


**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: Bent County Pit # 2	MINE/PROSPECTING ID#: M-2001-019	MINERAL: Gravel	COUNTY: Bent
INSPECTION TYPE: Monitoring	INSPECTOR(S): Amy Eschberger	INSP. DATE: March 7, 2019	INSP. TIME: 13:45
OPERATOR: Bent County	OPERATOR REPRESENTATIVE: Robert Darnell	TYPE OF OPERATION: 112c - Construction Regular Operation	
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: Clear	INSPECTOR'S SIGNATURE: 	SIGNATURE DATE: April 19, 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>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>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>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>N</u>	(SC) EROSION/SEDIMENTATION--- <u>Y</u>	(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 Bent County Pit # 2 (Permit No. M-2001-019) conducted by Amy Eschberger of the Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety (Division). The operator, Bent County was represented by Robert Darnell during the inspection. The site is located approximately 6 miles northeast of Las Animas, CO in Bent County. Access to the site is from the east off of Co Rd 13. The site is situated just north of the Fort Lyon Canal. **Photos 1-10** taken during the inspection are included with this report.

This is a 112c operation permitted for 18.51 acres to mine gravel for use in construction and maintenance of county roads (see enclosed Google Earth image of site). The access road from Co Rd 13, consisting of 0.64 acres, is included in the permit area. Mining commenced at the eastern edge of the permit area and continued westward, fanning out to the north and south. Very little salvageable topsoil is available at the site, as the gravel is exposed at the surface. However, any salvaged topsoil will be stored at the edges of the pit to keep from re-disturbing it during operations. The maximum mining depth will be approximately 8 feet. Material processing will occur on site as needed.

The approved post-mining land use for the site is pastureland. For reclamation, disturbed slopes will be graded to 2H:1V or flatter, disturbed land will be retopsoiled at a minimum depth of 3 inches, and the site will be seeded with a native grass mixture recommended by the Soil Conservation Service. If there is not enough salvageable topsoil on site for reclamation, additional topsoil will be imported to the site. The haul road may remain after reclamation for use by the landowner.

The site was not active during the inspection. However, mobile processing equipment was stored on site. The operation was approved for intermittent status in 2013 to operate for less than 180 days per year. According to the operator, recent activities have primarily included hauling off from stockpiled material. A permit sign was posted at the main site entrance off of Co Rd 13. The corners of the permit boundary were marked with large concrete blocks. Several material stockpiles of various sizes were stored on the pit floor. The pit was approximately 5-8 feet in depth, shallower on the south end. Pit walls had near vertical slopes. Salvaged topsoil was stored at the northern and southern edges of the pit.

The operation is done mining to the north and south. The pit will continue to be expanded westward and eastward. The edges of the current pit are approximately 150 feet from the western permit boundary and 250 feet from the eastern permit boundary. The Division estimates the operation has disturbed approximately 12 acres (not including the haul road). No standing water was observed in the pit during the inspection.

The operation appears to be following the approved mining and reclamation plans. No problems were observed.

This concludes the report.

PHOTOGRAPHS



Photo 1. View looking northwest from southern corner of permit boundary, marked by a large concrete block.



Photo 2. View looking southwest from eastern edge of pit disturbance, showing material stockpiles and mobile processing equipment stored on pit floor.



Photo 3. View looking south, showing topsoil stored at southern edge of pit disturbance



Photo 4. View looking southeast from western edge of pit disturbance, showing material stockpiles stored on pit floor.



Photo 5. View looking west, showing one of two topsoil stockpiles stored at northern edge of pit disturbance.



Photo 6. View looking southeast from northeastern corner of permit boundary, marked by a large concrete block.



Photo 7. View looking northwest from pit floor, showing northwestern portion of pit wall, approximately 5-8 feet in height with near vertical slopes.



Photo 8. View looking west from pit floor, showing western portion of pit wall, approximately 5-8 feet in height with near vertical slopes.



Photo 9. View looking north from pit floor, showing material stockpiles and mobile processing equipment stored on pit floor.



Photo 10. View looking west from pit floor, showing portion of western pit wall, approximately 5 feet in height with near vertical slopes.

Inspection Contact Address

Calvin Feik
Bent County
P.O. Box 350
Las Animas, CO 81054

Encl: Google Earth image of site

CC: Michael Cunningham, DRMS

M-2001-019 / Bent County Pit # 2 / Bent County

Red Outline = 18.51 acres = Approved Permit Area (including 0.64 acre haul road off Co Rd 13)
(Image data from 3/19/2016)

