



**US Army Corps
of Engineers**

Tarmac King Road Limestone Mine

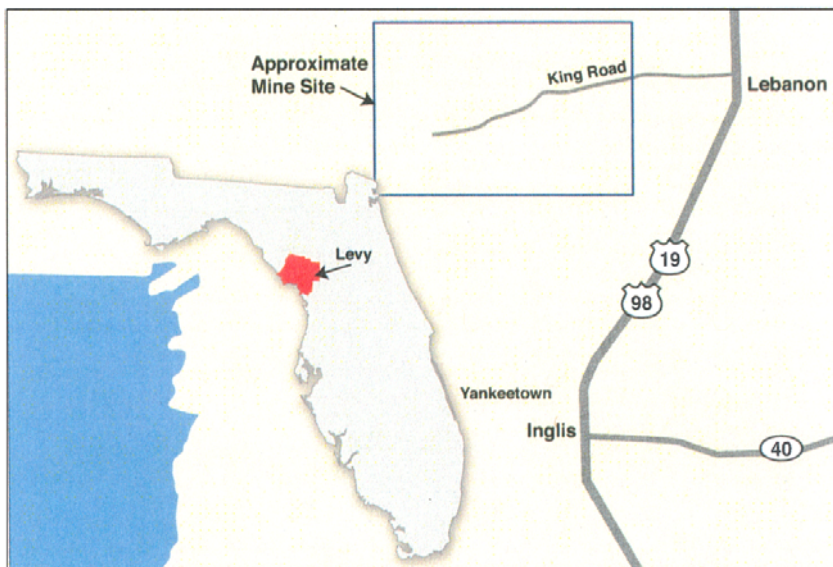
*Environmental Impact
Statement*



The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) intends to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), referred to as the Tarmac King Road Limestone Mine EIS, to evaluate potential impacts of further rock mining in wetlands in southern Levy County, Florida. The mining area includes approximately 4,800 acres, of which 2,700 acres will be mined, and is located five miles north of the town of Inglis.

Why Prepare the EIS?

The limestone industry wants to obtain a mining permit from the Corps to provide construction-grade aggregate that meets the Florida Department of Transportation specifications for buildings and infrastructure. The proposed mine is to provide this aggregate for Tarmac's and its customer's use in the west central area of Florida. The Corps recognizes there is a public and private need for this product. The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) requires federal agencies to conduct an EIS for major federal actions that could have significant impacts on the environment.



Location of Tarmac King Road Limestone Mine

Alternatives and Issues to Be Considered in the EIS

Alternatives to be considered will be determined with public input through the scoping process. However, at a minimum, the Tarmac King Road Limestone Mine EIS will include an evaluation of a No Action alternative and rock mining in other areas both inside and outside of Levy County and/or Florida. The EIS will analyze reasonable alternatives to obtaining construction grade limestone to meet the public and private need for it.

The following issues have been identified for analysis in the EIS; the list is preliminary and is intended to facilitate public comment on the scope of the EIS: Federally-listed threatened and endangered species, health and safety, socioeconomics, aesthetics, general environmental concerns, wetlands (and other aquatic resources), historic properties, cultural resources, fish and wildlife values, land use, transportation, recreation, water supply and conservation, water quality, energy needs,

considerations of property ownership, and, in general, the needs and welfare of the people.

Other issues will be identified through scoping, public involvement, and interagency coordination. Currently, primary areas of environmental concern are the loss of wetlands functions and value, mitigation of such losses, and the effect of proposed mining on groundwater and surface water quality and on transportation.



The EIS will consider potential impacts on wetlands and wildlife.

How Will the EIS Be Developed?

Scoping—Scoping began with publication in the *Federal Register* of a Notice of Intent (NOI) to let the public know that the Corps is considering an action and will prepare an EIS. The Tarmac King Road Limestone Mine NOI was published on February 19, 2008. It announced that the scoping period would extend February 19 through April 26, 2008, during which time the public can provide comments on the proposed action, issues, alternatives, and impacts to be analyzed. The NOI also provided details of the public scoping meetings and means for submitting comments.

Draft EIS—The Draft EIS will present, analyze, and compare the potential environmental impacts of the proposed action and alternatives and their implementation. It will also provide information on methodologies and assumptions used in the analyses. The document will be made available for public review and comment. Public meetings will be held on the Draft EIS, and comments will be considered in preparation of the Final EIS.

Final EIS—When the public comment period on the Draft is completed, a Final EIS that reflects public input will be prepared and made available.

Record of Decision—Following a minimum 30-day waiting period after the Final EIS is published; a Record of Decision will be issued.

How Can the Public Participate?

All interested parties are invited to participate in the EIS process. Public meetings will be held and comments sought during scoping and after issuance of the Draft EIS. Meetings to address discrete issues or parts or functions of the study area may be held, and they will also be open to the public.

Materials related to development of the EIS will be available at www.kingroadeis.com and provided to public reading rooms as they become available.

To request additional information, contact:

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