

PO Box 219 320 US Highway 285 Fairplay, CO 80440 719-836-2031 Fax: 719-836-3875

 File Code:
 2810

 Date:
 May 25, 2023

George and Jennifer Quist Claimants/ Operators 1849 Trail Creek Road Lake George, CO 80827

Dear George and Jennifer,

I am writing regarding the Quist Mine Plan of Operations (MPO) (2810-021210-MPO-2023-002) for lode exploration and mining-related activities on the South Park Ranger District of the Pike – San Isabel National Forests & Cimarron and Comanche National Grasslands (PSICC). In my January 23, 2023, letter to you, I informed you that I had signed the Quist Decision Memorandum (DM) and instructed you on the final two steps necessary for MPO approval.

On February 10, 2023, I received your signed Mitigation Measures that incorporated into Section IV-A the changes and additions that were identified in the DM.

As per the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Forest Service and the State of Colorado, Division of Reclamation, Mining, and Safety (DRMS), the DRMS is the lead bond authority and will be responsible for calculating your reclamation bond. This bond will need to be submitted to and approved by DRMS and the Forest Service in accordance with 36 CFR 228.13, prior to the authorization of your MPO. This bond will be used as a guarantee of faithful performance with the terms and conditions listed in the MPO. As a reminder, the bond can be adjusted during the term of the MPO in response to changes in the operations or to changes in the economy. Also, you may request a partial bond release following completion of the ground disturbing activities (i.e., all but monitoring).

In addition, the Forest Service has calculated a Reclamation Bond for your access route on NFS lands (activities outside of the DRMS permit boundary) in accordance with our agency policy (Enclosure 1). The total cost of reclamation on NFS lands is \$3,680.00. You paid this bill for collection on May 24, 2023. Thank you.

These final steps conclude the stipulations listed in the DM. Therefore, I have conditionally approved your Quist MPO renewal with my signature in Section IX (attached). Operations are authorized to begin on *June 1, 2023*, and are authorized for 5 years, with completion of all activities including reclamation by *December 31, 2028*.

Please be aware, this approval does not constitute permission to conduct activities that require other agency permits. You are responsible for obtaining all other necessary permits prior to operation. Furthermore, approval of this operating plan in no way authorizes, or in any way permits, a release or threat of a release of hazardous substances or pollutants into the environment that will require a response action or result in the incurrence of response costs.

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All designs, monitoring plans, and analyses required by the MPO are subject to the requirement of 36 CFR 228.8 that mining operations be conducted so as, where feasible, to minimize adverse environmental impacts on National Forest surface resources. The operator's compliance with this requirement in no way insulates or releases them from any liability or obligations that may arise with respect to its operations under any applicable environmental law, including but not limited to the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA), 42 U.S.C. 9601 et seq. The United States reserves its rights and claims under CERCLA to seek performance of response actions and/or reimbursement of response costs that may be incurred as a result of any release or threat of a release of a hazardous substance from the project, or any ancillary operation for the mining activity.

Prior to groundbreaking activities, please contact Geologist Amy Titterington to arrange a field meeting to review the final MPO on site. If you have any questions and/or need clarification regarding the above information, please contact Geologist Amy Titterington at the South Park Ranger District office, by phone at 719-838-0699, and/or by email at amy.j.titterington@usda.gov.

Sincerely,

JOSHUA VOORHIS

Digitally signed by JOSHUA VOORHIS Date: 2023.05.25 14:58:17 -06'00'

JOSHUA VOORHIS District Ranger

Enclosures:

- 1) Approved Quist Mine Plan of Operations
- 2) Signed Mitigation Measures
- 3) Reclamation Cost Estimate

cc: DRMS - Elliott Russell; George and Jennifer Quist

11/28/2022

Attn. Josh Voorhis, 'Amy Titterington USDA FOREST SERVICE SOUTH PARK RANGER DISTRICT 320 US Highway 285 P.O. Box 219 Fairplay, CO. 80440 719-836-2031

George and Jennifer Quist 1849 Trail Creek Road Lake George, CO. 80827 gquist@hotmail.com George Quist 719-337-2067 Jennifer Quist 435-979-1475

Josh and Amy, This is our amended Copy (From 2019), of our "Plan of Operations For Mining Activities on Nation Forest System Lands". Mining was delayed in 2020 until now due to the State discontinuing prospecting permits and only allowing mining permits. These changes we have made are to reflect those changes and dates. Converting our previous prospect sites on Three Point, (MC3 242088)and on Four Point (MC# 242083), to a 5 acre mine site. Only disturbing approximately a 1/2 to a maximum of 0.98 acre site per mining season. Reclaiming at the end of each season, leaving a maximum of ¼ acre open for a starting and stopping point. If no pegmatite is found, then all the area will be backfilled and reclaimed and we will move to a new area the following season. (Season, is from May through November weather permitting).

The POO in general has not changed except for new maps, the proposed 752 road closure, dates and some area to be disturbed. The new changes we are proposing are as follows.:

1. I. General INFORMATION

C. This is a continuation of previous plan modifying some information, changing it from a prospect to a mining permit ((110(1), with the State).

D. 1 June 2023

E. 10 Year 2033

F. 15 November 2033

G. 15 November 2034

III. PROPERTY OR AREA ; Information as a supplement to existing mine sites. 3 and 4 Point are to be mined unless no pegmatite is found.

