

COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT EXTRACTION REVIEW TEAM (CHERT)

2018 POST-EXTRACTION REPORT

DISCUSSION DRAFT

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For the:

Humboldt County Board of Supervisors

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This report is being issued as a Discussion Draft.

Comments can be submitted during the 60-day public review period of
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to the Director of Humboldt County Planning and Building Department.

Comments received will be summarized with responses in Final Draft
which will be available by July 1, 2019

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INTRODUCTION

This report presents an overview of the Humboldt County gravel extraction for the 2017 mining season. Information on mining volumes, methods, and success of mine operators in meeting approved plans is reported herein. Representing Humboldt County, the County of Humboldt Extraction Review Team (CHERT) provided site-specific recommendations on extraction designs submitted by the operators and their consultants, as did agencies with regulatory and oversight responsibilities, including: 1) US Army Corps of Engineers (Corps), 2) National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), 3) California North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board (NCRWQCB) and 4) California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW). Recommendations were based on field reviews at each site, aerial photos, biological surveys, and topographic and hydrologic information provided by the operators as required by the US Army Corps of Engineers 2015 Letter of Permission (LOP 2015) and individual permits obtained by several operators. The LOP and associated documents are the primary federal instruments regulating gravel mining operations in Humboldt County. LOP 2015 can be accessed at:

https://www.spn.usace.army.mil/Portals/68/docs/regulatory/LOP_2015-1.pdf. The NMFS Biological Opinion provides the basis for many of the LOP's standards and requirements; it can be accessed at: <https://www.spn.usace.army.mil/Portals/68/docs/regulatory/Biological%20Opinions/HumboldtGravelLOPBO.pdf>

The Humboldt County Board of Supervisors created CHERT in 1992 to provide scientific oversight on Mad River gravel extraction, which had arrived at an impasse over environmental concerns. Four CHERT members were appointed by the Board with expertise in hydrology, fluvial geomorphology, and river ecology; three of those same four original members continue to serve through the present. In 1996, the scope of CHERT services was expanded to include most riverine extraction sites throughout Humboldt County. Additional details on CHERT's role have been presented in earlier post-extraction reports found, along with other County gravel mining documents, at: <http://humboldt.gov/252/Surface-Mining-Reclamation-Act-SMARA-Doc>

The annual review process consists of visiting sites in the spring with operators and agency staff to observe post-winter conditions, note undesirable effects from the previous season's extraction (if any), and discuss a possible mining plan for the upcoming extraction season. Later, operators submit air photos, topographic and hydrologic information, and a mining proposal, occasionally followed by a second field review. CHERT then issues a written recommendation, which may suggest changes to reflect either CHERT's or an agency's concerns. Once all parties accept a final version of the mining plan, and it is approved by the Corps, NMFS, NCRWQCB and CDFW, mining can begin provided all other agency permits have been obtained. Additional field reviews may be done while mining is taking place due to unexpected circumstances that might require alteration to an approved plan. Post-extraction field reviews are conducted after mining is completed in late summer or fall. Each operator then compiles a post-extraction data set, including pre and post-extraction topographic data, volume calculations, aerial photographs, and other pertinent data. These data are submitted to CHERT, CDFW, Corps, and NMFS.

CHERT develops recommendations based on two primary goals: 1) minimizing potential cumulative effects by ensuring that reach-scale mining volumes do not exceed sustainable levels, and 2) ensuring that site-specific methods of extraction (skimming, trenching, etc.) are appropriate for protecting local habitat. The concept of 'sustained yield' gravel extraction requires that gravel extraction volumes not exceed mean annual recruitment (an estimate of the long-term average annual supply of gravel to a specific reach of a river). Ensuring that annual mined gravel volumes are less than mean annual recruitment is an important management criterion for avoiding channel excessive bed degradation and habitat damage. Site-specific measures are also recommended by CHERT to reduce both cumulative and localized potential mining effects on riparian and aquatic habitat. These may include, for example, ensuring that skim floor elevations are sufficiently high to maintain low flow channel confinement so that small rises in river stage do not inundate skim surfaces too readily.

With time, experience on the rivers, and interaction with regulatory agencies, mine operators, and other stakeholders, the measures taken to protect river habitat and to improve program functioning are continually being refined. This feedback process, termed 'adaptive management', helps ensure that gravel mining and management improves resource protection, the quality of information provided by mine operators, and program efficiency. Problems occasionally arise, however, when either the river's response to previous mining results in undesirable

river habitat conditions, or an operator deviated from an approved mining plan. Any such problems are described in the performance issues section of this report.

In addition to annually recurring activities (e.g., mining site reviews, extraction recommendations, annual post-extraction report preparation), CHERT occasionally participates in other activities. For example, CHERT prepared a technical analysis of Mad River physical channel conditions, riparian vegetation, and fish habitat in 2009 to support physical and biological assessments required for renewal of federal and state permits. Such analyses occur when requested by the County, the operators, or other stakeholders and with direction from the Humboldt County Board of Supervisors. CHERT also provides comments on drafts of various other documents, such as the Corps' updated letters of permission (LOP), NMFS biological opinions, etc.

