




**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> Rifle Gravel Pit #1	<b>MINE/PROSPECTING ID#:</b> M-2021-052	<b>MINERAL:</b> Gravel and sand	<b>COUNTY:</b> Garfield
<b>INSPECTION TYPE:</b> Preoperation Inspection	<b>WEATHER:</b> Cloudy	<b>INSP. DATE:</b> April 12, 2023	<b>INSP. TIME:</b> 15:00
<b>OPERATOR:</b> IHC Scott, Inc.	<b>OPERATOR REPRESENTATIVE:</b> Chris Adrian	<b>TYPE OF OPERATION:</b> 112c - Construction Regular Operation	
<b>REASON FOR INSPECTION:</b> Preoperation Inspection	<b>BOND CALCULATION TYPE:</b> None	<b>BOND AMOUNT:</b> \$0.00	
<b>DATE OF COMPLAINT:</b> NA	<b>POST INSP. CONTACTS:</b> DRMS	<b>JOINT INSP. AGENCY:</b> None	
<b>INSPECTOR(S):</b> Amy Yeldell	<b>INSPECTOR'S SIGNATURE:</b> 	<b>SIGNATURE DATE:</b> April 20, 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>N</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>N</u>	(SF) PROCESSING FACILITIES----- <u>Y</u>	(TS) TOPSOIL----- <u>NA</u>
(MP) GENL MINE PLAN COMPLIANCE- <u>N</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>N</u>
(ES) OVERBURDEN/DEV. WASTE----- <u>NA</u>	(SC) EROSION/SEDIMENTATION-- <u>N</u>	(ST) STIPULATIONS----- <u>N</u>
(AT) ACID OR TOXIC MATERIALS----- <u>Y</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

## **OBSERVATIONS**

This pre-operational inspection was conducted by the Colorado Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety (Division) in response to the 112c permit application that was submitted by the Operator (IHC Scott, Inc.) for the Rifle Gravel Pit #1. The original permit application was submitted on August 6, 2021. An amended application (AM-1) was submitted April 20, 2022 and filed on April 29, 2022. Per Rule 1.4.1(9) the Applicant requested additional review time beyond 365 days at the April MLRB meeting. The request was approved by the MLRB and the application has a current decision due date of July 28, 2023.

The Rifle Gravel Pit #1 is a proposed 112c permit. The proposed permit area would include a total of 19.63 acres of which a maximum of 19 acres will be affected. The proposed post mine land use is Wildlife Habitat.

The site is located approximately two miles southwest of Silt, CO and five miles east of Rifle, CO. It is located on the north side of I-70 at the airport exit on County Road 346. Chris Adrian represented IHC Scott, Inc. Amy Yeldell of the Division conducted the inspection.

The permit boundary shape is irregular. The larger 59 ac parcel is delineated by a wire fence on all sides, however the 19.63 ac which make up the permit boundary is not field delineated at this time. Given the affected lands proximity to wetlands the operator will need to be diligent in delineating the permit boundary to avoid accidental off site impacts.

Availability Of Records: Overall maps and documentation submitted by the Operator appear to be an accurate representation of the site.

Acid And Toxic Materials: None observed on site.

Backfilling and Grading: No previous disturbances such as mining test pits or similar disturbances are noted. To date no excavations or any other mining related activities have been conducted by the operator.

Fish and Wildlife: Evidence of livestock grazing was observed. No animals were on the property at the time of the inspection. No T&E species were observed.

Hydrologic Balance: Six groundwater level locations (piezometers) were identified throughout the site (Photo One). There are four adequacy questions regarding these features in adequacy review #4. Little to no disturbance was observed from their installation.

Other: A cement irrigation ditch (the Last Chance Irrigation Lateral) was observed on the southern boundary of the pit adjacent to CR 346 (Photo Two). No building or other similar above ground permanent manmade structures were observed, besides the property boundary perimeter fence. The structures identified in the application correspond to field conditions. The main ditch/ channel (Last Chance Ditch Tailwater Channel) was inundated at the time of the inspection (Photo Three). Water did not appear to have a current. The other smaller ditches or depressions located throughout the property were dry or no physical water flowing was observed.

Roads: No internal roads within proposed permit boundary. Driveway access from CR 346 at gate only.

Revegetation: Vegetation varies greatly throughout the site based on groundwater levels (Photos Four to Eleven). The proposed pit area is largely pastureland and wetland fringe. Both irrigated and non-irrigated pastureland species were noted in addition to some woody shrubs and trees. The inspection occurred early in the

growing season (April) and therefore the majority of warm season species were still dormant. The previous winter was extremely wet and frequent spring rains/snows have been favorable for spring germination. In general the site is diverse and lush. In the pastureland areas herbaceous grass species have nearly 100% cover. Small patches of dry pastureland (rangeland) have sparse weedy species (primarily cheatgrass), bare ground and more arid adapted grasses and shrubs. Located throughout the site are a number of mature Russian olive trees and other shrubby woody species such as rabbit brush and sage. These woody species were more densely located on the north side of the Last Chance Tailwater Ditch but did occur throughout the entire site. Native vegetation is generally outcompeting invasive species. Weeds were identified within the proposed permit boundary, however the Division would not consider this site a source, and rather it is a sink.

