



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Las Vegas Field Office
4701 North Torrey Pines Drive
Las Vegas, Nevada 89130
<http://www.nv.blm.gov>



In Reply Refer To:
N-82829
3600
NV-053

Dear Interested Party:

The Bureau of Land Management, Las Vegas Field Office, is evaluating the sale of mineral materials. The materials would be sold by competitive sale from the East Community Pit. The site is located in T. 21 S., R. 62 E., sections 11 and 12, Clark County, Nevada. I have attached a copy of Environmental Assessment NV-053-2007-087 for your review. The EA analyzes the impacts of the proposed sales. If you have any comments please forward them to this office no later than February 28, 2007.

If you have questions concerning the proposed sale contact Edward Seum at (702) 515-5070.

Sincerely,

Mark R. Chatterton
Assistant Field Manager
Nonrenewable Resources

1 Enclosure
1. EA

LAS VEGAS FIELD OFFICE

**ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT
NV-053-2007-087
NEVADA**

**43 CFR 3600
East Community Pit
N-82829**

**PREPARED BY THE
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
January 2007**

I. Introduction

The Act of July 31, 1947, as amended (30 U.S.C. 601 et seq.) gives authority for the disposal of mineral materials from public lands of the United States. Section 302 of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1732) directs the Secretary to manage public lands under the principles of multiple use and sustained yield in accordance with land use plans developed under the act.

The 43 CFR 3600 regulations establish procedures for the exploration, development and disposal of mineral material resources under permit or contract for sale, or free use. Subpart 3604 deals with community pits and common use areas, while Subpart 3610 deals with mineral material sales.

Activities occurring on public lands are subject to all Federal, State and local regulations concerning health and safety. Zoning laws or ordinances do not apply to Federally managed lands.

II. Background

Mining of sand and gravel has taken place in the East Community Pit since the late 1980's. The purpose for establishing the pit was to provide a local source of sand and gravel to the community. Both short and long term contracts to remove mineral materials are issued to sand and gravel companies and the general public. Mineral materials are sold at fair market value, which is determined through appraisal. Approximately 200 acres have been affected by mining to date. There are currently no companies with contracts located in the pit. The Clark County Public Works Department has a Free Use Permit, N-77940, which encompasses approximately 40 acres.

III. Need For The Proposed Action

The project is located in T. 21 S., R. 62 E., sec. 11, Lot 4 and sec. 12, Lot 5, Clark County, Nevada. The BLM completed Environmental Assessments (EA), for general operations within the East Community Pit in 1992. The BLM has received a request from Las Vegas Paving Corporation for a sale of 700,000 cubic yards of mineral materials. A sale of that magnitude requires that the materials be sold through competitive sale. This assessment will evaluate the impacts for the potential sale of 700,000 cubic yards, through competitive sale from the community pit.

Materials are not readily available on private lands. Materials in this pit represent a local source for the valley. Mineral material sales may be made as long as the aggregate damage to public lands and resources would not exceed the benefits derived from the proposed sale (43 CFR 3600.0-4). The proposed action is in conformance with Federal Regulations and Bureau Policies. The action conforms to the Las Vegas Resource Management Plan, signed October 1998, Objective MN-1, page 27, and Objective MN-1-k, page 29.

A. Proposed Action and Alternatives

Proposed Action

A map titled "East Community Pit Competitive Sale" is attached to this document. Table 1 shows the actual volume of material removed, by Fiscal Year, from the pit since 1994.

Table 1 - In Tons

FY98	10,850
FY99	417,967
FY00	97,505
FY01	84,224
FY02	1,650
FY03	367,118
FY04	725,757
FY05	66,560
FY06	186,813
Total	1,958,444

*FY runs October 1 thru September 30

The average volume of mineral materials removed per year, over the past nine years, has been 217,600 tons. No mineral materials are currently being removed through sale in the community pit. Total disturbance is around 200 acres.

Las Vegas Paving Corporation has received a contract from Pardee Homes to supply materials to a private development project located just to the south of the community pit. Las Vegas Paving has asked the BLM for a sale of materials in the amount of 700,000 cubic yards in order to fulfill their contract with Pardee. The BLM plans to offer 700,000 cubic yards (1,260,000 tons) of material, located in one lot (see map) for competitive sale. The one lot is located in T. 21 S., R. 62 E., sec. 11, Lot 4 and sec. 12, Lot 5. The sale would affect 25 acres.

Mining would take place by the open pit method. Bulldozers would be used to rip mineral materials loose. These materials would then be moved to the processing units on site. Materials would be crushed, screened and separated by size. Materials would be loaded onto trucks for delivery to the area just south of the community pit. The types of equipment which might be used, in addition to those mentioned, are front end-loaders, water trucks, scales, service vehicles and personal vehicles. Water, magnesium chloride, lignin sulfate, asphalt and other dust suppressants would be used during mining activities. All operations would have to use best available control technology to meet air quality regulations.

Access - Access to the pit is by travel on the eastern terminus of Vegas Valley Drive, which passes the pit and provides access. The average truck size used in this area hauls 15 cubic yards or 30 tons. LVP anticipates moving 700,000 tons per year, which would require a total of 92 trips per day, based on a 255 day work year.

