



ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTANTS

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Proposal to Prepare an  
Environmental Impact Report

**OSTER (LAS PILITAS QUARRY)  
CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT/  
RECLAMATION PLAN  
DRC2009-00025, ED09-258**

Prepared for:

**COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO  
Department of Planning and Building  
976 Osos Street, Room 300  
San Luis Obispo, CA 93408-2040**

Prepared by:

**SWCA ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTANTS  
1422 Monterey Street, Suite C200  
San Luis Obispo, CA 93401**

**AUGUST 27, 2010**



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Prepared for:

**Jeff Oliveira, Project Manager  
County of San Luis Obispo  
Department of Planning and Building  
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**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

SECTION 1. INTRODUCTION ..... 1

    A. Proposal Organization ..... 1

    B. Proposed Action and Project Understanding ..... 2

*Proposed Action and Use of EIR* ..... 2

*Project Location* ..... 2

*Project Issues* ..... 2

*Project Approach* ..... 3

*Quality Assurance / Quality Control* ..... 4

SECTION 2. PERSONNEL AND EXPERIENCE ..... 9

    A. Project Team ..... 11

*Project Management Staff* ..... 11

*Technical Staff* ..... 12

*Document Support Staff* ..... 13

*Sub-consultants* ..... 13

    B. SWCA Project Related Experience ..... 18

*Hildreth Creek Quarry Conditional Use Permit Application Package* ..... 18

*Rocky Canyon Quarry EIRs* ..... 18

*Surface Mining and Reclamation Act Services Inspection Reports* ..... 19

*San Miguel Ranch General Plan Amendment Project EIR* ..... 20

*County of San Luis Obispo On-Call Services Contract* ..... 20

*Grover Beach Lodge EIR* ..... 21

*Halcyon Road Projects Master EIR* ..... 21

*Smith River Pit, Nesbitt Pit, Creston Pit, Spreafico Pit Projects* ..... 22

    C. Coordination ..... 22

*Project Team Coordination* ..... 22

*Client Coordination* ..... 23

    D. References ..... 23

SECTION 3. SCOPE OF WORK ..... 25

    A. EIR Overview ..... 25

*Executive Summary* ..... 25

*Introduction* ..... 25

*Project Description* ..... 26

*Environmental Setting* ..... 27

*Environmental Impact Analysis* ..... 28

*Alternatives Analysis* ..... 44





*Growth Inducing Impacts*..... 45  
*Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program* ..... 46  
*Cumulative Effects*..... 46  
*Other Required EIR Sections* ..... 46  
 B. Response to Comments ..... 46  
 C. Findings ..... 47  
 D. Staff Meetings, Public Meetings, and Hearings..... 47  
 SECTION 4. PROPOSED SCHEDULE ..... 48  
     A. Task Timetable ..... 48  
     B. Deliverables ..... 48  
 SECTION 5. COST ESTIMATES ..... 51  
 SECTION 6. OBJECTIVITY ..... 57  
 SECTION 7. PROPOSAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS ..... 57  
     A. Acknowledgement of Contract Provisions ..... 57  
     B. Statement of Offer and Signatures ..... 57

**TABLES**

Table 1. EIR Project Team ..... 10  
 Table 2. References ..... 24  
 Table 3. EIR Preparation Schedule ..... 48  
 Table 4. EIR Deliverables ..... 49  
 Table 5. EIR Preparation Cost Summary ..... 51  
 Table 6. EIR Preparation Detailed Cost Estimate ..... 53  
 Table 7. Meetings and Hearings Cost Estimate ..... 55  
 Table 8. Optional Tasks Cost Estimates ..... 55

**FIGURES**

Figure 1. Project Team Organization ..... 17

**ATTACHMENTS**

Appendix A. Project Team Resumes

## SECTION 1. INTRODUCTION

SWCA Environmental Consultants (SWCA) is pleased to submit a proposal for the preparation of an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) evaluating the proposed Oster (Las Pilitas Quarry) Conditional Use Permit / Reclamation Plan (project). The proposed project is located on the north side of Highway 58 at 6660 Calf Canyon Way, approximately 0.25 mile west of the Parkhill Road intersection, east of the community of Santa Margarita, in San Luis Obispo County, California. The site is within the Energy Extractive 1 Combining Designation Overlay and in the Las Pilitas Planning Area.

Our proposed scope of work is designed to identify and address potential environmental impacts of the proposed project actions in accordance with California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines and as outlined in the County of San Luis Obispo (County) Department of Planning and Building's Request for Proposals (RFP).

The following proposal has been prepared by the combined efforts of SWCA (Prime Consultant) and the following sub-consultants:

- Robert Carr (Aesthetics)
- Karl Mikel (Air Quality, Greenhouse Gas Emissions, Noise)
- Geosyntec (Geology and Soils, Hydrology and Water Resources, Mining Hazards)
- Hatch Mott MacDonald (Transportation/Circulation)

SWCA has worked with these sub-consultants in the past and has found that they provide a legally defensible report that meets the required scope of work on time and within budget.

### A. PROPOSAL ORGANIZATION

SWCA's proposal has been divided into seven sections, which provide a comprehensive discussion of our approach to this EIR.

**Section 1 – Introduction:** This section provides a brief discussion of the organization of the proposal, a description of the proposed project, and an introduction to SWCA and the project team.

**Section 2 – Personnel and Experience:** This section outlines the project team's (including SWCA and selected sub-consultants) related mining and EIR experience preparing environmental documents throughout San Luis Obispo County, and the team's experience in managing projects with similar complexity, magnitude, and principal issue areas. In addition, this section includes a brief discussion on project team coordination, client coordination, and references for recent related projects in the county.

**Section 3 – Scope of Work:** This section identifies our proposed scope of work, based on review of the project site and project information provided by the County of San Luis Obispo, review of technical reports, and conversations with County of San Luis Obispo staff. This section outlines the tasks and methodology proposed to address each environmental section and CEQA requirement. This section also identifies optional tasks, where applicable.

**Section 4 – Schedule of Completion:** This section identifies the deliverables and outlines the timeframes associated with the project including the Project Description, EIR Outline, Administrative Draft and Draft EIRs, Administrative Final and Final EIRs, and Findings.





**Section 5 – Cost Estimate:** This section provides cost estimates for each task identified in the scope of work. The costing is based on the development of the CEQA document and is organized by major tasks to be accomplished and the team member responsible for each task. Public hearings attendance, staff meeting attendance, EIR reproduction costs, and optional tasks are also included.

**Section 6 – Objectivity:** This section provides a statement of SWCA’s guarantee that this EIR will be an independent, objective, and unbiased work product. The project team members have been selected because of their ability to prepare and submit a neutral and unbiased environmental document.

**Section 7 – Proposal Terms and Conditions:** Includes an acknowledgement of contract provisions as well as a statement of offer and signatures. In addition, this section includes a discussion of SWCA’s compliance with County insurance requirements.

**B. PROPOSED ACTION AND PROJECT UNDERSTANDING**

**PROPOSED ACTION AND USE OF EIR**

The proposed project is a request by Las Pilitas Resources LLC (applicant) for a Conditional Use Permit (CUP) and Reclamation Plan to allow for an aggregate quarry, and an asphalt and concrete recycling facility. The proposed project would result in the disturbance of approximately 60 acres on two parcels totaling approximately 203 acres in size; Assessor’s Parcel Number (APN) 070-141-070 is 66.5 acres and APN 070-141-071 is 137.3 acres. The proposed project would have a 30-year timeframe for the mining operation and eventual reclamation of the site, with a maximum annual extraction of 500,000 tons. The Reclamation Plan includes restoring the areas of disturbance so that ranching and grazing could resume when mining activities cease.

Approval of the CUP and Reclamation Plan would be a discretionary action, subject to CEQA. The County of San Luis Obispo, as the CEQA lead agency, has determined that the proposed project may have a significant effect on the environment and that an EIR is required. The EIR would also be used by responsible (permitting) agencies, such as the California Department of Fish and Game (CDFG), to satisfy CEQA requirements as they relate to their permit processes.

**PROJECT LOCATION**

The project site is located east of the Salinas River Bridge and approximately 0.25 mile west of the Parkhill Road intersection, at 6660 Calf Canyon Way (Highway 58). The proposed project is within the Rural Lands land use category and the Energy Extractive 1 Combining Designation Overlay, and within the Las Pilitas Planning Area.

**PROJECT ISSUES**

SWCA is fully aware that this project is of concern to local residents, and there has been considerable input from the public. Since an EIR is a public-information document intended to provide an unbiased review of the project, it is important to ensure that public concerns are objectively considered, in addition to those issues of concern to state and local agencies.

**Public Concerns**

Our review of the response letters from the scoping meeting indicates that the number of trucks traveling through Santa Margarita is of major concern to the residents. Trucking related issues raised include: school crossing zones, the safety of children going to school,

and dust and noise. Alternative truck routes were identified in several of the letters, indicating a community desire to avoid quarry trucks driving through the community of Santa Margarita. Potential pollution of the Salinas River and the effects of the project on groundwater conditions were also concerns identified during the public scoping process. Blasting at the quarry was also a public concern, because it is a disturbing noise and could involve risk or injury at the mine site.

Our proposed scope of work has been developed partially with these concerns in mind.

**Responses to the NOP**

Review of the responses to the Notice of Preparation (NOP) indicates that the San Luis Obispo County Air Pollution Control District (APCD) and the Department of Conservation have concerns with regard to the adequacy of some of the information provided by the applicant. APCD indicated the need for additional information regarding fuel storage and handling, a description of air quality and emissions in the impact area per the 2009 APCD CEQA Handbook requirements, consistency analysis with the Clean Air Plan, a Global Warming analysis, a Health Risk Assessment, and evaluation of Fugitive dust impacts and naturally occurring asbestos (NOA). The Department of Conservation requested that the reclamation plan be supplemented and/or revised to address items regarding mining operation and closure, geotechnical requirements and slope stability, backfilling, hydrology and water quality (specifically basin storage capacities), and resoiling and revegetation after mine closure. The California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE) and Department of Resources, Recycling and Recovery also responded to the NOP, and provided information with regard to applicable compliance standards with state codes.

**PROJECT APPROACH**

Development of our proposed scope of work is based on our extensive experience with: (1) mining and the County’s Surface Mining and Reclamation Act (SMARA) program, (2) complex projects involving intensive and multiple resource agency involvement, (3) hard rock and sand and gravel mining projects, and (4) projects with a high level of public controversy in San Luis Obispo County. Our approach recognizes the considerable efforts that have already gone into preparation of technical reports and the development of the project description, and revisions to that project description to address potential impacts identified during subsequent review and study. Additional technical studies to be prepared by SWCA or our sub-consultants are limited to those identified as necessary in the Initial Study, in agency responses to the NOP, or by discussions with County staff during development of this proposal. Our understanding of the project issues and proposed approach to address these issues is summarized in Table 1.

As demonstrated with previous certified EIRs, SWCA proposes to provide the environmental information in a “layered” approach, whereby a summary EIR is prepared for public use with an attached fully developed EIR and appendix information provided on CD to accompany the summary EIR. The recent 150-page Summary Supplemental EIR prepared for the AT&T Fiber Optic Cable Project, San Luis Obispo to Los Angeles (2010), is an example of a “layered” document prepared for the County. This approach provides a concise explanation of the environmental analysis while also providing the necessary and often lengthy details needed to respond to agency and public requests for technical information. We have included this approach as an optional task since it has not been requested as part of the RFP, and we propose to implement this approach only upon authorization by the County project manager.





### QUALITY ASSURANCE / QUALITY CONTROL

Environmental documents are intended to be read by the general public, yet over time they have become increasingly complicated and technical. They are typically written by teams of resource specialists who are experts in their fields but who often write detailed technical jargon and encyclopedic narratives that are neither easy to understand nor appropriate to the CEQA disclosure process. SWCA's planned approach to preparing a defensible and readable EIR consists of:

- The use of skilled resource specialists who are experts in assessing Central Coast resources;
- A focused CEQA writing team experienced in taking the technical input from resource specialists and turning it into concise sections;
- A technical editing and Quality Assurance/Quality Control (QA/QC) team that directs the writing throughout the process to ensure that the EIR is clear, concise, and expressed in one voice; and,
- A thorough technical review of all resources sections in the EIR to ensure that the quality of the work effort meets the requirements of CEQA covers the tasks specified in this proposal; the environmental analysis for each environmental topic is of superior quality, and that the environmental analysis is based on the correct and complete project description.

**Table 1. Project Issues and Approach Summary**

Initial Study Issue Area	To Be Further Evaluated in EIR?	Approach	Issues
Aesthetics	Yes	Public identified change in visual character of the area; project is visible from Highway 58 and is a potential scenic corridor (Highway 58 from Santa Margarita Urban Reserve Line (URL) to Kern County line is a candidate for a scenic corridor); project may be near a "Scenic Historic Bridge" built in 1914. Initial Study identifies visual resources and visual character as potentially significant and requests mitigation measures including stockpile height limitations, location of stockpiles, landscaping and lighting restrictions.	Photo-simulations showing existing conditions, proposed project for various mining phases will be prepared. Community character will be emphasized. Mitigation Measures will be emphasized to reduce visual concerns.
Agricultural Resources	Yes	Public indicates that the project may impair adjacent agricultural uses; blasting may affect adjacent livestock; dust and air contaminants can affect agricultural production. Initial Study indicates project would impact 60 acres of agricultural land. Impacts to existing agricultural uses, incompatibility conflicts between agricultural and non-agricultural land uses, ordinance and policy consistency, and cumulative agricultural resource impacts need to be evaluated and the consultant shall consult with County Agriculture Department in identification of impacts and measures to reduce those impacts.	Consultation with County Agricultural Department prior to evaluation, and preparation of an agricultural report focused on project site impacts as well as impacts to surrounding agricultural uses. Mitigation measures to address on and off site agricultural impacts will be discussed.
Air Quality	Yes	Public is concerned that the project will cause significant air quality impacts; specific issues include removal of vegetation at quarry site that absorbs carbon dioxide; PM10, PM 2.5 and presence of Crystalline Silica are issues; Valley Fever is known to occur in this area; dust from mining operations a major issue; mitigation needs to be addressed for a variety of impacts including at what wind speed will quarry operations cease and how will wind speed, dust travel be monitored and enforced. Initial Study identifies impacts resulting from disturbance of soils, truck trips of 208 trips per day (10 employee and 198 truck trips a day); air basin exceeds standards for PM10 and ozone precursors. Initial Study identifies the following additional efforts: 1) Consultation with APCD; 2) discussion of non-attainment standards for criteria air pollutants and discussion of County air quality policies, using thresholds of significance derived from GAP; 3) provide summary of thresholds and air quality constraints; 4) conduct air modeling utilizing latest software. Utilize San Luis Obispo County Air Pollution Control District (APCD) Handbook. Recommend mitigation measures including those in San Luis Obispo County APCD Handbook and per San Luis Obispo County APCD NOP response letter. Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Emissions is described separately since it is a separate topic in CEQA Guidelines Appendix G.	Consultation with APCD may determine the need for a Health Risk Assessment in addition to the Air Quality Study. A formal Air Quality Study (including modeling using latest Urbemis software) will be prepared and included in Appendix to EIR; the EIR will summarize the information and recommend appropriate mitigation measures that can be easily enforced.
Biological Resources	Yes	Public indicates that there may be a loss of unique and special status species, potential impacts to wetlands adjacent to Salinas River corridor; requests species surveys conducted in appropriate months; mitigation for loss of species, habitat an important concept and how to monitor over life of project is major concern. Initial Study indicates that there will be potentially significant loss of unique or special status species or their habitats and would reduce the extent, diversity or quality of native or other important vegetation. Initial Study also indicates that the EIR should include a peer review of the biological reports provided by the applicant, supplemented with further research as needed to provide a detailed biological impact assessment of the project. Additional field surveys and revised mitigation would be necessary. The peer review shall include an analysis of the reclamation efforts proposed by the applicant, as well as mitigation recommended in the biological reports prepared by the applicant. The section will include performance standards for the purpose of ensuring the implementation and function of reclamation and required mitigation.	Peer review previously Sensitive Species and Habitat Survey report; update California Natural Diversity Database search; perform reconnaissance "ground truthing" site survey; conduct formal wetland delineation/preliminary jurisdictional determination to resolve uncertainty regarding regulatory jurisdiction over waters on the site.

Initial Study Issue Area	To Be Further Evaluated in EIR?	Approach	Issues
Cultural Resources	No	Existing cultural report indicates that cultural resources are not present, but project site may have historic resources-a historic study not included in applicant-submitted reports. Public states that it is believed that the historic workers camp for the Salinas Reservoir Dam project built in the 1940's was located in this vicinity. Offsite improvements have not been surveyed for cultural resources. Further cultural resources work is needed. However, Initial Study indicates that there would be an insignificant impact to cultural resources. County considers submitted Cultural report adequate.	The County determined that cultural resources were insignificant based on the Phase 1 cultural resources study conducted by Thor Conway. We will include a summary of the results of the report under Issues with Insignificant Impacts.
Geology and Soils	Yes	Public indicates that geologic conditions of the site may be of concern to overall mining operations. Erosion is of concern in the long term and alteration of site would cause changes in drainage and surface runoff characteristics. Initial Study identifies that a peer review of the geological information provided by the applicant occur as part of the EIR. Initial Study indicates that the review and field inspection could result in additional field surveys and revised mitigation as necessary.	Peer review existing information; perform additional technical work, as necessary to identify geologic conditions on site; consult with USGS and Division of Mines and Geology for well locations and other geologic data. Respond to erosion concerns.
Greenhouse Gas Emissions	Yes	CEQA now requires a separate GHG section; GHG is an issue due to CO <sub>2</sub> e which will be generated by equipment and traffic associated with the project. Refer to Air Quality discussion above. Public and Initial Study indicate that a GHG study is needed.	This will be separate section per CEQA 2010 Appendix G. A GHG Study will be included in consultation with San Luis Obispo County APCD and the Air Quality Handbook. San Luis Obispo County APCD is concerned with adequate mitigation measures to reduce GHG.
Hazards / Hazardous Materials	Yes	Public indicates that blasting has resultant secondary on and off site environmental impacts including dust, vibration, fire, and sound; high pressure fuel line in area and what mining related impacts are associated with this line; State Water Project runs through area and what impacts associated with this line; potential for fire hazard and resultant issues associated with access for fire equipment; potential health hazards associated with fugitive dust (see air quality above); traffic hazards; mining operations will truck hazardous materials and impacts should be evaluated. Initial Study indicates that the project is not located in an area of known hazardous material contamination, but that the area is in a Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone. It is also within the Salinas "dam inundation" area. Initial Study contains applicant-supplied and industry wide mitigation strategies and requests that recommended measures should be evaluated and supplemented where necessary	Blasting study and other hazards information provided by applicant will be peer reviewed and in conjunction with Air Quality and Noise analysis, blasting issues will be described, including off-site impacts. A Fire Hazard study will be conducted and dam inundation issues included, and this will include impacts on police and fire services.
Hydrology / Water Resources	Yes	Public is concerned that quarry operations would extend below the water table and that this could affect wells in the area. They are also concerned that residue from explosives, spilled fuel and other chemicals could seep into the ground water. Water usage is an issue that requires additional information, since dust control will require a source of water. Drainage to Salinas River may be an issue, including potential for contaminants, silt, and spilled fuel flowing to the river. Initial Study identifies the need for further environmental analysis of hydrology and water quality issues in the vicinity of the Salinas River.	Peer review hydrology and water quality information supplied by applicant. Describe hydrologic conditions on site and depth to groundwater/drainage to Salinas River. We anticipate a considerable amount of work effort for this section, and an emphasis will be placed on water analysis, availability of water, and demand. The water needed for project, including both a dry crushing and washing of aggregates alternative, will be considered.
Land Use	No	Consistency with area plans and policies; project appears consistent with land use designation but public thinks it may not be compatible with surrounding rural residential use. Initial Study indicates that the project is consistent with land use plans and policies and no further work is necessary.	Policy consistencies resulting in environmental impacts will be addressed in individual issue areas and the Environmental Setting section, as applicable.
Noise and Vibration	Yes	Public indicates that blasting is a major noise factor; others include truck traffic; shifting terrain may also affect noise from change in topography; crushing equipment also creates noise that may or may not travel off site; adjacent residential users and other sensitive receptors need to be identified and any impacts noted. Blasting has a secondary impact caused from vibration that could crack adjacent residential foundations and crack drilled wells miles away. Initial Study indicates that a peer review should be conducted of the noise study and blasting study provided by the applicant, and review should include supplemental analysis and mitigation if needed.	Peer review Noise Study and Blasting Study. Augment blasting study to consider off site impacts, including vibration. Mitigation measures will be stressed.

Initial Study Issue Area	To Be Further Evaluated in EIR?	Approach	Issues
Population / Housing	No	Public identifies that the project may cause indirect physical impacts to housing and population, and there is a potential for fire danger that would affect adjacent residences. Initial Study requests preparation of CEQA Guidelines Appendix F to determine project's energy consumption and what measures are proposed to reduce energy consumption.	CEQA Guidelines Appendix F regarding energy usage will be addressed and included in an appendix to the EIR.
Public Services	No	Public has identified the effect of the project activities on public services such as fire and police are potential impacts that should be addressed; road wear and tear is a significant issue. Initial Study indicates that no significant project-specific impacts have been identified but that there would be a cumulative effect on police and fire protection and schools. Road fees and truck traffic impacts to roads should be evaluated to determine adequacy.	Road use/damage along haul routes discussed in Transportation/Circulation section. Police and Fire discussion included with Hazards discussion, since fire is a significant site hazard.
Recreation	Yes	Public did not identify any recreational issues. Initial Study indicates significant impacts to proposed trail alignment, and that this issue requires additional evaluation.	Potential impacts to proposed recreation trail will be reviewed. Alternatives will be considered.
Transportation / Circulation	Yes	Public is very concerned about the amount of truck trips on Hwy 58; circulation patterns should be addressed, especially access at SR 101/El Camino Real and SR101/Santa Barbara Road; public has brought up the Parkhill Road/Hwy 58 intersection as an issue; accident rates are questioned; truck idling and waiting areas are not identified sufficiently to address public concerns. Initial Study indicates that the applicant-submitted traffic report should be peer reviewed and that a qualified traffic engineer/consultant should supplement the report with further analysis as needed to provide a detailed traffic impact assessment of the proposed project.	Peer review existing reports; focus on safety at ingress and egress points; consider alternate haul routes; consider idling truck issues; consider queuing locations (off-site staging areas). A separate traffic study, incorporating the peer review of the applicant's information, will be contained in an appendix to the EIR.
Utilities/Service Systems	No	Public has concerns with regard to rate of water usage and its affect on adjacent property owners; washing of aggregates regulation is questioned; and how do new water diversion regulations affect project. Initial Study indicates that wastewater impacts are insignificant. Additional analysis should be conducted to provide greater detail on proposed water use, as well as show that there will be a sustainable water sources for the duration of operations, through reclamation. Initial Study also identifies five specific tasks with regard to water analysis, including consultation with agencies, projections of water demand based on various uses that make up project (and assume washing of aggregates), evaluation of water availability for on-site water demands, evaluation of the long-term capability of the ground water basin to provide adequate supply, and recommendation of feasible mitigation measures.	Water will be included in hydrology/water quality. Wastewater appears to be an insignificant issue. Other utilities are available and no impacts are anticipated.

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## SECTION 2. PERSONNEL AND EXPERIENCE

Mary B. Reents, Senior Consultant, will be the Project Manager for this EIR and will serve as the County's primary contact. Ms. Reents is highly experienced with CEQA and has been involved in the environmental review process for the past 40 years. Her quarry and mining-related experience began in 1975 and has continued periodically over the past 30 years. Her early experience preparing Environmental Impact Statements (EIS) on a variety of mining activities in the western U.S., including numerous coal mines, molybdenum mines, aggregate, and sand and gravel mines, has provided an in depth background to the various environmental issues associated with mining activities. Ms. Reents has been responsible for the preparation of mining applications for various states, including California, and has been actively involved with mining activities from their inception to completion. Her more recent experience has included local California mining operations, including the preparation of an EIR and several supplemental EIRs for the Rocky Canyon Quarry in Atascadero, and the preparation of the mine application package (application, reclamation plan, and an Expanded Initial Study, including a variety of background reports) for the Hildreth Mine in Madera County. In addition to her mining experience, she has managed and participated in the preparation of several hundred environmental documents on simple and complex projects, some of which were highly controversial. She understands the role of the environmental consultant with regard to responding to public issues and concerns, and has successfully mediated with the public to resolve community environmental concerns while allowing for a mitigated project to continue through the design and implementation process.

