



**COLORADO**  
**Division of Reclamation,**  
**Mining and Safety**  
Department of Natural Resources

June 2, 2022

Nathan Barton  
WASTELINE, Inc.  
P.O. Box 3471  
Rapid City, SD 57709-3471

**Re: South Hinsdale Gravel Pit, Construction Materials Limited Impact (110), Comments and Objections Forwarded to Applicant**

One May 29, 2022 the Public Comment Period ended for the above listed application in accordance with Construction Materials Rule 1.7.1 (2)(c). During the Public Comment Period the Division has received 16 timely objections and two Agency Comments (all copies enclosed). Two of the objecting parties submitted two separate comments which are considered valid. The submitting parties with timely comments and objections are;

**Timely Objections Received:**

1. Scott Cundy, received May 24, 2022
2. Carol Mickelsen, received May 26, 2022
3. Sylvia McDaniel, received May 26, 2022
4. Benjamin Travis, received May 26, 2022
5. Chelsea Flaming, received May 27, 2022
6. Rodney Easterling, received May 27, 2022
7. Kathleen McFadden, received May 27, 2022
8. Laura Easterling, received May 27, 2022
9. Scott Haskin, received May 28, 2022
10. Art Dilione, received May 28, 2022
11. Kathleen McFadden, received May 29, 2022
12. Laura Easterling, received May 29, 2022
13. Lynn Robinson, received May 29, 2022
14. Hank Slikker, received May 29, 2022
15. Sam Call, received May 29, 2022
16. Jacqui Slavin, received May 29, 2022

**Timely Comments Received**

1. History of Colorado, received May 20, 2022
2. Colorado Parks and Wildlife, received May 20, 2022

Please review and respond to all jurisdictional issues and recommendations by Monday June 6, 2022. If you should require additional time to address the issues please submit a Decision Date



Extension Request in writing to the Division's Denver Office no later than Monday June 6, 2022. If you have any questions, comments or concerns, please feel free to contact me at the Division's Grand Junction Field Office, by phone at 303-866-3567 Extension 8187 or by email at [lucas.west@state.co.us](mailto:lucas.west@state.co.us).

Sincerely,



**Lucas J. West**

Environmental Protection Specialist  
Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety

Encl:   Objection – Scott Cundy  
          Objection – Carol Mickelsen  
          Objection – Sylvia McDaniel  
          Objection – Benjamin Travis  
          Objection – Chelsea Flaming  
          Objection – Rodney Easterling  
          Objection – Kathleen McFadden  
          Objection – Laura Easterling  
          Objection – Scott Haskin  
          Objection – Art Dilione  
          Objection – Kathleen McFadden  
          Objection – Laura Easterling  
          Objection – Lynn Robinson  
          Objection – Hank Slikker  
          Objection – Sam Call  
          Objection – Jacqui Slavin  
          Comment – History of Colorado  
          Comment – Colorado Parks and Wildlife

Cc:      Travis Marshall, Senior Environmental Protection Specialist

Ec:      Nathan Barton, WASTELINE Inc.

## Permitting Action Comment OR Objection



**COLORADO**  
Division of Reclamation,  
Mining and Safety  
Department of Natural Resources

### CONTACT INFORMATION

You are providing a comment or objection to the public record of a permitting action currently under review by the Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety. This form is not intended for reporting of possible violations or illegal activity.

#### Date of Comment or Objection

05/24/2022

**\*** *Indicates a Required Field*

**This form is for comments or objections on permitting actions.  
This form is not intended for requests to investigate compliance  
issues with DRMS rules.**

#### Comment or Objection \*

- ☒ Objection
- ☐ Support
- ☐ General Comment
- ☐ Agency Comment

#### Contact Type \*

- ☒ Individual
- ☐ Group
- ☐ Agency
- ☐ Attorney

Please select the appropriate option above to identify who you represent.

#### Your First Name \*

Scott

#### Your Last Name \*

Cundy

#### Your Address \*

3825 N Steves Blvd

#### Your Address 2

#### Your City \*

Flagstaff

#### Your State

AZ

#### Your Zip Code \*

Maximum of 10 digits. (Example) 80202

86004

**Email Address \***

Enter a valid email address in this field to receive a confirmation e-mail.

scott.cundy@wildlandtrekking.com

**Your Phone Number \***

Used only to follow up.

7073388410

**Extension****Alternate Phone Number**

Used only to follow up.

**Alternate Phone Extension****Connection to Operation \***

Select all that apply

- ☐ Land Owner of affected land
- ☐ Mineral Owner
- ☐ Adjacent Land Owner
- ☐ Government Agency

- ☐ Structure Owner within 200' of affected land
- ☐ Nearby Resident
- ☒ Concerned Citizen
- ☐ Other

**DESCRIPTION OF COMMENT OR OBJECTION**

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**Comment/Objection Narrative \***

I used to live in Pagosa Springs and often hiked or climbed along the Piedra River, adjacent to this proposed gravel pit. This area is a major recreational area for locals and for visitors. There has to be a better place for a gravel pit than in one of the premier watersheds of the area. Please deny this application. Thank you, Scott Cundy

**Permit Number \***

Enter valid letter and then numbers, for example M1977999, M1999777UG or C1981201.

M2022018

**Permitting Action Type**

Select revision type or leave blank if comment pertains to a new permit application or NOI

**Permit Type**

110c

**County \***

Hinsdale

Enter one county only

**Site Name**

South Hinsdale Gravel Pit

**Permittee/Operator Name**

South Hinsdale Sand & Gravel LLC

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**



**Are there supporting photos, maps, or documents you wish to upload? \***

☐ Yes ☒ No

By submitting this form electronically you agree to receive any/all follow up correspondence from the Division of Reclamation, Mining, and Safety at the email address you have provided.

## Permitting Action Comment OR Objection



**COLORADO**  
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Department of Natural Resources

### CONTACT INFORMATION

You are providing a comment or objection to the public record of a permitting action currently under review by the Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety. This form is not intended for reporting of possible violations or illegal activity.

#### Date of Comment or Objection

05/26/2022

**\*** *Indicates a Required Field*

**This form is for comments or objections on permitting actions.  
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issues with DRMS rules.**

#### Comment or Objection \*

- ☒ Objection
- ☐ Support
- ☐ General Comment
- ☐ Agency Comment

#### Contact Type \*

- ☒ Individual
- ☐ Group
- ☐ Agency
- ☐ Attorney

Please select the appropriate option above to identify who you represent.

#### Your First Name \*

Carol

#### Your Last Name \*

Mickelsen

#### Your Address \*

21 Arrow Court

#### Your Address 2

#### Your City \*

Pagosa Springs

#### Your State

CO

#### Your Zip Code \*

Maximum of 10 digits. (Example) 80202

81147

**Email Address \***

Enter a valid email address in this field to receive a confirmation e-mail.

carol.mickelsen54@gmail.com

**Your Phone Number \***

Used only to follow up.

9703981232

**Extension****Alternate Phone Number**

Used only to follow up.

**Alternate Phone Extension****Connection to Operation \***

Select all that apply

- ☐ Land Owner of affected land
- ☐ Mineral Owner
- ☐ Adjacent Land Owner
- ☐ Government Agency

- ☐ Structure Owner within 200' of affected land
- ☐ Nearby Resident
- ☒ Concerned Citizen
- ☐ Other

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**Comment/Objection Narrative \***

Putting a gravel pit out on Piedra Road is a horrible idea. It will destroy the area, AND the road. Please do not approve this.