A relatively new gravel mine site was recently permitted by federal regulatory agencies and extracted gravel from the Mad River for the first time in 2011. The operator of this site, the Blue Lake Rancheria, was not required to obtain permits from the State of California or Humboldt County, and consequently, operates outside of the CHERT program. Their mining plans are reviewed by the US Army Corps of Engineers and National Marine Fisheries Service. They receive no CHERT review, nor do they provide mining information to CHERT, so this report contains no information from the Rancheria's mining operations. Consequently, the volume of gravel mined from the Mad River since 2011 has been greater than that reported by CHERT.

Although Eel River cross sections (covering mining reaches in the Lower Eel and Van Duzen rivers, the Middle Reach Eel above Scotia, and the South Fork Eel) have been surveyed since about 1997 and have been used in the annual mining review process, a quantitative, longer-term cross section analysis had not been done until early 2009. As part of the renewal of federal and state permits, a multi-year analysis of cross sections was prepared by CHERT to support impact evaluation and refine protection/mitigation strategies. The Eel River cross section report also provides essential information for updating environmental analyses of Eel River gravel mining. As mentioned above, CHERT reports, including the Eel River cross section analysis, can be found at and downloaded from the Humboldt County Community Development Service's website: <http://humboldt.gov/252/Surface-Mining-Reclamation-Act-SMARA-Doc>

Humboldt County Instream Gravel Extraction Sites and Extraction Terminology

Table 1 describes the geographic breakdown of Humboldt County mining reaches. CHERT classifies extraction techniques into twelve descriptive categories in Table 2.

Table 1 - Description of river reaches used to sort and report extraction data.

| Approximate Length (miles) | River Reaches |
|----------------------------|---|
| 7 | Mad River: The Mad River Reach extends approximately seven miles downstream from the Blue Lake Fish Hatchery to just below the Highway 299 Bridge near Arcata. |
| 6 | Lower Eel River: The Lower Eel River Reach extends approximately six miles downstream from the mouth of the Van Duzen River to near Fernbridge. |
| 5 | Lower Van Duzen River: The Lower Van Duzen River Reach extends upstream approximately five miles from the mouth of the Van Duzen River. |
| 26 | Middle Reach of Eel River: The Middle Reach of the Eel River extends upstream from Scotia (River Mile 20) for approximately 26 miles to River Mile 46. |
| 17 | South Fork Eel River: The South Fork Reach extends from Garberville (River Mile 33) upstream to Cooks Valley near the Mendocino County line (River Mile 50). |
| 15 | Trinity River Reach: The Trinity River Reach extends downstream about 15 miles from near Willow Creek into the Hoopa Valley. |

| | |
|--|---|
| | <p>Isolated Sites: Five Humboldt County extraction sites are more or less isolated from the reaches described above. These are the <i>Satterlee Bar</i> on the main stem of the Eel River at Fort Seward, the <i>PL Bar</i> on the Van Duzen River, the <i>Branstetter Bar</i> on Bear River, the <i>Charles Bar</i> on Larabee Creek, and the <i>Cook Bar</i> on the North Fork of the Mattole River. Located in trinity County, Dinsmore Bar, operated by Mercer Fraser Co., is not part of the CHERT program but their volumes are reported in this report.</p> |
|--|---|

Table 2. - CHERT extraction methodology terminology and descriptions.

| | |
|----------------------------|---|
| Narrow Shoreline Skim | A skim with one edge close to the low flow channel at or above the 35% flow elevation with a width no greater than 1/3 that of the unvegetated bar surface. |
| Wide Shoreline Skim | Same as above but wider. |
| Narrow Offset Skim | A skim that has a substantial vertical or horizontal offset from the low flow channel and a width no greater than 1/3 that of the unvegetated bar surface. |
| Wide Offset Skim | Same as above, but wider. Some may refer to this as a ‘horseshoe’ skim. |
| Dry Trench | A relatively long, linear shallow skim that remains above the water table at the time of excavation. When located in a secondary channel that normally dries up during the low flow season, it may be called an overflow channel skim. |
| Wet Trench | A trench sufficiently deep to intersect the water table at the time of excavation, designed for high water to flow through the trench. |
| Alcove | An excavation designed to simulate naturally occurring shoreline pools, typically located on the backside of meanders, that can provide deep, cool water during summer months and/or winter high velocity refuge. |
| Dry Alcove | Same as above, but to a depth above the water table at the time of excavation. |
| Fish Access Channel | A channel excavation that may include pools and incorporate large wood designed to temporarily improve fish migration access. |
| Wetland Pit - Discontinued | A strategically located and designed pit simulating a remnant channel feature, such as an oxbow pond; this method has been discontinued because by having standing water year-round, it can provide habitat favoring bullfrogs (see below). |
| Moist Pit | A relatively new extraction method that limits extraction depth to no lower than the elevation where moist gravel is encountered. It designed to go dry each year to prevent non-native bullfrogs from successfully reproducing, and may create conditions favorable for the native (and candidate-listed) Foothill Yellow-legged Frog. |
| Terrace Skim | A free-draining skim located on a low terrace above typical high water. |
| Terrace Pit | A pit excavated on a low terrace above typical high water and isolated by remnant topography from the active channel <u>or</u> provided with an outlet to allow water to freely enter and exit the pit with changes in river stage. |

2018 EXTRACTION SUMMARIES

River Reach Extraction Volumes

In 2018, CHERT reviewed 32 extraction areas (some multiple times) distributed among 17 mining sites in Humboldt County (many sites had more than one extraction area). Appendix A provides historical gravel extraction volumes from the beginning of the CHERT program in 1992 (Mad River) and the expansion in 1997 (Eel River, Trinity River, and isolated sites added). As shown in Table 3, the total volume of gravel approved for extraction in 2018 was 456,236 cubic yards (cy). The total volume actually extracted was 368,681 cy, or about 81% of that approved for extraction. As mentioned above, any gravel extraction done by Blue Lake Rancheria from the Mad River is not included in this report.