Reclamation would be accomplished by grading or recontouring the site. Pit slopes would be graded to blend with surrounding areas, and generally would not exceed 18 degrees. Any stockpiled materials would be used to reduce the slopes or be shaped to fit into the existing surroundings. Disturbed areas would be seeded with a native seed mixture to reestablish vegetation. Some plants may also be selected from the surrounding area (within the tortoise fence) for transplantation. Reclamation would be completed by the operator as part of their bond release obligation.

B. "Pit Closure" - Alternative

Under this alternative general sales would cease and the site would eventually be reclaimed. This alternative would be in conflict with the current Las Vegas Resource Management Plan and 43 CFR 3600 regulations, unless there is a showing that the aggregate damage to public lands and resources would exceed the benefits derived from the sale of the mineral materials.

C. "No Action" - Alternative

Under this alternative operations within the community pit would continue at their current levels. The competitive sale contract would not be bid and awarded.

IV. Affected Environment

The following discussion on the affected environment concerns those areas for which mitigation has not completely removed the impacts to the environment.

A. Declaration of No Effects

The area under consideration would not affect any Areas of Critical Environmental Concern, prime or unique farm lands, Native American Religious Concerns, hazardous or solid wastes, drinking or ground water, wetlands or riparian zones, recreation, wild and scenic rivers, floodplains, designated wilderness or environmental justice issues.

B. Proposed Action

The northeast quadrant of the Las Vegas Valley encompasses approximately 150,000 acres. The area to be disturbed is located on 25 acres in the northeast part of Las Vegas Valley, within the legal location of T. 21 S., R. 62 E., sec. 11, Lot 4 and sec. 12, Lot 5, of Clark County, Nevada. The elevation of the project area ranges to slightly over 1980 feet. The site is on an alluvial fan.

Soils at the proposed site are mapped as Aztec-Bracken, a gravelly to very gravelly, fine sandy loam. The surface is typically covered with a desert pavement of pebbles. The hazard of soil blowing is moderate if the desert pavement is disturbed.

Local vegetation consists mainly of creosote and white bursage. No candidate plant species are

known to occur within the area. Yucca, barrel cactus and cholla are other common plants in the area.

The area supports various species of small mammals, rabbits, coyotes, reptiles and birds. The area is desert tortoise habitat. In the early 1990's approximately 430 acres of the lands designated as community pit were fenced with tortoise proof fence. That area was then cleared of tortoise by BLM staff. Approximately 230 acres, of the original 430 acres, of desert tortoise habitat remain unaffected. The desert tortoise is listed as a threatened species by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. The pit is covered under BO#1-5-92-F-194R.

This site was previously surveyed for cultural resources with negative findings. A report, BLM Las Vegas District Cultural Resource Report 5-1472, was completed based on surveys and literature searches.

The site is within the Las Vegas Valley Airshed. The airshed is a serious non-attainment area for particulates (PM10) and carbon monoxide (CO). Air quality management responsibilities in Clark County reside with the Clark County Department of Air Quality Management.

The nearest occupied dwellings to the pit are approximately a half mile away. Pardee Homes is currently developing 160 acres adjacent to the southern boundary of the community pit. Master Title Plats have been attached to show the relationship of private lands and public lands around the area of mining.

C. "Pit Closure" - Alternative

Under this alternative general sales would cease and the site would eventually be reclaimed. Further impacts to the environment would cease once reclamation was completed.

D. "No Action" - Alternative

Under this alternative operations within the community pit would continue at their current levels. The competitive sale contract would not be bid and awarded.

V. Environmental Consequences and Mitigating Measures

A. Proposed Action

Environmental Consequences

Air Quality - Air quality would be impacted by the proposed operations within the community pit. Dust and other air pollutants would be generated during mining and reclamation. The Las Vegas Valley has been classified as a serious non-attainment area for carbon monoxide and particulate matter less than or equal to 10 micrometers (PM10). De minimis levels for CO and PM10 are 100 tons and 70 tons per year, respectively. Projects which will not exceed the de

minimis levels do not require a conformity determination.

Sources of CO at the proposed site include the operation of heavy equipment, such as bulldozers and front end loaders. Other sources would be diesel generators, employee and service vehicles, and trucks for hauling materials to market. CO would also be generated away from the pit, by travel to and from the pit by employee and service vehicles, and trucks hauling materials to market.

Production of CO within the pit area will be variable. Typically operations use equipment in concentrated periods. A dozer may be used for several hours to rip and push up materials and then not run for a number of hours, or the rest of the day. Processing equipment will be used to produce materials for stockpile or to meet the days projected usage. The most frequently used piece of equipment is the front end loader. It is used to move material to the processing equipment and to load material onto trucks for removal from the pit

CO production away from the pit will be dependent on the volume of materials mined and the number of days of operation. Days of operation are usually Monday through Friday. That would total 260 days per year, less major holidays, for a total of around 255 days of operation. Volume of materials mined can fluctuate on a day to day basis, as well as yearly (see Table 1).

LVP has applied for a Various Location Permit through the Department of Air Quality & Environmental Management. The predicted level of production for CO under the permit is 1.68 tons per year. CO emissions produced by this proposed project would be below de minimis levels.

A major component of PM₁₀ is dust created by disturbed vacant land/unpaved parking lots, paved road dust, construction activity fugitive dust, natural sources and travel on unpaved roads. Disturbed vacant land/unpaved roads represent slightly more than a third of the PM₁₀ emissions in the valley, on an annual basis.

