



STATE OF
COLORADO

Simmons - DNR, Leigh <leigh.simmons@state.co.us>

M1983178, Bent County Pit, April 2024 Inspection Report

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Mon, Jul 29, 2024 at 5:25 PM

To: bent.admin@bentcounty.net

Doug,

The report of the inspection of the Bent County Pit conducted earlier this year is attached for your records. No action on your part is required, though you should consider applying for bond release for this site.

Please let me know if you have any questions,
Leigh

Leigh Simmons
Environmental Protection Specialist



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

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INSP-REPORTM_M1983178_LDS_07292024051417.pdf

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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: Bent County Pit	MINE/PROSPECTING ID#: M-1983-178	MINERAL: Sand and gravel	COUNTY: Bent
INSPECTION TYPE: Monitoring	WEATHER: Clear	INSP. DATE: April 17, 2024	INSP. TIME: 13:00
OPERATOR: Bent County	OPERATOR REPRESENTATIVE: Robert Darnell, Kevin Van Egmond	TYPE OF OPERATION: 112c - Construction Regular Operation	
REASON FOR INSPECTION: Normal I&E Program	BOND CALCULATION TYPE: None	BOND AMOUNT: \$0.00	
DATE OF COMPLAINT: NA	POST INSP. CONTACTS: None	JOINT INSP. AGENCY: None	
INSPECTOR(S): Leigh Simmons	INSPECTOR'S SIGNATURE: 	SIGNATURE DATE: July 29, 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>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>N</u>
(MP) GENL MINE PLAN COMPLIANCE- <u>N</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 as part of the normal monitoring program established by the Colorado Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety (Division). The inspection was conducted by Leigh Simmons of the Division, and accompanied by Robert Darnell and Kevin Van Egmond, of Bent County Road and Bridge. At the time of the inspection the position of Bent County Administrator (the permitting contact) was vacant, but it has since been filled by Doug Bankert.

The Bent County Pit is a 112(c) operation with a total permit area of 26.1 acres, located on private land approximately 4 miles north-east of the City of Las Animas. The pit is accessed from County Rd 13, immediately north of the Fort Lyon Canal.

The permit was last revised with TR-1, in 2013, which allowed for intermittent operation.

A DJI Mavic 2 Pro drone was used during the inspection. 182 images were captured in the field, from an elevation of 300', and later processed using Pix4D Mapper to generate an orthomosaic of the site.

Financial Warranty:

As is consistent for all county-operated pits, the Division does not hold a reclamation bond for the site.

Reclamation Success:

The pit was reclaimed at around the same time as the Bent County Pit # 2 was permitted, in 2001. Mr Darnell estimated that the pit had been reseeded four times since it was reclaimed. The site had been heavily grazed, (as had most of the land in the rest of the county that was not irrigated cropland); although the grazing puts significant pressure on the vegetative community it is not a mining related impact. Bent County should consider applying for bond release for the Bent County Pit.

Revegetation:

The site was very dry. Vegetation was consistent with the surrounding area, with generally good ground cover, particularly in sheltered spots. Noxious weeds were not observed.

Signs and Markers:

The Mine ID sign was in place, the corners of the permit area were not marked.

PHOTOGRAPHS



Figure 1: Mine ID sign, with reclaimed Bent County Pit beyond



Figure 2: Screenshot of Inspection map, with orthomosaic overlaid on basemap and approximate permit boundary (purple) and inspection features (green)

Inspection Contact Address

Robert Darnell, Kevin Van Egmond
Bent County
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Las Animas, CO 81054