

Notice of Preparation

TO: State Clearinghouse
State Responsible Agencies
State Trustee Agencies
Other Public Agencies
Interested Organizations
Members of the Public

FROM: County of Modoc
Planning Department

CONTACT: Jackie Froeming, Senior Planner
203 W. 4th Street
Alturas, CA 96101
(530) 233-6406

SUBJECT: Notice of Preparation of a Subsequent Environmental Impact Report (SEIR) for the Hogsback Quarry Project (Use Permit Amendment No. 2001-01EXT and Reclamation Plan Amendment No. 2024-1)

Modoc County is the Lead Agency under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and is preparing a Subsequent Environmental Impact Report (SEIR) for the project identified as the Hogsback Quarry Project.

Attached to this Notice of Preparation (NOP) are a description of the probable environmental effects of the project (Attachment 1) and a detailed project description (Attachment 2), including a map indicating the location of the project area and relevant project related maps and figures.

The SEIR will consider all substantive environmental issues which are raised by responsible agencies, trustee agencies, other interested agencies, and members of the public or related groups during the NOP process and will analyze these potential effects in detail and to the extent necessary to make a determination on the level of significance of such effects. Discussion of those environmental effects determined to result in no impact or a less than significant impact will be limited to a brief explanation in the SEIR of why those effects are not considered potentially significant.

The following agencies may be a Trustee Agency and/or Responsible Agency for the proposed project or have other jurisdiction/interests concerning the proposed project.

United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS)
United States Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE)
United States Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA)
California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW)
California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE)
California Department of Transportation (Caltrans)
California Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC)
California Department of Resources and Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle)
California Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB)
California Division of Mine Reclamation (DMR)
California Division of Occupational Safety and Health (Cal OSHA)
Modoc County Agencies (Air Quality, Environmental Health, Building, Public Works)

Modoc County Sheriff's Department

Whether your agency is or is not listed above we need to know the views of your agency or organization as to the scope and content of the environmental information germane to your agency's statutory responsibilities or of interest to your organization in connection with the proposed project. Specifically, we are requesting the following:

1. Identify potentially significant environmental effects, alternatives, and recommended mitigation measures that you believe need to be explored in the SEIR with supporting discussion of why you believe these effects may be significant.
2. Describe special studies and other information that you believe are necessary in order for the County to analyze the potentially significant environmental effects, alternatives, and recommended mitigation measures you have identified.
3. Provide the name, title, and telephone number of the contact person from your agency or organization that we can contact regarding your comments.
4. If you are a public agency, state if your agency will be a responsible or trustee agency for the project and list the permits or approvals from your agency that will be required for the project and its future actions.

Due to the time limits mandated by State law, your response must be received by the County of Modoc by the following deadlines:

- **For responsible and trustee agencies, not later than 30 days after you receive this notice,**
- **For all other agencies, organizations, and individuals not later than 30 days from publication of this Notice of Preparation. The 30-day review period ends on Thursday, May 08, 2025.**

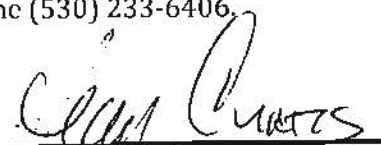
If we do not receive a response from you/your agency or organization within the applicable time frame, we will presume that you/your agency or organization has no response.

A responsible agency, trustee agency, or other public agency may request a meeting with Modoc County or its representatives in accordance with Section 15082(c) of the CEQA Guidelines. Electronic copies of the NOP are available online through the Modoc County Planning homepage at:

https://cms5.revize.com/revize/modoc/departments/planning/california_environmental_quality_act.php

Please provide your responses and any direct questions to the attention of Jackie Froeming, Senior Planner, via mail/delivery to Modoc County Planning Department, 203 W. 4th Street, Alturas, CA 96101 or via e-mail to jackiefroeming@co.modoc.ca.us. Phone (530) 233-6406.

Date: April 08, 2025



Sean Curtis
Planning Director
Modoc County Planning Department

POTENTIAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS HOGSBACK QUARRY PROJECT

Project Location and Setting

Hogsback Quarry is an existing mining and processing facility of construction aggregates, gravel, and sand for use on construction and road projects. The site is located in unincorporated Modoc County on a 516.41-acre parcel situated at T43N, R14E, Section 19, Mount Diablo Base Meridian (MDBM), on the United States Geologic Service (USGS) Surprise Station 7.5-Minute Quadrangle map. The property encompasses Assessor's Parcel Numbers (APNs) 026-190-034-000, 026-190-035-000, 026-190-036-000, and 026-190-037-000 and is primarily located within the Gleason Creek Watershed (HUC12 180200020502). The active project area encompasses approximately 48.69 acres and the original topography ranged from 5,010 to 5,111 feet above mean sea level with a total vertical relief of approximately 101 feet.

The surrounding area is primarily undeveloped. The nearest development is located approximately 1.25 mile to the east, with six developed sites within 2 miles of the quarry. Due to the remoteness of the site, it is unlikely that changes in onsite operations will impact these surrounding receptors. Lands immediately adjacent to the project are classified by the Modoc County General Plan as Agriculture General (AG) and Unclassified. Surrounding site uses include agriculture and grazing. Adjacent landowners include the USDA Forest Service and private landowners. The land surrounding the project area is primarily used for livestock grazing.

Three drainage courses and an irrigation ditch cross the project site. These streams are intermittent in their flows. The access road crosses both larger streams onsite via culverts that are maintained during the operating season.

Project Summary

The project site currently consists of approximately 13 acres of disturbed area within a 48.69-acre project area on the 516.41-acre site, containing two existing pits. The project proposed consists of an amendment to the existing Mining and Reclamation Plan with modifications of the proposed mining area, practices, and mining methodology onsite initially analyzed in the 2004 Hogsback Quarry Mining and Reclamation Final Environmental Impact Report (EIR) and for which a Conditional Use Permit was issued by the Modoc County Planning Department (UP 2001-01).

The attached detailed project description narrative (attachment 2) provides background information; an overview of the proposed project entitlement application approvals being sought; detailed descriptions of the proposed entitlements (including relevant figures); and discussions regarding reclamation plan objectives, phasing, and CEQA Project Objectives.

Environmental Impacts

Areas of No Impact

An Initial Study for the proposed project was not prepared by the County, however, information from the 2004 Environmental Impact Report for Hogsback Quarry conducted by the County has been reviewed and assessed to make the following no impact determinations.

