




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: Cottonwood Pit	MINE/PROSPECTING ID#: M-1986-010	MINERAL: Sand and gravel	COUNTY: Fremont
INSPECTION TYPE: Monitoring	INSPECTOR(S): Timothy A. Cazier	INSP. DATE: April 27, 2017	INSP. TIME: 13:15
OPERATOR: Fremont County	OPERATOR REPRESENTATIVE: Sterling Rife	TYPE OF OPERATION: 112c - Construction Regular Operation	
REASON FOR INSPECTION: Normal I&E Program	BOND CALCULATION TYPE: None	BOND AMOUNT: \$0.00	
DATE OF COMPLAINT: NA	POST INSP. CONTACTS: Colorado State Land Board	JOINT INSP. AGENCY: None	
WEATHER: Cloudy	INSPECTOR'S SIGNATURE: 	SIGNATURE DATE: August 10, 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>NA</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>N</u>
(MP) GENL MINE PLAN COMPLIANCE- <u>Y</u>	(FW) FISH & WILDLIFE----- <u>Y</u>	(RV) REVEGETATION---- <u>Y</u>
(SM) SIGNS AND MARKERS----- <u>Y</u>	(SP) STORM WATER MGT PLAN---- <u>NA</u>	(CI) COMPLETE INSP---- <u>Y</u>
(ES) OVERBURDEN/DEV. WASTE----- <u>Y</u>	(SC) EROSION/SEDIMENTATION--- <u>Y</u>	(RS) RECL PLAN/COMP-- <u>NA</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

OBSERVATIONS

This inspection was conducted as part of the regular monitoring program. The Permittee (Fremont County) Sterling Rife, who was present for the inspection. This is a 112c sand and gravel mine operated by Fremont County. The Cottonwood Pit is located approximately 4.25 miles west along County Rd 2 from the intersection with Colorado Hwy 9 in Fremont Co. It was not operating at the time of the inspection.

Availability of Records: Annual fees are paid through January 2017. The previous inspection was on March 14, 2013. The approved post-mine land use is rangeland. There are no open infractions.

Backfilling and Grading: Backfill material is not necessary as the slopes are mined at 3H:1V.

Complete Inspection: The entire permit area was inspected. No problems were observed during the inspection.

Excess Spoil and Dev. Waste: No overburden piles were observed.

Financial Warranty: This is a county operated pit, therefore no financial warranty is required.

Fish and Wildlife: No impacts observed.

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

Gen. Compliance with Mine Plan: The operation appeared to be in compliance with the approved mine plan. Google Earth was used to measure the disturbed area, which was estimated to be approximately 8.3 acres based on June 16, 2016 satellite imagery. The maximum allowed disturbed area is 48.4 acres. High walls were at approximately 3H:1V slopes and appeared stable (see **Photo 1**). Mr. Rife indicated they are beginning to move north for the direction of future mining. A topsoil stockpile on the north end of the pit (see **Photo 2**) will need to be moved prior to advancing mining towards the north.

Off-site Damage: The operation appeared to be confined to the permit boundary, based on Google Earth review.

Processing Waste: None observed.

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

Reclamation Success: The County is in the process of topsoiling and seeding the west side of the pit (see **Photo 3**).

Revegetation: Mr. Rife indicated the west face had been seeded. Some amount of Common Mullein was observed (see **Photo 4**). This is a noxious weed List C species, so it was not cited as a problem. However, the Operator should implement a weed control program to reduce the number of mullein plants on site.

Sediment Control: No erosion problems were observed and no BMPs were needed at the time of the inspection.

Support Facilities On-site: A backhoe for loading trucks was observed on site.

Signs and Markers: The permit sign was properly posted (see **Photo 5**). A fence along the county road marks the southern boundary. Markers on the north and west mark those boundaries.

Permit Stipulations: There are no permit stipulations.

Storm Water MGT Plan: No oil or fuel spills observed. Stormwater drains to sediment ponds (see **Photo 6**) prior to being discharged from the site.

Topsoil: The aforementioned topsoil stockpile on the north end will be moved prior to mining north per Mr. Rife.

Please contact Tim Cazier (303)866-3567 ext. 8169 or email at tim.cazier@state.co.us if you have any questions regarding this report.

PHOTOGRAPHS



Photo 1. Reclamation on west face (looking north).

PHOTOGRAPHS (cont.)



Photo 2. Stockpiles: Topsoil circled, product on right (looking north).



Photo 3. Topsoiling and seeding the west side of the pit (looking NW).

PHOTOGRAPHS (cont.)



Photo 4. Mulein towards the south end of the pit (west side, looking west).



Photo 5. Permit sign.

PHOTOGRAPHS (cont.)



Photo 6. Sediment pond, northeast corner (looking east).

Inspection Contact Address

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Cañon City, CO 81212

ec: DRMS file
Phil Courtney, SLB