



STATE OF  
COLORADO

Ridley - DNR, Hunter <hunter.ridley@state.co.us>

---

## Inspection Report, Raindance Reservoir #2 (M-2021-049)

1 message

---

Ridley - DNR, Hunter <hunter.ridley@state.co.us>

Thu, Jun 22, 2023 at 9:54 AM

To: Garrett Scallon <gscallon@watervalley.com>, Derek Patterson <dpatterson@tstinc.com>

Garrett and Derek,

Please find attached the report for the Division's June 13, 2023 inspection of the Raindance Reservoir #2 site (M-2021-049). Please let me know if you have any questions.

Kind regards,  
Hunter Ridley  
Environmental Protection Specialist



**COLORADO**  
Division of Reclamation,  
Mining and Safety  
Department of Natural Resources

P 720.868.7757 | F 303.832.8106

Physical: 1313 Sherman Street, Room 215, Denver, CO 80203

Mailing: DRMS Room 215, 1001 E 62nd Ave, Denver, CO 80216

[hunter.ridley@state.co.us](mailto:hunter.ridley@state.co.us) | <https://drms.colorado.gov>




**InspReport\_M2021049.pdf**

3019K



**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> Raindance Reservoir #2	<b>MINE/PROSPECTING ID#:</b> M-2021-049	<b>MINERAL:</b> Borrow material for construction and clay (general)	<b>COUNTY:</b> Weld
<b>INSPECTION TYPE:</b> Monitoring	<b>WEATHER:</b> Raining	<b>INSP. DATE:</b> June 13, 2023	<b>INSP. TIME:</b> 09:00
<b>OPERATOR:</b> Vima Partners, LLC	<b>OPERATOR REPRESENTATIVE:</b> Garrett Scallon and Derek Patterson	<b>TYPE OF OPERATION:</b> 112c - Construction Regular Operation	
<b>REASON FOR INSPECTION:</b> Normal I&E Program / Preoperation Inspection	<b>BOND CALCULATION TYPE:</b> Complete Bond	<b>BOND AMOUNT:</b> \$1,191,782.00	
<b>DATE OF COMPLAINT:</b> NA	<b>POST INSP. CONTACTS:</b> None	<b>JOINT INSP. AGENCY:</b> None	
<b>INSPECTOR(S):</b> Hunter Ridley Michael Cunningham	<b>INSPECTOR'S SIGNATURE:</b> 	<b>SIGNATURE DATE:</b> June 22, 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>N</u>	(RD) ROADS----- <u>Y</u>
(HB) HYDROLOGIC BALANCE----- <u>N</u>	(BG) BACKFILL & GRADING----- <u>Y</u>	(EX) EXPLOSIVES----- <u>N</u>
(PW) PROCESSING WASTE/TAILING---- <u>NA</u>	(SF) PROCESSING FACILITIES----- <u>N</u>	(TS) TOPSOIL----- <u>Y</u>
(MP) GENL MINE PLAN COMPLIANCE- <u>Y</u>	(FW) FISH & WILDLIFE----- <u>Y</u>	(RV) REVEGETATION---- <u>N</u>
(SM) SIGNS AND MARKERS----- <u>Y</u>	(SP) STORM WATER MGT PLAN---- <u>Y</u>	(RS) RECL PLAN/COMP-- <u>N</u>
(ES) OVERBURDEN/DEV. WASTE----- <u>N</u>	(SC) EROSION/SEDIMENTATION--- <u>N</u>	(ST) STIPULATIONS----- <u>N</u>
(AT) ACID OR TOXIC MATERIALS----- <u>NA</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**

On June 13, 2023, the Raindance Reservoir #2 M-2012-020 was inspected by Hunter Ridley and Michael Cunningham with the Division of Reclamation, Mining, and Safety (Division) for a pre operation inspection in response to the submittal of Amendment 1 (AM01). Garrett Scallon of Water Valley Land Company and Derek Patterson of TST, Inc. Consulting Engineers were present for the inspection and represented the operator. It was raining at the time of inspection.

