NOTICE OF PREPARATION

TO:	Responsible Agencies, Trustee Agencies, Community Members, and Other Interested Parties
FROM:	San Benito County Resource Management Agency Attn.: Michael Kelly, Senior Planner 2301 Technology Parkway Hollister, California 95023-2513
DATE:	November 5, 2026
SUBJECT:	**Notice of Preparation of a Subsequent or Supplemental Environmental Impact Report (SEIR) for the A.R. Wilson Quarry Reclamation Plan and Use Permit Amendment Project (County Planning File PLN250093) (State Clearinghouse No. 1988062818)**
LEAD AGENCY:	San Benito County

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that San Benito County (County) will serve as the Lead Agency under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) in preparing either a Supplemental or a Subsequent Environmental Impact Report (SEIR) for the proposed A.R. Wilson Quarry Reclamation Plan and Use Permit Amendment Project (Project or Permit Amendment Project), also known as County Planning File PLN250093, submitted to the County by Granite Rock Company (Graniterock or Applicant). The SEIR will provide additional environmental review of the project previously evaluated in the Granite Rock Company Brigantino Overburden Project Environmental Impact Report (SCH No. 1988062818), certified by the County in 1993 (1993 EIR).

In accordance with CEQA Guidelines Section 15082(a), the County has issued this Notice of Preparation (NOP) to provide responsible agencies, trustee agencies, community members, and other interested parties with information about the Project, advise of the County's intent to prepare an SEIR to provide additional environmental review of the project previously evaluated in the 1993 EIR, and invite input on the scope of issues to be addressed in the SEIR. Responsible and trustee agencies will use the SEIR together with the 1993 EIR when considering permits or other approvals for the Project. The County is requesting input on the scope and content of the environmental information germane to each commenting agency's statutory responsibilities in connection with the Project.

PUBLIC REVIEW PERIOD: Pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15082(b), this NOP is available for a 30-day public review and comment period during which the County will receive comments on the scope of the SEIR. The review and comment period begins **November 5, 2026**,

and ends on **December 7, 2026**. Written comments must be received by 5:00 PM on December 7, 2026. Comment submittal information is provided at the end of this NOP.

PUBLIC SCOPING MEETING: The County Resource Management Agency (RMA) and the County Planning Commission will hold a public scoping meeting for the Project at the date, time, and location provided below. The scoping meeting will include a presentation providing an overview of the Project and the environmental review process and will invite public input on the scope of the SEIR analysis. Responsible agencies, trustee agencies, community members, and other interested parties are invited to attend and provide oral comments.

Date and Time: November 18, 2026 at 6 PM

Location: Administration - Board of Supervisors Chambers
481 Fourth Street, 1st Floor
Hollister, California 95023

Virtual Participation: The public may also join this meeting using Zoom by visiting the web address:

https://cosb-us.zoom.us/j/86237557288?pwd=9vHb86PrSaLSYAKrdgPoYtsaLYcOb0.1

or dialing one of the following telephone numbers:

+**1 408 638 0968** US (San Jose) or +**1 669 900 6833** US (San Jose).

To access the meeting, please enter the Webinar ID and Passcode:

Webinar ID: **862 3755 7288**

Passcode: **014015**

PROJECT BACKGROUND: The A.R. Wilson Quarry (Wilson Quarry) is an existing aggregate mining operation located in unincorporated San Benito County and operated by Graniterock. Mining operations at the site have occurred since 1895 and were recognized by the County in 1981 as a vested mining operation. In 1993, the County approved Use Permit No. 460-88A, which authorizes the designed placement of reclamation materials generated by quarry operations within designated areas on adjacent Graniterock-owned property south of Wilson Quarry (the Use Permit Area). Designed placement activities were evaluated in an EIR certified by the County in 1993. Reclamation activities for the quarry and the Use Permit Area are governed by a County-approved reclamation plan pursuant to the Surface Mining and Reclamation Act (SMARA), which was most recently updated in 2016 (the 2016 Reclamation Plan).

