Public Notice

US ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS
St. Louis District
Gateway to Excellence

Reply To:
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Attn: CEMVS-OD-F
1222 Spruce Street
St. Louis, Missouri 63103-2833

Public Notice No.
P-2969

Public Notice Date:
August 26, 2016

Expiration Date:
September 15, 2016

Postmaster Please Post Conspicuously Until:

File Number: MVS-2008-826

Interested parties are hereby notified that an application has been received for a Department of the Army permit for certain work in waters of the United States, as described below and shown on the attached maps.

COMMENTS AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: Comments on the described work should reference the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers File Number shown above and must reach this office no later than the above expiration date of the Public Notice to become part of the record and be considered in the decision. Comments should be mailed to the following address:

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Regulatory Branch
1222 Spruce Street
St. Louis, Missouri 63103-2833
ATTN: Tyson Zobrist

APPLICANT: Specialty Granules LLC: Matthew McClure, 13424 Pennsylvania Avenue, Suite 303, Hagerstown, Maryland 21742.

LOCATION: The project is located south of Annapolis, Missouri and east of Hwy 149 (Funk Branch Road) heading southeast out of Annapolis. More specifically, the project site occurs in Sections 22 & 27, Township 31 North, Range 3 East, Iron County, Missouri. The approximate geographic coordinates of the site are 37.342918° north, -90.705035° east.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The applicant seeks authorization to conduct grading, filling and quarry operations in waters of the United States for the proposed Specialty Granules LLC (SGI) Annapolis quarry expansion, within a 329-acre site south of their existing quarry. The Annapolis Plant is an open-pit quarry and mineral processing facility (Site) that has been in operation since 1965. The Site produces high-quality rhyolite for use as roofing granules on asphalt shingles. Rhyolite, an igneous (volcanic) rock, is relatively uncommon due to its requirement to be extruded onto the earth's surface during formation, often in the form of lava. In comparison, granite, the intrusive (non-extruded) equivalent of rhyolite, is much more common. One of the top two producers of roofing granules in the United States, SGI operates a total of four quarries (Missouri, California, Wisconsin and Pennsylvania). However, only 1 of these four mines produce rhyolite, as rhyolite occurrence in the US is primarily restricted to portions of the Cascade Range in the Pacific Northwest, the

Rocky Mountains, the Jemez Mountains in northern New Mexico, the Bullfrog Hills in southwest Nevada, the northeast coast of Maine, and the St. Francois Mountains in southeast Missouri (where this Site is located).

At the Site processing facility, SGI crushes and screens the quarried rhyolite to acquire particle sizes ranging from 0.5 to 2.4mm for use as roofing granules. Material processing produces by-products (fines and ultrafines) at a ratio of approximately 1:1 with the desired materials. These by-product materials (fines) are those below the desired particle size range. For every ton of appropriately-sized roofing granules that are produced, a ton of fines is produced, which must be properly disposed. These by-product materials are stockpiled on-Site in designated areas prior to grading and seeding in accordance with the approved Site Land Reclamation Act Permit (#0520). As rhyolite has been quarried from the Site, SGI has expanded from the West Peak Quarry to the Mid-Peak Quarry and now looks to expand southward into the Mid-Peak South Quarry area. As mining activities extend into the Mid-Peak South Quarry, SGI will transport the overburden/cap rock to the proposed Northeast Stockpile area. Processed ultra- fines will be placed in the West Peak Quarry until this area reaches capacity. Processed fines will be placed in the South Stockpile Area. A map of the current Site indicating the location of the Mid-Peak and West Peak Quarries, as well as the overburden/cap rock and processed fines and ultra-fines stockpile/storage areas is found in the attachments.

At the Mid-Peak Quarry, SGI produces approximately 530,000-tons of roofing granules on an annual basis. SGI has produced roofing granules from the Annapolis Plant since 1965, and projects that an estimated 4.975-million granule tons of marketable material remain in the currently active Mid-Peak Quarry. As a result, SGI plans to expand the quarry operations southward to create the Mid-Peak South Quarry area. Expansion southward includes not only the expansion of the Mid-Peak Quarry, but also the necessary creation of additional stockpile and storage areas for overburden, cap rock and processed mining by-products, including fines and ultrafines, along with site access roads, drainage control structures, above and below-ground utilities and other associated infrastructure. The overall southward expansion area is approximately 329-acres, with the Mid-Peak South Quarry itself being approximately 135-acres and expected to produce an additional estimated 41.8-million tons of marketable rhyolite roofing granules.

The proposed expansion would impact up to 7,116-linear feet of an unnamed, jurisdictional streams, as well as impacting a relatively small area of igneous glade habitat, a state vulnerable (S3) habitat type. There are two streams that would be impacted by the project. The first is an ephemeral channel, 797-linear feet in length. The second stream totals 6,319-linear feet but has been separated into four reaches. The upper reach, which is the headwaters of the channel, consists of 294-feet of ephemeral channel. As the stream continues to flow to the northeast it exists as an intermittent channel for 4,152-linear feet. The channel continues through the glade habitat with perennial flow for 1,685-linear feet. From here, the channel continues west within the project footprint and the flow changes to intermittent through the fourth and final 118-feet of the impacted channel. SGI has considered multiple alternatives, avoidance, minimization, and mitigation measures for the proposed impacts. The stream impacts have been ran through the Missouri Stream Mitigation Method and have generated a total of 31,001.16 credits required to provide compensatory mitigation for the project. The applicant has proposed to purchase the total credit required from two approved In-Lie-Fee programs within the Ozark/Upper St. Francis/Castor River EDU.

LOCATION MAPS AND DRAWINGS: See attached. In addition, the project plans may be viewed in color and in more detail by visiting the Public Notice section of our website at http://www.mvs.usace.army.mil/Missions/Regulatory/PublicNotices.aspx

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: Additional information may be obtained by contacting Tyson Zobrist, Project Manager, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, at (314) 331-8578. Your inquiries may also be sent by electronic facsimile to (314) 331-8741 or by e-mail to Tyson.J.Zobrist@usace.army.mil.

AUTHORITY: This permit will be processed under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. 1344).

WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION: Section 401 of the Clean Water Act (33 USC 1341) requires that all discharges of dredged or fill material must be certified by the appropriate state agency as complying with applicable effluent limitations and water quality standards. The project plans will be submitted to the Missouri Department of Natural Resources, Water Protection Program (the Agency) in accordance with Section 401. While the Corps of Engineers may provide all relevant information to DNR and request Section 401 review on behalf of the applicant, the applicant assumes final responsibility to ensure that both agencies receive all information required to complete their independent review. If issued, Certification will express the Agency's opinion that the proposed activities will not violate applicable water quality standards. Written comments concerning possible impacts to waters of Missouri should be addressed to: Water Protection Program, P.O. Box 176, Jefferson City, Missouri 65102-0176, with a copy provided to the Corps of Engineers.

SECTION 404 (b)(1) EVALUATION: The impact of the activity on the public interest will be evaluated in accordance with the Environmental Protection Agency guidelines pursuant to Section 404 (b)(1) of the Clean Water Act.

PUBLIC HEARING: Any person may request, in writing, within the comment period specified in this notice, that a public hearing be held to consider the applicant's proposal. Any request for a public hearing shall state, with particularity, the reason for the hearing, and must be based on issues that would warrant additional public review.

ENDANGERED SPECIES: In compliance with section 7 of the Endangered Species Act [16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.], we will work cooperatively with the applicant and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) in analyzing effects posed by proposed actions on listed species or designated critical habitats. We will obtain or review an applicant provided official species list from the Service's IPaC website at https://ecos.fws.gov/ipac/. Following the comment period, we will make an effect determination and consult with the Service on actions that may affect listed species or designated critical habitat to insure those actions will not jeopardize the continued existence of a listed species or result in the destruction or adverse modification of designated critical habitat. In order to complete our evaluation, comments are solicited from other interested agencies and individuals through this Public Notice.

