



Initial Study Summary – Environmental Checklist

SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND BUILDING
976 OSOS STREET • ROOM 200 • SAN LUIS OBISPO • CALIFORNIA 93408 • (805) 781-5600

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Project Title & No.: Mainini & Negranti Whale Rock Quarry Reclamation Plan Amendment / Minor Use Permit / ED18-111 (DRC2007-00016)

ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS POTENTIALLY AFFECTED: The proposed project could have a "Potentially Significant Impact" for at least one of the environmental factors checked below. Please refer to the attached pages for discussion on mitigation measures or project revisions to either reduce these impacts to less than significant levels or require further study.

<input type="checkbox"/> Aesthetics	<input type="checkbox"/> Geology and Soils	<input type="checkbox"/> Recreation
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural Resources	<input type="checkbox"/> Hazards/Hazardous Materials	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation/Circulation
<input type="checkbox"/> Air Quality	<input type="checkbox"/> Noise	<input type="checkbox"/> Wastewater
<input type="checkbox"/> Biological Resources	<input type="checkbox"/> Population/Housing	<input type="checkbox"/> Water /Hydrology
<input type="checkbox"/> Cultural Resources	<input type="checkbox"/> Public Services/Utilities	<input type="checkbox"/> Land Use

DETERMINATION: (To be completed by the Lead Agency)

On the basis of this initial evaluation, the Environmental Coordinator finds that:

- ☒ The proposed project COULD NOT have a significant effect on the environment, and a NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.
- ☐ 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.
- ☐ The proposed project MAY have a significant effect on the environment, and an ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required.
- ☐ 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.
- ☐ 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.

Cindy Chambers (cchambers@co.slo.ca.us)

Prepared by (Print)	Signature	Date
	Xzandrea Fowler for Environmental Coordinator	
Reviewed by (Print)	Signature	Date



Project Environmental Analysis

The County's environmental review process incorporates all of the requirements for completing the Initial Study as required by the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and the CEQA Guidelines. The Initial Study includes staff's on-site inspection of the project site and surroundings and a detailed review of the information in the file for the project. In addition, available background information is reviewed for each project. Relevant information regarding soil types and characteristics, geologic information, significant vegetation and/or wildlife resources, water availability, wastewater disposal services, existing land uses and surrounding land use categories and other information relevant to the environmental review process are evaluated for each project. Exhibit A includes the references used, as well as the agencies or groups that were contacted as a part of the Initial Study. The County Planning Department uses the checklist to summarize the results of the research accomplished during the initial environmental review of the project.

Persons, agencies or organizations interested in obtaining more information regarding the environmental review process for a project should contact the County of San Luis Obispo Planning Department, 976 Osos Street, Rm. 200, San Luis Obispo, CA, 93408-2040 or call (805) 781-5600.

A. PROJECT

Description. The Project entails a request by Negranti Construction (the "Applicant") for a Reclamation Plan Amendment / Minor Use Permit for the Whale Rock Quarry (Mine ID#91-40-0010) (the "Quarry") to cover expanded surface mining area and activities within the 229.73-acre area of vested mining rights on two parcels totaling 234 acres (APN046-201-028 & 073-093-008). The expanded surface mining area which covers approximately 82 acres (19 acres already disturbed and 63 acres of new disturbance), is hereafter referenced as the "Expansion Area". The 229.73-acre area of vested mining rights is hereafter referenced as the "Vested Area". The Reclamation Plan Amendment (hereafter, the "Project" or "RPA") will result in reclamation activities on mined or disturbed area on a total of approximately 82 acres. Reclamation will occur concurrently with the completion of extractive operations proposed in four phases, over approximately 200 years, with Final Reclamation of the mining area anticipated to be completed by 2220. The proposed project is within the Agriculture land use category and is located at 1424 Old Creek Road, approximately 1.3 miles northeast of the community of Cayucos (Figure 1). The site is in the Adelaida Sub-Area of the North County Planning Area.

The Reclamation Plan Amendment (RPA) updates the Quarry's existing, approved 1980 Reclamation Plan and describes mining and reclamation activities that will take place over approximately the next 200 years. The entire area deemed to be vested, a total of approximately 230 acres, is included in the revised boundary of the RPA and identified as the "RPA Area", within which the active quarry reclamation area of 82 acres is located, and, as noted above, is identified as the "Expansion Area". To clarify, the RPA Area covers the entire Vested Area, but describes reclamation measures covering only the Expansion Area. Should the Applicant desire to expand vested mining operations beyond the Expansion Area in the future, the Applicant will be required to amend the RPA to include reclamation measures over such future expansion areas.

Development of additional vested aggregate resources within the Expansion Area will add approximately 25,000,000 tons of reserves and allow the Quarry to continue to serve as a source of construction aggregates for the community and region. Approval of the RPA will not result in any change in production capability or intensity beyond the levels that are allowed as a vested right.

Following the completion of mining operations, the Expansion Area will be reclaimed to grazing land and open space uses. The specific reclamation objectives include: native grasslands, coastal sage scrub and Coast live oak/riparian woodland. The Project site is bisected by an ephemeral drainage tributary to Willow Creek, with a stock pond north of the active mining area holding approximately 9.0 acre-feet.



Expansion Area reclamation will involve intensive revegetation, phased over time, to achieve Final Reclamation. Quarry benches will be revegetated with a mixture of coastal scrub and grassland species. Pad surfaces will be revegetated with a native grassland species to stabilize the site and minimize erosion. Oak clusters will be planted near the limits of each pad to establish oaks like what is found in the surrounding undisturbed areas.

Other disturbed areas will receive a seed mix composed of coastal scrub and grassland species similar to species currently growing in the project vicinity. All areas of mining disturbance within the Expansion Area will be completely revegetated except for the inter-bench rock outcroppings created from mining and access roads that will remain for the post-mining land use.

Mining and reclamation activities are expected to be completed by December 31, 2213. However, operations may continue beyond the projected termination date if required to exhaust resources and to complete reclamation. Based on historic levels, annual production at the Quarry will be between 100,000 and 500,000 tons. Production levels will meet local demand as needed with no limit on annual production.

Figure 1 – Project Location

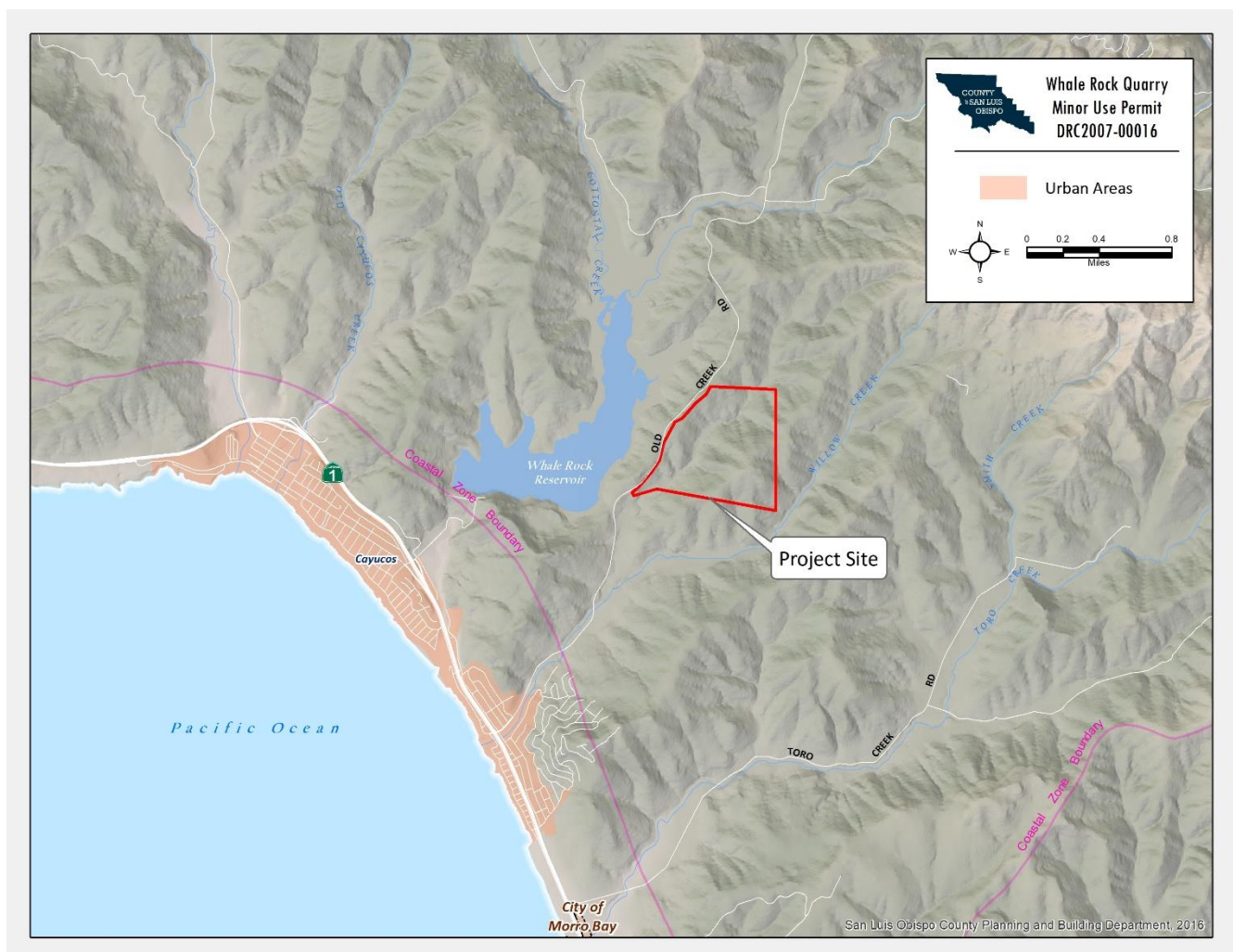
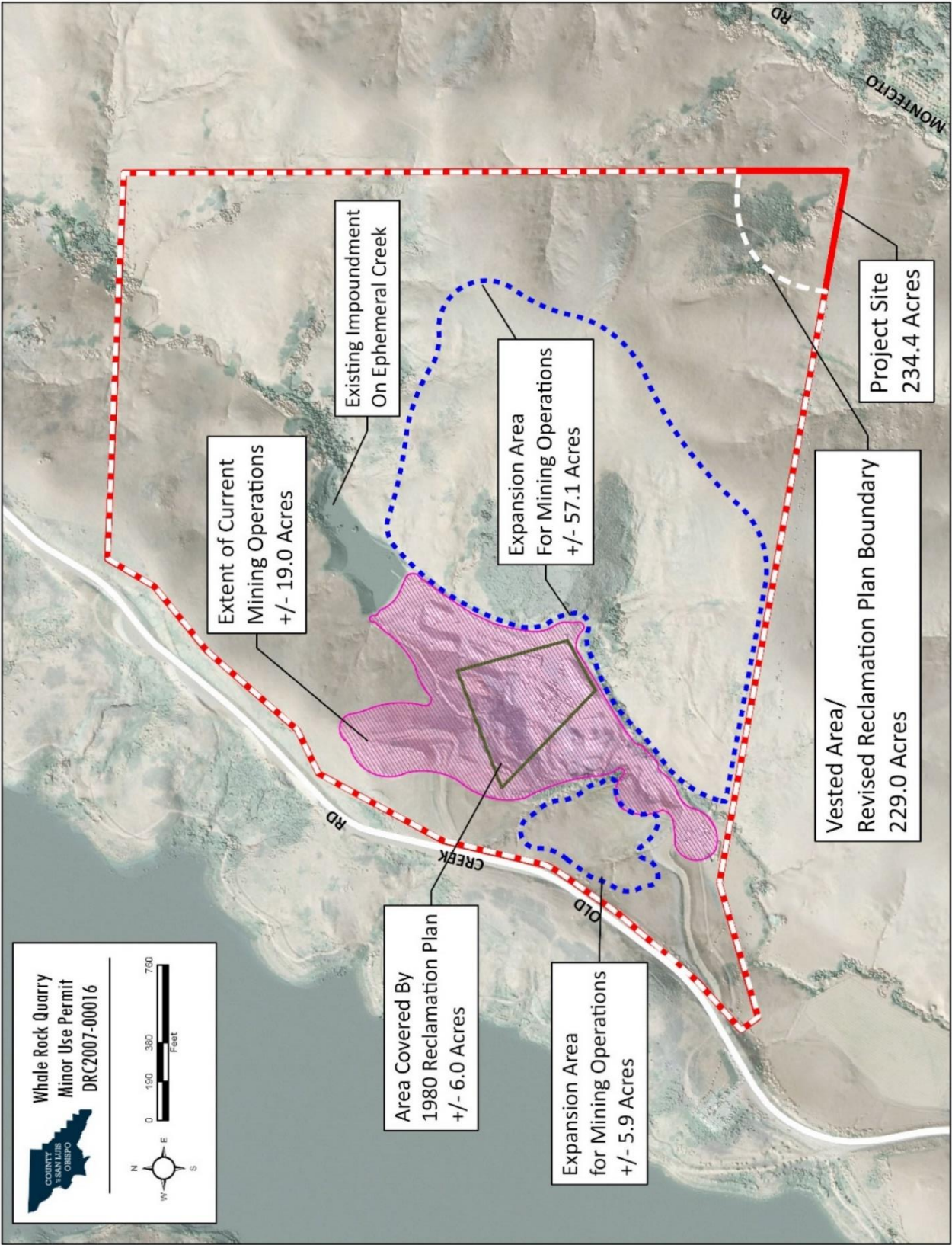


Figure 2 – Project Site and Vested Mining Area



Background

The Whale Rock Quarry site was acquired from the Mainini family by the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) in 1958 through eminent domain proceedings for the purpose of providing construction materials for the Whale Rock Reservoir. Mining operations began sometime in the 1950s; DWR mining operations at the site began sometime in 1958. After the Whale Rock Quarry ("Quarry") reverted back to the Mainini family's ownership in 1961, the Mainini family conducted surface mining operations at the Quarry continuously through the 1980s, when the current Applicant, Negranti Construction, assumed operations. Currently, the property is owned by the Mainini family and the Quarry is operated by Negranti Construction.

In 1980, the County certified the Quarry as vested, and approved the current Reclamation Plan as required by the Surface Mining and Reclamation Act of 1975 ("SMARA", or the "Act"). Current mining activities cover an area of about 19.0 acres (Figure 2).

Regulatory Setting and Vested Rights. SMARA was enacted in 1975 to (1) encourage the production and conservation of minerals and (2) ensure that mined lands are reclaimed to a usable post-mining condition. (Pub. Resources Code § 2712.) Under the Act, existing surface mining operations were allowed to continue mining without a permit to the extent that they had established vested rights to do so prior to January 1, 1976. In response, the applicant submitted a Reclamation Plan and a request for vested status for the pre-SMARA Quarry operations. The Reclamation plan covering an estimated 6 acres was approved by the County and assigned Reclamation Plan #M800403:2. The surface mine was granted a Certification of Vested Rights on March 31, 1980 by the County of San Luis Obispo.

Even though the Quarry is a vested mining operation, SMARA still requires the Quarry to have an approved reclamation plan that describes how all areas disturbed by surface mining operations will be reclaimed. The current Reclamation Plan was adopted in 1980 and covers approximately six (6) acres, based on the application text and dimensioned illustration in the 1980 Reclamation Plan (Figure 2). Over time, the active mining area expanded beyond the original 6 acres to include roughly 19 acres of roads, stockpiles, borrow pit and processing areas, which led to an application in 2007 for a reclamation plan amendment and, at the County's direction, an application for a Conditional Use Permit (DRC2007-00016) for expanded mining operations. The Applicant subsequently requested a determination of vested rights from the Board of Supervisors such that the vested mining activities are not subject to Conditional Use Permit requirement. In 2015, the Board of Supervisors determined that the Quarry had established vested rights in 1980 to continue mining within the approximately 230-acre Vested Area shown on Figure 2. Accordingly, surface mining operations may be conducted within the vested area without a County use permit. The Quarry's vested rights include the right to produce material in response to market demand.

Approval of a Reclamation Plan Amendment is required to bring the Quarry into full compliance with SMARA and County ordinance. Accordingly, the Applicant has now requested an amendment of the existing Reclamation Plan to cover mining activity on the currently disturbed 19 acres and an additional 63 acres of the 230-acre Vested Area. The Project covered by this Initial Study is limited to review and approval of the Reclamation Plan Amendment only, as required by SMARA to address reclamation of the vested Expansion Area at full depletion of reserves.

Baseline Conditions -- Vested Mining Activities and Operational Characteristics.

Section 15163 (d)(1) of the State CEQA Guidelines requires an initial study to include a description of the environmental setting of a project. The environmental setting normally includes the physical environmental conditions in the vicinity of the project, as they exist at the time the notice of preparation is published, or if no notice of preparation is published, at the time environmental analysis is



commenced, from both a local and regional perspective. Section 15125 of the Guidelines states that *“This environmental setting will normally constitute the baseline physical conditions by which a lead agency determines whether an impact is significant.”* (See also *Fat v. County of Sacramento* (2002) 97 Cal.App.4th 1270, 1277–1278.)

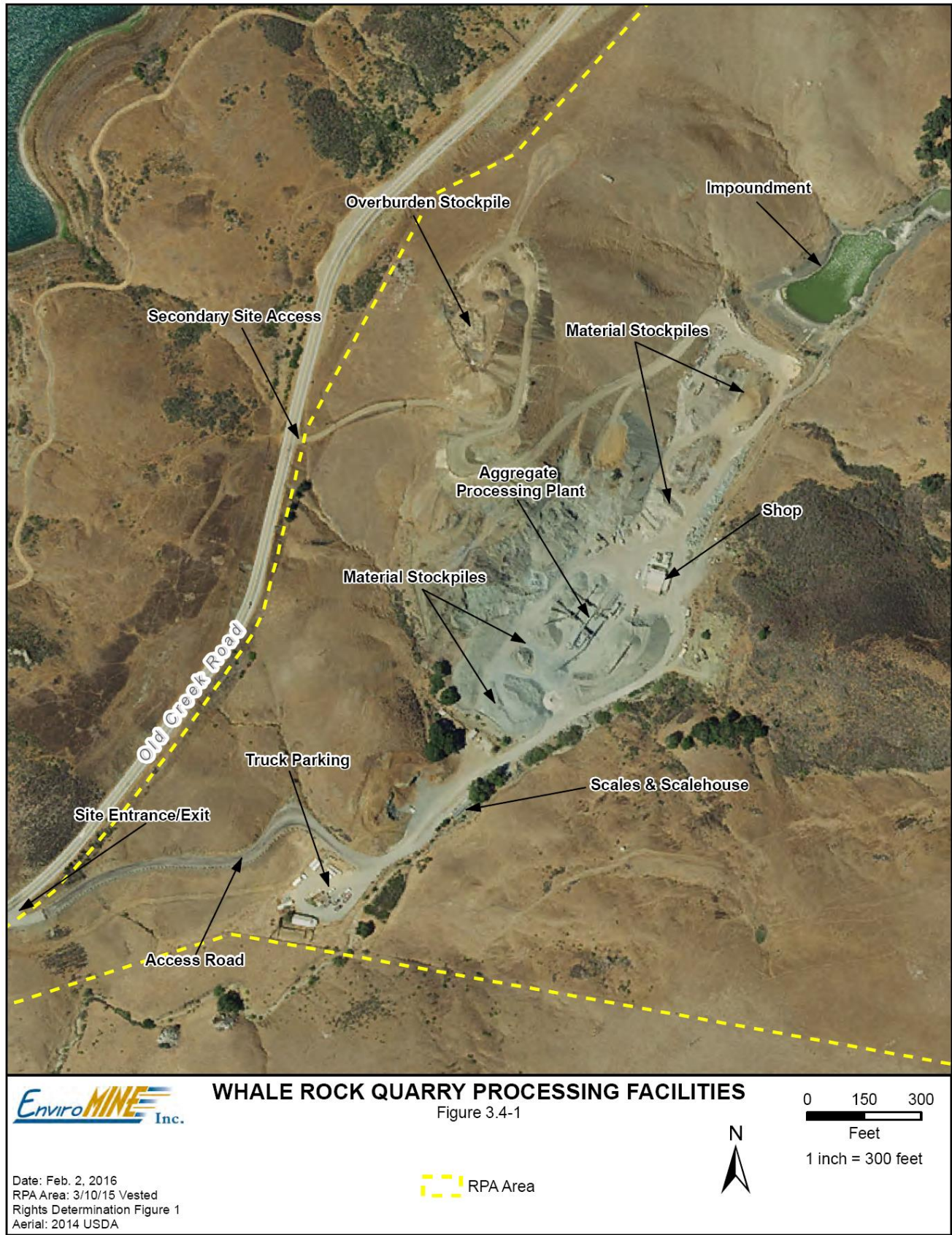
As noted previously, the environmental effects associated with vested mining activities are not subject to discretionary approval and are therefore not considered as part of this Initial Study. (See, e.g., *City of Ukiah v. County of Mendocino* (1987) 196 Cal.App.3d 47; *El Dorado County Taxpayers for Quality Growth v. County of El Dorado* (2004) 122 Cal.App.4th 1591.) On that basis, for purposes of this initial study, the baseline conditions for the assessment of impacts associated with the Reclamation Plan Amendment are defined to include the existing physical environmental characteristics of the Quarry, plus the conditions likely to result from the vested mining activities. Thus, this Initial Study compares the environmental effects of implementing the reclamation measures described in the Reclamation Plan Amendment compared to a baseline condition of an operational, fully-mined Quarry site.

Mining activities within the 230-acre Vested Area are described below. Existing disturbed acreage is approximately 19 acres.

Expansion Area and Extractive Operations. The Expansion Area is where extractive operations currently take place and will continue until resources are depleted under the RPA. The Expansion Area covers areas previously mined as well as areas of future mining included in the amended RPA. Currently, the Expansion Area features elevations ranging from approximately 740' above mean sea level (AMSL) to 230' AMSL and is located on the east and west sides of Willow Creek. Approximately 25,000,000 tons of aggregate will be extracted from the Quarry over the life of the mine. Data provided by the Applicant indicates that between 1990 and 2012, the Whale Rock Quarry produced an average of 47,656 tons of product (sand and gravel) per year.

The extractive process generally includes topsoil and overburden removal, followed by blasting, followed by shot-rock extraction, and transport to the processing plant. Each process is described below. Facility and mine features are shown on Figure 3. These activities and features are all part of the environmental baseline for purposes of CEQA and this Initial Study.

Figure 3 – Existing Mining Facilities



Topsoil and Overburden Removal. The extraction process begins with the removal of vegetation from the immediate area where extraction will occur. Once the area is clear of vegetation, topsoil will be salvaged, and overburden will be relocated to expose the bedrock.

Topsoil material will be removed and stockpiled for later use in reclamation. The total quantity of topsoil salvaged is a function of the quantity of topsoil available for recovery. Topsoil consists of approximately the topmost six (6) inches of soil. It is estimated that approximately 50,000 Cubic Yards (CY) of topsoil will be salvaged during mining operations within the Expansion Area.

Topsoil removal will be completed ahead of mining disturbance and will be limited to only those areas as necessary to continue extraction in pace with market demands. As areas become fully mined, graded and ready for reclamation, topsoil from areas still to be mined will be stripped and applied directly to reclamation surfaces rather than stockpiled. Where possible, fresh topsoil will be mixed with older, stockpiled topsoil prior to application to the graded surface. In this manner, the beneficial characteristics of fresh topsoil (seed source and micro-organisms) will be preserved to aid with revegetation or enhance those characteristics in older material.

Overburden materials include clays and low-quality aggregate that is not suitable for construction aggregate use. The quantity of overburden is estimated at approximately 200,000 CY within the Expansion Area. Approximately 50,000 CY of overburden will be retained for reclamation purposes; the remaining volume of overburden may be sold or utilized at the Quarry for final grading. Overburden recovered from within the mine footprint will either be placed in temporary overburden stockpiles with the goal of placing overburden on the Quarry benches and other disturbed areas within the Expansion Area during reclamation.

Overburden removal will progress as needed to keep pace with aggregate extraction activities. Overburden will be removed from the areas where it overtops aggregate reserves using traditional earthmoving equipment such as: dozers, scrapers, loaders and haul trucks. Overburden removal will be limited to areas necessary for continued mining.

Blasting. Drilling and blasting is required to fracture and loosen “in-situ” rock. The Applicant employs a licensed blaster to complete all blasting-related activities in compliance with applicable regulations of the San Luis Obispo County Sheriff’s Department, federal Mine Safety and Health Administration (“MSHA”), California Division of Occupational Safety and Health (“Cal-OHSA”), the Department of Homeland Security, and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives (“ATF”).

Currently, blasting occurs approximately once every three months and between 11:00 AM and 1:00 PM. Prior to blasting an air rotary drill is used to bore 30' deep holes into the rock. The holes are then loaded with ammonium nitrate and fuel oil (“ANFO”) or similar, cast boosters, detonation cord, and initiators. The shot is detonated by a certified blaster.

Explosives are stored within the Expansion Area in compliance with San Luis Obispo County Sheriff's Permit, federal ATF License/Permit, MSHA and Cal/OSHA requirements.

Shot Rock Extraction and Transport. After blasting, a shot rock pile will form at the toe of a mine bench. The size of each rock in the shot rock pile will be approximately 40 inches in diameter or less. The shot rock will be extracted with either a hydraulic excavator or a front-end loader and loaded into off-road haul trucks or directly fed into a primary crushing plant.

