



STATE OF
COLORADO

Reilley - DNR, Robin <robin.reilley@state.co.us>

Inspection Trapper SL24

1 message

Reilley - DNR, Robin <robin.reilley@state.co.us>

Wed, Oct 18, 2023 at 4:24 PM

To: Graham Roberts <graham.roberts@trappermine.com>, Daniel Mackinnon <dmackinnon@osmre.gov>, Hunter Ridley - DNR <hunter.ridley@state.co.us>, Robin Reilley - DNR <robin.reilley@state.co.us>

Good afternoon Graham,

Please find DRMS's inspection reports for the 2023 October cycle, the SL24 inspection and the OSM NOV follow up inspection.

Please let me know of any questions.

Robin Reilley, M.S. GISP
Environmental Protection Specialist II



COLORADO
Division of Reclamation,
Mining and Safety
Department of Natural Resources

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2 attachments



Insp_Partial_Trapper_2023_10_Oct.pdf

262K



Insp_Partial_Trapper_2023_10Oct_SL24.pdf

3180K



COLORADO
 Division of Reclamation,
 Mining and Safety
 Department of Natural Resources

10 October 2023

PERMIT INFORMATION

Permit Number: C1981010 Mine Name: Trapper Mine Operator: Trapper Mining, Inc. Operator Address: Mr. Graham Roberts P.O. Box 187 Craig, CO 81626	County: Moffat Operation Type: Surface Permit Status: Active Ownership: Federal
	Operator Representative Present: Graham Roberts
This report was issued electronically from the Divisions' Denver Office.	

INSPECTION INFORMATION

Inspection Start Date: 11 October 2023 Inspection Start Time: 9:00 a.m. Inspection End Date: 11 October 2023 Inspection End Time: 3:30 p.m.	Inspection Type: Coal Partial Inspection Inspection Reason: Surety Release Requested Weather: Cloudy
Joint Inspection Agency: OSM	Joint Inspection Contacts: Dan MacKinnon, Haley Hampstead
Post Inspection Agency: None	Post Inspection Contacts:
Inspector(s): Robin A. Reilley, M.S. GISP Hunter Ridley	Inspector's Signature:  Signature Date: 17 October 2023

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 4

Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 1

Inspection Topic Summary	
NOTE: Y=Inspected N=Not Inspected R=Comments Noted V=Violation Issued NA=Not Applicable	
Y - Air Resource Protection	R - Roads
N - Availability of Records	R - Reclamation Success
R - Backfill & Grading	R - Revegetation
NA - Excess Spoil and Dev. Waste	Y - Subsidence
N - Explosives	Y - Slides and Other Damage
R - Fish & Wildlife	R - Support Facilities On-site
R - Hydrologic Balance	N - Signs and Markers
R - Gen. Compliance With Mine Plan	NA - Support Facilities Not On-site
NA - Other	NA - Special Categories Of Mining
NA - Processing Waste	N - Topsoil

COMMENTS

This was a partial inspection of the Trapper Mine; permit C1981010, operated by Trapper Mining Inc. The inspection was conducted and the report and photos prepared by me, Robin Reilley of the DRMS. Graham Roberts, Trapper Mine representative and Hunter Ridley of DRMS were present throughout the inspection. Also present, as this was a request for bond release were Dan MacKinnon and Haley Hampstead of The Office of Surface Mining (OSM). No hydrologic or air quality issues were detected at the time of inspection, although at the D Pit where topsoil was being loaded, hauled and dumped some dust rose from the operations. Skies were cloudy with intermittent rain. Temperatures hovered in the 50 degrees Fahrenheit.

PERMITTING ACTIONS in PROGRESS:
SL24

MAINTENANCE ITEMS IDENTIFIED
A few rills in the bond release blocks.

OUTSTANDING MAINTENANCE

- Fencing and delineation of the new permitted area at the west panel is outstanding (PR11).

MAINTENANCE COMPLETED

- Sediment fans in ponds had been dredging.
- Dozer basins had been dredged and reconstructed.
- Constructed drainages (MF, MF1, MF3 and MF2) requiring stabilization had been repaired.

INSPECTION

GENERAL MINE PLAN COMPLIANCE:

The inspection began in parcel ZA17 where we spread out and walked southeast (uphill) through parcels LAB18 and LAB19 then followed a contour downhill to the northwest through parcels LAB19 and LAB18. Vegetation cover was noted in the Phase II bond release request area and was found to be diverse and cover was observed to be good.

After inspecting the eastern bond release block we moved to the west block comprised of entirely of parcel FB19. Beginning at the east side of the parcel we crossed the constructed drainage and roughly followed the 7100 elevation contour to the northwest. Vegetation cover was noted in the Phase II bond release request area and was found to be diverse and cover was observed to be good.

