

**Laura Piper**

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**From:** Jeanne Evenden <jevenden7@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 26, 2021 12:46 PM  
**To:** Joven, Francesca  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] LADWP 2021-2022 Annual Operation Plan

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Dear Inyo County/Los Angeles Standing Committee Members:

As a previous resident of Inyo County, I am writing to voice my objection to the excessive amount of groundwater pumping proposed by LADWP. Drought conditions have been severe, and the impacts to groundwater levels, and the associated environment is untenable.

There must be other ways, through ongoing water conservation efforts - including water savings from Operation NEXT - to reduce the demand for Owens Valley water in Los Angeles. All efforts should be made to restore the ecosystems in the Owens Valley that have been depleted through decades of water "takes" by Southern California.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment; I hope these comments are not too late to be considered. I had hoped to remotely attend the committee meeting today, but despite my best efforts, was thwarted by the technology offered.

Kind regards,

Jeanne Evenden  
2360 Pierce Ave  
Ogden, UT 84401

**Laura Piper**

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**From:** Beth Deaton <ead1627@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 26, 2021 9:29 AM  
**To:** Joven, Francesca  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Fwd: Comments for the Standing Committee

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To whom it may concern,

As a Bishop resident, I write in support of the reduction in groundwater pumping proposed by Inyo County this year. As I am sure you are aware, our valley receives little precipitation, on average just over 5 inches per year, and relies on snowmelt streams from the surrounding mountains as its primary water source. This year's severe drought has left only 5% of the normal snowpack on the mountains. We face a perilously dry summer. As Topanga Canyon burns so early in the season, I'm sure that you can empathize with our fear of fire. On my walks each morning, I pass the burn scar of a fire that nearly reached my neighborhood a few years ago. I listen to the sound of your nearby water pump and wonder how much lower the water table is now and how much more quickly the vegetation will burn the next time it catches fire.

The risk of fire makes a temporary reduction in pumping urgent. A long-term reduction is vital for the health of the valley. A hundred years ago, you drew from a valley still lush and green from centuries of irrigation by the local Paiute people. Their ditches slowed the water's flow and spread it across the valley floor, raising the water table and building habitat for plants and animals alike. It has been a long time since they have had the opportunity to carry out this practice, and your wells have drained much of the available groundwater. The resulting vegetation loss has been well-documented. Many of us here rely on wells and fear that they will soon run dry. The water table must be allowed the opportunity to recover.

Lastly, I would like to urge that the Standing Committee membership be revised to include permanent Tribal representation. Given the Paiute and Shoshone's long history of water management and the oversized impact of water availability on their community well-being and sovereignty, they should be consulted on all questions of water allocation.

Thank you in advance for your consideration and cooperation.

Beth Deaton  
Bishop, CA

**Laura Piper**

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**From:** Noah Davidson <njdavidson0@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 26, 2021 9:51 AM  
**To:** Joven, Francesca  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] 5/26 groundwater pumping

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To whom it may concern,

The indigenous rights and lands must be respected. Yet again, those in power are sacrificing that of the indigenous peoples for their own benefit. When will this disgusting cycle end? When all the rivers are dry and the mountains turned to ash? When will you stop, think, and question what is best for the planet and all people instead of yourselves. This must not be allowed especially because they will not settle for a middle ground, give them nothing

**Laura Piper**

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**From:** Joven, Francesca <Francesca.Joven@ladwp.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 26, 2021 10:25 AM  
**To:** Aaron Steinwand; Perez, Adam  
**Cc:** Laura Piper  
**Subject:** Fw: [EXTERNAL] Public Comment for Inyo/Los Angeles Standing Committee Meeting

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From: Halina Dolinh <[dmh.halina@gmail.com](mailto:dmh.halina@gmail.com)>  
Sent: Wednesday, May 26, 2021 9:57:57 AM  
To: Joven, Francesca  
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Public Comment for Inyo/Los Angeles Standing Committee Meeting

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Hi there,

I would like to submit a public comment for the Inyo/Los Angeles Standing Committee Meeting. See below.

I call on LADWP to engage in meaningful negotiations with the Tribes to settle land and water injustices - these injustices have occurred in the past and are about to happen again. Additionally, the Tribes need to be consulted upon to develop management strategies. Climate change effects (i.e. droughts, wildfires) have exposed the shortcomings of current management strategies whereas thousands of years of Traditional Ecological Knowledge has proven to be successful in bringing about sustainable and healthy ecosystems. LAWDP's current proposal is excessive and will impose added stress on the ecosystems in Payahuunad?. LAWDP cannot continue to operate as is and the voices and perspectives of the Tribes need to be included so that we can have a sustainable future.

Thank you,  
Halina Do-Linh

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Halina Do-Linh  
she/hers

Environmental Studies & Biology

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/halinadolinh/><<https://urldefense.com/v3/> <https://www.linkedin.com/in/halinadolinh/> ;!!MajgCvY!QAdP-cp3v2k33bVSWHf2ubcaxUfju6yla7jUHjF\_nOe7JzdzaUxILYzuL1SjOMffzEcE\$>

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**Laura Piper**

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**From:** Christoph Keller <mail@christophkeller.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 26, 2021 12:12 PM  
**To:** Joven, Francesca  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] My public comment to the Inyo County Standing Committee

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Keeping and protecting water in Inyo County and Owens Valley is a future challenge not only for the local communities and tribes in the valley, but also for those living further down the aqueduct, who are receiving the exported waters in Los Angeles. Anyone who is concerned with preserving important ecological and environmental values of the region and passing them on to future generations, has vital interests in keeping the waters where they belong: in the Owens Valley, Payahuunadü.

The water export from Owens Valley to L.A. must be decreased and at the same time the local pumping must be reduced in order to allow for the groundwater levels to recover, so that slowly meadows and autochthonous vegetation can revive and sustainable human and nonhuman cohabitation is possible again.

Thank you,  
Christoph Keller

**Laura Piper**

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**From:** Haley Miller <haley.rei87@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 26, 2021 12:10 PM  
**To:** Joven, Francesca  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Public Comment to LA/Inyo water standing committee 5/26 meeting

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My comment for the planning is for the pumping of the Owens Valley to be stopped or reduced in order to continue the mitigation in the Owens Valley area and prevent loss of groundwater storage especially in the Big Pines/ Fish Slough area.

Haley Miller, concerned citizen

## Laura Piper

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**From:** Joven, Francesca <Francesca.Joven@ladwp.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 26, 2021 11:14 AM  
**To:** Aaron Steinwand; Perez, Adam  
**Cc:** Laura Piper  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] agenda item 5  
**Attachments:** Agenda 5 mitigation then and now.pdf

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**From:** Sally Manning <[s.manning@bigpinepaiute.org](mailto:s.manning@bigpinepaiute.org)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 26, 2021 11:06 AM  
**To:** Joven, Francesca <Francesca.Joven@ladwp.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] agenda item 5

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Francesca,

As part of my comment an agenda item 5, I would like to present these photos in attached pdf.

Sally Manning, Environmental Director  
Big Pine Paiute Tribe of the Owens Valley  
P. O. Box 700  
825 S. Main St.  
Big Pine, CA 93513  
(760) 938-2003 ext. 233  
[s.manning@bigpinepaiute.org](mailto:s.manning@bigpinepaiute.org)

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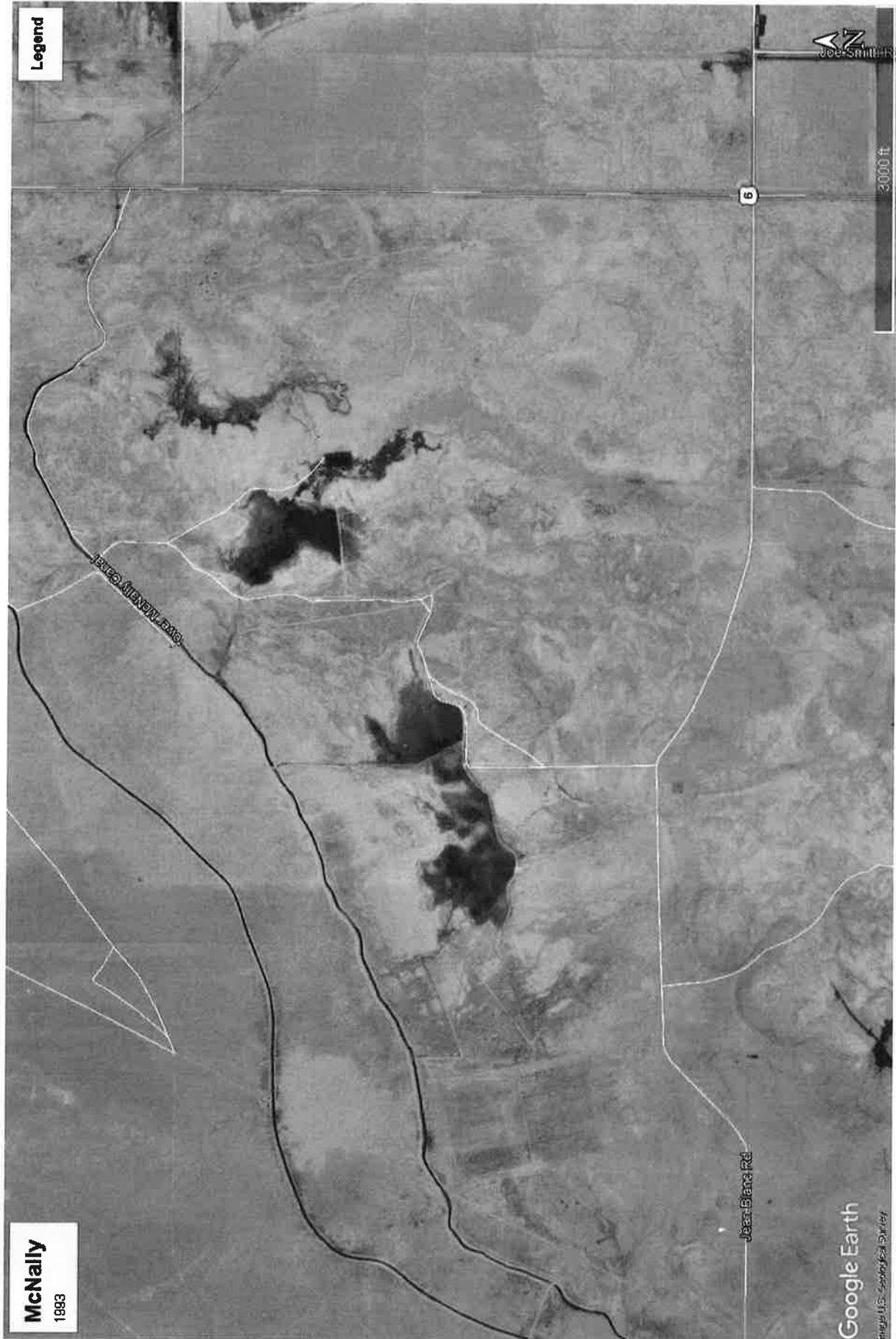
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Legend



