




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: Nolte Pit #1	MINE/PROSPECTING ID#: M-2012-016	MINERAL: Borrow material	COUNTY: Garfield
INSPECTION TYPE: Monitoring	INSPECTOR(S): Amy C. Yeldell	INSP. DATE: September 11, 2018	INSP. TIME: 13:00
OPERATOR: Puckett Land Company	OPERATOR REPRESENTATIVE: None	TYPE OF OPERATION: 111 - Construction by Government Agency	
REASON FOR INSPECTION: Normal I&E Program	BOND CALCULATION TYPE: Complete Bond	BOND AMOUNT: \$36,250.00	
DATE OF COMPLAINT: NA	POST INSP. CONTACTS: None	JOINT INSP. AGENCY: None	
WEATHER: Windy	INSPECTOR'S SIGNATURE: 	SIGNATURE DATE: October 2, 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>N</u>	(RD) ROADS----- <u>Y</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>N</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>N</u>	(ST) STIPULATIONS----- <u>Y</u>
(AT) ACID OR TOXIC MATERIALS----- <u>Y</u>	(OD) OFF-SITE DAMAGE----- <u>N</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 (Division) normal monitoring program. The purpose of this inspection was to evaluate the implementation and installation of stormwater controls and reclamation measures associated with TR-4. No representative for Puckett Land Company was present for the inspection. Amy Yeldell of the Division conducted the inspection.

The Nolte Pit #1 is a Special Operations 111c permitted site that includes a total of 22.34 permitted acres. Mining was completed in fall of 2012 and the site has been in final reclamation since 2013 as indicated on the annual report. To date no acreage has been released.

Significant progress towards erosion control has been made since the previous inspection. As indicated on the TR-4 map submittal 7 rip rap channels were installed. One channel with straw waddle check dams, in addition to horizontally placed waddles to direct flows were also utilized. In total approximately 310 LF of rip rap channels and 650 LF of waddles were installed.

Run-on flows are now being directed through the pit rather than being left to their own devices and destroying reclamation along its way.

Sediment ponds at the base of several of the rip-rap channels were still holding water. This site received several large rainfalls as part of the summer monsoons that came late this year. This delayed the installation of stormwater features. Sedimentation in rip-rap channels was already visible. Channels and sediment ponds will need to be maintained throughout the year.

Not all of the waddles to be used as check dams were correctly installed. Waddles need to be partially buried then backfilled/packed in with good soil contact in addition to staking. The straw waddles placed in the channel on the north area between rip-rap sections 5 and 6 the ditch was not graded out prior to placement. Waddles were placed in the eroded ditch then backfilled on the eastern side where water will first be intercepted. It is likely that these waddles will get undercut quite quickly and will continue to erode under the waddle. Previous eroded channels left in place foster new and continued erosion.

Staff was able to see the geotech liner that was installed prior to placement of the rip-rap. In most cases it appears that the geotech liner was keyed into place and should withstand undercutting at the top of the slope. There were some areas where the geotextile was observed improperly installed. Straw waddles were installed at the top of the slopes and used to direct run-on water into the rip-rap channels.

There was no evidence of weed treatment at the time of the inspection despite the operator being notified about the need several months ago. There was lots of Halgeton and other noxious weeds observed in the newly seeded areas as desirable vegetation has not had time to establish and out-compete weeds. In the time since the inspection prior to this report being mailed the Division was notified that spraying had occurred for several state listed noxious weeds. A follow up treatment is also scheduled for October.

Grass germination was observed in the areas seeded earlier this year. The grasses were no more than 2" tall anywhere. It is not-unlikely to have mortality of the germinated grasses by the end of this fall due to the dry conditions. No shrubs seedlings were observed emerging, only larger well established shrubs 12" or larger were present. Additional areas have been surface roughened in preparation for fall seeding.

The CDOT-HazMat spill area as noticed in the July 23, 2018 letter to the Division was also inspected. A nearly empty cuttings bin remains on site. There were two excavated pits where it is presumed contaminated soil was removed from. The holes had construction fencing around them. The pits were full of water so staff was unable

to determine how deep they were excavated. Based on the location and size of the holes it is likely that material will need to be imported to backfill the holes. Also the vehicle path from Highway 6 into the pit had been excavated and soil removed 4-12". The game fence and the guard rail have yet to be replaced/fixed. The operator is encouraged to coordinate reclamation measures with CDOT for this fall.

Currently the Division holds a Financial Warranty in the amount of \$36,250 for this site.