**Permit Number \***

Enter valid letter and then numbers, for example M1977999, M1999777UG or C1981201.

M2022018

**Permitting Action Type**

Select revision type or leave blank if comment pertains to a new permit application or NOI

**Permit Type****County \***

Hinsdale.

Enter one county only

**Site Name****Permittee/Operator Name****ADDITIONAL INFORMATION****Are there supporting photos, maps, or documents you wish to upload? \***

☐ Yes ☒ No

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## Permitting Action Comment OR Objection



**COLORADO**  
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### CONTACT INFORMATION

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#### Date of Comment or Objection

05/26/2022

**\*** *Indicates a Required Field*

**This form is for comments or objections on permitting actions.  
This form is not intended for requests to investigate compliance  
issues with DRMS rules.**

#### Comment or Objection \*

- ☒ Objection
- ☐ Support
- ☐ General Comment
- ☐ Agency Comment

#### Contact Type \*

- ☒ Individual
- ☐ Group
- ☐ Agency
- ☐ Attorney

Please select the appropriate option above to identify who you represent.

#### Your First Name \*

Sylvia

#### Your Last Name \*

McDaniel

#### Your Address \*

920 Hills Cir

#### Your Address 2

#### Your City \*

Pagosa Springs

#### Your State

CO

#### Your Zip Code \*

Maximum of 10 digits. (Example) 80202

81147

**Email Address \***

Enter a valid email address in this field to receive a confirmation e-mail.

Sylvia.McDaniel@outlook.com

**Your Phone Number \***

Used only to follow up.

972-979-37

**Extension****Alternate Phone Number**

Used only to follow up.

**Alternate Phone Extension****Connection to Operation \***

Select all that apply

- ☐ Land Owner of affected land
- ☐ Mineral Owner
- ☐ Adjacent Land Owner
- ☐ Government Agency

- ☐ Structure Owner within 200' of affected land
- ☒ Nearby Resident
- ☒ Concerned Citizen
- ☐ Other

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**Comment/Objection Narrative \***

My first objection is that this mining operation will be so close to the Piedra River. This is a beautiful hiking area and it will be destroyed by the dust, noise and operation of this mine. There are deer and elk that run through this area. My second objection is the road that the mine wants to use. Piedra road is a narrow two lane road that has little or no shoulder. There are RV's, cattle trucks (only at roundup time) and school buses along this road. it's dangerous and again, wildlife are in this area. How is a gravel truck going to stop when an elk runs out in front of him? Then there is North Pagosa Blvd that goes through a residential area to Hwy 160. Some truck driver will realize that he can cut through here and use this road. We fought this last fall with another gravel pit organization. No gravel trucks on our roads in our neighborhoods. And who is going to pay for the destruction these trucks will create on these roads? Not Hinsdale county, but Archeluta county. Currently we are fighting the Plumtaw fire in our area. Will these people be able to stop a wildfire? We're so dry right now that any metal strike could start a fire. This fire would blow right up the road into the Hatcher area from the west to the east. There are many homes in the area and our drinking water comes from Hatcher Lake. Kind of hard to drink water with ash in it. Again, this is a beautiful area, there are campers and campsites right near where they want to dig this mine. I know we need a gravel pit, but not near a river. If I had time I would have sent you photos. Oh and there are ice caves up there. This could be an environmental disaster.

**Permit Number \***

Enter valid letter and then numbers, for example M1977999, M1999777UG or C1981201.

M2022018

**Permitting Action Type**

Select revision type or leave blank if comment pertains to a new permit application or NOI

**Permit Type****County \***

Hinsdale

Enter one county only

**Site Name**

South Hinsdale Gravel Pitt

**Permittee/Operator Name**

Wasteline Inc

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

**Are there supporting photos, maps, or documents you wish to upload? \***

☐ Yes ☒ No

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## Permitting Action Comment OR Objection



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### CONTACT INFORMATION

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#### Date of Comment or Objection

05/27/2022

**\*** *Indicates a Required Field*

**This form is for comments or objections on permitting actions.  
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issues with DRMS rules.**

#### Comment or Objection \*

- ☒ Objection
- ☐ Support
- ☐ General Comment
- ☐ Agency Comment

#### Contact Type \*

- ☒ Individual
- ☐ Group
- ☐ Agency
- ☐ Attorney

Please select the appropriate option above to identify who you represent.

#### Your First Name \*

Benjamin

#### Your Last Name \*

Travis

#### Your Address \*

49 Cimarrona Cir

#### Your Address 2

#### Your City \*

Pagosa Springs

#### Your State

CO

#### Your Zip Code \*

Maximum of 10 digits. (Example) 80202

81147



**Email Address \***

Enter a valid email address in this field to receive a confirmation e-mail.

justben9000@gmail.com

**Your Phone Number \***

Used only to follow up.

7202086770

**Extension****Alternate Phone Number**

Used only to follow up.

**Alternate Phone Extension****Connection to Operation \***

Select all that apply

- ☐ Land Owner of affected land
- ☐ Mineral Owner
- ☐ Adjacent Land Owner
- ☐ Government Agency

- ☐ Structure Owner within 200' of affected land
- ☒ Nearby Resident
- ☒ Concerned Citizen
- ☐ Other

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**Comment/Objection Narrative \***

This location would have a very negative impact on local wildlife, fishing, traffic and would create a huge eyesore in an otherwise pristine and beautiful location. This location is very close to a popular hiking trailhead and the area already experiences high traffic from tourism in the summer and fall.

The road to access it is not suitable for such volume of heavy truck traffic and is forced to travel through residential areas and on roads not at all suitable for such traffic.

I believe this proposed location would create environmental and public safety issues due to run off and traffic.

**Permit Number \***

Enter valid letter and then numbers, for example M1977999, M1999777UG or C1981201.

M2022018

**Permitting Action Type**

Select revision type or leave blank if comment pertains to a new permit application or NOI

**Permit Type****County \***

Hinsdale

Enter one county only

**Site Name****Permittee/Operator Name**

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

**Are there supporting photos, maps, or documents you wish to upload? \***

☐ Yes ☒ No

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## Moni... &gt; DRMS Submission of Comments/Objections 52514: Anonymous User

History Variables

Variable	Value
Agency_Name	
Alternate_Phone_Extension	
Alternate_Phone_Number	
C00_DateComplaintTaken	5/26/2022
C01_PersonalInfo	
C02_FirstName	Chelsea
C03_LastName	Flaming
C04_Address	30 N Driver Ct
C05_City	Pagosa springs
C06_State	CO
C07_Zip	81147
C08_Email	CJF115@aol.com
C09_PhoneNumber	
C10_AltPhoneNum	
C11_IncidentConnection	Nearby_Resident,Citizen
C12_LocationComment	I strongly object to the gravel pit application that will cause irreparable use of Piedra road, 600.

