

3B ENTERPRISES

SAND, GRAVEL & ROCK PRODUCTS

920 STOCK DRIVE, CRAIG, CO PO Box 1665, CRAIG, CO 81626

Owner: Hidden Mesa Ranch

March 1, 2023

Rob Zuber
Division of Reclamation & Mining Safety
1313 Sherman Street, Room 215
Denver, CO 80203

RE: Hidden Pit M-2022-040

Rob, following is the response to your letter dated 7-7-23:

- 1) #5 myself being the signer of the maps have 15+ years of surveying and mapping experience and have been permitting gravel pits in Colorado for 22 years starting with the Deakins pit 2001 in Moffat and Rio Blanco counties and including the WAND pit 2010, the Lyster pit 2013, the Lay Creek limestone pit 2011 (Taylor pit), and the Russell pit 2007 and the Hertzog pit 2021.

Regards,

Steve Baker
(970) 326-7356 (cell)

Hidden Mesa Ranch
"Hidden Pit"

Exhibit "D"
Mining Plan

- A) Mining operations will consist of 6" – 12" of topsoil to be removed and stockpiled
2' – 6' of overburden to be removed and used in reclamation of slopes gravel to
be mined and processed on site. A 11' x 70' scale will be constructed using a
concrete foundation and a portable scale house will be on site. Irrigation facilities
are on site and will be moved as the mine progresses.
- B) 2 feet – 6 feet of overburden/topsoil will be removed to expose gravel deposit.
- C) No ground water is expected on site.
- D) Disturbed areas not to exceed 26 acres.
- E) Disturbed areas not to exceed 26 acres at any time. Expected production of
100,000 tons per year will be approx.. 12.5 years to mine out phase 1a. Approx.
6000 cu.yds. of topsoil will be stockpiled and drill seeded to prevent erosion.
Approx.15,000 cu.yds of overburden will be stored on site please see map exhibit
"C" for locations.
- F) 26 acres phase 1a, to begin summer of 2023 and run until 2037 or until gravel
deposits are depleted.
- G) i 25 feet of gravel to be mined at site.
ii shale is at the bottom of the proposed mining depth.
- H) Primary commodity is sand and gravel to be used in construction materials.
Secondary commodity to be fill dirt.
- I) Gravel to be used in production of construction materials.

J) Mine will not use explosives.

Hidden Mesa Ranch
"Hidden Pit"

Exhibit "E"
Reclamation Plan

- A) Reclamation will be done immediately following the removal of gravel deposits. Pit edges will be graded to 3:1 slopes and will be shaped to promote wildlife habitat. Reclaimed land will be covered with 6-10 inches of topsoil and reseeded with a drill. Topsoil stockpiles that will remain for 180 days will be drill seeded to prevent erosion.
- B) Post mining uses will be farming and livestock grazing. Other land uses in the area are farming and livestock grazing.
- C) Reclamation plan will be implemented at the extraction of gravel deposits. Phase 1a to be mined over the summer of 2022 - 2037. Reclamation of Phase 1a to take place immediately following removal of gravel deposits. After placing and shaping of reclaimed land, 6-10 inches of topsoil will be spread across reclaimed surfaces and will be seeded as follows per soil conservation office. Slopes will be wheel rolled in with a front end loader for compaction.
- D) N/A
- E)
 - i Affected land to be reclaimed by the summer 2051.
 - ii Phase 1a – 26 acres
 - iii 1 overburden placement and slope rebuilding.
 - 2 berm and edge pit shaping
 - 3 topsoil placement
 - 4 reseeding
- F)
 - i Slopes to be graded to 3:1
 - ii
 - 1 Sainfoin – 2.5 lbs/acre
 - 2 Bromine Smooth – 1.6 lbs/acre
 - 3 Intermediate Wheatgrass – 2.5 lbs/acre
 - 4 Pubescent Wheatgrass – 2.25 lbs/acre
 - 5 Orchard – 0.3 lbs/acre
 - iii N/A
 - iv N/A
 - v 6-10 inches of topsoil to be replaced on affected areas.

