




**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> Spotted Burro Pit	<b>MINE/PROSPECTING ID#:</b> M-1979-192	<b>MINERAL:</b> Sand and gravel	<b>COUNTY:</b> Fremont
<b>INSPECTION TYPE:</b> Preoperation Inspection	<b>INSPECTOR(S):</b> Timothy Cazier	<b>INSP. DATE:</b> August 11, 2020	<b>INSP. TIME:</b> 09:30
<b>OPERATOR:</b> Rockbottom, LLC	<b>OPERATOR REPRESENTATIVE:</b> Rebecca Kagan and Ken Klco	<b>TYPE OF OPERATION:</b> 112c - Construction Regular Operation	
<b>REASON FOR INSPECTION:</b> Preoperation Inspection	<b>BOND CALCULATION TYPE:</b> Complete Bond	<b>BOND AMOUNT:</b> \$45,978.00	
<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> December 3, 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>NA</u>
(PW) PROCESSING WASTE/TAILING---- <u>Y</u>	(SF) PROCESSING FACILITIES----- <u>Y</u>	(TS) TOPSOIL----- <u>Y</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>NA</u>	(RS) RECL PLAN/COMP-- <u>Y</u>
(ES) OVERBURDEN/DEV. WASTE----- <u>Y</u>	(SC) EROSION/SEDIMENTATION--- <u>Y</u>	(ST) STIPULATIONS----- <u>Y</u>
(AT) ACID OR TOXIC MATERIALS----- <u>N</u>	(OD) OFF-SITE DAMAGE----- <u>Y</u>	

Y = Inspected / N = Not inspected / NA = Not applicable to this operation / PB = Problem cited / PV = Possible violation cited

## **OBSERVATIONS**

This inspection was conducted by Tim Cazier (DRMS) as required for the amendment application submitted to the DRMS. The Operator (Rockbottom, LLC) was represented by Ms. Beckie Kagan who was present for the inspection. Mr. Ken Klco was present for the latter portion of the inspection. The Spotted Burro Pit site access road entrance is located off Fremont Co. Rd 132, approximately 0.75 miles east of Hwy 67 and about 1.6 miles north of US 50. This is a 112c gravel mine. The mine was active at the time of the inspection.

Mine Plan Summary (AM-01): The amended permit will encompass 87.5 acres. All but 11 acres (the no mining zones will remain along the northern and western reaches of original 54 acres mining tract) is considered affected area. In the expanded mining area, two to five feet of soils and overburden are expected. Mining is planned to take place in four phases, starting with Phase 1. Overlying soils and overburden will be pushed to the north boundary of the Osborn lease property to form a berm and to the northern end of bonded Phase 1 land immediately south of the mining zone. Once a sufficient area has been uncovered to expose a year's volume of estimated production, portable crushing and screening equipment will be sited as close to the gravel face as practical to excavate and load raw material via loader into the crushing system. Mining will begin the newly permitted area from the east edge of the original permit area progressing eastward into Osborn property. Approximately two to three acres of land will be stripped of overlying soils per crushing cycle. Stacking conveyors will be employed to move final products immediate west of the operating face to load out highway trucks. An area approximately 300'x 400' per crushing cycle will be disturbed. During the stripping of Phase 1 area, surface soils and suitable planting media will be pushed up along the 50-ft wide no mining zone along the south boundary of the Osborn property to result in a 10-ft high visual and noise mitigating berm (with side slopes not exceeding 3H:1V during mining) which will be planted to reduce erosion. In the event that excess soils and overburden are encountered than can be pushed directly to final placement, the material will be stockpiled in the southeastern portion of the original permit area currently occupied by product stockpiles that will migrate eastward as mining and processing operations progress in that direction. Overburden piles will be sited to facilitate open drainage of the pit floor to the west and south. No washing or blasting operations are planned for this operation.

