



**Siskiyou County**  
**Planning Commission Supplemental Staff Report**  
**August 21, 2024**

**New Business Agenda Item No. 2.1**  
**Big Springs Quarry (SP-24-02) and UP 03-01**

**Property Owners:** Soda Springs LLC  
2821 Harry Cash Road  
Montague, CA

**Project Summary** Use Permit 03-01 Revocation

**Location:** West of Big Springs Road, approximately 1.5 miles northeasterly from the intersection with Hart Road, on APNs 039-160-160 and 039-170-300; Township 44N, Range 5W, Sections 9 & 10, MDB&M (Latitude 41°40'17" N, Longitude 122°24'53" W).

**Exhibits:**

- A. Big Springs Quarry UP-03-01
- B. Reclamation Determination by Lead Agency
- C. Determination concurrence by the State Agency
- D. Draft Resolution PC-2024-015

## **Background**

Land Use Permit UP-03-01 was approved by the Siskiyou County Planning Commission on June 4, 2003 (Exhibit A) to establish a rock quarry and crush and stockpile rock for county road maintenance. This Use Permit was effective for 15 years, beginning from the date of approval, until June 4, 2018, as indicated in Notation #1 of the Use Permit (Figure 1).

### **SISKIYOU COUNTY PLANNING DEPARTMENT LAND USE PERMIT**

**Notations:**

1. This Use Permit/Reclamation Plan shall remain in effect for 15 years, beginning from the date of approval.

Figure 1: Image of Land Use Permit UP-03-01 Notation #1

According to Inspection and production reports on file, the Big Springs Quarry was mined intermittently until 2013. Reclamation activities were initiated in 2013 with revegetation of final slopes occurring in 2014. In October 2014 a minor reclamation plan amendment was approved by the Siskiyou County Planning Commission which addressed final slopes, allowing for an area to remain steeper than 2H:1V as a slope stability analysis concluded the slope to be stable and removed the requirement to de-compact and seed the access road and flat pad area within the quarry floor. A site inspection was conducted in March of 2016 in which Siskiyou County, as the Lead Agency, determined that reclamation had been completed. The determination was sent to California Department of Conservation, Division of Mine Reclamation (DMR, formerly Office of Mine Reclamation-OMR) on March 16, 2016 (Exhibit B) and DMR responded with their concurrence (Exhibit C) on April 14, 2016.

As the mine site has officially been deemed reclaimed in accordance with the approved reclamation plan and to formalize the termination of the Use Permit, staff believe it is appropriate for the corresponding use permit to be revoked in accordance with Siskiyou County Code Section 10-6.1402 as the effective date in Notation #1 of the Use Permit has expired.



Figure 2: Big Springs Quarry - Aerial Image showing existing site conditions (9/2/2023)

## Discussion

Conditional Use Permits run with the land and benefit successor property owners. In order to formalize the termination of a Use Permit due to the closure of the mine site and conclusion of the effective date, the permit would need to be formally revoked through notice to the current property owner and a hearing.

Under the Siskiyou County Code (Section 10-6.1402), before the Board shall consider the revocation of any permit, the Planning Commission shall hold a public hearing thereon after giving written notice thereof to the permittee at least ten (10) days in advance of such hearing and in the same time and manner provided by law. Within five (5) days thereafter, the Planning Commission shall transmit a report of its findings and its recommendations on the revocation to the Board.

## Findings

The following finding must be made in order for the Planning Commission to recommend revocation to the Board of Supervisors:

***Use Permit UP 03-01 has expired as the effective period identified in Notation #1 has ended.***

**Planning Commission Staff Report  
August 21, 2024**

**Environmental Review**

The revocation of a use permit is considered to be a Class 21 Categorical Exemption pursuant to Section 15321 of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), Enforcement Actions by Regulatory Agencies.

**Comments**

No comments have been received at the time this staff report was written.

**Planning Staff Recommendations**

- Adopt Resolution PC-2024-015 taking the following actions:
  1. Recommend that the Board of Supervisors find that UP-03-01 is no longer effective and should be revoked.
  2. Recommend that the Board of Supervisors revoke Use Permit UP-03-01.
  3. Determines the project categorically exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Section 15321.

**Suggested Motion**

I move that we adopt Resolution PC-2024-015, A Resolution of the Planning Commission of the County of Siskiyou, Recommending that the Siskiyou County Board of Supervisors Revoke the Use Permit of Big Springs Quarry (UP-03-01), Make All Necessary Findings Required Under the Siskiyou County Municipal Code and Determine the Project Exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

**Preparation**

Prepared by the Siskiyou County Planning Division.

For project specific information or to obtain copies for your review, please contact:

Bernadette Cizin, Associate Planner  
Siskiyou County Planning Division  
806 S. Main Street  
Yreka, California 96097

**SISKIYOU COUNTY PLANNING DEPARTMENT  
LAND USE PERMIT**

PERMISSION IS HEREBY GRANTED TO:

Soda Springs, LLC  
3301 Harry Cash Road  
Montague, CA 96064

Big Springs Quarry  
Siskiyou County Road Department  
305 Butte St.  
Yreka, CA 96097

**PURPOSE:** To establish a rock quarry site for the purpose of providing rock to crush and stockpile for use in County road maintenance projects.

