



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: South 40 Quarry No. 2	MINE/PROSPECTING ID#: M-2020-051	MINERAL: Unknown commodity	COUNTY: Fremont
INSPECTION TYPE: Monitoring	INSPECTOR(S): Timothy Cazier, P.E.	INSP. DATE: August 18, 2022	INSP. TIME: 09:15
OPERATOR: High Plains Stone Company	OPERATOR REPRESENTATIVE: Debbie Wagner	TYPE OF OPERATION: 110c - Construction Limited Impact	
REASON FOR INSPECTION: Normal I&E Program	BOND CALCULATION TYPE: Partial Bond	BOND AMOUNT: \$3,428.00	
DATE OF COMPLAINT: NA	POST INSP. CONTACTS: Colo. Land Board	JOINT INSP. AGENCY: None	
WEATHER: Clear	INSPECTOR'S SIGNATURE: 	SIGNATURE DATE: November 7, 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>Y</u>	(FN) FINANCIAL WARRANTY----- <u>Y</u>	(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---- <u>NA</u>	(SF) PROCESSING FACILITIES----- <u>Y</u>	(TS) TOPSOIL----- <u>Y</u>
(MP) GENL MINE PLAN COMPLIANCE- <u>NA</u>	(FW) FISH & WILDLIFE----- <u>Y</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>Y</u>
(ES) OVERBURDEN/DEV. WASTE----- <u>NA</u>	(SC) EROSION/SEDIMENTATION--- <u>Y</u>	(ST) STIPULATIONS----- <u>Y</u>
(AT) ACID OR TOXIC MATERIALS----- <u>Y</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

OBSERVATIONS

This inspection was conducted as part of the regular monitoring program. The Operator (High Plains Stone Company) was represented during the inspection by Ms. Debbie Wagner and her operator, Ignacio. The Colorado State Land Board was notified of the inspection, but was unable to attend. The South 40 Quarry No. 2 is accessed from State Highway 115 (approximately 11 miles north of Penrose) and is located approximately 2.5 miles off Hwy 115. This is a 110c reclamation only permit. The adjacent South 40 Quarry (M-1990-016) was inspected at the same time and will have a separate inspection report.

Availability of Records: This site was granted a permit exemption via a declaratory order from the Mined Land Reclamation Board (MLRB) in 1994 with the understanding only hand tools would be used to collect surface rock. When heavy equipment (crane and loader) began being used, the DRMS required High Plains Stone Co get a reclamation permit. As this site is managed by the State Land Board (SLB) and overlaps with another permitted mine to the south (M-1999-004 / Table Mountain Quarry), the SLB granted temporary access for reclamation purposes only. Annual reports are current, having been filed through May 2022. This is the first inspection since the site was permitted and understood as separate from the adjacent South 40 Quarry (M-1990-016). Previous observations of this site were noted in the October 15, 2019 South 40 Quarry inspection report. The approved post-mine land use is rangeland. There are no open infractions.

Acid And Toxic Materials: There is no storage or use of acid or toxic materials are involved in this operation.

Backfilling and Grading: Backfill is not required for the approved reclamation plan.

Financial Warranty: The \$3,428 bond held by the DRMS was last updated in 2020 and is adequate for the observed disturbance.

Fish and Wildlife: No impact to wildlife was observed.

Hydrologic Balance: No standing water was observed in the pit and no exposed groundwater was observed.

Off-site Damage: No changes were observed from the aforementioned 2019 inspection.

Processing Waste: No processing waste was observed.

Roads: The staging area was observed to be well vegetated (see **Photo 1**) as was some of the access road (see **Photo 2**). The western segment of the access road was not vegetated (see **Photo 3**).

Right of Entry: High Plains Stone Co is working with the SLB to extend a temporary lease for reclamation. The DRMS is being updated on the progress by both the SLB and High Plains Stone Co.

Reclamation Success: Grading and topsoiling are not necessary at this time. Ms. Wagner indicated all the observed revegetation is a result of natural volunteers, as they have not performed any seeding. Most of the west end of the access road still requires revegetation, as well as segments of the east end of the access road. The reclamation also requires the removal of refuse such as pallets (see **Photo 4**), culverts (see **Photo 5**), cables (see **Photo 6**); as well as two loaders (see **Photos 7 and 8**) and a crane (see **Photo 9**).

Revegetation: As discussed above, all observed revegetation is a result of volunteer species. A small amount of

knapweed (thought to be Diffuse knapweed) was observed in the staging area. The knapweed was seen in larger concentration in the adjacent South 40 Quarry site (M-1990-016). [The DRMS recommends treating the knapweed in the staging area at the same time the knapweed is treated in the older site before it becomes a problem.](#)

Sediment Control: No erosion problems were observed and no BMPs were needed at the time of the inspection.

Support Facilities On-site: The aforementioned crane and loaders were the only support equipment observed.

Signs and Markers: There is only one permit sign posted and it is for the adjacent permitted site (M-1990-016). As the access road to this South 40 Quarry No. 2 bifurcates from the South 40 Quarry access road about a half mile from the sign, and this site is permitted as reclamation only, a permit sign for M-2020-051 is deemed unnecessary at this time. The disturbed area was never delineated by boundary markers as the 1994 Declaratory Order stated a permit was unnecessary. The disturbance is limited to the access road and the staging area and no further disturbance was observed since the October 15, 2019 South 40 Quarry inspection. As such boundary markers are deemed unnecessary at this time.

Permit Stipulations: The SLB requested the access road be blocked off, preferably with large boulders once reclamation is complete. This is the only permit stipulation.

Storm Water MGT Plan: No oil or fuel spills observed.

Post Inspection Meeting: The DRMS encouraged the Permittee to complete reclamation as soon as possible, with the first priority being removal the equipment and refuse; followed by seeding at an appropriate time in consultation with the Soil Conservation District. It was also recommended the small amount of knapweed observed in the staging area be treated at the same time the knapweed observed in the South 40 Quarry area (M-1990-016) is treated.

Subsequent to this inspection, the DRMS was alerted to the short term of the lease with the SLB. The Permittee and the SLB continue to work towards extending the lease to allow the completion of the required reclamation.

Please contact Tim Cazier (303)328-5229 or email at tim.cazier@state.co.us if you have any questions regarding this report.

PHOTOGRAPHS



Photo 1. Revegetated staging area (looking east).



Photo 2. Revegetated access road, west of staging area (looking east).

PHOTOGRAPHS (cont.)



Photo 3. Typical western segment of access road needing revegetation work (looking east).



Photo 4. Refuse - pallets (looking north along access road).

PHOTOGRAPHS (cont.)



Photo 5. Refuse – RCP culverts (looking west from staging area).



Photo 6. Refuse – rusty cables.

PHOTOGRAPHS (cont.)



Photo 7. Loader on west end of staging area (looking west).



Photo 8. Loader at west limit of access road (looking west).

PHOTOGRAPHS (cont.)



Photo 9. Crane and refuse culver near west end of access road (looking east).

Inspection Contact Address

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ec: DRMS file
Ben Teschner, SLB