

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

Resolution Number 25-080

Record Number PLN-2025-19191

Assessor's Parcel Numbers: 211-141-003

Making the required findings for certifying compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act and conditionally approving the Dyerville Bar (Palco Bar) Conditional Use/Mining Permit and Reclamation Plan 15-year Reapproval

WHEREAS, Humboldt County Department of Public Works staff submitted an application and evidence in support of approving a 15-year reapproval of the Dyerville Bar Conditional Use/Mining Permit and Reclamation Plan (CUP-09-092XX/PLN-13823-SMA/RP-01-92X); and

WHEREAS, the Humboldt County Planning Division has reviewed the submitted application, PLN-2025-19191, and evidence and has referred the application and evidence to involved reviewing agencies for site inspections, comments and recommendations; and

WHEREAS, no further environmental review is required as no changes to the mining operation are proposed as part of this reapproval; and

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

WHEREAS, a Mitigated Negative Declaration was adopted with the original permit in 1993, and a Subsequent Mitigated Negative Declaration was prepared for an extension of the project in 2009; and

WHEREAS, the Humboldt County Planning Division staff report includes evidence in support of making all of the required findings for approving the proposed 15-year reapproval of the surface mining operation; and

WHEREAS, on December 18, 2025, a public hearing was held to receive public testimony on the proposed project.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Planning Commission makes all the following findings:

1. FINDING: **Project Description:** Reapproval of a 15-year term of a previously approved, existing instream gravel bar mining operation on the Eel River near Weott. The operation includes annual extraction and processing of up to 28,000 cubic yards of gravel every three years, as frequently as annually for 15 years. No changes to the extraction volume, location or Reclamation Plan are proposed. The annual volume, locations and extraction methods will be consistent with the recommendations of the CHERT and other regulatory agencies.

EVIDENCE: a) Project File: PLN-2025-19191

2. FINDING: **CEQA:** A Mitigated Negative Declaration was adopted with the original permit in 1993. A Subsequent Mitigated Negative Declaration was prepared for the modified project in 2009. No further environmental review is required as no changes to the mining operation are proposed as part of this reapproval.

EVIDENCE: a) No changes are proposed.
b) The project was previously subject to CEQA review, mitigation measures were incorporated and are now part of the project.
c) The project is subject to review and approval by CHERT and other affected agencies annually.

Mining Permit Approval

(Title III, Div. 9, Chapter 1, §391-4(b)(3), Term, of the Humboldt County Code)

3. FINDING: The application and supporting documents adequately describe the proposed surface mining operation, and adequate measures are incorporated to mitigate the probable or known significant environmental effects which have been or may be caused by the proposed operation.

EVIDENCE: a) The project has been reviewed by County Staff and outside agencies which have confirmed the operation has been designed to mitigate any environmental or health and safety

concerns. The operation is inspected annually by County Planning staff for compliance with the Reclamation Plan and permit conditions. The last inspection report from November 2024 shows no violations or other issues. The site has been infrequently mined since 1994.

4. FINDING: The proposed use and location of the surface mining operation 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.

EVIDENCE: a) The location of the mining operation occurs in the Agricultural Exclusive land use designation under the Current General Plan. The Agricultural Exclusive designation is a resource production land use designation and production of minerals is consistent with resource production. Affected agencies have reviewed the proposal and no new conditions of approval are proposed. There are no other known changes in the law or circumstances that warrant additions or changes to conditions that staff is aware of.

5. FINDING: The proposed development is in conformance with the County General Plan, Open Space Plan, and the Open Space Action Program.

EVIDENCE: a) The proposed use and location of the surface mining operation 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. The location of the mining operation occurs in an Agricultural Exclusive designation which is a resource production designation. The AE designation is also an implementing designation in the county's Open Space Plan and Open Space Action Program and the re-approval of this expired permit will not affect existing open space uses, as no additional ground disturbance is proposed beyond that considered with the original permit. The permit would authorize removal of gravel from the stream channel during the low flow months, and the site will be returned to its open space use after each seasons gravel operation

6. FINDING: The proposed development is consistent with the purposes of the existing zone in which the site is located, or when processed in conjunction with a zone reclassification, is consistent with the purposes of the proposed zone.

EVIDENCE: a) The property is zoned Unclassified which allows for surface mining with a Conditional Use Permit. The surface mining area is located within a rural portion of Humboldt County. Aside from agriculture, timber, and mining, development is limited.

7. FINDING: The proposed development conforms with all applicable standards and requirements of these regulations.

EVIDENCE: a) The proposed development is temporary and will be mitigated at the end of each season's operation and the end of the permit term if not renewed. All equipment will be removed prior to an increase in river flows after each mining season. The operation is in conformance with all required setbacks and zoning restrictions and will be required to be approved by CHERT prior to and following each annual harvest.

8. FINDING: The proposed development and conditions under which it may be operated or maintained will not be detrimental to the public health, safety, or welfare or materially injurious to properties or improvements in the vicinity.

EVIDENCE: a) The project has been reviewed by County Staff and outside agencies which have confirmed the operation has been designed to mitigate any environmental or health and safety concerns. The operation is inspected annually by County Planning staff for compliance with the Reclamation Plan and permit conditions. The last inspection report from November 2024 shows no violations or other issues. The operation be required to be approved by the County of Humboldt Extraction Review Team prior to and following each annual harvest to ensure that the removal of gravel is in accordance with best practices and will have no adverse impact on habitat and species.

9. FINDING:

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 midpoint of the density range specified in the plan designation) unless the following written findings are made supported by substantial evidence and not have a detrimental effect of the housing of Humboldt County.

EVIDENCE:

- a) As the property and operation in question occurs on a river bar that is consistently manipulated by river flows, no housing is possible on this site and will not have a detrimental effect on the housing stock in Humboldt County.

DECISION

NOW, THEREFORE, based on the above findings and evidence, the Humboldt County Planning Commission does hereby:

- Adopt the findings set forth in this resolution; and
- Conditionally approves the 15-year reapproval of the Dyerville Bar Conditional Use/Mining Permit and Reclamation Plan subject to the conditions of approval attached hereto as Attachment 1A and Attachment 1B.

Adopted after review and consideration of all the evidence on **December 18, 2025**.

The motion was made by COMMISSIONER NOAH LEVY and Seconded by COMMISSIONER SARAH WEST and the following vote:

AYES: COMMISSIONERS: Iver Skavdal, Noah Levy, Jerome Qiriazzi, Peggy O'Neill, Sarah West, Lorna McFarlane

NOES: COMMISSIONERS:

ABSTAIN: COMMISSIONERS:

ABSENT: COMMISSIONERS: Thomas Mulder

DECISION: Motion carried 6/0

I, John H. 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 H. Ford, Director
Planning and Building Department

CONDITIONS OF APPROVAL
PLN-2025-19191
CA MINE ID #91-12-0022

APPROVAL OF THE SURFACE MINING PERMIT, CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT, AND RECLAMATION PLAN RENEWAL 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. If applicable, pursuant to the California Code of Regulations Section 3697, the owner or operator of a newly permitted operation shall submit an initial report and reporting fee to the Department of Conservation (DOC) after permit approval. The DOC has developed the New Mining Operation Report form; please contact DOC at (916) 323-9198 to obtain a form. The condition shall be satisfied by submitting to the County the completed yellow Lead Agency copy of the New Mining Operation Report form.
5. The General Plan User Fee of \$650 for Industrial Development must be paid to the Humboldt County Community Development Services Department.
6. The project shall comply with the requirements of CHERT, the US Army Corps of Engineers, NOAA Fisheries, US Department of Fish and Wildlife, California Department of Fish and Game, North Coast Air Quality Management District, Regional Water Quality Control Board and other County, State and Federal agencies having jurisdiction, including CalOSHA and MSHA, and shall submit written documentation to Community Development Services that the clearances from agencies have been obtained.

7. The project shall be consistent with the Streamside Management Area Ordinance and with the standards and policies set forth in the General Plan, Sensitive and Critical Habitats. Furthermore, no debris, soil, silt, or other such foreign substance shall be allowed to enter into or be placed where it may be washed by rainfall or runoff into waters of the State. When operations are completed, any excess materials or debris shall be removed from the work area
8. The Reclamation Plan and Plan of Operators shall be revised to incorporate the feasible recommendations set forth by the Department of Fish and Wildlife. These specifically are as follows:
 - A. The operational window shall be amended to be limited to September 16th through October 15th, with seasonal amendments to the operational window permitted only through consultation and final approval of both CDFW and County staff.
 - B. The Reclamation Plan shall be amended to include revegetation of the existing stockpile area with native riparian species.
9. The project shall be consistent with all mitigation measures as identified in the Mitigated Negative Declaration and Subsequent Mitigated Negative Declaration.
10. The project shall be consistent the requirements of the North Coast Unified Air Quality Management District, including the Asbestos Airborne Toxic Control Measure for Construction, Grading, Quarrying and Surface Mining Operations.
11. The terms of the Conditional Use/Surface Mining Permit and Reclamation Plan shall be fifteen (15) years. The applicant may renew the use permit and/or reclamation plan by submitting prior to expiration appropriate forms and fees in effect at the time of renewal.
12. The first 25 feet of the driveway off of Vinnum Road shall be paved.
13. Provide updated FAM yearly as required.
14. Follow the Inadvertent Discovery Protocol for cultural resources (see Informational Note #2 below).

