# APPENDIX A
# SCOPING AND COORDINATION

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Correspondence List

| | |
|---|---|
| 3/10/2005 | Issue scoping request letter for quarries utilized by Bureau of Reclamation |
| 3/14/2005 | Paul Buff from the BLM State Office in Phoenix called to request an electronic copy of the scoping letter. Thayer approved and he was emailed a copy on 3/15/2005. His contact info is: 602.417.9225, Paul_Buff@blm.gov |
| 3/15/2005 | George Meckfessel, Planning Environmental Coordinator, for Needles Field Office of BLM called to request more detailed maps. He was specifically interested in routes to/from the quarries as it pertains to ROW permits and wants more detailed maps with routes and project area boundaries. I asked him to send me a GIS layer of their area in order to make him an accurate map. He mentioned that Manchester is going to be especially contentious and that they are getting rigorous scrutiny on all permits in and adjacent to wilderness areas from the environmental community. His contact info is: 760.326.7008, George_Meckfessel@ca.blm.gov |
| 3/21/2005 | Received voicemail from Gary Taylor, El Centro BLM asking how to respond to scoping letter. On 3/24/2005 Kim Garvey spoke with Gary and asked him to send a letter to us with their response/concerns. His phone number is 760.337.4422. |
| 3/22/2005 | Received letter from Yuma County Department of Development Services. Letter put in scoping file. |
| 3/22/2005 | Received email response from Pat Wall of La Paz County Community Development Department. Email put in scoping file. |
| 3/30/2005 | Received email from Canh Nguyen, CDFG in Blythe: "Could you place me on the mailing list for this project? CDFG would appreciate the opportunity to comment on the Programmatic EA as it pertains to the quarries in California". Email copied to project file and name added to list. |
| 4/1/2005 | Received letter from El Centro BLM Field Office regarding the two quarries in their jurisdiction (Pilot Knob and Paymaster). Paymaster is covered under an environmental plan that Gary Taylor is going to send to Kim G. Letter stated that the ROW is donated land and is generally not permitted for ROWs – Kim G will follow-up with their lands people. |
| 4/1/2005 | Received 2 letters from Phoenix ES Fish and Wildlife Service Office, one in response to scoping and the other in response to the BO renewal. Kim Garvey spoke with Lesley Fitzpatrick on 4/8/2005. Kim Garvey is going |

to get FWS the needed reports and acceptance of terms and conditions letter.

4/8/2005 Received response letter from Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community. They defer all consultation to CRIT through an existing agreement.

4/8/2005 Received email from Tafida Elsherif of Arizona State Land Department asking to be including on mailing list for AZ lands and Colorado River work.

4/11/2005 Received phone call from Greg Thompson of CA BLM Marino Valley District Office (over field offices). Wants more specific information.

4/15/2005 Received email from Stephen Fusilier of Yuma Field Office of BLM with their concerns.

4/18/2005 Received email from Amanda Dodson a Geologist from the Lake Havasu Field Office of BLM asking for more specific location information for the quarries in their purview.

4/19/2005 Received letter from AZ SHPO.

4/22/2005 Memorandum from Reclamation to BLM Re: their interest in participating as a cooperating agency.

4/26/2005 Received copy of email from Steve Fusilier to Jennifer Green, Aaron Curtis, and Jim Grace Re: providing information to Kim Garvey with hiking/biking trail information.

4/29/2005 Received phone call from Aaron Curtis of Yuma Field Office of BLM requesting more information about Laguna Dam East Quarry. Kim Garvey called him back on 4/5/2005 to clarify issues. He is going to send me a copy of their "new" Land Use Planning Handbook. I am going to send him updated location information when that is ready.

5/3/2005 Received email from Fred Wong – be sure to include Rosy Boa, Chuckwalla, and Gila Monster in EA analysis. Include Petalonyx linearis (long-leafed sandpaper plant) for the Laguna area.

5/5/2005 Received email from Aaron Curtis providing information on BLM Recreation Land Use Planning Guidance and Recreation Opportunities Spectrum (ROS).

5/6/2005 Received 2 emails from Jennifer Green of Yuma Field Office of BLM stating concerns about Quarry Operations and haul speed.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 5/6/2005 | Sent email to:<br>Patricia_A_Taylor@blm.gov<br>AaronCurtis@blm.gov<br>cvnguyen@dfg.ca.gov<br>George_Meckfessel@ca.blm.gov<br>Gregory_Thomsen@ca.blm.gov<br>lynda_kastoll@blm.gov<br>Stephen_Fusilier@blm.gov<br>Winfred_Wong@blm.gov | Jill_Miller-Allert@blm.gov<br>Sarah_C_Murray@blm.gov<br>Amanda_Dodson@blm.gov<br>gary_taylor@blm.gov<br>greg_hill@blm.gov<br>Jennifer_Green@blm.gov<br>Paul_Buff@blm.gov<br>TElsherif@land.az.gov |
| | Email included more specific location information as well as ownership information. | |
| 5/6/2005 | Received email from Jill Miller-Allert Wilderness Coordinator for the Lake Havasu field office of BLM. Had comments about Manchester and Section 7. | |
| 5/13/2005 | Received CD of GIS information for routes of travel and wilderness from Alicia Rabas, wildlife biologist, Needles Field Office of BLM. | |
| 5/24/2005 | Response from BLM California Desert District indicating their interest in becoming a cooperating agency. | |
| 6/13/2005 | Response from BLM Kingman Field Office indicating their interest in becoming a cooperating agency. | |
| 3/14/2007 | Reclamation letter to distribute the March 07 Administrative Draft EA. | |
| 3/22/2007 | Email from BLM – El Centro Field Office (Erin Dreyfuss) – comments on the March 07 Draft EA. | |
| 4/2/2007 | Response from BLM – California Desert District (Alan Stein) – comments on the March 07 Draft EA. | |
| 4/16/2007 | Email from BLM – Yuma, Lake Havasu, & Kingman Field Offices – comments on the March 07 Draft EA. | |
| 5/16/2007 | Reclamation letter to distribute the May 07 Draft EA. | |
| 5/25/2007 | Reclamation letter to the Tribes to distribute the May 07 Draft EA. | |
| 6/1/2007 | Reclamation letter to the California State Historic Preservation Office to distribute the May 07 Draft EA. (Same letter was sent to the Arizona State Historic Preservation Office) | |

| | |
|---|---|
| 6/4/2007 | Received letter from the Hopi Tribe stating their appreciation for solicitation of their input in this project. |
| 6/21/2007 | Response letter from the Quechan Indian Tribe indicating receipt of the May 07 Draft EA & a request to meet. |
| 6/22/2007 | Email fro Bridget R. Nash-Chrabascz (Quechan Indian Tribe) to arrange a meeting. |
| 6/25/2007 | Response letter from the Cocopah Indian Tribe indicating concerns for cultural resources along the terrace of the Colorado River (May 07 Draft EA). |
| 7/17/2007 | Meeting notes – Reclamation met with the Quechan Cultural Committee to discuss concerns. |
| 7/17/2007 | Email from BLM – Yuma Field Office – comments on the May 07 Draft EA. |
| 7/21/2007 | Response letter from the Ak-Chin Indian Community stating their appreciation for coordination. |
| 8/1/2007 | Letter from Reclamation responding to BLM comments on the May 07 Draft EA. |
| 8/1/2007 | Letter from Reclamation to the Cocopah Indian Tribe indicating that further site specific analysis and coordination will be conducted for each quarry. |
| 8/1/2007 | Letter from Reclamation to the Quechan Indian Tribe indicating that further site specific analysis and coordination will be conducted for each quarry. |

ENV-9.00 - Environmental Assessment

7-1596B (6-89)
Bureau of Reclamation

| OFFICIAL FILE COPY | | |
|---|---|---|
| DATE | SURNAME | CODE |
| 3/4 | DAW | 7001 |
| | KLG | 7210 KL |
| 3/7 | RW | 7210 RW |
| 3/8 | TB | 7200 TB |
| 3/9 | [illegible] | 7000 |
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| Project | | |
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| Folder I.D. | | |

MAR 1 0 2005

YAO-7210
ENV-7.00

Subject: Issue Scoping Request for Quarries Utilized by the Bureau of Reclamation

Dear Agency or Organization:

This letter is to inform you that the Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) Yuma Area Office is in the process of developing a Programmatic Environmental Assessment (EA) for quarry operations along the lower Colorado River. These activities are authorized under the Colorado River Front Work and Levee System which was authorized by the Acts of March 3, 1925 (43 Stat. 1186, 1198), January 21, 1927 (44 Stat. 1010, 1021), July 1, 1940 (54 Stat. 708), and the Act of June 28, 1946 (60 Stat. 338), Public Law 79-469, as amended by the Act of May 1, 1958 (72 Stat. 101). Pursuant to Sec. 1501.7 of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), Reclamation requests any comments you may have in determining the scope of issues to be addressed and identifying significant issues related to this project.

Reclamation is responsible for managing 276 river miles of the Colorado River from the Southerly International Boundary with Mexico to Davis Dam. Quarries are leased from other land management agencies (state and Federal) or are located on Reclamation withdrawn or acquired lands. Access roads also need to be permitted and are located on Federal, state, tribal or private land. Rock and gravel from quarries is used extensively in various Reclamation construction and erosion control projects on the Colorado River, including levee maintenance, bankline armoring, jetty construction and other actions. The need for quarried materials is to provide riprap for placement along the riverbank of the Colorado River to stabilize the bank, reduce sediment in the river and armor the levees. Riprap materials are quarried and stockpiled at existing strategic locations adjacent to the Colorado River prior to Reclamation's necessary maintenance work. Quarry operations may include building access roads, scaling rock faces, blasting (explosives) to produce working benches and materials (e.g. rock), grading and screening of rock, stockpiling rock and trucking rock to stockpile sites over existing county, state and Federal roads.

As part of Reclamation's planning process and in consideration of land use changes or new information, we are reexamining potential impacts and obtaining necessary consultation to continue the use of existing quarries along the lower Colorado River through the year 2020. Reclamation has identified 24 quarry locations that can supply the needed material in order to fulfill our maintenance requirements along the river. Not all the proposed quarries will be used and the use of any quarry will be directly dependent on its proximity to the location of the necessary bankline work. Preparation of this Programmatic EA will provide a broad-based guide for environmental characteristics, constraints and requirements for future use of quarries. It is not intended to fulfill all environmental requirements for future activities at specific quarries. Rather, specific future proposed activities at individual quarries will be subject to specific NEPA and other environmental planning and regulatory requirements prior to such activities being conducted. It is anticipated that such future planning and regulatory documents will be tiered to this Programmatic EA as appropriate.

As part of our EA process, Reclamation is inviting agencies and other individuals/entities that have an interest in these operations to provide comments to us to help identify issues to address in the EA. Enclosed are copies of the quarry site list and map.

If you have any questions or comments regarding this letter or would like to be placed on the mailing list for this project or for a specific quarry site should the need arise, please call or email Ms. Kimberly Garvey at 928-343-8227, kgarvey@lc.usbr.gov or Mr. Rex Wahl at 928-343-8237, rwahl@lc.usbr.gov.

Although comments are accepted throughout the NEPA process, we encourage comments specific to this scoping letter by April 15, 2005.

Sincerely,

CYNTHIA HOEFT

Cynthia Hoeft, Director
Resource Management Office

Enclosures - 2
Quarry List
Quarry Location Map

7000
7001
7120 (Pinnell)
7210 (Wahl w/encl)
7200
7300 (Simes)

KGarvey:dfw:02/14/05
Rewrite:KGarvey:dfw:02/28/05
Dir:7000\Garvey\7210-02.001

Identical letter sent to persons on following pages.

AK-CHIN INDIAN COMMUNITY
42507 WEST PETERS AND NALL ROAD
MARICOPA AZ 85239

ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
1688 WEST ADAMS
PHOENIX AZ 85007

ADEQ
1110 WEST WASHINGTON STREET
PHOENIX AZ 85007

AZ DEPT OF TRANSPORTATION
YUMA DISTRICT OFFICE
2243 GILA RIDGE ROAD
YUMA AZ 85365

ARIZONA GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT
KINGMAN DISTRIC OFFICE
5325 N. STOCKTON HILL RD.
KINGMAN AZ 86401

ARIZONA GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT
9140 EAST 28TH STREET
YUMA AZ 85364

AZ STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE
1300 WEST WASHINGTON STREET
PHOENIX AZ 85007

ARIZONA STATE LAND DEPARTMENT
1616 WEST ADAMS STREET
PHOENIX AZ 85007

BILL WILLIAMS RIVER NWR
60911 HIGHWAY 95
PARKER AZ 85344

BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS
WESTERN REGIONAL OFFICE
PO BOX 10
PHOENIX AZ 85001

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
ARIZONA STATE OFFICE
222 NORTH CENTRAL AVENUE
PHOENIX AZ 85004

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
CALIFORNIA DESERT DISTRICT
22835 CALLE SAN JUAN DE LOS LAGO
MORENO VALLEY CA 92553

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
EL CENTRO FIELD OFFICE
1661 SOUTH FOURTH STREET
EL CENTRO CA 92243

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
KINGMAN FIELD OFFICE
2755 MISSION BOULEVARD
KINGMAN AZ 86401

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
LAKE HAVASU FIELD OFFICE
2610 SWEETWATER AVENUE
LAKE HAVASU CITY AZ 86406

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
NEEDLES FIELD OFFICE
101 WEST SPIKES ROAD
NEEDLES CA 92363

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
PALM SPRINGS/SOUTH COAST FIELD OFFICE
690 W. GARNET AVE
N PALM SPRINGS CA 92258-1260

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
PHOENIX FIELD OFFICE
21605 NORTH 7TH AVENUE
PHOENIX AZ 85027

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
YUMA FIELD OFFICE
2555 EAST GILA RIDGE ROAD
YUMA AZ 85365

CA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME
EASTERN SIERRA AND INLAND DESERTS REGION
3602 INLAND EMPIRE BLVD STE C-220
ONTARIO CA 91764

CA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME
HEADQUARTERS
1416 NINTH STREET
SACRAMENTO CA 95814

CA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
HEADQUARTERS
PO BOX 942873
SACRAMENTO CA 94273

CA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
DISTRICT 8 (SAN BERNARDINO & RIVERSIDE)
464 W 4TH ST
SAN BERNARDINO CA 92402

CA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
DISTRICT 11 (SAN DIEGO & IMPERIAL)
PO BOX 85406
SAN DIEGO CA 92186-5406

CAMPO BAND OF KUMEYAAY
36190 CHURCH ROAD
SUITE 1
CAMPO CA 91906

CHEMEHUEVI INDIAN TRIBE
PO BOX 1976
HAVASU LAKE CA 92363

CIBOLA NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE
ROUTE 2, BOX 138
CIBOLA AZ 85328

CITY OF BLYTHE
235 NORTH BROADWAY
BLYTHE CA 92225

CITY OF BULLHEAD CITY
1255 MARINA BOULEVARD
BULLHEAD CITY AZ 86442

CITY OF EARP
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT
825 E. 3RD ST
SAN BERNARDINO CA 92415

CITY OF EHRENBERG
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
PO BOX 800
EHRENBERG AZ 85334

CLARK CO REGIONAL GOV'T CENTER
101 CIVIC WAY
LAUGHLIN NV 89029

CITY OF NEEDLES
817 3RD ST.
NEEDLES CA 92363

CITY OF PALO VERDE
PLANNING DEPARTMENT
801 MAIN ST
EL CENTRO CA 92243

CITY OF RIPLEY
COMMUNITY SERVICE DISTRICT OFFICE
24501 SCHOOL RD
RIPLEY CA 92225

CITY OF TOPOCK
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT
PO BOX 7000
KINGMAN AZ 86401

COCOPAH INDIAN TRIBE
COUNTY 15 AND AVENUE G
SOMERTON AZ 85350

COLORADO RIVER INDIAN TRIBAL COUNCIL
ROUTE 1, BOX 23-B
PARKER AZ 85344

COMMUNITY PLANNING AND LIAISON OFFICE
MCAS-YUMA
BOX 99106
YUMA AZ 85369-9106

COUNTY OF IMPERIAL
940 MAIN ST.
EL CENTRO CA 92243

COUNTY OF MOHAVE
809 EAST BEARE ST.
PO BOX 7000
KINGMAN AZ 86402

COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE
4080 LEMON ST., 4TH FLOOR
RIVERSIDE CA 92501

COUNTY OF SAN BERARDINO
385 NORTH ARROWHEAD AVENUE
SAN BERNARDINO CA 92415

FORT MCDOWELL YAVAPAI NATION
PO BOX 17779
FOUNTAIN HILLS AZ 85269

FORT MOJAVE INDIAN TRIBE
500 MERRIMAN AVENUE
NEEDLES CA 92363

FORT YUMA QUECHAN INDIAN TRIBE
PO BOX 1899
YUMA AZ 85366

GILA RIVER INDIAN COMMUNITY
PO BOX 2140
SACATON AZ 85247

HAVASU NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE
PO BOX 3009
NEEDLES CA 92363

HIA C'ED O'ODHAM ALLIANCE
4739 WEST HAYWARD
GLENDALE AZ 85301

HOPI TRIBE OF ARIZONA
PO BOX 123
KYKOTSMOVI AZ 86036

HUALAPAI TRIBE
PO BOX 179
PEACH SPRINGS AZ 86434

IMPERIAL NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE
PO BOX 72217
MARTINEZ LAKE AZ 85365

KAIBAB-PAIUTE TRIBE
HC-65 BOX 2
FREDONIA AZ 86022

KOFA NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE
356 WEST 1ST STREET
YUMA AZ 85364

LA PAZ COUNTY
1112 JOSHUA AVENUE
SUITE 202
PARKER AZ 85344

LA PAZ COUNTY COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
1112 JOSHUA AVENUE
SUITE 202
PARKER AZ 85344

LAKE HAVASU CITY
2330 MCCULLOCH BLVD NORTH
LAKE HAVASU CITY AZ 86403

NAVAJO NATION
PO BOX 9000
WINDOW ROCK AZ 86515

PASCUA YAQUI TRIBE
7474 SOUTH CAMINO DE OESTE
TUCSON AZ 85746

SALT RIVER PIMA-MARICOPA INDIAN COMMUNITY
10005 EAST OSBORN ROAD
SCOTTSDALE AZ 85256

SAN CARLOS APACHE TRIBE
PO BOX O
SAN CARLOS AZ 85550

TOHONO O'ODHAM NATION
CULTURAL PRESERVATION COMMITTEE
PO BOX 837
SELLS AZ 85634

TOWN OF PARKER
1314 11TH ST.
PARKER AZ 85344

U.S. EPA
REGION IX
75 HAWTHORNE STREET
SAN FRANCISCO CA 94105

U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
CARLSBAD FISH & WILDLIFE OFFICE
6010 HIDDEN VALLEY ROAD
CARLSBAD CA 92009

U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
PHOENIX FISH & WILDLIFE OFFICE
2321 W ROYAL PALM ROAD STE 103
PHOENIX AZ 85021

U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
VENTURA FISH & WILDLIFE OFFICE
2493 PORTOLA ROAD, SUITE B
VENTURA CA 93003

U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY
WATER RESOURCES DIVISION
520 N. PARK AVENUE, SUITE 221
TUCSON AZ 85719

