


**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> Tierra Piedra Gravel Pit	<b>MINE/PROSPECTING ID#:</b> M-2009-081	<b>MINERAL:</b> Sand and gravel	<b>COUNTY:</b> Archuleta
<b>INSPECTION TYPE:</b> Monitoring	<b>INSPECTOR(S):</b> Lucas J. West	<b>INSP. DATE:</b> October 25, 2018	<b>INSP. TIME:</b> 12:15
<b>OPERATOR:</b> Tierra Piedra Ranch LLC	<b>OPERATOR REPRESENTATIVE:</b> None	<b>TYPE OF OPERATION:</b> 110c - Construction Limited Impact	
<b>REASON FOR INSPECTION:</b> Normal I&E Program	<b>BOND CALCULATION TYPE:</b> Complete Bond	<b>BOND AMOUNT:</b> \$5,952.00	
<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> January 3, 2019	

**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>N</u>	(BG) BACKFILL & GRADING----- <u>N</u>	(EX) EXPLOSIVES----- <u>N</u>
(PW) PROCESSING WASTE/TAILING---- <u>N</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---- <u>N</u>
(SM) SIGNS AND MARKERS----- <u>N</u>	(SP) STORM WATER MGT PLAN---- <u>N</u>	(RS) RECL PLAN/COMP-- <u>N</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>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 inspection was conducted as part of the normal monitoring program established by the Colorado Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety. The Tierra Piedra Gravel Pit is an active 110c operation located in Archuleta County, on the banks of the Piedra River off State Highway 151. The site lies approximately 28 miles southwest of Pagosa Springs at an elevation of nearly 6180 feet. The permit area consist of 6.4 acres however only about 1.25 acres has been disturbed in the extraction of construction materials. The Division currently holds \$5,952.00 in financial warranty. A reclamation cost estimate was performed and staff calculations found that the currently held financial warranty is sufficient to achieve reclamation in accordance with the approved reclamation plan. Five Photos accompany this report to illustrate the current site conditions.

The proper mine identification signage was posted at the entrance to the site and can be seen in Photo One. The permit boundaries are delineated by a fence line on the east, tree line on the south and west and the Piedra River to the north. The site was not active during the inspection and no Operator representative was present. No mining or reclamation equipment was observed on site during the inspection. The active mining area consists of a pond on the south end of the permit area. During mining operations the water is pumped down to allow for the excavation of material. The active mining operations expands the pond banks during excavation, and is left in a stable, near 3H: 1V configuration. The pond area can be seen in Photos Two and Three. The material is then processed and stockpiled in the processing area. Other stockpiles of materials including topsoil and crusher fines are also stockpiled in this area. All stockpiles that were observed appear to be stable and in good condition. The stockpiled material can be seen in Photo Four.

The processing and stockpile area has been partially revegetated with volunteer species. The vegetation in the undisturbed areas of the permitted boundaries is dense and diverse. Evidence of chemical treatment of weed species was observed and no new growth was noted during the inspection. Photo Five shows the processing and stockpiling area as well as a small stockpile of crusher fines located in that area.

The overall footprint of the site is in good condition and free from trash and debris. There are no problems or possible violations at this time. All responses to this report should be directed to Lucas West at the Colorado Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety at 1313 Sherman Street, Room 215, Denver CO, 80203, by phone at (970) 243-6368 or by email at [lucas.west@state.co.us](mailto:lucas.west@state.co.us).