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 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 environment, may require review by the Division of Mines and 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 fifteen (15) years. The applicant may renew the use permit and/or reclamation plan by submitting prior to expiration 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. The operator shall incorporate Best Management Practices and shall maintain erosion control and sedimentation measures as described in the Reclamation Plan and amendments thereto and as required by regulating agencies.

9. No new access roads shall be constructed without prior approvals.
10. No riparian vegetation shall be removed without prior approvals.
11. Hours of Operations shall typically be Monday through Saturday during daylight hours, generally 7:00 am to 6:00 pm; however, occasionally start up may occur as early as 6:30 am for specific jobs. These hours do not apply to emergency road repair situations. Extraction activities will occur between September 16 and November 1 to avoid the northern spotted owl and marbled murrelet nesting periods and to ensure completion of work before the winter rainy season. Crushing activities will occur between September 16 and February 1 to avoid nesting periods. Any substantial changes to the hours of operation or extraction periods shall be pre-approved by the Planning Department.
12. The terms of the Conditional Use Permit/Surface Mining Permit shall be fifteen (15) years. The applicant may renew the use permit by submitting appropriate documents and fees prior to the expiration date.
13. Operational noise levels and particulate settlement patterns shall be consistent with County standards and requirements of regulating agencies and shall be measured by the operator upon demand by the County Planning Director, as necessary, to verify that the project is operating at environmentally acceptable levels per Humboldt County Code.
14. The applicants shall secure and abide by all permits and agreements necessary for gravel operations.

Informational Notes

1. The applicant is responsible for receiving all necessary permits and/or approvals from other state and local agencies.
2. If cultural resources are encountered during construction, the contractor on site shall cease all work in the immediate area within a 50-foot buffer of the discovery location. A qualified archaeologist and the appropriate Tribal Historic Preservation Officer(s) are to be contacted to evaluate the discovery and, in consultation with the applicant and lead agency, develop a treatment plan in any instance where significant impacts cannot be avoided.

3. 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.

4. 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.
5. Building permits are required for all equipment structural pads/foundation buildings, and all structural concrete work (i.e., scales) that are not preexisting.
6. 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 site. If there are such discharges the applicant shall contact the Regional Water Quality Control Board for permitting requirements.
7. 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 and comply with the conditions of DEH.
8. If cultural resources are encountered during construction, the contractor on site shall cease all work in the immediate area within a 50-foot buffer of the discovery location. A qualified archaeologist and the appropriate Tribal Historic Preservation

Officer(s) are to be contacted to evaluate the discovery and, in consultation with the applicant and lead agency, develop a treatment plan in any instance where significant impacts cannot be avoided.

The Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) can provide information regarding the appropriate Tribal point(s) of contact for a specific area; the NAHC can be reached at 916-653-4082. Prehistoric materials may include obsidian or chert flakes, tools, locally darkened midden soils, groundstone artifacts, shellfish or faunal remains, and human burials. If human remains are found, California Health and Safety Code 7050.5 requires that the County Coroner be contacted immediately at 707-445-7242. If the Coroner determines the remains to be Native American, the NAHC will then be contacted by the Coroner to determine appropriate treatment of the remains pursuant to PRC 5097.98. Violators shall be prosecuted in accordance with PRC Section 5097.99.

PLAN OF OPERATION
Pacific Lumber Gravel Bar – Eel River at Dyerville
(Updated 3/3/2025)

Introduction

The project is extraction of gravel from the river bar for use in County road maintenance activities in the region. This permit renewal application proposes extraction of up to 28,000 cubic yards (cy) of gravel every 3 years, as frequently as annually, for 15 years.

Past Mining Activities

A surface mining permit was issued by the Planning Commission on January 5, 1992 (Permit #SMR-01-92/CUP-09-92) for the extraction of 28,000 cy of gravel from the bar every 3 years for 15 years. The Permit was renewed in 2007 for a further 15 years under the same terms.

Humboldt County Public Works (HCPW) has not performed an extraction at the site since 1994. However, permanent monitoring cross sections were established on the bar in 1996. These cross sections have been surveyed annually since that time.

Proposed Mining Activities

HCPW proposes to extract up to 28,000 cy of gravel every 3-5 years, as frequently as annually, over a period of 15 years.

Gravel Extraction

Skimming is the preferred extraction method for this site, based on extraction history and National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) recommendations. Other extraction methods that may be used for the site include narrow skim, trenching, horseshoe skim, alcove, and wetland pit methods. The volume, location and extraction method will be determined using the recommendations made by the County of Humboldt Extraction Review Team (CHERT) and the capabilities of the equipment used.

In the spring, CHERT will visit the site with HCPW staff to evaluate the availability of gravel, best location for an extraction, volume to be extracted, and type of extraction to perform. Following the CHERT site visit, a pre-extraction report will be prepared for CHERT and other participating regulatory agencies. Pre-extraction cross-sections will be surveyed and superimposed on an aerial photograph of the site. A discussion of the proposed extraction methodology will be included in the report, along with a work plan for the proposed action.

Upon approval of the pre-extraction report, and prior to extraction, survey cut stakes will be set throughout the extraction area to guide equipment and set boundaries for the operation.

The haul road to the extraction site will be the existing gravel bar access/haul road on the west side of the bar, and the shortest route on the bar from the access/haul road to the extraction area.

Equipment used for the extraction will consist of a bulldozer, front-end loader and dump trucks. The bar will be accessed via the designated haul road. Working within the pre-set cut stakes, the bulldozer will remove gravel from the area and create temporary piles on the bar. The front-end loader will load the piled gravel into dump trucks for transport to the existing established stockpile location for processing.

Gravel extraction activities will be conducted between September 16 and November 1 to avoid the northern spotted owl and marbled murrelet nesting periods, and ensure completion of work before the winter rainy season. The work period for each extraction will be approximately two to three weeks.

Dust control measures will consist of watering the access road, haul road, and extraction area(s) as needed with a water truck using an offsite water source or drafting from a temporary hole dug in the bar away from the low-flow channel.

Following completion of the extraction, the extraction area will be reclaimed according to permit requirements and CHERT recommendations. This includes grading the entire extraction area to drain freely and filling in depressions. Temporary stockpiles will be removed from the bar. Haul roads on the bar will be scarified to reduce compaction. Post-extraction cross-sections will also be surveyed.

Gravel Processing

A portable crusher assembly, consisting of a jaw crusher, conveyors, and a generator trailer will be temporarily located adjacent to the existing stockpile area. Gravel from the bar will be transported to the crusher via dump truck and/or front-end loader. Crushed rock will be stockpiled on-site, or transported to another storage facility or construction site. Crushing activities will take place between September 16 and November 1 to avoid nesting periods for northern spotted owls and marbled murrelets. Once crushing activities are completed, the crusher assembly will be dismantled and removed from the area.

Traffic Control

Traffic control will consist of placing warning signs along Dyerville Loop Road on both sides of the stockpile/gravel bar access road. It will not be necessary to detour traffic, or restrict vehicles to one lane. Minor traffic delays may occur as vehicles slow down when they encounter trucks entering or exiting Dyerville Loop Road from the stockpile access road. Delays will be temporary, ending when extraction and reclamation activities are completed and trucks/equipment leave the area.

Monitoring and Reporting Activities

Monitoring will consist of surveying the pre-established monitoring cross sections as required by the permitting agencies, with results submitted to the Corps of Engineers and NMFS. Following permit expiration or final closure of the site, no subsequent monitoring will be performed.

Reclamation

Interim Management During Idle Periods

Mining operations at the Pacific Lumber bar at Dyerville have been idle since 1995. There is an Interim Management Plan (IMP) in place and interim measures from the plan

have been implemented. These measures include regular site inspections, annual monitoring cross section surveys, and maintaining limited access to the bar.

Final Reclamation

Following the final extraction the bar will be reclaimed and all equipment removed. The area around the extraction will be graded to fill in depressions. Equipment and temporary stockpiles will be removed from the bar, and the haul roads will be scarified to reduce compaction.

No changes to the existing, approved Reclamation Plan are proposed. No substantial changes in mining or reclamation activities will occur during the proposed renewal period. State Mining and Geology Board Reclamation Regulations, Article 1 §3502(d) states "An amended reclamation plan shall be approved by the lead agency prior to commencement of activities determined to be a substantial deviation from the approved plan." A substantial deviation includes changes to the operation that substantially affect completion of the previously approved reclamation plan or changes in the end use that would substantially change the scope of reclamation. While an extension of the termination date of mining is proposed, no substantial increase in surface area, volume to be extracted, or changes in the operation that would substantially affect end use will occur.

