4. MINERAL RESOURCES

4.1 Regional and Project Environmental Setting

Under the Surface Mining and Reclamation Act of 1975 (SMARA) the California Geological Survey (CGS) develops mineral land classification maps and reports. Local agencies are required to use the classification information when developing land-use plans and when making land-use decisions. CGS has not yet produced a SMARA classification for Mendocino County (California Department of Conservation 2001).

The Mendocino County General Plan identifies asbestos, carbon dioxide, chromite, coal, copper, feldspar, gold, jade, limestone, magnesite, manganese, methane gas, mineral springs, natural gas, nickel, petroleum, phosphate, platinum, quicksilver, sand and gravel, and sulfur as minerals which have been found within the county.

Rock aggregate (or crushed rock) is the only mineral resource known to exist within JDSF. This resource would be developed and used for road surfacing materials on the State Forest only and not developed for commercial purposes. There is no evidence that valuable mineral resources have been identified or historically extracted from JDSF land. Neither past nor proposed CDF management activities impact valuable mineral resources. There are no known spatial, temporal, or cumulative relationships, vis-à-vis minerals, between JDSF and areas outside of JDSF.

Continued use of some existing rock pits (also referred to as borrow pits or quarries) will occur to obtain surface materials for JDSF roads. There are approximately 23 rock pits that have been historically used on JDSF. There has been no active quarrying within the past five or more years, except for small amounts (<100 cubic yards) of loose material taken from a limited number of existing rock pits. New rock pits or quarries are not contemplated; however, new ones could be considered depending on future need. Any new rock pit or quarry would be subject to separate environmental review when specific information is known regarding size and location.

4.2 Significance Criteria

CEQA states that a project would be considered to have a significant effect on mineral resources if it would result in one or more of the following:

- Result in the loss of a known valuable mineral resource.
- Result in the loss of availability of a locally important mineral resource identified in an approved land use plan.

4.3 Impacts

Impact 1: *Result In The Loss Of A Known Valuable Mineral Resource* (No Impact)

No known commercially valuable mineral resources exist within JDSF. Neither the project nor any of the alternatives will result in the loss of a valuable commercial mineral resource through either individual or cumulative impacts.

Mitigation: None required.

Impact 2: *Result In The Loss Of Availability Of A Locally Important Mineral Resource Identified In An Approved Land Use Plan.* (No Impact)

Neither the project nor any of the alternatives will result in the loss of availability of a locally important mineral resource as identified in the General Plan through either individual or cumulative impacts.

Mitigation: None required.

4.4 Alternatives

A comparison of impacts among alternatives is presented in Table VII.4.1

Table 4.1. Comparison of Mineral Resources Impacts by Alternatives.						
Alternatives						Discussion
Impact*	1	2	3	4	5	*Impact Levels: (1) Beneficial (2) No Impact (3) Less than Significant (4) Less than Significant after Mitigation (5) Significant–Mitigation Not Feasible
Impact 1. Result in the loss of a known valuable mineral resource						
Alt. A						None of the alternatives will result in the loss of a known valuable mineral through either individual or cumulative impacts.
Alt. B						
Alt. C1 May 2002 DFMP						
Alt. C2 Nov. 2002 Plan						
Alt. D						
Alt. E						
Alt. F						
Impact 2. Result in the loss of availability of a locally important mineral resource identified in an approved land use plan.						
Alt. A						None of the alternatives will result in the loss of availability of a locally important mineral resource identified in an approved land use plan through either individual or cumulative impacts.
Alt. B						
Alt. C1 May 2002 DFMP						
Alt. C2 Nov. 2002 Plan						
Alt. D						
Alt. E						
Alt. F						