



COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT
PLANNING AND BUILDING DEPARTMENT
CURRENT PLANNING DIVISION

3015 H Street Eureka CA 95501
Phone: (707)445-7541 Fax: (707) 268-3792
<http://www.co.humboldt.ca.us/planning>

Hearing Date: September 7, 2017

To: Humboldt County Planning Commission

From: John H. Ford, Director of Planning and Building Department

Subject: **GR Sundberg Surface Mining Conditional Use Permit and Reclamation Plan**
Application Number 11271
Case Numbers Case Numbers CUP-16-204/SMP-16-003/RP-16-004
Assessor Parcel Number (APN) 504-131-002-000
Glendale Area

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Please contact Michael Wheeler, Senior Planner, at (707) 268-3730, or by email at mwheeler@co.humboldt.ca.us, if you have any questions about the scheduled public hearing item.

cc: ☒ Applicant ☒ Owners ☒ Agent
Referral Agencies: ☒ LUD ☒ DOC-OMR

AGENDA ITEM TRANSMITTAL

Hearing Date	Subject	Contact
September 7, 2017	Conditional Use Permit, Surface Mining Permit, Reclamation Plan	Michael Wheeler

Project Description: The application is for a Conditional Use Permit/Mining Plan/Reclamation Plan for the seasonal extraction in Humboldt County of up to 6,300 cubic yards of sand and gravel per year from river gravel bars. The existing aggregate extraction site has historically involved aggregate removal from the exposed bar surface within the property. Previously this site received County approval in 1994 for an annual extraction rate of up to 40,000 cubic yards. Secondary activities such as temporary equipment storage during active periods of operation will also occur. Monitoring information indicates that extraction at average historical levels is appropriate at this site and that such operations will not cause immediate nor cumulative significant adverse environmental impacts. This project will remain consistent with the previous terms and conditions found within the previous permits. This project is subject to conditions and oversight found within the County of Humboldt's Interim Adaptive Management plan as described in Chapter II (3). The proposal is for the extraction of up to 6,300 cubic yards of aggregate (sand and gravel) from adjacent gravel bars on an annual basis. The permitted volume is constant with the Supplemental Programmatic Environmental Report allocation proposed by NMFS, FEV method for allocating maximum extraction volume by mean annual recruitment (MAR). (Table 2-4 SPEIR) for both the Miller Almquist Bar and Simpson-Glendale Bar. The ongoing operation will continue to extract material as long as material is available on the gravel bar and operations conform to that established within the Interim Adaptive Management Plan. The extraction activity will continue to occur during the summer season between June 1st and October 1st. Aggregate materials will be extracted, loaded onto trucks and transported to an off-site location two miles north west of the project area where processing and storage will occur. In any given year, project extraction volumes, locations, and methods will be submitted by the applicant for approval by local, state, and federal agencies, including the County of Humboldt, CHERT, Dept. of Fish and Game, and Army Corps of Engineers. This interagency process is more specifically described later in this report.

Project Location: Located along the Mad River, River Mile 8, on the Arcata North 7.5' Quadrangle, within portions of Section 13, 14, & 23, T6N, R1E, H.B.&M. The site is accessed from the east side of Highway 299, at Glendale and then proceeding west bound on Glendale Drive in Humboldt County (APN 504-131-02& 04, 516-161-04). This site is adjacent to an existing construction/storage yard located uphill from the river on the same parcels

Present Plan Land Use Designations: Grazing, Crops and Open Uses (GRAZING), Northern Humboldt General Plan (NHGP), Density: 20 acres per dwelling unit, Slope Stability: Relatively Stable (0)

Present Zoning: Agriculture General (AG)

Case Numbers: CUP-16-204, SMP-16-003, RP-16-004

Assessor Parcel Numbers: 504-131-002-000, 516-161-004-000, 504-131-004-000

Applicant

GR Sundburg Inc.
c/o Randy Sundburg
5211 Boyd Road
Arcata, CA 95521

Owner

Garth R & Linda R Sundberg
1150 Vista Dr
Mckinleyville, CA 95519

Agent

Trinity Valley Consulting Engineers
c/o Mike Atkins
P O Box 1567
Willow Creek, CA 95573

Environmental Review: A Mitigated Negative Declaration has been prepared

State Appeal Status: Project is NOT appealable to the California Coastal Commission

Major Issues: None

**GR SUNDBERG CONDITIONAL USE AND
SURFACE MINING PERMITS AND RECLAMATION PLAN**

CUP-16-204, SMP-16-003, RP-16-004

Assessor Parcel Numbers (APN) 504-131-002-000, 516-161-004-000, 504-131-004-000

Recommended Planning Commission Action

1. Describe the application as part of the Consent Agenda.
2. Survey the audience for any person who would like to discuss the application.
3. If no one requests discussion, make the following motion to approve the application as a part of the consent agenda:

I move to adopt the Mitigated Negative Declaration and make all of the required findings for approval of the Conditional Use Permit, Surface Mining Permit and Reclamation Plan based on evidence in the staff report, and adopt the Resolution approving the GR Sundberg Inc. project subject to the recommended conditions.

Executive Summary: The application is for a Conditional Use Permit/Mining Plan/Reclamation Plan for the seasonal extraction in Humboldt County of up to 6,300 cubic yards of sand and gravel per year from river gravel bars. The existing aggregate extraction site has historically involved aggregate removal from the exposed bar surface within the property. Previously this site received County approval in 1994 for an annual extraction rate of up to 40,000 cubic yards. Secondary activities such as temporary equipment storage during active periods of operation will also occur.

Monitoring information indicates that extraction at average historical levels is appropriate at this site and that such operations will not cause immediate nor cumulative significant adverse environmental impacts. The proposal is for a conditional use permit and surface mining and reclamation plan. This project will remain consistent with the previous terms and conditions found within the previous permits. This project is subject to conditions and oversight found within the County of Humboldt's Interim Adaptive Management plan as described in Chapter II of the Mad River Supplemental Program EIR. The proposal is for the extraction of up to 6,300 cubic yards of aggregate (sand and gravel) from adjacent gravel bars on an annual basis. The permitted volume is consistent with the Supplemental Programmatic Environmental Report allocation proposed by NMFS method for allocating maximum extraction volume by mean annual recruitment (MAR). (Table 2-4 SPEIR for both the Miller Almquist Bar and Simpson-Glendale Bar).

The ongoing operation will continue to extract material as long as material is available on the gravel bar and operations conform to that established within the Interim Adaptive Management Plan. The extraction activity will continue to occur during the summer season between June 1st and October 1st. Aggregate materials will be extracted, loaded onto trucks and transported to an off-site location two miles north west of the project area where processing and storage will occur. In any given year, project extraction volumes, locations, and methods will be submitted by the applicant for approval by local, state, and federal agencies, including the County of Humboldt, CHERT, Dept. of Fish and Game, and Army Corps of Engineers. This interagency process is more specifically described later in this report.

The in-stream mining operation will be subject to numerous on-going, annual, and terminal mitigation and reclamation measures. These include: set operational hours for blasting, extraction, processing, and hauling, the installation of a stormwater detention and sedimentation basin, winterizing the site prior to the onset of the rainy season, and final reclamation of the site at the end of the permit term. No hazardous materials such as fuels,

lubricants, and explosives, will be stored on-site and a "business plan" approved by the Public Health Department is not required.

The actual and potential environmental effects reviewed by County staff and referral agencies in relation to the project include: noise and hazards, traffic, dust, safety concerns, water quality degradation, impacts to sensitive habitat areas, and depreciation in open space aesthetics. Staff supports approval of the application for several reasons: a) the site has historically been used for in-stream gravel mining; b) the project area is removed from urban developments and is not anticipated to have any impact on residential uses; and c) potential impacts to resources have been addressed through mitigation and operations restrictions. Based upon the operational and performance standards included in the mining operation and reclamation plan, staff and the referral agencies have concluded that the operation can be conducted in a safe and appropriate manner provided these standards are made conditions of project approval.

Alternatives: The following alternatives to the staff recommendation may be considered: 1) The Planning Commission could elect to add or delete conditions of approval; 2) The Planning Commission could deny approval of the requested permits if you are unable to make all of the required findings. Planning Division staff is confident that the required findings can be made based on the submitted evidence and subject to the recommended conditions of approval. Consequently, planning staff does not recommend further consideration of these alternatives.

**RESOLUTION OF THE PLANNING COMMISSION
OF THE COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT**

Resolution Number 17-____

MAKES THE REQUIRED FINDINGS FOR CERTIFYING COMPLIANCE WITH THE CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT AND CONDITIONALLY APPROVES THE GR SUNDBERG CONDITIONAL USE AND SURFACE MINING PERMIT APPLICATIONS AND RECLAMATION PLAN

**CASE NUMBERS CUP-16-204, SMP-16-003, RP-16-004
ASSESSOR PARCEL NUMBER CUP-16-204, SMP-16-003, RP-16-004**

WHEREAS, agents for GR Sundburg Inc. submitted an application and evidence in support of approving a conditional use permit, surface mining permit and reclamation plan for a surface mining operation involving the annual extraction of 6,300 cubic yards of material over the 15-year permit term; and

WHEREAS, the County Planning Division has reviewed the submitted application and evidence and has referred the application and evidence to involved reviewing agencies for site inspections, comments and recommendations; and

WHEREAS, the project is subject to environmental review pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), and has prepared and circulated a Mitigated Negative Declaration; and

WHEREAS, Attachment 2 in the Planning Division staff report includes evidence in support of making all of the required findings for approving the proposed surface mining operation and reclamation plan; and

WHEREAS, on September 7, 2017 a public hearing was held to receive public testimony on the proposed project.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved, determined, and ordered by the Planning Commission that:

1. The project has potential significant effects on the environment, which, with the inclusion of specific mitigation measures, will be rendered less than significant. Accordingly, a Mitigated Negative Declaration was prepared pursuant to the CEQA Guidelines; and
2. The Planning Commission adopts the Mitigated Negative Declaration and the Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program; and
3. The findings in Attachment 2 of the Planning Division staff report support approval of Case Numbers CUP-16-204, SMP-16-003, RP-16-004, based on the submitted evidence; and
4. The Conditional Use and Surface Mining Permits and Reclamation Plan applied for is approved as recommended and conditioned in Attachment 1 for Case Number: CUP-16-204, SMP-16-003, RP-16-004.

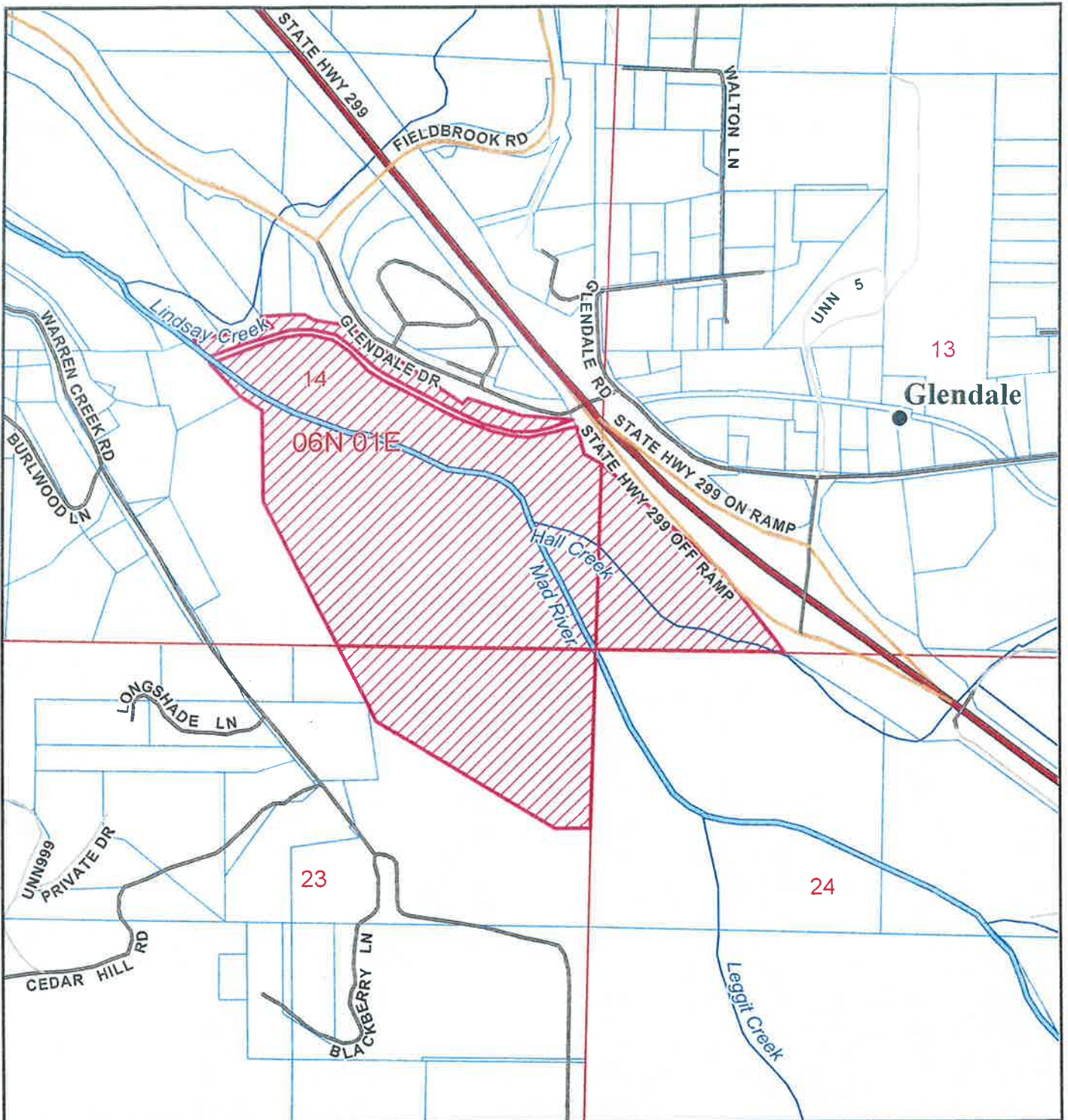
Adopted after review and consideration of all the evidence on September 7, 2017.

The motion was made by Commissioner _____ and seconded by Commissioner _____.

AYES: Commissioners:
NOES: Commissioners:
ABSTAIN: Commissioners:
ABSENT: Commissioners:
DECISION:

I, John Ford, Secretary to the Planning Commission of the County of Humboldt, do hereby certify the foregoing to be a true and correct record of the action taken on the above entitled matter by said Commission at a meeting held on the date noted above.

John Ford, Director
Planning and Building Department

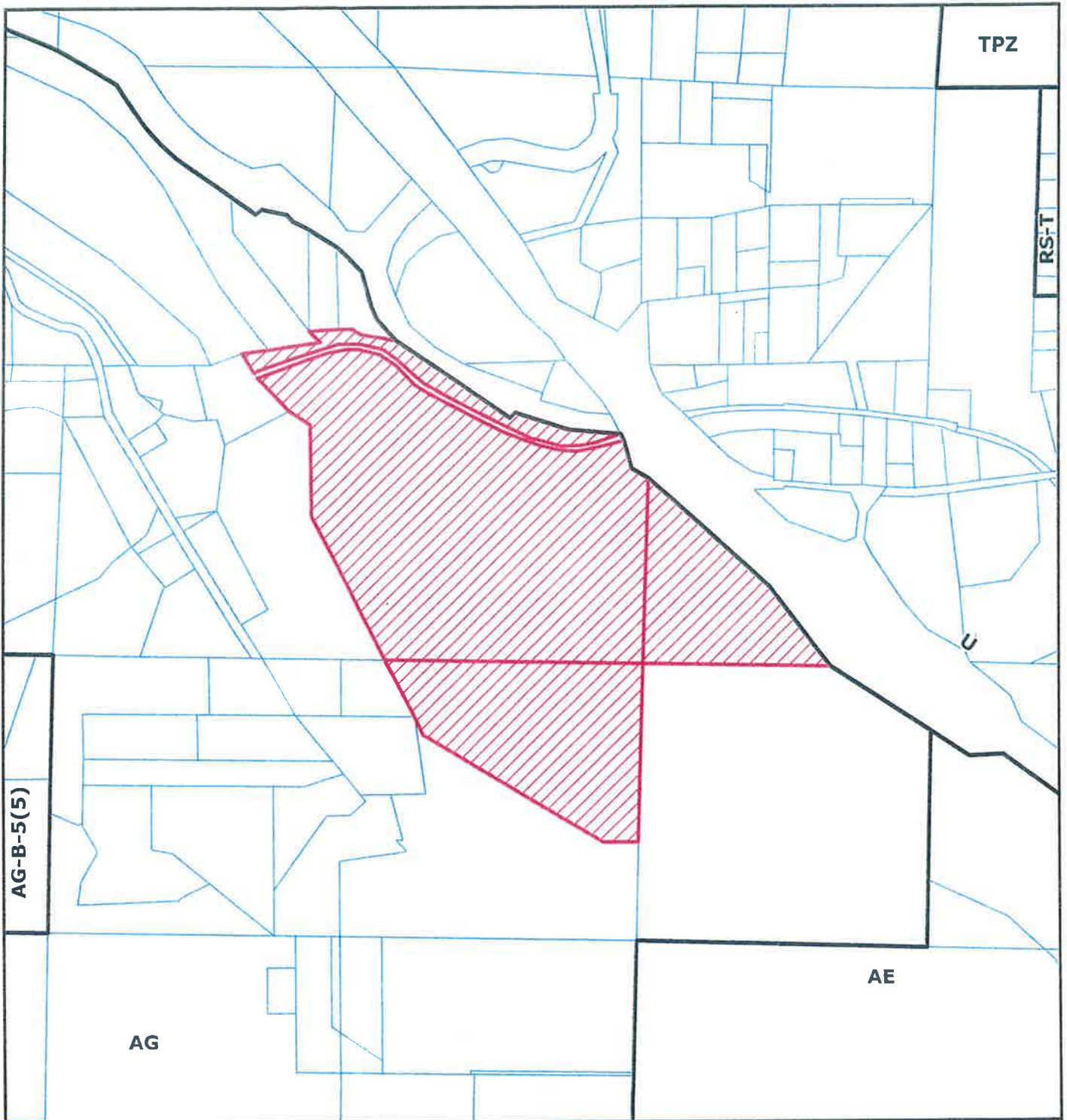


Project Area = 

This map is intended for display purposes and should not be used for precise measurement or navigation. Data has not been completely checked for accuracy.