Financial Assurances

The current financial assurance is included as an attachment to the permit renewal packet. No other changes to these amounts are proposed as no changes to the approved Reclamation Plan are proposed.

APPENDIX B

RECLAMATION PLAN
Pacific Lumber Company Gravel Bar

SECTION I. GENERAL INFORMATION

Project Name: Pacific Lumber Company Gravel Bar, Eel River near Dyerville

Estimated Annual Production: 1,000 cubic yards. Up to 25,000 cubic yards every three to five years.

Proposed Start-up Date: June 1993

Proposed Termination Date: 2007

Operator: Humboldt County Public Works Department
Road Division
1106 Second Street
Eureka, CA 95501
(707) 445-7421

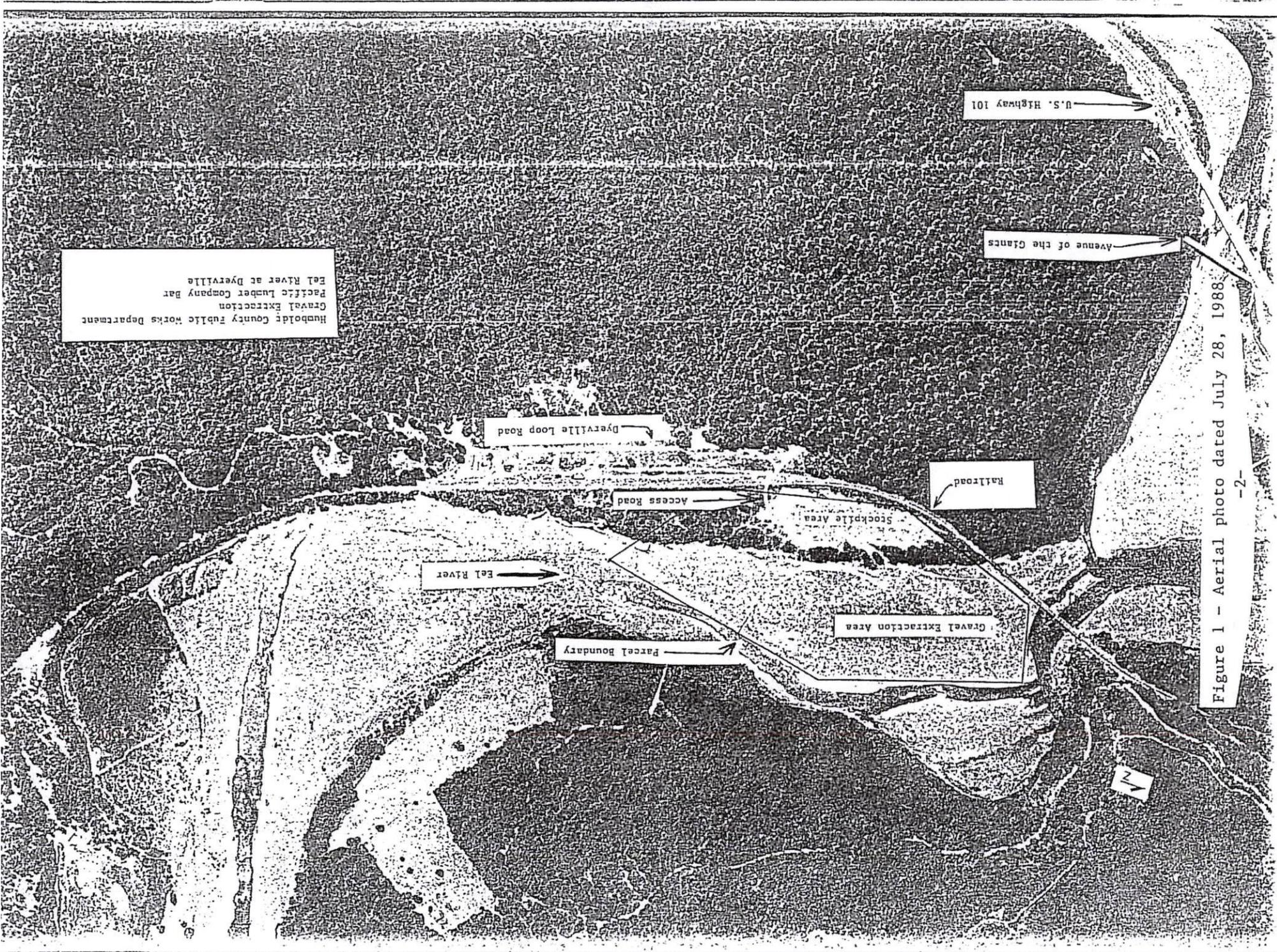
Owner/Surface Rights: Pacific Lumber Company
125 Main Street
Scotia, CA 95565
(707) 764-2222

Location: AP#211-141-03
Township, Range, Section: T1S, R2E, S26
Base and Meridian: Humboldt

SECTION II. DESCRIPTION OF ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING

Wild & Scenic River Designation: The project area on the Eel River is included under the California Wild & Scenic Rivers System. The California Wild & Scenic Rivers Act (SB 107) of December 20, 1972, declares it is the policy of the State of California to preserve the river in its free-flowing state together with its immediate environment for the benefit and enjoyment of the people of the State. Use of the river as wild and scenic is declared to be the highest and most beneficial use, and a reasonable and beneficial use of water within the meaning of the California Constitution.

The project area is designated or classified as a recreational section of the wild river. No dam, reservoir, diversion or other water impoundment facility other than temporary flood storage facilities can be constructed on this river in this area. In regard to the streambed alteration agreement, the State Attorney General has held that the Department of Fish & Game is prohibited from entering into these agreements in any case where the agreement would alter the natural condition of the river (60 Ops. Cal. Atty. Gen. for [1977]).



Humboldt County Public Works Department
Gravel Extraction
Pacific Lumber Company Bar
Eel River at DyerVillage

