

## ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

**PROPONENT:** Riverside Contracting, Inc.

**PROJECT NAME:** Opencut Gravel Mining Amendment – Marvin Rehbein Site

**LOCATION:** SE¼ NW & NE¼ SW¼, Section 31, 17N, R19W

**COUNTY:** Lake

**TYPE AND PURPOSE OF ACTION:**

The applicant proposes to amend his existing mine to crush and haul an additional 75,000 cubic yards of gravel from a pasture located 2 miles northeast of Arlee. The site is currently permitted for 40 acres and would be increased to 48.2 acres. The site is a gravel outwash area in the foothills of the Mission Mountain Range at approximately 3080 feet, MSL. The site would be mined to a depth of 12 feet in an area where the topsoil averages 6” of clayey silt loam with 12 inches of rocky overburden underneath. The site is currently pasture and would be reclaimed to grasses. The slopes of the reclaimed area would be reduced to 3:1 or less and the floor would be graded fairly flat. The site would be reclaimed by December 2010.

A: Significant Unavoidable Impacts. B: Insignificant as a result of conditioned mitigation. C: Insignificant as proposed.

	POTENTIAL IMPACTS AND MITIGATIVE MEASURES					EXPLANATION
	A	B	C	LONG TERM	SHORT TERM	
<b>PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT</b>						
1. <u>TOPOGRAPHY</u>			X	X		<b>Mining will permanently alter the topography, but reclamation will be done.</b>
2. <u>GEOLOGY</u> ; Stability						<b>No effect on geology.</b>
3. <u>SOILS</u> ; Quality, Distribution			X		X	<b>Soils will be stripped, saved and replaced on all areas after mining is finished.</b>
4. <u>WATER</u> ; Quality, Quantity; Distribution			X		X	<b>The operation will have no effect on surface or groundwater.</b>
5. <u>AIR</u> ; Quality			X		X	<b>Some deterioration of air quality will occur, but episodes will be infrequent.</b>
6. <u>UNIQUE, ENDANGERED, FRAGILE, or LIMITED</u> environmental resources						<b>No unique, endangered, fragile or limited species or habitats are known at this site.</b>
<b>BIOLOGICAL ENVIRONMENT</b>						
1. <u>TERRESTRIAL, AVIAN, and AQUATIC</u> ; species and habitats			X		X	<b>Wildlife displaced during active mining will return following reclamation.</b>
2. <u>VEGETATION</u> ; Quantity, quality, species			X		X	<b>After mining, the pasture will be replanted into grasses of a compatible type.</b>
3. <u>AGRICULTURE</u> ; grazing, crops, production			X		X	<b>The pasture will be removed from production but will be replanted with grasses when reclaimed.</b>
<b>HUMAN ENVIRONMENT</b>						
1. <u>SOCIAL</u> , structures and mores						<b>No social impacts are anticipated.</b>
2. <u>CULTURAL</u> ; Uniqueness, diversity						<b>No unique or diversified cultural values exist.</b>

3. <u>POPULATION</u> ; quantity and diversity					<b>No effect on the population is anticipated.</b>
4. <u>HOUSING</u> ; quantity and distribution					<b>No effects are anticipated on housing.</b>
5. <u>HUMAN HEALTH &amp; SAFETY</u>			X	X	<b>Some dust and additional traffic may be generated at the site but the operator must comply with existing traffic and air quality laws.</b>
6. <u>COMMUNITY &amp; PERSONAL INCOME</u>			X	X	<b>The landowner may enjoy additional income from this operation.</b>
7. <u>EMPLOYMENT</u> ; quantity and distribution			X	X	<b>No effects are anticipated on employment since the existing pit will only be slightly enlarged.</b>
8. <u>TAX BASE</u> ; local and state tax revenue			X	X	<b>Additional taxes may be generated for the state and county as aggregates are hauled and sold.</b>
9. <u>GOVERNMENT SERVICES</u> ; demand			X	X	<b>The site would be monitored through its permit life along with other sites in the area.</b>
10. <u>INDUSTRIAL, COMMERCIAL</u> and <u>AGRICULTURAL</u> activities			X	X	<b>The site will be removed from pasture and used commercially until reclamation when it will be reclaimed to grazing land.</b>
11. <u>HISTORICAL AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL</u>					<b>No historical, cultural or archaeological values are present.</b>
12. <u>AESTHETICS</u>			X	X	<b>The site is visible to local homes in the general area.</b>
13. <u>ENVIRONMENTAL PLANS</u> and <u>GOALS</u> ; local and regional					<b>There are no known land use plans for this site.</b>
14. <u>DEMANDS</u> on <u>ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES</u> of land, water, air and energy					<b>No effects are anticipated on environmental resources.</b>
15. <u>TRANSPORTATION</u> ; networks and traffic flows			X	X	<b>There will not be any additional traffic problems as a result of this amendment.</b>

**ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED:** The Department would deny an incomplete application or one that does not comply with the Act and Rules. The proponent could then submit a modified application or submit an application for another site.

**PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT:** Agencies and individuals involved in the process included the local zoning authority and landowner.

**OTHER GROUPS OR AGENCIES CONTACTED OR WHICH MAY HAVE OVERLAPPING JURISDICTION:**  
None.

**REGULATORY IMPACT ON PRIVATE PROPERTY:** The analysis done in response to the Private Property Assessment Act indicates no impact. The Department does not plan to deny the application or impose conditions that would restrict the use of private property so as to constitute a taking.

**RECOMMENDATION FOR FURTHER ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS:** No further analysis.

**PERSON PREPARING EA:** Rod Samdahl

**INDIVIDUALS OR GROUPS CONTRIBUTING TO THIS EA:** None

Approved By: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature)

Date \_\_\_\_\_