USGS WESTERN REGION OFFICES
MENLO PARK CAMPUS, BLDG. 3
345 MIDDLEFIELD ROAD
MENLO PARK CA 94025

WELLTON-MOHAWK NATURAL RESOURCES
CONSERVATION SERVICE
5578 SOUTH AVENUE 37 EAST
ROLL AZ 85347

YAVAPAI-APACHE NATION
2400 WEST DATSI STREET
CAMP VERDE AZ 86322

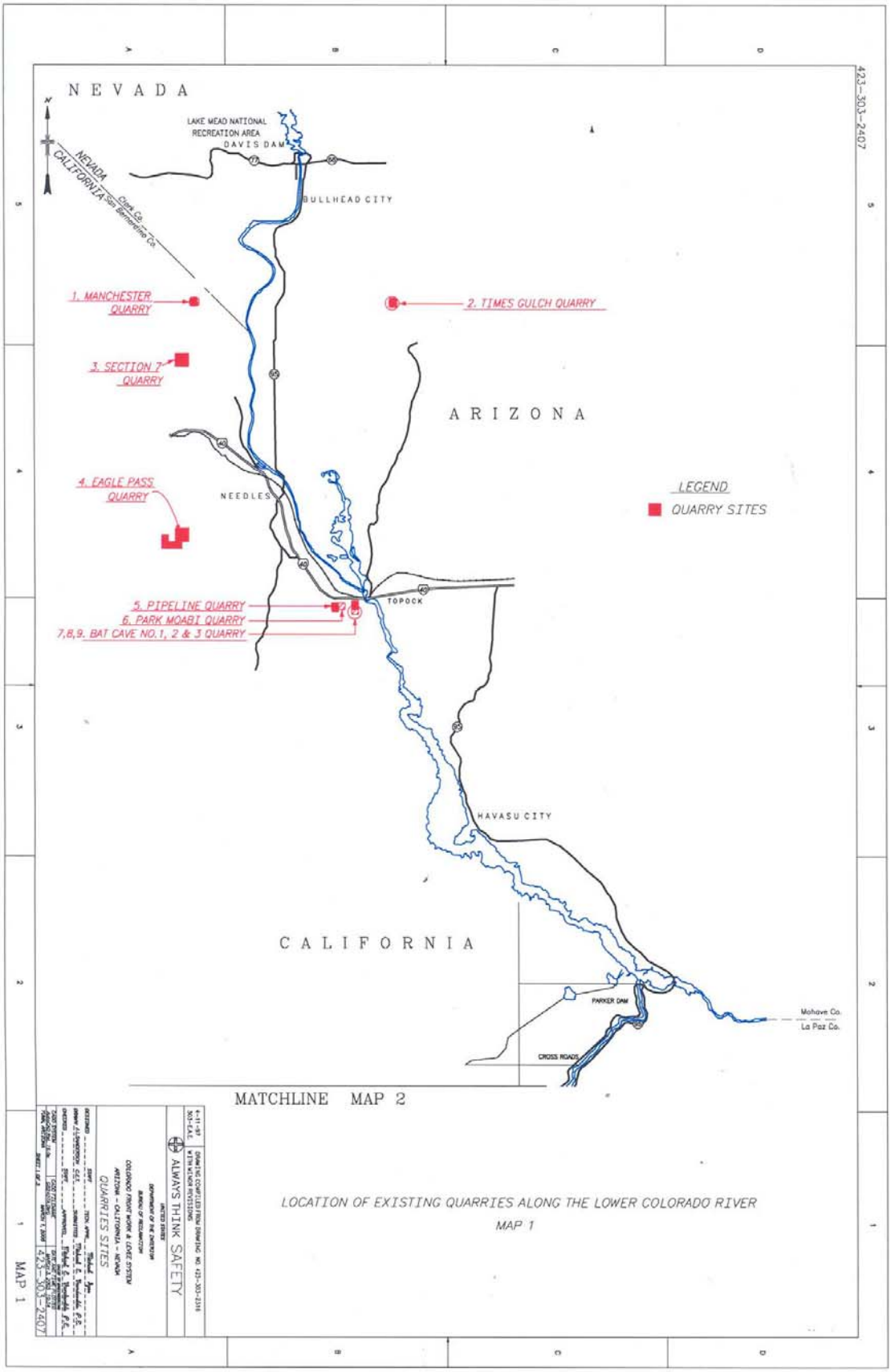
YAVAPAI-PRESCOTT INDIAN TRIBE
530 EAST MERRITT STREET
PRESCOTT AZ 86301

YUMA COUNTY
198 SOUTH MAIN STREET
YUMA AZ 85364

YUMA COUNTY PLANNING AND ZONING
DIVISION
2703 SOUTH AVENUE B
YUMA AZ 85364

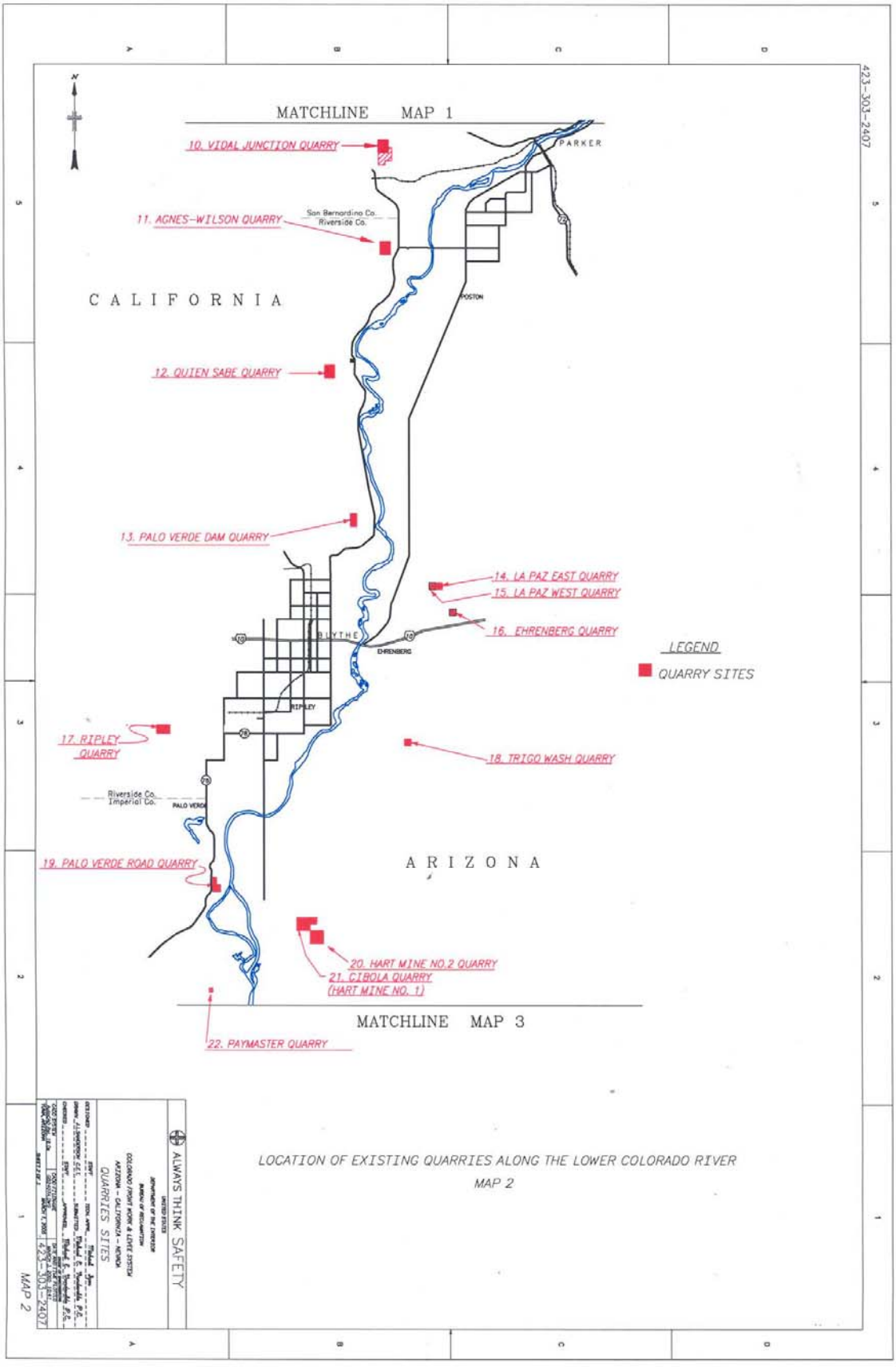
# Quarry Site List

| Map Number | Quarry | Location-Township, Range & Section | Location – Quad Name |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Manchester Road | T. 11 N., R. 21 E., sec. 16, sec. 15 | Mt. Manchester |
| 2 | Times Gulch Road | T. 19 N., R. 20 W., sec. 18 | Datman |
| 3 | Section 7 Road | T. 10 N., R. 22 E., sec. 7 | Needles NW |
| 4 | Eagle Pass Road | T. 8 N., R. 22 E sec. 18 | Needles SW |
| 5 | Pipeline Road | T. 7 N., R. 23 E., sec. 12 | Whale Mtn. |
| 6 | Park Moabi Road | T. 7 N., R. 24 E., sec. 7 | Whale Mtn. |
| 7 | Bat Cave No. 1 Road | T. 7 N., R. 24 E., sec. 8 | Topock |
| 8 | Bat Cave No. 2 | T. 7 N., R. 24 E., sec. 17 | Topock |
| 9 | Bat Cave No. 3 Road | T. 7 N., R. 24 E., sec. 17 | Topock |
| 10 | Vidal Junction | T. 1 N., R. 24 E., sec. 19, sec. 30 | Parker NW |
| 11 | Agnes-Wilson Road | T. 1 S., R. 24 E., sec. 31 | Parker SW |
| 12 | Quien Sabe West | T. 3 S., R. 23 E., sec. 21 | Big Maria Mtns. NE |
| 13 | Palo Verde Dam (PVID) | T. 5 S., R. 24 E., sec. 19, sec. 18 | Blythe NE |
| 14 | La Paz East Road | T. 4 N., R. 21 W., sec. 22 | La Paz Mtn. |
| 15 | La Paz West Road | T. 4 N., R. 21 W., sec. 21 | La Paz Mtn. |
| 16 | Ehrenberg Road | T. 4 N., R. 21 W., sec. 34, sec. 35 | La Paz Mtn. |
| 17 | Ripley | T. 8 S., R. 21 E., sec. 4, sec. 9 | McCoy Spring |
| 18 | Trigo Wash Road | T. 2 N., R. 21 W., sec 19 | Dome Rock Mtns. SW and Trigo Peak |
| 19 | Palo Verde Road | T. 10 S., R. 21 E., sec. 1 | Cibola SE |
| 20 | Hart Mine No. 2 Road | T. 2 S., R. 23 W., sec. 2 | Cibola SE |
| 21 | Cibola (Hart Mine No. 1) | T. 1 S., R. 23 W., sec. 34, sec. 35 | Cibola SE |
| 22 | Paymaster | T. 11 S., R. 21 E., sec. 14 | Picacho NW |
| 23 | Laguna Dam East Road | T. 7 S., R. 22 W., sec. 23, sec. 14 | Laguna Dam |
| 24 | Pilot Knob Road | T. 16 S., R. 21 E., sec. 27, sec. 34 | Yuma West |



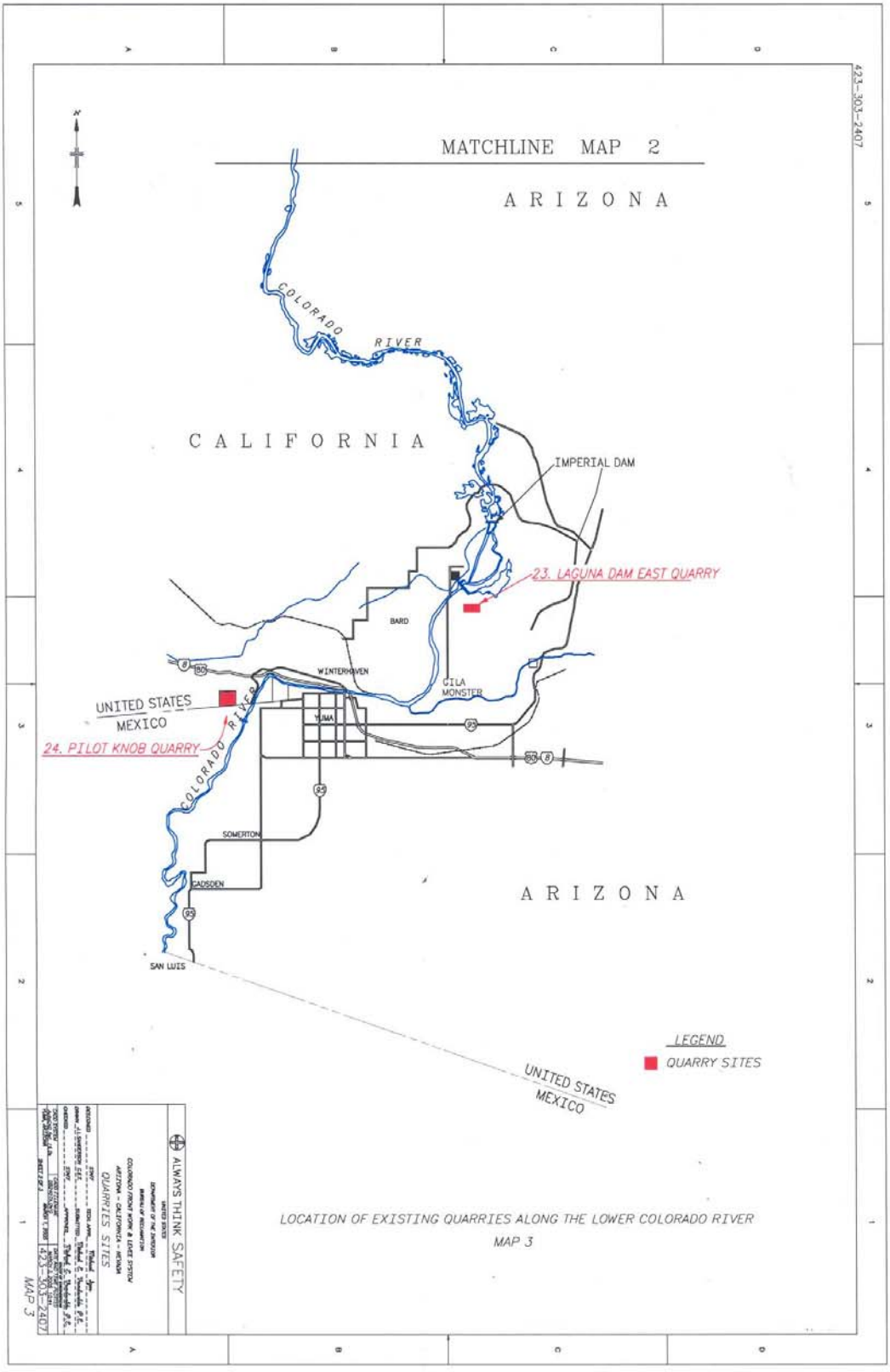

LOCATION OF EXISTING QUARRIES ALONG THE LOWER COLORADO RIVER

MAP 1




LOCATION OF EXISTING QUARRIES ALONG THE LOWER COLORADO RIVER

MAP 2




LOCATION OF EXISTING QUARRIES ALONG THE LOWER COLORADO RIVER
MAP 3

ENV-7.00

Yuma County, Arizona
DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENT SERVICES
2703 S. Avenue B • Yuma, Arizona 85364

Harold Aldrich
Director
(928) 329-2300
FAX (928) 726-5626

| OFFICIAL FILE COPY - YAO | | |
|---|---|---|
| RECEIVED MAR 22 2005 | | |
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location 5000617
Keyword 1937

March 16, 2005

Cynthia Hoeft,
Resource Management Director
United States Bureau of Reclamation
7301 Calle Agua Salada
Yuma, AZ 85364

Re: Issue Scoping Request for Quarries dated March 10, 2005

Dear Ms. Hoeft,

Yuma County has reviewed your request for possible issues related to Bureau of Reclamation quarry activities along the Colorado River. Of the quarries identified, only the Laguna Dam East Road Quarry is within or impacts the county. The possible issues related to the Laguna Dam East Road Quarry are:

1. Use of County Highway System – County roads would likely be used to access the quarry site. Possible impacts to county roads due to increased hauling would need to be mitigated.

2. PM10 Non-Air Attainment Area – The quarry and likely haul routes are within the PM10 Non-Air Attainment Area. Refer to Arizona Department of Environmental Quality Implementation Plan for possible requirements.

We appreciate having this opportunity to comment on this activity. Please continue to update us on the progress of this project. If you need further information, please contact us.

Sincerely,

Craig L. Sellers, P.E.
Sr. Civil Engineer

Monty M. Stansbury
Planning Director
Planning & Zoning
(928) 329-2300
FAX (928) 317-6302

Curtis Cansler
Chief Building Official
Building Safety
(928) 329-2292
FAX (928) 726-5601

(928) 329-2304

Roger A. Patterson, P.E.
County Engineer/FCM
Engineering Division
(928) 329-2300
FAX (928) 726-5626
Flood Control District
(928) 329-2302
FAX (928) 726-5626

**From:** "Pat Wall" <patwall@co.la-paz.az.us>
**To:** <kgarvey@lc.usbr.gov>
**Date:** Tuesday, March 22, 2005 15:31:13
**Subject:** YAO-7210 ENV-7.00

RE: U.S.D.I./BRM letter Re: Environmental Assessment/Quarrying for River Rip-Rap

In response to your letter of March 10, 2005, our only identified problem is dust from trucks transporting the rocks to the riverbanks.

Mitigation suggested would be the use of road sprinkler trucks in residential areas and on roads with significant traffic.

Patricia L. Wall

La Paz County Community Development Department

**CC:** <dhale@co.la-paz.az.us>

**From:** "Canh Nguyen" <cvnguyen@dfg.ca.gov>
**To:** <kgarvey@lc.usbr.gov>, <rwahl@lc.usbr.gov>
**Date:** Wednesday, March 30, 2005 10:15:01
**Subject:** Quarries utilized by the BOR

Hi Kimberly and Rex...

Could you place me on the mailing list for this project? CDFG would appreciate the opportunity to comment on the Programmatic EA as it pertains to the quarries in California.

Thank you.

Canh Nguyen- Environmental Scientist
California Department of Fish and Game
P.O. Box 2160
Blythe, CA 92226
phone: 760.921.2974 fax:760.922.5638

**CC:** "Chris Hayes" <CHAYES@dfg.ca.gov>

**From:** Kimberly Garvey
**To:** cvnguyen@dfg.ca.gov
**Date:** Friday, April 01, 2005 12:16:58
**Subject:** Your request - Quarries

Canh,

Below is the general statement of what takes place during quarry operations. We are only doing programmatic analysis at this time - individual quarries will be permitted on an as needed basis. If you have any other questions or would like to discuss this further please call or email. Through the agency scoping process, Reclamation is trying to identify issues as early in the process as possible.

Thanks for your input and Happy Friday!

**Quarry Operations:**

Work would be accomplished by a Reclamation contractor under an existing or future Indefinite Quantity Indefinite Delivery (IDIQ) or Requirements type contracts. The Contractor would be issued a Delivery Order detailing the amount and types of material required and the final delivery point, including any additional environmental restrictions. Under the contract requirements, the contractor would also be responsible for obtaining the Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) and submitting the Notice of Intent (NOI) to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Copies of the approved permits and forms will be submitted to the appropriate state governing agency.

Quarry operation consists of blasting as necessary to produce working benches and working materials for the mechanically operated grizzlies and screening plant. Blasting will be done in accordance with Reclamation's "Reclamation Safety and Health Standards" and the Federal Mine Safety and Health Act (MSHA) of 1997, Title 30, Chapter 1. The MSHA standards will apply to all rock quarry, sand, gravel, and crushed stone operations.

During the quarry operation, the height of the working face may exceed 40 feet. However, at the end of an individual delivery order, the final elevations of successive benches will not exceed 40-foot vertical difference and will have a back slope of 3 to 1 or a slope to match any existing prominent rock joint.

The existing rock faces of the quarry will be scaled (as defined by 30 CFR, Part 56, paragraph 56.2, Definitions) prior to beginning of any quarrying operations. Quarry faces will be scaled as necessary during the operation of the quarry to eliminate danger during the progress of the work at the quarry site.

Access roads will be built within the confines of the quarry and to the benches as required for the operation of the quarry. After completion of the delivery order, all worked rock faces shall be scaled and all access roads shall be blocked with oversize rock or fence as needed.

Oversize rock that is produced during the blasting operation will generally be reduced to the designated riprap size and used in stockpiles in accordance

with Reclamation’s delivery orders and associated specifications. Undersized materials and fines will be graded and screened to produce gravel base materials.

Materials not meeting Reclamation’s standards and specifications and any stripped materials shall be disposed of in and around the existing quarry site. Excess sub-standard materials shall be graded to a generally uniform surface to blend in with the adjacent ground surfaces.

Surplus material produced during the quarry and processing operation and meeting Reclamation standards and specifications may be stockpiled on the quarry floor until needed. Stockpiles will be separated by types of materials produced (i.e. riprap, gravel base, or 1 to 4-inch material). Material will be relocated to the associated stockpile sites or banklines on an as need basis.

The following is a list of equipment that may be utilized during quarry operations:
•Mechanically operated grizzly and screening plant
•Two or three rubber-tired front end loaders
•Rock Crusher
•Dozer (1 or 2)
•Blade (For maintaining access and haul roads)
•Water Truck (For maintaining access and haul roads)
•Six to twelve haul trucks minimum, depending on the size of the vehicles and the distance to where the rock is being stockpiled or placed on the bankline
•A compressor and air drill
•A certified platform scale
•Backhoe with ram attachment
•Service Truck

Kimberly L. Garvey
Natural Resource Specialist
Reclamation - Yuma Area Office
7301 Calle Agua Salada
Yuma, AZ 85364
ph: 928.343.8227
fax: 928.343.8320

**CC:** Kimberly GARVEY

ENV-4100- Environmental Assessment

# United States Department of the Interior

**U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service**
**Arizona Ecological Services Field Office**
2321 West Royal Palm Road, Suite 103
Phoenix, Arizona 85021-4951
Telephone: (602) 242-0210 Fax: (602) 242-2513

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In Reply Refer to:

AESO/SE

March 31, 2005

Memorandum

To: Director, Resource Management Office, Yuma Area Office, Bureau of Reclamation, Yuma, Arizona

From: Field Supervisor

Subject: Comments on Scoping Request for Quarries Utilized by Bureau or Reclamation, Arizona and California

ENV-7.00

This responds to your memorandum of March 1, 2005, requesting comments from the Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) on quarry operations related to Bureau of Reclamation's (Reclamation's) management actions on the lower Colorado River under the Colorado River Front Work and Levee System (CRFWLS). We have the following comments for your consideration during the scoping process.

Eight of the 24 quarry sites listed in your memorandum are existing quarries that are covered by a biological opinion (02-21-96-F-0226) through December 31, 2005. Your office has requested us to extend the term of this existing biological opinion until December 31, 2016. It is unclear if the other quarry sites identified in your memorandum currently exist but have not been used since 1996, or if they represent new development to address needs through 2020. The relationship between the Environmental Assessment that will be developed for the 24 quarries and the existing biological opinion on the operation of eight quarries should be discussed. We are concerned that the request for the extension for the eight quarries does not reflect the full intent of Reclamation regarding the need for quarries in the next 10 years. If these two actions are not evaluated together, the magnitude of the effects, including cumulative effects, may be difficult to assess.

The existing biological opinion provides a basis for issues that should be addressed in the Environmental Assessment:

1. Effects to the threatened desert tortoise (*Gopherus agassizii*) in California. The assessment should also consider the status of the tortoise in Arizona, as a special status species not listed under the Endangered Species Act but of concern within the State.

2. Types of operations needed; as in those that would be implemented on relatively flat sites versus those on steep cliffs. The differences in noise, dust, and needed operational areas between the various operational plans should be considered.

Thank you for your efforts to conserve listed species. If there are questions concerning this consultation, please contact Jeff Whitney (602) 242-0210 (x204) or Lesley Fitzpatrick (x236).

For Steven L. Spangle

cc: Field Supervisor, Carlsbad Field Office, Fish and Wildlife Service, Carlsbad, CA
Regional Director, Bureau of Reclamation, Boulder City, NV (LC-2400)

W:\Lesley Fitzpatrick\USBR Quarries 1.doc:cgg

ENV-9.00-Environmental Assessment

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**Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community**
**Community Development Department**
**Cultural & Environmental Services**

March 18, 2005

Cynthia Hoeft
Director of Resource Management Office
Bureau of Reclamation
7301 Calle Agua Salada
Yuma, Arizona 85364

Dear Ms. Hoeft

The Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community is in receipt of your letter, dated March 10, 2005, regarding the Environmental Assessment for Quarry Operations along the Lower Colorado River. This project is within our ancestral territory, but through an agreement with the Four Southern Tribes (Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community; Gila River Indian Community; Ak Chin Indian Community; and the Tohono O'odham Nation), we defer all consultation to the Colorado River Indian Tribe. Thank you for providing us the opportunity to comment on this project. We look forward to consulting and commenting on future Bureau of Reclamation projects, pursuant to Section 106.

Sincerely,

Wechoni W. Schurz
Cultural Resource Technician
Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community

**From:** "Tafida Elsherif" <TElsherif@land.az.gov>
**To:** <kgarvey@lc.usbr.gov>, <rwahl@lc.usbr.gov>
**Date:** Friday, April 08, 2005 10:15:39
**Subject:** Re: Issues Scoping Request for Quarries Utilized by the Bureauof Reclamation

We received your letter regarding the process of developing Environmental Assessment for Quarry operations along Colorado River. Please place me on the mailing list for this project and provide us in details with these activities for the impacts on the Arizona side along 276 river miles of the Colorado River from the International Boundary to Davis Dam.

Thank you for your cooperation, looking forward to hear from you soon.

Tafida Elsherif

Tafida Elsherif
Colorado River Project Manager
Engineering Section
Arizona State Land Department
1616 W. Adams St.,
Phoenix, AZ 85007
Voice : (602) 542-2679
Fax : (602) 364-0272
E-mail : telsherif@land.az.gov

**CC:** "V. Ottozawa Chatupron" <OChatupron@land.az.gov>

**From:** <Stephen_Fusilier@blm.gov>
**To:** <kgarvey@lc.usbr.gov>, <rwahl@lc.usbr.gov>
**Date:** Friday, April 15, 2005 16:53:48
**Subject:** Scoping Issues for the Programmatic EA for Quarry Operations

Kim and Rex,,

You will find listed below some of our concerns we would like addressed in the EA. I have not received anything from my wildlife biologist or archeologist and they are out of the office today. I will try to get any comments they have on Monday.

One general comment - If the EA could possibly address the ability for the BLM to obtain small quantities of material from the same sites on an as needed type basis (of course we would not interfere with your operations and our needs are usually very limited) We need material every now and them and once or twice I seem to remember some tension between our two agencies on this matter.

13. Palo Verde Dam - Possible desert tortoise habitat
14. La Paz East Road - This land is proposed for transfer to the Colorado River Indian Tribe through congressional legislation
15. La Paz West Road - This land is proposed for transfer to the Colorado River Indian Tribe through congressional legislation
16. Ehrenberg Road - This land is proposed for transfer to the Colorado River Indian Tribe through congressional legislation
19. Palo Verde Road Quarry - Known cultural concerns related to the existing quarry and potential damage to Native American rock art on land adjacent to the site that according to comments when the North Baja Pipeline was built may have been caused by blasting at the quarry.
22. Paymaster Quarry - As part of the court case involving Walter's camp adjacent land owners have voice concerns about federally permitted actions which do/could damage cultural resources in the area. They had an archeologist prepare a report for them that shows 49 Native American sites/features in the area. You might want to be pro-active in dealing with this issue as one of the concerns mentioned by the adjacent landowners in the Walter's Camp lawsuit was the small rock quarry next to Walter's Camp.
23. Laguna Dam East Quarry - There are a number of hiking trails and mountain biking trails in the area. We have had concerns from the public that use the trails about the existing operations. Please address recreational concerns in your EA.
24. Pilot Knob Quarry - The known concerns about cultural issues

If you have any questions please give me a call.

Stephen L. Fusilier
2555 E. Gila Ridge Road
Yuma, AZ 85365
(928) 317-3296

(928) 317-3250 Fax

**From:** <Amanda_Dodson@blm.gov>
**To:** <kgarvey@lc.usbr.gov>, <rwahl@lc.usbr.gov>
**Date:** Monday, April 18, 2005 11:26:45
**Subject:** Scoping Request for BOR Quarries

Kimberly and Rex-

Thank you for involving us in your scoping request. We may have some comments concerning the sites near Topock, specifically the Pipeline, Park Moabi, and Bat Cave No. 1, 2, and 3 Quarries. The map and legal descriptions did not provide sufficient detail for us to determine if there were any conflicts with other resources. Could you please provide us with a map of just the Topock area and/or more detailed legal descriptions for us to determine exactly where these quarries are? We will notify you of any concerns we may have as soon as we receive information further defining these areas. I apologize for the delay in getting this message to you. Please keep the BLM Lake Havasu Field Office on your mailing list for this project.

Amanda Dodson
Geologist - Lake Havasu Field Office
(928) 505-1218

**CC:** <Patricia_A_Taylor@blm.gov>, <Sarah_C_Murray@blm.gov>, <Jill_Miller-Allert@blm.gov>

ENV-7.00

# United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF RECLAMATION
Yuma Area Office
7301 Calle Agua Salada
Yuma, Arizona 85364

TAKE PRIDE IN AMERICA

IN REPLY REFER TO:

YAO-7210
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Subject: Issue Scoping Request for Quarries Utilized by the Bureau of Reclamation

Dear Agency or Organization:

This letter is to inform you that the Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) Yuma Area Office is in the process of developing a Programmatic Environmental Assessment (EA) for quarry operations along the lower Colorado River. These activities are authorized under the Colorado River Front Work and Levee System which was authorized by the Acts of March 3, 1925 (43 Stat. 1186, 1198), January 21, 1927 (44 Stat. 1010, 1021), July 1, 1940 (54 Stat. 708), and the Act of June 28, 1946 (60 Stat. 330), Public Law 79-469, as amended by the Act of May 1, 1958 (72 Stat. 101). Pursuant to Sec. 1501.7 of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), Reclamation requests any comments you may have in determining the scope of issues to be addressed and identifying significant issues related to this project.

Reclamation is responsible for managing 276 river miles of the Colorado River from the Southerly International Boundary with Mexico to Davis Dam. Quarries are leased from other land management agencies (state and Federal) or are located on Reclamation withdrawn or acquired lands. Access roads also need to be permitted and are located on Federal, state, tribal or private land. Rock and gravel from quarries is used extensively in various Reclamation construction and erosion control projects on the Colorado River, including levee maintenance, bankline armoring, jetty construction and other actions. The need for quarried materials is to provide riprap for placement along the riverbank of the Colorado River to stabilize the bank, reduce sediment in the river and armor the levees. Riprap materials are quarried and stockpiled at existing strategic locations adjacent to the Colorado River prior to Reclamation's necessary maintenance work. Quarry operations may include building access roads, scaling rock faces, blasting (explosives) to produce working benches and materials (e.g. rock), grading and screening of rock, stockpiling rock and trucking rock to stockpile sites over existing county, state and Federal roads.

As part of Reclamation's planning process and in consideration of land use changes or new information, we are reexamining potential impacts and obtaining necessary consultation to continue the use of existing quarries along the lower Colorado River through the year 2020. Reclamation has identified 24 quarry locations that can supply the needed material in order to fulfill our maintenance requirements along the river. Not all the proposed quarries will be used and the use of any quarry will be directly dependent on its proximity to the location of the necessary bankline work. Preparation of this Programmatic EA will provide a broad-based guide for environmental characteristics, constraints and requirements for future use of quarries. It is not intended to fulfill all environmental requirements for future activities at specific quarries. Rather, specific future proposed activities at individual quarries will be subject to specific NEPA and other environmental planning and regulatory requirements prior to such activities being conducted. It is anticipated that such future planning and regulatory documents will be tiered to this Programmatic EA as appropriate.

As part of our EA process, Reclamation is inviting agencies and other individuals/entities that have an interest in these operations to provide comments to us to help identify issues to address in the EA. Enclosed are copies of the quarry site list and map.

If you have any questions or comments regarding this letter or would like to be placed on the mailing list for this project or for a specific quarry site should the need arise, please call or email Ms. Kimberly Garvey at 928-343-8227, kgarvey@lc.usbr.gov or Mr. Rex Wahl at 928-343-8237, rwahl@lc.usbr.gov.

Although comments are accepted throughout the NEPA process, we encourage comments specific to this scoping letter by April 15, 2005.

