

OCT 19 2021



Oregon

Kate Brown, Governor

Crook County
Community Development

Department of Geology and Mineral Industries

Mineral Land Regulation and Reclamation

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October 19, 2021

Matt Ropp
Knife River Corporation – NW Region
32260 Old Hwy 34
Tangent OR 97389



RE: Woodward Site DOGAMI ID No. 07-0159

Mr. Ropp,

It is understood Knife River Corporation – NW Region (KRC) proposes to expand the Woodward Site operation and is seeking Goal 5 approval from the Crook County Planning Commission. This letter is being provided by DOGAMI at the request of the applicant to document lands disturbed by surface mine operations successfully reclaimed to agricultural production in Crook County, Oregon. Although there are many examples of surface mines being successfully reclaimed to agricultural production across Oregon, this letter provides examples located in Crook County specifically.

In 2015 Crook County Planning approved 217-15-000115-PLNG for Site Plan Approval in a heavy industrial zone and Conditional Use Approval in an EFU-2 zone, for the Woodward Site. Reclamation at the Woodward Site is required to be conducted concurrently with mining operations. In 2019 DOGAMI personnel conducted an on-site inspection of the Woodward Site. During this inspection it was noted that the initial 7-acre excavation area had been successfully reclaimed with salvaged soil and returned to irrigated alfalfa production. Based on the development and operation of the Woodward Site, KRC was nominated for the DOGAMI Outstanding Operator Award for 2019. Unfortunately, the annual DOGAMI awards were not presented for 2019 due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

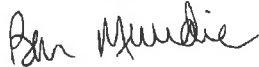
Another example of successful reclamation to agricultural production in Crook County is the KRC Lone Pine Quarry, DOGAMI ID No. 07-0002, also inspected in 2019. During the inspection of the Lone Pine Quarry approximately 190 acres of the sand and gravel excavation area had been successfully reclaimed to irrigated alfalfa production. Based on the concurrent reclamation accomplished at the Lone Pine Quarry, KRC was nominated for the 2019 Outstanding Reclamation Award. The reclamation completed at the Lone Pine Quarry clearly demonstrates successful reclamation of mine related disturbance to agricultural production.

The Alves Site, DOGAMI ID No. 07-0147, also demonstrates award-winning reclamation in Crook County. In 2003 Hooker Creek Sand & Gravel was awarded the DOGAMI Outstanding Reclamation Award for the successful reclamation of approximately 20 acres. The Alves site was a 25-foot-high bench whose slope prevented the landowner from farming this parcel. Working with the farmer, the operator developed a mining plan that leveled out the slope of the bench, making this once unproductive parcel a very useful and productive piece of ground. At the same

time over 100,000 tons of sand and gravel were extracted for use in the local market making this project beneficial for both the landowner and the operator.

These examples provide substantial evidence that surface mines in Crook County, Oregon have been and may continue to be successfully reclaimed to agricultural production.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ben Mundie".

Ben Mundie
Reclamationist