SWCA's other planning, technical staff, and sub-consultants proposed for this project are also experienced with CEQA and have specialized expertise with the various environmental topics that will be analyzed in the project EIR. This combination of project management, planning, and technical staff will ensure key environmental issues are adequately addressed in the EIR to produce a document that is legally defensible, easily understood by a non-technical audience, and meets County requirements. Included below are qualifications of primary staff that will work on the EIR. SWCA's project management team will ensure that quality products are produced on time and within budget.





**Table 1. EIR Project Team**

Team Member	Role	Discipline
<b>SWCA ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTANTS</b>		
Bill Henry, AICP	Project Director / QA/QC	CEQA/NEPA
Mary B. Reents	Project Manager	CEQA/NEPA
Keith Miller	Senior Planner	CEQA/NEPA/SMARA
Emily Creel, JD	Environmental Planner	CEQA/NEPA, Environmental Law
Travis Belt	Associate Biologist	Biology
Kevin Doyle	GIS/CAD Specialist	GIS/CAD
Jaimie Jones	Technical Editor	CEQA/NEPA
<b>TECHNICAL SPECIALISTS</b>		
Robert Carr, ASLA	Aesthetics Analyst	Landscape Architecture, Photo Simulations
Karl Mikel, PE	Air Quality / Greenhouse Gas / Acoustical Engineer	Environmental Engineering
<b>GEOSYNTEC</b>		
Gordon Thrupp, Ph.D., CHG	Associate Hydrogeologist	Hydrogeology, Aquifer Testing, Groundwater Modeling
Brandon Steets, PE	Senior Engineer	Stormwater Modeling, Stormwater BMP Design, Watershed Modeling and Monitoring
Lisa Austin, PE	Senior Water Resources Engineer	Stormwater Management, CEQA/NEPA Support
<b>HATCH MOTT MACDONALD</b>		
Keith Higgins, CE, TE	Traffic Analyst	Traffic Engineering
Jeff Waller, TE	Traffic Analyst	Traffic Engineering

**A. PROJECT TEAM**

**PROJECT MANAGEMENT STAFF**

*Project Manager*

**MARY B. REENTS, B.A., PROJECT MANAGER / SENIOR CONSULTANT**

In addition to acting as Project Manager, Ms. Reents will prepare the Project Description and Alternatives Analysis sections of the EIR. She will also be responsible for all public participation meetings and public issues. As Project Manager, she will be responsible for day-to-day activities related to the environmental document budgeting and staffing. She will also be responsible for the public scoping meetings, monthly progress reports, and will act as liaison between SWCA staff and the County. Ms. Reents has been managing and

Thirty-eight years experience managing and preparing environmental documents throughout the Central Coast and Western United States.

preparing environmental studies following federal and state guidelines since 1972. She has demonstrated her ability to provide strong project management and specialized expertise in CEQA, including preparation of EIRs, EISs, joint EIR/EISs, socioeconomic studies, feasibility studies, monitoring studies, restoration and revegetation projects, and federal and state compliance documents. As Senior Consultant in SWCA’s San

Luis Obispo office, she is given the role of senior project director with authority to represent SWCA and execute corporate contracts. Her career has included the preparation of over 500 environmental documents throughout the western United States. With a degree in Environmental Psychology, she is proficient in conducting public participation meetings and analyzing public issues. She regularly holds scoping meetings, as well as public and agency meetings, for environmental projects. She has successfully prepared EIRs where the public had considerable concerns, and through the public participation process allowed under CEQA, she has been able to identify environmentally superior alternatives that mitigate to the greatest extent feasible those concerns raised by the public.

*Project Director*

**BILL HENRY, M.C.R.P., AICP, PROJECT DIRECTOR / OFFICE DIRECTOR**

Mr. Henry will provide QA/QC during document preparation. He has been preparing environmental documents in California and the County since 1988. As Office Director, Mr. Henry retains a diverse workload by working directly on the preparation and management of a wide array of environmental documents and projects in addition to performing management responsibilities that include client liaison, agency liaison, preparation of project budgets, administration and review of contracts, staff and project planning, and quality control for projects under his direction. Mr. Henry’s experience throughout the San Luis Obispo County and the Central Coast region includes preparation, coordination, and processing of a wide variety of environmental documents, monitoring plans, revegetation plans, technical reports, resource agency permits, and resource protection and conservation studies. SWCA realizes the importance of QA/QC. Mr. Henry will carefully review the draft documents for accuracy before they are submitted to the County.

Over 20 years experience preparing and directing environmental documents for the County of San Luis Obispo.





**TECHNICAL STAFF**

In addition to the staff members and sub-consultants listed below, Ms. Reents prepare and review sections of the EIR. If needed as a means of expediting the project schedule, technical staff from other SWCA offices can be drawn upon at the County’s discretion.

*Planning*

**KEITH MILLER, M.C.R.P., SENIOR PLANNER**

Mr. Miller will assist with Surface Mining and Reclamation Act (SMARA) related issues and the Project Description and Geology and Soils sections of the EIR. Mr. Miller has ten years of experience in land use and environmental planning, with an emphasis in implementing CEQA, the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), and SMARA. Mr. Miller has experience working in both the public and private sectors, managing a wide range of projects from General Plan Update EIRs, to discretionary land use and coastal development permits. He has managed the preparation of environmental documents including EIRs and Mitigated Negative Declarations and environmental constraints analyses. As a local contact for surface mine activity within San Luis Obispo County, Mr. Miller frequently interacts with the various resource agencies involved with surface mining, and has built effective relationships with representatives from those agencies, and with the mine operators. Mr. Miller has also been responsible for processing numerous surface mining Conditional Use Permits and Reclamation Plans.

Served as a SMARA compliance monitor for the County of San Luis Obispo for eight years.

**EMILY CREEL, J.D., ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNER**

Ms. Creel will prepare the Executive Summary, Introduction, Environmental Setting, Agricultural Resources, Recreation, Issues with Insignificant Impacts, and Growth Inducing Impacts sections of the EIR, as well as keep the team informed of recent environmental legal changes and updates. Ms. Creel obtained her JD in 2005 and has been practicing environmental, property, municipal, and land use law in San Luis Obispo County for over three years. She has a specialized background in environmental and property law, and has over seven years of environmental law experience. Ms. Creel is well versed in state and federal environmental laws and regulations, legal research resources and interpretations, the formulation of case law precedence, the administrative process, and local county and municipal codes and Coastal Commission regulations. Three years of legal practice have given Ms. Creel the ability to handle complex environmental and legal issues.

Well-versed in local county and municipal codes and Coastal Commission regulations.

*Biological Resources*

**TRAVIS BELT, B.S., ASSOCIATE BIOLOGIST**

Mr. Belt will prepare the Biological Resources section of the EIR. Mr. Belt has over seven years of consulting and natural resources management experience. His professional abilities include botanical resources inventory and monitoring, federal and state wetland regulations, ESA compliance, impact mitigation, land rehabilitation and maintenance, and watershed management. He has proven experience managing a variety of biological projects, and regularly prepares EIR biology sections. Mr. Belt has performed natural resources management activities on military installations and private properties ranging from less than an acre to 200,000 acres in size.

Experience on military installations and private properties ranging from less than one acre to 200,000 acres.

**DOCUMENT SUPPORT STAFF**

*GIS / Data Management*

**KEVIN DOYLE, B.S., GIS/CAD SPECIALIST**

Mr. Doyle will prepare the GIS and graphics for the project. He is a senior-level GIS Specialist in the SWCA San Luis Obispo office. Over the past ten years, Mr. Doyle has worked on numerous environmental projects on the central coast, often working with consultants and regulatory agencies in order to help conduct complicated environmental impact analyses. Mr. Doyle has been using ESRI products since ArcINFO version 7.2, and is currently using ArcGIS 9.3 for SWCA project needs. Mr. Doyle is very adept at understanding project needs and designing unique GPS data collection routines. This experience provides for a seamless work flow from the field to the office, and into map production. He also makes it a mission to keep moving forward in the constantly evolving IT profession to ensure that all projects are utilizing cutting edge technology.

Over 10 years experience implementing GIS mapping and data collection solutions on the Central Coast.

*Technical Editing and Document Compilation*

**JAIMIE JONES, TECHNICAL EDITOR**

Ms. Jones will assist with preparation of the Mitigation Monitoring Program for the EIR and will conduct the technical review as well as document compilation. Ms. Jones has over six years of professional experience in environmental planning with an emphasis on environmental document coordination and preparation. She has been involved in the facilitation of public scoping meetings and assisting with the preparation of environmental documents. As Technical Editor for the San Luis Obispo office, Ms. Jones has overseen document quality control, consistency, and compilation of more than 100 environmental reports, including EIRs, Mitigated Negative Declarations, and a variety of natural and cultural resource studies.

Experienced technical editor for multiple award-winning environmental documents.

**SUB-CONSULTANTS**

SWCA has chosen the sub-consultants for this project team based on previous project experience and the quality of deliverables they prepare.

*Aesthetics*

**ROBERT CARR, B.S.L.A., ASLA, LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT**

Mr. Carr will prepare the Aesthetics section of the EIR. He is a licensed Landscape Architect (No. 3473) specializing in visual impact analysis. He has over 22 years of professional landscape architectural experience, both as a private consultant and in the public sector. Mr. Carr has extensive experience in preparing aesthetic studies for controversial projects involving high quality visual resources and sensitive viewer groups on the Central Coast and throughout the state. His work has included analysis of planned developments, large-scale controversial commercial projects, residential subdivisions, multi-story apartment buildings, golf course development, wineries, state-wide fiber-optic cable installation projects, wireless communication towers, mines and quarries, landfills, wastewater treatment plants, and public parks,. Mr. Carr's work includes evaluation of several aggregate and sand and gravel mines, including a comprehensive visual analysis of the Hildreth Aggregate Mine in Madera County that was

Over 22 years of professional landscape architectural experience, as a private consultant and in the public sector.





highly visible from State Highway 41, in a scenic area. As a visual resource specialist, his responsibilities have included comprehensive visual impact studies for public works projects throughout the state, including highway corridor impact studies for Santa Barbara/Montecito, Monterey/Carmel, Santa Cruz, Mariposa, and other communities, and the historic arch bridges of the Big Sur Coast. Mr. Carr has considerable expertise with several visual analysis methods, including those developed by the Bureau of Land Management, the U.S. Forest Service, the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), and methods preferred by the various cities and counties of the central coast, the State Coastal Commission, and also regional hybridized approaches.

*Air Quality, Noise, and Greenhouse Gas Emissions*

**KARL MIKEL, M.S., PE, ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEER**

Mr. Mikel will conduct the Air Quality and Noise analyses, and will prepare the respective sections of the EIR. He is a Registered Professional Engineer (P.E.), Civil (No. 74545), with over eight years of professional experience in several areas of interest, including environmental planning with an emphasis on technical document coordination and preparation. Mr. Mikel has knowledge of local government planning policies and

Over eight years of professional experience in environmental planning and preparation of permit applications.

procedures as well as federal and state laws related to planning, zoning, and environmental policy, and specializes in noise investigation and Air Quality / GHG assessments. Mr. Mikel has conducted multiple environmental noise assessments and reports throughout various jurisdictions in San Luis Obispo County in accordance with the city and county Noise Elements and Ordinances. Mr. Mikel has also prepared several Caltrans

Protocol level traffic noise studies pursuant to Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and Caltrans regulations. He is proficient in the use of the FHWA’s traffic noise modeling program TNM 2.5 to calculate a projects operational impact on noise quality. He has prepared multiple air quality and noise sections included in environmental impact reports. He is proficient in the use of URBEMIS for Windows 9.4.2 to calculate a projects operational impact on air quality and determine mitigation measures that will reduce the level of impact significance.

*Geology and Soils, Hazards/Hazardous Materials, Hydrology/Water Quality, Wastewater/Public Services*

**GEOSYNTEC**

**Gordon Thrupp, Ph.D., C.HG, Associate Hydrogeologist**

Mr. Thrupp will serve as the lead technical investigator and manage the Geosyntec personnel for this project. He will also be the principal contact with the SCWA, the County, and other stakeholders. He has over 25 years of experience scientifically evaluating geological, geophysical, and hydrogeological problems, and 20 years experience conducting quantitative hydrogeologic evaluations and developing groundwater models. He has conducted numerous aquifer testing programs and water resource assessments. He also has developed and reviewed numerous groundwater flow models, at both regional and local scales for use as tools for assessing engineering alternatives and for water supply

Over 25 years of experience scientifically evaluating geological, geophysical, and hydrogeological problems.

feasibility studies. Mr. Thrupp is known for his practical approaches to problems and cost-effective solutions. He worked on a water resource assessment of the Soquel Creek Basin and completed a Groundwater Resource Capacity Evaluation of the Nipomo Mesa area for the San Luis Obispo County Departments of Planning and Public Works. He is experienced in making public presentations to groups of water resource stakeholders.

**Brandon Steets, PE, Senior Engineer**

Mr. Steets will conduct review and analysis of erosion potential, runoff mitigation measures, and stormwater pollution prevention plans (SWPPP) for the proposed quarry project. He is experienced in conducting and managing large water quality modeling and monitoring projects to support NPDES permitting, TMDL implementation, stormwater quality management/planning, and BMP design. His experience includes watershed, receiving water, and stormwater quality modeling; water quality monitoring plan development, implementation, data analysis, and reporting; and stormwater BMP selection and design. Mr. Steets’ experience working on San Luis Obispo County projects and his familiarity with the County’s sediment transport model will be an added benefit to the project.

Experienced in conducting and managing large water quality modeling and monitoring projects.

**Lisa Austin, PE, Senior Water Resources Engineer**

Ms. Austin will provide technical review. She has 20 years of experience in water quality and stormwater management. Ms. Austin has prepared many CEQA Water Quality and Hydromodification Management Plans/Technical Reports for major new development and redevelopment projects in California. These reports identify regulatory issues, pollutants of concern and significance thresholds; identify selected treatment control and hydromodification control BMPs; model stormwater runoff volumes, flow rates, and water quality; develop and evaluate the effectiveness of water resource management plans; and assess the significance of potential water quality and hydromodification impacts. Ms. Austin serves as a Director on the California Stormwater Quality Association (CASQA) Board of Directors.

Director on the California Stormwater Quality Association (CASQA) Board of Directors.

*Transportation/Circulation*

**HATCH MOTT MACDONALD**

**Keith B. Higgins, B.S., CE, TE, Senior Engineer**

Mr. Higgins has directed and performed numerous planning and design projects during his 35-year career. He has extensive operational experience, including serving as a city traffic engineer. Specific experience includes traffic impact analyses; conceptual and final highway, street system, and subdivision design; traffic signal design; signing and striping design; transit system planning and design, traffic volume and speed surveys; safety analysis; traffic control device warrant studies; traffic control device inventory; capacity analysis; circulation studies; parking studies; parking facility design; conceptual interchange design; pedestrian and bicycle studies; transportation systems management; transportation demand management; project representation; community traffic committee organization; railroad design coordination, grading and drainage design; structural design; project management; construction inspection; contract administration; and expert witnessing in personal injury and wrongful death litigation.

Thirty-five years of planning and design experience, including serving as a city traffic engineer.



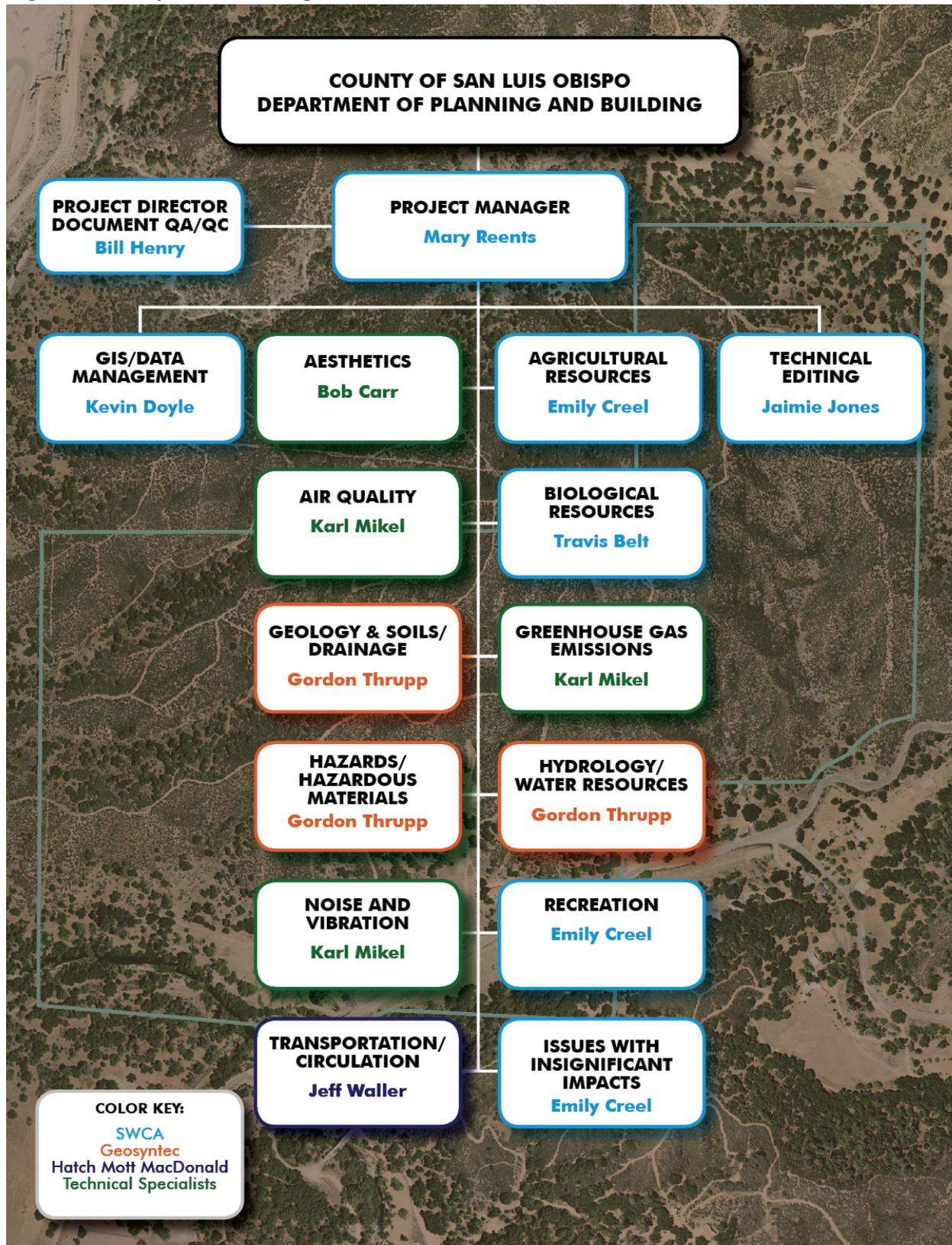


**Jeff Waller, B.S., TE, Associate Engineer**

Mr. Waller has performed numerous traffic analyses for a wide array of projects, including housing subdivisions and shopping centers, project study reports, quarries and batch plants, and master plans and general plan updates. Mr. Waller has experience performing traffic analyses throughout the greater Monterey Bay Area, plus San Luis Obispo and Southern Santa Clara Counties. He has also performed full traffic signal warrant evaluations, intersection sight distance evaluations, collision history reviews, and parking supply and demand studies. Mr. Waller's specific areas of expertise include traffic impact analyses and project impact evaluation. Mr. Waller is experienced in various traffic analysis software packages, including Synchro and HCS. Mr. Waller recently assisted SWCA in the preparation of a Traffic Impact Analysis for the Hildreth Aggregate Mine in Madera County; cumulative traffic impacts were a major consideration in this study since it included considerable residential and mining related growth adjacent to Highway 41.

Specific areas of expertise include traffic impact analyses and project impact evaluation.

Figure 1. Project Team Organization



**B. SWCA PROJECT RELATED EXPERIENCE**

SWCA has been performing environmental work in the County of San Luis Obispo since 1984. Several examples of recent EIRs and other related environmental documents prepared by SWCA staff and their sub-consultants are discussed in detail below. In addition to the following project experience, SWCA is in the process of preparing a project level EIR for the Granite Construction, Solari Sand and Gravel project in Kern County. Our Statement of Qualifications information is available upon request. These projects highlight our experience and familiarity with environmental documents and regional issues throughout the County.

**HILDRETH CREEK QUARRY CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT APPLICATION PACKAGE**

SWCA, under the management of Mary Reents, was retained by Granite Construction Company to prepare an application package for their proposed deep pit mine on 323 acres near Hildreth Creek in Madera County, California. In addition to the CUP application for aggregate mining and processing, the package included applications for lot line adjustments and parcel maps among three properties, for rezone of the project parcels, for cancellation of Williamson Act contracts on those parcels, and for a surface mining Reclamation Plan. To support the anticipated EIR for the project, Granite tasked SWCA with providing extensive environmental background information as part of the application. SWCA staff prepared this information in the form of an expanded initial study covering all environmental topics in Appendix G, an alternatives analysis and comprehensive review of applicable plans and policies, emphasizing the environmental setting, existing conditions for each resource of concern, and an initial assessment of environmental impacts.



Supporting technical reports were prepared by SWCA for visual resources, air quality analysis, blasting study, and climate change (GHG), cultural resources, noise, and traffic analysis. SWCA biologists prepared the Reclamation Plan in accordance with SMARA and Madera County regulations. With work initiated in July 2009, applications were presented to the County in November 2009. The County accepted the application package and Expanded Initial Study, and used this information to develop the RFP for the EIR on the project. Note that Hatch Mott MacDonald, Bob Carr, and Karl Mikel were on SWCA's team and these sub-consultants prepared expanded studies in their respective disciplines for submittal to Madera County.

Supporting technical reports were prepared by SWCA for visual resources, air quality analysis, blasting study, and climate change (GHG), cultural resources, noise, and traffic analysis. SWCA biologists prepared the Reclamation Plan in accordance with SMARA and Madera County regulations. With work initiated in July 2009, applications were presented to the County in November 2009. The County accepted the application package and Expanded Initial Study, and used this information to develop the RFP for the EIR on the project. Note that Hatch Mott MacDonald, Bob Carr, and Karl Mikel were on SWCA's team and these sub-consultants prepared expanded studies in their respective disciplines for submittal to Madera County.

**ROCKY CANYON QUARRY EIRs**

*Program EIR*

SWCA was retained by the County in 1994 to prepare a program EIR for the expansion of the existing Rocky Canyon Quarry owned by Wilco-Hermrick, Inc. and located adjacent to the city of Atascadero. The applicant proposed expansion of operations to ultimate completion in 85 years. Mary Reents acted as project manager for all of the reports. The EIR focused on biological impacts, mine reclamation, and area revegetation. As part



**CLIENT:**

Granite Construction Inc.

**CONTACT:**

Nate Rutterbush  
(559) 441-5752

**CLIENT:**

County of San Luis Obispo  
Department of Public Works

**CONTACT:**

Eric Wier  
(805) 788-2766

of the Program EIR, test plots were evaluated to determine the most appropriate methods of revegetation. Other issues included truck traffic on Atascadero roads, drainage, erosion and sedimentation issues, geologic hazards, air quality impacts, pollution of ground water resources, visual impacts, noise impacts, cumulative impacts resulting from increased operations of other local quarries, and growth inducing impacts. This project faced considerable public controversy, particularly with regard to traffic impacts.

**Revised Program EIR**

SWCA was retained in 1996 to revise the Program EIR based on Wilco-Hermrick, Inc.’s request to add an additional 122 acres to their existing Rocky Canyon Quarry. The Revised Program EIR was managed by Mary Reents and focused on the potential impacts of the additional acreage and the extension of operations at the same rate of excavation from 85 years to 220 years. The Revised EIR focused on the same issues as the original EIR and found that the revised project resulted in a decrease in significant impacts. This was due to the decrease in angle of slopes which increased the success rate of revegetation and a decrease in visual impacts due to the retention of foreground ridges.

