



## 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.

<b>MINE NAME:</b> Incas Mine	<b>MINE/PROSPECTING ID#:</b> M-1986-076	<b>MINERAL:</b> Gold and silver	<b>COUNTY:</b> La Plata
<b>INSPECTION TYPE:</b> Multi Person Inspection	<b>INSPECTOR(S):</b> Lucas J. West	<b>INSP. DATE:</b> July 18, 2017	<b>INSP. TIME:</b> 09:30
<b>OPERATOR:</b> Michael McClure	<b>OPERATOR REPRESENTATIVE:</b> None	<b>TYPE OF OPERATION:</b> 110d - Designated Limited Impact	
<b>REASON FOR INSPECTION:</b> Normal I&E Program	<b>BOND CALCULATION TYPE:</b> None	<b>BOND AMOUNT:</b> \$29,902.68	
<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> August 1, 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>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>Y</u>	(TS) TOPSOIL----- <u>N</u>
(MP) GENL MINE PLAN COMPLIANCE- <u>N</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>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**

This inspection was conducted as part of the normal monitoring program established by the Colorado Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety. The Incas Mine is a 110(d) operation that is currently in Temporary Cessation (TC), effective April 15, 2014 and ends April 15, 2019. The site consists of 9.9 permitted acres and is located approximately 10 miles northwest of Durango at 10,800 feet in elevation. Access to the site is controlled by a locked gate along the access road, as well as the gate to the May Day Idaho Mine Complex as well. The Division currently holds \$29,902.68 in financial warranty for the site. A reclamation cost estimate was not performed at this time. Six photos also accompany this report to illustrate the current site conditions.

The site was not active during this inspection and has not been in recent years. The First 5 year period of Temporary Cessation will expire on April 15, 2019 at which time the Operator will need to resume active operations, enter final reclamation or appear before the Mined Land Reclamation Board to request a second period of Temporary Cessation. The site is in similar condition to the previous inspection conducted on June 30, 2016. The proper mine identification sign was not posted at the entrance to the site. Given the recent Succession of Operator, the new operator should post a new sign, complete with permit number, site number and operator contact information at the entrance to the site. All buildings and storage sheds located on site were in good condition and showed no signs of vandalism. Various pieces of equipment, scrap metal and other items were noted throughout the site. Photos One and Two shows examples of the various items and buildings located on site. Items that are being stored on site for future use should be stored in a neat and orderly fashion. All other items should be removed from the site.

Access to the mill building was gained through an unlocked back door. Photos Three and Four show the mill building. The mill equipment, processing and testing equipment were observed throughout the building. Much of the equipment and the mill building itself is in serious disrepair and requires immediate attention. The rest of the site is in poor condition and requires attention.

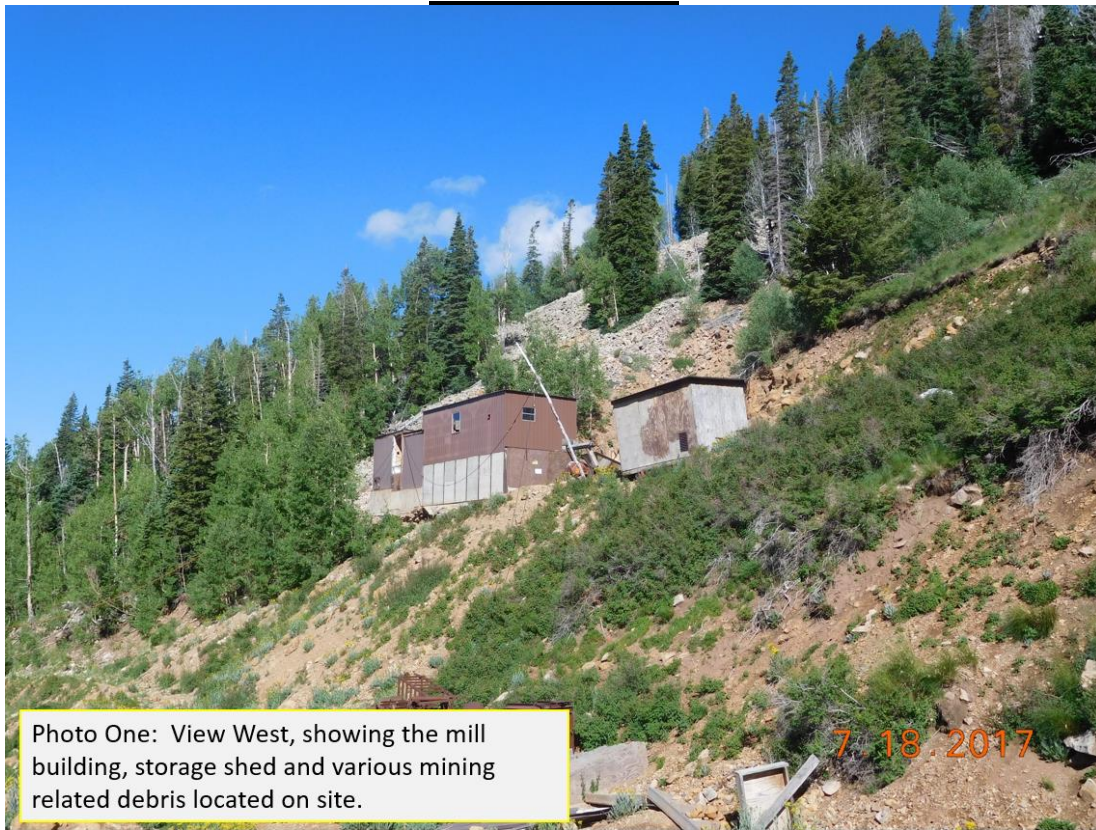
The portals appear to have been backfilled by the previous operator and can be seen in Photo Five, and a majority of the site is revegetated with volunteer species. The main excavation area is shown in Photo Six, has not been backfilled or reclaimed. The areas of the site that require further reclamation activities include the main excavation area, the mill building and general site cleanup of all mining related debris and equipment.

