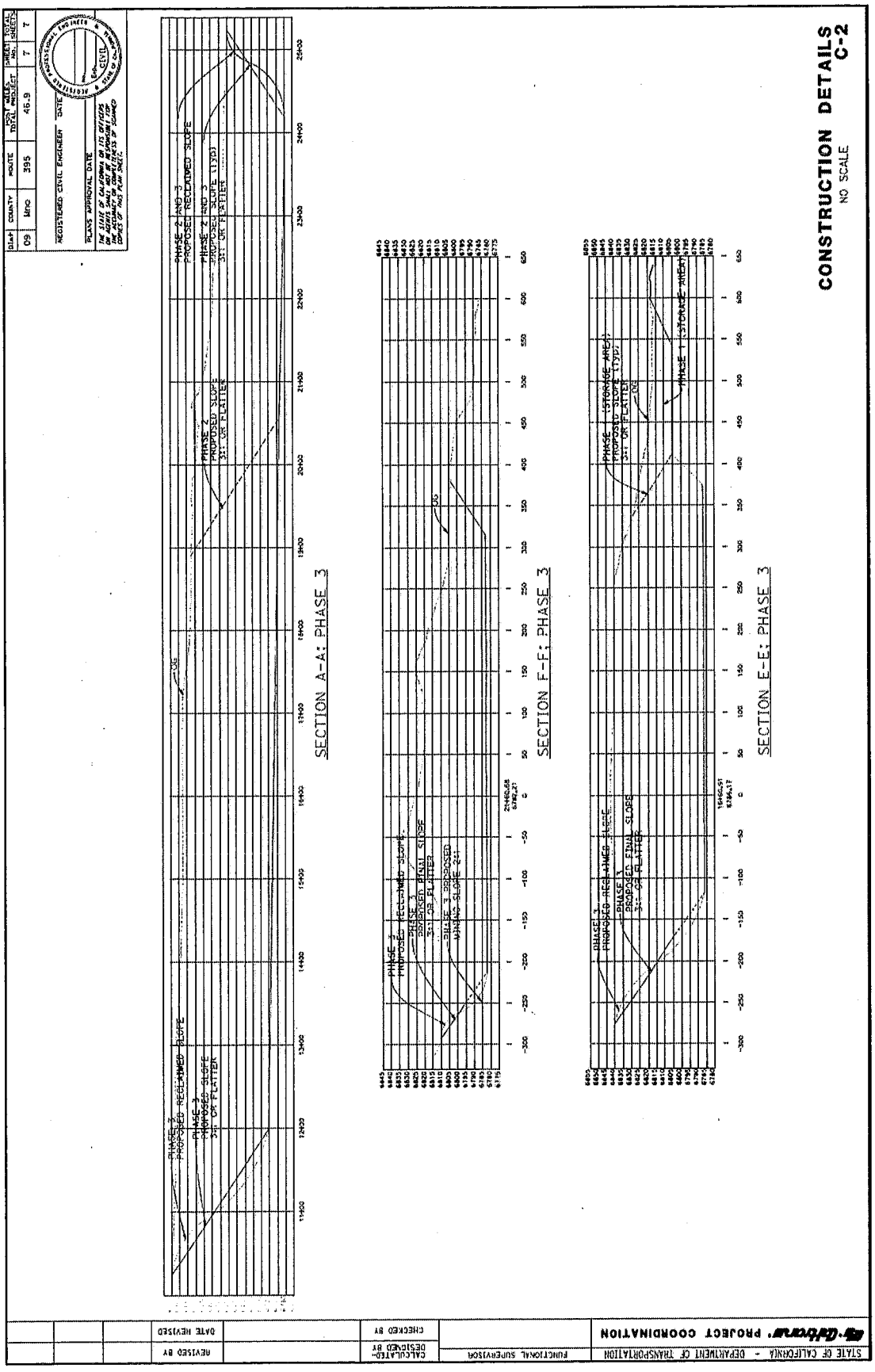
DATE REVISED
Imagery Date: 9/
© 2015 Google
PHASE 3
CONTOUR
GRADING
G-2
SCALE: 1" = 50'
REGISTERED CIVIL ENGINEER
DATE
PLANS APPROVAL DATE
DIST
09
COUNTY
MNO
ROUTE
395
POST MILES
TOTAL PROJECT
46.9
SHEET NO.
5
TOTAL SHEETS
7


CONSTRUCTION DETAILS
C-1
NO SCALE
SECTION A-A; PHASE 2
SECTION B-B; PHASE 1,2
SECTION C-C; PHASE 1
SECTION D-D; PHASE 2
REGISTERED CIVIL ENGINEER DATE
PLANS APPROVAL DATE
PROJECT COORDINATION
FUNCTIONAL SUPERVISOR
CALCULATED-DESIGNED BY
CHECKED BY
DATE REVISED
REVISED BY


CONSTRUCTION DETAILS
C-2
NO SCALE
SECTION A-A: PHASE 3
SECTION F-F: PHASE 3
SECTION E-E: PHASE 3
REGISTERED CIVIL ENGINEER
PLANS APPROVAL DATE
PROJECT COORDINATION
FUNCTIONAL SUPERVISOR
CHECKED BY
DATE REVISED

Appendix B Operations Plan

MATERIAL SITE 190 (MINE ID 91-26-0016)

12/5/2016

Operations Plan / Project Description

Caltrans District 9 ceased mining MS 190 in the early 1990's and is proposing to commence mining operations on a remaining 30 acre portion with the approval of a new SMARA reclamation plan and associated operations plan.

Material Site 190 (Mine ID 91-26-0016)

OPERATIONS PLAN / PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Background

With limited available aggregate sources statewide, including from within the Caltrans District 9 area, there is a need to thoughtfully utilize the few remaining available quality material sites. This pit is adjacent to US 395 and strategically located in central Mono County.

Maintenance has identified a need for material storage: Traction sand/cinders and rock/ gravel/soil debris from slides, etc.

Maintenance and Capital have also identified a need for material extraction. Maintenance day labor needs are approximately 2,000 cubic yard (CY) shoulder fill material per year. Maintenance and Capital project needs (overlays, rehabs, shoulder widening) are estimated at about 10,000 CY aggregate per year total in Central Mono County. Assuming that the majority of Capital projects in Mono County would be served by commercial sources, a rough estimated demand for material extraction from MS 190 would be about 12,000 CY per year average.

Although commercial sites exist in the area, this site could be made available to contractors to set up portable material extraction/processing operations on a project by project basis to leverage savings by material proximity. The perpetual availability of this site would avoid full future dependency on the uncertain supply of private commercial sources. The adjoining Granite pit site is nearing the end of its available material production.

The pit boundary has been redefined from its originally approved 120 acres, reduced to 30.22 acres via a map application in order to vacate previously reclaimed acreage. The current boundary primarily includes the mixing table, east pit, and some additional acreage in the northeast corner. The new site boundary has been clearly delineated with metal posts, survey markers, and material site boundary signs. Rush Creek and Parker Creek are now substantially buffered from the current mine site footprint.

Day One Operations (post reclamation plan and operations plan approval)

A 50 foot offset boundary will be clearly demarcated with metal stakes to ensure a buffer from the pit boundary and to provide a visual cue for excavation activities. The easterly portion of the site (east pit area) will be graded to ensure internal drainage into the site by establishing a stabilized earthen berm.

Maintenance personnel will be trained on operations plan and methods from which to operate on the site to ensure SMARA compliance and final configurations.

General Operational Strategies

- All phases of operations will ensure that the site remains internally draining, with final slope configurations of 3 (horizontal): 1 (vertical) or flatter.
- Temporary visual impacts will be minimized and any permanent structures will be painted a blending color to mitigate visual impacts from the viewshed.
- The proposed extraction plan is not expected to encounter groundwater. The depth to groundwater will be monitored as the pit depth increases (approximately 50-60 feet below the current mixing table elevation.
- During material extraction operations, duff/topsoil (the top 6 inches, including woody debris) will not be stockpiles for reclamation activities, since it has been determined that incorporating compost to final slopes will be more effective in revegetating. Mining overburden/waste material will be stored at the outer perimeter near the base of the outer slopes. Upon final slope configuration, overburden material will be used to reach final slope configuration.
- Slopes will be contoured to final grade (3:1) and slope re-vegetation will commence in phases as sections of the site are fully developed. Final slopes will be hand seeded with the approved seed mix to enhance slope naturalization/re-vegetation while mining continues in phases.
- The primary use of the site will be for Caltrans standard maintenance and operations, including:
    - Material mining, sorting, and stockpiling for use in routine and emergency maintenance activities on the State Highway System.
    - Caltrans Maintenance Forces will perform mining activities mostly with graders, loaders, dozers, and sorting grizzlies.
    - Cinders for winter operations will be stored at site (typically on paved surface).
    - Asphalt grindings may be stored at the site for future reuse, but will only be stored on paved impervious surfaces with piles encircled by straw waddles.
    - Manmade materials, such as metal beam guardrail, treated posts, signs, etc. may be stored at site.
    - Only reusable imported natural materials, such as dirt and rock, collected from highway clean-up or Caltrans Construction activities, will be stored at the site. All other non-reusable natural materials will be disposed of elsewhere, likely County landfill.
- A secondary use of the site will be to provide Caltrans Construction Contractors with a staging area for nearby projects. Contractors sometimes need an area off the highway to temporarily store construction equipment and materials. Typically this will occur on the mixing table or on a future paved impervious surface.
- As a third tier use of the site, due to unknown frequency, the site would be made available to Caltrans Construction Contractors for material extraction and possible end product production, such as asphalt and concrete. Projects that make the pit available to a contractor for a construction project shall ensure that temporary impacts to the pit for such heightened operations are addressed in project specific environmental analysis. Temporary impacts for heightened operations will be analyzed on a project by project basis to insure proper contract conditions such as visual screening, dust control, stormwater BMP's, re-grading, and appropriate partial site reclamation. Such heightened operations by a contractor utilizing the pit could include:
    - Material mining, rock crushing, and asphalt plant production.
    - Material mining, rock crushing, and concrete plant production.

- Material mining and rock crushing, with production material trucked off site for further processing.
- Material mining with production material trucked off site for further processing.

- It is Caltrans intent to keep this site in perpetuity as a maintenance, storage, and operations area, even after all mining material is exhausted and slopes are reclaimed. So the proposed "end use" should be a designation conducive for this purpose.

Three phases of mining / operations and reclamation are proposed:

Phase 1

Phase 1 of mining will entail material extraction of the current east pit as identified in the plan sheets. The pit floor elevation in this area will be lowered approximately 10 feet from current elevation, making the final Phase 1 pit floor elevation approximately 35 feet below the existing mixing table. There is an estimated 26,000 cubic yards (CY) of raw material in Phase 1, which should yield about 13,000 CY of quality aggregate, assuming 50% waste. With an estimated 12,000 CY/year average demand, this phase will only last just over one year.

Equipment such as loaders, excavators, and screening grizzlies, as well as production material stockpiles will be stored in this area, which is out of the primary view shed. However, the existing paved mixing table will continue to be used for cinder stockpiles and other material storage.

Phase 2

Phase 2 mining will continue north of the current east pit/Phase 1area. This phase contains approximately 360,000 CY of raw material, which should yield about 180,000 CY of quality aggregate, assuming 50% waste. Estimating 12,000 CY/year average demand, this phase will provide about 15 years supply of quality aggregate.

Due to the potential for limited space below the current mixing table for this phase, if a Caltrans Contractor ends up utilizing the site for asphalt or concrete production with a mobile batch plant, such equipment associated with the plant may need to be located on the existing mixing table instead of down in the pit. It is anticipated that any such activity will only last for a single construction season and only create temporary environmental impacts.

Also during the entirety of Phase 1 and 2, the existing asphalt mixing table at the west side of the site will continue to be utilized for material storage (i.e. cinders, asphalt grindings, etc.), Caltrans equipment, and as an occasional Contractor temporary construction staging area for storing equipment and material.

Partial reclamation in accordance with SMARA regulations will occur to those portions of the site (final slopes) where extraction is complete (per plan sheets) while retaining adequate area for storage and access to the Phase 3 area. The partial reclamation areas for Phase 2 will be the north, east, and south slopes of the Phase 2 extraction area excluding the access road, pit bottom, and west slope.

A water / sediment retention basin is proposed at the northeast corner of the Phase 2 pit floor.

Access road grades will be 7% maximum.

Phase 3

Extraction will proceed from the Phase 2 area in a southwestward direction into the existing mixing table area. Material extraction operations will be as described in Phase 3 plan sheets.

Mining in this phase will provide an additional 920,000 CY of raw material, yielding about 460,000 CY of quality aggregate. This will provide approximately a 38 year supply of quality aggregate. The maximum depth of the Phase 3 extraction is about 55 ft. below the elevation of the existing mixing table.

The Phase 1 area will be maintained as a storage area during this phase. When the existing paved mixing table is no longer available, this Phase 1 area will be paved in Phase 3 to create an impervious surface for storage operations. Also the access road will be paved or gravel lined from the site entrance into Phase1 Storage Area in order to provide road stabilization and dust minimization.

The Phase 2 pit floor may also be utilized for storage as needed during Phase 3 operations. The northeast corner of the Phase 2 pit floor will continue to be designated as the primary stormwater / sediment retention basin during the final phase.

Upon completion of the extraction of all material to the grade lines as shown on Phase 3 plan sheet, the final slopes will be reclaimed as depicted in Layout Sheet 1 in accordance with SMARA regulations.