**Subsequent EIR**



SWCA was also retained in 2000 to prepare a Subsequent EIR and update the Rocky Canyon Quarry Specific Plan based on Union Asphalt, Inc.’s request for an increase of 100,000 cubic yards of aggregate per year for the first five years and possible incremental increases up to 200,000 cubic yards beginning year six. In addition to the yearly increase, the applicant is also

proposing an increase in production hours. This increase in aggregate production and production hours will not require any change in the capacity method of operation of the processing plant. Previously, a Final Program EIR and Revised Program EIR were prepared by SWCA for revisions of the Specific Plan, Development Plan, and Reclamation Plan. Both projects received the necessary approvals from the County Planning Commission and Board of Supervisors.

**SURFACE MINING AND RECLAMATION ACT SERVICES INSPECTION REPORTS**

SWCA was retained by the County Department of Planning and Building, Division of Environmental and Resource Management, to provide SMARA services for the County of San Luis Obispo. Services include reviewing previous mining operation annual reports, performing annual inspections with mine operators, and documenting the onsite conditions of the approximately 40 surface mine operations throughout San Luis Obispo County. These mines include large open pit mines and in-stream sand and gravel mines. SWCA is responsible for correspondence with the Department of Conservation Office of Mine Reclamation, and other regulatory agencies including the



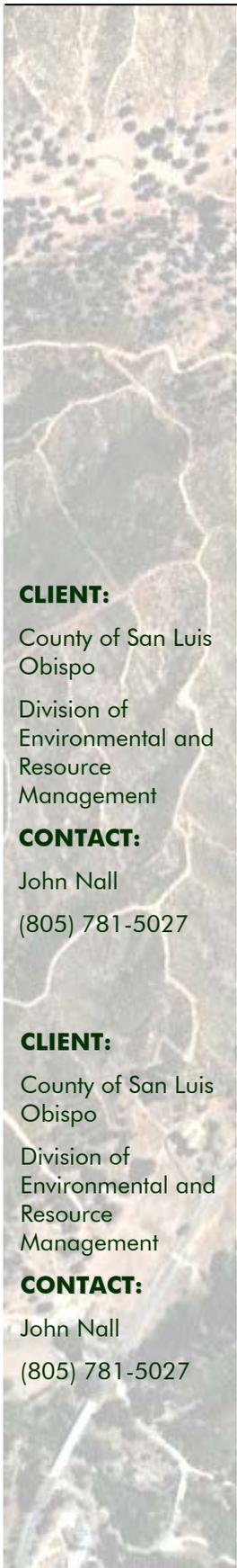
**CLIENT:**

County of San Luis Obispo

Division of Environmental and Resource Management

**CONTACT:**

Ellen Carroll  
(805) 781-5027



**CLIENT:**

County of San Luis Obispo

Division of Environmental and Resource Management

**CONTACT:**

John Nall  
(805) 781-5027

**CLIENT:**

County of San Luis Obispo

Division of Environmental and Resource Management

**CONTACT:**

John Nall  
(805) 781-5027

CDFG and the APCD. Environmental issues considered during site inspections include revegetation and habitat restoration, drainage, grading/slope stability, erosion control, creek setbacks, truck traffic/safety, and dust control. Every active surface mine must have a financial assurance mechanism (bond, cd, etc.) in place to assure that in the event that the mine operator is unwilling or unable to reclaim their surface mine, there are resources in place for the County to adequately reclaim the mine. SWCA works with the County in reviewing financial assurance cost estimates to determine their adequacy, and in securing the mechanism with the operator.

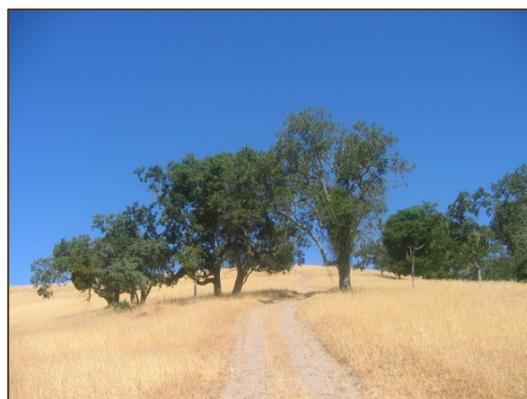
While performing the scope of work, SWCA has noted potential violations of permit conditions and worked with operators and local agencies to rectify issues. SWCA has also assisted in identifying whether or not mine operations have met the requirements of their reclamation plans and can be permanently closed. SWCA’s experience with local and State surface mining rules and regulations, and demonstrated ability to work with a diverse group of stakeholders, including the mine operators, regulatory agencies, and other resource agencies, has helped the County maintain a high level of compliance with SMARA.

**SAN MIGUEL RANCH GENERAL PLAN AMENDMENT PROJECT EIR**

SWCA (Bill Henry) was retained by the County to provide project management services for the processing of the San Miguel Ranch General Plan Amendment Project EIR. These services include a multitude of tasks associated with acting as the County’s EIR project manager. Mr. Henry provided general-level staff assistance to the project applicant and the EIR consultant as a County liaison and/or contact so as to provide responses to question and information requests in a timely manner. This includes responding to information requests, scheduling required meetings, and conducting agency coordination needs. Mr. Henry assisted in the administration of the preparation of the EIR and all related CEQA requirements. Related tasks will include review and comment on the various versions of the EIR (i.e., Administrative Draft, Draft, Administrative Final, and Final), review of the responses to comments, preparation of findings, and preparation of the Notice of Determination. Mr. Henry’s recent experience on this project and its issues will provide a benefit in his role as the Principal-in-Charge for this project.

**COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO ON-CALL SERVICES CONTRACT**

The County Department of Planning and Building, Division of Environmental and Resource Management, has retained SWCA under a succession of planning and environmental open-services agreement since 1990. This contract has been renewed consecutively and is currently ongoing.



SWCA was initially contracted by the County to expedite the process of preparation of environmental documents for projects throughout the County. SWCA has prepared over 200 environmental documents under this contract, including mitigated negative declarations, mitigation monitoring plans, expanded initial studies, EIR recommendations, and notices of preparation. SWCA has also assisted County staff by conducting SMARA inspections on local quarry and in-stream mining operations, discretionary permit

review, preparing appeal responses and staff reports, and presenting permit requests and environmental documents to the County Board of Supervisors, Planning Commission, and Planning Department Hearing Officer.

Project areas include both un-incorporated urban communities and rural areas within the inland and coastal regions of the county. Project application types include land use permits, subdivisions, variances, general plan amendments, ordinance amendments, and various combinations of the above. SWCA's experience consists of a diverse range of projects, including: residential subdivisions, mixed use and commercial developments, telecommunications facilities, wineries and tasting rooms, private wind and solar energy projects, industrial developments, mines and quarries, and specific plans.

**GROVER BEACH LODGE EIR**

SWCA was retained by the City of Grover Beach to prepare an EIR for the controversial Grover Beach Lodge project. The proposed project is located on West Grand Avenue at the entrance to the Pismo Beach Vehicle Recreational Area and State Beach, in the City of Grover Beach. The project site is adjacent to the existing Finn's Restaurant. The City and California State Parks has entered into a Joint Powers Agreement for the development of a lodge and



conference facility on State Parks Property. Under the joint authority, Grover Beach and State Parks have entered into a Concession Contract with Pacifica Companies and Pacifica Hosts, Inc. to develop the 6.67 acre property, including the lodge and conference facility, additional concessions and redevelopment of Finn's Restaurant, public parking and equestrian parking, an RV dump station, restoration of riparian and native habitats, and additional public recreation and restroom improvements. The City retained SWCA to prepare the EIR. The most controversial environmental and public issue is the retention of sufficient equestrian parking and access to the beach. During the public scoping meeting, equestrian groups from across California were present or provided written input regarding the need for sufficient equestrian access to the beach. SWCA has begun preparation of the EIR and has expanded their scope to include all of the public letters and emails regarding equestrian facilities; these comment letters have resulted in refinement of the alternatives to be addressed in the document. The EIR is expected to be completed in Spring 2011.

**HALCYON ROAD PROJECTS MASTER EIR**

SWCA teamed with Dokken Engineering in 2001 to assist the County of San Luis Obispo with its project to realign the Halcyon Road and Highway 1 intersections located just south of Arroyo Grande, California. The project would utilize federal funding from the Federal Highway Administration and therefore required NEPA compliance, in addition to CEQA review. SWCA prepared the Natural Environment Study (NES), including a Wetland Delineation, BA, and California Red-legged Frog Survey Report. SWCA prepared the Initial Study and MND for this project and completed air quality analysis, socioeconomic study, noise assessment, and agricultural conversion form in support of the CEQA review. SWCA retained sub-consultants to prepare the Archaeological Survey Report, Historic Properties Survey Report, Historical Resources Evaluation Report, and Section 106 Review.

**CLIENT:**

City of Grover Beach  
Community Development Department

**CONTACT:**

Bruce Buckingham  
(805) 473-4520

**CLIENT:**

County of San Luis Obispo  
Department of Public Works

**CONTACT:**

Dale Ramey  
(805) 788-2931



SWCA subsequently teamed with Wood Rodgers on the related Halcyon Road Climbing Lane project that would widen and improve the vertical alignment of Halcyon Road, from the realignment project to the top of Nipomo Mesa. SWCA completed a draft NES, along with a noise study and a community impact study. Section 106 compliance was facilitated through coordination with Far Western Anthropological Research Group during preparation of an Extended Phase 1/Phase 2 excavations and report preparation. Both projects have been carried forward for CEQA review in a combined EIR, prepared by SWCA in 2006. Scoping for the EIR included several public meetings and resulted in the identification and analysis of 20 alternatives to the proposed project. Public review of the Draft EIR was completed in November of 2006, and the Final EIR was certified in March 2007. The County of

San Luis Obispo currently is reviewing Alternative 19- use of double roundabouts-to further mitigate impacts on the community of Halcyon. SWCA is assisting the county with evaluation of this new concept. Currently, the county is working with Caltrans to determine further environmental review; SWCA will update the NEPA – required reports and prepare the permit applications to U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), California Department of Fish and Game (CDFG), and the Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB) when revised plans are available.

**SMITH RIVER PIT, NESBITT PIT, CRESTON PIT, SPREAFICO PIT PROJECTS**

While working for the County, Mr. Miller was responsible for permit processing and preparation of the environmental determinations for multiple surface mines. Two of these mines, the Smith River and Nesbitt Pits were located in-stream in the Salinas River. The Creston Pit was also located in-stream, in Huerhuero Creek, a major tributary to the Salinas River. Resource issues with these mining operations included biological resources, geomorphology, cultural resources, noise, and truck traffic, similar to the proposed project. These operations required review of technical documents, consultation with resource agencies, community groups, and members of the public. As with the proposed project, a number of the projects included significant controversy, public comment, and contentious public hearings.

**C. COORDINATION**

**PROJECT TEAM COORDINATION**

SWCA proposes a chain of command that will entail all SWCA communications running through Mary Reents, EIR Project Manager, to the County’s Project Manager, Jeff Oliveira. All issues at the project team level will be synthesized by Ms. Reents and forwarded, verbally or otherwise, to Mr. Oliveira.

Ms. Reents has extensive experience organizing and managing multidisciplinary teams and understands the importance of ensuring team coordination and cooperation throughout the environmental review process. Sub-consultants are chosen based on past performance history. These consultants have personally worked with Ms. Reents and have provided excellent response and product. Only those who continually meet deadlines in a timely manner and perform tasks with the highest levels of competency and integrity have been selected to assist in the preparation of the Oster/Las Pilitas EIR. SWCA’s professional reputation helps to assure sub-consultant cooperation. Sub-consultants are aware of

SWCA's extensive professional relationship with the County and look to ensure future work with SWCA by performing tasks efficiently and maintaining high quality performance standards.

### **CLIENT COORDINATION**

Through preparation and implementation of the above-referenced CEQA documents for various public agencies, SWCA has gained an understanding of the need to maintain a close working relationship with agency staff and strives to provide consistent and open communication throughout the process of preparing these documents. SWCA understands that agency staff and management have a vested interest in the final product and are required to defend the content and recommendations found in these documents to decision makers and the public. One aspect of SWCA's philosophy in preparing EIRs involves continually working closely with the County with respect to potentially critical CEQA issues that are identified at any point in the document preparation process. SWCA has chosen Ms. Reents as project manager because of her knowledge of the project, her ability to interface with the project applicant, the public and the county and her excellent working relationship with the County.

SWCA will utilize the results of previous environmental documents (e.g., Initial Study and associated technical reports) to assist in project analysis and the determination of impact significance. If during the review of existing information SWCA identifies that the Initial Study was incorrect in its determination, or information not considered during the Initial Study indicates another conclusion as to the potential for an impact, or level of significance of an impact, SWCA will contact County staff regarding appropriate changes to the scope of the EIR analysis.

### **D. REFERENCES**

The following references are specific to SWCA Project Manager Mary Reents's experience with the preparation of EIRs. We encourage those reviewing the SWCA proposal to contact those listed for information on SWCA's capabilities and past record of performance. Additional references are also available on request.





**Table 2. References**

Contact	Project Reference	Contact Information
<b>GRANITE CONSTRUCTION COMPANY</b>		
Nate Rutterbush, Resource Engineer	Hildreth Creek Aggregate Mine Application and Expanded Initial Study	(559) 441-5752
<b>COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS</b>		
John Farhar, Environmental Specialist	Arroyo Grande Creek Channel WMP EIR Halcyon Road Projects Master EIR	(805) 781-5714
<b>COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS</b>		
Eric Wier, Environmental Specialist	Rocky Canyon Quarry EIRs	(805) 788-2766
<b>COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND BUILDING</b>		
Steve Mc Masters, Environmental Specialist	AT&T Fiber Optics Cable Project – San Luis Obispo to Los Angeles EIR and Supplemental EIR	(805) 781-5096
<b>CITY OF GROVER BEACH</b>		
Bruce Buckingham, Community Development Director	Grover Beach Lodge EIR	(805) 473-4520

## SECTION 3. SCOPE OF WORK

### A. EIR OVERVIEW

The EIR will meet all requirements set forth in the CEQA Guidelines (California Code of Regulations, 15000 et. seq.), Title 14. The following are scope of work descriptions of the key components required for the EIR. These scopes of work reflect information contained in and attached to the RFP. In addition to this information, SWCA and our sub-consultants have added to the impacts evaluation and scope of work, where appropriate, for each issue area based on our experience with the project, and similar projects and locations. In preparing this scope, SWCA has made every effort to recognize the substantial amount of existing applicant-prepared information, while recognizing that the EIR must be legally defensible.

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Executive Summary of the EIR will include a brief description of the project, an impact and mitigation measure summary table, a summary of each issue area discussed in the environmental impact analysis, a brief description of identified alternatives and the environmentally superior alternative, and the growth inducing impacts of the project. The Executive Summary will be prepared as a stand-alone document for submittal to the State Clearinghouse. The Executive Summary will be prepared by Emily Creel of SWCA, with assistance from Mary Reents and Jaimie Jones, and will include the following scope of work.

#### *Itemized Scope of Work*

1. Include the Introduction to the EIR and summarize the project description and environmental setting sections of the EIR in the Executive Summary.
2. Summarize the impacts and mitigation measures in tabular format.
3. Synthesize the EIR Alternatives discussion and Growth Inducing Impacts in text format.
4. Include in its entirety the Mitigation and Monitoring Program that includes verbatim the mitigation measures recommended in the EIR.

### INTRODUCTION

The Introduction section of the EIR will discuss the history of the project and relevant background information. Information will be obtained from available documents and communications with the County. This section will provide an overview of the document; identify the lead, responsible, and trustee agencies for the project; and describe the intended uses of the EIR. The Introduction will also include a discussion of the entire EIR review process. This section will be prepared by Emily Creel of SWCA and will include the following scope of work.

#### *Itemized Scope of Work*

1. Provide an introduction, brief synopsis of the purpose of the EIR, the EIR format and pertinent description of the intent of CEQA. Describe the intended uses of the EIR.





2. Provide a brief history of the project.
3. Provide a timeline and discussion of the means to comment on the draft EIR and dates for public hearings.
4. Provide a list of responsible and trustee agencies.

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

The Project Description will be based on the information supplied by the applicant and contained in County project files. CEQA requires the project description to describe the “whole of the action,” which in this case includes the quarry excavation phases, processing, stockpiling, and hauling of the material, the reclamation plans, and any off-site or secondary improvements. Formulation of the project description will be a result of close interaction and communication with the County Project Manager and the applicant. The Project Description will also include the project objectives to be used in the EIR alternatives analysis. Identification of the project objectives is critical to the development and evaluation of alternatives. The Project Description will be prepared by Mary Reents of SWCA, with review by Keith Miller and Emily Creel and graphics preparation by Kevin Doyle, and will include the following scope of work.

*Itemized Scope of Work*

1. Identify project site location and prepare legal description, including the Assessor’s Parcel Map, regional, and vicinity maps.
2. Describe the project, including all intended components. Prior to project start-up meeting, SWCA will prepare a list of information needed to adequately and thoroughly describe the project and its components; additional items will potentially be added to this list as a result of topics discussed at the start-up meeting. Since the applicant did not submit a formal project description, we will request that the applicant provide, either verbally at a meeting, or written explanation of many of the project components illustrated on the project plans.
3. Identify project objectives, and a description of project phasing. In addition, the project description will describe recent history of the project site including land use actions and decisions that have enabled the site to be eligible for the proposed action.
4. Prepare a comprehensive listing and description of the project improvements proposed as part of the project. Improvements will include any proposed preliminary landform alterations, assumptions regarding grading and drainage improvements, the various mining phases, the reclamation plan, and any other physical site alterations, as well as specific information regarding intended ancillary uses to the development, including any infrastructural improvements or any off site or queuing or related ancillary improvements associated with the project.
5. Compile a list of all proposed mitigation measures that the applicant has agreed to incorporate into the project description. This will be based on the information supplied by the applicant in his submittals.
6. Compile a comprehensive list (in sequential order) of all County and resource agency permit approvals needed for the project. This list will be developed in

consultation with agency staff and will form the basis for the EIR mitigation measure timing component requirements.

## ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING

The proposed project site is located in the Rural Lands category, within the Las Pilitas Planning Area. The parcel size is approximately 60 acres and is adjacent to the Salinas River, associated floodplain and upland areas. Existing development on the parcel is relatively limited, and consists of level to steeply sloping terrain.

The Environmental Setting section will include a description of the physical setting of the project site, the surrounding land uses, and the cumulative development scenario. In addition, this section of the EIR will include a summary of consistency with plans and policies. Based on the Initial Study, the proposed project has the potential to be inconsistent with a number of policies. SWCA will review applicable plans and policies, after consultation with County staff, and make a preliminary determination of the proposed project's consistency with them. Consistency with policies of the Salinas River Area Plan; Land Use, Conservation, Agriculture and Open Space Elements; and other current San Luis Obispo General Plan documents will be discussed in this section. Consistency determinations will be made after impacts and mitigation measures are developed as these are two key components in determining a project's potential consistency.

The Environmental Setting section of the EIR will be prepared by Emily Creel of SWCA, with assistance from Mary Reents and graphics prepared by Kevin Doyle, and will include the following scope of work:

### *Itemized Scope of Work*

1. Describe the physical characteristics of the site and surrounding area (e.g., geology, biology, land characteristics, etc.). Photographs of the surrounding land uses and properties will be included, as applicable.
2. Include descriptions of the current land use and zoning designations and overlays for the project site, and provide a detailed description of the present use of the site and surrounding properties.
3. Consult with the County Project Manager to verify the appropriate list of local and regional plans, Development Standards, ordinance requirements, and management plans for the project. Consult with other agencies such as Office of Mineral Resources, CDFG, USFWS, RWQCB, and San Luis Obispo County APCD to determine the project's consistency with federal, state, and local regulations governing land use.
4. Prepare a table of applicable land use policies and identify project consistency based on information in the applicable issue area sections.
5. Identify the cumulative development scenario based on discussion and coordination with County staff. Information regarding land use changes and development in the area will be obtained from agency staff, including projects under consideration recently approved projects, proposed and approved land use and zoning amendments, associated environmental documents, and mapping. Particular attention will be paid to existing and pending in-stream surface mines in the upper Salinas River watershed.





6. Prepare a map showing the cumulative study area and the location of the project included in the cumulative development scenario. A table that corresponds with the projects shown on the cumulative development scenario graphic will be prepared and will include details of each project including size and status.

**ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ANALYSIS**

*Issue Area Study Methodology*

An introduction to the environmental impact analysis portion of the EIR will be given to familiarize readers with the project site and surrounding area characteristics, as well as the format of the environmental analysis. Each issue of the environmental impact analysis will be divided into a description of the following:

- 1) Existing Conditions;
- 2) Regulatory Setting;
- 3) Thresholds of Significance (as determined by the County of San Luis Obispo);
- 4) Impact Assessment and Methodology;
- 5) Project-Specific Impacts, Mitigation Measures, and Residual Impacts;
- 6) Secondary Impacts of Mitigation Measures (if applicable); and,
- 7) Cumulative Impacts, Mitigation Measures, and Residual Impacts.

The mitigation measures will specify the method of implementation and degree of effectiveness. Mitigation measures will be written in a format that includes a “timing” milestone and a method by which the measure can be monitored. Timing milestones will coincide with the various stages of the planning and permitting process. Mitigation will be designed to be incorporated as Development Standards, where applicable.

*Issue Areas to Be Included in the EIR*

The following issue areas will be the focus of the EIR analysis. Refer to Table 1 for a summary of the issue areas outlined. These issues may result in potentially significant impacts, would require peer review of the applicant’s submitted documentation, and/or would require additional technical analysis or field work.

Where it appears, based on the Initial Study, other information in the project file, and our experience, that impacts would be less than significant or do not warrant analysis within an individual section, SWCA proposes to discuss them briefly in the Issues with Insignificant Impacts section, and refer readers to the Initial Study. In other cases, to reduce redundancy, we have proposed to incorporate applicable issue areas to be discussed under a single issue area heading. For Example, Water Service would be discussed under Water Resources and Hydrology.

**AESTHETICS**

A visual assessment was not included in the applicant’s submittal; therefore, an independent visual assessment will be included in the EIR. The visual assessment will provide a photographic and written inventory of existing site conditions and establish the baseline visual character.

Overall extent and quality of proposed project visibility will be documented. The visual resources analysis will specifically identify the visual resources on-site and any related

**AESTHETICS:**  
Bob Carr, ASLA

landforms and other features which are of significance from key viewing areas along Highway 58. Critical viewing areas and durations will be identified, and photographs will be taken from each of the key viewing areas and used as the basis for further analyzing the potential effects of the project.

The primary potential visual effects of the project are anticipated to be due to excavation slopes and stockpiles, structures and operational equipment, trucks, access road improvements, signage and landscaping, and night lighting if proposed.

Through the use of computer modeling, cross-sections and reference pylon placement as needed, the aesthetic section will compare the existing visual condition with the project features as proposed and will identify any potential impacts to views and visual character. The aesthetics section will make recommendations and present alternatives if necessary to preserve visual resources. Potential visual changes will be identified in terms of long-term operational effects and short-term impacts as well as phasing. Construction activities and disturbance will be addressed. The aesthetic section will discuss the visual changes over the expected lifespan of the quarry operation. Photo-simulations will document the project, evaluate the appearance of the proposed changes and will show the effectiveness of any recommended mitigation measures. The photo-simulations will thoroughly identify alterations to the site and to the area's visual character as a result of the project. The photo-simulations will provide a valuable method of public disclosure as well as a tool for project approval discussion. The analysis methodology will also evaluate the cumulative effect that the project may have on the visual character of the surrounding landscape. The analysis will differentiate between views from public roadways and private residences. If project proposals or mitigation measures include planting, plant growth rates and size potential will be considered.

