




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: Wells Pit	MINE/PROSPECTING ID#: M-2006-027	MINERAL: Sand and gravel	COUNTY: Delta
INSPECTION TYPE: Monitoring	INSPECTOR(S): Robert Zuber, P.E.	INSP. DATE: April 20, 2022	INSP. TIME: 07:45
OPERATOR: Dirt Merchant, Inc.	OPERATOR REPRESENTATIVE: Troy Wells	TYPE OF OPERATION: 110c - Construction Limited Impact	
REASON FOR INSPECTION: Normal I&E Program	BOND CALCULATION TYPE: None	BOND AMOUNT: \$14,289.17	
DATE OF COMPLAINT: NA	POST INSP. CONTACTS: None	JOINT INSP. AGENCY: None	
WEATHER: Clear	INSPECTOR'S SIGNATURE: 	SIGNATURE DATE: April 28, 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>N</u>	(RD) ROADS----- <u>Y</u>
(HB) HYDROLOGIC BALANCE----- <u>Y</u>	(BG) BACKFILL & GRADING----- <u>N</u>	(EX) EXPLOSIVES----- <u>NA</u>
(PW) PROCESSING WASTE/TAILING---- <u>NA</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>NA</u>	(RS) RECL PLAN/COMP-- <u>N</u>
(ES) OVERBURDEN/DEV. WASTE----- <u>N</u>	(SC) EROSION/SEDIMENTATION--- <u>Y</u>	(ST) STIPULATIONS----- <u>NA</u>
(AT) ACID OR TOXIC MATERIALS----- <u>N</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

The permit type for the Wells Pit is a 110c, approved by the Division in August 2006. It has been used for gravel and sand. It is located approximately two miles east of Delta, Colorado, on 1800 Road.

The currently approved post-mining land use for the site is pastureland. Currently, the Division is considering an amendment (AM-01) which would revise the reclamation plan and change the post-mining land use to hay storage and equipment parking.

The permit boundary of the site encompasses 8.5 acres, and all of it is approved for disturbance. There is adjacent disturbance to the permit area, but a review of aerial photographs (Google Earth) revealed that the disturbance around the site has not increased over the last 20 years.

The Wells Pit was inspected by Rob Zuber with the Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety (Division) on April 20, 2022. Troy Wells, landowner and representative for the operator (Dirt Merchant, Inc.), was also present. The weather was warm and clear. The ground was dry.

The entrance sign was not in place during the inspection. Troy Wells indicated that it had been taken down for ditch maintenance. Brian Wells (Troy's brother and official permittee) sent a photograph of the sign on April 28, 2022. The photograph shows that the sign has been re-hung at the entrance. The information on the sign meets the requirements of Rule 3.1.12.

Boundary markers were not seen at some locations during the inspection, namely at the northeast corner and the northwest corner. On April 28, 2022, Brian Wells sent photographs to the Division showing that the missing markers have been placed at the site.

A scale is present near the entrance to the site. Heavy equipment is stored on site, but no fuel tanks were seen. Piles of large rocks and gravel were stored at the south end of the yard, and all of the material appeared to be commercially viable.

There were no signs that stormwater runoff or snowmelt runoff from the site are causing pollutant loading to the adjacent land, including the creek to the west. The Division recommends that this status be maintained by constructing a berm to prevent erosion from the low area near the west permit boundary.

Many dead knapweed plants were seen along the edges of the site, indication that the operator has been active in controlling these noxious weeds.

The Division holds a reclamation bond in the amount of \$14,289, which may or not be adequate to reclaim the site. Because of the pending amendment, the Reclamation Cost Estimate was not updated with this inspection.

Responses to this inspection report should be directed to Rob Zuber at Rob.Zuber@state.co.us or (720) 601-2276.

PHOTOGRAPHS



Entrance sign



Center of site, looking southwest from northeast corner



West side of site and adjacent creek



Stockpile of materials to be sold

Inspection Contact Address

Troy Wells
Dirt Merchant, Inc.
638 1800 Road
Delta, CO 81416

CC: Michael Cunningham, DRMS