



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: Vader Pit	MINE/PROSPECTING ID#: M-1978-287	MINERAL: Sand and gravel	COUNTY: Gunnison
INSPECTION TYPE: Monitoring	INSPECTOR(S): Dustin M. Czapla	INSP. DATE: September 15, 2016	INSP. TIME: 09:30
OPERATOR: Oldcastle SW Group, Inc. dba United Companies of Mesa County	OPERATOR REPRESENTATIVE:	TYPE OF OPERATION: 112c - Construction Regular Operation	

REASON FOR INSPECTION: Normal I&E Program	BOND CALCULATION TYPE: Complete Bond	BOND AMOUNT: \$58,500.00
DATE OF COMPLAINT: NA	POST INSP. CONTACTS: None	JOINT INSP. AGENCY: None
WEATHER: Clear	INSPECTOR'S SIGNATURE: 	SIGNATURE DATE: September 26, 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: Revegetation

PROBLEM/POSSIBLE VIOLATION: Problem: There are state-listed noxious weeds present on site. This is a problem for failure to employ weed control methods for 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: Implement approved weed control plan and provide proof to the Division that this has been done.

CORRECTIVE ACTION DUE DATE: 10/26/16

OBSERVATIONS

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

The Vader Pit is located approximately four miles east of Gunnison and accessed from Hwy 50 at the east end or through the Sea Horse Ranch West Gravel Pit (M-2001-113) at the west end. The site is a 112c operation that includes a total of 35.3 permitted acres. The Division currently holds a financial warranty amount of \$58,500.00 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.

Adequate mine identification signage was noted at the east entrance to the site.

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

Past mining in the area north of Tomichi Creek has created a pond. The banks of the pond are well vegetated and appear stable. Because the pond is not dewatered it is uncertain if the grading of the banks is compliant with the final reclamation plan. The area immediately east of the pond appeared to have been used in the past for stockpiling and/or processing. This area does not appear to have been seeded or topsoiled yet as part of reclamation, although there is considerable volunteer vegetation becoming established in this area. A significant noxious weed infestation was noted in this area, including bull thistle and halogeton. Noxious weeds were noted in this area during the Division's August 2012 inspection as well. This area needs to be addressed as part of the ongoing weed management at the site. If it is not anticipated that future mining will occur in this area, than it should be reclaimed.

The area south of Tomichi Creek is primarily used for stockpiling materials. Noxious weeds were not noted in this area.

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: Stockpile area on south side of Tomichi Creek



Figure 2: Stockpile area on south side of Tomichi Creek



Figure 3: Stockpile area on south side of Tomichi Creek



Figure 4: Stockpile area on south side of Tomichi Creek



Figure 5: Pond on north side of Tomichi Creek



Figure 6: Noxious weeds noted on north side of Tomichi Creek



Figure 7: Noxious weeds noted on north side of Tomichi Creek



Figure 8: Noxious weeds noted on north side of Tomichi Creek

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>Y</u>	(RD) ROADS----- <u>N</u>
(HB) HYDROLOGIC BALANCE----- <u>Y</u>	(BG) BACKFILL & GRADING----- <u>N</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>PB</u>
(SM) SIGNS AND MARKERS----- <u>Y</u>	(SP) STORM WATER MGT PLAN---- <u>N</u>	(CI) COMPLETE INSP---- <u>Y</u>
(ES) OVERBURDEN/DEV. WASTE----- <u>N</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>N</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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