




**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> Prather Pit	<b>MINE/PROSPECTING ID#:</b> M-1977-136	<b>MINERAL:</b> Sand and gravel	<b>COUNTY:</b> Rio Blanco
<b>INSPECTION TYPE:</b> Monitoring	<b>WEATHER:</b> Clear	<b>INSP. DATE:</b> August 7, 2024	<b>INSP. TIME:</b> 09:50
<b>OPERATOR:</b> Rio Blanco County	<b>OPERATOR REPRESENTATIVE:</b> Clint Chappell	<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> Amy Yeldell	<b>INSPECTOR'S SIGNATURE:</b> 	<b>SIGNATURE DATE:</b> August 27, 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>NA</u>	(RD) ROADS----- <u>Y</u>
(HB) HYDROLOGIC BALANCE----- <u>Y</u>	(BG) BACKFILL & GRADING----- <u>Y</u>	(EX) EXPLOSIVES----- <u>NA</u>
(PW) PROCESSING WASTE/TAILING---- <u>NA</u>	(SF) PROCESSING FACILITIES----- <u>NA</u>	(TS) TOPSOIL----- <u>NA</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>NA</u>	(RS) RECL PLAN/COMP-- <u>Y</u>
(ES) OVERBURDEN/DEV. WASTE----- <u>NA</u>	(SC) EROSION/SEDIMENTATION-- <u>Y</u>	(ST) STIPULATIONS----- <u>Y</u>
(AT) ACID OR TOXIC MATERIALS----- <u>Y</u>	(OD) OFF-SITE DAMAGE----- <u>NA</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 Colorado Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety's (Division) normal monitoring program. The Prather Pit is a 112c permitted site that includes a total of 37.6 permitted acres. The site is located thirteen miles southeast of Meeker, Colorado and is accessed from County Road 8. Clint Chappell represented the operator and accompanied Amy Yeldell of the Division on the inspection.

### **Acid And Toxic Materials:**

No fuel is currently stored on site. When crushing operations begin later this summer fuel will be temporary stored on site in a secondary containment. Then removed upon completion of the crushing campaign.

### **Backfilling and Grading:**

Site conditions remain unchanged from the previous inspection. The eastern reclaimed slopes are graded to a 3H:1V or less and have well established grasses. The "Active" highwall area is at approximately 2H: 1V.

Photos 1-3

### **Explosives:**

Explosives are not used in conjunction with this mining operation.

### **Financial Warranty:**

No financial warranty is held for this site as is it operated by Rio Blanco County, per Rule 4.1.2(2).

### **Hydrologic Balance:**

No other water was observed.

### **Gen. Compliance With Mine Plan:**

This pit is infrequently used. Crushing last occurred approximately 20 years ago, and all stockpiles have been exhausted. A crushing campaign is expected to being later this summer. The goal is to produce 30,000 cubic yards of material. The site will likely be mined out after this next campaign. No washing, asphalt or cement production occur at this site. There are no permanent structures.

### **Reclamation Success:**

Areas indicated as previously reclaimed on the Annual Report appear stable and well vegetated. The lower pad area has a hand full of stockpiles that need to be removed prior to that are being considered for release. Photo 4.

### **Revegetation:**

Weeds appear to be well maintained.

### **Signs and Markers:**

A mine sign was posted at the entrance to the mine site as required by Rule 3.1.12(1). The information depicted was correct/ up to date and the sign was of sufficient size (Photo 5). The permit boundary of the affected land was clearly delineated primarily by t-posts with a white PVC sleeve pursuant to Rule 3.1.12(2).

### **Storm Water MGT Plan:**

Check dams are arranged along the access road to manage water prior to entering the irrigation ditch to the west of the site. Stormwater controls are properly employed with no signs of erosion. No signs of sedimentation or erosion were observed.

Topsoil:

There are no apparent topsoil stockpiles on this site. If topsoil is encountered, please salvage and stockpile accordingly.

No problems or violations were noted during this inspection.

