




**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: Colona Gravel Pit	MINE/PROSPECTING ID#: M-1994-005	MINERAL: Sand and gravel	COUNTY: Montrose
INSPECTION TYPE: Monitoring	INSPECTOR(S): Dustin M. Czaplá	INSP. DATE: November 3, 2015	INSP. TIME: 12:30
OPERATOR: Oldcastle SW Group, Inc. dba United Companies of Mesa County	OPERATOR REPRESENTATIVE: Jason Burkey	TYPE OF OPERATION: 112c - Construction Regular Operation	

REASON FOR INSPECTION: Normal I&E Program	BOND CALCULATION TYPE: Complete Bond	BOND AMOUNT: \$165,351.00
DATE OF COMPLAINT: NA	POST INSP. CONTACTS: None	JOINT INSP. AGENCY: None
WEATHER: Cloudy	INSPECTOR'S SIGNATURE: 	SIGNATURE DATE: November 16, 2015

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.

1. INSPECTION TOPIC: Availability Of Records

PROBLEM/POSSIBLE VIOLATION: Problem: Rule 1.13.5 states, if an Operator temporarily ceases production of the mining operation for one hundred eighty (180) days or more, the Operator must file a Notice of Temporary Cessation in writing to the Office.

CORRECTIVE ACTIONS: The Division recommends the Operator file for Temporary Cessation. The start date of the initial 5 year Temporary Cessation period is retroactive to the last date the pit was active. If that date is more than 5 years ago, the operator is required ask the Board for a 5 year extension to the Temporary Cessation period (per rule 1.13.5 (3) and 1.13.8 (b) or begin reclamation.

CORRECTIVE ACTION DUE DATE: 12/16/15

2. INSPECTION TOPIC: Revegetation

PROBLEM/POSSIBLE VIOLATION: Problem: Tamarisk (salt cedar) trees are present within the south pit area and are becoming established. This is a problem for failure to employ weed control methods for a 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: The operator shall either implement the existing weed control plan, or 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: 12/16/15

3. INSPECTION TOPIC: Signs & Markers

PROBLEM/POSSIBLE VIOLATION: Problem: The mine identification sign posted at the entrance of the mine site is deteriorated and the required information is no longer displayed. This is a problem for failure to maintain an adequate mine identification sign as required by Section 3.1.12(1) of the rule.

CORRECTIVE ACTIONS: The operator shall, at the entrance of the mine site, post a sign which shall be clearly visible from the access road with the following: the name of the operator, a statement that a reclamation permit for the operation has been issued by the Colorado Mined Land Reclamation Board; and the permit number. The operator shall submit photo documentation that a proper sign has been posted by the corrective action date.

CORRECTIVE ACTION DUE DATE: 12/16/15

OBSERVATIONS

This inspection was conducted as part of the Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety's (Division) normal monitoring program. Jason Burkey, representing the Operator, was present during this inspection. Photographs are included with this report in order to illustrate some of the conditions observed.

The Colona Gravel Pit is located approximately eight miles south of Montrose and accessed from Hwy 550. The site is a 112c operation that includes a total of 86 permitted acres. The Division currently holds a financial warranty amount of \$165,351.00 for this site. The Division has reviewed the reclamation costs, in order to ensure the financial warranty reflects the actual current cost of fulfilling the requirements of the Reclamation Plan, and determined that the current financial warranty amount is adequate. The mine is not currently operating and has not operated in more than 180 days. The site has not been approved for temporary cessation. This has been noted as a problem.

Adequate mine identification signage was not noted at the entrance to the site. The mine sign posted on the entrance gate has deteriorated to a point where the required information is no longer visible. This has been noted as a problem.

The affected area was marked by fencing that was clearly visible and adequate to delineate the affected area boundary.

The mining area consists of a north and south pit. Approximately eight acres in the north pit have been mined below the water table. Slopes beneath the water table appeared to be approximately 2H:1V. The north and west slope in the north pit above the water table are approximately 3H:1V with vegetation becoming well established. The slope on the east side of the pit above the water table is approximately 1H:1V and does not have topsoil or vegetation. Stockpiles are still located in the north and south pits. The south pit floor is above the water table. Slopes around the south pit have been graded to approximately 2H:1V, with vegetation becoming established.

An infestation of tamarisk is developing in the south part of the pit. This has been noted as a problem.

No other problems or violations were noted during this inspection.

Responses to this inspection report should be directed to Dustin Czapla at the Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety, Grand Junction Field Office, 101 South 3rd Street, Room 301, Grand Junction, Colorado 81501, phone number (970) 243-6299.

PHOTOGRAPHS



Figure 1: Inadequate sign at mine entrance



Figure 2: West slope of the north pit viewed from the north

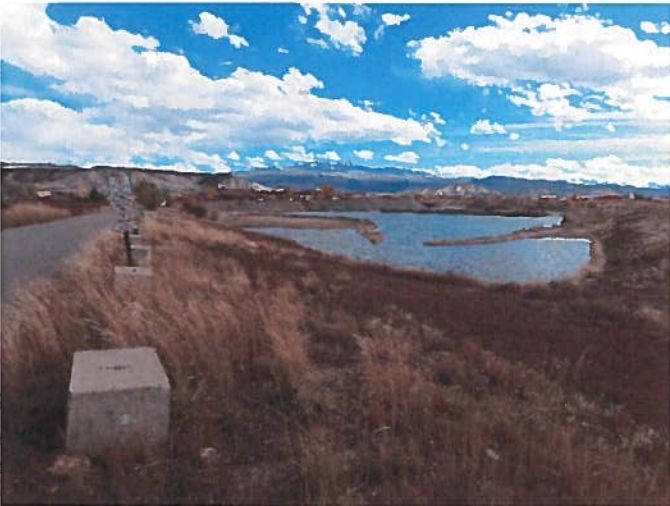


Figure 3: North slope of the north pit viewed from the west



Figure 4: Looking toward the east slope of the north pit from the south side of the lake



Figure 5: South part of the north pit area



Figure 6: South part of the north pit area



Figure 7: South pit area



Figure 8: South pit area



Figure 9: South pit area



Figure 10: Tamarisk infestation developing in southernmost part of the south pit.

GENERAL INSPECTION TOPICS

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

(AR) RECORDS----- <u>PB</u>	(FN) FINANCIAL WARRANTY----- <u>Y</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>NA</u>	(TS) TOPSOIL----- <u>Y</u>
(MP) GENL MINE PLAN COMPLIANCE- <u>Y</u>	(FW) FISH & WILDLIFE----- <u>Y</u>	(RV) REVEGETATION---- <u>PB</u>
(SM) SIGNS AND MARKERS----- <u>PB</u>	(SW) STORM WATER MGT PLAN---- <u>N</u>	(CI) COMPLETE INSP---- <u>Y</u>
(ES) OVERBURDEN/DEV. WASTE----- <u>NA</u>	(SC) EROSION/SEDIMENTATION--- <u>Y</u>	(RS) RECL PLAN/COMP-- <u>N</u>
(AT) ACID OR TOXIC MATERIALS----- <u>N</u>	(OD) OFF-SITE DAMAGE----- <u>N</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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