Final Configuration

As mentioned in the General Operations Strategies, it is Caltrans intent to keep this site in perpetuity even after mining resources are exhausted and slopes are reclaimed. Upon final site configuration, as described in plan sheet L-2, once slopes are re-vegetated, a final SMARA reclamation inspection will be performed in order to retire the associated mine ID and commence with the intended end-use. At this point, no further mining activities will occur at the site, and only Caltrans standard maintenance activities and construction staging will occur on the site. Post reclamation site end uses will include:

- Caltrans Maintenance Forces equipment operation training.
- Stockpiling and storing natural materials such as cinders, rock, excess base material, reusable plant materials for erosion control, etc.
- Stockpiling and storing of manmade materials such as metal beam guardrail, treated beams, reusable asphalt grindings (stored on impervious surface only and encircled with straw waddles), poles, etc.
- Potential construction of a metal storage shed to shield some maintenance materials from the elements. Such a shed would likely be an open three sided structure with approximate dimensions of 50 feet deep x 70 feet wide x 30 feet tall. The shed would be located within the pit floor out of sight of most visual receptors and painted a blending color.
- Temporary utilization as a Construction Contractor staging area for equipment and material.

The usable areas of the final site configuration will be limited to the un-reclaimed pit floors, excluding the Stormwater / sediment settling basin, as all slopes will be set to 3:1 and re-vegetated. This usable area will include 2.02 acres of the Phase 1 Storage Area, 3.49 acres of the Phase 2 pit floor (which includes the settling basin), and 10.25 acres of the Phase 3 pit floor. The total un-reclaimed area to remain for the intended end-use is approximately 15.76 acres plus the access road.

Since the operations plan for mining is based on estimates for extraction, it is also estimated that the final site configuration will likely not be realized for 50-80 years depending on a number of potential conditions.

Please refer to the associated plan sheets for further details as described in this document.

Appendix C Comments and Coordination

Per CEQA regulations on public circulation (14 CCR 15072), Caltrans posted a notice of intent to adopt a negative declaration and copies of the proposed negative declaration at both the Lee Vining Library and the Caltrans District 9 Office on June 8, 2018. Notices were mailed to the State Clearinghouse, and the 30-day public and State agency review period ended on July 10, 2018. No comments were received by either Caltrans or the clearinghouse from any source during this period.

1. Copy of State Clearinghouse letter; close of review period

2. Notice of Intent to Adopt Negative Declaration

1

EDMUND G. BROWN JR.
GOVERNOR

STATE OF CALIFORNIA
GOVERNOR'S OFFICE *of* PLANNING AND RESEARCH

KEN ALEX
DIRECTOR

July 11, 2018

Forest Becket
California Department of Transportation, District 9
500 S. Main Street
Bishop, CA 93514-3423

Subject: Baseline Pit (Material Site #190)
SCH#: 2018061025

Dear Forest Becket:

The State Clearinghouse submitted the above named Negative Declaration to selected state agencies for review. The review period closed on July 10, 2018, and no state agencies submitted comments by that date. This letter acknowledges that you have complied with the State Clearinghouse review requirements for draft environmental documents, pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act.

Please call the State Clearinghouse at (916) 445-0613 if you have any questions regarding the environmental review process. If you have a question about the above-named project, please refer to the ten-digit State Clearinghouse number when contacting this office.

Sincerely,

Scott Morgan
Director, State Clearinghouse

2

Notice of Intent to Adopt a Negative Declaration
Study Results Available
Changes Proposed for Material Site #190
Do you want a public hearing on changes proposed for MS #190?

Caltrans Material Site #190

What's Being Planned:
The California Department of Transportation (CALTRANS) is considering resuming mining operations at Material Site (MS) #190 and has prepared a Surface Mining and Reclamation Plan.

Why This Ad: CALTRANS has studied the effects this project may have on the environment. Our studies show it will not significantly affect the quality of the environment. The report that explains why is called an Initial Study and proposed Negative Declaration (ND). This notice is to tell you of the preparation of the report, its availability for you to read and offer comments, and to offer the opportunity to request a public hearing.

What's Available: The Proposed ND and Initial Study for MS #190 are available for review and copying on weekdays at the CALTRANS District Office located at: 500 S. Main Street, Bishop, 93514; the Lee Vining Post Office at 121 Lee Vining Avenue, Lee Vining, 93541; and on our website at:
http://www.dot.ca.gov/d9/projmgt/projects.html

Where You Come In: Do you have any comments about processing the MS #190 project and reclamation plan with an ND and Initial Study? Do you disagree with the findings of our study as set forth in the Proposed ND? Would you like a public hearing? Would you care to make any other comments on the project? Please submit your comments or request for a public hearing in writing no later than July 9, 2018 to Forest Becket, Branch Supervisor, District 9 Local Assistance – Caltrans, at 500 South Main Street, Bishop, CA 93514. The date we will begin accepting comments is June 8, 2018. If there are no major comments, CALTRANS will proceed with the project's design.

For more information about this study or any transportation matter, call CALTRANS at 1-760-872-0601. Individuals who require documents in alternative formats are requested to contact the District 9 Public Affairs Office at 1-760-872-0603. TDD users may contact the California Relay Service TDD line at 1-800-735-2929, or Voice Line at 1-800-735-2922.

Appendix D Title IV Policy Statement

STATE OF CALIFORNIA—CALIFORNIA STATE TRANSPORTATION AGENCY EDMUND G. BROWN Jr., Governor

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR
P.O. BOX 942873, MS-49
SACRAMENTO, CA 94273-0001
PHONE (916) 654-6130
FAX (916) 653-5776
TTY 711
www.dot.ca.gov

Making Conservation a California Way of Life.

April 2018

NON-DISCRIMINATION
POLICY STATEMENT

The California Department of Transportation, under Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, ensures *"No person in the United States shall, on the ground of race, color, or national origin, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity receiving federal financial assistance."*

Related federal statutes and state law further those protections to include sex, disability, religion, sexual orientation, and age.

For information or guidance on how to file a complaint, please visit the following web page: http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/bep/title_vi/t6_violated.htm.

To obtain this information in an alternate format such as Braille or in a language other than English, please contact the California Department of Transportation, Office of Business and Economic Opportunity, 1823 14th Street, MS-79, Sacramento, CA 95811. Telephone (916) 324-8379, TTY 711, email Title.VI@dot.ca.gov, or visit the website www.dot.ca.gov.

LAURIE BERMAN
Director

"Provide a safe, sustainable, integrated and efficient transportation system to enhance California's economy and livability"

Appendix E Avoidance, Minimization and/or Mitigation Summary

- Caltrans Environmental Commitments Record as of May 2018

Environmental Commitments Record for EA 09-36560_ / ID 0915000024

Last updated 5/29/2018

Baseline MS #190.1
MNO-395-46.500/46.500
Current Project Phase: 0,1,9

EP: Benjamin Downard 760-872-0657
CL:
RE:

Permits

Permit	Agency	Date Submitted	Date Received	Expiration	Requirements Completed Name	Requirements Completed Date	Comments

Commitments

Task and Brief Description	Source	SSP/ NSSP	Responsible Staff	Action to Comply	Task Completed	Remarks/Due Date
PS&E/Before RTL						
Visual Resources						
AES-1A: The materials of the water storage tank and the shed should be painted using natural colors such as dark green, brown or an earth tone to minimize impacts to the viewshed	Env Doc	SSP	PM/DE/Landscape Architect	SMARA Coordinator and CT Maintenance will work with CT Landscape architect to ensure coloring of buildings is included in cost estimate and schedule. Landscape architect will review cost/schedule package for sufficiency and provide design suggestions to meet commitment	Signature Date	
Pre-Construction						

Environmental Commitments Record for EA 09-36560_ / ID 0915000024

Last updated 5/29/2018

Baseline MS #190.1

MNO-395-46.500/46.500

Current Project Phase: 0,1,9

EP: Benjamin Downard 760-872-0657

CL:

RE:

Task and Brief Description	Source	SSP/ NSSP	Responsible Staff	Action to Comply	Task Completed	Remarks/Due Date
Biology						
B-1: If ground-disturbing activities occur during bird breeding season (Feb 1-Sept 30), pre-construction nesting bird surveys of the project site and vicinity will be required prior to each Phase as described in the Project Description. If active nests are found, no-work buffer zones will be implemented around the nests in accordance with agency guidelines (CDFW/USFWS). Nest monitoring will be required to ensure buffers are sufficient and nesting birds are not impacted by the project. Preconstruction sensitive plant, pygmy,badger, western white-tailed jackrabbit, and BLM sensitive-species surveys will also be required in and around the area of disturbance prior to each Phase. Species lists must be updated prior to each Phase to identify species which could be impacted by the project.	Env Doc	SSP	SMARA Coordinator/Biologist	SMARA coordinator must notify Caltrans Biologist at least 60 days prior to construction initiation so nesting bird surveys can be scheduled to occur within 2 days of construction start. Biologist will schedule surveys and inform SMARA coordinator and Maintenance supervisor if active nests are found and buffers are needed. SMARA coordinator will notify CT biologist at least six months prior to initiation of each Phase of the project, or when Phase schedule is know, as described in the Environmental Document	Signature Date	
B-2: Preconstruction bird surveys for Willow Flycatcher prior to each Phase of the project. Surveys must adhere to CDFW protocols for timing and duration	Env Doc	n/a	SMARA Coordinator/Caltrans Biologist/contractor	SMARA Coordinator will notify CT biologist as soon as schedule is known so surveys can be scheduled according to CDFW protocols.	Signature Date	
Biology B-3						
B-3: Invasive Species Management. Prior to construction, construction equipment must be cleaned of mud and debris that could contain invasive plants or seeds. This must occur prior to arrival on-site.	Std.Spec	Std. Spec	SMARA Coordinator/CT Maintenance/Contractor	SMARA Coordinator will work with CT Maintenance Supervisor to ensure construction equipment is properly cleaned prior to arrival on-site to reduce the spread of invasive species	Signature Date	
Construction						

Environmental Commitments Record for EA 09-36560_ / ID 0915000024

Last updated 5/29/2018

Baseline MS #190.1
MNO-395-46.500/46.500
Current Project Phase: 0,1,9

EP: Benjamin Downard 760-872-0657
CL:
RE:

Task and Brief Description	Source	SSP/ NSSP	Responsible Staff	Action to Comply	Task Completed	Remarks/Due Date
Air Quality						
WE-1: Wind Erosion Control - use of water or other dust palliatives to prevent or alleviate dust nuisance in accordance with Caltrans' standard construction practices.	Env Doc	Std. Spec	SMARA Coordinator/Contractor	Ensure nuisance dust is minimized as much as possible in accordance with standard practices	Signature Date	
Stormwater						
SW-1: Topsoil/duff will be collected, if possible, and stored for reuse on boundary slopes to aid in revegetation and erosion control	Env Doc	SSP	SMARA Coordinator/Contractor	As much as possible, remove and store topsoil for reuse on re-vegetated slopes	Signature Date	
SW-2: Hazardous materials should be collected, stored, and disposed of using practices which prevent contact and contamination of stormwater. All applicable standard best management water pollution control measures will be implemented. Contractor will prepare and submit a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) or Water Pollution Control Program (WPCP) to outline project-specific pollution control measures.	Env Doc	Std. Spec	SMARA Coordinator/Caltrans Stormwater/Hazardous Waste Specialist	All applicable standard specifications for stormwater pollution controls shall be implemented. In Phase 3, Contractor will submit a SWPPP or WPCP for Caltrans' approval prior to construction	Signature Date	
Visual Resources						
AES-1B: Water storage tank and shed shall be painted/colored in a blending, Earth-toned color to minimize impacts to the viewshed from the scenic U.S. 395. Caltrans Landscape Architect and BLM staff will coordinate on color	Env Doc	SSP	SMARA Coordinator/Landscape Architect	SMARA Coordinator will work with landscape architect to ensure visual designs are implemented on the tank and shed and visual impacts from U.S. 395 are minimized. Landscape architect will consult with BLM for color preferences	Signature Date	

Appendix F Species Lists

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Species List (IPAC)

California Department of Fish and Wildlife, California Natural Diversity Database

Bureau of Land Management, Special Status Animal Species

Bureau of Land Management, Special Status Plant Species

Baseline Pit
May 2018

IPaC Information for Planning and Consultation **U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service**

IPaC resource list

This report is an automatically generated list of species and other resources such as critical habitat (collectively referred to as *trust resources*) under the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's (USFWS) jurisdiction that are known or expected to be on or near the project area referenced below. The list may also include trust resources that occur outside of the project area, but that could potentially be directly or indirectly affected by activities in the project area. However, determining the likelihood and extent of effects a project may have on trust resources typically requires gathering additional site-specific (e.g., vegetation/species surveys) and project-specific (e.g., magnitude and timing of proposed activities) information.

Below is a summary of the project information you provided and contact information for the USFWS office(s) with jurisdiction in the defined project area. Please read the introduction to each section that follows (Endangered Species, Migratory Birds, USFWS Facilities, and NWI Wetlands) for additional information applicable to the trust resources addressed in that section.

Location

Mono County, California

Local office

Reno Fish And Wildlife Office

(775) 861-6300
(775) 861-6301

1340 Financial Boulevard, Suite 234
Reno, NV 89502-7147

http://www.fws.gov/nevada/

5/22/2018

Endangered species

This resource list is for informational purposes only and does not constitute an analysis of project level impacts.

The primary information used to generate this list is the known or expected range of each species. Additional areas of influence (AOI) for species are also considered. An AOI includes areas outside of the species range if the species could be indirectly affected by activities in that area (e.g., placing a dam upstream of a fish population, even if that fish does not occur at the dam site, may indirectly impact the species by reducing or eliminating water flow downstream). Because species can move, and site conditions can change, the species on this list are not guaranteed to be found on or near the project area. To fully determine any potential effects to species, additional site-specific and project-specific information is often required.

Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act **requires** Federal agencies to "request of the Secretary information whether any species which is listed or proposed to be listed may be present in the area of such proposed action" for any project that is conducted, permitted, funded, or licensed by any Federal agency. A letter from the local office and a species list which fulfills this requirement can **only** be obtained by requesting an official species list from either the Regulatory Review section in IPaC (see directions below) or from the local field office directly.

