



COLORADO PARKS & WILDLIFE

4255 Sinton Road • Colorado Springs, Colorado 80907
(719) 227-5200 • (719) 227.5223
wildlife.state.co.us • parks.state.co.us

October 2, 2013

Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety
T. C. Wait, Environmental Protection Specialist
1313 Sherman Street, Room 215
Denver, CO 80203

RECEIVED

OCT 18 2013

DIVISION OF RECLAMATION
MINING AND SAFETY

Re: Agnus Dei Lode Claim Permit Number: M-2013-052

Dear Mr. Wait:

Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW) is in receipt of the above referenced application and is familiar with the site in Pike National Forest in El Paso County. CPW staff offers the following comments for your consideration.

It appears with proper reclamation, impacts to the wildlife resource will be negligible. However, CPW is concerned about the surface disturbance associated with the mining operation. Without proper soil and vegetation management, this disturbance will potentially encourage noxious weed establishment. We recommend the topsoil be stockpiled and temporarily seeded to prevent soil loss from wind and water erosion. We also suggest a noxious weed monitoring and control plan be developed and implemented during active mining and prior to site reclamation. Finally, we recommend the site be re-seeded with native grasses and forbs. Recommendations for appropriate native seed mixes can be obtained by contacting the local USDA Natural Resource Conservation Service (N.R.C.S.) office. The CPW also recommends vegetation monitoring occur and livestock be excluded until proper vegetation establishment.

If camping will occur during the mining and/or reclamation activities, CPW recommends reviewing the guidelines in the publication "Camping and Hiking in Bear Country" on CPW's website (cpw.state.co.us). Bears do live in the area and may be encountered at any point in time.

STATE OF COLORADO

John W. Hickenlooper, Governor • Mike King, Executive Director, Department of Natural Resources
Steven M. Yamashita, Acting Director, Colorado Parks and Wildlife
Parks and Wildlife Commission: Robert W. Bray • Chris Castilian • Jeanne Home
Bill Kane, Vice-Chair • Gaspar Perricone • James Pribyl • John Singletary, Chair
Mark Smith, Secretary • James Vigil • Dean Wingfield • Michelle Zimmerman
Ex Officio Members: Mike King and John Salazar

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this mining operation. If you have any questions or require additional information please contact District Wildlife Manager Sabrina Hurwitz at 719-227-5231 or via e-mail Sabrina.hurwitz@state.co.us.

Sincerely,



Cory Chick
Area Wildlife Manager

cc: SE Region Files
Area 14 Files
S. Cooley, DWM
S. Hurwitz, DWM