

APPENDIX L

PHASE 5 BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES ASSESSMENT



**CEMEX CACHE CREEK MINE
PHASE 5 AREA**

Biological Resources Survey and Assessment

Project
1147 CMX

Zentner Planning and Ecology
155 Filbert Street, Suite 206
Oakland, CA 94607

Prepared for:
CEMEX

Date Issued:
July 12, 2022

I. INTRODUCTION

A. Purpose

Zentner Planning and Ecology completed surveys for special status plant and wildlife species and habitats that have the potential to occur on the renumbered Phase 5 area of Cache Creek in Yolo County, CA. The surveys were required per Condition 12 of the new County Conditions of Approval as detailed in a letter from the County to Cemex with the subject titled, *Approval of Minor Modification (ZF #2022-0037) for CEMEX Mining and Reclamation Project (ZF #95-093)* and dated May 10, 2022. The surveys focused on the entire Phase 5 area with special attention to the Interim Dry Mining Area.

B. Location and Site Description

The CEMEX Cache Creek Mine (sometimes referred to as the Madison Quarry or Madison Plant) is an active sand and gravel mining operation on between Highway 16 and Cache Creek. The renumbered Phase 5 area is an agricultural field located in the southeastern portion of the site. The site is also located just south of the Phase 4 area, which is currently being actively mined. See **Figure 5** from Compass land Group.





Photo 1: View of the agricultural field and crops currently in production, facing south.
July 6, 2022

