

DRMS Solberg Gravel Pit

1 message

Worley - DNR, Amber <amber.worley@state.co.us> To: tim.cazier@state.co.us

Hello Tim, Please see the attached land use below.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thank You

Amber Worley Administrative Assistant, Area 14



P 719.227.5200 | F 719.227.5297 4255 Sinton Road, Colorado Springs, CO 80907 amber.worely@state.co.us | cpw.state.co.us

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Solberg Gravel Pit.pdf 112K Cazier - DNR, Tim <tim.cazier@state.co.us>

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COLORADO Parks and Wildlife

Department of Natural Resources

Southeast Region - Area 14 4255 Sinton Road Colorado Springs, CO 80907 P 719.227.5200 | F 719.227.5264

Timothy A. Crazier Division of Reclamation, Mining, and Safety 1313 Sherman St. Room 215 Denver, CO, 80203

Re: Solberg Pit - File No. M-1981-044, Solberg Gravel LLC Amendment Application (AM-3)

Dear Mr. Crazier,

Thank you for the opportunity to review and comment on the application for the Solberg Pit - File No. M-1981-044, Solberg Gravel LLC Amendment Application (AM-3) in Peyton Colorado.

After reviewing the maps and documents for the proposed amendment, Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW) does not foresee significant impacts to wildlife, wildlife habitat, or aquatic resources. The proposed area of mineral development is characterized by short grass prairie. Native short grass prairies are highly valued for their ability to support obligate species. In El Paso County, native short grass prairies are critical habitat for Swift Fox and Pronghorn. It would be very important that any disturbed soil in this area be replanted in native grasses as soon as possible to minimize loss of top soil and the introduction of invasive noxious weeds. We would recommend using NRCS seeding guidelines for reclamation of any ground disturbance. Reclamation is extremely important; CPW has found that areas that have already been mined have not been reclaimed. At this time there are approximately 130 impacted acres that have not been reclaimed, this will make future revegetation projects difficult.

CPW recommends the revegetation of disturbed soils and the control of noxious weed species through the development of a noxious weed management plan prior to initiating construction activities. The Colorado Weed Management Association provides the booklet "Noxious Weeds of Colorado" that provides information on identification and management of noxious weeds in Colorado. CPW prefers that native vegetation be retained on site during the operational lifespan of the project, both as habitat for wildlife and to ensure successful reclamation of the project area. Proper reclamation, from a wildlife perspective, involves not only stabilizing the soil and establishing ground cover, but also fostering plant communities with a diversity of species and plant types- grasses, woody plants, and broadleaf forbs, which will fully serve the nutritional needs of wildlife.

Once again, we appreciate being given the opportunity to comment on the Solberg Pit - File No. M-1981-044, Solberg Gravel LLC Amendment Application (AM-3). Please feel free to contact our office at 719-227-5250 should you have any questions or require additional information.





Sincerely,

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Travis Sauder Acting Area Wildlife Manager Colorado Parks and Wildlife Area 14 - Colorado Springs