



Bureau of Land Management Colorado River Valley Field Office Minerals Inspection Report

General Information	
Date	8/8/2017
Project Name	Rifle Quarry
Operator	Colorado Lien Company
Serial Number	COC-077876
Project Classification	Plan of Operations
Project Location	T4S R92W Sec15, Garfield County
Inspection Purpose	Reclamation site inspection
Time Period Onsite	1 hour
Attendees	Jessica Lopez Pearce, BLM Geologist

New Remarks

On August 8, 2017, I inspected the Colorado Lien Company Rifle Quarry to check on final reclamation progress of the remaining 1.65 permitted acres and ensure compliance with the Final Reclamation Plan (which was authorized July 1, 2016). The weather was overcast with temperatures in the high 50's.

I observed the access road blocked per the Final Reclamation Plan. The surface of the road was covered in the approved alternative growth media and mulching material (a combination of fish emulsion solids, spent grain solids, spent potato mash solids, mulch, and topsoil). Grasses and forbs were growing on the road bed; there was more vegetation along the side and down the middle of the old road than in the wheel ruts. Signage was present at the southeast corner of the main quarry area.

The 1.65-acre site includes a highwall on the north side and a backfilled and regraded area to the south. The backfilled quarry floor terminates to the east with an east-facing, 20-foot high, approximately 2:1 slope. There is a bermed access route up the eastern slope to the recontoured quarry floor. The eastern slope, the quarry floor, the northern upper access bench, as well as most of the remaining quarry area was covered in the alternative growth media and mulching material. Vegetation covered approximately 50% of the recontoured quarry floor. An unknown species of mustard was especially prevalent. This plant is not part of the 2016 BLM-approved seed mix. Mullein was also observed throughout the quarry. Future inspections will monitor the revegetation within the reclaimed area.

There were several 24" tall sediment control windrows running perpendicular to the west-to-east gradient on the quarry floor. These windrows were fairly effective at trapping sediment. The vegetation on the quarry also appeared to prevent erosion. There was some evidence of slight gullying/rilling and erosion of material in channels on the quarry floor. The channelization and erosion wasn't extensive, but additional erosion could occur if measures are not taken. Future inspections will continue to monitor effectiveness of sediment control.



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Recommended Changes to Operations or Corrective Actions Needed

- No corrective actions at this time.

Photo Summary



Photo 1: Looking west at the barricaded access road. Vegetation is successfully growing in the middle and on the sides of the road.



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Photo 2: Looking west to the slope on the eastern side of the quarry. The eastern slide of the slope is covered in alternative growth media and mulching material.



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Photo 3: Looking west at the sediment control windrows that run north-south (right to left) across the quarry floor. The unknown mustard plant species is located in the right foreground.



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Photo 4: Looking southeast from the reclaimed upper quarry bench. Note the slight gully beginning to form around the northern (left) side of one of the windrows (red arrow).



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Photo 5: Close-up of unknown mustard species. Clipboard for scale.
