



COUNTY OF MENDOCINO
DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND BUILDING SERVICES

860 NORTH BUSH STREET · UKIAH · CALIFORNIA · 95482
120 WEST FIR STREET · FORT BRAGG · CALIFORNIA · 95437

IGNACIO GONZALEZ, INTERIM DIRECTOR
JULIA KROG, ASSISTANT DIRECTOR
TELEPHONE: 707-234-6650
FAX: 707-463-5709
FB PHONE: 707-964-5379
FB FAX: 707-961-2427
pbs@mendocinocounty.org
www.mendocinocounty.org/pbs

DATE: January 6, 2022

TO: California State Clearinghouse
Responsible and Trustee Agencies
Interested Parties and Organizations

SUBJECT: Notice of Availability of Draft Mitigated Negative Declaration for the Stewart Gravel Bar Use Permit and Reclamation Plan (U_2020-0007/REC_2020-0001)

REVIEW PERIOD: January 6, 2022 to February 4, 2022

The Proposed Project consists of seasonal gravel extraction and reclamation activities on a gravel bar known as the Stewart Bar located on the Middle Fork Eel River in Mendocino County. Stewart Bar is an instream gravel bar with aggraded sand and gravel that contains no topsoil, overburden, trees, or vegetation.

Project activities will involve the excavation of sand and gravel using conventional construction equipment (e.g., dozer, excavator, water truck) and loading of the material into haul trucks for transport to an existing processing facility located off SR 162 near Longvale, California. Only extraction, loading, and haul out are to occur at the Stewart Bar, with no processing onsite. A total annual extraction limit of 20,000 cubic yards of sand and gravel is proposed.

Project activities will be timed during the summer low-flow season (June 1 through October 30), with an anticipated total of 45 operating days per year. Hours of operation will be 7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday during the seasonal extraction period. The Use Permit will allow gravel extractions up to 20,000 cubic yards per year for the next 20 years (400,000 cubic yards total).

The purpose of the Notice is to provide responsible agencies and interested persons with sufficient information to enable them to make meaningful comments regarding the scope and content of the Initial Study. As requested or identified, your timely comments will ensure an appropriate level of environmental review for the proposed project prior to scheduling a Public Hearing for this item before the Mendocino County Planning Commission.

Project Location: 1.57± miles southeast of Dos Rios community center, lying on the south side of Hwy. 162 (SH 162, AKA Covelo Rd.), 1.1± miles east of its intersection with Laytonville-Dos Rios Rd. (CR 322), located 1.4± miles east of the confluence of the Middle Fork and the Mainstem of the Eel River. (APNs 035-030-17, -49, -65) AKA Stewart Bar.

Contact: For more information regarding the project, please contact Dirk Larson, Planner II, Department of Planning and Building Services, (707) 234-6650. A copy of the these documents is available for review at the Mendocino County Department of Planning and Building Services website at the following link:
<https://www.mendocinocounty.org/government/planning-building-services/public-notices>

Comment Period: Written comments should be submitted at the earliest possible date, but not later than 5:00 pm on **February 4, 2022** to Dirk Larson, 860 North Bush Street, Ukiah, CA 95482, (707) 234-6650, fax (707) 463-5709, or larsondj@mendocinocounty.org.

Initial Study: A draft Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration has been prepared for the proposed project and is available for public review via the County's Public Notice link. Please note that the Initial Study includes a more detailed description of the proposed project.