

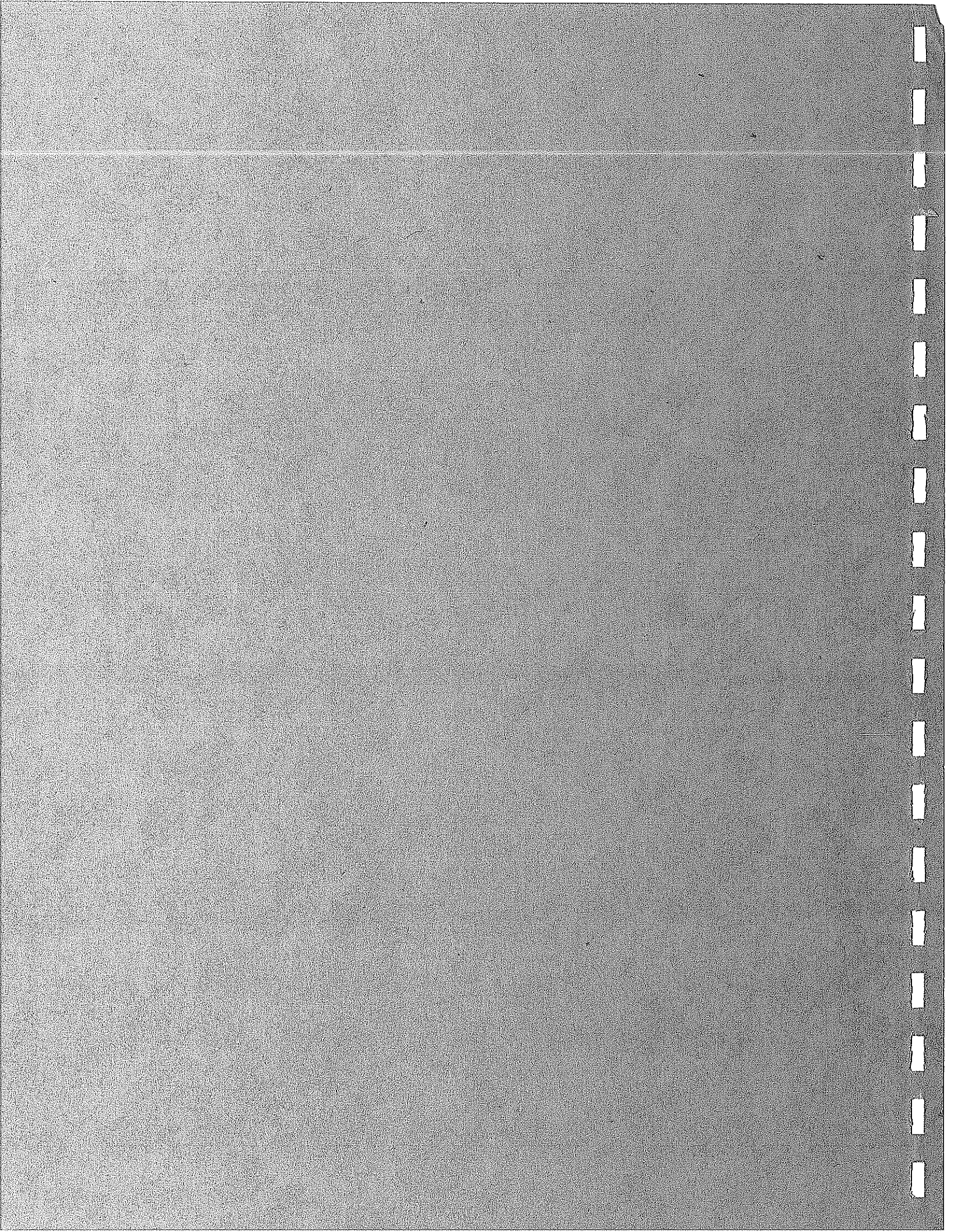
TSCHEIDT

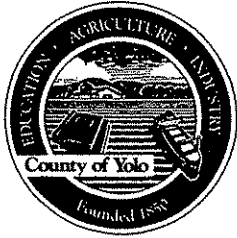
***DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT for***  
**OFF-CHANNEL MINING PLAN**  
for LOWER CACHE CREEK

