



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: Caliche School Pit	MINE/PROSPECTING ID#: M-1989-023	MINERAL: Sand and gravel	COUNTY: Logan
INSPECTION TYPE: Monitoring	INSPECTOR(S): Nikie Gagnon	INSP. DATE: May 25, 2022	INSP. TIME: 10:00
OPERATOR: Kristine M Couch	OPERATOR REPRESENTATIVE: Andrew Johnson	TYPE OF OPERATION: 110c - Construction Limited Impact	

REASON FOR INSPECTION: Normal I&E Program	BOND CALCULATION TYPE: Complete Bond	BOND AMOUNT: \$43,000.00
DATE OF COMPLAINT: NA	POST INSP. CONTACTS: None	JOINT INSP. AGENCY: None
WEATHER: Clear	INSPECTOR'S SIGNATURE: 	SIGNATURE DATE: June 1, 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>N</u>	(FN) FINANCIAL WARRANTY----- <u>N</u>	(RD) ROADS----- <u>N</u>
(HB) HYDROLOGIC BALANCE----- <u>Y</u>	(BG) BACKFILL & GRADING----- <u>N</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>Y</u>
(SM) SIGNS AND MARKERS----- <u>Y</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>N</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

OBSERVATIONS

This inspection represented a normal I&E inspection, conducted at the Caliche School Pit, DRMS Permit No. M-1989-023 operated by Kristine M. Couch. Nikie Gagnon and Jason Musick with the Colorado Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety (DRMS or Division) conducted the inspection. Andrew Johnson, representing Kristine Couch, accompanied the Division during the inspection. The site was dry and the weather was clear and warm.

This is a 9.5 acre 110c mining operation in Logan County.

There was a front loader parked in the area of active mining. A small amount of stockpiled material was within the pit. Two haul trucks were observed during the inspection. One truck actively loaded and hauled material and the other truck was arriving at the end of the inspection.

Gen. Compliance with Mine Plan: Mining at the site has created a 30 foot pit excavation. The active mining highwall is approximately 25 feet high along the north side and slopes to approximately 6 feet on the southwest side. There is some space between the top of the 25 foot highwall and the northern permit boundary. However there is not a lot of room to cut and fill the highwall on the north side. According to Mr. Johnson, the operator is considering moving the fence and using material from land north of the permit area to backfill the pit to the required 3H:1V angle. Prior to conducting this activity, the currently approved permit will require a revision to incorporate the proposed area to be excavated into the permit area.

The Division notes that any lands affected outside of the currently approved permit area due to reclamation activities may constitute enforcement action by the Division.

Stormwater Control: During this inspection, the pit excavation area was dry. However, surface area runoff and snowmelt has pooled in a low spot on the southern end of the permit area. An approved trench has been cut to help drain water to an adjacent ditch. However, the inlet to the trench is above the current level of water. The Division recommends excavating the trench deeper to help drain stormwater out of the pond.

Reclamation Success: The site remains active. A small area on the west end of the pit has been regraded and seeded. Vegetation is starting to fill in across this area. Some rills were evident on the exposed areas. Weeds are currently controlled. Mr. Johnson asked about a bond reduction for this section. Before submitting a request for a bond reduction, the Division recommends waiting another growing season to allow time for native vegetation to fill in and better control water and wind erosion.

Signs and Markers: The mine entrance sign was in place and the boundary was clearly marked with t-posts. The southeast boundary marker was not observed and will require replacement.

Topsoil: Topsoil has been stripped from the pit area and it is stockpiled in the pit area and along the southern corner of the site. The topsoil piles are stable and vegetated.

Financial Warranty: The Division currently holds a financial warranty in the amount of \$43,000.00. This amount is adequate to fulfill the requirements of the Reclamation Plan.

Photographs taken during the inspection are attached.

Please contact Nikie Gagnon (303)866-3567 ext. 8126 or email at nikie.gagnon@state.co.us if you have any questions regarding this report.

Inspection Contact Address

Kristine M Couch
6963 S. Olive Way
Centennial, CO 80112

CC: Jason Musick, Senior EPS, DRMS

PHOTOGRAPHS



Looking east across excavated pit.



Looking east across excavated pit. Red arrows point to recently graded and seeded area. Small stockpile of mined material in pit. Fence line at top of highwall is the northern permit boundary. Older reclaimed area in foreground.



Close-up of graded and seeded area.



Looking south from reclaimed area on northwestern edge of pit. Arrows point to topsoil salvage in southern area of the permit boundary.



Looking northwest. Reclaimed areas shown on the top left. Pool of water collecting in depression in southern end of permit area. Boundary stake along southern edge.



Boundary marker along western edge of permit area.



Looking northwest. Drainage ditch excavated to drain pond.



Looking south at excavated drainage and irrigation ditch.



Topsoil pile along edge of active pit area.



Older topsoil piles in southern end of permit area.