LOCATION MAP
PROPOSED GR SUNDBERG INC
CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT,
SURFACE MINING PERMIT &
RECLAMATION PLAN
GLENDALE AREA
CUP-16-204/SMP-16-003/RP-16-004
APN: 504-131-002 et seq
T06N R01E S13-14,23 HB&M (Arcata North)

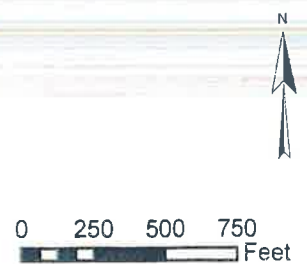
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 Feet

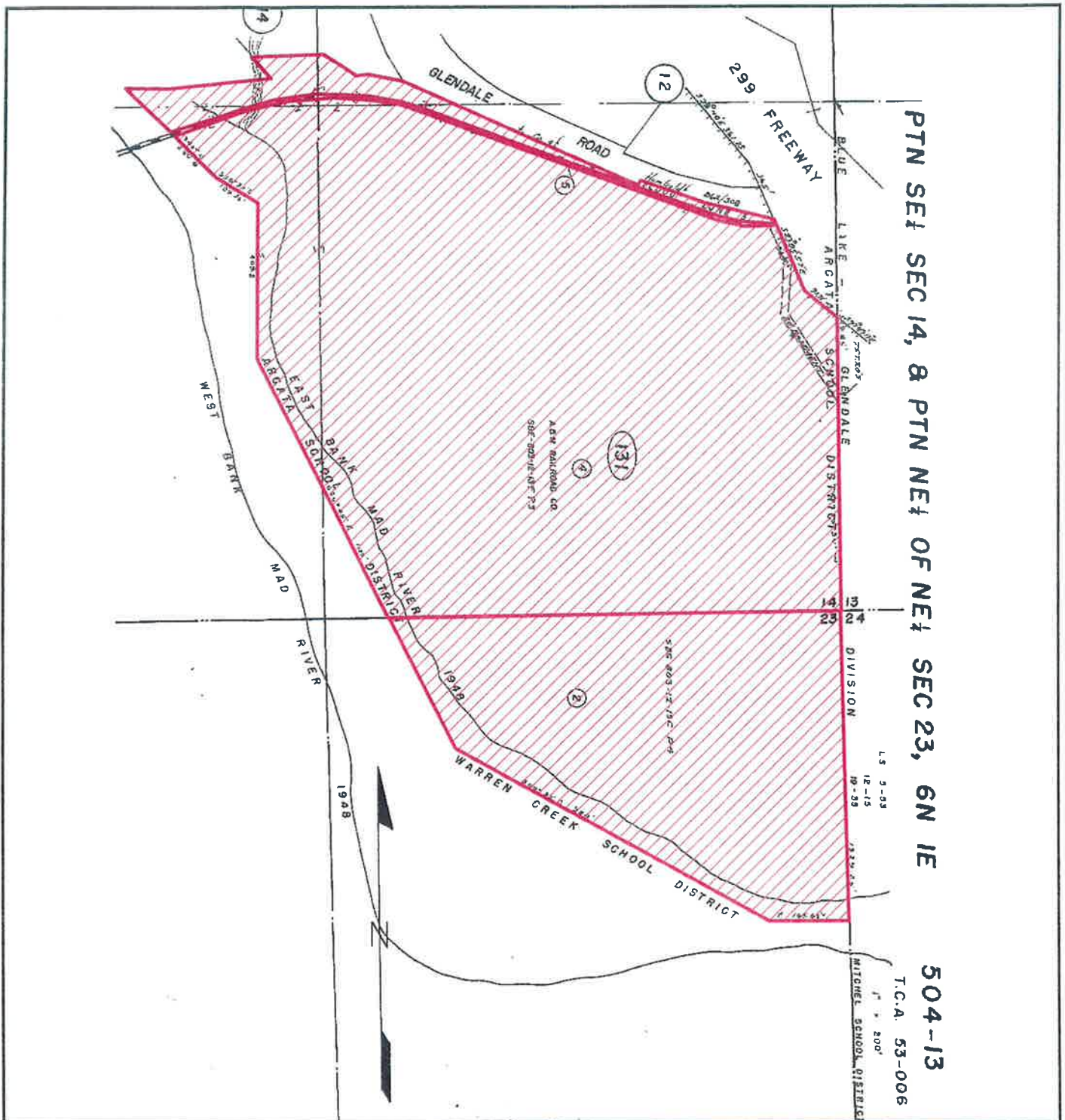


Project Area = 

This map is intended for display purposes and should not be used for precise measurement or navigation. Data has not been completely checked for accuracy.

ZONING MAP
PROPOSED GR SUNDBERG INC
CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT,
SURFACE MINING PERMIT &
RECLAMATION PLAN
GLENDAL AREA
CUP-16-204/SMP-16-003/RP-16-004
APN: 504-131-002 et seq
T06N R01E S13-14,23 HB&M (Arcata North)





Project Area = 

This map is intended for display purposes and should not be used for precise measurement or navigation. Data has not been completely checked for accuracy.

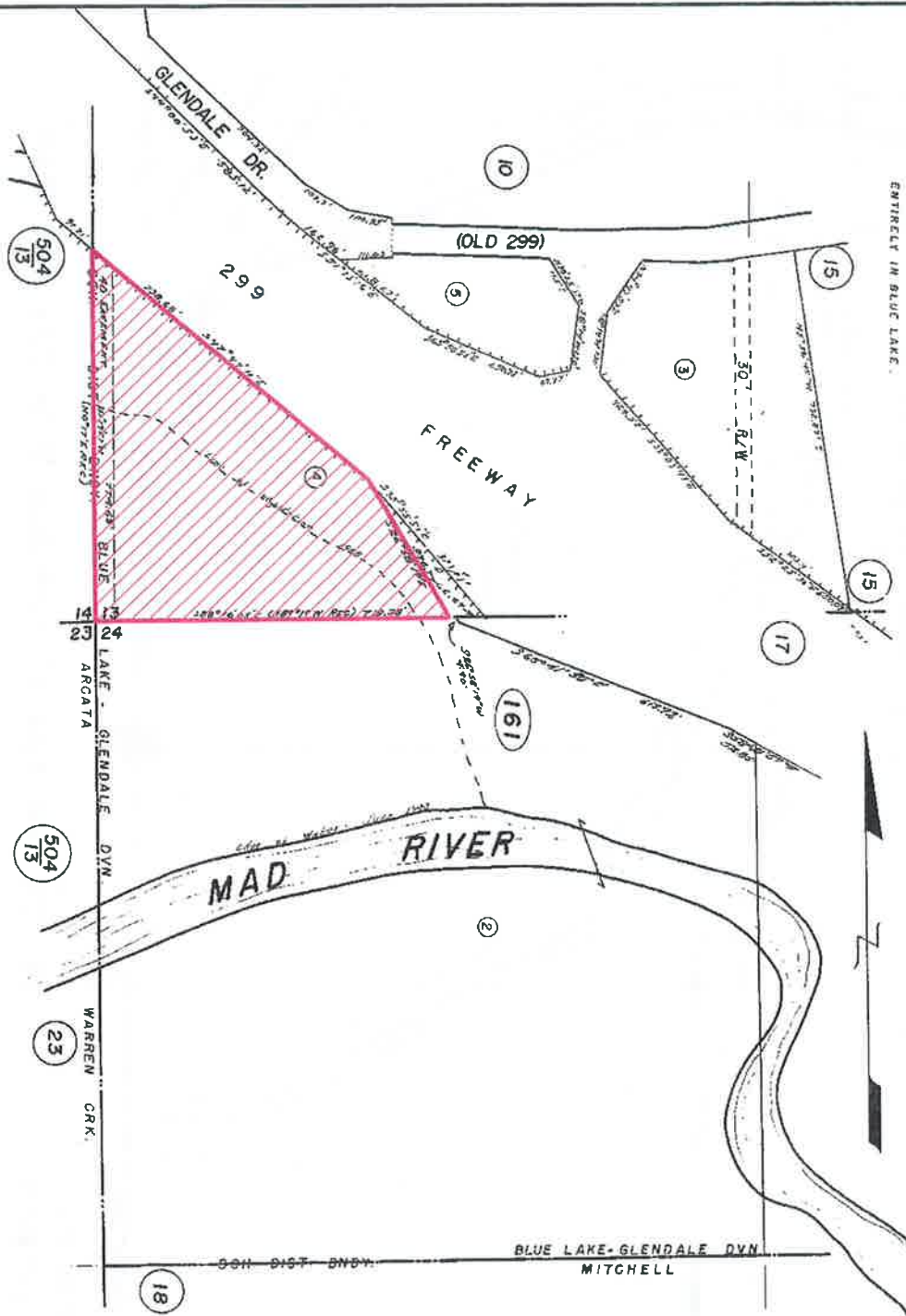
ASSESSOR PARCEL MAP
PROPOSED GR SUNDBERG INC
CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT,
SURFACE MINING PERMIT &
RECLAMATION PLAN
GLENDALE AREA
CUP-16-204/SMP-16-003/RP-16-004
APN: 504-131-002 et seq
T06N R01E S13-14,23 HB&M (Arcata North)

MAP NOT TO SCALE

PTNS SECS 13 & 24 6N 1E

516-16
T.C.A. 57-001
1" = 200'

NOTE: CENTER OF MAD RIVER IS LEGAL BNDY BTW. BLUE LAKE
& MITCHELL SCH. DIST. NW¼ OF NW¼ (S13-161-02) IS ASSESSED
ENTIRELY IN BLUE LAKE.



**ASSESSOR PARCEL MAP
PROPOSED GR SUNDBERG INC
CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT,
SURFACE MINING PERMIT &
RECLAMATION PLAN
GLENDALE AREA
CUP-16-204/SMP-16-003/RP-16-004
APN: 504-131-002 et seq
T06N R01E S13-14,23 HB&M (Arcata North)**

Project Area = 

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navigation. Data has not been completely checked
for accuracy.



MAP NOT TO SCALE



AERIAL MAP

PROPOSED GR SUNDBERG INC CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT, SURFACE MINING PERMIT & RECLAMATION PLAN

**GLENDALE AREA
CUP-16-204/SMP-16-003/RP-16-004**

APN: 504-131-002 et seq

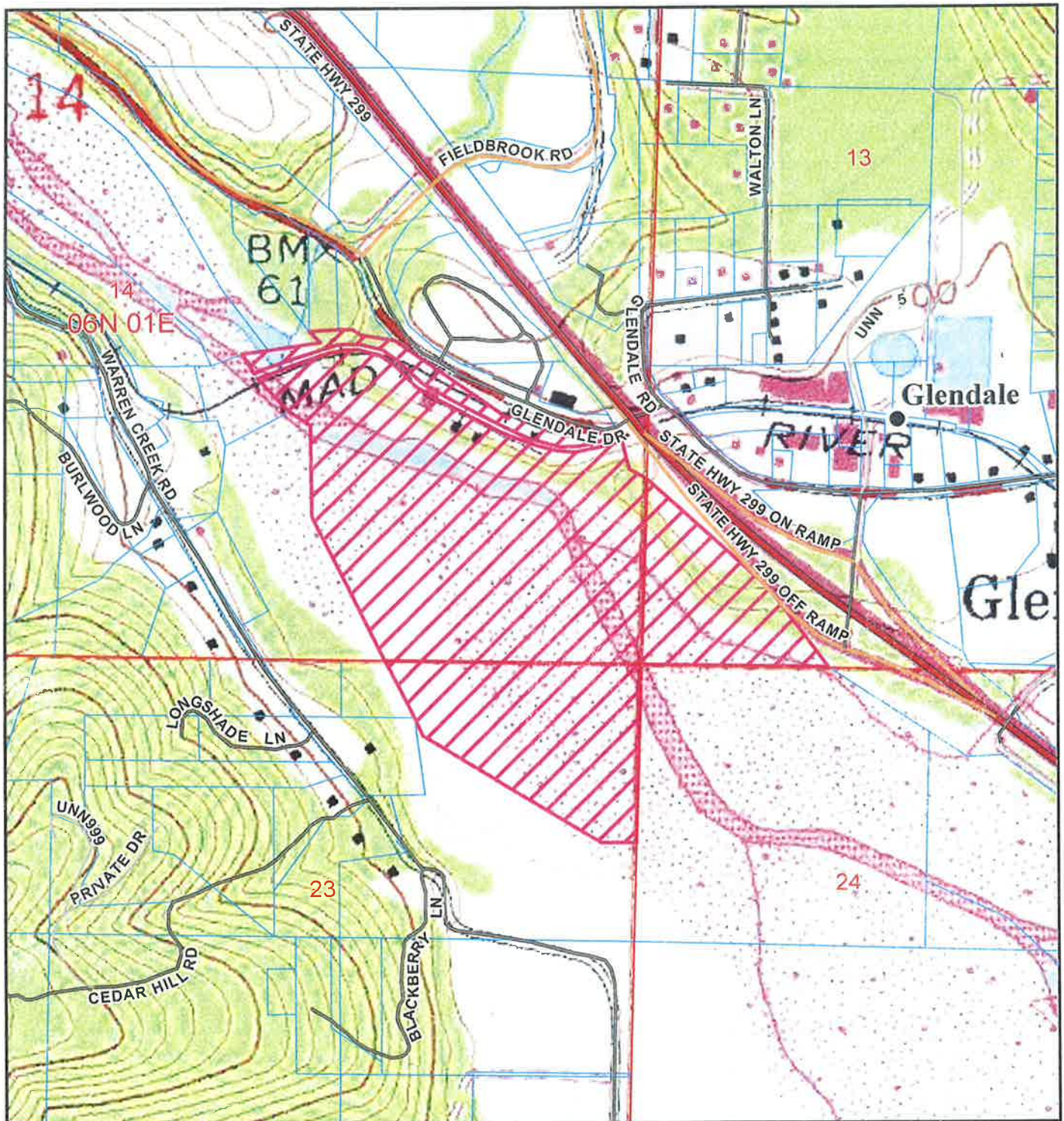
T06N R01E S13-14,23 HB&M (Arcata North)

Project Area = 

This map is intended for display purposes and should not be used for precise measurement or navigation. Data has not been completely checked for accuracy.



0 250 500 750
Feet



Project Area = 

This map is intended for display purposes and should not be used for precise measurement or navigation. Data has not been completely checked for accuracy.

TOPO MAP
PROPOSED GR SUNDBERG INC
CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT,
SURFACE MINING PERMIT &
RECLAMATION PLAN
GLENDALE AREA
CUP-16-204/SMP-16-003/RP-16-004
APN: 504-131-002 et seq
T06N R01E S13-14,23 HB&M (Arcata North)



0 250 500 750 Feet

PLOT PLAN
APN: 504-131-04

SECTION 14, TOWNSHIP 6 NORTH,
RANGE 1 EAST, H.B.&M.
FOR
RANDY SUNDBERG
GR SUNDBERG INC.
5211 BOYD ROAD
ARCATA, CA 95521
(707) 825-6565



REV	DATE	DESCRIPTION	DES BY	CHK BY	APP BY
1	3/29/17	PRELIMINARY DESIGN	JTN	JTN	JTN

GR SUNDBERG INC.
1220 GLENDALE DR.
APN:504-131-04
PLOT PLAN
HUMBOLDT COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

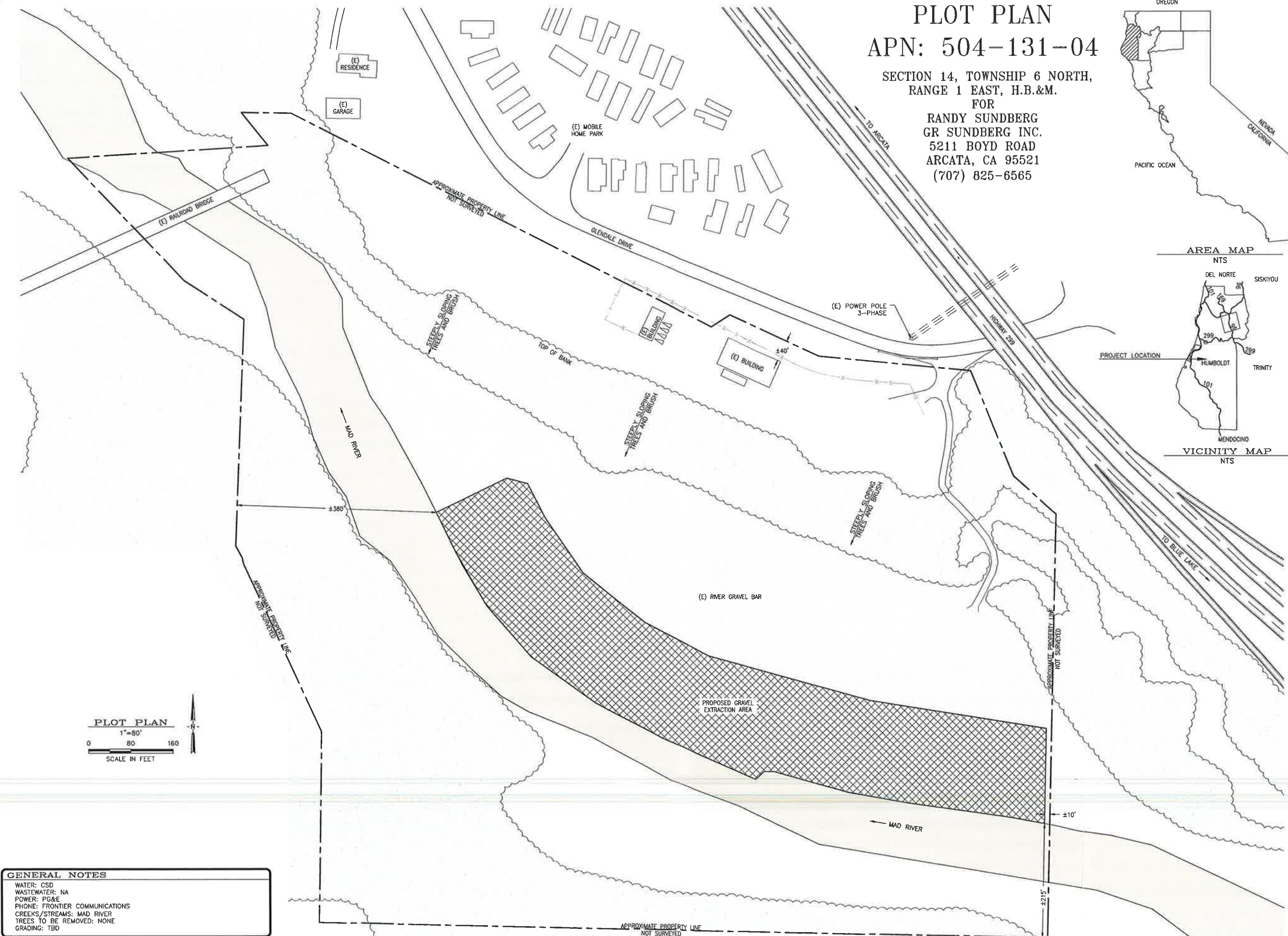
DRAWN BY E. KEYES	CHECKED BY JTN	DESIGNED BY J. MCNIGHT	APPROVED BY JTN
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DATE OF ISSUE:
MARCH 2017

