Planning Department
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Post Office Drawer L
Independence, California 93526

Phone: (760) 878-0263
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AGENDA ITEM NO.: **8** (Action Item – Public Hearing)

PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING DATE: October 29, 2025

SUBJECT: Reclamation Plan 2023-01/Zurich Pit (MS 308)CALTRANS

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Zurich Pit was originally established in 1981 as a BLM-managed community borrow site serving Caltrans, Inyo County, LADWP, and private contractors under CUP 81-3. Although no SMARA-compliant reclamation plan was adopted at the time, Caltrans later secured a 55-acre Highway Easement Deed from BLM, including the former pit area. The current Reclamation Plan (RP2023-01) proposes to resume extraction within a 14-acre area using updated phasing and reclamation measures to comply with SMARA. A CEQA Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND) was prepared for the project, and all potential environmental impacts were determined to be less than significant.

PROJECT INFORMATION.

Supervisory District: 4

Project Applicant: California Department of Transportation (Caltrans).

Property Owner: Bureau of Land Management (BLM)

Site Address/
The aggregate pit is located on BLM land approximately 3 miles northeast of Big Pine, California, in section 3, Township 9S, Range 34E, Mount Diablo Meridian,

Community: Big Pine

A.P.N.: 018-070-10.
General Plan: Natural Resource (NR)

Zoning: Open Space (OS)

Size of Parcel: Approximately 55-acre right-of-way located within an approximately 2,844.64-acre federal parcel.

Surrounding Land Use:

Location:	Use:	Gen. Plan Designation	Zoning
Site	Mine	Natural resources (NR)	Open Space - 40 acre minimum (OS-40)
North	Vacant/Open Space	State and Federal Lands (SFL)	Open Space - 40 acre minimum (OS-40)
East	Vacant/Open Space	State and Federal Lands (SFL)	Open Space - 40 acre minimum (OS-40)
South	Vacant/Open Space	State and Federal Lands (SFL)	Open Space - 40 acre minimum (OS-40)
West	Vacant/Open Space	Natural resources (NR)	Open Space - 40 acre minimum (OS-40)

Staff Recommended Action: **1.)** Approve Reclamation Plan 2023-01 / Zurich Pit (MS #308) Caltrans, with the Findings and Conditions identified in the Staff Report, and adopt the Mitigated Negative Declaration and Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

Alternatives:

1.)**Deny** Reclamation Plan 2023-01/ Zurich Pit (MS #308) Caltrans thereby not allowing the applicant to proceed with the proposed surface mining activities or reclamation of the site

2.)Approve Reclamation Plan 2023-01 / Zurich Pit (MS #308) Caltrans with additional Conditions of Approval.

3.) Continue the public hearing to a future date and provide specific directions to staff regarding what additional information and analysis is needed.

Project Planner: Ryan Standridge, Associate Planner

STAFF ANALYSIS

Background and Overview

The Zurich Pit was originally established as a BLM-administered community borrow site under Conditional Use Permit (CUP) 81-3, approved by the Inyo County Planning Commission on March 25, 1981. The site encompassed approximately 22 acres located off State Route 168, about three miles east of Big Pine. The purpose of the CUP was to consolidate several existing but unregulated borrow sites into a single, coordinated community pit that could be used by Caltrans, Inyo County, the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power, and private contractors.

Although the pit was operated prior to the enactment of the Surface Mining and Reclamation Act (SMARA), no formal SMARA-compliant reclamation plan was ever adopted. After the cessation of active use, the site was informally closed, with limited stabilization conducted but without final reclamation or documented SMARA closure. The site has remained largely undisturbed since that time. In recent years, Caltrans, as the successor user, obtained a 55-acre Highway Easement Deed (HED) from the Bureau of Land Management. The HED includes the area of the former Zurich community pit and provides a legal framework for future material extraction. Reclamation Plan 2023-01 proposes to resume use of approximately 14 acres within the easement area for the extraction of decomposed granite. While overlapping the previously disturbed footprint, the new plan includes updated phasing, grading, revegetation, and mitigation measures to bring the project into compliance with current SMARA and CEQA requirements.

Agency Review and Comment Summary

Planning staff circulated the proposed Reclamation Plan and Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND) for agency and public review as required by the Surface Mining and Reclamation Act (SMARA) and CEQA. Two agencies provided written comments identifying areas requiring clarification or correction. These comments, along with the applicant's responses and resulting plan revisions, are summarized below.

Department of Conservation – Division of Mine Reclamation (DMR)

In letters dated May 2 and July 7, 2025, DMR provided technical review comments addressing the following topics:

1. **Reclamation Boundaries and Mapping Accuracy**
   Response: Revised maps were submitted with updated boundaries, final slope contours, and cross-sections showing the proposed disturbance footprint and final landform.

2. **Geologic Description and Site Characterization (PRC §2772(c)(5)(D))**
   Response: The narrative was revised to include a geologic overview of site conditions, soil types, and mineral characteristics.

3. **CEQA Consistency and Operational Timeline (PRC §2772(c)(3))**
   Response: The reclamation plan now includes a clear start date and operational timeline consistent across all text sections and maps.

4. **Drainage and Stability of Final Landforms (CCR §3704(b) and §3706(e))**
   Response: Updated grading and cross-section plans confirm post-reclamation drainage will follow natural contours with no ponding, and that final slopes comply with 3:1 standards.

5. **Biological Resources and Mitigation (CCR §3703 and §3705)**
   Response: A native seed mix has been added (Appendix B), and pre-disturbance biological surveys will be conducted. A qualified biologist will oversee species avoidance or salvage.

California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW)

In letters dated May 12 and July 10, 2025, CDFW provided comments related to biological resources, CEQA mitigation, and reclamation performance measures:

1. **Biological Mitigation and monitoring**

   Response: Species-specific avoidance and salvage measures were incorporated, and mitigation measures were clarified to align with CDFW recommendations.

2. **Seed Mix and Revegetation Standards**

   Response: A revised seed mix using locally appropriate native species was included in the final plan (Appendix B). Monitoring standards were expanded to include performance criteria for vegetation cover and diversity.

3. **CEQA Mitigation Measure Refinement**

   Response: Text in the Mitigated Negative Declaration was revised for consistency and clarity, ensuring enforceability and alignment with SMARA performance standards.

Inyo County Code

Surface Mining and Land Reclamation in Inyo County are governed by Chapter 7.70 of the Inyo County Code which incorporates California's Surface Mining and Reclamation Act of 1975 ("SMARA", Public Resource Code Section [PRC] 271 et seq. and California Code of Regulations Section 3500 et seq.). The County is the "lead agency" (ref. PRC Section 2728) with State Mining and Geology Board-certified Surface Mining and Reclamation Ordinance (ref. PRC Section 2774.)

General Plan Consistency

The Zurich Pit site is designated Natural Resources (NR) under the Inyo County General Plan. This land use designation applies to areas that are essentially unimproved and intended to remain open for managed resource use and public enjoyment, including mineral resource extraction. Goal MER-1 and Policy MER-1.1 of the General Plan

support the extraction of mineral resources deemed important to the County's economy, provided that operations are designed to minimize environmental and public impacts. The project aligns with these policies by providing controlled mining and restoration consistent with SMARA and County standards. Policy 8.4.4 states:
"Protect the current and future extraction of mineral resources that are important to the County's economy while minimizing impacts on the public and the environment.".
The proposed Reclamation Plan furthers this policy by formally closing a legacy borrow site under SMARA, while restoring site stability and reducing residual environmental risks. Though the Zurich Pit previously lacked a formal SMARA closure, the new reclamation approach fulfills both SMARA and General Plan objectives, returning the site to a stable condition and open space end use.

Zoning Ordinance Consistency

The proposed project is consistent with the County Zoning Ordinance designation of Open Space (OS), as the OS designation allows mining uses as a conditional use or when authorized by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) through right of way. Permitted uses include the extraction and processing of natural resources, along with reclamation activities. The Zurich Pit project involves renewed surface mining on previously disturbed land historically used as a BLM-managed community pit. The proposed Reclamation Plan provides for phased excavation followed by stabilization and revegetation consistent with the requirements of SMARA and County regulations. The final condition of the site will return the land to open space, consistent with the OS zoning designation.

ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW

Planning staff prepared an Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND) for the Zurich Pit Reclamation Plan (Reclamation Plan No. 2023-01) in accordance with CEQA and SMARA requirements. The Draft IS/MND was circulated for public and agency review period from June 5, 2025, to July 18, 2025**.**

The Initial Study evaluated all applicable environmental resource areas. The analysis concluded that the project could result in potentially significant impacts related to biological resources**,** aesthetics**,** air quality**,** and cultural resources. However, the applicant provided supporting technical documentation, including a Biological Resources Technical Memorandum, and agreed to mitigation measures that would reduce all impacts to a less-than-significant level.

Mitigation measures include:

- **Biological Resources**: Pre-disturbance surveys by a qualified biologist, avoidance protocols, and revegetation with a native seed mix consistent with local habitat types.
- **Air Quality**: Compliance with Great Basin Unified Air Pollution Control District (GBUAPCD) regulations, including implementation of best management practices for dust control.

- **Aesthetics**: Grading and revegetation to restore natural contours and vegetative cover, minimizing visual contrast from public viewpoints such as State Route 168.

- **Cultural Resources**: Stop-work protocols and tribal notification procedures in the event of inadvertent discovery of cultural or human remains.

All mitigation measures have been incorporated into a Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program (MMRP) and are included as conditions of approval for the project.

NOTICING & REVIEW

The proposed Reclamation Plan No. 2023-01 for the Zurich Pit was noticed in accordance with CEQA and Inyo County Code requirements. A Notice of Availability to adopt a Mitigated Negative Declaration was published in the *Inyo Register* on June 5, 2025**,** and mailed to property owners within 300 feet of the project site. Additionally, the notice was provided to the State Clearinghouse, interested agencies, and tribal contacts pursuant to CEQA Guidelines §15072 and §15073.

The 30-day public review period for the Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration extended from June 5 to July 8, 2025. A recirculated notice was later issued on July 11, 2025**,** to clarify the project description and extend the comment period to July 18, 2025. All comments received during the public and agency review periods have been addressed in the final environmental document.

As of the date of this report, **no public comments** from adjacent landowners or members of the general public have been received.

TRIBAL CONSULTATION

Consultation invitations were sent to the Twenty-Nine Palms Band of Mission Indians, Torres Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians, Bishop Paiute Tribe, Fort Independence Indian Community of Paiutes, Big Pine Paiute Tribe of the Owens Valley, Timbisha Shoshone Tribe, and the Lone Pine Paiute-Shoshone Tribe in accordance with AB 52 and based on each Tribe's consultation preferences and geographic area of interest. None of the Tribes requested consultation.

RECOMMENDATION

Planning Department staff recommends the approval of the Amendment to Reclamation Plan 97-6 Independence MS#118, California Department of Transportation with the following Findings and Conditions of Approval:

FINDINGS

1. The proposed Reclamation Plan is consistent with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), and the provisions of CEQA have been satisfied.
   [Evidence: Inyo County, as the Lead Agency under CEQA, prepared an Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND) to evaluate the environmental impacts

of Reclamation Plan 2023-01 for the Zurich Pit (MS 308). The IS/MND was circulated for a 30-day public and agency review period from July 10 through August 7, 2025. Although the Initial Study identified potentially significant impacts to air quality and biological resources, mitigation measures have been adopted to reduce these impacts to less-than-significant levels. A Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program (MMRP) has been prepared to ensure implementation of all adopted measures. With incorporation of these measures, the project will not result in significant effects on the environment, and the requirements of CEQA have been fully satisfied.].

2. The proposed Reclamation Plan No. 2023-01 is consistent with the Inyo County General Plan Land Use designation of Natural Resources (NR).
   [Evidence: The NR designation allows for mining uses when conducted with appropriate permits and reclamation plans in accordance with the Surface Mining and Reclamation Act (SMARA). The Zurich Pit is a previously disturbed site historically used for aggregate extraction by Caltrans and other public agencies. The proposed amendment updates and formalizes the reclamation plan to ensure compliance with current SMARA requirements. These activities are consistent with General Plan Policy 08.4.4, which directs the County to "protect the current and future extraction of mineral resources that are important to the County's economy while minimizing impacts on the public and the environment." The proposed reclamation activities will stabilize disturbed areas, restore native vegetation, and return the site to an open-space condition consistent with the intent of the NR designation.]

3. The proposed Reclamation Plan is consistent with the Inyo County Zoning Ordinance, which permits mining uses as a conditional use in the Open Space Zoning District.
   [Evidence: Mining is permitted as a conditional use within the OS zoning district under Inyo County Code §18.12.030. The proposed use is further supported because it will be carried out by a public agency (Caltrans) within a legally established right-of-way under a Highway Easement Deed issued by the Bureau of Land Management. Reclamation Plan 2023-01 includes final slope restoration, revegetation, and erosion control measures that will restore the site to an open space condition consistent with the zoning designation.]

4. The proposed Reclamation Plan is necessary and desirable.
   [Evidence: General Plan Policy 08.4.4 supports the reclamation of mined lands to minimize environmental impacts. The proposed plan ensures the formal closure of the Zurich Pit in a manner consistent with the Surface Mining and Reclamation Act (SMARA) and current environmental standards. The project is necessary to complete final reclamation, stabilize disturbed areas, and retire the mine identification number with the Division of Mine Reclamation. These actions are desirable as they facilitate environmental restoration and regulatory compliance.]

5. The proposed Reclamation Plan is properly related to other uses and transportation and service facilities in the vicinity
   [Evidence: The site is located along State Route 168 and has historically been used by Caltrans and other agencies for material extraction. This reclamation plan addresses only final reclamation activities and will not increase or change use intensity in the area.]

6. The proposed project would not adversely affect the health or safety of persons living or working in the vicinity or be materially detrimental to the public welfare.
   [Evidence: The project includes implementation of mitigation measures to reduce dust emissions and protect biological resources. Reclamation will improve long-term site stability and aesthetics and return the area to open space use. No significant health or safety risks have been identified through environmental review.]

7. Reclamation requirements under SMARA necessitate the proposed plan.
   [Evidence: The project area was historically used for mining without formal closure under SMARA. Reclamation Plan 2023-01 is required to complete reclamation consistent with SMARA and Inyo County Code Chapter 7.70. This plan enables the retirement of the former community pit and associated Mine ID number while establishing procedures for any future authorized use within the easement.]

CONDITIONS OF APPROVAL

1. Term of Operation

This Reclamation Plan authorizes phased mining for a period not to exceed 59 years from the date of project approval, with Phase 1 limited to 16 years and Phase 2 limited to 43 years. Mining shall cease and reclamation shall be completed by the end of this term unless an amended plan is submitted and approved by Inyo County.

2. 15-Year Reclamation Plan Review and Amendment

Every 15 years, Inyo County shall review the approved Reclamation Plan for consistency with current SMARA regulations and best practices. If found inconsistent, the operator shall submit an amended plan within a timeframe specified by the County. Failure to comply may result in enforcement under PRC §2774.1, including Notices of Violation, Orders to Comply, or penalties.

3. Maximum Approved Mining Depth

Mining shall not exceed 40 feet below existing grade, as shown on Plan Sheet L-4. Excavation below this depth or outside the approved boundary shall require a formal

amendment to the Reclamation Plan, subject to CEQA review and County approval. Unauthorized deepening may trigger enforcement under PRC §2774.1.

4. Mining Quantity Limit

The operator shall limit extraction to an average of 5,000 cubic yards per year for routine highway maintenance. In years of declared major storm events, extraction may temporarily increase, but shall not exceed 50,000 cubic yards in a single year. Any proposed extraction above this annual threshold shall require approval of a non-substantial amendment, which may be processed ministerially by the Inyo County Planning Director or their designated agent, provided that the total cumulative extraction does not exceed the estimated 770,000 cubic yards of material available under this Reclamation Plan.

5. Reclamation Plan Implementation and Sequencing

All activities shall comply with the methods, sequencing, and performance standards outlined in Reclamation Plan No. 2023-01, dated July 14, 2025. Final slopes shall not exceed 3:1, compacted surfaces shall be ripped to a depth of at least 12 inches, and all disturbed areas shall be topsoiled and revegetated. Minor adjustments to the timing or sequencing of reclamation may be approved administratively by the Inyo County Director of Planning or their authorized agent, provided such changes remain consistent with the intent of the approved plan.

6. CEQA Mitigation Measures

All mitigation measures adopted in the Mitigated Negative Declaration (SCH# 2025040921) and included in the Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program (MMRP) are incorporated herein by reference. These measures shall be implemented in full and are enforceable conditions of this Reclamation Plan approval.

7. Topographic Monitoring

To ensure conformance with final contours, the operator shall submit updated topographic mapping every 5 years until reclamation is complete and the Financial Assurance Mechanism is released. Mapping must compare actual elevations to Plan Sheet L-4, identify discrepancies, and propose corrective actions. Reports shall be submitted to the Inyo County Planning Department.

8. Pre-Construction Biological Surveys

Within 12 months prior to ground disturbance, protocol-level surveys for special-status species shall be conducted by a qualified biologist. If sensitive species are detected, the operator shall coordinate with CDFW and implement avoidance or minimization measures before commencing work. Upon completion of the surveys, Caltrans shall provide Inyo County with the survey results and any comments, directives, or correspondence issued by CDFW in response.

9. Reclamation Responsibility Statement

The applicant shall submit a notarized statement to the Inyo County Planning Department accepting responsibility for reclaiming the land in accordance with the approved reclamation plan and these conditions of approval, as required by PRC §2772(c)(10). This statement shall be submitted within 30 days of project approval.

10. Weed Management and Control

A weed management program shall be implemented in accordance with Section 4.6.7 of the Reclamation Plan. Annual monitoring reports must document invasive species presence, removal methods, and adaptive management strategies.

11. Revegetation Methods

After decompaction and topsoil replacement, the approved seed mix shall be broadcast, incorporated into the top ½ inch of substrate, and mulched at a rate of 1,000 lbs/acre rice straw, crimped into the surface. Seeding shall occur in fall (late October–December) and within 3 days of scarification.

12. Revegetation Performance Standards

Revegetation shall not be considered complete until vegetation achieves at least 70% of baseline cover of adjacent undisturbed land, with ≥60% native species composition, and ≤10% noxious weed cover. Individual perennial plants must survive for at least 2 years to be considered established.

13. Monitoring and Remedial Measures

Revegetation monitoring shall continue until standards are met, with surveys conducted at least twice annually in the first two years. If standards are not being met, remedial measures may include reseeding, supplemental planting, irrigation, soil testing, or pest control.

14. Public Safety Slopes and Access

Where public access is not restricted, final reclaimed slopes shall not exceed 3H:1V. If any segment must remain steeper, safety measures such as berms, barriers, or fencing shall be installed in accordance with 14 CCR §3704.1 to eliminate hazards to public safety.

15. Dust Control

The operator shall control dust at all times by applying water or equivalent suppression measures on all disturbed surfaces prior to each day's mining and as needed during operations. Dust shall be controlled throughout the pit and on all haul roads. During high wind events (sustained winds of 25 mph or greater, or gusts of 40 mph or greater), excavation and grading shall cease unless effective dust control measures are in place. Dust shall not be allowed to deposit on State Route 168 East, and any material tracked out onto pavement shall be promptly removed. The operator shall comply with Great Basin Unified Air Pollution Control District regulations.

16. Financial Assurances

As a state agency operator, Caltrans shall maintain a valid Financial Assurance Mechanism (FAM) in compliance with PRC §2773.1(b) to ensure that reclamation can be completed by a third party if necessary. The Financial Assurance Cost Estimate (FACE) shall be recalculated annually and submitted to Inyo County for review and approval, with concurrence from the Division of Mine Reclamation.

To demonstrate financial assurance, Caltrans shall provide one of the following forms of commitment, in an amount equal to the approved FACE, which shall remain in effect until reclamation is deemed complete and financial assurance is formally released:

- **Option 1 – Resolution of Commitment:** A resolution signed by the District 9 Chief of Maintenance and the District 9 Budget Officer certifying that funds equal to the approved FACE are allocated and will remain available for reclamation.
- **Option 2 – Budget Set-Aside Certification:** A certification letter signed by an authorized fiscal officer of Caltrans confirming that the approved FACE amount has been set aside in the District 9 or Headquarters budget and is reserved for reclamation. If Caltrans submits a lump-sum budget certification covering multiple District 9 pits, the submittal shall include a spreadsheet showing each FACE by site and a total demonstrating that sufficient funds are available to fully cover reclamation for all District 9 pits, including the Zurich Pit.

17. Enforceability of Recorded Plan

Upon approval, and within 30 days following the completion of the appeal period, Reclamation Plan No. 2023-01 shall be recorded with the Inyo County Recorder. Once recorded, the plan shall serve as the official enforceable document governing reclamation obligations. Both the operator and Inyo County shall adhere to the methods, standards, and commitments contained therein. Any deviation requires prior County approval through a formal amendment process.

18. Access for Inspection

The operator shall grant access to Inyo County and State inspectors during normal business hours for the purpose of inspection and compliance verification, pursuant to PRC §2774(b).

19. Compliance with Other Permits and Regulations

This approval does not relieve the operator of the obligation to obtain and maintain in good standing all permits, authorizations, or approvals required by any other federal, state, or local agency with jurisdiction over mining, reclamation, water quality, air quality, or wildlife protection. The operator shall comply with all applicable provisions of SMARA, the California Code of Regulations, and other governing laws. Evidence of current valid permits shall be made available to Inyo County upon request. Any lapse in required permits or authorizations may constitute a violation of this Reclamation Plan approval and be subject to enforcement under PRC §2774.1.

20. Final Closure and Notification

Upon completion of reclamation, the operator shall notify Inyo County in writing and request a joint closure inspection. No financial assurance shall be released until the County, in consultation with the Division of Mine Reclamation, confirms the site is reclaimed consistent with the approved plan and PRC §2773.1.

21. Hold Harmless and Indemnification

The applicant, landowner, and operator shall defend, indemnify, and hold harmless Inyo County, its agents, officers, and employees from any claim, action, or proceeding against the County, its advisory agencies, appeal boards, or legislative body, to attack, set aside, void, or annul any approval granted in connection with this Reclamation Plan, including the adequacy of the environmental review under CEQA.

Attachments:

A. Vicinity and Site Maps
B. Reclamation Plan No. 2023-01 (with Appendices)
C. Right-of-way Documentation
D. NEPA Review, Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) and Mitigation Monitoring & Reporting Program (MMRP)
E. Agency Comment Letters and Responses
F. Financial Assurance Cost Estimate (FACE) and Proposed Financial Assurance Mechanism (FAM)

Attachment A

Attachment A

INDEX OF PLANS

SHEET No	DESCRIPTION
1	TITLE AND LOCATION MAP
2-5	LAYOUTS
6-9	CROSS SECTIONS

MINE:
ZURICH PIT

MINERAL:
SAND AND GRAVEL (SHALE)

MINE OPERATOR:
CALTRANS
500 S. MAIN STREET, BISHOP CA 93514

LANDOWNER:
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
351 PACU LANE, SUITE 100, BISHOP CA 93514

APPLICANT/OWNER OF MINERAL RIGHTS:
CALTRANS
500 S. MAIN STREET, BISHOP CA 93514

REPRESENTATIVE:
CALTRANS, FOREST BECKET
500 S. MAIN STREET, BISHOP CA 93514
(760) 874-8315

LAND SURVEYOR:
CALTRANS, SEREYNA CAGLE
500 S. MAIN STREET, BISHOP CA 93514
(760) 937-3531

GEOLOGIST:
CALTRANS, LANA MORRIS
500 S. MAIN STREET, BISHOP CA 93514
(760) 874-8328

BIOLOGIST:
CALTRANS, KRIS BASON
500 S. MAIN STREET, BISHOP CA 93514
(760) 784-4056

UTILITIES:
WATER WILL BE HAULED IN AS NEEDED.
SEWAGE: NO TEMPORARY PORTA POTTY ON SITE

GENERAL LAND DESIGNATION:
ZONING - NATURAL RESOURCES OPEN SPACE
APN - 0180701000

GRADING AREA:
TOTAL MATERIAL SITE = 54.26 ACRES
AREA OF DISTURBANCE (MINING) = 14 ACRES

SIGNS:
THE NEW SITE BOUNDARY WILL BE CLEARLY DELINEATED WITH METAL POSTS, SURVEY MARKERS, AND MATERIAL SITE BOUNDARY SIGNS.

STRUCTURES:
NO STRUCTURES WITHIN 20 FEET OF THE PROJECT PROPERTY LINE

EXCAVATION SLOPES:
QUARRY: 14 ACRES MINED IN TWO PHASES, TO A DEPTH NO GREATER THAN 37 FT BELOW EXISTING GRADE.
SLOPES: WILL NOT EXCEED 3:1 (H:V), OR 18 DEGREES
STOCKPILES: TOPSOIL WILL BE STOCKPILED WITHIN THE 20 FT BUFFER ZONE FOR RECLAMATION.
ESTIMATED OPERATING LIFE: PHASE 1 ESTIMATED TO SPAN APPROX. 16 YEARS AND PHASE 2 APPROX. 43 YEARS.
PRODUCTION: TOTAL ESTIMATED PRODUCTION VOLUME OF 294,000 CY

PUBLIC SAFETY:
SLOPES WILL BE MAXIMUM 3:1 (H:V) WITHOUT SIGNIFICANT DROPS IN ELEVATION FOR OFF ROAD VEHICLE SAFETY.
EXISTING ROAD WILL BE RE-GRADED.

LEGAL DESCRIPTION:
TOWNSHIP 9 SOUTH, RANGE 39 EAST, SECTION 3

STATE OF CALIFORNIA
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

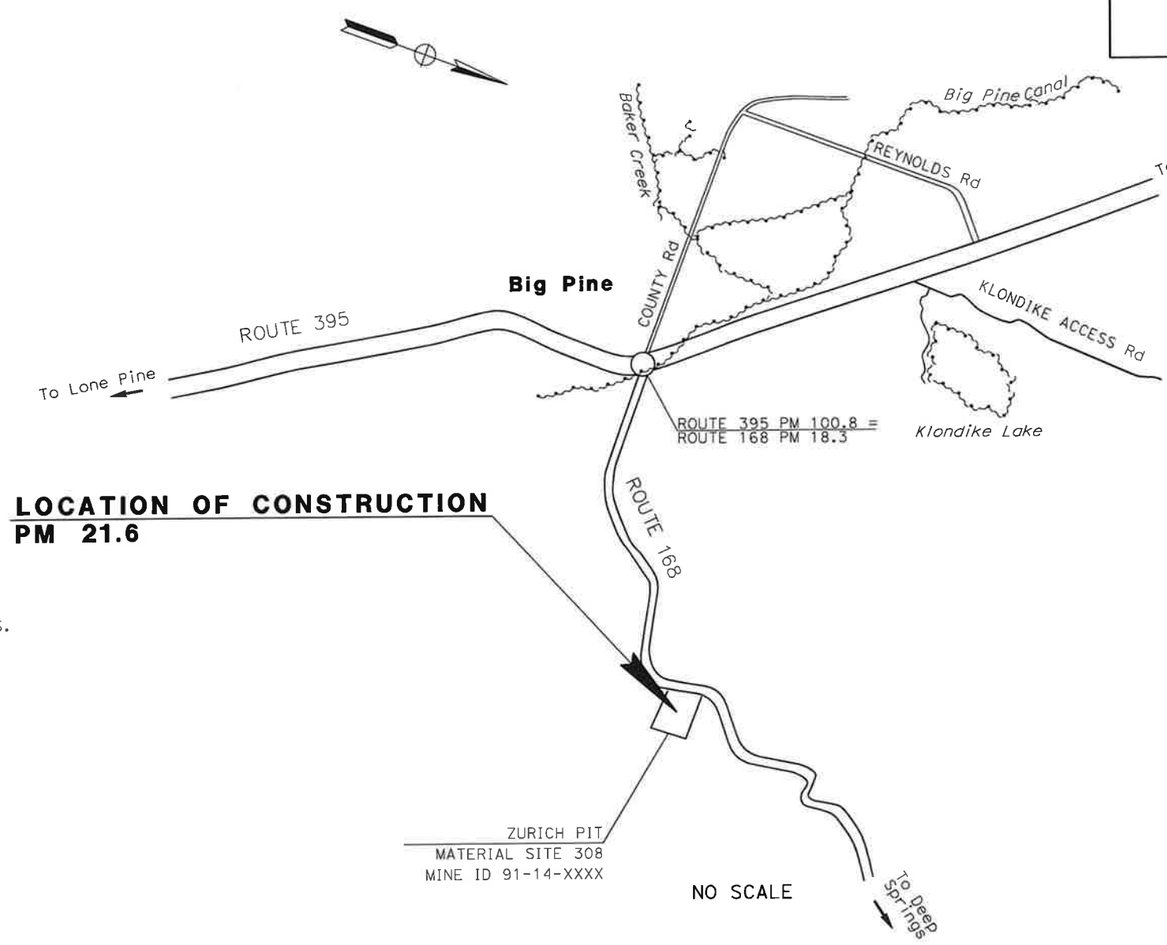
PROJECT PLANS FOR CONSTRUCTION ON
STATE HIGHWAY
IN INYO COUNTY
NEAR BIG PINE AT 3.2 MILES
EAST OF SOUTH JUNCTION ROUTE 395

TO BE SUPPLEMENTED BY STANDARD PLANS DATED 2022

Dist	COUNTY	ROUTE	POST MILES TOTAL PROJECT	SHEET No.	TOTAL SHEETS
09	Iny	168	21.6	1	9



LOCATION MAP



12/12/22
PROJECT ENGINEER DATE
REGISTERED CIVIL ENGINEER

MATTHEW SCHOBER
No. 70489
Exp. 09-30-26
CIVIL
REGISTERED PROFESSIONAL ENGINEER
STATE OF CALIFORNIA

DECEMBER 12, 2022
PLANS APPROVAL DATE

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.

CONTRACT No.	09-373204
PROJECT ID	0917000072

DESIGN MANAGER: BRIAN WESLING
PROJECT MANAGER: FOREST BECKET

DATE PLOTTED => 28-JAN-2025
TIME PLOTTED => 09:31
LAST REVISION 12/07/22

BORDER LAST REVISED 8/1/2016 | CALTRANS WEB SITE IS: HTTP//WWW.DOT.CA.GOV/ | RELATIVE BORDER SCALE IS IN INCHES 0 1 2 3 | USERNAME => s148041 DGN FILE => 0937320ab001.dgn | UNIT 4210 | PROJECT NUMBER & PHASE 09170000721

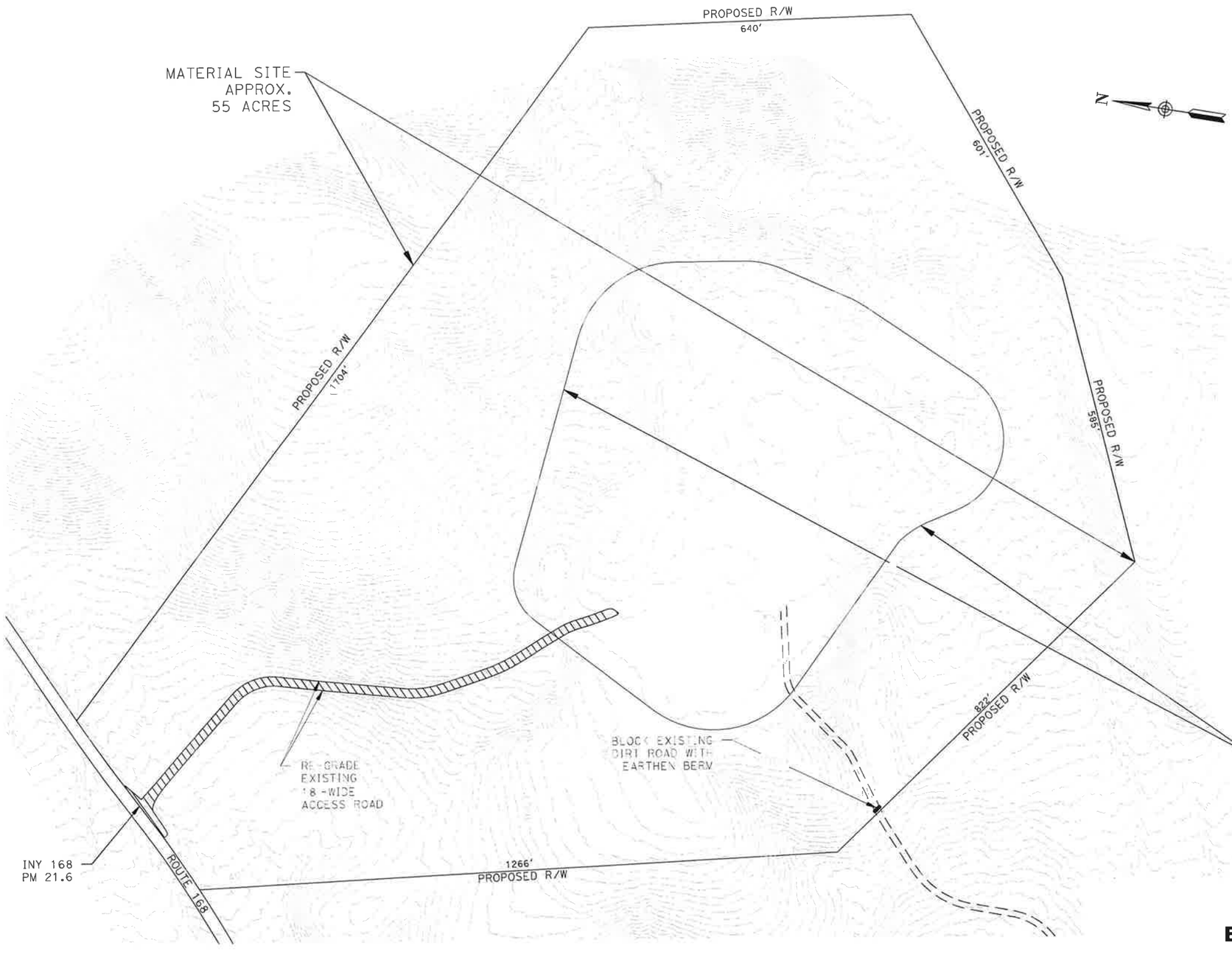
Dist	COUNTY	ROUTE	POST MILES TOTAL PROJECT	SHEET No.	TOTAL SHEETS
09	Iny	168	21.6	2	9

12/12/22
REGISTERED CIVIL ENGINEER DATE

12-12-22
PLANS APPROVAL DATE

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.

REGISTERED PROFESSIONAL ENGINEER
MATTHEW SCHOBER
No. 70489
Exp. 9-30-26
CIVIL
STATE OF CALIFORNIA



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MINERAL:
SAND AND GRAVEL (SHALE)
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AREA OF DISTURBANCE (MINING) = 14 ACRES
SIGNS:
THE NEW SITE BOUNDARY WILL BE CLEARLY DELINEATED WITH METAL POSTS, SURVEY MARKERS, AND MATERIAL SITE BOUNDARY SIGNS.
STRUCTURES:
NO STRUCTURES WITHIN 20 FEET OF THE PROJECT PROPERTY LINE
EXCAVATION SLOPES:
QUARRY: 14 ACRES MINED IN TWO PHASES, TO A DEPTH NO GREATER THAN 37 FT BELOW EXISTING GRADE.
SLOPES: WILL NOT EXCEED 3:1 (H:V), OR 18 DEGREES
STOCKPILES: TOPSOIL WILL BE STOCKPILED WITHIN THE 20 FT BUFFER ZONE FOR RECLAMATION. ESTIMATED OPERATING LIFE: PHASE 1 ESTIMATED TO SPAN APPROX. 16 YEARS AND PHASE 2 APPROX. 43 YEARS.
PRODUCTION:
TOTAL ESTIMATED PRODUCTION VOLUME OF 294,000 CY
PUBLIC SAFETY:
SLOPES WILL BE MAXIMUM 3:1 (H:V) WITHOUT SIGNIFICANT DROPS IN ELEVATION FOR OFF ROAD VEHICLE SAFETY. EXISTING ROAD WILL BE RE-GRADED.
LEGAL DESCRIPTION:
TOWNSHIP 9 SOUTH, RANGE 39 EAST, SECTION 3

EXISTING CONDITIONS

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

REVISED BY	DATE REVISED

CALCULATED-DESIGNED BY
MATT SCHOBER
CHECKED BY

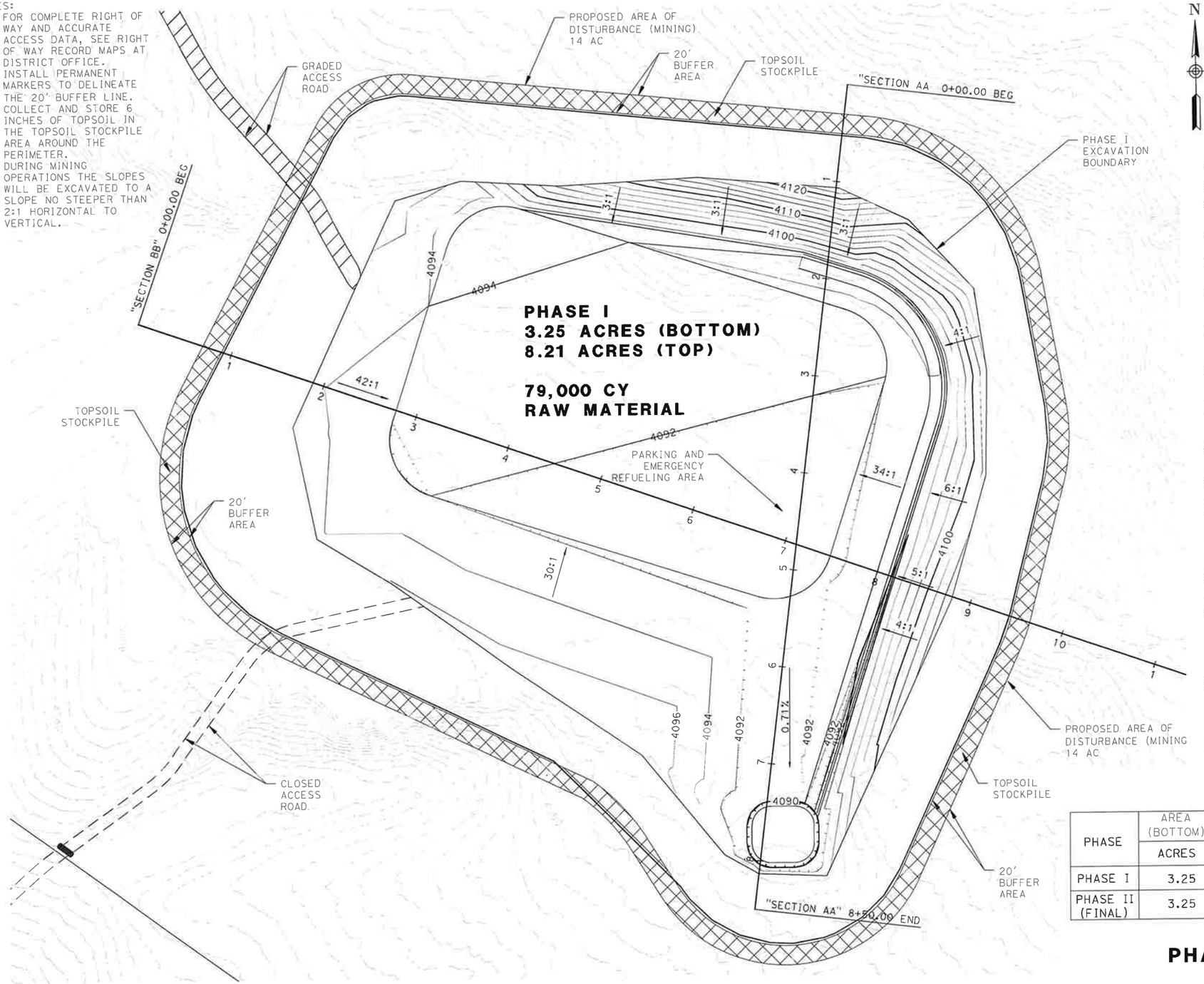
STATE OF CALIFORNIA - DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
Caltrans PROJECT COORDINATION
FUNCTIONAL SUPERVISOR
FOREST BECKET

LAST REVISION 12/07/22
DATE PLOTTED => 29-Jan-2025
TIME PLOTTED => 10:05

BORDER LAST REVISED 7/2/2010
USERNAME => s148041
DGN FILE => 937320aa_FirstPhase.dwg
RELATIVE BORDER SCALE IS IN INCHES 0 1 2 3
UNIT 2462
PROJECT NUMBER & PHASE 09170000721

Attachment A

NOTES:
1. FOR COMPLETE RIGHT OF WAY AND ACCURATE ACCESS DATA, SEE RIGHT OF WAY RECORD MAPS AT DISTRICT OFFICE.
2. INSTALL PERMANENT MARKERS TO DELINEATE THE 20' BUFFER LINE.
3. COLLECT AND STORE 6 INCHES OF TOPSOIL IN THE TOPSOIL STOCKPILE AREA AROUND THE PERIMETER.
4. DURING MINING OPERATIONS THE SLOPES WILL BE EXCAVATED TO A SLOPE NO STEEPER THAN 2:1 HORIZONTAL TO VERTICAL.



N

Dist	COUNTY	ROUTE	POST MILES TOTAL PROJECT	SHEET No.	TOTAL SHEETS
09	Iny	168	21.6	3	9

12/12/22
REGISTERED CIVIL ENGINEER DATE

12-12-22
PLANS APPROVAL DATE

REGISTERED PROFESSIONAL ENGINEER
MATTHEW SCHOBER
No. 70489
Exp. 9-30-26
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.

MINE:
ZURICH PIT
MINERAL:
SAND AND GRAVEL (SHALE)
MINE OPERATOR:
CALTRANS
500 S. MAIN STREET, BISHOP CA 93514
LANDOWNER:
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
351 PACU LANE, SUITE 100, BISHOP CA 93514
APPLICANT/OWNER OF MINERAL RIGHTS:
CALTRANS
500 S. MAIN STREET, BISHOP CA 93514
REPRESENTATIVE:
CALTRANS, FOREST BECKET
500 S. MAIN STREET, BISHOP CA 93514
760-874-8315
LAND SURVEYOR:
CALTRANS, SEREYNA CAGLE
500 S. MAIN STREET, BISHOP CA 93514
760-937-3531
GEOLOGIST:
CALTRANS, LANA MORRIS
500 S. MAIN STREET, BISHOP CA 93514
760-874-8328
BIOLOGIST:
CALTRANS, KRIS BASON
500 S. MAIN STREET, BISHOP CA 93514
760-784-4056
UTILITIES:
WATER WILL BE HAULED IN AS NEEDED.
SEWAGE: NO TEMPORARY PORTA POTTY ON SITE
GENERAL LAND DESIGNATION:
ZONING - NATURAL RESOURCES OPEN SPACE
APN - 0180701000
GRADING AREA:
TOTAL MATERIAL SITE = 54.26 ACRES
AREA OF DISTURBANCE (MINING) = 14 ACRES
SIGNS:
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STRUCTURES:
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PRODUCTION:
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LEGAL DESCRIPTION:
TOWNSHIP 9 SOUTH, RANGE 39 EAST, SECTION 3

PHASE	AREA (BOTTOM) ACRES	AREA (TOP) ACRES	VOLUME CY	MAX DEPTH FT
PHASE I	3.25	8.21	79,000	20
PHASE II (FINAL)	3.25	12.53	215,000	37

PHASE I GRADING PLAN

SCALE 1"=50' **L-2**

REVISED BY	DATE REVISED

CALCULATED-DESIGNED BY
MATT SCHOBER
CHECKED BY

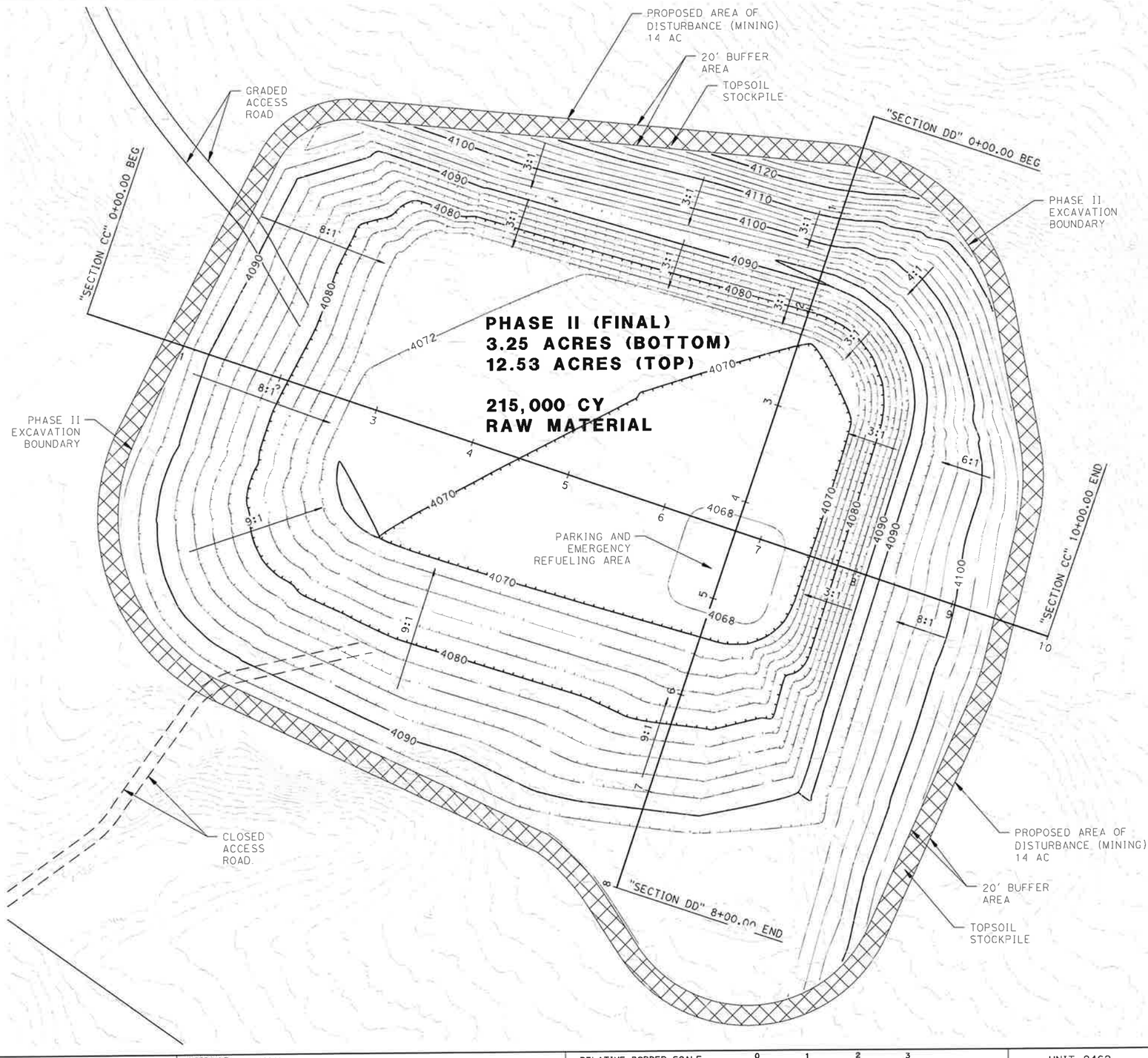
FUNCTIONAL SUPERVISOR
FOREST BECKET

STATE OF CALIFORNIA - DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
Caltrans PROJECT COORDINATION

LAST REVISION 12/07/22
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RELATIVE BORDER SCALE IS IN INCHES 0 1 2 3
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PROJECT NUMBER & PHASE 09170000721

Attachment A



Dist	COUNTY	ROUTE	POST MILES TOTAL PROJECT	SHEET No.	TOTAL SHEETS
09	Iny	168	21.6	4	9

REGISTERED CIVIL ENGINEER — DATE 12/12/22

12-12-22
PLANS APPROVAL DATE

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.

REGISTERED PROFESSIONAL ENGINEER — MATTHEW SCHOBER — No. 70489 — Exp. 9-30-26 — CIVIL — STATE OF CALIFORNIA

NOTES:
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MINERAL:
SAND AND GRAVEL (SHALE)
MINE OPERATOR:
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LANDOWNER:
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
351 PACU LANE, SUITE 100, BISHOP CA 93514
APPLICANT/OWNER OF MINERAL RIGHTS:
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500 S. MAIN STREET, BISHOP CA 93514
760-874-8328
BIOLOGIST:
CALTRANS, KRIS BASON
500 S. MAIN STREET, BISHOP CA 93514
760-784-4056
UTILITIES:
WATER WILL BE HAULED IN AS NEEDED.
SEWAGE: NO TEMPORARY PORTA POTTY ON SITE
GENERAL LAND DESIGNATION:
ZONING - NATURAL RESOURCES OPEN SPACE
APN - 018070100O
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LEGAL DESCRIPTION:
TOWNSHIP 9 SOUTH, RANGE 39 EAST, SECTION 3

PHASE II GRADING PLAN

SCALE 1"=50' **L-3**

REVISED BY	MATT SCHOBER	
DATE REVISED		
CALCULATED-DESIGNED BY		
CHECKED BY		
FUNCTIONAL SUPERVISOR	FOREST BECKET	
STATE OF CALIFORNIA - DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION	Caltrans' PROJECT COORDINATION	
LAST REVISION	DATE PLOTTED => 29-Jan-2025	
	TIME PLOTTED => 10:05	
	12/07/22	

BORDER LAST REVISED 7/2/2010 | USERNAME => s148041 | DGN FILE => 937320aa_FinalPhase.dwg | RELATIVE BORDER SCALE IS IN INCHES 0 1 2 3 | UNIT 2462 | PROJECT NUMBER & PHASE 09170000721

Attachment A

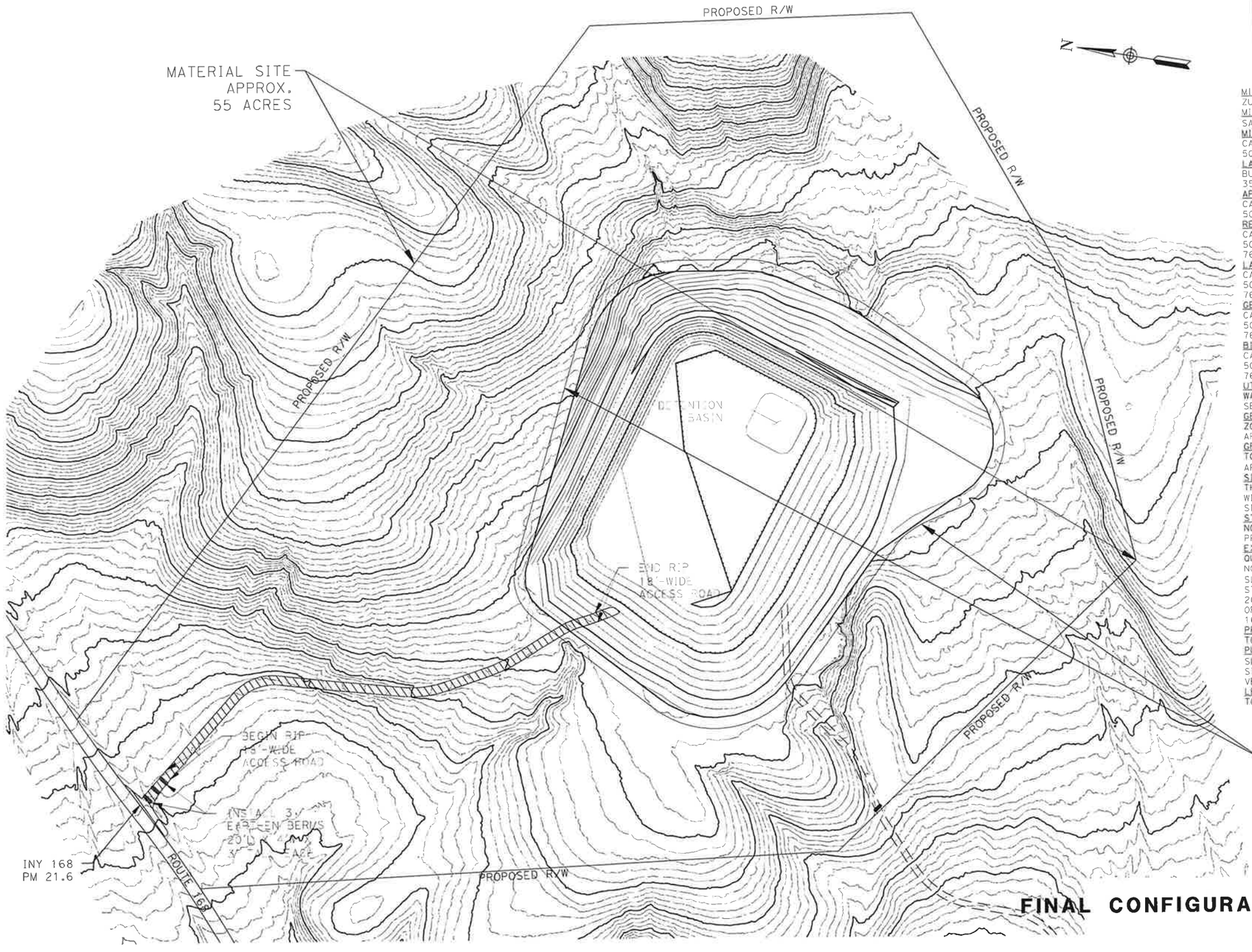
Dist	COUNTY	ROUTE	POST MILES TOTAL PROJECT	SHEET No.	TOTAL SHEETS
09	Iny	168	21.6	5	9

12/12/22
REGISTERED CIVIL ENGINEER DATE

12-12-22
PLANS APPROVAL DATE

REGISTERED PROFESSIONAL ENGINEER
MATTHEW SCHOBER
No. 70489
Exp. 9-30-26
CIVIL
STATE OF CALIFORNIA

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MINERAL:
SAND AND GRAVEL (SHALE)
MINE OPERATOR:
CALTRANS
500 S. MAIN STREET, BISHOP CA 93514
LANDOWNER:
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
351 PACU LANE, SUITE 100, BISHOP CA 93514
APPLICANT/OWNER OF MINERAL RIGHTS:
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500 S. MAIN STREET, BISHOP CA 93514
REPRESENTATIVE:
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760-874-8328
BIOLOGIST:
CALTRANS, KRIS BASON
500 S. MAIN STREET, BISHOP CA 93514
760-784-4056
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SEWAGE: NO TEMPORARY PORTA POTTY ON SITE
GENERAL LAND DESIGNATION:
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APN - 018070100O
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LEGAL DESCRIPTION:
TOWNSHIP 9 SOUTH, RANGE 39 EAST, SECTION 3

FINAL CONFIGURATION/ RECLAMATION LAYOUT

SCALE 1"=100' **L-4**

STATE OF CALIFORNIA - DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION	CALCULATED-DESIGNED BY		REVISED BY	
Caltrans PROJECT COORDINATION	CHECKED BY	MATT SCHOBER	DATE REVISED	
FUNCTIONAL SUPERVISOR: FOREST BECKET				

LAST REVISION DATE PLOTTED => 29-Jan-2025
TIME PLOTTED => 10:05
12/07/22

BORDER LAST REVISED 7/2/2010 | USERNAME => s148041 | DGN FILE => 937320aa_FirstPhase.dwg | RELATIVE BORDER SCALE IS IN INCHES 0 1 2 3 | UNIT 2462 | PROJECT NUMBER & PHASE 09170000721

Dist	COUNTY	ROUTE	POST MILES TOTAL PROJECT	SHEET No.	TOTAL SHEETS
09	Iny	168	21.6	6	9

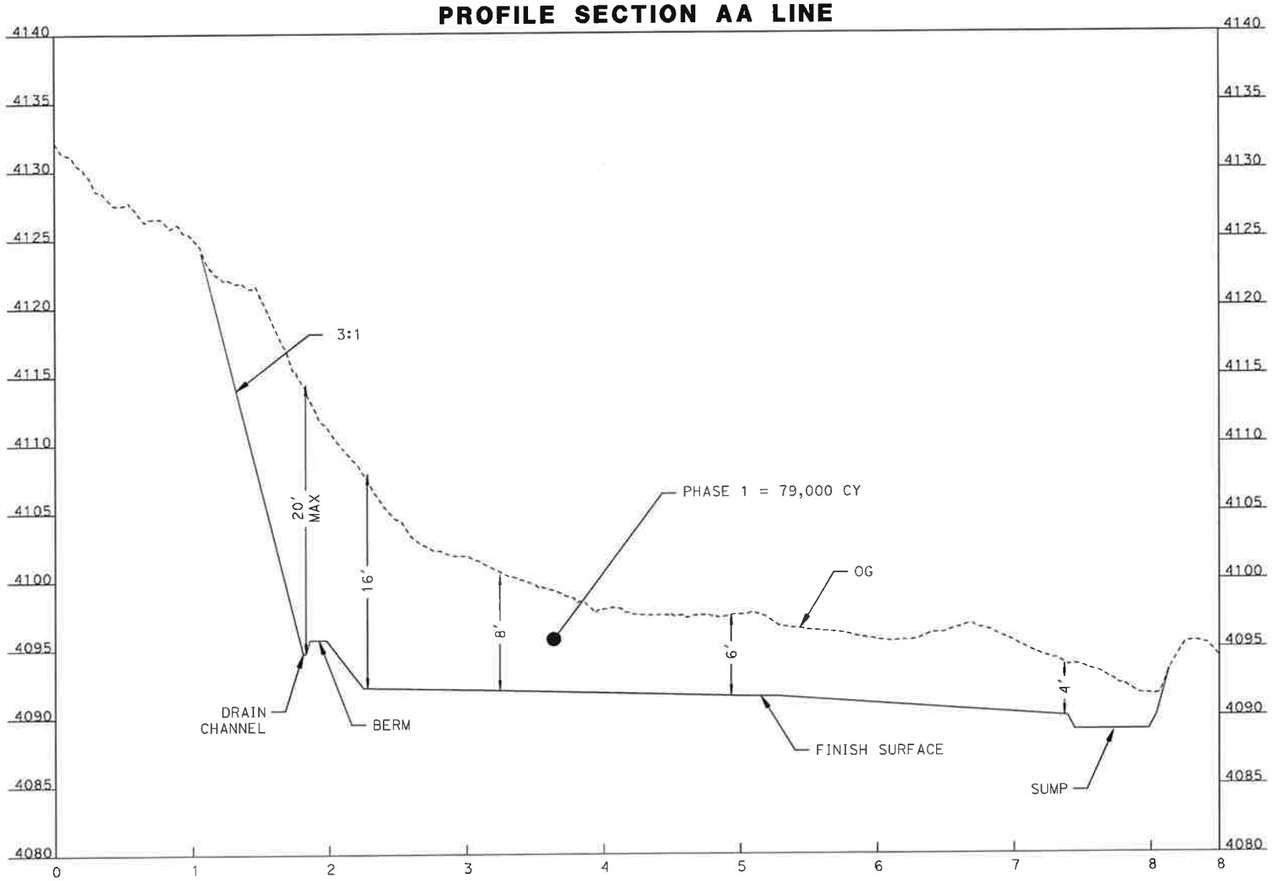
12/12/22
REGISTERED CIVIL ENGINEER DATE

12-12-22
PLANS APPROVAL DATE

MATTHEW SCHOBER No. 70489 Exp. 9-30-26 CIVIL — REGISTERED PROFESSIONAL ENGINEER — STATE OF CALIFORNIA

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PROFILE SECTION AA LINE



MINE:
ZURICH PIT
MINERAL:
SAND AND GRAVEL (SHALE)
MINE OPERATOR:
CALTRANS
500 S. MAIN STREET, BISHOP CA 93514
LANDOWNER:
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
351 PACU LANE, SUITE 100, BISHOP CA 93514
APPLICANT/OWNER OF MINERAL RIGHTS:
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500 S. MAIN STREET, BISHOP CA 93514
REPRESENTATIVE:
CALTRANS, FOREST BECKET
500 S. MAIN STREET, BISHOP CA 93514
760-874-8315
LAND SURVEYOR:
CALTRANS, SEREYNA CAGLE
500 S. MAIN STREET, BISHOP CA 93514
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760-874-8328
BIOLOGIST:
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760-784-4056
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APN - 0180701000
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LEGAL DESCRIPTION:
TOWNSHIP 9 SOUTH, RANGE 39 EAST, SECTION 3

SCALE: Horiz 1" = 50'
Vert 1" = 5'

CONSTRUCTION DETAILS
C-1

REVISED BY
DATE REVISED
CALCULATED-DESIGNED BY MATT SCHOBER
CHECKED BY
FUNCTIONAL SUPERVISOR FOREST BECKET
STATE OF CALIFORNIA - DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
Caltrans PROJECT COORDINATION
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PROJECT NUMBER & PHASE 09170000721

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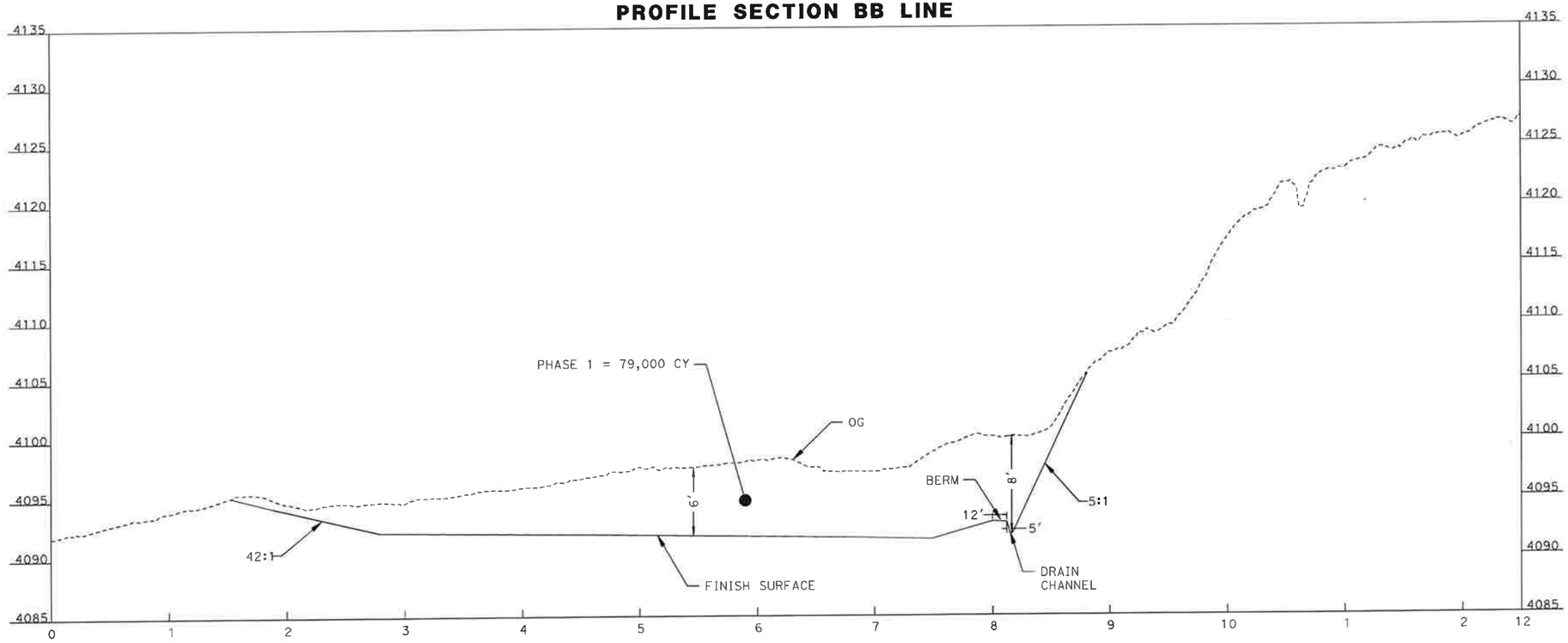
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PROFILE SECTION BB LINE



MINE:
ZURICH PIT
MINERAL:
SAND AND GRAVEL (SHALE)
MINE OPERATOR:
CALTRANS
500 S. MAIN STREET, BISHOP CA 93514
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SCALE: Horiz 1" = 50'
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CONSTRUCTION DETAILS

SCALE 1"=50' **C-2**

REVISED BY | DATE REVISED
CALCULATED-DESIGNED BY: MATT SCHOBER
CHECKED BY
FUNCTIONAL SUPERVISOR: FOREST BECKET
STATE OF CALIFORNIA - DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
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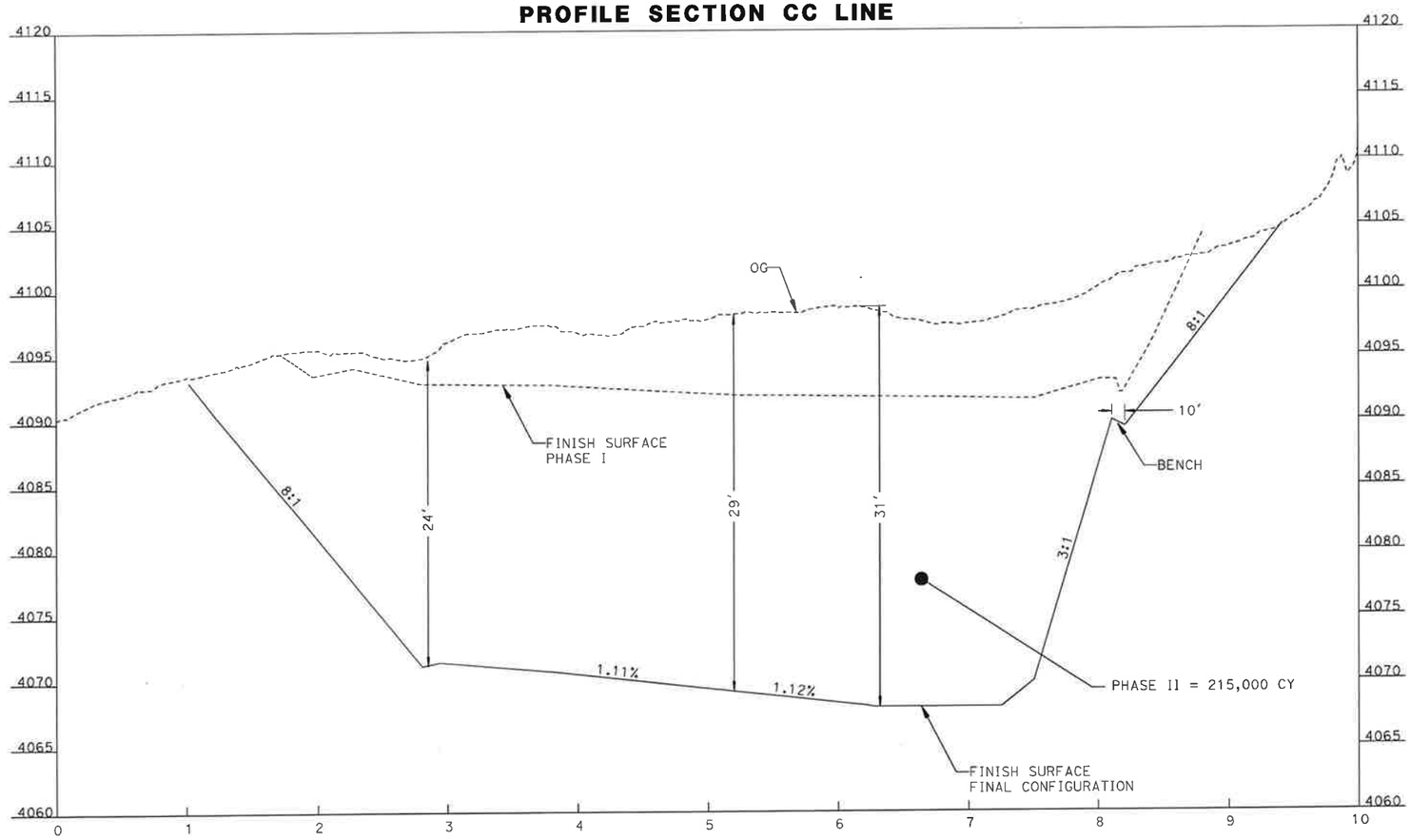
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REGISTERED CIVIL ENGINEER DATE

12-12-22
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MATTHEW SCHOBER
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CIVIL
STATE OF CALIFORNIA

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PROFILE SECTION CC LINE



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NO STRUCTURES WITHIN 20 FEET OF THE PROJECT PROPERTY LINE
EXCAVATION SLOPES:
QUARRY: 14 ACRES MINED IN TWO PHASES, TO A DEPTH NO GREATER THAN 37 FT BELOW EXISTING GRADE.
SLOPES: WILL NOT EXCEED 3:1 (H:V), OR 18 DEGREES
STOCKPILES: TOPSOIL WILL BE STOCKPILED WITHIN THE 20 FT BUFFER ZONE FOR RECLAMATION. ESTIMATED OPERATING LIFE: PHASE 1 ESTIMATED TO SPAN APPROX. 16 YEARS AND PHASE 2 APPROX. 43 YEARS.
PRODUCTION:
TOTAL ESTIMATED PRODUCTION VOLUME OF 294,000 CY
PUBLIC SAFETY:
SLOPES WILL BE MAXIMUM 3:1 (H:V) WITHOUT SIGNIFICANT DROPS IN ELEVATION FOR OFF ROAD VEHICLE SAFETY. EXISTING ROAD WILL BE RE-GRADED.
LEGAL DESCRIPTION:
TOWNSHIP 9 SOUTH, RANGE 39 EAST, SECTION 3

SCALE: Horiz 1" = 50'
Vert 1" = 5'

CONSTRUCTION DETAILS
C-3

REVISED BY | DATE REVISED
CALCULATED-DESIGNED BY: MATT SCHOBER
CHECKED BY
FUNCTIONAL SUPERVISOR: FOREST BECKET
STATE OF CALIFORNIA - DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
Caltrans PROJECT COORDINATION
LAST REVISION | DATE PLOTTED => 29-Jan-2025 | TIME PLOTTED => 12/07/22 10:06

BORDER LAST REVISED 7/2/2010
USERNAME => s148041
DGN FILE => 937320aa_FinalPhase.dwg
RELATIVE BORDER SCALE IS IN INCHES 0 1 2 3
UNIT 2462
PROJECT NUMBER & PHASE 09170000721

Attachment A

Dist	COUNTY	ROUTE	POST MILES TOTAL PROJECT	SHEET No.	TOTAL SHEETS
09	Iny	168	21.6	9	9

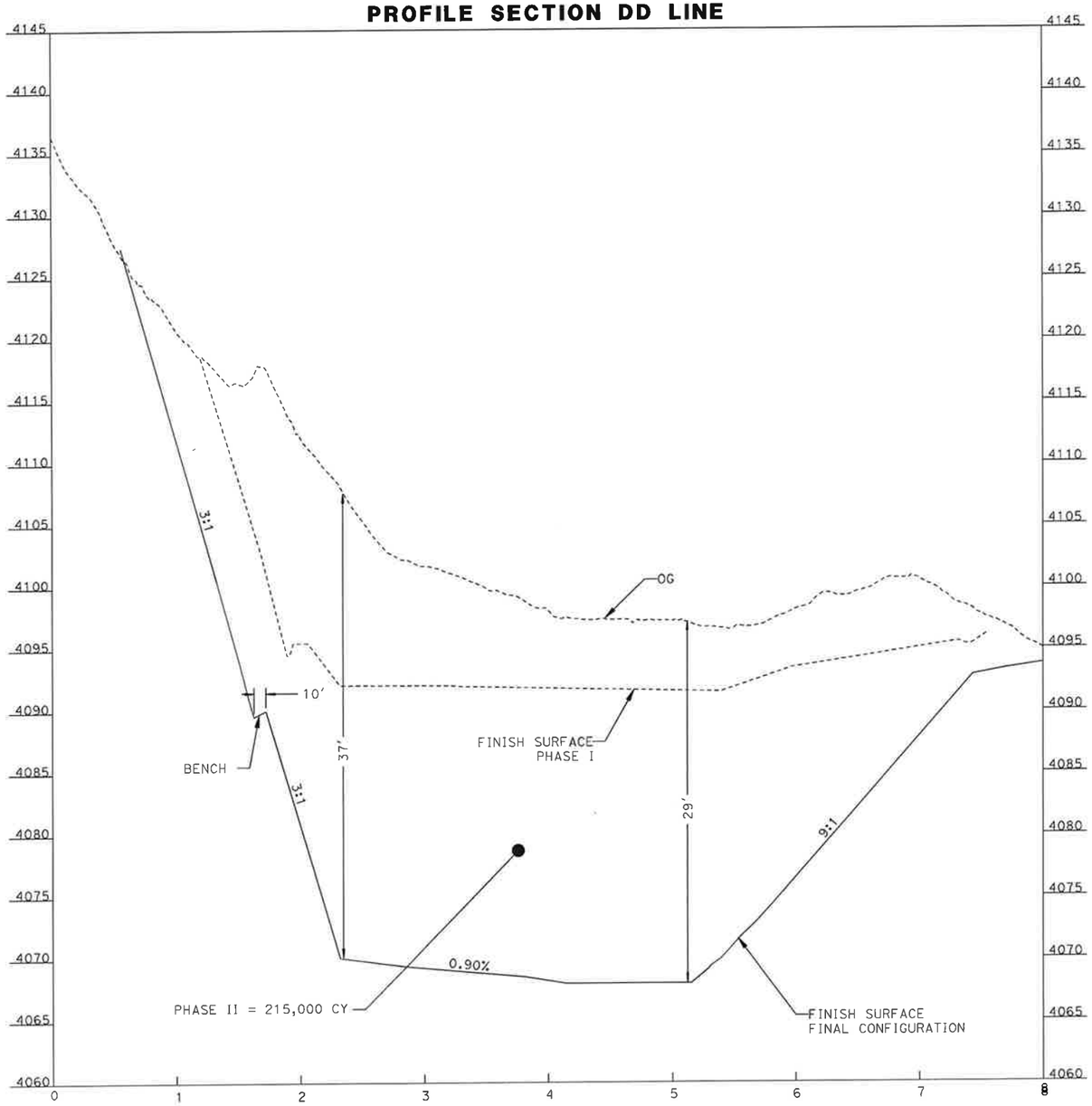
12/12/22
REGISTERED CIVIL ENGINEER DATE

12-12-22
PLANS APPROVAL DATE

REGISTERED PROFESSIONAL ENGINEER — MATTHEW SCHOBER — No. 70489 — Exp. 9-30-26 — 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.

PROFILE SECTION DD LINE



MINE:
ZURICH PIT
MINERAL:
SAND AND GRAVEL (SHALE)
MINE OPERATOR:
CALTRANS
500 S. MAIN STREET, BISHOP CA 93514
LANDOWNER:
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
351 PACU LANE, SUITE 100, BISHOP CA 93514
APPLICANT/OWNER OF MINERAL RIGHTS:
CALTRANS
500 S. MAIN STREET, BISHOP CA 93514
REPRESENTATIVE:
CALTRANS, FOREST BECKET
500 S. MAIN STREET, BISHOP CA 93514
760-874-8315
LAND SURVEYOR:
CALTRANS, SEREYNA CAGLE
500 S. MAIN STREET, BISHOP CA 93514
760-937-3531
GEOLOGIST:
CALTRANS, LANA MORRIS
500 S. MAIN STREET, BISHOP CA 93514
760-874-8328
BIOLOGIST:
CALTRANS, KRIS BASON
500 S. MAIN STREET, BISHOP CA 93514
760-784-4056
UTILITIES:
WATER WILL BE HAULED IN AS NEEDED.
SEWAGE: NO TEMPORARY PORTA POTTY ON SITE
GENERAL LAND DESIGNATION:
ZONING - NATURAL RESOURCES OPEN SPACE
APN - 0180701000
GRADING AREA:
TOTAL MATERIAL SITE = 54.26 ACRES
AREA OF DISTURBANCE (MINING) = 14 ACRES
SIGNS:
THE NEW SITE BOUNDARY WILL BE CLEARLY DELINEATED WITH METAL POSTS, SURVEY MARKERS, AND MATERIAL SITE BOUNDARY SIGNS.
STRUCTURES:
NO STRUCTURES WITHIN 20 FEET OF THE PROJECT PROPERTY LINE
EXCAVATION SLOPES:
QUARRY: 14 ACRES MINED IN TWO PHASES, TO A DEPTH NO GREATER THAN 37 FT BELOW EXISTING GRADE.
SLOPES: WILL NOT EXCEED 3:1 (H:V), OR 18 DEGREES
STOCKPILES: TOPSOIL WILL BE STOCKPILED WITHIN THE 20 FT BUFFER ZONE FOR RECLAMATION. ESTIMATED OPERATING LIFE: PHASE 1 ESTIMATED TO SPAN APPROX. 16 YEARS AND PHASE 2 APPROX. 43 YEARS.
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LEGAL DESCRIPTION:
TOWNSHIP 9 SOUTH, RANGE 39 EAST, SECTION 3

SCALE: Horiz 1" = 50'
Vert 1" = 5'

CONSTRUCTION DETAILS
C-4

REVISED BY	DATE REVISED

CALCULATED-DESIGNED BY
MATT SCHOBER
CHECKED BY
FUNCTIONAL SUPERVISOR
FOREST BECKET

STATE OF CALIFORNIA - DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
Caltrans PROJECT COORDINATION

LAST REVISION DATE PLOTTED => 29-Jan-2025
TIME PLOTTED => 10:06
12/07/22

BORDER LAST REVISED 7/2/2010
USERNAME => s148041
DGN FILE => 937320aa_FinalPhase.dwg
RELATIVE BORDER SCALE IS IN INCHES 0 1 2 3
UNIT 2462
PROJECT NUMBER & PHASE 09170000721

MATERIAL SITE #308

ZURICH PIT

RECLAMATION PLAN

Mine Identification # 91-14-0143

July 14, 2025



California Department of Transportation (Caltrans)

500 South Main Street

Bishop, California 93514

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1.0.0 INTRODUCTION

This Surface Mining and Reclamation Plan addresses the operation and reclamation of the Caltrans Material Site 308, also known as the Zurich Pit. The Zurich Pit is located near the community of Big Pine in Inyo County, California. The total Caltrans right-of-way (ROW) area is 54.3 acres, encompassing 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. Of the total 54.3 acres, 14 acres of previously mined areas will be mined in two phases over a period of 59 years.

This reclamation plan describes a process that will minimize environmental impacts during and resulting from mining, implement reclamation activities as soon as possible, and return the mined land to a condition suitable of supporting open space, wildlife habitat and designated end uses.

1.1.0 APPLICANT & OPERATOR

California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) District 09
500 South Main Street
Bishop, California 93514
(760) 872-0601

1.1.1 REPRESENTATIVE

Forest Becket, Senior Transportation Planner
California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) District 09
500 South Main Street
Bishop, California 93514
(760) 874-8315

1.2.0 LANDOWNER

Bureau of Land Management
787 N. Main Street
Bishop, CA 93514
(760) 872-4881
Contact Person: Lawrence Primosch

1.3.0 LESSEE

California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) District 09
500 South Main Street
Bishop, California 93514
(760) 872-0601

1.4.0 LOCATION AND SITE HISTORY

The site is in Inyo County, approximately 3 miles northeast of Big Pine at post-mile marker 21.5 along State Route 168 East. The Zurich Pit was previously used as an aggregate source for more than 50 years until it was deactivated and underwent reclamation during early 2000s. The property has since been used primarily for recreational purposes by the public, as the land was previously owned and managed by the Bureau of Land Management. The site was managed by the Bishop BLM Field Office as a Community Use Pit until approximately 2005, when they decided to reclaim the site and no longer issue special use permits (SUP) for extraction by applicants. No reclamation plan existed for the site, and the pit was designated as a "community use pit" by the BLM. Previous records indicate that Caltrans mined Zurich Pit (then MS# 283) through the 1980s and 1990s via Free Use Permits issued by the Bishop BLM field office (on an as-need basis). Records also indicate that Inyo County Roads Department and Caltrans may have been the only SUP applicants to extract material from the site. Initial Caltrans SUP's for the site were for general use extraction of approximately 2,000 cubic yards annually for highway maintenance purposes, for five to ten years at a time. Later SUP's were for specific projects and quantities, which also included asphalt batch plants. Records starting in 1987 indicate that the BLM started analyzing closing this site and opening another site in the Big Pine area due to local concerns over visual impacts and dust generation. In 2005, a cooperative agreement was developed between Caltrans and BLM to each contribute $25,000 towards reclamation work. Some road ripping, minor revegetation, and drainage work was done with these funds via a Caltrans contract. The site remains relatively disturbed and is utilized by the public for OHV staging, target shooting, and illegal dumping, currently accessed by a dirt road connecting to the highway from the west.

1.4.1 HIGHWAY EASEMENT DEED

Caltrans received a Letter of Consent on September 14, 2023 from the Bureau of Land Management Bishop Field Office for the FHWA map application package submitted for a new Highway Easement Dead containing 54.3 acres at what is known as Zurich Pit 308. The Highway Easement Dead on Federal Lands made on April 11, 2024 was then filed with the Inyo County Recorder's Office on May 02, 2024 (Appendix C). This property is also known as Assessor's Parcel Number 4264-1.

1.4.2 CADASTRAL & GEOGRAPHIC COORDINATES

The site corresponds to a portion of Section 03, Township 9 South, and Range 34 East (Mount Diablo Base and Meridian [MDBM]) of the USGS "Uhlmeyer Spring, California" 7.5-minute quadrangle. The approximate center of the pit is located at 37.191813° Latitude and -118.244390° Longitude.

FIGURE 1: REGIONAL LOCATION MAP OF CALTRANS MATERIAL SITE #308



2.0.0 DESCRIPTION OF ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING

2.1.0 SITE ACCESS

Access to the property is via an unmarked, dirt road leading southeast off State Route 168, approximately 3 miles northeast of the community of Big Pine.

2.2.0 GEOLOGY

Owens Valley is one of the westernmost of the down dropped graben blocks of the Basin and Range province and is important because it includes part of the boundary between the Sierra Nevada and Great Basin regions. This boundary is a structural trough separated by normal faults from the Sierra Nevada on the west and the White and Inyo Mountains on the east. As the valley floors were subsiding, the bounding mountain masses of the Sierra Nevada rose leading to erosion and geomorphic processes of the valley walls. The erosion debris was then transported to lower elevations and deposited as alluvial fans, stream deposits, and lake beds.

The deformation that formed the current state of the Owens Valley may have begun in early Tertiary time and has continued to very recent times. First, the glaciers carved into the Valley and deposited extensive moraines during the ice ages in the Pleistocene epoch. Recently, from a geological perspective, the land has been shaped by streams and rivers including the Owens River, the most prominent river in the region.

The geologic history of this area has produced a diverse collection of minerals, making the region an important economic mineral resource and hotspot for mining activity. Some of the major ore found in this region includes silver, lead, gold, copper, zinc, and tungsten.

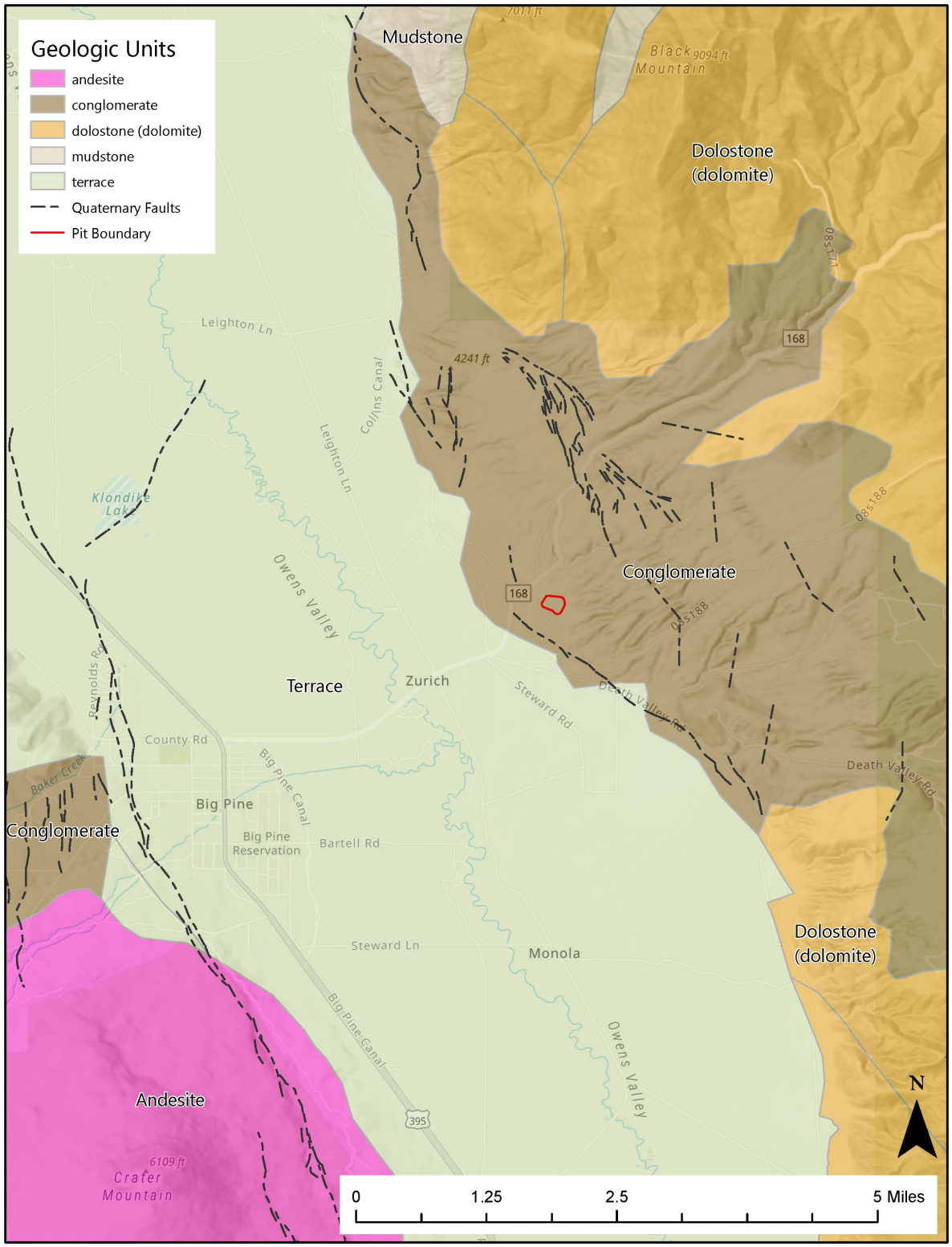
2.2.1 SITE SPECIFIC GEOLOGY

The site is primarily an alluvial deposit composed of sandstone, shale, and gravel deposits dating from the Pleistocene and Pliocene age (Big Pine USGS 15-minute Quadrangle Map). The material site lies within the western edge of the Basin and Range Geomorphic Province within the Owen's Valley portion of the Eastern Sierra Valley System (ESVS) (Stevens et. al., 2013).

2.2.2 SESIMISCITY

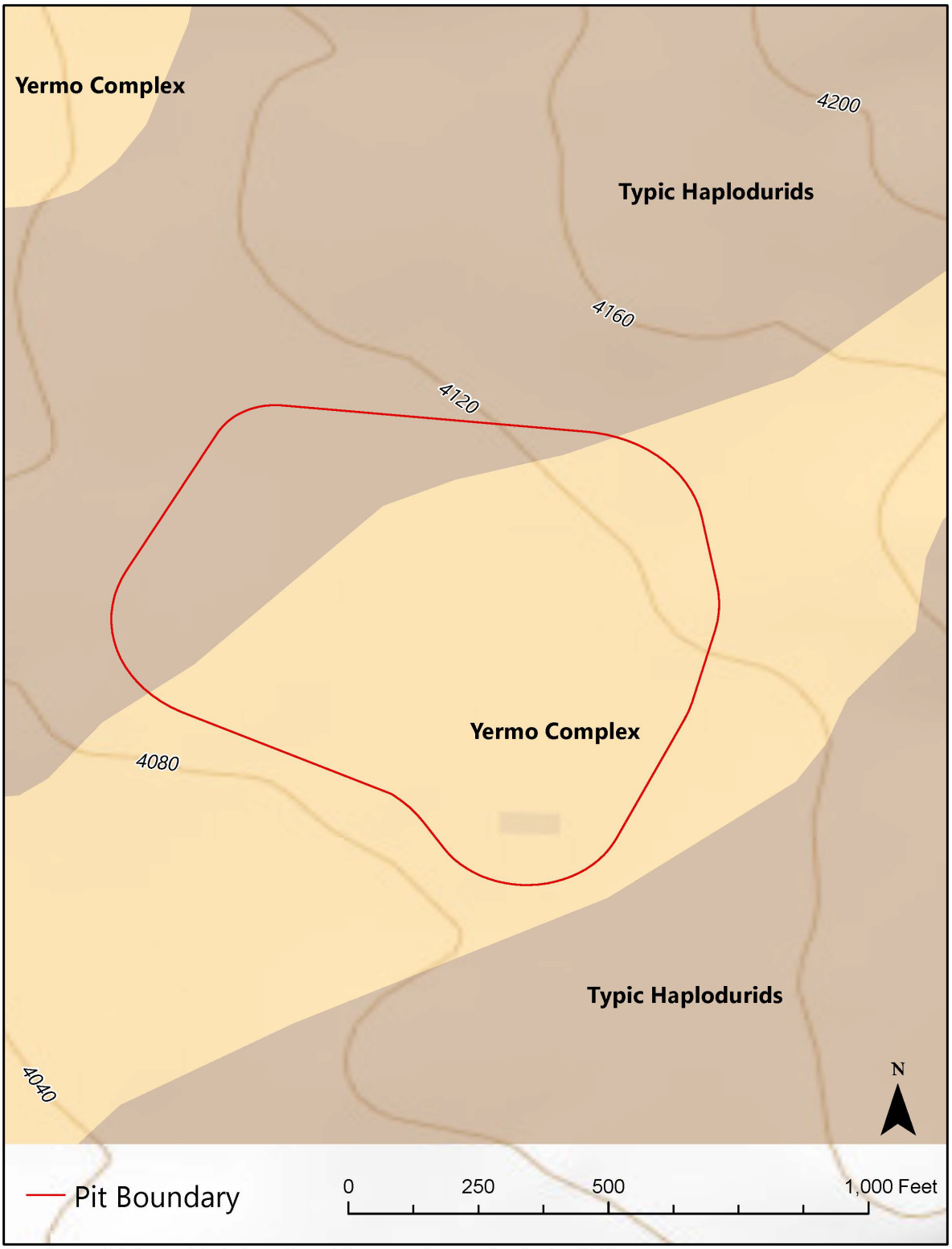
The Zurich material site is within an area of active seismicity and, according to the USGS Quaternary Fault database, the nearest active fault is the Deep Springs fault. This fault lies approximately 10 miles southeast of the material site, and the last suspected movement occurred approximately 1,800 years ago with an estimated recurrence interval between 2 to 4 ky. The largest earthquake to hit this region occurred on March 26, 1872, because of movement along the fault forming the eastern front of Alabama Hills, west of Lone Pine (Richter, 1958, p. 499-503). The earthquake was estimated at a magnitude of 7.4 and was approximately 45 miles south of the Zurich material site.

FIGURE 2: GEOLOGIC MAP OF PROJECT SITE



Data Source: California Geological Survey, Geologic Data Map No. 2 (shp), 1977

FIGURE 3: SOIL AND TOPOGRAPHIC MAP OF PROJECT SITE



Data Source: U.S. Dept. of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation Service (2019).

2.3.0 SOILS

The web 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. Two soil types were identified within the project limits and are as follows: (1) Cambidic Haplodurids-Typic Haplodurids association, cool, 5 to 50 percent slopes, and (2) Yermo stony-Yermo complex, cool, 5 to 15 percent slopes (Figure 6). These soil series are described in more detail below.

2.3.1 Cambidic Haplodurids-Typic Haplodurids Association

This soil complex is a combination of two named soil series, Cambidic (65%) and Typic (25%), and occurs on fan terraces at elevations between 3,900-5,700 feet with 5 to 50 percent slopes. Both individual soil series consists of alluvium derived from mixed rock resources. The Cambidic series soil ranges from shallow to moderately deep, while the Typic series is shallow. Both series are classified as well-drained, medium to rapid runoff, and moderately rapid permeability.

Cambidic soils are stratified into five layers at a depth of 60 inches, with the predominant surface layer ranging from extremely gravelly sandy loam to gravelly sandy loam. Typic soils are less stratified than Cambidic with a depth of 5 inches and 3 layers. and with Both soils have light gray composition. Typic soils are slightly alkaline or moderately alkaline reactive, and calcareous throughout.

2.3.2 Yermo Stony-Yermo Complex

This soil complex is approximately 45% Yermo stony soil, 40% Yermo soil, and 15% contrasting inclusions. The soils originate from mixed alluvium and form along the middle and lower parts of fan terraces at an elevation between 3,700 – 4,400 feet. Vegetation cover is normally between 10-20% on top of these soils, rooting depths are up to 60 inches, and permeability is moderately rapid. Both soils are very well drained and have low water capacity. Yermo, stony soils have a moderate hazard to erosion by wind, while Yermo soils only have a slight. Yermo, stony soils are moderately alkaline to strongly alkaline. Soil texture ranges from cobbly, gravel to extremely gravelly sandy loam.

2.4.0 HYDROLOGY

2.4.1 GROUNDWATER SETTING

The Owens Valley Groundwater Basin (6-012) is approximately 1,030 square miles, ranges from 3,600 feet above mean sea level (amsl) along the Owens Lake to over 9,700 feet amsl near Basin Mountain in the northwestern corner of the basin. Owens Valley Groundwater Basin (OVGB) extends roughly 125 miles from Benton Valley in southeastern Mono County to Haiwee in southwestern Inyo County. OVGB is bounded by nonwater-bearing rocks of the Benton Range on the north, of the Coso Range on the south, of the Sierra Nevada on the west, and of the White and Inyo Mountains on the east. This array of valleys drains via several creeks to the Owens River, which eventually flows southward into the Owens (dry) Lake, a closed drainage depression in the southern

part of the Owens Valley. The principal source of replenishment for the OVGB is percolation of stream flow from the surrounding mountains. Other and much lesser sources of recharge include excess irrigation waters and precipitation (Danskin, 1998).

LADWP owns many of the local water rights and has been extracting water from several of the local sources in the basin since the 1930s. Water table levels have gone through periods of extreme lows to plentiful highs, based on the on the ground pumping and rainfall quantities. For example, groundwater levels were depressed near Bishop and Independence during the late 1920s to 1930s because of heavy pumping, but water levels rebounded somewhat and remained steady through the early 1960s (DWR, 1964). Additionally, a series of wet years between 1982 and 1986 and relatively low groundwater pumping resulted in generally high-water tables, but then was followed by water level declines due to six years of heavy groundwater pumping. The proposed extraction plan is not expected to encounter groundwater, and the depth to groundwater will be monitored as the pit depth increases.

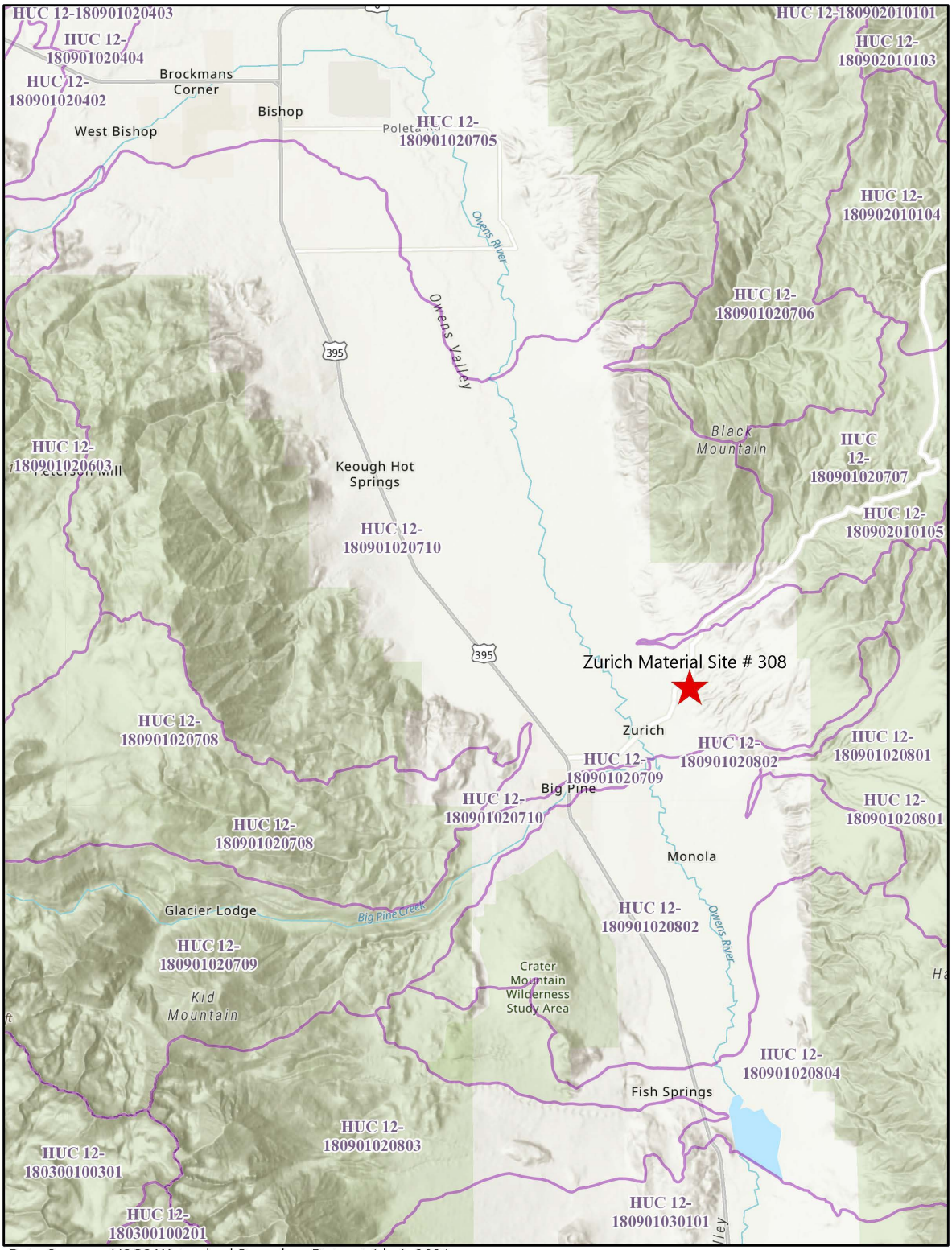
2.4.1.1 LOCAL WELLS

The nearest well to the project site is located east of US 395 and approximately 3 miles southwest of the site (station #371601N1182779W001). This well is currently active and has been monitored by LADWP since 1971. According to the DWR groundwater level data reports, the lowest groundwater depth was 3,925 feet (1971 and 2019), and the highest groundwater depth recorded was 3,902 feet (1989). The most recently reported depth in June 2021 was 3,914 feet (DWR Groundwater Level Report, 2021).

2.4.2 SURFACE WATER SETTING

The site is located within the Crowley Lake watershed and, more specifically, the Rawson Creek-Owens River watershed (HUC# 180901020710), (USGS Hydrography Dataset, 2021). Surface waters within the site originate primarily from tributary, ephemeral streams flowing down canyons along the west side of the White Mountains, across naturally occurring alluvial fans, and out onto the basin. Tributary streams, that reach the Bishop Basin, are captured by the trunk stream of the valley, the Owens River, which has its headwaters in the Long Valley. The Owens River is also the closest running, water body to the site and can be reached by traveling approximately 150 feet downgradient and around 2 miles southwest near the town of Big Pine.

FIGURE 4: WATERSHED (HUC 12) MAP OF PROJECT SITE



Data Sources: USGS Watershed Boundary Dataset (shp), 2021.

2.5.0 BIOLOGY

A general biological resource assessment was conducted by means of literature review and field survey. The biological study area (BSA), or area evaluated for biological resources, includes the intended mining operations area [proposed project site] and surrounding property, 54.3 areas in total. All habitats, flora, and fauna considered sensitive by BLM, California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW), United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), and Caltrans were assessed within the BSA.

Plant communities identified within the project site were mapped and classified in accordance with *A Manual of California Vegetation* (Sawyer *et al.,* 2009). The dominant native plant community within the BSA is representative of the Atriplex Confertifolia Shrubland Alliance, commonly referred to as shadscale scrub. Another land cover type described as disturbed/developed was also observed onsite. Disturbed/developed lands are often denuded or devoid of vegetation, however, in areas where soil substrate is present, some plant species, including non-native species, are typically present.

Using the representative plant communities within the BSA, potential sensitive habitats, flora and fauna were assessed using a combination of literature and database review, including USFWS's *Information for Planning and Consulting (IPaC)* and CDFW's *California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDB)* 7.5-minute USGS nine-quad search method. For further details and a full list of species analyzed, refer to the *Biological Resources Memo*, included as Appendix D.

In addition to the literature review, field surveys of the proposed project site were conducted on April 23, 2020, and February 24, 2022, by Caltrans Environmental staff. The survey was conducted from 8:00 a.m. until 11:00 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 were maintained during the survey. No sensitive plant or animal species were observed during the survey. Additional focused sensitive plant surveys will be conducted during peak blooming periods within the year prior to the start of each phase of the project.