Raindance Reservoir #2 is located approximately two miles south of Windsor, Colorado, and accessed from Crossroads Road off of I25. The Raindance Reservoir #2 is a 112c permit. The site is comprised of 91.1 acres of land owned by Vima Partners and is currently used to supply borrow material for CDOT's I-25 expansion. The site was not active at the time of inspection due to recent heavy rain events. An amendment application (AM-01) is currently under review for this site which expands the site acreage to 130 acres.

A complete bond calculation will be performed in response to this inspection and in response to materials submitted as part of the AM01 adequacy review. The Division will provide the operator with this updated cost estimate through the AM01 process.

## **SIGNS AND MARKERS**

The mine identification sign and affected area boundary markers are in place and in compliance with Rule 3.1.12. The sign is located at the entrance of the site and the permit number has been updated and corrected since the last inspection (Photo 1). The perimeter has been marked with posts and pink flags to delineate the current permit boundary. Flag markers are present on the western boundary of the pit to show the proposed permit boundary expansion. Notice signs, pursuant to Rule 1.6.2(1)(b), were not posted at the site for AM01. The Division requested that these be posted at the site as soon as possible. The Division received confirmation that signage was posted on June 17, 2023 (Photos 13-15).

## **GENERAL MINE PLAN COMPLIANCE**

The southwest corner of the proposed AM01 expansion encompasses an area in which an existing pile of material not related to mine activity is located. The Division requests that the location of this pile be added to relevant maps as part of AM01 materials. This relieves the operator of reclamation liability of this material pile.

The operator has constructed three access roads on the parcel to the west of the mine site. These roads are traversed by scrapers which transport material sold to the adjacent parcel owner directly from the mine site to the adjacent parcel (Photos 9-11). This material is being utilized by the purchasing landowner to create a privacy berm.

## **TOPSOIL**

There are two topsoil stockpiles located around the mine site (Photos 8 and 12). The site representative stated that the topsoil pile to the northwest was being sold, while the topsoil stockpiled to the southeast is being stored for use in final reclamation. Please ensure that all topsoil piles are appropriately vegetated in the Spring/Fall season to promote stabilization and prevent erosion as stated in the mine plan and as required by Rule 3.1.9.

## **BACKFILL AND GRADING**

A majority of the reservoir has been excavated and graded to the appropriate 3H: 1V slopes (Photo 2). The northeastern corner remains to be fully excavated. With the approval of AM01, a pump station will also be installed in this corner of the site. The site representative stated that current plans see excavation complete in the summer/fall of 2023 with full reservoir function and final reclamation beginning in the spring of 2024.

## HYDROLOGIC BALANCE / STORM WATER MGT PLAN

Weld County has experienced significant rain events in recent months. Any impounded water at the site is currently being pumped to an outfall structure which lies on the eastern side of WCR15 (Photos 3-5). Sediment ponds located within the reservoir basin were currently overtopped with water (Photo 4). Water from this site no longer reports to the two ponds located on the eastern side of WCR15 (Photos 6 and 7).

Photographs taken during the inspection are attached. If you need additional information or have any questions, please contact me at Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety, 1313 Sherman Street, Room 215, Denver, CO 80203, by telephone at 720.868.7757, or by email at [hunter.ridley@state.co.us](mailto:hunter.ridley@state.co.us).