Energy

The proposed project does not include any increase in energy resources at the site. All operations at the site utilize equipment that is self-propelled or powered by generators. Equipment and generators are only used as needed for operations and meet all state-required efficiency and emissions standards and will therefore not result in the innocent or unnecessary consumption of energy resources. There are no local renewable energy or energy efficiency plans that are applicable to the proposed project. Therefore, implementation of the proposed project will have no impact to Energy Resources.

Land Use and Planning

Implementation of the proposed project would not divide an established community. Lands immediately adjacent to the project are classified by the Modoc County General Plan as Agriculture General (AG) and Unclassified. Project activities are allowed in the land use and zoning districts within the project area. Project activities will continue to be conducted in accordance with County zoning requirements and Best Management Practices prescribed in the existing and amended reclamation plans. The proposed project would not conflict with a land use policy or regulation adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect. Therefore, the implementation of the proposed project will have no impact to Land Use and Planning.

Mineral Resources

California's Surface Mining and Reclamation Act of 1975 (SMARA) requires the State Geologist to classify land into mineral resource zones based on the known or inferred mineral resource potential of that land. The primary goal is to ensure that important mineral resources do not become inaccessible due to uniform land-use decisions. To this end, the California Geological Survey performs objective mineral land classification (MLC) to assist in the protection and wise development of California's mineral resources (California Department of Conservation, 2019). A search of the SMARA MLC data portal did not show any MLC-related studies or maps for Modoc County or the project site. There are no designated mineral deposits of regional or statewide importance located onsite.

The State of California has not designated an area of statewide or regional mineral resource significance within the project area. The site is not delineated in the Modoc County General Plan as a locally important mineral resource. Project implementation would not result in the loss of availability of a mineral resource of value to the region or residents of the State or delineated locally important mineral resource. Therefore, the implementation of the proposed project will have no impact to Mineral Resources.

Population and Housing

No new development or infrastructure is proposed as part of the proposed project and no additional employees are anticipated. In addition, no existing housing or people will be displaced by the project. The project does not propose the expansion or relocation of the mining operation. Therefore, implementation of the proposed project will have no impact on Population and Housing.

Public Services

The proposed project includes the expansion of an existing mining operation within the existing reclamation boundary. As a result, the proposed project will not result in population changes that would require new or physically altered schools, parks, or other public facilities. Additionally, the

proposed project will not result in an impact to service ratios, response time, or other performance objectives for fire or police protection which would require the construction of new or physically altered governmental facilities. Therefore, implementation of the proposed project will have no impact to Public Services.

Recreation

The proposed project does not include recreational facilities and would have no foreseeable impact on existing recreational facilities; neither will the project increase the need for recreational services, as no additional employees are proposed. Therefore, implementation of the proposed project will have no impact to Recreation.

Utilities and Service Systems

The proposed project will not require or result in the relocation or construction of new or expanded water, wastewater treatment or stormwater drainage, electric power, natural gas, or telecommunications facilities that would result in significant environmental effects. The proposed project will utilize the same utilities and services as the current mining operation and does not include any changes that will affect solid waste at the site. Water for dust suppression will be utilized recycled water from the existing quarry pit. Therefore, implementation of the proposed project will not result in impacts related to Utilities and Service Systems.

Potential Environmental Impacts

The following subject areas have been identified as having a potentially significant impact on the environment and additional assessment and determination regarding the significance of the impacts will be provided in the Subsequent Environmental Impact Report (SEIR).

Aesthetics

The proposed operational modifications would require materials extraction to occur from northwest to southeast. The previous operator mined the area via large pits in the east and west quarry areas. The revised mining plan will have a single large pit with a base elevation of approximately 5,000 feet above mean sea level with a 3 percent grade. The approved slopes in the current reclamation plan are 3H:1V. The project proposes the slopes 1.5H:1V. While the majority of the site will remain 3:1 a new maximum of 1.5:1 is proposed in areas where sloping is impractical. The SEIR will provide an assessment and determination regarding the significance of the aesthetic impacts associated with the proposed project.

Agriculture and Forestry Resources

The site is not covered by a Williamson Act contract. The project area is not forested and not zoned for a forestland, timberland, or timber production zone. According to the FMMP Important Farmland Map, no portion of the project site is designated Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, Farmland of Statewide Importance, or Farmland of Local Importance. No portion of the proposed project site is irrigated and does not include any Class I or II soils (Prime Farmland). The site contains Class 7 soils, which are not suited to cultivation but could be used as pasture, rangeland, grazing land, forestland, or wildlife habitat. The project will result in the loss of an additional approximately 7.48 acres of low-capability grazing land and will not result in the conversion of farmland to non-agricultural use. The SEIR will provide an assessment and determination regarding the significance of the loss of grazing land associated with the proposed project.

Air Quality and Greenhouse Gas Emissions

The project would generate construction and operational air contaminant and greenhouse gas emissions, including dust from construction and mining operations, diesel emissions from on- and off-road vehicles and equipment, and diesel and process emissions. These emissions would have the potential to impact regional and local air quality in the vicinity of the project site and to contribute to impacts on global climate. The SEIR will provide an assessment and determination regarding the significance of Air Quality and Greenhouse Gas Emissions impacts associated with the proposed project.

Biological Resources

The proposed project will expand the current mining operation to include an additional 7.48 acres of land to be used as a rock quarry, an increase in annual volume from 100,000 tons to 200,000 tons, and an extension of the operating season from June 15th to October 31st of each year to May 1st to October 31st of each year. The proposed expansion area does not include any wetlands or surface waters; therefore, the project will not result in impacts to riparian areas, or result in the removal, filling, or hydrological interruption of wetlands beyond the impacts evaluated in the 2004 EIR. In addition, the project site does not include sensitive natural communities. There are no habitat conservation plans, natural community conservation plans, or related documents for the area for which the project could conflict. As such, the SEIR will provide an assessment and determination regarding the significance of impacts on special-status species and the movement of resident and wildlife species (American pronghorn and mule deer) as a result of the proposed project.

Cultural Resources

The project would involve physical disturbance to ground surface and sub-surface components in conjunction with aggregate quarrying and mining activities. Such activities have the potential to impact cultural resources that may be located within the project site. The SEIR will provide an assessment and determination regarding the significance of Cultural Resources impacts as a result of the proposed project.

