




**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.

<b>MINE NAME:</b> Orphan View Gravel Pit	<b>MINE/PROSPECTING ID#:</b> M-2013-016	<b>MINERAL:</b> Borrow material	<b>COUNTY:</b> Huerfano
<b>INSPECTION TYPE:</b> Monitoring	<b>INSPECTOR(S):</b> Patrick Lennberg	<b>INSP. DATE:</b> June 24, 2020	<b>INSP. TIME:</b> 09:45
<b>OPERATOR:</b> Huerfano County	<b>OPERATOR REPRESENTATIVE:</b> Dustin Hribar	<b>TYPE OF OPERATION:</b> 112c - Construction Regular Operation	
<b>REASON FOR INSPECTION:</b> Normal I&E Program	<b>BOND CALCULATION TYPE:</b> None	<b>BOND AMOUNT:</b> No Bond Held	
<b>DATE OF COMPLAINT:</b> NA	<b>POST INSP. CONTACTS:</b> None	<b>JOINT INSP. AGENCY:</b> None	
<b>WEATHER:</b> Clear	<b>INSPECTOR'S SIGNATURE:</b> 	<b>SIGNATURE DATE:</b> June 30, 2020	

**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>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>N</u>
(SM) SIGNS AND MARKERS----- <u>Y</u>	(SP) STORM WATER MGT PLAN---- <u>N</u>	(RS) RECL PLAN/COMP-- <u>N</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**

The Orphan View Pit was inspected by Patrick Lennberg with the Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety (Division/DRMS). The inspection was completed as part of the Division's routine monitoring inspection program. The site was previously inspected by the Division on May 16, 2017 during a monitoring inspection. Dustin Hribar with Huerfano County accompanied me during the inspection. The weather was warm and the sky was clear.

The pit is adjacent to County Road (CR) 640 approximately 1.1 miles west from the junction of the frontage road along Interstate 25. The site itself is approximately 9.2 miles north of Walsenburg, CO. The site is surrounded by rangeland and farmland with the post-mining land use is rangeland. The Orphan View Pit is a 31 acre pit for the removal of construction materials, primarily sand and gravel. Of the 31 acres approximately 12.8 acres may be disturbed at any one time. A mine sign was observed as required by Rule 3.1.12.

All mining has occurred within the permit area confined to an area that is 4-6 acres in size. Activity has not progressed much since the last inspection. As noted in the supplemental information provided by county as part of the annual report there are Tamarisk trees at the site. It appears that the trees are located in areas where the groundwater is approaching the surface in the excavated portions of the pit. The county is actively managing the trees and other weeds found at the site. There is a large erosion rill that has developed on the south wall of the pit area. Material from the rill is being deposited on the pit floor and is not in danger of moving off site. Head cutting of the rill is still well within the pit area. Talking to Dustin it was mentioned that repairing the rill before it becomes a problem would be prudent. Also during the repair the Tamarisk trees could be mechanically removed and the pit floor graded in a way to eliminate potentially ponding areas.

The Division was able to GPS all permit boundary markers. All current mining is well within the permit boundaries.

The Division currently holds no financial warranty because it is a county operation.

Photographs taken during the inspection are attached.

Please contact Patrick Lennberg (303)866-3567 ext. 8114 or email at [patrick.lennberg@state.co.us](mailto:patrick.lennberg@state.co.us) if you have any questions regarding this report.

### **Inspection Contact Address**

Melanie Banks  
Huerfano County  
928-A Russell  
Walsenburg, CO 81008

cc: Jared Ebert, DRMS

## **PHOTOGRAPHS**



**Photo 1:** Mine sign at entrance off CR 640



**Photo 2:** Looking NW, western end of pit area





**Photo 3:** Looking north, central portion of pit area



**Photo 4:** Looking NE, eastern portion of pit area





**Photo 5:** Erosion rill near the southeast corner of the pit area



**Photo 6:** Product stockpile remaining at the site





**Photo 7:** Typical boundary marker at the site



**Photo 8:** Eastern end of the pit area