




**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.

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|--|--|--|-----------------------------|
| <b>MINE NAME:</b><br>JH Sand & Gravel Pit #1         | <b>MINE/PROSPECTING ID#:</b><br>M-1979-131   | <b>MINERAL:</b><br>Sand and gravel                                 | <b>COUNTY:</b><br>Crowley   |
| <b>INSPECTION TYPE:</b><br>Surety-Related Inspection | <b>WEATHER:</b><br>Cloudy  | <b>INSP. DATE:</b><br>August 21, 2024                              | <b>INSP. TIME:</b><br>11:30 |
| <b>OPERATOR:</b><br>JH Sand & Gravel, LLC            | <b>OPERATOR REPRESENTATIVE:</b><br>Jim McCuistion and Gerald Korinek   | <b>TYPE OF OPERATION:</b><br>112c - Construction Regular Operation |                             |
| <b>REASON FOR INSPECTION:</b><br>Surety Related      | <b>BOND CALCULATION TYPE:</b><br>None  | <b>BOND AMOUNT:</b><br>\$77,365.00                                 |                             |
| <b>DATE OF COMPLAINT:</b><br>NA                      | <b>POST INSP. CONTACTS:</b><br>None  | <b>JOINT INSP. AGENCY:</b><br>None                                 |                             |
| <b>INSPECTOR(S):</b><br>Jocelyn Carter               | <b>INSPECTOR'S SIGNATURE:</b><br> | <b>SIGNATURE DATE:</b><br>October 10, 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>N</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>N</u>       |
| (MP) GENL MINE PLAN COMPLIANCE- <u>N</u>    | (FW) FISH & WILDLIFE----- <u>Y</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>N</u>    | (ST) STIPULATIONS----- <u>NA</u> |
| (AT) ACID OR TOXIC MATERIALS----- <u>NA</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**

The JH Sand and Gravel Pit #1 operation was inspected by me, Jocelyn Carter, on behalf of the Division of Reclamation, Mining, and Safety (Office/Division/DRMS) on August 21, 2024. Mr. Jim McCuistion was present for the inspection representing the Operator, JH Sand & Gravel, LLC, and Mr. Gerlad Korinek, a landowner, was present. The purpose of this inspection was to meet Office requirements outlined in Rule 4.17.2(2) which states that operations will be inspected after notice of an acreage release request. In this case, the Operator submitted an Acreage Release request (AR-1), on July 16, 2024, the Division filed the request. The Division intends to approve to the AR-1 request, upon receiving supplemental items outlined in the adequacy letter dated October 3, 2024.

JH Sand and Gravel Pit #1 is located approximately 3.4 miles northeast of the town of Manzanola in Crowley County. To access the site from the intersection of U.S. Highway 50 and Colorado Highway 207 in Manzanola, travel north on Colorado Highway 207 for 1.9 miles, travel on County Road A for 3.1 miles, then travel south on County Lane 13 for 0.6 miles, the entrance to the pit area will be located on the north side of the road. The weather conditions the day of the inspection were cloudy with warm temperatures. The day before the inspection, the area experienced a storm with heavy rains.

At the time of the inspection, there was some mining activity taking place. An equipment operator was on site running an excavator and wheel loader and Mr. McCuistion was on site operating a dump truck. Because this inspection was for the purpose of determining the reclamation of lands not owned by the Operator, the active pit area was not inspected. Mr. Korinek accompanied me around the areas of the permit owned by him and his wife and by Quarter Circle LT, Inc.

Lands that are owned by Quarter Circle LT, Inc appear to be well vegetated, without the presence of noxious weeds, and no erosional issues. According to Mr. Korinek, the area is regularly grazed by the landowner's cattle and the landowner has expressed to Mr. Korinek his satisfaction with the reclamation of the area.

Lands owned by Mr. Korinek that are within the permit boundary have some equipment, implements, materials, some pre-law disturbances, and a small structure on site (see Photos #8 - #11, #13, and #14). When asked about his satisfaction with the reclamation of the area during the inspection, Mr. Korinek stated that he is happy with the conditions and does not object to the lands being released from the permit area.

As a reminder, upon the approval of the AR-1 request, the Operator will need to submit a technical revision to update the mining and reclamation plans and maps for this permit. During conversations with the Operator, he stated that he would like to use the pit floor as storage for materials extracted from other mine sites. If the Operator will be using the pit floor for this purpose, it is recommended that instead of submitting the necessary technical revision application after the acreage release, an amendment application be submitted to the Division to change the post mine land use from rangeland to industrial/commercial in addition to the changes with the mining and reclamation plans and maps.