Three Point #MC 242088 section 10&11, Township 12 S, Range 71 W Four Point #MC 242083 section 11, Township12 S, Range 71 W

### IV. Description of Operation

A. Access \* (A. and B. see attached new maps)

752 road to be decommissioned and bonded and maintained by Quist mining:

We will be responsible for all road maintenance, including filling in pot holes, grading the road, putting in and maintaining existing water bars (see locations on map). Removing hazardous materials

From the road and installing 2 new gates. They're location and GPS were already marked by the forest service in July of 2019 (Antony).

See locations on map.

Gate 1. N 39 degrees 01.735', W 105 degrees 18. 840'

Gate 2. N 39 degrees 01. 355', W 105 degrees 18. 716'

The road from gate 1 to gate 2 is 0.9 miles and approximately 10 ft wide

After approval from the forest service. Estimated time, summer 2023. We would grade and fix the road at the same time as we would install the gates.

Gates would be a combination lock so the Forest Service (combination determined by the Forest Service), State, Police officers, Fire fighters, Joe Dorris (needs Claim access), And any other entities deemed necessary by the Forest Service have access.

The road will be checked at the begging and end of each season (and during), to see what must be done and serviced at least once a year or more if necessary.

- B. Three and Four Point are the new proposed mine sites and have all been staked as required. Please see attached maps for information.
- C. 1. During the life of this project 2 sites three and four Point will be opened. As previously stated approximately ½ acre to 0.98 acres per year. Reclaiming as we go, leaving a stopping and starting point, approximately ¼ acre open, or reclaiming all of the area and moving to a new location the next year. In the next 2 to 5 years if no pegmatite is found we will reclaim the 2 sites and amend our plan to mine the other exiting claims. (Hilltop, Silver microcline, Sugar Loaf or Suzie Blue).

2. Two sites on three and Four Point: Area to be bonded is 5 acres, 43,560 sq. per acre.

The area to be disturbed each year is approximately ½ acre, 21, 780 sq' to 0.98 a little under 1 acre (equipment, stockpiles etc.) maximum 2,700 cubic yards (1/2 acre) 200'x100' feet each season. With a depth of 12ft. and 4to6 inches of topsoil. \*See cross section map enclosed.

V. Environmental Protection Measures

B. Water Quality. A maximum of (5) gallons of water, brought in from off site

If any other information is required at this time please let us know. We hope this will satisfy the requirements.

Thank you! Jennifer and George Quist

Operator Marga I Cen	11/28/2022
Field Representative Junit S. Quit	11/28/2022

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	PLAN OF OPERATIONS FOR MINING ACTIVITIES ON NATIONAL FOREST SYSTEM LANDS					
Su	bmitted by: <u>Auge 7 Curre</u> Owner <u>11-28-22</u> Signature Title Date					
Pla	in Received by: <u>/s/ Amy Titterington</u> <u>Geologist</u> <u>11/30/2022</u> Signature Title Date					
	I. GENERAL INFORMATION					
A.	Name of Mine/Project:QUIST MINING					
B.	B. Type of Operation: <u>Lode exploration and development</u> (lode, placer, mill, exploration, development, production, other)					
C.	. Is this a (new/continuing) operation? (circle one). If continuing a previous operation, this plan (replaces/modifies/supplements) a previous plan of operations. (circle one)					
D.	Proposed start-up date of operation:1 June 2023					
E.	Expected total duration of this operation: <u>10 Year 2033</u>					
F.	If seasonal, expected date of annual reclamation/stabilization close out: <u>15 Nov</u> 2033					
G.	G. Expected date for completion of all required reclamation: <u>15 Nov</u> 2034					
	II. PRINCIPALS					
A.	Name, address and phone number of operator: <u>George L. Quist, 1849 Trail Creek Road</u> Lake George, Colorado 80827, (719) 337-2067					
B.	Name, address, and phone number of authorized field representative (if other than the operator). Attach authorization to act on behalf of operator					
 C.	Name, address and phone number of owners of the claims (if different than the operator):					

(If more space is needed to fill out a block of information, use additional sheets and attach to form)

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FS-2800-5 (7/95) OMB NO. 0596-0022 USDA, Forest Service Expires 01/31/2002

## PLAN OF OPERATIONS FOR MINING ACTIVITIES **ON NATIONAL FOREST SYSTEM LANDS** 7-6-2020 Date Submitted by: ... C Owner Signature Title 5/1/20 Plan Received by: reologis I. GENERAL INFORMATION Name of Mine/Project: \_\_\_\_OUIST MINING Α. Β. Type of Operation: Lode exploration and development (lode, placer, mill, exploration, development, production, other) Is this a (new/continuing) operation? (circle one). If continuing a previous operation, this plan C. (replaces/modifies/supplements) a previous plan of operations. (circle one) Proposed start-up date of operation: 1 June 2020 D. E. Expected total duration of this operation: <u>10 years until 2030</u> F. If seasonal, expected date of annual reclamation/stabilization close out: <u>15 Nov 2030</u> Expected date for completion of all required reclamation: \_\_\_\_15 Nov 2031\_ G. **II. PRINCIPALS** A. Name, address and phone number of operator: George L. Ouist, 1849 Trail Creek Road Lake George, Colorado 80827, (719) 337-2067 Name, address, and phone number of authorized field representative (if other than the operator). B. Attach authorization to act on behalf of operator. \_Jennifer Quist, 1849 Trail Creek Road, Lake George, Colorado 80827. (435) 979-1475 C. Name, address and phone number of owners of the claims (if different than the operator):

(If more space is needed to fill out a block of information, use additional sheets and attach to form) Ange Jam 11-28-2022 1 5 Quit 11-28-2022

Jerry J. Oniet

D. Name, address and phone number of any other lessees, assigns, agents, etc., and briefly describe their involvement with the operation, if applicable:

#### III. PROPERTY OR AREA

Name of claim, if applicable, and the legal land description where the operation will be located.