Variable	Value
C13_IncidentCounty	
C14_OngoingIssue	
C15_ComplaintType	
C16_IssueDescription	
C17_OperatorContacted	
C18_OperatorDetails	

## Moni... &gt; DRMS Submission of Comments/Objections 52514: Anonymous User

History Variables

C15_ComplaintType	
C16_IssueDescription	
C17_OperatorContacted	
C18_OperatorDetails	
C19_OperatorName	
C20_DRMSPermitNum	
C21_OtherAgency	
C22_OtherAgencyDetails	
C23_UploadDocuments	No
C24_FileUpload	
C25_Communication	
Comment_of_Objection	Objection
Contact_Name	Individual
County	Hinsdale
Extension	
Firm_Name	

Variable	Value
Group_Name	
I_prefer	
Instance_ID	
Instance_ID_1	
List_of_persons_represented	
Permit_Number	M0080530047

## Moni... &gt; DRMS Submission of Comments/Objections 52513: Anonymous User

History Variables

Variable	Value
Agency_Name	
Alternate_Phone_Extension	
Alternate_Phone_Number	
C00_DateComplaintTaken	5/26/2022
C01_PersonalInfo	
C02_FirstName	Rodney
C03_LastName	Easterling
C04_Address	22 Morro Cir
C05_City	Pagosa Springs
C06_State	CO
C07_Zip	81147
C08_Email	rodneyeasterling10@gmail.com
C09_PhoneNumber	
C10_AltPhoneNum	
C11_IncidentConnection	Citizen

Variable	Value
C12_LocationComment	Since the only access the gravel pit will have CR600 and as a resident in Hatcher Subdivision my concern is the damage to our county roads. If Hinsdale can come up with a different route In and out then more power to them. Leave our roads alone
C13_IncidentCounty	
C14_OngoingIssue	
C15_ComplaintType	



Moni... > DRMS Submission of Comments/Objections 52513: Anonymous User

History Variables

	Leave our roads alone
C13_IncidentCounty	
C14_OngoingIssue	
C15_ComplaintType	
C16_IssueDescription	
C17_OperatorContacted	
C18_OperatorDetails	
C19_OperatorName	
C20_DRMSPermitNum	
C21_OtherAgency	
C22_OtherAgencyDetails	
C23_UploadDocuments	No
C24_FileUpload	
C25_Communication	
Comment_of_Objection	Objection
Contact_Name	Individual
County	Hinsdale

Variable	Value
Extension	
Firm_Name	
Group_Name	
I_prefer	
Instance_ID	
Instance_ID_1	

## Moni... &gt; DRMS Submission of Comments/Objections 52512: Anonymous User

History Variables

Variable	Value
Agency_Name	
Alternate_Phone_Extension	
Alternate_Phone_Number	
C00_DateComplaintTaken	5/26/2022
C01_PersonalInfo	
C02_FirstName	Kathleen
C03_LastName	McFadden
C04_Address	13 Point Place
C05_City	Pagosa Springs
C06_State	CO
C07_Zip	81147
C08_Email	kathleen.mcfadden2@gmail.com
C09_PhoneNumber	
C10_AltPhoneNum	
C11_IncidentConnection	Nearby_Resident,Citizen

Variable	Value
C12_LocationComment	I was opposed to the gravel pit on Piedra Road in Pagosa and I'm opposed to this location as well. Piedra Road is not equipped to handle the truck traffic from a gravel pit. The truck noise, road damage, and dust on Piedra Road will significantly impact the environment and diminish the quality of life for residents along the corridor.
C13_IncidentCounty	
C14_OngoingIssue	
C15_ComplaintType	

## Moni... &gt; DRMS Submission of Comments/Objections 52512: Anonymous User

History Variables

	oad will significantly impact the environment and diminish the quality of life for residents along the corridor.
C13_IncidentCounty	
C14_OngoingIssue	
C15_ComplaintType	
C16_IssueDescription	
C17_OperatorContacted	
C18_OperatorDetails	
C19_OperatorName	
C20_DRMSPermitNum	
C21_OtherAgency	
C22_OtherAgencyDetails	
C23_UploadDocuments	No
C24_FileUpload	
C25_Communication	
Comment_of_Objection	Objection
Contact_Name	Individual
County	Hinsdale

Variable	Value
Extension	
Firm_Name	
Group_Name	
I_prefer	
Instance_ID	
Instance_ID_1	

## Moni... &gt; DRMS Submission of Comments/Objections 52511: Anonymous User

History Variables

Variable	Value
Agency_Name	
Alternate_Phone_Extension	
Alternate_Phone_Number	
C00_DateComplaintTaken	5/26/2022
C01_PersonalInfo	
C02_FirstName	Laura
C03_LastName	Easterling
C04_Address	22 Morro Cir
C05_City	Pagosa Springs
C06_State	CO
C07_Zip	81147
C08_Email	lseasterling@hotmail.com
C09_PhoneNumber	
C10_AltPhoneNum	
C11_IncidentConnection	Citizen

Variable	Value
C12_LocationComment	I object on the basis of the amount of trucks that will be using Piedra Rd and N Pagosa Blvd for access to the highway. We live between both streets and fought the pit on Piedra for the same reasons.
C13_IncidentCounty	
C14_OngoingIssue	
C15_ComplaintType	
C16_IssueDescription	



## Moni... &gt; DRMS Submission of Comments/Objections 52511: Anonymous User

History Variables

C13_IncidentCounty	
C14_OngoingIssue	
C15_ComplaintType	
C16_IssueDescription	
C17_OperatorContacted	
C18_OperatorDetails	
C19_OperatorName	
C20_DRMSPermitNum	
C21_OtherAgency	
C22_OtherAgencyDetails	
C23_UploadDocuments	No
C24_FileUpload	
C25_Communication	
Comment_of_Objection	Objection
Contact_Name	Individual
County	Hinsdale
Extension	

Variable	Value
Firm_Name	
Group_Name	
I_prefer	
Instance_ID	
Instance_ID_1	
List_of_persons_represente	

## Permitting Action Comment OR Objection



**COLORADO**  
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Department of Natural Resources

### CONTACT INFORMATION

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#### Date of Comment or Objection

05/28/2022

**\*** *Indicates a Required Field*

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issues with DRMS rules.**

#### Comment or Objection \*

- ☒ Objection
- ☐ Support
- ☐ General Comment
- ☐ Agency Comment

#### Contact Type \*

- ☒ Individual
- ☐ Group
- ☐ Agency
- ☐ Attorney

Please select the appropriate option above to identify who you represent.

#### Your First Name \*

Scott

#### Your Last Name \*

Haskin

#### Your Address \*

28 W Peregrine Cir Unit 5

#### Your Address 2

#### Your City \*

Pagosa Springs

#### Your State

CO

#### Your Zip Code \*

Maximum of 10 digits. (Example) 80202

81147

**Email Address \***

Enter a valid email address in this field to receive a confirmation e-mail.

scotthaskin@msn.com

**Your Phone Number \***

Used only to follow up.

6027631350

**Extension****Alternate Phone Number**

Used only to follow up.

**Alternate Phone Extension****Connection to Operation \***

Select all that apply

- ☐ Land Owner of affected land
- ☐ Mineral Owner
- ☐ Adjacent Land Owner
- ☐ Government Agency

- ☐ Structure Owner within 200' of affected land
- ☐ Nearby Resident
- ☒ Concerned Citizen
- ☐ Other

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**Comment/Objection Narrative \***

Hello. I and the list of persons included in this submittal are very concerned about location of the proposed operations. We spend much time in this area and it would be a tragedy to destroy it for a commercial sand and gravel pit. We also have concerns about the amount of truck traffic on Piedra Road.

