




MINERALS PROGRAM INSPECTION REPORT
PHONE: (303) 866-3567

The Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety 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: Pierce Pit	MINE/PROSPECTING ID#: M-1980-121	MINERAL: Sand and gravel	COUNTY: Weld
INSPECTION TYPE: Surety-Related Inspection	INSPECTOR(S): Peter Hays	INSP. DATE: March 10, 2021	INSP. TIME: 10:30
OPERATOR: Weld County Public Works	OPERATOR REPRESENTATIVE: Derek	TYPE OF OPERATION: 112c - Construction Regular Operation	
REASON FOR INSPECTION: Surety Related	BOND CALCULATION TYPE: Complete Bond	BOND AMOUNT: \$0.00	
DATE OF COMPLAINT: NA	POST INSP. CONTACTS: None	JOINT INSP. AGENCY: None	
WEATHER: Clear	INSPECTOR'S SIGNATURE: 	SIGNATURE DATE: March 11, 2021	

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>N</u>
(HB) HYDROLOGIC BALANCE----- <u>N</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>N</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>N</u>	(ST) STIPULATIONS----- <u>N</u>
(AT) ACID OR TOXIC MATERIALS----- <u>N</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

The Pierce Pit was inspected by Peter Hays with the Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety (Division/DRMS) as required by the Transfer of Mineral Permit and Succession of Operators process and to calculate the required financial warranty. The Succession of Operators application (SO-01) was received by the Division on February 17, 2021. The application was called incomplete by the Division on February 28, 2021. The Division does not currently hold a financial warranty for the site pursuant to Rule 4.1.2(2) since Weld County is the current Permittee. The Applicants selected to waive their right to receive a decision within 30 days to allow the Division to calculate the required financial warranty before issuing a decision on the application. Mr. Derek Daniels with C&H Aggregates, LLC was present during the inspection. The site was previously inspected by the Division on January 23, 2020. An inspection map based on the latest available Google Earth image and the observations from this inspection is attached for reference.

The site is an 112c operation permitted for 56.50 acres. The site has been in final reclamation since 2012. The vegetation on portions of the west and east slopes is well-established with only a few annual and noxious weeds. The vegetation on the remaining portions of the west and east slopes and the north and south slopes is not well-established consisting of sparse vegetation and annual weeds. The pit floor vegetation consists of volunteered cottonwood trees in the north end and annual weed in the south end. The former stockpile area located in the southeast portion of the site has been topsoiled by the landowner and will be used as farmland until the area is mined in the future. The required mine identification sign was posted and the site boundaries were well defined as required by Rule 3.1.12.

The approved post-mining land use for the site is wildlife habitat. The approved Reclamation Plan states the final slopes will be graded to less than 2H:1V. The pit slopes were estimated to be 3H:1V or less. No erosion features were observed on the slopes during the inspection. The pit is located in the Lone Tree Creek ephemeral stream channel. The mining activity captured the creek and is preventing the historic creek flow from exiting the site. The south end of the pit floor was mostly dry with only a few small ponds at the time of the inspection, but typically contained water during previous inspections. The Reclamation Plan for the site was amended in 1985 from a dry to wet pit floor for final reclamation. The amendment allows for pumping and dewatering of the pit following spring runoff flooding events. The Operator was to obtain a National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit for the dewatering activity. The Division does not have evidence the NPDES permit was obtained by the Operator or is still valid. The comment letter from the Office of the State Engineer during the amendment process dated January 22, 1985 states, "If Lone Tree Creek is diverted in such a manner that the water in the lake is surface water, then a plan for augmentation would still be needed to repay senior water rights for the increased consumption due to evaporation from the increased water surface area."

C&H Aggregates, LLC has purchased the groundwater rights associated with property. The groundwater captured by the pit will be used to wash aggregate at the adjacent North Weld Gravel site in the near future. The long-term plan for the site is to create a reservoir by installing a slurry wall around the perimeter of the permit boundary. C&H stated they are aware of the requirements to obtain the appropriate permits from the Division of Water Resources prior to pumping water to the North Weld Gravel site and to amend the existing Reclamation Plan to change the post-mining land use to developed water resource.

The Division calculated the cost to reclaim the site based on the currently approved Reclamation Plan for the site at \$39,000.00. A copy of the bond estimate is attached for review.

Photographs taken during the inspection are attached. If you need additional information or have any questions, please contact me at the Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety, 1313 Sherman Street, Room 215, Denver, CO 80203, by telephone at 303.866.3567 x 8124, or by email at peter.hays@state.co.us.

Inspection Contact Address

Derek Daniels
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46335 CR 39
Nunn, CO 80648

Enclosure: Reclamation cost estimate for SO-01
Inspection Map

Ec: Jared Ebert, DRMS
Clay Kimmi, Weld County

PHOTOGRAPHS



View of the site from the southwest corner looking north



View of the site from the southwest corner looking northeast



View of the site from the southwest corner looking east



View of the well-established vegetation on the west slope



View of the former stockpile area being farmed by the landowner



View of the cottonwood trees in the north end of the site from the north boundary looking south



View of the site from the east boundary looking west



View of the site from the west boundary looking north



View of the site from the west boundary looking east








View of the site from the west boundary looking south

Pierce Pit

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March 10, 2021 SO-01 Inspection Map

Legend

-  Areas of Well-Established Vegetation
-  Areas Requiring Revegetation
-  Former Stockpile Area / Current Farmland
-  Pierce Pit
-  Pierce Pit Permit Boundary

Pierce Pit

Google Earth

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1000 ft