




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: Crystal Pit	MINE/PROSPECTING ID#: M-1989-116	MINERAL: Gravel	COUNTY: Teller
INSPECTION TYPE: Monitoring	INSPECTOR(S): Timothy A. Cazier	INSP. DATE: September 3, 2013	INSP. TIME: 13:15
OPERATOR: City of Colorado Springs	OPERATOR REPRESENTATIVE: Dave Jordan	TYPE OF OPERATION: 110c - Construction Limited Impact	

REASON FOR INSPECTION: Normal I&E Program	BOND CALCULATION TYPE: None	BOND AMOUNT: \$0.00
DATE OF COMPLAINT: NA	POST INSP. CONTACTS: None	JOINT INSP. AGENCY: None
WEATHER: Cloudy	INSPECTOR'S SIGNATURE: 	SIGNATURE DATE: June 13, 2014

GENERAL INSPECTION TOPICS

This list identifies the environmental and permit parameters inspected and gives a categorical evaluation of each. No problems or possible violations were noted during the inspection. The mine operation was found to be in full compliance with Mineral Rules and Regulations of the Colorado Mined Land Reclamation Board for the Extraction of Construction Materials and/or for Hard Rock, Metal and Designated Mining Operations. Any person engaged in any mining operation shall notify the office of any failure or imminent failure, as soon as reasonably practicable after such person has knowledge of such condition or of any impoundment, embankment, or slope that poses a reasonable potential for danger to any persons or property or to the environment; or any environmental protection facility designed to contain or control chemicals or waste which are acid or toxic-forming, as identified in the permit.

(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>NA</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>Y</u>	(SP) STORM WATER MGT PLAN---- <u>N</u>	(SB) COMPLETE INSP---- <u>N</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>Y</u>	(ST) STIPULATIONS----- <u>Y</u>

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

OBSERVATIONS

This inspection was conducted as part of the regular monitoring program. The Operator (City of Colorado Springs) was represented by Dave Jordan who was present for the inspection. This is a 110c gravel mine. The site was not active at the time of the inspection. The Crystal Pit entrance is accessed from the Pikes Peak Toll Road.

Inspection:

Permit Boundary: A permit sign was displayed at the site entrance (see **Photo 1**). Unauthorized entry to the site is controlled by its remote location and a locked gate controlling access to the City's maintenance buildings.

Pit & Permit Area: The site is split into two distinct areas: an east phase (**Photos 2 - 3**) and a west phase (**Photos 4 - 5**). Mr. Jordan explained both phases are in final reclamation.

No standing water was observed in either pit.

Mining Activity: According to the 2013 annual report, the last mining activity was in 2004.

Reclamation: Reclamation performed to date appears to conform to the approved reclamation plan with slopes no steeper than 2H:1V and small rises and catchments created in the valley bottoms. Some erosion gullies have formed in the valley bottoms. These are attributed to the very heavy rains experienced in the region in August of 2013. The Division recommends implementing BMPs to help prevent these erosion features from becoming a problem while vegetation is becoming established.

Revegetation:

Vegetation appears to be establishing well on the flatter upper slopes, but not as well on the steeper valley bottom slopes. A few small patches of Canada Thistle (a Colorado List B noxious weed) were observed in the west phase (see **Photos 6 – 7**). The small patches are not considered enough to be cited as a problem, but these weeds should be controlled to prevent them from becoming a problem.

Current Stipulations: None.

Records:

- The previous inspection was conducted 9/15/2008. No problems were cited.
- The permit anniversary date is March 26. The Operator is current with annual fees and reports.
- There has been only one revision for this permit. TR-01 approved a seed mix change and grade to establish small detention ponds to prevent erosion.
- The pre- and post-mine land use is wildlife habitat.

Bond: As this is a city pit, no bond is required.

Summary and Recommendations:

1. The Canada thistle needs to be controlled before becoming a problem. The Division recommends implementing a noxious weed control program, developed with input from the local or county extension office.
2. Best management practices (BMPs) should be implemented in the valley bottoms to reduce the erosion potential until the vegetation becomes established.

PHOTOGRAPHS



Photo 1. Permit Sign (near east phase).



Photo 2. Lower east phase (looking SW).

PHOTOGRAPHS (cont.)



Photo 3. Upper east phase (looking SW).



Photo 4. Lower west phase (looking SW).



Photo 5. Upper west phase (looking SW).



Photo 6. Small Canada thistle patch (1 of 2 – west phase).

PHOTOGRAPHS (cont.)



Photo 7. Small Canada thistle patch (2 of 2 – west phase).

Inspection Contact Address

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CC: Tom Kaldenbach, DRMS
DRMS file