




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: Howard Creek Pit #1 & #2	MINE/PROSPECTING ID#: M-1999-033	MINERAL: Gravel	COUNTY: Fremont
INSPECTION TYPE: Monitoring	INSPECTOR(S): Timothy A. Cazier	INSP. DATE: August 7, 2018	INSP. TIME: 12:35
OPERATOR: Fremont County	OPERATOR REPRESENTATIVE: Sterling Rife & Paul Garrett	TYPE OF OPERATION: 110c - Construction Limited Impact	
REASON FOR INSPECTION: Normal I&E Program	BOND CALCULATION TYPE: None	BOND AMOUNT: \$0.00	
DATE OF COMPLAINT: NA	POST INSP. CONTACTS: None	JOINT INSP. AGENCY: None	
WEATHER: Cloudy	INSPECTOR'S SIGNATURE: 	SIGNATURE DATE: November 6, 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>NA</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>Y</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>Y</u>	(RS) RECL PLAN/COMP-- <u>Y</u>
(ES) OVERBURDEN/DEV. WASTE----- <u>Y</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

OBSERVATIONS

This inspection was conducted by Tim Cazier (DRMS) as part of the regular monitoring program. The Permittee (Fremont County) was represented by Messrs. Sterling Rife and Paul Garrett during the inspection. The Howard Creek Pit #1 & #2 is located approximately 3 miles west of Howard at the intersection of Fremont Co Rd 4 and Canterbury Ranch Road in Fremont Co. This is a 110c gravel mine. It was not operating at the time of the inspection.

Availability of Records: Annual fees are paid through May 2018. The previous inspection was on August 6, 2014. The approved post-mine land use is rangeland as approved in Amendment 1 (AM-01). There are no open infractions. Both the surface and minerals are privately owned.

Backfilling and Grading: Most the necessary backfilling has been accomplished. The exception is where the landowner wants a road cut (between the east and west pits).

Excess Spoil and Dev. Waste: No overburden piles were observed.

Financial Warranty: As the site is permitted by the County, no bond is required.

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. Rife indicated they were nearly done mining this site. Google Earth was used to measure the disturbed area, which was estimated to be approximately 5.2 acres, based on 2016 imagery. The maximum allowed disturbed area is 8.94 acres. Highwalls were estimated to vary between 10 and 15 feet in height and appeared stable (see **Photo 1**). Mr. Rife indicted the County may take more material from the east pit floor.

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

Processing Waste: No processing waste was observed.

Roads: Haul and access roads could possibly be a source of sediment, but not a source of sediment that could be tracked offsite. Mr. Rife explained the County was cutting through the ridge between the west and east pits to provide an access road for the landowner (see **Photo 7** and **8**). This area was added in AM-01.

Reclamation Success: Reclamation has been initiated in the west pit.

Revegetation: A large portion of the west pit has been revegetation (see **Photo 2**). No noxious weeds were observed.

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

Support Facilities On-site: A loader owned by a contractor and a haul truck owned by the subdivision were observed on site (see **Photo 1**).

Signs and Markers: The permit sign was properly posted (see **Photo 3**) and boundary markers were observed

to delineate the permit boundary.

Permit Stipulations: There are no permit stipulations.

Storm Water MGT Plan: No oil or fuel spills observed. Representatives stated the stormwater management plan is kept in County office. Stormwater drains to the pit floor. A culvert overflow was observed on the north end of the east pit (see **Photo 4**).

Topsoil: A topsoil stockpile is in the southwest corner of the east pit and labeled as such (see **Photo 5**).

Structures: The only structures observed were fences on the south and northeast sides of the east pit (see **Photo 6**).

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

PHOTOGRAPHS



Photo 1. Highwall and product stockpile on west side of east pit (looking NE).

PHOTOGRAPHS (cont.)



Photo 2. Reclaimed portion of west pit.



Photo 3. Permit sign (at entrance).

PHOTOGRAPHS (cont.)



Photo 4. Overflow culvert on north end of east pit (looking east).



Photo 5. Topsoil stockpile with sign (SW corner of east pit).

PHOTOGRAPHS (cont.)



Photo 6. Fence marking AR-01 release boundary from east pit (looking NE).



Photo 7. Access road cut from road between east & west pits (looking south).

PHOTOGRAPHS (cont.)



Photo 8. Access road cut from east pit (looking north).

Inspection Contact Address

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Cañon City, CO 81212

ec: DRMS file
Annette Ortega, Fremont Co.