




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: Branson Gravel Pit	MINE/PROSPECTING ID#: M-1997-100	MINERAL: Gravel	COUNTY: Las Animas
INSPECTION TYPE: Monitoring	WEATHER: Clear	INSP. DATE: July 19, 2023	INSP. TIME: 14:30
OPERATOR: Las Animas County	OPERATOR REPRESENTATIVE: Nick Lingus	TYPE OF OPERATION: 112c - Construction Regular Operation	
REASON FOR INSPECTION: Normal I&E Program	BOND CALCULATION TYPE: None	BOND AMOUNT: \$0.00	
DATE OF COMPLAINT: NA	POST INSP. CONTACTS: None	JOINT INSP. AGENCY: None	
INSPECTOR(S): Brock Bowles	INSPECTOR'S SIGNATURE: 	SIGNATURE DATE: July 25, 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>N</u>	(FN) FINANCIAL WARRANTY----- <u>N</u>	(RD) ROADS----- <u>N</u>
(HB) HYDROLOGIC BALANCE----- <u>N</u>	(BG) BACKFILL & GRADING----- <u>N</u>	(EX) EXPLOSIVES----- <u>N</u>
(PW) PROCESSING WASTE/TAILING---- <u>N</u>	(SF) PROCESSING FACILITIES----- <u>N</u>	(TS) TOPSOIL----- <u>N</u>
(MP) GENL MINE PLAN COMPLIANCE- <u>N</u>	(FW) FISH & WILDLIFE----- <u>N</u>	(RV) REVEGETATION---- <u>N</u>
(SM) SIGNS AND MARKERS----- <u>N</u>	(SP) STORM WATER MGT PLAN---- <u>N</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>N</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 was a routine monitoring inspection conducted Brock Bowles of the Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety (Division). Nick Lingus of Las Animas County (Operator) was present for the inspection. The weather during the inspection was clear and warm with a light breeze. The ground was dry.

The Branson Pit is a 112c site permitted for 39.9 acres. It is located approximately 2.5 miles east of Branson. The pre- and post-mining land use is rangeland. No mining was taking place. A loader was on site but no loading was taking place.

The mine entrance sign was in place at the entrance facing CR 4 (photo 1). T-posts were used to mark the permit boundary and were in place at the corners of the permit boundary.

The site consists of an east and west mining areas. Both areas are on a hilltop with the product stockpiles located in the saddle area between the mining areas (photo 2).

The east mining area is mostly mined out and has not been reclaimed. A berm was in place around the perimeter of the pit area (photo 3). No erosion features were seen and there was no sign of standing water.

The west area contained some large rock piles and a gravel stockpile (photo 4). A contractor is hired as needed to crush and sort the gravel. The mined area was surrounded by a berm. The area was sloped to the east directing surface runoff to the saddle area. A few small rills/gullies were noted where the pit drains to the saddle area.

No noxious weeds were noted in the permit area. Mr. Lingus stated that weeds are closely monitored and treated as needed.

PHOTOGRAPHS



Photo 1 – Mine entrance sign facing CR 4



Photo 2 – Product stockpiles in the saddle area between hilltops



Photo 3 – Eastern pit area, berm on north side facing west



Photo 4 – West mining area

Inspection Contact Address

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Enclosure

CC: