



**File Code:** 2810

**Date:** June 26, 2018

**CERTIFIED MAIL – RETURN  
RECEIPT REQUESTED  
NUMBER: 7017 1070 0000 6138 2331**

Joseph Dorris  
Claimant/ Operator  
2920 Cedar Heights Drive  
Colorado Springs, CO 80904

Dear Mr. Dorris,

Enclosed is the final, signed Decision Memorandum (DM) dated June 22, 2018 (attachment 1), and related documents associated with the Crystal Jack Mine Plan of Operations (MPO) renewal (#2810-021210-MPO-2017-012). This MPO is for lode mining-related activities on the South Park Ranger District of the Pike National Forest.

On February 7, 2014, the President signed into law the Agricultural Act of 2014, Public Law Number 113-79 (i.e. Farm Bill). Section 8006(a) of the 2014 Farm Bill repealed the Appeals Reform Act, Public Law Number 102-381, 106 Stat. 1419 (1992). Section 8006(b) directs that the pre-decisional objection process established in Section 428 of division E of the Consolidated Appropriation Act of 2012, Public Law Number 112-74, shall not be applicable to categorically excluded projects or activities. Therefore, this decision is not appealable.

Prior to final approval of your MPO, there are two additional steps that must be completed:

(1) Accepting the changes and additions listed in the June 22<sup>nd</sup> Crystal Jack Design Criteria

Prior to Forest Service (FS) approval of the final MPO, you will need to accept the changes and additions that were identified in the enclosed Design Criteria. These changes and additions are carried forward into Section VI-A of the final MPO (Required changes/modifications/special mitigation for plan of operations). By signing Section 8 (Operating Plan Acceptance) of the MPO, and page 6 of the enclosed Design Criteria, you (Mr. Dorris) accept the changes and additions, and agree to incorporate them into the operations.

(2) Posting a Reclamation Performance Bond.

The Reclamation Performance Bond is a guarantee of faithful performance with the terms and conditions listed in the MPO and Design Criteria. The Reclamation Performance Bond also extends to, and can include any unauthorized activities conducted in connection with this operation. The bond amount may also be adjusted during the term of the MPO in response to changes in the operations or to changes in the economy.

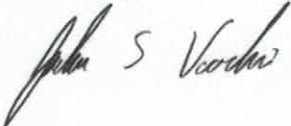
As per the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Forest Service and the State of Colorado, Division of Reclamation, Mining, and Safety (DRMS), the DRMS is the lead bond authority and will be responsible for calculating your reclamation bond. This bond will



need to be submitted to and approved by DRMS and the Forest Service in accordance with 36 CFR 228.13, prior to the authorization of your MPO.

If you have any questions and/or need clarification regarding the above information, please contact Geologist Amy Titterington at the South Park office, by phone at 719-836-2031, and/or by email at amyjtitterington@fs.fed.us.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Joshua S. Voorhis". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Joshua" being more prominent.

JOSHUA S. VOORHIS  
District Ranger

Enclosures:

- 1) DM for Crystal Jack MPO, signed June 22, 2018
- 2) Design Criteria for Crystal Jack MPO
- 3) Signature page for Crystal Jack MPO
- 4) Original SIR for Crystal Jack, signed January 23, 2013

cc: [elliott.russell@state.co.us](mailto:elliott.russell@state.co.us); [williamsd@co.teller.co.us](mailto:williamsd@co.teller.co.us); Joseph Dorris





**File Code:** 1950; 2810  
**Date:** June 22, 2018

**To: 2810 Dorris Crystal Jack File 2017-012**

**DECISION:**

Mr. Dorris' original mine Plan of Operations (MPO) was authorized on September 28, 2005, with the option to renew for an additional 5 years, if no changes to his MPO occurred. A sufficiency review was conducted and the MPO was renewed on January 23, 2013, with the same stipulations. Based upon the best available scientific information, my review of the proposed Crystal Jack Mine Plan of Operations (MPO), and comments from the following internal agency district specialists: wildlife biologist, range and botany specialist, recreation specialist, silviculturalist, archaeologist, geologist, realty specialist, hydrologist, and fire management officer, I have decided to re-authorize the Crystal Jack MPO for exploration and mining activities as described below:

1. Allow the operation of an excavator for prospecting and/or mining; this would include overburden removal and vein exploration.
2. Allow the installation of hazard fencing and signing around the perimeter of the active mining area.
3. The use and storage of an excavator for reclamation of mining related disturbances including backfilling, re-contouring previous bench areas, obliteration of non-system roads and distribution of topsoil. The equipment will be removed at the end of the mining season.
4. Allow the use of a portable restroom during the mining season. The restroom will be removed at the end of the mining season.
5. Allow removal of trees only as necessary to access vein exploration.
6. Use of existing, adjacent non-system roads (two-track) for access and parking vehicles and equipment. The access routes are temporary and will be fully reclaimed at the end of the project.
7. Annual reclamation activities will be completed by October 31 of each season and all final reclamation activities will be completed by October 31, five years from the date of this authorization.

The operator will be required to (1) incorporate the design features (criteria) into the final MPO, and (2) post an appropriate reclamation bond as approved by the FS.

Operations approved by this decision will be in compliance with the rules and regulations for operations on NFS lands (36 CFR 228 Subpart A). All operations will be conducted in accordance with the design features to minimize and/ or eliminate environmental impacts on NFS surface resources (36 CFR 228.8). Approval of this MPO is consistent with 36 CFR 228.5.



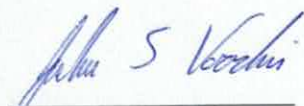
Implementation will commence once the Plan of Operations is authorized. The Plan of Operations will be authorized for a five (5) year period, which will end on December 31<sup>st</sup> five (5) years after the Plan of Operations is signed. Once the Plan of Operations period of authorization has expired, and if there have been no changes to the MPO, the existing analysis will be reviewed for sufficiency to determine if it is adequate to re-authorize the *Crystal Jack Mine* Plan of Operations for a further five years.

**BACKGROUND:**

Joe Dorris, claimant and operator, has submitted a complete proposal on March 28, 2018, to renew his Plan of Operations to mine gemstones near Crystal Creek on the Ute, Two Point, Qui-Buc No. 1, Qui-Buc No. 4, Qui-Buc No. 5, Qui-Buc No. 6, and Qui-Buc No. 7 unpatented mining claims. The unpatented mining claims are found in portions of Sections 34 and 35, T11S, R71W, and portions of Sections 2 and 3, T12S, R71W, 6<sup>th</sup> Principal Meridian, approximately 5.0 miles northeast of Lake George, Colorado, in Teller County.

The mining operation may be accessed on existing routes, Trail Creek Rd to NFSR 201, NFSR 752, and NFSR 753 to the un-named access roads. The cross-country, non-system roads are approximately 12 feet wide x 2,430 feet long, cumulatively. Total disturbance for access is approximately 0.67 acres. The access road has already been bonded in the operator's previous Plan of Operations. The access route is temporary and will be fully reclaimed at the end of the project.

The total disturbance for the project will be approximately 4.0 acres. To date, 2.0 of the 4.0 acres have been reclaimed under his previous Plan of Operations. There are no current open excavations on the project site. This plan of operation will develop the remaining 2.0 acres at the Crystal Jack Mine.



JOSHUA S. VOORHIS  
District Ranger

**Enclosures:**

- 1) Crystal Jack Mine Plan of Operations signature page
- 2) Design Criteria for Crystal Jack Mine
- 3) Original SIR for Crystal Jack Mine, dated January 24, 2013

cc: [elliott.russell@state.co.us](mailto:elliott.russell@state.co.us); [williamsd@co.teller.co.us](mailto:williamsd@co.teller.co.us); Joseph Dorris