CULTURAL RESOURCES: The applicant coordinated with the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO). The Officer requested that a Phase I survey and an additional deep testing archaeological survey be conducted for the site. The Phase IA was completed in July 2015 and the Phase IB was completed in April 2016. The Officer supplied a letter dated June 2, 2016 stating that there will be no historic properties affected. The Corps will continue to coordinate with SHPO and Native American Tribes as appropriate.

EVALUATION: The decision whether to issue a permit will be based on an evaluation of the probable impact including cumulative impacts of the described activity on the public interest. That decision will reflect the national concern for both protection and utilization of important resources. The benefit that may reasonably be expected to accrue from the described activity must be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. All factors, which may be relevant to the activity described, will be considered including the

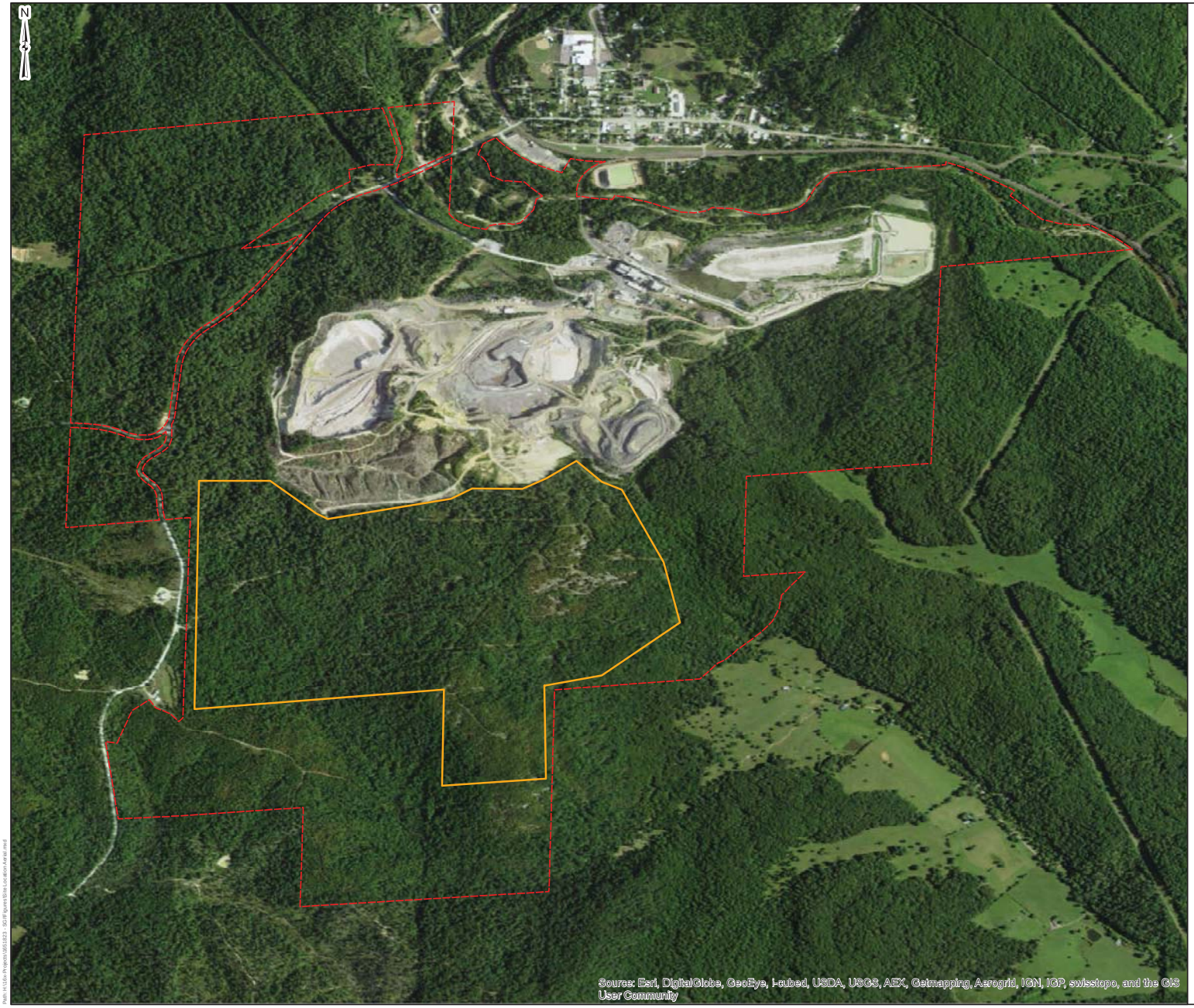
cumulative effects. Among factors considered are: conservation; economics; aesthetics; general environmental concerns; wetlands; historic properties; fish and wildlife values; flood hazards; flood plain values; land use; navigation; shoreline erosion and accretion; recreation; water supply and conservation; water quality; energy needs; safety; food and fiber production; mineral needs; consideration of property ownership; and in general the needs and welfare of the people.