Specific project impacts will be determined by evaluating the physical changes proposed by the project in the context of the existing and surrounding landscape, as seen from important and representative viewing locations on Highway 58. Project impact determinations will be based on CEQA Guidelines and will be consistent with community scenic values as identified in the San Luis Obispo County planning policy, ordinances, and goals. Expected viewer sensitivity will be assessed and considered as part of the analysis. This section of the EIR will be prepared by Bob Carr, Aesthetics sub-consultant, with review by Mary Reents of SWCA, and include the following scope of work.

*Itemized Scope of Work*

1. Initiate analysis through consultation with San Luis Obispo County staff to understand the project's design, phasing, and other critical issues. Determine critical factors including county guidelines, visual policies, and previous studies applicable to the site. Review the public comments regarding visual resources and ensure that their concerns regarding visibility will be addressed.
2. Determine and document overall visibility of the project from along Highway 58 and the surrounding area. Identify key viewing areas based on visual access to the site, viewer-group expectations and sensitivity, along with applicable county policies. Key views will be selected based on field analysis including view exposure and duration.
3. Establish on-site locations of critical project features and proposed landforms. Project features will be established by a combination of computer modeling and the placement of on-site reference pylons and flagging. The specific locations of





critical site-development components will be based on the project plans and additional information provided by county staff or project representative.

4. Develop graphic cross-sections as necessary by use of scaled topographic information of the surrounding view corridors, the existing site conditions, and the proposed grading plan. Cross-sections will identify critical sight-line information and will be used to analyze the existing visibility and the proposed landform changes over time.
5. Develop baseline photographs taken from key viewing areas.
6. Evaluate project impacts by superimposing the proposed project onto the baseline images. In conjunction with field studies, three computer generated photo-simulations showing “before and after” conditions will be used as the basis for the analysis. The analysis will evaluate the project’s impacts relative to the overall landscape context including surrounding land use, visual harmony with the existing landform and landcover, consistency with existing landscape character, and seasonal variation. These physical attributes will be considered along with the viewer’s expected response to the proposed changes. In addition the proposed project will be analyzed for consistency with applicable planning policies and guidelines.
7. Identify and quantify general and specific visual impacts including the potential cumulative effects caused by the proposed project, based on the above analysis and per CEQA guidelines. We will include a general discussion of off-site visual impacts associated with truck traffic if queuing or waiting areas are to be located off site.
8. Provide mitigation measures which directly relate to identified impacts
9. Prepare photo-simulations of the project from each key viewing area showing applied mitigation measures and illustrating potential effectiveness.
10. Costs for additional optional visual simulations at each mining phase have been included; this would entail an additional 4 simulations from each key viewing area, for a total of 12 simulations. This optional task would provide the EIR readers with a potential visual picture at each mining phase.

**AGRICULTURAL RESOURCES**

The project proposes the disturbance of approximately 60 acres on two parcels east of the community of Santa Margarita totaling about 203 acres. These parcels are in the Rural Lands category and have not historically been used for any commercial crop production. The lands are not classified as prime farmland or as farmland of statewide importance, and there are no Williamson Act contracts or other agricultural preserves associated with the two parcels. The parcels are characterized by varying topography and do not support prime soils. Surrounding properties are also in the Rural Lands category, and according to the Initial Study, are currently in residential or industrial uses.

**AGRICULTURAL RESOURCES:**  
Keith Miller

Surface mining is an allowed use in the Rural Lands category, and the parcels are within the Energy Extractive 1 Combining Designation Overlay. However, the project would result in the temporary conversion of approximately 60 acres of land used for livestock

grazing and ranching activities. These areas would be used for excavation, stockpiling, equipment staging, and access roads for the duration of the mining activity. Other potential impacts identified in the Initial Study include the introduction of invasive weeds and creation of dust, which could increase the occurrence of dust mites and Valley Fever. There are other general incompatibilities between surface mining and agricultural production, such as the presence of heavy machinery, excavation and blasting activities, and disturbing the natural contour of the land. The project description includes plans for site reclamation and revegetation, including sloping and recontouring disturbed areas as appropriate for continued future use as ranching and grazing lands. Long term impacts to ranching activities will be minimized by restoration of the site, including recontouring of the excavated slopes and the replanting of the site with native species.

The applicant did not prepare a separate agricultural analysis as part of their submittals. Preparation of the Agricultural Resources section of the EIR would include a thorough analysis of the existing information, the site's soil characteristics, and the applicant-proposed reclamation and revegetation plan. SWCA will consult with the County Department of Agriculture to determine if any residual impacts may exist despite the applicant's efforts at reclamation. One focus of the impact analysis will be on the distinction between potential short-term and long-term impacts, because as proposed, the project would be permitted for a maximum of 30 years. The scope of work for this section would be completed by Keith Miller of SWCA, with review by Mary Reents and graphics preparation by Kevin Doyle, and include the following scope of work.

*Itemized Scope of Work*

1. Consult with the Department of Agriculture to determine critical factors including guidelines, agricultural policies, and previous studies applicable to the site and surrounding vicinity.
2. Summarize baseline conditions of the project site, including descriptions of existing and historical agricultural/grazing uses and practices, soil classifications, and evaluation of applicable ordinances, policies, and regulations regarding agricultural protection and compatibility. This task includes reviewing documents submitted by the applicant and summarizing surrounding agricultural activities.
3. Evaluate project-related impacts. This section will evaluate impacts related to loss of agricultural soils, loss of grazing lands, impacts to surrounding agricultural land uses, and policy inconsistencies. Short-term, long-term, and cumulative impacts resulting from the construction and implementation of the project will be identified and evaluated. SWCA will analyze the potential impacts associated with the proposed project related to the removal of existing agricultural resources/uses on the site (cattle grazing), potential impacts of the proposed project on offsite adjacent agricultural operations, and potential impacts on any proposed future agricultural development of the site.
4. Recommend mitigation measures. This task will consist of developing mitigation measures designed to reduce, to the degree possible, the significant, adverse impacts associated with implementation of the proposed project. Feasible methods to reduce impacts to agricultural resources will be identified, including applicable dust control and invasive weed control measures.
5. Identify impacts that cannot be reduced to a level of insignificance and which may require findings of overriding consideration



### AIR QUALITY

An air quality impact assessment was not included in the applicant's submittal; therefore, an independent air quality assessment will be included in the EIR. San Luis Obispo County is considered in attainment for all national air quality standards (NAAQS), but is currently in non-attainment for state standards with respect to ozone and particulate matter less than 10 microns (PM<sub>10</sub>). The proposed project would result in total land disturbance of approximately 60 acres, of which approximately 54 acres would be designated as the extraction area with an additional 4.5 acres for processing quarried materials and 1.5 acres of on-site roads.

**AIR QUALITY:**  
Karl Mikel, PE

Operation of the project would emit hazardous air pollutants such as Reactive Organic Gases (ROG) and Oxides of Nitrogen (NO<sub>x</sub>), which are ozone precursors, and diesel toxics by the emission of diesel particulate matter (PM) and greenhouse gases (CO<sub>2</sub>) through the use of heavy machinery for resource extraction and additionally through diesel powered processing equipment. Fugitive dust (PM<sub>10</sub>) would inherently be generated through the various extraction and material stockpile operations and equipment and truck travel on unpaved haul roads. Hauling the processed material to various off-site locations would generate diesel truck emissions. There are known sensitive air receptor locations along the proposed haul routes on Highway 58 (Santa Margarita Elementary School).

Air pollutant emissions generated by construction activities may exceed San Luis Obispo County APCD thresholds. The APCD is currently in the process of developing a Climate Action Strategy, and an updated Clean Air Plan. While these documents may not be adopted prior to preparation of the EIR, SWCA will consult with the APCD to identify any potential inconsistencies with proposed policies or standards. Mitigation strategies will be developed specific to the project to ensure feasibility and effectiveness.

The Air Quality section of the EIR will be prepared by Karl Mikel, PE, Air Quality sub-consultant, with review by Mary Reents and Keith Miller of SWCA, and include the following scope of work.

#### *Itemized Scope of Work*

1. Discuss the existing air quality setting of the proposed project, including baseline air quality and trends, regional climate, and prevailing wind patterns and their affect on air quality, and a discussion of federal and state attainment status. In addition, this section will discuss the applicable regulatory setting, and project impact significance thresholds, based on consultation with the County of San Luis Obispo APCD.
2. Calculate short-term construction and long-term operational emissions per the County of San Luis Obispo APCD guidelines and as applicable through the use of the URBEMIS 2007 for windows version 9.2.4 modeling program. Emission estimates will be included in an appendix for reference. Evaluate project-related impacts. Short-term, long-term, and cumulative impacts, if any, resulting from the construction and implementation of the project will be identified. Impacts associated with project implementation will be compared to defined thresholds of significance. The consistency of the project with the County's Clean Air Plan will also be evaluated. This task will include a background discussion of the potential impacts of climate change, including any potential inconsistencies with the County's Climate Action Strategy and updated Clean Air Plan (if available).

3. Recommend mitigation measures. This task will consist of developing mitigation measures designed to reduce, to the degree possible, the significant, adverse impacts associated with implementation of the proposed project.
4. Identify impacts that cannot be reduced to a level of insignificance and which may require findings of overriding consideration
5. Conduct Health Risk Screening Analysis air quality modeling if necessary;
6. Respond to miscellaneous comments from San Luis Obispo County, the public during the scoping meeting and NOP, and others.

**BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES**

In October 2009, a Sensitive Species and Habitat Survey report was prepared for the Las Pilitas Rock Quarry by LFR (an Arcadis Company); the emphasis of our work effort will be to peer review this report for accuracy and applicability. This report provides a detailed description of the site, the biological resources likely to be found in the project area, observations and surveys conducted to confirm the presence of any special-status biological resources on the site, the possible impacts to these resources that could result from the proposed project, and mitigation measures recommended to reduce impacts to less than significant levels.

**BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES:**  
Travis Belt

SWCA has conducted a preliminary review of the Sensitive Species and Habitat Survey report, and understands that the findings of the biological survey indicate that at least four sensitive plant communities occur at the site, including coast live oak woodland, foothill woodland, Central Coast live oak riparian forest, and seasonally flooded vernal swale. Coast live oaks, blue oaks, valley oaks, and gray pines occur at the site and are considered locally important. While no state or federally listed threatened or endangered species were observed at the site during the 2009 surveys, five sensitive plant species were observed including shining navarretia, La Panza mariposa lily, straight-awned spineflower, Brewer’s red maids, and trumpet-throated gilia. One sensitive wildlife species was also observed, coast horned lizard. In addition, the site provides suitable habitat for a number of other sensitive wildlife species including the American badger, which is associated with oak woodland and chaparral habitat. Numerous protected raptors and bird species also utilize the site for foraging and potentially nesting.

The site supports wetland communities including Central Coast live oak riparian forest and seasonally flooded vernal swale. In their study, LFR opined that: 1) CDFG would assert jurisdiction over some or all of an ephemeral drainage that traverses the site (via the Section 1602 Streambed Alteration Agreement process); and, 2) drainages onsite would not be subject to USACE jurisdiction under Clean Water Act Section 404. While the County’s revised Initial Study for the project indicates that Clean Water Act Section 401 may apply, the Section 401 permitting process is implemented by the RWQCB and typically triggered by the Section 404 permitting process. No formal wetland delineation/preliminary jurisdictional determination has been conducted of the site to date, and these aforementioned regulatory agencies have yet to conduct site visits or verification of jurisdiction onsite.

Project development would result in the direct loss and/or fragmentation of vegetation and habitats found on the project site, as well as indirectly impacting habitats surrounding the proposed project. The biological report prepared for the project recommends avoidance as the primary measure to reduce impacts. The report also provides measures intended to





reduce impacts such as the permanent protection of the areas outside the quarry construction boundary, on-site habitat restoration, oak tree replacement, replanting, and the protection of seasonally-flooded vernal swales and coast live oak riparian resources. In addition to these measures, the project also includes the restoration of mined areas in accordance with the requirement for a Reclamation Plan per SMARA.

This section of the EIR will contain a detailed discussion of biological resources as they pertain to the subject site. The existing biological report will be reviewed and supplemented with further industry research as needed to provide a detailed biological impact assessment of the proposed project. The technical peer review and a supplemental reconnaissance field survey will determine if additional field survey and/or revised mitigation measures are necessary. If these are determined to be necessary, SWCA will contact the County to provide recommendations. The EIR will analyze the reclamation efforts proposed by the applicant, as well as the mitigation recommended in the biological report and will include performance standards for the purpose of ensuring the implementation and function of reclamation and required mitigation. The Biological Resources EIR section will be prepared by Travis Belt of SWCA, with review by Mary Reents and graphics preparation by Kevin Doyle, and will include the following scope of work.

#### *Itemized Scope of Work*

1. Review and compile existing project information. A list of sensitive species with potential for occurrence will be compiled based on review of relevant reports (including the Sensitive Species and Habitat Survey report), the California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDDB), and other pertinent literature. Where necessary, appropriate resource agencies, including CDFG and USFWS will be contacted regarding special-status wildlife species with potential to occur in the project vicinity. In addition, resource conservation organizations such as the California Native Plant Society (CNPS) and local conservation groups will be consulted, as appropriate. Information obtained from review of existing literature and discussions with resource experts will be used to identify issues of biological concern within the project site and, if necessary, focus any subsequent field survey efforts.
2. Conduct reconnaissance “ground-truth” field survey. Qualified SWCA biologists will conduct a reconnaissance survey of the site to facilitate field verification of previous biological field surveys and update existing information as appropriate. It is assumed that no additional floristic botanical surveys, formal protocol wildlife surveys, or habitat mapping of the project area will need to be conducted under this scope of work. It is also assumed that SWCA will be provided with a full set of GIS (or compatible) site plans, topography files, and aerials as well as any previously collected habitat mapping data to allow for overlays of habitat mapping and quantification of impacts.
3. Prepare Biological Resources section for the EIR. Using our review of existing information, the reconnaissance survey, and the wetland delineation/preliminary jurisdictional determination report, SWCA will evaluate the proposed project with respect to short-term, long-term, and cumulative impacts to biological resources. Project maps will be reviewed to determine the impact areas relative to potential sensitive resources. The focus of the impact assessment will be on determining potential project-related effects on special-status plant and animal species as well as sensitive habitats and potentially jurisdictional waters. Impacts on biological resources associated with project implementation will be compared to defined

thresholds of significance based on pertinent federal, state, and County plans and policies. Biological resources concerns expressed by the EIR scoping meeting public comments will also be addressed.

4. Recommend mitigation measures. Upon assessing impacts, mitigation measures will be included to reduce, to the degree possible, any potentially significant adverse biological resources impacts associated with implementation of the proposed project. Mitigation will focus measures that are reasonably feasible and effective, and will be developed in sufficient detail to allow monitoring for compliance. Long-term protective measures for sensitive habitats of the project site and adjacent areas will be identified as part of this task, and specific methods for avoiding or minimizing direct impacts to special-status species or degradation of sensitive habitats will be discussed.
5. Identify impacts that cannot be reduced to a level of insignificance and which may require findings of overriding consideration.
6. Optional Task: Prepare Wetland Delineation/Preliminary Jurisdictional Determination. As part of the reconnaissance "ground-truth" field survey, SWCA will make field observations to verify the potential jurisdictional status of waters onsite such as drainages. If more detailed technical information is required to resolve any uncertainty regarding potential regulatory jurisdiction over federal or state waters within the site, SWCA proposes to conduct a formal wetland delineation/preliminary jurisdictional determination as an optional task.

If recommended by SWCA and authorized by the County, SWCA will delineate the boundaries of potentially jurisdictional wetlands and waters as defined by USACE and CDFG for the project area. Wetland delineation methodology will follow the 1987 USACE Wetland Delineation Manual and Arid West Regional Supplement (Version 2.0, dated September 2008). SWCA will delineate all features that potentially constitute jurisdictional wetlands or waters under USACE or CDFG definitions within the approximately 203-acre survey area boundary. Target features will include National Wetlands Inventory (NWI)-mapped wetlands; U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) mapped drainages; unmapped drainages, washes, dry lakes, and depressional areas; and, hydric soils as mapped by the Soil Conservation Service (SCS).

SWCA will position jurisdictional determination sample plots within proposed impact areas to ensure that impact data is accurate and that the subsequent verification site visit with regulatory agencies will be supported by detailed information. All potentially jurisdictional features will be documented with paired sample plots. All delineated features will be photo-documented. The location of sample plots, observation points, and photo points will be GPS-recorded. Field documentation will include preparation of the USACE Approved Jurisdictional Determination form (Rapanos form) for all potentially jurisdictional features identified in the project area.

SWCA will prepare detailed mapping and a wetland delineation/preliminary jurisdictional determination report that meet all USACE Wetland Delineation Manual and Arid West Regional Supplement reporting requirements. The report will quantify identified resources by regulatory jurisdiction (i.e., USACE, RWQCB, and CDFG). The report will provide a description of the project study area, a discussion of the applicable regulatory framework, a review of the survey





methodology, a summary of field survey results, photo-documentation, and copies of all data forms completed. Impacts to identified jurisdictional areas will be quantified based on project layout plans and detailed on a map.

**GEOLOGY AND SOILS/DRAINAGE**

The Initial Study identifies potential erosion and impact on drainage patterns associated with the propose quarry operation as potentially significant and requires a geologic report in accordance with the County’s Land Use Ordinance to evaluate the geological stability of the area. The applicant has supplied some geological information as part of their submittal; this information would be peer reviewed for accuracy. However, a formal geological analysis was not included and preparation of this analysis will be the focus of this section of the EIR. The geological analysis will be prepared by Geosyntec; the Geology and Soils section of the EIR will be prepared by Keith Miller of SWCA, with review by Mary Reents and graphics preparation by Kevin Doyle, and will include the following scope of work.

**GEOLOGY AND SOILS/  
DRAINAGE:**  
Geosyntec  
Keith Miller

*Itemized Scope of Work*

1. Compilation and review of existing drainage, geology, and soils information including available published geologic and soils information for the project site and vicinity.
2. Visual field reconnaissance by a Registered Geologist.
3. Summary of the existing geologic setting. Description of soil profiles and site geology, based upon observations and available geologic literature and reports, aerial photos, and lithologic logs of borings and wells.
4. Evaluation and discussion of potential hazards and impacts related to soils or geology such as vulnerability to flooding, erosion, geotechnical instability, seismic impacts, liquefaction, subsidence, and landslides.
5. Existing information indicates that thickness of soil may insufficient for adequate filtering of wastewater effluent before it reaches bedrock. Steep slopes and proposed quarry operations may exacerbate the problem. This would be evaluated to determine if there is an issue.
6. Assessment of proposed mitigation measures and recommendations to reduce, to the degree practicable, significant, adverse geologic/soil impacts associated with implementation of the project.
7. Any significant unavoidable adverse impacts will be identified.

**GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS**

A Greenhouse Gas Emissions evaluation and Climate Change study were not part of the applicant’s submittal to the County. Operation of the project would emit greenhouse gases (GHG) (CO<sub>2e</sub>) through the use of heavy machinery for resource extraction and additionally through diesel powered processing equipment and trucks traveling to the site and hauling aggregate material away from the site. This section of the EIR will include an analysis of

**GREENHOUSE GAS  
EMISSIONS:**  
Karl Mikel, PE

GHG emissions, and the project's contribution to the cumulative effects of global climate change. The GHG and climate change section would provide information on the existing meteorology and air quality with respect to GHG emissions in the project area. The EIR section will include emission estimates for various source categories using standard engineering methods. This section will include estimated GHG emissions from direct, energy indirect and other indirect (referred also as Scopes 1, 2, and 3) sources, known emission reductions would be included (i.e., the state renewable portfolio standard for electricity production and air district rules). Results of these calculations would then be compared to CEQA thresholds of the San Luis Obispo County Air Pollution Control District (APCD) and the questions in Appendix G of the CEQA Guidelines, as amended in 2009.

The APCD is currently in the process of developing a Climate Action Strategy, and an updated Clean Air Plan. While these documents may not be adopted prior to preparation of the EIR, SWCA will consult with the APCD to identify any potential inconsistencies with proposed policies or standards. Mitigation strategies will be developed specific to the project to ensure feasibility and effectiveness. The Greenhouse Gas Emissions section of the EIR will be prepared by Karl Mikel, PE, GHG sub-consultant, with review by Mary Reents of SWCA, and include the following scope of work.

*Itemized Scope of Work*

1. Discuss the existing GHG setting of the proposed project, including baseline and trends and their effect on local and global emissions with respect to climate change. This section will discuss the applicable regulatory setting, and project impact significance thresholds, based on consultation with the San Luis Obispo County APCD.
2. Calculate short-term construction and long-term GHG emissions per the San Luis Obispo County APCD guidelines and as applicable through the use of the URBEMIS 2007 for windows version 9.2.4 modeling program. Emission estimates will be included in an appendix for reference.
3. Evaluate project-related impacts. Short-term, long-term, and cumulative impacts, if any, resulting from the construction and implementation of the project will be identified. Impacts associated with project implementation will be compared to defined thresholds of significance where applicable. This task will include a background discussion of the potential impacts of climate change, including any potential inconsistencies with the County's Climate Action Strategy.
4. Recommend mitigation measures. This task will consist of developing mitigation measures designed to reduce, to the degree possible, the significant, adverse impacts associated with implementation of the proposed project. Feasible methods to reduce GHG emissions will be identified, including applicable energy efficiency measures.
5. Identify impacts that cannot be reduced to a level of insignificance and which may require findings of overriding consideration





**HAZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS**

The applicant submitted information that is pertinent to the discussion of hazards (including a blasting report) and hazardous materials; however, the County indicates that a more thorough evaluation is necessary. The public has also identified several concerns related to hazards, particularly relating to mining operations and blasting, and the affects of these activities off site. Leaks of fuel and residue of explosives used for the quarrying operations may impact the environment in the vicinity of the proposed project. Of major concern is the potential for hazardous materials to enter the Salinas River.

**HAZARDS/HAZARDOUS MATERIALS:**  
Geosyntec  
Keith Miller

Other hazard issues include the potential for increased risk of fire and emergency vehicle access and trespass issues, the potential effects on the existing high pressure fuel line in the area, and the potential for flooding (discussed under hydrology and water resources). The applicant has provided mitigation measures that are included in the Initial Study; this and other information available from affected agencies will be reviewed and included in the evaluation. The Hazards Analysis will be conducted by Geosyntec; the Hazards and Hazardous Materials section of the EIR will be prepared by Keith Miller of SWCA, with graphic preparation by Kevin Doyle, and will include the following scope of work.

*Itemized Scope of Work*

1. Review of available information on proposed use and handling of explosives and fuel for the project. The Blasting Study will be reviewed for adequacy and used to determine the potential for offsite impacts. Other blasting information available in Geosyntec and SWCA files, developed in conjunction with other hard rock mining activities, will be referenced as applicable to this project.
2. Assessment of proposed mitigation measures to minimize potential exposure to hazardous materials. Additional mitigation measures will be recommended as necessary, and standard conditions from affected agencies will be incorporated (such as County conditions of approval and fire safety information).
3. Review and recommend any additions for inclusion into the required Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP), which is important for mitigation of potential off-site migration of hazardous materials.
4. Any significant unavoidable adverse impacts will be identified.
5. Cumulative impacts from this and other mining activities in the area will be discussed.

**HYDROLOGY/WATER RESOURCES**

An on-site well is proposed as the water source for the quarry operations. The Initial Study Summary of the Project by the County identifies available quantity of groundwater and quality of groundwater as potentially significant issues for the project. Accordingly, hydrogeologic analysis is required to evaluate feasibility of sustainable groundwater production to meet the requirements of the proposed six residential parcels as well as expanded agricultural use.

**HYDROLOGY/WATER RESOURCES:**  
Geosyntec  
Mary Reents

The Initial Study identifies five specific needs that will be addressed in this section: 1) consultation with agencies; 2) projections of water demand based on various uses that make up project (and assume washing of aggregates); 3) evaluation of water availability for on-site water demands; 4) evaluation of the long-term capability of the ground water basin to provide adequate supply; and 5) recommendation of feasible mitigation measures. The hydrogeologic analysis will be conducted by Geosyntec; the Hydrology/Water Quality section of the EIR will be prepared by Mary Reents of SWCA, with assistance from Emily Creel and graphic preparation by Kevin Doyle, and will include the following scope of work.