2.5.1 VEGETATION

Due to the arid environment of the Owens Valley, vegetation is mediated by the hydrology and varies depending on the elevation, floristic region, and soil salinity. Vegetation communities range from salt-tolerant shadscale scrub, alkali sink scrub, desert greasewood scrub, alkali meadow, and desert saltbush scrub on the low elevations of the valley floor, to more drought-tolerant Mojave Mixed Woody Scrub, Blackbush Scrub, and Great Basin mixed scrub on alluvial fans (Davis et al., 1998).

The dominant native plant community within the BSA is representative of the Atriplex Confertifolia Shrubland Alliance, commonly referred to as Shadscale scrub. In the Atriplex Confertifolia Shrubland Alliance, Atriplex confertifolia is dominant or co-dominant in the shrub canopy with white bursage (*Ambrosia Dumosa*), allscale scrub (*Atriplex polycarpa*), spinescale

scrub (*Atriplex spinifera*), green rabbitbrush *(Chrysothamnus viscidiflorus*), blackbrush (*Coleogyne ramosissima*), Acton brittlebush (*Encelia actonii*), Virgin river brittlebush (*Encelia virginensis*), Mormon tea (*Ephedra nevadensis*), Heermann's buckwheat (*Eriogonum heermannii*), spiny hop sage (*Grayia spinosa),* sticky snake weed *(Gutierrezia microcephala*), winter fat (*Krascheninnikovia lanata*), creosote bush (*Larrea tridentata*), Anderson thornbush (*Lycium andersonii*), budsage *(Picrothamnus desertorum*), greasewood (*Sarcobatus vermiculatus*) and longspine horsebrush (*Tetradymia axillaris*). Emergent, taller shrubs may be present at low cover.

Seventy one (71) sensitive plant species were returned from the *Bishop BLM Office Sensitive Species List* and CNDDB search of the Uhlmeyer Spring, Big Pine, Waucoba Mountain, Tinemaha Reservoir, Poleta Canyon, Westgard Pass, Deep Springs Lake, Cowhorn Valley and Fish Springs 7.5-minute USGS quadrangles. Of these seventy one species, seven have potential to occur within the site, including: Coyote gilia (*Aliciella triodon*), Shockley's milk vetch (*Astragalus serenoi var. shockleyi*), King's eyelash grass (*Blepharidachne kingii*), Wheeler's dune-broom (*Chaetadelpha wheeleri*), MacDougal's lomatium (*Lomatium foeniculaceum ssp. Macdougalii*), Intermontane lupine (*Lupinus pusillus var. intermontanus*), and Nevada oryctes (*Oryctes nevadensis*).

2.5.1.1 SITE SPECIFIC VEGETATION

Plant communities identified within the site were mapped and classified in accordance with *A Manual of California Vegetation* (Sawyer *et al.,* 2009). The vegetation community surrounding the material site is dominated by salt tolerant, Shadscale scrub natural community. The site is located within a network of alluvial fans, where the water table is disconnected from the root zone; therefore, plant communities survive on precipitation alone.

Prominent plant species observed within the site during field surveys include scadscale scrub (*Atriplex confertifolia*), Mojave indigo bush (*Psorothamnus arborescens*), budsage (*Artemisia spinescens*), winterfat (*Krascheninnikovia lanata*), greasewood (*Sarcobatus vermiculatus*), Mojave woolyaster (*Xylorhiza tortifolia*), and desert trumpet (*Eriogonum inflatum*). Of the seventy-one sensitive species that were analyzed, seven rare plant species were determined to potential to occur within the BSA. Focused rare plant surveys will be conducted within the BSA during peak blooming periods, prior to the start of each phase of mining operations.

Areas classified as 'disturbed' did not support a native plant community and consisted of dirt roads and surfaces. These roads and surfaces are currently utilized by the public, managed by BLM and designated as multi-use public land. Disturbed areas dominate much of the proposed project site, with native upland communities surrounding the disturbed area, which exists as a footprint of the previous material site.

Approximately 86% of the proposed, 14-acre area 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 Shadscale scrub conditions.

Table 2.5.1.1: Plant species survey #1

Zurich Pit - Botanical surveys						
Survey:	1					
Surveyors:	D. Aalbu, R. Spalding					
Date:	4/23/2020					
Time:	8-11 AM					
Weather:	~65F, winds 5-10 mph					
Flora Observed						**Fauna Observed**
Type	**Scientific Name**	**Common Name**	**If Dominant, then Y**			**Come Name**
Shrubs	Atriplex confortifolia	shadscale scrub	Y			Common Raven
	Psorothamnus arborescens	Mojave Indigo bush	Y			Turkey Vulture
	Artemisia spinescens	Budsage	Y			White-crowned sparrow
	Ephedra nevadensis	Nevada Ephedra				Black-throated sparrow
	Ericameria teretifolia	Green rabbitbrush				Southern desert horned-lizard
	Krascheninnikovia lanata	Winterfat	Y			black-tailed jackrabbit
	Menodora spinescens	Spiny desert olive				
	Sarcobatus vermiculatus	Greasewood	Y			
Grasses	Bromus madritensis ssp. Rubens	foxtail brome (i)				
Perennial Herbs	Xylorhiza tortifolia	Mojave woolyaster				
	Eriogonum inflatum	desert trumpet	Y			
Annual Herbs	Sisymbrium altissimum	tumble mustard (i)				
	Phacelia femontii	Fremont's phacelia				
	Oxytheca perfoliata	roundleaf puncturebract				
	Nama aretioides	Purple nama				
	Crypthantha recurvata	curve nut cryptantha				
	Crypthantha circumscissa	Western forget me not				
	Chaenactis xantiana	Xantus' chaenactis				
	Calycoseris parryi	yellow tackstem				(i) = invasive
	Gilia cana ssp. Triceps	showy gilia				
	Chorizanthe brevicornu	brittle spine flower				
	Salsola tragus	Russian thistle (i)				
	Lupinus odoratus	Mohave lupine				
	Eriogonum brachypodum	Parry's buckwheat				

2.5.1.2 SENSITIVE COMMUNITIES

The California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDB) returned three sensitive natural communities within the USGS 9-quad search area, including: Bristlecone Pine Forest, Transmontane Alkali Marsh, and the Water Birch Riparian Scrub. All three communities are absent from the BSA. The closest plant community containing riparian shrub exists approximately 0.5 miles southeast of the project site on Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP) property.

2.5.1.3 INVASIVE EXOTICS

Invasive exotics are likely to occur onsite, given the presence of disturbed land within the proposed project area. Three invasive species were observed during the 2020 field survey within the project area including: foxtail brome (*Bromus madritensis ssp. Rubens*), tumble mustard (Sisymbrium altissimum), and Russian thistle (*Salsola tragus*).

2.5.2 WILDLIFE

The upland shadscale shrub vegetation community and network of alluvial fans are characteristic of an arid high desert landscape, which contains a largely open viewshed and highly variable terrain. Common wildlife families in this type of habitat include small mammals, reptiles, and birds. Characteristics species of the shadscale aspect of the xerophytic phase of Alkali Scrub include the pallid/pale kangaroo mouse (*Microdipodops pallidus*), chisel-toothed kangaroo rat (*Dipodomys microps*), zebra-tailed lizard (*Callisaurus draconoides*), and the San Emigdio blue

butterfly (*Plebulina emigdionis*), whose host plant is four-wing saltbush (Jaeger and Smith 1966, Pyle 1981). Characteristic species of other aspects of Alkali Scrub habitat are the Mojave ground squirrel (*Xerospermophilus mohavensis*), zebra-tailed lizard (*Callisaurus draconoides*), and long-nosed leopard lizard (*Gambelia wislizenii*). Other common animal species observed during the 2020 field survey include: common raven (*Corvus corax*), turkey vulture (*Cathartes aura*), white-crowned sparrow (*Zonotrichia leucophrys*), black-throated sparrow (*Amphispiza bilineata*), southern desert horned lizard (*Phrynosoma platyrhinos*), and black-tailed jackrabbit (*Lepus californicus*). Given the sparsity of vegetation, most bird species are more likely to exist as opportunistic foragers then breeders within the BSA.

2.5.2.1 DESCRIPTION OF HABITAT

The proposed project site is located within a previously disturbed area. Existing human activity and disturbance in the form of dirt roads, trash and denuded pit area within the project site make the area generally unsuitable habitat for sensitive-status species.

The BSA, which includes the project site and surrounding 54.3-acre property, includes a shadscale scrub vegetation community and exists within an alluvial fan topography where the vegetation, though sparse, is diverse in species. In areas where native vegetation exists and disturbance is limited, there may be habitat for both common and sensitive-status animal species.

2.5.2.2 SENSITIVE SPECIES

In total, forty-three sensitive-status animal species were identified during the literature review. The BSA was not found to be within critical habitat for any State or Federally listed species or be potential habitat for any State of Federally listed species. However, the common/northern sagebrush lizard, a species considered sensitive by the BLM was found to have potential habitat within the BSA. To avoid any impacts to the northern sagebrush lizard, focused reptile surveys will be conducted within the BSA prior to the start of mining operations. If any sensitive status species are observed, BLM and CDFW will be consulted with to determine appropriate avoidance and minimization measures.

2.6.0 AIR RESOURCES/CLIMATE

The semiarid to arid climate in the Owens Valley is greatly influenced by the Sierra Nevada mountain range and is characterized by low precipitation, abundant sunshine, frequent winds, moderate to low humidity, and high potential evapotranspiration.

2.6.1 PRECIPITATION

Precipitation is chiefly derived from moisture-loaded airmasses, formed over the Pacific Ocean, moving eastward over the Sierras. As air masses descend the eastern Sierra slope, the descending air warms, clouds evaporate, and precipitation declines east of the range. The combined effect of (1) increased precipitation as air masses ascend the west slope and cross the Sierra crest, and (2) decreasing precipitation as air masses descend the east slope is known as the "rain shadow effect." Due to this effect, the average precipitation

along the Owens Valley floor and near the project site is approximately 5 – 10 in/year (Danskin, 1998).

2.6.2 TEMPERATURE

Records taken from the Bishop and Independence National Weather Bureau stations indicate that daily temperatures typically fall to as low as 24 F in winter and can rise to as high as 107° F in summer, but rarely go below 14 F or above 102 F. These conditions are typical of the semiarid to arid climate in high desert basins.

2.6.3 AIR QUALITY

Air quality in the area is typically excellent, with visibility exceeding 70 miles most of the time. However, strong dust storms occur in the region due to the exposure of erodible sediments on the valley floor. Air quality can be greatly reduced in the mine site during periods of high winds.

2.6.4 WIND

Prevailing wind direction is westerly but varies depending on the type of storm and deflection caused by the surrounding mountains. Typical windspeeds in the valley range from zero to more than 30 mi/h, but have an overall, annual average between 5-7 mi/h. Winds are highly variable, even within a single day, and have no apparent seasonal trend. High windspeed events can occur at any time during the year, but generally accompany a winter or a spring storm.

2.7.0 LAND USES AND AESTHETICS

The property is designated as open space-natural resources in the Inyo County General Plan, meaning that low-intensity rural uses are allowable in a manner that recognizes and maintains the resource values of the parcel. Inyo 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 Inyo County. However, Inyo County is the designated Lead Agency under SMARA and has the authority to review and approve the Reclamation Plan.

3.0.0 DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED MINING OPERATION

3.1.0 DIMENSIONS / ACREAGE

Material Site #308 encompasses approximately 54.3 acres, of which 14 acres will be mined in two phases, to a depth no greater than 40 feet below existing grade. The current boundary also includes a storage and operations area within the pit's bottom floor. The new site boundary will be clearly delineated with metal posts, survey markers, and material site boundary signs.

3.1.1 MAXIMUM ANTICIPATED DEPTH

The maximum anticipated depth of surface mining at the proposed site is 40 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). Phase I final mining depths would range from approximately 4,088 feet amsl at the northeast portion to 4,095 feet amsl at the

southeast portion of the pit. The final Phase 2 depth would be at 4,068 feet amsl in the southern portion of the pit, refer to Construction Details C-4. Mine tailings will be backfilled into the pits prior to reclamation to assist with final contouring and construction of the final slopes.

3.2.0 INITIATION AND TERMINATION DATES

The initiation of mining will commence once the Notice of Completion is received from Inyo County on the reclamation plan application. Phase 1 is estimated to span approximately 16 years and phase 2 at approximately 43 years, or until 20XX. Material production estimates are based on an average of 5,000 CY per year. The County's Notice of Completion and associated conditions of approval will dictate the active term for mining.

3.3.0 PRODUCTION SCHEDULE

Mining activities will occur in two phases, with a total estimated production volume of 294,000 cubic yards (CY). An average annual estimate of mining production for the site is 5,000 CY. Emergency road repairs due to flood and/or landslide damage can significantly increase production. Little to no waste is anticipated during production. After the completion of the mining phases, final site reclamation will commence.

The primary use of the site would be for highway 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, sorting grizzlies, and mobile shaker/sorters.
- Only reusable imported natural materials collected from highway clean-up or Caltrans construction activities, such as dirt and rock, would be temporarily stored at the site. All other non-reusable materials would be disposed of elsewhere, likely at the County landfill.

3.3.1 MINING PHASES

MINING PHASE	MINED RAW MATERIAL (CUBIC YARDS)	MAXIMUM ANTICIPATED DEPTH (FT)	AREA - BOTTOM (ACRES)	AREA -TOP (ACRES)	DURATION[1] (YEARS)
Phase 1	79,000	20	3.25	8.21	16
Phase 2	215,000	37	3.25	12.53	43
TOTAL	**294,000**	**37**	**3.25**	**12.53**	**59**

[1] The estimated duration is based on an average production of 5,000 CY per year.

Please refer to the Operation Plan (Appendix A) for a more detailed description of the project phases.

3.4.0 MINING PLAN

3.4.1 Drainage Control

The NOAA rainfall intensity-duration-frequency data tables (2021) were consulted for the designs of sufficient on-site water storage and erosion control methods, and the models were calculated based on a 25-year, 60-minute storm event. Additionally, the site is considered an area of minimal flood hazard (FEMA, 2021) and is neither located within a 100-year flood plain nor within 1-mile of a state highway bridge. The proposed extraction plan is not expected to encounter groundwater. The depth to groundwater will be monitored as the pit depth increases.

In the early stages of mining the site, the pit will be too shallow to accommodate the 25-year 1-hour design storm volume, so runoff will be directed to its natural course with the addition of armored rock riprap to protect against erosion. At a later stage in the course of mining, the pit will have sufficient volume for the design storm which will allow it to act as a retention pond and stilling basin. The armored overflow will still act as erosion control in the event of a larger discharge.

Caltrans adaptive stormwater prevention practices will also be used to address conditions as they evolve. Surface runoff and drainage from surface mining activities shall be controlled by Best Management Practices (BMPs) such as check dams, ditches, berms, swales, fiber rolls, and sediment detention basins will utilize localized earthen materials. BMPs will be utilized as needed on a temporary basis for sediment control.

Caltrans complies with the waste discharge requirements described in the Order 2022-0033-DWQ: *National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Statewide Stormwater Permit and Waste Discharge Requirements for State of California Department of Transportation* (Statewide NPDES Permit).

3.4.2 Topsoil Handling

During material extraction operations, duff/topsoil (the top 6 inches, including woody debris) will be stockpiled within the 20-foot buffer zone and managed to prevent erosion and degradation of the seedbank for future slope reclamation. Mining overburden/waste material will be stored at the outer perimeter near the base of the outer slopes and kept at a minimum. Upon final slope configuration, overburden material would be used to reach final slope configuration if necessary.

3.4.3 Onsite Hazardous Materials

Mining will require the use and onsite storage of a loader, which contain hazardous materials (i.e., fuel, oil, hydraulic fluid). The loader will 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.

All hazardous and nonhazardous waste will be disposed of according to state and local health and safety ordinances. All Best Management Practices (BMP) 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).

3.4.4 Dust, Visual, and Emissions Control

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.

Air quality parameters that are potentially affected by aggregate mining operations are vehicular emissions and suspended particulate (dust). Mining operations would not significantly increase vehicular traffic on SR 168. Increased emissions would however emanate from the pit during the active extraction phase. However, the site will be mined in a manner that will result very nearly in the final reclaimed landform; therefore, reclamation activities will not cause an increase in vehicular emissions.

Because the soil disturbance from materials processing, extraction, and hauling is a "fresh" disturbance, the major component of the produced dust will be of large particle size (greater than 10 microns), which settles out rapidly. Best available control technology, such as maintaining a moist aggregate surface, will be used to suppress processing, extraction, and hauling dust sources. Reclamation activities, such as re-soiling with stockpiled topsoil mixed with native vegetative debris, will also help to control dust.

3.4.5 Noise

Mining operations may include the use of a D8, loaders, belly dumps, bobtail trucks, maintenance trucks, and haul trucks. This aspect of the mining operation will affect noise and emissions. The noise emissions will be most heavily concentrated within the processing area of the pit and will be shielded from surrounding receptors by the pit walls and topsoil berms. Both the physical walls of the pit and the large distance to receivers will reduce the potential noise impact from mining.

3.4.6 Test Plots for Revegetation

Test plots will not be utilized at this site, because they will not produce any additional value to current known data. We have solid evidence what will revegetate the site from previous reclamation via coop between BLM and Caltrans, as well as what grew over the past 15 years. The vegetation surveys conducted for this reclamation plan (see table 2.5.1.1 and table 4.9.3.1), which show native dominant species coverage, which developed naturally on its own. The pit floor, which was not decompacted, shows great success by Shadscale coverage throughout. Pit slopes show Shadscale, plus other species like Mojave Indigo Bush, Budsage, and Spiny desert olive to be quite successful on their own.

3.5.0 PROCESSING EQUIPMENT

All processing equipment will be temporarily used at the site during screening operations only. A portable screening operation will be moved onto the site during periods of operation, which primarily constitutes screening grizzlies, a bulldozer, a loader, and a sorting hopper. No permanent buildings or equipment will be construed on site as part of the mining operation.

3.6.0 WATER REQUIREMENTS

Water requirements for this site will be limited to that needed for processing and for dust control. A water truck with pump and sprayer will be used on site to mitigate dust related to hauling, grading, and particularly during screening operations. Water trucks will be filled at the Independence Maintenance Yard or the Bishop Maintenance Yard with an average of 5,000 gallons per day usage during summer processing operations, and an average of 15 days or processing per year to create stockpiles.

3.6.1 Wastewater

The only type of wastewater to be produced by this mining operation will be screening water that will be collected in the operations area and allowed to evaporate or infiltrate.

3.6.2 Drinking Water

Drinking water will only be available on the site by employees that bring their own water jugs filled by offsite sources.

3.7.0 HOURS OF OPERATION/NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES

The hours of operation may be up to 12 hours per day during the hours of 7:00 AM to 7:00 PM. On average it is estimated that this operation will employ 2-3 people during mining activities. No temporary facilities for employees are anticipated to be provided at the mine site.

3.8.0 TRANSPORATION

During operational phases, transportation by employees to the mine site will not significantly increase traffic on State Route 168 nor Highway 395 due to the low number of workers. Additionally, the minimal frequency needed for the transportation of aggregate resources to road construction locations will not have a significant increase on SR 168 nor Highway 395 traffic activity.

4.0.0 DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED RECLAMATION

4.1.0 SUBSEQUENT USES

The land is zoned by Inyo County as natural resources open space, with no special land use restrictions. According to various resource maps, the site does not support any designated, critical wildlife habitat; however, the site provides general habitat values to various wildlife species. The new pit area will be reclaimed to open space natural resources, which will leave the site readily adaptable to alternative end uses.

4.2.0 IMPACT ON FUTURE MINING

The aggregate resource extends beyond the site boundaries and is at least 100 feet deep. The current mining plan will not have exhausted onsite resources, and reclamation of this site will not preclude mining at a future date.

4.3.0 RECLAMATION SCHEDULE

Final reclamation field implementation will follow the methods and locations outlined in this plan and on Plan Sheet L-4 and the Construction Details (see Appendix B). If minor field adjustments are required during final grading or vegetation establishment, an updated implementation map will be submitted to the County for concurrence prior to construction.

At the initiation of the reclamation, a sign shall be posted at the entrance of the site stating that reclamation is in progress and include the operator's name, the lead agency, and a phone number for public inquiries. Reclamation work will commence within one year of the following fall season, to achieve best results by having the site prepped by late fall/early winter. Site revegetation monitoring will commence the Spring of year 1 (second spring, not year 0 which is first spring) following reclamation work and be annually inspected for erosion, invasive species, and vegetative coverage. Once the reclamation treatments have been implemented, those treatments will be monitored until performance standards have been met. The monitoring plan is designed to evaluate site-specific criteria for slope stability, erosion control, and revegetation.

4.4.0 POST MINING TOPOGRAPHY

Plan Sheet L-4 depicts the post-mining and reclaimed topography for the mined area. The final site configuration will, in general, be a rounded, rectangular-shaped excavated pit, no greater than 40-feet deep from original grade, with side slopes no steeper than 3:1 (H:V). The entry road to the pit will be blocked with soil berms and ripped for decompaction, seeded, and revegetated to blend with the surrounding topography. Stockpiled topsoil and vegetative debris (termed
"duff''), and fines will be applied to the final pit slopes. Wind dispersed seeds from the surrounding undisturbed vegetation will aid in revegetation efforts.

4.4.1 Slope Stability

Pit slopes for the mining phases and the final reclaimed site will not be steeper than 3:1 (H:V), or 18°. The angle of repose of the loose stockpile material on the site is approximately 32°. For the final 3:1 (H:V) pit slopes, a static factor of safety of 1.9 is calculated. Thus, pit slopes will be stable at the proposed angle under static conditions. However, depending on the conditions of the sediment exposed on the slope (moisture content, vegetation cover, compaction, etc.), portions of the pit slope could experience surficial failure due to seismic loading from a maximum credible earthquake on one of the active faults in the area. Any slope failures will be retained within the pit.

4.4.2 Final Drainage Plan and Impoundments

Plan Sheet L-4 details the final drainage plan of the reclaimed site.

4.4.3 Disposition of Equipment

Any equipment brought onto the site will be removed following termination of mining activity. No equipment will be stored on the site following the end of Phase II.

4.5.0 RESOILING

The native soil of this site is very sandy to course material (gravel or larger), and the topsoil contains native seeds and microorganisms. The upper six inches of soil, defined as topsoil, will be salvaged and treated as a valuable resource for revegetation. Duff is defined as the topsoil and the vegetative material. Prior to mining any area that has not been previously mined, the top six inches of the native surface and any existing woody material will be scraped off and stored as topsoil berms within the buffer zone at the top of the excavation slopes (Plan Sheet L-2). Harvest and stockpile options for the vegetation are to: (1) keep separate from the native soil, (2) concurrently harvest and stockpile with the native soil, or (3) mix with the topsoil via hydroxide, chopping, breaking, or chipping.

Native surface material stored in the topsoil berms, at the top of the excavation slopes, will be kept separate from the processing and sedimentation pond fines storage areas. The native material will be spread on the slopes first, with the remaining material, if any, spread on the pit bottom. The remaining areas will receive processing and sedimentation pond fines.

Prior to spreading the stored topsoil and fines, all areas of placed alluvium that have become compacted from construction operations will be decompacted (ripped or disked) to facilitate root growth. During reclamation, salvaged topsoil shall be re-applied to a minimum depth of six inches across all disturbed areas, including pit slopes and bottoms, unless soil testing or site-specific factors justify a greater depth. Where feasible, additional fines or native soil from the processing area will be added to supplement the topsoil layer to improve rooting depth and seed germination. This can be accomplished by rough grading, imprinting, or other suitable methods. If monitoring indicates that vegetative establishment is poor, supplemental topsoil application or soil amendment may be considered as a remedial measure.

4.6.0 REVEGETATION

Revegetation treatments of the site will strive to achieve visual integration with the surrounding vegetation and provide wildlife habitat. Native vegetation will be reestablished on all disturbed areas, including pit slopes, bottoms, and access roads, on final surfaces. Decompaction, topsoil spreading, surface roughening, and seeding of the site will take place during the fall, from late October to December. The primary access road connecting the pit to SR 168 will be decommissioned (earthen berms near the entrance from SR 168 to deter vehicular access and heavy ripping of the road bead) once all site work has been completed.

4.6.1 Seedbed Preparation

Prior to decompaction and re-spreading of topsoil, invasive species will be identified and removed from the treatment area (see section 4.6.7 for weed control methods). After re-spreading of the topsoil, duff, or fines, the area will be roughened to form a variety of microsites; this can be accomplished by heavy ripping the site, track walking, or imprinting. The growth media will be prepared to provide a firm, but not overly compacted seedbed.

4.6.2 Seedmix Sources & Methods

Many plant species are comprised of local ecotypes that are highly adapted to the local climate and edaphic conditions (Plummer et al. 1955, 1968). The plants that will have the best chance of survival on a site are those ecotypes that are growing on (or near) the site. Besides the problem of purchasing a less adaptive ecotype, one could also cause genetic contamination of the local ecotype through interbreeding with an introduced ecotype. Commercially available seeds often contain small amounts of invasive and/or exotic species. This site has only one sparsely dispersed invasive, Russian thistle (*Salsola tragus*), and the introduction of other invasive/exotic species would reduce the quality of revegetation efforts. The best policy is to use seeds from on or near the site.

The first method of gathering seed would be the storing of topsoil in berms adjacent to the site. Once the berms are in place, they will be left undisturbed until final reclamation activities. It is estimated that the topsoil berms will be in place for several years to decades. Native plants will continue to grow and add to the seed bank at these berms.

The second method will rely on the various wind dispersed seeds from the surrounding undisturbed landscape. Most plant species observed at the site rely on wind dispersal to propagate seeds. The heavy roughening of slopes, like linear crevices at the site, would be the primary method in capturing wind dispersed seeds. Previous site records of mining and reclamation indicated that the site was not previously seeded (15 years ago), while native species have reestablished themselves with great success on the previously disturbed slopes and pit floor despite continued recreational and illegal dumping uses of the site.

If vegetation success criteria are not met by method 1 or 2, then hand gathered seeds, from the surrounding undisturbed landscape, will be broadcast and mixed into the top ½-inch of the substrate, either by raking or dragging a chain across the seedbed (or other suitable method). Permission from the landowner (BLM) would be required prior to this activity. Difficulties in gathering multiple species, over several blooming seasons, with extremely low plant cover makes this method the least practical of the three options. However, if seed gathering is necessitated, consultation with BLM will begin several years before to develop a targeted seed gathering strategy for local dominant species within the 54.3-acre boundary of the BLM easement. This will likely require two seasons of targeted species seed gathering by hand during the peak blooming period.

4.6.4 Mulches

Topsoil berms and existing plants growing on the berms will be the primary source of vegetative debris. The linear crevices, created by roughing of the slopes, will capture the wind-blown fines, seeds, precipitation, and minor surface runoff.

No imported mulching material will be used at this site since it would not be compatible with the native alkaline soil types.

4.6.5 Irrigation

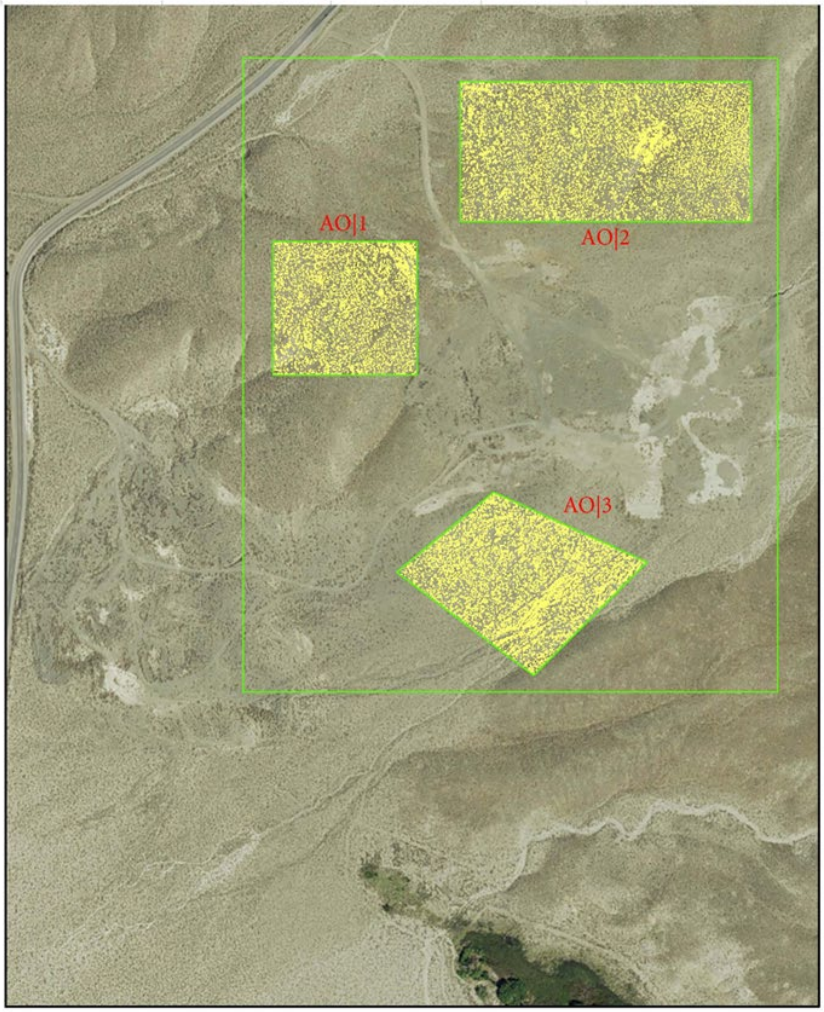
The use of irrigation on this site would likely aid germination; however, it would also encourage growth of weedy species, thereby increasing the competitive advantage of the weedy, exotic species, such as Russian thistle. Therefore, irrigation is not recommended for this site. Instead, roughing of slopes in a linear pattern that slows and gathers precipitation runoff would aid in plant establishment. Existing site conditions, as seen in site AO|3 of Figure 5, the vegetation cover analysis, show higher density plant coverage along the drainage and natural, lowland areas (Towill, 2017).

FIGURE 5: DRONE VEGETATION SURVEY OF PROJECT SITE

Vegetation Analysis	
sUAS System:	senseFly eBee Plus Small Unmanned Aerial System with 20 MP S.O.D.A. Camera
Date of Photography:	November 8, 2017
Flight Altitude:	354' AMT

Vegetation Cover Analysis

Site	Square Feet		Percent of Veg. Cover	Confidence (Based on Stereo Assessment
	Planimetric Area	Vegetation Cover 0.2' or higher		
Full Area	3,040,000	767,549	25.25%	75%
AOI1	172,000	40,282	23.42%	95%
AOI2	365,400	74,120	20.28%	95%
AOI3	208,050	67,405	32.40%	95%



4.6.6 Plant Protection Measures

No protection will be provided for the seeded areas, except as a remedial measure. Though the final site measures will attempt to block vehicle entry to the site, which would have a negative impact on revegetation efforts.

4.6.7 Plant Eradication Measures

Invasive weed control will be conducted before reclamation activities and during monitoring periods. Pre-treatment weed removal will occur before decompaction and soil manipulation. This step is essential to minimize competition with native species and reduce the risk of invasive seed spread during grading and topsoil reapplication.

Invasive species such as Russian thistle (*Salsola tragus*), foxtail brome (*Bromus madritensis ssp. rubens*), and tumble mustard (*Sisymbrium altissimum*) will be actively monitored and managed throughout the reclamation period. A weed management plan will be implemented to prevent these species from outcompeting native revegetation efforts. Control methods will include:

- Annual surveys of disturbed and revegetated areas for invasive weed presence
- Hand-pulling or mechanical removal of isolated or low-density infestations
- Targeted herbicide application for extensive patches
- Prevention measures, including using only certified weed-free seed and mulch, and cleaning equipment before entering the site.

Weed control actions will be documented and summarized in annual monitoring reports. Adaptive management strategies will be used to refine treatment as necessary to ensure invasive species do not compromise revegetation success.

4.7.0 EROSION AND SEDIMENT CONTROL

Erosion and sediment control will be achieved by implementation of the previously described plan sheets and revegetation plans. Earthen berms will be maintained to prevent intrusive runoff and erosion from the two adjacent drainage channels and to maintain internal settling basins. Re-soiling and reseeding will be performed according to the revegetation plan. Existing site conditions do indicate erosion rills as a natural occurrence for the site and surrounding area, which provides blending with the surrounding arid landscape.

4.8.0 PUBLIC SAFETY

The configuration of the mined lands will not pose a hazard to the public. Hazardous materials associated with mining and processing will be stored properly on site; and prior to reclamation, will be disposed of properly off-site. The steep slopes of the wave-cut terraces, as well as other steep slopes both on- and off-site, are natural features.

4.9.0 PERFORMANCE STANDARDS

The following discussion sets forth minimum site criteria, or performance standards, for the various aspects of site reclamation. Monitoring of reclamation performance standards will be conducted by a qualified individual or group of individuals, agreed upon by Caltrans and Inyo County.

4.9.1 Erosion and Sediment Control

Erosion and sediment control monitoring will be completed at the same time and frequency as the vegetation monitoring. The results will aid in identifying potential failure areas in need of remedial measures before the problem areas cause widespread failures. The benefits to remediating erosion should be weighed verses the potential impacts to site vegetation establishment if heavy equipment access to the site is deemed necessary. A net positive results of site benefits should be assumed for such remediation to be deemed necessary.

Sedimentation basins will be inspected following the season's first major storm event or at a minimum of annually. Basins will be cleaned out as needed to maintain a minimum storage capacity.

4.9.2 Slope Stability

No large man-made slope shall be steeper than 3:1 (H: V), which has been determined to exceed the slope stability standard for this material for all except the most severe earthquake events.

4.9.3 Revegetation

Undisturbed site-indigenous shrub cover was surveyed and concluded to be 25% (Towill, 2017). Therefore, due to the site's arid conditions and prior disturbance, reclamation will strive to achieve 12.5% indigenous shrub cover (50% of baseline conditions). This range balances ecological realism with regulatory intent, especially where natural regeneration plays a key role. Species richness surveys conducted on the undisturbed area planned for mining showed a richness of three species per 50 square meters (see Table 2.5.1.1 and Table 4.9.3.1). Thus, reclamation will also strive to achieve a species richness of three per 50 square meters.

Since the site was previously mined and subsequently naturally revegetated with native species, site conditions provide solid evidence that nearby native species seeding will naturally occur given time. By far the dominant species indicated during vegetation surveys was Shadscale (*Atriplex confertifolia*), which is covering the pit floor and surrounding slopes despite no decompaction or soil preparations measures. Other dominant species are indicated in the table below.

Aerial site surveys will be used to verify plant cover for the site annually during the reclamation phase until success criteria is met. Target revegetation coverage is expected to be achieved within three to five years of initial revegetation treatment. Site-specific constraints such as prolonged drought may delay achievement. In such cases, monitoring and adaptive management will continue until the success criteria are met.

Table 4.9.3.1- Species Survey #2

Survey:	2		
Surveyors:	D. Aalbu, L. Morris, F. Becket		
Date:	2/24/2022		
Time:	3-4 PM		
Weather:			
Flora Observed			
Type	**Scientific Name**	**Common Name**	**If Dominant, then Y**
Shrubs	Atriplex confertifolia	Shadscale	Y(1)
	Psorothamnus arborescens	Mojave Indigo bush	Y(2)
	Artemisia spinescens	Budsage	Y(3)
	Ephedra nevadensis	Nevada Ephedra	
	Ericameria teretifolia	Green rabbitbrush	
	Krascheninnikovia lanata	Winterfat	
	Menodora spinescens	Spiny desert olive	Y(4)
	Sarcobatus vermiculatus	Greasewood	
	Ephedra viridis	Morman Tea	

4.10.0 MAINTENANCE, MONITORING, AND REDMEDIAL MEASURES

Site maintenance and monitoring will continue until Inyo County deems reclamation complete.

4.10.1 Erosion and Sediment Control

All erosion and sediment control structures will be maintained and monitored for as long as mining and reclamation continues. This will ensure that the failure of one or more structures does not apply additional and unplanned stress on other structures. If infilling or failure of a structure occurs, steps to repair the original structure will be taken.

4.10.2 Slope Stability

All slopes will be assessed, during annual monitoring, to ensure that they are stable. If excess slope erosion is observed, or failures noted, the appropriate remedial measures will be implemented. All pit slopes will be no greater than 3:1 (H: V).

4.10.3 Revegetation Monitoring

Revegetation of the site will be monitored following implementation of each phase. Monitoring activities will take place during the peak flowering season, approximately April to June. Once the monitoring date is set, monitoring of the site, during the subsequent years, will occur within 30 days of that original date. This scheme will assure that the data will be comparable over time.

Revegetation monitoring will consist of visual assessments and recording the progress of reclamation with photographs. Overall vegetative coverage will be calculated by use of high-quality aerial photography analysis with an 80% or greater confidence level. Species richness data will be gathered by way of 50-meter belt transects. If this threshold is not met within five years, monitoring will be extended on an annual basis and appropriate remedial measures will be implemented (Table 4.10.3 – Remedial Measures). These may include supplemental seeding, targeted weed control, and/or adaptive soil treatments designed to improve establishment success. Annual monitoring reports will document progress toward the success criteria and recommend adjustments if necessary.

4.11.0 REPORTING

Once the reclamation activities have been completed, monitoring activities will commence and will continue until the performance standards have been met. This annual report will, at a minimum, consist of the name and credentials of the investigator(s), a summary, the date of the visit(s), the methods and materials used, the data collected, an analysis of the data and performance standards, a summary of weed monitoring and control activities, any proposed adjustments to the weed management and remedial measures. A final inspection request will be submitted to the County once survey data supports that the reclamation success criteria have been achieved.

5.0.0 COST OF RECLAMATION

See the Financial Assurance Cost Estimate, Appendix E.

TABLE 4.10.3- REMEDIAL MEASURES

FEATURE	OBJECTIVES	MONITORING FREQUENCY	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 additional soil stabilization (i.e. rock mulching)
Water Erosion	Soil stabilized, no evidence of riling or gullying equal to or greater than a Class 3	After first major storm event (>0.5-inch rain in a 24-hour period) following construction; annual monitoring of reclamation	Riling or gullying or erosion judged to be excessive	Repair area; consider additional stabilization (water bars, berms, diversion channels, or rock lining)
Slope Stability	No evidence of slope failures	Monitor continuously during mining operations; and annually during reclamation	Slope failures, slumping	Reconstruct slope, lessen angle of slope, and implement erosion control measures
Sedimentation	Little accumulation of sediment in basins (pit); basins maintain adequate capacity	After first major storm event (>0.5-inch rain in a 24-your 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 Russian thistle or other invasive exotics	No interference with establishment of native vegetation	Once per year, note areas of infestation of Russian Thistle or other species	Infestation of exotics interfering with establishment of native vegetation	Apply weed eradication measures by hand-pulling and hand- culling. Consider herbicide application.
Revegetation	Perennial density averages 0.16%	Annually following implementation	Significantly below objectives	Consider reseeding; analyze soil for problems
Re-soiling	De-compacted native soils or fines re-spread to a depth of 6 inches	Monitor during implementation	Fines absent from substrate surface or a compacted substrate	Re-spread additional fines; rip or disc site to alleviate compaction

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MATERIAL SITE 308 (ID #91-14-0143)



12/12/2022

Operations Plan / Project Description

Caltrans District 9 is proposing to establish a new material site in northern Inyo County. Mining operations would encompass approximately 14 acres with the approval of a new SMARA reclamation plan and associated operations plan.

Material Site 308 (ID #91-14-0143)

OPERATIONS PLAN / PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Background

With limited available aggregate sources statewide, including from within the Caltrans District 9 area, there is a need to establish a new, strategically located material site in northern Inyo County. The location of this proposed material site would supply an area currently absent of active material sites. Maintenance has identified a need for the shale material at this location for use in highway maintenance work and utilization of the site for material storage (sand, rock, gravel, soil debris from flooding, etc.). Caltrans historic mining production logs show an average use of 5,000 cubic yards (CY) annually, which can greatly increase during big desert storm years. Commercially available equivalent material in northern Inyo County is limited, which makes hauling in commercially purchased material cost prohibitive and inconsistent. Establishment of this site would avoid dependency on the uncertain supply of private commercial sources and long hauling distances.

The proposed site is on Bureau of Land Management (BLM) land, near Big Pine, California. The proposed site encompasses 54.3 acres, of which 14 acres will be mined in two phases, to a depth no greater than 37 feet below existing grade. The current boundary also includes a storage and operations area within the pit's bottom floor. The new site boundary will be clearly delineated with metal posts, survey markers, and material site boundary signs.

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

A 20-foot offset boundary will be clearly demarcated with metal stakes to ensure a buffer from the surrounding, undisturbed terrain and to provide a visual cue for excavation activities. The previously rehabilitated dirt access road will be graded and restored to connect the northwestern edge of the material site with State Route 168 East. A metal access gate will then be installed to ensure no trespassing. In addition, an earthen berm will be established to prevent access via an existing road connecting with the southwestern boundary of the pit. Existing debris (illegal dumping deposits) on site will be cleaned up and hauled off and disposed of at an appropriate landfill facility. To avoid any impacts to the northern sagebrush lizard, focused reptile surveys will be conducted within the BSA prior to the start of mining operations. If any northern sagebrush lizard individuals are observed, the BLM will be consulted with to determine appropriate avoidance and minimization measures. Phase I area duff/topsoil, approximately six inches in depth, will be relocated to the outermost edges of the pit, within the 20-foot buffer zone. Maintenance personnel will be trained on operations plan and methods for which to operate on the site in accordance with the approved SMARA reclamation plan.

General Operational Strategies

- All phases of operation will ensure that the site remains internally draining, with final slope configurations of 3 (horizontal) to 1 (vertical) or flatter.
- The proposed extraction plan is not expected to encounter groundwater.
- During material extraction operations, duff/topsoil (the top 6 inches) will be stockpiled for reclamation activities in the outer perimeter (20-foot buffer zone).

- Slopes will be contoured to a final grade (3:1 or flatter) and slope re-vegetation will commence at the end of phase II.
- During both mining phases the pit floor will have a maintained grade to allow for drainage into the pit's sediment basin.
- 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.
    - 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. No recycled asphalt pavement type materials will be stored on site. All other non-reusable materials will be disposed of elsewhere, likely a 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. This will only occur in the self-contained pit bottom.
- After completion of Phase II mining operations, stockpiled topsoil will be spread on the final slopes, pit floor and dirt access road to enhance slope naturalization/re-vegetation.
- It is Caltrans' intent to rescind the fully reclaimed material site (including the entire 54.3-acre acquisition) back to the Bureau of Land Management, once mining is concluded.

Mining Phases:

Phase I

Phase I of mining will entail excavating the surface of the entire pit to varying depths, ranging from 4 feet to 20 feet (from original grade), with maximum depth trending towards the northern edge. A bench with a drainage channel will be established along the northeastern portion of the pit as the depth develops to intercept offsite runoff and channel to detention basin. Once phase 1 final depth has been achieved, the pit floor will be graded to ensure drainage to the sediment basin (southern corner of the pit floor). There is an estimated 79,000 cubic yards (CY) of raw material to be excavated during Phase I. With an estimated 5,000 CY/year average demand, this phase will last approximately 16 years.

Reference plan sheet L-2 for details.

Topsoil, approximately six inches in depth, will be stockpiled for reclamation activities in the outer perimeter (20-foot buffer zone).

Phase II

Phase II of mining will continue excavating the surface of the entire pit to varying depths, ranging from 24 feet to 37 feet (from original grade), with maximum depth trending towards the northern edge. Upon completion of the extraction of all material to the grade lines as shown on the plan sheet L-3, the final 3:1 slopes will be reclaimed in accordance with the approved reclamation plan. Topsoil stockpiles will then be spread evenly on all slopes and the pit floor.

This phase contains approximately 215,000 CY of raw material. Estimating 5,000/year average demand, this phase will provide a 43 year's supply of aggregate.

Final Configuration

As mentioned in the General Operations Strategies, it is Caltrans' intent to rescind the fully reclaimed material site (including the entire 54.3-acre acquisition) back to the Bureau of Land Management. Once the pit has met the reclamation success criteria conditions per the reclamation plan and returned to a land use designation of open space (natural resources), a final site inspection will be performed with Inyo County. After BLM concurs with Inyo County's finding of full reclamation, the associated mine ID will be retired. At this point, no further mining activities will occur at the site.

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 up to 59 years.

Please refer to the associated plan sheets for further details, as well as the approved reclamation plan.

Attachment B

Dist	COUNTY	ROUTE	POST MILES TOTAL PROJECT	SHEET No.	TOTAL SHEETS
09	Iny	168	21.6	1	9

STATE OF CALIFORNIA

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

PROJECT PLANS FOR CONSTRUCTION ON

STATE HIGHWAY

IN INYO COUNTY
NEAR BIG PINE AT 3.2 MILES
EAST OF SOUTH JUNCTION ROUTE 395

TO BE SUPPLEMENTED BY STANDARD PLANS DATED 2024

INDEX OF PLANS

SHEET No	DESCRIPTION
1	TITLE AND LOCATION MAP
2-5	LAYOUTS
6-9	CROSS SECTIONS

MINE:
ZURICH PIT

MINERAL:
SAND AND GRAVEL (SHALE)

MINE OPERATOR:
CALTRANS
500 S. MAIN STREET, BISHOP CA 93514

LANDOWNER:
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
351 PACU LANE, SUITE 100, BISHOP CA 93514

APPLICANT/OWNER OF MINERAL RIGHTS:
CALTRANS
500 S. MAIN STREET, BISHOP CA 93514

REPRESENTATIVE:
CALTRANS, FOREST BECKET
500 S. MAIN STREET, BISHOP CA 93514
(760) 874-8315

LAND SURVEYOR:
CALTRANS, SEREYNA CAGLE
500 S. MAIN STREET, BISHOP CA 93514
(760) 937-3531

GEOLOGIST:
CALTRANS, LANA MORRIS
500 S. MAIN STREET, BISHOP CA 93514
(760) 874-8328

BIOLOGIST:
CALTRANS, KRIS BASON
500 S. MAIN STREET, BISHOP CA 93514
(760) 784-4056

UTILITIES:
WATER WILL BE HAULED IN AS NEEDED.
SEWAGE: NO TEMPORARY PORTA POTTY ON SITE

GENERAL LAND DESIGNATION:
ZONING - NATURAL RESOURCES OPEN SPACE
APN - 0180701000

GRADING AREA:
TOTAL MATERIAL SITE = 54.3 ACRES
AREA OF DISTURBANCE (MINING) = 14.0 ACRES

SIGNS:
THE NEW SITE BOUNDARY WILL BE CLEARLY DELINEATED WITH METAL POSTS, SURVEY MARKERS, AND MATERIAL SITE BOUNDARY SIGNS.

STRUCTURES:
NO STRUCTURES WITHIN 20 FEET OF THE PROJECT PROPERTY LINE

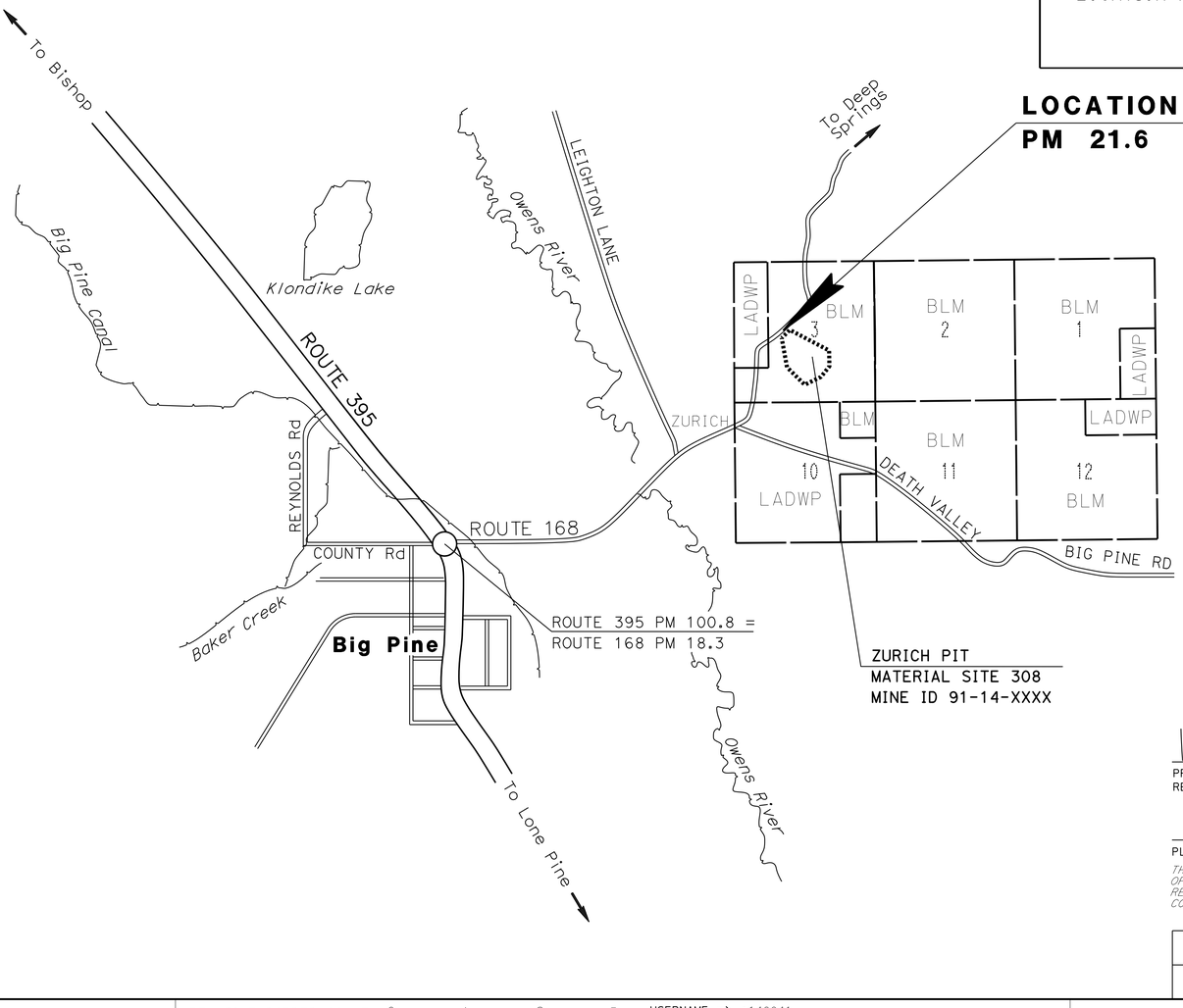
EXCAVATION SLOPES:
QUARRY: 14 ACRES MINED IN TWO PHASES, TO A DEPTH NO GREATER THAN 37 FT BELOW EXISTING GRADE.
SLOPES: WILL NOT EXCEED 3:1 (H:V), OR 18 DEGREES
STOCKPILES: TOPSOIL WILL BE STOCKPILED WITHIN THE 20 FT BUFFER ZONE FOR RECLAMATION.
ESTIMATED OPERATING LIFE: PHASE 1 ESTIMATED TO SPAN APPROX. 16 YEARS AND PHASE 2 APPROX. 43 YEARS.
PRODUCTION: TOTAL ESTIMATED PRODUCTION VOLUME OF 294,000 CY

PUBLIC SAFETY:
SLOPES WILL BE MAXIMUM 3:1 (H:V) WITHOUT SIGNIFICANT DROPS IN ELEVATION FOR OFF ROAD VEHICLE SAFETY.
EXISTING ROAD WILL BE RE-GRADED.

LEGAL DESCRIPTION:
TOWNSHIP 9 SOUTH, RANGE 34 EAST, SECTION 3



LOCATION MAP



LOCATION OF CONSTRUCTION
PM 21.6

NO SCALE

05/27/25
PROJECT ENGINEER DATE
REGISTERED CIVIL ENGINEER

MAY 21, 2025
PLANS APPROVAL DATE

MATTHEW SCHOBER
No. 70489
Exp. 09-30-26
CIVIL
REGISTERED PROFESSIONAL ENGINEER
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.

CONTRACT No.	09-373204
PROJECT ID	0917000072

PROJECT MANAGER: FOREST BECKET
DESIGN MANAGER: BRIAN WESLING

LAST REVISION 05/21/25
DATE PLOTTED => 27-MAY-2025
TIME PLOTTED => 16:11

BORDER LAST REVISED 8/1/2016 | CALTRANS WEB SITE IS: HTTP//WWW.DOT.CA.GOV/ | RELATIVE BORDER SCALE IS IN INCHES 0 1 2 3 | USERNAME => s148041 DGN FILE => 0937320ab001.dgn | UNIT 4210 | PROJECT NUMBER & PHASE 09170000721

Attachment B

Dist	COUNTY	ROUTE	POST MILES TOTAL PROJECT	SHEET No.	TOTAL SHEETS
09	Iny	168	21.6	2	9

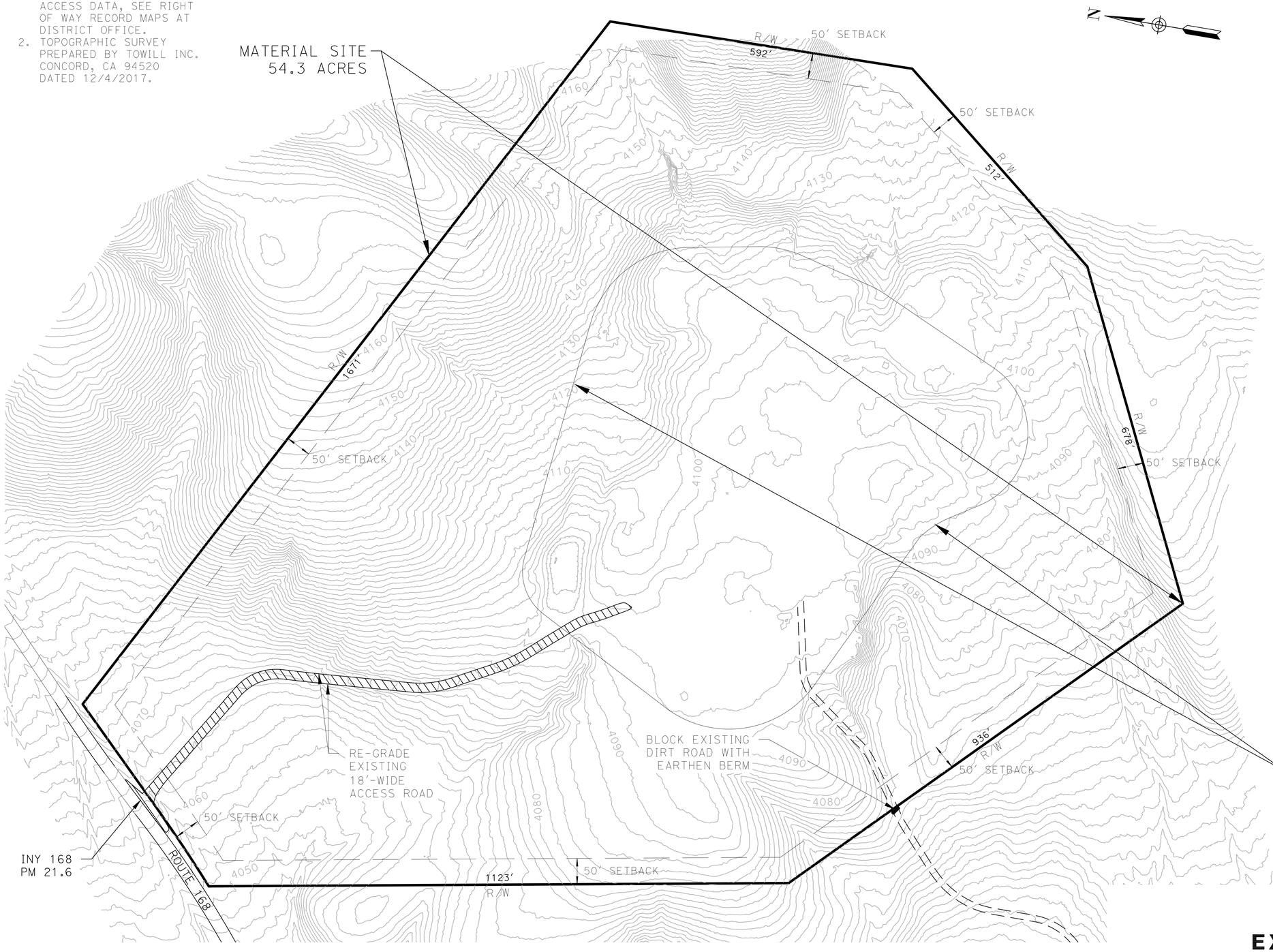
REGISTERED CIVIL ENGINEER — DATE 05/21/25

PLANS APPROVAL DATE 05/21/25

REGISTERED PROFESSIONAL ENGINEER — MATTHEW SCHOBER — No. 70489 — Exp. 9-30-26 — 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. TOPOGRAPHIC SURVEY PREPARED BY TOWILL INC. CONCORD, CA 94520 DATED 12/4/2017.



MINE:
ZURICH PIT
MINERAL:
SAND AND GRAVEL (SHALE)
MINE OPERATOR:
CALTRANS
500 S. MAIN STREET, BISHOP CA 93514
LANDOWNER:
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
351 PACU LANE, SUITE 100, BISHOP CA 93514
APPLICANT/OWNER OF MINERAL RIGHTS:
CALTRANS
500 S. MAIN STREET, BISHOP CA 93514
REPRESENTATIVE:
CALTRANS, FOREST BECKET
500 S. MAIN STREET, BISHOP CA 93514
760-874-8315
LAND SURVEYOR:
CALTRANS, SEREYNA CAGLE
500 S. MAIN STREET, BISHOP CA 93514
760-937-3531
GEOLOGIST:
CALTRANS, LANA MORRIS
500 S. MAIN STREET, BISHOP CA 93514
760-874-8328
BIOLOGIST:
CALTRANS, KRIS BASON
500 S. MAIN STREET, BISHOP CA 93514
760-784-4056
UTILITIES:
WATER WILL BE HAULED IN AS NEEDED.
SEWAGE: NO TEMPORARY PORTA POTTY ON SITE
GENERAL LAND DESIGNATION:
ZONING - NATURAL RESOURCES OPEN SPACE
APN - 0180701000
GRADING AREA:
TOTAL MATERIAL SITE = 54.3 ACRES
AREA OF DISTURBANCE (MINING) = 14.0 ACRES
SIGNS:
THE NEW SITE BOUNDARY WILL BE CLEARLY DELINEATED WITH METAL POSTS, SURVEY MARKERS, AND MATERIAL SITE BOUNDARY SIGNS.
STRUCTURES:
NO STRUCTURES WITHIN 20 FEET OF THE PROJECT PROPERTY LINE
EXCAVATION SLOPES:
QUARRY: 14 ACRES MINED IN TWO PHASES, TO A DEPTH NO GREATER THAN 37 FT BELOW EXISTING GRADE.
SLOPES: WILL NOT EXCEED 3:1 (H:V), OR 18 DEGREES
STOCKPILES: TOPSOIL WILL BE STOCKPILED WITHIN THE 20 FT BUFFER ZONE FOR RECLAMATION. ESTIMATED OPERATING LIFE: PHASE 1 ESTIMATED TO SPAN APPROX. 16 YEARS AND PHASE 2 APPROX. 43 YEARS.
PRODUCTION:
TOTAL ESTIMATED PRODUCTION VOLUME OF 294,000 CY
PUBLIC SAFETY:
SLOPES WILL BE MAXIMUM 3:1 (H:V) WITHOUT SIGNIFICANT DROPS IN ELEVATION FOR OFF ROAD VEHICLE SAFETY. EXISTING ROAD WILL BE RE-GRADED.
LEGAL DESCRIPTION:
TOWNSHIP 9 SOUTH, RANGE 34 EAST, SECTION 3

EXISTING CONDITIONS

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

CALCULATED-DESIGNED BY	MATT SCHOBER	REVISED BY	
CHECKED BY		DATE REVISED	

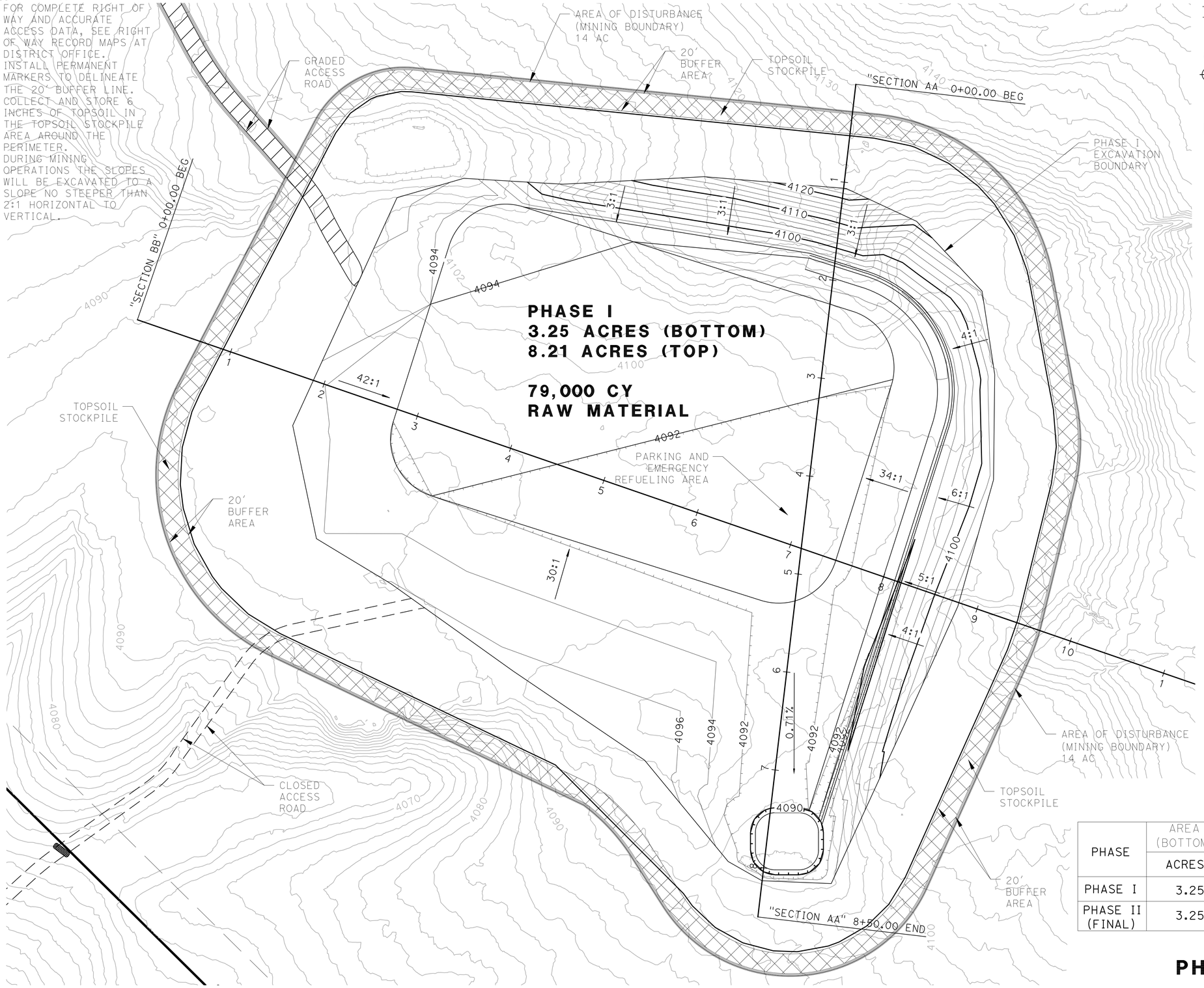
STATE OF CALIFORNIA - DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION — Caltrans PROJECT COORDINATION

FUNCTIONAL SUPERVISOR: FOREST BECKET

LAST REVISION — DATE PLOTTED => 27-May-2025 — TIME PLOTTED => 16:13 — 12/07/22

BORDER LAST REVISED 7/2/2010 | USERNAME => s148041 | DGN FILE => 937320aa_FirstPhase.dwg | RELATIVE BORDER SCALE IS IN INCHES 0 1 2 3 | UNIT 2462 | PROJECT NUMBER & PHASE 09170000721

NOTES:
1. FOR COMPLETE RIGHT OF WAY AND ACCURATE ACCESS DATA, SEE RIGHT OF WAY RECORD MAPS AT DISTRICT OFFICE.
2. INSTALL PERMANENT MARKERS TO DELINEATE THE 20' BUFFER LINE.
3. COLLECT AND STORE 6 INCHES OF TOPSOIL IN THE TOPSOIL STOCKPILE AREA AROUND THE PERIMETER.
4. DURING MINING OPERATIONS THE SLOPES WILL BE EXCAVATED TO A SLOPE NO STEEPER THAN 2:1 HORIZONTAL TO VERTICAL.



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TOWNSHIP 9 SOUTH, RANGE 34 EAST, SECTION 3

PHASE	AREA (BOTTOM)	AREA (TOP)	VOLUME	MAX DEPTH
	ACRES	ACRES	CY	FT
PHASE I	3.25	8.21	79,000	20
PHASE II (FINAL)	3.25	12.53	215,000	37

PHASE I GRADING PLAN

SCALE 1"=50' **L-2**

Dist	COUNTY	ROUTE	POST MILES TOTAL PROJECT	SHEET No.	TOTAL SHEETS
09	Iny	168	21.6	3	9

MATT SCHOBER 05/21/25
REGISTERED CIVIL ENGINEER DATE

05/21/25
PLANS APPROVAL DATE

REGISTERED PROFESSIONAL ENGINEER — MATTHEW SCHOBER — No. 70489 — Exp. 9-30-26 — CIVIL — STATE OF CALIFORNIA

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REVISED BY	DATE REVISED

CALCULATED-DESIGNED BY: MATT SCHOBER
CHECKED BY:
FUNCTIONAL SUPERVISOR: FOREST BECKET

STATE OF CALIFORNIA - DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
Caltrans PROJECT COORDINATION

LAST REVISION DATE PLOTTED => 27-May-2025
TIME PLOTTED => 12/07/22 16:13

BORDER LAST REVISED 7/2/2010 | USERNAME => s148041 | DGN FILE => 937320aa_FirstPhase.dwg | RELATIVE BORDER SCALE IS IN INCHES 0 1 2 3 | UNIT 2462 | PROJECT NUMBER & PHASE 09170000721

Attachment B

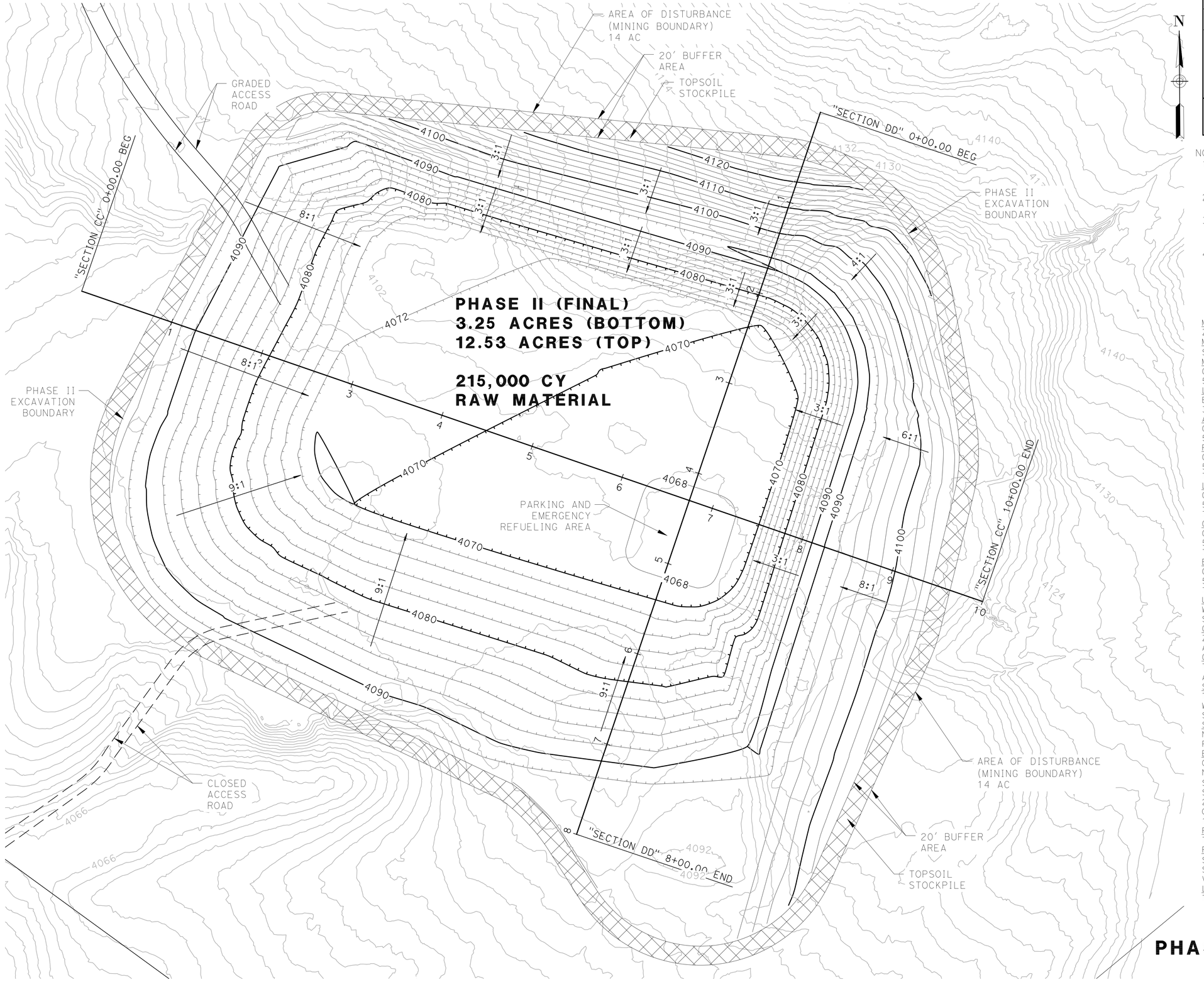
Dist	COUNTY	ROUTE	POST MILES TOTAL PROJECT	SHEET No.	TOTAL SHEETS
09	Iny	168	21.6	4	9

05/21/25
REGISTERED CIVIL ENGINEER DATE

05/21/25
PLANS APPROVAL DATE

REGISTERED PROFESSIONAL ENGINEER
MATTHEW SCHOBER
No. 70489
Exp.9-30-26
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STATE OF CALIFORNIA

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760-874-8328
BIOLOGIST:
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UTILITIES:
WATER WILL BE HAULED IN AS NEEDED.
SEWAGE: NO TEMPORARY PORTA POTTY ON SITE
GENERAL LAND DESIGNATION:
ZONING - NATURAL RESOURCES OPEN SPACE
APN - 0180701000
GRADING AREA:
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AREA OF DISTURBANCE (MINING) = 14 ACRES
SIGNS:
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LEGAL DESCRIPTION:
TOWNSHIP 9 SOUTH, RANGE 34 EAST, SECTION 3

PHASE II GRADING PLAN

SCALE 1"=50' **L-3**

REVISED BY	DATE REVISED
MATT SCHOBER	

CALCULATED-DESIGNED BY
CHECKED BY

FUNCTIONAL SUPERVISOR: FOREST BECKET

STATE OF CALIFORNIA - DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
Caltrans PROJECT COORDINATION

LAST REVISION DATE PLOTTED => 27-May-2025
TIME PLOTTED => 16:13
12/07/22

BORDER LAST REVISED 7/2/2010 | USERNAME => s148041 | DGN FILE => 937320aa_FinalPhase.dwg | RELATIVE BORDER SCALE IS IN INCHES 0 1 2 3 | UNIT 2462 | PROJECT NUMBER & PHASE 09170000721

Dist	COUNTY	ROUTE	POST MILES TOTAL PROJECT	SHEET No.	TOTAL SHEETS
09	Iny	168	21.6	5	9

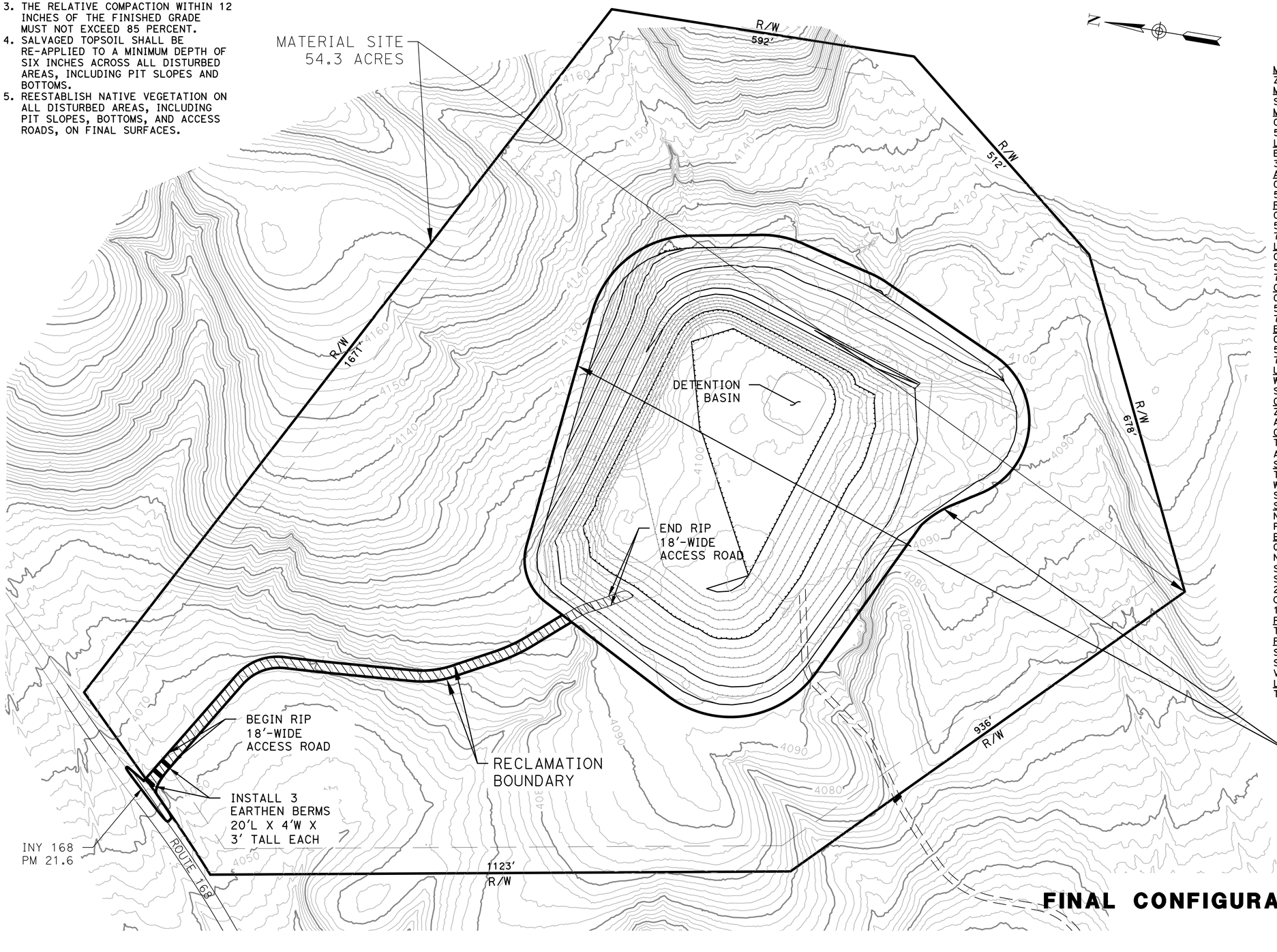
REGISTERED CIVIL ENGINEER — DATE 05/21/25

PLANS APPROVAL DATE 05/21/25

REGISTERED PROFESSIONAL ENGINEER — MATTHEW SCHOBER — No. 70489 — Exp. 9-30-26 — 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. FINAL SLOPE GRADE MUST BE 3:1 OR FLATTER.
2. AREAS OF PLACED ALLUVIUM THAT HAVE BECOME COMPACTED FROM CONSTRUCTION OPERATIONS MUST BE DECOMPACTED.
3. THE RELATIVE COMPACTION WITHIN 12 INCHES OF THE FINISHED GRADE MUST NOT EXCEED 85 PERCENT.
4. SALVAGED TOPSOIL SHALL BE RE-APPLIED TO A MINIMUM DEPTH OF SIX INCHES ACROSS ALL DISTURBED AREAS, INCLUDING PIT SLOPES AND BOTTOMS.
5. REESTABLISH NATIVE VEGETATION ON ALL DISTURBED AREAS, INCLUDING PIT SLOPES, BOTTOMS, AND ACCESS ROADS, ON FINAL SURFACES.



MINE:
ZURICH PIT
MINERAL:
SAND AND GRAVEL (SHALE)
MINE OPERATOR:
CALTRANS
500 S. MAIN STREET, BISHOP CA 93514
LANDOWNER:
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
351 PACU LANE, SUITE 100, BISHOP CA 93514
APPLICANT/OWNER OF MINERAL RIGHTS:
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500 S. MAIN STREET, BISHOP CA 93514
REPRESENTATIVE:
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BIOLOGIST:
CALTRANS, KRIS BASON
500 S. MAIN STREET, BISHOP CA 93514
760-784-4056
UTILITIES:
WATER WILL BE HAULED IN AS NEEDED.
SEWAGE: NO TEMPORARY PORTA POTTY ON SITE
GENERAL LAND DESIGNATION:
ZONING - NATURAL RESOURCES OPEN SPACE
APN - 0180701000
GRADING AREA:
TOTAL MATERIAL SITE = 54.3 ACRES
AREA OF DISTURBANCE (MINING) = 14.0 ACRES
SIGNS:
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STRUCTURES:
NO STRUCTURES WITHIN 20 FEET OF THE PROJECT PROPERTY LINE
EXCAVATION SLOPES:
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PRODUCTION:
TOTAL ESTIMATED PRODUCTION VOLUME OF 294,000 CY
PUBLIC SAFETY:
SLOPES WILL BE MAXIMUM 3:1 (H:V) WITHOUT SIGNIFICANT DROPS IN ELEVATION FOR OFF ROAD VEHICLE SAFETY. EXISTING ROAD WILL BE RE-GRADED.
LEGAL DESCRIPTION:
TOWNSHIP 9 SOUTH, RANGE 34 EAST, SECTION 3

FINAL CONFIGURATION/ RECLAMATION LAYOUT

SCALE 1"=100' **L-4**

REVISED BY	DATE REVISED

CALCULATED-DESIGNED BY: MATT SCHOBER
CHECKED BY:

FUNCTIONAL SUPERVISOR: FOREST BECKET

STATE OF CALIFORNIA - DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
Caltrans PROJECT COORDINATION

LAST REVISION DATE PLOTTED => 16-Jul-2025
TIME PLOTTED => 10:12
12/07/22

BORDER LAST REVISED 7/2/2010 | USERNAME => s148041 | DGN FILE => 937320aa_FirstPhase.dwg | RELATIVE BORDER SCALE IS IN INCHES 0 1 2 3 | UNIT 2462 | PROJECT NUMBER & PHASE 09170000721

Dist	COUNTY	ROUTE	POST MILES TOTAL PROJECT	SHEET No.	TOTAL SHEETS
09	Iny	168	21.6	6	9

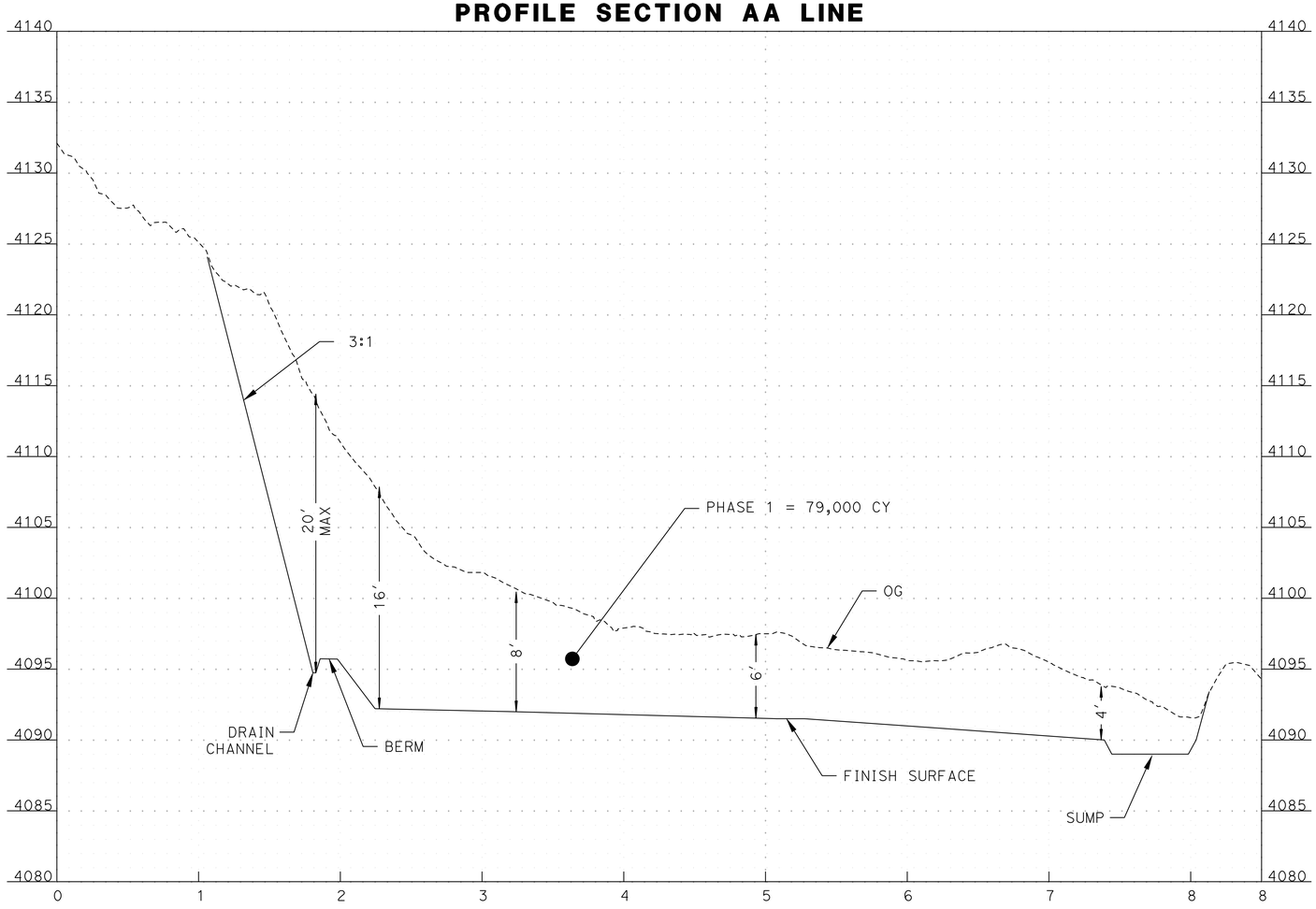
05/21/25
REGISTERED CIVIL ENGINEER DATE

05/21/25
PLANS APPROVAL DATE

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PROFILE SECTION AA LINE



MINE:
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LEGAL DESCRIPTION:
TOWNSHIP 9 SOUTH, RANGE 34 EAST, SECTION 3

SCALE: Horiz 1" = 50'
Vert 1" = 5'

CONSTRUCTION DETAILS
C-1

REVISED BY	DATE REVISED
MATT SCHOBER	

CALCULATED-DESIGNED BY
CHECKED BY
FUNCTIONAL SUPERVISOR: FOREST BECKET

STATE OF CALIFORNIA - DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
Caltrans® PROJECT COORDINATION

LAST REVISION 12/07/22
DATE PLOTTED => 27-May-2025
TIME PLOTTED => 16:13

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DGN FILE => 937320aa_FirstPhase.dwg
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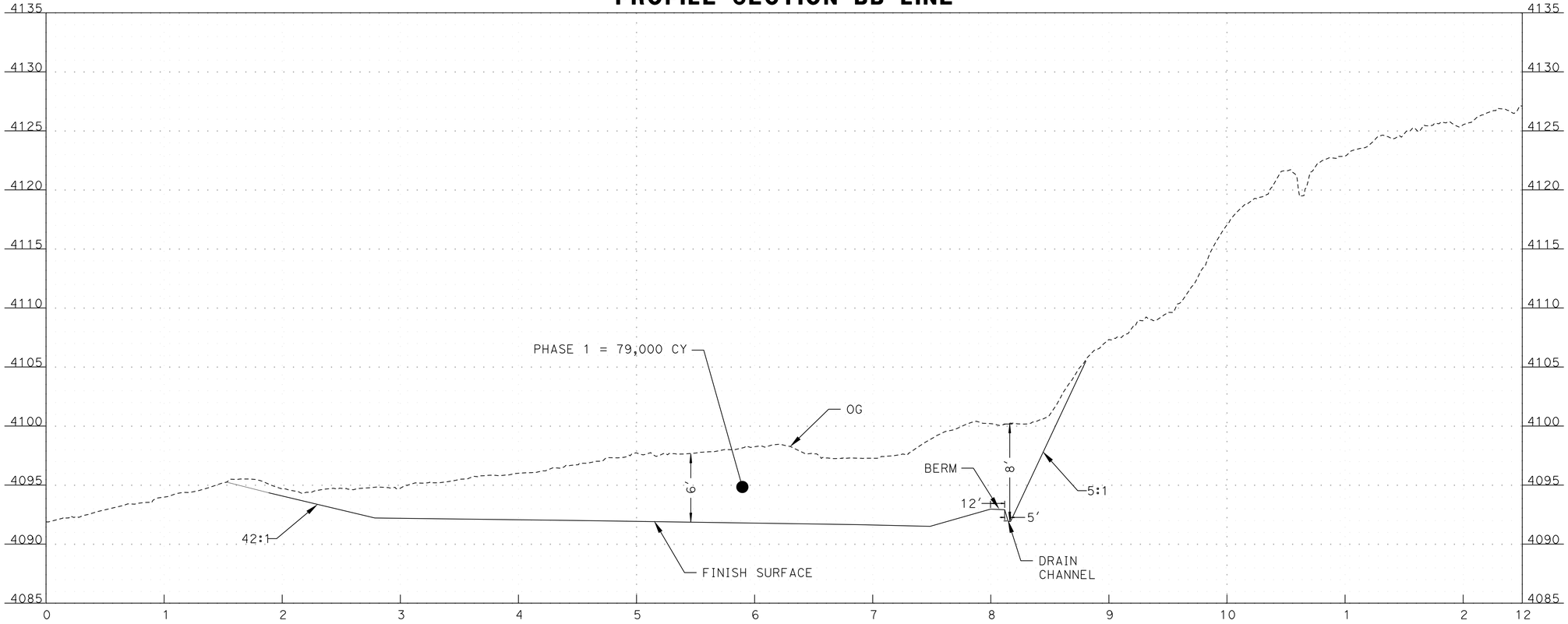
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PROFILE SECTION BB LINE



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QUARRY: 14 ACRES MINED IN TWO PHASES, TO A DEPTH NO GREATER THAN 37 FT BELOW EXISTING GRADE.
SLOPES: WILL NOT EXCEED 3:1 (H:V), OR 18 DEGREES
STOCKPILES: TOPSOIL WILL BE STOCKPILED WITHIN THE 20 FT BUFFER ZONE FOR RECLAMATION. ESTIMATED OPERATING LIFE: PHASE 1 ESTIMATED TO SPAN APPROX. 16 YEARS AND PHASE 2 APPROX. 43 YEARS.
PRODUCTION:
TOTAL ESTIMATED PRODUCTION VOLUME OF 294,000 CY
PUBLIC SAFETY:
SLOPES WILL BE MAXIMUM 3:1 (H:V) WITHOUT SIGNIFICANT DROPS IN ELEVATION FOR OFF ROAD VEHICLE SAFETY. EXISTING ROAD WILL BE RE-GRADED.
LEGAL DESCRIPTION:
TOWNSHIP 9 SOUTH, RANGE 34 EAST, SECTION 3

SCALE: Horiz 1" = 50'
Vert 1" = 5'

CONSTRUCTION DETAILS

SCALE 1"=50' **C-2**

REVISED BY | DATE REVISED
MATT SCHOBER
CALCULATED-DESIGNED BY | CHECKED BY
FUNCTIONAL SUPERVISOR
FOREST BECKET
STATE OF CALIFORNIA - DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
Caltrans® PROJECT COORDINATION

LAST REVISION 12/07/22 | DATE PLOTTED => 27-May-2025 | TIME PLOTTED => 16:14

BORDER LAST REVISED 7/2/2010 | USERNAME => s148041 | DGN FILE => 937320aa_FirstPhase.dwg | RELATIVE BORDER SCALE IS IN INCHES 0 1 2 3 | UNIT 2462 | PROJECT NUMBER & PHASE 09170000721

Attachment C

Dist	COUNTY	ROUTE	POST MILES TOTAL PROJECT	SHEET No.	TOTAL SHEETS
09	Iny	168	21.6	8	9

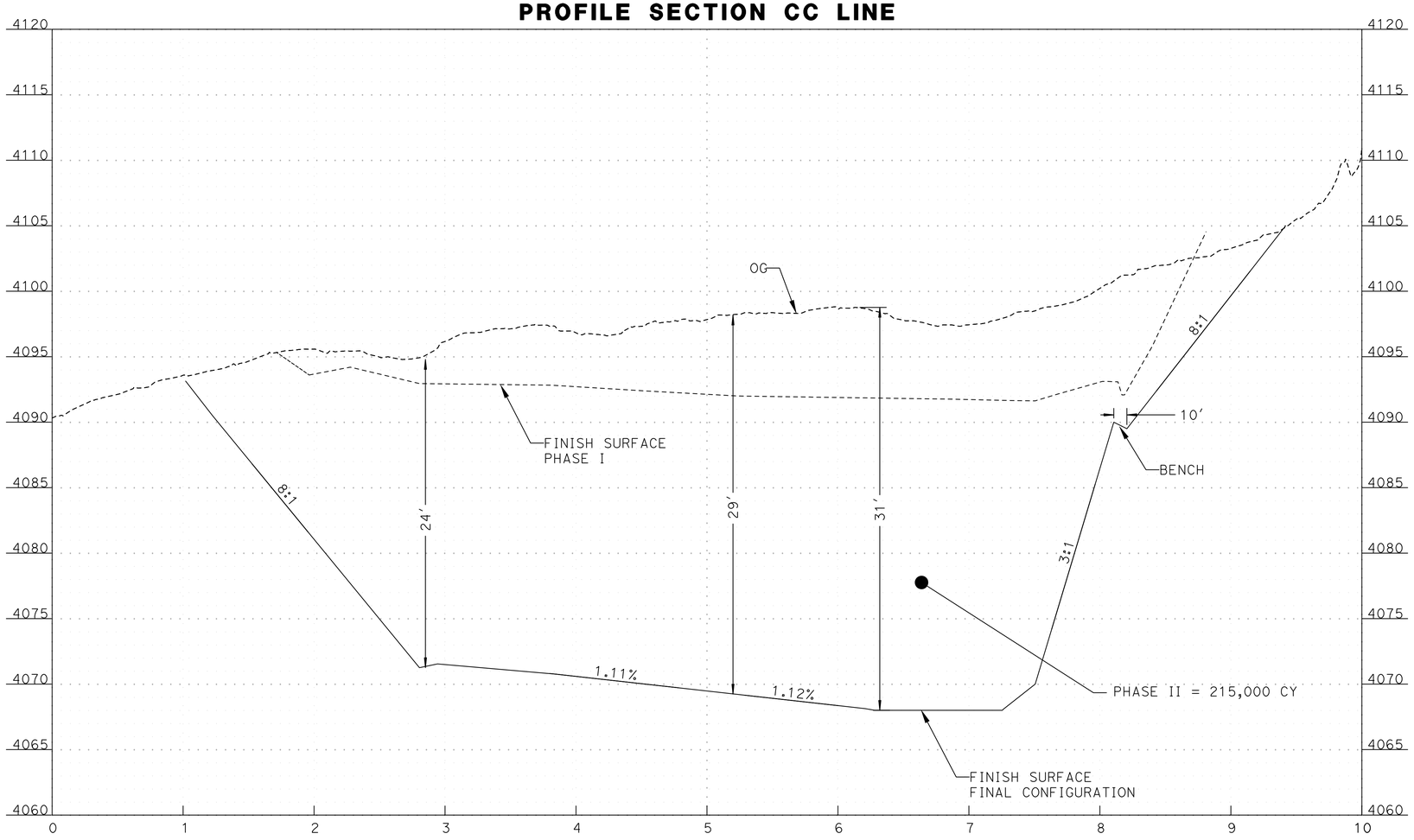
REGISTERED CIVIL ENGINEER — DATE 05/21/25

PLANS APPROVAL DATE 05/21/25

REGISTERED PROFESSIONAL ENGINEER — MATTHEW SCHOBER — No. 70489 — Exp. 9-30-26 — 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.

PROFILE SECTION CC LINE



MINE:
ZURICH PIT
MINERAL:
SAND AND GRAVEL (SHALE)
MINE OPERATOR:
CALTRANS
500 S. MAIN STREET, BISHOP CA 93514
LANDOWNER:
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
351 PACU LANE, SUITE 100, BISHOP CA 93514
APPLICANT/OWNER OF MINERAL RIGHTS:
CALTRANS
500 S. MAIN STREET, BISHOP CA 93514
REPRESENTATIVE:
CALTRANS, FOREST BECKET
500 S. MAIN STREET, BISHOP CA 93514
760-874-8315
LAND SURVEYOR:
CALTRANS, SEREYNA CAGLE
500 S. MAIN STREET, BISHOP CA 93514
760-937-3531
GEOLOGIST:
CALTRANS, LANA MORRIS
500 S. MAIN STREET, BISHOP CA 93514
760-874-8328
BIOLOGIST:
CALTRANS, KRIS BASON
500 S. MAIN STREET, BISHOP CA 93514
760-784-4056
UTILITIES:
WATER WILL BE HAULED IN AS NEEDED.
SEWAGE: NO TEMPORARY PORTA POTTY ON SITE
GENERAL LAND DESIGNATION:
ZONING - NATURAL RESOURCES OPEN SPACE
APN - 0180701000
GRADING AREA:
TOTAL MATERIAL SITE = 54.26 ACRES
AREA OF DISTURBANCE (MINING) = 14 ACRES
SIGNS:
THE NEW SITE BOUNDARY WILL BE CLEARLY DELINEATED WITH METAL POSTS, SURVEY MARKERS, AND MATERIAL SITE BOUNDARY SIGNS.
STRUCTURES:
NO STRUCTURES WITHIN 20 FEET OF THE PROJECT PROPERTY LINE
EXCAVATION SLOPES:
QUARRY: 14 ACRES MINED IN TWO PHASES, TO A DEPTH NO GREATER THAN 37 FT BELOW EXISTING GRADE.
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LEGAL DESCRIPTION:
TOWNSHIP 9 SOUTH, RANGE 34 EAST, SECTION 3

SCALE: Horiz 1" = 50′
Vert 1" = 5′

CONSTRUCTION DETAILS
C-3

REVISED BY | DATE REVISED
MATT SCHOBER
CALCULATED-DESIGNED BY | CHECKED BY
FUNCTIONAL SUPERVISOR
FOREST BECKET
STATE OF CALIFORNIA - DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
Caltrans PROJECT COORDINATION

LAST REVISION | DATE PLOTTED => 27-May-2025 | TIME PLOTTED => 16:14
12/07/22

BORDER LAST REVISED 7/2/2010 | USERNAME => s148041 | DGN FILE => 937320aa_FinalPhase.dwg | RELATIVE BORDER SCALE IS IN INCHES 0 1 2 3 | UNIT 2462 | PROJECT NUMBER & PHASE 09170000721

Dist	COUNTY	ROUTE	POST MILES TOTAL PROJECT	SHEET No.	TOTAL SHEETS
09	Inyo	168	21.6	9	9

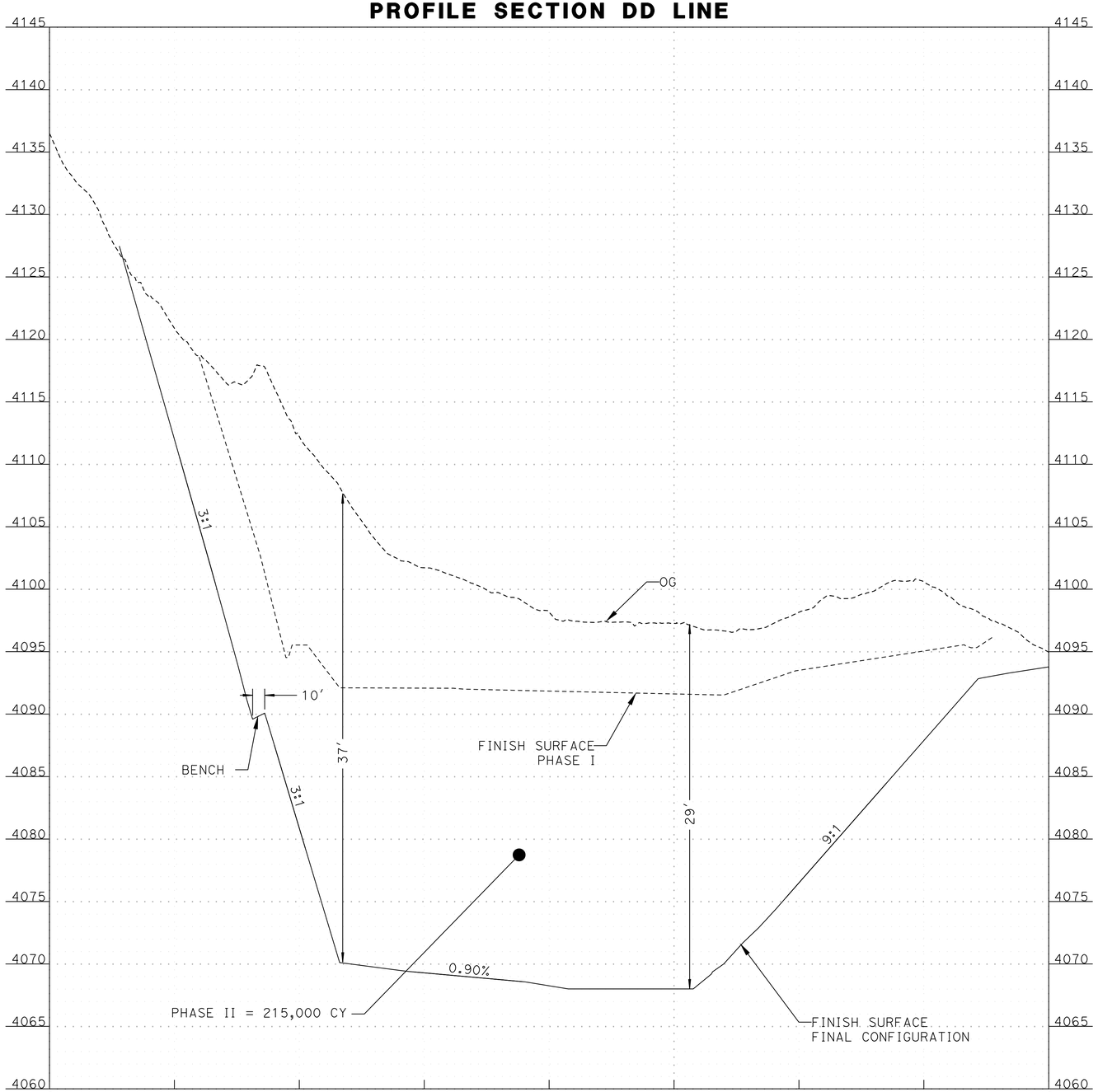
REGISTERED CIVIL ENGINEER — DATE 05/21/25

PLANS APPROVAL DATE 05/21/25

REGISTERED PROFESSIONAL ENGINEER — MATTHEW SCHOBER — No. 70489 — Exp. 9-30-26 — 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.

PROFILE SECTION DD LINE



MINE:
ZURICH PIT
MINERAL:
SAND AND GRAVEL (SHALE)
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500 S. MAIN STREET, BISHOP CA 93514
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SCALE: Horiz 1" = 50'
Vert 1" = 5'

CONSTRUCTION DETAILS
C-4

CALCULATED-DESIGNED BY	REVISED BY	DATE REVISED
CHECKED BY	MATT SCHOBER	

STATE OF CALIFORNIA - DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
Caltrans PROJECT COORDINATION
FUNCTIONAL SUPERVISOR: FOREST BECKET

LAST REVISION DATE PLOTTED => 27-May-2025
12/07/22 TIME PLOTTED => 16:14

Attachment C

United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
Bishop Field Office
351 Pacu Lane, Suite 100
Bishop, CA 93514
www.blm.gov/office/bishop-field-office

September 14, 2023

CACA106631887/CACA 058940
2800-P
CA170.10
Project No. 09-1700-0072
RW-Inyo 168 PM 21.6
Zurich Material Site 308

Letter of Consent

Elissa Konove, California Division Administrator
U.S. Department of Transportation
Federal Highway Administration

Attn: Philip Banea, Realty Specialist
650 Capital Mall, Suite 4-100
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Ms. Konove:

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Bishop Field Office received a request from the Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) for the appropriation of public lands of the United States within the State of California for the purpose of issuing a Highway Easement to the California Department of Highways (Caltrans), Inyo County, State of California.