U.S. Highway 101

Avenue of the Giants

Railroad

Gravel Extraction Area

Stockpile Area

Access Road

DyerVillage Loop Road

Eel River

Parcel Boundary

Figure 1 - Aerial photo dated July 28, 1988

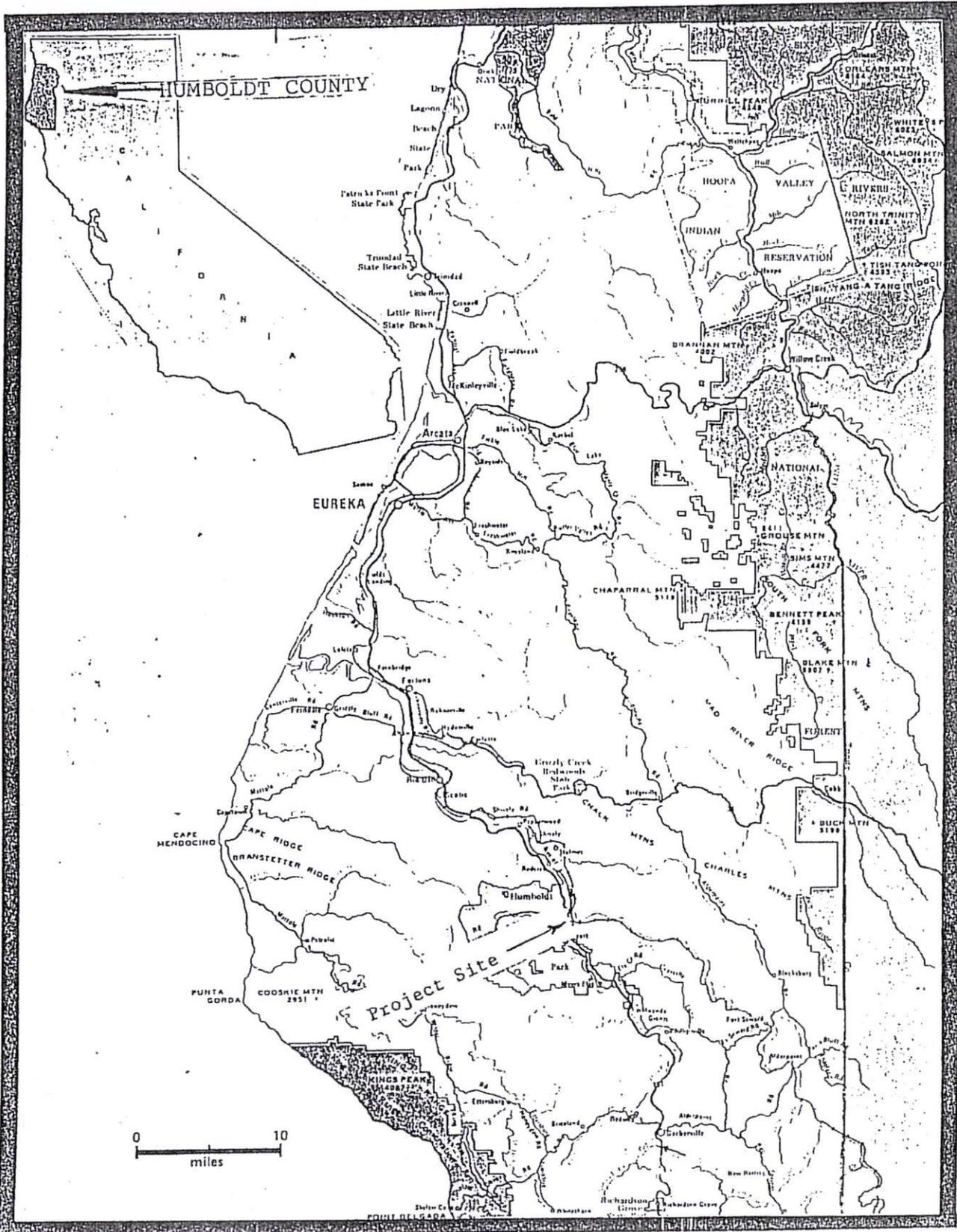


Figure 2 - Regional Map

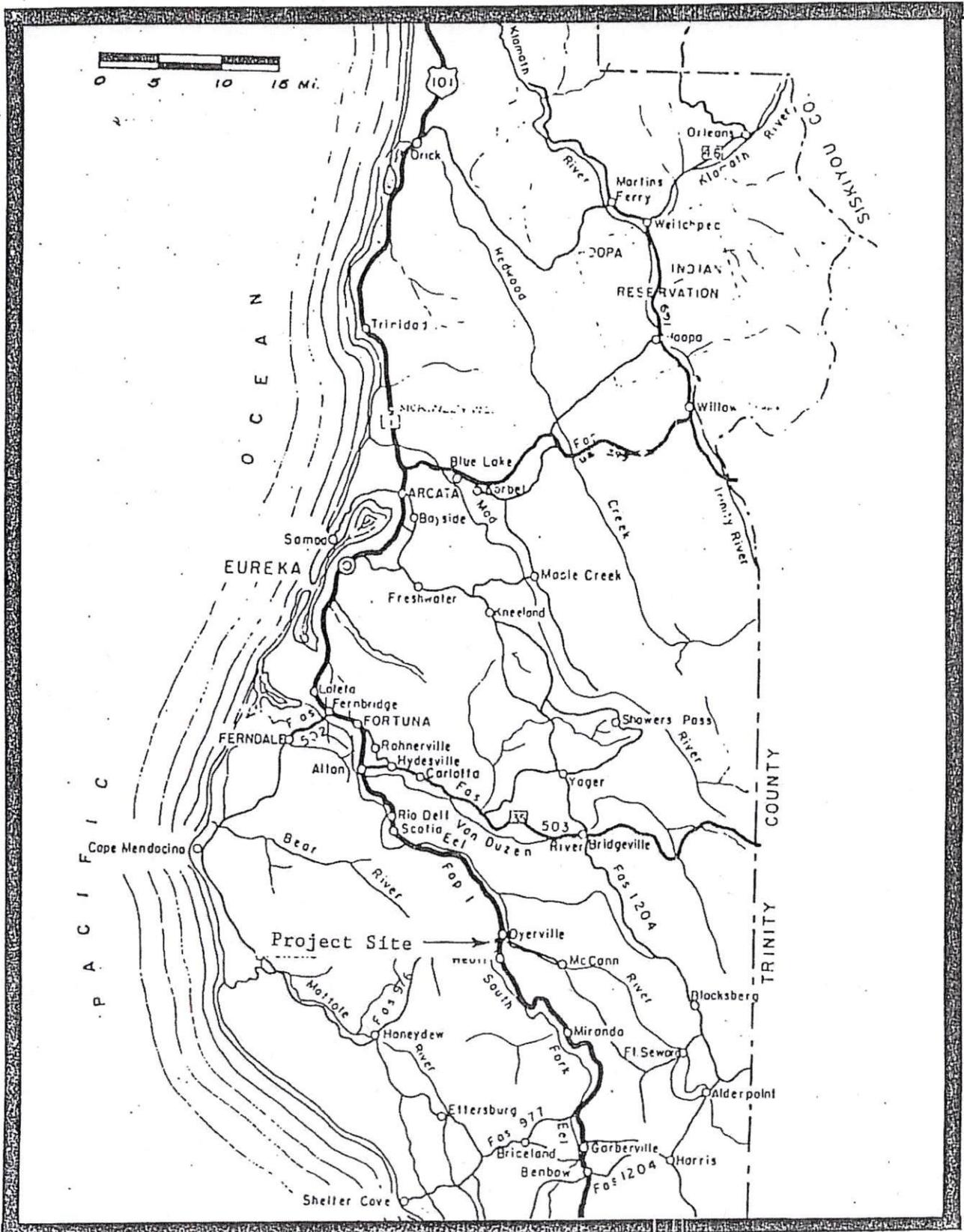


Figure 3 - Humboldt County showing project site at Dyerville.

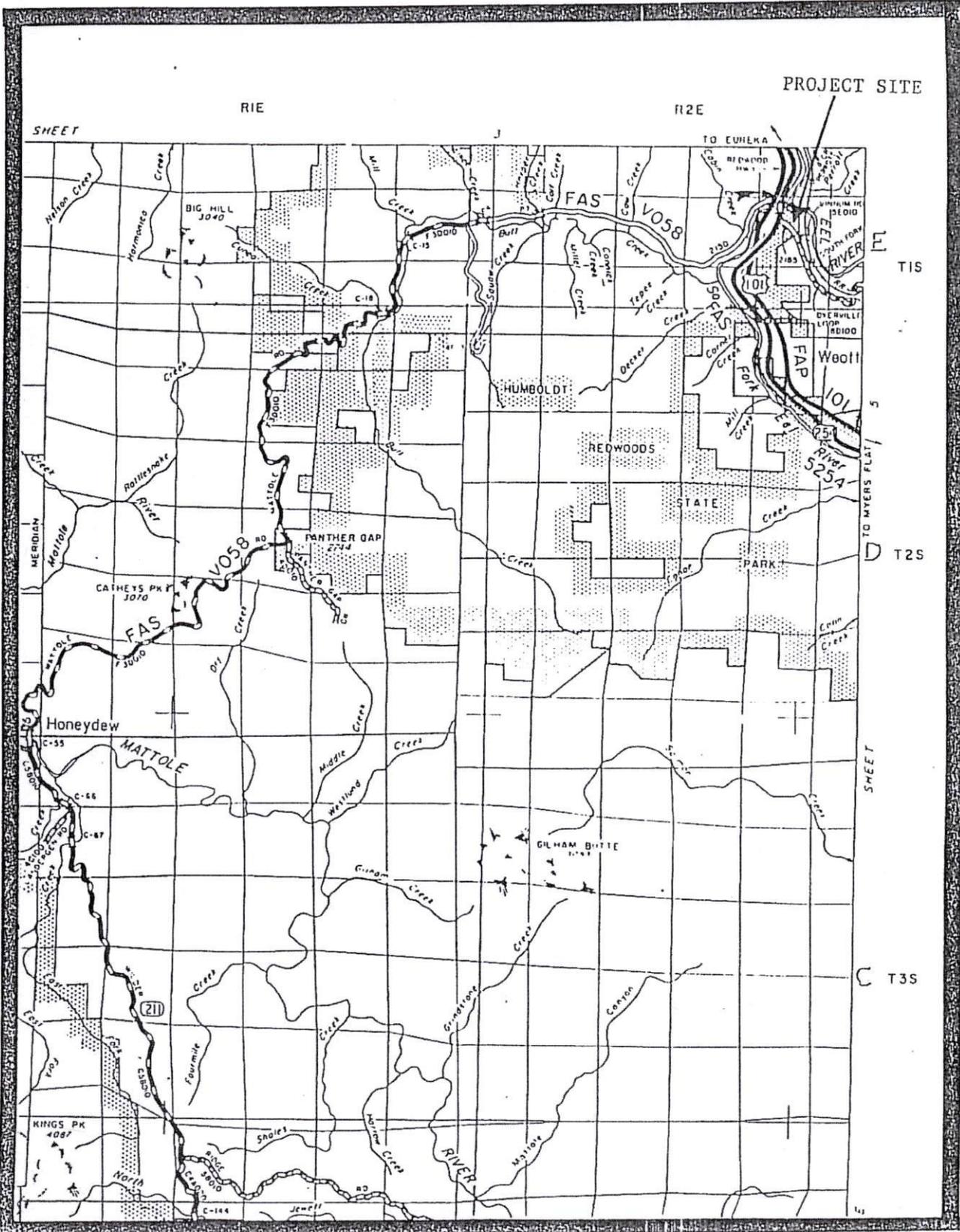


Figure 4 - Portion of County road map showing project site at Dyerville.
Scale 1" = 2 Miles.

