




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.

MINE NAME: Cottonwood Pit	MINE/PROSPECTING ID#: M-1986-010	MINERAL: Sand and gravel	COUNTY: Fremont
INSPECTION TYPE: Monitoring	INSPECTOR(S): Timothy Cazier, P.E.	INSP. DATE: November 18, 2021	INSP. TIME: 09:45
OPERATOR: Fremont County	OPERATOR REPRESENTATIVE: Sterling Rife	TYPE OF OPERATION: 112c - Construction Regular Operation	
REASON FOR INSPECTION: Normal I&E Program	BOND CALCULATION TYPE: None	BOND AMOUNT: \$0.00	
DATE OF COMPLAINT: NA	POST INSP. CONTACTS: Colo. Land Board	JOINT INSP. AGENCY: None	
WEATHER: Clear	INSPECTOR'S SIGNATURE: 	SIGNATURE DATE: February 17, 2022	

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>Y</u>
(HB) HYDROLOGIC BALANCE----- <u>Y</u>	(BG) BACKFILL & GRADING----- <u>Y</u>	(EX) EXPLOSIVES----- <u>NA</u>
(PW) PROCESSING WASTE/TAILING---- <u>Y</u>	(SF) PROCESSING FACILITIES----- <u>Y</u>	(TS) TOPSOIL----- <u>Y</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>Y</u>	(RS) RECL PLAN/COMP-- <u>Y</u>
(ES) OVERBURDEN/DEV. WASTE----- <u>Y</u>	(SC) EROSION/SEDIMENTATION--- <u>Y</u>	(ST) STIPULATIONS----- <u>Y</u>
(AT) ACID OR TOXIC MATERIALS----- <u>Y</u>	(OD) OFF-SITE DAMAGE----- <u>Y</u>	

Y = Inspected / N = Not inspected / NA = Not applicable to this operation / PB = Problem cited / PV = Possible violation cited

OBSERVATIONS

This inspection was conducted by Tim Cazier (DRMS) as part of the regular monitoring program. The Permittee (Fremont County) was represented by Sterling Rife during the inspection. This is a 112c sand and gravel mine operated by Fremont County. The Cottonwood Pit is located approximately 4.25 miles west along County Rd 2 from the intersection with Colorado Hwy 9 in Fremont Co. It was not operating at the time of the inspection.

Availability of Records: Annual fees are paid through January 2022. The previous inspection was on April 27, 2017. The approved post-mine land use is rangeland. There are no open infractions. Both the surface and minerals are managed by the State Land Board (SLB).

Acid And Toxic Materials: No acid or toxic materials are involved in this operation.

Backfilling and Grading: Sufficient backfill material is available for the south (see **Photo 1**) and north (see **Photo 2**) highwalls to be flattened or backfilled.

Excess Spoil and Dev. Waste: No overburden piles were observed.

Financial Warranty: As the site is permitted by the County, no bond is required.

Fish and Wildlife: No impact to wildlife was observed.

Hydrologic Balance: No standing water was observed in the pit and no exposed groundwater was observed.

Gen. Compliance with Mine Plan: The operation appeared to be in compliance with the approved mine plan. The maximum allowed disturbed area is 48.4 acres. Google Earth was used to measure the disturbed area, and found to be approximately 8.2 acres, based on 2019 imagery. Highwalls were estimated to be 20 feet in height and appeared stable (see **Photo 3**).

Off-site Damage: The operation appeared to be confined to the permit boundary, based on Google Earth review and site observations.

Processing Waste: No processing waste was observed. Mr. Rife stated all stockpiled non-topsoil material was usable material.

Roads: Haul and access roads did not appear to be a source of sediment that could be tracked offsite. The pit entrance is now paved (see **Photo 4**).

Right of Entry: Mr. Rife stated the County's lease with the SLB was current.

Reclamation Success: The highwalls on the west side of the pit have been graded to 3H:1V, top soiled and seeded (see **Photos 4** and **5**).

Revegetation: the revegetation on the west pit slope appeared fairly well established (see **Photo 6**). Other than some common Mullein (List C, see **Photo 9**) near the sediment pond outlet, no noxious weeds were observed.

Sediment Control: No erosion problems were observed and no BMPs were needed at the time of the inspection.

Signs and Markers: The permit sign was properly posted (see **Photo 7**) and fences (along the County road) and boundary markers were observed to delineate the permit boundary (see **Photo 8**).

Permit Stipulations: There are no permit stipulations.

Storm Water MGT Plan: No oil or fuel spills observed. The outlet culvert for the site sediment pond was observed to be partially blocked, only at the outlet of the pipe (see **Photo 9**). Mr. Rife stated he would get it cleared.

Topsoil: A topsoil stockpile is on the northeast side of the pit and labeled as such (see **Photo 10**).

Structures: The County road (CR2) is the only structure within 200 feet of the affected area.

Please contact Tim Cazier (303)866-3567 ext. 8169 or email at tim.cazier@state.co.us if you have any questions regarding this report.

PHOTOGRAPHS



Photo 1. South highwall – no taller than ~8 feet (looking SW).

PHOTOGRAPHS (cont.)



Photo 2. North highwall – no taller than ~12 feet (looking NW).



Photo 3. West highwall – nearing final reclamation (looking west).

PHOTOGRAPHS (cont.)



Photo 4. Paved pit entrance and south end of west highwall (looking NW).



Photo 5. Revegetated west highwall (looking west, product stockpile in center).

PHOTOGRAPHS (cont.)



Photo 6. Center of revegetated west highwall (looking NW).



Photo 7. Permit sign at entrance.

PHOTOGRAPHS (cont.)



Photo 8. Typical boundary marker (north end).



Photo 9. Partially blocked outlet pipe (east side, looking west; note common Mullein – List C noxious weed).

PHOTOGRAPHS (cont.)



Photo 10. Topsoil stockpile with sign (looking north).

Inspection Contact Address

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Cañon City, CO 81212

ec: DRMS file
Ben Teschner, SLB