



# United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT  
UNCOMPAHGRE FIELD OFFICE

2465 South Townsend  
Montrose, CO 81401

[blm.gov/colorado](http://blm.gov/colorado)



In Reply Refer To:  
COC-78664 (3809)

**SEP 12 2017**

**RECEIVED**

**SEP 19 2017**

**DIVISION OF RECLAMATION  
MINING AND SAFETY**

**CERTIFIED MAIL-RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED**

Andrews Mining, LLC  
Dave Andrews  
P. O. Box 275  
Redvale, CO 81431

Dear Mr. Andrews:

On August 7, 2017, Andrews Mining, LLC filed a notice under the surface management regulations contained in 43 CFR 3809 to drill three core holes on public land in N1/2NE1/4, Sec. 28, T. 48 N., R. 18 W., NMPM. The notice has been assigned serial number COC-78664. On August 14, 2017, our wildlife biologist looked at the project area on the ground. The notice is accepted and you may begin operations with the following conditions:

- Approval is given for the proposed three drill site locations. If other locations in this area are proposed at a later date for drilling or exploration, the notice must be modified and approved by BLM prior to drilling.
- Only existing roads or old drill roads shall be used, and no new access shall be constructed.
- Drilling operations shall not occur outside the confines of existing surface disturbance as a measure to protect adjacent native vegetation.
- Surface disturbance occurring as a result of the project activity shall be reclaimed and reseeded concurrently with the backfilling of each exploration drill hole. Enclosed is the BLM seed mix list to be used for reclamation of the drill hole sites.
- If subsurface cultural or paleontological resources are unearthed during operations, activity in the vicinity of the cultural/paleontological resource shall cease and a BLM representative notified immediately. Pursuant to 43 CFR 10.4 the operator must notify the BLM Authorized Officer, by telephone, with written confirmation, immediately upon the discovery of human remains, funerary items, sacred objects, or objects of cultural patrimony. Further, the operator must stop activities in the vicinity of the discovery and protect it for 30 days or until notified to proceed by the Authorized Officer.

- The operator is responsible for informing all persons associated with this project that they will be subject to prosecution for knowingly disturbing Native American Indian shrines, historic and prehistoric archaeology sites, or for collecting artifacts of any kind, including historic items and/or arrowheads and pottery fragments from Federal lands..
- Exploration operations will be terminated during times when ruts on access roads exceed 4" in depth, as determined by the Authorizing Officer.
- The project area is identified by Colorado Parks and Wildlife as important wintering range for mule deer and elk and is in relatively close proximity (less than .25 mile) to a known bat hibernacula. All work shall occur between March 15<sup>th</sup> and October 15<sup>th</sup> to eliminate impacts to hibernating sensitive bat species, primarily Townsend's big-eared bats (*Corynorhinus townsendii*), and wintering big game.
- BLM concurs with the bonding recommendations of the Colorado Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety (CDRMS). Operations may begin when the bond is filed with CDRMS and a copy of the bond is submitted to this Office.
- Be advised that wildland fires can occur at any time, but especially during our summer fire season. As the operator of a minerals related project, it is your responsibility to take every reasonable precaution against initiating accidental fires. As the operator you may be held liable for the costs associated with fighting a fire your operations have caused. Also, it is the policy of the BLM to allow some natural caused fires to burn as part of our "Fire Use" policy. If a fire use wildfire presents a safety issue with your operation, you may be asked or even ordered to evacuate the area. Please comply with all fire management direction when instructed to do so.

Your notice is complete, the operation will not cause unnecessary or undue degradation to the public lands and it contains all the information required by BLM surface management regulations at 43 CFR 3809.301. **Your notice remains in effect for 2 years from the date of this letter**, unless extended under 43 CFR 3809.333 or unless you notify BLM beforehand that operations have ceased and reclamation is complete. BLM will conduct an inspection to verify whether reclamation has been completed before recommending bond release to the Colorado Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety (CDRMS). On or before the expiration date, the Field Manager must be given written notice if you intend to continue operations under the terms of the existing notice for an additional two (2) years.

Please contact Teresa Pfitter at (970) 240-5316 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Gregory Larson  
Field Manager  
Uncompahgre Field Office

Enclosure:  
BLM seed mix

Cc:

Jim Stover, J. E. Stover & Associates, Inc.