**PROPERTY LOCATED:** The proposed rock quarry would be located on the west side of Big Springs Road approximately 1.4 miles northeasterly from its intersection with Hart Road; T44N, R5W, Section 10, MDM; APN: 039-160-160.

**SUBJECT TO THE FOLLOWING:**

Conditions:

1. All mining activity and reclamation shall be in accordance with the approved plans and project description.
2. No batching operations shall be allowed on-site.
3. During earth moving activity, the best available technology shall be employed for erosion control. Methods of erosion control may include, and are not limited to, installation of hay bales, sediment fencing, filter fabric, or other erosion control techniques to retain sediment on-site. In the event mining activity generates sedimentation, a retention basin shall be constructed within the quarry area to prevent sediment from leaving the site. Erosion control measures shall be maintained on all disturbed areas, including topsoil stockpiles, to the satisfaction of the Planning Department and Regional Water Quality Control Board.
4. Disturbed areas, including the haul road, shall be watered or otherwise treated to minimize dust generated from mining activities, to the satisfaction of the County Air Pollution Control Officer.
5. The portable rock crusher shall be equipped with properly functioning spray bars to minimize fugitive dust. The operator shall abide by any recommendations of the Air Pollution Control Officer to further control dust.
6. Any air pollution discharge in excess of 250 pounds per day for any pollutant for which there is a national ambient air quality standard shall undergo a New Source Review with the Air Pollution Control Officer. This review includes a 30-day public review and may include additional control regulations to achieve compliance (Rule 6.1).
7. The operator shall comply with the PRC 4290 (Fire Safe Regulations) to the satisfaction of the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection.
8. To reduce visual and noise impacts to the area, stockpiled topsoil shall be stored along the easterly side of the quarry as a buffer between the quarry and Big Springs Road.
9. The operator shall maintain a portable toilet with handwash and bottled drinking water on-site for employees at all times the quarry is operational, to the satisfaction of the Health Department.
10. Prior to Use Permit issuance, the property owner(s) and quarry operator shall execute a Reclamation Plan Agreement with the Siskiyou County Planning Department.


**Exhibit A**

**SISKIYOU COUNTY PLANNING DEPARTMENT  
LAND USE PERMIT**

Notations:

- 1. This Use Permit/Reclamation Plan shall remain in effect for 15 years, beginning from the date of approval.
- 2. Quarry operations are subject to PRC 4290 (Fire Safe Regulations).
- 3. A Hazardous Material Business Plan is required for the storage of hazardous materials exceeding 55 gallons liquid, 500 pounds solid, or 200 cubic feet of compressed gas.

DATE  
APPROVED: June 4, 2003



Richard D. Barnum, Secretary  
Siskiyou County Planning Commission

DATE  
ISSUED: June 18, 2003

cc: Soda Springs, LLC (Big Springs Quarry)  
Siskiyou County Road Department  
Scott Sumner  
Assessor  
Building Department  
Health Department  
Public Works Department



# COUNTY OF SISKIYOU

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT  
Building ♦ Environmental Health ♦ Planning  
806 South Main Street · Yreka, California 96097  
Phone: (530) 841-2100 · Fax: (530) 841-4076  
www.co.siskiyou.ca.us/phs

GREG PLUCKER  
DIRECTOR

STEPHEN KOLPACOFF, M.D.  
HEALTH OFFICER

March 16, 2016

Christina Reese  
Department of Conservation  
Office of Mine Reclamation  
801 K Street, MS-09-06  
Sacramento, CA 95814-3530

RE: 2016 Closure Inspection Report (MRRC-1) of the Big Springs Quarry; California Mine ID# 91-47-0061

Dear Ms. Reese,

Pursuant to PRC Section 2774(b) of the Surface Mining and Reclamation Act (SMARA) an inspection of the Big Springs Quarry, CA Mine ID# 91-47-0061, was conducted by this Department on March 15, 2016. Enclosed for your review and records is a copy of the inspection report (MRRC-1). No violations of SMARA were noted and this Department, following the completion of this inspection, has determined that mine reclamation has been completed in accordance with the approved Reclamation Plan RP-03-01 and Reclamation Plan Amendment RP-03-01-1M. This Department, as the lead agency for Siskiyou County, has determined that there remains no outstanding reclamation liabilities associated with this closed mining operation. A Financial Assurance Cost Estimate, prepared by the lead agency, pursuant to CCR Section 3805.5(a)(2) is included with this closure report for your review and records. Please contact this Department if you should have question or concerns in regards to this matter.