For project evaluations that require USFWS concurrence/review, please return to the IPaC website and request an official species list by doing the following:

1. Draw the project location and click CONTINUE.
2. Click DEFINE PROJECT.
3. Log in (if directed to do so).
4. Provide a name and description for your project.
5. Click REQUEST SPECIES LIST.

Listed species

[1] and their critical habitats are managed by the Ecological Services Program of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and the fisheries division of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA Fisheries[2]).

Species and critical habitats under the sole responsibility of NOAA Fisheries are **not** shown on this list. Please contact NOAA Fisheries for species under their jurisdiction.

1. Species listed under the Endangered Species Act are threatened or endangered; IPaC also shows species that are candidates, or proposed, for listing. See the listing status page for more information.
2. NOAA Fisheries, also known as the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), is an office of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration within the Department of Commerce.

The following species are potentially affected by activities in this location:

5/22/2018

Mammals

NAME	STATUS
North American Wolverine Gulo gulo luscus No critical habitat has been designated for this species. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/5123	Proposed Threatened

Amphibians

NAME	STATUS
Sierra Nevada Yellow-legged Frog Rana sierrae There is final critical habitat for this species. Your location is outside the critical habitat. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9529	Endangered
Yosemite Toad Anaxyrus canorus There is final critical habitat for this species. Your location is outside the critical habitat. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/7255	Threatened

Critical habitats

Potential effects to critical habitat(s) in this location must be analyzed along with the endangered species themselves.

THERE ARE NO CRITICAL HABITATS AT THIS LOCATION.

Migratory birds

Certain birds are protected under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act [1] and the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act[2].

Any person or organization who plans or conducts activities that may result in impacts to migratory birds, eagles, and their habitats should follow appropriate regulations and consider implementing appropriate conservation measures, as described below.

1. The Migratory Birds Treaty Act of 1918.
2. The Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act of 1940.

Additional information can be found using the following links:

- Birds of Conservation Concern http://www.fws.gov/birds/management/managed-species/birds-of-conservation-concern.php

5/22/2018

- Measures for avoiding and minimizing impacts to birds
  http://www.fws.gov/birds/management/project-assessment-tools-and-guidance/conservation-measures.php
- Nationwide conservation measures for birds
  http://www.fws.gov/migratorybirds/pdf/management/nationwidestandardconservationmeasures.pdf

The birds listed below are birds of particular concern either because they occur on the USFWS Birds of Conservation Concern (BCC) list or warrant special attention in your project location. To learn more about the levels of concern for birds on your list and how this list is generated, see the FAQ below. This is not a list of every bird you may find in this location, nor a guarantee that every bird on this list will be found in your project area. To see exact locations of where birders and the general public have sighted birds in and around your project area, visit the E-bird data mapping tool (Tip: enter your location, desired date range and a species on your list). For projects that occur off the Atlantic Coast, additional maps and models detailing the relative occurrence and abundance of bird species on your list are available. Links to additional information about Atlantic Coast birds, and other important information about your migratory bird list, including how to properly interpret and use your migratory bird report, can be found below.

For guidance on when to schedule activities or implement avoidance and minimization measures to reduce impacts to migratory birds on your list, click on the PROBABILITY OF PRESENCE SUMMARY at the top of your list to see when these birds are most likely to be present and breeding in your project area.

NAME	BREEDING SEASON (IF A BREEDING SEASON IS INDICATED FOR A BIRD ON YOUR LIST, THE BIRD MAY BREED IN YOUR PROJECT AREA SOMETIME WITHIN THE TIMEFRAME SPECIFIED, WHICH IS A VERY LIBERAL ESTIMATE OF THE DATES INSIDE WHICH THE BIRD BREEDS ACROSS ITS ENTIRE RANGE. "BREEDS ELSEWHERE" INDICATES THAT THE BIRD DOES NOT LIKELY BREED IN YOUR PROJECT AREA.)
Bald Eagle Haliaeetus leucocephalus This is not a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) in this area, but warrants attention because of the Eagle Act or for potential susceptibilities in offshore areas from certain types of development or activities.	Breeds Dec 1 to Aug 31
Brewer's Sparrow Spizella breweri This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) only in particular Bird Conservation Regions (BCRs) in the continental USA https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9291	Breeds May 15 to Aug 10

5/22/2018

Golden Eagle Aquila chrysaetos This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) only in particular Bird Conservation Regions (BCRs) in the continental USA https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/1680	Breeds Dec 1 to Aug 31
Green-tailed Towhee Pipilo chlorurus This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) only in particular Bird Conservation Regions (BCRs) in the continental USA https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9444	Breeds May 1 to Aug 10
Lewis's Woodpecker Melanerpes lewis This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9408	Breeds Apr 20 to Sep 30
Olive-sided Flycatcher Contopus cooperi This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/3914	Breeds May 20 to Aug 31
Pinyon Jay Gymnorhinus cyanocephalus This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9420	Breeds Feb 15 to Jul 15
Sage Thrasher Oreoscoptes montanus This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) only in particular Bird Conservation Regions (BCRs) in the continental USA https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9433	Breeds Apr 15 to Aug 10
White Headed Woodpecker Picoides albolarvatus This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) only in particular Bird Conservation Regions (BCRs) in the continental USA https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9411	Breeds May 1 to Aug 15
Williamson's Sapsucker Sphyrapicus thyroideus This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) only in particular Bird Conservation Regions (BCRs) in the continental USA https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/8832	Breeds May 1 to Jul 31
Willow Flycatcher Empidonax traillii This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) only in particular Bird Conservation Regions (BCRs) in the continental USA https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/3482	Breeds May 20 to Aug 31

Probability of Presence Summary

5/22/2018

The graphs below provide our best understanding of when birds of concern are most likely to be present in your project area. This information can be used to tailor and schedule your project activities to avoid or minimize impacts to birds. Please make sure you read and understand the FAQ "Proper Interpretation and Use of Your Migratory Bird Report" before using or attempting to interpret this report.

Probability of Presence (▩)

Each green bar represents the bird's relative probability of presence in the 10km grid cell(s) your project overlaps during a particular week of the year. (A year is represented as 12 4-week months.) A taller bar indicates a higher probability of species presence. The survey effort (see below) can be used to establish a level of confidence in the presence score. One can have higher confidence in the presence score if the corresponding survey effort is also high.

How is the probability of presence score calculated? The calculation is done in three steps:

1. The probability of presence for each week is calculated as the number of survey events in the week where the species was detected divided by the total number of survey events for that week. For example, if in week 12 there were 20 survey events and the Spotted Towhee was found in 5 of them, the probability of presence of the Spotted Towhee in week 12 is 0.25.
2. To properly present the pattern of presence across the year, the relative probability of presence is calculated. This is the probability of presence divided by the maximum probability of presence across all weeks. For example, imagine the probability of presence in week 20 for the Spotted Towhee is 0.05, and that the probability of presence at week 12 (0.25) is the maximum of any week of the year. The relative probability of presence on week 12 is 0.25/0.25 = 1; at week 20 it is 0.05/0.25 = 0.2.
3. The relative probability of presence calculated in the previous step undergoes a statistical conversion so that all possible values fall between 0 and 10, inclusive. This is the probability of presence score.

To see a bar's probability of presence score, simply hover your mouse cursor over the bar.

Breeding Season (▩)
Yellow bars denote a very liberal estimate of the time-frame inside which the bird breeds across its entire range. If there are no yellow bars shown for a bird, it does not breed in your project area.

Survey Effort (|)
Vertical black lines superimposed on probability of presence bars indicate the number of surveys performed for that species in the 10km grid cell(s) your project area overlaps. The number of surveys is expressed as a range, for example, 33 to 64 surveys.

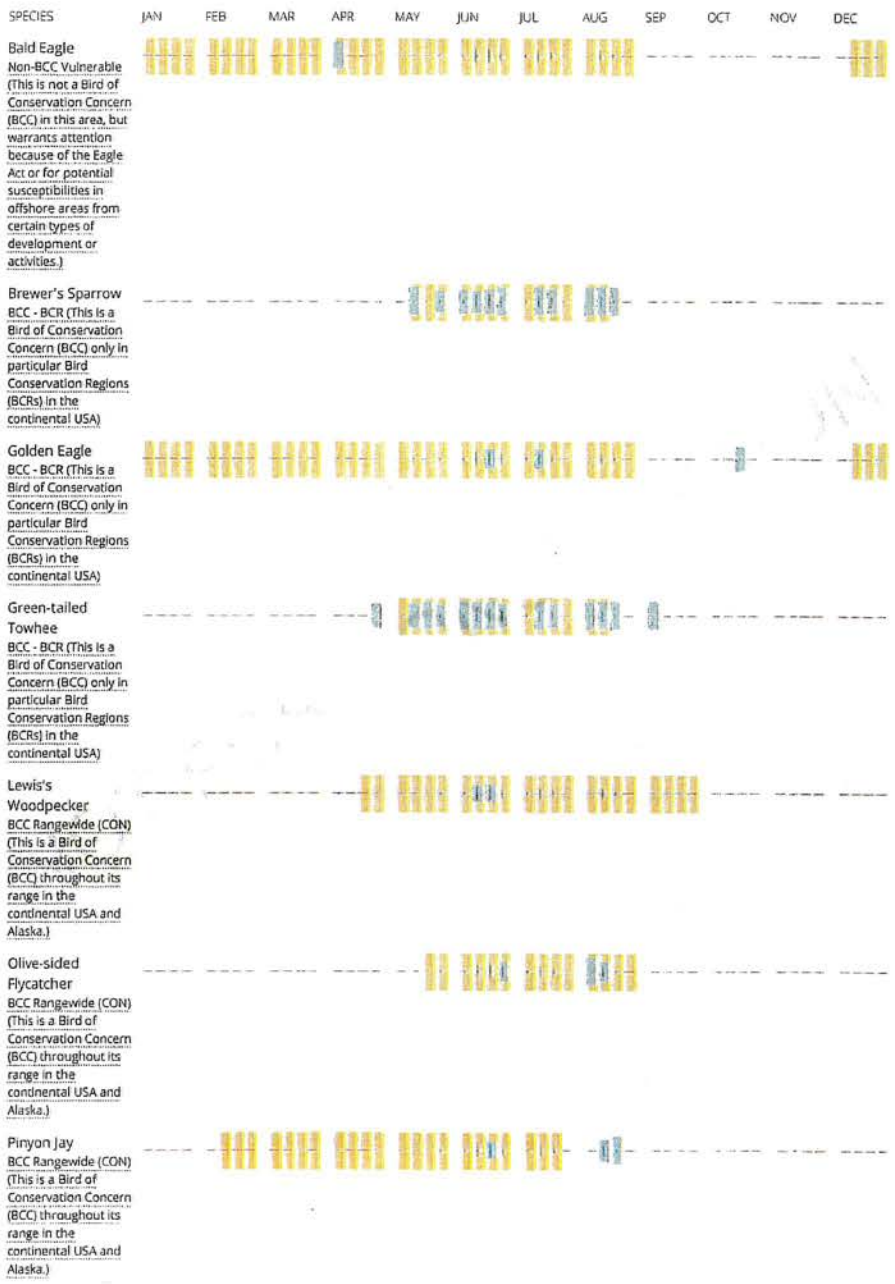
To see a bar's survey effort range, simply hover your mouse cursor over the bar.

No Data (–)
A week is marked as having no data if there were no survey events for that week.

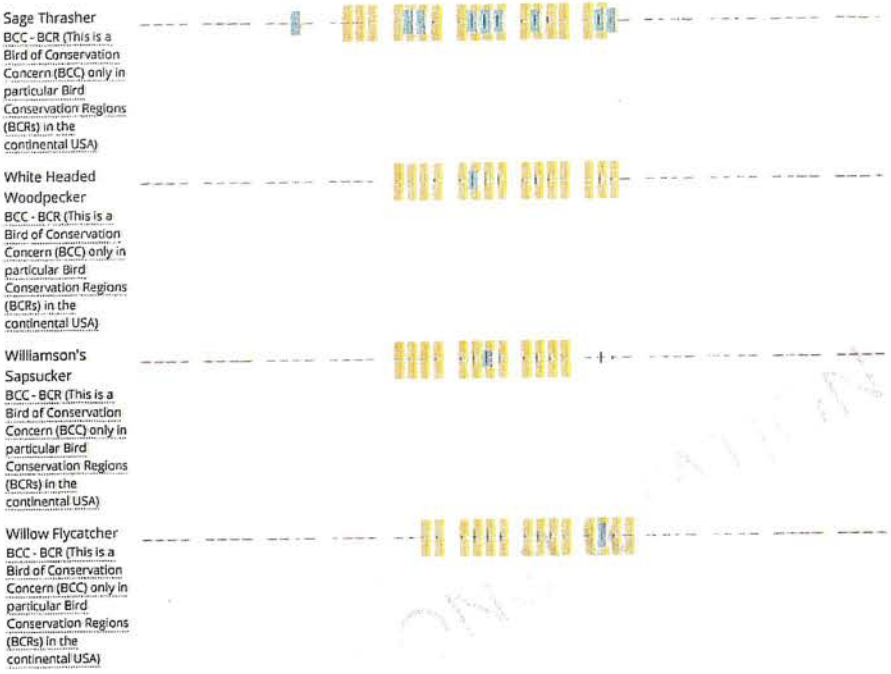
Survey Timeframe
Surveys from only the last 10 years are used in order to ensure delivery of currently relevant information. The exception to this is areas off the Atlantic coast, where bird returns are based on all years of available data, since data in these areas is currently much more sparse.