SCALE:
AS SHOWN

PROJECT NO:
571

DRAWING NO:
1 OF 1



PLOT PLAN
1"=80'
0 80 160
SCALE IN FEET

GENERAL NOTES
WATER: CSD
WASTEWATER: NA
POWER: PG&E
PHONE: FRONTIER COMMUNICATIONS
CREEKS/STREAMS: MAD RIVER
TREES TO BE REMOVED: NONE
GRADING: TBD

Attachment 1

RECOMMENDED CONDITIONS OF APPROVAL

APPROVAL OF THE SURFACE MINING PERMIT, CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT, AND RECLAMATION PLAN IS CONDITIONED ON THE FOLLOWING TERMS AND REQUIREMENTS:

A. Conditions of Approval:

1. Financial Assurances to ensure reclamation is performed in accordance with the approved reclamation plan shall be entered into with the County of Humboldt and the State Geologist per PRC Section 2773.1.
2. The applicant shall submit a "wet signed" statement naming the person or persons who accept responsibility for reclaiming the mined lands in accordance with the approved reclamation plan and PRC Section 2772.
3. The applicant shall reimburse the Planning Division for any processing costs that exceed the application deposit.
4. The General Plan User Fee of \$650 for Industrial Development must be paid to the Humboldt County Community Development Services Department.
5. Prior to hearing, the applicant shall submit a check to the Planning Division payable to the Humboldt County Recorder in the amount of \$2,266.25. [Note: In order to comply with the time limits for filing the Notice of Determination per CEQA, this payment will be requested from the applicant prior to hearing and will be held by the Planning Division pending a decision on the permit.] Pursuant to Section 711.4 of the Fish and Wildlife Code, the amount includes the Department of Fish and Wildlife (DFW) fee plus a \$50 document handling fee. This fee is effective through December 31, 2017 at such time the fee will be adjusted pursuant to Section 713 of the Fish and Wildlife Code. Alternatively, the applicant may contact DFW by phone at (916) 651-0603 or through the DFW website at www.dfg.ca.gov for a determination stating the project will have no effect on fish and wildlife. If DFW concurs, a form will be provided exempting the project from the \$2,216.25 fee payment requirement. In this instance, only a copy of the DFW form and the \$50.00 handling fee is required.
6. The applicant shall abide by all of the mitigation measures contained in the adopted Mitigated Negative Declaration.
7. The applicant shall record a *Notice of Reclamation Plan Approval* for the approved reclamation plan at the Humboldt County Recorder's Office in accordance and PRC Section 2772.7.
8. The ingress and egress routes to reach the gravel bar and the work yard shall be used only as proposed and all surface mining activities shall avoid archaeological site P-12-001140 (CA-HUM-930). The site shall not be entered, nor shall the supporting terrace be undermined. Surface mining in this area shall be limited to alluvial gravel deposits on the river bar and the applicant shall avoid any quarrying to bedrock or colluvium. No project related activities shall occur within 100 feet of CA-HUM-930. Use of the dirt road leading to the southeast should be avoided. A gate, chain or other such barrier shall be placed on the beginning of this road during operations to ensure that all equipment is excluded from inadvertently entering the site.

9. If cultural resources, such as chipped or ground stone, historic debris, building foundations, or bone are discovered, work shall be stopped, per the requirements of CEQA (15064.5(f)). Work near the archaeological finds shall not resume until a professional archaeologist, who meets the Secretary of Interior's Standards and Guidelines, has evaluated the materials and offered recommendations for further action.

If human remains are discovered during project construction, work will stop at the discovery location, within 20 meters (66 feet), and any nearby area reasonably suspected to overlie adjacent to human remains (Health and Safety Code, Section 7050.5). The Humboldt County coroner must be immediately contacted at the Coroner's Office, 3012 I Street, Eureka, CA, 95501; Phone 707-445-7242.

B. Operation Restrictions:

1. The mining operator shall adhere to the approved reclamation plan and mitigation monitoring program, as applied to the mining extraction site proper, and other support and ancillary uses and facilities (i.e., stockpiles, and the maintenance of access road drainage culverts). This shall include the Limitations on Operations included herein setting forth routine (i.e., non-emergency) days and hours of operations. The reclamation plan shall be reviewed annually by the operator and county staff to assure that any required reclamation is completed and is in compliance with the approved reclamation plan. Any substantial changes to the reclamation plan, including changes necessitated or required by changes in the riverine environment, may require review by the Division of Mines & Geology, Reclamation Program, and approval by the County.
2. The applicants/operators shall abide at all times with the Humboldt County Surface Mining Regulations, and any revisions thereto, and the State Surface Mining and Reclamation Act, and any revisions thereto.
3. The terms of this conditional use permit and reclamation plan shall be the fifteen (15) years from the effective date. The applicant may renew the use permit and/or reclamation plan by submitting appropriate forms and fees in effect at the time of renewal.
4. The operator shall be responsible for submitting to the State Geologist, on forms provided by the State Geologist, an annual report per PRC Section 2207.
5. Hauling along public roads shall be limited to "legal loads" only. "Overweight loads" must have prior approval from the Department of Public Works and/or CalTrans.
6. Any and all portable toilet facilities shall be adequately maintained by a licensed septic tank pumper to the satisfaction of the County Department of Environmental Health.
7. All surface mining operations involving unpaved roads shall adhere to the provisions for control of dust emissions from roads.
8. No new access roads shall be constructed without prior approvals.
9. No riparian vegetation shall be removed without prior approvals.
10. Hours of Operations shall be Monday through Saturday during daylight hours, generally 7:00 am to 6:00 pm.

11. Wet weather operations shall be avoided. Any wet weather work shall be confined to rocky areas only. No equipment shall be allowed on winterized portions of the site during wet conditions to the satisfaction of the California Department of Fish and Game.
12. Mining operations are a source of potential fire hazard from vehicles and heavy equipment operations. Accordingly, the project is conditioned to follow established guidelines and requirements for such industrial activities (e.g., use of spark arresters on vehicles, on-site availability of fire suppression water supply and fire fighting tools).

C. Informational Notes:

1. Surface mining operations are regulated by various different state and federal agencies. Each of these agencies is responsible for regulating a specific aspect of the mining operation. For example, the Department of Fish and Game is responsible for assuring that fish and wildlife resources are not negatively impacted by a surface mining operation; the Army Corps of Engineers is responsible for regulating discharges into navigable waters of the United States; the Regional Water Control Board oversees waste discharge requirements; CalTrans assures that no State bridges or highways are negatively affected by mining operations, and; the State Lands Commission regulates activities on lands within the public trust. Other agencies which may have jurisdiction over a surface mining operation include but are not limited to, California Department of Conservation, Division of Mines & Geology; North Coast Unified Air Quality Management District; California Coastal Commission; National Marine Fisheries; United States Fish & Wildlife Service; and CalOSHA.

The operator is responsible for contacting all of the above regulating agencies to assure conformance by the surface mining operation with these agencies regulations.

2. The Financial Assurance shall be subject to annual review and adjustments to account for: a) changes in the costs of reclamation due to inflation; b) lands reclaimed in the previous year and not involving future reclamation; and c) additional lands requiring reclamation in the next year.
3. Building permits are required for all equipment structural pads/foundation buildings, and all structural concrete work (i.e. scales) that are not pre-existing.
4. A National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) General Permit for Storm Water Discharges Associated with Construction Activity is required unless the applicant demonstrates that there is no storm water runoff from the mining site. If there are such discharges the applicant shall contact the Regional Water Quality Control Board for permitting requirements.
5. If the project involves the storage and handling of hazardous materials, the applicant shall submit and have approved by the Division of Environmental Health (DEH) a hazardous materials business plan.
6. The applicant is required to pay for permit processing on a time and material basis as set forth in the schedule of fees and charges as adopted by ordinance of the Humboldt County Board of Supervisors. The Department will provide a bill to the applicant after the decision. Any and all outstanding Planning fees to cover the processing of the application to decision by the Hearing Officer shall be paid to the Humboldt County Planning Division, 3015 "H" Street, Eureka.

ATTACHMENT 2

STAFF ANALYSIS OF THE EVIDENCE SUPPORTING THE REQUIRED FINDINGS

REQUIRED FINDINGS

To approve the project, the Planning Commission must determine that the applicants have submitted evidence in support of making all of the following required findings:

1. CONDITIONAL USE PERMITS

Title III, Division 1, Section 317-36 of the Humboldt County Code (H.C.C.) specifies the findings that must be made to approve the Use Permit. Basically, the Hearing Officer may grant the Use Permit, if, on the basis of the application, investigation and submitted evidence, the following findings are made:

- A. The proposed development is in conformance with the County General Plan;
- B. The proposed development is consistent with the purposes of the existing zone in which the site is located;
- C. The proposed development conforms with all applicable standards and requirements of these regulations; and
- D. The proposed development and conditions under which it may be operated or maintained will not be detrimental to the public health, safety, or welfare.

2. SURFACE MINING RECLAMATION PLANS

The Surface Mining and Reclamation Act (SMARA), as codified in the California Public Resources Code (PRC) commencing at Section 2700, and as locally implemented in HCC Sections 391 *et seq.* and 313-61.2 *et seq.* establish the administrative basis for the regulation of surface mining and reclamation activities. In addition to findings associated with the review of the mineral extraction activities undertaken in the use permit process, specific criteria for reclamation plans over seeing the rehabilitation and closure of the mining site apply. Generally, reclamation plans must be: a) applicable to a specific piece of property or properties; b) based upon the character of the surrounding area and such characteristics of the property as type of overburden, soil stability, topography, geology, climate, stream characteristics, and principal mineral commodities; and c) establish site-specific criteria for evaluating compliance with the approved reclamation plan, including topography, revegetation, and sediment and erosion control. In addition:

- A. The reclamation plan shall meet the form and content requirements of state law and local ordinance.

3. FINANCIAL ASSURANCES

In addition to the specific techniques and methods to be used to reclaim the mining site, either annually or at the end of the permitted extraction period, mining concerns must demonstrate the financial ability to carry out the reclamation plan. PRC §2770, §2773.1, related administrative guidelines of the Department of Conservation's State Mining and Geology Board

(California Code of Regulations §§ 3800 - 3806.2), and local implemental ordinances direct the lead agency to require that the financial assurance:

- A. Comply with the established form, term, and monetary adequacy requirements, as periodically reviewed, to assure the reclamation will be completed should default by the responsible party occur.

4. ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW

Pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) as codified in Public Resources Code (PRC) §21000 *et seq.* and California Code of Regulations (CCR) §15000 *et seq.*, one of the following findings must be made prior to the approval of any development subject to CEQA:

- A. The project is categorically or statutorily exempted; or
- B. There is no substantial evidence that the project will have a significant effect on the environment and a Negative Declaration has been prepared; or
- C. The project has had an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) prepared and all significant environmental effects have been eliminated or substantially lessened, or the required findings in CCR §15091 (statement of overriding considerations) have been made.

5. Housing Element Residential Density

The proposed development does not reduce the residential density for any parcel below that utilized by the Department of Housing and Community Development in determining compliance with housing element law (the mid-point of the density range specified in the plan designation), unless the following written findings are made supported by substantial evidence: 1) the reduction is consistent with the adopted general plan including the housing element; and 2) the remaining sites identified in the housing element are adequate to accommodate the County share of the regional housing need; and 3) the property contains insurmountable physical or environmental limitations and clustering of residential units on the developable portions of the site has been maximized.

STAFF ANALYSIS

1. CONDITIONAL USE PERMITS

A. General Plan Conformance

The following table identifies the evidence, which supports finding that the proposed surface mining operation is in conformance with all applicable policies and standards in Chapters 2-4 of the Humboldt County Framework General Plan (HCFGF).

Plan Section	Policy / Requirement Summary	Supporting Evidence
HCFGF §2510 Grazing, Crops and Open Uses (GRAZING), Northern Humboldt General Plan (NHGP)	Policies and standards intending to establish, protect, retain, and preserve timber production areas from incompatible uses or conversion to non-timber uses.	Surface mining is not specifically identified as a primary and compatible use. However, in previous project reviews, the County has found surface mining to be a compatible temporary use. The site has been used for in-stream mining operations since 1991. The acreage to be utilized will eventually be reclaimed and reverted to land use consistent with the plan designation.
HCFGF §2530 Mineral and Energy Resources	Numerous policies and standards recognizing the importance of mining and energy production to local & regional economy, and setting criteria and restrictions to ensure health, safety, and general welfare of persons, property and public resources.	Many of these policies and standards have been incorporated into the implementing Surface Mining Ordinance, as performance standards required of all mining activities.
HCFGF §2553.5 Remote Rural Development	All development should be designed to minimize erosion and sedimentation.	Project involves in-stream gravel extraction in accordance with measures and mining plan approved by resource agencies.
HCFGF §3210 Geologic Hazards	Development should be sited and designed to avoid and minimize the exposure of persons and property to hazards associated with seismic shaking, highly erosive, soils, and unstable topography.	The mining operation is required to comply with guidelines and requirements established by the California Occupational Health and Safety Administration.
HCFGF §3220 Flood Hazards	Development should be sited and designed to avoid and minimize the exposure of persons and property to hazards associated with river and coastal flooding, and inundation due to dam failure.	The project is not subject to water-related hazards.

Plan Section	Policy / Requirement Summary	Supporting Evidence
HCFGP §3230 Wildfire Hazards	Development should be sited and designed to avoid and minimize the exposure of persons and property to wildfire hazards or conversely, to prevent risks of fire in timberlands and other resources areas from rural residential development.	Generally not applicable as the project entails no permanent rural area development. However, mining operations are a source of potential fire hazard from vehicles and heavy equipment operations. Accordingly, the project is conditioned to follow established guidelines and requirements for such industrial activities (e.g., use of spark arresters on vehicles, on-site availability of fire suppression water supply and fire-fighting tools).
HCFGP §3240 Noise	Identifies compatible, conditional, and incompatible noise levels for various land uses	Truck traffic along the haul route will be noticed by a few residences. Though noise levels are not anticipated to exceed 60 dBA, outside of residences and the total amount of time exposed to these levels would be only a few minutes per day. Operations will be conducted during daylight hours (7 AM to 6PM) minimizing noise conflicts.
HCFGP §3420 Sensitive and Critical Habitats	Identifies, sets use limitations and describes protective measures for environmentally sensitive habitat areas.	Consultation with trustee agencies (CDFG, CDF) identified no sensitive or critical habitats located on or near project site.
HCFGP §4200 Circulation	Establishes policies and standards for planning, development, maintenance and use of roads, ports, rail, airport drainage, and utility facilities.	Hauling of mined materials limited to "legal loads" as defined in Vehicle and Streets & Highways Codes.

B. Zoning Consistency

The following table identifies the evidence, which supports findings that the proposed surface mining operation is consistent with all applicable requirements and standards of the County Zoning Regulations.

Zoning Section	Requirement Summary	Supporting Evidence
HCC §314-7.2 Uses Compatible with Agriculture General	Enumerated examples of uses determined compatible/conditionally permissible.	Though "surface mining" is not expressly listed, HCC 391-1 (Surface Mining Ordinance) recognizes use as conditionally permissible in all zoning districts.
HCC §314-7.2 AG Minimum Parcel Size	2.5 acres	The project does not entail land division.
HCC §314-7.2 AG Minimum Front Yard	20 ft. (TPZ)	Project does not entail placement of permanent structures subject to setback criteria.

Zoning Section	Requirement Summary	Supporting Evidence
HCC §314-7.2 AG Minimum Rear Yard	20 ft. (TPZ);	Project does not entail placement of permanent structures subject to setback criteria.
HCC §314-7.2 AG Minimum Side Yard	6 ft.	Project does not entail placement of permanent structures subject to setback criteria.
HCC §314-7.2 AG Maximum Ground Coverage	35%	Project does not entail placement of permanent structures subject to setback criteria.

C. Development Requirements and Standards

Notwithstanding the requirement for a Conditional Use Permit for the removal of natural material for commercial purposes for inland areas, and compliance with the development standards of the base and combining zones, general regulations applicable to all zones, several zones and special areas as listed apply to the project. These regulations are contained in the County's Mining Ordinance (HCC §391-1 *et seq.*) and Coastal Zoning Regulations (§314-36 *et seq.*) and require that:

- ☐ The proposed surface mining operation incorporates adequate measures to mitigate the probable or known significant environmental effects caused by the proposed operation.
- ☐ The proposed surface mining operation and use is properly located in accordance with the General Plan and any relevant element thereof, to the community as a whole, and to other land uses in the vicinity.

These findings are largely incorporated within existing plan conformance findings for Conditional Use Permits and as directed under CEQA.