## PHOTOGRAPHS



**Photo 1: An appropriate mine sign is posted at the entrance to the site.**



**Photo 2: View southeast from the site entrance showing a partially excavated reservoir footprint.**



**Photo 3: View east of the outfall structure currently being used to discharge impounded storm water from the site, recent extraordinary rain events have caused overflow and erosion of adjacent agricultural fields in this area.**



**Photo 4: View northwest of the pump station used to discharge impounded water under WCR15 and to an outfall structure. The sediment pond system within the reservoir is visible, though currently covered with water.**



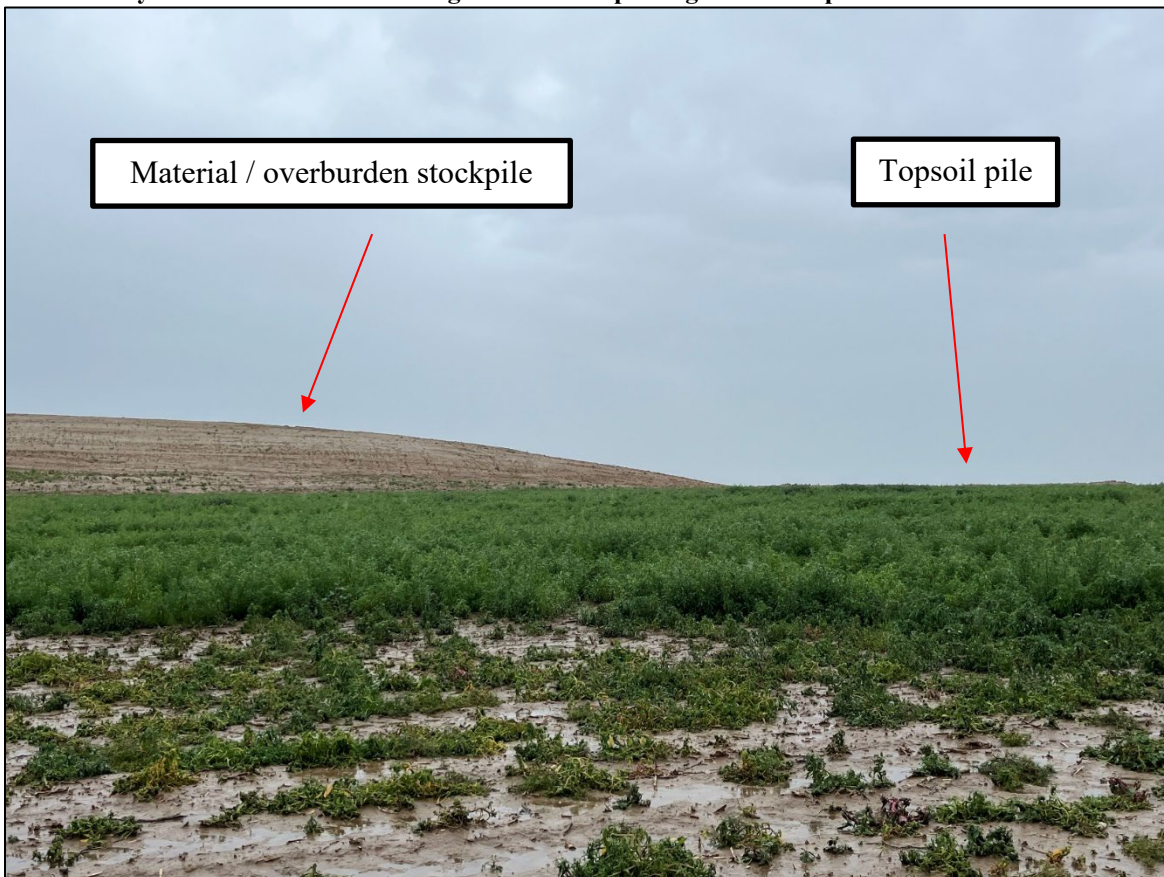
**Photo 5: Pump and generator which is part of the pump system which discharges impounded storm water into an outfall structure. A small, temporary access route has been cut into the eastern slope to allow access to the generator in wet and muddy conditions.**



**Photo 6: One of two ponds which lie to the east of WCR15, water from the mine site no longer reports to these ponds.**



**Photo 7: Only water from the ditch along WCR15 is reporting to the two ponds which lie across WCR15.**



**Photo 8: View north along the southern boundary of the pit. An overburden pile is visible to the west and a topsoil pile (partially obscured) is located to the east.**