SOLICITATION OF COMMENTS: The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is soliciting comments from the public; Federal, state, and local agencies and officials; Indian Tribes; and other interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of the proposed activity. Any comments received will be considered by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to determine whether to issue, modify, condition or deny a permit for this proposal. To make this decision, comments are used to assess impacts on endangered species, historic properties, water quality, general environmental effects, and other public interest factors listed above. Comments are used in the preparation of an Environmental Assessment and/or an Environmental Impact Statement pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act. Comments are also used to determine the need for a public hearing and to determine the overall public interest of the proposed activity.

DANNY D. MCCLENDON
Chief, Regulatory Branch

Attachments

NOTICE TO POSTMASTERS:
It is requested that this notice be conspicuously and continually placed for 21 days from the date of this issuance of this notice.



LEGEND

- Approximate Property Boundary
- Approximate Limits of Expansion

0 0.125 0.25 0.5 Miles

CLIENT
SPECIALTY GRANULES LLC

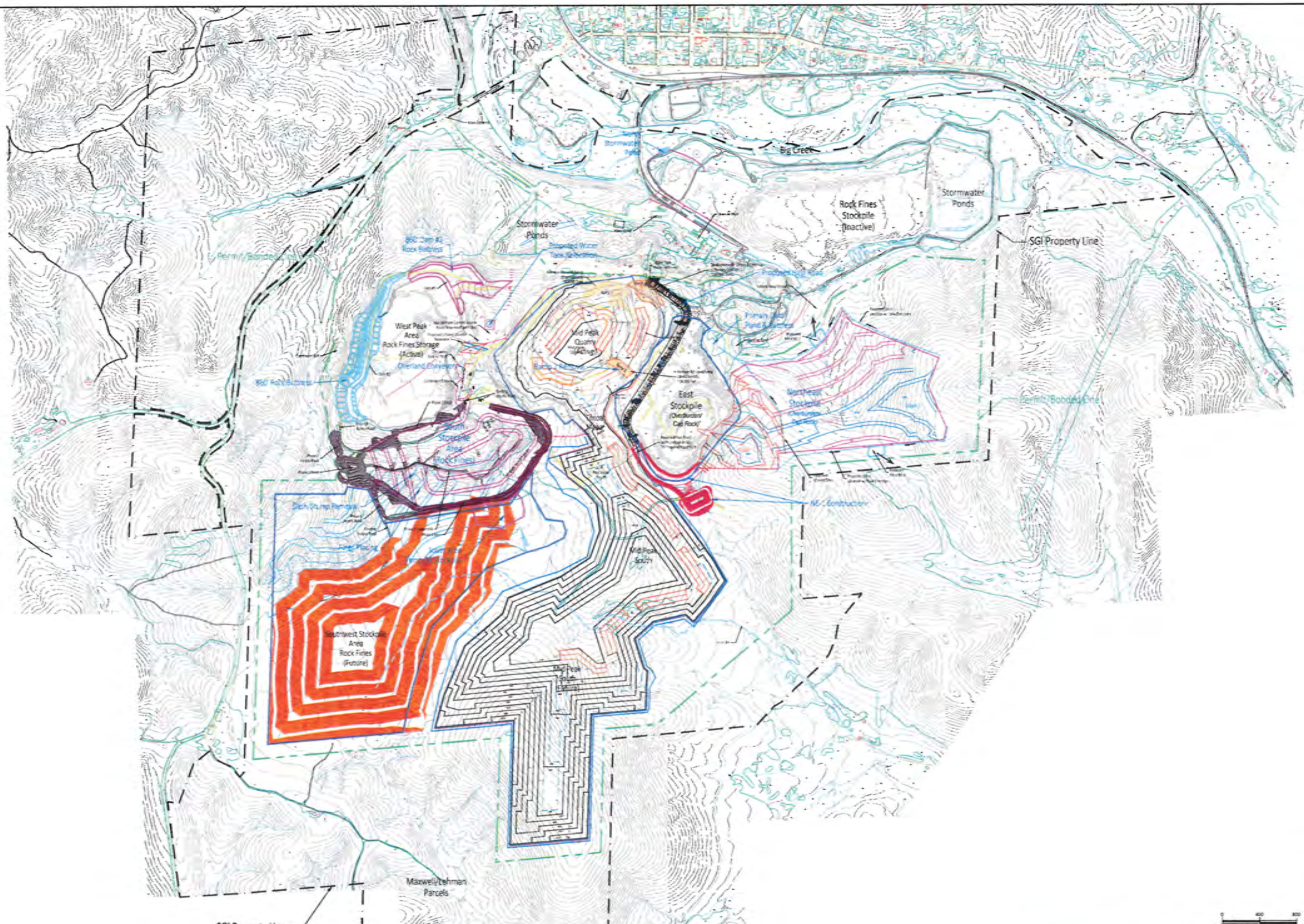
PROJECT
MID PEAK SOUTH QUARRY EXPANSION
SECTION 404 PERMIT APPLICATION

TITLE
AERIAL PHOTOGRAPH

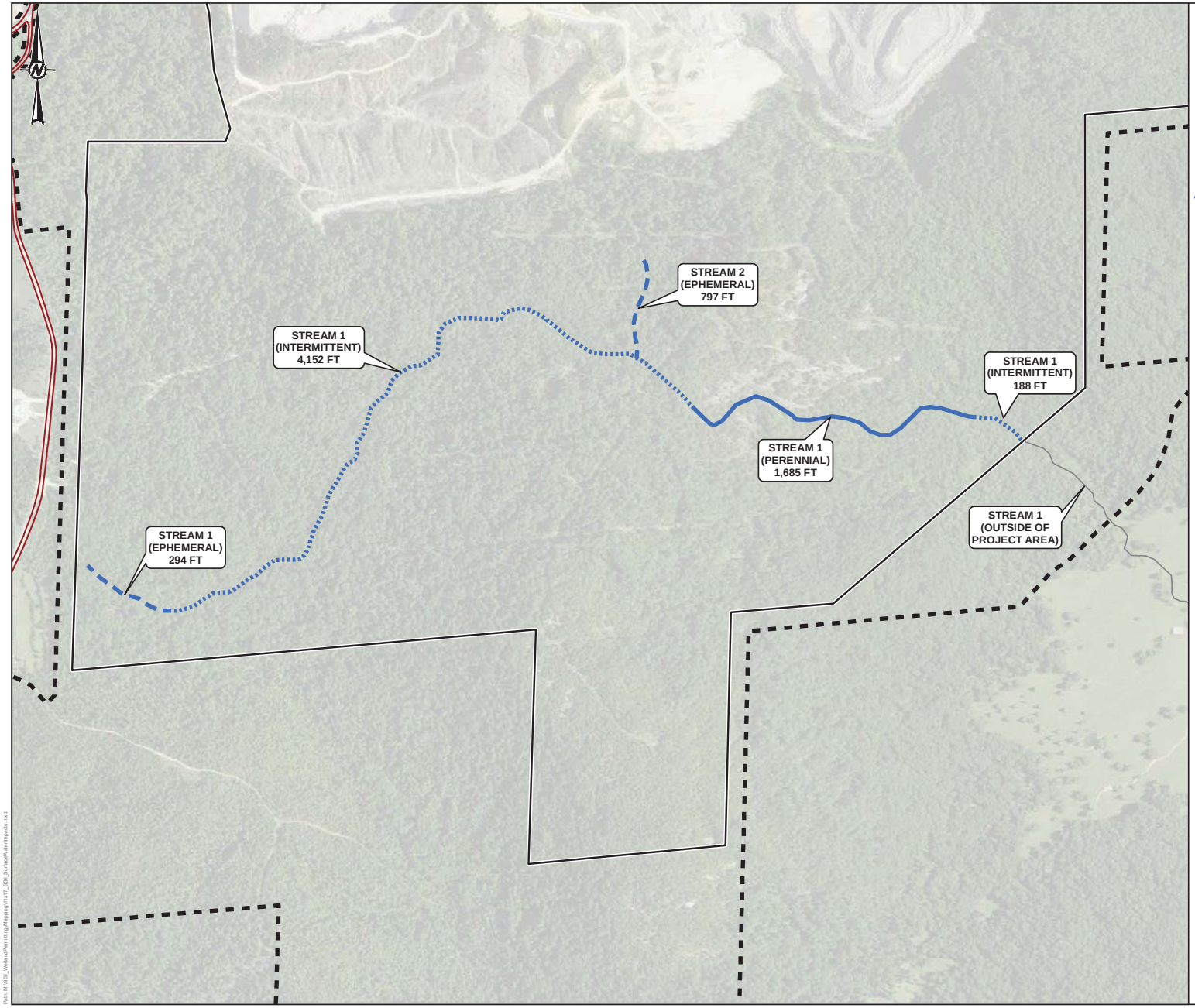
CONSULTANT
Golder Associates

YYYY-MM-DD	2016-05-02
PREPARED	KPL
DESIGN	KDT
REVIEW	KDT
APPROVED	JBM

PROJECT No. 1651823 | CONTROL ##### | Rev. 0 | FIGURE 1



SGI	Annapolis	DRAWN BY: JMW	CHECKED BY: TH
		SCALE: 1" = 400'	
