




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: Stone Gravel Pit	MINE/PROSPECTING ID#: M-1997-089	MINERAL: Sand and gravel	COUNTY: Montezuma
INSPECTION TYPE: Multi Person Inspection	INSPECTOR(S): Lucas J. West	INSP. DATE: March 2, 2016	INSP. TIME: 11:45
OPERATOR: Daren Stone	OPERATOR REPRESENTATIVE: Daren Stone	TYPE OF OPERATION: 112c - Construction Regular Operation	
REASON FOR INSPECTION: Normal I&E Program	BOND CALCULATION TYPE: None	BOND AMOUNT: \$17,232.00	
DATE OF COMPLAINT: NA	POST INSP. CONTACTS: None	JOINT INSP. AGENCY: U.S.BLM	
WEATHER: Clear	INSPECTOR'S SIGNATURE: 	SIGNATURE DATE: March 10, 2016	

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: Acid And Toxic Materials

PROBLEM/POSSIBLE VIOLATION: Problem: An engine oil spill has occurred at the site which has impacted soils in the immediate area.

CORRECTIVE ACTIONS: The operator shall immediately remediate the spill and submit a final report to the Division containing at least the following information:

- 1.) A description of how the spill was cleaned up containing at a minimum - the appropriate maps showing the location of the spill, approximate volumes removed, and photo documentation of the cleanup.
- 2.) Evidence in the form of a receipt that the contaminated soil was disposed of by an approved method (such as sent to an approved landfill, land farming, recycling center, etc.) or a written narrative describing the steps taken to properly remediate the soil.

CORRECTIVE ACTION DUE DATE: 4/08/16

OBSERVATIONS

This inspection was conducted as part of the normal monitoring program established by the Colorado Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety. The Stone Gravel Pit is listed as an active 112(c) operation in Montezuma County. The site is located approximately 6 miles Southwest of Cortez, CO and on Montezuma County Road 21 and access to the site is controlled by a locked gate. In addition to the Operator and inspectors listed above, Jamie Blair with the BLM was present during the inspection. The Division currently holds \$17,232.00 in Financial Warranty. Six Photos accompany this report to illustrate current site conditions.

The site consists of 158.2 permitted acres that will be reclaimed to support a post mining land use of rangeland. Proper mine identification signage was observed at the entrance to the site, seen in Photo One. The site was not active during the time of the inspection. Mining was completed around 2013 and little activity has taken place since then. On site discussions with the Operator indicated that they have scheduled to begin final reclamation 6-8 weeks from the date of this inspection. The Operator is reminded to send us written notification when final reclamation has begun. A reclamation cost update was not done on the assumption that final reclamation is forthcoming. Should reclamation not commence within 8 weeks of the date of this report, the Division will complete a reclamation cost update.

A large majority of the site has been reclaimed and was done so prior to the previous inspection made by the Division. The backfilled areas however are exhibiting poor reclamation success and are mostly vegetated with Russian thistle (Tumbleweed) shown in Photo Two. A large source population of what appeared to be Plumeless thistle was observed along the access road within the permit boundary seen in Photo Three. Due to the season of the inspection it is unclear if they had been treated, however small sprouts of new growth was observed. Annual reports indicate that the Operator is continually treating for noxious weeds, and is encouraged to do so early and often. Reseeding of areas with poor vegetation success is highly recommended at the time other tasks are undertaken in 6 to 8 weeks.

Several stockpiles were observed throughout the site. The permitted area borders a BLM OHV area, and it is apparent that OHV users have been utilizing the site and its stockpiles excessively. Photo Four, shows two such stockpiles on site with visible use by dirt bikes and other OHVs. Various equipment, both mining related and non-mining related including a broken down excavator, cement truck, conveyor parts and various other scrap metal was observed on site. While this is not being listed as a problem due to the imminent reclamation, the Operator is reminded that those items will need to be removed prior to reclamation.

Along with the various other trash and debris located within the permitted area, a 55 gallon drum of what is labeled as engine oil was observed with obvious leakage. Photos Five and Six show the barrel and the affected soils around it. Photo Six contains a Field Notebook for scale that measures approximately 4.5 inches wide and 7.5 inches long for a reference to the size of the spill. The cause of the leak appeared to be a bullet hole approximately $\frac{1}{4}$ of the way up the barrel, possibly causing $\frac{3}{4}$ of the contents of the barrel to be spilled. Discussions with the Operator indicated that he was not aware of the spill or the barrel, suggesting that some unauthorized person or persons entered the site and disposed of the barrel. The barrel, along with along with all of the affected soils must be removed from the site and properly disposed of.

The Operator shall immediately remediate the spill and submit a final report to the Division containing at least

the following information:

- 1.) A description of how the spill was cleaned up containing at a minimum - the appropriate maps showing the location of the spill, approximate volumes removed, and photo documentation of the cleanup.
- 2.) Evidence in the form of a receipt that the contaminated soil was disposed of by an approved method (such as sent to an approved landfill, land farming, recycling center, etc.) or a written narrative describing the steps taken to properly remediate the soils.

Evidence of compliance must be received by the Division's Denver Office no later than April 8, 2016.

Other discussions on site with the Operator indicated that they might be interested in altering the seed mix for final reclamation. The Operator is reminded that small changes such as this require a Technical Revision and should contact the Division prior to any changes. All responses to this report should be directed to Lucas West at the Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety, 1313 Sherman Street, Room 215, Denver, CO 80203 or by phone at (970)-243-6368.

PHOTOGRAPHS



Photo One: Showing the proper mine identification sign located at the entrance to the site.







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>N</u>	(RD) ROADS----- <u>N</u>
(HB) HYDROLOGIC BALANCE----- <u>Y</u>	(BG) BACKFILL & GRADING----- <u>Y</u>	(EX) EXPLOSIVES----- <u>N</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>Y</u>	(FW) FISH & WILDLIFE----- <u>N</u>	(RV) REVEGETATION---- <u>Y</u>
(SM) SIGNS AND MARKERS----- <u>Y</u>	(SW) STORM WATER MGT PLAN---- <u>N</u>	(CI) COMPLETE INSP---- <u>Y</u>
(ES) OVERBURDEN/DEV. WASTE----- <u>N</u>	(SC) EROSION/SEDIMENTATION--- <u>N</u>	(RS) RECL PLAN/COMP-- <u>N</u>
(AT) ACID OR TOXIC MATERIALS----- <u>PB</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

Inspection Contact Address

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Dolores, CO 81323

Enclosure

CC: Russ Means, Senior Environmental Protection Specialist, GJFO Supervisor
EC: Jamie Blair, BLM