



8/26/2021  
COR-20-069

Brent Martellaro  
Division of Mining, Land, and Water  
Department of Natural Resources  
3700 Airport Way  
Fairbanks, AK 99709-4699

**Plan of Operations Minor Modification - Proposed Bypass Road over Liese Creek to Support Site Infrastructure and Increasing Load Capacities**

Dear Brent Martellaro,

Northern Star (Pogo) LLC (NSR) requests a minor modification to the Plan of Operations (F20189500) to add a bypass road over Liese Creek. The bypass road will primarily support the transportation of loaded haul trucks due to the increase of load capacity and haulage capabilities. The bypass road will run nearly parallel to the existing Liese Bridge and Liese Creek will maintain unobstructed flow through 6 lengths of 20-foot corrugated steel culvert. During the initial construction phase, the east hillside of the Liese Bridge will be excavated. The excavation will widen the corner to allow for parallel transportation with the bridge and to minimize the blind right-hand corner as much as possible. The material will be used as fill when constructing the road on top of the culvert. During the second phase of the project, Liese bridge will be removed and replaced by fill to complete the widening of the road to support two-way traffic.

An application for disturbance was submitted to USACE on August 19, 2021 and is attached to this modification request.

Thank you for reviewing our proposal. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me via email at [nkehoe@nsrltd.com](mailto:nkehoe@nsrltd.com) or 907-895-2760, or Jim Coxon at [jcoxon@nsrltd.com](mailto:jcoxon@nsrltd.com).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. Coxon".