MC# 242083 242084 242085 242086 242087 242088	Name <u>Four Point</u> <u>Hilltop</u> <u>Silver Microcline</u> <u>Sugar Loaf</u> <u>Suzie Blue</u> <u>Three Point</u>	Section <u>11</u> <u>10 &amp; 11</u> <u>10</u> <u>10</u> <u>02 &amp; 03</u> <u>10 &amp; 11</u>	Township <u>12 S</u> <u>12 S</u> <u>12 S</u> <u>12 S</u> <u>12 S</u> <u>12 S</u> <u>12 S</u> <u>12 S</u>	Range 71 W 71 W 71 W 71 W 71 W
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#### IV. DESCRIPTION OF THE OPERATION

A. Access. Show on a map (USGS quadrangle map or a National Forest map, for example) the claim boundaries, if applicable, and all access needs such as roads and trails, on and off the claim. Specify which Forest Service roads will be used, where maintenance or reconstruction is proposed, and where new construction is necessary. For new construction, include construction specifications such as widths, grades, etc., location and size of culverts, describe maintenance plans, and the type and size of vehicles and equipment that will use the access routes.

See attached USGS map. All access is by established 4WD roads. F.S. Rd 201 (primarily) to Rd 752, Rd 753, Rd 754, and Rd 752A. All access to prospect sites within 400 feet is by "walking in" the machinery. Service trucks will be left on established 4WD roads. There will be no new construction. A Case 580 SK, John Deer 690 track hoe, or equivalent size machine will be using the access roads. Additionally, standard 4WD private trucks will be used for bringing personnel on site. We would like to close and bond Rd 752. We would be responsible for all road maintenance, including grading the road, putting in water bars, and removing any hazardous materials from the roadway. Upon completion of mining, this road would then be reclaimed. We will install two gates as indicated on the attached map (indicated in red).

B. Map, Sketch or Drawing. Show location and layout of the area of operation. Identify any streams, creeks or springs if known. Show the size and kind of all surface disturbances such as trenches, pits, settling ponds, stream channels and run-off diversions, waste dumps, drill pads, timber disposal or clearance, etc. Include sizes, capacities, acreage, amounts, locations, materials involved, etc.

This operations plan is a continuation of mechanized prospecting on up to 25 prospect sites that were previously approved (see attached maps and listing). It has been amended to include one excavation site at Prospect site 004 on the Three Point claim. All prospecting excavations will be limited to 1,600 square feet, including storage of topsoil and overburden. Average depth of prospects will be 10 feet. Any prospects opened during an operational season will be closed and reclaimed at the end of the season. The excavation site is 0.98 acre. Of this, a maximum of 0.57 acre will be excavated. The remaining unexcavated area will be for stockpile of topsoil, equipment parking, and overburden. The production site on the Three Point may remain open during as necessary. All sites are within the 2002 Hayman fire burn area. For the prospect sites, minor, largely dead timber, may be removed, two to three trees. On the production site, up to six trees may be removed. All timber that is removed will be used cross slope upon reclamation. None of the sites are near water or pose problems for runoff. All sites will be bermed during production and/or exploration.

C. **Project Description.** Describe all aspects of the operation including mining, milling, and exploration methods, materials, equipment, workforce, construction and operation schedule, power requirements, how clearing will be accomplished, topsoil stockpile, waste rock placement, tailings disposal, proposed number of drillholes and depth, depth of proposed suction dredging, and how gravels will be replaced, etc. Calculate production rates of ore. Include justification and calculations for settling pond capacities, and the size of runoff diversion channels.

All exploration will be small, open pits with possible minor trenching in the mineralized areas as indicated on the attached map with red pins. All dig sites will be contemporaneous reclamation. They will be reclaimed and seeded within 2 weeks of finised digging. None will be reopened until the previous dig is finished and reclaimed. During the life of the project, approximately three prospects will be opened and reclaimed annually until the 25 sites on 120 acres are completed or a decision is made not to open them. All prospects will be a maximum of 40ft x 40ft or equivalent measurement to give 1,600 square feet. Each prospect is roughly circular with a centrum at the GPS point. The dig will include the centrum with meets and bounds determined by the direction of the exposed pegmatite. No prospect will exceed 1,600 square ft. Ten inches of soil will be removed and stockpiled above the prospect at the length of the bucket's reach (i.e. back from the excavation). A total of about .60 acre remains to be opened on all the prospects.

All sites will be opened using a small track hoe. After exploration of the mineral structure, the site will be refilled, recontoured, the topsoil will be replaced, and the site will be hand seeded with approved South Park seed mix. Where possible, nearby hand digs will also be reclaimed and reseeded. Equipment will include a Case 580 back hoe or John Deere 690 excavator. Hand tools will include shovels, picks, hammers, chisels, personal safety gear, water, safety fencing, and reclamation seed. Safety gear will consist of the proper PPE equipment, including hard hats, safety googles boots, gloves and safety vests.

