

Peak View Pit Annual Progress Report
By the Huerfano County Noxious Weed Department

Date of Review: 8-28-118

Site: Peakview (Lat. 37.546520560125536, Long. 105.00683069229126)

Permit #: M-2014-028

Status: Active\Idle

County: Huerfano

State: Colorado

Type: Non-metallic surface

Reviewed By: C. Bryant CDA Applicator License#: 33222

A. SITE OBSERVATIONS

The Peak View Pit covers an area that is approximately 40 acres with an actual mined area of 7 acres. This site is currently idle, but still considered active. Mining operations will resume at an undetermined future date. Disturbed areas have seen the establishment of limited native vegetation, with large bareground areas occupying most of the acreage. Reclamation thus far has been limited to the establishment of a desirable soil seed reserve, by the incorporation of the reclamation seed mix listed in **table A** to the topsoil reserve on site. The establishment of desirable grass species on site has been greatly suppressed during the 2018 season given the extreme drought conditions that the region has been experiencing.

B. COLORADO STATE LIST NOXIOUS WEEDS PRESENT

While conducting the reclamation process review, a number of state **C** list noxious weeds were encountered in isolated areas, but were within acceptable economic and aesthetic thresholds. The **C** List noxious weed species found onsite include: Cheat grass, and Kochia.

1. Distribution of Noxious Species

The greatest density of Kochia was found along the perimeter high-wall and in a few other isolated areas that seem to be consistent with quantities found elsewhere in the undisturbed, non-mine areas immediately surrounding the site. Russian thistle, Kochia and Cheat grass did not appear to be forming any monocultures as is common with these varieties, and their overall threat level was deemed insignificant.

2. Anticipated Treatment Methods

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Chemical treatment for the few senesced Scotch thistle plants encountered during the previous site inspection on 12-7-17 were performed early in June 2018. The **C list species** documented on site will continue to be monitored; however site operations are anticipated to exert enough pressure to preclude any further growth or establishment during active operation. All state list noxious weed species will be monitored and control efforts will be taken should the overall density and coverage increase beyond tolerable thresholds, unless control is otherwise directed by the presiding regulatory authority.

C. CONCLUSION OF ANNUAL REVIEW

After a comprehensive review of site conditions and plant inventory, the overall site condition has been deemed **satisfactory**. The satisfactory progress status was determined due to the following factors:

1. An absence of noxious weed species with the exception of those areas\species as described above.
2. The amount and density of native vegetation present onsite.
3. The absence of soil erosion within the pit and surrounding slopes.
4. The absence of noxious weed species encountered beyond permit boundaries in the immediate area.

Table A: APPROVED RECLAMATION SEED

SPECIES	% OF MIX	PLS/ACRE
Blue Grama	30	.9
Western Wheatgrass	30	4.8
Sideoats Grama	15	1.5
Needle & Thread	10	1.1
Indian Ricegrass	5	.6
Galleta Grass	5	.2
Purple Prarieclover	5	.3
Winterfat	*Added in addition to full rate*	.5