




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: Stone City Mine	MINE/PROSPECTING ID#: M-1990-143	MINERAL: Clay (general)	COUNTY: Pueblo
INSPECTION TYPE: Monitoring	WEATHER: Clear	INSP. DATE: July 21, 2023	INSP. TIME: 08:30
OPERATOR: General Shale Brick, Inc.	OPERATOR REPRESENTATIVE: Jason McGraw	TYPE OF OPERATION: 110c - Construction Limited Impact	
REASON FOR INSPECTION: Normal I&E Program	BOND CALCULATION TYPE:	BOND AMOUNT: \$5,000.00	
DATE OF COMPLAINT: NA	POST INSP. CONTACTS: None	JOINT INSP. AGENCY: None	
INSPECTOR(S): Amber Michels	INSPECTOR'S SIGNATURE: 	SIGNATURE DATE: September 15, 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>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>Y</u>
(MP) GENL MINE PLAN COMPLIANCE- <u>Y</u>	(FW) FISH & WILDLIFE----- <u>N</u>	(RV) REVEGETATION---- <u>N</u>
(SM) SIGNS AND MARKERS----- <u>Y</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

The Stone City Mine was inspected by Amber Michels with the Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety (Division/DRMS). The inspection was completed in response to the Operator's request for a second period of Temporary Cessation. The site was previously inspected by the Division on September 24, 2020 as part of the Division's routine monitoring program. Jason McGraw with General Shale Brick, Inc., representing the Operator, accompanied me during the inspection. The weather was hot and the sky was clear.

The Stone City Mine is located in Pueblo County approximately 18 miles northwest of Pueblo, Colorado on the Fort Carson Army Base. The mine is a 110 construction materials permit for 9.8 acres. The primary commodity being mined at the site is clay. The approved post-mining land use is rangeland.

Availability Of Records:

Annual Report, Map, and Fee were submitted on February 14, 2023 and are current through March 14, 2024. The Operator provided the Division with an updated Legal Right to Enter Lease with the Army that expires in February 2026. The lease only lists the adjacent Tomahawk Mine (M-1991-003), but the Operator clarified that it encompasses the entire area of the Stone City and Tomahawk Mines.

Financial Warranty:

The financial warranty currently held by the Division is approximately \$5,000. The Division has determined that this is adequate at this time.

Gen. Compliance With Mine Plan:

Mining at this site overlaps with historical pre-law mining disturbance in the area (see Map 2). When the site was permitted, the Permittee only had access to the site for three months out of the year, usually being from November to January. The Operator stated that they now have permission to access the mine year-round.

Mining at this site consists of breaking up an 18 foot or less lens of sandstone caprock to reach a variety of clay layers (Photos 2 and 8; Map 1). The clays salvaged on site are categorized as flint, bone, and plastic clays. The dimensions of the clay lenses vary, and not all lenses are present throughout the entire site. Much of the flint clay was mined out in the south portion of the site via underground pre-law historic mining (Photos 5, 6, and 9; Maps 1 and 2), and plastic clays were left as waste (Photo 10; Map 1). The Operator intends to salvage the plastic clay piles once mining resumes. When the site was being actively mined by the previous Permittee, the overburden was broken up, clay was salvaged, and hauled off-site.

The current Operator surveyed the total disturbance (pre-law disturbance and permitted disturbance) within the permit boundary and concluded that about 3 acres of disturbance lay within the southern portion of the permit boundary (Map 2). However, it is difficult to distinguish on-site where pre-law mining disturbance meets permitted disturbance. From the Division's file review, and a conversation with the current Operator, it appears that mining by the previous Permittee is contained within a 1 – 2 acre area moving north and west from the south-east corner of the outcrop near the permit's entrance sign (see markers 1 and 2 on Map 1). The current Operator has not actively mined the area, and had only removed some material from stockpiles present on-site in the past prior to entering into Temporary Cessation 1 (TC1). Other than the historical product piles, there are no recent product stockpiles onsite.