**Permit Number \***

Enter valid letter and then numbers, for example M1977999, M1999777UG or C1981201.

M2022018

**Permitting Action Type**

Select revision type or leave blank if comment pertains to a new permit application or NOI

**Permit Type**

Reclamation Permit

**County \***

Archuleta

Enter one county only

**Site Name**

South Hinsdale

**Permittee/Operator Name**

Wasteline, Inc

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION****Are there supporting photos, maps, or documents you wish to upload? \***

☐ Yes ☒ No

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## Permitting Action Comment OR Objection



**COLORADO**  
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#### Date of Comment or Objection

05/28/2022

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issues with DRMS rules.**

#### Comment or Objection \*

- ☒ Objection
- ☐ Support
- ☐ General Comment
- ☐ Agency Comment

#### Contact Type \*

- ☒ Individual
- ☐ Group
- ☐ Agency
- ☐ Attorney

Please select the appropriate option above to identify who you represent.

#### Your First Name \*

Art

#### Your Last Name \*

Dilione

#### Your Address \*

108 Cameo Ct.

#### Your Address 2

#### Your City \*

Pagosa Springs

#### Your State

CO

#### Your Zip Code \*

Maximum of 10 digits. (Example) 80202

81147

**Email Address \***

Enter a valid email address in this field to receive a confirmation e-mail.

artd1956@gmail.com

**Your Phone Number \***

Used only to follow up.

7852153556

**Extension****Alternate Phone Number**

Used only to follow up.

**Alternate Phone Extension****Connection to Operation \***

Select all that apply

- ☐ Land Owner of affected land
- ☐ Mineral Owner
- ☐ Adjacent Land Owner
- ☐ Government Agency

- ☐ Structure Owner within 200' of affected land
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**Comment/Objection Narrative \***

Specific Comments/Objections

1) Page 10, 1st Paragraph, 1st Sentence – The directions to the pit are to take CR-600/FSR-631, better known as Piedra Road for 18 miles, most of this is through Archuleta County and yet there is nothing about the traffic impact on this well used and travelled road.

2) Page 11, 1st Paragraph, 2nd Sentence – Both the entire northern and western part of this parcel drain to the Piedra River just a few feet from the property boundary so this statement is false and misleading.

3) Page 11, 1st Paragraph, 2nd and 3rd Sentences – All of the flow along the north side of Kleckner Lane constantly discharges to the northwest approximately 750' east of Piedra Road through a large ravine which required numerous large boulders to be placed to counter the continued washout due to this discharge. The actual situation is very different than the "occasion" flow presented in this Application. This water also discharges onto a USFS ditch and then directly into the Piedra River running along the north side of this property. The remaining north side drainage continues down the hill where it turns north in the ditch along the east side of Piedra Road and directly discharges into the Piedra River just east of the large 28' x 80' concrete bridge. Mitigation efforts for this flow including sediments should be addressed as part of this Application.

4) Page 11, 2nd Paragraph, 5th Sentence – All of the flow along the south side of Kleckner Lane constantly discharges into this wetland natural drainageway a few hundred feet east of Piedra Lane. This flow immediately goes into a culvert under Piedra Road, discharging onto USFS drainageway and then directly discharges into the Piedra River west of this property. Mitigation efforts for this flow including sediments should be addressed as part of this Application.

5) Page 11, 5th Paragraph, 5th Sentence – The utility easement needs to be officially abandoned by all the utility companies before the land can be used even though there are no current utilities in it. Most parcels have utility easements that cannot be used regardless of their use or none use and should be properly vacated. This property may be developed in the future according to the Application and a utility easement needed.

6) Page 11, 5th Paragraph, 5th Sentence – There is a 2" PVC conduit that appears to be electrical running along the east side of the 28' x 80' concrete bridge over the Piedra River. This appears to contradict the statement in the Application that there are no utilities within 200' of the proposed affected land. needed.

7) Page 11, 6th Paragraph, 1st Sentence – The permit boundary shown on Exhibit A-1 shows the permit boundary directly adjacent to both the 28' x 80' concrete bridge and the Piedra River. Damage to this structure would isolate those to the north and greatly hinder emergency services. Potential water and sediments discharge into the Piedra River should be addressed as part of this Application.

8) Page 11, 7th Paragraph, 2nd Sentence – The mining plans will be affected by the joint agreement between the Texers, Kleckners, USFS and the Hinsdale County Road Department. How can this Application be properly reviewed knowing that the Application will change due to this future agreement?

9) Page 12, Item 1 – Both the pit drainage and runoff from Kleckner Lane flows into the Piedra River possibly contaminating the USFS land and more importantly, the Piedra River.

10) Page 12, Item 4 – According to Exhibits A and A-1, the wetlands delineated in the southeast corner of the site is within the pit boundary and therefore will be directly affected and should be addressed as part of the Application.

11) Page 20, Figure C.3 – The main discharge of drainage along the north side of Kleckner Lane doesn't appear to be addressed. There are two Sediment Basins and both are named Basin #2. The Sediment Basin south of Kleckner Lane appears to be right where the wetland natural drainageway indicated on Page 4 is located. The existing culvert shown going under Piedra Road just south of Kleckner Lane discharges onto USFS land and then directly into the Piedra River. The note "For details of silt fencing, swales, berms, and outfalls, refer to CDOT plans and specifications is not included in this Application so cannot be reviews for completeness.

12) Page 31, Exhibit F.1, Item 4 – A similar gravel pit was proposed approximately 3.6 miles north of US 160 off Piedra Road and the same firm stated that truck traffic was also assumed to be 80% south and 20% north. Truck traffic for this pit is again assumed to be 80% to the south and 20% to the north. However, this pit is located at the upper reaches of Piedra Road with the vast majority of houses being at least 10 miles south of this pit in Archuleta County. From sheer houses and population, almost all truck traffic will go south as that is where the need is. An explanation of these same percentages for two pits, one being 14 miles farther north is warranted. An explanation for using the same percentages given the location differences to the majority of potential users should be explained.

13) Page 31, Exhibit F.1, Item 4 – While truck hauling traffic from this site would be directly onto Piedra Road (FSR-631) in Hinsdale County, virtually all the truck traffic will head south and cross into Archuleta County less than a quarter mile south of this pit location. The remaining approximate 10 miles will be on Piedra Road or FSR-631. Is this graveled road designed to handle this truck traffic? Who will pay for the increased maintenance necessary for this road? The USFS had an agreement with Archuleta County to install mag chloride on this gravel road. Has this increased traffic and additional maintenance been discussed and agreed to with Archuleta County if they are still under an agreement with the USFS?

14) Page 31, Exhibit F.1, Item 4 – This indicates that truck hauling will be over a 10-hour period and that since virtually all the truck traffic will go south on Piedra Road, the trucks will be on Piedra Road at the same time as the Archuleta County school busses will be. Has this situation been discussed and addressed with the School District?

15) Page 31, Exhibit F.1, Item 4 – The vast majority of truck traffic will go south into Archuleta County on Piedra Road and then either continue south on the paved portion of Piedra Road or turn onto North Pagosa Boulevard. These are very heavily traveled roads for residents as well as people going to and from the San Juan Forest. The USFS even recognized that Piedra Road was one of the most heavily traveled access roads and provided a \$3.5 Million dollar grant to Archuleta County to reconstruct a paved portion of Piedra Road. What is the traffic impact on these roads using current traffic counts during the height of our summer tourist season, especially Piedra Road as no traffic impact study appears to be part of this Application?