In addition to the above approval criteria, HCC §A314-36X establishes mining permit standards above and beyond that minimally required under SMARA. These standards include:

- ☐ All private encroachments leading to a surface mining operation shall be adequately surfaced to prevent aggregate or other materials from being drawn into the public way.
- ☐ All haul roads and driveways shall be maintained as necessary to minimize the emission of dust and prevent the creation of a nuisance to adjacent properties.
- ☐ Any water discharges from the mined lands shall meet all applicable water quality standards of the Regional Water Quality Control Board and other agencies with authority over such discharges.
- ☐ Adequate measures shall be taken to assure the prevention of erosion from mined lands and adjacent properties during the life of the operation. The reclamation plan shall insure the prevention of erosion subsequent to surface mining operations.
- ☐ Unless specifically authorized for the purposes of environmental enhancement by the California Department of Fish and Game (and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, if necessary), grades and land forms in mined lands shall be maintained in such a manner

so as to avoid accumulations of water that will serve as breeding areas for mosquitoes or sites for fish entrapment.

- ☐ Excavations, which could affect groundwater, shall not substantially reduce the quality or quantity of groundwater available in the area surrounding the mined lands.
- ☐ Surface mining operations in areas where other agencies have regulatory jurisdiction shall be operated so as to comply with all applicable rules and regulations.

Based on information contained in the application and environmental documentation, the project has been designed or is being conditioned to assure compliance with these standards.

D. Public Health, Safety, and Welfare

Responses From Other Agencies

Humboldt County Building Inspection Division: Recommend approval

Humboldt County Environmental Health Department: Recommend approval.

Humboldt County Department of Public Works, Land Use Division: Informational comments.

California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection: Standard conditions.

California Department of Fish and Game: No comments.

California Office of Mine Reclamation: No comments.

Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB): No comments.

NWIC: Recommend further study.

Blue Lake Rancheria THPO: Recommended condition of approval.

Bear River THPO: No resources of concern.

Wiyot THPO: No resources of concern.

Based on information submitted by the applicant, contained in the environmental documents, and referrals from all jurisdictional agencies and interested parties at present, staff believes that the project as conditioned will not cause significant environmental effects nor be detrimental to the public health, safety or welfare.

The Mitigated Negative Declaration adopted by the Planning Commission evaluated the project for any adverse effects on fish and wildlife resources. Based on information in the application, and a review of relevant references in the Department, staff has determined that, provided the mitigation measures identified in the Negative Declaration are required as operating conditions, no adverse effects on fish and wildlife resources or the habitat upon which wildlife depends will result.

2. SURFACE MINING RECLAMATION PLANS

Public Resources Code (PRC) Sections 2772, 2773 and 2774 specifies the information and documents required for all reclamation plans. The required information and documents are as follows:

- A. The name and address of the operator and the names and addresses of any persons designated by him as his agent for the service of process; and
- B. The names and addresses of the owners of all surface and mineral interests of such lands; and
- C. The anticipated quantity and type of minerals for which the surface mining operation is to be conducted; and
- D. The proposed dates for the initiation and termination of such operation; and
- E. The maximum anticipated depth of the surface mining operation; and
- F. The size and legal description of the lands that will be affected by such operation,
- G. A map that includes the boundaries and topographic detail of such lands, the location of all streams, roads, railroads, and utility facilities within, or adjacent to, such lands, the location of all proposed access roads to be constructed in conducting such operation,
- H. A description of the general geology of the area, a detailed description of the geology of the area in which surface mining is to be conducted,
- I. A description of and plan for the type of surface mining to be employed and a time schedule that will provide for the completion of surface mining on each segment of the mined lands so that reclamation can be initiated at the earliest possible time on those portions of the mined lands that will not be subject to further disturbance by the surface mining operation; and
- J. A description of the proposed use or potential uses of the land after reclamation and evidence that all owners of a possessory interest in the land have been notified of the proposed use or potential uses; and
- K. A description of the manner in which contaminants will be controlled, and mining waste will be disposed; and
- L. A description of the manner in which rehabilitation of affected streambed channels and streambanks to a condition minimizing erosion and sedimentation will occur; and
- M. An assessment of the effect of implementation on the reclamation plan on future mining in the area; and
- N. A statement that the person submitting the plan accepts responsibility for reclaiming the mined lands in accordance with the reclamation plan; and
- O. A cost estimate prepared by a qualified individual for financial assurances to ensure reclamation is performed in accordance with the reclamation plan.
- P. The comments made by reviewing agencies and lead agency responses thereto.

A. Name and Address of Operator

Reclamation Plan, p. 3

Randy Sundberg
GR Sundberg, Inc.
5211 Boyd Road
Arcata, CA 95521

B. Owners of Surface and Mineral Interests

Reclamation Plan, p. 3:

C. Quantity and Type of Minerals

Quantity of Extraction: Reclamation Plan pp. -3:
6,300 cy per year of sand and gravel.

D. Dates for the Initiation and Termination

Reclamation Plan 4:

As requested by the applicant, a 15-year term starting with project approval. The Surface Mining Ordinance allows for up to a 15-year permit term, subject to future extensions.

E. Depth of Operation

Reclamation Plan page 9,38.
As stated in the proposed extraction standards, skimming of gravel bar.

F. Size and Legal Description

Size: Reclamation Plan p. 4, 35, 36:
Approximately 27 acres.

Legal Description: Reclamation Plan Page 4:
The proposed project site is located on APNs 504-131-02, -04, 516-161-04 and is in Sections 13, 14, 23 Township 6N, Range 1 E, Humboldt Meridian.

G. Map

Reclamation Plan Map attachment 1, 2 and 3:
General location, site maps, and monitoring cross-section elevations within the project areas.

H. Geology

Reclamation Plan Page 11
Most of the geology underlying the Mad River basin is that of late Jurassic to late Cretaceous rocks of the Franciscan formation.

I. Type of Surface Mining and Time Schedule

Reclamation Plan p. 7, 44:

Proposed mining method is skimming of river gravel bars.

J. Proposed Use or Potential Uses of the Land After Reclamation

Reclamation Plan p. 5, 43:

Future and present uses other than surface mining include floodway management, wildlife habitat, and recreation.

K. Mining Waste

Reclamation Plan p. 45:

There will be no mine "waste", all materials excavated will be removed or utilized for reclamation. Any contaminants incidental will be very minimal and controlled pursuant to State laws.

L. Rehabilitation of Streambeds

Reclamation Plan p. 43.

The proposed project will not prohibit future mining.

M. Future Mining

Reclamation Plan p. 45:

The proposed project will not prohibit future mining.

N. A Statement of Responsibility

Reclamation Plan page 56:

The proposed Statement of Responsibility follows County accepted form and content for such acknowledgments.

O. Cost Estimate

Reclamation Plan p. 55.

3. FINANCIAL ASSURANCES

PRC §2770, §2773.1 and related administrative guidelines of the Department of Conservation's State Mining and Geology Board (California Code of Regulations §§ 3800 - 3806.2) direct the lead agency to require that the financial assurance:

- A. Take the form of either surety bonds, irrevocable letter of credit, trust funds, certificates of deposit, or other mechanisms specified by the State Mining and Geology Board.
- B. Remain in effect for the duration of the surface mining operation and any additional period until reclamation is completed.
- C. For any one year are annually adjusted to account for new lands disturbed by surface mining operations, reclamation pursuant thereto, areas previously reclaimed, and inflation.
- D. Are determined to be adequate for the purposes of performing the reclamation in accordance with the approved reclamation plan.
- E. Made payable to the lead agency and the Department of Conservation.

A. Form of Assurances

The proposed form of financial assurances for the 2017-2018 extraction seasons has not been indicated at this time. As part of the ongoing administration of the reclamation plan, staff shall ensure that the form of financial assurances is one authorized by the State Mining and Geology Board, and consistent with County practices and procedures.

B. Duration of Assurances

As part of the ongoing administration of the reclamation plan, the period of the assurances shall be set to correspond to the overall 15 year period for extraction, taking into account annual reclamation costs.

C. Annual Adjustments

As part of the ongoing administration of the reclamation plan, the amount of individual year financial assurances shall be reviewed and adjusted to correspond to changes in quantity prescriptions, past reclamation activities, and inflationary costs associated with reclamation labor, equipment and materials.

D. Adequacy of Assurances

Based upon the submitted cost estimates (as prepared by the applicant's agent on the basis from standard time and material construction costs), adequate projection of required reclamation expenses has been performed.

E. Designated Payee

As part of the ongoing administration of the reclamation plan, the Planning Division shall ensure that the financial assurances are designated as payable to the "County of Humboldt" and "State Mining and Geology Board", pursuant to SMARA.

4. ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW

- ☐ The project is Statutorily or Categorically Exempt pursuant to CCR § _____; or
- ☐ See attached "Negative Declaration", or
- ☒ See attached ""Mitigated Negative Declaration", or
- ☐ See attached "Environmental Impact Report.

5. Housing Element Densities

314-17.1.5 and 322-3.1 Housing Element Densities

The proposed development does not reduce the residential density for any parcel below that utilized by the Department of Housing and Community Development in determining compliance with housing element law (the mid point of the density range specified in the plan designation), except where: 1) the reduction is consistent with the adopted general plan including the housing element; and 2) the remaining sites identified in the housing element are adequate to accommodate the County share of the regional housing need; and 3) the property contains insurmountable physical or environmental limitations and clustering of residential units on the developable portions of the site has been maximized.

The project is an surface mining operation and does not impact or propose any residential development. As such the parcel was not utilized by the Department of Housing and Community Development in determining the County's compliance with housing element law.

Attachment 3
Mitigated Negative Declaration
Mitigation, Monitoring and Reporting Program

MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION

PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND BACKGROUND

Project Title:	Sundberg - Surface Mining and Conditional Use Permits CUP-16-204; RP-16-004; SMP-16-003
Lead agency name and address:	Humboldt County Planning Department 3015 H Street, Eureka, CA 95501 – 4484 PHONE: (707) 445-7541; FAX (707) 445-7446
Contact person and phone number:	Michael Wheeler, Senior Planner – 445-7541
Project Location:	Located along the Mad River, River Mile 8, on the Arcata North 7.5' Quadrangle, within portions of Section 13,14, & 23, T6N, R1E, H.B.&M. The site is accessed from the east side of Highway 299, at Glendale and then proceeding west bound on Glendale Drive in Humboldt County (APN 504-131-02& 04, 516-161-04). The portion of gravel bar on this property is approximately 27 acres, as depicted on the site maps. This site is adjacent to an existing construction/storage yard located uphill from the river on the same parcels.
Project sponsor's name and address:	Applicant: Randy Sundberg GR Sundberg, Incorporated 5211 Boyd Road Arcata, CA 95521 (707) 825-6565
General plan description:	Grazing (NHGP)
Zoning:	AG
Description of project: (Describe the whole action involved, including but not limited to later phases of the project, and any secondary, support, or off-site features necessary for its implementation.)	Application for a Conditional Use Permit/Mining Plan/Reclamation Plan for the seasonal extraction in Humboldt County of up to 6,300 cubic yards of sand and gravel per year from river gravel bars. The existing aggregate extraction site has historically involved aggregate removal from the exposed bar surface within the property. Previously this site received County approval in 1994 for an annual extraction rate of up to 40,000 cubic yards. Secondary activities such as temporary equipment storage during active periods of operation will also occur. Monitoring information indicates that extraction at average historical levels is appropriate at this site and that such operations will not cause immediate nor cumulative significant adverse environmental impacts. The proposal is apply for a conditional use permit and Surface mining and reclamation plan. This project will remain consistent with the previous terms and conditions found within the previous permits. This project is subject to conditions and oversight found within the County of Humboldt's Interim Adaptive Management plan as described in Chapter II (3). The proposal is for the extraction of up to 6,300 cubic yards of aggregate (sand and gravel) from adjacent gravel bars on an annual basis. The permitted volume is constant with the

	Supplemental Programmatic Environmental Report allocation proposed by NMFS, FEV method for allocating maximum extraction volume by mean annual recruitment (MAR). (Table 2-4 SPEIR) for both the Miller Almquist Bar and Simpson-Glendale Bar. The ongoing operation will continue to extract material as long as material is available on the gravel bar and operations conform to that established within the Interim Adaptive Management Plan. The extraction activity will continue to occur during the summer season between June 1st and October 1st. Aggregate materials will be extracted, loaded onto trucks and transported to an off-site location two miles north west of the project area where processing and storage will occur. In any given year, project extraction volumes, locations, and methods will be submitted by the applicant for approval by local, state, and federal agencies, including the County of Humboldt, CHERT, Dept. of Fish and Game, and Army Corps of Engineers. This interagency process is more specifically described later in this report.
Surrounding land uses and setting; briefly describe the project's surroundings:	Adjacent lands are zoned Agricultural Exclusive (20 acre minimum parcel size), Agricultural General (2.5 acre minimum parcel size), and Residential Suburban (1 acre minimum parcel size/allowing mobile homes), and utilized generally for agriculture, residential suburban, rural residential, highway commercial, open space, and wildlife habitat
Other public agencies whose approval is required (e.g. permits, financial approval, or participation agreements):	Division of Mines and Geology Mine I.D., U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Section 404 permit, Lake and Streambed Alteration Agreement with CA Dept. of Fish and Game, Regional Water Quality Control Board Clean Water Act Section 401 Certification.
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? _____ No, however, tribes were contacted but did not request consultation. Tribes responded to referral with comments.	

ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS POTENTIALLY AFFECTED:

The environmental factors checked below would be potentially affected by this project. Please see the checklist beginning on page 3 for additional information.

☐	Aesthetics	☐	Agriculture and Forestry	☒	Air Quality
☐	Biological Resources	☒	Cultural Resources	☐	Geology/Soils
☐	Greenhouse Gas Emissions	☐	Hazards and Hazardous Materials	☒	Hydrology/Water Quality
☐	Land Use/Planning	☐	Mineral Resources	☒	Noise
☐	Population/Housing	☐	Public Services	☐	Recreation
☐	Transportation/Traffic	☐	Utilities/Service Systems	☒	Mandatory Findings of Significance
☒	Tribal Cultural Resources				

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

Signature:	Date:
Printed Name:	For:

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This checklist identifies physical, biological, social and economic factors that might be affected by the proposed project. In many cases, background studies performed in connection with the projects indicate no impacts. A NO IMPACT answer in the last column reflects this determination. Where there is a need for clarifying discussion, the discussion is included either following the applicable section of the checklist or is within the body of the environmental document itself. The words "significant" and "significance" used throughout the following checklist are related to CEQA, not NEPA, impacts. The questions in this form are intended to encourage the thoughtful assessment of impacts and do not represent thresholds of significance.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
I. AESTHETICS: Would the project:				
<i>a) Have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista</i> Glendale-Simpson Bar is a privately owned parcel on the Mad River, behind closed gates and with limited access. Although this is a private site, adjacent to other gravel mining operations, there are nearby public lands that citizens use recreationally. However, because the time frame of the gravel mining operation is so small, the proposed gravel mining will have no significant impacts on the aesthetics of the area. Use will be limited to a few weeks of the year and material will be stockpiled offsite or directly taken to a processing plant. No new roads are being constructed, vegetation will remain the same and annual inundation will clear any signs of use. Nevertheless, mitigation measures such as operating hours and timing have been generally defined and the site is rather small which would reduce the duration of operations. We anticipate no significant impacts to scenic vista	☐	☐	X	☐
<i>b) Substantially damage scenic resources, including, but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a state scenic highway</i> Any visibility from the Glendale drive, highway 299 or adjacent ownerships will remain the same as it has in a historical context. Vegetation that surrounds the site restricts and limits views of operation from drivers along adjacent roadways. No scenic resources such as trees or rock outcroppings within the project area will be removed or impacted by the project. No historic structures occur within the project area.	☐	☐	X	☐
<i>c) Substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of the site and its surroundings?</i> This project has been historically mined for aggregate resources. The intensity and duration of the proposed project is well within that which has occurred in a historical context. These views are limited in extent and distance and those utilizing this area during recent history would be accustomed to the project site. Due to the similarities between the historical use of the site and that of the proposed project, the public is expected to be acclimated to the proposed project.	☐	☐	X	☐

d) Create a new source of substantial light or glare which would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area? Project operations do not take place at night and require little equipment and no construction. Only the equipment could cause any glare, but this would be minimal. The project will not result in new sources or light or glare which would affect day or nighttime views in the area.	☐	☐	☐	X
<u>Cumulative Impact:</u> The proposed operation is a land use that may be considered by some to cause impacts to the aesthetic value surrounding the project site. However, aesthetic impacts are rather subjective and difficult to quantify. Nevertheless, mitigation measures such as operating hours and timing have been generally defined and the site is restricted with respect to the duration of operations. Given the lack of historical complaints it is perceived to be mitigated adequately. Land use in the surrounding area is a mixture of private agricultural and timber lands with dispersed rural residential estates. Historically the project site was not determined in the past to cause a cumulatively considerable impact to the aesthetic value of the surrounding area, and as proposed, consistent with past operations, would not result in a cumulatively considerable impact. <u>Existing Project Mitigation:</u> Vegetation will be retained around the site to screen views of the area from the public.				

