




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: Orton Borrow Pit	MINE/PROSPECTING ID#: M-2022-031	MINERAL: Borrow material for	COUNTY: El Paso
INSPECTION TYPE: Monitoring	WEATHER: Clear	INSP. DATE: January 23, 2024	INSP. TIME: 12:30
OPERATOR: Castle Rock Construction Company of Colorado	OPERATOR REPRESENTATIVE: Travis Bell	TYPE OF OPERATION: 111 - Construction by Government Agency	
REASON FOR INSPECTION: Normal I&E Program	BOND CALCULATION TYPE: Complete Bond	BOND AMOUNT: \$45,417.00	
DATE OF COMPLAINT: NA	POST INSP. CONTACTS: None	JOINT INSP. AGENCY: None	
INSPECTOR(S): Hunter Ridley	INSPECTOR'S SIGNATURE: 	SIGNATURE DATE: January 25, 2024	

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>Y</u>	(RD) ROADS----- <u>Y</u>
(HB) HYDROLOGIC BALANCE----- <u>Y</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>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>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

The Orton Borrow Pit, Permit No. M-2022-031, was inspected by Hunter Ridley with the Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety (Division) as part of the Division's monitoring inspection program. Travis Bell with Castle Rock Construction Company of Colorado, LLC was present for the inspection. The Orton Borrow Pit is accessed from Highway 115 and is about 12.5 miles north of Penrose and about a half mile from the El Paso/Fremont County line. The site is a 111 borrow material operation permitted for 10.24 acres with a post-mining land use of rangeland.

A permit sign (Photo 1) and boundary markers (Photo 2) were posted in accordance with Rule 3.1.12. Mr. Bell provided the Division with recent aerial imagery ([attached below](#)) of the site which details the current acreage of disturbance. When considered with on the ground observations, the acreage of current disturbance appears to be just over 6 acres; this is well within the permitted 10.24 acres. Additional t-posts have been placed along the site's southern slope to delineate an ~30 ft offset from the permit boundary (Photo 3). This slope, while vegetated, has not yet been seeded and will be disturbed as topsoil is removed from its eastern end (Photo 5) and spread throughout the rest of the site.

The site was active at the time of inspection, though activities mostly included work towards final reclamation of the site. The pit floor was still open and highwalls, which reached a maximum height of 20 ft, were in the process of being graded to their final reclamation slopes of 4H:1V or shallower (Photo 4 and 6). The stormwater berm which surrounds all sides of the permit boundary is to remain after reclamation is complete. A silt fence is currently in place at the eastern, downgradient edge of the site to help with any erosion (Photo 5). No erosional issues were noted anywhere at the site.

As indicated in the site's last inspection report, the bare soil area south of the access road near the entrance is used as a truck turnaround point. Mr. Bell last stated that it was not graded for such use and may recover if no longer used. However, the Division would like to remind the Operator that any portion of this area that falls within the permit boundary must be reclaimed as committed to in the site's Reclamation Plan. A permit boundary outline map has been [attached below](#) for reference.

The slash pile located in the NE corner of the site and noted in the last inspection report remains (Photo 7). The Division acknowledges that the slash pile was pre-existing to the site, but a large part of the pile is currently located within the permit boundary. Therefore, all material within the boundary must be removed in final reclamation as it exists within an area which has been disturbed by the mining operation.

No impact to wildlife was observed and no noxious weeds were noted onsite. Final revegetation of the site has not yet begun, but Mr. Bell stated that he hoped final seeding would occur by the end of this year.

The Division currently holds a financial warranty amount of \$45,417.00 for this site. The bond was last assessed post inspection in 2022 when the operation was originally permitted. In an effort to ensure the Financial Warranty adequately reflects the actual current cost of fulfilling the requirements of the approved reclamation plan, the Division has updated the reclamation cost estimate. The Division has found the current bond to be **adequate** for reclamation of the site.

Photographs taken during the inspection have been included below. Responses to this inspection report should be directed to: Hunter Ridley at the Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety, 1313 Sherman St., Room 215, Denver, CO 80203. Direct contact can be made by phone at 720-868-7757 or via email at hunter.ridley@state.co.us.

PHOTOGRAPHS



Photo 1: Mine sign located at the entrance to the access road off Hwy 115.



Photo 2: Permit boundary marker for the northwestern corner. Markers were observed for all boundary corners.



Photo 3: View east of the site's southern slope, covered with volunteer vegetation. T-posts are along a 30 ft offset from the permit boundary.



Photo 4: View east into the pit, highwalls are currently being graded out for final reclamation.



