

U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management
Carson City District Office

**CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION
ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW AND APPROVAL**

Project Creator: Kenneth Depaoli

Field Office: Stillwater

Lead Office: Carson City District Office

Case File/Project Number: NVN 091897

Applicable Categorical Exclusion 516 DM 11.9, F (10) Digging of exploratory trenches for mineral materials, except in riparian areas.

NEPA Number: DOI-BLM-NV-2013-C010-0043-CX

Project Name: Churchill County Exploration

Project Description: Churchill County proposes to excavate 5 test pits to explore for a possible gravel source. The locations are shown on the attached map. An excavator will be used to excavate the test pits. The test pits will help determine the extent of the gravel material that is adequate for Churchill County gravel projects. Final reclamation will be achieved by backfilling all excavations and re-contouring the surface to its original topography. Access is across existing dirt road and cross country travel. The test pits locations are not within a riparian area. The size of the project area is approximately 1.0 acre.

Applicant Name: Churchill County

Project Location: T. 18N, R. 30E, Section 36 SESW
T. 18N, R. 30E, Section 36 NESE
T. 18N, R. 31E, Section 30 SENE
T. 18N, R. 31E, Section 31 NESW

BLM Acres for the Project Area: 1.0

Land Use Plan Conformance: This action is in conformance with the Carson City Field Office Consolidated Resource Management Plan (2001) page MIN-1, RMP Level Decisions, Desired Outcomes 1. "Encourage development of energy and mineral resources in a timely manner to meet national, regional and local needs consistent with the objectives for other public land uses.

Name of Plan: Carson City Field Office Consolidated Resource Management Plan (2001)

Screening of Extraordinary Circumstances: The following extraordinary circumstances apply to individual actions within categorical exclusions (43 CFR 46.215). The BLM has considered the following criteria: (Specialist review: initial in appropriate box)

<i>If any question is answered 'yes' an EA or EIS must be prepared.</i>	YES	NO
1. Would the Proposed Action have significant impacts on public health or safety? (Range-Jill Devaurs)		JD
2. Would the Proposed Action have significant impacts on such natural resources and unique geographic characteristics as historic or cultural resources; park, recreation or refuge lands; wilderness areas; wild or scenic rivers; national natural landmarks; sole or principal drinking water aquifers; prime farmlands; wetlands (EO 11990); floodplains (EO 11988); national monuments; migratory birds (EO 13186); and other ecologically significant or critical areas? (Archeology, Recreation, Wilderness, Wildlife, Range by allotment, Water Quality)		JD LA KS
3. Would the Proposed Action have highly controversial environmental effects or involve unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources [NEPA 102(2)(E)]? (PEC)		PAZ
4. Would the Proposed Action have highly uncertain and potentially significant environmental effects or involve unique or unknown environmental risks? (PEC)		PAZ
5. Would the Proposed Action establish a precedent for future action or represent a decision in principle about future actions with potentially significant environmental effects? (PEC)		PAZ
6. Would the Proposed Action have a direct relationship to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant environmental effects? (PEC)		PAZ
7. Would the Proposed Action have significant impacts on properties listed, or eligible for listing, on the NRHP as determined by the bureau or office? (Archeology)		JM
8. Would the Proposed Action have significant impacts on species listed, or proposed to be listed, on the list of Endangered or Threatened Species, or have significant impacts on designated Critical Habitat for these species? (Wildlife)		CK
9. Would the Proposed Action violate federal law, or a State, local or tribal law or requirement imposed for the protection of the environment? (PEC and Archeology)		DD
10. Would the Proposed Action have a disproportionately high and adverse effect on low income or minority populations (EA 12898)? ((PEC)		PAZ
11. Would the Proposed Action limit access to and ceremonial use of Indian sacred sites on federal lands by Indian religious practitioners or significantly adversely affect the physical integrity of such sacred sites (EO 13007)? (Archeology)		JM
12. Would the Proposed Action contribute to the introduction, continued existence, or spread of noxious weeds or non-native species known to occur in the area or actions that may promote the introduction, growth, or expansion of the range of such species (Federal Noxious Weed Control Act and EO 13112)? (Range-Jill Devaurs)		JD