Russ Means, CDRMS

Standard Native Seed Mix for Sagebrush and Pinyon-Juniper Zone  
Mid Elevations (6,000-8,000')

This native seed mix should work well in the mid elevation zone in the 11-16" rainfall zone. Use the complete mix on larger projects where substantial amounts of ground will be disturbed, and the likelihood of reseeding from adjacent vegetation is low. On small projects where linear or small patches of vegetation are disturbed and there is abundant adjacent native vegetation for reseeding, use just the bottlebrush squirreltail and western wheatgrass (at 4 lbs PLS seed for each species per acre, under the drill rate, double this rate for aerial application with no seed incorporation).

Price and seed availability vary, so not all species may be available at the time you need them, or priced affordably. However the major ones should usually be available. The rate shown below is for a drilled seeding, or some other method that incorporates the seed into the soil. Rates should be doubled if the seed is to be aerially applied. If price or availability is a concern, reduce or leave out those species and increase percentages of remaining species correspondingly (column A in table below, total to this column should equal 100%, carry through changes in columns B, D, and E following instructions under column headings).

BLM places the following requirements on seed mixes which are put on BLM lands:

- 1) Use the following minimum PLS (Pure Live Seed) tolerances

PLS tested %	Tolerance % points
81-100	-7
61-80	-6
41-60	-5
21-40	-4
0-20	-3

- 2) All seed must comply with BLM and Colorado weed seed guidelines. There should be no prohibited species seed, and no more than allowable levels of restricted species seed. In addition, there should be no more than 0.5% total weed seed, less than 2% other seed, and no trash larger than 1/4" in length. Seed shall not be stored in burlap bags.
- 3) The UFO places additional local restrictions on seed to minimize cheatgrass spread. If seed tests show any *Bromus tectorum* or *Bromus japonicus*, the BLM should be consulted with for approval. No mix placed on BLM shall contain more than 150 *Bromus tectorum* and/or *Bromus japonicus* seeds per pound.
- 4) BLM requires additional seed tests on seeding projects that are greater than 20 acres and/or require over 200 lbs of seed. For these seeding projects, the project proponent should have the seed supply company store the purchased seed prior to mixing, and pull samples to be sent to a certified laboratory, preferably Colorado State Laboratory at the following address. Seed test results must comply with the criteria listed above before seed is mixed, shipped and applied to the project area:
- Colorado State Laboratory  
Colorado State University  
Department of Soil and Crop Sciences  
Fort Collins, CO 80523
- 5) BLM will need copies of seed tags and test results for all seed applied regardless of project size.
- 6) Only State Certified weed free mulch shall be used.

	A	B	C	D	E
Species	Desired % of planting	Multiplier (A x 0.01)	PLS lbs for full stand	PLS lbs per acre needed for mix (B x C)	PLS lbs per acre for project (D x # acres)
Western Wheatgrass ( <i>Pascopyrum smithii</i> ) Variety Arriba	35	0.35	10	3.5	
Bottlebrush squirreltail ( <i>Elymus elemoides</i> )	20	0.20	8	1.6	
Indian Ricegrass ( <i>Acnatherum hymenoides</i> ) Variety Paloma	10	0.1	8	0.8	
Galleta Grass ( <i>Hilaria</i> or <i>Pleuraphis jamesii</i> )	5	0.05	8	0.4	
Sand Dropseed ( <i>Sporobolus cryptandra</i> )	5	0.05	1	0.05	
Needle and Thread ( <i>Stipa</i> or <i>Heterostipa comata</i> )	5	0.05	10	0.5	
Scarlet Globemallow ( <i>Sphaeralcea coccinea</i> )	2	0.02	3	0.06	
Annual Sunflower ( <i>Helianthus annuus</i> )	3	0.03	10	0.3	
Rocky Mountain Penstemon ( <i>Penstemon strictus</i> )	2	0.02	2	0.04	
Northern Sweet Vetch ( <i>Hedysarum boreale</i> )	2	0.02	15	0.3	
Winterfat ( <i>Eurotia</i> or <i>Krascheninnikovia lanata</i> )	1	0.01	5	0.05	
Four-Wing Saltbush ( <i>Atriplex canescens</i> ) from western Colorado, E Utah	5	0.05	6	0.3	
Wyoming Big Sagebrush ( <i>Artemisia tridentata wyomingensis</i> )	5	0.05	1	0.05	
Totals	100	1.0		7.95	