


**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: Penrose Pit	MINE/PROSPECTING ID#: M-1987-131	MINERAL: Sand and gravel	COUNTY: Fremont
INSPECTION TYPE: Monitoring	INSPECTOR(S): Timothy A. Cazier	INSP. DATE: March 8, 2016	INSP. TIME: 11:15
OPERATOR: Fremont Paving & Redi-Mix, Inc.	OPERATOR REPRESENTATIVE: Angela Bellantoni	TYPE OF OPERATION: 112c - Construction Regular Operation	

REASON FOR INSPECTION: Normal I&E Program	BOND CALCULATION TYPE: Partial Bond	BOND AMOUNT: \$320,000.00
DATE OF COMPLAINT: NA	POST INSP. CONTACTS: None	JOINT INSP. AGENCY: None
WEATHER: Cloudy	INSPECTOR'S SIGNATURE: 	SIGNATURE DATE: February 1, 2017

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: Tamarisk (salt cedar) trees are present within or have volunteered into the permit 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: 3/15/17

OBSERVATIONS

This inspection was conducted as part of the Division's regular monitoring program. The Operator (Fremont Paving and Readi-Mix) was represented during the inspection by Dr. Angela Bellantoni. The Penrose Pit is accessed from Hwy 115 approximately 1.25 miles south of US 50). This is a 112c sand and gravel mine. It was operating at the time of the inspection.

Availability of Records: Annual fees are paid through June 2016. There are no open infractions. The 2016 annual report states there are 60 acres of affected land. Measurements in Google Earth suggest the affected area is closer to 75 acres.

Backfilling and Grading: Fines are to be used for backfill for which adequate stockpiles appeared available.

Complete Inspection: The entire permit area was inspected. With the exception of the tamarisk cited in the Revegetation section, no problems were observed.

Excess Spoil and Dev. Waste: Overburden is not distinct from topsoil for this site. It is stripped and salvaged for reclamation.

Financial Warranty: The \$320,000 bond held by the Division is adequate for the observed mine disturbance.

Fish and Wildlife: No impact on wildlife was observed.

Hydrologic Balance: No standing water was observed in the pit and no exposed groundwater was observed.

Gen. Compliance with Mine Plan: Mining is near vertical with one bench. The active highwall was estimated to be between 30 and 40 feet in height (see **Photo 1**). The maximum allowed disturbed area per the approved permit is 150 acres. The bond will need to be adjusted prior to reaching this limit.

Off-site Damage: The operation appeared to be confined to the permit boundary.

Processing Waste: Fines from the dry screening process are stockpiled.

Roads: Haul and access roads did not appear to be a source of sediment that could be tracked offsite.

Revegetation: No revegetated areas were observed. The east slope of the main pit has several tamarisk (salt cedar, see **Photo 2**), which are on Colorado's noxious weed List B. The presence of tamarisk is cited as a problem on p. 1 of this report.

Support Facilities On-site: A screen plant was observed (see **Photo 3**) along with an operating loader.

Signs and Markers: The permit sign was properly posted (see **Photo 4**) and boundary markers were observed to delineate the permit boundary (see **Photo 5**).

Permit Stipulations: There are no outstanding permit stipulations.

Topsoil: As discussed above, topsoil is not distinct from overburden. It varies in thickness from 1 to 3 feet and is stockpiled on the uphill side of the excavation as described by the loader operator onsite at the time of the inspection.

PHOTOGRAPHS



Photo 1. Active highwall, note bench.

PHOTOGRAPHS (cont.)



Photo 2. Tamarisk, east side of main pit (looking SW).



Photo 3. Active pit screen plant and loader.

PHOTOGRAPHS (cont.)



Photo 4. Permit sign.



Photo 5. Typical boundary markers (south end, looking east).

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>Y</u>
(HB) HYDROLOGIC BALANCE----- <u>Y</u>	(BG) BACKFILL & GRADING----- <u>Y</u>	(EX) EXPLOSIVES----- <u>NA</u>
(PW) PROCESSING WASTE/TAILING---- <u>Y</u>	(SF) PROCESSING FACILITIES----- <u>Y</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>Y</u>	(SP) STORM WATER MGT PLAN---- <u>N</u>	(CI) COMPLETE INSP---- <u>Y</u>
(ES) OVERBURDEN/DEV. WASTE----- <u>Y</u>	(SC) EROSION/SEDIMENTATION--- <u>N</u>	(RS) RECL PLAN/COMP-- <u>N</u>
(AT) ACID OR TOXIC MATERIALS----- <u>NA</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

Steve Chisholm
Fremont Paving & Redi-Mix, Inc.
P.O. Box 841
Cañon City, CO 81215

ec: DRMS file
Angela Bellantoni, EAI