




**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> Morton Lakes	<b>MINE/PROSPECTING ID#:</b> M-2008-082	<b>MINERAL:</b> Sand and gravel	<b>COUNTY:</b> Weld
<b>INSPECTION TYPE:</b> Monitoring	<b>WEATHER:</b> Clear	<b>INSP. DATE:</b> April 5, 2023	<b>INSP. TIME:</b> 11:45
<b>OPERATOR:</b> Ready Mixed Concrete Company, LLC	<b>OPERATOR REPRESENTATIVE:</b> Joe Lamanna	<b>TYPE OF OPERATION:</b> 112c - Construction Regular Operation	
<b>REASON FOR INSPECTION:</b> Normal I&E Program	<b>BOND CALCULATION TYPE:</b> Complete Bond	<b>BOND AMOUNT:</b> \$6,634,000.00	
<b>DATE OF COMPLAINT:</b> NA	<b>POST INSP. CONTACTS:</b> None	<b>JOINT INSP. AGENCY:</b> State Engr. (Water Resources)	
<b>INSPECTOR(S):</b> Eric Scott	<b>INSPECTOR'S SIGNATURE:</b> 	<b>SIGNATURE DATE:</b> April 7, 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>NA</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>NA</u>
(MP) GENL MINE PLAN COMPLIANCE- <u>Y</u>	(FW) FISH & WILDLIFE----- <u>NA</u>	(RV) REVEGETATION---- <u>NA</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>NA</u>	(ST) STIPULATIONS----- <u>NA</u>
(AT) ACID OR TOXIC MATERIALS----- <u>NA</u>	(OD) OFF-SITE DAMAGE----- <u>NA</u>	

Y = Inspected / N = Not inspected / NA = Not applicable to this operation / PB = Problem cited / PV = Possible violation cited

## **OBSERVATIONS**

This was a routine monitoring inspection conducted by Eric Scott of DRMS for the Morton Lakes 112c sand and gravel site. DRMS met with State Engineer's Office (SEO) District 1 Water Commissioner Jorge Vidal, and RMCC representatives Joe Lamanna, Scott Legg, and Steve Kelton at the site office at approximately 11:45.

DRMS recently approved TR8 after consultation with the SEO. TR8 provided the required groundwater impact modelling and bond increase for the installation of the Phase 7A and 7B slurry walls as previously proposed. Mr. Vidal met with the group to clarify the SEO concerns with the slurry walls present at the site and the potential impact to the decreed return flows from the irrigation ditch located near the NW corner of the site across the site to the Platte River. Although no adverse impacts have been noted at this time due to the lack of activity associated with this decree, Mr. Vidal explained that this could change at any time, and corrective actions may be required to ensure that the existing decree is not impacted by the slurry walls present at the site. This is a very complex issue and it will require additional coordination with Mr. Vidal and the SEO, DRMS, and RMCC. Additional work may be required to determine what, if any, impacts to the decree are anticipated and what the appropriate corrective actions may be to address and minimize potential impacts if they are identified.

After this meeting with SEO, DRMS accompanied Mr. Lamanna on a tour of the site to inspect the current site conditions. Phase 4 of the site on the east side of the Platte River has been mined out and the slurry wall has been approved. Phase 4 has been almost entirely reclaimed (still needs final grading and seeding around the perimeter) and is being utilized by United Water (photo 2). Phase 3, located to the north of Phase 4, has been mined and backfilled and is currently being graded for final seeding and reclamation. Because the mining on the east side of the Platte River has been completed, the conveyor bridge is no longer being utilized by RMCC, however the current property owner has requested that it be left in place for their use in the future. This will require a simple revision to the approved reclamation plan.

On the west side of the South Platte, Phase 6 has been almost fully mined and the slurry wall has been installed. Phase 5 located in the south center of the permit has also been fully lined, however, some mining in the southeast area of the cell remains to be completed (photo 3). The slurry walls for Phases 7A and 7B near the center of the site are currently being installed by Hall Irwin (photo 4), and these will be the next areas to be mined.

Activity at the site is proceeding as approved, and the only issue noted during this inspection was the presence of some noxious weeds in disturbed areas. This issue was previously cited in a 2016 inspection. Weed control measures will need to be maintained at this site to eliminate or control undesirable species such as cheat-grass, thistle, and bindweed that will rapidly establish in disturbed areas and impede reclamation. DRMS left the site at approximately 14:30.

### **Inspection Contact Address**

Joe Lamanna  
Ready Mixed Concrete Company, LLC  
11778 Highway 52  
Fort Lupton, CO 80621

## PHOTOGRAPHS



Photo 1 – Site identification sign at entrance to the site.



Photo 2 – Completed lined water storage reservoir in Phase 4 on east side of South Platte River.



Photo 3 – SE area of lined Phase 5, some mining remaining in this area to be completed.



Photo 4 – Slurry wall being installed by Hall Irwin around Phase 7 near the center of the site.