




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: Corliss Sand Pit	MINE/PROSPECTING ID#: M-2007-001	MINERAL: Sand	COUNTY: Yuma
INSPECTION TYPE: Monitoring	WEATHER: Sunny, Clear	INSP. DATE: August 31, 2023	INSP. TIME: 10:00
OPERATOR: Ritchey's Redi-Mix Concrete, Inc.	OPERATOR REPRESENTATIVE: Jerry Ritchie	TYPE OF OPERATION: 110c - Construction Limited Impact	
REASON FOR INSPECTION: Normal I&E Program	BOND CALCULATION TYPE: Complete Bond	BOND AMOUNT: \$16,600.00	
DATE OF COMPLAINT: NA	POST INSP. CONTACTS: None	JOINT INSP. AGENCY: None	
INSPECTOR(S): Nikie Gagnon	INSPECTOR'S SIGNATURE: 	SIGNATURE DATE: October 19, 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>N</u>	(BG) BACKFILL & GRADING----- <u>Y</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>Y</u>
(SM) SIGNS AND MARKERS----- <u>Y</u>	(SP) STORM WATER MGT PLAN---- <u>N</u>	(RS) RECL PLAN/COMP-- <u>Y</u>
(ES) OVERBURDEN/DEV. WASTE----- <u>N</u>	(SC) EROSION/SEDIMENTATION-- <u>Y</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 as part of the Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety's (Division or DRMS) routine monitoring program for permitted operations. Nikie Gagnon, with the Division, conducted the inspection. Jerry Ritchie, (Operator) accompanied the Division during the inspection.

The Corliss Sand Pit is located 4 miles northwest of Wray, CO. The entrance to the mine is located a half mile east of County Road CC, on the south side County Rd 37. The site is a 110c operation permitted to affect 9.90 acres. Affected lands will be reclaimed to support a rangeland post-mining land use. At the time of the inspection, it was clear and warm, and the site was dry. The site was not active at the time of inspection and no equipment was observed on-site. The operation consists of a single excavated pit. The disturbance area is approximately 1.5 acres in size.

Reclamation Success:

This site was last inspected by the Division on August 7, 2019. Based on the description in the 2019 inspection report, very little has changed over the past four years. During this inspection, Mr. Ritchie stated he is no longer mining and plans to complete reclamation, which includes repairs to the deep erosion rills observed on the south slope, backfill the northern slope with material from the pit floor to achieve a slope no steeper than 3H:1V.

The approved Reclamation Plan includes reclaiming all slopes to no steeper than 3H:1V, replacing 4" of topsoil, mulching the site with either 1900 lbs./acre of straw or hay or 37,000 lbs./acre of corn stalks, seeding the area with the approved reclamation seed mixture, and installing a temporary fence around the reclaimed lands to keep out livestock.

The approved seed mixture includes the following species in pounds Pure Live Seed (PLS) per acre: sand bluestem (3.2), yellow Indiangrass (2.0), switchgrass (0.9), prairie sandreed (1.3), western wheatgrass (1.6), and indian ricegrass (1.25).

The Division is concerned reclamation is not being completed with all reasonable diligence within five (5) years from the date that mining activities ceased as required by C.R.S. 34-32.5-116(4)(q)(I) and Rule 3.1.3. During the previous inspection on August 7, 2019, Mr. Ritchie stated that mining was complete, and he planned to repair and grade the slopes around the excavation and complete the remaining reclamation tasks. Based on this statement, and the annual reports filed since 2019 indicating this site is in reclamation, the Division reminds the Operator that all remaining reclamation tasks must be completed by the end of August 2024, to ensure the operation remains in compliance with C.R.S. 34-32.5-116(4)(q)(I) and Rule 3.1.3. Once the site is topsoiled and seeded, the Division will continue to conduct routine monitoring inspections until revegetation is established across the disturbance area. After which, the Operator may request a full/final release of the financial warranty and performance bond.

Roads:

The service road/trail leading to the mine was heavily overgrown with vegetation further indicating no recent activity has occurred at the site. The approved Reclamation Plan states the trail roadway will be left in place at the end of the operation for use by the landowner.

Signs and Markers:

A mine sign was posted in accordance with Rule 3.1.12(1) at the entrance to the pit and the boundaries are marked in the metal posts with orange cones.

Financial Warranty:

The Division currently holds a financial warranty in the amount of \$16,600.00. Since this site is in reclamation and no additional mining is anticipated, the warranty amount is adequate to fulfill the requirements of the approved Reclamation Plan. If any further disturbance occurs, the financial warranty will be reassessed.

This concludes the Division's Inspection Report; a subset of photographs taken during the time of the inspection are included below. 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 303-866-3567 x8126, or by email at nikie.gagnon@state.co.us.

PHOTOGRAPHS



Photo 1: Looking northeast across the excavated pit. The north slope is steeper than 3:1. Operator state he plans to use fill from the pit floor to regrade the slope.



Photo 2: Looking northwest from the pit floor.



Photo 3: Deep erosion rills noted in the southwestern corner of the excavated pit.



Photo 4: Erosion rills on the south slope of the pit.



Photo 5: Stockpiled material stored on the western end of the pit.



Photo 6: Permit boundary in northwestern corner, outside the disturbance area.



Photo 7: Trail/access road to the pit.



Photo 8: Undisturbed area within the permit area. This represents the long-term anticipated vegetation type/density in the reclaimed area.



Photo 9: Mine sign posted at a metal gate at the front entrance to the permit area.



Photo 10: Gate at entrance to the mining area.

Inspection Contact Address

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