PROJECT LOCATION: The Permit Amendment Project Area is located in unincorporated San Benito County, approximately 2.0 miles east of the unincorporated community of Aromas and 3.5 miles northwest of the City of San Juan Bautista (see Figure 1, "Regional Location," and Figure 2, "Site Location"). The Project would occur in portions of four contiguous parcels: Assessor's Parcel Numbers 011-180-001, 011-180-002, 011-180-003, and 011-180-004. Each parcel is entirely within the existing Use Permit Area. The Permit Amendment Project Area is immediately adjacent to the 2016 Reclamation Plan Area (see Figure 3, "Permit Amendment Project Area," and Figure 4, "Permit Amendment Project Area—Detail").

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: Graniterock seeks to amend the 2016 Reclamation Plan and modify Use Permit No. 460-88A to extend reclamation materials placement into an additional 195.4-acre area (the Permit Amendment Project Area).

Specifically, Graniterock seeks approval for the designed placement of reclamation materials and subsequent reclamation and revegetation within the Permit Amendment Project Area, located entirely within the existing Use Permit Area and immediately adjacent to the 2016 Reclamation Plan Area. The proposed activities are consistent in nature with those previously described and evaluated in the 1993 EIR.

The designed placement of reclamation materials and subsequent reclamation and revegetation activities under the Permit Amendment Project would continue to support aggregate production at the vested Wilson Quarry.

ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES: In preparing the SEIR, the County will assess the potential for the Project to result in significant impacts associated with the resources and subtopics identified in Appendix G, "Environmental Checklist," of CEQA Guidelines as well as other issues of potential environmental concern that may be identified during scoping and preparation of the SEIR.

The SEIR will include evaluation of potential impacts associated with the following resource topics:

- Aesthetics
- Air Quality
- Biological Resources
- Cultural Resources
- Energy
- Geology and Soils
- Greenhouse Gas Emissions
- Hazards and Hazardous Materials
- Hydrology and Water Quality
- Land Use and Planning
- Noise
- Transportation
- Tribal Cultural Resources
- Wildfire

At this time, the County anticipates that the Project would not result in significant impacts related to the resource topics listed below. The SEIR will briefly explain the basis for these conclusions. If potentially significant impacts are identified during scoping or preparation of the SEIR, the affected resource topics will be evaluated in detail.

- Agriculture/Forestry Resources
- Mineral Resources
- Population and Housing
- Public Services
- Recreation
- Utilities and Service Systems

COMMENTING ON THE SCOPE OF THE SEIR

The County is requesting input from agencies and other interested parties on the scope and content of the environmental information appropriate to each agency's statutory responsibilities or of interest to an individual or organization. Specifically, the County is requesting the following:

1. Identify significant environmental effects and mitigation measures that you believe need to be explored in the SEIR with supporting discussion of why you believe these effects may be significant;
2. Describe technical studies and other information that you believe are necessary for the County to analyze the potential significant environmental effects, alternatives, and mitigation measures you have identified;
3. Identify alternatives that you believe need to be explored in further detail in the SEIR; and
4. For public agencies that provide infrastructure and public services,
    - identify any facilities or improvements that will be required to provide services to the Project;
    - indicate whether staff from your agency would like to meet with County staff to discuss the scope and content of the SEIR's environmental documentation; and
    - provide the name, title, and contact information for the designated person from your agency or organization that we can contact regarding your comments.