16) Page 31, Exhibit F.1, Item 4 – Even without a current traffic impact study, Archuleta County stated in a Memo dated December 16, 2021, from Yari Davis to Pamela Flowers that a similar gravel pit proposed about 3.6 miles north of US 160 off Piedra Road, would impact their road systems. What is being done to address this gravel pit's obvious impact to Archuleta County roads?



**Permit Number \***

Enter valid letter and then numbers, for example M1977999, M1999777UG or C1981201.

M2022018

**Permitting Action Type**

Select revision type or leave blank if comment pertains to a new permit application or NOI

**Permit Type**

110c Construction Materials Reclamation

**County \***

Hinsdale

Enter one county only

**Site Name**

South Hinsdale Gravel Pit

**Permittee/Operator Name**

South Hinsdale Gravel, LLC

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION****Are there supporting photos, maps, or documents you wish to upload? \***

☐ Yes ☒ No

By submitting this form electronically you agree to receive any/all follow up correspondence from the Division of Reclamation, Mining, and Safety at the email address you have provided.

## Permitting Action Comment OR Objection



**COLORADO**  
Division of Reclamation,  
Mining and Safety  
Department of Natural Resources

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05/29/2022

**\*** *Indicates a Required Field*

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issues with DRMS rules.**

#### Comment or Objection \*

- ☒ Objection
- ☐ Support
- ☐ General Comment
- ☐ Agency Comment

#### Contact Type \*

- ☒ Individual
- ☐ Group
- ☐ Agency
- ☐ Attorney

Please select the appropriate option above to identify who you represent.

#### Your First Name \*

Kathleen

#### Your Last Name \*

McFadden

#### Your Address \*

13 Point Place

#### Your Address 2

#### Your City \*

Pagosa Springs

#### Your State

CO

#### Your Zip Code \*

Maximum of 10 digits. (Example) 80202

81147

**Email Address \***

Enter a valid email address in this field to receive a confirmation e-mail.

kathleen.mcfadden2@gmail.com

**Your Phone Number \***

Used only to follow up.

5124223496

**Extension****Alternate Phone Number**

Used only to follow up.

**Alternate Phone Extension****Connection to Operation \***

Select all that apply

- ☐ Land Owner of affected land
- ☐ Mineral Owner
- ☐ Adjacent Land Owner
- ☐ Government Agency

- ☐ Structure Owner within 200' of affected land
- ☐ Nearby Resident
- ☒ Concerned Citizen
- ☐ Other

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**Comment/Objection Narrative \***

I object to allowing a gravel pit so close to the environmentally sensitive Piedra River area. Gravel pits cause noise pollution, air pollution (including known carcinogenic particulates), and water contamination, all of which adversely affect humans and wildlife. Please preserve one of the few pristine and beautiful locations we have left near Pagosa by voting no!

**Permit Number \***

Enter valid letter and then numbers, for example M1977999, M1999777UG or C1981201.

M2022018

**Permitting Action Type**

Select revision type or leave blank if comment pertains to a new permit application or NOI

**Permit Type****County \***

Hinsdale

Enter one county only

**Site Name****Permittee/Operator Name****ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

**Are there supporting photos, maps, or documents you wish to upload? \***

☐ Yes ☒ No

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- ☒ Objection
- ☐ Support
- ☐ General Comment
- ☐ Agency Comment

#### Contact Type \*

- ☒ Individual
- ☐ Group
- ☐ Agency
- ☐ Attorney

Please select the appropriate option above to identify who you represent.

#### Your First Name \*

Laura

#### Your Last Name \*

Easterling

#### Your Address \*

22 Morro Cir

#### Your Address 2

#### Your City \*

Pagosa Springs

#### Your State

CO

#### Your Zip Code \*

Maximum of 10 digits. (Example) 80202

81146

**Email Address \***

Enter a valid email address in this field to receive a confirmation e-mail.

lseasterling@hotmail.com

**Your Phone Number \***

Used only to follow up.

2817445731

**Extension****Alternate Phone Number**

Used only to follow up.

**Alternate Phone Extension****Connection to Operation \***

Select all that apply

- ☐ Land Owner of affected land
- ☐ Mineral Owner
- ☐ Adjacent Land Owner
- ☐ Government Agency

- ☐ Structure Owner within 200' of affected land
- ☐ Nearby Resident
- ☒ Concerned Citizen
- ☐ Other

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**Comment/Objection Narrative \***

This gravel pit will have extremely adverse effects on our wildlife, tundra, hiking trails, hunting.....Piedra River Trail and Ice caves Trail to name only a few. These are very populated by the tourists the counties so love and by locals who love our forests. This pit will destroy wonderful wildlife, tundra and clean air! There is a lovely ranch with cabin rentals that will be ruined by the earth and environment destroying pit! This area is known for its beauty, wildlife and nature, why are you trying to destroy it? Not to mention the horrible traffic ALREADY destroying Piedra Rd from the logging trucks with their speeding, pollution and loud jake brakes! This is a horrible idea for the entire area!

**Permit Number \***

Enter valid letter and then numbers, for example M1977999, M1999777UG or C1981201.

M2022018

**Permitting Action Type**

Select revision type or leave blank if comment pertains to a new permit application or NOI

**Permit Type****County \***

Architects

Enter one county only

**Site Name****Permittee/Operator Name****ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

**Are there supporting photos, maps, or documents you wish to upload? \***

☐ Yes ☒ No

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## Permitting Action Comment OR Objection



**COLORADO**  
Division of Reclamation,  
Mining and Safety  
Department of Natural Resources

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#### Comment or Objection \*

- ☒ Objection
- ☐ Support
- ☐ General Comment
- ☐ Agency Comment

#### Contact Type \*

- ☒ Individual
- ☐ Group
- ☐ Agency
- ☐ Attorney

Please select the appropriate option above to identify who you represent.

#### Your First Name \*

Lynn

#### Your Last Name \*

Robinson

#### Your Address \*

124 Woodland Dr

#### Your Address 2

#### Your City \*

Pagosa Springs

#### Your State

CO

#### Your Zip Code \*

Maximum of 10 digits. (Example) 80202

81147



**Email Address \***

Enter a valid email address in this field to receive a confirmation e-mail.

lyrobinson2001@yahoo.com

**Your Phone Number \***

Used only to follow up.

5125853662

**Extension****Alternate Phone Number**

Used only to follow up.