I, George Quist (the operator), will make sure that all safety procedures will be followed to meet with Mine Safety and Health Act (MSHA) standards and references. I, the operator, will abide by all federal rules and regulations, including but not limited to MSHA and its rules.

C. Project Description continued.

No construction is proposed. No power is needed. Water may be used to wash hand samples and to evaluate them.

The production excavation on the Three Point will differ based on size. The site is 0.80 acres, approximately 230 feet by 88 feet by 282 feet by 205 feet (34,850 square feet). Only 25,000 square feet may be excavated. The remaining approximately 9,850 square feet will be used to place the 10" top soil, overburden rock, and equipment. Once the excavation is completed, this area will be reclaimed as well as the excavation pit. Although the excavation site is 0.80 acre, a maximum of .57 acre will be excavated to an approximate depth of 10 feet. Approximately 465 cubic yards of topsoil will be stripped and placed to the north of the excavation. Since most of the overburden rock remains in the pit during operations to provide a working pad for the excavator, a maximum of 4,170 cubic yards of material will be stored adjacent but separate of the top soil pile. A total of 4,635 cubic yards of material will need to be replaced in the finished excavation (if excavated to its maximum size), then regraded, and reclaimed. This site is a 27 percent slope, approximately 24 degrees.

Operations will be intermittent and based on weather and seasonal conditions. Prospecting and mining will usually begin in early June and will continue to the first of August. Close out will be 31 October. Mechanized equipment will be used for a maximum of 30 operational days in any season, approximately 8 hours per day. Other hand digging, prospecting, safety checks, and site visits will take place at any time as allowed by weather conditions. Two to three people will compose the work force. One individual will be the machine operator. One person will be the safety and ground director. When minerals are discovered, all crew members will assist in hand collecting the mineral resources.

Approximately six trees may be removed from the excavation site. Mostly fire-killed snags will be removed from prospect sites. All trees will be used in post reclamation erosion control by being incorporated into the reclamation across slope.

After completion of each excavation, it will be refilled, recontoured, and reseeded with approved native grass seed (South Park Ranger District approved mix). Topsoil will be segregated and used to top-off backfills to the original depth, approximately ten inches. Overburden rock will be used as part of the backfill. None is removed from the site.

There will be no tailings and no milling. All material is used as backfill for reclaiming. There will be no suction dredging. It is not applicable to this operation. Settling ponds are not applicable to this operation. There is no water on site nor any nearby waterway.

All excavations, including prospects which might possibly experience run off are bermed. Up to  $20^{-5}$  gallons of water per day may be brought in from off site to help wash minerals and to collect mineral pockets.

There will be no drill holes and no drilling operations. There will be no blasting. If in the future this becomes necessary, a proper change will be submitted.

Excavations are in decomposed in-situ granite where decomposition varies from a few feet to thirty feet. Excavations will penetrate to the depth necessary to follow pegmatite dikes in which the pockets are formed, generally less than ten feet. Pegmatite dikes are irregular and unpredictable and can only be explored through open excavations.

## C. Project Description continued

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Production rates are highly speculative and unpredictable. Based on historic production along similar structures, we can expect about 100 pounds of material per prospect. This material is removed from site for evaluation. For the production excavation, we anticipate production of less than a ton of crystals.

Following discovery of crystal pockets, the material is removed by hand, wrapped and transported off site for preparation as collectible mineral specimens. There is no ore nor related ore values.

D. Equipment and Vehicles. Describe that which is proposed for use in your operation (Examples: drill, dozer, wash plant, mill, etc.). Include: sizes, capacity, frequency of use, etc.

#### No mills or washing plants will be used.

Wheeled and track hoes approximate to a medium weight rubber-tired back hoe and a John Deere 690 will be used for active excavation. This equipment is used in ordinary construction projects.

Approximately 50 percent of the work will be completed with a John Deer 690 or equivalent track hoe. The remaining 50 percent will be completed using a Case 580 SK back hoe.

Operations will normally be continuous for one session a season, approximately 30 days, but not to exceed 50 operational days.

Equipment may be brought out a second time if necessary to complete reclamation in October. Otherwise, security checks, hand-collecting and mineral extraction may continue throughout the season without use of mechanized equipment.

E. Structures. Include information about fixed or portable structures or facilities planned for the operation. Show locations on the map. Include such things as living quarters, storage sheds, mill buildings, thickener tanks, fuel storage, powder magazines, pipelines, water diversions, trailers, sanitation facilities including sewage disposal, etc. Include engineering design and geotechnical information for project facilities, justification and calculations for sizing of tanks, pipelines and water diversions, etc.

No structures will be built. No powder magazines will be used. No fuel will be stored on site. No tanks, pipelines, or water diversions will be needed, nor used.

Mining activity will be conducted during daylight hours and only during good weather.

Personnel will be on site only during the active mining phase when equipment is on site.

All refuse will be removed from site to a sanitary landfill.

Camping may occur on site for short periods, especially to allow security personnel to remain on site as needed. A chemical toilet will be used during active operations. Minimum impact and "No Trace" guidelines will be followed.

Between active operation phases, nothing will remain on site, except for safety fencing, if needed, and appropriate signage.

#### V. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION MEASURES (SEE 36 CFR 228.8)

A. Air Quality. Describe measures proposed to minimize impacts on air quality such as obtaining a burning permit for slash disposal or dust abatement on roads.