Geology and Soils

The project would expose soils to potential erosion, modify the topography of the site and increase blasting to the extent that the geologic stability of the site may be impacted, and would alter geographic features present at the site. The SEIR will provide an assessment and determination regarding the significance of Geology and Soils impacts associated with the proposed project.

Hazards and Hazardous Materials

The project would involve construction and operations that would involve the use and/or transport of potentially hazardous materials, including asphalt cement (a product of crude oil), diesel fuel, lubricants, and other industrial materials. The SEIR will provide an assessment and determination regarding the significance of Hazards and Hazardous Materials impacts associated with the proposed project.

Hydrology and Water Quality

The project would alter the drainage pattern upslope of the existing quarry and expand a post reclamation open water pond at the quarry floor. Soils exposed and/or disturbed by mining would

be a potential source of polluted storm water run-off which if discharged from the site could impact downstream surface water quality. The SEIR will provide an assessment and determination regarding the significance of Hydrology and Water Quality impacts associated with the proposed project.

Noise

The project would introduce new temporary and long-term noise sources and increase production of noise from existing sources (as a result of increased maximum and average yearly aggregate production). The SEIR will provide an assessment and determination regarding the significance of Noise impacts associated with the proposed project.

Transportation

The project would increase maximum and annual average production of aggregate material. Transport of materials to and from the site would result in increased use of public roads and intersections, including State Route 299 and Highway 395. The SEIR will provide an assessment and determination regarding the significance of Transportation impacts associated with the proposed project.

Tribal Cultural Resources

The project would involve physical disturbance to ground surface and sub-surface components in conjunction with aggregate quarrying and mining activities. Such activities have the potential to impact tribal cultural resources that may be located within the project site. In accordance with the requirements of Assembly Bill (AB) 52, and more specifically Public Resources Code section 21080.3.1, Modoc County has provided a notice of, and information regarding, the project to the Tribes that are culturally affiliated with the project area. If a Tribe requests consultation within 30 days of notification, consultation will be initiated by Modoc County and proceed in accordance with the requirements of AB52. The SEIR will provide an assessment and determination regarding the significance of Tribal Cultural Resources impacts associated with the proposed project.

Wildfire

The project site is located in a high fire hazard severity zone and would involve the use of heavy equipment on steep vegetated slopes. The project will result in mining and reclamation activities within an additional 7.48 acres of the site. Mining equipment will be operated and blasting will occur within the expansion area. The project will result in changes to topography and vegetation at the project site as mining and reclamation progress and will also result in a longer annual operating season. The SEIR will provide an assessment and determination regarding the significance of Wildfire impacts associated with the proposed project.

Cumulative Impacts

The probable impacts of the project may be individually limited, but cumulatively considerable when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, the effects of other current projects, and the effects of probable future projects. The SEIR will provide an assessment and determination regarding the significance of Cumulative Impacts associated with the proposed project.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION HOGSBACK QUARRY PROJECT

Site Location

Hogsback Quarry is an existing mining and processing facility of construction aggregates, gravel, and sand for use on construction and road projects. The site is located in Modoc County on a 516.41-acre parcel area at T43N R14E Section 19 Mount Diablo Base Meridian (MDBM), United States Geological Survey (USGS) Surprise Station 7.5-Minute Quadrangle map. The property encompasses Assessor's Parcel Numbers (APN) 026-190-034-000, 026-190-035-000, 026-190-036-000, and 026-190-037-000 and is primarily located within the Gleason Creek Watershed (HUC12 180200020502). The proposed project is located approximately 8.5 miles northeast of the City of Alturas; 11.6 miles west of the community of Cedarville; and 3.25 miles east of the intersection of State Route 299 and U.S. Route 395. The quarry itself is situated approximately 3,800 feet south of State Route 299 and is accessed via an existing 0.85-mile partiality surfaced and gated road that branches south off of State Route 299. The general location of the site is illustrated on Figure 1.

The existing quarry consists of approximately 13 acres of disturbed area within a 48.69-acre reclamation area on the 516.41-acre site, containing two existing pits as depicted on Figure 2. The proposed project consists of an amendment to the existing Mining and Reclamation Plan and associated Conditional Use Permit with modifications of the proposed mining area, practices, and mining methodology initially analyzed in the 2004 Hogsback Quarry Mining and Reclamation Final Environmental Impact Report (EIR) and Conditional Use Permit (UP 2001-01) issued by the Modoc County Planning Department.

Project Background

Historically, the site has been used for cattle grazing, and onsite development was limited to infrastructure related to cattle operations, such as fencing and dirt roads. A Conditional Use Permit was initially applied for by Eagle Peak Rock and Paving, Inc. in 2001. A Draft EIR was completed and subsequently submitted to the State Clearinghouse for public review between January 21, 2003, and March 6, 2003 (extended to March 13, 2003). The Final EIR was completed and submitted to Modoc County in February 2004 (SCH 2003012067).

On June 28, 2004, the Modoc County Board of Supervisors approved the Conditional Use Permit for the operations as proposed in the Final EIR. The mine has been in operation since 2006. The Conditional Use Permit was initially issued for 20 years, however in 2016 the quarry operator received approval to extend the life of the mine to 2036. The quarry was originally leased, developed, and operated by Eagle Peak Rock and Paving, Inc. until Hat Creek Construction and Materials, Inc. (project applicant/owner operator), purchased the property and quarry operation in 2021.

Project Characteristics

Existing Baseline Operations (Existing Conditions)

The quarry as currently approved is authorized to extract a total volume of 2,500,000 tons with a maximum extraction rate of 100,000 tons per year and operate a rock crushing/screening plant an asphalt batch plant. Hardrock mining operations are limited to May 1st through October 31st of each year, and the hauling of aggregates from the hard rock quarry is limited to June 16th through October

31st of each year. The existing mining area consists of two open pit areas totaling approximately 13 acres as shown in Figure 3.

