




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: 2006/07 Geo-Hydro Drill & Core Prgm-Public	MINE/PROSPECTING ID#: P-2006-036	MINERAL: Oil shale	COUNTY: Rio Blanco
INSPECTION TYPE: Monitoring	WEATHER: Clear	INSP. DATE: July 25, 2023	INSP. TIME: 07:30
OPERATOR: Shell Frontier Oil & Gas Inc.	OPERATOR REPRESENTATIVE: Samantha Baker	TYPE OF OPERATION: MP - Mineral Prospecting	
REASON FOR INSPECTION: Normal I&E Program	BOND CALCULATION TYPE: None	BOND AMOUNT: \$293,326.33	
DATE OF COMPLAINT: NA	POST INSP. CONTACTS: DRMS	JOINT INSP. AGENCY: U.S.BLM	
INSPECTOR(S): Amy Yeldell	INSPECTOR'S SIGNATURE: 	SIGNATURE DATE: August 14, 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>Y</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>NA</u>	(SF) PROCESSING FACILITIES----- <u>NA</u>	(TS) TOPSOIL----- <u>NA</u>
(MP) GENL MINE PLAN COMPLIANCE- <u>Y</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>Y</u>
(ES) OVERBURDEN/DEV. WASTE----- <u>NA</u>	(SC) EROSION/SEDIMENTATION--- <u>Y</u>	(ST) STIPULATIONS----- <u>Y</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 inspection was conducted as part of the Colorado Division of Reclamation, Mining, and Safety normal monitoring program. The 2006-07 Geo-Hydro Drill & Core Program-Public is a Hard Rock NOI located in Rio Blanco County. Amy Yeldell of the Division conducted the inspection. Samantha Baker, Dillon Berry and Dave Murray represented the Operator. James Roberts of the White River Field Office was also present.

The permitted NOI includes a total of 14.12 acres and has a required bond of \$50,621. In 2021, under SR-1, the bond was reduced based on progress towards the completion of final reclamation. The Division still holds \$293,326.33 in financial warranty for this site since a replacement bond has not been submitted following the approval of SR-1 (5-11-2021). In 2014 with the approval of MD-1 all uninstalled pads and boreholes were removed. The following pads remain permitted; 82-1-299, 84-1-299, Triad Access Road, 91-22-199, 92-22-199, 93-22-199, 94-22-199, and 95-22-199.

All hydrology wells have been plugged and abandoned, which includes cementing, cut and cap wells and backfill. Hydrology well pads have been reclaimed. The last reclamation efforts were completed in 2010/2014 and now are awaiting adequate vegetation establishment. The past winter consisted of heavy snows with warmer than average temperatures. The early spring/summer was very cold and plant germination was slow up till mid-June when temperature's skyrocketed into the high 90's with little to no moisture. Late June a few storms have begun but the summer monsoons have not truly started. Wild horse populations have continued to be a nuisance despite the round up last year. Vegetation throughout much of the Piceance Basin is showing signs of overgrazing. Over all pads are stable with no signs of erosion. All mining related debris has been removed from the site(s). Specific observations of each pad are listed below,

*Pad 82-1-299: Previously this pad has struggled to have desirable grasses and out complete the Cheatgrass. Noxious weed now appear to be effectively managed and little to no noxious species were observed. Overall there is good diversity. There is some evidence of grazing but vegetation appears sustainable even with pressure. Overall the site appears to be stabilized with vegetative cover. Photo One.

*Pad 84-1-299: Vegetation on this pad has rebounded from last year's heavy grazing and weeds. Evidence of grazing is significantly less and only patches are affected. There is a diverse mix of shrubs and grasses with sufficient cover to prevent erosion. Little to no weeds were observed. Photo Two.

Triad Access Road and pads: Previously the adjacent lands have been hydro-axed (shrub mowing) by the BLM to break up dense patches of sagebrush and allow for establishment of more grasses. None of the permitted lands have been affected by this activity however the loss in wind breaks has result in dryer conditions on the pads. Vegetation on the access road is sparse, approx. 30% cover of primarily grasses. Noxious weeds such as Russian Thistle continue to be a problem. The operator will continue to manage noxious species. Photos Three and Four.

*Indicates pads where final reclamation has been achieved

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 303-866-3567 Ext 8183 or via email at amy.yeldell@state.co.us

Inspection Contact Address

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CC:

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Dave Murray, Consultant

PHOTOGRAPHS



Photo 1: Pad 82-1-299 Well established diverse vegetation



Photo 2: Pad 84-1-299 vegetation grazed but still sustainable and well established



Photo 3: Triad access road, vegetation spotty



Photo 4: Triad access road, vegetation spotty