—Plan of Operations—
For
Activity under the Surface Management Regulations at 43 CFR 3809

The regulations at 43 CFR 3809.401(b) require you, the operator, to describe the proposed operations at a level of detail sufficient for the BLM to determine that your operation would prevent unnecessary and undue degradation. The Plan of Operations is to be filed in the BLM field office with jurisdiction over the land involved. The Plan of Operations does not need to be on a particular form, but must address the information required by 43 CFR 3809.401(b) as outlined below. This format has been prepared to assist small or medium scale operators in addressing the content requirements for a Plan of Operations. Use of this worksheet is voluntary.

Part 1 – Operator Information

You must identify the operator responsible for conducting the proposed activity. If the operator is a corporation or other business entity, then a corporate business entity point of contact must be identified. You must notify the BLM in writing within 30 days of any change of operator or business entity point of contact or in the mailing address of either.

Name(s): Gold Discovery Group LLC	Point of Contact (*if operator is a business entity)*: Sean P. Tucker
Mailing Address: 2549 Eastbluff Drive, Suite B-499 Newport Beach, CA 92660	Mailing Address:
Phone Number: 310-990-6179 Fax Number:	Phone Number: Fax Number:
Email address (*optional)*: sean@golddiscoverygroup.com	Email address (*optional)*:
Taxpayer Identification Number (*for an individual, this is your social security number)*: 85-3374451	
Unpatented Mining Claims (*list the name and BLM serial number(s) of any unpatented mining claim(s) where disturbance would occur)*: CA101921235 (Tux 18), CA101921234 (Tux 5), CA101921231 (Tux 20), CA101921236 (Tux 25)	
Other Federal, State, or Local Authorizations (*list any other permits or licenses you have either applied for or been issued for this project)*: San Bernardino County Reclamation Plan under SMARA	

Part 2 – Description of Operations and Reclamation

You must provide a complete description of all equipment, devices, or practices you propose to use during operations. The type of information required is listed below. You only need to address those items applicable to your operations. Attach maps and additional sheets as needed.

Project Area Maps (*Check project feature and show on attached maps or drawings*):	NA Exploration location NA Drill site/drill hole location(s) ✓ Access routes, new and existing ✓ Mineral process facility layout ✓ Mining areas/underground workings ✓ Waste rock/tailing location ✓ Support facilities/building location/utility service ___Other:
Operating Plans, including preliminary or conceptual designs and cross sections (*Address applicable project feature, attach design information, and provide a narrative explaining how operations are to be conducted*.)	✓ Mining areas/underground workings ✓ Mineral processing facilities ✓ Waste rock/tailings disposal ✓ Water management plans ✓ Rock characterization and handling plans ✓ Quality assurance plans ✓ Access route construction and use ✓ Pipelines, power lines, or utility services ___Other:

Operating Plan (*Describe your operating plan. Attach additional sheets/maps where necessary.*)

Description of the operation:

Gold Discovery Group LLC (GDG) is planning to extract desert placer style gold from semi to unconsolidated sands and silts (sediments) from placer mining claims in the Atolia area (**Figure 1**). This operation is referred to as the Persistence Mine by GDG. These sediments have been tested and show economic gold grades for surface mining extraction down to a tested depth of 24' covering an area of ~ 125-acres east of Highway 395 (see **Figure 1** and **Figure 2**). The operation capacity proposed in this Plan of Operations is to support up to 96,400 Cu Yd/Month run of mine (ROM) operation (note ramping up to 96,400 after month 4). Operations are anticipated to be undertaken over a 33-month period.

Mining will be by surface pit extraction with a single excavator and wheel loader. Excavation passes will be in 12' increments with a total of two passes to extract to 24' depth or to bedrock, whichever comes first. Batter angles on pit edges will be targeting 30 degrees but reduced if pit walls are not stable based on frequent GDG site inspections. All pit crests will have berms established. Considering the low

depth of the pit floor, it's expected that more aggressive pit walls can be achieved. Historical mining in the adjacent area to the north still has wall exposures today, which are near vertical, and in excellent condition. These walls would be more than 75 years old, based on the previous Atolia operations in the 1930s and 1940s. Reference photos can be seen in **Figure 3**. GDG's developed pit will be regularly assessed during mining operations and adjusted as needed.

The operation will be excavator mined or trammed with a wheel loader as the evolving layout of the pit progresses into a grizzly feeder and skid-mounted gravity concentrator unit. Details of the equipment selection are below. All oversize material will be wheel loaded back into the pit void as backfill to the mining sequence. Some initial out-of-pit dumping will be required to open up enough void space to allow the start of backfilling. This out-of-pit dumping will still be within the 125-acre footprint proposed for the Persistence Mine. While double-handling will happen, this reduces GDG's reclamation footprint.

Concentrate material will be removed from the wash plant sluice runs during clean outs which will be every 2-3 days. This concentrate will be wet but not saturated, and it will be placed into 44 or 55-gallon drums on the back of a utility vehicle or a pull trailer. This single utility vehicle will be completing transport of the concentrate as required every 2-3 days to GDG's commercial property in Johannesburg. The concentrate weight from cleanout will be ~2,500lbs. The concentrate inside the drums will be further refined with a SWECO classifier, Macon T-150, and eventually find its way onto a shaking table at GDG's commercial property in Johannesburg. GDG intends to make dore bars with the gold from the shaking table and ship to a smelter of GDG's choice for the final smelting process to produce .9999 gold bars. No cyanide is proposed to be used for the extraction of gold, as the final gold product will be refined on a water/gravity shaking table.

Equipment:

Preliminary planned equipment list includes the following:

- Mining equipment
    - Cat 340 Excavator (or similar) with a 3 cu yd bucket with the option to expand to two 340 units if required;
    - Cat 336 Excavator (or similar) with a 2 cu yd bucket;
    - Cat 980 Wheel loader (or similar) with an 8.75 cu yd bucket with the option to expand to two 980 units if required;
    - Lighting plants (diesel – up to 4) as needed for low light and night shift;
    - Cat D8 Dozer for scraping the surface;
    - Mulching unit for vegetation for seed gathering and stockpiling;
    - Utility truck for maintenance and refueling;
    - Pickup truck and employee transport and refueling;
    - Water truck (4,000 gallon) for run of mine water usage from Two Dr Peppers or Root Beer Float Mill Site Claims; and
    - Trailer mounted 525-gallon water tank with sprayer bar for dust control.
- Processing
    - Macon SD-600 wash plant for material processing (wash plant);
    - Macon Grizzly Feeder to suit SD-600 and run from the SD-600 generator;
    - 17 cu yard hopper and stacker belt;
    - Pumps as required to establish water circuits on site; and

    - Waterlines as required to supply the wash plant and connection to storage ponds.
- Site office and other
    - Travel trailer (including bathroom and kitchen) used for breakroom, security, and site office to be moved around the site as required;
    - Diesel generators to run pumps, wash plant, office trailer, and other power requirements; and
    - 2 x 40ft storage containers on site temporarily for equipment, spares, etc.
- Exploration equipment
    - Dietrich D-120 Auger Drill Rig (model year 2000) and associated tooling.
- Mill Sites
    - Two Dr Peppers or Root Beer Float generators, a 5,000-gallon water tank, submersible and booster pumps, and electrical, which is offsite from the Persistence Mine.

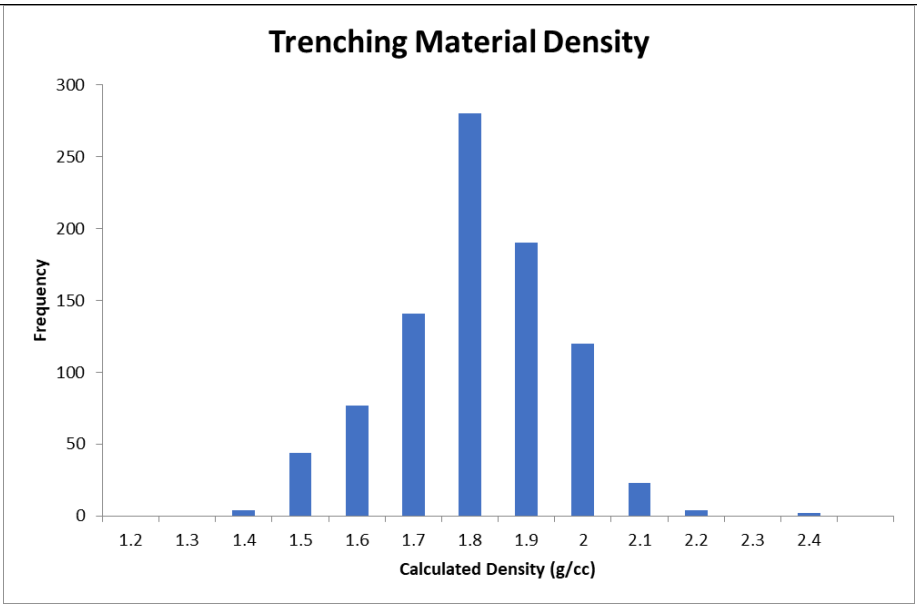
All equipment will be mobile except the wash plant and storage containers. The SD-600 wash plant and grizzly feeder are both skid-mounted and can be moved with the mining equipment. The storage containers will be stationary for the duration of the operation.

Preliminary Pit designs and site layout:

As a design criterion for the outline of the mining area, a ~50ft minimum (70ft average) offset from the GDG placer claims boundary has been applied. As shown in **Figure 2**, the mining area is split into two main extents: the Western and the Eastern Pits. Not all the area will be mined as GDG has a working geology and block model of the area for economic assessment. Details for these pits are outlined in **Table 1** for material > cut-off grade (cut-off grade subject to change with economic conditions). GDG has extensively tested the density of the material. The following density data is presented in the histogram below. Surprisingly, the material is denser than typical unconsolidated sands with a distributed average of 1.8g/cc. A plan map showing cross-section locations is provided in **Figure 4**, and cross sections (vertical exaggeration) of Western and Eastern Pit are shown in **Figures 5** and **Figure 6**, respectively.

Table 1: Mining area design details.

	Western Pit	Eastern Pit
Volume (cubic yards)	434,500	2,430,400
Mass (short tons)	782,000	4,374,800
Maximum Pit depth (feet)	24 (average 8)	24
Target wall batter angle (degrees)	30	30



Water sourcing for mining and processing:

GDG anticipates that it will require up to 1.4 million gallons of water per month. This water is primarily for wash plant operations to make up losses in its alluvial wash plant circuit (and settling ponds). Twenty thousand gallons of the 1.4 million gallons estimated above are designated for on-site dust suppression using a 525-gallon, mobile water tank with sprayer bars (trailer-mounted), or a 4,000-gallon water truck with sprayer bars. Potable water will be brought to the site daily for field crews sufficient for their needs during the 12-hour shifts.

GDG will construct water storage ponds on site to support the wash plant operations. As all the ground GDG has explored to date has shown to be mineralized and economically viable, GDG will begin operations by excavating the settling ponds, stockpiling the material, and establishing the initial plant site. GDG will be constructing ponds to hold approximately 0.95 million gallons of water. This will allow up to 5 hours of pond retention time for sediments to settle and clean the water for continuous wash plant operations. GDG anticipates between 5-7% water loss on the proposed pond structures. The ponds will be lined with bentonite or a geomembrane. The 1.4 million gallons required by the operation per month will be trucked into the mine site with approximately 6-7 'water runs' per shift with a 4,000-gallon water truck. Therefore, at any one time, GDG anticipates up to 1-1.2 million gallons of water to be stored on site based on ongoing, real-time water losses during operations.

Water for the operation is proposed from three (3) options. Water is primarily used for running the wash plant for mineral processing, but will also be available as required for dust suppression. These three (3) options are:

Option 1: GDG currently has an existing Mill Site "Two Dr Peppers" (Two Dr Peppers – CA106365225), which contains an Industrial Zoned, Kern County permitted water well within its 4-acre footprint. This well has a robust water source and clean water sufficient to support GDG's mining operations. The infrastructure GDG intends to install on Two Dr Peppers includes:

- The option to develop a future 10-inch well between 700-800ft deep (estimated) with a 160 gpm submersible pump and 40 hp motor;
- A fenced facility currently estimated at 75ft long x 45ft wide which will have two remote controlled access gates to enter;
- A poly surface surge tank of 5,000 gallons;
- Diesel generator to power the submersible pump, booster pump, gates, and automatic shut-off;
- Related piping, transfer pumps, overhead fill point, valves, as required; and
- 1,000-gallon diesel nurse tank for the generator and booster pump requirements.

Proposed access from the Two Dr Peppers to the Persistence Mine Boundary:

- North along R110 for 0.16 miles;
- Turn eastward on R112 for 2.58 miles;
- Turn northward on Goler Road for 0.40 miles;
- Turn eastward on Garlock Road for 1.22 miles;
- Turn southward on US Hwy 395 for 10.55 miles;
- Exit US Hwy 395 eastward and northward on RM109 for 0.29 miles; and
- Turn eastward on RM0078 for 0.18 miles to the Persistence Mine boundary.

Option 2: GDG has staked a new Mill Site Claim, called "Root Beer Float" (Root Beer Foat), which is situated 1,400 feet north of Two Dr Peppers and will be a backup option for Two Dr Peppers. Root Beer Float is closer to Garlock Road and outside of Desert Tortoise Critical Habitat.

Root Beer Float is a 4-acre mill site claim, and the proposed access from the Root Beer Float to the Persistence Mine Boundary is:

- Turn eastward on Garlock Road for 3.89 miles;
- Turn southward on US Hwy 395 for 10.55 miles;
- Exit US Hwy 395 eastward and northward on RM109 for 0.29 miles; and
- Turn eastward on RM0078 for 0.18 miles to the Persistence Mine boundary.

Both Option 1 and Option 2 are shown in **Figure 7**.

Option 3: GDG will look to purchase water from the Rand Communities Water District (RCWD) and truck the water down to the site if Options 1 and 2 are insufficient. RCWD has provided GDG with a "Will Serve Letter" stating that the RCWD will sell water to GDG and that RCWD can easily support the Persistence Mine's water needs for the life of the Persistence Mine.

Water management plans:

Auger drilling for orebody knowledge to date has shown no water intercepts across the Persistence Mine. Therefore, it's not expected that water will be an issue outside of rainfall events. The development of an onsite water storage pond in the west of the mining area will house water required for any dust control and primarily material processing. This location is chosen due to its shallow bedrock depth (~8 feet), where the Rand Schist is encountered and understood to be impermeable. The storage ponds will be lined with bentonite or a geomembrane to ensure the water is retained for an appropriate period for operations.

Within the pits, run-off from onsite precipitation will be allowed to flow into the pits. A safety berm 6 feet high will be constructed around the pits during operations, which will also serve to restrict any runoff from flowing down out of the excavation areas. While there are two small washes that cross the western and eastern pit areas (**Figure 8**), these are considered low risk as per the FEMA flood zone mapping (i.e., area identified as minimal flood hazard). There will be no diverting of these washes; they will be allowed to flow into the pit during rain events, and the water will be utilized by GDG. GDG will ensure that no water from the active pit will overflow during high rain events. They will be pumped into on-site water storage ponds.

Rock characterization and handling plans:

Hollow Stem Auger drilling of the area (**Figure 4**) has consistently intersected unconsolidated (to semi-cemented), dry, moderately sorted sands. Sands are observed with pebble to cobble size inclusions, which are regular but not consistent, and some clay bands are also noted. Drilling to date has been based on a 3" diameter spoon and deemed representative as the particle size distribution from screening, intercepted material during drilling (field observations), and consistent depth of drilling to target depth being achieved (**Figure 4** and **Figure 9**) indicates a relatively homogeneous material profile.

Samples in the mining area have been consistently dry down to a 24' target depth, indicating that water horizons are not expected to be intersected.

Bedrock observations are of the Rand Schist with relatively low saprock horizon development. The western end of the mining area is therefore suitable for excavation for water storage ponds (after initial processing of material for gold extraction) as the Schist is likely to be highly impermeable.

Quality assurance plans:

Orebody Knowledge:

Drilling with a Hollow Stem Auger on ~250 feet drillhole centers over the proposed mining area has provided sufficient orebody information to determine variability in the orebody. This has been further tested with two trenches where material has been excavated and processed through a scale wash plant to confirm the presence and recovery of gold.

Mining:

GDG is being advised by leading expert exploration, processing, and mining consultancy firms to a level of detail required to understand all aspects of the operation. This includes sensitivity analysis around grades, processing requirements, and mining sequences.

Environment and heritage:

GDG has been in close discussions with stakeholders from the environmental (flora, fauna, dust, etc.) and cultural communities to ensure the project is void of any important site observations. This includes the completion of:

- Several fauna surveys covering Desert Tortoise, Kit Fox, Western Burrowing Owl, and American Badger have been completed;
- Botanical survey with no special status plants encountered; and

- Cultural surveys, which found no significant sites within the Persistence Mine footprint, proposed Water Supply Wells, or that the Persistence Mine or the nearby GDG placer claims qualify as part of the Rand Historic Mining Complex. (Provided to BLM Ridgecrest Office from ECorp [Class 3 study and record searches] in Q4 2021 and supplemented by Applied Earthwork in Q4 2022).

In conjunction with these surveys, GDG has strategically hired (on staff) a former landscaping professional with over 20 years' experience, who lives locally to the project. This employee is well-accustomed to the vegetation styles/systems in the western Mojave region and also has specific knowledge of appropriate handling, transplanting, and preservation of Creosote Bushes (which are the main vegetation type over the mining area).

Reclamation:

The GDG mine plan includes sequential in-pit dumping once the required void space is created for daily operations. This reduces the amount of out-of-pit dumping, which will in turn limit the amount of reclamation required under SMARA. In addition, GDG has submitted a Reclamation Plan to San Bernardino County and will subsequently post a financial assurance bond for the proposed operations once San Bernardino County provides that amount to GDG upon final review and approval of our Reclamation Plan application. A copy of the Reclamation Plan is provided under separate cover.

Spill contingency plans:

All refuse generated at the Project would be disposed of off-site in an authorized off-site landfill facility, consistent with all applicable federal, state, and local regulations.

The hazardous materials and petroleum products utilized at the Project are anticipated to include diesel fuel, gasoline, a liquid propane tank, lubricating oils and grease, and hydraulic oil stored in vehicles. Approximately 1,200 gallons of diesel fuel and 20 gallons of gasoline would be stored in fuel delivery systems on vehicles and mining equipment at any one time. All hazardous and non-hazardous containers would be properly labeled and managed in accordance with all applicable state and federal laws, regulations, and guidelines.

Diesel refueling would be conducted from vehicle-mounted fuel cells and/or a mobile refueling vehicle, which will have a spill kit on board for any diesel spills that may occur. Equipment maintenance would take place utilizing mobile maintenance trucks. No permanent storage of fuels is proposed for the Persistence Mine. Refueling of any equipment will only be conducted during daylight hours or within suitable lighting from light towers if at night. All site personnel involved in fuel-handling would be trained in the operation and maintenance of equipment as per the manufacturer's specifications to prevent discharges.

In addition, 200 gallons of lubricating grease, 200 gallons of lubricating oil, and 100 gallons of hydraulic oil would be stored in vehicles to be utilized as necessary for mine equipment operations and maintenance. The liquid propane tank (approximately 20 gallons) would supply natural gas to the work trailer parked on site for the duration of the Project.

If a reportable quantity of hazardous materials or petroleum products is spilled, the spill would be contained and cleaned up and the appropriate federal, state, and local agencies would be notified as required. If any products are spilled during operation that are less than the reportable quantity, the product would be promptly cleaned up and any contaminated material would be removed from the site and disposed of at an approved off-site facility in accordance with all applicable federal, state, and local laws.

No hazardous or toxic waste, oil, or lubricants would be disposed of on public lands. All waste would be collected in approved trash bins/containers with lids and would be disposed of off-site in an approved landfill. Hazardous materials would be transported according to applicable regulatory guidelines.

GDG will be using Ridgecrest Septic to empty the black and grey water tanks as needed for the trailer.

Pursuant to 43 CFR 8365.1-1(b)(3) and 43 CFR 3809.420(b)(5) and (6), no sewage, petroleum products, or refuse would be dumped from any trailer or vehicle on the Project site.

A general schedule of operations from start through closure:

Mining operation shifts are anticipated to be 2 x 12-hour shifts per day, 6 days a week, Monday 6am – Sunday 6am. Operations will be conducted during night hours once the project is sufficiently established (6 nights per week, anticipated to commence after 4 months of operation).

A preliminary schedule for the operation is shown in **Figure 10**. The planned timeframe including development and reclamation is up to 69 months from successful grant of all Federal, State and County permit approvals and access to equipment rental.

GDG plans to run day shifts only for the first 2 months to establish the plant performance and general flow of the operation. Between months 3 and 4, GDG will establish night shifts as appropriate and monitor the progress. The ramp-up period will also allow GDG to stagger employee recruitment for the mine, as well as ensure all forms of employee training are staggered and fully completed.

A summary of the anticipated volume throughput breakdown by month is:

- Month 1: 20,000 cubic yards – day shift only;
- Month 2: 25,000 cubic yards – day shift only;
- Month 3: 35,000 cubic yards – commence staggered night shifts;
- Month 4: 55,000 cubic yards – further establish night shifts;
- Month 5 through 32: 96,400 cubic yards – full planned capacity; and
- Month 33: 30,700 cubic yards – wind down and likely day shifts only.

While the life of mine (LOM) pit shells encompass the full pit extents, GDG will be working the areas in blocks or strips. The operation can be considered in two phases. Phase 1 would be an initial box cut and stockpile of material around the SD-600 wash plant pad site (**Figure 11**). This material would be stockpiled for processing once the pit is excavated to bedrock, and the void filled with water for tailings management, a settling pond, and freshwater circulation. This location is likely to remain as presented as these areas were the richest from the GDG trenching program.

Phase 2 (shown here in **Figure 12**) is a representation of the sequential block or strip mining and relocation of the active water storage pond and wash plant pad. **Figure 12** shows that the original Boxcut is depleted and backfilled and that the new water storage pond is progressing with active mining. Land bridges will be left to ensure the stability of active water and tailings storage. The ability to scavenge these land bridges once the backfill is dried will be undertaken to ensure maximum resource recovery. The progression and development of Phase 2 will be evaluated and refined during GDG's ramp up phase.

Plans for all access roads, water supply pipelines, and power or utility services:

Access to the mining area will be off Highway 395 along BLM Open, Limited, and Closed roads, as well as private property access. The road types and anticipated access are shown in **Figure 13**. The road will be used primarily for light vehicles only with the occasional 'low-boy' truck to deliver and remove heavy mining equipment at the start, end, and for any off-site maintenance, and water truck as required.

No water supply pipelines are required, as all water requirements will be met via Options 1, 2, and 3 outlined in this Plan of Operations.

No power is required on site as all lighting and plant (including wash plant) will run on diesel and solar power where possible. No utility services are required on-site as all maintenance will be mobile, remote, or based in downtown Johannesburg, CA.

Reclamation Plan (*provide a reclamation plan to meet the standards in 43 CFR 3809.420. Include a description of the equipment, devices, and practices you will use. Address the applicable components in the right column.*)	✗ Drill hole plugging procedures ✓ Closure of mine openings and reclamation ✓ Regrading and reshaping plans ✓ Isolation & control of acid-forming/toxic materials ✓ Topsoil salvage, handling, and replacement ✓ Vegetation reestablishment/weed control ✓ Wildlife habitat/riparian area rehabilitation ✓ Removal/stabilization of buildings & support facilities ✓ Post-closure management ✓ Pit backfilling feasibility where pits are to be left open (*Address economic, environmental and safety factors*) ___Other:

Reclamation Plan (*Describe how you will complete your reclamation plan. Attach additional sheets/maps as needed.*)

A detailed Reclamation Plan has been prepared and submitted to San Bernardino County to support the application of the Persistence Mine. This Reclamation Plan is provided under separate cover to this Plan and is a complete account of the proposed reclamation under SMARA.

Schedule of Operations (*Provide a schedule from project start-up through final closure. Identify major phases such as development, mining, processing, and reclamation. Operations with open-ended or undefined schedules cannot be accepted.*)

Please see **Figure 10** for the project schedule.

Part 3 – Monitoring Plan

You must provide a plan to monitor the effects of your operation. The monitoring plan should be designed to do the following: (1) demonstrate compliance with the Plan of Operations and other environmental regulations, (2) provide early detection of potential problems, and (3) supply information that will assist with any needed corrective actions. The scope of monitoring depends on the location and complexity of the operation. Generally, exploration activity requires little or no monitoring, while certain mining activities may need comprehensive monitoring plans. Monitoring plans should avoid duplication by incorporating other state or federal monitoring requirements.

Resource Conditions to Monitor (*Indicate the conditions you propose to monitor.)*	✓ Surface or groundwater quality/quantity ✓ Air quality ✓ Vegetation or reclamation conditions NA Process facility containment performance ✓ Stability conditions ✓ Wildlife mortality ✓ Noise or light levels ____Other (include state requirements):
Monitoring Plan Elements (*For each resource or condition monitored address these elements*.)	NA Type and location of monitoring devices NA Sampling parameters and frequency NA Analytical methods NA Reporting Procedures NA Adverse monitoring result thresholds & procedures ____Other:

Monitoring Plan (*Describe your monitoring plan(s). Attach additional sheets/maps where needed.*)

Water:

No water is anticipated to be intercepted during operation, and with the material, it's unlikely the pit will hold any water from the limited rainfall the area receives. However, any water that is pumped from the pit into the dam, and the dam levels during operation, will be monitored to ensure sufficient capacity for standard operating capacity.

Dust:

The Mojave Desert Air Quality Management District (MDAQMD) provided advice to GDG regarding triggers for dust issues related to the presence of extensive visible dust. GDG discussed the contents of this Plan of Operations with Alan De Salvio, Deputy Director of the MDAQMD on the 7th October 2021. Alan did not see any requirement for any dust permit or control measures. GDG will, however, monitor the presence of visible dust and if required follow up with MDAQMD on any actions required to ensure compliance.

Vegetation:

No monitoring of vegetation will be conducted during the mining operation. See Part 2 for vegetation handling and reclamation.

Stability Conditions:

See the pit design and constraints. No monitoring required as the planned progression and design will have only active mining (or transition to backfill) faces. No long-term or dormant faces are planned.

Wildlife Mortality:

A pre-construction survey will take place prior to any ground disturbing activity and installation of all perimeter and desert tortoise temporary fencing. In addition, a desert tortoise, nesting birds, and Mohave Ground Squirrel clearance survey will be conducted after all fencing is installed to ensure that no desert tortoises, birds, or Mohave Ground Squirrels have entered the site from the time the pre-construction survey and fence installation took place:

- Temporary Desert Tortoise fencing to be installed in two phases that will encompass the Western pit and the Eastern pit:
    - A pre-construction fence line clearance survey will be conducted to install perimeter and Temporary Desert Tortoise Fencing (this will be classed as the first disturbance);
    - Installation of the Temporary Desert Tortoise Fencing and standard Desert Tortoise guards (for access into the fenced area) will be completed within 2 weeks of the pre-construction fencing survey. This Temporary Desert Tortoise Fencing design will follow the fencing design recommendations by the U.S Fish and Wildlife Service in the Desert Tortoise (Mojave Population) Field Manual (December 2009). An example of the Temporary Desert Tortoise Fencing and Desert Tortoise Guard is shown in **Figure 14** (standard exclusion fencing) and **Figure 15** (for impenetrable substrate, if encountered), respectively; and
    - Once fencing is installed, conduct an interior clearance survey to ensure no Desert Tortoises, Kit Foxes, Mohave Ground Squirrels, nesting birds (or other wildlife) are present prior to the clearing of the surface for commencement of mining.

GDG will regularly monitor the interior and exterior of the fence line to ensure that no wildlife becomes trapped in the fencing. Further, GDG's biological consulting firm will conduct regular site reviews and provide advice to ensure GDG complies with all Federal, State, and County biological monitoring guidelines.

Vehicles will be parked inside fences to eliminate the possibility of Desert Tortoises seeking shade refuge under vehicles.

Based on the existing fauna surveys GDG has a good understanding of the presence of any wildlife in the operation area. GDG will maintain staff training for snake handling and desert tortoise awareness training, and monitor the presence of any wildlife. In the event wildlife inhibits the operation, GDG will consult with the appropriate federal, state and local agencies to ensure wildlife is adequately protected or translocated. GDG will keep a register of wildlife encounters and the nature of the encounter and report to the BLM Ridgecrest Field Office at the end of each quarter for BLM to understand the operations impact, if any.

Noise and light:

Noise and lighting are not expected to be a significant impact to humans and wildlife in the area. It's isolated away from any residential buildings, and no blasting will be used on site. The closest observable residents to the mine are ~3 miles in Red Mountain, which is slightly over a rise. limiting the projection of any noise and sound. GDG will monitor and engage with the community, but no official method of monitoring will be installed.

GDG's planned lighting solution for night shifts includes solar charged or diesel powered (or both) trailer mounted mobile lighting tower plants. GDG is assuming that 4 light towers at an anticipated 4,200W will be required. Two light towers will be up to 25ft tall, and the other two up to 30ft tower height. The taller lights will be used around the wash plant to ensure sufficient downward facing illumination in and around the feed hoppers. The shorter two will be used as required at the dig face to allow sufficient lighting as required for excavation and in-pit maneuvering. All tower lighting plants are vertical mast towers with shields on the rear of the light head so lighting emission is limited to the direction they are pointing. All lights will be pointed in a downward facing direction as well as to limit any adverse effects to birds, or owls, etc. GDG will only use lighting where needed and will use the lowest possible light settings and warm light settings while adhering to worker safety and visual needs of the Project.

Part 4 – Interim Management Plan

All Plans of Operations must include an Interim Management Plan that describes how the project area will be managed during periods of temporary closure (including periods of seasonal closure).

Interim Management Plan Elements (*Address each of these elements.*)	✓ Schedule of anticipated periods of closure NA Provisions to notify the BLM of unplanned or extended closures ✓ Measures to stabilize excavations and workings NA Measures to isolate or control toxic materials ✓ Provisions to store or remove equipment, supplies, or structures ✓ Measures to maintain the project area in a safe and clean condition ✓ Plans for monitoring site conditions during non-operation ___Other:
Reclamation Cost Estimate (*Attach additional sheets/maps where needed.*) No planned closure is scheduled in GDG's operation of the mine. Mining will be continuous for the full cycle period outlined in **Figure 10**. For any unforeseen closures that might occur, GDG will already be erecting appropriate warning signs of excavations in the area, plus the installment of sediment fencing (or similar) to ensure no wildlife can access the interior of the fencing perimeter. As all the equipment proposed for this operation is mobile, any equipment on site will be removed and held in storage in Johannesburg (GDG operations headquarters), as well as all rubbish removed. Rubbish removal will be an ongoing effort by GDG to ensure the operation is clean and tidy. This includes general employee and contractor refuse, as well as any maintenance or operational refuse resulting from normal operations and maintenance. No toxic materials are anticipated to be intercepted, so no interim management of this is required. And excavations will have appropriate batter angles on pit walls to ensure they are stable for a suitable period. Images in **Figure 3** show how stable the large excavations adjacent to GDG are, and that the proposed GDG excavations are only to a depth of 24 feet.	

Part 5 – Reclamation Cost Estimate

A reclamation cost estimate (RCE) is required to process your plan of operations (43 CFR 3809.401(d)). The RCE may be submitted with the Plan of Operations, or later at a time to be determined between you and the BLM. The following are general RCE requirements. The BLM is available to assist you in developing the cost estimate.

Reclamation Cost Estimate Elements (*Account for each of these cost elements.*)	NA The RCE must cover the Reclamation Plan at any point in the project life. NA Calculate the RCE based on the BLM's cost to contract for the reclamation. NA Include all equipment use, supplies, labor, and power in direct costs. NA Include fluid management of any mill process solutions in direct costs. NA Allow for a contingency cost (10% of direct costs). NA Allow for a contractor profit (10% of direct costs). NA Include contractor liability insurance (1.5% of total labor cost). NA For direct costs over $100,000 add 3% for payment and performance bonds. ___Add 12% of direct costs for BLM contract administration and indirect costs.

Reclamation Cost Estimate (*Attach additional sheets/maps where needed.*)

As this project is located in San Bernardino County, GDG is seeking additional advice on reclamation requirements from the county to ensure the plan outlined here (and associated costs) will be appropriate for both the BLM and San Bernardino County.

Once the proposed Reclamation Plan is approved by San Bernardino County, GDG will post a reclamation financial assurance in an amount sufficient to pay for the cost of reclamation for the first year of planned operations and estimated area disturbance as outlined in the Reclamation Plan submitted to San Bernardino County. The reclamation financial assurance shall be reviewed by the County annually as required by SMARA. San Bernardino County is the lead agency for SMARA compliance and will review the Reclamation Assurance and inspect the mine site annually. While the BLM includes reclamation for any one point in time, the annual inspections and first year reclamation costs set out by the county will be sufficient given the progressive rehabilitation proposed by GDG.

The proposed Plan of Operations is submitted on this date by:

July 29, 2025

(Signature of operator or agent) Date

(Signature of co-operator or agent) Date

Additional Processing Information

Within 30 calendar days of receiving your proposed Plan of Operations, the BLM will review the submitted material and notify you: 1) that your Plan of Operations is complete, that is, it meets the content requirements under 43 CFR 3809.401(b); or 2)that your Plan does not contain a complete description of the proposed operations, specifying what information is missing or incomplete; or 3) that your Plan of Operations is complete but the BLM cannot process the Plan until certain additional steps are taken which could include you providing adequate baseline data, the BLM conducting an environmental review, or the BLM consulting with various entities such as the State or Indian tribes.

Once a Plan of Operations is determined to be complete, an environmental analysis is prepared. The environmental analysis and/or complete Plan of Operations is available for public comment for not less than 30 days. The processing of a Plan of Operations that requires the preparation of an environmental impact statement (EIS) is subject to the cost recovery provisions of the regulations. The BLM will notify you immediately if it is determined your Plan of Operations falls within the cost recovery requirements.

Upon completing review of your Plan of Operations, including environmental analysis, consultation, and consideration of public comments, the BLM will issue a decision that: 1) approves the Plan of Operations basically as submitted; or 2) approves the Plan of Operations subject to changes or conditions needed to prevent unnecessary or undue degradation; or 3) disapproves or withholds approval of the Plan of Operations, listing the reason for not approving the Plan. The decision to approve or deny a Plan of Operations can be appealed to the BLM State Director or directly to the Interior Board of Land Appeals (IBLA).

Even after receiving a decision approving your Plan of Operations, you must not begin surface disturbing activity until you have provided a financial guarantee in the amount of the approved reclamation cost estimate to the BLM State Office and received a decision from that office that the financial guarantee instrument has been accepted.

It should be noted that approval of a Plan of Operations by the BLM does not constitute a determination regarding the validity or ownership of any unpatented mining claim involved in the operation. In addition, you are responsible for obtaining any use rights or local, state, or Federal permits, licenses, or reviews that may be required for your operation.

A Plan of Operations proposing use and occupancy of the public lands, such as full- or part—time residence or the construction, presence, or maintenance of temporary or permanent structures, must also obtain concurrence under the regulations at 43 CFR 3715 that the use or occupancy is reasonably incident to the prospecting, mining, or processing operations.

Figure 1: Persistence Mine Regional Location

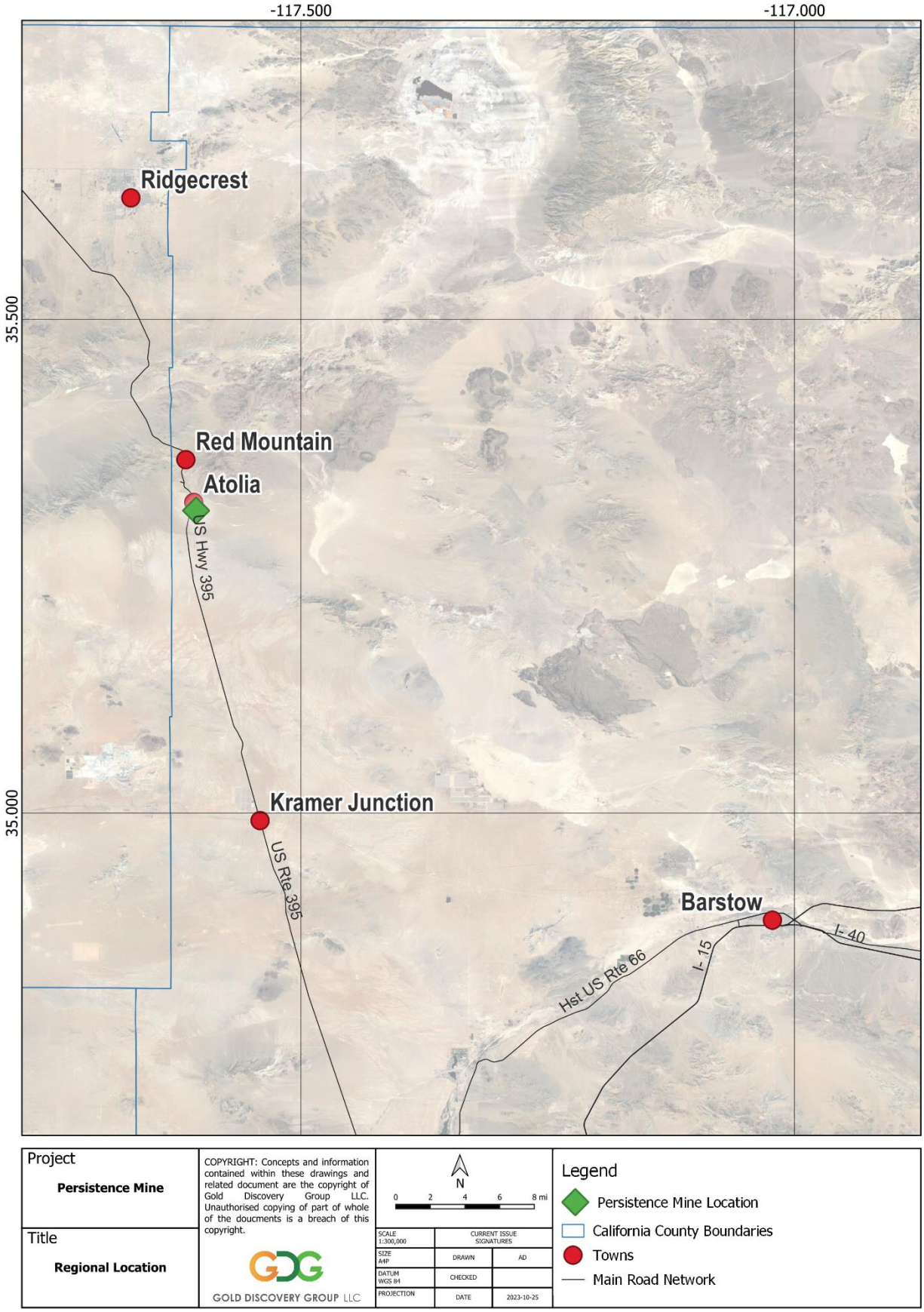


Figure 2: Detailed Project Location and GDG Claims

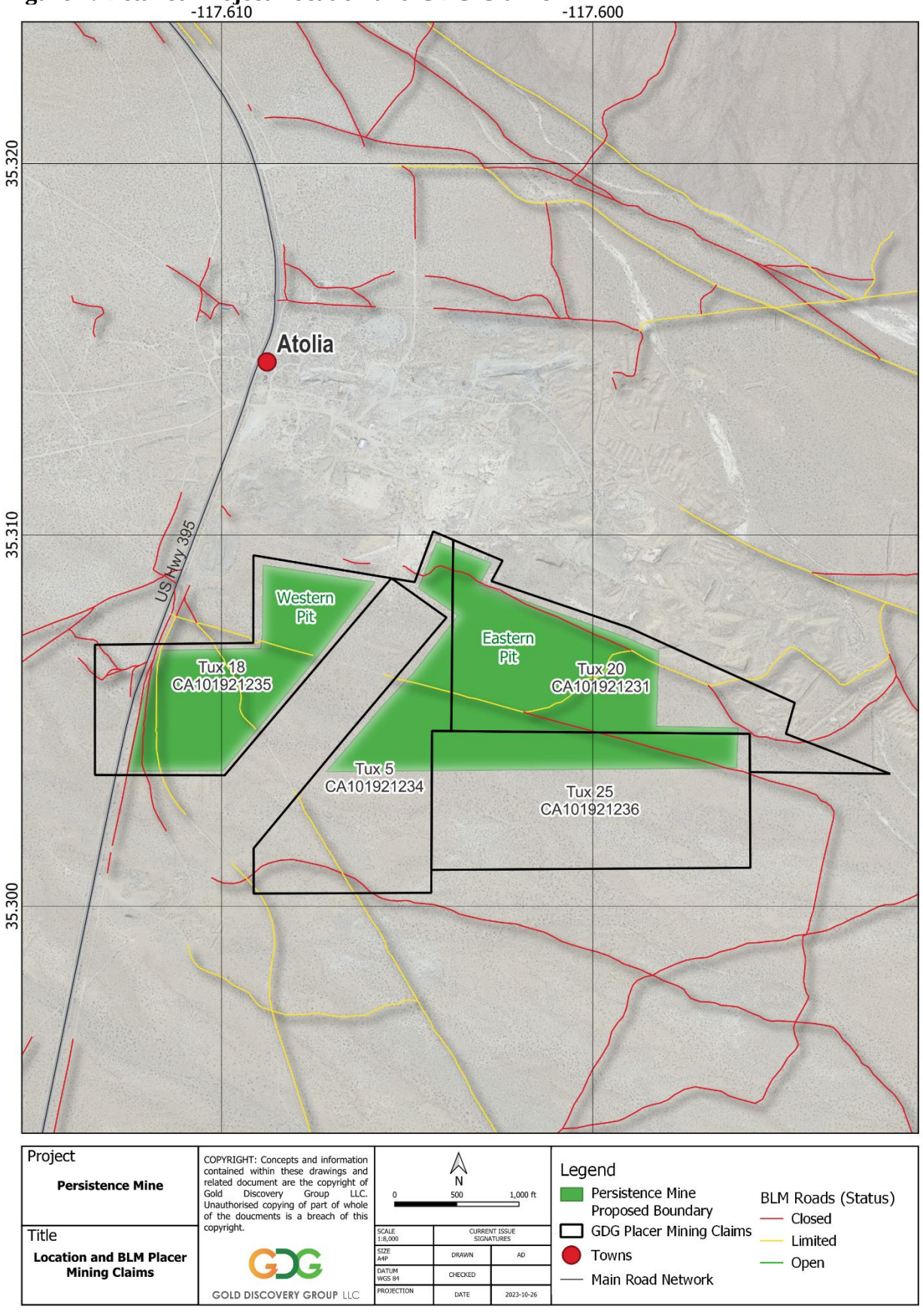


Figure 3: Example of previously abandoned workings adjacent to GDG mining area

Figure 4: GDG Drillhole locations and Cross Section layout

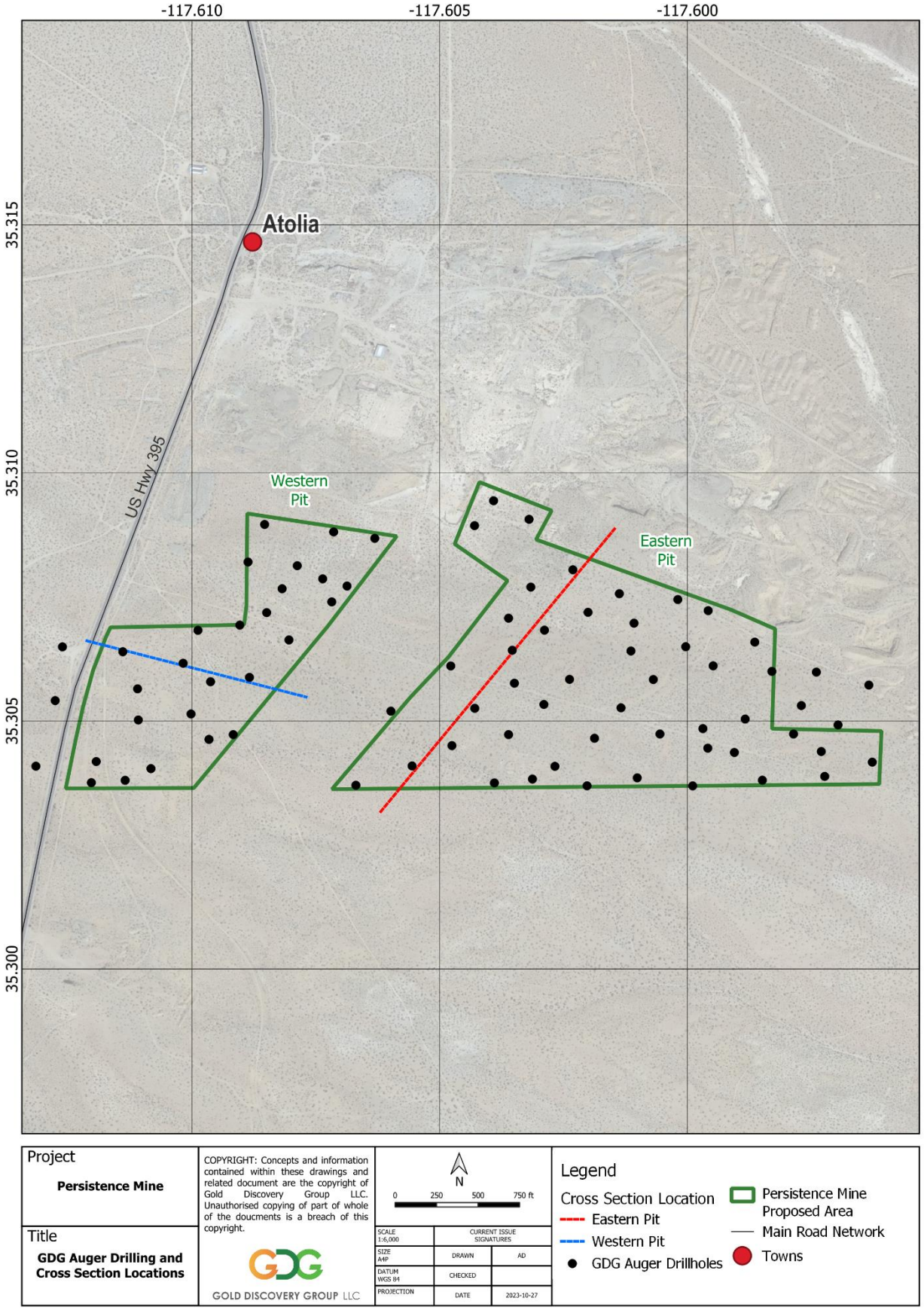


Figure 5: Western Pit Model Cross Section.

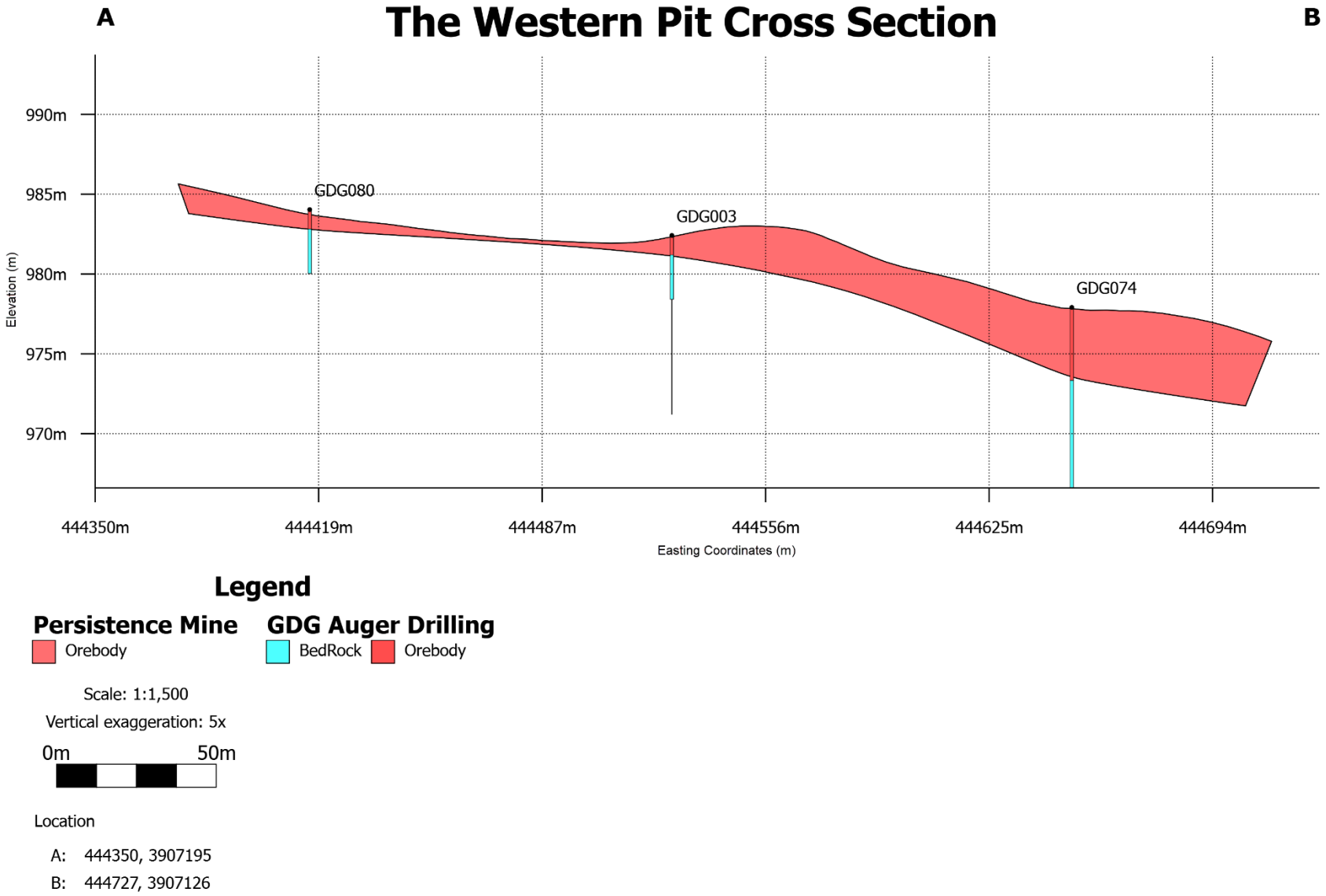


Figure 6: Eastern Pit Model Cross Section.

