



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: Fisher Pit	MINE/PROSPECTING ID#: M-1977-163-SG	MINERAL: Sand and gravel	COUNTY: Lincoln
INSPECTION TYPE: Surety Release Inspection	INSPECTOR(S): Timothy A. Cazier	INSP. DATE: December 19, 2017	INSP. TIME: 9:55
OPERATOR: Lincoln County	OPERATOR REPRESENTATIVE: Trey James	TYPE OF OPERATION: 112c - Construction Regular Operation	
REASON FOR INSPECTION: Surety Release Requested	BOND CALCULATION TYPE: None	BOND AMOUNT: \$0.00	
DATE OF COMPLAINT: NA	POST INSP. CONTACTS: None	JOINT INSP. AGENCY: None	
WEATHER: Clear	INSPECTOR'S SIGNATURE: 	SIGNATURE DATE: December 21, 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>NA</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>NA</u>	(RS) RECL PLAN/COMP-- <u>NA</u>
(ES) OVERBURDEN/DEV. WASTE----- <u>Y</u>	(SC) EROSION/SEDIMENTATION--- <u>Y</u>	(ST) STIPULATIONS----- <u>Y</u>
(AT) ACID OR TOXIC MATERIALS----- <u>NA</u>	(OD) OFF-SITE DAMAGE----- <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 review process for a reclamation liability release request received by the Division on November 24, 2017. The Permittee (Lincoln County) was represented by Mr. Trey James during the inspection. The Fisher 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 November 2017. The previous inspection was on July 23, 2015 as part of a previous release request. Erosion gullies requiring repair were observed during this previous inspection in the northeast port of the permit area. The approved post-mine land use is rangeland. There are no open infractions.

Backfilling and Grading: The previously observed erosion gullies had been adequately repaired with regards to earthwork (see **Photos 1** through **5** and **8**), and relatively recently with respect to this 2017 inspection. However, the repairs to the largest of the gullies exhibited some severely compacted soils (see **Photo 6**) due to the multiple passes made by the equipment to fill it. The Division strongly recommends disking/roughening the soil prior to seeding.

Excess Spoil and Dev. Waste: No overburden piles were observed.

Fish and Wildlife: No impact to wildlife was observed.

Hydrologic Balance: No standing water was observed in the pit and no exposed groundwater was observed.

Gen. Compliance with Mine Plan: The operation is in final reclamation. The fact that the repaired gullies had no vegetation, nor had been seeded since the recent repair requires the Division deny the request for final release. The only observed disturbance inadequate for release are the gully repair areas.

Off-site Damage: The operation appeared to be confined to the permit boundary, based on boundary markers.

Roads: The haul road through the Fisher pit is not reclaimed as it is used for the adjacent Hoffman Pit (M-2005-044) inspected on August 23, 2017. In order to achieve final reclamation liability release for the Fisher Pit, Lincoln County must either provide a letter from the Fisher Pit land owner stating the road will be used by the owner and does not need to be reclaimed, or incorporate the road into the Hoffman pit permit via the permit amendment process.

Reclamation Success: As stated above, the gully repair grading and topsoil placement appear adequate, but no seeding has been accomplished, nor is there any sign of vegetation in the repair areas.

Revegetation: No noxious weeds were observed. No vegetation was observed in the gully repair areas.

Sediment Control: No erosion problems were observed. However, the Division encourages the Permittee to implement BMPs (such as straw wattles or silt fence at the crest of the gully repair areas until vegetation is established.

Signs and Markers: The permit sign was properly posted (see **Photo 7**) and boundary markers were observed

to delineate the permit boundary.

Permit Stipulations: There are no permit stipulations.

Storm Water MGT Plan: No oil or fuel spills observed.

Summary: The Division will recommend denial of your request for final release of reclamation liability. You will be notified under separate cover. Lincoln County will also need to determine the landowner's ultimate use for and reclamation of the haul road also being used by the Hoffman Pit to the east, as stated in the "Roads" section above.

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

PHOTOGRAPHS



Photo 1. Four gully repair areas (looking NE).

PHOTOGRAPHS (cont.)



Photo 2. Western most gully repair (looking north).



Photo 3. Gully repair – second from west to east (looking north).

PHOTOGRAPHS (cont.)



Photo 4. Gully repair – third from west to east (looking north).



Photo 5. Gully repair – fourth from west to east (looking NE).

PHOTOGRAPHS (cont.)



Photo 6. Heavily compacted soil in second from west gully repair.



Photo 7. Permit sign at entrance.

PHOTOGRAPHS (cont.)



Photo 8. Two eastern most gully repairs (looking NW).

Inspection Contact Address

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

ec: DRMS file