Sincerely,

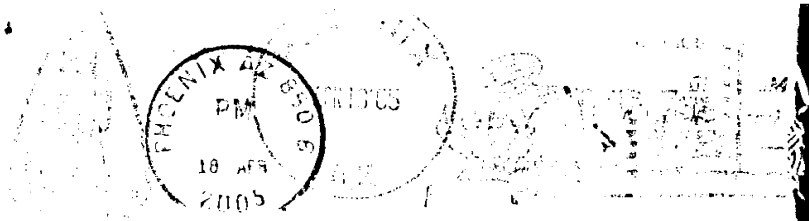
CYNTHIA HOEFT

Cynthia Hoeft, Director
Resource Management Office

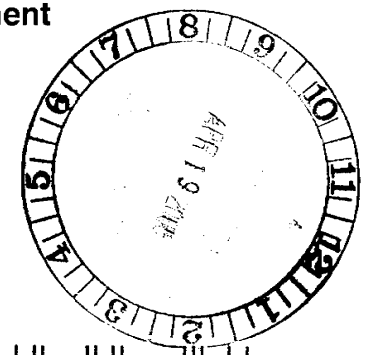
Enclosures - 2
Quarry List
Quarry Location Map

April 8, 2005
We look forward to consulting pursuant to the requirements of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and implementing regulations at 36 CFR 800
Arlene Hockley for SHPO

State Historic Preservation Office
Arizona State Parks
1300 W. Washington
Phoenix, Arizona 85007
www.pr.state.az.us



Cynthia Hoeft
Director, Resources Management
Bureau of Reclamation
Yuma Area Office
7301 Calle Agua Salada
Yuma, AZ 85364



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MEMORANDUM

To: Mr. Wayne King, Acting District Manager, Bureau of Land Management, Colorado River District, 2610 Sweetwater Avenue, Lake Havasu City, AZ

Ms. Linda Hansen, District Manager, Bureau of Land Management, California Desert District Office, 22835 Calle San Juan De Los Lagos, Moreno Valley, CA 92553

From: Cynthia Hoeft
Director, Resource Management Office

Cynthia Hoeft

Subject: Programmatic Environmental Assessment for Quarry Operations Along the Lower Colorado River

The Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) Yuma Area Office is in the process of developing a Programmatic Environmental Assessment (EA) for quarry operations along the lower Colorado River from Davis Dam south to the Southerly International Boundary. Pursuant to Sec. 1501.6 of the Council on Environmental Qualities Regulations for Implementing the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), Reclamation would like to invite your Bureau of Land Management (BLM) District Offices in Arizona and California to become Cooperating Agencies during the EA process.

Reclamation believes that an open and collaborative approach will facilitate a more comprehensive NEPA process as well as help identify issues and mitigation opportunities early in the process. BLM's cooperation and permitting is an integral part of quarry access and permitting for quarries necessary to accomplish Reclamation's required maintenance along the lower Colorado River.

Quarry activities are authorized under the Colorado River Front Work and Levee System which was authorized by the Acts of March 3, 1925 (43 Stat. 1186, 1198), January 21, 1927 (44 Stat. 1010, 1021), July 1, 1940 (54 Stat. 708), and the Act of June 28, 1946 (60 Stat. 338), Public Law 79-469, as amended by the Act of May 1, 1958 (72 Stat. 101). Reclamation initiated stakeholder scoping for this programmatic EA in March 2005. The scoping letter is attached.

We appreciate your attention to this matter and request a written response indicating your interest in participating as a Cooperating Agency by June 15, 2005. If you have any questions or concerns regarding this letter, please call or email Ms. Kimberly Garvey at 928-343-8227, kgarvey@lc.usbr.gov, or Mr. Rex Wahl at 928-343-8237, rwahl@lc.usbr.gov.

Attachments - 3
Quarry Scoping Letter
Quarry List
Quarry Location Map

cc: State Director
Bureau of Land Management
Arizona State Office
222 North Central Avenue
Phoenix, AZ 85004
(w/att)

State Director
Bureau of Land Management
California State Office
2800 Cottage Way, Suite W-1834
Sacramento, CA 95825-1886
(w/att)

Bureau of Land Management
El Centro Field Office
1661 South Fourth Street
El Centro, CA 92243
(w/att)

Bureau of Land Management
Palm Springs Field Office
P.O. Box 581260
North Palm Springs, CA 92258-1260
(w/att)

Bureau of Land Management
Needles Field Office
101 West Spikes Road
Needles, CA 92363
(w/att)

Bureau of Land Management
Yuma Field Office
2555 East Gila Ridge Road
Yuma, AZ 85365
(w/att)

Bureau of Land Management
Lake Havasu Field Office
2610 Sweetwater Avenue
Lake Havasu City, AZ 86406
(w/att)

Bureau of Land Management
Kingman Field Office
2755 Mission Boulevard
Kingman, AZ 86401
(w/att)

7001
7210 (w/att)

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**From:** <Stephen_Fusilier@blm.gov>
**To:** <Jennifer_Green@blm.gov>, <AaronCurtis@blm.gov>, <James_R_Grace@blm.gov>
**Date:** Tuesday, April 26, 2005 13:25:19
**Subject:** Biking and Hiking trails

Jennifer, Aaron, and Jim,

Please provide Kim Garvey with BR (email address in cc) any hiking/biking trail info (maps/shape files) for the Laguna Pit area and any other recreation concerns. Pleas cc: me anything you send to her. (Aaron and Jennifer, I put copies of the location info in your mail boxes.)

Stephen L. Fusilier
2555 E. Gila Ridge Road
Yuma, AZ 85365
(928) 317-3296
(928) 317-3250 Fax

**CC:** <kgarvey@lc.usbr.gov>, <rwahl@lc.usbr.gov>

**From:** <Winfred_Wong@blm.gov>
**To:** "Kimberly GARVEY" <KGARVEY@lc.usbr.gov>
**Date:** Tuesday, May 03, 2005 11:44:12
**Subject:** programmatic EA

I haven't seen the programmatic EA for the quarrys, but be sure to include Rosy Boa, Chuckwalla, Gila Monster in your analysis. If any quarries are going into the Big Marias, be sure to include Alversoni's Foxtail. If quarries will be in the lagunas, include petalonyx linearis (long-leaf sandpaper plant).

Fred

**CC:** "Rex Wahl" <RWAHL@lc.usbr.gov>, <Jeffrey_Young@blm.gov>, <Karen_Reichhardt@blm.gov>

**From:** <AaronCurtis@blm.gov>
**To:** <KGARVEY@lc.usbr.gov>
**Date:** Thursday, May 05, 2005 06:38:09
**Subject:** New BLM Recreation Land Use Planning Guidance

Kim,

As we discussed on the phone today, this pdf file provides some guidance for Recreation Land Use Planning. The table in the file lists the "Natural Resource Recreation Settings", which is what we are now using as our Recreation Opportunity Spectrum (ROS) classes. This tool allows Recreation to be described as a much more tangible resource during NEPA analysis. For example, project areas can now be classifed according to what type of recreation opportunities are currently in the Existing Environment (classes go from Primitive to Urban). Then, in the Environmental Impacts section of the NEPA document, the anticipated change in recreation opportunities can be disclosed to the public (e.g. Under the Proposed Action Alternative, the project area would provide Middle Country recreation opportunities. Under the No Action Alternative, the project area would continue to provide Back County recreation opportunities).

The criteria for classification listed in the attached table is pretty straight-forward - you classify the project area according to it's physical, social, and administrative characters, then take an average of those classes to come up with the overall "BLM Recreation Opportunity Spectrum Class". I would recommend documenting this process and including it in your NEPA projects' AR, and I probably should also verify the fact that you guys came up with the appropriate class since we're primarily in charge of managing recreation - if I have a map in front of me, this can probably just be done over the phone or email.

It's probably also important to note that these classifications are going to be applied throughout our entire field office for the new RMP. After the RMP has been signed, the classifications will, in theory, begin to work as management prescriptions. That's why its pretty good timing that you guys are proposing your programmatic EA now, because if we have ideas of where you'll be expanding your material pits, we can avoid overpresribing areas where recreation opportunities may be substantially altered.

(See attached file: ROS CLASSES.pdf)

Please get in touch if you have any questions and thanks for getting back to me so quickly.

Aaron
317-3238

Recreation Management Zone _____

# NATURAL RESOURCE RECREATION SETTINGS

*Criteria for Classification and Prescriptions*

**PHYSICAL** – LAND & FACILITIES: character of the natural landscape

| | Primitive | | Back Country | Middle Country | Front Country | Rural | Urban |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Pristine | Transition | | | | | |
| a. **Remoteness:** | More than10 mi. from any road | More than 3 mi. from any road | More than ½ mile from any kind of road, but not as distant as 3 miles, and no road is in sight | On or near four-wheel drive roads, but at least ½ mile from all improved roads, though they may be in sight | On or near improved country roads, but at least ½ mile from all highways | On or near primary highways, but still within a rural area | On or near primary highways, municipal streets, and roads within towns or cities |
| b. **Naturalness:** | Undisturbed natural landscape | | Naturally-appearing landscape having modifications not readily noticeable | Naturally-appearing landscape except for obvious primitive roads | Landscape partially modified by roads, utility lines, etc., but none overpower natural landscape features | Natural landscape substantially modified by agriculture or industrial development | Urbanized developments dominate landscape |
| c. **Facilities:** | None | | Some primitive trails made of native materials such as log bridges and carved wooden signs | Maintained and marked trails, simple trailhead developments, improved signs, and very basic toilets | Improved yet modest, rustic facilities such as campsites, restrooms, trails, and interpretive signs | Modern facilities such as campgrounds, group shelters, boat launches, and occasional exhibits | Elaborate full-service facilities such as laundry, groceries, and book sale |

**SOCIAL** – VISITOR USE & USERS: character of recreation & tourism use

| | Primitive | | Back Country | Middle Country | Front Country | Rural | Urban |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Pristine | Transition | | | | | |
| d. **Contacts** (with other groups): | Fewer than 3 encounters/day at camp sites and fewer than 6 encounters/day on travel routes | | 3-6 encounters/day off travel routes (e.g.,campsites) and 7-15 encounters/day ontravel routes | 7-14 encounters/day off travel routes(e.g., staging areas) and 15-29 encounters/ day en route | 15-29 encounters/day off travel routes(e.g., campgrounds) and 30 or more encounters/day en route | People seem to be generally everywhere. | Busy place with other people constantly in view |
| e. **Group Size** (other than your own): | Fewer than or equal to 3 people per group | | 4-6 people per group | 7-12 people per group | 13-25 people per group | 26-50 people per group | Greater than 50 people per group |
| f. **Evidence of Use:** | Only footprints observed. No noise or litter. | | Footprints and bicycle tracks observed. Noise and litter infrequent. Slight vegetation trampling at campsites and popular areas. Fire rings seen. | Vehicle tracks observed. Occasional noise and litter. Vegetation and soils becoming worn at campsites and at high-use areas. | Vehicle tracks common. Some noise and litter. Vegetation and soils commonly worn at campsites, along travel routes and at popular areas. | Frequent noise and litter. Large but localized areas with vegetation damage and soil compaction. | Unavoidable noise, music and litter. Widespread vegetation damage and soil compaction. |

**ADMINISTRATIVE** – ADMINISTRATION & SERVICES: How Public Land Managers, County Commissioners and Municipal Governments, and Local Businesses Care for the Area and Serve Visitors and Local Residents

| | Primitive | | Back Country | Middle Country | Front Country | Rural | Urban |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Pristine | Transition | | | | | |
| g. **Mechanized Use:** | None whatsoever | | Mountain bikes and perhaps other mechanized use, but all is nonmotorized | Four-wheel drives, all-terrain vehicles, dirt bikes, or snowmobiles in addition to non-motorized, mechanized use | Two-wheel drive vehicles predominant, but also four wheel drives and non-motorized, mechanized use | Ordinary highway auto and truck traffic is characteristic | Wide variety of street vehicles and highway traffic is ever-present |
| h. **Visitor Services:** | None is available on-site | | Basic maps, but area personnel seldom available to provide on-site assistance | Area brochures and maps, plus area personnel occasional present to provide on-site assistance | Information materials describe recreation areas and activities. Area personnel are periodically available | Information described to the left, plus experience and benefit descriptions. Area personnel do on-site education | Information described to the left, plus regularly scheduled on-site outdoor skills demonstrations and clinics |
| i. **Management Controls:** | No visitor controls apparent. No use limits. Enforcement presence very rare. | | Signs at key access points on basic user ethics. May have back country use restrictions. Enforcement presence rare | Occasional regulatory signing. Motorized and mechanized use restrictions. Random enforcement presence | Rules clearly posted with some seasonal or day-of-week use restrictions. Periodic enforcement presence | Regulations prominent. Total use limited by permit, reservation, etc. Routine enforcement presence. | Continuous enforcement to redistribute use and reduce user conflicts, hazards, and resource damage |

**From:** <Jennifer_Green@blm.gov>
**To:** <kgarvey@lc.usbr.gov>
**Date:** Thursday, May 05, 2005 17:47:56
**Subject:** BR quarry sites

Hi Kim,

I am on the ID team for the programmatic BR quarries EA. There are several issues and use conflicts associated with some of the quarry locations.
Of special interest to the Yuma Field Office is the Laguna Dam Quarry pit. There is an extensive network of biking and hiking trails that run throughout that area. We have also seen a desert tortoise in the vicinity. We would like to know the geographical extent that these quarries will encompass, as well as any plans to have biological monitors at the project site in the event that a tortoise is present. These quarries have a large impact on visual resources. Is there any plan for reclamation of the quarries post extraction?

I am going to forward you an email from my college Aaron Curtis, the outdoor recreation planner in our office. We have had a lot of calls from concerned recreationists wondering about the expansion of these pits. Additionally, the transportation trucks speeding along the Mittry Lake road create a public safety hazard.

Additionally, I would recommend that you consult with the Native American tribes is our area (Cocopah and Quetzan), I know that they have issues with the Pilot Knob quarry.

Thank-you,
Jennifer

**From:** Kimberly Garvey
**To:** <Jill_Miller-Allert@blm.gov>; <Patricia_A_Taylor@blm.gov>; <Sarah_C_Murray@blm.gov>; AaronCurtis@blm.gov; Amanda_Dodson@blm.gov; cvnguyen@dfg.ca.gov; gary_taylor@blm.gov; George_Meckfessel@ca.blm.gov; greg_hill@blm.gov; Gregory_Thomsen@ca.blm.gov; Jennifer_Green@blm.gov; lynda_kastoll@blm.gov; Paul_Buff@blm.gov; Stephen_Fusilier@blm.gov; TElsherif@land.az.gov; Wong, Fred
**Date:** Friday, May 06, 2005 11:28:24
**Subject:** Reclamation Programmatic EA for Quarries

Hi,

Based on the response I received from several of the BLM Field Offices, I wanted to send out more detailed location information. Attached is an excel spreadsheet that breaks down each of the quarry locations and what we have in our records as the existing owners. There are two tabs in the spreadsheet, one for Arizona and the other for California. The locations for some of the quarries do include part of the access routes. I am not authorized to make GIS maps of these locations. If you would like GIS maps, a request has to come directly from your office on your letterhead to Juan Ramos of this office. He can be reached at 928.343.8375 or jramos@lc.usbr.gov.

Although the timeframe for initial scoping has passed, I would appreciate any new comments that you may have as soon as possible so that they may be incorporated into the EA. Please keep in mind that this is Programmatic NEPA and each site will require additional site-specific analysis and permitting when and if we want to operate it.

My contact information is below if you have any questions. Please forward this to anyone in your office that may be involved as I am only sending this to folks who contacted me.

Kimberly L. Garvey
Natural Resource Specialist
Reclamation - Yuma Area Office
7301 Calle Agua Salada
Yuma, AZ 85364
ph: 928.343.8227
fax: 928.343.8320

**CC:** Kimberly GARVEY; Maloney, Kim; Ramos, Juan; Wahl, Rex

| Quarry Name | State | Location | Quad Name | Ownership | Access Owner | Other |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Agnes-Wilson Road | CA | T. 1 S., R. 24 E., sec. 31, E ½ W ½, E ½ T. 1 S., R. 24 E., sec. 32, W ½ excepting that portion of Sections 31 and 32 lying within the Colorado Indian Reservation | Parker SW | BLM - Palm Springs | BLM/CRIT | |
| Bat Cave No. 1 Road | CA | T. 7 N., R. 24 E., sec. 8, S ½ NE ¼ SW ¼ and SE ¼ SW ¼ | Topock | Reclamation | FWS | Havasu NW Refuge |
| Bat Cave No. 2 | CA | T. 7 N., R. 24 E., sec. 17, NE ¼ NW ¼ | Topock | BLM - Needles | Reclamation/BLM | Previously SF Pacific Properties. BLM recently acquired. |
| Bat Cave No. 3 Road | CA | T. 7 N., R. 24 E., sec. 17, NE ¼ NW ¼, and SE ¼ NW ¼ | Topock | BLM - Needles | BLM/Private | Previously SF Pacific Properties. BLM recently acquired. |
| Eagle Pass Road | CA | T. 8 N., R. 22 E., sec. 18, (all) | Needles SW | Reclamation | BLM/Private | |
| Manchester Road | CA | T. 11 N., R 21 E., sec. 16, NE ¼ | Mt. Manchester | CA | BLM - Needles | |
| Palo Verde Road | CA | T. 10 S., R. 21 E., sec. 1 W ½ NW ¼ NW ¼ SW ¼ | Cibola SE | Reclamation | Reclamation | BLM - Yuma |
| Palo Verde Dam (PVID) | CA | T. 5 S., R. 23 E, sec. 14 E ½ NE ¼ and T. 5 S., R. 24 E., sec. 18 W ½ NE ¼ and sec. 19 W ½ W ½ | Blythe NE | Reclamation | Private | BLM - Palm Springs |

| Quarry Name | State | Location | Quad Name | Ownership | Access Owner | Other |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Park Moabi Road | CA | T. 7 N., R. 24 E., sec. 7 SW ¼ | Whale Mtn. | Unknown - Needles BLM? | | |
| Paymaster | CA | T. 11 S., R. 21 E., sec. 14 NW ¼ NW ¼ NE ¼ | Picacho NW | BLM - El Centro/Private (Southern Pacifi Land Company) | BLM/Private | |
| Pilot Knob Road | CA | T. 16 S., R. 21 E., sec. 27 S ½ and sec. 34 (all) | Yuma West | Reclamation | Reclamation | BLM - El Centro |
| Pipeline Road | CA | T. 7 N., R. 23 E., sec. 12 SW ¼ SW ¼ SE ¼, W ½ SE ¼ SW ¼ SE ¼, S ½ NW ¼ SW ¼ SE ¼, and SW ¼ NE ¼ SW ¼ SE ¼ | Whale Mtn. | BLM - Needles | BLM | |
| Quien Sabe West | CA | T. 3 S., R. 23 E., sec. 21 E ½ NE ¼ NW ¼, E ½ W ½ NE ¼ NW ¼, SW ¼ SW ¼ NE ¼ NW ¼, SE ¼ SE ¼ NW ¼ NW ¼, N ½ SE ¼ NW ¼, E ½ NE ¼ SW ¼ NW ¼, NE ¼ SE ¼ SW ¼ NW ¼, N ½ SW ¼ SE ¼ NW ¼, and NW ¼ SE ¼ SE ¼ NW ¼ | Big Maria Mtns NE | BLM - Palm Springs | | BLM Permit |
| Ripley | CA | T. 8 S., R. 21 E., sec. 4 E ½ W ¼, and E ½ | McCoy Sring | BLM - Palm Springs | | |
| Section 7 Road | CA | T. 10 N., R. 22 E., All of sec. 7 | Needles NW | Reclamation | BLM Needles | |

| Quarry Name | State | Location | Quad Name | Ownership | Access Owner | Other |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Vidal Junction | CA | T. 1 N., R. 24 E., sec. 30 NW ¼, N ½ SW ¼, W ½ NE ¼, N ½ NW ¼ SE ¼, SW ¼ NE ¼ NE ¼, and NW ¼ SE ¼ NE ¼ and sec. 19 NW ¼ NE ¼ SW ¼, NE ¼ NW ¼ SW ¼, and E ½ SW ¼ NW ¼<br>T. 1 N., R. 24 E., sec. 30 All Federal Land (BLM) and E ½ NE ¼ NE ¼, NW ¼ NE ¼ NE ¼, and NE ¼ SE ¼ NE ¼, and sec. 19 W ½ SW ¼ NW ¼ | Parker NW | BLM - Needles | BLM | |

**From:** <Jill_Miller-Allert@blm.gov>
**To:** "Kimberly Garvey" <KGARVEY@lc.usbr.gov>
**Date:** Friday, May 06, 2005 14:55:45
**Subject:** Re: Reclamation Programmatic EA for Quarries

Hi, Kimberly,

Thank you for your table Listing of BOR quarries along the Colorado River. You say that you are doing a programmatic EA. I would like to see a copy to comment on. My major interest is in the two quarries in the Dead Mountain Wilderness Area, north of Needles, CA. Lake Havasu Field Office's management boundary includes some of the public lands on the California, which access to these quarries are currently crossing.

Just couple of notes.

Access to the Section 7 Quarry use to be just through public land managed by BLM Needles FO and private lands in section 16. LHFO has been acquiring property in section 16 to block up wilderness lands and much of that section is now public lands managed under LHFO. Please remember that the access route is cherrystemed and the Dead Mountains Wilderness Boundary is basically 100 ft from centerline of the access road which was there in October 31 , 1994.

Manchester Quarry is within Dead Mountian Wilderness (no cherrystem) but on State Lands. The access to this quarry is on was for the most part on private lands except for one or two small stretches across public lands, which BOR or CA State lands had a valid ROW. Since that time BLM has done a Land exchange with Catellus Corporation and much of the private lands in that area are now public. You will need to deal with the Wilderness Issue in the EA. New ROWs are not permitted within a national designated wilderness area, but a Temporary Land Use Permit (2920) may be issued. I talked to other BOR people about 5 years ago about this issue, but they didn't respond with application for access. Only a very small section of this access is on public lands managed by LHFO, in fact in LHFO may all with the existing ROW.

All of this is just from the top of my head from my time working in the Needles Field Office as their Wilderness Specialist and needs checking. Our network is down so I can not check with GIS or the Master Title Plats at this time. If you can call me if you need additional background. Please work closely with the James Abbe Wilderness Specialist in the Needles Field Office and their Lands and Mineral personnel and LHFO Lands and Mineral personnel.

Thank you,

Jill Miller-Allert
Wilderness Coordinator
Lake Havasu Field Office

(928) 505-1204

**CC:** <Amanda_Dodson@blm.gov>, <Patricia_A_Taylor@blm.gov>, <Cory_Bodman@blm.gov>, <Richard_Waggoner@ca.blm.gov>, <James_Abbe@ca.blm.gov>, <Ken_Downing@ca.blm.gov>

ENV-7.00



# United States Department of the Interior

Bureau of Land Management
California Desert District
22835 Calle San Juan De Los Lagos
Moreno Valley CA 92553-9046
www.ca.blm.gov

**May 24, 2005**

3600
CA-610

To: Cynthia Hoeft, Director, Resources Management Office, Bureau of Reclamation, Yuma Area Office

From: District Manager, California Desert District

Subject: Programmatic Environmental Assessment for Quarry Operations Along Lower Colorado River

We received your April 22, 2005 memorandum inviting the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) to become a cooperating agency in the preparation of the Programmatic Environmental Assessment (EA) for Quarry Operations Along the Lower Colorado River. We also received your March 10, 2005, Issue Scoping Request, along with the map and tables of quarry sites in California and Arizona. I am enclosing a table listing the managing BLM Field Office and some additional comments on the site. As described, there appear to be some quarries that are not available for disposal at this time. We would be happy to work with you to identify potential conflicts.

We are interested in becoming a cooperating agency and will work with you throughout the process of preparing the EA to ensure compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) for BLM decisions, please be aware that BLM's funding for mineral material authorizations is limited, and is not available in fiscal year 2005 to complete all necessary work, studies, and assessments needed for any approvals of authorizations that will be needed. BLM will provide whatever information we have to assist in this matter. Appropriated funding will support BLM's ability to administer the authorizations once they are approved.

While the table you sent to us lists quarries in Arizona, this response is for those quarries managed by the BLM in California. We expect that BOR will work with all BLM Field Offices in this effort. Our Field Offices in Needles, Palm Springs and El Centro will be able to provide you with the most current information on the quarries within their jurisdiction and on the resource concerns on public lands in the vicinity.

Disposal of mineral materials from the public land sites will require BLM to review and approve authorizations, e.g., through free use permits. If these sites are important to your overall plan for access and availability of mineral materials in the area, BLM must be

integrated into the review process. One of the quarries appears to be on State land within designated wilderness. A right-of-way from BLM would be required to access the site. Similarly, other sites may also require BLM to issue a right-of-way to authorize access.

I suggest that where BLM authorizations are necessary, the BOR make a formal request for permit to the appropriate field office, specifying in detail the location, description of proposed activities, and period of activities (even if intermittent), and purpose and need for the material. This will allow BLM to initiate the permit process. If the review process for all sites is to be completed through a programmatic EA, please be aware that BLM must assure that the environmental review is consistent with BLM's plans, and acceptable to support approval of an authorization to sever and remove mineral materials from public lands.

In addition, California state lead agencies under the Surface Mining and Reclamation Act of 1975 (SMARA) have approval authority for reclamation plans on federal land mining sites. This approval process should also be incorporated into your overall programmatic assessment in order to coincide with authorizations needed for the project sites.

As a Cooperating Agency, we will work with you to ensure that the EA is adequate to meet our needs for making decisions regarding authorizations that may be required on each of the quarries under our jurisdiction. That way, we will be in a position to adopt the EA and prepare a Decision Record documenting the various BLM decisions covered by the EA.

To assist us, as well as any contractor, we need to know what existing authorizations the BOR currently has for each quarry site and what additional authorization you are seeking from BLM. As part of that background, we would appreciate any information on the quarries in Geographic Information System (GIS) format. This will help us understand, in greater detail, your location map (which you already provided to California Field Offices) where you are seeking our assistance. Should you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact Alan Stein in this office at (951) 697-5382.

Linda Hansen

cc: California State Office, Arizona State Office
California Field Office – El Centro, Palm Springs, Needles
Arizona Field Offices – Yuma, Lake Havasu, Kingman

| Map Number | Quarry | Location-Township, Range & Section | Location Quad | Managing Field Office | Comments |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Manchester Road | T. 11 N., R 21 E., sec. 16, NE ¼ | Mt. Manchester | Needles FO, CA | Quarry is on State Land managed by the State Land Commission. State parcel is within the Dead Mountains Wilderness area. An existing access road extends 1,120 meters from the wilderness boundary to the state land |
| 2 | Times Gulch Road | T. 19N., R. 20W., sec. 18 | Datman | Kingman FO, AZ | Located on public land as legally described. BOR has a pending FUP (AZA 32659) However, BOR withdrawn land is located in T. 19 N., R. 21 W., secs. 23 and 24. |
| 3 | Section 7 Road | T. 10 N., R. 22 E., All of sec. 7 | Needles NW | Needles FO, CA | Located on public land cherry-stemmed from the Dead Mountains wilderness area. Was part of BOR withdrawal application CACA 7101, closed in 1998. |
| 4 | Eagle Pass Road | T. 8 N., R. 22 E., sec. 18, (all) | Needles SW | Needles RA, CA | Located on public land. MAS/MILS shows previous copper prospects-know significant surface development. Included in pending withdrawal CACA 7074 filed by BOR. |
| 5 | Pipeline Road | T. 7N., R. 23E., sec. 12 | Whale Mtn. | Needles FO, CA | Located on public land. DOQ's show no discernable surface disturbance in the area. Rights of way are authorized in section (CACA 17204, 118349, 138248) |
| 6 | Park Moabi Road | T. 7N., R. 24E., sec. 7 | Whale Mtn. | Bureau of Reclamation (Needles FO, CA) | Parcel is on public land in California withdrawn to the BOR. DOQ's show no discernable surface disturbance in the area. |
| 7 | Bat Cave No.1 Road | T. 7 N., R. 24 E., sec. 8, S ½ NE ¼ SW ¼ and SE ¼ SW ¼ | Topock | Lake Havasu FO, AZ | Parcel described as section 8 is on USF&WS property Havasu National Wildlife Refuge. |
| 8 | Bat Cave No.2 | T. 7 N., R. 24 E., sec. 17, NE ¼ NW ¼ | Topock | Needles FO, CA | Parcel described as section 17 is on public land (formerly Catellus ??) located in the Chemehuevi wilderness area. There is a parcel of BOR withdrawn land in adjacent section 16. |

| Map Number | Quarry | Location-Township, Range & Section | Location Quad | Managing Field Office | Comments |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 9 | Bat Cave No. 3 Road | T. 7 N., R. 24 E., sec. 17, NE ¼ NW ¼, and SE ¼ NW ¼ | Topock | Needles FO, CA | Parcel described as section 17 is on public land (formerly Catellus ??) located in the Chemehuevi wilderness area. There is a parcel of BOR withdrawn land in adjacent section 16. |
| 10 | Vidal Junction | T. 1 N., R. 24 E., sec. 30 NW ¼, N ½ SW ¼, W ½ NE ¼, N ½ NW ¼ SE ¼, SW ¼ NE ¼ NE ¼, and NW ¼ SE ¼ NE ¼ and sec. 19 NW ¼ NE ¼ SW ¼, NE ¼ NW ¼ SW ¼, and E ½ SW ¼ NW ¼ T. 1 N., R. 24 E., sec. 30 All Federal Land (BLM) and E ½ NE ¼ NE ¼, NW ¼ NE ¼ NE ¼, and NE ¼ SE ¼ NE ¼, and sec. 19 W ½ SW ¼ NW ¼ | Parker NW | Needles FO, CA | Parcel may be on public land. DOQ's show no discernable surface disturbance in the area. |
| 11 | Agnes-Wilson Road | T. 1 S., R. 24 E., sec. 31, E ½ W ½, E ½ T. 1 S., R. 24 E., sec. 32, W ½ excepting that portion of Sections 31 and 32 lying within the Colorado Indian Reservation | Parker SW | Palm Springs FO, CA | Parcel is on public land Current FUP to BOR (CACA 34795). DOQ's show no discernable surface disturbance in the area. |
| 12 | Quien Sabe West | T. 3 S., R. 23 E., sec. 21 E ½ NE ¼ NW ¼, E ½ W ½ NE ¼ NW ¼, SW ¼ SW ¼ NE ¼ NW ¼, SE ¼ SE ¼ NW ¼ NW ¼, N ½ SE ¼ NW | Big Maria Mtns. NE | Palm Springs FO, CA | Parcel is on public land. DOQ's show no discernable surface disturbance in the area. Two expired FUP's to BOR (CACA 19723, 34793). |

| Map Number | Quarry | Location-Township, Range & Section | Location Quad | Managing Field Office | Comments |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | ¼, E ½ NE ¼ SW ¼ NW ¼, NE ¼ SE ¼ SW ¼ NW ¼, N ½ SW ¼ SE ¼ NW ¼, and NW ¼ SE ¼ SE ¼ NW ¼ | | | |
| 13 | Palo Verde Dam | T. 5 S., R. 23 E, sec. 14 E ½ NE ¼ and T. 5 S., R. 24 E., sec. 18 W ½ NE ¼ and sec. 19 W ½ W ½ | Blythe NE | Yuma FO, AZ | Parcel is on public land in California managed by the Havasu FO, AZ. DOQ's show no discernable surface disturbance in the area. |
| 14 | La Paz East Road | T. 4N., R. 21W., sec. 22 | La Paz Mtn. | Yuma FO, AZ | Public Land in Arizona. |
| 15 | La Paz West Road | T.4N.,R. 21W., sec. 21 | LapazMtn. | Yuma FO, AZ | Public Land in Arizona. |
| 16 | Ehrenberg Road | T. 4N., R. 21W., sec. 34, sec. 35 | La Paz Mtn. | Yuma FO, AZ | Public Land in Arizona. |
| 17 | Ripley | T. 8 S., R. 21 E., sec. 4 E ½ W ¼, and E ½ | McCoy Spring | Palm Springs FO, CA | As legally described the area is near the Hodge mine, on the Roosevelt mine 24K map. Closed FUP to BOR (CACA 34796). |
| 18 | Trigo Wash Road | T. 2N., R. 21W., sec 19 | Dome Rock Mtns. SW and Trigo Peak | Yuma FO, AZ | As legally described, the area lies within the Yuma Proving Grounds. |
| 19 | Palo Verde Road | T. 10 S., R. 21 E., sec. 1 W ½ NW ¼ NW ¼ SW ¼ | Cibola SE . | Yuma FO, AZ | Parcel is on public land in California managed by the Yuma FO, AZ. DOQ's show no discernable surface disturbance in the area. |
| 20 | Hart Mine No.2 Road | T. 2S., R. 23W., sec. 2 | Cibola SE | Bureau of Reclamation (Yuma FO, AZ) | Public land in Arizona withdrawn to the BOR. |
| 21 | Cibola (Hart Mine No.1) | T. 1S., R. 23W., sec. 34, 35 | Cibola SE | Yuma FO, AZ | Public Land in Arizona. Numerous closed and expired FUP's to BOR. |
| 22 | Paymaster | T. 11 S., R. 21 E., sec. 14 NW ¼ NW ¼ NE ¼ | Picacho NW | El Centro FO, CA | Parcel is on public land. DOQ's show no discernable surface disturbance in the area. |

# APPENDIX A
# SCOPING AND COORDINATION

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Correspondence List

| | |
|---|---|
| 3/10/2005 | Issue scoping request letter for quarries utilized by Bureau of Reclamation |
| 3/14/2005 | Paul Buff from the BLM State Office in Phoenix called to request an electronic copy of the scoping letter. Thayer approved and he was emailed a copy on 3/15/2005. His contact info is: 602.417.9225, Paul_Buff@blm.gov |
| 3/15/2005 | George Meckfessel, Planning Environmental Coordinator, for Needles Field Office of BLM called to request more detailed maps. He was specifically interested in routes to/from the quarries as it pertains to ROW permits and wants more detailed maps with routes and project area boundaries. I asked him to send me a GIS layer of their area in order to make him an accurate map. He mentioned that Manchester is going to be especially contentious and that they are getting rigorous scrutiny on all permits in and adjacent to wilderness areas from the environmental community. His contact info is: 760.326.7008, George_Meckfessel@ca.blm.gov |
| 3/21/2005 | Received voicemail from Gary Taylor, El Centro BLM asking how to respond to scoping letter. On 3/24/2005 Kim Garvey spoke with Gary and asked him to send a letter to us with their response/concerns. His phone number is 760.337.4422. |
| 3/22/2005 | Received letter from Yuma County Department of Development Services. Letter put in scoping file. |
| 3/22/2005 | Received email response from Pat Wall of La Paz County Community Development Department. Email put in scoping file. |
| 3/30/2005 | Received email from Canh Nguyen, CDFG in Blythe: "Could you place me on the mailing list for this project? CDFG would appreciate the opportunity to comment on the Programmatic EA as it pertains to the quarries in California". Email copied to project file and name added to list. |
| 4/1/2005 | Received letter from El Centro BLM Field Office regarding the two quarries in their jurisdiction (Pilot Knob and Paymaster). Paymaster is covered under an environmental plan that Gary Taylor is going to send to Kim G. Letter stated that the ROW is donated land and is generally not permitted for ROWs – Kim G will follow-up with their lands people. |
| 4/1/2005 | Received 2 letters from Phoenix ES Fish and Wildlife Service Office, one in response to scoping and the other in response to the BO renewal. Kim Garvey spoke with Lesley Fitzpatrick on 4/8/2005. Kim Garvey is going |

to get FWS the needed reports and acceptance of terms and conditions letter.

4/8/2005 Received response letter from Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community. They defer all consultation to CRIT through an existing agreement.

4/8/2005 Received email from Tafida Elsherif of Arizona State Land Department asking to be including on mailing list for AZ lands and Colorado River work.

4/11/2005 Received phone call from Greg Thompson of CA BLM Marino Valley District Office (over field offices). Wants more specific information.

4/15/2005 Received email from Stephen Fusilier of Yuma Field Office of BLM with their concerns.

4/18/2005 Received email from Amanda Dodson a Geologist from the Lake Havasu Field Office of BLM asking for more specific location information for the quarries in their purview.

4/19/2005 Received letter from AZ SHPO.

4/22/2005 Memorandum from Reclamation to BLM Re: their interest in participating as a cooperating agency.

4/26/2005 Received copy of email from Steve Fusilier to Jennifer Green, Aaron Curtis, and Jim Grace Re: providing information to Kim Garvey with hiking/biking trail information.

4/29/2005 Received phone call from Aaron Curtis of Yuma Field Office of BLM requesting more information about Laguna Dam East Quarry. Kim Garvey called him back on 4/5/2005 to clarify issues. He is going to send me a copy of their "new" Land Use Planning Handbook. I am going to send him updated location information when that is ready.

5/3/2005 Received email from Fred Wong – be sure to include Rosy Boa, Chuckwalla, and Gila Monster in EA analysis. Include Petalonyx linearis (long-leafed sandpaper plant) for the Laguna area.

5/5/2005 Received email from Aaron Curtis providing information on BLM Recreation Land Use Planning Guidance and Recreation Opportunities Spectrum (ROS).

5/6/2005 Received 2 emails from Jennifer Green of Yuma Field Office of BLM stating concerns about Quarry Operations and haul speed.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 5/6/2005 | Sent email to:<br>Patricia_A_Taylor@blm.gov<br>AaronCurtis@blm.gov<br>cvnguyen@dfg.ca.gov<br>George_Meckfessel@ca.blm.gov<br>Gregory_Thomsen@ca.blm.gov<br>lynda_kastoll@blm.gov<br>Stephen_Fusilier@blm.gov<br>Winfred_Wong@blm.gov | Jill_Miller-Allert@blm.gov<br>Sarah_C_Murray@blm.gov<br>Amanda_Dodson@blm.gov<br>gary_taylor@blm.gov<br>greg_hill@blm.gov<br>Jennifer_Green@blm.gov<br>Paul_Buff@blm.gov<br>TElsherif@land.az.gov |
| | Email included more specific location information as well as ownership information. | |
| 5/6/2005 | Received email from Jill Miller-Allert Wilderness Coordinator for the Lake Havasu field office of BLM. Had comments about Manchester and Section 7. | |
| 5/13/2005 | Received CD of GIS information for routes of travel and wilderness from Alicia Rabas, wildlife biologist, Needles Field Office of BLM. | |
| 5/24/2005 | Response from BLM California Desert District indicating their interest in becoming a cooperating agency. | |
| 6/13/2005 | Response from BLM Kingman Field Office indicating their interest in becoming a cooperating agency. | |
| 3/14/2007 | Reclamation letter to distribute the March 07 Administrative Draft EA. | |
| 3/22/2007 | Email from BLM – El Centro Field Office (Erin Dreyfuss) – comments on the March 07 Draft EA. | |
| 4/2/2007 | Response from BLM – California Desert District (Alan Stein) – comments on the March 07 Draft EA. | |
| 4/16/2007 | Email from BLM – Yuma, Lake Havasu, & Kingman Field Offices – comments on the March 07 Draft EA. | |
| 5/16/2007 | Reclamation letter to distribute the May 07 Draft EA. | |
| 5/25/2007 | Reclamation letter to the Tribes to distribute the May 07 Draft EA. | |
| 6/1/2007 | Reclamation letter to the California State Historic Preservation Office to distribute the May 07 Draft EA. (Same letter was sent to the Arizona State Historic Preservation Office) | |

| | |
|---|---|
| 6/4/2007 | Received letter from the Hopi Tribe stating their appreciation for solicitation of their input in this project. |
| 6/21/2007 | Response letter from the Quechan Indian Tribe indicating receipt of the May 07 Draft EA & a request to meet. |
| 6/22/2007 | Email fro Bridget R. Nash-Chrabascz (Quechan Indian Tribe) to arrange a meeting. |
| 6/25/2007 | Response letter from the Cocopah Indian Tribe indicating concerns for cultural resources along the terrace of the Colorado River (May 07 Draft EA). |
| 7/17/2007 | Meeting notes – Reclamation met with the Quechan Cultural Committee to discuss concerns. |
| 7/17/2007 | Email from BLM – Yuma Field Office – comments on the May 07 Draft EA. |
| 7/21/2007 | Response letter from the Ak-Chin Indian Community stating their appreciation for coordination. |
| 8/1/2007 | Letter from Reclamation responding to BLM comments on the May 07 Draft EA. |
| 8/1/2007 | Letter from Reclamation to the Cocopah Indian Tribe indicating that further site specific analysis and coordination will be conducted for each quarry. |
| 8/1/2007 | Letter from Reclamation to the Quechan Indian Tribe indicating that further site specific analysis and coordination will be conducted for each quarry. |

ENV-9.00 - Environmental Assessment

7-1596B (6-89)
Bureau of Reclamation

| OFFICIAL FILE COPY | | |
|---|---|---|
| DATE | SURNAME | CODE |
| 3/4 | DAW | 7001 |
| | KLG | 7210 KL |
| 3/7 | RW | 7210 RW |
| 3/8 | TB | 7200 TB |
| 3/9 | [illegible] | 7000 |
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| Project | | |
| Control No. | | |
| Folder I.D. | | |

MAR 1 0 2005

YAO-7210
ENV-7.00

Subject: Issue Scoping Request for Quarries Utilized by the Bureau of Reclamation

Dear Agency or Organization:

This letter is to inform you that the Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) Yuma Area Office is in the process of developing a Programmatic Environmental Assessment (EA) for quarry operations along the lower Colorado River. These activities are authorized under the Colorado River Front Work and Levee System which was authorized by the Acts of March 3, 1925 (43 Stat. 1186, 1198), January 21, 1927 (44 Stat. 1010, 1021), July 1, 1940 (54 Stat. 708), and the Act of June 28, 1946 (60 Stat. 338), Public Law 79-469, as amended by the Act of May 1, 1958 (72 Stat. 101). Pursuant to Sec. 1501.7 of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), Reclamation requests any comments you may have in determining the scope of issues to be addressed and identifying significant issues related to this project.

Reclamation is responsible for managing 276 river miles of the Colorado River from the Southerly International Boundary with Mexico to Davis Dam. Quarries are leased from other land management agencies (state and Federal) or are located on Reclamation withdrawn or acquired lands. Access roads also need to be permitted and are located on Federal, state, tribal or private land. Rock and gravel from quarries is used extensively in various Reclamation construction and erosion control projects on the Colorado River, including levee maintenance, bankline armoring, jetty construction and other actions. The need for quarried materials is to provide riprap for placement along the riverbank of the Colorado River to stabilize the bank, reduce sediment in the river and armor the levees. Riprap materials are quarried and stockpiled at existing strategic locations adjacent to the Colorado River prior to Reclamation's necessary maintenance work. Quarry operations may include building access roads, scaling rock faces, blasting (explosives) to produce working benches and materials (e.g. rock), grading and screening of rock, stockpiling rock and trucking rock to stockpile sites over existing county, state and Federal roads.

As part of Reclamation's planning process and in consideration of land use changes or new information, we are reexamining potential impacts and obtaining necessary consultation to continue the use of existing quarries along the lower Colorado River through the year 2020. Reclamation has identified 24 quarry locations that can supply the needed material in order to fulfill our maintenance requirements along the river. Not all the proposed quarries will be used and the use of any quarry will be directly dependent on its proximity to the location of the necessary bankline work. Preparation of this Programmatic EA will provide a broad-based guide for environmental characteristics, constraints and requirements for future use of quarries. It is not intended to fulfill all environmental requirements for future activities at specific quarries. Rather, specific future proposed activities at individual quarries will be subject to specific NEPA and other environmental planning and regulatory requirements prior to such activities being conducted. It is anticipated that such future planning and regulatory documents will be tiered to this Programmatic EA as appropriate.

As part of our EA process, Reclamation is inviting agencies and other individuals/entities that have an interest in these operations to provide comments to us to help identify issues to address in the EA. Enclosed are copies of the quarry site list and map.

If you have any questions or comments regarding this letter or would like to be placed on the mailing list for this project or for a specific quarry site should the need arise, please call or email Ms. Kimberly Garvey at 928-343-8227, kgarvey@lc.usbr.gov or Mr. Rex Wahl at 928-343-8237, rwahl@lc.usbr.gov.

Although comments are accepted throughout the NEPA process, we encourage comments specific to this scoping letter by April 15, 2005.

Sincerely,

CYNTHIA HOEFT

Cynthia Hoeft, Director
Resource Management Office

Enclosures - 2
Quarry List
Quarry Location Map

**From:** "Pat Wall" <patwall@co.la-paz.az.us>
**To:** <kgarvey@lc.usbr.gov>
**Date:** Tuesday, March 22, 2005 15:31:13
**Subject:** YAO-7210 ENV-7.00

RE: U.S.D.I./BRM letter Re: Environmental Assessment/Quarrying for River Rip-Rap

In response to your letter of March 10, 2005, our only identified problem is dust from trucks transporting the rocks to the riverbanks.

Mitigation suggested would be the use of road sprinkler trucks in residential areas and on roads with significant traffic.

Patricia L. Wall

La Paz County Community Development Department

**CC:** <dhale@co.la-paz.az.us>

| Map Number | Quarry | Location-Township, Range & Section | Location Quad | Managing Field Office | Comments |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 23 | Laguna Dam East Road | T.7S., R. 22W., sec. 23, 14 | Laguna Dam | Bureau of Reclamation (Yuma FO, AZ) | Public land in Arizona withdrawn to the BOR. |
| 24 | Pilot Knob Road | T. 16 S., R. 21 E., sec. 27 S ½ and sec. 34 (all) | Yuma West | El Centro FO, CA | Parcel is public land. DOQ's show considerable surface disturbance in the area. Included in pending withdrawal CACA 7235 filed by BOR. |

MAR 1 4 2007

YAO-7210
ENV-6.00

MEMORANDUM

To: Bureau of Land Management Distribution Group (See List)

From: Cynthia Hoeft
Cynthia Hoeft
Director, Resource Management Office

Subject: Administrative Draft Programmatic Environmental Assessment (Draft EA) - Quarry Operations, Yuma Area Office

The Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) proposes to continue operation and maintenance of 14 existing quarries and to establish 2 new quarry sites along the lower Colorado River (LCR). Quarry operations are needed in order for Reclamation to meet its responsibilities under the Colorado River Front Work and Levee System. The proposed quarry sites are located in upland areas within ten miles of the LCR and several of the sites are on public lands managed by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM). Therefore, Reclamation invited BLM to be a cooperating agency for this EA as the proposed action will in many cases require an action by BLM.

Pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and Reclamation guidelines an EA was prepared. The EA is programmatic in nature and addresses the proposed action from a broad perspective. This approach is used as the timing to initiate operations at specific quarry sites could range from one to ten years and site-specific conditions could change at individual quarry sites. Prior to commencing operations in individual quarry sites, Reclamation will perform site-specific NEPA analyses that tiers to this programmatic EA and focuses on issues and resources specific to each quarry.

This Administrative Draft of the EA is being distributed to each designated BLM office that needs to issue rights-of-way or other land use permits in conjunction with Reclamation's proposed action.

**From:** <Erin_Dreyfuss@ca.blm.gov>
**To:** <jdesantiago@lc.usbr.gov>
**Date:** 3/22/2007 12:15:41 PM
**Subject:** Draft Programmatic EA for Quarry Operations

Hi Julian -

I just recieved a copy of the EA and have looked over it.

I just have one concern. You did not mention Wild Horses and Burros in the EA in the Affected Environment. The Paymaster quarry/mine and Palo Verde quarry/mine are both located in the Chocolate-Mule Mountains/Picacho herd management areas.

I wanted to make sure you knew that for possible addition to the final EA.

Let me know what you think. Thanks!

Erin Dreyfuss
Natural Resource Specialist
Bureau of Land Management
El Centro Field Office
1661 S. 4th Street
El Centro, CA 92243
(760) 337- 4436

**CC:** <Daniel_Steward@ca.blm.gov>, <Thomas_Zale@blm.gov>

There are quarry sites or associated access within wilderness areas designated under the California Desert Protection Act of 1994 or the Arizona Desert Wilderness Act of 1990. Our authority to dispose of quarry materials is the Materials Act. At 43 CFR 3601.12, wilderness areas are excluded from the disposal of mineral materials. Under Title V of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act [FLPMA], the Secretary does not have authority to issue rights of ways on Public Land within wilderness. Therefore, motorized access across wilderness to [most] sites in wilderness would be prohibited.

Names and legal descriptions of twenty-four quarries were provided at pages A-47 through A-50 in Environmental Assessment. Of those twenty-four quarry parcels, the following are all or partially within wilderness. Based on the discussion below, all or portions of those sites should be eliminated from further consideration in the EA.

Section 7 Road [T. 10 N. R. 20 E. sec. 7 SBBM]: Most of the section and an access route were excluded from the Dead Mountains Wilderness area. However, portions of the section are within the wilderness area. It is not clear whether portions or all of the section are proposed for a quarry authorization. The proposed quarry site should not include those portions of section 7.

Pipeline Road [T. 7 N. R. 23 E. sec. 12 SBBM]: The northern boundary of the Chemehuevi Mountains Wilderness generally coincides with the southern boundary of the southernmost [LA 0118349] of three pipeline right of ways. It is not clear whether those portions of section 12 that are south of the pipeline ROW and within the wilderness are proposed for a quarry authorization. The proposed quarry site should not include those portions of section 12 south of the ROW.

Park Moabi Road [T. 7 N. R. 24 E. sec. 7 SBBM]: The northern boundary of the Chemehuevi Mountains Wilderness generally coincides with the southern boundary of the southernmost [LA 0118349] of three Pipeline ROWs. It is not clear whether those portions of section 7 that are south of the pipeline ROW and within the wilderness are proposed for a quarry authorization. The proposed quarry site should not include those portions of section 7 south of the ROW.

Bat Cave No. 2 and No. 3: The parcels listed below are on land recently acquired by the Bureau of Land Management.

Bat Cave No 2: T. 7 N., R. 24 E., sec. 17, NE ¼ NW ¼ SBBM

Bat Cave No. 3: T. 7 N., R. 24 E., sec. 17, NE ¼ NW ¼, and SE ¼ NW ¼ SBBM

There are no exceptions on the title, including no reference to an existing or authorization for a quarry on the private lands that were acquired. This means that there are no existing rights associated with the parcels. The Public Land is within the boundary of the Chemehuevi Mountains Wilderness Area. As soon as the lands were transferred into federal ownership, they became a part of the Public Land within the Chemehuevi Mountains Wilderness area. Quarry operations are non-conforming uses in wilderness and would not be allowed.

Palo Verde Dam [portions of T. 5 S. R. 23 E. sec. 14 SBBM]: This portion of the quarry is within the portion of the Big Maria Wilderness within the California Desert Conservation Area administered by BLM California. The proposed quarry site should not include section 14.

Palo Verde Dam [portions of T. 5 S. R. 24 E. sec. 18 SBBM]: This portion of the quarry is within the portion of the Big Maria Wilderness that appears to be administered by BLM Arizona. Please refer to their comments for specific concerns.

Hart Mine No. 2 Road [T. 2 S. R. 23 W. sec. 2 Gila GSRM] : Portions of this description appear to be in the Trigo Mountains Wilderness administered by BLM Arizona. Please refer to their comments for specific concerns.

It is not yet clear how the following site should be included in or the nature of the analysis in the Environmental Assessment.

Manchester Road [T. 11 N. R. 21 E. sec. 16, NE ¼ SBBM]: This site is within the Dead Mountains Wilderness boundary on non-federal land managed by the California State Land Commission. As such, the BLM has no administrative authority on the property and it is not administered as wilderness. Access to the proposed quarry site crosses the Dead Mountains Wilderness. The status of authorization to cross section 15 across the wilderness to the site is not entirely clear. In any event, the BLM has authority under the California Desert Protection Act of 1994 to provide conditioned access across wilderness to non-federal lands within wilderness to the owner of the land.

Section 2.2 No Action Alternative [page 8] of the Programmatic Environmental Assessment lists the Palo Verde quarry is an active quarry. Please provide a legal description for that site in order for us distinguish between Palo Verde Dam and Palo Verde Road quarries.

As a Cooperating Agency, we will work with you to ensure that the EA is adequate to meet our needs for making decisions regarding authorizations that may be required on each of the quarries under our jurisdiction. That way, we will be in a position to adopt the EA and tier to it for subsequent site-specific proposals requiring an authorization by BLM. BLM will continue to provide information we have available. However, BOR will have to obtain authorization from the appropriate managing entity for activities on sites not within BLM's management jurisdiction.

To assist us in the future, we need to know what existing authorizations the BOR currently has for each quarry site and what additional authorization you are seeking from BLM on public land. We understand that subsequent proposals and analyses for site-specific quarry operations will be tiered to this programmatic analysis. When you are ready to provide site-specific analyses for the quarries identified we would appreciate any information you may have in Geographic Information System (GIS) format.

As lead agency, we expect that BOR will take the lead for any necessary consultations, such as those required under Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act and Section 106 of the National Historic Preservations Act. We also expect that you will take the lead for Native American consultation. We will assist in any way we can.

Should you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact Alan Stein, Deputy District manager, Resources on (951) 697-5382.

Sincerely,

Steven Borchard
District Manager

cc: California Field Office – El Centro, Palm Springs, Needles
Arizona Field Offices – Yuma, Lake Havasu, Kingman

**From:** <Stephen_Fusilier@blm.gov>
**To:** "Julian DeSantiago" <JDESANTIAGO@lc.usbr.gov>
**Date:** 4/16/2007 7:34:05 PM
**Subject:** Re: Pits Programmatic EA

Julian, Here are the comments for the Colorado River District (Yuma, Lake Havasu, and Kingman Field Offices)

Kingman Field Office - No Comments Looks good for their area

Lake Havasu Field Office - Amanda Dodson -

pg.2, 38-39: Reclamation would still be required to obtain a ROW from BLM on reclamation withdrawn lands.
pg. 5, 2: The BLM can issue Free Use Permits for a period of 10 years.
Appendix B - provide maps of sufficient scale which shows the location of each quarry site and existing access roads and where it is located within the specific section(s)

Yuma Field Office - Sandra Arnold -

Request copies of the tribal consultation documentation, and recommend that information on the consultation be incorporated into the EA (Chapters 3 and 4 cultural resources). What input from tribes has been shared to date for specific pit locations?

Request copies of documentation for coordination with AZ and CA SHPO.

The Hart Mine is an historic site that could potentially be affected by two pit locations (Hart Mine No. 1 and No.2).

Stephen Fusilier -

Section 2.3, Page 8, Table-1 - On your list of Quarries in Appendix A page A-12 you list Pilot Knob Road - It is not listed on your map on page 3 as a site you are still considering nor is it listed in Table-1 as a Quarry Location Considered for programmatic Analysis but eliminated from further consideration - What is the Status of this site?

Section 4.4.1, Page 34, Line 18 - The Following Quarry Sites seem to be closer to the LCR than the 5 or 10 miles mentioned - Bat Cave #1, Agnes Wilson, Quein Sabe, Palo Verde, Paymaster, and Laguna East.

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Section 4.12.2, Page 40, Line 16 - Just a typo? Should NRWs be NWRs.

Stephen L. Fusilier
2555 E. Gila Ridge Road
Yuma, AZ 85365
(928) 317-3296
(928) 317-3250 Fax

"Julian DeSantiago" <JDESANTIAGO@lc.usbr.gov>
04/16/2007 10:20 AM

To
<Stephen_Fusilier@blm.gov>
cc
"Tracey Epperley" <TEPPERLEY@lc.usbr.gov>
Subject
Re: Pits Programmatic EA

Hi Steve

That will work, when you send comments electronically, please also cc Tracey Epperaly at  tepperley@lc.usbr.gov

Thanks
Julian

>>> <Stephen_Fusilier@blm.gov> 4/13/2007 5:54:19 PM >>>
Julian,

We have comments but due to the RMP schedule I was unable to complete the
review and consolidation.  I will have them to you by close of business on
Monday 4/16 in email form with a hard copy to follow.

Stephen L. Fusilier
2555 E. Gila Ridge Road
Yuma, AZ 85365
(928) 317-3296
(928) 317-3250 Fax

**CC:** "Tracey Epperley" <TEPPERLEY@lc.usbr.gov>, <Amanda_Dodson@blm.gov>, <Sandra_Arnold@blm.gov>, <Stephen_Allen@blm.gov>, <Paul_Misiaszek@blm.gov>, <Bruce_Rittenhouse@blm.gov>, <Dee_Baxter@blm.gov>, <Paul_Buff@blm.gov>

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2555 E. Gila Ridge Road
Yuma, AZ 85365
(928) 317-3296
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"Julian DeSantiago" <JDESANTIAGO@lc.usbr.gov>
04/16/2007 10:20 AM

To
<Stephen_Fusilier@blm.gov>
cc
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Subject
Re: Pits Programmatic EA

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Thanks
Julian

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(928) 317-3296
(928) 317-3250 Fax

**CC:** "Tracey Epperley" <TEPPERLEY@lc.usbr.gov>, <Amanda_Dodson@blm.gov>, <Sandra_Arnold@blm.gov>, <Stephen_Allen@blm.gov>, <Paul_Misiaszek@blm.gov>, <Bruce_Rittenhouse@blm.gov>, <Dee_Baxter@blm.gov>, <Paul_Buff@blm.gov>

# United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF RECLAMATION
Yuma Area Office
7301 Calle Agua Salada
Yuma, Arizona 85364

IN REPLY REFER TO:
YAO-7210
ENV-6.00

MAY 16 2007

Interested Parties (See Enclosed List)

Subject: Programmatic Environmental Assessment (EA) for Quarry Operations along the Lower Colorado River (LCR)

Dear Ladies and Gentlemen:

The Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) is proposing to implement quarry operations along the lower Colorado River. The proposed action is to establish two new quarries and access roads, and use or re-open existing quarries and their associated access roads to obtain materials for use in Reclamation projects along the LCR. The area of analysis encompasses a 10-mile corridor along both sides of the LCR from Davis Dam to Laguna Dam.

Quarries are used to produce materials essential to the maintenance and construction of banklines, river control structures, levees, canals, and reservoirs. Reclamation needs access to a variety of quarry locations along the LCR in order to obtain an adequate supply of suitable material to meet its operation, maintenance, and repair responsibilities in accordance with the Colorado River Front Work and Levee System.

Pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act and Reclamation guidelines, an EA (enclosed) was prepared and is available for a 30-day review. The analysis presented in the EA is from a programmatic level, and evaluates the affected environment and potential consequences from a broad perspective. Please provide comments no later than 30 days from the date of this letter. Comments may be mailed to Mr. Julian DeSantiago at the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, Yuma Area Office, 7301 Calle Agua Salada, Yuma, Arizona 85364.

If you have any questions regarding the project, please contact Mr. DeSantiago at 928-343-8259, or at jdesantiago@lc.usbr.gov.

Sincerely,

Cynthia Hoeft

Cynthia Hoeft, Director
Resource Management Office

Enclosures

Letter Sent To:

Arizona Department of
Environmental Quality
1110 West Washington Street
Phoenix, AZ 85007

Arizona Department of Agriculture
1688 West Adams
Phoenix, AZ 85007

Arizona Department of Transportation
Yuma District Office
2243 Gila Ridge Road
Yuma, AZ 85365

Arizona Game and Fish Department
Kingman District Office
5325 North Stockton Hill Road
Kingman, AZ 86401

Arizona Game and Fish Department
9140 East 28th Street
Yuma, AZ 85364

Arizona State Land Department
1616 West Adams Street
Phoenix, AZ 85007

Bill Williams River NWR
60911 Highway 95
Parker, AZ 85344

Bureau of Indian Affairs
Western Regional Office
P.O. Box 10
Phoenix, AZ 85001

Bureau of Land Management
Arizona State Office
222 North Central Avenue
Phoenix, AZ 85004

Bureau of Land Management
California Desert District
22835 Calle San Juan de Los Lagos
Moreno Valley, CA 92553

Bureau of Land Management
El Centro Field Office
1661 South Fourth Street
El Centro, CA 92243

Bureau of Land Management
Kingman Field Office (1)
2755 Mission Boulevard
Kingman, AZ 86401

Bureau of Land Management
Lake Havasu Field Office
2610 Sweetwater Avenue
Lake Havasu City, AZ 86406

Bureau of Land Management
Needles Field Office
101 West Spikes Road
Needles, CA 92363

Bureau of Land Management
Palm Springs South Coast
Field Office
690 West Garnet Avenue
North Palm Springs, CA 92258-1260

Bureau of Land Management
Phoenix Field Office
21605 North 7th Avenue
Phoenix, AZ 85027

Bureau of Land Management
Yuma Field Office (4)
2555 East Gila Ridge Road
Yuma, AZ 85365

California Department of
Fish and Game
Eastern Sierra and Inland Deserts Region
3602 Inland Empire Boulevard
Suite C-220
Ontario, CA 91764

California Department of
Fish and Game Headquarters
1416 Ninth Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

California Department of
Transportation Headquarters
P.O. Box 942873
Sacramento, CA 94273

California Department of Transportation
District 8 (San Bernardino &
Riverside)
464 West 4th Street
San Bernardino, CA 92415

California Department of Transportation
District 11 (San Diego &
Imperial)
P.O. Box 85406
San Diego, CA 92186-5406

Cibola National Wildlife Refuge
Route 2, P.O. Box 138
Cibola, AZ 85328

City of Blythe
235 North Broadway
Blythe, CA 92225

City of Bullhead City
1255 Marina Boulevard
Bullhead City, AZ 86442

City of Earp
Public Works Department
825 East Third Street
San Bernardino, CA 92415

City of Ehrenberg
Chamber of Commerce
P.O. Box 800
Ehrenberg, AZ 85334

Clark County Regional
Government Center
101 Civic Way
Laughlin, NV 89029

City of Needles
817 3rd Street
Needles, CA 92363

City of Palo Verde
Planning Department
801 Main Street
El Centro, CA 92243

City of Ripley
Community Service District Office
24501 School Road
Ripley, CA 92225

City of Topock
Public Works Department
P.O. Box 7000
Kingman, AZ 86401

Community Planning and Liaison
Office
Marine Corps Air Station-Yuma
P.O. Box 99106
Yuma, AZ 85369-9106

County of Imperial
940 Main Street
El Centro, CA 92243

County of Mohave
809 East Beale Street
P.O. Box 7000
Kingman, AZ 86402

County of Riverside
4080 Lemon Street, 4th Floor
Riverside, CA 92501

County of San Bernardino
385 North Arrowhead Avenue
San Bernardino, CA 92415

Havasu National Wildlife Refuge
P.O. Box 3009
Needles, CA 92363

Imperial National Wildlife Refuge
P.O. Box 72217
Martinez Lake, AZ 85365

Kofa National Wildlife Refuge
356 West 1st Street
Yuma, AZ 85364

La Paz County
1112 Joshua Avenue, Suite 202
Parker, AZ 85344

La Paz County Community
Development
1112 Joshua Avenue, Suite 202
Parker, AZ 85344

Lake Havasu City
2330 McCulloch Boulevard North
Lake Havasu City, AZ 86403

Town of Parker
1314 11th Street
Parker, AZ 85344

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Region IX
75 Hawthorne Street
San Francisco, CA 94105

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Carlsbad Fish and Wildlife Office
6010 Hidden Valley Road
Carlsbad, CA 92009

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Phoenix Fish and Wildlife Office
2321 West Royal Palm Road
Suite 103
Phoenix, AZ 85021

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Ventura Fish and Wildlife Office
2493 Portola Road, Suite B
Ventura, CA 93003

U.S. Geological Survey
Water Resources Division
520 North Park Avenue, Suite 221
Tucson, AZ 85719

U.S. Geological Survey
Western Region Office
Menlo Park Campus, Building 3
345 Middlefield Road
Menlo Park, CA 94025

Wellton-Mohawk Natural Resources
Conservation Service
5578 South Avenue 37 East
Roll, AZ 85347

Yuma County
198 South Main Street
Yuma, AZ 85364

Yuma County Planning and Zoning
2703 South Avenue B
Yuma, AZ 85364

California Department of
Fish and Game
Eastern Sierra Inland Deserts Region
P.O. Box 2160
Blythe, CA 92226

MAY 25 2007

YAO-7210
ENV-1.10

CERTIFIED – RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED (7006 2760 0004 5803 4253)

Mr. Ron Maldonado
Historic Preservation Office
Navajo Nation
P.O. Box 4950
Window Rock, AZ 86515

Subject: Administrative Draft Programmatic Environmental Assessment (EA) for Quarry Operations, Lower Colorado Region, Yuma Area Office

Dear Mr. Maldonado:

Enclosed is a draft EA for your review. The Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) has identified 14 existing quarries and 2 new quarry locations located between Davis Dam and Laguna Dam, for future rock extraction. As you know, Reclamation's mission is to protect and manage water-related resources along the lower Colorado River and associated waterways. This includes protecting our dams and infrastructure (levees, canals, etc.), stabilizing river banks, and providing flood control on a routine basis. Large quantities of rock must be stockpiled for maintenance activities and unpredictable flooding events.

The purpose and need for a programmatic EA is addressed in Section 1.0. Briefly, this document broadly assesses the impacts to the 16 quarry locations. However, its main purpose is to help facilitate regulatory requirements and planning between various government and private entities. Additional environmental studies including cultural resource inventories, and consultation with Native American tribes, are anticipated for each quarry location. In the future, we will be seeking information on traditional places of importance to tribes during specific quarry studies. Sections 3.5 and 3.9 list known culturally and environmentally sensitive sites near the various quarries. In addition to several historic sites, numerous National Register eligible or listed intaglio/earth figure and rock art sites exist along this stretch of the river.

This document will be distributed to the State Historic Preservation Office (Arizona and California), appropriate tribal entities, the Bureau of Land Management, United States Fish and Wildlife Service, Yuma Proving Grounds, and appropriate state and local governments for their review (see Distribution List in Section 6.1). Reclamation will continue to consult with cooperating agencies, interested parties, and tribes as we move through the National Environmental Policy Act process and related environmental reviews.

Please provide comments not later than 30 days from the date of this letter. You may direct any questions or comments you might have on this document to Mr. Julian DeSantiago, at 928-343-8259, or email: jdesantiago@lc.usbr.gov.

Thank you for your time and we look forward to consulting with you in the future.

Sincerely,

**Peggy Haren**

For

Cynthia Hoeft, Director
Resources Management Office

Enclosure

bc: Regional Director, Boulder City, NV
Attn: LC-2632 (Kolvet)

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HONORABLE DELIA CARLYLE
CHAIRWOMAN
AK-CHIN INDIAN COMMUNITY
42507 WEST PETERS & NALL ROAD
MARICOPA AZ 85239

HONORABLE CHARLES WOOD
CHAIRMAN
CHEMEHUEVI TRIBAL COUNCIL
PO BOX 1976
HAVASU LAKE CA 92363

HONORABLE DANIEL EDDY, JR.
CHAIRMAN
COLORADO RIVER INDIAN TRIBES
ROUTE 1, BOX 23-B
PARKER AZ 85344

MS. KAREN RAY, CULTURAL
PRESERVATION REPRESENTATIVE
FORT McDOWELL YAVAPAI NATION
PO BOX 17779
FOUNTAIN HILLS AZ 85269

HONORABLE MICHAEL JACKSON, SR.
PRESIDENT
FORT YUMA-QUECHAN INDIAN TRIBE
PO BOX 1899
YUMA AZ 85366-1899

HONORABLE WILLIAM R. RHODES
GOVERNOR
GILA RIVER INDIAN COMMUNITY
PO BOX 97
SACATON AZ 85247

HONORABLE IVAN L. SIDNEY, SR.
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HOPI TRIBE
PO BOX 123
KYKOTSMOVI AZ 86039

MS. LORETTA JACKSON-KELLY, TRIBAL
HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER
HUALAPAI TRIBAL COUNCIL
PO BOX 310
PEACH SPRINGS AZ 86434

MR. RON MALDONADO
HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE
NAVAJO NATION
PO BOX 4950
WINDOW ROCK AZ 86515

HONORABLE DIANE ENOS, PRESIDENT
SALT RIVER PIMA-MARICOPA
INDIAN COMMUNITY
10005 EAST OSBORN ROAD
SCOTTSDALE AZ 85256

MS. NANCY NELSON
CULTURAL RESOURCES MANAGER
AK-CHIN INDIAN COMMUNITY
42507 WEST PETERS & NALL ROAD
MARICOPA AZ 85239

HONORABLE SHERRY CORDOVA
CHAIRWOMAN
COCOPAH INDIAN TRIBE
COUNTY 15 AND AVENUE G
SOMERTON AZ 85350

MR. MICHAEL TSOSIE
MUSEUM DIRECTOR
COLORADO RIVER INDIAN TRIBES
ROUTE 1, BOX 23-B
PARKER AZ 85344

HONORABLE NORA McDOWELL
CHAIRWOMAN
FORT MOJAVE TRIBAL COUNCIL
500 MERRIMAN AVENUE
NEEDLES CA 92362

MS. PAULINE JOSE, CHAIRWOMAN,
QUECHAN CULTURAL COMMITTEE
FORT YUMA-QUECHAN INDIAN TRIBE
PO BOX 1899
YUMA AZ 85366-1899

MR. BARNABY V. LEWIS, CULTURAL
RESOURCES PROGRAM MANAGER
GILA RIVER INDIAN COMMUNITY
PO BOX 2140
SACATON AZ 85247

MR. LEIGH KUWANWISIWMA, CULTURAL
PRESERVATION OFFICE DIRECTOR
HOPI TRIBE
PO BOX 123
KYKOTSMOVI AZ 86039

HONORABLE GARY TOM
CHAIRMAN
KAIBAB-PAIUTE TRIBE
HC-65 BOX 2
FREDONIA AZ 86022

HONORABLE HERMINIA FRIAS
CHAIRWOMAN
PASCUA YAQUI TRIBE
7474 SOUTH CAMINO DE OESTE
TUCSON AZ 85746

MR. SHANE ANTON, ACTING CULTURAL
PROGRAMS SUPERVISOR
SALT RIVER PIMA-MARICOPA
INDIAN COMMUNITY
10005 EAST OSBORN ROAD
SCOTTSDALE AZ 85256

HONORABLE RALPH GOFF
CHAIRMAN
CAMPO BAND OF KUMEYAAY
36190 CHURCH ROAD, SUITE 1
CAMPO CA 91906

MS. H. JILL McCORMICK
CULTURAL RESOURCE MANAGER
COCOPAH INDIAN TRIBE
COUNTY 15 AND AVENUE G
SOMERTON AZ 85350

HONORABLE RAPHAEL BEAR
PRESIDENT
FORT McDOWELL YAVAPAI NATION
PO BOX 17779
FOUNTAIN HILLS AZ 85269

MS. LINDA OTERO, DIRECTOR,
AHA MAKAV CULTURAL SOCIETY
FORT MOJAVE INDIAN TRIBE
PO BOX 5990
MOHAVE VALLEY AZ 86440

MS. BRIDGET NASH, QUECHAN TRIBAL
HISTORICAL PRESERVATION OFFICER
FORT YUMA-QUECHAN INDIAN TRIBE
PO BOX 1899
YUMA AZ 85366-1899

MS. LORRAINE MARQUEZ EILER
DIRECTOR
HIA C'ED O'ODHAM ALLIANCE
4739 WEST HAYWARD
GLENDALE AZ 85301

HONORABLE CHARLIE VAUGHN
CHAIRMAN
HUALAPAI TRIBAL COUNCIL
PO BOX 179
PEACH SPRINGS AZ 86434

HONORABLE JOE SHIRLEY, JR.
TRIBAL PRESIDENT
NAVAJO NATION
PO BOX 9000
WINDOW ROCK AZ 86515

MS. AMALIA A.M. REYES, LANGUAGE &
CULTURAL PRESERVATION SPECIALIST
PASCUA YAQUI TRIBE
7474 SOUTH CAMINO DE OESTE
TUCSON AZ 85746

HONORABLE KATHY WESLEY-KITCHEYAN
CHAIRWOMAN
SAN CARLOS APACHE TRIBE
PO BOX "O"
SAN CARLOS AZ 85550

MS. VERNELDA GRANT, TRIBAL
ARCHAEOLOGIST, NATURAL RESOURCES
SAN CARLOS APACHE TRIBE
PO BOX "O"
SAN CARLOS AZ 85550

HONORABLE VIVIAN JUAN-SAUNDERS
CHAIRWOMAN
TOHONO O'ODHAM NATION
PO BOX 837
SELLS AZ 85634

MR. PETER STEERE
CULTURAL AFFAIRS MANAGER
TOHONO O'ODHAM NATION
PO BOX 837
SELLS AZ 85634

HONORABLE JAMIE FULLMER
CHAIRMAN
YAVAPAI-APACHE NATION
2400 WEST DATSI STREET
CAMP VERDE AZ 86322

HONORABLE ERNIE JONES, SR.
PRESIDENT
YAVAPAI-PRESCOTT INDIAN TRIBE
530 EAST MERRITT STREET
PRESCOTT AZ 86301

MS. NANCY HAYDEN
DIRECTOR OF RESEARCH
YAVAPAI-PRESCOTT INDIAN TRIBE
530 EAST MERRITT STREET
PRESCOTT AZ 86301

MR. LOREY CACHONA
PO BOX 894
WINTERHAVEN CA 92283

MR. COLIN SOTO
10241 WEST STEAMBOAT STREET
SOMERTON AZ 85350

MR. BILL PYOTT
FORT YUMA AGENCY
BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS
PO BOX 1100
YUMA AZ 85366-1100

JUN 0 1 2007

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CERTIFIED – RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED (7004 1160 0002 5652 2397)

Mr. Wayne Donaldson
California State Historic Preservation Office
P.O. Box 942896
Sacramento, CA 94296-0001

Subject: Administrative Draft Programmatic Environmental Assessment (EA) for Quarry Operations, Lower Colorado Region, Yuma Area Office

Dear Mr. Donaldson:

Enclosed is a draft EA for your review. The Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) has identified 14 existing quarries and 2 new quarry locations located between Davis Dam and Laguna Dam, for future rock extraction. As you know, Reclamation's mission is to protect and manage water-related resources along the lower Colorado River and associated waterways. This includes protecting our dams and infrastructure (levees, canals, etc.), stabilizing river banks, and providing flood control on a routine basis. Large quantities of rock must be stockpiled for maintenance activities and unpredictable flooding events.

The purpose and need for a programmatic EA is addressed in Section 1.0. Briefly, this document broadly assesses the impacts to the 16 quarry locations. Its main purpose is to help facilitate regulatory requirements and planning between various government and private entities. Additional environmental studies, including cultural resource inventories and consultation with Native American tribes, are anticipated at each quarry location. Sections 3.5 and 3.9 list known culturally and environmentally sensitive sites near the quarries. In addition to several historic sites, numerous National Register eligible or listed intaglio/earth figure and rock art sites exist along this stretch of the river.

This document will be distributed to the Arizona State Historic Preservation Office (Arizona and California), appropriate tribal entities, the Bureau of Land Management, the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, Yuma Proving Grounds, and appropriate state and local governments for their reviews (see Distribution List in Section 6.1). Reclamation will continue to consult with cooperating agencies, interested parties, and tribes as we move through the National Environmental Policy Act process.

Please direct any questions or comments that you might have on this document to Mr. Julian DeSantiago at 928-343-8259 or email: jdesantiago@lc.usbr.gov. Questions related to cultural resources may be directed to Ms. Renee Kolvet at 702-293-8443 or by email: rkolvet@lc.usbr.gov.

Thank you for your time and we look forward to consulting with you in the future.

Sincerely,

**Cynthia Hoeft**

Cynthia Hoeft, Director
Resources Management Office

Enclosure

bc: Regional Director , Boulder City, NV
Attn: Kolvet (LC-2632) (w/o encl)

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7120 Pinnell (w/o encl)

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ENV-9.00- Environmental Assessment

# THE HOPI TRIBE

**Hopi Cultural Preservation Office**
**P.O. Bo 123**
**Kykotsmovi, AZ 86039**
**(928) 734-3613**





June 4, 2007

Cynthia Hoeft, Director, Resources Management Office
Bureau of Reclamation, Yuma Area Office
7301 Calle Agua Salada
Yuma, Arizona 85364

Dear Ms. Hoeft,

This letter is in response to your correspondence dated May 25, 2007, with an enclosed copy of the Administrative Draft Programmatic Agreement Environmental Assessment for Quarry Operations, Lower Colorado Region, Yuma Area Office.

Because the Hopi Tribe claims cultural affiliation to prehistoric cultural groups in Arizona, including the Hohokam prehistoric cultural group, known to Hopi people as *Hisatsinom,* People of Long Ago, and because the Hopi Cultural Preservation Office supports the identification and avoidance of archaeological sites and Traditional Cultural Properties, we appreciate your continuing solicitation of our input and your efforts to address our concerns.

The Hopi Cultural Preservation Office has reviewed the draft Environmental Assessment involving 14 existing and 2 new quarry locations between Davis and Laguna Dams. We understand that numerous National Register eligible or listed intaglio and rock art sites exist along this stretch of the river, and that additional cultural resource inventories and consultation on traditional cultural properties are anticipated for each quarry location.

Therefore, if cultural resources surveys of the areas of potential effect for these 16 locations identify prehistoric cultural resources that will be adversely affected by project activities, please provide us with copies of the survey report and any proposed treatment plans for review and comment.

Should you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Terry Morgart at the Hopi Cultural Preservation Office. Thank you again for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Leigh Kuwanwisiwma, Director
Hopi Cultural Preservation Office

ENV-9.00 ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

# QUECHAN INDIAN TRIBE
## *Ft. Yuma Indian Reservation*

**P.O. Box 1899**
**Yuma, Arizona 85366-1899**
**Phone (760) 572-0213**
**Fax (760) 572-2102**

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June 21, 2007

Bureau of Reclamation
Yuma Area Office
Mr. Julian DeSantiago
7301 Calle Agua Salado
Yuma, AZ 85364

Dear Mr. DeSantiago,

I have reviewed the Draft EA for the Quarry Operations project and have met with the Quechan Cultural Committee regarding the proposed project. The Committee would like to arrange a meeting to discuss this project as there are several concerns in regards to cultural resources and possible impact to the Colorado River.

Please call my office at (760) 572-2423 at your earliest convenience to schedule the meeting.

Sincerely,

Bridget R. Nash-Chrabascz
Historic Preservation Officer

**From:** "Bridget Nash" <b.nash@quechantribe.com>
**To:** <jdesantiago@lc.usbr.gov>
**Date:** 6/22/2007 4:51:48 PM
**Subject:** quarry operations

Please call me once you receive this email to arrange a meeting. Thank you.

A hard copy has been mailed.

