




## 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> Nolte Pit #1	<b>MINE/PROSPECTING ID#:</b> M-2012-016	<b>MINERAL:</b> Borrow material for	<b>COUNTY:</b> Garfield
<b>INSPECTION TYPE:</b> Monitoring	<b>INSPECTOR(S):</b> Amy Yeldell	<b>INSP. DATE:</b> July 21, 2021	<b>INSP. TIME:</b> 15:30
<b>OPERATOR:</b> Puckett Land Company	<b>OPERATOR REPRESENTATIVE:</b> None	<b>TYPE OF OPERATION:</b> 111 - Construction by Government Agency	
<b>REASON FOR INSPECTION:</b> Normal I&E Program	<b>BOND CALCULATION TYPE:</b> None	<b>BOND AMOUNT:</b> \$36,250.00	
<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> July 26, 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>N</u>	(FN) FINANCIAL WARRANTY----- <u>N</u>	(RD) ROADS----- <u>N</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>N</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>N</u>
(AT) ACID OR TOXIC MATERIALS----- <u>NA</u>	(OD) OFF-SITE DAMAGE----- <u>NA</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. As she was leaving the site, she met with Rod Cogburn of Puckett Land Company.

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. All mining related debris has been removed from site. All surface grading and revegetation has been completed and the site is awaiting sufficient vegetation establishment for release.

Only minor stormwater cleanouts and touch up seeding have been conducted recently. Oil and Gas traffic is continuing to use only the designated roadways. The utility easement along the game fence continues to see limited traffic and overall vegetation is not significantly inhibited.

The summer monsoons have begun. In general the site is extremely dry and arid with infrequent heavy rains. In the previous week precipitation has been heavy. Some standing water was observed on the south side of the pit as well as in the pond on the northwest corner. Despite the excessive moisture slopes appear to be stable with little to no evidence of erosion. In general the pit slopes have limited vegetation as does the surrounding undisturbed areas. The pocketing and soil roughening implemented has allowed for pockets of vegetation to establish as well as provide erosion protection. The hillsides in the western portion of the permit boundary seem to have a higher level of revegetation success as compared to the eastern portion hillsides. Though vegetation establishment on the eastern hillside is limited the area appears to be relatively weed free and comparable to the undisturbed surroundings.

The pit floor continues to thrive in comparison to the rest of the site. Overall the western pit floor has 80% or higher cover of perennial grasses with some volunteer shrubs. Very few weeds were observed and generally were located near the right of ways, so the mine is not the source. The flat areas adjacent to the east hillside appear to have lower desirable vegetation success but are stable. Given an extended period of time larger shrubs and more grasses will establish.

Based on this inspection it is determined that the Operator has successfully complied with the requirements of the Act, Rules and Regulations, and the approved Reclamation Plan, and the permit area is ready to be released from any further reclamation responsibility. If the operator submits an acreage release request within 60 days this inspection will count as the acreage release inspection.

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 303-866-3567 Ext. 8183 or via email at amy.yeldell@state.co.us

**Inspection Contact Address**

Karen LeBaren/ Eric Steams  
Puckett Land Company  
5460 S. Quebec St.  
Greenwood Village, CO 80111

Enclosure

CC:

Travis Marshall, Senior EPS, Grand Junction DRMS

**PHOTOGRAPHS**