Responses to this inspection report should be directed to: Amy Yeldell at the Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety, Rm 215, 1001 E 62nd Ave, Denver Co 80216. Direct contact can be made by phone at 970-210-1272 or via email at amy.yeldell@state.co.us

**Inspection Contact Address**

Clint Chappell  
Rio Blanco County  
570 Second St  
Meeker, CO 81641

CC:

Travis Marshall, Senior EPS, Grand Junction DRMS

**PHOTOGRAPHS**

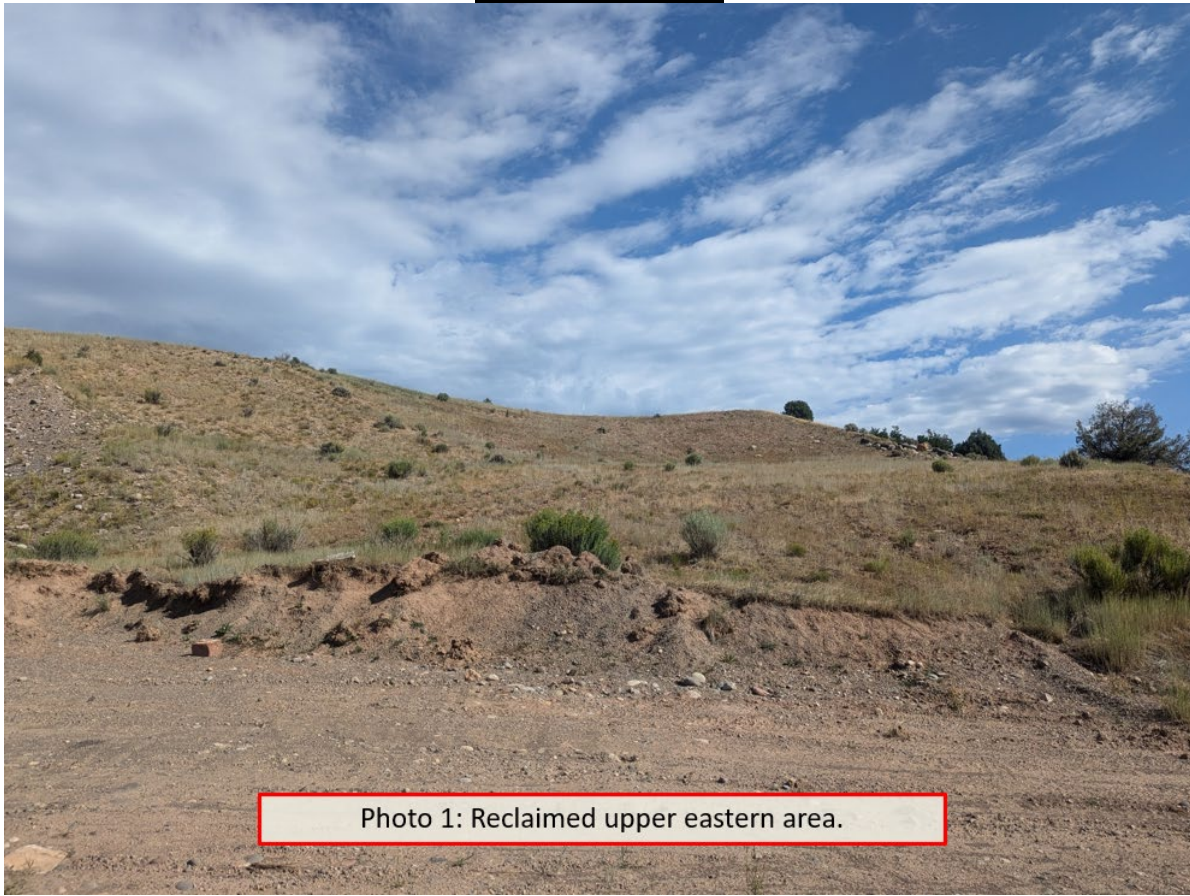


Photo 1: Reclaimed upper eastern area.









Photo 4: Reclaimed lower stockpile area with misc. piles.



Photo 5: Undisturbed Eastern portion of permit