SCH #95113034

Yolo County

March 26, 1996





# County of Yolo

COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE

625 Court Street, Room 202 Woodland, CA 95695 (916) 666-8150 FAX (916) 666-8147

ROY PEDERSON  
County Administrative Officer

## **NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY AND PUBLIC HEARING DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT for the YOLO COUNTY OFF-CHANNEL MINING PLAN**

TO: Interested Agencies and Individuals

FROM: Heidi Tschudin, Contract Planner

DATE: March 26, 1996

The County of Yolo has prepared and is analyzing the Off-Channel Mining Plan (OCMP), one of two key plans to manage the resources of the mining reach of Cache Creek. The planning area for the OCMP extends approximately 14.5 miles, from the Capay Dam to the Town of Yolo, covering approximately 23,174 acres. The OCMP was developed pursuant to the Statement of Goals, Objectives, and Policies for the Off-Channel Mining Plan adopted by the Board of Supervisors in June of 1994.

The draft OCMP identifies 216 million tons of aggregate on 2,887 acres of the 23,174 acre study area, as feasible to mine over the next fifty years. Control of this mining would occur through the OCMP and implementing ordinances, and project-specific conditional use permits for which consistency with the OCMP and CCRMP would be required. A total of 179.5 million tons of aggregate would be mined on 2,211 acres over the next thirty years. Reclamation of the 2,211 acres would be as follows: agriculture including row crop, tree crop, and pasture land - 988 acres (45%); open water areas - 771 acres (35%); wildlife habitat - 273 acres (12%); and slopes and maintenance roads - 179 acres (8%). It is estimated that 36.5 million tons of aggregate are contained on the remaining 667 acres, which would be rezoned with a Sand and Gravel Reserve (SGR) overlay to delineate properties appropriate for mining in the next 30-50 years.

The draft OCMP is organized into an introduction and six "elements," including an Aggregate Resources Element, a Water Resources Element, a Floodway and Channel Stability Element, an Agricultural Resources Element, a Biological Resources Element, and an Open Space and Recreation Element. These elements are similar to the organization of the OCMP adopted by the Board of Supervisors in June of 1994. Each of the six "elements" includes an introduction and a list of goals, objectives, actions, and performance standards.

In order to implement the OCMP, draft mining and reclamation ordinances have been prepared. The ordinances have been revised to include the performance standards recommended in the OCMP, new procedures and requirements established in the California Surface Mining and Reclamation Act (SMARA), and policy documents issued by both the State Department of Conservation and State Mining and Geology Board. All new mining and reclamation permits will be required to conform with the implementing ordinances. The OCMP also proposes to amend the County Zoning Code to allow commercial mining within the Agricultural Preserve (A-P) Zone, in conformance with the requirements of the State Williamson Act.

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY  
Off-Channel Mining Plan  
Page 2

The County and its consultant, EDAW Inc., have prepared a Program-level Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) which fulfills the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The County Planning Commission and Board of Supervisors will consider this information when deliberating the project. Following certification of the EIR, in order to allow the project to proceed, the County must approve the Off-Channel Mining Plan, the revised Mining and Reclamation Ordinances, and amendments to the Zoning Code.

The DEIR identifies significant effects anticipated as a result of this project and alternatives, in the areas of land use and planning, geology and soils, hydrology and water quality, agriculture, biological resources, air quality, traffic and circulation, noise, aesthetics, cultural resources, public services and utilities, and hazards. All identified significant impacts can be eliminated or reduced to a less than significant level through the implementation of recommended mitigation measures, except agriculture, biological resources, air quality, and aesthetics. These four impact areas remain significant and unavoidable.