II. AGRICULTURE AND FOREST RESOURCES: In determining whether impacts to agricultural resources are significant environmental effects, lead agencies may refer to the California Agricultural Land Evaluation and Site Assessment Model (1997) prepared by the California Dept. of Conservation as an optional model to use in assessing impacts on agriculture and farmland. In determining whether impacts to forest resources, including timberland, are significant environmental effects, lead agencies may refer to information compiled by the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection regarding the state's inventory of forest land, including the Forest and Range Assessment Project and the Forest Legacy Assessment Project; and the forest carbon measurement methodology provided in Forest Protocols adopted by the California Air Resources Board. Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
<i>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?</i> Humboldt County has not been mapped by the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program (www.consrv.gov). However, no prime agricultural soils have been identified within the project area.	☐	☐	☐	X
<i>b) Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or a Williamson Act contract?</i> The project is proposed within a parcel zoned as Agriculture General (AG) and the General Plan designation is Grazing (NHGP). The final reclaimed state of the project area is consistent with the existing zoning. No Williamson Act Contract exists on the project parcels. Both California State Law and Humboldt County Ordinances encourage the conservation and utilization of mineral resources on private lands. In the past, the County has found that surface mining is considered a compatible use with lands zoned and designated for agricultural uses.	☐	☐	☐	X
<i>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))?</i> The project consist is zoned agricultural and will be reclaimed to the existing state following mining operations. No timber land will be effected of rezoned as part of this project as a result no effects to these resources will occur.	☐	☐	☐	X
<i>d) Result in the loss of forest land or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?</i> No loss of forest land or conversion of forest land to non-forest uses will occur as a result of this project	☐	☐	☐	X

e) <i>Involve other changes in the existing environment which, due to their location or nature, could result in conversion of Farmland, to non-agricultural use or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?</i> The project proposes to use the site as it has been historically; no farmland, timberland or forest land will be converted. Use of existing road access will be maximized. The change in the existing environment is only proposed during the life of the permit. The proposed reclamation includes provisions for restoration (re-vegetation). The retention of the access road is consistent with the needs of agricultural activities <u>Cumulative Impact: This project will not impact any Agricultural Resources, as the site will be utilized as it has in the past. The site was not originally located on prime agricultural land and will not be expanded to impact or convert any prime agricultural land or Timber and forest land. This project will not cause a cumulatively considerable impact to agricultural resources.</u> <u>Existing Project Mitigation:</u> <u>1) The project is confined to the project area indicated in the Mining and Reclamation Plans. Agricultural Resources are not affected.</u> <u>Mitigation: None required.</u>	☐	☐	☐	X
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III. AIR QUALITY:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
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:	☐	☐	X	☐
a) Conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan? Discussion for finding b) applies to both finding a) & b).	☐	☐	X	☐
b) Violate any air quality standard or contribute substantially to an existing or projected air quality violation? There are three types of air pollutants could result from this project. One is emissions from licensed extraction equipment and trucks used for transporting the gravel off-site. The second is dust from extraction, and transport and third from sorting and process of material at the site. The project will result in similar truck traffic levels as has occurred in the past, Vehicles will be maintained to meet emission standards and off-road equipment Extraction and hauling activities can produce high fugitive dust levels during certain times of operation. The major sources of dust at the site would be from extraction, and truck traffic on the dirt access roads. Most of the dust that could cause a possible nuisance would be most attributable to truck traffic on the dirt access roads, with dust being carried upstream by the prevailing winds that generally travel up the river valley during the day. Dust associated with truck traffic would be trapped by the surrounding dense vegetation and would be less noticeable. Dust would only be created during times when extraction and hauling occur, and would be substantially decreased by periodic watering of the extraction areas, and access roads. USEPA (1995) has determined that at an average wind speed of 10 m.p.h. most dust (30 to 100 μ m in size) generally settles out of the atmosphere within 300 feet of the source, with larger particles traveling less distance and smaller particles traveling a longer distance. Most of the extraction areas, and hauling roads are more than 300 feet from the nearest residences and roads are continually watered during extraction activities. Activity in the project area would continue to require meeting NCUAQMD Air Quality standards, including Regulation 1, which prohibits nuisance dust generation and is enforceable by the District. The North Coast Unified Air Quality Management District currently enforces dust emissions utilizing the CA Health and Safety Code (Section 41701) which limits visible emissions that exceed 40% density to a maximum of 3 minutes for any one hour period. There are currently no air quality problems identified in this region, and as proposed this project will not result in a violation of ambient air quality standards either individually or cumulatively in the area. The only sensitive receptors are the residences in the vicinity, however, due to the limited extraction activity that will occur, the rapid dissipation of the dust and the low density of residences, impacts will not be significant.	☐	X	☐	☐

<i>c) Result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is non- attainment under an applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard (including releasing emissions which exceed quantitative thresholds for ozone precursors)?</i> During certain times of the year, mostly in the winter, the NCAB is non-attainment for the state standard for particulate matter (PM-10), mainly in the area surrounding Humboldt Bay. Currently, the NCAB is non-attainment only for a few days per year. The draft attainment plan for PM-10 in the NCAB was completed in 1995. No final attainment plan currently exists for the NCAB. The attainment goals for lowering PM-10 in the NCAB were designed for Crescent City, Weaverville, Eureka, the nearest town (Ferndale), and PM-10 generated by this site would be detected best by the monitoring station located in Eureka. Based on the estimates generated for the 1995 draft attainment plan, Eureka needs a 49% reduction. This project as proposed consistent with past operations will not be generating any additional PM-10. Existing project mitigation measures included at the end of this section shall help to reach the attainment goals for PM-10 established in the 1995 draft attainment plan (NCUAQMD website).	☐	☐	X	☐
<i>d) Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations?</i> The sensitive receptors in the vicinity of the project site include rural residences, and recreationists and divers traveling on the Glendale Road and Highway 299. The closest residences potentially affected by the project are located along the north side of Glendale Drive. Dust generated from gravel extraction, and loading and vehicle movement, has the potential to be considered objectionable by residents and recreationists in the general area. This project similar in nature to historic activities with the project site and proposes no increase in dust generation above historic levels. Due to the limited extraction activity that will occur, the rapid dissipation of the dust and the lack of historical complaints by residences and recreationists, impacts are not significant. This project is required to meet air quality district standards on a continual basis.	☐	☐	X	☐

e) <i>Create objectionable odors affecting a substantial number of people?</i> Any objectionable odors arising from this site would be associated with excavation and trucking activities, and would not affect a substantial number of people. Due to the lack of historical complaints and the limited amount of time excavation operations occur, the impact from odors generated by on site operations is considered insignificant. Cumulative Impact: During certain times of the year the NCAB is <u>non-attainment for the state standard for particulate matter (PM-10), mainly in the area surrounding Humboldt Bay. While the percentage of days in the year the state standard has been exceeded has been decreasing over the past few years, the standard is still exceeded on several days every year, usually in the winter months when wood stoves are predominantly used for providing heat to residences. Particulate matter generated by this project was not determined in the past to be a cumulatively considerable addition to the limited PM-10 non-attainment status of the NCAB, and as proposed consistent with past operations would therefore not currently be determined to be a cumulatively considerable addition.</u> <u>Mitigation Measure 1:</u> <u>1) Periodic watering of the extraction site, and access roads will continue to be utilized (as necessary) to reduce fugitive dust emissions.</u>	☐	☐	☐	X

III. BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES: Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Game or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service? Potential impacts to listed aquatic species are mitigated by implementation of erosion control methods and a reclamation plan controlling surface runoff. Potential impacts to listed avian and mammal species are mitigated by maintaining operations at their historical levels and not expanding the mining site beyond that which currently exists. (See attached Biological Report)	☐	☐	X	☐
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? The vegetation surrounding the site is composed of coastal forest species of Northern California. These species and forest stands are not unique to the area and are not identified as a sensitive natural community. Storm runoff and the associated potential for sediment introduction to watercourses downslope will be control by the application of erosion control and the proposed surface runoff patterns proposed during surface mining and at completion of reclamation. (See attached Biological Report)	☐	☐	X	☐
c) Have a substantial adverse effect on federally protected wetlands as defined by Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means? The proposed project is incapable of significantly increasing peak flows or interrupting the hydrological connectivity within the area. No additional road construction is proposed in association with this project. As previously stated the risk of increasing sediment introduction is mitigated by the application of annual erosion control measures and implementing surface drainage patterns consistent with the current pattern during the initial phase and then implementing a final grade conducive to the existing slope hydrology.	☐	☐	X	☐

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? The project has been an active mine historically, The vast majority of this slope will be left in its current state following surface mining and final reclamation. No habitat modification is proposed. Due to the environment created by historical mining the site is incapable of providing habitat for listed wildlife species. Fur bearing species may likely pass through the project area however, forage is limited to surrounding vegetated areas and nesting habitat is not present. Furthermore, the project area is adjacent to the Glendale Road and 299 and traffic associated with logging, ranching activities, County road work, and rural commuters is consistent with noise levels produced during the course of operations. (See Biological Report)	☐	☐	X	☐
e) Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance? The importance of existing gravel extraction operations is recognized by the Humboldt County General Plan – Frame Work Plan (see 9, Land Use and Planning). This project is not in conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance.	☐	☐	☐	X
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? The property included in the project area is not within or subject to any habitat conservation plan. <u>Cumulative Impact:</u> Existing project mitigation measures required by the regulatory agencies ensure that gravel extraction operations have an insignificant impact on ‘threatened’ or endangered species. Therefore, the project as proposed with existing mitigation measures will not cause a cumulatively considerable impact. <u>Mitigation:</u> None required.	☐	☐	☐	X

IV. CULTURAL RESOURCES: Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource as defined in §15064.5? The project will not cause substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resources because none are present in this project area.	☐	☐	☐	X
b) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to §15064.5? The project will not cause substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological site because none are present in this project area. An archaeological site is located in the vicinity of the project site. Recommendations to exclude access to this location are provided.	☐	X	☐	☐
c) Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature? The project will not cause substantial adverse change in the significance of a paleontological site because none are present in this project area. An archaeological site is located in the vicinity of the project area. Recommendations to exclude access to this location are provided.	☐	☐	☐	X
d) Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries? No human remains are known or were identified during the investigation at this project area	☐	☐	☐	X

Mitigation Measure 2. Surface mining in this area shall be limited to alluvial gravel deposits on the river bar and the applicant shall avoid any quarrying to bedrock or colluvium. No project related actions shall occur within 100 feet of any archaeological site boundary. Furthermore, the ingress and egress routes to reach the gravel bar and the work yard shall be used only as proposed. The dirt road leading to the southeast from the main access road shall be avoided. A gate, chain or other such barrier shall be placed on the beginning of this road during operations to ensure that all equipment are excluded from inadvertently entering the site.

Mitigation Measure 3. Inadvertent Discovery Protocol. Although relatively unlikely, due the significant historic ground disturbances that occurred at this location, there is always the possibility that intact archaeological deposits remain concealed below the present ground surface. If cultural resources, such as chipped or ground stone, historic debris, building foundations, or bone are discovered, work shall be stopped, per the requirements of CEQA (15064.5 (f)). Work near the archaeological finds shall not resume until a professional archaeologist, who meets the Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines, has evaluated the materials and offered recommendations for further action.

V. GEOLOGY AND SOILS: Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Expose people or structures to potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving:	☐	☐	X	☐
i) <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?</i> Division of Mines and Geology Special Publication 42 does not show any Alquist-Priolo earthquake zones within the project area. Resource mapping indicates that the closest seismic feature is an active fault (Blue Lake Fault) running in a north/south direction and located approximately 0.5 miles east of the project site. There is no likelihood that this project would impact these Faults or that these Faults would impact the proposed project.	☐	☐	☐	X

ii) Strong seismic ground shaking? The project site is located within youthful topography shaped by rapid uplifting and erosion within a geological time frame. The occurrence of earthquakes and strong seismic ground shaking has a potential to occur within and around the project vicinity. However, the surface mining and reclamation activities proposed will not expose people to any additional impacts related to this occurrence	☐	☐	☐	X
iii) Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction? The ancestral alluvial deposit at the site is well compacted as can be observed along the access road and the exposed terrace at the site. Due to the lack, loosely consolidated material and the nature of the substrate surrounding the project site, the potential for liquefaction is greatly reduced. Seismic-related ground failure has the potential to occur, however, the activities proposed do not increase exposure of people to this type of event.	☐	☐	☐	X

VI. LANDSLIDES:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
The youthful topography within the coast range is known for its potential for mass wasting in the form of rotational/translational slides, debris torrents, and debris slide slopes. However, the mining site itself is located directly on a river bar located on the Mad River. The stock pile area and access road are located on a bench just north of the site on adjacent to Glendale Drive. The aggregate deposits adjacent to the project site demonstrates the ability to hold near vertical slopes as can be observed along Glendale Drive located directly above the project. No unstable areas within the sites were identified that could potential cause harm to existing structures or people within or adjacent to the site that could potentially result from the proposed operations. The proposed project incorporates a reclamation plan to ensure that storm runoff is directed away from any potential unstable areas that could exist within the site onto gentle, well vegetated, stable topography. The implementation of these BMP's as well as compliance with the specific erosion control and surface erosion prevention practices included in the Reclamation Plan will reduce to a level of 'less than significance' any effects of landslides.	☐	☐	X	☐

b) Result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil? The project site is located on a gravel river bar with limited to no top soil present with the operational area other than the access road and stockpile area. Compliance with the specific erosion control and surface erosion prevention practices and re-vegetation of the site pursuant to the final reclamation standards included in Section VI of the Reclamation Plan will reduce the potential occurrence of a substantial loss of topsoil or soil erosion from occurring to a level of less than significant.	☐	☐	X	☐
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? The geologic unit upon which the proposed site is located is stable. The design of the mining plan and the final contour as well as the resulting drainage pattern, mitigate the potential for increased surface runoff from reaching these areas and accelerating erosion or impacting potential unstable areas.	☐	☐	X	☐
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? The site is located within an area possessing stable soils.	☐	☐	☐	X

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? A portable chemical toilet will be provided and maintained by a licensed pumper. <u>Cumulative Impact: As described previously the project will not individually have geologic or soil related impacts. The project is a extension of an historic operation. The project site was not determined in the past to cause a cumulatively considerable impact to the geology & soils of the surrounding area, and as proposed consistent with historic operations would not therefore be determined to be a cumulatively considerable impact.</u> <u>Existing Project Mitigation: None.</u> <u>Mitigation: None proposed.</u>	☐	☐	X	☐
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VII. GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS: Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Generate greenhouse gas emissions, either directly or indirectly, that may have a significant impact on the environment? Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Emissions are said to result in an increase in the earth's average surface temperature commonly referred to as global warming. This rise in global temperature is associated with long-term changes in precipitation, temperature, wind patterns, and other elements of the earth's climate system, known as climate change. These changes are now broadly attributed to GHG emissions, particularly those emissions that result from the human production and use of fossil fuels. In 2006, the State passed the Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006, commonly referred to as AB 32, which set the greenhouse gas emissions reduction goal for the State of California into law. The law requires that by 2020, State emissions must be reduced to 1990 levels by reducing greenhouse gas emissions from significant sources via regulation, market mechanisms, and other actions. It should be noted that an individual project's GHG emissions will generally not result in direct impacts under CEQA, as the climate change issue is global in nature, however an individual project could be found to contribute to a potentially significant cumulative impact. The project would not result in cumulatively considerable impacts associated with GHG emissions since the project entails the same historic operations approved in previous permits and is essentially the same or has been reduced due to the current restricted extraction volume allowed under the current PEIR and thus not increasing the baseline emissions and not resulting in a net increase in emissions.	☐	☐	X	☐
b) Conflict with an applicable plan, policy or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases? Discussion for finding a) applies to both finding a) & b).				

VIII. HAZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS: Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
<i>a) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials?</i> Discussion for finding <i>b)</i> applies to both finding <i>a)</i> & <i>b)</i>.	☐	☐	X	☐
<i>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?</i> This project does not involve the handling of acutely hazardous materials, substances or waste or the emissions or disposal of hazardous substances. Standards of operation minimize potential impacts of spills from this project. Public health and safety concerns include both on-site and off-site impacts. This project will not have a significant increase of risk to people on-site due to the following: it is in an somewhat isolated location; access is controlled; material to be excavated is structurally stable and no attractive nuisance to encourage trespass exists. No 'abandoned' equipment, structures, refuse, etc. associated with extraction activity will remain on the reclamation site or elsewhere on the parcel after extraction has been discontinued. If the current use is discontinued, the site will be incorporated into other current uses and/or utilized for future purposes consistent with current zoning.	☐	☐	X	☐
<i>c) Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school?</i> No schools exist within one-quarter mile of the project, and no hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste will be generated during the course of project operations, or left behind at the conclusion of operations.	☐	☐	X	☐

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
<i>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?</i> The site is not included on any list of hazardous materials sites, and will not increase the risk of exposure to hazardous materials.	☐	☐	☐	X
<i>e) For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area?</i> The nearest airstrip is Arcata-Eureka Airport, Located in McKinleyville, CA approximately 5.5 miles to the North of the project area. Substantial safety risks would not occur to people residing or working in the project area due to use of the airstrip.	☐	☐	☐	X
<i>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?</i> Discussion for finding e) applies to both finding e) & f).	☐	☐	☐	X
<i>g) Impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?</i> Because of its size and scope and somewhat isolated location, this project will not interfere with any emergency response or evacuation plan. The project has operated for over 15 plus years without any problems. The proposed project may, at times, result in increased truck traffic. Traffic generated by this project, as discussed within this report, is similar to the type of traffic that has historically existed from previous permitted activities. Approval of the project will not change the existing level of traffic that could impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan.	☐	☐	☐	X

