



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: Olathe Pit	MINE/PROSPECTING ID#: M-1984-108	MINERAL: Sand and gravel	COUNTY: Montrose
INSPECTION TYPE: Monitoring	INSPECTOR(S): Dustin M. Czapla	INSP. DATE: June 20, 2018	INSP. TIME: 13:00
OPERATOR: Western Gravel, Inc.	OPERATOR REPRESENTATIVE: None	TYPE OF OPERATION: 110c - Construction Limited Impact	

REASON FOR INSPECTION: Normal I&E Program	BOND CALCULATION TYPE: Complete Bond	BOND AMOUNT: \$10,975.00
DATE OF COMPLAINT: NA	POST INSP. CONTACTS: None	JOINT INSP. AGENCY: None
WEATHER: Clear	INSPECTOR'S SIGNATURE: 	SIGNATURE DATE: July 10, 2018

The following inspection topics were identified as having Problems or Possible Violations. OPERATORS SHOULD READ THE FOLLOWING PAGES CAREFULLY IN ORDER TO ASSURE COMPLIANCE WITH THE TERMS OF THE PERMIT AND APPLICABLE RULES AND REGULATIONS. If a Possible Violation is indicated, you will be notified under separate cover as to when the Mined Land Reclamation Board will consider possible enforcement action.

INSPECTION TOPIC: Revegetation

PROBLEM/POSSIBLE VIOLATION: Problem: There are state-listed noxious weeds (knapweed) present on site. This is a problem for failure to employ weed control methods for state listed noxious weed species within the permitted area, and to reduce the spread of weeds to nearby areas as required by Section 3.1.10 (6) of the rule.

CORRECTIVE ACTIONS: Employ weed control measures to treat the knapweed infestations and provide proof to the Division that this has been done.

CORRECTIVE ACTION DUE DATE: 9/10/18

OBSERVATIONS

This inspection was conducted as part of the Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety's (Division) normal monitoring program. An operator representative was not present. Photographs are included with this report in order to illustrate some of the conditions observed.

The Olathe Pit is located approximately 1.5 miles south of Olathe and accessed from South River Road. The site is a 110c operation that includes a total of 9.9 permitted acres. The Division currently holds a financial warranty amount of \$10,975.00 for this site. The required financial warranty amount was recently updated during the review of TR-2, and is considered adequate at this time.

Adequate mine identification signage was noted at the entrance to the site.

The permit for this site is currently revoked. The permit was revoked in 2011 due to the operator's failure to maintain financial warranty in good standing. Other unresolved problems at the site included the operator's lack of appropriate water rights for the exposed groundwater at the site and failure to comply with the approved mine plan by excavating an additional pond in the south portion of the permit area. At this time, the operator has adequate financial warranty in place with Division. Additionally, the operator has acquired appropriate water rights to allow for the evaporation loss from the two ponds created by the mining operation, and in May 2018 TR-2 was approved in order to update the mining and reclamation plans to address the mining and reclamation of the second pond.

The north pond has been reclaimed. Slopes are graded to 3H:1V or flatter, and are well vegetated. Noxious weed infestations were not noted around the pond slopes, however, upland areas surrounding the pond are heavily infested with Russian knapweed.

The south pond is not reclaimed. Pond slopes range from near vertical to roughly 1H:1V where sloughing has occurred. The pond appears to be three to four feet deep, below the water level. The upland areas around the south pond are also heavily infested with Russian knapweed.

It appears that nearly all of the upland areas within the permit boundary are heavily infested with Russian knapweed, a state listed noxious weed. This is considered a serious problem, and is listed as such along with corrective actions on page one of this report.

No other problems or violations were noted during this inspection.

Responses to this inspection report should be directed to Dustin Czapla at the Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety, Grand Junction Field Office, 101 South 3rd Street, Room 301, Grand Junction, Colorado 81501, phone number (970) 243-6299.



Mine ID at entrance and knapweed infestation.



Knapweed infestation



North pond



North pond



North pond



Knapweed infestation between ponds



Knapweed infestation between ponds



Knapweed infestation between ponds



South pond



South pond

GENERAL INSPECTION TOPICS

The following list identifies the environmental and permit parameters inspected and gives a categorical evaluation of each

(AR) RECORDS----- <u>Y</u>	(FN) FINANCIAL WARRANTY----- <u>N</u>	(RD) ROADS----- <u>N</u>
(HB) HYDROLOGIC BALANCE----- <u>Y</u>	(BG) BACKFILL & GRADING----- <u>N</u>	(EX) EXPLOSIVES----- <u>N</u>
(PW) PROCESSING WASTE/TAILING---- <u>N</u>	(SF) PROCESSING FACILITIES----- <u>N</u>	(TS) TOPSOIL----- <u>N</u>
(MP) GENL MINE PLAN COMPLIANCE- <u>Y</u>	(FW) FISH & WILDLIFE----- <u>N</u>	(RV) REVEGETATION---- <u>PB</u>
(SM) SIGNS AND MARKERS----- <u>Y</u>	(SP) STORM WATER MGT PLAN---- <u>N</u>	(RS) RECL PLAN/COMP-- <u>N</u>
(ES) OVERBURDEN/DEV. WASTE----- <u>N</u>	(SC) EROSION/SEDIMENTATION--- <u>N</u>	(ST) STIPULATIONS----- <u>N</u>
(AT) ACID OR TOXIC MATERIALS----- <u>N</u>	(OD) OFF-SITE DAMAGE----- <u>N</u>	

Y = Inspected and found in compliance / N = Not inspected / NA = Not applicable to this operation / PB = Problem cited / PV = Possible violation cited

Inspection Contact Address

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