Reclamation Plan Summary (AM-01): The post-mine land use will remain as rangeland. The existing 22 foot wide gravel road from north end main gate to central location of the scale house (~2 acres) and into the mined area (3,500 ft in length) will remain after mine reclamation for site access. The sediment pond will be reclaimed. The visual/noise berm will be graded to 4H:1V after mining is completed in this area. Highwalls will be backfilled to no greater than 3H:1V final grade and placing planting media will be placed no less than one foot in thickness over the green shale unit underlying the gravel deposit. The land interior to the pit margins will be graded to drain west and south towards the sediment pond structure located near the south border of the permit area in the original mining area. The operator will isolate and retain soils at or near the surface for use at or near the surface of reclaimed areas. Lower final grades (4H:1V or less) will be planned for the Osborn tract (Phase 1). 3H:1V or less are planned for the pit margins in Phases 2, 3, and 4. All other areas including the N-S power line ROW (3H:1V from pole base to pit floor), will be graded to result in surface flow west and south towards the sediment control ponds. Drainage to the west will be maintained between the power pole locations so to not impede surface flow to the sediment control ponds.

Availability of Records: Annual fees are paid through October 2020. The previous inspection was on March 29, 2019. There are no open infractions. Both the surface and minerals are privately owned.

Backfilling and Grading: Sufficient backfill material appeared to be available.

Financial Warranty: A revised phased bond of \$112,405 was calculated for AM-01. This includes phase 1 of the amendment. The DRMS is awaiting receipt of the additional bond.

Fish and Wildlife: No impact to wildlife was observed.

Hydrologic Balance: No standing water was observed in the pit and no exposed groundwater was observed.

Gen. Compliance with Mine Plan: The operation appeared to be in compliance with the approved mine plan. The maximum allowed disturbed area is increased from 15 acres to 27.3 acres. Google Earth was used to measure the disturbed area, which was estimated to be approximately 18.5 acres, based on 2019 imagery. Highwalls were estimated to vary between 15 and 20 feet in height (see **Photo 1**).

Off-site Damage: The operation appeared to be confined to the permit boundary, based on Google Earth review and site observations.

Processing Waste: A stockpile of crusher fines was observed on the west side of the north pit (see **Photo 2**).

Roads: Haul and access roads did not appear to be a source of sediment that could be tracked offsite.

Right of Entry: Rockbottom owns the land in the pre-AM-01 area. The Permittee has obtained leases for the AM-01 area owned by the Osborns on the north and the area owned by Wild Burro Investments on the east.

Reclamation Success: Rockbottom has been practicing concurrent reclamation. However, that was not the primary focus of this inspection.

Revegetation: No noxious weeds were observed.

Sediment Control: No erosion problems were observed and no BMPs were needed at the time of the inspection.

Support Facilities On-site: Only the truck scale and a loader were observed during the inspection (see **Photo 3**).

Signs and Markers: The permit sign was properly posted (see **Photo 4**). Fences and berms markers permit boundary.

Permit Stipulations: There are no current or new permit stipulations.

Storm Water MGT Plan: No oil or fuel spills observed. Stormwater drains to the pit sediment pond on the south end and infiltrates. Ms. Kagan indicated it is a zero discharge pond.

Topsoil: Topsoil is stripped prior to mining and stored on the uphill side of the highwall.

Structures: Observed structures requiring damage compensation agreements include: a power line running north-south through the site (see **Photo 5**), a Century Tel line along CR 123, property fences along the east side of the operation (see **Photo 1**), and several outbuildings on the Osborn property. All damage compensation agreements were provided to the DRMS.

Please contact Tim Cazier (303)328-5229 [mobile] or email at [tim.cazier@state.co.us](mailto:tim.cazier@state.co.us) if you have any questions regarding this report.

## **PHOTOGRAPHS**



Photo 1. Northeast highwall, note property fences beyond highwall crest (looking east).



**PHOTOGRAPHS (cont.)**



Photo 2. Crusher fines stockpile on the west side of the north pit (looking west).



Photo 3. Truck scale & loader (looking west from N-S powerline).



**PHOTOGRAPHS (cont.)**



Photo 4. Permit sign at entrance off CR 123.



Photo 5. North end of pit, note powerline on right (looking south).

**Inspection Contact Address**

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ec: DRMS file  
Beckie Kagan, Rockbottom  
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