



**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.

<b>MINE NAME:</b> Gehrman Pit	<b>MINE/PROSPECTING ID#:</b> M-2009-078	<b>MINERAL:</b> Gravel and sand	<b>COUNTY:</b> Moffat
<b>INSPECTION TYPE:</b> Monitoring	<b>INSPECTOR(S):</b> Amy C. Yeldell	<b>INSP. DATE:</b> August 8, 2018	<b>INSP. TIME:</b> 09:00
<b>OPERATOR:</b> Elam Construction, Inc.	<b>OPERATOR REPRESENTATIVE:</b> Tanner Brown	<b>TYPE OF OPERATION:</b> 112c - Construction Regular Operation	
<b>REASON FOR INSPECTION:</b> Normal I&E Program	<b>BOND CALCULATION TYPE:</b> Complete Bond	<b>BOND AMOUNT:</b> \$88,975.00	
<b>DATE OF COMPLAINT:</b> NA	<b>POST INSP. CONTACTS:</b>	<b>JOINT INSP. AGENCY:</b> None	
<b>WEATHER:</b> Clear	<b>INSPECTOR'S SIGNATURE:</b> 	<b>SIGNATURE DATE:</b> August 27, 2018	

**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>N</u>
(HB) HYDROLOGIC BALANCE----- <u>Y</u>	(BG) BACKFILL & GRADING----- <u>Y</u>	(EX) EXPLOSIVES----- <u>NA</u>
(PW) PROCESSING WASTE/TAILING---- <u>N</u>	(SF) PROCESSING FACILITIES----- <u>NA</u>	(TS) TOPSOIL----- <u>Y</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>N</u>	(RS) RECL PLAN/COMP-- <u>Y</u>
(ES) OVERBURDEN/DEV. WASTE----- <u>N</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>NA</u>	

Y = Inspected / 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 Colorado Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety normal monitoring program. The Gehrman Pit is a 112c permitted site that includes a total of 38.33 permitted acres with a max disturbance of 9.6 acres. It is accessed through the Bunn Ranch Pit (M-1980-131) in Craig Colorado. Tanner Brown represented Elam Construction, Inc. and accompanied Amy Yeldell of the Division on the inspection.

The pit was inactive at the time of the inspection however significant mining progress has been made since the last inspection. Staff estimates that all of phase 2 has been affected. The eastern most acre has been stripped and is ready to be mined. The rest of phase 2 has been mined to a depth of approximately 25 feet. North and south highwalls in phase 2 are sloped at a 1:1. While the eastern active highwall of phase 2 is near vertical. Exterior highwalls will likely be reclaimed this winter leaving the far east highwall active for the next mining season. When overburden and topsoil was stripped in phase 2 the trees were left in the soil material. This excess woody material will make grading for final reclamation more difficult. The permit only allows for a maximum disturbance of 9.6 acres. Given that nearly all of phase 2 is disturbed and not all of phase 1 is reclaimed the operator needs to either reclaim lands or revise the mining plan to allow for a larger area of disturbance prior to affecting more land.

The majority of phase 1 has been reclaimed. South and western slopes have been properly graded and seeded. The lower northeast corner adjacent to phase 2 is being used as a stockpile pad area and will require additional grading prior to seeding. The far north corner of phase 1 has a fuel tank, pump and miscellaneous equipment stored adjacent to where the settling pond was.

Phase 3 remains undisturbed. To date no acreage has been released. There is no processing equipment on site. Haul trucks were parked on the pad area of phase 1. All material is excavated and transported to the adjacent Bunn Ranch Pit (M-1980-131) to be processed.

Several annual weeds were observed thought the pit. The operator is encouraged to more aggressively manage noxious weeds. Though weeds like red root and Russian thistle are not state listed, they will out complete desirable vegetation and make achieving final reclamation success difficult.

The Division currently holds a financial warranty amount of \$88,975 for this site. The bond was last updated in 2015. In an effort to ensure the Financial Warranty adequately, reflects the actual current cost of fulfilling the requirements of the approved reclamation plan the Division will be updating the reclamation cost estimate. You will be notified if the current bond is found insufficient.

No problems or violations were noted during this inspection.

Responses to this inspection report should be directed to: Amy Yeldell at the Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety, 1313 Sherman St., Room 215, Denver, CO 80203. Direct contact can be made by phone at 970-254-8511 or via email at amy.yeldell@state.co.us

**Inspection Contact Address**

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Enclosure

EC: Wally Erickson, Senior EPS, Grand Junction DRMS

**PHOTOGRAPHS**





Newly stripped area in phase 2/3



Overview of dewatered and mined phase 2



Reclaimed portions of phase 1



Pad stockpiles area within phase 1