SPECIALISTS' REVIEW:

During ID Team review of the above Proposed Action and extraordinary circumstances, the following specialists reviewed this CX:

Planning Environmental Coordinator, Angelica Rose: *ADR 3/4/13*
Public Health and Safety/Grazing/Noxious Weeds, Linda Appel/Jill Devaurs: *JD 3-4-13*
Recreation/Wilderness/VRM/LWC, Dan Westermeyer: *DW 3/4/13*
Wildlife/T&E (BLM Sensitive Species): *CL 7/22/13*
Archeology, Jason Wright: *JW 7-22-13*
Water Quality, Kelley Sterle: *KS 3/4/2013*
Soils, Jill Devaurs/Linda Appel/Chelsy Simerson: *LA 3/4/13*

CONCLUSION: Based upon the review of this Proposed Action, I have determined that the above-described project is a categorical exclusion, in conformance with the LUP, and does not require an EA or EIS. A categorical exclusion is not subject to protest or appeal.

Approved by:

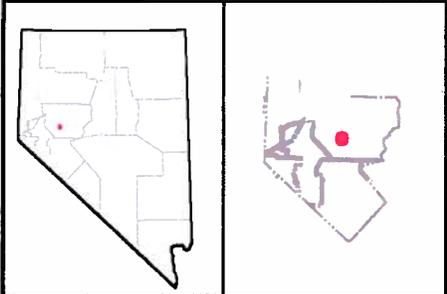
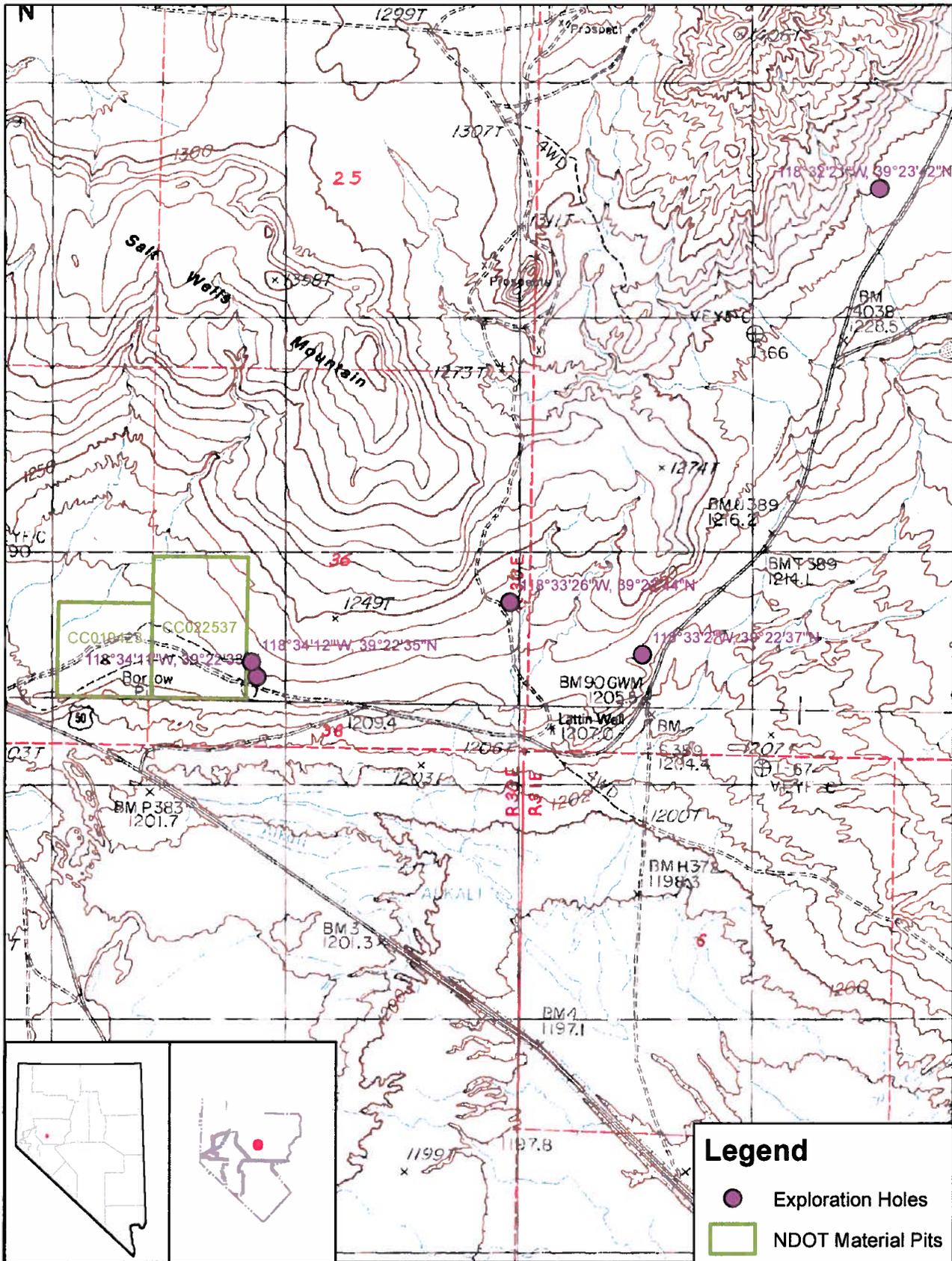
Teresa J. Knutson
Teresa J. Knutson
Field Manager
Stillwater Field Office