Sincerely,

  
William J. Navarre, REHS  
Deputy Director of Environmental Health

Cc: Scott Waite; Director  
Siskiyou County Public Works Department

Enclosures (10)

**BUILDING**  
Michael Crawford, Deputy Director  
Telephone: (530) 841-2100  
Fax: (530) 842-0111

**ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH**  
William J. Navarre, Deputy Director  
Telephone: (530) 841-2100  
Fax: (530) 841-4076

**PLANNING**  
Richard Tinsman, Deputy Director  
Telephone: (530) 842-8203  
Fax: (530) 841-4076

Exhibit B

## SURFACE MINING INSPECTION REPORT

(See reverse side of each form page for completion instructions)

<b>I. Mine Name (As Shown on Approved Reclamation Plan)</b> BIG SPRINGS QUARRY	<b>Inspection Date:</b> March 15, 2016	<b>CA MINE ID#</b> 91- 47-0061
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<b>II. Mine Operator</b> Siskiyou County Public Works Department		<b>Telephone</b> (530) 842-8250
<b>Onsite Contact Person</b> Scott Waite		<b>Telephone</b> (530) 842-8250
<b>Mailing Address</b> 1312 Fairlane Road		
<b>City</b> Yreka	<b>State</b> CA	<b>ZIP Code</b> 96097
<b>E-mail Address (optional)</b> swaite@co.siskiyou.ca.us		

<b>III. Designated Agent</b> Same		<b>Telephone</b> ( )
<b>Mailing Address</b>		
<b>City</b>	<b>State</b>	<b>ZIP Code</b>
<b>E-mail Address (optional)</b>		

<b>IV. SMARA Lead Agency Name (City, County, BCDC, or SMGB)</b> Siskiyou County		
<b>Inspector</b> Bill Navarre		<b>Telephone</b> (530) 841-2112
<b>Title</b> Deputy Director of Environmental Health	<b>Organization</b> Community Development Department	
<b>Mailing Address</b> 806 South Main street		
<b>City</b> Yreka	<b>State</b> CA	<b>ZIP Code</b> 96097
<b>E-mail Address (optional)</b> bnavarre@co.siskiyou.ca.us		

<b>V. Does the operation have:</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>NR</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>A Permit to Mine</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Permit # - Start and Expiration Dates</b> UP-03-01- June 4, 2003 to June 4, 2018
<b>Vested Right to Mine</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Year of Lead Agency determination</b>
<b>A Reclamation Plan</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>RP#</b> RP-03-01 <b>Date Approved</b>
<b>Reclamation Plan Amendment</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>RP Amendment # (as applies)</b> RP-03-01-1M <b>Date Approved or Status of Amendment</b> October 15, 2014
<b>Has the Operator filed a Mining Operation Annual Report (Form MRRRC-2) this Year?</b> Check One:				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Yes</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>No</b> <b>Year of Most Recent Filed Annual Report:</b> 2014

<b>VI. Is this Operation on Federal Land? Check One:</b> If "Yes," Provide One or Both of the Federal Mine Land Identification Numbers Below:		<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Yes</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>No</b>
<b>California Mining Claim Number (CAMC#):</b> N/A	<b>Latitude/Longitude at Mine Entrance (Decimal Degrees):</b> 41.6600      -122.3992		
<b>U.S. Forest Service or BLM Identification Number (Plan of Operations #) :</b> N/A	<b>Status of Plan of Operations (Current/Expired/In Process):</b> N/A		

**DISTRIBUTION:** Lead Agency sends copies of Inspection notice & completed MRRRC-1 to operator, operator's designated agent, BLM or USFS (if required) & retains original.





## SURFACE MINING INSPECTION REPORT

VIII. Non-SMARA facility operations conditions solely of local concern (e.g. hours of operation) do not need to be noted here. See Instructions for Block VIII on reverse side of page. <b>[Use separate sheet(s) where necessary. Refer to Item numbers below]</b>		CA MINE ID # <sup>91-</sup> <b>47-0061</b>	
Potential Reclamation Plan Requirements:	List Reclamation Plan Requirements (Recommended to be filled out prior to field inspection)	Note Site Conditions and Compliance Issues (Note additional comments on Page 5 as necessary)	VN?
<b>1) General Information</b>	<b>See Attachment #1</b>		<input type="checkbox"/>
a) Permitted Mineral Product(s)			
b) Approved Production Amount (Annual/Gross)			
c) End Date of Operations Per RP			
d) Permit end date			
e) End Use			
<b>2) Boundaries</b>			<input type="checkbox"/>
a) Property Boundary			
b) Permit Boundary			
c) Rec. Plan Boundary (RPB)			
d) Setbacks			
<b>3) Slopes – Grading</b>			<input type="checkbox"/>
a) Fill Slopes – Note Condition of:			
i) Slopes – Working (max/current)			
ii) Slopes – Reclaimed			
iii) Compaction			
b) Cut Slopes – Note Condition of:			
i) Slopes – Working (max./current)			
ii) Slopes – Reclaimed			
<b>4) Erosion Control</b>			<input type="checkbox"/>
a) BMPs			
b) Grading			
c) Vegetation			
<b>5) Ponds</b>			<input type="checkbox"/>
a) Design – Function			
b) Capacity (area/depth/volume)			
c) Maintenance			
<b>6) Stream &amp; Wetland Protection</b>			<input type="checkbox"/>
a) Buffers (distance to channel)			
b) Berms (distance/length/height)			
c) Best Management Practices			
d) Drainage			
e) Grading & Slopes			
f) Stockpiles			
g) Stream Diversions			
<b>7) Sensitive Wildlife &amp; Plant Protection</b>			<input type="checkbox"/>
a) List Species			
b) Protection Measures			

**DISTRIBUTION:** Lead Agency sends copies of Inspection notice & completed MRRC-1 to operator, operator's designated agent, BLM or USFS (if required) & retains original.