**Jim Coxon**  
**General Manager**  
**Northern Star (Pogo) LLC**

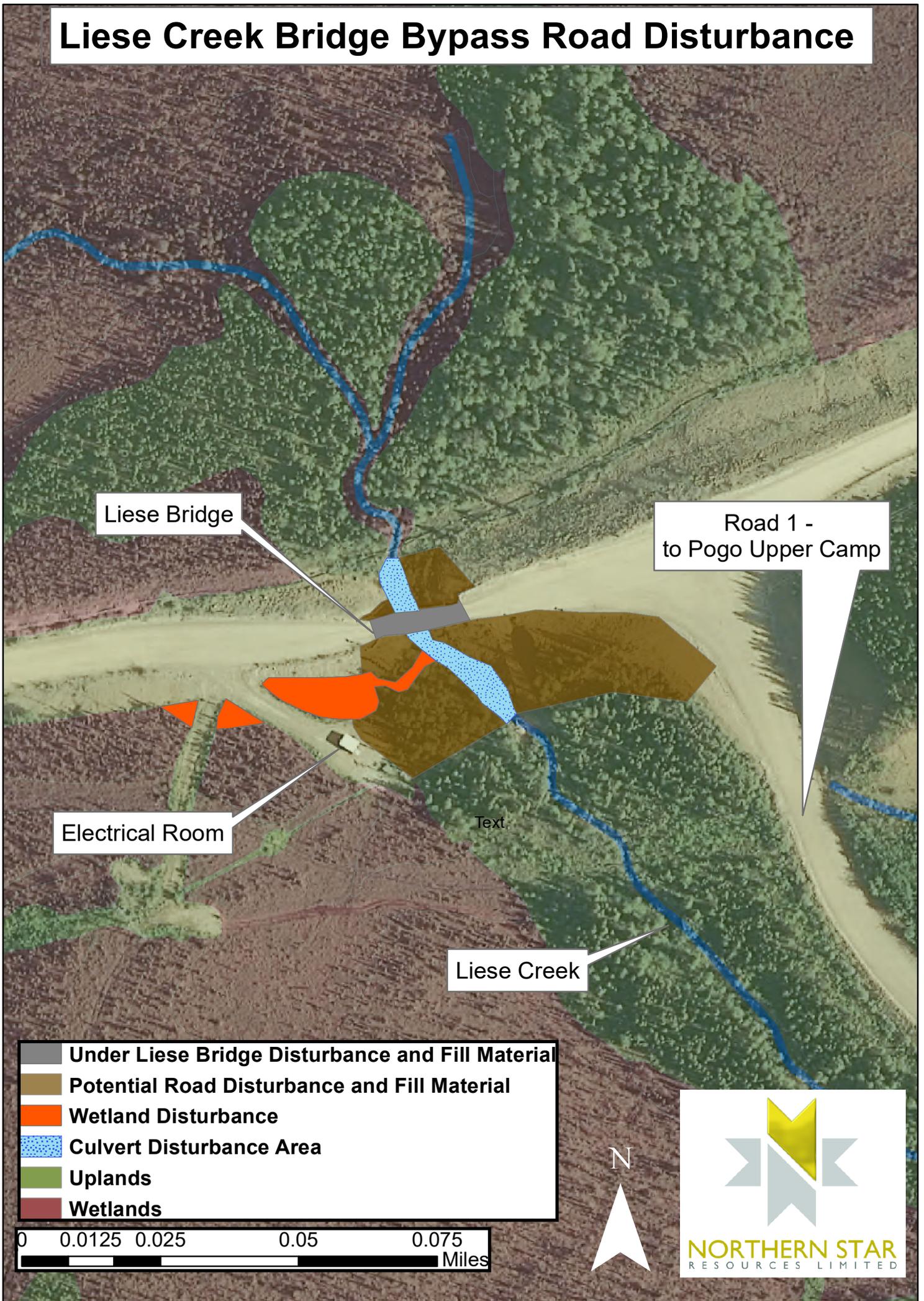
Encls: Attachment 1: Figures

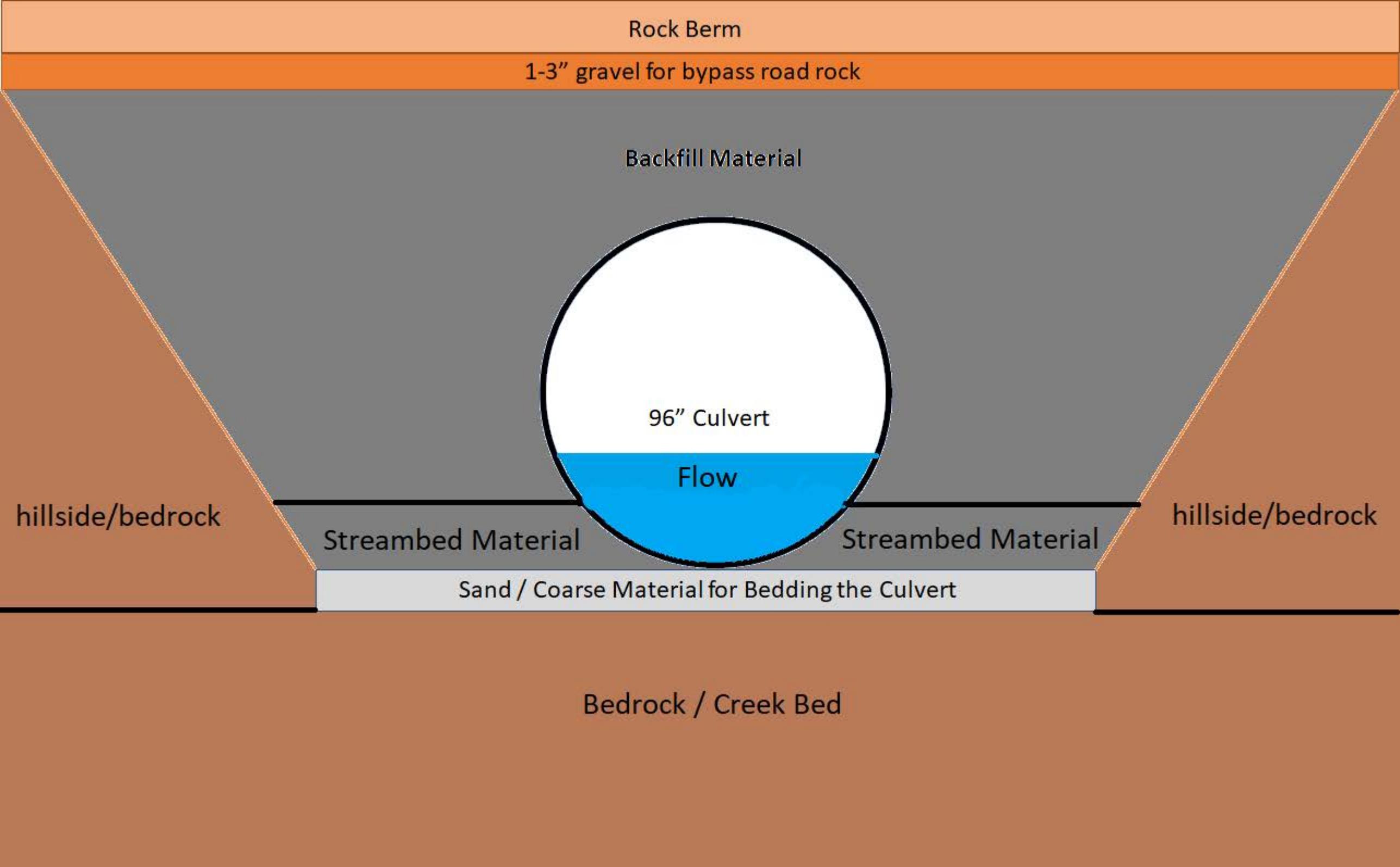
Liese Creek Culvert Project Area Map  
Culvert Construction Conceptual Drawing

