




**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> Sprague Red Lyons	<b>MINE/PROSPECTING ID#:</b> M-1981-057	<b>MINERAL:</b> Sandstone	<b>COUNTY:</b> Boulder
<b>INSPECTION TYPE:</b> Monitoring	<b>INSPECTOR(S):</b> Patrick Lennberg	<b>INSP. DATE:</b> April 27, 2022	<b>INSP. TIME:</b> 08:00
<b>OPERATOR:</b> Arkins Park Stone Corporation	<b>OPERATOR REPRESENTATIVE:</b> David Sprague Melissa Medrano	<b>TYPE OF OPERATION:</b> 112c - Construction Regular Operation	

<b>REASON FOR INSPECTION:</b> Normal I&E Program	<b>BOND CALCULATION TYPE:</b> Complete Bond	<b>BOND AMOUNT:</b> \$47,050.00
<b>DATE OF COMPLAINT:</b> NA	<b>POST INSP. CONTACTS:</b> None	<b>JOINT INSP. AGENCY:</b> None
<b>WEATHER:</b> Clear	<b>INSPECTOR'S SIGNATURE:</b> 	<b>SIGNATURE DATE:</b> April 29, 2022

**The following inspection topics were identified as having Problems or Possible Violations. OPERATORS SHOULD READ THE FOLLOWING PAGES CAREFULLY IN ORDER TO ASSURE COMPLIANCE WITH THE TERMS OF THE PERMIT AND APPLICABLE RULES AND REGULATIONS. If a Possible Violation is indicated, you will be notified under separate cover as to when the Mined Land Reclamation Board will consider possible enforcement action.**

**INSPECTION TOPIC:** Right of Entry

**PROBLEM:** Failure to maintain legal right of entry per Rule 6.4.14.

**CORRECTIVE ACTIONS:** The permittee/operator must provide proof of legal right to enter and conduct mining and reclamation operations. Proof may include a copy of a lease, or a signed statement by the Landowner and acknowledged by a Notary Public stating that the Operator/Applicant has legal right to enter to conduct mining and reclamation

**CORRECTIVE ACTION DUE DATE:** 6/13/22

## **OBSERVATIONS**

The Sprague Red Lyons quarry (Sprague Red) was inspected by Patrick Lennberg with the Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety (Division/DRMS). The inspection was completed as part of the Division's routine monitoring inspection program. The site was previously inspected by the Division on February 21, 2019 as part of an acreage and surety reduction request (AR-1 and SR-1). Representatives from Arkins Park Stone Corporation, permittee/operator, David Sprague and Melissa Medrano accompanied me during the inspection. The weather was clear.

This is a 112c operation permitted for 42.1 acres with 38.5 acres approved to be affected. The permit is to mine sandstone for building materials and riprap use. The mine is located on property owned by Chad and Larry Theis. During permit review it was determined the permittee did not have current documentation of the legal right to enter to conduct mining and reclamation pursuant to Rule 6.4.14. Not having current documentation for the legal right of entry has been cited as problem in this report. The mine is located in Boulder County. The site entrance is located one mile north of Lyons, CO off of Steamboat Valley Road. The approved post-mining land use rangeland and residential. A mine sign was posted at the mine entrance pursuant to Rule 3.1.12.

The sandstone deposit is approximately 20-30 feet thick, and is quarried by hand using picks, bars, and shovels, and with loaders. The operator is approved to utilize blasting techniques for loosening stone as needed. Quarried stone is processed on pit floors. Flagstone is stacked on pallets, and strip stone is run through a hydraulic stone cutter to be cut into veneer or dimension stone. Waste rock not sold as riprap is compacted and incorporated into work decks or staging areas adjacent to the quarries. This rock can also be used as backfill material for reclamation. The current operation includes two quarry areas, Quarries 1 and 2 (connected) which are located in the central portion of the permit area.

The permit was not active at the time of inspection. The permittee indicated they were probably going to begin final reclamation activities later this year in an effort to get the permit reclaimed as quickly as possible. They did state they wanted to discuss final reclamation with the property owner to reclaim the site to the land owners satisfaction. Once they have reconciled how the site should look it was recommended the permittee let the Division know so any revisions to the permit could be completed before reclamation efforts were complete. It was noted the land owner has built an accessory dwelling unit within the permit boundary. A review of the Boulder County Assessor website indicates this dwelling may be unpermitted and appeared onsite soon after sale of the land in 2017.

The approved post-mining land use for the site is a combination of rangeland and residential. For reclamation, quarry areas will be backfilled with 6 inches of overburden/waste rock and graded to 3H:1V or flatter to blend with existing topography. Pre-existing steep rock ledges in the quarries may be reclaimed by placing large stones on portions of the slopes to form steps which can be retopsoiled and revegetated. Disturbed land will receive 6-8 inches of topsoil and be revegetated with a native grass seed mixture. Additionally, the operator will plant six Ponderosa pine trees and six Rocky Mountain juniper trees per acre. Existing roads will remain after reclamation for use by the landowner. The Division recommends beginning reclamation activities as soon as possible to avoid future financial warranty increases.

The Division evaluated the financial warranty and determined the current bond amount held by the Division is

adequate at this time. Please note if no reclamation is done or the site resumes activity the financial warranty will increase during the next inspection.