▩ probability of presence ▩ breeding season | survey effort – no data

5/22/2018


SPECIES
JAN
FEB
MAR
APR
MAY
JUN
JUL
AUG
SEP
OCT
NOV
DEC
Bald Eagle
Non-BCC Vulnerable (This is not a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) in this area, but warrants attention because of the Eagle Act or for potential susceptibilities in offshore areas from certain types of development or activities.)
Brewer's Sparrow
BCC - BCR (This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) only in particular Bird Conservation Regions (BCRs) in the continental USA)
Golden Eagle
BCC - BCR (This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) only in particular Bird Conservation Regions (BCRs) in the continental USA)
Green-tailed Towhee
BCC - BCR (This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) only in particular Bird Conservation Regions (BCRs) in the continental USA)
Lewis's Woodpecker
BCC Rangewide (CON) (This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska.)
Olive-sided Flycatcher
BCC Rangewide (CON) (This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska.)
Pinyon Jay
BCC Rangewide (CON) (This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska.)

5/22/2018



Sage Thrasher
BCC - BCR (This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) only in particular Bird Conservation Regions (BCRs) in the continental USA)

White Headed Woodpecker
BCC - BCR (This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) only in particular Bird Conservation Regions (BCRs) in the continental USA)

Williamson's Sapsucker
BCC - BCR (This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) only in particular Bird Conservation Regions (BCRs) in the continental USA)

Willow Flycatcher
BCC - BCR (This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) only in particular Bird Conservation Regions (BCRs) in the continental USA)

Tell me more about conservation measures I can implement to avoid or minimize impacts to migratory birds.

Nationwide Conservation Measures describes measures that can help avoid and minimize impacts to all birds at any location year round. Implementation of these measures is particularly important when birds are most likely to occur in the project area. When birds may be breeding in the area, identifying the locations of any active nests and avoiding their destruction is a very helpful impact minimization measure. To see when birds are most likely to occur and be breeding in your project area, view the Probability of Presence Summary. Additional measures and/or permits may be advisable depending on the type of activity you are conducting and the type of infrastructure or bird species present on your project site.

What does IPaC use to generate the migratory birds potentially occurring in my specified location?

The Migratory Bird Resource List is comprised of USFWS Birds of Conservation Concern (BCC) and other species that may warrant special attention in your project location.

The migratory bird list generated for your project is derived from data provided by the Avian Knowledge Network (AKN). The AKN data is based on a growing collection of survey, banding, and citizen science datasets and is queried and filtered to return a list of those birds reported as occurring in the 10km grid cell(s) which your project intersects, and that have been identified as warranting special attention because they are a BCC species in that area, an eagle (Eagle Act requirements may apply), or a species that has a particular vulnerability to offshore activities or development.

Again, the Migratory Bird Resource list includes only a subset of birds that may occur in your project area. It is not representative of all birds that may occur in your project area. To get a list of all birds potentially present in your project area, please visit the E-bird Explore Data Tool.

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What does IPaC use to generate the probability of presence graphs for the migratory birds potentially occurring in my specified location?

The probability of presence graphs associated with your migratory bird list are based on data provided by the Avian Knowledge Network (AKN). This data is derived from a growing collection of survey, banding, and citizen science datasets.

Probability of presence data is continuously being updated as new and better information becomes available. To learn more about how the probability of presence graphs are produced and how to interpret them, go the Probability of Presence Summary and then click on the "Tell me about these graphs" link.

How do I know if a bird is breeding, wintering, migrating or present year-round in my project area?

To see what part of a particular bird's range your project area falls within (i.e. breeding, wintering, migrating or year-round), you may refer to the following resources: The Cornell Lab of Ornithology All About Birds Bird Guide, or (if you are unsuccessful in locating the bird of interest there), the Cornell Lab of Ornithology Neotropical Birds guide. If a bird on your migratory bird species list has a breeding season associated with it, if that bird does occur in your project area, there may be nests present at some point within the timeframe specified. If "Breeds elsewhere" is indicated, then the bird likely does not breed in your project area.

What are the levels of concern for migratory birds?

Migratory birds delivered through IPaC fall into the following distinct categories of concern:

1. "BCC Rangewide" birds are Birds of Conservation Concern (BCC) that are of concern throughout their range anywhere within the USA (including Hawaii, the Pacific Islands, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands);
2. "BCC - BCR" birds are BCCs that are of concern only in particular Bird Conservation Regions (BCRs) in the continental USA; and
3. "Non-BCC - Vulnerable" birds are not BCC species in your project area, but appear on your list either because of the Eagle Act requirements (for eagles) or (for non-eagles) potential susceptibilities in offshore areas from certain types of development or activities (e.g. offshore energy development or longline fishing).

Although it is important to try to avoid and minimize impacts to all birds, efforts should be made, in particular, to avoid and minimize impacts to the birds on this list, especially eagles and BCC species of rangewide concern. For more information on conservation measures you can implement to help avoid and minimize migratory bird impacts and requirements for eagles, please see the FAQs for these topics.

Details about birds that are potentially affected by offshore projects

For additional details about the relative occurrence and abundance of both individual bird species and groups of bird species within your project area off the Atlantic Coast, please visit the Northeast Ocean Data Portal. The Portal also offers data and information about other taxa besides birds that may be helpful to you in your project review. Alternately, you may download the bird model results files underlying the portal maps through the NOAA NCCOS Integrative Statistical Modeling and Predictive Mapping of Marine Bird Distributions and Abundance on the Atlantic Outer Continental Shelf project webpage.

Bird tracking data can also provide additional details about occurrence and habitat use throughout the year, including migration. Models relying on survey data may not include this information. For additional information on marine bird tracking data, see the Diving Bird Study and the nanotag studies or contact Caleb Spiegel or Pam Loring.

What if I have eagles on my list?

If your project has the potential to disturb or kill eagles, you may need to obtain a permit to avoid violating the Eagle Act should such impacts occur.

Proper Interpretation and Use of Your Migratory Bird Report

The migratory bird list generated is not a list of all birds in your project area, only a subset of birds of priority concern. To learn more about how your list is generated, and see options for identifying what other birds may be in your project area, please see the FAQ "What does IPaC use to generate the migratory birds potentially occurring in my specified location". Please be aware this report provides the "probability of presence" of birds within the 10 km grid cell(s) that overlap your project; not your exact project footprint. On the graphs provided, please also look carefully at the survey effort (indicated by the black vertical bar) and for the existence of the "no data" indicator (a red horizontal bar). A high survey effort is the key component. If the survey effort is high, then the probability of presence score can be viewed as more dependable. In contrast, a low survey effort bar or no data bar means a lack of data and, therefore, a lack of certainty about presence of the species. This list is not perfect; it is simply a starting point for identifying what birds of concern have the potential to be in your project area, when they might be there, and if they might be breeding (which means nests might be present). The list helps you know what to look for to confirm presence, and helps guide you in knowing when to implement conservation measures to avoid or minimize potential impacts from your project activities, should presence be confirmed. To learn more about conservation measures, visit the FAQ "Tell me about conservation measures I can implement to avoid or minimize impacts to migratory birds" at the bottom of your migratory bird trust resources page.

Facilities

National Wildlife Refuge lands

Any activity proposed on lands managed by the National Wildlife Refuge system must undergo a 'Compatibility Determination' conducted by the Refuge. Please contact the individual Refuges to discuss any questions or concerns.

THERE ARE NO REFUGE LANDS AT THIS LOCATION.

Fish hatcheries

THERE ARE NO FISH HATCHERIES AT THIS LOCATION.

Wetlands in the National Wetlands Inventory

Impacts to NWI wetlands and other aquatic habitats may be subject to regulation under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act, or other State/Federal statutes.

For more information please contact the Regulatory Program of the local U.S. Army Corps of Engineers District.

Please note that the NWI data being shown may be out of date. We are currently working to update our NWI data set. We recommend you verify these results with a site visit to determine the actual extent of wetlands on site.

This location overlaps the following wetlands:

RIVERINE
R3UBH

A full description for each wetland code can be found at the National Wetlands Inventory website

Data limitations

The Service's objective of mapping wetlands and deepwater habitats is to produce reconnaissance level information on the location, type and size of these resources. The maps are prepared from the analysis of high altitude imagery. Wetlands are identified based on vegetation, visible hydrology and geography. A margin of error is inherent in the use of imagery; thus, detailed on-the-ground inspection of any particular site may result in revision of the wetland boundaries or classification established through image analysis.

The accuracy of image interpretation depends on the quality of the imagery, the experience of the image analysts, the amount and quality of the collateral data and the amount of ground truth verification work conducted. Metadata should be consulted to determine the date of the source imagery used and any mapping problems.

Wetlands or other mapped features may have changed since the date of the imagery or field work. There may be occasional differences in polygon boundaries or classifications between the information depicted on the map and the actual conditions on site.

Data exclusions

Certain wetland habitats are excluded from the National mapping program because of the limitations of aerial imagery as the primary data source used to detect wetlands. These habitats include seagrasses or submerged aquatic vegetation that are found in the intertidal and subtidal zones of estuaries and nearshore coastal waters. Some deepwater reef communities (coral or tuberficid worm reefs) have also been excluded from the inventory. These habitats, because of their depth, go undetected by aerial imagery.

Data precautions

Federal, state, and local regulatory agencies with jurisdiction over wetlands may define and describe wetlands in a different manner than that used in this inventory. There is no attempt, in either the design or products of this inventory, to define the limits of proprietary jurisdiction of any Federal, state, or local government or to establish the geographical scope of the regulatory programs of government agencies. Persons intending to engage in activities involving modifications within or adjacent to wetland areas should seek the advice of appropriate federal, state, or local agencies concerning specified agency regulatory programs and proprietary jurisdictions that may affect such activities.

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Query Criteria: Quad IS (Lundy (3811912) OR Negit Island (3811911) OR Sulphur Pond (3811818) OR Mount Dana (3711982) OR Lee Vining (3711981) OR Mono Mills (3711885) OR Koip Peak (3711972) OR June Lake (3711971) OR Crestview (3711878))

Name (Scientific/Common)	CNDDB Ranks	Listing Status (Fed/State)	Other Lists	Elev. Range (ft.)	Total EO's	Element Occ. Ranks A	B	C	D	X	U	Population Status Historic > 20 yr	Recent <= 20 yr	Presence Extant	Poss. Extirp.	Extirp.
Accipiter gentilis northern goshawk	G5 S3	None None	BLM_S-Sensitive CDF_S-Sensitive CDFW_SSC-Species of Special Concern IUCN_LC-Least Concern USFS_S-Sensitive	6,640 8,900	432 S:13	0	0	0	0	0	13	13	0	13	0	0
Agrostis humilis mountain bent grass	G4Q S2	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 2B.3	10,350 10,500	20 S:2	0	0	0	0	0	2	2	0	2	0	0
Allium atrorubens var. atrorubens Great Basin onion	G4T4 S2	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 2B.3	7,600 7,600	19 S:1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0
Anaxyrus canorus Yosemite toad	G2G3 S2S3	Threatened None	CDFW_SSC-Species of Special Concern IUCN_EN-Endangered USFS_S-Sensitive	9,740 10,950	226 S:10	1	0	0	0	1	8	2	8	9	1	0
Aplodontia rufa californica Sierra Nevada mountain beaver	G5T3T4 S2S3	None None	CDFW_SSC-Species of Special Concern IUCN_LC-Least Concern	6,500 10,000	131 S:3	1	1	0	0	0	1	3	0	3	0	0
Artemia monica Mono Lake brine shrimp	G3 S3	None None	IUCN_CD-Conservation Dependent	6,409 6,409	1 S:1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	0
Astragalus monoensis Mono milk-vetch	G2 S2	None Rare	Rare Plant Rank - 1B.2 BLM_S-Sensitive SB_RSABG-Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden USFS_S-Sensitive	7,680 8,070	22 S:8	0	3	2	1	0	2	4	4	8	0	0
Boechera bodiensis Bodie Hills rockcress	G3 S3	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 1B.3 BLM_S-Sensitive USFS_S-Sensitive	7,075 8,600	31 S:2	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	2	2	0	0
Boechera cobrensis Masonic rockcress	G5 S3	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 2B.3	6,500 9,400	28 S:8	1	1	2	0	0	4	2	6	8	0	0
Boechera tiehmii Tiehm's rockcress	G3 S3	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 1B.3 USFS_S-Sensitive	9,750 10,450	9 S:3	3	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	3	0	0

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						A	B	C	D	X	U	Historic > 20 yr	Recent <= 20 yr	Extant	Poss. Extirp.	Extirp.
Boechera tularensis Tulare rockcress	G3 S3	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 1B.3 USFS_S-Sensitive	8,000 8,000	37 S:1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0
Bombus morrisoni Morrison bumble bee	G4G5 S1S2	None None	IUCN_VU-Vulnerable	6,500 7,200	85 S:4	0	0	0	0	0	4	4	0	4	0	0
Botrychium ascendens upswept moonwort	G3G4 S2	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 2B.3 USFS_S-Sensitive	8,594 8,594	45 S:1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0
Botrychium crenulatum scalloped moonwort	G4 S3	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 2B.2 USFS_S-Sensitive	9,754 9,754	125 S:1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	0
Botrychium lunaria common moonwort	G5 S2	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 2B.3 USFS_S-Sensitive	6,750 6,750	7 S:1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0
Brachylagus idahoensis pygmy rabbit	G4 S3	None None	BLM_S-Sensitive CDFW_SSC-Species of Special Concern IUCN_LC-Least Concern USFS_S-Sensitive	6,450 6,833	12 S:7	0	0	0	0	0	7	0	7	7	0	0
Buteo swainsoni Swainson's hawk	G5 S3	None Threatened	BLM_S-Sensitive IUCN_LC-Least Concern USFWS_BCC-Birds of Conservation Concern	2,160 8,120	2460 S:3	1	0	0	0	0	2	3	0	3	0	0
Carex davyi Davy's sedge	G3 S3	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 1B.3	10,600 10,600	19 S:1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0
Carex praticola northern meadow sedge	G5 S2	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 2B.2	9,950 9,950	14 S:1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	0
Carex scirpoidea ssp. pseudoscirpoidea western single-spiked sedge	GST4 S2	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 2B.2	7,360 11,900	11 S:4	0	0	1	0	0	3	2	2	4	0	0
Carex tiogana Tioga Pass sedge	G2Q S1	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 1B.3 USFS_S-Sensitive	10,350 10,850	7 S:3	0	0	0	0	0	3	3	0	3	0	0
Carex vallicola western valley sedge	G5 S2	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 2B.3	9,585 9,585	14 S:1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	0
Catostomus fumeiventris Owens sucker	G3G4 S3	None None	CDFW_SSC-Species of Special Concern	7,000 7,000	35 S:1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0

