



COLORADO

Division of Reclamation,
Mining and Safety


Department of Natural Resources

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: Schmidt Gravel Pit	MINE/PROSPECTING ID#: M-2000-048	MINERAL: Gravel	COUNTY: Kiowa
INSPECTION TYPE: Monitoring	WEATHER: Clear	INSP. DATE: October 5, 2023	INSP. TIME: 11:15
OPERATOR: Kiowa County	OPERATOR REPRESENTATIVE: Allen Watts	TYPE OF OPERATION: 110c - Construction Limited Impact	

REASON FOR INSPECTION: Normal I&E Program	BOND CALCULATION TYPE:	BOND AMOUNT: \$0.00
DATE OF COMPLAINT: NA	POST INSP. CONTACTS: None	JOINT INSP. AGENCY: None
INSPECTOR(S): Joel Renfro	INSPECTOR'S SIGNATURE: 	SIGNATURE DATE: November 28, 2023

The following inspection topics were identified as having Problems or Possible Violations. OPERATORS SHOULD READ THE FOLLOWING PAGES CAREFULLY IN ORDER TO ASSURE COMPLIANCE WITH THE TERMS OF THE PERMIT AND APPLICABLE RULES AND REGULATIONS. If a Possible Violation is indicated, you will be notified under separate cover as to when the Mined Land Reclamation Board will consider possible enforcement action.

INSPECTION TOPIC: Signs & Markers

PROBLEM/POSSIBLE VIOLATION: Problem: The sign does not include a statement that the reclamation permit for the operation has been issued by the Colorado Mined Land Reclamation Board (CMLRB). This is a problem for failure to meet all requirements of a mine identification sign per Rule 3.1.12(1).

CORRECTIVE ACTIONS: The operator shall, at the entrance of the mine site post a sign, which shall be clearly visible from the access road, with a minimum size equaling one hundred and eighty-seven (187) square inches, such as eleven (11) inches in height and seventeen (17) inches in width, with appropriate font size, with the following: the name of the operator, the operation name, a statement that a reclamation permit for the operation has been issued by the CMLRB, and the permit number. The operator shall submit photo documentation that a proper sign has been posted by the corrective action due date.

CORRECTIVE ACTION DUE DATE: 12/28/23

OBSERVATIONS

The Schmidt Gravel Pit was inspected by Joel Renfro with the Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety (Division/DRMS) as a part of the Division's routine monitoring program on October 5, 2023. This site was previously inspected on October 11, 2018. Allen Watts with Kiowa County was present during the inspection. The site is located approximately 6 miles north of Towner, Colorado in Kowa County. Access to the site is from the east off of Co Rd 78. **Photos 1-10** taken during the inspection are included with this report.

This is a 110c operation permitted for 9.5 acres to mine sand and gravel for use in county road construction and maintenance. The permit boundaries are marked with fencing along the edges of the area. No material processing occurs on site. Mined material is directly hauled off-site for use or stored on the pit floor. The operation began mining from the western edge of the permit area and has mined northward.

The site was not active at the time of inspection, but the product stockpiles are hauled off frequently. The county is busy with road maintenance due to heavy precipitation this year. Approximately 6.5 acres have been disturbed. Since the last inspection, a new pit has been dug out east of the original pit. The new pit is approximately 1 acre in area. The operator plans to connect the pits eventually by mining down the highwall separating them. Salvaged overburden is stored along the eastern edge of the east pit. Topsoil is stockpiled along the southern edge of the permit area and is well-seeded. The product is stockpiled on the pit floor.

The approved post-mining land use is rangeland. Reclamation of the site will involve grading all disturbed slopes to 3H:1V or flatter, replacing 8 inches of overburden and 4 inches of topsoil on disturbed land, and then seed the land with a native grass seed mixture. However, no reclamation work has started yet.

There is no statement on the mine entrance sign that a reclamation permit for the operation has been issued by the Colorado Mined Land Reclamation Board (CMLRB), therefore the sign does not include all information required by Rule 3.1.12(1). This is cited as a problem in the report (see page 1). The operator will need to submit photo documentation that a proper sign has been posted by the corrective action due date.

This concludes the report.

Any questions or comments regarding this inspection report should be forwarded to Joel Renfro at the Colorado Division of Reclamation, Mining, and Safety, 1313 Sherman Street, Room 215, Denver, CO 80203, via telephone at (303) 866-3567 ext. 8147, or email at joel.renfro@state.co.us.

PHOTOGRAPHS



Photo 1. Mine entrance sign, looking west. The sign does not state "A reclamation permit for the operation has been issued by the Colorado Mined Land Reclamation Board (CMLRB)".



Photo 2. Topsoil stockpile, looking west.



Photo 3. Overburden stockpile located east of newest pit, looking north.



Photo 4. The old mining pit is in the center of the image, looking south. A new mining pit is being excavated to the left. The operator plans to connect these pits by digging out the highwall in between the pits.



Photo 5. Overburden stockpile, looking east.



Photo 6. Overburden stockpile located north of the pits, looking north.



Photo 7. Original mining pit, looking north.



Photo 8. Topsoil stockpile located south of mining pits, looking east.



Photo 9. South of the topsoil stockpile, the southern permit boundary is marked by the fence on the right, looking east.



Photo 10. New mining pit, looking north.

GENERAL INSPECTION TOPICS

The following list identifies the environmental and permit parameters inspected and gives a categorical evaluation of each

(AR) RECORDS----- <u>N</u>	(FN) FINANCIAL WARRANTY----- <u>NA</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>PB</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>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

Inspection Contact Address

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CC:
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