Off-road haul trucks will use a network of roads to transport material from the active mining area to the processing plant. On-site haul roads within the Quarry will vary depending on the

geographic area that is being mined; therefore, the location of haul roads will vary through the Quarry's lifespan.

Material Processing. The processing plant consists of equipment and facilities that crush, screen, sort and temporarily store processed materials prior to distribution off-site. These processes use some of the following equipment and facilities:

- Cone and jaw crushing units
- Series of vibrating screens
- Conveyors linking processing facilities with stockpiles
- Finished material stockpiles
- Access roads

Fractured rock is first delivered from the working face to the feeder and primary crusher located on the northern end of the Processing Area. The primary crusher reduces aggregate down to 6-inch-minus before it is conveyed to other plant equipment for further processing. The crushed rock is then shipped via belt conveyors to a series of screens and secondary crushers for additional processing. Finished product is then stockpiled in the Processing Area for ground loading into customer trucks.

All crushing, conveying and processing units currently operate according to Permits to Operate issued by the San Luis Obispo County Air Pollution Control District ("SLOAPCD"). The Applicant complies with all SLOAPCD rules and regulations, including requirements for the control of fugitive dust. These requirements include the use of best available control technology, which includes enclosures, and water sprays to reduce or eliminate dust emissions.

Stockpile Management. All overburden and topsoil stockpiles are considered temporary because these materials will be completely utilized as part of the reclamation process. Temporary overburden and topsoil stockpiles will exist through all phases of mining. Temporary stockpiles will be seeded to limit erosion while awaiting use in the reclamation process. All topsoil stockpiles shall be clearly signed in the field to prevent inadvertent use. Material stockpiles will be approximately 50 feet in height with slopes no steeper than 2:1. The stockpiles are designed with drainage control to ensure that all storm water runoff is treated using Best Management Practices.

Aggregate Processing. The Aggregate Processing Area is an existing area for the processing and storage of aggregate mined from the Quarry. The Aggregate Processing Area is located adjacent to the original mining area, near the center of the Expansion Area on the west side of the Willow Creek tributary. The Aggregate Processing Area is a collection of crushing, conveying, screening and washing facilities that processes rock into an assortment of types and grades of aggregate products. Aggregate products are stored in stockpiles until sold.

Support Area. The Support Area serves as a general support area for ongoing mining and processing operations. This area contains access roads, stockpiles, equipment storage areas, scales, scale house and other structures associated with mining operations. The Support Area is located adjacent to the Aggregate Processing area on the northwest side of the Willow Creek tributary.

Impoundment. Located north of the Processing Area is an impoundment of Willow Creek headwaters that serves to manage and control runoff from the northerly portion of the property through the Quarry site.

Future Reserve Area. Future Reserve Areas consist of approximately 148 acres within the 230-acre Vested Area that are included in the RPA, but which are not part of the Expansion Area and for which the RPA includes no reclamation measures. However, these areas may be mined later as needed to satisfy market and operational demands, with approval of a new Reclamation Plan Amendment for those areas.

Motor Vehicle Trips. Current motor vehicle trips generated by the Quarry are summarized below in Table 1, assuming an average annual production rate of 47,656 tons per year and up to 10 employees.

Table 1 – Quarry Baseline Motor Vehicle Trips			
Source	Quantity	Trip Rate	Total Daily Trips
Employees	10	One trip per day per employee	20
Truck Trips - Quarry product deliveries	47,656 tons of product per year	18.8 trips per day ¹	18.8
Visitor vehicles, vendor & material delivery trucks, pickup truck loads, etc.	15 per week on average	3 round trips per day on average	6
Total:			44.8 ²

Notes:

1. Average annual production rate of 47,656 tons per year / 250 days per year = 190.6 tons per day
190.6 tons per day / 20.2 tons per truck = 9.4 truck trips per day
2. Estimated Baseline Annual Trips (44.8 trips x 6 days/week) = 13,977.6 annually
(Baseline annual trips are calculated based on the estimated daily averages noted above and an assumed operational period of six days per week. The vested Quarry has no Conditional Use Permit and therefore no operational restrictions on hours and days.

Water Demand. Water is used for dust control during mining and processing activities on haul roads, stockpiles, active mining areas and at the processing plant. Per Section 3.8 - Operational Water, water for dust suppression is supplied from an onsite groundwater well and surface water runoff that is collected in settling ponds in low-lying areas. Current water use is estimated as 8,000 to 12,000 gallons per day on average.

A stock pond surface impoundment is located on the north side of the operational area, constructed prior to 1969 in an unnamed drainage tributary to Willow Creek which bisects the property. In December 1997, a water rights claim filed by the landowners resulted in water rights authorization of 9.0 acre-feet per year for stock watering and incidental uses from the State Water Resources Control Board (Certificate #4638). The stock pond is not used as a source for dust control water.

Hours of Operation. The existing mine operates during daylight hours only, typically from 7:00 am to 4:00 pm.

Staffing. As noted above, for purposes of this analysis it is assumed that staffing consists of a maximum of 10 employees. The applicant has indicated that currently there is an average of 3-5 employees on site daily. With commencement of operations in a new phase area, or if production rate should increase

to the upper range of annual production to meet market demand, an additional 3-5 employees could be needed for extended periods of time over the life of the Quarry.

Phasing. Mining operations will occur in four phases with two (2) initial phases overlapping, as shown in Table 2. Each phase will include vegetation removal, topsoil salvaging, overburden stripping, resource extraction and reclamation. Concurrent reclamation will occur with mining where practicable on benches and areas that have achieved final contours and are not subject to further disturbance. Final reclamation of the Expansion Area will be started upon the completion of Phase 3 and finished in the Final Reclamation phase. It is anticipated that all phases of mining and reclamation will be completed in approximately 200 years.

Table 2 -- Phasing		
Phase	Estimated Period (Years)	Acres
Existing Site Disturbance	--	19.0
Phase 1A*	2016 - 2025	5.9
Phase 1B*	2015 - 2105	25.3
Phase 2	2105 - 2150	13.9
Phase 3	2150 - 2208	17.9
Final Reclamation	2208 - 2213	All
Total Expansion Area:		63.0
Total Site Disturbance:		82

* Concurrent phases

The Expansion Area is a total of 82 acres (19 acres already disturbed and 63 acres to be disturbed following approval of the RPA), and is anticipated to be mined in four phases as shown in Figure 4. The site will be excavated using a modified sweeping technique of mining with concurrent reclamation of finished areas. Using this method, excavation will begin at Phase 1A, proceed to and overlap with Phase 1B, and then to Phases 2 and 3. This phased method of mining will allow some areas to be reclaimed while active mining continues in the other phases of the Quarry. For example, Phase 1A will be reclaimed and revegetated as final contours are reached while Phase 1B is being excavated. By the completion of mining and reclamation in Phase 3, a total of 82 acres of the 230-acre Vested Area will have been mined and reclaimed. The remaining 150 acres will be left in its current condition and not disturbed under the proposed RPA (although the Applicant retains a vested right to continue mining operations across the entirety of the Vested Area upon approval of an associated reclamation plan amendment). A description of each of the four Phases is provided below.

Phase 1A is in the southwestern area of the Quarry west of the bisecting ephemeral creek drainage, comprised of steep slopes almost entirely covered by coastal valley grassland with a few small, scattered shrubs typical of native coastal scrub. This area is an extension of existing mining disturbance that is outside the limits of the current Reclamation Plan and consists of approximately 6 acres. Work will be initiated with RPA approval and continue in this area for approximately 6 years until approximately the year 2025. Phase 1A will consist of vegetation removal, topsoil salvaging, overburden stripping and rock material removed for processing. Existing haul roads will be used, and storm water management practices currently implemented for site operations will extend into this area.

Phase 1B is located east of the creek drainage on a northwest facing slope, comprised of a central outcrop of metavolcanic bedrock with steep slopes covered in coastal scrub surrounded by grassland. Much of the area within Phase 1B is covered with vegetation and overburden that must be removed to expose the bedrock reserves. Vegetation will be removed as needed to expose the topsoil and overburden in preparation for stripping activities. Phase 1B will begin with the development of a pad area at the bottom of the slope from which mineral extraction can begin. This phase will begin operation upon approval of the RPA and occur simultaneously with Phase 1A.

Removal of vegetation will be limited to areas that are slated for topsoil and overburden stripping within the coming year. Once vegetation is stripped, topsoil resources will be stripped from the area and stockpiled on-site for future reclamation activities. When disturbed areas have reached final grade and no further disturbance is planned, stripped topsoil may be placed directly on these areas rather than stockpiled. The timing of the topsoil stripping is relative to operational goals and achieving final contours will dictate the management of topsoil resources.

Once topsoil is removed, overburden will be stripped to expose the bedrock reserves. Overburden stripped during Phase 1B will be temporarily stockpiled on-site to be sold or utilized in reclamation. Extraction in Phase 1B will begin in southwest area and progress eastward. As the toe elevation of the benched slope is approached, extraction will begin on the final slopes and elevations as indicated on Quarry Mine Phasing Figure 3.6-1 and the Grading Plan included in Attachment E. Phase 1B will develop final pad elevations at a 1% slope in the western part of the phase. Slopes on the east side of this phase will consist of 15-foot wide benches spaced every 50 feet of vertical rise. Bench faces will have a slope ratio of 1:1. Construction of the quarry ramp providing access to areas east of Willow Creek will be developed in Phase 1B. This ramp will be utilized throughout the life of the quarry for material transport and access. This phase of the project is expected to last for approximately 80 years.

Benches developed in Phase 1B will consist of a series of 15-foot wide horizontal benches at 50-foot vertical intervals along the central perimeter of the area east of Willow Creek. Bench faces will have a slope ratio of 1H:1V. Bench development will proceed from southwest to northeast. Once benches are complete, each bench will receive 12 - 24 inches of growth medium on the bench surface and then seeded. This progression will be followed throughout the life of the mine. The timing of these areas will be dependent on mine planning and mine operations.

This phase of the expansion area is located on steep hillsides east of the Willow Creek tributary and is mostly covered by coastal valley grassland (12.5 acres) and a large patch of coastal scrub (11.4 acres). Rocky outcrops and previously excavated areas cover approximately 0.5 acres, two small hillside drainage channels (north and south of coastal scrub stand) cover approximately 0.5 acres, and a small stand of coast live oaks cover less than 0.4 acres.

Phase 2. Phase 2 will continue extraction to the northeast phase of extraction and will establish the northeast perimeter of the Quarry. This phase will have a footprint of approximately 14 acres. Mining will begin approximately 45 years after the commencement of activities in Phase 2. Mining activities in Phase 2 will continue to progress to the northeast and then westerly expanding the extraction area. Final development of 15' wide benches and 1:1 slopes along the north perimeter of Phase 2 will be completed. Phase 2 will involve vegetation removal, topsoil salvaging, overburden stripping, resource extraction, and reclamation.

Along with establishing all the final slopes along the perimeter of Phase 2, activities will also prepare any areas along the boundary of Phase 1B for reclamation that were not completed during the previous phase of mining. Phase 2 will also develop a large pad east of Willow Creek

that has final elevations that range from 297' to 286' AMSL. This pad will have a 1% slope from northeast to southwest to provide positive drainage once reclamation is complete. Any extractive activities required to develop the final landform on the northeast section of the Quarry, as shown on the engineering plans included as Attachment E, will be completed in Phase 2.

This area is almost entirely covered by coastal valley grassland (12.9 acres); however, there are small patches of coastal scrub that total approximately one acre.

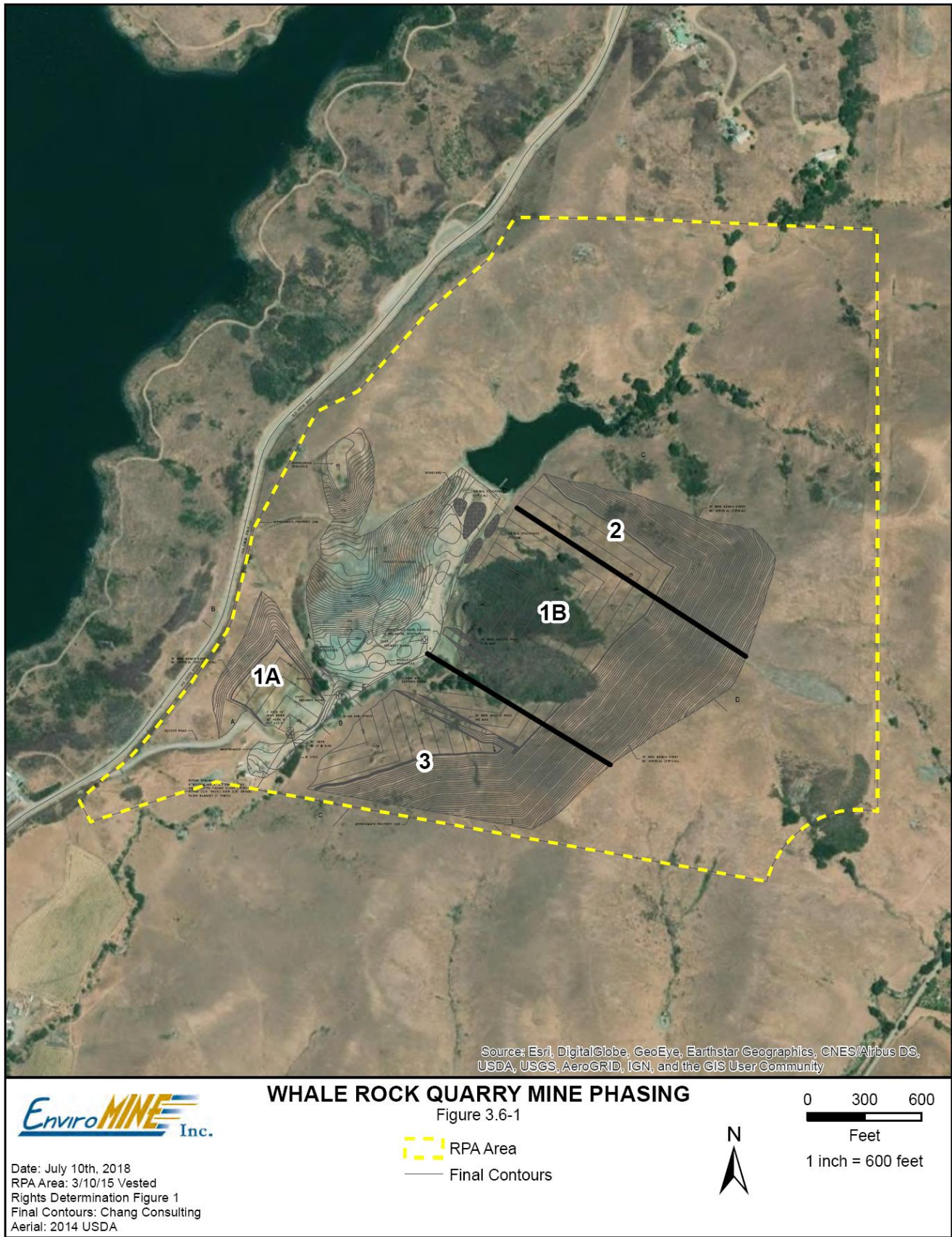
Phase 3 will be the final extraction phase of the Project. This phase will occur east of the creek and in the southwest section of the quarry. Mining will proceed in a southeastern direction using the same sequence and process as described in Phase 1B and Phase 2. Another pad, smaller than the pad in Phase 1B, will also be developed along the east side of Willow Creek at elevations of 245' to 236' AMSL. A haul ramp will be constructed between the two pads for removal of the ore. This ramp will remain in place for use by the ranch operation after mining is complete. An east to west slope of 1% will provide drainage for this area of the Quarry. This final extraction phase of the Project is anticipated to continue for approximately 58 years.

This area is almost entirely covered by coastal valley grassland (15.5 acres); however, there are several small patches of coastal scrub that total approximately 2.4 acres.

The end result of all the proposed mining will be that approximately 82 acres of the 230-acre Vested Area will be mined or disturbed and then revegetated. The remaining 150 acres will be left in its current condition and not disturbed under the proposed RPA (although the Applicant retains a vested right to continue mining operations across the entirety of the Vested Area upon approval of an associated reclamation plan amendment).

The Expansion Area will be reclaimed and revegetated to a mosaic of California native and coastal valley grasslands, coastal scrub, coast live oak woodland, and riparian woodland as described in the RPA (EnviroMine Inc., 2017), which is provided separately and incorporated herein by reference. After the Expansion Area is restored and revegetated, it will be used for open space and grazing.

Figure 4 -- Phasing of Mining/Excavation Activities



Reclamation Plan Amendment

SMARA (Public Resources Code Section 2270 et seq.) requires that all surface mining operations “reclaim” mined lands to a condition which allows post-mining land uses upon termination of surface mining activities. Accordingly, surface mining operations are required to have a reclamation plan approved by the Lead Agency (in this case, the County) which sets forth the steps that will be taken to achieve the objectives of the Act. SMARA includes a list of topics that must be addressed in a reclamation plan including a timeframe for implementation and performance standards to assess implementation.

The proposed Reclamation Plan Amendment (RPA, incorporated herein by reference) is organized into the following chapters:

Section 1.0, the **Introduction** summarizes the Whale Rock Quarry operation.

Section 2.0, the **Environmental Setting**, provides a description of the mine operation’s environment.

Section 3.0, the **Operational Characteristics**, describes proposed mining activity, mine methods, and operation of the RPA Area.

Section 4.0, the **RPA Area Reclamation**, describes proposed measures that will be implemented to reclaim the RPA Area including objectives and schedules.

Section 5.0, **Conformance with Reclamation Standards**, describes how the project will meet reclamation standards as defined in SMARA.

The RPA proposes mining in the Expansion Area in four (4) phases, some of which will be mined concurrently in an overlapping fashion. The Applicant currently does and will continue to be required to maintain Financial Assurances sufficient to reclaim disturbed areas in accordance with the approved Reclamation Plan, and with the RPA following approval. Under the RPA, reclamation of the Whale Rock Quarry will occur concurrently with the phased completion of extractive operations and will generally consist of the following activities:

- Equipment removal
- Rough and finish grading
- Topsoil application
- Revegetation, and
- Monitoring until reclamation performance standards are met (See Table 2).

The 82 acres of mined land in the Expansion Area will be reclaimed and revegetated to a mosaic of California native and coastal valley grasslands, coastal scrub, coast live oak woodland, and riparian woodland. After the Expansion Area is restored and revegetated, it will be used for open space and grazing.

Figure 5 provides an illustration of the final reclaimed landform that will exist after mining and reclamation are complete. [Native grassland is shown in green, coastal scrub in maroon and maroon lines on benches, riparian woodland in light green, coast live oak clusters are shown by yellow dots, and the drainage by dashed blue line. This figure is incorporated to the RPA as Figures 9 and 10 of the Holland Biological Report under Attachment D.



Figure 5 -- Final Reclamation

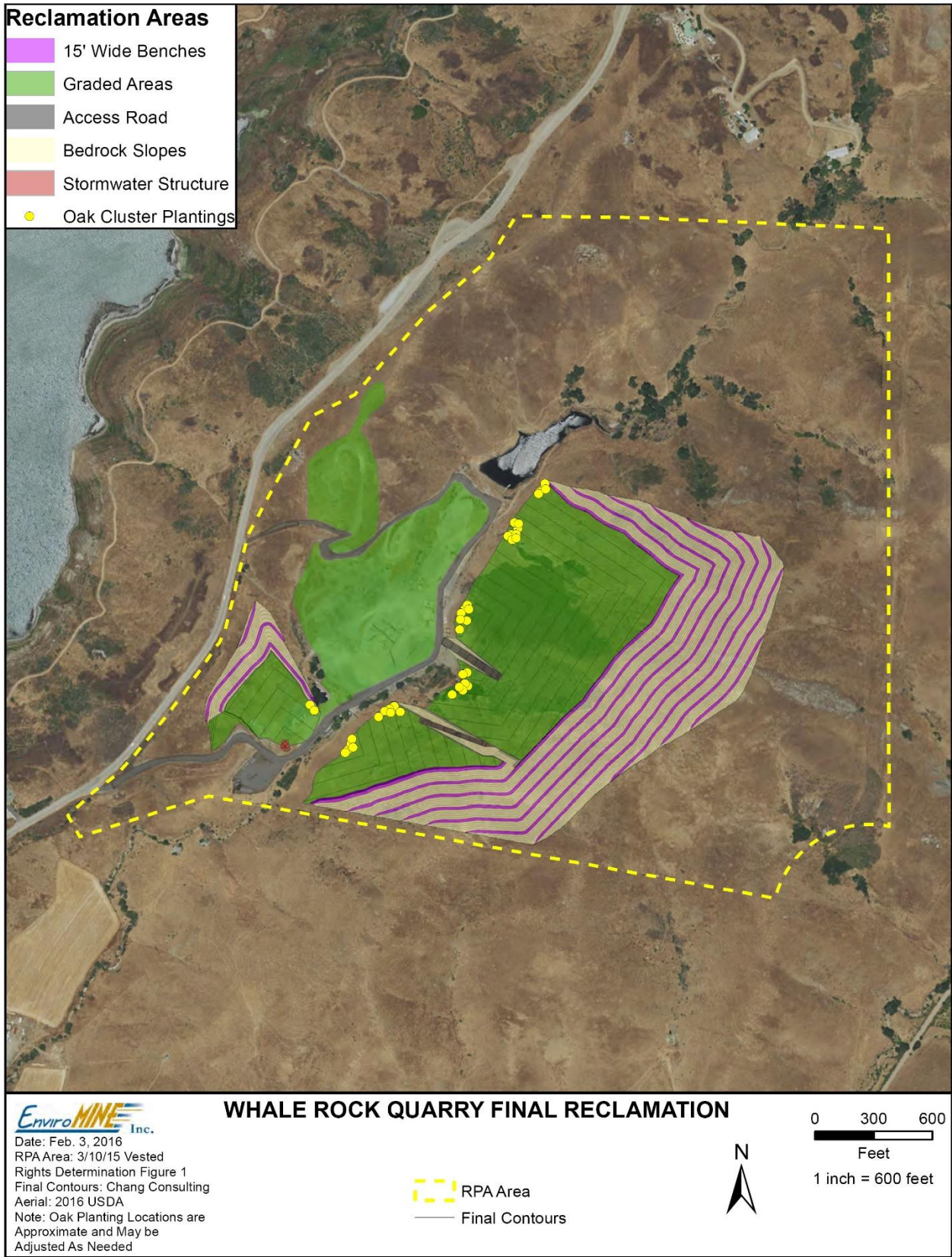
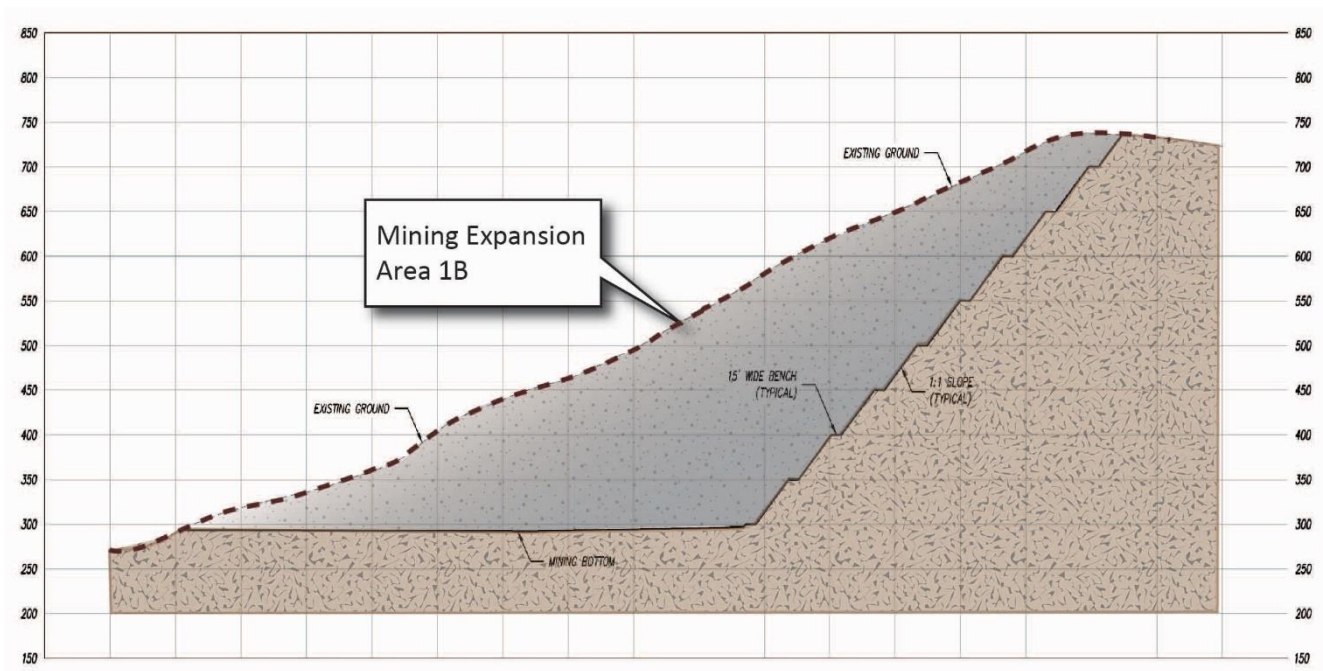


Figure 6 -- Cross Section Showing Final Grades for Phase 1B



The goals of the RPA are to:

- Adapt depleted mined areas to open space and grazing land uses.
- Stabilize the soil so that erosion is controlled.
- Revegetate mined lands to create a habitat allowing for the gradual invasion and establishment of native plant species from the surrounding undisturbed plant communities through natural successional processes.
- Maximize the recovery of mineral resources in a safe and efficient manner; and minimize by design, potential environmental impacts to the land that might otherwise be created by extraction.

