

**CONDITIONS OF APPROVAL**  
**PLN-2025-19190**

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. 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.
4. The General Plan User Fee of \$650 for Industrial Development must be paid to the Humboldt County Community Development Services Department.
5. The project shall comply with the requirements of 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, and other County, State and Federal agencies having jurisdiction, and shall submit written documentation to Community Development Services that the clearances from agencies have been obtained.
6. 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.

7. The project shall incorporate all Mitigation Measures as identified in the Subsequent Mitigated Negative Declaration.
8. The driveway shall be paved for the first 25 feet along Bell Springs Road.
9. Follow the Inadvertent Discovery Protocol for cultural resources (see Informational Note #5 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 Office of Mine Reclamation 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. The operator shall maintain a berm and other erosion control and sedimentation measures as described in the Reclamation Plan and supplemental thereto.
9. The floor of the working and staging areas shall slope a minimum of 2% into the working face to contain runoff water on site.
10. No new access roads shall be constructed without prior approvals.
11. No riparian vegetation shall be removed without prior approvals.
12. Hours of Operations from February 1 through September 15 will be restricted to daylight hours, starting at least two hours after sunrise and ending at least two hours before sunset. These hours do not apply to emergency road repair situations. Any substantial changes to the hours of operation shall be pre-approved by the Planning Department.
13. Blasting, if applicable, shall be restricted between the hours 9:00 am to 4:00 pm, Monday through Friday, with no blasting on Saturday, or as specified in Condition 12 above, whichever is the more restrictive. The applicant shall be responsible for providing 24-hour advance notice of any blasting to all interested parties who have previously requested, in writing, such advance notice.
14. Operations shall be consistent with County noise standards. Operational noise levels and particulate settlement patterns shall be measured by the applicant on demand by the County Planning Director, as necessary, to verify that the project is operating at environmentally acceptable levels per Humboldt County Code.
15. The applicants shall secure and abide by all permits and agreements necessary for gravel operations.
16. The project shall comply with the requirements of the US Army Corps of Engineers, NOAA Fisheries, US Department of Fish and Wildlife, California Department of Fish and Game, North Coast Unified Air Quality Management District, North Coast

Regional Water Quality District, including Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan as required, and other County, State and Federal agencies having jurisdiction, and shall submit written documentation to Community Development Services that the clearances from agencies have been obtained.

17. The project shall be consistent with the Project Description, Site Plan, Plan of Operations, Reclamation Plan and Mitigation Measures as approved by the Planning Commission. Modification to the project requires review and approval by the Planning Department.
18. Follow the Inadvertent Discovery Protocol for cultural resources (see Informational Note #5 below).

**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 quarry site. If there are such discharges the applicant shall contact the Regional Water Quality Control Board for permitting requirements.
5. 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.