Agents setting dust into motion on the project area include the clearing of vegetated areas, ripping with dozers, transport of materials to processing areas, processing of materials and loading of materials for transport to market. The predicted level of production for PM₁₀ under the permit is 14.12 tons per year. PM₁₀ emissions produced by this proposed project would be below de minimis levels.

Proposed Mitigating Measures for Air Quality

1. The permittee shall obtain all of the necessary permits from the Clark County Department of Air Quality & Environmental Management. Any construction (including soil and rock excavation and hauling) on a site impacting an area equal to or greater than 0.25 acres requires issuance of a dust control permit (and Dust Plan) prior to commencement of any construction activity. In addition Section 94 Construction Handbook best management practices must be employed at all times. Information on Clark County Air Quality Regulations and fees may be

obtained at http://www.accessclarkcounty.com/air_quality/regs_enforcement.htm.

2. The permittee shall not exceed the emission limitations allowed under the permits issued. Failure to meet the emission limitations will be reason to suspend or revoke the authorization to remove mineral materials. The permittee shall agree to indemnify the United States against any liability arising from the release of dust on the permit area. This agreement applies without regard to whether a release is caused by the Holder, its agent or contractor, or unrelated third parties.
3. Applicable provisions of Section 45 pertaining to idling diesel trucks are to be implemented.
4. The permittee shall take measures to control fugitive dust (e.g. wet suppression, enclosures, etc.) at all material transfer points, stockpiles and throughout the facility. Each emission unit shall incorporate a water spray system and/or a baghouse to control emissions. The control units shall be maintained in good operating condition and be utilized at all times. Additional watersprays may be required at pertinent locations if an inspection indicates that opacity limits are being exceeded.
5. The permittee shall not operate equipment if the daily inspection indicates there is a significant drop in water flow rate, plugged nozzle, leak in the piping system or other problem which affects the efficiency of the water spray system. The permittee shall correct the problem before resuming operations.
6. The permittee shall not cause fugitive dust to become airborne without taking reasonable precautions and shall not cause or permit the discharge of visible emissions of fugitive dust beyond the lot line of the property on which the emissions originate.
7. Unpaved haul roads shall be treated with chemical dust suppressant and/or watered as necessary so as not to exhibit an opacity greater than 20% for any three minutes in a sixty minute period. The permittee shall have the option of paving roads used for the project.
8. Screens, conveyors and loading operations shall not exhibit an opacity greater than ten percent for a period or periods aggregating more than three minutes in a sixty minute period.
9. All loaded trucks leaving the site shall be watered down and covered to reduce emissions of PM₁₀. This condition applies to trucks regardless of whether they are owned and operated by the permittee.
10. Fugitive dust emissions from screens, crushers, conveyors, storage piles, transfer points and non-metallic mineral processing equipment not connected to baghouse controls shall be controlled by water sprays at emission points and/or maintenance of at least 2.5% moisture by weight in materials less than 3 inch in diameter.
11. During reclamation of the disturbed area, the permittee shall apply permanent dust abatement and control (e.g., rock mulch or other means) acceptable to the Authorized Officer.

Wildlife - Wildlife inhabiting the project area would be displaced during the life of the operation. Reclamation would give some types of wildlife and vegetation a chance to reestablish over the long term. The community which reestablishes itself on the site would differ from the historic vegetation.

Burrowing mammals and reptiles occurring on the site may be killed during mining activities. These species are generally common and widespread so negative impacts would be minimal. Most other wildlife species would be displaced during mining.

The project area is in desert tortoise habitat, a federally listed, threatened species. The project area is covered by Biological Opinion Files No. BO#1-5-92-F-194R. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) determined that the proposed action was "not likely" to jeopardize the continued existence of the threatened Mojave population of the desert tortoise.

Under the biological opinion a tortoise proof fence was constructed around the operational area of the pit; tortoises were relocated outside of the fence and on-site/off-site mitigation fees were collected on materials sold from the pit. Total mitigation fees required were collected and the fee terminated.

Proposed Mitigation Measures for Desert Tortoise

In order to be exempt from the prohibitions of section 9 of the Act, the applicant must comply with the following terms and conditions, which implement the reasonable and prudent measures described below. These terms and conditions are non-discretionary.

- 1.** Measures shall be taken to minimize take of desert tortoises due to project-related activities.
 - a.** The Bureau, or their designee, shall provide a fact sheet to all foremen, workers, and other employees working on the project. The fact sheet will include information on the life history of the desert tortoise, legal protection for desert tortoises, penalties for violations of Federal and State laws, general tortoise activity patterns, reporting requirements, measures to protect tortoises, terms and conditions of the biological opinion, and personal measures employees can take to promote the conservation of desert tortoises. The definition of "take" will also be explained. Workers are encouraged to carpool to and from project site. The fact sheet shall be approved by the Service prior to implementation.
 - b.** A speed limit of 25 miles per hour shall be required for all vehicles on the project site and un-posted dirt access roads.
 - c.** During construction activities, tortoise burrows should be avoided whenever possible. If a tortoise is found onsite during project activities which may result in take of the tortoise (e.g., in harms way), such activities shall cease until the tortoise moves, or is moved, out of harms way. The tortoise shall be moved by either a qualified tortoise biologist or individual trained in the proper technique of handling and moving desert tortoises. All workers will also be

instructed to check underneath all vehicles before moving such vehicles. ***Tortoises often take cover under vehicles.***

- d. The search for, and removal of, tortoises (i.e., clearance) is voluntary, unless explicitly required by the Bureau, or Bureau and Service. If tortoise clearance is not required, applicants or project proponents may voluntarily choose to search for and remove tortoises from lands to be disturbed within the project area. However, applicants/project proponents that voluntarily choose to clear project areas of desert tortoises shall follow measures required in terms and conditions of this biological opinion. Specific and detailed instructions will be provided on the proper techniques to capture and move tortoises which appear onsite, in accordance with Service-approved protocol. Currently, the Service-approved protocol is Desert Tortoise Council 1994, revised 1999.