Impact will be minimal. No slash will be burned. No open fires will be used.

No haulage will occur. Due to the nature of the granitic soils and small size of excavations, no significant dust is generated. After the first foot of topsoil is scraped and piled, generated dust is essentially non-existent due to the damp nature of the decomposed granite.

Daily travel will amount to about 30 days per year for two vehicles during the active mining operation. Equipment will be roaded in to the end of Trail Creek Road and then "walked in" on established forest roads. This will occur once per season unless necessary for further reclamation work later in the season.

- B. Water Quality. State how applicable state and federal water quality standards will be met. Describe measures or management practices to be used to minimize water quality impacts and meet applicable standards.
- 1. State whether water is to be used in the operation, and describe the quantity, source, methods and design of diversions, storage, use, disposal, and treatment facilities. Include assumptions for sizing water conveyance or storage facilities
- 2. Describe methods to control erosion and surface water runoff from all disturbed areas, including waste and tailings dumps.
- 3. Describe proposed surface water and groundwater quality monitoring, if required, to demonstrate compliance with federal or state water quality standards.
- 4. Describe the measures to be used to minimize potential water quality impacts during seasonal closures, or for a temporary cessation of operations.
- 5. If land application is proposed for waste water disposal, the location and operation of the land application system must be described. Also describe how vegetation, soil, and surface and groundwater quality will be protected if land application is used.

No wastewater is produced nor is any appreciable amount of water used in this operation.

A maximum of 20 gallons of water, brought in from off site, will be used per day to help in crystal evaluation and cleaning. Water is used only to remove mud and reveal crystal pockets.

There is no runoff. All rainwater is quickly absorbed into the excavation or small pits.

All drinking water is brought from off site.

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Excavations are not located near any open water or intermittent streams. No excavations will penetrate the water table at any point. All sites are hundreds of feet above the water table and a third to a half mile away from open water (Crystal Creek.)

Excavations are bermed in the unlikely event there will be any erosional event from a cloudburst.

C. Solid Wastes. Describe the quantity and the physical and chemical characteristics of solid waste produced by the operation. Describe how the wastes will be disposed of including location and design of facilities, or treated so as to minimize adverse impacts.

No solid wastes are produced in this operation. All material removed from any excavation is reincorporated and recontoured into the backfill.

All minerals being extracted are benign silicates. No secondary, harmful substances, such as oxides,

#### C. Solid Wastes continued

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acids, etc. are produced through exposure or weathering of any material on these sites. No chemical characteristics of these minerals are damaging to the environment. All garbage and refuse will be hauled off site to a sanitary landfill.

D. Scenic Values. Describe protection of scenic values such as screening, slash disposal, or timely reclamation.

The mining sites are relatively remote and infrequently visited by other people except rockhounds. The adjacent forest roads are heavily traveled by recreational bikers and 4WD enthusiasts. Dozens of vehicles pass near these sites throughout each day.

Visual impact is minimized by the remote location as well as by restricting the size of excavation and operation. Prospects are filled and reclaimed and reseeded during the same season they are opened. The production excavation may have a five to six-year productive life after which it will be completely reclaimed.

Access is not restricted except for safety reasons. Forest visitors can enjoy hiking through the claims. Additionally, upon reclamation of proposed prospects, the other old, hand-dug pits will be reclaimed and reseeded by hand (broadcast) to prevent the growth of noxious weeds. See attached approved seed mix. Our goal is to protect the scenic values as much as possible and to return the land to a scenic state as rapidly as possible.

E. **Fish and Wildlife.** Describe measures to maintain and protect fisheries and wildlife, and their habitat (includes threatened, endangered, and sensitive species) affected by the operations.

No threatened, endangered, or sensitive species have been identified within our areas of operation. Reclamation is carried out as quickly as possible. Operations are very small scale with limited mechanized equipment and workforce.

All sites are made safe during operations as well as at season close for both wildlife and humans, to include 4 ft benches, backfilling holes and breaking down high walls.

F. Cultural Resources. Describe measures for protecting known historic and archeological values, or new sites in the project area.

No known areas of historic value or archeological sites have been discovered or are known to exist within this area of operations. Previous inspections of the surrounding areas in 2006 and more recently, have not shown any of these sites. The mining district itself is a world-historic site for the production of amazonite and smoky quartz crystals (since the 1870s). The district produces the world's finest specimens and is almost singular in nature.

### G. Hazardous Substances.

1. Identify the type and volume of all hazardous materials and toxic substances which will be used or generated in the operations including cyanide, solvents, petroleum products, mill, process and laboratory reagents.

#### G. Hazardous Substances continued

No hazardous substances will be used on site, stored on site, nor produced by this operation. Diesel fuel will be brought on site for track hoe refueling in a sealed, 50-gallon tank on a 4WD truck for refueling. No fuel or lubricants will be stored on site. They will remain in the bed of a truck as much as practical while being used on site. The excavator or back hoe will be returned to a level and safe area for refueling. Constant checks on equipment will be done for any leaks. We will also use spill pads while refueling to mitigate any possible soil contamination.

Should we have an accidental spill of diesel fuel, we will follow the spill reporting rule as outlined by the Division of Minerals and Geology, dated 2 August 2005. This includes notifying the Division of Reclamation, Mining, and Safety 303 866 3567, the South Park Ranger District, 719 836 2031, and the Teller County Sheriff, 719 687 6652. It also includes treating with aeration and introducing oil-degrading bacteria.

