




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: Nolte Pit #1	MINE/PROSPECTING ID#: M-2012-016	MINERAL: Borrow material	COUNTY: Garfield
INSPECTION TYPE: Monitoring	INSPECTOR(S): Amy C. Yeldell	INSP. DATE: September 24, 2019	INSP. TIME: 16:00
OPERATOR: Puckett Land Company	OPERATOR REPRESENTATIVE: None	TYPE OF OPERATION: 111 - Construction by Government Agency	
REASON FOR INSPECTION: Normal I&E Program	BOND CALCULATION TYPE: None	BOND AMOUNT: \$36,250.00	
DATE OF COMPLAINT: NA	POST INSP. CONTACTS: None	JOINT INSP. AGENCY: None	
WEATHER: Clear	INSPECTOR'S SIGNATURE: 	SIGNATURE DATE: September 26, 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>Y</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>NA</u>	(TS) TOPSOIL----- <u>NA</u>
(MP) GENL MINE PLAN COMPLIANCE- <u>Y</u>	(FW) FISH & WILDLIFE----- <u>Y</u>	(RV) REVEGETATION---- <u>Y</u>
(SM) SIGNS AND MARKERS----- <u>Y</u>	(SP) STORM WATER MGT PLAN---- <u>N</u>	(RS) RECL PLAN/COMP-- <u>Y</u>
(ES) OVERBURDEN/DEV. WASTE----- <u>N</u>	(SC) EROSION/SEDIMENTATION--- <u>Y</u>	(ST) STIPULATIONS----- <u>Y</u>
(AT) ACID OR TOXIC MATERIALS----- <u>NA</u>	(OD) OFF-SITE DAMAGE----- <u>N</u>	

Y = Inspected / 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 Colorado Division of Reclamation, Mining, and Safety (Division) normal monitoring program. The purpose of this inspection was to evaluate progress being made towards achieving final reclamation. No representative for Puckett Land Company was present for the inspection. Amy Yeldell of the Division conducted the inspection.

The Nolte Pit #1 is a Special Operations 111c permitted site that includes a total of 22.34 permitted acres. Mining was completed in fall of 2012 and the site has been in final reclamation since 2013 as indicated on the annual report. To date no acreage has been released.

No additional reclamation work has been conducted by the Operator since the last inspection. The access road to the gas pad within the DRMS permit boundary has been resurfaced and graded. Caerus vehicles appear to be staying within the Caerus pad boundary. The CDOT spill area in the southwestern corner of the DRMS permit boundary appears to have been reclaimed. Additionally the utility easement road adjacent to the game fence has also been reclaimed.

Overall reclamation completed as the result of TR-4 appears to be progressing well. The hillsides in western portion of the permit boundary seem to have a higher level of revegetation success as compared to the eastern portion hillsides. The western hillside has diverse mostly desirable vegetation established in the depressions of the pockets. The base of the hillside remains relatively bare as sediment and ponding of water seems to be discouraging vegetation establishment. The reclaimed flat areas away from the hillside have mixed results. The newly reclaimed areas appear to have more diverse desirable species establishment. While the older previously reclaimed areas in the far south appear to be a monoculture of what staff believes is Jointed goatgrass (*Aegilops cylindrical*), a list B noxious weed. This is the first time staff has noticed this species on site. This is not cited as an inspection problem with a corrective action, due to the time of the year and growth stage. Rather the Operator is encouraged to aggressively implement their noxious weed management plan in the future in an attempt establish desirable plant species and remove this noxious weed. Limiting seed production is critical and mowing/bagging may prove effective in addition to general herbicide treatments of Glyphosate or Imazapic.

The eastern hillsides seem to have more weedy vegetation being established and at lower overall density. The flat areas adjacent to the east hillside also appear to have lower desirable vegetation success. This area does not appear to be suffering from weeds out competing the desirable species rather a general lack of vegetation establishment. The Operator may consider some additional seeding in areas where spring germination/establishment is poor.

The excavator pocketing has generally mitigated run-on erosion. Some small erosional features were observed. Specifically those in areas where straw waddles were used rather than rocks or grading BMP's. Erosion observed on site is not to the extent of needing to be repaired however, it should be monitored to ensure that spring thaw/precipitation does not warrant future repairs. In general, erosion on the eastern side of the pit is far more pronounced than the western side despite the gentler grades.

Currently the Division holds a Financial Warranty in the amount of \$36,250 for this site.

Responses to this inspection report should be directed to Amy Yeldell at the Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety, 1313 Sherman St., Room 215, Denver, CO 80203. Direct contact can be made by phone at 303-86-3567 Ext. 8183 or via email at amy.yeldell@state.co.us

Inspection Contact Address

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Enclosure

CC:
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PHOTOGRAPHS







