




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: Well Field Pit	MINE/PROSPECTING ID#: M-1984-154	MINERAL: Sand and gravel	COUNTY: Prowers
INSPECTION TYPE: Monitoring	INSPECTOR(S): Amy Eschberger	INSP. DATE: March 27, 2019	INSP. TIME: 09:15
OPERATOR: City of Lamar	OPERATOR REPRESENTATIVE: Patrick Mason, Martin Montoya	TYPE OF OPERATION: 110c - Construction Limited Impact	
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: July 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>N</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>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 Well Field Pit (Permit No. M-1984-154) conducted by Amy Eschberger of the Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety (Division). Mr. Patrick Mason and Mr. Martin Montoya represented the operator, City of Lamar (City) during the inspection. The site is located approximately 3-1/2 miles southeast of Lamar, CO in Prowers County, on municipally-owned land. Access to the site is from the west off Co Rd 9 5/10. The site is situated on the west side of Clay Creek, surrounded by sand and sage rangeland. **Photos 1-12** taken during the inspection are included with this report.

This is a 110c operation permitted for 9.9 acres to mine sand and gravel in an area that was previously mined by the City (pre-law). The operation was to expand an existing recharge pond which is used for the City's water well system. The permit area includes only the portions of the recharge pond to be mined under this permit, consisting mainly of its western shoreline (see enclosed Google Earth image of site). The recharge pond is filled with water from the Fort Bent Canal during late summer months. The water infiltrates the ground, recharging the local water well system. The site was to be mined approximately 20 feet deep in three mining phases, proceeding in a north to south direction, and expanding the pond westward in each phase (see enclosed Mining and Reclamation Plan Maps). Mined material was to be stockpiled along the western edge of the permit area. Material may be screened on site as needed for use in road construction or maintenance.

The approved post-mining land use for the site is a combination of rangeland and a recharge pond for the City's water well system. All disturbed lands above the expected water line of the recharge pond will be graded to 3H:1V or flatter, retopsoiled at a depth of one foot, and revegetated with a native grass seed mixture (consisting of Sideoats grama, Blue grama, and Western wheatgrass). The haul road that enters the site from the north and runs along the perimeter of the recharge pond will remain for use by the City.

According to annual reports submitted by the operator, mining activities were completed at the site in 2010. The operator requested a full release of the permit in 2010, through submittal of Revision No. SL-1. However, the Division denied SL-1 for the following reasons (outlined in the Division's January 24, 2011 inspection report): the operator needs to remove or grade out the several material stockpiles located throughout the site, grade all mined slopes to 3H:1V or flatter, spread topsoil over disturbed areas that require revegetation, and seed these areas with the approved seed mixture.

At the time of the inspection, the weather was partly cloudy, cool, and dry. A permit sign was posted at the main site entrance. The corners of the approved permit boundary were delineated with large white posts. The recharge pond was holding some water during the inspection, which the Division understood to have come from recent precipitation events and flooding from the adjacent creek. It should be noted, the operator provided documentation to the Division on October 25, 2017 that the City operates its wells pursuant to a "Post 85 Rule 14 Plan" which is approved annually by the Office of the State Engineer (SEO). This plan envelops the plan for augmentation decreed in Case No. W-4015 and other augmentation sources. Therefore, it appears the site is in compliance with the SEO with regard to the water retained on site.

All stockpiles have been removed from the site or used for reclamation of the site, except for a few small, low-lying stockpiles present in the southern portion of the permit area. The operator inquired during the inspection about leaving these small stockpiles for reclamation so the City could use this material to maintain site roads, as needed. Given the small footprint of the stockpiles and proposed use of the material on site for continued maintenance of the City's roads, the Division was not opposed to the stockpiles remaining for reclamation.