Photographs taken during the inspection are attached.

Please contact Patrick Lennberg (303)866-3567 ext. 8114 or email at [patrick.lennberg@state.co.us](mailto:patrick.lennberg@state.co.us) if you have any questions regarding this report.

**Inspection Contact Address**

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Enclosure

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Melissa Medrano, Arkins Park Stone Co., [melissa@arkinsparkstone.com](mailto:melissa@arkinsparkstone.com)

**PHOTOGRAPHS**



**Photo 1:** Main mine road as it enters into Quarry 2, looking south



**Photo 2:** Looking across Quarry2 from Quarry1, ADU right of center of picture





**Photo 3:** Quarry 2 pit area looking north



**Photo 4:** Looking from Quarry 2 towards Quarry 1 area, looking northeast





**Photo 5:** Typical stockpiles of material at the site



**Photo 6:** Typical permit boundary marker at the site



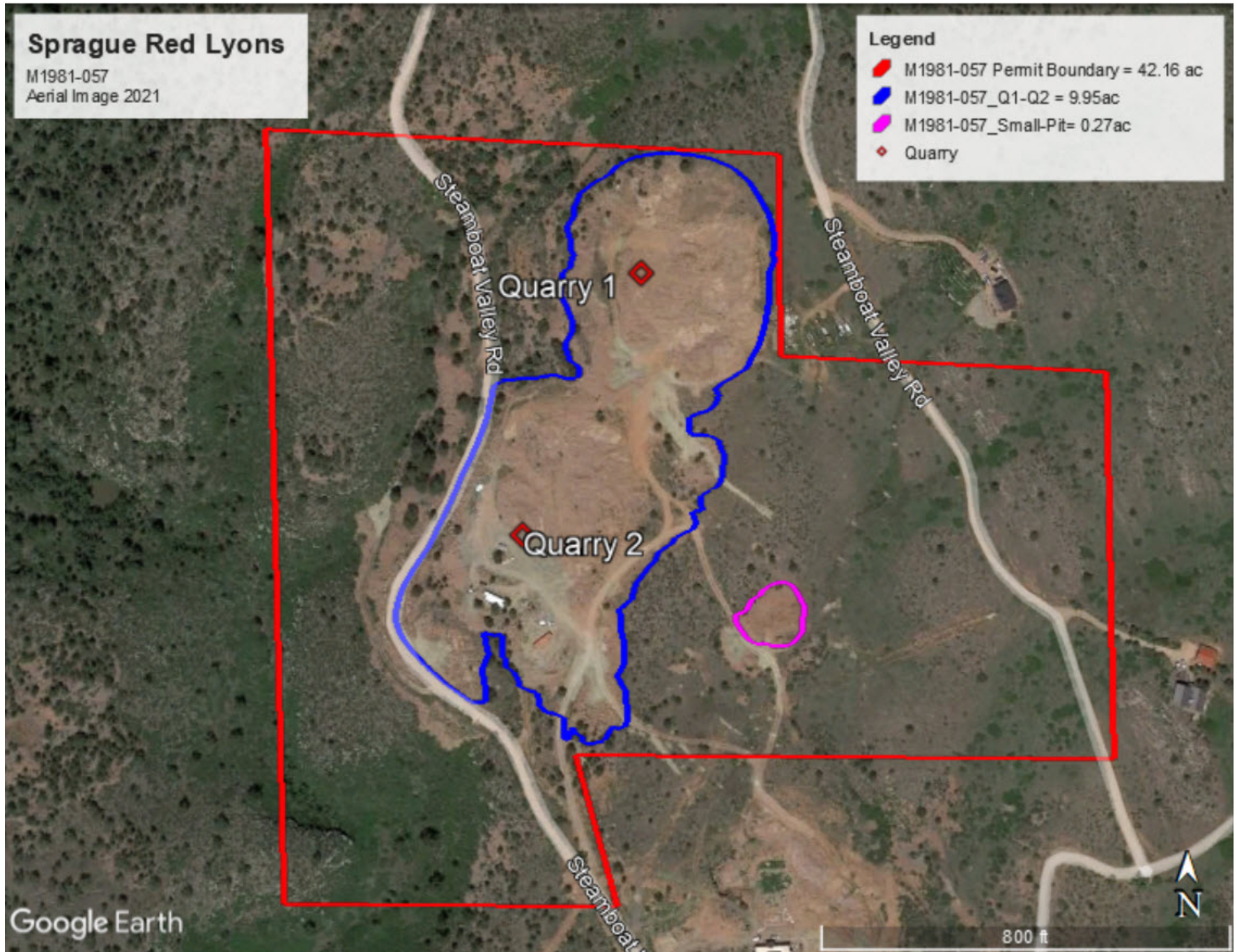


**Photo 7:** Material available for reclamation



**Photo 8:** Looking down to Steamboat Valley Road that bisects permit area.







### GENERAL INSPECTION TOPICS

The following list identifies the environmental and permit parameters inspected and gives a categorical evaluation of each

(AR) RECORDS----- <u>Y</u>	(FN) FINANCIAL WARRANTY----- <u>Y</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>N</u>	(RV) REVEGETATION---- <u>N</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