Tables 4-10 list site-specific 2018 extraction information for each extraction area grouped by river reach. Sites are listed from downstream to upstream in each table. Table 10 lists extraction information for isolated sites. There was no gravel extraction from Humboldt County isolated sites in 2018, but the Dinsmore Bar, operated by Mercer Fraser Co. and located in Trinity County and thus not part of the CHERT program, submitted pre- and post-extraction reports to CHERT. Humboldt County extraction volumes and surface areas by extraction method for 2018 are shown in Table 11.

Mined areas that extracted 10% or more above (or 110% of) their approved volumes are shown in red font in the following tables. The 10% ‘threshold’ (i.e., extraction exceeding 110% of approved volume) has been used for years as an informal trigger for distinguishing over-extraction from unavoidable inaccuracies in pre- and post-extraction surveys and volume computations. The level of disagreement between pre- and post-extraction surveys, depending on the type of mining, may indicate over-extraction when in fact there was none, or the opposite.

Table 3. Humboldt County 2018 gravel extraction summary by river reach.

| River Reach | No. of mined sites | No. of mined areas | Approved Volume (cu. yd.) | Extracted Volume (cu. yd.) | Percent of Approved Volume | Extracted Area (acres) |
|--------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------|
| Lower Mad River | 9 | 12 | 83,945 | 80,270 | 96% | 20.4 |
| Lower Eel River | 2 | 7 | 163,775 | 145,540 | 89% | 11.9 |
| Middle Eel River | 1 | 2 | 27,853 | 24,570 | 88% | 4.3 |
| Van Duzen River | 2 | 6 | 108,276 | 79,609 | 74% | 14.7 |
| South Fork Eel River | 1 | 2 | 34,751 | 20,306 | 58% | 3.5 |
| Trinity River | 2 | 3 | 17,109 | 0 | 0% | 0.0 |
| Isolated Sites | 0 | 0 | 20,527 | 18,386 | 90% | 2.3 |
| Humboldt County Total = | 17 | 32 | 456,236 | 368,681 | 81% | 57.1 |

Table 4. Mad River gravel extractions in the 2018 extraction season. The volumes listed in this table do not include any taken by the Blue Lake Rancheria.

| Operator | Site | Area No. | Method | Approved Volume (cu. yds.) | Extracted Volume (cu. yds.) | Percent of Approved Volume | Extracted Area (acres) |
|-----------------------------|---------------------|-----------|-----------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------|
| Eureka Ready Mix | O'Neill Bar | 1 | wide shoreline skim | 4,406 | 5,045 | 115% | 2.0 |
| Eureka Ready Mix | Miller-Almquist Bar | 1 | wide shoreline skim | 4,858 | 5,061 | 104% | 0.7 |
| Eureka Ready Mix | Johnson-Spini Bar | 1 | wide shoreline skim | 9,410 | 10,260 | 109% | 6.1 |
| Mercer Fraser Co. | Essex Bar | 1 | wide shoreline skim | 1,271 | 1,275 | 100% | 0.5 |
| Eureka Ready Mix | Christie Bar | 1 | narrow offset skim | 7,946 | 7,934 | 100% | 2.0 |
| Eureka Ready Mix | Christie Bar | 2 | narrow shoreline skim | 5,129 | 4,896 | 95% | 1.0 |
| Eureka Ready Mix | Christie Bar | 3 | narrow shoreline skim | 10,010 | 10,576 | 106% | 2.6 |
| GLJ Construction | Blue Lake Bar | 1 | moist pit | 7,988 | 7,891 | 99% | 0.7 |
| GLJ Construction | Blue Lake Bar | 2 | narrow shoreline skim | 4,367 | 4,488 | 103% | 1.5 |
| GLJ Construction | Blue Lake Bar | 3 | narrow shoreline skim | 2,712 | 2,768 | 102% | 0.5 |
| Eureka Ready Mix | Emmerson Bar | 1 | moist pit | 8,148 | 6,598 | 81% | 1.2 |
| Mad River Sand and Gravel | Guynup Bar | 1 | moist pit | 17,700 | 13,478 | 76% | 1.6 |
| River Reach Totals = | | 12 | --- | 83,945 | 80,270 | 96% | 20.4 |

Table 5. Lower Eel River gravel extractions in the 2018 extraction season.