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Topsoil hauling and spreading was underway in D Pit. Numerous haul trucks were operating. N Pit was active at the time of inspection. The ready line was orderly at the time of inspection.

ROADS – Rule 4.03

Construction 4.03.1(3) I 4.03.2(3); Drainage 4.03.1(4) I 4.03.2(4); Surfacing and Maintenance 4.03.1(5) and (6) I 4.03.2(5) and (6); Reclamation 4.03.1(7) I 4.03.2(7)

- Main haul roads were in good repair.
- Ditches along haul roads and access roads appeared to be functioning adequately.
- Haul roads was being graded.

HYDROLOGIC BALANCE – Rule 4.05

Drainage Control 4.05.1, 4.05.2, 4.05.3; Siltation Structures 4.05.5, 4.05.6; Discharge Structures 4.05.7, 4.05.10; Diversions 4.05.4; Effluent Limits 4.05.2; Ground Water Monitoring 4.05.13; Drainage- Acid and Toxic Materials 4.05.8; Impoundments 4.05.6, 4.05.9; Stream Buffer Zones 4.05.18

- Overall the slopes were well vegetated with mature and adequate cover effectively reducing erosion. Some rilling was identified across the bond release block as shown on the map below. The operator agreed to make the required repairs in the next few days.
- Contour ditches intersecting the constructed drainages were removed so as not to concentrate runoff into the constructed drainages.



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Map I: Location of rills in east reclamation block.**TOPSOIL – RULE 4.06***Removal 4.06.2; Substitute Materials 4.06.4(4); Storage and Protection 4.06.3; Redistribution 4.06.4*

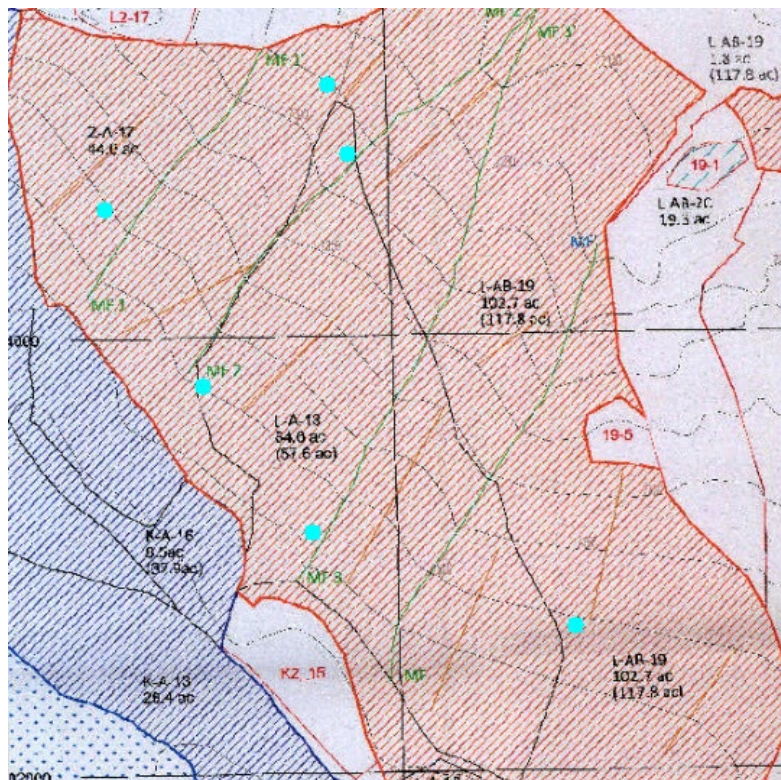
- No instability or riling were noted on the observed topsoil piles. Topsoil piles are vegetated, with vegetation mostly dormant.
- Piles appeared to be marked appropriately.
- Topsoil was being loaded, hauled, dumped and spread in D Pit.
- Topsoil had been placed in I Pit East.

BACKFILL and GRADING – RULE 4.14

- Reclamation consists of benched overburden in L Pit awaiting grading, an ongoing activity at Trapper Mine.
- Repair and grading of constructed drainages has been completed.

REVEGETATION - Rule 4.15*General Requirements 4.15.1; Use of Species 4.15.2, Grazing 4.15.5*

- Revegetation in the two bond release blocks appeared stable and mature with a diversity of species as approved in the seed mixture. Some weeds are present in places. Thistles were noted as was cheat grass. No infestations were noted.
- Vegetation comprised shrubs; rabbit brush various types of Artemisia, wheat and wild rye grasses and perennials such as penstemon, burnet, yarrow, alfalfa, and asters among other species.
- A couple areas of sparsely vegetated areas were identified and will be monitored over the next years.

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Map II: Areas of cheat grass to be monitored.

FISH and WILDLIFE– RULE 4.18

Wildlife sightings included red and white tailed hawks, numerous sharp tailed grouse were flushed on several occasions, and a coyote was observed.