**Alternate Phone Extension****Connection to Operation \***

Select all that apply

- ☐ Land Owner of affected land
- ☐ Mineral Owner
- ☐ Adjacent Land Owner
- ☐ Government Agency

- ☐ Structure Owner within 200' of affected land
- ☒ Nearby Resident
- ☒ Concerned Citizen
- ☒ Other Active user of Piedra River Trail and Williams Reservoir

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**Comment/Objection Narrative \***

The proposed location of this gravel pit is right next to one of the most popular hiking/camping areas and the environmental pollution, noise, dust particulate, interference with wildlife migrations, and general safety make this a horrible site. Piedra is the most traveled road in the county and in particular there are lots of recreational vehicles, horse and other livestock trailers and families that regularly travel the road which is in poor condition and rocks/debris from gravel trucks will be a constant issue to those on the road. Additionally, there has not been enough time to allow those affected the most by this gravel operation to do due diligence as the only way folks know is if they happened to read the local Pagosa paper which comes out 1x/week. The same reasons we just fought another gravel pit permit on Piedra closer to town is the same with this permit. The data for traffic needs to be done during the summer when the road is the busiest for making traffic studies. Also, as a homeowner who is one block off Piedra the trucks create noise pollution, dust, dangers on the narrow Piedra Rd from Hwy 160 to past Hatcher Lake - our school bus's travel that road and the dips and turns, ups and downs of Piedra esp. with sections that already have guardrails due to safety concerns are much too narrow to safely have gravel trucks and buses or RV's, trailers.. pass safely. Home values are greatly affected by the nuisance, noise and pollution to the area. We live on a wildlife corridor that would be directly impacting the turkeys, bears, deer, birds and protected woodpecker who make their homes along the route. The runoff from a gravel pit would seep into our beautiful Piedra River and damage the fish and other plant life dependent on fresh water. There are many other areas that are not right in the middle of a prime natural recreational area with streams and rivers that are more suitable for a gravel pit operation. Please postpone any decisions and allow more due diligence and public comments to be heard. It is difficult as Hinsdale Cty is shown as location yet there are no roads from that location over the mountain to the Hinsdale Courthouse in Lake City - that is a 3 hr ride around the mountain pass thru South Fork, Creede...but the impact of this gravel pit is 100% on the Archuleta County and Pagosa residents and vacationers. One must ask why the rush to push thru this operation when it has long lasting impact to lives, lungs and livestock as well as our clean air, property values..

**Permit Number \***

Enter valid letter and then numbers, for example M1977999, M1999777UG or C1981201.

M2022018

**Permitting Action Type**

Select revision type or leave blank if comment pertains to a new permit application or NOI

**Permit Type**

Gravel pit

**County \***

Hinsdale

Enter one county only

**Site Name**

South Hinsdale Sand and Gravel LLC

**Permittee/Operator Name****ADDITIONAL INFORMATION****Are there supporting photos, maps, or documents you wish to upload? \***

☐ Yes ☒ No

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## Permitting Action Comment OR Objection



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Division of Reclamation,  
Mining and Safety  
Department of Natural Resources

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#### Comment or Objection \*

- ☒ Objection
- ☐ Support
- ☐ General Comment
- ☐ Agency Comment

#### Contact Type \*

- ☒ Individual
- ☐ Group
- ☐ Agency
- ☐ Attorney

Please select the appropriate option above to identify who you represent.

#### Your First Name \*

Hank

#### Your Last Name \*

Slikker

#### Your Address \*

40 Hawk Place

#### Your Address 2

#### Your City \*

Pagosa Springs

#### Your State

CO

#### Your Zip Code \*

Maximum of 10 digits. (Example) 80202

81147

**Email Address \***

Enter a valid email address in this field to receive a confirmation e-mail.

hbram.slikker@icloud.com

**Your Phone Number \***

Used only to follow up.

9728349061

**Extension****Alternate Phone Number**

Used only to follow up.

**Alternate Phone Extension****Connection to Operation \***

Select all that apply

- ☐ Land Owner of affected land
- ☐ Mineral Owner
- ☐ Adjacent Land Owner
- ☐ Government Agency

- ☐ Structure Owner within 200' of affected land
- ☒ Nearby Resident
- ☐ Concerned Citizen
- ☐ Other

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**Comment/Objection Narrative \***

I object to the proposed gravel pit in Hinsdale County, which is close to my home. My comments and objections follow:

Does the State Permit require an environmental impact study? Has one been completed?

What will be the impact of the aesthetic degradation on our pristine mountain views?

I believe the impacts identified below must be addressed before a permit approval is given.

How does this industrial use fit into a residential, recreational, and agricultural area?

What reformatioins must take place to provide adequate mitigation of the environmental impacts the mine will have on the wildlife and the roads?

Wildlife studies indicate that when operations like this become active, wildlife leave the area and do not return.

Fish and river life will be affected by run off from mine operations due to sediment which clouds the water. It will affect insect populations and the fish will leave the area or die. The buildup of sediment also affects eggs laid by the fish which will reduce the fish population as well.

In our area where hunting and fishing is a source of income, this industrial development will have a large impact on wildlife and local economy.

How will the mine impact the water system in our community?

Has the proposed mine prepared a drainage study of the creeks and rivers that enter and exit the proposed development area? This is a residential and recreational area, not an industrial area.

How will an industrial mine affect the air from dust and diesel pollutants.

How will the proposed mine mitigate the impacts of traffic generated by the project?

Several key concerns should be addressed: the current condition of the paved roads to handle the volume of truck traffic to and from the mine; required improvements in road construction necessary for the load limits of fully loaded gravel trucks; required improvements due to traffic congestion in the intersections of Highway 160 and Piedra Road and Pagosa Boulevard.

**Permit Number \***

Enter valid letter and then numbers, for example M1977999, M1999777UG or C1981201.

M2022018

**Permitting Action Type**

Select revision type or leave blank if comment pertains to a new permit application or NOI

**Permit Type**

110c

**County \***

Hinsdale

Enter one county only

**Site Name**

South Hinsdale Gravel Pit

**Permittee/Operator Name****ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

**Are there supporting photos, maps, or documents you wish to upload? \***

☐ Yes ☒ No

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## Permitting Action Comment OR Objection



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#### Comment or Objection \*

- ☒ Objection
- ☐ Support
- ☐ General Comment
- ☐ Agency Comment

#### Contact Type \*

- ☒ Individual
- ☐ Group
- ☐ Agency
- ☐ Attorney

Please select the appropriate option above to identify who you represent.

#### Your First Name \*

Sam

#### Your Last Name \*

Call

#### Your Address \*

472 Saturn Dr

#### Your Address 2

#### Your City \*

Pagosa Springs

#### Your State

CO

#### Your Zip Code \*

Maximum of 10 digits. (Example) 80202

81147



**Email Address \***

Enter a valid email address in this field to receive a confirmation e-mail.

rsqdgr8s@comcast.net

**Your Phone Number \***

Used only to follow up.

2063690848

**Extension****Alternate Phone Number**

Used only to follow up.

**Alternate Phone Extension****Connection to Operation \***

Select all that apply

- ☐ Land Owner of affected land
- ☐ Mineral Owner
- ☐ Adjacent Land Owner
- ☐ Government Agency

- ☐ Structure Owner within 200' of affected land
- ☒ Nearby Resident
- ☐ Concerned Citizen
- ☐ Other

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**Comment/Objection Narrative \***

I don't know a lot about the workings of a gravel pit, but it seems putting one in a popular recreation area is a bad idea. Piedra runs right past Hatcher's water supply and our wildlife has enough trouble trying to survive the tourists and CO drivers. I don't see why a gravel pit can't be off of hwy 160 or Hwy 84. Also MANY of the construction trucks take Saturn Dr through Hatcher to get to or from No Pagosa. No idea why but it's totally residential and it causes noise & dust not to mention damages our road. One gravel truck having a break down or accident on Piedra or No Pagosa will shut those roads down. Please stop trying to put a gravel pit out here. There has to be an undeveloped area available for this where they can put in their own roads. Thank you.

**Permit Number \***

Enter valid letter and then numbers, for example M1977999, M1999777UG or C1981201.

