

Table 2.2
Summary Comparison of Magnitude and Duration of Direct and Indirect Impacts for No-Action,
Proposed Action, and Alternative C (Modified leasing)

Description of Potential Impacts by Resource	Magnitude and Duration of Impact	
	Resource Name	No-Action Alternative (B)
Air Quality		
IMPACTS ASSOCIATED WITH MINING OPERATIONS would include:		
Elevated concentrations of particulate matter	Moderate, short term on active mine areas	Same as No-Action on expanded mine areas
Elevated concentrations of gaseous emissions	Moderate, short term on active mine areas	Same as No-Action on expanded mine areas
Water Resources		
IMPACTS ASSOCIATED WITH MINING OPERATIONS would include:		
Surface Water		
Disruption of surface drainage systems	Moderate, short term on active mine area	Same as No-Action on expanded mine areas
Increased runoff and erosion rates	Moderate, short term near active mine area	Same as No-Action on expanded mine areas
Ground Water		
Removal of shallow aquifers	Moderate, short term on active mine area	Same as No-Action on expanded mine areas
Replacement of shallow aquifers with spoil aquifers	Moderate, long term on disturbed areas	Same as No-Action on expanded mine areas
Depressed water levels in aquifers adjacent to mine	Moderate, short term near active mine area	Same as No-Action on expanded mine areas
Change in groundwater quality in backfilled areas	Moderate, long term near active mine area	Same as No-Action on expanded mine areas
Soils		
IMPACTS ASSOCIATED WITH MINING OPERATIONS would include:		
Loss of soil productivity	Moderate, short term on active mine areas	Same as No-Action on expanded mine areas
Soil instability and increased erosion	Moderate, short term on active mine areas	Same as No-Action on expanded mine areas
Disturbance of prime farmland	Moderate, short term on active mine areas	Same as No-Action on expanded mine areas
Land Use/Vegetation		
PROGRESSIVE LOSS OF NATIVE VEGETATION would result in:		
Increased erosion	Moderate, short term on active mine areas	Same as No-Action on expanded mine areas
Wildlife and livestock habitat loss	Moderate, short term on active mine areas	Same as No-Action on expanded mine areas
Wildlife habitat carrying-capacity loss	Moderate, short term on active mine areas	Same as No-Action on expanded mine areas

Description of Potential Impacts by Resource	Magnitude and Duration of Impact	
	Resource Name	No-Action Alternative (B)
AFTER RECLAMATION the following could result: Changes in vegetation patterns: Reduction in vegetation diversity	Moderate, short term on active mine areas Moderate, short term on active mine areas	Same as No-Action on expanded mine areas Same as No-Action on expanded mine areas
Wildlife DURING MINING the following could occur: Wildlife displacement Increased mortality rate of small mammals, amphibians, and reptiles Temporary displacement of mammals, amphibians, reptiles, and birds Loss of habitat for migratory birds Reduction in waterfowl resting and feeding habitat Temporary wildlife habitat loss Continued road kills by mine-related traffic	Moderate, short term on active mine areas Moderate, short term on active mine areas	Same as No-Action on expanded mine areas Same as No-Action on expanded mine areas
Cultural IMPACTS ASSOCIATED WITH MINING OPERATIONS would include: Loss of 91 sites (14 are NR eligible); 624 stone features (rings, cairns, and alignments); and 5,323 acres of cultural landscape.	Major, long term on active mine areas	Same as No-Action on expanded mine areas Under Alternative C (Preferred) 38 sites, 14 NR-eligible sites, 431 stone features, 1,325 acres placed in American Indian Education Trust as an offset to impacts.
Environmental Justice EFFECTS DURING MINING would include: (See Cultural impacts)	See Cultural impacts	See Cultural impacts
Socio-economics EFFECTS DURING MINING would include: Employment Potential (no additional jobs in mine are expected)	Moderate, beneficial, short term on existing mine area	Same as No-Action on expanded mine areas