8/1/2013

(date)



NVN-91897



Legend

- Exploration Holes
- NDOT Material Pits

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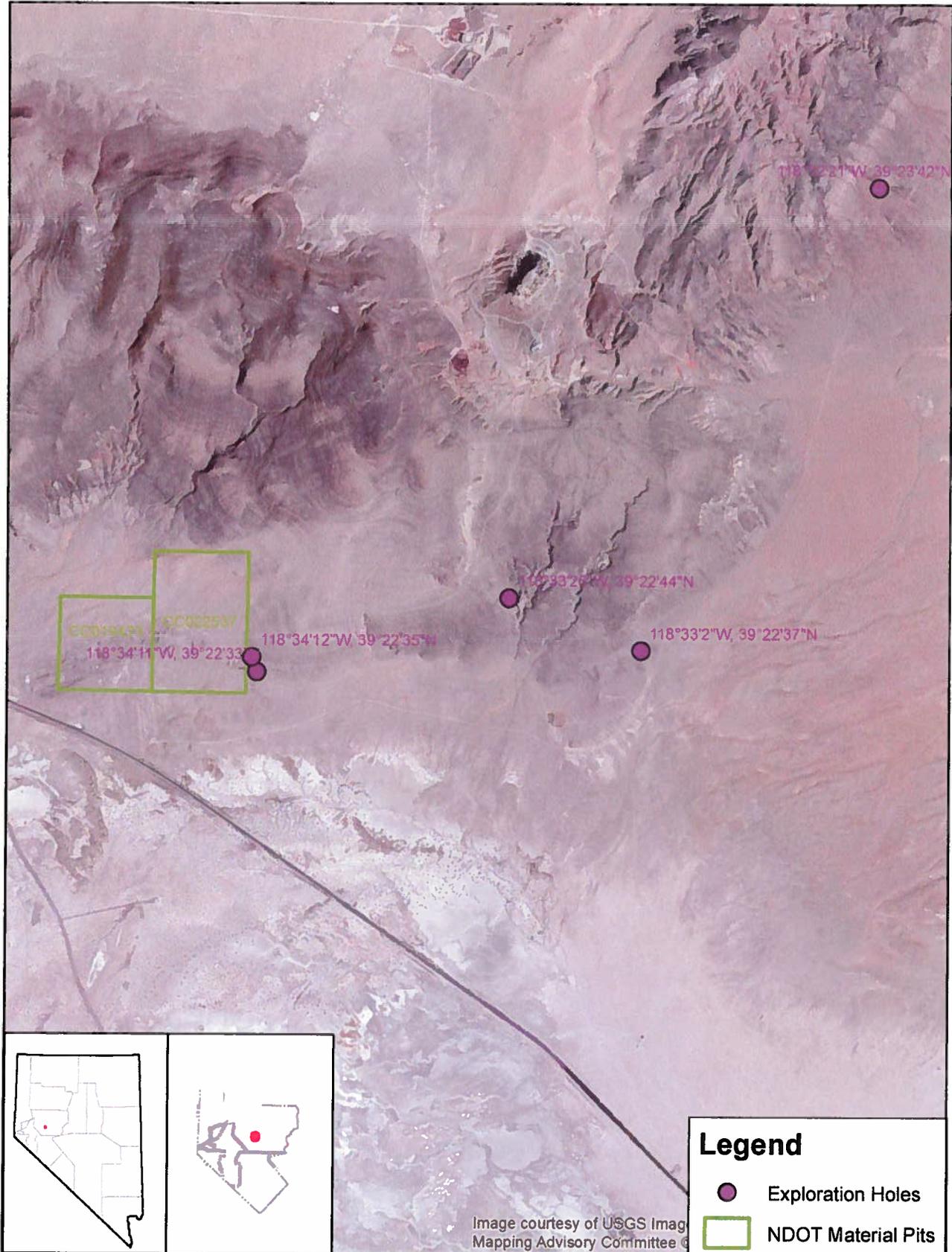
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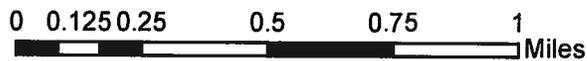