| Operator | Site | Area No. | Method | Approved Volume (cu. yds.) | Extracted Volume (cu. yds.) | Percent of Approved Volume | Extracted Area (acres) |
|-----------------------------|------------------------|----------|-------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------|
| Eureka Ready Mix | Singley Bar | n/a | no extr. proposed | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a |
| County of Humboldt | Worswick Bar | n/a | no extr. proposed | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a |
| Eureka Ready Mix | Drake Bar | n/a | no extr. proposed | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a |
| Mercer Fraser Co. | Sandy Prairie: Plant A | A1 | wet trench | 17,206 | 17,949 | 104% | 0.4 |
| Mercer Fraser Co. | Sandy Prairie: Plant A | A2 | moist pit | 62,696 | 69,346 | 111% | 4.3 |
| Mercer Fraser Co. | Sandy Prairie: Plant B | B1 | wet trench | 15,248 | 13,971 | 92% | 1.5 |
| Mercer Fraser Co. | Sandy Prairie: Plant B | B2 | alcove | 25,133 | 0 | 0% | 0.0 |
| Hansen Truck Shop | Hansen Bar | n/a | no extr. proposed | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a |
| Eureka Ready Mix | Hauck Bar | 1 | offset skim | 15,573 | 16,560 | 106% | 1.4 |
| Eureka Ready Mix | Hauck Bar | 2 | wet trench | 8,795 | 7,758 | 88% | 1.0 |
| Eureka Ready Mix | Hauck Bar | 3 | offset skim | 19,124 | 19,956 | 104% | 3.3 |
| River Reach Totals = | | 7 | --- | 163,775 | 145,540 | 89% | 11.9 |

* Hauck Area 1 is contiguous with Rock Area 4, Table 7; the Hauck volume for Area 1 is that portion on the Hauck site.

Table 6. Middle Eel River gravel extractions, 2018.

| Operator | Site | Area No. | Method | Approved Volume (cu. yds.) | Extracted Volume (cu. yds.) | Percent of Approved Volume | Extracted Area (acres) |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------|----------|-----------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------|
| Humboldt Redwoods Co. | Scotia Dam Bar | n/a | no extr. proposed | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a |
| Humboldt Redwoods Co. | Lower Truck Shop Bar | n/a | no extr. proposed | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a |
| Humboldt Redwoods Co. | Upper Truck Shop Bar | n/a | no extr. proposed | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a |
| Humboldt Redwoods Co. | Three Mile Bridge Bar | 1 | narrow shoreline skim | 25,298 | 22,162 | 88% | 3.3 |
| Humboldt Redwoods Co. | Three Mile Bridge Bar | 2 | narrow shoreline skim | 2,555 | 2,408 | 94% | 1.0 |
| Humboldt Redwoods Co. | Dinner Creek Bar | n/a | no extr. proposed | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a |
| Humboldt Redwoods Co. | Elinor Bar | n/a | no extr. proposed | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a |
| Humboldt Redwoods Co. | Larabee Bar | n/a | no extr. proposed | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a |
| Humboldt Redwoods Co. | South Fork Bar | n/a | no extr. proposed | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a |
| Humboldt Redwoods Co. | Bowley Bar | n/a | no extr. proposed | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a |
| Humboldt Redwoods Co. | Maynard Bar | n/a | no extr. proposed | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a |
| Humboldt Redwoods Co. | Vroman Bar | n/a | no extr. proposed | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a |
| River Reach Totals = | | 2 | --- | 27,853 | 24,570 | 88% | 4.3 |

Table 7. Van Duzen River gravel extractions, 2018.

| Operator | Site | Area No. | Method | Approved Volume (cu. yds.) | Extracted Volume (cu. yds.) | Percent of Approved Volume | Extracted Area (acres) |
|-----------------------------|-----------|----------|-----------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------|
| Leland Rock | A | 1 | offset skim | 35,255 | 35,332 | 100% | 5.4 |
| Leland Rock | B | 2 | narrow shoreline skim | 8,819 | 7,130 | 81% | 1.5 |
| Leland Rock | C | 3 | offset skim | 14,500 | 14,500 | 100% | 1.9 |
| Leland Rock | D | 4 | skim | 30,000 | 5,829 | 19% | 2.2 |
| Van Duzen River Ranch | n/a | n/a | no extr. proposed | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a |
| Tom Bess | West Site | 1 | narrow offset skim | 511 | 787 | 154% | 0.3 |
| Tom Bess | West Site | 2 | narrow offset skim | 19,191 | 16,031 | 84% | 3.4 |
| River Reach Totals = | | 6 | --- | 108,276 | 79,609 | 74% | 14.7 |

* Rock Area C is contiguous with Hauck Area 1, Table 5; the Rock volume for Area 1 is that portion on the Rock site.

Table 8. South Fork Eel River gravel extractions, 2018.

| Operator | Site | Area No. | Method | Approved Volume (cu. yds.) | Extracted Volume (cu. yds.) | Percent of Approved Volume | Extracted Area (acres) |
|-----------------------------|------------------------|----------|---------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------|
| Wallan and Johnson | Wallan and Johnson Bar | n/a | no extr. proposed | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a |
| Randall Sand and Gravel | Home Bar | 1 | wide shoreline skim | 26,100 | 20,306 | 78% | 3.5 |
| Randall Sand and Gravel | County Bar | 2 | wide shoreline skim | 8,651 | 0 | 0% | 0.0 |
| Mercer Fraser Co. | Cooks Valley: MEN * | n/a | no extr. proposed | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a |
| Mercer Fraser Co. | Cooks Valley: HUM * | n/a | no extr. proposed | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a |
| River Reach Totals = | | 2 | --- | 34,751 | 20,306 | 58% | 3.5 |