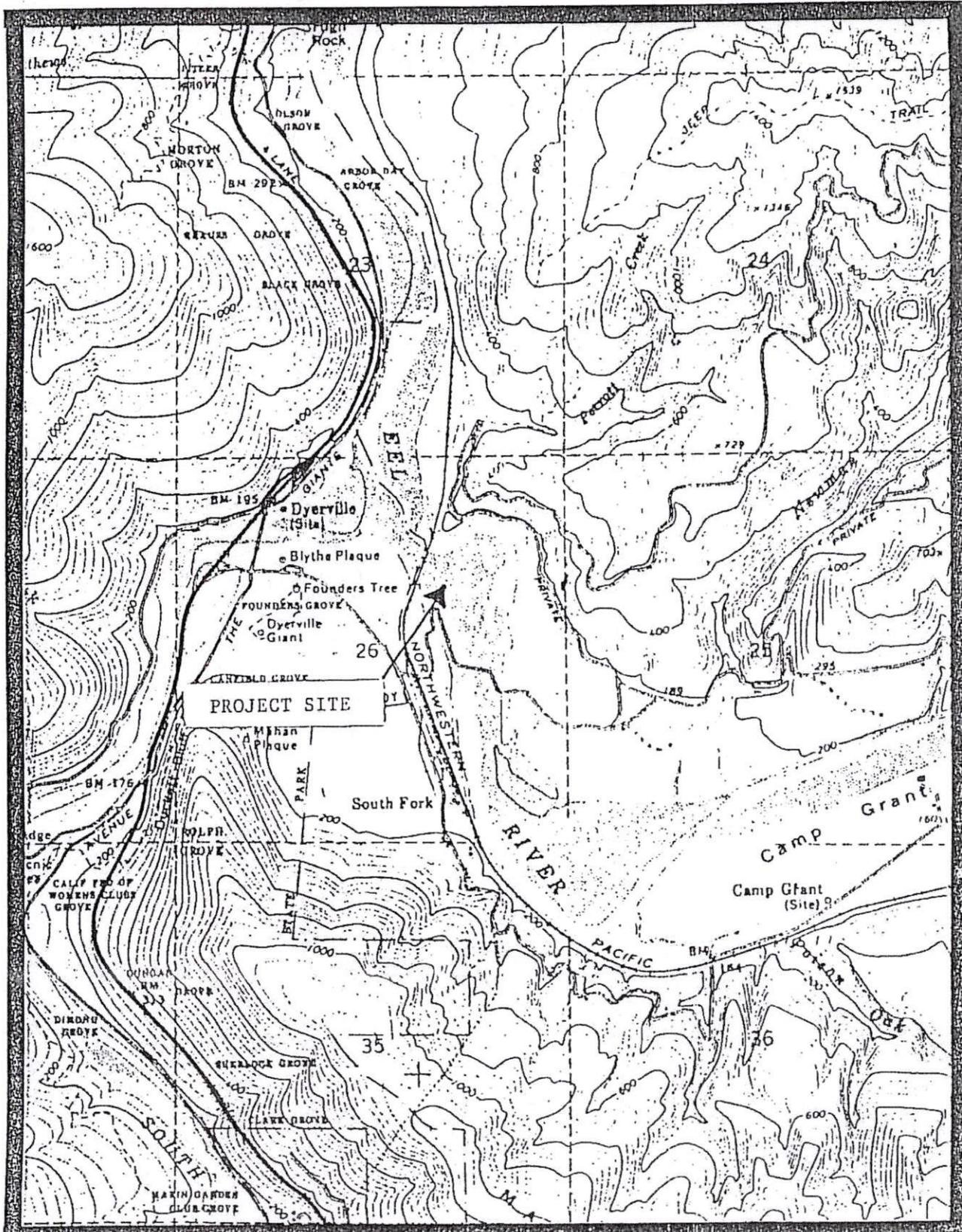


Figure 5 - Portion of 7 1/2 Minute USGS Weott Quadrangle map.
Scale 1" = 2,000'.

Vegetation: The Inventory of Rare and Endangered Vascular Plants, published by the California Native Plant Society in 1975, did not show any rare or endangered species at this site.

The California Department of Fish & Game was consulted with regard to the presence of rare and endangered plants or animals. That department reported that their Natural Diversity Data Base showed no rare or endangered species at the project location as of August 14, 1991.

As a result of the lack of scouring floods during the past six years, the bar currently supports growth of wild dill, star thistle, dandelion, mustard and a few willows. The area of the river terrace up out of the floodplain on which the stockpiles are to be placed is unvegetated.

The proposed site lies in close proximity to Humboldt Redwoods State Park which contains both old growth and second growth redwood trees. The land across the river from the gravel bar has been logged and currently supports second growth redwood and douglas fir trees.

Wildlife: None was observed during the site visits by Public Works personnel. However, it would be expected that the bar would be traversed by various mammals, primarily from dusk to dawn. It would be anticipated that various species of song birds would nest in the trees and shrubs on the perimeter of the terrace. This area probably supports some small mammals, reptiles, amphibians and invertebrates, as well. Economically important species of fish reported from this area of the Main Eel River include king and silver salmon, and steelhead trout.

In addition to the negative report of rare or endangered species obtained from the California Department of Fish & Game's Natural Diversity Data Base, a request was made to that department with regard to the presence of Northern Spotted Owls. California Department of Fish & Game searched their Northern Spotted Owl Data Base System and reported no known observation records at the proposed site as of April 25, 1991.

Hydrology: The project site is located on the bed of the Main Stem Eel River just above the confluence with the South Fork of the Eel River. The nearest active gaging station is located about 12 miles downstream at Scotia. This station has a drainage area of 3,113 square miles including the 690 square miles of the South Fork. Flow data has been recorded at this station since 1910. The average annual flow as reported in the USGS Water-Data Report Ca-8202, published in 1984, was 7,336 cfs. The range of flows from June through September 1982 were from 119 to 1,640 cfs. These flows include that portion derived from the 690 square miles drainage area of the South Fork Eel River which represents about 22% of the total flow. Subtracting this 22% from the above data produces an average annual flow of 5,745 cfs with the 1982 summer range being 92 to 1,279 cfs.

Geology: The types of rock and strata affecting the Dyerville site are composed of four geologic formations. The predominant formation located to the north, southeast and virtually surrounding the area is Upper Cretaceous marine sedimentary of the Yager formation composed of dark gray mudstone, shale, graywacke and conglomerate. To the east, within the watershed of influence, can be found middle and/or lower Pliocene marine sedimentary rocks of the Eel River formation which are composed of dark gray to black mudstone, silt stone, and glauconitic sandstone. To the south, outcrops of Tertiary Marine Sedimentary rocks of the Wildcat group can be found. These are composed of mudstone, siltstone, and sandstone. The streambed runs through Quaternary Non-Marine Terrace deposits of gravel, sand and clay of the Rohnerville formation.

Description of the Gravel Bar: The current gravel bar measures 600 feet wide at its widest point and 2,000 feet long resulting in a total surface area of 20± acres. It slopes down along most of its length at an average slope of 3% towards the low flow channel. There are no secondary channels nor noticeable depressions.

Noise Levels: Ambient noise levels range from 40 to 60 dBA and are the result of vehicular traffic, wind, water and wildlife. In addition, the site is subject to periodic noise resulting from the trains which utilize the tracks that run parallel to it and the State park. This railroad has been in existence since 1914. It presently operates two freight trains daily, Tuesday through Saturday, past this site.

Archaeological and Historical Resources: The archaeological site maps contained in the Environmental Data Bank were checked and revealed no known or recorded archaeological resources at this specific site.

Visual Aesthetics: The stockpile area is not visible from Dyerville Loop Road, nor is the bar. However, the bar is visible from an 800 foot stretch of the Avenue of the Giants and Highway 101, 2,000 feet northwest of its north boundary.

Recreation: The proposed site is adjacent to Humboldt Redwoods State Park. The terrace upon which the crusher will be placed is 2,200 feet from the nearest park rest area and the trail to the fallen giant. Vehicular noise from the Avenue of the Giants and Highway 101, which are 400 to 500 feet from the State park rest area and the trail to the fallen giant, was recorded on June 2, 1992 and ranged from 48 to 59 dBA. These measurements were taken within the rest area parking lot and on the trail in front of Founder's tree.

SECTION III. DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED MINING OPERATION

The Humboldt County Public Works Department has a borrow agreement with Pacific Lumber Company, owner of this site, for the annual removal of 1,000 cubic yards of material. Every three to five years, 25,000 cubic yards will be removed and crushed.

It is proposed that operations at this site in any given year would begin on or about June 1st and cease no later than September 30th or sooner if high water occurred earlier than expected.

The location where operations will take place is shown on Figures 1-5. Since access to the site is via an existing haul road, there is no need to remove any vegetation. Gravel will be extracted by skimming an area equal to approximately 4.5 acres to a depth of three to four feet. The equipment which will be used includes: D-6 caterpillar, front-end loader, 10-yard dump trucks and portable crusher.

In those years when no crushing is done, skimmed material will be loaded directly into 10-yard dump trucks and transported to a job site. The area involved in skimming 1,000 cubic yards will be less than one acre to a depth of one foot or less.

