

Overview

By recycling concrete material into aggregates, we reduce the need to harvest natural resources and provide an excellent source to be used in new concrete. As a result, owners have an opportunity to achieve LEED credits for post- or pre-construction material.

RCAs in Practice Today

Local Municipalities

Local municipality specification: a minimum of 15% RCA:

- Subbase, paving, sidewalks, curb and gutter applications
- ▶ Mixes ranging from 30% 100% RCA
- ▶ PSI ranging from 3,000 5,000

To learn more, refer to Assembly Bill AB 2355. This bill requires local municipalities to increase recycled consumption for construction.

Caltrans Section 90-2 Minor Concrete

90-2 contains language referencing the allowance of crushed concrete and reclaimed aggregate. It notes that minor concrete may use either, as long as it complies with the specification for aggregates.

Specified in Commercial Projects

Common applications include: fill, soil stabilization piles, minor concrete, site work, pads, bank protection, noise barriers, center dividers, footings, fill-in metal decks, utilization in other general concrete mix designs.

WHAT IS RCA?

Recycled concrete aggregate (RCA) comes from the processing of concrete from either previous infrastructure projects or waste concrete left over from placements. The concrete is crushed into a material of a specified size and quality.

BENEFITS

- Recycling concrete reduces the amount of material being landfilled.
- Reduces the need for virgin material and transportation requirements are significantly reduced.
- RCA absorbs large amounts of CO₂ via carbonization (crushing concrete to RCA exposes areas of concrete that have not yet carbonated from exposure to atmospheric carbon dioxide).
- ▶ LEED credits: Post- or pre-consumer material.

PROVEN PERFORMANCE

Recycled Concrete Aggregate (RCA)



100% Virgin Gravel, 0.50 w/cm (7.5")

45% Coarse RCA, 0.47 w/cm (5.25")

60% Coarse RCA, 0.48 w/cm (4.75")







"The use of recycled aggregate can save money for local governments and other purchasers, create additional business opportunities, save energy when recycling is done on site, conserve diminishing resources of urban aggregates, and help local governments meet the diversion goals of AB 939."

Source: CA.gov

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- Low Carbon Mixes with SCMs

RCA Pea Gravel (3/8")

- Carbon Sequestration with CarbonCure Technology
- Returned Fresh Concrete
- Concrete Pavements and Parking Lots