The DEIR is now available for public review at the public counter of the Community Development Agency, at 292 West Beamer Street, Woodland, California 95695. The document is also available for public review at the Davis, Esparto, Woodland, and Yolo Branch County Libraries. The project file, including all documents referenced in the DEIR, may be reviewed upon request at the Community Development Agency public counter. The Community Development Agency requests your comments on the DEIR during the 45-day public review period which begins March 26, 1996 and ends on May 10, 1996. Written comments postmarked by May 10, 1996 will be accepted and should be directed to David Morrison, Resource Management Coordinator, Yolo County Community Development Agency, 292 West Beamer Street, Woodland, California 95695. A **public hearing** in front of the County Planning Commission will be held on April 17, 1996 in the Commission Chambers located at 292 West Beamer Street in Woodland, to accept oral comments from the public regarding the DEIR.

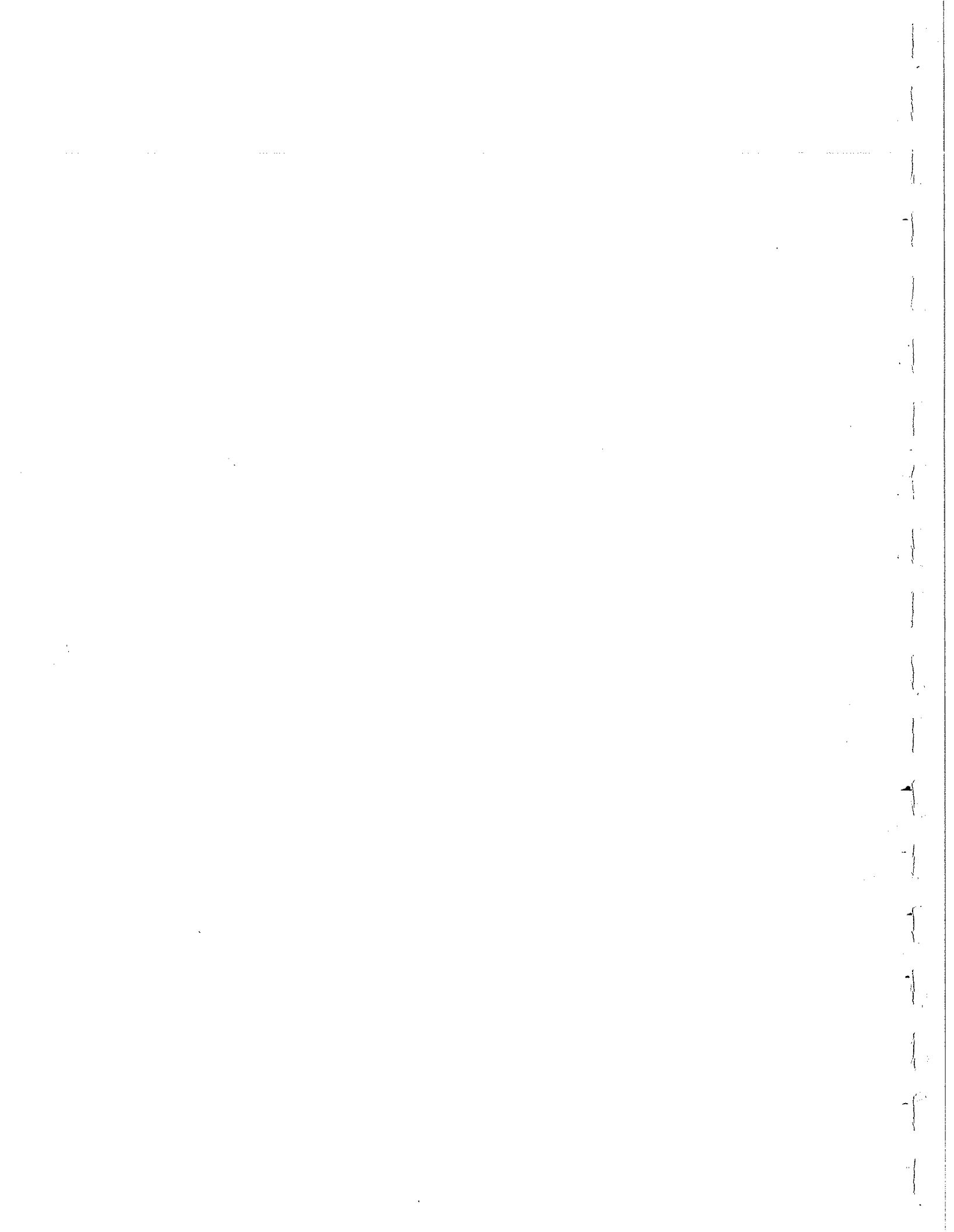
For more information regarding this project, please contact Heidi Tschudin at (916) 447-1809 or David Morrison at (916) 666-8020.

***DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT for***  
**OFF-CHANNEL MINING PLAN**  
for LOWER CACHE CREEK

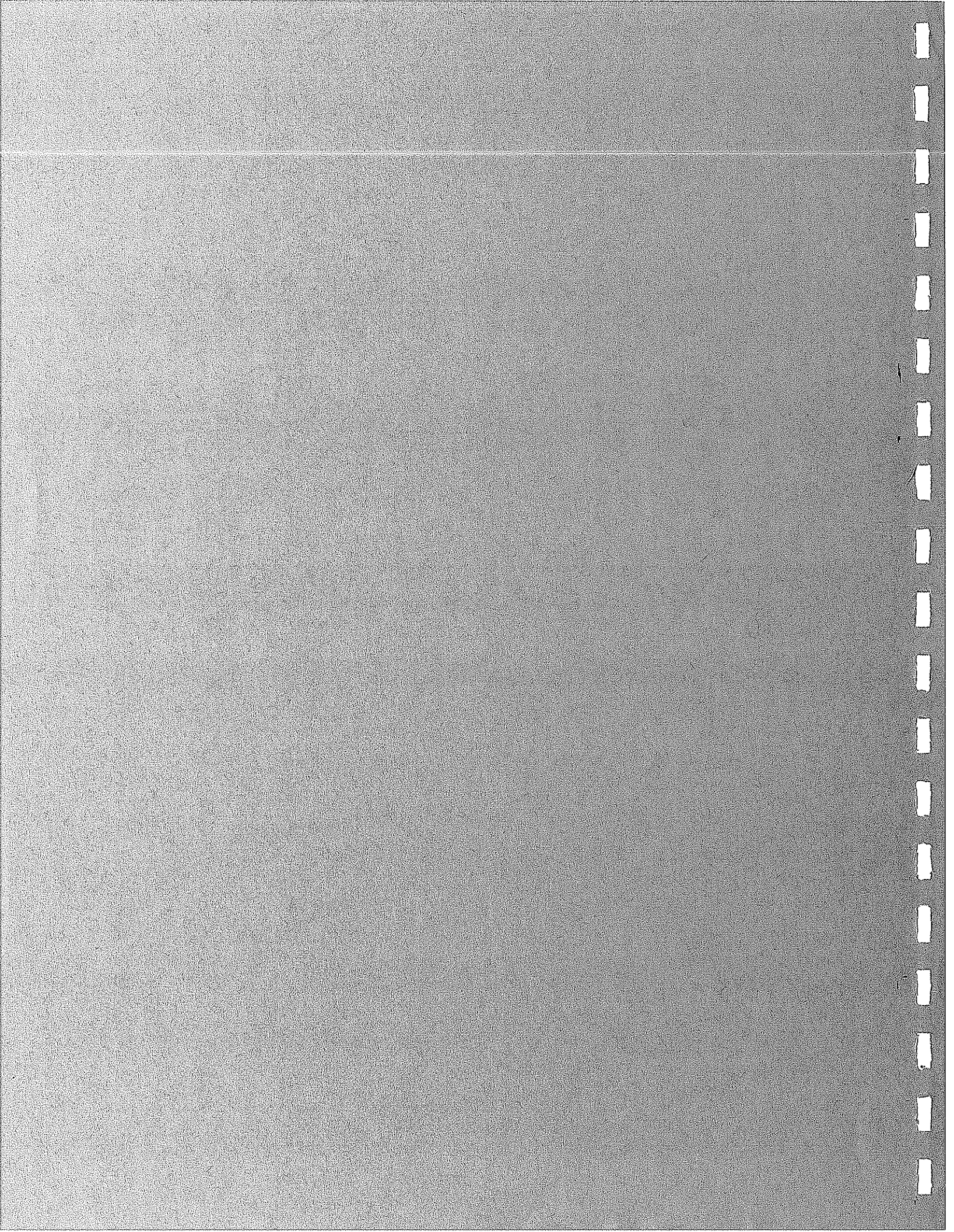
SCH #95113034

Yolo County

March 26, 1996



**TABLE OF CONTENTS**





# OFF-CHANNEL MINING PLAN PROGRAM EIR

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

	<u>Page</u>
<b>CHAPTER 1.0 INTRODUCTION</b>	
1.1 Background and Nature of Project .....	1-1
1.2 Purpose and Scope of EIR .....	1-3
1.3 Environmental Review Process .....	1-5
1.4 Mitigation Monitoring .....	1-6
1.5 Organization of the Document .....	1-6
1.6 Summary of Initial Study/NOP Conclusions; Effects Found Not to Be Significant .....	1-7
<b>CHAPTER 2.0 SUMMARY OF IMPACTS AND MITIGATION MEASURES</b>	
2.1 Project under Review .....	2-1
2.2 Areas of Controversy .....	2-1
2.3 Issues to Be Resolved .....	2-2
2.4 Summary of Regulatory/Policy Consistency .....	2-2
2.5 Summary of Impacts .....	2-3
2.6 Summary of Alternatives .....	2-4
2.7 Summary Table .....	2-4
<b>CHAPTER 3.0 DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT AND ALTERNATIVES</b>	
3.1 Introduction .....	3-1
3.2 Setting .....	3-1
3.3 Project Objectives .....	3-4
3.4 Project Components and Characteristics .....	3-14
3.5 Alternatives .....	3-28
<b>CHAPTER 4.0 ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS</b>	
