



STATE OF  
COLORADO

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

---

## Inspection April 2024

1 message

---

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

Mon, Apr 29, 2024 at 4:31 PM

To: Graham Roberts <graham.roberts@trappermine.com>, Tim Cummins <tim.cummins@trappermine.com>, Robin Reilley - DNR <robin.reilley@state.co.us>

Good Afternoon,

Please find the 2024 April DRMS inspection report for Trapper Miine. This was a partial inspection

I'm available to answer any questions.

Thank you,

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



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

P [303.866.3567](tel:303.866.3567) ext 8105 |

F [303.832.8106](tel:303.832.8106)

Physical Address: 1313 Sherman Street St., Suite 215, Denver, CO 80203

Mailing Address: DRMS Room 215, 1001 E 62nd Ave, Denver, CO 80216

[robin.reilley@state.co.us](mailto:robin.reilley@state.co.us) | <http://mining.state.co.us>



**Insp\_Partial\_Trapper\_2024\_04AprilF.pdf**

3758K



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

**23 April 2024**

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: Tim Cummins
This report was issued electronically from the Divisions' Denver Office.	

INSPECTION INFORMATION

Inspection Start Date: <b>23 April 2024</b> Inspection Start Time: 1:30 p.m. Inspection End Date: <b>23 April 2024</b> Inspection End Time: 5:30 p.m.	Inspection Type: <b>Coal Partial Inspection</b> Inspection Reason: Normal I&E Program Weather: Partly Cloudy
Joint Inspection Agency:	Joint Inspection Contacts:
Post Inspection Agency: None	Post Inspection Contacts:
Inspector(s): Robin A. Reilley, M.S. GISP	Inspector's Signature:  Signature Date: <b>29 April 2024</b>

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 7

Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 3

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	Y - Reclamation Success
R - Backfill & Grading	Y - Revegetation
NA - Excess Spoil and Dev. Waste	Y - Subsidence
R - Explosives	Y - Slides and Other Damage
R - Fish & Wildlife	R - Support Facilities On-site
R - Hydrologic Balance	R - 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	R - 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 Reilly of the DRMS. Tim Cummins, Trapper Mine representative was present throughout the inspection. No hydrologic or air quality issues were detected at the time of inspection. Skies were partly cloudy, and the air was calm. Temperatures hovered around 65 degrees Fahrenheit.

#### *PERMITTING ACTIONS in PROGRESS:*

*SL 24 issued; SL 25 inspection scheduled for May  
TR135 proposed, TR136*

#### *MAINTENANCE ITEMS IDENTIFIED*

*Gully and rill maintenance in constructed drainages*

#### *MAINTENANCE COMPLETED*

#### ***INSPECTION***

##### ***GENERAL MINE PLAN COMPLIANCE:***

The Queen Anne dragline in the west panel remains under repair. The Baby Doe and Molly Brown draglines in L Pit were idle at the time of inspection. A shot in J Pit West had been laid out. N Pit is idle as the crew is on their off rotation for the next 10 days. The west haul ramp into the N Pit is complete. All the highwall miner openings are backfilled. The Ash Pit comprised loose ash piled around the perimeter of the flat surfaces. Operators are in the process of dozing off the piles to the desired final elevation. The flat surfaces of the Ash Pit were dry and firm, with no standing water or ruts and appeared to be functioning adequately at the time of inspection.

##### ***SIGNS and MARKERS – Rule 4.02***

- Pond identification signs were prominently displayed in the vicinity of the ponds and were in adequate repair at the time of inspection.
- Topsoil stockpiles observed were clearly marked with identifying signs.

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 7

Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 3

*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 dry and had been bladed.
- All access roads were not accessible as haul road blading material blocked entrance to roads down to the ponds.
- Ditches along haul roads and accessible access roads appeared to be functioning adequately.

*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*

As not all access roads were accessible, not all ponds were visited. Ponds in the active mining area were inspected. Pond banks were stable and vegetated, spillways, discharge structures; flumes and decant structures appeared in good repair at the time of inspection. Dam outslopes were vegetated and no seepage was observed through the dams at the time of inspection. Some dam outslopes exhibited badger holes. Ponds were discharging clear water and some ponds appeared turbid.

Constructed drainages in K pit and D Pit appeared to require repairs, as gullies had deepened, and rocks were dislodged from check dams. Rills were present along west and north facing hill slopes in K pit as well as in D Pit. These should be graded out as hillslopes dry this spring.

1. Johnson #10 discharging clearwater.
2. No Name #2 exhibits a large sediment fan. Spoil is piled above the pond.
3. No Name #4 was full and discharging a trickle of clearwater through the decant culvert.
4. No Name #5 was discharging through the flume. Algae was present in the stagnant water on the outlet side. Grasses were present in the outlet side drainage way. Removing grasses could increase flow and prevent algae growth early in the season.
5. East Payette #1 was discharging clearwater. A delta was present at the inlet at the time of inspection. Payette ponds #2 and #3 appeared full.
6. Middle Flume #3 was full and discharging clearwater. The pond exhibited a significant delta at the inlet.
7. East Flume appeared dry at the time of inspection.
8. East Middle Flume #1 was holding water and discharging. A delta was present.

*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 rilling were noted on the observed topsoil piles. Topsoil piles are vegetated, with vegetation beginning to green.
- Topsoil piles exist at the ponds for future pond reclamation and throughout the site where active mining is underway.
- Topsoil piles are marked.
- Permit boundary markers were observed at the north edge of the site.

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 7

Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 3

*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.*

- Blasts were being prepared in L and J Pits.

*SLIDES and OTHER DAMAGE- Rule 4.12*

- No slides or other damage (other than some badger holes) were observed over the course of the inspection.

*BACKFILL and GRADING – RULE 4.14*

- Reclamation consists of benched overburden in L Pit awaiting grading, an ongoing activity at Trapper Mine.

*REVEGETATION - Rule 4.15*

*General Requirements 4.15.1; Use of Species 4.15.2, Grazing 4.15.5*

- Revegetated areas of reclamation appear stable and were and were beginning to green at the time of inspection.

*FISH and WILDLIFE– RULE 4.18*

Wildlife sightings included red and white tailed hawks, and ravens. The elk present all winter appear to have moved to higher ground at this time.

*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.

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 7

Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 3



PHOTOGRAPHS



*Photo 1: Johnson #10 Pond.*



*Photo 2: Flume in Johnson #10 Pond.*

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 7

Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 3





***Photo 3: Highwall miner (idle) in N Pit, looking east.***



***Photo 4: East Pyeatt #1 Pond, looking southeast.***

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 7

Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 3





***Photo 5:*** East Pyeatt Ponds #2 and #3, looking north.

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 7

Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 3





*Photo 6: Drag lines stationed in the L pit, looking south.*



*Photo 7: Blasting equipment preparing a blast in L pit, looking south.*

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 7

Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 3



*Photo 8: Middle Flume #3 Pond, looking south.*

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 7

Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 3





**Photo 9:** East Middle Flume #1 Pond, looking southeast.



**Photo 10:** No Name #2 Pond looking south.

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 7

Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 3





***Photo 11: No Name #4 Pond, looking north.***



***Photo 12: No Name #5 Pond, looking west.***

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 7

Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 3





***Photo 13:*** Blast prepared in J Pit West, looking west.



***Photo 14:*** Rills on northwest facing slope of D Pit.

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 7

Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 3





*Photo 15: Constructed drainage in D Pit, looking north.*

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 7

Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 3