**Hidden Mesa Ranch
"Hidden Pit"**

Exhibit "G"

- 1) Operation will be graded as to channel all site runoff water to remain on site in settling areas. Ongoing irrigation of adjacent fields will be channeled around the active mine.

- 2) A) No tributary water courses, springs, stock water ponds, reservoirs or ditches are present on affected or adjacent lands other than irrigation waste water. Water from irrigation will be channeled around active mine site.

B) No known aquifers in area that will be disturbed. No ground water is expected to be encountered in mining. Water in the aquifers from irrigation that are adjacent to the mine site will be left undisturbed. If ground water is encountered excavation will cease and water will be covered up.

C) Water from run off will be channeled into sediment areas in the mining permit area.

D) Water for proposed mine will be imported.

Hidden Mesa Ranch
“Hidden Pit”

Exhibit “H”

- A) Mule deer grazing are the existing wildlife uses of the affected lands.**
- B) N/A**
- C) No endangered species are present on affected lands.**
- D) Farm land will be replaced after gravel deposits have been removed.**

Hidden Mesa Ranch
"Hidden Pit"

Exhibit "J"

- A) Present vegetation is native grass with some sage and farmland. See Exhibit "I" for quantities and types of cover vegetation.
- B) See Exhibit "I"
- C) Carrying capacity for livestock is 2 animals to 1 acre.

Hidden Mesa Ranch
"Hidden Pit"

Exhibit "K"

Please see enclosed exhibit "W" for weather information.

Hidden Mesa Ranch
"Hidden Pit"

Exhibit "L"

- 1) Overburden – place and shape of slopes
15,800 cubic yards at \$1.20/yd = \$18,960
Topsoil placement – 7,000 cubic yds at \$1.93/yd = \$13,510
Grass seed mix - \$12,240
Seed placement - \$8,200
- 2) Scale and foundation removal and scale house removal: \$8,000
- 3) Overburden and topsoil stockpiles reclamation are included in this cost.

Total Reclamation Cost of Phase 1 = \$60,910

**Hidden Mesa Ranch
“Hidden Pit”**

Exhibit “M”

- 1) Hidden Mesa Ranch has filed for a conditional use permit from Delta County for the expansion of existing mine.
- 2) Hidden Mesa Ranch will apply for a CDPHE stormwater permit and air pollution permit.

Hidden Mesa Ranch
"Hidden Pit"

Exhibit "P"

Municipalities within a two-mile radius:

Delta County
295 W. 6th street
Delta, CO 81416

Hidden Mesa Ranch
"Hidden Pit"

Exhibit "S"

- 1) There are no man-made (not owned by the permit applicants) structures within 200 feet of the proposed mine.

[Monthly](#) [Daily](#) [History](#) [Geo & Map](#)

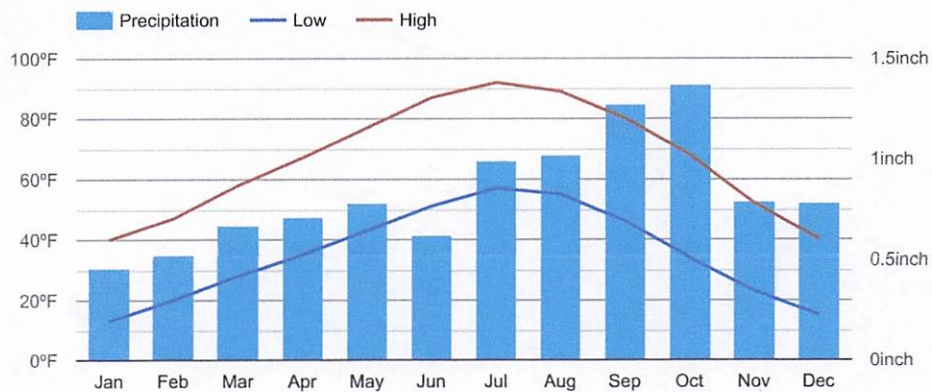
Exhibit "W"