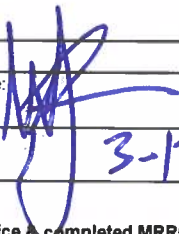
## SURFACE MINING INSPECTION REPORT

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<b>8) Soil/Overburden Stockpile Management</b>			<input type="checkbox"/>
a) Topsoil			
i) Location			
ii) Slope Stability			
iii) BMPs			
b) Overburden			
i) Location			
ii) Slope Stability			
iii) BMPs			
c) Topsoil Application			
i) Amendments			
ii) Depth			
iii) Moisture			
iv) Application Methods			
<b>9) Revegetation</b>			<input type="checkbox"/>
a) Test Plots			
b) Species Mix			
c) Density			
d) Percent Cover			
e) Species Richness			
f) Protection			
g) Success Monitoring			
h) Invasive Species Control			
<b>10) Structures</b>			<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>11) Equipment</b>			<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>12) Closure of Adits</b>			<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>13) Other Reclamation Plan Requirements</b>			<input type="checkbox"/>

**DISTRIBUTION:** Lead Agency sends copies of inspection notice & completed MRR-1 to operator, operator's designated agent, BLM or USFS (if required) & retains original.

## SURFACE MINING INSPECTION REPORT

<p>IX. List comments/description/sketches to support observations of mine site conditions, including violations. Where any violations are noted, list in numerical order, along with suggested corresponding corrective actions. Also describe preventative measures recommended by the inspector to avoid or remedy potential violations. Indicate if you have attached photos, sketches, and/or notice(s) of violation(s) or other documents to this form.  <b>(Add additional sheets as necessary)</b></p> <p>No violations were noted during this inspection. Reclamation of this mine site has been determined by the lead agency to have been completed in accordance with the approved Reclamation Plan RP-03-01 and Reclamation Plan Amendment RP-03-01-1M. The Community Development Department, as lead agency for the SMARA program for Siskiyou County, has determined that reclamation has been completed in accordance with California Code of Regulation (CCR) Section 3805.5 and that there are no outstanding reclamation liabilities.</p> <p>The following documents pertinent to this inspection report are attached:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) A Financial Assurance Cost Estimate prepared by the lead agency pursuant to CCR Section 3805.5(a)(2) indicating that there are no further outstanding reclamation liabilities associated with this closed mine site.</li> <li>2) A photo documentation of the inspection report.</li> <li>3) Copy of Reclamation Plan RP-03-01.</li> <li>4) Copy of 2014 Staff Report for a Minor Modification Amendment to Reclamation Plan RP-03-01-1M.</li> <li>5) Planning Commission Resolution 2015-01 approving the minor modification to the Reclamation Plan.</li> <li>6) Copy of Use Permit UP-03-01.</li> <li>7) A copy of the signed letter from the Property owner requesting that the access road, landing pad and entrance gate be left in place to facilitate cattle ranching activities at the site.</li> <li>8) Copy of the Reclamation Plan RP-03-01 Site Map.</li> <li>9) Copy of the May 9, 2014 Rock Slope Stability Study.</li> </ol> <p>The amended reclamation plan, approved by the Siskiyou County Planning Commission on October 15, 2014, revised the final slope configuration of a portion of the final cut slope of the quarry. The slope stability analysis, prepared by CGI Technical Services, Inc., concluded that the portion of final slopes which exceeded the 2H:1V slope angle are stable and require no further mitigation measures. The amended reclamation plan further established that the quarry access roadway and the flat pad area located at the base of the final slopes remain for ranching purposes per a request by the land owner. The change was determined consistent with the end use of the quarry site, which is range land for cattle grazing.</p>	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td>CA MINE ID # <b>91- 47-0061</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Inspection Date: <b>March 15, 2016</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Weather Code(s): <b>CR</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Duration of Inspection: 1 hour Start Time: <b>1:00 PM</b> End Time: <b>2:00 PM</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Status of Mine Code(s): <b>NOP-C</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Status of Reclamation Code(s): <b>RC</b> Approximate Acreage Under Reclamation: <b>4 Acres</b> Approximate Acreage the lead agency has determined reclaimed in accordance with the approved reclamation plan: 4 acres</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Approximate Total Disturbed Acreage: <b>0</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Approximate Pre-SMARA Disturbed Acreage: <b>0</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Disturbed Acreage Identified in Most Recent Financial Assurance Cost Estimate: <b>0</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Previous Inspection Date (and Number of Violations then Noted): <b>July 7, 2015; No Violations</b> Violations Corrected? (explain in block to left) <b>N/A</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Inspection Attendees and Affiliations:</td> </tr> </table>	CA MINE ID # <b>91- 47-0061</b>	Inspection Date: <b>March 15, 2016</b>	Weather Code(s): <b>CR</b>	Duration of Inspection: 1 hour Start Time: <b>1:00 PM</b> End Time: <b>2:00 PM</b>	Status of Mine Code(s): <b>NOP-C</b>	Status of Reclamation Code(s): <b>RC</b> Approximate Acreage Under Reclamation: <b>4 Acres</b> Approximate Acreage the lead agency has determined reclaimed in accordance with the approved reclamation plan: 4 acres	Approximate Total Disturbed Acreage: <b>0</b>	Approximate Pre-SMARA Disturbed Acreage: <b>0</b>	Disturbed Acreage Identified in Most Recent Financial Assurance Cost Estimate: <b>0</b>	Previous Inspection Date (and Number of Violations then Noted): <b>July 7, 2015; No Violations</b> Violations Corrected? (explain in block to left) <b>N/A</b>	Inspection Attendees and Affiliations:
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Inspection Attendees and Affiliations:												

