




**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> Henderson Mine Exploration Drilling – Puzzler Target	<b>MINE/PROSPECTING ID#:</b> P-2022-006	<b>MINERAL:</b> Molybdenum	<b>COUNTY:</b> Clear Creek
<b>INSPECTION TYPE:</b> Monitoring	<b>WEATHER:</b> Clear	<b>INSP. DATE:</b> June 25, 2024	<b>INSP. TIME:</b> 13:30
<b>OPERATOR:</b> Climax Molybdenum Company	<b>OPERATOR REPRESENTATIVE:</b> Geoff Niggeler and Ben Alcox	<b>TYPE OF OPERATION:</b> MP - Mineral Prospecting	
<b>REASON FOR INSPECTION:</b> Normal I&E Program	<b>BOND CALCULATION TYPE:</b> None	<b>BOND AMOUNT:</b> \$17,000.00	
<b>DATE OF COMPLAINT:</b> NA	<b>POST INSP. CONTACTS:</b> None	<b>JOINT INSP. AGENCY:</b> None	
<b>INSPECTOR(S):</b> Amber M. Gibson Nikie Gagnon	<b>INSPECTOR'S SIGNATURE:</b> 	<b>SIGNATURE DATE:</b> June 28, 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>Y</u>	(FN) FINANCIAL WARRANTY----- <u>N</u>	(RD) ROADS----- <u>Y</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>N</u>	(FW) FISH & WILDLIFE----- <u>N</u>	(RV) REVEGETATION---- <u>N</u>
(SM) SIGNS AND MARKERS----- <u>N</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**

This inspection was conducted by Amber Gibson and Nikie Gagnon, representing the Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety (Division). Geoff Niggeler and Ben Alcox were present during the inspection and represented the Operator (Climax Molybdenum- Henderson Operations (Henderson)). The Henderson Mine is located 15 miles south of Parshall in Grand County. This site is a 112d-3 Designated Mining Operation (DMO) permitted for 11,877.5 acres. At the time of the inspection, it was warm and sunny.

The Puzzler Target NOI is located within the Henderson Mine permit (M-1977-342) about 8 miles west of Empire in Clear Creek County. This site is one drill pad with an access road about 600 feet long directly off Jones Pass Road. The site is permitted for 0.57 acres. At the time of the inspection, it was warm and the sky was clear.

### **Availability of Records:**

The annual report, map, and fee are paid through June 30, 2025. The 2023 annual fee, report, map, and Prospecting Activity and Abandonment Report were received by the Division on June 20, 2024. The last date of activity at the site was reported as having been on October 28, 2022. There are no outstanding infractions.

### **Reclamation Success:**

No drilling was taking place and no equipment was observed on site. The Operator stated that they have finished all exploration activity at the site. The site is currently anticipated to be reclaimed by 2025. The approved plan accounts for the current highwalls west of where the drilling pad had been (Photo 1-2) and the access road will be graded and filled to blend with the adjacent terrain and natural drainage patterns will be re-established upon reclamation. Topsoil and salvaged woody debris (Photo 3) will be replaced on top of the slopes and the affected areas will be seeded with the approved seed mixture.

### **Roads:**

At the time of the inspection, the access road was mostly dry and appeared to be in good condition.

### **Storm Water MGT Plan, Hydrologic Balance, and Sediment Control:**

Five possible Pollutant Sources (PS) are listed for the site in the Storm Water Management Plan (SWMP). These PS's include PS#1 sediment, PS#2 drilling muds, PS#3 fuel, oil, and lubricants (equipment), PS#4 sanitary facilities, and PS#6 general refuse and food scraps. Because the last date of activity on the site was in October 2022, PS sources 2-5 are not needed to be actively monitored at this time. Best management practices (BMPs) were observed throughout the site. Sediment berms, a few rock check dams, and some straw wattles were observed alongside the access road and near where the drill pad would have been. These appear to be in good condition and appear to effectively control and limit sediment run-off from the affected area (Photos 4-8).

### **Conclusion:**

This concludes the Division's Inspection Report; a subset of corresponding photographs that were taken during the time of the inspection are included below. If you need additional information or have any questions, please contact me by email at [amber.gibson@state.co.us](mailto:amber.gibson@state.co.us) or by telephone at (720) 836-0967.

**Inspection Contact Address**

Geoff Niggeler and Ben Alcox  
Climax Molybdenum Company  
1746 County Rd 202  
Empire, CO 80438

EC: Nikie Gagnon, DRMS  
Jared Ebert, DRMS



## **PHOTOGRAPHS**



**Photo 1:** Looking west at some volunteer vegetation growing on the remaining affected slope.



**Photo 2:** Looking at the north-east corner of the affected area.





**Photo 3:** Looking downslope, east where the drill pad had been, at the salvaged woody debris and topsoil.



**Photo 4:** Looking west at a series of rock check dams along the entrance to the access road.





**Photo 5:** Looking north-east at a check dam along the access road.



**Photo 6:** Looking north-east at a check dam along the access road.





**Photo 7:** Looking north-east at a check dam and straw wattle along the access road.



**Photo 8:** Looking north towards the north corner of the affected area. Pictured is the remaining containment sump that had been used a preventative maintenance for PS#2 - Drilling Muds.