




**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> Hoffman Pit	<b>MINE/PROSPECTING ID#:</b> M-2005-044	<b>MINERAL:</b> Sand and gravel	<b>COUNTY:</b> Lincoln
<b>INSPECTION TYPE:</b> Monitoring	<b>INSPECTOR(S):</b> Timothy A. Cazier	<b>INSP. DATE:</b> August 23, 2015	<b>INSP. TIME:</b> 11:00
<b>OPERATOR:</b> Lincoln County	<b>OPERATOR REPRESENTATIVE:</b> Trey James	<b>TYPE OF OPERATION:</b> 112c - Construction Regular Operation	
<b>REASON FOR INSPECTION:</b> Normal I&E Program	<b>BOND CALCULATION TYPE:</b> None	<b>BOND AMOUNT:</b> \$0.00	
<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> October 18, 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>Y</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>Y</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>Y</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 (Lincoln County) was represented by Mr. Trey James during the inspection. The Hoffman Pit is accessed from Lincoln Co Rd 28 (about 6.5 miles east of Limon on US Hwy 24). The access road is located approximately 0.6 miles north of Hwy 24. This is a 112c sand and gravel mine. It was not operating at the time of the inspection.

Availability of Records: Annual fees are paid through August 2017. The previous inspection was on October 3, 2013. The approved post-mine land use is rangeland. There are no open infractions. Technical revision (TR) number 1 (TR-01) implemented a weed control plan. TR-02 changed the seed mix and TR-03 granted the Hoffman Pit intermittent operating status. Subsequent to the inspection, Mr. James informed the Division the land owner had passed away and that Lincoln County would sort out the lease for the mine after the estate is settled.

Backfilling and Grading: Sufficient backfill material appeared to be available to be pushed down and keep the disturbance within the affected area boundary.

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 site is permitted by the County, therefore no bond is required.

Fish and Wildlife: No impacts observed.

Hydrologic Balance: Some standing water was observed in the (see **Photo 1**) pit and was determined to be stormwater from recent rains. 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 12 acres. High walls were estimated to vary between 4 and 12 feet high and appeared stable on the perimeter (see **Photo 2**). Internal highwalls appeared less stable with respect erosion, but not considered problematic (see **Photo 3**).

Off-site Damage: The operation appeared to be confined to the permit boundary.

Processing Waste: None observed.

Roads: Haul and access roads did not appear to be a source of sediment that could be tracked offsite. The adjacent Fisher Pit (M-1977-163) is being held by Lincoln County primarily to provide access to the Hoffman Pit. The Division suggested either combining the two pits into one permit via the permit amendment process or working to release the Fisher Pit and adding only the access road that currently runs through the Fisher Pit to the Hoffman Pit, again through the amendment process. Mr. James indicated the ability to amend either permit would depend on agreements with the respective land owners, which are different for each pit.

Reclamation Success: Reclamation has begun on the north slope of the pit. It had been graded to approximately 3H:1V, topsoiled and seeded as per the approved reclamation plan.

Revegetation: As mentioned above, the north slope has been seeded. Some bindweed (a List C species) was observed on topsoil stockpiles, but not in significant amounts. The Permittee should monitor the site for noxious weeds. No other noxious weeds were observed.

Sediment Control: A large erosion gully was observed along the haul road on the west side of the north slope (see **Photo 4**). This gully should be repaired and best management practices (BMPs) for erosion control be implemented before the erosion can migrate off site to the north.

Signs and Markers: The permit sign was properly posted (see **Photo 5**) and boundary markers (T-posts) were observed to delineate the permit boundary (see **Photo 6**).

Permit Stipulations: None.

Storm Water MGT Plan: No oil or fuel spills observed. Representatives stated the stormwater management plan is kept in the County office. Stormwater drains to the pit and infiltrates.

Topsoil: A topsoil stockpile is on the west side of the pit, south of the entrance road (see **Photo 7**).

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

## **PHOTOGRAPHS**



Photo 1. Standing water was observed in the pit (looking NW).



**PHOTOGRAPHS (cont.)**

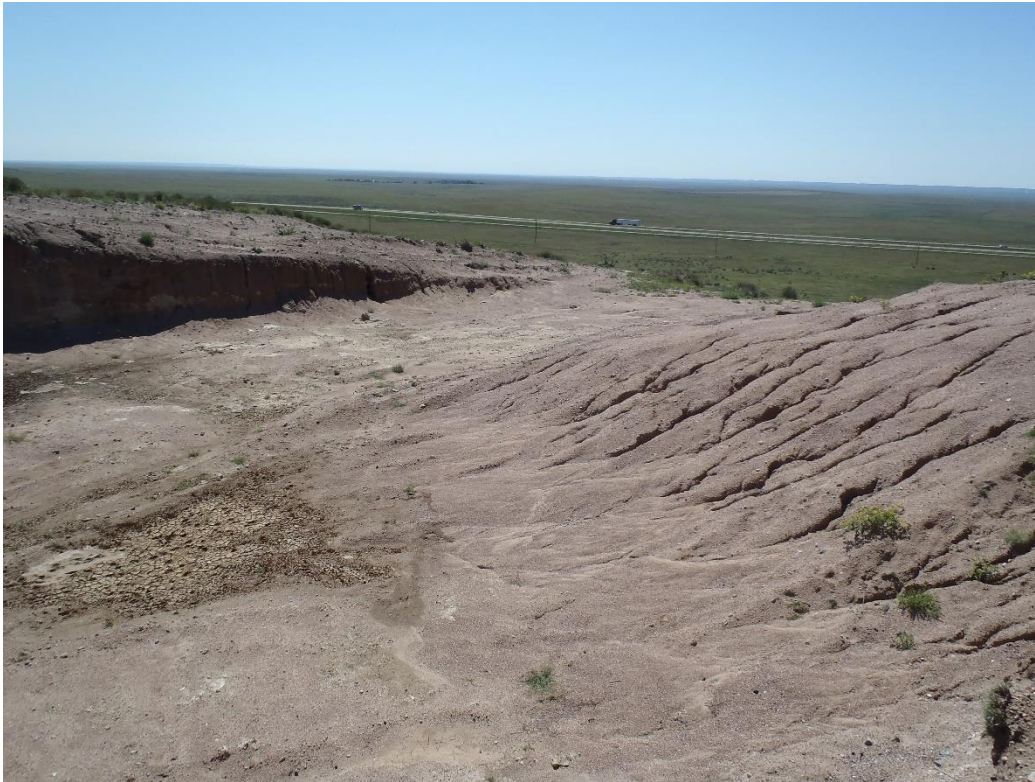


Photo 2. High walls estimated between 4 and 12 feet in height and appeared stable (looking SW).



Photo 3. Less stable internal highwalls (with respect erosion), but not considered problematic.



**PHOTOGRAPHS (cont.)**



Photo 4. Large erosion gully observed along the haul road (looking NW).



Photo 5. Permit sign properly posted (entrance) .



**PHOTOGRAPHS (cont.)**



Photo 6. Typical boundary marker (T-posts) used to delineate the permit boundary.



Photo 7. Topsoil stockpile on west side of pit (Note bindweed in foreground).

**Inspection Contact Address**

Trey James  
Lincoln County Land Use Administrator  
103 3rd Avenue  
P.O. Box 39  
Hugo, Colorado 80821

CC: DRMS file