Reclamation earthwork activities will be completed using onsite, heavy equipment and will be conducted after mining has been completed in an area.

Planting of seed, hydroseed, cuttings and container plants, if used, will be completed by private contractors. Equipment used by the private contractor will be onsite temporarily during a year and may consist of a farm tractor for towing seed distribution equipment, hydroseed mixing and application truck, a raw materials flatbed delivery truck and up to two crew pickups. Revegetation work, i.e., planting, will be scheduled to coincide with the first part of the natural rainy season, typically September 15th to October 15th.

Final Quarry Slope Grading. In the Expansion Area, mining will result in the creation of three pads cut into the hillside. Final cut slopes will have heights ranging 100 to 440 feet in height from the top to toe. Cut slopes will be graded to create slopes that have an average overall gradient of approximately 1.3:1 (H:V). Specifically, the slopes will be graded to include 15' wide catch benches located every 50' of vertical rise and 1:1 slopes intervening the catch benches around the perimeter of the final landform, in accordance with the Geotechnical Investigation and Design Recommendations prepared by GeoSolutions Inc. (June 14, 2018), in Attachment B of the RPA. Finish grading using drill and blast

techniques in areas where hard rock persists and dozers in areas where weathered granite is exposed will ensure that the final benches and slopes provide a factor of safety consistent with the geotechnical monitoring and recommendations.

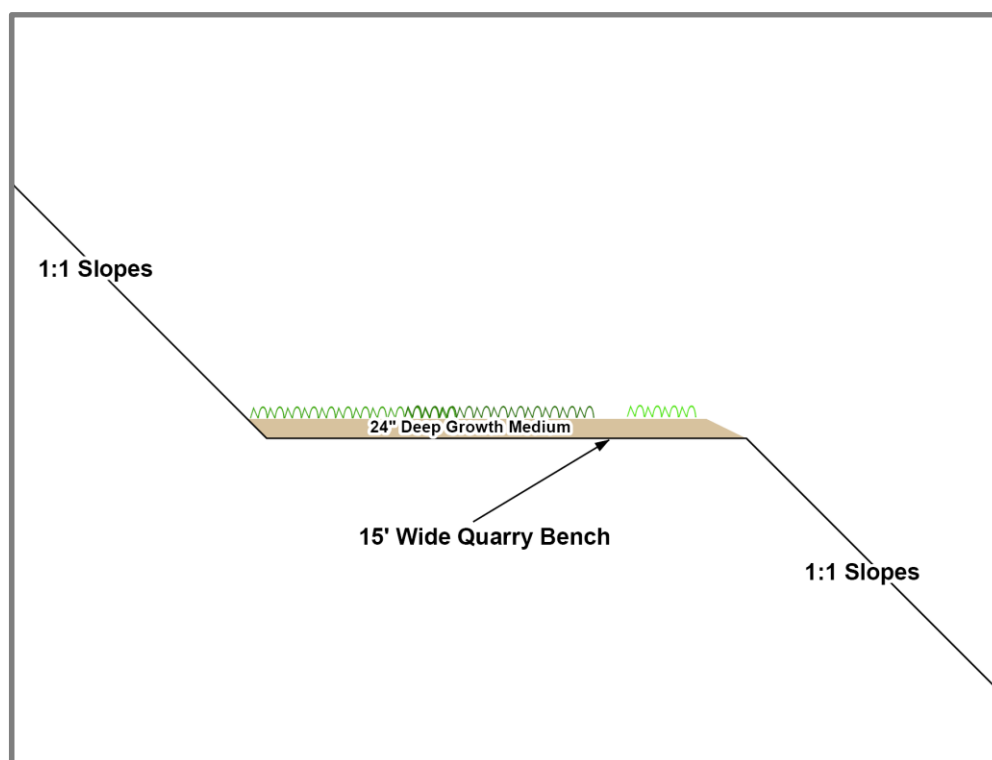
Growth Medium Distribution. Reclamation will adapt the final Expansion Area landforms to open-space including native grasslands, coastal scrub and Coast Live Oak/riparian woodland vegetation. The growth medium used for revegetation will consist of salvaged topsoil and overburden from the Expansion Area. The proportions of topsoil, overburden and any additions or amendments will be guided by the test plot data described the Revegetation and Monitoring. As set forth below, growth medium will be distributed over the 15-foot wide benches and other areas of the Expansion Area once final benches are established.

Prior to reclamation, several representative samples of the existing bench substrate and of the surrounding overburden will be collected and submitted to a soil laboratory for agricultural suitability testing. If deficiencies or toxicities are discovered, the material will be bypassed or amended with fertilizer as appropriate.

Quarry Benches. Mining operations will create approximately 23,000 linear feet of benches that will equal approximately 8 acres of planting area for revegetation. Growth medium will be distributed on the quarry benches throughout the mining process as the bench surfaces are established at final grade and elevation. Growth medium will be distributed evenly, using earthmoving equipment. A minimum of 24 inches of uncompacted growth medium will be distributed over the bench surfaces to provide a suitable rooting ground for the revegetation species.

Once placed on the bench surface, the growth medium will be graded to be gently sloped from the outer edge of the bench inward, toward the cut slope. At the outer edge of the bench, growth medium will be graded to a maximum of 2:1 (Figure 7).

Figure 7 -- Quarry Bench Design

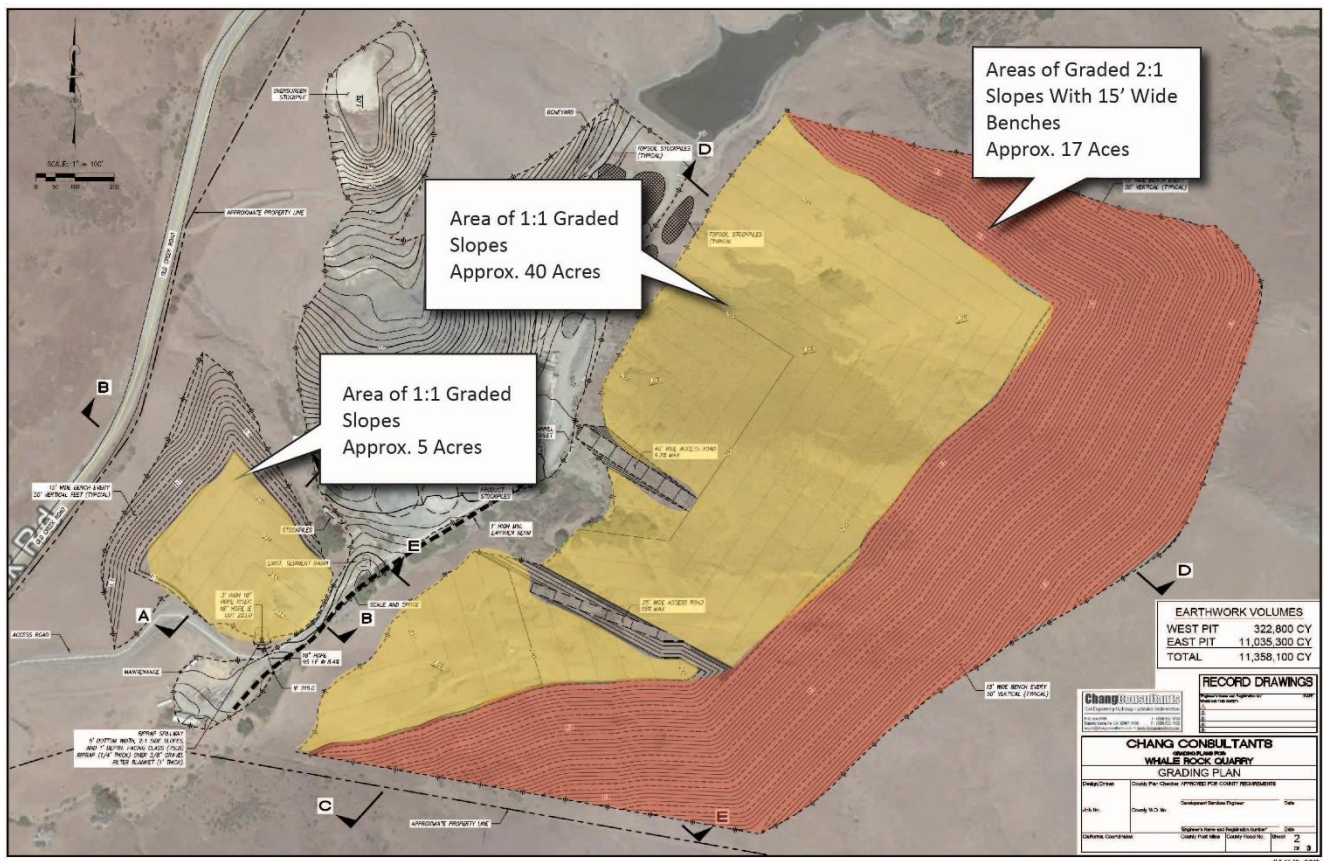


Graded Slopes. Graded slopes in the Expansion Area refer to slopes with no benches, that are disturbed from mining operations and will receive reclamation treatments. Generally, these areas include mining disturbance northwest of the processing area where previous mining operations are located upslope from the final Quarry benches around the perimeter of the pit and in areas that are currently used for processing.

Slopes in these areas will have a maximum steepness of 2:1 (H:V) with no benching. Graded slopes will generally receive a minimum of six (6) inches of growth medium, although certain areas of the Expansion Area slopes may not require the application of growth medium for revegetation to occur. At the time of reclamation, the revegetation specialist will determine areas of the graded slopes that require growth medium to achieve reclamation success. The pit bottom areas will be nearly flat with a finished grade of approximately 1% slope; this comprises +/-71% of the reclamation area of Phases 1-3 with a total of 45 acres to be restored to grazing land.

Once growth medium is distributed on graded slopes, a bulldozer will track-walk the finished slopes vertically to roughen the surface, with cleat tracks running cross-wise to the slope. The track-walking will create cavities that will reduce rill erosion, as well as capture seed and rainfall.

Figure 8 -- Final Graded Slopes



Revegetation and Monitoring. The Revegetation and Monitoring Plan is provided in the Biological Resources Survey, Revegetation and Monitoring Plan for the Whale Rock Quarry Expansion Site (V.L. Holland, June 2018). The Revegetation and Monitoring Plan ("Revegetation Plan") includes details for planting, a discussion of cultural practices, erosion control, and seed mixes for different areas of the site, including areas scheduled for reestablishment of Cambria morning glory. Also discussed is the potential use of irrigation, control of noxious weeds, drainage maintenance, and test plots for the various plantings.

The Revegetation Plan also provides a discussion of vegetation data collection, documentation methods, maintenance procedures, and a schedule for monitoring and erosion control management. Measurement criteria for revegetation performance and success as shown in Table 3 below, are also identified in the Revegetation Plan. Monitoring of each phase or sub-phase of reclamation will continue until the success criteria performance standards are met, including that during the last two years, there has been no human intervention, such as irrigation, fertilization, or weeding.

Table 3 -- Revegetation Success Criteria				
Vegetation Type	Species Richness	Percent Cover	Density	Sample Plot
Native Grassland**	5 species of native perennials/sq. m.	60% cover of native perennials per sq. m.	N/A	1 sq. m. quadrants
Coastal Scrub	4 species of native perennials	40% native perennial cover	8 native woody plants	25m x 1m belt transects
Riparian woodland with coast live oaks	3 species of native perennials per 25m x 1m belt transect. At least 2 tree species	50% cover of native perennials	10 native perennials per 25m x 1m belt transects	25m x 1m belt transects
Coast live oak cluster	Coast live oaks are also mixed with riparian woodland trees	N/A	3 trees per cluster	Each tree cluster planting location

** No introduced species will be included in the seed mix; however, naturalized grasses and forbs of the adjacent undisturbed coastal valley grassland plant communities, many of which are introduced species, will disperse onto the site naturally and become established.

In addition to grading the site to contour the topography for drainage purposes, compacted areas of the Expansion Area will be ripped to a depth of at least one foot to de-compact the surface in preparation for revegetation. Where mining operations result in compaction of the soil, scarifying of the soil will be used to eliminate compaction and to establish a suitable root zone in preparation for planting. All soil surfaces that are to be revegetated will be left in as rough a condition as possible. The goal is to create small cracks and crevices for the seeds to lodge and to improve water infiltration.

All temporary haul roads not retained for the post-mining land use will be ripped, disked, and seeded when no longer required. The Quarry ramp and access road will remain in place to provide the landowner access following the completion of reclamation. Other sections of road may remain after mining if requested by the property owner.

Reclamation Phase 1. The first phase of reclamation will be conducted in the mine excavation

area west of the creek (area 1A on Figure 7) and will consist of final grading of slopes and benches; drainage improvements; application of topsoil; and planting with the seed mixes discussed in the revegetation sections of the RPA. Overburden from Mine Phase 1B may be used to establish final grades in this area. Reclamation will occur on approximately 8 acres and is expected to occur approximately 10 to 12 years after the beginning of Phase 1B on the east side of Willow Creek (See Figure 7). The area occupied by the processing plant, product stockpiling, access road and the parking/storage area will continue to be used for these purposes until final reclamation.

Reclamation Phase 2. The second phase of reclamation will be conducted on approximately 18 acres of the new east pit and mimic the process followed in Reclamation Phase 1A. Reclamation and revegetation will consist of final grading of the pad area, grading of all slopes and benches; drainage improvements; application of topsoil; and planting with the area appropriate seed mix. Haul roads to be used during Phase 3 will remain in place.

Reclamation Phase 3. The third phase of reclamation will be conducted in the northeast side of the East Pit and will follow the same process as the first two phases. Overburden from the remainder of Mine Phase 1 and Phase 2 of East Pit will be used to establish final grade in this northeast section of the East Pit as extraction proceeds to the southwest.

Reclamation Phase 4 – Final. Final reclamation of the Expansion Area will take place after all material extraction activities are complete. Although reclamation will occur as areas of the Quarry are completed, all remaining disturbed areas will be reclaimed in this phase and the site prepared for end use. Access roads to the two pads and to the facilities area will remain in place at the request of the land owner. Reclamation will involve: equipment removal, establishment of remaining quarry benches, grading the processing area, establish drainages, ripping compacted areas, finish grading, growth medium distribution, seed mix distribution, direct planting, monitoring, maintenance and final Expansion Area closure.

The existing pond north of the Quarry and stock handling facilities on the south west end of the Expansion Area will remain in place for post mining use by ranch operations. The pond will continue to serve as a source of water for wildlife and livestock. Creek banks and drainages within the mining area will be reseeded using the appropriate seed mix as determined by the Revegetation Specialist. These activities together will achieve the goals of the RPA and leave the Expansion Area suitable for post-mining grazing and open space uses.

Background

County File No.: DRC2007-00016

Supervisory District: 2

Date accepted: December 13, 2017

Project Manager: Cindy Chambers

ASSESSOR PARCEL NUMBER(S): 044-291-028, 073-093-008

Latitude: 35 degrees 27'10.73 " N Longitude: 120 degrees 51'39.8"W **SUPERVISORY DISTRICT#2**

B. EXISTING SETTING

PLAN AREA: North County

SUB: Adelaida

COMM: NA

LAND USE CATEGORY: Agriculture



COMB. DESIGNATION: Geologic Study,

PARCEL SIZE: 234 acres

TOPOGRAPHY: Nearly level to very steeply sloping

VEGETATION: Grasses Scattered Oaks, Riparian

EXISTING USES: Surface mine, stock pond, Agricultural uses undeveloped

SURROUNDING LAND USE CATEGORIES AND USES:

<i>North:</i> Agriculture; rural single family residences	<i>East:</i> Agriculture; scattered single family residences
<i>South:</i> Agriculture; agricultural uses	<i>West:</i> Recreation; Whale Rock Reservoir; undeveloped



C. ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS

During the Initial Study process, at least one issue was identified as having a potentially significant environmental effects (see following Initial Study). Those potentially significant items associated with the proposed uses can be minimized to less than significant levels.



COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO INITIAL STUDY CHECKLIST

1. AESTHETICS	Potentially Significant	Impact can & will be mitigated	Insignificant Impact	Not Applicable
<i>Will the project:</i>				
a) <i>Create an aesthetically incompatible site open to public view?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) <i>Introduce a use within a scenic view open to public view?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) <i>Change the visual character of an area?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) <i>Create glare or night lighting, which may affect surrounding areas?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e) <i>Impact unique geological or physical features?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
f) <i>Other: _____</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Setting. The Project site is located in a semi-rural area of the County on Old Creek Road about 1.3 miles north of the community of Cayucos and directly east of Whale Rock Reservoir (Figure 1). Old Creek Road follows the ridgeline that separates the project site on the east from Whale Rock Reservoir to the west. Views from the ridgeline to the surrounding hills and valleys are expansive.

Old Creek Road is classified as a rural collector that provides the primary access to ranches between State Route 1 and State Route 46. Traffic counts taken by the County in 2016 for Old Creek Road south of SR 46 revealed a PM peak volume of 139. Traffic counts taken by Caltrans in 2016 for SR 46 at Green Valley Road revealed an average daily traffic of 3,450 and a peak-hour volume of 450 trips.

Old Creek Road is not a State-designated Scenic Highway and is not listed as a "Suggested Scenic Corridor" on Table VR-2 of the Conservation and Open Space Element. Development along Old Creek Road is not subject to the County's Scenic Protection Standards. State Route 1 (SR-1) is an Officially Designated State Scenic Highway and National Scenic Byway that passes to the south of the project site. The project site is also about ½ mile east of the Cayucos Fringe Viewshed, which is intended to protect views from SR-1. However, the project site is not within view of travelers on SR-1.

The Sensitive Resource designation has been applied to the Whale Rock Reservoir area in part to protect its scenic qualities.

The regional landscape descends from the rugged, mountainous western slopes of the Santa Lucia Range to the rolling farmlands and coastal communities to the south and west where the project site is located. The natural landcover of the surrounding landscape is predominantly oak woodland and oak

savanna, with limited riparian plant communities in the ephemeral drainages and creeks. The combining patterns of mature native vegetation, rolling topography and the Reservoir create a landscape with a high degree of visual interest and memorability. As a result, the quality of the existing visual environment surrounding the project site is considered moderate to high.

The existing 19-acre Quarry is located primarily on the north-facing slope of a small valley bisected by an unnamed tributary to Willow Creek (Figure 2). The existing Quarry includes an approximately 8-acre extraction area and an approximately 7-acre processing area, with an additional 4 acres of disturbance for stockpiles, roads, and equipment storage. The top of the existing working face is about 400 feet above mean sea level (MSL), with the working floor at about at the 244-foot MSL contour (156-foot tall working face). The ancillary components of the mining operation (e.g., sorting equipment, vehicle storage, office, etc.) are located adjacent to the working floor level. Views of the existing mining operations from Old Creek Road are intermittent and largely screened by the flanks of the hillside (Figures 9, 10 and 11).

Portions of the Project site outside the existing mining operations have been used for grazing and remain in a largely natural state. The Project site contains a large stock pond immediately upstream of the existing mining operations.

Expanded vested mining and excavation activities will take place in two locations: the main area consists of about 60 acres located on the north facing slope of the hillside and the other consisting of about six acres located on a south facing slope immediately west of the existing mining operations (Figure 2). As discussed in the project description, excavation will take place in phases over the course of many decades; reclamation activities will be ongoing and will begin when an excavated area has been depleted. When all phases of excavation have been completed, about 25,000,000 tons of aggregate material will have been removed from within the Expansion Area and the hillsides will be graded to create slopes and near-level areas as shown in Figure 7.

Figure 9 – Portions of the Expansion Area Visible from Old Creek Road

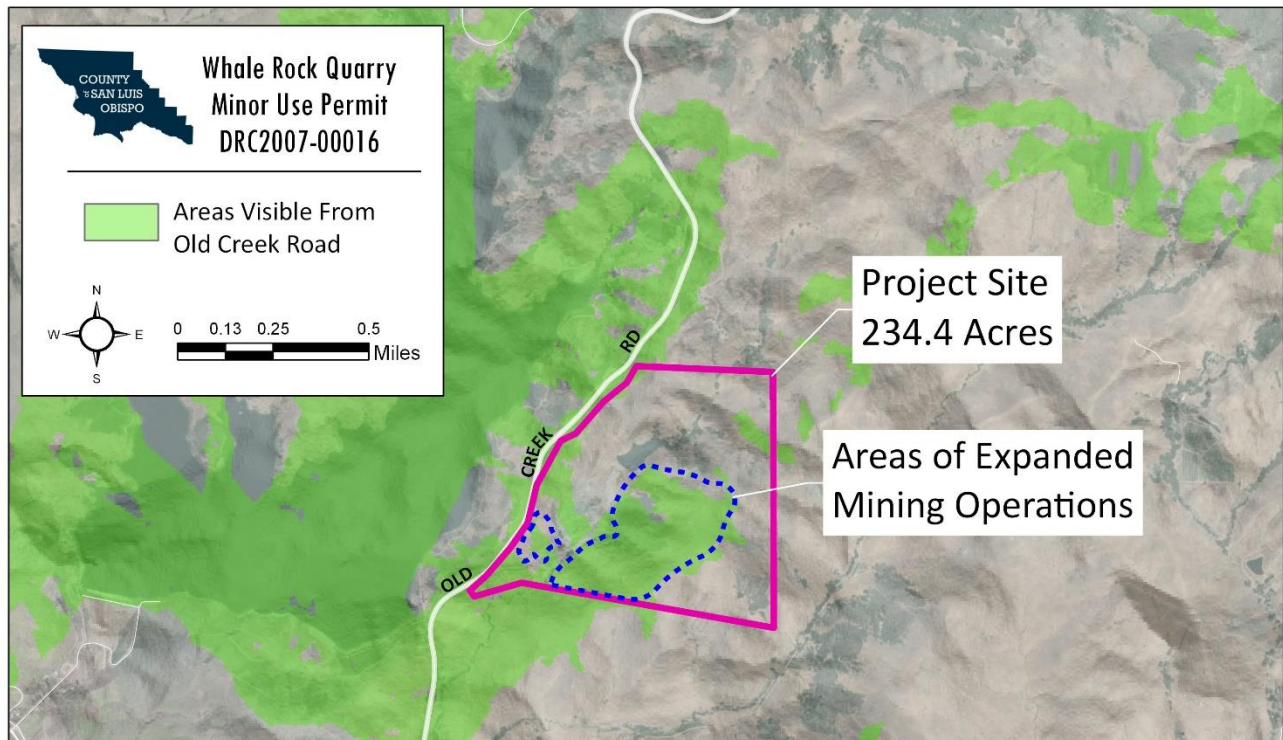


Figure 10 – View of the RPA Area For Travelers Going North on Old Creek Road



Figure 11 -- View of the RPA Area For Travelers Going South on Old Creek Road



Impact. Vested mining and excavation activities under this RPA will take place in two locations: the main area consists of about 60 acres located on the north facing slope of the hillside, and the other consisting of about six acres located on a south facing slope immediately west of the existing mining operations (Figure 2). As discussed in the project description, excavation will take place in phases over the course of many decades; reclamation activities will be ongoing and will begin when an excavated area has been depleted.

Impacts to visual resources associated with vested mining activities are not subject to discretionary approval and are therefore not considered as part of this Initial Study. The baseline conditions for the

consideration of visual impacts associated with the RPA are those that are expected to exist at the time reclamation activities are undertaken. Vested mining activities will result in large cut banks where the hillsides have been removed. As shown in Figure 6, the excavations occurring during phases 1B, 2 and 3 would result in a cut bank that would be about 425 feet deep covering an area of about 60 acres. As a result, the form and appearance of the hillside would be significantly altered and all vegetation would be removed.

As discussed in the project description, reclamation activities will include grading and compaction of the excavated areas to create benches that will be planted with a mixture of native plants (Figure 5). Reclamation activities will also include revegetation of the ephemeral tributary to Willow Creek and reestablishment of Cambria morning glory in the Expansion Area.

Conclusions/Mitigation Measures.

Implementation of the RPA is expected to improve the visual qualities of the Project site when compared to the conditions expected to exist at the time vested mining activities have ended. No mitigation measures are necessary.

2. AGRICULTURAL RESOURCES

Will the project:

	Potentially Significant	Impact can & will be mitigated	Insignificant Impact	Not Applicable
a) <i>Convert prime agricultural land, per NRCS soil classification, to non-agricultural use?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) <i>Convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance to non-agricultural use?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) <i>Impair agricultural use of other property or result in conversion to other uses?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) <i>Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or Williamson Act program?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e) <i>Other:</i> _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Setting. Project Elements. The following area-specific elements relate to the Quarry property's importance for agricultural production:

Land Use Category: Agriculture

Historic/Existing Commercial Crops: None, except grazing

State Classification: Not prime farmland with a small portion of Prime Farmland if irrigated

In Agricultural Preserve? Yes, Cayucos Agricultural Preserve Area

Under Williamson Act contract? Yes

The soil type(s) and characteristics on the subject property include:

Lodo clay loam (50 - 75 % slope). This very steeply sloping, shallow fine loamy soil is considered very poorly drained. The soil has moderate erodibility and moderate shrink-swell characteristics, as well as having potential septic system constraints due to: steep slopes, shallow depth to bedrock. The soil is considered Class VII without irrigation and Class is not rated when irrigated.