2. For each material or substance, describe the methods, volume, and frequency of transport (include type of containers and vehicles), procedures for use of materials or substances, methods, volume, and containers for disposal of materials and substances, security (fencing), identification (signing/labeling), or other special operations requirements necessary to conduct the proposed operations.

Diesel fuel is transported as needed in an approved 50-gallon tank which is attached to the truck Refueling takes place approximately every third day.

3. Describe the measures to be taken for release of a reportable quantity of a hazardous material or the release of a toxic substance. This includes plans for spill prevention, containment, notification, and cleanup.

There will be no release of toxic materials due to this operation.

Additionally, the mined substances do not produce any toxic substances.

Should we have an accidental diesel spill, we will follow the spill reporting rule as outlined by the State Division of Reclamation, Mining, and Safety dated 2 Aug 2005. This includes notifying the Division and the South Park Ranger District. It also includes treating with aeration and introducing oil-degrading bacteria.

H. Reclamation. Describe the annual and final reclamation standards based on the anticipated schedule for construction, operations, and project closure. Include such items as the removal of structures and facilities including bridges and culverts, a revegetation plan, permanent containment of mine tailings, waste, or sludges which pose a threat of a release into the environment, closing ponds and eliminating standing water, a final surface shaping plan, and post operations monitoring and maintenance plans.

Each prospect and excavation will be contemporaneous closed and reclaimed as soon within 2 weeks after opening. All prospects will be closed before the end of the season. The production excavation will remain partially open until completion of mining. All sites will be backfilled, recontoured, have the soil replaced, and be reseeded. Berms will remain in place but be incorporated into the reclamation. Additionally, any timber will be used cross slope to help in reclamation. Any rocks will be reincorporated similarly to their natural occurrence on the sites. The sites will remain rough to allow good moisture retention for good

#### H. Reclamation continued

seed growth. Approximately 465 cubic yards of topsoil will be stripped and placed to the north of the excavation. Since most of the overburden rock remains in the pit during operations, a maximum of 4,170 cubic yards of material will be stored adjacent but separate of the top soil pile. A total of 4,635 cubic yards of material will need to be replaced in the finished excavation. Approximately 10 inches of topsoil will be replaced. All sites will be made to blend and be contoured as much as possible into their surroundings and topography of the area. We will use the South Park District approved dry/lower elevation seed mix, broadcast by hand. Reclamation will be contemporaneous. Prospects will be reclaimed and reseeded within 2 weeks of opening. Immediate reseeding will be done to prevent the growth of noxious weeds. Monitoring will be done periodically during the season to check for weeds, any found will be hand chopped out. If there are more than we can remove the South Park Ranger District will be immediately notified. Following reclamation on the 0.57 acre production site, we will plant ponderosa pine as well as appropriate shrubs for the wildlife. All sites will be monitored annually for growth. If reclamation should not be successful on any given site, the process will be repeated until the sites exceed coverage of surrounding sites or eighty percent coverage.

All heavy-traffic areas, walk-ways for equipment, non-system roads, working pads, camp sites, and any other disturbed areas will also be reclaimed in a like fashion. Additionally, any pre-existing hand digs, pits, or trenches within the immediate area of operations will also be reclaimed.

#### VI. FOREST SERVICE EVALUATION OF PLAN OF OPERATIONS

A. Required changes/modifications/special mitigation for plan of operations:

See design criteria B. Bond. Reclamation of all disturbances connected with this plan of rations is covered by

B. Bond. Reclamation of all disturbances connected with this plan of rations is covered by Reclamation Performance Bond No. <u>P20[5-008</u> dated \_\_\_\_\_\_, signed by <u>Crevrge Quist</u> (Principal) and <u>N/A</u> (Surety) for the penal sum of <u>This Reclamation Performance Bond</u> is a guarantee of faithful performance with the terms and conditions listed below, and with the reclamation requirements agreed upon in the plan of operations. This Reclamation Performance Bond also extends to and includes any unauthorized activities conducted in connection with this operation.

The bond amount for this Reclamation Performance Bond was based on a bond calculation worksheet. The bond amount may be adjusted during the term of this proposed plan of operations in response to changes in the operations or to changes in the economy. Both the Reclamation Performance Bond and the bond calculation worksheet are attached to and made part of this plan of operations.

Acceptable bond securities (subject to change) include:

- 1. Negotiable Treasury bills and notes which are unconditionally guaranteed as to both principle and interest in an amount equal at their par value to the penal sum of the bond; or
- 2. Certified or cashier's check, bank draft, Post Office money order, cash, assigned certificate of deposit, assigned savings account, blanket bond, or an irrevocable letter of credit equal to the penal sum of the bond.

#### VII. TERMS AND CONDITIONS

- A. If a bond is required, it must be furnished before approval of the plan of operations.
- B. Information provided with this plan marked confidential will be treated in accordance with the agency's laws, rules, and regulations.
- C. Approval of this plan does not constitute certification of ownership to any person named herein and/or recognition of the validity of any mining claim named herein.

