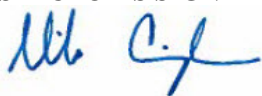


**COLORADO**Division of Reclamation,
Mining and Safety

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: Silent Hill	MINE/PROSPECTING ID#: P-2015-007	MINERAL: Quartz, fluorine, fluorite and feldspar	COUNTY: Jefferson
INSPECTION TYPE: Surety Release Inspection	INSPECTOR(S): Michael A. Cunningham	INSP. DATE: August 10, 2017	INSP. TIME: 11:00
OPERATOR: Thomas G. Miller	OPERATOR REPRESENTATIVE: None	TYPE OF OPERATION: MP - Mineral Prospecting	
REASON FOR INSPECTION: Normal I&E Program	BOND CALCULATION TYPE: Complete Bond	BOND AMOUNT: \$1,000.00	
DATE OF COMPLAINT: NA	POST INSP. CONTACTS: None	JOINT INSP. AGENCY: U.S.Forest Service	
WEATHER: Clear	INSPECTOR'S SIGNATURE: 	SIGNATURE DATE: September 11, 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: There are state-listed noxious weeds present on site. This is a problem for failure to employ weed control methods for 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 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: a list of noxious weeds present at the site, the 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 Modification to the approved NOI with the appropriate Modification fee of \$86.00 by the corrective action date. In addition, the Operator will be required to demonstrate the approved weed control methods have been implemented at the site during the fall season of 2017.

CORRECTIVE ACTION DUE DATE: 10/11/17

OBSERVATIONS

The inspection was conducted by Michael Cunningham of the Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety (Division) and Anthony Davila of the U.S. Forest Service (USFS). The Operator was not present for the inspection. The Silent Hill prospect site is located approximately 8 miles southwest of Deckers, Colorado in the Pike-San Isabel National Forest.

The Division received a request for a full performance and financial warranty release on July 13, 2017. The purpose of the inspection was to determine if the Operator had successfully completed reclamation of the site in accordance with the approved Reclamation Plan and the reclamation performance standards of the Hard Rock Rules.

The Division conducted an inspection of the site on July 21, 2016 and had found the Operator had backfilled all of the prospecting trenches, replaced topsoil and seeded the affected areas. The planted grasses were beginning to establish, but had not yet reached the point where they were capable of self-regeneration without further aid from the Operator. The Division previously informed the Operator it may be necessary to reseed the site. The Operator did not indicate the site was reseeded in the release request. High altitude vegetation establishment often takes 3 or more growing seasons under favorable conditions.

During this inspection the Division found grass establishment was primarily limited to areas up-gradient of downed trees which had been placed on the reclaimed slopes to control erosion. The Division found most of the reclaimed area lacked an adequate vegetative cover, especially when compared to the unaffected surrounding area. Pursuant to Rule 3.1.10(1), affected land shall be revegetated in such a way as to establish a diverse, effective, and long lasting vegetative cover that is capable of self-regeneration without continued dependence on irrigation, soil amendments or fertilizer, and is at least equal in extent of cover to the natural vegetation of the surrounding area.

The Division observed state-listed noxious weeds on site including: common mullein, bull thistle, musk thistle and canada thistle. A problem was cited during the last inspection for the presence of noxious weeds. The Operator was directed to develop a weed control management plan for the site. To date, the Division has not received a weed control management plan from the Operator. Failure to resolve the cited problem by the newly established corrective action date will result in a possible violation for failure to control prohibited noxious weed species. Please see the first page of this report for additional information.

The request for a full performance and financial warranty release will be denied due to the lack of adequate vegetation establishment and the presence of noxious weeds. Notice of the Division's decision will be sent under separate cover.

This concluded the inspection.

PHOTOGRAPHS



1. Musk thistle.



2. Bull thistle.



3. Canada thistle.



4. Overview of reclaimed site.



5. Overview of reclaimed site.



6. Representative vegetation on unaffected surrounding area.

GENERAL INSPECTION TOPICS

This list identifies the environmental and permit parameters inspected and gives a categorical evaluation of each.

(AR) RECORDS----- <u>N</u>	(FN) FINANCIAL WARRANTY----- <u>Y</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>Y</u>
(MP) GENL MINE PLAN COMPLIANCE- <u>Y</u>	(FW) FISH & WILDLIFE----- <u>N</u>	(RV) REVEGETATION---- <u>PB</u>
(SM) SIGNS AND MARKERS----- <u>N</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>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

Inspection Contact Address

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