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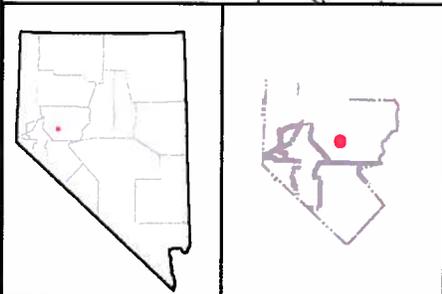
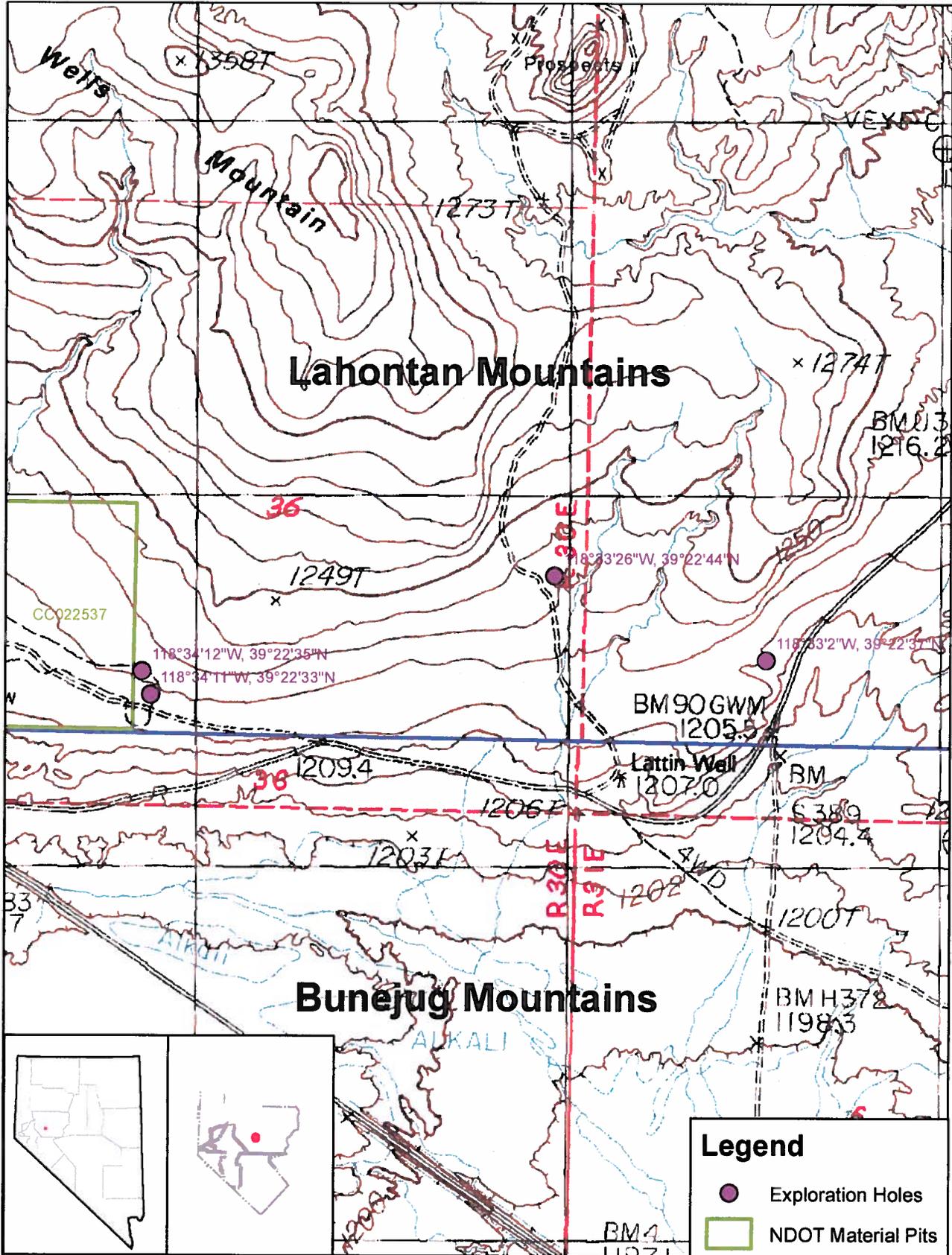
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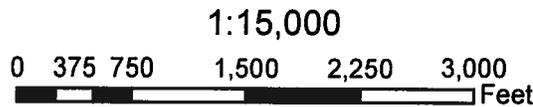