Climate Delta - Colorado

	Jan (January)	Feb (February)	Mar (March)	Apr (April)	May (May)	Jun (June)
Av. high	40	47	58	67	77	87
Av. low	13	20	28	35	43	51
Av. precip.	0.46	0.52	0.67	0.71	0.78	0.62

	Jul (July)	Aug (August)	Sep (September)	Oct (October)	Nov (November)	Dec (December)
Av. high	92	89	80	68	52	40
Av. low	57	55	46	34	23	15
Av. precip.	0.99	1.02	1.27	1.37	0.79	0.78

Delta Climate Graph - Colorado Climate Chart



Delta weather averages

Annual high temperature 66°F

Annual low temperature 35°F

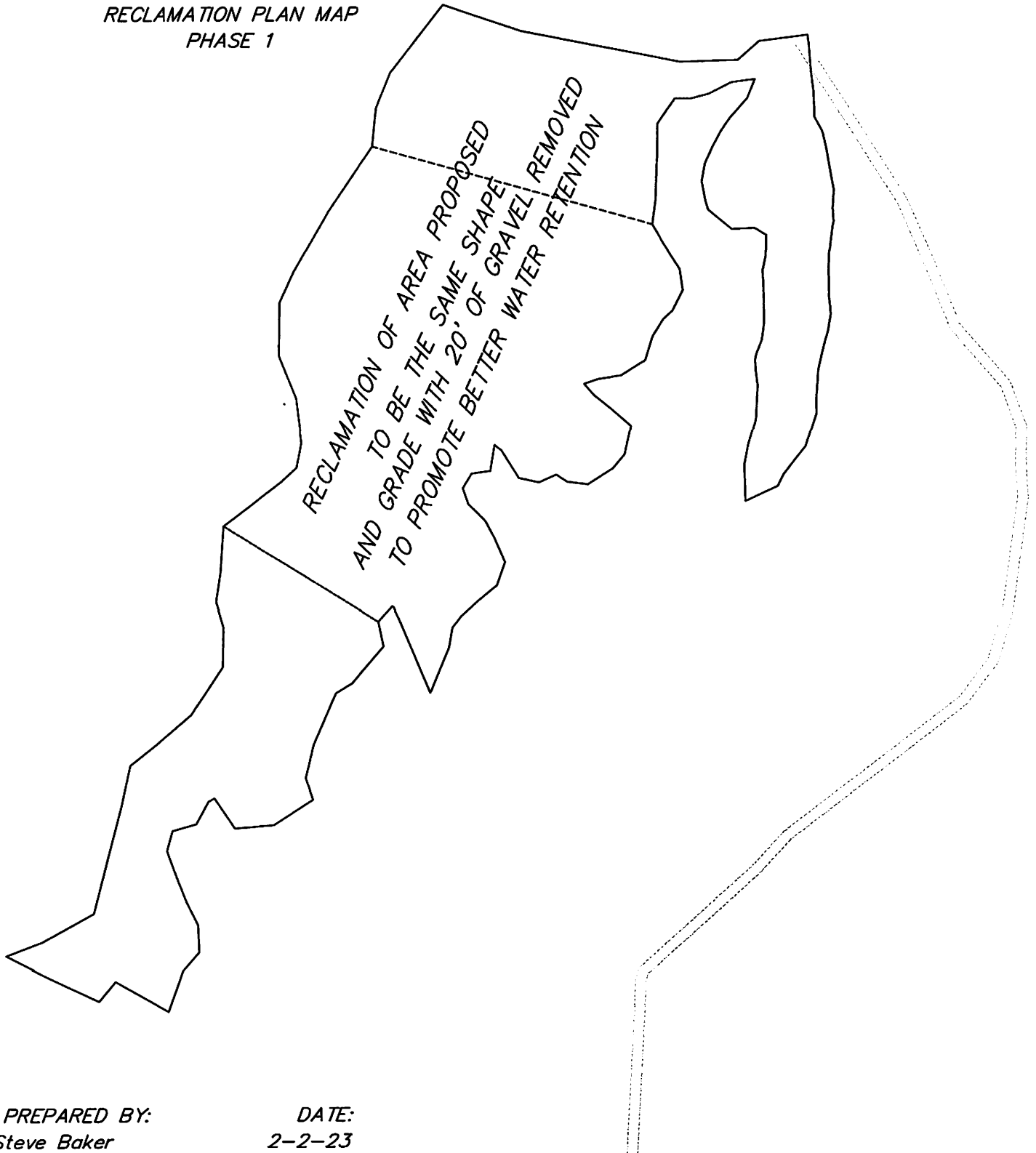
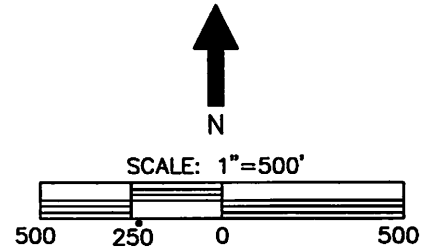
HIDDEN PIT - M2022 - 040