2. Measures shall be taken to minimize predation on tortoises by ravens drawn to the project area.

This will involve a litter-control program. This program will include the use of covered, raven-proof trash receptacles, removal of trash from the construction site to the trash receptacles following the close of each work day, and proper disposal of trash in a designated solid waste disposal facility. Vehicles hauling trash to the landfill and leaving the landfill must be secured to prevent litter from blowing out along the road.

According to the Nevada Department of Wildlife the area contains habitat which could support the occurrence of Gila Monster. The Gila Monster is a State protected species.

Proposed Mitigation Measures/Protocols for Gila monster

Helpful to any instructional program, personnel should at least know how to: 1) identify Gila monsters and be able to distinguish it from other lizards such as chuckwallas and banded geckos; 2) report any observations of Gila monsters to the Nevada Department of Wildlife (NDOW); 3) be alerted to the consequences of a bite resulting from carelessness or unnecessary harassment; and 4) be aware of protective measures provided under state law.

An encounter with a Gila Monster during operational activities require adherence to the following protocols.

- a) Any encounters during project construction must be reported immediately to the Nevada Division of Wildlife at (702) 486-5127.

- b) Live Gila monsters found in harms way on the construction site will be captured and detained in a cool, shaded environment (≤ 85 degrees F) by the project biologist trained in handling venomous reptiles until a NDOW biologist can arrive for documentation purposes. A clean 5-gallon plastic bucket w/ a secure, ventilated lid; an 18"x 18"x 4" plastic sweater box w/ a secure, vented lid; or, a tape-sealed cardboard box of similar dimension may be used for safe

containment. Written information identifying mapped capture location, date, time, and circumstances (e.g. biological survey or construction) and habitat description (vegetation, slope, aspect, substrate) will also be provided to NDOW.

c) Injuries to Gila monsters may occur during excavation, road-grading, or other construction activities. In the event a Gila monster is injured, it should be transferred to a veterinarian proficient in reptile medicine for evaluation of appropriate treatment. Rehabilitation or euthanasia expenses will not be covered by NDOW. However, NDOW will be immediately notified during normal business hours. If an animal is killed or found dead, the carcass will be immediately frozen and transferred to NDOW with a complete written description of situation circumstances, habitat, and mapped location.

d) Should NDOW be delayed to assist, biological personnel on site may be requested to remove and release the Gila monster out of harms way. Should NDOW not be immediately available to respond for photo-documentation, a 35mm camera or digital equivalent (5 mega-pixel or greater) will be used to take good quality photographs of the Gila monster in situ at the location of live encounter or dead salvage. The pictures, preferably on slide film, will be provided to NDOW and will include:

1. Encounter location (landscape overview with Gila monster in clear view)
2. A clear overhead shot of the entire body with a ruler next to it for scale (Gila monster should fill camera's field of view)
3. A clear, overhead close-up of the head (head should fill camera's field of view).

Avifauna - Under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act of 1918 and subsequent amendments (16 U.S.C. 703-711) it is unlawful to take, kill or possess migratory birds. Executive Order 13186 issued January 11, 2001, further defines the responsibilities of the Federal Agencies to protect migratory birds; a list of those protected birds can be found in 50 C.F.R. 10.13. The project area may be used for nesting, foraging or seasonal use by protected birds under this act. The majority of these are common and widespread. Sensitive species including burrowing owls and loggerhead shrike have been documented as nesting near the area to be mined. Direct loss of individuals is not anticipated through implementation of the project.

Proposed Mitigation Measures for Avian Species

1. To prevent undue harm, habitat-altering projects or portions of projects should be scheduled outside bird breeding season. In upland desert habitats and ephemeral washes containing upland species, the season generally occurs between March 15th - July 30th.
2. If a project that may alter any breeding habitat has to occur during the breeding season, then a qualified biologist must survey the area for nests prior to commencement of construction activities. This shall include burrowing and ground nesting species in addition to those nesting in vegetation. If any active nests (containing eggs or young) are found, an appropriately-sized buffer area must be avoided until the young birds fledge.

Visual Resources - The area is designated Class IV under the Visual Resources Management classification. This classification provides for management activities which require major modifications of the existing character of the landscape. The level of change to the characteristic landscape can be high. These management activities may dominate the view and be the major focus of viewer attention. Every attempt is made to minimize the impact of activities through careful location, minimal disturbance and repeating basic elements.

Proposed Mitigation Measures for Visual Resources

1. Machinery shall be kept on the pit floor to the extent possible. All stockpiles and waste rock piles shall be kept at as low an angle to the horizon as possible to reduce visual impacts. No unnecessary equipment or vehicles shall be kept on site.

Soils/Vegetation - Existing soils and vegetation would be removed by mining. Some removal of plants has already occurred on the area through surface mining. Disturbance of the site may lead to noxious weeds and exotic invasive plants becoming established on the area.

Proposed Mitigation Measures for Soils and Vegetation

1. Disturbed areas shall have a growth medium restored by ripping compacted areas to a depth of two feet, adding amendments as needed and maintaining proper seedbed preparation. Any remaining succulents on the sites shall be salvaged for later replanting. Areas shall be seeded with pure native seed and transplants shall be used, if available, to restore a vegetative community.

Noxious Weeds

1. The operator/permittee shall be responsible for controlling all undesirable invading plant species (including listed noxious weeds and other invasive plants identified as undesirable by federal, state or local authorities) within the boundaries of their authorization area and Bureau-authorized ancillary facilities (e.g. access and utility corridors), including all operating and reclaimed areas, until revegetation activities have been deemed successful and responsibility released by the authorized officer. Control standards and measures proposed must conform to applicable state and federal regulations.

2. The operator shall use weed free seed for reclamation and for other organic products for erosion control, stabilization, or revegetation (e.g. straw bales, organic mulch) must be certified weed free. According to Nevada law (NRS 587.111), "all seed shipped to or sold within Nevada is to be free of noxious weed seeds".

3. Prior to any application of herbicide on public lands the operator shall have a current Pesticide Use Permit that outlines application methods, rates, weather constraints and the specific dates of applications. Stipulation 3 - The project proponent will coordinate project activities with the

BLM Weed Coordinator (702-515-5000) regarding any proposed herbicide treatment. The project proponent will prepare, submit, obtain and maintain a pesticide use proposal (PUP) for the proposed action. Weed treatments may include the use of herbicides, and only those herbicides approved for use on Public lands by the BLM.

4. The operator/permittee is responsible for ensuring that all project related vehicles and equipment arriving at the site (including, but not limited to, drill rigs, dozers, support vehicles, pickups and passenger vehicles, including those of the operator, any contractor or subcontractor and invited visitors) do not transport noxious weeds onto the project site. The operator shall ensure that all such vehicles and equipment that will be traveling off constructed and maintained roads or parking areas within the project area have been power washed, including the undercarriage, since their last off road use and prior to off road use on the project. When beginning off road use on the project, such vehicles and equipment shall not harbor soil, mud or plant parts from another locale. Depending on the site setting such as remoteness, or other site condition, the operator may be required to have an on-site wash area identified and readily available. If a noxious weed infestation is known or later discovered on the project site, project related vehicles or equipment that have traveled through such an infestation shall be power washed including the undercarriage prior to leaving the site, at an established, identified wash area. Wash water and sediment shall be contained in an adjacent settling basin. Should any vegetation emerge in the wash area or settling basin, it will be promptly identified and appropriately controlled if found to be an undesirable invasive plant.

5. Should undesirable invasive plants become established on developed areas prior to reclamation reshaping; appropriate measures will be taken to ensure that the invasive plants are eradicated prior to reclamation earthwork. Should undesirable invasive plants become established on reshaped areas prior to reclamation seeding; appropriate measures will be taken to ensure that invasive plants are eradicated prior to seeding the site.

Cumulative Effects

The action area associated with this project is currently undergoing intense development of private lands. The land ownership pattern is a mix of public and private lands. Currently, the largest private development in the area is the 160 acres on the western boundary of the community pit. Large tracts of land to the north and south of the community pit are under military withdrawal. The majority of the public lands are outside the current disposal boundary identified in the Las Vegas Resource Management Plan. Therefore they can not be exchanged or sold without a plan amendment or legislation.

Private Development - Private lands within the action area are being developed at a rapid pace.

Pardee Homes is developing 160 acres located adjacent to the western boundary of the community pit for home sites. Other areas are undergoing infill with housing and/or industrial development.

Public Land Development - Certain actions on public lands, such as off-road vehicle use not associated with organized events, and dumping are difficult to control and may contribute to

habitat destruction and degradation. These may increase with population growth and staffing decreases.

Lands to the east of the community pit, other than those which were affected by the old Sunrise Landfill, are managed for Wilderness values or as an Area of Critical Environmental Concern. There are no mining claims in the area. No locatable minerals other than gypsum are known to occur. The lands are currently withdrawn from location under the General Mining Law of May 10, 1872 (17 Stat. 91), as amended.

Mining of the proposed project area would potentially disturb 25 acres. Twelve of those acres have been previously disturbed. The total disturbance in the pit would be approximately 213 acres. Post mining the disturbed areas would be reclaimed.

The Clark County Public Works Department holds a Free Use Permit within the community pit. The Free Use Permit (N-77940) encumbers 40 acres within the pit. All of the 40 acres have been previously disturbed. Removal only occurs when Clark County has a public works project which requires materials.

Several Recreation and Public Purpose leases are located to the north of the community pit. These lands are being, or have been developed by various entities for schools, a fire station, parks and a detention basin.

A Recreation and Public Purpose lease on approximately 709 acres is held by Clark County. This lease is on the eastern side of the community pit and is the site of the old Sunrise Landfill which is closed.

There are no known development plans for the rest of the public lands which are dispersed throughout the action area.

Reasonable Foreseeable Development

Private Lands - It is expected that private land will be completely developed over the next 10 for homes and industrial purposes.

Public Lands - No mining will take place under the Mining Law, since there are no known locatable minerals in the area and lands are withdrawn from further location. Only mining for mineral materials within the East Community Pit would take place. Approximately 100 acres would be consumed over the next 10 years if demand for materials remains high. It is expected that production from the pit will not increase beyond the current average rate of removal (217,600 tons). Reserves within the pit could last as long as 20 years but demand is expected to be such that the pit would be decommissioned.