Every three to five years, 25,000 cubic yards will be removed and trucked to the portable crusher which will be installed on the terrace above the river. If necessary to control dust from the crusher operation, a water truck will be brought to the site to provide a water spray. The crushed material will be stockpiled on the terrace until needed.

SECTION IV. DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED RECLAMATION

Reclamation will be accomplished each year gravel removal operations occur. Since the present allowable dates for operation run from June 1st to September 30th, per Department of Fish & Game requirement, with a two week period for reclamation after September 30th, any required reclamation will be accomplished by October 14th.

Reclamation will consist of smoothing the skimmed portion of the bar to eliminate sharp edges and holes and to leave the bar with a slope towards the channel. This will preclude the trapping of fish by rising and falling water levels during the winter as well as erosion and undercutting of the bar. Any compacted areas will be scarified using the ripper on the back of a bulldozer.

The proposed subsequent use for the mined land is open space and flood plain. There is no requirement for resoiling or revegetation of the mined area.

At the conclusion of seasonal operations, the Road Division will make sure that no machinery, waste material, scrap iron, toxic substances or any other type of solid waste resulting from the mining operation remains on-site.

The proposed reclamation will have no effect on the potential for future mining at this site. Such potential will be determined by replenishment of the bar via normal bedload transport during the heavy winter flow(s) with the concurrence of the Department of Fish & Game.

In the years when the crusher is used at this site and removal exceeds 5,000 cubic yards, an aerial photograph with a scale of 1" = 400' will be provided. This photograph will show parcel lines, work location, and cross-section locations. The cross-sections will be tied to permanent bench marks above the 100-year flood plain and will be accomplished before and after extraction in order to calculate the volume of gravel removed.

It should be noted that this plan details the reclamation proposed to erase the results of removing gravel from this site by the Humboldt County Public Works Department and is not intended to include the activities of any other gravel removal operator. At the conclusion of reclamation each year, photos will be taken to verify the condition of the site at the time of departure of the County Public Works Department personnel.

With regard to Assurance of Reclamation, it should be noted that the County Planning Department is the lead agency in issuing a Conditional Use Permit to the County Public Works Department for this mining operation. Because both of these agencies are within the government of Humboldt County, the Public Works Department feels that a signed statement included in this Reclamation Plan is sufficient to guarantee that the Reclamation Plan will be implemented.

The following signed statement is included in the Reclamation Plan as required by SMARA (PRC) Section 2772(j):

"I, John Murray, Director of Public Works, hereby accept the responsibility for reclaiming the lands involved with the removal of gravel from the river bar named on page 1 of this Reclamation Plan in accordance with the provisions of this Reclamation Plan."

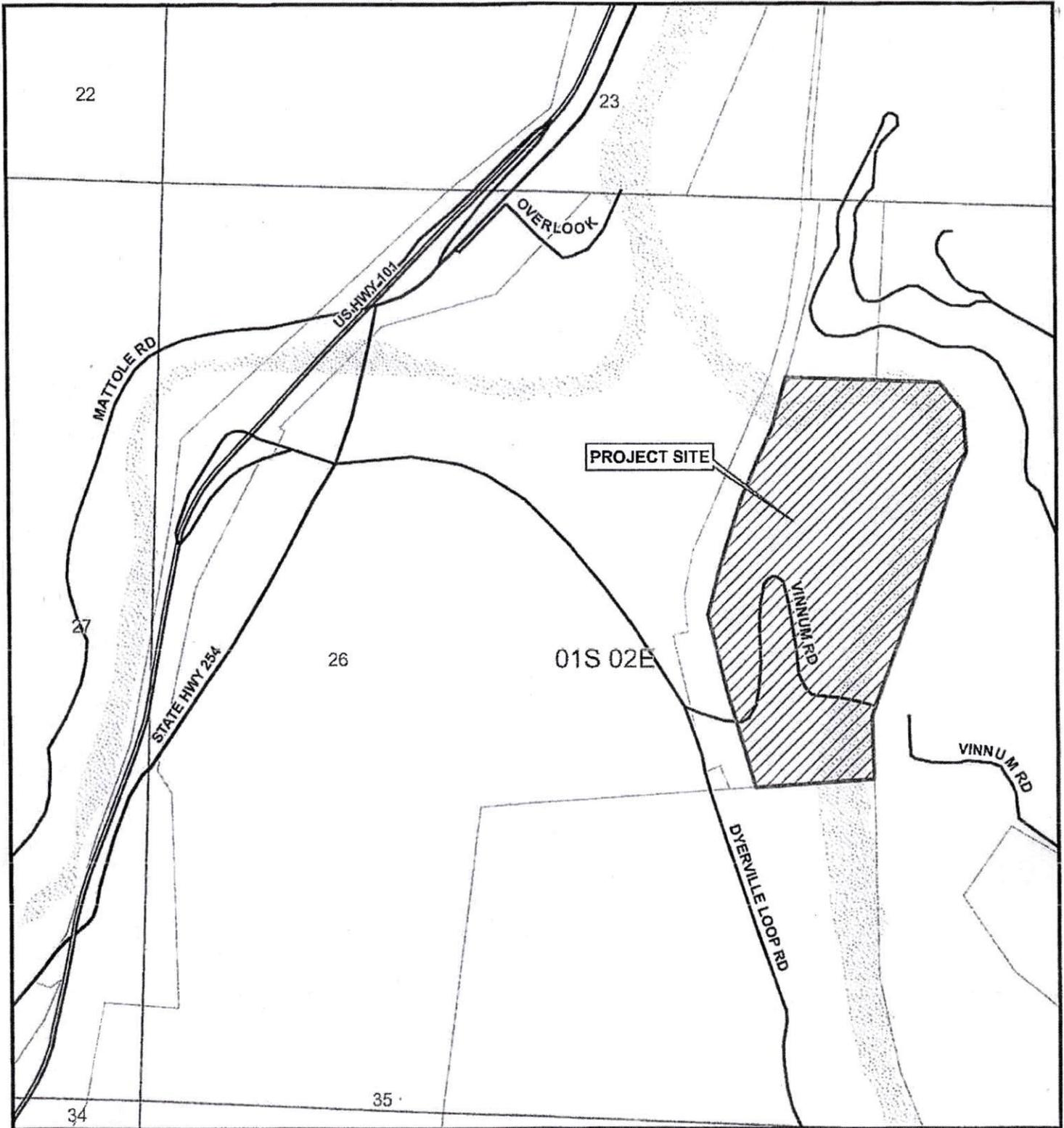
JOHN MURRAY
DIRECTOR

DATE

APPROVED:

LEAD AGENCY REPRESENTATIVE

DATE



LOCATION MAP

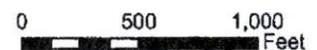
**PROPOSED HUMBOLDT COUNTY
DEPT. OF PUBLIC WORKS
SURFACE MINING RECLAMATION
WEOTT AREA**