Hidden Mesa Ranch

LOCATED IN THE NE 1/4, N1/2SE1/4,
E1/2SW1/4 SECTION 20, T14S, R94W OF THE
6TH P.M., DELTA COUNTY, COLORADO

EXHIBIT "F"

RECLAMATION PLAN MAP
PHASE 1



PREPARED BY:
Steve Baker

DATE:
2-2-23

HIDDEN PIT - M2022 - 040

Hidden Mesa Ranch

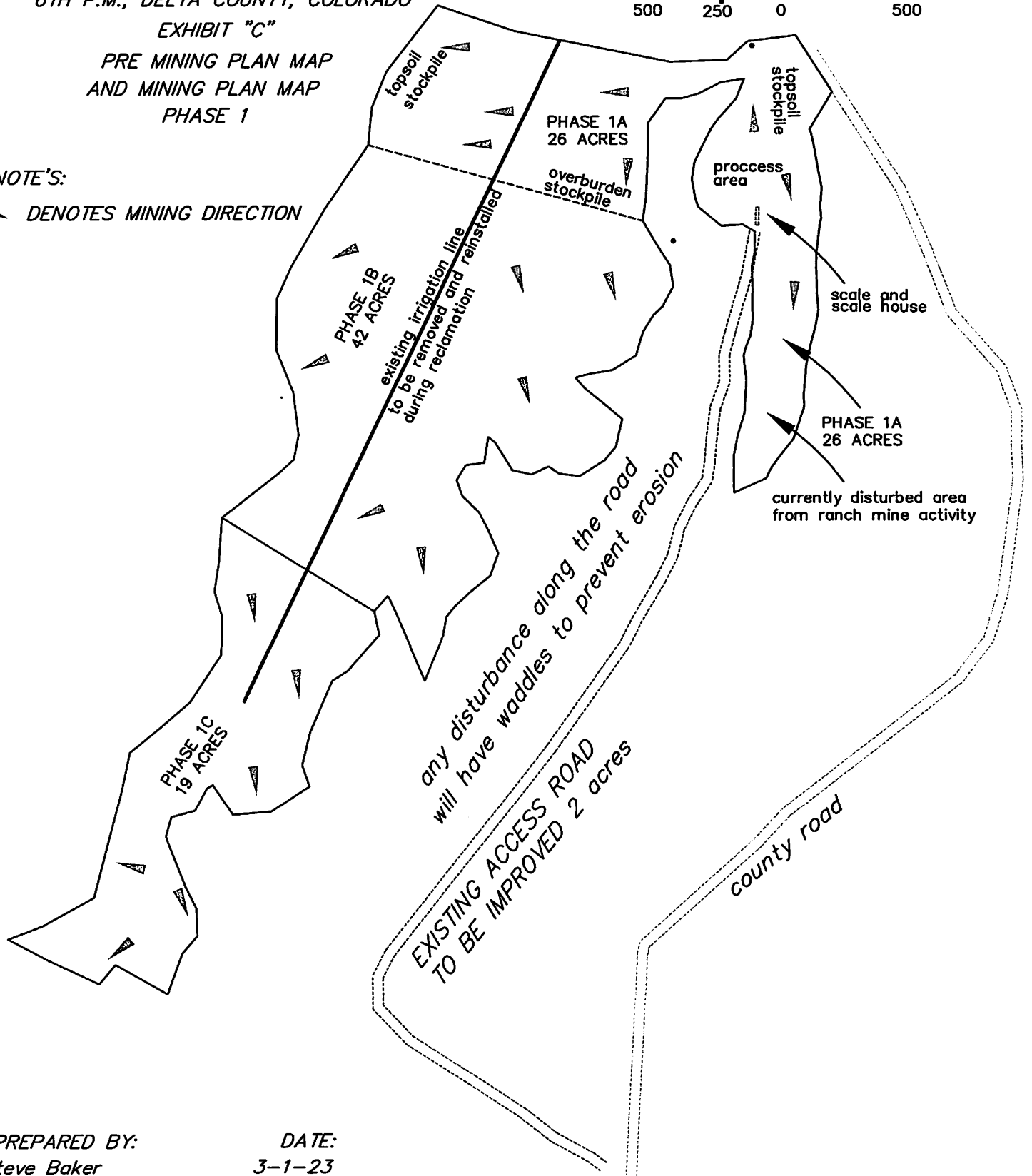
LOCATED IN THE NE 1/4, N1/2SE1/4,
E1/2SW1/4 SECTION 20, T14S, R94W OF THE
6TH P.M., DELTA COUNTY, COLORADO