Photo 5: View south along the eastern edge of the permit boundary, a silt fence is in place to control erosion, a topsoil pile is located to the west.



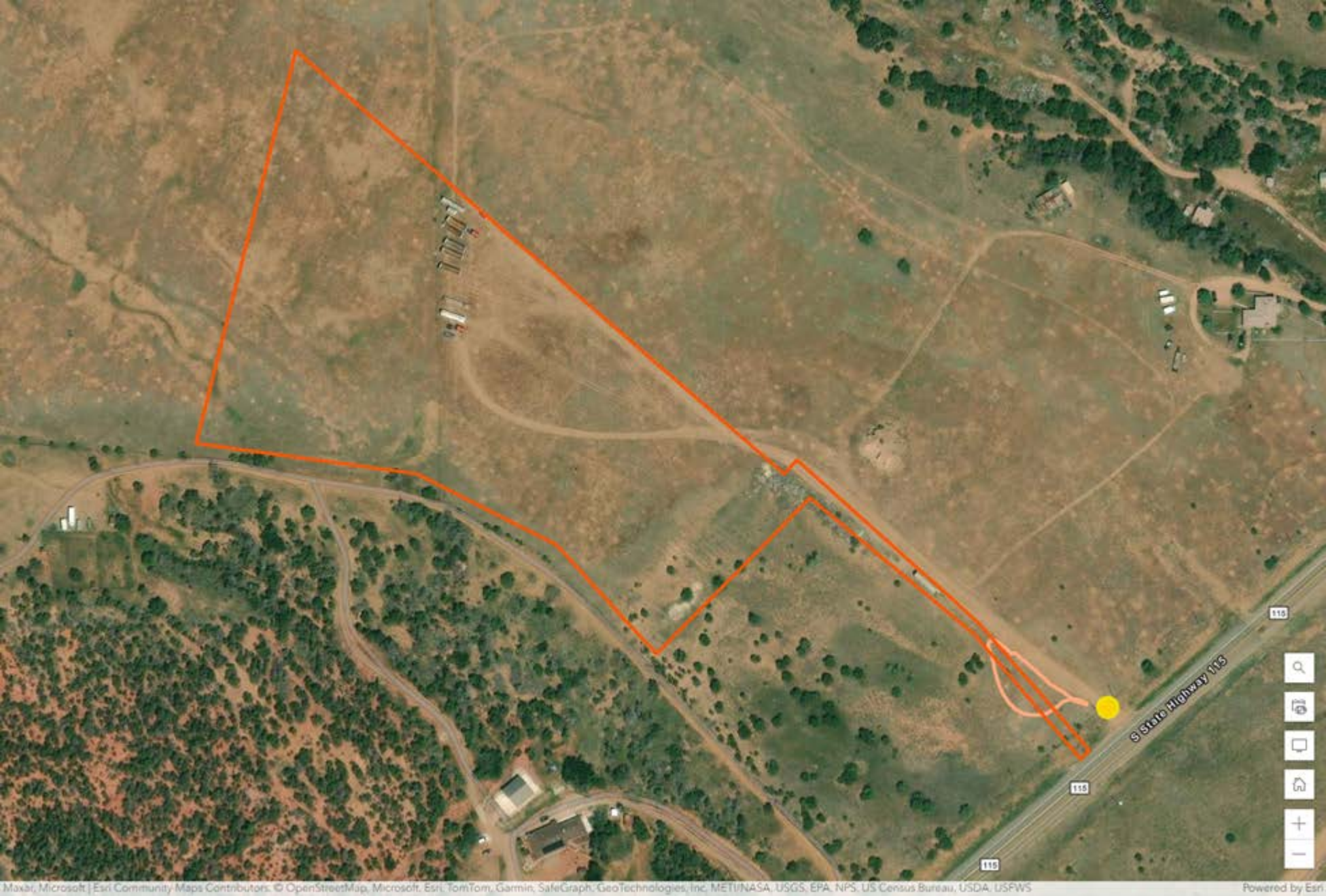
Photo 6: View north into the pit, actively reclaiming.



Photo 7: View northeast of the slash pile which remains in the eastern corner of the pit, will need to be removed in final reclamation.

Inspection Contact Address

Travis Bell
Castle Rock Construction Company of Colorado, LLC
6374 South Racine Circle
Centennial, CO 80111





Disturbance

[View in Propeller](#)

Map reference / legend	1
Created date	Jan 24, 2024
Created by	Travis Bell
Surface Area	270 414 ft²
Horizontal Area	258 052 ft²
Description	