




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: Howard Creek Pit #1 & #2	MINE/PROSPECTING ID#: M-1999-033	MINERAL: Gravel	COUNTY: Fremont
INSPECTION TYPE: Surety-Related Inspection	INSPECTOR(S): Timothy A. Cazier	INSP. DATE: August 6, 2014	INSP. TIME: 10:00
OPERATOR: Fremont County	OPERATOR REPRESENTATIVE: Sterling Rife	TYPE OF OPERATION: 110c - Construction Limited Impact	

REASON FOR INSPECTION: Surety Related	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: August 12, 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>N</u>	(SF) PROCESSING FACILITIES----- <u>N</u>	(TS) TOPSOIL----- <u>N</u>
(MP) GENL MINE PLAN COMPLIANCE- <u>N</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>N</u>	(SC) EROSION/SEDIMENTATION--- <u>N</u>	(RS) RECL PLAN/COMP-- <u>Y</u>
(AT) ACID OR TOXIC MATERIALS----- <u>NA</u>	(OD) OFF-SITE DAMAGE----- <u>N</u>	(ST) STIPULATIONS----- <u>N</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 initiated by an Acreage Release (AR) request of 0.86 acres from the Operator, Fremont County received by the Division on May 6, 2013. Fremont County was represented during the inspection by Sterling Rife.

The Howard Creek Pit #1 & #2 is located approximately 3 miles west of Howard at the intersection of Fremont Co Rd 4 and Canterbury Ranch Road in Fremont Co.

Inspection:

A Permit sign was displayed as required (see **Photo 1**). The primary focus of this inspection was to determine releasable acreage.

The area to be released is owned by Avenger Productions, Inc. This portion of the site has been fenced off (see **Photo 2**). The area is partially vegetated and some erosion rills (see **Photo 3**) from the recent heavy rains were observed. Mr. Rife was uncertain as to whether Fremont County ever disturbed this area as it had been fenced off for as long as he had been familiar with the site.

File Review:

- The previous inspection was conducted 3/4/2013. No problems were cited.
- The permit anniversary date is May 26. The operator is current with annual fees and reports through 2014.
- The original application indicates limestone beds were mined at the site from the early 1900's until the 1950's. Furthermore, the application states "outcrops of the waste dumps have never stabilized since the placement at angle of repose and show evidence of rilling and slope failure during storm events".
- The 1999 inspection report indicates the limestone waste was placed in gullies during mining activities from the early 1900's.
- The 2003 inspection report indicates the east portion of the pit was a "waste dump of limestone rock deposited in a ravine many years ago".

Current Stipulations:

None.

Summary & Recommendations:

Based on previous inspection reports and the original permit application, the Division believes the area requested to be released was never disturbed as part of Fremont County's operations; but that this area was disturbed as a result of the limestone mining operations that occurred between 1900 through the 1950's. The Division will recommend approval of AR-01 given the evidence that the disturbance is pre-law. The Operator will be notified of the decision under separate cover.

PHOTOGRAPHS



Photo 1. Permit sign (at entrance).



Photo 2. Fence separating area to be released, left of fence (looking east).

PHOTOGRAPHS (cont.)



Photo 3. Area to be released (looking NE).

Inspection Contact Address

Sterling Rife
Fremont County
1170 Red Canyon Road
Cañon City, CO 81212

CC: Tom Kaldenbach, DRMS
DRMS file