



STATE OF  
COLORADO

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

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## M2001019, Bent County Pit #2 , April 2024 Inspection Report

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

Tue, Jul 30, 2024 at 10:32 AM

To: bent.admin@bentcounty.net

Doug,

The report of the inspection of the Bent County Pit #2 conducted earlier this year is attached for your records. No action on your part is required.

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

P [720.220.1180](tel:720.220.1180)

1313 Sherman Street, Room 215, Denver, CO 80203

[leigh.simmons@state.co.us](mailto:leigh.simmons@state.co.us) | <https://drms.colorado.gov>




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2107K



**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> Bent County Pit # 2	<b>MINE/PROSPECTING ID#:</b> M-2001-019	<b>MINERAL:</b> Gravel	<b>COUNTY:</b> Bent
<b>INSPECTION TYPE:</b> Monitoring	<b>WEATHER:</b> Clear	<b>INSP. DATE:</b> April 17, 2024	<b>INSP. TIME:</b> 13:30
<b>OPERATOR:</b> Bent County	<b>OPERATOR REPRESENTATIVE:</b> Robert Darnell, Kevin Van Egmond	<b>TYPE OF OPERATION:</b> 112c - Construction Regular Operation	
<b>REASON FOR INSPECTION:</b> Normal I&E Program	<b>BOND CALCULATION TYPE:</b> None	<b>BOND AMOUNT:</b> \$0.00	
<b>DATE OF COMPLAINT:</b> NA	<b>POST INSP. CONTACTS:</b> None	<b>JOINT INSP. AGENCY:</b> None	
<b>INSPECTOR(S):</b> Leigh Simmons	<b>INSPECTOR'S SIGNATURE:</b> 	<b>SIGNATURE DATE:</b> July 30, 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>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 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 # 2 is a 112(c) operation with a total permit area of 18.51 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 and immediately west of the Bent County Pit (M1983178).

The permit was last revised with TR-1, in 2013, which allowed for intermittent operation. According to Mr Darnell, the pit was almost mined out and reclamation was expected to begin soon (although no date had been set). Some stockpiled material was on site, including piles of crushed and screened material, and some pebble-sized rocks that were not expected to be crushed. Apparently, the landowner wishes to keep the haul road; a letter from the landowner formally requesting that the haul road not be reclaimed should be submitted to the Division before committing to any action diverging from the approved reclamation plan.

The locations of photos taken during the inspection are shown on the screenshot of the field map.

### **Financial Warranty:**

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

### **Revegetation:**

The site was very dry. Vegetation was consistent with the surrounding area, which had been very heavily grazed. Noxious weeds were not observed.

### **Signs and Markers:**

The Mine ID sign was in place. The corners of the permit area were marked with concrete blocks. Permit maps are difficult to georeference accurately, making it difficult to verify that the permit boundary markers are correctly located. One corner marker could not be located - possibly it had been moved by the landowner when the fence was erected along the southern edge of the permit area.

## MAPS & PHOTOGRAPHS

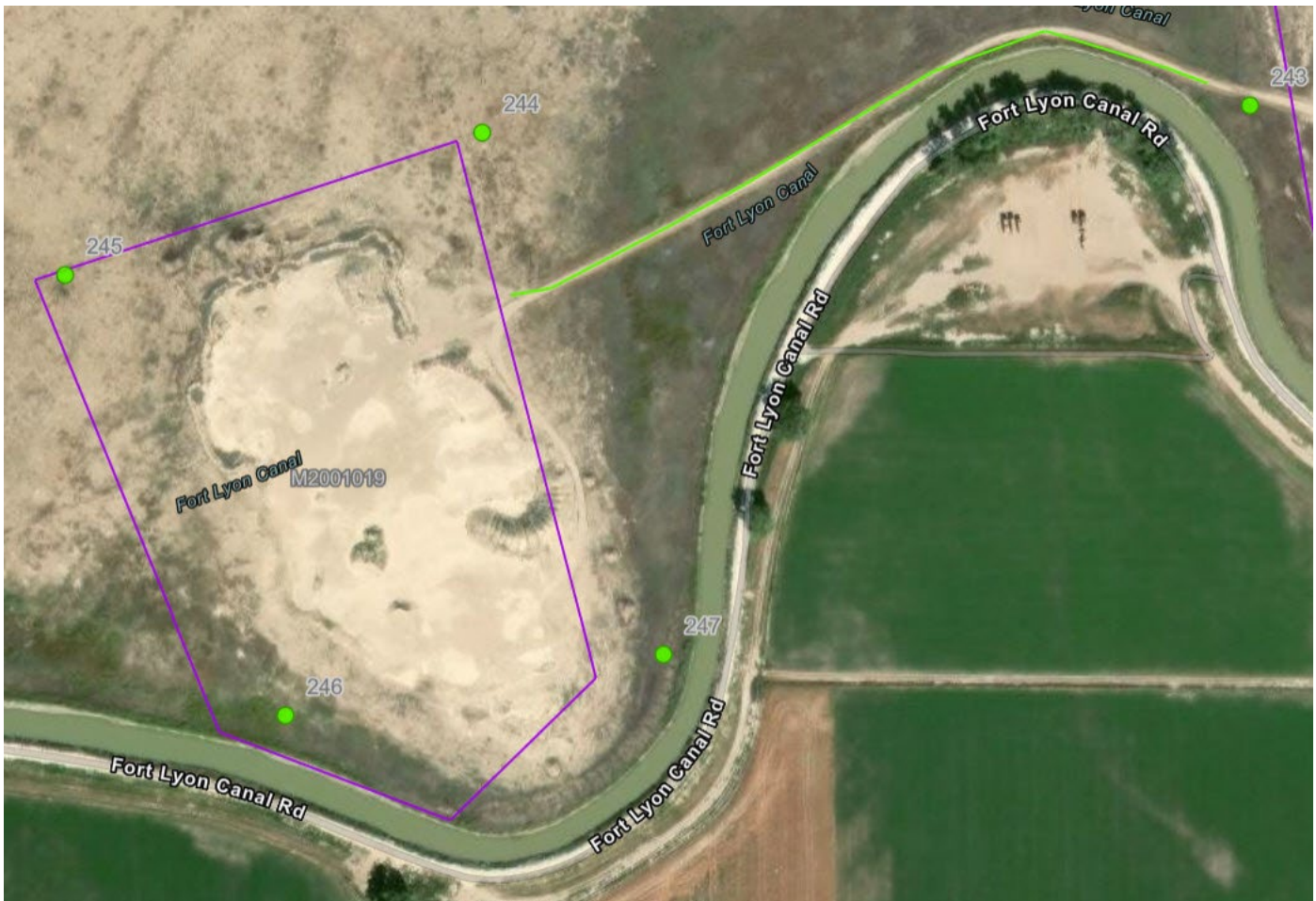


Figure 1: Screenshot of inspection map, showing approximate permit boundary determined from georeferenced map in purple, and inspection features in green





Figure 2: Mine ID sign (243)



Figure 3: NE corner of permit area, with stockpiled material visible (244)





Figure 4: NW corner of permit area, showing heavily grazed vegetation (245)





Figure 5: SW corner of permit area, stockpiles visible (246)





Figure 6: SE corner of permit area, with recently installed landowner fence (247)



**Inspection Contact Address**

Robert Darnell, Kevin Van Egmond  
Bent County  
P.O. Box 350  
Las Animas, CO 81054