




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: Ghost River Gravel Pit	MINE/PROSPECTING ID#: M-2003-002	MINERAL: Sand and gravel	COUNTY: Huerfano
INSPECTION TYPE: Monitoring	WEATHER: Clear	INSP. DATE: January 26, 2023	INSP. TIME: 08:05
OPERATOR: HCR High Country Repair	OPERATOR REPRESENTATIVE: Natasha Goldberg	TYPE OF OPERATION: 110c - Construction Limited Impact	

REASON FOR INSPECTION: Normal I&E Program	BOND CALCULATION TYPE: None	BOND AMOUNT: \$19,112.00
DATE OF COMPLAINT: NA	POST INSP. CONTACTS: None	JOINT INSP. AGENCY: None
INSPECTOR(S): Amber Michels Jared Ebert	INSPECTOR'S SIGNATURE: 	SIGNATURE DATE: February 2, 2023

GENERAL INSPECTION TOPICS

The following list identifies the environmental and permit parameters inspected and gives a categorical evaluation of each.

(AR) RECORDS----- <u>N</u>	(FN) FINANCIAL WARRANTY----- <u>Y</u>	(RD) ROADS----- <u>N</u>
(HB) HYDROLOGIC BALANCE----- <u>N</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>N</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>PB</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

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: Signs & Markers

PROBLEM:

The mine identification sign was not posted at the entrance of the mine site. This is a problem for failure to post a mine identification sign as required by 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: 2/27/23

OBSERVATIONS

The Ghost River Gravel Pit was inspected by Amber Michels and Jared Ebert with the Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety (Division/DRMS). The inspection was completed as part of priority inspection to assess the conditions of the site since the December 2022 Mined Land Reclamation Board (Board) Hearing. Natasha Goldberg representing the permittee, HCR- High Country Repair met us at the site. Also attending the inspection was Ms. Goldberg's attorney (Todd Kettlekamp), her land surveyor (William Bechavor), and her neighbor (Chris Dickey). The weather was cold and clear.

The Ghost River Gravel Pit is located in Huerfano County approximately 4.5 miles east of the Lascar exit, Exit 64, from I-25 on County Road 110. The mine is a 110 construction materials permit for 9.9 acres on property owned by Natasha Goldberg. The primary commodity that is mined at the site is gravel for fill and landscaping. The approved post-mining land use is rangeland and the land surrounding the pit is rangeland.

During the December 2022 Board hearing, the Board opted to give the permittee/operator until February 1, 2023 to submit a conversion application converting the current 110 construction materials permit to a 112 construction materials permit to encompass the affected land outside of the 9.9 acre permit boundary. Mr. Bechavor had questions regarding the Division's measured affected area found outside the permit boundary and we were able to explain the reasoning behind the conversion application requirements. The Board also ordered the permittee/operator to remove a front-end loader from the premises by January 1, 2023. It was observed that the loader had been removed from the site.

Backfilling and Grading:

The permit is currently under a Board ordered cease and desist action. We walked the extent of the highwall and it appeared that no activity has occurred since the last inspection and the operator is in compliance with the cease and desist order. The equipment located outside the south-east area of the boundary during the last inspection had been removed.

Financial Warranty:

A surety increase, SI-2, was issued for the site in August 2021. This has not yet been complied with, but because the site is undergoing a conversion to a 112 construction materials permit, the financial warranty will be recalculated again at that time.

Right of Entry:

Mr. Dickey and Mr. Kettlekamp are working on developing a legal right of entry agreement that will allow HCR- High Country Repair to conduct reclamation on Mr. Dickey's affected land.

Signs and Markers:

No permit sign was observed at the entrance to the mine site.

Photographs taken during the inspection are attached.

Please contact Amber Michels (303) 866-3567 ext. 8137 or email at amber.michels@state.co.us if you have any questions regarding this report.

Inspection Contact Address

Natasha Goldberg
HCR High Country Repair
PO Box 61
Rye, CO 81069

Cc: Jared Ebert, DRMS

Ec: Natasha Goldberg, High Country Repair, highcountryrepair@outlook.com

PHOTOGRAPHS



Photo 1: Looking east at the site entrance from near the southern boundary of the permit area.



