



STATE OF
COLORADO

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

M2005039, Ridley Pit, April 2024 Inspection Report

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

Tue, Jul 30, 2024 at 5:10 PM

To: bent.admin@bentcounty.net

Doug,

The report of the inspection of the Ridley Pit 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 | <https://drms.colorado.gov>




INSP-REPORTM_M2005039_LDS_07302024045656.pdf
1356K



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: Ridley Pit	MINE/PROSPECTING ID#: M-2005-039	MINERAL: Sand and gravel	COUNTY: Bent
INSPECTION TYPE: Monitoring	WEATHER: Clear	INSP. DATE: April 17, 2024	INSP. TIME: 12:00
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 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>Y</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 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 Ridley Pit is a 112(c) operation with a total permit area of 93.18 acres, located on county-owned land approximately 12 miles south-east of the city of Las Animas. The pit is accessed from County Rd 16, north of the intersection with County Rd V. The pit was in active use at the time of the inspection. Mr Darnell estimated that the pit would be in use for about 2 weeks a year on average.

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

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.

Gen. Compliance With Mine Plan:

Mining was by extraction of a shallow strip, proceeding from the west side of the permit area toward the south and east. The county road will be temporarily re-routed to the east (along the green line in Figure 1), while the existing road is mined through. The road will then be re-established on its original course, but lower. Some stockpiled material was on-site, including some crushed material. County workers were able to mine and screen material, but a third party contractor would be hired when crushing was required.

Reclamation Success:

Backfilling, grading and topsoiling of the mined out area had taken place. The reclaimed slope was very shallow (easily less than 3:1, as is required). The slope had not been seeded.

Revegetation:

The site was very dry. No reseeding had taken place, but a historic disturbance within the permit area had self-seeded and was quite well vegetated with buffalo grass and yucca, amongst other plants.

Signs and Markers:

The Mine ID sign was in place. The corners of the permit area were marked with survey pins protected with buried tires.

Topsoil:

Topsoil had been stockpiled in a shallow windrow.

MAPS & PHOTOGRAPHS

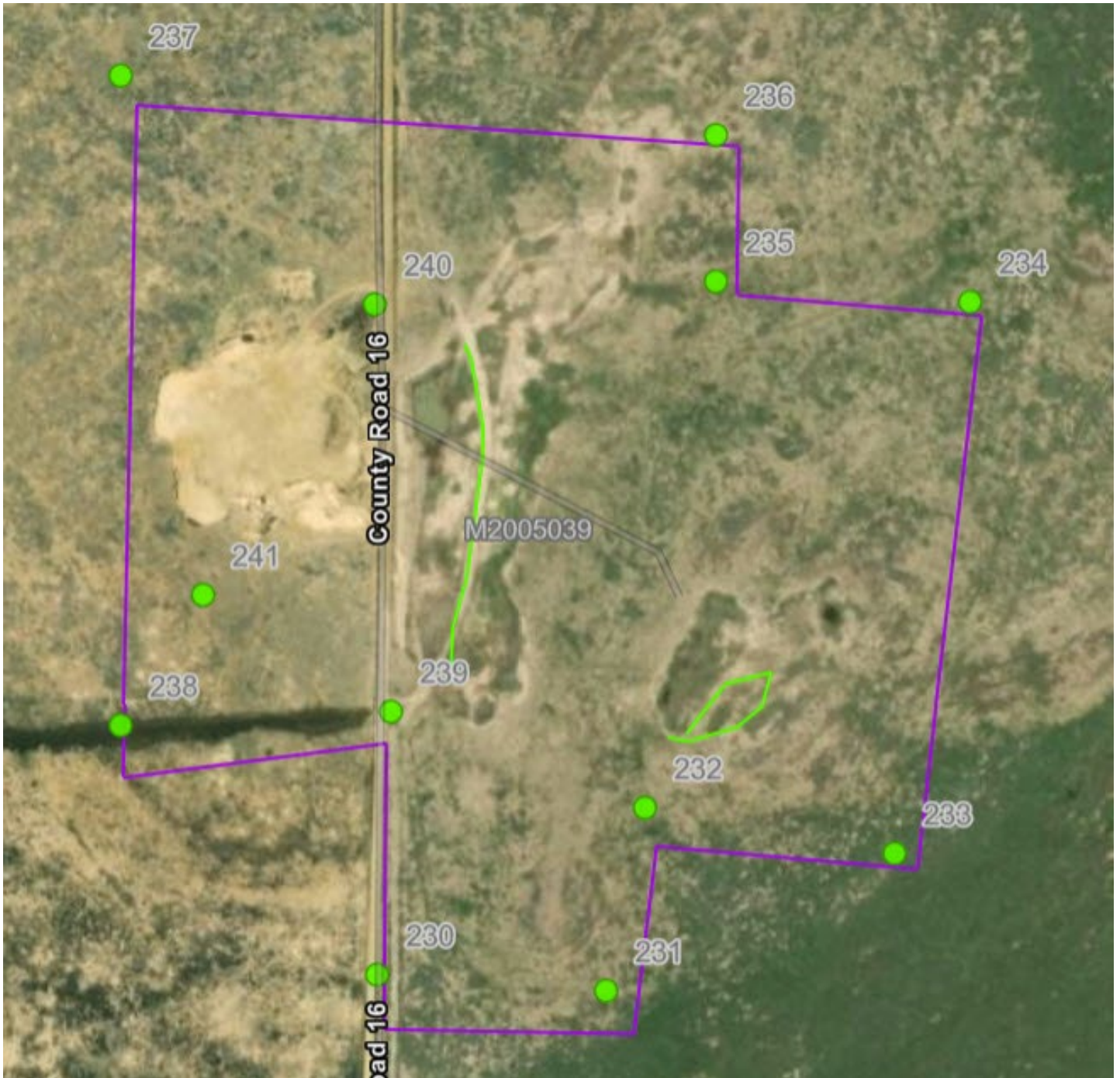


Figure 1: Screenshot of inspection map, with approximate permit boundary in purple and inspection features in green



Figure 2: Typical permit boundary corner marker (236)



Figure 3: Mine ID sign, with stockpile material behind (240)



Figure 4: Stockpiled material with regraded slope in foreground (241)



Figure 5: Screening in progress, with recently graded slope in foreground (241)

Inspection Contact Address

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

Enclosure

CC: