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## PROJECT INFORMATION

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**Project Title:** Proposed License Amendment for Former UNC Church Rock Mill Site  
**Project Type:** MINING, CONTAINMENT PONDS AND PITS  
**Latitude/Longitude (DMS):** 35.648869 / -108.499810  
**County(s):** MC KINLEY  
**Project Description:** The Proposed Action would allow UNC to excavate approximately 1,000,000 cubic yards (CY) of mine spoils (consisting of overburden, waste rock and sub-economic material, or protore; referred to collectively as Technologically Enhanced Naturally Occurring Radioactive Materials from Uranium Mining, or TENORM) from the Northeast Church Rock Mine Site and place the waste at a NRC-licensed mill tailings impoundment at the former UNC Church Rock Mill Site.

## REQUESTOR INFORMATION

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**Project Organization:** US NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
**Contact Name:** Amy Minor  
**Email Address:** aminor@swri.org  
**Organization:** Southwest Research Institute  
**Address:** 6220 Culebra Rd, San Antonio TX 78238  
**Phone:** 2105225750

## OVERALL STATUS

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This report contains an initial list of recommendations regarding potential impacts to wildlife or wildlife habitats from the proposed project. Your project proposal is being forwarded to a New Mexico Department of Game and Fish (Department) biologist for review to determine whether there are any additional recommendations regarding the proposed actions. You should be notified within 30 days whether there are further recommendations regarding this project proposal.



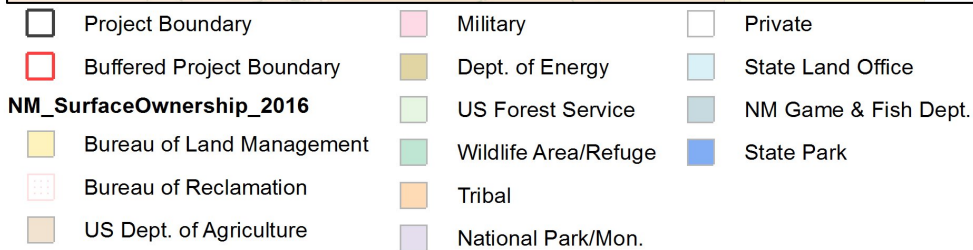
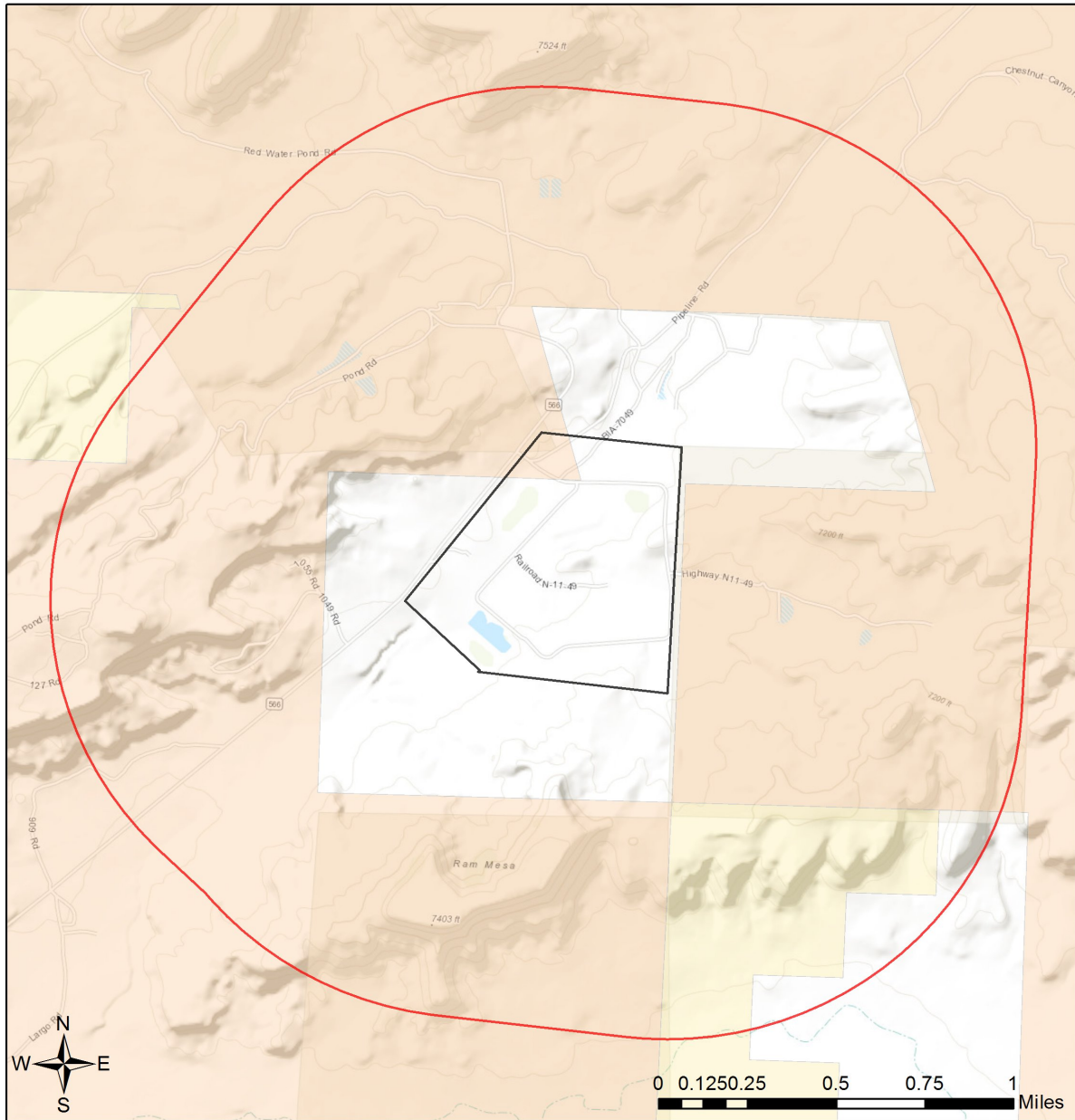
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**About this report:**

- This environmental review is based on the project description and location that was entered. The report must be updated if the project type, area, or operational components are modified.
- This is a preliminary environmental screening assessment and report. It is not a substitute for the potential wildlife knowledge gained by having a biologist conduct a field survey of the project area. Federal status and plant data are provided as a courtesy to users. The review is also not intended to replace consultation required under the federal Endangered Species Act (ESA), including impact analyses for federal resources from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) using their [Information for Planning and Consultation tool](#).
- The New Mexico Environmental Review Tool (ERT) utilizes species observation locations and species distribution models, both of which are subject to ongoing change and refinement. Inclusion or omission of a species within a report can not guarantee species presence or absence at a precise point location, as might be indicated through comprehensive biological surveys. Specific questions regarding the potential for adverse impacts to vulnerable wildlife populations or habitats, especially in areas with a limited history of biological surveys, may require further on-site assessments.
- The Department encourages use of the ERT to modify proposed projects for avoidance, minimization, or mitigation of wildlife impacts. However, the ERT is not intended to be used in a repeatedly iterative fashion to adjust project attributes until a previously determined recommendation is generated. The ERT serves to assess impacts once project details are developed. The [New Mexico Crucial Habitat Assessment Tool](#) is the appropriate system for advising early-stage project planning and design to avoid areas of anticipated wildlife concerns and associated regulatory requirements.