* "HUM" is in Humboldt County, "MEN" is in Mendocino County

Table 9. Trinity River gravel extractions, 2018.

| Operator | Sites | Area No. | Method | Approved Volume (cu. yds.) | Extracted Volume (cu. yds.) | Percent of Approved Volume | Extracted Area (acres) |
|-----------------------------|-------------------|----------|-----------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------|
| Mercer Fraser Co. | Willow Creek Site | 1 | wide shoreline skim | 2,213 | 0 | 0% | 0.0 |
| Mercer Fraser Co. | Willow Creek Site | 2 | overflow channel skim | 7,295 | 0 | 0% | 0.0 |
| Mercer Fraser Co. | Willow Creek Site | 3 | wide shoreline skim | 7,601 | 0 | 0% | 0.0 |
| Mercer Fraser Co. | McKnight Bar | n/a | no extr. proposed | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a |
| Klamath Trinity Aggregates | Rowland Bar | n/a | no extr. proposed | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a |
| River Reach Totals = | | 3 | --- | 17,109 | 0 | 0% | 0.0 |

Table 10. Gravel extraction from isolated sites, 2018.

| Operator | River | Site | Method | Approved Volume (cu. yds.) | Extracted Volume (cu. yds.) | Percent of Approved Volume | Extracted Area (acres) |
|--------------------------------|--------------------|-----------------|-------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------|
| County of Humboldt | North Fork Mattole | Cook Bar | no extr. proposed | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a |
| County of Humboldt | Larabee Creek | Charles Bar | no extr. proposed | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a |
| County of Humboldt | Bear River | Branstetter Bar | no extr. proposed | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a |
| Humboldt County | PL- Van Duzen Bar | Van Duzen Bar | no extr. proposed | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a |
| Mercer Fraser Co. | Dinsmore Bar | Dinsmore Bar | wet trench | 20,527 | 18,386 | 90% | 2.3 |
| County of Humboldt | Middle Eel River | Dyerville Bar | no extr. proposed | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a |
| Fort Seward Ranch | Eel River | Satterlee Bar | no extr. proposed | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a |
| Isolated Sites Totals = | --- | --- | --- | 20,527 | 18,386 | 90% | 2.3 |

Table 11. Humboldt County gravel extraction volumes and areas by extraction method, 2018.

| Extraction Method | No. of Areas | Extracted Volume (cy) | Percent of Total Volume | Area (acres) | Percent of Total Area |
|---------------------------------|--------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|--------------|-----------------------|
| moist pit | 4 | 97,313 | 28% | 7.8 | 14% |
| narrow offset skim | 3 | 24,752 | 7% | 5.7 | 10% |
| narrow shoreline skim | 7 | 54,428 | 16% | 11.4 | 21% |
| wet trench | 3 | 39,678 | 11% | 2.9 | 5% |
| wide offset skim | 5 | 92,177 | 26% | 14.2 | 26% |
| wide shoreline skim | 5 | 41,947 | 12% | 12.8 | 23% |
| Humboldt County Totals = | 23 | 350,295 | 100.0% | 54.8 | 100% |

PERFORMANCE ISSUES: 2018

To evaluate operator performance and compliance, CHERT and regulatory agency staff conduct field reviews in the fall after completion of operations and review post-extraction documentation (cross sections, air photos, and other materials) to ensure approved mining plan design specifications were met. Overall, operator performance in conducting their 2018 operations consistent with approved mining plans was very successful, and few problematic conditions were noted this past year during post-extraction field reviews. Although most extractions were below their approved volumes, several sites exceeded approved volumes, but only by relatively minor amounts. Given the calculation methods used (double-end-area), the large scale of most operations and the large heavy equipment used for extraction, some level of volume deviations are to be expected and are not considered significant in most cases.

We highlighted sites that extracted more than 10% *above* approved volume (or 110% *of* approved volume) in Tables 4-10. It should be noted that while the percent over-extracted can be useful for evaluating performance, 10% of a large extraction volume can be of more significance than 10% of a small volume. For example, if an approved extraction of 30,000 cy is over-extracted by, say, 3,300 cy (an extraction of 111% of that approved), this could very well lead to impacts, depending on how the over-extraction was configured on the ground. Conversely, an over-extraction of 10% at a small volume extraction area may amount to only a few hundred cubic yards, in which case there would likely be no impacts.

At several mined areas, the actual extraction volume was much less than that approved. This does not present a problem as long as the extracted area is left in a condition that meets design objectives and mitigations (see Introduction above, and LOP 2015). Any adverse field conditions encountered during post-extraction field visits are noted below.