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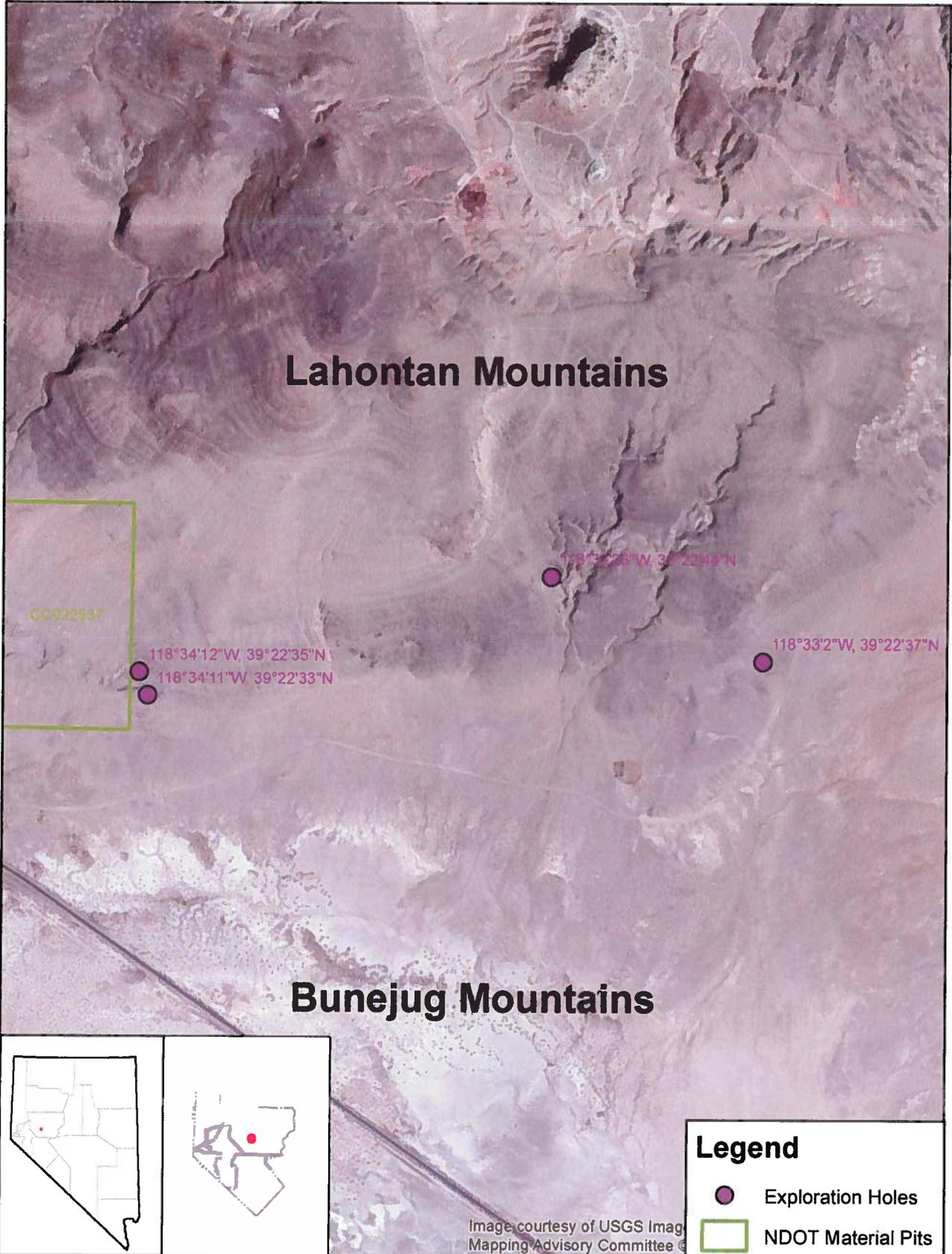
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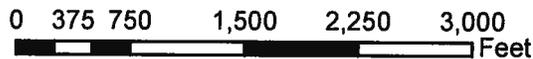