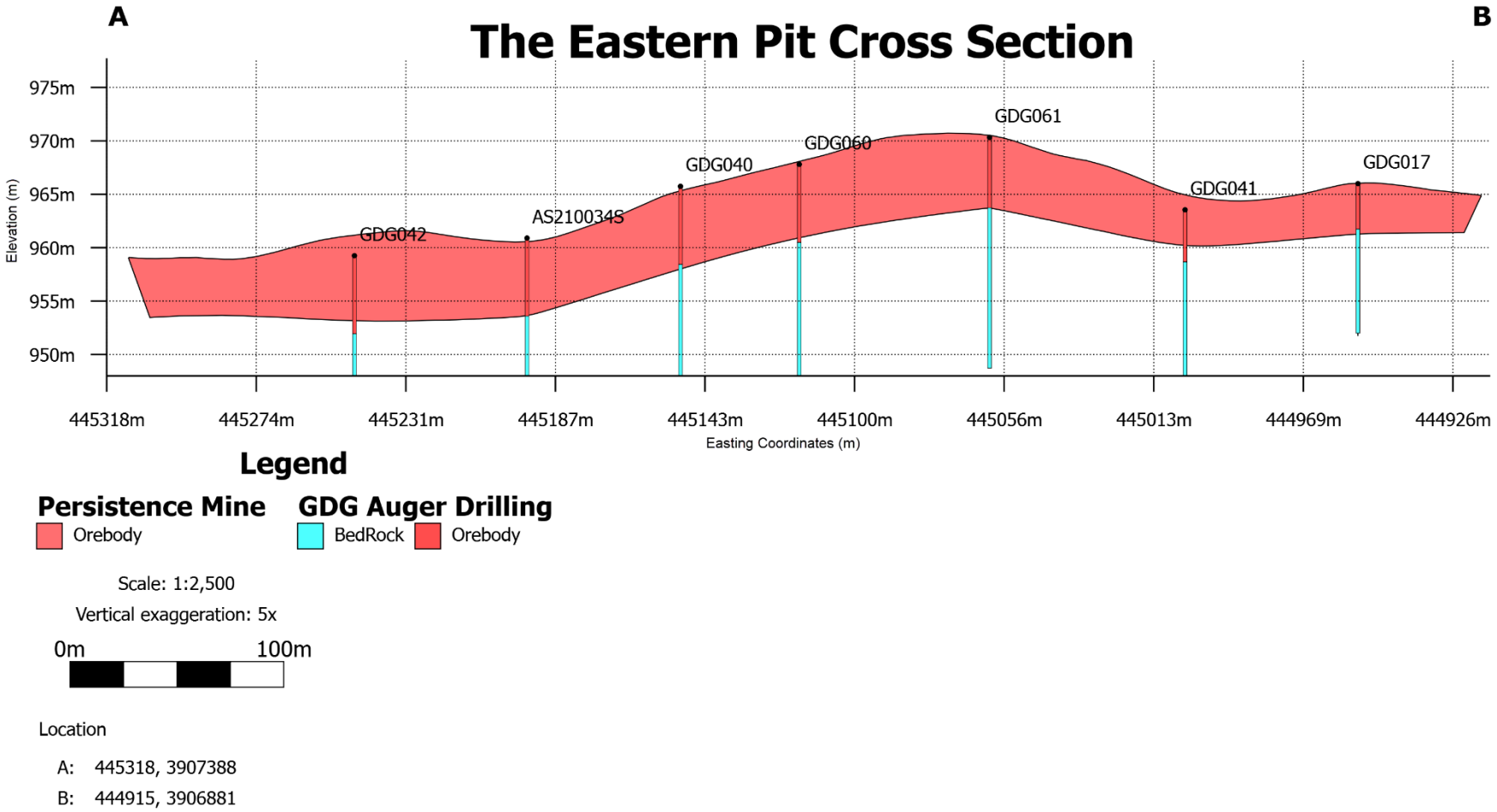


Figure 7: Proposed Option 1 and 2 Water Access Routes from Two Dr Peppers and Root Beer Float

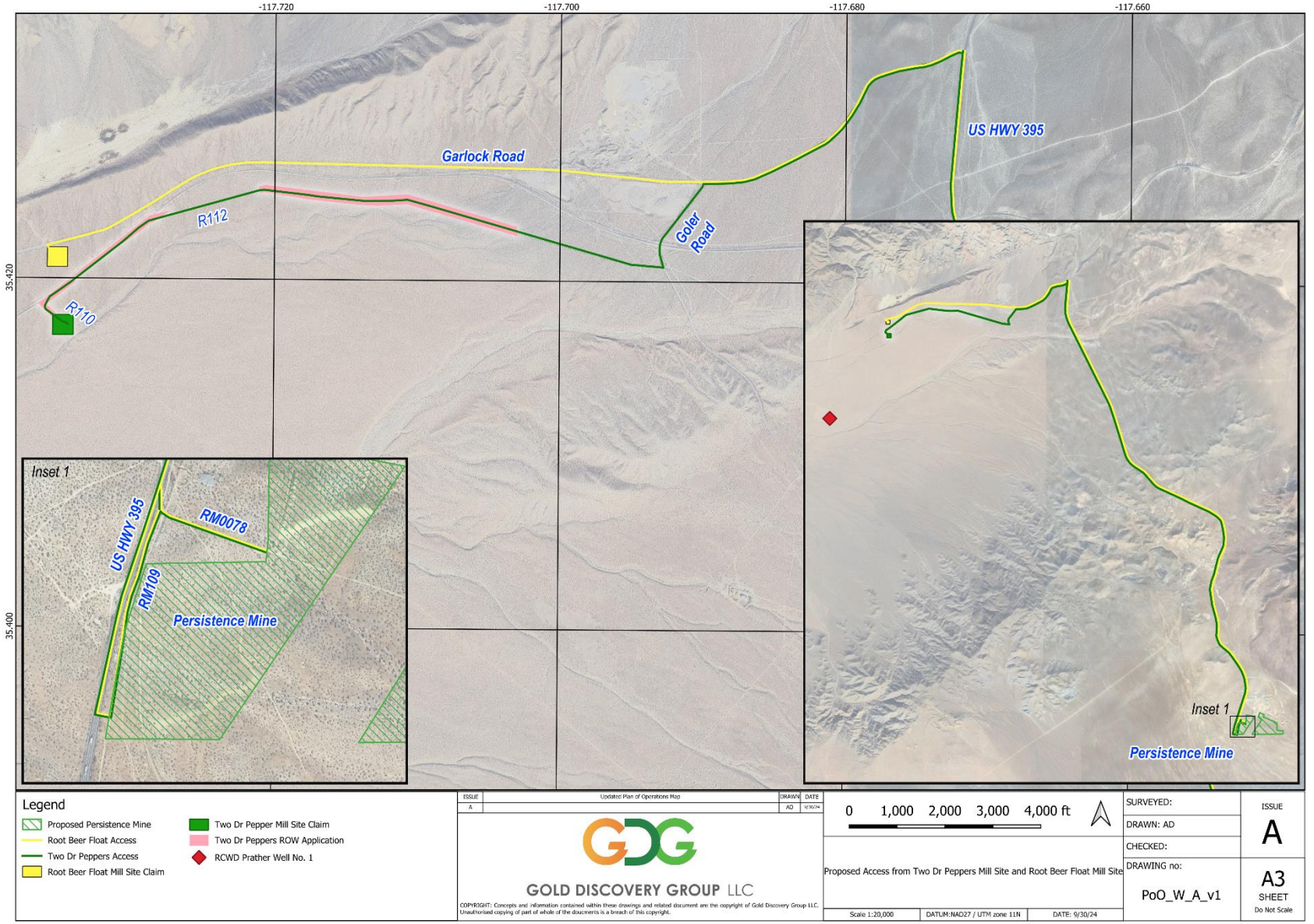
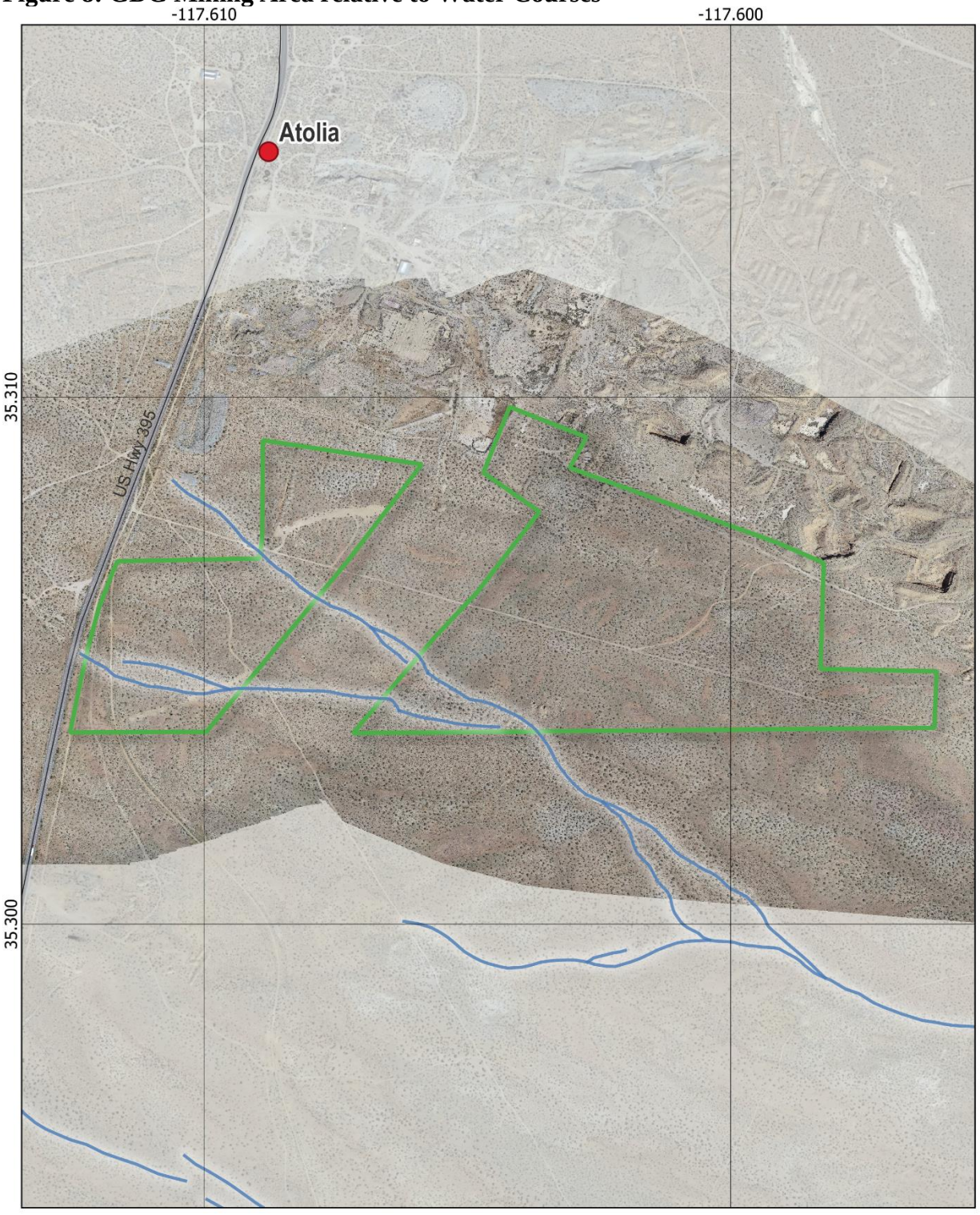


Figure 8: GDG Mining Area relative to Water Courses



Project **Persistence Mine** Title **Mapped Wash Locations**	COPYRIGHT: Concepts and information contained within these drawings and related document are the copyright of Gold Discovery Group LLC. Unauthorised copying of part of whole of the doucments is a breach of this copyright. GOLD DISCOVERY GROUP LLC	N 0 250 500 750 ft SCALE 1:6,000 / CURRENT ISSUE SIGNATURES SIZE A4P / DRAWN / AD DATUM WGS 84 / CHECKED PROJECTION / DATE / 2023-10-25	Legend Persistence Mine Proposed Boundary Mapped Dry Washes Towns Main Road Network

Figure 9: GDG Drillhole Total Depth (up to target depth 24')

