




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: Bennett's Gravel Pit	MINE/PROSPECTING ID#: M-1979-166	MINERAL: Sand and gravel	COUNTY: Delta
INSPECTION TYPE: Surety-Related Inspection	WEATHER: Clear	INSP. DATE: January 25, 2023	INSP. TIME: 10:40
OPERATOR: Elam Construction, Inc.	OPERATOR REPRESENTATIVE: Jim Doody	TYPE OF OPERATION: 112c - Construction Regular Operation	
REASON FOR INSPECTION: Surety Related	BOND CALCULATION TYPE: None	BOND AMOUNT: \$237,024.00	
DATE OF COMPLAINT: NA	POST INSP. CONTACTS: None	JOINT INSP. AGENCY: None	
INSPECTOR(S): Robert Zuber, P.E.	INSPECTOR'S SIGNATURE: 	SIGNATURE DATE: February 9, 2023	

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>Y</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>NA</u>	(RS) RECL PLAN/COMP-- <u>Y</u>
(ES) OVERBURDEN/DEV. WASTE----- <u>NA</u>	(SC) EROSION/SEDIMENTATION--- <u>Y</u>	(ST) STIPULATIONS----- <u>NA</u>
(AT) ACID OR TOXIC MATERIALS----- <u>NA</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

Bennett's Gravel Pit is a 112C operation (DRMS Permit Number M-1979-166) that is currently designated as active. At the time of the inspection, no crushing equipment or other equipment was operating.

The permit area for this site is 32.6 acres. The approved area for disturbance is 29 acres. The processing and stockpile area on the north side of the site encompasses approximately 10 acres. On the south side of the site, there is a pond (former pit) of approximately seven acres. During the previous inspection (August 2021), this seven-acre area included approximately two acres of active mining and five acres of pond. The mining and reclamation plans state that no more than 2,000 feet of the pond banks can be un-reclaimed. Prior to expanding the exposed groundwater at the site to more than 10 acres, Elam must demonstrate to the Division that their augmentation plan accounts for additional area.

On December 27, 2022, Elam submitted an application for a surety reduction (SR-01). This stemmed from the Division's reclamation cost estimate during the processing of Technical Revision No. 5 (TR-05), which updated the reclamation plan. This cost estimate reduced the required surety by approximately \$91,000. This inspection was conducted to comply with Rule 4.17.2.

Rob Zuber of DRMS inspected Bennett's Gravel Pit on January 25, 2023. Jim Doody of Elam Construction was present. The sky was clear, and the temperature was warm for January. Some snow was on the ground.

Signs and markers were found to be in compliance.

There was no indication that runoff from the site is causing problems in the Gunnison River, which is less than 30 feet from the mining area. Also, there is no sign of erosion of soil piles or loading of this material onto the adjacent property. However, these should be closely watched, and the Division recommends the use of berms or silt fence to preserve this resource.

Using a laser measuring device and satellite imagery on a smart phone, it was determined that the total pond/pit area has not expanded in recent years. Also, the extent of un-reclaimed pit wall (aka pond banks) was estimated with Google Earth to be approximately 1,200 feet, well below the maximum of 2,000 feet.

Signs of control of weeds (Russian olive trees) was seen, but additional work is required.

Large piles of processed material were seen at the process area.

Erosion in the northwest corner has been caused by irrigation water, per Mr. Doody. This area is not close to the processing area and far from the pit.

PHOTOGRAPHS



Boundary marker near entrance and berm protecting adjacent property



Road between river and pond (looking down river)



**Berm between river and mine site
(looking up river at bank erosion above the site)**



Piles of product at process area



Pond, looking west at reclaimed bank



Pond, looking north at un-reclaimed bank

Inspection Contact Address

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