The Federal Highway Administration, on behalf of Caltrans, has filed an application under the provisions of the Act of Congress of August 27, 1958, as amended (23 U.S.C. Section 317), for a material pit or quarry site (known as Zurich Pit 308) near State Highway 168.

The area requested generally lies in the:

Mount Diablo Meridian, California,
T. 9 S., R. 34 E.,
Section 3,
East half of the Southwest Quarter,
West Half of the Southeast Quarter

Containing 55.5 acre

Attachment C

FHWA Letter of Consent
Zurich Site 308
Project No. 09-1700-0072
RW – Inyo 168 PM 21.6
CACA106316887/CACA 058940

The appropriation is shown on Exhibit A – Federal Application Map Land Survey Description by Raymond Worburton, LS8007, dated March 19, 2020.

In accordance with the provisions of the 1982 Interagency Agreement between the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), the BLM agrees to the appropriation and transfer of the above described lands for the foregoing purpose subject to the following terms, conditions, and covenants which must be included in the right-of-way use document issued to the County of Inyo, State of California. The Federal Highway Administration is hereby given a right of entry for construction of the project. The BLM also agrees to the use of the areas outlined in Exhibit C as temporarily needed while the project is under construction.

The transfer and subsequent right-of-way are subject to the following terms, conditions, and covenants:

(1) If outstanding valid claims exist on the date of this grant, the Grantee shall obtain such permission as may be necessary on account of any such claim.

(2) Construction of the highway facility is to be undertaken by the Federal Highway Administration in compliance with the Act entitled "An Act for the Preservation of American Antiquities" approved June 8, 1906 (34 Stat. 225, 16 U.S.C. 432-433), and state laws where applicable.

(3) The easement herein granted shall terminate 10 years from the date of the execution of this deed by the United States of America in the event construction of the material or quarry site on the right-of-way is not started during such period.

(4) The easement herein granted is limited to use of the described right-of-way and the space above and below the established grade line of the highway pavement for the purposes of construction, operation, and maintenance of a material or quarry site in accordance with the approved plans and does not include the grant of any rights for non-highway purposes or facilities: provided, that the right of the Bureau of Land Management to use or authorize the use of any portion of the right-of-way for non-highway purposes shall not be exercised when such use would be inconsistent with the provisions of Title 23 of the United States Code and of the Federal Highway Administration Regulations issued pursuant thereto or would interfere with the free flow of traffic or impair the full use and safety of the highway, and in any case the Federal Highway Administration shall be consulted prior to the exercise of such rights: and provided, further that nothing herein shall preclude the Bureau of Land Management from locating Department of the Interior information signs on the portions of the right-of-way outside of construction clearing limits.

Attachment C

FHWA Letter of Consent
Zurich Site 308
Project No. 09-1700-0072
RW – Inyo 168 PM 21.6
CACA106316887/CACA 058940

(5) The design and construction of the material or quarry site situated on this right-of-way will be in accord with the provisions of Title 23, United States Code-Highways, and amendments; and the terms and conditions specified by the Bureau of Land Management. Consistent with highway safety standards, the Grantee shall:

(a) Protect and preserve soil and vegetative cover and scenic and aesthetic values on the right-of-way outside construction limits.

(b) Provide for the prevention and control of soil erosion within the right-of-way and adjacent lands that might be affected by the construction operation, or maintenance of the material or quarry site, and shall vegetate and keep vegetated with suitable species, all earth cut or fill slopes feasible for revegetation or other areas on which ground cover is destroyed. The Grantee shall maintain all terracing, waterbars, lead-off ditches, or other preventive works that may be required to accomplish this objective. This provision shall also apply to slopes that are reshaped following slides which occur during or after construction.

(6) The Grantee may establish borrow, sand, or gravel pits, stone quarry, or permanent storage areas, within the right-of-way. other uses may take place if shown on approved construction plans and first obtaining approval.

(7) The Grantee shall maintain the right-of-way and highway facilities to acceptable standards of repair, orderliness, neatness, sanitation, and safety.

(8) When need for the easement herein granted shall no longer exist and the area has been rehabilitated to protect the public and environment, the Grantee shall give notice of that fact to the Secretary of Transportation and the rights herein agreed shall terminate and land shall immediately revert to the full control of the Secretary of the Department of the Interior or his assigns.

(9) In the event of a reversion, the Grantee shall reasonably restore the land subject to the easement to the condition which existed prior to the transfer and be responsible for its protection and maintenance until such time as the Grantee executes and records a quitclaim deed documenting the termination of the easement and the revesting of title in the United States.

(10) The Grantee shall reestablish or restore public land monuments, other land monuments identifying property corners or witness markers disturbed or destroyed by construction, reconstruction, or maintenance according to instructions of the Bureau of Land

Management, Department of the Interior or in accordance with standards established by applicable federal and state law.

(11) The provision of Title VI of the Civil Right Act of 1964 (78 Stat. 242) shall be complied with.

Sincerely,

Sherri Lisius
Bishop Field Manager

Exhibits (1 pp):

Exhibit A – Federal Application Map Land Survey Description dated March 19, 2020;

Attachment C

RECORDING REQUESTED BY
STATE OF CALIFORNIA

AND WHEN RECORDED MAIL TO:

California Department of Transportation
District 9 Right of Way Office
500 South Main Street
Bishop, California 93514

OFFICIAL STATE BUSINESS
Exempt from Recording Fees Pursuant to
Government Code 27383
Government Code 27388.1(a)(1)
Documentary Transfer Tax $0.00 Pursuant to
Revenue and Taxation Code 11922

Recorded in Official Records
County of Inyo County
Danielle M. Sexton
Clerk-Recorder

DOC # 20240000755

05/02/2024 Titles: 1 Pages: 7
10:10 AM jortega

Fees: $0.00
Taxes: $0.00
CA SB2 Fee: $0.00
Total: $0.00

Space above this line for Recorder's Use

HIGHWAY EASEMENT DEED
Federal Lands

District	County	Route	Postmile	Number
09	INY	168	21.6	4264

This Deed is made on April 11, 2024, by and between the United States of America, acting by and through the Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration (GRANTOR), and the State of California, Department of Transportation (GRANTEE).

RECITALS

1. GRANTEE has filed an application under the provisions of the Act of Congress of August 27, 1958, as amended (23 U.S.C. Section 317 and/or Section 107(d)), for the right-of-way of a highway easement deed over certain federal land in the State of California under the jurisdiction of the United States Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management, hereinafter referred to as the BLM, which land has been appropriated by GRANTOR.

2. The Federal Highway Division Administrator, pursuant to delegation of authority from the Secretary of Transportation and Federal Highway Administrator, has determined that a right of way for quarry and materials site purposes, over the federal land covered by the application, is reasonably necessary for the operation and maintenance of highway facilities, including but not limited to Route 168, in Inyo County from post mile 18.31 to 54.69 and in Mono County from Postmile 0.0 to 1.45.

3. The United States Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management, acting by and through the GRANTOR, in its consent to the appropriation of the federal land, has agreed to the transfer by GRANTOR of an easement over the federal land to GRANTEE.

4. GRANTEE, with respect to activities related to the federal land, agrees that (a) no person shall, on the grounds of race, color, national origin, sex, age, disability, or religion be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be otherwise subjected to discrimination with regard to the GRANTEE's operations, programs, or activities conducted on the federal land; and (b) GRANTEE shall use the federal land so conveyed in compliance with all requirements imposed by or pursuant to Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (42 U.S.C. Section 2000d to 2000d-4) and all applicable civil rights provisions of other Federal statutes.

Attachment C

Number
4264

NOW THEREFORE, GRANTOR does hereby grant to GRANTEE an easement for a right-of-way for a quarry and materials site, called "Zurich Material Site 308" to be utilized for the operation, and maintenance of a highway facility as part of the public highway, and use of the space above and below the established grade line of the site, on, over, across, in, and upon the following described unpatented federal land of the United States within the BLM Central California District as over seen by the Bishop Field Office, located in the County of Inyo, State of California, and described as:

DESCRIPTION

Township 9 South, Range 34 East, Mount Diablo Baseline Meridian

Section	Subdivision
3	a portion of SE 1/4, SW 1/4, NW 1/4

Containing 55.5 acres, more or less.

The land is more particularly described and shown on the single Federal Map Application sheet labeled Exhibit "A" and shown as that certain Parcel Number 4264-1, filed in the office of the Inyo County Recorder, in State Highway Map Book 6, page 3, on the 27th day of April, 2020.

This real property description has been prepared by me, or under my direction, in conformance with the Professional Land Surveyors' Act in the State of California.

Signature: _____
Professional Land Surveyor

Date: Oct 12, 2023

PROFESSIONAL LAND SURVEYOR
SEREYNA C. CAGLE
No. 8175
Exp. 12.31.24
STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Attachment C

Number
4264

SUBJECT, however, to the terms, conditions, and covenants, attached hereto and made a part hereof:

(1) If outstanding valid claims exist on the date of this grant, the Grantee shall obtain such permission as may be necessary on account of any such claim.

(2) Construction of the highway facility is to be undertaken by the Federal Highway Administration in compliance with the Act entitled "An Act for the Preservation of American Antiquities" approved June 8, 1906 (34 Stat. 225, 16 U.S.C. 432-433), and state laws where applicable.

(3) The easement herein granted shall terminate 10 years from the date of the execution of this deed by the United States of America in the event construction of the material or quarry site on the right-of-way is not started during such period.

(4) The easement herein granted is limited to use of the described right-of-way and the space above and below the established grade line of the highway pavement for the purposes of construction, operation, and maintenance of a material or quarry site in accordance with the approved plans and does not include the grant of any rights for non-highway purposes or facilities: provided, that the right of the Bureau of Land Management to use or authorize the use of any portion of the right-of-way for non-highway purposes shall not be exercised when such use would be inconsistent with the provisions of Title 23 of the United States Code and of the Federal Highway Administration Regulations issued pursuant thereto or would interfere with the free flow of traffic or impair the full use and safety of the highway, and in any case the Federal Highway Administration shall be consulted prior to the exercise of such rights: and provided, further that nothing herein shall preclude the Bureau of Land Management from locating Department of the Interior information signs on the portions of the right-of-way outside of construction clearing limits.

(5) The design and construction of the material or quarry site situated on this right-of-way will be in accord with the provisions of Title 23, United States Code-Highways, and amendments; and the terms and conditions specified by the Bureau of Land Management. Consistent with highway safety standards, the Grantee shall:

   (a) Protect and preserve soil and vegetative cover and scenic and aesthetic values on the right-of-way outside construction limits.

   (b) Provide for the prevention and control of soil erosion within the right-of-way and adjacent lands that might be affected by the construction operation, or maintenance of the material or quarry site, and shall vegetate and keep vegetated with suitable species, all earth cut or fill slopes feasible for revegetation or other areas on which ground cover is destroyed. The Grantee shall maintain all terracing, waterbars, lead-off ditches, or other preventive works that may be required to accomplish this objective. This provision shall also apply to slopes that are reshaped following slides which occur during or after construction.

(6) The Grantee may establish borrow, sand, or gravel pits, stone quarry, or permanent storage areas, within the right-of-way. Other uses may take place if shown on approved construction plans and first obtaining approval.

(7) The Grantee shall maintain the right-of-way and highway facilities to acceptable standards of repair, orderliness, neatness, sanitation, and safety.

(8) When need for the easement herein granted shall no longer exist and the area has been rehabilitated to protect the public and environment, the Grantee shall give notice of that fact to the Secretary of Transportation and the rights herein agreed shall terminate and land shall immediately revert to the full control of the Secretary of the Department of the Interior or his assigns.

Attachment C

Number
4264

(9) In the event of a reversion, the Grantee shall reasonably restore the land subject to the easement to the condition which existed prior to the transfer and be responsible for its protection and maintenance until such time as the Grantee executes and records a quitclaim deed documenting the termination of the easement and the revesting of title in the United States.

(10) The Grantee shall reestablish or restore public land monuments, other land monuments identifying property comers or witness markers disturbed or destroyed by construction, reconstruction, or maintenance according to instructions of the Bureau of Land Management, Department of the Interior or in accordance with standards established by applicable federal and state law.

(11) The Provision of Title VI of Civil Right Act of 1964 (78 Stat. 242) shall be complied with.

I, Paul Brown, Attorney, State of California, Department of Transportation, am duly licensed to practice law in the State of California, and hereby certify that this deed is legally sufficient for its stated purpose.

Signature

02/22/2024
Date

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I, Elissa Konove, Acting Division Administrator, pursuant to delegations of authority from the Secretary of Transportation and the Federal Highway Administrator, by virtue of authority in me vested by law, have hereunto subscribed my name as of the day and year first above written.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION

By Elissa Konove

Elissa Konove
California Acting Division Administrator

Attachment C

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

A notary public or other officer completing this certificate verifies only the identity of the individual who signed the document to which this certificate is attached, and not the truthfulness, accuracy, or validity of that document.

State of California
County of SACRAMENTO)

On April 11, 2024 before me, Norma E. Christensen, a notary officer
(insert name and title of the officer)

personally appeared Elissa Konove,
who proved to me on the basis of satisfactory evidence to be the person(s) whose name(s) is/are subscribed to the within instrument and acknowledged to me that he/she/they executed the same in his/her/their authorized capacity(ies), and that by his/her/their signature(s) on the instrument the person(s), or the entity upon behalf of which the person(s) acted, executed the instrument.

I certify under PENALTY OF PERJURY under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing paragraph is true and correct.

NORMA E. CHRISTENSEN
Comm. #2413557
Notary Public · California
Sacramento County
Comm. Expires Aug 22, 2026

WITNESS my hand and official seal.

Signature Norma E. Christensen (Seal)

Attachment C

Number
4264

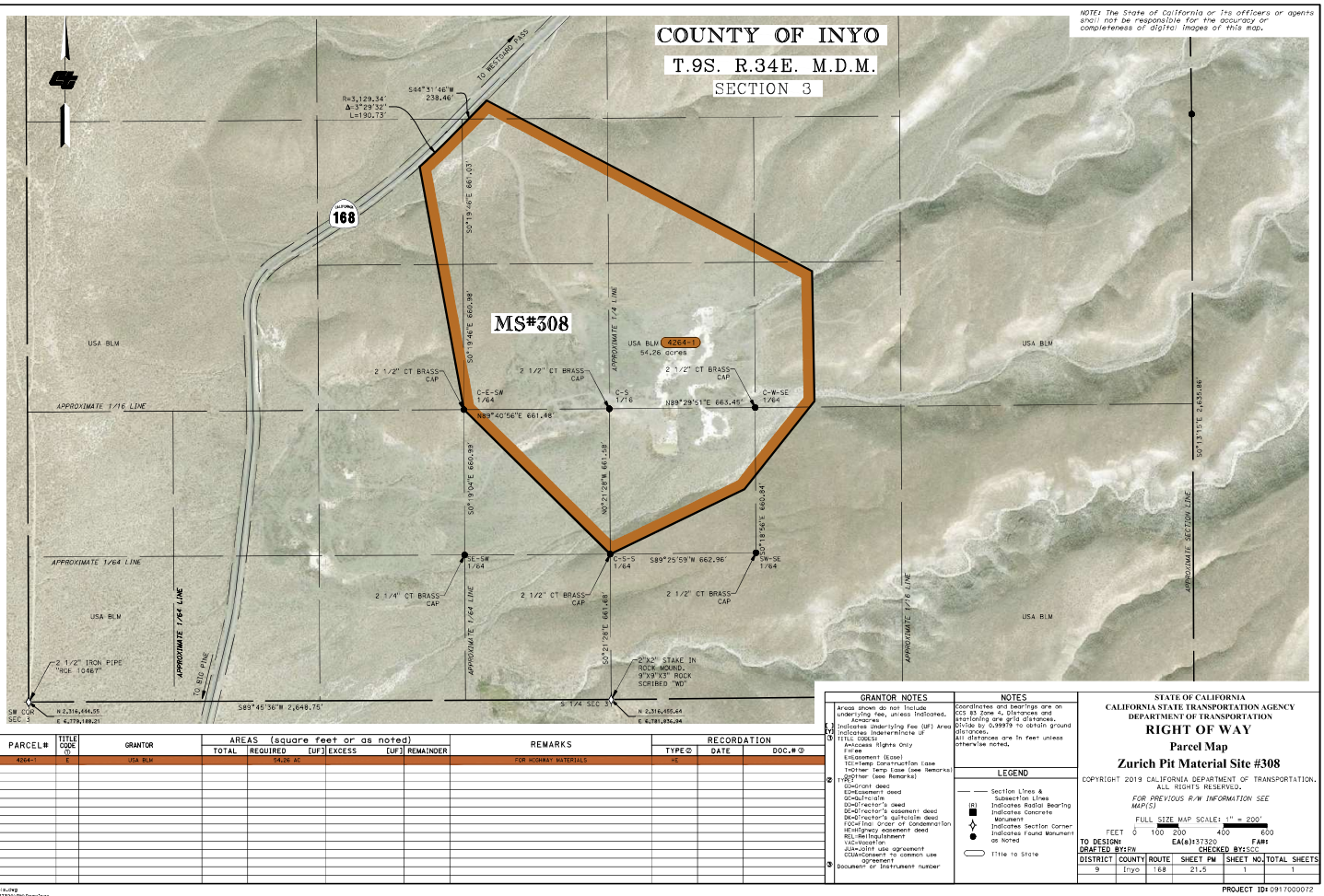
THIS IS TO CERTIFY, that the State of California, acting by and through the Department of Transportation (pursuant to Section 27281 of the Government Code), accepts for public purposes the real property described in this deed and consents to its recordation.

Dated: 4/17/2024

ANTHONY TAVARES
Director of Transportation

By _____
Name: BRANDON FITH
Attorney in Fact

Attachment C



PARCEL#	TITLE CODE ①	GRANTOR	AREAS (square feet or as noted) TOTAL	REQUIRED	[UF]	EXCESS	[UF]	REMAINDER	REMARKS	RECORDATION TYPE②	DATE	DOC.# ③
4264-1	E	USA BLM		54.26 AC					FOR HIGHWAY MATERIALS	HE		

GRANTOR NOTES

Areas shown do not include underlying fee, unless indicated.
Remarks
1 Indicates Underlying Fee (UF) Area
Indicates Indeterminate UF
TITLE CODES:
Accesss Rights Only
F=Fee
E=Easement (Ease)
TC1=Temp Construction Ease
TO=Other Temp Ease (see Remarks)
R=Other (see Remarks)
2 TYPES:
GD=Grant deed
ED=Easement deed
QC=Quitclaim
DD=Director's deed
DE=Director's easement deed
DQ=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
3 Document or Instrument number

NOTES

Coordinates and bearings are on CCS 83 Zone 4. Distances and stationing are grid distances. Divide by 0.99979 to obtain ground distances.
All distances are in feet unless otherwise noted.

LEGEND

Section Lines & Subsection Lines
(R) Indicates Radial Bearing
Indicates Concrete Monument
Indicates Section Corner
Indicates Found Monument as Noted
Title to State

STATE OF CALIFORNIA
CALIFORNIA STATE TRANSPORTATION AGENCY
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

RIGHT OF WAY

Parcel Map

Zurich Pit Material Site #308

COPYRIGHT 2019 CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION.
ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

FOR PREVIOUS R/W INFORMATION SEE MAP(S)

FULL SIZE MAP SCALE: 1" = 200'
FEET 0 100 200 400 600

TO DESIGN: EA(s):37320 FA#:
DRAFTED BY:RW CHECKED BY:SSC

DISTRICT	COUNTY	ROUTE	SHEET PM	SHEET NO.	TOTAL SHEETS
9	Inyo	168	21.5	1	1

PROJECT ID: 0917000072

PROJECT SURVEYOR: Roy Warmington LICENSE: 8007 SURVEYOR LICENSE DATE REVISIONS SURVEYOR LICENSE DATE REVISIONS SURVEYOR LICENSE DATE

37320 Zurich Pit Parcel.dwg
P:\37320\Surveys\C3D_37320-RW-Drawings

Attachment C

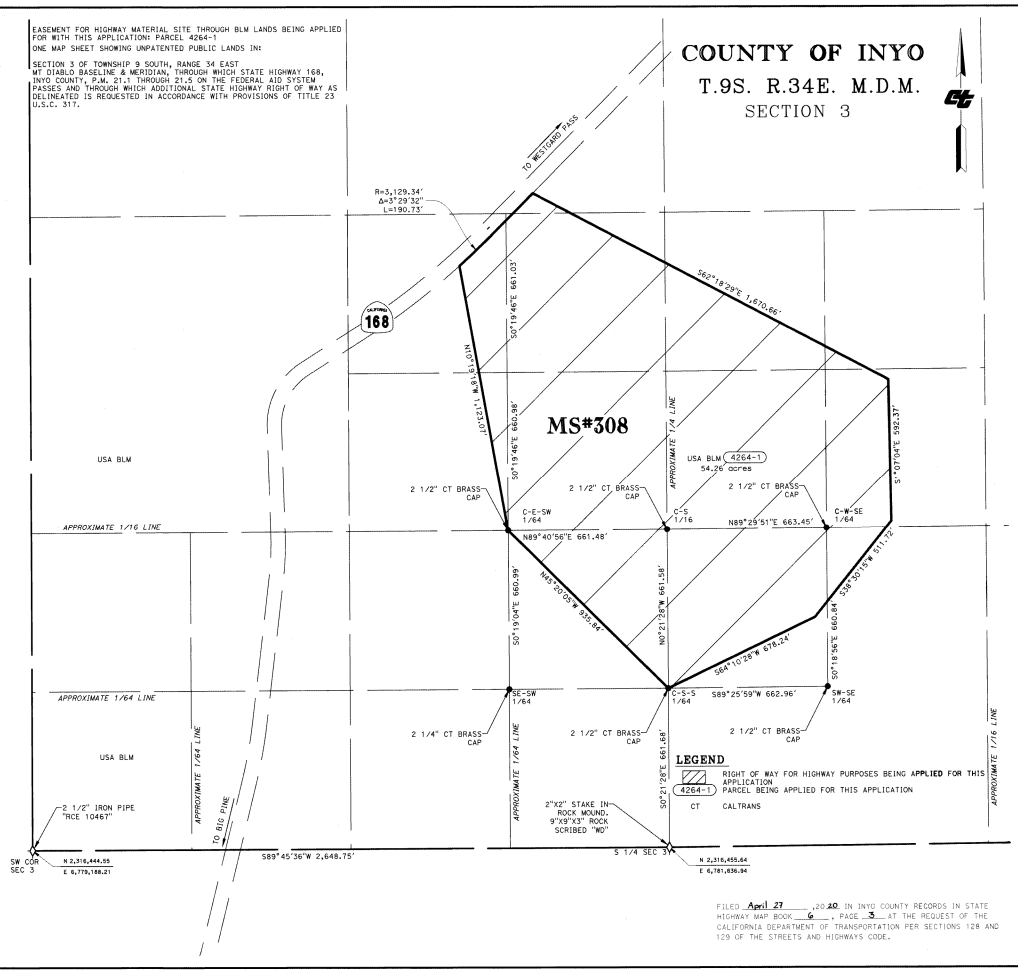
S.H.M.B 6 PG. 3

EASEMENT FOR HIGHWAY MATERIAL SITE THROUGH BLM LANDS BEING APPLIED FOR WITH THIS APPLICATION: PARCEL 4264-1

ONE MAP SHEET SHOWING UNPATENTED PUBLIC LANDS IN:

SECTION 3 OF TOWNSHIP 9 SOUTH, RANGE 34 EAST
MT DIABLO BASELINE & MERIDIAN, THROUGH WHICH STATE HIGHWAY 168, INYO COUNTY, P.M. 21.1 THROUGH 21.5 ON THE FEDERAL AID SYSTEM PASSES AND THROUGH WHICH ADDITIONAL STATE HIGHWAY RIGHT OF WAY AS DELINEATED IS REQUESTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH PROVISIONS OF TITLE 23 U.S.C. 317.

COUNTY OF INYO
T.9S. R.34E. M.D.M.
SECTION 3



LEGEND

RIGHT OF WAY FOR HIGHWAY PURPOSES BEING APPLIED FOR THIS APPLICATION

4264-1 PARCEL BEING APPLIED FOR THIS APPLICATION

CT CALTRANS

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.

SURVEYOR'S STATEMENT

RAYMOND WARBURTON STATES THAT HE IS BY OCCUPATION A LAND SURVEYOR EMPLOYED BY THE CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND THAT THE SURVEY OF THE STATE HIGHWAY RIGHT OF WAY SHOWN ON THIS MAP WAS MADE BY EMPLOYEES OF SAID DEPARTMENT UNDER AUTHORITY AND THAT SUCH SURVEY IS ACCURATELY REPRESENTED ON THIS MAP.

PROFESSIONAL LAND SURVEYOR

Raymond Warburton
No. LS 9007
Exp. 12/31/2020
STATE OF CALIFORNIA

03/19/20
DATE

APPLICANT'S CERTIFICATE

THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT RAYMOND WARBURTON WHO SUBSCRIBED THE STATEMENT HEREON IS THE PERSON EMPLOYED BY THE UNDERSIGNED APPLICANT TO PREPARE THIS MAP WHICH HAS BEEN ADOPTED BY THE APPLICANT AS THE FINAL LOCATION OF THE RIGHT OF WAY THEREBY SHOWN AND THAT THIS MAP IS FILED AS PART OF THE COMPLETE APPLICATION, AND IN ORDER THAT THE APPLICANT MAY OBTAIN THE BENEFITS OF SECTION 317 OF THE FEDERAL HIGHWAY ACT APPROVED AUGUST 27, 1958 (72 STA.916) AND I FURTHER CERTIFY THAT THE RIGHT OF WAY HEREON DESCRIBED IS DESIRED FOR STATE HIGHWAY PURPOSES.

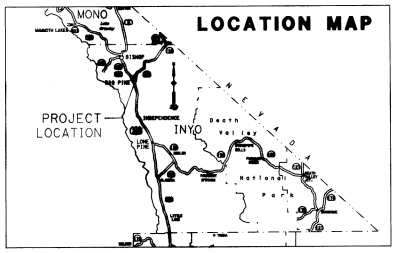
DISTRICT DIRECTOR
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

03-19-20
DATE

FILED April 27 ,20 20 IN INYO COUNTY RECORDS IN STATE HIGHWAY MAP BOOK 6 , PAGE 3 AT THE REQUEST OF THE CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION PER SECTIONS 128 AND 129 OF THE STREETS AND HIGHWAYS CODE.

EXHIBIT "A"

LOCATION MAP



NOTES

Coordinates and bearings are on CCS 83 Zone 4. Distances and stationing are 0.99979 to obtain ground distances.
All distances are in feet unless otherwise noted.

LEGEND

- Section Lines & Subsection Lines
- (R) Indicates Radial Bearing
- Indicates Concrete Monument
- Indicates Section Corner
- Indicates Found Monument as Noted
- Title to State

STATE OF CALIFORNIA
CALIFORNIA STATE TRANSPORTATION AGENCY
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

FEDERAL APPLICATION MAP
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
Zurich Pit Material Site

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FOR PREVIOUS R/W INFORMATION SEE MAP(S)

FULL SIZE MAP SCALE: 1" = 200'
FEET 0 100 200 400 600

TO DESIGN: DRAFTED BY:RM & AG CHECKED BY:SCC EA(o):37320 FAM:

DISTRICT	COUNTY	ROUTE	SHEET PM	SHEET NO.	TOTAL SHEETS
9	Inyo	168	21.5	1	1

PROJECT ID: 0917000072

PROJECT SURVEYOR: RW LICENSE: LS 9007 | REVISIONS | DATE | LICENSE | SURVEYOR | REVISIONS | DATE | LICENSE | SURVEYOR

CEQA EXEMPTION / NEPA CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION DETERMINATION FORM (rev. 06/2022)

Project Information

Project Name (if applicable): Zurich Pit

DIST-CO-RTE: 09-INY-168 **PM/PM:** 21.60/21.60

EA: 09-37320 **Federal-Aid Project Number:** 0917000072

Project Description

Caltrans plans to acquire a highway map application (easement) from the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) for the establishment of a sand and gravel mining site. The site is located approximately three miles east northeast of the community of Big Pine and approximately 1,300 feet south of State Route 168. The material site will be 55 acres, of which 14 acres will be mined. All mining activities will occur within the operational right-of-way of the mining site once acquired. No external utilities or facilities are required for mining site operation. The materials exported from the site will only be used for Caltrans construction projects and maintenance activities on the State Highway System. The material site will be operated in coordination with Inyo County and the California Division of Mine Reclamation. See page three for a listing of environmental commitments.

Caltrans CEQA Determination (Check one)

☒ **Not Applicable** – Caltrans is not the CEQA Lead Agency

☐ **Not Applicable** – Caltrans has prepared an IS or EIR under CEQA

Based on an examination of this proposal and supporting information, the project is:

☐ **Exempt by Statute.** (PRC 21080[b]; 14 CCR 15260 et seq.)

☐ **Categorically Exempt. Class** Enter class. (PRC 21084; 14 CCR 15300 et seq.)

- ☐ No exceptions apply that would bar the use of a categorical exemption (PRC 21084 and 14 CCR 15300.2). See the SER Chapter 34 for exceptions.

☐ **Covered by the Common Sense Exemption.** This project does not fall within an exempt class, but it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the activity may have a significant effect on the environment (14 CCR 15061[b][3].)

Senior Environmental Planner or Environmental Branch Chief

Print Name	Signature	Date

Project Manager

Print Name	Signature	Date

CEQA EXEMPTION / NEPA CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION DETERMINATION FORM

Caltrans NEPA Determination (Check one)

☐ **Not Applicable**

Caltrans has determined that this project has no significant impacts on the environment as defined by NEPA, and that there are no unusual circumstances as described in 23 CFR 771.117(b). See SER Chapter 30 for unusual circumstances. As such, the project is categorically excluded from the requirements to prepare an EA or EIS under NEPA and is included under the following:

☒ **23 USC 326:** Caltrans has been assigned, and hereby certifies that it has carried out the responsibility to make this determination pursuant to 23 USC 326 and the Memorandum of Understanding dated April 18, 2022, executed between FHWA and Caltrans. Caltrans has determined that the project is a Categorical Exclusion under:

- ☒ **23 CFR 771.117(c): activity (c)(5)**
- ☐ **23 CFR 771.117(d): activity (d)(Enter activity number)**
- ☐ **Activity Enter activity number listed in Appendix A of the MOU between FHWA and Caltrans**

☐ **23 USC 327:** Based on an examination of this proposal and supporting information, Caltrans has determined that the project is a Categorical Exclusion under 23 USC 327. The environmental review, consultation, and any other actions required by applicable Federal environmental laws for this project are being, or have been, carried out by Caltrans pursuant to 23 USC 327 and the Memorandum of Understanding dated May 27, 2022, and executed by FHWA and Caltrans.

Senior Environmental Planner or Environmental Branch Chief

Kirsten Helton	Kirsten Helton	01/26/2023
Print Name	Signature	Date

Project Manager/ DLA Engineer

Forest Becket	Forest Becket	01/26/2023
Print Name	Signature	Date

Date of Categorical Exclusion Checklist completion (if applicable): 1/26/2023
Date of Environmental Commitment Record or equivalent: 1/24/2022

Briefly list environmental commitments on continuation sheet if needed (i.e., not necessary if included on an attached ECR). Reference additional information, as appropriate (e.g., additional studies and design conditions).

CEQA EXEMPTION / NEPA CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION DETERMINATION FORM

Continuation sheet:

Environmental Commitments

Biological Resources

1) Notify a Caltrans biologist at least 2 months prior to the start of any new mining operations; this includes both the start of mining operations at the site and any additional operational phases that are initiated on undisturbed ground.
2) Pre-construction nesting bird surveys will be conducted by a Caltrans biologist between February 15th and September 30th within the 72 hours prior to the start of new mining operations. The survey will be 250 feet from the project impact area (PIA) for songbirds, including ground-nesting birds, and 500 feet from the PIA for nesting raptors.
    a. If nesting birds are found within 250 feet (songbirds) or 500 feet (raptors) of the PIA, a no work buffer will be implemented until a staff Biologist determines that there are no longer active nests within the buffered area.
3) Focused reptile surveys for the common/northern sagebrush lizard will be conducted prior to the start of new mining operations by a Caltrans biologist within the species' active period (spring to fall).
    a. Any individuals observed within the biological study area (BSA) will be noted, and further avoidance and minimization measures will be determined through consultation with BLM.
4) Rare plant surveys will be conducted prior to the start of new mining operations by a staff Biologist within the active blooming periods for sensitive-status plants that have potential to occur within the PIA.
    a. Any individuals observed within the PIA will be translocated, under the guidance of BLM.

Inter-Agency Agreements

Caltrans, in coordination with Inyo County and the California Division of Mine Reclamation, will adhere to the following inter-agency approved documents:

- Material Site #308, Operations Plan / Project Description
- Material Site #308, Reclamation Plan

09-37320_NEPA CE

Final Audit Report 2023-01-26

Created:	2023-01-26
By:	Ryan Spaulding (s144987@dot.ca.gov)
Status:	Signed
Transaction ID:	CBJCHBCAABAAyttKc6cXiGoAO1C1Mato-KvX1c8YXUIE

"09-37320_NEPA CE" History

Document created by Ryan Spaulding (s144987@dot.ca.gov)
2023-01-26 - 6:01:19 PM GMT

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2023-01-26 - 6:04:44 PM GMT

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Agreement completed.
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State of California
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Memorandum

Making Conservation a California Way of Life.

To: **FOREST BECKET**
Senior Environmental Planner
District 9 Environmental Unit

Date: January 21, 2022

File: **09-37320**
0917000072
Zurich Material Site

From: **DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION- District 9**
Dannique Aalbu
Associate Environmental Planner/Biologist
District 9 Environmental Unit

Subject: **BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES EVALUATION MEMO**

Project Description:

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) is proposing to establish Zurich Material Site (MS 308) [a former material site] for mining of shale near Big Pine, California. A new highway easement deed will be needed from the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) for approximately 55 acres. Of those 55 acres, disturbance caused by mining operations will be limited to approximately 14 acres. Approximately 336,000 cubic yards of material will be extracted from the site over a minimum 50-year lifespan.

The material site will be mined in two separate phases. For the first phase, the existing surface of the pit will be excavated to a depth of up to 10 feet. The first phase will also involve the reestablishment of a previously rehabilitated access road, construction of check dams (n=4) and diversion channels (n=2), and the installation of an access gate and earthen berm road block. The second phase of mining will see the pit surface further excavated to a maximum depth of up to 38 feet. The pit will be graded to ensure internal drainage. Topsoil (approximately 4 to 6 inches in depth) will be relocated to soil berms on the outer perimeter of the pit for post mining reclamation purposes.

Upon completion of the extraction of all material to the final grade lines, the final slopes will be reclaimed in accordance with SMARA regulations. Topsoil berms will be removed and spread evenly on all slopes. It is Caltrans' intent to rescind this site back to the Bureau of Land Management after mining resources are exhausted and slopes are reclaimed. Upon final site configuration and revegetation, a final SMARA reclamation inspection will be performed to retire the associated mine ID and commence with the intended end-use (natural resources- open space designation). At this point, no further mining activities will occur at the site.

The material site's purpose is to provide quality material for District 9 maintenance forces for use in highway maintenance work in northern Inyo County and southern Mono County. The scale at the material site is the ideal material for shoulder backing and other material intensive maintenance activities. The development of the site coincides with District 9's strategic plan for establishing material sources within reasonable haul proximity.

All 55.5 acres will be subject to the environmental clearance detailed in this document.

Project Setting:
The material site is located in Inyo County near State Route 168 at approximately Post Mile (PM) 21.60. The surrounding area is a mix of Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP) property. The town of Big Pine is located approximately 3 miles to the southwest.

All activities will be confined to the 55-acre property, and mining activities will be confined to approximately 14 acres. The Project Impact Area (PIA) for the material site will include: (1) where mining activities will occur, (2) where the access road will be reestablished, and (3) where the earthen berm road block will be constructed. The Biological Study Area (BSA) for the Project extends outside the PIA, covering the entire 55-acre property.

Most of the PIA is located within the footprint of the former material site. The area includes obvious signs of disturbance in the form of compacted soils, lack of vegetation, and noteworthy amounts of trash.

The BSA is comprised of the adjacent desert shrubland and alluvial fan topography. The vegetation community surrounding the material site is dominated by shadscale scrub. Prominent plant species located within the BSA include: four-wing saltbush, Mojave indigo bush, budsage, winterfat, greasewood, Mojave woolyaster, and desert trumpet. Four-wing saltbush is dominant. The elevation within the BSA ranges from 4000 to 4200 feet.

Quad(s): Uhlmeyer Spring; Big Pine; Waucoba Mountain; Tinemaha Reservoir; Poleta Canyon; Westgard Pass; Deep Springs Lake; Cowhorn Valley; Fish Springs

Methods Used (Species Lists included in Appendices A-C):
x California Natural Diversity Data Base (CNDDB) _x_ California Native Plant Society (CNPS)

x U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Species List (USFWS)

x Date Survey Completed: **4/23/2020 (field survey); 6/1/2020 (desktop review)**

Other: Field surveys required prior to construction start

Resources Evaluated: See attached USFWS, CNDDB, and CNPS Species Lists

(Appendices A-C)

Scientific Name	Common Name	Listing	Habitat Present in PIA	Occurrence within 5 mi. of BSA	Potential to occur within BSA
Fauna					
Accipiter cooperii	Cooper's hawk	CDFW_WL	No	No	No; habitat absent within the BSA.
Accipiter gentilis	Northern goshawk	BLM_S	No	No	No; habitat absent within the BSA.
Anaxyrus exsul	Black toad	CDFW_FP; BLM_S	No	No	No; habitat absent within the BSA.
Antrozous pallidus	Pallid bat	BLM_S	No	No	No; habitat absent within the BSA.
Aquila chrysaetos	Golden eagle	BLM_S	No	No	No; habitat absent within the BSA.
Asio otus	Long-eared owl	CDFW_SSC	No	No	No; habitat absent within the BSA.
Athene cunicularia	Burrowing owl	CDFW_SSC; BLM_S	No	Yes	No; only nearby record is historic (1891). Current habitat is unlikely to support a nesting colony as ground squirrel sign, the species' most notable prey, was absent during field surveys,
Batrachoseps campi	Inyo mountains slender salamander	BLM_S	No	No	No; habitat absent within the BSA.
Brachylagus idahoensis	Pygmy rabbit	BLM_S	No	No	No; habitat absent within the BSA.
Buteo swainsoni	Swainson's hawk	CDFW_ Threatened; BLM_S	No	Yes	No; habitat absent within the BSA. Requires adjacent suitable foraging areas such as grasslands, or alfalfa or grain fields supporting rodent populations. All known occurrences within the BSA are historic.
Catostomus fumeiventris	Owens sucker	CDFW_SSC	No	No	No; habitat absent within the BSA.
Centrocercus urophasianus	Greater sage grouse	BLM_S	No	No	No; habitat absent within the BSA.
Charadrius alexandrinus nivosus	western snowy plover	CDFW_SSC	No	No	No; habitat absent within the BSA.
Charadrius montanus	mountain plover	CDFW_SSC; BLM_S	No	No	No; habitat absent within the BSA.
Circus hudsonius	Northern harrier	CDFW_SSC	No	No	No; habitat absent within the BSA.
Coccyzus americanus occidentalis	Western yellow-billed cuckoo	USFWS_ Threatened; CDFW_ Endangered; BLM_S	No	No	No; habitat absent within the BSA.
Corynorhinus townsendii	Townsend's big-eared bat	Caltrans_FP; BLM_S; CDFW_SSC	No	Yes	No; habitat absent within the BSA. Human disturbance and lack of mesic features render the BSA unsuitable for this species.

Cyprinodon nevadensis amargosae	Amargosa River Pupfish	BLM_S	No	No	No; habitat absent within the BSA.
Cyprinodon radiosus	Owens Pupfish	USFWS_ Endangered; CDFW_ Endangered	No	No	No; habitat absent within the BSA.
Danaus plexippus	Monarch butterfly	USFWS_ candidate	No	No	No; habitat absent within the BSA.
Elgaria panamintina	Panamint alligator lizard	CDFW_SSC; BLM_S	No	Yes	No; habitat absent within the BSA. Habitat consists of areas near permanent water in canyons, damp gullies, and rocky areas near dense vegetation. Closest known occurrence is in the vicinity of Batchelder Spring.
Empidonax traillii extimus	Southwestern willow flycatcher	USFWS_ Endangered; CDFW_ Endangered	No	No	No; habitat absent within the BSA.
Euderma maculatum	spotted bat	Caltrans- FP; BLM_S; CDFW_SSC	No	No	No; habitat absent within the BSA.
Haliaeetus leucocephalus	Bald eagle	CDFW_ Endangered; BLM_S	No	No	No; habitat absent within the BSA.
Icteria virens	yellow-breasted chat	CDFW_SSC	No	No	No; habitat absent within the BSA.
Lasiurus cinereus	Hoary bat	Caltrans_FP	No	No	No; habitat absent within the BSA.
Lepus townsendii townsendii	Western white-tailed jackrabbit	CDFW_SSC	No	No	No; habitat absent within the BSA.
Lithobates pipiens	Northern leopard frog	CDFW_SSC	No	No	No; habitat absent within the BSA.
Martes pennanti (pacifica) DPS	Pacific fisher	BLM_S	No	No	No; habitat absent within the BSA.
Microtus californicus vallicola	Owens Valley vole	CDFW_SSC; BLM_S	No	No	No; habitat absent within the BSA.
Myotis ciliolabrum	Western small-footed myotis	Caltrans_FP; BLM_S	No	Yes	No; habitat absent within the BSA. Requires nearby water source. Closest known occurrence is 5 miles north at Warm Springs.
Myotis evotis	Long-eared myotis	Caltrans_FP; BLM_S	No	No	No; habitat absent within the BSA.
Myotis thysanodes	Fringed myotis	Caltrans_FP; BLM_S	No	No	No; habitat absent within the BSA.
Myotis yumanensis	Yuma myotis	Caltrans_FP; BLM_S	No	No	No; habitat absent within the BSA.
Ovis canadensis nelson	Desert bighorn sheep	CDFW_FP; BLM_S	No	No	No; habitat absent within the BSA.
Ovis canadensis sierrae	Sierra Nevada bighorn sheep	CDFW_	No	No	No; habitat absent within the BSA.

		Endangered; BLM_S			
Piranga rubra	Summer tanager	CDFW_SSC	No	No	No; habitat absent within the BSA.
Rhinichthys osculus ssp. 2	Owens speckled dace	CDFW_SSC; BLM_S	No	No	No; habitat absent within the BSA.
Riparia riparia	Bank swallow	CDFW_ Threatened; BLM_S	No	Yes	No; habitat absent within the BSA. Habitat included areas near permanent water. Only known occurrence is historic (1891).
Sceloporus graciosus graciosus	**Northern/ common sagebrush lizard**	**BLM_S**	**No**	**n/a**	**Yes; species lives in sagebrush and other types of shrublands, mainly in the mountains (at higher elevations than the Western Fence Lizard). Prefers open areas with scattered low bushes and lots of sun.**
Siphateles bicolor snyderi	Owens tui chub	USFWS_ Endangered; CDFW_ Endangered; BLM_S	No	No	No; habitat absent within the BSA.
Vireo bellii pusillus	Least Bell's vireo	BLM_S; USFWS_ Endangered	No	No	No; habitat absent within the BSA.
Xerospermophilus mohavensis	Mohave ground squirrel	BLM_S; CDFW_ Threatened	No	No	No; the site is out of range for this species.
Flora					
Aliciella triodon	**Coyote gilia**	**2B.2**	**No**	**Yes**	**Yes; habitat is present within the BSA. Elevation range: 3900-5600 ft. Blooming period: April – June. Quads: occurrences in Uhlmeyer Spring and Big Pine. Associated species include Sarcobatus vermiculatus and Atriplex confertifolia**
Allium atrorubens var. atrorubens	Great Basin onion	2B.3	No	No	No; general habitat is present, but microhabitat is not. Elevation range: 4050-7620 ft. Blooming period: May – June. Quad: Big Pine. Site only slightly overlaps with species elevation range. Is found in sandy or rocky soil. Closest recorded occurrence is off Glacier Lodge Road, where it is locally common.
Astragalus argophyllus var. argophyllus	Silver leaf milk-vetch	2B.2	No	No	No; habitat absent within the BSA.
Astragalus geyeri var. geyeri	Geyer's milk-vetch	2B.2	No	No	No; general habitat is present, but microhabitat (sandy flats and valley floor) is not. Elevation range: 3790-6520 ft. Blooming period: May-August. Quad: Deep Springs Lake.

Astragalus johannis-howellii	Long Valley milk-vetch	1B.2	No	No	No; habitat absent within the BSA.
Astragalus lentiginosus var. piscinensis	Fish Slough milk-vetch	1B.1	No	No	No; habitat absent within the BSA.
Astragalus monoensis	Mono milk-vetch	1B.2	No	No	No; habitat absent within the BSA.
Astragalus oophorus var. lavinii	Lavin's milk-vetch	1B.2	No	No	No; habitat absent within the BSA.
Astragalus pseudiodanthus	Tonopah milk-vetch	1B.2	No	No	No; habitat absent within the BSA.
Astragalus serenoi var. shockleyi	**Shockley's milk-vetch**	**2B.2**	**No**	**Yes**	**Yes; habitat is present within the BSA. Elevation range: 3880- 7110 ft. Blooming period: April – July. Quad: Uhlmeyer Spring and many others. Closest recorded occurrence is north of Death Valley Road, 4 miles east of Big Pine.**
Atriplex gardneri var. falcata	Falcate saltbrush	2B.2	No	No	No; habitat present within the BSA, but usually occurs in Chenopod scrub. Elevation range: 4080 – 4520 ft. Blooming period: May – August. Quad: Poleta Canyon. Only recorded occurrence is historic (1974).
Blephari-dachne kingii	**King's eyelash grass**	**2B.3**	**No**	**Yes**	**Yes; habitat (desert scrub on alluvial gravels) is present within the BSA. Elevation range: 1590- 7000 ft. Blooming period: May. Quad: Uhlmeyer Spring, Big Pine, Deep Springs Lake. Closest recorded occurrence is along Waucoba road near junction with HWY 168.**
Boechera bodiensis	Bodie Hills rockcress	1B.3	No	No	No; out of elevation range: 6595-11,600 ft.
Boechera dispar	Pinyon rockcress	2B.3	No	Yes	No; general habitat is present, but microhabitat is not. Elevation range: 3300-9210 ft. Blooming Period: June – August. Quad: Uhlmeyer Spring and many others. Closest recorded occurrence is along ridge at head of Soldier Canyon. Associated with Astragalus inyoensis and Allium atrorubens var. cristatum.
Boechera lincolnensis	Lincoln rockcress	2B.3	No	No	No; habitat (Limestone substrate) absent within the BSA.
Boechera pendulina	Rabbit-ear rockcress	2B.1	No	No	No; out of elevation range: 9990 – 10850 ft.
Boechera shockleyi	Shockley's rockcress	2B.2	No	No	No; habitat (pinyon and juniper woodland) is absent within the BSA.
Calochortus excavates	Inyo County star-tulip	1B.1	No	No	No; habitat (Chenopod scrub, meadows and seeps) is absent within the BSA.
Chaetadelpha wheeleri	**Wheeler's dune-broom**	**2B.2**	**No**	**No**	**Yes; habitat is present within the BSA. Elevation range: 2540 – 4810 ft.**

					Blooming period: April – September. Quad: Deeps Springs Lake, Westgard Pass. Closest recorded occurrence is along HWY 168, 18 miles east of junction with US 395, in the "foothills of the White mountains".
Chrysothamnus greenei	Greene's rabbitbrush	2B.3	No	No	No; species is out of elevation range: 5132 – 5427 ft.
Crepis runcinata	Fiddleleaf hawksbeard	2B.2	No	No	No; habitat (moist, alkaline valley bottoms) is absent within the BSA.
Cryptantha fendleri	Sand dune cryptantha	2B.2	No	No	No; species is out of elevation range: 6390 -7250 ft.
Cryptantha roosiorum	Bristlecone cryptantha	Rare; BLM_S	No	No	No; habitat absent within the BSA.
Cuniculotinus gramineus	Panamint rock-goldenrod	2B.3	No	No	No; species is out of elevation range: 6300 – 9055 ft.
Cusickiella quadricostata	Bodie hills cusikiella	1B.2	No	No	No; habitat absent within the BSA.
Dedeckera eurekensis	July gold	1B.3	No	No	No; habitat (rocky ridges, cliffs, talus slopes and washes in carbonate soils) are absent within the BSA.
Diplacus parryi	Parry's monkeyflower	2B.3	No	No	No; species is out of elevation range: 4980 – 8500 ft.
Elymus scribneri	Scribner's wheat grass	2B.3	No	No	No; species is out of elevation range: 8390 – 13,600 ft.
Eremothera boothii ssp. boothii	Booth's evening primrose	2B.3	No	No	No; habitat (Joshua tree woodland, Pinyon and juniper woodland) is absent within the BSA.
Eremothera boothii ssp. intermedia	Booth's hairy evening primrose	2B.3	No	No	No; general habitat is present, but microhabitat is not. Elevation range: 2880 – 8810 ft. Blooming period: May – June. Quad: Tinemaha Reservoir; Fish Springs, Westgard Pass. Closest recorded occurrence along SR 168 approx. 2.5 miles northeast of Bachelor Spring.
Ericameria gilmanii	Gilman's goldenbush	1B.3	No	No	No; habitat (Montane and Subalpine coniferous forest) is absent within the BSA.
Erigeron calvus	Bald daisy	1B.1	No	No	No; habitat absent within the BSA.
Erigeron compactus	Compact daisy	2B.3	No	No	No; habitat (Pinyon and Juniper woodland) is absent within the BSA.
Eriogonum alexanderae	Alexander's buckwheat	1B.1	No	No	No; habitat absent within the BSA.
Eriogonum eremicola	Wild Rose canyon buckwheat	1B.3	No	No	No; habitat absent within the BSA.
Eriogonum microthecum var. panamintense	Panamint mountains buckwheat	N/A	No	No	No; habitat absent within the BSA.
Erythranthe calcicola	Limestone monkeyflower	1B.3	No	No	No; habitat (woodlands on talus slopes on carbonate substrate) is absent within the BSA.

Fimbristylis thermalis	Hot springs fimbristylis	2B.2	No	No	No; habitat (meadows and seeps) is absent within the BSA.
Grusonia pulchella	Beautiful cholla	2B.2	No	No	No; species is out of elevation range: 4920 – 7570 ft.
Hesperidanthus jaegeri	Jaeger's hesperidanthus	1B.2	No	No	No; species is out of elevation range: 7000 – 9190 ft.
Hymenopappus filifolius var. nanus	Little cutleaf	2B.3	No	No	No; habitat (Pinyon and Juniper woodland, subalpine coniferous forest) is absent within the BSA.
Ivesia kingii var. kingii	Alkali ivesia	2B.2	No	No	No; habitat absent within the BSA.
Jaffueliobryum wrightii	Wright's jaffueliobryum moss	2B.3	No	No	No; habitat (carbonate areas with dry openings, rock crevices) is absent within the BSA.
Juncus nodosus	Knotted rush	2B.3	No	No	No; habitat (meadows and seeps, marches and swamps) is absent within the BSA.
Loefingia squarrosa var. artemisiarum	Sagebrush loeflingia	2B.2	No	No	No; habitat (sandy flats and dunes) is absent within the BSA.
Lomatium foeniculaceum ssp. Macdougalii	**MacDougal's lomatium**	**2B.2**	**No**	**Yes**	**Yes; habitat is present within the BSA. Elevation range: 3980 – 7240 ft. Blooming period: April – July. Quad: Uhlmeyer Spring, Westgard Pass. Only recorded occurrence is historic (1965) near submit of Westgard Pass.**
Lupinus duranii	Mono Lake lupine	2B.2	No	No	No; habitat absent within the BSA.
Lupinus magnificus var. hesperius	McGee meadows lupine	1B.3	No	No	No; habitat absent within the BSA.
Lupinus magnificus	Panamint mountains lupine	n/a	No	No	No; habitat absent within the BSA.
Lupinus padre-crowleyi	Father Crowley's lupine	1B.2	No	No	No; species is out of elevation range: 7210 – 13130 ft. Blooming period: July – August. Occurs in riparian habitat.
Lupinus pusillus var. intermontanus	**Intermontane lupine**	**2B.3**	**No**	**Yes**	**Yes; habitat is present within the BSA. Elevation range: 3880 – 6760 ft. Blooming period: May – June. Quad: Uhlmeyer Spring, Big Pine. Only recorded occurrence is historic (1974), 1 mile east of Owens river at Stewart Lane.**
Mentzelia inyoensis	Inyo blazing star	1B.3	No	No	No; habitat absent within the BSA.
Nemacladus inyoensis	Badger Flat threadplant	1B.2	No	No	No; habitat is absent within the BSA. Species is out of elevation range.
Oenothera longissima	Long-stem evening primrose	2B.2	No	No	No; habitat (seasonally mesic areas) is absent within the BSA.
Oryctes nevadensis	**Nevada oryctes**	**2B.1**	**Yes**	**Yes**	**Yes; habitat is present within the BSA. Elevation range: 3190 – 8320 ft. Blooming period: April – June. Quad: Big Pine. Closest recorded**

					occurrence along SR 168 at Zurich. Associated with Atriplex confertifolia, Ephedra nevadensis, etc. in sandy soils.
Perityle inyoensis	Inyo rock daisy	1B.2	No	No	No; habitat absent within the BSA.
Phacelia inyoensis	Inyo phacelia	1B.2	No	No	No; habitat (meadows and seeps) is absent within the BSA.
Phacelia mustelina	Death Valley round-leaved phacelia	1B.3	No	No	No; habitat absent within the BSA.
Physocarpus alternans	Nevada ninebark	2B.3	No	No	No; habitat (pinyon and juniper woodland) is absent within the BSA.
Plagiobothrys nitens	Shiny-nutlet popcornflower	2B.1	No	No	No; habitat (meadows and seeps) is absent within the BSA.
Plagiobothrys parishii	Parish's popcornflower	1B.1	No	No	No; habitat (mesic areas) is absent within the BSA.
Plagiobothrys salsus	Desert popcornflower	2B.2	No	No	No; habitat (moist, alkaline mud flats) is absent within the BSA.
Polyctenium williamsiae	Williams combleaf	1B.2	No	No	No; habitat absent within the BSA.
Sidalcea covillei	Owens Valley checkerbloom	1B.1	No	No	No; habitat (meadows and seeps, chenopod scrub) is absent within the BSA.
Sphenopholis obtusata	Prairie wedge grass	2B.2	No	No	No; habitat (cismontane woodland, meadows and seeps) is absent within the BSA.
Streptanthus oliganthus	Masonic Mountain jewelflower	1B.2	No	No	No; habitat (pinyon and juniper woodland) is absent within the BSA.
Suaeda occidentalis	Western seablite	2B.3	No	No	No; general habitat is present, but microhabitat is not. Elevation range: 3950 – 6620 ft. Blooming period: July - September. Quad: Big Pine. Only recorded occurrence is historic (1978) along West edge of Klondike Lake.
Tetradymia tetrameres	Dune horsebrush	2B.2	No	No	No; species is out of elevation range: 5590 – 6910 ft.
Thelypodium integrifolium ssp. Complanatum	Foxtail thelypodium	2B.2	No	No	No; habitat (mesic areas) is absent within the BSA.
Transberingia bursifolia ssp. Virgata	Virgate halimolobos	2B.3	No	No	No; habitat (meadows and seeps, Pinyon and Juniper woodland) is absent within the BSA.
Viola pinetorum ssp. Grisea	Grey-leaved violet	1B.2	No	No	No; species is out of elevation range: 5180 – 12,140 ft.

Key: CDFW_WL – state watchlist; CDFW_FP – state fully protected; CDFW_SSC – state species of special concern; BLM_S – BLM sensitive; Caltrans_FP – Caltrans fully protected; 1.B.1-3 = CA Native Plant Society Rank. 1B plants are rare, threatened or endangered in CA and elsewhere; 2.B.1-1 = CA Native Plant Society Rank. 2B plants are rare, threatened or endangered in CA but more common elsewhere.

Waters of the U.S. Evaluation:

Waters of the U.S. (WOUS) do not occur within the Project limits; therefore, no WOUS will be impacted by the proposed project.

National Marine Fisheries Service Evaluation:

This Project is not within the jurisdiction of NMFS (National Marine Fisheries Service) and so no NMFS species list was included.

This project will have **No Effect** on any of the state special-status species in the attached species lists (Appendices A-D).

Avoidance Measures:

- Notify the Biologist at least 2 months prior to the start of any new mining operations; this includes both the start of mining operations at the site and any additional operations (ie. new phase) that are initiated on undisturbed ground.
- Pre-construction nesting bird surveys will be conducted by a staff Biologist between Feb. 15-Sept. 30 within the 72 hours prior to the start of new mining operations. Survey 250 feet from the PIA for songbirds, including ground-nesting birds, and 500 feet from the PIA for nesting raptors.
    - If nesting birds are found within 250 feet (songbirds) or 500 feet (raptors) of the PIA, a no work buffer will be implemented until a staff Biologist determines that there are no longer active nests within the buffered area.
- Focused reptile surveys for the common/northern sagebrush lizard will be conducted prior to the start of new mining operations by a staff Biologist within the species' active period (Spring – fall).
    - Any individuals observed within the BSA will be noted, and further avoidance and minimization measures will be determined through consultation with the BLM.
- Rare plant surveys will be conducted prior to the start of new mining operations by a staff Biologist within the active blooming periods for sensitive-status plants that have potential to occur within the PIA.
    - Any individuals observed within the PIA will be translocated, under the guidance of the BLM.

Rationale:

The Project Impact Area (PIA) is located within a previously disturbed area. Existing human activity and disturbance (environmental alteration, roads, vehicle presence, and noise) within the PIA make the area unsuitable habitat for sensitive-status species.

The Biological Study Area (BSA) extends outside the PIA, covering the entire 55-acre property. The BSA contains the shadscale scrub vegetation alliance and exists within an alluvial fan topography. Vegetation within the BSA, though sparse, is diverse in species. In areas where

native vegetation exists and disturbance is limited, there is potential habitat for that sensitive-status species.

Common/northern sagebrush lizard has potential to occur within the BSA. This species is known to occur in the Inyo mountains and has been observed within 5 miles of the BSA. To avoid any potential impacts to this species, focused reptile surveys will be conducted within the species' active period prior to construction. If any individuals are observed within the BSA, Caltrans will consult with the BLM (Bishop Office) to determine appropriate avoidance and/or minimization measures.

Several rare plant species (Coyote gilia, Shockley's milk vetch, King's eyelash grass, Wheeler's dune-broom, MacDougal's lomatium, Intermontane lupine, Nevada oryctes) have potential to occur within the BSA. These species are associated with Great Basin shrub and have been observed within 5 miles of the BSA. To avoid any potential impacts to these species, rare plant surveys will be conducted prior to construction. Any individuals observed within the BSA will either be translocated, based on guidance from the BLM, or flagged for avoidance.

With the implementation of the avoidance and minimization measures, no impacts to any sensitive-status species are expected.

If you have any questions regarding this memo, please contact Dannique Aalbu, District Biologist, at (760)872-0763 or Dannique.aalbu@dot.ca.gov

Dannique Aalbu
Associate Environmental Planner/Biologist
District 9- Environmental

Appendices
Appendix A: USFWS Species List
Appendix B: CDFW Species List
Appendix C: CNPS Species List
Appendix D: BLM Species Lists

Appendix A: USFWS Species List

United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
Reno Fish And Wildlife Office
1340 Financial Boulevard, Suite 234
Reno, NV 89502-7147
Phone: (775) 861-6300 Fax: (775) 861-6301
http://www.fws.gov/nevada/

In Reply Refer To:
Consultation Code: 08ENVD00-2020-SLI-0461
Event Code: 08ENVD00-2020-E-01245
Project Name: Zurich Material Site

June 01, 2020

Subject: List of threatened and endangered species that may occur in your proposed project location, and/or may be affected by your proposed project

To Whom It May Concern:

The attached species list indicates threatened, endangered, proposed, and candidate species and designated or proposed critical habitat that may occur within the boundary of your proposed project and/or may be affected by your proposed project. The species list fulfills the requirements of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) under section 7(c) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (ESA, 16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq*.), for projects that are authorized, funded, or carried out by a Federal agency. Candidate species have no protection under the ESA but are included for consideration because they could be listed prior to the completion of your project. Consideration of these species during project planning may assist species conservation efforts and may prevent the need for future listing actions. For additional information regarding species that may be found in the proposed project area, visit http://www.fws.gov/nevada/es/ipac.html.

The purpose of the ESA is to provide a means whereby threatened and endangered species and the ecosystems upon which they depend may be conserved. Under sections 7(a)(1) and 7(a)(2) of the ESA and its implementing regulations (50 CFR 402 *et seq*.), Federal agencies are required to utilize their authorities to carry out programs for the conservation of threatened and endangered species and to determine whether projects may affect threatened and endangered species and/or designated critical habitat.

A Biological Assessment is required for construction projects that are major Federal actions significantly affecting the quality of the human environment as defined in the National Environmental Policy Act (42 U.S.C. 4332(2) (c)). For projects other than major construction activities, the Service suggests that a biological evaluation similar to a Biological Assessment be prepared to determine whether the project may affect listed or proposed species and/or

designated or proposed critical habitat. Guidelines for preparing a Biological Assessment can be found at: http://www.fws.gov/midwest/endangered/section7/ba_guide.html.

If a Federal action agency determines, based on the Biological Assessment or biological evaluation, that listed species and/or designated critical habitat may be affected by the proposed project, the agency is required to consult with the Service pursuant to 50 CFR 402. In addition, the Service recommends that candidate species, proposed species, and proposed critical habitat be addressed within the consultation. More information on the regulations and procedures for section 7 consultation, including the role of permit or license applicants, can be found in the "Endangered Species Consultation Handbook" at: http://www.fws.gov/endangered/esa-library/pdf/TOC-GLOS.PDF.

New information based on updated surveys, changes in the abundance and distribution of species, changed habitat conditions, or other factors could change this species list. Please feel free to contact us if you need more current information or assistance regarding the potential impacts to federally listed, proposed, and candidate species and federally designated and proposed critical habitat. Please note that under 50 CFR 402.12(e) of the regulations implementing section 7 of the ESA, the accuracy of this species list should be verified after 90 days. This verification can be completed formally or informally, as desired. The Service recommends that verification be completed by visiting the ECOS-IPaC website at regular intervals during project planning and implementation, for updates to species lists and information. An updated list may be requested through the ECOS-IPaC system by completing the same process used to receive the attached list.

The Nevada Fish and Wildlife Office (NFWO) no longer provides species of concern lists. Most of these species for which we have concern are also on the Animal and Plant At-Risk Tracking List for Nevada (At-Risk list) maintained by the State of Nevada's Natural Heritage Program (Heritage). Instead of maintaining our own list, we adopted Heritage's At-Risk list and are partnering with them to provide distribution data and information on the conservation needs for at-risk species to agencies or project proponents. The mission of Heritage is to continually evaluate the conservation priorities of native plants, animals, and their habitats, particularly those most vulnerable to extinction or in serious decline. In addition, in order to avoid future conflicts, we ask that you consider these at-risk species early in your project planning and explore management alternatives that provide for their long-term conservation.

For a list of at-risk species by county, visit Heritage's website (http://heritage.nv.gov). For a specific list of at-risk species that may occur in the project area, you can obtain a data request form from the website (http://heritage.nv.gov/get_data) or by contacting the Administrator of Heritage at 901 South Stewart Street, Suite 5002, Carson City, Nevada 89701-5245, (775) 684-2900. Please indicate on the form that your request is being obtained as part of your coordination with the Service under the ESA. During your project analysis, if you obtain new information or data for any Nevada sensitive species, we request that you provide the information to Heritage at the above address.

Furthermore, certain species of fish and wildlife are classified as protected by the State of Nevada (http://www.leg.state.nv.us/NAC/NAC-503.html). You must first obtain the appropriate license, permit, or written authorization from the Nevada Department of Wildlife (NDOW) to take, or possess any parts of protected fish and wildlife species. Please visit http://www.ndow.org or contact NDOW in northern Nevada (775) 688-1500, in southern Nevada (702) 486-5127, or in eastern Nevada (775) 777-2300.

Please be aware that bald and golden eagles are protected under the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (16 U.S.C. 668 *et seq*.), and projects affecting these species may require development of an eagle conservation plan (http://www.fws.gov/windenergy/eagle_guidance.html). Additionally, wind energy projects should follow the Service's wind energy guidelines (http://www.fws.gov/windenergy/) for minimizing impacts to migratory birds and bats.

The Service's Pacific Southwest Region developed the *Interim Guidelines for the Development of a Project Specific Avian and Bat Protection Plan for Wind Energy Facilities* (Interim Guidelines). This document provides energy facility developers with a tool for assessing the risk of potential impacts to wildlife resources and delineates how best to design and operate a bird- and bat-friendly wind facility. These Interim Guidelines are available upon request from the NFWO. The intent of a Bird and Bat Conservation Strategy is to conserve wildlife resources while supporting project developers through: (1) establishing project development in an adaptive management framework; (2) identifying proper siting and project design strategies; (3) designing and implementing pre-construction surveys; (4) implementing appropriate conservation measures for each development phase; (5) designing and implementing appropriate post-construction monitoring strategies; (6) using post-construction studies to better understand the dynamics of mortality reduction (*e.g.*, changes in blade cut-in speed, assessments of blade “feathering” success, and studies on the effects of visual and acoustic deterrents) including efforts tied into Before-After/Control-Impact analysis; and (7) conducting a thorough risk assessment and validation leading to adjustments in management and mitigation actions.

The template and recommendations set forth in the Interim Guidelines were based upon the Avian Powerline Interaction Committee's Avian Protection Plan template (http://www.aplic.org/) developed for electric utilities and modified accordingly to address the unique concerns of wind energy facilities. These recommendations are also consistent with the Service's wind energy guidelines. We recommend contacting us as early as possible in the planning process to discuss the need and process for developing a site-specific Bird and Bat Conservation Strategy.

The Service has also developed guidance regarding wind power development in relation to prairie grouse leks (sage-grouse are included in this). This document can be found at: http://www.fws.gov/southwest/es/Oklahoma/documents/te_species/wind%20power/prairie%20grouse%20lek%205%20mile%20public.pdf.

Migratory Birds are a Service Trust Resource. Based on the Service's conservation responsibilities and management authority for migratory birds under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act of 1918, as amended (MBTA; 16 U.S.C. 703 *et seq*.), we recommend that any land clearing or other surface disturbance associated with proposed actions within the project area be timed to

avoid potential destruction of bird nests or young, or birds that breed in the area. Such destruction may be in violation of the MBTA. Under the MBTA, nests with eggs or young of migratory birds may not be harmed, nor may migratory birds be killed. Therefore, we recommend land clearing be conducted outside the avian breeding season. If this is not feasible, we recommend a qualified biologist survey the area prior to land clearing. If nests are located, or if other evidence of nesting (*i.e.*, mated pairs, territorial defense, carrying nesting material, transporting food) is observed, a protective buffer (the size depending on the habitat requirements of the species) should be delineated and the entire area avoided to prevent destruction or disturbance to nests until they are no longer active.

Guidance for minimizing impacts to migratory birds for projects involving communications towers (*e.g.*, cellular, digital television, radio, and emergency broadcast) can be found at: http://www.fws.gov/migratorybirds/CurrentBirdIssues/Hazards/towers/towers.htm; http://www.towerkill.com; and http://www.fws.gov/migratorybirds/CurrentBirdIssues/Hazards/towers/comtow.html.

If wetlands, springs, or streams are are known to occur in the project area or are present in the vicinity of the project area, we ask that you be aware of potential impacts project activities may have on these habitats. Discharge of fill material into wetlands or waters of the United States is regulated by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE) pursuant to section 404 of the Clean Water Act of 1972, as amended. We recommend you contact the ACOE's Regulatory Section regarding the possible need for a permit. For projects located in northern Nevada (Carson City, Churchill, Douglas, Elko, Esmeralda, Eureka, Humboldt, Lander, Lyon, Mineral, Pershing, Storey, and Washoe Counties) contact the Reno Regulatory Office at 300 Booth Street, Room 3060, Reno, Nevada 89509, (775) 784-5304; in southern Nevada (Clark, Lincoln, Nye, and White Pine Counties) contact the St. George Regulatory Office at 321 North Mall Drive, Suite L-101, St. George, Utah 84790-7314, (435) 986-3979; or in California along the eastern Sierra contact the Sacramento Regulatory Office at 650 Capitol Mall, Suite 5-200, Sacramento, California 95814, (916) 557-5250.

We appreciate your concern for threatened and endangered species. Please include the Consultation Tracking Number in the header of this letter with any request for consultation or correspondence about your project that you submit to our office.

The table below outlines lead FWS field offices by county and land ownership/project type. Please refer to this table when you are ready to coordinate (including requests for section 7 consultation) with the field office corresponding to your project, and send any documentation regarding your project to that corresponding office. Therefore, the lead FWS field office may not be the office listed above in the letterhead.

Lead FWS offices by County and Ownership/Program

County	Ownership/Program	Species	Office Lead*

Alameda	Tidal wetlands/marsh adjacent to Bays	Salt marsh species, delta smelt	BDFWO
Alameda	All ownerships but tidal/estuarine	All	SFWO
Alpine	Humboldt Toiyabe National Forest	All	RFWO
Alpine	Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit	All	RFWO
Alpine	Stanislaus National Forest	All	SFWO
Alpine	El Dorado National Forest	All	SFWO
Colusa	Mendocino National Forest	All	AFWO
Colusa	Other	All	By jurisdiction (see map)
Contra Costa	Legal Delta (Excluding ECCHCP)	All	BDFWO
Contra Costa	Antioch Dunes NWR	All	BDFWO
Contra Costa	Tidal wetlands/marsh adjacent to Bays	Salt marsh species, delta smelt	BDFWO
Contra Costa	All ownerships but tidal/estuarine	All	SFWO
Del Norte	All	All	AFWO
El Dorado	El Dorado National Forest	All	SFWO
El Dorado	LakeTahoe Basin Management Unit		RFWO
Glenn	Mendocino National Forest	All	AFWO
Glenn	Other	All	By jurisdiction (see map)
Humboldt	All except Shasta Trinity National Forest	All	AFWO

Humboldt	Shasta Trinity National Forest	All	YFWO
Lake	Mendocino National Forest	All	AFWO
Lake	Other	All	By jurisdiction (see map)
Lassen	Modoc National Forest	All	KFWO
Lassen	Lassen National Forest	All	SFWO
Lassen	Toiyabe National Forest	All	RFWO
Lassen	BLM Surprise and Eagle Lake Resource Areas	All	RFWO
Lassen	BLM Alturas Resource Area	All	KFWO
Lassen	Lassen Volcanic National Park	All (includes Eagle Lake trout on all ownerships)	SFWO
Lassen	All other ownerships	All	By jurisdiction (see map)
Marin	Tidal wetlands/marsh adjacent to Bays	Salt marsh species, delta smelt	BDFWO
Marin	All ownerships but tidal/estuarine	All	SFWO
Mendocino	Russian River watershed	All	SFWO
Mendocino	All except Russian River watershed	All	AFWO
Modoc	Modoc National Forest	All	KFWO
Modoc	BLM Alturas Resource Area	All	KFWO
Modoc	Klamath Basin National Wildlife Refuge Complex	All	KFWO
Modoc	BLM Surprise and Eagle Lake Resource Areas	All	RFWO

Modoc	All other ownerships	All	By jurisdiction (See map)
Mono	Inyo National Forest	All	RFWO
Mono	Humboldt Toiyabe National Forest	All	RFWO
Napa	All ownerships but tidal/estuarine	All	SFWO
Napa	Tidal wetlands/marsh adjacent to San Pablo Bay	Salt marsh species, delta smelt	BDFWO
Nevada	Humboldt Toiyabe National Forest	All	RFWO
Nevada	All other ownerships	All	By jurisdiction (See map)
Placer	Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit	All	RFWO
Placer	All other ownerships	All	SFWO
Sacramento	Legal Delta	Delta Smelt	BDFWO
Sacramento	Other	All	By jurisdiction (see map)
San Francisco	Tidal wetlands/marsh adjacent to San Francisco Bay	Salt marsh species, delta smelt	BDFWO
San Francisco	All ownerships but tidal/estuarine	All	SFWO
San Mateo	Tidal wetlands/marsh adjacent to San Francisco Bay	Salt marsh species, delta smelt	BDFWO
San Mateo	All ownerships but tidal/estuarine	All	SFWO
San Joaquin	Legal Delta excluding San Joaquin HCP	All	BDFWO

San Joaquin	Other	All	SFWO
Santa Clara	Tidal wetlands/marsh adjacent to San Francisco Bay	Salt marsh species, delta smelt	BDFWO
Santa Clara	All ownerships but tidal/estuarine	All	SFWO
Shasta	Shasta Trinity National Forest except Hat Creek Ranger District (administered by Lassen National Forest)	All	YFWO
Shasta	Hat Creek Ranger District	All	SFWO
Shasta	Bureau of Reclamation (Central Valley Project)	All	BDFWO
Shasta	Whiskeytown National Recreation Area	All	YFWO
Shasta	BLM Alturas Resource Area	All	KFWO
Shasta	Caltrans	By jurisdiction	SFWO/AFWO
Shasta	Ahjumawi Lava Springs State Park	Shasta crayfish	SFWO
Shasta	All other ownerships	All	By jurisdiction (see map)
Shasta	Natural Resource Damage Assessment, all lands	All	SFWO/BDFWO
Sierra	Humboldt Toiyabe National Forest	All	RFWO
Sierra	All other ownerships	All	SFWO
Siskiyou	Klamath National Forest (except Ukonom District)	All	YFWO
Siskiyou	Six Rivers National Forest and Ukonom District	All	AFWO
Siskiyou	Shasta Trinity National Forest	All	YFWO

Siskiyou	Lassen National Forest	All	SFWO
Siskiyou	Modoc National Forest	All	KFWO
Siskiyou	Lava Beds National Volcanic Monument	All	KFWO
Siskiyou	BLM Alturas Resource Area	All	KFWO
Siskiyou	Klamath Basin National Wildlife Refuge Complex	All	KFWO
Siskiyou	All other ownerships	All	By jurisdiction (see map)
Solano	Suisun Marsh	All	BDFWO
Solano	Tidal wetlands/marsh adjacent to San Pablo Bay	Salt marsh species, delta smelt	BDFWO
Solano	All ownerships but tidal/estuarine	All	SFWO
Solano	Other	All	By jurisdiction (see map)
Sonoma	Tidal wetlands/marsh adjacent to San Pablo Bay	Salt marsh species, delta smelt	BDFWO
Sonoma	All ownerships but tidal/estuarine	All	SFWO
Tehama	Mendocino National Forest	All	AFWO
Tehama	Shasta Trinity National Forest except Hat Creek Ranger District (administered by Lassen National Forest)	All	YFWO
Tehama	All other ownerships	All	By jurisdiction (see map)
Trinity	BLM	All	AFWO
Trinity	Six Rivers National Forest	All	AFWO
Trinity	Shasta Trinity National Forest	All	YFWO

Trinity	Mendocino National Forest	All	AFWO
Trinity	BIA (Tribal Trust Lands)	All	AFWO
Trinity	County Government	All	AFWO
Trinity	All other ownerships	All	By jurisdiction (See map)
Yolo	Yolo Bypass	All	BDFWO
Yolo	Other	All	By jurisdiction (see map)
All	FERC-ESA	All	By jurisdiction (see map)
All	FERC-ESA	Shasta crayfish	SFWO
All	FERC-Relicensing (non-ESA)	All	BDFWO

***Office Leads:**

AFWO=Arcata Fish and Wildlife Office

BDFWO=Bay Delta Fish and Wildlife Office

KFWO=Klamath Falls Fish and Wildlife Office

RFWO=Reno Fish and Wildlife Office

YFWO=Yreka Fish and Wildlife Office

Attachment(s):

- Official Species List
- USFWS National Wildlife Refuges and Fish Hatcheries
- Migratory Birds
- Wetlands

Official Species List

This list is provided pursuant to Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act, and fulfills the requirement for Federal agencies to "request of the Secretary of the Interior information whether any species which is listed or proposed to be listed may be present in the area of a proposed action".

This species list is provided by:

Reno Fish And Wildlife Office
1340 Financial Boulevard, Suite 234
Reno, NV 89502-7147
(775) 861-6300

Project Summary

Consultation Code: 08ENVD00-2020-SLI-0461

Event Code: 08ENVD00-2020-E-01245

Project Name: Zurich Material Site

Project Type: TRANSPORTATION

Project Description: The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) is proposing to establish Zurich Material Site (MS 308) [a former material site] for mining of shale near Big Pine, California. A new highway easement deed will be needed from the Bureau of Land Management (BLM Bishop Field Office) for approximately 55.5 acres. Of those 55.5 acres, disturbance caused by mining operations will be limited to approximately 13.9 acres. Approximately 336,000 cubic yards of material will be extracted from the site over a minimum 50-year lifespan.

The material site will be mined in two separate phases. For the first phase, the existing surface of the pit will be excavated to a depth of up to 10 feet. The first phase will also involve the reestablishment of a previously rehabilitated access road, construction of check dams (n=4) and diversion channels (n=2), and the installation of an access gate and earthen berm road block. The second phase of mining will see the pit surface further excavated to a maximum depth of up to 38 feet. The pit will be graded to ensure internal drainage. Topsoil (approximately 4 to 6 inches in depth) will be relocated to soil berms on the outer perimeter of the pit for post mining reclamation purposes.

Upon completion of the extraction of all material to the final grade lines, the final slopes will be reclaimed in accordance with SMARA regulations. Topsoil berms will be removed and spread evenly on all slopes. It is Caltrans' intent to rescind this site back to the Bureau of Land Management after mining resources are exhausted and slopes are reclaimed. Upon final site configuration and revegetation, a final SMARA reclamation inspection will be performed to retire the associated mine ID and commence with the intended end-use (natural resources- open space designation). At this point, no further mining activities will occur at the site.

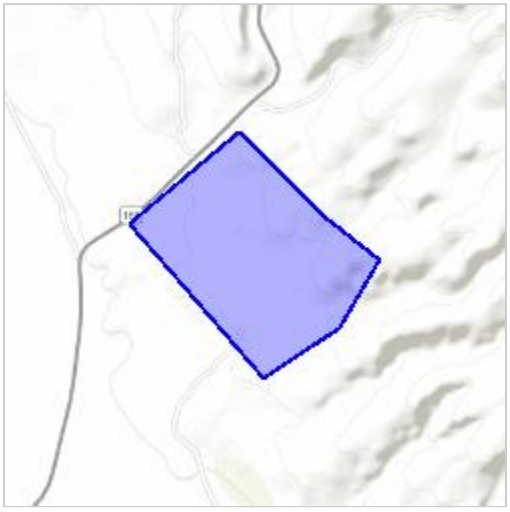
The material site's purpose is to provide quality material for District 9 maintenance forces for use in highway maintenance work in northern Inyo County and southern Mono County. The scale at the material site is the ideal material for shoulder backing and other material intensive

maintenance activities. The development of the site coincides with District 9's strategic plan for establishing material sources within reasonable haul proximity.

All 55.5 acres will be subject to the environmental clearance.

Project Location:

Approximate location of the project can be viewed in Google Maps: https://www.google.com/maps/place/37.19304003945417N118.2430758568293W



Counties: Inyo, CA

Endangered Species Act Species

There is a total of 2 threatened, endangered, or candidate species on this species list.

Species on this list should be considered in an effects analysis for your project and could include species that exist in another geographic area. For example, certain fish may appear on the species list because a project could affect downstream species.

IPaC does not display listed species or critical habitats under the sole jurisdiction of NOAA Fisheries[1], as USFWS does not have the authority to speak on behalf of NOAA and the Department of Commerce.

See the "Critical habitats" section below for those critical habitats that lie wholly or partially within your project area under this office's jurisdiction. Please contact the designated FWS office if you have questions.

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1. 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.

Fishes

NAME	STATUS
Lahontan Cutthroat Trout *Oncorhynchus clarkii henshawi* No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/3964 Species survey guidelines: https://ecos.fws.gov/ipac/guideline/survey/population/233/office/14320.pdf	Threatened
Owens Pupfish *Cyprinodon radiosus* No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/4982	Endangered

Critical habitats

THERE ARE NO CRITICAL HABITATS WITHIN YOUR PROJECT AREA UNDER THIS OFFICE'S JURISDICTION.

USFWS National Wildlife Refuge Lands And Fish Hatcheries

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 OR FISH HATCHERIES WITHIN YOUR PROJECT AREA.

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.

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1. The Migratory Birds Treaty Act of 1918.
2. The Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act of 1940.
3. 50 C.F.R. Sec. 10.12 and 16 U.S.C. Sec. 668(a)

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
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. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/1626	Breeds Dec 1 to Aug 31
Black Swift *Cypseloides niger* This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/8878	Breeds Jun 15 to Sep 10

NAME	BREEDING SEASON
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
Clark's Grebe *Aechmophorus clarkii* This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska.	Breeds Jan 1 to Dec 31
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
Long-billed Curlew *Numenius americanus* This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/5511	Breeds Apr 1 to Jul 31
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
Sagebrush Sparrow *Artemisiospiza nevadensis* This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) only in particular Bird Conservation Regions (BCRs) in the continental USA	Breeds Mar 15 to Jul 31
Willet *Tringa semipalmata* This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska.	Breeds Apr 20 to Aug 5

Probability Of Presence Summary

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.

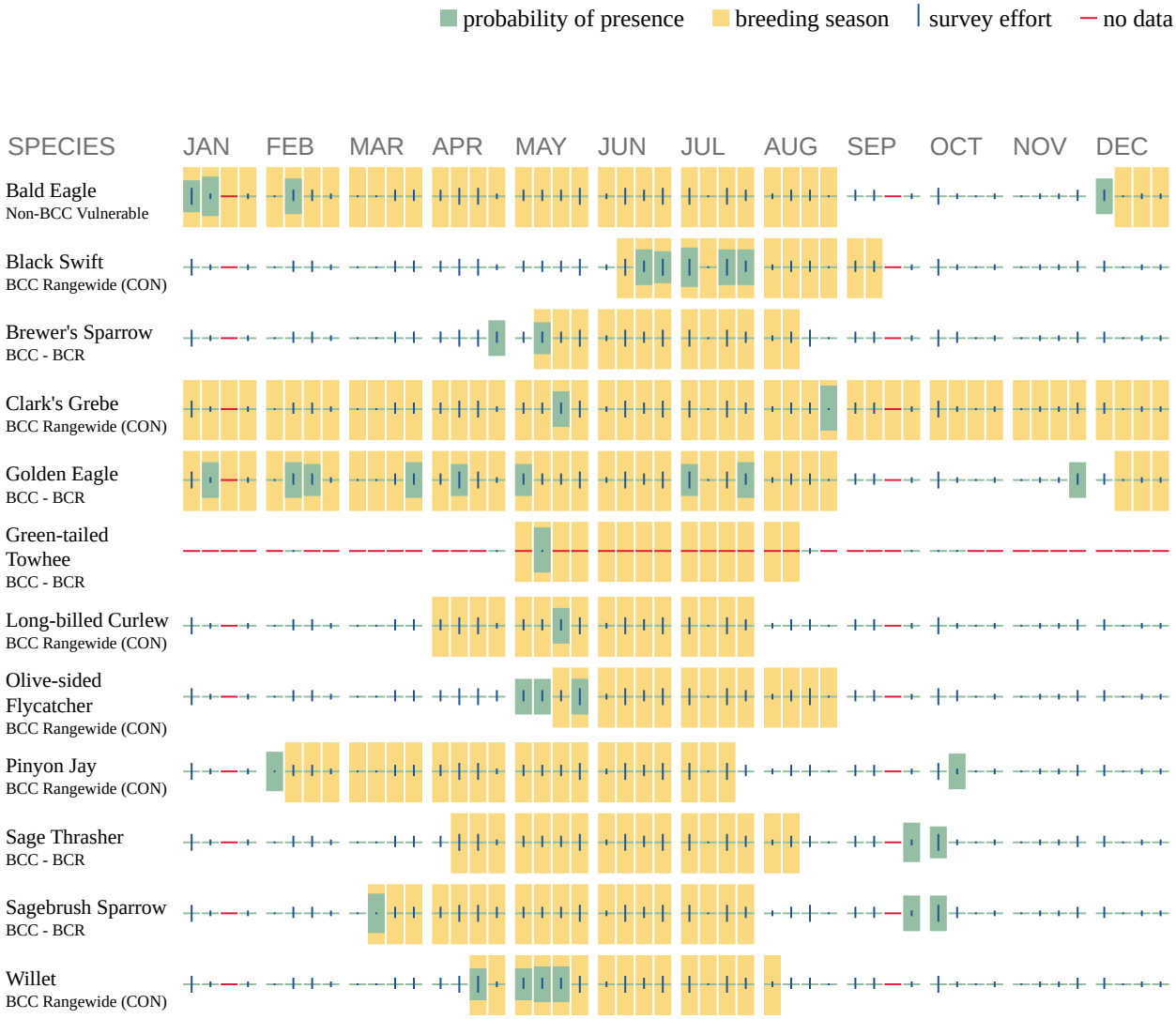
Breeding Season (■)
Yellow bars denote a very liberal estimate of the time-frame inside which the bird breeds across its entire range. If there are no yellow bars shown for a bird, it does not breed in your project area.

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.

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.



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
- 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

Migratory Birds FAQ

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 AKN Phenology Tool.

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.

Wetlands

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.

RIVERINE

- R4SBC

Appendix B: CDFW Species List

Summary Table Report

California Department of Fish and Wildlife

California Natural Diversity Database

Query Criteria: Quad IS (Uhlmeyer Spring (3711822) OR Big Pine (3711823) OR Waucoba Mtn. (3711811) OR Tinemaha Reservoir (3711812) OR Poleta Canyon (3711833) OR Westgard Pass (3711832) OR Deep Springs Lake (3711831) OR Cowhorn Valley (3711821) OR Fish Springs (3711813))

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.
Accipiter cooperii Cooper's hawk	G5 S4	None None	CDFW_WL-Watch List IUCN_LC-Least Concern	4,480 4,480	118 S:1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0
Aliciella triodon coyote gilia	G5 S2	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 2B.2	3,951 3,951	11 S:1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	0
Allium atrorubens var. atrorubens Great Basin onion	G4T4 S2	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 2B.3	5,380 5,380	19 S:1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	0
Anaxyrus exsul black toad	G1 S1	None Threatened	BLM_S-Sensitive CDFW_FP-Fully Protected IUCN_VU-Vulnerable USFS_S-Sensitive	4,940 5,680	6 S:5	0	1	2	0	0	2	4	1	5	0	0
Asio otus long-eared owl	G5 S3?	None None	CDFW_SSC-Species of Special Concern IUCN_LC-Least Concern	4,000 4,000	48 S:1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0
Astragalus geyeri var. geyeri Geyer's milk-vetch	G4T4 S2	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 2B.2	5,100 5,100	24 S:1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0
Astragalus serenoi var. shockleyi Shockley's milk-vetch	G4T3 S3	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 2B.2	3,900 7,100	25 S:11	0	1	1	1	0	8	2	9	11	0	0
Athene cunicularia burrowing owl	G4 S3	None None	BLM_S-Sensitive CDFW_SSC-Species of Special Concern IUCN_LC-Least Concern USFWS_BCC-Birds of Conservation Concern	3,930 5,150	1989 S:3	1	0	1	0	0	1	2	1	3	0	0
Atriplex gardneri var. falcata falcate saltbush	G4T4Q S2S3	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 2B.2	4,100 4,100	9 S:1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0
Blepharidachne kingii King's eyelash grass	G4 S2	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 2B.3	4,100 5,600	22 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.
Boechera bodiensis Bodie Hills rockcress	G3 S3	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 1B.3 BLM_S-Sensitive USFS_S-Sensitive	6,750 8,875	33 S:3	0	0	0	0	0	3	1	2	3	0	0
Boechera dispar pinyon rockcress	G3 S3	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 2B.3 SB_RSABG-Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden	4,700 8,200	97 S:11	0	2	1	0	0	8	3	8	11	0	0
Boechera lincolnensis Lincoln rockcress	G4G5 S3	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 2B.3 BLM_S-Sensitive	5,800 5,800	14 S:1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0
Boechera pendulina rabbit-ear rockcress	G5 S2	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 2B.1	10,300 10,300	9 S:1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0
Boechera shockleyi Shockley's rockcress	G3 S2	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 2B.2 SB_RSABG-Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden USFS_S-Sensitive	6,000 7,840	61 S:12	0	2	0	0	0	10	1	11	12	0	0
Bombus morrisoni Morrison bumble bee	G4G5 S1S2	None None	IUCN_VU-Vulnerable	4,000 8,600	85 S:9	0	0	0	0	0	9	9	0	9	0	0
Bristlecone Pine Forest Bristlecone Pine Forest	G4 S2.3	None None		10,000 10,800	2 S:2	0	0	0	0	0	2	2	0	2	0	0
Buteo swainsoni Swainson's hawk	G5 S3	None Threatened	BLM_S-Sensitive IUCN_LC-Least Concern USFWS_BCC-Birds of Conservation Concern	3,670 4,660	2518 S:10	0	0	0	0	0	10	8	2	10	0	0
Calochortus excavatus Inyo County star-tulip	G2 S2	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 1B.1 BLM_S-Sensitive USFS_S-Sensitive	3,840 6,700	70 S:18	0	5	7	1	0	5	7	11	18	0	0
Catostomus fumeiventris Owens sucker	G3G4 S3	None None	CDFW_SSC-Species of Special Concern	3,850 4,040	35 S:3	0	0	0	0	0	3	2	1	3	0	0
Chaetadelpha wheeleri Wheeler's dune-broom	G4 S2	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 2B.2	4,100 4,100	25 S:1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0
Charadrius alexandrinus nivosus western snowy plover	G3T3 S2S3	Threatened None	CDFW_SSC-Species of Special Concern NABCI_RWL-Red Watch List USFWS_BCC-Birds of Conservation Concern	3,860 4,900	138 S:2	0	0	0	0	0	2	2	0	2	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.
Charadrius montanus mountain plover	G3 S2S3	None None	BLM_S-Sensitive CDFW_SSC-Species of Special Concern IUCN_NT-Near Threatened NABCI_RWL-Red Watch List USFWS_BCC-Birds of Conservation Concern	3,880 3,880	90 S:1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0
Circus hudsonius northern harrier	G5 S3	None None	CDFW_SSC-Species of Special Concern IUCN_LC-Least Concern	4,100 4,100	53 S:1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0
Coccyzus americanus occidentalis western yellow-billed cuckoo	G5T2T3 S1	Threatened Endangered	BLM_S-Sensitive NABCI_RWL-Red Watch List USFS_S-Sensitive USFWS_BCC-Birds of Conservation Concern	3,870 4,480	164 S:3	0	3	0	0	0	0	2	1	3	0	0
Corynorhinus townsendii Townsend's big-eared bat	G3G4 S2	None None	BLM_S-Sensitive CDFW_SSC-Species of Special Concern IUCN_LC-Least Concern USFS_S-Sensitive WBWG_H-High Priority	4,040 8,600	635 S:26	0	1	0	0	0	25	10	16	26	0	0
Crepis runcinata fiddleleaf hawksbeard	G5 S3	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 2B.2	4,800 4,941	32 S:2	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	1	2	0	0
Cryptantha fendleri sand dune cryptantha	G5 S1	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 2B.2	7,250 7,250	2 S:1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0
Cuniculotinus gramineus Panamint rock-goldenrod	G3G4 S3	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 2B.3	9,050 9,050	10 S:2	0	0	0	0	0	2	2	0	2	0	0
Cyprinodon radiosus Owens pupfish	G1 S1	Endangered Endangered	AFS_EN-Endangered CDFW_FP-Fully Protected IUCN_EN-Endangered	3,960 4,240	23 S:7	0	0	0	0	6	1	5	2	1	1	5
Dedeckera eurekensis July gold	G3 S3	None Rare	Rare Plant Rank - 1B.3 BLM_S-Sensitive SB_BerrySB-Berry Seed Bank USFS_S-Sensitive	4,800 5,900	29 S:2	0	1	0	0	0	1	1	1	2	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.
Diplacus parryi Parry's monkeyflower	G4G5 S3	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 2B.3	5,500 8,500	13 S:9	0	0	0	0	0	9	8	1	9	0	0
Elgaria panamintina Panamint alligator lizard	G3 S3	None None	BLM_S-Sensitive CDFW_SSC-Species of Special Concern IUCN_VU-Vulnerable USFS_S-Sensitive	5,186 6,860	25 S:6	5	1	0	0	0	0	0	6	6	0	0
Elymus scribneri Scribner's wheat grass	G5 S3	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 2B.3	10,000 10,000	12 S:1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	0
Empidonax traillii extimus southwestern willow flycatcher	G5T2 S1	Endangered Endangered	NABCI_RWL-Red Watch List	3,880 3,880	70 S:1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0
Eremothera boothii ssp. boothii Booth's evening-primrose	G5T4 S3	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 2B.3	5,000 5,000	35 S:1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0
Eremothera boothii ssp. intermedia Booth's hairy evening-primrose	G5T3T4 S3	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 2B.3	6,900 6,900	14 S:2	0	0	0	0	0	2	2	0	2	0	0
Ericameria gilmanii Gilman's goldenbush	G2 S2	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 1B.3 BLM_S-Sensitive SB_RSABG-Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden USFS_S-Sensitive	7,200 7,200	7 S:1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0
Erigeron compactus compact daisy	G3 S3	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 2B.3	6,700 8,600	13 S:11	0	0	0	0	0	11	5	6	11	0	0
Erythranthe calcicola limestone monkeyflower	G3 S3	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 1B.3 BLM_S-Sensitive SB_RSABG-Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden	6,800 6,800	15 S:1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	0
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	4,040 4,040	68 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.
Falco mexicanus prairie falcon	G5 S4	None None	CDFW_WL-Watch List IUCN_LC-Least Concern USFWS_BCC-Birds of Conservation Concern	7,313 7,313	460 S:1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0
Fimbristylis thermalis hot springs fimbristylis	G4 S1S2	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 2B.2 SB_RSABG-Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden	4,000 4,000	19 S:2	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	1	2	0	0
Fontelicella sp. Deep Springs fontelicella	G1 S1	None None		4,940 4,940	1 S:1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0
Grusonia pulchella beautiful cholla	G4 S2	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 2B.2	5,120 5,120	11 S:1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0
Haliaeetus leucocephalus bald eagle	G5 S3	Delisted Endangered	BLM_S-Sensitive CDF_S-Sensitive CDFW_FP-Fully Protected IUCN_LC-Least Concern USFS_S-Sensitive USFWS_BCC-Birds of Conservation Concern	3,850 3,850	327 S:1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0
Hesperidanthus jaegeri Jaeger's hesperidanthus	G2 S2	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 1B.2 BLM_S-Sensitive USFS_S-Sensitive	7,250 7,250	7 S:1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0
Hymenopappus filifolius var. nanus little cutleaf	G5T4 S3	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 2B.3	6,600 11,000	19 S:8	0	0	0	0	0	8	6	2	8	0	0
Icteria virens yellow-breasted chat	G5 S3	None None	CDFW_SSC-Species of Special Concern IUCN_LC-Least Concern	4,660 4,660	100 S:1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0
Jaffueliobryum wrightii Wright's jaffueliobryum moss	G5 S2S3	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 2B.3	8,600 8,600	21 S:1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0
Juncus nodosus knotted rush	G5 S3	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 2B.3	5,600 5,600	12 S:1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0
Lasiurus cinereus hoary bat	G5 S4	None None	IUCN_LC-Least Concern WBWG_M-Medium Priority		238 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.
Lepus townsendii townsendii western white-tailed jackrabbit	G5T5 S3?	None None	CDFW_SSC-Species of Special Concern	4,140 4,140	24 S:1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0
Lithobates pipiens northern leopard frog	G5 S2	None None	CDFW_SSC-Species of Special Concern IUCN_LC-Least Concern	100 4,370	19 S:3	0	0	0	0	0	3	3	0	3	0	0
Loeflingia squarrosa var. artemisiarum sagebrush loeflingia	G5T3 S2	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 2B.2 BLM_S-Sensitive	3,820 3,980	26 S:5	1	1	0	0	0	3	5	0	5	0	0
Lomatium foeniculaceum ssp. macdougalii Macdougal's lomatium	G5T4T5 S3	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 2B.2		26 S:1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0
Lupinus pusillus var. intermontanus intermontane lupine	G5T5? S2	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 2B.3	3,900 3,900	19 S:1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0
Microtus californicus vallicola Owens Valley vole	G5T3 S3	None None	BLM_S-Sensitive CDFW_SSC-Species of Special Concern		14 S:1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0
Myotis ciliolabrum western small-footed myotis	G5 S3	None None	BLM_S-Sensitive IUCN_LC-Least Concern WBWG_M-Medium Priority	4,100 7,320	82 S:2	0	0	0	0	0	2	2	0	2	0	0
Oenothera longissima long-stem evening-primrose	G4 S1	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 2B.2	5,600 5,600	4 S:1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0
Oryctes nevadensis Nevada oryctes	G3 S2	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 2B.1	3,930 4,090	33 S:17	0	13	2	0	0	2	17	0	17	0	0
Ovis canadensis nelsoni desert bighorn sheep	G4T4 S3	None None	BLM_S-Sensitive CDFW_FP-Fully Protected USFS_S-Sensitive		46 S:1	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	1
Pandion haliaetus osprey	G5 S4	None None	CDF_S-Sensitive CDFW_WL-Watch List IUCN_LC-Least Concern	3,870 3,870	504 S:1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0
Parnopes borregoensis Borrego parnopes cuckoo wasp	G1G2 S1S2	None None		4,000 4,000	4 S:1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0
Phacelia inyoensis Inyo phacelia	G2 S2	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 1B.2 BLM_S-Sensitive USFS_S-Sensitive	3,000 4,000	19 S:4	1	0	0	0	0	3	4	0	4	0	0

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						A	B	C	D	X	U	Historic > 20 yr	Recent <= 20 yr	Extant	Poss. Extirp.	Extirp.
Physocarpus alternans Nevada ninebark	G4 S3	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 2B.3	6,235 6,975	14 S:5	0	0	0	0	0	5	1	4	5	0	0
Piranga rubra summer tanager	G5 S1	None None	CDFW_SSC-Species of Special Concern IUCN_LC-Least Concern	4,480 4,480	21 S:1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0
Plagiobothrys nitens shiny-nutlet popcornflower	GNR S1	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 2B.1	4,950 4,950	1 S:1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	0
Plagiobothrys parishii Parish's popcornflower	G1 S1	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 1B.1 SB_RSABG-Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden USFS_S-Sensitive	3,945 4,100	16 S:3	0	0	0	0	0	3	1	2	3	0	0
Plagiobothrys salsus desert popcornflower	G2G3 S1	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 2B.2	4,941 4,941	5 S:1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	0
Plebejus icarioides albihalos White Mountains icarioides blue butterfly	G5T2T3 S2?	None None		7,680 7,680	4 S:1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0
Pyrgulopsis owensensis Owens Valley springsnail	G1G2 S1S2	None None	USFS_S-Sensitive	1,230 6,000	10 S:7	0	5	1	0	0	1	7	0	7	0	0
Pyrgulopsis wongi Wong's springsnail	G2 S2	None None	IUCN_LC-Least Concern USFS_S-Sensitive	1,400 6,845	50 S:10	0	0	4	0	0	6	8	2	10	0	0
Rhinichthys osculus ssp. 2 Owens speckled dace	G5T1T2Q S1S2	None None	AFS_TH-Threatened CDFW_SSC-Species of Special Concern	3,850 4,240	28 S:2	0	0	0	0	2	0	2	0	0	2	0
Riparia riparia bank swallow	G5 S2	None Threatened	BLM_S-Sensitive IUCN_LC-Least Concern	3,920 3,920	298 S:1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0
Sidalcea covillei Owens Valley checkerbloom	G2 S2	None Endangered	Rare Plant Rank - 1B.1 BLM_S-Sensitive	3,920 4,650	43 S:11	0	7	3	1	0	0	3	8	11	0	0
Siphateles bicolor snyderi Owens tui chub	G4T1 S1	Endangered Endangered	AFS_EN-Endangered	3,880 4,240	20 S:4	0	1	0	0	2	1	2	2	2	1	1
Sphenopholis obtusata prairie wedge grass	G5 S2	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 2B.2	4,700 4,700	19 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.
Suaeda occidentalis western seablite	G5 S2	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 2B.3	4,000 4,000	9 S:1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	0
Tetradymia tetrameres dune horsebrush	G4 S2	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 2B.2	5,600 5,600	10 S:1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0
Thelypodium integrifolium ssp. complanatum foxtail thelypodium	G5T4T5 S2	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 2B.2	7,000 7,000	13 S:1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0
Transberingia bursifolia ssp. virgata virgate halimolobos	G4T4 S2	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 2B.3	7,900 7,900	9 S:1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0
Transmontane Alkali Marsh Transmontane Alkali Marsh	G3 S2.1	None None		4,920 5,680	7 S:2	0	0	0	0	0	2	2	0	2	0	0
Viola pinetorum ssp. grisea grey-leaved violet	G4G5T3 S3	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 1B.2	7,950 7,950	90 S:1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	0
Water Birch Riparian Scrub Water Birch Riparian Scrub	GNR SNR	None None		4,900 6,600	29 S:5	0	0	0	0	0	5	5	0	5	0	0

Appendix C: CNPS Species List

Inventory of Rare and Endangered Plants

*The database used to provide updates to the Online Inventory is under construction. View updates and changes made since May 2019 here.

