




**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> Q-2	<b>MINE/PROSPECTING ID#:</b> M-2017-046	<b>MINERAL:</b> Gemstones	<b>COUNTY:</b> Teller
<b>INSPECTION TYPE:</b> Monitoring	<b>INSPECTOR(S):</b> Elliott Russell	<b>INSP. DATE:</b> August 23, 2021	<b>INSP. TIME:</b> 12:00
<b>OPERATOR:</b> Gary W Pollack	<b>OPERATOR REPRESENTATIVE:</b> Gary Pollack	<b>TYPE OF OPERATION:</b> 110(1) - Hard Rock Limited Impact	

<b>REASON FOR INSPECTION:</b> Normal I&E Program	<b>BOND CALCULATION TYPE:</b> Complete Bond	<b>BOND AMOUNT:</b> \$5,100.00
<b>DATE OF COMPLAINT:</b> NA	<b>POST INSP. CONTACTS:</b> U.S. Forest Service	<b>JOINT INSP. AGENCY:</b> None
<b>WEATHER:</b> Clear	<b>INSPECTOR'S SIGNATURE:</b> 	<b>SIGNATURE DATE:</b> September 20, 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>Y</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>Y</u>
(MP) GENL MINE PLAN COMPLIANCE- <u>Y</u>	(FW) FISH & WILDLIFE----- <u>Y</u>	(RV) REVEGETATION---- <u>PB</u>
(SM) SIGNS AND MARKERS----- <u>PB</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>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**

**INSPECTION TOPIC:** Signs & Markers

**COMPLIANCE PROBLEM #1:** The mine identification sign was not posted at the entrance of the mine site. This is a problem for failure to post a mine identification sign as required by Rule 3.1.12(1).

**CORRECTIVE ACTIONS:** The Operator shall, at the entrance of the mine site post a sign, which shall be clearly visible from the access road, with a minimum size equaling one hundred and eighty-seven (187) square inches, such as eleven (11) inches in height and seventeen (17) inches in width, with appropriate font size, with the following: the name of the Operator, a statement that a reclamation permit for the operation has been issued by the Colorado Mined Land Reclamation Board; and the permit number. The Operator shall submit photo documentation that a proper sign has been posted by the corrective action date.

**CORRECTIVE ACTION SUBMITTED AND RESOLVED:** September 1, 2021

**INSPECTION TOPIC:** Revegetation

**COMPLIANCE PROBLEM #2:** There are state-listed noxious weeds present on site. This is a problem for failure to employ weed control methods for state listed noxious weed species within the permitted area, and to reduce the spread of weeds to nearby areas as required by Rule 3.1.10 (6).

**CORRECTIVE ACTIONS:** Implement approved weed control plan and provide proof to the Division that this has been done.

**CORRECTIVE ACTION SUBMITTED AND RESOLVED:** September 14, 2021

### **OBSERVATIONS**

This inspection was conducted as part of the Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety's (Division or DRMS) routine monitoring program for permitted operations. Elliott Russell, with the Division, conducted the inspection. Gary Pollack (Operator) accompanied the Division on the inspection.

The Q-2 operation is a Hard Rock 110(1) Permit and is permitted at 1.0 acre. Affected lands will be reclaimed to support a Rangeland post-mining land use. The site is located approximately 11.5 miles northwest of Divide, Colorado in Teller County. The site consists of a single excavation, estimated at 10-12 feet deep with stockpiles of topsoil and overburden scattered around the dig. The site was active at the time of the inspection, the Operator was advancing the dig with hand tools. No heavy equipment was on site at the time of the inspection. The Operator stated that he hires an excavator when the dig needs to be further advanced and backfilled beyond what he can do with hand tools.

Availability Of Records: The anniversary date of the permit is March 22<sup>nd</sup> of each year. The 2020-2021 Annual Report, Map, and Fee was submitted and accepted on February 24, 2021.

Financial Warranty: The \$5,100 bond held by the Division was reviewed and updated as a part of the monitoring inspection. The Division has determined the current financial warranty is adequate for current disturbance.

Gen. Compliance With Mine Plan: The operation appeared to be in compliance with the approved mine plan.

Hydrologic Balance: No standing water nor exposed groundwater was observed during the inspection.

Revegetation: The Division observed common mullein, a List C noxious weed, and yellow toadflax, a List B

noxious weed, on site during the inspection. The Division discussed with the Operator that this would be cited as a compliance problem within the inspection report, requiring the Operator to treat the noxious weeds in accordance with Rule 3.1.10(6). On September 1, 2021 the Operator emailed photos showing the common mullein had been dug up and removed from the site. On September 14, 2021, the Operator submitted photos of herbicide treatment on the yellow toadflax. The Division considers this compliance problem resolved. The Operator should monitor the site to ensure effective treatment of these noxious weeds has occurred.

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

Signs and Markers: The permit boundary was delineated by markers. A sign was posted on the southwest side of the dig, however this sign is the 110(1) application notice and a small list of approved permits. The Division discussed with the Operator that this would be cited as a compliance problem within the inspection report, requiring the Operator post a sign in accordance with Rule 3.1.12(1). On September 1, 2021 the Operator emailed a photo showing a new permit identification sign had been posted. The Division considers this compliance problem resolved.

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.** Posted sign; looking north.





**Photo 2.** Northwest portion of dig site with access trail (left) leading down into the dig; looking east.



**Photo 3.** Dig site overview; looking south.





**Photo 4.** Topsoil stockpile; looking south.



**Photo 5.** Common mullein (List C noxious weed); looking east.





**Photo 6.** Yellow toadflax (List B noxious weed); looking south.

**Inspection Contact Address**

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CC: Jason Musick with DRMS