

Stoneman Forestry Services

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July 5, 2023

Cliff Johnson
Planning Manager
County of Humboldt Planning & Building Dept.
3015 H Street
Eureka, CA 95501

RE: Wetland Assessment for APN-304-071-108

It has been brought to our attention that the above reference parcel has a tentative wetland delineation as indicated by a Technical Memorandum prepared by Miles Hartnett of GRD, dated September 7, 2022. The area in question is the old Turner Ranch 'boneyard' that was well established prior to property purchase by Slack and Winzler Properties, LLC. Under Turner's ownership this was a constructed road access and graded bench area that was used for decades to store old ranch equipment and ranch sundries such as fence wire, post, pipes, etc. Said area could be accessed year-round but was limited during wet periods due to it only being a native soil road running surface.

The property has been harvested a few times in the 20th century and has a well-established seasonal access road that runs from the property entrance off Elk River Road to the top of the ridge. In 2010 the 44 acre timber tract was once again selectively harvested. During that activity the ephemeral Class III watercourse at crossing points #1 and #2 (see attached map) were reestablished as rock armored ford crossings with the crossing approaches rocked as well. During ford installation, road reconstruction, and rock surfacing conducted with the last harvest entry in 2010 a few cutbank seeps were intercepted. Though the road had proper drainage installed for post-harvest erosion control, the location of the cutbank seepage was not fully recognized at the time of weatherization with use of inboard ditching to direct the seasonal seep to the appropriate crossing points at #1 and #2. Instead, these seeps have been allowed to flow onto the road running surface, and onto the rocked surface as well, creating a seasonally saturated surface in areas that are now being tentatively designated as potential wetlands. This was an unintended consequence of the last harvest operation, being an artificially created condition due to the lack of directing the cutbank seepage to an appropriate discharge location.

The existing seasonal road traversing the 44 acre parcel has been and will be part of any future harvest activity. It provides secondary road access to an approved Non-Industrial Timber Management Plan (NTMP) on the adjoining Slack and Winzler Property (APN 304-081-03). A timber harvest plan (THP) is presently being laid out on the 44 acre parcel as a selection harvest. Under this next THP the drainage issue that created the wet areas shall be corrected and properly mitigated during the next harvest entry in accordance with the Forest Practice Regulations. This harvest plan is expected to be submitted for agency review and approval on or before the end of 2023. Upon completion of harvest the indicated wet areas will no longer be present, at least on the traveled road running surface and associated landing area that was once the old boneyard storage area.

