




**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.

<b>MINE NAME:</b> Walstrum Quarry	<b>MINE/PROSPECTING ID#:</b> M-1983-033	<b>MINERAL:</b> Granite, granite gneiss	<b>COUNTY:</b> Clear Creek
<b>INSPECTION TYPE:</b> Pre-Operation Inspection	<b>INSPECTOR(S):</b> Peter Hays	<b>INSP. DATE:</b> June 29, 2021	<b>INSP. TIME:</b> 10:00
<b>OPERATOR:</b> Albert Frei & Sons Inc.	<b>OPERATOR REPRESENTATIVE:</b> Al Frei, Jr.	<b>TYPE OF OPERATION:</b> 112c - Construction Regular Operation	
<b>REASON FOR INSPECTION:</b> Pre-Operation Inspection	<b>BOND CALCULATION TYPE:</b> None	<b>BOND AMOUNT:</b> \$742,000.00	
<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> August 12, 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>N</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>N</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

This was a pre-operation inspection of the Walstrum Quarry for amendment application no. 9 (AM-09) conducted by Peter Hays, Jared Ebert and Russ Means with the Colorado Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety (Division/DRMS). Mr. Al Frei, Jr. and Mr. Joel Bolduc with Albert Frei & Sons, Inc., Mr. Tom Heseman with Tetra Tech and Mr. Steve O'Brian with Environmental Inc. were present during the inspection.

The 112c amendment application package was received by the Division on April 20, 2021 and deemed complete for purposes of filing on May 11, 2021. On May 12, 2021, the Division determined the amendment application was classified as "complex" and may require involvement of additional professional staff or outside professional or agency expertise, therefore it is beyond what the Division considers to be a typical application review process. The Division extended the decision due date by an additional sixty (60) days pursuant to Rule 1.4.1(7). The current decision date for the amendment application is October 8, 2021. The Walstrum Quarry is located 4 miles east of Idaho Springs, Colorado in Clear Creek County. The required notice sign was posted at the entrance gate off of US Highway 6.

The proposed Walstrum Quarry amendment would add 464.17 acres to the existing 285.13 acre site increasing the total permit acreage to 749.3 acres. The amendment application includes a revision of 0.57 acres to the existing quarry and the addition of 463.6 acres associated with the amendment area. The revision of 0.57 acres is due to better information from a 2020 survey. The amendment area is located primarily to the east of the existing permitted operation. The Reclamation Plan would remain unchanged with the exception of the reclamation slopes in the existing quarry on the east side would be changed from 1H:1V to 0.6H:1V and the north side from 3H:1V to between 3H:1V and 2H:1V. The Reclamation Plan seed mixture is being updated as part of the amendment application.

The amendment areas are mostly undisturbed hilly rangeland with the exception of a 2-track jeep road, utilities and an access road through the eastern portion of the amendment area. The amendment parcels include; Parcel B2, Parcel A1, Parcel G, Parcel H1, Parcel H2, Parcel I, Parcel K, Parcel J and Parcel K. The parcels were observed from the existing jeep and access roads. The existing vegetation, geology and all permanent man-made structures observed during the inspection were as described in the amendment application.

The mining of the amendment area would be conducted from top to bottom, which differs from the current Mining Plan. The top to bottom mining method would allow the mining benches to be reclaimed following mining. The Applicant is proposing to mine the amendment area as steep as 0.6H:1V. The mining benches would consist of a 30 to 100 foot high near-vertical faces separated by 20 to 40 foot wide benches. The more visible slopes above 8,000 feet are proposed to be mined at a maximum slope of 1H:1V. The Applicant is proposing to use adaptive mining methods with bench heights and widths adjusted due to geologic factors encountered during mining such as joint systems, rock types, lateral variations and fracturing.

The natural topography and undisturbed area (Stage S) located between the existing quarry, the amendment area and Highway 6 would screen most of the manufacturing and mining activity areas from the surrounding neighbors and highway traffic. The existing quarry and amendment area are proposed to be mining concurrently. This would allow the Operator to blend the higher quality materials from the amendment area with materials from the existing quarry. The overall timeframe for mining both areas is estimated to take up to an additional 50 years.

The proposed post-mining land uses include four reclamation types; wildlife habitat (undisturbed area), privately-owned natural resource area, industrial/commercial and developed water resources. The Applicant plans to implement revegetation to establish a diverse, effective and self-sustaining vegetation without the requirement for irrigation, soil amendments or fertilizers. The Applicant proposed a revised seed mixture to include woody plant species specifically designed to be similar to the existing native vegetation. The final quarry floor is proposed to be sloped down from east to west to establish positive drainage toward the main entrance.

The Applicant does not expect impacts to the hydrological balance in the amendment area due to the steepness of the land surface and very low permeability of the bedrock. The existing quarry is a dry operation requiring water from Clear Creek for the mining operation.

The Division issued an adequacy review letter on August 2, 2021. The Applicant is currently in the process of replying to the Division's adequacy review comments.

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](mailto:peter.hays@state.co.us).

**Inspection Contact Address**

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Ec: Jared Ebert, DRMS

## PHOTOGRAPHS



Walstrum Quarry amendment notice sign



View of Parcel B2 from the center of the parcel looking west





View of Parcel A1 from the jeep road looking northwest



View of Parcel A1 from the jeep road looking north





View of Parcel A1 from the jeep road looking northeast



View of Parcel F from the northeast corner looking south





View of Parcel H2



View of Parcel H2 looking southeast





View of Parcel H2 looking north



View of Parcel H2 looking west





View of Parcel J looking north