The other public lands which are dispersed throughout the action area will remain undeveloped. The lands will remain in Federal ownership to reduce potential conflicts.

B. "Pit Closure" - Alternative

Under this alternative general sales would cease and the site would eventually be reclaimed.

C. "No Action" - Alternative

Under this alternative operations within the community pit would continue at their current levels. The competitive sale contracts would not be offered for bid.

VI. Consultation and Coordination

A. Resource Reviewing Staff

Edward Seum	Geologist
Christina Lund	Botanist
Michael Johnson	Environmental Coordinator
Mark Slaughter	Biologist
Susanne Rowe	Archaeologist
Everett Bartz	Range/Noxious Weeds

B. Individuals and Public Agencies Contacted

Board of County Commissioners
Clark County Government Center
P.O. Box 551601
Las Vegas, Nevada 89155-1601

Nevada Division of Minerals
1771 E. Flamingo Rd., Suite #120-A
Las Vegas, Nevada 89119

Clark County Department of
Comprehensive Planning
500 South Grand Central Parkway
P.O. Box 551741
Las Vegas, Nevada 89155-1741

Clark County
Department of Air Quality Management
P.O. Box 555210
Las Vegas, Nevada 89155-5210

Clark County Public Response
500 South Grand Central Parkway
P.O. Box 551700
Las Vegas, Nevada 89155-1700

Robert W. Hall
Nevada Environmental Coalition
10720 Button Willow Drive
Las Vegas, Nevada 89134

Nevada State Clearing House
Department of Administration
209 E Musser St., Room 200
Carson City, Nevada 89701-4298

Scott Melder
6105 East Sahara Ave., #118
Las Vegas, Nevada 89142

Nevada Department of Wildlife
Southern Region
Attn: Brad Hardenbrook
4747 W. Vegas Drive
Las Vegas, Nevada 89108

Great Basin Mine Watch
505 South Arlington
Suite 110
Reno, Nevada 89509-1505

C. Public Comment

VII. Recommendation and Rationale

A. Recommendation

Approve the project incorporating the appropriate, recommended mitigating measures which would be added as an attachment to all of the mineral material sale contracts for the East Community Pit.