2000 ft

**McNally**  
1983



Google Earth  
Digitized by Google Earth



Legend



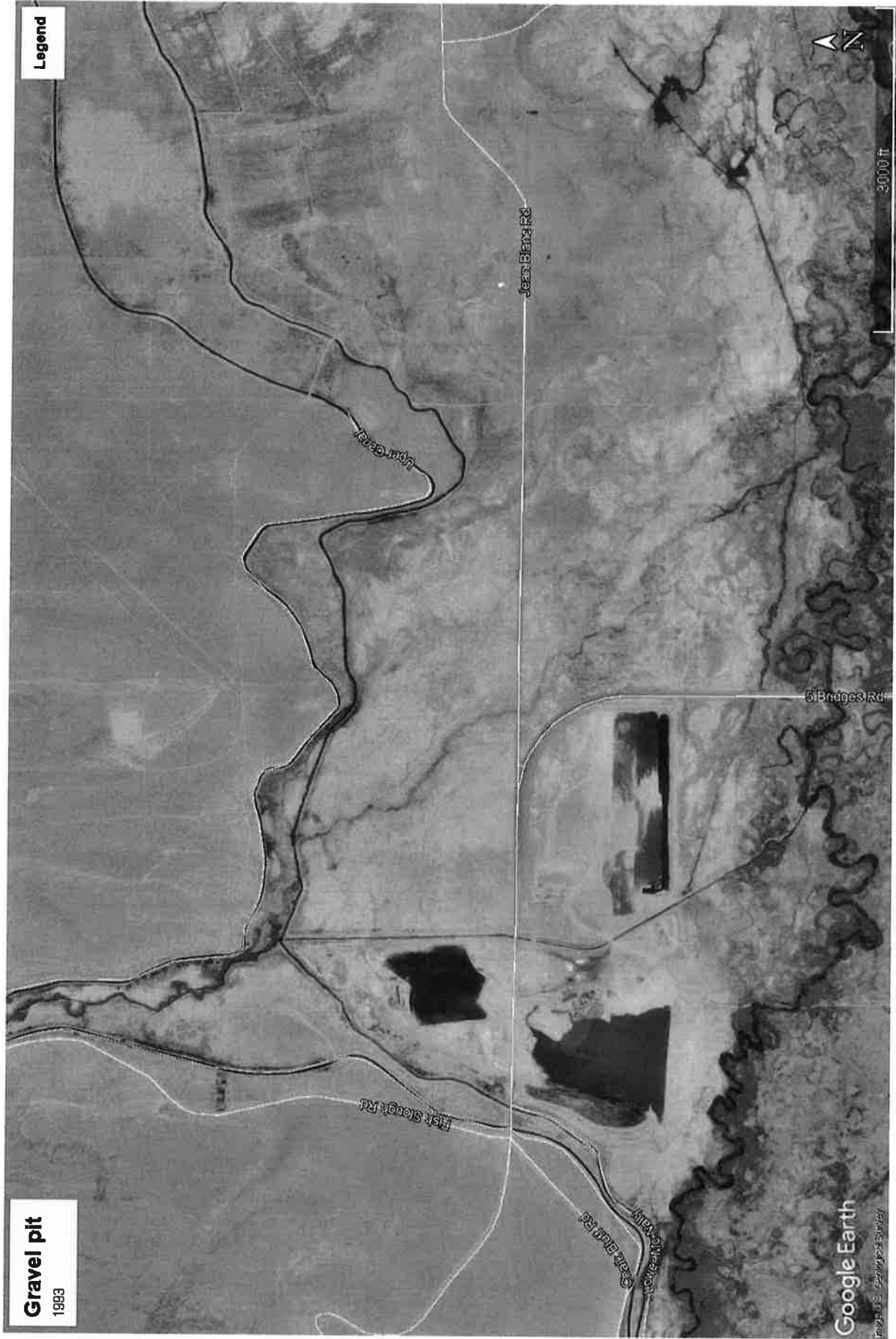
2000 ft



McNally  
2019

Google Earth

Gravel pits also along McNally Canals "in Laws" to west of e/m area.