The last date of activity for this site, according to the annual report, was February 3, 2003. This site entered into TC1 on November 1, 2016. The period of TC1 expired on November 1, 2021. The Operator was made aware that their TC1 had expired, and that they will be required to either resume mining, begin final reclamation, or apply for a second period of Temporary Cessation. The Operators applied for a second period of Temporary Cessation (TC2) on April 20, 2023. Because no problems were identified on-site during the inspection, the Division will bring the TC2 request before the Mined Land and Reclamation Board at the November 15, 2023 MLRB meeting and will recommend approval at that time.

The Operator is working on developing a plan to submit an amendment to the Stone City Mine permit that would combine its boundaries with the Operator's adjacent Tomahawk Mine (see Map 3). The Operator has been in correspondence with the Army and is waiting to obtain permission from them prior to submitting an amendment application. The Division reminds the Operator that pursuant to Rule 1.13.5(1)(b), if their TC2 request is granted, the start date retroactively begins at the expiration date of TC1 (November 1, 2021). A ten year period is the maximum amount of time that a Construction Materials Reclamation Permit is allowed to be in temporary cessation. After that time period, if mining activity has not resumed, the mining operation must be terminated and the site will must be reclaimed in accordance with the approved reclamation plan pursuant to Rule 1.13.9.

Signs and Markers:

A mine sign posted in compliance with Rule 3.1.12(1) was posted near the entrance to the site (Photo 1: Map 1). A few boundary markers were observed onsite as well (Photos 1, 4, and 7; Map 1). The boundary markers installed more accurately reflect the boundary where historically mining abuts the permitted site within the permit boundaries (see Maps 1 and 2). The Division's December 8, 1999 inspection indicates that these markers were placed here to be out of the way of military maneuvers throughout the area. The markers appear to encompass the outcrop that is to be mined.

Topsoil:

No topsoil is available onsite, and none is expected to be, or has been, salvaged for use in reclamation.

Conclusion:

This concludes the Division's Inspection Report; a few maps displaying topics discussed during the inspection and a subset of corresponding photographs that were taken during the time of the inspection are included below. If you need additional information or have any questions, please contact me by email at amber.michels@state.co.us or by telephone at (720) 836-0967.

Inspection Contact Address

Jason McGraw
General Shale Brick, Inc.
1845 West Dartmouth Avenue
Denver, CO 80110

CC: Jared Ebert, DRMS
Brock Bowles, DRMS

PHOTOGRAPHS



Photo 1: Looking west at mine sign and permit boundary marker.



Photo 2: Looking west at minor mining disturbance along the eastern boundary of the permit.



Photo 3: Standing at the permit sign, looking East at the adjacent Tomahawk Mine (M-1991-003).



Photo 4: Looking north at a permit boundary marker.



Photo 5: Looking north at some historic mining disturbance located to the south of the Stone City permit boundary.



Photo 6: Standing on-top of an outcrop within the permit boundary, looking south at old mining disturbance from historic underground mines in the area.



Photo 7: Looking north at a boundary marker.