Processing

A portable crushing and screening plant is brought to the site each year during the initial limited operation season of May 1st through June 15th. The plants are brought in via the haul road and installed onsite. The crushing and screening plants are removed from the site prior to the end of the operating season on November 1st. Loaders, scrapers, and haul trucks deposit material extracted from the mine to be processed by the crushing and screening plant into a surge pile, where a loader then directly fills the plant when ready to operate. The plant is comprised of two primary jaw crushers and two primary scalping screens. Additionally, a secondary impact crusher and one triple-deck screen are operated in conjunction with the primary section of the plant. The crushing and screening plant operates at 150 tons/hour and is operated as needed. The plant will need to run approximately 667 hours throughout the season to process the 100,000 tons permitted to be extracted. Material, once processed, is transported via a conveyor system into piles based on quality and size. When the material is sorted, a loader is used to move the material to hauling trucks that transport the product offsite.

A portable diesel-powered drum mix asphalt plant is also permitted for use onsite and is used as warranted by need and market demand. The asphalt plant loaders move aggregate material from stockpiles to cold aggregate bins. Conveyor systems move the material from these bins to the plant dryer where it is heated and mixed with heated asphalt oil. This mixture is then conveyed to a heated storage bin when it is loaded onto trucks for transport offsite. Some projects require the addition of lime to the asphalt mixture. Lime is stored in a silo and then mixed with water when added to the mixture. Lime slurry facilities are portable and brought onsite only on an as-needed basis. Equipment associated with asphalt production includes:

- One 20,000-gallon heated asphalt oil tank that is piped to the mixing drum.
- Diesel tanks between 5,000 and 10,000 gallons, and appropriate secondary containment.
- A bag house filter to reduce plant emissions.
- A control building or trailer that controls the plant's operation.
- A portable silo for the storage of lime when actively being used onsite.

Mining Methods

Material from the quarry areas is extracted via ripping and blasting methods. The western quarry was mined first starting with extraction from the northeast corner and proceeding southward. Extractions for the western quarry are permitted for up to 21.38 acres of land. The eastern quarry is mined from north to south with excavation finishing in the southeastern corner. Extraction is currently permitted to 27.31 acres for the eastern site (Modoc County Use Permit No: 2001-01).

Onsite blasting occurs approximately three times a year. The maximum shot depth is 50 feet, generating the removal of approximately 30,000 tons of material. Shots are executed by a grid of holes drilled using an air track drill. Plastic explosives or ammonium nitrate are used depending on site conditions and are placed in the holes for detonation. Blasting occurs between June 16th through October 31st between the hours of 11:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. Blasting is conducted by a third-party contractor, and materials and components are not stored onsite.

Once loosened with blasting, the material is collected and moved with loaders, caterpillars, and trucks to be processed onsite as described above or processed offsite at another facility. Topsoil disturbed during operations is collected and saved for future onsite reclamation. The topsoil is stored in piles that will be covered in straw mulch and surrounded by silt fencing or hay bales to control erosion.

Transportation

Traffic generated from site activities is primarily related to the transportation of material offsite. During the aggregate hauling period of June 16th through October 31st, 100 round trips are made per day with a total of 115 hauling days per year. Material is transported by a variety of trucks depending on the material being produced with either a 25-ton or 13-ton load capacity. There are additional daily trips to the site by employees commuting to the location. All traffic utilizes the onsite haul road, which is paved for the first 330 feet off State Route 299 before transitioning to a gravel surfacing for the rest of its length, approximately 4,025 feet. No additional roads are required for operation.

Existing Hours of Operation

Current operations are limited to hard rock mining operations between May 1st and October 31st of each year. Hauling of aggregates from the hard rock quarry occurs between June 16th and October 31st of each year. Operations occur Monday through Saturday, 5:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. Between May 1st and July 15th, haul road use is limited to the importation of portable mining equipment and one trip per day onsite and offsite for each employee.

Existing Mining Area

The approved mining area of the current operation is 48.69 acres. Approximately 13 acres of the mining area are currently disturbed. The mining area consists of two open pit areas, roads connecting the mining areas with the primary haul road, and a scale house area located along the haul road.

Existing Site Life

Under Modoc County Use Permit No. UP 2001-01 and the 2004 Reclamation Plan Amendment, the end date of mining for the operation is 2036.

Existing Volume Removal

The Hogsback Quarry is permitted to remove 100,000 tons of material per year. The actual amount removed varies by year and product demand.

Existing Equipment and Truck Volume

Portable Crush/Screening Plant, Portable Asphalt Plant, Portable concrete batch plant. Mobile equipment was listed as: CAT D8K Bulldozer, CAT 972G Wheel Loader, CAT 980C Wheel Loader, CAT 623E Scraper, CAT 140G Moter Grader, TS 14 Water Pull, Water Truck, Two CAT 769A and Haul Trucks.

Employees

Approximately 10 employees work onsite. Employees are assumed to be based in Alturas, approximately 10 miles from the site.

Hazardous Materials

Hazardous materials used onsite include: 20,000-gallon heated asphalt oil tanks; 20,000 gallons of diesel fuel in tanks between 5,000 and 10,000 gallons; up to five 55-gallon drums of lubricating oil and transmission fluid; and blasting materials. The hazardous fluid storage maintains secondary containment where required by the Hazardous Materials Business Plan (HMBP). Blasting materials are transported and used onsite by a qualified contractor and are stored onsite when not in immediate use.

Wastewater Generation and Treatment

For wastewater generated by the 10 onsite employees, a private chemical toilet provider is utilized. Water is collected from the mining pits for onsite dust control. No material is washed onsite, and no industrial wastewater is generated.

Fire Hazard Management

The onsite pits provide a readily available water source for fire suppression needs onsite. In addition to the utilization of onsite ponds as a fire suppression resource, onsite operations include safety procedures to minimize the risk of wildland fires to onsite personnel and adjacent properties. These include an evacuation plan identifying routes to be taken for any emergency, whether operation-related or from offsite conditions, and vegetation removal from areas to be mined prior to the operation of equipment in those areas.

Proposed Project Amendments

Hogsback Quarry will continue to be mined and process construction aggregates, gravel, and sand for use on construction and road projects. Quantity of material to be mined is dependent upon the subsurface basement elevations, the thickness of the rock deposit, and market conditions. The original Reclamation Plan approved in 2006 will be followed with the exceptions and changes listed herein. Specific details for each amendment follow.