INSPECTION, ENFORCEMENT and CIVIL PENALTIES – RULE 5

Inspections 5.02; Availability of Records

- As this was a partial inspection, records were not checked.

DOCUMENTS RECEIVED

None

ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS/COMPLIANCE

No enforcement actions were initiated as a result of this inspection, nor are any pending.

PHOTOGRAPHS



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***Photo 1:** Vegetation in parcel ZA17.*



***Photo 2:** Area of sparse vegetation to monitor in parcel ZA17*



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Photo 3: Diversity of vegetation showing shrubs forbs and grasses.



Photo 4: Parcel LA18 area of cheat grass at MF2 at 7500 contour.

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***Photo 5:** Vegetation diversity and cover in parcel LA18.*

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Photo 6: Rill in the west portion of parcel FB19 near the 6950 elevation contour.

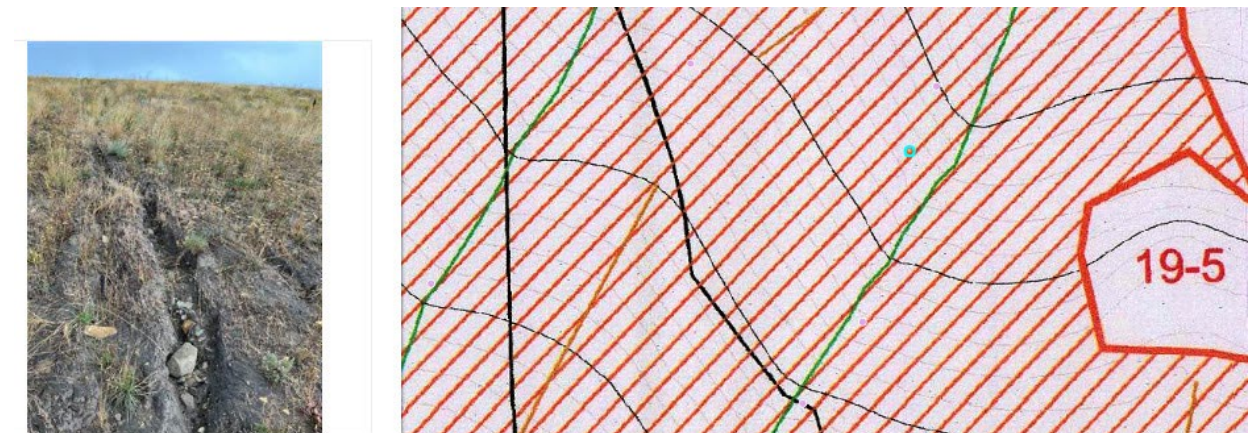


Photo 7: Rill in parcel LAB19 at 7225 elevation contour.

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Photo 8: Rill in parcel LAB19 at 7510 elevation contour.



Photo 9: MFI Constructed Drainage looking north, downslope.

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Photo 10: *Constructed Drainage MF2 looking north, downslope.*



Photo 11: *Check dam basin at Drainage MF2.*

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11 October 2023

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	Operator Representative Present: Graham Roberts
This report was issued electronically from the Divisions' Denver Office.	

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Joint Inspection Agency: OSM	Joint Inspection Contacts: Daniel MacKinnon, Haley Hampstead
Post Inspection Agency: None	Post Inspection Contacts:
Inspector(s): Robin A. Reilley, M.S. GISP Hunter Ridley	Inspector's Signature:  Signature Date: 18 October 2023

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 3

Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 1

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COMMENTS

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PERMITTING ACTIONS in PROGRESS:
SL24

MAINTENANCE ITEMS IDENTIFIED
NA

INSPECTION
GENERAL MINE PLAN COMPLIANCE:

The inspection only comprised the J Pit area where a Cease and Desist order and Notice of Violation were issued in June of 2023 stemming from a citizens complaint. The inspection was requested by the Office of Surface Mining as a follow up to the Notice of Violation. The circumstances of the violation were discussed and the area in question was shown to OSM staff. All parties were satisfied that the discussion meet their needs and the violation was resolved in a timely manner.

TOPSOIL – RULE 4.06
Removal 4.06.2; Substitute Materials 4.06.4(4); Storage and Protection 4.06.3; Redistribution 4.06.4
○ J pit has been stripped.

USE of EXPLOSIVES – Rule 4.08
General Requirements 4.08.1; Pre blasting survey 4.08.2; Public Notice of Blasting Schedule 4.08.3;
Surface Blasting Requirements 4.08.4; Records of Blasting for Surface Coal Mining 4.08.5;
Seismographic Measurements 4.08.6d stripping
○ A blast was set up in the J Pit along the south edge.

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*INSPECTION, ENFORCEMENT and CIVIL PENALTIES – RULE 5
Inspections 5.02; Availability of Records*

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DOCUMENTS RECEIVED

None

ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS/COMPLIANCE

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