4.1 Introduction to Environmental Analysis .....	4.1-1
4.2 Land Use and Planning .....	4.2-1
4.3 Geology and Soils .....	4.3-1
4.4 Hydrology and Water Quality .....	4.4-1
4.5 Agriculture .....	4.5-1
4.6 Biological Resources .....	4.6-1
4.7 Air Quality .....	4.7-1
4.8 Traffic and Circulation .....	4.8-1
4.9 Noise .....	4.9-1
4.10 Aesthetics .....	4.10-1
4.11 Cultural Resources .....	4.11-1
4.12 Hazards .....	4.12-1
4.13 Public Services .....	4.13-1

## CHAPTER 5.0 CEQA CONSIDERATIONS

5.1 Cumulative Analysis .....	5-1
5.2 Growth Inducing Impacts .....	5-4
5.3 Significant Irreversible Environmental Changes .....	5-6
5.4 Identification of Environmentally Superior Alternative .....	5-7

## CHAPTER 6.0 REPORT PREPARATION

6.1 Report Authors .....	6-1
6.2 Bibliography .....	6-3
6.3 Persons Contacted .....	6-19

## CHAPTER 7.0 APPENDICES

7.1 Notice of Preparation (NOP), Written Comments and Summary of Scoping Meeting	
7.2 Letter from Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) to Yolo County and County's Letter Response	
7.3 Fundamental Concepts of Environmental Noise	
7.4 Groundwater Quality Protection Near Planned Wet Pit Mining Operations (March 1996) <i>[bound separately and available for review at the Community Development Agency]</i>	

