




**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.

<b>MINE NAME:</b> Costilla County Pit 1	<b>MINE/PROSPECTING ID#:</b> M-1977-044	<b>MINERAL:</b> Sand and gravel	<b>COUNTY:</b> Costilla
<b>INSPECTION TYPE:</b> Monitoring	<b>INSPECTOR(S):</b> Lucas J. West	<b>INSP. DATE:</b> October 6, 2016	<b>INSP. TIME:</b> 10:15
<b>OPERATOR:</b> Costilla County	<b>OPERATOR REPRESENTATIVE:</b> Trinidad Martinez	<b>TYPE OF OPERATION:</b> 110c - Construction Limited Impact	
<b>REASON FOR INSPECTION:</b> Normal I&E Program	<b>BOND CALCULATION TYPE:</b> None	<b>BOND AMOUNT:</b> No Bond Held	
<b>DATE OF COMPLAINT:</b> NA	<b>POST INSP. CONTACTS:</b> None	<b>JOINT INSP. AGENCY:</b> None	
<b>WEATHER:</b> Clear	<b>INSPECTOR'S SIGNATURE:</b> 	<b>SIGNATURE DATE:</b> October 26, 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>Y</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----- <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>N</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>N</u>	(RS) RECL PLAN/COMP-- <u>N</u>
(AT) ACID OR TOXIC MATERIALS----- <u>N</u>	(OD) OFF-SITE DAMAGE----- <u>Y</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**

This inspection was conducted as part of the normal monitoring program established by the Colorado Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety. The Costilla County Pit 1 is listed as an active 110(c) that is operated by and located in Costilla County. The site is located at the intersection of County Road 22.3 and Road J 8 southwest of San Luis at approximately 8260 Feet in Elevation. Access to the site is controlled by a locked cable gate. The site consists of 8.4 permitted acres. The Division does not hold a financial warranty for the site as it is operated by a County government and no such warranty is required. Three Photos accompany this report to illustrate the current site conditions.

Proper mine identification signage was posted at the entrance to the site and can be seen in Photo One. The permit boundaries were properly outlined with fence lines and earthen berms. The site was not active during the inspection, nor was any equipment observed on site during the inspection. It is clear the site has not been active for many years, and on site discussions with the operator confirm that, indicating the pit is used but activity is very seldom. The side slopes of the pit appear to have been mined and relaxed to approximately a 3H:1V slope and appear to be stable. The slopes are well vegetated with volunteer species, appear to be in good condition and an example of the slopes can be seen in Photo Two. The pit floor was observed to be in good condition, shown in Photo Three. Several stockpiles of various sized materials were noted on the pit floor, all of which appear to be stable and in good condition. Impounded storm water was observed in the south end of the pit, discussions with the operator indicate that the impounded storm water was in response to a recent precipitation event and the pit is typically well drained. No evidence of continued saturation was observed during the inspection. A small stockpile of recycled concrete and other building materials was located near the access road to the pit floor. Discussions with the operator indicated that the materials are temporarily being stored on site, the presence of these stockpiles are not considered a problem at this time.