Diablo and Cibo clays (15 – 30% slope)

Diablo. This moderately to steeply sloping clayey soil is well drained. Shrink-swell potential is high. This soil is not flooded. It is not ponded. Nonirrigated land capability classification is 4e. Irrigated land capability classification is IVe.

Cibo. This moderately to steeply sloping clayey soil is considered well drained. Shrink-swell potential is high. Nonirrigated land capability classification is IVe. Irrigated land capability classification is 4e.

Diablo and Cibo clays (30 - 50 % slope).

Diablo. This steeply sloping clayey soil is considered very poorly drained. The soil has moderate erodibility and high shrink-swell characteristics, as well as having potential septic system constraints due to: steep slopes, slow percolation. The soil is considered Class VI without irrigation and Class is not rated when irrigated.

Cibo. This steeply sloping clayey soil is considered very poorly drained. The soil has moderate erodibility and high shrink-swell characteristics, as well as having potential septic system



constraints due to: steep slopes, shallow depth to bedrock, slow percolation. The soil is considered Class VI without irrigation and Class is not rated when irrigated.

Diablo-Lodo complex (15 -50% slopes)

Diablo. This moderately sloping soil is considered well drained. Shrink-swell potential is high. Non-irrigated land capability is VIe. Irrigated land capability is VIe.

Cropley clay (2 - 9 % slope). This gently sloping clayey soil is considered very poorly drained. The soil has moderate erodibility and high shrink-swell characteristics, as well as having potential septic system constraints due to: slow percolation. The soil is considered Class III without irrigation and Class II when irrigated. This soil is on the property but outside of the proposed expansion area.

Figure 12 shows the soil classifications of the Vested Area which are summarized in Table 4. According to Table SL-1 of the Conservation-Open Space Element, 26.2 acres of the Vested Area are considered important farmland, of which 4.3 acres are considered prime (Figure 12).

Figure 12 -- Soils of the Vested Area

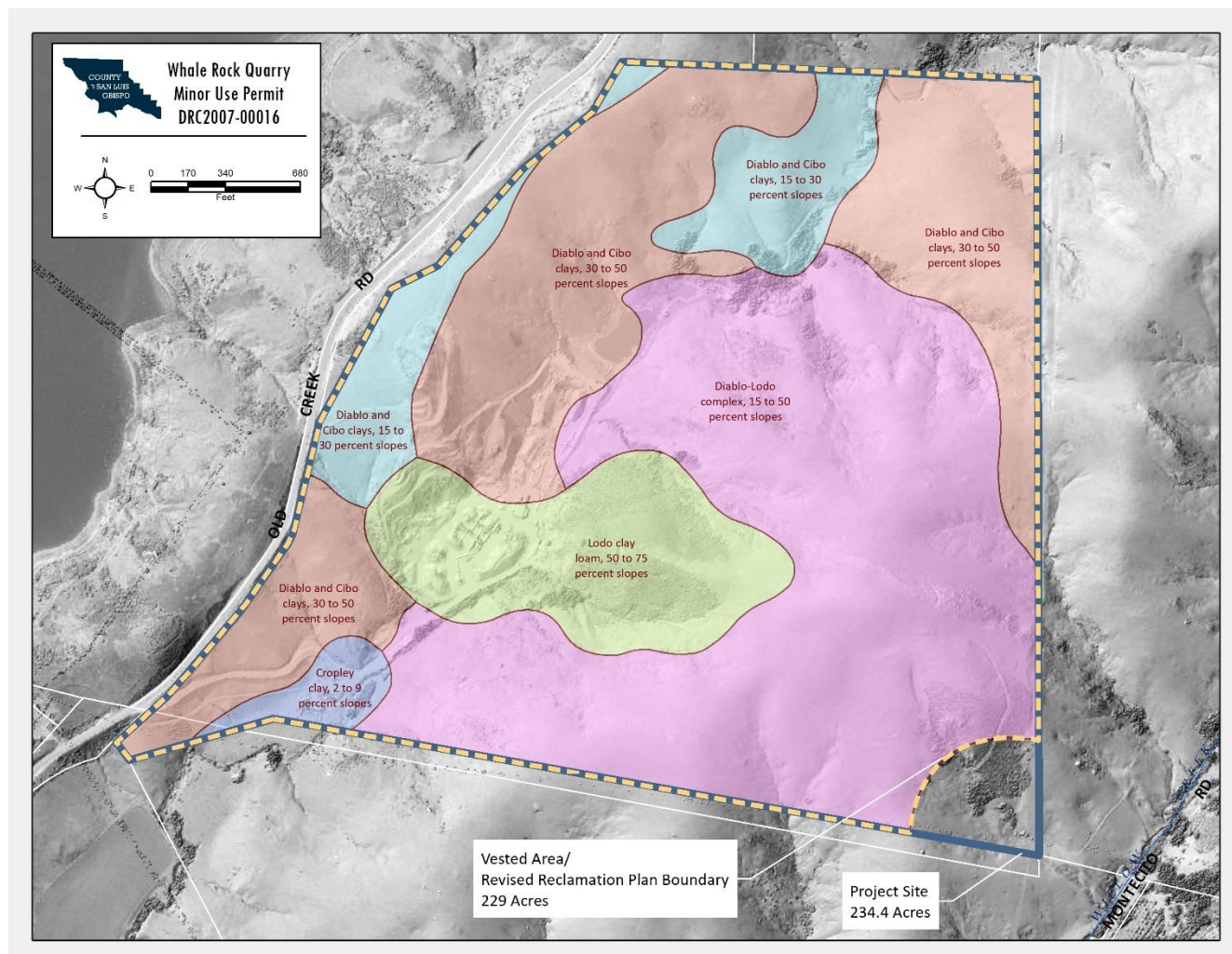


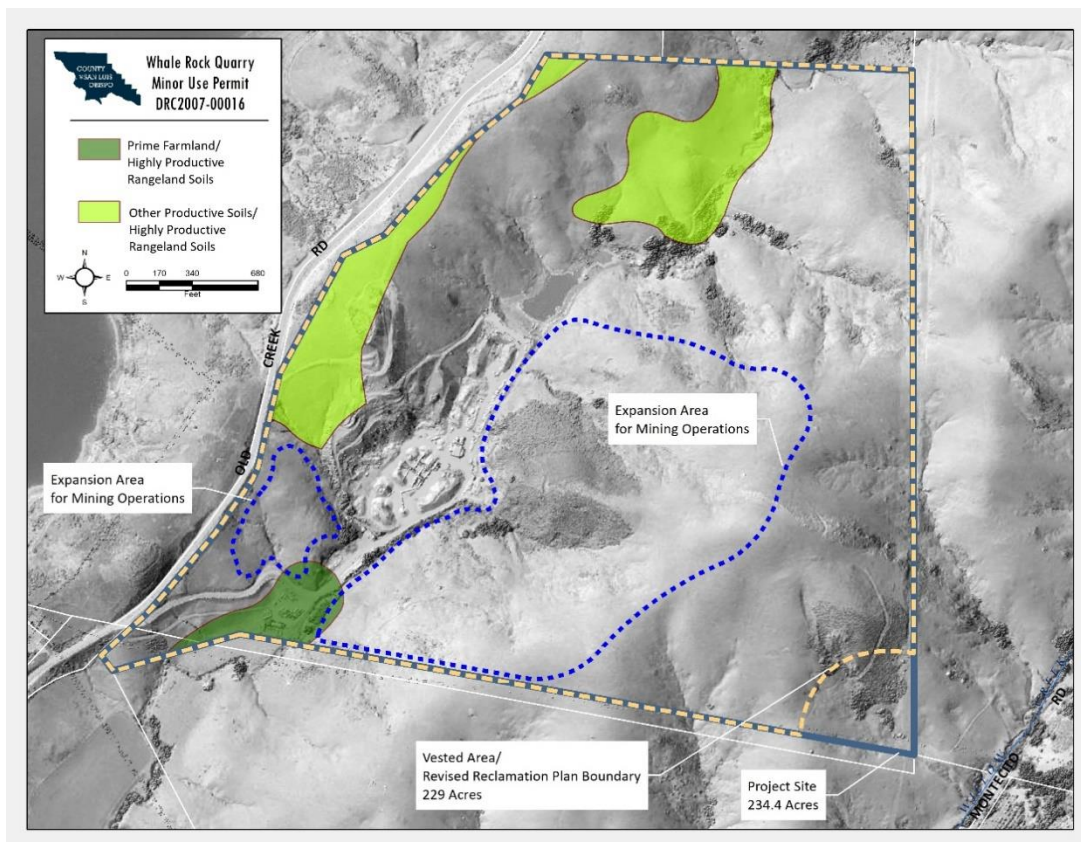
Table 4 – Soils of the Vested Area

Soil ¹	Acres	Percent	Important Farmland Classification ²
Lodo clay loam (50 - 75 % slope)	27.8	12.1%	Not prime
Diablo and Cibo clays (15 – 30% slope)	21.9	9.56%	Other productive soils/highly productive rangeland soils
Diablo and Cibo clays (30 – 50% slope)	73.3	32.0%	Not prime
Diablo-lodo complex (15 – 50% slopes)	101.7	44.4%	Not prime
Cropley clay (2 – 9% slopes)	4.3	1.9%	Prime farmland/highly productive rangeland soils
Total:	229.0	100%	

Notes:

1. Source: NRCS Web Soils Survey, 2018
2. Source: Table SL-1 of the Conservation-Open Space Element.

Figure 13 -- Important Farmland



Impact. Vested mining operations will fully disturb existing soils in the Expansion Area. The RPA does not describe or include vested mining operations outside of the Expansion Area. Reclamation activities within the Expansion Area will take place on steep hillsides in a predominately non-agricultural area of the Quarry parcel, where limited agricultural activities occur. Existing vegetation and steep slopes render the Expansion Area largely unsuitable for cultivation. However, the Expansion Area and larger Vested Area have been used historically for livestock grazing (approximately 30 head of cattle roam the property year-round) and grazing does occur on surrounding properties.

Vested mining activities will result in large cut banks where the hillsides have been removed. Implementation of the RPA will include the grading and compaction of these excavated areas to create benches that will be planted with a mixture of native plants (Figures 5 and 7). The revegetation planting and final grading are intended to create level areas suitable for continued livestock grazing. As a result, implementation of the RPA is expected to have a beneficial impact because the resulting slopes and native vegetation are expected to be more conducive to grazing when compared to baseline conditions (inclusive of the vested mining activities).

Conversion of Prime Farmland. According to Table SL-2 of the Conservation and Open Space Element, reclamation activities will not take place on soils considered to be “prime”, and, more importantly, vested mining activities will disturb all soils in place within the Expansion Area. Therefore, the Project will not result in the conversion of prime farmland.

The Project was reviewed by the Ag Preserve Review Committee on February 26, 2018. The Committee discussed the Project’s compatibility with the Williamson Act contract in place on the Quarry property and recommended that a minimum of 100 acres be left available for grazing at all times to ensure compatibility. The Project is proposing 82 acres of mining in phases such that only a portion of this area will be actively mined while other portions are depleted and reclaimed over time. Approximately 152 acres of undisturbed area will remain outside the limits of this RPA and continuously available for grazing. A new RPA would be required to initiate additional vested surface mining activity in another part of Vested Area.

Impair the Agricultural Use Of Other Property Or Result in Conversion To Other Uses/Conflict With Existing Zoning or Williamson Act Program. The Project site is located within the Cayucos Agricultural Preserve and is subject to an active Williamson Act Contract.

The Project proposes reclamation activities on mined lands that are currently under a Williamson Act contract. A straw vote taken by the Agricultural Preserve Review Committee showed that, based on preliminary information, a majority found that the mining use is not incompatible with the existing grazing operation. However, as noted, the Quarry is a vested mining operation that does not require a County Conditional Use Permit. Implementation of the RPA will have a beneficial impact because the resulting slopes and native vegetation are expected to be more conducive to grazing when compared to baseline conditions (inclusive of the vested mining activities).

Conclusions/Mitigation Measures. Impacts to agricultural resources are considered less than significant because:

- The Project will not convert prime agricultural land, per NRCS soil classification, to non-agricultural use;
- The Project will not convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance to non-agricultural use;
- The Project will not impair agricultural use of other property or result in conversion to other uses;
- The Project will not conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or Williamson Act program;

- The Project incorporates drainage improvements to minimize soil erosion on-site and down slope; and
- Over time, implementation of the RPA will result in conditions more conducive to livestock grazing than baseline conditions inclusive of the vested mining activities.

No mitigation measures are necessary.

3. AIR QUALITY

Will the project:

	Potentially Significant	Impact can & will be mitigated	Insignificant Impact	Not Applicable
a) <i>Violate any state or federal ambient air quality standard, or exceed air quality emission thresholds as established by County Air Pollution Control District?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) <i>Expose any sensitive receptor to substantial air pollutant concentrations?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) <i>Create or subject individuals to objectionable odors?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) <i>Be inconsistent with the District's Clean Air Plan?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e) <i>Result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant either considered in non-attainment under applicable state or federal ambient air quality standards that are due to increased energy use or traffic generation, or intensified land use change?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

GREENHOUSE GASES

f) <i>Generate greenhouse gas emissions, either directly or indirectly, that may have a significant impact on the environment?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
g) <i>Conflict with an applicable plan, policy or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
h) <i>Other:</i> _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Setting. In March 2002 the San Luis Obispo County Air Pollution Control District (APCD) adopted a Clean Air Plan (CAP) which sets forth strategies for achieving and maintaining federal and State air pollution standards. State standards for ozone and fine particulate matter (PM₁₀) are currently exceeded within the District, and violation of federal standards may occur in future years without adequate planning and air quality management.

The APCD's 2012 CEQA Air Quality Handbook ("Handbook") assists lead agencies, planning consultants, and project proponents in assessing the potential air quality impacts from new



development. The Handbook defines the criteria used by the APCD to determine when an air quality analysis is necessary, the type of analysis that should be performed, the significance of the impacts predicted by the analysis, and the mitigation measures needed to reduce the overall air quality impacts.

The Handbook establishes thresholds of significance for various types of development and associated activities and includes screening criteria for construction and operational impacts. According to the Handbook, a project with grading in excess of 4.0 acres and moving 1,200 cubic yards of earth per day can exceed the construction threshold for respirable particulate matter (PM₁₀). In addition, a project with the potential to generate 137 lbs per day of ozone precursors (ROG + NO_x) or diesel particulates in excess of 7 lbs per day can result in a significant impact (Table 5).

Table 5 – Thresholds of Significance for Construction			
Pollutant	Threshold¹		
	Daily	Quarterly Tier 1	Quarterly Tier 2
ROG+NO _x (combined)	137 lbs	2.5 tons	6.3 tons
Diesel Particulate Matter	7 lbs	0.13 tons	0.32 tons
Fugitive Particulate Matter (PM ₁₀), Dust ²		2.5 tons	
Greenhouse Gases (CO ₂ , CH ₄ , N ₂ O, HFC, CFC, F ₆ S)	Amortized and Combined with Operational Emissions		

Source: SLO County APCD CEQA Air Quality Handbook, page 2-2.

Notes:

1. Daily and quarterly emission thresholds are based on the California Health & Safety Code and the CARB Carl Moyer Guidelines.
2. Any project with a grading area greater than 4.0 acres of worked area can exceed the 2.5-ton PM₁₀ quarterly threshold.

The APCD has adopted a tiered system for assessing the significance of a project's air quality impact, as shown below. When project emissions of ROG, SO_x, SO₂, and PM₁₀ are under 10 pounds per day and CO emissions are less than 50 pounds per day impacts are considered less than significant. If emissions of any of ROG, SO_x, SO₂, or PM₁₀ are from 10 to 24 pounds per day, impacts are considered potentially significant and on-site mitigation is recommended. If emissions of ROG, NO_x, SO₂, or PM₁₀ cannot be reduced to less than 25 pounds per day or CO emissions cannot be reduced to less than 550 pounds per day, additional measures may be required. If CO emissions exceed 550 pounds per day, CO concentrations should be modeled to determine whether the project would cause an exceedance of the federal or state standard. Table 6 illustrates the tiers for determining the significance of a project's operational impacts.

Table 6 – Thresholds of Significance for Operational Emissions				
Pollutant		Tier 1	Tier 2	Tier 3
ROG, NO _x , SO ₂ , PM ₁₀	< 10 lbs/day	10 lbs/day	25 lbs/day	25 tons/year
Carbon Monoxide	< 550 lbs/day		550 lbs/day	
Significance	Less Than Significant	Potentially Significant	Significant	Significant

Source: SLO County APCD CEQA Air Quality Handbook

Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Emissions are said to result in an increase in the earth's average surface temperature. This is commonly referred to as global warming. The rise in global temperature is associated with long-term changes in precipitation, temperature, wind patterns, and other elements of the earth's climate system. This is also known as climate change. These changes are now thought to be broadly attributed to GHG emissions, particularly those emissions that result from the human production and use of fossil fuels.

The passage of AB32, the California Global Warming Solutions Act (2006), recognized the need to reduce GHG emissions and set the greenhouse gas emissions reduction goal for the State of California into law. The law required that by 2020, State emissions must be reduced to 1990 levels. This is to be accomplished by reducing greenhouse gas emissions from significant sources via regulation, market mechanisms, and other actions. Subsequent legislation (e.g., SB97-Greenhouse Gas Emissions bill) directed the California Air Resources Board (CARB) to develop statewide thresholds.

In March 2012, the San Luis Obispo County Air Pollution Control District (APCD) approved thresholds for GHG emission impacts, and these thresholds have been incorporated into the APCD's CEQA Air Quality Handbook. APCD determined that a tiered process for residential / commercial land use projects was the most appropriate and effective approach for assessing the GHG emission impacts. The tiered approach includes three methods, any of which can be used for any given project:

1. Qualitative GHG Reduction Strategies (e.g. Climate Action Plans): A qualitative threshold that is consistent with AB 32 Scoping Plan measures and goals; or,
2. Bright-Line Threshold: Numerical value to determine the significance of a project's annual GHG emissions; or,
3. Efficiency-Based Threshold: Assesses the GHG impacts of a project on an emissions per capita basis.

For most projects the Bright-Line Threshold of 1,150 Metric Tons CO₂/year (MT CO₂e/yr) will be the most applicable threshold. In addition to the residential/commercial threshold options proposed above, a bright-line numerical value threshold of 10,000 MT CO₂e/yr was adopted for stationary source (industrial) projects.

It should be noted that projects that generate less than the above-mentioned thresholds will also participate in emission reductions because air emissions, including GHGs, are under the purview of the California Air Resources Board (or other regulatory agencies) and will be "regulated" either by CARB, the Federal Government, or other entities. For example, new vehicles will be subject to increased fuel economy standards and emission reductions, large and small appliances will be subject to more strict emissions standards, and energy delivered to consumers will increasingly come from renewable sources. Other programs that are intended to reduce the overall GHG emissions include Low Carbon Fuel Standards, Renewable Portfolio standards and the Clean Car standards. As a result, even the emissions that result from projects that produce fewer emissions than the threshold will be subject to emission reductions.

Under CEQA, an individual project's GHG emissions will generally not result in direct significant impacts. This is because the climate change issue is global in nature. However, an individual project could be found to contribute to a potentially significant cumulative impact. Projects that have GHG emissions above the noted thresholds may be considered cumulatively considerable and require mitigation.

As noted previously, the environmental effects associated with vested mining activities are not subject to discretionary approval and are therefore not considered as part of this Initial Study (see Section A, "Baseline Conditions -- Vested Mining Activities and Operational Characteristics").

For purposes of this initial study, the baseline conditions for the assessment of impacts associated with the Reclamation Plan Amendment include the existing physical environmental characteristics of the Quarry, plus the conditions likely to result from the vested mining activities. Thus, this Initial Study



compares the environmental effects of implementing the reclamation measures described in the Reclamation Plan Amendment compared to a baseline condition of an operational, fully-mined Quarry site. Existing vested Quarry operations, which are part of the environmental baseline, include use of processing equipment (described further below), dozers, scrapers, loaders, and haul trucks, as well as smaller on-road vehicles associated with employees, contractors, customers, and suppliers.

Current motor vehicle trips generated by the Quarry are summarized in Table 1 (reproduced below from Section A, Project Description), assuming an average annual production rate of 47,656 tons per year and up to 10 employees.

Table 1 – Quarry Baseline Motor Vehicle Trips			
Source	Quantity	Trip Rate	Total Daily Trips
Employees	10	One trip per day per employee	20
Truck Trips - Quarry product deliveries	47,656 tons of product per year	18.8 trips per day ¹	18.8
Visitor vehicles, vendor & material delivery trucks, pickup truck loads, etc.	15 per week on average	3 round trips per day on average	6
Total:			44.8 ²

Notes:

1. Average annual production rate of 47,656 tons per year / 250 days per year = 190.6 tons per day
190.6 tons per day / 20.2 tons per truck = 9.4 truck trips per day
2. Estimated Baseline Annual Trips (44.8 trips x 6 days/week) = 13,977.6 annually
(Baseline annual trips are calculated based on the estimated daily averages noted above and an assumed operational period of six days per week. The vested Quarry has no Conditional Use Permit and therefore no operational restrictions on hours and days.

The existing Quarry processing plant consists of equipment and facilities that crush, screen, sort and temporarily store processed materials prior to distribution off-site. These processes use the following equipment and facilities:

- Cone and jaw crushing units
- Series of vibrating screens
- Conveyors linking processing facilities with stockpiles
- Finished material stockpiles
- Access roads

All crushing, conveying and processing units currently operate according to Permits to Operate issued by the APCD. Negranti Construction complies with all APCD rules and regulations, including requirements for the control of fugitive dust. These requirements include the use of best available control technology ("BACT"), which includes enclosures, and water sprays to reduce or eliminate dust emissions.

A full list of equipment currently utilized to conduct vested mining operations at the Quarry is provided on Page 25-27 of the RPA. A summary of this equipment includes: 10 large trucks/semi trucks; 10 large trailers; 8 autos and pickups; 13 small trailers; 21 pieces of heavy equipment; 9 items of crushing equipment; and, miscellaneous items including portable scales, conveyors, rock drill, and steam

cleaner. The Applicant's use of the above-referenced equipment is, as previously noted, part of the vested mine operations and environmental baseline for purposes of CEQA and this Initial Study.

Impact. Implementation of the Reclamation Plan Amendment will involve earth moving, reclamation, and monitoring activities that will generate emissions from the following sources:

- Exhaust emissions from construction equipment and vehicles;
- Particulate matter (fugitive dust) from earth moving activities; and
- Exhaust emissions from reclamation and monitoring activities.

The emission of ozone precursors (NO_x and ROG) associated with these activities would contribute to periodic high ozone levels in the central coastal portion of the County. Lastly, earth-disturbing activities have the potential to release naturally-occurring asbestos.

Construction and Operational Impacts. Estimating the emissions above baseline conditions associated with reclamation activities that will take place over a timeframe of up to 200 years is complicated by a number of factors:

- Each area of the site may have different physical characteristics that would likely affect the emission factors for that area. For example, steepness of slope, depth of cut and fill, etc. will influence the duration, number and type of equipment required.
- Estimates for on and off-road vehicle emission factors are time-sensitive. Over time, it is assumed that emissions per vehicle hour will be reduced because of the use of newer, cleaner equipment due to regulation and attrition.
- Emission targets and policies regarding thresholds, both statewide and within the county will likely change over time.
- The CalEEMod emission estimator currently calculates emissions only out to 2050. Phase 1A is the only phase to be completed within that timeframe.

Baseline Determination:

Vested mining in Phase 1A (west pit) will result in the disturbance of 5.9 acres over a period of approximately 6 years and will displace approximately 322,800 cubic yards of material (Grading Plan, Chang Consultants, August 4, 2017). Phase 1A therefore involves an average of 53,800 cubic yards of excavation annually, with subsequent associated stockpiling, processing and loading activities equal to that amount. Phase 1B (east pit) will be initiated concurrently with Phase 1A and mine an additional 25.3 acres, beginning with creating a pad area at the toe of the slope east of the drainage. Based on the grading plan's East Pit total earthwork volume of 11,358,100 cubic yards, Phase 1B will involve displacement of roughly 199,265 cubic yards of material over 25 years, or 80,000 cubic yards annually with attendant processing, stockpiling, and loading activities. These activities of concurrent mining and processing of 133,800 cubic yards annually results in a projected average of 11,150 cubic yards per month. An estimated average of 11,150 cubic yards per month in extractions plus processing, stockpiling, and loading activity of 11,150 cubic yards of material form the baseline against which to evaluate reclamation activity in Phase 1.

Reclamation Activity Assumptions:

- Implementation of the RPA will involve the grading of manufactured slopes followed by planting and monitoring. Reclamation will be an ongoing, intermittent construction activity of relatively short duration (i.e, incremental construction of final slopes, topsoil distribution, and revegetation)



and will occur as mined areas are fully depleted and final contours are achieved in each phase. Therefore, for purposes of this analysis, APCD construction emissions thresholds are utilized to evaluate reclamation activity.

- Phase 1A will result in the reclamation of 5.9 acres and 3,392 cubic yards of earthwork. Reclamation will begin in 2029 and take an estimated 20-40 days (annually) with 5 employees.
- Earth moving equipment used for reclamation activities is assumed to be as follows:

Equipment/Vehicle	Quantity
Caterpillar 345 Excavator	1
Caterpillar D8 Bulldozer	1
Caterpillar 12H Grader	1
Volvo haul trucks	2
Water Truck	1

- Reclamation earthwork will be completed using existing onsite heavy equipment diverted from use in mining operations and conducted by quarry employees during periods when raw aggregate material is in low demand (Reclamation Plan Section 4.1). The earthwork activities for reclamation slope and bench preparation is not expected to increase heavy equipment use over full mining operations.
- Planting and hydroseed activity will be conducted by private contractor, utilizing several vehicles (typically a hydroseed truck, tractor, and flatbed delivery truck, plus one or two passenger vehicles) in short periods throughout the year but typically scheduled in the fall.
- Monitoring activity by outside contractors would consist of one or two passenger vehicles visiting the site several times per year.

