



STATE OF
COLORADO

Simmons - DNR, Leigh <leigh.simmons@state.co.us>

C1982022, Elk Creek Mine, Aerial Inspection Report

Simmons - DNR, Leigh <leigh.simmons@state.co.us>

Tue, Aug 3, 2021 at 11:17 AM

To: Doug Smith <Doug.Smith@oxbow.com>

Thanks for pointing that out - should be fixed in this one.

Leigh Simmons
Environmental Protection Specialist



COLORADO
Division of Reclamation,
Mining and Safety
Department of Natural Resources

P 303.866.3567 x 8121 | C 720.220.1180 | F 303.832.8106
1313 Sherman Street, Room 215, Denver, CO 80203
leigh.simmons@state.co.us | <https://drms.colorado.gov>

On Tue, Aug 3, 2021 at 11:04 AM Doug Smith <Doug.Smith@oxbow.com> wrote:

FYI, the photo on page 11 of 12 did not come through. Just the Arrow. Pretty interesting.

From: Simmons - DNR, Leigh <leigh.simmons@state.co.us>

Sent: Monday, August 2, 2021 5:05 PM

To: Doug Smith <Doug.Smith@OXBOW.COM>

Cc: DNR DRMS_CoalAdmin - DNR <dnr_drms_coal_admin@state.co.us>

Subject: C1982022, Elk Creek Mine, Aerial Inspection Report

[external email-use caution]

Attached

Leigh Simmons
Environmental Protection Specialist



COLORADO
Division of Reclamation,
Mining and Safety
Department of Natural Resources

P 303.866.3567 x 8121 | C 720.220.1180 | F 303.832.8106

1313 Sherman Street, Room 215, Denver, CO 80203

leigh.simmons@state.co.us | <https://drms.colorado.gov>

Attention: This email was sent from outside the company. Please use caution when opening attachments or clicking on links

8/3/2021

State.co.us Executive Branch Mail - C1982022, Elk Creek Mine, Aerial Inspection Report

that are unexpected or arrive from unknown senders.



INSP-REPORTC_C1981022_LDS_08022021041600.pdf


5663K



PERMIT INFORMATION

Permit Number: C-1981-022 Mine Name: Elk Creek Mine Operator: Oxbow Mining, LLC Operator Address: Mr Doug Smith 3737 Hwy 133 P. O. Box 535 Somerset, CO 81434	County: Delta, Gunnison Operation Type: Underground Permit Status: Active Ownership: Private
	Operator Representative Present: NA
Operator Representative Signature: (Field Issuance Only) 	

INSPECTION INFORMATION

Inspection Start Date: July 30, 2021 Inspection Start Time: 11:20 Inspection End Date: July 30, 2021 Inspection End Time: 11:24		Inspection Type: Aerial Inspection Inspection Reason: Normal I&E Program Weather: Clear	
Joint Inspection Agency: None		Joint Inspection Contacts: 	
Post Inspection Agency: None		Post Inspection Contacts: 	
Inspector(s): Leigh Simmons Brock Bowles	Inspector's Signature: 		Signature Date: August 2, 2021

Inspection Topic Summary

NOTE: Y=Inspected N=Not Inspected R=Comments Noted V=Violation Issued NA=Not Applicable

N - Air Resource Protection

N - Roads

N - Availability of Records

R - Reclamation Success

N - Backfill & Grading

N - Revegetation

N - Excess Spoil and Dev. Waste

N - Subsidence

N - Explosives

R - Slides and Other Damage

N - Fish & Wildlife

N - Support Facilities On-site

N - Hydrologic Balance

N - Signs and Markers

N - Gen. Compliance With Mine Plan

N - Support Facilities Not On-site

N - Other

N - Special Categories Of Mining

N - Processing Waste

N - Topsoil

COMMENTS

This was an aerial inspection. The site was flown and photographed by Brock Bowles. Pictures were inspected by Leigh Simmons. The weather was clear, although a haze in the air caused by smoke from wildfires across the western US reduced the clarity of some of the pictures.

RECLAMATION SUCCESS - Rule 4.15, Rule 3:

Reclaimed areas around the mine facilities area, including the Elk Creek channel, appeared to be stable. The reclaimed CBM well pads and roads also appear stable, with vegetative cover visible. The reclaimed disturbance in A-gulch also appeared to be stable, with more established vegetation. There is no sign of any erosion on any of the reclaimed areas.

SLIDES and DAMAGE - Rule 4.12:

The pictures of B-gulch appear to show a small landslide at a rock outcrop near the head of the gulch. The rockfall/landslide is immediately south of the CBM-9/10/12/14 pad, and perhaps 50-100' lower in elevation. The aerial images do not suggest that the pad contributed to increased runoff down the gulch or could be linked to the landslide.

DOCUMENTS RECEIVED

N/A

OTHER (SPECIFY)

N/A

ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS/COMPLIANCE

No enforcement actions were initiated as a result of this inspection, nor are any pending.

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 2

Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 0

PHOTOGRAPHS



Figure 1: Lower facilities area

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 2

Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 0



Figure 2: Upper section of reclaimed Elk Creek channel

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 2

Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 0



Figure 3: Upper facilities area

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 2

Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 0



Figure 4: Reclaimed CBM-9/10/12/14 and CBM-8/11/13 (foreground) pads, with reclaimed A-gulch disturbance to the right of the frame

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 2

Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 0



Figure 5: Reclaimed CBM-8/11/13 pad and road

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 2

Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 0



Figure 6: CBM-1/2/3/6/7 pad and road

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 2

Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 0



Figure 7: CBM-4/5 pad (left of frame)

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 2

Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 0



Figure 8: A-gulch (blue), B-gulch (orange) and CBM-9/10/12/14 pad (yellow)

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 2

Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 0



Figure 9: Rockfall/landslide in B-gulch

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 2

Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 0



Figure 10: Lower section of B-gulch, with landslide debris near old Highway 133

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 2

Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 0