



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.

<b>MINE NAME:</b> Florence South Pit	<b>MINE/PROSPECTING ID#:</b> M-1988-093	<b>MINERAL:</b> Sand and gravel	<b>COUNTY:</b> Fremont
<b>INSPECTION TYPE:</b> Monitoring	<b>INSPECTOR(S):</b> Timothy A. Cazier	<b>INSP. DATE:</b> June 14, 2018	<b>INSP. TIME:</b> 13:45
<b>OPERATOR:</b> Fremont Paving & Redi-Mix, Inc.	<b>OPERATOR REPRESENTATIVE:</b> John Young	<b>TYPE OF OPERATION:</b> 112c - Construction Regular Operation	

<b>REASON FOR INSPECTION:</b> Normal I&E Program	<b>BOND CALCULATION TYPE:</b> Partial Bond	<b>BOND AMOUNT:</b> \$45,100.00
<b>DATE OF COMPLAINT:</b> NA	<b>POST INSP. CONTACTS:</b> None	<b>JOINT INSP. AGENCY:</b> None
<b>WEATHER:</b> Clear	<b>INSPECTOR'S SIGNATURE:</b> 	<b>SIGNATURE DATE:</b> October 23, 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:** Availability Of Records

**PROBLEM/POSSIBLE VIOLATION:** Problem 1: Rule 1.13.5 states, if an Operator temporarily ceases production of the mining operation for one hundred eighty (180) days or more, the Operator must file a Notice of Temporary Cessation in writing to the Office.

**CORRECTIVE ACTIONS:** The Division requires the Permittee file for Temporary Cessation. The start date of this 5 year Temporary Cessation should begin with the date of the most recent mining activity (June 1, 2016) as stated in the 2018 annual report.

**CORRECTIVE ACTION DUE DATE:** 11/21/18

**INSPECTION TOPIC:** Revegetation

**PROBLEM/POSSIBLE VIOLATION:** Problem 2: Tamarisk (salt cedar) trees are present within or have volunteered into the permit area and are becoming established. This is a problem for failure to employ weed control methods for a 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:** The operator shall implement the existing weed control plan (approved as TR-02 in July 2014) and provide documentation of completing tamarisk control to the DRMS by the corrective action date.

**CORRECTIVE ACTION DUE DATE:** 11/21/18

**INSPECTION TOPIC:** Signs & Markers

**PROBLEM/POSSIBLE VIOLATION:** Problem 3: The west side affected area boundary markers are missing. This is a problem for failure to maintain boundary markers around the affected area as required by Section 3.1.12(2) of the rule.

**CORRECTIVE ACTIONS:** The operator shall conduct a survey and replace the west side boundary markers in the correct location(s). The operator shall provide proof to the Division that this has been done by the corrective action date.

**CORRECTIVE ACTION DUE DATE:** 11/21/18

## **OBSERVATIONS**

This inspection was conducted as part of the regular monitoring program. The Permittee (Fremont Paving & Redi-Mix, Inc.) was represented by Mr. John Young during the inspection. The Florence South Pit is accessed from County Road 79, approximately a mile east of Florence, on the north side of County Road 79. This is a 112c sand and gravel mine. It was not operating at the time of the inspection.

Availability of Records: Annual fees are paid through March 2018. The previous inspection was on May 20, 2014. The approved post-mine land use is rangeland. There are no open infractions. The site went into TC in 2014, then became active again on February 23, 2016. Annual reports received by the DRMS indicate the mine has not been active since June 1, 2016. As such, the permit status should be temporary cessation (TC). **The absence of a request for TC is cited as Problem 1 on page 1 of this report.**

Backfilling and Grading: The approved permit requires the highwalls to be flattened to 2.5H:1V. Sufficient backfill material appeared to be available. Most highwalls could be pushed down to achieve the 2.5:1V grades. However, material will need to be pushed up in the vicinity of the power poles.

Financial Warranty: The \$45,100 bond held by the Division was updated in 2014 and is adequate for the observed mine disturbance. The DRMS holds two separate bonds for this site: one for \$24,600, and the other for \$20,500; totaling the required \$45,100. If you have any questions about the two bonds, please contact the DRMS.

Fish and Wildlife: No impact to wildlife was observed.

Hydrologic Balance: No standing water was observed in the pit and no exposed groundwater was observed.

Gen. Compliance with Mine Plan: The operation appeared to be in compliance with the approved mine plan. Mr. Young indicated they are partially between phases 1 and 2. Google Earth was used to measure the disturbed area, which was estimated to be approximately 13.5 acres, based on 2016 imagery. Highwalls were estimated to vary between 30 and 40 feet in height (see **Photo 1**). Some raveling of the highwall was observed (see **Photo 2**).

Off-site Damage: The operation appeared to be confined to the permit boundary, based on Google Earth review.

Processing Waste: A stockpile of fines was observed in the northwest corner (see **Photo 3**).

Roads: Haul and access roads did not appear to be a source of sediment that could be tracked offsite.

Reclamation Success: The west side appears to have been graded to 3H:1V or flatter (see **Photo 4**).

Revegetation: A large amount of tamarisk (salt cedar) was observed on the east end of the pit floor (see **Photo 5**). **The presence of this a noxious weed List B species is cited as Problem 2 on page 1 of this report.** The aforementioned west side graded slopes appear to have been naturally revegetated after sloping.

Sediment Control: No significant erosion problems were observed and no BMPs were needed at the time of the inspection.

Signs and Markers: The permit sign was posted (see **Photo 6**), but mostly illegible. Only the permit number could be confirmed. The permit sign should be repainted or replaced. Boundary markers were observed to be adequate to delineate the permit boundary in all areas except the two western corners. **The missing boundary markers on the west side are cited as Problem 3 on page 1 of this report.**

Permit Stipulations: There are no permit stipulations.

Storm Water MGT Plan: Stormwater drains to the pit and infiltrates. No oil or fuel spills observed.

Topsoil: Topsoil has been stripped and is stockpiled on the uphill side of the highwall (see **Photo 7**).

Structures: No additional structures were observed beyond those from the May 20, 2014 inspection.

Please contact Tim Cazier (303)866-3567 ext. 8169 or email at [tim.cazier@state.co.us](mailto:tim.cazier@state.co.us) if you have any questions regarding this report.

## **PHOTOGRAPHS**



Photo 1. 30 to 40 foot highwall (looking west, note topsoil stockpile north of powerline).



**PHOTOGRAPHS (cont.)**



Photo 2. Highwall (looking NW, note raveling on left).



Photo 3. Fines and product stockpiles (northwest pit floor, looking west).



**PHOTOGRAPHS (cont.)**



Photo 4. Graded, revegetated west end pit slope (looking north).



Photo 5. Tamarisk (salt cedar) on east end of pit floor (looking west).



**PHOTOGRAPHS (cont.)**



Photo 6. Permit sign, showing only the permit number.



Photo 7. Topsoil stockpile (from phase 2 area, looking SW).

### GENERAL INSPECTION TOPICS

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

(AR) RECORDS----- <b>PB</b>	(FN) FINANCIAL WARRANTY----- <u>Y</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>Y</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---- <b>PB</b>
(SM) SIGNS AND MARKERS----- <b>PB</b>	(SP) STORM WATER MGT PLAN---- <u>NA</u>	(RS) RECL PLAN/COMP-- <u>Y</u>
(ES) OVERBURDEN/DEV. WASTE----- <u>NA</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>Y</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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