




## 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.

<b>MINE NAME:</b> Del Norte Gravel Pit		<b>MINE/PROSPECTING ID#:</b> M-1978-071	<b>MINERAL:</b> Sand and gravel	<b>COUNTY:</b> Rio Grande
<b>INSPECTION TYPE:</b> Monitoring		<b>WEATHER:</b> Cloudy	<b>INSP. DATE:</b> November 20, 2023	<b>INSP. TIME:</b> 13:00
<b>OPERATOR:</b> Rio Grande County		<b>OPERATOR REPRESENTATIVE:</b> Patrick Sullivan	<b>TYPE OF OPERATION:</b> 112c - Construction Regular Operation	
<b>REASON FOR INSPECTION:</b> Normal I&E Program		<b>BOND CALCULATION TYPE:</b> None	<b>BOND AMOUNT:</b> \$0.00	
<b>DATE OF COMPLAINT:</b> NA		<b>POST INSP. CONTACTS:</b> None	<b>JOINT INSP. AGENCY:</b> None	
<b>INSPECTOR(S):</b> Todd Jesse	<b>INSPECTOR'S SIGNATURE:</b> 		<b>SIGNATURE DATE:</b> December 1, 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>Y</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>Y</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**

This inspection report was conducted as part of the normal monitoring program established by the Colorado Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety's Active Mines Program. The Del Norte Gravel Pit is a 112c Operation operated by Rio Grande County Road and Bridge. The site is located approximately 1 mile north of the town of Del Norte, CO at an elevation of approximately 7800 feet. Access is controlled by a gate off CR 15 and the site consists of 156 permitted acres to be reclaimed for the post mine land use of wildlife habitat. Pursuant to Rule 4.1.2(2) no financial warranty is held for the site. Patrick Sullivan, a representative of Rio Grande Road and Bridge, was present for the inspection.

The proper mine identification signage was posted at the entrance to the site. Permit boundaries are clearly marked with fence lines. There are two pits within the permit area. The western pit ("old" pit) has been reclaimed and holds water that seeps into the pit from a ditch the runs along the pit boundary, which the Division of Water Resources does not consider to be groundwater. Waterfowl were seen using the pond during the inspection.

Current excavation occurs in the new pit to the east of the pond and is being conducted according to the submitted plan. The pit was active at the time of the inspection and the pit was well maintained. No evidence of water was noted in the new pit. Material is extracted at approximately reclamation grade resulting in no highwall on site. The side slopes of the pit are stable and well vegetated with volunteer species - showing no signs of erosion or slumping. Topsoil is stored along the northern permit boundary and is protected by vegetative cover. There appears to be an adequate amount of topsoil stockpiled for the permitted reclamation plan. There are multiple stockpiles of various sized materials both processed and unprocessed within the permit boundary. Imported materials include waste concrete and asphalt. These materials are benign and importation is included in the approved plan. The site acts as an intermittent source of material for Rio Grande Road and Bridge for projects in Rio Grande County. No state listed invasive species were identified on site during the inspection.

Site facilities include an office and asphalt plant. The office building was well kept on the outside. The asphalt plant was not operational at the time of the inspection but appeared to be well maintained. Hydrocarbons are stored in the facility area in secondary containment.

Photos that show the conditions observed during the inspection are included at the end of this report.

No problems or violations were noted or observed during the November 20, 2023 inspection.

All responses to this report should be directed to Todd Jesse with the Division's Active Mines Program at DRMS, Room 215, 1001 E 62<sup>nd</sup> Ave. Denver, CO 80216. Direct contact can be made at the Division's Grand Junction Field Office, by phone at 720-688-0626 or by email at [todd.jesse@state.co.us](mailto:todd.jesse@state.co.us).

## PHOTOGRAPHS



View to the east of proper Mine ID signage posted at the entrance.



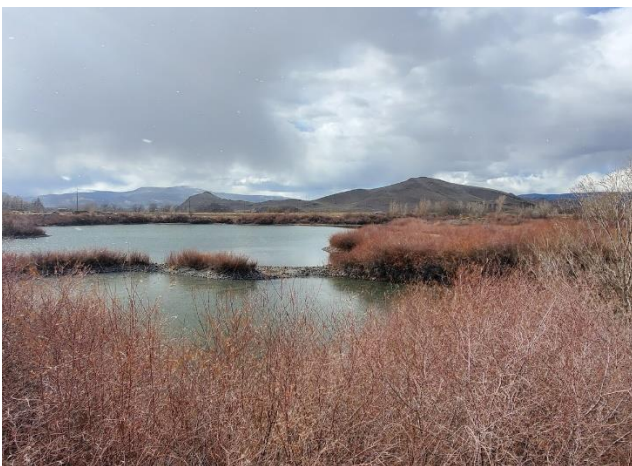
View to the east of undisturbed ground within the permit area.



View to the north of eastern edge of the pit. Material is being excavated at reclamation grade.



View to the northeast of principle topsoil stockpile along the northern permit boundary.



View to the west of water in the old pit.



View to the north of asphalt plant on site. Plant was not active at the time of the inspection.

**Inspection Contact Address**

Patrick Sullivan  
Rio Grande County  
168 N. Washington  
Monte Vista, CO 81144

CC: Travis Marshall, DRMS