




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: Ekberg Pit	MINE/PROSPECTING ID#: M-1981-256	MINERAL: Sand and gravel	COUNTY: Yuma
INSPECTION TYPE: Monitoring	INSPECTOR(S): Elliott R. Russell	INSP. DATE: June 10, 2014	INSP. TIME: 08:00
OPERATOR: Yuma County	OPERATOR REPRESENTATIVE: Howard McGinnis	TYPE OF OPERATION: 112c - Construction Regular Operation	

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: Clear	INSPECTOR'S SIGNATURE: 	SIGNATURE DATE: July 7, 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: Revegetation

PROBLEM/POSSIBLE VIOLATION: Problem: There is cheat grass, a state-listed noxious weed, present on site. This is a problem for failure to employ weed control methods for state listed noxious weed species within the permitted area, and to reduce the spread of weeds to nearby areas as required by Section 3.1.10 (6) of the Rule.

CORRECTIVE ACTIONS: Implement approved weed control plan and provide proof to the Division that this has been done. If a weed control plan is not already in place, the operator shall develop a weed control and management plan in accordance with Section 3.1.10 (6) of the Rule. This plan should be developed in consultation with the county extension agency, or weed control district office and should include specific control measures to be applied, a schedule for when control measures will be applied and a post-treatment monitoring plan. This weed control plan shall be submitted to the Division as a Technical Revision to the approved plan with the appropriate Technical Revision fee of \$216.00 by the corrective action date.

CORRECTIVE ACTION DUE DATE: 9/05/14

OBSERVATIONS

The inspection was conducted by Elliott Russell of the Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety (Division). Howard McGinnis, the Mining Foreman of Yuma County, was present for the inspection. The Ekberg Pit is located approximately 9 miles southeast of Idalia, Colorado in southern Yuma County. The site is an active 112c operation with 45 acres permitted and the post-mining land use is cropland. This inspection was carried out as a part of the Division's routine monitoring inspection program.

At 08:00, the Division and Mr. McGinnis arrived at the mine site along County Road MM. At the time of the inspection it was clear and warm, and the ground was wet from a recent rain. The permit identification sign was posted at the entrance to the site and met the requirements of Rule 3.1.12(1). The permit boundary of the mine was delineated by a fence lines or single t-posts. No mining activities were occurring during the time of the inspection, and no equipment was present on site. There was no evidence of recent mining activities observed.

The site consisted of three separate areas along the eastern bank of a small intermittent creek. The two southern most areas were individually fenced and have been re-sloped and seeded for reclamation; the northern most area was the active mine area which consisted of the dig face along the eastern slope and a stockpile in the middle. This pile had approximately 2,000 C.Y. of material.

The site appeared to be stable; there were natural caused erosion features observed southwest of the mine permit. These features appeared to have been around for quite some time due to the amount of vegetation and trees growing within them; other similar features were observed in surrounding areas as well.

During the inspection, the Division observed a Downy Brome (*Bromus tectorum*) infestation on the mine site. Also known as cheat grass, this is a state listed noxious weed and will need to be treated. This will be cited as a problem in the inspection report, and will require corrective action. The species was present throughout the mine site, including the two reclaimed fenced off areas in the southern portion of the permit.

Photographs taken during the inspection are attached.

PHOTOGRAPHS



Mine site identification sign; looking east.



Southern most area, fenced off for reclamation; looking northeast.



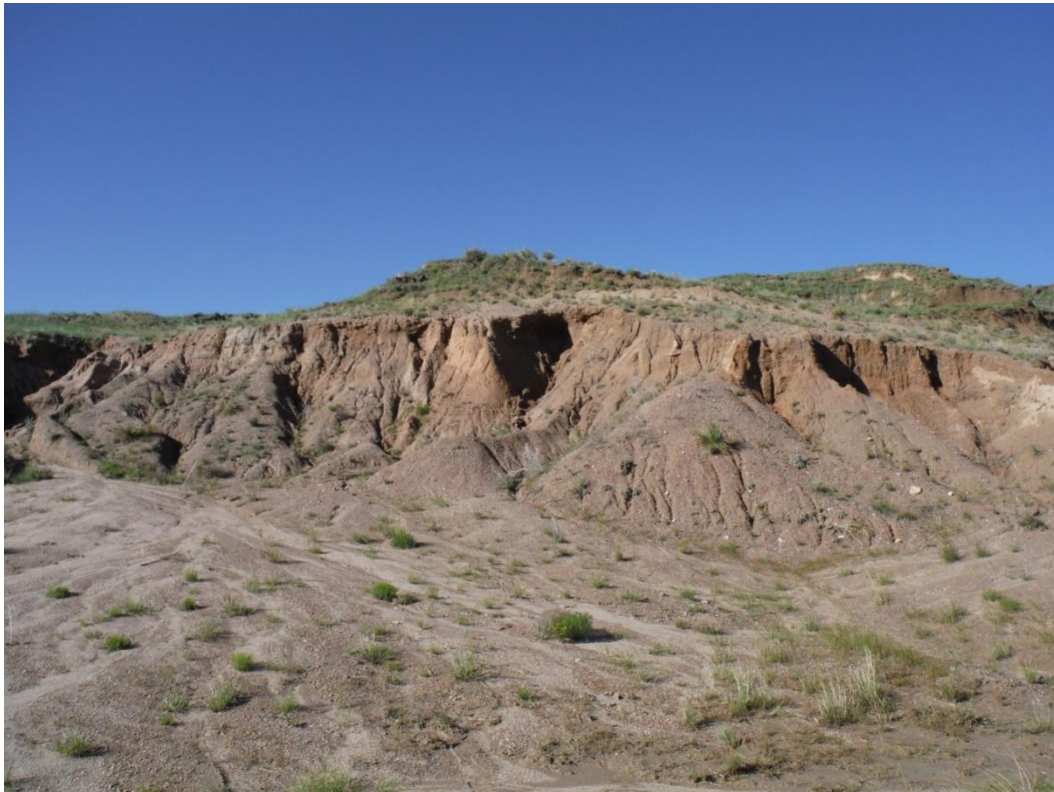
Middle area, fenced off for reclamation; looking west (eastern boundary line marker in foreground).



Material stockpile in northern area; looking north.



Natural cut-bank of creek near the eastern boundary line of the permit, heavy cheat grass infestation within mine site; looking north.



Highwall/dig face of northern area; looking west.

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---- PB
(SM) SIGNS AND MARKERS----- <u>Y</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

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CC: Tom Kaldenbach; DRMS