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						A	B	C	D	X	U	Historic > 20 yr	Recent <= 20 yr	Extant	Poss. Extirp.	Extirp.
Chaetadelpha wheeleri Wheeler's dune-broom	G4 S2	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 2B.2		25 S:1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0
Circus cyaneus northern harrier	G5 S3	None None	CDFW_SSC-Species of Special Concern IUCN_LC-Least Concern	6,400 6,400	53 S:1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0
Coturnicops noveboracensis yellow rail	G4 S1S2	None None	CDFW_SSC-Species of Special Concern IUCN_LC-Least Concern NABCI_RWL-Red Watch List USFS_S-Sensitive USFWS_BCC-Birds of Conservation Concern	6,521 6,521	45 S:1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0
Crepis runcinata fiddleleaf hawksbeard	G5 S3	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 2B.2	8,300 8,300	32 S:1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0
Cusickiella quadricostata Bodie Hills cusickiella	G2 S2	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 1B.2 BLM_S-Sensitive	7,200 7,600	28 S:4	0	0	0	0	0	4	4	0	4	0	0
Draba asterophora var. asterophora Tahoe draba	G2T2? S2?	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 1B.2 USFS_S-Sensitive	11,500 11,500	11 S:1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0
Draba cana canescent draba	G6 S2	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 2B.3	9,980 10,550	8 S:2	0	0	0	0	0	2	2	0	2	0	0
Draba praealta tall draba	G5 S3	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 2B.3	10,050 11,300	7 S:3	0	0	0	0	0	3	3	0	3	0	0
Empidonax traillii willow flycatcher	G5 S1S2	None Endangered	IUCN_LC-Least Concern USFS_S-Sensitive USFWS_BCC-Birds of Conservation Concern	6,430 7,760	90 S:7	0	2	0	3	0	2	4	3	7	0	0
Eremothera boothii ssp. boothii Booth's evening-primrose	G5T4 S2	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 2B.3	6,375 7,500	35 S:6	0	0	0	0	0	6	3	3	6	0	0
Erethizon dorsatum North American porcupine	G5 S3	None None	IUCN_LC-Least Concern	6,618 11,500	508 S:2	0	0	0	0	0	2	2	0	2	0	0
Erythranthe utahensis Utah monkeyflower	G4G5 S1	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 2B.1	6,390 6,400	5 S:4	0	0	0	0	0	4	3	1	4	0	0

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						A	B	C	D	X	U	Historic > 20 yr	Recent <= 20 yr	Extant	Poss. Extirp.	Extirp.
Euderma maculatum spotted bat	G4 S3	None None	BLM_S-Sensitive CDFW_SSC-Species of Special Concern IUCN_LC-Least Concern WBWG_H-High Priority	6,457 9,898	68 S:3	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	3	3	0	0
Eumops perotis californicus western mastiff bat	G5T4 S3S4	None None	BLM_S-Sensitive CDFW_SSC-Species of Special Concern WBWG_H-High Priority	6,457 9,898	294 S:4	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	4	4	0	0
Falco mexicanus prairie falcon	G5 S4	None None	CDFW_WL-Watch List IUCN_LC-Least Concern USFWS_BCC-Birds of Conservation Concern	8,000 8,160	459 S:4	0	0	0	0	0	4	4	0	4	0	0
Festuca minutiflora small-flowered fescue	G5 S2	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 2B.3	11,500 12,300	6 S:2	0	0	0	0	0	2	2	0	2	0	0
Gulo gulo California wolverine	G4 S1	Proposed Threatened Threatened	CDFW_FP-Fully Protected IUCN_NT-Near Threatened USFS_S-Sensitive	9,700 11,680	174 S:4	1	0	0	0	0	3	4	0	4	0	0
Hydromantes platycephalus Mount Lyell salamander	G4 S4	None None	CDFW_WL-Watch List IUCN_LC-Least Concern	9,600 11,100	45 S:2	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	1	2	0	0
Ladoania lanceolata lance-leaved scurf-pea	G5 S2	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 2B.3	6,500 6,650	11 S:2	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	1	2	0	0
Larus californicus California gull	G5 S4	None None	CDFW_WL-Watch List IUCN_LC-Least Concern	6,410 6,500	8 S:2	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	2	2	0	0
Lasionycteris noctivagans silver-haired bat	G5 S3S4	None None	IUCN_LC-Least Concern WBWG_M-Medium Priority	9,613 9,613	139 S:1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	0
Lasiurus cinereus hoary bat	G5 S4	None None	IUCN_LC-Least Concern WBWG_M-Medium Priority	6,457 9,898	236 S:3	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	3	3	0	0

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						A	B	C	D	X	U	Historic > 20 yr	Recent <= 20 yr	Extant	Poss. Extirp.	Extirp.
Lepus townsendii townsendii western white-tailed jackrabbit	G5T5 S3?	None None	CDFW_SSC-Species of Special Concern	6,850 6,850	24 S:1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0
Lupinus duranii Mono Lake lupine	G2 S2	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 1B.2 BLM_S-Sensitive USFS_S-Sensitive	6,800 9,000	42 S:27	0	8	7	0	0	12	11	16	27	0	0
Lupinus pusillus var. intermontanus intermontane lupine	G5T5? S2	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 2B.3		19 S:1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0
Martes caurina sierrae Sierra marten	G5T3 S3	None None	USFS_S-Sensitive	7,800 9,930	149 S:4	0	0	0	0	0	4	4	0	4	0	0
Mentzelia torreyi Torrey's blazing star	G4 S2	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 2B.2	6,400 6,440	17 S:4	0	0	0	0	0	4	1	3	4	0	0
Mono Pumice Flat Mono Pumice Flat	G1 S1.2	None None		6,560 8,800	15 S:13	0	2	2	1	0	8	13	0	13	0	0
Myotis evotis long-eared myotis	G5 S3	None None	BLM_S-Sensitive IUCN_LC-Least Concern WBWG_M-Medium Priority	6,457 9,613	139 S:2	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	2	2	0	0
Myotis yumanensis Yuma myotis	G5 S4	None None	BLM_S-Sensitive IUCN_LC-Least Concern WBWG_LM-Low-Medium Priority	6,457 9,613	263 S:2	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	2	2	0	0
Ochotona princeps schisticeps gray-headed pika	G5T2T4 S2S4	None None	IUCN_NT-Near Threatened	7,240 12,882	332 S:71	0	0	0	0	2	69	7	64	69	2	0
Pandion haliaetus osprey	G5 S4	None None	CDF_S-Sensitive CDFW_WL-Watch List IUCN_LC-Least Concern	6,350 6,390	502 S:7	7	0	0	0	0	0	1	6	7	0	0
Pekania pennanti fisher - West Coast DPS	G5T2T3Q S2S3	None Candidate Threatened	BLM_S-Sensitive CDFW_SSC-Species of Special Concern USFS_S-Sensitive	7,700 11,000	737 S:3	0	0	0	0	0	3	3	0	3	0	0
Peltigera gowardii western waterfan lichen	G3G4 S3	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 4.2 USFS_S-Sensitive		26 S:1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0

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						A	B	C	D	X	U	Historic > 20 yr	Recent <= 20 yr	Extant	Poss. Extirp.	Extirp.
Phacelia inyoensis Inyo phacelia	G3 S3	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 1B.2 BLM_S-Sensitive USFS_S-Sensitive	7,050 7,050	19 S:1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0
Picoides arcticus black-backed woodpecker	G5 S2	None None		7,300 7,500	62 S:2	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	2	2	0	0
Pohlia tundrae tundra thread moss	G3 S3	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 2B.3	12,015 12,015	8 S:1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	0
Potamogeton robbinsii Robbins' pondweed	G5 S3	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 2B.3	7,930 7,930	17 S:1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0
Pyrgulopsis wongi Wong's springsnail	G2 S2	None None	IUCN_LC-Least Concern USFS_S-Sensitive	8,130 8,130	50 S:1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0
Rana sierrae Sierra Nevada yellow-legged frog	G1 S1	Endangered Threatened	CDFW_WL-Watch List IUCN_EN-Endangered USFS_S-Sensitive	6,900 11,520	663 S:13	0	1	0	0	1	11	9	4	12	1	0
Ranunculus hydrocharoides frog's-bit buttercup	G4 S1	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 2B.1	7,440 7,440	4 S:1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0
Riparia riparia bank swallow	G5 S2	None Threatened	BLM_S-Sensitive IUCN_LC-Least Concern		297 S:1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0
Sabulina stricta bog sandwort	G5 S3	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 2B.3	10,380 11,500	18 S:4	0	0	0	0	0	4	4	0	4	0	0
Salix nivalis snow willow	G5 S2	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 2B.3	10,500 11,385	14 S:4	0	0	0	0	0	4	2	2	4	0	0
Setophaga petechia yellow warbler	G5 S3S4	None None	CDFW_SSC-Species of Special Concern USFWS_BCC-Birds of Conservation Concern	6,400 7,950	70 S:5	0	0	0	0	0	5	1	4	5	0	0
Silene oregana Oregon campion	G4 S2	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 2B.2	9,300 9,300	32 S:1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0
Sorex lyelli Mount Lyell shrew	G3G4 S3S4	None None	CDFW_SSC-Species of Special Concern IUCN_LC-Least Concern	6,850 9,930	11 S:4	0	0	0	0	0	4	4	0	4	0	0

Summary Table Report

California Department of Fish and Wildlife

California Natural Diversity Database

Name (Scientific/Common)	CNDDB Ranks	Listing Status (Fed/State)	Other Lists	Elev. Range (ft.)	Total EO's	Element Occ. Ranks						Population Status		Presence		
						A	B	C	D	X	U	Historic > 20 yr	Recent <= 20 yr	Extant	Poss. Extirp.	Extirp.
Spizella breweri Brewer's sparrow	G5 S4	None None	IUCN_LC-Least Concern USFWS_BCC-Birds of Conservation Concern	6,400 6,400	1 S:1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0
Streptanthus oliganthus Masonic Mountain jewelflower	G3 S3	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 1B.2 BLM_S-Sensitive USFS_S-Sensitive	7,400 8,360	18 S:3	0	0	1	1	0	1	1	2	3	0	0
Stuckenia filiformis ssp. alpina slender-leaved pondweed	G5T5 S3	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 2B.2	7,621 7,621	21 S:1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0
Taxidea taxus American badger	G5 S3	None None	CDFW_SSC-Species of Special Concern IUCN_LC-Least Concern	8,000 8,000	559 S:1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0
Tetradymia tetrameres dune horsebrush	G4 S2	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 2B.2	6,000 6,600	10 S:7	0	0	0	0	0	7	4	3	7	0	0
Thelypodium integrifolium ssp. complanatum foxtail thelypodium	G5T4T5 S2	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 2B.2	6,000 6,750	13 S:3	0	0	0	0	0	3	2	1	3	0	0
Thelypodium milleflorum many-flowered thelypodium	G5 S3?	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 2B.2	7,000 7,000	30 S:1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0
Viola purpurea ssp. aurea golden violet	G5T2 S2	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 2B.2	6,700 7,600	10 S:2	0	0	0	0	0	2	2	0	2	0	0
Vulpes vulpes necator Sierra Nevada red fox	G5T1T2 S1	Candidate Threatened	USFS_S-Sensitive	6,830 9,600	201 S:3	0	0	0	0	0	3	3	0	3	0	0
Xanthocephalus xanthocephalus yellow-headed blackbird	G5 S3	None None	CDFW_SSC-Species of Special Concern IUCN_LC-Least Concern	6,400 6,400	13 S:1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0

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Information Expires 10/29/2018

Most current as of 3 Aug 2015
(per Shari Yasuda, BLM)

Special Status Animals in California, Including BLM Designated Sensitive Species

	COMMON NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME	FEDERAL STATUS	STATE STATUS	BLM STATUS	OTHER STATUS
Mammal						
	A[illegible]argosa vole	Microtus californicus scirpensis	FE	SE		
	California [illegible]nsed bat	Macrotus californicus			BLMS	SSC
	Cave myotis	Myotis velifer			BLMS	SSC
	Desert bighorn sheep	Ovis canadensis nelsoni			BLMS	SF
	Fringed myotis	Myotis thysanodes			BLMS	
	Giant kangaroo rat	Dipodomys ingens	FE	SE		
	Long-eared myotis	Myotis evotis			BLMS	
	Mohave ground squirrel	Spermophilus mohavensis		ST	BLMS	
	Nelson's antelope squirrel	Ammospermophilus nelsoni		ST	BLMS	
	Owens Valley vole	Microtus californicus vallicola			BLMS	
	Pacific fisher	Martes pennanti (pacifica) DPS	FC	SC	BLMS	SSC
	Pallid bat	Antrozous pallidus			BLMS	SSC
	Palm Springs little pocket mouse	Perognathus longimembris bangsi			BLMS	
	Palm Springs round-tailed ground squirrel	Spermophilus tereticaudus chlorus	FC		BLMS	SSC
	Pygmy rabbit	Brachylagus idahoensis			BLMS	
	San Joaquin kit fox	Vulpes macrotis mutica	FE	ST		
	San Joaquin pocket mouse	Perognathus inornatus			BLMS	
	Short-nosed kangaroo rat	Dipodomys nitratoides brevinasus			BLMS	
	Sierra Nevada bighorn sheep	Ovis canadensis sierrae	FE	SE		SF
	Small-footed myotis	Myotis ciliolabrum			BLMS	
	Spotted bat	Euderma maculatum			BLMS	SSC
	Stephens' kangaroo rat	Dipodomys stephensi	FE	ST		
	Tipton kangaroo rat	Dipodomys nitratoides nitratoides	FE	SE		
	Townsend's big-eared bat	Corynorhinus townsendii			BLMS	SSC
	Tulare grasshopper mouse	Onychomys torridus tularensis			BLMS	
	Western mastiff-bat	Eumops perotis californicus			BLMS	SSC
	White-eared pocket mouse	Perognathus alticola			BLMS	
	Yellow-eared pocket mouse	Perognathus xanthonotus			BLMS	
	Yuma myotis	Myotis yumanensis			BLMS	
Bird						
	Arizona bell's vireo	Vireo bellii arizonae		SE	BLMS	
	Ashy storm-petrel	Oceanodroma homochroa			BLMS	SSC
	Bald eagle	Haliaeetus leucocephalus	FD	SE	BLMS	EA
	Bank swallow	Riparia riparia		ST	BLMS	
	Bendire's thrasher	Toxostoma bendirei			BLMS	SSC
	Brown pelican	Pelecanus occidentalis	FD	SD	BLMS	SF
	Burrowing owl	Athene cunicularia			BLMS	SSC
	California black rail	Laterallus jamaicensis coturniculus		ST	BLMS	SF
	California spotted owl	Strix occidentalis occidentalis			BLMS	SSC
	Elf owl	Micrathene whitneyi		SE	BLMS	
	Fork-tailed storm-petrel	Oceanodroma furcata			BLMS	SSC
	Gila woodpecker	Melanerpes uropygialis		SE	BLMS	
	Gilded flicker	Colaptes chrysoides		SE	BLMS	