Photographs taken during the inspection and a map for reference are provided in this report. Questions about this inspection report should be directed to me, Jocelyn Carter, at [Jocelyn.carter@state.co.us](mailto:Jocelyn.carter@state.co.us) or (720) 666-1065.

## **Records**

JH Sand and Gravel Pit #1 is a 112c construction materials operation extracting sand and gravel with 45.2 acres within the permit area and 38.1 acres of disturbance. The post mine land use is rangeland for all lands associated with the permit. The proposed acreage release would reduce the total acreage to 27.12 acres, the

operator is requesting to release 18.08 acres.

### **Hydrological Balance**

There was some standing water observed in the active pit area, given the recent storms in the area, the standing water is not considered an issue by the Division (see Photo #3).

### **Signs and Markers**

There is a sign posted at the entrance of the pit area as required by Rule 3.1.12(1) (see Photo #1). The permit boundary markers were verified (see Photos #2 and #3), there were a few markers that were no longer in place on Mr. Gerald and Norman Korinek's property. The missing markers are not considered an issue at this time as they would need to be removed based on the proposed permit boundary after the approval of the submitted AR-1.

### **Fish & Wildlife**

The lands on Quarter Circle LT, Inc are currently used for grazing cattle according to Mr. Korinek. There was no evidence observed that indicates a negative impact on the wildlife in the area as a result of the mining operation.

### **Roads**

County Lane 15 runs north-south along the west side of the permit area and County Lane 13 runs east-west along the south portion of the permit area, both roads appeared to be in good condition with no issues (see Photos #4, #5, #6, and #12).

### **Revegetation**

There were no noxious weeds observed on site in the areas that are being requested to be released. The vegetation on the lands being requested for release appeared to be well vegetated and includes some wooded vegetation (see Photos #4 - #13).

### **Reclamation Plan/ Compliance**

There did not appear to be any issues regarding the reclamation plan for the operation.

## PHOTOGRAPHS



Photo #1: Mine sign posted at pit entrance per Rule 3.1.12(1).



Photo #2: Permit boundary marker located in the northwest corner of the permit area, looking northwest.





Photo #3: Permit boundary marker located along County Lane 15 on the west section of the permit boundary, looking east southeast. Active pit area can be seen in the background with several pools of standing water from recent storm events.



Photo #4: View from the lower west permit boundary area looking southeast at the land owned by Quarter Circle LT, Inc north of County Lane 13 that is proposed to be released.



Photo #5: View of the permit area from the lower west portion of the permit boundary along County Lane 15 (seen on the left side) looking northeast at the section of land owned by Quarter Circle LT, Inc proposed for release located west of the active pit area, between the white line (approximate location) and the road.



Photo #6: View from lower west portion of the permit area looking east at portions of land that are proposed for release. The yellow lines represent to approximate locations of the new permit boundary; land below the bottom line (owned by Quarte Circle LT, Inc) and above the top line (owned by Mr. Gerald and Norma Korinek) are proposed for release.





Photo #7: View of the lands located on Quarter Circle LT, Inc property in the southwest corner of the permit area, looking northwest.



Photo #8: View of the lands located on Mr. Gerald and Norma Korinek's property in the southwest corner of the permit area, looking east.



Photo #9: View of the lands located on Mr. Gerald and Norma Korinek's property in the southwest corner of the permit area, looking south.



Photo #10: View of the lands located on Mr. Gerald and Norma Korinek's property in the southwest corner of the permit area, looking southeast. Lands below the yellow line are proposed for release.





Photo #11: View of the lands located on Mr. Gerald and Norma Korinek's property in the southwest corner of the permit area, looking west from the east property line.



Photo #12: View of the lands located on Mr. Gerald and Norma Korinek's property in the southwest corner of the permit area, looking west from the east property line. County Lane 13 can be seen on the right side of the photo, the area to the left of the white line is proposed for release.



Photo #13: View of lands located on Mr. Gerald and Norma Korinek's property, looking to the northeast from the west portion of the permit boundary. Equipment that can be associated with mining can be seen in the photo.



Photo #14: View of lands located on Mr. Gerald and Norma Korinek's property, looking north from the southeastern portion of the permit area. Materials and equipment that can be associated with mining can be seen in the photo.



M1979131 JH Sand & Gravel Pit #1



Inspection map showing current permit boundary in blue, approximate proposed permit boundary in purple inspected polygon, purple inspection points mark where permit or property boundaries were verified. The green lines indicate the approximate property boundary lines



**Inspection Contact Address**

Jim McCuistion and Gerald Korinek  
JH Sand & Gravel, LLC  
5960 Ln 23  
Sugar City, CO 81076

Enclosure

CC: Amy Eschberger, DRMS  
Dr. Angela Bellantoni, Environmental Alternatives Inc.