

# 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:		MINE/PROSPECTING ID#:	MINERAL:	COUNTY:
North Road Pit		M-2014-009	Gravel and sand	Delta
INSPECTION TYPE:		INSPECTOR(S):	INSP. DATE:	INSP. TIME:
Monitoring		Robert Zuber, P.E.	July 20, 2022	12:50
OPERATOR:		<b>OPERATOR REPRESENTATIVE:</b>	TYPE OF OPERATION:	
Delta County		Tim McCracken and others	112c - Construction Regular Operation	
REASON FOR INSPECTION:		BOND CALCULATION TYPE:	BOND AMOUNT:	
Normal I&E Program		None	\$0.00	
DATE OF COMPLAINT:		POST INSP. CONTACTS:	JOINT INSP. AGENCY:	
NA		None	None	
WEATHER:	INSPECTOR'S SIGNATURE:		SIGNATURE DATE:	
Clear			August 8, 2022	
	Phe	+ D. 2L		

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: Gen. Compliance With Mine Plan

**PROBLEM/POSSIBLE VIOLATION:** Problem: The current reclamation plan needs to be updated and clarified pursuant to C.R.S. 34-32.5-116 (1). In particular, the County must provide sufficient information to describe reclamation of the unstable slope at the northeast portion of the permit area.

**CORRECTIVE ACTIONS:** The County shall submit a Technical Revision, with the required \$216 revision fee, to update and clarify the current approved reclamation plan to reflect existing and proposed activities by the corrective action date.

**CORRECTIVE ACTION DUE DATE:** 11/01/22

#### **INSPECTION TOPIC:** Revegetation

**PROBLEM/POSSIBLE VIOLATION:** Problem: There are state-listed noxious weeds present on site. This is a problem for failure to employ weed control methods for state listed noxious weed species within the permitted area, and to reduce the spread of weeds to nearby areas as required by Section 3.1.10 (6) of the rule. **CORRECTIVE ACTIONS:** Control weeds and provide proof to the Division that this has been done. Develop a weed control and management plan in accordance with Section 3.1.10 (6) of the Rule. This plan should be developed in consultation with the county extension agency, or weed control district office and should include specific control measures to be applied, a schedule for when control measures will be applied and a post-treatment monitoring plan. This weed control plan shall be submitted to the Division as a Technical Revision (TR) to the approved plan with the appropriate fee of \$216.00 by the corrective action date. (One TR can be submitted for this problem and the revision to the Reclamation Plan.) **CORRECTIVE ACTION DUE DATE:** 11/01/22

### **OBSERVATIONS**

The permit type for the North Road Pit is 112c, approved by the Division in 2014. It is located approximately 10 miles northeast of the City of Delta and 2.5 miles east of Eckert, Colorado, on North Road. The permit boundary of the site encompasses approximately 92 acres, and all of it is approved to be affected. It is operated by the County of Delta and has been permitted for the excavation of gravel and sand. Pre-law mining left a steep highwall along the north and west sides of the site. The County has not performed any mining activities at the site in the eight years since it was permitted. Soil, rock, and equipment for nearby County roadway projects are stored onsite.

The approved post-mining land use for the site is rangeland. No reclamation has been completed, although an area near the west gate has been graded to protect the road. (The recent Annual Report Map suggests this area has been reclaimed, but that is inaccurate.) Reclamation activities will be required for areas used for material and equipment storage, particularly the northeast corner of the site.

The North Road Pit was inspected by Rob Zuber with the Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety (Division) on July 20, 2022. Tim McCracken, Sarah Crawford, and Dan Sickles (County of Delta employees) were also present. The weather was hot and partly cloudy. The ground was dry.

The entrance sign was in place during the inspection, and it contained the necessary information. Boundary markers were seen at several locations during the inspection. On the north side they need to be moved to accurately to reflect the actual affected area; they currently indicate a smaller area than is permitted.

No fuel tanks were seen on site. A tank for watering livestock was seen on the north part of the site. It will be removed soon per Tim McCracken.

At the northeast area of the site, below the area where material and equipment are stored, the north-facing slope is unstable (erosion is present and large boulders have fallen from the top). The County must submit a

Technical Revision updating the Reclamation Plan for the permit (both text and map) indicating that this area needs to be graded, topsoiled, and seeded. Also, the County should identify a plan for the large boulders (e.g., protection of the toe of the slope).

There were no signs that stormwater runoff or snowmelt runoff from the site are causing pollutant loading to the adjacent land. The toe of the unstable hillside, discussed above, is approximately 150 feet from the permit boundary. However, in at least two locations the berm around the site should be repaired to reduce sediment loading onto the undisturbed part of the site. This will ultimately reduce the area in need of reclamation. The culvert and sediment sump on the north side appears to be functioning well; the Division recommends periodic sediment removal from the sump to maintain functionality.

Weeds were seen around the site. These include knapweed near the northwest corner and tamarisk near the sediment sump. These need to be eradicated, and a detailed weed control plan should be added to the Mining Plan (this could be included in a Technical Revision). The area in the center of the site should also be inspected for weeds and treated as necessary; this area has historically been cited by the Division as problematic regarding weeds.

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

## **PHOTOGRAPHS**



Equipment and material storage



East side of site



Berm in need of repair



Slope at northeast corner where a revised reclamation plan is needed

#### **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 NA	(RD) ROADS <u>Y</u>
(HB) HYDROLOGIC BALANCE <u>Y</u>	(BG) BACKFILL & GRADING <u>Y</u>	(EX) EXPLOSIVES <u>NA</u>
(PW) PROCESSING WASTE/TAILING Y	(SF) PROCESSING FACILITIES <u>NA</u>	(TS) TOPSOIL <u>Y</u>
(MP) GENL MINE PLAN COMPLIANCE- PB	(FW) FISH & WILDLIFE <u>N</u>	(RV) REVEGETATION PB
(SM) SIGNS AND MARKERS <u>Y</u>	(SP) STORM WATER MGT PLAN <u>NA</u>	(RS) RECL PLAN/COMP <u>NA</u>
(ES) OVERBURDEN/DEV. WASTE <u>NA</u>	(SC) EROSION/SEDIMENTATION Y	(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

Inspection Contact Address Tim McCracken

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Copy: Michael Cunningham, DRMS