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Department of Health and Environmental Sciences
STATE OF MONTANA HELENA, MONTANA 59601

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PRELIMINARY ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW
FOR THE
VANG PAO CONFINEMENT HOG OPERATION

Pursuant to the Montana Administrative Code, Section 16-2.2(2)-P2030 (Rule IV), the following preliminary environmental review has been prepared by the Department of Health and Environmental Sciences concerning the Vang Pao confinement hog operation and a request by Mr. James Iman for a waste discharge permit for that animal confinement facility located northwest of Corvallis, Montana.

The purpose of this preliminary environmental review is to inform all interested governmental agencies, public groups, or individuals of the proposed action and to determine whether or not the action may have a significant effect on the human environment. This preliminary environmental review will be circulated for a period of ten days at which time a decision will be made as to our future action. If you care to comment on this proposed action, please do so within that allotted time.

The proposed animal confinement facility around which this action is centered will be located in the SE $\frac{1}{4}$, NE $\frac{1}{4}$, Sec. 25, T.7N., R.21W., of Ravalli County, approximately two miles west and one mile north of Corvallis, Montana. The approximate location of this facility is indicated on Figure No. 1.

The animal confinement facility which is being proposed is known as a total confinement operation as the livestock associated with this proposed

facility will be totally confined within buildings on the premises. The operation will consist of farrowing 100 sows and feeding to market weight the pigs which are produced. The proposal is to utilize an existing airplane hanger for feed storage, a nursery unit, and a growing unit. Separate buildings will be constructed for farrowing and for finishing. The waste material which is produced within the buildings will be contained in liquid manure pits at each building and in a supplemental storage tank. Total storage capacity of approximately 225,000 gallons will be provided which should exceed the minimum storage requirements.

The waste material which accumulates within the liquid manure facilities will be periodically removed and disposed of on adjacent agricultural land. Approximately 220 acres of such land is available for this purpose. During the summer months, the waste material will be mixed with irrigation waters and spread on cropland. During spring and fall, the waste material will be spread and incorporated with the soil within 36 hours of spreading.

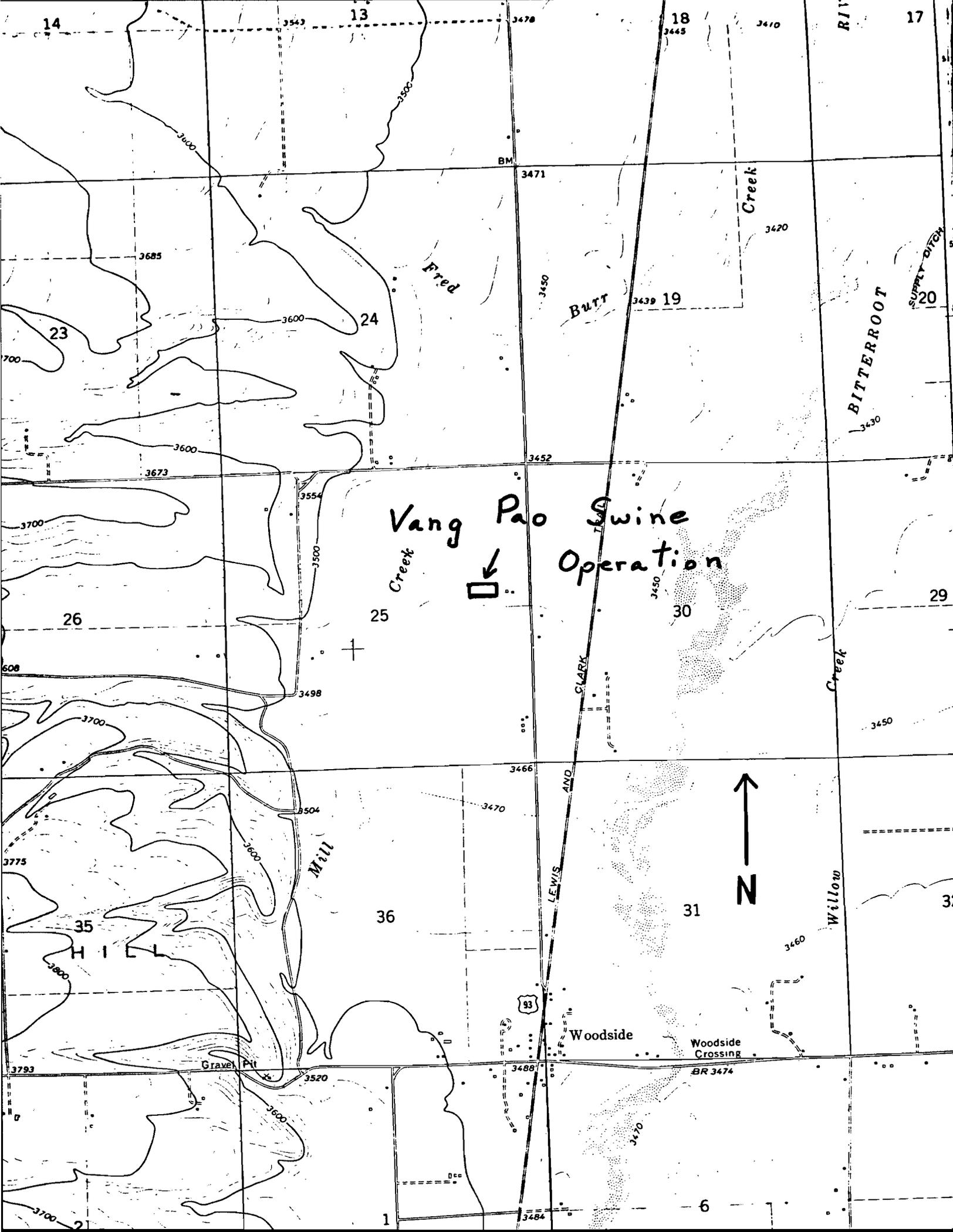
Any animal confinement facility can have an effect on the surrounding environment. Adverse effects can, however, be minimized through implementation of a good waste management program. Odors around an animal confinement facility such as being proposed here can be minimized through good house-keeping within the confinement buildings. Major periods of odors are associated with the spreading of the liquid manure onto adjacent croplands. Mixing with irrigation water during the summer months and incorporation with the soil during spring and fall should significantly minimize the extent and duration of those odors. Flies around the animal confinement facility will be controlled through routine baiting and spraying programs. Dead animals will be disposed of by burning in a proper incinerator.

While zoning does not currently exist for the area proposed to be used as an animal confinement facility, previous contacts with the local planning agency have indicated the area is agricultural in nature. There are no known historical or archaeological sites which would in any way be affected by the proposed operation. If the waste management program as outlined in this preliminary environmental review is adhered to, problems associated with animal confinement facilities should be eliminated or significantly minimized.

Secondary and social impact due to the proposed action should be minimal due to the fact that the area is utilized primarily for agricultural production.


Steven L. Pilcher
Water Quality Bureau
Environmental Sciences Division

SLP:vlf
Attachment
cc: Ben Wake
Air Quality Bureau



Vang Pao Swine
Operation



Woodside

Woodside Crossing

Mill

Willow

26

25

30

36

31

14

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23

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