EXHIBIT "C"

PRE MINING PLAN MAP
AND MINING PLAN MAP
PHASE 1

NOTE'S:

▲ DENOTES MINING DIRECTION



PREPARED BY:
Steve Baker

DATE:
3-1-23

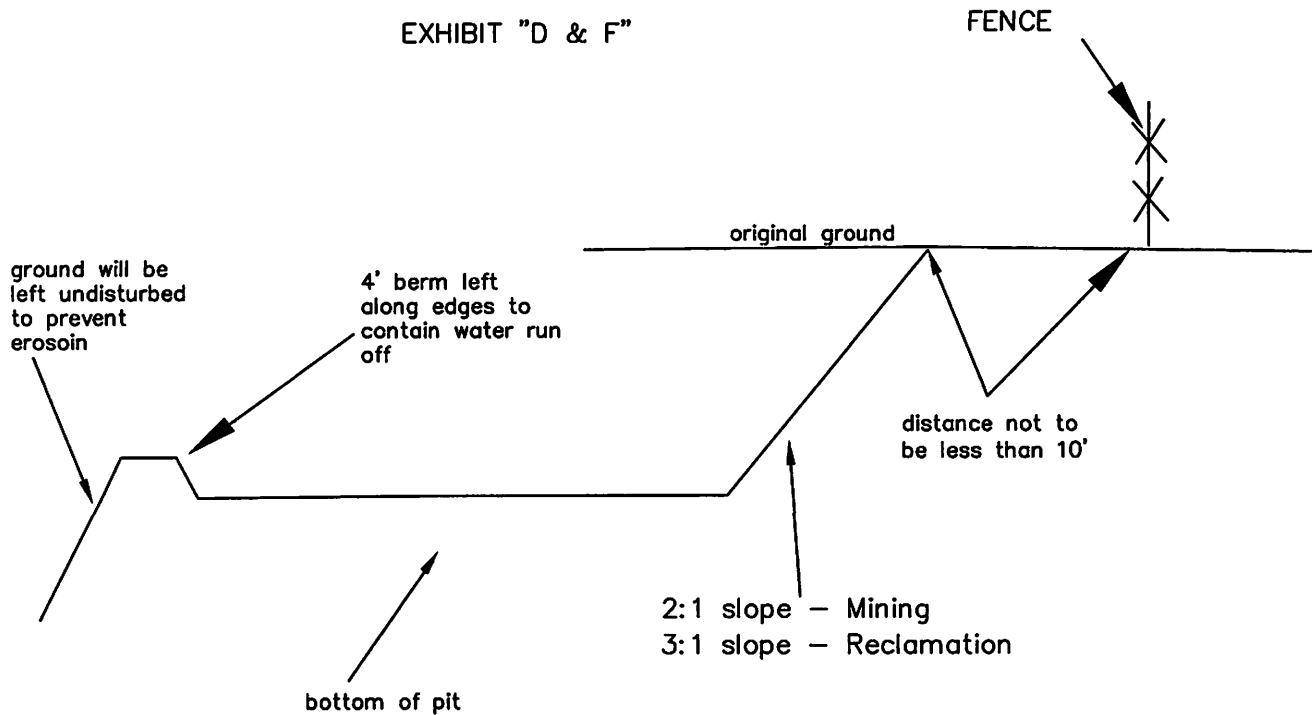


SCALE: N.T.S.

Hidden Mesa Ranch — Hidden pit cross section

NE1/4 N1/2SE1/4 SECTION 20, T14S, R94W

EXHIBIT "D & F"



MINING PLAN CROSSECTION "TYPICAL"

20' — 25' OF GRAVEL DEPOSTIS TO BE REMOVED.

PREPARED BY:
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DATE:
2-2-23

HIDDEN PIT – M2022 – 040

Hidden Mesa Ranch

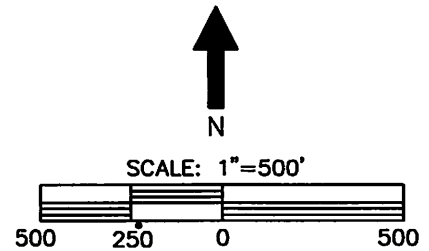
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EXHIBIT "C & F"

MINING PLAN MAP
PHASE 2

NOTE'S:

▲ DENOTES MINING DIRECTION



HIDDEN PIT – M2022 – 040
98 acres phase-2

PHASE 2 IS CURRENTLY USED FOR HAY PRODUCTION
WITH IRRIGATION. PHASE 2 WILL BE UNDISTURBED UNTIL
THE COMPLETION OF PHASE 1 AND PROPER BONDING IS
IN PLACE AND APPROVED BY THE DRMS FOR PHASE 2