M2022018

**Permitting Action Type**

Select revision type or leave blank if comment pertains to a new permit application or NOI

**Permit Type****County \***

Hinsdale

Enter one county only

**Site Name**

South Hinsdale Gravel Pit 110c

**Permittee/Operator Name**

Wasteline, Inc

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**



**Are there supporting photos, maps, or documents you wish to upload? \***

☐ Yes ☒ No

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- ☒ Objection
- ☐ Support
- ☐ General Comment
- ☐ Agency Comment

#### Contact Type \*

- ☒ Individual
- ☐ Group
- ☐ Agency
- ☐ Attorney

Please select the appropriate option above to identify who you represent.

#### Your First Name \*

Jacqui

#### Your Last Name \*

Slavin

#### Your Address \*

160 Hawk Pl

#### Your Address 2

#### Your City \*

Pagosa Springs

#### Your State

CO

#### Your Zip Code \*

Maximum of 10 digits. (Example) 80202

81147

**Email Address \***

Enter a valid email address in this field to receive a confirmation e-mail.

jacquislavin@gmail.com

**Your Phone Number \***

Used only to follow up.

9703767779

**Extension****Alternate Phone Number**

Used only to follow up.

**Alternate Phone Extension****Connection to Operation \***

Select all that apply

- ☐ Land Owner of affected land
- ☐ Mineral Owner
- ☐ Adjacent Land Owner
- ☐ Government Agency

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**Comment/Objection Narrative \***

The location of this proposed mine is 0.4 miles from one of the most popular and pristine trails Ice Cave Ridge & Piedra River trail that are enjoyed year round by locals and tourists year round. See image of map. There are crystal clear falls and the Piedra river less than a stone's throw from the proposed location.

See images of pristine forest area. The run off, dust, fumes, debris, noise and traffic will ruin this exquisite area for generations.

This proposed location is also at the beginning of the highly popular route extensive hunting and fishing areas that generate a significant amount of revenue for Archuleta county and the town of Pagosa Springs. Elk herds in this area have been monitored for several decades as their populations are decreasing due to many factors including human encroachment. While many applications mention that large game are not affected by human, construction and vehicle noise and that their travel patterns are not impacted, this is not true.

The elk herds we have here in Pagosa Springs, that travel in the Piedra River area ARE of large concern both at a state and federal level, but many applications fail to mention this.

There are species of river otters that were located to the Piedra river specifically, and while they have been downgraded from threatened to endangered, there should have been more explanation and information about how the fish and wildlife are going to be protected.

It is too late when something has already occurred. Mitigation takes decades.

Prevention takes one moment.

The impact on the economy and both tourist and local quality of life / experience and to the water which is already in severe shortage is far too much of a risk and cannot be quantified in dollars and not can it be equated with increased tax money - as mine is located in Hinsdale County and will have a massive economic effect on Archuleta County and the town of Pagosa Springs.

I sincerely request a more thorough and thoughtful investigation into the location of this proposed mine.

While I do not disagree that there are many that say we need gravel, this is not even close to being a viable, feasible nor appropriate location.

Perhaps Wasteline can engage the county commissioners and planning committee from both Archuleta and Hinsdale county to determine several viable locations that can be agreed upon by the communities and citizens. Far too much wildlife, habitat, and natural resources - specifically water will be affected by this proposed location.

Please request independent, third party studies be compiled by the applicant regarding the wildlife migration and herding in the area, the effects on the water, and downstream implications, as well as the pollution to both the air, soil and water in a ten mile radius.

Gravel mining dust has been shown to be extremely harmful to all age groups, especially the elderly, which is the predominant majority of Archuleta County, however children and adults of all ages are affected. Again, mitigation of this type of damage with far reaching effects cost millions of dollars and affects the health of people for decades and generations.

This is not something to take lightly.

Please require further review of the true impacts on both health, wellbeing and the economy of this proposed location.

I sincerely appreciate your consideration in this matter, and kindly request that the current application not be approved at this time.

Thank you so much.

Kind regards,

**Permit Number \***

Enter valid letter and then numbers, for example M1977999, M1999777UG or C1981201.

M2022018

**Permitting Action Type**

Select revision type or leave blank if comment pertains to a new permit application or NOI

**Permit Type****County \***

Hinsdale

Enter one county only

**Site Name****Permittee/Operator Name****ADDITIONAL INFORMATION****Are there supporting photos, maps, or documents you wish to upload? \***

☒ Yes ☐ No

**Upload Supporting Documents**

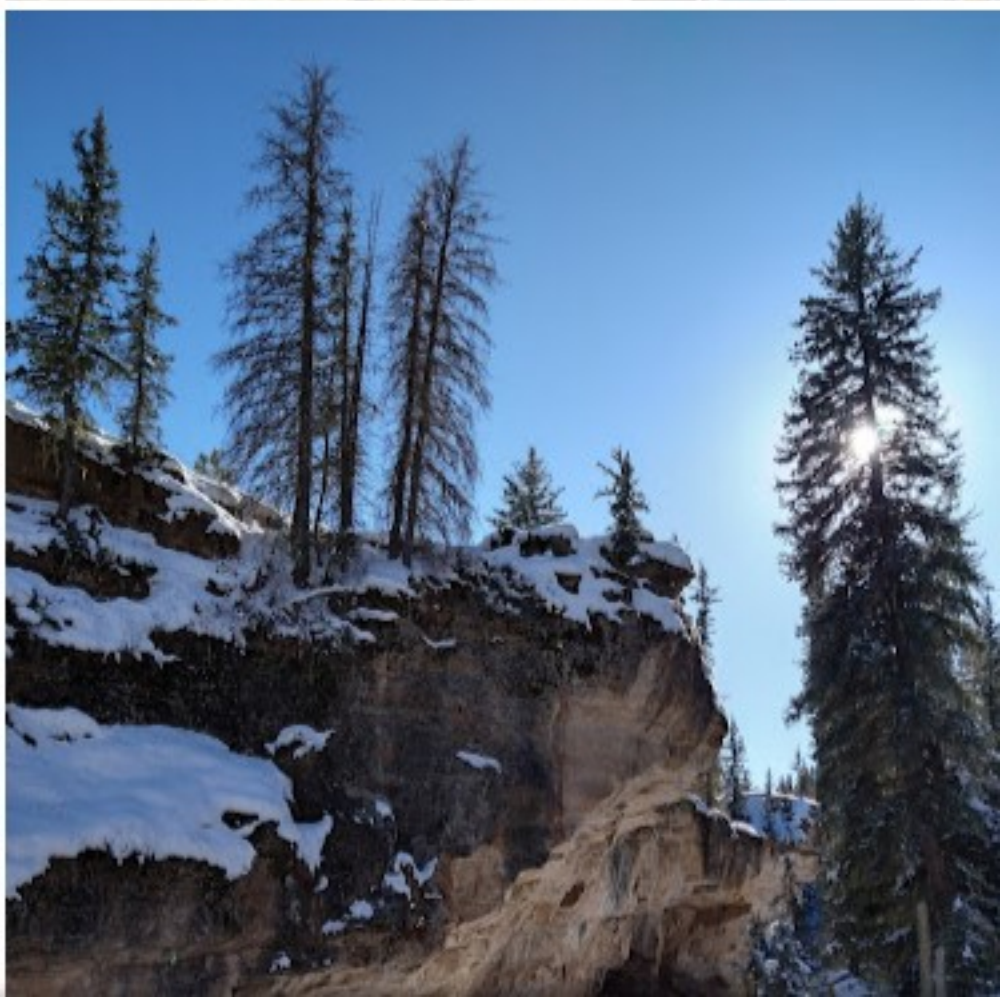
Maximum of 5 files can be uploaded and each file size must be 10mb and under. PDF, JPG, and PNG formats only.

