

**Public Notice - 401 Certification / Dredge or Fill Waste Discharge Requirements
Application**

Date:

May 28, 2026

Applicant:

Quirt Monchamp, General Manager
Western Mesquite Mines, Inc.
6502 E US Hwy 78
Brawley, CA 92227
(928) 341-4653
quirt.monchamp@equinoxgold.com

Duly Authorized Representative:

Ron Leiken, Environmental Permitting Manager
Western Mesquite Mines, Inc.
6502 E US Hwy 78
Brawley, CA 92227
(928) 341-4653, Ext 3214
ron.leiken@equinoxgold.com

Project Name:

Western Mesquite Mines Pad 8/Section 16 Build Out Project

Receiving Water(s):

Project impacts will occur within Unnamed ephemeral braided streams/channels within the Amos-Ogilby Hydrologic Unit which is originating from Ninemile Wash.

WDID No.: 7A133173001, RM: 449089, Place ID: 883095

Location:

City or Area:

The Project site is located at 6502 E Highway 78, approximately 35 miles east of Brawley, Imperial County, California.

Latitude/Longitude:

33° 03' 53" N, 114° 59' 49" W

Section, Township, Range:

Section 16, Township 13 South, Range 19 East

Project Description:

Western Mesquite Mines, Inc. (WMMI) proposes to construct Heap Leach Pad 8 (Pad 8) within Section 16 at the Western Mesquite Mine. To help maximize and optimize usage of existing leach pad space at the Mesquite Mine, WMMI's Mesquite Leach Pad Optimization Program proposes to extend the current processing pads to the remainder

eastern sliver of the area in Township 13 South, Range 19 East, Section 16. This area is immediately adjacent to the existing Pad 6 within Section 16, which will be called Pad 8. The entire Section 16 (including the proposed Pad 8 area) was previously approved for leach pads by Imperial County and BLM in 1989 and again as part of a larger project in 2002, but has not yet been constructed. Therefore, all Project activity will be kept within the previously permitted footprint that has already been reviewed and approved under the prior CEQA documents. There are no changes to the project beyond what was already reviewed and approved in 1989 so there would be no change or any additional environmental impacts above those previously evaluated.

The Project will permanently impact 26.34 acres (245,599 cubic yards) of waters of the state. Western Mesquite Mines, Inc. is proposing a mitigation area of approximately 639.56 acres. The mitigation area contains approximately 345.20 acres of non-wetland waters of the State. No temporary impacts are anticipated within the Project site.

Anticipated Project Start and End Dates:

September 1, 2026 – August 31, 2027

The estimated construction duration is approximately 9-12 months.

US Army Corps of Engineers Nationwide Permit Number(s):

None

Action:

None

Water Board Contact:

Logan Raub, Senior Environmental Scientist
(760) 776-8966

Logan.Raub@waterboards.ca.gov