Federal Status: FE = Federally Endangered, FT = Federally Threatened, FC = Federal Candidate, FP = Proposed for Federal Listing, FD = Delisted from Federal ESA; State Status: SE = State Endangered, ST = State Threatened, SC = State Candidate, SD = Delisted from State ESA; Other Status: EA = Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act, SF = Fully Protected, SSC = Species of Special Concern

	COMMON NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME	FEDERAL STATUS	STATE STATUS	BLM STATUS	OTHER STATUS
	Golden eagle	Aquila chrysaetos			BLMS	EA
	Gray vireo	Vireo vicinior			BLMS	SSC
	Greater sage-grouse	Centrocercus urophasianus	FC		BLMS	SSC
	Greater sandhill crane	Grus canadensis tabida		ST	BLMS	SF
	Inyo California towhee	Pipilo crissalis eremophilus	FT	SE		
	Least Bell's vireo	Vireo bellii pusillus	FE	SE		
	Lucy's warbler	Vermivora luciae			BLMS	SSC
	Mountain plover	Charadrius montanus			BLMS	SSC
	Northern goshawk	Accipiter gentilis			BLMS	SSC
	San Joaquin Le Conte's thrasher	Toxostoma lecontei macmillanorum			BLMS	SSC
	Southwestern willow flycatcher	Empidonax traillii extimus	FE	SE		
	Swainson's hawk	Buteo swainsoni		ST	BLMS	
	Tricolored blackbird	Agelaius tricolor			BLMS	SSC
	Western yellow-billed cuckoo	Coccyzus americanus occidentalis	FC	SE	BLMS	
	White-tailed kite	Elanus leucurus			BLMS	SF
	Xantus' murrelet	Synthliboramphus hypoleucus	FC	ST	BLMS	
	Yuma clapper rail	Rallus longirostris yumanensis	FE	ST		SF
Reptile						
	Barefoot banded gecko	Coleonyx switaki		ST	BLMS	
	Blunt-nosed leopard lizard	Gambelia sila	FE	SE		SF
	California mountain kingsnake	Lampropeltis zonata			BLMS	
	Coachella Valley fringe-toed lizard	Uma inornata	FT	SE		
	Coast horned lizard	Phrynosoma blainvillii			BLMS	
	Colorado Desert fringe-toed lizard	Uma notata notata			BLMS	
	Coronado skink	Plestiodon skiltonianus interparietalis			BLMS	
	Desert tortoise	Gopherus agassizii	FT	ST		
	Flat-tailed horned lizard	Phrynosoma mcallii			BLMS	
	Gila monster	Heloderma suspectum			BLMS	
	Mojave fringe-toed lizard	Uma scoparia			BLMS	
	Northern sagebrush lizard	Sceloporus graciosus graciosus			BLMS	
	Panamint alligator lizard	Elgaria panamintinus			BLMS	
	Southwestern pond turtle	Actinemys marmorata pallida			BLMS	
	Two-striped garter snake	Thamnophis hammondii			BLMS	
Amphibian						
	Black toad	Anaxyrus exsul		ST	BLMS	SF
	California tiger salamander	Ambystoma californiense	FT	SC		SSC
	Couch's spadefoot toad	Scaphiopus couchi			BLMS	
	Desert slender salamander	Batrachoseps major aridus	FE	SE		
	Foothill yellow-legged frog	Rana boylei			BLMS	
	Inyo Mountains slender salamander	Batrachoseps campi			BLMS	
	Limestone salamander	Hydromantes brunus		ST	BLMS	SF
	Lowland leopard frog	Lithobates yavapaiensis			BLMS	
	Oregon spotted frog	Rana pretiosa	FC		BLMS	
	Shasta salamander	Hydromantes shastae			BLMS	
	Tehachapi slender salamander	Batrachoseps stebbinsi			BLMS	
	Western spadefoot toad	Scaphiopus hammondi			BLMS	

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	COMMON NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME	FEDERAL STATUS	STATE STATUS	BLM STATUS	OTHER STATUS
	Yellow-blotched salamander	Ensatina eschscholtzi croceator			BLMS	
Fish						
	Amargosa River pupfish	Cyprinodon nevadensis amargosae			BLMS	
	Amargosa speckled dace	Rhinichthys osculus ssp. 1			BLMS	
	Central Valley spring-run chinook salmon	Oncorhynchus tshawytscha ESU spring-run	FT	ST		
	Coho salmon - central California coast	Oncorhynchus kisutch	FE	SE		
	Colorado pikeminnow	Ptychocheilus lucius	FE	SE		SF
	Desert pupfish	Cyprinodon macularius	FE	SE		
	Lost River sucker	Deltistes luxatus	FE	SE		SF
	Modoc sucker	Catostomus microps	FE	SE		SF
	Mojave tui chub	Gila bicolor mohavensis	FE	SE		SF
	Owens pupfish	Cyprinodon radiosus	FE	SE		SF
	Owens speckled dace	Rhinichthys osculus ssp. 2			BLMS	
	Owens tui chub	Gila bicolor snyderi	FE	SE		
	Pacific lamprey	Lampetra tridentata			BLMS	
	Razorback sucker	Xyrauchen texanus	FE	SE		SF
	Red Hills roach	Lavinia symmetricus ssp. 3			BLMS	
	Rough sculpin	Cottus asperrimus		ST	BLMS	
	Sacramento River winter-run chinook salmon	Oncorhynchus tshawytscha ESU winter-run	FE	SE		
	Shortnose sucker	Chasmistes brevirostris	FE	SE		SF
	Unarmored threespine stickleback	Gasterosteus aculeatus williamsoni	FE	SE		SF
	Wall Canyon sucker	Catostomus murivalis			BLMS	
Invertebrate						
	Big Bar hesperian snail	Vespericola pressleyi			BLMS	
	Clervo aeglallan scarab beetle	Aeglalla conchna			BLMS	
	Hirsute Sierra sideband snail	Monadenia mormonum hirsute			BLMS	
	Hooded lancetooth	Ancotrema voyanum			BLMS	
	Keeled sideband snail	Monadenia circumcarinata			BLMS	
	Oregon shoulderband snail	Helminthoglypta hertleini			BLMS	
	San Joaquin dune beetle	Coelus gracilis			BLMS	
	Shasta crayfish	Pacifastacus fortis	FE	SE		
	Shoshone Cave whip-scorpion	Trithyreus shoshonensis			BLMS	
	Siskiyou shoulderband snail	Monadenia chaceana			BLMS	
	Tehama chaparral snail	Trilobopsis tehamana			BLMS	
	Thorne's hairstreak butterfly	Callophrys thornei			BLMS	
	Trinity shoulderband snail	Helminthoglypta talmadgei			BLMS	
	Tuolumne sideband snail	Monadenia tuolumneana			BLMS	

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Most current as of 3 Aug 2015 (per Martin Bilecki, BLM)

BLM Special Status Plants under the Jurisdiction of the Bishop Field Office as of September 10, 2013.

SCIENTIFIC NAME	COMMON NAME	TYPES OF PLANT	FAMILY	STATUS	KNOWN OR SUSPECTED ON BLM LANDS?
Astragalus argophyllus var. argophyllus May-Jul	silverleaf milk-vetch	Vascular Plant	Fabaceae	BLM Sensitive	Known on BLM lands
Astragalus johannis-howellii Jun-Aug	Long Valley milkvetch	Vascular Plant	Fabaceae	BLM Sensitive	Known on BLM lands
Astragalus lentiginosus var. piscinensis Jun-Jul	Fish Slough milk-vetch	Vascular Plant	Fabaceae	Federal Threatened	Known on BLM lands
Astragalus monoensis Jun-Aug	Mono milk-vetch	Vascular Plant	Fabaceae	BLM Sensitive	Known on BLM lands
Astragalus oophorus var. lavinii Jun	Lavin's milk-vetch	Vascular Plant	Fabaceae	BLM Sensitive	Known on BLM lands
Astragalus pseudiodanthus May-Jun	Tonopah milk-vetch	Vascular Plant	Fabaceae	BLM Sensitive	Known on BLM lands
Boechera bodiensis Jun-Jul (Aug)	Bodie Hills rock cress	Vascular Plant	Brassicaceae	BLM Sensitive	Known on BLM lands
Calochortus excavatus Apr-Jul	Inyo mariposa	Vascular Plant	Liliaceae	BLM Sensitive	Known on BLM lands
Cryptantha roosiorum Jun-Jul	bristlecone cryptantha	Vascular Plant	Boraginaceae	BLM Sensitive	Suspected on BLM lands
Cusickiella quadricostata May-Jul	Bodie Hills cusickiella	Vascular Plant	Brassicaceae	BLM Sensitive	Known on BLM lands
Dedeckera eurekensis May-Aug	July gold	Vascular Plant	Polygonaceae	BLM Sensitive	Known on BLM lands
Erigeron calvus May	bald daisy	Vascular Plant	Asteraceae	BLM Sensitive	Suspected on BLM lands
Eriogonum alexanderae May-Jul	Alexander's buckwheat	Vascular Plant	Polygonaceae	BLM Sensitive	Suspected on BLM lands
Eriogonum eremicola June-Sep	Wildrose Canyon buckwheat	Vascular Plant	Polygonaceae	BLM Sensitive	Suspected on BLM lands
Eriogonum microthecum var. panamintense Jun-Oct	Panamint Mountains buckwheat	Vascular Plant	Polygonaceae	BLM Sensitive	Known on BLM lands
Hesperidanthus jaegeri May-Jul	Jaeger's hesperidanthus	Vascular Plant	Brassicaceae	BLM Sensitive	Suspected on BLM lands
Ivesia kingii var. kingii May-Aug	alkali ivesia	Vascular Plant	Rosaceae	BLM Sensitive	Known on BLM lands
Loeflingia squarrosa var. artemisiarum Apr-May	Sagebrush loeflingia	Vascular Plant	Caryophyllaceae	BLM Sensitive	Known on BLM lands
Lupinus duranii May-Aug	Mono Lake lupine	Vascular Plant	Fabaceae	BLM Sensitive	Known on BLM lands
Lupinus magnificus var. hesperius Apr-Jun	McGee Meadows lupine	Vascular Plant	Fabaceae	BLM Sensitive	Known on BLM lands
Lupinus magnificus var. magnificus Apr-Jun	Panamint Mtns. lupine	Vascular Plant	Fabaceae	BLM Sensitive	Suspected on BLM lands
Mentzelia inyoensis Apr-Oct	Inyo blazing star	Vascular Plant	Loasaceae	BLM Sensitive	Known on BLM lands
Peritoma inyoensis Jun-Aug	Inyo rock daisy	Vascular Plant	Asteraceae	BLM Sensitive	Suspected on BLM lands
Phacelia inyoensis Apr-Aug	Inyo phacelia	Vascular Plant	Boraginaceae	BLM Sensitive	Known on BLM lands
Phacelia monoensis May-Jul	Mono County phacelia	Vascular Plant	Boraginaceae	BLM Sensitive	Known on BLM lands
Polyctenium williamsiae Mar-Jul	Williams's combleaf	Vascular Plant	Brassicaceae	BLM Sensitive	Known on BLM lands
Sidalcea covillei Apr-Jun	Owens Valley checkerbloom	Vascular Plant	Malvaceae	BLM Sensitive	Known on BLM lands
Streptanthus oliganthus Jun-Jul	Masonic Mountain jewel-flower	Vascular Plant	Brassicaceae	BLM Sensitive	Known on BLM lands

Appendix G List of Preparers

Bradley Bowers, Environmental Coordinator and Paleontology Specialist; M.S. Environmental Science and Management, University of California, Santa Barbara; B.S. Magna Cum Laude, Geological Sciences & Environmental Hydrogeology, California State University, Los Angeles; 5 years of experience working in the environmental sector. Contribution: Environmental Document Preparation, Map Creation

Forest Becket, Senior Transportation Planner; B.A. Natural Resources Planning & Interpretation, California State University, Humboldt; 17 years of experience in project development, 4 years of experience as Surface Mining and Reclamation supervisor. Contribution: Mining Operation and Reclamation Plan / Project Manager, Document Oversight and review.

