

CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT

Notice of Exemption

To: ☐ Office of Planning and Research
P.O. Box 3044, Room 113
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

☒ County Clerk
County of: Contra Costa

From: Contra Costa County
Dept. of Conservation & Development
30 Muir Road
Martinez, CA 94553

Project Title: Upper Sand Creek Basin - Oil & Gas Subsurface Lease to Sunset Exploration, Inc.
WL83PV / FS1200128, CP#14-30

Project Applicant: Contra Costa County Public Works Department

Project Location – **Specific:** The activity is located off of Deer Valley Road in the Antioch area.

Project Location: east County

Project Location – County: Contra Costa

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project: This activity consists of the issuance of an "Oil and Gas Lease (Negotiated-Subsurface-Royalty)" with Sunset Exploration, Inc. for subsurface use of Contra Costa Flood Control & Water Conservation District (District) owned parcels [057-050-008, 057-050-010, 057-050-019, 057-050], Antioch area.

The purpose of this activity is for the District to execute a subsurface Oil & Gas Lease with Sunset Exploration, Inc. for the area approximately 500 feet (or lower) beneath Upper Sand Creek Basin in Antioch. The proposed subsurface lease does not conflict with the District's use of the land as a detention basin. This lease will give Sunset Exploration, Inc. the right to prospect, drill, produce, and take only oil, gas, and other hydrocarbon substances from the identified leased area/District-owned property. In return for these rights, Sunset Exploration, Inc. will pay the District rent for the use of the leased area/District-owned property, as well as royalty on any oil, gas, and/or other hydrocarbon substances obtained from the leased area/District-owned property. Sunset Exploration, Inc. will access the leased area/District-owned property by directional drilling. Any and all above ground activities, including the origination of the directional drilling, will be conducted from a location outside the leased area/District-owned property. No surface rights are included in the lease and no physical impacts will occur as a result of the lease.

This CEQA is for the real property transaction (lease) only. Execution of the lease does not provide any land use authorizations. Sunset Exploration, Inc. will be responsible for any compliance with applicable legal or regulatory requirements and further CEQA analysis necessary to address environmental impacts associated with any drilling activities.

General Plan Conformance from the City of Antioch is necessary for this activity.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project:

Contra Costa County

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project:

Contra Costa County Public Works Department

Exempt Status:

- ☐ Ministerial Project (Sec. 21080(b)(1); 15268;
☐ Declared Emergency (Sec. 21080(b)(3); 15269(a));
☐ Emergency Project (Sec. 21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c));
- ☐ Categorical Exemption: _____
☐ Other Statutory Exemption, Code No.: _____
☒ **General Rule of Applicability [Article 5, Section 15061 (b)(3)]**

Reasons why project is exempt: This activity is not subject to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to **Article 5, Section 15061 (b) (3) of the CEQA Guidelines**. It can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the activity may have a significant adverse effect on the environment.

Lead Agency Contact Person: Trina R. Torres - Public Works Dept. Area Code/Telephone/Extension: (925) 313-2176

If filed by applicant:

1. Attach certified document of exemption finding.
2. Has a Notice of Exemption been filed by the public agency approving the project? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Signature: _____ Date: _____ Title: _____

☐ Signed by Lead Agency ☐ Signed by Applicant

AFFIDAVIT OF FILING AND POSTING

I declare that on _____ I received and posted this notice as required by California Public Resources Code Section 21152(c). Said notice will remain posted for 30 days from the filing date.

Signature

Title

Applicant:

Public Works Department
255 Glacier Drive
Martinez, CA 94553
Attn: Trina R. Torres
Environmental Services Division
Phone: (925) 313-2176

Department of Fish and Game Fees Due

- ☐ EIR - \$3,069.75
☐ Neg. Dec. - \$2,210.00
☐ DeMinimis Findings - \$0
☒ County Clerk - \$50
☒ Conservation & Development - \$25

Total Due: \$ 75.00

Total Paid \$ _____

Receipt #: _____

**DETERMINATION THAT AN ACTIVITY
IS EXEMPT FROM THE
CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT (CEQA)**

FILE NO.: WL83PV / FS1200128

CP NO.: 14 - 30

ACTIVITY NAME: Upper Sand Creek Basin - Oil & Gas
Subsurface Lease to Sunset Exploration, Inc.

DATE: January 30, 2015

PREPARED BY: Trina R. Torres

This activity is not subject to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Article 5, Section 15061 (b) (3) of the CEQA Guidelines. It can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the activity may have a significant adverse effect on the environment.