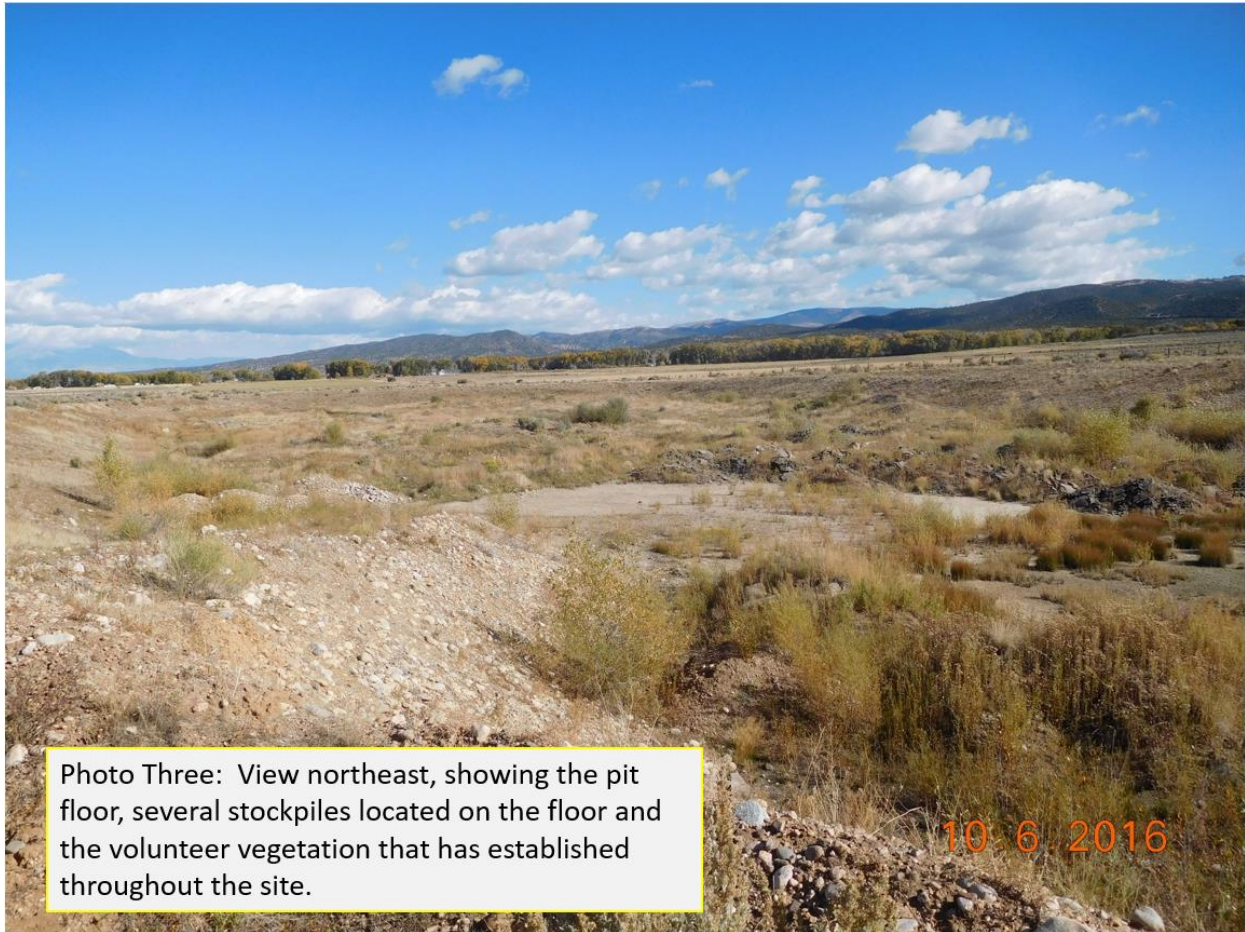
The entire site is well vegetated with volunteer species from adjacent undisturbed lands. Small populations of thistle were observed on site, and discussions with the operator indicate that weed management is ongoing and continuous. The Division encourages the operator to be aggressive with the treatment of these species as neglect could lead to an infestation of the disturbed area.

The overall footprint of the site was in good condition and free from trash and debris. The site also exhibited positive drainage and no signs of erosion were noted during the inspection. No problems, or possible violations were observed at this time. Responses to this report should be directed to Lucas West at the Colorado Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety at 1313 Sherman Street, Room 215, Denver CO, 80203, by phone at (970)-243-6368 or by email at [lucas.west@state.co](mailto:lucas.west@state.co).

## PHOTOGRAPHS







**Inspection Contact Address**

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Enclosure

CC: Russ Means, Senior Environmental Protection Specialist