Ben Downard, Associate Environmental Planner; B.A. Geography, University of California, Chico; 6 years of experience at Caltrans coordinating/drafting CEQA and NEPA documents. Contribution: Environmental Document Peer and Technical reviews

Matthew Goike, Environmental Engineer. B.S. and M.S. in Civil Engineering from Michigan State University; 18 years of experience in transportation project development, 2 years of experience as a specialist in Air, Noise, Hazardous Waste, Water, Wastewater, and Storm water. Contribution: Air, Noise, and Hazardous Waste assessments.

Jim Hibbert, District Landscape Architect; B.A. Geography, University of Alaska-Fairbanks, Fairbanks, AK; 2nd B.L.A. Landscape Architecture, University of Oregon, Eugene, OR. California Licensed Landscape Architect No. 5136. 18 years of experience in landscape architecture; Contribution: Visual Impacts Analysis.

Trevor Pratt, Associate Environmental Planner (Archeology). B.A., Anthropology, University of California, Los Angeles; 9 years of experience in California and Great Basin archaeology and Environmental Planning. Contribution: Project Archaeologist

Jennifer Richardson, Biologist; B.S. Wildlife Conservation and Management, California State University, Humboldt; 15 years of experience as a wildlife biologist. Contribution: Project Biologist.

Appendix D

Reclamation Plan Content Checklist

The Division of Mine Reclamation (DMR) reviews reclamation plans for compliance and completeness pursuant to Public Resources Code (PRC) Section 2772.1(b)(1). When submitting a reclamation plan to DMR, the lead agency must certify that the reclamation plan is a complete submission and is in compliance with SMARA and associated regulations and the lead agency's mining ordinance pursuant to PRC 2772.1(a)(3)(A-E). Additionally**,** pursuant to PRC 2772.1(a)(2), information prepared as part of a permit application or environmental document (pursuant to CEQA) shall be incorporated into the reclamation plan if it is used to satisfy the requirements of SMARA and associated regulations. These items shall be properly indexed in a Required Contents Chart and included in an appendix to the reclamation plan.

This checklist may assist operators and lead agencies when preparing and reviewing draft proposed reclamation plans and reclamation plan amendments in determining if they meet the minimum content requirements of the Surface Mining and Reclamation Act of 1975 (SMARA) and associated regulations (see box below for sections relevant to reclamation plans).

Surface Mining and Reclamation Act of 1975
Public Resources Code (PRC)
Division 2. Geology, Mines and Mining
Chapter 9. Surface Mining and Reclamation Act of 1975
Section 2710 et seq.

This portion includes requirements for reclamation plans.

Associated Regulations
California Code of Regulations (CCR)
Title 14. Natural Resources
Division 2. Department of Conservation
Chapter 8. Mining and Geology
Subchapter 1. State Mining and Geology Board

Article 1. Surface Mining and Reclamation Practice. Commencing with Section 3500

This portion includes minimum acceptable mining and reclamation practices for surface mining operations.

Article 9. Reclamation Standards. Commencing with Section 3700

This portion includes performance standards, which may apply to surface mining operations pursuant to CCR Section 3700.

The checklist is divided into seven topical areas: General Considerations, Geology and Geotechnical, Hydrology and Water Quality, Sensitive Species and Habitat, Topsoil, Revegetation, and Agriculture. To use the checklist, place a checkmark next to items that have been addressed by the reclamation plan or leave it blank if the reclamation plan is deficient. Alternatively, write N/A if the item is not applicable to the specific surface mining operation being reviewed.

Disclaimer: This checklist, prepared by DMR, paraphrases portions of SMARA and associated regulations that address the content of reclamation plans and plan amendments. DMR staff uses this checklist internally in performing our review of reclamation plans. However, use of this checklist is not required and it is provided only as a helpful tool. DMR always recommends consulting the full text of SMARA and associated regulations, available at the link below. Additionally, completion of this checklist does not guarantee completeness or compliance of the reclamation plan pursuant to PRC Section 2772.1(b)(1). Analysis of completeness and compliance requires thorough review of each specific project.

http://www.conservation.ca.gov/index/Pages/lawsregs.aspx

Mine Name: Baseline Pit (Mine ID 91-26-0016)	Checklist Completed by: Forest Becket
End Use: State DOT Maintenance Area	Date: August 23, 2018

GENERAL CONSIDERATIONS

Authority	Requirements/Practices/Standards	✓ or N/A
PRC 2772(b)	Required contents chart: A chart identifying the location (e.g. page number, chapter, appendix, or other location in the reclamation plan) of content that meets the requirements of PRC Sections 2772, 2773, 2773.3 and CCR Articles 1 and 9 (as delineated in this checklist).	Appx. D
PRC 2772(c)(1)	Contact information: Name and address of the surface mining operator and any person designated by the operator as an agent for service of process (must reside in CA).	Pg.8 2.1
PRC 2772(c)(2)	Material quantity and type: The anticipated total quantity and type of minerals to be mined (see Annual Report Instructions, Exhibit B, for mineral types and units of measure).	Pg.32 4.2.1
PRC 2772(c)(3)	Dates: The initiation and termination dates of mining (be as specific as possible, e.g. December 31, 2030).	Pg.10 2.7
PRC 2772(c)(4)	Depth of mining: The maximum anticipated depth of the surface mining operation.	Pg.9 2.6
PRC 2772(c)(5) (A-F)	Reclamation plan maps shall include**:** Size and legal description of lands affected by surface mining operations;	Appx. A
	Names and addresses of owners of all surface interests and mineral interests;	Pg. 8
	Property lines, setbacks, and the reclamation plan boundary;	Appx. A
	Existing and final topography with contour lines at appropriate intervals;	Appx. A
	Detailed geologic description of the area of the surface mining operation;	Pg. 12 3.1
	Locations of railroads, utility features, and roads (access roads, temporary roads to be reclaimed, and any roads remaining for the end use).	Appx. A
	All maps, diagrams, or calculations that are required to be prepared by a California-licensed professional shall include the preparer's name, license number, signature & seal.	Appx. A
PRC 2772(c)(6)	Mining method and schedule: A description of the mining methods and a time schedule that provides for completion of mining on each segment so that reclamation can be concurrent or phased.	Appx. B
PRC 2772(c)(7)	Subsequent use(s): A description of the proposed subsequent use(s) after reclamation	Pg. 41 5.1
	Evidence that all landowners have been notified of the proposed use.	N/A
PRC 2772(c)(9)	Impact on future mining: A statement regarding the impact of reclamation on future mining on the site.	Pg. 49 5.7
PRC 2772(c)(10)	Signed statement: Statement signed by the operator accepting responsibility for reclamation of the mined lands per the reclamation plan.	N/A
PRC 2776(b-c)	Pre-SMARA areas: Reclamation plans shall apply to operations conducted after January 1, 1976 or to be conducted in the future. Mined lands disturbed prior to January 1, 1976 *and not disturbed after that date* may be excluded from the reclamation plan.	N/A
CCR 3502(b)(2)	Public health and safety: A description of how any potential public health and safety concerns that may arise due to exposure of the public to the site will be addressed.	Pg. 38 4.3.5
CCR 3709(a)	Equipment storage and waste disposal: Designate areas for equipment storage and show on maps.	Appx. B
	All waste shall be disposed of in accordance with state and local health and safety ordinances.	Pg. 38 4.3.6
CCR 3709(b)	Structures and equipment removed:	N/A

	Structures and equipment should be dismantled and removed at closure, except as demonstrated to be necessary for the proposed end use.	Pg. 6 1.1.2.4
CCR 3713(a)	Well closures: Drill holes, water wells, monitoring wells will be completed or abandoned in accordance with laws, unless demonstrated necessary for the proposed end use.	N/A
CCR 3713(b)	Underground openings: Any portals, shafts, tunnels, or openings will be gated or protected from public entry, and to preserve access for wildlife (e.g. bats).	N/A

GEOLOGY AND GEOTECHNICAL

Authority	Requirements/Practices/Standards	✓ or N/A
PRC 2772(c)(5)	A description of the general geology of the area	Pg. 11 3.0
	A detailed description of the geology of the mine site.	Pg. 12 3.1
PRC 2773.3	If a metallic mine is located on, or within one mile of, any “Native American sacred site” and is located in an “area of special concern, ” the reclamation plan shall require that all excavations and/or excess materials be backfilled and graded to achieve the approximate original contours of the mined lands prior to mining.	N/A
CCR 3502(b)(4)	The source and disposition of fill materials used for backfilling or grading shall be considered in the reclamation plan.	Pg. 43 5.2.2
CCR 3502(b)(3)	The designed steepness and treatment of final slopes must consider the physical properties of slope materials, maximum water content, and landscaping.	Pg. 43 5.2.2.1
	The reclamation plan shall specify slope angles flatter than the critical gradient for the type of slope materials.	Pg. 43 5.2.2.2
	When final slopes approach the critical gradient, a Slope Stability Analysis will be required.	Appx. A
CCR 3704.1	Backfilling required for surface mining operations for metallic minerals.	N/A
CCR 3704(a)	For urban use, fill shall be compacted in accordance with Uniform Building Code, local grading ordinance, or other methods approved by the lead agency.	N/A
CCR 3704(b)	For resource conservation, compact to the standards required for that end use.	N/A
CCR 3704(d)	Final reclamation fill slopes shall not exceed 2:1 (H:V), except when allowed by site-specific engineering analysis, and the proposed final slope can be successfully revegetated. See also Section 3502(b)(3).	N/A
CCR 3704(e)	At closure, all fill slopes shall conform with the surrounding topography or approved end use.	N/A
CCR 3704(f)	Final cut slopes must have a minimum slope stability factor of safety that is suitable for the end use and conforms with the surrounding topography or end use.	Pg. 43 5.2.2.2

HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY

Authority	Requirements/Practices/Standards	✓ or N/A
PRC 2770.5	For operations within the 100-year flood plain (defined by FEMA) and within one mile up- or downstream of a state highway bridge, Caltrans must be notified and provided a 45-day review period by the lead agency.	N/A
PRC 2772(c)(8)(A)	Description of the manner in which contaminants will be controlled and mine waste will be disposed.	Pg. 38 4.3.6
PRC 2772(c)(8)(B)	The reclamation plan shall include a description of the manner in which stream banks/beds will be rehabilitated to minimize erosion and sedimentation.	N/A
PRC 2773(a)	The reclamation plan shall establish site-specific sediment and erosion control criteria for monitoring compliance with the reclamation plan.	Pg. 40 4.3.8
CCR 3502(b)(6)	Temporary stream and watershed diversions shall be detailed in the reclamation plan.	N/A
CCR 3503(a)(2)	Stockpiles of overburden and minerals shall be managed to minimize water and wind erosion.	Pg. 44 5.2.2.3

CCR 3503(b)(2)	Operations shall be conducted to substantially prevent siltation of groundwater recharge areas.	Pg. 29 3.5
CCR 3503(a)(3)	Erosion control facilities shall be constructed and maintained where necessary to control erosion.	Pg. 34 4..2.2.2
CCR 3503(b)(1)	Settling ponds shall be constructed where they will provide a significant benefit to water quality.	Appx.A
CCR 3503(d)	Disposal of mine waste and overburden shall be stable and shall not restrict natural drainage without suitable provisions for diversion.	Pg. 4 1.1.2
CCR 3503(e)	Grading and revegetation shall be designed to minimize erosion and convey surface runoff to natural drainage courses or interior basins.	Appx.A
	Spillway protection shall be designed to prevent erosion.	N/A
CCR 3706(a)	Surface mining and reclamation activities shall be conducted to protect on-site and downstream beneficial uses of water.	Appx.C Pg. 21
CCR 3706(b)	Water quality, recharge potential, and groundwater storage that is accessed by others shall not be diminished.	Pg. 29
CCR 3706(c)	Erosion and sedimentation shall be controlled during all phases of construction, operation, reclamation, and closure of surface mining operations to minimize siltation of lakes and water courses as per RWQCB/SWRCB.	Pg. 40 4.3.8
CCR 3706(d)	Surface runoff and drainage shall be controlled to protect surrounding land and water resources.	" "
	Erosion control methods shall be designed for not less than 20 year/1 hour intensity storm event.	" "
CCR 3706(e)	Impacted drainages shall not cause increased erosion or sedimentation. Mitigation alternatives shall be proposed in the reclamation plan.	Pg. 44 5.2.2.3
CCR 3706(f)(1)	Stream diversions shall be constructed in accordance with the Lake and Streambed Alteration Agreement (LSAA) between the operator and the Department of Fish and Wildlife.	N/A
CCR 3706(f)(2)	Stream diversions shall also be constructed in accordance with Federal Clean Water Act and the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899.	N/A
CCR 3706(g)	All temporary stream diversions shall eventually be removed and the affected land reclaimed.	N/A
CCR 3710(a)	Surface and groundwater shall be protected from siltation and pollutants in accordance with the Porter-Cologne Act, the Federal Clean Water Act, and RWQCB/SWRCB requirements.	Pg. 40 4.3.7
CCR 3710(b)	In-stream mining shall be conducted in accordance with Section 1600 et seq. of the California Fish and Game Code, Section 404 of the Clean Water Act, and Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899.	N/A
CCR 3710(c)	In-stream mining shall be regulated to prevent impacts to structures, habitats, riparian vegetation, groundwater levels, and banks.	N/A
	In-stream channel elevations and bank erosion shall be evaluated annually using extraction quantities, cross-sections, and aerial photos.	N/A
CCR 3712	Mine waste and tailings and mine waste disposal units are governed by SWRCB waste disposal regulations and shall be reclaimed in accordance with this article: CCR Article 1. Surface Mining and Reclamation Practice. Section 3500 et seq.	N/A