DESCRIPTION OF THE ACTIVITY: This activity consists of the issuance of an "Oil and Gas Lease (Negotiated-Subsurface-Royalty)" with Sunset Exploration, Inc. for subsurface use of Contra Costa Flood Control & Water Conservation District (District) owned parcels [057-050-008, 057-050-010, 057-050-019, 057-050], Antioch area.

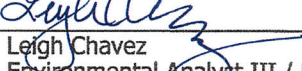
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General Plan Conformance from the City of Antioch is necessary for this activity.

LOCATION:

The project is located off of Deer Valley Rd. in the Antioch area, eastern Contra Costa County (Figures 1 - 3).

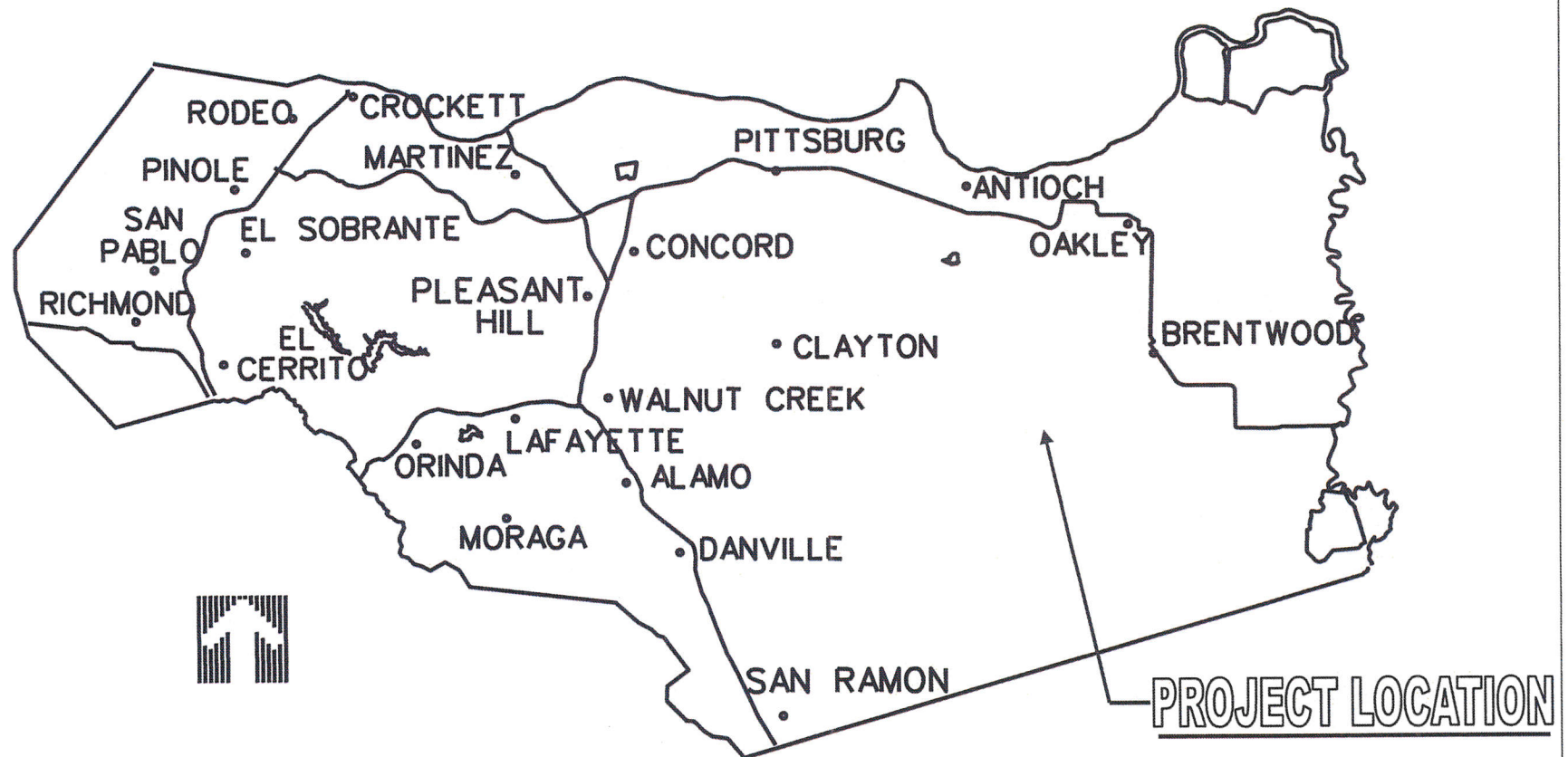
REVIEWED BY: 
Leigh Chavez
Environmental Analyst III / Division Manager
Environmental Services
Public Works Department