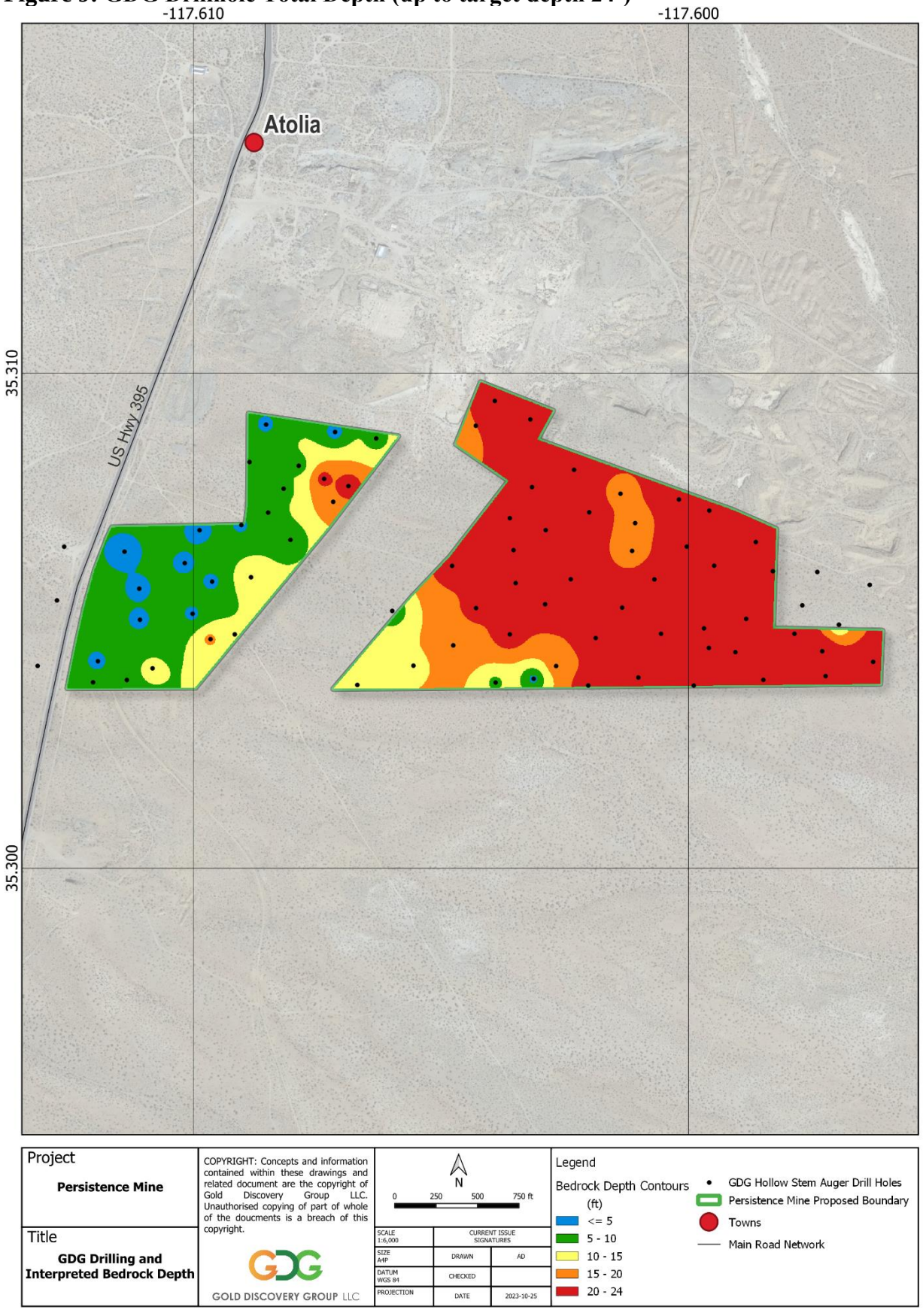


Figure 10: Preliminary Project Schedule

Stage	Stage Details	Month 1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	Month 18
Development	Biological clearance surveys	SURVEY AND FENCING INSTALLATION																	
	Development of access road	ACCESS																	
	Commissioning of processing plant		PROCESSING PLANT																
	Setup of temporary structures on site	TEMPORARY SITE STRUCTURES																	
	Water Storage Development		BOXCUT AND WATER STORAGE																
Mining Phase 1	Western Pit		MINING OF WESTERN PIT (5.33 months)																
Mining Phase 2	Eastern Pit					MINING OF EASTERN PIT (11.22 months)													
Site Closure																			CLOSE OFF ACCESS TO RECLAIMED PITS
Reclamation						PARTIAL RECLAIM OF WESTERN PIT												RECLAMATION OF WESTERN & EASTERN PIT AS PER PLAN OF OPERATIONS	

Stage	Stage Details	Month 1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	Month 46
Development	Biological clearance surveys	SURVEY AND FENCING INSTALLATION																																													
	Development of access road	ACCESS																																													
	Commissioning of processing plant		PROCESSING PLANT																																												
	Setup of temporary structures on site	TEMPORARY SITE STRUCTURES																																												
	Water Storage Development		BOXCUT AND WATER STORAGE																																												
Mining Phase 1	Western Pit		MINING OF WESTERN PIT (8.33 months)																																												
Mining Phase 2	Eastern Pit																																													
Site Closure																																														
Reclamation						PARTIAL RECLAIM OF WESTERN PIT																																											
Revegetation																																														ESTABLISH REHABILITATION MONITORING

Figure 11: Phase 1 site layout

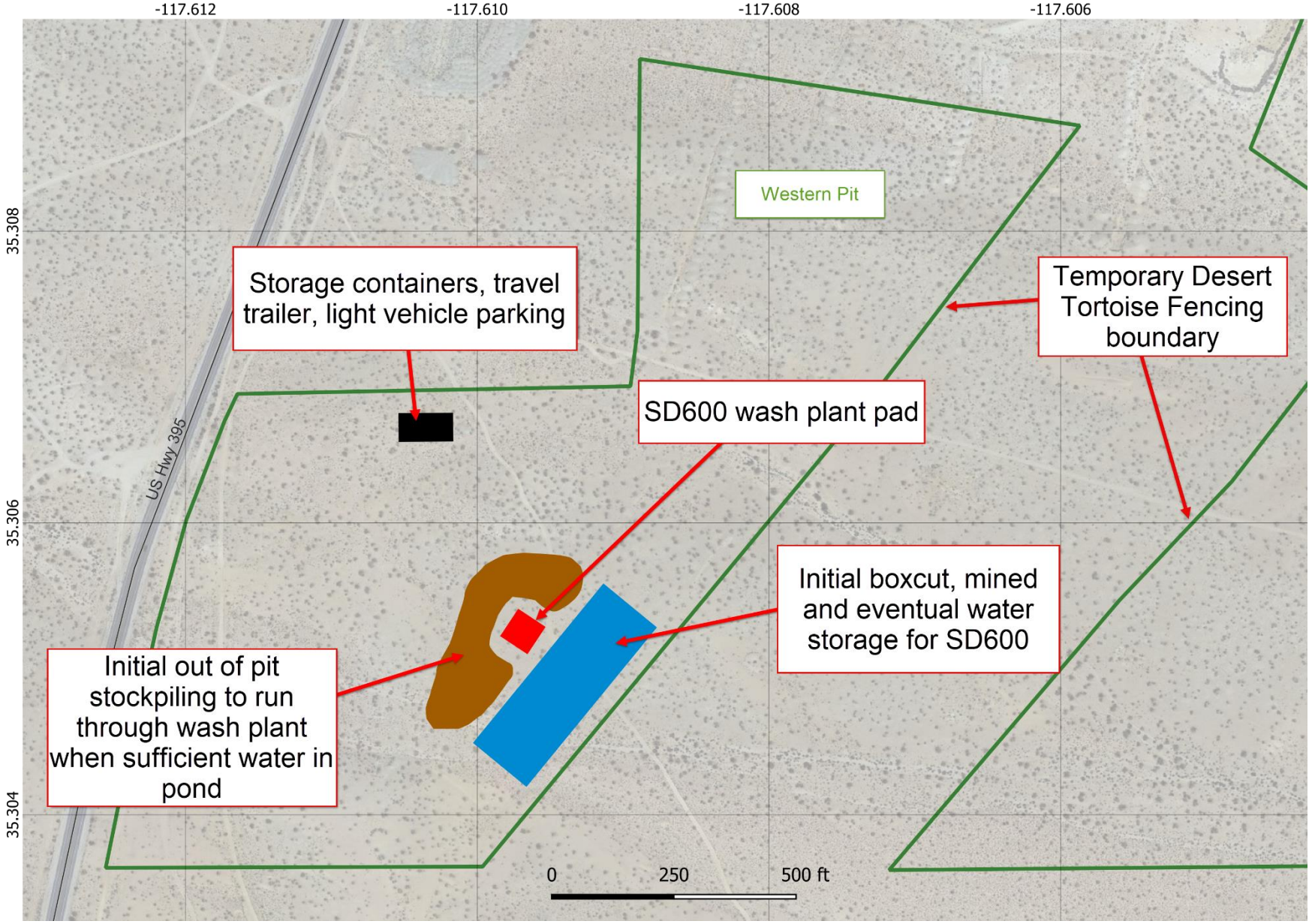


Figure 12: Phase 2 (and onward) site layout (ideal)