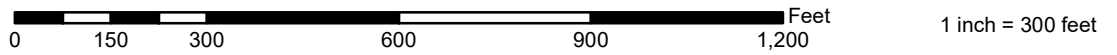
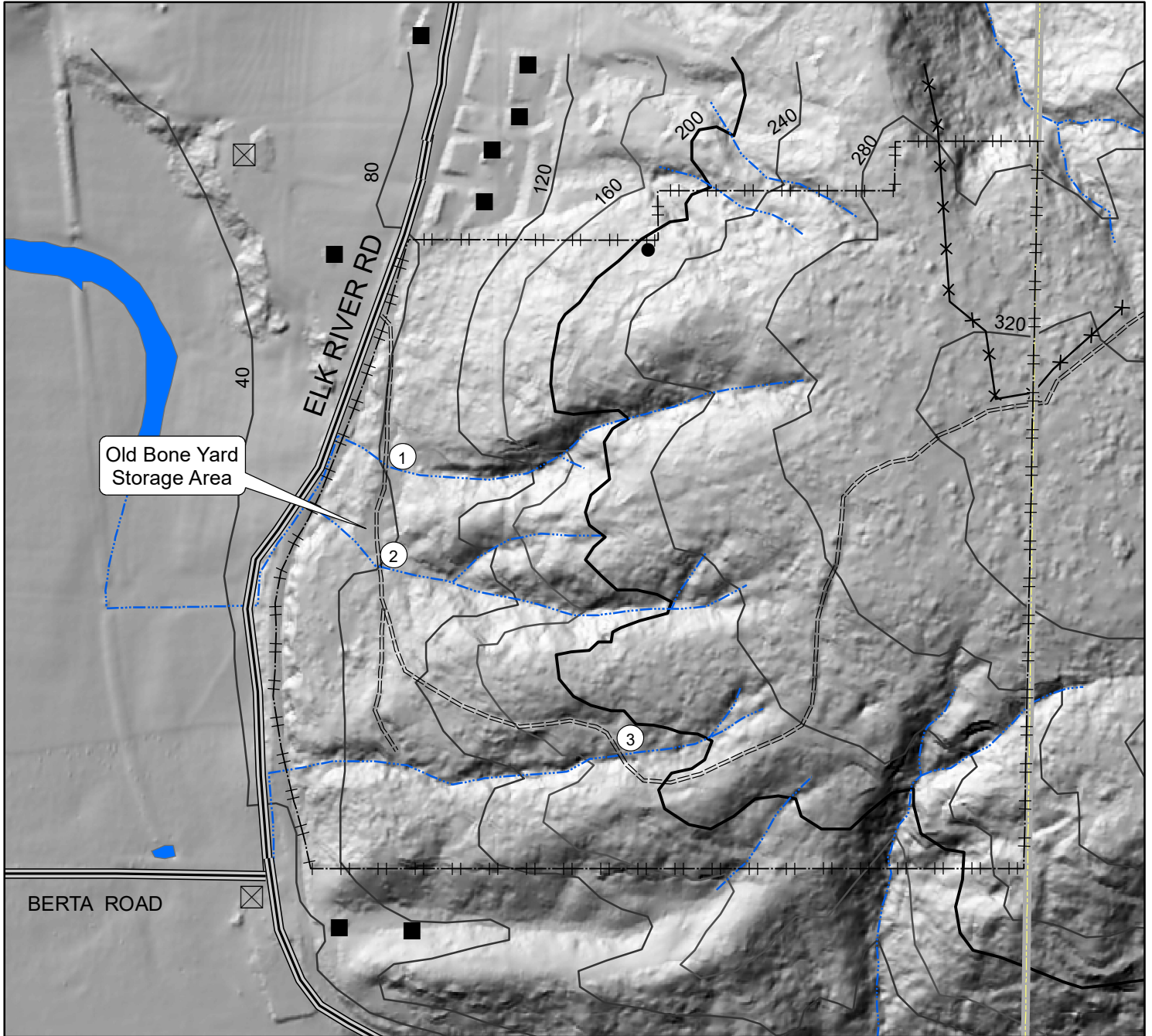
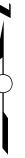
Sincerely,



Charll K. Stoneman
Registered Professional Forester #2375

cc: file

Turner 44 Parcel / S & W Properties
THP General Feature Map
Portion of Section 15, T4N, R1W, HBM, Humboldt County, CA
Base Map: Elk River LiDar
Contour Interval = 40 feet



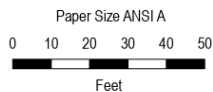
Map Features

- | | |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| THP Boundary | Class III Watercourse |
| S & W Properties NTMP | Ponding Area |
| County Road | House/Structure |
| Existing Seasonal Road | Barn |
| Addressed Watercourse Crossing | Old Water Tank (Not in Use) |
| Old Fence Line | |



Legend

- Project Parcel (APN# 304-071-018)
- 3-Parameter Wetland (750 sqft)
- Transect Points



Slack & Winzler Properties
APN# 304-071-018

Project No. 12584237
Revision No. -
Date August 2022

Map Projection: Lambert Conformal Conic
Horizontal Datum: North American 1983
Grid: NAD 1983 StatePlane California I FIPS 0401 Feet

Wetland Delineation

FIGURE 1