



COLORADO

Division of Reclamation,
Mining and Safety


Department of Natural Resources

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: Warren Gravel Pit	MINE/PROSPECTING ID#: M-2012-024	MINERAL: Gravel and sand	COUNTY: Delta
INSPECTION TYPE: Monitoring	WEATHER: Raining	INSP. DATE: October 26, 2022	INSP. TIME: 08:05
OPERATOR: Whitewater Building Materials Corporation	OPERATOR REPRESENTATIVE: Mark Gardner	TYPE OF OPERATION: 112c - Construction Regular Operation	

REASON FOR INSPECTION: Normal I&E Program	BOND CALCULATION TYPE:	BOND AMOUNT: \$28,734.84
DATE OF COMPLAINT: NA	POST INSP. CONTACTS: None	JOINT INSP. AGENCY: None
INSPECTOR(S): Robert Zuber, P.E.	INSPECTOR'S SIGNATURE: 	SIGNATURE DATE: November 1, 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: Hydrologic Balance

PROBLEM/POSSIBLE VIOLATION: Problem: The Division has no evidence that the operator has a valid well permit for the exposed groundwater at the site. This is a problem related to 6.4.13 of the Construction Materials Rules and Regulations. Also, the operator has provided no documentation from the Division of Water Resources related to water rights.

CORRECTIVE ACTIONS: The operator shall demonstrate that the operation is in compliance with the Office of the State Engineer, show evidence that the operator is taking measures to bring the site into compliance with the SEO, or backfill the pits to at least two feet above the groundwater surface by the corrective action date specified.

CORRECTIVE ACTION DUE DATE: 1/06/23

INSPECTION TOPIC: Hydrologic Balance

PROBLEM/POSSIBLE VIOLATION: Problem: The current mine plan needs to be updated and clarified pursuant to C.R.S. 34-32.5-112 (1)(c)(VI). The operator must provide sufficient information to describe or identify how the operator intends to conduct the operation. In particular, a Technical Revision should be submitted to update Exhibit G with a discussion of how the site will be developed to prevent erosion or other damage to river banks. This exhibit must also discuss how the site will not negatively impact downstream flooding.

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

CORRECTIVE ACTION DUE DATE: 1/06/23

INSPECTION TOPIC: Revegetation

PROBLEM/POSSIBLE VIOLATION: Problem: Russian olive trees (and tamarisk) are present within or have volunteered into the permit area and are becoming established. This is a problem for failure to employ weed control methods for a 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: The operator shall either implement the existing weed control plan, or 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 to the approved plan with the appropriate Technical Revision fee of \$216.00 by the corrective action date.

CORRECTIVE ACTION DUE DATE: 5/05/23

INSPECTION TOPIC: Signs & Markers

PROBLEM/POSSIBLE VIOLATION: Problem: The mine identification sign at the entrance of the mine site did not include the DRMS permit number. This is a problem for failure to post a mine identification sign in compliance with Section 3.1.12(1) of the rule. The Operator shall, at the entrance of the mine site post a sign, which shall be clearly visible from the access road, with a minimum size equaling one hundred and eighty-seven (187) square inches, such as eleven (11) inches in height and seventeen (17) inches in width, with appropriate font size, with the following: the name of the Operator, a statement that a reclamation permit for the operation has been issued by the Colorado Mined Land Reclamation Board; and the permit number.

CORRECTIVE ACTIONS: The operator shall, at the entrance of the mine site, post a sign which shall be clearly visible from the access road with the following: the name of the operator, a statement that a reclamation permit for the operation has been issued by the Colorado Mined Land Reclamation Board; and the permit number. The operator shall submit photo documentation that a proper sign has been posted by the corrective action date.

CORRECTIVE ACTION DUE DATE: 12/02/22

OBSERVATIONS

This was a normal monitoring inspection of the Warren Gravel Pit, which is a 112c operation (file number M-2012-024), conducted by the Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety (Division or DRMS). The Warren Gravel Pit is located approximately 2.5 miles northeast of Delta and is accessed from 1800 Road. Mark Gardner, Whitewater Building Materials Corporation, was present during the inspection. The weather was rainy and cool. The ground was muddy.

A sign at the entrance off of Homestead Road does not include a DRMS permit number. This is required per Rule 3. 1.12(1), and the sign needs to be updated.

The current site use is cropland. The post mining land use will be recreation, including a 30-acre lake. The permit area includes 40.44 acres, of which 38.64 acres are expected to be mined or otherwise disturbed. The unmined acreage will serve as buffer zones and a topsoil/overburden stockpile area. It is expected that sufficient quantities of overburden material will be available on site for reclamation, and that enough topsoil will be salvaged in order to be distributed over the disturbed areas during reclamation at a depth of no less than eight inches.

The mine plan includes exposure of groundwater, and currently a 7.5-acre area has exposed groundwater at the northeast corner. A well permit must be obtained from the Division of Water Resources and documentation provided to DRMS. Also, Whitewater Building Materials Corporation should provide documentation from DWR stating that there are no problems related to water rights at this site.

The site is within the floodplain of the Gunnison River. A Technical Revision should be submitted to update Exhibit G with a discussion of how the site will be developed to prevent erosion or other damage to river banks. This exhibit must also discuss how the site will not negatively impact downstream flooding. This latter discussion should include a volumetric analysis of the excavation and material piles.

There was no sign of sediment or other pollutant loading to adjacent lands. Runoff from the site did not appear to be causing erosion. The discharge point (CDPS outfall) was not flowing, and there was no sign of recent discharge.

Noxious weeds were seen, namely Russian olive and tamarisk, and these trees should be removed per County guidelines.

The Division holds a \$28,735 bond for the site. The reclamation cost estimate for the required surety for the site has not yet been updated. This will be done in the near future, and (if necessary) the Division will increase the Financial Warranty for this permit via a Surety Increase action.

PHOTOGRAPHS



Discharge point from disturbed area



Looking west from northeast corner



Looking south from northeast corner

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>N</u>	(RD) ROADS----- <u>NA</u>
(HB) HYDROLOGIC BALANCE----- <u>PB</u>	(BG) BACKFILL & GRADING----- <u>N</u>	(EX) EXPLOSIVES----- <u>NA</u>
(PW) PROCESSING WASTE/TAILING---- <u>NA</u>	(SF) PROCESSING FACILITIES----- <u>NA</u>	(TS) TOPSOIL----- <u>Y</u>
(MP) GENL MINE PLAN COMPLIANCE- <u>Y</u>	(FW) FISH & WILDLIFE----- <u>Y</u>	(RV) REVEGETATION---- <u>PB</u>
(SM) SIGNS AND MARKERS----- <u>PB</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--- <u>Y</u>	(ST) STIPULATIONS----- <u>NA</u>
(AT) ACID OR TOXIC MATERIALS----- <u>NA</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

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