



June 14, 2018

Danny Kipp, Chief Reclamation Specialist
Coors Energy Company
13495 County Road 61
Keenesburg, CO 80643

RE: Keenesburg Mine-2nd Quarter 2018 Pest & Disease Inspection

Dear Danny:

Enclosed is the second quarter 2018 Pest & Disease Inspection Report for the Keenesburg Mine.

Please contact me at your convenience with any questions you may have regarding this report.

Sincerely,

Wayne R. Erickson

Wayne Erickson
Principal Environmental Scientist

w/attachment



Habitat Management, Inc.

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Coors Energy Company: Keenesburg Mine Permit No. C-81-028
2018 Second Quarter Pest & Disease Inspection

On June 14, 2018 Wayne Erickson (Habitat Management, Inc). inspected operational, bonded reclaimed and shop areas at the Keenesburg Mine for plant pests, plant diseases and noxious weeds that could or have affected establishment of vegetation on reclaimed lands. The inspection was conducted by vehicular and pedestrian means. The following areas were inspected:

- The office/shop/facility area;
- Topsoil stockpiles A-1 and B-1;
- B pit;
- The long-term spoil area;
- Bonded Reclamation;
- The permanent sediment pond;
- Mine roads;
- Undisturbed land within the permit boundary;
- and
- The Dugout.

These areas are depicted on Map 1.

Plant disease was not identified within the areas inspected. The vegetation has not been adversely affected by plant pests. Areas affected by infestation or blight were not identified during this inspection. No areas were observed where noxious weeds, plant pests or plant disease had adversely impacted the normal growth and establishment of vegetation on reclaimed lands, with the exception of cheatgrass infestations.

Ongoing vegetation monitoring has identified cheatgrass as a potential barrier to successful revegetation of disturbed areas. Typically, cheatgrass infestations are more widespread and dense on recently reclaimed lands. Cheatgrass infestations are being treated by mine personnel with good success. Infestations on older reclamation areas are scattered and less dense due to treatment efforts. Moisture conditions have favored cheatgrass and it is noticeably present in some areas. Locations of higher density cheatgrass growth include:

- Around the perimeters and on the banks of the two sediment ponds;
- Sideslopes of the top-sand stockpiles;
- The fence south of the stockpiles south of the facilities;
- Reclaimed area west of the pond by the facilities;
- Reclaimed lands within the southwest portion of the permit area; and
- Along the perimeter fence of the facilities area.

These areas should be monitored and treated in the fall with pre-emergent herbicides.

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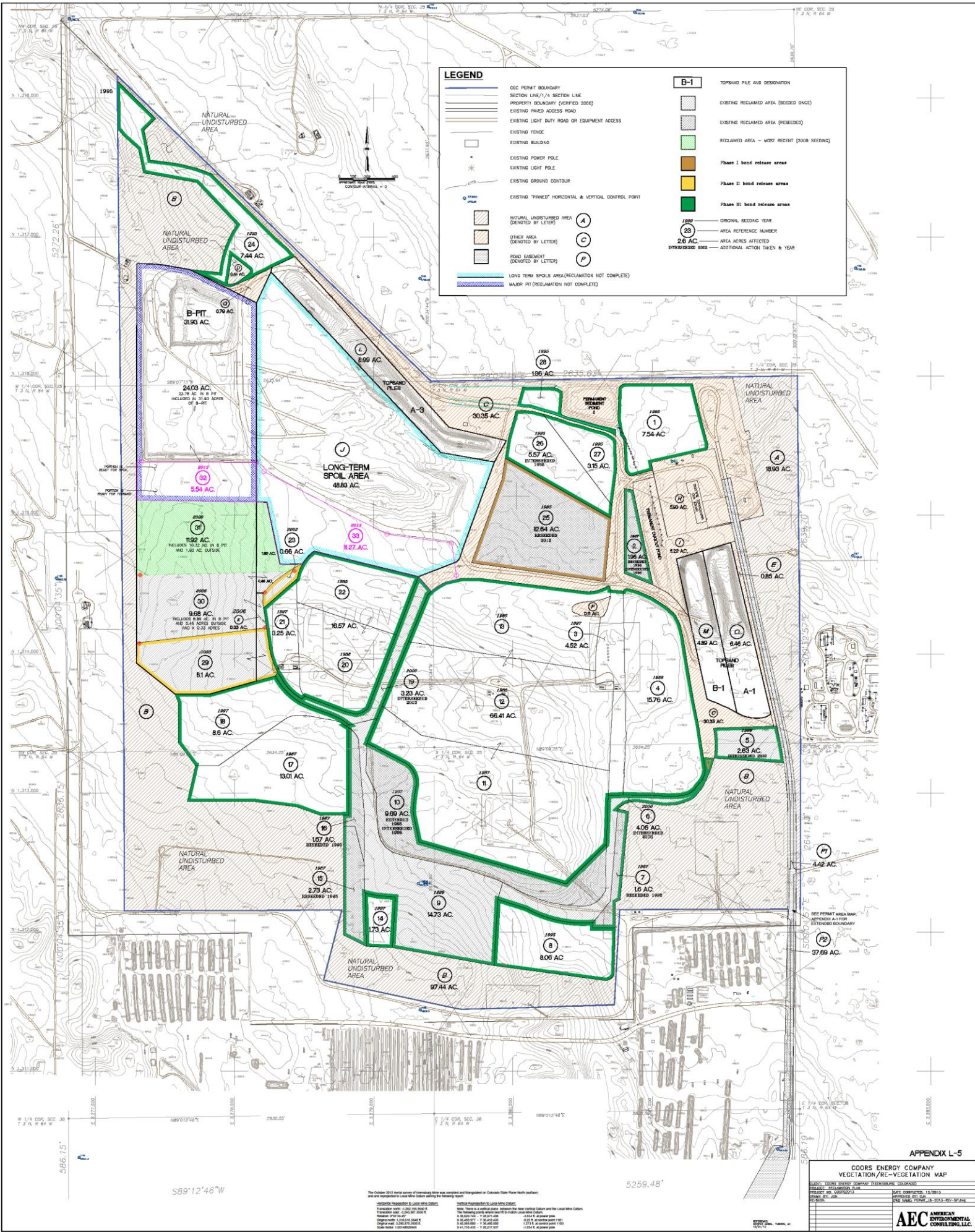
Canada thistle was observed growing at two locations on the banks of the sediment pond immediately west of the facilities area. One is located about 100 feet north of the south end of the pond on the west bank and the other about the same distance north on the east bank. These infestations should be treated before they flower.

Sixweeks fescue was observed in high density patches in the reclaimed areas west of the oil and gas equipment on the south-central permit boundary. While not classified as a noxious weed, this species may become a nuisance if it crowds out more desirable perennial plant species. This area will be monitored in the future to see if management is needed.

Wild prickly lettuce distribution has been significantly reduced and its growth so far this season appears to have been impacted by the prevailing dry weather conditions. Mine personnel performed herbicide applications recently along the perimeter of disturbed areas and along roads to control weedy annual forbs.

Despite low precipitation levels this year to date, there is a reasonable amount of growth of desirable plant species within reclaimed areas. Drought stress was not observed on the perennial grasses in reclaimed areas.

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Map 1: Coors Energy Company-Keenesburg Mine