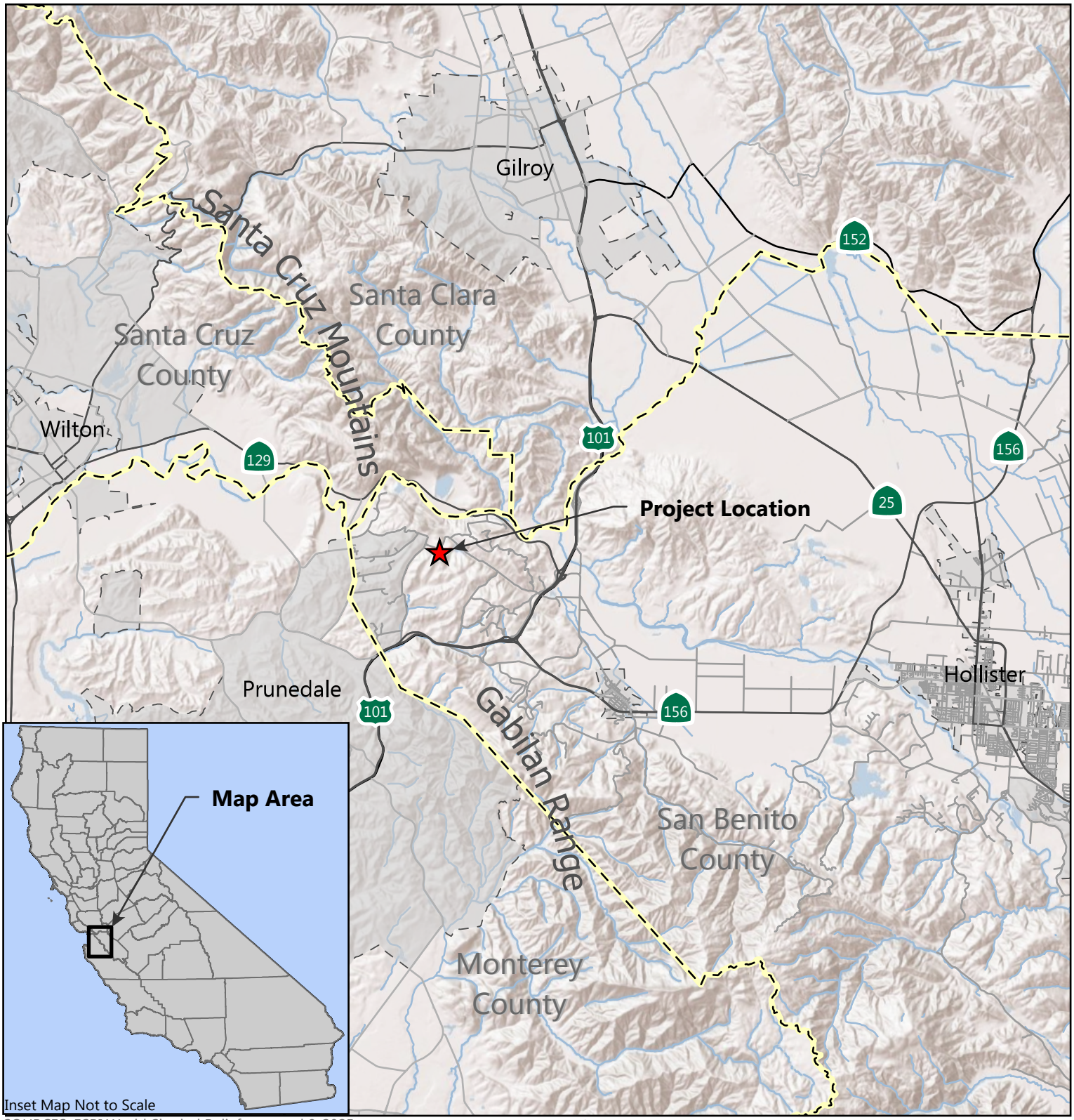
Following the scoping period, the County will perform environmental analyses and prepare a draft SEIR for public review and comment. Following the draft SEIR review period, the County will respond to comments and prepare a final SEIR for consideration by County decisionmakers. At a public hearing, County decisionmakers will consider certification of the final SEIR and action on the Project.

The County welcomes all comments pertaining to the potential environmental impacts of the Project. All comments will be considered in the preparation of the SEIR. Written comments will be accepted through **5:00 PM on December 7, 2026**. Comments can be submitted: (1) by U.S. mail; (2) by electronic mail (email); and/or (3) by attending and providing oral comments at the public scoping meeting.

Comments provided by email should include "Wilson Quarry Scoping Comments" in the subject line, and the name and physical address of the commenter should be contained in the body of the email. Please email comments to Michael Kelly at *mkelly@sanbenitocountyca.gov*.

Comments submitted via U.S. mail should be sent to:

San Benito County Resource Management Agency
Attn: Michael Kelly, Senior Planner
2301 Technology Parkway
Hollister, California 95023-2513



SOURCES: ESRI World Shaded Relief accessed 9-2025, ESRI World Topographic Map accessed 9-2025; ESRI World Streetmap, 2025.