X. Number of Current Violations:  <b>None</b>	Inspectors Signature:  Date Signed: <b>3-17-2016</b>	If inspector is a contractor for the lead agency give license type and number:
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**DISTRIBUTION:** Lead Agency sends copies of Inspection notice & completed MRRC-1 to operator, operator's designated agent, BLM or USFS (if required) & retains original.

**2016 Surface Mining Inspection Closure Report**  
**Big Springs Quarry; California Mine ID# 91-47-0061**  
**March 15, 2016**

**MRRC-1, Section VIII**

**1) General Information**

**Reclamation Plan Requirements**

The Big Springs Quarry consists of an open hillside gravel quarry operated by the Siskiyou County Public Works Department. The reclamation plan notes an estimated annual production of 15,000 to 20,000 cubic yards over a 15 year period, with a total production amount of 300,000 cubic yards. The use permit for this mining operation does not note an end date. The use permit denotes an end date of operations as 15 years from the approval date. The reclamation plan and use permit were approved on June 4, 2003. Based upon this approval date, the use permit terminates on June 4, 2018. The end use of the site is described as range land for cattle grazing. The mine is currently under an approved Interim Management Plan (IMP), which was renewed on February 2, 2011 for an additional five (5) year period. Reclamation Plan RP-03-01-1M was submitted and approved by the Siskiyou County Planning Commission on October 15, 2014. The amended reclamation plan addressed a ¼ acre portion of the final slope which exceeded the approved slope angle for final slopes as previously addressed in Reclamation Plan RP-03-01. A slope stability analysis was submitted with the reclamation plan amendment and the analysis concluded the slopes are stable and no further mitigation measures are necessary. The amended reclamation plan further addressed the elimination of the de-compaction and seeding of the access roadway and the flat pad area located at the toe of the final cut slopes of the quarry.

**Site Conditions and Compliance Issues Noted**

The Public Works Department has conducted reclamation activity of the mine site. Final grading of the slopes occurred in 2013 and revegetation activity occurred in the spring of 2014. The remaining stockpile of processed aggregate and rip-rap boulders has been removed from the mine site. The final grading of the quarry slopes and the reseeding of disturbed areas of the quarry subject to revegetation have been conducted in accordance with both the Reclamation Plan RP-03-01 and the approved Reclamation Plan Amendment RP-03-01-1M.

**2) Boundaries**

**Reclamation Plan Requirements**

The 11 acre mine site is located within an eighty (80) arce parcel owned by Soda Springs, LLC. A copy of the approved reclamation plan boundary is attached to this report.

**Site Conditions and Compliance Issues Noted**

A flagged mine boundary was established by the operator along the north boundary of Phase I. Mining activity to had occurred in the direction of this north boundary. The extent of

reclaimed lands as a result of surface mining activities was determined to be within the boundary of the mine.

### **3) Slopes – Grading**

#### **Reclamation Plan Requirements**

Reclamation Plan RP-03-01 required final cut slopes to be cut to 2H:1V slope angle. Any fill slopes, if required, were to be constructed to the same slope angle of 2H:1V. The amended reclamation plan, approved by the Siskiyou County Planning Commission, addressed a ¼ acre portion of the quarried slope which exceeded this 2H:1V slope angle. A slope stability analysis, prepared by CGI Technical Services, Inc., was submitted as an attachment to the approved Reclamation Plan Amendment RP-03-01-1M.

#### **Site Conditions and Compliance Issues Noted**

Final slopes were contoured in 2013 by the operator. The majority of the cut slopes are of a slope angle of 2H:1V or less. The area which exceeds the approved slope angle is located in the upper center of the cut slope within Phase I of the mine site. The approved Reclamation Plan Amendment RP-03-01-1M addressed this over steepened cut slope area of the quarry site. The slope stability analysis concluded slopes are stable and no further mitigation measures are necessary. The lead agency has reviewed the final slopes of the quarry and has determined that the slope configurations of these final graded slopes are consistent with the approved reclamation plan and the amended reclamation plan.

### **4) Erosion Control**

#### **Reclamation Plan Requirements**

Erosion control measures were incorporated into the reclamation plan. The use of surface ditching, berming and rock energy dissipaters at strategic locations to control potential erosion on the site were to be employed. The site plan noted a sediment retention dam was to be established within the dry seasonal drainage which traverses the mine site in a west to east direction. The location of this retention dam is the intersection of this drainage and the eastern boundary of the mine.

