




**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><br>Lone Tree Pit    | <b>MINE/PROSPECTING ID#:</b><br>M-2014-034       | <b>MINERAL:</b><br>Sand and gravel                                 | <b>COUNTY:</b><br>Huerfano  |
| <b>INSPECTION TYPE:</b><br>Monitoring | <b>WEATHER:</b> Windy                            | <b>INSP. DATE:</b><br>January 26, 2023                             | <b>INSP. TIME:</b><br>11:00 |
| <b>OPERATOR:</b><br>Huerfano County   | <b>OPERATOR REPRESENTATIVE:</b><br>Dustin Hribar | <b>TYPE OF OPERATION:</b><br>112c - Construction Regular Operation |                             |

|  |  |  |
|--|--|--|
| <b>REASON FOR INSPECTION:</b><br>Normal I&E Program  | <b>BOND CALCULATION TYPE:</b><br>None  | <b>BOND AMOUNT:</b><br>\$0.00              |
| <b>DATE OF COMPLAINT:</b><br>NA                      | <b>POST INSP. CONTACTS:</b><br>None  | <b>JOINT INSP. AGENCY:</b><br>None         |
| <b>INSPECTOR(S):</b><br>Amber Michels<br>Jared Ebert | <b>INSPECTOR'S SIGNATURE:</b><br> | <b>SIGNATURE DATE:</b><br>February 8, 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>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>      |
| <b>(MP) GENL MINE PLAN COMPLIANCE- <u>PB</u></b> | (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>Y</u>         | (SC) EROSION/SEDIMENTATION--- <u>Y</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:** Gen. Compliance With Mine Plan

**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.

**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:** 3/10/2023

## **OBSERVATIONS**

The Lone Tree 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 the Division's routine monitoring inspection program. Dustin Hribar with Huerfano County accompanied us during the inspection. The weather was cold, windy, and the sky was clear.

The Lone Tree Pit was located approximately 4.5 miles northeast of Walsenburg, Colorado north of Highway 160. The Lone Tree Pit is a 56 acre pit for the removal of construction materials, primarily sand and gravel. Of the 56 acres approximately 16 acres comprise the haul road that extends 2.6 miles from Highway 10 to where the pit is located. The site is surrounded by rangeland. The approved post-mining land use is rangeland.

### **Excess Spoil and Dev. Waste:**

The asphalt pile on site is going to be crushed by dozers running over it and then the crushed asphalt will be added to processed mined material. Product stockpiles were observed near the road in the base of the pit. Additional stockpiles acting as a ramp for equipment were also observed.

### **Financial Warranty:**

The Division does not hold a financial warranty because the site is a county operation.

### **Hydrologic Balance:**

No water was observed in the pit.

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

High walls were observed in the pit. The current mining plan says that excavation will be conducted by pushing slopes to 3H: 1V. The current reclamation plan states "no highwalls are planned at this open pit mine". We mapped the extent of the high walls using GPS and estimated the height of the highest wall using a clinometer. We estimated the highest wall to be about 26.6 feet tall. The operator/permittee will need to submit a technical revision addressing the creation of highwalls as part of the mining plan.

All mining is currently confined to Phase I of the mining plan, moving westward.

### **Signs and Markers:**

A permit sign was observed at the entrance to the site. Boundary markers were also observed around the permit area. We measured the affected acreage using GPS and told the operator that they are within the boundary but they are very close to the boundary in some areas, especially the eastern and north eastern edges of the Phase I area, and to be mindful of this during reclamation.

### **Topsoil:**

Topsoil stockpile is located on the western edge of Phase 2 and appears stable with some vegetation growing. We noticed some animal boreholes on the east facing side on the south end of the stockpile.

Photographs taken during the inspection are attached.

Please contact Amber Michels at (720) 836-0967 or email at [amber.michels@state.co.us](mailto:amber.michels@state.co.us) if you have any

questions regarding this report.