Amendment 1 - Extend Operating Season

Extension of the full operating season from June 15th to October 31st of each year to May 1st to October 31st of each year and expand the season for an onsite portable crusher and asphalt plant from July 1st to October 31st to June 1st to October 31st. Operation will continue to be conducted Monday through Saturday 5:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. The current permit approves the mining of material starting May 1st but does not allow trucking of material until June 15th and crushing of material or asphalt plant operation until July 1st. Truck trips will be voluntarily limited to 50 departing and 50 arriving trips per day between May 1st, and June 1st. Original temporal controls were placed due to the antelope kidding season; however, recent camera surveys and pedestrian site surveys indicate the site is not well used by antelope.

Amendment 2 - Removal of the Existing Corridor Between Pits

The corridor encompasses approximately 7.48 acres between the mining pits. The proposed mining area will replace the individual pits with a single quarry. The corridor limits the ability of the site to be mined in a logical and safe manner.

Amendment 3 - Modify Mining Plan

The proposed modification would remove quarry materials from northwest to southeast. The previous operator mined the area via large pits in the east and west quarry areas. The pits are not sustainable and are impractical for the current operator. The revised mining plan will have a single large pit with a base elevation of approximately 5,000 feet above mean sea level at a 3 percent grade. The slopes approved in the previously approved reclamation plan were 3H:1V. Based on the geotechnical report prepared for this amendment, the slopes would be stable at a slope of 1.5H:1V. While the majority of the site will remain 3:1 a new maximum of 1.5:1 is proposed in areas where sloping is impractical (see Figures 4 and 5). This change will increase the total available material to 4,300,000 cubic yards.

Amendment 4 - Increase Annual Material Removed from 100,000 to 200,000 Tons

An increase in the amount of material removed annually from a maximum of 100,000 tons to 200,000 tons is proposed to increase the utility and profitability of the mine operation. Increased material removal will require an increase in truck trips, from an average of 35 round trips and a maximum of 100 round trips to an average of 51 round trips and a maximum of 185 round trips. Truck trips will be voluntarily limited to 50 departures and 50 arrivals per day during antelope kidding season (between May 1st and June 1st).

Amendment 5 - Extension of Permitted Operations from 2036 to 2050

Mining duration is based on available resources as well as market demand. The previous operator did not remove as much material volume as was planned due to market demand limitations. The current operator proposes to extend the date of mining to 2050 to better align allowable material volumes with rural north state variable market conditions.

Amendment 6 - Remove Juniper from the Reclamation Plan Plant Palette

In the absence of fire, juniper has become invasive in many areas of Modoc County. Juniper will be removed as part of the habitat improvement plan. It is anticipated that the species will seed naturally, and density will be controlled in the future via thinning and plant removal.

Amendment 7 - Change of Features Retained for End Use

The amended mining plan will result in the final site having an open water feature in perpetuity, this feature will be fed by rainwater collection and groundwater intrusion. This area will not be revegetated but will be sloped to allow wildlife access and act as a water source for local and migrating wildlife. The haul road will also be retained onsite to provide access for reclamation monitoring and future landowner access.

Offsite Improvements

No offsite improvements will be required to accommodate the changes in the proposed Mining and Reclamation Plan Amendment.

Project Objectives

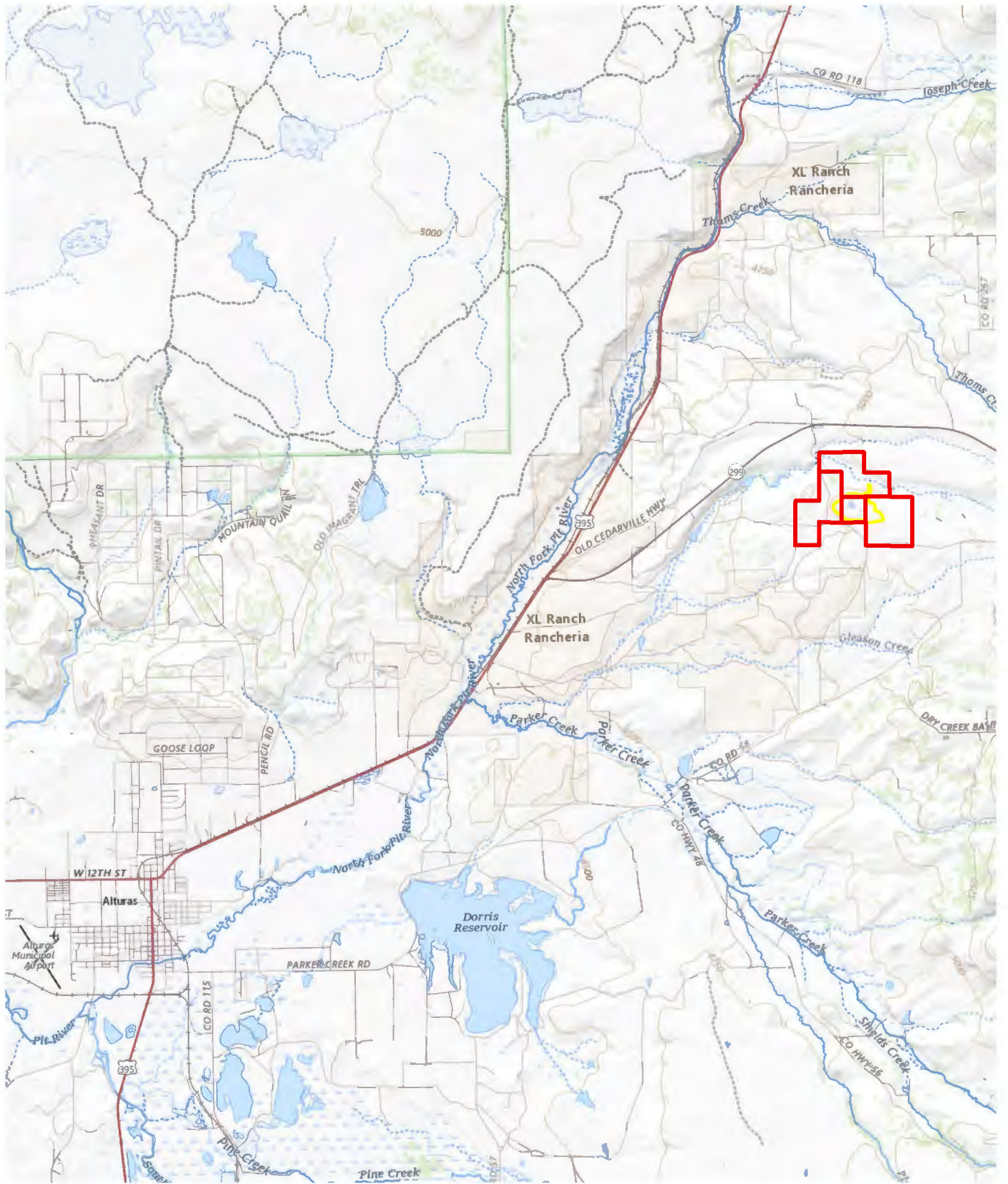
The proposed Use Permit and Reclamation Plan amendments will allow the existing quarry to continue providing local construction materials in Modoc County. The quarry operator has identified the following objectives for the proposed project:



- Maintain a local, reliable, and economic source of construction aggregates, gravel, and sand to supply construction projects both locally and regionally for an additional 14 years of operation beyond the current use permit expiration date.
- Extract up to 200,000 tons of material each year.
- Expand reserves to allow full utilization of resources at the site without expanding the outward bounds of the reclamation area.
- Allow more practicable and efficient material extraction at the project site.
- Supply seasonal construction demands between May 1st and October 31st to align with seasonal materials demand.

Required Approvals

- Conditional Use Permit Amendment, Modoc County
- Reclamation Plan Amendment, Modoc County and Department of Conservation, Division of Mine Reclamation (DMR)

Figures



-  Approximate Parcel Boundary
-  Reclamation Plan Boundary

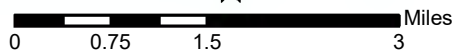
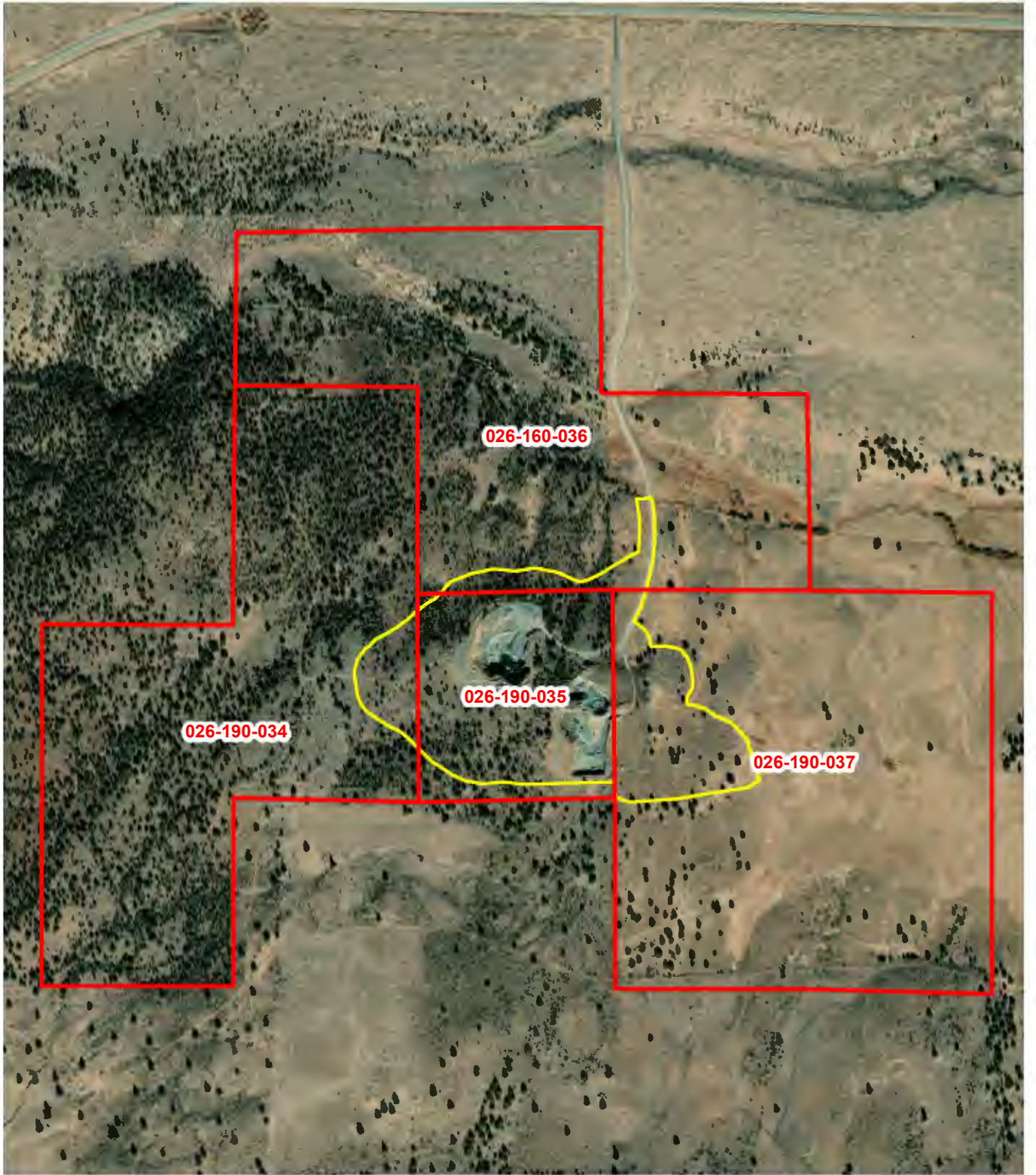


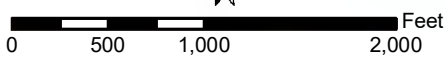


FIGURE 1
GENERAL SITE LOCATION
HOGSBACK QUARRY
MODOC COUNTY, CALIFORNIA





-  Approximate Parcel Boundary
-  Reclamation Plan Boundary



SOURCE: MAXAR 2017 AERIAL PHOTOGRAPH; MODOC COUNTY; USFS 2017

FIGURE 2
PARCEL BOUNDARIES
HOGSBACK QUARRY
MODOC COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

P:\CAD\71305 HAT CREEK HOSSBACK LIME\08-2024 HOSSBACK GRADING PLAN-NO NORTH EXPANSION.DWG



LEGEND

- EXISTING MINING AREA 62.03 AC
- EXPANSION AREA 7.48 AC



VESTRA			
5300 AVIATION DRIVE - REDDING, CA 96002			
WWW.VESTRA.COM			
(530) 223-2585			
FAX (530) 223-1145			
IF NOT ONE INCH ON THIS SHEET, ADJUST SCALES ACCORDINGLY			
VERTICAL SCALES: 1" = 1'			
HORIZONTAL SCALES: 1" = 120'			
BARS ONE INCH ON ORIGINAL DRAWING			