Problems noted in 2018

- Eureka Sand and Gravel Hauck/Rock Bar (Lower Eel River): A temporary access road to one extraction area at this site cut through part of the unmined gravel bar surface. Concerns were expressed during the post-extraction field review that the condition would create unfavorable hydraulics during subsequent river rises. This was not an issue treated in the operator's approved plans, but only came up during the post-extraction review. The operator corrected the potential problem by filling in the through cut before any river rises.
- Eureka Sand and Gravel O'Neill Bar (Mad River): The extracted volume exceeded the approved volume by 15% (see Table 4). Because this was a relatively small extraction, the over-extraction composed a volume of only 639 cubic yards. CHERT does not consider this a significant issue, and the post-extraction field visit did not indicate any potential problems.
- Gary Johnston Site, Blue Lake Bar (Mad River): During the post-extraction field visit, it was observed that the two skims, Areas #2 and #3, appeared excavated too low with ponded water in the lowest most areas. Surveys later confirmed this. The operator was required to replace the over-extracted gravel onto the affected river bars to raise the skim floors to the approved elevations (the 35% flow elevation). This was completed before a rise in river stage inundated the areas.
- Tom Bess Site (Van Duzen River): At Area 1, a narrow offset skim in Mr. Bess' West Area, was over-extracted by 54% (Table 7), amounting to 276 cubic yards above the approved volume. Because this was a relatively small extraction, the over-extraction was a small volume and the post-extraction field visit did not indicate any potential problems. CHERT does not consider this a significant issue,
- Leland Rock Site (Van Duzen River): At Area D, originally designed as a wet trench, as done in years past, the incomplete replenishment from past trenching resulted in a remnant pond with the proposed trench for 2018 adjacent to the remnant pond. A survey for FYLF found the pond occupied, leading the operator to request a design change from a trench to a skim, with a resulting large decrease in volume.

CHERT was not involved in subsequent field reviews or discussions between the operator and representatives of the NMFS. During the post-extraction field review, comments were made to the effect that the skim floor appeared to be too low (below the 35% flow elevation) in some areas. However, the post-extraction cross section surveys indicate that this was not the case.

- Mercer Fraser Co., Sandy Prairie Site (Lower Eel River): Over-extraction to 11% of approved volume, just over the unofficial threshold mentioned above, occurred at Area A2, a moist pit. However, the volume that amounted to, because this was a large extraction area, was considerable at 6,650 cy. This was an innovative extraction, designed to create FYLF habitat, or at least as an alternative to extracting that same volume in another area that could have impacts. The photograph below shows the pit after extraction during the Nov. 8, 2018, field review, during which time no concerns were voiced about the field conditions observed. Given that the pit was offset some distance from the active channel, habitat impacts are unlikely from the over-extraction.



Late Post-Extraction Submittals: The post-extraction submittals for the following sites were submitted later than December 15, 2018, the deadline set forth in the US Army Corps of Engineer's LOP 2015, Appendix C:

- Mad River Sand and Gravel, Guynup Bar (Mad River).
- Randall Site (South Fork Eel River).

The delays in receiving these materials, some not submitted until late January, caused a delay in the preparation of this report.

APPENDIX A: HISTORICAL EXTRACTION VOLUME SUMMARIES

| Humboldt County Totals ("---" means unknown) | | | | Mad River ("---" means unknown) | | | |
|--|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|------------|
| Year | Approved Volume (cubic yards) | Extracted Volume (cubic yards) | Percent | Year | Approved Volume (cubic yards) | Extracted Volume (cubic yards) | Percent |
| 1992 | --- | --- | --- | 1992 | 115,000 | 115,000 | 100% |
| 1993 | --- | --- | --- | 1993 | 122,100 | 138,400 | 113% |
| 1994 | --- | --- | --- | 1994 | 134,500 | 134,898 | 100% |
| 1995 | --- | --- | --- | 1995 | 210,637 | 226,265 | 107% |
| 1996 | --- | --- | --- | 1996 | 203,998 | 189,517 | 93% |
| 1997 | --- | --- | --- | 1997 | 252,926 | 210,976 | 83% |
| 1998 | 1,075,095 | 820,952 | 76% | 1998 | 265,795 | 223,352 | 84% |
| 1999 | 1,142,212 | 860,974 | 75% | 1999 | 196,212 | 174,974 | 89% |
| 2000 | 987,848 | 706,234 | 71% | 2000 | 204,748 | 146,534 | 72% |
| 2001 | 979,515 | 494,819 | 51% | 2001 | 199,215 | 167,719 | 84% |
| 2002 | 1,023,866 | 748,461 | 73% | 2002 | 204,991 | 171,937 | 84% |
| 2003 | 881,090 | 581,800 | 66% | 2003 | 150,390 | 136,790 | 91% |
| 2004 | 692,020 | 440,710 | 64% | 2004 | 156,540 | 141,250 | 90% |
| 2005 | 664,565 | 493,240 | 74% | 2005 | 138,475 | 127,200 | 92% |
| 2006 | 700,660 | 561,845 | 80% | 2006 | 174,245 | 162,360 | 93% |
| 2007 | 784,108 | 612,132 | 78% | 2007 | 165,504 | 153,341 | 93% |
| 2008 | 659,022 | 534,821 | 81% | 2008 | 142,043 | 130,613 | 92% |
| 2009 | 454,213 | 211,207 | 46% | 2009 | 0 | 0 | n/a |
| 2010 | 562,303 | 374,313 | 67% | 2010 | 111,439 | 86,246 | 77% |
| 2011 | 774,582 | 505,805 | 65% | 2011 | 147,380 | 143,124 | 97% |
| 2012 | 553,704 | 384,514 | 69% | 2012 | 111,317 | 100,329 | 90% |
| 2013 | 362,222 | 226,362 | 62% | 2013 | 80,525 | 76,919 | 96% |
| 2014 | 376,467 | 285,527 | 76% | 2014 | 69,322 | 66,743 | 96% |
| 2015 | 400,919 | 272,240 | 68% | 2015 | 70,230 | 69,719 | 99% |
| 2016 | 545,275 | 463,382 | 85% | 2016 | 145,769 | 142,510 | 98% |
| 2017 | 563,540 | 363,297 | 64% | 2017 | 153,778 | 113,841 | 74% |
| 2018 | 456,236 | 368,681 | 81% | 2018 | 83,945 | 80,270 | 96% |
| Totals | 14,639,462 | 10,311,316 | 70% | Totals | 4,011,024 | 3,630,827 | 91% |
| Averages | 697,117 | 491,015 | 70% | Averages | 148,556 | 134,475 | 91% |