Earthwork activity for reclamation would not increase vehicle use or employees over baseline, as noted above. Consequently, reclamation planting and monitoring activity is estimated to add up to 208 vehicle trips per year, in years when final bench configuration is achieved and reclamation activity is initiated, as shown below:

Table 7: Annual Reclamation Activity Trips

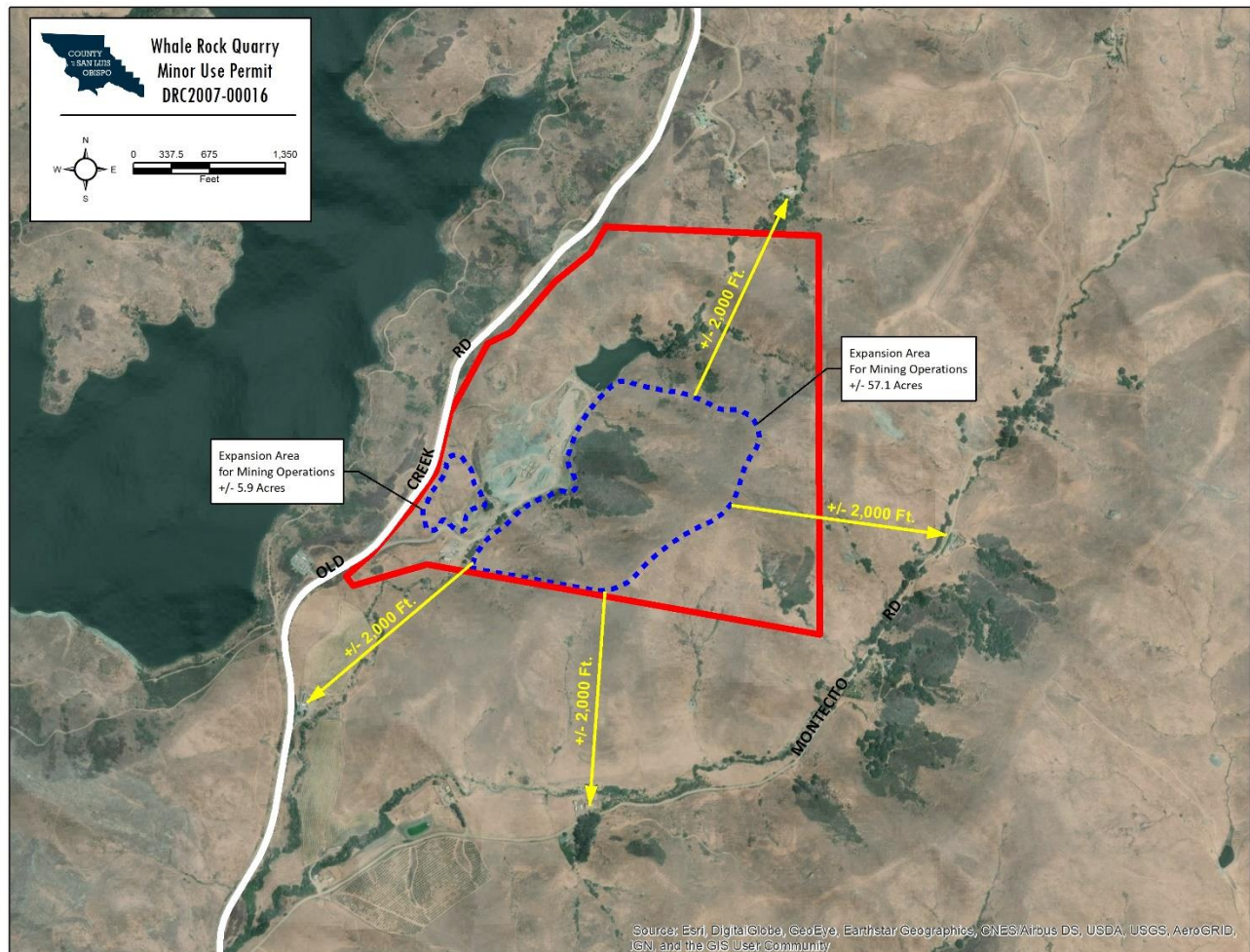
Activity	Number of Vehicles	Days per Year	Total New Reclamation Trips Annually
Reclamation planting & seeding activity	5	40 days	200
Monitoring	2	4 days	8
Total	7	44 days	208

The Table 7 total estimated annual increase in reclamation trips over the baseline annual trips identified in Table 1 (e.g., 208 annual Reclamation trips / 13,977 annual baseline trips) is an increase of 0.015 trips. Given that the reclamation activity will utilize existing on-site equipment during periods of low production, estimated new vehicle trips associated with the Project will result in a negligible change from annual baseline.

Impacts to Sensitive Receptors. Sensitive receptors are people or other organisms that may have a significantly increased sensitivity or exposure to air pollution by virtue of their age and health (e.g. schools, day care centers, hospitals, nursing homes), regulatory status (e.g. federal or state listing as a sensitive or endangered species), or proximity to the source. As shown on Figure 14, the nearest sensitive receptor (residences) to the north are more than 2,000 feet (more than 1/3 mile) from the north

edge of the Quarry pit when fully developed; the closest residence to the south from the Quarry pit when fully developed is approximately the same distance. Reclamation activity is expected to be intermittent and of short duration and will not involve blasting or processing. Therefore, impacts to sensitive receptors are considered less than significant.

Figure 14 – Sensitive Receptors Surrounding the Project Site



Consistency With the Clean Air Plan. The Project site will accommodate a level of development that was anticipated by the Clean Air Plan. As discussed above, reclamation activities will not generate emissions that exceed APCD thresholds.

With regard to greenhouse gas emissions, using the GHG threshold information described in the Setting section, the Project is expected to generate less than the Bright-Line Threshold of 1,150 metric tons of GHG emissions. Therefore, the Project's potential direct and cumulative GHG emissions are found to be less significant and less than a cumulatively considerable contribution to GHG emissions. Section 15064(h)(2) of the CEQA Guidelines provides guidance on how to evaluate cumulative impacts. If it is shown that an incremental contribution to a cumulative impact, such as global climate change, is not 'cumulatively considerable', no mitigation is required. Because this project's emissions fall under the threshold, no mitigation is required.

The Clean Air Plan includes land use management strategies to guide decisionmakers on land use approaches that result in improved air quality. This development is consistent with the “Planning Compact Communities” strategy because it incorporates an increase in development density within an urban area (Templeton URL) which is preferable over increasing densities in rural areas.

Conclusions/Mitigation Measures. The above discussion supports the following conclusions:

- The Project will not violate any state or federal ambient air quality standard, or exceed air quality emission thresholds as established by County Air Pollution Control District;
- The Project will not expose any sensitive receptor to substantial air pollutant concentrations;
- The Project will not create or subject individuals to objectionable odors;
- The Project will be inconsistent with the District’s Clean Air Plan;
- The Project will not result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant either considered in non-attainment under applicable state or federal ambient air quality standards that are due to increased energy use or traffic generation, or intensified land use change;
- The Project will not generate greenhouse gas emissions, either directly or indirectly, that may have a significant impact on the environment; and
- The Project will not conflict with an applicable plan, policy or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases.

Accordingly, the Project’s air emissions-related impacts will be less than significant, and no mitigations are necessary.

4. BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES

Will the project:

	Potentially Significant	Impact can & will be mitigated	Insignificant Impact	Not Applicable
a) <i>Result in a loss of unique or special status species* or their habitats?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) <i>Reduce the extent, diversity or quality of native or other important vegetation?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) <i>Impact wetland or riparian habitat?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) <i>Interfere with the movement of resident or migratory fish or wildlife species, or factors, which could hinder the normal activities of wildlife?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e) <i>Conflict with any regional plans or policies to protect sensitive species, or regulations of the California Department of Fish & Wildlife or U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
f) <i>Other:</i> _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

* Species – as defined in Section 15380 of the CEQA Guidelines, which includes all plant and wildlife species that fall under the category of rare, threatened or endangered, as described in this section.

Setting. The following are existing elements on or near the proposed Project relating to potential biological concerns:

Name and distance from blue line creek(s): An unnamed “blue line” tributary to the Willow Creek courses through the subject property. Willow Creek is approximately 500 feet southeast of the proposed project.

Combining Designations: The proposed Project is adjacent to a Sensitive Resource Area designation: Whale Rock Reservoir Watershed. The Project is within an adjacent watershed to Whale Rock Reservoir.

Habitat(s): Non-native grassland, chaparral, riparian.

The Natural Diversity Database (or other biological references used by the County) identified the following species potentially existing within approximately one mile of the proposed Project:

Southwestern pond turtle (*Emys (or Clemmys) marmorata pallida*) has been found less than 1/10th of a mile to the south east and within one mile to the east, south, north and northwest within Willow Creek. Southwestern pond turtle is a federal and California Species of Special Concern. This is an aquatic turtle that uses upland habitat seasonally. They occur in ponds, streams, lakes, ditches, and marshes. The species prefers slow-water aquatic habitat with available basking sites nearby. Hatchlings require shallow water habitat with relatively dense submergent vegetation for foraging.

Tidewater goby (*Eucyclogobius newberryi*) has been found about one mile to the south west at the mouth of Willow Creek as it enters the Pacific Ocean. They are considered federally endangered and a California Species of Special Concern. This species is found in brackish water habitats along the California coast. Microhabitats include shallow lagoons and lower stream



reaches. The goby needs fairly still but not stagnant water with high oxygen levels. Suitable habitat within these streams range from the mouths to approximately 1.5 to 2.0 miles upstream. The Project is almost two miles from the mouth of Willow Creek. Tidewater goby is threatened by various factors including water quality degradation and low instream flows caused by water diversions and periodic drought.

California red-legged frog (*Rana aurora draytonii*) habitat may exist on the Project site. California red-legged frog is considered federally threatened. This species typically inhabits freshwater shorelines with extensive vegetation. The frog requires 11 to 20 weeks of permanent water for larval development.

Serpentine rock outcrops exist on the Property. Serpentine soils are generally known to support several rare and endangered plants under certain conditions. After field inspection and review of the biological report, there is no evidence of natural surface moisture on the subject Property. Therefore, these sensitive serpentine-based plants are not expected.

Regulatory Setting

Federal Regulations

Federal Endangered Species Act of 1973

The Federal Endangered Species Act ("FESA") provides legislation to protect federally listed plant and animal species. Impacts to listed species resulting from the implementation of a project would require the responsible agency or individual to formally consult with the US Fish and Wildlife Service ("the Service") or National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration National Marine Fisheries Service ("NOAA Fisheries") to determine the extent of impact to a particular species. If the Service or NOAA Fisheries determines that impacts to a federally listed species would likely occur, alternatives and measures to avoid or reduce impacts must be identified. The Service and NOAA Fisheries also regulate activities conducted in federal critical habitat, which are geographic units designated as areas that support primary habitat constituent elements for listed species. No FESA listed species were observed during surveys of the Biological Study Area (BSA) which includes the entire 230-acre Vested Area.

Migratory Bird Treaty Act of 1918

The Migratory Bird Treaty Act ("MBTA") protects all migratory birds, including their eggs, nests, and feathers. The MBTA was originally drafted to put an end to the commercial trade in bird feathers, popular in the latter part of the 1800s. The MBTA is enforced by the Service, and potential impacts to species protected under the MBTA are evaluated by the Service in consultation with other federal agencies. No nesting migratory birds or vacant nests were observed during surveys of the Biological Study Area ("BSA"). However, the BSA supports suitable nesting habitat and the proposed Project must comply with the MBTA.

Section 401 of the Clean Water Act.

Section 401 of the Clean Water Act (CWA) and its provisions ensure that federally permitted activities comply with the federal CWA and state water quality laws. Section 401 is implemented through a review process that is conducted by the Regional Water Quality Control Board ("RWQCB") or the County and is triggered by the Section 404 permitting process. The RWQCB or the County certify, via the 401 process, that a proposed project complies with applicable effluent limitations, water quality standards, and other conditions of California law. Evaluating the effects of the proposed Project on both water quality and quantity (runoff) falls under the jurisdiction of the RWQCB or the County.

The Project proposes to disturb more than one acre. Therefore, prior to work beginning in any new phase, the project may be required to update the Industrial Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) that has been submitted to the Regional Water Quality Control Board (WDID# 3 40I025440). This Plan includes Best Management Practices and measures to reduce potential sedimentation, erosion and drainage impacts to existing downstream water sources.

State Regulations

California Endangered Species Act

The California Endangered Species Act (“CESA”) ensures legal protection for plants listed as rare or endangered, and wildlife species formally listed as endangered or threatened. The state also maintains a list of California Species of Special Concern (“SSC”). SSC status is assigned to species that have limited distribution, declining populations, diminishing habitat, or unusual scientific, recreational, or educational value. Under state law, the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (“CDFW”) is empowered to review projects for their potential to impact special-status species and their habitats. Under the CESA, CDFW reserves the right to request the replacement of lost habitat that is considered important to the continued existence of CESA protected species.

California Fish and Game Code

California Fish and Game Code §3511 includes provisions to protect Fully Protected species, such as: (1) prohibiting take or possession “at any time” of the species listed in the statute, with few exceptions; (2) stating that “no provision of this code or any other law shall be construed to authorize the issuance of permits or licenses to “take” the species; and (3) stating that no previously issued permits or licenses for take of the species “shall have any force or effect” for authorizing take or possession. CDFW is unable to authorize incidental take of “fully protected” species when activities are proposed in areas inhabited by those species. Sections 3503 and 3503.5 of the Fish and Game Code state that it is unlawful to take, possess, or destroy the nest or eggs of any bird, with occasional exceptions. In addition, §3513 states that it is unlawful to take or possess any migratory bird as designated in the MBTA or any part of such migratory birds except as provided by rules and regulations under provisions of the MBTA. No nesting migratory birds or vacant nests were observed during surveys of the BSA. However, the proposed Project must comply with the California Fish and Game Code.

California Fish and Game Code §§1600-1607

The CDFW is responsible for conserving, protecting, and managing California's fish, wildlife, and native plant resources. To meet this responsibility, the law requires any person, state or local government agency, or public utility proposing a project that may impact a river, stream, or lake to notify the CDFW before beginning the project. Project activities proposed within or adjacent to streambeds, banks, channels or associated riparian resources, may fall under the jurisdiction of the CDFW; therefore, any impacts to jurisdictional areas will be regulated under Section 1600-1607 provisions.

Pursuant to Division 2, Chapter 6, §§1600-1602 of the California Fish and Game Code, CDFW regulates all diversions, obstructions, or changes to the natural flow or bed, channel, or bank of any river, stream, or lake, which supports fish or wildlife. CDFW defines a “stream” (including creeks and rivers) as “a body of water that flows at least periodically or intermittently through a bed or channel having banks and supports fish or other aquatic life. This includes watercourses having surface or subsurface flow that supports or has supported riparian vegetation.” CDFW's definition of “lake” includes “natural lakes or man-made reservoirs.” CDFW jurisdiction within altered or artificial waterways is based upon the value of those waterways to fish and wildlife.

If CDFW determines that a project may adversely affect existing fish and wildlife resources, a Lake or Streambed Alteration Agreement (“SAA”) is required. A SAA lists the CDFW conditions of approval relative to the proposed project and serves as an agreement between an applicant and CDFW for a term of not more than 5 years for the performance of activities subject to this section. No jurisdictional water features were observed during surveys of the BSA; therefore, a SAA would not be required.

State Water Resources and Regional Water Quality Control Boards

The State Water Resources Control Board (“SWRCB”) and nine RWQCBs regulate discharges of fill and dredged material in California, under Section 401 of the Clean Water Act (“CWA”) and the State



Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act, through the State Water Quality Certification Program. State Water Quality Certification is necessary for all projects that require a USACE permit, or fall under other federal jurisdiction, and have the potential to impact waters of the State. Waters of the State are defined by the Porter-Cologne Act as: *“any surface water or groundwater, including saline waters, within the boundaries of the state.”*

In order for a Section 404 permit to be valid, Section 401 of the CWA requires a Water Quality Certification or waiver to be obtained. The Water Quality Certification (or waiver) determines that the permitted activities will not violate water quality standards individually or cumulatively over the term of the action. Water quality certification must be consistent with the requirements of the CWA, CEQA, CESA, and Porter-Cologne Act. SWRCB and RWQCB have not established a formal wetland definition nor have they developed a wetland delineation protocol; however, these agencies generally adhere to the same delineation protocol set forth by USACE. No “waters of the U.S.” or jurisdictional water features were observed during surveys of the BSA; therefore, SWRCB does not have jurisdiction over the project.

Biological Reports

The Project site has been the subject of the following biological studies:

- V.L. Holland, October 15, 2009, Botanical Report – Whale Rock Quarry. The 2009 study provides an inventory of plant habitats and species present on the Project site (or with the potential to be present). The 2009 report was subjected to peer review by the County and a revised report was submitted that responded to the comments received. Field work was conducted in May 2007.
- VL Holland, September 11, 2009, Restoration, Revegetation and Monitoring Plan for Whale Rock Quarry Expansion Site (Restoration Plan). The 2009 Restoration Plan was prepared to address impacts to the sensitive species identified in the 2009 botanical survey. In addition, the objectives of this Plan were to 1) set forth measures aimed to stabilize the soil along the existing ephemeral drainage to help control soil erosion and keep drainage debris-free, 2) restore habitats and maintain natural flood plain areas that would support riparian habitat reestablishment, 3) construct the drainage using sound hydrologic principals, 4) to allow surrounding native plants to reestablish in disturbed areas, 5) to control exotic invasive species in restoration areas, and 6) to develop a creek maintenance program.
- Padre Associates, May 2009, Herpetological Survey Report for the Negranti Rock Quarry
- VL Holland, June 29, 2018, Biological Resources Survey Revegetation and Monitoring Plan Whale Rock Quarry Expansion Site (“2018 Revegetation Plan”). The 2009 botanical survey and Restoration Plan covered a 37.2-acre portion of the Project site within the Vested Area. The 2018 Revegetation Plan includes an updated biological survey of both plant and wildlife species as well as a plan for the revegetation and restoration of the entire ARP Area. Biological surveys of the Project site were conducted by Dr. Holland and biologist Mike McGovern in March, April, and May 2018 to examine the flora, vegetation, wildlife, and biological habitats. The 2018 Revegetation Plan incorporates comments from the Department of Conservation’s Division of Mine Reclamation (“DMR”) staff dated January 19, 2018, as well as County comments.

The following is a brief summary of report findings. The general habitats encountered include grasslands, coastal scrub and oak woodlands with additional references to rock outcrops and drainage channels. One rare plant was encountered during the field work, which was the San Luis Obispo County (aka Cambria) morning glory (*Calystegia subacaulis* ssp. *episcopalis*), which was identified as a common component of a 2.5-acre area of grassland within the proposed excavation area. One drainage area that supports riparian vegetation will be removed during vested mining operations. Four coast live

oaks will be removed during vested mining operations. The report also recognizes the importance of the on-site native grassland and riparian habitats.

Methodologies. Drs. V. L. Holland and Mike McGovern conducted the biological resource surveys of the Whale Rock Quarry Project site on March 6, April 3, April 19, and May 21, 2018. The purpose of these studies was to characterize the biological resources on and around the Whale Rock Quarry and to provide technical information that evaluates the Project site in sufficient detail to assess the potential effects of the proposed Project on the biological resources. Special attention was given to the presence or potential presence of rare and endangered plant and wildlife species and sensitive habitats. During these surveys, the entire 230-acre Vested Area was carefully examined for sensitive habitats and species of concern known to occur in the Cayucos and surrounding quadrangles, with a focus on the undisturbed 63-acre portion of the Expansion Area.

Vegetation Communities. The natural vegetation on the Whale Rock Quarry Vested Area can be divided into five plant communities: (1) coastal valley grasslands (non-native annual grassland/California annual grassland series) with some stands of California native grasslands; (2) coastal scrub with scattered rock outcrops; (3) coast live oak woodland; (4) riparian communities; and (5) anthropogenic communities. These five plant associations form a mosaic pattern over the hills and valleys of the site and integrate with each other. Vegetation types found within the Expansion Area are shown on Figure 15 and summarized in Table 8.

Table 8 -- Vegetation Communities (Acres By Phase)				
Vegetation Type	Phase 1A	Phase 1B	Phase 2	Phase 3
Coastal valley grassland	5.8	12.5	12.9	15.5
Coastal scrub	0.1	11.4	1.0	2.4
Coast live oak woodland	0	0.4	0	0
Riparian ¹	0	0.5	0	0
Rock outcrops	0	0.5	0	0
Total:	5.9	25.3	13.9	17.9

Notes:

1. The riparian vegetation along the Willow Creek tributary is not included in the calculations on Table 8 because the proposed project site will not disturb Willow Creek.

Figure 15 - Vegetation Communities

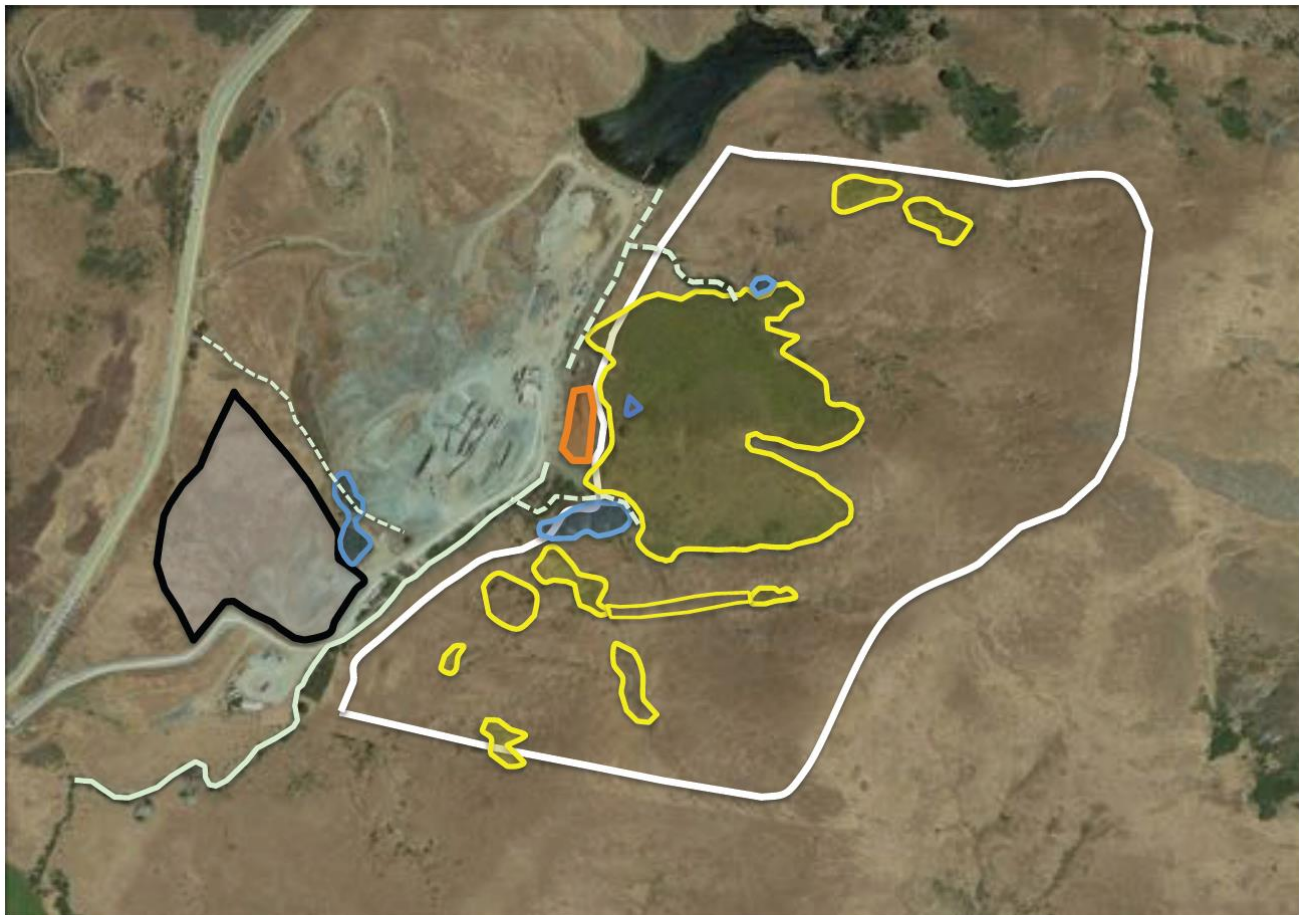


Figure 7. Vegetation map of the proposed Whale Rock Quarry expansion areas. Phase 1A is outline by the black line. The boundaries of the other three expansion phases (Phases 1B, 2, and 3) are outlined by the white line. The key to the vegetation above is below. Coastal scrub is outlined in yellow, coast live oaks is outlined in blue, ephemeral drainages (tributaries to Willow Creek) are shown by the dashed green line, and Willow Creek is shown by the solid green line. The remaining tan areas are all in coastal valley grassland with patches of California native grassland.

