

STATE OF  
COLORADO

Scott - DNR, Eric &lt;eric.scott@state.co.us&gt;

## CPW's response to the proposed Golden Clay Mine Expansion (M1976007ug)

1 message

Marette - DNR, Brandon &lt;brandon.marette@state.co.us&gt;

Fri, Jun 3, 2022 at 4:53 PM

To: "Scott - DNR, Eric" &lt;eric.scott@state.co.us&gt;

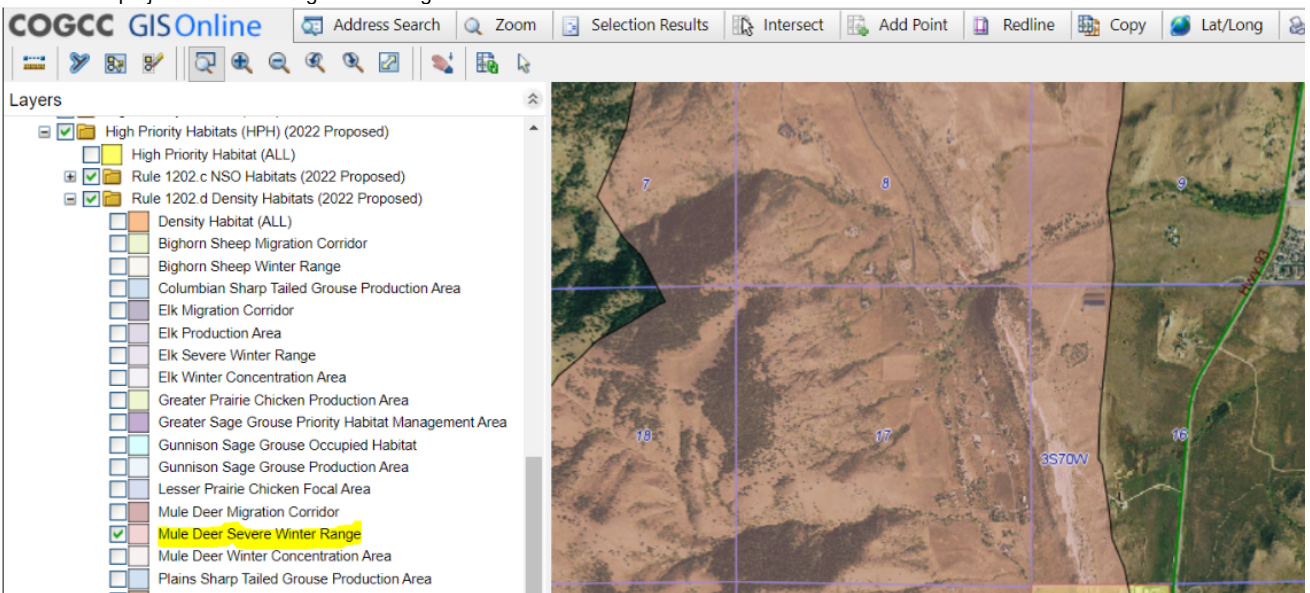
Cc: Tim Woodward - DNR &lt;tim.woodward@state.co.us&gt;, Joe Halseth - DNR &lt;joseph.halseth@state.co.us&gt;, Lance Carpenter - DNR &lt;lance.carpenter@state.co.us&gt;, Mark Lamb - DNR &lt;mark.lamb@state.co.us&gt;, Shannon Schaller - DNR &lt;shannon.schaller@state.co.us&gt;

Good afternoon Eric,

Thanks for reaching out to CPW re: this Golden Clay Mine. My apologies that there was a miscommunication on the correct location for the site visit and that we missed the public comment period. We did reach out to the applicant's consultant to arrange another time to meet, but there was no response.

In any case, thanks for accepting CPW's informal comments on this matter, and hopefully DRMS and the Applicant considers and implements our recommendations below for this proposed mine expansion:

- CPW is concerned about the permanent loss of ~30 acres of mule deer severe winter range, as is currently proposed and shown on the map below.
  - Therefore, CPW recommends that the Applicant works with at least one entity to offset this direct and indirect impact. There are multiple nearby entities (The Conservation Fund, MALT, Jeffco Open Space, etc.) where a voluntary monetary contribution would assist them with adjacent conservation projects and their long-term strategies to benefit foothills mule deer severe winter habitats for decades to come.



- CPW also requests that there be staggered reclamation (vs. waiting for 30 years for reclamation to begin), as there's the potential for non-native vegetative species to become established in the meantime and could spread to adjacent wintering habitats.
  - Therefore, please have the Applicant use a native seed mix for foothills-specific grasses, forbs, and shrubs at least annually for any disturbed areas.
  - Also, please have the Applicant develop a noxious weed management plan that at least annually monitors and treats noxious weeds observed during mining operations.
- A sensitive bat species has been surveyed within this mine.
  - CPW is concerned about the timing of the mining and blasting, as the Tier 1 Townsend's Big-eared Bat (as well other non-sensitive bat species) has been identified within the mine (see attached report).
  - Per your e-mail below, were those bat grates installed, and do they have access doors?
  - CPW recommends that DRMS or the Applicant contacts us to complete a bat survey at least two weeks prior to the destruction of those adits to ensure they are absent of bats (esp. the sensitive species). Our ideal timing for that blasting and mining would be during the winter, as the bats are not likely to be there (but we should still survey to verify).

Should you or the Applicant have any questions or comments about these recommendations, please reach out to any of us.

Finally, thanks for making sure that I'm receiving future DRMS notices so we can streamline our responses. We appreciate DRMS's desire to responsibly mine these sites while protecting sensitive wildlife species.

Regards,

Brandon B. Marette, CWB®  
Northeast Region Energy Liaison and Land Use Coordinator



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CPW's Energy Webpage  
CPW's Wildlife Movements Webpage

**THINK SAFETY FIRST!***(\*Upcoming days off: June 21-July 1)*

On Tue, May 31, 2022 at 1:55 PM Scott - DNR, Eric <[eric.scott@state.co.us](mailto:eric.scott@state.co.us)> wrote:

Brandon-

I just wanted to let you know that IMP identified 3 "bat-grate" features that may potentially/eventually be mined through as a result of the permit conversion for Denver Brick. All of the other features identified by IMP were either backfills or outside of the proposed permit boundary.. Let me know if you need any other information.

Thanks,

Eric Scott

Environmental Protection Specialist, P.G., R.G.



**COLORADO**  
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Mining and Safety  
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**Golden Opportunity and Santa Fe Summary Report 1\_17\_13.pdf**  
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