<i>h) Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving wildland fires, including where wildlands are adjacent to urbanized areas or where residences are intermixed with wildlands?</i> Extraction activity will occur, away from vegetation, and will not increase the risk of wildland fires. The access roads shall be maintained in a state such that they are free of vegetation during times of activity, and equipment is kept in a 'fire-safe' condition. All processing equipment is routinely inspect by the operator and the Federal Mine Safety Administration. Fire extinguisher numbers and sizes are regularly inspected for compliance with MSHA regulations. <u>Cumulative Impact: This project does not involve the handling of acutely hazardous materials, substances or waste or the emissions or disposal of hazardous substances and is not included on any list of hazardous materials sites. The hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials in the environment will not be significant. Because of its size and scope and somewhat isolated location, this project will not interfere with any emergency response or evacuation plan. Extraction activity will occur, away from vegetation, and will not increase the risk of wildland fires. The access roads shall be maintained in a state such that they are free of vegetation during times of activity, and equipment is kept in a 'fire-safe' condition. The site was not determined in the past to cause a cumulatively considerable addition to hazards & hazardous materials occurring in the surrounding area, and as proposed consistent with past operations would therefore not currently be determined to be a cumulatively considerable addition.</u> <u>Mitigation Measures:</u> <u>4) All heavy equipment/machinery will be fitted with state approved ABC spark arrestors prior to operating on site.</u> <u>5) Strict adherence to the federal mining safety regulations administered by the Federal Mine Safety Health Administration.</u>	☐	X	☐	☐
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IX. HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY: Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
<i>a) Violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements?</i> The project shall be mitigated by strict adherence to the CHERT review team and Agency oversight, which oversees the annual pre and post extraction design and erosion control measures. Thus, the potential for sediment introduction from the project area into waters of the state is mitigated through conformance with review teams recommendations as well as best management practices within applicable sections of the Surface Mining and Reclamation Plan.	☐	X	☐	☐
<i>b) Substantially deplete groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that there would be a net deficit in aquifer volume or a lowering of the local groundwater table level (e.g., the production rate of pre-existing nearby wells would drop to a level which would not support existing land uses or planned uses for which permits have been granted)?</i> Other than municipal water, no uses of groundwater supplies at the site are proposed. The topographical setting along the gravel bar as well as the proposed reclamation grade preclude the interception of groundwater.	☐	☐	X	☐
<i>c) Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, in a manner which would result in substantial erosion or siltation on- or off-site?</i> The project shall be mitigated by strict adherence to the CHERT review team and Agency oversight, which oversees the annual pre and post extraction design and erosion control measures. Thus, the potential for drainage patterns or stream bed alteration resulting from this project is mitigated through conformance with review teams recommendations as well as best management practices within applicable sections of the Surface Mining and Reclamation Plan. Riparian vegetation will be retained in compliance with existing rules and regulations.	☐	X	☐	☐
<i>d) Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, or substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner which would result in flooding on- or off-site?</i> The project is mitigated by strict adherence to the CHERT review team and Agency oversight, which oversees the annual pre and post extraction design and erosion control measures. Thus, the potential for drainage patterns or stream bed alterations that could increase the rate or amount in surface runoff that could result in increase flooding from this project is mitigated through conformance with review teams recommendations as well as best management practices within applicable sections of the Surface Mining and Reclamation Plan. Riparian vegetation will be retained in compliance with existing rules and regulations	☐	X	☐	☐

<i>e) Create or contribute runoff water which would exceed the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems or provide substantial additional sources of polluted runoff?</i>	☐	☐	X	☐
The proposed project will not result in an increase in runoff because it does not involve the creation of any impermeable surfaces. This application is proposed consistent with past operations and no additional development is being proposed at the site. The site is not a part of an existing or planned storm water drainage system. No servicing of equipment (fueling or lubricating) occurs within the extraction area. In the event of an accidental lubricant or fuel leak (i.e., hydraulic lines breaking, etc.), operators have been instructed to move equipment to safer high ground (roadway or upper bench). If gravel is contaminated with a spill, the material will be removed and properly disposed. The project will not result in any polluted runoff. Adherence to Mining and Reclamation Plan Standards that conform to the Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act, Water Code section 13000, et seq., and the Federal Clean Water Act 301 et seq. (33 U.S.C. section 1251, 1311, 1344 et seq.) the Regional Water Quality Control Board or the State Water Resources Control Board and requirements of the permitting agencies will ensure that water quality is not degraded.				
<i>f) Otherwise substantially degrade water quality?</i>	☐	X	☐	☐
Discussion for finding e) applies to both finding e) & f).				

g) Place housing within a 100-year flood hazard area as mapped on a federal Flood Hazard Boundary or Flood Insurance Rate Map or other flood hazard delineation map?	☐	☐	☐	X
Housing is not proposed as part of this project				
h) Place within a 100-year flood hazard area structures which would impede or redirect flood flows?	☐	☐	☐	X
No structures are proposed as part of the project.				
i) Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving flooding, including flooding as a result of the failure of a levee or dam?	☐	☐	☐	X
No levee or dam construction is associated with the project.				
j) Inundation by seiche, tsunami, or mudflow	☐	☐	☐	X
The project is not located within an area that would be subject to inundation by standing ocean waves or mudflows.				
<u>Cumulative Impact: The project will not result in any polluted runoff. The proposed project will not result in an increase in runoff because it does not involve the creation of any impermeable surfaces. The site is not a part of an existing or planned stormwater drainage system. Housing is not proposed as part of this project. The exposure of people and structures to injury or death and risk or loss due to dam failure is not significant. No increase of risk would occur above that of the existing operation. The site was not determined in the past to cause a cumulatively considerable impact to the hydrology & water quality of the surrounding area, and as proposed consistent with historical operations would therefore not currently be determined to be a cumulatively considerable impact.</u>				
<u>Mitigation Measure 6:</u>				
<u>1) The project will obtain and adhere to CHERT recommendations, and agency agreements regarding pre and post extraction design compliance, as well as approved agency permits including , Section 401 certification from the North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board, and coverage under the Army Corps of Engineers 404 Letter of Permission.</u>				

X. LAND USE AND PLANNING:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
Would the project:				
a) <i>Physically divide an established community?</i>	☐	☐	☐	X
The project is located in a sparsely developed rural setting. No new access routes are proposed.				
b) <i>Conflict with any applicable land use plan, policy, or regulation of an agency with jurisdiction over the project (including, but not limited to the general plan, specific plan, local coastal program, or zoning ordinance) adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect?</i>	☐	☐	☐	X
The project is located within a parcel zoned as Unclassified and the General Plan designation is agricultural grazing. In the past the County has determined that surface mining and Reclamation Plans are compatible uses within the previously mentioned zone and designation. The subject area is considered to offer low to moderate grazing and will offer the same if not enhanced grazing opportunities once reclaimed.				
The Humboldt County General Plan - Frame Work Plan recognizes the importance of existing gravel extraction sites as follows: " <i>Sand, gravel and rock, being necessary to construction and development, are an essential component for the continued well-being of the County. They are the basis for much of the construction materials for roads, concrete, streambank protection, erosion control, septic systems and passive solar projects. Importation of these materials would raise costs and negatively impact the development and maintenance within the County. It is important to protect specific sites and haul routes against land use incompatibilities to assure the continued utilization of this resource.</i> "				

c) Conflict with any applicable habitat conservation plan or natural community conservation plan?	☐	☐	☐	X
The property included in the project area is not included in any habitat conservation plan or natural community conservation plan.				
Cumulative Impact: The project will not physically divide an established community and has been part Humboldt County community historically in the past. The project will not conflict with any applicable land use plan, policy, or regulation of any agency with jurisdiction over the project since the Humboldt County General Plan contains policies supporting existing gravel mining sites such as the project site. The project will not conflict with any applicable habitat conservation plan or natural community conservation plan. The site was not determined in the past to cause a cumulatively considerable impact to the land use & planning in the surrounding area, and as proposed consistent with past operations would therefore not currently be determined to be a cumulatively considerable impact.				
Existing Project Mitigation: None.				
Mitigation: None proposed				

XI. MINERAL RESOURCES:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
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?	☐	☐	☐	X
Discussion for finding b) applies to both finding a) & b).				

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?	☐	☐	☐	X
Rather than result in the loss of availability a locally important mineral resource, this project will allow the continued, sustainable utilization of an important mineral resource. The mineral resources available on the site are not unique to the area and are subject to annual replenishment.				
<u>Cumulative Impact:</u> The mineral resources available on-site are not unique to the area. The final reclamation will have no effect on future mining opportunities in this area. The project site is not delineated as a locally-important mineral resource recovery site within the Humboldt County General Plan.				
<u>Existing Project Mitigation:</u> None				

XII. NOISE:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
Would the project result in:				
a) <i>Exposure of persons to or generation of noise levels in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance, or applicable standards of other agencies?</i> The project is located in a rural area and the nearest neighbor is located across Glendale Drive. The intensity and duration of operations are expected to be low and fall within a range consistent with the historical mining operations as well as the existing traffic on Glendale Drive that have taken place at the site and in association with the county road in the past. Expected noise levels at the nearest neighboring residence are to be 70 to 76 decibels.	☐	☒	☐	☐
b) <i>Exposure of persons to or generation of excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels?</i> As previously stated, the intensity and duration of operations are expected to be at a low level. In addition, a dense stand of young growth timber, brush and vegetation buffers the site from its nearest neighbor. Elevated noise levels are anticipated for the equipment operator(s) only.	☐	☐	☒	☐
c) <i>A substantial permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project?</i> Due to the limited times of project activities, the project will not result in a permanent increase in ambient noise levels.	☐	☐	☒	☐
d) <i>A substantial temporary or periodic increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project?</i> Temporary or periodic increases in ambient noise levels in the immediate vicinity of the project area will occur. However, they are consistent with past noise levels.	☐	☐	☒	☐
e) <i>For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?</i> The nearest airstrip is the public airstrip located 5.5 miles from the Arcata-Eureka Airport and is located outside of a airport land use plan. Any noise generated by the existing Air Port is minor and is not excessive beyond the historical baseline. Non effect to individuals utilizing the project site is anticipated.	☐	☐	☐	☒

) For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?	☐	☐	☐	X
Discussion for finding e) applies to both finding e) & f).				
<u>Cumulative Impact</u>				
<u>Noise generated by the this project would be similar to noise levels from past operations at this site. No new noise sources are proposed. The approval of this project will not result in a cumulatively considerable addition to the existing noise levels in the surrounding area.</u>				
<u>Mitigation Measure 7:</u>				
<u>7) Existing vegetation in and around the project area is left in place so as to provide a natural buffer to operational activities.</u>				

XIII. POPULATION AND HOUSING:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
Would the project:				
<i>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)?</i>	☐	☐	☐	X
The proposed project will not produce any significant growth inducing impacts. Aggregate extraction is normally driven by growth, not vice versa. Growth inducing impacts are generally caused by projects that have a direct or indirect affect on economic growth, population growth, or when the project taxes community service facilities which require upgrades beyond the existing remaining capacity. No services or utilities are being required to be extended to the site. The economic benefits would not be such that people might be attracted to the area as a result.				
<i>b) Displace substantial numbers of existing housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?</i>	☐	☐	☐	X
The project will not displace any existing housing or people. There is no housing or people located within the project area.				
<i>c) Displace substantial numbers of people, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?</i>	☐	☐	☐	X
Discussion for finding b) applies to both finding b) & c).				
Cumulative Impact: The proposed project will not produce any significant growth inducing impacts and will not displace substantial number of existing housing or people. Therefore, the project will not cause a cumulatively considerable impact or addition to the population and housing in the area surrounding the project site.				
Existing Project Mitigation: None.				

XIV. PUBLIC SERVICES:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
<i>a) Would the project result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered governmental facilities, need for new or physically altered governmental facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times or other performance objectives for any of the public services:</i> The project consists of the continuation of historic operation. Additional use of fire protection, Police protection, schools, parks, or other public facilities will not be required for the project as proposed and consistent with past operations.	☐	☐	☐	X
Fire protection?	☐	☐	☐	X
Police protection?	☐	☐	☐	X
Schools?	☐	☐	☐	X
Parks?	☐	☐	☐	X
Other public facilities?	☐	☐	☐	X
<u>Cumulative Impact: The project consists of the continuation of historic activities similar to other operation within the surrounding area. Additional use of public facilities and services will not be required for the project as proposed. Therefore, the project will not cause a cumulatively considerable addition to the use of public facilities and services in the Glendale or Blue Lake area.</u> <u>Existing Project Mitigation:</u> <u>1) All heavy equipment/machinery will be fitted with state approved ABC spark arrestors prior to operating on site.</u>				

XV. RECREATION:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) <i>Would the project increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility would occur or be accelerated?</i> The proposed project is located within a private fenced ownership. The project area is an existing surface mining site and does not afford recreational opportunities in its current state. No public recreation opportunities are proposed by the project as a result on impacts on exiting recreational facility are expected	☐	☐	☐	X
b) <i>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?</i> The project does not include recreational facilities and will not require the construction or expansion of any recreational facilities. <u>Cumulative Impact: The project consists of the continuation of historic activities. The project will not increase the use of, or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities.</u> <u>Existing Project Mitigation:</u> <u>Maintain measure to prevent public access to the site</u> <u>Mitigation: None proposed.</u>	☐	☐	☐	X

XVI. TRANSPORTATION/TRAFFIC:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
Would the project:				
a) Conflict with an applicable plan, ordinance or policy establishing measures of effectiveness for the performance of the circulation system, taking into account all modes of transportation including mass transit and non-motorized travel and relevant components of the circulation system, including but not limited to intersections, streets, highways and freeways, pedestrian and bicycle paths, and mass transit?	☐	☐	☒	☐
The project consists of the continuation of historical uses of the site and is consistent with operation within the surrounding area.. Since the project represents an existing use, no additional traffic is proposed as a result of this project. Due to ongoing intermittent operation of this project, there will be no impacts to the existing traffic load or capacity of the street system.				
b) Conflict with an applicable congestion management program, including, but not limited to level of service standards and travel demand measures, or other standards established by the county congestion management agency for designated roads or highways?	☐	☐	☒	☐
Traffic levels associated with this project are well within the historical levels associated with the site				
c) Result in a change in air traffic patterns, including either an increase in traffic levels or a change in location that results in substantial safety risks?	☐	☐	☐	☒
Use of the airstrip is not a part of this project and would occur whether this project existed or not.				
d) Substantially increase hazards due to a design feature (e.g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses (e.g., farm equipment)?	☐	☐	☐	☒
No roads or access ways will be altered; they will be the same as has existed historically. No new hazards or incompatible uses will not be created as a result of the proposed project.				

e) Result in inadequate emergency access?	☐	☐	☐	X
The existing access to the project area from the Glendale Drive has been used since the project was originally permitted and no safety problems have occurred in the past. The project will not affect any other emergency access routes.				
f) Conflict with adopted policies, plans or programs regarding public transit, bicycle, or pedestrian facilities, or otherwise decrease the performance or safety of such facilities?	☐	☐	X	☐
The project will not affect adopted policies public transportation, bicycle or pedestrian facilities or public parking capacity in any manner. No foreseeable impacts to any policies, plans or programs supporting alternative transportation can be reasonably perceived as a result of the project.				
Cumulative Impact: The project consists essentially of the continuation of a exiting project. Since the project represents an existing use, no additional traffic is proposed as a result of this project. Due to the intermittent operations proposed of this project, there will be no impacts to the existing traffic load or capacity of the street system. No roads or access ways will be altered; they will be the same as has existed. No new hazards or incompatible uses will be created as a result of the proposed project. The existing access to the project area from Glendale Drive has been used since the project was in operation and no safety problems have occurred in the past. The project will not affect any other emergency access routes. Therefore, the project will not cause a cumulatively considerable addition or impact to traffic and transportation in the surrounding area.				
Existing Project Mitigation: None.				

XVII. TRIBAL CULTURAL RESOURCES.

Would the project cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a tribal cultural resource, defined in Public Resources Code section 21074 as either a site, feature, place, cultural landscape that is geographically defined in terms of the size and scope of the landscape, sacred place, or object with cultural value to a California Native American tribe, and that is:

a) Listed or eligible for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources, or in a local register of historical resources as defined in Public Resources Code section 5020.1(k), or

b) A resource determined by the lead agency, in its discretion and supported by substantial evidence, to be significant pursuant to criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resources Code Section 5024.1. In applying the criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resources Code Section 5024.1, the lead agency shall consider the significance of the resource to a California Native American tribe.

☐	☐	☐	X
☐	X	☐	☐

With mitigation, the project will not cause substantial adverse change in the significance of a tribal cultural resource. An archaeological site is located in the vicinity of the project area. Recommendations to exclude access to this location are provided, as well as a protocol for inadvertent discoveries. See Mitigation Measures 2 and 3.

XVIII. UTILITIES AND SERVICE SYSTEMS:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
Would the project:				
a) Exceed wastewater treatment requirements of the applicable Regional Water Quality Control Board? Since no water resources will be used on site other than for dust abatement, and no processing of materials will occur on-site, no discharge into State waters will occur. Therefore no measures for wastewater treatment are proposed.	☐	☐	☐	X
b) Require or result in the construction of new water or wastewater treatment facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects? Portable chemical toilets will be provided and maintained by a licensed pumper. The use and maintenance of the portable sanitary facilities will comply with all state and county regulations pertaining to this type of facility. No new water treatment or wastewater facilities or the expansion of such facilities are proposed or needed for the project.	☐	☐	X	☐
c) Require or result in the construction of new storm water drainage facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects? No new storm water facilities or the expansion of existing facilities are needed for the project.	☐	☐	☐	X
d) Have sufficient water supplies available to serve the project from existing entitlements and resources, or are new or expanded entitlements needed? No water resources will be required for extraction activities	☐	☐	☐	X
e) Result in a determination by the wastewater treatment provider which serves or may serve the project that it has adequate capacity to serve the project's projected demand in addition to the provider's existing commitments? There is no wastewater treatment provider associated with the site.	☐	☐	☐	X
f) Be served by a landfill with sufficient permitted capacity to accommodate the project's solid waste disposal needs? The project site utilizes Humboldt County permitted land fill system for its solid wastes and disposal needs.	☐	☐	X	☐

g) <i>Comply with federal, state, and local statutes and regulations related to solid waste?</i>	☐	☐	☐	X
The site will not create any solid waste that is not handled by and disposed of by an appropriate licensed operator.				
<u>Cumulative Impact: The project consists of essentially the continuation of existing project. No new water treatment or wastewater facilities or the expansion of such facilities are proposed or needed for the project. No new storm water facilities or the expansion of existing facilities are needed for the project. The project will not cause a cumulatively considerable addition of impact to the use or construction of utilities and service systems in the Glendale or Blue Lake area.</u>				
<u>Existing Project Mitigation: None.</u>				

XIX. MANDATORY FINDINGS OF SIGNIFICANCE:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Does the project have the potential to degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, substantially reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory?	☐	X	☐	☐
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)?	☐	☐	X	☐
c) Does the project have environmental effects which will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?	☐	☐	X	☐

**HUMBOLDT COUNTY
PLANNING & BUILDING DEPARTMENT**

MITIGATION MONITORING REPORT FOR THE

Sundberg - Surface Mining and Conditional Use Permits CUP-16-204; RP-16-004; SMP-16-003

PROJECT: Application for a Conditional Use Permit/Mining Plan/Reclamation Plan for the seasonal extraction in Humboldt County of up to 6,300 cubic yards of sand and gravel per year from river gravel bars. The existing aggregate extraction site has historically involved aggregate removal from the exposed bar surface within the property. Previously this site received County approval in 1994 for an annual extraction rate of up to 40,000 cubic yards. Secondary activities such as temporary equipment storage during active periods of operation will also occur.