Plant List

48 matches found. *Click on scientific name for details*

Search Criteria

California Rare Plant Rank is one of **[1A, 1B, 2A, 2B]**, Found in Quads **3711833, 3711832, 3711831, 3711823, 3711822, 3711821, 3711813 3711812** and **3711811**;

Modify Search Criteria | Export to Excel | Modify Columns | Modify Sort | Display Photos

Scientific Name	Common Name	Family	Lifeform	Blooming Period	CA Rare Plant Rank	State Rank	Global Rank
Aliciella triodon	coyote gilia	Polemoniaceae	annual herb	Apr-Jun	2B.2	S2	G5
Allium atrorubens var. atrorubens	Great Basin onion	Alliaceae	perennial bulbiferous herb	May-Jun	2B.3	S2	G4T4
Astragalus geyeri var. geyeri	Geyer's milk-vetch	Fabaceae	annual herb	May-Aug	2B.2	S2	G4T4
Astragalus serenoi var. shockleyi	Shockley's milk-vetch	Fabaceae	perennial herb	(Apr)May-Jul	2B.2	S2	G4T3
Atriplex gardneri var. falcata	falcate saltbush	Chenopodiaceae	perennial herb	May-Aug	2B.2	S2S3	G4T4Q
Blepharidachne kingii	King's eyelash grass	Poaceae	perennial herb	May	2B.3	S2	G4
Boechera bodiensis	Bodie Hills rockcress	Brassicaceae	perennial herb	Jun-Jul(Aug)	1B.3	S3	G3
Boechera dispar	pinyon rockcress	Brassicaceae	perennial herb	Mar-Jun	2B.3	S3	G3
Boechera lincolnensis	Lincoln rockcress	Brassicaceae	perennial herb	Mar-May	2B.3	S3	G4G5

Boechera shockleyi	Shockley's rockcress	Brassicaceae	perennial herb	May-Jun	2B.2	S2	G3
Calochortus excavatus	Inyo County star-tulip	Liliaceae	perennial bulbiferous herb	Apr-Jul	1B.1	S2	G2
Chaetadelpha wheeleri	Wheeler's dune-broom	Asteraceae	perennial rhizomatous herb	Apr-Sep	2B.2	S2	G4
Crepis runcinata	fiddleleaf hawksbeard	Asteraceae	perennial herb	May-Aug	2B.2	S3	G5
Cryptantha fendleri	sand dune cryptantha	Boraginaceae	annual herb	Jun-Jul	2B.2	S1	G5
Cuniculotinus gramineus	Panamint rock-goldenrod	Asteraceae	perennial herb	Jun-Aug	2B.3	S3	G3G4
Dedeckera eurekensis	July gold	Polygonaceae	perennial deciduous shrub	May-Aug	1B.3	S3	G3
Diplacus parryi	Parry's monkeyflower	Phrymaceae	annual herb	May-Jul	2B.3	S3	G4G5
Eremothera boothii ssp. boothii	Booth's evening-primrose	Onagraceae	annual herb	Apr-Sep	2B.3	S3	G5T4
Eremothera boothii ssp. intermedia	Booth's hairy evening-primrose	Onagraceae	annual herb	(May)Jun	2B.3	S3	G5T3T4
Ericameria gilmanii	Gilman's goldenbush	Asteraceae	perennial shrub	Aug-Sep	1B.3	S2	G2
Erigeron compactus	compact daisy	Asteraceae	perennial herb	May-Jul	2B.3	S3	G3
Erythranthe calcicola	limestone monkeyflower	Phrymaceae	annual herb	Apr-Jun	1B.3	S3	G3
Fimbristylis thermalis	hot springs fimbristylis	Cyperaceae	perennial rhizomatous herb	Jul-Sep	2B.2	S1S2	G4
Grusonia pulchella	beautiful cholla	Cactaceae	perennial stem succulent	May(Jun)	2B.2	S2	G4
Hesperidanthus jaegeri	Jaeger's hesperidanthus	Brassicaceae	perennial herb	May-Jul	1B.2	S2	G2
Hymenopappus filifolius var. nanus	little cutleaf	Asteraceae	perennial herb	May-Sep	2B.3	S3	G5T4
Jaffueliobryum wrightii	Wright's jaffueliobryum moss	Grimmiaceae	moss		2B.3	S2?	G4G5

Juncus nodosus	knotted rush	Juncaceae	perennial rhizomatous herb	Jul-Sep	2B.3	S3	G5
Loeflingia squarrosa var. artemisiarum	sagebrush loeflingia	Caryophyllaceae	annual herb	Apr-May	2B.2	S2	G5T3
Lomatium foeniculaceum ssp. macdougalii	MacDougal's lomatium	Apiaceae	perennial herb	Apr-Jul	2B.2	S3	G5T4T5
Lupinus padre-crowleyi	Father Crowley's lupine	Fabaceae	perennial herb	Jun-Aug	1B.2	S2	G2
Lupinus pusillus var. intermontanus	intermontane lupine	Fabaceae	annual herb	May-Jun	2B.3	S2	G5T5?
Oenothera longissima	long-stem evening-primrose	Onagraceae	annual / perennial herb	Jul-Sep	2B.2	S1	G4
Oryctes nevadensis	Nevada oryctes	Solanaceae	annual herb	Apr-Jun	2B.1	S2	G3
Phacelia inyoensis	Inyo phacelia	Hydrophyllaceae	annual herb	Apr-Aug	1B.2	S3	G3
Physocarpus alternans	Nevada ninebark	Rosaceae	perennial deciduous shrub	Jun-Jul	2B.3	S3	G4
Plagiobothrys nitens	shiny-nutlet popcornflower	Boraginaceae	annual herb	Jun-Jul	2B.1	S1	GNR
Plagiobothrys parishii	Parish's popcornflower	Boraginaceae	annual herb	Mar-Jun(Nov)	1B.1	S1	G1
Plagiobothrys salsus	desert popcornflower	Boraginaceae	annual herb	May-Aug	2B.2	S1	G2G3
Potamogeton robbinsii	Robbins' pondweed	Potamogetonaceae	perennial rhizomatous herb (aquatic)	Jul-Aug	2B.3	S3	G5
Sidalcea covillei	Owens Valley checkerbloom	Malvaceae	perennial herb	Apr-Jun	1B.1	S2	G2
Sphenopholis obtusata	prairie wedge grass	Poaceae	perennial herb	Apr-Jul	2B.2	S2	G5
Streptanthus oliganthus	Masonic Mountain jewelflower	Brassicaceae	perennial herb	Jun-Jul	1B.2	S3	G3
Suaeda occidentalis	western seablite	Chenopodiaceae	annual herb	Jul-Sep	2B.3	S2	G5
Tetradymia tetrameres	dune horsebrush	Asteraceae	perennial shrub	(Jul)Aug	2B.2	S2	G4

Thelypodium integrifolium ssp. complanatum	foxtail thelypodium	Brassicaceae	annual / perennial herb	Jun-Oct	2B.2	S2	G5T4T5
Transberingia bursifolia ssp. virgata	virgate halimolobos	Brassicaceae	perennial herb	(Jun)Jul	2B.3	S2	G4T4
Viola pinetorum ssp. grisea	grey-leaved violet	Violaceae	perennial herb	Apr-Jul	1B.2	S3	G4G5T3

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Appendix D: BLM Species Lists

BLM Special Status Animal Species by Field Office

FIELD OFFICE		COMMON NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME	FEDERAL STATUS	STATE STATUS	BLM STATUS	OTHER STATUS
Alturas		24 Species					
	Mammal						
		Long-eared myotis	Myotis evotis			BLMS	
		Pacific fisher	Martes pennanti (pacifica) DPS	FC	SC	BLMS	SSC
		Pallid bat	Antrozous pallidus			BLMS	SSC
		Small-footed myotis	Myotis ciliolabrum			BLMS	
		Townsend's big-eared bat	Corynorhinus townsendii			BLMS	SSC
		Western mastiff-bat	Eumops perotis californicus			BLMS	SSC
	Bird						
		Bald eagle	Haliaeetus leucocephalus	FD	SE	BLMS	EA
		Bank swallow	Riparia riparia		ST	BLMS	
		Burrowing owl	Athene cunicularia			BLMS	SSC
		Golden eagle	Aquila chrysaetos			BLMS	EA
		Greater sage-grouse	Centrocercus urophasianus	FC		BLMS	SSC
		Greater sandhill crane	Grus canadensis tabida		ST	BLMS	SF
		Northern goshawk	Accipiter gentilis			BLMS	SSC
		Swainson's hawk	Buteo swainsoni		ST	BLMS	
		Tricolored blackbird	Agelaius tricolor			BLMS	SSC
	Reptile						
		Northern sagebrush lizard	Sceloporus graciosus graciosus			BLMS	
	Amphibian						
		Oregon spotted frog	Rana pretiosa	FC		BLMS	
		Western spadefoot toad	Spea hammondii			BLMS	
	Fish						
		Lost River sucker	Deltistes luxatus	FE	SE		SF
		Modoc sucker	Catostomus microps	FE	SE		SF
		Pacific lamprey	Entosphenus tridentatus			BLMS	
		Rough sculpin	Cottus asperrimus		ST	BLMS	
		Shortnose sucker	Chasmistes brevirostris	FE	SE		SF
	Invertebrate						

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

FIELD OFFICE	COMMON NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME	FEDERAL STATUS	STATE STATUS	BLM STATUS	OTHER STATUS
Bishop	30 Species					
	Mammal					
	Desert bighorn sheep	Ovis canadensis nelsoni			BLMS	SF
	Fringed myotis	Myotis thysanodes			BLMS	
	Long-eared myotis	Myotis evotis			BLMS	
	Mohave ground squirrel	Spermophilus mohavensis		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
	Pygmy rabbit	Brachylagus idahoensis			BLMS	
	Sierra Nevada bighorn sheep	Ovis canadensis sierrae	FE	SE		SF
	Small-footed myotis	Myotis ciliolabrum			BLMS	
	Spotted bat	Euderma maculatum			BLMS	SSC
	Townsend's big-eared bat	Corynorhinus townsendii			BLMS	SSC
	Yuma myotis	Myotis yumanensis			BLMS	
	Bird					
	Bald eagle	Haliaeetus leucocephalus	FD	SE	BLMS	EA
	Bank swallow	Riparia riparia		ST	BLMS	
	Burrowing owl	Athene cunicularia			BLMS	SSC
	Golden eagle	Aquila chrysaetos			BLMS	EA
	Greater sage-grouse	Centrocercus urophasianus	FC		BLMS	SSC
	Least Bell's vireo	Vireo bellii pusillus	FE	SE		
	Northern goshawk	Accipiter gentilis			BLMS	SSC
	Swainson's hawk	Buteo swainsoni		ST	BLMS	
	Western yellow-billed cuckoo	Coccyzus americanus occidentalis	FC	SE	BLMS	
	Reptile					
	Northern sagebrush lizard	Sceloporus graciosus graciosus			BLMS	
	Panamint alligator lizard	Elgaria panamintina			BLMS	
	Amphibian					
	Black toad	Anaxyrus exsul		ST	BLMS	SF
	Inyo Mountains slender salamander	Batrachoseps campi			BLMS	
	Fish					
	Amargosa River pupfish	Cyprinodon nevadensis amargosae			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

FIELD OFFICE	COMMON NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME	FEDERAL STATUS	STATE STATUS	BLM STATUS	OTHER STATUS
	Owens pupfish	Cyprinodon radiosus	FE	SE		SF
	Owens speckled dace	Rhinichthys osculus ssp. 2			BLMS	
	Owens tui chub	Siphateles bicolor snyderi	FE	SE		
Eagle Lake	20 Species					
	Mammal					
	Fringed myotis	Myotis thysanodes			BLMS	
	Long-eared myotis	Myotis evotis			BLMS	
	Pacific fisher	Martes pennanti (pacifica) DPS	FC	SC	BLMS	SSC
	Pallid bat	Antrozous pallidus			BLMS	SSC
	Pygmy rabbit	Brachylagus idahoensis			BLMS	
	Small-footed myotis	Myotis ciliolabrum			BLMS	
	Townsend's big-eared bat	Corynorhinus townsendii			BLMS	SSC
	Yuma myotis	Myotis yumanensis			BLMS	
	Bird					
	Bald eagle	Haliaeetus leucocephalus	FD	SE	BLMS	EA
	Bank swallow	Riparia riparia		ST	BLMS	
	Burrowing owl	Athene cunicularia			BLMS	SSC
	California spotted owl	Strix occidentalis occidentalis			BLMS	SSC
	Golden eagle	Aquila chrysaetos			BLMS	EA
	Greater sage-grouse	Centrocercus urophasianus	FC		BLMS	SSC
	Greater sandhill crane	Grus canadensis tabida		ST	BLMS	SF
	Northern goshawk	Accipiter gentilis			BLMS	SSC
	Swainson's hawk	Buteo swainsoni		ST	BLMS	
	Tricolored blackbird	Agelaius tricolor			BLMS	SSC
	Reptile					
	California mountain kingsnake	Lampropeltis zonata			BLMS	
	Northern sagebrush lizard	Sceloporus graciosus graciosus			BLMS	

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All BLM CALIFORNIA SPECIAL STATUS PLANTS

Thursday, May 28, 2015
11:00:38 AM

SCIENTIFIC NAME	COMMON NAME	TYPE OF PLANT	FAMILY	FED STATUS	CA STATUS	BLM STATUS	CA RARE PLANT RANK	NNPS STATUS	GLOBAL RANK	STATE RANK	NV STATUS	RECOVERY PLAN?	DATE UPDATED	COMMENTS	ALTURAS	ARCATA	BAKERSFIELD	BARSTOW	BISHOP	EAGLE LAKE	EL CENTRO	HOLLISTER	MOTHER LODE	NEEDLES	PALM SPRINGS	REDDING	RIDGECREST	SURPRISE	UKIAH
Abronia umbellata var. breviflora	pink sand-verbena	VASC	Nyctaginaceae			BLMS	1B.1		G4G5T2	S1		No	29-Apr-13	Formerly subsp. *breviflora* (Standl.) Munz.		K													
Abronia villosa var. aurita	chaparral sand-verbena	VASC	Nyctaginaceae			BLMS	1B.1		G5T3T4	S2		No	06-Aug-13	CNDDB occurrences 2 and 91 are on BLM lands in the Palm Springs Field Office.							S				K				
Acanthomintha ilicifolia	San Diego thornmint	VASC	Lamiaceae	FT	SE		1B.1		G1	S2		No	12-Mar-15	Status changed from "K" to "S" on 8/6/2013. Naomi Fraga was unable to find the species on BLM lands when trying to collect seeds in 2012. Although there are several CNDDB occurences close to BLM lands, none of these actually intersect with BLM lands.											S				
Acanthoscyphus parishii var. goodmaniana	Cushenberry oxytheca	VASC	Polygonaceae	FE			1B.1		G4?T1	S1		No	06-Aug-13	Formerly *Oxytheca parishii* var. *goodmaniana*. Name change based on Reveal, J.L. 2004. Nomenclatural summary of Polygonaceae subfamily Eriogonoideae. Harvard Papers in Botany 9(1):144. A draft Recovery Plan was issued in 1997 but as of 8/6/2013 was not final. Some of the recovery actions in the draft plan have been started and partially implemented.				K									
Acmispon argyraeus var. multicaulis	scrub lotus	VASC	Fabaceae			BLMS	1B.3		G4?T2	S2		No	13-Sep-12	Formerly *Lotus argyraeus* (Greene) Greene var. *multicaulis* (Ottley) Isely. Occurs on BLM lands in vicinity of Dinosaur Trackway ACEC. Occurrence there discovered in 2008 acc. Jim Weigand.										K				
Acmispon rubriflorus	red-flowered lotus	VASC	Fabaceae			BLMS	1B.1		G1	S1		No	16-Nov-10	Formerly *Lotus rubriflorus* H.K. Sharsm.											S				

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Arctostaphylos rainbowensis	rainbow manzanita	VASC	Ericaceae			BLMS	1B.1		G2	S2		No	31-Mar-15	CNDDB Occurrence 43 is on BLM lands in Riverside County. Occurrence 56, is based on a 2005 collection by Woelfel and Woelfel, who claim it was collected on BLM lands in San Diego County, but CNDDB maps it as a 1/5 mile radius circle, some of which is BLM and some of which is private. Some other occurrences are close to but not on BLM lands.											K				
Arctostaphylos rudis	sand mesa manzanita	VASC	Ericaceae			BLMS	1B.2		G2	S2		No	31-Mar-15				K												
Aristocapsa insignis	Indian Valley spineflower	VASC	Polygonaceae			BLMS	1B.2		G2?	S2?		No	31-Mar-15				S												
Astragalus agnicidus	Humboldt milk-vetch	VASC	Fabaceae		SE	BLMS	1B.1		G3	S3		No	13-Sep-12			S													
Astragalus agrestis	field milk-vetch	VASC	Fabaceae			BLMS	2.B2		G5	S2?		No	31-Mar-15	This species is rather widespread elsewhere, so the primary value of this population is its disjunct location in CA, and maintaining the genetic viability of the species across its range.	K					K										
Astragalus albens	Cushenberry milk-vetch	VASC	Fabaceae	FE			1B.1		G1	S1		No	06-Aug-13	A draft Recovery Plan was issued in 1997 but as of 8/6/2013 was not final. Some of the recovery actions in the draft plan have been started and partially implemented.				K												
Astragalus anxius	Ash Valley milk-vetch	VASC	Fabaceae			BLMS	1B.3		G1	S1		No		In Ash Valley ACEC/RNA.	K														
Astragalus argophyllus var. argophyllus	silverleaf milk-vetch	VASC	Fabaceae			BLMS	2B.2		G5T4	S1		No	31-Mar-15						K	K									
Astragalus atratus var. mensanus	Darwin Mesa milk-vetch	VASC	Fabaceae			BLMS	1B.1		G4G5T1	S1		No	13-Sep-12	On Darwin Mesa.														K		
Astragalus bernardinus	San Bernardino Milk-Vetch	VASC	Fabaceae			BLMS	1B.2		G2G3	S2S3		No	06-Aug-13	Currently shown in Little San Bernardino Mountains, Little San Bernardino Mountains, New York Mountains, and Big Horn Mountains. There are 33 known occurrences in CNDDB, 12 between 1992 and 2011.				K							K					

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Astragalus brauntonii	Braunton's milk-vetch	VASC	Fabaceae	FE			1B.1		G2	S2		Yes	13-Sep-12												S				
Astragalus cimae var. sufflatus	inflated Cima milk-vetch	VASC	Fabaceae			BLMS	1B.3		G3T3	S3		No	31-Mar-15	CNDDB Occurrence number 2 is on BLM lands within the new boundary of the Cerro Gordo/Conglomerate Mesa ACEC.													K		
Astragalus deanei	Deane's milk-vetch	VASC	Fabaceae			BLMS	1B.1		G1	S1		No	31-Mar-15												K				
Astragalus douglasii var. perstrictus	Jacumba milk-vetch	VASC	Fabaceae			BLMS	1B.2		G5T2?	S2?		No	31-Mar-15												K				
Astragalus ertterae	Walker Pass milk-vetch	VASC	Fabaceae			BLMS	1B.3		G2	S2		No					K										K		
Astragalus funereus	black milk-vetch	VASC	Fabaceae			BLMS	1B.2		G2	S2.2		No						K											
Astragalus hornii var. hornii	Horn's milk-vetch	VASC	Fabaceae			BLMS	1B.1		G4G5T2T3	S1		No	13-Sep-12				K												
Astragalus jaegerianus	Lane Mtn. milk-vetch	VASC	Fabaceae	FE			1B.1		G1	S1		No	13-Sep-12					K											
Astragalus johannis-howellii	Long Valley milkvetch	VASC	Fabaceae		SR	BLMS	1B.2		G2	S2		No	31-Mar-15						K										
Astragalus lemmonii	Lemmon's milk-vetch	VASC	Fabaceae			BLMS	1B.2	W	G2	S2		No	13-Sep-12						S										
Astragalus lentiformis	lens-pod milk-vetch	VASC	Fabaceae			BLMS	1B.2		G2	S2		No							K										
Astragalus lentiginosus var. coachellae	Coachella Valley milk-vetch	VASC	Fabaceae	FE			1B.2		G5T1	S1		No	31-Mar-15												K				
Astragalus lentiginosus var. piscinensis	Fish Slough milk-vetch	VASC	Fabaceae	FT			1B.1		G5T1	S1		Yes	13-Sep-12						K										
Astragalus magdalenae var. peirsonii	Peirson's milk-vetch	VASC	Fabaceae	FT	SE		1B.2		G3G4T2	S2		No	13-Sep-12							K									
Astragalus mojavensis var. hemigyrus	curved-pod milkvetch	VASC	Fabaceae			BLMS	1B.1		G3G4T2T3	S1		No	15-Nov-10	Formerly on List 1A. Rediscovered on Darwin Mesa by Dana York in 2001 and verified in 2009.														K		
Astragalus monoensis	Mono milk-vetch	VASC	Fabaceae		SR	BLMS	1B.2		G2	S2		No	31-Mar-15	Was *A. monoensis* var. *monoensis* until the former *A. m.* var. *ravenii* was elevated to its own species (*A. ravenii Barneby).*					K											

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Astragalus nyensis	Nye milk-vetch	VASC	Fabaceae			BLMS	1B.1		G3	S1		No	18-Sep-12	CNDDB mapped 19 specific occurrences of this species found during surveys for a private solar development project in 2011. Specific occurrence number 2 is mapped on BLM lands (occurrence rating poor, only 1 plant found). Although the records in RareFind for occurrences 9 and 13 state that those occurrences occupy both private and BLM lands, both occurrences are mapped only on private lands.				K											
Astragalus oocarpus	San Diego rattleweed	VASC	Fabaceae			BLMS	1B.2		G3	S3		No	31-Mar-15												K				
Astragalus oophorus var. lavinii	Lavin's milk-vetch	VASC	Fabaceae			BLMS	1B.2		G4T2	S1		No	15-Nov-10	Bodie Hills.					K										
Astragalus pachypus var. jaegeri	Jaeger's bush milk-vetch	VASC	Fabaceae			BLMS	1B.1		G4T1	S1		No	30-Jul-13	CNDDB Occurrence 43, in Riverside County, is nonspecific, mapped in a 1 mile radius circle that includes BLM, State, and private lands; it is based on old (1880 and 1881) collections. Nonspecific Occurrence 6, also in Riverside County, has some BLM lands mapped inside a 1 mile radius circle, but most lands in the circle are private.											S				
Astragalus pseudiodanthus	Tonopah milk-vetch	VASC	Fabaceae			BLMS	1B.2		G3Q	S2		No	31-Mar-15						K										
Astragalus pulsiferae var. pulsiferae	Pulsifer's milk-vetch	VASC	Fabaceae			BLMS	1B.2	W	G4T2	S2 in CA; S1 in NV		No								K									

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Balsamorhiza macrolepis	big-scale balsamroot	VASC	Asteraceae			BLMS	1B.2		G2	S2		No	13-Sep-12	Formerly *B. macrolepis* Sharp var. *macrolepis*. Jepson Manual 2nd edition submerges *B. m.* var. *platylepis* (Sharp) Ferris, which was the only variety, into *B. hookeri* Nutt. Documented in the Ukiah Field Office within the proposed right-of-way of the AltaGas/Greenwing Energy proposed Walker Ridge wind farm (Vollmar Consulting, 2010 Sensitive Botanical Resources Survey Report, Walker Ridge Project Site, Lake and Colusa Counties, California, October 2010).									K			K			K
Balsamorhiza sericea	silky balsamroot	VASC	Asteraceae			BLMS	1B.3		G4Q	S3		No	28-Apr-15													S			
Berberis harrisoniana	Kofa Mountain barberry	VASC	Berberidaceae			BLMS	1B.2		G1G2	S1		No	28-Apr-15	In Whipple Wash										K						
Berberis nevinii	Nevin's barberry	VASC	Berberidaceae	FE	SE		1B.1		G1	S1		No	13-Sep-12	Formerly *Mahonia nevinii* (Gray) Fedde											K					
Bloomeria clevelandii	San Diego goldenstar	VASC	Themidaceae			BLMS	1B.1		G2	S2		No	06-Aug-13	Formerly *Muilla clevelandii* (S. Watson) Hoover. See discussion at: http://www.efloras.org/florataxon.aspx?flora_id=1&taxon_id=121293. CNDDB specific Occurrence 19 is on both BLM and private lands. Occurrence 41 appears to be partially on BLM lands as well. Status changed from "S" to "K" on 8/6/2013.											K				
Boechera bodiensis	Bodie Hills rock cress	VASC	Brassicaceae			BLMS	1B.3		G2	S2		No	15-Nov-10	Formerly *Arabis bodiensis* Roll.					K											
Boechera lincolnensis	Lincoln rock cress	VASC	Brassicaeae			BLMS	2B.3		G4?	S2		No	28-Apr-15	Formerly *Arabis pulchra* S. Watson var. *munciensis* M.E. Jones. On Darwin Mesa. Formerly known as Darwin rock cress.														K		
Boechera serpenticola	Serpentine Rockcress	VASC	Brassicaceae			BLMS	1B.2		G1	S1		No	13-Sep-12	CNDDB maps nonspecific areas immediately adjacent to BLM lands near summit of Bully Choop Mountain. North-facing slopes on serpentine talus.												S				

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Calochortus dunnii	Dunn's mariposa	VASC	Liliaceae		SR	BLMS	1B.2		G2?	S2?		No	28-Apr-15												K				
Calochortus excavatus	Inyo mariposa	VASC	Liliaceae			BLMS	1B.1		G2	S2		No	13-Sep-12						K											
Calochortus fimbriatus	late-flowered mariposa lily	VASC	Liliaceae			BLMS	1B.3		G3	S3		No	28-Apr-15	CNDDB Occurrence 41 on the Los Padres National Forest is within 800m of BLM lands in Ventura County. Added to the CNPS/CDFG lists as RPR 1B.3 on 10-26-2012.			S													
Calochortus greenei	Greene's mariposa	VASC	Liliaceae			BLMS	1B.2		G3	S3		No	13-Sep-12													K				
Calochortus longebarbatus var. longebarbatus	long-haired star-tulip	VASC	Liliaceae			BLMS	1B.2		G4T3	S3		No			S											S				
Calochortus monanthus	Shasta River mariposa	VASC	Liliaceae			BLMS	1A		GH	SH		No														S				
Calochortus obispoensis	San Luis mariposa lily	VASC	Liliaceae			BLMS	1B.2		G2	S2		No	28-Apr-15				S													
Calochortus palmeri var. palmeri	Palmer's mariposa lily	VASC	Liliaceae			BLMS	1B.2		G3T3?	s3?		No	28-Apr-15	CNDDB occurrence number 66 is located on Ridgecrest Field Office parcels. CNDDB occurrence 18 and 20 are located on scattered Bakersfield Field Office parcels.			K											K			
Calochortus persistens	Siskiyou mariposa lily	VASC	Liliaceae	FC	SR	BLMS	1B.2		G1	S1		No	28-Apr-15													S				
Calochortus raichei	The Cedars fairy-lantern	VASC	Liliaceae			BLMS	1B.2		G2	S2		No	23-Oct-12	CNDDB occurences 4 and 8 are definitely on BLM land at The Cedars; occurrence 7 is mapped as occurring partly on BLM land but RareFind account says it occurs on private land.																	K
Calochortus simulans	San Luis Obispo mariposa lily	VASC	Liliaceae			BLMS	1B.3		G2	S2		No	28-Apr-15				S													
Calochortus striatus	alkali mariposa lily	VASC	Liliaceae			BLMS	1B.2		G3	S3		No	28-Apr-15				K	S									K			
Calochortus westonii	Shirley Meadows star-tulip	VASC	Liliaceae			BLMS	1B.2		G2	S2		No	28-Apr-15				K													
Calycadenia hooveri	Hoover's calycadenia	VASC	Asteraceae			BLMS	1B.3		G3	S3		No	28-Apr-15				S													
Calycadenia micrantha	small-flowered calycadenia	VASC	Asteraceae			BLMS	1B.2		G2	S2		No	28-Apr-15																	S

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Cryptantha mariposae	Mariposa cryptantha	VASC	Boraginaceae			BLMS	1B.3		G3	S3		No	28-Apr-15	Two collections by Vern Yadon, one in Clear Creek at 3307 ft elevation and the other at Santa Rita Peak, just below east side. CNDDB doesn't yet show these occurrences (as of 6/27/2013) but this is because they didn't know about them at last update (pers. comm. Nick Jensen, May 2009). This is a significant range extension. The Yadon collections were still not mapped in CDDB as of 4/28/2015.								K	K							
Cryptantha roosiorum	bristlecone cryptantha	VASC	Boraginaceae		SR	BLMS	1B.2		G2	S2		No	18-Apr-13						S								K		
Cryptantha schoolcraftii	Schoolcraft's cryptantha	VASC	Boraginaceae			BLMS	2B.2	W	G3	S1 (CA); S3 (NV)		No	28-Apr-15	Common name "ash cryptantha" used in Jepson Manual 2nd edition. Nevada Heritage Program uses "Schoolcraft catseye."															K	
Cusickiella quadricostata	Bodie Hills cusickiella	VASC	Brassicaceae			BLMS	1B.2		G3	S2		No	28-Apr-15						K										
Cylindropuntia fosbergii	pink teddy-bear cholla	VASC	Cactaceae			BLMS	1B.3		G2	S2		No	18-Sep-12	Treated as a hybrid, *C. xfosbergii* in the Jepson Manual, Second Edition, but based on a recent paper by Mayer et al. (*Madrono* 58: 106-112), CDFG and CNPS have elevated to specific level and assigned a California Rare Plant Rank of 1.3 (on 5-7-2012). Several occurrencs on BLM lands in the Monument Peak Quadrangle.							K									
Cylindropuntia munzii	Munz cholla	VASC	Cactaceae			BLMS	1B.3		G3	S1		No	18-Apr-13	Formerly *Opuntia munzii* C.B. Wolf.							K				K				
Cymopterus deserticola	desert cymopterus	VASC	Apiaceae			BLMS	1B.2		G2	S2		No	13-Sep-12	East of Cuddeback Lake and north of Edwards AFB.				K									K		
Cymopterus ripleyi var. saniculoides	Ripley's cymopterus	VASC	Apiaceae			BLMS	1B.2		G3G4T3Q	S1		No	18-Apr-13	NE Haiwee Reservoir.													K		
Cypripedium fasciculatum	clustered lady's slipper	VASC	Orchidaceae			BLMS	4.2		G4	S4		No	28-Apr-15													K			
Cypripedium montanum	mountain lady's slipper	VASC	Orchidaceae			BLMS	4.2		G4	S4		No	28-Apr-15													K			

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Dalea ornata	ornate dalea	VASC	Fabaceae			BLMS	2B.1		G4G5	S2		No	28-Apr-15	Only six closely associated occurrences are known of this plant in CA, and they are disjunct from the others in western NV. Known from the Snake and Columbia valleys in E. WA, OR, and SW ID. Occurrences in CA are grazed and subject to invasion form medusahead and cheatgrass.						K										
Dedeckera eurekensis	July gold	VASC	Polygonaceae		SR	BLMS	1B.3		G3	S3		No	28-Apr-15						K							K		
Deinandra arida	Red Rock tarplant	VASC	Asteraceae			BLMS	1B.2		G1	S1		No	18-Apr-13	Formerly *Hemizonia arida* Keck. Known to occur in Red Rock State Park.													S		
Deinandra conjugens	Otay tarplant	VASC	Asteraceae	FT	SE		1B.1		G1	S1		Yes	13-Sep-12	Formerly *Hemizonia conjugens* Keck. Review of CNDDB does not show any occurences on BLM land, though some are close.											S				
Deinandra floribunda	Tecate tarplant	VASC	Asteraceae			BLMS	1B.2		G2	S2		No	28-Apr-15	Formerly *Hemizonia floribunda* A. Gray.											K				
Deinandra halliana	Hall's tarplant	VASC	Asteraceae			BLMS	1B.1		G2	S2		No	13-Sep-12	Formerly *Hemizonia halliana* Keck.			S					K							
Deinandra increscens subsp. villosa	Gaviota tarplant	VASC	Asteraceae	FE	SE		1B.1		G4G5T2	S2		No	13-Sep-12	Formerly *Hemizonia increscens* Keck subsp. *villosa* Tanowitz. Proposed Critical Habitat, mineral estate.			S												
Deinandra minthornii	Santa Suzana tarplant	VASC	Asteraceae		SR	BLMS	1B.2		G2	S2		No	28-Apr-15	Formerly *Hemizonia minthornii* Jeps.											S				

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Erigeron aequifolius	Hall's daisy	VASC	Asteraceae			BLMS	1B.3		G3	S3		No	28-Apr-15	S. Sierra.													K		
Erigeron blochmaniae	Blochman's leafy daisy	VASC	Asteraceae			BLMS	1B.2		G2	S2		No	28-Apr-15				K												
Erigeron calvus	bald daisy	VASC	Asteraceae			BLMS	1B.1		G1Q	S1		No	18-Apr-13	This occurrence is based on a single collection by Olmstead in 1891. It is mapped as a best guess "just north of Swansea," and has a 1-mile radius circle to indicate a nonspecific occurrence. Most of the lands within that circle are BLM lands, so we should at least have the species on our list as suspected to occur. Although the Rarefind report states that there are taxonomic questions (and the Global Natureserve rank of G1Q also indicates this), the species is included in both Jepson Manual 2 and the Flora of North America.					S										
Erigeron multiceps	Kern River daisy	VASC	Asteraceae			BLMS	1B.2		G2	S2		No	28-Apr-15				S												
Erigeron parishii	Parish's daisy	VASC	Asteraceae	FT			1B.1		G2	S2		No	06-Aug-13	A draft Recovery Plan was issued in 1997 but as of 8/6/2013 was not final. Some of the recovery actions in the draft plan have been started and partially implemented. Until 8/6/2013 this was considered "K" in the Palm Springs Field Office, but a review of CNDDB records shows that although there are many occurrences within the boundaries of the Palm Springs Field Office, none of these are near BLM lands.				K										
Erigeron serpentinus	serpentine daisy	VASC	Asteraceae			BLMS	1B.3		G2	S2		No	23-Oct-12	CNDDB Occurrence 3 is on BLM land at The Cedars.																K
Erigeron supplex	supple daisy	VASC	Asteraceae			BLMS	1B.2		G2	S2		No	17-Mar-15	Old records from the Garcia River just east of the Stornetta Unit, according to Jim Weigand (2/3/2015).																S

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Erigeron uncialis var. uncialis	limestone daisy	VASC	Asteraceae			BLMS	1B.2		G3G4T2	S2		No	31-Mar-15	On private land within the new boundary of the Cerro Gordo/Conglomerate Mesa ACEC													S		
Eriodictyon altissimum	Indian Knob mountainbalm	VASC	Boraginaceae	FE	SE		1B.1		G1	S1		Yes	13-Sep-12				S												
Eriogonum alexanderae	Alexander's buckwheat	VASC	Polygonaceae			BLMS	1B.1		G2G3	S1		No	07-Jul-12	Name changed from *Eriogonum ochrocephalum* var. *alexanderae* to *Eriogonum alexanderae* and rare plant rank changed from Rank 2.2 to 1B.1 on 11/29/2011. Located in Mono County on Bodie Mountain. Likely on BLM lands there.					S											
Eriogonum apricum var. apricum	Ione buckwheat	VASC	Polygonaceae	FE	SE		1B.1		G1T1	S1		No	13-Sep-12										K						
Eriogonum bifurcatum	forked buckwheat	VASC	Polygonaceae			BLMS	1B.2		G3	S3		No	18-Apr-13					K											
Eriogonum cedrorum	The Cedars buckwheat	VASC	Polygonaceae			BLMS	1B.3		G1	S1		No	23-Oct-12	Specific CNDDB Occurrence 1 is mapped on BLM land at The Cedars.															K
Eriogonum contiguum	Reveal's buckwheat	VASC	Polygonaceae			BLMS	2B.3		G2	S2		No	28-Apr-15	CNDDB Occurrences 14, 15, and 18 are on BLM lands.													K		
Eriogonum crosbyae	Crosby's buckwheat	VASC	Polygonaceae			BLMS		W	G3	S3		No		S3 in NV. This plant is threatened by gold mining activity on the Nevada portion of the Surprise Field Office. 82% of this plants' total numbers are within the mining claim area. A few populations also occur in Oregon.														K	
Eriogonum eremicola	Wildrose Canyon buckwheat	VASC	Polygonaceae			BLMS	1B.3		G1	S1		No	13-Sep-12						S								K		
Eriogonum hoffmannii var. hoffmannii	Hoffmann's buckwheat	VASC	Polygonaceae			BLMS	1B.3		G3T2	S2		No	28-Apr-15	Panamint Mts.; Found in Surprise Canyon on BLM lands--see 2005 ADEIS.													K		
Eriogonum kelloggii	Red Mountain buckwheat	VASC	Polygonaceae		SE	BLMS	1B.2		G2	S2		No	28-Apr-15	Formerly a Federal candidate for listing. Removed from candidate list, Federal Register 29: 56029, September 18, 2014.		K													
Eriogonum kennedyi var. pinicola	Kern buckwheat	VASC	Polygonaceae			BLMS	1B.1		G4T1	S1		No	18-Apr-13				S										K		

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Eriogonum mensicola	Pinyon Mesa buckwheat	VASC	Polygonaceae			BLMS	1B.3		G2G3	S2		No	31-Mar-15	CNDDB occurrences 6 and 8 on BLM, perhaps within the boundary of the new Cerro Gordo/Conglomerate Mesa ACEC (the occurrences straddle the boundary). Other occurrences on Death Valley NP, China Lake NWS.													K		
Eriogonum microthecum var. panamintense	Panamint Mountains buckwheat	VASC	Polygonaceae			BLMS	1B.3		G5T3	S3		No	28-Apr-15	CNDDB occurrence number 7 is within the boundary of the new Cerro Gordo/Conglomerate Mesa ACEC. Other occurrences on BLM lands in the Ridgecrest and Bishop Field Offices.					K								K		
Eriogonum microthecum var. schoolcraftii	Schoolcraft's wild buckwheat	VASC	Polygonaceae			BLMS	1B.2	W	G5T3 in CA; G5T2 in NV	S3 (CA); S1 (NV)		No	28-Apr-15	Taxon described by: Reveal, J. L. 2004. New entities in *Eriogonum* (Polygonaceae: Eriogonoideae). Phytologia 86(3):121-159.						K								S	
Eriogonum nervulosum	Snow Mtn. buckwheat	VASC	Polygonaceae			BLMS	1B.2		G2	S2		No	13-Sep-12																K
Eriogonum nudum var. murinum	mouse buckwheat	VASC	Polygonaceae			BLMS	1B.2		G5T2	S2		No	28-Apr-15				K					K							
Eriogonum ovalifolium var. vineum	Cushenberry buckwheat	VASC	Polygonaceae	FE			1B.1		G5T1	S1		No	06-Aug-13	A draft Recovery Plan was issued in 1997 but as of 8/6/2013 was not final. Some of the recovery actions in the draft plan have been started and partially implemented.				K											
Eriogonum prociduum	prostrate buckwheat	VASC	Polygonaceae			BLMS	1B.2	W	G3	S3 (CA); S1 (NV)		No	28-Apr-15	Found in the Ash Valley RNA/ACEC.	K													K	
Eriogonum temblorense	Temblor buckwheat	VASC	Polygonaceae			BLMS	1B.2		G2	S2.2		No		Known only from eastern Monterey Co., eastern San Luis Obispo Co., and western Kern Co. Within the Bakersfield Field Office it occurs on shaly/barren soils in the Temblor Range and Elkhorn Plain. This habitat type appears to by very scattered and limited.			K												
Eriogonum thornei	Thorne's buckwheat	VASC	Polygonaceae		SE	BLMS	1B.2		G1	S1		No	13-Sep-12	Formerly *E. ericifolium* var. *thornei*, now elevated to species.											K				

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Helianthus niveus subsp. tephrodes	Algodones Dunes sunflower	VASC	Asteraceae		SE	BLMS	1B.2		G4T2T3	S2		No	28-Apr-15								K									
Helianthus winteri	Winter's sunflower	VASC	Asteraceae			BLMS	1B.2		G1G2	S1S2		No	20-Jan-15	First described by Stebbins, J.C., C.J. Winchell, and J.V.H. Constable. 2013. Helianthus winteri (Asteraceae), a new perennial species from the southern Sierra Nevada foothills, California. Aliso 31: 19-24. Added to CDFW/CNPS list on 10/15/2014. Occurrence Number 2 (80m accuracy) is within 200m of isolated BLM 40-acre parcel centered at approximately -119.253672 36.592978 Decimal Degrees (NAD 83, UTM Zone 11N)			K												
Hesperevax sparsiflora subsp. brevifolia	short-leaved evax	VASC	Asteraceae			BLMS	1B.2		G4T2T3	S2S3		No	17-Mar-15	On BLM at Mattole Beach (in great numbers acc. Jennifer Wheeler) and at Samoa.		K															K
Hesperidanthus jaegeri	Jaeger's hesperidanthus	VASC	Brassicaceae			BLMS	1B.2		G2	S2		No	31-Mar-15	Formerly *Caulostramina jaegeri* . CNDDB Occurrence number 4 is definitely on BLM lands within the boundary of the new Cerro Gordo/Congolmerate Mesa ACEC. Occurrence number 2 is likely on BLM lands with the ACEC. Occurrence number 6, Keynot Peak near head of Keynot Canyon is on BLM lands but not clear whether in the Bishop or Ridgecrest Field Office (occurrence as mapped straddles the border between the two field offices).					S							K		
Hesperidanthus jaegeri	Jaeger's hesperidanthus	VASC	Brassicaceae			BLMS	1B.2		G2	S2		No	03-Jun-13	Formerly *Caulostramina jaegeri* (Roll.) Roll.					S								K		

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Horkelia tenuiloba	thin-lobed horkelia	VASC	Rosaceae			BLMS	1B.2		G2	S2		No	28-Apr-15	Suspected to occur on BLM lands on and near Willis Ridge, acc. Jennifer Wheeler.		S														
Hosackia crassifolia var. otayensis	Otay Mountain lotus	VASC	Fabaceae			BLMS	1B.1		G5T1	S1		No	06-Aug-13	CNDDB occurrences 1, 2, and 3 are all on BLM lands on Otay Mountain.											K				
Hulsea californica	San Diego sunflower	VASC	Asteraceae			BLMS	1B.3		G2	S2		No	28-Apr-15	CNDDB occurrences 2 and 24 are located on BLM lands in the El Centro Field Office portion of San Diego County. Occurrences 10, 14, 22, 23, 26 are non-specific CNDDB occurrences that are located next to BLM lands in the El Centro Field Office part of San Diego County. Nonspecific Occurrence 29 in the Palm Springs Field Office portion of San Diego County has some BLM lands within the mapped 1-mile radius circle.							K					S				
Hydropus marginellus	'little brown mushroom'	FUNG	Tricholomataceae			BLMS			G3	S1S2		No	16-Nov-10			K													
Iris hartwegii subsp. columbiana	Tuolumne iris	VASC	Iridaceae			BLMS	1B.2		G4T1	S2		No	28-Apr-15										K						
Iris munzii	Munz's iris	VASC	Iridaceae			BLMS	1B.3		G2	S2		No	28-Apr-15				S												
Ivesia aperta var. aperta	Sierra Valley ivesia	VASC	Rosaceae			BLMS	1B.2	T	G2T2	S2 (CA); S1 (NV)		No	28-Apr-15						K									
Ivesia jaegeri	Jaeger's ivesia	VASC	Rosaceae			BLMS	1B.3		G2G3	S1		No	03-Jun-13											K					
Ivesia kingii var. kingii	alkali ivesia	VASC	Rosaceae			BLMS	2B.2		G4T3Q	S2		No	19-Aug-09	Moved from CNPS 1B.2 to 2.2 on 11/23/08 because more common in NV.					K										
Ivesia longibracteata	Castle Crags ivesia	VASC	Rosaceae			BLMS	1B.3		G1	S1		No	03-Jun-13												S				
Ivesia paniculata	Ash Creek ivesia	VASC	Rosaceae			BLMS	1B.2		G2	S2		No	03-Jun-13	Found in the Ash Valley RNA/ACEC.	K														
Ivesia patellifera	Kingston Mtns. ivesia	VASC	Rosaceae			BLMS	1B.3		G1	S2		No	03-Jun-13					K						K					
Ivesia pickeringii	Pickering's ivesia	VASC	Rosaceae			BLMS	1B.2		G2	S2.2		No													S				

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Loeflingia squarrosa var. artemisiarum	Sagebrush loeflingia	VASC	Caryophyllaceae			BLMS	2B.2		G5T2T3	S2		No	28-Apr-15	Known to CA from only Lassen County (6 occ), Inyo County (5 occ), and two occurrences from Kern and Los Angeles counties. Three occurrences are on BLM lands within the Eagle Lake Field Office, 3 on private, and disjunct. Threatened by livestock trampling.					K	K									S	
Lomatium congdonii	Congdon's lomatium	VASC	Apiaceae			BLMS	1B.2		G2	S2		No	28-Apr-15	On BLM lands in the Red Hills, Tuolumne County.									K							
Lomatium roseanum	adobe lomatium	VASC	Apiaceae			BLMS	1B.2	W	G2G3	S2 (CA); S2 (NV)		No	03-Jun-13	Mike Dolan found ca. 500 plants on Likely Tablelands, in low sage infested with medusahead. Lat: 41.271339 degrees N, Long: -120.493347 degrees W; above and to south of Romero Creek, 4,640', clay loam soil.	K														S	
Lomatium shevockii	Owens Peak lomatium	VASC	Apiaceae			BLMS	1B.3		G2	S2		No	03-Jun-13				K										K			
Lupinus citrinus var. citrinus	orange lupine	VASC	Fabaceae			BLMS	1B.2		G2T2	S2		No	28-Apr-15				S													
Lupinus citrinus var. deflexus	Mariposa lupine	VASC	Fabaceae		ST	BLMS	1B.2		G2T1	S1		No	13-Sep-12	Previously shown as S in the Hollister Field Office, a holdover from the time that Hollister managed BLM lands in Mariposa County. Removed as S from Hollister and put as S in the Mother Lode Field Office. There are occurrences within 550 m from isolated BLM lands in T6S,R 19E, S6, MDM.									S							
Lupinus duranii	Mono Lake lupine	VASC	Fabaceae			BLMS	1B.2		G2	S2		No	28-Apr-15						K											
Lupinus excubitus var. medius	Mountain Springs bush lupine	VASC	Fabaceae			BLMS	1B.3		G4T2T3	S2		No									K				K					
Lupinus ludovicianus	San Luis Obispo County lupine	VASC	Fabaceae			BLMS	1B.2		G1	S1		No	28-Apr-15				S													

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Lupinus magnificus var. hesperius	McGee Meadows lupine	VASC	Fabaceae			BLMS	1B.3		G3T2Q	S2		No	28-Apr-15	Jepson Manual 2nd edition, equivocal about whether to recognize this variety, states: "If recognized taxonomically, straight-keeled pls from SNE assignable to *Lupinus magnificus* var. *hesperius* (A. Heller) C.P. Sm., McGee Meadows lupine." After review, CNPS and CNDDB kept as 1B.3 by decision dated Feb. 8, 2012. Occurs on Mt. Tom.					K											
Lupinus magnificus var. magnificus	Panamint Mtns. lupine	VASC	Fabaceae			BLMS	1B.2		G3T2Q	S2		No	03-Jun-13						S								K		
Lupinus sericatus	Cobb Mountain lupine	VASC	Fabaceae			BLMS	1B.2		G2	S2		No	28-Apr-15	Walker Ridge/Bear Creek, Sulphur Creek sub-watershed (Source: Jim Weigand).																K
Lupinus spectabilis	shaggyhair lupine	VASC	Fabaceae			BLMS	1B.2		G2	S2		No	28-Apr-15										K							
Lupinus uncialis	lilliput lupine	VASC	Fabaceae			BLMS	2B.2		G4	S2		No	28-Apr-15	Five occurrences known in Alturas Field Office. Twenty total occurences in CA, most on private lands, and some converted to homesites. Disjunct in CA. CA occurrences important for maintaining genetic viability of the species. Threats include grazing.	K															
Madia radiata	showy golden madia	VASC	Asteraceae			BLMS	1B.1		G2	S2		No					S					K							
Malacothamnus aboriginum	Indian Valley bush mallow	VASC	Malvaceae			BLMS	1B.2		G2	S2		No	13-Sep-12									K							
Malacothamnus hallii	Hall's bush-mallow	VASC	Malvaceae			BLMS	1B.2		G2Q	S2		No	18-Sep-12	CNDDB Occurrence 38, population found on BLM lands on 6/2011.																K
Malacothamnus palmeri var. involucratus	Carmel Valley bush-mallow	VASC	Malvaceae			BLMS	1B.2		G3T3Q	S3		No	28-Apr-15									K								
Malacothamnus palmeri var. lucianus	Arroyo Seco bush-mallow	VASC	Malvaceae			BLMS	1B.2		G3T1Q	S1		No	28-Apr-15									K								
Malacothrix saxatilis var. arachnoidea	Carmel Valley malacothrix	VASC	Asteraceae			BLMS	1B.2		G5T2	S2		No	28-Apr-15									S								

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Menodora spinescens var. mohavensis	Mojave menodora	VASC	Oleaceae			BLMS	1B.2		G4T2T3	S2S3		No	18-Sep-12	CNDDB mapped occurrences on BLM lands. One, Occurrence 10, on BLM lands slated for renewable energy.				K												
Mentzelia inyoensis	Inyo blazing star	VASC	Loasaceae			BLMS	1B.3	W	G3	S3		No	28-Apr-15	According to Anne Halford we have occurrences in Fish Slough and Travertine Hot Springs, and there's a very large population on the Inyo National Forest near Black Point (Mono Lake).					K											
Mentzelia polita	polished blazing star	VASC	Loasaceae			BLMS	1B.2		G2	S2		No	03-Jun-13	CNDDB maps one nonspecific occurrence on BLM land just north of the Eastern Mojave National Preserve on the Clark Mountain quad. CNPS Rare Plant Treasure Hunt found a new occurrence (CNDDB Occurrence No. 3) on the Ivanpah Lake quad.										K						
Mentzelia tridentata	creamy blazing star	VASC	Loasaceae			BLMS	1B.3		G3	S3		No	28-Apr-15	E. of Cuddeback Lake.													S		
Microseris paludosa	marsh microseris	VASC	Asteraceae			BLMS	1B.2		G2	S2		No	17-Mar-15	Known form the Stornetta Unit, per the following collection: CAS514442, 1968.																K
Mimulus evanescens	ephemeral monkeyflower	VASC	Phrymaceae			BLMS	1B.2		G3	S2		No	28-Apr-15		K					S							S			
Mimulus filicaulis	slender-stemmed monkeyflower	VASC	Phrymaceae			BLMS	1B.2		G2	S2		No	28-Apr-15										K							
Mimulus gracilipes	slender-stalked monkerflower	VASC	Phrymaceae			BLMS	1B.2		G2G3	S2S3		No	16-Nov-10				S													
Mimulus mohavensis	Mojave monkeyflower	VASC	Phrymaceae			BLMS	1B.2		G2	S2		No	13-Sep-12					K												
Mimulus norrisii	Kaweah monkeyflower	VASC	Phrymaceae			BLMS	1B.3		G2	S2		No	28-Apr-15				K													
Mimulus pictus	Calico monkeyflower	VASC	Phrymaceae			BLMS	1B.2		G2	S2		No	28-Apr-15				K													
Mimulus pulchellus	pansy monkeyflower	VASC	Phrymaceae			BLMS	1B.2		G2G3	S2S3		No	13-Sep-12										K							
Mimulus shevockii	Kelso Creek monkeyflower	VASC	Phrymaceae			BLMS	1B.2		G2	S2		No	13-Sep-12				K										K			
Minuartia howellii	Howell's sandwort	VASC	Caryophyllaceae			BLMS	1B.3		G4	S2		No	13-Sep-12														S			
Minuartia stolonifera	Scott Mtn. sandwort	VASC	Caryophyllaceae			BLMS	1B.3		G2	S2		No	03-Jun-13														S			

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Pentachaeta exilis subsp. aeolica	slender pentachaeta	VASC	Asteraceae			BLMS	1B.2		G5T1	S1		No	13-Sep-12									K								
Perityle inyoensis	Inyo rock daisy	VASC	Asteraceae			BLMS	1B.2		G2	S2		No	28-Apr-15	Occurrences 1 and 8 are entirely within the boundary of the new Cerro Gordo/Conglomerate Mesa ACEC. Occurrence 5 is partially within the ACEC, with the remainder on BLM land outside it.					S									K		
Perityle villosa	Hanaupah rock daisy	VASC	Asteraceae			BLMS	1B.3		G2	S2		No	03-Jun-13	Inyo Mts.														K		
Petalonyx thurberi subsp. gilmanii	Death Valley sandpaper-plant	VASC	Loasaceae			BLMS	1B.3		G5T2	S2		No						K										K		
Phacelia cookei	Cooke's phacelia	VASC	Boraginaceae			BLMS	1B.1		G1	S1		No	16-Nov-10													S				
Phacelia greenei	Scott Valley phacelia	VASC	Boraginaceae			BLMS	1B.2		G2	S2		No	16-Nov-10													K				
Phacelia inundata	playa phacelia	VASC	Boraginaceae			BLMS	1B.3	W	G2	S2 (CA); S2? (NV)		No	28-Apr-15		S					K								S		
Phacelia inyoensis	Inyo phacelia	VASC	Boraginaceae			BLMS	1B.2		G2	S2		No	13-Sep-12	Fish Slough and Alabama Hills.					K											
Phacelia leonis	Siskiyou phacelia	VASC	Boraginaceae			BLMS	1B.3		G3	S3		No	28-Apr-15													S				
Phacelia monoensis	Mono County phacelia	VASC	Boraginaceae			BLMS	1B.1	T	G3	S2		No	28-Apr-15						K											
Phacelia mustelina	Death Valley round-leaved phacelia	VASC	Boraginaceae			BLMS	1B.3		G2	S2		No	03-Jun-13	Saline Valley.													K			
Phacelia nashiana	Charlotte's phacelia	VASC	Boraginaceae			BLMS	1B.2		G3	S3		No	13-Sep-12				K										K			
Phacelia novenmillensis	Nine Mile Canyon phacelia	VASC	Boraginaceae			BLMS	1B.2		G3	S3		No	16-Nov-10				K										K			
Phacelia parishii	Parish's phacelia	VASC	Boraginaceae			BLMS	1B.1		G2G3	S1		No	03-Jun-13	The only known population on BLM lands in Southern California is within and immediately adjacent to a military maneuvering training area. This species was at one time considered extirpated in CA, but was rediscovered in 1989.				K												

SCIENTIFIC NAME	COMMON NAME	TYPE OF PLANT	FAMILY	FED STATUS	CA STATUS	BLM STATUS	CA RARE PLANT RANK	NNPS STATUS	GLOBAL RANK	STATE RANK	NV STATUS	RECOVERY PLAN?	DATE UPDATED	COMMENTS	ALTURAS	ARCATA	BAKERSFIELD	BARSTOW	BISHOP	EAGLE LAKE	EL CENTRO	HOLLISTER	MOTHER LODE	NEEDLES	PALM SPRINGS	REDDING	RIDGECREST	SURPRISE	UKIAH
Phacelia phacelioides	Mount Diablo phacelia	VASC	Boraginaceae			BLMS	1B.2		G1	S1		No	03-Jun-13	Known but very uncommon within ACEC of Clear Creek Management Area acc 2009 Draft CCMA RMP/EIS. Six records from CCMA in Cal Flora 2009.								K								
Phaeocollybia californica	California phaeocollybia	FUNG	Cortinariaceae			BLMS			G3	None		No	28-Apr-15			K										S			
Phaeocollybia olivacea	olive phaeocollybia	FUNG	Cortinariaceae			BLMS			G3	None		No	16-Nov-10			K										S			
Phaeocollybia piceae	'spruce phaeocollybia'	FUNG	Cortinariaceae			BLMS			G3?	None		No	16-Nov-10			K													
Phaeocollybia pseudofestiva	no common name	FUNG	Cortinariaceae			BLMS			G3	None		No	16-Nov-10			S													
Phaeocollybia scatesiae	no common name	FUNG	Cortinariaceae			BLMS			G3?	None		No	16-Nov-10			K													
Phaeocollybia spadicea	spadicea phaecollybia	FUNG	Cortinariaceae			BLMS			G3G4	None		No	16-Nov-10			K										S			
Phlox hirsuta	Yreka phlox	VASC	Polemoniaceae	FE	SE		1B.2		G1	S1		Yes													S			
Pholisma sonorae	sand food	VASC	Boraginaceae			BLMS	1B.2		G2	S2		No	13-Sep-12	Formerly included in the family Lennoaceae.							K								
Piperia candida	white-flowered rein orchid	VASC	Orchidaceae			BLMS	1B.2		G3?	S2		No	03-Jun-13	May be on public lands on Red Mt. Jennifer to check--will leave as suspected for now.		S													
Piperia yadonii	Yadon's rein orchid	VASC	Orchciaceae	FE			1B.1		G2	S2		Yes	13-Sep-12									K							
Plagiobothrys uncinatus	hooked popcorn-flower	VASC	Boraginaceae			BLMS	1B.2		G2	S2		No	03-Jun-13				S												
Pleuropogon hooverianus	Hoover's semaphore grass	VASC	Poaceae		ST	BLMS	1B.1		G2	S2		No	13-Sep-12			S													
Poa diaboli	Diablo Canyon blue grass	VASC	Poaceae			BLMS	1B.2		G2	S2		No	28-Apr-15	May be on BLM lands in Ruda Canyon, San Luis Obispo Co.			S													
Polyctenium williamsiae	Williams's combleaf	VASC	Brassicaceae			BLMS	1B.2	T	G2Q	S1 (CA); S2 (NV)	CE	No	03-Jun-13	Known in Bishop on BLM land in the Bodie area. Because the Jepson Manual 2nd Edition and the Flora of North America reduced this species to synonomy under P. fremontii, the species was recently reviewed and kept on List 1B.2 by CNPS and CNDDB by decision dated February 8, 2012.	S				K	S									

SCIENTIFIC NAME	COMMON NAME	TYPE OF PLANT	FAMILY	FED STATUS	CA STATUS	BLM STATUS	CA RARE PLANT RANK	NNPS STATUS	GLOBAL RANK	STATE RANK	NV STATUS	RECOVERY PLAN?	DATE UPDATED	COMMENTS	ALTURAS	ARCATA	BAKERSFIELD	BARSTOW	BISHOP	EAGLE LAKE	EL CENTRO	HOLLISTER	MOTHER LODE	NEEDLES	PALM SPRINGS	REDDING	RIDGECREST	SURPRISE	UKIAH
Senecio clevelandii var. heterophyllus	Red Hills ragwort	VASC	Asteraceae			BLMS	1B.2		G4?T2Q	S2?		Yes	03-Jun-13	*Senecio clevelandii* is now *Packera clevelandii*, but the combination *Packera clevelandii* var. *heterophylla* has not been validly published. This variety has been reduced to synonymy in the Jepson Manual 1st and 2nd editions. The treatment by Barkley in Jepson Manual 1 was not based on genetic work. Barkley's treatment has been continued by Trock in Jepson Manual 2 and Flora North America. CDFW, CNPS, and BLM will continue to recognize the variety until genetic work conclusively shows that vars. *clevelandii* and *heterophyllus* are actually the same taxon.									K							
Sidalcea covillei	Owens Valley checkerbloom	VASC	Malvaceae		SE	BLMS	1B.1		G2	S2		No	28-Apr-15						K										
Sidalcea hickmanii subsp. anomala	Cuesta Pass checkerbloom	VASC	Malvaceae		SR	BLMS	1B.2		G3T1	S1		No	13-Sep-12				S					S							
Sidalcea hickmanii subsp. parishii	Parish's checkerbloom	VASC	Malvaceae		SR	BLMS	1B.2		G3T1	S1		No	03-Jun-13	This species used to be a Federal candidate but was removed from the candidate list in 2006.											S					
Sidalcea keckii	Keck's checkerbloom	VASC	Malvaceae	FE			1B.1		G1	S1		No	13-Sep-12				K													
Sidalcea malviflora subsp. patula	Siskiyou checkerbloom	VASC	Malvaceae			BLMS	1B.2		G5T2	S2		No	13-Sep-12			S														
Sidalcea oregana subsp. eximia	coast checkerbloom	VASC	Malvaceae			BLMS	1B.2		G5T1	S1		No				S														
Sidalcea robusta	Butte County checkerbloom	VASC	Malvaceae			BLMS	1B.2		G2	S2		No	13-Sep-12													K				
Silene campanulata subsp. campanulata	Red Mountain catchfly	VASC	Caryophyllaceae		SE	BLMS	4.2		G5T3Q	S3		No	28-Apr-15	Known from Red Mountain, Mendocino Co., Arcata FO; suspected on public lands in Ukiah FO from an occurrence near public lands in the Gilmore Peak 24k quad, Colusa Co.			K													S

SCIENTIFIC NAME	COMMON NAME	TYPE OF PLANT	FAMILY	FED STATUS	CA STATUS	BLM STATUS	CA RARE PLANT RANK	NNPS STATUS	GLOBAL RANK	STATE RANK	NV STATUS	RECOVERY PLAN?	DATE UPDATED	COMMENTS	ALTURAS	ARCATA	BAKERSFIELD	BARSTOW	BISHOP	EAGLE LAKE	EL CENTRO	HOLLISTER	MOTHER LODE	NEEDLES	PALM SPRINGS	REDDING	RIDGECREST	SURPRISE	UKIAH
Streptanthus campestris	southern jewel-flower	VASC	Brassicaceae			BLMS	1B.3		G3	S3		No	28-Apr-15	Nonspecific CNDDB Occurrence 8, in the El Centro FO, is on lands slated for renewable energy; there are BLM lands within the mapped 1 mile radius circle, but there are also private lands. Occurrence 1, in the Palm Springs FO, contains BLM lands within the mapped 1 mile radius circle, but most of the lands within the circle are private.							S					S				
Streptanthus cordatus var. piutensis	Piute Mountains jewel-flower	VASC	Brassicaceae			BLMS	1B.2		G5T1	S1		No	03-Jun-13				K										K		
Streptanthus glandulosus subsp. hoffmannii	Hoffmann's jewel-flower	VASC	Brassicaceae			BLMS	1B.3		G4TH	SH		No	16-Nov-10	Elevated from *S. g.* var. *hoffmannii* Kruckeberg to subsp. *hoffmannii* in Jepson Manual 2nd edition.																S
Streptanthus morrisonii subsp. elatus	Three Peaks jewel-flower	VASC	Brassicaceae			BLMS	1B.2		G2T2	S2		No	28-Apr-15	Reduced to synonymy under *S. morrisonii* in Jepson Manual 2nd edition.																K
Streptanthus morrisonii subsp. hirtiflorus	Dorr's Cabin jewel-flower	VASC	Brassicaceae			BLMS	1B.2		G2T1	S1		No	28-Apr-15	Reduced to synonymy under *S. morrisonii* in Jepson Manual 2nd edition.																S
Streptanthus morrisonii subsp. kruckebergii	Kruckeberg's jewel-flower	VASC	Brassicaceae			BLMS	1B.2		G2T1	S1		No	03-Jun-13	Reduced to synonymy under *S. morrisonii* in Jepson Manual 2nd edition.																K
Streptanthus morrisonii subsp. morrisonii	Morrison's jewel-flower	VASC	Brassicaceae			BLMS	1B.2		G2T2	S2		No	28-Apr-15	The Jepson Manual 2nd edition does not recognize any subspecific taxa under *S. morrisonii*.																K
Streptanthus oliganthus	Masonic Mountain jewel-flower	VASC	Brassicaceae			BLMS	1B.2	W	G2G3	S2		No	28-Apr-15						K											
Streptanthus vernalis	early jewel-flower	VASC	Brassicaceae			BLMS	1B.2		G1	S1		No	24-Aug-09	Known from only one occurrence on serpentine at Three Peaks.																K
Stylocline citroleum	oil neststraw	VASC	Asteraceae			BLMS	1B.1		G2	S2		No	18-Sep-12	After reviewing CNDDB, specific occurrence 18 has BLM lands within the mapped circle.			K													
Stylocline masonii	Mason neststraw	VASC	Asteraceae			BLMS	1B.1		G1	S1		No	03-Jun-13				S													

Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program (MMRP)

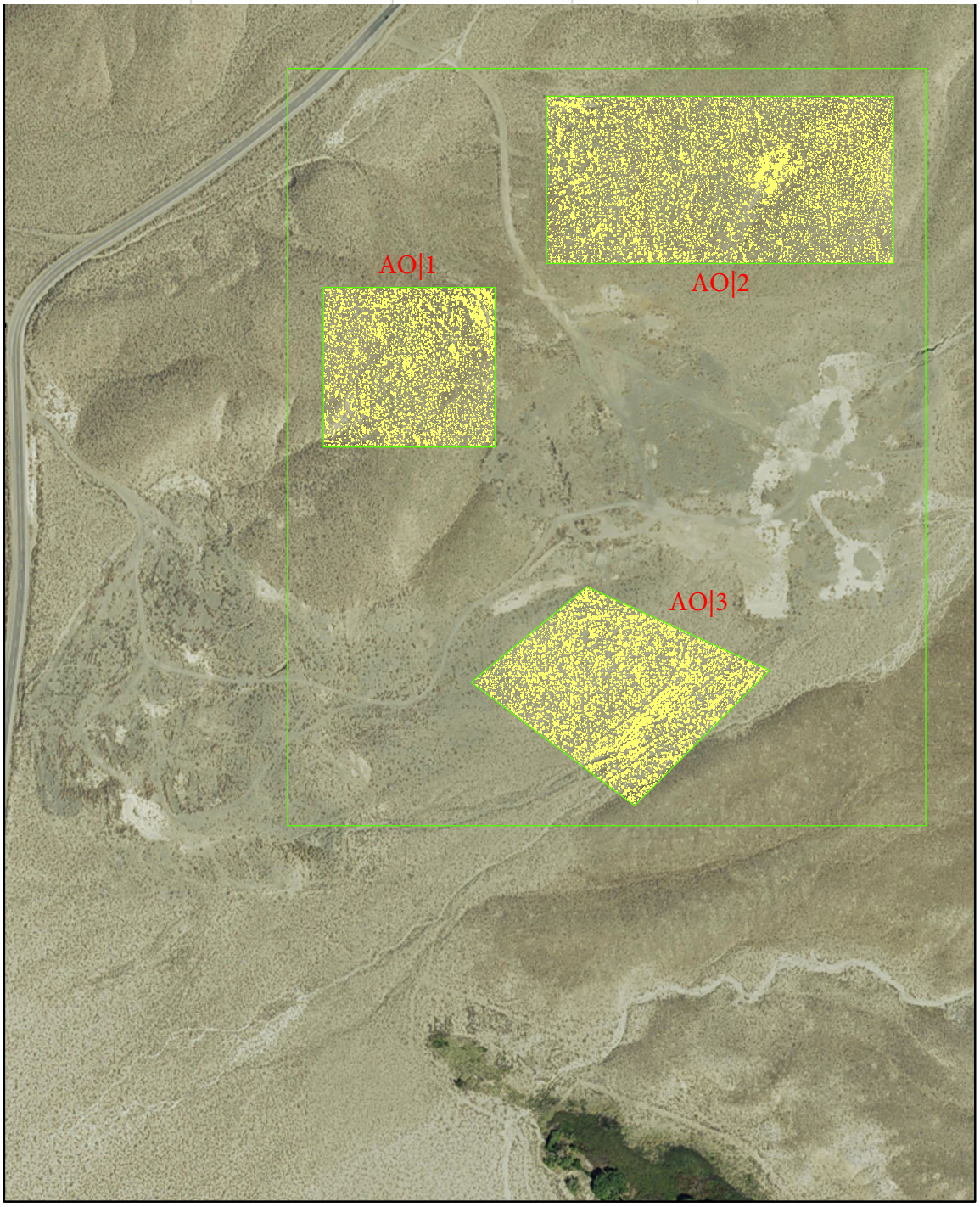
Mitigation Measure	Timing	Responsible Party	Monitoring/Reporting Action	Performance Criteria
Conduct preconstruction nesting bird surveys within 72 hours prior to ground disturbance (Feb 15–Sept 30)	Prior to initial disturbance in bird nesting season	Qualified Biologist	Field survey report; buffer establishment if nests found	250-ft buffer for songbirds, 500-ft for raptors until fledging
Conduct focused reptile survey for Northern Sagebrush Lizard during active season (spring–fall)	Prior to construction	Qualified Biologist	Survey memo; record sightings; consult with BLM if observed	Avoid direct mortality; implement BLM-approved avoidance measures
Conduct focused rare plant surveys during peak bloom season in the year prior to each new disturbance phase	Prior to site disturbance during appropriate bloom window	Qualified Biologist	Survey results submitted to Inyo County and CDFW (if observed); rare plant locations mapped	Avoidance of rare plant populations or Any individuals observed within the PIA will be translocated, under the guidance of the BLM.
Implement 2-month advance notification to biological monitor for all new phases	Prior to new mining operations	Project Manager / Biologist	Project scheduling log and email notice	Notification sent; survey coordination complete
Avoidance buffers around active burrowing owl nests (if found during surveys)	Prior to and during ground disturbance	Biologist	Buffer demarcated in field with flagging	Maintain ≥500-ft buffer until nest is inactive

Zurich Material Site Vegetation Coverage

Vegetation Analysis	
sUAS System:	senseFly eBee Plus Small Unmanned Aerial System with 20 MP S.O.D.A. Camera
Date of Photography:	November 8, 2017
Flight Altitude:	354' AMT

Vegetation Cover Analysis

Site	Square Feet		Percent of Veg. Cover	Confidence (Based on Stereo Assessment
	Planimetric Area	Vegetation Cover 0.2' or higher		
Full Area	3,040,000	767,549	25.25%	75%
AOI1	172,000	40,282	23.42%	95%
AOI2	365,400	74,120	20.28%	95%
AOI3	208,050	67,405	32.40%	95%



State of California
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

California State Transportation Agency

M e m o r a n d u m

Making Conservation a California Way of Life.

To: RYAN SPAULDING
Associate Environmental Planner
District 9 Capital Environmental Branch

Date: September 22, 2020

File: 09-INY-168
PM 21.6
EA 09-37320
EFIS 0917000072
Zurich Material Site

From: JULIE SAGE
PQS – Co-Principal Investigator Prehistoric Archaeology
District 9 Capital Environmental Branch

Subject: **CEQA Cultural Compliance—Screened Undertaking** for Zurich Material Site, State Route 168, Inyo County.

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) District 9 is proposing to re-establish a former material site for mining of shale near Big Pine, California. A new Highway Easement Deed will be needed from the Bureau of Land Management (BLM Bishop Field Office) for approximately 55.5 acres. Of those 55.5 acres, disturbance caused by mining operations will be limited to approximately 13.9 acres. Approximately 336,000 cubic yards of material will be extracted from the site over a minimum 50-year lifespan.

The material site will be mined in two separate phases. For the first phase, the existing surface of the pit will be excavated to a depth of up to 10 feet. The first phase will also involve the reestablishment of a previously rehabilitated access road, construction of check dams (n=4) and diversion channels (n=2), and the installation of an access gate and earthen berm road block. The second phase of mining will see the pit surface further excavated to a maximum depth of up to 38 feet. The pit will be graded to ensure internal drainage. Topsoil (approximately 4 to 6 inches in depth) will be relocated to soil berms on the outer perimeter of the pit for post mining reclamation purposes.

Upon completion of the extraction of all material to the final grade lines, the final slopes will be reclaimed as depicted in Layout Sheet L-2 in accordance with SMARA regulations. Topsoil berms will be removed and spread evenly on all slopes.

It is Caltrans' intent to rescind this site back to the BLM after mining resources are exhausted and slopes are reclaimed. Upon final site configuration and revegetation, a final SMARA reclamation inspection will be performed to retire the associated mine ID and commence with the intended end-use (natural resources – open space designation). At this point, no further mining activities will occur at the site.

It is anticipated that Inyo County will be the lead agency for CEQA on this project and will require Caltrans to provide Biological and Archeological studies to complete their action. Though there is no Federal funding on the "project," there will be a Federal Action by FHWA for the map application package to acquire a Federal Lands Highway Easement Deed and a letter of concurrence from BLM. Therefore, it is anticipated that FHWA will be the NEPA lead agency for the "project."

Maximum depth of excavation will be 38 feet. Some vegetation removal will also occur. All staging will occur inside of the material site. The proposed project is State-only funded.

The purpose of this project is to to provide quality material for District maintenance forces for use in highway maintenance work throughout northern Inyo County and southern Mono County. The shale at the pit is the ideal material for shoulder backing and other material intensive maintenance activities. The development of this site for mining will complete the strategic plan for establishing material sources within reasonable haul proximity.

This review is intended to ensure that this undertaking is carried out in a manner consistent with Caltrans's regulatory responsibilities under **Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (36 CFR Part 800)** and pursuant to the **January 2014 *First Amended Programmatic Agreement*** *among the Federal Highway Administration, the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, the California State Historic Preservation Officer, and the California Department of Transportation Regarding Compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act as it pertains to the Administration of the Federal-Aid Highway Program in California* (Section 106 PA).

Caltrans District 9 Archaeologist, Julie Sage, conducted a review of cultural sensitivity for the proposed project. The review included an examination of the Environmental Study Request (ESR) and KMZ map file submitted by Ryan Spaulding, Project Coordinator, on February 10, 2020. Past project files, District 9 cultural files, the Caltrans Cultural Resources Database (CCRD), the CCRD geographic information system (GIS) database, and the findings of the *Cultural Resources Inventory of Caltrans District 9 Rural Conventional Highways in Inyo, Kern, Mono, and Northern San Bernardino Counties* (Leach-Palm et al. 2010) and the *Transportation Enhancement Activities Project: Archaeological Roadside Inventory for Caltrans District 9, Inyo and Mono Counties, California* (Richman and Basgall 1997) were also examined. The results of the background research revealed that no previous investigations have been performed along this route within the current proposed project area.

On July 13, 2020, Greg Haverstock, BLM archaeologist, conducted a review of cultural sensitivity for the proposed project (Haverstock 2020). According to Mr. Haverstock, a record search found no previously recorded resources within the proposed project area. There was also no record of previous archaeological survey being conducted at the quarry location or access route. It is likely that the previous use of the quarry pre-dated the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), and any archaeologist working in the BLM Bishop Field Office.

On August 6, 2020, a Class III pedestrian survey of the entire APE which had not been subjected to prior ground alteration was conducted by Greg Haverstock, BLM archaeologist (Haverstock 2020). This included a portion of the area within the proposed material pit boundary, but outside the original pit footprint. Since the original pit pre-dates modern Cultural Resource Management, the survey area included the edges of the previous disturbances including the decommissioned access route. Survey markers

remaining from the original quarry activity were relocated and used to delineate the survey effort. No sites were located within the survey area. However, one isolated milling basin and hand-stone were identified on the edge of the APE. These items were documented, but are not at risk, so they were left in situ.

Based on this review, the project, as currently proposed, has **no potential to affect historic properties or historical resources** eligible for or listed in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) or the California Register of Historic Resources (CRHR). The work conforms to the following "classes of screened undertakings" listed in the Section 106 PA, Attachment 2:

- Class 10 – Repair of the highway and its facilities.
- Class 27 – Right-of-Way activities such as hardship acquisition or acquisition of scenic or conservation easements.
- Class 28 – Joint or multiple use permits with other agencies or encroachment permits.

As a result, this proposed project is exempt from further review—no additional archaeological studies are required at this time, and the Section 106 and CEQA cultural resources components are complete.

Please note that this assessment could change if new information regarding cultural resources becomes available, if there are any changes to the proposed activities, or if additional locations are added. If there are any such changes to the proposed project, additional review by the cultural resources unit will be required. If previously unidentified cultural materials are unearthed during construction, work shall be halted in that area until a qualified archaeologist can assess the significance of the find.

No additional archaeological or built resources studies are required at this time. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Julie Sage at (760) 872-0798 or email at julie.sage@dot.ca.gov.

Attachments: Project location and plans

References

Haverstock, Greg
2020 *Cultural Resources Inventory Report*. Zurich Material Site. Survey/Project number CA-170-20-42. Bureau of Land Management, Bishop Field Office. Submitted to the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) District 9, Bishop. EA 09-37320, EFIS 0917000072.

Leach-Palm, Laura
2010 *Cultural Resources Inventory of Caltrans District 9 Rural Conventional Highways in Inyo, Kern, Mono, and Northern San Bernardino Counties*. Prepared by Far

Western Anthropological Research Group, Inc. Submitted to Caltrans, District 9, Bishop.

Richman, J.R. and M.E. Basgall
1997 *Transportation Enhancement Activities Project: Archaeological Roadside Inventory for Caltrans District 9, Inyo and Mono Counties, California*. Prepared by Archaeological Research Center, California State University, Sacramento. Submitted to Caltrans, District 9, Bishop.

CULTURAL RESOURCES INVENTORY REPORT

U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management
Bishop Field Office

SURVEY/PROJECT NO: CA-170-20-42

1. **PROJECT NAME & CASE NO:** Zurich Material Quarry Re-opening

2. **DEVELOPMENT COMPANY:** Caltrans, CA State Highway Transportation Agency

3. **REPORT DATE:** 8/7/2020

4. **DATE(S) OF SURVEY:** 8/6/2020

5. **COUNTY:** Inyo

6. **FIELDWORK LOCATION:** The proposed undertaking is located approximately 300 meters southeast of state highway 168, on an existing dirt route approximately 1.6 miles east of the Owens River. The location is delineated on the 7.5 USGS topographic map as a quarry pit.

   MAP: USGS 7.5 Quads: Uhlmeyer Springs

   LEGAL DESCRIPTION: Township 9 South, Range 39 East, Section 3

7. **PROJECT DESCRIPTION:** The proposed action involves the re-opening and use of a materials pit and access route. The pit is located on federal land managed by the Bureau of Land Management. The site is currently a closed and partially rehabilitated quarry that was previously used by Caltrans for highway construction and maintenance. The quarry is proposed to be re-opened. This includes re-establishing the access route off Highway 168, north of the material pit and providing a Right-of-Way to Caltrans. It was assumed that the entire footprint would be disturbed during the life of the quarry.

8. **PROJECT AREA DESCRIPTION:** The proposed project is constrained to an existing quarry and access route that were in use decades ago. The proposed access route is currently blocked-off and is being revegetated slowly. This route and the western portion of the quarry exhibit signs of having been paved in asphalt. Currently, sparse desert scrub vegetation is growing on rocky alluvial soils. Several eroded washes cut through the extant quarry. These have flooded in the recent past. The location is being used by the public for an unauthorized shooting area. Many appliances and other household refuse have been dumped and subsequently, shot within the project area. The northern and eastern margins contain a 40-meter strip of undisturbed surface. The western edge has approximately 25 meters of undisturbed surface. The southern edge of the quarry appears to lack material, so it is unlikely to be disturbed. There was no survey marker on this side, but the amount of undisturbed quarry appears to be near 30 meters. The access road is completely disturbed having been graded and paved at some point in the past.

9. **DESCRIPTION OF EXAMINATION PROCEDURES:** A records search found no previously recorded resources within the proposed project area. There was also no record of previous archaeological survey being conducted at the quarry location or access route. It is likely that the previous use of the quarry pre-dated the National Historic Preservation Act, and any archaeologist working in the Bishop Field Office.

   Current Survey: Following the search of the Bishop Field Office cultural resource files and geodatabase, a complete survey of the proposed project footprint was conducted. The survey targeted all portions of the ROW that appeared to be reasonably un-altered. This focused efforts on the margins of the quarry and access route, although three transects were randomly walked through the disturbed area to ensure no archaeological material was extant. The undisturbed surface area within the APE was surveyed using 15-meter transects. Ground visibility was good.

10. **INVENTORY TYPES:** A Class III, Pedestrian survey of the entire APE which had not been subjected to prior ground alteration was conducted. This included a portion of the area within the proposed material pit boundary, but outside the original pit footprint. Since the original pit pre-dates modern Cultural Resource Management, the survey area included the edges of the previous disturbances including the decommissioned access route. Survey markers remaining from the original quarry activity were relocated and used to delineate the survey effort.

11. **LEGALLY UNDEFINABLE ACRES SURVEYED:** 5

12. **NUMBER OF SITES FOUND:** No sites were located within the survey area; one isolated milling basin and hand-stone were identified on the edge of the APE. These items were documented, but are not at risk, so they were left in situ.

13. **COLLECTION:** None

14. **DESCRIPTION OF FINDINGS:** No resources meeting the definition of an archaeological site were located during pedestrian survey. As noted above, a set of isolated milling implements was located just outside of the APE. The proposed project is heavily disturbed.

15. **ACTUAL/POTENTIAL NATIONAL REGISTER PROPERTIES AFFECTED:** None

16. **LITERATURE SEARCH, BY WHOM/WHERE/DATE:** A records search of the Bishop Field Office cultural resources geodatabase failed to identify any previously recorded resources within the area of potential effect (APE) for the proposed undertaking. There was no record of prior archaeological survey within the APE. The records search was conducted by the field office archaeologist on 7/13/2020.

17. **CONCLUSION/RECOMMENDATIONS:** The proposed undertaking will not result in any effect to historic properties since none are extant within the proposed project area; therefore, ***No Effect*** determination has been rendered.

FIELD SUPERVISOR/PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR:

Greg Haverstock
BLM Archaeologist
Bishop Field Office

Memorandum

Making Conservation a California Way of Life

To: MATTHEW GOIKE, P.E.
Office Chief, Engineering Branch C
Caltrans District 9

Date: 03/15/2021

EA#: 09-37320

From: BRADLEY BOWERS
Environmental Engineering Geologist
Program Manager
Caltrans District 9

Subject: **AIR/NOISE/HAZARDOUS WASTE/WATER/PALEONTOLOGY CLEARANCE MEMO – ZURICH MATERIAL SITE**

All scoping analyses, estimates, and risk assessments in this memo were performed based on information provided by the project engineer in the Environmental Study Request approved on 2/10/2020. All studies and analyses were performed in regard to all applicable CA State and Federal laws as well as Caltrans' internal policies. Any changes to the project limits, scope, description of work, or budget could affect the conclusions in this memo; any such changes must be accompanied by an updated Environmental Study Request and this memo should be revisited for accuracy.

Project Location and Description
Caltrans is proposing to establish the Zurich Material Site (MS 308) for mining shale near Big Pine, CA. The site is located in Inyo County near State Route 168, postmile 21.60; east of the town of Big Pine. The surrounding area is a mixture of land owned/controlled by the Bureau of Land Management and the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power.

The project area was previously a working material site that has ceased operation and has been reclaimed. A new highway easement deed would be needed from the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) for approximately 55.5 acres to develop and use the site. The disturbance area for material mining is expected to be approximately 13.9 acres. Within these ~14 acres, approximately 336,000 cubic yards of material are expected to be extracted from the site over its 50-year lifespan. Material from the site would be used by Caltrans District 9 maintenance forces for local highway maintenance work. Development of local sources of aggregate materials is outlined in District 9's Strategic Plan for establishing material sources within reasonable haul proximity to reduce costs and greenhouse gas emissions.

The material site would be mined in two phases. The first phase involves excavating the surface of the pit area to an average depth of 10 feet, rehabilitate the access road from highway 178, install an access gate, and create Earthen berms surrounding the material site. The second phase would extend excavation within the pit area to a maximum depth of 38 feet with gradual internal slopes to ensure internal drainage and containment of all material site run off. Approximately 4 rock check dams and two diversion channels would be created to prevent outside water from draining into the pit. The proposed site is located on an alluvial fan upslope from the Owens Valley floor, therefore groundwater is not expected to be encountered at maximum excavated depth.

Upon completion of both phases (end of extraction), all final slopes will be reclaimed in accordance with SMARA regulations. Topsoil berms will be removed and spread evenly across slopes. After the site has been reclaimed and inspected, control of the land would pass back to BLM.

This project is being funded with State monies however it is anticipated that Inyo County will be CEQA lead and Caltrans will be NEPA lead per their NEPA Assignment responsibilities. As such, the following studies are intended to satisfy both State and Federal environmental clearance responsibilities.



Figure 1 - Project map provided in Environmental Study Request

Air Resources

Analysis

The proposed material site is located within the jurisdiction of the Great Basin Regional Air Quality Control Board. The project vicinity is in compliance for all State and Federal criteria pollutants except for Federal PM10 and State ozone and PM10 (Tables 1 and 2, below). Using the EPA AirData online mapper, the proposed project limits lie outside of the nonattainment area for federal PM10 (Owens Valley) and are therefore the project area is within PM10 attainment. Attainment status for PM10 was confirmed with Caltrans Headquarters Air Quality Conformity staff via email on 11/12/2020. As requested in the Environmental Study Request, NEPA documentation was also prepared and a federal air quality conformity checklist has been submitted. As the project area is within an attainment area for all federal criteria pollutants, it is exempt from air conformity and hot spot analyses. There is no potential to encounter naturally occurring asbestos as the prerequisite ultramafic rock formations are not known to be present in or near the project area.

Inyo County

Table 1 - Federal Area Designations for Criteria Pollutants and National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) Status for Inyo County, CA. California Air Resources Board; https://ww2.arb.ca.gov/resources/documents/maps-state-and-federal-area-designations

Pollutant	**Project Area Status**
Carbon Monoxide	Unclassified/Attainment
Lead	Unclassified/Attainment
Nitrogen Dioxide	Unclassified/Attainment
Ozone (8-hour)	Unclassified/Attainment
Sulfur Dioxide	Unclassified/Attainment
PM10	**Nonattainment (Owens Valley and Mono Basin). Project area - Attainment**
PM2.5	Unclassified/Attainment

Table 2 - CA State Designations for Criteria Pollutants and Status for Inyo County, CA. CA Air Resources Board; https://ww2.arb.ca.gov/resources/documents/maps-state-and-federal-area-designations

Pollutant	**Project Area Status**
Carbon Monoxide	Attainment
Hydrogen Sulfide	Attainment
Lead	Attainment
Nitrogen Dioxide	Attainment
Ozone	**Nonattainment**
Sulfur Dioxide	Attainment
PM10	**Nonattainment**
PM2.5	Attainment
Visibility Reducing Particles	Unclassified

Potential Impacts and AMMs

The scope of work described in the Environmental Study Request and Draft MS 308 Operations Plan do not include activities which would lead to sources of air pollutants which would cause any state or federal criteria pollutant currently in attainment to be reclassified as nonattainment. Material mining activities will be sporadic, contained within a depressed pit (after Phase 1) and all standard Caltrans dust control specifications will be implemented on the project.

Noise

Analysis

The proposed project is not a Type 1 Project pursuant to 23 CFR 772 and therefore is exempt from noise abatement consideration. The project setting is rural, with no residential or commercial receptors nearby. Construction/mining activities except for check dams, road rehabilitation, gate installation and berm creation during Phase 1 will be contained within a depressed pit which should aid in containing equipment noise to the project vicinity.

Potential Impacts and AMMs

Due to the lack of nearby receptors and containment of the majority of activities within a depressed area, there is a low likelihood of equipment noise to result in impacts. No measures required other than standard Caltrans noise control measures.

Hazardous Waste

Analysis

A search of the CA Water Board GeoTracker database was performed on 11/9/2020 and revealed no previous hazardous waste generators or remediation sites in or near the proposed material site.

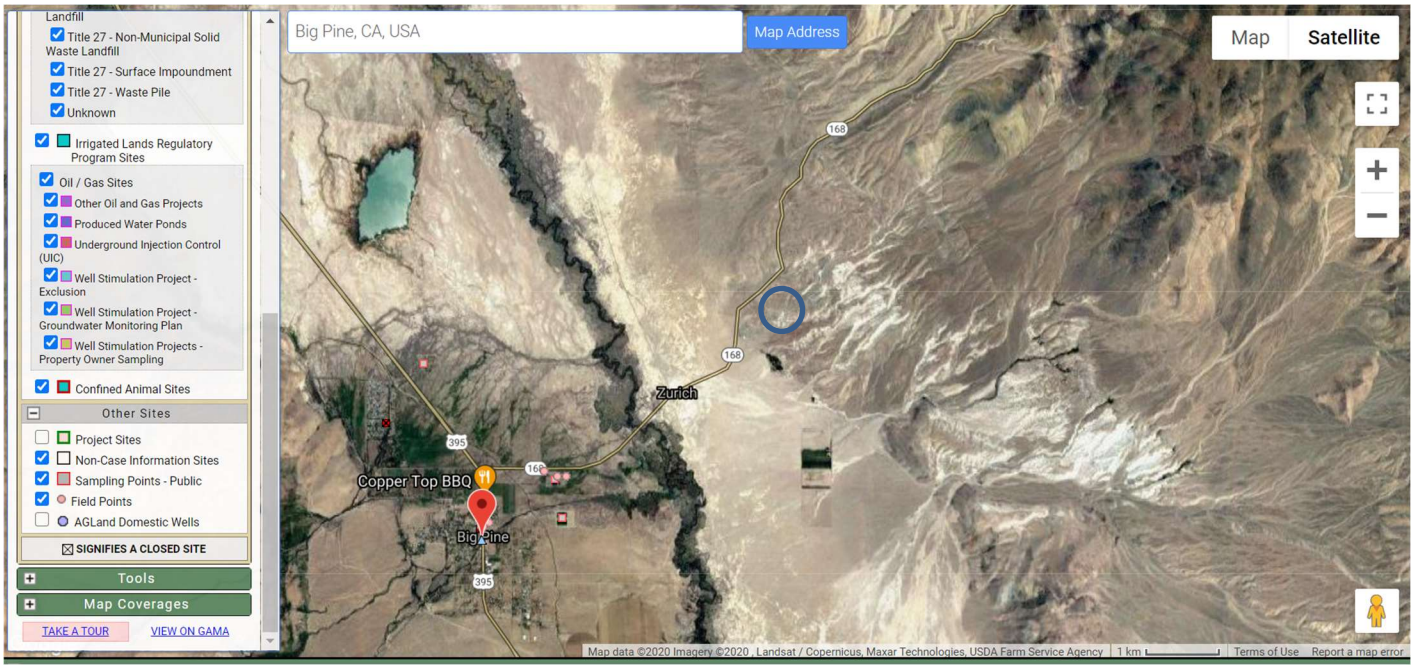


Figure 2 - Screenshot of GeoTracker search performed 11/9/2020. Approximate project location shown with blue oval.

The primary use of the site will be for Caltrans standard maintenance and operations work, including material mining, sorting and stockpiling for use in routine and emergency road maintenance activities on the State Highway System. Equipment most likely to be used in the pit include graders, loaders, dozers, and sorting grizzly structures. Only reusable imported natural materials such as dirt and rocks collected from Caltrans construction activities will be stored at the site. There was no mention of fuel storage tanks or any other hazardous material storage included in the MS 308 Operations Plan, and therefore assumed no hazardous materials will be stored at the material site at any time. Naturally occurring asbestos (NOA) is not expected to be encountered at this location as the geologic setting does not include ultra-mafic rocks which typically house NOA. As the site is located off of the State highway system, it is highly unlikely that aerially deposited lead has contaminated soil and no ADL testing is recommended at this time.

Potential Impacts and AMMs

No previously identified generators of hazardous wastes occur within the project limits. No hazardous waste materials are anticipated to be used or disposed of during operation of the material site. The project scope did not include the installation of equipment fueling facilities within the material site and thus it is not anticipated. All work after initial site development during Phase 1 will occur within the containment of the depressed central pit. This would serve to contain any errant spills or accidental distribution of materials. The project scope did not include any storage of hazardous materials within the pit. No further studies or measures other than standard stormwater BMPs are recommended at this time.

Water Resources

Analysis

All appropriate best management practices (BMPs) shall be used as outlined in the NPDES Statewide Storm Water Permit. Culvert inlets susceptible to sedimentation contamination, will be protected and standard job site management protections will be installed. No work is being done in the stream channel and does not require Clean Water Act Section 401/404 or dredge and fill permits. Due to the life span of the mine, the following measures will be taken in the event of a 50 year storm: rock armor lined spillways, retention basin, and a bench cut with a shallow channel along the side to help flow access water to the retention basin and not puddle in the mine floor.

Potential Impacts and AMMs

Stormwater BMPs will be implemented on project to prevent erosion and sediment transport.

Paleontology

Analysis

The project area lies along the western flank of the White Inyo Mountains, east of the Owens Valley on the western boundary of the Basin and Range Geomorphic Province. Geologic mapping of the area indicates the material site will extend into the Waucobi Lakebed formation, which has been studied extensively for the paleoclimatic history of the Owens Valley. The postmile segment of SR 168 is identified as low sensitivity in the Caltrans Paleo Sensitivity GIS Database. Multiple exposures of the Waucobi Lake fm are known to occur at the surface near the proposed the material site and elsewhere in the surrounding area. Multiple research papers and graduate theses have been written about this formation, often including geochemical analyses of lakebed and volcanic sediments and the study of fossilized ostracods to infer past climatic conditions during the Late Pliocene – Early Pleistocene period. According to the Caltrans tripartite system for determining fossil significance and impact risk, vertebrate fossils are considered much more significant than invertebrates, however outstanding invertebrate fossil beds or those with a high degree of scientific significance could be considered significant. The project information provided for this project indicate an impact area for mining activities of approximately 14 acres and 30 feet deep. The mining activities may encounter Waucobi Lakebed fm sediments, however the majority of known surface exposures of the formation occur south and southeast of the proposed project location (Figure 3). The material site currently has Quaternary alluvium at the surface, however the Waucobi fm could occur at depth and potentially could be encountered during mining operations.

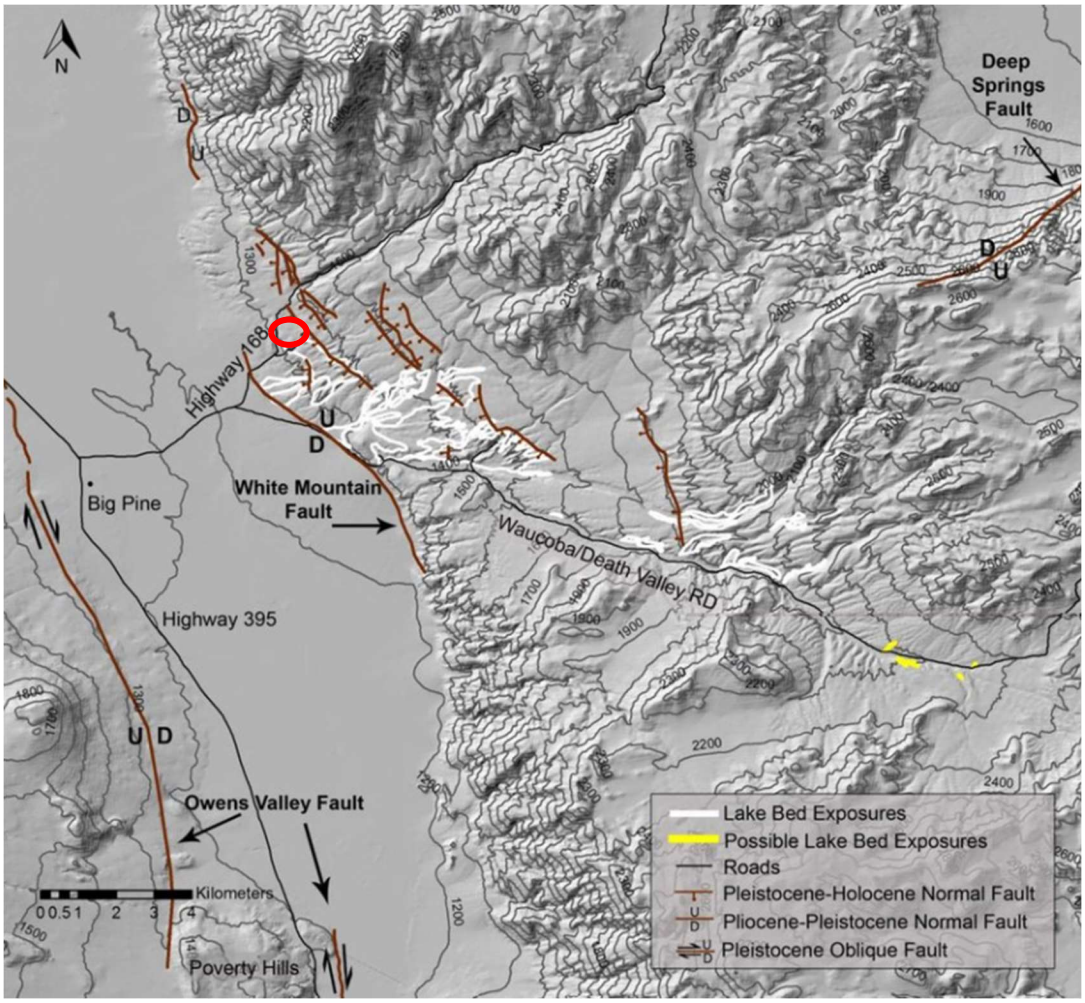


Figure 3 - Map of Waucobi Lakebed fm exposures and faults near project area. Source De Masi 2013. Approximate project area shown in red oval.

Potential Impacts and AMMs

Due to the limited area of work which could encounter the Waucobi Lakebed fm, the well-studied nature of the formation, and the small proportion of known occurrences of the formation lying within the impact area of the project, the project is determined to have a low potential for impacts on paleontological resources. The formation is known to contain ostracod and other invertebrate fossils which have been studied to analyze paleoclimatic conditions, however the immediate project area is not likely to contain fossil resources considered outstanding or especially scientifically significant due to the abundance of previous research, the availability of access locations to other portions of the same formation for future studies, and the relative abundance of invertebrate fossils found throughout the formation at multiple exposures well outside of the proposed material site. Due to the small and relatively unrecognizable nature of invertebrate fossils in this formation, standard avoidance measures such as awareness training would be largely fruitless for construction staff operating material site machinery. Standard Caltrans specifications for immediate notification of the District Paleontologist if staff encounter fossils during construction will be implemented on the project.

Questionnaire to Determine Visual Impact Assessment (VIA) Level

Use the following questions and subsequent score as a guide to help determine the appropriate level of VIA documentation. This questionnaire assists the VIA preparer (i.e. Landscape Architect) in estimating the probable visual impacts of a proposed project on the environment and in understanding the degree and breadth of the possible visual issues. The goal is to develop a suitable document strategy that is thorough, concise and defensible.

Enter the project name and consider each of the ten questions below. Select the response that most closely applies to the proposed project and corresponding number on the right side of the table. Points are automatically computed at the bottom of the table and the total score should be matched to one of the five groups of scores at the end of the questionnaire that include recommended levels of VIA study and associated annotated outlines (i.e., minor, moderate, advanced/complex).

This scoring system should be used as a preliminary guide and should not be used as a substitute for objective analysis on the part of the preparer. Although the total score may recommend a certain level of VIA document, circumstances associated with any one of the ten question-areas may indicate the need to elevate the VIA to a greater level of detail. For projects done by others on the State Highway System, the District Landscape Architect should be consulted when scoping the VIA level and provide concurrence on the level of analysis used.

The Standard Environmental Reference, Environmental Handbook, Volume I: Chapter 27-Visual & Aesthetics Review lists preparer qualifications for conducting the visual impact assessment process. Landscape Architects receive formal training in the area of visual resource management and can appropriately determine which VIA level is appropriate.

Preparer Qualifications:

"Scenic Resource Evaluations and VIA's are performed under the direction of licensed Landscape Architects. Landscape Architects receive formal training in the area of visual resource management with a curriculum that emphasizes environmental design, human factors, and context sensitive solutions. When recommending specific visual mitigation measures, Landscape Architects can appropriately weigh the benefits of these different measures and consider construction feasibility and maintainability."

Calculate VIA Level Score

Project Information

Project Name

Zurich Materials Site

Project Identification #

09-373200/0917000072

Preparer Name

Jim Hibbert

Caltrans District Landscape Architect (DLA)

For projects on State Highway System Only, Name of Caltrans District Landscape Architect (DLA) providing VIA Questionnaire Score Concurrence - if different than above.

N/A

Change to Visual Environment

1. **Will the project result in a noticeable change in the physical characteristics of the existing environment?**

Consider all project components and construction impacts - both permanent and temporary, including landform changes, structures, noise barriers, vegetation removal, railing, signage, and contractor activities.

Moderate Level of Change (2 points)

2. **Will the project complement or contrast with the visual character desired by the community?**

Evaluate the scale and extent of the project features compared to the surrounding scale of the community. Is the project likely to give an urban appearance to an existing rural or suburban community? Do you anticipate that the change will be viewed by the public as positive or negative? Research planning documents, or talk with local planners and community representatives to understand the type of visual environment local residents envision for their community.

