




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: Knodel Pit	MINE/PROSPECTING ID#: M-2011-042	MINERAL: Gravel and Sand	COUNTY: Yuma
INSPECTION TYPE: Monitoring	WEATHER: Clear and Windy	INSP. DATE: April 24, 2024	INSP. TIME: 10:00
OPERATOR: Yuma County	OPERATOR REPRESENTATIVE: Tom Andersen	TYPE OF OPERATION: 112c - Construction Regular Operation	
REASON FOR INSPECTION: Normal I&E Program	BOND CALCULATION TYPE: N/A County Operator	BOND AMOUNT: N/A County Operator	
DATE OF COMPLAINT: NA	POST INSP. CONTACTS: None	JOINT INSP. AGENCY: None	
INSPECTOR(S): Nikie Gagnon	INSPECTOR'S SIGNATURE: 	SIGNATURE DATE: June 7, 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>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>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 was conducted as part of the Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety's (Division or DRMS) routine monitoring program for permitted operations. Nikie Gagnon, with the Division, conducted the inspection. Tom Anderson, representing Yuma County (Operator) accompanied the Division during the inspection.

The Knodel Pit is located 12.5 miles southeast of Idalia on CR 7. This site is a 112c operation permitted to affect 128 acres. At the time of the inspection, it was windy and warm, and the site was dry. Affected lands will be reclaimed to support a rangeland post-mining land use.

Gen. Compliance With Mine Plan:

The Knodel Pit is an open pit mine utilized intermittently for sand, gravel and borrow material. The site was not active at the time of inspection and no equipment was on-site. Stockpiled material was observed in the pit and equipment and vehicle tracks were noted. Mr. Andersen indicated the County utilizes stockpiled material as needed to maintain roads. The current disturbance is approximately 20-acres in the south end of the permit area, which hasn't expanded in recent years. The mine plan calls for mining to approximately 25 feet deep. The highwalls surrounding the pit area are approximately 15 feet high. The operator opened a smaller area on the northwest side of the permit area a few years ago and this area has been fully reclaimed with grasses. No evidence of off-site damage was observed. The majority of the permit area remains undisturbed. The mine plan calls for a 25-foot setback around the edges of the mining boundary. This setback was observed on the eastern and southern boundaries of the current mining disturbance area.

Hydrology

A dry drainage runs through the center of the permit area. Drainage from the site eventually flows to the South Fork of the Republican River. No evidence of sedimentation or stormwater runoff outside the permit boundary was noted. A low spot in the center of the pit showed evidence of standing water, however water likely infiltrates quickly.

Signs and Markers:

A mine sign was posted at the entrance to the site along CR7 in compliance with Rule 3.1.12(1). The permit boundary was delineated by t-posts.

Topsoil:

Topsoil is shallow in this area. The salvaged topsoil was observed stockpiled in berms above the southern highwall.

Reclamation

The County has not started reclamation of the main pit. The reclamation plan calls for mining in 15-acre plots and conducting concurrent reclamation as mining progresses. The finished highwalls will be sloped to 3H:1V and terraced. Once grading is complete, the site will be topsoiled, seeded with the approved mix of rangeland grasses, and straw mulch will be applied.

No issues or concerns were noted during this inspection. 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 if you have any questions regarding this report.

PHOTOGRAPHS



Photo 1: Looking east down access road at entrance to site.



Photo 2: Looking southeast across the pit area in the southern section of the permit area.



Photo 3: Looking southwest across the pit floor.



Photo 4: Looking west across the pit floor at the mining face.



Photo 5: Looking south at highwall. Topsoil stored above the highwall along the southern boundary (circled).



Photo 6: Looking north across unmined area northwest of the active mining disturbance. Dry drainage runs through the center of the permit area (red arrows).



Photo 7: Looking down the southern boundary line, above the highwall in the active mining area.



Photo 8: Evidence of previous standing water noted in a low spot in the active mining area. This area was dry during the inspection.



Figure 1: Permit boundary marked by red outline. Google Earth imagery dated 11/04/2019.

Inspection Contact Address

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CC: Jared Ebert, Senior EPS, DRMS