IMG_2556.PNG	2.42MB
IMG_2558.PNG	1.19MB
IMG_2562.PNG	267.4KB
IMG_2563.PNG	183.27KB
IMG_2564.PNG	711.9KB

By submitting this form electronically you agree to receive any/all follow up correspondence from the Division of Reclamation, Mining, and Safety at the email address you have provided.



Piedra River / Ice Cave Rid...







david stewart




Images may be subject to copyright.




 101 Kleckner Ln
  Ice Cave Ridge
 


 1 min
  —
  8 min
  2 min

 Avoiding tolls

ver / Ice Cave  
 e Parking Lot

Upper Piedra  
Campground

1 min

631

1 min (0.4 mi)

Fastest route now due to traffic conditions

 Steps

Preview >>



Reintroduction occurred from 1976-1991, as a total of 122 river otters were distributed across the Gunnison River, Upper Colorado River, Dolores and San Miguel Rivers, Piedra-San Juan-Navajo-Pine Rivers and their tributaries, as well as the Yampa and Green Rivers.

Today, river otters have been identified in almost every major basin in Colorado – not including the Arkansas – and in 2002 were down-listed from a state endangered to a state threatened species. River otters are not a federally protected species.

River otters thrive in long, contiguous stretches of rivers and riparian areas with high prey biomass – crayfish, frogs, and fish – good water quality and dense bank cover.

To survey otters just before high spring runoff



This type of river also attracts other river creatures. River otters were placed here by the Colorado Division of Wildlife - keep your eyes open for the frolicking critters. And, if you're fishing during higher water, be wary of the kayakers who find the stretches a challenge that increases as they move downstream.



*Pools under rocks - it doesn't get much more scenic than this*

There are two ways into the main portion of the river. You can start at the northeast and hike downriver along the trail. Then work your way back upstream. You can wade through and up the stream during lower water times. This can be done as a day hike, returning to the



# History Colorado

Lucas J. West  
Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety  
1313 Sherman Street, Room 215  
Denver, Colorado 80203

Re: South Hinsdale Gravel Pit, File No. M-2022-018 (HC#81463)

Dear Mr. West:

We received your letter dated May 09, 2022 on May 10, 2022 initiating consultation with our office on the subject action pursuant to the Colorado State Register Act – Colorado Revised Statute (CRS) 24-80.1 et. seq.

A search of our database indicates that no properties of historical significance included or nominated for inclusion in the state register have been recorded within the proposed permit area. Please note, as most of Colorado has not been inventoried for cultural resources, our files contain incomplete information. Consequently, there is the possibility that as yet unidentified cultural resources exist within the proposed permit area. The requirements under CRS 24-80 part 13 apply and must be followed if human remains are discovered during ground disturbing activities.

Please note that if the fill or disposal site location is associated with a Federal undertaking, it is the responsibility of the federal agency to meet the requirements of Section 106 as set forth in 36 CFR Part 800 titled “Protection of Historic Properties”. This includes not only reasonable and good faith identification efforts of any historic properties located within the area of potential effects, but determining whether the undertaking will have an effect upon such properties. The State Historic Preservation Office, Native American tribes, representatives of local governments, and applicants for federal permits are entitled to consultative roles in this process.

We thank you for the opportunity to comment. If we may be of further assistance, please contact Holly McKee-Huth, Cultural Resource Information/Section 106 Compliance at (303) 866-4670/[holly.mckee@state.co.us](mailto:holly.mckee@state.co.us).

Sincerely,

Dawn DiPrince  
State Historic Preservation Officer



## COLORADO

### Parks and Wildlife

Department of Natural Resources

Durango Service Center  
151 East 16<sup>th</sup> Street  
Durango, CO 81301  
P 970.247.0855 | F 970.382.6672

**RECEIVED**

**MAY 29 2022**

**DIVISION OF RECLAMATION  
MINING AND SAFETY**

May 29, 2022

Lucas J. West,  
Colorado Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety  
1313 Sherman St, Room 215  
Denver, CO 80203  
(303) 866-3567

RE: South Hinsdale Gravel Pit, File No. M-2022-018

Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW) appreciates the opportunity to review and provide comments on the proposed surface gravel mining and reclamation project in Hinsdale County, CO. The project proposes to establish and operate a 9.4-acre sand and gravel mine on and adjacent to irrigated pastureland above the Piedra River at South Hinsdale Sand & Gravel, LLC, whose physical address is 101 Kleckner Lane. Numerous wildlife species utilize the proposed project area and its direct surrounding habitats, including big game species such as deer and elk; small game species such as turkey and coyote; waterfowl; and non-game species such as small mammals, songbirds and raptors. CPW offers these comments regarding potential conflicts with wildlife in the area of the proposed project.

#### **Big Game:**

The proposed project area is utilized for forage and travel by a number of big game species, including elk and mule deer. Mining activities may have impacts on the concentrations of these species and may increase conflicts with surrounding private lands. The project area is located within or adjacent to summer range, winter range, and migratory pathways for these species. The project is within a mapped elk winter concentration area. In order to protect wintering elk during this vulnerable period, CPW recommends no permitted or authorized human activity from December 1<sup>st</sup> to April 30<sup>th</sup>, annually. For detailed information on these areas of concern, please contact CPW or visit [cpw.state.co.us/maps](http://cpw.state.co.us/maps) for various ways to access species activity map data. In regards to any potential fencing during the project and post-mining reclamation, CPW recommends the use of wildlife-friendly fencing designs to reduce injury to wildlife and to reduce fence maintenance. CPWs "Fencing with Wildlife in Mind" informational PDF can be found on [cpw.state.co.us](http://cpw.state.co.us).

#### **Aquatic Species:**

The project area lies within close proximity to and is within a tributary of the Piedra River. This portion of the Piedra River is classified as a Sportfish Management Water and has special fishing regulations in place downstream from the Piedra River Bridge on nearby US Forest Service Road 631 (Piedra Road) to protect fish populations and enhance public fishing opportunities for species including rainbow, brown, cutthroat and brook trout. CPW recommends no ground disturbance year-round within 500 feet of the ordinary high water





mark. River otter, a State listed Threatened species, is also found in the Piedra River and its tributaries. CPW's primary concern regarding aquatic species is to maintain water quality by limiting erosion and sedimentation into streams.

**Non-native/Invasive Weeds:**

One of the most visible and immediate threats to ecosystem health in the area is non-native/invasive weeds. Invasive weeds typically flourish following surface disturbance, and active weed management should be incorporated during and after the lifespan of the proposed project. In regards to post-mining reclamation, native drought-tolerant revegetation is recommended.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this proposed project. If you have any questions concerning these comments, please feel free to contact me at 970-799-0842 or [nate.martinez@state.co.us](mailto:nate.martinez@state.co.us).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Nate Martinez", with a stylized, cursive script.

Nate Martinez  
District Wildlife Manager- Pagosa Springs, CO

Cc: SW Region File; Area 15 File; AWM Adrian Archuleta