## VII. TERMS AND CONDITIONS

- If a bond is required, it must be furnished before approval of the plan of operations. A.
- Information provided with this plan marked confidential will be treated in accordance with the agency's Β. laws, rules, and regulations.
- Approval of this plan does not constitute certification of ownership to any person named herein and/or C. recognition of the validity of any mining claim named herein.
- Approval of this plan does not relieve me of my responsibility to comply with other applicable state or D. federal laws, rules, or regulations.
- If previously undiscovered cultural resources (historic or prehistoric objects, artifacts, or sites) are exposed E. as a result of operations, those operations will not proceed until notification is received from the Authorized Officer that provisions for mitigating unforeseen impacts as required by 36 CFR 228.4(e) and 36 CFR 800 have been complied with.
- This plan of operations has been approved for a period of 5 years or until (mm/dd/yy) 12/31/2028. A new or revised plan must be submitted in accordance with 36 CFR part 228, subpart A, if operations are to be F. continued after that time period.

## VIII. OPERATING PLAN ACCEPTANCE

We have reviewed and agreed to comply with all conditions in this plan of operations including the required changes, modifications, special mitigation, and reclamation requirements.

⊠I/ We understand that the bond will not be released until the Authorized Officer in charge gives written approval.

get ann

5-25-2023

Signature of XOperator (or Authorized Representative)

(Date) (mm/dd/yy)

## IX. OPERATING PLAN APPROVAL

Joshua Voorhis

**District Ranger** 

(Title)

JOSHUA VOORHIS Digitally signed by JOSHUA VOORHIS Date: 2023.05.26 09:14:15 -06'00'

(Name)

Signature of (Authorized Officer)

5/26/2023

(Date) (mm/dd/yy)

#### **Burden and Non-Discrimination Statement**

According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, an agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB con number. The valid OMB control number for this information collection is 0596-0022. The time required to complete this information collection is estimated to average 12 hours per respo including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, and where applicable, sex, m status, familial status, parental status, religion, sexual orientation, genetic information, political beliefs, reprisal, or because all or part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should co USDA's TARGET Center at 202-720-2600 (voice and TDD).

To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call toll free (866) 632-9992 (voice). TDD can contact USDA through local relay or the Federal relay at (800) 877-8339 (TDD) or (866) 377-8642 (relay voice). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.











## Mitigation Measures for Quist Mine Plan of Operations January 2023

## **MITIGATION MEASURES**

Forest Service wildlife biologist, aquatic biologist, botanist, hydrologist, archaeologist, fuels and fire specialist, and geologist have reviewed the proposed project. Measures necessary to protect threatened or endangered species, Region 2 sensitive species, their habitat, or potential habitat from the effects of the proposed management actions are addressed through the development of project design criteria. Design criteria are intended to minimize the project's effects to the environment. The FS has created the following design criteria that will be required of the Operator to be incorporated into the final MPO prior to MPO approval. Specific design criteria include:

### ADMINISTRATIVE

- The operator will establish a reclamation bond or acceptable surety as a guarantee of faithful performance with the terms and conditions identified in the reclamation requirements (36 CFR 228.13). Bond calculations will be based on local and Davis-Bacon wage and equipment rates. Bonds will be updated as necessary throughout the life of the project to reflect the actual cost of reclamation.
- Upon completion of the project, a partial bond can be refunded withholding funds for re-vegetation, monitoring, and portions of indirect costs for a minimum of three (3) years pending attainment of acceptable ground cover as determined by the Authorized Officer.
- If the design or location of this project changes in ways that differ from the approved MPO, the project work will stop, and the PSICC Geologist will be notified immediately. The new information will be evaluated prior to the recommencement of work, which may require additional analyses under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).
- The operator will contact the FS prior to the start of operations, during operations if operating conditions or requirements deviate from those analyzed, and once operations have been completed, to schedule a visit to the site as a final inspection of the operations.
- All project-related materials and trash, including flagging, fencing, stakes, sample bags, and other items, must be removed from the site after project completion.
- This plan has been approved for a period of 5 years, or until December 31, 2028.

### FIRE PREVENTION

- All internal combustion engines including but not limited to generators, mechanized mining equipment and power tools, must be fitted with an approved spark arresting device.
- Operator has tools, fire extinguisher on site and readily available during fire season.
- Operator notifies South Park Ranger District or Pueblo Dispatch (719) 553-1600 promptly, in the event of a fire.

## CAMPING

- Overnight stays and leaving vehicles on the Forest are limited to a maximum of 14 consecutive days and no more than 28 days in a 60-day continuous period.
- Forest Service Motor Vehicle Use Map (MVUM) related regulations require vehicles to park only in areas immediately adjacent to National Forest System roads.
- All foodstuffs will be properly contained and located to minimize conflicts with wildlife, especially bears. Food items should be stored in a bear proof container away from any tenting or camping sites.
- All trash and garbage will be removed from National Forest Lands.
- Human waste shall be removed from National Forest Lands.

## **OPERATIONS**

- Equipment and tools must be in good working order and not leak fluids onto ground.
- Inoperable or broken equipment/ tools must be immediately removed from Forest Service lands.
- Operator must have all applicable Federal, local, and State permits in place prior to operating.

## ROADS

- Motorized off-road travel is prohibited except for prospecting, mining and reclamation equipment.
- The Operator will perform regular maintenance and erosion control on the access route.
- The non-system access road will be gated to limit public access.
- The non-system access road will be permanently raked, graded, seeded, and closed with boulders or other appropriate materials upon the completion of final site reclamation.