APPENDIX A (continued)

| Lower Eel River ("---" means unknown) | | | | Middle Eel River ("---" means unknown) | | | |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|------------|--|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|------------|
| Year | Approved Volume (cubic yards) | Extracted Volume (cubic yards) | Percent | Year | Approved Volume (cubic yards) | Extracted Volume (cubic yards) | Percent |
| 1992 | --- | --- | --- | 1992 | --- | --- | --- |
| 1993 | --- | --- | --- | 1993 | --- | --- | --- |
| 1994 | --- | --- | --- | 1994 | --- | --- | --- |
| 1995 | --- | --- | --- | 1995 | --- | --- | --- |
| 1996 | --- | --- | --- | 1996 | --- | --- | --- |
| 1997 | 561,700 | 326,500 | 58% | 1997 | 147,300 | 84,900 | 58% |
| 1998 | 399,100 | 273,000 | 68% | 1998 | 157,900 | 99,400 | 63% |
| 1999 | 471,400 | 290,500 | 62% | 1999 | 134,900 | 124,900 | 93% |
| 2000 | 291,300 | 208,600 | 72% | 2000 | 160,100 | 131,000 | 82% |
| 2001 | 389,900 | 119,300 | 31% | 2001 | 116,100 | 64,000 | 55% |
| 2002 | 387,300 | 220,000 | 57% | 2002 | 132,767 | 121,608 | 92% |
| 2003 | 318,300 | 163,900 | 51% | 2003 | 74,030 | 54,060 | 73% |
| 2004 | 188,840 | 120,305 | 64% | 2004 | 0 | 0 | n/a |
| 2005 | 199,370 | 166,280 | 83% | 2005 | 0 | 0 | n/a |
| 2006 | 235,495 | 208,240 | 88% | 2006 | 0 | 0 | n/a |
| 2007 | 243,097 | 177,334 | 73% | 2007 | 89,990 | 64,424 | 72% |
| 2008 | 237,955 | 215,760 | 91% | 2008 | 0 | 0 | n/a |
| 2009 | 229,386 | 106,467 | 46% | 2009 | 0 | 0 | n/a |
| 2010 | 208,286 | 188,730 | 91% | 2010 | 0 | 0 | n/a |
| 2011 | 301,537 | 214,730 | 71% | 2011 | 76,715 | 35,618 | 46% |
| 2012 | 226,520 | 188,994 | 83% | 2012 | 29,569 | 25,880 | 88% |
| 2013 | 176,477 | 80,918 | 46% | 2013 | 0 | 0 | n/a |
| 2014 | 127,671 | 97,232 | 76% | 2014 | 59,298 | 45,394 | 77% |
| 2015 | 168,581 | 94,954 | 56% | 2015 | 48,146 | 39,350 | 82% |
| 2016 | 179,659 | 151,456 | 84% | 2016 | 82,276 | 78,731 | 96% |
| 2017 | 183,063 | 102,683 | 56% | 2017 | 59,409 | 44,316 | 75% |
| 2018 | 163,775 | 145,540 | 89% | 2018 | 27,853 | 24,570 | 88% |
| Totals | 5,888,712 | 3,861,423 | 66% | Totals | 1,396,353 | 1,038,151 | 74% |
| Averages | 267,669 | 175,519 | 66% | Averages | 63,471 | 47,189 | 74% |

APPENDIX A (continued)

