

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:
Combination Placer	M-2013-028	Gold	Park
INSPECTION TYPE:	WEATHER:	INSP. DATE:	INSP. TIME:
Monitoring	Cloudy	July 21, 2022	13:40
OPERATOR:	OPERATOR REPRESENTATIVE:	TYPE OF OPERATION:	
Western States Minerals, LLC	Ken Tunstall	110(2) - Hard Rock Limited Impact	

REASON FOR INSPECTION:	BOND CALCULATION TYPE:	BOND AMOUNT:
Normal I&E Program	Partial Bond	\$38,700.00
DATE OF COMPLAINT:	POST INSP. CONTACTS:	JOINT INSP. AGENCY:
NA	None	None
INSPECTOR(S):	INSPECTOR'S SIGNATURE:	SIGNATURE DATE:
Elliott Russell	H Pmill	December 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.

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>Y</u>	(RD) ROADS <u>Y</u>
(HB) HYDROLOGIC BALANCE	(BG) BACKFILL & GRADING Y	(EX) EXPLOSIVES N
(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>Y</u>	(RV) REVEGETATION Y
(SM) SIGNS AND MARKERS PB	(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 Y	(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

PROBLEMS/POSSIBLE VIOLATIONS

INSPECTION TOPIC: Signs & Markers

PROBLEM/POSSIBLE VIOLATION: Problem: The affected area boundary markers are missing or incorrectly placed. This is a problem for failure to maintain boundary markers around the affected area as required by Rule 3.1.12(2).

CORRECTIVE ACTIONS: The Operator shall conduct a survey and replace the boundary markers in the correct location(s). The operator shall provide proof to the Division that this has been done by the corrective action date.

CORRECTIVE ACTION DUE DATE: June 30, 2023

OBSERVATIONS

This inspection was conducted as part of the Division's routine monitoring program for permitted operations. Elliott Russell, with the Division, conducted the inspection while Ken Tunstall, accompanied the inspection. Mr. Tunstall is with Eagle Peaks Mining, LLC, who is the Operator of the Bullger Basin Placer (Permit No. M-1985-022) which is the mine immediately east of the Combination Placer. The Division was contacted in January by Randy Burks with Western States Minerals (Operator) to discuss transferring the Combination Placer permit to Eagle Peaks Mining, LLC. The Division has yet to receive the Succession of Operators.

The Combination Placer is a Hardrock 110(2) Reclamation Permit and is approved to affect 9.85 acres of land. Affected lands will be reclaimed to support a wildlife habitat post-mining land use. The site is located on Pennsylvania Mountain, approximately seven miles northwest of Fairplay, Colorado in Park County. The site consists of what appears to be multiple shallow excavations, a wash plant and pond, and various equipment. The site is located within an area which had been previously disturbed.

<u>Availability Of Records:</u> The Annual Report, Map and Fee is due each year on the permit's anniversary date (November 4th). The 2021-2022 Annual Report was received on November 12, 2022. A review of the permit's file indicates that although the permit is on private property, in 2019 the United States Forest Service (USFS) has placed a cease and desist order on the use of the access road which travels from the Bullger Basin Placer to the Combination Placer on USFS lands. Mr. Tunstall stated he was well aware of the issues surrounding the USFS road and that following the transfer of the permit, he will be accessing the Combination through his private property rather than using the unauthorized road.

Backfilling and Grading: Sufficient backfill material is available on-site to complete sloping for final reclamation.

Gen. Compliance With Mine Plan: The operation appeared to be in compliance with the approved mine plan.

Sediment Control: The slopes within the permit boundary appeared stable and showed no signs of erosion.

Revegetation: No noxious weed infestations were observed.

<u>Signs and Markers</u>: A permit sign is posted along the eastern edge of the site. Some of the permit boundary corners were delineated with white PVC pipes, however not all of the markers were in place at the time of the inspection. The Division was also not able to confirm if the operation's disturbance was fully within the approved 9.85-acre permit boundary due to the missing markers. The Division has cited this as a Compliance Problem, requiring the Operator to conduct a survey and establish all of the permit boundary makers. Given the elevation of the site, the Division has set a corrective action deadline to a time in the next operating season.

This concludes the Division's Inspection Report; a subset of photographs taken during the time of the inspection are included below. If you need additional information or have any questions, please contact me at Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety, 1313 Sherman Street, Room 215, Denver, CO 80203, by telephone at **303-866-3567 x8132**, or by email at <u>elliott.russell@state.co.us</u>.

Inspection Contact Address

Ken Tunstall Eagle Peaks Mining, LLC 541 Cox Lane Howard, CO 81233

CC: Randy Burks, Western States Minerals, LLC Jason Musick, DRMS

PHOTOGRAPHS



Photo 1. Mine identification sign; looking southwest.



Photo 2. Aerial view of the site; looking north.



Photo 3. Combination Placer (circled) and Bullger Basin Placer in foreground; looking west.



Photo 4. Overview of the western portion of the mine site, approximate permit boundary (dashed line) showing some pre-law disturbance off-site; looking north.



Photo 5. Wash Plant; looking east.



Photo 6. Lower mining area and dry screen; looking east.



Photo 7. Marker along the northern permit boundary; looking southwest.