

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:
Lamar Park Grav Pit		M-1987-078	Sand and gravel	Prowers
INSPECTION TYPE:		INSPECTOR(S):	INSP. DATE:	INSP. TIME:
Monitoring		Amy Eschberger	March 27, 2019	08:30
OPERATOR:		OPERATOR REPRESENTATIVE:	TYPE OF OPERATION:	
City of Lamar		Patrick Mason, Martin Montoya	110c - Construction Limited Impact	
DEAGON FOR INGREGEION		DOND CALCUL ATION TYPE		
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:	
Clear		Chry Erchluger	July 12, 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 Y	(BG) BACKFILL & GRADING <u>Y</u>	(EX) EXPLOSIVES <u>N</u>
(PW) PROCESSING WASTE/TAILING <u>N</u>	(SF) PROCESSING FACILITIES N	(TS) TOPSOIL <u>Y</u>
(MP) GENL MINE PLAN COMPLIANCE- <u>Y</u>	(FW) FISH & WILDLIFE N	(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 \underline{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 Lamar Park Grav Pit (Permit No. M-1987-078) conducted by Amy Eschberger of the Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety. Mr. Patrick Mason and Mr. Martin Montoya represented the operator during the inspection. The site is located at the northern edge of Lamar, CO in Prowers County, directly south of another site permitted by the City of Lamar under Permit No. M-1977-572 (Lamar East Pit). The site is located within an industrial area used by the city for storage of equipment, vehicles, and refuse. A gated entrance to the site is located at its northwestern corner. The site can also be accessed from the south via dirt roads which cross through the industrial area. **Photos 1-8** taken during the inspection are included with this report.

This is a 110c operation permitted for 7.6 acres (see enclosed Google Earth image of site) to mine sand and gravel for use in maintenance of gravel alleys and streets and for other needs throughout the city (see enclosed mining plan map). This permit replaced a 111c Special Operation permit (Permit No. M-1987-050; Industrial Park Pit) held for the same site. An acreage reduction approved in 2001 (AR-01) released 2.3 acres from the far eastern edge of the permit area. The site has been mined generally from east to west. The site is mined above the groundwater table, at a maximum depth of approximately 12-14 feet. Screening of mined material may occur on site as needed.

The approved post-mining land use for the site is wildlife habitat (see enclosed reclamation plan map). The approved reclamation plan calls for grading all slopes to 5H:1V or flatter, replacing one foot of topsoil on disturbed land, and seeding the land with a grass seed mixture consisting of Alkali sacaton, Sideoats grama, Little bluestem, Western wheatgrass, and Sand dropseed. The operator will also plant some of the shrub species recommend by the Division of Wildlife (Wild Plum, Buffaloberry, Chokecherry, Wild Rose, Sandhill Cherry) to provide better wildlife habitat in accordance with the approved post-mining land use. The operator may spread manure across the seedbed at a rate of 40,000 pounds per acre, if needed.

At the time of the inspection, the weather was partly cloudy, cool, and dry. A permit sign was posted at the western entrance to the site. The rectangular-shaped permit area was delineated by T-posts. The site was not active during the inspection. However, according to the operator, the site is active every year in accordance with its intermittent status. A few material stockpiles were stored at the western edge of the permit area, including a larger sand stockpile. A small, rectangular-shaped excavation approximately 3 feet in depth was present in the western portion of the permit area, adjacent to the sand stockpile. The mined area just east of the current excavation has been backfilled and graded nearly flat. This area just needs to be retopsoiled and seeded for reclamation.

The earlier mined eastern half of the permit area has been in reclamation for many years. The western portion of this reclaimed area has good vegetative cover consisting of grasses, forbs, and some weeds (primarily Kochia). During the last inspection of the site, conducted on August 14, 2014, the Division informed the operator the small gravel stockpiles stored in this area would need to be removed in order for the area to be released from the permit. The stockpiles have been removed from this area since the last inspection.

The far eastern portion of the permit area was reclaimed during the last inspection. However, since that time, the area has been invaded by prairie dogs, which have torn up most of the reclamation grass cover. The operator is currently working with CPW to figure out how to manage the prairie dog population. To complete the approved reclamation plan for this area, the operator would need to grade out the mounds, backfill the holes, and revegetate the area. However, considering the post-mining land use for the site is wildlife habitat, an argument could be made this area is meeting the approved beneficial use. If the operator has a desire to release the eastern portion of the permit area as-is, the Division recommends the operator provide a letter from CPW

supporting its current use as wildlife habitat.

No problems were observed during the inspection.

This concludes the report.

Any questions or comments regarding this inspection report should be forwarded to Amy Eschberger at the Colorado Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety, 1313 Sherman Street, Room 215, Denver, CO 80203, via telephone at 303-866-3567, ext. 8129, or via email at <u>amy.eschberger@state.co.us</u>.

PHOTOGRAPHS



Photo 1. View looking north along western permit boundary from southwestern boundary corner.



Photo 2. View looking east along northern permit boundary from northwestern boundary corner (marked by T-post).



Photo 3. View looking east from western permit boundary, showing material stockpiles stored in western portion of permit area.



Photo 4. View looking southwest, showing small excavation, approximately 3 feet in depth, present in western portion of permit area. Note sand stockpile stored adjacent to excavation.



Photo 5. View looking southeast across graded area located just east of excavation. This area just needs to be retopsoiled and revegetated for reclamation.



Photo 6. View looking west across graded area located just east of excavation. This area just needs to be retopsoiled and revegetated for reclamation.



Photo 7. View looking east across reclaimed eastern half of permit area with good vegetative cover consisting of grasses, forbs, and some annual weeds (primarily Kochia).



Photo 8. View looking west across eastern portion of permit area that was reclaimed, but then disturbed in recent years by prairie dog colonization of the area.

PERMIT #: M-1987-078 INSPECTOR'S INITIALS: AME INSPECTION DATE: March 27, 2019

Inspection Contact Address

Patrick Mason City of Lamar 102 E Parmenter St Lamar, CO 81052

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

M-1987-078 / Lamar Park Grav Pit / City of Lamar

Red Outline = 7.6 acres = Approved Permit Area (approximated based on permit maps) (Image data from 6/12/2017)







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