#### **Site Conditions and Compliance Issues Noted**

This area of the county receives very little precipitation; however summer thunder storms and major winter rain events can occur on the mine site. Evidence of erosion was observed during the 2015 inspection, as straw wattles previously in place on the site had been removed during the reclamation of the site. Erosion control measures were initiated by the operator to control the erosion of sediment from the mine site and the former processing site. Erosion control measures included the establishment of a series of rock energy dissipaters to reduce the energy of storm water runoff through the mined site. The effectiveness of these control measures was recently tested as the area received approximately two (2) inches of rainfall over the weekend preceding this inspection. Evidence of significant sediment deposition or erosion of the intermediate drainage was not observed. The existing sediment barrier, located in the seasonal drainage near the eastern boundary of the mine, remains in place and is functioning as designed.

## **5) Ponds**

There are no natural or constructed ponds present on this mine site.

## **6) Stream & Wetland Protection**

There are no streams or designated wetlands located on this mine site.

## **7) Sensitive Wildlife & Plant Protection**

A biological study was submitted by SHN Consulting Engineers & Geologist during the review of this approved reclamation plan. The study determined that no sensitive wildlife species were detected and no wetlands are located on the site.

## **8) Soil/Overburden Stockpile Management**

### **Reclamation Plan Requirements**

Topsoil was to be retained during mining activity for eventual redistribution over the disturbed areas. The reclamation plan notes that there is very little topsoil at this location.

### **Site Conditions and Compliance Issues Noted**

No topsoil stockpiling occurred at this mine site as little topsoil was present on the site prior to conducting mining activity. The final grading and contouring of the mine site was completed during 2013. The accumulation of fines on and within the prepared final slopes was noted during this and the previous inspection reports. The slopes are adequate and are supporting revegetation.

## **9) Revegetation**

### **Reclamation Plan Requirements**

Revegetation consists of reseeding the disturbed areas of the site with the following species:

Oahe intermediate wheatgrass	@ 5lbs/acre
Luna pubescent wheatgrass	@ 5lbs/acre
Crested wheatgrass	@ 4lbs/acre
Great Basin wild rye	@ 2lbs/acre

A 70% survival rate shall be maintained for revegetated areas with replanting of areas where this level of success is not maintained. The reclamation plan noted that it is anticipated that natural revegetation of the site will occur. Reseeding of the disturbed areas of the mine site will supplement any natural revegetation that does occur.

### **Site Conditions and Compliance Issues Noted**

Re-contouring of the final slopes had occurred in 2013. Revegetation of these slopes occurred in 2014. The ripping and seeding of the access roadway and the flat processing area is no longer a reclamation requirement as the approval Reclamation Plan Amendment RP-03-01-1M has removed this reclamation requirement from the plan. A letter from the property owner (attached to this closure report) expressing his desire to retain this access

road and pad for ranching activity was submitted to the lead agency and a copy of this letter is attached to this inspection report. The use of the access roadway and the flat pad area for cattle ranching operations was determined to be consistent with the end use of the quarry site.

## **10) Structures**

No structures are present on this mine site. All aggregate and rip rap stockpiles have been removed from the site by the operator.

## **11) Equipment**

No equipment remains on this mine site.

## **10) Closure of Adits**

No adits exist on this mine site.



**Photo Supplement to the 2016 Closure Report (Item #2)**

**Big Springs Quarry; CA Mine ID# 91-47-0061**

**March 15, 2016**

**Photograph #1**



**Access roadway to be left in place for ranching activity.**

**Photograph #2**



**View of the seasonal drainage traversing the site.**

**Photograph #3**



**View of revegetation of disturbed area below the pad site.**

**Photograph #4**



**Phase 1 of the quarry as viewed from the pad site.**

**Photograph #5**



**One of 3 rock dissipaters constructed to control erosion**

**Photograph #6**



**View of the seasonal swale located below the landing pad site.**

**Photo Supplement to the 2016 Inspection Report**  
**Big Springs Quarry; CA Mine ID# 91-47-0061**

**March 15, 2016**

**Photograph #7**



**View of a portion of the seasonal swale looking north.**

**Photograph #8**



**Phase 1 of the quarry as viewed from below the pad.**

**Photograph #9**



**View of erosion control measures completed on the swale.**

**Photograph #10**



**Access roadway into the reclaimed mine site.**

**Photograph #11**



**Revegetation results of the Phase II disturbance.**

**Photograph #12**



**Over steepened area located at the top center of the cut face.**

State of California

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION  
Financial Assurance Cost Estimate  
Form OMR-23 (New 06/96)

## FINANCIAL ASSURANCE COST ESTIMATE

FOR

Big Springs Quarry

CA MINE ID # 91- 47-0061

Prepared by:

Bill NAVARRE  
COMM. DEVELOPMENT DEPT  
SISKIYOU COUNTY

Date: 3-17-2016

**Note:** This worksheet was developed by the Office of Mine Reclamation to assist lead agencies and operators prepare a reclamation cost estimate and determine an appropriate amount for the financial assurance in conformance with Section 2773.1 of SMARA. It should be used in conjunction with the *Financial Assurance Guidelines* adopted by the State Mining and Geology Board.

