

**COLORADO Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety** Department of Natural Resources

# 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:		MINE/PROSPECTING ID#:	MINERAL:	COUNTY:
Benson Pit		M-1977-256	Sand and gravel	Grand
INSPECTION TYPE:		INSPECTOR(S):	INSP. DATE:	INSP. TIME:
Monitoring		Peter S. Hays	June 15, 2016	12:30
OPERATOR:		<b>OPERATOR REPRESENTATIVE:</b>	TYPE OF OPERATION:	
Grand County		Bill Clark	112c - Construction Regular Operation	
<b>REASON FOR INSPECTION:</b>		BOND CALCULATION TYPE:	BOND AMOUNT:	
Normal I&E Program		None	No Bond Held	
DATE OF COMPLAINT:		POST INSP. CONTACTS:	JOINT INSP. AGENCY:	
NA		None	None	
WEATHER:	INSPECTOR'S SIGNATURE:		SIGNATURE DATE:	
Clear	fitting		July 20, 2016	

### **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>N</u>	(FN) FINANCIAL WARRANTY <u>N</u>	(RD) ROADS <u>N</u>
(HB) HYDROLOGIC BALANCE <u>N</u>	(BG) BACKFILL & GRADING <u>N</u>	(EX) EXPLOSIVES <u>N</u>
(PW) PROCESSING WASTE/TAILING <u>N</u>	(SF) PROCESSING FACILITIES N	(TS) TOPSOIL <u>N</u>
(MP) GENL MINE PLAN COMPLIANCE- <u>N</u>	(FW) FISH & WILDLIFE N	(RV) REVEGETATION N
(SM) SIGNS AND MARKERS <u>N</u>	(SP) STORM WATER MGT PLAN <u>N</u>	(CI) COMPLETE INSP <u>N</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>N</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**

The Benson Pit was inspected by Peter Hays with the Colorado Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety (Division/DRMS) as part of the Division's monitoring inspection program. Mr. Bill Clark with Grand County Department of Road and Bridge was present during the inspection. The site was last inspected by the Division on July 27, 2011 as part of the required pre-operational inspection for the fourth amendment application for the site.

The Benson Pit is located 2 miles northwest of Frasier, Colorado in Grand County. The site is permitted for a total of 104.28 acres. The entrance road has been relocate along the west side of the site from CR5 on CR5103. The required mine sign was posted at the entrance from CR 5103 and the permit boundaries were well defined as required by Rule 3.1.12.

The site was actively hauling material from the site during the inspection. The highwalls were temporarily sloped at 2H:1V and appeared stable. The Operator reported the only material removed from the site in the previous year was from the existing stockpiles. Material stockpiles were located on the pit floor. No processing plant was on site. The highwall was measured to be approximately 35 feet high. Mining areas east and north of the pit floor have been stripped of overburden and topsoil ahead of excavation.

The approved post mining land use is rangeland. The mining activity is not expected to reach bedrock or expose groundwater. The site will be mined 25 to 35 feet deep with a 25' offset from all property boundaries. The reclamation plan will be to reshape, re-topsoil and revegetate the area with grass seed once mining is complete. The site will be regraded at 2H:1V along the perimeter and at 3H:1V adjacent to the power lines. Reclamation will run concurrently with mining. No more than 25 acres will be disturbed at one time. The power lines bisecting the permit area will not be removed and mined out according to the Operator. The slopes of the powerline peninsulas were estimated at 3H:1V. Revegetation efforts are ongoing on the west part of the south highwall and the north and south powerline peninsula slopes. The possible joining of the floors of the Benson Pit with the adjoining Morrow Pit along the north side is not planned at this time according to the Operator. The status of the site was well represented on the 2015 annual report map.

The large area of imported, end dumped topsoil stockpiles located in the north end of the site has been consolidated into a single larger pile. Imported material from the Grand County Water and Sanitation District mining operation was stockpiled on the north end of the site. The stockpile will be processed by the Operator to determine to usability of the material soon. No disturbance in the amendment area was observed.

Photographs taken during the inspection are attached. No problems were noted during the inspection.

### **Inspection Contact Address**

Mr. Bill Clark Grand County, Department of Road and Bridge P.O. Box 9 467 E. Topaz Ave. Granby, CO 80446

Cc: Wally Erickson, DRMS

#### PERMIT #: M-1977-256 INSPECTOR'S INITIALS: PSH INSPECTION DATE: June 15, 2016

## **PHOTOGRAPHS**



### Benson Pit mine sign



Looking north from south powerline peninsula



Looking NE from south powerline peninsula



Looking west from SE corner of pit floor



Looking NW from SE corner of pit floor



Looking north from SE corner of pit floor



Looking south at south powerline peninsula



Looking south from topsoil stockpile at current pit