PROJECT LOCATION: Located along the Mad River, River Mile 8, on the Arcata North 7.5' Quadrangle, within portions of Section 13, 14, & 23, T6N, R1E, H.B.&M. The site is accessed from the east side of Highway 299, at Glendale and then proceeding west bound on Glendale Drive in Humboldt County (APN 504-131-02& 04, 516-161-04). This site is adjacent to an existing construction/storage yard located uphill from the river on the same parcels.

ASSESSOR'S PARCEL NUMBER: 504-131-002-000, 516-161-004-000, 504-131-004-000

Mitigation measures were incorporated into conditions of project approval for the above referenced project. The following is a list of these measures and a verification form that the conditions have been met. For conditions that require on-going monitoring, attach the Monitoring Form for Continuing Requirements for subsequent verifications.

ON-GOING MITIGATION MEASURES

1. **Air Quality and Dust Suppression** - 1) Periodic watering of the extraction site, and access roads will continue to be utilized (as necessary) to reduce fugitive dust emissions. The on-site haul road shall be watered to reduce dust emissions and potential wind erosion of the soils; Apply water to disturbed land surfaces at a frequency high enough to maintain soil cohesion and to reduce blowing dust to the extent practicable. The operator shall maintain a log identifying the day and time and the amount of water applied to maintain dust control. The log shall be kept on the project site and shall be presented for review by county or other agency personnel upon request. Any on-site processing operations may require a permit from the North Coast Unified Air Quality Management District (NCUAQMD), with appropriate measures for reduction of fugitive particles. The operator shall contact NCUAQMD to determine their permit requirements.

Implementation Time Frame	Monitoring Frequency	Date Verified	To Be Verified By	Compliance Yes No	Comments / Action Taken
Project Operations	Continuous		NCUAQMD		

2. & 3. Cultural Resources.

Mitigation Measure 2. Surface mining in this area shall be limited to alluvial gravel deposits on the river bar and the applicant shall avoid any quarrying to bedrock or colluvium. No project related actions shall occur within 100 feet of any archaeological site boundary.

Furthermore, the ingress and egress routes to reach the gravel bar and the work yard shall be used only as proposed. The dirt road leading to the southeast from the main access road shall be avoided. A gate, chain or other such barrier shall be placed on the beginning of this road during operations to ensure that all equipment are excluded from inadvertently entering the site.

Mitigation Measure 3. Inadvertent Discovery Protocol. Although relatively unlikely, due the significant historic ground disturbances that occurred at this location, there is always the possibility that intact archaeological deposits remain concealed below the present ground surface. If cultural resources, such as chipped or ground stone, historic debris, building foundations, or bone are discovered, work shall be stopped, per the requirements of CEQA (15064.5 (f)). Work near the archaeological finds shall not resume until a professional archaeologist, who meets the Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines, has evaluated the materials and offered recommendations for further action.

Implementation Time Frame	Monitoring Frequency	Date Verified	To Be Verified By	Compliance Yes No	Comments / Action Taken
Project Operations	Continuous		HCP&BD		

4. & 5. Hazards and Hazardous Materials

4) All heavy equipment/machinery will be fitted with state approved ABC spark arrestors prior to operating on site.

5) Strict adherence to the federal mining safety regulations administered by the Federal Mine Safety Health Administration.

Implementation Time Frame	Monitoring Frequency	Date Verified	To Be Verified By	Compliance Yes No	Comments Action Taken /
Project Operations	Continuous		HCP&BD		

6. Hydrology and Water Quality. The project will obtain and adhere to CHERT recommendations, and agency agreements regarding pre and post extraction design compliance, as well as approved agency permits including , Section 401 certification from the North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board, and coverage under the Army Corps of Engineers 404 Letter of Permission.

Implementation Time Frame	Monitoring Frequency	Date Verified	To Be Verified By	Compliance Yes No	Comments Action Taken /
Project Operations	Continuous		CHERT		

7. Noise. Existing vegetation in and around the project area is left in place so as to provide a natural buffer to operational activities.

Implementation Time Frame	Monitoring Frequency	Date Verified	To Be Verified By	Compliance Yes No	Comments Action Taken /
Project Operations	Continuous		HCP&BD		

** HCP&BD = Humboldt County Planning and Building Department
CDF&G = California Department of Fish and Game
NCUAQMD = North Coast Unified Air Quality Management District
RWQCB = Regional Water Quality Control Board
CHERT = County of Humboldt Extraction Review Team

Attachment 4

Applicant's Evidence in Support of Findings

Surface Mining Reclamation Plan

Reclamation Cost Estimate (Attachment of Reclamation Plan)

Operations Plan (Included in the Surface Mining Reclamation Plan)

Geotechnical Report (Section of the Reclamation Plan)

Attachment 4

Applicant's Evidence in Support of Findings

Surface Mining Reclamation Plan

Reclamation Cost Estimate (Attachment of Reclamation Plan)

Operations Plan (Included in the Surface Mining Reclamation Plan)

Geotechnical Report (Section of the Reclamation Plan)

Attachment 5
Referral Agency Comments



HUMBOLDT COUNTY
PLANNING AND BUILDING DEPARTMENT
CURRENT PLANNING DIVISION
3015 H STREET, EUREKA, CA 95501 ~ PHONE (707) 445-7541

m.f.

4/13/2017



PROJECT REFERRAL TO: Building Inspection Division

Project Referred To The Following Agencies:

Building Inspection Division, Public Works Land Use Division, Health and Human Services Environmental Health Division, Supervising Planner, Current Planning Division, County Counsel, CalFire, California Department of Fish And Wildlife, Northwest Information Center, Bear River Band Rohnerville Rancheria, Blue Lake Rancheria, Wiyot Tribe, City of Blue Lake, Regional Water Quality Control Board, North Coast Unified Air Quality Management District, United States Fish And Wildlife Service, National Marine Fisheries Service, County of Humboldt Extraction Review Team, United States Army Corps of Engineers, Assigned Planner: MEW

Applicant Name GR Sundburg Inc. **Key Parcel Number** 504-131-002-000

Application (APPS#) 11271 **Assigned Planner** Michael Wheeler (707) 268-3730 **Case Number(s)** CUP16-204
SMP16-003
RP16-004
AA16-473

Please review the above project and provide comments with any recommended conditions of approval. To help us log your response accurately, please include a copy of this form with your correspondence.

Questions concerning this project may be directed to the assigned planner for this project between 8:30am and 5:30pm Monday through Friday.

County Zoning Ordinance allows up to 15 calendar days for a response. If no response or extension request is received by the response date, processing will proceed as proposed.

☐ If this box is checked, please return large format maps with your response.

Return Response No Later Than 4/28/2017

Planning Commission Clerk
County of Humboldt Planning and Building Department
3015 H Street
Eureka, CA 95501
E-mail: PlanningClerk@co.humboldt.ca.us **Fax:** (707) 268-3792

We have reviewed the above application and recommend the following (please check one):

☒ Recommend Approval. The Department has no comment at this time.

☐ Recommend Conditional Approval. Suggested Conditions Attached.

☐ Applicant needs to submit additional information. List of items attached.

☐ Recommend Denial. Attach reasons for recommended denial.

☐ Other Comments: _____

DATE: 4-18-17 CUR 16-204 GR Sundberg 11271

PRINT NAME: Gustin Dumlac September 7, 2017

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From: Salazar, Kim@CALFIRE [<mailto:Kim.Salazar@fire.ca.gov>]
Sent: Friday, April 14, 2017 2:00 PM
To: Moxon, Delilah
Subject: APN: 504-131-002-000



STATE OF CALIFORNIA — THE RESOURCES AGENCY

EDMUND G. BROWN, JR., Governor

DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY AND FIRE PROTECTION

Humboldt – Del Norte Unit

118 Fortuna Blvd.
Fortuna, CA 95540

Website: www.fire.ca.gov
(707) 726-1272



Ref: 7100 Planning
Date: April 14, 2017

John Ford, Director
Humboldt County Community Development Services Department
3015 H Street
Eureka, CA 95501

Attention: Michael Wheeler
Applicant: GR Sundburg, Inc.

APN: 504-131-002-000
Area: Glendale
Case Numbers:

Humboldt County Application #: 11271

Type of Application: Conditional Use Permit, Surface Mining Permit, Reclamation Plan, Application Assistance

Date Received: 4/14/2017

Due Date: 4/28/2017

Project Description: Application for a Conditional Use Permit/Mining Plan/Reclamation Plan for the seasonal extraction in Humboldt County of up to 6,300 cubic yards of sand and gravel per year from river gravel bars. The existing aggregate extraction site has historically involved aggregate removal from the exposed bar surface within the property. Previously, this site received County approval in 1994 for an annual extraction rate of up to 40,000 cubic yards. Secondary activities such as temporary equipment storage during active periods of operation will also occur. Monitoring information indicates that extraction at average historical levels is appropriate at this site and that such operations will not cause immediate nor cumulative significant adverse environmental impacts. The proposal is to apply for a Conditional Use Permit and Surface Mining and Reclamation Plan. This project will remain consistent with the previous terms and conditions found within the previous permits. This project is subject to conditions and oversight found within the County of Humboldt's Interim Adaptive Management Plan as described in Chapter II (3). The proposal is for the extraction of up to 6,300 cubic yards of aggregate (sand and gravel) from adjacent gravel bars on an annual basis. The permitted volume is constant with the Supplemental Programmatic Environmental Report allocation proposed by NMFS, FEV method for allocating maximum extraction volume by mean annual recruitment (MAR). (Table 2-4 SPEIR) for both the Miller Almquist Bar and Simpson-Glendale Bar. The ongoing operation will continue to extract material as long as material is available on the gravel bar and operations conform to that established within the Interim Adaptive

Management Plan. The extraction activity will continue to occur during the summer season between June 1st and October 1st. Aggregate materials will be extracted, loaded onto trucks and transported to an off-site location two miles north west of the project area where processing and storage will occur. In any given year, project extraction volumes, locations, and methods will be submitted by the applicant for approval by local, state, and federal agencies, including the County of Humboldt, CHERT, Dept. of Fish and Game, and Army Corps of Engineers. The interagency process is more specifically described later in this report.

Mr. Ford,

The California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CALFIRE) provides these standard project review comments on the above noted project.

FIRE SAFE

General:

CALFIRE has responsibility for enforcement of Fire Safe Standards as required by Public Resources Code (PRC) 4290 and 4291. However CALFIRE is not the lead agency in planning development and project permitting. CALFIRE provides input as a contributing agency, generally limited to plan review, and is not the approving agency for these projects.

Local Responsibility Areas:

Should this project include Local Responsibility Area (LRA) lands, CALFIRE has no direct fire safe input on those parcels. However, in those areas with LRA parcels adjacent to State Responsibility Area (SRA) land, CALFIRE recommends that local standards be applied that are consistent with those CALFIRE makes for SRA lands.

State Responsibility Areas:

Should this project include State Responsibility Area (SRA) lands, the following are CALFIRE's Fire Safe minimum input and recommendation for any and all development.

1. In Humboldt County, developments must meet minimum fire safe standards by constructing the project in conformance with County Code Title III, Division 11, Fire Safe Regulations Ordinance, which the California Board of Forestry and Fire Protection has accepted as functionally equivalent to PRC 4290. The County Fire Safe Regulations Ordinance provides specific standards for roads providing ingress and egress, signing of streets and buildings, minimum water supply requirements, and setback distances for maintaining defensible space.
2. New buildings located in any Fire Hazard Severity Zone within State Responsibility Areas shall comply with the 2007 California Building Code (CBC) Section 701A.3.2. This requires roofing assemblies, attic and eave ventilation, exterior siding, decking and deck enclosure, windows and exterior doors, and exposed under floor areas that are approved "ignition resistive" in design.
3. All development, especially commercial or industrial development, should be designed to comply with the most current versions of the following standards:
 - a) California Fire Code (CFC) — for overall design standards
 - b) Public Utilities Commission (PUC) General Order 103 — for design of water systems
 - c) National Fire Protection Association Standards (NFPA) for fire flow minimums and other design questions not specifically covered by CFC and PUC

- d) Housing and Community Development Codes and Standards—for mobile home parks and recreational camps
4. For Department of Real Estate reporting purposes, fire protection coverage in SRA is generally described as follows:
 - During the declared fire season (usually June through October) CALFIRE responds to all types of fires and emergencies in SRA. During the remainder of the year (winter period), CALFIRE responds to emergency requests with the closest available fire engine, if a response can reasonably be expected to arrive in time to be effective. A fire engine is usually available somewhere in the Unit, but may have an extended response time.
 - There are many hazards confronting fire protection agencies in most subdivisions on SRA lands. Steep terrain and heavy wildland fuels contribute to fire intensity and spread. The distances from fire stations and road grades encountered usually create an excessive response time for effective structure fire suppression purposes.
 - Subdivisions increase fire risks from additional people and increase probable dollar losses in the event of fire due to added structures and improvements.
 5. If the project expects to produce densities consistent with a major subdivision, the impacts on all infrastructures should be mitigated. Local government more appropriately provides the responsibility for high-density area protection and services. Annexation or inclusion into Local Responsibility Area should be studied as well.
 6. CALFIRE does not support development in areas where there is no local agency fire service for structure fires and emergency medical response. Fire services should be extended into service gap areas as a condition of development. New development can adversely impact existing fire services. Careful consideration must be given where development may overload the local fire service's ability to respond.

RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

CALFIRE has enforcement responsibility for requirements of the Z'berg—Nejedly Forest Practice Act of 1973. CALFIRE is also the lead agency for those parts of projects involving the scope of the Forest Practice Act. The following basic input will cover the majority of projects. **Each project will be reviewed with additional input sent at a later date, if needed.**

The following comments reflect the basic Resource Management policies of the Board of Forestry and Fire Protection and CALFIRE on CEQA review requests. These policies apply to both Local and State Responsibility Areas.

1. If this project reduces the amount of timberland, by policy, the Board of Forestry and CALFIRE cannot support any project that will reduce the timberland base of California. "Timberland" means land which is available for, and capable of, growing a crop of trees of any commercial species used to produce lumber and other forest products, including Christmas trees regardless of current zoning (PRC 4526). However, if the zoning and intended use are consistent with the county's general plan; and if no land other than timberland can be identified to site the project; then CALFIRE may choose not to oppose the project.
2. If **any** commercial timber operations are involved with a project, the timber operations cannot be conducted without a CAL FIRE permit. Commercial timber operations include the cutting or removal of trees offered for sale, barter, exchange, or trade or the conversion of timberlands to land uses other than the growing of timber (PRC 4527). Contact your nearest CAL FIRE Resource Management office for guidance on obtaining the necessary permits.
3. If **any** timberlands are being converted to a non-timber growing use by this project, the conversion operations cannot be conducted without a CAL FIRE permit (PRC 4621). Conversion of timberland takes place when trees are removed and the land use changes, even without the sale, barter,

exchange, or trade of the trees. Contact your nearest CAL FIRE Resource Management office for guidance on obtaining the necessary permits.

4. If timberland is in the viewshed of a project, the current and future owners should be overtly notified that changes will occur to their views due to timber management activities. Further, no project should be allowed to negatively affect access to timberland for timber management purposes; neither on the project parcel(s) nor any other timberland parcels.
5. If timber harvesting has occurred and post-harvest restocking and prescribed erosion control maintenance obligations have not been met on a parcel, future owners should be overtly notified (14 CCR 1042). The current owner of a parcel is responsible for restocking requirements and maintenance of roads whether or not they were involved in the actual harvest plan.
6. If the project involves the development of parcels zoned as Timber Production Zone (TPZ), CALFIRE cannot support the project. Dividing TPZ land into parcels of less than 160 acres requires a Joint Timber Management plan prepared by a Registered Professional Forester (RPF), recorded as a deed restriction for a minimum of 10-years on all affected parcels, and approved by a four – fifths vote of the full board (Govt. Code 51119.5). TPZ may be rezoned using a "Ten Year Phase Out," which precludes the need for a Timberland Conversion Permit. CALFIRE opposes immediate rezoning of TPZ land.

If CALFIRE staff develops additional comment on this project, it will be forwarded in an additional response letter.

By: Planning Battalion
CALFIRE Humboldt – Del Norte Unit
For **Hugh Scanlon**, Unit Chief

16-1659



HUMBOLDT COUNTY
PLANNING AND BUILDING DEPARTMENT
CURRENT PLANNING DIVISION
3015 H STREET, EUREKA, CA 95501 ~ PHONE (707) 445-7541



4/13/2017

PROJECT REFERRAL TO: Northwest Information Center

Project Referred To The Following Agencies:

Building Inspection Division, Public Works Land Use Division, Health and Human Services Environmental Health Division, Supervising Planner, Current Planning Division, County Counsel, CalFire, California Department of Fish And Wildlife, Northwest Information Center, Bear River Band Rohnerville Rancheria, Blue Lake Rancheria, Wiyot Tribe, City of Blue Lake, Regional Water Quality Control Board, North Coast Unified Air Quality Management District, United States Fish And Wildlife Service, National Marine Fisheries Service, County of Humboldt Extraction Review Team, United States Army Corps of Engineers, Assigned Planner: MEW

Applicant Name GR Sundburg Inc. **Key Parcel Number** 504-131-002-000

Application (APPS#) 11271 **Assigned Planner** Michael Wheeler (707) 268-3730 **Case Number(s)** CUP16-204
SMP16-003
RP16-004
AA16-473

Please review the above project and provide comments with any recommended conditions of approval. To help us log your response accurately, please include a copy of this form with your correspondence.

Questions concerning this project may be directed to the assigned planner for this project between 8:30am and 5:30pm Monday through Friday.

County Zoning Ordinance allows up to 15 calendar days for a response. If no response or extension request is received by the response date, processing will proceed as proposed.