High Compatibility (1 point)

3. **What level of local concern is there for the types of project features (e.g., bridge structures, large excavations, sound barriers, or median planting removal) and construction impacts that are proposed?**

Certain project improvements can be of special interest to local citizens, causing a heightened level of public concern, and requiring a more focused visual analysis.

Negligible Project Features (0 points)

4. **Will the project require redesign or realignment to minimize adverse change or will mitigation, such as landscape or architectural treatment, likely be necessary?**

Consider the type of changes caused by the project, i.e., can undesirable views be screened or will desirable views be permanently obscured so a redesign should be considered?

No Mitigation Likely (0 points)

5. **Will this project, when seen collectively with other projects, result in an aggregate adverse change (cumulative impacts) in overall visual quality or character?**

Identify any projects (both Caltrans and local) in the area that have been constructed in recent years and those currently planned for future construction. The window of time and the extent of area applicable to possible cumulative impacts should be based on a reasonable anticipation of the viewing public's perception.

Cumulative Impacts Unlikely to Occur (1 point)

Viewer Sensitivity

1. **What is the potential that the project proposal will be controversial within the community, or opposed by any organized group?**

This can be researched initially by talking with Caltrans and local agency management and staff familiar with the affected community's sentiments as evidenced by past projects and/or current information.

No Potential (0 point)

2. **How sensitive are potential viewer-groups likely to be regarding visible changes proposed by the project?**

Consider among other factors the number of viewers within the group, probable viewer expectations, activities, viewing duration, and orientation. The expected viewer sensitivity level may be scoped by applying professional judgment, and by soliciting information from other Caltrans staff, local agencies and community representatives familiar with the affected community's sentiments and demonstrated concerns.

Low Sensitivity (1 point)

3. **To what degree does the project's aesthetic approach appear to be consistent with applicable laws, ordinances, regulations, policies or standards?**

Although the State is not always required to comply with local planning ordinances, these documents are critical in understanding the importance that communities place on aesthetic issues. The Caltrans Environmental Planning branch may have copies of the planning documents that pertain to the project. If not, this information can be obtained by contacting the local planning department. Also, many local and state planning documents can be found online at the California Land Use Planning Network.

High Compatibility (1 point)

4. **Are permits going to be required by outside regulatory agencies (i.e., Federal, State, or local)?**

Permit requirements can have an unintended consequence on the visual environment. Anticipated permits, as well as specific permit requirements - which are defined by the permitted, may be determined by talking with the project Environmental Planner and Project Engineer. Note: coordinate with the Caltrans representative responsible for obtaining the permit prior to communicating directly with any permitting agency.

Maybe (2 points)

5. **Will the project sponsor or public benefit from a more detailed visual analysis in order to help reach consensus on a course of action to address potential visual impacts?**

Consider the proposed project features, possible visual impacts, and probable mitigation recommendations.

No (1 point)

Calculate Total

It is recommended that you print a copy of these calculations for the project file.

Project Score: 9

Select An Outline Based Upon Project Score

The total score will indicate the recommended VIA level for the project. In addition to considering circumstances relating to any one of the ten questions-areas that would justify elevating the VIA level, also consider any other project factors that would have an effect on level selection.

Score 6-9

No noticeable visual changes to the environment are proposed and no further analysis is required. Print out a copy of this completed questionnaire for your project file or Preliminary Environmental Study (PES).

Score 10-14

Negligible visual changes to the environment are proposed. A brief Memorandum(see sample)addressing visual issues providing a rationale why a technical study is not required.

Score 15-19

Noticeable visual changes to the environment are proposed. An abbreviated VIA is appropriate in this case. The assessment would briefly describe project features, impacts and any avoidance and minimization measures. Visual simulations would be optional. Go to the Directions for using and accessing the Minor VIA Annotated Outline.

Score 20-24

Noticeable visual changes to the environment are proposed. A fully developed VIA is appropriate. This technical study will likely receive public review.Go to the Directions for using and accessing the Moderate VIA Annotated Outline.

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BETA Excel Version of the FACE-1 Financial Assurance Cost Estimate Form.
Please contact DMR if errors are found in this document.

FINANCIAL ASSURANCE COST ESTIMATE

FOR

Zurich Pit (MS #308)

(Mine Name)

CA Mine ID # 91- 14-0143

Reclamation Plan #/Name 96-xx

Prepared by: *(Name & Affiliation)*	This financial assurance cost estimate prepared and submitted pursuant to *(choose one)* :
Forest Becket SMARA Coordinator Caltrans District 9 500 S. Main St, Bishop, CA 93514 Date: 7/14/2025	[x] A new or amended reclamation plan approved on (Date): TBD [ ] An annual mine inspection performed on (Date) _____ [ ] Other: Please Specify: _____

Most Recent Approved Financial Assurance Cost Estimate

Date: NA

Amount: $ NA

Amount of existing Financial Assurance Mechansim(s)

Date: 7/1/2025

Amount: $ 5,000,000.00

I. SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

This estimate represents the cost of conducting and completing reclamation in accordance with the Surface Mining and Reclamation Act (SMARA) and the following supporting documents:

Reclamation Plan Approval Date and Number

Draft Reclamation Plan (new); Reclamation Plan #: 96-xx.

Permits and/or Environmental Documents Approved as, or Conditional upon, the Reclamation Plan

BLM Letter of Consent for highway easement for mining purposes. Conditional of approval will be initiated with Inyo County after the Recalamtion Plan has been approved.

Other Agency Financial Assurances Securing Reclamation of Disturbed Lands

California State Controller's Office

Wage Rates used in Cost Estimate* *(cost estimates are required to use current 'General prevailing wage determinations made by the director of industrial relations' where applicable (http://www.dir.ca.gov/OPRL/PWD/index.htm) with employer labor surcharge added, or greater)*

'General prevailing wage determinations' (CA Department of Industrial Relations) was utilized for the associated wage rate estimates.

Equipment Rates used in Cost Estimates* *(use current 'Labor Surchage and Equipment Rental Rates (Cost of Equipment Ownership)' equipment rates published by Caltrans (http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/construc/equipmnt.html) or other publicly available and verifiable local rates)*

'Labor surcharge and equipment rental rates (cost of equipment ownership),' as published by Caltrans, was utilized for the associated equipment rental rate estimates.

Equipment Production Rates used in Cost Estimate *(Use of current Caterpillar Performance Handbook or equivalent published production rates is required)*

'Caterpillar Performance Handbook' was utilized for the associated equipment production rates.

**Many mine sites are remote projects that require hours of travel (to and from) and sometimes require additional time to prepare for even the simplest of tasks. In accordance with labor Code Sections 1773.1 and 1773.9, contractors are required to make travel and/or subsistence (per diem) payments to each worker to execute the work. These arrangements can be quite variable and site specific.*

Attachments:

(add additional pages as needed)

II. Description of Current Site Conditions

(i.e., disturbed acres, slope conditions, excavation depths, topsoil and overburden stockpiles, equipment and facilities, reclamation in progress, erosion control status, required corrective actions, etc.)

Site was an active BLM community use pit accessed via special use permits until 2005. Currently site is used for ilegal dumping, target shooting, and OHV staging.

III. Description of Anticipated Site Conditions (12 months from date of estimate)

(i.e., increase of disturbed acres, increase of depth, increases in amount of equipment and/or facilities, required corrective actions, etc.)

First 12 months of operation will entail some minor northwest access road grading, earthen berm established at southwest road to block access, illegal dumping material clean up and transport to landfill, and some minor ground disturbance for grading of the phase one pit floor (approximately 0.5 acre).

IV. Description/Justification of Cost Increase/Decrease

This is the first FACE prepared for the site required for the reclamation application package.

(add additional pages as needed)

V. PLANT STRUCTURES AND EQUIPMENT REMOVAL *(use multiple sheets as needed)*

Provide documentation showing that rates, prices, and wages are available locally to all persons, including the lead agency and/or the Department.

Current Site Condition:

No plant structures or equipment anticipated to be left on site.

Reclamation Plan Performance Standard (End Use):

N/A

Describe tasks:

N/A

Equipment on site wholly owned by operator?: ☐ YES ☐ NO
(if no, please provide the name/s and contact information for any lien holder)

N/A

(add additional pages as needed)

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V. PLANT STRUCTURES & EQUIPMENT REMOVAL

(↑ Describe Reclamation Activity Being Estimated)

Methods to be used:

A. Equipment - List equipment to complete identified task. For large reclamation jobs, separate mine areas.

Equipment	Unit of Measure	$/Unit	# of Units	Cost ($)
N/A		$0.00	0.0	$0
		$0.00	0.0	$0
		$0.00	0.0	$0
		$0.00	0.0	$0
		$0.00	0.0	$0
		Total Equipment Cost for this Task =		$0

B. Labor - List all labor categories to complete identified task

Labor Category	$/Hour (prevailing wage)	Labor Surcharge/Hr *(where applicable)* (enter % of wage) 0.0%	# of Hours	Cost ($)
N/A	$0.00	$0.00	0.0	$0
	$0.00	$0.00	0.0	$0
	$0.00	$0.00	0.0	$0
	$0.00	$0.00	0.0	$0
	$0.00	$0.00	0.0	$0
		Total Labor Cost for this Task =		$0

C. Demolition - List all structures and equipment to be dismantled or demolished and removed from site

Structure/Equipment to be removed	Type of Material	Volume/ Quantity	Unit Cost Basis	Disposal Cost	Cost ($)
N/A		0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0
		0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0
		0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0
		0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0
		0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0
				Total Materials Cost for this Task =	$0

D. Total Direct Cost of Structure and Equipment Removal (Total A+B+C)

Equipment Cost + Labor Cost + Demolition Cost = $0

E. Net Salvage Value* (Supported by properly prepared third party estimate, bid, or cost calculation)

Net Salvage Value = $ **0.00**

F. Total Cost of Structure and Equipment Removal (Subtract Line D from Line E)

Total Cost of Structure and Equipment Removal = **$0**

NOTE: Above **Total Cost** will display $0.00 if net of entered removal costs and salvage value is negative.

*Note: Salvage value may only be used to offset the direct cost of removing the single item for which salvage value is being claimed. Salvage value shall not be used to offset any other demolition, general cleanup, or reclamation costs.

VI. PRIMARY RECLAMATION ACTIVITY

Use multiple sheets as necessary to estimate the cost of each activity required. Provide documentation showing that rates, prices, and wages are available locally to the lead agency and/or the Department if necessary.

Current Site Conditions:

No anticipated reclamation activities planned.

Reclamation Plan Performance Standard (End Use):

Erosion and sediment control: Control monitoring will be completed at the same time and frequency that the vegetation monitoring is done. The results will be used to aid in identifying areas of potential failures and to require the use of remedial measures before problem areas cause widespread failures. Sedimentation basins will be inspected following the season's first major storm event or at a minimum of annually. Basins will be cleaned out as needed to maintain a minimum storage capacity. Slope stability: With the exception of the minor cut roads, no large man-made slope shall be steeper than 3:1 (H:V).

Describe tasks, methods, equipment, etc.

Decompaction, cut, fill, haul, slope reduction, compaction, grading, topsoil placement, drainage work, soil amendment, special requirements, etc. Separate sheets may be used for each task if necessary.

Remove metal gate and metal delineators, install earthen berms on primary access road, and decompact 0.5 acre of disturbance.

Provide Quantities:

Overburden and topsoil, cut and fill, import or export (cubic yards), area (acres), haul distance (feet), equipment production rates (cubic yards/hour, or as applicable), etc.

0.5 acre of ripping for decompaction.

(add additional pages as needed)

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VI. PRIMARY RECLAMATION ACTIVITY

Removal of dirt roadways, re-grading of disturbed areas to final approved reclaimed contour

(↑ Describe Reclamation Activity Being Estimated)

Acres:	0.5	Overburden (cy):	N/A
Haul Distance (ft):	N/A	Topsoil (cy):	N/A
Production Rate (cy/hr):	N/A	*(NOTE: no automatic calculations occur to data in this upper table)*	

Methods to be used:

A. Equipment - List equipment to complete identified task. For large reclamation jobs, separate mine areas.

Equipment	Unit of Measure	$/Unit	# of Units	Cost ($)
Cat D-8L dozer w/ripper	hour	$245.13	4.0	$981
Water truck (48-60)	hour	$91.76	4.0	$367
Cat 12G 61M Grader	hour	$101.80	4.0	$407
		$0.00	8.0	$0
		$0.00	0.0	$0
		$0.00	0.0	$0
		Total Equipment Cost for this Task =		$1,755

B. Labor - List all labor categories to complete identified tasks

Labor Category	$/Hour (prevailing wage)	Labor Surcharge/Hr *(where applicable)* (enter % of wage) 0.0%	# of Hours	Cost ($)
Heavy equipment operator (G-8)	$92.73	$0.00	8.0	$742
Truck driver G-3 (Teamster)	$75.18	$0.00	4.0	$301
Laborer (G-1)	$71.69	$0.00	8.0	$574
	$0.00	$0.00	0.0	$0
	$0.00	$0.00	0.0	$0
	$0.00	$0.00	0.0	$0
		Total Labor Cost for this Task =		$1,616

C. Materials - List all materials required to complete identified task

Item	$/Unit	Sales tax (enter local rate in %) 0.0%	Quantity	Cost ($)
N/A	$0.00	$0.00	0.0	$0
	$0.00	$0.00	0.0	$0
	$0.00	$0.00	0.0	$0
	$0.00	$0.00	0.0	$0
	$0.00	$0.00	0.0	$0
		Total Materials Cost for this Task =		$0

D. Total Direct Cost for this task

Equipment Cost + Labor Cost + Materials Cost = $3,371

VII. REVEGETATION *(use multiple sheets as needed)*

Provide documentation showing that rates, prices, and wages are available locally to the lead agency and/or the Department.

Current Site Condition:

No reclamation planned to be underway in first 12 months.

Reclamation Plan Performance Standard (End Use):

Undisturbed site-indigenous shrub cover was estimated to be 25% and reclamation will strive to acheive 12.5% indigenous shrub cover. Reclamation will also strive to achieve a species richness of three per 50 square meters.

Describe Tasks:

Approximately 0.5 acre and the access road (0.01 acre) will be revegetated using the topsoil and/or the wind diserpal for seed proprogation. Decompaction, topsoil spreading, and surface roughing of the site will take place during the fall, late October to December. Prior to spreading the stored topsoil and fines, all compacted areas will be de-compacted (ripped or disked) to facilitate root growth. Topsoil berms will be spread on slopes up to six inches deep. Slopes will be heavily roughened to mimic the linear crevices of the surround undisturbed landscape. If vegetation success criteria is not met using either the berm method or roughening of the slopes method, then hand gathered seeds will be broadcast and mixed into the top I /2-inch of the substrate, by either raking or dragging a chain across the seedbed or other suitable method

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VII. REVEGETATION *(use multiple sheets as needed)*

Decompaction, surface roughing and hand gathering/seeding of the site, and topsoil application

(↑ Describe Revegetation Activity Being Estimated)

Methods to be used:

A. Equipment - List equipment to complete identified task. For large reclamation projects, separate mine areas.

Equipment	Unit of Measure	$/Unit	# of Units	Cost ($)
Cat D-8L dozer w/ ripper	hour	$245.13	8.0	$1,961
Water Truck (48-60)	hour	$91.76	8.0	$0
	hour	$0.00	0.0	$0
		$0.00	0.0	$0
		$0.00	0.0	$0
		$0.00	0.0	$0
		Total Equipment Cost for this Task =		$1,961

B. Labor - List all labor categories to complete identified task.

Labor Category	$/Hour (prevailing wage)	Labor Surcharge /HR (where applicable) (enter % of wage) 0.0%	# of Hours	Cost ($)
Labor G-1	$71.69	$0.00	30.0	$2,151
Heavy Equipment Operator	$92.73	$0.00	4.0	$371
Teamster G-3	$75.18	$0.00	4.0	$301
	$0.00	$0.00	0.0	$0
	$0.00	$0.00	0.0	$0
		Total Labor Cost for this Task =		$2,822

C. Materials - List all materials required to complete identified task

Item/Plant Species	Unit of measure	$/Unit	Sales tax (enter local rate in %) 0.0%	Quantity	Cost ($)
		$0.00	$0.00	0.0	$0
		$0.00	$0.00	0.0	$0
		$0.00	$0.00	0.0	$0
		$0.00	$0.00	0.0	$0
		$0.00	$0.00	0.0	$0
		$0.00	$0.00	0.0	$0
		$0.00	$0.00	0.0	$0
		$0.00	$0.00	0.0	$0
		$0.00	$0.00	0.0	$0
		Total Materials Cost for this Task =			$0

D. Total Direct Cost for this task

Equipment Cost + Labor Cost + Materials Cost = $4,783

VIII. MISCELLANEOUS COSTS *(use multiple sheets as needed)*

Provide documentation showing that rates, prices, and wages are available locally to all persons, including the lead agency and/or the Department.

Examples of this type of cost may include temporary storage of equipment and materials off site, special one-time permits (i.e. transportation permits for extra wide overweight loads, etc.), decommissioning a process mill (i.e. decontamination of equipment), disposal of warehouse inventories, well abandonnment, remediation of fueling and waste oil storage sites, septic system removal, costs to prepare closure and monitoring reports, site security, preserving potable water and maintaining utilities, etc.

Item/Task	Quantity	$/Unit	Cost ($)
Remove Metal Delineators	60.0	$10.00	$600
Remove Gate	1.0	$2,000.00	$2,000
	0.0	$0.00	$0
	0.0	$0.00	$0
	0.0	$0.00	$0
	0.0	$0.00	$0
	0.0	$0.00	$0
	0.0	$0.00	$0
	0.0	$0.00	$0
	0.0	$0.00	$0

Total Miscellaneous Costs = $2,600

IX. MONITORING COSTS

Monitoring Task	$/Visit	# of Visits/Year	# of Monitoring Years	Cost ($)
Biological Monitoring & Annual Reporting	$5,841.00	1.0	5.0	$29,205
	$0.00	0.0	0.0	$0
	$0.00	0.0	0.0	$0
	$0.00	0.0	0.0	$0
	$0.00	0.0	0.0	$0
	$0.00	0.0	0.0	$0
	$0.00	0.0	0.0	$0

Total Monitoring Costs = $29,205

State of California
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
DIVISION OF MINE RECLAMATION
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X. SUMMARY OF COSTS

This section shall be used to summarize all the cost sheets in one place.

(V) Total of all Plant Structures & Equipment Removal Costs	$	0
(VI) Total of all Primary Reclamation Activities Costs	$	3,371
(VII) Total of all Revegetation Costs	$	4,783
(VII) Total of all Miscellaneous Costs	$	2,600
(IX) Total of all Monitoring Costs	$	29,205
Total of Direct Costs	$	**39,959**

XI. SUPERVISION / PROFIT & OVERHEAD / CONTINGENCIES / MOBILIZATION

(A) Supervision (6.4 %)		$	2,552
(B) Profit/Overhead (13.3 %)		$	5,331
(C) Contingencies (10.0 %)		$	3,996
(D) Mobilization (8.0 %)		$	3,197
Total of Indirect Costs		$	**15,075**
Total of Direct and Indirect Costs		$	**55,035**
(E) Lead Agency and/or Dept. of Conservation Administrative Costs	5%	$	2,752

Total Estimated Cost of Reclamation $ **57,786**

Attachment B

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

Attachment B

Mine Name: zurich pit	Checklist Completed by: Forest Becket
End Use: open wildlife habitat	Date: 11/07/2023

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).	ii
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).	1.1.0
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).	2.2.1 3.3.0
PRC 2772(c)(3)	Dates: The initiation and termination dates of mining (be as specific as possible, e.g. December 31, 2030).	3.2.0
PRC 2772(c)(4)	Depth of mining: The maximum anticipated depth of the surface mining operation.	3.1.1
PRC 2772(c)(5) (A-F)	Reclamation plan maps shall include: Size and legal description of lands affected by surface mining operations;	Appx B, C
	Names and addresses of owners of all surface interests and mineral interests;	1.1.0-1.3.0
	Property lines, setbacks, and the reclamation plan boundary;	Appx B
	Existing and final topography with contour lines at appropriate intervals;	Appx B
	Detailed geologic description of the area of the surface mining operation;	2.2.1
	Locations of railroads, utility features, and roads (access roads, temporary roads to be reclaimed, and any roads remaining for the end use).	Appx B
	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 B
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 C
PRC 2772(c)(7)	Subsequent use(s): A description of the proposed subsequent use(s) after reclamation	4.1.0
	Evidence that all landowners have been notified of the proposed use.	
PRC 2772(c)(9)	Impact on future mining: A statement regarding the impact of reclamation on future mining on the site.	4.2.0
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.	4.8.0
CCR 3709(a)	Equipment storage and waste disposal: Designate areas for equipment storage and show on maps.	Appx B 3.4.3
	All waste shall be disposed of in accordance with state and local health and safety ordinances.	3.4.3
CCR 3709(b)	Structures and equipment removed:	

Attachment B

	Structures and equipment should be dismantled and removed at closure, except as demonstrated to be necessary for the proposed end use.	4.4.3
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	2.2
	A detailed description of the geology of the mine site.	2.2.1
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.	4.4.0 3.4.2
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.	4.4.0
	The reclamation plan shall specify slope angles flatter than the critical gradient for the type of slope materials.	4.4.1
	When final slopes approach the critical gradient, a Slope Stability Analysis will be required.	4.4.1
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).	4.4.1
CCR 3704(e)	At closure, all fill slopes shall conform with the surrounding topography or approved end use.	4.4.0
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.	4.4.1

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.	3.4.3
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.	4.7.0
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.	3.4.4

Attachment B

CCR 3503(b)(2)	Operations shall be conducted to substantially prevent siltation of groundwater recharge areas.	2.4.1 3.4.1
CCR 3503(a)(3)	Erosion control facilities shall be constructed and maintained where necessary to control erosion.	3.4.1
CCR 3503(b)(1)	Settling ponds shall be constructed where they will provide a significant benefit to water quality.	3.4.1 Appx B
CCR 3503(d)	Disposal of mine waste and overburden shall be stable and shall not restrict natural drainage without suitable provisions for diversion.	3.4.1
CCR 3503(e)	Grading and revegetation shall be designed to minimize erosion and convey surface runoff to natural drainage courses or interior basins.	3.4.1 3.4.2 4.7.0
	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.	4.7.0 4.10.0
CCR 3706(b)	Water quality, recharge potential, and groundwater storage that is accessed by others shall not be diminished.	2.4.1
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.	3.4.1 4.4.2
CCR 3706(d)	Surface runoff and drainage shall be controlled to protect surrounding land and water resources.	3.4.1
	Erosion control methods shall be designed for not less than 20 year/1 hour intensity storm event.	3.4.1
CCR 3706(e)	Impacted drainages shall not cause increased erosion or sedimentation. Mitigation alternatives shall be proposed in the reclamation plan.	4.10.1
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.	3.4.3/1 3.6.1 4.7.0
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.	3.3.0 3.4.3 3.6.1

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).	2.5.0-2.5.2.2
	Impacts of reclamation on surrounding land uses.	4.1.0
CCR 3503(c)	Fish and wildlife habitat shall be protected by all reasonable measures.	appx D
CCR 3703(a)	Sensitive species shall be conserved or mitigated as prescribed by the federal and California Endangered Species Acts.	appx D
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.	2.5.2 appx D
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

Attachment B

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.	3.4.2 appx A
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.	n/a
	The use of soil conditioners, mulches, or imported topsoil shall be considered where such measures appear necessary.	4.6.4
CCR 3704(c)	Mine waste shall be stockpiled to facilitate phased reclamation and kept separate from topsoil or other growth media.	n/a
CCR 3705(e)	If soil is altered or other than native topsoil, soil analysis is required. Add fertilizers or soil amendments if necessary.	n/a
CCR 3711(a)	All salvageable topsoil shall be removed as a separate layer.	appx A
	Topsoil and vegetation removal should not precede mining by more than one year.	appx A
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 B
	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.	4.6.2
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.	appx B
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.	appx A,B
	Topsoil stockpiles shall not be disturbed until needed for reclamation.	3.4.2, 4.5.0
	Topsoil stockpiles shall be clearly identified.	appx B
	Topsoil shall be planted with vegetation or otherwise protected to prevent erosion and discourage weeds.	3.4.2 4.5.0
CCR 3711(e)	Topsoil shall be redistributed in a manner resulting in a stable, uniform thickness consistent with the end use.	4.5.0

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.	4.6.0
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.	4.6.2
CCR 3705(a)	Baseline studies shall be conducted prior to mining activities to document vegetative cover, density, and species richness.	appx D and table 5
	Vegetative cover shall be similar to surrounding habitats and self-sustaining.	4.9.3
CCR 3705(b)	Test plots shall be conducted simultaneously with mining to ensure successful implementation of the proposed revegetation plan.	4.10.3
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.	4.5.0
CCR 3705(d)	Roads shall be stripped of roadbase materials, resoiled, and revegetated, unless exempted.	4.6.0
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.	appx A, B
CCR 3705(g)	Use local native plant species (unless non-native species meet the end use).	4.6.2
	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.	4.6.0
CCR 3705(i)	Use soil stabilizing practices and irrigation when necessary to establish vegetation.	4.6.4 4.6.5

Attachment B

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.	NA
CCR 3705(k)	Noxious weeds shall be monitored and managed.	4.6.7
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.	4.6.6
CCR3705(m)	Quantitative success standards for vegetative cover, density, and species richness shall be included in the reclamation plan.	4.9.3
	Monitoring to occur until success standards have been achieved.	4.10.0
	Sampling techniques for measuring success shall be specified. Sample size must be sufficient to provide at least an 80 percent statistical confidence level.	4.10.3

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.	NA
CCR 3707(b)	Segregate and replace topsoil in proper sequence by horizon in prime agricultural soils.	NA
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.	NA
	Productivity rates shall be specified in the reclamation plan.	NA
CCR 3707(d)	If fertilizers and amendments are applied, they shall not cause contamination of surface or groundwater.	NA
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.	NA

Attachment C

United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
Bishop Field Office
351 Pacu Lane, Suite 100
Bishop, CA 93514
www.blm.gov/office/bishop-field-office

September 14, 2023

CACA106631887/CACA 058940
2800-P
CA170.10
Project No. 09-1700-0072
RW-Inyo 168 PM 21.6
Zurich Material Site 308

Letter of Consent

Elissa Konove, California Division Administrator
U.S. Department of Transportation
Federal Highway Administration

Attn: Philip Banea, Realty Specialist
650 Capital Mall, Suite 4-100
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Ms. Konove:

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Bishop Field Office received a request from the Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) for the appropriation of public lands of the United States within the State of California for the purpose of issuing a Highway Easement to the California Department of Highways (Caltrans), Inyo County, State of California.

The Federal Highway Administration, on behalf of Caltrans, has filed an application under the provisions of the Act of Congress of August 27, 1958, as amended (23 U.S.C. Section 317), for a material pit or quarry site (known as Zurich Pit 308) near State Highway 168.

The area requested generally lies in the:

Mount Diablo Meridian, California,
T. 9 S., R. 34 E.,
Section 3,
East half of the Southwest Quarter,
West Half of the Southeast Quarter

Containing 55.5 acre

FHWA Letter of Consent
Zurich Site 308
Project No. 09-1700-0072
RW – Inyo 168 PM 21.6
CACA106316887/CACA 058940

The appropriation is shown on Exhibit A – Federal Application Map Land Survey Description by Raymond Worburton, LS8007, dated March 19, 2020.

In accordance with the provisions of the 1982 Interagency Agreement between the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), the BLM agrees to the appropriation and transfer of the above described lands for the foregoing purpose subject to the following terms, conditions, and covenants which must be included in the right-of-way use document issued to the County of Inyo, State of California. The Federal Highway Administration is hereby given a right of entry for construction of the project. The BLM also agrees to the use of the areas outlined in Exhibit C as temporarily needed while the project is under construction.

The transfer and subsequent right-of-way are subject to the following terms, conditions, and covenants:

(1) If outstanding valid claims exist on the date of this grant, the Grantee shall obtain such permission as may be necessary on account of any such claim.

(2) Construction of the highway facility is to be undertaken by the Federal Highway Administration in compliance with the Act entitled "An Act for the Preservation of American Antiquities" approved June 8, 1906 (34 Stat. 225, 16 U.S.C. 432-433), and state laws where applicable.

(3) The easement herein granted shall terminate 10 years from the date of the execution of this deed by the United States of America in the event construction of the material or quarry site on the right-of-way is not started during such period.

(4) The easement herein granted is limited to use of the described right-of-way and the space above and below the established grade line of the highway pavement for the purposes of construction, operation, and maintenance of a material or quarry site in accordance with the approved plans and does not include the grant of any rights for non-highway purposes or facilities: provided, that the right of the Bureau of Land Management to use or authorize the use of any portion of the right-of-way for non-highway purposes shall not be exercised when such use would be inconsistent with the provisions of Title 23 of the United States Code and of the Federal Highway Administration Regulations issued pursuant thereto or would interfere with the free flow of traffic or impair the full use and safety of the highway, and in any case the Federal Highway Administration shall be consulted prior to the exercise of such rights: and provided, further that nothing herein shall preclude the Bureau of Land Management from locating Department of the Interior information signs on the portions of the right-of-way outside of construction clearing limits.

(5) The design and construction of the material or quarry site situated on this right-of-way will be in accord with the provisions of Title 23, United States Code-Highways, and amendments; and the terms and conditions specified by the Bureau of Land Management. Consistent with highway safety standards, the Grantee shall:

(a) Protect and preserve soil and vegetative cover and scenic and aesthetic values on the right-of-way outside construction limits.

(b) Provide for the prevention and control of soil erosion within the right-of-way and adjacent lands that might be affected by the construction operation, or maintenance of the material or quarry site, and shall vegetate and keep vegetated with suitable species, all earth cut or fill slopes feasible for revegetation or other areas on which ground cover is destroyed. The Grantee shall maintain all terracing, waterbars, lead-off ditches, or other preventive works that may be required to accomplish this objective. This provision shall also apply to slopes that are reshaped following slides which occur during or after construction.

(6) The Grantee may establish borrow, sand, or gravel pits, stone quarry, or permanent storage areas, within the right-of-way. other uses may take place if shown on approved construction plans and first obtaining approval.

(7) The Grantee shall maintain the right-of-way and highway facilities to acceptable standards of repair, orderliness, neatness, sanitation, and safety.

(8) When need for the easement herein granted shall no longer exist and the area has been rehabilitated to protect the public and environment, the Grantee shall give notice of that fact to the Secretary of Transportation and the rights herein agreed shall terminate and land shall immediately revert to the full control of the Secretary of the Department of the Interior or his assigns.

(9) In the event of a reversion, the Grantee shall reasonably restore the land subject to the easement to the condition which existed prior to the transfer and be responsible for its protection and maintenance until such time as the Grantee executes and records a quitclaim deed documenting the termination of the easement and the revesting of title in the United States.

(10) The Grantee shall reestablish or restore public land monuments, other land monuments identifying property corners or witness markers disturbed or destroyed by construction, reconstruction, or maintenance according to instructions of the Bureau of Land

Management, Department of the Interior or in accordance with standards established by applicable federal and state law.

(11) The provision of Title VI of the Civil Right Act of 1964 (78 Stat. 242) shall be complied with.

Sincerely,

Sherri Lisius
Bishop Field Manager

Exhibits (1 pp):

Exhibit A – Federal Application Map Land Survey Description dated March 19, 2020;

Attachment C

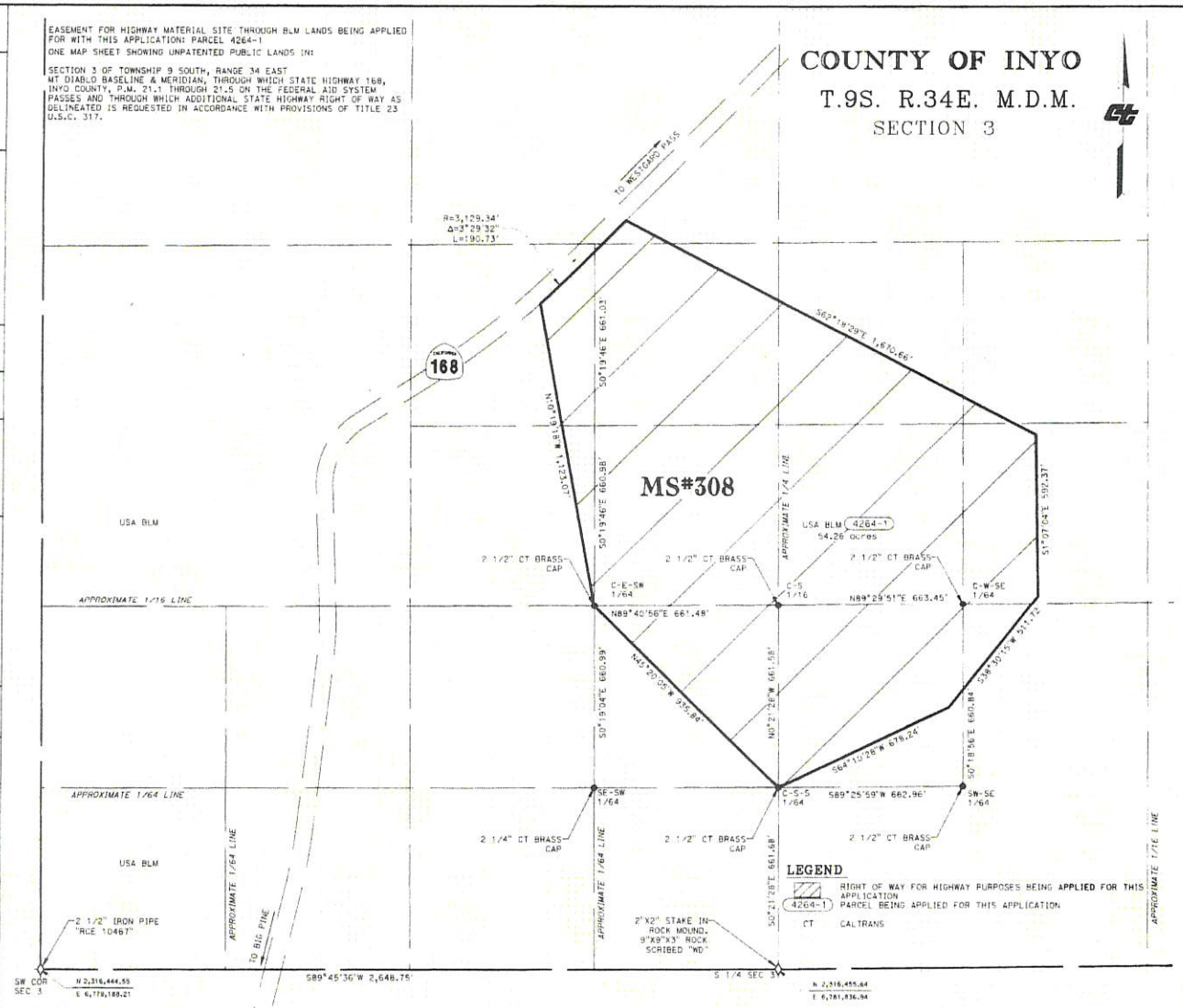
S.H.M.B 6 PG. 3

EASEMENT FOR HIGHWAY MATERIAL SITE THROUGH BLM LANDS BEING APPLIED FOR WITH THIS APPLICATION: PARCEL 4264-1

ONE MAP SHEET SHOWING UNPATENTED PUBLIC LANDS IN:

SECTION 3 OF TOWNSHIP 9 SOUTH, RANGE 34 EAST MT DIABLO BASELINE & MERIDIAN, THROUGH WHICH STATE HIGHWAY 168, INYO COUNTY, P.M. 21.1 THROUGH 21.5 ON THE FEDERAL AID SYSTEM PASSES AND THROUGH WHICH ADDITIONAL STATE HIGHWAY RIGHT OF WAY AS DELINEATED IS REQUESTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH PROVISIONS OF TITLE 23 U.S.C. 317.

COUNTY OF INYO
T.9S. R.34E. M.D.M.
SECTION 3



LEGEND

RIGHT OF WAY FOR HIGHWAY PURPOSES BEING APPLIED FOR THIS APPLICATION

4264-1 PARCEL BEING APPLIED FOR THIS APPLICATION

CT CALTRANS

April 27 20 19 IN

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.

SURVEYOR'S STATEMENT

RAYMOND WARBURTON STATES THAT HE IS BY OCCUPATION A LAND SURVEYOR EMPLOYED BY THE CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND THAT THE SURVEY OF THE STATE HIGHWAY RIGHT OF WAY SHOWN ON THIS MAP WAS MADE BY EMPLOYEES OF SAID DEPARTMENT UNDER AUTHORITY AND THAT SUCH SURVEY IS ACCURATELY REPRESENTED ON THIS MAP.

Raymond Warburton

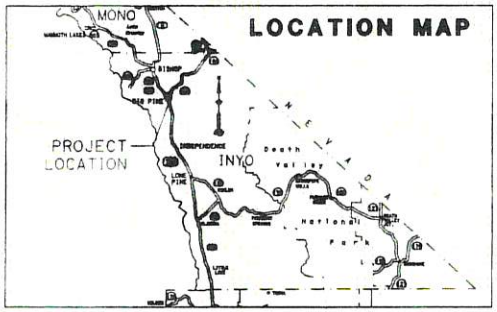
03/19/20

THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT RAYMOND WARBURTON WHO SUBSCRIBED THE STATEMENT HEREON IS THE PERSON EMPLOYED BY THE UNDERSIGNED APPLICANT TO PREPARE THIS MAP WHICH HAS BEEN ADOPTED BY THE APPLICANT AS THE FINAL LOCATION OF THE RIGHT OF WAY THEREBY SHOWN AND THAT THIS MAP IS FILED AS PART OF THE COMPLETE APPLICATION, AND IN ORDER THAT THE APPLICANT MAY OBTAIN THE BENEFITS OF SECTION 317 OF THE FEDERAL HIGHWAY ACT APPROVED AUGUST 27, 1958 (72 STA.916) AND I FURTHER CERTIFY THAT THE RIGHT OF WAY HEREON DESCRIBED IS DESIRED FOR STATE HIGHWAY PURPOSES.

03-19-20

EXHIBIT "A"

LOCATION MAP



NOTES

Coordinates and bearings are on CCS 83 Zone 4. Distances and elevations are ground distances. All distances are in feet unless otherwise noted.

LEGEND

- Section Lines & Subsection Lines
- (R) Indicates Radial Bearing
- Indicates Concrete Monument
- Indicates Section Corner
- Indicates Found Monument as Noted
- Title to State

STATE OF CALIFORNIA
CALIFORNIA STATE TRANSPORTATION AGENCY
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

FEDERAL APPLICATION MAP
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
Zurich Pit Material Site

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FOR PREVIOUS R/W INFORMATION SEE MAP(S)

FULL SIZE MAP SCALE: 1" = 200'

FEET 0 100 200 400 600

TO DESIGN: EA(●):37320 FAP#:

DRAFTED BY:RW & AG CHECKED BY:SCC

DISTRICT	COUNTY	ROUTE	SHEET PM	SHEET NO.	TOTAL SHEETS
9	Inyo	168	21.5	1	1

PROJECT ID: 0917000072

PROJECT SURVEYOR: RW DATE LICENSE: L.S. 8007 SURVEYOR REVISIONS DATE LICENSE SURVEYOR REVISIONS DATE LICENSE SURVEYOR REVISIONS DATE LICENSE SURVEYOR

CEQA EXEMPTION / NEPA CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION DETERMINATION FORM (rev. 06/2022)

Project Information

Project Name (if applicable): Zurich Pit

DIST-CO-RTE: 09-INY-168 **PM/PM:** 21.60/21.60

EA: 09-37320 **Federal-Aid Project Number:** 0917000072

Project Description

Caltrans plans to acquire a highway map application (easement) from the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) for the establishment of a sand and gravel mining site. The site is located approximately three miles east northeast of the community of Big Pine and approximately 1,300 feet south of State Route 168. The material site will be 55 acres, of which 14 acres will be mined. All mining activities will occur within the operational right-of-way of the mining site once acquired. No external utilities or facilities are required for mining site operation. The materials exported from the site will only be used for Caltrans construction projects and maintenance activities on the State Highway System. The material site will be operated in coordination with Inyo County and the California Division of Mine Reclamation. See page three for a listing of environmental commitments.

Caltrans CEQA Determination (Check one)

☒ **Not Applicable** – Caltrans is not the CEQA Lead Agency

☐ **Not Applicable** – Caltrans has prepared an IS or EIR under CEQA

Based on an examination of this proposal and supporting information, the project is:

☐ **Exempt by Statute.** (PRC 21080[b]; 14 CCR 15260 et seq.)

☐ **Categorically Exempt. Class** Enter class. (PRC 21084; 14 CCR 15300 et seq.)

- ☐ No exceptions apply that would bar the use of a categorical exemption (PRC 21084 and 14 CCR 15300.2). See the SER Chapter 34 for exceptions.

☐ **Covered by the Common Sense Exemption.** This project does not fall within an exempt class, but it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the activity may have a significant effect on the environment (14 CCR 15061[b][3].)

Senior Environmental Planner or Environmental Branch Chief

Print Name	Signature	Date

Project Manager

Print Name	Signature	Date

CEQA EXEMPTION / NEPA CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION DETERMINATION FORM

Caltrans NEPA Determination (Check one)

☐ **Not Applicable**

Caltrans has determined that this project has no significant impacts on the environment as defined by NEPA, and that there are no unusual circumstances as described in 23 CFR 771.117(b). See SER Chapter 30 for unusual circumstances. As such, the project is categorically excluded from the requirements to prepare an EA or EIS under NEPA and is included under the following:

☒ **23 USC 326:** Caltrans has been assigned, and hereby certifies that it has carried out the responsibility to make this determination pursuant to 23 USC 326 and the Memorandum of Understanding dated April 18, 2022, executed between FHWA and Caltrans. Caltrans has determined that the project is a Categorical Exclusion under:

- ☒ **23 CFR 771.117(c): activity (c)(5)**
- ☐ **23 CFR 771.117(d): activity (d)(Enter activity number)**
- ☐ **Activity Enter activity number listed in Appendix A of the MOU between FHWA and Caltrans**

☐ **23 USC 327:** Based on an examination of this proposal and supporting information, Caltrans has determined that the project is a Categorical Exclusion under 23 USC 327. The environmental review, consultation, and any other actions required by applicable Federal environmental laws for this project are being, or have been, carried out by Caltrans pursuant to 23 USC 327 and the Memorandum of Understanding dated May 27, 2022, and executed by FHWA and Caltrans.

Senior Environmental Planner or Environmental Branch Chief

Kirsten Helton	Kirsten Helton	01/26/2023
Print Name	Signature	Date

Project Manager/ DLA Engineer

Forest Becket	Forest Becket	01/26/2023
Print Name	Signature	Date

Date of Categorical Exclusion Checklist completion (if applicable): 1/26/2023
Date of Environmental Commitment Record or equivalent: 1/24/2022

Briefly list environmental commitments on continuation sheet if needed (i.e., not necessary if included on an attached ECR). Reference additional information, as appropriate (e.g., additional studies and design conditions).

Continuation sheet:

Environmental Commitments

Biological Resources

1) Notify a Caltrans biologist at least 2 months prior to the start of any new mining operations; this includes both the start of mining operations at the site and any additional operational phases that are initiated on undisturbed ground.
2) Pre-construction nesting bird surveys will be conducted by a Caltrans biologist between February 15th and September 30th within the 72 hours prior to the start of new mining operations. The survey will be 250 feet from the project impact area (PIA) for songbirds, including ground-nesting birds, and 500 feet from the PIA for nesting raptors.
    a. If nesting birds are found within 250 feet (songbirds) or 500 feet (raptors) of the PIA, a no work buffer will be implemented until a staff Biologist determines that there are no longer active nests within the buffered area.
3) Focused reptile surveys for the common/northern sagebrush lizard will be conducted prior to the start of new mining operations by a Caltrans biologist within the species' active period (spring to fall).
    a. Any individuals observed within the biological study area (BSA) will be noted, and further avoidance and minimization measures will be determined through consultation with BLM.
4) Rare plant surveys will be conducted prior to the start of new mining operations by a staff Biologist within the active blooming periods for sensitive-status plants that have potential to occur within the PIA.
    a. Any individuals observed within the PIA will be translocated, under the guidance of BLM.

Inter-Agency Agreements

Caltrans, in coordination with Inyo County and the California Division of Mine Reclamation, will adhere to the following inter-agency approved documents:

- Material Site #308, Operations Plan / Project Description
- Material Site #308, Reclamation Plan

Attachment D

09-37320_NEPA CE

Final Audit Report 2023-01-26

Created:	2023-01-26
By:	Ryan Spaulding (s144987@dot.ca.gov)
Status:	Signed
Transaction ID:	CBJCHBCAABAAyttKc6cXiGoAO1C1Mato-KvX1c8YXUIE

"09-37320_NEPA CE" History

Document created by Ryan Spaulding (s144987@dot.ca.gov)
2023-01-26 - 6:01:19 PM GMT

Document emailed to Kirsten Helton (kirsten.helton@dot.ca.gov) for signature
2023-01-26 - 6:04:44 PM GMT

Document emailed to Forest Becket (forest.becket@dot.ca.gov) for signature
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Email viewed by Kirsten Helton (kirsten.helton@dot.ca.gov)
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Agreement completed.
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State of California
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

California State Transportation Agency

Memorandum

Making Conservation a California Way of Life.

To: **FOREST BECKET**
Senior Environmental Planner
District 9 Environmental Unit

Date: January 21, 2022

File: **09-37320**
0917000072
Zurich Material Site

From: **DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION- District 9**
Dannique Aalbu
Associate Environmental Planner/Biologist
District 9 Environmental Unit

Subject: **BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES EVALUATION MEMO**

Project Description:

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) is proposing to establish Zurich Material Site (MS 308) [a former material site] for mining of shale near Big Pine, California. A new highway easement deed will be needed from the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) for approximately 55 acres. Of those 55 acres, disturbance caused by mining operations will be limited to approximately 14 acres. Approximately 336,000 cubic yards of material will be extracted from the site over a minimum 50-year lifespan.

The material site will be mined in two separate phases. For the first phase, the existing surface of the pit will be excavated to a depth of up to 10 feet. The first phase will also involve the reestablishment of a previously rehabilitated access road, construction of check dams (n=4) and diversion channels (n=2), and the installation of an access gate and earthen berm road block. The second phase of mining will see the pit surface further excavated to a maximum depth of up to 38 feet. The pit will be graded to ensure internal drainage. Topsoil (approximately 4 to 6 inches in depth) will be relocated to soil berms on the outer perimeter of the pit for post mining reclamation purposes.

Upon completion of the extraction of all material to the final grade lines, the final slopes will be reclaimed in accordance with SMARA regulations. Topsoil berms will be removed and spread evenly on all slopes. It is Caltrans' intent to rescind this site back to the Bureau of Land Management after mining resources are exhausted and slopes are reclaimed. Upon final site configuration and revegetation, a final SMARA reclamation inspection will be performed to retire the associated mine ID and commence with the intended end-use (natural resources- open space designation). At this point, no further mining activities will occur at the site.

The material site's purpose is to provide quality material for District 9 maintenance forces for use in highway maintenance work in northern Inyo County and southern Mono County. The scale at the material site is the ideal material for shoulder backing and other material intensive maintenance activities. The development of the site coincides with District 9's strategic plan for establishing material sources within reasonable haul proximity.

All 55.5 acres will be subject to the environmental clearance detailed in this document.

Project Setting:
The material site is located in Inyo County near State Route 168 at approximately Post Mile (PM) 21.60. The surrounding area is a mix of Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP) property. The town of Big Pine is located approximately 3 miles to the southwest.

All activities will be confined to the 55-acre property, and mining activities will be confined to approximately 14 acres. The Project Impact Area (PIA) for the material site will include: (1) where mining activities will occur, (2) where the access road will be reestablished, and (3) where the earthen berm road block will be constructed. The Biological Study Area (BSA) for the Project extends outside the PIA, covering the entire 55-acre property.

Most of the PIA is located within the footprint of the former material site. The area includes obvious signs of disturbance in the form of compacted soils, lack of vegetation, and noteworthy amounts of trash.

The BSA is comprised of the adjacent desert shrubland and alluvial fan topography. The vegetation community surrounding the material site is dominated by shadscale scrub. Prominent plant species located within the BSA include: four-wing saltbush, Mojave indigo bush, budsage, winterfat, greasewood, Mojave woolyaster, and desert trumpet. Four-wing saltbush is dominant. The elevation within the BSA ranges from 4000 to 4200 feet.

Quad(s): Uhlmeyer Spring; Big Pine; Waucoba Mountain; Tinemaha Reservoir; Poleta Canyon; Westgard Pass; Deep Springs Lake; Cowhorn Valley; Fish Springs

Methods Used (Species Lists included in Appendices A-C):
x California Natural Diversity Data Base (CNDDB) _x_ California Native Plant Society (CNPS)

x U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Species List (USFWS)

x Date Survey Completed: **4/23/2020 (field survey); 6/1/2020 (desktop review)**

Other: Field surveys required prior to construction start

Resources Evaluated: See attached USFWS, CNDDB, and CNPS Species Lists

(Appendices A-C)

Scientific Name	Common Name	Listing	Habitat Present in PIA	Occurrence within 5 mi. of BSA	Potential to occur within BSA
Fauna					
Accipiter cooperii	Cooper's hawk	CDFW_WL	No	No	No; habitat absent within the BSA.
Accipiter gentilis	Northern goshawk	BLM_S	No	No	No; habitat absent within the BSA.
Anaxyrus exsul	Black toad	CDFW_FP; BLM_S	No	No	No; habitat absent within the BSA.
Antrozous pallidus	Pallid bat	BLM_S	No	No	No; habitat absent within the BSA.
Aquila chrysaetos	Golden eagle	BLM_S	No	No	No; habitat absent within the BSA.
Asio otus	Long-eared owl	CDFW_SSC	No	No	No; habitat absent within the BSA.
Athene cunicularia	Burrowing owl	CDFW_SSC; BLM_S	No	Yes	No; only nearby record is historic (1891). Current habitat is unlikely to support a nesting colony as ground squirrel sign, the species' most notable prey, was absent during field surveys,
Batrachoseps campi	Inyo mountains slender salamander	BLM_S	No	No	No; habitat absent within the BSA.
Brachylagus idahoensis	Pygmy rabbit	BLM_S	No	No	No; habitat absent within the BSA.
Buteo swainsoni	Swainson's hawk	CDFW_ Threatened; BLM_S	No	Yes	No; habitat absent within the BSA. Requires adjacent suitable foraging areas such as grasslands, or alfalfa or grain fields supporting rodent populations. All known occurrences within the BSA are historic.
Catostomus fumeiventris	Owens sucker	CDFW_SSC	No	No	No; habitat absent within the BSA.
Centrocercus urophasianus	Greater sage grouse	BLM_S	No	No	No; habitat absent within the BSA.
Charadrius alexandrinus nivosus	western snowy plover	CDFW_SSC	No	No	No; habitat absent within the BSA.
Charadrius montanus	mountain plover	CDFW_SSC; BLM_S	No	No	No; habitat absent within the BSA.
Circus hudsonius	Northern harrier	CDFW_SSC	No	No	No; habitat absent within the BSA.
Coccyzus americanus occidentalis	Western yellow-billed cuckoo	USFWS_ Threatened; CDFW_ Endangered; BLM_S	No	No	No; habitat absent within the BSA.
Corynorhinus townsendii	Townsend's big-eared bat	Caltrans_FP; BLM_S; CDFW_SSC	No	Yes	No; habitat absent within the BSA. Human disturbance and lack of mesic features render the BSA unsuitable for this species.

Cyprinodon nevadensis amargosae	Amargosa River Pupfish	BLM_S	No	No	No; habitat absent within the BSA.
Cyprinodon radiosus	Owens Pupfish	USFWS_ Endangered; CDFW_ Endangered	No	No	No; habitat absent within the BSA.
Danaus plexippus	Monarch butterfly	USFWS_ candidate	No	No	No; habitat absent within the BSA.
Elgaria panamintina	Panamint alligator lizard	CDFW_SSC; BLM_S	No	Yes	No; habitat absent within the BSA. Habitat consists of areas near permanent water in canyons, damp gullies, and rocky areas near dense vegetation. Closest known occurrence is in the vicinity of Batchelder Spring.
Empidonax traillii extimus	Southwestern willow flycatcher	USFWS_ Endangered; CDFW_ Endangered	No	No	No; habitat absent within the BSA.
Euderma maculatum	spotted bat	Caltrans- FP; BLM_S; CDFW_SSC	No	No	No; habitat absent within the BSA.
Haliaeetus leucocephalus	Bald eagle	CDFW_ Endangered; BLM_S	No	No	No; habitat absent within the BSA.
Icteria virens	yellow-breasted chat	CDFW_SSC	No	No	No; habitat absent within the BSA.
Lasiurus cinereus	Hoary bat	Caltrans_FP	No	No	No; habitat absent within the BSA.
Lepus townsendii townsendii	Western white-tailed jackrabbit	CDFW_SSC	No	No	No; habitat absent within the BSA.
Lithobates pipiens	Northern leopard frog	CDFW_SSC	No	No	No; habitat absent within the BSA.
Martes pennanti (pacifica) DPS	Pacific fisher	BLM_S	No	No	No; habitat absent within the BSA.
Microtus californicus vallicola	Owens Valley vole	CDFW_SSC; BLM_S	No	No	No; habitat absent within the BSA.
Myotis ciliolabrum	Western small-footed myotis	Caltrans_FP; BLM_S	No	Yes	No; habitat absent within the BSA. Requires nearby water source. Closest known occurrence is 5 miles north at Warm Springs.
Myotis evotis	Long-eared myotis	Caltrans_FP; BLM_S	No	No	No; habitat absent within the BSA.
Myotis thysanodes	Fringed myotis	Caltrans_FP; BLM_S	No	No	No; habitat absent within the BSA.
Myotis yumanensis	Yuma myotis	Caltrans_FP; BLM_S	No	No	No; habitat absent within the BSA.
Ovis canadensis nelson	Desert bighorn sheep	CDFW_FP; BLM_S	No	No	No; habitat absent within the BSA.
Ovis canadensis sierrae	Sierra Nevada bighorn sheep	CDFW_	No	No	No; habitat absent within the BSA.

		Endangered; BLM_S			
Piranga rubra	Summer tanager	CDFW_SSC	No	No	No; habitat absent within the BSA.
Rhinichthys osculus ssp. 2	Owens speckled dace	CDFW_SSC; BLM_S	No	No	No; habitat absent within the BSA.
Riparia riparia	Bank swallow	CDFW_ Threatened; BLM_S	No	Yes	No; habitat absent within the BSA. Habitat included areas near permanent water. Only known occurrence is historic (1891).
Sceloporus graciosus graciosus	**Northern/ common sagebrush lizard**	**BLM_S**	**No**	**n/a**	**Yes; species lives in sagebrush and other types of shrublands, mainly in the mountains (at higher elevations than the Western Fence Lizard). Prefers open areas with scattered low bushes and lots of sun.**
Siphateles bicolor snyderi	Owens tui chub	USFWS_ Endangered; CDFW_ Endangered; BLM_S	No	No	No; habitat absent within the BSA.
Vireo bellii pusillus	Least Bell's vireo	BLM_S; USFWS_ Endangered	No	No	No; habitat absent within the BSA.
Xerospermophilus mohavensis	Mohave ground squirrel	BLM_S; CDFW_ Threatened	No	No	No; the site is out of range for this species.
Flora					
Aliciella triodon	**Coyote gilia**	**2B.2**	**No**	**Yes**	**Yes; habitat is present within the BSA. Elevation range: 3900-5600 ft. Blooming period: April – June. Quads: occurrences in Uhlmeyer Spring and Big Pine. Associated species include Sarcobatus vermiculatus and Atriplex confertifolia**
Allium atrorubens var. atrorubens	Great Basin onion	2B.3	No	No	No; general habitat is present, but microhabitat is not. Elevation range: 4050-7620 ft. Blooming period: May – June. Quad: Big Pine. Site only slightly overlaps with species elevation range. Is found in sandy or rocky soil. Closest recorded occurrence is off Glacier Lodge Road, where it is locally common.
Astragalus argophyllus var. argophyllus	Silver leaf milk-vetch	2B.2	No	No	No; habitat absent within the BSA.
Astragalus geyeri var. geyeri	Geyer's milk-vetch	2B.2	No	No	No; general habitat is present, but microhabitat (sandy flats and valley floor) is not. Elevation range: 3790-6520 ft. Blooming period: May-August. Quad: Deep Springs Lake.

Astragalus johannis-howellii	Long Valley milk-vetch	1B.2	No	No	No; habitat absent within the BSA.
Astragalus lentiginosus var. piscinensis	Fish Slough milk-vetch	1B.1	No	No	No; habitat absent within the BSA.
Astragalus monoensis	Mono milk-vetch	1B.2	No	No	No; habitat absent within the BSA.
Astragalus oophorus var. lavinii	Lavin's milk-vetch	1B.2	No	No	No; habitat absent within the BSA.
Astragalus pseudiodanthus	Tonopah milk-vetch	1B.2	No	No	No; habitat absent within the BSA.
Astragalus serenoi var. shockleyi	**Shockley's milk-vetch**	**2B.2**	**No**	**Yes**	**Yes; habitat is present within the BSA. Elevation range: 3880- 7110 ft. Blooming period: April – July. Quad: Uhlmeyer Spring and many others. Closest recorded occurrence is north of Death Valley Road, 4 miles east of Big Pine.**
Atriplex gardneri var. falcata	Falcate saltbrush	2B.2	No	No	No; habitat present within the BSA, but usually occurs in Chenopod scrub. Elevation range: 4080 – 4520 ft. Blooming period: May – August. Quad: Poleta Canyon. Only recorded occurrence is historic (1974).
Blephari-dachne kingii	**King's eyelash grass**	**2B.3**	**No**	**Yes**	**Yes; habitat (desert scrub on alluvial gravels) is present within the BSA. Elevation range: 1590- 7000 ft. Blooming period: May. Quad: Uhlmeyer Spring, Big Pine, Deep Springs Lake. Closest recorded occurrence is along Waucoba road near junction with HWY 168.**
Boechera bodiensis	Bodie Hills rockcress	1B.3	No	No	No; out of elevation range: 6595-11,600 ft.
Boechera dispar	Pinyon rockcress	2B.3	No	Yes	No; general habitat is present, but microhabitat is not. Elevation range: 3300-9210 ft. Blooming Period: June – August. Quad: Uhlmeyer Spring and many others. Closest recorded occurrence is along ridge at head of Soldier Canyon. Associated with Astragalus inyoensis and Allium atrorubens var. cristatum.
Boechera lincolnensis	Lincoln rockcress	2B.3	No	No	No; habitat (Limestone substrate) absent within the BSA.
Boechera pendulina	Rabbit-ear rockcress	2B.1	No	No	No; out of elevation range: 9990 – 10850 ft.
Boechera shockleyi	Shockley's rockcress	2B.2	No	No	No; habitat (pinyon and juniper woodland) is absent within the BSA.
Calochortus excavates	Inyo County star-tulip	1B.1	No	No	No; habitat (Chenopod scrub, meadows and seeps) is absent within the BSA.
Chaetadelpha wheeleri	**Wheeler's dune-broom**	**2B.2**	**No**	**No**	**Yes; habitat is present within the BSA. Elevation range: 2540 – 4810 ft.**

					Blooming period: April – September. Quad: Deeps Springs Lake, Westgard Pass. Closest recorded occurrence is along HWY 168, 18 miles east of junction with US 395, in the "foothills of the White mountains".
Chrysothamnus greenei	Greene's rabbitbrush	2B.3	No	No	No; species is out of elevation range: 5132 – 5427 ft.
Crepis runcinata	Fiddleleaf hawksbeard	2B.2	No	No	No; habitat (moist, alkaline valley bottoms) is absent within the BSA.
Cryptantha fendleri	Sand dune cryptantha	2B.2	No	No	No; species is out of elevation range: 6390 -7250 ft.
Cryptantha roosiorum	Bristlecone cryptantha	Rare; BLM_S	No	No	No; habitat absent within the BSA.
Cuniculotinus gramineus	Panamint rock-goldenrod	2B.3	No	No	No; species is out of elevation range: 6300 – 9055 ft.
Cusickiella quadricostata	Bodie hills cusikiella	1B.2	No	No	No; habitat absent within the BSA.
Dedeckera eurekensis	July gold	1B.3	No	No	No; habitat (rocky ridges, cliffs, talus slopes and washes in carbonate soils) are absent within the BSA.
Diplacus parryi	Parry's monkeyflower	2B.3	No	No	No; species is out of elevation range: 4980 – 8500 ft.
Elymus scribneri	Scribner's wheat grass	2B.3	No	No	No; species is out of elevation range: 8390 – 13,600 ft.
Eremothera boothii ssp. boothii	Booth's evening primrose	2B.3	No	No	No; habitat (Joshua tree woodland, Pinyon and juniper woodland) is absent within the BSA.
Eremothera boothii ssp. intermedia	Booth's hairy evening primrose	2B.3	No	No	No; general habitat is present, but microhabitat is not. Elevation range: 2880 – 8810 ft. Blooming period: May – June. Quad: Tinemaha Reservoir; Fish Springs, Westgard Pass. Closest recorded occurrence along SR 168 approx. 2.5 miles northeast of Bachelor Spring.
Ericameria gilmanii	Gilman's goldenbush	1B.3	No	No	No; habitat (Montane and Subalpine coniferous forest) is absent within the BSA.
Erigeron calvus	Bald daisy	1B.1	No	No	No; habitat absent within the BSA.
Erigeron compactus	Compact daisy	2B.3	No	No	No; habitat (Pinyon and Juniper woodland) is absent within the BSA.
Eriogonum alexanderae	Alexander's buckwheat	1B.1	No	No	No; habitat absent within the BSA.
Eriogonum eremicola	Wild Rose canyon buckwheat	1B.3	No	No	No; habitat absent within the BSA.
Eriogonum microthecum var. panamintense	Panamint mountains buckwheat	N/A	No	No	No; habitat absent within the BSA.
Erythranthe calcicola	Limestone monkeyflower	1B.3	No	No	No; habitat (woodlands on talus slopes on carbonate substrate) is absent within the BSA.

Fimbristylis thermalis	Hot springs fimbristylis	2B.2	No	No	No; habitat (meadows and seeps) is absent within the BSA.
Grusonia pulchella	Beautiful cholla	2B.2	No	No	No; species is out of elevation range: 4920 – 7570 ft.
Hesperidanthus jaegeri	Jaeger's hesperidanthus	1B.2	No	No	No; species is out of elevation range: 7000 – 9190 ft.
Hymenopappus filifolius var. nanus	Little cutleaf	2B.3	No	No	No; habitat (Pinyon and Juniper woodland, subalpine coniferous forest) is absent within the BSA.
Ivesia kingii var. kingii	Alkali ivesia	2B.2	No	No	No; habitat absent within the BSA.
Jaffueliobryum wrightii	Wright's jaffueliobryum moss	2B.3	No	No	No; habitat (carbonate areas with dry openings, rock crevices) is absent within the BSA.
Juncus nodosus	Knotted rush	2B.3	No	No	No; habitat (meadows and seeps, marches and swamps) is absent within the BSA.
Loefingia squarrosa var. artemisiarum	Sagebrush loeflingia	2B.2	No	No	No; habitat (sandy flats and dunes) is absent within the BSA.
Lomatium foeniculaceum ssp. Macdougalii	**MacDougal's lomatium**	**2B.2**	**No**	**Yes**	**Yes; habitat is present within the BSA. Elevation range: 3980 – 7240 ft. Blooming period: April – July. Quad: Uhlmeyer Spring, Westgard Pass. Only recorded occurrence is historic (1965) near submit of Westgard Pass.**
Lupinus duranii	Mono Lake lupine	2B.2	No	No	No; habitat absent within the BSA.
Lupinus magnificus var. hesperius	McGee meadows lupine	1B.3	No	No	No; habitat absent within the BSA.
Lupinus magnificus	Panamint mountains lupine	n/a	No	No	No; habitat absent within the BSA.
Lupinus padre-crowleyi	Father Crowley's lupine	1B.2	No	No	No; species is out of elevation range: 7210 – 13130 ft. Blooming period: July – August. Occurs in riparian habitat.
Lupinus pusillus var. intermontanus	**Intermontane lupine**	**2B.3**	**No**	**Yes**	**Yes; habitat is present within the BSA. Elevation range: 3880 – 6760 ft. Blooming period: May – June. Quad: Uhlmeyer Spring, Big Pine. Only recorded occurrence is historic (1974), 1 mile east of Owens river at Stewart Lane.**
Mentzelia inyoensis	Inyo blazing star	1B.3	No	No	No; habitat absent within the BSA.
Nemacladus inyoensis	Badger Flat threadplant	1B.2	No	No	No; habitat is absent within the BSA. Species is out of elevation range.
Oenothera longissima	Long-stem evening primrose	2B.2	No	No	No; habitat (seasonally mesic areas) is absent within the BSA.
Oryctes nevadensis	**Nevada oryctes**	**2B.1**	**Yes**	**Yes**	**Yes; habitat is present within the BSA. Elevation range: 3190 – 8320 ft. Blooming period: April – June. Quad: Big Pine. Closest recorded**

					occurrence along SR 168 at Zurich. Associated with Atriplex confertifolia, Ephedra nevadensis, etc. in sandy soils.
Perityle inyoensis	Inyo rock daisy	1B.2	No	No	No; habitat absent within the BSA.
Phacelia inyoensis	Inyo phacelia	1B.2	No	No	No; habitat (meadows and seeps) is absent within the BSA.
Phacelia mustelina	Death Valley round-leaved phacelia	1B.3	No	No	No; habitat absent within the BSA.
Physocarpus alternans	Nevada ninebark	2B.3	No	No	No; habitat (pinyon and juniper woodland) is absent within the BSA.
Plagiobothrys nitens	Shiny-nutlet popcornflower	2B.1	No	No	No; habitat (meadows and seeps) is absent within the BSA.
Plagiobothrys parishii	Parish's popcornflower	1B.1	No	No	No; habitat (mesic areas) is absent within the BSA.
Plagiobothrys salsus	Desert popcornflower	2B.2	No	No	No; habitat (moist, alkaline mud flats) is absent within the BSA.
Polyctenium williamsiae	Williams combleaf	1B.2	No	No	No; habitat absent within the BSA.
Sidalcea covillei	Owens Valley checkerbloom	1B.1	No	No	No; habitat (meadows and seeps, chenopod scrub) is absent within the BSA.
Sphenopholis obtusata	Prairie wedge grass	2B.2	No	No	No; habitat (cismontane woodland, meadows and seeps) is absent within the BSA.
Streptanthus oliganthus	Masonic Mountain jewelflower	1B.2	No	No	No; habitat (pinyon and juniper woodland) is absent within the BSA.
Suaeda occidentalis	Western seablite	2B.3	No	No	No; general habitat is present, but microhabitat is not. Elevation range: 3950 – 6620 ft. Blooming period: July - September. Quad: Big Pine. Only recorded occurrence is historic (1978) along West edge of Klondike Lake.
Tetradymia tetrameres	Dune horsebrush	2B.2	No	No	No; species is out of elevation range: 5590 – 6910 ft.
Thelypodium integrifolium ssp. Complanatum	Foxtail thelypodium	2B.2	No	No	No; habitat (mesic areas) is absent within the BSA.
Transberingia bursifolia ssp. Virgata	Virgate halimolobos	2B.3	No	No	No; habitat (meadows and seeps, Pinyon and Juniper woodland) is absent within the BSA.
Viola pinetorum ssp. Grisea	Grey-leaved violet	1B.2	No	No	No; species is out of elevation range: 5180 – 12,140 ft.

Key: CDFW_WL – state watchlist; CDFW_FP – state fully protected; CDFW_SSC – state species of special concern; BLM_S – BLM sensitive; Caltrans_FP – Caltrans fully protected; 1.B.1-3 = CA Native Plant Society Rank. 1B plants are rare, threatened or endangered in CA and elsewhere; 2.B.1-1 = CA Native Plant Society Rank. 2B plants are rare, threatened or endangered in CA but more common elsewhere.

Waters of the U.S. Evaluation:

Waters of the U.S. (WOUS) do not occur within the Project limits; therefore, no WOUS will be impacted by the proposed project.

National Marine Fisheries Service Evaluation:

This Project is not within the jurisdiction of NMFS (National Marine Fisheries Service) and so no NMFS species list was included.

This project will have **No Effect** on any of the state special-status species in the attached species lists (Appendices A-D).

Avoidance Measures:

- Notify the Biologist at least 2 months prior to the start of any new mining operations; this includes both the start of mining operations at the site and any additional operations (ie. new phase) that are initiated on undisturbed ground.
- Pre-construction nesting bird surveys will be conducted by a staff Biologist between Feb. 15-Sept. 30 within the 72 hours prior to the start of new mining operations. Survey 250 feet from the PIA for songbirds, including ground-nesting birds, and 500 feet from the PIA for nesting raptors.
    - If nesting birds are found within 250 feet (songbirds) or 500 feet (raptors) of the PIA, a no work buffer will be implemented until a staff Biologist determines that there are no longer active nests within the buffered area.
- Focused reptile surveys for the common/northern sagebrush lizard will be conducted prior to the start of new mining operations by a staff Biologist within the species' active period (Spring – fall).
    - Any individuals observed within the BSA will be noted, and further avoidance and minimization measures will be determined through consultation with the BLM.
- Rare plant surveys will be conducted prior to the start of new mining operations by a staff Biologist within the active blooming periods for sensitive-status plants that have potential to occur within the PIA.
    - Any individuals observed within the PIA will be translocated, under the guidance of the BLM.

Rationale:

The Project Impact Area (PIA) is located within a previously disturbed area. Existing human activity and disturbance (environmental alteration, roads, vehicle presence, and noise) within the PIA make the area unsuitable habitat for sensitive-status species.

The Biological Study Area (BSA) extends outside the PIA, covering the entire 55-acre property. The BSA contains the shadscale scrub vegetation alliance and exists within an alluvial fan topography. Vegetation within the BSA, though sparse, is diverse in species. In areas where

native vegetation exists and disturbance is limited, there is potential habitat for that sensitive-status species.

Common/northern sagebrush lizard has potential to occur within the BSA. This species is known to occur in the Inyo mountains and has been observed within 5 miles of the BSA. To avoid any potential impacts to this species, focused reptile surveys will be conducted within the species' active period prior to construction. If any individuals are observed within the BSA, Caltrans will consult with the BLM (Bishop Office) to determine appropriate avoidance and/or minimization measures.

Several rare plant species (Coyote gilia, Shockley's milk vetch, King's eyelash grass, Wheeler's dune-broom, MacDougal's lomatium, Intermontane lupine, Nevada oryctes) have potential to occur within the BSA. These species are associated with Great Basin shrub and have been observed within 5 miles of the BSA. To avoid any potential impacts to these species, rare plant surveys will be conducted prior to construction. Any individuals observed within the BSA will either be translocated, based on guidance from the BLM, or flagged for avoidance.

With the implementation of the avoidance and minimization measures, no impacts to any sensitive-status species are expected.

If you have any questions regarding this memo, please contact Dannique Aalbu, District Biologist, at (760)872-0763 or Dannique.aalbu@dot.ca.gov

Dannique Aalbu
Associate Environmental Planner/Biologist
District 9- Environmental

Appendices
Appendix A: USFWS Species List
Appendix B: CDFW Species List
Appendix C: CNPS Species List
Appendix D: BLM Species Lists

Appendix A: USFWS Species List

United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
Reno Fish And Wildlife Office
1340 Financial Boulevard, Suite 234
Reno, NV 89502-7147
Phone: (775) 861-6300 Fax: (775) 861-6301
http://www.fws.gov/nevada/

In Reply Refer To:
Consultation Code: 08ENVD00-2020-SLI-0461
Event Code: 08ENVD00-2020-E-01245
Project Name: Zurich Material Site

June 01, 2020

Subject: List of threatened and endangered species that may occur in your proposed project location, and/or may be affected by your proposed project

To Whom It May Concern:

The attached species list indicates threatened, endangered, proposed, and candidate species and designated or proposed critical habitat that may occur within the boundary of your proposed project and/or may be affected by your proposed project. The species list fulfills the requirements of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) under section 7(c) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (ESA, 16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq*.), for projects that are authorized, funded, or carried out by a Federal agency. Candidate species have no protection under the ESA but are included for consideration because they could be listed prior to the completion of your project. Consideration of these species during project planning may assist species conservation efforts and may prevent the need for future listing actions. For additional information regarding species that may be found in the proposed project area, visit http://www.fws.gov/nevada/es/ipac.html.

The purpose of the ESA is to provide a means whereby threatened and endangered species and the ecosystems upon which they depend may be conserved. Under sections 7(a)(1) and 7(a)(2) of the ESA and its implementing regulations (50 CFR 402 *et seq*.), Federal agencies are required to utilize their authorities to carry out programs for the conservation of threatened and endangered species and to determine whether projects may affect threatened and endangered species and/or designated critical habitat.

A Biological Assessment is required for construction projects that are major Federal actions significantly affecting the quality of the human environment as defined in the National Environmental Policy Act (42 U.S.C. 4332(2) (c)). For projects other than major construction activities, the Service suggests that a biological evaluation similar to a Biological Assessment be prepared to determine whether the project may affect listed or proposed species and/or

designated or proposed critical habitat. Guidelines for preparing a Biological Assessment can be found at: http://www.fws.gov/midwest/endangered/section7/ba_guide.html.

If a Federal action agency determines, based on the Biological Assessment or biological evaluation, that listed species and/or designated critical habitat may be affected by the proposed project, the agency is required to consult with the Service pursuant to 50 CFR 402. In addition, the Service recommends that candidate species, proposed species, and proposed critical habitat be addressed within the consultation. More information on the regulations and procedures for section 7 consultation, including the role of permit or license applicants, can be found in the "Endangered Species Consultation Handbook" at: http://www.fws.gov/endangered/esa-library/pdf/TOC-GLOS.PDF.

New information based on updated surveys, changes in the abundance and distribution of species, changed habitat conditions, or other factors could change this species list. Please feel free to contact us if you need more current information or assistance regarding the potential impacts to federally listed, proposed, and candidate species and federally designated and proposed critical habitat. Please note that under 50 CFR 402.12(e) of the regulations implementing section 7 of the ESA, the accuracy of this species list should be verified after 90 days. This verification can be completed formally or informally, as desired. The Service recommends that verification be completed by visiting the ECOS-IPaC website at regular intervals during project planning and implementation, for updates to species lists and information. An updated list may be requested through the ECOS-IPaC system by completing the same process used to receive the attached list.

The Nevada Fish and Wildlife Office (NFWO) no longer provides species of concern lists. Most of these species for which we have concern are also on the Animal and Plant At-Risk Tracking List for Nevada (At-Risk list) maintained by the State of Nevada's Natural Heritage Program (Heritage). Instead of maintaining our own list, we adopted Heritage's At-Risk list and are partnering with them to provide distribution data and information on the conservation needs for at-risk species to agencies or project proponents. The mission of Heritage is to continually evaluate the conservation priorities of native plants, animals, and their habitats, particularly those most vulnerable to extinction or in serious decline. In addition, in order to avoid future conflicts, we ask that you consider these at-risk species early in your project planning and explore management alternatives that provide for their long-term conservation.

For a list of at-risk species by county, visit Heritage's website (http://heritage.nv.gov). For a specific list of at-risk species that may occur in the project area, you can obtain a data request form from the website (http://heritage.nv.gov/get_data) or by contacting the Administrator of Heritage at 901 South Stewart Street, Suite 5002, Carson City, Nevada 89701-5245, (775) 684-2900. Please indicate on the form that your request is being obtained as part of your coordination with the Service under the ESA. During your project analysis, if you obtain new information or data for any Nevada sensitive species, we request that you provide the information to Heritage at the above address.

Furthermore, certain species of fish and wildlife are classified as protected by the State of Nevada (http://www.leg.state.nv.us/NAC/NAC-503.html). You must first obtain the appropriate license, permit, or written authorization from the Nevada Department of Wildlife (NDOW) to take, or possess any parts of protected fish and wildlife species. Please visit http://www.ndow.org or contact NDOW in northern Nevada (775) 688-1500, in southern Nevada (702) 486-5127, or in eastern Nevada (775) 777-2300.

Please be aware that bald and golden eagles are protected under the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (16 U.S.C. 668 *et seq*.), and projects affecting these species may require development of an eagle conservation plan (http://www.fws.gov/windenergy/eagle_guidance.html). Additionally, wind energy projects should follow the Service's wind energy guidelines (http://www.fws.gov/windenergy/) for minimizing impacts to migratory birds and bats.

The Service's Pacific Southwest Region developed the *Interim Guidelines for the Development of a Project Specific Avian and Bat Protection Plan for Wind Energy Facilities* (Interim Guidelines). This document provides energy facility developers with a tool for assessing the risk of potential impacts to wildlife resources and delineates how best to design and operate a bird- and bat-friendly wind facility. These Interim Guidelines are available upon request from the NFWO. The intent of a Bird and Bat Conservation Strategy is to conserve wildlife resources while supporting project developers through: (1) establishing project development in an adaptive management framework; (2) identifying proper siting and project design strategies; (3) designing and implementing pre-construction surveys; (4) implementing appropriate conservation measures for each development phase; (5) designing and implementing appropriate post-construction monitoring strategies; (6) using post-construction studies to better understand the dynamics of mortality reduction (*e.g.*, changes in blade cut-in speed, assessments of blade “feathering” success, and studies on the effects of visual and acoustic deterrents) including efforts tied into Before-After/Control-Impact analysis; and (7) conducting a thorough risk assessment and validation leading to adjustments in management and mitigation actions.

The template and recommendations set forth in the Interim Guidelines were based upon the Avian Powerline Interaction Committee's Avian Protection Plan template (http://www.aplic.org/) developed for electric utilities and modified accordingly to address the unique concerns of wind energy facilities. These recommendations are also consistent with the Service's wind energy guidelines. We recommend contacting us as early as possible in the planning process to discuss the need and process for developing a site-specific Bird and Bat Conservation Strategy.

The Service has also developed guidance regarding wind power development in relation to prairie grouse leks (sage-grouse are included in this). This document can be found at: http://www.fws.gov/southwest/es/Oklahoma/documents/te_species/wind%20power/prairie%20grouse%20lek%205%20mile%20public.pdf.

Migratory Birds are a Service Trust Resource. Based on the Service's conservation responsibilities and management authority for migratory birds under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act of 1918, as amended (MBTA; 16 U.S.C. 703 *et seq*.), we recommend that any land clearing or other surface disturbance associated with proposed actions within the project area be timed to

avoid potential destruction of bird nests or young, or birds that breed in the area. Such destruction may be in violation of the MBTA. Under the MBTA, nests with eggs or young of migratory birds may not be harmed, nor may migratory birds be killed. Therefore, we recommend land clearing be conducted outside the avian breeding season. If this is not feasible, we recommend a qualified biologist survey the area prior to land clearing. If nests are located, or if other evidence of nesting (*i.e.*, mated pairs, territorial defense, carrying nesting material, transporting food) is observed, a protective buffer (the size depending on the habitat requirements of the species) should be delineated and the entire area avoided to prevent destruction or disturbance to nests until they are no longer active.

Guidance for minimizing impacts to migratory birds for projects involving communications towers (*e.g.*, cellular, digital television, radio, and emergency broadcast) can be found at: http://www.fws.gov/migratorybirds/CurrentBirdIssues/Hazards/towers/towers.htm; http://www.towerkill.com; and http://www.fws.gov/migratorybirds/CurrentBirdIssues/Hazards/towers/comtow.html.

If wetlands, springs, or streams are are known to occur in the project area or are present in the vicinity of the project area, we ask that you be aware of potential impacts project activities may have on these habitats. Discharge of fill material into wetlands or waters of the United States is regulated by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE) pursuant to section 404 of the Clean Water Act of 1972, as amended. We recommend you contact the ACOE's Regulatory Section regarding the possible need for a permit. For projects located in northern Nevada (Carson City, Churchill, Douglas, Elko, Esmeralda, Eureka, Humboldt, Lander, Lyon, Mineral, Pershing, Storey, and Washoe Counties) contact the Reno Regulatory Office at 300 Booth Street, Room 3060, Reno, Nevada 89509, (775) 784-5304; in southern Nevada (Clark, Lincoln, Nye, and White Pine Counties) contact the St. George Regulatory Office at 321 North Mall Drive, Suite L-101, St. George, Utah 84790-7314, (435) 986-3979; or in California along the eastern Sierra contact the Sacramento Regulatory Office at 650 Capitol Mall, Suite 5-200, Sacramento, California 95814, (916) 557-5250.

We appreciate your concern for threatened and endangered species. Please include the Consultation Tracking Number in the header of this letter with any request for consultation or correspondence about your project that you submit to our office.

The table below outlines lead FWS field offices by county and land ownership/project type. Please refer to this table when you are ready to coordinate (including requests for section 7 consultation) with the field office corresponding to your project, and send any documentation regarding your project to that corresponding office. Therefore, the lead FWS field office may not be the office listed above in the letterhead.

Lead FWS offices by County and Ownership/Program

County	Ownership/Program	Species	Office Lead*

Alameda	Tidal wetlands/marsh adjacent to Bays	Salt marsh species, delta smelt	BDFWO
Alameda	All ownerships but tidal/estuarine	All	SFWO
Alpine	Humboldt Toiyabe National Forest	All	RFWO
Alpine	Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit	All	RFWO
Alpine	Stanislaus National Forest	All	SFWO
Alpine	El Dorado National Forest	All	SFWO
Colusa	Mendocino National Forest	All	AFWO
Colusa	Other	All	By jurisdiction (see map)
Contra Costa	Legal Delta (Excluding ECCHCP)	All	BDFWO
Contra Costa	Antioch Dunes NWR	All	BDFWO
Contra Costa	Tidal wetlands/marsh adjacent to Bays	Salt marsh species, delta smelt	BDFWO
Contra Costa	All ownerships but tidal/estuarine	All	SFWO
Del Norte	All	All	AFWO
El Dorado	El Dorado National Forest	All	SFWO
El Dorado	LakeTahoe Basin Management Unit		RFWO
Glenn	Mendocino National Forest	All	AFWO
Glenn	Other	All	By jurisdiction (see map)
Humboldt	All except Shasta Trinity National Forest	All	AFWO

Humboldt	Shasta Trinity National Forest	All	YFWO
Lake	Mendocino National Forest	All	AFWO
Lake	Other	All	By jurisdiction (see map)
Lassen	Modoc National Forest	All	KFWO
Lassen	Lassen National Forest	All	SFWO
Lassen	Toiyabe National Forest	All	RFWO
Lassen	BLM Surprise and Eagle Lake Resource Areas	All	RFWO
Lassen	BLM Alturas Resource Area	All	KFWO
Lassen	Lassen Volcanic National Park	All (includes Eagle Lake trout on all ownerships)	SFWO
Lassen	All other ownerships	All	By jurisdiction (see map)
Marin	Tidal wetlands/marsh adjacent to Bays	Salt marsh species, delta smelt	BDFWO
Marin	All ownerships but tidal/estuarine	All	SFWO
Mendocino	Russian River watershed	All	SFWO
Mendocino	All except Russian River watershed	All	AFWO
Modoc	Modoc National Forest	All	KFWO
Modoc	BLM Alturas Resource Area	All	KFWO
Modoc	Klamath Basin National Wildlife Refuge Complex	All	KFWO
Modoc	BLM Surprise and Eagle Lake Resource Areas	All	RFWO

Modoc	All other ownerships	All	By jurisdiction (See map)
Mono	Inyo National Forest	All	RFWO
Mono	Humboldt Toiyabe National Forest	All	RFWO
Napa	All ownerships but tidal/estuarine	All	SFWO
Napa	Tidal wetlands/marsh adjacent to San Pablo Bay	Salt marsh species, delta smelt	BDFWO
Nevada	Humboldt Toiyabe National Forest	All	RFWO
Nevada	All other ownerships	All	By jurisdiction (See map)
Placer	Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit	All	RFWO
Placer	All other ownerships	All	SFWO
Sacramento	Legal Delta	Delta Smelt	BDFWO
Sacramento	Other	All	By jurisdiction (see map)
San Francisco	Tidal wetlands/marsh adjacent to San Francisco Bay	Salt marsh species, delta smelt	BDFWO
San Francisco	All ownerships but tidal/estuarine	All	SFWO
San Mateo	Tidal wetlands/marsh adjacent to San Francisco Bay	Salt marsh species, delta smelt	BDFWO
San Mateo	All ownerships but tidal/estuarine	All	SFWO
San Joaquin	Legal Delta excluding San Joaquin HCP	All	BDFWO

San Joaquin	Other	All	SFWO
Santa Clara	Tidal wetlands/marsh adjacent to San Francisco Bay	Salt marsh species, delta smelt	BDFWO
Santa Clara	All ownerships but tidal/estuarine	All	SFWO
Shasta	Shasta Trinity National Forest except Hat Creek Ranger District (administered by Lassen National Forest)	All	YFWO
Shasta	Hat Creek Ranger District	All	SFWO
Shasta	Bureau of Reclamation (Central Valley Project)	All	BDFWO
Shasta	Whiskeytown National Recreation Area	All	YFWO
Shasta	BLM Alturas Resource Area	All	KFWO
Shasta	Caltrans	By jurisdiction	SFWO/AFWO
Shasta	Ahjumawi Lava Springs State Park	Shasta crayfish	SFWO
Shasta	All other ownerships	All	By jurisdiction (see map)
Shasta	Natural Resource Damage Assessment, all lands	All	SFWO/BDFWO
Sierra	Humboldt Toiyabe National Forest	All	RFWO
Sierra	All other ownerships	All	SFWO
Siskiyou	Klamath National Forest (except Ukonom District)	All	YFWO
Siskiyou	Six Rivers National Forest and Ukonom District	All	AFWO
Siskiyou	Shasta Trinity National Forest	All	YFWO

Siskiyou	Lassen National Forest	All	SFWO
Siskiyou	Modoc National Forest	All	KFWO
Siskiyou	Lava Beds National Volcanic Monument	All	KFWO
Siskiyou	BLM Alturas Resource Area	All	KFWO
Siskiyou	Klamath Basin National Wildlife Refuge Complex	All	KFWO
Siskiyou	All other ownerships	All	By jurisdiction (see map)
Solano	Suisun Marsh	All	BDFWO
Solano	Tidal wetlands/marsh adjacent to San Pablo Bay	Salt marsh species, delta smelt	BDFWO
Solano	All ownerships but tidal/estuarine	All	SFWO
Solano	Other	All	By jurisdiction (see map)
Sonoma	Tidal wetlands/marsh adjacent to San Pablo Bay	Salt marsh species, delta smelt	BDFWO
Sonoma	All ownerships but tidal/estuarine	All	SFWO
Tehama	Mendocino National Forest	All	AFWO
Tehama	Shasta Trinity National Forest except Hat Creek Ranger District (administered by Lassen National Forest)	All	YFWO
Tehama	All other ownerships	All	By jurisdiction (see map)
Trinity	BLM	All	AFWO
Trinity	Six Rivers National Forest	All	AFWO
Trinity	Shasta Trinity National Forest	All	YFWO

Trinity	Mendocino National Forest	All	AFWO
Trinity	BIA (Tribal Trust Lands)	All	AFWO
Trinity	County Government	All	AFWO
Trinity	All other ownerships	All	By jurisdiction (See map)
Yolo	Yolo Bypass	All	BDFWO
Yolo	Other	All	By jurisdiction (see map)
All	FERC-ESA	All	By jurisdiction (see map)
All	FERC-ESA	Shasta crayfish	SFWO
All	FERC-Relicensing (non-ESA)	All	BDFWO

***Office Leads:**

AFWO=Arcata Fish and Wildlife Office

BDFWO=Bay Delta Fish and Wildlife Office

KFWO=Klamath Falls Fish and Wildlife Office

RFWO=Reno Fish and Wildlife Office

YFWO=Yreka Fish and Wildlife Office

Attachment(s):

- Official Species List
- USFWS National Wildlife Refuges and Fish Hatcheries
- Migratory Birds
- Wetlands

Official Species List

This list is provided pursuant to Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act, and fulfills the requirement for Federal agencies to "request of the Secretary of the Interior information whether any species which is listed or proposed to be listed may be present in the area of a proposed action".

This species list is provided by:

Reno Fish And Wildlife Office
1340 Financial Boulevard, Suite 234
Reno, NV 89502-7147
(775) 861-6300

Project Summary

Consultation Code: 08ENVD00-2020-SLI-0461

Event Code: 08ENVD00-2020-E-01245

Project Name: Zurich Material Site

Project Type: TRANSPORTATION

Project Description: The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) is proposing to establish Zurich Material Site (MS 308) [a former material site] for mining of shale near Big Pine, California. A new highway easement deed will be needed from the Bureau of Land Management (BLM Bishop Field Office) for approximately 55.5 acres. Of those 55.5 acres, disturbance caused by mining operations will be limited to approximately 13.9 acres. Approximately 336,000 cubic yards of material will be extracted from the site over a minimum 50-year lifespan.

The material site will be mined in two separate phases. For the first phase, the existing surface of the pit will be excavated to a depth of up to 10 feet. The first phase will also involve the reestablishment of a previously rehabilitated access road, construction of check dams (n=4) and diversion channels (n=2), and the installation of an access gate and earthen berm road block. The second phase of mining will see the pit surface further excavated to a maximum depth of up to 38 feet. The pit will be graded to ensure internal drainage. Topsoil (approximately 4 to 6 inches in depth) will be relocated to soil berms on the outer perimeter of the pit for post mining reclamation purposes.

Upon completion of the extraction of all material to the final grade lines, the final slopes will be reclaimed in accordance with SMARA regulations. Topsoil berms will be removed and spread evenly on all slopes. It is Caltrans' intent to rescind this site back to the Bureau of Land Management after mining resources are exhausted and slopes are reclaimed. Upon final site configuration and revegetation, a final SMARA reclamation inspection will be performed to retire the associated mine ID and commence with the intended end-use (natural resources- open space designation). At this point, no further mining activities will occur at the site.

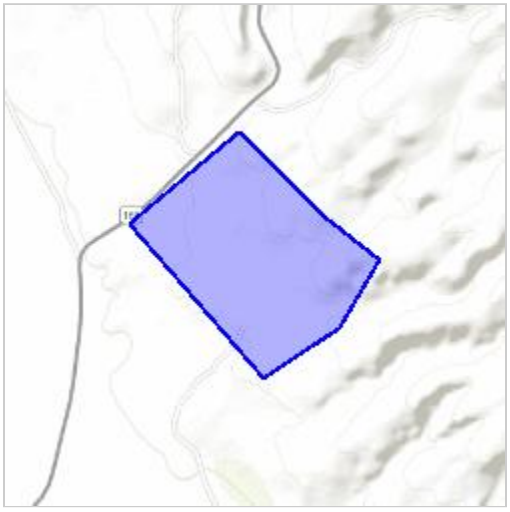
The material site's purpose is to provide quality material for District 9 maintenance forces for use in highway maintenance work in northern Inyo County and southern Mono County. The scale at the material site is the ideal material for shoulder backing and other material intensive

maintenance activities. The development of the site coincides with District 9's strategic plan for establishing material sources within reasonable haul proximity.

All 55.5 acres will be subject to the environmental clearance.

Project Location:

Approximate location of the project can be viewed in Google Maps: https://www.google.com/maps/place/37.19304003945417N118.2430758568293W



Counties: Inyo, CA

Endangered Species Act Species

There is a total of 2 threatened, endangered, or candidate species on this species list.

Species on this list should be considered in an effects analysis for your project and could include species that exist in another geographic area. For example, certain fish may appear on the species list because a project could affect downstream species.

IPaC does not display listed species or critical habitats under the sole jurisdiction of NOAA Fisheries[1], as USFWS does not have the authority to speak on behalf of NOAA and the Department of Commerce.

See the "Critical habitats" section below for those critical habitats that lie wholly or partially within your project area under this office's jurisdiction. Please contact the designated FWS office if you have questions.

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1. 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.

Fishes

NAME	STATUS
Lahontan Cutthroat Trout *Oncorhynchus clarkii henshawi* No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/3964 Species survey guidelines: https://ecos.fws.gov/ipac/guideline/survey/population/233/office/14320.pdf	Threatened
Owens Pupfish *Cyprinodon radiosus* No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/4982	Endangered

Critical habitats

THERE ARE NO CRITICAL HABITATS WITHIN YOUR PROJECT AREA UNDER THIS OFFICE'S JURISDICTION.

USFWS National Wildlife Refuge Lands And Fish Hatcheries

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 OR FISH HATCHERIES WITHIN YOUR PROJECT AREA.

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.

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1. The Migratory Birds Treaty Act of 1918.
2. The Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act of 1940.
3. 50 C.F.R. Sec. 10.12 and 16 U.S.C. Sec. 668(a)

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
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. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/1626	Breeds Dec 1 to Aug 31
Black Swift *Cypseloides niger* This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/8878	Breeds Jun 15 to Sep 10

NAME	BREEDING SEASON
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
Clark's Grebe *Aechmophorus clarkii* This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska.	Breeds Jan 1 to Dec 31
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
Long-billed Curlew *Numenius americanus* This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/5511	Breeds Apr 1 to Jul 31
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
Sagebrush Sparrow *Artemisiospiza nevadensis* This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) only in particular Bird Conservation Regions (BCRs) in the continental USA	Breeds Mar 15 to Jul 31
Willet *Tringa semipalmata* This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska.	Breeds Apr 20 to Aug 5

Probability Of Presence Summary

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.

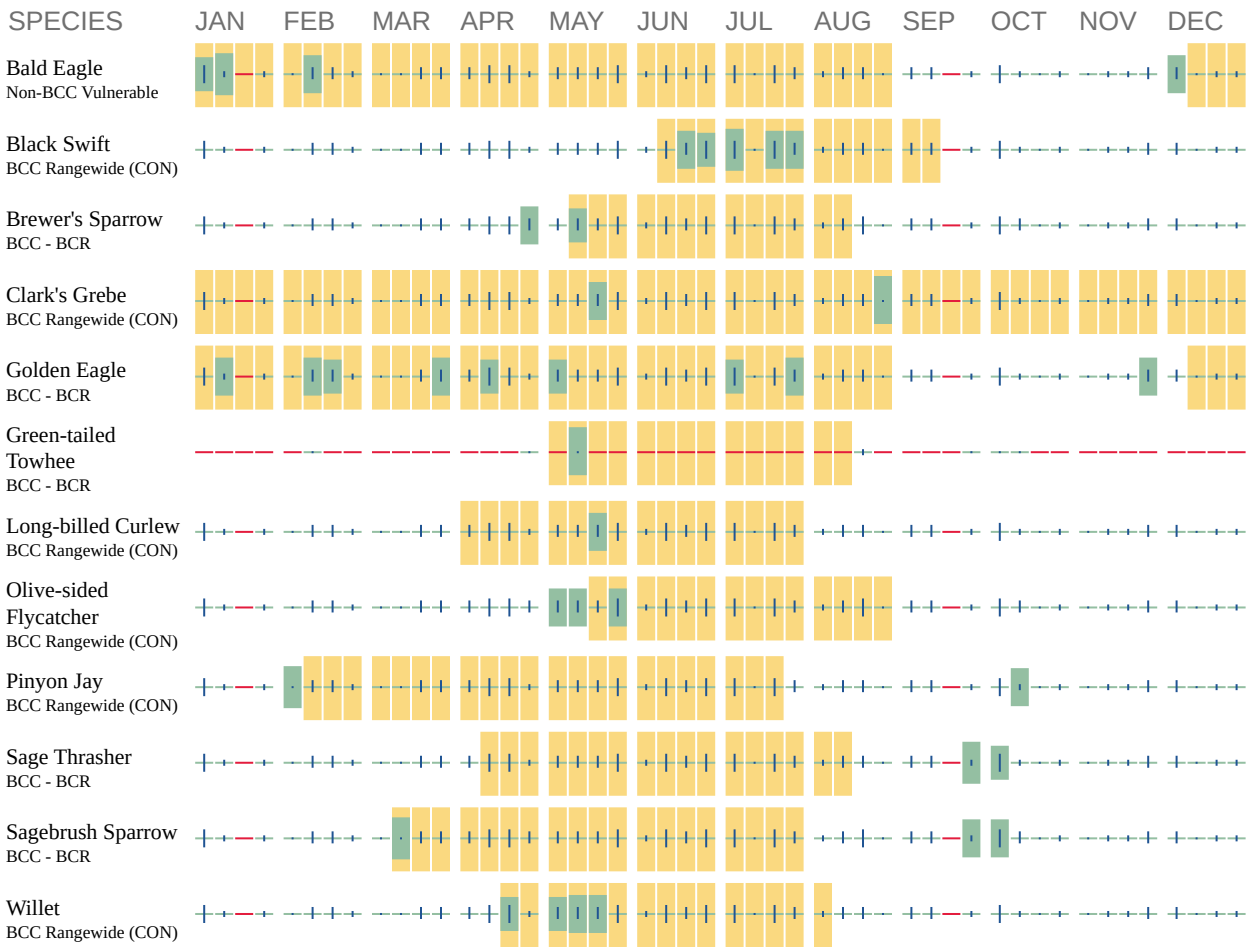
Breeding Season (■)
Yellow bars denote a very liberal estimate of the time-frame inside which the bird breeds across its entire range. If there are no yellow bars shown for a bird, it does not breed in your project area.

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.

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.



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
- 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

Migratory Birds FAQ

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 AKN Phenology Tool.

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.

Wetlands

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.