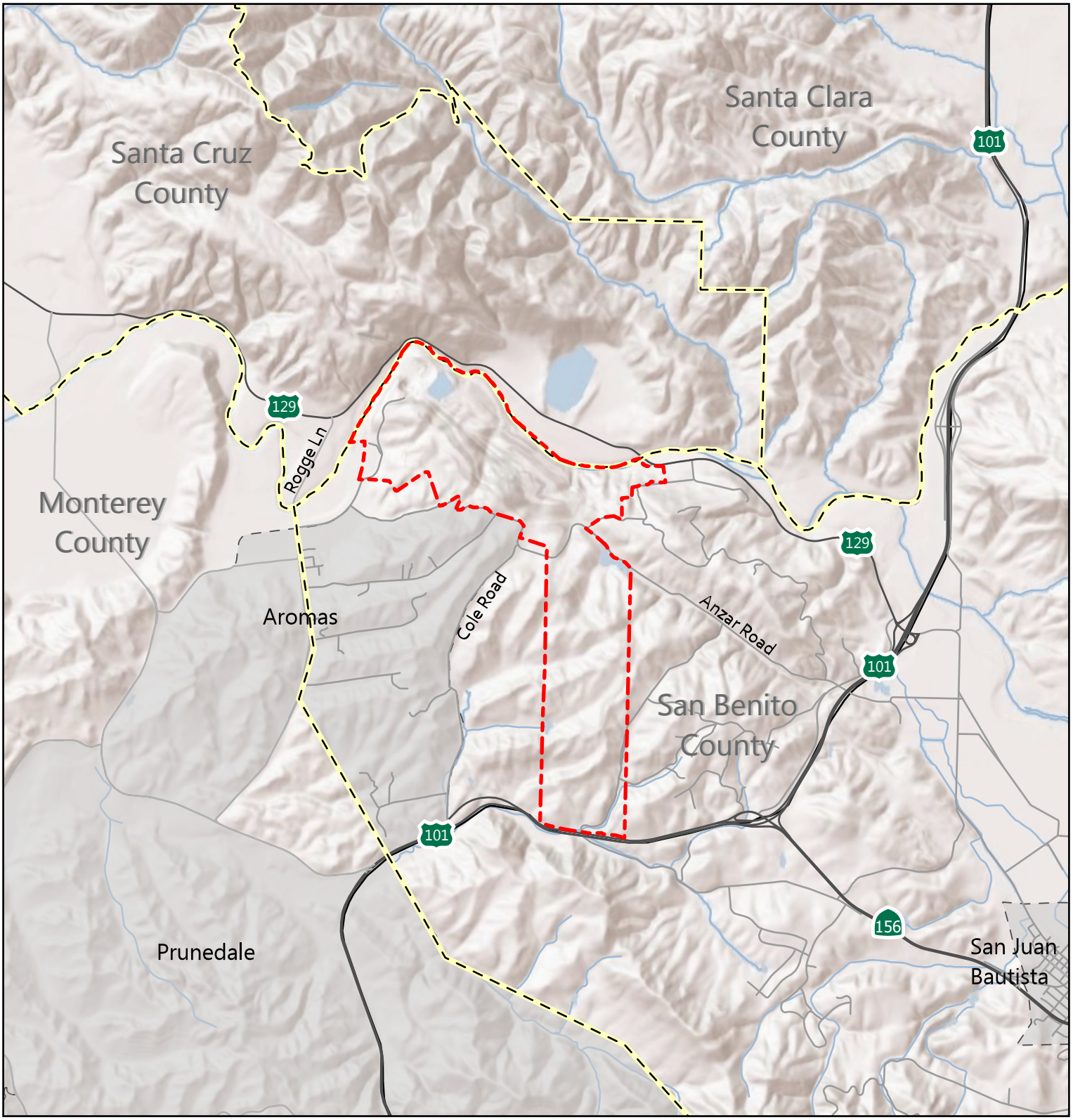
Project Location
City or Urbanized Area
County Boundary
State Route Highway
Major Road
Water Body

BENCHMARK RESOURCES

N

0 2 4 8 Miles

Regional Location
GRANITEROCK AR WILSON QUARRY
NOP
Figure 1



SOURCES: ESRI World Shaded Relief accessed Aug. 2025, ESRI World Streetmap.

