




COLORADO DIVISION OF RECLAMATION, MINING AND SAFETY COAL PROGRAM INSPECTION REPORT



PERMIT INFORMATION

Permit Number: C-1981-022 Mine Name: Elk Creek Mine Operator: Oxbow Mining, LLC Operator Address: Mr Jim Kiger P.O. Box 535 3737 Highway 133 Somerset, CO 81434	County: Delta, Gunnison Operation Type: Underground Permit Status: Active Ownership: Federal
	Operator Representative Present: None
Operator Representative Signature: (Field Issuance Only) 	

INSPECTION INFORMATION

Inspection Start Date: September 25, 2013 Inspection Start Time: 11:25 Inspection End Date: September 25, 2013 Inspection End Time: 11:30	Inspection Type: Aerial Inspection Inspection Reason: Normal I&E Program Weather: Clear
Joint Inspection Agency: None	Joint Inspection Contacts:
Post Inspection Agency: None	Post Inspection Contacts:
Inspector(s): Brock F. Bowles Harry B. Ranney	Inspector's Signature:  Signature Date: September 30, 2013

Inspection Topic Summary

NOTE: Y=Inspected N=Not Inspected R=Comments Noted V=Violation Issued NA=Not Applicable

N - Air Resource Protection	N - Roads
N - Availability of Records	N - Reclamation Success
N - Backfill & Grading	R - Revegetation
N - Excess Spoil and Dev. Waste	N - Subsidence
N - Explosives	N - Slides and Other Damage
N - Fish & Wildlife	N - Support Facilities On-site
R - Hydrologic Balance	N - Signs and Markers
N - Gen. Compliance With Mine Plan	N - Support Facilities Not On-site
N - Other	N - Special Categories Of Mining
N - Processing Waste	N - Topsoil

COMMENTS

This was an aerial inspection of the Elk Creek Mine in Somerset, Colorado. Aerial photographs were taken by Harry Ranney and were reviewed by Brock Bowles, both of the Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety. The photos were taken on September 25, 2013 at approximately 11:25 am. The purpose of this inspection was to continue monitoring the surface impacts of Outfall 15B which was approved in Minor Revisions 104 and 105.

HYDROLOGIC BALANCE - Rule 4.05 □ Drainage Control 4.05.1, 4.05.2, 4.05.3; Siltation Structures 4.05.5, 4.05.6; Discharge Structures 4.05.7, 4.05.10; Diversions 4.05.4; Effluent Limits 4.05.2; Ground Water Monitoring 4.05.13; Surface Water Monitoring 4.05.13; Drainage – Acid and Toxic Materials 4.05.8; Impoundments 4.05.6, 4.05.9; Stream Buffer Zones 4.05.18:

Water was standing in the small depression below the Outfall 015B well pad (photo 1). Water was not discharging from the depression indicating that water was not being pumped from the mine workings at the time of the aerial inspection. The water in the pond has a brown color which is different than the last inspection when it was clear. This may be due to the water supply being stopped and the wildlife activity of the area. The eroded slump area below the depression is evident in these aerial photographs. It does not appear that the extent of the eroded slump area has increased since that last ground inspection on September 4, 2013.

REVEGETATION – Rule 4.15 □ Vegetative Cover; Timing:

Much of the vegetation below the depression discharge point of Outfall 015B is dead (photo 2). It does not appear that the extent of the dead vegetation has increased since the last aerial inspection. The dead vegetation is located between the depression pond and the Elk Creek tributary. This is consistent with the observation of the September 4, 2013 ground inspection.

ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS/COMPLIANCE

No enforcement actions were taken as a result of this inspection and none are pending.

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 4

Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 1

PHOTOGRAPHS

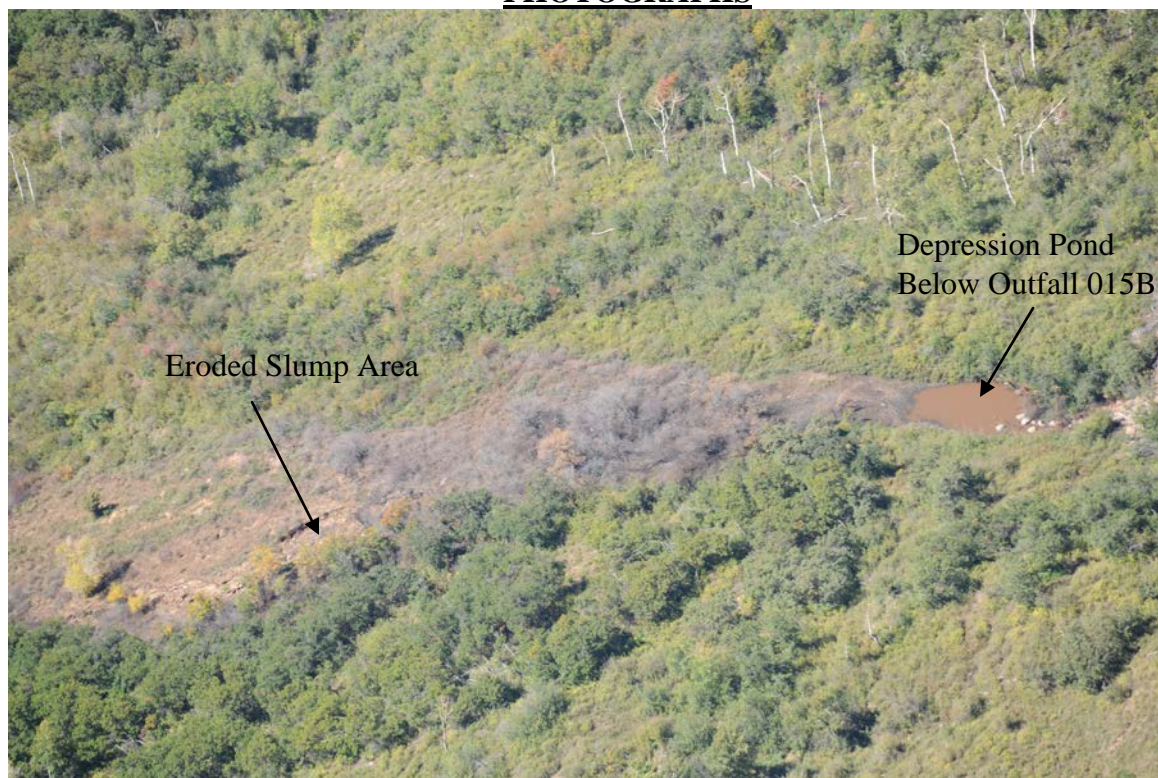


Photo 1 – Discharge Area Below Outfall 015B



Photo 2 – Extent of Vegetation Damage Below Outfall 015B

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 4

Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 1