Bridget R. Nash-Chrabascz

Quechan Tribe Historic Preservation Officer

Quechan Indian Tribe

PO Box 1899

Yuma, AZ 85366

760-572-2423

ENV-9.00 ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

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**THE COCOPAH INDIAN TRIBE**
**Cultural Resource Department**
**County 15th & Avenue G**
**Somerton, Arizona 85350**
**Telephone (928) 627-2102**
**Fax (928) 627-3173**


June 25, 2007

H. Jill McCormick
Cocopah Tribe
County 15 & Avenue G
Somerton, AZ 85350
928-503-2291

Mr. Julian DeSantiago
US Department of the Interior
Bureau of Reclamation – Yuma Area Office
7301 Calle Agua Salada
Yuma, Arizona 85364

RE: Administrative Draft Programmatic Environmental Assessment (EA) for Quarry Operations, Lower Colorado Region, Yuma Area Office

The Cultural Resources Department of the Cocopah Indian Tribe appreciates your consultation efforts on this project. We are pleased that you contacted the Cocopah Tribe on this cultural resource issue for the purpose of solicitation of our input and to address our concerns on this matter.

The continuation of the quarrying process and the addition of two new quarrying sites pose concern for the numerous cultural resources located along the Colorado River terraces. Having said this, it is this department's determination that the continuation of the quarrying process in these locations must be stopped and no new operations begun in these locations to protect the irreplaceable resources known to exist there.

If you have any questions or need additional information please feel free to contact the cultural resource department. We will be happy to assist you with any and all future concerns or questions.

Sincerely,

H. Jill McCormick

Cultural Resource Manager

**Quechan Cultural Committee Meeting**
**July 17, 2007**
**Quechan Administration Building**

Attendees:
Ed Virden and Julian DeSantiago (Reclamation)
Bridget R. Nash-Chrabascz (Quechan Historic Preservation Office)
Quechan Cultural Committee members

Purpose of Meeting: At the request of the Quechan Indian Tribe's cultural committee (letter dated June 21, 2007), Reclamation met and discussed project concerns.

Topic of Discussion:

Comment No. 1 - Quechan concern with Reclamation quarry operations EA.
Response: Reclamation clarified programmatic EA's purpose and made them aware that additional project specific NEPA and cultural resources coordination would be conducted when an existing quarry or new quarry would be re-opened.

Comment No. 2 – Quechan concern regarding impacts to culturally sensitive areas along the lower Colorado River (e.g. intaglios). Response: Reclamation indicated that future activities (reopening of quarries) would require additional project specific NEPA compliance and coordination with tribes in order avoid impacting cultural sensitive areas and comply with SHPO requirements.

Comment No. 3 - Impacts to water quality
Response: Reclamation will comply with any Clean Water Act requirements to avoid and minimize impacts to waters of the US (e.g. certain washes might be under the jurisdiction of the USACE) In addition, Reclamation will implement best management practices and require the contractor to prepare storm water pollution prevent plan for each individual quarry.

Comment No. 4 – Concern with impacting Yuma area resources for the benefit of upstream communities.
Response: Quarried material will be use in immediate project areas (e.g. material from the Laguna Dam quarry would not be used in the Needles area.

**From:** <Stephen_Fusilier@blm.gov>
**To:** "Julian DeSantiago" <JDESANTIAGO@lc.usbr.gov>
**Date:** 7/17/2007 6:11:35 PM
**Subject:** Re: Pits Programmatic EA

Julian,

Here are the Comments:

Aaron Curtis:

Comment: NEPA requires analyzing the impacts of the proposed action AND the alternatives, however, I didn't come across any analysis of the impacts from implementing the No Action Alternative.

Comment: How were the "Visually sensitive resource" locations in section 3.9 selected (page 32)? Scoping? Text should identify how.

Comment: Section 4.9, Impacts to Aesthetic Values, is inadequate. First, the quarries WOULD degrade the existing visual character - saying that the quarries "MAY degrade the existing visual character," the landscapes "MAY be altered" by the operations, and "MAY attract the attention of members of the public" is not being forthright to the reader (page 40, emphasis added). Second, the impact analysis is so broad that it essentially tells the reader nothing, which is worrisome due to the fact that the document states no further analysis of Aesthetic Impacts is necessary for many of the quarries (see next comment below).

Comment: Table 2-3 identifies which environmental components need additional analysis for quarrying operations at specific sites. Any quarries located on BLM managed or co-managed lands within the Yuma Field Office's jurisdiction will need additional analysis of the impacts to aesthetic values, as per the requirements of FLPMA. Section 102 (a)(8) of FLPMA of 1976 mandates the BLM to manage the public lands in a manner that will protect the quality of the visual and scenic values of the landscape, and Section 505 (a) requires that “each right-of-way shall contain terms and conditions which will... minimize damage to the scenic and esthetic values...”. Table should also "check" the Trigo Wash, Cibola, Hart Mine No. 2, and Laguna Dam (East) quarries as needing additional analysis of Aesthetic Values.

Comment: Section 3.9, Aesthetic Values, states that Mittry Lake Wildlife Area is a "visually sensitive resource" (page 32). Section 4.9, Impacts to Aesthetic Values, makes no mention that Laguna Dam (East) quarry is located at the primary entrance to Mittry Lake (page 40), even though section 5.9 states that Reclamation would "select quarry locations that are away from public view and avoid areas of aesthetic value" (page 49). Also, Table 2-3 does not identify Aesthetic Values as needing additional analysis for future proposals at this site (page 12). On page 9, Table 2-1 states that the Laguna Dam East quarry is proposed as 15.32 acres. What is the acreage for the portions of the quarry that is in use now? Without this info it's difficult to identify what additional impacts would occur at this location and what the impacts would be to Mittry Lake visitors.

Comment: Section 4.8, Impacts to Socioeconomic, makes no mention of potential impacts to tourism at the Yuma Field Office's Betty's Kitchen Watchable Wildlife Viewing Area and National Recreation Trail (page 40). Noise will definitely be heard from operations at the Laguna Dam (East quarry), which would degrade recreational experiences at this BLM recreation amenity fee site. Table 2-3 does not identify Noise from this quarry as needing any further analysis for this location.

Jennifer Green:

The main comment I have is that they should include discussion of invasive weeds. This seems to be missing from the EA. Quarries and stockpiles (disturbed areas) are often breeding grounds for invasive weeds. After the aggregate is transported from one place to another, so is weed seed. I have personally seen Brassica tournefortii in several rock quarries and gravel piles. Are there ways they could manage for these weeds so they are not transported from one area to another? This is one of our critical elements.

Stephen Fusilier/Sandra Arnold:

We had previously requested copies (for our archeologist's files) of the tribal and SHPO consultation documentation, and recommended that information on the consultation be incorporated into the EA (Chapters 3 and 4 cultural resources). We have not received any copies of the documentation.

Section 5.5, Cultural, 4th Bullet - Change to say (at least for the pits in the Yuma Field Office) - Conduct additional cultural surveys to current standards and consultations with both the Tribes and SHPO, for existing quarries, as well as any proposed new proposed quarry areas.

Section 5.5, Cultural, - Add a Sixth Bullet - Stipulations for archeological sensitivity training for material pit workers and for archaeological monitors during ground-disturbing activities would be incorporated into site-specific NEPA as appropriate.

Stephen Fusilier:

Table 2-3, page 12 - All sites in the Yuma Field Office would need to have Tribal Consultation due to specific concerns having been voiced to us by certain Tribes with regard to mineral material pits (so please add Cibola, Hart Mine 2, Palo Verde Road.)

Table 2-3, page 12 - Need to add Ehrenberg to the list for Indian Trust Concerns since this pit is now on CRIT Reservation lands.

**CC:** <Sandra_Arnold@blm.gov>, "Tracey Epperley" <TEPPERLEY@lc.usbr.gov>

ENV-9.00 ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT


# AK-CHIN INDIAN COMMUNITY

Cultural Resources Office

42507 W Peters & Nall Road • Maricopa, Arizona 85239 • Telephone: (520) 568-1369 • Fax: (520) 568-1366


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July 21, 2007

Mr. Julian DeSantiago
Bureau of Reclamation
Yuma Area Office
7301 Calle Agua Salada
Yuma, Arizona 85364

Dear Mr. DeSantiago:

The Ak-Chin Cultural Resources Office received the draft report of the Environmental Assessment for Quarry Operations, Lower Colorado Region in Yuma County, Arizona.

Thank you for informing the Ak-Chin Cultural Resources Office about the Assessment. Our Cultural Resources Office is currently without a manager. If you have any questions you can contact Gary Gilbert at (520) 568-1369 or me at (520)568-1368.

Sincerely,

Carmen Narcia

Carmen Narcia
Cultural Resources Specialist
Ak-Chin Indian Community
Cultural Resources Office

AUG 0 1 2007

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MEMORANDUM

To: Bureau of Land Management, Yuma Field Office,
2555 East Gila Ridge Road, Yuma, AZ 85365
Attn: Mr. Stephen Fusilier

From: Edward Virden
Acting Cynthia Hoeft
Director, Resource Management Office

Subject: Response to Comments – Draft Programmatic Environmental Assessment (EA), Quarry Operations – Yuma Area Office, Lower Colorado River Region

The Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) is attaching our response to the Bureau of Land Management's (BLM) comments received July 17, 2007 (via email) on the EA and draft programmatic Biological Assessment (BA) for quarry operations with this memorandum.

Reclamation is committed to further site-specific analysis at existing quarries and prior to establishing new quarry sites. In addition, implementing the mitigation measures (reasonable and prudent measures, and implementing terms and conditions) described in both the EA and BA would minimize impacts.

Reclamation appreciates the comments received and looks forward to further coordination with BLM on this and other projects. If you have any questions regarding the project, please contact Mr. Julian DeSantiago at 928-343-8259.

Attachment

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**Comments and Responses:**

**Aaron Curtis Comment #1:** NEPA requires analyzing the impacts of the proposed action AND the alternatives, however, I didn't come across any analysis of the impacts from implementing the No Action Alternative.

**Reclamation Response:** Section 4.0, 1st ¶, 2nd & 3rd sentences states: "Based on the programmatic nature of the analysis, the scope and magnitude of potential impacts at quarry sites included in the Proposed Action and the No Action Alternative were determined to be similar. Therefore, the consequences discussed in each resource area apply to both the Proposed Action and No Action Alternative."

**Aaron Curtis Comment #2:** How were the "Visually sensitive resource" locations in section 3.9 selected (page 32)? Scoping? Text should identify how.

**Reclamation Response:** Text will be added to section 3.9 to clarify.

**Aaron Curtis Comment #3:** Section 4.9, Impacts to Aesthetic Values, is inadequate. First, the quarries WOULD degrade the existing visual character - saying that the quarries "MAY degrade the existing visual character," the landscapes "MAY be altered" by the operations, and "MAY attract the attention of members of the public" is not being forthright to the reader (page 40, emphasis added). Second, the impact analysis is so broad that it essentially tells the reader nothing, which is worrisome due to the fact that the document states no further analysis of Aesthetic Impacts is necessary for many of the quarries (see next comment below).

**Reclamation Response:** Text of EA will be changed to reflect that quarrying activities do have an effect on Aesthetic Values and Table 2-3 will mark all quarries to require further analysis regarding aesthetics.

**Aaron Curtis Comment #4:** Table 2-3 identifies which environmental components need additional analysis for quarrying operations at specific sites. Any quarries located on BLM managed or co-managed lands within the Yuma Field Office's jurisdiction will need additional analysis of the impacts to aesthetic values, as per the requirements of FLPMA. Section 102 (a)(8) of FLPMA of 1976 mandates the BLM to manage the public lands in a manner that will protect the quality of the visual and scenic values of the landscape, and Section 505 (a) requires that "each right-of-way shall contain terms and conditions which will... minimize damage to the scenic and aesthetic values...". Table should also "check" the Trigo Wash, Cibola, Hart Mine No. 2, and Laguna Dam (East) quarries as needing additional analysis of Aesthetic Values.

**Reclamation Response:** Change Table 2-3, see above response to Aaron Curtis Comment #3.

**Aaron Curtis Comment #5:** Section 3.9, Aesthetic Values, states that Mittry Lake Wildlife Area is a "visually sensitive resource" (page 32). Section 4.9, Impacts to Aesthetic Values, makes no mention that Laguna Dam (East) quarry is located at the primary entrance to Mittry Lake (page 40), even though section 5.9 states that Reclamation would "select quarry locations that are away from public view and avoid areas of aesthetic value" (page 49). Also, Table 2-3 does not identify Aesthetic Values as needing additional analysis for future proposals at this site (page 12).

**Reclamation Response:** The programmatic EA does not specifically address impacts associated with each quarry. Site specific NEPA documentation will focus on individual quarry activities and access roads. Change Table 2-3, see above response to Aaron Curtis Comment #3.

**Aaron Curtis Comment #6:** On page 9, Table 2-1 states that the Laguna Dam East quarry is proposed as 15.32 acres. What is the acreage for the portions of the quarry that is in use now? Without this info it's difficult to identify what additional impacts would occur at this location and what the impacts would be to Mittry Lake visitors.

**Reclamation Response:** Table 2-1 will be modified to show all acreages as "existing acreage", except Paymaster and Quien Sabe acreages (proposed new quarries) will be "proposed acreage."

**Aaron Curtis Comment #7:** Section 4.8, Impacts to Socioeconomic, makes no mention of potential impacts to tourism at the Yuma Field Office's Betty's Kitchen Watchable Wildlife Viewing Area and National Recreation Trail (page 40). Noise will definitely be heard from operations at the Laguna Dam (East quarry), which would degrade recreational experiences at this BLM recreation amenity fee site.

**Reclamation Response:** The programmatic EA does not specifically address impacts associated with each quarry. Site specific NEPA documentation will focus on individual quarry activities and access roads. However, the text in section 4.8 will be changed to reflect potential noise impacts to recreation.

**Aaron Curtis Comment #8:** Table 2-3 does not identify Noise from this quarry [Laguna Dam East] as needing any further analysis for this location.

**Reclamation Response:** Modify Table 2-3, add mitigation (section 5.12): "Reclamation will coordinate w/ BLM, and BLM should notify Reclamation of any activities in the area of relevant quarries."

**Jennifer Green Comment #1:** The main comment I have is that they should include discussion of invasive weeds. This seems to be missing from the EA. Quarries and stockpiles (disturbed areas) are often breeding grounds for invasive weeds. After the aggregate is transported from one place to another, so is weed seed. I have personally seen Brassica tournefortii in several rock quarries and gravel piles. Are there ways they

could manage for these weeds so they are not transported from one area to another? This is one of our critical elements.

**Reclamation Response:** Add text to the EA to discuss invasive species. Site specific NEPA documentation will focus on individual quarry activities and access roads.

**Sandra Arnold Comment #1:** We had previously requested copies (for our archeologist's files) of the tribal and SHPO consultation documentation, and recommended that information on the consultation be incorporated into the EA (Chapters 3 and 4 cultural resources). We have not received any copies of the documentation.

**Reclamation Response:** Appendix A of the EA has a copy of all coordination letters. Also, an electronic PDF will be sent to Sandra containing requested correspondence.

**Sandra Arnold Comment #2:** Section 5.5, Cultural, 4th Bullet - Change to say (at least for the pits in the Yuma Field Office) - Conduct additional cultural surveys to current standards and consultations with both the Tribes and SHPO, for existing quarries, as well as any proposed new proposed quarry areas.

**Reclamation Response:** Comment incorporated.

**Sandra Arnold Comment #3:** Section 5.5, Cultural, - Add a Sixth Bullet - Stipulations for archeological sensitivity training for material pit workers and for archaeological monitors during ground-disturbing activities would be incorporated into site-specific NEPA as appropriate.

**Reclamation Response:** Comment incorporated.

**Stephen Fusilier Comment #1:** Table 2-3, page 12 - All sites in the Yuma Field Office would need to have Tribal Consultation due to specific concerns having been voiced to us by certain Tribes with regard to mineral material pits (so please add Cibola, Hart Mine 2, Palo Verde Road.)

**Reclamation Response:** Change Table 2-3 to include Cibola, Hart Mine No.2, and Palo Verde Road quarries for Tribal Coordination.

**Stephen Fusilier Comment #2:** Table 2-3, page 12 - Need to add Ehrenberg to the list for Indian Trust Concerns since this pit is now on CRIT Reservation lands.

**Reclamation Response:** Change Table 2-3 to include Ehrenberg quarry for Tribal Coordination.

YAO-7210
ENV-6.00

AUG 0 1 2007

Cocopah Indian Tribe
Cultural Resource Department
Attn: Ms. Jill McCormick
County Fifteenth & Avenue G
Somerton, AZ 85350

Subject: Draft Programmatic Environmental Assessment (EA), Quarry Operations – Response to Comments

Dear Ms. McCormick

Thank you for the comment letter (dated June 25, 2007) on the EA for Quarry Operations. The Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) shares your concerns for protection of cultural resources along the Lower Colorado River.

The EA is not intended to fulfill all environment requirements for the reopening and establishing new quarry activities. Reopening and establishment of new quarries will be subject to further site specific environmental analysis and coordination prior to conducting such activities.

Reclamation is committed to continued coordination with the tribe on cultural issues and concerns related to the re-opening and establishment of new quarry operations. Environmental commitments described in Section 5.5 of the EA have been designed to avoid and minimize any adverse affects from the proposed action on cultural resources.

Once the EA is finalized, a copy will be provided to you for your files. Reclamation appreciates the comments received and looks forward to further coordination with the tribe. If you have any questions please contact Mr. Julian DeSantiago at 928-343-8259.

Sincerely,

**Edward Virden**

For Cynthia Hoeft, Director
Resource Management Office

AUG 0 1 2007

YAO-7210
ENV-6.00

Quechan Indian Tribe
Ft. Yuma Indian Reservation
Attn: Ms. Bridget R. Nash-Chrabascz
P.O. Box 1899
Yuma, AZ 85366-1899

Subject: Draft Programmatic Environmental Assessment (EA), Quarry Operations - Response to Comments

Dear Ms. Nash-Chrabascz

Thank you for the comment letter (dated June 21, 2007) on the EA for Quarry Operations. As discussed on July 17, 2007, meeting between the Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) and the Quechan Cultural Committee, Reclamation is committed to continued coordination with the tribe on cultural issues and concerns related to the re-opening and establishment of new quarry operations.

The EA is not intended to fulfill all environment requirements for the reopening and establishment new quarry activities. Reopening and establishment of new quarries will be subject to further site specific environmental analysis and coordination prior to conducting such activities.

Once the EA is finalized, a copy will be provided to you for your files. Reclamation appreciates the comments received and looks forward to further coordination with the tribe. If you have any questions please contact Mr. Julian DeSantiago at 928-343-8259.

Sincerely,

**Edward Virden**

Cynthia Hoeft, Director
for Resource Management Office

7001
7210 DeSantiago

JDesantiago:ab:07/24/07
Dir:7000\Desantiago\7210-07.005

| Map Number | Quarry | Location-Township, Range & Section | Location Quad | Managing Field Office | Comments |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 23 | Laguna Dam East Road | T.7S., R. 22W., sec. 23, 14 | Laguna Dam | Bureau of Reclamation (Yuma FO, AZ) | Public land in Arizona withdrawn to the BOR. |
| 24 | Pilot Knob Road | T. 16 S., R. 21 E., sec. 27 S ½ and sec. 34 (all) | Yuma West | El Centro FO, CA | Parcel is public land. DOQ's show considerable surface disturbance in the area. Included in pending withdrawal CACA 7235 filed by BOR. |

ENV-900- Environmental Assessment

# United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Kingman Field Office
2755 Mission Boulevard
Kingman, AZ 86401

In reply refer to:

3604 (310)

June 13, 2005

OFFICIAL FILE COPY - YAO
RECEIVED JUN 16 2005
ACTION CODE
REPLY DATE 7/6/05
DATE ACTION TAKEN
TAKE PRIDE IN AMERICA
DATE | INITIALS | CODE
6/17 | KLC | 710
Classification
Project
Control No. District Office 5001245
Folder ID 3880
Charged

**MEMORANDUM**

TO: Director Resource Management Office, Bureau of Reclamation, Yuma Area Office

FROM: Acting District Manager, Bureau of Land Management, Colorado River District Office

SUBJECT: Programmatic Environmental Assessment for Quarry Operations along the Lower Colorado River.

The Bureau of Land management (BLM), Colorado River District, accepts your invitation to be a Cooperating Agency for the preparation of the Programmatic Environmental Assessment for Quarry Operations along the Lower Colorado River. BLM concurs with Bureau of Reclamation (BR) that an open and collaborative approach will help ensure an efficient completion of the project.

It is important that the roles and responsibilities of the lead and cooperating agencies be as specific as possible to foster a good working relationship. It is understood that the BR is the lead agency as defined by 40 CFR 1501.5 and BLM is accepting the status of Cooperating Agency as defined by 40 CFR 1501.6. BLM has the authority to issue permits for the quarry operations and rights-of-way for access to the quarries in accordance with 43 CFR 3600 and 43 CFR 2800, respectively.

The general duties of the lead and cooperating agencies are outlined in 40 CFR 1501.5 and 1501.6. BLM's relationships with lead agencies and specific duties for a project are usually formalized through a letter of agreement or memorandum of understanding (MOU). A written agreement can reduce the chance for misunderstanding by describing each agency's goals and expectations, and identifying how they will work together. In addition a written agreement would define the following for each agency: point of contact, specific duties and roles, assignment of issues, schedules, staff and resource commitments, data sharing, etc. A written agreement helps ensure that the project remains on track and within the schedule.

Please contact Stephen L. Fusilier, Team Lead, Lands and Minerals, (928) 317-3296 at the Yuma Field Office to discuss the need for a letter of agreement or memorandum of understanding.

Wayne King

MAR 1 4 2007

YAO-7210
ENV-6.00

MEMORANDUM

To: Bureau of Land Management Distribution Group (See List)

From: Cynthia Hoeft
Cynthia Hoeft
Director, Resource Management Office

Subject: Administrative Draft Programmatic Environmental Assessment (Draft EA) - Quarry Operations, Yuma Area Office

The Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) proposes to continue operation and maintenance of 14 existing quarries and to establish 2 new quarry sites along the lower Colorado River (LCR). Quarry operations are needed in order for Reclamation to meet its responsibilities under the Colorado River Front Work and Levee System. The proposed quarry sites are located in upland areas within ten miles of the LCR and several of the sites are on public lands managed by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM). Therefore, Reclamation invited BLM to be a cooperating agency for this EA as the proposed action will in many cases require an action by BLM.

Pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and Reclamation guidelines an EA was prepared. The EA is programmatic in nature and addresses the proposed action from a broad perspective. This approach is used as the timing to initiate operations at specific quarry sites could range from one to ten years and site-specific conditions could change at individual quarry sites. Prior to commencing operations in individual quarry sites, Reclamation will perform site-specific NEPA analyses that tiers to this programmatic EA and focuses on issues and resources specific to each quarry.

This Administrative Draft of the EA is being distributed to each designated BLM office that needs to issue rights-of-way or other land use permits in conjunction with Reclamation's proposed action.

We ask that your comments be mailed to Mr. Julian DeSantiago at Reclamation's Yuma Area Office, 7301 Calle Agua Salada, Yuma, AZ 85364 by March 30, 2007. If you have any questions regarding the project, please contact Mr. DeSantiago at 928-343-8259, or via electronic mail at jdesantiago@lc.usbr.gov.

Attachment

Bureau of Land Management Distribution Group

Arizona State Office, One North Central Avenue, Suite 800, Phoenix, AZ 85004-4427

California State Office, 2800 Cottage Way, Suite W-1834, Sacramento, CA 95825-1886

California Desert District, 22835 Calle San Juan de los Lagos, Moreno Valley, CA 92553
Attn: Mr. Alan Stein

El Centro Field Office, 1661 South Fourth Street, El Centro, CA 92243

Kingman Field Office, 2755 Mission Boulevard, Kingman, AZ 86401
Attn: Mr. Paul Misiaszek, Geologist

Lake Havasu Field Office, 2610 Sweetwater Avenue, Lake Havasu City, AZ 86406
Attn: Ms. Amanda Dodson, Geologist; Ms. Jill Miller-Allert, Wilderness Coordinator

Needles Field Office, 101 West Spikes Road, Needles, CA 92363

Yuma Field Office, 2555 East Gila Ridge Road, Yuma, AZ 85365
Attn: Mr. Stephen Fusilier, Lands; Mr. Fred Wong, Wildlife Biologist; and Ms. Jennifer Green, Natural Resource Specialist

7001
7100
7210 (w/o att to each)

KMaloney:dfw:03/06/07
Dir:7000/Maloney/7200-03.002

**From:** <Erin_Dreyfuss@ca.blm.gov>
**To:** <jdesantiago@lc.usbr.gov>
**Date:** 3/22/2007 12:15:41 PM
**Subject:** Draft Programmatic EA for Quarry Operations

Hi Julian -

I just recieved a copy of the EA and have looked over it.

I just have one concern. You did not mention Wild Horses and Burros in the EA in the Affected Environment. The Paymaster quarry/mine and Palo Verde quarry/mine are both located in the Chocolate-Mule Mountains/Picacho herd management areas.

I wanted to make sure you knew that for possible addition to the final EA.

Let me know what you think. Thanks!

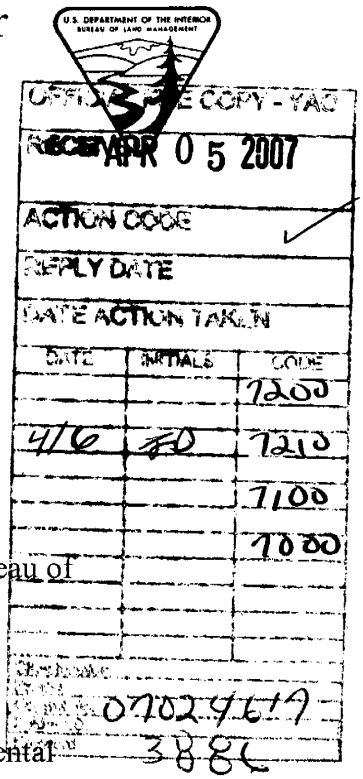
Erin Dreyfuss
Natural Resource Specialist
Bureau of Land Management
El Centro Field Office
1661 S. 4th Street
El Centro, CA 92243
(760) 337- 4436

**CC:** <Daniel_Steward@ca.blm.gov>, <Thomas_Zale@blm.gov>

ENV-900 ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

# United States Department of the Interior

Bureau of Land Management
California Desert District
22835 Calle San Juan De Los Lagos
Moreno Valley CA 92553-9046
www.ca.blm.gov




April 2, 2007

In Reply Refer to:
3620
CA-610

To: Cynthia Hoeft, Director, Resources Management Office, Bureau of Reclamation, Yuma Area Office

From: District Manager, California Desert District

Subject: Comments on Administrative Draft Programmatic Environmental Assessment for Quarry Operations Along Lower Colorado River

We received your February 2007, Administrative Draft Programmatic Environmental Assessment (EA) for Quarry Operations Along the Lower Colorado River.