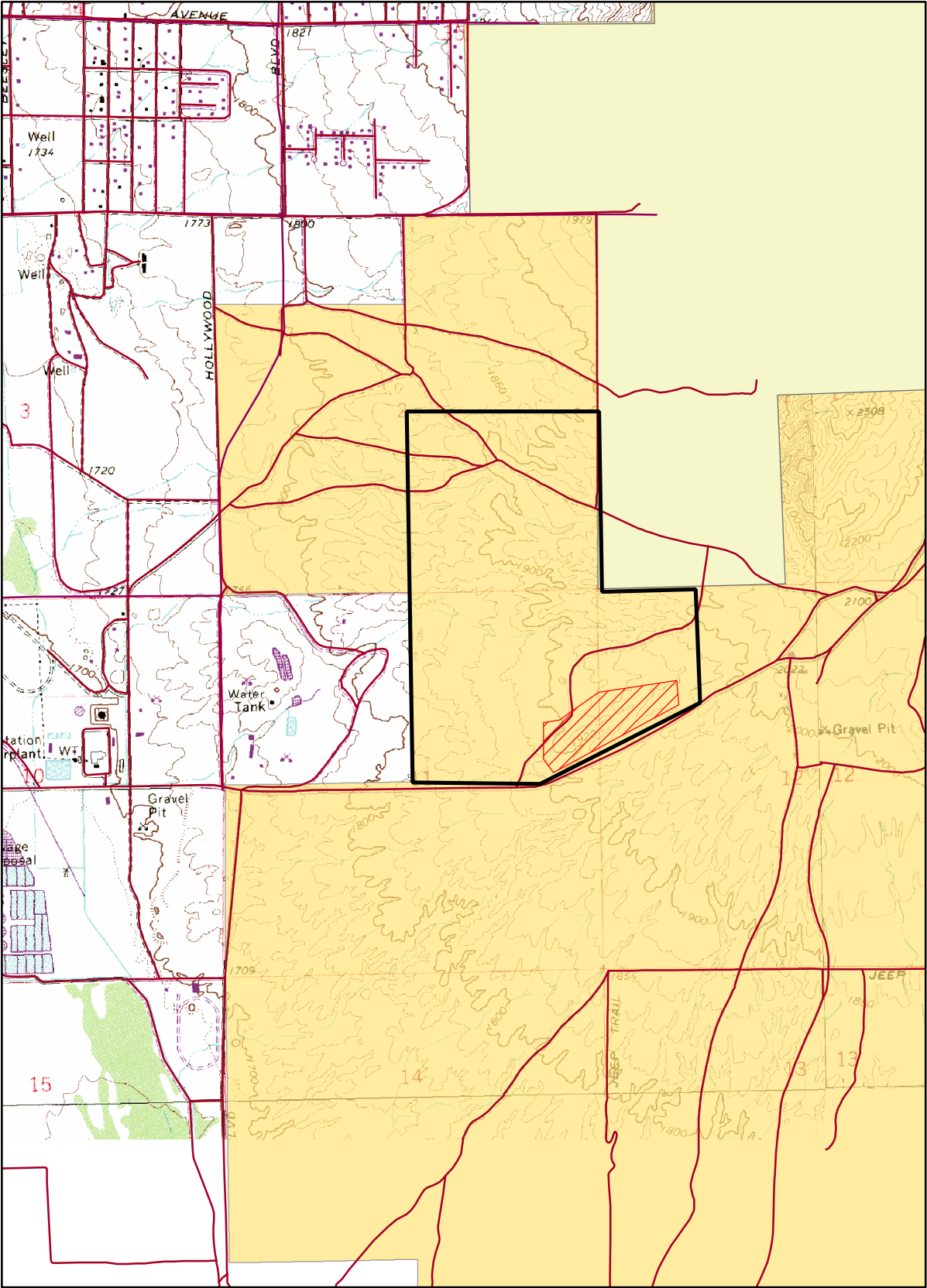
B. Rationale

Approval of the project is in conformance with Federal Mineral Material Regulations, the land use plan and current Bureau policy which encourages mineral development.

Prepared By: Edward Seum

Date: January 23, 2007

East Community Pit Competitive Sale



Legend

- roads_24kdlg arc
- powerlines arc
- majorhwys arc
- roads arc
- majstreets arc
- wsa polygon
- <all other values>
- Bureau of Indian Affairs
- Bureau of Land Management
- Bureau of Reclamation
- City of Las Vegas
- Clark County, Nevada
- Department of Defense
- Department of Energy
- Fish and Wildlife Service
- Forest Service
- National Park Service
- Nevada State
- Private
- Fenced area of community pit
- Sale area



CLARK COUNTY
LAS VEGAS GR DIST

MT PLAT

[illegible]

N 1282 R/W Guying & Anchoring Facilities affects Sec 34

N 31608 NOL W/I Henderson city limits

Sec 31: SE1/4SE1/4SE1/4
Sec 32: SW1/4, S1/2SE1/4, W1/2NW1/4SE1/4,
W1/2E1/2NW1/4SE1/4
Sec 33: E1/2, N1/2N1/2SW1/4, SE1/4SW1/4
Sec 34: S1/2NW1/4, SW1/4, W1/2SE1/4,
SE1/4SE1/4
Sec 36: E1/2E1/4SW1/4, W1/2SE1/4

Certain lands in Secs 19, 28 of this Tp are affected by unrecorded public dedication for roads and utilities due to previous small Tr Cl. See the historical index for specific lands affected by small Tr Cl.

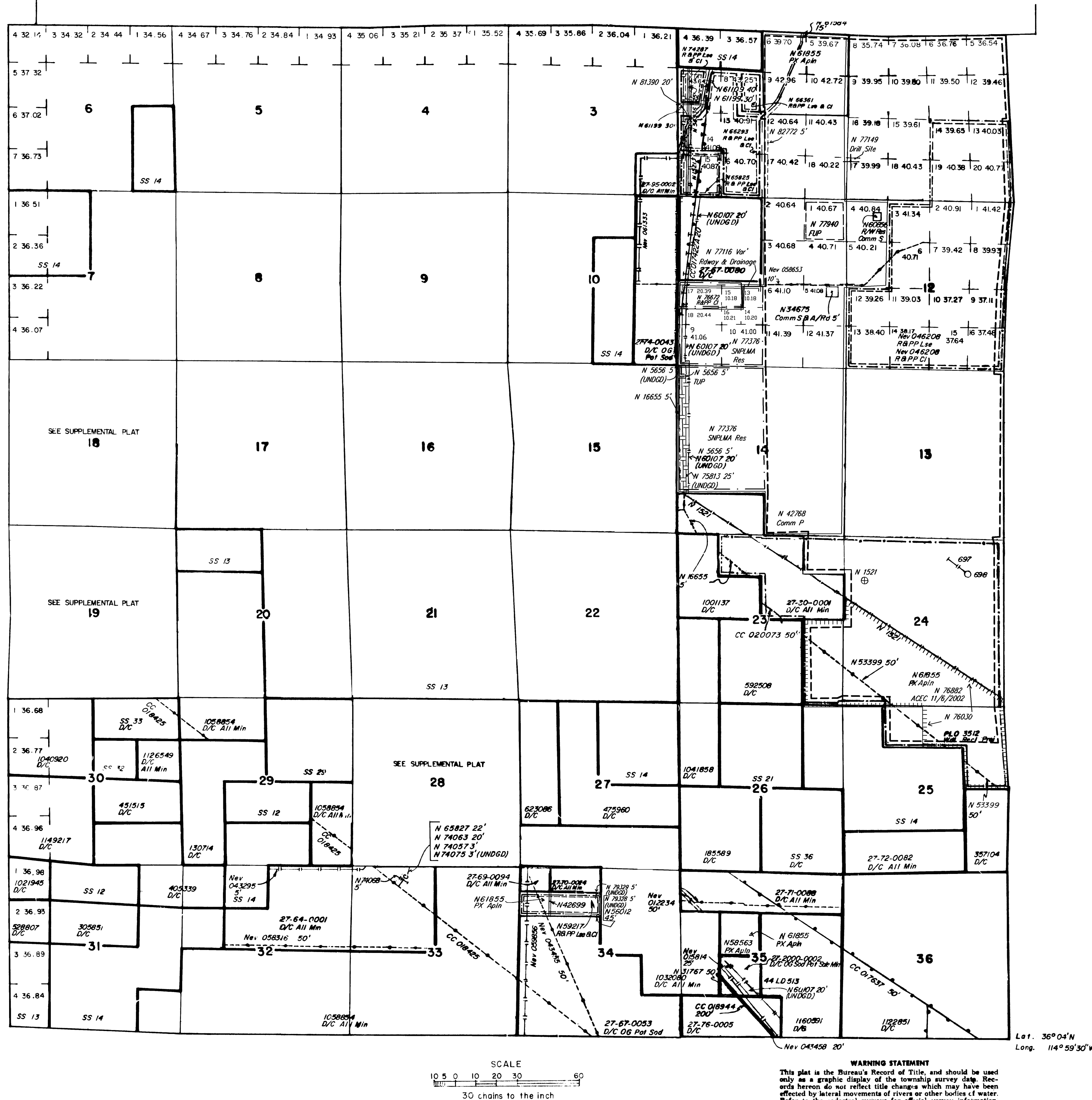
N 59008 R/W Rd 75'
Sec 35: SW 1/4 NE 1/4