| South Fork Eel River ("---" means unknown) | | | | Van Duzen River ("---" means unknown) | | | |
|--|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|------------|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|------------|
| Year | Approved Volume (cubic yards) | Extracted Volume (cubic yards) | Percent | Year | Approved Volume (cubic yards) | Extracted Volume (cubic yards) | Percent |
| 1992 | --- | --- | --- | 1992 | --- | --- | --- |
| 1993 | --- | --- | --- | 1993 | --- | --- | --- |
| 1994 | --- | --- | --- | 1994 | --- | --- | --- |
| 1995 | --- | --- | --- | 1995 | --- | --- | --- |
| 1996 | --- | --- | --- | 1996 | --- | --- | --- |
| 1997 | 67,700 | 74,700 | 110% | 1997 | 120,000 | 81,600 | 68% |
| 1998 | 75,400 | 70,100 | 93% | 1998 | 119,100 | 103,700 | 87% |
| 1999 | 85,400 | 75,900 | 89% | 1999 | 159,900 | 108,800 | 68% |
| 2000 | 75,700 | 53,700 | 71% | 2000 | 194,800 | 121,300 | 62% |
| 2001 | 66,000 | 43,100 | 65% | 2001 | 161,700 | 85,600 | 53% |
| 2002 | 58,163 | 48,122 | 83% | 2002 | 202,500 | 167,400 | 83% |
| 2003 | 87,060 | 54,660 | 63% | 2003 | 175,100 | 123,000 | 70% |
| 2004 | 80,730 | 50,745 | 63% | 2004 | 179,045 | 92,610 | 52% |
| 2005 | 82,770 | 36,480 | 44% | 2005 | 159,090 | 123,170 | 77% |
| 2006 | 92,000 | 35,075 | 38% | 2006 | 134,910 | 104,750 | 78% |
| 2007 | 90,737 | 73,956 | 82% | 2007 | 152,773 | 113,184 | 74% |
| 2008 | 32,358 | 24,833 | 77% | 2008 | 209,176 | 137,850 | 66% |
| 2009 | 40,170 | 24,986 | 62% | 2009 | 175,132 | 73,236 | 42% |
| 2010 | 42,864 | 27,732 | 65% | 2010 | 169,041 | 69,917 | 41% |
| 2011 | 36,063 | 14,244 | 39% | 2011 | 175,724 | 71,903 | 41% |
| 2012 | 19,039 | 0 | 0% | 2012 | 142,191 | 47,760 | 34% |
| 2013 | 27,588 | 17,212 | 62% | 2013 | 63,111 | 41,713 | 66% |
| 2014 | 32,341 | 24,754 | 77% | 2014 | 74,701 | 51,404 | 69% |
| 2015 | 20,610 | 15,129 | 73% | 2015 | 85,978 | 53,088 | 62% |
| 2016 | 34,863 | 23,657 | 68% | 2016 | 92,995 | 67,028 | 72% |
| 2017 | 36,679 | 17,010 | 46% | 2017 | 108,686 | 76,526 | 70% |
| 2018 | 34,751 | 20,306 | 58% | 2018 | 108,276 | 79,609 | 74% |
| Totals | 1,218,986 | 826,401 | 68% | Totals | 3,163,929 | 1,995,148 | 63% |
| Averages | 55,408 | 37,564 | 68% | Averages | 143,815 | 90,689 | 63% |

APPENDIX A (continued)

| Trinity River ("---" means unknown) | | | | Isolated Sites ("---" means unknown) | | | |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|------------|
| Year | Approved Volume (cubic yards) | Extracted Volume (cubic yards) | Percent | Year | Approved Volume (cubic yards) | Extracted Volume (cubic yards) | Percent |
| 1992 | --- | --- | --- | 1992 | --- | --- | --- |
| 1993 | --- | --- | --- | 1993 | --- | --- | --- |
| 1994 | --- | --- | --- | 1994 | --- | --- | --- |
| 1995 | --- | --- | --- | 1995 | --- | --- | --- |
| 1996 | --- | --- | --- | 1996 | --- | --- | --- |
| 1997 | 47,500 | 40,000 | 84% | 1997 | --- | --- | --- |
| 1998 | 35,000 | 28,100 | 80% | 1998 | 22,800 | 23,300 | 102% |
| 1999 | 64,300 | 66,900 | 104% | 1999 | 30,100 | 19,000 | 63% |
| 2000 | 18,000 | 22,200 | 123% | 2000 | 43,200 | 22,900 | 53% |
| 2001 | 46,600 | 15,100 | 32% | 2001 | 0 | 0 | n/a |
| 2002 | 38,145 | 19,394 | 51% | 2002 | 0 | 0 | n/a |
| 2003 | 76,210 | 49,390 | 65% | 2003 | 0 | 0 | n/a |
| 2004 | 62,075 | 32,700 | 53% | 2004 | 24,790 | 3,100 | 13% |
| 2005 | 64,100 | 30,570 | 48% | 2005 | 20,760 | 9,540 | 46% |
| 2006 | 64,010 | 51,420 | 80% | 2006 | 0 | 0 | n/a |
| 2007 | 42,007 | 29,893 | 71% | 2007 | 0 | 0 | n/a |
| 2008 | 12,490 | 11,701 | 94% | 2008 | 25,000 | 14,064 | 56% |
| 2009 | 0 | 0 | n/a | 2009 | 9,525 | 6,518 | 68% |
| 2010 | 30,673 | 1,688 | 6% | 2010 | 0 | 0 | n/a |
| 2011 | 37,163 | 26,186 | 70% | 2011 | 0 | 0 | n/a |
| 2012 | 25,068 | 21,551 | 86% | 2012 | 0 | 0 | n/a |
| 2013 | 5,521 | 723 | 13% | 2013 | 20,527 | 18,386 | n/a |
| 2014 | 13,134 | 0 | 0% | 2014 | 0 | 0 | n/a |
| 2015 | 7,374 | 0 | 0% | 2015 | 0 | 0 | n/a |
| 2016 | 9,713 | 0 | 0% | 2016 | 0 | 0 | n/a |
| 2017 | 21,925 | 8,921 | 41% | 2017 | 0 | 0 | n/a |
| 2018 | 17,109 | 0 | 0% | 2018 | 0 | 0 | n/a |
| Totals | 738,117 | 456,437 | 62% | Totals | 196,702 | 116,808 | 59% |
| Averages | 33,551 | 20,747 | 62% | Averages | 9,367 | 5,562 | 59% |