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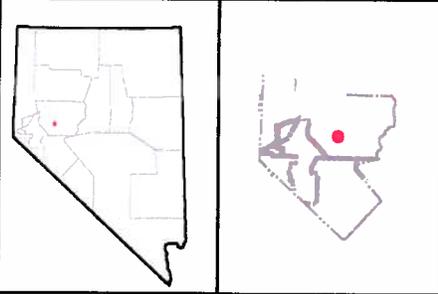
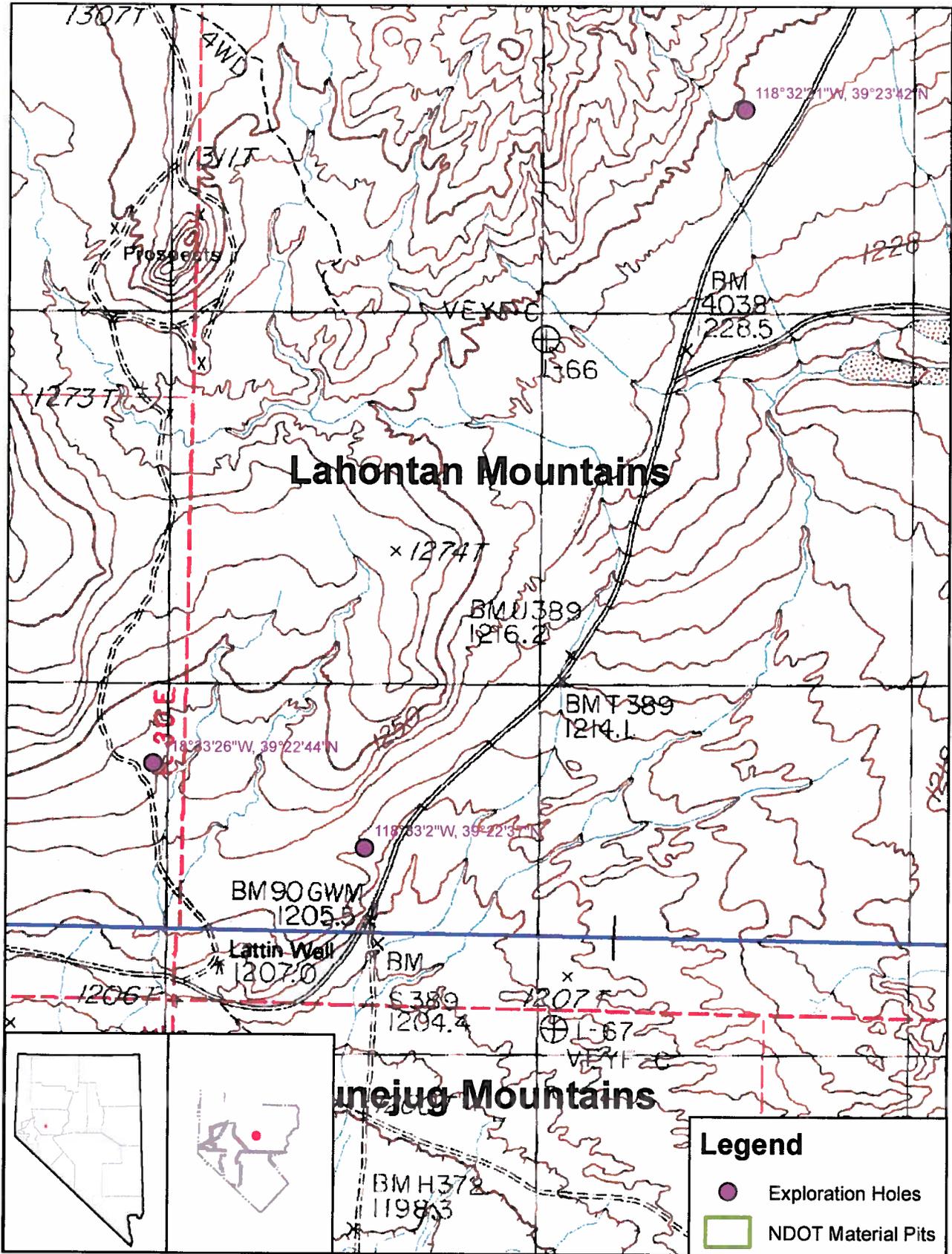
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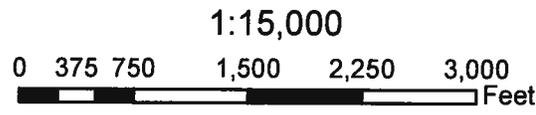
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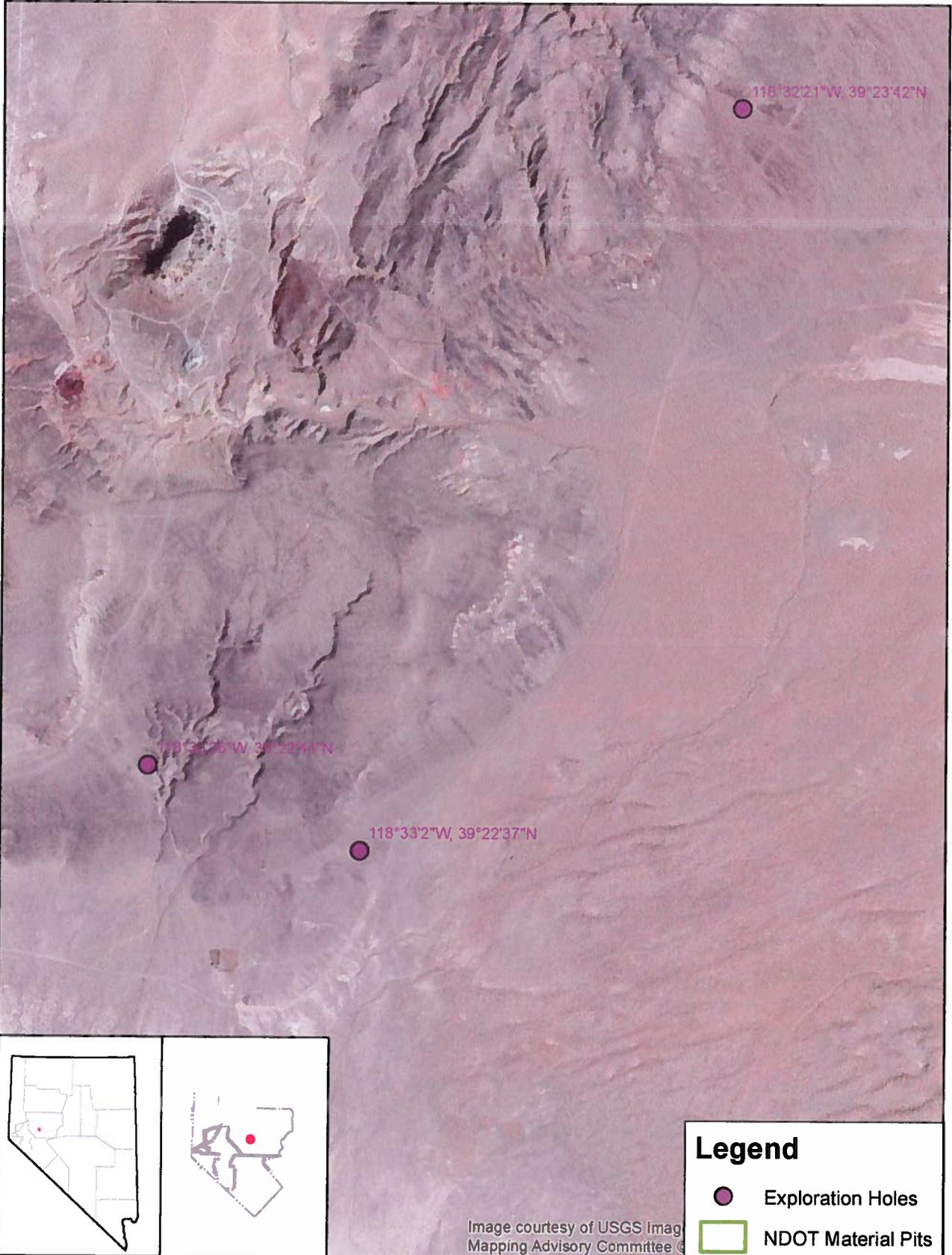
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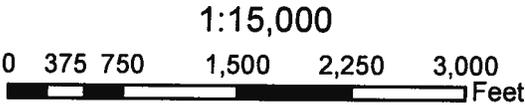


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Image courtesy of USGS Imagery
Mapping Advisory Committee ©

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