### LIST OF FIGURES

<u>Figure</u>		<u>Page</u>
3.2-1	Regional Location .....	3-2
3.2-2	Site Location Area .....	3-3
3.2-3	Yolo County MRZ Area .....	3-5
3.2-4	Lower Cache Creek Channel Boundary .....	3-6
3.3-1	Streamway Influence Boundary .....	3-9
3.4-1	1979 Regulatory In-Channel Boundary .....	3-17
3.4-2	A-1 and A-P Zoning Within the Planning Area .....	3-18
3.4-3	Requested Off-Channel Mining and Rezoning, 1996-2046 .....	3-24
4.2-1	Relevant Community Spheres of Influence .....	4.2-32
4.2-2	Mining and Reclamation Phasing under the OCMP - Year 2001 ..	4.2-39
4.2-3	Mining and Reclamation Phasing under the OCMP - Year 2006 ..	4.2-40
4.2-4	Mining and Reclamation Phasing under the OCMP - Year 2011 ..	4.2-41
4.2-5	Mining and Reclamation Phasing under the OCMP - Year 2016 ..	4.2-42
4.2-6	Mining and Reclamation Phasing under the OCMP - Year 2021 ..	4.2-43
4.2-7	Mining and Reclamation Phasing under the OCMP - Year 2026 ..	4.2-44
4.2-8	Mining and Reclamation Phasing under the OCMP - Year 2031 ..	4.2-45
4.3-1	Regional Fault Map .....	4.3-4
4.3-2	Generalized Geology Map .....	4.3-8
4.3-3	Generalized Soil Map .....	4.3-11

**LIST OF FIGURES (cont.)**

<b><u>Figure</u></b>		<b><u>Page</u></b>
4.3-4	Geomorphic Reaches of Cache Creek .....	4.3-16
4.3-5	Test 3 Mobile Sediment Modeling Results .....	4.3-35
4.4-1	The Hydrologic Cycle .....	4.4-2
4.4-2	Regional Drainage .....	4.4-4
4.4-3	Groundwater Elevation Contour Map, Fall 1991 .....	4.4-7
4.4-4	Groundwater Elevation Contour Map, Spring 1993 .....	4.4-8
4.4-5	Potential Sources of Groundwater Contamination .....	4.4-12
4.4-6	Municipal Well Locations .....	4.4-14
4.4-7	Cache Creek Floodplain .....	4.4-17
4.4-8	Schematic Cross-Sections, Hydrology of Gaining and Losing Reaches .....	4.4-24
4.4-9	Typical Hydrogeologic Cross-Sections .....	4.4-25
4.4-10	Water Quality Evaluation and Mitigation Flowchart .....	4.4-36
4.4-11	Groundwater Level Fluctuations .....	4.4-65
4.5-1	Site Soils .....	4.5-6
4.5-2	Important Farmlands Map .....	4.5-10
4.6-1	Riparian Habitat Types .....	4.6-9
4.8-1	Existing Roadway Segment Traffic Volumes and Levels of Service .	4.8-6
4.8-2	Current Haul Routes .....	4.8-12
4.8-3	Existing Operational Issues .....	4.8-14
4.8-4	Transit and School Bus Routes .....	4.8-17
4.8-5	Planned Roadway Improvements .....	4.8-21
4.8-6	Proposed Haul Routes .....	4.8-32
4.8-7	Cumulative No Project Roadway Segment Volumes and Levels of Service .....	4.8-33
4.8-8	Cumulative Plus Project Roadway Segment Volumes and Levels of Service .....	4.8-35
4.10-1	Key to Photographs .....	4.10-2
4.10-2	Typical Views of the Planning Area (Photographs 1 and 2) .....	4.10-3
4.10-3	Typical Views of the Planning Area (Photographs 3 and 4) .....	4.10-4
4.10-4	Typical Views of the Planning Area (Photographs 5 and 6) .....	4.10-5
4.10-5	Typical Views of the Planning Area (Photographs 7 and 8) .....	4.10-6
4.10-6	Typical Views of the Planning Area (Photographs 9 and 10) .....	4.10-7