Much larger wet area now



Legend

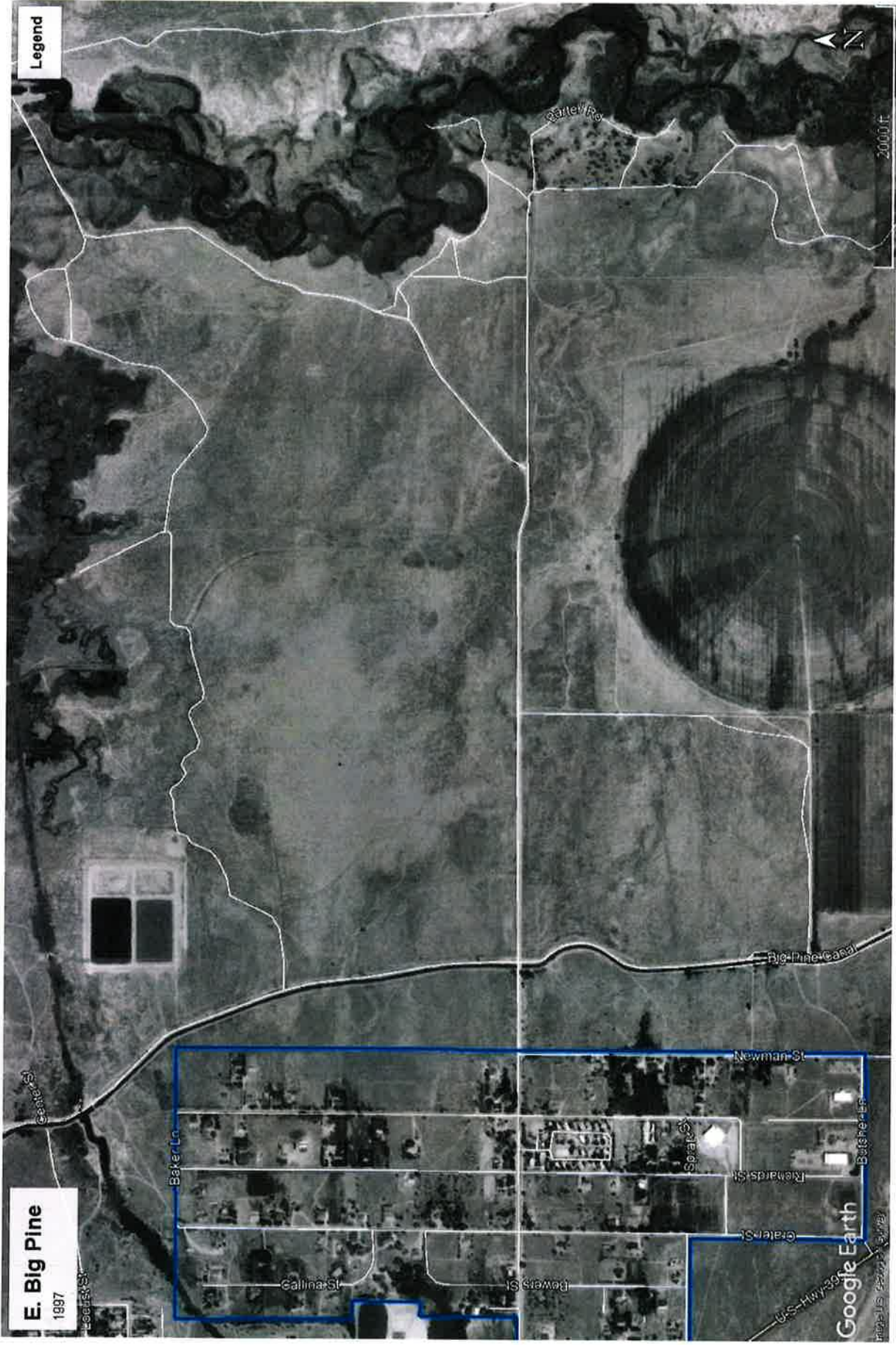
Gravel pit  
2019

2000 ft

Google Earth



Large area to east of Big Pine was supposed to receive mitigation. None in 1997 shown here.





None in 2016 shown here.