**I. PRIMARY RECLAMATION ACTIVITIES**

Description of Task:

**PRIMARY RECLAMATION ACTIVITIES COMPLETED**

Methods to be Used:

Miscellaneous Information:

Overburden (cubic yards): \_\_\_\_\_ Topsoil (cubic yards): \_\_\_\_\_ Acres: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Production Rate (cubic yards/hour): 1. \_\_\_\_\_ 2. \_\_\_\_\_ 3. \_\_\_\_\_ 4. \_\_\_\_\_  
 Haul Distance (feet): 1. \_\_\_\_\_ 2. \_\_\_\_\_ 3. \_\_\_\_\_ 4. \_\_\_\_\_

A. Equipment - List all equipment required to complete identified task. For large reclamation jobs separate mine areas for ease of accounting.

Equipment	Quantity	\$/Hour	# of Hours	Cost (\$)
1.				
2.				
3.				
4.				

Total Equipment Cost for this Task \$ 0

B. Labor - List all labor categories to complete identified task.

Labor Category	Quantity	\$/Hour	# of Hours	Cost (\$)

Total Labor Cost for this Task \$ 0

C. Materials - List all materials required to complete identified task (include disposal costs).

Item	Quantity	\$/Unit	Cost (\$)

Total Materials Cost for this Task \$ 0

D. Direct Cost for this Task

Equipment Cost + Labor Cost + Materials Cost = \$ 0

II. REVEGETATION

Description of Task:

REVEGETATION ACTIVITIES COMPLETED

Methods to be Used:

A. Equipment - List all equipment required to complete identified task.

Equipment	Quantity	\$/Hour	# of Hours	Cost (\$)

Total Equipment Cost for this Task \$ 0

B. Labor - List all labor categories to complete identified task.

Labor Category	Quantity	\$/Hour	# of Hours	Cost (\$)

Total Labor Cost for this Task \$ 0

C. Materials - List all materials required to complete identified task.

Item / Plant Species	Unit of Measure	# of Units	\$/Unit	Cost (\$)

Total Materials Cost for this Task \$ 0

D. Direct Cost for this Task

Equipment Cost + Labor Cost + Materials Cost \$ 0

III. PLANT STRUCTURES AND EQUIPMENT REMOVAL

Description of Task:

No STRUCTURE OR EQUIPMENT LOCATED

Methods to be Used:

ON THE RECLAIMED SIDE

A. Equipment - List all equipment required to complete identified task.

Equipment	Quantity	\$/Hour	# of Hours	Cost (\$)

Total Equipment Cost for this Task \$ 0

B. Labor - List all labor categories to complete identified task.

Labor Category	Quantity	\$/Hour	# of Hours	Cost (\$)

Total Labor Cost for this Task \$ 0

C. Demolition - List all structures and equipment to be dismantled or demolished.

Structure / Equipment	Type of Material	Volume (cubic feet)	Unit Cost Basis	Disposal Cost	Cost (\$)

Total Materials Cost for this Task \$ 0

D. Direct Cost for this Task

Equipment Cost + Labor Cost + Demolition Cost = \$ 0

**IV. MISCELLANEOUS COSTS**

Examples of this type of cost could include temporary storage of equipment and materials off site, special one-time permits (i.e. transportation permits for extra wide or overweight loads, etc.), decommissioning a process mill (i.e. decontamination of equipment), or disposal of warehouse inventories.

Item / Task	Quantity	\$/Unit	Cost (\$)
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.			
6.			
7.			
8.			
9.			
10.			

Total Miscellaneous Costs \$ 0

**V. MONITORING**

Monitoring Task	\$/Visit	# Visits/Year	# of Monitoring Years	Cost (\$)
1.				
2.				
3.				
4.				
5.				

Total Monitoring Costs \$ 0

**VII. SUMMARY OF COST**

Total of all Primary Reclamation Activities Costs	\$	<u>0</u>
Total of all Revegetation Costs	\$	<u>0</u>
Total of all Plant Structures & Equipment Removal Costs	\$	<u>0</u>
Total of all Miscellaneous Costs	\$	<u>0</u>
Total of all Monitoring Costs	\$	<u>0</u>
<b>Total of Direct Costs</b>	\$	<u>0</u>
Supervision (____%)	\$	<u>0</u>
Profit/Overhead (____%)	\$	<u>0</u>
Contingencies (____%)	\$	<u>0</u>
Mobilization (____%)	\$	<u>0</u>
<b>Total of Indirect Costs</b>	\$	<u>0</u>
<sup>15%</sup> Total of Direct and Indirect Costs	\$	<u>0</u>
(±0%) Lead Agency Administrative Cost* (Determined by the Lead Agency)	\$	<u>0</u>
<b>Total Estimated Cost of Reclamation</b>	\$	<u>0</u>

**\*Note** The Financial Assurance Guidelines recommend that when reviewing and approving a financial assurance cost estimate, lead agencies should include their administrative cost to draw on the financial assurance and implement the reclamation plan, should it become necessary.





