




**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> Bledsoe Pit	<b>MINE/PROSPECTING ID#:</b> M-1982-067	<b>MINERAL:</b> Sand and gravel	<b>COUNTY:</b> Kit Carson
<b>INSPECTION TYPE:</b> Surety Release Inspection	<b>INSPECTOR(S):</b> Elliott Russell	<b>INSP. DATE:</b> November 9, 2021	<b>INSP. TIME:</b> 09:00
<b>OPERATOR:</b> Kit Carson County	<b>OPERATOR REPRESENTATIVE:</b> None	<b>TYPE OF OPERATION:</b> 110c - Construction Limited Impact	
<b>REASON FOR INSPECTION:</b> Surety Release Requested	<b>BOND CALCULATION TYPE:</b> None	<b>BOND AMOUNT:</b> No Bond Held	
<b>DATE OF COMPLAINT:</b> NA	<b>POST INSP. CONTACTS:</b> None	<b>JOINT INSP. AGENCY:</b> None	
<b>WEATHER:</b> Foggy	<b>INSPECTOR'S SIGNATURE:</b> 	<b>SIGNATURE DATE:</b> December 9, 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>NA</u>	(RD) ROADS----- <u>N</u>
(HB) HYDROLOGIC BALANCE----- <u>Y</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>Y</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>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

## **PROBLEMS/POSSIBLE VIOLATIONS**

None observed during the inspection.

## **OBSERVATIONS**

This inspection was conducted after Kit Carson County (Operator) submitted a Request for Full/Final Release of Entire Permit Area (SL1) on November 8, 2021. Elliott Russell, with the Division, conducted the inspection. No representative of the Operator accompanied the Division during the inspection.

The Bledsoe Pit is a Construction Material Limited 110c Operation Reclamation Permit and is approved to affect 9.9 acres of land. Affected lands will be reclaimed to support a rangeland post-mining land use. The site is located in the southwest corner of Kit Carson County, approximately 17 miles south-southwest of Flagler, Colorado. The site consists of a single pit which daylights on the north.

Availability Of Records: The anniversary date of the permit is June 24<sup>th</sup> of each year. The 2020-2021 Annual Report, Map, and Fee was submitted and accepted on May 27, 2021. The previous inspection was on April 30, 2019. There are no open infractions. On November 15, 2021, after finding SL1 complete, the Division notified the landowner, the Kit Carson County Commissions, the Kit Carson County Planning Department, and the Flagler Conservation District of the Operator's request to be released from reclamation responsibility. To date, the Division has not received any written comments nor objections to the full release request.

Hydrologic Balance: Impacts to the prevailing hydrologic balance appeared to have been minimized. No standing water nor exposed groundwater was observed during the inspection.

Gen. Compliance With Mine Plan: The Operator appeared to have followed the approved mine plan. Google Earth was used to measure the reclaimed area, which was estimated to be approximately 2 acres.

Backfilling and Grading: All slopes appeared to be appropriately backfilled and/or graded.

Sediment Control: No erosion problems were observed and no BMPs are needed at this time.

Revegetation: The affected lands were vegetated with a diverse community of grasses and forbs. The majority of the site consists of areas where revegetation has been successful, but a few small areas contained sparse vegetation, however, the overall site has been appropriately revegetated. Vegetative cover appeared to match adjacent off-site areas.

Reclamation Success: Reclamation efforts appeared to have been successful. Nothing observed during the inspection would prevent the Division from approving the release request.

**The Division will approve the release request at this time. The Division is required to hold the final release paperwork and performance warranties for 30 days to allow for any appeals of the Division's decision. These documents will be sent to the Operator after the 30-day appeal period if no appeals are received.**

This concludes the Division's Inspection Report; a subset of photographs taken during the time of the inspection are included below. If you need additional information or have any questions, please contact me at Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety, 1313 Sherman Street, Room 215, Denver, CO 80203, by telephone at **303-866-3567 x8132**, or by email at [elliott.russell@state.co.us](mailto:elliott.russell@state.co.us).

## **PHOTOGRAPHS**



**Photo 1.** Mine identification sign; looking east.



**Photo 2.** Site overview; looking northeast.





**Photo 3.** Southern reclaimed slope; looking east.



**Photo 4.** Northern portion of the site; looking west.





**Photo 5.** Southwest corner of the reclaimed pit; looking south.

**Inspection Contact Address**

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