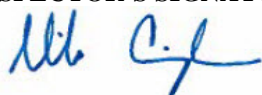




**MINERALS PROGRAM INSPECTION REPORT**  
**PHONE: (303) 866-3567**

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> Winter Ranch Pit	<b>MINE/PROSPECTING ID#:</b> M-1985-165	<b>MINERAL:</b> Sand and gravel	<b>COUNTY:</b> Las Animas
<b>INSPECTION TYPE:</b> Monitoring	<b>INSPECTOR(S):</b> Michael A. Cunningham	<b>INSP. DATE:</b> January 26, 2017	<b>INSP. TIME:</b> 15:00
<b>OPERATOR:</b> Arthur A. Winter	<b>OPERATOR REPRESENTATIVE:</b> Arthur Winter	<b>TYPE OF OPERATION:</b> 110c - Construction Limited Impact	
<b>REASON FOR INSPECTION:</b> Normal I&E Program	<b>BOND CALCULATION TYPE:</b> Complete Bond	<b>BOND AMOUNT:</b> \$13,500.00	
<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> February 8, 2017	

**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>Y</u>	(RD) ROADS----- <u>N</u>
(HB) HYDROLOGIC BALANCE----- <u>Y</u>	(BG) BACKFILL & GRADING----- <u>Y</u>	(EX) EXPLOSIVES----- <u>NA</u>
(PW) PROCESSING WASTE/TAILING---- <u>NA</u>	(SF) PROCESSING FACILITIES----- <u>NA</u>	(TS) TOPSOIL----- <u>Y</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>Y</u>	(RS) RECL PLAN/COMP-- <u>Y</u>
(AT) ACID OR TOXIC MATERIALS----- <u>NA</u>	(OD) OFF-SITE DAMAGE----- <u>N</u>	(ST) STIPULATIONS----- <u>NA</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 inspection was conducted by Michael Cunningham of the Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety (Division). Arthur Winter, the Operator of the Winter Ranch Pit, was also present for the inspection. The Winter Ranch Pit is located approximately 8 miles northeast of Trinidad. The operation is permitted for 9.5 acres of disturbance and the post-mining land use is rangeland.

The Winter Ranch Pit is currently in the second term of Temporary Cessation, which will expire on November 26, 2017. According to the Operator, no additional mining will occur. The Division did not observe any equipment or stockpiles at the site. The pit walls have been graded to 3H:1V or flatter; the slopes are stable and did not show any signs of erosion. The Operator has seeded the site several times; however, there is very little vegetation within the reclaimed area. The Operator is encouraged to reseed the site this spring to take advantage of early season moisture. The Operator indicated that seed has been broadcast across the site in the past. The approved Reclamation Plan calls for drill seeding the approved seed mixture, followed by mulching. Any change to the Reclamation Plan, including changes to the seeding method or seed mixture, must be approved through a Technical Revision. A copy of the approved Reclamation Plan has been enclosed with this report for reference. The site is situated within a larger pasture area and is currently being used to graze cattle. The establishment of grass will be aided by keeping cattle from the seeded areas for a minimum of two growing seasons.

The Division observed several tamarisk plants on the pit floor. The Operator has an approved Weed Control Plan to address the treatment of the tamarisk. The Operator should continue to cut the tamarisk plants and treat the stumps with Arsenal or Habitat. Tamarisk is not present outside of the pit and does not appear to be spreading to surrounding areas. Treatment of tamarisk should occur until the plant has been eliminated from the site.

The Division holds a financial warranty in the amount of \$13,500.00, which has been determined to be adequate to complete reclamation.

This concludes the inspection.

## PHOTOGRAPHS



1. Northern pit slope.



2. Pit floor, photo taken facing west.



3. Pit floor, photo taken facing south.



4. Tamarisk on pit floor.

### Inspection Contact Address

Arthur Winter  
20157 C. R. 75.0  
Trinidad, CO 81082

Enclosure

CC: Wally Erickson, DRMS