




**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><br>Debetz Pit                     | <b>MINE/PROSPECTING ID#:</b><br>M-1977-283   | <b>MINERAL:</b><br>Sand and gravel                                 | <b>COUNTY:</b><br>Adams     |
| <b>INSPECTION TYPE:</b><br>Monitoring               | <b>WEATHER:</b> Clear  | <b>INSP. DATE:</b><br>April 3, 2024                                | <b>INSP. TIME:</b><br>11:00 |
| <b>OPERATOR:</b><br>Adams County                    | <b>OPERATOR REPRESENTATIVE:</b><br>Trevor Graf   | <b>TYPE OF OPERATION:</b><br>112c - Construction Regular Operation |                             |
| <b>REASON FOR INSPECTION:</b><br>Normal I&E Program | <b>BOND CALCULATION TYPE:</b><br>None  | <b>BOND AMOUNT:</b><br>\$0.00                                      |                             |
| <b>DATE OF COMPLAINT:</b><br>NA                     | <b>POST INSP. CONTACTS:</b><br>None  | <b>JOINT INSP. AGENCY:</b><br>None                                 |                             |
| <b>INSPECTOR(S):</b><br>Nikie Gagnon                | <b>INSPECTOR'S SIGNATURE:</b><br> | <b>SIGNATURE DATE:</b><br>May 14, 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>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>N</u>      |
| (MP) GENL MINE PLAN COMPLIANCE- <u>Y</u>   | (FW) FISH & WILDLIFE----- <u>N</u>       | (RV) REVEGETATION---- <u>Y</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>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 was conducted by Nikie Gagnon representing the Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety (Division). Trevor Graf, representing Adams County (Operator), accompanied the Division during the inspection. The Debetz Pit is a 112c mining operation permitted for 40 acres. The post-mine land use is recreation.

### **Gen. Compliance With Mine Plan:**

According to Division records, the County ceased mining operations in 2001 and there has been no significant earthwork activities on site the since 2015. The site is in final reclamation.

### **Reclamation Success:**

The Debetz Pit is within the Adams County Riverdale Regional Park along the South Platte River. The approved post mining land use is recreation. The former pit is bordered on the north and west sides by a golf course and the south and east sides are open space. The former pit was backfilled to create a pond. Fishing piers have been installed on the south shore of the pond and a bike path runs along the south and east sides. In 2013, the Division approved a Technical Revision (TR1) to allow the Operator to backfill a portion of the pit with 75,000 cubic yards of inert fill to create a smaller fishing pond within in the open space park to be used for recreation. The eastern side of the pond is graded to a gentle slope from the bike path to the shoreline. The pond is currently open to the public for passive recreation, primarily fishing and hiking.

In 2014, the Division approved Technical Revision 2 (TR2) to address the shoreline slopes. The slopes on the southern and western sides were regraded to 3H:1V and vegetated. Four different areas were armored with rip rap to provide stability. In 2019, the County installed additional riprap along the southern side of the reservoir to control erosion. During this inspection, the Division observed the bank stabilization and armoring work along the shoreline. The shoreline is vegetated on all sides of the pond. No new erosion concerns were observed.

### **Revegetation:**

In 2015, the inert fill area was topsoiled and seeded with native plants. The Division observed newly planted cottonwood and willow trees on the eastern side of the lake, consistent with the approved reclamation plan. A dense cover of native grasses was observed in this area, including switchgrass, sand bluestem, blue grama. Willows were observed growing along the shoreline on the east side of the pond.

In the annual report, the Operator stated that over the past year they conducted weed control around the reservoir and removed tamarisk trees. During this inspection, the Division observed a few young tamarisk trees along the eastern shoreline of the pond. Adams County will need to continue to monitor and treat/remove the trees as necessary to prevent reestablishment.

### **Hydrologic Balance**

According to the Operator, the County is working to obtain permanent augmentation for the reservoir prior to seeking a release of the mining permit.

A subset of the photographs taken during inspection are attached. Please contact Nikie Gagnon (303)866-3567 ext. 8126 or email at [nikie.gagnon@state.co.us](mailto:nikie.gagnon@state.co.us) if you have any questions regarding this report.

**PHOTOGRAPHS**



**Photo 1:** Looking south across the inert fill area in the northeast part of the permit area.



**Photo 2:** Looking west across the northeast part of the permit area.



**Photo 3:** Looking at the north eastern edge of the reservoir. A few young Tamarisk trees observed here.



**Photo 4:** Gentle slopes along shoreline on the southeast side of the lake.



**Photo 5:** Gentle slopes along shoreline on the south side of the lake.



**Photo 6:** View of the southwest side of the lake near the fishing pier. Rip rap installed to stabilize the shoreline.



**Photo 7 & 8 :** Looking at trees planted along the bike path east of the pond.



**Photo 9:** Looking down access road towards the entrance. Permit boundary marked by white posts around the side.



**Photo 10:** Mine sign posted off Riverdale Road, at the entrance to the access road.



**Photo 11:** Close-up views of native grasses observed on site.

**Inspection Contact Address**

Trevor Graf  
Adams County  
9755 Henderson Rd.  
Brighton, CO 80601

CC: Jared Ebert, DRMS