Photo 2: Looking northeast from the southern boundary at the pit.



Photo 3: Looking west at near vertical highwalls.



Photo 4: Looking southwest. Standing on middle ledge of high wall.



Photo 5: Looking East across pit at highwall.



Photo 6: Looking North across the pit at product stockpiles.

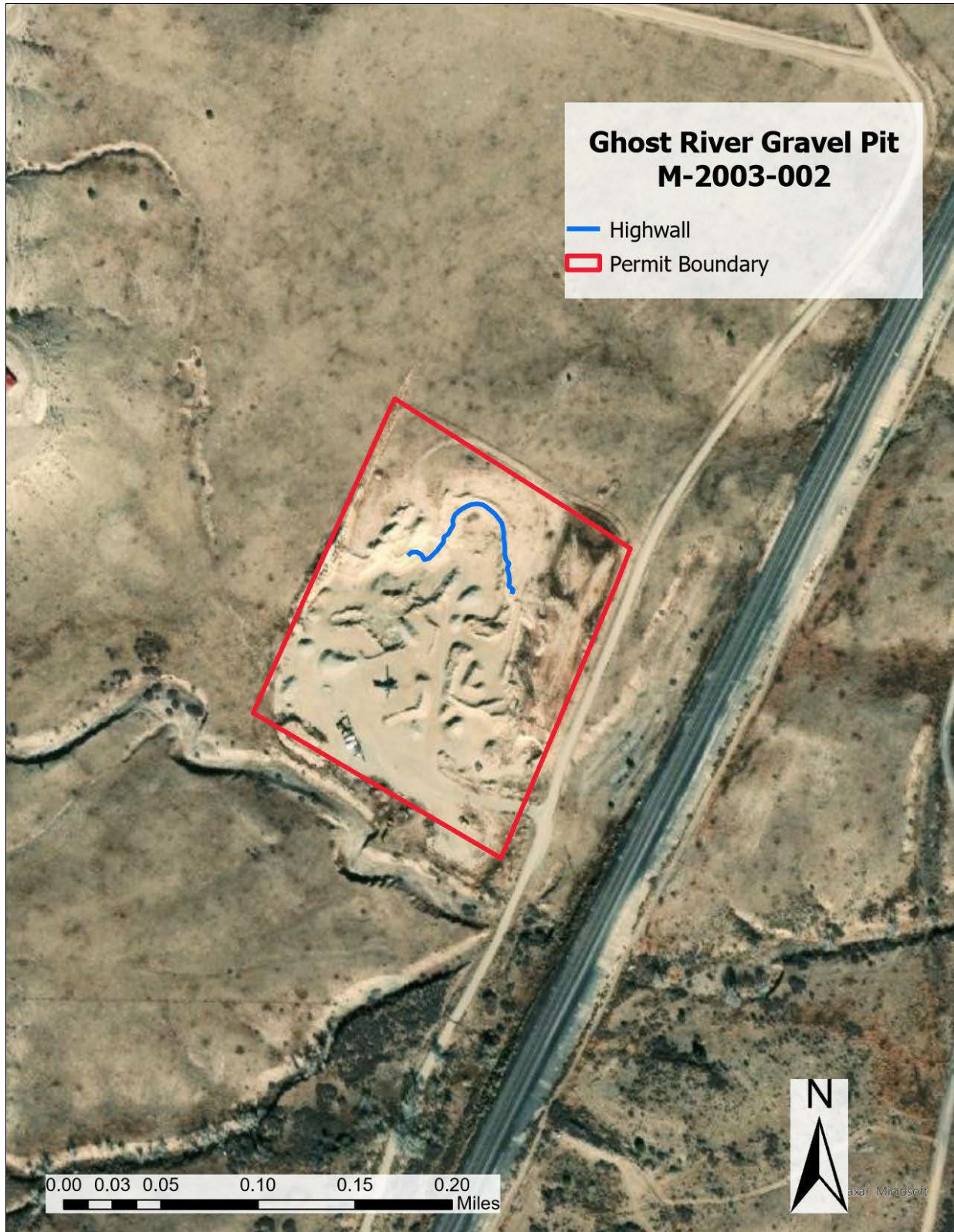


Photo 7: Map outlining extent of highwalls.