RIVERINE

- R4SBC

Appendix B: CDFW Species List

Summary Table Report

California Department of Fish and Wildlife

California Natural Diversity Database

Query Criteria: Quad IS (Uhlmeyer Spring (3711822) OR Big Pine (3711823) OR Waucoba Mtn. (3711811) OR Tinemaha Reservoir (3711812) OR Poleta Canyon (3711833) OR Westgard Pass (3711832) OR Deep Springs Lake (3711831) OR Cowhorn Valley (3711821) OR Fish Springs (3711813))

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.
Accipiter cooperii Cooper's hawk	G5 S4	None None	CDFW_WL-Watch List IUCN_LC-Least Concern	4,480 4,480	118 S:1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0
Aliciella triodon coyote gilia	G5 S2	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 2B.2	3,951 3,951	11 S:1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	0
Allium atrorubens var. atrorubens Great Basin onion	G4T4 S2	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 2B.3	5,380 5,380	19 S:1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	0
Anaxyrus exsul black toad	G1 S1	None Threatened	BLM_S-Sensitive CDFW_FP-Fully Protected IUCN_VU-Vulnerable USFS_S-Sensitive	4,940 5,680	6 S:5	0	1	2	0	0	2	4	1	5	0	0
Asio otus long-eared owl	G5 S3?	None None	CDFW_SSC-Species of Special Concern IUCN_LC-Least Concern	4,000 4,000	48 S:1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0
Astragalus geyeri var. geyeri Geyer's milk-vetch	G4T4 S2	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 2B.2	5,100 5,100	24 S:1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0
Astragalus serenoi var. shockleyi Shockley's milk-vetch	G4T3 S3	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 2B.2	3,900 7,100	25 S:11	0	1	1	1	0	8	2	9	11	0	0
Athene cunicularia burrowing owl	G4 S3	None None	BLM_S-Sensitive CDFW_SSC-Species of Special Concern IUCN_LC-Least Concern USFWS_BCC-Birds of Conservation Concern	3,930 5,150	1989 S:3	1	0	1	0	0	1	2	1	3	0	0
Atriplex gardneri var. falcata falcate saltbush	G4T4Q S2S3	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 2B.2	4,100 4,100	9 S:1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0
Blepharidachne kingii King's eyelash grass	G4 S2	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 2B.3	4,100 5,600	22 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.
Boechera bodiensis Bodie Hills rockcress	G3 S3	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 1B.3 BLM_S-Sensitive USFS_S-Sensitive	6,750 8,875	33 S:3	0	0	0	0	0	3	1	2	3	0	0
Boechera dispar pinyon rockcress	G3 S3	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 2B.3 SB_RSABG-Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden	4,700 8,200	97 S:11	0	2	1	0	0	8	3	8	11	0	0
Boechera lincolnensis Lincoln rockcress	G4G5 S3	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 2B.3 BLM_S-Sensitive	5,800 5,800	14 S:1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0
Boechera pendulina rabbit-ear rockcress	G5 S2	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 2B.1	10,300 10,300	9 S:1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0
Boechera shockleyi Shockley's rockcress	G3 S2	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 2B.2 SB_RSABG-Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden USFS_S-Sensitive	6,000 7,840	61 S:12	0	2	0	0	0	10	1	11	12	0	0
Bombus morrisoni Morrison bumble bee	G4G5 S1S2	None None	IUCN_VU-Vulnerable	4,000 8,600	85 S:9	0	0	0	0	0	9	9	0	9	0	0
Bristlecone Pine Forest Bristlecone Pine Forest	G4 S2.3	None None		10,000 10,800	2 S:2	0	0	0	0	0	2	2	0	2	0	0
Buteo swainsoni Swainson's hawk	G5 S3	None Threatened	BLM_S-Sensitive IUCN_LC-Least Concern USFWS_BCC-Birds of Conservation Concern	3,670 4,660	2518 S:10	0	0	0	0	0	10	8	2	10	0	0
Calochortus excavatus Inyo County star-tulip	G2 S2	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 1B.1 BLM_S-Sensitive USFS_S-Sensitive	3,840 6,700	70 S:18	0	5	7	1	0	5	7	11	18	0	0
Catostomus fumeiventris Owens sucker	G3G4 S3	None None	CDFW_SSC-Species of Special Concern	3,850 4,040	35 S:3	0	0	0	0	0	3	2	1	3	0	0
Chaetadelpha wheeleri Wheeler's dune-broom	G4 S2	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 2B.2	4,100 4,100	25 S:1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0
Charadrius alexandrinus nivosus western snowy plover	G3T3 S2S3	Threatened None	CDFW_SSC-Species of Special Concern NABCI_RWL-Red Watch List USFWS_BCC-Birds of Conservation Concern	3,860 4,900	138 S:2	0	0	0	0	0	2	2	0	2	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.
Charadrius montanus mountain plover	G3 S2S3	None None	BLM_S-Sensitive CDFW_SSC-Species of Special Concern IUCN_NT-Near Threatened NABCI_RWL-Red Watch List USFWS_BCC-Birds of Conservation Concern	3,880 3,880	90 S:1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0
Circus hudsonius northern harrier	G5 S3	None None	CDFW_SSC-Species of Special Concern IUCN_LC-Least Concern	4,100 4,100	53 S:1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0
Coccyzus americanus occidentalis western yellow-billed cuckoo	G5T2T3 S1	Threatened Endangered	BLM_S-Sensitive NABCI_RWL-Red Watch List USFS_S-Sensitive USFWS_BCC-Birds of Conservation Concern	3,870 4,480	164 S:3	0	3	0	0	0	0	2	1	3	0	0
Corynorhinus townsendii Townsend's big-eared bat	G3G4 S2	None None	BLM_S-Sensitive CDFW_SSC-Species of Special Concern IUCN_LC-Least Concern USFS_S-Sensitive WBWG_H-High Priority	4,040 8,600	635 S:26	0	1	0	0	0	25	10	16	26	0	0
Crepis runcinata fiddleleaf hawksbeard	G5 S3	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 2B.2	4,800 4,941	32 S:2	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	1	2	0	0
Cryptantha fendleri sand dune cryptantha	G5 S1	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 2B.2	7,250 7,250	2 S:1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0
Cuniculotinus gramineus Panamint rock-goldenrod	G3G4 S3	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 2B.3	9,050 9,050	10 S:2	0	0	0	0	0	2	2	0	2	0	0
Cyprinodon radiosus Owens pupfish	G1 S1	Endangered Endangered	AFS_EN-Endangered CDFW_FP-Fully Protected IUCN_EN-Endangered	3,960 4,240	23 S:7	0	0	0	0	6	1	5	2	1	1	5
Dedeckera eurekensis July gold	G3 S3	None Rare	Rare Plant Rank - 1B.3 BLM_S-Sensitive SB_BerrySB-Berry Seed Bank USFS_S-Sensitive	4,800 5,900	29 S:2	0	1	0	0	0	1	1	1	2	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.
Diplacus parryi Parry's monkeyflower	G4G5 S3	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 2B.3	5,500 8,500	13 S:9	0	0	0	0	0	9	8	1	9	0	0
Elgaria panamintina Panamint alligator lizard	G3 S3	None None	BLM_S-Sensitive CDFW_SSC-Species of Special Concern IUCN_VU-Vulnerable USFS_S-Sensitive	5,186 6,860	25 S:6	5	1	0	0	0	0	0	6	6	0	0
Elymus scribneri Scribner's wheat grass	G5 S3	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 2B.3	10,000 10,000	12 S:1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	0
Empidonax traillii extimus southwestern willow flycatcher	G5T2 S1	Endangered Endangered	NABCI_RWL-Red Watch List	3,880 3,880	70 S:1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0
Eremothera boothii ssp. boothii Booth's evening-primrose	G5T4 S3	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 2B.3	5,000 5,000	35 S:1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0
Eremothera boothii ssp. intermedia Booth's hairy evening-primrose	G5T3T4 S3	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 2B.3	6,900 6,900	14 S:2	0	0	0	0	0	2	2	0	2	0	0
Ericameria gilmanii Gilman's goldenbush	G2 S2	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 1B.3 BLM_S-Sensitive SB_RSABG-Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden USFS_S-Sensitive	7,200 7,200	7 S:1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0
Erigeron compactus compact daisy	G3 S3	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 2B.3	6,700 8,600	13 S:11	0	0	0	0	0	11	5	6	11	0	0
Erythranthe calcicola limestone monkeyflower	G3 S3	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 1B.3 BLM_S-Sensitive SB_RSABG-Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden	6,800 6,800	15 S:1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	0
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	4,040 4,040	68 S:1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0

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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.
Falco mexicanus prairie falcon	G5 S4	None None	CDFW_WL-Watch List IUCN_LC-Least Concern USFWS_BCC-Birds of Conservation Concern	7,313 7,313	460 S:1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0
Fimbristylis thermalis hot springs fimbristylis	G4 S1S2	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 2B.2 SB_RSABG-Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden	4,000 4,000	19 S:2	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	1	2	0	0
Fontelicella sp. Deep Springs fontelicella	G1 S1	None None		4,940 4,940	1 S:1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0
Grusonia pulchella beautiful cholla	G4 S2	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 2B.2	5,120 5,120	11 S:1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0
Haliaeetus leucocephalus bald eagle	G5 S3	Delisted Endangered	BLM_S-Sensitive CDF_S-Sensitive CDFW_FP-Fully Protected IUCN_LC-Least Concern USFS_S-Sensitive USFWS_BCC-Birds of Conservation Concern	3,850 3,850	327 S:1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0
Hesperidanthus jaegeri Jaeger's hesperidanthus	G2 S2	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 1B.2 BLM_S-Sensitive USFS_S-Sensitive	7,250 7,250	7 S:1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0
Hymenopappus filifolius var. nanus little cutleaf	G5T4 S3	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 2B.3	6,600 11,000	19 S:8	0	0	0	0	0	8	6	2	8	0	0
Icteria virens yellow-breasted chat	G5 S3	None None	CDFW_SSC-Species of Special Concern IUCN_LC-Least Concern	4,660 4,660	100 S:1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0
Jaffueliobryum wrightii Wright's jaffueliobryum moss	G5 S2S3	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 2B.3	8,600 8,600	21 S:1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0
Juncus nodosus knotted rush	G5 S3	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 2B.3	5,600 5,600	12 S:1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0
Lasiurus cinereus hoary bat	G5 S4	None None	IUCN_LC-Least Concern WBWG_M-Medium Priority		238 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.
Lepus townsendii townsendii western white-tailed jackrabbit	G5T5 S3?	None None	CDFW_SSC-Species of Special Concern	4,140 4,140	24 S:1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0
Lithobates pipiens northern leopard frog	G5 S2	None None	CDFW_SSC-Species of Special Concern IUCN_LC-Least Concern	100 4,370	19 S:3	0	0	0	0	0	3	3	0	3	0	0
Loeflingia squarrosa var. artemisiarum sagebrush loeflingia	G5T3 S2	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 2B.2 BLM_S-Sensitive	3,820 3,980	26 S:5	1	1	0	0	0	3	5	0	5	0	0
Lomatium foeniculaceum ssp. macdougalii Macdougal's lomatium	G5T4T5 S3	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 2B.2		26 S:1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0
Lupinus pusillus var. intermontanus intermontane lupine	G5T5? S2	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 2B.3	3,900 3,900	19 S:1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0
Microtus californicus vallicola Owens Valley vole	G5T3 S3	None None	BLM_S-Sensitive CDFW_SSC-Species of Special Concern		14 S:1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0
Myotis ciliolabrum western small-footed myotis	G5 S3	None None	BLM_S-Sensitive IUCN_LC-Least Concern WBWG_M-Medium Priority	4,100 7,320	82 S:2	0	0	0	0	0	2	2	0	2	0	0
Oenothera longissima long-stem evening-primrose	G4 S1	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 2B.2	5,600 5,600	4 S:1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0
Oryctes nevadensis Nevada oryctes	G3 S2	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 2B.1	3,930 4,090	33 S:17	0	13	2	0	0	2	17	0	17	0	0
Ovis canadensis nelsoni desert bighorn sheep	G4T4 S3	None None	BLM_S-Sensitive CDFW_FP-Fully Protected USFS_S-Sensitive		46 S:1	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	1
Pandion haliaetus osprey	G5 S4	None None	CDF_S-Sensitive CDFW_WL-Watch List IUCN_LC-Least Concern	3,870 3,870	504 S:1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0
Parnopes borregoensis Borrego parnopes cuckoo wasp	G1G2 S1S2	None None		4,000 4,000	4 S:1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0
Phacelia inyoensis Inyo phacelia	G2 S2	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 1B.2 BLM_S-Sensitive USFS_S-Sensitive	3,000 4,000	19 S:4	1	0	0	0	0	3	4	0	4	0	0

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						A	B	C	D	X	U	Historic > 20 yr	Recent <= 20 yr	Extant	Poss. Extirp.	Extirp.
Physocarpus alternans Nevada ninebark	G4 S3	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 2B.3	6,235 6,975	14 S:5	0	0	0	0	0	5	1	4	5	0	0
Piranga rubra summer tanager	G5 S1	None None	CDFW_SSC-Species of Special Concern IUCN_LC-Least Concern	4,480 4,480	21 S:1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0
Plagiobothrys nitens shiny-nutlet popcornflower	GNR S1	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 2B.1	4,950 4,950	1 S:1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	0
Plagiobothrys parishii Parish's popcornflower	G1 S1	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 1B.1 SB_RSABG-Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden USFS_S-Sensitive	3,945 4,100	16 S:3	0	0	0	0	0	3	1	2	3	0	0
Plagiobothrys salsus desert popcornflower	G2G3 S1	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 2B.2	4,941 4,941	5 S:1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	0
Plebejus icarioides albihalos White Mountains icarioides blue butterfly	G5T2T3 S2?	None None		7,680 7,680	4 S:1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0
Pyrgulopsis owensensis Owens Valley springsnail	G1G2 S1S2	None None	USFS_S-Sensitive	1,230 6,000	10 S:7	0	5	1	0	0	1	7	0	7	0	0
Pyrgulopsis wongi Wong's springsnail	G2 S2	None None	IUCN_LC-Least Concern USFS_S-Sensitive	1,400 6,845	50 S:10	0	0	4	0	0	6	8	2	10	0	0
Rhinichthys osculus ssp. 2 Owens speckled dace	G5T1T2Q S1S2	None None	AFS_TH-Threatened CDFW_SSC-Species of Special Concern	3,850 4,240	28 S:2	0	0	0	0	2	0	2	0	0	2	0
Riparia riparia bank swallow	G5 S2	None Threatened	BLM_S-Sensitive IUCN_LC-Least Concern	3,920 3,920	298 S:1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0
Sidalcea covillei Owens Valley checkerbloom	G2 S2	None Endangered	Rare Plant Rank - 1B.1 BLM_S-Sensitive	3,920 4,650	43 S:11	0	7	3	1	0	0	3	8	11	0	0
Siphateles bicolor snyderi Owens tui chub	G4T1 S1	Endangered Endangered	AFS_EN-Endangered	3,880 4,240	20 S:4	0	1	0	0	2	1	2	2	2	1	1
Sphenopholis obtusata prairie wedge grass	G5 S2	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 2B.2	4,700 4,700	19 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.
Suaeda occidentalis western seablite	G5 S2	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 2B.3	4,000 4,000	9 S:1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	0
Tetradymia tetrameres dune horsebrush	G4 S2	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 2B.2	5,600 5,600	10 S:1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0
Thelypodium integrifolium ssp. complanatum foxtail thelypodium	G5T4T5 S2	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 2B.2	7,000 7,000	13 S:1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0
Transberingia bursifolia ssp. virgata virgate halimolobos	G4T4 S2	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 2B.3	7,900 7,900	9 S:1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0
Transmontane Alkali Marsh Transmontane Alkali Marsh	G3 S2.1	None None		4,920 5,680	7 S:2	0	0	0	0	0	2	2	0	2	0	0
Viola pinetorum ssp. grisea grey-leaved violet	G4G5T3 S3	None None	Rare Plant Rank - 1B.2	7,950 7,950	90 S:1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	0
Water Birch Riparian Scrub Water Birch Riparian Scrub	GNR SNR	None None		4,900 6,600	29 S:5	0	0	0	0	0	5	5	0	5	0	0

Appendix C: CNPS Species List

Attachment D

CNPS California Native Plant Society

Inventory of Rare and Endangered Plants

*The database used to provide updates to the Online Inventory is under construction. View updates and changes made since May 2019 here.

Plant List

48 matches found. *Click on scientific name for details*

Search Criteria

California Rare Plant Rank is one of **[1A, 1B, 2A, 2B]**, Found in Quads **3711833, 3711832, 3711831, 3711823, 3711822, 3711821, 3711813 3711812** and **3711811**;

Modify Search Criteria | Export to Excel | Modify Columns | Modify Sort | Display Photos

Scientific Name	Common Name	Family	Lifeform	Blooming Period	CA Rare Plant Rank	State Rank	Global Rank
Aliciella triodon	coyote gilia	Polemoniaceae	annual herb	Apr-Jun	2B.2	S2	G5
Allium atrorubens var. atrorubens	Great Basin onion	Alliaceae	perennial bulbiferous herb	May-Jun	2B.3	S2	G4T4
Astragalus geyeri var. geyeri	Geyer's milk-vetch	Fabaceae	annual herb	May-Aug	2B.2	S2	G4T4
Astragalus serenoi var. shockleyi	Shockley's milk-vetch	Fabaceae	perennial herb	(Apr)May-Jul	2B.2	S2	G4T3
Atriplex gardneri var. falcata	falcate saltbush	Chenopodiaceae	perennial herb	May-Aug	2B.2	S2S3	G4T4Q
Blepharidachne kingii	King's eyelash grass	Poaceae	perennial herb	May	2B.3	S2	G4
Boechera bodiensis	Bodie Hills rockcress	Brassicaceae	perennial herb	Jun-Jul(Aug)	1B.3	S3	G3
Boechera dispar	pinyon rockcress	Brassicaceae	perennial herb	Mar-Jun	2B.3	S3	G3
Boechera lincolnensis	Lincoln rockcress	Brassicaceae	perennial herb	Mar-May	2B.3	S3	G4G5

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Boechera shockleyi	Shockley's rockcress	Brassicaceae	perennial herb	May-Jun	2B.2	S2	G3
Calochortus excavatus	Inyo County star-tulip	Liliaceae	perennial bulbiferous herb	Apr-Jul	1B.1	S2	G2
Chaetadelpha wheeleri	Wheeler's dune-broom	Asteraceae	perennial rhizomatous herb	Apr-Sep	2B.2	S2	G4
Crepis runcinata	fiddleleaf hawksbeard	Asteraceae	perennial herb	May-Aug	2B.2	S3	G5
Cryptantha fendleri	sand dune cryptantha	Boraginaceae	annual herb	Jun-Jul	2B.2	S1	G5
Cuniculotinus gramineus	Panamint rock-goldenrod	Asteraceae	perennial herb	Jun-Aug	2B.3	S3	G3G4
Dedeckera eurekensis	July gold	Polygonaceae	perennial deciduous shrub	May-Aug	1B.3	S3	G3
Diplacus parryi	Parry's monkeyflower	Phrymaceae	annual herb	May-Jul	2B.3	S3	G4G5
Eremothera boothii ssp. boothii	Booth's evening-primrose	Onagraceae	annual herb	Apr-Sep	2B.3	S3	G5T4
Eremothera boothii ssp. intermedia	Booth's hairy evening-primrose	Onagraceae	annual herb	(May)Jun	2B.3	S3	G5T3T4
Ericameria gilmanii	Gilman's goldenbush	Asteraceae	perennial shrub	Aug-Sep	1B.3	S2	G2
Erigeron compactus	compact daisy	Asteraceae	perennial herb	May-Jul	2B.3	S3	G3
Erythranthe calcicola	limestone monkeyflower	Phrymaceae	annual herb	Apr-Jun	1B.3	S3	G3
Fimbristylis thermalis	hot springs fimbristylis	Cyperaceae	perennial rhizomatous herb	Jul-Sep	2B.2	S1S2	G4
Grusonia pulchella	beautiful cholla	Cactaceae	perennial stem succulent	May(Jun)	2B.2	S2	G4
Hesperidanthus jaegeri	Jaeger's hesperidanthus	Brassicaceae	perennial herb	May-Jul	1B.2	S2	G2
Hymenopappus filifolius var. nanus	little cutleaf	Asteraceae	perennial herb	May-Sep	2B.3	S3	G5T4
Jaffueliobryum wrightii	Wright's jaffueliobryum moss	Grimmiaceae	moss		2B.3	S2?	G4G5

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Juncus nodosus	knotted rush	Juncaceae	perennial rhizomatous herb	Jul-Sep	2B.3	S3	G5
Loeflingia squarrosa var. artemisiarum	sagebrush loeflingia	Caryophyllaceae	annual herb	Apr-May	2B.2	S2	G5T3
Lomatium foeniculaceum ssp. macdougalii	MacDougal's lomatium	Apiaceae	perennial herb	Apr-Jul	2B.2	S3	G5T4T5
Lupinus padre-crowleyi	Father Crowley's lupine	Fabaceae	perennial herb	Jun-Aug	1B.2	S2	G2
Lupinus pusillus var. intermontanus	intermontane lupine	Fabaceae	annual herb	May-Jun	2B.3	S2	G5T5?
Oenothera longissima	long-stem evening-primrose	Onagraceae	annual / perennial herb	Jul-Sep	2B.2	S1	G4
Oryctes nevadensis	Nevada oryctes	Solanaceae	annual herb	Apr-Jun	2B.1	S2	G3
Phacelia inyoensis	Inyo phacelia	Hydrophyllaceae	annual herb	Apr-Aug	1B.2	S3	G3
Physocarpus alternans	Nevada ninebark	Rosaceae	perennial deciduous shrub	Jun-Jul	2B.3	S3	G4
Plagiobothrys nitens	shiny-nutlet popcornflower	Boraginaceae	annual herb	Jun-Jul	2B.1	S1	GNR
Plagiobothrys parishii	Parish's popcornflower	Boraginaceae	annual herb	Mar-Jun(Nov)	1B.1	S1	G1
Plagiobothrys salsus	desert popcornflower	Boraginaceae	annual herb	May-Aug	2B.2	S1	G2G3
Potamogeton robbinsii	Robbins' pondweed	Potamogetonaceae	perennial rhizomatous herb (aquatic)	Jul-Aug	2B.3	S3	G5
Sidalcea covillei	Owens Valley checkerbloom	Malvaceae	perennial herb	Apr-Jun	1B.1	S2	G2
Sphenopholis obtusata	prairie wedge grass	Poaceae	perennial herb	Apr-Jul	2B.2	S2	G5
Streptanthus oliganthus	Masonic Mountain jewelflower	Brassicaceae	perennial herb	Jun-Jul	1B.2	S3	G3
Suaeda occidentalis	western seablite	Chenopodiaceae	annual herb	Jul-Sep	2B.3	S2	G5
Tetradymia tetrameres	dune horsebrush	Asteraceae	perennial shrub	(Jul)Aug	2B.2	S2	G4

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Thelypodium integrifolium ssp. complanatum	foxtail thelypodium	Brassicaceae	annual / perennial herb	Jun-Oct	2B.2	S2	G5T4T5
Transberingia bursifolia ssp. virgata	virgate halimolobos	Brassicaceae	perennial herb	(Jun)Jul	2B.3	S2	G4T4
Viola pinetorum ssp. grisea	grey-leaved violet	Violaceae	perennial herb	Apr-Jul	1B.2	S3	G4G5T3

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Appendix D: BLM Species Lists

Attachment D

BLM Special Status Animal Species by Field Office

FIELD OFFICE		COMMON NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME	FEDERAL STATUS	STATE STATUS	BLM STATUS	OTHER STATUS
Alturas		24 Species					
	Mammal						
		Long-eared myotis	Myotis evotis			BLMS	
		Pacific fisher	Martes pennanti (pacifica) DPS	FC	SC	BLMS	SSC
		Pallid bat	Antrozous pallidus			BLMS	SSC
		Small-footed myotis	Myotis ciliolabrum			BLMS	
		Townsend's big-eared bat	Corynorhinus townsendii			BLMS	SSC
		Western mastiff-bat	Eumops perotis californicus			BLMS	SSC
	Bird						
		Bald eagle	Haliaeetus leucocephalus	FD	SE	BLMS	EA
		Bank swallow	Riparia riparia		ST	BLMS	
		Burrowing owl	Athene cunicularia			BLMS	SSC
		Golden eagle	Aquila chrysaetos			BLMS	EA
		Greater sage-grouse	Centrocercus urophasianus	FC		BLMS	SSC
		Greater sandhill crane	Grus canadensis tabida		ST	BLMS	SF
		Northern goshawk	Accipiter gentilis			BLMS	SSC
		Swainson's hawk	Buteo swainsoni		ST	BLMS	
		Tricolored blackbird	Agelaius tricolor			BLMS	SSC
	Reptile						
		Northern sagebrush lizard	Sceloporus graciosus graciosus			BLMS	
	Amphibian						
		Oregon spotted frog	Rana pretiosa	FC		BLMS	
		Western spadefoot toad	Spea hammondii			BLMS	
	Fish						
		Lost River sucker	Deltistes luxatus	FE	SE		SF
		Modoc sucker	Catostomus microps	FE	SE		SF
		Pacific lamprey	Entosphenus tridentatus			BLMS	
		Rough sculpin	Cottus asperrimus		ST	BLMS	
		Shortnose sucker	Chasmistes brevirostris	FE	SE		SF
	Invertebrate						

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

FIELD OFFICE		COMMON NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME	FEDERAL STATUS	STATE STATUS	BLM STATUS	OTHER STATUS
Bishop		30 Species					
	Mammal						
		Desert bighorn sheep	Ovis canadensis nelsoni			BLMS	SF
		Fringed myotis	Myotis thysanodes			BLMS	
		Long-eared myotis	Myotis evotis			BLMS	
		Mohave ground squirrel	Spermophilus mohavensis		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
		Pygmy rabbit	Brachylagus idahoensis			BLMS	
		Sierra Nevada bighorn sheep	Ovis canadensis sierrae	FE	SE		SF
		Small-footed myotis	Myotis ciliolabrum			BLMS	
		Spotted bat	Euderma maculatum			BLMS	SSC
		Townsend's big-eared bat	Corynorhinus townsendii			BLMS	SSC
		Yuma myotis	Myotis yumanensis			BLMS	
	Bird						
		Bald eagle	Haliaeetus leucocephalus	FD	SE	BLMS	EA
		Bank swallow	Riparia riparia		ST	BLMS	
		Burrowing owl	Athene cunicularia			BLMS	SSC
		Golden eagle	Aquila chrysaetos			BLMS	EA
		Greater sage-grouse	Centrocercus urophasianus	FC		BLMS	SSC
		Least Bell's vireo	Vireo bellii pusillus	FE	SE		
		Northern goshawk	Accipiter gentilis			BLMS	SSC
		Swainson's hawk	Buteo swainsoni		ST	BLMS	
		Western yellow-billed cuckoo	Coccyzus americanus occidentalis	FC	SE	BLMS	
	Reptile						
		Northern sagebrush lizard	Sceloporus graciosus graciosus			BLMS	
		Panamint alligator lizard	Elgaria panamintina			BLMS	
	Amphibian						
		Black toad	Anaxyrus exsul		ST	BLMS	SF
		Inyo Mountains slender salamander	Batrachoseps campi			BLMS	
	Fish						
		Amargosa River pupfish	Cyprinodon nevadensis amargosae			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

FIELD OFFICE	COMMON NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME	FEDERAL STATUS	STATE STATUS	BLM STATUS	OTHER STATUS
	Owens pupfish	Cyprinodon radiosus	FE	SE		SF
	Owens speckled dace	Rhinichthys osculus ssp. 2			BLMS	
	Owens tui chub	Siphateles bicolor snyderi	FE	SE		
Eagle Lake	20 Species					
	Mammal					
	Fringed myotis	Myotis thysanodes			BLMS	
	Long-eared myotis	Myotis evotis			BLMS	
	Pacific fisher	Martes pennanti (pacifica) DPS	FC	SC	BLMS	SSC
	Pallid bat	Antrozous pallidus			BLMS	SSC
	Pygmy rabbit	Brachylagus idahoensis			BLMS	
	Small-footed myotis	Myotis ciliolabrum			BLMS	
	Townsend's big-eared bat	Corynorhinus townsendii			BLMS	SSC
	Yuma myotis	Myotis yumanensis			BLMS	
	Bird					
	Bald eagle	Haliaeetus leucocephalus	FD	SE	BLMS	EA
	Bank swallow	Riparia riparia		ST	BLMS	
	Burrowing owl	Athene cunicularia			BLMS	SSC
	California spotted owl	Strix occidentalis occidentalis			BLMS	SSC
	Golden eagle	Aquila chrysaetos			BLMS	EA
	Greater sage-grouse	Centrocercus urophasianus	FC		BLMS	SSC
	Greater sandhill crane	Grus canadensis tabida		ST	BLMS	SF
	Northern goshawk	Accipiter gentilis			BLMS	SSC
	Swainson's hawk	Buteo swainsoni		ST	BLMS	
	Tricolored blackbird	Agelaius tricolor			BLMS	SSC
	Reptile					
	California mountain kingsnake	Lampropeltis zonata			BLMS	
	Northern sagebrush lizard	Sceloporus graciosus graciosus			BLMS	

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All BLM CALIFORNIA SPECIAL STATUS PLANTS

Thursday, May 28, 2015
11:00:38 AM

SCIENTIFIC NAME	COMMON NAME	TYPE OF PLANT	FAMILY	FED STATUS	CA STATUS	BLM STATUS	CA RARE PLANT RANK	NNPS STATUS	GLOBAL RANK	STATE RANK	NV STATUS	RECOVERY PLAN?	DATE UPDATED	COMMENTS	ALTURAS	ARCATA	BAKERSFIELD	BARSTOW	BISHOP	EAGLE LAKE	EL CENTRO	HOLLISTER	MOTHER LODE	NEEDLES	PALM SPRINGS	REDDING	RIDGECREST	SURPRISE	UKIAH
Abronia umbellata var. breviflora	pink sand-verbena	VASC	Nyctaginaceae			BLMS	1B.1		G4G5T2	S1		No	29-Apr-13	Formerly subsp. *breviflora* (Standl.) Munz.		K													
Abronia villosa var. aurita	chaparral sand-verbena	VASC	Nyctaginaceae			BLMS	1B.1		G5T3T4	S2		No	06-Aug-13	CNDDB occurrences 2 and 91 are on BLM lands in the Palm Springs Field Office.							S				K				
Acanthomintha ilicifolia	San Diego thornmint	VASC	Lamiaceae	FT	SE		1B.1		G1	S2		No	12-Mar-15	Status changed from "K" to "S" on 8/6/2013. Naomi Fraga was unable to find the species on BLM lands when trying to collect seeds in 2012. Although there are several CNDDB occurences close to BLM lands, none of these actually intersect with BLM lands.											S				
Acanthoscyphus parishii var. goodmaniana	Cushenberry oxytheca	VASC	Polygonaceae	FE			1B.1		G4?T1	S1		No	06-Aug-13	Formerly *Oxytheca parishii* var. *goodmaniana*. Name change based on Reveal, J.L. 2004. Nomenclatural summary of Polygonaceae subfamily Eriogonoideae. Harvard Papers in Botany 9(1):144. A draft Recovery Plan was issued in 1997 but as of 8/6/2013 was not final. Some of the recovery actions in the draft plan have been started and partially implemented.				K									
Acmispon argyraeus var. multicaulis	scrub lotus	VASC	Fabaceae			BLMS	1B.3		G4?T2	S2		No	13-Sep-12	Formerly *Lotus argyraeus* (Greene) Greene var. *multicaulis* (Ottley) Isely. Occurs on BLM lands in vicinity of Dinosaur Trackway ACEC. Occurrence there discovered in 2008 acc. Jim Weigand.										K				
Acmispon rubriflorus	red-flowered lotus	VASC	Fabaceae			BLMS	1B.1		G1	S1		No	16-Nov-10	Formerly *Lotus rubriflorus* H.K. Sharsm.											S				

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Arctostaphylos rainbowensis	rainbow manzanita	VASC	Ericaceae			BLMS	1B.1		G2	S2		No	31-Mar-15	CNDDB Occurrence 43 is on BLM lands in Riverside County. Occurrence 56, is based on a 2005 collection by Woelfel and Woelfel, who claim it was collected on BLM lands in San Diego County, but CNDDB maps it as a 1/5 mile radius circle, some of which is BLM and some of which is private. Some other occurrences are close to but not on BLM lands.											K				
Arctostaphylos rudis	sand mesa manzanita	VASC	Ericaceae			BLMS	1B.2		G2	S2		No	31-Mar-15				K												
Aristocapsa insignis	Indian Valley spineflower	VASC	Polygonaceae			BLMS	1B.2		G2?	S2?		No	31-Mar-15				S												
Astragalus agnicidus	Humboldt milk-vetch	VASC	Fabaceae		SE	BLMS	1B.1		G3	S3		No	13-Sep-12			S													
Astragalus agrestis	field milk-vetch	VASC	Fabaceae			BLMS	2.B2		G5	S2?		No	31-Mar-15	This species is rather widespread elsewhere, so the primary value of this population is its disjunct location in CA, and maintaining the genetic viability of the species across its range.	K					K										
Astragalus albens	Cushenberry milk-vetch	VASC	Fabaceae	FE			1B.1		G1	S1		No	06-Aug-13	A draft Recovery Plan was issued in 1997 but as of 8/6/2013 was not final. Some of the recovery actions in the draft plan have been started and partially implemented.				K												
Astragalus anxius	Ash Valley milk-vetch	VASC	Fabaceae			BLMS	1B.3		G1	S1		No		In Ash Valley ACEC/RNA.	K														
Astragalus argophyllus var. argophyllus	silverleaf milk-vetch	VASC	Fabaceae			BLMS	2B.2		G5T4	S1		No	31-Mar-15						K	K									
Astragalus atratus var. mensanus	Darwin Mesa milk-vetch	VASC	Fabaceae			BLMS	1B.1		G4G5T1	S1		No	13-Sep-12	On Darwin Mesa.														K		
Astragalus bernardinus	San Bernardino Milk-Vetch	VASC	Fabaceae			BLMS	1B.2		G2G3	S2S3		No	06-Aug-13	Currently shown in Little San Bernardino Mountains, Little San Bernardino Mountains, New York Mountains, and Big Horn Mountains. There are 33 known occurrences in CNDDB, 12 between 1992 and 2011.				K							K				

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Astragalus brauntonii	Braunton's milk-vetch	VASC	Fabaceae	FE			1B.1		G2	S2		Yes	13-Sep-12												S				
Astragalus cimae var. sufflatus	inflated Cima milk-vetch	VASC	Fabaceae			BLMS	1B.3		G3T3	S3		No	31-Mar-15	CNDDB Occurrence number 2 is on BLM lands within the new boundary of the Cerro Gordo/Conglomerate Mesa ACEC.													K		
Astragalus deanei	Deane's milk-vetch	VASC	Fabaceae			BLMS	1B.1		G1	S1		No	31-Mar-15												K				
Astragalus douglasii var. perstrictus	Jacumba milk-vetch	VASC	Fabaceae			BLMS	1B.2		G5T2?	S2?		No	31-Mar-15												K				
Astragalus ertterae	Walker Pass milk-vetch	VASC	Fabaceae			BLMS	1B.3		G2	S2		No					K										K		
Astragalus funereus	black milk-vetch	VASC	Fabaceae			BLMS	1B.2		G2	S2.2		No						K											
Astragalus hornii var. hornii	Horn's milk-vetch	VASC	Fabaceae			BLMS	1B.1		G4G5T2T3	S1		No	13-Sep-12				K												
Astragalus jaegerianus	Lane Mtn. milk-vetch	VASC	Fabaceae	FE			1B.1		G1	S1		No	13-Sep-12					K											
Astragalus johannis-howellii	Long Valley milkvetch	VASC	Fabaceae		SR	BLMS	1B.2		G2	S2		No	31-Mar-15						K										
Astragalus lemmonii	Lemmon's milk-vetch	VASC	Fabaceae			BLMS	1B.2	W	G2	S2		No	13-Sep-12						S										
Astragalus lentiformis	lens-pod milk-vetch	VASC	Fabaceae			BLMS	1B.2		G2	S2		No							K										
Astragalus lentiginosus var. coachellae	Coachella Valley milk-vetch	VASC	Fabaceae	FE			1B.2		G5T1	S1		No	31-Mar-15												K				
Astragalus lentiginosus var. piscinensis	Fish Slough milk-vetch	VASC	Fabaceae	FT			1B.1		G5T1	S1		Yes	13-Sep-12						K										
Astragalus magdalenae var. peirsonii	Peirson's milk-vetch	VASC	Fabaceae	FT	SE		1B.2		G3G4T2	S2		No	13-Sep-12							K									
Astragalus mojavensis var. hemigyrus	curved-pod milkvetch	VASC	Fabaceae			BLMS	1B.1		G3G4T2T3	S1		No	15-Nov-10	Formerly on List 1A. Rediscovered on Darwin Mesa by Dana York in 2001 and verified in 2009.														K		
Astragalus monoensis	Mono milk-vetch	VASC	Fabaceae		SR	BLMS	1B.2		G2	S2		No	31-Mar-15	Was *A. monoensis* var. *monoensis* until the former *A. m.* var. *ravenii* was elevated to its own species (*A. ravenii Barneby).*					K											

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Astragalus nyensis	Nye milk-vetch	VASC	Fabaceae			BLMS	1B.1		G3	S1		No	18-Sep-12	CNDDB mapped 19 specific occurrences of this species found during surveys for a private solar development project in 2011. Specific occurrence number 2 is mapped on BLM lands (occurrence rating poor, only 1 plant found). Although the records in RareFind for occurrences 9 and 13 state that those occurrences occupy both private and BLM lands, both occurrences are mapped only on private lands.				K												
Astragalus oocarpus	San Diego rattleweed	VASC	Fabaceae			BLMS	1B.2		G3	S3		No	31-Mar-15												K				
Astragalus oophorus var. lavinii	Lavin's milk-vetch	VASC	Fabaceae			BLMS	1B.2		G4T2	S1		No	15-Nov-10	Bodie Hills.					K										
Astragalus pachypus var. jaegeri	Jaeger's bush milk-vetch	VASC	Fabaceae			BLMS	1B.1		G4T1	S1		No	30-Jul-13	CNDDB Occurrence 43, in Riverside County, is nonspecific, mapped in a 1 mile radius circle that includes BLM, State, and private lands; it is based on old (1880 and 1881) collections. Nonspecific Occurrence 6, also in Riverside County, has some BLM lands mapped inside a 1 mile radius circle, but most lands in the circle are private.											S				
Astragalus pseudiodanthus	Tonopah milk-vetch	VASC	Fabaceae			BLMS	1B.2		G3Q	S2		No	31-Mar-15						K										
Astragalus pulsiferae var. pulsiferae	Pulsifer's milk-vetch	VASC	Fabaceae			BLMS	1B.2	W	G4T2	S2 in CA; S1 in NV		No								K									

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Balsamorhiza macrolepis	big-scale balsamroot	VASC	Asteraceae			BLMS	1B.2		G2	S2		No	13-Sep-12	Formerly *B. macrolepis* Sharp var. *macrolepis*. Jepson Manual 2nd edition submerges *B. m.* var. *platylepis* (Sharp) Ferris, which was the only variety, into *B. hookeri* Nutt. Documented in the Ukiah Field Office within the proposed right-of-way of the AltaGas/Greenwing Energy proposed Walker Ridge wind farm (Vollmar Consulting, 2010 Sensitive Botanical Resources Survey Report, Walker Ridge Project Site, Lake and Colusa Counties, California, October 2010).									K			K			K
Balsamorhiza sericea	silky balsamroot	VASC	Asteraceae			BLMS	1B.3		G4Q	S3		No	28-Apr-15													S			
Berberis harrisoniana	Kofa Mountain barberry	VASC	Berberidaceae			BLMS	1B.2		G1G2	S1		No	28-Apr-15	In Whipple Wash										K						
Berberis nevinii	Nevin's barberry	VASC	Berberidaceae	FE	SE		1B.1		G1	S1		No	13-Sep-12	Formerly *Mahonia nevinii* (Gray) Fedde											K					
Bloomeria clevelandii	San Diego goldenstar	VASC	Themidaceae			BLMS	1B.1		G2	S2		No	06-Aug-13	Formerly *Muilla clevelandii* (S. Watson) Hoover. See discussion at: http://www.efloras.org/florataxon.aspx?flora_id=1&taxon_id=121293. CNDDB specific Occurrence 19 is on both BLM and private lands. Occurrence 41 appears to be partially on BLM lands as well. Status changed from "S" to "K" on 8/6/2013.											K				
Boechera bodiensis	Bodie Hills rock cress	VASC	Brassicaceae			BLMS	1B.3		G2	S2		No	15-Nov-10	Formerly *Arabis bodiensis* Roll.					K											
Boechera lincolnensis	Lincoln rock cress	VASC	Brassicaeae			BLMS	2B.3		G4?	S2		No	28-Apr-15	Formerly *Arabis pulchra* S. Watson var. *munciensis* M.E. Jones. On Darwin Mesa. Formerly known as Darwin rock cress.														K		
Boechera serpenticola	Serpentine Rockcress	VASC	Brassicaceae			BLMS	1B.2		G1	S1		No	13-Sep-12	CNDDB maps nonspecific areas immediately adjacent to BLM lands near summit of Bully Choop Mountain. North-facing slopes on serpentine talus.													S			

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Calochortus dunnii	Dunn's mariposa	VASC	Liliaceae		SR	BLMS	1B.2		G2?	S2?		No	28-Apr-15												K				
Calochortus excavatus	Inyo mariposa	VASC	Liliaceae			BLMS	1B.1		G2	S2		No	13-Sep-12						K										
Calochortus fimbriatus	late-flowered mariposa lily	VASC	Liliaceae			BLMS	1B.3		G3	S3		No	28-Apr-15	CNDDB Occurrence 41 on the Los Padres National Forest is within 800m of BLM lands in Ventura County. Added to the CNPS/CDFG lists as RPR 1B.3 on 10-26-2012.			S													
Calochortus greenei	Greene's mariposa	VASC	Liliaceae			BLMS	1B.2		G3	S3		No	13-Sep-12													K				
Calochortus longebarbatus var. longebarbatus	long-haired star-tulip	VASC	Liliaceae			BLMS	1B.2		G4T3	S3		No			S											S				
Calochortus monanthus	Shasta River mariposa	VASC	Liliaceae			BLMS	1A		GH	SH		No														S				
Calochortus obispoensis	San Luis mariposa lily	VASC	Liliaceae			BLMS	1B.2		G2	S2		No	28-Apr-15				S													
Calochortus palmeri var. palmeri	Palmer's mariposa lily	VASC	Liliaceae			BLMS	1B.2		G3T3?	s3?		No	28-Apr-15	CNDDB occurrence number 66 is located on Ridgecrest Field Office parcels. CNDDB occurrence 18 and 20 are located on scattered Bakersfield Field Office parcels.			K											K			
Calochortus persistens	Siskiyou mariposa lily	VASC	Liliaceae	FC	SR	BLMS	1B.2		G1	S1		No	28-Apr-15													S				
Calochortus raichei	The Cedars fairy-lantern	VASC	Liliaceae			BLMS	1B.2		G2	S2		No	23-Oct-12	CNDDB occurences 4 and 8 are definitely on BLM land at The Cedars; occurrence 7 is mapped as occurring partly on BLM land but RareFind account says it occurs on private land.																	K
Calochortus simulans	San Luis Obispo mariposa lily	VASC	Liliaceae			BLMS	1B.3		G2	S2		No	28-Apr-15				S													
Calochortus striatus	alkali mariposa lily	VASC	Liliaceae			BLMS	1B.2		G3	S3		No	28-Apr-15				K	S									K			
Calochortus westonii	Shirley Meadows star-tulip	VASC	Liliaceae			BLMS	1B.2		G2	S2		No	28-Apr-15				K													
Calycadenia hooveri	Hoover's calycadenia	VASC	Asteraceae			BLMS	1B.3		G3	S3		No	28-Apr-15				S													
Calycadenia micrantha	small-flowered calycadenia	VASC	Asteraceae			BLMS	1B.2		G2	S2		No	28-Apr-15																	S

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Cryptantha mariposae	Mariposa cryptantha	VASC	Boraginaceae			BLMS	1B.3		G3	S3		No	28-Apr-15	Two collections by Vern Yadon, one in Clear Creek at 3307 ft elevation and the other at Santa Rita Peak, just below east side. CNDDB doesn't yet show these occurrences (as of 6/27/2013) but this is because they didn't know about them at last update (pers. comm. Nick Jensen, May 2009). This is a significant range extension. The Yadon collections were still not mapped in CDDB as of 4/28/2015.								K	K						
Cryptantha roosiorum	bristlecone cryptantha	VASC	Boraginaceae		SR	BLMS	1B.2		G2	S2		No	18-Apr-13						S								K		
Cryptantha schoolcraftii	Schoolcraft's cryptantha	VASC	Boraginaceae			BLMS	2B.2	W	G3	S1 (CA); S3 (NV)		No	28-Apr-15	Common name "ash cryptantha" used in Jepson Manual 2nd edition. Nevada Heritage Program uses "Schoolcraft catseye."															K	
Cusickiella quadricostata	Bodie Hills cusickiella	VASC	Brassicaceae			BLMS	1B.2		G3	S2		No	28-Apr-15						K										
Cylindropuntia fosbergii	pink teddy-bear cholla	VASC	Cactaceae			BLMS	1B.3		G2	S2		No	18-Sep-12	Treated as a hybrid, *C. xfosbergii* in the Jepson Manual, Second Edition, but based on a recent paper by Mayer et al. (*Madrono* 58: 106-112), CDFG and CNPS have elevated to specific level and assigned a California Rare Plant Rank of 1.3 (on 5-7-2012). Several occurrencs on BLM lands in the Monument Peak Quadrangle.							K									
Cylindropuntia munzii	Munz cholla	VASC	Cactaceae			BLMS	1B.3		G3	S1		No	18-Apr-13	Formerly *Opuntia munzii* C.B. Wolf.							K				K				
Cymopterus deserticola	desert cymopterus	VASC	Apiaceae			BLMS	1B.2		G2	S2		No	13-Sep-12	East of Cuddeback Lake and north of Edwards AFB.				K									K		
Cymopterus ripleyi var. saniculoides	Ripley's cymopterus	VASC	Apiaceae			BLMS	1B.2		G3G4T3Q	S1		No	18-Apr-13	NE Haiwee Reservoir.													K		
Cypripedium fasciculatum	clustered lady's slipper	VASC	Orchidaceae			BLMS	4.2		G4	S4		No	28-Apr-15													K			
Cypripedium montanum	mountain lady's slipper	VASC	Orchidaceae			BLMS	4.2		G4	S4		No	28-Apr-15													K			

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Dalea ornata	ornate dalea	VASC	Fabaceae			BLMS	2B.1		G4G5	S2		No	28-Apr-15	Only six closely associated occurrences are known of this plant in CA, and they are disjunct from the others in western NV. Known from the Snake and Columbia valleys in E. WA, OR, and SW ID. Occurrences in CA are grazed and subject to invasion form medusahead and cheatgrass.						K										
Dedeckera eurekensis	July gold	VASC	Polygonaceae		SR	BLMS	1B.3		G3	S3		No	28-Apr-15						K							K		
Deinandra arida	Red Rock tarplant	VASC	Asteraceae			BLMS	1B.2		G1	S1		No	18-Apr-13	Formerly *Hemizonia arida* Keck. Known to occur in Red Rock State Park.													S		
Deinandra conjugens	Otay tarplant	VASC	Asteraceae	FT	SE		1B.1		G1	S1		Yes	13-Sep-12	Formerly *Hemizonia conjugens* Keck. Review of CNDDB does not show any occurences on BLM land, though some are close.											S				
Deinandra floribunda	Tecate tarplant	VASC	Asteraceae			BLMS	1B.2		G2	S2		No	28-Apr-15	Formerly *Hemizonia floribunda* A. Gray.											K				
Deinandra halliana	Hall's tarplant	VASC	Asteraceae			BLMS	1B.1		G2	S2		No	13-Sep-12	Formerly *Hemizonia halliana* Keck.			S					K							
Deinandra increscens subsp. villosa	Gaviota tarplant	VASC	Asteraceae	FE	SE		1B.1		G4G5T2	S2		No	13-Sep-12	Formerly *Hemizonia increscens* Keck subsp. *villosa* Tanowitz. Proposed Critical Habitat, mineral estate.			S												
Deinandra minthornii	Santa Suzana tarplant	VASC	Asteraceae		SR	BLMS	1B.2		G2	S2		No	28-Apr-15	Formerly *Hemizonia minthornii* Jeps.											S				

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Erigeron aequifolius	Hall's daisy	VASC	Asteraceae			BLMS	1B.3		G3	S3		No	28-Apr-15	S. Sierra.													K		
Erigeron blochmaniae	Blochman's leafy daisy	VASC	Asteraceae			BLMS	1B.2		G2	S2		No	28-Apr-15				K												
Erigeron calvus	bald daisy	VASC	Asteraceae			BLMS	1B.1		G1Q	S1		No	18-Apr-13	This occurrence is based on a single collection by Olmstead in 1891. It is mapped as a best guess "just north of Swansea," and has a 1-mile radius circle to indicate a nonspecific occurrence. Most of the lands within that circle are BLM lands, so we should at least have the species on our list as suspected to occur. Although the Rarefind report states that there are taxonomic questions (and the Global Natureserve rank of G1Q also indicates this), the species is included in both Jepson Manual 2 and the Flora of North America.					S										
Erigeron multiceps	Kern River daisy	VASC	Asteraceae			BLMS	1B.2		G2	S2		No	28-Apr-15				S												
Erigeron parishii	Parish's daisy	VASC	Asteraceae	FT			1B.1		G2	S2		No	06-Aug-13	A draft Recovery Plan was issued in 1997 but as of 8/6/2013 was not final. Some of the recovery actions in the draft plan have been started and partially implemented. Until 8/6/2013 this was considered "K" in the Palm Springs Field Office, but a review of CNDDB records shows that although there are many occurrences within the boundaries of the Palm Springs Field Office, none of these are near BLM lands.				K										
Erigeron serpentinus	serpentine daisy	VASC	Asteraceae			BLMS	1B.3		G2	S2		No	23-Oct-12	CNDDB Occurrence 3 is on BLM land at The Cedars.																K
Erigeron supplex	supple daisy	VASC	Asteraceae			BLMS	1B.2		G2	S2		No	17-Mar-15	Old records from the Garcia River just east of the Stornetta Unit, according to Jim Weigand (2/3/2015).																S

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Erigeron uncialis var. uncialis	limestone daisy	VASC	Asteraceae			BLMS	1B.2		G3G4T2	S2		No	31-Mar-15	On private land within the new boundary of the Cerro Gordo/Conglomerate Mesa ACEC													S		
Eriodictyon altissimum	Indian Knob mountainbalm	VASC	Boraginaceae	FE	SE		1B.1		G1	S1		Yes	13-Sep-12				S												
Eriogonum alexanderae	Alexander's buckwheat	VASC	Polygonaceae			BLMS	1B.1		G2G3	S1		No	07-Jul-12	Name changed from *Eriogonum ochrocephalum* var. *alexanderae* to *Eriogonum alexanderae* and rare plant rank changed from Rank 2.2 to 1B.1 on 11/29/2011. Located in Mono County on Bodie Mountain. Likely on BLM lands there.					S										
Eriogonum apricum var. apricum	Ione buckwheat	VASC	Polygonaceae	FE	SE		1B.1		G1T1	S1		No	13-Sep-12										K						
Eriogonum bifurcatum	forked buckwheat	VASC	Polygonaceae			BLMS	1B.2		G3	S3		No	18-Apr-13					K											
Eriogonum cedrorum	The Cedars buckwheat	VASC	Polygonaceae			BLMS	1B.3		G1	S1		No	23-Oct-12	Specific CNDDB Occurrence 1 is mapped on BLM land at The Cedars.															K
Eriogonum contiguum	Reveal's buckwheat	VASC	Polygonaceae			BLMS	2B.3		G2	S2		No	28-Apr-15	CNDDB Occurrences 14, 15, and 18 are on BLM lands.													K		
Eriogonum crosbyae	Crosby's buckwheat	VASC	Polygonaceae			BLMS		W	G3	S3		No		S3 in NV. This plant is threatened by gold mining activity on the Nevada portion of the Surprise Field Office. 82% of this plants' total numbers are within the mining claim area. A few populations also occur in Oregon.														K	
Eriogonum eremicola	Wildrose Canyon buckwheat	VASC	Polygonaceae			BLMS	1B.3		G1	S1		No	13-Sep-12						S								K		
Eriogonum hoffmannii var. hoffmannii	Hoffmann's buckwheat	VASC	Polygonaceae			BLMS	1B.3		G3T2	S2		No	28-Apr-15	Panamint Mts.; Found in Surprise Canyon on BLM lands--see 2005 ADEIS.													K		
Eriogonum kelloggii	Red Mountain buckwheat	VASC	Polygonaceae		SE	BLMS	1B.2		G2	S2		No	28-Apr-15	Formerly a Federal candidate for listing. Removed from candidate list, Federal Register 29: 56029, September 18, 2014.		K													
Eriogonum kennedyi var. pinicola	Kern buckwheat	VASC	Polygonaceae			BLMS	1B.1		G4T1	S1		No	18-Apr-13				S										K		

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Eriogonum mensicola	Pinyon Mesa buckwheat	VASC	Polygonaceae			BLMS	1B.3		G2G3	S2		No	31-Mar-15	CNDDB occurrences 6 and 8 on BLM, perhaps within the boundary of the new Cerro Gordo/Conglomerate Mesa ACEC (the occurrences straddle the boundary). Other occurrences on Death Valley NP, China Lake NWS.													K		
Eriogonum microthecum var. panamintense	Panamint Mountains buckwheat	VASC	Polygonaceae			BLMS	1B.3		G5T3	S3		No	28-Apr-15	CNDDB occurrence number 7 is within the boundary of the new Cerro Gordo/Conglomerate Mesa ACEC. Other occurrences on BLM lands in the Ridgecrest and Bishop Field Offices.					K								K		
Eriogonum microthecum var. schoolcraftii	Schoolcraft's wild buckwheat	VASC	Polygonaceae			BLMS	1B.2	W	G5T3 in CA; G5T2 in NV	S3 (CA); S1 (NV)		No	28-Apr-15	Taxon described by: Reveal, J. L. 2004. New entities in *Eriogonum* (Polygonaceae: Eriogonoideae). Phytologia 86(3):121-159.						K								S	
Eriogonum nervulosum	Snow Mtn. buckwheat	VASC	Polygonaceae			BLMS	1B.2		G2	S2		No	13-Sep-12																K
Eriogonum nudum var. murinum	mouse buckwheat	VASC	Polygonaceae			BLMS	1B.2		G5T2	S2		No	28-Apr-15				K					K							
Eriogonum ovalifolium var. vineum	Cushenberry buckwheat	VASC	Polygonaceae	FE			1B.1		G5T1	S1		No	06-Aug-13	A draft Recovery Plan was issued in 1997 but as of 8/6/2013 was not final. Some of the recovery actions in the draft plan have been started and partially implemented.				K											
Eriogonum prociduum	prostrate buckwheat	VASC	Polygonaceae			BLMS	1B.2	W	G3	S3 (CA); S1 (NV)		No	28-Apr-15	Found in the Ash Valley RNA/ACEC.	K													K	
Eriogonum temblorense	Temblor buckwheat	VASC	Polygonaceae			BLMS	1B.2		G2	S2.2		No		Known only from eastern Monterey Co., eastern San Luis Obispo Co., and western Kern Co. Within the Bakersfield Field Office it occurs on shaly/barren soils in the Temblor Range and Elkhorn Plain. This habitat type appears to by very scattered and limited.			K												
Eriogonum thornei	Thorne's buckwheat	VASC	Polygonaceae		SE	BLMS	1B.2		G1	S1		No	13-Sep-12	Formerly *E. ericifolium* var. *thornei*, now elevated to species.											K				

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Helianthus niveus subsp. tephrodes	Algodones Dunes sunflower	VASC	Asteraceae		SE	BLMS	1B.2		G4T2T3	S2		No	28-Apr-15								K								
Helianthus winteri	Winter's sunflower	VASC	Asteraceae			BLMS	1B.2		G1G2	S1S2		No	20-Jan-15	First described by Stebbins, J.C., C.J. Winchell, and J.V.H. Constable. 2013. Helianthus winteri (Asteraceae), a new perennial species from the southern Sierra Nevada foothills, California. Aliso 31: 19-24. Added to CDFW/CNPS list on 10/15/2014. Occurrence Number 2 (80m accuracy) is within 200m of isolated BLM 40-acre parcel centered at approximately -119.253672 36.592978 Decimal Degrees (NAD 83, UTM Zone 11N)			K												
Hesperevax sparsiflora subsp. brevifolia	short-leaved evax	VASC	Asteraceae			BLMS	1B.2		G4T2T3	S2S3		No	17-Mar-15	On BLM at Mattole Beach (in great numbers acc. Jennifer Wheeler) and at Samoa.		K														K
Hesperidanthus jaegeri	Jaeger's hesperidanthus	VASC	Brassicaceae			BLMS	1B.2		G2	S2		No	31-Mar-15	Formerly *Caulostramina jaegeri* . CNDDB Occurrence number 4 is definitely on BLM lands within the boundary of the new Cerro Gordo/Congolmerate Mesa ACEC. Occurrence number 2 is likely on BLM lands with the ACEC. Occurrence number 6, Keynot Peak near head of Keynot Canyon is on BLM lands but not clear whether in the Bishop or Ridgecrest Field Office (occurrence as mapped straddles the border between the two field offices).					S							K		
Hesperidanthus jaegeri	Jaeger's hesperidanthus	VASC	Brassicaceae			BLMS	1B.2		G2	S2		No	03-Jun-13	Formerly *Caulostramina jaegeri* (Roll.) Roll.					S								K		

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Horkelia tenuiloba	thin-lobed horkelia	VASC	Rosaceae			BLMS	1B.2		G2	S2		No	28-Apr-15	Suspected to occur on BLM lands on and near Willis Ridge, acc. Jennifer Wheeler.		S														
Hosackia crassifolia var. otayensis	Otay Mountain lotus	VASC	Fabaceae			BLMS	1B.1		G5T1	S1		No	06-Aug-13	CNDDB occurrences 1, 2, and 3 are all on BLM lands on Otay Mountain.											K				
Hulsea californica	San Diego sunflower	VASC	Asteraceae			BLMS	1B.3		G2	S2		No	28-Apr-15	CNDDB occurrences 2 and 24 are located on BLM lands in the El Centro Field Office portion of San Diego County. Occurrences 10, 14, 22, 23, 26 are non-specific CNDDB occurrences that are located next to BLM lands in the El Centro Field Office part of San Diego County. Nonspecific Occurrence 29 in the Palm Springs Field Office portion of San Diego County has some BLM lands within the mapped 1-mile radius circle.							K				S				
Hydropus marginellus	'little brown mushroom'	FUNG	Tricholomataceae			BLMS			G3	S1S2		No	16-Nov-10			K													
Iris hartwegii subsp. columbiana	Tuolumne iris	VASC	Iridaceae			BLMS	1B.2		G4T1	S2		No	28-Apr-15										K						
Iris munzii	Munz's iris	VASC	Iridaceae			BLMS	1B.3		G2	S2		No	28-Apr-15				S												
Ivesia aperta var. aperta	Sierra Valley ivesia	VASC	Rosaceae			BLMS	1B.2	T	G2T2	S2 (CA); S1 (NV)		No	28-Apr-15						K									
Ivesia jaegeri	Jaeger's ivesia	VASC	Rosaceae			BLMS	1B.3		G2G3	S1		No	03-Jun-13											K					
Ivesia kingii var. kingii	alkali ivesia	VASC	Rosaceae			BLMS	2B.2		G4T3Q	S2		No	19-Aug-09	Moved from CNPS 1B.2 to 2.2 on 11/23/08 because more common in NV.					K										
Ivesia longibracteata	Castle Crags ivesia	VASC	Rosaceae			BLMS	1B.3		G1	S1		No	03-Jun-13												S				
Ivesia paniculata	Ash Creek ivesia	VASC	Rosaceae			BLMS	1B.2		G2	S2		No	03-Jun-13	Found in the Ash Valley RNA/ACEC.	K														
Ivesia patellifera	Kingston Mtns. ivesia	VASC	Rosaceae			BLMS	1B.3		G1	S2		No	03-Jun-13					K						K					
Ivesia pickeringii	Pickering's ivesia	VASC	Rosaceae			BLMS	1B.2		G2	S2.2		No													S				

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Loeflingia squarrosa var. artemisiarum	Sagebrush loeflingia	VASC	Caryophyllaceae			BLMS	2B.2		G5T2T3	S2		No	28-Apr-15	Known to CA from only Lassen County (6 occ), Inyo County (5 occ), and two occurrences from Kern and Los Angeles counties. Three occurrences are on BLM lands within the Eagle Lake Field Office, 3 on private, and disjunct. Threatened by livestock trampling.					K	K									S	
Lomatium congdonii	Congdon's lomatium	VASC	Apiaceae			BLMS	1B.2		G2	S2		No	28-Apr-15	On BLM lands in the Red Hills, Tuolumne County.									K							
Lomatium roseanum	adobe lomatium	VASC	Apiaceae			BLMS	1B.2	W	G2G3	S2 (CA); S2 (NV)		No	03-Jun-13	Mike Dolan found ca. 500 plants on Likely Tablelands, in low sage infested with medusahead. Lat: 41.271339 degrees N, Long: -120.493347 degrees W; above and to south of Romero Creek, 4,640', clay loam soil.	K														S	
Lomatium shevockii	Owens Peak lomatium	VASC	Apiaceae			BLMS	1B.3		G2	S2		No	03-Jun-13				K										K		
Lupinus citrinus var. citrinus	orange lupine	VASC	Fabaceae			BLMS	1B.2		G2T2	S2		No	28-Apr-15				S												
Lupinus citrinus var. deflexus	Mariposa lupine	VASC	Fabaceae		ST	BLMS	1B.2		G2T1	S1		No	13-Sep-12	Previously shown as S in the Hollister Field Office, a holdover from the time that Hollister managed BLM lands in Mariposa County. Removed as S from Hollister and put as S in the Mother Lode Field Office. There are occurrences within 550 m from isolated BLM lands in T6S,R 19E, S6, MDM.									S						
Lupinus duranii	Mono Lake lupine	VASC	Fabaceae			BLMS	1B.2		G2	S2		No	28-Apr-15						K										
Lupinus excubitus var. medius	Mountain Springs bush lupine	VASC	Fabaceae			BLMS	1B.3		G4T2T3	S2		No								K					K				
Lupinus ludovicianus	San Luis Obispo County lupine	VASC	Fabaceae			BLMS	1B.2		G1	S1		No	28-Apr-15				S												

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Lupinus magnificus var. hesperius	McGee Meadows lupine	VASC	Fabaceae			BLMS	1B.3		G3T2Q	S2		No	28-Apr-15	Jepson Manual 2nd edition, equivocal about whether to recognize this variety, states: "If recognized taxonomically, straight-keeled pls from SNE assignable to *Lupinus magnificus* var. *hesperius* (A. Heller) C.P. Sm., McGee Meadows lupine." After review, CNPS and CNDDB kept as 1B.3 by decision dated Feb. 8, 2012. Occurs on Mt. Tom.					K											
Lupinus magnificus var. magnificus	Panamint Mtns. lupine	VASC	Fabaceae			BLMS	1B.2		G3T2Q	S2		No	03-Jun-13						S								K		
Lupinus sericatus	Cobb Mountain lupine	VASC	Fabaceae			BLMS	1B.2		G2	S2		No	28-Apr-15	Walker Ridge/Bear Creek, Sulphur Creek sub-watershed (Source: Jim Weigand).																K
Lupinus spectabilis	shaggyhair lupine	VASC	Fabaceae			BLMS	1B.2		G2	S2		No	28-Apr-15										K							
Lupinus uncialis	lilliput lupine	VASC	Fabaceae			BLMS	2B.2		G4	S2		No	28-Apr-15	Five occurrences known in Alturas Field Office. Twenty total occurences in CA, most on private lands, and some converted to homesites. Disjunct in CA. CA occurrences important for maintaining genetic viability of the species. Threats include grazing.	K															
Madia radiata	showy golden madia	VASC	Asteraceae			BLMS	1B.1		G2	S2		No					S					K							
Malacothamnus aboriginum	Indian Valley bush mallow	VASC	Malvaceae			BLMS	1B.2		G2	S2		No	13-Sep-12									K							
Malacothamnus hallii	Hall's bush-mallow	VASC	Malvaceae			BLMS	1B.2		G2Q	S2		No	18-Sep-12	CNDDB Occurrence 38, population found on BLM lands on 6/2011.																K
Malacothamnus palmeri var. involucratus	Carmel Valley bush-mallow	VASC	Malvaceae			BLMS	1B.2		G3T3Q	S3		No	28-Apr-15									K							
Malacothamnus palmeri var. lucianus	Arroyo Seco bush-mallow	VASC	Malvaceae			BLMS	1B.2		G3T1Q	S1		No	28-Apr-15									K							
Malacothrix saxatilis var. arachnoidea	Carmel Valley malacothrix	VASC	Asteraceae			BLMS	1B.2		G5T2	S2		No	28-Apr-15									S							

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Menodora spinescens var. mohavensis	Mojave menodora	VASC	Oleaceae			BLMS	1B.2		G4T2T3	S2S3		No	18-Sep-12	CNDDB mapped occurrences on BLM lands. One, Occurrence 10, on BLM lands slated for renewable energy.				K											
Mentzelia inyoensis	Inyo blazing star	VASC	Loasaceae			BLMS	1B.3	W	G3	S3		No	28-Apr-15	According to Anne Halford we have occurrences in Fish Slough and Travertine Hot Springs, and there's a very large population on the Inyo National Forest near Black Point (Mono Lake).					K										
Mentzelia polita	polished blazing star	VASC	Loasaceae			BLMS	1B.2		G2	S2		No	03-Jun-13	CNDDB maps one nonspecific occurrence on BLM land just north of the Eastern Mojave National Preserve on the Clark Mountain quad. CNPS Rare Plant Treasure Hunt found a new occurrence (CNDDB Occurrence No. 3) on the Ivanpah Lake quad.										K					
Mentzelia tridentata	creamy blazing star	VASC	Loasaceae			BLMS	1B.3		G3	S3		No	28-Apr-15	E. of Cuddeback Lake.													S		
Microseris paludosa	marsh microseris	VASC	Asteraceae			BLMS	1B.2		G2	S2		No	17-Mar-15	Known form the Stornetta Unit, per the following collection: CAS514442, 1968.															K
Mimulus evanescens	ephemeral monkeyflower	VASC	Phrymaceae			BLMS	1B.2		G3	S2		No	28-Apr-15		K					S						S			
Mimulus filicaulis	slender-stemmed monkeyflower	VASC	Phrymaceae			BLMS	1B.2		G2	S2		No	28-Apr-15										K						
Mimulus gracilipes	slender-stalked monkerflower	VASC	Phrymaceae			BLMS	1B.2		G2G3	S2S3		No	16-Nov-10				S												
Mimulus mohavensis	Mojave monkeyflower	VASC	Phrymaceae			BLMS	1B.2		G2	S2		No	13-Sep-12					K											
Mimulus norrisii	Kaweah monkeyflower	VASC	Phrymaceae			BLMS	1B.3		G2	S2		No	28-Apr-15				K												
Mimulus pictus	Calico monkeyflower	VASC	Phrymaceae			BLMS	1B.2		G2	S2		No	28-Apr-15				K												
Mimulus pulchellus	pansy monkeyflower	VASC	Phrymaceae			BLMS	1B.2		G2G3	S2S3		No	13-Sep-12										K						
Mimulus shevockii	Kelso Creek monkeyflower	VASC	Phrymaceae			BLMS	1B.2		G2	S2		No	13-Sep-12				K										K		
Minuartia howellii	Howell's sandwort	VASC	Caryophyllaceae			BLMS	1B.3		G4	S2		No	13-Sep-12													S			
Minuartia stolonifera	Scott Mtn. sandwort	VASC	Caryophyllaceae			BLMS	1B.3		G2	S2		No	03-Jun-13													S			

SCIENTIFIC NAME	COMMON NAME	TYPE OF PLANT	FAMILY	FED STATUS	CA STATUS	BLM STATUS	CA RARE PLANT RANK	NNPS STATUS	GLOBAL RANK	STATE RANK	NV STATUS	RECOVERY PLAN?	DATE UPDATED	COMMENTS	ALTURAS	ARCATA	BAKERSFIELD	BARSTOW	BISHOP	EAGLE LAKE	EL CENTRO	HOLLISTER	MOTHER LODE	NEEDLES	PALM SPRINGS	REDDING	RIDGECREST	SURPRISE	UKIAH
Pentachaeta exilis subsp. aeolica	slender pentachaeta	VASC	Asteraceae			BLMS	1B.2		G5T1	S1		No	13-Sep-12									K							
Perityle inyoensis	Inyo rock daisy	VASC	Asteraceae			BLMS	1B.2		G2	S2		No	28-Apr-15	Occurrences 1 and 8 are entirely within the boundary of the new Cerro Gordo/Conglomerate Mesa ACEC. Occurrence 5 is partially within the ACEC, with the remainder on BLM land outside it.					S									K		
Perityle villosa	Hanaupah rock daisy	VASC	Asteraceae			BLMS	1B.3		G2	S2		No	03-Jun-13	Inyo Mts.														K		
Petalonyx thurberi subsp. gilmanii	Death Valley sandpaper-plant	VASC	Loasaceae			BLMS	1B.3		G5T2	S2		No						K										K		
Phacelia cookei	Cooke's phacelia	VASC	Boraginaceae			BLMS	1B.1		G1	S1		No	16-Nov-10													S				
Phacelia greenei	Scott Valley phacelia	VASC	Boraginaceae			BLMS	1B.2		G2	S2		No	16-Nov-10													K				
Phacelia inundata	playa phacelia	VASC	Boraginaceae			BLMS	1B.3	W	G2	S2 (CA); S2? (NV)		No	28-Apr-15		S					K								S		
Phacelia inyoensis	Inyo phacelia	VASC	Boraginaceae			BLMS	1B.2		G2	S2		No	13-Sep-12	Fish Slough and Alabama Hills.					K											
Phacelia leonis	Siskiyou phacelia	VASC	Boraginaceae			BLMS	1B.3		G3	S3		No	28-Apr-15													S				
Phacelia monoensis	Mono County phacelia	VASC	Boraginaceae			BLMS	1B.1	T	G3	S2		No	28-Apr-15						K											
Phacelia mustelina	Death Valley round-leaved phacelia	VASC	Boraginaceae			BLMS	1B.3		G2	S2		No	03-Jun-13	Saline Valley.													K			
Phacelia nashiana	Charlotte's phacelia	VASC	Boraginaceae			BLMS	1B.2		G3	S3		No	13-Sep-12				K										K			
Phacelia novenmillensis	Nine Mile Canyon phacelia	VASC	Boraginaceae			BLMS	1B.2		G3	S3		No	16-Nov-10				K										K			
Phacelia parishii	Parish's phacelia	VASC	Boraginaceae			BLMS	1B.1		G2G3	S1		No	03-Jun-13	The only known population on BLM lands in Southern California is within and immediately adjacent to a military maneuvering training area. This species was at one time considered extirpated in CA, but was rediscovered in 1989.				K												

SCIENTIFIC NAME	COMMON NAME	TYPE OF PLANT	FAMILY	FED STATUS	CA STATUS	BLM STATUS	CA RARE PLANT RANK	NNPS STATUS	GLOBAL RANK	STATE RANK	NV STATUS	RECOVERY PLAN?	DATE UPDATED	COMMENTS	ALTURAS	ARCATA	BAKERSFIELD	BARSTOW	BISHOP	EAGLE LAKE	EL CENTRO	HOLLISTER	MOTHER LODE	NEEDLES	PALM SPRINGS	REDDING	RIDGECREST	SURPRISE	UKIAH
Phacelia phacelioides	Mount Diablo phacelia	VASC	Boraginaceae			BLMS	1B.2		G1	S1		No	03-Jun-13	Known but very uncommon within ACEC of Clear Creek Management Area acc 2009 Draft CCMA RMP/EIS. Six records from CCMA in Cal Flora 2009.								K								
Phaeocollybia californica	California phaeocollybia	FUNG	Cortinariaceae			BLMS			G3	None		No	28-Apr-15			K										S			
Phaeocollybia olivacea	olive phaeocollybia	FUNG	Cortinariaceae			BLMS			G3	None		No	16-Nov-10			K										S			
Phaeocollybia piceae	'spruce phaeocollybia'	FUNG	Cortinariaceae			BLMS			G3?	None		No	16-Nov-10			K													
Phaeocollybia pseudofestiva	no common name	FUNG	Cortinariaceae			BLMS			G3	None		No	16-Nov-10			S													
Phaeocollybia scatesiae	no common name	FUNG	Cortinariaceae			BLMS			G3?	None		No	16-Nov-10			K													
Phaeocollybia spadicea	spadicea phaecollybia	FUNG	Cortinariaceae			BLMS			G3G4	None		No	16-Nov-10			K										S			
Phlox hirsuta	Yreka phlox	VASC	Polemoniaceae	FE	SE		1B.2		G1	S1		Yes													S			
Pholisma sonorae	sand food	VASC	Boraginaceae			BLMS	1B.2		G2	S2		No	13-Sep-12	Formerly included in the family Lennoaceae.							K								
Piperia candida	white-flowered rein orchid	VASC	Orchidaceae			BLMS	1B.2		G3?	S2		No	03-Jun-13	May be on public lands on Red Mt. Jennifer to check--will leave as suspected for now.		S													
Piperia yadonii	Yadon's rein orchid	VASC	Orchciaceae	FE			1B.1		G2	S2		Yes	13-Sep-12									K							
Plagiobothrys uncinatus	hooked popcorn-flower	VASC	Boraginaceae			BLMS	1B.2		G2	S2		No	03-Jun-13				S												
Pleuropogon hooverianus	Hoover's semaphore grass	VASC	Poaceae		ST	BLMS	1B.1		G2	S2		No	13-Sep-12			S													
Poa diaboli	Diablo Canyon blue grass	VASC	Poaceae			BLMS	1B.2		G2	S2		No	28-Apr-15	May be on BLM lands in Ruda Canyon, San Luis Obispo Co.			S													
Polyctenium williamsiae	Williams's combleaf	VASC	Brassicaceae			BLMS	1B.2	T	G2Q	S1 (CA); S2 (NV)	CE	No	03-Jun-13	Known in Bishop on BLM land in the Bodie area. Because the Jepson Manual 2nd Edition and the Flora of North America reduced this species to synonomy under P. fremontii, the species was recently reviewed and kept on List 1B.2 by CNPS and CNDDB by decision dated February 8, 2012.	S				K	S									

SCIENTIFIC NAME	COMMON NAME	TYPE OF PLANT	FAMILY	FED STATUS	CA STATUS	BLM STATUS	CA RARE PLANT RANK	NNPS STATUS	GLOBAL RANK	STATE RANK	NV STATUS	RECOVERY PLAN?	DATE UPDATED	COMMENTS	ALTURAS	ARCATA	BAKERSFIELD	BARSTOW	BISHOP	EAGLE LAKE	EL CENTRO	HOLLISTER	MOTHER LODE	NEEDLES	PALM SPRINGS	REDDING	RIDGECREST	SURPRISE	UKIAH
Senecio clevelandii var. heterophyllus	Red Hills ragwort	VASC	Asteraceae			BLMS	1B.2		G4?T2Q	S2?		Yes	03-Jun-13	*Senecio clevelandii* is now *Packera clevelandii*, but the combination *Packera clevelandii* var. *heterophylla* has not been validly published. This variety has been reduced to synonymy in the Jepson Manual 1st and 2nd editions. The treatment by Barkley in Jepson Manual 1 was not based on genetic work. Barkley's treatment has been continued by Trock in Jepson Manual 2 and Flora North America. CDFW, CNPS, and BLM will continue to recognize the variety until genetic work conclusively shows that vars. *clevelandii* and *heterophyllus* are actually the same taxon.									K							
Sidalcea covillei	Owens Valley checkerbloom	VASC	Malvaceae		SE	BLMS	1B.1		G2	S2		No	28-Apr-15						K										
Sidalcea hickmanii subsp. anomala	Cuesta Pass checkerbloom	VASC	Malvaceae		SR	BLMS	1B.2		G3T1	S1		No	13-Sep-12				S					S							
Sidalcea hickmanii subsp. parishii	Parish's checkerbloom	VASC	Malvaceae		SR	BLMS	1B.2		G3T1	S1		No	03-Jun-13	This species used to be a Federal candidate but was removed from the candidate list in 2006.												S				
Sidalcea keckii	Keck's checkerbloom	VASC	Malvaceae	FE			1B.1		G1	S1		No	13-Sep-12				K													
Sidalcea malviflora subsp. patula	Siskiyou checkerbloom	VASC	Malvaceae			BLMS	1B.2		G5T2	S2		No	13-Sep-12			S														
Sidalcea oregana subsp. eximia	coast checkerbloom	VASC	Malvaceae			BLMS	1B.2		G5T1	S1		No				S														
Sidalcea robusta	Butte County checkerbloom	VASC	Malvaceae			BLMS	1B.2		G2	S2		No	13-Sep-12													K				
Silene campanulata subsp. campanulata	Red Mountain catchfly	VASC	Caryophyllaceae		SE	BLMS	4.2		G5T3Q	S3		No	28-Apr-15	Known from Red Mountain, Mendocino Co., Arcata FO; suspected on public lands in Ukiah FO from an occurrence near public lands in the Gilmore Peak 24k quad, Colusa Co.			K													S

SCIENTIFIC NAME	COMMON NAME	TYPE OF PLANT	FAMILY	FED STATUS	CA STATUS	BLM STATUS	CA RARE PLANT RANK	NNPS STATUS	GLOBAL RANK	STATE RANK	NV STATUS	RECOVERY PLAN?	DATE UPDATED	COMMENTS	ALTURAS	ARCATA	BAKERSFIELD	BARSTOW	BISHOP	EAGLE LAKE	EL CENTRO	HOLLISTER	MOTHER LODE	NEEDLES	PALM SPRINGS	REDDING	RIDGECREST	SURPRISE	UKIAH
Streptanthus campestris	southern jewel-flower	VASC	Brassicaceae			BLMS	1B.3		G3	S3		No	28-Apr-15	Nonspecific CNDDB Occurrence 8, in the El Centro FO, is on lands slated for renewable energy; there are BLM lands within the mapped 1 mile radius circle, but there are also private lands. Occurrence 1, in the Palm Springs FO, contains BLM lands within the mapped 1 mile radius circle, but most of the lands within the circle are private.							S					S				
Streptanthus cordatus var. piutensis	Piute Mountains jewel-flower	VASC	Brassicaceae			BLMS	1B.2		G5T1	S1		No	03-Jun-13				K										K		
Streptanthus glandulosus subsp. hoffmannii	Hoffmann's jewel-flower	VASC	Brassicaceae			BLMS	1B.3		G4TH	SH		No	16-Nov-10	Elevated from *S. g.* var. *hoffmannii* Kruckeberg to subsp. *hoffmannii* in Jepson Manual 2nd edition.																S
Streptanthus morrisonii subsp. elatus	Three Peaks jewel-flower	VASC	Brassicaceae			BLMS	1B.2		G2T2	S2		No	28-Apr-15	Reduced to synonymy under *S. morrisonii* in Jepson Manual 2nd edition.																K
Streptanthus morrisonii subsp. hirtiflorus	Dorr's Cabin jewel-flower	VASC	Brassicaceae			BLMS	1B.2		G2T1	S1		No	28-Apr-15	Reduced to synonymy under *S. morrisonii* in Jepson Manual 2nd edition.																S
Streptanthus morrisonii subsp. kruckebergii	Kruckeberg's jewel-flower	VASC	Brassicaceae			BLMS	1B.2		G2T1	S1		No	03-Jun-13	Reduced to synonymy under *S. morrisonii* in Jepson Manual 2nd edition.																K
Streptanthus morrisonii subsp. morrisonii	Morrison's jewel-flower	VASC	Brassicaceae			BLMS	1B.2		G2T2	S2		No	28-Apr-15	The Jepson Manual 2nd edition does not recognize any subspecific taxa under *S. morrisonii*.																K
Streptanthus oliganthus	Masonic Mountain jewel-flower	VASC	Brassicaceae			BLMS	1B.2	W	G2G3	S2		No	28-Apr-15						K											
Streptanthus vernalis	early jewel-flower	VASC	Brassicaceae			BLMS	1B.2		G1	S1		No	24-Aug-09	Known from only one occurrence on serpentine at Three Peaks.																K
Stylocline citroleum	oil neststraw	VASC	Asteraceae			BLMS	1B.1		G2	S2		No	18-Sep-12	After reviewing CNDDB, specific occurrence 18 has BLM lands within the mapped circle.			K													
Stylocline masonii	Mason neststraw	VASC	Asteraceae			BLMS	1B.1		G1	S1		No	03-Jun-13				S													

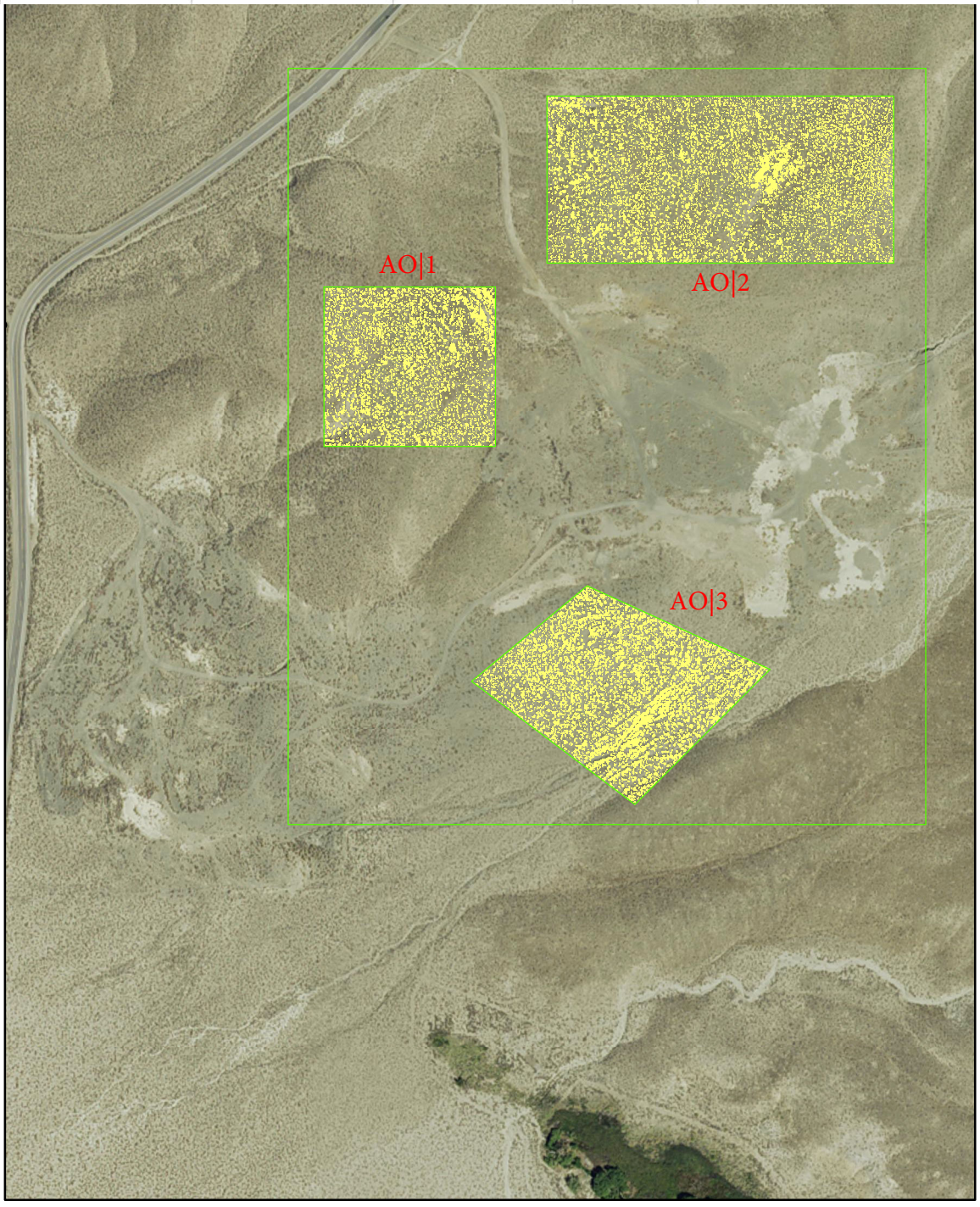
Zurich Material Site Vegetation Coverage

Attachment D

Vegetation Analysis	
sUAS System:	senseFly eBee Plus Small Unmanned Aerial System with 20 MP S.O.D.A. Camera
Date of Photography:	November 8, 2017
Flight Altitude:	354' AMT

Vegetation Cover Analysis

Site	Square Feet		Percent of Veg. Cover	Confidence (Based on Stereo Assessment
	Planimetric Area	Vegetation Cover 0.2' or higher		
Full Area	3,040,000	767,549	25.25%	75%
AOI1	172,000	40,282	23.42%	95%
AOI2	365,400	74,120	20.28%	95%
AOI3	208,050	67,405	32.40%	95%



Memorandum

Making Conservation a California Way of Life

To: MATTHEW GOIKE, P.E.
Office Chief, Engineering Branch C
Caltrans District 9

Date: 03/15/2021

EA#: 09-37320

From: BRADLEY BOWERS
Environmental Engineering Geologist
Program Manager
Caltrans District 9

Subject: **AIR/NOISE/HAZARDOUS WASTE/WATER/PALEONTOLOGY CLEARANCE MEMO – ZURICH MATERIAL SITE**

All scoping analyses, estimates, and risk assessments in this memo were performed based on information provided by the project engineer in the Environmental Study Request approved on 2/10/2020. All studies and analyses were performed in regard to all applicable CA State and Federal laws as well as Caltrans' internal policies. Any changes to the project limits, scope, description of work, or budget could affect the conclusions in this memo; any such changes must be accompanied by an updated Environmental Study Request and this memo should be revisited for accuracy.

Project Location and Description

Caltrans is proposing to establish the Zurich Material Site (MS 308) for mining shale near Big Pine, CA. The site is located in Inyo County near State Route 168, postmile 21.60; east of the town of Big Pine. The surrounding area is a mixture of land owned/controlled by the Bureau of Land Management and the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power.

The project area was previously a working material site that has ceased operation and has been reclaimed. A new highway easement deed would be needed from the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) for approximately 55.5 acres to develop and use the site. The disturbance area for material mining is expected to be approximately 13.9 acres. Within these ~14 acres, approximately 336,000 cubic yards of material are expected to be extracted from the site over its 50-year lifespan. Material from the site would be used by Caltrans District 9 maintenance forces for local highway maintenance work. Development of local sources of aggregate materials is outlined in District 9's Strategic Plan for establishing material sources within reasonable haul proximity to reduce costs and greenhouse gas emissions.

The material site would be mined in two phases. The first phase involves excavating the surface of the pit area to an average depth of 10 feet, rehabilitate the access road from highway 178, install an access gate, and create Earthen berms surrounding the material site. The second phase would extend excavation within the pit area to a maximum depth of 38 feet with gradual internal slopes to ensure internal drainage and containment of all material site run off. Approximately 4 rock check dams and two diversion channels would be created to prevent outside water from draining into the pit. The proposed site is located on an alluvial fan upslope from the Owens Valley floor, therefore groundwater is not expected to be encountered at maximum excavated depth.

Upon completion of both phases (end of extraction), all final slopes will be reclaimed in accordance with SMARA regulations. Topsoil berms will be removed and spread evenly across slopes. After the site has been reclaimed and inspected, control of the land would pass back to BLM.

This project is being funded with State monies however it is anticipated that Inyo County will be CEQA lead and Caltrans will be NEPA lead per their NEPA Assignment responsibilities. As such, the following studies are intended to satisfy both State and Federal environmental clearance responsibilities.



Figure 1 - Project map provided in Environmental Study Request

Air Resources

Analysis

The proposed material site is located within the jurisdiction of the Great Basin Regional Air Quality Control Board. The project vicinity is in compliance for all State and Federal criteria pollutants except for Federal PM10 and State ozone and PM10 (Tables 1 and 2, below). Using the EPA AirData online mapper, the proposed project limits lie outside of the nonattainment area for federal PM10 (Owens Valley) and are therefore the project area is within PM10 attainment. Attainment status for PM10 was confirmed with Caltrans Headquarters Air Quality Conformity staff via email on 11/12/2020. As requested in the Environmental Study Request, NEPA documentation was also prepared and a federal air quality conformity checklist has been submitted. As the project area is within an attainment area for all federal criteria pollutants, it is exempt from air conformity and hot spot analyses. There is no potential to encounter naturally occurring asbestos as the prerequisite ultramafic rock formations are not known to be present in or near the project area.

Inyo County

Table 1 - Federal Area Designations for Criteria Pollutants and National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) Status for Inyo County, CA. California Air Resources Board; https://ww2.arb.ca.gov/resources/documents/maps-state-and-federal-area-designations

Pollutant	**Project Area Status**
Carbon Monoxide	Unclassified/Attainment
Lead	Unclassified/Attainment
Nitrogen Dioxide	Unclassified/Attainment
Ozone (8-hour)	Unclassified/Attainment
Sulfur Dioxide	Unclassified/Attainment
PM10	**Nonattainment (Owens Valley and Mono Basin). Project area - Attainment**
PM2.5	Unclassified/Attainment

Table 2 - CA State Designations for Criteria Pollutants and Status for Inyo County, CA. CA Air Resources Board; https://ww2.arb.ca.gov/resources/documents/maps-state-and-federal-area-designations

Pollutant	**Project Area Status**
Carbon Monoxide	Attainment
Hydrogen Sulfide	Attainment
Lead	Attainment
Nitrogen Dioxide	Attainment
Ozone	**Nonattainment**
Sulfur Dioxide	Attainment
PM10	**Nonattainment**
PM2.5	Attainment
Visibility Reducing Particles	Unclassified

Potential Impacts and AMMs

The scope of work described in the Environmental Study Request and Draft MS 308 Operations Plan do not include activities which would lead to sources of air pollutants which would cause any state or federal criteria pollutant currently in attainment to be reclassified as nonattainment. Material mining activities will be sporadic, contained within a depressed pit (after Phase 1) and all standard Caltrans dust control specifications will be implemented on the project.

Noise

Analysis

The proposed project is not a Type 1 Project pursuant to 23 CFR 772 and therefore is exempt from noise abatement consideration. The project setting is rural, with no residential or commercial receptors nearby. Construction/mining activities except for check dams, road rehabilitation, gate installation and berm creation during Phase 1 will be contained within a depressed pit which should aid in containing equipment noise to the project vicinity.

Potential Impacts and AMMs

Due to the lack of nearby receptors and containment of the majority of activities within a depressed area, there is a low likelihood of equipment noise to result in impacts. No measures required other than standard Caltrans noise control measures.

Hazardous Waste

Analysis

A search of the CA Water Board GeoTracker database was performed on 11/9/2020 and revealed no previous hazardous waste generators or remediation sites in or near the proposed material site.

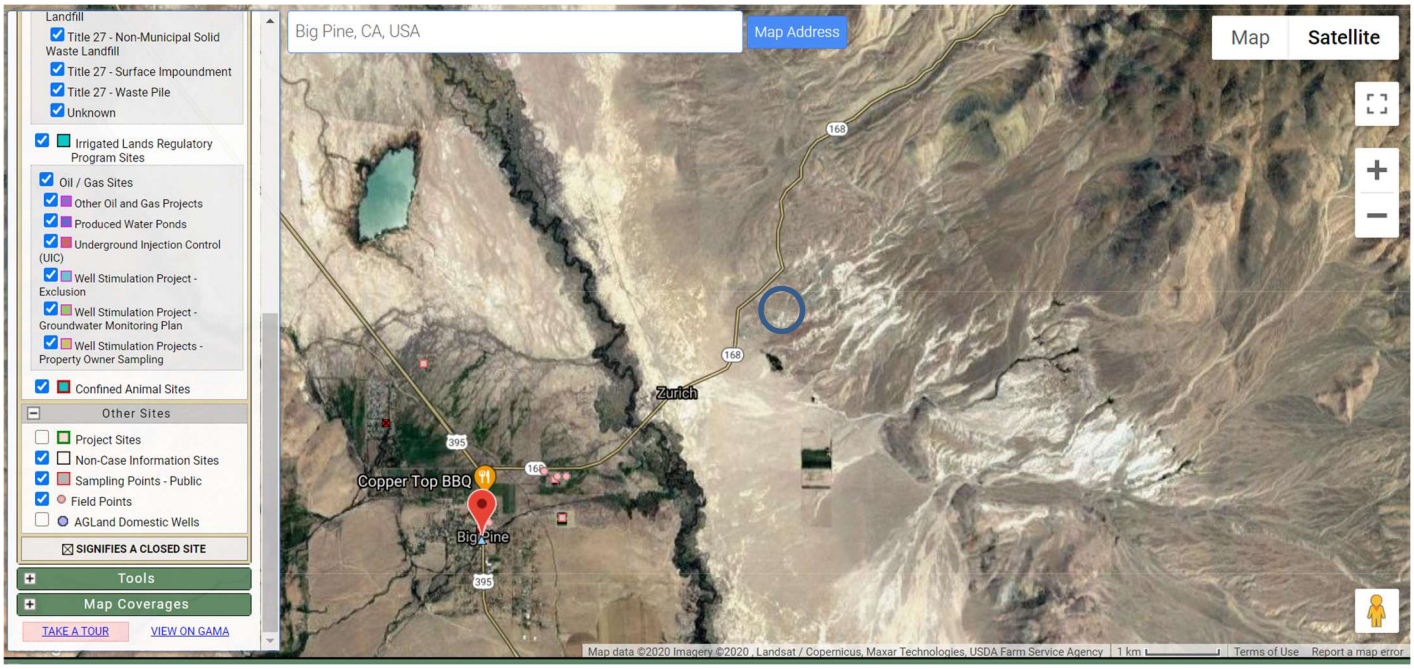


Figure 2 - Screenshot of GeoTracker search performed 11/9/2020. Approximate project location shown with blue oval.

The primary use of the site will be for Caltrans standard maintenance and operations work, including material mining, sorting and stockpiling for use in routine and emergency road maintenance activities on the State Highway System. Equipment most likely to be used in the pit include graders, loaders, dozers, and sorting grizzly structures. Only reusable imported natural materials such as dirt and rocks collected from Caltrans construction activities will be stored at the site. There was no mention of fuel storage tanks or any other hazardous material storage included in the MS 308 Operations Plan, and therefore assumed no hazardous materials will be stored at the material site at any time. Naturally occurring asbestos (NOA) is not expected to be encountered at this location as the geologic setting does not include ultra-mafic rocks which typically house NOA. As the site is located off of the State highway system, it is highly unlikely that aerially deposited lead has contaminated soil and no ADL testing is recommended at this time.

Potential Impacts and AMMs

No previously identified generators of hazardous wastes occur within the project limits. No hazardous waste materials are anticipated to be used or disposed of during operation of the material site. The project scope did not include the installation of equipment fueling facilities within the material site and thus it is not anticipated. All work after initial site development during Phase 1 will occur within the containment of the depressed central pit. This would serve to contain any errant spills or accidental distribution of materials. The project scope did not include any storage of hazardous materials within the pit. No further studies or measures other than standard stormwater BMPs are recommended at this time.

Water Resources

Analysis

All appropriate best management practices (BMPs) shall be used as outlined in the NPDES Statewide Storm Water Permit. Culvert inlets susceptible to sedimentation contamination, will be protected and standard job site management protections will be installed. No work is being done in the stream channel and does not require Clean Water Act Section 401/404 or dredge and fill permits. Due to the life span of the mine, the following measures will be taken in the event of a 50 year storm: rock armor lined spillways, retention basin, and a bench cut with a shallow channel along the side to help flow access water to the retention basin and not puddle in the mine floor.

Potential Impacts and AMMs

Stormwater BMPs will be implemented on project to prevent erosion and sediment transport.

Paleontology

Analysis

The project area lies along the western flank of the White Inyo Mountains, east of the Owens Valley on the western boundary of the Basin and Range Geomorphic Province. Geologic mapping of the area indicates the material site will extend into the Waucobi Lakebed formation, which has been studied extensively for the paleoclimatic history of the Owens Valley. The postmile segment of SR 168 is identified as low sensitivity in the Caltrans Paleo Sensitivity GIS Database. Multiple exposures of the Waucobi Lake fm are known to occur at the surface near the proposed the material site and elsewhere in the surrounding area. Multiple research papers and graduate theses have been written about this formation, often including geochemical analyses of lakebed and volcanic sediments and the study of fossilized ostracods to infer past climatic conditions during the Late Pliocene – Early Pleistocene period. According to the Caltrans tripartite system for determining fossil significance and impact risk, vertebrate fossils are considered much more significant than invertebrates, however outstanding invertebrate fossil beds or those with a high degree of scientific significance could be considered significant. The project information provided for this project indicate an impact area for mining activities of approximately 14 acres and 30 feet deep. The mining activities may encounter Waucobi Lakebed fm sediments, however the majority of known surface exposures of the formation occur south and southeast of the proposed project location (Figure 3). The material site currently has Quaternary alluvium at the surface, however the Waucobi fm could occur at depth and potentially could be encountered during mining operations.

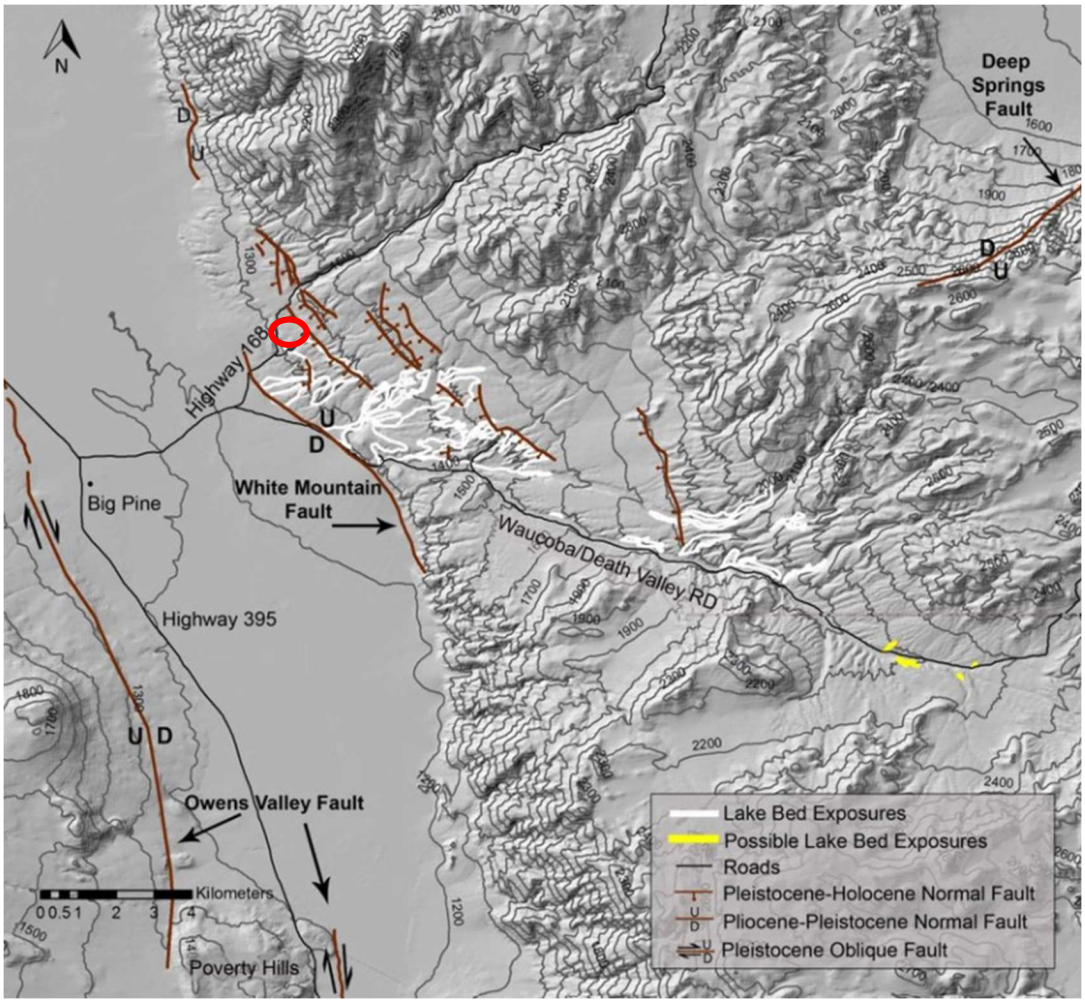


Figure 3 - Map of Waucobi Lakebed fm exposures and faults near project area. Source De Masi 2013. Approximate project area shown in red oval.

Potential Impacts and AMMs

Due to the limited area of work which could encounter the Waucobi Lakebed fm, the well-studied nature of the formation, and the small proportion of known occurrences of the formation lying within the impact area of the project, the project is determined to have a low potential for impacts on paleontological resources. The formation is known to contain ostracod and other invertebrate fossils which have been studied to analyze paleoclimatic conditions, however the immediate project area is not likely to contain fossil resources considered outstanding or especially scientifically significant due to the abundance of previous research, the availability of access locations to other portions of the same formation for future studies, and the relative abundance of invertebrate fossils found throughout the formation at multiple exposures well outside of the proposed material site. Due to the small and relatively unrecognizable nature of invertebrate fossils in this formation, standard avoidance measures such as awareness training would be largely fruitless for construction staff operating material site machinery. Standard Caltrans specifications for immediate notification of the District Paleontologist if staff encounter fossils during construction will be implemented on the project.

Questionnaire to Determine Visual Impact Assessment (VIA) Level

Use the following questions and subsequent score as a guide to help determine the appropriate level of VIA documentation. This questionnaire assists the VIA preparer (i.e. Landscape Architect) in estimating the probable visual impacts of a proposed project on the environment and in understanding the degree and breadth of the possible visual issues. The goal is to develop a suitable document strategy that is thorough, concise and defensible.

Enter the project name and consider each of the ten questions below. Select the response that most closely applies to the proposed project and corresponding number on the right side of the table. Points are automatically computed at the bottom of the table and the total score should be matched to one of the five groups of scores at the end of the questionnaire that include recommended levels of VIA study and associated annotated outlines (i.e., minor, moderate, advanced/complex).

This scoring system should be used as a preliminary guide and should not be used as a substitute for objective analysis on the part of the preparer. Although the total score may recommend a certain level of VIA document, circumstances associated with any one of the ten question-areas may indicate the need to elevate the VIA to a greater level of detail. For projects done by others on the State Highway System, the District Landscape Architect should be consulted when scoping the VIA level and provide concurrence on the level of analysis used.

The Standard Environmental Reference, Environmental Handbook, Volume I: Chapter 27-Visual & Aesthetics Review lists preparer qualifications for conducting the visual impact assessment process. Landscape Architects receive formal training in the area of visual resource management and can appropriately determine which VIA level is appropriate.

Preparer Qualifications:

> "Scenic Resource Evaluations and VIA's are performed under the direction of licensed Landscape Architects. Landscape Architects receive formal training in the area of visual resource management with a curriculum that emphasizes environmental design, human factors, and context sensitive solutions. When recommending specific visual mitigation measures, Landscape Architects can appropriately weigh the benefits of these different measures and consider construction feasibility and maintainability."

Calculate VIA Level Score

Project Information

Project Name

Zurich Materials Site

Project Identification #

09-373200/0917000072

Preparer Name

Jim Hibbert

Caltrans District Landscape Architect (DLA)

For projects on State Highway System Only, Name of Caltrans District Landscape Architect (DLA) providing VIA Questionnaire Score Concurrence - if different than above.

N/A

Change to Visual Environment

1. **Will the project result in a noticeable change in the physical characteristics of the existing environment?**

   Consider all project components and construction impacts - both permanent and temporary, including landform changes, structures, noise barriers, vegetation removal, railing, signage, and contractor activities.

   Moderate Level of Change (2 points)

2. **Will the project complement or contrast with the visual character desired by the community?**

   Evaluate the scale and extent of the project features compared to the surrounding scale of the community. Is the project likely to give an urban appearance to an existing rural or suburban community? Do you anticipate that the change will be viewed by the public as positive or negative? Research planning documents, or talk with local planners and community representatives to understand the type of visual environment local residents envision for their community.

   High Compatibility (1 point)

3. **What level of local concern is there for the types of project features (e.g., bridge structures, large excavations, sound barriers, or median planting removal) and construction impacts that are proposed?**

   Certain project improvements can be of special interest to local citizens, causing a heightened level of public concern, and requiring a more focused visual analysis.