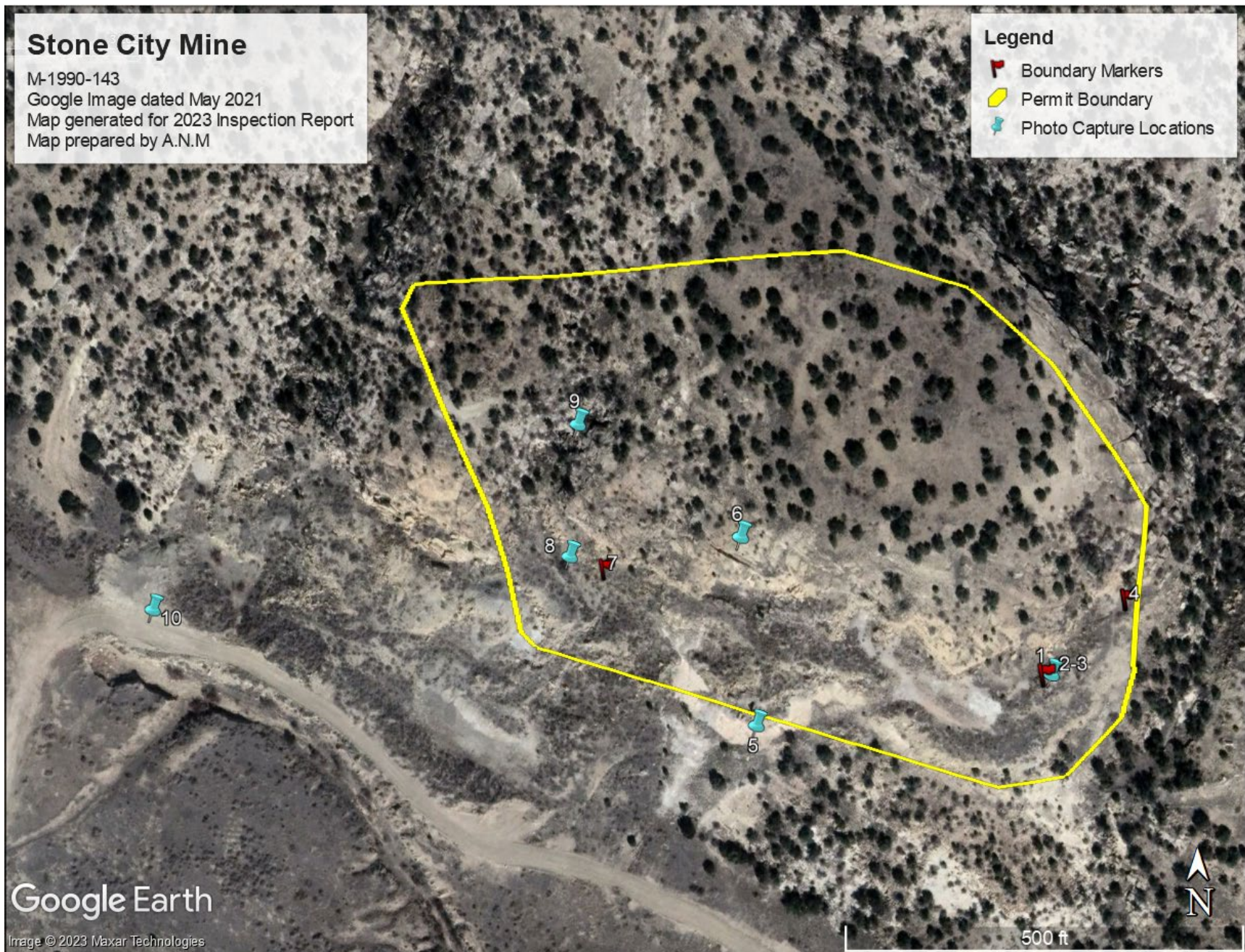
Photo 8: Looking north along the mine's southern boundary. Rubble stockpiles remain from historic mining.



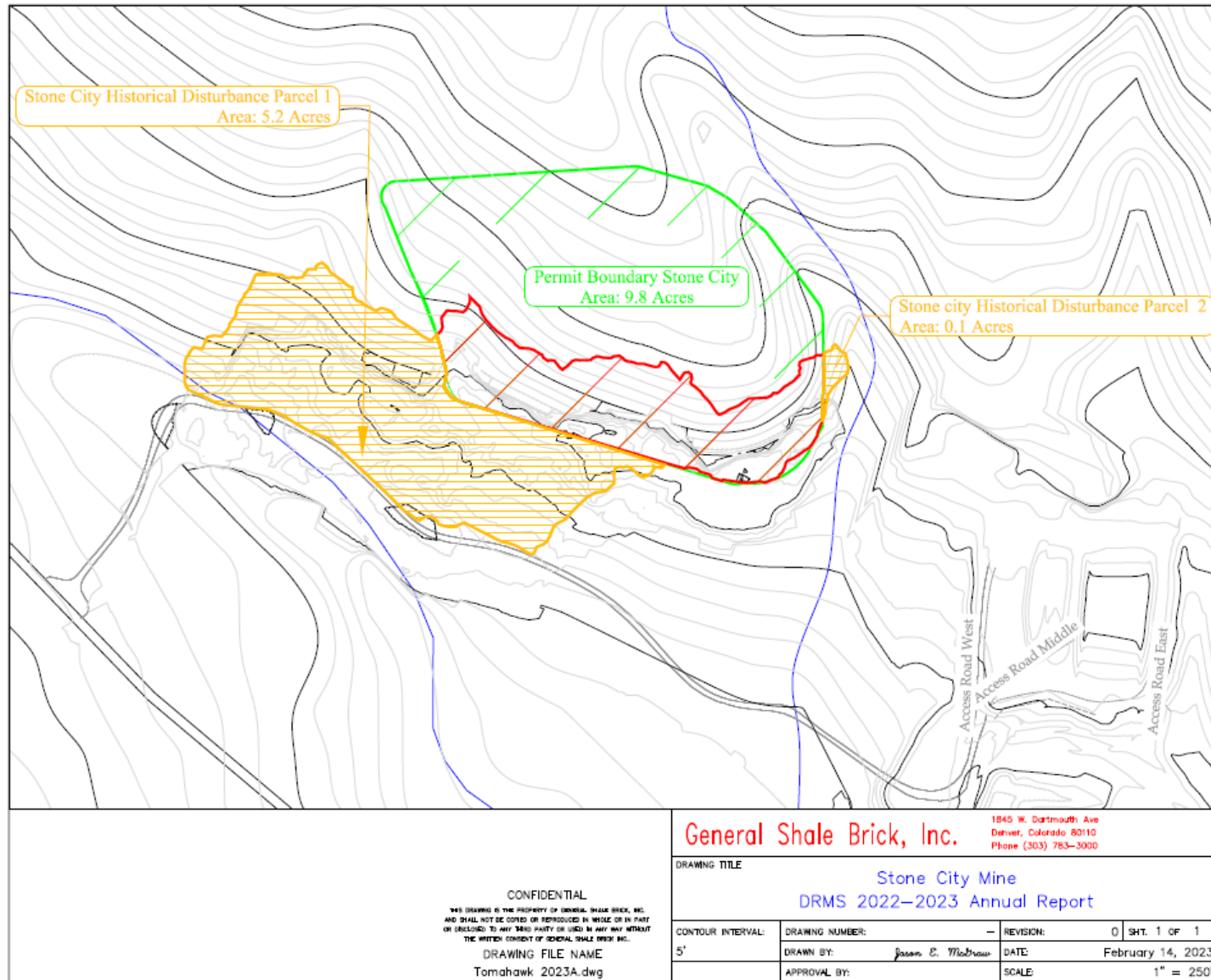
Photo 9: Looking north from on top of the outcrop at a cave left from historic underground mining.