*Itemized Scope of Work*

1. Compile and review of available reports and information on water wells and groundwater production in the vicinity of the project. Review public comment letters with regard to hydrology and water quality issues. Consult with affected agencies.
2. Compile, review, and re-analyze existing water well testing data to assess sustainable groundwater pumping rates. The Water Code Regulations allow either a 72 hour or 10 day test. For a 72-hour test, if the water level recovery requirements are met, a production rate equal to 25% of the pumping rate will be granted by Department of Public Health (DPH). Or for a 10-day test a production rate equal to 50% of the pumping rate will be granted by DPH. Both alternatives are given as optional tasks, if the applicant is not able to provide this information.
3. Assess potential hydraulic connection between the proposed water well and other water wells in the vicinity.
4. Evaluate the existing water well testing data for consistency with the protocols for the pumping tests and analyses specified by California Water Code regulations and guidelines<sup>1</sup>.
5. Recommend or conduct additional water well testing if the available testing data are inadequate or inconclusive. As an optional task, Geosyntec has provided cost estimates for two additional pump tests, either a 72-hour pump test or a 10-day pump test. A separate scope of work is available if the County deems that an additional pump test is warranted. The costs for these two alternative optional pump tests are given in Table 8, Optional Tasks Costs.
6. Calculate water demand. Review and evaluate potential for the quarrying operation to influence groundwater and water production capability. Review the potential to wet wash aggregates as an alternative to the proposed dry method.
7. Review and discuss potential implications of climate change for future drought conditions and implications groundwater recharge, sustainability of groundwater production, and potential impact of long-term groundwater pumping on other wells, creeks, and riparian corridors in the project vicinity.
8. Assess potential for the project to degrade quality of surface water and groundwater in the vicinity.

<sup>1</sup> The Water Code Regulations allow either a 72 hour or 10 day test. For a 72-hour test, if the water level recovery requirements are met, a production rate equal to 25% of the pumping rate will be granted by DPH. Or for a 10-day test a production rate equal to 50% of the pumping rate will be granted by DPH.





9. Identify any cumulative impacts to water resources.
10. Discuss potential mitigation measures to minimize potential impacts related to groundwater availability and water quality. Evaluate alternative water resources if water is a significant issue.
11. Identify any significant unavoidable adverse impacts that cannot be mitigated.

**NOISE AND VIBRATION**

The project site is located in a rural area northeast of the community of Santa Margarita. Based on the Initial Study, surrounding land uses mostly include industrial operations and scattered rural residences. Residences in the area are generally located on large parcels and homes are setback from the existing active quarry operations (Hanson). Based on the Initial Study/EIR Scoping Documents and review of the project area, two main noise sources will be addressed in the EIR. The proposed project is expected to generate noise from both stationary and mobile sources. Operation of the project would generate long-term noise resulting from mechanical equipment and machinery used to process materials, which would include tractors, loaders, and potentially other types of heavy equipment such as excavators, loaders, and graders moving and hauling excavated material and daily cover as necessary. The quarry also includes the use of heavy processing machinery, frequent blasting to expose the aggregate, and earthmoving equipment used on-site to extract and produce the aggregate material. A secondary long-term noise component is created with increased traffic due to heavy trucks hauling the quarried and processed material to various locations, which would use several surrounding roadways and State Route 58.

**NOISE AND VIBRATION:**  
Karl Mikel, PE

Noise from blasting is also an issue that will be addressed in this section. Blasting also causes ground vibration that could extend off site. SWCA will utilize information from blasting studies conducted at other hard rock mines to estimate the potential for offsite noise and vibration impacts from blasting on site.

The Noise section of the EIR will review and augment the applicant-supplied Noise Study (Dubink 2009), which identified sensitive receptors adjacent to the project site and transportation routes that have direct exposure to the additional project generated traffic noise. Using the applicant supplied noise study, augmented by verification of noise measurements conducted by SWCA, predicted levels will be compared to County thresholds to identify potential impacts, and develop feasible noise reduction mitigation measures if necessary. Noise emissions from the quarry will be evaluated, determined at the property line of the nearest sensitive land use as defined by County policies and thresholds, in conformance with Section 65302 (f) of the California Government Code. Development of the Noise and Vibration section of the EIR will be prepared by Karl Mikel, PE, Acoustical Engineer, with review by Mary Reents and graphic preparation by Kevin Doyle, and will involve the following scope of work.

*Itemized Scope of Work*

1. Peer review existing report and perform preliminary noise review. This task includes a review of the proposed project and site and its relation to standards in the County’s Noise Element, background noise research, and correspondence with project personnel. This task includes an on-site field review of the proposed project area to confirm the findings of the applicant supplied noise study and identify sensitive land uses within close proximity of the project site.

2. Conduct field noise measurements. Existing baseline stationary source measurements would be taken in several locations in and around the project site in sufficient quantity to accurately assess ambient noise conditions and confirm the findings of the applicant supplied noise study report.
3. Identify noise impacts. Using the applicant supplied noise study report and additional noise measurements conducted as part of this scope of work, potential future noise levels at the project site and surrounding sensitive receptors would be evaluated and compared to County noise thresholds. Levels exceeding County Noise Element thresholds would be identified. Existing baseline stationary source measurements would be compared to the projected noise levels produced by operation of equipment used on site. Note that noise impacts change depending on topographic conditions and these will be taken into account when assessing impacts.
4. The blasting study will be used in conjunction with results of other blasting studies that SWCA has conducted in the central valley granitic areas to determine the potential noise and vibration impacts on adjacent land uses during blasting episodes. Note that terrain will influence the noise associated with blasting, and estimates of blasting noise will be assessed based on terrain conditions.
5. Develop mitigation measures to address potential on site operational (including blasting) and truck traffic noise impacts to existing or proposed residences associated with implementation of the project. Recommended mitigation will be tailored to feasible and effective measures and developed in sufficient detail to allow for compliance monitoring.
6. Identify any significant unavoidable impacts, and if necessary discuss overriding considerations or alternatives to the proposed project.

**RECREATION**

The proposed project would not create a significant need for additional park, natural area, or recreational resources. Based on the Initial Study, the Salinas River Trail corridor is located within the southwest corner of the project site. While the area of the site that intersects the identified trail is not proposed for disturbance, implementation of the project could create significant impacts related to use of the trail, including negative effects on public safety or visual and aesthetic qualities of the trail. The applicant is proposing reclamation and revegetation of the site at the conclusion of its 30-year lifespan. These measures would seek to return the site to its existing condition, and the EIR will assess this aspect of the project to determine long-term effects to the proposed trail system.

**RECREATION:**  
Emily Creel

Preparation of the Recreation section of the EIR will include a thorough analysis of the existing information, the County Parks and Recreation Element, and the applicant-proposed reclamation and revegetation plan. SWCA will consult with County Parks to determine whether any residual impacts may exist despite the applicant’s efforts at reclamation. One focus of the impact analysis will be on the distinction between potential short-term and long-term impacts, because as proposed, the project would be permitted for a maximum of 30 years. The scope of work for this section would be completed by Emily Creel of SWCA, with review by Mary Reents and graphic preparation by Kevin Doyle, and include the following tasks.





*Itemized Scope of Work*

1. Consult with County Parks to determine critical factors including guidelines and recreational policies and needs applicable to the site and surrounding vicinity. SWCA will discuss and analyze the benefits and/or detriments to realignment of the trail for the 30-year life of the project or long-term.
2. Summarize baseline conditions of the project site, including descriptions of existing recreational facilities and areas onsite as well as in the surrounding vicinity, and evaluation of applicable ordinances, policies, and regulations regarding recreational resource protection and compatibility. This task includes reviewing the County Parks and Recreation Element and Trails Map and summarizing surrounding recreational opportunities and usage information.
3. Evaluate project-related impacts. This section will evaluate impacts related to loss of onsite recreational resources, namely the Salinas River Trail, any impacts on surrounding recreational uses, and policy inconsistencies. Short-term, long-term, and cumulative impacts resulting from the construction and implementation of the project will be identified and evaluated. SWCA will analyze the potential impacts related to general incompatibilities that will be created between mining activities and the Salinas River Trail in its current location, potential impacts related to realignment alternatives of the Salinas River Trail, and potential impacts on any proposed future recreational development or restoration of the site.
4. Recommend mitigation measures and evaluate potential for alternative trail routes. This task will consist of developing mitigation measures designed to reduce, to the degree possible, the significant, adverse impacts associated with implementation of the proposed project on the Salinas River Trail corridor. Feasible methods to reduce impacts to recreational resources will be identified, including possible realignment of the Salinas River Trail corridor or dedication of a recreational trail easement.

**TRANSPORTATION AND CIRCULATION**

The primary task within this scope of work is a peer review of the traffic study and supplemental letter reports for the project. A preliminary review of the 2009 traffic report and one of the supplemental letters has already identified two potential issues that could require revisions to the existing traffic study prior to completion of the Draft EIR. This scope of work thereby includes two rounds of peer review – an initial, full peer review for the current report and letters and a secondary, more focused review of any updated documents. The two reviews would be separated by a conference call to discuss the peer review results and determine what level of revision would be required of the project applicant’s traffic consultant. The public has significant concerns with regard to traffic through the community of Santa Margarita; emphasis will be given to traffic conditions within the community from truck trips. The traffic analysis peer review will be conducted by Hatch Mott MacDonald; the Transportation/Circulation section of the EIR will be prepared by Emily Creel of SWCA, with graphic preparation by Kevin Doyle, and will include the following scope of work.

**TRANSPORTATION/  
CIRCULATION:**  
Hatch Mott MacDonald  
Emily Creel

*Itemized Scope of Work*

1. Initial Peer Review. A peer review will be prepared of the 2009 traffic impact analysis for the project and all relevant supplementary letter reports. This review will focus on level of service calculation methodologies and assumptions. However, all elements of the study will be reviewed including:
  - Study scope,
  - Existing traffic volume data,
  - Trip generation, distribution and assignment assumptions,
  - Level of service calculation methodologies and assumptions,
  - Existing, Project and Cumulative impacts,
  - Recommended mitigation measures.

A memorandum will be prepared, summarizing all of the comments and issues identified through the peer review. This memorandum will be submitted to the County. A conference call is recommended to review the memorandum prior to proceeding with further review.

2. Secondary Peer Review. A secondary peer review would be conducted of any updated components of the original traffic study, supplemental letter reports, or new traffic-related documents. This secondary review would focus on both the suitability of the revised analysis for inclusion within the DEIR, as well as consistency with the unchanged aspects of the traffic impact analysis. You will be informed as to the suitability of the revised documents for use in the DEIR.
3. Prepare Traffic section of EIR. Based on the traffic reports, SWCA will prepare a traffic section for the EIR.

**ISSUES WITH INSIGNIFICANT IMPACTS**

Based upon the review of the Initial Study and applicant-submitted reports, this section would cover those issues that are not likely to have a significant effect on the environment. The results of applicant-supplied information, information contained in the Initial Study, and other information available on specific issues, the following environmental topics would be included in this section, which will be prepared by Emily Creel of SWCA, with assistance from Mary Reents.

**Cultural Resources**

The County determined that the cultural resources report prepared by Thor Conway was adequate and that there were insignificant cultural resources impacts. This section will be included under Issues with Insignificant Impacts. It should be noted that the public raised the question as to whether the site contained the staging area for the construction of the Salinas Dam. Our preliminary review indicated that the location of the dam is six miles away from the project site and it is therefore unlikely that the site was used for a staging area. The records search conducted by Mr. Conway included a search for historic sites, and the results of the search did not indicate any historic sites at the project location. If needed, SWCA has cultural and historic resources staff available to conduct further evaluations, should information be provided that would lead to the conclusion that the project site or related off-site activities would affect cultural or historic resources.





### **Land Use/Planning and Mineral Resources**

The project is a mining project proposed within an Energy Extractive 1 Combining Designation overlay area. Since the proposed project is consistent with land use policies, it was determined by the County to be an insignificant impact. Land Use and Minerals Resources-Consistency issues would be included in the Environmental Setting section and an evaluation of the project's consistency with land uses would be provided in tabular form in the appendix. The land use analysis would be expanded to include discussion of minerals resources availability and the state-wide need for minerals resources. The mining of aggregates in this location is consistent with statewide policy and the area is identified and protected by the state for minerals extraction. The County also indicates that this area is suitable for minerals extraction.

### **Population and Housing**

The cumulative effects of mining and related jobs and need for housing is not considered significant and would be addressed in this section.

### **Utilities/Service Systems and Wastewater**

A separate utility section does not appear to be warranted; water resources will be discussed under Water and Hydrology, and wastewater is not considered a significant issue in the Initial Study and would be discussed under Issues with Insignificant Impacts. Should wastewater services, when evaluated further, result in a significant impact requiring mitigation, it will either be discussed under Geology and Soils/Drainage, or it will be added as an independent section. Other public services issues, such as solid waste and police services, will be discussed under Issues with Insignificant Impacts.

### **ALTERNATIVES ANALYSIS**

CEQA Guidelines require an EIR to describe a reasonable range of alternatives to a project, including the location, which could feasibly attain most of the basic objectives of the project but would avoid or substantially lessen any of the significant effects of the project. An EIR should also evaluate the impacts of the alternatives relative to each other and the project.

This section of the EIR will: (1) describe the range of reasonable alternatives to the project realizing that this project is minerals dependent and can only be located where the mineral resources are located; (2) examine and evaluate resource issue areas where significant adverse environmental effects have been identified and compare the impacts of the alternatives to those of the project; and, (3) identify the Environmentally Superior Alternative, which could potentially be a combination of the various components of the alternatives discussed above. Alternatives that may be considered include alternative mining methods, alternative transportation routes, alternatives to reduce water usage, a reduced project alternative, and alternative phasing.

The Alternatives Analysis will be conducted in a general or qualitative level of detail. The analysis will include project-specific level analysis of selected alternatives based on the availability of information. Mary Reents and Keith Miller of SWCA, in conjunction with SWCA staff and sub-consultants, will prepare the Alternatives section of the EIR, which will consist of the following scope of work.

*Itemized Scope of Work*

1. Identify significant impact resulting from the proposed project and, in consultation with County staff, identify potential project alternatives which would reduce these impacts. Potential alternatives are unknown at this time; however, to address cumulative impacts, which are likely to be a significant issue in the EIR, they may include alternative mining methods, alternative transportation routes, alternatives to reduce water usage, a reduced project alternative, and alternative phasing, among others.
2. Prepare a matrix displaying the major characteristics and significant environmental effects of each alternative, and a discussion of any other significant effects that may result from an alternative in addition to those caused by the project.
3. Identify the preferred alternative. If the “No-Project” alternative is determined to be the preferred alternative, an Environmentally Superior Alternative will be recommended among the other alternatives, or combination of their components.

**GROWTH INDUCING IMPACTS**

CEQA Guidelines (§15126.2(d)) state that for the preparation of EIRs, growth-inducing effects are defined as “...ways in which the project could foster economic or population growth, or the construction of additional housing, either directly or indirectly, in the surrounding environment.” The CEQA Guidelines expand upon this description by stating, “Included in this are projects which would remove obstacles to population growth (a major expansion of a wastewater treatment plant might, for example, allow more construction in service areas).”

The public has also questioned why this area must bear the burden of multiple quarries, and although this is not specifically a “growth inducing impact” this section will provide information with regard to cumulative growth in minerals resources, and the effects that minerals resources growth would have on population growth and “quality of life”. It will also refer the reader to other discussions in the EIR related to this issue.

This section of the EIR will analyze the project in terms of its potential to substantially induce growth in the surrounding area. Emily Creel of SWCA will be responsible for the preparation of the Growth Inducing Impacts section, which will consist of the following scope of work.

*Itemized Scope of Work*

1. Review and summarization of all applicable planning documents as they relate to growth inducing impact information.
2. Discuss the surrounding minerals resources and how development of these resources could foster additional growth in the area and how it would remove obstacles to growth by providing job opportunities, and other growth-related issues.
3. Review of the project in terms of its potential for fostering economic or population growth, either directly or indirectly, within the study area.
4. Identification of significant growth inducing impacts.



### MITIGATION MONITORING AND REPORTING PROGRAM

Public Resources Code §21081.6 requires an agency making findings pursuant to CEQA to adopt a reporting or monitoring program to ensure implementation of mitigation measures to avoid or minimize significant environmental effects. SWCA has prepared many Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Programs (MMRP) as part of the CEQA process and is familiar with the monitoring program preparation techniques currently used by the County. The purpose of the MMRP will be to ensure compliance with all recommended mitigation measures identified in the EIR. Mitigation measures will be presented in the standard county format. A draft MMRP will be prepared as part of the EIR in order to allow the reviewing agencies to comment. The monitoring program will contain procedures that are reasonable and feasible to implement given the current contracting procedures and construction techniques. Jaimie Jones of SWCA will be responsible for the preparation of the MMRP, with review by Mary Reents.

### CUMULATIVE EFFECTS

CEQA Guidelines §15065(c) states that “cumulatively considerable” environmental impacts pertain to the incremental effects of an individual project that are considerable when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, the effects of other current projects, and the effects of probable future projects. Cumulative effects of the project that are deemed “considerable” will be discussed as a sub-topic within each of the above environmental issue areas. The cumulative development scenario identified for each environmental resource will also be described in this section.

### OTHER REQUIRED EIR SECTIONS

SWCA will prepare the EIR following all CEQA and County requirements. Other required sections, including Significant Irreversible Environmental Effects and References, will be included in the document.

## B. RESPONSE TO COMMENTS

SWCA has prepared numerous EIR Response to Comments sections, and has developed a thorough and cost-effective methodology to prepare responses in an efficient manner. SWCA anticipates focused neighborhood interest in the project and have therefore included a total of 60 hours of SWCA staff time, and technical support from sub-consultants as part of the scope of work for responding to public and agency comments on the Draft EIR. This would include responding to approximately 30 substantive comments. Should preparation of the response to comments section significantly exceed 60 hours, SWCA will notify the County and request a revised scope of work for this task.

A budget for response to comments for our sub-consultants has been included, since it is likely that their sections would receive the most public comments. We anticipate that the responses to the Draft EIR will be considerably more than 30 substantive comment letters, since over 150 comment letters have been received to date to the scoping meeting. However, it is likely that the issues addressed in these letters will be similar and where we can consolidate the responses, we will do so. Additional cost for replying to comment letters would be on a time and materials basis, and our cost proposal includes a budget for additional letters. Mary Reents will coordinate the responses to comments and will be assisted by the project team.

**C. FINDINGS**

A total of 50 hours (time and materials) have been included as part of the scope of work for preparation of EIR Findings. SWCA has prepared Findings on EIRs in the past for the County and is familiar with this procedure. SWCA will prepare these Findings in a format approved by the Department of Planning and Building and provide the County with two hard copies and one electronic version. Emily Creel will prepare the Findings.

**D. STAFF MEETINGS, PUBLIC MEETINGS, AND HEARINGS**

Under this scope of work, SWCA’s Project Manager will be available to meet with County staff on five occasions, including a “kick-off” meeting and at least four other agency meetings. The scope of work includes SWCA’s Project Manager and selected project team members attending up to four public hearings. SWCA will attend these meetings only if authorized by the County and will be prepared to respond to questions, make presentations, and/or participate in an advisory capacity relating to preparation of the EIR. The cost would be on a time-and-materials basis, applying the rates shown in Table 7. Note that a considerable budget has been provided for attendance at meetings and hearings by Geosyntec. Water and Hazards appear to be substantial topics and having the geologists and hydrologists present at the hearings or at selected meetings is advised.



## SECTION 4. PROPOSED SCHEDULE

### A. TASK TIMETABLE

We estimate a timeframe of approximately nine months for completion of the draft EIR, assuming adequate time for County review of deliverables. We understand that timing is of the essence; however, complex projects typically require a longer time frame for completion, and depend on the identification of impacts. If additional study is determined by the county to be needed to address a specific issue, then the proposed schedule would be modified accordingly.

We anticipate that certification of the Final EIR will be contingent upon potential appeals to the County Board of Supervisors. SWCA will make every effort to complete tasks and prepare deliverables ahead of schedule, if possible. Should the Draft EIR receive considerable public comments during the public review period, it may delay completion of the final EIR by one to two weeks. This delay is included in the schedule given in the following table.

**Table 3. EIR Preparation Schedule**

Task	Estimated Completion Period
Draft Project Description and EIR Outline	3 weeks after authorization to proceed and receipt of any requested materials
Administrative Draft EIR with MMRP and Appendices	12 weeks after close of NOP public review period
Draft EIR with MMRP and Appendices	3 weeks after receipt of County comments on ADEIR
Administrative Final EIR with MMRP and Appendices	2 to 4 weeks after close of Draft EIR public review period
Final EIR with MMRP and Appendices	2 weeks after receipt of County comments on AFEIR

### B. DELIVERABLES

Under this Scope of Work, SWCA anticipates preparation of the following deliverables (refer to Table 6). Please note that we have added 15 copies of the Draft EIR Executive Summary with attached electronic copies (CD) of the Draft EIR with MMRP and Appendices to be sent to the State Clearinghouse.

Optional costs have been included to prepare an Expanded Executive Summary or Summary EIR similar to the process used for the AT&T Fiber Optics EIR recently prepared for the County.

**Table 4. EIR Deliverables**

Task	Copies Submitted
Draft Project Description and EIR Outline	<p><u>5 Copies</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 4 hard copies, stapled</li> <li>▪ 1 electronic copy (CD) (Word, Excel, etc.)</li> </ul>
Administrative Draft EIR with MMRP and Appendices	<p><u>5 Copies</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 4 hard copies, in three-ring binders</li> <li>▪ 1 CD (Word, Excel, etc.)</li> </ul>
Draft EIR with MMRP and Appendices	<p><u>45 Copies</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 5 hard copies, in three-ring binders</li> <li>▪ 15 hard copies, bound, with appendices as a CD in an envelope</li> <li>▪ 25 CDs (searchable PDF)</li> <li>▪ 10 separately bound hard copies of the appendices</li> <li>▪ 1 CD (Word, Excel, etc.)</li> <li>▪ 1 CD in an HTML format, or other acceptable web-friendly format (PDF) for placement on the County web site</li> </ul>
Draft EIR and Executive Summary for State Clearinghouse	<p><u>15 Copies</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 15 hard copies, stapled</li> <li>▪ 15 CDs of the Draft EIR</li> </ul>
Administrative Final EIR with MMRP and Appendices	<p><u>5 Copies</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 2 hard copies, three-hole drilled</li> <li>▪ 2 hard copies, bound</li> <li>▪ 1 CD (Word, Excel, etc.)</li> </ul>
Final EIR with MMRP and Appendices	<p><u>55 Copies</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 5 hard copies, in three-ring binders</li> <li>▪ 25 hard copies, bound, with appendices as a CD in an envelope</li> <li>▪ 25 CDs (searchable PDF)</li> <li>▪ 15 separately bound hard copies of the appendices</li> <li>▪ 1 CD (Word, Excel, etc.)</li> </ul>
Draft and Final EIR, MMRP, and Appendices	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 1 set of CDs (Word, Excel, etc.; including any ArcGIS layers, and .SHP / .PRJ files.)</li> </ul>
CEQA Findings (Optional Task)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 2 unbound copies, 1 CD</li> </ul>





The EIR will be printed two-sided on white recycled paper at 8 1/2 x 11 vertical format with 11x17 graphic insertions when needed. Color graphics will be used where necessary to assist in understanding complex information. All documents will be spiral bound or three-hole punched per directions in the RFP. Working drafts for staff use will be presented in three-ring notebook binders large enough to handle the Final EIR. SWCA will submit a master copy of the Draft and Final EIR, Mitigation Monitoring Program, and Appendices on a compact disc in Microsoft Word 7.0 or earlier version for use by the County in preparing staff reports. Spreadsheet and databases developed for the EIR will be included on this disc using the latest County spreadsheet software. All other computer-produced materials will be submitted to the County in the proper programs and formats (i.e., Microsoft Excel 7.0, AutoCAD, and ArcGIS).