SMR-01-92X/CUP-02-92X

APN: 211-141-03

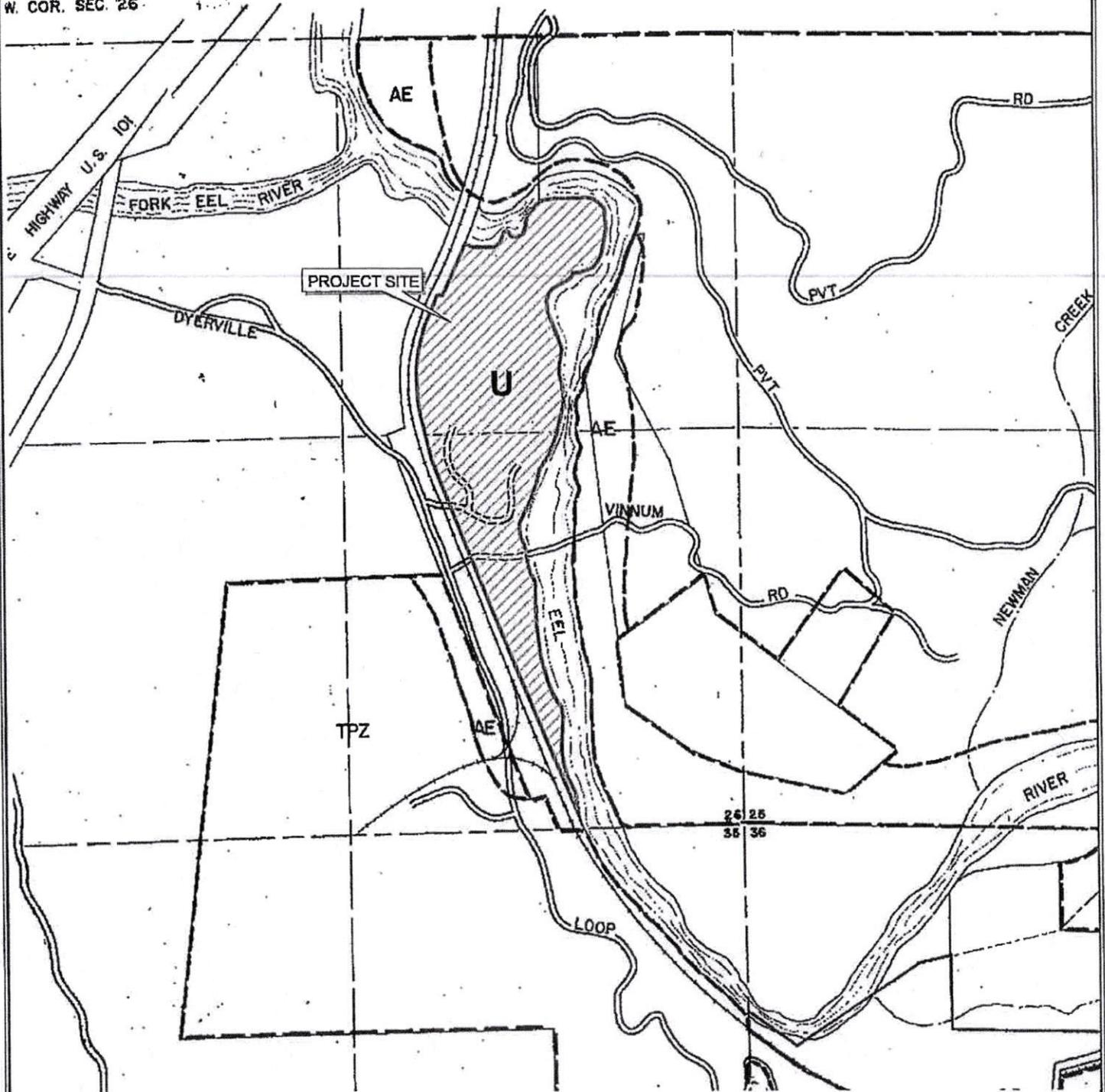
T01S R02E S26 H B & M

Project Site = 



T.1S. - R.2E.

W. COR. SEC. 26



PROJECT SITE = 

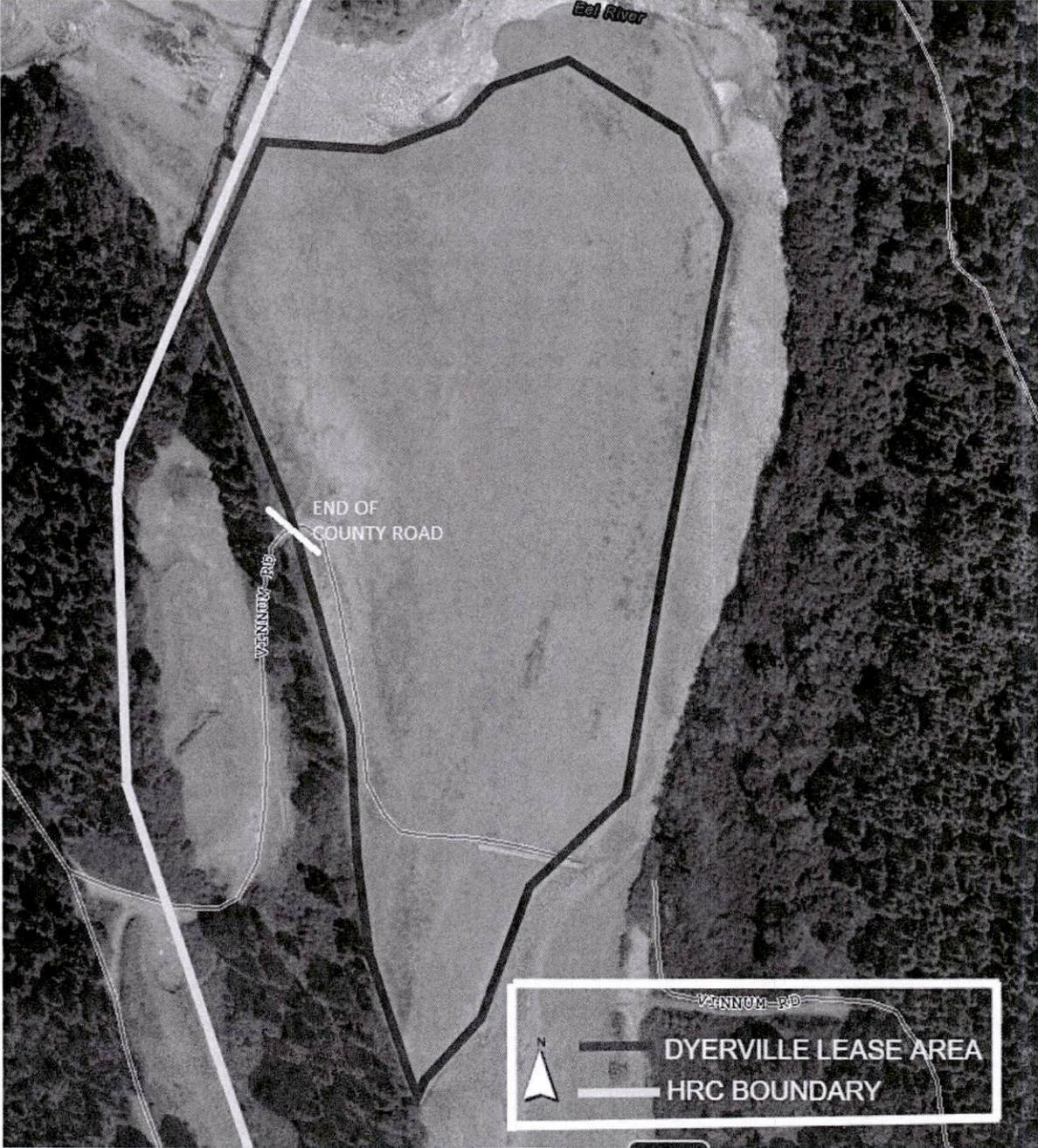
ZONING MAP

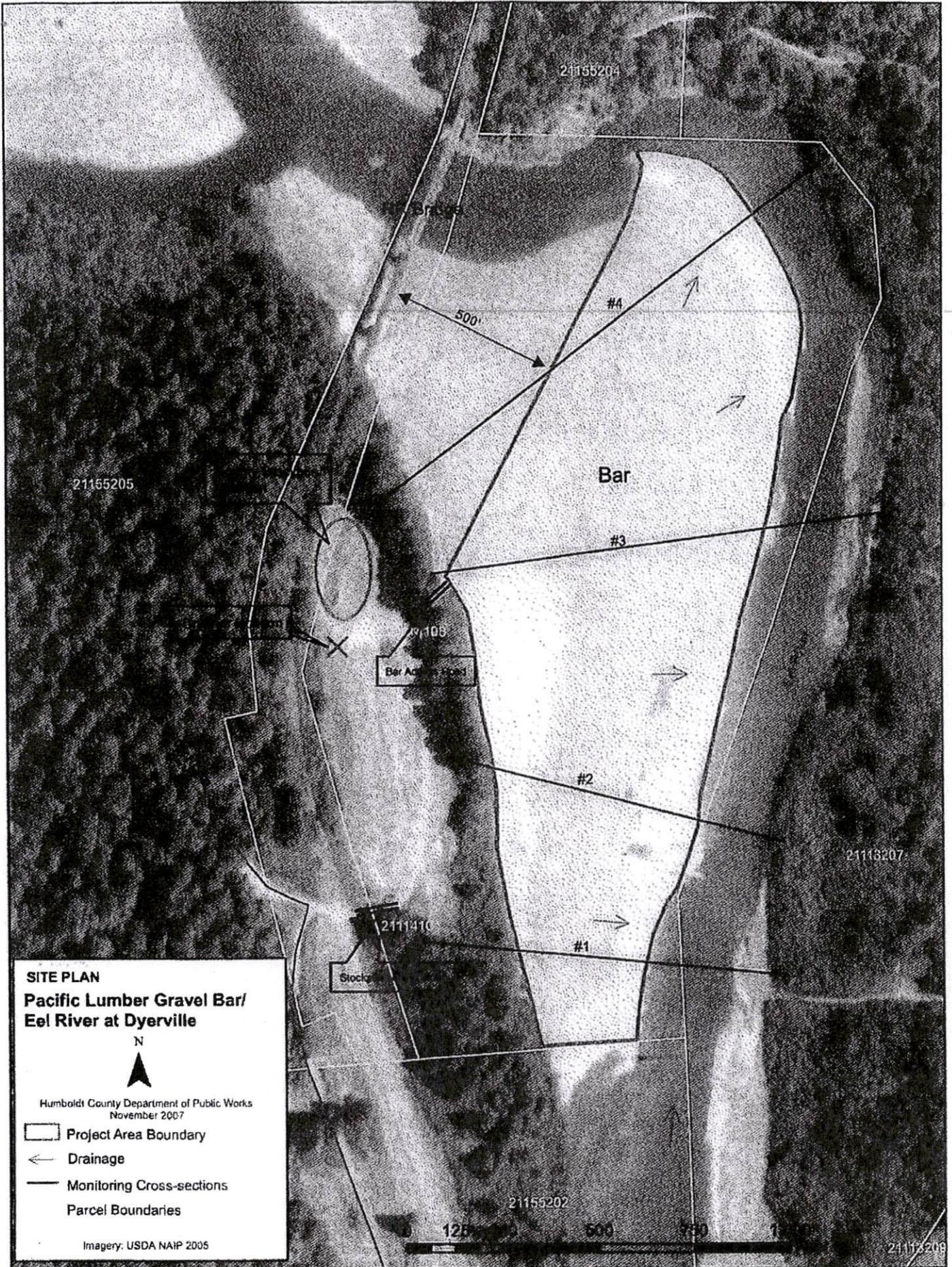
**PROPOSED HUMBOLDT COUNTY
 DEPT. OF PUBLIC WORKS
 SURFACE MINING RECLAMATION
 WEOTT AREA
 SMR-01-92X/CUP-02-92X
 APN: 211-141-03
 T01S R02E S26 H B & M**