All disturbed land has been graded to the approved final slope configuration of 3H:1V or flatter, except for one knob that protrudes into the recharge pond along the northern shoreline of the expanded pit (at the northeastern

edge of the permit area). The operator will need to level off this portion of the pond shoreline to the required 3H:1V slope gradient and seed the area with the approved seed mixture. The operator expressed concerns about knocking dirt from the steep knob into the recharge pond, and will therefore, work to grade the knob away from the pond (northward) with an excavator. This work was expected to be conducted later this spring.

The operator had retopsoiled and seeded all disturbed lands on site prior to the Division's last inspection conducted on August 14, 2014. However, during that inspection, the Division observed primarily weeds growing along the pond slopes, and recommended the operator reseed these areas. During the current inspection, the Division observed the pond slopes to have a good establishment of native grasses. However, two sections of the western pond bank were recently redisturbed by the operation to repair erosion gullies that had developed in these areas. These sections were graded to 3H:1V, but had not yet been reseeded. The operator indicated they intend to seed these areas and the area where the steep knob will be leveled off this spring. It should be noted, a few early growth Tamarisk trees were observed growing near the bottom edge of the reclaimed pond slope. Because Tamarisk is a state-listed noxious weed species, these trees will need to be removed as soon as possible. The Division will not be able to release the site with state-listed noxious weed species present.

In summary, remaining reclamation at the site includes grading off the steep shoreline knob to 3H:1V, and revegetating this area and the two sections of the pond bank that were recently redisturbed. The operator should be aware that Rule 3.1.3 requires all reclamation to be carried to completion by the operator with all reasonable diligence, and each phase of reclamation be completed within 5 years from the date the operator informs the Division that such phase has commenced. The operator informed the Division that mining operations were completed at the site in 2010, which was more than 5 years ago now. Therefore, the Division strongly encourages the operator to complete final reclamation of the site and request full release of the permit once the desired vegetation has established in reseeded areas.

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 amy.eschberger@state.co.us.

PHOTOGRAPHS



Photo 1. View looking east across recharge pond in northern portion of permit area. Note section of pond bank in foreground that was redisturbed for erosion repair, and will need to be reseeded. Steep knob requiring grading shown in background (indicated). Early growth Tamarisk trees present near base of pond slope (circled).



Photo 2. View looking southeast across redisturbed section of pond bank. Note slopes graded 3H:1V or flatter.



Photo 3. View looking southeast across reclaimed western pond bank. Note top portion of slope somewhat disturbed by dozer tracks.



Photo 4. View looking southeast across reclaimed western pond bank. Note pond access road (at right) to remain after reclamation for continued use by the City.



Photo 5. View looking northwest across reclaimed western pond bank. Note redisturbed section of pond bank (in background) which will require reseeding.



Photo 6. View looking east across recharge pond, showing reclaimed western pond bank (in foreground) and eastern pond bank (in background).



Photo 7. View looking southeast across other section of western pond bank redistributed by operation for erosion repair which will require reseeding.



Photo 8. View looking northeast across recharge pond in southern portion of permit area. Note early growth Tamarisk trees present at base of pond slope (indicated) which need to be removed.



Photo 9. View looking southeast across reclaimed western pond bank in southern portion of permit area.



Photo 10. View of large white post (circled) marking southwestern corner of permit boundary.



Photo 11. View looking northeast, showing large white post (circled) marking southeastern corner of permit boundary, which is typically submerged when pond is filled with water.



Photo 12. View looking west at small material stockpiles left in southern portion of permit area, which could be left for reclamation given their small footprint and proposed use for continued maintenance of site roads.

Inspection Contact Address

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

Encl: Google Earth image of site
Approved Mining and Reclamation Plan Maps (one document)

CC: Michael Cunningham, DRMS

M-1984-154 / Well Field Pit / City of Lamar

Red Outline = 9.9 acres = Approved Permit Area (approximate location based on permit maps)
(Image data from 6/12/2017)



Well Field Pit
Lamar, Colo.

