

BULLETIN

News from *SubTerra, Inc.*[®]

River Gravel Deposit and Preliminary Mining Plan Middle Fork Snoqualmie River North Bend, Washington

*Land holdings of the Weyerhaeuser Company include a gravel deposit located along the Middle Fork of the Snoqualmie River near the city of North Bend, King County, Washington. This deposit was part of a previously estimated 400 million cubic yard resource that could become economically viable with expanded eastward development in the Puget Sound region. The Weyerhaeuser Company retained **SubTerra, Inc.**, to perform a detailed analysis of the deposit.*



SubTerra undertook an assessment of the gravel deposit to determine current economic viability of the site. This involved verifying estimated gravel aggregate resources, determining the quality of the gravel, and developing a preliminary mine plan to optimize the unit value of the site. Specific steps included:

1. Evaluation of size, continuity and quality of the gravel deposit through:
 - Geologic site reconnaissance;
 - 1345 feet of reverse circulation percussion drilling at seven locations across the deposit;
 - Digging exploration with a track-mounted excavator in areas inaccessible for drilling.
2. Quality testing of the gravel using standard laboratory tests:
 - L.A. Abrasion Test
 - Specific Gravity

- Absorption
 - Washington Degradation Test
 - Sodium Sulfate Soundness
3. Characterization of the composition of the deposit:
 - Cross-section interpretations correlating data from drill holes, exploration pits and outcrops.
 - Superposition of laboratory test results and geologic reconnaissance with the cross-sections.
 4. Development of a mine plan designed to yield the maximum quantity of gravel, while involving the minimum amount of acreage.
 5. Preliminary viability assessment using estimated pre-development, mining, processing and reclamation costs in conjunction with local aggregate sales data.