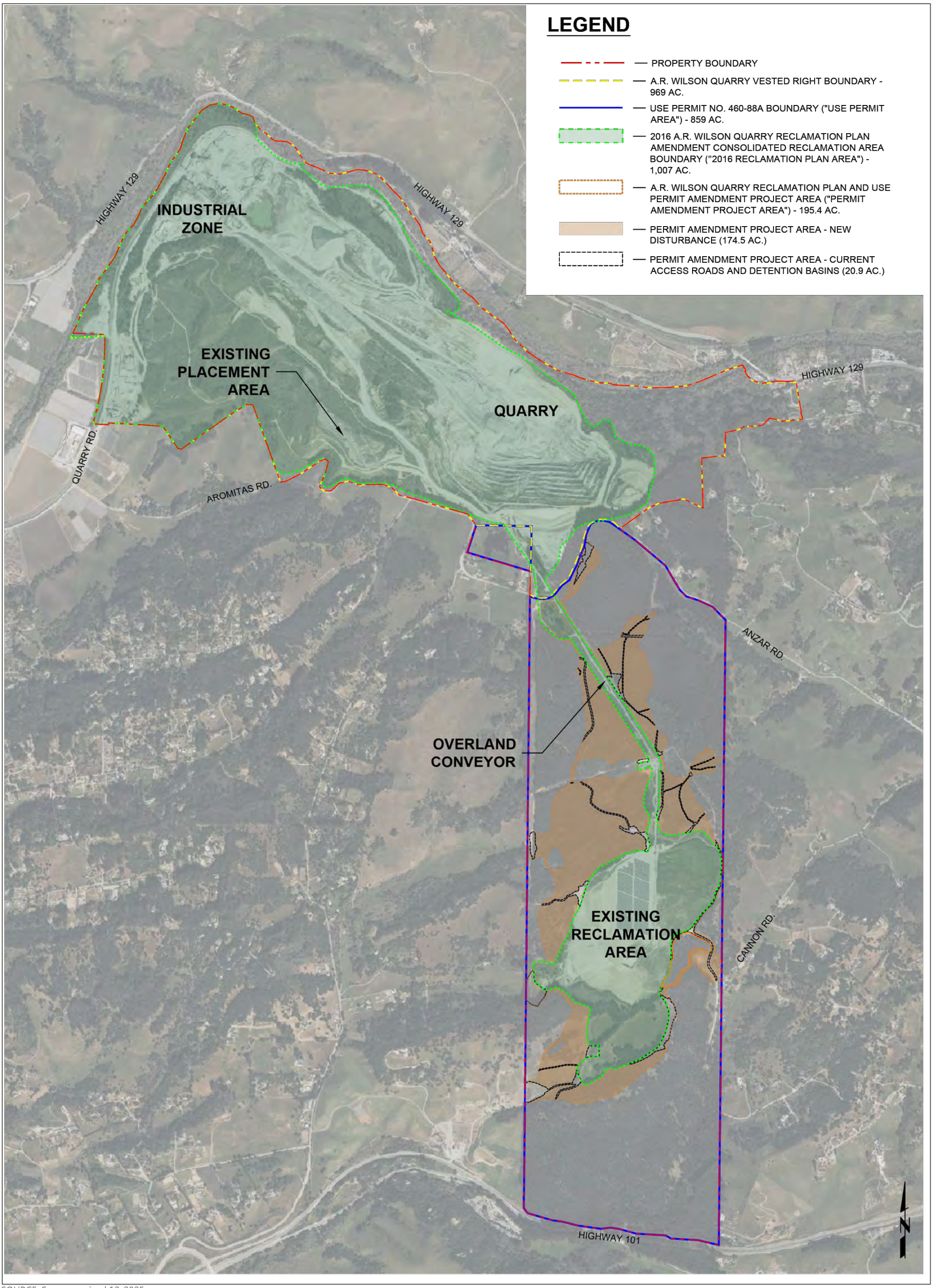
Sanger Facility
City or Urbanized Area
County Boundary
State Route Highway
Local Road
Water Body

