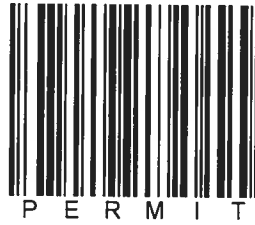


Inspection



QATESTOCR



COUNTY OF PARK AND TOWN OF FAIRPLAY



P.O. Box 842
Fairplay, CO 80440
(719) 836-2622
(719) 836-3279 (Fax)
website: www.fairplayco.us

P.O. Box 1373
Fairplay, CO 80440
(719) 836-4701

November 6, 2014

Mined Land Reclamation Board
Colorado Division of Reclamation Mining
Department of Natural Resources
1313 Sherman St. # 215
Denver, Co 80203

RE: Reported Violation M-1985-029

Dear Board Members,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the above violation. It is our hope that this letter will be read into the record at the hearing on November 19, 2014, related to the violation that occurred on or about October 3, 2014 at the Alma Placer Mine.

We would like to commend Mr. Cunningham for his quick response to the event(s) that occurred as described in his inspection report. In addition, Mr. Cunningham has followed up with our entities and various affected citizens to address our community's ongoing concerns in regards to the observed immediate and potential future impacts to the Middle Fork of the South Platte River and what is known as the Fairplay Beach (as documented in photo #8 of Mr. Cunningham's report).

If the owner/operator of the Alma Placer Mine is found to be in violation of CRS 34-32-116(7) (g&h) and/or CRS 34-32-124, please consider that any monetary amount of a fine be used to address the observed increased sediment load to the Reservoir at Fairplay Beach, the lack of any aquatic invertebrate baseline data collected by CP & W in relationship to this segment of the Middle Fork South Platte River, and the unknown potential impact to the brown trout population in the same river segment and the Fairplay Beach.

In 2013, the Town of Fairplay spent over \$170,000 dredging the Reservoir at the Fairplay Beach of sediment. This large project removed over 20 years of sediment build-up which was several feet deep – while over time we expect it to be filled again with sediment and silt, not at the rapid rate induced by the above violation. A level of funds should be made available to offset the costs to the Town for this sediment load.

Alma Placer Mine
M-1985-029

TO: DRUGS
From: Park County and Town of Fairplay
Date: 11/12/14
Title: Comments re: Discharge of Sediment
into River.

We ask that funds be made available to stock a number of fingerling hatchery reared brown trout into the river some point down from the location of the violation and including the Fairplay Beach. We ask that this include approximately 5,000 4-inch brown trout. (Current cost of \$3000.)

Last, we request that funds be made available to fund or partially fund a CP & W aquatic invertebrate study for this segment of the Middle Fork of the South Platte River at the approximate cost of \$50,000.

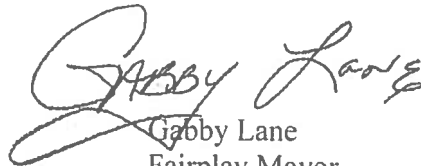
There is obviously a great deal of concern in Fairplay and Park County in regards to this section of river and the reservoir at the beach. It is our jewel and is heavily used by locals and tourists alike. Reparation for this violation should be made by the owner/operator of the Alma Placer Mine to mitigate the costs to the river and community, but also to discourage future violations of this nature.

Thank you for allowing our entities to comment and thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the Park County Board of County Commissioners and the Fairplay Board of Trustees,



Mark Dowaliby
Park County Commissioner, Chair



Gabby Lane
Fairplay Mayor