☐ If this box is checked, please return large format maps with your response.

Return Response No Later Than 4/28/2017

Planning Commission Clerk
County of Humboldt Planning and Building Department
3015 H Street
Eureka, CA 95501
E-mail: PlanningClerk@co.humboldt.ca.us **Fax:** (707) 268-3792

We have reviewed the above application and recommend the following (please check one):

- ☐ Recommend Approval. The Department has no comment at this time.
- ☐ Recommend Conditional Approval. Suggested Conditions Attached.
- ☐ Applicant needs to submit additional information. List of items attached.
- ☐ Recommend Denial. Attach reasons for recommended denial.
- ☐ Other Comments: _____

DATE: _____

PRINT NAME: _____

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SYSTEM



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SAN MATEO
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SONOMA
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Northwest Information Center
Sonoma State University
150 Professional Center Drive, Suite E
Rohnert Park, California 94928-3609
Tel: 707.388.8435
nwic@sonoma.edu
http://www.sonoma.edu/nwic

April 25, 2017

File No.: 16-1659

Planning Commission Clerk
County of Humboldt
Planning and Building Department
3015 H Street
Eureka, CA 95501
PlanningClerk@co.humboldt.ca.us

re: County File Numbers CUP16-204, SMP16-003, RP16-004, AA16-473 / APNs 504-131-02, 504-131-04, 516-161-04 /
Randy Sundburg – GR Sundburg, Inc. / Michael Wheeler

Dear Mr. Wheeler:

Records at this office were reviewed to determine if this project could adversely affect cultural resources. **Please note that use of the term cultural resources includes both archaeological sites and historical buildings and/or structures. The review for possible historic-era building/structures, however, was limited to references currently in our office and should not be considered comprehensive.**

The proposed project entails seasonal extraction of up to 6,300 cubic yards of sand and gravel per year from river gravel bars. The existing aggregate extraction site has historically involved aggregate removal from the exposed bar surface within the property. Secondary activities such as temporary equipment storage during active periods of operation will also occur. The project will remain consistent with the previous terms and conditions found within the previous permits. The ongoing operation will continue to extract material as long as material is available on the gravel bar and operations conform to those established within the Interim Adaptive Management Plan. Extraction activities will occur during the summer season, between June 1 and October 1. Aggregate materials will be extracted, loaded onto trucks, and transported to an offsite location two miles northwest of the project area where processing and storage will occur.

Previous Studies:

XX Three studies (see table below), covering approximately 65% of the proposed project area, identified one or more **cultural resources** (see recommendation below).

Report Number	Authors	Date	Title	Affiliation
S-009576	Janet P. Eidsness	1987	Archaeological Survey of Portions of West End Road and Warren Creek Road, Near Arcata, Humboldt County, California	
S-015201	James Roscoe and Susie Van Kirk	1993	A Cultural Resources Study of Proposed Gravel Extraction Areas on the Mad River, Humboldt County, California	
S-019597	James Roscoe and Darrell Cardiff	1997	A Cultural Resources Investigation of Assessor's Parcel Number 516-241-23, the Clint Hunter Property, Located in Humboldt County, California	Roscoe & Associates

Archaeological and Native American Resources Recommendations:

- XX The proposed project area contains or is adjacent to the archaeological sites P-12-000815 and P-12-001140. It is recommended that a qualified professional assess the status of the resources and provide project-specific recommendations. It is also recommended that a qualified archaeologist conduct further archival and field study of the unsurveyed portions of the project area to identify cultural resources. Field study may include, but is not limited to, hand auger sampling, shovel test units, or geoarchaeological analyses as well as other common methods used to identify the presence of archaeological resources. Please refer to the list of consultants who meet the Secretary of Interior's Standards at <http://www.chrisinfo.org>.
- XX We recommend that the lead agency contact the local Native American tribe(s) regarding traditional, cultural, and religious heritage values. For a complete listing of tribes in the vicinity of the project, please contact the Native American Heritage Commission at (916) 373-3710.

Built Environment Recommendations:

- XX The 1933, 1951, and 1959 USGS Eureka 15' quads, and the 1959 (photorevised 1972) USGS Arcata North 7.5' quad, depict at least one building in the proposed project area. Since the Office of Historic Preservation has determined that any building or structure 45 years or older may be of historical value, if these, or similarly aged buildings, are present then it is recommended that prior to commencement of project activities, a qualified professional familiar with the architecture and history of Humboldt County conduct a formal CEQA evaluation.

Due to processing delays and other factors, not all of the historical resource reports and resource records that have been submitted to the Office of Historic Preservation are available via this records search. Additional information may be available through the federal, state, and local agencies that produced or paid for historical resource management work in the search area. Additionally, Native American tribes have historical resource information not in the California Historical Resources Information System (CHRIS) Inventory, and you should contact the California Native American Heritage Commission for information on local/regional tribal contacts.

The California Office of Historic Preservation (OHP) contracts with the California Historical Resources Information System's (CHRIS) regional Information Centers (ICs) to maintain information in the CHRIS inventory and make it available to local, state, and federal agencies, cultural resource professionals, Native American tribes, researchers, and the public. Recommendations made by IC coordinators or their staff regarding the interpretation and application of this information are advisory only. Such recommendations do not necessarily represent the evaluation or opinion of the State Historic Preservation Officer in carrying out the OHP's regulatory authority under federal and state law.

For your reference, a list of qualified professionals in California that meet the Secretary of the Interior's Standards can be found at <http://www.chrisinfo.org>. If archaeological resources are encountered during the project, work in the immediate vicinity of the finds should be halted until a qualified archaeologist has evaluated the situation. If you have any questions, please contact our office at (707) 588-8455.

Sincerely,

Jessika Akmenkalns
Researcher

enc: Humboldt County project cover letter

cc: Randy Sundburg
GR Sundburg, Inc.
randy@grsinc.biz



ARCATA-EUREKA AIRPORT TERMINAL
McKINLEYVILLE
FAX 839-3596

AVIATION 839-5401

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT

MAILING ADDRESS: 1106 SECOND STREET, EUREKA, CA 95501-0579
AREA CODE 707

PUBLIC WORKS BUILDING
SECOND & L ST., EUREKA
FAX 445-7409

ADMINISTRATION 445-7491
BUSINESS 445-7652
ENGINEERING 445-7377
FACILITY MAINTENANCE 445-7493

NATURAL RESOURCES 445-7741
NATURAL RESOURCES PLANNING 267-9540
PARKS 445-7651
ROADS & EQUIPMENT MAINTENANCE 445-7421

CLARK COMPLEX
HARRIS & H ST., EUREKA
FAX 445-7388

LAND USE 445-7205

LAND USE DIVISION INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

TO: Michael Wheeler, Senior Planner, Planning & Building Department
FROM: Robert W. Bronkall, Deputy Director 
DATE: 04/24/2017
RE: GR SUNDBERG INC, APN 504-131-002, SMP 16-003, RP16-004,
CUP 16-204

The Department is requesting that all new surface mining permits, and extensions of existing surface mining permits comply with the following:

All on-site and off-site access roads (both County-maintained and non-County maintained) shall be suitable for truck traffic. In general, roads must meet Category 4 road standards in being at least 18 feet in width when 2-way traffic is expected. In addition, a 4 foot wide shoulder is necessary when pedestrians are expected. However, 2-way traffic on a single lane road (Category 2 road) may be appropriate when a road serves only the mining operation and when no other parcels of land use the road for access. Access roads and driveways not meeting the above standards must be improved to those standards, unless otherwise approved by the Department.

In lieu of constructing road improvements, the Department may approve a neighborhood traffic management plan. The Department's criteria for approving a neighborhood traffic management plan is based upon site specific conditions; sound engineering judgment; the ADT and DHV of the roads; the need to accommodate other road users (pedestrians, bicycles, equestrians, etc); the time period in which haul-off of material will be done; and the frequency and quantity of trucks.

Entrances from "private" roads or driveways onto paved County maintained roads must be paved for the first 50 feet (roads) and the first 25 feet (driveways). The roads and driveways at the intersection of the County maintained road must meet the standards set forth in the County Visibility Ordinance.

Prior to constructing any improvements on any road within the County Maintained Road System, an encroachment permit must be issued from this Department.

Also, please refer to the attached letter from Director Will Kempton of the California Department of Transportation dated 09/30/2008. The letter indicates that is critical to increase California's permitted aggregate resource reserves. The letter also states that upon request, staff from the local District Office will be made available to attend public meetings and speak on the importance of increasing California's aggregate supply.

Attachment:

- 09/30/2008 letter from Will Kempton, Director, California Department of Transportation

// END //

DEC 01 2008

STATE OF CALIFORNIA—BUSINESS, TRANSPORTATION AND HOUSING AGENCY

ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER, Governor

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

1120 N STREET

P. O. BOX 942873

SACRAMENTO, CA 94273-0001

PHONE (916) 654-5266

FAX (916) 654-6608

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CORRECTED COPY

September 30, 2008

Dear Transportation Partners:

In February 2006, I sent a letter to you stressing the need for permitting new aggregate resources within California. As you are aware, these materials are one of the critical resources required to meet current and expected infrastructure improvement needs for transportation improvements, flood protection, and public and private facilities in the State of California. Toward this effort, I want to again highlight the tremendous need to increase the supply of aggregate resource materials in the State.

Over the past three years, the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) delivered 754 major projects with a construction value of more than \$8.3 billion. I want to continue this success rate with reasonably expected cost effectiveness. This is why it is critical to increase California's permitted aggregate resource reserves.

In the last two years, Caltrans has taken a number of steps to promote aggregate resource needs throughout the State. Caltrans and the Business, Transportation and Housing Agency have provided decision makers with information on the need to increase California's aggregate resource supply and will continue to do so in the future.

To date, Caltrans personnel have made presentations to several local decision-makers in the State, including Nevada, Butte, and Fresno counties, the San Joaquin Valley, and communities in the Bay Area. Caltrans has also coordinated with the construction industry, public decision-makers, and government officials in discussing potential opportunities to increase California's aggregate resource supply. Caltrans' work and partnerships in the *GoCalifornia* Construction Industry Capacity Expansion (ICE) Action Plan has also played a significant role. This work included several workshops and meetings with stakeholders, including the ICE Workshop and Materials Summit held in April. The summit provided a means to communicate with those that are involved with the permit process in order to identify the key issues that arise when attempting to permit a mining facility. Caltrans will continue that collaborative effort. Other collaborative efforts have included developing cooperative partnerships with the California Department of Conservation and the U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management, on mining, reclamation, and permitting issues.

"Caltrans improves mobility across California"

Caltrans also is providing grant funds for the Regional Blueprint Planning Program to promote regional collaboration and integrated planning strategies. This program has enabled regions to plan to accommodate all their future growth while identifying and preserving:

- Mining and material resources.
- Farm and agriculture lands.
- Natural resources.
- Greenbelts and buffer zones.

While all of these efforts have helped to gain approval of new aggregate resources at selected locations in California, we are still well below the amount of reserve required to address expected infrastructure needs over the next 50 years. As we deliver infrastructure improvements with the voter-approved Proposition 1B Bond funds, I want to urge you to continue examining methods to increase the aggregate resources within each of your cities, counties, and regions. Enclosed for your use is an economic assessment of aggregate supply prepared by our Division of Transportation Planning's Office of Transportation Economics.

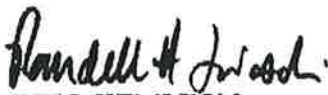
This provides information on potential economic, social, air quality, and environmental impacts when transporting aggregate materials for infrastructure projects farther than 35 miles each way. *(The original letter incorrectly stated "350 miles each way" instead of "35 miles each way.")* I believe this is a good source of information for you and your local decision-makers to utilize.

Lastly, I want to encourage you to contact representatives from your local Caltrans district office. They are available, upon request, to appear at public meetings and hearings in your areas to speak on the importance of increasing California's aggregate supply. We encourage the development of new sources for aggregate reserves within California, but we also recognize that the permitting of new mining locations must be done in accordance with environmental sensitivity and in accordance with federal, State, and local laws.

Please share this information with your planning commissions, city councils, and county board of supervisors.

Thank you in advance for your assistance in helping to improve mobility across California.

Sincerely,


WILL KEMPTON
Director

Enclosure

"Caltrans improves mobility across California"

Construction Aggregate Supply Limitations Some Estimates of Economic Impact

- Since transportation is a major element in the cost of delivered aggregate, and the cost depends on the distance of the delivery, permitting new aggregate sites that are closer to construction projects would lead to shorter haul distance and minimize transportation/shipping costs. According to the industry, shipping costs for aggregates can outweigh production costs if the material is trucked more than 20 miles.¹
- A recent University of California, Berkeley, study² confirms that the most likely, and dominant effect of opening new sites for the production of construction aggregates would be *a reduction in truck miles of travel for hauling aggregates* (i.e., the new quarry will be located closer to the users to minimize transportation costs), *thus a reduction in emissions from trucks*.
- According to the California Geological Survey (CGS), California has an estimated **74 billion tons** of aggregate resources underlying mineral lands classified by the State Geologist. However, only about 5.3 billion tons of aggregate (7.2 percent) have actually been permitted by cities and counties for mining activities. Permitting of mining sites can often take between five and ten years and longer for approval. At the current rate of production of 177 million tons per year, the permitted reserves will be exhausted in about 30 years.
- According to the CGS, the State produced 178.6 million tons of construction sand and gravel in 2006, valued at \$1.5 billion. The production of crushed stone in 2006 was estimated at *58.73 million tons*, valued at \$481.7 million. According to the same source, California imported from Canada and Mexico about 3.2 million tons of sand and gravel during 2006, a fairly small portion of the total use.
- The total aggregate production (or demand) in 2006, therefore, exceeded **237.3 million tons** (178.6 + 58.73). This production level would *generate about 9.5 million truckloads (at 25 tons per truck), or a total of 19.0 million truck trips a year (including empty trucks returning to the aggregate sites)* related to the transportation of construction aggregate in the state.
- Truck transportation accounts for about 99 percent of shipping aggregates for 40 miles or less.³ However, according to Teichert Construction and West Coast Aggregates, Inc., the average hauling distance for aggregates in California may be as high as 50 miles one-way. At an average 50-mile distance, the total aggregate-truck vehicles miles traveled would be **950 million miles** per year (19.0 million trucks x 50 miles). This would account for 4 percent of total truck trips, or 6 percent of all truck miles of travel on the State highways.
- Let us assume that permitting additional mining facilities would reduce the average hauling distance from 50 to 35 miles statewide. Using an average hauling distance of 35 miles, the total annual aggregate-truck miles of travel would be **665 million miles** (19.0 million trucks x 35 miles). The 15-mile shorter hauling distance would reduce aggregate-truck miles of travel by **285 million miles per year** (950 - 665), and annual diesel fuel consumption by **44 million gallons** (using California Air Resources Board (CARB) diesel fuel consumption rate of 0.153 gallons per vehicle mile at 55-60 mph speed).
- Based on the CARB emission factors estimates, and assuming an average 55-60 miles per hour speed, a reduction of 285 million miles of truck travel (or 44 million gallons of diesel fuel consumption) would reduce truck emissions (CO, NOx, PM10, SOx, VOC) by about **843.5 tons a year**.

¹ Therese Dunphy, "Evening the Playing Field," *Aggregates Manager*, August 2006.

² Peter Berck, "A Note on the Environmental Costs of Aggregates," *Working Paper No. 994*, Dept. of Agricultural and Resource Economics and Policy, University of California, Berkeley, January 2005.

³ Tina Grady Barbaccia, "Off-highway Transportation," *Aggregates Manager*, July 2006.

- The total transportation cost of aggregates (at \$0.10 per ton per mile) shipped 35 miles average distance throughout California would be \$1.67 billion (19.0 million trucks x 25 tons x 35 miles x \$0.1), and over \$2.38 billion if shipped an average distance of 50 miles. The statewide transportation cost savings of reduced hauling distance would amount to **\$710 million a year** (or a 30 percent cost savings).
- The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) estimates that on average, about \$2.55 billion is spent on state and local capital outlay projects each year, and on average, aggregates account for **8-10 percent** of total project costs, or about **\$250 million annually**. A 30 percent increase/decrease in shipping cost of aggregates would increase/decrease the total annual project costs by **\$75 million per year**.
- The reduction in aggregate-related truck miles of travel would also reduce traffic congestion and traffic accidents on roads, but these impacts would be difficult to estimate. An additional benefit from truck trip reduction would be reduced pavement deterioration. Caltrans expects to spend about \$700 million annually on pavement rehabilitation projects. Assuming trucks account for 60 percent of the pavement damage on the state highways, and aggregate-trucks on average account for 5 percent of all truck travel on the State highways, the trucks shipping aggregates would account for about **\$20 million** of cost savings in pavement rehabilitation each year.
- Project delays due to lack of aggregate supply in the area would also result in project cost escalation and reduced user benefits (reduced travel time and increased accidents) that would have otherwise been generated. A delay of 10 percent of the projects (or \$255 million in capital outlay expenditures) for one year would increase the cost of the State and local capital outlay program by **\$13 million a year** (at 5 percent average cost escalation factor).
- Generalizing, and pro rating, the user benefits estimated for the 2006 Interregional Transportation Improvement Program (ITIP) projects, a delay of 10 percent of the capital outlay program for one year would also cost California about **\$97 million** in increased roadway congestion and traffic accidents.

In conclusion, permitting and expansion of additional construction aggregate supply sources in California suggests potentially significant benefits and cost savings that would provide a high payoff and worthwhile effort for the State to undertake. Again, those benefits include:

- A reduction in emissions from trucks with a reduction in truck miles of travel for hauling aggregates.
- A shorter hauling distance which would reduce aggregate-truck miles of travel and the cost of the materials.
- A reduction of pavement deterioration from fewer truck miles traveled, which would allow rehabilitation resources to be available for other critical maintenance improvements.
- A reduction in project delays due to lack of aggregate supply in the area, which leads to increased project costs.
- A reduction in aggregate-related truck miles of travel would also reduce traffic congestion and traffic accidents on roads.

Office of Transportation Economics
Division of Transportation Planning
California Department of Transportation
March 2008