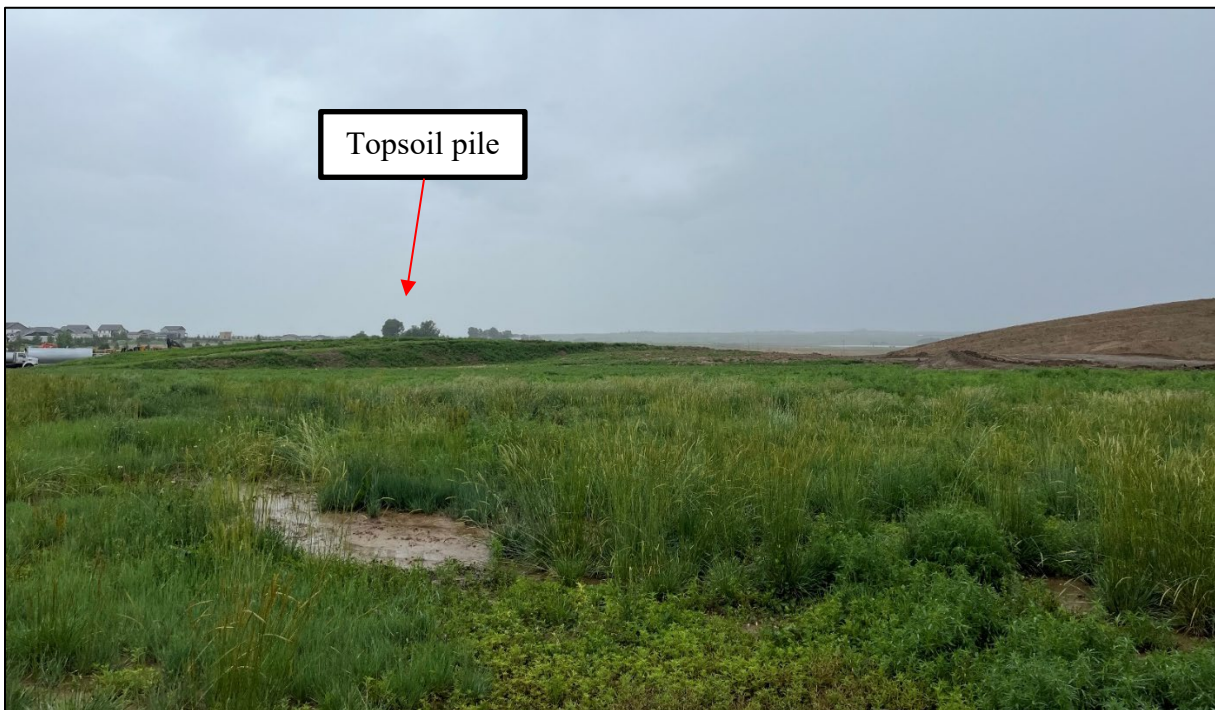
**Photo 9: View east of an access road cut between the existing overburden pile. The access road is currently being utilized to transport material from the site to the western adjacent field. This material was purchased by the western adjacent parcel owner.**



**Photo 10: View north of a previously existing private road, which the newly built access road crosses perpendicular to. The current permit boundary for the mine site lies approximately 250 feet to the east of this currently existing private road.**



**Photo 11:** View northwest of the western adjacent parcel onto which the newly built access road extends. Two additional roads have been built in this adjacent parcel to regulate the traffic of scrapers to and from the mine site.



**Photo 12:** View east from the western boundary of the pit, the topsoil pile to be removed/sold is visible.



Photos 13 – 15: Amendment notice signage has been posted.

**Inspection Contact Address**

Garrett Scallon  
Water Valley Land Company  
1625 Pelican Lakes Point  
Windsor, CO 80550

Sincerely,  
Hunter C. Ridley



Environmental Protection Specialist

CC: Michael Cunningham, DRMS  
Derek Patterson, TST, Inc. Consulting Engineers