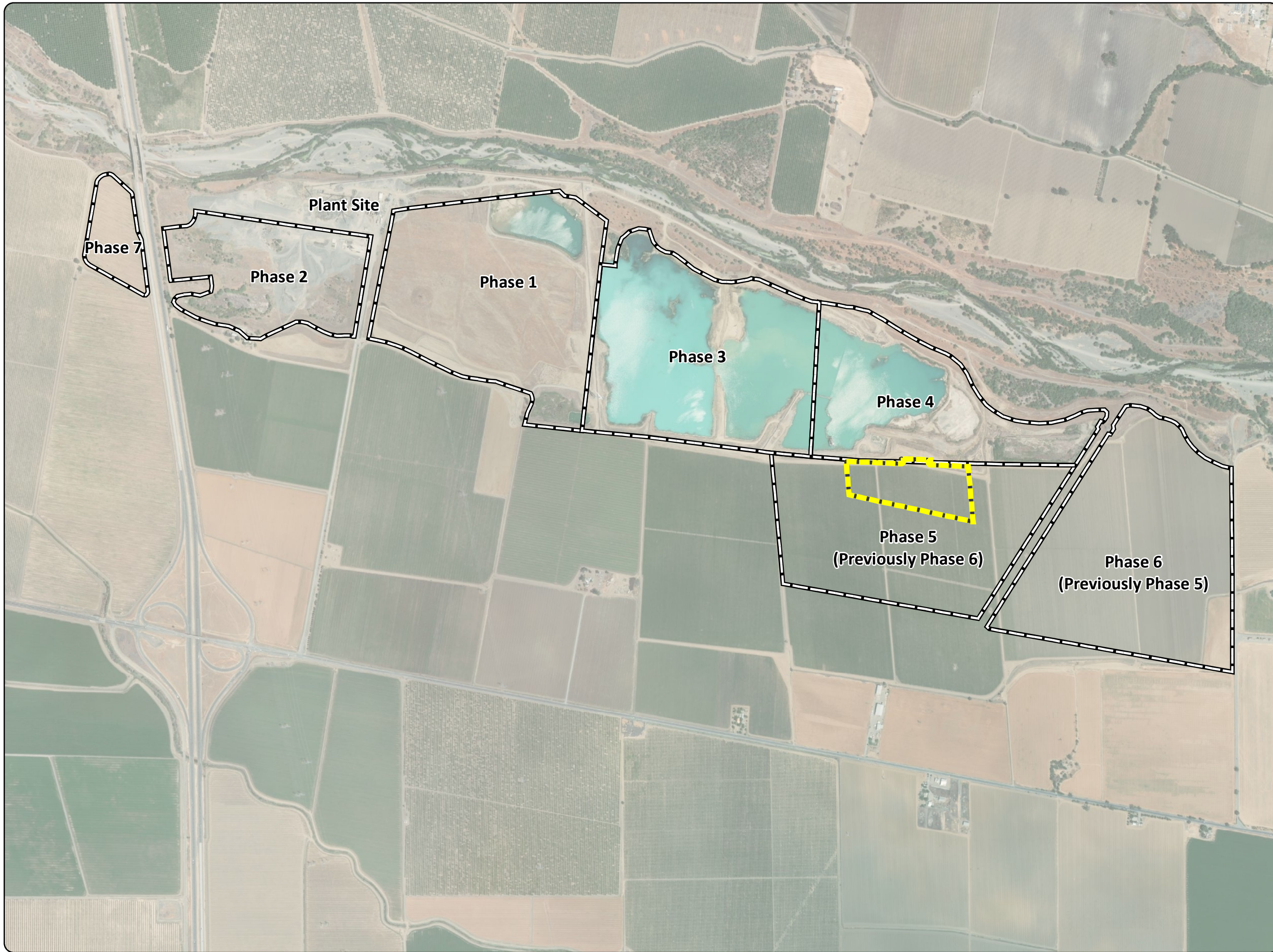
Figure 5

Substitution of
Phase 5 and 6

CEMEX Cache Creek
Yolo County, California

Legend:

-  Rec Plan Phase
-  Interim Dry Mining Area



4/25/2022

Service Layer Credits: Source: Esri, Maxar, GeoEye, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AeroGRID, IGN, and the GIS User Community

0 500 1,000 2,000 Feet



Disclaimer: The data was mapped for planning purposes only. No liability is assumed for accuracy of the data shown.

Prepared by: Sage Thurmond, Compass Land Group
3140 Peacekeeper Way #102, McClellan Park, CA 95652



C. Site Conditions

The Phase 5 site is an agricultural field. Currently the field is in cucumber and tomato production and is actively being worked and maintained. Dirt access roads surround the field and provide access through portions of the field as well as dividing the crops. No trees or shrubs are located on the site.



Photo 2: View of the northern Phase 5 area with crops and access road, facing west.
July 6, 2022

II. METHODS AND RESULTS

A. Methods

A survey of the site was conducted on July 6, 2022 by Chief Ecologist Sean Micallef and Senior Biologist Emily Mathews of Zentner Planning and Ecology.

Surveys were completed by walking the entire project site and adjacent areas. All observed wildlife species and plant taxa were noted and recorded. Particular attention was paid to any areas that would be or had the potential to be impacted by the project development. The site was specially surveyed for the presence of any potential special status wildlife and plant species, especially those noted in previous biological reports for the area.

The entire property, including this Phase 5 area, was previously reviewed as part of the Cache Creek Mine, Biological Resources Update (Zentner Planning and Ecology, February 2018).

B. Results

No special status species were observed on the site or are expected to occur at the site. The site is an active agricultural field. Besides the field crops, only a handful of weedy plant species were observed on the site. These species include, devils claw (*Proboscidea louisianica ssp. louisianica*), Powell's amaranth (*Amaranthus powellii*), and white goosefoot (*Chenopodium album*).

Outside of a common western fence lizard (*Sceloporus occidentalis*) only bird species were observed on or flying over the site. These bird species include house finch (*Haemorhous mexicanus*), American crow (*Corvus brachyrhynchos*), scrub jay (*Aphelocoma californica*) red-tail hawk (*Buteo jamaicensis*), and turkey vulture (*Cathartes aura*). In addition to these birds, a Swainson's hawk (*Buteo swainsoni*) was also observed flying over the site. As noted in the 2018 Updated Biological report, while Swainson's hawks are commonly observed flying over and foraging on the property, they have not been observed nesting on the site. It was also noted that the overall mining project will not impact any new Swainson's hawk foraging habitats that were not previously analyzed and mitigated for in the 1996 Solano EIR and Existing Entitlements. Finally, the Phase 5 area contains no trees or other viable Swainson's hawk nesting habitat on or adjacent to the site.

III. SUMMARY

No special status species were observed on, or are expected to occur, at the Phase 5 project site.