Attachment 2: USACE Liese Creek Culvert Disturbance Permit Application

CC: William Groom (ADNR)  
Kate Harper (ADNR)  
Tim Pilon ADEC (ADNR)  
Jim Coxon (NSR)  
Pogo Environmental (NSR)

# Liese Creek Bridge Bypass Road Disturbance





Rock Berm

1-3" gravel for bypass road rock

Backfill Material

96" Culvert

Flow

Streambed Material

Streambed Material

Sand / Coarse Material for Bedding the Culvert

Bedrock / Creek Bed

hillside/bedrock

hillside/bedrock



NAME, LOCATION, AND DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT OR ACTIVITY			
13. NAME OF WATERBODY, IF KNOWN <i>(if applicable)</i> Liese Creek Intermittent Stream / Wetland		14. PROPOSED ACTIVITY STREET ADDRESS <i>(if applicable)</i> N/A	
15. LOCATION OF PROPOSED ACTIVITY <i>(see instructions)</i>		City:	State: Zip:
Latitude	°N	Longitude	°W
64.4603	Project Center	144.9283	Project Center
16. OTHER LOCATION DESCRIPTIONS, IF KNOWN <i>(see instructions)</i>			
State Tax Parcel ID		Municipality	
		N/A	
Section	Township	Range	
23	T5S	R14E	
17. DIRECTIONS TO THE SITE The Pogo Mine can be accessed from the Richardson Highway in Delta Junction Alaska via Shaw Creek Road. At the end of Shaw Creek Road there is a private gate to access the 50-mile Pogo Mine Access Road. The culvert will be installed upstream of Liese Creek Bridge, which is along Pogo Mine Road 2.			
18. IDENTIFY THE SPECIFIC NATIONWIDE PERMIT(S) YOU PROPOSE TO USE Nation Wide Permit 14 - Linear Transportation Projects			
19. DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED NATIONWIDE PERMIT ACTIVITY <i>(see instructions)</i> NSR would like to disturb 0.23 acres of wetlands to build a bypass road past the Liese Creek Bridge. The intermittent creek will flow unobstructed through approximately 120 feet of 96-inch corrugated steel culvert (six sections). The culvert will extend under the current bridge that provides access over Liese Creek so the existing bridge can eventually be removed and replaced. The bypass road will be widened to extend where the current bridge is installed. Liese Creek does not support any fish species and the project will not adversely impact wildlife habitat.			
20. DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED MITIGATION MEASURES <i>(see instructions)</i> A culvert will be installed to control erosion and any road washout potential during rain events and spring thaw when there may be water flowing in the intermittent stream. During construction of the road, Pogo will use survey control to delineate and closely follow proposed project boundaries. Large cobbles and boulders will be used around the culvert to ensure sediment is not transported into the creek.			
21. PURPOSE OF NATIONWIDE PERMIT ACTIVITY <i>(Describe the reason or purpose of the project, see instructions)</i> The project proposes to create a bypass road to the Liese Creek Bridge. The current haulage needs of our operation will exceed the load capacity of the existing bridge. The new road with the culvert will be primarily for loaded haul truck travel, while the Liese Creek Bridge will remain in place for light vehicles and unloaded haul trucks. Subsequently, the Liese Creek Bridge will be removed and the bypass road will be widened to extend to where the current bridge is installed. The creek and wetland disturbance, as well as culvert, are included in this Pre-Construction Notification.			
22. QUANTITY OF WETLANDS, STREAMS, OR OTHER TYPES OF WATERS DIRECTLY AFFECTED BY PROPOSED NATIONWIDE PERMIT ACTIVITY <i>(see instructions)</i>			
Acres	Linear Feet	Cubic Yards Dredged or Discharged	
0.23	472'	~23,000 CY	
<b>Each PCN must include a delineation of wetlands, other special aquatic sites, and other waters, such as lakes and ponds, and perennial, intermittent, and ephemeral streams, on the project site.</b>			
23. List any other NWP(s), regional general permit(s), or individual permit(s) used or intended to be used to authorize any part of the proposed project or any related activity. <i>(see instructions)</i> N/A			
24. If the proposed activity will result in the loss of greater than 1/10-acre of wetlands and requires pre-construction notification, explain how the compensatory mitigation requirement in paragraph (c) of general condition 23 will be satisfied, or explain why the adverse environmental effects are no more than minimal and why compensatory mitigation should not be required for the proposed activity. Liese Creek flows will be preserved using the culvert and proposed mitigation measures above. Impacted wetlands are adjacent to already			

