

**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:	
Gravel Pit No 7		M-1977-484	Sand and gravel	Baca	
<b>INSPECTION TYPE:</b>		INSPECTOR(S):	INSP. DATE:	INSP. TIME:	
Monitoring		Jared L. Ebert	May 13, 2019	12:22	
OPERATOR:		<b>OPERATOR REPRESENTATIVE:</b>	TYPE OF OPERATION:		
Baca County		Kurt Eskew	112c - Construction Regular Operation		
<b>REASON FOR INSPECTION:</b>		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:		
Clear	Jand Ebet May 16, 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 $\underline{Y}$
(PW) PROCESSING WASTE/TAILING <u>NA</u>	(SF) PROCESSING FACILITIES Y	(TS) TOPSOIL <u>Y</u>
(MP) GENL MINE PLAN COMPLIANCE- <u>Y</u>	(FW) FISH & WILDLIFE <u>Y</u>	(RV) REVEGETATION <u>NA</u>
(SM) SIGNS AND MARKERS <u>Y</u>	(SP) STORM WATER MGT PLAN <u>NA</u>	(RS) RECL PLAN/COMP Y
(ES) OVERBURDEN/DEV. WASTE <u>NA</u>	(SC) EROSION/SEDIMENTATION Y	(ST) STIPULATIONS <u>NA</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 was a monitoring inspection of the Gravel Pit No. 7, Colorado Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety (DRMS or Division) permit number M-1977-484, operated by Baca County. I, Jared Ebert with DRMS conducted the inspection. Mr. Kurt Eskew, Shiloh Turner and Gerald Gerber with Baca County accompanied me during the inspection.

This is a 160 acre 112c mining operation with a post-mine land use approved as rangeland.

### **Backfilling and Grading:**

About 16.5 acres of affected land has been created in the southeast portion of the permit area. A pit basin is located south of a small ephemeral drainage. Baca County pushes the mine material down into the pit at a 3H:1V slope. The pit basin on the west side of the affected area has slopes that appear to have been in place many years given the amount of vegetation that has established on the slopes.

A looped access road comes in from the south and curves east down into the pit. The slope below the access road is graded to a 2.5H:1V anlge or less and is eroding in places. According to the last annual report map, this slope below the access road was designated as "reclaimed". However, this slope is not graded in accordance with the approved reclamation plan and is partially eroding. The sediment from the erosion is contained within the pit. This issue was discussed with Mr. Eskew, the Division would not be able to release this area given its current condition, and the County will need to conduct additional grading and revegetation work for this area to be reclaimed in accordance with the approved reclamation plan.

#### Hydrologic Balance:

The pit was dry at the time of the inspection.

#### Gen. Compliance With Mine Plan:

Overall, the Operator appears to be conducting the mining operation in accordance with the approved reclamation plan. The Division estimates about 16.5 acres of land has been affected by the mining operation. Baca County is approved to affect 20 acres at a time at this site.

#### **Reclamation Success:**

As discussed above, a portion of the affected area below the access road that was designated in the last annual reclamation report map as "reclaimed" has not been reclaimed in accordance with the approved plan. As the pit is still active and the site is not in final reclamation, this issue is not considered a problem at this time but Baca County will need to conduct additional reclamation of this area in accordance with the approved plan.

#### Sediment Control:

As discussed above, some erosion was noted on the slope below the southern access road. The sediment from this erosion is contained within the pit basin.

#### <u>Topsoil:</u>

Topsoil is stockpiled adjacent to the pit excavation.

# **PHOTOGRAPHS**



Figure 1. From the southeast corner of the affected land looking north.



Figure 2. From the southeast corner of the affected land looking northwest.



Figure 3. From the east side of the affected area looking west.



Figure 4. From the north central side of the affected land looking southeast.



Figure 5. From the northwest portion of the affected area looking south. "Reclaimed" slope below access road highlighted.

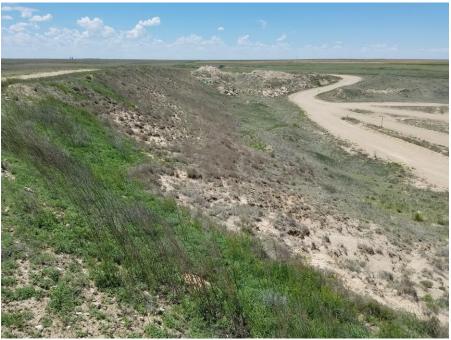


Figure 6. From the south central end of the affected land looking west at "Reclaimed" slope below the access road.

### **Inspection Contact Address**

Kurt Eskew Baca County 741 Main Street, Suite 1 Springfield, CO 81073