**Inspection Contact Address**

Dustin Hribar  
Huerfano County  
401 Main Street  
Walsenburg, CO, CO 81089

CC: Jared Ebert, DRMS

## PHOTOGRAPHS



**Photo 1:** Permit sign at access road entrance.



**Photo 2:** Looking at Eastern most point of permit boundary, while walking the outside of the affected area.





**Photo 3:** Looking west at stockpiled material used as a ramp for equipment.



**Photo 4:** Looking south at stockpiled material used as a ramp for equipment.





**Photo 5:** Looking west, eroded wall and material reaching near the northern edge of the Phase I boundary.



**Photo 6:** Looking northwest downslope of eroded wall along northern edge of the Phase I boundary.





**Photo 7:** View of highwall along northern and western edges of the pit.



**Photo 8:** View of highwall along northern and eastern edges of the pit.





**Photo 9:** Looking down northwest across pit at asphalt stockpile.



**Photo 10:** Looking southwest across pit at product stockpile near access road.



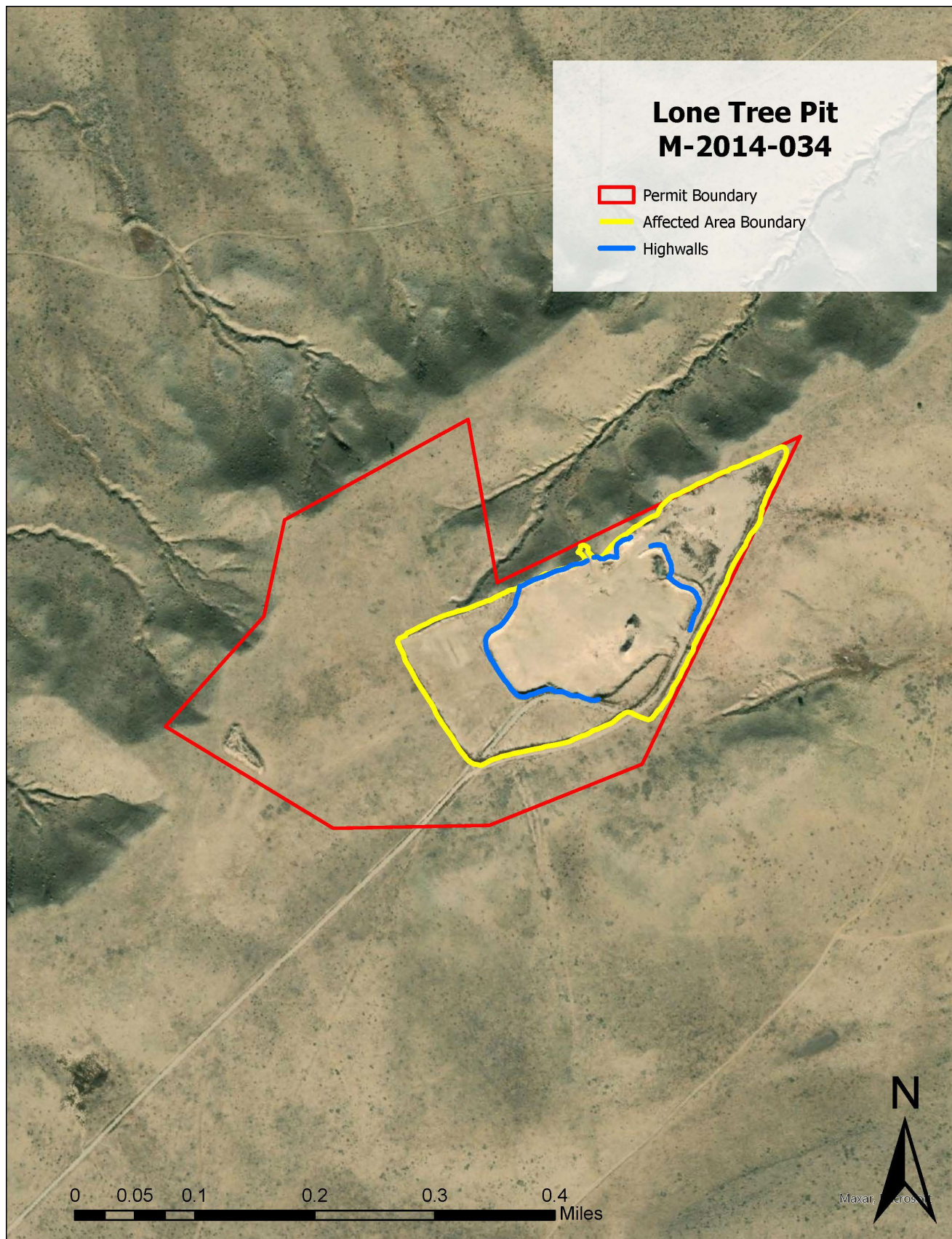


**Photo 11:** Animal burrows in east-facing side of southern portion of topsoil pile.



**Photo 12:** Looking east at west-facing side of topsoil stockpile. Pile has sparse vegetation.





**Map:** Map showing permit boundary, extent of highwalls, and affected area.