		DATE: 08/11/2015	
DESCRIPTION:	2015 Project Map	SURVEY DATE: 08/2015	SHEET: 1 OF 1



LEGEND

- PERMIT/BONDED LINE
- SGI PROPERTY BOUNDARY
- ROAD
- STREAM OUTSIDE OF PROJECT AREA

PROPOSED STREAM IMPACTS

- EPHEMERAL STREAM
- INTERMITTENT STREAM
- PERENNIAL STREAM

0 275 550 1,100 Feet

REFERENCE

1. BASEMAP: ESRI BASEMAP SERVICES, BING MAPS, MICROSOFT CORPORATION ©2016.
2. LINEWORK TAKEN FROM SGI DRAWING "2015 PROJECT MAP", AUGUST 31, 2015.
3. STREAM DESCRIPTIONS AND LENGTHS FROM ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS, JANUARY 2016.

CLIENT
SPECIALTY GRANULES LLC

PROJECT
MID-PEAK SOUTH QUARRY EXPANSION

TITLE
PROPOSED STREAM IMPACT AREA

CONSULTANT
Golder Associates

YYYY-MM-DD	2016-06-29
PREPARED	KJC
DESIGN	KJC
REVIEW	KDT
APPROVED	JB M

PROJECT No.
1651823

FIGURE
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