## SECTION 5. COST ESTIMATES

The costs to prepare the EIR document are summarized by task in Table 5, and are shown in detail in Table 6, EIR Preparation Detailed Cost Estimate. Analysis of the issues outlined in the above Scope of Work and preparation of the EIR will be performed for a fixed fee of \$282,353. Table 7 contains a proposed time-and-materials budget of \$22,318 for attendance of the Project Director, Project Manager, and selected sub-consultants at staff meetings and public hearings on an as-needed basis. Table 8 details the costs of optional tasks for the project, including CEQA Findings and additional technical studies and visual simulations.

**Table 5. EIR Preparation Cost Summary**

Task	Estimated Cost
Project Administration	\$23,384
Task 1.0 – Administrative Draft EIR Preparation	\$214,119
Task 2.0 – Draft EIR Preparation	\$15,842
Task 3.0 – Draft Final EIR Preparation	\$18,796
Task 4.0 – Final EIR Preparation	\$10,212
<b>TOTAL ESTIMATED FIXED-FEE COST</b>	<b>\$282,353</b>
Task 5.0 – Meetings & Hearings (T&M)	\$22,318
<b>TOTAL ESTIMATED TIME AND MATERIALS COST</b>	<b>\$22,318</b>
<b>TOTAL ESTIMATED COST</b>	<b>\$304,671</b>





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Table 6. EIR Preparation Detailed Cost Estimate

		Project Director	Project Manager	Senior Planner	Environmental Planner	Associate Biologist	GIS/CAD Specialist	Technical Editor	SWCA - Labor Total	Reimbursables	Robert Carr	Karl Mikel	Geosyntec	Hatch Mott MacDonald	TOTAL
Hourly Rate		\$158	\$158	\$121	\$79	\$100	\$110	\$79							
<b>PROJECT ADMINISTRATION</b>															
	Project Management (General Tasks)		100					16	\$17,064						\$17,064
	Quality Assurance / Quality Control (Document Review)	40							\$6,320						\$6,320
	<i>Subtotal</i>	40	100	0	0	0	0	16	\$23,384	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	<b>\$23,384</b>
<b>TASK 1.0 ADMINISTRATIVE DRAFT EIR PREPARATION</b>															
1.1	Executive Summary		2		8			16	\$2,212						\$2,212
1.2	Introduction				8				\$632						\$632
1.3	Project Description		40	12	8		32		\$11,924						\$11,924
1.4	Environmental Setting (including Consistency with Plans and Policies)		4		40		4		\$4,232						\$4,232
1.5	Aesthetics		4						\$632		\$9,048				\$9,680
1.6	Agricultural Resources		4	32			4		\$4,944						\$4,944
1.7	Air Quality		4	8					\$1,600			\$5,760			\$7,360
1.8	Biological Resources		2			108	8		\$11,996						\$11,996
1.9	Geology and Soils		8	32			16		\$6,896				\$22,800		\$29,696
1.10	Greenhouse Gas Emissions		8						\$1,264			\$2,880			\$4,144
1.11	Hazards and Hazardous Materials (Blasting Issues)			32			8		\$4,752				\$14,489		\$19,241
1.12	Hydrology/Water Resources		32		8		8		\$6,568				\$36,308		\$42,876
1.13	Noise and Vibration		16				24		\$5,168			\$7,500			\$12,668
1.14	Recreation		2		32		4		\$3,284						\$3,284
1.15	Transportation/Circulation				32		4		\$2,968					\$11,238	\$14,206
1.16	Issues with Less than Significant Impacts (Cultural, Env. Justice, Land Use/Minerals, Population, Utilities)		4		32				\$3,160						\$3,160
1.17	Alternatives Analysis		60	16	24	8	8		\$14,992						\$14,992
1.18	Growth Inducing Impacts				16				\$1,264						\$1,264
1.19	Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program		2					16	\$1,580						\$1,580
1.20	Reproduce Project Description (4 bound - \$10/copy, 1 CD - \$10/copy)								\$0	\$50					\$50
1.21	Technical Editing							60	\$4,740						\$4,740
1.22	Review and Reproduce ADEIR (4 hard copies - \$85/copy, 1 CD - \$10/copy)		32	16				24	\$8,888	\$350					\$9,238
	<i>Subtotal</i>	0	224	148	208	116	120	116	\$103,696	\$400	\$9,048	\$16,140	\$73,597	\$11,238	<b>\$214,119</b>
<b>TASK 2.0 DRAFT EIR PREPARATION</b>															
2.1	Incorporation of County Staff Revisions to DEIR		40		24			32	\$10,744						\$10,744
2.2	Reproduce DEIR and Appendices (20 hard copies - \$85/copy, 27 CDs - \$10/copy)							12	\$948	\$1,970					\$2,918
2.3	Reproduce DEIR Appendices (10 hard copies - \$30/copy)							12	\$948	\$300					\$1,248
2.4	Reproduce DEIR for SCH (15 Executive Summary hard copies - \$10/copy, 15 DEIR CDs - \$10/copy)							8	\$632	\$300					\$932
	<i>Subtotal</i>	0	40	0	24	0	0	64	\$13,272	\$2,570	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	<b>\$15,842</b>

		Project Director	Project Manager	Senior Planner	Environmental Planner	Associate Biologist	GIS/CAD Specialist	Technical Editor	SWCA - Labor Total	Reimbursables	Robert Carr	Karl Mikel	Geosyntec	Hatch Mott MacDonald	TOTAL
<i>Hourly Rate</i>		\$158	\$158	\$121	\$79	\$100	\$110	\$79							
<b>TASK 3.0 ADMINISTRATIVE FINAL EIR PREPARATION</b>															
3.1	Response to Public Comments		40	8	6	6			\$8,362		\$450	\$450	\$1,600		\$10,862
3.2	Incorporation of County Comments on Responses		16					24	\$4,424						\$4,424
3.3	Administrative Draft of Response to Comments		8					16	\$2,528						\$2,528
3.4	Reproduce AFEIR, Appendices, and Response to Comments (4 bound - \$85/copy and 1 CD - \$10/copy)							8	\$632	\$350					\$982
	<i>Subtotal</i>	0	64	8	6	6	0	48	\$15,946	\$350	\$450	\$450	\$1,600	\$0	<b>\$18,796</b>
<b>TASK 4.0 FINAL EIR PREPARATION</b>															
4.1	Incorporation of County Staff Revisions to FEIR		24					16	\$5,056						\$5,056
4.2	Reproduce FEIR (30 hard copies - \$85/copy and 26 CDs - \$10/copy)							8	\$632	\$2,810					\$3,442
2.3	Reproduce FEIR Appendices (15 hard copies - \$30/copy)							16	\$1,264	\$450					\$1,714
	<i>Subtotal</i>	0	24	0	0	0	0	40	\$6,952	\$3,260	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	<b>\$10,212</b>
<b>TOTAL FIXED FEE BUDGET (Hours, Labor, Reimbursables)</b>		<b>40</b>	<b>452</b>	<b>156</b>	<b>238</b>	<b>122</b>	<b>120</b>	<b>284</b>	<b>\$163,250</b>	<b>\$6,580</b>	<b>\$9,498</b>	<b>\$16,590</b>	<b>\$75,197</b>	<b>\$11,238</b>	<b>\$282,353</b>
<b>TOTAL FIXED FEE BUDGET</b>															<b>\$282,353</b>

**Table 7. Meetings and Hearings Cost Estimate**

		Project Director	Project Manager	Senior Planner	Environmental Planner	Associate Biologist	GIS/CAD Specialist	Technical Editor	SWCA - Labor Total	Reimbursables	Robert Carr	Karl Mikel	Geosyntec	Hatch Mott MacDonald	TOTAL
<i>Hourly Rate</i>		\$158	\$158	\$121	\$79	\$100	\$110	\$79							
<b>TASK 5.0 MEETINGS &amp; HEARINGS (T&amp;M)</b>															
5.1	Kick-Off Meeting (1), 4 hrs/mtg.		4						\$632						\$632
5.2	Staff Meetings (5), 2 hrs/mtg.	2	10						\$1,896						\$1,896
5.3	Public Hearings (4), 8 hrs./hrq. (includes preparation time)		32	8	8				\$6,656	\$350			\$12,784		\$19,790
	<i>Subtotal</i>	2	46	8	8	0	0	0	\$9,184	\$350	\$0	\$0	\$12,784	\$0	<b>\$22,318</b>
<b>TOTAL TIME &amp; MATERIALS BUDGET (Hours, Labor, Reimbursables)</b>		2	46	8	8	0	0	0	\$9,184	\$350	\$0	\$0	\$12,784	\$0	<b>\$22,318</b>
<b>TOTAL FIXED FEE BUDGET</b>															<b>\$22,318</b>

**Table 8. Optional Tasks Cost Estimates**

		Project Director	Project Manager	Senior Planner	Environmental Planner	Associate Biologist	GIS/CAD Specialist	Technical Editor	SWCA - Labor Total	Reimbursables	Robert Carr	Karl Mikel	Geosyntec	Hatch Mott MacDonald	TOTAL
<i>Hourly Rate</i>		\$158	\$158	\$121	\$79	\$100	\$110	\$79							
<b>OPTIONAL TASKS (T&amp;M)</b>															
1.1	CEQA Findings				50				\$3,950						\$3,950
1.2	Summary EIR Document		24				8	32	\$7,200						\$7,200
1.3	Wetland Delineation/Preliminary Jurisdictional Determination		2			40	8		\$5,196	\$50					\$5,246
1.4	72 Hour Pump Test and Analysis		8						\$1,264				\$24,904		\$26,168
1.5	10 Day Pump Test and Analysis		8						\$1,264				\$40,000		\$41,264
1.6	Photo Simulations								\$0		\$4,500				\$4,500

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## SECTION 6. OBJECTIVITY

SWCA's Project Director, Mr. Henry, and Project Manager, Ms. Reents, certify that the analysis and preparation of the Oster (Las Pilitas Quarry) CUP / Reclamation Plan EIR will consist of a completely independent, objective, and unbiased effort and will result in a product of the same high degree of objectivity. SWCA will ensure that its employees and subcontractors will adhere to the above principals and will replace any of the project team should it become apparent at any point in the process that they are not capable of completing an unbiased or neutral analysis. Over the past 20 years, SWCA's objectivity has never been called into question and Mr. Henry and Ms. Reents consider conducting the environmental review in any other manner completely unacceptable.

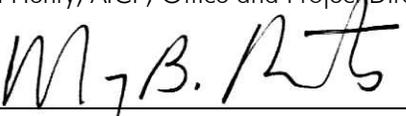
## SECTION 7. PROPOSAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS

### A. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF CONTRACT PROVISIONS

SWCA has reviewed the indemnification and insurance provisions required by the County and included in the RFP. SWCA also recognizes that provisions that will be outlined in the contract are non-negotiable.

### B. STATEMENT OF OFFER AND SIGNATURES

Mr. Henry, SWCA San Luis Obispo's Office Director and the Project Director, and Ms. Reents, Project Manager, provide the following signatures so as to bind the offer set-forth in this proposal for a period of 90 days. SWCA also agrees that all work associated with the tasks outlined in this proposal will be performed at a not-to-exceed price.

 _____	August 27, 2010 _____
Bill Henry, AICP, Office and Project Director	Date
 _____	August 27, 2010 _____
Mary B. Reents, Project Manager	Date

Mr. Henry and Ms. Reents are the only individuals in the San Luis Obispo office of SWCA authorized to sign contract(s) that may result from this offer, binding SWCA to services with the County.





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**Attachment A. Project Team Resumes**





### **Education / Training**

- B.A., Environmental Psychology, Stanford University, 1971
- CLE Int'l 13th Annual California Wetlands Conference, January 2007

### **Registration / Certification**

- Director at Large California Association of Environmental Professionals

### **Expertise**

- Principal in Charge
- Project Manager
- Quality Assurance, Quality Control
- Liaison between Public Agencies and Private Clients
- Permitting Assistance
- Public Testimony
- Prepares Environmental, Market Study, and Planning Documents
- Socio-economist

### **Relevant Projects**

- AT&T Fiber Optic Cable Project – San Luis Obispo to Los Angeles EIR and Supplemental EIR; San Luis Obispo County
- Grover Beach Land Use Element Update and EIR; San Luis Obispo County
- Hildreth Creek Quarry Permit Application Package and Expanded Initial Study; Madera County
- Arroyo Grande Creek Waterway Management EIR; San Luis Obispo County

Mrs. Reents has been a project manager and major contributor to more than 500 Environmental Impact Reports (EIRs) since 1978. She has been involved in the preparation of environmental, market study, and planning documents for more than 32 years. Projects have involved oil and gas facilities, fiber optic cable projects, wineries, large and small housing projects, flood drainage projects, landfills, schools, quarry operations, agricultural projects, golf courses, hotels, and commercial developments.

Mrs. Reents has extensive experience as a project manager for multi-disciplinary environmental studies, environmental impact analysis for land use planning and energy projects; land use planning studies, socio-economic and market feasibility studies. Her work effort has been focused primarily in central California, but has additional energy-related work in Colorado, Utah, North Dakota, Wyoming, Texas, and Louisiana.

Mrs. Reents was Coastal Planner and Planner in charge of preparation of the City of Pismo Beach Local Coastal Plan Land Use Plan and the major revisions to all nine elements of the City's General Plan. She also acted as consultant to the City of Morro Bay for preparation of the City's Local Coastal Plan, Land Use Plan; and has upgraded the planning data for various documents in San Luis Obispo County, including the Growth Management Ordinance, Waterway management plans for San Luis Obispo Creek and Arroyo Grande Creek and has prepared a variety of environmental documents for public works projects including major highway segments, bridges, waste water treatment facilities and fiber optic cable projects. In 1979, she acted as interim Environmental Coordinator for the County of San Luis Obispo.

Currently she is Project Director for several on-call contracts for various departments within the County of San Luis Obispo, the City of San Luis Obispo, and the City of Coalinga. These on-call contracts require a variety of services from research, staff reporting, client liaison, preparation of notices, environmental documents, and monitoring.

## Education

- M.C.R.P., Masters of City and Regional Planning, California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo, 1991
- B.S., Natural Resources Management, California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo, 1988

## Registration / Certification

- American Institute of Certified Planners, District of Columbia, 1998

## Expertise

- Project management
- Research and technical analysis
- Environmental monitoring
- Permitting

## Relevant Projects

- Chevron Tank Farm Restoration and Redevelopment Project  
Environmental Project Manager; San Luis Obispo City/County, California
- Guadalupe Oil Field Restoration Project Lead Agency Environmental Services Manager; San Luis Obispo County, California
- San Miguel Ranch General Plan Amendment EIR Lead Agency Environmental Services Manager; San Luis Obispo County, California
- Morro Bay Golf Course Waterline Replacement Permitting Project Management; San Luis Obispo County, California
- AT&T/AAG Cable Pulling Project; San Luis Obispo County, California
- WorldCom Fiber Optic Cable Project EIR; San Luis Obispo County, California

Mr. Henry has 20 years of professional experience in environmental and land use planning involving preparation, coordination and processing of numerous types of environmental documents, construction monitoring plans, revegetation plans, technical reports, resource agency permits and resource protection studies. He is responsible for project management and coordination, client representation, permitting, and research and technical analysis. Mr. Henry oversees the quality of staff deliverables and documents, marketing and proposal preparation, and directs the day-to-day activities of the office.

Mr. Henry has been project manager and contributor to more than 100 environmental determinations, including but not limited to environmental impact reports (EIRs), expanded initial studies (ExISs) and mitigated negative declarations during his tenure as an environmental planner. Projects managed by Mr. Henry include environmental documents for fiber optic cable projects, governmental development projects, residential subdivisions, commercial developments, mineral extraction projects, and golf courses and recreational facilities.

Mr. Henry has served for the past six years as a project manager to the County of San Luis Obispo in-charge of implementing and overseeing the County's environmental review process. This has included managing County consultants, serving as a liaison between the project applicant and the County, coordinating and attending multi-agency committee meetings, coordinating scoping meetings, preparing staff and other agency reports, and presenting projects to the decision making bodies.

Mr. Henry has been involved in the environmental monitoring discipline as a project manager and compliance monitor beginning with the passage of AB 3180 in 1989. Experience gained by Mr. Henry during years of field monitoring has proven extremely valuable in the management of mitigation monitoring projects and in the preparation of construction management programs.

Mr. Henry has experience in the area of multi-agency negotiations after being retained by several clients to facilitate the process of identification and acquisition of compensatory property for impacts to the federally endangered Morro shoulderband snail.

## **Education / Training**

- M.C.R.P., City & Regional Planning, emphasis in Environmental Planning, California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo, 1999
- B.S., Geological Engineering, University of Nevada, Reno, 1996

## **Expertise**

- CEQA/NEPA Compliance
- Project management
- SMARA compliance
- Infrastructure projects
- Air quality analysis
- Agricultural impacts analysis

## **Relevant Projects**

- Cold Canyon Landfill Environmental Impact Report; San Luis Obispo, California
- Morro Bay to Cayucos Connector Environmental Impact Report; San Luis Obispo, California
- North Fort Bragg Coastal Trail EIR/EA; Fort Bragg, California
- Coalinga Wastewater Treatment Plant Master Environmental Impact Report; Coalinga, California
- Arroyo Grande Creek Waterway Management Program Environmental Impact Report; San Luis Obispo, California
- SMARA Services; County of San Luis Obispo, California
- Cantinas Ranch Constraints Analysis; San Luis Obispo, California

Mr. Miller has over nine years of experience in land use and environmental planning, with an emphasis in implementing the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and the national Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). Mr. Miller has experience working in both the public and private sectors, managing a wide range of projects from General Plan Update Environmental Impact Reports (EIRs), to discretionary land use and coastal development permits. He has managed the preparation of environmental constraints analyses and environmental documents including Mitigated Negative Declarations and Environmental Impact Reports.

Most recently Mr. Miller's focus has been on infrastructure and public facilities projects, including flood control facilities, wastewater treatment plants, multi-use trails, and solid waste disposal facilities. As a local contact for surface mine activity in unincorporated San Luis Obispo County, Mr. Miller frequently interacts with the various resource agencies involved with surface mining, and has built effective relationships with representatives from those agencies, and with the mine operators.

In addition to project management and document preparation, Mr. Miller has prepared impact analyses for all 16 California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) issue areas for use in EIRs, Mitigated Negative Declarations (MNDs) and other documents. He has prepared Farmland Impact Analyses, Air Quality Reports, and performed noise and air quality modeling. Mr. Miller has a background in engineering geology which has allowed him to be an effective planner in projects where geologic constraints are an issue.

Mr. Miller also represents local agencies in the planning process and is responsible for preparation of staff reports and presenting information at public hearings, including advisory council, planning commission, and board of supervisors hearings. He has experience working with various resource and government agencies, advisory groups, concerned neighborhoods and applicants during the development and environmental review process. In the past nine years, Mr. Miller has coordinated projects and established working relationships with the California Coastal Commission, CDFG, RWQCB, DoC, APCD, ACOE and USFWS.

## **Education / Training**

- J.D., Indiana University School of Law; Bloomington, Indiana, May 2005; Focused studies on property, land use and environmental law; Federalist Society; Environmental Law Research Group
- B.A., Political Science, Arizona State University; Tempe, Arizona, May 2002

## **Expertise**

- Property and environmental law
- Civil pleading requirements and CEQA litigation
- Legal research and writing
- Researching, drafting and orally arguing various environmental law and motion matters

## **Relevant Projects**

- AG Creek Waterway Management Program and EIR; San Luis Obispo County, California
- AT&T SLO to LA Fiber Optic Cable EIR; San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, Ventura, and Los Angeles Counties, California
- City of El Paso De Robles WWTP CEQA Services; San Luis Obispo County, California
- Coalinga Housing Element; Fresno County, California
- Grover Beach Land Use Element Update and EIR; San Luis Obispo County, California
- Hildreth Creek Quarry; Madera County, California

Ms. Creel is a Planner at SWCA's San Luis Obispo, California office. She obtained her JD in 2005 and has been practicing environmental, property, municipal, and land use law in San Luis Obispo County for more than three years. She has a specialized background in environmental and property law, and has more than seven years of environmental law experience. Ms. Creel is well versed in state and federal environmental laws and regulations, the administrative process, local county and municipal codes, and California Coastal Commission regulations. She is proficient in researching and analyzing the formulation and interpretation of reliable legal precedence through common law court decisions and any resulting referencing authority of such decisions. Three years of legal practice have given Ms. Creel a working knowledge of available legal research resources, the San Luis Obispo County Superior Court system, and the ability to handle complex environmental and legal issues.

Ms. Creel's environmental law experience has been primarily in California's central coast area, but she has past legal experience on projects related to Texas's oil and gas industry and the industrial arena of the Midwest as well. She has been involved in complex litigation related to CEQA analysis of San Luis Obispo County projects and Coastal Commission processes. She has an in depth knowledge of viable legal causes of action and legal procedures under state and federal environmental statutes and regulations. Ms. Creel has analyzed EIRs and CEQA review for compliance with relevant federal, state and local laws and has advised developers and property owners of their legal rights and responsibilities under the environmental legal framework.

Her recent environmental planning experience has included involvement in the preparation of EIRs for the Grover Beach Land Use Element Update and the AT&T fiber optic cable project extending from San Luis Obispo to Los Angeles, and participation in expanded CEQA analysis of the Arroyo Grande Waterway Management Program, the proposed Hildreth Creek Quarry, and Paso Robles Wastewater Treatment Plant proposed expansion project.

### **Education / Training**

- B.S., Forestry & Natural Resources, emphasis in Watershed Management, minor in Fire Management, California Polytechnic State University; San Luis Obispo, 2001
- Erosion Control and Grading Techniques for Sediment Reduction, RCD; Atascadero, California, 2007
- USACE Wetland Delineation Training, Wetland Training Institute; San Diego, California, 2006
- CEQA Workshop Series, AEP, San Luis Obispo, California, 2005

### **Registration / Certification**

- Certified Applicator of Restricted Pesticides, Hawai'i State Department of Agriculture; Hawai'i, 2004

### **Expertise**

- Biological surveys assessment
- Habitat restoration
- Biological monitoring
- Wetland determinations
- Mitigation planning
- Land rehabilitation

### **Relevant Projects**

- Willow Road Extension Habitat Creation, Conservation, and Enhancement Plan; SLO County, California
- Monterey Airport Runway Extension Botanical Resources Survey Report and Environmental Impact Report; Monterey County, California
- Olancho Cartago 4-Lane Project Bio Studies; Inyo County, California
- Cholame Valley Road Wetland Assessment, SLO County, California

Mr. Belt has more than seven years experience with natural resources management, in both California and Hawai'i. He has surveyed and monitored endangered species populations, conducted botanical inventories, performed biological assessments, conducted land rehabilitation projects, and propagated native plants. Mr. Belt has prepared and participated in the preparation of numerous biological reports for private landowners and public agencies. In addition to biological expertise, Mr. Belt has implemented land rehabilitation and erosion control projects on military installations, public lands, and private properties.

Mr. Belt has conducted numerous sensitive species surveys in California and Hawai'i. He has designed and implemented focused surveys for special-status species, been a USFWS-approved biologist for California red-legged frog and a NMFS-approved biologist for steelhead on projects requiring federal Biological Opinions. Mr. Belt is authorized to survey for and handle the federally endangered Morro shoulderband snail under permit TE-824123-4.

Representative biological reports that Mr. Belt has produced includes: California Department of Transportation Natural Environmental Study for State Route 108; San Luis Obispo County Mitigated Negative Declarations for Major Grading Permits; Biological Resources Survey Report, California red-legged frog Site Assessment Report, and Wetland Assessment Report for the Pennington Creek Fish Weir Repair in San Luis Obispo County; and several Habitat Mitigation and Monitoring Plans for Army Corps of Engineers mitigation requirements.

Mr. Belt has eight years of residential and commercial construction experience. He has participated in the management and implementation of construction projects throughout San Luis Obispo County. His construction experience gives him knowledge that is critical when monitoring or assessing construction projects in biologically sensitive areas. Examples of projects that he has monitored include: Jonata Bridge Replacement in Buellton, Foothill Bridge Replacement Project in San Luis Obispo, Picay (Romero) Creek Bridge Repair Project in Montecito, and Picachio Bridge Replacement in Cayucos.