NO.	DATE	REVISION

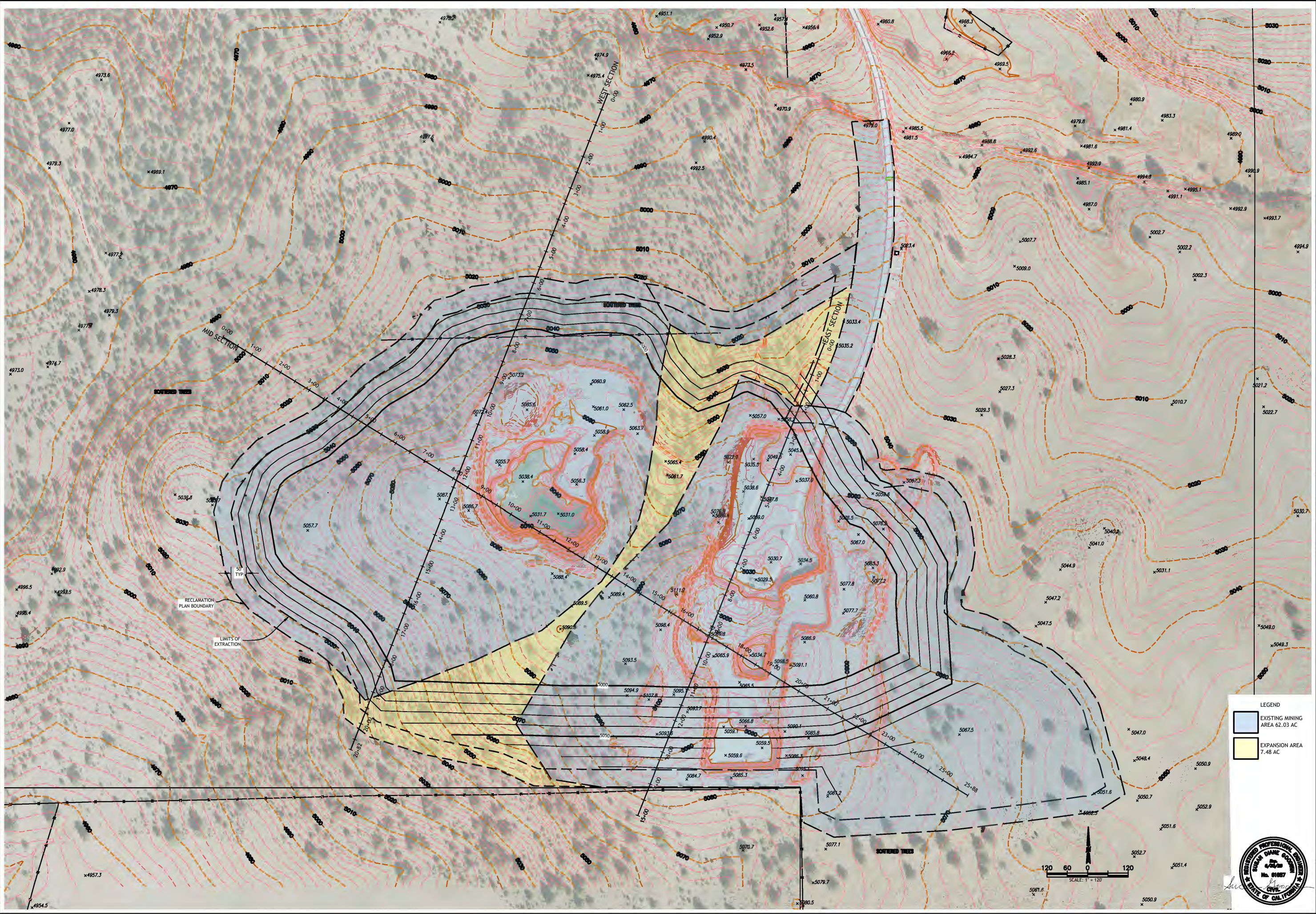
DESIGN:	AJ	SG	SG	SG	SG
DATE:					
CHK:					
APP'D:					

HOGSBACK QUARRY
MINE PLAN EXISTING TOPOGRAPHY
HAT CREEK CONSTRUCTION & MATERIALS
MODOC COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

FIGURE 3
1 3

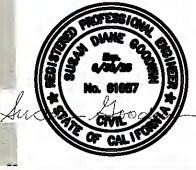
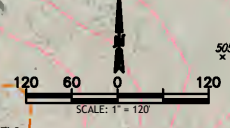
DATE: 08/16/24
JOB NO.: 71305

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LEGEND

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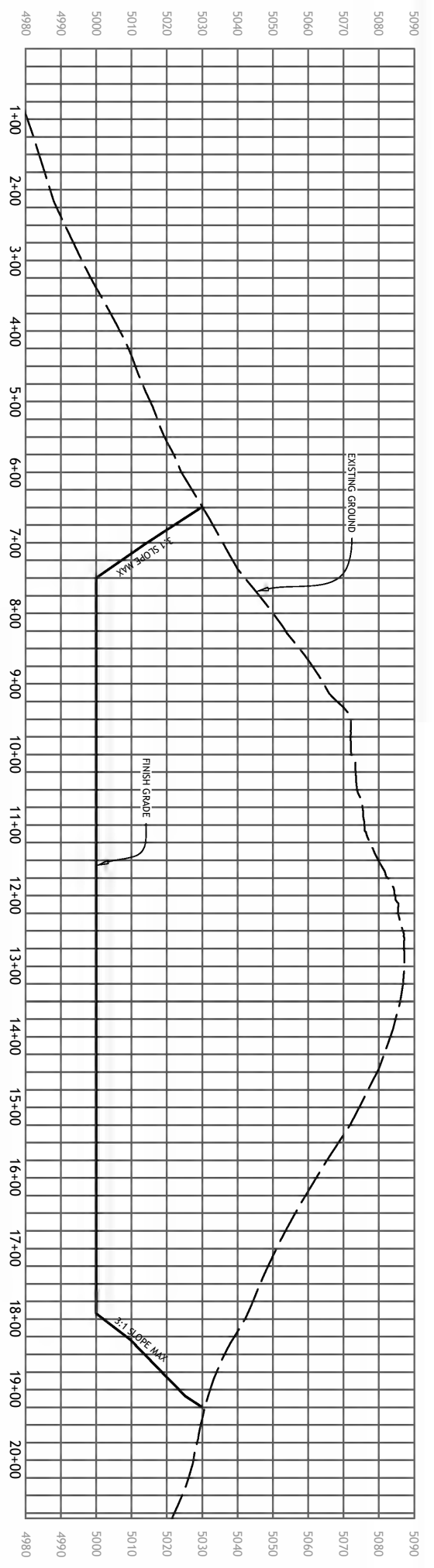
DATE	NO.	DATE	NO.	DATE	NO.
08/16/24	71305				