Phase 1A expansion site.....	
Phases 1B, 2, and 3 expansion sites.....	
Coastal Scrub.....	
Coast live oaks.....	
Willow Creek (Riparian)	
Ephemeral drainages (some Riparian)	
Rock outcrop and mined area.....	

Plants. A total of 189 plant species were found on the 230-acre Whale Rock Quarry Vested Area consisting of 5 trees (4 native; 1 introduced), 29 shrubs (all but one native), and 155 grasses and forbs, 79 of which are native to the site and 76 introduced. Of the 189 species on the site, 111 are native and 78 are introduced. All the trees and shrubs found in the coastal scrub, coast live oak woodland, and riparian area are native species except for two: tree tobacco and castor-bean. Of all plant species identified in the Vested Area, *Calystegia subacaulis* ssp. *episcopalis* (Cambria morning glory) is the only CNPS listed plant species found on the site (2018 Revegetation Plan, pages 45-46).

Wildlife. Whale Rock Quarry has been highly disturbed and offers little in the way of wildlife habitat where active mining has occurred or is occurring; however, the rest of the Vested Area appears to be

relatively undisturbed including the Expansion Area. A large portion of the Vested Area (150 acres) including the hillsides and valleys north of the impoundment will not be disturbed at all by the Project. The riparian woodland, coast live oak woodland, coastal scrub, and coastal valley grassland on the hillsides and canyons of the Expansion Area north of the impoundment offer wildlife habitat (Figure 13), and some of these wildlife species may wander into the Quarry. None of the habitat areas around and north of the impoundment will be disturbed by the proposed Project; therefore, no impacts to biological resources and wildlife habitats will occur in these areas. At completion of mining, the Whale Rock Quarry will occupy approximately 82 acres of the over 232-acre Quarry parcel. Complete build out will occur over a 200-year period leaving time for revegetation to replace some of the removed vegetation and habitats as mining continues and phased reclamation is completed. The common wildlife species observed or known to occur on and near the Expansion Area are listed in Table 9.

No CESA or SSC listed species (e.g., burrowing owl [*Athene cunicularia*]) were observed within the Biological Study Area (BSA) during surveys.

Table 9 -- Wildlife Species of the RPA Area		
Scientific Name	Common Name	Observed on or Around Site (x)
FISH		
<i>Gambusia affinis</i>	Mosquitofish	X
<i>Lepomis macrochirus</i>	Bluegill	X
<i>Micropterus salmoides</i>	Largemouth bass	X
AMPHIBIANS AND REPTILES		
<i>Gerrhonotus multicarinatus</i>	Southern alligator lizard	X
<i>Lampropeltis getula</i>	California king snake	
<i>Lithobates catesbeianus</i>	Bullfrog	X
<i>Pituophis catenifer</i>	Pacific gopher snake	X
<i>Pseudacris regilla</i>	Pacific chorus frog	X
<i>Sceloporus occidentalis</i>	Western fence lizard	X
BIRDS		
<i>Aphe/ocoma californica</i>	Western scrub jay	X
<i>Baeolophus inornatus</i>	Oak titmouse	
<i>Bubo virginian us</i>	Great horned owl	
<i>Bucephala albleola</i>	Bufflehead (single)	X
<i>Buteo jamaicensis</i>	Red tailed hawk	X
<i>Callipepepla californica</i>	California quail	X
<i>Calypte anna</i>	Anna's hummingbird	
<i>Carpodacus mexicanus</i>	House finch	
<i>Cathartes aura</i>	Turkey vulture	X
<i>Certhia Americana</i>	Brown creeper	
<i>Charadrius vociferous</i>	Killdeer	X
<i>Colaptes auratus</i>	Northern flicker	
<i>Corvus corax</i>	Raven	X
<i>Euphagus cyanocephalus</i>	Brewer's blackbird	X
<i>Falco peregrinus</i>	Peregrine falcon	X
<i>Falco sparverius</i>	American kestrel	X
<i>Fulica americana</i>	Coot (flock)	X
<i>Petrochelidon pyrrhonota</i>	Cliff swallow	X
<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	Barn swallow	X
<i>Junco hyemalis</i>	Dark-eyed junco	X
<i>Melanerps formicivorus</i>	Acorn woodpecker	X
<i>Melospiza crissalis</i>	Towhee	X
<i>Mimus polyglottos</i>	Northern mocking bird	X
<i>Molothrus ater</i>	Brown headed cowbird	
<i>Petrochelidon pyrrhonota</i>	Cliff swallow	X
<i>Picoides nuttallii</i>	Nuttall's woodpecker	
<i>Psaltiriparus minimus</i>	Bushtits	
<i>Sayornis nigricans</i>	Black phoebe	X

Table 9 -- Wildlife Species of the RPA Area		
Scientific Name	Common Name	Observed on or Around Site (x)
<i>Selasphorus sasin</i>	Allen's hummingbird	
<i>Sialia mexicana</i>	Western bluebird	
<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>	Eurasian collared dove	X
<i>Stern us vulgaris</i>	European starling	X
<i>Toxostoma redivivum</i>	California thrasher	
<i>Tyto alba</i>	Barn owl	
<i>Zenaida macroura</i>	Mourning dove	X
<i>Zonotrichia leucophrys</i>	White-crowned sparrow	
MAMMALS		
<i>Canis latrans</i>	Coyote	X
<i>Didelphis virginiana</i>	Opossum	
<i>Lepus californicus</i>	Brush rabbit	X
<i>Lynx rufus</i>	Bobcat	X
<i>Microtus californicus</i>	California vole	
<i>Neotoma fuscipes</i>	Dusky-footed wood rat	
<i>Odocoileus hemionus</i>	Mule deer	X
<i>Procyon lotor</i>	Raccoon	
<i>Scapanus latimanus</i>	Mole	
<i>Sciurus grise us</i>	Western gray squirrel	
<i>Otospermophilus beech</i>	California ground squirrel	X
<i>Taxidea taxus</i>	Badger	**
<i>Thomomys bottae</i>	Botta's pocket gopher	X

** The mine operator reported seeing a badger on the site several years ago but none recently. No signs of badgers such as diggings and burrows were observed on the Project site. It is highly unlikely they would use the site.

Special Status Species. For the purpose of this investigation, special status species are those plants and animals listed, proposed for listing, or candidates for listing as Threatened or Endangered by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) under the federal Endangered Species Act (FESA); those listed or proposed for listing as Rare, Threatened, or Endangered by the CDFG under the California Endangered Species Act (CESA); animals designated as “Species of Special Concern,” “Fully Protected,” or “Watch List” by the CDFG; and plants with California Rare Plant Ranks 1, 2, 3 and 4 maintained by the California Department of Fish and Game with assistance from the California Native Plant Society. The California Rare Plant Rank definitions include the following:

- 1A = Plants presumed extinct in California;
- 1B.1 = Rare or endangered in California and elsewhere; seriously endangered in California (over 80% of occurrences threatened/high degree and immediacy of threat);
- 1B.2 = Rare or endangered in California and elsewhere; fairly endangered in California (20-80% occurrences threatened);
- 1B.3 = Rare or endangered in California and elsewhere, not very endangered in California «20% of occurrences threatened or no current threats known);
- 2 = Rare, threatened or endangered in California, but more common elsewhere;
- 3 = Plants needing more information (most are species that are taxonomically unresolved; some species on this list meet the definitions of rarity under CNPS and CESA);
- 4.2 = Plants of limited distribution (watch list), fairly endangered in California (20-80% occurrences threatened); and
- 4.3 = Plants of limited distribution (watch list), not very endangered in California.

Special Status Plant Species. To determine the rare plant species that could potentially be present on the Whale Rock Quarry Vested Area, the biologists conducted a search for rare plants known to occur within the Cayucos 7.5-minute quadrangle and the eight surrounding quadrangles. To generate this list, the biologists referred to the most recent edition of the California Department of Fish and Wildlife Natural Diversity Data Base (“*CNDDDB*”): Special Vascular Plants, Bryophytes, and Lichen List and the most recent edition of the California Native Plant Society (“*CNPS*”) *Inventory of Rare and Endangered Vascular Plants of California* database.

This search revealed over 60 special status plant species that occur within the Cayucos and the eight surrounding quadrangles (Tables 24-26 in Appendix 3 of the 2018 Revegetation Plan). Most of the rare plants on the list would not be expected on the Whale Rock Quarry Vested Area because they are highly restricted both in distribution range and in habitat requirements. For example, *Arctostaphylos morroensis* (Morro manzanita) is endemic and highly restricted to the stabilized dunes around Morro Bay. Some rare plants are only found in vernal pools and sea bluffs while others are restricted to specific parent materials such as serpentinite, shale, and active sand dunes.

Rare plant surveys of the Project site were conducted during March, April, and May 2018 during the daylight hours between approximately 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. The time period falls within the flowering period of the herbaceous rare plants that could potentially be found on the site. In addition, the biologists were able to identify the trees and shrubs, as well as many of the herbs, using vegetative features and dried remains.

Calystegia subacaulis ssp. *episcopalis* (Cambria morning glory) is the only CNPS listed plant species found on the Whale Rock Quarry Vested Area. This plant is a perennial herb with trailing or sometimes weakly twining stems. It has alternate, broadly triangular leaves that are minutely hairy. The cream-colored, funnel-shaped flowers are produced from April to July (September). After the flowers wither the plant develops small, dry capsules with dark seeds. By late summer the above-ground parts of the plants are usually dry and only seeds and underground rootstocks persist through the dry season.

Calystegia subacaulis ssp. *episcopalis* is at present known from San Luis Obispo and northern Santa Barbara counties. In San Luis Obispo County, it ranges from the Hearst Ranch in the northwestern

corner of the county south to San Luis Obispo where it usually occurs in grassland with clay-rich soils often in association with serpentine parent material. Several investigators have found that Cambria morning glory is common in many grassland areas of San Luis Obispo County and on a variety of different soil types. As a result, the CNPS have down-listed Cambria morning glory to CNPS List 4.2: Plants of Limited Distribution-A Watch List.

Special Status Wildlife Species. Wildlife habitats on the Whale Rock Quarry Project site and surrounding areas include a mosaic or coastal valley grassland, coastal scrub, coast live oak woodland, riparian woodland, and anthropogenic plant communities (Figure 13). Approximately one-fourth of the Expansion Area has been disturbed by mining operations (19 acres); nevertheless, there are potential habitats for a variety of wildlife species and potentially some special status species in the relatively undisturbed areas. However, no special status wildlife species were found during the field surveys of the site. One special status species, western pond turtle, has been reported from the areas north of the existing impoundment; however, this area is not part of the Expansion Area and will not be disturbed.

Table 10. List of wildlife species by quadrant: 1) Morro Bay North, 2) Morro Bay South, 3) Cayucos, 4) Cypress Mountain, 5) York Mountain, 6) Cambria.

Table 10 -- Special Status Wildlife Species Found in the Cayucos U.S.G.S 7.5 Minute Quadrangle and the Adjacent Quadrangles							
Scientific Name	Common Name	Fed. Status	State Status	CDFW Status	Quad Found In	Found in Study Site	Effect of proposed Project
INSECTS							
<i>Bombus cetiatnosus</i>	obscure bumble bee	N	N	N	2,3,6	No	None
<i>Cicindela hirticollis gravida</i>	sandy beach tiger beetle	N	N	N	1,2,3	No	None
<i>Coelus globosus</i>	globose dune beetle	N	N	N	1,2,3	No	None
<i>Danaus plexippus</i>	monarch - California overwintering population	N	N	N	1,2,3,6	No	None
<i>Pfebejus icarioides moroensis</i>	Morro Bay blue butterfly	N	N	N	2,3	No	None
MOLLOSKS							
<i>Hefminthoglypta wafkeriana</i>	Morro shoulderband (=banded dune) snail	E	N	N	2,3	No	None
<i>Pyrgufopsis tayfori</i>	San Luis Obispo pyrg	N	N	N	3	No	None
<i>Tryonia imitator</i>	mimic tryonia (=California brackish water snail)	N	N	N	2	No	None
FISH							
<i>Eucyclogobius newberryi</i>	tidewater goby	E	N	SSC	1,2,3,6	No	None
<i>Oncorhynchus mykiss irideus</i>	steel head - southern California DPS	E	N	N	1,2,3,4,5,6	No	None

**Table 10 -- Special Status Wildlife Species Found in the Cayucos
U.S.G.S 7.5 Minute Quadrangle and the Adjacent Quadrangles**

Scientific Name	Common Name	Fed. Status	State Status	CDFW Status	Quad Found In	Found in Study Site	Effect of proposed Project
AMPHIBIANS							
<i>Batrachoseps incognitus</i>	San Simeon slender salamander	N	N	N	6	No	None
<i>Batrachoseps minor</i>	lesser slender salamander	N	N	SSC	3-,5	No	None
<i>Rana boylei</i>	foothill yellow-legged frog	N	CT	SSC	6	No	None
<i>Rana draytonii</i>	California red-legged frog	T	N	SSC	1,2,3,4,5,6	No	None
<i>Taricha torosa</i>	Coast Range newt	N	N	SSC	3,4,5,6	No	None
REPTILES							
<i>Anniessa pulchra</i>	northern California legless lizard	N	N	SSC	2,3	No	None
<i>Emys marmorata</i>	western pond turtle	N	N	SSC	1,2,3,4,5,6	No	None
<i>Phrynosoma bairdii</i>	coast horned lizard	N	N	SSC	2,3	No	None
<i>Thamnophis hammondi</i>	two-striped garter snake	N	N	SSC	2,4,6	No	None
BIRDS							
<i>Accipiter cooperii</i>	Cooper's hawk	N	N	WL	2,3	No	None
<i>Aegialitis tricolor</i>	tricolored blackbird	N	E	SSC	1,2,3,4	No	None
<i>Ammodramus savannarum</i>	grasshopper sparrow	N	N	SSC	6	No	None
<i>Aquila chrysaetos</i>	golden eagle	N	N	FP ;WL	2,4,5	No	None
<i>Ardea alba</i>	great egret	N	N	N	2,3	No	None
<i>Ardea herodias</i>	great blue heron	N	N	N	2,3	No	None
<i>Athene cunicularia</i>	burrowing owl	N	N	SSC	2,3	No	None
<i>Branta bernicla</i>	brant	N	N	SSC	2	No	None
<i>Charadrius alexandrinus nivosus</i>	western snowy plover	T	N	SSC	1,2,3,6	No	None
<i>Charadrius montanus</i>	mountain plover	N	N	SSC	2	No	None
<i>Circus cyaneus</i>	northern harrier	N	N	SSC	1	No	None
<i>Egretta thula</i>	snowy egret	N	N	N	2	No	None
<i>Falco peregrinus anatum</i>	American peregrine falcon	D	D	FP	2	No	None
<i>Gavia immer</i>	common loon	N	N	SSC	2	No	None
<i>Ixobrychus exilis</i>	least bittern	N	N	SSC	2,3	No	None
<i>Lanius ludovicianus</i>	logquakerhead shrike	N	N	SSC	1	No	None

**Table 10 -- Special Status Wildlife Species Found in the Cayucos
U.S.G.S 7.5 Minute Quadrangle and the Adjacent Quadrangles**

Scientific Name	Common Name	Fed. Status	State Status	CDFW Status	Quad Found In	Found in Study Site	Effect of proposed Project
<i>Lateral/us jamaicensis coturniculus</i>	California black rail	N	T	FP	2	No	None
<i>Numenius americanus</i>	long-billed curlew	N	N	WL	2	No	None
<i>Nycticorax</i>	black-crowned night heron	N	N	N	2	No	None
<i>Pelecanus occidentalis californicus</i>	California brown pelican	0	0	FP	1,2,3,6	No	None
<i>Phalacrocorax euriius</i>	double-crested cormorant	N	N	WL	2,3	No	None
<i>Rallus obsoletus obsoletus</i>	California Ridgway's rail	E	E	FP	2	No	None
<i>Sternula antillarum browni</i>	California least tern	E	E	FP	2	No	None
<i>Thalasseus elegans</i>	elegant tern	N	N	WL	2,3	No	None
MAMMALS							
<i>Antrozous pallidus</i>	pallid bat	N	N	SSC	1,2,3,5	No	None
<i>Cal/orhinus ursinus</i>	northern fur-seal	N	N	N	2,3	No	None
<i>Corynorhinus townsendii</i>	Townsend's big-eared bat	N	N	SSC	2,4	No	None
<i>Dipodomys heermanni morroensis</i>	Morro Bay kangaroo rat	E	E	FP	2,3	No	None
<i>Eumetopias jubatus</i>	Steller (-northern) sea-lion	D	N	N	2,3	No	None
<i>Myotis evotis</i>	long-eared myotis	N	N	N	4	No	None
<i>Myotis thvsenodes</i>	fringed mvotis	N	N	N	6	No	None
<i>Myotis yumanensis</i>	Yuma rnyotis	N	N	N	2	No	None
<i>Neotoma lepida intermedia</i>	San Diego desert woodrat	N	N	SSC	2	No	None
<i>Neotoma macro tis luciana</i>	Monterey dusky-footed wood rat	N	N	SSC	5	No	None
<i>Nyctinomops macrotis</i>	big free-tailed bat	N	N	SSC	2	No	None
<i>Taxidea laxus</i>	American badger	N	N	SSC	2	No	None

KEY: (N = none, T = threatened, E = endangered, C = candidate, SSC = species of special concern, FP = federally proposed for change, WL = watch list, D=delisted)



Impacts. The RPA sets forth strategies for the revegetation and restoration of plant and animal habitat impacted by vested mining activities. As such, implementation of the RPA is expected to have a beneficial impact on biological resources when compared to the baseline conditions associated with the RPA Area following the completion of vested mining activities. As discussed in the project description, vested mining activities will result in the removal of approximately 25,000,000 tons of aggregate from the Quarry over the life of the mine. Under the RPA, all 82 acres of the Expansion Area will be reclaimed and revegetated to a mosaic of California native and coastal valley grasslands, coastal scrub, coast live oak woodland, and riparian woodland. After the Expansion Area is restored and revegetated, it will be used for open space and grazing. The final reclamation plan is shown on Figure 5 and will include restoration of the ephemeral tributary to Willow Creek as well as restoration planting for listed species (discussed below).

Impacts to Unique or Special-status Plant Species.

Federal Endangered Species Act. No FESA-listed species were observed during surveys of the project site.

California Endangered Species Act (CESA). Under the CESA CDFW reserves the right to request the replacement of lost habitat that is considered important to the continued existence of CESA protected species. However, no CESA-protected species were observed on the Project site.

California Native Plant Society (CNPS). As discussed above, Cambria morning glory is the only listed plant species found on the Project site. In the 2007-8 botanical surveys, the biologists noted that this species was common throughout an approximate 2.5-acre area in the grassland that covers the northwestern portions of the site. However, since 2008, several changes to the status of *Calystegia subacaulis* ssp. *episcopalis* have occurred. First the accepted common name is now Cambria morning glory instead of San Luis Obispo County morning glory. Second, many botanists have discovered that Cambria morning glory is much more common than originally thought in 2009. Several investigators have found that Cambria morning glory is common in many grassland areas of San Luis Obispo County and on a variety of different soil types. As a result, the California Native Plant Society (CNPS) have down-listed Cambria morning glory to CNPS List 4.2: Plants of Limited Distribution-A Watch List.

Plants on CNPS List of Rank 4 are of limited distribution or infrequent throughout a broader area in California, and their status should be monitored regularly. The 2 in the 4.2 rank is for species that are moderately threatened in California (20-80% of the occurrences are threatened to a moderate degree). Some plants constituting California Rare Plant Rank 4 meet the definitions of the California Endangered Species Act of the California Department of Fish and Game Code, and few, if any, are eligible for state listing. (Note: neither the State nor the federal governments list Cambria morning glory as a special status species).

CNPS considers that some plant species on List 4 may have special significance if they meet the following characteristics.

- The type locality of a California Rare Plant Rank 4 plant,
- Populations at the periphery of a species' range,
- Areas where the taxon is especially uncommon,
- Areas where the taxon has sustained heavy losses, or
- Populations exhibiting unusual morphology or occurring on unusual substrates.

The biologist's evaluation of the population that occurs on Whale Rock Quarry Project site is that it does not meet any of the above characteristics.

As mentioned above, the 2007-8 surveys noted that Cambria morning glory was common in an approximately 2.5-acre area in the coastal valley grassland that covers the northwestern portions of the site. However, subsequent surveys conducted in 2018 found that since 2008 the distribution of Cambria morning glory on the Whale Rock Quarry Project site has expanded significantly. It is now found scattered throughout the coastal valley grasslands in all phases of the expansion sites (Phase 1A, 1B,

2, and 3) also in areas not currently proposed for mining. It was not practical to try and map the distribution, as it was widely scattered throughout the entire grassland areas of the expansion sites. This is an indication that Cambria morning glory is much more widespread and common than was thought in 2008 when it was on the CNPS List 1B. The RPA (July 12, 2018) identifies a restoration site for replacement planting to compensate for the loss of Cambria morning glory associated with mining activities.

Impacts to Special Status Wildlife Species. Some species listed in Table 10 have ranges that could potentially include some of the habitats found on the Project site including those included in the proposed Expansion Area. However, mining these areas will take place over a 200-year period, and since revegetation and reclamation will be an ongoing process, wildlife habitats will be reestablished on a continuing basis as mining progresses. In addition, the 150 acres outside the 82-acre Expansion Area will be left in its current, natural condition and will continue to provide undisturbed habitat for wildlife.

For the most part, special status animal species that occur within the Cayucos and surrounding quadrangles are highly restricted both in distribution range and in habitat requirements and are not expected to occupy the habitats found in the Expansion Area. For example, some rare animal species occur in salt or brackish water, e.g., the Tidewater goby; some require permanent flowing water, e.g., Steelhead; some occur only in specific soils and or other substrate conditions, e.g., the globose dune beetle (foredune sands) and Morro Bay shoulderband snail (dune sands); some require specific roosting sites, e.g., the bat species; and some only occur in marine environments, e.g., northern fur seals and sea lions. In addition, the site is simply out of the geographic range in which many special status species have been found, e.g., Morro Bay kangaroo rats. Also, some species are not found or expected on the site because they are secretive and avoid areas with human activity. None of the specialized habitats listed above occur on or near the Whale Rock Quarry Project site. Some of the special status wildlife species listed in Table 10 have ranges that could potentially include the Whale Rock Quarry Project site and may fly over or pass through the site on occasion; however, the biologists did not find any sign of these species during their field surveys except for a Peregrine falcon spotted flying over the hills north of the Whale Rock Quarry Project site.

The biologists conducted biological surveys of the proposed Whale Rock Quarry Project site and the surrounding areas that include all four Phases (1A, 1B, 2, and 3) of the RPA Expansion Area. The surveys included the areas upstream and downstream from the quarry along the Willow Creek tributary and the smaller hillside drainages. The biologists also examined the upland areas immediate adjacent to the creeks. The findings indicate that while there were some wildlife species found on the hillsides around the active quarry, there is no -- or very marginal -- habitat on the Project site itself for any of the special status wildlife species listed in Table 10.

Impacts Effecting the Extent, Diversity, or Quality of Native or Other Important Vegetation

Oak Woodlands. Although oak woodlands are not listed as a sensitive community by the CNDDB, under SB 1334 (Kuehl bill), County governments are responsible for conserving oak woodlands within their jurisdiction. During the CEQA review process, SB 1334 requires County governments to determine if a proposed project would result in the conversion of oak woodland. If conversion would occur, the County is mandated to require implementation of specified mitigation as outlined in an oak woodland management plan. In San Luis Obispo County, oak woodlands are defined as areas containing greater than ten percent (10%) oak canopy cover. The County of San Luis Obispo oak management plan defines conversion as cutting or removing ten percent or more of the oak woodland canopy or removing more than ten oak trees. The RPA will not adversely impact oak woodlands as defined by County regulations. The RPA includes restoration of ephemeral creek corridor including the planting of oak trees to replace those removed as part the vested mining activities.

Offsite Impacts. Because the RPA contains steep slopes and moderately erodible soils, the potential for erosion following any vegetation removal by vested mining activities is high and could result in additional impacts to sensitive vegetation and habitats adjacent to the RPA Area, and to existing

downslope land uses. The RPA includes a complete grading and drainage plan to address County requirements.

Migratory Bird Treaty Act of 1918 and California Fish & Game Code §§ 3511, 3502, 3503.5. Vested mining activities may result in impacts to migratory birds through the removal of trees. No migratory birds or vacant nests were observed during surveys of the site. The RPA includes restoration of ephemeral creek corridor including the planting of oak trees to replace those removed as part the vested mining activities.

Clean Water Act. The Clean Water Act regulates the discharge or fill materials into waters of the U.S. Restoration activities involving the ephemeral tributary of Willow Creek may require compliance with the provisions of the Clean Water Act.

Section 401 of the Clean Water Act. Section 401 requires that federally permitted activities comply with California water quality laws. Restoration activities involving the ephemeral tributary of Willow Creek may require compliance with the provisions of Section 401.

California Fish & Game Code §§1600-1602. Restoration activities involving the ephemeral tributary of Willow Creek may require compliance with the provisions of Fish and Game Code §§1600-1602.

Conclusions/Mitigation Measures. The preceding discussion supports the following conclusions:

- No listed plant species were found on the project site, and the RPA includes revegetation measures that will reestablish native vegetation impacted by vested mining activities.
- No listed wildlife species were found on the project site and the marginal nature of the habitats suggest that impacts to listed wildlife species associated with the RPA will be neutral to beneficial.

On balance, implementation of the RPA is expected to have a beneficial impact on biological resources compared to the baseline conditions following completion of vested mining activities. The Project will therefore not have a significant impact on biological resources, and no mitigations are necessary.