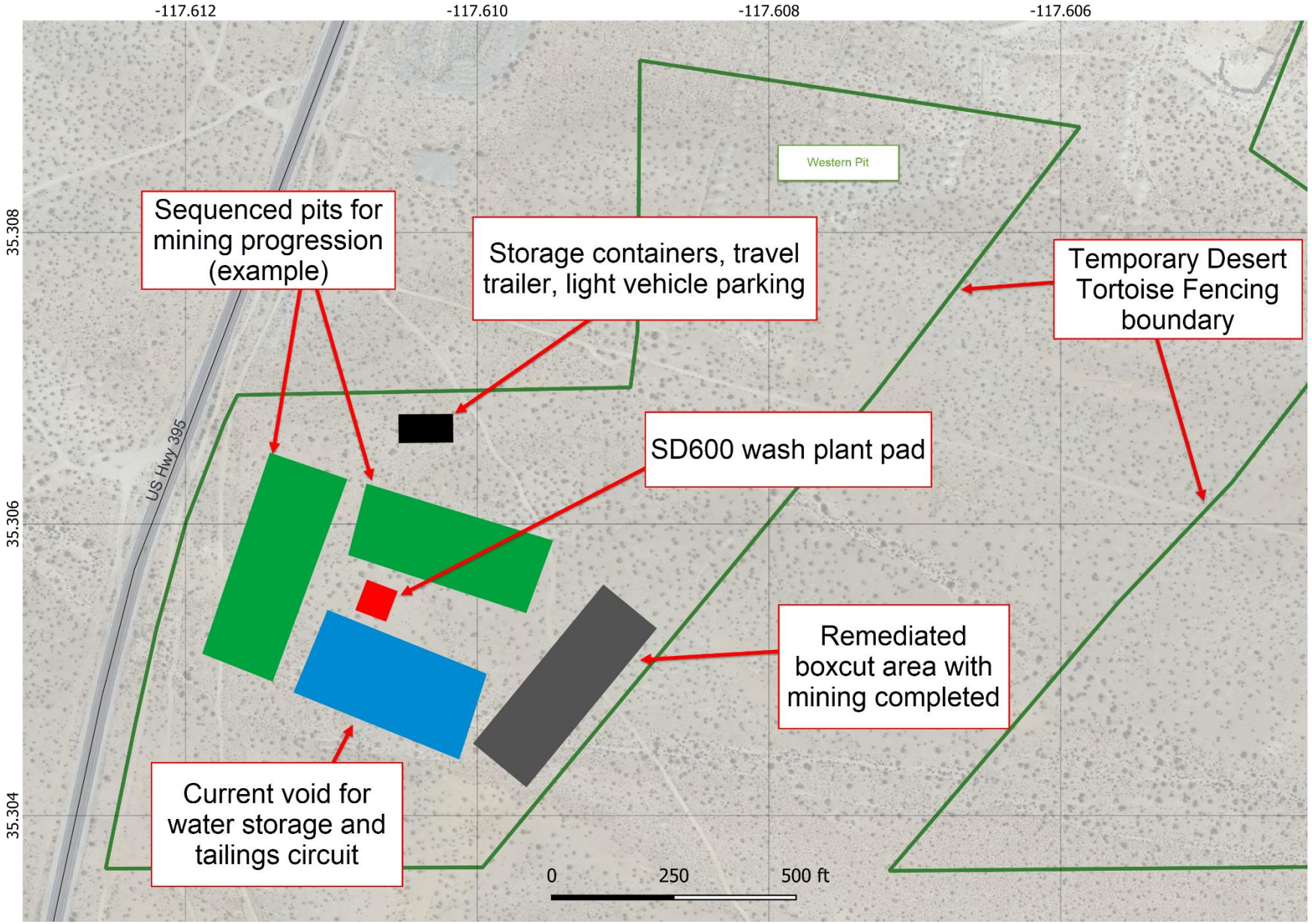


Figure 13: Site Access and Pit Layout

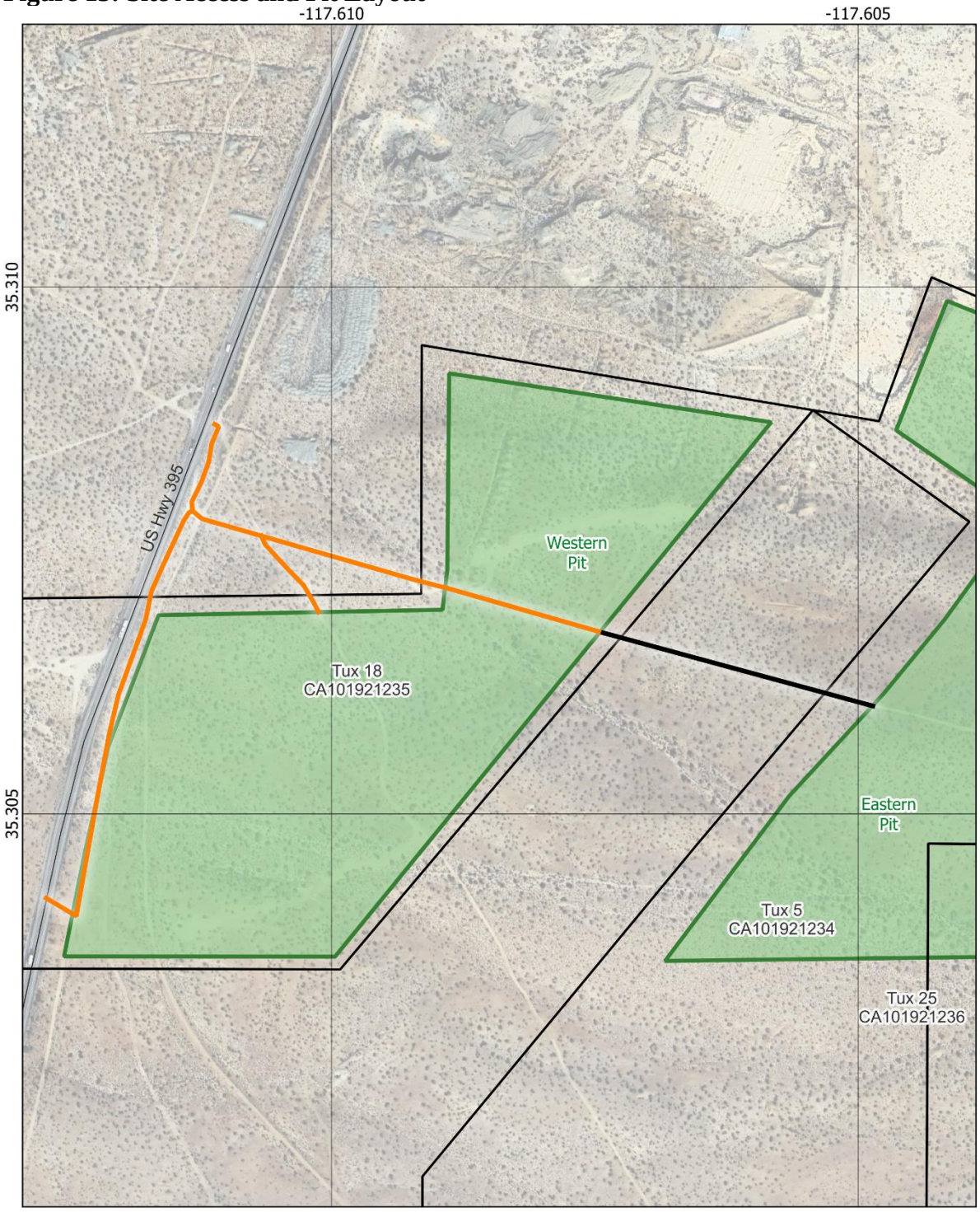
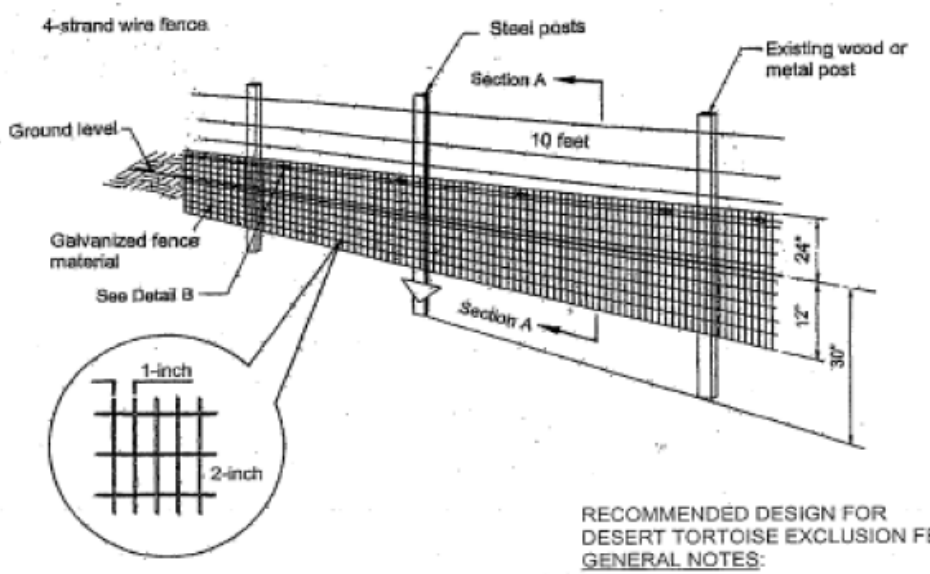
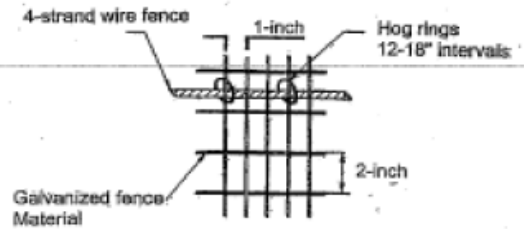


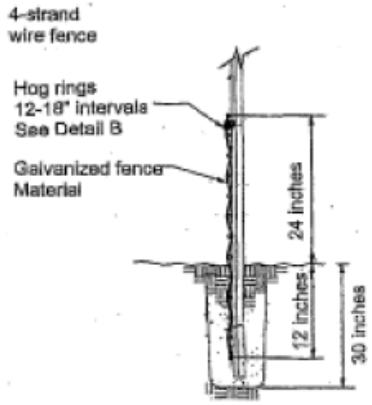
Figure 14: Desert Tortoise guard design (Standard)



DETAIL A



DETAIL B



SECTION A

RECOMMENDED DESIGN FOR DESERT TORTOISE EXCLUSION FENCE

GENERAL NOTES:

1. Ensure that fence posts and materials conform to the standards approved by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.
2. Ensure that the height above ground level is no less than 18 inches and no higher than 24 inches.
3. Ensure that the depth of fence material below ground level is about 12 inches but no less than 6 inches. (See SECTION A above)
4. Install additional steel posts when span between existing fence posts exceed 10 feet.
5. Attach fence material to existing fence or wire using hog rings at 12-inch intervals.
6. Fasten fence material to posts with 3 tie wires with a wire near the top, bottom, and center of the fence material.
7. Backfill trenches with excavated material and compact the material.
8. Attach fence material to all gates. Ensure that clearance at base of gate achieves zero ground clearance.
9. Substitute smooth wire for barbed wire if additional support wires are necessary.
10. The number and placement of support wires may be modified to allow sheep and deer to pass safely.
11. Erosion at the edge of the fence material where the fence crosses washes may occur and requires appropriate and timely monitoring and repair.
12. Tie the fence into existing culverts and cattleguards when determined necessary to allow desert tortoise passage underneath roadways.

Figure 15: Example Desert Tortoise guard design for Impenetrable Substrates

FOR BEDROCK OR CALICHE SUBSTRATE

1. Use this fence design (see below) only for that portion of the fence where fence material cannot be placed 6 inches below existing ground level due to presence of bedrock, large rocks or caliche substrate.
2. Ensure that the fence height above ground level is no less than 22 inches.
3. Ensure that there is a zero to 2-inch ground clearance at the bend.
4. Ensure that the bent portion of the fence is lying on the ground and pointed in the direction of desert tortoise habitat.
5. Cover the portion of the fence that is flush with the ground with cobble (rocks placed on top of the fence material to a vertical thickness up to 4 inches).
6. When substrate no longer is composed of bedrock or caliche, install fence using design shown above.