### **Inspection Contact Address**

Mary Buck  
Tierra Piedra Ranch LLC  
P.O. Box 1959  
Arboles, CO 81121

## PHOTOGRAPHS

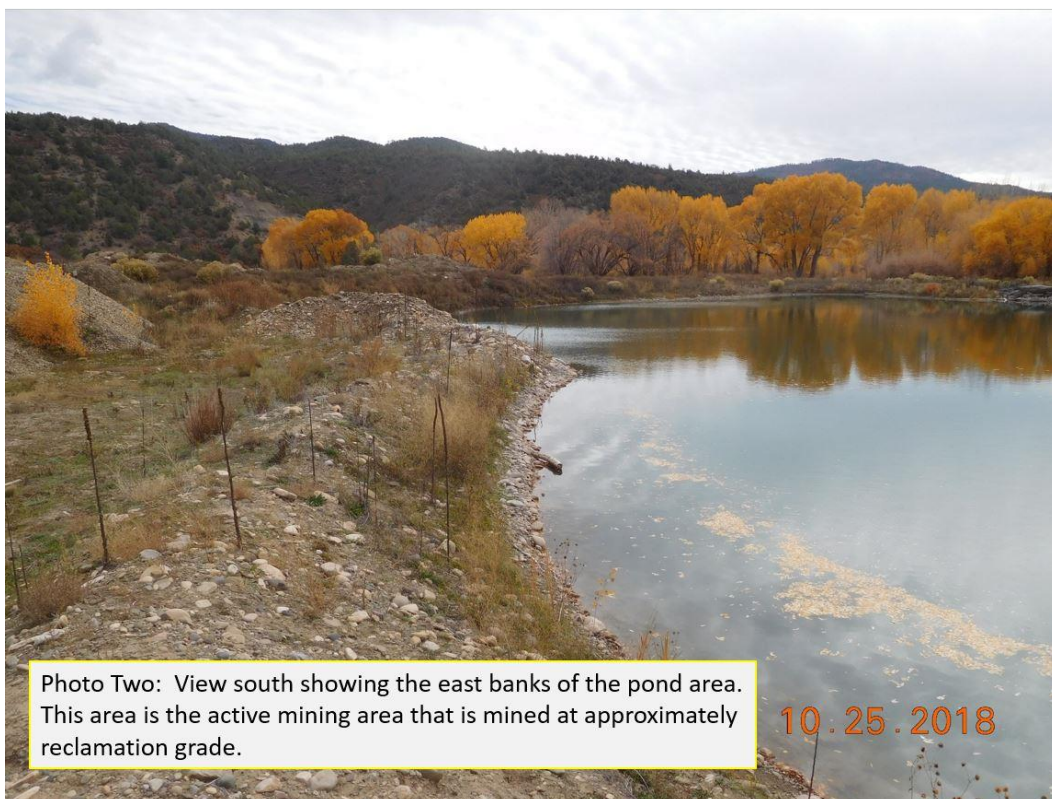






Photo Three: View southwest, showing more of the pond area that has been excavated as part of the mining operation.

10.25.2018



Photo Four: View east, showing the material stockpile that has been processed and staged in the stockpile area. This stockpile is periodically drawn from for use around the ranch.

10.25.2018

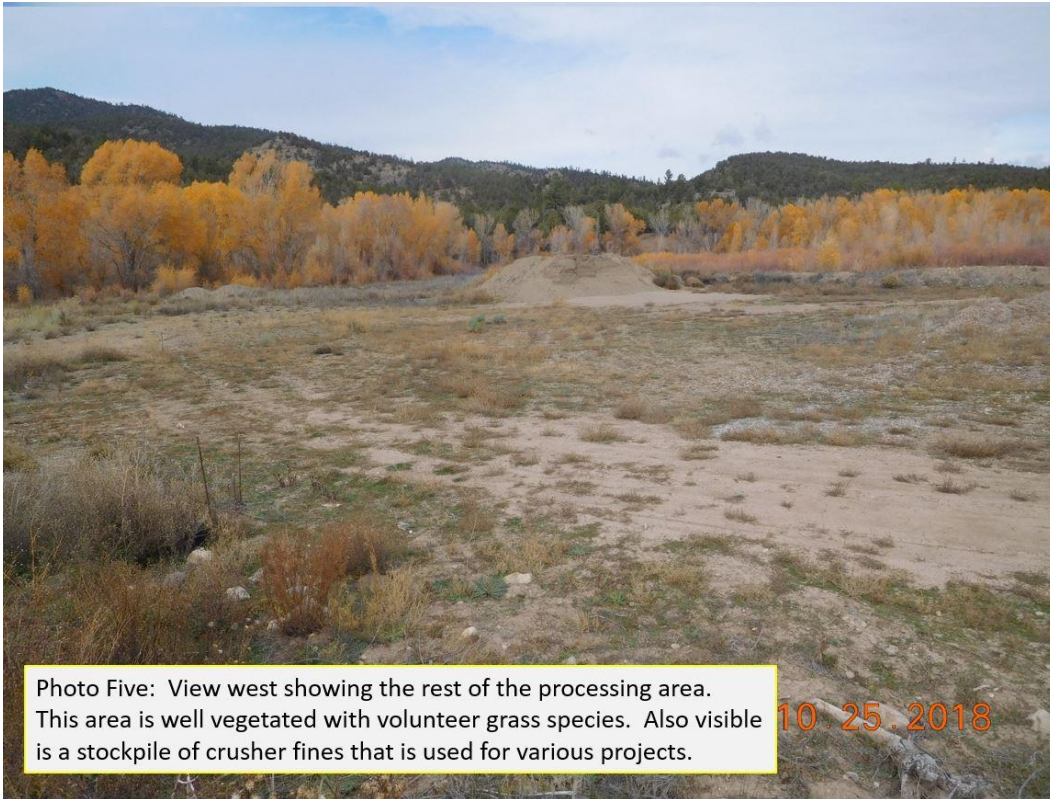


Photo Five: View west showing the rest of the processing area. This area is well vegetated with volunteer grass species. Also visible is a stockpile of crusher fines that is used for various projects.