




PERMIT INFORMATION

Permit Number: C-1981-008 Mine Name: New Horizon Mine Operator: Elk Ridge Mining and Reclamation, LLC Operator Address: Mr. Tony Tennyson 5731 State Highway 13 Meeker, CO 81641	County: Montrose Operation Type: Surface Permit Status: Active Ownership: Private
	Operator Representative Present: Frank Ferris
Operator Representative Signature: (Field Issuance Only) 	

INSPECTION INFORMATION

Inspection Start Date: September 26, 2017 Inspection Start Time: 09:00 Inspection End Date: September 26, 2017 Inspection End Time: 16:00		Inspection Type: Coal Partial Inspection Inspection Reason: OSM Oversight Inspection Weather: Clear	
Joint Inspection Agency: OSM		Joint Inspection Contacts: Christine Belka	
Post Inspection Agency: None		Post Inspection Contacts: 	
Inspector(s): Brock F. Bowles	Inspector's Signature: 		Signature Date: September 29, 2017

Inspection Topic Summary

NOTE: Y=Inspected N=Not Inspected R=Comments Noted V=Violation Issued NA=Not Applicable

N - Air Resource Protection
N - Availability of Records
N - Backfill & Grading
N - Excess Spoil and Dev. Waste
N - Explosives
N - Fish & Wildlife
R - Hydrologic Balance
N - Gen. Compliance With Mine Plan
N - Other
N - Processing Waste

N - Roads
R - Reclamation Success
N - Revegetation
N - Subsidence
N - Slides and Other Damage
N - Support Facilities On-site
R - Signs and Markers
N - Support Facilities Not On-site
N - Special Categories Of Mining
R - Topsoil

COMMENTS

This was a partial inspection of the New Horizon Mine conducted by Brock Bowles of the Colorado Division of Reclamation Mining and Safety and Christine Belka of the Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement (OSM). Frank Ferris of Elk Ridge Mining and Reclamation (ERMR) was present for the entire inspection. The weather conditions were mostly sunny and warm. The temperature was approximately 70F and the ground was dry.

HYDROLOGIC BALANCE - Rule 4.05

Drainage Control 4.05.1, 4.05.2, 4.05.3; Siltation Structures 4.05.5, 4.05.6; Discharge Structures 4.05.7, 4.05.10; Diversions 4.05.4; Effluent Limits 4.05.2; Ground Water Monitoring 4.05.13; Surface Water Monitoring 4.05.13; Drainage – Acid and Toxic Materials 4.05.8; Impoundments 4.05.6, 4.05.9; Stream Buffer Zones 4.05.18:

The sediment control structure on the NW corner of the Morgan field was in working order. The rock gabion cage (photo 1) was in place along with the straw wattles. The vegetation on the field and on the embankments was thick and there were no signs of erosion. The Enstrom irrigation water was flowing around the field edge to the county culvert as designed.

Ponds 7, 8 and 13 contained water. The source of the water is irrigation runoff. Various irrigation systems were in operation during this inspection. Pond 13 was discharging and the discharge structure was free and clear of debris.

Ponds 9, 16 and 18 (photo 2) did not contain water.

SIGNS AND MARKERS – Rule 4.02:

The permit boundary signs were in place on the NW corner of the Morgan property. The permit boundary signs on the southern boundary of the Morgan property were not in place due to the vehicle traffic working on the Morgan topsoil piles.

TOPSOIL – Rule 4.06

Removal 4.06.2; Substitute Materials 4.06.4(4); Storage and Protection 4.06.3; Redistribution 4.06.4:

Mike Morgan and JoEllen Turner have been working to lower the angle of repose on topsoil piles A and B. The work has been slow due to scattered rain keeping the topsoil too moist to drive equipment on.

ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS/COMPLIANCE

No enforcement actions were initiated as a result of this inspection, nor are any pending.

PHOTOGRAPHS



Photo 1 – Gabion Cage Sediment Control



Photo 2 – Pond 18