

# RESPONSE TO MINERALS PROGRAM INSPECTION REPORT

October 14, 2024

**Mine Name:** West Side Placer

**Permit #:** M-2016-081

**Inspection Date:** July 10, 2024

**Inspection Report Date:** July 29, 2024

**Operator:** AuPt Industries LLC

**Inspection Type:** Monitoring - Normal I&E Program

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# Introduction

The following report is a response to the Minerals Program Inspection Report for the West Side Placer mine, Permit #M-2016-081, conducted on July 10, 2024. The inspection was part of the normal monitoring program conducted by the Colorado Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety (DRMS). During the inspection, certain areas of non-compliance were noted, specifically related to the presence of state-listed noxious weeds, including Halogeton (Halogeton glomeratus). This response outlines the corrective actions taken by AuPt Industries LLC to address the issues raised, with a focus on sustainable land management practices that align with regulatory requirements. Measures implemented include hand-picking, topsoil management, reseeding with native species, and avoidance of herbicides, in favor of methods that encourage native vegetation to outcompete invasive species.

## **Corrective Actions for Treatment of Halogeton (Halogeton glomeratus):**

- **Hand Picking:**

Areas with large outbreaks of Halogeton have been hand-picked to reduce the presence of the noxious weed.

- **Scraping Topsoil Stockpile:**

The topsoil stockpile was scraped to remove Halogeton. The material was buried beneath tailings to prevent re-growth. Tailings were then contoured to existing topography and covered with topsoil.

- **Field Plowing and Seeding:**

Fields were plowed and hand-seeded with Native Seed Craig CR 4 to encourage the growth of native vegetation and out compete the weed species. See seed tag in supporting documentation.

- **Imprint Seeding (Planned for April 2025):**

Continual efforts are ongoing, with imprint seeding scheduled to take place in April 2025 to further enhance re-vegetation success. Currently testing and screening is still going on some of the area to be reseeded.

- **Avoidance of Herbicides:**

AuPt Industries LLC has chosen to avoid the use of herbicides and instead focuses on reseeding native grasses, which are proven to be an effective method for out competing Halogeton. According to the Halogeton Fact Sheet, out competing Halogeton by planting desirable grasses and forbs is the most economical treatment method, and maintaining healthy native vegetation is key to preventing the establishment of Halogeton populations.

*Reference: Halogeton Fact Sheet, Colorado Department of Agriculture*

## Supporting Documentation:



*Hand picking of Halogeton*



*Halogeton outbreak on topsoil stockpile - July 2024*





*Top layer of Halogeton was scraped and placed beneath tailings*



*Topsoil seeded and plowed*



Granite Seed - Denver  
490 East 76th Ave., Unit A  
Denver, CO 80229

From: 2 of 4

Mix Name: **Craig CR 4** 3-50714

Mix #: **212829** Craig CR 4

% Pure	Common Name	Variety	G + D or H	Origin
46.54	OATS	VNS	99 + 0 = 99	CO
18.61	SLENDER WHEATGRASS	San Luis	98 + 0 = 98	CAN
14.40	WESTERN WHEATGRASS	Baron	99 + TZ	WA
5.12	BLUEGRASS SANDBERG	High Plains	99 + TZ	WA
5.01	BOTTLEBRUSH SCURRELTAIL	Toe Jam Creek	92 + 0 = 92	WA
4.75	BLUEBUNCH WHEATGRASS	Golden	97 + 0 = 97	MT
2.45	INDIAN RICEGRASS	VNS	94 + TZ	WA
1.27	PRAIRIE JUNEGRASS	P Sims Mesa	91 + TZ	WA

0.19 Other Crop Date Tested: 25-Nov-19  
1.44 Inert Matter Hard Seed: 0.00  
0.04 Weed Seed Noxious Weed: NONE FOUND

Net Weight 20.75 Lbs. PLS 21.70 Lbs. Bulk  
Coverage: 1.000 Acre

**NOTICE TO BUYER LIMITATIONS OF WARRANTIES AND REMEDIES**

Crop yield and quality are dependent upon many factors beyond the control of the labeled seller and NO WARRANTY is made for crop yield and quality. The labeled seller warrants that all seed sold has been labeled as required under applicable state and federal seed laws and that the seed conforms to the label description within recognized tolerances. THIS WARRANTY IS IN LIEU OF ALL OTHER WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES WHICH EXTEND BEYOND THE DESCRIPTION ON THE LABEL.

No claim shall be asserted against the labeled seller unless Buyer reports to the labeled seller within a reasonable period after discovery (not to exceed thirty days) any condition that might lead to a complaint. BUYER'S EXCLUSIVE REMEDY FOR ANY CLAIM OR LOSS RESULTING FROM BREACH OF WARRANTY, BREACH OF CONTRACT OR NEGLIGENCE INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO INCIDENTAL OR CONSEQUENTIAL DAMAGES SHALL BE LIMITED TO REPAIRMENT OF THE PURCHASE PRICE.

By acceptance of the seed, Buyer agrees the terms and conditions stated above are a benefit to the bargain and constitute the entire agreement between Buyer and the labeled seller. Buyer shall return the original unopened seed package to the labeled seller within thirty days of receipt for a refund of the purchase price if not accepted under these terms.

**NOTICE: REQUIRED ARBITRATION / CONCILIATION / MEDIATION**

The seed laws of several states including Arkansas, California, Colorado, Florida, Georgia, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Minnesota, Mississippi, Montana, North Dakota, South Carolina (Section 40-21-500), South Dakota, Texas and Washington require arbitrator, conciliation or mediation of disputes involving alleged defective seeds before certain legal actions may be maintained against a seller. North Carolina offers an alternative in court action that allows claims to be investigated and heard before the Special Seed Board. A complaint received for AR, CO, FL, IL, IN, MN, MS, MT, NC, SC, TX, WA, agreed only, CA, GA, ID, MO, SD, must be filed with the Department of Agriculture or Seed Commissioner (R) or State Plant Board (AR) or Commissioner of Agriculture (NC) within such time as permit an inspection of seed, crops or plants by an Arbitration Committee - AR, ID, MS, SD, in NC, failure to follow this procedure will limit the amount of damages recoverable. Certified copy of complaint must be sent by registered mail to the labeled seller as provided in individual state law. Information about these requirements may be obtained from the state Department of Agriculture.

Snyder and Counts Feed Seed and Supply Co.  
265 Ranney Street  
Craig, CO 81625

Seed tag



Current work October 2024