

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

**Resolution Number 26-**

**Record Number PLN-2025-19450**

**Assessor's Parcel Numbers: 205-031-049**

**Making the required findings for certifying compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act and conditionally approving the Monument Quarry 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 Monument Quarry Conditional Use/Mining Permit and Reclamation Plan CUP-10-11/SMP-10-04/RP10-04); and

**WHEREAS**, the Humboldt County Planning Division has reviewed the submitted application, PLN-2025-19450, 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 reapproval of the quarry on January 6<sup>th</sup>, 2011. 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 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 March 19, 2026, 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:** A Conditional Use Permit (CUP) for a surface mining operation known as the Monument Quarry for the extraction of gravel from the quarry for use on County roads, for emergency and maintenance activities in the region. The proposed extraction is a total of 35,000 cubic yards over the life of the permit. Mining may consist of a single 25,000 cubic yard extraction, or smaller extractions, as frequently as annually, totaling 35,000 cubic yards over 15 years. This is a re-approval of CUP-10-11/SMP-10-04 that has expired.

**EVIDENCE:** a) Project File: PLN-2025-19450

**2. FINDING:** **CEQA:** A Mitigated Negative Declaration was adopted with the reapproval of the quarry on January 6<sup>th</sup>, 2011. 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.

**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 of December 2025 shows no violations or other issues. The site has been

infrequently mined by the Humboldt County Department of Public Works since 1955.

**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 on a parcel zoned Timber (T) under the Current General Plan. The Timber designation is a resource production land use designation and quarrying 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 on a parcel that is zoned Timber Production Zone (TPZ). These land designations are resource production designations. The TPZ designation is 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.

**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 Timber Production Zone 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.

- b) The remainder of the property is utilized for livestock grazing and timber production.

**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 or winterized after each mining season. The operation is in conformance with all required setbacks and zoning restrictions and will be required to be inspected by Humboldt County year.

- b) Each fall prior to the commencement of winter rains, the site is inspected for inefficiencies regarding stormwater management. The inspection includes examining the quarry floor to assure that it is graded to control stormwater and divert sheet-flow towards the center of the site. A saturation trench, constructed at the toe of the quarry face facilitates percolation and evaporation of onsite stormwater.

- c) The quarry floor is ripped (decompacted) to break up hardpan associated with vehicle and equipment traffic. Ripping to decompact soil and facilitate percolation.

**8. FINDING:** The proposed development conforms with state regulations ensuring the financial assurances under Public Resource Code Section 2773.1 of the Surface Mining and Reclamation Act.

**EVIDENCE:** a) The proposed development has been in conformance of this act in regard to financial assurances since the original permit was granted in 1995.

- b) The most recent Financial Assurance Mechanism was granted

under Resolution 25-120 by the Humboldt County Board of Supervisors on June 24, 2025, as a Pledge of Revenue.

**9. 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 of December 2025 shows no violations or other issues.

**10. 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 in a rural portion of Humboldt County. The parcel is approximately 313.5 acres in size, while the quarry area is approximately 4.5 acres. The use of this site as a surface mining operations 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 Monument Quarry 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 **April 2, 2026**.

The motion was made by COMMISSIONER \_\_\_\_\_ and second by COMMISSIONER \_\_\_\_\_ and the following vote:

AYES:        COMMISSIONERS:  
 NOES:        COMMISSIONERS:  
 ABSENT:     COMMISSIONERS:  
 ABSTAIN:    COMMISSIONERS:  
 DECISION:

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.

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John H. Ford, Director  
 Planning and Building Department