DATE: 01/29/15

APPROVED BY: 
Dept. of Conservation and
Development Representative

DATE: 1-30-15

CONTRA COSTA COUNTY CALIFORNIA



July 29, 2014

LOCATION MAP: Upper Sand Creek Basin Oil & Gas Lease

Figure 1

CONTRA COSTA

VICINITY MAP: Upper SAND CREEK BASIN OIL & GAS LEASE

SEE 596 MAP

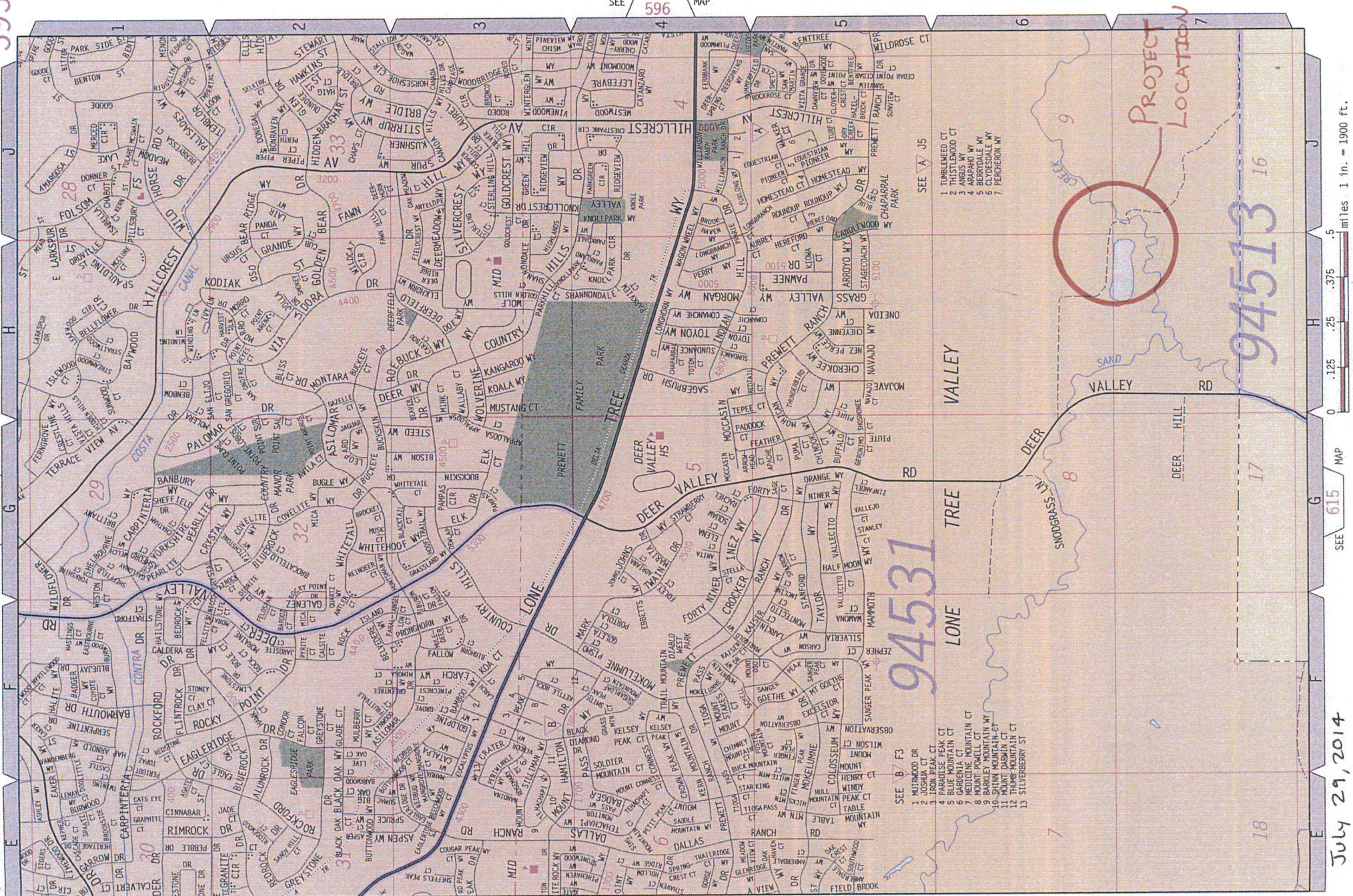


Figure 2

S 1/2 SEC 9 T1N R2E MDBM

1-POR 116PM1-3 5-14-85

DA 104 PCL. 1743 B
30' FCD ACCESS & UTIL. EASE.
19046 OR 549
10-14-93
EB-10145

DA 104 UPPER SAND CRK. BASIN
PCL. 1782 CCCFC & WCD
96-058288
4-01-96
ED-10194

PCL. 1778 CCCFC & WCD
95-087820
6-02-95
ED-10192

FC DISTRICT
OWNED PARCELS

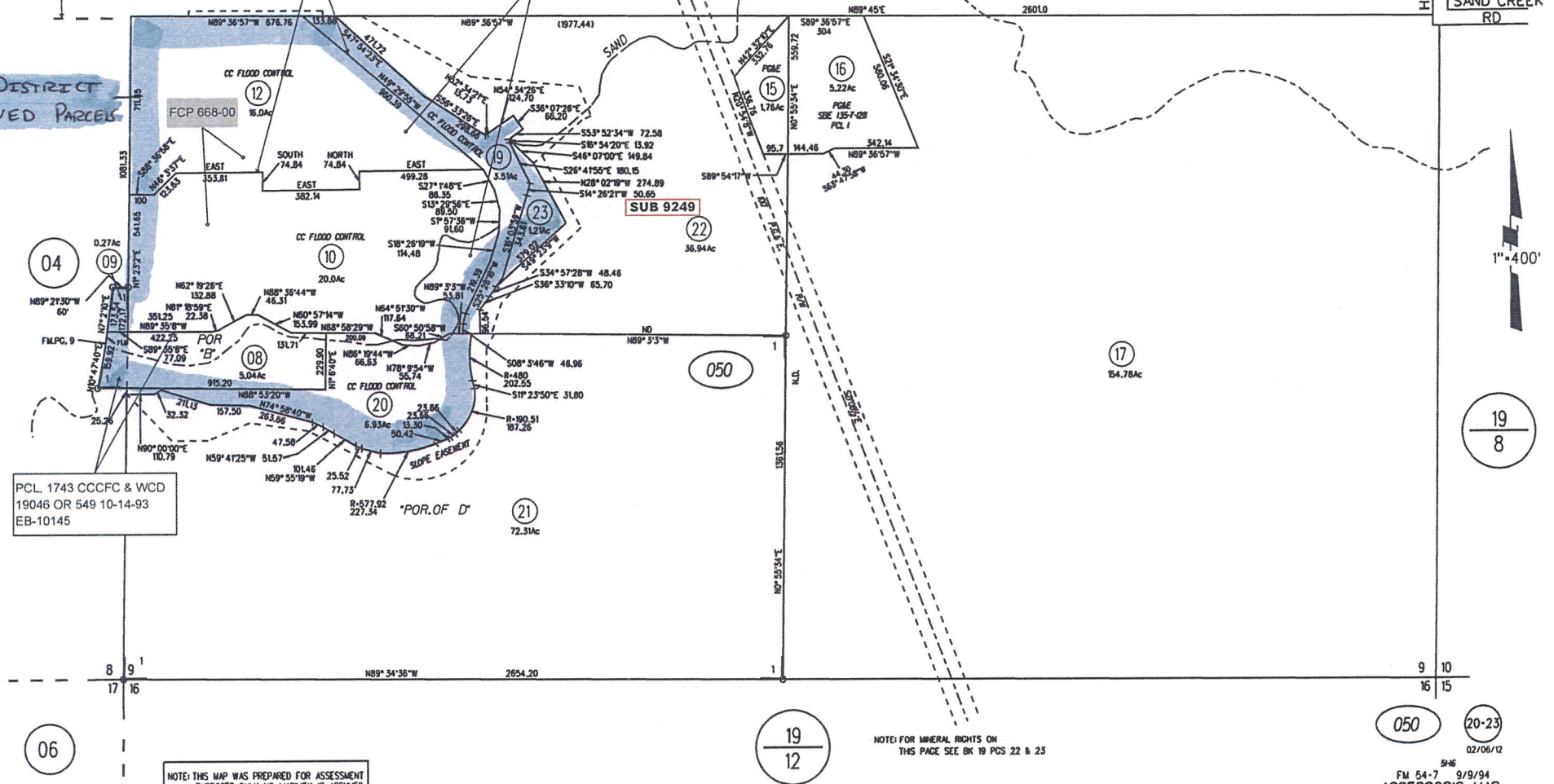


Figure 3