### **Education / Training**

- B.S., Forestry and Natural Resources Management; California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo, 1998
- Annual workshops at the ESRI International User Conference; San Diego, California

### **Expertise**

- GIS data development / management
- GPS data collection
- Sensitive habitat / species surveys
- Geodatabase design
- GIS / GPS hardware specialist

### **Relevant Projects**

- Proposed Solar Energy Development; Tehachapi, California
- Proposed Solar Energy Site; California Valley, California
- Chevron Site Remediation; Santa Maria Valley, California
- Hickam Air Force Base; Hawai'i
- Rice Ranch Biological Site Survey; Santa Barbara County, California
- Morro Bay to Cayucos Connector Path EIR; Morro Bay, California
- Price Canyon Sensitive Species and Habitat Survey; San Luis Obispo County, California

Mr. Doyle is a GIS/CADD specialist in SWCA's San Luis Obispo, California office. He has been working in the GIS industry for over ten years, where he has shown the ability to evolve in the constantly changing IT/IS world, and has demonstrated expertise in situations requiring rapid development of unique solutions to customers' needs.

Mr. Doyle has recent project experience working on proposed solar energy developments. He worked as a GIS Analyst to prepare maps and data for field crews and then used his background in natural resources management to join the field crews in sensitive species protocol surveys including the Blunt-nosed Leopard Lizard.

Mr. Doyle previously led the database management and mapping/graphics department for LFR's Central Coast office, which is home to LFR's Ecological Services division. As such, Mr. Doyle was involved on a near daily basis with the transfer of GPS data into GIS data to create or update habitat maps for flora and fauna species. He worked in concert with staff biologists, plant ecologists, and planners in developing species-specific maps. Mr. Doyle is an expert GIS user and is well trained in core GIS applications and high-level GIS analysis, and is fluent in all applicable GIS data entry, data analysis, and data output modes and procedures. His academic background in Forestry and Natural Resources Management, coupled with his extensive field work using GPS receivers and GIS experience, enable him to analyze, quantify, and visually translate habitat data into high quality, accurate resource databases and maps.

Mr. Doyle was an integral member of the GeoBase Integration Office (GIO) at Hickam Air Force Base where he was responsible for installation and administration of all ArcGIS applications across the 15<sup>th</sup> Air Base Wing. He was an invaluable source of technical support for many other GIS Coordinators at a crucial stage of their development. Working on-site for the military has provided Mr. Doyle excellent experience working directly within a client's network on a daily basis and he has established a positive working rapport with senior-level military personnel.

## **Education / Training**

- Coursework, Focus on Liberal Arts and Fire Science, Los Angeles Harbor College, 2003
- CEQA Basics Workshop Series, Association of Environmental Professionals (AEP); Santa Barbara, California, 2006

## **Expertise**

- Environmental planning
- Environmental document coordination, preparation, and compilation
- Proposal and SOQ preparation and coordination
- Project management assistance

## **Relevant Projects**

- Kramer Junction Solar Energy Center Project; San Bernardino, California
- Yosemite Communications Data Network EA; Tuolumne County, California
- Coalinga General Plan Update Master EIR; Fresno County, California
- West Hills Community College District Farm of the Future Master EIR; Fresno County, California
- AT&T SLO to LA Fiber Optic Cable EIR; San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, Ventura, and Los Angeles Counties, California
- Fiscalini Ranch Preserve Master EIR; San Luis Obispo County, California
- Oak Shores Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade EIR; San Luis Obispo County, California
- Cold Canyon Landfill Expansion EIR; San Luis Obispo County, California

Ms. Jones has six years of professional experience in environmental planning with an emphasis on environmental document coordination and preparation. She has been involved in the facilitation of public scoping meetings and assisting with the preparation of environmental documents. She has also gained valuable experience in working with agencies, applicants, problem solving, and conflict resolution.

Ms. Jones has been involved in all aspects of public scoping meetings, including preparing PowerPoint presentations, meeting attendance sheets, and informational handouts. She has also attended meetings and assisted in the presentations, as well as recorded public comments for future project reference.

As Technical Editor, Ms. Jones is involved in document quality control, consistency, and compilation of more than fifty environmental reports, including Environmental Impact Reports (EIRs), negative declarations, and a variety of biological studies. An EIR edited by Ms. Jones won the State of California Association of Environmental Professionals (AEP) Outstanding Environmental Document Award for 2007. She assists project managers by scheduling meetings, organizing projects and schedules, assisting in the delegation of team responsibilities, preparing public notices and adhering to the requirements pertaining to these notices, and assisting in the management of and correspondence with sub-consultants. Ms. Jones also prepares mitigated negative declarations under the County of San Luis Obispo open-ended contract.

Ms. Jones is also involved in generating mapping and graphics materials for a variety of planning staff reports, presentations, environmental documents, and reports.



## **ROBERT G. CARR, ASLA**

Visual Resource Specialist, Landscape Architect CA. Lic. 3473

### **EXPERIENCE SUMMARY**

Mr. Carr is a licensed Landscape Architect specializing in visual impact analysis. He has over 19 years of professional project experience, both as a private consultant and in the public sector. Mr. Carr has extensive experience in preparing a wide variety of aesthetic studies for controversial projects involving high quality visual resources and sensitive viewer groups. The results of Mr. Carr's analysis have been presented at numerous public hearings and before several boards and local and state commissions.

### **REPRESENTATIVE EXPERIENCE**

Comprehensive Analysis of Private Development. Primary analyst and technical expert on over fifty visual studies of privately funded development, including but not limited to environmental impact reports (EIRs), expanded initial studies (ExISs) and mitigated negative declarations since 1988. Projects studied by Mr. Carr include environmental documents for large commercial building and shopping centers, residential subdivisions, single family residences on sensitive sites, wireless communication facilities, fiber optic cable projects, mining operations, parks and golf courses. Representative project analysis of large-scale commercial development includes Aesthetic sections of EIRs for Home Depot and Costco, and the Orcutt Plaza shopping center. These studies addressed controversial projects located on identified community gateways. Large scale residential subdivision analysis includes Santa Ysabel Ranch in Paso Robles, Mission Vineyard Estates in San Miguel, Laetitia agriculture cluster development in Arroyo Grande, Four Creeks mixed-use development, Bowden Ranch, Prefumo Creek and DeVaul Ranch in San Luis Obispo, Monarch Grove in Morro Bay, and Alhambra Valley Estates in Contra Costa County. Several of Mr. Carr's studies have been used to establish limits of building envelopes and development on critical sites, ridgelines and in the Coastal Zone. Wireless communication facility studies involved AT&T, Sprint, and Castle Communications. Each of these facilities were proposed for a highly sensitive site requiring especially creative mitigation solutions. Fiber optic communication projects include the AT&T Los Angeles to San Luis Obispo route and the MCI/Worldcom facility from San Luis Obispo to Los Osos.

Visual Impact Reports for Public Works Projects. Mr. Carr has personally conducted visual resource studies for over 100 public works projects at the state and local level. Recent public works projects for the County of San Luis Obispo include the New County Administration Building in San Luis Obispo. As the Visual Resources Coordinator for the California Department of Transportation District Five office, Mr. Carr has is responsible for all in-house and consultant-prepared visual studies in San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, Monterey, Santa Cruz, and San Benito Counties. Representative projects include the seismic retrofitting of eight Historic arch bridges on the Big Sur Coast, Highway 1 realignment north of San Simeon, Route 1 median barrier north of San Luis Obispo, Highway 46 widening from Paso Robles to Cholame, The Highway 41/101 interchange, Cuesta Grade retaining wall aesthetics, Price Street extension in Pismo Beach, Gaviota and Goleta median barriers, Santa Barbara six-lane widening, and the Linden/ Casitas Overcrossings in Carpinteria. As Scenic Highway Coordinator for the Department of Transportation, Mr. Carr's responsibilities included guiding the County of San Luis Obispo through the Scenic Highway process for Highway 1. Other public works projects have included the New County Government Center ExIS prepared for the County of San Luis Obispo, the City

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of Pismo Beach Waste Water Treatment Facility, and the Paso Robles South Reservoir Facility. Mr. Carr's study of visual impacts includes programmatic-level analysis of planning documents such as the city of Coalinga General Plan Update, the San Luis Obispo/Zone 9 Watershed Management Plan, and the Coast Highway Management Plan for Route 1 on the Big Sur Coast

Design and Implementation. As part of Mr. Carr's experience as a licensed Landscape Architect, he has designed several successful projects on the central coast. Representative projects include the Piedras Blancas Vista Points, the JP Burns Big Sur landslide, the Toro Park Interchange on Route 68, Highway 41 realignment landscaping, revegetation projects on Route 1, 41, 58, 101, and 227, the Cuesta Grade retaining walls, Route 1 median barrier, and Brizzolara Street sound wall. In addition, Mr. Carr has designed and constructed site work and landscaping on several private residences in the area.

Special Committees and Studies. Mr. Carr has been involved with several community design groups regarding the planning and design of public and private projects. Representative involvement includes responsibilities as the Chair of the Aesthetics Design Committee for the SLO Route 1 median barrier, Chair of the Aesthetics Design Committee for the Pitkins Curve signature bridge and rockshed on Route 1 in Big Sur. the Cuesta Grade Aesthetics Advisory Committee, and the North Chorro Street Traffic Calming Community Group. Mr. Carr has presented his findings and recommendations at over forty official public hearings and informational meetings. In addition Mr. Carr serves as a guest lecturer for the Cal Poly Landscape Architecture Department on the subject of visual analysis. In his involvement with the Department of Transportation, Mr. Carr was one of six invited members throughout the state to evaluate Caltrans' visual impact assessment methodology and consistency with CEQA and NEPA, recommend improvements, and develop a state-wide training strategy.

## **EDUCATION**

B.S.L.A., 1988, Landscape Architecture, California Polytechnic State University San Luis Obispo.

## **PROFESSIONAL HISTORY**

Visual Resource Analyst Consultant, 1997 to present, San Luis Obispo, California.  
California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), 1988 to present, District 5 Visual Resource Specialist Landscape Architect, San Luis Obispo, California.  
B&B Landscape Design and Construction, Principal, 1988 to 1990, San Luis Obispo, California.

## **PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

California Licensed Landscape Architect license no. 3473  
American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA)  
National Society of Photoshop Professionals (NAPP)

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## **KARL JOSEF MIKEL, PE**

Environmental Engineer

### **EXPERIENCE SUMMARY**

Mr. Mikel has over eight years of professional experience in several areas of interest including environmental planning with an emphasis on environmental document coordination and preparation, and preparation of Regulatory Agency permit applications. Mr. Mikel has knowledge of local government planning policies and procedures as well as federal and state laws related to planning, zoning, and environmental policy identifying applicable air, noise, hazardous materials, and storm water permit conditions. Working with various government and regulatory agencies, community interest groups, and other public parties, Mr. Mikel has gained experience in collaborative problem solving and conflict resolution. Mr. Mikel also has six years of professional experience in civil and environmental engineering with an emphasis on drainage, sediment, and erosion control in consultation with engineering staff for various Caltrans transportation projects and other projects for clients with Morro Group, Inc. In addition, Mr. Mikel has knowledge in erosion and sediment control measures, which are used in Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plans (SWPPP) preparation and implementation. Mr. Mikel has demonstrated a strong knowledge of environmental regulations and engineering design. This has enabled him to work efficiently with various governmental and Caltrans environmental and engineering staff, as well as staff from various Regulatory Agencies.

### **REPRESENTATIVE EXPERIENCE**

Plans, Policies, and Regulatory Permitting. Mr. Mikel has knowledge and experience working with Federal, State, and local plans and policies for cities and rural areas within San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, Monterey, San Benito, and Santa Cruz Counties. He has prepared various sections of environmental impact reports and environmental impact statements and Findings for Negative Declarations under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), and National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) statutes. Mr. Mikel has prepared numerous Army Corps of Engineers Individual and Nationwide Permit applications for the California Department of Transportation. He has also worked on projects in San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, Monterey, San Benito, and Santa Cruz Counties requiring permits and/or approvals from the RWQCB, DFG, USFWS, NMFS, various city and county coastal and non-coastal development, and the California Coastal Commission.

Preparation of Environmental Documents and Studies. Mr. Mikel has been involved in the coordination and preparation of environmental impact reports, negative declarations, expanded initial studies, and categorical exemptions. Mr. Mikel has experience evaluating both physical environmental resources and socioeconomic resources including: biological; economic; visual; drainage and soils; agricultural; recreational; cultural; and hydrological. Representative samples include: Chevron Los Flores, Growth Management Ordinance Title 26 Amendments, and the City of Coalinga Wastewater Treatment Plant. Mr. Mikel specializes in air quality and noise studies investigation and assessments. He has prepared multiple air quality and noise sections included in environmental impact reports. He is proficient in the use of URBEMIS For Windows 9.4.2 to calculate a projects operational impact on air quality and determine mitigation measures that will reduce the level of impact significance. Mr. Mikel has experience working with multiple Air Pollution Control Districts (APCD) including a San Luis Obispo County APCD, San Joaquin Valley APCD, Monterey Bay Unified APCD, and Santa Barbara County APCD. Recent air quality jobs include the Chevron Los Flores restoration site in Santa Barbara County, DeVincenzo GPA and Development Plan EIR, San Luis Obispo County Growth Management Ordinance, Four Creeks Rezoning Project EIR, and the Madera Ranch Quarry EIR. Mr. Mikel has conducted multiple environmental noise assessments and reports throughout various jurisdictions in San Luis Obispo County in accordance with the County of San Luis Obispo and various City Noise Elements. Mr. Mikel has also prepared several California Department of Transportation Protocol level traffic noise studies pursuant to FHWA and Caltrans regulations. He is proficient in the use of the FHWA's traffic noise modeling program TNM 2.5 to calculate a projects operational impact on noise quality and determine mitigation measures that will reduce the level of impact significance.

He has experience in both stationary and transportation noise resulting from or on new projects and how noise may impact an existing sensitive noise source.

Erosion and Sediment Control and Water Diversions. Mr. Mikel has knowledge and experience designing and implementing sediment and erosion control plans prepared for the California Department of Transportation. He has worked on various culvert, bridge, and viaduct replacement projects in San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, Monterey, and Santa Cruz Counties with the Caltrans maintenance and design departments. Mr. Mikel currently provides technical instruction on the proper implementation of erosion control materials with Morro Group Inc. Recent jobs include Cholame Creek on Highway 46 in San Luis Obispo County, sediment basin design on Highway 246 in Santa Barbara County, and design and monitoring of erosion control methods for Bridges 101, 102, and 107 at Camp San Luis Obispo. Mr. Mikel has also been very involved with erosion and sediment control methods and installation for the new CUSD school site in Cambria California. Mr. Mikel has been involved in the coordination and preparation of dewatering and water diversion plans and operations for several projects including Bridge 107 at Camp San Luis Obispo, Stenner Creek in the City of San Luis Obispo, and Cholame Creek on Highway 46 in San Luis Obispo County.

Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) Mr. Mikel is skilled at preparing and implementing SWPPPs pursuant to Caltrans Special Provisions, the SWPPP/WPCP Preparation Manual, Construction Site Best Management Practices Manual, and the Standard Specifications Section 7-1.01G-Water pollution adopted from the California Department of Transportation. Recent jobs include The Cypress Community College SWPPP prepared for Noresco Engineering, review and recommendations for Bridges 101, 102, and 107 at Camp San Luis Obispo, and SWPPP review and recommendations for the Cambria Unified School District.

## **CREREDENTIALS**

### ***Education***

- M.S., 2003, Civil/Environmental Engineering, Emphasis: Water & Wastewater Treatment, Hydraulic Systems, Water Resource Planning, California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo, CA
- B.S., 2001, Environmental Engineering, California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo, CA
- A.S., Mathematics and Science, Cuesta Community College; San Luis Obispo, CA

- United States Army, Explosive and Ammunition Expert, March 1988 to August 1997.
- Certified 40 Hour Hazardous Waste Operations and Emergency Response Site Worker, 2002 to Present.
- Basic Non-Commissioned Officer Course (BNOC), Camp Williams Utah, June 1995.
- Nationwide Permit Update, Army Corps of Engineers, October 2003.

### ***Training***

- AEI/CASC Engineering Water Pollution Control Training for Construction Sites, (24 Hours), February 25, 2005.
- ACOE Regulatory Programs Training Session, October 22, 2003.
- RWQCB Erosion and Sediment Controls for Construction Workshop, October 17, 2003.
- Streambank Restoration and Bio-Engineering, 16 hour NRCS/USDA, April 2003.
- CEQA Workshop Series, AEP, November 2003.

### ***Professional History***

- California Department of Transportation (Caltrans); Transportation Engineer, August 2005 to present.
- Morro Group, Inc.; Environmental Engineer, March 2003 to 2009.
- Caltrans; Graduate Assistant, Environmental Planning/Maintenance Design, January 2002 to March 2003.
- Caltrans; Student Assistant, Environmental Planning/Maintenance Design, July 2001 to January 2002.

**GORDON THRUPP, PhD**

*Associate*

**hydrogeology  
aquifer testing  
groundwater modeling**

**EDUCATION**

University of California, Santa Cruz: Ph.D. Earth Sciences, 1987

Stanford University: B.S., Geology, 1980

**REGISTRATION**

Certified Hydrogeologist: California No. 541

Registered Geologist: California No. 5849

**PROFESSIONAL HISTORY**

Geosyntec Consultants, Associate Hydrogeologist, 2005 – Present

S.S. Papadopulos & Associates, 2000 - 2005

Geomatrix Consultants, Inc., Senior Hydrogeologist, 1992 – 2000

Mackie Martin & Associates, Sydney, Australia, Hydrogeologist, 1990-1992

Macquarie University, Sydney, Australia, Computer Systems Officer, 1990

Macquarie University/CSIRO, Sydney, Australia, Macquarie Research Fellow, 1987-1990

University of California, Santa Cruz, California, Research and Teaching Assistant, 1980-1987

Texas Testing Laboratories, San Antonio, Texas, Physical Science Technician, 1980

Conoco, Inc., Falls City, Texas, Geologist, 1979-1980

Stanford University, Stanford, California, Field Assistant, Geophysics Department, 1978

U.S. Geological Survey, Menlo Park, California, Physical Science Technician, 1977-1979

**REPRESENTATIVE SKILLS AND EXPERIENCE**

Dr. Thrupp has over twenty-five years of experience in the evaluation of geological and hydrogeological problems. As a consultant, he has focused on quantitative analysis of flow of groundwater. For numerous projects, he has designed wells and hydraulic testing programs, evaluated aquifer-testing data to estimate hydraulic properties, and developed groundwater flow models as tools for assessing water resources and engineering design alternatives. For several projects he has designed production wells and overseen installation, development and testing. Applications of his groundwater modeling include:

- Water resource evaluations
- Evaluation of hydraulic connection between surface water and groundwater
- Investigation of the potential for contaminant migration and evaluation of hydraulic containment alternatives
- Location and design of municipal supply wells
- Design of sewage and groundwater infiltration basins
- Assessment of the impact of open-pit mines on groundwater systems
- Prediction of seepage rates into excavations for dewatering feasibility studies
- Evaluation of contaminant fate and transport and natural attenuation

Representative project experience includes:

- *Groundwater Resources Evaluation, El Toro Area, Monterey County* — Directed an evaluation of groundwater resources of the El Toro Area of Monterey County, California. Tasks included compilation, review, and evaluation of existing geologic and hydrologic data including available information for over one hundred water wells. The objective was to evaluate groundwater resource capacity, and as appropriate recommend revisions to the extent of zoning that restricts development.
- *Groundwater Production Capacity and Impact Study, Briones Hills, California* Evaluated groundwater production capacity of fractured bedrock for a proposed development in Briones Hills Agricultural Preserve in Contra Costa County. Reviewed aquifer testing analysis that was done in support of the proposed development. The aquifer testing analysis was technically flawed and did not support that the new well could sustain the design flow rate for the proposed project. Gordon advocated that the aquifer test should not be used in support of a mitigated negative declaration for environmental impact.
- *Bedrock Irrigation Well Feasibility Study, Tamalpais Valley Community Service District, California* — Conducted a feasibility study of installing water wells at community facilities to provide irrigation water. Compiled and reviewed geologic data, 70 driller's well logs, evaluated irrigation water needs and costs for well installation. Based on geologic information and statistical analyses of well production data, determined that probability is greater than 75% that a single well installed to a depth of approximately 200 feet in Tam Valley will produce enough water of adequate quality to meet the irrigation needs at community facilities
- *Water Resource Capacity Study, Nipomo Mesa*. Conducted a groundwater resource capacity evaluation of the Nipomo Mesa area for San Luis Obispo County Departments of Planning and Public Works. This project includes review of DWR and consultant's reports and regional models, compilation of hydrogeologic data for the area, and recommendations to the County that will be used in determining appropriate limits on growth rates and development on Nipomo Mesa.
- *Water Needs Assessment and Hydrogeologic Characterization*: For the Bridgeport Indian Colony (BIC), Mono County California, Gordon conducted a water needs assessment including overview of watershed and geohydrologic information, assessment of water supply and water demand and water rights. Also conducted a geohydrologic evaluation that included characterization and documentation of geology, alluvial aquifers, and groundwater at the BIC. Evaluation included assessment of potential impacts to the BIC groundwater resources by a nearby landfill and wastewater treatment facility. Installed monitoring wells and planned test production well.
- *Injection well design, Morgan Hill, California* – Gordon cited and designed, installed, and tested three injection wells in an alluvial aquifer. The wells have 8-inch-diameter, stainless-steel wire-wrap screens wells and were installed using air rotary casing hammer (ARCH) drilling. They are used to re-inject treated groundwater into a shallow alluvial aquifer. Well performance is monitored regularly and re-development will be conducted to maintain well performance.

- *Basin Evaluation and Water Supply Feasibility Study, Soquel Creek Water District.* Gordon assisted in evaluation of alternatives to enhance the water supply in the Soquel Creek Water District. Alternatives include additional groundwater pumping, enhancement of recharge, a shared County desalinization plant, diversion from Soquel Creek or exchange of water with an adjacent district and groundwater banking with aquifer storage and recovery (ASR) wells. The project is part of an environmental impact report (EIR) for a required CEQA process involving several consulting firms and agencies.
- *Hydrogeologic Evaluation of Engineering Alternatives for a Landfill Subsurface Drainage System, Arizona* – Groundwater modeling to evaluate feasibility and optimize design of a subsurface drainage system to depress the water table beneath a landfill expansion area so that the basal grade of the landfill could be lowered to gain airspace. Transient modeling runs indicated that the necessary drop of the water table could not be achieved in a reasonable time frame with an economically feasible system of drainage trenches. Modeling supported the feasibility of an alternative approach using a basal drainage layer to lower the water table, maintain an inward gradient, and protect groundwater.
- *Water Supply Feasibility Study and Preliminary Engineering Report, Josephine County, Oregon* — In the Illinois Valley in Southern Oregon, domestic wells were the sole source of drinking water for the town of Kerby. Historically, water in an irrigation ditch provided recharge to shallow alluvial aquifers and sustained the production from many of the domestic wells, but many wells dried-up when diversion from the Illinois River to the ditch was stopped. Also, water quality was a serious health concern in the center of town where separation distances between septic systems and wells was inadequate. Gordon evaluated alternatives for a community drinking water supply including a system of community wells, a reservoir in a local drainage, diversion from the Illinois River, and connecting to a municipal system at the adjacent City of Cave Junction. He prepared preliminary design and cost estimates for each alternative. Connection to the Cave Junction Municipal Water System was recommended as the most reliable and cost-effective solution.