25. Is any portion of the nationwide permit activity already complete?  Yes  No If Yes, describe the completed work:

26. List the name(s) of any species listed as endangered or threatened under the Endangered Species Act that might be affected by the proposed NWP activity or utilize the designated critical habitat that might be affected by the proposed NWP activity. (see instructions)  
N/A

27. List any historic properties that have the potential to be affected by the proposed NWP activity or include a vicinity map indicating the location of the historic property or properties. (see instructions)  
N/A

28. For a proposed NWP activity that will occur in a component of the National Wild and Scenic River System, or in a river officially designated by Congress as a "study river" for possible inclusion in the system while the river is in an official study status, identify the Wild and Scenic River or the "study river":  
N/A

29. If the proposed NWP activity also requires permission from the Corps pursuant to 33 U.S.C. 408 because it will alter or temporarily or permanently occupy or use a U.S. Army Corps of Engineers federally authorized civil works project, have you submitted a written request for section 408 permission from the Corps district having jurisdiction over that project?  Yes  No  
If "yes", please provide the date your request was submitted to the Corps district:

30. If the terms of the NWP(s) you want to use require additional information to be included in the PCN, please include that information in this space or provide it on an additional sheet of paper marked Block 30. (see instructions)  
N/A

31. Pre-construction notification is hereby made for one or more nationwide permit(s) to authorize the work described in this notification. I certify that the information in this pre-construction notification is complete and accurate. I further certify that I possess the authority to undertake the work described herein or am acting as the duly authorized agent of the applicant.




\_\_\_\_\_ 18 Aug 21 \_\_\_\_\_ 8/18/21  
 SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT                      DATE                      SIGNATURE OF AGENT                      DATE

The pre-construction notification must be signed by the person who desires to undertake the proposed activity (applicant) and, if the statement in Block 11 has been filled out and signed, the authorized agent.

18 U.S.C. Section 1001 provides that: Whoever, in any manner within the jurisdiction of any department or agency of the United States knowingly and willfully falsifies, conceals, or covers up any trick, scheme, or disguises a material fact or makes any false, fictitious or fraudulent statements or representations or makes or uses any false writing or document knowing same to contain any false, fictitious or fraudulent statements or entry, shall be fined not more than \$10,000 or imprisoned not more than five years or both.