Exhibit B
Mining Plan Map

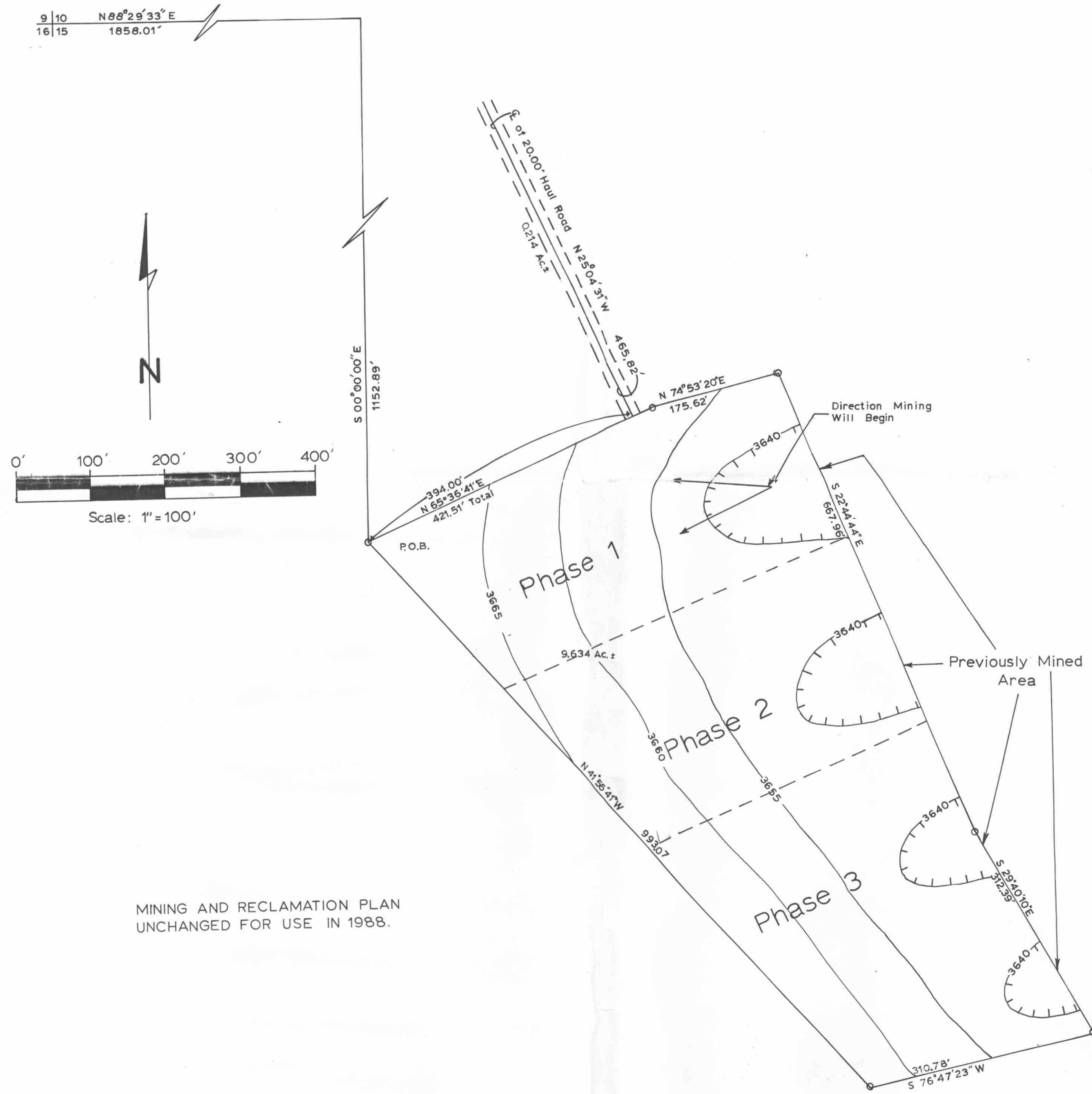


Exhibit E
Reclamation Plan Map