## **AFFILIATIONS**

National Groundwater Association  
Groundwater Resources Association of California  
American Geophysical Union  
Geological Society of America

## **PUBLICATIONS**

Dr. Thrupp has published nine articles in major journals or books and over 25 abstracts in proceedings for professional conferences. A selection follows:

Thrupp, G., J. Fortuna, H. Franklin, P. Kwiek., 2008, **Evaluation of Groundwater Resources for Sustainable Development, El Toro Planning Area, Monterey County, California.** *Abstract accepted for AWRA 2008 Annual Water Resources Conference, New Orleans, November 2008.*

- Pearson, A., B. Janke, G. Thrupp, G. Criollo, and H. Franklin, 2008, **Spatial Analysis of Groundwater Resources in El Toro, Monterey County.** *AWRA 2008 Spring Specialty Conference - GIS and Water Resources V, March 17-19 in San Mateo, California. Abstract and poster.*
- Morel, D., M. Verwiel, G. Thrupp, and W. Fowler, 2007, **Study of Basalt Dikes Influence on Groundwater Flow, Waimanalo Gulch Sanitary Landfill, Oahu, Hawaii.** *Proceedings of Sardinia 2007: Eleventh International Waste Management and Landfilling Symposium*, eds. R. Cossu, L. Diaz, R. Stegmann, CISA, Cagliari, Italy.
- Thrupp, G., and J. Oster, 2005, **Beware of Limitations of Jacob Methods for Aquifer Analyses.** *California Water & Environmental Modeling Forum (CWEMF) Annual Meeting, Monterey (Asilomar), California, March 2005. Abstract and poster.*
- Thrupp, G., and C. Neville, 2004, **Modeling Tidal Dilution of Groundwater Discharging to Surface Water.** *California Water & Environmental Modeling Forum (CWEMF) Annual Meeting, Monterey (Asilomar), California, February 2004. Abstract and poster.*
- Neville, C., G. Thrupp, M. Riley, 2002, **Modeling Tidal Dilution of Groundwater Discharging to San Francisco Bay.** *Geological Society of America Cordilleran Section Meeting*, Corvallis, Oregon, May 2002, Abstracts with Programs, vol. 34, no. 5, p. A-111.
- Verwiel, M., G. Thrupp, S. Purdy, S. Rogers, 2001, **Landfill Expansion Beneath the Water Table in Central Arizona.** *Proceedings of Sardinia 2001: Eighth International Waste Management and Landfill Symposium*, eds. T.H. Chirstensen, R. Cossu, R. Stegmann, CISA, Cagliari, Italy, Volume 4, pp 77-86.
- Thrupp, G., J. Baker, and J. Gallinatti, 1998, **Leakage Controls Radius of Influence of Landfill Gas Extraction Wells.** *Proceedings of the 20th International Madison Waste Conference*, pp. 363-372.
- Thrupp, G., J. Gallinatti, and K. Johnson, 1996, **Tools to Improve Models for Design and Assessment of Soil Vapor Extraction Systems.** *Subsurface Fluid-Flow Modeling, ASTM STP 1288*, eds. J.D. Ritchey and J.O. Rumbaugh, American Society for Testing and Materials, Philadelphia, pp. 268-285.
- Thrupp, G., L. Edwards, K.A. Johnson, 1994, **Tracer experiments to investigate soil gas flow associated with soil vapor extraction,** *EOS, American Geophysical Union Transactions*, v. 75, no. 44, p. 276.
- Thrupp, G., L. Edwards, 1994, **Implementation of soil gas tracer to assess and optimize the performance of soil vapor extraction systems,** *Groundwater*, v. 32, pp. 859-860.
- Thrupp, G. and D. Wuthrich, 1994, **Earthquake-Induced Water Level Fluctuation Recorded in Chino Basin Wells,** *EOS, American Geophysical Union Transactions*, v. 75, pp. 103-104.
- Gallinatti, J., G. Thrupp, and D. Wuthrich, 1993, **Horizontal to Vertical Anisotropy of Hydraulic Conductivity in an Alluvial Fan Aquifer.** *EOS, American Geophysical Union Transactions*, v. 74, pp. 273-274.

**BRANDON M. STEETS, P.E.**

**stormwater quantity/quality modeling  
stormwater BMP design  
watershed & receiving water modeling & monitoring  
TMDL development/implementation  
NPDES permitting & strategic regulatory support**

## **EDUCATION**

University of California, Santa Barbara: MS, Environmental Engineering, 2000  
Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, Troy, NY: BS, Environmental Engineering, 1998

## **PROFESSIONAL REGISTRATION**

Professional Chemical Engineer, California, License No. CH6132

## **PROFESSIONAL HISTORY**

GeoSyntec Consultants, Senior Engineer, 2004 to present  
Integrated Water Resources, California, Project Engineer & Manager, 2000 to 2004

## **REPRESENTATIVE EXPERIENCE**

Mr. Steets has significant experience in conducting and managing large water quality modeling and monitoring projects to support NPDES permitting, TMDL implementation, stormwater quality management/planning, and BMP design. His experience includes bacteria source investigations and implementation planning; watershed, receiving water, and stormwater quality modeling; water quality monitoring plan development, implementation, data analysis, and reporting; and stormwater BMP selection and design. His specific management and technical experience includes the following projects:

- **Construction SWPPP Support and BMP Design for Ascon Landfill Site, Huntington Beach, CA.** Manage acquisition of general statewide construction and industrial stormwater NPDES permits for non-waste areas of site. Develop SWPPPs and Monitoring and Reporting Plans (MRPs) for construction and post-construction project phases, including meeting the requirements of the new Statewide General Construction Permit. Manage conceptual through final designs of grass swales and detention basins for treatment of stormwater runoff from non-waste project areas, and ongoing stormwater monitoring.
- **TMDL Wasteload Allocation Attainment Plan (WAAP), San Luis Obispo County.** Development of a WAAP, to be submitted by the County (a Phase II MS4) as an attachment to their Stormwater Management Plan (SWMP) Annual Report, describing source and structural controls that are to be implemented in order to meet requirements of the San Luis Obispo Creek bacteria and nutrient TMDLs and the Morro Bay bacteria and sediment TMDLs.
- **Stormwater Expert Panel Facilitation and Large-scale Natural Treatment System Design and Implementation for Field Laboratory Testing Facility, Southern California.** Strategic regulatory support for a complex, high-profile industrial stormwater NPDES permit. Also site, select, design, permit, implement, and monitor multiple engineered natural treatment systems, as proposed by an independent Expert Panel, throughout over 600 acres of the site. Includes water quality monitoring and data analysis, long-term continuous

hydrologic modeling (using US EPA's SWMM), analysis of potential hydromodification impacts, stormwater treatability testing, bench and pilot-scale testing of bioretention media, engineering design, geotechnical field investigations, multiple agency coordination, and post-fire watershed recovery study. Also includes facilitation/coordination of an Expert Panel, consisting of leading stormwater researchers and practitioners, as part of the client's NPDES stormwater compliance program for the site.

- **NPDES, TMDL and Watershed Modeling Support for The Newhall Land and Farming Company (Newhall), Valencia, CA.** NPDES and Water Reuse permitting support, including surface water quality modeling (using the WARMF watershed model) of nitrogen and chloride in the upper Santa Clara River (SCR), to support evaluation of various effluent discharge/reuse scenarios for the Newhall Ranch Wastewater Reclamation Plant (WRP). Also technical review during development of the SCR nitrogen, chloride, and bacteria TMDLs, including detailed review of modeling studies including WARMF for surface water nutrient modeling and MODHMS for Groundwater-Surface Water Interaction (GSWI) chloride modeling. Also participation in TMDL development meetings and commenting on SWRCB's draft proposed 303(d) listings for the Upper SCR.
- **Los Angeles County-Wide Structural BMP Prioritization Project, Los Angeles County.** Phase I: Development of ASCE award-winning GIS-based Methodology for prioritizing structural BMPs opportunities – based on cost, effectiveness, and feasibility – for Heal the Bay, the City of Los Angeles, and the County of Los Angeles. Phase II: methodology demonstration for the Ballona Creek Watershed. Phase III: development of a GIS-based Graphical User Interface for the Strategic BMP Prioritization and Analysis Tool (SBPAT), and incorporation of modeling functions using U.S. EPA's SWMM for hydrology and Monte Carlo (statistical model) for water quality, including bacteria. The Methodology is a systematic, flexible, transparent, reproducible, and defensible approach for selecting and prioritizing BMP projects in a watershed. Information available at: [www.labmpmethod.org](http://www.labmpmethod.org).
- **NPDES Receiving Water Monitoring for the Newhall Ranch WRP, Valencia, CA.** Development and implementation of pre-startup receiving water monitoring plan for the proposed Newhall Ranch Wastewater Reclamation Plant (WRP), followed by implementation of NPDES permit receiving water monitoring program and submittal of quarterly/annual monitoring reports for the Regional Water Quality Control Board. Programs included frequent dry weather water quality, aquatic toxicity, and bioassessment monitoring at multiple surface water locations, as well as groundwater quality monitoring.

#### SELECTED PUBLICATIONS & PRESENTATIONS

Steets, B.M., and Holden, P.A. 2003. *A Mechanistic Model of Runoff-Associated Fecal Coliform Fate and Transport through a Coastal Lagoon*, Water Research, 37(3):589-608.

Pitt, R., Clark, S., and Steets, B. LID Conference 2010. Presentation title: *Evaluation of the Contaminant Removal Potential of Biofiltration Media*.

CASQA Conference 2009, November 2-4, 2009, San Diego, CA. Presentation title: *BMP Achievability Relative to Water Quality Standards – Are there Non-Compliance Risks for NPDES Permittees AFTER BMP Implementation?*

**LISA AUSTIN**

**stormwater management  
CEQA/NEPA Support  
NPDES permitting**

**EDUCATION**

M.S., Civil Engineering, Southern Illinois University at Carbondale, 1992

B.S., Environmental Engineering, Southern Illinois University at Carbondale, 1986

**REGISTRATION**

California Civil Engineer (PE) Number 74663

Washington Civil Engineer (PE) Number 30370

**CAREER SUMMARY**

Ms. Austin has 20 years of experience in water quality and stormwater management. She has in-depth knowledge of industrial and municipal National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permitting; municipal stormwater program planning and operations; stormwater best management practice (BMP) selection, design, and maintenance; and construction erosion control. Ms. Austin serves as a Director on the California Stormwater Quality Association (CASQA) Board of Directors. Her role includes working with fellow Board members in developing policies and positions concerning regulations, legislation, and litigation potentially impacting CASQA members.

Ms. Austin's previous positions have given her the unique perspective of being both the regulator (the State) and the permittee (the City). Through this experience, she has developed an understanding of the complex relationships between Clean Water Act regulatory programs such as the NPDES permitting program and Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs), and other environmental regulatory programs such as the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) and the Endangered Species Act.

Ms. Austin has prepared many CEQA Water Quality and Hydromodification Management Plans/Technical Reports for major new development and redevelopment projects in California. These reports identify regulatory issues, pollutants of concern and significance thresholds; identify selected treatment control and hydromodification control BMPs; model stormwater runoff volumes, flow rates, and water quality; develop and evaluate the effectiveness of water resource management plans; and assess the significance of potential water quality and hydromodification impacts.

**CEQA/NEPA Support Projects**

- ***Rancho Mission Viejo Stormwater Management Planning and CEQA Assistance, RMV Community Development, LLC, San Juan Capistrano, California.*** Ms. Austin is assisting Rancho Mission Viejo (RMV) in the development and implementation of a comprehensive water quality and quantity management strategy for the remaining 22,815 acres of the Rancho Mission Viejo in southeastern Orange County, California. A Conceptual Water Quality Management Plan (WQMP) was prepared in support of the General Plan Amendment/Zoning Change application as well as the water quality, geomorphic, and habitat goals of the endangered species protection planning processes in Southern Orange County. Ongoing water quality technical assistance to Rancho Mission Viejo, after successful completion of the Ranch Plan EIR Conceptual WQMP, includes preparation of a Master Area WQMP, five Subarea WQMPs, and two roadway Project-level WQMPs. These WQMPs comply with the requirements of the County of Orange Board of Supervisors Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program. The Master Area WQMP also supported the request for a Section 401 Certification from the San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Board associated with impacts to Waters of the United States and Report of Waste Discharge for impacts to “Isolated” Waters of the State for Planning Area 1. Each WQMP provides more specific information and detail concerning how the provisions of the Conceptual WQMP are being implemented within Planning Area 1.
- ***Newhall Ranch Stormwater Management Planning and CEQA Assistance, Newhall Land and Farming Company, Santa Clarita, California.*** Ms. Austin is assisting Newhall Land, a large landowner and developer, in developing and implementing company-wide strategies for addressing stormwater runoff from its development projects. Newhall Ranch is located in the unincorporated area of Los Angeles County approximately 30 miles north of the City of Los Angeles and is adjacent to and bisected by the Santa Clara River. Services include development of the *Newhall Ranch Specific Plan Sub-Regional Stormwater Mitigation Plan*, which served as a technical appendix to the Newhall Ranch Resource Management and Development Plan and Spineflower Conservation Plan EIR/EIS as well as the water quality section for this EIR/EIS. Ms. Austin is also responsible for the preparation of Water Quality Technical Reports and DEIR water quality section support for the four villages within the Newhall Ranch Specific Plan, the Entrada Project, and the Legacy Village Project; and entitlement support for various other Newhall Land projects.
- ***Irvine Company CEQA Support, The Irvine Company, Irvine, California.*** Ms. Austin has developed Water Quality Technical Reports and assisted in the preparation of the DEIR water quality sections for a number of Irvine Company projects. Efforts involved providing input to company decision processes for selecting site planning principals that will reduce runoff volumes and pollutant loads, as well as source control and on-site and regional treatment control BMP options. Projects included Planning Areas 12, 18, 39, and 40; residential and multi-use projects located in the City of Irvine. Special

considerations for these projects included the numerous TMDLs for San Diego Creek and Newport Bay. The Santiago Hills II and East Orange Planned Community Project in unincorporated Orange County, within the City of Orange Sphere of Influence, included site design, source control, and treatment control BMPs focusing on nutrient control for the protection of water quality and beneficial uses in Peters Canyon Reservoir, Irvine Lake, and Santiago Creek. The Mountain Park Development Project Water Quality Management Plan focused on protecting water quality in Gypsum Canyon Creek and the Santa Ana River. Ms. Austin's planning assistance supported The Irvine Company in successfully addressing CEQA requirements and obtaining regulatory approvals for each of these projects.

- ***Centennial Water Quality Technical Report, Centennial Founders, LLC, Valencia, California.*** Centennial Founders, a partnership of Tejon Ranch Company, Lewis Investment Company, Pardee Homes and Standard Pacific Homes, is developing a Specific Plan for a master-planned "new town" in Southern California. The project site consists of over 11,000 acres located in the northwestern portion of the Antelope Valley in Los Angeles County, contiguous to the southern boundary of Kern County. Geosyntec is providing technical and engineering support related to the Centennial Specific Plan Project and Phase One Implementation (concurrent vesting tentative tract maps within the Specific Plan). These services include development of drainage concepts, Standard Urban Stormwater Mitigation Plan development, programmatic and project-specific water quality and hydromodification impact analyses, and EIR support. Ms. Austin prepared a Water Quality Technical Report and provided EIR support for the project.
- ***ENTS Expert Panel Project, Southern California Field Laboratory, Ventura County, California.*** A large industrial client historically operated a field laboratory testing facility in Southern California where manufacturing and testing in support of the aerospace business was conducted. This project developed designs for Engineered Natural Treatment Systems (ENTS) to treat stormwater and maximize compliance with NPDES Permit effluent limitations for the site. Ms. Austin was responsible for the preparation of a Water Quality Technical Report in support of the CEQA Initial Study for this project.

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Geosyntec Consultants, Los Angeles and Oakland, California, Senior Water Resources Engineer, 2002 to present  
City of Bellevue Utilities Department, Bellevue, Washington, 2000 - 2002  
Washington State Department of Ecology, Bellevue Washington, 1990 - 2000  
CH2M Hill, Bellevue, Washington, 1988 - 1990

**INVITED PRESENTATIONS**

- American Public Works Association (APWA) Fall Conference, November 2002. Design Session 1 Treatment Control BMPs.
- Santa Clara Valley Urban Runoff Pollution Prevention Program BMP Maintenance Workshop, June 2005. Lakemont Facility – Operations and Maintenance Experience
- California Association of Stormwater Quality Agencies (CASQA) Conference, October 2005. Ballona Creek Watershed BMP Retrofit Study Phase 1: Conceptual Planning.
- Building Industry Association Greater Los Angeles/Ventura Chapter, March 2007. Proposed Ventura County MS4 Permit, Low Impact Development and Hydromodification Control.
- Lennar Communities, March 2007. Emerging MS4 Permit Issues Training Workshop.
- American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) Orange County Branch Technical Seminar, June 2007. Low Impact Development and Rancho Mission Viejo Conceptual WQMP Hydromodification Controls.
- StormCon Los Angeles Workshop, June 2007. Stormwater Management Issues and Solutions for Southern California.
- StormCon Conference, August 2007. A Comprehensive Approach to Water Quality and Quantity Management for New Development Projects.
- University of California, Los Angeles Civil and Environmental Engineering Water Resources Seminar, April 2008. Defining Hydrologic Ranges of Concern to Protect Stream Ecology in Developing Watersheds.
- StormCon San Mateo Workshop, June 2008. Future of Stormwater Management in the San Francisco Bay Area: Meeting Technical Challenges in the Municipal Regional Permit.
- California Association of Stormwater Quality Agencies (CASQA) Conference, September 2008. Site Specific Considerations for LID Feasibility and Effectiveness.
- University of California, Berkeley, Geomorphology Group, July 2009. Estimating Geomorphic Impacts of Land Use Changes.

**Education**

BS, Transportation  
Engineering (Honors),  
California Polytechnic  
State University, 1975

**Registration**

Civil Engineer  
CA, 30489, 1979  
Traffic Engineer  
CA, 1385, 1981

**Years in Practice – 35****Memberships**

American Planning  
Association  
American Public Works  
Association  
American Society of  
Civil Engineers  
Association of  
Environmental Planners  
California Alliance for  
Advanced Transportation  
Systems  
California Public Parking  
Association  
Civil Engineers and Land  
Surveyors of California  
Institute of  
Transportation Engineers  
International Municipal  
Signal Association  
National Parking  
Association  
Tau Beta Pi  
Transportation Research  
Board  
Gilroy Rotary Club  
Gilroy Chamber of  
Commerce

Mr. Higgins has directed and performed numerous planning and design projects during his 35-year career. He has extensive operational experience, including serving as a city traffic engineer. Specific experience includes traffic impact analyses; conceptual and final highway, street system, and subdivision design; traffic signal design; signing and striping design; transit system planning and design, traffic volume and speed surveys; safety analysis; traffic control device warrant studies; traffic control device inventory; capacity analysis; circulation studies; parking studies; parking facility design; conceptual interchange design; pedestrian and bicycle studies; transportation systems management; transportation demand management; project representation; community traffic committee organization; railroad design coordination, grading and drainage design; structural design; project management; construction inspection; contract administration; and expert witnessing in personal injury and wrongful death litigation.

**Selected Project Experience****California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo, CA**

Principal-In-Charge. This traffic study involved an analysis of traffic impacts associated with the development of the proposed faculty housing project on California Polytechnic State University Site H-8. Site H8 is located on the north side of Highland Drive, west of Highway 1 in San Luis Obispo, California. The project involved the development of 80-units for faculty housing. The project would be accessed from Highland Drive and involved the development of 84 dwelling units to be utilized for faculty housing. Traffic operational analyses including traffic control and channelization were evaluated for all analysis scenarios. Pedestrian, bicyclist and transit access was also evaluated. Mitigation measures were recommended where warranted.

**Brisco Road-Halcyon Road/Hwy 101 Interchange Project Study Report**

Principal-In-Charge. The scope of work involved improving the capacity, safety and traffic operations at the Brisco Road-Halcyon Road/Highway 101 interchange. Included in the project study report (PSR), the project evaluates various low-cost operational improvement options such as roundabouts at the ramp intersections for Caltrans and express bus stops as well as park-and-ride lots for Arroyo Grande that may be implemented within the study area. Improvements to the Brisco Road-Halcyon Road/Highway 101 interchange are essential to the continued growth in communities surrounding the City of Arroyo Grande.

**San Luis Obispo County Traffic Monitoring**

Principal-In-Charge. The project involved collection of hourly seven-day counts for throughout unincorporated areas and most cities in San Luis Obispo County. A total of 73 road segments were counted, once in the summer and again in the fall seasons.

**Highway 1/Highland Drive Traffic Signal Modification Improvements**

Principal-In-Charge. HMM prepared a complete set of Plans, Specifications and Estimates (PS&E) for the traffic signal modification at the intersection of Highway 1/ Highland Drive. The project included coordination with PG&E, Caltrans, and the City of San Luis Obispo.

**Highway 46 West Corridor Study**

Principal-In-Charge. The project required the analyses of corresponding traffic operations and recommendations of appropriate mitigations and an access management plan for the Highway 46 corridor. Traffic operations along the corridor were analyzed for each of the study intersections, for both existing and future conditions. The analysis included intersection channelization, street lighting, traffic control, sight distance, geometrics and signing. In addition, the adequacy of the shoulder widths, bridge widths, passing sight distance and striping along Highway 46 was analyzed.

**San Luis Obispo North Coast Area Plan**

Principal-In-Charge. The purpose of the study was to identify future transportation needs in the coastal Towns of San Simeon and Cambria. This report included both existing and future General Plan traffic analysis for total of 10 intersections and seven road segments in the City of Cambria, California.

**Education**

B.S. Civil Engineering, San  
Jose State University, San  
Jose, CA, 1999

**Registration**

TE - CA  
No. 2429, 2007

**Years in Practice** – 10

**Memberships**

Institute of Transportation  
Engineers  
Chi Epsilon  
Tau Beta Pi

**Experience Summary**

Mr. Waller has performed numerous traffic analyses for a wide array of projects, including housing subdivisions and shopping centers, project study reports, quarries and batch plants, and master plans and general plan updates. Mr. Waller has experience performing traffic analyses throughout the greater Monterey Bay Area, plus San Luis Obispo and Southern Santa Clara Counties. He has also performed full traffic signal warrant evaluations, intersection sight distance evaluations, collision history reviews and parking supply and demand studies. Mr. Waller's specific areas of expertise include traffic impact analyses and project impact evaluation. Mr. Waller is experienced in various traffic analysis software packages, including Synchro and HCS.

**Selected Project Experience****Quarries****Hildreth Creek Quarry, Madera County, CA**

Project Manager. This traffic analysis was performed for a 3,000,000 ton-per-year quarry, asphalt and concrete batch plants, and construction materials recycling center in eastern Madera County. The traffic analysis for the project involved multiple intersections along a state highway along which substantial growth is anticipated over the next decade. A customized trip generation was developed for the project, based upon the projected project employment and operations.

**Hidden Canyon Quarry, Monterey County, CA.**

Project Manager. A traffic analysis was performed for a 300,000 ton-per-year quarry northeast of Greenfield in Monterey County. The analysis included a review of project access alternatives to US 101 through the community of Greenfield, as well as potential truck queuing impacts at an intersection adjacent to an existing railroad crossing.

**Handley Ranch Quarry, Monterey County, CA**

Analysis Assistant. This project involved a traffic analysis for a 1,500,000 ton-per-year quarry, asphalt and concrete batch plan, and construction materials recycling center northeast of Gonzales in Monterey County. The project included analysis of a proposed private roadway that would shorten travel time and distance for quarry-bound trucks, as well as a design of an intersection channelization improvement at a nearby freeway interchange.

**San Luis Obispo County****Baker Property, Pismo Beach, CA**

Project Manager. This analysis involved a mixed-use development involving residential, commercial, office, and retail space on the border of Pismo Beach and Arroyo Grande. The project involved analysis of operations along an arterial corridor bordering the project site, along with an adjacent interchange. Project access was reviewed, including a potential sight distance problem and methods to discourage use by project traffic of an existing loading bay alley behind a nearby shopping center.

**Arroyo Grande General Plan, Arroyo Grande, CA**

Analysis Assistant. Future traffic forecasts were developed for an update of the City of Arroyo Grande General Plan. A new traffic demand model was created for the Five Cities region (of which Arroyo Grande is a part), in order to develop future traffic volumes for multiple street network and land use alternatives. Levels of service analysis was performed and signalization warrants were evaluated for eleven key intersections throughout the city. Recommended intersection improvements were developed for deficiently-operating intersections.

**Golden Hill Business Park Expansion, Paso Robles, CA**

Project Manager. The project was a proposed new business park and re-subdivision of an existing business park in northern Paso Robles, California. Level of service analysis was performed of various intersections near the project site. Also addressed were a future secondary access to the study area and the potential for a freeway or expressway upgrade along nearby Highway 46.