### WEED PREVENTION

- Ensure all equipment (including vehicles) and tools moved onto National Forest System lands are free of soil, seeds, vegetative matter, or other debris that could contain or hold noxious weed seed.
- The operator will coordinate with FS personnel to ensure that inspections are performed.

## VEGETATION

- Minimal vegetation clearing will occur. When clearing vegetation, straight clearing limits are voided; a natural appearance is maintained. Natural features such as large boulders, rock outcrops, and significant vegetation will remain intact, unless otherwise approved by the South Park District Ranger.
- Topsoil will be removed and stockpiled on site for use in reclamation.

## **HAZARDOUS MATERIALS**

• The operator will ensure that all employees involved in the use, storage, transportation, and disposal of hazardous materials receive proper training to reduce the risk of an incident on NFS lands.

• The operator will manage the use, storage, discharge, or disposal of pollutants and hazardous or toxic substances generated in compliance with applicable regulations and requirements.

## WATER QUALITY

- If excessive gullying or rilling occurs downhill from excavations, erosion control measures such as silt fencing or contour berms may be necessary to protect water quality.
- Water bars will be cleaned out on an as-needed basis to minimize erosion on access roads.
- Operator will comply with applicable Federal and State water quality standards, including regulations pursuant to the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, as amended (33 USC 1151 et seq.).
- Operator will comply with National Best Management Practices for Water Quality Management on National Forest System Lands. This includes providing silt fences, waddles, and straw bales as necessary.

http://www.fs.fed.us/biology/resources/pubs/watershed/FS\_National\_Core\_BMPs\_April2012.pdf

### CULTURAL

• If a previously unknown archaeological site is discovered by either the operator or the Forest Service, mining operations will stop immediately until the site is evaluated by the Forest Service Archaeologist, and any needed mitigation measures are developed.

#### WILDLIFE

- If any new nesting/denning sites for threatened, endangered, or Forest Service sensitive species are observed during implementation, it will be reported immediately to the wildlife biologist and appropriate protection measures will be implemented.
- Design criteria mentioned above for weed prevention, vegetation and water quality all coincide with protection of wildlife habitat.

#### RECLAMATION

The operator'(s) agree to complete the following reclamation measures:

- Within the one-year expiration of this authorization, the operator will commence final reclamation.
- Remove all materials and return the mining area to the original natural contours. This includes all excavation cuts.
- Silt fences or other erosion control will be utilized to prevent off-site sediment transport.
- Reclamation will be monitored by the operator, USFS personnel, and State of Colorado (DRMS) inspectors on an as needed basis.
- The road and site will be seeded with USFS-approved seed mixtures, as needed.
- Re-vegetation will not be complete until at least 50% plant re-growth has been established; when compared to adjacent undisturbed areas.
- Topsoil must be saved and used to cover all disturbed areas.
- Return large rocks, boulders, and logs to their original position.
- The U.S. Forest Service may require additional reclamation measures if needed.
- Earth work- which includes re-contouring and smoothing all disturbed areas. Earth work

will not be considered complete if the surface is rough, no rough piles higher than 12 inches may be left.

- Remove all trash off Forest Service Lands.
- Remove all structures (fences, signs) from Forest Service Lands except for pre-existing structures.
- Complete all reclamation within one year of the end of the operating plan.
  Refund of any reclamation hand is a still.
- Refund of any reclamation bond is contingent upon the success of reclamation.

## MONITORING

• The Forest Service will monitor and assess the progress of reclamation activities, including re-vegetation and erosion control, for a minimum of three years. Dependent on the success of the second phase of reclamation, additional seeding, weed treatment, or installation of erosion control structures may occur.

# THE FOLLOWING STANDARD TERMS AND CONDITIONS ARE TAKEN FROM FOREST SERVICE FORM FS -2800-5 AND ARE <u>REQUIRED</u> FOR THIS PLAN OF OPERATIONS:

- Information provided within this plan that is marked confidential will be treated in accordance with the agency's laws, rules, and regulations.
- Approval of this plan does not relieve me of my responsibility to comply with other applicable state or federal laws, rules, or regulations.
- Approval of this plan does not constitute recognition or certification of ownership to any person named as owner herein.
- Approval of this operating plan does not constitute, now or in the future, recognition or certification of the validity of any mining claim to which it may relate or to the mineral character of the land on which it lies.

I acknowledge and understand these modifications and mitigation measures and agree to adopt them into my mining Plan of Operations.

n Z cum

Operator's Signature

S Vantur

District Ranger

1/24/2023

Date

2/10/2023

Date



# **Quist MPO Approved**

 Titterington, Amy - FS, CO <amy.j.titterington@usda.gov>
 Fri, May 26, 2023 at 9:48 AM

 To: "jquist1965@gmail.com" <jquist1965@gmail.com>, George Quist <Gquist@hotmail.com>

 Cc: "Elliott.russell@state.co.us" <elliott.russell@state.co.us>, "herzogr@co.teller.co.us" <herzogr@co.teller.co.us>

Hi George and Jennifer,

The South Park District Ranger has conditionally approved your Quist mine plan of operations in the Crystal Creek area.

Your plan will be officially approved upon receipt of your bond payment (I know you mailed the check earlier this week).

If you have any questions, please let me know.

Best,

Amy



**Forest Service** 

**PSICC, South Park Ranger District** 

p: 719-836-2031

c: 719-838-0699 f: 719-836-3875

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