While the table you sent to us lists quarries in Arizona, this response is for those quarries managed by the BLM in California. Our Field Offices in Needles, Palm Springs and El Centro will be able to provide you with the most current information on the quarries within their jurisdiction and on the resource concerns on public lands in the vicinity. Our Field Offices contributed to this response.

Disposal of mineral materials from the public land sites will require BLM to review and approve an authorization through free use permit (43 CFR 3604). If these sites are important to your overall plan for access and availability of mineral materials in the area, BLM must be integrated into the review process. We understand that where BLM authorizations will be necessary, the BOR will make a formal request for permit to the appropriate field office, specifying in detail the location, description of proposed activities, and period of activities (even if intermittent), and purpose and need for the material. We also understand that the site-specific requests on individual quarries will be tiered to this programmatic EA. This will allow BLM to initiate the permit process. It should occur when you begin the site-specific analysis for each quarry.

In addition, California state lead agencies under the Surface Mining and Reclamation Act of 1975 have approval authority for reclamation plans on federal land mining sites. This approval process should also be incorporated into your overall programmatic assessment in order to coincide with authorizations needed for the project sites.

There are quarry sites or associated access within wilderness areas designated under the California Desert Protection Act of 1994 or the Arizona Desert Wilderness Act of 1990. Our authority to dispose of quarry materials is the Materials Act. At 43 CFR 3601.12, wilderness areas are excluded from the disposal of mineral materials. Under Title V of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act [FLPMA], the Secretary does not have authority to issue rights of ways on Public Land within wilderness. Therefore, motorized access across wilderness to [most] sites in wilderness would be prohibited.

Names and legal descriptions of twenty-four quarries were provided at pages A-47 through A-50 in Environmental Assessment. Of those twenty-four quarry parcels, the following are all or partially within wilderness. Based on the discussion below, all or portions of those sites should be eliminated from further consideration in the EA.

Section 7 Road [T. 10 N. R. 20 E. sec. 7 SBBM]: Most of the section and an access route were excluded from the Dead Mountains Wilderness area. However, portions of the section are within the wilderness area. It is not clear whether portions or all of the section are proposed for a quarry authorization. The proposed quarry site should not include those portions of section 7.

Pipeline Road [T. 7 N. R. 23 E. sec. 12 SBBM]: The northern boundary of the Chemehuevi Mountains Wilderness generally coincides with the southern boundary of the southernmost [LA 0118349] of three pipeline right of ways. It is not clear whether those portions of section 12 that are south of the pipeline ROW and within the wilderness are proposed for a quarry authorization. The proposed quarry site should not include those portions of section 12 south of the ROW.

Park Moabi Road [T. 7 N. R. 24 E. sec. 7 SBBM]: The northern boundary of the Chemehuevi Mountains Wilderness generally coincides with the southern boundary of the southernmost [LA 0118349] of three Pipeline ROWs. It is not clear whether those portions of section 7 that are south of the pipeline ROW and within the wilderness are proposed for a quarry authorization. The proposed quarry site should not include those portions of section 7 south of the ROW.

Bat Cave No. 2 and No. 3: The parcels listed below are on land recently acquired by the Bureau of Land Management.

Bat Cave No 2: T. 7 N., R. 24 E., sec. 17, NE ¼ NW ¼ SBBM

Bat Cave No. 3: T. 7 N., R. 24 E., sec. 17, NE ¼ NW ¼, and SE ¼ NW ¼ SBBM

There are no exceptions on the title, including no reference to an existing or authorization for a quarry on the private lands that were acquired. This means that there are no existing rights associated with the parcels. The Public Land is within the boundary of the Chemehuevi Mountains Wilderness Area. As soon as the lands were transferred into federal ownership, they became a part of the Public Land within the Chemehuevi Mountains Wilderness area. Quarry operations are non-conforming uses in wilderness and would not be allowed.

Palo Verde Dam [portions of T. 5 S. R. 23 E. sec. 14 SBBM]: This portion of the quarry is within the portion of the Big Maria Wilderness within the California Desert Conservation Area administered by BLM California. The proposed quarry site should not include section 14.

Palo Verde Dam [portions of T. 5 S. R. 24 E. sec. 18 SBBM]: This portion of the quarry is within the portion of the Big Maria Wilderness that appears to be administered by BLM Arizona. Please refer to their comments for specific concerns.

Hart Mine No. 2 Road [T. 2 S. R. 23 W. sec. 2 Gila GSRM] : Portions of this description appear to be in the Trigo Mountains Wilderness administered by BLM Arizona. Please refer to their comments for specific concerns.

It is not yet clear how the following site should be included in or the nature of the analysis in the Environmental Assessment.

Manchester Road [T. 11 N. R. 21 E. sec. 16, NE ¼ SBBM]: This site is within the Dead Mountains Wilderness boundary on non-federal land managed by the California State Land Commission. As such, the BLM has no administrative authority on the property and it is not administered as wilderness. Access to the proposed quarry site crosses the Dead Mountains Wilderness. The status of authorization to cross section 15 across the wilderness to the site is not entirely clear. In any event, the BLM has authority under the California Desert Protection Act of 1994 to provide conditioned access across wilderness to non-federal lands within wilderness to the owner of the land.

Section 2.2 No Action Alternative [page 8] of the Programmatic Environmental Assessment lists the Palo Verde quarry is an active quarry. Please provide a legal description for that site in order for us distinguish between Palo Verde Dam and Palo Verde Road quarries.

As a Cooperating Agency, we will work with you to ensure that the EA is adequate to meet our needs for making decisions regarding authorizations that may be required on each of the quarries under our jurisdiction. That way, we will be in a position to adopt the EA and tier to it for subsequent site-specific proposals requiring an authorization by BLM. BLM will continue to provide information we have available. However, BOR will have to obtain authorization from the appropriate managing entity for activities on sites not within BLM's management jurisdiction.

To assist us in the future, we need to know what existing authorizations the BOR currently has for each quarry site and what additional authorization you are seeking from BLM on public land. We understand that subsequent proposals and analyses for site-specific quarry operations will be tiered to this programmatic analysis. When you are ready to provide site-specific analyses for the quarries identified we would appreciate any information you may have in Geographic Information System (GIS) format.

As lead agency, we expect that BOR will take the lead for any necessary consultations, such as those required under Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act and Section 106 of the National Historic Preservations Act. We also expect that you will take the lead for Native American consultation. We will assist in any way we can.

Should you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact Alan Stein, Deputy District manager, Resources on (951) 697-5382.

Sincerely,

Steven Borchard
District Manager

cc: California Field Office – El Centro, Palm Springs, Needles
Arizona Field Offices – Yuma, Lake Havasu, Kingman

**From:** <Stephen_Fusilier@blm.gov>
**To:** "Julian DeSantiago" <JDESANTIAGO@lc.usbr.gov>
**Date:** 4/16/2007 7:34:05 PM
**Subject:** Re: Pits Programmatic EA

Julian, Here are the comments for the Colorado River District (Yuma, Lake Havasu, and Kingman Field Offices)

Kingman Field Office - No Comments Looks good for their area

Lake Havasu Field Office - Amanda Dodson -

pg.2, 38-39: Reclamation would still be required to obtain a ROW from BLM on reclamation withdrawn lands.
pg. 5, 2: The BLM can issue Free Use Permits for a period of 10 years.
Appendix B - provide maps of sufficient scale which shows the location of each quarry site and existing access roads and where it is located within the specific section(s)

Yuma Field Office - Sandra Arnold -

Request copies of the tribal consultation documentation, and recommend that information on the consultation be incorporated into the EA (Chapters 3 and 4 cultural resources). What input from tribes has been shared to date for specific pit locations?

Request copies of documentation for coordination with AZ and CA SHPO.

The Hart Mine is an historic site that could potentially be affected by two pit locations (Hart Mine No. 1 and No.2).

Stephen Fusilier -

Section 2.3, Page 8, Table-1 - On your list of Quarries in Appendix A page A-12 you list Pilot Knob Road - It is not listed on your map on page 3 as a site you are still considering nor is it listed in Table-1 as a Quarry Location Considered for programmatic Analysis but eliminated from further consideration - What is the Status of this site?

Section 4.4.1, Page 34, Line 18 - The Following Quarry Sites seem to be closer to the LCR than the 5 or 10 miles mentioned - Bat Cave #1, Agnes Wilson, Quein Sabe, Palo Verde, Paymaster, and Laguna East.

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Section 4.4.1, Page 34, Line 34 - Might want to revise the statements about the puma - I believe there is at least one resident and several transient mountain lions in the KOFA NWR. As state they have a wide range and the fact that there are deer, big horn sheep, and wild horses and burros the area to provide food might allow then to at least reach the area of the Hart #1 and Hart #2 quarries.

Section 4.12.2, Page 40, Line 16 - Just a typo? Should NRWs be NWRs.

Stephen L. Fusilier
2555 E. Gila Ridge Road
Yuma, AZ 85365
(928) 317-3296
(928) 317-3250 Fax

"Julian DeSantiago" <JDESANTIAGO@lc.usbr.gov>
04/16/2007 10:20 AM

To
<Stephen_Fusilier@blm.gov>
cc
"Tracey Epperley" <TEPPERLEY@lc.usbr.gov>
Subject
Re: Pits Programmatic EA

Hi Steve

That will work, when you send comments electronically, please also cc Tracey Epperaly at  tepperley@lc.usbr.gov

Thanks
Julian

>>> <Stephen_Fusilier@blm.gov> 4/13/2007 5:54:19 PM >>>
Julian,

We have comments but due to the RMP schedule I was unable to complete the
review and consolidation.  I will have them to you by close of business on
Monday 4/16 in email form with a hard copy to follow.

Stephen L. Fusilier
2555 E. Gila Ridge Road
Yuma, AZ 85365
(928) 317-3296
(928) 317-3250 Fax

**CC:** "Tracey Epperley" <TEPPERLEY@lc.usbr.gov>, <Amanda_Dodson@blm.gov>, <Sandra_Arnold@blm.gov>, <Stephen_Allen@blm.gov>, <Paul_Misiaszek@blm.gov>, <Bruce_Rittenhouse@blm.gov>, <Dee_Baxter@blm.gov>, <Paul_Buff@blm.gov>

**From:** <Stephen_Fusilier@blm.gov>
**To:** "Julian DeSantiago" <JDESANTIAGO@lc.usbr.gov>
**Date:** 4/16/2007 7:34:05 PM
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Stephen L. Fusilier
2555 E. Gila Ridge Road
Yuma, AZ 85365
(928) 317-3296
(928) 317-3250 Fax

"Julian DeSantiago" <JDESANTIAGO@lc.usbr.gov>
04/16/2007 10:20 AM

To
<Stephen_Fusilier@blm.gov>
cc
"Tracey Epperley" <TEPPERLEY@lc.usbr.gov>
Subject
Re: Pits Programmatic EA

Hi Steve

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Thanks
Julian

>>> <Stephen_Fusilier@blm.gov> 4/13/2007 5:54:19 PM >>>
Julian,

We have comments but due to the RMP schedule I was unable to complete the
review and consolidation.  I will have them to you by close of business on
Monday 4/16 in email form with a hard copy to follow.

Stephen L. Fusilier
2555 E. Gila Ridge Road
Yuma, AZ 85365
(928) 317-3296
(928) 317-3250 Fax

**CC:** "Tracey Epperley" <TEPPERLEY@lc.usbr.gov>, <Amanda_Dodson@blm.gov>, <Sandra_Arnold@blm.gov>, <Stephen_Allen@blm.gov>, <Paul_Misiaszek@blm.gov>, <Bruce_Rittenhouse@blm.gov>, <Dee_Baxter@blm.gov>, <Paul_Buff@blm.gov>

# United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF RECLAMATION
Yuma Area Office
7301 Calle Agua Salada
Yuma, Arizona 85364

IN REPLY REFER TO:
YAO-7210
ENV-6.00

MAY 16 2007

Interested Parties (See Enclosed List)

Subject: Programmatic Environmental Assessment (EA) for Quarry Operations along the Lower Colorado River (LCR)

Dear Ladies and Gentlemen:

The Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) is proposing to implement quarry operations along the lower Colorado River. The proposed action is to establish two new quarries and access roads, and use or re-open existing quarries and their associated access roads to obtain materials for use in Reclamation projects along the LCR. The area of analysis encompasses a 10-mile corridor along both sides of the LCR from Davis Dam to Laguna Dam.

Quarries are used to produce materials essential to the maintenance and construction of banklines, river control structures, levees, canals, and reservoirs. Reclamation needs access to a variety of quarry locations along the LCR in order to obtain an adequate supply of suitable material to meet its operation, maintenance, and repair responsibilities in accordance with the Colorado River Front Work and Levee System.

Pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act and Reclamation guidelines, an EA (enclosed) was prepared and is available for a 30-day review. The analysis presented in the EA is from a programmatic level, and evaluates the affected environment and potential consequences from a broad perspective. Please provide comments no later than 30 days from the date of this letter. Comments may be mailed to Mr. Julian DeSantiago at the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, Yuma Area Office, 7301 Calle Agua Salada, Yuma, Arizona 85364.

If you have any questions regarding the project, please contact Mr. DeSantiago at 928-343-8259, or at jdesantiago@lc.usbr.gov.

Sincerely,

Cynthia Hoeft

Cynthia Hoeft, Director
Resource Management Office

Enclosures

Letter Sent To:

Arizona Department of
Environmental Quality
1110 West Washington Street
Phoenix, AZ 85007

Arizona Department of Agriculture
1688 West Adams
Phoenix, AZ 85007

Arizona Department of Transportation
Yuma District Office
2243 Gila Ridge Road
Yuma, AZ 85365

Arizona Game and Fish Department
Kingman District Office
5325 North Stockton Hill Road
Kingman, AZ 86401

Arizona Game and Fish Department
9140 East 28th Street
Yuma, AZ 85364

Arizona State Land Department
1616 West Adams Street
Phoenix, AZ 85007

Bill Williams River NWR
60911 Highway 95
Parker, AZ 85344

Bureau of Indian Affairs
Western Regional Office
P.O. Box 10
Phoenix, AZ 85001

Bureau of Land Management
Arizona State Office
222 North Central Avenue
Phoenix, AZ 85004

Bureau of Land Management
California Desert District
22835 Calle San Juan de Los Lagos
Moreno Valley, CA 92553

Bureau of Land Management
El Centro Field Office
1661 South Fourth Street
El Centro, CA 92243

Bureau of Land Management
Kingman Field Office (1)
2755 Mission Boulevard
Kingman, AZ 86401

Bureau of Land Management
Lake Havasu Field Office
2610 Sweetwater Avenue
Lake Havasu City, AZ 86406

Bureau of Land Management
Needles Field Office
101 West Spikes Road
Needles, CA 92363

Bureau of Land Management
Palm Springs South Coast
Field Office
690 West Garnet Avenue
North Palm Springs, CA 92258-1260

Bureau of Land Management
Phoenix Field Office
21605 North 7th Avenue
Phoenix, AZ 85027

Bureau of Land Management
Yuma Field Office (4)
2555 East Gila Ridge Road
Yuma, AZ 85365

California Department of
Fish and Game
Eastern Sierra and Inland Deserts Region
3602 Inland Empire Boulevard
Suite C-220
Ontario, CA 91764

California Department of
Fish and Game Headquarters
1416 Ninth Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

California Department of
Transportation Headquarters
P.O. Box 942873
Sacramento, CA 94273

California Department of Transportation
District 8 (San Bernardino &
Riverside)
464 West 4th Street
San Bernardino, CA 92415

California Department of Transportation
District 11 (San Diego &
Imperial)
P.O. Box 85406
San Diego, CA 92186-5406

Cibola National Wildlife Refuge
Route 2, P.O. Box 138
Cibola, AZ 85328

City of Blythe
235 North Broadway
Blythe, CA 92225

City of Bullhead City
1255 Marina Boulevard
Bullhead City, AZ 86442

City of Earp
Public Works Department
825 East Third Street
San Bernardino, CA 92415

City of Ehrenberg
Chamber of Commerce
P.O. Box 800
Ehrenberg, AZ 85334

Clark County Regional
Government Center
101 Civic Way
Laughlin, NV 89029

City of Needles
817 3rd Street
Needles, CA 92363

City of Palo Verde
Planning Department
801 Main Street
El Centro, CA 92243

City of Ripley
Community Service District Office
24501 School Road
Ripley, CA 92225

City of Topock
Public Works Department
P.O. Box 7000
Kingman, AZ 86401

Community Planning and Liaison
Office
Marine Corps Air Station-Yuma
P.O. Box 99106
Yuma, AZ 85369-9106

County of Imperial
940 Main Street
El Centro, CA 92243

County of Mohave
809 East Beale Street
P.O. Box 7000
Kingman, AZ 86402

County of Riverside
4080 Lemon Street, 4th Floor
Riverside, CA 92501

County of San Bernardino
385 North Arrowhead Avenue
San Bernardino, CA 92415

Havasu National Wildlife Refuge
P.O. Box 3009
Needles, CA 92363

Imperial National Wildlife Refuge
P.O. Box 72217
Martinez Lake, AZ 85365

Kofa National Wildlife Refuge
356 West 1st Street
Yuma, AZ 85364

La Paz County
1112 Joshua Avenue, Suite 202
Parker, AZ 85344

La Paz County Community
Development
1112 Joshua Avenue, Suite 202
Parker, AZ 85344

Lake Havasu City
2330 McCulloch Boulevard North
Lake Havasu City, AZ 86403

Town of Parker
1314 11th Street
Parker, AZ 85344

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Region IX
75 Hawthorne Street
San Francisco, CA 94105

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Carlsbad Fish and Wildlife Office
6010 Hidden Valley Road
Carlsbad, CA 92009

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Phoenix Fish and Wildlife Office
2321 West Royal Palm Road
Suite 103
Phoenix, AZ 85021

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Ventura Fish and Wildlife Office
2493 Portola Road, Suite B
Ventura, CA 93003

U.S. Geological Survey
Water Resources Division
520 North Park Avenue, Suite 221
Tucson, AZ 85719

U.S. Geological Survey
Western Region Office
Menlo Park Campus, Building 3
345 Middlefield Road
Menlo Park, CA 94025

Wellton-Mohawk Natural Resources
Conservation Service
5578 South Avenue 37 East
Roll, AZ 85347

Yuma County
198 South Main Street
Yuma, AZ 85364

Yuma County Planning and Zoning
2703 South Avenue B
Yuma, AZ 85364

California Department of
Fish and Game
Eastern Sierra Inland Deserts Region
P.O. Box 2160
Blythe, CA 92226

MAY 25 2007

YAO-7210
ENV-1.10

CERTIFIED – RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED (7006 2760 0004 5803 4253)

Mr. Ron Maldonado
Historic Preservation Office
Navajo Nation
P.O. Box 4950
Window Rock, AZ 86515

Subject: Administrative Draft Programmatic Environmental Assessment (EA) for Quarry Operations, Lower Colorado Region, Yuma Area Office

Dear Mr. Maldonado:

Enclosed is a draft EA for your review. The Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) has identified 14 existing quarries and 2 new quarry locations located between Davis Dam and Laguna Dam, for future rock extraction. As you know, Reclamation's mission is to protect and manage water-related resources along the lower Colorado River and associated waterways. This includes protecting our dams and infrastructure (levees, canals, etc.), stabilizing river banks, and providing flood control on a routine basis. Large quantities of rock must be stockpiled for maintenance activities and unpredictable flooding events.

The purpose and need for a programmatic EA is addressed in Section 1.0. Briefly, this document broadly assesses the impacts to the 16 quarry locations. However, its main purpose is to help facilitate regulatory requirements and planning between various government and private entities. Additional environmental studies including cultural resource inventories, and consultation with Native American tribes, are anticipated for each quarry location. In the future, we will be seeking information on traditional places of importance to tribes during specific quarry studies. Sections 3.5 and 3.9 list known culturally and environmentally sensitive sites near the various quarries. In addition to several historic sites, numerous National Register eligible or listed intaglio/earth figure and rock art sites exist along this stretch of the river.

This document will be distributed to the State Historic Preservation Office (Arizona and California), appropriate tribal entities, the Bureau of Land Management, United States Fish and Wildlife Service, Yuma Proving Grounds, and appropriate state and local governments for their review (see Distribution List in Section 6.1). Reclamation will continue to consult with cooperating agencies, interested parties, and tribes as we move through the National Environmental Policy Act process and related environmental reviews.

Please provide comments not later than 30 days from the date of this letter. You may direct any questions or comments you might have on this document to Mr. Julian DeSantiago, at 928-343-8259, or email: jdesantiago@lc.usbr.gov.

Thank you for your time and we look forward to consulting with you in the future.

Sincerely,

**Peggy Haren**

For

Cynthia Hoeft, Director
Resources Management Office

Enclosure

bc: Regional Director, Boulder City, NV
Attn: LC-2632 (Kolvet)

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7210:DeSantiago (w/o encl)
7300 Simes (w/o encl)

JDeSantiago:om:05/23/07
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HONORABLE DELIA CARLYLE
CHAIRWOMAN
AK-CHIN INDIAN COMMUNITY
42507 WEST PETERS & NALL ROAD
MARICOPA AZ 85239

HONORABLE CHARLES WOOD
CHAIRMAN
CHEMEHUEVI TRIBAL COUNCIL
PO BOX 1976
HAVASU LAKE CA 92363

HONORABLE DANIEL EDDY, JR.
CHAIRMAN
COLORADO RIVER INDIAN TRIBES
ROUTE 1, BOX 23-B
PARKER AZ 85344

MS. KAREN RAY, CULTURAL
PRESERVATION REPRESENTATIVE
FORT McDOWELL YAVAPAI NATION
PO BOX 17779
FOUNTAIN HILLS AZ 85269

HONORABLE MICHAEL JACKSON, SR.
PRESIDENT
FORT YUMA-QUECHAN INDIAN TRIBE
PO BOX 1899
YUMA AZ 85366-1899

HONORABLE WILLIAM R. RHODES
GOVERNOR
GILA RIVER INDIAN COMMUNITY
PO BOX 97
SACATON AZ 85247

HONORABLE IVAN L. SIDNEY, SR.
CHAIRMAN
HOPI TRIBE
PO BOX 123
KYKOTSMOVI AZ 86039

MS. LORETTA JACKSON-KELLY, TRIBAL
HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER
HUALAPAI TRIBAL COUNCIL
PO BOX 310
PEACH SPRINGS AZ 86434

MR. RON MALDONADO
HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE
NAVAJO NATION
PO BOX 4950
WINDOW ROCK AZ 86515

HONORABLE DIANE ENOS, PRESIDENT
SALT RIVER PIMA-MARICOPA
INDIAN COMMUNITY
10005 EAST OSBORN ROAD
SCOTTSDALE AZ 85256

MS. NANCY NELSON
CULTURAL RESOURCES MANAGER
AK-CHIN INDIAN COMMUNITY
42507 WEST PETERS & NALL ROAD
MARICOPA AZ 85239

HONORABLE SHERRY CORDOVA
CHAIRWOMAN
COCOPAH INDIAN TRIBE
COUNTY 15 AND AVENUE G
SOMERTON AZ 85350

MR. MICHAEL TSOSIE
MUSEUM DIRECTOR
COLORADO RIVER INDIAN TRIBES
ROUTE 1, BOX 23-B
PARKER AZ 85344

HONORABLE NORA McDOWELL
CHAIRWOMAN
FORT MOJAVE TRIBAL COUNCIL
500 MERRIMAN AVENUE
NEEDLES CA 92362

MS. PAULINE JOSE, CHAIRWOMAN,
QUECHAN CULTURAL COMMITTEE
FORT YUMA-QUECHAN INDIAN TRIBE
PO BOX 1899
YUMA AZ 85366-1899

MR. BARNABY V. LEWIS, CULTURAL
RESOURCES PROGRAM MANAGER
GILA RIVER INDIAN COMMUNITY
PO BOX 2140
SACATON AZ 85247

MR. LEIGH KUWANWISIWMA, CULTURAL
PRESERVATION OFFICE DIRECTOR
HOPI TRIBE
PO BOX 123
KYKOTSMOVI AZ 86039

HONORABLE GARY TOM
CHAIRMAN
KAIBAB-PAIUTE TRIBE
HC-65 BOX 2
FREDONIA AZ 86022

HONORABLE HERMINIA FRIAS
CHAIRWOMAN
PASCUA YAQUI TRIBE
7474 SOUTH CAMINO DE OESTE
TUCSON AZ 85746

MR. SHANE ANTON, ACTING CULTURAL
PROGRAMS SUPERVISOR
SALT RIVER PIMA-MARICOPA
INDIAN COMMUNITY
10005 EAST OSBORN ROAD
SCOTTSDALE AZ 85256

HONORABLE RALPH GOFF
CHAIRMAN
CAMPO BAND OF KUMEYAAY
36190 CHURCH ROAD, SUITE 1
CAMPO CA 91906

MS. H. JILL McCORMICK
CULTURAL RESOURCE MANAGER
COCOPAH INDIAN TRIBE
COUNTY 15 AND AVENUE G
SOMERTON AZ 85350

HONORABLE RAPHAEL BEAR
PRESIDENT
FORT McDOWELL YAVAPAI NATION
PO BOX 17779
FOUNTAIN HILLS AZ 85269

MS. LINDA OTERO, DIRECTOR,
AHA MAKAV CULTURAL SOCIETY
FORT MOJAVE INDIAN TRIBE
PO BOX 5990
MOHAVE VALLEY AZ 86440

MS. BRIDGET NASH, QUECHAN TRIBAL
HISTORICAL PRESERVATION OFFICER
FORT YUMA-QUECHAN INDIAN TRIBE
PO BOX 1899
YUMA AZ 85366-1899

MS. LORRAINE MARQUEZ EILER
DIRECTOR
HIA C'ED O'ODHAM ALLIANCE
4739 WEST HAYWARD
GLENDALE AZ 85301

HONORABLE CHARLIE VAUGHN
CHAIRMAN
HUALAPAI TRIBAL COUNCIL
PO BOX 179
PEACH SPRINGS AZ 86434

HONORABLE JOE SHIRLEY, JR.
TRIBAL PRESIDENT
NAVAJO NATION
PO BOX 9000
WINDOW ROCK AZ 86515

MS. AMALIA A.M. REYES, LANGUAGE &
CULTURAL PRESERVATION SPECIALIST
PASCUA YAQUI TRIBE
7474 SOUTH CAMINO DE OESTE
TUCSON AZ 85746

HONORABLE KATHY WESLEY-KITCHEYAN
CHAIRWOMAN
SAN CARLOS APACHE TRIBE
PO BOX "O"
SAN CARLOS AZ 85550

MS. VERNELDA GRANT, TRIBAL
ARCHAEOLOGIST, NATURAL RESOURCES
SAN CARLOS APACHE TRIBE
PO BOX "O"
SAN CARLOS AZ 85550

HONORABLE VIVIAN JUAN-SAUNDERS
CHAIRWOMAN
TOHONO O'ODHAM NATION
PO BOX 837
SELLS AZ 85634

MR. PETER STEERE
CULTURAL AFFAIRS MANAGER
TOHONO O'ODHAM NATION
PO BOX 837
SELLS AZ 85634

HONORABLE JAMIE FULLMER
CHAIRMAN
YAVAPAI-APACHE NATION
2400 WEST DATSI STREET
CAMP VERDE AZ 86322

HONORABLE ERNIE JONES, SR.
PRESIDENT
YAVAPAI-PRESCOTT INDIAN TRIBE
530 EAST MERRITT STREET
PRESCOTT AZ 86301

MS. NANCY HAYDEN
DIRECTOR OF RESEARCH
YAVAPAI-PRESCOTT INDIAN TRIBE
530 EAST MERRITT STREET
PRESCOTT AZ 86301

MR. LOREY CACHONA
PO BOX 894
WINTERHAVEN CA 92283

MR. COLIN SOTO
10241 WEST STEAMBOAT STREET
SOMERTON AZ 85350

MR. BILL PYOTT
FORT YUMA AGENCY
BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS
PO BOX 1100
YUMA AZ 85366-1100

JUN 0 1 2007

YAO-7210
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CERTIFIED – RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED (7004 1160 0002 5652 2397)

Mr. Wayne Donaldson
California State Historic Preservation Office
P.O. Box 942896
Sacramento, CA 94296-0001

Subject: Administrative Draft Programmatic Environmental Assessment (EA) for Quarry Operations, Lower Colorado Region, Yuma Area Office

Dear Mr. Donaldson:

Enclosed is a draft EA for your review. The Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) has identified 14 existing quarries and 2 new quarry locations located between Davis Dam and Laguna Dam, for future rock extraction. As you know, Reclamation's mission is to protect and manage water-related resources along the lower Colorado River and associated waterways. This includes protecting our dams and infrastructure (levees, canals, etc.), stabilizing river banks, and providing flood control on a routine basis. Large quantities of rock must be stockpiled for maintenance activities and unpredictable flooding events.