   Negligible Project Features (0 points)

4. **Will the project require redesign or realignment to minimize adverse change or will mitigation, such as landscape or architectural treatment, likely be necessary?**

Consider the type of changes caused by the project, i.e., can undesirable views be screened or will desirable views be permanently obscured so a redesign should be considered?

No Mitigation Likely (0 points)

5. **Will this project, when seen collectively with other projects, result in an aggregate adverse change (cumulative impacts) in overall visual quality or character?**

Identify any projects (both Caltrans and local) in the area that have been constructed in recent years and those currently planned for future construction. The window of time and the extent of area applicable to possible cumulative impacts should be based on a reasonable anticipation of the viewing public's perception.

Cumulative Impacts Unlikely to Occur (1 point)

Viewer Sensitivity

1. **What is the potential that the project proposal will be controversial within the community, or opposed by any organized group?**

This can be researched initially by talking with Caltrans and local agency management and staff familiar with the affected community's sentiments as evidenced by past projects and/or current information.

No Potential (0 point)

2. **How sensitive are potential viewer-groups likely to be regarding visible changes proposed by the project?**

Consider among other factors the number of viewers within the group, probable viewer expectations, activities, viewing duration, and orientation. The expected viewer sensitivity level may be scoped by applying professional judgment, and by soliciting information from other Caltrans staff, local agencies and community representatives familiar with the affected community's sentiments and demonstrated concerns.

Low Sensitivity (1 point)

3. **To what degree does the project's aesthetic approach appear to be consistent with applicable laws, ordinances, regulations, policies or standards?**

Although the State is not always required to comply with local planning ordinances, these documents are critical in understanding the importance that communities place on aesthetic issues. The Caltrans Environmental Planning branch may have copies of the planning documents that pertain to the project. If not, this information can be obtained by contacting the local planning department. Also, many local and state planning documents can be found online at the California Land Use Planning Network.

High Compatibility (1 point)

4. **Are permits going to be required by outside regulatory agencies (i.e., Federal, State, or local)?**

Permit requirements can have an unintended consequence on the visual environment. Anticipated permits, as well as specific permit requirements - which are defined by the permitted, may be determined by talking with the project Environmental Planner and Project Engineer. Note: coordinate with the Caltrans representative responsible for obtaining the permit prior to communicating directly with any permitting agency.

Maybe (2 points)

5. **Will the project sponsor or public benefit from a more detailed visual analysis in order to help reach consensus on a course of action to address potential visual impacts?**

Consider the proposed project features, possible visual impacts, and probable mitigation recommendations.

No (1 point)

Calculate Total

It is recommended that you print a copy of these calculations for the project file.

Project Score: 9

Select An Outline Based Upon Project Score

The total score will indicate the recommended VIA level for the project. In addition to considering circumstances relating to any one of the ten questions-areas that would justify elevating the VIA level, also consider any other project factors that would have an effect on level selection.

Score 6-9

No noticeable visual changes to the environment are proposed and no further analysis is required. Print out a copy of this completed questionnaire for your project file or Preliminary Environmental Study (PES).

Score 10-14

Negligible visual changes to the environment are proposed. A brief Memorandum(see sample)addressing visual issues providing a rationale why a technical study is not required.

Score 15-19

Noticeable visual changes to the environment are proposed. An abbreviated VIA is appropriate in this case. The assessment would briefly describe project features, impacts and any avoidance and minimization measures. Visual simulations would be optional. Go to the Directions for using and accessing the Minor VIA Annotated Outline.

Score 20-24

Noticeable visual changes to the environment are proposed. A fully developed VIA is appropriate. This technical study will likely receive public review.Go to the Directions for using and accessing the Moderate VIA Annotated Outline.

Attachment D

Filed in County Clerk's Office
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Planning Department
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NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY AND INTENT

Notice is hereby given that a Draft Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declaration of Environmental Impact has been prepared pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and Inyo County CEQA Procedures, and are available for public review for the following application:

Reclamation Plan 2023-01 Zurich/Caltrans

The Bureau of Land Management has awarded Caltrans a 55-acre Highway Easement Deed. Caltrans has applied for a reclamation plan near Big Pine, as required by the Surface Mining and Reclamation Act. The proposal involves utilizing 14 acres of the previously approved 22-acre BLM-ran community pit.

The 30-day review period for this Draft Negative Declaration of Environmental Impact begins on April 11, 2025 and expires on May 12, 2025. During this period comments may be submitted regarding the Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declaration. Inyo County is not required to respond to any comments received after this date. Written comments and all questions should be addressed to the Inyo County Planning Department at P.O. Drawer "L," Independence, CA 93526, faxed to (760) 872-2712, or emailed to inyoplanning@inyocounty.us.

Copies of the Initial Study and Draft Mitigated Negative Declaration of Environmental Impact for this project are available for review at the Inyo County Planning Department (168 N. Edwards Street, Independence), County libraries, and the Inyo County Planning Department's website at www.inyoplanning.@inyocounty.us.

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DRAFT NEGATIVE DECLARATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT AND INITIAL STUDY

PROJECT TITLE: Reclamation Plan 2023-01 Zurich/Caltrans.

PROJECT LOCATION: The aggregate pit is located on BLM land approximately 3 miles northeast of Big Pine, California, in section 3, Township 9S, Range 34E, Mount Diablo Meridian, with Tax Assessor Parcel Number (APN) 018-070-10.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The Bureau of Land Management has awarded Caltrans a 55-acre Highway Easement Deed. Caltrans has applied for a reclamation plan near Big Pine, as required by the Surface Mining and Reclamation Act. The proposal involves utilizing 14 acres of the previously approved 22-acre BLM-ran community pit.

FINDINGS:

A. The proposed project is consistent with the goals and objectives of the Inyo County General Plan.
B. The proposed project is consistent with the provisions of the Inyo County Zoning Ordinance.
C. Potential adverse environmental impacts will not exceed thresholds of significance, either individually or cumulatively.
D. Based upon the environmental evaluation of the proposed project, the Planning Department finds that the project does not have the potential to create a significant adverse impact on flora or fauna; natural, scenic and historic resources; the local economy; public health, safety, and welfare. This constitutes a Negative Finding for the Mandatory Findings required by Section 15065 of the CEQA Guidelines.

The 30-day public & State agency review period for this Draft Negative Declaration will expire on May 12, 2025. Inyo County is not required to respond to any comments received after this date.

Additional information is available from the Inyo County Planning Department. Please contact Project Planner if you have any questions regarding this project.

Ryan Kay Standridge — Name

4-9-25 — Date

INYO COUNTY PLANNING DEPARTMENT

CEQA APPENDIX G: INITIAL STUDY & ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST FORM

EVALUATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS:

1) A brief explanation is required for all answers except "No Impact" answers that are adequately supported by the information sources a lead agency cites in the parentheses following each question. A "No Impact" answer is adequately supported if the referenced information sources show that the impact simply does not apply to projects like the one involved (e.g., the project falls outside a fault rupture zone). A "No Impact" answer should be explained where it is based on project-specific factors as well as general standards (e.g., the project will not expose sensitive receptors to pollutants, based on a project-specific screening analysis).

2) All answers must take account of the whole action involved, including off-site as well as on-site, cumulative as well as project-level, indirect as well as direct, and construction as well as operational impacts.

3) Once the lead agency has determined that a particular physical impact may occur, then the checklist answers must indicate whether the impact is potentially significant, less than significant with mitigation, or less than significant. "Potentially Significant Impact" is appropriate if there is substantial evidence that an effect may be significant. If there are one or more "Potentially Significant Impact" entries when the determination is made, an EIR is required.

4) "Negative Declaration: Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated" applies where the incorporation of mitigation measures has reduced an effect from "Potentially Significant Impact" to a "Less Than Significant Impact." The lead agency must describe the mitigation measures, and briefly explain how they reduce the effect to a less than significant level (mitigation measures from Section XVII, "Earlier Analyses," may be cross-referenced).

5) Earlier analyses may be used where, pursuant to the tiering, program EIR, or other CEQA process, an effect has been adequately analyzed in an earlier EIR or negative declaration. Section 15063(c)(3)(D). In this case, a brief discussion should identify the following:

a) Earlier Analysis Used. Identify and state where they are available for review.

b) Impacts Adequately Addressed. Identify which effects from the above checklist were within the scope of and adequately analyzed in an earlier document pursuant to applicable legal standards, and state whether such effects were addressed by mitigation measures based on the earlier analysis.

c) Mitigation Measures. For effects that are "Less than Significant with Mitigation Measures Incorporated," describe the mitigation measures which were incorporated or refined from the earlier document and the extent to which they address site-specific conditions for the project.

6) Lead agencies are encouraged to incorporate into the checklist references to information sources for potential impacts (e.g., general plans, zoning ordinances). Reference to a previously prepared or outside document should, where appropriate, include a reference to the page or pages where the statement is substantiated.

7) Supporting Information Sources: A source list should be attached, and other sources used or individuals contacted should be cited in the discussion.

8) This is only a suggested form, and lead agencies are free to use different formats; however, lead agencies should normally address the questions from this checklist that are relevant to a project's environmental effects in whatever format is selected.

9) The explanation of each issue should identify:
   a) the significance criteria or threshold, if any, used to evaluate each question; and
   b) the mitigation measure identified, if any, to reduce the impact to less than significance issues.

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INYO COUNTY PLANNING DEPARTMENT

APPENDIX G: CEQA INITIAL STUDY & ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST FORM

1. Project title: Reclamation Plan 2023-01/Caltrans.

2. Lead agency name and address: Inyo County Planning Department, PO Drawer L, Independence, CA 93526

3. Contact person and phone number: Ryan Standridge: (760) 878-0405

4. Project location: The aggregate pit is located on BLM land approximately 3 miles northeast of Big Pine, California, in section 3, Township 9S, Range 34E, Mount Diablo Meridian, with Tax Assessor Parcel Number (APN) 018-070-10.

5. Project sponsor's name and address: Forest Beckett, California State Department of Transportation - District 9(CALTRANS) 500 S. Main St. Bishop, Ca 93514

6. General Plan designation: Natural Resource (NR)

7. Zoning: Open Space, 40-acre minimum (OS-40)

8. Description of project: The Bureau of Land Management has awarded Caltrans a Highway Easement Deed. Caltrans has applied for a reclamation plan near Big Pine, as required by the Surface Mining and Reclamation Act. The proposal involves utilizing 14 acres of the previously approved 22-acre BLM-ran community pit.

9. Surrounding land uses and setting: The Property is surrounded by Vacant Public lands.

Location:	Use:	Gen. Plan Designation	Zoning
Site	Mine	Natural Resources (NR)State and Federal Lands (SFL)	Open Space, 40-acre minimum (OS-40)
North	Vacant Public Land	State and Federal Lands (SFL)	Open Space, 40-acre minimum (OS-40)
East	Vacant Land	Natural Resources (NR	Open Space, 40-acre minimum (OS-40)
South	Vacant Land	Natural Resources (NR	Open Space, 40-acre minimum (OS-40)
West	Vacant Land	Natural Resources (NR	Open Space, 40-acre minimum (OS-40)

10. Other public agencies whose approval is required: Inyo County Environmental Health, Department of Conservation, Bureau of Land Management.

11. Have California Native American tribes traditionally and culturally affiliated with the project area requested consultation pursuant to Public Resources Code section 21080.3.1? If so, has consultation begun? Inyo County started the 30-day Tribal Consultation opportunity period, according to Public Resource code section 21080.31, by sending out certified written notices on November 5,2024 inviting the Tribes to consult on the project. It described the project and location. The tribes that were notified are: Big Pine Tribe of Owens Valley, Bishop Paiute Tribe, Fort Independence Indian Community of Paiutes, Lone Pine Paiute-Shoshone Tribe, Timbisha Shoshone tribe, Twenty-Nine Palms Band of Mission Indians, Cabazon Band of Mission Indians, and the Torrez Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians. Since no comments have been provided and no formal consultation meeting date requested, staff is submitting this Negative Declaration for a 30-day review and comment period. The County will continue to be open to consultation with the Tribe during this period. If the Tribe does not provide comments or schedule a formal consultation meeting within this 30-day period, the County, per Public Resources Code 21082.3 (d)(2) will consider the consultation process complete and certify the Negative Declaration of Environmental Impact.

Note: Conducting consultation early in the CEQA process allows tribal governments, lead agencies, and project proponents to discuss the level of environmental review, identify and address potential adverse impacts to tribal cultural resources, and reduce the potential for delay and conflict in the environmental review process. (See Public Resources Code section 21083.3.2.) Information may also be available from the California Native American Heritage Commission's Sacred Lands File per Public Resources Code section 5097.96 and the California Historical Resources Information System administered by the California Office of Historic Preservation. Please also note that Public Resources Code section 21082.3(c) contains provisions specific to confidentiality.

ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS POTENTIALLY AFFECTED:
The environmental factors checked below would be potentially affected by this project, involving at least one impact that is a "Potentially Significant Impact" as indicated by the checklist on the following pages.

☐ Aesthetics Resources	☐ Agriculture & Forestry	☒ Air Quality
☒ Biological Resources	☐ Cultural Resources	☐ Energy
☐ Geology / Soils	☐ Greenhouse Gas Emissions	☐ Hazards & Hazardous Materials
☐ Hydrology / Water Quality	☐ Land Use / Planning	☐ Mineral Resources
☐ Noise	☐ Population / Housing	☐ Public Services
☐ Recreation	☐ Transportation	☐ Tribal Cultural Resources
☐ Utilities / Service Systems	☐ Wildfire	☐ Mandatory Findings of Significance

DETERMINATION

On the basis of this initial evaluation:

☐ I find that the proposed project COULD NOT have a significant effect on the environment, and a NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.

☒ I find that although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, there will not be a significant effect in this case because revisions in the project have been made by or agreed to by the project proponent. A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.

☐ I find that the proposed project MAY have a significant effect on the environment, and an ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required.

☐ I find that the proposed project MAY have a "potentially significant impact" or "potentially significant unless mitigated" impact on the environment, but at least one effect 1) has been adequately analyzed in an earlier document pursuant to applicable legal standards, and 2) has been addressed by mitigation measures based on the earlier analysis as described on attached sheets. An ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required, but it must analyze only the effects that remain to be addressed.

☐ I find that although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, because all potentially significant effects (a) have been analyzed adequately in an earlier EIR or NEGATIVE DECLARATION pursuant to applicable standards, and (b) have been avoided or mitigated pursuant to that earlier EIR or NEGATIVE DECLARATION, including revisions or mitigation measures that are imposed upon the proposed project, nothing further is required.

_____ _____

Name Date

Attachment D

INYO COUNTY PLANNING DEPARTMENT
ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST FORM

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
I. AESTHETICS -- Would the project:				
a) Have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista?	☐	☐	☐	☒

No, the project's mining reclamation area is located to the east on Highway 168 and is not visible from Highway 395. Although Highway 168 East is under consideration for addition to the scenic vista designation, it is not currently designated as a scenic vista. Furthermore, Caltrans will take advantage of the natural terrain to conceal the mining pit, ensuring it does not adversely affect the visual quality of the area.

b) Substantially damage scenic resources, including, but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a state scenic highway?	☐	☐	☐	☒

No, the proposed re-opening of a 14-acre aggregate pit will not substantially damage scenic resources. The area surrounding the pit lacks notable scenic elements such as trees, rock outcroppings, or historic buildings. Additionally, the site's isolation and lack of prominent visual features ensure that the re-opening will not negatively impact the overall visual quality of the landscape.

c) In non-urbanized areas, substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of public views of the site and its surroundings? (Public views are those that are experienced from publicly accessible vantage point). If the project is in an urbanized area, would the project conflict with applicable zoning and other regulations governing scenic quality?	☐	☐	☒	☐

No, the mining reclamation project area is on BLM land and is in a semi-isolated area near Uhlemeyer Spring, not visible from Highway 395. While views of the mining reclamation might be possible from a small portion of a ranch on Death Valley Road or from high points on surrounding public lands, it will not significantly affect the overall scenic integrity of the area. The views from these locations would be from a sufficient distance, minimizing any impact on the visual character or quality of public views.

d) Create a new source of substantial light or glare which would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area?	☐	☐	☐	☒

No, the proposed mining reclamation will not create a new source of substantial light or glare as site operations are conducted during daylight. The applicant has not submitted any security lighting at this time, but the reclamation plan will be conditioned that all outdoor light fixtures use low-energy, shielded light fixtures which direct light downward and fully shielded.

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 forest carbon measurement methodology Provided in Forest Protocols adopted by the California Air Resources Board. Would the project:

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?	☐	☐	☐	☒

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact

No, the reclamation project is not located on farmland.

b) Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or a Williamson Act contract? ☐ ☐ ☐ ☒

No, the proposed mining reclamation plan will not be located on land zoned for agriculture. There are no Williamson Act contracts in Inyo County.

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))? ☐ ☐ ☐ ☒

No, the reclamation project is not located on timberland. The site is not classified as forest land under Public Resources Code section 12220(g), timberland under Public Resources Code section 4526, or timberland zoned for Timberland Production under Government Code section 51104(g). Therefore, the project does not conflict with existing zoning for these land types and does not require rezoning

d) Result in the loss of forest land or conversion of forest land to non-forest use? ☐ ☐ ☐ ☒

No, the reclamation project is not located on forest land, so it will not result in the loss 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? ☐ ☐ ☐ ☒

No, the reclamation project is not located on farmland, so it will not involve any changes that could result in the conversion of farmland to non-agricultural use.

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? ☐ ☒ ☐ ☐

No, although there are portions of Inyo County within non-attainment areas for Federal and State PM10 (particulate matter 10 microns or less in diameter) ambient air quality standards, the primary source of this pollution is the Owens dry lake, located approximately 51 miles from the reclamation project site. The applicant will be subject to Great Basin Unified Air Pollution Control District regulations regarding dust mitigation during operation, and all processing equipment will be permitted with the Great Basin Unified Air Pollution Control District.

b) Violate any air quality standard or contribute substantially to an existing or projected air quality violation? ☐ ☒ ☐ ☐

No, although there are portions of Inyo County within non-attainment areas for Federal and State PM10 (particulate matter 10 microns or less in diameter) ambient air quality standards, the primary source of this pollution is the Owens dry lake, located approximately 51 miles from the reclamation project site. The applicant will be subject to Great Basin Unified Air Pollution Control District regulations regarding dust mitigation during operation, and all processing equipment will be permitted with the Great Basin Unified Air Pollution Control District.

d) Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations? ☐ ☐ ☒ ☐

No, the reclamation project is not anticipated to expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations. Due to the distance between the project site and any known sensitive receptors, as well as the implementation of required dust control measures, no significant adverse effects are expected. Dust mitigation will be carried out in compliance with the regulations of the Great Basin

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact

Unified Air Pollution Control District (GBUAPCD), further minimizing potential impacts. Therefore, the project is not expected to result in substantial pollutant exposure to sensitive receptors.

e) Result in other emissions (such as those leading to odors) adversely affecting a substantial number of people? ☐ ☐ ☒ ☐

No, the reclamation project site does not generate odors that would affect a substantial number of people, and there are no sensitive receptors near the site. The nearest sensitive receptor, a ranch, is 1.5 miles away, and the nearest community, Big Pine, is approximately 3 miles away

IV. BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES:

Would the project:

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? ☐ ☒ ☐ ☐

The reclamation project, which involves a 55-acre highway easement, was reviewed under NEPA. The Applicant's biologists conducted a thorough biological analysis, including querying the CNNDB, California Native Plant Society (CNPS), and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Species List databases to identify potential special-status plant and wildlife species within the project impact area. Field surveys conducted by Caltrans on April 23, 2020, identified potential habitat for species such as the sagebrush lizard, Coyote gilia, Shockley's milk vetch, and others. The easement is conditioned with protocols to notify the Biologist at least 2 months before starting new mining operations, including any new phases on undisturbed ground. Additional measures include conducting pre-construction bird surveys within 72 hours of operations between Feb. 15 - Sept. 30, surveying 250 feet for songbirds and 500 feet for raptors from the PIA; implementing a no work buffer if active nests are found; conducting focused reptile surveys for the common/northern sagebrush lizard prior to operations during Spring - Fall, with avoidance measures determined in consultation with the BLM; and conducting rare plant surveys before operations during sensitive blooming periods, with translocation of observed plants under BLM guidance if within the PIA. The reclamation plan will also be conditioned to include these measures, ensuring compliance with environmental regulations and minimizing adverse effects on sensitive species.

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? ☐ ☐ ☐ ☒

No, the reclamation project site has no identified riparian habitat based on the USFWS National Wetlands Inventory Mapping Tool or any nearby riparian habitat affected by the project.

c) Have a substantial adverse effect on state or federally protected wetlands (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means? ☐ ☐ ☐ ☒

No, the reclamation project site has no identified riparian habitat based on the USFWS National Wetlands Inventory Mapping Tool or federally protected wetland habitats affected by the project.

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? ☐ ☒ ☐ ☐

Although the reclamation project site provides potential habitat for species such as the sagebrush lizard, Coyote gilia, Shockley's milk vetch, and other wildlife, it will not interfere with migratory species under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA). Mitigation measures include pre-construction bird surveys within 72 hours of operations between February 15 and September 30, with no-work buffers if active nests are found. Surveys will cover 250 feet for songbirds and 500 feet for raptors within the project impact area (PIA). Additional measures involve focused reptile surveys for the sagebrush lizard during Spring-Fall and rare plant surveys during

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact

bloom periods, with translocation under BLM guidance if needed. The reclamation plan incorporates these measures to ensure compliance with regulations and protect sensitive species.

e) Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance? ☐ ☐ ☐ ☒

No, there are no local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources that pertain to the reclamation project site.

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? ☐ ☐ ☐ ☒

No, there are no adopted habitat or conservation plans that affect the reclamation project site.

V. CULTURAL RESOURCES:

Would the project:

a) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource as defined in Section 15064.5? ☐ ☐ ☒ ☐

No, the reclamation project was reviewed for compliance with Section 106 of the NHPA and CEQA cultural resource requirements. Caltrans and BLM archaeologists found no historical or archaeological resources within the project area, and the project qualifies as a screened undertaking exempt from further cultural review. No resources meet the criteria defined under CEQA Section 15064.5. If archaeological or cultural resources are discovered during future development, work will stop immediately, and Inyo County staff will be notified in accordance with ICC Chapter 9.52.

b) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to Section 15064.5? ☐ ☐ ☒ ☐

No, the reclamation project will not cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to Section 15064.5. Comprehensive reviews by Caltrans and BLM archaeologists found no historical or archaeological resources within the reclamation project area, and the project qualifies as a screened undertaking exempt from further cultural review. Additionally, no resources were identified that meet the criteria of significance under Section 15064.5. In the unlikely event that archaeological or cultural resources are discovered during development, work will stop immediately, and Inyo County staff will be notified following ICC Chapter 9.52.

c) Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of dedicated cemeteries? ☐ ☐ ☒ ☐

No, the reclamation project is not expected to disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of dedicated cemeteries. Comprehensive reviews by Caltrans and BLM archaeologists found no evidence of human remains or burial sites within the reclamation project area, and the reclamation project qualifies as a screened undertaking exempt from further cultural review. Although no discoveries are anticipated, if human remains are encountered during development, all work will stop immediately, and Inyo County staff will be notified in accordance with ICC Chapter 9.52. The County Coroner will also be contacted, and if the remains are determined to be Native American, coordination with the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) will follow. These measures ensure full compliance with applicable laws and respectful handling of any discoveries.

VI. ENERGY:

Would the project:

a) Result in potentially significant environmental impact due to wasteful, inefficient, or unnecessary consumption of energy resources, during project construction or operation? ☐ ☐ ☐ ☒

No, the reclamation project is mining reclamation; the site does not have buildings or power poles that require electricity; therefore, the proposed reclamation area does not impact the consumption of energy resources during operations.

b) Conflict with or obstruct a state or local plan for renewable ☐ ☐ ☐ ☒

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact

energy or energy efficiency

No, the reclamation project is not located in one of the County's Solar Energy Development Areas (SEDA).

VII. GEOLOGY AND SOILS: Would the project:

a) Directly or indirectly cause 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. ☐ ☐ ☐ ☒

No, the reclamation project is not in an Alquist-Priolo zone.

ii) Strong seismic ground shaking? ☐ ☐ ☒ ☐

Ground shaking may occur anywhere in the region, due to numerous earthquake faults, regardless of whether the project site is within an identified Alquist-Priolo zone or not. However, the Uniform Building Code ensures that future structures shall constructed to required seismic standards (Level IV) in order to withstand such shaking, so this potential impact is considered less than significant.

iii) Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction? ☐ ☐ ☐ ☒

No the reclamation project area is not within an area of soils know to be subject to liquefaction.

iv) Landslides? ☐ ☐ ☐ ☒

No, the reclamation project area is not subject to landslides.

b) Result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil? ☐ ☐ ☒ ☐

No, the proposed mining reclamation project shall conform to all drainage, grading, and "Best Management Practice (BMP)" requirements as set forth by BLM and all other associated regulatory agencies, will be written into the Conditions of Approval for the permit. As a result of these regulations, potential impacts are considered less than significant.

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? ☐ ☐ ☐ ☒

No, the reclamation project is not located on a geologic unit or soil that is considered unstable.

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? ☐ ☐ ☐ ☒

No, the reclamation project is not located on a geologic unit or soil that is considered expansive.

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? ☐ ☐ ☐ ☒

No, the site has portable toilets on-site and is serviced by a commercial vendor; therefore, the reclamation project will not create a need for upgrades to the existing waste disposal systems as it will not create additional waste.

f) Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological ☐ ☐ ☐ ☒

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact

resource or site or unique geologic feature?

No, the reclamation project site does not include a unique paleontological or geologic feature.

VIII. GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS:

Would the project:				
a) Generate greenhouse gas emissions, either directly or indirectly, that may have a significant impact on the environment?	☐	☐	☒	☐

No, all equipment used at the mining site meet California's CO2 emission requirements, follow best management practices, and shall be subject to Great Basin Unified Air Pollution Control District regulations regarding dust mitigation during operations and shall be required to obtain all necessary permits from Great Basin Unified Air Pollution Control District.

b) Conflict with an applicable plan, policy or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases?	☐	☐	☐	☒

No, all equipment used at the mining site meet California's CO2 emission requirements, follow best management practices, and shall be subject to Great Basin Unified Air Pollution Control District regulations regarding dust mitigation during operations and shall be required to obtain all necessary permits from Great Basin Unified Air Pollution Control District.

IX. HAZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS:

Would the project:				
a) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials?	☐	☐	☐	☒

No, Chemicals are not used on-site; no chemical processing occurs on-site only crushing and screening. There will be no chemical waste or pollution from the mining operation.

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?	☐	☐	☒	☐

No, equipment and vehicles will be transported to the Independence or Bishop Maintenance Yard for standard maintenance. In the case of emergency maintenance or refueling on-site, all activities will comply with applicable regulations, including proper fueling procedures, waste oil storage, spill control measures, and employee training. These measures are outlined in the Emergency Response Plans and Procedures on file with Inyo County Environmental Health Services (EHS), which serves as the Certified Unified Program Agency (CUPA) for the region. EHS will continue to oversee and permit all hazardous materials storage, use, generation, and disposal associated with the project.

c) Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school?	☐	☐	☐	☒

No, the proposed project is not 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?	☐	☐	☐	☒

No, the proposed project is not located on a site included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5. There are no DTSC sites mapped within or adjacent to the project area and no additional sites are identified in the site vicinity on Geotracker and EnviroStor databases.

e) For a project located within an airport land use plan	☐	☐	☐	☒

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
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?				

No, the mining reclamation is not included in an airport land use plan or within two miles of a public or public use airport.

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?	☐	☐	☐	☒

No, the mining reclamation is not located in the vicinity of a private airstrip.

g) Impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?	☐	☐	☐	☒

No, the mining reclamation will not physically interfere with an adopted emergency plan or emergency evacuation plan.

h) Expose people or structures, either directly or indirectly, to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving wildland fires are adjacent to urbanized areas or where residences are intermixed with wildlands?	☐	☐	☒	☐

No, the mining reclamation location is not adjacent to any urbanized area and the surrounding area is BLM vacant land.

X. HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY:

Would the project:				
a) Violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements or otherwise substantially degrade surface or ground water quality?	☐	☐	☒	☐

No, water is supplied from the Caltrans Independence Maintenance shop or the Bishop Maintenance Yard. Non-potable water is pumped into a water truck that is used for wetting down material and roads during mining activities. It is not anticipated that there will be any excess water from the wetting-down procedure as the sprayed water is absorbed by loose materials, or by the porous surface, or evaporates; therefore, no recycling is required or planned. Bottled water is provided for employees

b) Substantially decrease groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that the project may impede sustainable groundwater management of the basin?	☐	☐	☒	☐

No, water will be delivered via trucks filled at either the Independence or Bishop Maintenance Yard. The project is expected to use approximately 5,000 gallons per day during summer processing operations, averaging 15 days of processing per year.

c) Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river or through the addition of impervious surfaces, in a manner which would:				
i) result in a substantial erosion or siltation on- or off-site;	☐	☐	☐	☒

No, the project site is composed of shale, gravels and sands. This material is very porous and there are no drainages or impervious surfaces on-site. Erosion is not a concern on-site. The mining site is required to conform to all drainage, grading, and "Best Management Practice" (BMP) requirements as set forth by the Inyo County Public Works Department, Inyo County of Inyo Environmental Health Services Department, and other associated regulatory agencies. As a result of this regulation, potential impacts are considered less than significant.

ii) substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner which would result in flooding on-	☐	☐	☒	☐

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact

or offsite;

No, the project site is composed of volcanic cinder gravels and sands. This material is very porous, and there are no drainages or impervious surfaces on-site. Erosion is not a concern on-site. The mining reclamation is required to conform to all drainage, grading, and "Best Management Practice" (BMP) requirements set forth by the Inyo County Public Works Department, Inyo County of Inyo Environmental Health Services Department, and other associated regulatory agencies. As a result of this regulation, potential impacts are considered less than significant.

iii) 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; or	☐	☐	☒	☐

No, the project site is composed of shale, gravels and sands. This material is very porous, and there are no drainages or impervious surfaces on-site. Erosion is not an issue on-site.

iv) impede or redirect flood flows?	☐	☐	☐	☒

The project area is not located in any flood hazard areas and will not potentially redirect flood flows.

d) Conflict with or obstruct implementation of a water quality control plan or sustainable groundwater management plan?	☐	☐	☐	☒

No, the project is not proposed in an area that is included in a water quality control or sustainable ground water management plan.

e) 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?	☐	☐	☐	☒

No, the proposed mining reclamation is not in a 100-year flood hazard area.

f) Place within a 100-year flood hazard area structures which would impede or redirect flood flows?	☐	☐	☐	☒

No, the project is not in a 100-year flood hazard area.

g) 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?	☐	☐	☐	☒

No, the proposed mining reclamation is not in an area subject to flooding due to the failure of a levee or dam. Average annual rainfall in this area is 7-inches to 10-inches.

h) Inundation by seiche, tsunami, or mudflow?	☐	☐	☐	☒

No, the proposed mining reclamation is not in an area subject to seiches, tsunamis, or mudflows.

XI. LAND USE AND PLANNING:

Would the project:

a) Physically divide an established community?	☐	☐	☐	☒

No, the proposed reclamation plan does not physically divide an established community.

b) Cause a significant environmental impact due to a conflict with any land use plan, policy, or regulation adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect?	☐	☐	☐	☒

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact

The proposed project is consistent with the County Zoning Ordinance designation of 'Open Space (OS). The OS designation conditionally allows mining uses (Inyo County Code, Title 18, Section18.12.040 I. Mining uses are also allowed if approved by the Bureau of Land Management accompanied by a reclamation plan approved by Inyo County under a Memorandum of Understanding between the County and the BLM). These include the mining and processing of natural resources, including open pits. The proposed mining reclamation plan is a mining use. The General Plan consists of a policy that protects the current and future extraction of mineral resources essential to the County's economy while minimizing impacts of this use on the public and the environment.

c) Conflict with any applicable habitat conservation plan or natural community conservation plan?	☐	☐	☐	☒

No, the proposed project will not conflict with any habitat conservation plan or natural community conservation plan—the project site is located in a previous mining area that has been disturbed.

XII. MINERAL RESOURCES:

Would the project:				
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?	☐	☐	☐	☒

No, this project is the mining of a mineral; however, this mineral is in abundance in the area and mining this small deposit will not deplete the mineral resource. The Inyo County General Plan encourages such mining. The impact to this resource is very small considering the great quantities of it that are available within Inyo County.

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?	☐	☐	☐	☒

No, the project will have no impact on the resource.

XIII. NOISE: Would the project result in the:

a) Generation of a substantial temporary or permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the vicinity of the project in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance, or applicable standards of other agencies?	☐	☐	☒	☐

The proposed reclamation plan may increase ambient noise levels in the project's vicinity. However, the site is secluded, located off Highway 168 near Wilkerson Springs. The nearest ranch is approximately 2 miles away, and the nearest community, Big Pine, is about 3 miles away.

b) Generation of excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels?	☐	☐	☒	☐

No, although the mining operation could generate some groundborne noise or vibration, the site is secluded off Highway 168 near Wilkerson Springs. With the nearest ranch approximately 2 miles away and the closest community, Big Pine, about 3 miles away, the potential impact on nearby residents is minimal

c) For a project located within the vicinity of a private airstrip or, 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?	☐	☐	☐	☒

No, the proposed project is not located within an airport land use plan, or within 2-miles of a public airport.

XIV. POPULATION AND HOUSING:

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
Would the project: 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)?	☐	☐	☐	☒

No, the project would not induce substantial population growth in the area, either directly or indirectly. It does not involve the development of new homes, businesses, or infrastructure that could encourage population growth. The gravel pit's purpose is limited to resource extraction, with no components aimed at residential or commercial development.

b) Displace substantial numbers of existing people or housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?	☐	☐	☐	☒

No, the project would not displace substantial numbers of people or housing, nor necessitate the construction of replacement housing. The gravel pit is located in a non-residential area, with no existing housing or population directly affected by its operations.

XV. PUBLIC SERVICES: Would the project:

a) 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:				
Fire protection?	☐	☐	☒	☐

No, the project would not result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or altered governmental facilities, including fire services. The gravel pit operation is not expected to require new or expanded fire service facilities, as it does not significantly affect service ratios, response times, or other performance objectives. The site's remote location and nature of operations pose minimal additional demands on public services.

Police protection?	☐	☐	☐	☒

No, the gravel pit operation is not expected to require additional law enforcement resources or facilities, as it will not significantly affect service ratios, response times, or other performance objectives for police services.

Schools?	☐	☐	☐	☒

No, the gravel pit operation will not induce population growth or housing development, meaning it will not generate additional student enrollment or create a need for new or expanded school facilities.

Parks?	☐	☐	☐	☒

No, the gravel pit operation will not induce population growth or increase recreational demand, it will not necessitate the construction or expansion of parks.

Other public facilities?	☐	☐	☐	☒

No, The gravel pit operation will not increase population or service demands, nor will it require new infrastructure or upgrades to existing public facilities to maintain acceptable performance standards.

XVI. RECREATION: Would the project:

a) Increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities	☐	☐	☐	☒

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact

such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility would occur or be accelerated?

No, the proposed project will not increase the use of existing recreational facilities. No portion of this project anticipates any change in the level of service required.

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? ☐ ☐ ☐ ☒

No, the proposed project does not include, nor will it cause, a need for an increase in parks or other recreational facilities that might have an adverse physical effect on the environment.

XVII. TRANSPORTATION:

a) Conflict with a program, plan, ordinance or policy addressing the circulation system, including transit, roadway, bicycle and pedestrian facilities? ☐ ☐ ☐ ☒

No, the proposed project will have no impact on adopted transportation plans, policies, or programs addressing transit, roadway, bicycle, or pedestrian facilities. The project does not conflict with any local or regional transportation plan, nor does it introduce new elements that would alter existing circulation patterns or require changes to transportation infrastructure.

b) Conflict or be inconsistent with CEQA Guidelines § 15064.3, subdivision (b)? ☐ ☐ ☐ ☒

No, the proposed project will have no impact under CEQA Guidelines § 15064.3, subdivision (b). The project is not expected to increase vehicle miles traveled (VMT) or alter land use or transportation patterns in a way that would generate additional VMT.The project will reduce VMT by utilizing local resources, with an average travel distance of 30 miles, compared to the 80-mile average associated with commercial material sites. This reduction supports regional transportation and sustainability goals.

c) Substantially increase hazards due to a design feature (e.g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses (e.g., farm equipment)? ☐ ☐ ☐ ☒

No, the proposed project will not substantially increase hazards due to a design feature (e.g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or introduce incompatible uses (e.g., farm equipment). The project does not involve modifications to existing roadways, intersections, or transportation infrastructure.

d) Result in inadequate emergency access? ☐ ☐ ☒ ☐

No, the proposed project will not result in inadequate emergency access. While gates will be installed at the entrances of access routes to restrict public entry for safety purposes, they will be designed to allow quick and secure access for emergency responders. The gates will comply with local fire and emergency service requirements.

XVIII. TRIBAL CULTURAL RESOURCES:

Would the project:

a) cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a tribal cultural resource, defined in Public Resources Code § 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:

i) 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 ☐ ☐ ☐ ☒

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact

No, the proposed project will not cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a tribal cultural resource, as defined in Public Resources Code § 21074. A thorough review conducted under NEPA, including background research and a Class III pedestrian survey, confirmed that no recorded tribal cultural resources exist within the project area. Consultation by Caltrans with California Native American tribes indicated no concerns. Therefore, the project complies with all relevant regulations and is exempt from further archaeological studies. Should any discoveries occur during development, they will be subject to conditions requiring adherence to Inyo County Code Chapter 9.52 protocols.

ii) 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 § 5024.1. In applying the criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resource Code § 5024.1, the lead agency shall consider the significance of the resource to a California Native American tribe.	☐	☐	☐	☒

No, the proposed project does not encompass a resource determined by lead agency to be significant pursuant to the criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resources Code § 5024.1. The project description was sent to tribes requesting AB 52 notification, and no requests for additional information have been received from them. If cultural resources are discovered in the project area, work will be stopped, and a local Tribal representative will be consulted to determine the significance of the finding and the proper handling of the resource.

XIX UTILITIES AND SERVICE SYSTEMS:

Would the project:				
a) Require or result in the relocation or construction of new or expanded water, wastewater treatment or storm water drainage, electric power, natural gas, or telecommunications facilities, the construction or relocation of which could cause significant environmental effects?	☐	☐	☐	☒

No, the proposed project will not result in the construction of new or expanded utility or service systems. The proposed project does not require electricity or waste facilities. All stormwater received at this site will be contained on-site or diverted into existing drainage channels and will not require new or an expansion of existing stormwater drainage facilities.

b) Have sufficient water supplies available to serve the project and reasonably foreseeable future development during normal, dry and multiple dry years?	☐	☐	☐	☒

Yes, the proposed project will have sufficient water supplies available to meet its needs during normal, dry, and multiple dry years. Water for the project will be supplied from an existing off-site well, with water trucks filled at either the Independence Maintenance Yard or the Bishop Maintenance Yard. The project is expected to use approximately 5,000 gallons per day during summer processing operations, with an estimated average of 15 processing days per year. No new water infrastructure is required, and the demand is minimal and intermittent in nature.

c) Result in a determination by the waste water 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?	☐	☐	☐	☒

No, the proposed project will not be serviced by a wastewater treatment facility.

d) Generate solid waste in excess of state or local standards, or in excess of the capacity of local infrastructure, or otherwise impair the attainment of solid waste reduction goals?	☐	☐	☐	☒

No, the project is served by a county landfill that has the capacity to accommodate the project's solid waste disposal needs. All refuse is disposed into approved trash bins and removed by a commercial garbage hauler.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
e) Comply with federal, state, and local management and reduction statutes and regulations related to solid waste?	☐	☐	☐	☒

Yes, the applicant will be required to comply with federal, state and local statues and regulations related to solid waste.

XX. WILDFIRE:

Would the project:

a) Substantially impair an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?	☐	☐	☐	☒

No, the project will not interfere with the implementation of an adopted emergency plan.

b) Due to slope, prevailing winds, and other factors, exacerbate wildfire risks, and thereby expose project occupants to pollutant concentrations from a wildfire or the uncontrolled spread of a wildfire?	☐	☐	☐	☒

No, the project site is comprised of shale, gravel, and sand. The site's vegetation will remain sparse until the completion of mining occurs, and final slope, seed distribution has been accomplished to reduce the risk of wildfire.

c) Require the installation or maintenance of associated infrastructure (such as roads, fuel breaks, emergency water sources, power lines or other utilities) that may exacerbate fire risk or that may result in temporary or ongoing impacts to the environment?	☐	☐	☐	☒

No, the project will not cause the need for additional wildfire-associated infrastructure. The project site is also located within a Federal Responsibility Area.

d) Expose people or structures to significant risks, including downslope or downstream flooding or landslides, as a result of runoff, post-fire slope instability, or drainage changes?	☐	☐	☐	☒

No, the nearest community, Big Pine, is located 1.5 miles away from the site. The site consists of highly permeable soils, which minimizes the risk of downslope or downstream flooding and eliminates concerns about potential landslides

XXI. 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, 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?	☐	☒	☒	☐

No, the project will not impact or degrade the quality of the environment. Caltrans can mitigate the project area's resource impacts to less than significant. Inyo County will write mitigation measures into the Conditions of Approval for the permit. The applicant shall work with the Great Basin Air Pollution Control District (GBAPCD) to operate in such a way as to minimize potential air quality effects from the mining operation and reclamation plan. The applicant shall work with CDFW to mitigate the special status species' impacts and obtain a 2081 Incidental Take permit. If any vegetation removal activities occur between February 15 – September 30. A pre-construction survey shall be conducted for nesting birds, no more than 3-days before construction, and submitted to the Planning Department and the BLM. A qualified avian biologist shall prepare and implement a Nesting Bird Plan if active nests are found, per CDFW requirements. Any grubbing or vegetation removal shall occur outside peak breeding season. Caltrans will be required to follow all State and local regulations regarding hazardous materials. The proposed project does not encompass a resource eligible for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources or a local register or historical resources defined in Public Resource Code section 5020.1(k). Work shall stop if any archaeological or cultural resources are discovered on the site. Inyo County staff shall

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact

be immediately notified per Chapter 9.52, Disturbance of Archaeological, Paleontological, and Historical Features of the Inyo County Code.

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)? ☐ ☐ ☐ ☒

The proposed mining reclamation is located in a remote area, and the impacts of this project are not expected to be cumulatively considerable.

c) Does the project have environmental effects which will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly? ☐ ☐ ☐ ☒

No, Caltrans will remove all equipment and debris from the site upon completion of mining. The gate and site perimeter berm will restrict public access to the site for the life of the mine operation. Warning signs with contrasting background lettering shall install at access points into the quarries stating "No Trespassing - Keep Out; Surface Mining Operation" or similar. Also, the reclaimed 3H:1V slopes will be of sufficient low gradient to not cause a hazard to public safety.

Attachment D

FILED
APR 18 2025
INYO CO. CLERK
DANIELLE SEXTON, CLERK

Planning Department
168 North Edwards Street
Post Office Drawer L
Independence, California 93526

Phone: (760) 878-0263
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E-Mail: inyoplanning @inyocounty.us

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY AND INTENT

Notice is hereby given that a Draft Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declaration of Environmental Impact has been prepared pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and Inyo County CEQA Procedures, and are available for public review for the following application:

Reclamation Plan 2023-01 Zurich/Caltrans

The Bureau of Land Management has awarded Caltrans a 55-acre Highway Easement Deed. Caltrans has applied for a reclamation plan near Big Pine, as required by the Surface Mining and Reclamation Act. The proposal involves utilizing 14 acres of the previously approved 22-acre BLM-ran community pit.

The 30-day review period for this Draft Negative Declaration of Environmental Impact has been extended to May 19, 2025. During this period comments may be submitted regarding the Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declaration. Inyo County is not required to respond to any comments received after this date. Written comments and all questions should be addressed to the Inyo County Planning Department at P.O. Drawer "L," Independence, CA 93526, faxed to (760) 872-2712, or emailed to inyoplanning@inyocounty.us.

Copies of the Initial Study and Draft Mitigated Negative Declaration of Environmental Impact for this project are available for review at the Inyo County Planning Department (168 N. Edwards Street, Independence), County libraries, and the Inyo County Planning Department's website at www.inyoplanning.@inyocounty.us.

Attachment D

Filed in County Clerk's Office
County of Inyo County
Danielle M. Sexton
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jortega

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The 30-day review period for this Draft Negative Declaration of Environmental Impact begins on April 11, 2025 and expires on May 12, 2025. During this period comments may be submitted regarding the Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declaration. Inyo County is not required to respond to any comments received after this date. Written comments and all questions should be addressed to the Inyo County Planning Department at P.O. Drawer "L," Independence, CA 93526, faxed to (760) 872-2712, or emailed to inyoplanning@inyocounty.us.

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DRAFT NEGATIVE DECLARATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT AND INITIAL STUDY

PROJECT TITLE: Reclamation Plan 2023-01 Zurich/Caltrans.

PROJECT LOCATION: The aggregate pit is located on BLM land approximately 3 miles northeast of Big Pine, California, in section 3, Township 9S, Range 34E, Mount Diablo Meridian, with Tax Assessor Parcel Number (APN) 018-070-10.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The Bureau of Land Management has awarded Caltrans a 55-acre Highway Easement Deed. Caltrans has applied for a reclamation plan near Big Pine, as required by the Surface Mining and Reclamation Act. The proposal involves utilizing 14 acres of the previously approved 22-acre BLM-ran community pit.

FINDINGS:

A. The proposed project is consistent with the goals and objectives of the Inyo County General Plan.
B. The proposed project is consistent with the provisions of the Inyo County Zoning Ordinance.
C. Potential adverse environmental impacts will not exceed thresholds of significance, either individually or cumulatively.
D. Based upon the environmental evaluation of the proposed project, the Planning Department finds that the project does not have the potential to create a significant adverse impact on flora or fauna; natural, scenic and historic resources; the local economy; public health, safety, and welfare. This constitutes a Negative Finding for the Mandatory Findings required by Section 15065 of the CEQA Guidelines.

The 30-day public & State agency review period for this Draft Negative Declaration will expire on May 12, 2025. Inyo County is not required to respond to any comments received after this date.

Additional information is available from the Inyo County Planning Department. Please contact Project Planner if you have any questions regarding this project.

Ryan Kay Stalmore
Name

4-9-25
Date

INYO COUNTY PLANNING DEPARTMENT

CEQA APPENDIX G: INITIAL STUDY & ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST FORM

EVALUATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS:

1) A brief explanation is required for all answers except "No Impact" answers that are adequately supported by the information sources a lead agency cites in the parentheses following each question. A "No Impact" answer is adequately supported if the referenced information sources show that the impact simply does not apply to projects like the one involved (e.g., the project falls outside a fault rupture zone). A "No Impact" answer should be explained where it is based on project-specific factors as well as general standards (e.g., the project will not expose sensitive receptors to pollutants, based on a project-specific screening analysis).

2) All answers must take account of the whole action involved, including off-site as well as on-site, cumulative as well as project-level, indirect as well as direct, and construction as well as operational impacts.

3) Once the lead agency has determined that a particular physical impact may occur, then the checklist answers must indicate whether the impact is potentially significant, less than significant with mitigation, or less than significant. "Potentially Significant Impact" is appropriate if there is substantial evidence that an effect may be significant. If there are one or more "Potentially Significant Impact" entries when the determination is made, an EIR is required.

4) "Negative Declaration: Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated" applies where the incorporation of mitigation measures has reduced an effect from "Potentially Significant Impact" to a "Less Than Significant Impact." The lead agency must describe the mitigation measures, and briefly explain how they reduce the effect to a less than significant level (mitigation measures from Section XVII, "Earlier Analyses," may be cross-referenced).

5) Earlier analyses may be used where, pursuant to the tiering, program EIR, or other CEQA process, an effect has been adequately analyzed in an earlier EIR or negative declaration. Section 15063(c)(3)(D). In this case, a brief discussion should identify the following:

a) Earlier Analysis Used. Identify and state where they are available for review.

b) Impacts Adequately Addressed. Identify which effects from the above checklist were within the scope of and adequately analyzed in an earlier document pursuant to applicable legal standards, and state whether such effects were addressed by mitigation measures based on the earlier analysis.

c) Mitigation Measures. For effects that are "Less than Significant with Mitigation Measures Incorporated," describe the mitigation measures which were incorporated or refined from the earlier document and the extent to which they address site-specific conditions for the project.

6) Lead agencies are encouraged to incorporate into the checklist references to information sources for potential impacts (e.g., general plans, zoning ordinances). Reference to a previously prepared or outside document should, where appropriate, include a reference to the page or pages where the statement is substantiated.

7) Supporting Information Sources: A source list should be attached, and other sources used or individuals contacted should be cited in the discussion.

8) This is only a suggested form, and lead agencies are free to use different formats; however, lead agencies should normally address the questions from this checklist that are relevant to a project's environmental effects in whatever format is selected.

9) The explanation of each issue should identify:
   a) the significance criteria or threshold, if any, used to evaluate each question; and
   b) the mitigation measure identified, if any, to reduce the impact to less than significance issues.

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INYO COUNTY PLANNING DEPARTMENT

APPENDIX G: CEQA INITIAL STUDY & ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST FORM

1. Project title: Reclamation Plan 2023-01/Caltrans.

2. Lead agency name and address: Inyo County Planning Department, PO Drawer L, Independence, CA 93526

3. Contact person and phone number: Ryan Standridge: (760) 878-0405

4. Project location: The aggregate pit is located on BLM land approximately 3 miles northeast of Big Pine, California, in section 3, Township 9S, Range 34E, Mount Diablo Meridian, with Tax Assessor Parcel Number (APN) 018-070-10.

5. Project sponsor's name and address: Forest Beckett, California State Department of Transportation - District 9(CALTRANS) 500 S. Main St. Bishop, Ca 93514

6. General Plan designation: Natural Resource (NR)

7. Zoning: Open Space, 40-acre minimum (OS-40)

8. Description of project: The Bureau of Land Management has awarded Caltrans a Highway Easement Deed. Caltrans has applied for a reclamation plan near Big Pine, as required by the Surface Mining and Reclamation Act. The proposal involves utilizing 14 acres of the previously approved 22-acre BLM-ran community pit.

9. Surrounding land uses and setting: The Property is surrounded by Vacant Public lands.

Location:	Use:	Gen. Plan Designation	Zoning
Site	Mine	Natural Resources (NR)State and Federal Lands (SFL)	Open Space, 40-acre minimum (OS-40)
North	Vacant Public Land	State and Federal Lands (SFL)	Open Space, 40-acre minimum (OS-40)
East	Vacant Land	Natural Resources (NR	Open Space, 40-acre minimum (OS-40)
South	Vacant Land	Natural Resources (NR	Open Space, 40-acre minimum (OS-40)
West	Vacant Land	Natural Resources (NR	Open Space, 40-acre minimum (OS-40)

10. Other public agencies whose approval is required: Inyo County Environmental Health, Department of Conservation, Bureau of Land Management.

11. Have California Native American tribes traditionally and culturally affiliated with the project area requested consultation pursuant to Public Resources Code section 21080.3.1? If so, has consultation begun? Inyo County started the 30-day Tribal Consultation opportunity period, according to Public Resource code section 21080.31, by sending out certified written notices on November 5,2024 inviting the Tribes to consult on the project. It described the project and location. The tribes that were notified are: Big Pine Tribe of Owens Valley, Bishop Paiute Tribe, Fort Independence Indian Community of Paiutes, Lone Pine Paiute-Shoshone Tribe, Timbisha Shoshone tribe, Twenty-Nine Palms Band of Mission Indians, Cabazon Band of Mission Indians, and the Torrez Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians. Since no comments have been provided and no formal consultation meeting date requested, staff is submitting this Negative Declaration for a 30-day review and comment period. The County will continue to be open to consultation with the Tribe during this period. If the Tribe does not provide comments or schedule a formal consultation meeting within this 30-day period, the County, per Public Resources Code 21082.3 (d)(2) will consider the consultation process complete and certify the Negative Declaration of Environmental Impact.

Note: Conducting consultation early in the CEQA process allows tribal governments, lead agencies, and project proponents to discuss the level of environmental review, identify and address potential adverse impacts to tribal cultural resources, and reduce the potential for delay and conflict in the environmental review process. (See Public Resources Code section 21083.3.2.) Information may also be available from the California Native American Heritage Commission's Sacred Lands File per Public Resources Code section 5097.96 and the California Historical Resources Information System administered by the California Office of Historic Preservation. Please also note that Public Resources Code section 21082.3(c) contains provisions specific to confidentiality.

ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS POTENTIALLY AFFECTED:
The environmental factors checked below would be potentially affected by this project, involving at least one impact that is a "Potentially Significant Impact" as indicated by the checklist on the following pages.

☐ Aesthetics Resources	☐ Agriculture & Forestry	☒ Air Quality
☒ Biological Resources	☐ Cultural Resources	☐ Energy
☐ Geology / Soils	☐ Greenhouse Gas Emissions	☐ Hazards & Hazardous Materials
☐ Hydrology / Water Quality	☐ Land Use / Planning	☐ Mineral Resources
☐ Noise	☐ Population / Housing	☐ Public Services
☐ Recreation	☐ Transportation	☐ Tribal Cultural Resources
☐ Utilities / Service Systems	☐ Wildfire	☐ Mandatory Findings of Significance

DETERMINATION

On the basis of this initial evaluation:

☐ I find that the proposed project COULD NOT have a significant effect on the environment, and a NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.

☒ I find that although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, there will not be a significant effect in this case because revisions in the project have been made by or agreed to by the project proponent. A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.

☐ I find that the proposed project MAY have a significant effect on the environment, and an ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required.

☐ I find that the proposed project MAY have a "potentially significant impact" or "potentially significant unless mitigated" impact on the environment, but at least one effect 1) has been adequately analyzed in an earlier document pursuant to applicable legal standards, and 2) has been addressed by mitigation measures based on the earlier analysis as described on attached sheets. An ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required, but it must analyze only the effects that remain to be addressed.

☐ I find that although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, because all potentially significant effects (a) have been analyzed adequately in an earlier EIR or NEGATIVE DECLARATION pursuant to applicable standards, and (b) have been avoided or mitigated pursuant to that earlier EIR or NEGATIVE DECLARATION, including revisions or mitigation measures that are imposed upon the proposed project, nothing further is required.

_____ _____

Name Date

INYO COUNTY PLANNING DEPARTMENT
ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST FORM

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
I. AESTHETICS -- Would the project:				
a) Have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista?	☐	☐	☐	☒

No, the project's mining reclamation area is located to the east on Highway 168 and is not visible from Highway 395. Although Highway 168 East is under consideration for addition to the scenic vista designation, it is not currently designated as a scenic vista. Furthermore, Caltrans will take advantage of the natural terrain to conceal the mining pit, ensuring it does not adversely affect the visual quality of the area.

b) Substantially damage scenic resources, including, but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a state scenic highway?	☐	☐	☐	☒

No, the proposed re-opening of a 14-acre aggregate pit will not substantially damage scenic resources. The area surrounding the pit lacks notable scenic elements such as trees, rock outcroppings, or historic buildings. Additionally, the site's isolation and lack of prominent visual features ensure that the re-opening will not negatively impact the overall visual quality of the landscape.

c) In non-urbanized areas, substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of public views of the site and its surroundings? (Public views are those that are experienced from publicly accessible vantage point). If the project is in an urbanized area, would the project conflict with applicable zoning and other regulations governing scenic quality?	☐	☐	☒	☐

No, the mining reclamation project area is on BLM land and is in a semi-isolated area near Uhlemeyer Spring, not visible from Highway 395. While views of the mining reclamation might be possible from a small portion of a ranch on Death Valley Road or from high points on surrounding public lands, it will not significantly affect the overall scenic integrity of the area. The views from these locations would be from a sufficient distance, minimizing any impact on the visual character or quality of public views.

d) Create a new source of substantial light or glare which would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area?	☐	☐	☐	☒

No, the proposed mining reclamation will not create a new source of substantial light or glare as site operations are conducted during daylight. The applicant has not submitted any security lighting at this time, but the reclamation plan will be conditioned that all outdoor light fixtures use low-energy, shielded light fixtures which direct light downward and fully shielded.

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 forest carbon measurement methodology Provided in Forest Protocols adopted by the California Air Resources Board. Would the project:

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?	☐	☐	☐	☒

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact

No, the reclamation project is not located on farmland.

b) Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or a Williamson Act contract? ☐ ☐ ☐ ☒

No, the proposed mining reclamation plan will not be located on land zoned for agriculture. There are no Williamson Act contracts in Inyo County.

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))? ☐ ☐ ☐ ☒

No, the reclamation project is not located on timberland. The site is not classified as forest land under Public Resources Code section 12220(g), timberland under Public Resources Code section 4526, or timberland zoned for Timberland Production under Government Code section 51104(g). Therefore, the project does not conflict with existing zoning for these land types and does not require rezoning

d) Result in the loss of forest land or conversion of forest land to non-forest use? ☐ ☐ ☐ ☒

No, the reclamation project is not located on forest land, so it will not result in the loss 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? ☐ ☐ ☐ ☒

No, the reclamation project is not located on farmland, so it will not involve any changes that could result in the conversion of farmland to non-agricultural use.

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? ☐ ☒ ☐ ☐

No, although there are portions of Inyo County within non-attainment areas for Federal and State PM10 (particulate matter 10 microns or less in diameter) ambient air quality standards, the primary source of this pollution is the Owens dry lake, located approximately 51 miles from the reclamation project site. The applicant will be subject to Great Basin Unified Air Pollution Control District regulations regarding dust mitigation during operation, and all processing equipment will be permitted with the Great Basin Unified Air Pollution Control District.

b) Violate any air quality standard or contribute substantially to an existing or projected air quality violation? ☐ ☒ ☐ ☐

No, although there are portions of Inyo County within non-attainment areas for Federal and State PM10 (particulate matter 10 microns or less in diameter) ambient air quality standards, the primary source of this pollution is the Owens dry lake, located approximately 51 miles from the reclamation project site. The applicant will be subject to Great Basin Unified Air Pollution Control District regulations regarding dust mitigation during operation, and all processing equipment will be permitted with the Great Basin Unified Air Pollution Control District.

d) Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations? ☐ ☐ ☒ ☐

No, the reclamation project is not anticipated to expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations. Due to the distance between the project site and any known sensitive receptors, as well as the implementation of required dust control measures, no significant adverse effects are expected. Dust mitigation will be carried out in compliance with the regulations of the Great Basin

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact

Unified Air Pollution Control District (GBUAPCD), further minimizing potential impacts. Therefore, the project is not expected to result in substantial pollutant exposure to sensitive receptors.

e) Result in other emissions (such as those leading to odors) adversely affecting a substantial number of people?	☐	☐	☒	☐

No, the reclamation project site does not generate odors that would affect a substantial number of people, and there are no sensitive receptors near the site. The nearest sensitive receptor, a ranch, is 1.5 miles away, and the nearest community, Big Pine, is approximately 3 miles away

IV. BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES:

Would the project:

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?	☐	☒	☐	☐

The reclamation project, which involves a 55-acre highway easement, was reviewed under NEPA. The Applicant's biologists conducted a thorough biological analysis, including querying the CNNDB, California Native Plant Society (CNPS), and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Species List databases to identify potential special-status plant and wildlife species within the project impact area. Field surveys conducted by Caltrans on April 23, 2020, identified potential habitat for species such as the sagebrush lizard, Coyote gilia, Shockley's milk vetch, and others. The easement is conditioned with protocols to notify the Biologist at least 2 months before starting new mining operations, including any new phases on undisturbed ground. Additional measures include conducting pre-construction bird surveys within 72 hours of operations between Feb. 15 - Sept. 30, surveying 250 feet for songbirds and 500 feet for raptors from the PIA; implementing a no work buffer if active nests are found; conducting focused reptile surveys for the common/northern sagebrush lizard prior to operations during Spring - Fall, with avoidance measures determined in consultation with the BLM; and conducting rare plant surveys before operations during sensitive blooming periods, with translocation of observed plants under BLM guidance if within the PIA. The reclamation plan will also be conditioned to include these measures, ensuring compliance with environmental regulations and minimizing adverse effects on sensitive species.

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?	☐	☐	☐	☒

No, the reclamation project site has no identified riparian habitat based on the USFWS National Wetlands Inventory Mapping Tool or any nearby riparian habitat affected by the project.

c) Have a substantial adverse effect on state or federally protected wetlands (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means?	☐	☐	☐	☒

No, the reclamation project site has no identified riparian habitat based on the USFWS National Wetlands Inventory Mapping Tool or federally protected wetland habitats affected by the project.

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?	☐	☒	☐	☐

Although the reclamation project site provides potential habitat for species such as the sagebrush lizard, Coyote gilia, Shockley's milk vetch, and other wildlife, it will not interfere with migratory species under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA). Mitigation measures include pre-construction bird surveys within 72 hours of operations between February 15 and September 30, with no-work buffers if active nests are found. Surveys will cover 250 feet for songbirds and 500 feet for raptors within the project impact area (PIA). Additional measures involve focused reptile surveys for the sagebrush lizard during Spring-Fall and rare plant surveys during

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact

bloom periods, with translocation under BLM guidance if needed. The reclamation plan incorporates these measures to ensure compliance with regulations and protect sensitive species.

e) Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance? ☐ ☐ ☐ ☒

No, there are no local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources that pertain to the reclamation project site.

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? ☐ ☐ ☐ ☒

No, there are no adopted habitat or conservation plans that affect the reclamation project site.

V. CULTURAL RESOURCES:

Would the project:

a) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource as defined in Section 15064.5? ☐ ☐ ☒ ☐

No, the reclamation project was reviewed for compliance with Section 106 of the NHPA and CEQA cultural resource requirements. Caltrans and BLM archaeologists found no historical or archaeological resources within the project area, and the project qualifies as a screened undertaking exempt from further cultural review. No resources meet the criteria defined under CEQA Section 15064.5. If archaeological or cultural resources are discovered during future development, work will stop immediately, and Inyo County staff will be notified in accordance with ICC Chapter 9.52.

b) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to Section 15064.5? ☐ ☐ ☒ ☐

No, the reclamation project will not cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to Section 15064.5. Comprehensive reviews by Caltrans and BLM archaeologists found no historical or archaeological resources within the reclamation project area, and the project qualifies as a screened undertaking exempt from further cultural review. Additionally, no resources were identified that meet the criteria of significance under Section 15064.5. In the unlikely event that archaeological or cultural resources are discovered during development, work will stop immediately, and Inyo County staff will be notified following ICC Chapter 9.52.

c) Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of dedicated cemeteries? ☐ ☐ ☒ ☐

No, the reclamation project is not expected to disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of dedicated cemeteries. Comprehensive reviews by Caltrans and BLM archaeologists found no evidence of human remains or burial sites within the reclamation project area, and the reclamation project qualifies as a screened undertaking exempt from further cultural review. Although no discoveries are anticipated, if human remains are encountered during development, all work will stop immediately, and Inyo County staff will be notified in accordance with ICC Chapter 9.52. The County Coroner will also be contacted, and if the remains are determined to be Native American, coordination with the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) will follow. These measures ensure full compliance with applicable laws and respectful handling of any discoveries.

VI. ENERGY:

Would the project:

a) Result in potentially significant environmental impact due to wasteful, inefficient, or unnecessary consumption of energy resources, during project construction or operation? ☐ ☐ ☐ ☒

No, the reclamation project is mining reclamation; the site does not have buildings or power poles that require electricity; therefore, the proposed reclamation area does not impact the consumption of energy resources during operations.

b) Conflict with or obstruct a state or local plan for renewable ☐ ☐ ☐ ☒

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact

energy or energy efficiency

No, the reclamation project is not located in one of the County's Solar Energy Development Areas (SEDA).

VII. GEOLOGY AND SOILS: Would the project:

a) Directly or indirectly cause 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. ☐ ☐ ☐ ☒

No, the reclamation project is not in an Alquist-Priolo zone.

ii) Strong seismic ground shaking? ☐ ☐ ☒ ☐

Ground shaking may occur anywhere in the region, due to numerous earthquake faults, regardless of whether the project site is within an identified Alquist-Priolo zone or not. However, the Uniform Building Code ensures that future structures shall constructed to required seismic standards (Level IV) in order to withstand such shaking, so this potential impact is considered less than significant.

iii) Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction? ☐ ☐ ☐ ☒

No the reclamation project area is not within an area of soils know to be subject to liquefaction.

iv) Landslides? ☐ ☐ ☐ ☒

No, the reclamation project area is not subject to landslides.

b) Result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil? ☐ ☐ ☒ ☐

No, the proposed mining reclamation project shall conform to all drainage, grading, and "Best Management Practice (BMP)" requirements as set forth by BLM and all other associated regulatory agencies, will be written into the Conditions of Approval for the permit. As a result of these regulations, potential impacts are considered less than significant.

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? ☐ ☐ ☐ ☒

No, the reclamation project is not located on a geologic unit or soil that is considered unstable.

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? ☐ ☐ ☐ ☒

No, the reclamation project is not located on a geologic unit or soil that is considered expansive.

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? ☐ ☐ ☐ ☒

No, the site has portable toilets on-site and is serviced by a commercial vendor; therefore, the reclamation project will not create a need for upgrades to the existing waste disposal systems as it will not create additional waste.

f) Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological ☐ ☐ ☐ ☒

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact

resource or site or unique geologic feature?

No, the reclamation project site does not include a unique paleontological or geologic feature.

VIII. GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS:

Would the project:				
a) Generate greenhouse gas emissions, either directly or indirectly, that may have a significant impact on the environment?	☐	☐	☒	☐

No, all equipment used at the mining site meet California's CO2 emission requirements, follow best management practices, and shall be subject to Great Basin Unified Air Pollution Control District regulations regarding dust mitigation during operations and shall be required to obtain all necessary permits from Great Basin Unified Air Pollution Control District.

b) Conflict with an applicable plan, policy or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases?	☐	☐	☐	☒

No, all equipment used at the mining site meet California's CO2 emission requirements, follow best management practices, and shall be subject to Great Basin Unified Air Pollution Control District regulations regarding dust mitigation during operations and shall be required to obtain all necessary permits from Great Basin Unified Air Pollution Control District.

IX. HAZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS:

Would the project:				
a) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials?	☐	☐	☐	☒

No, Chemicals are not used on-site; no chemical processing occurs on-site only crushing and screening. There will be no chemical waste or pollution from the mining operation.

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?	☐	☐	☒	☐

No, equipment and vehicles will be transported to the Independence or Bishop Maintenance Yard for standard maintenance. In the case of emergency maintenance or refueling on-site, all activities will comply with applicable regulations, including proper fueling procedures, waste oil storage, spill control measures, and employee training. These measures are outlined in the Emergency Response Plans and Procedures on file with Inyo County Environmental Health Services (EHS), which serves as the Certified Unified Program Agency (CUPA) for the region. EHS will continue to oversee and permit all hazardous materials storage, use, generation, and disposal associated with the project.

c) Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school?	☐	☐	☐	☒

No, the proposed project is not 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?	☐	☐	☐	☒

No, the proposed project is not located on a site included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5. There are no DTSC sites mapped within or adjacent to the project area and no additional sites are identified in the site vicinity on Geotracker and EnviroStor databases.

e) For a project located within an airport land use plan	☐	☐	☐	☒

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
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?				

No, the mining reclamation is not included in an airport land use plan or within two miles of a public or public use airport.

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?	☐	☐	☐	☒

No, the mining reclamation is not located in the vicinity of a private airstrip.

g) Impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?	☐	☐	☐	☒

No, the mining reclamation will not physically interfere with an adopted emergency plan or emergency evacuation plan.

h) Expose people or structures, either directly or indirectly, to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving wildland fires are adjacent to urbanized areas or where residences are intermixed with wildlands?	☐	☐	☒	☐

No, the mining reclamation location is not adjacent to any urbanized area and the surrounding area is BLM vacant land.

X. HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY:

Would the project:				
a) Violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements or otherwise substantially degrade surface or ground water quality?	☐	☐	☒	☐

No, water is supplied from the Caltrans Independence Maintenance shop or the Bishop Maintenance Yard. Non-potable water is pumped into a water truck that is used for wetting down material and roads during mining activities. It is not anticipated that there will be any excess water from the wetting-down procedure as the sprayed water is absorbed by loose materials, or by the porous surface, or evaporates; therefore, no recycling is required or planned. Bottled water is provided for employees

b) Substantially decrease groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that the project may impede sustainable groundwater management of the basin?	☐	☐	☒	☐

No, water will be delivered via trucks filled at either the Independence or Bishop Maintenance Yard. The project is expected to use approximately 5,000 gallons per day during summer processing operations, averaging 15 days of processing per year.

c) Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river or through the addition of impervious surfaces, in a manner which would:				
i) result in a substantial erosion or siltation on- or off-site;	☐	☐	☐	☒

No, the project site is composed of shale, gravels and sands. This material is very porous and there are no drainages or impervious surfaces on-site. Erosion is not a concern on-site. The mining site is required to conform to all drainage, grading, and "Best Management Practice" (BMP) requirements as set forth by the Inyo County Public Works Department, Inyo County of Inyo Environmental Health Services Department, and other associated regulatory agencies. As a result of this regulation, potential impacts are considered less than significant.

ii) substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner which would result in flooding on-	☐	☐	☒	☐

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact

or offsite;

No, the project site is composed of volcanic cinder gravels and sands. This material is very porous, and there are no drainages or impervious surfaces on-site. Erosion is not a concern on-site. The mining reclamation is required to conform to all drainage, grading, and "Best Management Practice" (BMP) requirements set forth by the Inyo County Public Works Department, Inyo County of Inyo Environmental Health Services Department, and other associated regulatory agencies. As a result of this regulation, potential impacts are considered less than significant.

iii) 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; or	☐	☐	☒	☐

No, the project site is composed of shale, gravels and sands. This material is very porous, and there are no drainages or impervious surfaces on-site. Erosion is not an issue on-site.

iv) impede or redirect flood flows?	☐	☐	☐	☒

The project area is not located in any flood hazard areas and will not potentially redirect flood flows.

d) Conflict with or obstruct implementation of a water quality control plan or sustainable groundwater management plan?	☐	☐	☐	☒

No, the project is not proposed in an area that is included in a water quality control or sustainable ground water management plan.

e) 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?	☐	☐	☐	☒

No, the proposed mining reclamation is not in a 100-year flood hazard area.

f) Place within a 100-year flood hazard area structures which would impede or redirect flood flows?	☐	☐	☐	☒

No, the project is not in a 100-year flood hazard area.

g) 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?	☐	☐	☐	☒

No, the proposed mining reclamation is not in an area subject to flooding due to the failure of a levee or dam. Average annual rainfall in this area is 7-inches to 10-inches.

h) Inundation by seiche, tsunami, or mudflow?	☐	☐	☐	☒

No, the proposed mining reclamation is not in an area subject to seiches, tsunamis, or mudflows.

XI. LAND USE AND PLANNING:
Would the project:

a) Physically divide an established community?	☐	☐	☐	☒

No, the proposed reclamation plan does not physically divide an established community.

b) Cause a significant environmental impact due to a conflict with any land use plan, policy, or regulation adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect?	☐	☐	☐	☒

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact

The proposed project is consistent with the County Zoning Ordinance designation of 'Open Space (OS). The OS designation conditionally allows mining uses (Inyo County Code, Title 18, Section18.12.040 I. Mining uses are also allowed if approved by the Bureau of Land Management accompanied by a reclamation plan approved by Inyo County under a Memorandum of Understanding between the County and the BLM). These include the mining and processing of natural resources, including open pits. The proposed mining reclamation plan is a mining use. The General Plan consists of a policy that protects the current and future extraction of mineral resources essential to the County's economy while minimizing impacts of this use on the public and the environment.

c) Conflict with any applicable habitat conservation plan or natural community conservation plan? ☐ ☐ ☐ ☒

No, the proposed project will not conflict with any habitat conservation plan or natural community conservation plan—the project site is located in a previous mining area that has been disturbed.

XII. MINERAL RESOURCES:
Would the project:
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? ☐ ☐ ☐ ☒

No, this project is the mining of a mineral; however, this mineral is in abundance in the area and mining this small deposit will not deplete the mineral resource. The Inyo County General Plan encourages such mining. The impact to this resource is very small considering the great quantities of it that are available within Inyo County.

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? ☐ ☐ ☐ ☒

No, the project will have no impact on the resource.

XIII. NOISE: Would the project result in the:
a) Generation of a substantial temporary or permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the vicinity of the project in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance, or applicable standards of other agencies? ☐ ☐ ☒ ☐

The proposed reclamation plan may increase ambient noise levels in the project's vicinity. However, the site is secluded, located off Highway 168 near Wilkerson Springs. The nearest ranch is approximately 2 miles away, and the nearest community, Big Pine, is about 3 miles away.

b) Generation of excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels? ☐ ☐ ☒ ☐

No, although the mining operation could generate some groundborne noise or vibration, the site is secluded off Highway 168 near Wilkerson Springs. With the nearest ranch approximately 2 miles away and the closest community, Big Pine, about 3 miles away, the potential impact on nearby residents is minimal

c) For a project located within the vicinity of a private airstrip or, 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? ☐ ☐ ☐ ☒

No, the proposed project is not located within an airport land use plan, or within 2-miles of a public airport.

XIV. POPULATION AND HOUSING:

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
Would the project: 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)?	☐	☐	☐	☒

No, the project would not induce substantial population growth in the area, either directly or indirectly. It does not involve the development of new homes, businesses, or infrastructure that could encourage population growth. The gravel pit's purpose is limited to resource extraction, with no components aimed at residential or commercial development.

b) Displace substantial numbers of existing people or housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?	☐	☐	☐	☒

No, the project would not displace substantial numbers of people or housing, nor necessitate the construction of replacement housing. The gravel pit is located in a non-residential area, with no existing housing or population directly affected by its operations.

XV. PUBLIC SERVICES: Would the project: a) 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:				
Fire protection?	☐	☐	☒	☐

No, the project would not result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or altered governmental facilities, including fire services. The gravel pit operation is not expected to require new or expanded fire service facilities, as it does not significantly affect service ratios, response times, or other performance objectives. The site's remote location and nature of operations pose minimal additional demands on public services.

Police protection?	☐	☐	☐	☒

No, the gravel pit operation is not expected to require additional law enforcement resources or facilities, as it will not significantly affect service ratios, response times, or other performance objectives for police services.

Schools?	☐	☐	☐	☒

No, the gravel pit operation will not induce population growth or housing development, meaning it will not generate additional student enrollment or create a need for new or expanded school facilities.

Parks?	☐	☐	☐	☒

No, the gravel pit operation will not induce population growth or increase recreational demand, it will not necessitate the construction or expansion of parks.

Other public facilities?	☐	☐	☐	☒

No, The gravel pit operation will not increase population or service demands, nor will it require new infrastructure or upgrades to existing public facilities to maintain acceptable performance standards.

XVI. RECREATION: Would the project: a) Increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities	☐	☐	☐	☒

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact

such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility would occur or be accelerated?

No, the proposed project will not increase the use of existing recreational facilities. No portion of this project anticipates any change in the level of service required.

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? ☐ ☐ ☐ ☒

No, the proposed project does not include, nor will it cause, a need for an increase in parks or other recreational facilities that might have an adverse physical effect on the environment.

XVII. TRANSPORTATION:

a) Conflict with a program, plan, ordinance or policy addressing the circulation system, including transit, roadway, bicycle and pedestrian facilities? ☐ ☐ ☐ ☒

No, the proposed project will have no impact on adopted transportation plans, policies, or programs addressing transit, roadway, bicycle, or pedestrian facilities. The project does not conflict with any local or regional transportation plan, nor does it introduce new elements that would alter existing circulation patterns or require changes to transportation infrastructure.

b) Conflict or be inconsistent with CEQA Guidelines § 15064.3, subdivision (b)? ☐ ☐ ☐ ☒

No, the proposed project will have no impact under CEQA Guidelines § 15064.3, subdivision (b). The project is not expected to increase vehicle miles traveled (VMT) or alter land use or transportation patterns in a way that would generate additional VMT. The project will reduce VMT by utilizing local resources, with an average travel distance of 30 miles, compared to the 80-mile average associated with commercial material sites. This reduction supports regional transportation and sustainability goals.

c) Substantially increase hazards due to a design feature (e.g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses (e.g., farm equipment)? ☐ ☐ ☐ ☒

No, the proposed project will not substantially increase hazards due to a design feature (e.g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or introduce incompatible uses (e.g., farm equipment). The project does not involve modifications to existing roadways, intersections, or transportation infrastructure.

d) Result in inadequate emergency access? ☐ ☐ ☒ ☐

No, the proposed project will not result in inadequate emergency access. While gates will be installed at the entrances of access routes to restrict public entry for safety purposes, they will be designed to allow quick and secure access for emergency responders. The gates will comply with local fire and emergency service requirements.

XVIII. TRIBAL CULTURAL RESOURCES:

Would the project:

a) cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a tribal cultural resource, defined in Public Resources Code § 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:

i) 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 ☐ ☐ ☐ ☒

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact

No, the proposed project will not cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a tribal cultural resource, as defined in Public Resources Code § 21074. A thorough review conducted under NEPA, including background research and a Class III pedestrian survey, confirmed that no recorded tribal cultural resources exist within the project area. Consultation by Caltrans with California Native American tribes indicated no concerns. Therefore, the project complies with all relevant regulations and is exempt from further archaeological studies. Should any discoveries occur during development, they will be subject to conditions requiring adherence to Inyo County Code Chapter 9.52 protocols.

ii) 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 § 5024.1. In applying the criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resource Code § 5024.1, the lead agency shall consider the significance of the resource to a California Native American tribe.	☐	☐	☐	☒

No, the proposed project does not encompass a resource determined by lead agency to be significant pursuant to the criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resources Code § 5024.1. The project description was sent to tribes requesting AB 52 notification, and no requests for additional information have been received from them. If cultural resources are discovered in the project area, work will be stopped, and a local Tribal representative will be consulted to determine the significance of the finding and the proper handling of the resource.

XIX UTILITIES AND SERVICE SYSTEMS:

Would the project: a) Require or result in the relocation or construction of new or expanded water, wastewater treatment or storm water drainage, electric power, natural gas, or telecommunications facilities, the construction or relocation of which could cause significant environmental effects?	☐	☐	☐	☒

No, the proposed project will not result in the construction of new or expanded utility or service systems. The proposed project does not require electricity or waste facilities. All stormwater received at this site will be contained on-site or diverted into existing drainage channels and will not require new or an expansion of existing stormwater drainage facilities.

b) Have sufficient water supplies available to serve the project and reasonably foreseeable future development during normal, dry and multiple dry years?	☐	☐	☐	☒

Yes, the proposed project will have sufficient water supplies available to meet its needs during normal, dry, and multiple dry years. Water for the project will be supplied from an existing off-site well, with water trucks filled at either the Independence Maintenance Yard or the Bishop Maintenance Yard. The project is expected to use approximately 5,000 gallons per day during summer processing operations, with an estimated average of 15 processing days per year. No new water infrastructure is required, and the demand is minimal and intermittent in nature.

c) Result in a determination by the waste water 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?	☐	☐	☐	☒

No, the proposed project will not be serviced by a wastewater treatment facility.

d) Generate solid waste in excess of state or local standards, or in excess of the capacity of local infrastructure, or otherwise impair the attainment of solid waste reduction goals?	☐	☐	☐	☒

No, the project is served by a county landfill that has the capacity to accommodate the project's solid waste disposal needs. All refuse is disposed into approved trash bins and removed by a commercial garbage hauler.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
e) Comply with federal, state, and local management and reduction statutes and regulations related to solid waste?	☐	☐	☐	☒

Yes, the applicant will be required to comply with federal, state and local statues and regulations related to solid waste.

XX. WILDFIRE:

Would the project:

a) Substantially impair an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?	☐	☐	☐	☒

No, the project will not interfere with the implementation of an adopted emergency plan.

b) Due to slope, prevailing winds, and other factors, exacerbate wildfire risks, and thereby expose project occupants to pollutant concentrations from a wildfire or the uncontrolled spread of a wildfire?	☐	☐	☐	☒

No, the project site is comprised of shale, gravel, and sand. The site's vegetation will remain sparse until the completion of mining occurs, and final slope, seed distribution has been accomplished to reduce the risk of wildfire.

c) Require the installation or maintenance of associated infrastructure (such as roads, fuel breaks, emergency water sources, power lines or other utilities) that may exacerbate fire risk or that may result in temporary or ongoing impacts to the environment?	☐	☐	☐	☒

No, the project will not cause the need for additional wildfire-associated infrastructure. The project site is also located within a Federal Responsibility Area.

d) Expose people or structures to significant risks, including downslope or downstream flooding or landslides, as a result of runoff, post-fire slope instability, or drainage changes?	☐	☐	☐	☒

No, the nearest community, Big Pine, is located 1.5 miles away from the site. The site consists of highly permeable soils, which minimizes the risk of downslope or downstream flooding and eliminates concerns about potential landslides

XXI. 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, 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?	☐	☒	☒	☐

No, the project will not impact or degrade the quality of the environment. Caltrans can mitigate the project area's resource impacts to less than significant. Inyo County will write mitigation measures into the Conditions of Approval for the permit. The applicant shall work with the Great Basin Air Pollution Control District (GBAPCD) to operate in such a way as to minimize potential air quality effects from the mining operation and reclamation plan. The applicant shall work with CDFW to mitigate the special status species' impacts and obtain a 2081 Incidental Take permit. If any vegetation removal activities occur between February 15 – September 30. A pre-construction survey shall be conducted for nesting birds, no more than 3-days before construction, and submitted to the Planning Department and the BLM. A qualified avian biologist shall prepare and implement a Nesting Bird Plan if active nests are found, per CDFW requirements. Any grubbing or vegetation removal shall occur outside peak breeding season. Caltrans will be required to follow all State and local regulations regarding hazardous materials. The proposed project does not encompass a resource eligible for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources or a local register or historical resources defined in Public Resource Code section 5020.1(k). Work shall stop if any archaeological or cultural resources are discovered on the site. Inyo County staff shall

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact

be immediately notified per Chapter 9.52, Disturbance of Archaeological, Paleontological, and Historical Features of the Inyo County Code.

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)? ☐ ☐ ☐ ☒

The proposed mining reclamation is located in a remote area, and the impacts of this project are not expected to be cumulatively considerable.

c) Does the project have environmental effects which will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly? ☐ ☐ ☐ ☒

No, Caltrans will remove all equipment and debris from the site upon completion of mining. The gate and site perimeter berm will restrict public access to the site for the life of the mine operation. Warning signs with contrasting background lettering shall install at access points into the quarries stating "No Trespassing - Keep Out; Surface Mining Operation" or similar. Also, the reclaimed 3H:1V slopes will be of sufficient low gradient to not cause a hazard to public safety.

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California
Department of Conservation
Division of Mine Reclamation

Gavin Newsom, Governor
Jennifer Lucchesi, Director

May 2, 2025

SENT VIA EMAIL: rstandridge@inyocounty.us

Ryan Smith-Standridge
Inyo County
Inyo County Planning Department
168 North Edwards Street, P.O. Box L
Independence, CA 93526

NOTICE OF INCOMPLETE RECLAMATION PLAN SUBMISSION
ZURICH MINE (CA MINE #91-14-0143)

Dear Ryan Smith-Standridge:

The Department of Conservation's Division of Mine Reclamation (DMR) received a reclamation plan (RP) regarding the proposed Zurich Mine from Inyo County (County) on April 1, 2025. The Mine is operated by the Department of Transportation (Caltrans).

DMR staff determined that the RP is incomplete pursuant to Public Resources Code (PRC) §2772.1(b)(1):

> "An incomplete submission is one that does not meet the content requirements of Sections 2772, 2773, and 2773.3 and Article 1 (commencing with Section 3500) and Article 9 (commencing with Section 3700) of Subchapter 1 of Chapter 8 of Division 2 of Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations (CCR), as applicable."

Pursuant to PRC §2772.1(b)(3), DMR's time to prepare written comments regarding the RP will commence when DMR receives the following materials:

1. The RP submittal does not include Appendices B, C, D, and E.

   The Reclamation Plan Content Checklist refers to Appendices B, C, D, and E. Some PRC and CCR codes have not been addressed because the submittal is missing these Appendices. It is also unclear as to which documents are in the Appendices since they are not labeled the same as the Table of Contents.

   The RP submittal must be revised to include all parts of the RP and be submitted at one time.

2. The RP submittal does not include a statement that the person submitting the RP accepts responsibility for reclaiming the mined lands.

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PRC §2772 (c)(10) states: "A statement that the person submitting the reclamation plan accepts responsibility for reclaiming the mined lands in accordance with the reclamation plan." The Checklist submitted by CalTrans indicates "N/a" on this required item.

The RP submittal must be revised to include a statement that CalTrans accepts responsibility for reclaiming the site.

3. The RP submittal does not include clearly defined and accurately drawn property lines, setbacks, nor the reclamation plan boundary.

   PRC §2772 (c)(5)(B) states: "A reclamation plan map or maps that shall include all of the following: clearly defined and accurately drawn property lines, setbacks, and the reclamation plan boundary." Although the provided plan sheets label "Proposed R/W," "Proposed area of disturbance (mining) 14 AC," and "20' Buffer Area", these labeled lines do not satisfy the requirements of PRC §2772 (c)(5)(B).

   The RP submittal must be revised to include clearly defined and accurately drawn property lines, setbacks, and the reclamation plan boundary.

4. The RP submittal does not include signatures and seals of all licensees on the RP maps.

   PRC §2772 (c)(5)(F) states: "…the Geologist and Geophysicist Act (Chapter 12.5 (commencing with Section 7800) of Division 3 of the Business and Professions Code), the Professional Land Surveyors' Act (Chapter 15 (commencing with Section 8700) of Division 3 of the Business and Professions Code) [the maps] shall be prepared by a California-licensed professional, shall include his or her license number and name, and shall bear the signature and seal of the licensee," and is required across all plan sheets. There is only one signature and seal from the surveyor on the Highway Easement Deed. Additionally, there is no geologist signature and seal on the geologic map.

   The RP submittal must be revised to have each map bear the signature and seal of the responsible licensee.

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If you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact Claire Meehan at 916-639-5238. Additionally, DMR receives electronic correspondence at DMR-Submittals@conservation.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

DocuSigned by:
Claire Meehan
7C67E0775504421...

Claire Meehan
Environmental Scientist

Signed by:
Jacquelynn Fau
10B2FB1E4F934E0...

Jacquelynn Fau
Geologist in Training

cc: Forest Becket, the Department of Transportation (Caltrans), Designated Agent, forest.becket@dot.ca.gov

Lawrence Primosch, Representative, Bureau of Land Management, lawrence.primosch@blm.gov

Reclaim for the future: The California Natural Resources Agency encourages lead agencies to plan for climate resilience and adaptation at the local planning level. Read more here: California Climate Adaptation Strategy and 30x30 California.

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California
Department of Conservation
Division of Mine Reclamation

Gavin Newsom, Governor
Jennifer Lucchesi, Director

July 7, 2025

SENT VIA EMAIL: rstandridge@inyocounty.us

Ryan Smith-Standridge
Inyo County
Planning Department
168 North Edwards Street, P.O. Box L
Independence, CA 93526

RECLAMATION PLAN REVIEW
ZURICH MINE (CA MINE #91-14-0143)

Dear Ryan Smith-Standridge:

The Department of Conservation's Division of Mine Reclamation (DMR) received a complete reclamation plan (RP), pursuant to Public Resources Code (PRC) §2772.1, for the Zurich Mine from Inyo County (County) on June 4, 2025. The documents were submitted for DMR's review pursuant to PRC §2772.1. The mine is operated by Caltrans.

The Surface Mine and Reclamation Act (SMARA) statutes (PRC Division 2, Chapter 9, §2710 et seq.) and associated regulations require that specific items be addressed or included in RPs. As the entity with principal responsibility for approving the RP, the County shall ensure that the proposed RP meets the minimum requirements of SMARA. Prior to approving the RP, please consider the following comments pursuant to PRC §2772.1(b):

1. The limit of work for "decompaction, topsoil spreading, surface roughening, and seeding" has not been clearly defined.

   Section 4.6.0 Revegetation states that "[decompaction], topsoil spreading, surface roughening, and seeding of the site will take place…" The extent of "the site" is not detailed in the text or the plans.

   The limit of work for "decompaction, topsoil spreading, surface roughening, and seeding" should be clearly defined.

2. The RP submittal does not prescribe a minimum topsoil spreading depth.

   Although the RP submittal specifies 6" of topsoil will be salvaged, it does not describe a minimum depth for respreading. Without a required minimum depth, optimal revegetation standards may not

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be adhered to; additionally, neither provisions nor financial assurances for topsoil import can be made if stockpiled topsoil is insufficient.

The RP submittal should prescribe a minimum topsoil spreading depth.

3. The RP submittal does not prescribe criteria for noxious weed management on site.

   Without a prescribed plan to mitigate for noxious weeds, optimal revegetation standards may not be attainable.

   The RP submittal should prescribe criteria for the management of noxious weeds on site.

DMR looks forward to the County's response to comments and 30-day notice to approve followed by receipt of the approved RP pursuant to PRC §2772.1(b)(5)(A)(i) or (ii) and PRC §2774.2.5. DMR receives electronic correspondence at DMR-Submittals@conservation.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

DocuSigned by:
Claire Meehan
7C67E0775504421...

Claire Meehan
Environmental Scientist

DocuSigned by:
David Rader
512788529A2445E...

David H. Rader, PG
Manager

cc: Forest Becket, Caltrans, Designated Agent, forest.becket@dot.ca.gov
Lawrence Primosch, Representative, Bureau of Land Management, lawrence.primosch@blm.gov

Reclaim for the future: The California Natural Resources Agency encourages lead agencies to plan for climate resilience and adaptation at the local planning level. Read more here: California Climate Adaptation Strategy and 30x30 California.

State of California – Natural Resources Agency
DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE
Inland Deserts Region
3602 Inland Empire Boulevard, Suite C-220
Ontario, CA 91764
www.wildlife.ca.gov

GAVIN NEWSOM, Governor
CHARLTON H. BONHAM, Director

May 12, 2025
Sent via email

Ryan Standridge, Associate Planner
Inyo County
168 N Edwards Post Office Drawer L
Independence, California 93526

Subject: Draft Mitigated Negative Declaration
Draft Reclamation Plan 2023-01 Zurich/Caltrans Material Site #308 (Zurich Pit) State Clearinghouse No. 2025040921

Dear Ryan Standridge:

The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) received a draft Mitigated Negative Declaration (draft MND) from Inyo County for the Project pursuant the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and CEQA Guidelines.[1]

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments and recommendations regarding those activities involved in the Project that may affect California fish and wildlife. Likewise, we appreciate the opportunity to provide comments regarding those aspects of the Project that CDFW, by law, may be required to carry out or approve through the exercise of its own regulatory authority under the Fish and Game Code.

CDFW ROLE

CDFW is California's **Trustee Agency** for fish and wildlife resources and holds those resources in trust by statute for all the people of the State. (Fish & G. Code, §§ 711.7, subd. (a) & 1802; Pub. Resources Code, § 21070; CEQA Guidelines § 15386, subd. (a).) CDFW, in its trustee capacity, has jurisdiction over the conservation, protection, and management of fish, wildlife, native plants, and habitat necessary for biologically sustainable populations of those species. (*Id.*, § 1802.) Similarly for purposes of CEQA, CDFW is charged by law to provide, as available, biological expertise during public agency environmental review efforts, focusing specifically on projects and related activities that have the potential to adversely affect fish and wildlife resources.

CDFW is also submitting comments as a **Responsible Agency** under CEQA. (Pub. Resources Code, § 21069; CEQA Guidelines, § 15381.) CDFW expects that it may need to exercise regulatory authority as provided by the Fish and Game Code. As proposed, for example, the Project may be subject to CDFW's lake and streambed

[1] CEQA is codified in the California Public Resources Code in section 21000 et seq. The "CEQA Guidelines" are found in Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations, commencing with section 15000.

alteration regulatory authority. (Fish & G. Code, § 1600 et seq.) Likewise, to the extent implementation of the Project as proposed may result in "take" as defined by State law of any species protected under the California Endangered Species Act (CESA) (Fish & G. Code, § 2050 et seq.), the project proponent may seek related take authorization as provided by the Fish and Game Code.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION SUMMARY

Proponent: Inyo County

Objective: This Surface Mining and Reclamation Plan addresses the operation and reclamation of the Caltrans Material Site 308, also known as the Zurich Pit. The Zurich Pit is located near the community of Big Pine in Inyo County, California. The total Caltrans right-of-way (ROW) area is 54.26 acres, encompassing 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. Of the total 54.26 acres, 14 acres of previously mined areas will be mined in two phases over a period of 59 years. This reclamation plan describes a process that will minimize environmental impacts during and resulting from mining, implement reclamation activities as soon as possible, and return the mined land to a condition suitable of supporting open space, wildlife habitat and designated end uses.

Location: The Project is in Inyo County, approximately 3 miles northeast of Big Pine at post-mile marker 21.5 along State Route 168 East in Inyo County. The Project site is located in Section 03, Township 9 South, and Range 34 East (Mount Diablo Base and Meridian [MDBM]) of the USGS "Uhlmeyer Spring, California" 7.5-minute quadrangle. The approximate center of the pit is located at 37.191813° Latitude and -118.244390° Longitude. The APN is 018-070-10.

Timeframe: The draft MND does not provide a specific timeframe for construction. Phase 1 is estimated to span approximately 16 years from the start of the Project and Phase 2 is estimated to span approximately 43 years from the start of the Project. The total length of the Project is estimated to span 59 years from the start of the Project. CDFW recommends the inclusion of an anticipated start and end dates for this Project.

COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

CDFW has jurisdiction over the conservation, protection, and management of fish, wildlife, native plants, and habitat necessary for biologically sustainable populations of those species (i.e., biological resources). CDFW is concerned the draft MND has not adequately identified and disclosed the Project's impacts (i.e., direct, indirect, and cumulative) to biological resources, with sufficient supporting documentation whether those impacts are less than significant. CDFW offers the comments and

recommendations below to assist Inyo County in adequately identifying and/or mitigating the Project's significant, or potentially significant, direct and indirect impacts on fish and wildlife (biological) resources.

I. Project Description and Related Impact Shortcoming

Comment #1: Identifying the Project Location and Impact Areas

Entire Draft MND

Issue: The draft MND available on the Inyo County website and CEQAnet web portal does not identify the location of the 14-acre impact area within the larger 55-acre Highway Easement Deed. Additionally, it is unclear where the project impacts are in relation to the previously approved 22-acre BLM-ran community pit.

Specific impact: The draft MND indicates "the aggregate pit is located on BLM land approximately 3 miles northeast of Big Pine, California, in section 3, Township 9S, Range 34E, Mount Diablo Meridian, with Tax Assessor Parcel Number (APN) 018-070-10. This draft MND does not provide a map with the Project boundaries indicating the limits of disturbance.

Evidence impact would be significant: CEQA is predicated on a complete and accurate description of the proposed Project. Without a complete and accurate proposed Project description, the MND likely provides an incomplete assessment of Project-related impacts to biological resources. CDFW has identified gaps in information related to the proposed Project description

CDFW Recommendations: A revised MND should be recirculated that clearly identifies the area and extent of the proposed Project, including maps that show the various impact areas.

II. Environmental Setting and Related Impact Shortcoming

COMMENT #2: Assessment of Biological Resources

Draft MND document, Section 4 Biological Resources

Issue: The draft MND does not adequately identify the Project's significant, or potentially significant, impacts to biological resources.

Specific impact: The draft MND bases its analysis of the Project site's existing biological resource conditions by referencing a NEPA review of unknown date and field surveys conducted by Caltrans on April 23, 2020. The draft MND does not include any supporting documentation regarding the field surveys, such as who conducted them, the surveyors qualifications, location of the surveys, results of the

surveys, constraints of the surveys, etc. CDFW is concerned about the potential for special-status species to occur on or near the Project site that may have been overlooked during the field survey and not addressed in the draft MND. The draft MND does not provide evidence that focused or protocol level surveys were performed for the detection of special-status species. The Project is surrounded by agricultural, disturbed land, and irrigation canals, and there is potential for special-status species to be impacted either directly or indirectly by Project activities. The California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDB) and Biogeographic Information and Observation System (BIOS) indicate that occurrences of ESA-listed, CESA-listed, or other special-status species have been reported near the Project area.

Recent surveys during the appropriate times of the year are needed to inform and identify potential impacts to biological resources; inform appropriate avoidance, minimization, and mitigation measures; and to determine whether impacts to biological resources have been mitigated to a level that is less than significant. CDFW generally considers field assessments for wildlife to be valid for a one-year period, and assessments for rare plants may be considered valid for a period of up to three years.

Why impact would occur: The Project includes a 59 year term of Project activities, partial remediation and reclamation of the Project area with long-term permanent impacts of at least 14 acres and up to 54.26 acres. The draft MND should have included a detailed Project impact analysis to biological resources with supporting documentation and include specific avoidance and minimization and mitigation measures to reduce the Project impacts to a less than significant level.

Evidence impact would be significant: Compliance with CEQA is predicated on a complete and accurate description of the environmental setting that may be affected by the proposed Project. CDFW is concerned that the assessment of the existing environmental setting with respect to biological resources has not been adequately analyzed in the draft MND. CDFW is concerned that without a complete and accurate description of the existing environmental setting, the draft MND likely provides an incomplete or inaccurate analysis of Project-related environmental impacts and whether those impacts have been mitigated to a level that is less than significant. Section 15125(c) of the CEQA Guidelines states that knowledge of the regional setting of a project is critical to the assessment of environmental impacts, that special emphasis should be placed on environmental resources that are rare or unique to the region, and that significant environmental impacts of the proposed Project are adequately investigated and discussed.

Habitat loss, reduced reproduction, increased predation, increased energetic costs during foraging activities, and introduced risks posed by having to find and compete for available habitat. Some of these species listed above and in comments below are candidate and listed species, granted full protection of a threatened species under

CESA. Take is defined in Fish and Game Code section 86 as “hunt, pursue, catch, capture or kill, or attempt to hunt, pursue, catch, capture or kill.” CESA allows CDFW to authorize project proponents to take state-listed threatened, endangered, or candidate species if certain conditions are met. Take must be incidental to an otherwise lawful activity. The issuance of a permit cannot jeopardize the continued existence of the species, and the impacts must be minimized and fully mitigated.

Comments and Recommendations

It is recommended that draft MND include an analysis of the Project’s impacts to biological resources and include specific detailed documentation that supports the analysis and determination of impacts. Without information regarding biological resources, with evidence to support the draft MND’s determinations, the draft MND may not be able to determine whether the project can mitigate its impacts to a less than significant level. CDFW recommends the draft MND be revised and recirculated to provide this information. However, if Inyo County chooses not to collect and disseminate this information, then CDFW recommends that the mitigation measure be updated, as provided below, to determine if the site is occupied by special-status species.

Recommended Potentially Feasible Mitigation Measure to reduce impacts to less than significant:

To establish the existing environmental setting with respect to biological resources, CDFW recommends that a revised MND include the following mitigation measure:

Mitigation Measure BIO-(1) NEW: Assessment of Biological Resources Prior to Project construction activities, a complete and recent inventory of rare, threatened, endangered, and other sensitive species located within the Project footprint and within offsite areas with the potential to be affected, including California Species of Special Concern (CSSC) and California Fully Protected Species (Fish and Game Code § 3511), will be completed. Species to be addressed should include all those which meet the CEQA definition (CEQA Guidelines § 15380). The inventory should address seasonal variations in use of the Project area and should not be limited to resident species. Focused species-specific surveys, completed by a qualified biologist and conducted at the appropriate time of year and time of day when the sensitive species are active or otherwise identifiable are required. Acceptable species specific survey procedures should be developed in consultation with CDFW and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, where necessary. Note that CDFW generally considers biological field assessments for wildlife to be valid for a one-year period, and assessments for rare plants may be considered valid for a period of up to three years. Some aspects of the proposed Project may warrant periodic updated surveys for certain sensitive taxa, particularly if the Project

is proposed to occur over a protracted time frame, or in phases, or if surveys are completed during periods of drought.

III. Mitigation Measure or Alternative and Related Impact Shortcoming

COMMENT #1: Preconstruction Surveys and Species Avoidance for Biological Resources

Section #2.5.2, Pages #12-13

The draft MND provides insufficient analysis of project impact to species of special concern (SSC) for wildlife according to CNDDB including: American badger (*Taxidea taxus*), Pale Kangaroo Mouse (*Microdipodops pallidus*), Chisel-Toothed Kangaroo Rat (*Dipodomys microps*): Northern Sagebrush Lizard (*Sceloporus graciosus graciosus*), Long-Nosed Leopard Lizard (*Gambelia wislizenii*), and Zebra-Tailed Lizard (*Callisaurus draconoides*); Morrison Bumble Bee (*Bombus morrisoni*) and San Emigdio Blue Butterfly (*Plebulina emigdionis*). This is only a partial listing. The draft MND should ensure that all SSC are included within the impact analysis and determination of avoidance/minimization and mitigation measures.