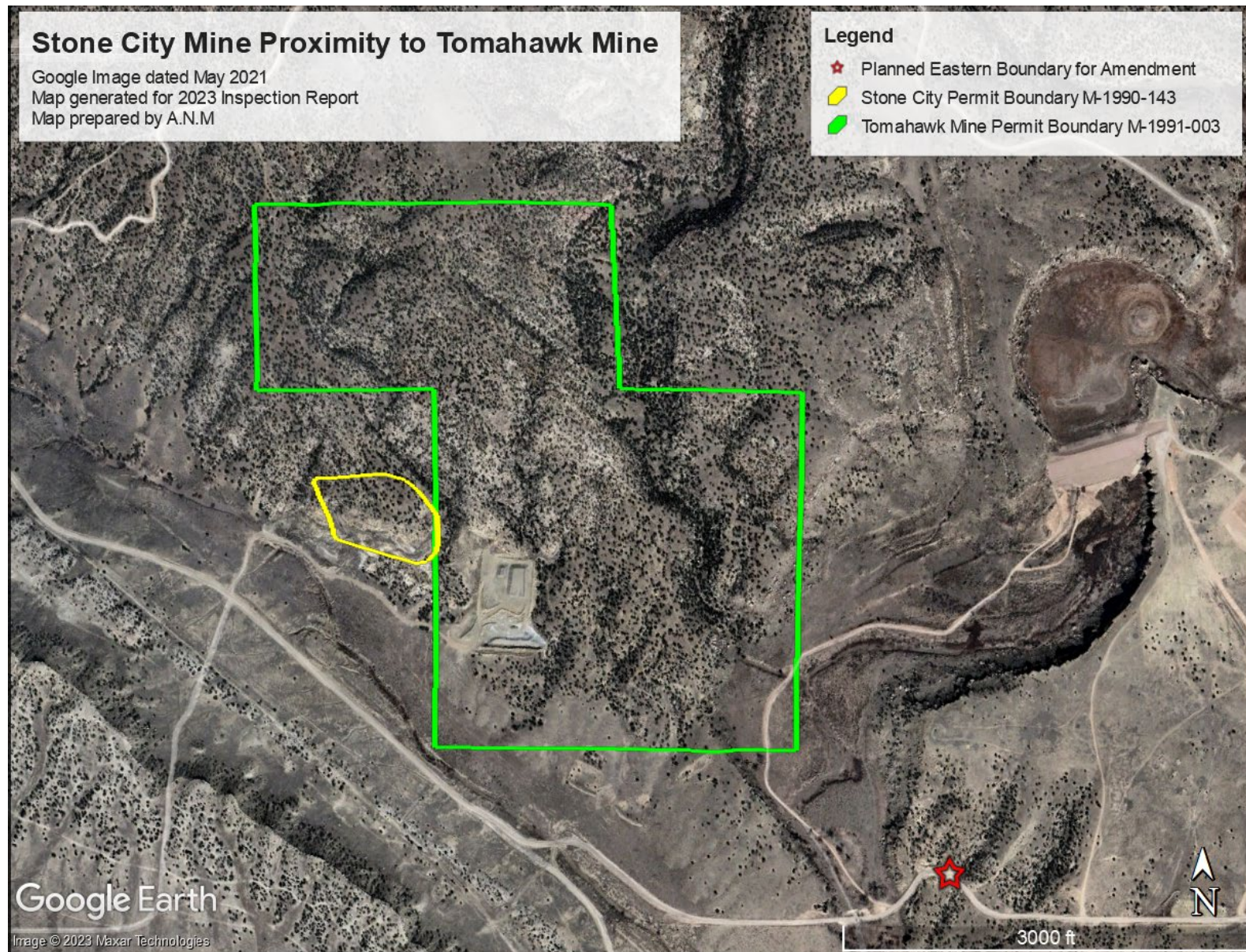
Photo 10: Looking north at the south-western border of the permit. Some gray clay material discarded by historic mining will be salvaged by the Operator when mining resumes.



Map 1: Map generated in Google Earth Pro. The yellow polygon is the approximate permit boundary for the Stone City Mine. The blue push pin and red flag icons correspond with the photos taken during the inspection, and indicate the photo capture locations. The red flags indicate where boundary markers were identified. It appears that the boundary markers mark the extent of the historically affected mining within the permit boundary (see Map 2 below).



Map 2: 2023 Annual Report Map submitted by the Operator. This map indicates the Operation's permit boundary (green polygon), the entirety of the disturbance within the permit boundary (historic pre-law mining disturbance and disturbance that has occurred do to mining since the sites been permitted (red polygon), and historic pre-law mining disturbance outside of the permit boundary (orange polygons).



Map 3: The yellow polygon represents the approximate permit boundary of the Stone City Mine M-1990-143. The green polygon represents the approximate location of the Tomahawk mine M-1991-003. The Operator intends to amend these two mines to be included within the same boundary. The red star indicates the area where the Operator wants the eastern boundary to bisect upon amending the site.