RECLAMATION OF AREA PROPOSED
TO BE THE SAME SHAPE
AND GRADE WITH 20' OF GRAVEL REMOVED
TO PROMOTE BETTER WATER RETENTION



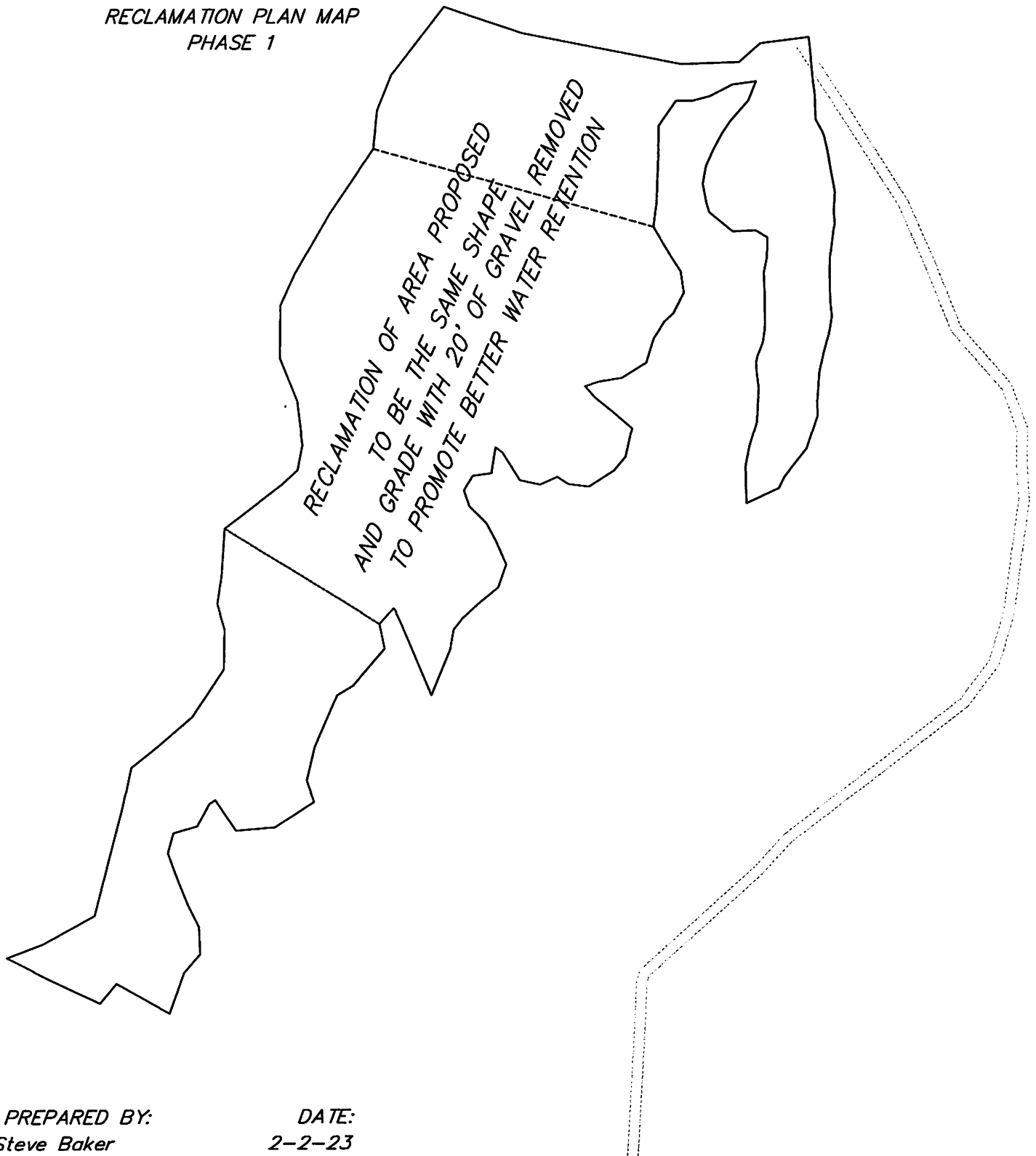
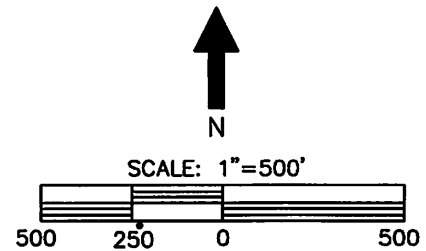
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E1/2SW1/4 SECTION 20, T14S, R94W OF THE
6TH P.M., DELTA COUNTY, COLORADO

EXHIBIT "F"

RECLAMATION PLAN MAP
PHASE 1



PREPARED BY:
Steve Baker

DATE:
2-2-23



Column Software PBC
PO Box 208098
Dallas, TX 75320-8098
help.column.us

Paid by
Steven Baker

Receipt number
Invoice number 20A571FF-0003
Notice ID AiDmftfYhyJzOoCftbop
Publisher Delta County Independent
Date paid Dec 6, 2022
Payment method VISA - 9352

Description	Qty	Unit price	Amount
12/14/2022: Custom Notice	1	30.46	30.46
12/21/2022: Custom Notice	1	30.46	30.46
12/28/2022: Custom Notice	1	30.46	30.46
01/04/2023: Custom Notice	1	30.46	30.46
Subtotal			\$121.84
Tax (0%)			0.00
Amount paid			\$121.84

=== Notes ===
Notice Name: Hidden pit
Order Number: 585415