BENCHMARK RESOURCES

N

0 0.5 1 2 Miles

Site Location
GRANITEROCK AR WILSON QUARRY
NOP
Figure 2



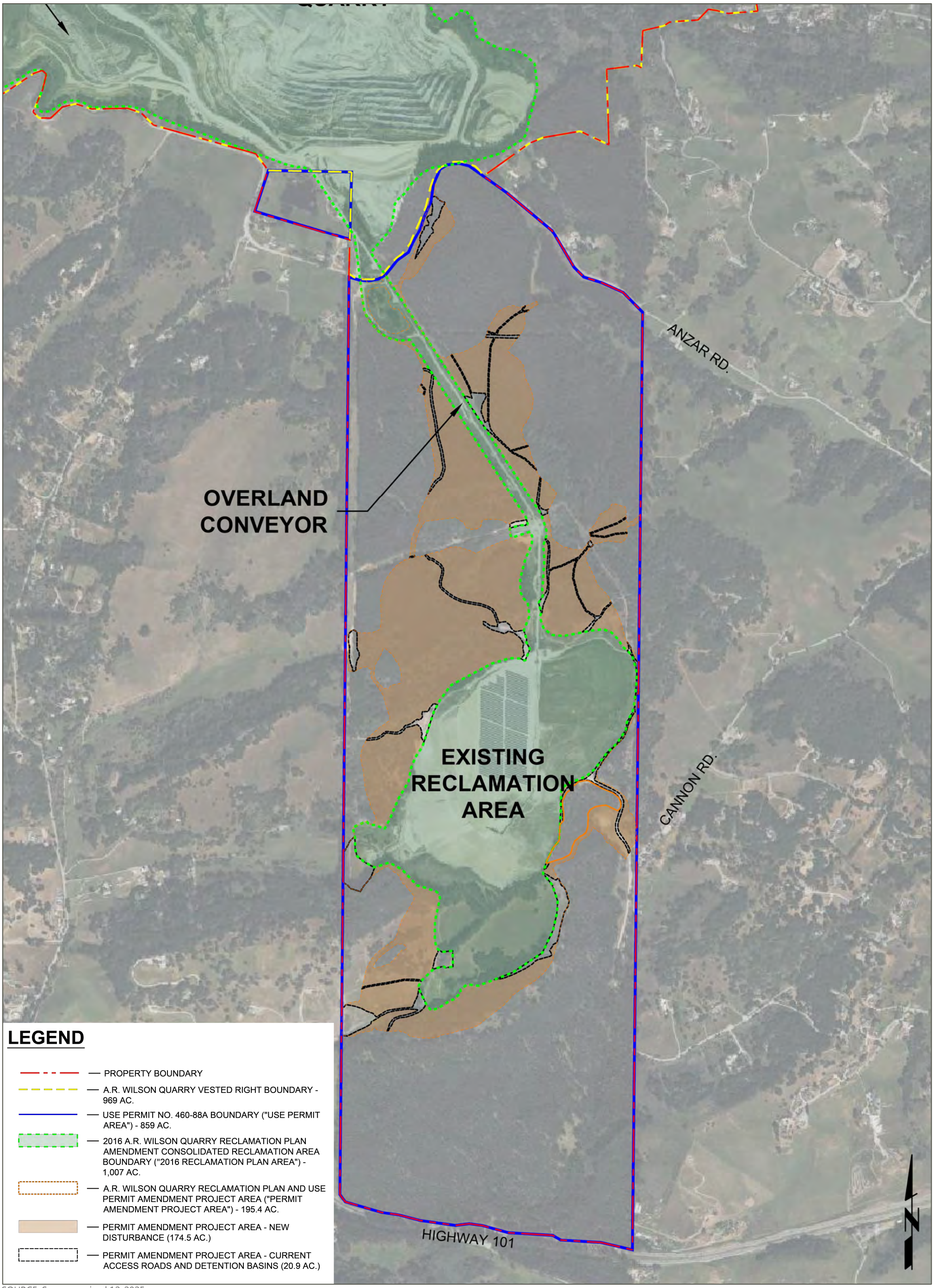
D:\OneDrive - Benchmark Resources\PROJECT CENTRAL\359 - Graniterock - AR Wilson Quarry\359A - Graniterock AR Wilson Quarry\359 - Figures\359 - NOP

SOURCE: Sespe, received 12-2025

BENCHMARK RESOURCES

0 750 1,500 3,000 Feet

Proposed Permit Amendment Project Area
GRANITEROCK AR WILSON QUARRY
NOP
Figure 3



D:\OneDrive - Benchmark Resources\PROJECT CENTRAL\359 - Graniterock - AR Wilson Quarry\359A - Graniterock AR Wilson Quarry\359 - Figures\359 - NOP

SOURCE: Sespe, received 12-2025

BENCHMARK RESOURCES

N 0 500 1,000 2,000 Feet

Proposed Permit Amendment Project Area - Detail
GRANITEROCK AR WILSON QUARRY
NOP
Figure 4