April 14, 2016

**VIA EMAIL: [bnavarre@co.siskiyou.ca.us](mailto:bnavarre@co.siskiyou.ca.us)**  
**ORIGINAL SENT BY MAIL**

RECEIVED APR 18 2016

Mr. William Navarre  
County of Siskiyou  
Public Health and Community Development Department  
806 South Main Street  
Yreka, California 96097

Dear Mr. Navarre:

RE: CONCURRENCE OF COMPLETION OF RECLAMATION FOR BIG SPRINGS QUARRY, CA  
MINE ID # 91-47-0061  
SISKIYOU COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

The Department of Conservation's Office of Mine Reclamation (OMR) received documents on March 18, 2016 from Siskiyou County (County), submitted pursuant to California Code of Regulations (CCR), Title 14, Section 3805.5(a), regarding the Big Springs Quarry (mine), California Mine ID # 91-47-0061. The County is the lead agency for the purposes of the Surface Mining and Reclamation Act of 1975 (SMARA). The County has requested written concurrence from OMR that: (a) the mined lands associated with Big Springs Quarry have been sufficiently reclaimed in accordance with the approved reclamation plan; and, (b) the financial assurance for the mine can be returned to the operator.

The mine generally consists of a side-hill hard rock quarry. The mine operator and owner of the property is Soda Springs, LLC.

OMR received the following documents from the lead agency in their submittal:

- A letter from the County, dated March 16, 2015, indicating all requirements of reclamation with regards to Big Springs Quarry have been sufficiently completed in accordance with the approved reclamation plan.
- An MRRC-1 Inspection Report for the surface mining operation dated March 15, 2016.
- A financial assurance cost estimate for 2016 indicating zero reclamation costs remain for Big Springs Quarry.
- Site photographs documenting the reclamation of the mine.
- A letter from the property owner requesting the access road and flat pad area remain after site reclamation.

OMR staff reviewed the submitted documents and conducted a site inspection on April 12, 2016. The intent of the approved reclamation plan was to reclaim the mine to "range land for grazing". During the site inspection, OMR staff observed that Big Springs Quarry has been sufficiently revegetated with grasses that were currently supporting active grazing at the site.

Mr. William Navarre  
April 14, 2016  
Page 2

OMR concurs with the County that Big Springs Quarry has been sufficiently reclaimed in accordance with the reclamation plan. This letter shall serve as confirmation from the Department of Conservation that the County has fulfilled the requirements of CCR Section 3805.5 and may release the financial assurances for Big Springs Quarry.

If you have any questions on these comments or require any assistance with other mine reclamation issues, please contact me at (916) 323-9198.

Sincerely,

  
Pat Perez  
Assistant Director

## Resolution PC 2024-015

### **A Resolution of the Planning Commission of the County of Siskiyou Recommending that the Siskiyou County Board of Supervisors Formalize the Termination of Use Permit for Big Springs Quarry by Revoking Use Permit UP-03- 01 and Determine the Project Exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)**

**Whereas**, Use Permit UP-03-01 was approved for the Big Springs Quarry by the Planning Commission on June 4, 2003 to establish a rock quarry and crush and stockpile rock for County road maintenance that was discontinued as of 2014, with reclamation completed in March of 2016; and

**Whereas**, the mine associated with use permit UP-03-01 is closed; and

**Whereas**, use permit UP-03-01 has expired as the effective period identified in Notation #1 has ended; and

**Whereas**, revocation of use permit UP-03-01 is necessary to properly close out the County's associated mine file; and

**Whereas**, a Notice of Public Hearing was published in the Siskiyou Daily News on June 12, 2024; and

**Whereas**, hearing notices were posted pursuant to Siskiyou County Code Section 10-6.2805 *et seq.*; and

**Whereas**, notification of the Community Development Department's intent to seek revocation of UP-03-01 and hearing notices were mailed first class to all property owners of the properties associated with Use Permit UP-03-01; and

**Whereas**, the Planning Division presented its oral and written staff report on the revocation of UP-03-01 at the Planning Commission's regularly scheduled meeting on August 21, 2024; and

**Whereas**, on August 21, 2024, the Chair of the Planning Commission opened the duly noticed public hearing on the revocation of UP-03-01 to receive testimony, both oral and written, following which the Chair closed the public hearing and the Commission discussed the revocation of use permit UP-03-01, prior to reaching its decision; and

**Whereas**, the Planning Division recommended that the revocation of UP-03-01 be determined categorically exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Section 15321 of the CEQA Guidelines because this determination is defined as an enforcement action taken by a regulatory agency; and

**Now, Therefore Be It Resolved** that the Planning Commission, based on the evidence in the record, hereby takes the following actions on the revocation of UP-03-01:

1. The Planning Commission recommends that the Board of Supervisors find pursuant to Siskiyou County Code 10-6.1402 that UP-03-01 is no longer effective and should be revoked.
2. The Planning Commission recommends that the Board of Supervisors revoke use permits UP-03-01.
3. The Planning Commission determines this project categorically exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Section 15321.

**It is hereby certified** that the foregoing Resolution PC-2024-015 was duly adopted on a motion by Commissioner \_\_\_\_\_ and seconded by Commissioner \_\_\_\_\_, at a regular meeting of the Siskiyou County Planning Commission held on the 21st day of August 2024, by the following voice vote:

Ayes:

Noes:

Absent:

Abstain:

Siskiyou County Planning Commission

\_\_\_\_\_  
Jeff Fowle, Chair

Witness, my hand and seal this 21st day of August 2024.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Hailey Lang, Secretary of the Commission