



COLORADO DIVISION OF RECLAMATION, MINING AND SAFETY
MINERALS PROGRAM INSPECTION REPORT
PHONE: (303) 866-3567

The Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety has conducted an inspection of the mining operation noted below. This report documents observations concerning compliance with the terms of the permit and applicable rules and regulations of the Mined Land Reclamation Board.

MINE NAME: Ward Pit	MINE/PROSPECTING ID#: M-2003-024	MINERAL: Sand and gravel	COUNTY: Phillips
INSPECTION TYPE: Monitoring	INSPECTOR(S): Elliott R. Russell	INSP. DATE: April 28, 2014	INSP. TIME: 11:45
OPERATOR: Phillips County	OPERATOR REPRESENTATIVE: Randy Schafer	TYPE OF OPERATION: 112c - Construction Regular Operation	
REASON FOR INSPECTION: Normal I&E Program	BOND CALCULATION TYPE: None	BOND AMOUNT: NA	
DATE OF COMPLAINT: NA	POST INSP. CONTACTS: None	JOINT INSP. AGENCY: None	
WEATHER: Windy	INSPECTOR'S SIGNATURE: <i>Elliott R. Russell</i>	SIGNATURE DATE: May 1, 2014	

The following inspection topics were identified as having Problems or Possible Violations. OPERATORS SHOULD READ THE FOLLOWING PAGES CAREFULLY IN ORDER TO ASSURE COMPLIANCE WITH THE TERMS OF THE PERMIT AND APPLICABLE RULES AND REGULATIONS. If a Possible Violation is indicated, you will be notified under separate cover as to when the Mined Land Reclamation Board will consider possible enforcement action.

INSPECTION TOPIC: Signs & Markers

PROBLEM/POSSIBLE VIOLATION: Problem: The affected area boundary markers are missing or incorrectly placed. This is a problem for failure to maintain boundary markers around the affected area as required by Section 3.1.12(2) of the Rule.

CORRECTIVE ACTIONS: The operator shall conduct a survey and replace the boundary markers in the correct location(s). The operator shall provide photographic proof to the Division that this has been done by the corrective action date.

CORRECTIVE ACTION DUE DATE: 5/28/14

OBSERVATIONS

The inspection was conducted by Elliott Russell of the Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety (Division). Randy Schafer of Phillips County was present for the inspection. The Ward Pit is located approximately 11 miles northeast of Holyoke, Colorado. The site is an active 112c operation with 19.8 acres permitted and the post-mining land use is wildlife habitat. This inspection was carried out as a part of the Division's routine monitoring inspection program.

At 11:45, the Division and Mr. Schafer arrived at mine entrance along County Road 49. At the time of the inspection it was windy and overcast, and the ground was dry. The mine site identification sign was observed at the entrance to the mine. The boundaries of the pit were delineated by either fences or carsonite posts. No mining activities were occurring during the time of the inspection. A bulldozer and front-end loader were onsite. Evidence of recent mining activities was observed.

The Ward Pit is a sand and gravel operation and Mr. Schafer stated it is the most active pit of Phillips County. In late 2009 the pit underwent a conversion and added 9.9 acres to the pit on the east side of the old 110c permit. An inert backfill notice was also received in the conversion process to allow Phillips County to use recycled concrete to reduce erosion from a culvert entering the site from the western boundary. The current pit's boundaries are marked with a fence on the north, west, and south boundaries of the original (western half) pit and by flexible yellow posts on the northeast and southeast corners. Of which, the northeast post has been knocked down and needs to be replaced. Please see the corrective action section of this report for further information.

A topsoil pile was located along the north boundary of the site. On the western edge of this pile it appears that topsoil had been excavated and a small highwall remains in the pile. The Division recommends resloping this area to protect the topsoil resource from erosion. In addition, per Rule 3.1.9, when topsoil piles will not be used to replace the topsoil on a backfilled area in a short time period, the pile shall be protected from erosion by having a vegetative cover.

Photographs taken during the inspection are attached.

PHOTOGRAPHS



Permit identification sign along CR49; looking east.



Active pit area; looking southwest.



Concrete fill and culvert along west boundary; looking east.



Southeast carsonite boundary post; looking northwest.



Damaged northeast carsonite boundary post; looking southwest.



Excavated topsoil pile in the northwest portion of the site; looking northeast.

GENERAL INSPECTION TOPICS

The following list identifies the environmental and permit parameters inspected and gives a categorical evaluation of each

(AR) RECORDS----- <u>Y</u>	(FN) FINANCIAL WARRANTY----- <u>NA</u>	(RD) ROADS----- <u>Y</u>
(HB) HYDROLOGIC BALANCE----- <u>Y</u>	(BG) BACKFILL & GRADING----- <u>Y</u>	(EX) EXPLOSIVES----- <u>NA</u>
(PW) PROCESSING WASTE/TAILING---- <u>NA</u>	(SF) PROCESSING FACILITIES----- <u>NA</u>	(TS) TOPSOIL----- <u>Y</u>
(MP) GENL MINE PLAN COMPLIANCE- <u>Y</u>	(FW) FISH & WILDLIFE----- <u>Y</u>	(RV) REVEGETATION---- <u>Y</u>
(SM) SIGNS AND MARKERS----- <u>PB</u>	(SP) STORM WATER MGT PLAN---- <u>NA</u>	(SB) COMPLETE INSP---- <u>Y</u>
(ES) OVERBURDEN/DEV. WASTE----- <u>NA</u>	(SC) EROSION/SEDIMENTATION--- <u>Y</u>	(RS) RECL PLAN/COMP-- <u>Y</u>
(AT) ACID OR TOXIC MATERIALS----- <u>NA</u>	(OD) OFF-SITE DAMAGE----- <u>NA</u>	(ST) STIPULATIONS----- <u>NA</u>

Y = Inspected and found in compliance / N = Not inspected / NA = Not applicable to this operation / PB = Problem cited / PV = Possible violation cited

Inspection Contact Address

Randy Schafer
Phillips County
221 S. Interocean Ave.
Holyoke, CO 80734

CC: Tom Kaldenbach; DRMS