5. CULTURAL RESOURCES

<i>Will the project:</i>	Potentially Significant	Impact can & will be mitigated	Insignificant Impact	Not Applicable
a) <i>Disturb archaeological resources?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) <i>Disturb historical resources?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) <i>Disturb paleontological resources?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) <i>Cause a substantial adverse change to a Tribal Cultural Resource?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e) <i>Other:</i> _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Cultural Resources

Setting. The Project is located in an area historically occupied by the Chumash. No historic structures are present and no paleontological resources are known to exist in the area.

In July, 2015, the legislature added the new requirements to the CEQA process regarding tribal cultural resources in Assembly Bill 52 (Gatto, 2014). By including tribal cultural resources early in the CEQA process, the legislature intended to ensure that local and Tribal governments, public agencies, and project proponents would have information available, early in the project planning process, to identify and address potential adverse impacts to tribal cultural resources. By taking this proactive approach, the legislature also intended to reduce the potential for delay and conflicts in the environmental review process.

The Project site is not located in a designated Archaeologically Sensitive combining designation area. However, culturally sensitive and archaeological resources are known to exist in the region. Letters requesting information concerning cultural resources in the area were sent to each of the tribal contacts identified by the Native American Heritage Commission ("NAHC"), in accordance with AB52, on September 27, 2018.

County records indicate several Phase I surface surveys on file for properties within one mile of the Project site, to the east near Montecito Road; these reports (Gibson 2002, Parker 2007, Dills 1997) were negative for cultural resource findings.

The vested mining rights over the Quarry parcel allow the Applicant to continue mining with no County discretionary permitting. County authority is limited to approval of the RPA that will reclaim the site at the end of mining activities, when quarrying reaches final depletion of all reserves covered by the RPA. Reclamation activity will occur on already-disturbed areas. As a result, no Phase I Archaeological survey or record search is required.

Impact.

Archeological/Cultural/Historical Resources.

In order to meet the consultation requirements of AB52, outreach to Native American tribes was conducted in September 2018. No responses were received.

Standard protocols for the unanticipated discovery of cultural resources, including human remains, are applicable to the operational phase of the quarry.



Historical and Paleontological Resources. No historical or paleontological resources are known to be associated with this site.

Conclusions/Mitigation Measures.

The Project entails approval of the RPA, which will specify measures to reclaim the Quarry following completion of vested extractive mining operations that will fully disturb the Expansion Area. The Project, accordingly, will have a less than significant impact on cultural resources and no mitigation is necessary.

6. GEOLOGY AND SOILS

Will the project:

	Potentially Significant	Impact can & will be mitigated	Insignificant Impact	Not Applicable
a) <i>Result in exposure to or production of unstable earth conditions, such as landslides, earthquakes, liquefaction, ground failure, land subsidence or other similar hazards?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) <i>Be within a California Geological Survey "Alquist-Priolo" Earthquake Fault Zone", or other known fault zones*?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) <i>Result in soil erosion, topographic changes, loss of topsoil or unstable soil conditions from project-related improvements, such as vegetation removal, grading, excavation, or fill?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) <i>Include structures located on expansive soils?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e) <i>Be inconsistent with the goals and policies of the County's Safety Element relating to Geologic and Seismic Hazards?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
f) <i>Preclude the future extraction of valuable mineral resources?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
g) <i>Other:</i> _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

* Per Division of Mines and Geology Special Publication #42

Setting. The following relates to the project's geologic aspects or conditions:

Topography: Gently sloping to very steeply sloping with ephemeral creek.

Within County's Geologic Study Area?: Yes

Landslide Risk Potential: Low to high

Liquefaction Potential: Low to moderate

Nearby potentially active faults?: No Distance? Not applicable

Area known to contain serpentine or ultramafic rock or soils?: Yes

Shrink/Swell potential of soil: Moderate to high

Other notable geologic features? None



GEOLOGY -- The Project is within the Geologic Study Area designation and is subject to the preparation of a geological report per the County's Land Use Ordinance [LUO section 22.14.070 (c)], to evaluate the Project site's geological stability. Accordingly, the following drainage and geotechnical studies were prepared for the Reclamation Plan Amendment:

- Chang Consultants, July 12, 2018, Grading Plan for Whale Rock Quarry (updated)
- GeoSolutions, Inc., June 14, 2018, Preliminary Engineering Geology Investigation Quarry Expansion Area Negranti Material Mine;
- GeoSolutions, Inc., June 27, 2007, Preliminary Engineering Geology Investigation;
- Pacific Geotechnical Engineering, January 30, 2008, Peer Review of GeoSolutions, Inc., June 27, 2007, Preliminary Engineering Geology Investigation;
- Chang Consultants, January 7, 2016, Drainage Report for The Whale Rock Quarry;
- Chang Consultants, January 2016, Grading Plan for Whale Rock Quarry;

These studies incorporate the findings and recommendations of the County Geologist. The following discussion is a summary of the findings and recommendations of these studies.

Reclamation Plan Amendment to demonstrate compliance with County regulations relating to the prevention of erosion and protection of surface water quality in accordance with relevant State and federal laws including, but not limited to: the Clean Water Act (CWA, 33 USC 1251-1376), the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES), the Basin Plan adopted by the Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board, the Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act (California Water Code §§ 13000 et seq.) and the California Building Code. The project site has an active Industrial Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) on file with the State Water Resources Control Board (WDID #3 40I025440).

Geology of the Project Site

The Project site is located in the vicinity of the San Luis Range of the Coast Range Geomorphic Province of California. The Coast Ranges lie between the Pacific Ocean and the Sacramento-San Joaquin Valley and trend northwesterly along the California Coast for approximately 600 miles between Santa Maria and the Oregon border.

Regionally, the Site is located on the Cambrian Slab composed of a large, thick block of Cretaceous age sediments that are surrounded by Franciscan Complex rocks. The Cambrian Slab extends from the Los Osos fault approximately 8 miles south of the property and northward to San Simeon Creek approximately 18 miles to the northwest (Jennings, 2010).

The 82-acre Expansion Area consists of formational units of the Franciscan Complex; blue schist and chert were observed on slopes and outcrops at the property. Surface materials at the property consist generally of dark brown silty CLAY (CL) termed colluvium. Underlying the colluvium are formational units assigned to the Franciscan Complex. Landslides are present at the property. Localized hard rock conditions may be encountered during excavation and blasting may be necessary, as occurs under existing operations. A portion of the Expansion Area is currently utilized as a quarry, and infrastructure to support the Quarry are present (conveyors, storage areas, temporary office, shop area, etc). The site is vegetated with native grass, brush, and oak trees.

Landslide and Slope Stability Hazards. Slope instability may result from natural processes, such as the erosion of the toe of a slope by a stream, or by ground shaking caused by an earthquake. Slopes can also be modified artificially by grading, or by the addition of water or structures to a slope. Development on a slope can substantially increase the frequency and extent of potential slope failures. Steep, unstable slopes in weak soil/bedrock units that have a record of previous slope failure typically

characterize areas susceptible to landslides. There are numerous factors that affect the stability of a slope, including: slope height and steepness, material composition, material strength, structural geologic relationships, ground water level, and level of seismic shaking.

Landslides occur when a portion of a hillside becomes too weak to support its own weight. Some landslides move slowly and cause damage gradually, whereas others move so rapidly that they can destroy property and take lives suddenly and unexpectedly. Gravity is the force driving landslide movement. Factors that allow the force of gravity to overcome the resistance of earth material to landslide movement include: saturation by water, steepening of slopes caused by erosion or construction, freeze/thaw cycles, earthquake shaking, and volcanic eruptions.

Landslides are generally classified into slides, falls and flows. Slides move as large bodies by slipping along one or more failure surfaces. Falls of rock or soil originate on cliff faces or steep slopes. Flows are landslides that behave like fluids. Mudflows involve wet mud and debris, and earthflows involve wet, claylike material. Areas that are generally prone to landslide hazards include: previous landslide locations, the bases of steep slopes, the bases of drainage channels, and developed hillsides where leach-field septic systems are used. Areas that are typically considered safe from landslides include areas that have not moved in the past; relatively flat-lying areas away from sudden changes in slope; and areas at the top or along ridges, set back from the tops of slopes.

Landslides were observed in the Expansion Area. Slopes are primarily composed of Franciscan Complex units covered with a veneer of colluvium and/or landslide deposits. Hall and Prior, 1975 and Hall et al., 1979 map a landslide extending through the southern, central, and northern portions of the site. Multiple landslides were observed in the aerial photographs throughout the Expansion Area (Golden State Aerial Surveys, 2002) and during site mapping. Vested mining activities will result in removal of landslides. Landslides may reactivate if removal is not conducted in a planned manner (i.e. removal of upper slide material first or other alternative).

A numerical stability analysis was performed for proposed cut slopes in the Expansion Area. Based upon the kinetic analysis, the slope fractures within the proposed cut slope are within the critical zone for failure but are not defined by lateral release surfaces and are similarly laterally discontinuous; therefore, the potential for planar failure is low. Factor of safety calculations were performed on various fractures resulting in a minimum factor of safety of 0.73 for wedge failure, therefore there is a potential for wedge failures. However, the continuous fractures are widely to very widely spaced (SP2-SP3) therefore the potential for gross slope instability is low. Wedge failures are anticipated to be small with debris accumulating at the base of cut slopes. It should be understood that the Franciscan Complex is inherently chaotic and final slopes are recommended to be evaluated at time of exposure.

Seismic Hazards. Hall and Prior, 1975 and Hall et al., 1979 mapped unnamed faults extending through the site. These faults are located along the contact between the melange and metavolcanic units, which are interpreted to be emplacement faults. Because no development is planned, seismic parameters were not determined for the site. During or subsequent to implementation of the reclamation plan, raveling or block failures within cuts may occur during seismic events. The size of block failures is anticipated to be small due to the fracture characteristics of Franciscan Complex material. The Project site is not within an Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zone.

Liquefaction. The liquefaction hazard at the Site is considered low due to the presence of near surface Franciscan Complex material.

Groundwater and Drainage.

Springs are present on the surface at the site and are assumed to exist within the subsurface area of the proposed Expansion Area. Natural surface drainage is directed southwest; the site is bisected by an ephemeral drainage channel that feeds Willow Creek. The drainage carries the overflow from the stock pond impound southward along the easterly edge of the current operations area and access road. Phases 1B, 2, and 3 will be on the eastern side of the drainage, placing the drainage in the center of the Expansion Area.

The impound within the Willow Creek tributary channel at the north end of the operational area controls stormwater flow through the site. The operation area features several settling basins that serve to clear surface drainage of silt before it is released to the tributary channel. Temporary settling basins are, and will continue to be, created or relocated as needed during quarry operations to manage surface drainage and maintain water quality. Operational drainage and stormwater management is in baseline.

Soils and Erosion. Vested mining activities within the Expansion Area will result in removal of topsoil and overburden and topographic changes. Salvaged topsoil will be temporarily stockpiled on site and stored for use in reclamation. Vested mining activities, which are not part of the Project, will comply with the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) General Permit associated with industrial activities. A system of Best Management Practices (BMPs) is required to be employed in accordance with Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP).

Naturally Occurring Asbestos. Franciscan Complex units are regionally associated with asbestos containing materials. The Franciscan Complex is a melange of rocks consisting of greywacke, chert, blueshist, melange, metavolcanic, and serpentinite of Cretaceous to Jurassic Age (63 to 205 million years before present). Asbestos has been associated with serpentinite-type rock commonly found within the Franciscan Complex. It is anticipated that the finished elevation of the proposed Expansion Area is to be within Franciscan Complex units. Rock samples were collected from trenches and surface outcrops at the site and combined into four separate samples. These samples were sent to Forensic Analytical (a California State Certified Laboratory), under chain of custody, and analyzed for asbestos using Air Resources Board's Method 435 (Appendix A). The laboratory analysis concluded that a trace of asbestos was detected within a surface outcrop of serpentinite. However, asbestos was not detected (ND) within the melange (KJfm) using Air Resources Board Method 435. A Limit of Quantification (LOQ) = 0.25% was used.

Impacts

a) Result in Exposure to or Production of Unstable Earth Conditions, Such as Landslides, Earthquakes, Liquefaction, Ground Failure, Land Subsidence or Other Similar Hazards.

The 82-acre Expansion Area will be fully disturbed by vested mining activities. The Project would implement reclamation measures following the completion of vested mining activities that would result in final benches and slopes that provide a factor of safety consistent with applicable regulatory requirements. In addition, report recommendations including inspection of active slope faces to guide final bench forms will be implemented prior to final reclamation grading, and new or unanticipated findings could result in modified recommendations to guide the reclamation grading. Implementation of the Project will improve overall site stability and reduce the potential for liquefaction, ground failure, subsidence or other similar hazards. Therefore, the Project will have no significant impacts associated with unstable earth conditions, earthquakes or ground failure.

b) Be Within a California Geological Survey "Alquist-Priolo" Earthquake Fault Zone", or Other Known Fault Zones?

The Project site is not located within an Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zone.

c) *Soil Erosion, Topographic Changes, Loss of Topsoil or Unstable Soil Conditions.*

d) *Include structures located on expansive soils?*

The Project entails implementation of reclamation measures following completion of vested mining activities. The vested mining activities will result in topsoil and overburden removal and alteration of topographic conditions. The Project will result in erosion management and reuse of removed and stockpiled topsoil and overburden, as well as grading and revegetation of disturbed areas to achieve stable conditions. A drainage report prepared for the Expansion Area provides recommendations to control erosion and sedimentation during reclamation activities. In addition, the Project is required to provide a complete erosion and sedimentation control plan with each phase or sub-phase of reclamation. The Project also does not include development of any structures for human occupancy, or structures located on expansive soils.

e) *Consistency with the County's Safety Element relating to Geologic and Seismic Hazards.*

The Project is consistent with the County's Safety Element policies relating to Geologic and Seismic Hazards. The Project does not propose new development on or near active fault zones or other geologic hazards. The Project will improve stability of post-mining slopes through finish grading and revegetation measures.

f) *Mineral Extraction.*

The Project facilitates extraction of valuable mineral reserves. Vested mining rights on the project site encompass approximately 230 acres and include substantial rock deposits that are currently extracted and processed into commercial products. The purpose of the project is to amend the Reclamation Plan to cover all of the areas where mining is planned to occur over the next 200 years.

Conclusion/Mitigation Measures. The preceding discussion supports the following conclusions:

- The Project site will be fully disturbed by vested mining activities. Vested mining activities will result in topsoil and overburden removal, changes to existing topography, and extraction of the available mineral reserves on site.
- SMARA and County ordinance requires final reclaimed slopes to take into consideration the physical properties of the slope material, its probable maximum water content, landscaping requirements, and other factors. The RPA accordingly requires final slopes to have an average overall gradient of 1.3:1 (H:V) and to provide a factor of safety consistent with the geotechnical monitoring and recommendations. The RPA also includes measures to manage drainage, erosion, and revegetation.

The Project will not result in significant impacts to geology and soils, and no mitigations are necessary.

7. HAZARDS & HAZARDOUS MATERIALS - *Will the project:*

	Potentially Significant	Impact can & will be mitigated	Insignificant Impact	Not Applicable
a) <i>Create a hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) <i>Create a hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) <i>Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within ¼-mile of an existing or proposed school?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) <i>Be located on, or adjacent to, a site which is included on a list of hazardous material/waste sites compiled pursuant to Gov't Code 65962.5 ("Cortese List"), and result in an adverse public health condition?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e) <i>Impair implementation or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response or evacuation plan?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
f) <i>If within the Airport Review designation, or near a private airstrip, result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
g) <i>Increase fire hazard risk or expose people or structures to high wildland fire hazard conditions?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
h) <i>Be within a 'very high' fire hazard severity zone?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
i) <i>Be within an area classified as a 'state responsibility' area as defined by CalFire?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
j) <i>Other: _____</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Setting. The State of California Hazardous Waste and Substances Site List (also known as the “Cortese List”) is a planning document used by state and local agencies and developers to comply with the siting requirements prescribed by federal, State, and local regulations relating to hazardous materials sites. A search of the Cortese database conducted in September 2018 revealed no active sites in the vicinity, including the project site.

The Project is not within an Airport Review area.

According to the CalFire map of fire hazard severity zones for San Luis Obispo County, the project site is located in a *Moderate Fire Hazard Severity Zone*. Based on the County's fire response time map, it will take approximately 5 - 10 minutes to respond to a call regarding fire or life safety. Refer to the Public Services section for a further discussion of Project impacts on fire protection facilities.

Hazardous Materials Release Response Plans and Inventory Act of 1985. The Hazardous Materials Release Response Plans and Inventory Act, also known as the Business Plan Act, requires businesses using hazardous materials to prepare a plan that describes their facilities, inventories, emergency response plans, and training programs. Hazardous materials are defined as unsafe raw or unused materials that are part of a process or manufacturing step. They are not considered hazardous waste. Health concerns pertaining to the release of hazardous materials, however, are similar to those relating to hazardous waste.

Hazardous Waste Control Act. The Hazardous Waste Control Act created the State hazardous waste management program, which is similar to but more stringent than the federal Resource Conservation and Recovery Act program. The act is implemented by regulations contained in Title 26 of the CCR, which describes the following required aspects for the proper management of hazardous waste: identification and classification; generation and transportation; design and permitting of recycling, treatment, storage, and disposal facilities; treatment standards; operation of facilities and staff training; and closure of facilities and liability requirements. These regulations list more than 800 materials that may be hazardous and establish criteria for identifying, packaging, and disposing of such waste. Under the Hazardous Waste Control Act and Title 26, the generator of hazardous waste must complete a manifest that accompanies the waste from generator to transporter to the ultimate disposal location. Copies of the manifest must be filed with the California Department of Toxic Substances and Control.

Surface Mining and Reclamation Act and Associated Regulations. The Surface Mining and Reclamation Act of 1975 (SMARA) requires that a reclamation plan and financial assurances be submitted for all new mines to ensure safe and proper reclamation at the completion of mining activities.

Unified Hazardous Waste and Hazardous Materials Management Regulatory Program. The Unified Hazardous Waste and Hazardous Materials Management Regulatory Program (“Unified Program”) required the administrative consolidation of six hazardous materials and waste programs (“Program Elements”) under one agency, a Certified Unified Program Agency (“CUPA”). The Program Elements consolidated under the Unified Program are: Hazardous Waste Generator and On-site Hazardous Waste Treatment Programs (a.k.a. Tiered Permitting); Aboveground Petroleum Storage Tank Spill Prevention Control and Counter-measure Plan (SPCC); Hazardous Materials Release Response Plans and Inventory Program (a.k.a. Hazardous Materials Disclosure or “Community-Right-To-Know”); California Accidental Release Prevention Program (Cal ARP); UST Program; and Uniform Fire Code Plans and Inventory Requirements. The Unified Program is intended to provide relief to businesses complying with the overlapping and sometimes conflicting requirements of formerly independently managed programs. The Unified Program is implemented at the local government level by CUPAs. Most CUPAs have been established as a function of a local environmental health or fire department. Some CUPAs have contractual agreements with another local agency, a participating agency, which implements one or more Program Elements in coordination with the CUPA. The County Environmental Health Services Division is the CUPA for San Luis Obispo County.



Department of Toxic Substance Control (“DTSC”). DTSC is a department of the California Environmental Protection Agency (“CalEPA”) and is the primary agency in California that regulates hazardous waste, cleans up existing contamination, and looks for ways to reduce the hazardous waste produced in California. DTSC regulates hazardous waste in California primarily under the authority of the federal RCRA and the California Health and Safety Code (primarily Division 20, Chapters 6.5 through 10.6, and Title 22, Division 4.5). Other laws that affect hazardous waste are specific to handling, storage, transportation, disposal, treatment, reduction, cleanup, and emergency planning. Government Code §65962.5 (commonly referred to as the Cortese List) includes DTSC-listed hazardous waste facilities and sites, DHS lists of contaminated drinking water wells, sites listed by the SWRCB as having UST leaks and which have had a discharge of hazardous wastes or materials into the water or groundwater, and lists from local regulatory agencies of sites that have had a known migration of hazardous waste/material.

California Occupational Safety and Health Administration. The California Occupational Safety and Health Administration (Cal/OSHA) is the primary agency responsible for worker safety in the handling and use of chemicals in the workplace. Cal/OSHA standards are generally more stringent than federal regulations. The employer is required to monitor worker exposure to listed hazardous substances and notify workers of exposure (8 CCR Sections 337 340). The regulations specify requirements for employee training, availability of safety equipment, accident-prevention programs, and hazardous substance exposure warnings.

Impact. Reclamation activities may involve the use and storage of oils, fuels and solvents for grading and other earth moving equipment. In the event of a leak or spill, persons, soil, and vegetation down-slope from the site may be affected. The use, storage, and transport of hazardous materials is regulated by the DTSC (22 Cal. Code of Regulations Section 66001, et seq.). The use of hazardous materials on the Project site is required to be in compliance with local, state, and federal regulations. The applicant will maintain an SPCC plan for the site throughout operations that will also cover reclamation activity.

Regarding road impacts, the project has been reviewed by County Public Works, which is discussed further in the Transportation section.

The Project is not expected to conflict with any regional emergency response or evacuation plan.

As discussed in the Project Description, drilling and blasting is required to fracture and loosen “in-situ” rock as part of the vested mining activities, which are in baseline. Blasting will not be employed as part of the ongoing reclamation activities. However, the Applicant employs a licensed blaster to complete all blasting-related activities in compliance with applicable regulations of the San Luis Obispo County Sheriff’s Department, federal MSHA, Cal-OHSA, the Department of Homeland Security, and ATF. All blasting operations will follow current practices utilized at the active quarry. Explosives are stored within the RPA Area in compliance with San Luis Obispo County Sheriff’s Permit, federal ATF License/Permit, MSHA and Cal/OSHA requirements.

Mitigation/Conclusion. Compliance with existing regulations and code requirements will ensure potential impacts associated with hazards and hazardous materials impacts will be less than significant. No mitigations are necessary.

8. NOISE

<i>Will the project:</i>	Potentially Significant	Impact can & will be mitigated	Insignificant Impact	Not Applicable
a) <i>Expose people to noise levels that exceed the County Noise Element thresholds?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) <i>Generate permanent increases in the ambient noise levels in the project vicinity?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) <i>Cause a temporary or periodic increase in ambient noise in the project vicinity?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) <i>Expose people to severe noise or vibration?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e) <i>If located within the Airport Review designation or adjacent to a private airstrip, expose people residing or working in the project area to severe noise levels?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
f) <i>Other:</i> _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Setting. The Project is located in a semi-rural area of the County surrounded by ranches on large parcels. The nearest sensitive noise receptors in the area are located over 1/2 mile away and the prevailing land use in the area is ranching. The primary noise source in the area is ongoing mining and extraction activities on the project site and roadway noise on Old Creek Road.

The RPA Area is located on the sides of a steeply sloping valley. Varied terrain will typically reduce line-of-sight noise impacts. The existing surface mine's historical blasting (up to 24 times a year) is not usually audible beyond ¼ mile from blasting source.

The County General Plan Noise Element includes projections for future noise levels from known stationery and vehicle-generated noise sources. According to the Noise Element, the Project lies within an area where future noise levels are expected to remain within an acceptable threshold. In addition, federal and State employee health and safety regulations (OSHA and Cal-OSHA) control noise production within an industrial or commercial facility or in close proximity to many types of agricultural equipment. However, exterior noise emissions from such operations have the potential to exceed locally acceptable standards at nearby noise-sensitive land uses.

Stationary noise control issues focus upon two objectives: to prevent the introduction of new noise-producing uses in a noise sensitive area, and to prevent encroachment of noise-sensitive land uses upon existing noise-generating facilities. The County attempts to achieve these objectives by applying performance standards and by requiring that new noise-sensitive uses in proximity to existing noise sources include receiver-based mitigation measures.

The Noise Element establishes a threshold for acceptable exterior noise levels for sensitive uses (such as residences) of 60 decibels^a along transportation noise sources and provides an estimate of the distance from certain roadways where noise levels will exceed those levels.

Impact.

Operational Impacts. Existing sources of noise on the Project site include ongoing mining and extraction, earth moving equipment, large truck traffic for delivery of products, rock crushing and processing equipment, and periodic blasting of surface material. These noise sources are within the baseline for this analysis.

Implementation of the RPA will involve the continued use of heavy equipment for grading and for the delivery and movement of reclamation materials such as soil, plant stock and seeds. It is expected that reclamation activities will employ the same inventory of earthmoving equipment currently used on site for ongoing mining activities. The nearest sensitive noise receptors are approximately ½ mile away and at that distance, noise associated with reclamation activities would likely not be distinguishable above baseline noise conditions.

Conclusion/Mitigation Measures. No significant noise impacts are anticipated. No mitigations are necessary.

^a The sound level obtained by using the A-weighting filter of a sound level meter, expressed in decibels (dB). All sound levels referred to in this policy document are in A-weighted decibels. A-weighting de-emphasizes the very low and very high frequencies of sound in a manner similar to the human ear. Most community noise standards utilize A-weighting, as it provides a high degree of correlation which human annoyance and health effects.

9. POPULATION/HOUSING

Will the project:

	Potentially Significant	Impact can & will be mitigated	Insignificant Impact	Not Applicable
a) <i>Induce substantial growth in an area either directly (e.g., construct new homes or businesses) or indirectly (e.g., extension of major infrastructure)?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) <i>Displace existing housing or people, requiring construction of replacement housing elsewhere?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) <i>Create the need for substantial new housing in the area?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) <i>Other:</i> _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Setting In its efforts to provide for affordable housing, the county currently administers the Home Investment Partnerships Program and the Community Development Block Grant program, which provides limited financing to projects relating to affordable housing throughout the county. The County's Inclusionary Housing Ordinance requires provision of new affordable housing in conjunction with both residential and nonresidential development and subdivisions.