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

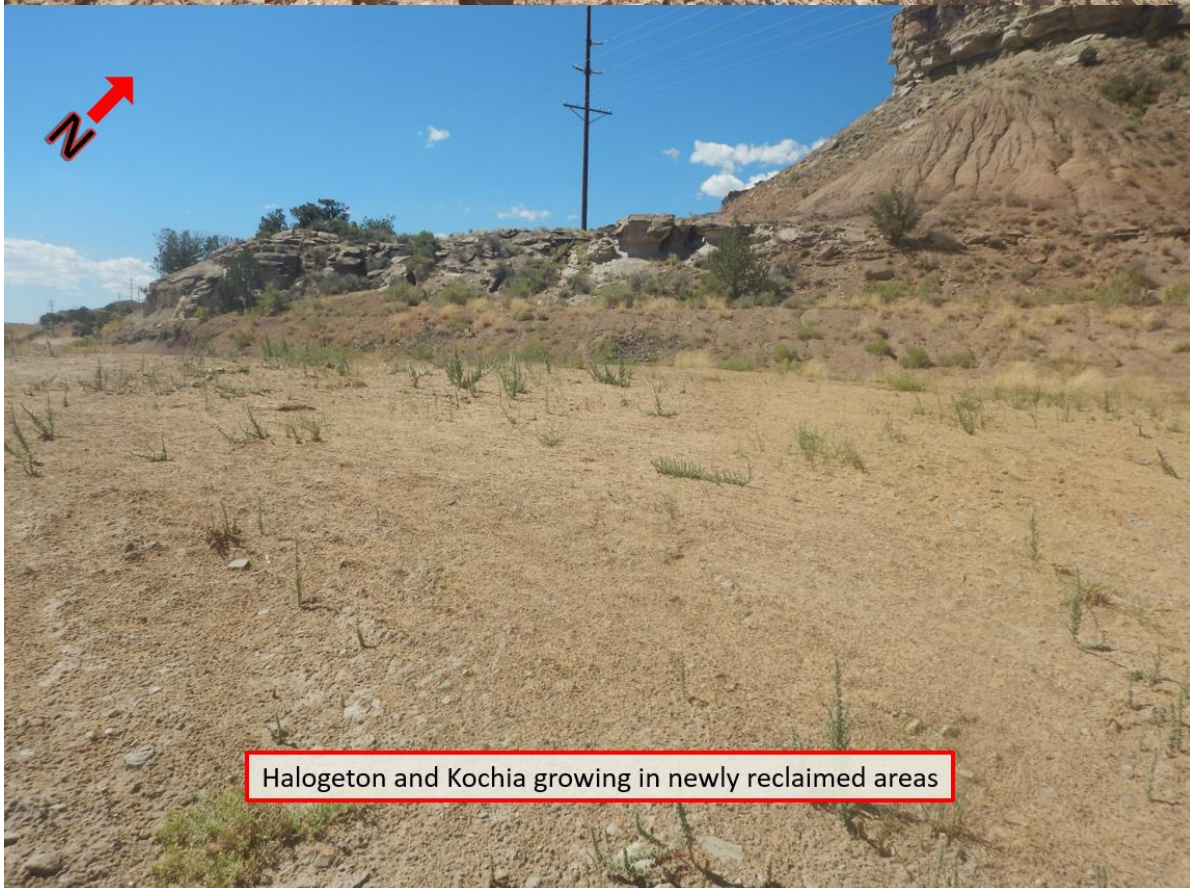
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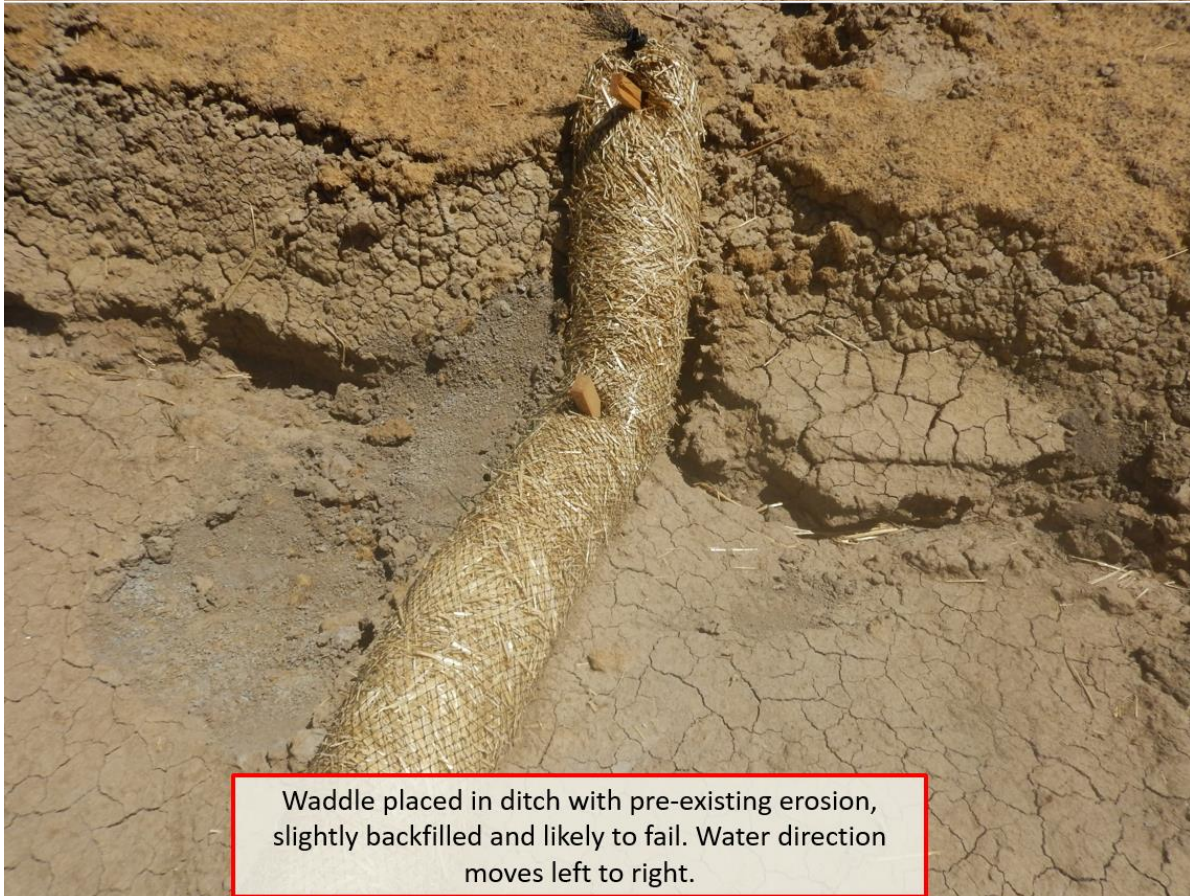
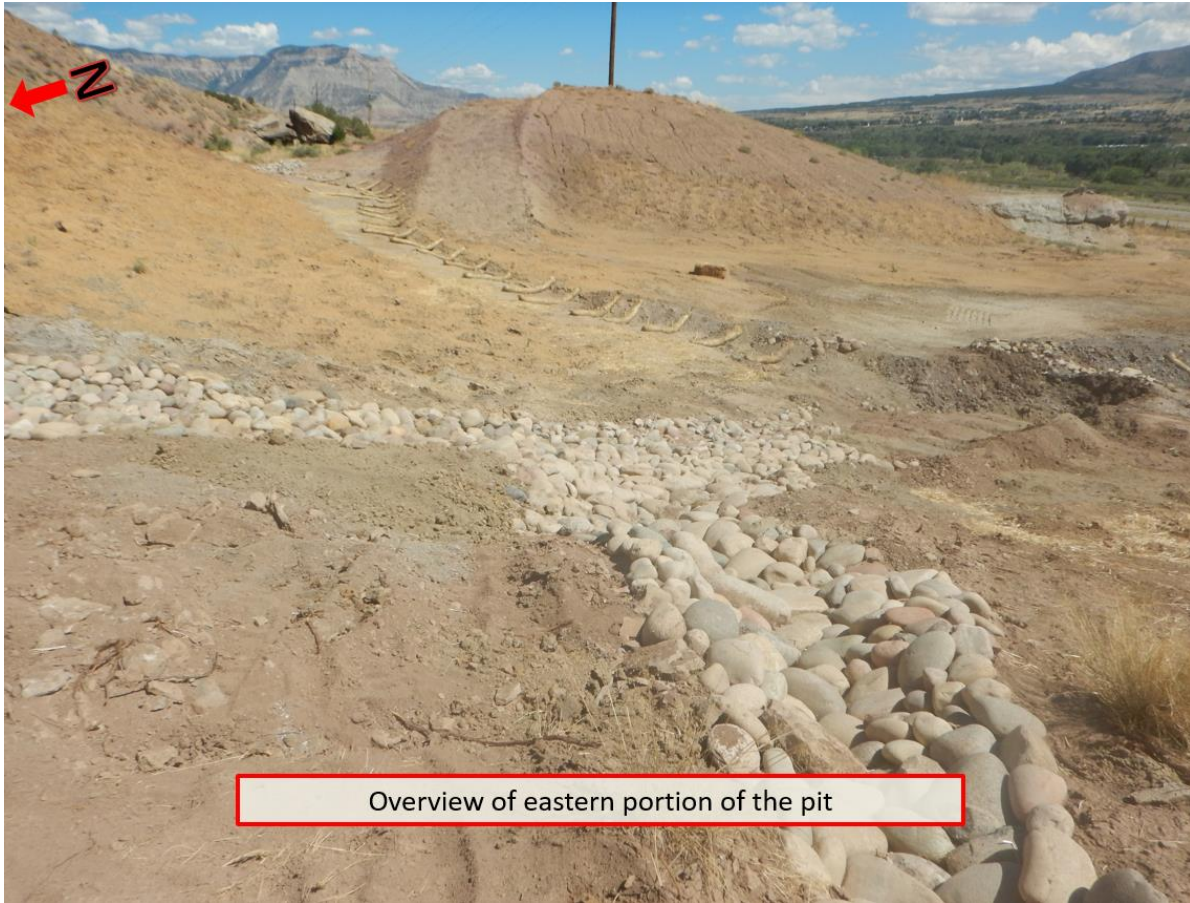
Enclosure

EC: Wally Erickson, Senior EPS, Grand Junction DRMS

PHOTOGRAPHS









Eastern side of the pit with waddles placed
in an ungraded ditch.





Geotextile under rock in channel not always keyed in, potential source of undercutting



Straw waddle channel in middle portion of pit