Subsidence: No subsidence or excessive erosion observed.

Support Facilities On-site: No mining related equipment or facilities on site.

Signs and Markers: As required by Rule 1.6.2(1)(b) a mine identification sign for the public notice requirement was posted at the gate to enter the property (Photo Twelve). Unfortunately the sign did not meet the requirements of Rule 1.6.2(1)(b) as information presented was incorrect. The Applicant name and phone number does not match the application materials. The address listed is no longer current. The application type listed is incorrect, the application is for a Construction Materials Regular 112c Operation Reclamation Permit, not a Regular (112) Hard Rock/Metals Mining Reclamation Permit. The site name does not match the application materials. Lastly the comment period date referenced is for a different application, not the amended application (AM-1) currently under review. To date the Division has yet to receive an affidavit that such notice was posted. This was identified as a deficiency item number 72 of adequacy review #4. When addressing this requirement please provide the Division with documentation that a corrected sign which meets the requirements of Rule 1.6.2(1)(b) was posted.

Conclusion: Responses to this inspection report should be directed to: Amy Yeldell at the Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety, Room 215, 1001 E 62nd Ave, Denver, CO 80216. Direct contact can be made by phone at 970-254-8511 or via email at amy.yeldell@state.co.us

**Inspection Contact Address**

Chris Adrian  
IHC Scott, Inc.  
10303 E Dry Creek Dr  
Centennial, CO 80112

Enclosure: 12 photos

EC:  
Travis Marshall, Senior EPS, GJFO DRMS  
Tony Roberts, IHC Scott, Inc.  
Chris Hurley, IHC Scott, Inc.



**PHOTOGRAPHS**











Photo Five: Vegetation overview, tall grasses and woody shrubs



Photo Six: Vegetation overview pastureland, more water lush grasses





Photo Seven: Vegetation overview, less groundwater more dry rangeland species and woody vegetation



Photo Eight: Nearly 100% cover of grasses in pastureland areas





Photo Nine: Dry rangeland areas with more sparse vegetation, bare ground and shrubs.



Photo Ten: woodland area primarily on the far north side of the property





Photo Eleven: Wetland/riparian areas intermixed throughout the property

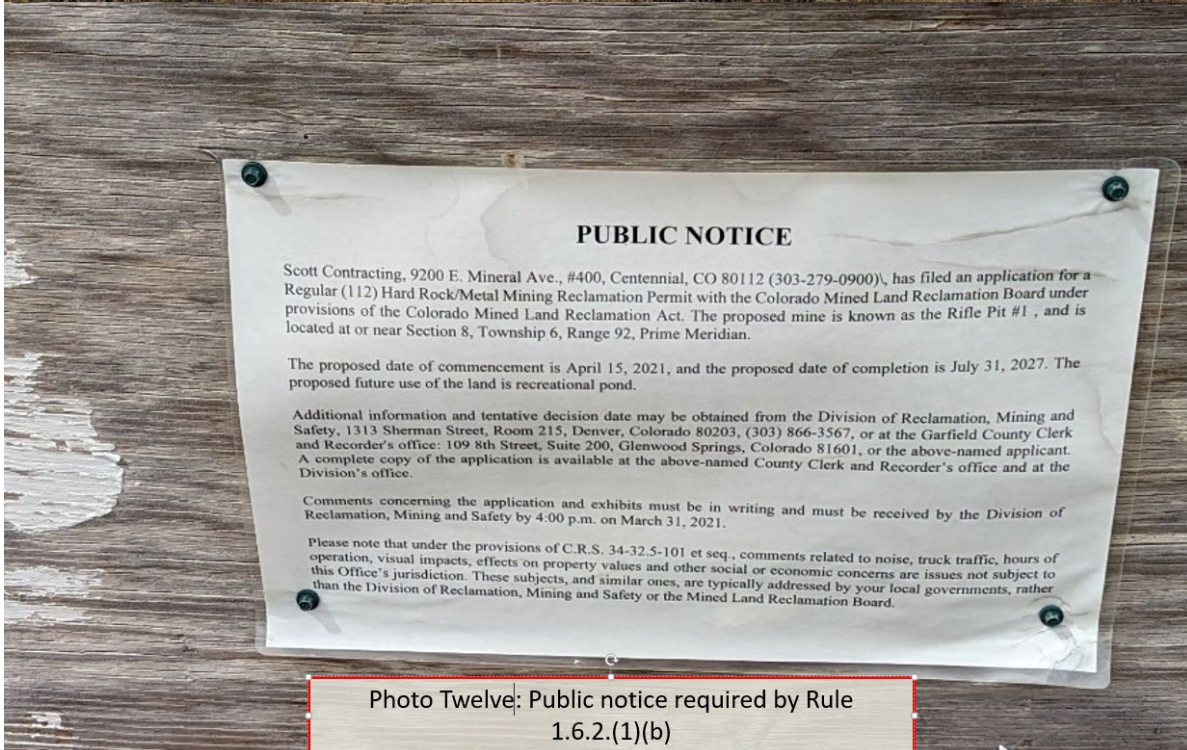


Photo Twelve: Public notice required by Rule 1.6.2.(1)(b)