SENSITIVE SPECIES AND HABITAT

Authority	Requirements/Practices/Standards	✓ or N/A
CCR 3502(b)(1)	A description of the environmental setting (identify sensitive species, wildlife habitat, sensitive natural communities, e.g. wetlands).	Pg.17-30
	Impacts of reclamation on surrounding land uses.	Pg. 14
CCR 3503(c)	Fish and wildlife habitat shall be protected by all reasonable measures.	Pg.17-30
CCR 3703(a)	Sensitive species shall be conserved or mitigated as prescribed by the federal and California Endangered Species Acts.	Appx. C
CCR 3703(b)	Wildlife habitat shall be established on disturbed land at least as good as pre-project, unless end use precludes its use as wildlife habitat.	Appx. C
CCR 3703(c)	Wetlands shall be avoided or mitigated at 1:1 minimum for both acreage and habitat value.	N/A
CCR 3704(g)	Piles or dumps shall not be placed in wetlands without mitigation.	N/A
CCR 3710(d)	In-stream mining shall not cause fish to be trapped in pools or off-channel pits, or restrict migratory or spawning activities.	N/A

TOPSOIL

Authority	Requirements/Practices/Standards	✓ or N/A
CCR 3503(a)(1)	Removal of vegetation and overburden preceding mining shall be kept to a minimum.	Pg. 33 4.2.2
CCR 3503(f)	When the reclamation plan calls for resoiling, mine waste shall be leveled and covered with a layer of finer material. A soil layer shall then be placed on this prepared surface.	Pg. 45 5.2.3.1
	The use of soil conditioners, mulches, or imported topsoil shall be considered where such measures appear necessary.	Pg. 46 5.2.3.3
CCR 3704(c)	Mine waste shall be stockpiled to facilitate phased reclamation and kept separate from topsoil or other growth media.	Pg. 32 4.2.2
CCR 3705(e)	If soil is altered or other than native topsoil, soil analysis is required. Add fertilizers or soil amendments if necessary.	Pg. 46 5.2.3.3
CCR 3711(a)	All salvageable topsoil shall be removed as a separate layer.	Pg. 32 4.2.2
	Topsoil and vegetation removal should not precede mining by more than one year.	
CCR 3711(b)	Topsoil resources shall be mapped prior to stripping and location of topsoil stockpiles shown on map included in the reclamation plan.	Appx.A
	Topsoil and other growth media shall be maintained in separate stockpiles.	Appx.A
	Test plots may be required to determine the suitability of growth media for revegetation purposes.	Pg. 49 5.6
CCR 3711(c)	Soil salvage operations and phases of reclamation shall be set forth in the reclamation plan to minimize the area disturbed and to achieve maximum revegetation success.	Pg. 44 5.2.3
CCR 3711(d)	Topsoil and growth media shall be used to phase reclamation as soon as can be accommodated following the mining of an area.	Pg. 49 5.6
	Topsoil stockpiles shall not be disturbed until needed for reclamation.	Pg. 33 4.2.2
	Topsoil stockpiles shall be clearly identified.	
	Topsoil shall be planted with vegetation or otherwise protected to prevent erosion and discourage weeds.	N/A
CCR 3711(e)	Topsoil shall be redistributed in a manner resulting in a stable, uniform thickness consistent with the end use.	Pg. 45 5.2.3.1

REVEGETATION

Authority	Requirements/Practices/Standards	✓ or N/A
PRC 2773(a)	The reclamation plan shall be specific to the property and shall establish site-specific criteria for evaluating compliance with the reclamation plan with respect to revegetation.	Pg. 45 5.2.3
CCR 3503(g)	Available research regarding revegetation methods and selection of species given the topography, resoiling characteristics, and climate of the mined areas shall be used.	pg. 44-49 5.2.3
CCR 3705(a)	Baseline studies shall be conducted prior to mining activities to document vegetative cover, density, and species richness.	Pg. 31 3.8
	Vegetative cover shall be similar to surrounding habitats and self-sustaining.	Pg. 45 5.2.3
CCR 3705(b)	Test plots shall be conducted simultaneously with mining to ensure successful implementation of the proposed revegetation plan.	Pg. 49 5.6
CCR 3705(c)	Decompaction methods, such as ripping and disking, shall be used in areas to be revegetated to establish a suitable root zone for planting.	Pg. 45 5.2.3.2
CCR 3705(d)	Roads shall be stripped of roadbase materials, resoiled, and revegetated, unless exempted.	N/A
CCR 3705(f)	Temporary access shall not disrupt the soil surface on arid lands except where necessary for safe access. Barriers shall be installed to keep unauthorized vehicles out.	Pg. 38 4.3.5
CCR 3705(g)	Use local native plant species (unless non-native species meet the end use).	Pg. 46 5.2.3.5
	Areas to be developed for industrial, commercial, or residential shall be revegetated for the interim period to control erosion.	N/A
CCR 3705(h)	Planting shall be conducted during the most favorable period of the year for plant establishment.	Pg. 44 5.2.3
CCR 3705(i)	Use soil stabilizing practices and irrigation when necessary to establish vegetation.	Pg. 47 5.2.3.6

CCR 3705(j)	If irrigation is used, demonstrate that revegetation has been self-sustaining without irrigation for two years prior to the release of financial assurance.	N/A
CCR 3705(k)	Noxious weeds shall be monitored and managed.	Pg. 48 5.3
CCR 3705(l)	Plant protection measures such as fencing and caging shall be used where needed for revegetation success. Protection measures shall be maintained until revegetation efforts are successfully completed and the lead agency authorizes removal.	N/A
CCR3705(m)	Quantitative success standards for vegetative cover, density, and species richness shall be included in the reclamation plan.	Pg. 45 5.2.3
	Monitoring to occur until success standards have been achieved.	Pg. 49 5.6
	Sampling techniques for measuring success shall be specified. Sample size must be sufficient to provide at least an 80 percent statistical confidence level.	Pg. 49 5.6

AGRICULTURE

Authority	Requirements/Practices/Standards	✓ or N/A
CCR 3707(a)	Where the end use will be agriculture, prime agricultural land shall be returned to a fertility level specified in the reclamation plan.	N/A
CCR 3707(b)	Segregate and replace topsoil in proper sequence by horizon in prime agricultural soils.	N/A
CCR 3707(c)	Post reclamation productivity rates for prime agricultural land must be equal to pre-project condition or to a similar site for two consecutive years.	N/A
	Productivity rates shall be specified in the reclamation plan.	N/A
CCR 3707(d)	If fertilizers and amendments are applied, they shall not cause contamination of surface or groundwater.	N/A
CCR 3708	For sites where the end use is to be agricultural, non-prime agricultural land must be reclaimed to be capable of sustaining economically viable crops common to the area.	N/A

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October 18, 2018

To: Planning Commission

From: Bentley Regehr, Planning Analyst
Wendy Sugimura, Director

Subject: Workshop: GPA 18-02: MFR Cleanup

RECOMMENDED ACTION
Conduct workshop and provide direction to staff on proposed changes.

BACKGROUND
Staff is exploring ways to amend the General Plan to meet Mono County's growing housing concerns. Currently, inconsistencies exist between minimum lot size and allowed density for multi-family residential land use designations. The County currently has 95 Multi-Family Residential (MFR) parcels, many of which do not meet the current minimum lot size for condominium or townhome development but can satisfy the density requirement. The land use designations in question consist of Multi-Family – High (MFR – High), Multi-Family - Medium (MFR – M), and Multi-Family – Low (MFR-L). The amendment proposes to adjust the minimum lot sizes for developments to match current density standards. For example, the minimum lot size for condominium developments of three or more units on MFR-L parcels would be changed to 3,750 square feet per unit to match the 15 dwelling units per acre allowance, instead of the current minimum lot size of two acres (87,120 square feet). The amendment allows for greater consistency across MFR parcels, creates flexibility to build on smaller MFR parcels, and encourages more efficient use of land.

The General Plan Amendment also includes language for permitting historically allowed transient rental use in MFR units. Transient rentals (fewer than 30 consecutive days) are prohibited in MFR-L and MFR-M, except in areas of historical use. The amendment allows the County to document the existing complexes where transient rentals will continue to be allowed. The units in question are existing and no new construction is proposed. This amendment does not affect the regulation of single-family units on residential land use designations, which is governed by Chapter 25 of the Land Use Element.

ATTACHMENT
- MFR proposed changes

Multi-Family Residential, Low (MFR-L), Moderate (MFR-M), High (MFR-H)

Legend:
Blue: New addition; Red: Previous

INTENT: The "MFR-L" designation is intended to provide for low-density multifamily residential development, such as duplexes and triplexes.

The "MFR-M" designation is intended to encourage long-term multifamily housing by allowing for higher population densities and by not allowing commercial lodging facilities; i.e., hotels, motels.

The "MFR-H" designation is intended to encourage multifamily units by allowing for higher population densities and to provide for commercial lodging facilities; i.e., hotels, motels.

PERMITTED USES

- Single-family dwelling
- Manufactured home used as a single-family dwelling[1] – MFR-L only [c]
- Duplexes and triplexes
- Accessory buildings and uses[2]
- Animals and pets (see Animal Standards Section 04.270)
- Home occupations (see Home Occupation regulations, Section 04.290)
- Small-scale agriculture
- Transitional and Supportive Housing[6]
- Outdoor cultivation of a maximum of six mature and 12 immature cannabis plants under the Compassionate Use Act.

USES PERMITTED SUBJECT TO DIRECTOR REVIEW (Director Review Processing, Ch. 31)

- MFR-L Model units
- None stated for MFR-M and MFR-H

USES PERMITTED SUBJECT TO USE PERMIT (Use Permit Processing, Ch. 32)
MFR-L, MFR-M and MFR-H

- Art galleries
- Quasi-public buildings and uses
- Public utility buildings and structures, not including service yards
- Country clubs and golf courses
- Condominiums, cooperatives, townhomes, cluster developments, apartments containing four or more units
- Parking lots and parking structures

MFR-H only

- Mobile-home parks (see Dev. Standards – Mobile Homes and RV Parks, Ch. 17)
- Recreational-vehicle parks (see Ch. 17)
- Social care facilities and related integrated professional offices
- Parking lots and parking structures when abutting a commercial district
- Hotels, motels, bed-and-breakfast establishments and dorms
- Transient rentals (fewer than 30 consecutive days) of four or more dwelling units only
- Manufactured housing subdivision (see Ch. 18)

Transient rentals (fewer than 30 consecutive days) are prohibited in MFR-L and MFR-M, except in the following complexes: Aspen Meadows, Hideaway Down Canyon, Interlaken, Birch Creek, Edgewater, Sierra Suns, or in complexes where transient use is not

specifically addressed in the use permit and/or parcel map of an existing development and can be demonstrated as a non-conforming use prior to the adoption date of this General Plan Amendment.

DEVELOPMENT STANDARDS
Minimum Lot Area:
MFR-L
Minimum lot size – 7,500 sf
Developments of three or more units – (number of units) x 3,750 sf
~~Multiple family – 11,250 sf~~
~~Condominiums, cooperatives, townhomes, cluster developments – 2 acres~~
Schools – 5 acres

MFR-M
Minimum lot size – 7,500 sf
Developments of three or more units – (number of units) x 2,904 sf
~~Minimum lot size – 10,000 sf 5~~
~~Condominiums, cooperatives, townhomes, cluster developments – 20,000 sf~~

MFR-H
Minimum lot size **–** 7,500 sf
Developments of three or more units – (number of units) x 2,904 sf
Hotels, resort hotels, and motels – 20,000 sf
~~Condominiums, cooperatives, townhomes, cluster developments – 20,000 sf~~

~~MFR-M Lots measuring less than 10,000 sq. ft. shall be limited to single-family & duplex uses.~~

Minimum lot size of 7,500 square feet for single-family residences and duplexes is based on subdivision requirements. Minimum lot size for developments of three or more units is based on density maximums – 11.6 du/acre for MFR-L and 15 du/acre for MFR-M and MFR-H.

Minimum District Area: **MFR-M** 3 acres
MFR-H 5 acres

Minimum Lot Dimensions: Width – 60'
Depth – 100'

MFR-L width for:
- Condominiums, cooperatives, townhomes, cluster developments – 150'
- Schools – 200'

Maximum Lot Coverage: **MFR-L** 40% **MFR-M and MFR-H** 60%

Minimum Setbacks:
Front: 20' **Rear:** 10' **Side:** 10'
See Section 04.120 for other provisions.

Building Density:
MFR-L
1 du/3,750 sq. ft. or 11.6 du/acre

MFR-M & -H
Condominiums, multifamily residences and similar uses – 15 du/acre
In no case shall projects containing density bonuses exceed 26 units/acre. Units designated as manager/employee housing unit shall not be counted in density calculations.

MFR-H
Hotels, motels, bed-and-breakfast establishments, etc. – 40 units/acre

Population Density: Maximum population density is 37.6 persons per acre for multifamily dwellings.

Maximum Building Height: 35' See Table 04.010 for other provisions.

Landscaping: Projects subject to use permit shall submit a landscape site plan at the time of application. A minimum of 5% of the building site shall be landscaped in the MFR-L designation.

NOTES

1. Provided that the unit is fewer than 10 years old and meets the criteria set forth in Section 04.280. When there are two mobile homes on the same parcel, they must 1) comply with the Accessory Dwelling Unit requirements (see Ch. 16), or 2) comply with State standards for a mobile-home park and obtain a use permit from the County (see Ch. 17, Mobile Homes and RV Parks).
2. Accessory buildings and uses customarily incidental to any of the permitted uses are permitted only when located on the same lot and constructed simultaneously with or after the main building.
3. Densities stated are based upon availability of both community water and sewer.
4. Uses may have been omitted from the list of those specified, hence the Commission may find other uses to be similar and not more obnoxious or detrimental to the public health, safety and welfare. See explanation of interpreting "similar uses" (Ch. 04, Uses not listed as permitted).
5. Lots requiring individual septic systems are subject to minimum dimensions as determined by the Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board.
6. Transitional and Supportive Housing projects are permitted in the same manner as other residential housing.

SEE ALSO

Land Development Regulations –

Ch. 03	Uses Permitted
Ch. 04	Development Standards – General
Ch. 06	Development Standards – Parking
Ch. 07	Development Standards – Signs
Table 04.010	Building Heights