




**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.

<b>MINE NAME:</b> Sand Creek Mine	<b>MINE/PROSPECTING ID#:</b> M-1992-038	<b>MINERAL:</b> Sand	<b>COUNTY:</b> Adams
<b>INSPECTION TYPE:</b> Monitoring	<b>WEATHER:</b> Clear	<b>INSP. DATE:</b> October 26, 2022	<b>INSP. TIME:</b> 11:30
<b>OPERATOR:</b> Jones Fine Sand	<b>OPERATOR REPRESENTATIVE:</b> Steve O'Brian, Environment Inc.	<b>TYPE OF OPERATION:</b> 112c - Construction Regular Operation	
<b>REASON FOR INSPECTION:</b> Normal I&E Program	<b>BOND CALCULATION TYPE:</b> Complete Bond	<b>BOND AMOUNT:</b> \$7,210.00	
<b>DATE OF COMPLAINT:</b> NA	<b>POST INSP. CONTACTS:</b> None	<b>JOINT INSP. AGENCY:</b> None	
<b>INSPECTOR(S):</b> Nikie Gagnon	<b>INSPECTOR'S SIGNATURE:</b> 	<b>SIGNATURE DATE:</b> November 18, 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>N</u>
(PW) PROCESSING WASTE/TAILING---- <u>N</u>	(SF) PROCESSING FACILITIES----- <u>N</u>	(TS) TOPSOIL----- <u>Y</u>
(MP) GENL MINE PLAN COMPLIANCE- <u>Y</u>	(FW) FISH & WILDLIFE----- <u>N</u>	(RV) REVEGETATION---- <u>N</u>
(SM) SIGNS AND MARKERS----- <u>Y</u>	(SP) STORM WATER MGT PLAN---- <u>N</u>	(RS) RECL PLAN/COMP-- <u>N</u>
(ES) OVERBURDEN/DEV. WASTE----- <u>N</u>	(SC) EROSION/SEDIMENTATION-- <u>N</u>	(ST) STIPULATIONS----- <u>N</u>
(AT) ACID OR TOXIC MATERIALS----- <u>N</u>	(OD) OFF-SITE DAMAGE----- <u>N</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 Division's routine monitoring program for permitted operations. Nikie Gagnon, with the Division, conducted the inspection and was joined by Steve O'Brian, Environment Inc., representing the Operator, Jones Fine Sand. The Sand Creek Mine is currently permitted for 45.50 acres and the post mine land use is pastureland. The mine is approximately ½ mile north of Byers and accessed via CR46. A maintained gravel access road leads to the mining area.

### **Right of Entry:**

Steve O'Brian indicated the landowner passed away and his sons are selling the property. The new landowner plans to submit a successor/transfer application to the Division. Environment Inc. is assisting the new landowner on gathering the required information for the transfer application.

### **Gen. Compliance With Mine Plan:**

The mine site was inactive during this inspection. No equipment was on site, other than a processor in a pit in the southwest corner of the permit area. The previously mined area is approximately 13 acres. Mining was conducted in the dry creek channel of West Bijou Creek and in small pits west of the creek. The sand was washed in the pits and trucked off site.

The Operator continues to place backfill material in an older mined pit in the southwest corner of the permit area. The Division approved importing inert material in May 2019.

No offsite impacts were noted during this inspection.

### **Hydrologic Balance:**

West Bijou creek runs through the permit area. The creek and the pit excavations within the permit area were dry at the time of inspection.

### **Signs and Markers:**

The permit identification sign was in place at the entrance to the site. The permit boundary markers were observed in place around the perimeter.

### **Topsoil:**

As noted in the reclamation plan, the site is flat river bottom, no topsoil exists on the site to salvage. The soil within the permit area is primarily sand. Large patches of Russian thistle were noted during the inspection, however, native grasses are also established in areas where previous mining occurred.

### **Financial Warranty:**

The Division holds a financial warranty in the amount of \$7,210.00. The Division will evaluate the financial warranty amount when the succession/transfer application is submitted.

Photographs taken during the inspection are attached.

Please contact Nikie Gagnon (303)866-3567 ext. 8126 or email at [nikie.gagnon@state.co.us](mailto:nikie.gagnon@state.co.us) if you have any questions regarding this report.

## PHOTOGRAPHS



Mine sign posted at front entrance.



Looking south down the previously mined creek channel.





Looking northwest across creek channel near the southeast boundary, formerly mined.



Looking northwest, pit area adjacent to creek channel.





Small pit in former wash basin area.



Looking north down main creek channel from access road





Small pit, west of the creek. Red arrow points to backfill occurring along the western edge.



Older wash pit on the northwest end of the affected





Photo shows sandy soils and Russian thistle that are prevalent across the permit area.



Looking south east from the northwest boundary marker.

**Inspection Contact Address**

Steve O'Brian, Environment Inc.  
Jones Fine Sand  
5400 Forest St.  
Commerce City, CO 80022

Enclosure

CC: Jason Musick Senior EPS, DRMS