




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: Masters Pit #2	MINE/PROSPECTING ID#: M-2010-037	MINERAL: Clay (general), gravel	COUNTY: Washington
INSPECTION TYPE: Monitoring	WEATHER: Clear	INSP. DATE: September 12, 2023	INSP. TIME: 09:00
OPERATOR: Elva Masters	OPERATOR REPRESENTATIVE: Tony Niebur	TYPE OF OPERATION: 112c - Construction Regular Operation	
REASON FOR INSPECTION: Normal I&E Program	BOND CALCULATION TYPE: None	BOND AMOUNT: \$15,500.00	
DATE OF COMPLAINT: NA	POST INSP. CONTACTS: None	JOINT INSP. AGENCY: None	
INSPECTOR(S): Brock Bowles	INSPECTOR'S SIGNATURE: 	SIGNATURE DATE: September 20, 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 inspection was conducted by Brock Bowles of the Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety (Division). Tony Niebur (Operator) was present for the inspection. The Elva Masters Pit is located about 15 miles southwest of Cope, Colorado. The site is an active 112c operation with 80 acres permitted and the post-mining land use is rangeland. This inspection was carried out as a part of the Division's routine monitoring inspection program. At the time of the inspection, it was warm, clear and the ground was dry.

The mine entrance sign was in place at the entrance gate (photo 1) and the permit boundary markers were in place.

The disturbed areas of the mine have been reclaimed. According to Mr. Niebur the site was seeded 2 years ago.

The surface area was graded to blend in with the surrounding landscape. The banks along the creek were sloped 3h:1v (photo 2). No rills or gullies were seen on the banks or upland areas.

The creek bed did not have any obstructions restricting water flow.

The topsoil had been spread across the reclaimed area, but not in the creek bottom. The topsoil appeared to be stable as no rills or gullies were seen.

The vegetation was looking good across the site. The mine received a good amount of precipitation this year. This is evident by the tall grasses adjacent to the disturbed areas and the plume of gravel in the creek bottom deposited by storm water.

The upland areas were filling in with several species of grasses (photo 3). The creek banks had some alfalfa, common cockleburs (*xanthium orientale*), sunflowers, Indian ricegrass and wheatgrasses. A small patch of cockleburs and sunflowers were on the west end of the reclaimed creek bank (photo 4). Both of these plants are native annuals, and the patch will most likely decrease in size as the surrounding well-established grass community takes over.

Mr. Niebur requested that this inspection be the bond release inspection, since the site looked good. He also requested that a hard copy of the bond release application be mailed to Elva Masters. A copy of the application was mailed on Sept 13, 2023. This inspection can count as the bond release inspection if the final/full bond release application is received by the Division within 30 days of issuance of this report.

PHOTOGRAPHS



Photo 1 – Mine entrance sign facing CR JJ



Photo 2 – East end of mine facing west. Right bank reclaimed, left bank was not mined.



Photo 3 – Upland reclamation, old topsoil storage area.



Photo 4 – West end of mine facing east. Left bank reclaimed, right bank not mined.

Inspection Contact Address

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