BY: [Signature] REVISION

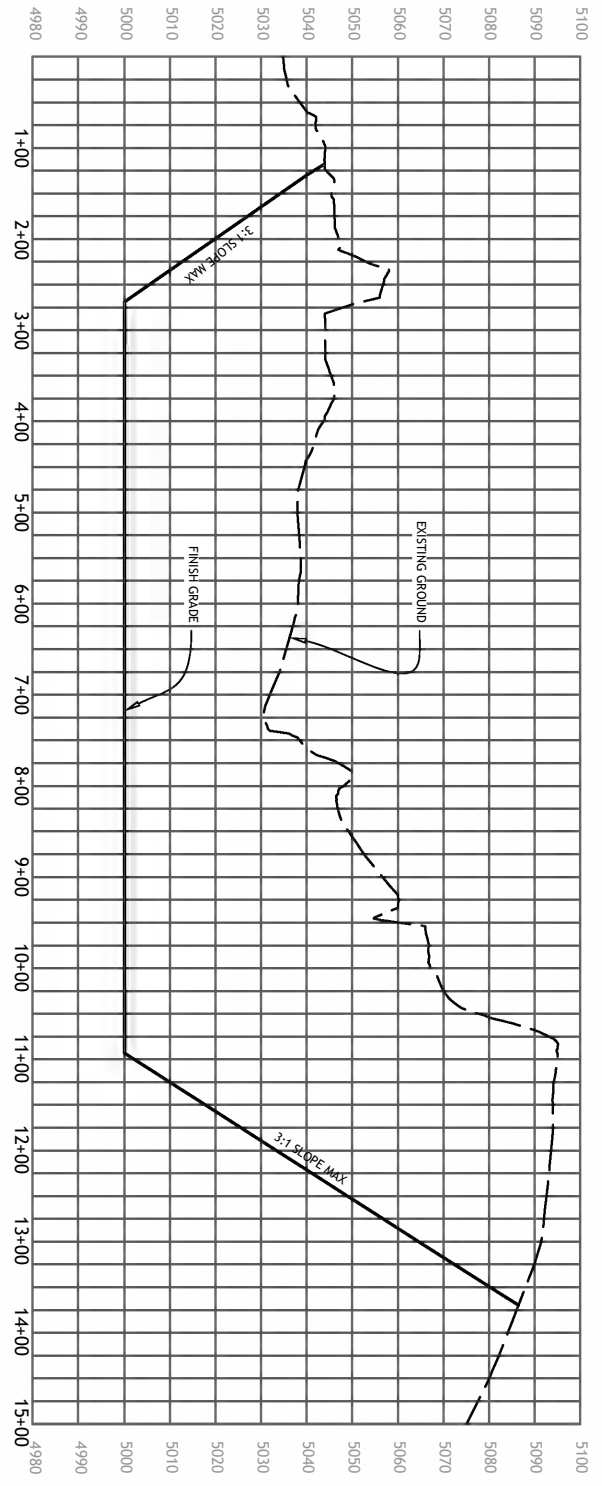
HOGSBACK QUARRY
MINING PLAN FINAL TOPOGRAPHY
HAT CREEK CONSTRUCTION & MATERIALS
MODOC COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

FIGURE 4
1 3

DATE 08/16/24
JOB NO. 71305

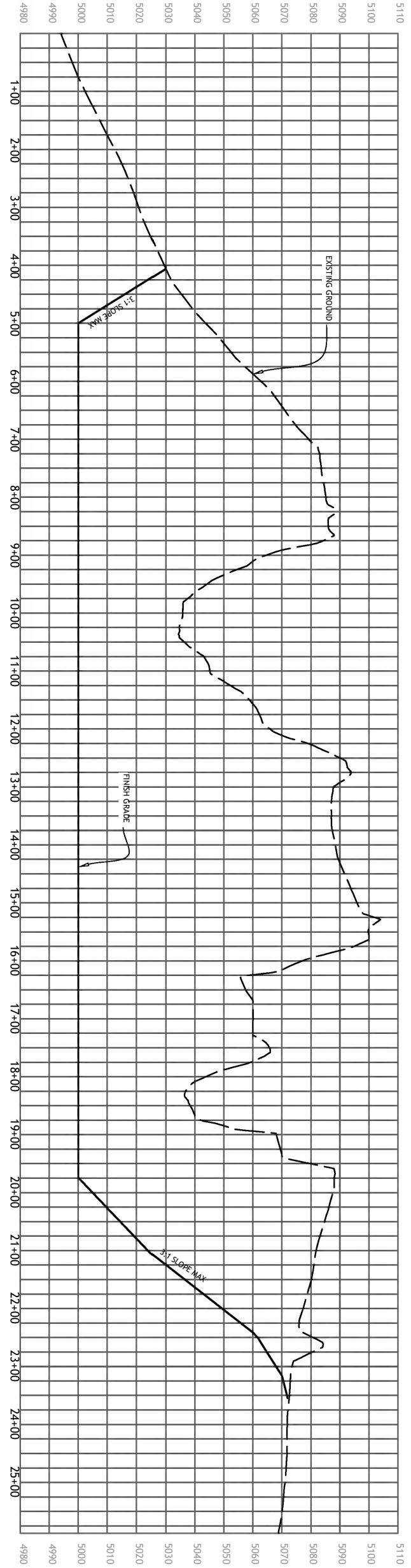


WEST SECTION PROFILE



EAST SECTION PROFILE

EXCAVATED VOLUME: 4,326,400 CY



MID SECTION PROFILE



NO.	REVISION	BY