## LIST OF TABLES

<u>Table</u>		<u>Page</u>
2-1	Summary of Impacts and Mitigation Measures . . . . .	2-6
3-1	Reasonably Foreseeable Mining Operations under the OCMP . . . . .	3-22
3-2	Proposed Phasing of Mining and Reclamation, 1996-2026 . . . . .	3-25
3-3	Proposed Rezoning Applications . . . . .	3-26
3-4	Summary Comparison of OCMP CEQA Alternatives . . . . .	3-30
4.3-1	Major Faults Potentially Affecting the Project . . . . .	4.3-5
4.3-2	Soil Types - Physical Properties . . . . .	4.3-12
4.4-1	Evapotranspiration Losses of Alternative Land Uses . . . . .	4.4-9
4.4-2	Municipal Well Locations Relative to Proposed Mining Sites . . . . .	4.4-15
4.5-1	Agricultural Acreage in Yolo County by Crop or Use . . . . .	4.5-2
4.5-2	Gross Value of Most Important Crops in Yolo County . . . . .	4.5-3
4.5-3	Soil Types within the OCMP Planning Area . . . . .	4.5-7
4.5-4	Anticipated Conversion of Productive Agricultural Lands Due to Mining - OCMP Projects . . . . .	4.5-26
4.5-5	Anticipated Conversion of Productive Agricultural Lands Due to Mining - Alternatives . . . . .	4.5-27
4.6-1	Special-Status Species Known or Suspected to Occur in the Planning Area . . . . .	4.6-15
4.7-1	Major Criteria Pollutants . . . . .	4.7-4
4.7-2	Federal and State Ambient Air Quality Standards . . . . .	4.7-5
4.7-3	Projected Maximum Emissions in Tons/Year . . . . .	4.7-10
4.7-4	Cumulative Project Emissions in Tons/Year . . . . .	4.7-21
4.8-1	Roadway Segment Pavement Conditions . . . . .	4.8-3
4.8-2	Level of Service Description . . . . .	4.8-4
4.8-3	Roadway Segment Service Level Criteria . . . . .	4.8-5
4.8-4	Existing Conditions - Intersection Levels of Service . . . . .	4.8-18
4.8-5	Summary of Accidents on SR 16 - January, 1992 to December, 1994 . . . . .	4.8-9
4.8-6	Summary of Accidents on County Roads - January, 1992 to October, 1995 . . . . .	4.8-9
4.8-7	Truck Types at Intersections During Morning Peak Period . . . . .	4.8-11
4.8-8	Maximum Proposed Long-Term Production Levels for Projects Assumed Developed under the OCMP . . . . .	4.8-24
4.8-9	Trip Generation for Projects Assumed Developed under the OCMP . . . . .	4.8-25
4.8-10	Comparison of Trip Generation by Alternative . . . . .	4.8-28
4.8-11	Cumulative No Project Conditions - Intersection Levels of Service . . . . .	4.8-31
4.8-12	Cumulative Conditions with Project - Intersection Levels of Service . . . . .	4.8-36
4.8-13	Average Daily Traffic and Level of Service on SR 16 for Project Alternatives . . . . .	4.8-37
4.8-14	Cumulative Levels of Service at SR 16 Intersections with Roads 89 and 98 . . . . .	4.8-37

**LIST OF TABLES (cont.)**

<b><u>Table</u></b>		<b><u>Page</u></b>
4.8-15	Average Daily Traffic Volume by Impact for each Alternative . . . . .	4.8-40
4.9-1	Existing Traffic Noise Exposure . . . . .	4.9-3
4.9-2	Residences Near Proposed Mining Operations . . . . .	4.9-6
4.9-3	Land Use Compatibility for Community Noise Environments State of California, General Plan Guidelines . . . . .	4.9-9
4.9-4	Dominant Mining/Reclamation Noise Sources . . . . .	4.9-11
4.9-5	Existing and Future Traffic Noise With and Without the Project . . .	4.9-16
4.9-6	Comparison of Traffic Noise Exposure for Alternatives . . . . .	4.9-17