




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: Hidden Pit	MINE/PROSPECTING ID#: M-2022-040	MINERAL: Gravel and sand	COUNTY: Delta
INSPECTION TYPE: Preoperation Inspection	WEATHER: Cloudy	INSP. DATE: January 25, 2023	INSP. TIME: 07:40
OPERATOR: Hidden Mesa Ranch, LLC	OPERATOR REPRESENTATIVE: Steve Baker (3B Enterprises), Danielle Treves	TYPE OF OPERATION: 112c - Construction Regular Operation	
REASON FOR INSPECTION: Preoperation Inspection	BOND CALCULATION TYPE:	BOND AMOUNT: No Bond Held	
DATE OF COMPLAINT: NA	POST INSP. CONTACTS: None	JOINT INSP. AGENCY: None	
INSPECTOR(S): Robert Zuber, P.E.	INSPECTOR'S SIGNATURE: 	SIGNATURE DATE: February 14, 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>NA</u>	(FN) FINANCIAL WARRANTY----- <u>Y</u>	(RD) ROADS----- <u>Y</u>
(HB) HYDROLOGIC BALANCE----- <u>Y</u>	(BG) BACKFILL & GRADING----- <u>NA</u>	(EX) EXPLOSIVES----- <u>NA</u>
(PW) PROCESSING WASTE/TAILING---- <u>N</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>NA</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

APPLICATION BACKGROUND

This was a pre-operational inspection of the Hidden Pit (M-2022-040) conducted by Rob Zuber with the Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety (Division/DRMS) on January 25, 2023. Steve Baker (3B Enterprises, LLC) and Danielle Treves (an associate of Vic Girardi, the applicant) were present during the inspection. The weather was cool and partly cloudy. The ground was mostly dry.

The Construction Materials Regular (112) Operation Reclamation Permit application was received by the Division on September 9, 2022. The application was deemed complete on November 7, 2022. No objections were received by the Division. A comment letter from History Colorado was received and forwarded to the Applicant.

The application has not been approved by the Division. An adequacy letter was sent on February 7, 2023, and the Division is awaiting responses.

The application proposes a 187-acre site, with most of that area to be disturbed. There is a 14-acre residential area (house and out buildings) in the middle of the site. The site is located on Hidden Mesa Road, approximately 10 miles northeast of Delta, CO and 1 – 2 miles north of Highway 92.

Topsoil depth at the site is estimated to vary from 6 to 12 inches. Topsoil stockpile locations will be further clarified by the applicant (an adequacy item). Overburden depth is estimated at 2 to 6 feet. It will be stockpiled and used to reclaim slopes. The depth of gravel below the overburden is estimated to be 25 feet. Local aquifers are generally believed to be well below the mining area, as the site is on a mesa. Springs are in the area but not at the Hidden Pit site, per Mr. Treves.

A processing area is shown on maps in the application, but this area is not shown within the permit boundary, nor is it included in the 187 acres. Therefore, this area will have to be removed from the application, or an amendment to the application must be submitted by Hidden Mesa Ranch, LLC.

The perimeter slopes of the pits will be reclaimed at the final 3H:1V grade, and topsoil will be replaced at a depth of six to 10 inches.

The proposed post-mining land uses are farming and livestock grazing, which are the same as uses on surrounding areas.

OBSERVATIONS FROM THE INSPECTION

The required notice sign was posted at the entrance of the site off of Hidden Mesa Road.

Most of the surrounding area contains sparse vegetation. An exception is the tributary south of the landowner's (applicant's) house and west of the 11.5-acre "peninsula" of permit on the east side. Along this tributary are ponds for irrigation. The source of this water appears to be overflow from the irrigation system.

The site is predominantly irrigated fields, and irrigation equipment is in place at both the north and south sides of the site. A small historic pit still exists at the end of the "peninsula." Gravel piles near the small pit are used for the roads on site. There is also a pile of white rock dust (marble per Mr. Treves) in this area, and it is used as a soil additive.

All permanent man-made structures within 200 feet of the proposed permit area are owned by the applicant, including the irrigation equipment, house and outbuildings.

No wetland areas were observed within the proposed permit boundary. No weed patches were observed.

Photographs taken during the inspection are attached.

Please contact me with comments or questions at 720-601-2276 or rob.zuber@state.co.us.

PHOTOGRAPHS



Notice at entrance



Looking north up the drainage below the farm buildings



Looking south down the drainage below the farm buildings



Historical pit



Material storage



Northeast corner, looking southwest at field

Inspection Contact Address

Steve Baker (3B Enterprises), Danielle Treves
Hidden Mesa Ranch, LLC
P.O. Box 1665
Craig, CO 81626

CC: Michael Cunningham, DRMS