MAP NOT TO SCALE

EXHIBIT A





SITE PLAN
Pacific Lumber Gravel Bar/
Eel River at Dyerville

N

Humboldt County Department of Public Works
 November 2007

Project Area Boundary
 Drainage
 Monitoring Cross-sections
 Parcel Boundaries

Imagery: USDA NAIP 2005

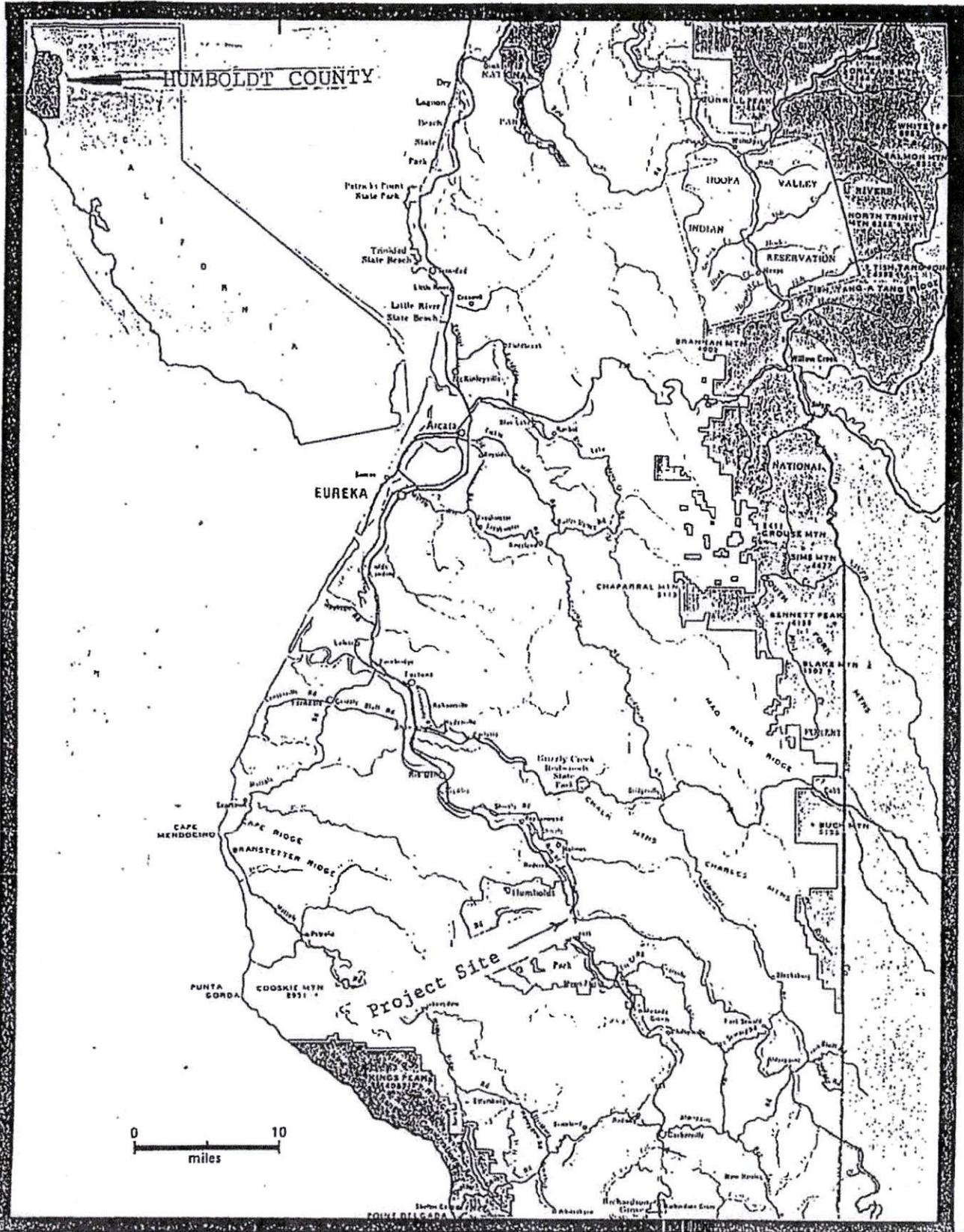


Figure 2 - Regional Map

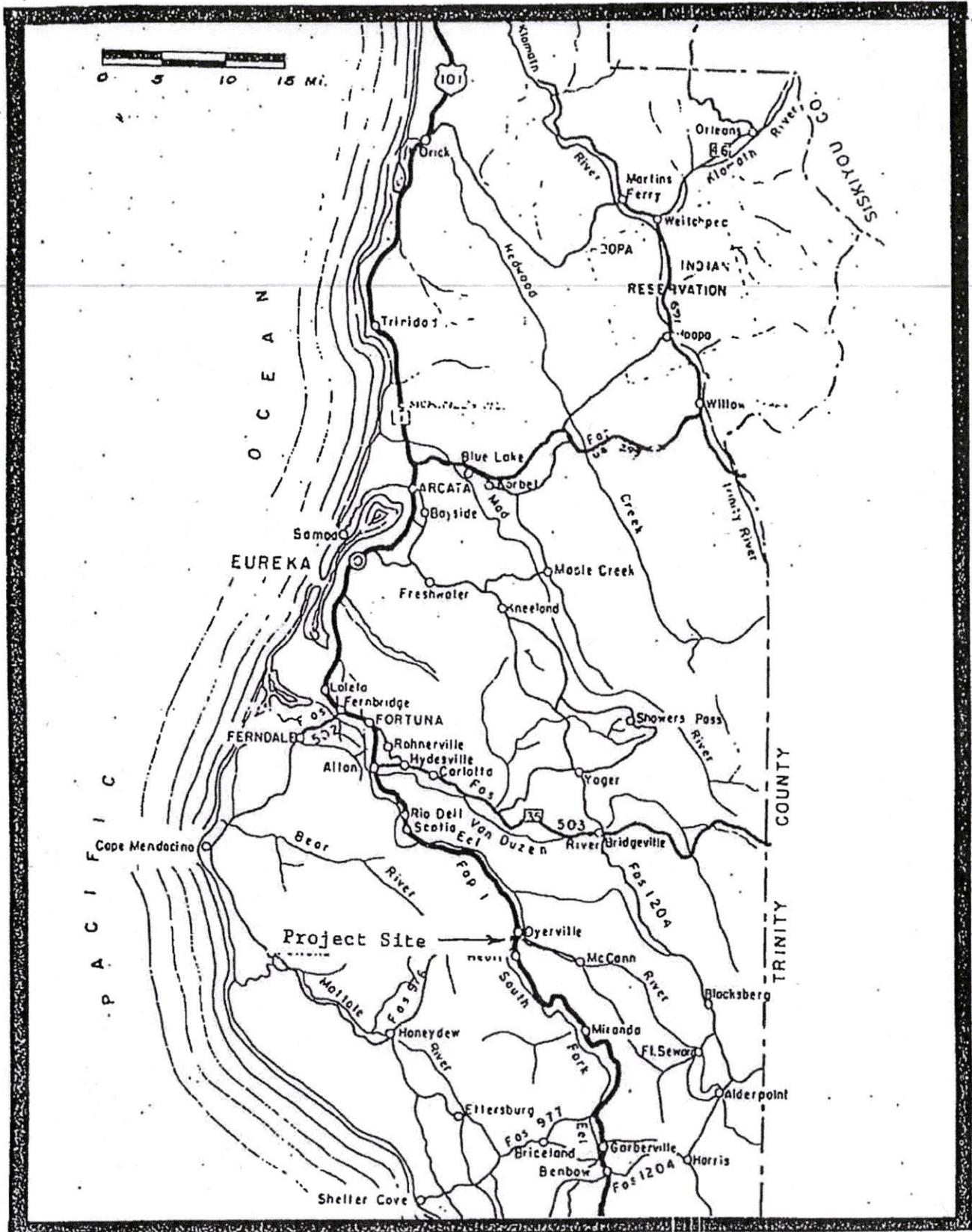


Figure 3 - Humboldt County showing project site at Dyerville.