The purpose and need for a programmatic EA is addressed in Section 1.0. Briefly, this document broadly assesses the impacts to the 16 quarry locations. Its main purpose is to help facilitate regulatory requirements and planning between various government and private entities. Additional environmental studies, including cultural resource inventories and consultation with Native American tribes, are anticipated at each quarry location. Sections 3.5 and 3.9 list known culturally and environmentally sensitive sites near the quarries. In addition to several historic sites, numerous National Register eligible or listed intaglio/earth figure and rock art sites exist along this stretch of the river.

This document will be distributed to the Arizona State Historic Preservation Office (Arizona and California), appropriate tribal entities, the Bureau of Land Management, the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, Yuma Proving Grounds, and appropriate state and local governments for their reviews (see Distribution List in Section 6.1). Reclamation will continue to consult with cooperating agencies, interested parties, and tribes as we move through the National Environmental Policy Act process.

Please direct any questions or comments that you might have on this document to Mr. Julian DeSantiago at 928-343-8259 or email: jdesantiago@lc.usbr.gov. Questions related to cultural resources may be directed to Ms. Renee Kolvet at 702-293-8443 or by email: rkolvet@lc.usbr.gov.

Thank you for your time and we look forward to consulting with you in the future.

Sincerely,

**Cynthia Hoeft**

Cynthia Hoeft, Director
Resources Management Office

Enclosure

bc: Regional Director , Boulder City, NV
Attn: Kolvet (LC-2632) (w/o encl)

7001
7210 DeSantiago (w/o encl)
7120 Pinnell (w/o encl)

JDeSantiago:nm:05/25/07
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ENV-9.00- Environmental Assessment

# THE HOPI TRIBE

**Hopi Cultural Preservation Office**
**P.O. Bo 123**
**Kykotsmovi, AZ 86039**
**(928) 734-3613**





June 4, 2007

Cynthia Hoeft, Director, Resources Management Office
Bureau of Reclamation, Yuma Area Office
7301 Calle Agua Salada
Yuma, Arizona 85364

Dear Ms. Hoeft,

This letter is in response to your correspondence dated May 25, 2007, with an enclosed copy of the Administrative Draft Programmatic Agreement Environmental Assessment for Quarry Operations, Lower Colorado Region, Yuma Area Office.

Because the Hopi Tribe claims cultural affiliation to prehistoric cultural groups in Arizona, including the Hohokam prehistoric cultural group, known to Hopi people as *Hisatsinom,* People of Long Ago, and because the Hopi Cultural Preservation Office supports the identification and avoidance of archaeological sites and Traditional Cultural Properties, we appreciate your continuing solicitation of our input and your efforts to address our concerns.

The Hopi Cultural Preservation Office has reviewed the draft Environmental Assessment involving 14 existing and 2 new quarry locations between Davis and Laguna Dams. We understand that numerous National Register eligible or listed intaglio and rock art sites exist along this stretch of the river, and that additional cultural resource inventories and consultation on traditional cultural properties are anticipated for each quarry location.

Therefore, if cultural resources surveys of the areas of potential effect for these 16 locations identify prehistoric cultural resources that will be adversely affected by project activities, please provide us with copies of the survey report and any proposed treatment plans for review and comment.

Should you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Terry Morgart at the Hopi Cultural Preservation Office. Thank you again for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Leigh Kuwanwisiwma, Director
Hopi Cultural Preservation Office

ENV-9.00 ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

# QUECHAN INDIAN TRIBE
## *Ft. Yuma Indian Reservation*

**P.O. Box 1899**
**Yuma, Arizona 85366-1899**
**Phone (760) 572-0213**
**Fax (760) 572-2102**

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June 21, 2007

Bureau of Reclamation
Yuma Area Office
Mr. Julian DeSantiago
7301 Calle Agua Salado
Yuma, AZ 85364

Dear Mr. DeSantiago,

I have reviewed the Draft EA for the Quarry Operations project and have met with the Quechan Cultural Committee regarding the proposed project. The Committee would like to arrange a meeting to discuss this project as there are several concerns in regards to cultural resources and possible impact to the Colorado River.

Please call my office at (760) 572-2423 at your earliest convenience to schedule the meeting.

Sincerely,

Bridget R. Nash-Chrabascz
Historic Preservation Officer

**From:** "Bridget Nash" <b.nash@quechantribe.com>
**To:** <jdesantiago@lc.usbr.gov>
**Date:** 6/22/2007 4:51:48 PM
**Subject:** quarry operations

Please call me once you receive this email to arrange a meeting. Thank you.

A hard copy has been mailed.

Bridget R. Nash-Chrabascz

Quechan Tribe Historic Preservation Officer

Quechan Indian Tribe

PO Box 1899

Yuma, AZ 85366

760-572-2423

ENV-9.00 ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

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| Keyword 3886 | | |


**THE COCOPAH INDIAN TRIBE**
**Cultural Resource Department**
**County 15th & Avenue G**
**Somerton, Arizona 85350**
**Telephone (928) 627-2102**
**Fax (928) 627-3173**


June 25, 2007

H. Jill McCormick
Cocopah Tribe
County 15 & Avenue G
Somerton, AZ 85350
928-503-2291

Mr. Julian DeSantiago
US Department of the Interior
Bureau of Reclamation – Yuma Area Office
7301 Calle Agua Salada
Yuma, Arizona 85364

RE: Administrative Draft Programmatic Environmental Assessment (EA) for Quarry Operations, Lower Colorado Region, Yuma Area Office

The Cultural Resources Department of the Cocopah Indian Tribe appreciates your consultation efforts on this project. We are pleased that you contacted the Cocopah Tribe on this cultural resource issue for the purpose of solicitation of our input and to address our concerns on this matter.

The continuation of the quarrying process and the addition of two new quarrying sites pose concern for the numerous cultural resources located along the Colorado River terraces. Having said this, it is this department's determination that the continuation of the quarrying process in these locations must be stopped and no new operations begun in these locations to protect the irreplaceable resources known to exist there.

If you have any questions or need additional information please feel free to contact the cultural resource department. We will be happy to assist you with any and all future concerns or questions.

Sincerely,

H. Jill McCormick

Cultural Resource Manager

**Quechan Cultural Committee Meeting**
**July 17, 2007**
**Quechan Administration Building**

Attendees:
Ed Virden and Julian DeSantiago (Reclamation)
Bridget R. Nash-Chrabascz (Quechan Historic Preservation Office)
Quechan Cultural Committee members

Purpose of Meeting: At the request of the Quechan Indian Tribe's cultural committee (letter dated June 21, 2007), Reclamation met and discussed project concerns.

Topic of Discussion:

Comment No. 1 - Quechan concern with Reclamation quarry operations EA.
Response: Reclamation clarified programmatic EA's purpose and made them aware that additional project specific NEPA and cultural resources coordination would be conducted when an existing quarry or new quarry would be re-opened.

Comment No. 2 – Quechan concern regarding impacts to culturally sensitive areas along the lower Colorado River (e.g. intaglios). Response: Reclamation indicated that future activities (reopening of quarries) would require additional project specific NEPA compliance and coordination with tribes in order avoid impacting cultural sensitive areas and comply with SHPO requirements.

Comment No. 3 - Impacts to water quality
Response: Reclamation will comply with any Clean Water Act requirements to avoid and minimize impacts to waters of the US (e.g. certain washes might be under the jurisdiction of the USACE) In addition, Reclamation will implement best management practices and require the contractor to prepare storm water pollution prevent plan for each individual quarry.

Comment No. 4 – Concern with impacting Yuma area resources for the benefit of upstream communities.
Response: Quarried material will be use in immediate project areas (e.g. material from the Laguna Dam quarry would not be used in the Needles area.

**From:** <Stephen_Fusilier@blm.gov>
**To:** "Julian DeSantiago" <JDESANTIAGO@lc.usbr.gov>
**Date:** 7/17/2007 6:11:35 PM
**Subject:** Re: Pits Programmatic EA

Julian,

Here are the Comments:

Aaron Curtis:

Comment: NEPA requires analyzing the impacts of the proposed action AND the alternatives, however, I didn't come across any analysis of the impacts from implementing the No Action Alternative.

Comment: How were the "Visually sensitive resource" locations in section 3.9 selected (page 32)? Scoping? Text should identify how.

Comment: Section 4.9, Impacts to Aesthetic Values, is inadequate. First, the quarries WOULD degrade the existing visual character - saying that the quarries "MAY degrade the existing visual character," the landscapes "MAY be altered" by the operations, and "MAY attract the attention of members of the public" is not being forthright to the reader (page 40, emphasis added). Second, the impact analysis is so broad that it essentially tells the reader nothing, which is worrisome due to the fact that the document states no further analysis of Aesthetic Impacts is necessary for many of the quarries (see next comment below).

Comment: Table 2-3 identifies which environmental components need additional analysis for quarrying operations at specific sites. Any quarries located on BLM managed or co-managed lands within the Yuma Field Office's jurisdiction will need additional analysis of the impacts to aesthetic values, as per the requirements of FLPMA. Section 102 (a)(8) of FLPMA of 1976 mandates the BLM to manage the public lands in a manner that will protect the quality of the visual and scenic values of the landscape, and Section 505 (a) requires that “each right-of-way shall contain terms and conditions which will... minimize damage to the scenic and esthetic values...”. Table should also "check" the Trigo Wash, Cibola, Hart Mine No. 2, and Laguna Dam (East) quarries as needing additional analysis of Aesthetic Values.

Comment: Section 3.9, Aesthetic Values, states that Mittry Lake Wildlife Area is a "visually sensitive resource" (page 32). Section 4.9, Impacts to Aesthetic Values, makes no mention that Laguna Dam (East) quarry is located at the primary entrance to Mittry Lake (page 40), even though section 5.9 states that Reclamation would "select quarry locations that are away from public view and avoid areas of aesthetic value" (page 49). Also, Table 2-3 does not identify Aesthetic Values as needing additional analysis for future proposals at this site (page 12). On page 9, Table 2-1 states that the Laguna Dam East quarry is proposed as 15.32 acres. What is the acreage for the portions of the quarry that is in use now? Without this info it's difficult to identify what additional impacts would occur at this location and what the impacts would be to Mittry Lake visitors.

Comment: Section 4.8, Impacts to Socioeconomic, makes no mention of potential impacts to tourism at the Yuma Field Office's Betty's Kitchen Watchable Wildlife Viewing Area and National Recreation Trail (page 40). Noise will definitely be heard from operations at the Laguna Dam (East quarry), which would degrade recreational experiences at this BLM recreation amenity fee site. Table 2-3 does not identify Noise from this quarry as needing any further analysis for this location.

Jennifer Green:

The main comment I have is that they should include discussion of invasive weeds. This seems to be missing from the EA. Quarries and stockpiles (disturbed areas) are often breeding grounds for invasive weeds. After the aggregate is transported from one place to another, so is weed seed. I have personally seen Brassica tournefortii in several rock quarries and gravel piles. Are there ways they could manage for these weeds so they are not transported from one area to another? This is one of our critical elements.

Stephen Fusilier/Sandra Arnold:

We had previously requested copies (for our archeologist's files) of the tribal and SHPO consultation documentation, and recommended that information on the consultation be incorporated into the EA (Chapters 3 and 4 cultural resources). We have not received any copies of the documentation.

Section 5.5, Cultural, 4th Bullet - Change to say (at least for the pits in the Yuma Field Office) - Conduct additional cultural surveys to current standards and consultations with both the Tribes and SHPO, for existing quarries, as well as any proposed new proposed quarry areas.

Section 5.5, Cultural, - Add a Sixth Bullet - Stipulations for archeological sensitivity training for material pit workers and for archaeological monitors during ground-disturbing activities would be incorporated into site-specific NEPA as appropriate.

Stephen Fusilier:

Table 2-3, page 12 - All sites in the Yuma Field Office would need to have Tribal Consultation due to specific concerns having been voiced to us by certain Tribes with regard to mineral material pits (so please add Cibola, Hart Mine 2, Palo Verde Road.)

Table 2-3, page 12 - Need to add Ehrenberg to the list for Indian Trust Concerns since this pit is now on CRIT Reservation lands.

**CC:** <Sandra_Arnold@blm.gov>, "Tracey Epperley" <TEPPERLEY@lc.usbr.gov>

ENV-9.00 ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT


# AK-CHIN INDIAN COMMUNITY

Cultural Resources Office

42507 W Peters & Nall Road • Maricopa, Arizona 85239 • Telephone: (520) 568-1369 • Fax: (520) 568-1366


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July 21, 2007

Mr. Julian DeSantiago
Bureau of Reclamation
Yuma Area Office
7301 Calle Agua Salada
Yuma, Arizona 85364

Dear Mr. DeSantiago:

The Ak-Chin Cultural Resources Office received the draft report of the Environmental Assessment for Quarry Operations, Lower Colorado Region in Yuma County, Arizona.

Thank you for informing the Ak-Chin Cultural Resources Office about the Assessment. Our Cultural Resources Office is currently without a manager. If you have any questions you can contact Gary Gilbert at (520) 568-1369 or me at (520)568-1368.

Sincerely,

Carmen Narcia

Carmen Narcia
Cultural Resources Specialist
Ak-Chin Indian Community
Cultural Resources Office

AUG 0 1 2007

YAO-7210
ENV-6.00

MEMORANDUM

To: Bureau of Land Management, Yuma Field Office,
2555 East Gila Ridge Road, Yuma, AZ 85365
Attn: Mr. Stephen Fusilier

From: Edward Virden
Acting Cynthia Hoeft
Director, Resource Management Office

Subject: Response to Comments – Draft Programmatic Environmental Assessment (EA), Quarry Operations – Yuma Area Office, Lower Colorado River Region

The Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) is attaching our response to the Bureau of Land Management's (BLM) comments received July 17, 2007 (via email) on the EA and draft programmatic Biological Assessment (BA) for quarry operations with this memorandum.

Reclamation is committed to further site-specific analysis at existing quarries and prior to establishing new quarry sites. In addition, implementing the mitigation measures (reasonable and prudent measures, and implementing terms and conditions) described in both the EA and BA would minimize impacts.

Reclamation appreciates the comments received and looks forward to further coordination with BLM on this and other projects. If you have any questions regarding the project, please contact Mr. Julian DeSantiago at 928-343-8259.

Attachment

7001
7210 DeSantiago (w/att)

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Dir:7000\Desantiago\7210-07.003

**Comments and Responses:**

**Aaron Curtis Comment #1:** NEPA requires analyzing the impacts of the proposed action AND the alternatives, however, I didn't come across any analysis of the impacts from implementing the No Action Alternative.

**Reclamation Response:** Section 4.0, 1st ¶, 2nd & 3rd sentences states: "Based on the programmatic nature of the analysis, the scope and magnitude of potential impacts at quarry sites included in the Proposed Action and the No Action Alternative were determined to be similar. Therefore, the consequences discussed in each resource area apply to both the Proposed Action and No Action Alternative."

**Aaron Curtis Comment #2:** How were the "Visually sensitive resource" locations in section 3.9 selected (page 32)? Scoping? Text should identify how.

**Reclamation Response:** Text will be added to section 3.9 to clarify.

**Aaron Curtis Comment #3:** Section 4.9, Impacts to Aesthetic Values, is inadequate. First, the quarries WOULD degrade the existing visual character - saying that the quarries "MAY degrade the existing visual character," the landscapes "MAY be altered" by the operations, and "MAY attract the attention of members of the public" is not being forthright to the reader (page 40, emphasis added). Second, the impact analysis is so broad that it essentially tells the reader nothing, which is worrisome due to the fact that the document states no further analysis of Aesthetic Impacts is necessary for many of the quarries (see next comment below).

**Reclamation Response:** Text of EA will be changed to reflect that quarrying activities do have an effect on Aesthetic Values and Table 2-3 will mark all quarries to require further analysis regarding aesthetics.

**Aaron Curtis Comment #4:** Table 2-3 identifies which environmental components need additional analysis for quarrying operations at specific sites. Any quarries located on BLM managed or co-managed lands within the Yuma Field Office's jurisdiction will need additional analysis of the impacts to aesthetic values, as per the requirements of FLPMA. Section 102 (a)(8) of FLPMA of 1976 mandates the BLM to manage the public lands in a manner that will protect the quality of the visual and scenic values of the landscape, and Section 505 (a) requires that "each right-of-way shall contain terms and conditions which will... minimize damage to the scenic and aesthetic values...". Table should also "check" the Trigo Wash, Cibola, Hart Mine No. 2, and Laguna Dam (East) quarries as needing additional analysis of Aesthetic Values.

**Reclamation Response:** Change Table 2-3, see above response to Aaron Curtis Comment #3.

**Aaron Curtis Comment #5:** Section 3.9, Aesthetic Values, states that Mittry Lake Wildlife Area is a "visually sensitive resource" (page 32). Section 4.9, Impacts to Aesthetic Values, makes no mention that Laguna Dam (East) quarry is located at the primary entrance to Mittry Lake (page 40), even though section 5.9 states that Reclamation would "select quarry locations that are away from public view and avoid areas of aesthetic value" (page 49). Also, Table 2-3 does not identify Aesthetic Values as needing additional analysis for future proposals at this site (page 12).

**Reclamation Response:** The programmatic EA does not specifically address impacts associated with each quarry. Site specific NEPA documentation will focus on individual quarry activities and access roads. Change Table 2-3, see above response to Aaron Curtis Comment #3.

**Aaron Curtis Comment #6:** On page 9, Table 2-1 states that the Laguna Dam East quarry is proposed as 15.32 acres. What is the acreage for the portions of the quarry that is in use now? Without this info it's difficult to identify what additional impacts would occur at this location and what the impacts would be to Mittry Lake visitors.

**Reclamation Response:** Table 2-1 will be modified to show all acreages as "existing acreage", except Paymaster and Quien Sabe acreages (proposed new quarries) will be "proposed acreage."

**Aaron Curtis Comment #7:** Section 4.8, Impacts to Socioeconomic, makes no mention of potential impacts to tourism at the Yuma Field Office's Betty's Kitchen Watchable Wildlife Viewing Area and National Recreation Trail (page 40). Noise will definitely be heard from operations at the Laguna Dam (East quarry), which would degrade recreational experiences at this BLM recreation amenity fee site.

**Reclamation Response:** The programmatic EA does not specifically address impacts associated with each quarry. Site specific NEPA documentation will focus on individual quarry activities and access roads. However, the text in section 4.8 will be changed to reflect potential noise impacts to recreation.

**Aaron Curtis Comment #8:** Table 2-3 does not identify Noise from this quarry [Laguna Dam East] as needing any further analysis for this location.

**Reclamation Response:** Modify Table 2-3, add mitigation (section 5.12): "Reclamation will coordinate w/ BLM, and BLM should notify Reclamation of any activities in the area of relevant quarries."

**Jennifer Green Comment #1:** The main comment I have is that they should include discussion of invasive weeds. This seems to be missing from the EA. Quarries and stockpiles (disturbed areas) are often breeding grounds for invasive weeds. After the aggregate is transported from one place to another, so is weed seed. I have personally seen Brassica tournefortii in several rock quarries and gravel piles. Are there ways they

could manage for these weeds so they are not transported from one area to another? This is one of our critical elements.

**Reclamation Response:** Add text to the EA to discuss invasive species. Site specific NEPA documentation will focus on individual quarry activities and access roads.

**Sandra Arnold Comment #1:** We had previously requested copies (for our archeologist's files) of the tribal and SHPO consultation documentation, and recommended that information on the consultation be incorporated into the EA (Chapters 3 and 4 cultural resources). We have not received any copies of the documentation.

**Reclamation Response:** Appendix A of the EA has a copy of all coordination letters. Also, an electronic PDF will be sent to Sandra containing requested correspondence.

**Sandra Arnold Comment #2:** Section 5.5, Cultural, 4th Bullet - Change to say (at least for the pits in the Yuma Field Office) - Conduct additional cultural surveys to current standards and consultations with both the Tribes and SHPO, for existing quarries, as well as any proposed new proposed quarry areas.

**Reclamation Response:** Comment incorporated.

**Sandra Arnold Comment #3:** Section 5.5, Cultural, - Add a Sixth Bullet - Stipulations for archeological sensitivity training for material pit workers and for archaeological monitors during ground-disturbing activities would be incorporated into site-specific NEPA as appropriate.

**Reclamation Response:** Comment incorporated.

**Stephen Fusilier Comment #1:** Table 2-3, page 12 - All sites in the Yuma Field Office would need to have Tribal Consultation due to specific concerns having been voiced to us by certain Tribes with regard to mineral material pits (so please add Cibola, Hart Mine 2, Palo Verde Road.)

**Reclamation Response:** Change Table 2-3 to include Cibola, Hart Mine No.2, and Palo Verde Road quarries for Tribal Coordination.

**Stephen Fusilier Comment #2:** Table 2-3, page 12 - Need to add Ehrenberg to the list for Indian Trust Concerns since this pit is now on CRIT Reservation lands.

**Reclamation Response:** Change Table 2-3 to include Ehrenberg quarry for Tribal Coordination.

YAO-7210
ENV-6.00

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Cocopah Indian Tribe
Cultural Resource Department
Attn: Ms. Jill McCormick
County Fifteenth & Avenue G
Somerton, AZ 85350

Subject: Draft Programmatic Environmental Assessment (EA), Quarry Operations – Response to Comments

Dear Ms. McCormick

Thank you for the comment letter (dated June 25, 2007) on the EA for Quarry Operations. The Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) shares your concerns for protection of cultural resources along the Lower Colorado River.

The EA is not intended to fulfill all environment requirements for the reopening and establishing new quarry activities. Reopening and establishment of new quarries will be subject to further site specific environmental analysis and coordination prior to conducting such activities.

Reclamation is committed to continued coordination with the tribe on cultural issues and concerns related to the re-opening and establishment of new quarry operations. Environmental commitments described in Section 5.5 of the EA have been designed to avoid and minimize any adverse affects from the proposed action on cultural resources.

Once the EA is finalized, a copy will be provided to you for your files. Reclamation appreciates the comments received and looks forward to further coordination with the tribe. If you have any questions please contact Mr. Julian DeSantiago at 928-343-8259.

Sincerely,

**Edward Virden**

For Cynthia Hoeft, Director
Resource Management Office

AUG 0 1 2007

YAO-7210
ENV-6.00

Quechan Indian Tribe
Ft. Yuma Indian Reservation
Attn: Ms. Bridget R. Nash-Chrabascz
P.O. Box 1899
Yuma, AZ 85366-1899

Subject: Draft Programmatic Environmental Assessment (EA), Quarry Operations - Response to Comments

Dear Ms. Nash-Chrabascz

Thank you for the comment letter (dated June 21, 2007) on the EA for Quarry Operations. As discussed on July 17, 2007, meeting between the Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) and the Quechan Cultural Committee, Reclamation is committed to continued coordination with the tribe on cultural issues and concerns related to the re-opening and establishment of new quarry operations.

The EA is not intended to fulfill all environment requirements for the reopening and establishment new quarry activities. Reopening and establishment of new quarries will be subject to further site specific environmental analysis and coordination prior to conducting such activities.

Once the EA is finalized, a copy will be provided to you for your files. Reclamation appreciates the comments received and looks forward to further coordination with the tribe. If you have any questions please contact Mr. Julian DeSantiago at 928-343-8259.

Sincerely,

**Edward Virden**

Cynthia Hoeft, Director
for Resource Management Office

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7210 DeSantiago

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