## Proposed License Amendment for Former UNC Church Rock Mill Site



Sources: Esri, HERE, Garmin, Intermap, increment P Corp., GEBCO, USGS, FAO, NPS, NRCAN, GeoBase, IGN, Kadaster NL, Ordnance Survey, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), (c) OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community



**Special Status Animal Species within 1 Miles of Project Area**

Common Name	Scientific Name	USFWS (ESA)	NMDGF (WCA)	NMDGF SGCN/SERI
<a href="#">Northern Leopard Frog</a>	<a href="#">Lithobates pipiens</a>			SGCN
<a href="#">Eared Grebe</a>	<a href="#">Podiceps nigricollis</a>			SGCN
<a href="#">Peregrine Falcon</a>	<a href="#">Falco peregrinus</a>		T	SGCN
<a href="#">Lewis's Woodpecker</a>	<a href="#">Melanerpes lewis</a>			SGCN
<a href="#">Williamson's Sapsucker</a>	<a href="#">Sphyrapicus thyroideus</a>			SGCN
<a href="#">Olive-Sided Flycatcher</a>	<a href="#">Contopus cooperi</a>			SGCN
<a href="#">Pinyon Jay</a>	<a href="#">Gymnorhinus cyanocephalus</a>			SGCN
<a href="#">Clark's Nutcracker</a>	<a href="#">Nucifraga columbiana</a>			SGCN
<a href="#">Juniper Titmouse</a>	<a href="#">Baeolophus ridgwayi</a>			SGCN
<a href="#">Pygmy Nuthatch</a>	<a href="#">Sitta pygmaea</a>			SGCN
<a href="#">Western Bluebird</a>	<a href="#">Sialia mexicana</a>			SGCN
<a href="#">Loggerhead Shrike</a>	<a href="#">Lanius ludovicianus</a>			SGCN
<a href="#">Gray Vireo</a>	<a href="#">Vireo vicinior</a>		T	SGCN
<a href="#">Spotted Bat</a>	<a href="#">Euderma maculatum</a>		T	SGCN
<a href="#">Gunnison's Prairie Dog</a>	<a href="#">Cynomys gunnisoni</a>			SGCN
<a href="#">Black Bear</a>	<a href="#">Ursus americanus</a>			SERI
<a href="#">Cougar</a>	<a href="#">Puma concolor</a>			SERI
<a href="#">Elk</a>	<a href="#">Cervus canadensis nelsoni</a>			SERI
<a href="#">Mule Deer</a>	<a href="#">Odocoileus hemionus</a>			SERI

ESA = Endangered Species Act, WCA = Wildlife Conservation Act, SGCN = Species of Greatest Conservation Need, SERI = Species of Economic and Recreational Importance

**Project Recommendations**

Your proposed project activities may require a custom review for assessment of potential effects to wildlife. If the information provided under the "OVERALL STATUS" section above indicates that your project will be forwarded for review, a Department biologist will confirm whether any additional conservation measures are needed. You should expect to receive any additional project recommendations within 30 days of your project submission. If the "OVERALL STATUS" section indicates that no further consultation with the Department is required, you should not expect to receive additional project feedback from the Department, and you may proceed with project planning as indicated.



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**Disclaimers regarding recommendations:**

- The Department provides technical guidance to support the persistence of all protected species of native fish and wildlife, including game and nongame wildlife species. Species listed within this report include those that have been documented to occur within the project area, and others that may not have been documented but are projected to occur within the project vicinity.
- Recommendations are provided by the Department under the authority of § 17-1-5.1 New Mexico Statutes Annotated 1978, to provide "communication and consultation with federal and other state agencies, local governments and communities, private organizations and affected interests responsible for habitat, wilderness, recreation, water quality and environmental protection to ensure comprehensive conservation services for hunters, anglers and nonconsumptive wildlife users".
- The Department has no authority for management of plants or Important Plant Areas. The [New Mexico Endangered Plant Program](#), under the Energy, Minerals, and Natural Resources Department's Forestry Division, identifies and develops conservation measures necessary to ensure the survival of plant species within New Mexico. Plant status information is provided within this report as a courtesy to users. Recommendations provided within the ERT may not be sufficient to preclude impacts to rare or sensitive plants, unless conservation measures are identified in coordination with the Endangered Plant Program.
- Additional coordination may also be necessary under the federal ESA or National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). Further site-specific recommendations may be proposed during ESA and/or NEPA analyses, or through coordination with affected federal agencies.