Impact. No building construction or additional development beyond baseline conditions is proposed. Therefore, the Project will not result in a need for a significant amount of new housing and will not displace existing housing.

Conclusion/Mitigation Measures. No significant population and housing impacts are anticipated. No mitigation measures are necessary.



10. PUBLIC SERVICES/UTILITIES

Will the project have an effect upon, or result in the need for new or altered public services in any of the following areas:

	Potentially Significant	Impact can & will be mitigated	Insignificant Impact	Not Applicable
a) Fire protection?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Police protection (e.g., Sheriff, CHP)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Schools?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) Roads?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e) Solid Wastes?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
f) Other public facilities?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
g) Other: _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Setting. The project area is served by the following public services/facilities:

<u>Police:</u> County Sheriff	Location: Los Osos 10 th Street (Approximately 11.4 miles to the south)		
<u>Fire:</u> Cal Fire (formerly CDF)	Hazard Severity: Moderate	Response Time: 5-10 Minutes	
Location: Cal Fire 11 Cayucos (Hwy 1 at 102 Chaney Ave., Cayucos).			
<u>School District:</u> Cayucos Elementary School District. Coast Unified School District, San Luis Joint Community College			

Police protection is provided by the County Sheriff which has a sub-station at 2099 10th Street in Los Osos and the main office at 1585 Kansas Avenue, about four miles west of the City of San Luis Obispo. The nearest County fire station is Station 11 located at 102 Chaney Ave, Cayucos, about 11 miles to the south. Emergency response times to the project site are 5 – 10 minutes. The Project is located within the Cayucos Elementary and Coast Unified School Districts.

Impact. To mitigate the demand for new or expanded public facilities caused by development, the County has adopted development impact fees in accordance with Government Code Section 66000 et seq. Under this program private development is required to pay a fee that is proportional to the incremental demand for a particular facility needed to serve such development. The amount of the fees must be justified by a supporting study (fee justification study) which identifies the new or expanded facilities needed to serve expected demand into the future and apportions these costs to new development. New development is required to pay the appropriate fees for new or expanded public facilities commensurate with the type and size of development. Project impacts to local roadways are discussed in Section 12, Transportation/Circulation.

Conclusion/Mitigation Measures. No new construction is proposed that would increase the demand for public services. No mitigation measures are necessary.

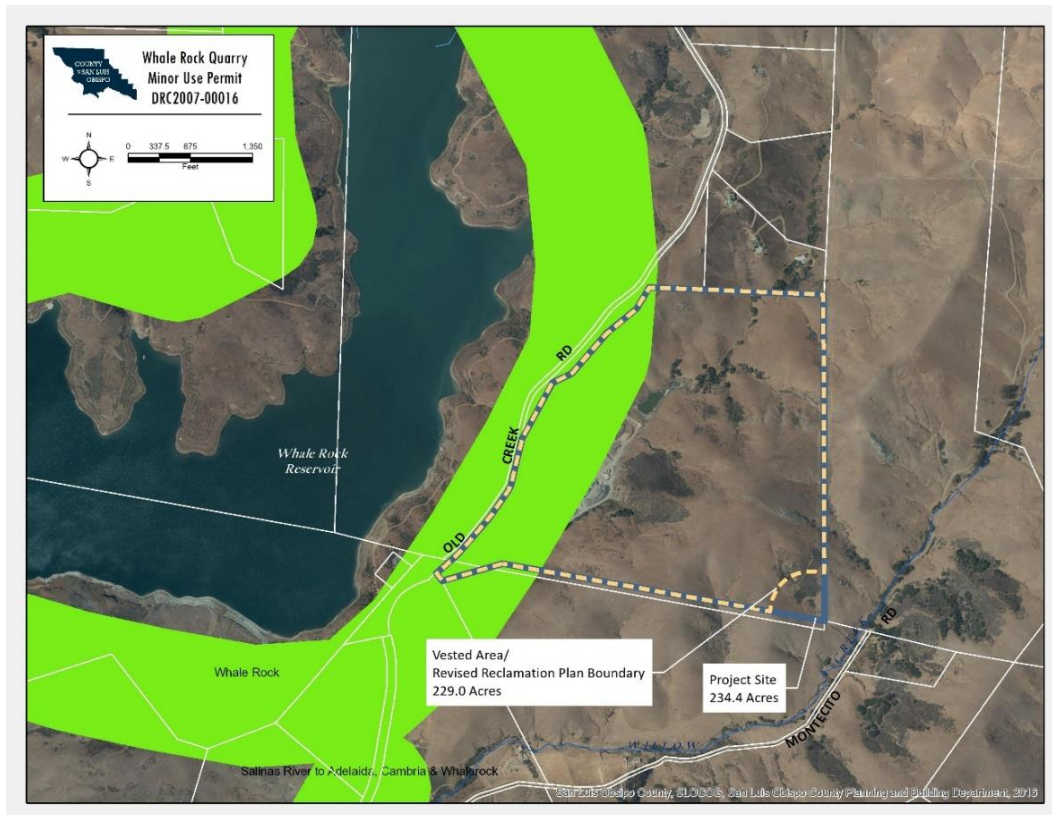
11. RECREATION

Will the project:

	Potentially Significant	Impact can & will be mitigated	Insignificant Impact	Not Applicable
a) <i>Increase the use or demand for parks or other recreation opportunities?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) <i>Affect the access to trails, parks or other recreation opportunities?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) <i>Other _____</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Setting. The County has adopted a Parks and Recreation Element and a Trails Plan for the purpose of establishing a trail system serving the unincorporated areas of the County. The Trails Plan shows that a portion of the project site is within a potential trail corridor (Whale Rock) which includes the western edge of the proposed project along Old Creek Road. The 2007 aerial shows that an existing loop trail exists just above the shoreline of the Whale Rock reservoir. The project will not have a direct or an indirect impact to this existing trail.

Figure 16 -- Project Site in Relation to Proposed Trail Corridors



Impact. The proposed Project will not create a significant need for additional parks, trails, Natural Area, and/or recreational resources.

Conclusion/Mitigations. The Project will not result in significant recreation impacts, and no mitigation measures are necessary.

12. TRANSPORTATION/CIRCULATION

<i>Will the project:</i>	Potentially Significant	Impact can & will be mitigated	Insignificant Impact	Not Applicable
a) <i>Increase vehicle trips to local or areawide circulation system?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) <i>Reduce existing "Level of Service" on public roadway(s)?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) <i>Create unsafe conditions on public roadways (e.g., limited access, design features, sight distance, slow vehicles)?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) <i>Provide for adequate emergency access?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e) <i>Conflict with an established measure of effectiveness for the performance of the circulation system considering all modes of transportation (e.g. LOS, mass transit, etc.)?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
f) <i>Conflict with an applicable congestion management program?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
g) <i>Conflict with adopted policies, plans, or programs regarding public transit, bicycle, or pedestrian facilities, or otherwise decrease the performance or safety of such facilities?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
h) <i>Result in a change in air traffic patterns that may result in substantial safety risks?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
i) <i>Other: _____</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Setting. The Project site is located on Old Creek Road, a 2-lane rural collector. The County has established the acceptable Level of Service (LOS) on roads for this rural area as "C" or better. Counts taken by the County in 2016 for Old Creek Road south of SR 46 revealed a PM peak volume of 139. The roadway is currently operating at an acceptable level of service in the project vicinity.

Current (baseline) motor vehicle trips generated by Quarry operations are summarized below in Table 1 and Table 7, reproduced for convenience from previous sections:

Table 1 – Quarry Baseline Motor Vehicle Trips			
Source	Quantity	Trip Rate	Total Daily Trips
Employees	10	One trip per day per employee	20
Truck Trips - Quarry product deliveries	47,656 tons of product per year	18.8 trips per day ¹	18.8
Visitor vehicles, vendor & material delivery trucks, pickup truck loads, etc.	15 per week on average	3 round trips per day on average	6
Total:			44.8 ²

Notes:

1. Average annual production rate of 47,656 tons per year / 250 days per year = 190.6 tons per day
190.6 tons per day / 20.2 tons per truck = 9.4 truck trips per day
2. Estimated Baseline Annual Trips (44.8 trips x 6 days/week) = 13,977.6 annually
(Baseline annual trips are calculated based on the estimated daily averages noted above and an assumed operational period of six days per week. The vested Quarry has no Conditional Use Permit and therefore no operational restrictions on hours and days.

Table 7: Annual Reclamation Activity Trips

Activity	Number of Vehicles	Days per Year	Total New Reclamation Trips Annually
Reclamation planting & seeding activity	5	40 days	200
Monitoring	2	4 days	8
Total	7	44 days	208

The Table 7 total estimated annual increase in reclamation trips over the baseline annual trips identified in Table 1 (208 annual Reclamation trips / 13,977 annual baseline trips) is an increase of 0.015 trips annually. Given that the reclamation activity will utilize existing on-site equipment during periods of low production, the new vehicle trips associated with the project will result in a negligible change from annual baseline.

Impacts.

Operational Impacts. No new construction or development is proposed beyond baseline conditions and no new earth moving or mining equipment will be required. Reclamation activities may generate one to two trips per month for ongoing monitoring and planting and for the delivery of materials such as plant stock and seeds. The increase in traffic associated with implementation of the RPA will be negligible compared with existing baseline traffic conditions and will not reduce the level of service of Old Creek Road or associated intersections.

Conclusion/Mitigation Measures.

No significant traffic impacts were identified, and no mitigation measures are necessary.

13. WASTEWATER

<i>Will the project:</i>	Potentially Significant	Impact can & will be mitigated	Insignificant Impact	Not Applicable
a) <i>Violate waste discharge requirements or Central Coast Basin Plan criteria for wastewater systems?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) <i>Change the quality of surface or ground water (e.g., nitrogen-loading, day-lighting)?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) <i>Adversely affect community wastewater service provider?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) <i>Other:</i> _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Setting. Soil type for the project site is provided in Section 2., Agricultural Resources, based on the Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) Soil Survey map. Regulations and guidelines on proper wastewater system design and criteria are found within the Water Quality Control Policy for Siting, Design, Operation, and Maintenance of Onsite Wastewater Treatment Systems (California OWTS Policy), and the California Plumbing Code. These regulations include specific requirements for both on-site and community wastewater systems and are applied to all new wastewater systems.

Onsite waste disposal needs for the existing Quarry operations are currently met through an existing, permitted onsite wastewater system that serves the office, located near an existing storage building northeast of Phase 1A, approximately 100 feet west of the creek. In the event that new office facilities are proposed, or the existing office is relocated, a County building permit would be required, and any new onsite wastewater system would be subject to permitting requirements applicable at the time of such application. The existing well used for dust control is located near the southern end of the creek channel, approximately 450 feet from the septic system.

Impacts/Mitigation. Based on the project description, no new construction, habitable structures or significant increase in employees are proposed as part of the RPA. Wastewater disposal for current and future employees will continue to use the existing septic leach field. No impacts to wastewater are expected beyond baseline conditions and no mitigations are necessary

14. WATER & HYDROLOGY

Will the project:

QUALITY

	Potentially Significant	Impact can & will be mitigated	Insignificant Impact	Not Applicable
a) Violate any water quality standards?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Discharge into surface waters or otherwise alter surface water quality (e.g., turbidity, sediment, temperature, dissolved oxygen, etc.)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Change the quality of groundwater (e.g., saltwater intrusion, nitrogen-loading, etc.)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) Create or contribute runoff water which would exceed the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems or provide additional sources of polluted runoff?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e) Change rates of soil absorption, or amount or direction of surface runoff?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
f) Change the drainage patterns where substantial on- or off-site sedimentation/ erosion or flooding may occur?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
g) Involve activities within the 100-year flood zone?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

QUANTITY

h) Change the quantity or movement of available surface or ground water?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
i) Adversely affect community water service provider?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
j) Expose people to a risk of loss, injury or death involving flooding (e.g., dam failure, etc.), or inundation by seiche, tsunami or mudflow?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
k) Other: _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Setting. The topography of the Project site is gently to very steeply sloping. A stock pond impound is located on the north side of the operational area, constructed prior to 1969 in an unnamed drainage tributary to Willow Creek which bisects the property north to south. In December 1997, a water rights claim filed by the landowners resulted in water rights authorization of 9.0 acre-feet per year for stock watering and incidental uses from the State Water Resources Control Board (Certificate #4638). Water supply for dust control is provided by an existing groundwater well located near the southern limit of the RPA area, supplemented by surface water collected in settling ponds. The Project site is not located within the 100-year Flood Hazard designation. Soils on the Project site generally are well-drained.

The existing surface mine is currently importing off-site water as its water source for its employee needs. Existing residences approximately ½ mile above and below the surface mine have on-site wells. The



closest known groundwater basins (Old Valley and Toro) are approximately one mile to the north and south. Whale Rock Reservoir is fully allocated to existing water purveyors (e.g., City of San Luis Obispo, Cayucos, etc.). The landowner (Mainini) holds water rights to draw 50 acre-feet per year from Whale Rock Reservoir per a 1957 Stipulation Agreement (Water Rights Board Application 17114 dated October 4, 1957). The water rights are limited to use on specified legal parcels as described in the Stipulation Agreement and attachments. The Quarry does not use this water currently and the quarry parcel's right to use this water has not been established.

As discussed, vested mining operations will fully disturb the Expansion Area, including by removing topsoil and overburden and altering the site's topography and drainage characteristics. The Project proposes approval of a Reclamation Plan Amendment that will provide for post-mining management of drainage, erosion, sedimentation, and overall site water quality management. The RPA includes a Drainage Report (Chang Consultants, January 2016) that provides the basis for stormwater controls, best management practices, and design criteria for the post-reclamation drainage structures and basins in the ultimate reclaimed site configuration. The final mine configuration will be the product of ongoing evaluation of bench and slope stability, underlying rock formation, springs and other variables that can result in adjustment to the final form. The final reclamation drainage design of each phase has the potential to vary from the Reclamation Plan drainage analysis. As a result, verification provided by a civil engineer of the final drainage compliance must be approved by the County before the FACE can be adjusted to release each reclaimed phase or subphase

Although vested mining activities are not part of the Project under review, the mine operation is subject to State requirements for water quality management through an Industrial Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) currently on file with the State Water Board (WDID# 3 40I025440). This document provides erosion control measures and best management practices for managing water quality; the required annual reporting is current. The area listed on the August 2015 Notice of Intent (NOI) indicates 52.2 acres are exposed to storm water.

SEDIMENTATION AND EROSION – Soil type, area of disturbance, and slopes are key aspects to analyzing potential sedimentation and erosion issues. As described in the Natural Resource Conservation Service Soil Survey, the moderately to very steeply sloping soils of the project site have moderate erodibility.

A sedimentation and erosion control plan will be required for all future mining activities (LUO Sec. 22.36) to minimize these impacts. When required, the plan is prepared by a civil engineer to address both temporary and long-term sedimentation and erosion impacts.

Impact – Water Quality/Hydrology

- a) *Violate any water quality standards?*
- b) *Discharge into surface waters or otherwise alter surface water quality (e.g., turbidity, sediment, temperature, dissolved oxygen, etc.)?*
- c) *Change the quality of groundwater (e.g., saltwater intrusion, nitrogen-loading, etc.)?*
- d) *Create or contribute runoff water which would exceed the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems or provide additional sources of polluted runoff?*
- e) *Change rates of soil absorption, or amount or direction of surface runoff?*
- f) *Change the drainage patterns where substantial on- or off-site sedimentation/ erosion or flooding may occur?*
- g) *Involve activities within the 100-year flood zone?*

The Project entails reclamation of areas disturbed by vested mining activities. The Project does not entail creation or discharge of operational or process water with the potential to violate water quality

standards. The Quarry is designed to control surface runoff to protect surrounding land and water resources in accordance with the federal Clean Water Act and other applicable local, state, and federal requirements. All operations within the RPA Area will comply with the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) General Permit associated with industrial activities. A system of Best Management Practices (BMPs) is required to be employed in accordance with Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP). The Project includes civil design verification of site hydrology as each phase or sub-phase reaches final reclamation, and annual verification of compliance with the applicable Industrial SWPPP as required by the State Water Resources Board. Drainage and erosion controls apply at all stages of operation and reclamation and are designed to exceed the 20-year storm event. The Project is not located within the 100-year Flood Zone.

Impact -- Water Quantity

- h) Change the quantity or movement of available surface or ground water?*
- i) Adversely affect community water service provider?*
- j) Expose people to a risk of loss, injury or death involving flooding (e.g., dam failure, etc.), or inundation by seiche, tsunami or mudflow?*

The Project entails reclamation of areas disturbed by vested mining activities. Surface water on site is limited to the existing stock pond impound located on the north side of the operational area and an unnamed drainage tributary to Willow Creek which bisects the property north to south. Vested mining activities will not impact either feature. The Project will not impact groundwater. The Project also will not utilize or impact water sources utilized by a water service provider. Well water is currently used for dust control during mining and processing activities on haul roads, stockpiles, active mining areas and at the processing plant. Water demand associated with employees and visitors is low, approximately 500 gallons per day. Total current water use is estimated as 8,000 to 12,000 gallons per day on average. This water use is baseline for the existing vested quarry operations.

Water demand associated with the RPA will be primarily for dust suppression during earth moving activities for planting preparation. Water demand associated with implementation of the RPA is expected to be less than significant because:

- Water used for dust suppression will be reduced when compared to baseline conditions because mining activities will have ceased.
- The water demand associated with the establishment of re-vegetated areas will be temporary until the plants have become established.
- Although the number of employees will likely increase from 5 to about ten through the timeframe of the RPA, the increase in water demand will be short term (about 20 days) and is expected to be negligible when compared with baseline demand.
- Dust suppression associated with reclamation activities will be short term (about 20 days) and temporary.

Finally, the Project does not entail activities or development that will expose people to a risk of loss, injury or death involving flooding.

Conclusions/Mitigation Measures.

Based on the discussion set forth above, the Project will not result in significant impacts to water and hydrology, and no mitigations are necessary.

15. LAND USE

Will the project:

	Inconsistent	Potentially Inconsistent	Consistent	Not Applicable
a) <i>Be potentially inconsistent with land use, policy/regulation (e.g., general plan [County Land Use Element and Ordinance], local coastal plan, specific plan, Clean Air Plan, etc.) adopted to avoid or mitigate for environmental effects?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) <i>Be potentially inconsistent with any habitat or community conservation plan?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) <i>Be potentially inconsistent with adopted agency environmental plans or policies with jurisdiction over the project?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) <i>Be potentially incompatible with surrounding land uses?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e) <i>Other:</i> _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Setting/Impact. Surrounding uses are identified on Page 2 of the Initial Study. The proposed Project was reviewed for consistency with policy and/or regulatory documents relating to the environment and appropriate land use (e.g., County Land Use Ordinance, Local Coastal Plan, etc.). Referrals were sent to outside agencies to review for policy consistencies (e.g., APCD for Clean Air Plan, etc.). The Project was found to be consistent with these documents (refer also to Exhibit A on reference documents used).

The Project site is not within an area covered by a Habitat Conservation Plan. The Project is consistent or compatible with the surrounding uses as summarized on page 2 of this Initial Study.

The Reclamation Plan Amendment Project involves the reclamation of a surface quarry, a non-agricultural use on lands currently under a Williamson Act contract. The project was referred to the Agricultural Preserve Review Committee on February 22, 2018 for comment. A straw vote taken by the Agricultural Preserve Review Committee showed that, based on preliminary information, a majority found that the use is not incompatible with the existing grazing operation. Mining is phased such that reclamation will be conducted on the early phases before later phases are stripped of overburden, minimizing the amount of grazing land impacted at each stage. Also, the total area of mining (82 acres) is approximately 35% of the total area of the parcel, leaving 65% of the contracted grazing land undisturbed under this Reclamation Plan.

The County's Land Use Element (Framework for Planning) includes the following General Goals intended, in part, to maintain certain visual qualities for the county:

7. *Encourage an urban environment that is an orderly arrangement of buildings, structures and open space appropriate to the size and scale of development for each community.*
8. *Maintain a distinction between urban and rural development by providing for rural uses outside of urban and village areas which are predominately agriculture, low-intensity recreation,*

residential and open space uses, which will preserve and enhance the pattern of identifiable communities.

9. *Identify important agricultural, natural and other rural areas between cities and communities and work with landowners to maintain their rural character.*
10. *Encourage the protection of agricultural land for the production of food, fiber, and other agricultural commodities.*

Implementation of the RPA will be generally consistent with these goals for visual resources.

Conclusions/Mitigation Measures. No inconsistencies were identified and therefore the Project will not have significant impacts related to land use, and no mitigations are necessary.

16. MANDATORY FINDINGS OF SIGNIFICANCE

Potentially
Significant

Impact can
& will be
mitigated

Insignificant
Impact

Not
Applicable

Will the project:

- a) *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, 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 pre-history?*
- ☐
☐
☒
☐
- b) *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)*
- ☐
☐
☒
☐
- c) *Have environmental effects which will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?*
- ☐
☐
☒
☐

For further information on CEQA or the County's environmental review process, please visit the County's web site at "www.sloplanning.org" under "Environmental Information", or the California Environmental Resources Evaluation System at: <http://resources.ca.gov/ceqa/> for information about the California Environmental Quality Act.

Exhibit A - Initial Study References and Agency Contacts

The County Planning Department has contacted various agencies for their comments on the proposed project. With respect to the subject application, the following have been contacted (marked with an ☒) and when a response was made, it is either attached or in the application file:

<u>Contacted</u>	<u>Agency</u>	<u>Response</u>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	County Public Works Department	Attached
<input type="checkbox"/>	County Environmental Health Services	Not Applicable
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	County Agricultural Commissioner's Office	None
<input type="checkbox"/>	County Airport Manager	Not Applicable
<input type="checkbox"/>	Airport Land Use Commission	Not Applicable
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Air Pollution Control District	Attached
<input type="checkbox"/>	County Sheriff's Department	Not Applicable
<input type="checkbox"/>	Regional Water Quality Control Board	None
<input type="checkbox"/>	CA Coastal Commission	Not Applicable
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	CA Department of Fish and Wildlife	None
<input type="checkbox"/>	CA Department of Forestry (Cal Fire)	Not Applicable
<input type="checkbox"/>	CA Department of Transportation	Not Applicable
<input type="checkbox"/>	Community Services District	Not Applicable
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Other <u>Local Tribal Contacts per AB52</u>	None
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Other <u>AG Preserve Review Committee</u>	Attached
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Other <u>Division of Mine Reclamation</u>	Attached

*** "No comment" or "No concerns"-type responses are usually not attached*

The following checked ("☒") reference materials have been used in the environmental review for the proposed project and are hereby incorporated by reference into the Initial Study. The following information is available at the County Planning and Building Department.

- ☒ Project File for the Subject Application
- County documents
- ☐ Coastal Plan Policies
- ☒ Framework for Planning (Coastal/Inland)
- ☒ General Plan (Inland/Coastal), includes all maps/elements; more pertinent elements:
 - ☒ Agriculture Element
 - ☒ Conservation & Open Space Element
 - ☐ Economic Element
 - ☒ Housing Element
 - ☒ Noise Element
 - ☒ Parks & Recreation Element/Project List
 - ☒ Safety Element
- ☒ Land Use Ordinance (Inland/Coastal)
- ☐ Building and Construction Ordinance
- ☒ Public Facilities Fee Ordinance
- ☐ Real Property Division Ordinance
- ☒ Affordable Housing Fund
- ☐ Airport Land Use Plan
- ☐ Energy Wise Plan
- ☒ North County Area Plan/Adelaida Sub Area

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Design Plan | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Area of Critical Concerns Map |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Specific Plan | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Special Biological Importance Map |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Annual Resource Summary Report | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CA Natural Species Diversity Database |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Circulation Study | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fire Hazard Severity Map |
| <u>Other documents</u> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Flood Hazard Maps |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Clean Air Plan/APCD Handbook | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Natural Resources Conservation Service Soil Survey for SLO County |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Regional Transportation Plan | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GIS mapping layers (e.g., habitat, streams, contours, etc.) |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Uniform Fire Code | <input type="checkbox"/> Other |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Water Quality Control Plan (Central Coast Basin – Region 3) | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Archaeological Resources Map | |

In addition, the following project specific information and/or reference materials have been considered as a part of the Initial Study:

EnviroMine, Inc., July 12, 2018, Reclamation Plan Amendment for the Whale Rock Quarry

GeoSolutions, Inc., June 14, 2018, Preliminary Engineering Geology Investigation Quarry Expansion Area Negranti Material Mine

Chang Consultants, January 7, 2016, Drainage Report For The Whale Rock Quarry

V. L. Holland, Ph.D., October 15, 2009, Biological Resources Survey Revegetation and Monitoring Plan Whale Rock Quarry Expansion Site

V.L. Holland, September 11, 2009, Revised Botanical Report – Whale Rock Quarry

V.L. Holland, September 11, 2009, Revised Restoration, Revegetation & Monitoring Plan for Whale Rock Quarry Expansion Site

Padre Associates, May 2009, Herpetological Survey Report for the Negranti Rock Quarry

Water Rights Documentation on file:

State Water Rights Board Stipulation Agreement (Application #17114) October 14, 1957

State Water Resources Control Board, Division of Water Rights: Stock Pond Certification #4638 filed December 16, 1997