N59788 R/W Drainage Channel 50'
Sec 2: Lots 6,7,8, W/1

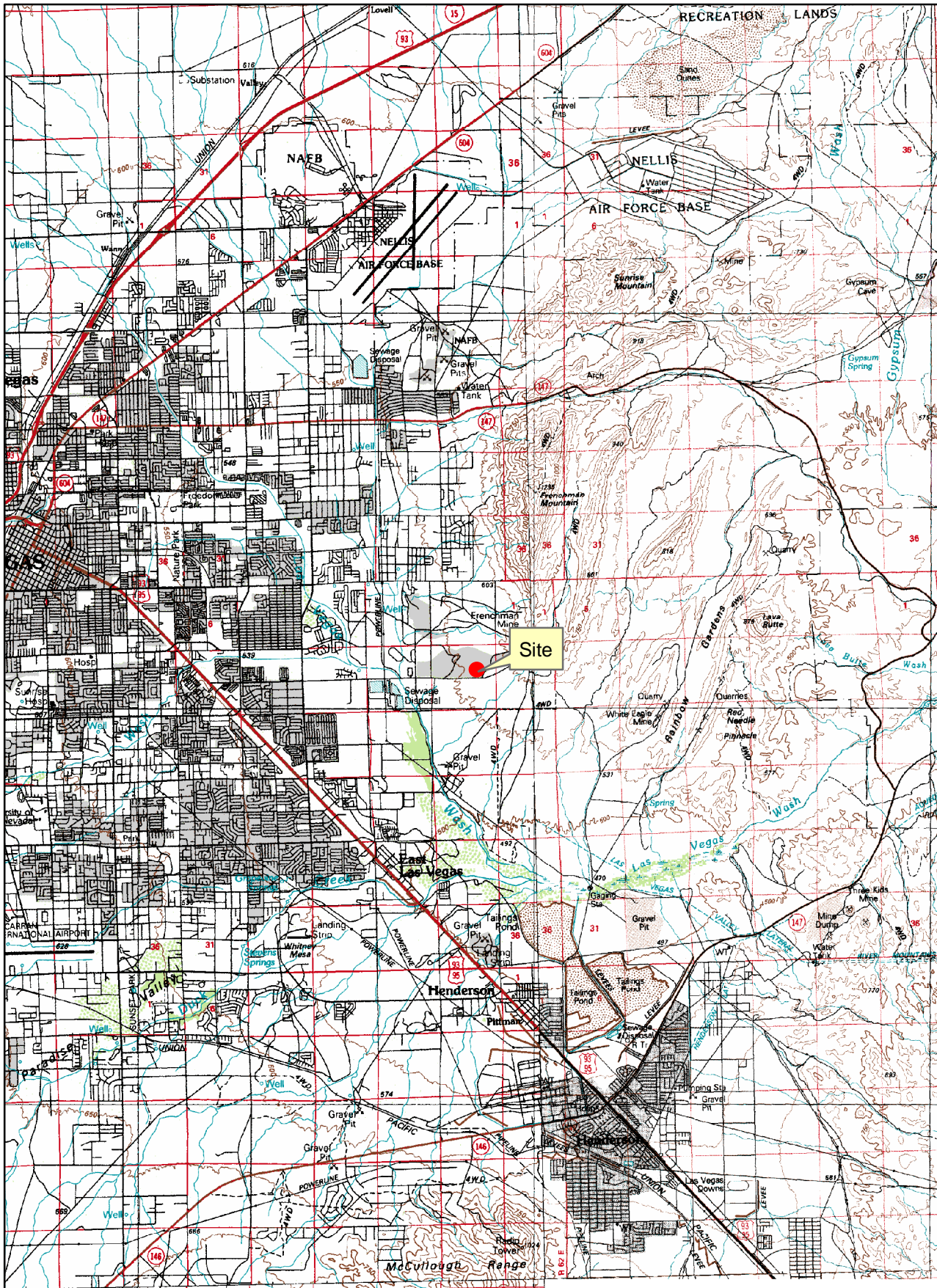
DEPENDENT RESURVEY & SUBDIVISION ACPT 8/30/1994

[illegible]

N 050
T. 21S
R. 62E



General Location Map



Las Vegas & Lake Mead 1:100,000

2.5 1.25 0 2.5 Miles