Specific impact: The draft MND does not identify the site of the Zurich Pit within the predicted range and suitability of the habitat for these species. The draft MND bases its analysis of the Project site's existing biological resource conditions by referencing a NEPA review of unknown date and field surveys conducted by Caltrans on April 23, 2020. The draft MND failed to include any supporting documentation regarding the field surveys, who conducted them, their qualifications, location of the surveys, results of the surveys, constraints of the surveys. The Project has the potential for the long-term loss of habitat, habitat destruction, habitat abandonment, disturbance from construction noise and activities, increased risk of predation and degradation of suitable habitat may occur from Project activities for these species for at least 59 years.

Why impact would occur: The Project includes a 59 year term of Project activities, partial remediation and reclamation of the Project area with long-term permanent impacts of at least 14 acres and up to 54.26 acres. The draft MND should have included a detailed Project impact analysis to biological resources with supporting documentation and include specific avoidance and minimization and mitigation measures to reduce the Project impacts to a less than significant level.

Evidence impact would be significant: CEQA provides protection not only for CESA listed species, but for any species including but not limited to SSC which can be shown to meet the criteria for State listing. These species meet the CEQA definition of rare, threatened, or endangered species (CEQA Guidelines, § 15380). A SSC is a species, subspecies, or distinct population of an animal native to California that currently satisfies one or more of the following (not necessarily mutually

exclusive) criteria: is extirpated from the State or, in the case of birds, is extirpated in its primary season or breeding role; is listed as ESA-, but not CESA-, threatened, or endangered; meets the State definition of threatened or endangered but has not formally been listed; is experiencing, or formerly experienced, serious (noncyclical) population declines or range retractions (not reversed) that, if continued or resumed, could qualify it for State threatened or endangered status; and/or has naturally small populations exhibiting high susceptibility to risk from any factor(s), that if realized, could lead to declines that would qualify it for CESA threatened or endangered status. Impacts on SSC could require a mandatory finding of significance under CEQA (CEQA Guidelines, § 15065). Compliance with CEQA is predicated on a complete and accurate description of the environmental setting that may be affected by the proposed Project.

CDFW is concerned that the assessment of the existing environmental setting with respect to biological resources has not been adequately analyzed in the draft MND. CDFW is concerned that without a complete and accurate description of the existing environmental setting, the draft MND likely provides an incomplete or inaccurate analysis of Project-related environmental impacts and whether those impacts have been mitigated to a level that is less than significant. Section 15125(c) of the CEQA Guidelines states that knowledge of the regional setting of a Project is critical to the assessment of environmental impacts, that special emphasis should be placed on environmental resources that are rare or unique to the region, and that significant environmental impacts of the proposed Project are adequately investigated and discussed. Absent a thorough species impact analysis and mitigation strategy, it is unclear whether the Project's impacts can be adequately identified, disclosed, or mitigated. CDFW recommends the draft MND be revised and circulated to provide this information. However, if Inyo County chooses not to collect and disseminate this information, then the mitigation measure should be updated, as provided below, to address a scenario in which the site is determined to be occupied.

Recommended Potentially Feasible Mitigation Measure to reduce impacts to less than significant: It is recommended that draft MND include an analysis of the Project's impacts to biological resources and include specific detailed documentation that supports the analysis and determination of impacts. Without information regarding biological resources, with evidence to support the draft MND's determinations, the MND may not be able to determine whether the project can mitigate its impacts to less than significant. CDFW recommends the MND be revised and circulated to provide this information. However, if Inyo County chooses not to collect and disseminate this information, then the mitigation measure should be updated, as provided below, to address a scenario in which the site is determined to be occupied.

CDFW recommends that prior to commencing Project activities, focused and pre-construction surveys for SSC be conducted by a qualified biologist in accordance

with CDFW protocols and for The surveys shall include 100 percent coverage of the Project site and 500-meter buffer in adjacent habitat. To support Inyo County in reducing impacts to these species to a level less than significant, CDFW offers the following new mitigation measures:

Mitigation Measure BIO-(2)*: Preconstruction Surveys (New)*

Three days prior to construction, preconstruction species of special concern, special status species, or listed species, rare plants, and sensitive natural community surveys must be conducted by the qualified biologist, up to the limits of the ROW and following current survey protocols. Sensitive natural communities and rare plants outside of the approved PIA and within Inyo County ROW must be flagged for visual identification to construction personnel for work avoidance. Sensitive Natural Communities and rare plants for avoidance detected shall be flagged or fenced off with ESA high visibility fencing. If any species of special concern, special status species, or listed species are found, or signs are found, other than what is described on the plans and specifications, are located, the Resident Engineer and Biologist must be contacted and additional measures and/or agency coordination shall be required, which shall include compensatory mitigation for impacts as determined by CDFW.

Mitigation Measure BIO-(3)*: Species Avoidance (NEW)*

If during Project activities insect host plants, nesting birds, any species of special concern, special status species, or listed species are found, or signs are found, are discovered within the Project Site, all construction activities must stop within 10 feet for rare insect host plants, 100 feet for non-passerine nesting birds, 300 feet for nesting passerine species, 500 feet for raptors. The Biologist and Resident Engineer must be notified. Coordination with CDFW and USFWS shall be required prior to restarting activities.

Mitigation Measure BIO-(4) *Small Mammal (New)*

Prior to any ground disturbance, a survey for potential habitat suitability and presence of Pale Kangaroo Mouse (Microdipodops pallidus), or Chisel-Toothed Kangaroo Rat (Dipodomys microps), no more than 3 days prior to Project activities commencing shall be conducted by a qualified biologist. The surveys shall include 100 percent coverage and include a minimum 500-meter buffer in adjacent habitat. A report summarizing the pre-construction survey including all requirements for survey reports shall be submitted to CDFW for review.

If SSC are detected, the qualified biologist shall use visible flagging to mark the location where SSC was detected. The qualified biologist should take a photo of each location, map each location, and provide the specific species detected at that location. The qualified biologist shall provide a summary report of SSC surveys to Inyo County before any Project-related ground-disturbing activities. CDFW should be notified and consulted regarding the presence of any special status wildlife species found on site during surveys. If an Endangered Species Act-listed species is found prior to or during grading of the site, the USFWS should also be notified. Additional avoidance and minimization measures may need to be developed with CDFW/USFWS.

Mitigation Measure BIO-(5)*Reptile (New)*

Prior to any ground disturbance, a survey for potential habitat suitability and presence of Northern Sagebrush Lizard (Sceloporus graciosus graciosus), Long-Nosed Leopard Lizard (Gambelia wislizenii), and Zebra-Tailed Lizard (Callisaurus draconoides), no more than 3 days prior to Project activities commencing shall be conducted by a qualified biologist. The surveys shall include 100 percent coverage and include a minimum 500-meter buffer in adjacent habitat. A report summarizing the pre-construction survey including all requirements for survey reports shall be submitted to CDFW for review.

Mitigation Measure BIO-(6) *Reptile: Authorized Biologist Clearance Surveys (Revised)*

Clearance Northern Sagebrush Lizard, Long-Nosed Leopard Lizard, and Zebra-Tailed Lizard surveys must be conducted by the qualified biologist 3 days prior to Project activities within the Project footprint. If any of these lizard species are located, the Resident Engineer and Inyo County Biologist must be contacted, and additional measures and/or agency coordination may be required. Any special status reptiles or species of special concern removed from work areas may be moved from harm's way to the nearest suitable habitat or translocated, following most recent CDFW and USFWS guidelines. A CDFW 2081 permit may be required. Work in other areas of the Project site may continue if no special status reptiles are found within the Project footprint. An incidental take permit (ITP) for these reptiles shall be obtained prior to initiation of all ground disturbing activities. The Project proponent shall adhere to measures and conditions set forth within the ITP. Mitigation for direct impacts shall be fulfilled through conservation of suitable reptile habitat through the purchase of mitigation bank credits or land acquisition determined through coordination with USFWS and the California Department of Fish and Wildlife.

Mitigation Measure BIO-(7) Invertebrate-1 (New)

Prior to any ground disturbance, a survey for potential habitat suitability and presence of Morrison Bumble Bee (Bombus morrisoni) and San Emigdio Blue Butterfly (Plebulina emigdionis), no more than 3 days prior to Project activities commencing shall be conducted by a qualified biologist. The surveys shall include 100 percent coverage and include a minimum 500-meter buffer in adjacent habitat. A report summarizing the pre-construction survey including all requirements for survey reports shall be submitted to CDFW for review.

Comment #6 American Badger (Taxidea taxus)

Issue: The Project may impact potentially suitable habitat for American Badger and avoidance and minimization measures were not proposed within the draft MND to avoid impacts the species of special concern.

Specific Impact: The Project area within the range and is known to support suitable habitat for American Badger, a Species of Special Concern (SSC). The MND fails to address potential impacts to American badger. Additionally, the MND fails to propose avoidance and minimization measures to reduce project impacts to less than significant

Why Impact Would Occur: The Project occurs within the range of the American badger, a California species of special concern.

Evidence impact would be significant: Impacts on SSC could require a mandatory finding of significance under CEQA (CEQA Guidelines, § 15065). A SSC is a species, subspecies, or distinct population of an animal native to California that currently satisfies one or more of the following (not necessarily mutually exclusive) criteria:

- is extirpated from the State or, in the case of birds, is extirpated in its primary season or breeding role;
- is listed as ESA-, but not CESA-, threatened, or endangered; meets the State definition of threatened or endangered but has not formally been listed; is experiencing, or formerly experienced, serious (noncyclical) population declines or range retractions (not reversed) that, if continued or resumed, could qualify it for State threatened or endangered status; and/or
- has naturally small populations exhibiting high susceptibility to risk from any factor(s), that if realized, could lead to declines that would qualify it for CESA threatened or endangered status.

Recommended potentially feasible mitigation measure to reduce impacts to less that significant

Mitigation Measure BIO-(8) American Badger (NEW)

> ***The Project owner shall develop and implement a American Badger Mitigation and Monitoring Plan (plan). The objective of the plan shall be to avoid direct impacts to the American badger as a result of project activities. The final plan is subject to review, comment, revision, by the CDFW. The final plan shall include, but is not limited to, the following procedures and impact avoidance measures: Describe pre-construction survey and clearance field protocol, to determine the number and locations of single or paired badgers on the Project site that would need to be avoided or passively relocated and the number and locations of badger burrows or burrow complexes that would need to be collapsed to prevent re-occupancy by the animals.***
>
> ***Pre-Construction Surveys. Biological Monitors shall conduct pre-construction surveys for American badger no more than 30 days prior to initiation of construction activities, including pre-construction site mobilization. Surveys shall also address the potential presence of active dens within 100 feet of the Project boundary (including utility corridors and access roads). If dens are detected, each den shall be classified as inactive, potentially active, or active den.***
>
> ***Monitoring and Protection Measures, Passive Hazing, and Den Excavation: The plan will include details on monitoring requirements, types and methods of passive hazing, and methods and timing of den excavation, including, but not limited to the following:***
>
> - ***Inactive dens. Inactive dens (e.g., inactive dens are dens that are mostly or entirely silted in and ones in which the back of the den can clearly be seen (e.g., the den isn't deep and doesn't curve) that would be directly impacted by construction activities shall be excavated by hand and backfilled to prevent reuse.***
> - ***Potentially and definitely active dens. Potentially and definitely active dens that would be directly impacted by construction activities shall be monitored by the Biological Monitor for three consecutive nights using a tracking medium (such as diatomaceous earth or fire clay) and/or infrared camera stations at the entrance. If no tracks are observed in the tracking medium or no photos of the target species are captured after three nights, the den shall be excavated and backfilled by hand. If tracks are***

observed, the den shall be progressively blocked with natural materials (rocks, dirt, sticks, and vegetation piled in front of the entrance) for the next three to five nights to discourage the badger from continued use. After verification that the den is unoccupied it shall then be excavated and backfilled by hand to ensure that no badgers are trapped in the den. If the den is proven inactive then den may be collapsed during whelping season.

- ***Active natal/pupping dens. If an active natal den (a den with pups) is detected on the site during construction, the CDFW shall be contacted within 24 hours to determine the appropriate course of action to minimize the potential for animal harm or mortality. The course of action would depend on the age of the pups, location of the den on the site (e.g., is the den in a central area or in a perimeter location), status of the perimeter site fence (completed or not), and the pending construction activities proposed near the den. A 500-foot no-disturbance buffer shall be maintained around all active dens. If the den is active during the whelping season, even if pups are not seen, disturbance is not allowed. Active natal/pupping dens will not be excavated or passively relocated.***

- ***Address other factors and procedures that may affect the success of relocation offsite, such as: estimates of the distances badgers would need to travel across the Project site and across adjacent lands to safely access suitable habitat (including burrows) off-site; proposed scheduling of the passive relocation effort; and methods to minimize likelihood that the animals will return to the Project site during construction.***

COMMENT #2: Burrowing Owl (*Athene cunicularia hypugaea*)

Section #2.5.2, Pages #12-13

Issue: On October 10, 2024, the Fish and Game Commission determined that western burrowing owl warrants protection as a candidate species under the California Endangered Species Act (CESA) (Fish & G. Code, § 2050 et seq.). During the candidacy period, western burrowing owl will be afforded the same protection as threatened and endangered species under CESA. The Project may impact burrowing owls and its habitat. CDFW is concerned that the draft MND does not sufficiently identify Project impacts to burrowing owl since no burrowing owl habitat assessments or focused surveys were conducted.

Specific impact: The Draft Reclamation Plan does not identify the site of the Zurich Pit withing the predicted range and suitability of the habitat. The Project has the signification potential for the long-term loss of nesting habitat, nest destruction, nest abandonment, disturbance from construction noise and activities, increased risk of predation and degradation of suitable burrowing owl habitat may occur from Project activities.

Why impact would occur: The Natural Environment Study (NES) prepared for the Project determined that burrowing owls do have the potential to occur within the PIA and in the vicinity of the Project. Impacts to vegetation communities that could provide suitable foraging habitat for burrowing owls and suitable burrows may occur in association with the Project due to disturbances associated with construction along with a permanent loss of foraging habitat. Additionally, the California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDB) dataset, Burrowing Owl Predicted Range (CDFW 2024) display a high potential for burrowing owl presence within the Project area. Project construction may result in direct mortality, population decline, or local extirpation of burrowing owl not previously identified. Burrowing owls also have a high potential to move into disturbed areas since they are adapted to highly modified habitats (Chipman et al., 2008; Coulombe, 1971).

Evidence impact would be significant: Habitat loss is a threat to burrowing owls (CDFG, 2012). Burrowing owls are dependent on burrows at all times of the year for survival and/or reproduction, evicting them from nesting, roosting, and satellite burrows may lead to indirect impacts or take. Loss of access to burrows will likely result in varying levels of increased stress on burrowing owls and could depress reproduction, increase predation, increase energetic costs, and introduce risks posed by having to find and compete for available burrows (CDFG, 2012). Burrowing owls are also dependent on adjacent habitat, and forage within 600 meters of nest burrows (Rosenberg and Haley, 2004). As a candidate species, Western Burrowing Owl is granted full protection of a threatened species under CESA. Take is defined in Fish and Game Code section 86 as “hunt, pursue, catch, capture or kill, or attempt to hunt, pursue, catch, capture or kill.” CESA allows CDFW to authorize project proponents to take state-listed threatened, endangered, or candidate species if certain conditions are met. Take must be incidental to an otherwise lawful activity. The issuance of a permit cannot jeopardize the continued existence of the species, and the impacts must be minimized and fully mitigated.

Recommended Potentially Feasible Mitigation Measure to reduce impacts to less than significant: It is recommended that draft MND include an analysis of the Project’s impacts to biological resources, particularly western burrowing owl and include specific detailed documentation that supports the analysis and determination of impacts. Without information regarding biological resources, with evidence to support the draft MND’s determinations, the MND may not be able to determine whether the project can mitigate its impacts to less than significant. CDFW

recommends the MND be revised and circulated to provide this information. However, if Inyo County chooses not to collect and disseminate this information, then the mitigation measure should be updated, as provided below, to address a scenario in which the site is determined to be occupied.

CDFW recommends that prior to commencing Project activities, focused and pre-construction surveys for burrowing owl be conducted by a qualified biologist in accordance with the *Staff Report on Burrowing Owl Mitigation* (CDFW 2012 or most recent version). The surveys shall include 100 percent coverage of the Project site and 500-meter buffer in adjacent habitat. To support Inyo County in reducing impacts to burrowing owl to a level less than significant, CDFW offers the following mitigation measure:

Mitigation Measure BIO-9 Burrowing Owl (New)

Prior to any ground disturbance, a survey for potential burrows followed by four breeding season surveys of areas found to have potential for burrowing owl occupation shall be conducted by a qualified biologist according to the Staff Report on Burrowing Owl Mitigation (CDFW 2012 or most recent version). The surveys shall include 100 percent coverage and include a minimum 500-meter buffer in adjacent habitat. Burrowing owls may recolonize a site after only a few days. Time lapses between Project activities trigger subsequent take avoidance surveys including but not limited to a final survey conducted within 24 hours prior to ground disturbance, in accordance with the Staff Report on Burrowing Owl Mitigation (CDFG 2012 or most recent version). If the surveys confirm the presence of burrowing owls, active burrows or signs thereof, Project activities shall be immediately halted. The qualified biologist shall coordinate with CDFW and prepare a Burrowing Owl Plan that shall be submitted to CDFW for review and approval prior to commencing Project activities. The Burrowing Owl Plan shall describe proposed avoidance, minimization, and monitoring actions. The Burrowing Owl Plan shall include the number and location of occupied burrow sites, acres of burrowing owl habitat that will be impacted, details of site monitoring, and details on proposed buffers and other avoidance measures if avoidance is proposed. Project activities shall not occur within 1000 feet of an active burrow until CDFW approves the Burrowing Owl Plan. If impacts to occupied burrowing owl habitat or burrow cannot be fully avoided, consultation with CDFW is warranted to discuss how to implement the Project and avoid take; or if avoidance is not feasible, to potentially acquire an ITP prior to any ground disturbing activities, pursuant Fish and Game Code section 2081 subdivision (b). Full mitigation often involves the permanent conservation of quality habitat benefiting the species through a conservation easement, along with habitat enhancement and ongoing management funded appropriately. Passive relocation, performed according to the Staff Report on Burrowing Owl

Mitigation (CDFG, 2012) may be authorized through the incidental take permit as a minimization measure.

Burrowing owl identified on site shall be mitigated per the guidance of the Staff Report on Burrowing Owl Mitigation (CDFG, 2012) such that (a) permanent impacts to nesting, occupied and satellite burrows and/or burrowing owl habitat such that the habitat acreage, number of burrows and burrowing owls impacted are replaced with permanent conservation of similar vegetation communities (grassland, scrublands, desert, urban, and agriculture) to provide for burrowing owl nesting, foraging, wintering, and dispersal (i.e., during breeding and non-breeding seasons) comparable to or better than that of the impact area, and (b) sufficiently large acreage, and presence of fossorial mammals.

COMMENT #3: Nesting Birds

Section #2.5.2, Pages #12-13

Issue: The Project includes suitable habitat for several species of nesting birds, including species of special concern (SSC) and federally listed species including: bank swallow (*Riparia riparia*), southwestern willow flycatcher (*Empidonax traillii*), western burrowing owl (*Athene cunicularia*), greater sage-grouse (*Centrocercus urophasianus*), red-winged blackbird (*Agelaius phoeniceus*), golden eagle (*Aquila chrysaetos*). CDFW recommends the completion of a nesting bird survey regardless of time of year to ensure compliance with all applicable laws pertaining to nesting and to avoid take of nests.

Specific impact: The draft MND identifies the Project has the potential to directly impact special-status bird species and their habitats by the removal of suitable habitat for construction. Potential impacts to suitable nesting bird habitat may occur in association with the Project due to disturbances associated with vegetation removal, ground disturbance, shoulder backing, equipment staging areas, and driving/parking off pavement.

Evidence impact would be significant: It is the Project proponent's responsibility to comply with all applicable laws related to nesting birds and birds of prey. Fish and Game Code sections 3503, 3503.5, and 3513 afford protective measures for all nests, all eggs, and any raptors or migratory birds as follows: Fish and Game Code section 3503 makes it unlawful to take, possess, or needlessly destroy the nest or eggs of any bird, except as otherwise provided by Fish and Game Code or any regulation made pursuant thereto. Fish and Game Code section 3503.5 makes it unlawful to take, possess, or destroy any birds in the orders Falconiformes or Strigiformes (birds-of-prey) to take, possess, or destroy the nest or eggs of any such bird except as otherwise provided by Fish and Game Code or any regulation

adopted pursuant thereto. Fish and Game Code section 3513 makes it unlawful to take or possess any migratory nongame bird except as provided by the rules and regulations adopted by the Secretary of the Interior under provisions of the Migratory Bird Treaty Act of 1918, as amended (16 U.S.C. § 703 et seq.).

Recommended potentially feasible mitigation measure: CDFW recommends the inclusion of the Mitigation Measure below, as revised (edits are in strikethrough and additions are in ***bold italics***) in the MND to ensure impacts to birds are mitigated to a level of less than significant.

Mitigation Measure BIO-(2) *Avian (New): Preconstruction Nesting Bird Surveys (Revised)*

If Project activities cannot avoid the nesting season, generally regarded as February 1 through September 30, then a preconstruction nesting bird surveys must be conducted 3 days prior to construction by a qualified biologist to locate and avoid nesting birds for each breeding and nesting season. If an active avian nest is located, a no construction buffer shall be established and monitored by the qualified biologist daily until the young have fledged or the nest is deemed inactive. The Project site will need to be re-surveyed if there is a lapse in construction activities for more than 3 days.

COMMENT #4: Sensitive and Native Plant Species

Issue: CDFW is concerned that the Project may affect sensitive plant species with the potential to occur within the Project area. CNDDB and Calflora identify several sensitive plant species including coyote gilia (*Aliciella triodon*), Shockley's milk vetch (*Astragalus serenoi* var. *shockleyi*), King's eyelash grass (*Blepharidachne kingii*), Wheeler's dune-broom (*Chaetadelpha wheeleri*), MacDougal's lomatium (*Lomatium foeniculaceum* ssp. *macdougalii*), intermontane lupine (*Lupinus pusillus* var. *intermontanus*), and Nevada oryctes (*Oryctes nevadensis*) that have potential suitable habitat in the Project area.

Specific Impact: Vegetation removal, and other ground disturbances have the potential to result in direct mortality of sensitive plants.

Why impact would occur: Take of any CESA-listed plant species that results from the Project is prohibited, except as authorized by State law (Fish & Game Code, §§ 2080, 2085; California Code of Regulations, tit. 14, § 786.9). Plants constituting California Rare Plant Ranks 1A, 1B, 2A, and 2B generally meet the criteria of a CESA-listed species and should be considered as an endangered, rare or threatened species for the purposes of CEQA analysis. Likewise, CDFW considers State listed communities to be imperiled habitats having both local and regional significance. Plant communities, alliances, and associations with a statewide ranking

of S1, S2, and S3 should be considered sensitive and declining at the local and regional level. These ranks can be obtained by querying the CNDDB and are included in the California Native Plant Society Vegetation manual.

Evidence impact would be significant: According to a search on CNDDB, Calscape, and Calflora, the Project has suitable habitat for at least 18 native and rare plant species. However, rare plant surveys have not been conducted in accordance with CDFW's *Protocols for Surveying and Evaluating Impacts to Special Status Native Plant Populations and Sensitive Natural Communities (CDFW, 2018).*

Recommended Potentially Feasible Mitigation Measure to reduce impacts to less than significant: It is recommended that draft MND include an analysis of the Project's impacts to biological resources, particularly to sensitive native plant species and include specific detailed documentation that supports the analysis and determination of impacts. Without information regarding biological resources, with evidence to support the draft MND's determinations, the MND may not be able to determine whether the project can mitigate its impacts to less than significant. CDFW recommends the MND be revised and circulated to provide this information. However, if Inyo County chooses not to collect and disseminate this information, then the mitigation measure should be included, as provided below, to address a scenario in which the site is determined to be occupied.

Mitigation Measure BIO-(2) *Botanical Field Surveys (New)*

Prior to Project implementation, additional focused sensitive plant surveys will be conducted during peak blooming periods within the year prior to the start of each phase of the project. ***During the surveys, a qualified biologist shall conduct botanical field surveys within the Project area following protocols set forth in the California Department of Fish and Wildlife's (CDFW) 2018 Protocols for Surveying and Evaluating Impacts to Special Status Native Plant Populations and Sensitive Natural Communities (CDFW 2018). The surveys shall be conducted by a CDFW approved botanist(s) experienced in conducting floristic botanical field surveys, knowledgeable of plant taxonomy and plant community ecology and classification, familiar with the plants of the area, including special status and locally significant plants, and familiar with the appropriate state and federal statutes related to plants and plant collecting. The botanical field surveys shall be conducted at the appropriate time of year when plants will both be evident and identifiable (usually, during flowering or fruiting) and, in a manner, which maximizes the likelihood of locating special-status plants and sensitive natural communities that may be present. Botanical field surveys shall be conducted floristic in nature, meaning that every plant taxon that occurs in the Project area is identified to the taxonomic level necessary to determine rarity and listing status. If any special-status plants are identified, the Project Applicant shall avoid the plant(s), with an appropriate buffer (i.e., fencing or flagging). If complete avoidance is not***

feasible, the Project Applicant shall mitigate the loss of the plant(s) through the purchase of mitigation credits from a CDFW-approved bank and/or land acquisition and conservation at a mitigation ratio determined by CDFW after Project analysis. If the Project has the potential to impact a state-listed species, the Project Applicant should apply for a California Endangered Species Act (CESA) Incidental Take Permit (ITP) with CDFW.

COMMENT #5: Bats

Draft Reclamation Plan – draft MND

Issue: The Project may impact potentially suitable habitat for bats and avoidance and minimization measures were not proposed within the draft MND to avoid impacts to bats.

Specific Impact: , The Project area contain suitable habitat to support pallid Bats (*Antrozous pallidus*), a Species of Special Concern (SSC). However, avoidance and minimization measures were not proposed within the draft MND.

Why Impact Would Occur: Pallid bats live in arid or semi-arid habitats and also found over open, sparsely vegetated scrublands. During the night, they prefer to use less protected roosts that are closer to their foraging grounds than their day roosts. Night roosts can include any structures on the Project site, as well as any nearby bridges and culverts, which could provide refuge and serve as potential roosting sites for the bats.

Evidence impact would be significant: Bats are considered non-game mammals and are afforded protection by State law from take and/or harassment (Fish & G. Code, § 4150; Cal. Code of Regs, § 251.1). Several bat species are considered SSC. A SSC is a species, subspecies, or distinct population of an animal native to California that currently satisfies one or more of the following (not necessarily mutually exclusive) criteria:

- is extirpated from the State or, in the case of birds, is extirpated in its primary season or breeding role;
- is listed as ESA-, but not CESA-, threatened, or endangered; meets the State definition of threatened or endangered but has not formally been listed; is experiencing, or formerly experienced, serious (noncyclical) population declines or range retractions (not reversed) that, if continued or resumed, could qualify it for State threatened or endangered status; and/or
- has naturally small populations exhibiting high susceptibility to risk from any factor(s), that if realized, could lead to declines that would qualify it for CESA threatened or endangered status.

Impacts on SSC could require a mandatory finding of significance under CEQA (CEQA Guidelines, § 15065). Impacts on bats, either directly or indirectly through disturbances to roosts and loss of habitat, would be a significant impact. The Project's impact on bats has yet to be mitigated below a significant level. Accordingly, the Project continues to have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on a species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special-status species by CDFW.

Recommended potentially feasible mitigation measure to reduce impacts to less that significant: It is recommended that draft MND include an analysis of the Project's impacts to biological resources, particularly bats and include specific detailed documentation that supports the analysis and determination of impacts. Without information regarding biological resources, with evidence to support the draft MND's determinations, the MND may not be able to determine whether the project can mitigate its impacts to less than significant. CDFW recommends the MND be revised and circulated to provide this information. However, if Inyo County chooses not to collect and disseminate this information, then the mitigation measure should be included, as provided below, to address a scenario in which the site is determined to be occupied.
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BIO-Bat-1: Bat Pre-Construction Surveys (New)

Pre-construction surveys for bats shall be conducted by a Qualified Biologist. The pre-construction survey shall focus on bat roosting habitat suitability of the structures and trees that may be removed, altered, or indirectly affected by the Project. If bat roosting habitat is determined to be present on the Project site, then nighttime surveys shall be performed during summer months (i.e. June-August). If the site supports maternity roosts or special status species during any stage of Project activity, the Project proponent will immediately halt project activities and contact CDFW.

IV. Additional Comments

The California Department of Transportation shared the draft Reclamation Plan to CDFW during the public review process for the project. The draft Reclamation Plan was not posted onto websites nor appears to be publicly available. It is recommended that draft MND include the draft Reclamation Plan as part of the appendices and an analysis of the Project's impacts to biological resources, and include specific detailed documentation that supports the analysis and determination of impacts. CDFW is concerned that the draft MND is incomplete. The draft Reclamation plan and the supporting documentation necessary for thorough public review, should have been included as appendices with the circulated document. Without a clear complete project description, timeframes, biological resource

analysis, with evidence to support the draft MND's determinations, the MND may not be able to determine whether the project can mitigate its impacts to less than significant. CDFW recommends the MND be revised and circulated to provide this information. However, if Inyo County chooses not to collect and disseminate this information, then CDFW has drafted the following comments and recommendations for the draft Reclamation Plan.

COMMENT #6: Revegetation Standards

The reclamation plan specifies that revegetation will aim for at least 50% of pre-disturbance indigenous shrub cover (i.e., 12.5%) and maintain native species richness.

- Revegetation monitoring will include transect surveys and aerial photography.
- Remedial measures such as manual removal of invasive species (e.g., Russian thistle) and slope roughening will be used as needed.

4. Erosion and Sediment Control
Inyo County shall maintain and monitor sediment basins and berms. Any erosion issues will be remedied promptly, balancing remediation actions with the potential impact on establishing native vegetation.

COMMENT #7: Staging and Stockpiling Areas

CDFW appreciates the incorporation of BIO-General-1, regarding equipment staging and storing, and stockpiling of materials. CDFW recommends the revisions below (edits are in strikethrough and **bold italics**) in consideration of Fish and Game Code section 1602.

BIO-General-1: Equipment Staging, Storing, and Borrow Sites (Revised)

All staging, storing, and borrow sites require the approval of the Designated Biologist. ***Stockpiles shall be maintained to avoid the spread of invasive plants and shall not be placed at locations subject to Fish and Game Code section 1602. Materials, including spoils and equipment, shall not be placed at locations subject to Fish and Game Code section 1602.***

COMMENT #8*:* Invasive Weed Control

Section #4.6.7 Plant Eradication Measures Pg. 22

CDFW appreciates the incorporation of Bio-General-16, regarding the control of invasive plants. CDFW recommends the revisions below (edits are in strikethrough and ***bold italics***) in consideration of fish and wildlife resources.

BIO-General-16: Invasive Weed Control (Revised)

If Russian thistle invades revegetated areas to the point that it is impacting the germination and/or growth of desired species, then this invasive exotic will be manually removed from the site as a primary remedial measure. A secondary remedial measure of herbicide spraying to contain large Russian Thistle blooms, while still young, may be requested of BLM if deemed a necessary control measure beyond hand pulling. ***A specific targeted approach shall be implemented for any herbicide application by avoiding species that are not intended to be removed and by reducing herbicide application to the smallest possible radius around plant species that are selected for application. All herbicides utilized adjacent to Fish and Game Code section 1602 resources and other sensitive aquatic habitat areas shall be registered for aquatic use by the California Department of Pesticide Regulation (CDPR). Herbicide sprays in these areas shall only be used when wind speeds measure less than 10 mph. The mixture shall contain a dye (registered for aquatic use by CDPR) to show overspray and shall be conducted in a manner to minimize overspray onto adjacent native vegetation***

COMMENT #9: Natural Communities Mitigation

CDFW suggests in consideration of fish and wildlife resources to preserve the integrity of and protect the long-term impacts on natural communities with the following measures:

BIO-Mitigation-1: Natural Communities Mitigation (NEW)

Compensatory mitigation for permanent impacts to biological species is anticipated, with resource agency approval, through on-site restoration activities, suitable CDFW approved mitigation/conservation bank credits, suitable in-lieu fee program credits, and/or other mitigation acceptable to the resource agencies involved as applicable. and/or any other CDFW-approved mitigation. Native habitat less than 19 inches diameter-at-breast-height (DBH) shall be replaced in-kind at a minimum ratio of 3:1, mature trees (19 inches or greater DBH) shall be replaced in-kind at a ratio of at least 5:1, and heritage trees (24 inches or greater DBH) shall be replaced in-kind at a ratio of at least 10:1. All restored habitat shall be monitored and maintained until established.

BIO-Mitigation-2: Natural Communities Mitigation (New)

Compensatory mitigation for permanent impacts to biological species is anticipated, with resource agency approval, through on-site restoration activities, suitable CDFW approved mitigation/conservation bank credits, suitable in-lieu fee program credits, and/or other mitigation acceptable to the

resource agencies involved as applicable. and/or any other CDFW-approved mitigation. Native habitat less than 19 inches diameter-at-breast-height (DBH) shall be replaced in-kind at a minimum ratio of 3:1. All restored habitat shall be monitored and maintained until established.

COMMENT #10: Employee Awareness of Wildlife Resources

The area surrounding the Project is mountain wilderness, thus Project development may bring biological hazards common to urban-wildland interface areas. Waste management must be a priority as accessible waste can encourage opportunistic species such as rats, ravens, and coyotes to become more prevalent, posing a substantial predation hazard to wildlife. Waste management plans should include waste receptacles with closing, lockable lids and a waste removal schedule that does not allow for excess waste to accrue. Increased traffic may also pose a hazard to species in the form of vehicle-animal collisions which often lead to the death of the animal.

Project activities, including expansion and routine work for the life of the Project, will affect local wildlife. Part of the Project proponent's responsibility is to educate individuals that will be on-site on the wildlife species that may be present and how to limit impacts to wildlife species in the area. CDFW recommends that a Workers Environmental Awareness Program (WEAP) be added to the draft MND, as per **MM BIO-11:**

MM BIO-11: Employee Awareness of Wildlife Resources (New)

A qualified biologist shall conduct an education program for all persons employed or otherwise working on the Project site prior to performing any work on-site (Workers Environmental Awareness Program; WEAP). The WEAP shall consist of a presentation that includes a discussion of the biology of the habitats and species that may be present at the site. The qualified biologist shall also include as part of the WEAP information about the distribution and habitat needs of any special-status species that may be present, legal protections for those species, penalties for violations, and mitigation measures. The WEAP should include, but not be limited to: (1) best practices for managing waste and reducing activities that can lead to increased occurrences of opportunistic species and the impacts these species can have on wildlife in the area and (2) protected species that have the potential to occur on the Project site including species of special concern, listed species, rare and sensitive plants, and nesting birds. Interpretation shall be provided for any non-English speaking workers, and the same instruction shall be provided for any new workers prior to their performing any work on-site.

COMMENT #11: Lake and Streambed Alteration (LSA) Agreement Notification

CDFW determined that based on review of aerial photography from the California State Water Resources Control Board that up to three ephemeral streams occur within the Project area the active mining, staging, stockpiling, and truck loading areas occur within at least one ephemeral stream. Thus, CDFW recommends that the Project proponent adopt **MM BIO-12** below to either obtain written correspondence from CDFW stating that notification under section 1602 of the Fish and Game Code is not required for the Project, *or,* if notification under section 1602 of the Fish and Game Code is required for the Project, to obtain a CDFW-executed Lake and Streambed Alteration Agreement:

MM BIO-12: LSA Agreement Notification (New)

Prior to construction and issuance of any grading permit, the Project proponent should obtain written correspondence from the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) stating that notification under section 1602 of the Fish and Game Code is not required for the Project, or the Project proponent should obtain a CDFW-executed Lake and Streambed Alteration Agreement, authorizing impacts to Fish and Game Code section 1602 resources associated with the Project.

COMMENT #12: Preliminary Project Plans Not Provided

CDFW determined that based on review of the draft MND, specific, detailed technical plan sheets for the proposed reclamation Project are referenced but not included as appendices from pg. 19-20.

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

CDFW recommends that Inyo County re-evaluate proposed dust control and air quality management measures and include all appendices. Additionally, Inyo County is advised to incorporate and give due consideration to CDFW's recommendations concerning the protection of native and sensitive plant species..

CDFW additionally advised that Inyo County incorporate long-term public safety measures to prevent further incidences of OHV staging and usage, illegal target shooting, illegal dumping, and unauthorized access into sensitive habitat areas of the Project.

ENVIRONMENTAL DATA

CEQA requires that information developed in environmental impact reports and negative declarations be incorporated into a database which may be used to make

subsequent or supplemental environmental determinations. (Pub. Resources Code, § 21003, subd. (e).) Accordingly, please report any special status species and natural communities detected during Project surveys to the California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDB). The CNNDB field survey form can be filled out and submitted online at the following link: https://wildlife.ca.gov/Data/CNDDB/Submitting-Data. The types of information reported to CNDDB can be found at the following link: https://www.wildlife.ca.gov/Data/CNDDB/Plants-and-Animals.

ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENT FILING FEES

The Project, as proposed, would have an impact on fish and/or wildlife, and assessment of environmental document filing fees is necessary. Fees are payable upon filing of the Notice of Determination by the Lead Agency and serve to help defray the cost of environmental review by CDFW. Payment of the environmental document filing fee is required in order for the underlying project approval to be operative, vested, and final. (Cal. Code Regs, tit. 14, § 753.5; Fish & G. Code, § 711.4; Pub. Resources Code, § 21089.)

CONCLUSION

CDFW appreciates the opportunity to comment on the draft MND to assist Inyo County in identifying and mitigating Project impacts on biological resources.

Questions regarding this letter or further coordination should be directed to Scott Jakubowski, Senior Environmental Scientist (Specialist), at Scott.Jakubowski@wildlife.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

DocuSigned by:
Brandy Wood
4D759253408941E...

Brandy Wood
Environmental Project Manager

ec: Office of Planning and Research, State Clearinghouse, Sacramento

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment A: Mitigation and Monitoring Reporting Plan

REFERENCES

Animalia. Pallid Bat Habitat and Lifestyle, Animalia, 2025. Retrieved May 7, 2025, from https://animalia.bio/pallid-bat.

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California Department of Fish and Wildlife. BIOS / California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDB) Government [ds45]: Dataset Draft Zurich Pit Reclamation Plan. 2025. California Department of Fish and Wildlife. Retrieved April 24-29, 2025, from https://apps.wildlife.ca.gov/bios6/Default.aspx.

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Attachment A: Mitigation and Monitoring Reporting Plan

Mitigation Measure		**Timing**	**Responsible Party**
BIO-Burrowing Owl-4	To avoid construction-level impacts to unidentified burrowing owls on-site, qualified biologists shall conduct focused burrowing owl surveys during the breeding and non-breeding season in accordance with the Staff Report on Burrowing Owl Mitigation (CDFG, 2012). The survey shall cover the Project site and a 500-meter buffer, where legally accessible. A preconstruction survey shall be conducted within 14 days prior to the start of construction activities (see below). Pre-construction take avoidance surveys for this species shall be conducted within 14 days prior to the start of ground disturbance and 24 hours prior to construction to determine the presence or absence of this species within the Project footprint. A report shall be submitted by a qualified and agency-approved biologist to CDFW. The Project footprint shall be clearly demarcated in the field by the Project engineers and biologist prior to the commencement of the pre-construction take avoidance surveys. The	Prior to commencing ground or vegetation disturbing activities	Project Proponent

	surveys shall follow the guidance of the Staff Report on Burrowing Owl Mitigation (CDFG, 2012). Depending on the Project activity type and associated disturbance, a minimum avoidance buffer distance of 50 meters (165 feet) to 100 meters (330 feet) during the nonbreeding season (September through January) and 100 meters (330 feet) to 250 meters (825 feet) during the breeding season (February through August) shall be maintained between active burrows and construction activities. A qualified biologist shall monitor the burrowing owls for any sign of distress and adjust the buffers as necessary to ensure no take occurs. If active burrows are present within the Project footprint and complete avoidance is infeasible, the Project proponent shall not undertake Project activities and Project activities shall be postponed until the appropriate authorization (i.e. CESA incidental take permit under the California Fish and Game Code § 2081) is obtained. Should permanent loss of western burrowing owl habitat occur the ratio of acquisition		

	to loss must be at a minimum of 1:1. The ratio shall be higher for occupied and irreplaceable habitats. The mitigation lands may require habitat enhancements including enhancement or expansion of burrows for breeding, shelter and dispersal opportunity, and removal or control of population stressors. Permanent protection of mitigation land shall be established through a conservation easement deeded to a nonprofit conservation organization or public agency with a conservation mission, and include development and implementation of a mitigation land management plan to address long-term ecological sustainability and maintenance of the site for burrowing owls, and funding for the maintenance and management of mitigation land through the establishment of a long-term funding mechanism such as an endowment.		
BIO-Avian-1: Preconstruction Nesting Bird Surveys	Regardless of the time of year, a pre-construction survey shall be performed to verify absence of nesting birds. Preconstruction nesting bird surveys must be conducted 3 days prior to construction by a qualified biologist to locate and avoid	Prior to commencing ground or vegetation disturbing activities	Project Proponent

	nesting birds. If an active avian nest is located, a no construction buffer shall be established and monitored by the qualified biologist daily until the young have fledged or the nest is deemed inactive. The Project site will need to be re-surveyed if there is a lapse in construction activities for more than 3 days.		
BIO-Plant-1 Botanical Field Surveys	Prior to Project implementation, and during the appropriate season, a qualified biologist shall conduct botanical field surveys within the Project area following protocols set forth in the California Department of Fish and Wildlife's (CDFW) 2018 Protocols for Surveying and Evaluating Impacts to Special Status Native Plant Populations and Sensitive Natural Communities (CDFW 2018). The surveys shall be conducted by a CDFW approved botanist(s) experienced in conducting floristic botanical field surveys, knowledgeable of plant taxonomy and plant community ecology and classification, familiar with the plants of the area, including special status and locally significant plants, and familiar with the appropriate state and federal statutes related to plants and plant collecting.	Prior to commencing ground or vegetation disturbing activities.	Project Proponent

	The botanical field surveys shall be conducted at the appropriate time of year when plants will both be evident and identifiable (usually, during flowering or fruiting) and, in a manner, which maximizes the likelihood of locating special-status plants and sensitive natural communities that may be present. Botanical field surveys shall be conducted floristic in nature, meaning that every plant taxon that occurs in the Project area is identified to the taxonomic level necessary to determine rarity and listing status. If special-status plant species are observed during the preconstruction rare plant survey(s) within the development area of the Project, the Project shall be designed to reduce impacts to these species through the establishment of buffers, to the extent feasible. Buffer distances will be determined by the qualified biologist, typically 50 feet or greater from an identified special-status plant species, unless the qualified biologist determines a reduced buffer would suffice to avoid impacts to the species. If avoidance of special-status plant species is not feasible, a Special-Status Plant		

	Relocation Plan shall be developed and implemented. The Special-Status Plant Relocation Plan shall address mitigation for special-status plants, including but not limited to: topsoil salvage to preserve seed bank and management of salvaged topsoil; seed collection, storage, possible nursery propagation, and planting; salvage and planting of bulbs as feasible; location of onsite receptor sites; land protection instruments for receptor areas; and funding mechanisms. The Special-Status Plant Relocation Plan shall include methods, monitoring, reporting, success criteria, adaptive management, and contingencies for achieving success. The plan shall be prepared for CDFW's review, approval, and implementation prior to the commencement of initial site clearing activities. All special-status plant species identified on site shall be mapped onto a site-specific aerial photograph and topographic map and included on the construction, grading, fuel modification, and landscape plans.		
BIO-Bat-1: Bat Pre-Construction Surveys	All suitable roosting and foraging habitat for local or migratory bat species known to the Project area, including special-status species, found within the Project site and	Prior to commencing ground or vegetation disturbing activities	Project Proponent

	adjacent land shall be surveyed throughout one year, prior to initial site clearing activities. The surveys shall be completed by a qualified bat biologist whose resume shall be reviewed and approved by CDFW. Surveys shall include determination of the approximate size of the colony(s) and species present. The surveys shall include a combination of nighttime emergence counts and acoustic techniques (full spectrum bat acoustic detectors) appropriate for the roosting habitat and time of year, visual and aural surveys (observation during foraging period), and inspection for suitable habitat and bat sign (e.g. guano). Surveys shall be conducted during the spring, summer, fall, and winter to determine how the habitat is being used by bats throughout the year, including foraging patterns and habitat, and the presence overwintering bats, with at least two surveys conducted during the maternity season to determine a pre and post-volant count of colonies present. V. **If roosting bats, of any status, are found during the surveys, the bats and roosts shall be avoided to the maximum extent**		

	practicable with consideration of the most disturbing Project activities and their effect (e.g. demolition and night-time lighting). A Bat Management Plan prepared by the qualified bat biologist identifying situation-specific and species-specific avoidance and minimization measures to reduce impacts to roosting and foraging bats shall be prepared for CDFW's review, approval, and implementation prior to the commencement of initial site clearing activities. ***VI.*** **The Bat Management Plan shall include, as appropriate to the findings of the surveys and roosting habitat affected, a construction schedule to avoid roosting season, spatial and temporal avoidance measures, non-disturbance buffers, passive exclusion of bats outside of the maternity season (if necessary), and identification of species-specific replacement or alternative habitat to mitigate for permanent maternity or night roosting habitat loss. If roosts cannot be avoided or it is determined that construction activities will**		

	cause roost abandonment, a mitigation plan addressing exclusion and passive relocation procedures and impact compensation will be developed. The mitigation plan will be developed in consultation with CDFW and the qualified bat biologist. Roost and foraging habitat shall be replaced in-kind prior to any exclusion or in a timing approved by CDFW. Any exclusion and passive relocation efforts shall avoid periods of sensitive activity (e.g. hibernation or maternity season) and may require several seasons for bats to discover alternative roosting sites.		
BIO-General-1: Equipment Staging, Storing, and Borrow Sites	All staging, storing, and borrow sites require the approval of the Caltrans Biologist. Stockpiles shall be maintained to avoid the spread of invasive plants and shall not be placed at locations subject to Fish and Game Code section 1602. Materials, including spoils and equipment, shall not be placed at locations subject to Fish and Game Code section 1602.	During Project activities	Project Proponent
BIO-General-16: Invasive Weed Control	To address impacts to natural communities of concern, desert tortoise critical habitat, and rare insect host plant species, a qualified biologist	During Project activities	Project Proponent

	must identify invasive species within the PIA during access road construction, shoulder backing, ground disturbance, and vegetation removal. Treatment and disposal methods must be approved by the Caltrans biologist prior to vegetation removal. A specific targeted approach shall be implemented for any herbicide application by avoiding species that are not intended to be removed and by reducing herbicide application to the smallest possible radius around plant species that are selected for application. All herbicides utilized adjacent to Fish and Game Code section 1602 resources and other sensitive aquatic habitat areas shall be registered for aquatic use by the California Department of Pesticide Regulation (CDPR). Herbicide sprays in these areas shall only be used when wind speeds measure less than 10 mph. The mixture shall contain a dye (registered for aquatic use by CDPR) to show overspray and shall be conducted in a manner to minimize overspray onto adjacent native vegetation		
BIO-General-4: Preconstruction Surveys	Three days prior to construction, preconstruction American badger, rare plants, and sensitive natural community surveys must be	Prior to commencing ground or vegetation disturbing activities	Project Proponent

	conducted by the qualified biologist, up to the limits of the Caltrans Row and following current American badger survey protocols. Sensitive natural communities and rare plants outside of the approved PIA and within Caltrans ROW must be flagged for visual identification to construction personnel for work avoidance. Sensitive Natural Communities and rare plants for avoidance detected shall be flagged or fenced off with ESA high visibility fencing. If any bighorn sheep, mountain lion, desert kit fox, or American badger or signs of American badger, catclaw acacia – desert lavender – chuparosa scrub, Desert willow – smoketree wash woodland, or other Natural community, other than what is described on the plans and specifications, are located, the Resident Engineer and Caltrans Biologist must be contacted and additional measures and/or agency coordination shall be required, which could include compensatory mitigation for impacts to those species and/or habitats. Should permanent loss of sensitive species and/or habitats occur the ratio of acquisition to loss must be at a minimum of 1:1. The ratio		

	shall be higher for occupied and irreplaceable habitats. Permanent protection of mitigation land shall be established through a conservation easement deeded to a nonprofit conservation organization or public agency with a conservation mission, and include development and implementation of a mitigation land management plan to address long-term ecological sustainability and maintenance of the site, and funding for the maintenance and management of mitigation land through the establishment of a long-term funding mechanism such as an endowment.		
BIO-General-6: Species Avoidance	If during Project activities insect host plants, nesting birds, burrowing owl, desert tortoise, bighorn sheep, mountain lion, desert kit fox, or American badger burrows are discovered within the Project Site, all construction activities must stop within 10 feet for rare insect host plants, 100 feet for non-passerine nesting birds, 300 feet for nesting passerine species, 500 feet for raptors or federal/State listed birds, 265 feet for burrowing owls, 500 feet for desert kit fox, 500 feet for desert tortoises, and 16 to 25 feet around single American badger burrows	During Project activities	Project Proponent

	and 65 feet around clusters of American badger burrows. The Caltrans Biologist and Resident Engineer must be notified. Coordination with CDFW and USFWS shall be required prior to restarting activities, if full avoidance is not achievable.		
BIO-Reptile-4: Authorized Biologist Clearance Surveys	Clearance desert tortoise surveys must be conducted by the qualified biologist 3 days prior to Project activities within the Project footprint before temporary desert tortoise fence is erected. If a desert tortoise is located, An incidental take permit (ITP) for desert tortoise shall be obtained prior to initiation of all ground disturbing activities. The Project proponent shall adhere to measures and conditions set forth within the ITP. Mitigation for direct impacts shall be fulfilled through conservation of suitable Mojave Desert tortoise habitat through the purchase of mitigation bank credits or land acquisition determined through coordination with USFWS and the California Department of Fish and Wildlife.	Prior to commencing ground or vegetation disturbing activities	Project Proponent
BIO-General-18: Aquatic Resources Restoration	Caltrans shall notify CDFW pursuant to Fish and Game Code section 1602 and obtain authorization prior to initiating Project activities within any river, stream, or lake. After	Prior to or after commencing Project depending on mitigation type	Project Proponent

	construction activities are complete, temporarily impacted aquatic resources will be restored to original and permanently impacted resources will be restored at a minimum 3:1 ratio through on-site restoration activities, suitable CDFW-approved mitigation/conservation bank credits, permittee-responsible mitigation, or through a combination of any of these.		

State of California – Natural Resources Agency
DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE
Inland Deserts Region
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GAVIN NEWSOM, Governor
CHARLTON H. BONHAM, Director

July 10 2025
Sent via email

Ryan Standridge, Associate Planner
Inyo County
168 N Edwards Post Office Drawer L
Independence, California 93526

Subject: Resubmission of Draft Mitigated Negative Declaration
Draft Reclamation Plan 2023-01 Zurich/Caltrans Material Site #308
(Zurich Pit) State Clearinghouse No. 2025040921

Dear Ryan Standridge:

The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) received a notification of the resubmission of the draft Mitigated Negative Declaration (draft MND) from Inyo County for the Project pursuant the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and CEQA Guidelines.[1] On May 12, 2025, CDFW submitted comments to the Draft MND (Attachment 1).

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments and recommendations regarding those activities involved in the Project that may affect California fish and wildlife. Likewise, we appreciate the opportunity to provide comments regarding those aspects of the Project that CDFW, by law, may be required to carry out or approve through the exercise of its own regulatory authority under the Fish and Game Code.

CDFW ROLE

CDFW is California's **Trustee Agency** for fish and wildlife resources and holds those resources in trust by statute for all the people of the State. (Fish & G. Code, §§ 711.7, subd. (a) & 1802; Pub. Resources Code, § 21070; CEQA Guidelines § 15386, subd. (a).) CDFW, in its trustee capacity, has jurisdiction over the conservation, protection, and management of fish, wildlife, native plants, and habitat necessary for biologically sustainable populations of those species. (*Id.*, § 1802.) Similarly for purposes of CEQA, CDFW is charged by law to provide, as available, biological expertise during public agency environmental review efforts, focusing specifically on projects and related activities that have the potential to adversely affect fish and wildlife resources.

CDFW is also submitting comments as a **Responsible Agency** under CEQA. (Pub. Resources Code, § 21069; CEQA Guidelines, § 15381.) CDFW expects that it may

[1] CEQA is codified in the California Public Resources Code in section 21000 et seq. The "CEQA Guidelines" are found in Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations, commencing with section 15000.

need to exercise regulatory authority as provided by the Fish and Game Code. As proposed, for example, the Project may be subject to CDFW's lake and streambed alteration regulatory authority. (Fish & G. Code, § 1600 et seq.) Likewise, to the extent implementation of the Project as proposed may result in "take" as defined by State law of any species protected under the California Endangered Species Act (CESA) (Fish & G. Code, § 2050 et seq.), the project proponent may seek related take authorization as provided by the Fish and Game Code.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION SUMMARY

Proponent: Inyo County

Objective: This Surface Mining and Reclamation Plan addresses the operation and reclamation of the Caltrans Material Site 308, also known as the Zurich Pit. The Zurich Pit is located near the community of Big Pine in Inyo County, California. The total Caltrans right-of-way (ROW) area is 54.26 acres, encompassing 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. Of the total 54.26 acres, 14 acres of previously mined areas will be mined in two phases over a period of 59 years. This reclamation plan describes a process that will minimize environmental impacts during and resulting from mining, implement reclamation activities as soon as possible, and return the mined land to a condition suitable of supporting open space, wildlife habitat and designated end uses.

Location: The Project is in Inyo County, approximately 3 miles northeast of Big Pine at post-mile marker 21.5 along State Route 168 East in Inyo County. The Project site is located in Section 03, Township 9 South, and Range 34 East (Mount Diablo Base and Meridian [MDBM]) of the USGS "Uhlmeyer Spring, California" 7.5-minute quadrangle. The approximate center of the pit is located at 37.191813° Latitude and -118.244390° Longitude. The APN is 4264-1.

Timeframe: The draft MND does not provide a specific timeframe for construction. Phase 1 is estimated to span approximately 16 years from the start of the Project and Phase 2 is estimated to span approximately 43 years from the start of the Project. The total length of the Project is estimated to span 59 years from the start of the Project. CDFW recommends the inclusion of an anticipated start and end dates for this Project.

COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

I. CDFW has jurisdiction over the conservation, protection, and management of fish, wildlife, native plants, and habitat necessary for biologically sustainable populations of those species (i.e., biological resources). CDFW is concerned the draft MND has not adequately identified and disclosed the Project's impacts (i.e.,

direct, indirect, and cumulative) to biological resources, with sufficient supporting documentation whether those impacts are less than significant. CDFW appreciates Inyo County addressing some of the comments that CDFW provided in Attachment 1, however CDFW is concerned that several of the comments were not addressed and offers the comments and recommendations below to assist Inyo County in adequately identifying and/or mitigating the Project's significant, or potentially significant, direct and indirect impacts on fish and wildlife (biological) resources.

II. Mitigation Measure or Alternative and Related Impact Shortcoming

COMMENT #1: Preconstruction Surveys and Species Avoidance for Biological Resources

Section #2.5.2, Pages #12-13

CDFW noted in the previous comments to the draft MND, and is concerned that the revised draft MND provides insufficient analysis of project impact to species of special concern (SSC) for wildlife according to CNDDB including MAMMALS: American badger (*Taxidea taxus*), Pale Kangaroo Mouse (*Microdipodops pallidus*), Chisel-Toothed Kangaroo Rat (*Dipodomys microps*): REPTILES: Northern Sagebrush Lizard (*Sceloporus graciosus graciosus*), Long-Nosed Leopard Lizard (*Gambelia wislizenii*), and Zebra-Tailed Lizard (*Callisaurus draconoides*); INVERTEBRATES: Morrison Bumble Bee (*Bombus morrisoni*) and San Emigdio Blue Butterfly (*Plebulina emigdionis*). This is only a partial listing. The draft MND should ensure that all SSC are included within the impact analysis and determination of avoidance/minimization and mitigation measures.

Specific impact: The draft MND does not identify the site of the Zurich Pit within the predicted range and suitability of the habitat for these species. The draft MND bases its analysis of the Project site's existing biological resource conditions by referencing a NEPA review of unknown date and field surveys conducted by Caltrans on April 23, 2020. The draft MND failed to include any supporting documentation regarding the field surveys, who conducted them, their qualifications, location of the surveys, results of the surveys, constraints of the surveys. The Project has the potential for the long-term loss of habitat, habitat destruction, habitat abandonment, disturbance from construction noise and activities, increased risk of predation and degradation of suitable habitat may occur from Project activities for these species for at least 59 years.

Why impact would occur: According to the CNDDB, several species of special concern have the potential to occur within the project site. CDFW commented on the original draft MND regarding concerns that the MND does not address the potential for these species to be present, provide avoidance and minimization measures, nor

provide mitigation to reduce the projects impacts to less than significant. The revised MND did not address CDFW's comment letter nor provide supporting documentation to substantiate the determination that the projects impacts are less than significant. 59 years of Project activities and partial remediation and reclamation of the Project area with long-term permanent impacts of at least 14 acres and up to 54.26 acres.

Evidence impact would be significant: CEQA provides protection not only for CESA listed species, but for any species including but not limited to SSC which can be shown to meet the criteria for State listing. These species meet the CEQA definition of rare, threatened, or endangered species (CEQA Guidelines, § 15380). A SSC is a species, subspecies, or distinct population of an animal native to California that currently satisfies one or more of the following (not necessarily mutually exclusive) criteria: is extirpated from the State or, in the case of birds, is extirpated in its primary season or breeding role; is listed as ESA-, but not CESA-, threatened, or endangered; meets the State definition of threatened or endangered but has not formally been listed; is experiencing, or formerly experienced, serious (noncyclical) population declines or range retractions (not reversed) that, if continued or resumed, could qualify it for State threatened or endangered status; and/or has naturally small populations exhibiting high susceptibility to risk from any factor(s), that if realized, could lead to declines that would qualify it for CESA threatened or endangered status. Impacts on SSC could require a mandatory finding of significance under CEQA (CEQA Guidelines, § 15065). Compliance with CEQA is predicated on a complete and accurate description of the environmental setting that may be affected by the proposed Project.

CDFW is concerned that the assessment of the existing environmental setting with respect to biological resources has not been adequately analyzed in the draft MND, nor the revised draft MND. CDFW is concerned that without a complete and accurate description of the existing environmental setting, the draft MND likely provides an incomplete or inaccurate analysis of Project-related environmental impacts and whether those impacts have been mitigated to a level that is less than significant. Section 15125(c) of the CEQA Guidelines states that knowledge of the regional setting of a Project is critical to the assessment of environmental impacts, that special emphasis should be placed on environmental resources that are rare or unique to the region, and that significant environmental impacts of the proposed Project are adequately investigated and discussed. Absent a thorough species impact analysis and mitigation strategy, it is unclear whether the Project's impacts can be adequately identified, disclosed, or mitigated. CDFW recommends the draft MND be revised and circulated to provide this information. However, if Inyo County chooses not to collect and disseminate this information, then the mitigation measure should be updated, as provided below, to address a scenario in which the site is determined to be occupied.

Recommended Potentially Feasible Mitigation Measure to reduce impacts to less than significant: CDFW recommends that prior to commencing Project activities, focused and pre-construction surveys for SSC be conducted by a qualified biologist in accordance with CDFW protocols and for The surveys shall include 100 percent coverage of the Project site and 500-meter buffer in adjacent habitat. To support Inyo County in reducing impacts to these species to a level less than significant, CDFW offers the following new mitigation measures:

Mitigation Measure BIO-(2)*: Preconstruction Surveys (New)*

Three days prior to construction, preconstruction species of special concern, special status species, or listed species, rare plants, and sensitive natural community surveys must be conducted by the qualified biologist, up to the limits of the ROW and following current survey protocols. Sensitive natural communities and rare plants outside of the approved PIA and within Inyo County ROW must be flagged for visual identification to construction personnel for work avoidance. Sensitive Natural Communities and rare plants for avoidance detected shall be flagged or fenced off with ESA high visibility fencing. If any species of special concern, special status species, or listed species are found, or signs are found, other than what is described on the plans and specifications, are located, the Resident Engineer and Biologist must be contacted and additional measures and/or agency coordination shall be required, which shall include compensatory mitigation for impacts as determined by CDFW.

Mitigation Measure BIO-(3)*: Species Avoidance (NEW)*

If during Project activities insect host plants, nesting birds, any species of special concern, special status species, or listed species are found, or signs are found, are discovered within the Project Site, all construction activities must stop within 10 feet for rare insect host plants, 100 feet for non-passerine nesting birds, 300 feet for nesting passerine species, 500 feet for raptors. The Biologist and Resident Engineer must be notified. Coordination with CDFW and USFWS shall be required prior to restarting activities.

Mitigation Measure BIO-(4) ***Small Mammal (New)***

Prior to any ground disturbance, a survey for potential habitat suitability and presence of Pale Kangaroo Mouse (Microdipodops pallidus), or Chisel-Toothed Kangaroo Rat (Dipodomys microps), no more than 3 days prior to Project activities commencing shall be conducted by a qualified biologist. The surveys shall include 100 percent coverage and include a minimum 500-meter buffer in adjacent habitat. A report summarizing the pre-construction survey

including all requirements for survey reports shall be submitted to CDFW for review.

If SSC are detected, the qualified biologist shall use visible flagging to mark the location where SSC was detected. The qualified biologist should take a photo of each location, map each location, and provide the specific species detected at that location. The qualified biologist shall provide a summary report of SSC surveys to Inyo County before any Project-related ground-disturbing activities. CDFW should be notified and consulted regarding the presence of any special status wildlife species found on site during surveys. If an Endangered Species Act-listed species is found prior to or during grading of the site, the USFWS should also be notified. Additional avoidance and minimization measures may need to be developed with CDFW/USFWS.

Mitigation Measure BIO-(5) ***Reptile (New)***

Prior to any ground disturbance, a survey for potential habitat suitability and presence of Northern Sagebrush Lizard (Sceloporus graciosus graciosus), Long-Nosed Leopard Lizard (Gambelia wislizenii), and Zebra-Tailed Lizard (Callisaurus draconoides), no more than 3 days prior to Project activities commencing shall be conducted by a qualified biologist. The surveys shall include 100 percent coverage and include a minimum 500-meter buffer in adjacent habitat. A report summarizing the pre-construction survey including all requirements for survey reports shall be submitted to CDFW for review.

Mitigation Measure BIO-(6) ***Reptile: Authorized Biologist Clearance Surveys (Revised)***

Clearance Northern Sagebrush Lizard, Long-Nosed Leopard Lizard, and Zebra-Tailed Lizard surveys must be conducted by the qualified biologist 3 days prior to Project activities within the Project footprint. If any of these lizard species are located, the Resident Engineer and Inyo County Biologist must be contacted, and additional measures and/or agency coordination may be required. Any special status reptiles or species of special concern removed from work areas may be moved from harm's way to the nearest suitable habitat or translocated, following most recent CDFW and USFWS guidelines. A CDFW 2081 permit may be required. Work in other areas of the Project site may continue if no special status reptiles are found within the Project footprint. An incidental take permit (ITP) for these reptiles shall be obtained prior to initiation of all ground disturbing activities. The Project proponent shall adhere to measures and conditions set forth within the ITP. Mitigation for direct impacts shall be fulfilled through conservation of suitable reptile habitat through the purchase of mitigation bank credits or land acquisition

determined through coordination with USFWS and the California Department of Fish and Wildlife.

Mitigation Measure BIO-(7) ***Invertebrate-1 (New)***

Prior to any ground disturbance, a survey for potential habitat suitability and presence of Morrison Bumble Bee (Bombus morrisoni) and San Emigdio Blue Butterfly (Plebulina emigdionis), no more than 3 days prior to Project activities commencing shall be conducted by a qualified biologist. The surveys shall include 100 percent coverage and include a minimum 500-meter buffer in adjacent habitat. A report summarizing the pre-construction survey including all requirements for survey reports shall be submitted to CDFW for review.

COMMENT #2 American Badger (*Taxidea taxus*)

Issue: The Project may impact potentially suitable habitat for American Badger and avoidance and minimization measures were not proposed within the draft MND, nor the revised draft MND to avoid impacts the species of special concern. CDFW provided comments regarding the American Badger which was not included in the revised draft MND or in the biological assessment of Appendix D of the recirculated draft MND.

Specific Impact: The Project area within the range and is known to support suitable habitat for American Badger, a Species of Special Concern (SSC). The MND fails to address potential impacts to American badger. Additionally, the MND fails to propose avoidance and minimization measures to reduce project impacts to less than significant

Why Impact Would Occur: The Project occurs within the range of the American badger, a California species of special concern.

Evidence impact would be significant: Impacts on SSC could require a mandatory finding of significance under CEQA (CEQA Guidelines, § 15065). A SSC is a species, subspecies, or distinct population of an animal native to California that currently satisfies one or more of the following (not necessarily mutually exclusive) criteria:

- is extirpated from the State or, in the case of birds, is extirpated in its primary season or breeding role;
- is listed as ESA-, but not CESA-, threatened, or endangered; meets the State definition of threatened or endangered but has not formally been listed; is experiencing, or formerly experienced, serious (noncyclical) population declines or range retractions (not reversed) that, if continued or resumed, could qualify it for State threatened or endangered status; and/or

- has naturally small populations exhibiting high susceptibility to risk from any factor(s), that if realized, could lead to declines that would qualify it for CESA threatened or endangered status.

Recommended potentially feasible mitigation measure to reduce impacts to less that significant

Mitigation Measure BIO-(8) ***American Badger (NEW)***

The Project owner shall develop and implement a American Badger Mitigation and Monitoring Plan (plan). The objective of the plan shall be to avoid direct impacts to the American badger as a result of project activities. The final plan is subject to review, comment, revision, by the CDFW. The final plan shall include, but is not limited to, the following procedures and impact avoidance measures: Describe pre-construction survey and clearance field protocol, to determine the number and locations of single or paired badgers on the Project site that would need to be avoided or passively relocated and the number and locations of badger burrows or burrow complexes that would need to be collapsed to prevent re-occupancy by the animals.

Pre-Construction Surveys. Biological Monitors shall conduct pre-construction surveys for American badger no more than 30 days prior to initiation of construction activities, including pre-construction site mobilization. Surveys shall also address the potential presence of active dens within 100 feet of the Project boundary (including utility corridors and access roads). If dens are detected, each den shall be classified as inactive, potentially active, or active den.

Monitoring and Protection Measures, Passive Hazing, and Den Excavation: The plan will include details on monitoring requirements, types and methods of passive hazing, and methods and timing of den excavation, including, but not limited to the following:

- ***Inactive dens. Inactive dens (e.g., inactive dens are dens that are mostly or entirely silted in and ones in which the back of the den can clearly be seen (e.g., the den isn't deep and doesn't curve) that would be directly impacted by construction activities shall be excavated by hand and backfilled to prevent reuse.***
- ***Potentially and definitely active dens. Potentially and definitely active dens that would be directly impacted by construction activities shall be monitored by the Biological Monitor for three consecutive nights using a tracking medium (such as***

diatomaceous earth or fire clay) and/or infrared camera stations at the entrance. If no tracks are observed in the tracking medium or no photos of the target species are captured after three nights, the den shall be excavated and backfilled by hand. If tracks are observed, the den shall be progressively blocked with natural materials (rocks, dirt, sticks, and vegetation piled in front of the entrance) for the next three to five nights to discourage the badger from continued use. After verification that the den is unoccupied it shall then be excavated and backfilled by hand to ensure that no badgers are trapped in the den. If the den is proven inactive then den may be collapsed during whelping season.

- ***Active natal/pupping dens. If an active natal den (a den with pups) is detected on the site during construction, the CDFW shall be contacted within 24 hours to determine the appropriate course of action to minimize the potential for animal harm or mortality. The course of action would depend on the age of the pups, location of the den on the site (e.g., is the den in a central area or in a perimeter location), status of the perimeter site fence (completed or not), and the pending construction activities proposed near the den. A 500-foot no-disturbance buffer shall be maintained around all active dens. If the den is active during the whelping season, even if pups are not seen, disturbance is not allowed. Active natal/pupping dens will not be excavated or passively relocated.***

- ***Address other factors and procedures that may affect the success of relocation offsite, such as: estimates of the distances badgers would need to travel across the Project site and across adjacent lands to safely access suitable habitat (including burrows) off-site; proposed scheduling of the passive relocation effort; and methods to minimize likelihood that the animals will return to the Project site during construction.***

COMMENT #3: Burrowing Owl (*Athene cunicularia hypugaea*)

Section #2.5.2, Pages #12-13

Issue: On October 10, 2024, the Fish and Game Commission determined that western burrowing owl warrants protection as a candidate species under the California Endangered Species Act (CESA) (Fish & G. Code, § 2050 et seq.). During the candidacy period, western burrowing owl will be afforded the same protection as threatened and endangered species under CESA. The Project may impact burrowing owls and its habitat. CDFW is concerned that neither the draft MND nor

the recirculated draft MND sufficiently identifies Project impacts to burrowing owl. Page 2 of Appendix D of the recirculated MND states, "[t]he BSA is comprised of the adjacent desert shrubland and alluvial fan topography. The vegetation community surrounding the material site is dominated by shadscale scrub. Prominent plant species located within the BSA include: four-wing saltbush, Mojave indigo bush, budsage, winterfat, greasewood, Mojave woolyaster, and desert trumpet. Four-wing saltbush is dominant. The elevation within the BSA ranges from 4000 to 4200 feet." Page 3 of Appendix D: Environmental Documentation states the burrowing owl has "No [potential to occur within the BSA]; only nearby record is historic (1891). Current habitat is unlikely to support a nesting colony as ground squirrel sign, the species' most notable prey, was absent during field surveys, [.]" While the recirculated MND offers a determination, it lacks sufficient evidence such as surveys of suitable habitat.

Specific impact: The Draft MND and the recirculated draft MND do not identify the site of the Zurich Pit within the predicted range and suitability of the habitat. Zeiner, et al. (1999) state the burrowing owl is "[a] yearlong resident of open, dry grassland and desert habitats, and in grass, forb and open shrub stages of pinyon-juniper and ponderosa pine habitats...Found as high as 1600 m (5300 ft) in Lassen Co."[2] The Project has the signification potential for the long-term loss of nesting habitat, nest destruction, nest abandonment, disturbance from construction noise and activities, increased risk of predation and degradation of suitable burrowing owl habitat may occur from Project activities. According to CNDDB, the Project Site is located within the predicted range and suitability of habitat.[3]

Why impact would occur: The Natural Environment Study (NES) prepared for the Project determined that burrowing owls do have the potential to occur within the PIA and in the vicinity of the Project. Impacts to vegetation communities that could provide suitable foraging habitat for burrowing owls and suitable burrows may occur in association with the Project due to disturbances associated with construction along with a permanent loss of foraging habitat. Additionally, the California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDB) dataset, Burrowing Owl Predicted Range (CDFW 2024) display a high potential for burrowing owl presence within the Project area. Project construction may result in direct mortality, population decline, or local extirpation of burrowing owl not previously identified. Burrowing owls also have a

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[2] Zeiner, et al. (1999). *Life History Account B269: Western Burrowing Owl (Athene cunicularia).* California Wildlife Habitat Relationships System, California Department of Fish and Wildlife, California Interagency Wildlife Task Group. Retrieved from https://nrm.dfg.ca.gov/FileHandler.ashx?DocumentID=1871.
[3] CDFW. BIOS / CNDDB Government [ds45]: Dataset Draft Zurich Pit Reclamation Plan. 2025. California Department of Fish and Wildlife. Retrieved June 30, 2025, from https://tiledimageservices2.arcgis.com/Uq9r85Potqm3MfRV/arcgis/rest/services/biosds2184_cru/ImageServer.

high potential to move into disturbed areas since they are adapted to highly modified habitats (Chipman et al., 2008; Coulombe, 1971).

Evidence impact would be significant: Habitat loss is a threat to burrowing owls (CDFG, 2012). Burrowing owls are dependent on burrows at all times of the year for survival and/or reproduction, evicting them from nesting, roosting, and satellite burrows may lead to indirect impacts or take. Loss of access to burrows will likely result in varying levels of increased stress on burrowing owls and could depress reproduction, increase predation, increase energetic costs, and introduce risks posed by having to find and compete for available burrows (CDFG, 2012). Burrowing owls are also dependent on adjacent habitat, and forage within 600 meters of nest burrows (Rosenberg and Haley, 2004). As a candidate species, Western Burrowing Owl is granted full protection of a threatened species under CESA. Take is defined in Fish and Game Code section 86 as “hunt, pursue, catch, capture or kill, or attempt to hunt, pursue, catch, capture or kill.” CESA allows CDFW to authorize project proponents to take state-listed threatened, endangered, or candidate species if certain conditions are met. Take must be incidental to an otherwise lawful activity. The issuance of a permit cannot jeopardize the continued existence of the species, and the impacts must be minimized and fully mitigated.

Recommended Potentially Feasible Mitigation Measure to reduce impacts to less than significant: CDFW recommends that prior to commencing Project activities, focused and pre-construction surveys for burrowing owl be conducted by a qualified biologist in accordance with the *Staff Report on Burrowing Owl Mitigation* (CDFW 2012 or most recent version). The surveys shall include 100 percent coverage of the Project site and 500-meter buffer in adjacent habitat. To support Inyo County in reducing impacts to burrowing owl to a level less than significant, CDFW offers the following mitigation measure:

Mitigation Measure BIO-9 *Burrowing Owl (New)*

Prior to any ground disturbance, a survey for potential burrows followed by four breeding season surveys of areas found to have potential for burrowing owl occupation shall be conducted by a qualified biologist according to the Staff Report on Burrowing Owl Mitigation (CDFW 2012 or most recent version). The surveys shall include 100 percent coverage and include a minimum 500-meter buffer in adjacent habitat. Burrowing owls may recolonize a site after only a few days. Time lapses between Project activities trigger subsequent take avoidance surveys including but not limited to a final survey conducted within 24 hours prior to ground disturbance, in accordance with the Staff Report on Burrowing Owl Mitigation (CDFG 2012 or most recent version). If the surveys confirm the presence of burrowing owls, active burrows or signs thereof, Project activities shall be immediately halted. The qualified biologist shall coordinate with CDFW and prepare a Burrowing Owl Plan that shall be

submitted to CDFW for review and approval prior to commencing Project activities. The Burrowing Owl Plan shall describe proposed avoidance, minimization, and monitoring actions. The Burrowing Owl Plan shall include the number and location of occupied burrow sites, acres of burrowing owl habitat that will be impacted, details of site monitoring, and details on proposed buffers and other avoidance measures if avoidance is proposed. Project activities shall not occur within 1000 feet of an active burrow until CDFW approves the Burrowing Owl Plan. If impacts to occupied burrowing owl habitat or burrow cannot be fully avoided, consultation with CDFW is warranted to discuss how to implement the Project and avoid take; or if avoidance is not feasible, to potentially acquire an ITP prior to any ground disturbing activities, pursuant Fish and Game Code section 2081 subdivision (b). Full mitigation often involves the permanent conservation of quality habitat benefiting the species through a conservation easement, along with habitat enhancement and ongoing management funded appropriately. Passive relocation, performed according to the Staff Report on Burrowing Owl Mitigation (CDFG, 2012) may be authorized through the incidental take permit as a minimization measure.

Burrowing owl identified on site shall be mitigated per the guidance of the Staff Report on Burrowing Owl Mitigation (CDFG, 2012) such that (a) permanent impacts to nesting, occupied and satellite burrows and/or burrowing owl habitat such that the habitat acreage, number of burrows and burrowing owls impacted are replaced with permanent conservation of similar vegetation communities (grassland, scrublands, desert, urban, and agriculture) to provide for burrowing owl nesting, foraging, wintering, and dispersal (i.e., during breeding and non-breeding seasons) comparable to or better than that of the impact area, and (b) sufficiently large acreage, and presence of fossorial mammals.

COMMENT #4: Bats

Draft Reclamation Plan – revised draft MND

Issue: The Project may impact potentially suitable habitat for bats and avoidance and minimization measures were not proposed within the draft MND or the recirculated draft MND to avoid impacts to bats. Page 2 of Appendix D of the recirculated MND states, “[t]he BSA is comprised of the adjacent desert shrubland and alluvial fan topography. The vegetation community surrounding the material site is dominated by shadscale scrub. Prominent plant species located within the BSA include: four-wing saltbush, Mojave indigo bush, budsage, winterfat, greasewood, Mojave woolyaster, and desert trumpet. Four-wing saltbush is dominant. The elevation within the BSA ranges from 4000 to 4200 feet.” Additionally, page 3 of Appendix D: Environmental Documentation states the Pallid Bat has “No [potential to

occur within the BSA]; habitat absent within the BSA." To substantiate a determination made within a MND, either that impacts will be avoided or reduced to a less than significant level, sufficient evidence must be provided to support that determination. While the recirculated MND offers a determination, it lacks sufficient evidence such as surveys of suitable habitat.

Specific Impact: The Project area contains suitable habitat to support pallid bats (*Antrozous pallidus*), a Species of Special Concern (SSC). According to Harris, 1998, a "wide variety of habitats is occupied, including grasslands, shrublands, woodlands, and forests from sea level up through mixed conifer forests. The species is most common in open, dry habitats with rocky areas for roosting. A yearlong resident in most of the range."[4] However, avoidance and minimization measures were not proposed within the draft MND.

Why Impact Would Occur: Pallid bats live in arid or semi-arid habitats and also found over open, sparsely vegetated scrublands. During the night, they prefer to use less protected roosts that are closer to their foraging grounds than their day roosts. Night roosts can include any structures on the Project site, as well as any nearby bridges and culverts, which could provide refuge and serve as potential roosting sites for the bats. Additionally, in these habitats, the pallid bat "forages over open ground, usually 0.5-2.5 m (1.6-8 ft) above ground level. Foraging flight is slow and maneuverable with frequent dips, swoops, and short glides. Many prey are taken on the ground.[5] For habitat cover, "[d]ay roosts are in caves, crevices, mines, and occasionally in hollow trees and buildings. Roost must protect bats from high temperatures. Bats move deeper into cover if temperatures rise. Night roosts may be in more open sites, such as porches and open buildings. Few hibernation sites are known, but probably uses rock crevices.[6]

Evidence impact would be significant: Bats are considered non-game mammals and are afforded protection by State law from take and/or harassment (Fish & G. Code, § 4150; Cal. Code of Regs, § 251.1). Several bat species are considered SSC. A SSC is a species, subspecies, or distinct population of an animal native to California that currently satisfies one or more of the following (not necessarily mutually exclusive) criteria:

- is extirpated from the State or, in the case of birds, is extirpated in its primary season or breeding role;

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[4] Harris, J. (1988). *Life History Account M038: Pallid Bat (Antrozous pallidus)*. California Wildlife Habitat Relationships System, California Department of Fish and Wildlife, California Interagency Wildlife Task Group. Retrieved from https://nrm.dfg.ca.gov/FileHandler.ashx?DocumentID=2349.
[5] Harris. (1988).
[6] Harris. (1988).

- is listed as ESA-, but not CESA-, threatened, or endangered; meets the State definition of threatened or endangered but has not formally been listed; is experiencing, or formerly experienced, serious (noncyclical) population declines or range retractions (not reversed) that, if continued or resumed, could qualify it for State threatened or endangered status; and/or
- has naturally small populations exhibiting high susceptibility to risk from any factor(s), that if realized, could lead to declines that would qualify it for CESA threatened or endangered status.

Impacts on SSC could require a mandatory finding of significance under CEQA (CEQA Guidelines, § 15065). Impacts on bats, either directly or indirectly through disturbances to roosts and loss of habitat, would be a significant impact. The Project's impact on bats has yet to be mitigated below a significant level. Accordingly, the Project continues to have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on a species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special-status species by CDFW.

Recommended potentially feasible mitigation measure to reduce impacts to less that significant: CDFW offers the following Mitigation Measure.

Mitigation Measure BIO-Bat-1: ***Bat Pre-Construction Surveys (New)***

Pre-construction surveys for bats shall be conducted by a Qualified Biologist. The pre-construction survey shall focus on bat roosting habitat suitability of the structures and trees that may be removed, altered, or indirectly affected by the Project. If bat roosting habitat is determined to be present on the Project site, then nighttime surveys shall be performed during summer months (i.e. June-August). If the site supports maternity roosts or special status species during any stage of Project activity, the Project proponent will immediately halt project activities and contact CDFW.

III. Additional Comments

COMMENT #5: Employee Awareness of Wildlife Resources

The area surrounding the Project is mountain wilderness, thus Project development may bring biological hazards common to urban-wildland interface areas. Waste management must be a priority as accessible waste can encourage opportunistic species such as rats, ravens, and coyotes to become more prevalent, posing a substantial predation hazard to wildlife. Waste management plans should include waste receptacles with closing, lockable lids and a waste removal schedule that does not allow for excess waste to accrue. Increased traffic may also pose a hazard

to species in the form of vehicle-animal collisions which often lead to the death of the animal.

Project activities, including expansion and routine work for the life of the Project, will affect local wildlife. Part of the Project proponent's responsibility is to educate individuals that will be on-site on the wildlife species that may be present and how to limit impacts to wildlife species in the area. CDFW recommends that a Workers Environmental Awareness Program (WEAP) be added to the draft MND, as per **Mitigation Measure BIO-11:**

Mitigation Measure BIO-11: ***Employee Awareness of Wildlife Resources (New)***

A qualified biologist shall conduct an education program for all persons employed or otherwise working on the Project site prior to performing any work on-site (Workers Environmental Awareness Program; WEAP). The WEAP shall consist of a presentation that includes a discussion of the biology of the habitats and species that may be present at the site. The qualified biologist shall also include as part of the WEAP information about the distribution and habitat needs of any special-status species that may be present, legal protections for those species, penalties for violations, and mitigation measures. The WEAP should include, but not be limited to: (1) best practices for managing waste and reducing activities that can lead to increased occurrences of opportunistic species and the impacts these species can have on wildlife in the area and (2) protected species that have the potential to occur on the Project site including species of special concern, listed species, rare and sensitive plants, and nesting birds. Interpretation shall be provided for any non-English speaking workers, and the same instruction shall be provided for any new workers prior to their performing any work on-site.

COMMENT #6: Lake and Streambed Alteration (LSA) Agreement Notification

CDFW determined that based on review of aerial photography from the California State Water Resources Control Board that up to three ephemeral streams occur within the Project area the active mining, staging, stockpiling, and truck loading areas occur within at least one ephemeral stream. Thus, CDFW recommends that the Project proponent adopt **Mitigation Measure BIO-12** below to either obtain written correspondence from CDFW stating that notification under section 1602 of the Fish and Game Code is not required for the Project, *or,* if notification under

section 1602 of the Fish and Game Code is required for the Project, to obtain a CDFW-executed Lake and Streambed Alteration Agreement:

Mitigation Measure BIO-12: ***LSA Agreement Notification (New)***

Prior to construction and issuance of any grading permit, the Project proponent should obtain written correspondence from the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) stating that notification under section 1602 of the Fish and Game Code is not required for the Project, or the Project proponent should obtain a CDFW-executed Lake and Streambed Alteration Agreement, authorizing impacts to Fish and Game Code section 1602 resources associated with the Project.

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

CDFW recommends that Inyo County incorporate and give due consideration to CDFW's recommendations concerning the protection of native and sensitive plant species. These actions are required to ensure successful revegetation with native species and to mitigate the risk of future site closures, including but not limited to closures such as that which occurred in 1987 due to visual impacts and dust generation.

CDFW additionally advised that Inyo County incorporate long-term public safety measures to prevent further incidences of OHV staging and usage, illegal target shooting, illegal dumping, and unauthorized access into sensitive habitat areas of the Project.

CDFW recommends that Inyo County shall revise Section 4.3.0 Reclamation Schedule to have reclamation activities commenced no later than 6 months after Project activities commence and provide a monitoring plan to CDFW at this time.

ENVIRONMENTAL DATA

CEQA requires that information developed in environmental impact reports and negative declarations be incorporated into a database which may be used to make subsequent or supplemental environmental determinations. (Pub. Resources Code, § 21003, subd. (e).) Accordingly, please report any special status species and natural communities detected during Project surveys to the California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDB). The CNNDB field survey form can be filled out and submitted online at the following link: https://wildlife.ca.gov/Data/CNDDB/Submitting-Data. The types of information reported to CNDDB can be found at the following link: https://www.wildlife.ca.gov/Data/CNDDB/Plants-and-Animals.

ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENT FILING FEES

The Project, as proposed, would have an impact on fish and/or wildlife, and assessment of environmental document filing fees is necessary. Fees are payable upon filing of the Notice of Determination by the Lead Agency and serve to help defray the cost of environmental review by CDFW. Payment of the environmental document filing fee is required in order for the underlying project approval to be operative, vested, and final. (Cal. Code Regs, tit. 14, § 753.5; Fish & G. Code, § 711.4; Pub. Resources Code, § 21089.)

CONCLUSION

CDFW appreciates the opportunity to comment on the draft MND to assist Inyo County in identifying and mitigating Project impacts on biological resources.

Questions regarding this letter or further coordination should be directed Scott Jakubowski, Senior Environmental Scientist (Specialist), at Scott.Jakubowski@wildlife.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

DocuSigned by:
Brandy Wood
4D759253408941E...

Brandy Wood
Environmental Project Manager

ec: Office of Planning and Research, State Clearinghouse, Sacramento

REFERENCES

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Planning and Research. California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Net Web Portal Search Results. State Clearing House No. 2025040921. Retrieved April 24, 2025, https://ceqanet.opr.ca.gov/Project/2025040921.

Attachment A: Mitigation and Monitoring Reporting Plan

Mitigation Measure		**Timing**	**Responsible Party**
BIO-Burrowing Owl-4	To avoid construction-level impacts to unidentified burrowing owls on-site, qualified biologists shall conduct focused burrowing owl surveys during the breeding and non-breeding season in accordance with the Staff Report on Burrowing Owl Mitigation (CDFG, 2012). The survey shall cover the Project site and a 500-meter buffer, where legally accessible. A preconstruction survey shall be conducted within 14 days prior to the start of construction activities (see below). Pre-construction take avoidance surveys for this species shall be conducted within 14 days prior to the start of ground disturbance and 24 hours prior to construction to determine the presence or absence of this species within the Project footprint. A report shall be submitted by a qualified and agency-approved biologist to CDFW. The Project footprint shall be clearly demarcated in the field by the Project engineers and biologist prior to the commencement of the pre-construction take avoidance surveys. The	Prior to commencing ground or vegetation disturbing activities	Project Proponent

	surveys shall follow the guidance of the Staff Report on Burrowing Owl Mitigation (CDFG, 2012). Depending on the Project activity type and associated disturbance, a minimum avoidance buffer distance of 50 meters (165 feet) to 100 meters (330 feet) during the nonbreeding season (September through January) and 100 meters (330 feet) to 250 meters (825 feet) during the breeding season (February through August) shall be maintained between active burrows and construction activities. A qualified biologist shall monitor the burrowing owls for any sign of distress and adjust the buffers as necessary to ensure no take occurs. If active burrows are present within the Project footprint and complete avoidance is infeasible, the Project proponent shall not undertake Project activities and Project activities shall be postponed until the appropriate authorization (i.e. CESA incidental take permit under the California Fish and Game Code § 2081) is obtained. Should permanent loss of western burrowing owl habitat occur the ratio of acquisition		

	to loss must be at a minimum of 1:1. The ratio shall be higher for occupied and irreplaceable habitats. The mitigation lands may require habitat enhancements including enhancement or expansion of burrows for breeding, shelter and dispersal opportunity, and removal or control of population stressors. Permanent protection of mitigation land shall be established through a conservation easement deeded to a nonprofit conservation organization or public agency with a conservation mission, and include development and implementation of a mitigation land management plan to address long-term ecological sustainability and maintenance of the site for burrowing owls, and funding for the maintenance and management of mitigation land through the establishment of a long-term funding mechanism such as an endowment.		
BIO-Bat-1: Bat Pre-Construction Surveys	All suitable roosting and foraging habitat for local or migratory bat species known to the Project area, including special-status species, found within the Project site and adjacent land shall be surveyed throughout one year, prior to initial site	Prior to commencing ground or vegetation disturbing activities	Project Proponent

	clearing activities. The surveys shall be completed by a qualified bat biologist whose resume shall be reviewed and approved by CDFW. Surveys shall include determination of the approximate size of the colony(s) and species present. The surveys shall include a combination of nighttime emergence counts and acoustic techniques (full spectrum bat acoustic detectors) appropriate for the roosting habitat and time of year, visual and aural surveys (observation during foraging period), and inspection for suitable habitat and bat sign (e.g. guano). Surveys shall be conducted during the spring, summer, fall, and winter to determine how the habitat is being used by bats throughout the year, including foraging patterns and habitat, and the presence overwintering bats, with at least two surveys conducted during the maternity season to determine a pre and post-volant count of colonies present. IV. **If roosting bats, of any status, are found during the surveys, the bats and roosts shall be avoided to the maximum extent practicable with consideration of the most disturbing Project activities**		

	and their effect (e.g. demolition and night-time lighting). A Bat Management Plan prepared by the qualified bat biologist identifying situation-specific and species-specific avoidance and minimization measures to reduce impacts to roosting and foraging bats shall be prepared for CDFW's review, approval, and implementation prior to the commencement of initial site clearing activities. ***V.*** **The Bat Management Plan shall include, as appropriate to the findings of the surveys and roosting habitat affected, a construction schedule to avoid roosting season, spatial and temporal avoidance measures, non-disturbance buffers, passive exclusion of bats outside of the maternity season (if necessary), and identification of species-specific replacement or alternative habitat to mitigate for permanent maternity or night roosting habitat loss. If roosts cannot be avoided or it is determined that construction activities will cause roost abandonment, a mitigation plan addressing exclusion and**		

	passive relocation procedures and impact compensation will be developed. The mitigation plan will be developed in consultation with CDFW and the qualified bat biologist. Roost and foraging habitat shall be replaced in-kind prior to any exclusion or in a timing approved by CDFW. Any exclusion and passive relocation efforts shall avoid periods of sensitive activity (e.g. hibernation or maternity season) and may require several seasons for bats to discover alternative roosting sites.		
BIO-General-6: Species Avoidance	If during Project activities insect host plants, nesting birds, burrowing owl, desert tortoise, bighorn sheep, mountain lion, desert kit fox, or American badger burrows are discovered within the Project Site, all construction activities must stop within 10 feet for rare insect host plants, 100 feet for non-passerine nesting birds, 300 feet for nesting passerine species, 500 feet for raptors or federal/State listed birds, 265 feet for burrowing owls, 500 feet for desert kit fox, 500 feet for desert tortoises, and 16 to 25 feet around single American badger burrows and 65 feet around clusters of American badger burrows. The Caltrans Biologist and	During Project activities	Project Proponent

	Resident Engineer must be notified. Coordination with CDFW and USFWS shall be required prior to restarting activities, if full avoidance is not achievable.		
BIO-Reptile-4: Authorized Biologist Clearance Surveys	Clearance desert tortoise surveys must be conducted by the qualified biologist 3 days prior to Project activities within the Project footprint before temporary desert tortoise fence is erected. If a desert tortoise is located, An incidental take permit (ITP) for desert tortoise shall be obtained prior to initiation of all ground disturbing activities. The Project proponent shall adhere to measures and conditions set forth within the ITP. Mitigation for direct impacts shall be fulfilled through conservation of suitable Mojave Desert tortoise habitat through the purchase of mitigation bank credits or land acquisition determined through coordination with USFWS and the California Department of Fish and Wildlife.	Prior to commencing ground or vegetation disturbing activities	Project Proponent
BIO-General-18: Aquatic Resources Restoration	Caltrans shall notify CDFW pursuant to Fish and Game Code section 1602 and obtain authorization prior to initiating Project activities within any river, stream, or lake. After construction activities are complete, temporarily impacted aquatic resources	Prior to or after commencing Project depending on mitigation type	Project Proponent

	will be restored to original and permanently impacted resources will be restored at a minimum 3:1 ratio through on-site restoration activities, suitable CDFW-approved mitigation/conservation bank credits, permittee-responsible mitigation, or through a combination of any of these.		

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FINANCIALLY RESPONSIBLE PARTY AGREEMENT

Financially Responsible Party

The Financially Responsible Party (FRP) shall be Caltrans District 9. Caltrans District 9 shall be responsible for all fees and costs associated with reclamation of all mines located on Bureau of Land Management (BLM) land in Inyo County, including but not limited to the Zurich Pit (CA Mine ID #91-14-0143) in accordance with Reclamation Plan RP2023-01, and the following existing pits:

- Mine ID #91-14-0038 (Shoshone Pit)
- Mine ID #91-14-0046 (New Death Valley Junction; Reclamation Plan 96-10)
- Mine ID #91-14-0050 (Cottonwood Pit; Reclamation Plan 96-8)
- Mine ID #91-14-0051 (Keeler Pit; Reclamation Plan 96-12)

Caltrans District 9 shall also be responsible for paying contractor fees and expenses necessary to complete reclamation should any site be closed and retired by the County of Inyo pursuant to the Surface Mining and Reclamation Act (SMARA).

1. **Agreement**

   This Agreement ("Agreement") is entered into by and among the County of Inyo ("County"), the Bureau of Land Management ("BLM"), and Caltrans District 9. The FRP shall supply adequate proof of financial encumbrance to set aside funds for reclamation as required by Public Resources Code §2773.1. Caltrans shall provide an accounting certification, issued by an authorized accounting officer, annually to both BLM and the County verifying that funds remain available in an amount not less than the approved Financial Assurance Cost Estimate (FACE).

2. **Indemnification – County**

   Caltrans agrees to indemnify, defend (with counsel reasonably approved by the County), and hold harmless the County and its Indemnitees (collectively the County's elected officials, appointed officials including Planning Commissioners, officers, employees, agents, advisory agencies or committees, appeal boards, legislative bodies, and volunteers) from any and all claims, actions, or proceedings brought against the County or its Indemnitees to attack, set aside, void, or annul an approval of the County concerning this Agreement, or from losses, damages, and/or liability arising out of this Agreement and the application(s), from any cause whatsoever, including the acts, errors, or omissions of any person, and for any costs or expenses incurred by Indemnitees, except where such indemnification is prohibited by law.

   This indemnification provision applies regardless of the existence or degree of fault of Indemnitees. Caltrans' indemnification obligation applies to Indemnitees'

passive negligence but does not apply to Indemnitees' sole or active negligence or willful misconduct within the meaning of Civil Code section 2782.
Caltrans shall reimburse the County and its Indemnitees for all expenses resulting from such actions, including court costs and attorney's fees. Although the County may, at its sole discretion, participate at its own expense in the defense of any such action, such participation shall not relieve Caltrans of its obligations under this condition. The County will act reasonably to promptly notify Caltrans of any claim, action, or proceeding and will cooperate fully in the defense.

3. **Indemnification – BLM**
Caltrans agrees to indemnify, defend (with counsel reasonably approved by BLM), and hold harmless BLM and its Indemnitees (its officers, employees, agents, advisory agencies or committees, appeal boards, legislative bodies, and volunteers) from any and all claims, actions, or proceedings brought against BLM or its Indemnitees to attack, set aside, void, or annul an approval of BLM concerning this Agreement, or from losses, damages, and/or liability arising out of this Agreement and the application(s), from any cause whatsoever, including the acts, errors, or omissions of any person, and for any costs or expenses incurred by Indemnitees, except where such indemnification is prohibited by law.
This indemnification provision applies regardless of the existence or degree of fault of Indemnitees. Caltrans' indemnification obligation applies to Indemnitees' passive negligence but does not apply to Indemnitees' sole or active negligence or willful misconduct within the meaning of Civil Code section 2782.
Caltrans shall reimburse BLM and its Indemnitees for all expenses resulting from such actions, including court costs and attorney's fees. Although BLM may, at its sole discretion, participate at its own expense in the defense of any such action, such participation shall not relieve Caltrans of its obligations under this condition. BLM will act reasonably to promptly notify Caltrans of any claim, action, or proceeding and will cooperate fully in the defense.

4. **Change of Caltrans Representative or Address**
In the event of change, the County and BLM must be notified within ten (10) working days in writing.

5. **Notification**
Any notification(s) shall be directed to the appropriate department as indicated below:

Planning Department
Attn: SMARA Coordinator
P.O. Drawer L

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Independence, CA 93526
(760) 878-0263

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BLM – Bishop
Attn: Bishop Field Manager
351 Pacu Lane, Suite 100
Bishop, CA 93514

BLM – Barstow
Attn: Field Manager
2601 Barstow Road
Barstow, CA 92311
(760) 252-6000

This Agreement shall be governed by and construed according to the laws of the State of California.

Executed on the ___ day of _____, 20___.

Financially Responsible Party (Please print and sign)

Attachment F

CALIFORNIA STATE TRANSPORTATION AGENCY

GAVIN NEWSOM, GOVERNOR

California Department of Transportation

DISTRICT 9
500 SOUTH MAIN STREET | BISHOP, CA 93514
(760) 872-0601 | FAX (760) 872-0678 TTY 711
www.dot.ca.gov

September 24, 2025

DRAFT

Ms. Ryan Smith-Standridge
SMARA Coordinator
Inyo County Planning Department
PO Drawer L
Independence, CA 93526

Dear Ms. Smith-Standridge:

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) District 9 hereby submits this letter and attachments as evidence of a Financial Assurance Mechanism that meets the requirements set forth under the California Code of Regulations, Tittle 14. Natural Resources, Division 2. Department of Conservation, Chapter 8. Mining and Geology, Article 11. Financial Assurance Mechanism, Section 3806.2. Budget Set Aside.

Caltrans uses the State Highway Operation and Protection Program (SHOPP) Roadside Preservation funding reservation as a Budget Set Aside reserved for Surface Mining and Reclamation Act (SMARA) obligations. The 2024 SHOPP (relevant sections, Attachment A) is a financial accounting and programming document covering fiscal years 2024-25 through 2027-28. The five million dollars, reserved for roadside preservation, is programmed in the fourth year of the SHOPP since it is a reservation of funds for the aforementioned fiscal years. Thus, the funds can be advanced to any of the previous four years for allocation, as needed. The entire 508 page SHOPP document can be found at the following link: https://dot.ca.gov/programs/financial-programming/state-highway-operation-protection-program-shopp-minor-program-shopp.

Caltrans District 9 currently has seven active mine sites in Inyo County with updated financial assurance cost estimates for 2025 totaling $1,733,119. The five-million-dollar SHOPP program budget set aside more than covers these and any other ancillary financial responsibilities associated with SMARA obligations. Please refer to attachment B for the full listing of associated Caltrans material sites in Inyo County and the most recent total values of Financial Assurance Cost Estimates for reclamation consistent with Public Resources Code §2773.1(a)(3).

The set aside meets the following requirements:

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(1) A resolution or other appropriate document establishing the set aside or line item including proof of approval by the governing body or appropriate official of the state, county, city, district, or other political subdivision;

a. **Consistent with Government Code section 14526.5, Streets and Highways Code section 164.6, and the Commission SHOPP Guidelines, Caltrans submitted the proposed program of projects to the California Transportation Commission on January 31, 2024, for Commission review and adoption. The adopted SHOPP was then submitted to the Governor and the Legislature by April 1, 2024.**

(2) The types and sources of specific funds;

a. **The types and sources of specific funds set aside for the SHOPP are further described in the complete SHOPP document, but are primarily made up of State and Federal taxes for gasoline and diesel purchases at the pump.**

(3) The period of time that each funding source is to be available:

a. **The period of time that funding from the 2024 adopted SHOPP is available are fiscal years 2024-25 through 2027-28. The current balance for the roadside preservation funds is five million dollars.**

(4) The calculation amount of the financial assurance prepared pursuant to Section 3804; and

a. **See Attachment B, Financial Assurance Cost Estimates associated with the mine ID's for this FAM.**

(5) The authorization for the lead agency or the Division of Mine Reclamation to use the funds to conduct and complete reclamation if the lead agency or the Division of Mine Reclamation determines that the operator is incapable of performing the reclamation covered by the set aside pursuant to Section 2773.1(b).

a. **California Streets and Highways Code, Section 114 indicates that Caltrans may enter into a cooperative agreement with a city, county, or other public entity to perform the work or share the cost of the work for the construction, improvement, or maintenance of any portion of a State highway or highway related facility. A cooperative agreement is a legally-binding contract that states the rights, duties, decisions, and commitments made between Caltrans and one or more public entities to plan, design, and construct projects in accordance with the authorizing documentation. Caltrans hereby agrees to execute a cooperative agreement with Inyo County (lead agency) or the Division of Mine Reclamation to transfer SHOPP funds for conducting and completing reclamation if Caltrans (operator) is incapable of performing the reclamation covered by the budget set aside.**

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This letter certifies that Caltrans District 9 has sufficient budget authority to satisfy all reclamation obligations associated with the referenced Financial Assurance Cost Estimates (FACE).

Sincerely,

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FOREST BECKET
District SHOPP and Minor Program Manager

Attachment A: 2024 SHOPP, Roadside Preservation
Attachment B: 2025 Financial Assurance Cost Estimate Spreadsheet

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Attachment F