Due extensive history of the site, the Division encourages the new operator to do an in-depth review of the file taking into consideration the future of the site. Any changes the operator wishes to make to the mining and or reclamation plan must be done through the Technical Revision or the Amendment processes. Details regarding the two processes can be found in Sections 1.8 and 1.9 of the Hard Rock and Metals Mining Rules. These changes should be made as soon as practical.

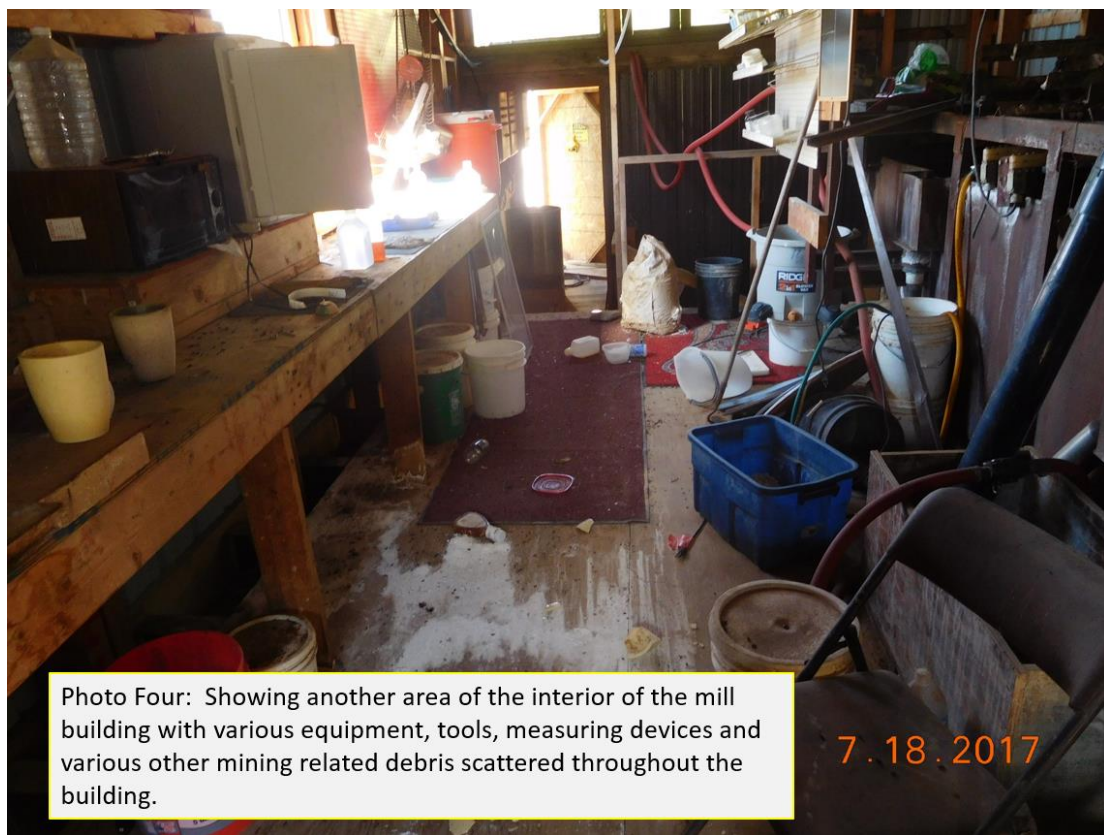
All responses to this report should be directed to Lucas West at the Colorado Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety at 1313 Sherman Street, Room 215, Denver CO, 80203, by phone at 970-243-6368 or by email at [lucas.west@state.co.us](mailto:lucas.west@state.co.us).



## PHOTOGRAPHS











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Enclosure

CC: