




**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> Big Johnson Reservoir	<b>MINE/PROSPECTING ID#:</b> M-2020-028	<b>MINERAL:</b> Sand	<b>COUNTY:</b> El Paso
<b>INSPECTION TYPE:</b> Surety Release Inspection	<b>INSPECTOR(S):</b> Timothy Cazier, P.E.	<b>INSP. DATE:</b> March 30, 2021	<b>INSP. TIME:</b> 09:25
<b>OPERATOR:</b> Fountain Mutual Irrigation Company	<b>OPERATOR REPRESENTATIVE:</b> Gary Steen	<b>TYPE OF OPERATION:</b> 111(1)(b) - Special One-Time Incidental	
<b>REASON FOR INSPECTION:</b> Surety Release Requested	<b>BOND CALCULATION TYPE:</b> None	<b>BOND AMOUNT:</b> \$75,000.00	
<b>DATE OF COMPLAINT:</b> NA	<b>POST INSP. CONTACTS:</b> None	<b>JOINT INSP. AGENCY:</b> None	
<b>WEATHER:</b> Cloudy	<b>INSPECTOR'S SIGNATURE:</b> 	<b>SIGNATURE DATE:</b> April 21, 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>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>NA</u>	(SF) PROCESSING FACILITIES----- <u>Y</u>	(TS) TOPSOIL----- <u>N</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>NA</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>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 part of a surety release request. Messrs. Gary Steen and Moe Cady were present, representing the Permittee, Fountain Mutual Irrigation Co (FMIC). The Big Johnson Reservoir is located approximately 1.5 miles northwest of the intersection of S. Powers Blvd and Fontaine Blvd in southeast Colorado Springs.

Availability of Records: Annual fees are not due until January 26, 2022. The site was first inspected on May 29, 2020 as part of a complaint filed with the DRMS. The approved post-mine land use is water storage. There are no open infractions.

Backfilling and Grading: All grading appeared to be complete (see **Photos 1 and 2**).

Financial Warranty: The DRMS holds a \$75,000 bond which based on this inspection was recommended for release.

Fish and Wildlife: No impact to wildlife was observed. A pair of nesting bald eagles were observed near the reservoir edge (see **Photo 3**).

Hydrologic Balance: As the site has been a reservoir for over 100 years, no impact to the hydrologic balance was observed.

Gen. Compliance with Mine Plan: The operation appeared to have been completed in compliance with the approved mine plan.

Off-site Damage: The operation appeared to be confined to the permit boundary.

Roads: Haul and access roads were existing and will remain.

Right of Entry: FMIC owns the land.

Reclamation Success: Reclamation has been completed.

Revegetation: As all the disturbed area is or will be under water, no revegetation is required for reclamation. 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: An excavator (see **Photo 4**) belonging to one of the contractors on site for material removal remained. Mr. Steen indicated they would be retrieving it soon.

Signs and Markers: The permit sign was properly posted (see **Photo 5**).

**SUMMARY:** The DRMS has determined reclamation at this site is adequate. Notices for the requested release were sent on March 26, 2021. The public comment period closed April 10, 2021. No objections were received by that time. The release request was approved on April 20, 2021. The DRMS must retain the financial warranty for 30 days from the decision date in the event there is an appeal to our decision.

Please contact Tim Cazier (303)866-3567 ext. 8169 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. Graded west shore (looking north).



Photo 2. Graded northwest shore (looking north).



**PHOTOGRAPHS (cont.)**



Photo 3. Graded west shore, eagle and eagle nest (looking south).



Photo 4. Graded bank (foreground) and contractor excavator (circled, looking NE).

**PHOTOGRAPHS (cont.)**



Photo 5. Permit sign (at site entrance).

**Inspection Contact Address**

Gary Steen  
Fountain Mutual Irrigation Company  
P.O. Box 75292  
Colorado Springs, CO 80970

ec: DRMS file  
Gary Steen, FMIC