

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.

MINE NAME:	MINE/PROSPECTING ID#:	MINERAL:	COUNTY:	
Schmidt Gravel Pit	M-2000-048	Gravel	Kiowa	
INSPECTION TYPE:	INSPECTOR(S):	INSP. DATE:	INSP. TIME:	
Monitoring	Amy Eschberger	October 11, 2018	10:15	
OPERATOR:	OPERATOR REPRESENTATIVE:	TYPE OF OPERATION:		
Kiowa County	Allen Watts	110c - Construction Limited Impact		
REASON FOR INSPECTION:	BOND CALCULATION TYPE:	BOND AMOUNT:		
Normal I&E Program	None	\$0.00		
DATE OF COMPLAINT:	POST INSP. CONTACTS:	JOINT INSP. AGENCY:		
NA	None	None		
WEATHER:	INSPECTOR'S SIGNATURE:	SIGNATURE DATE:		
Cloudy	1 5.	November 28, 2018	November 28, 2018	
-	Very Crehenger			

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>N</u>
(PW) PROCESSING WASTE/TAILING <u>Y</u>	(SF) PROCESSING FACILITIES <u>N</u>	(TS) TOPSOIL <u>Y</u>
(MP) GENL MINE PLAN COMPLIANCE- <u>Y</u>	(FW) FISH & WILDLIFE <u>N</u>	(RV) REVEGETATION Y
(SM) SIGNS AND MARKERS Y	(SP) STORM WATER MGT PLAN Y	(RS) RECL PLAN/COMP Y
(ES) OVERBURDEN/DEV. WASTE <u>N</u>	(SC) EROSION/SEDIMENTATION Y	(ST) STIPULATIONS <u>N</u>
(AT) ACID OR TOXIC MATERIALS <u>N</u>	(OD) OFF-SITE DAMAGE <u>N</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 was a normal monitoring inspection of the Schmidt Gravel Pit (Permit No. M-2000-048) conducted by Amy Eschberger of the Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety (Division). Mr. Allen Watts represented the operator during the inspection. The site is located approximately 6 miles north of Towner, Colorado in Kiowa County. Access to the site is from the east off Co Rd 78. **Photos 1-10** taken during the inspection are included with this report.

This is a 110c operation permitted for 9.5 acres to mine sand and gravel for use in county road construction and maintenance (see enclosed mining plan map). No material processing occurs on site. Mined material is directly hauled off site for use or temporarily stockpiled on the pit floor until needed. The approved permit area is rectangular in shape, and abuts a pre-law disturbed area to the north. A small portion of the pre-law disturbance was included in the permit area. The operation began mining at the southern end of the permit area, and worked generally northward. Current disturbance is very close to the northern, southern, and western boundaries (see enclosed Google Earth image of site). Salvaged overburden will be stored at the northern end of the site. Salvaged topsoil will be stored at the southern end of the site. A low-lying overburden berm will be constructed along the eastern edge of the pit to direct stormwater around the pit. The site will be mined in two main phases. Phase 1 will consist of mining the western half of the permit area, and Phase 2 will consist of mining the eastern half of the permit area. Reclamation of Phase 1 will begin once the operation moves into Phase 2. With Phase 2 being closer to the access road, this will allow Phase 1 to be reclaimed without further disturbance by the operation.

The approved post-mining land use for the site is rangeland. Reclamation of the site will include grading all disturbed slopes to 3H:1V or flatter, replacing 8 inches of overburden on disturbed land, replacing 4 inches of topsoil on disturbed land, and seeding the land with a native grass seed mixture. The main access road will remain for use by the landowner.

The site was not active during the inspection. However, according to annual reports submitted by the operator, the site is active every year. A permit sign was posted at the main site entrance. The permit boundary was delineated with T-posts. The Division estimates the operation has disturbed approximately 5.6 acres in the western half of the permit area. The operation has nearly completed mining Phase 1. Mr. Watts indicated the operation will be moving east in the near future, into Phase 2. An area just east of the current pit is being stripped in preparation for pit expansion. The pit is elongated in a north-south fashion, and is approximately 25 feet deep. The pit highwall daylights to the west and has near vertical slopes. Mined material is stockpiled at the north end of the pit. Overburden is stockpiled at the northern edge of the site. A low-lying overburden berm was constructed along the edges of the pit. Topsoil is stockpiled along the southern edge of the site, and appeared to be stable with good grass cover.

The operation appears to be following the approved mining plan. No problems were observed.

This concludes the report.

PHOTOGRAPHS



Photo 1. View looking north, showing overburden stockpile stored at northern end of site.



Photo 2. View looking west, showing low-lying overburden berm constructed along eastern edge of pit to direct stormwater around pit.



Photo 3. View looking west, showing T-post marking northeastern corner of permit boundary.



Photo 4. View looking south, showing overburden stockpile stored at northern end of site.



Photo 5. View looking south across pit, showing mined material stored at northern edge of pit. Low-lying overburden berm surrounding pit visible in foreground.



Photo 6. View looking south, showing T-post marking northwestern corner of permit boundary.



Photo 7. View looking south, showing T-post marking western edge of permit boundary.



Photo 8. View looking north across pit, showing active highwall (at right) approximately 25 feet in height with near vertical slopes.



Photo 9. View looking north across area just east of pit which is being stripped in preparation for pit expansion.



Photo 10. View looking east, showing topsoil stockpiled at north end of site. This stockpile is stable with good grass cover.

Inspection Contact Address

Allen Watts Kiowa County P.O. Box 100 Eads, CO 81036

- Encl: Approved Mining Plan Map Google Earth image of site
- CC: Michael Cunningham, DRMS



M2000-048 / Schmidt Gravel Pit / Kiowa County

Red Outline = 9.5 acres = Approved Permit Area (Image data from 4/23/2016)

Google earth



