




**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> Yocam Borrow Pit	<b>MINE/PROSPECTING ID#:</b> M-2018-020	<b>MINERAL:</b> Borrow material	<b>COUNTY:</b> Morgan
<b>INSPECTION TYPE:</b> Surety Release Inspection	<b>WEATHER:</b> Clear	<b>INSP. DATE:</b> January 15, 2025	<b>INSP. TIME:</b> 09:00
<b>OPERATOR:</b> Castle Rock Construction Company of Colorado	<b>OPERATOR REPRESENTATIVE:</b> Travis Bell	<b>TYPE OF OPERATION:</b> 111 - Construction by Government Agency	
<b>REASON FOR INSPECTION:</b> Surety Release Requested	<b>BOND CALCULATION TYPE:</b> None	<b>BOND AMOUNT:</b> \$42,500.00	
<b>DATE OF COMPLAINT:</b> NA	<b>POST INSP. CONTACTS:</b> None	<b>JOINT INSP. AGENCY:</b> None	
<b>INSPECTOR(S):</b> Patrick Lennberg	<b>INSPECTOR'S SIGNATURE:</b> 	<b>SIGNATURE DATE:</b> January 28, 2025	

**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>Y</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**

The Yocam Borrow Pit (site) was inspected by Patrick Lennberg with the Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety (Division/DRMS). The inspection was completed as part of a surety release request (full/final release request), submitted in accordance with Rule 4.17, received by the Division on November 26, 2024. The site was previously inspected by the Division on November 14, 2024 as part of the Division's routine monitoring program. Travis Bell, representing the Operator/Permittee, Castle Rock Construction Company, LLC ("CRCC"), accompanied me during the inspection. The weather was cold and clear.

The site is located approximately 2 miles south of Orchard, Colorado in Morgan County. The site can be accessed from State Highway 144 (SH-144) approximately 2 miles north from the intersection of SH-144 and U.S. Route 34. The approved post-mining land use for the site is rangeland. The permit is located on land previously owned by John Yocum. The land is currently owned by Robin Hayes. A mine sign was posted at the primary mine entrance as required by Rule 3.1.12. The posted mine sign abates a problem that was cited during the previous inspection.

As stated above the full release request was submitted on November 26<sup>th</sup> but was deemed incomplete on December 9<sup>th</sup>. The application was complete on December 16, 2024 after CRCC provided demonstration of the legal right to enter from the current landowner Robin Hayes. The Division sent notice of the release request to the Morgan County Commissioners, Morgan County Planning Department, the Morgan County Soil Conservation District, and the landowner. The Division has not received any comments from the noticed parties.

As stated in the November 2024 inspection report, the location of the former pit area was, and currently still is, being backfilled with material from a stream restoration project along the South Platte River approximately 1.25 miles to the north of the Yocam Pit on property owned by the State Land Board. The backfilling was being completed by Frontier Environmental Services (Frontier). On November 21<sup>st</sup>, the Division requested Frontier complete an "Is It Mining" form, so the Division could evaluate whether the activities observed at the site, and/or the project, resulting in excess material being generated and hauled required a reclamation permit. On December 23<sup>rd</sup> the Division received the completed form along with supporting documentation along with follow-up documentation on January 6, 2025. The documents showed that the excess material is being excavated from a wetland restoration project along the south bank of the South Platte River and then placed within the former Yocam Borrow Pit and adjacent areas. For the wetland area there is a Long-Term Management and Maintenance and Monitoring Plans. Included with the submittals were signed approval documents from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the Environmental Protection Agency. Additionally, the Division received a copy of the lease agreement for the deposition area that includes a 5-year monitoring plan for revegetation of the Yocam Borrow Site.

The Yocam Borrow Pit has been in final reclamation since November 2018. Previous inspections of the site showed the slopes had been graded to 4H:1V as required by the approved reclamation plan. The site had been revegetated but the vegetation consisted of annual weeds, koshia and Russian Thistle, that were becoming more dominate than the preferred perennial vegetation.

Since the site was already in final reclamation when it was discovered that additional backfilling activities were taking place, and those activities, and associated areas have been approved by other State and Federal agencies. Along with documentation that a performance bond is being held to meet specific reclamation

standards for the site the Division will approve full and final release of the Yocam Borrow Pit.

Notice of the Division's decision regarding the release request will be sent under a separate cover letter.

Photographs taken during the inspection are attached.

Please contact Patrick Lennberg by email at [patrick.lennberg@state.co.us](mailto:patrick.lennberg@state.co.us) if you have any questions regarding this report.

**Inspection Contact Address**

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**PHOTOGRAPHS**



**Photo 1:** Mine sign at the primary mine entrance location



**Photo 2:** Typical permit boundary marker, SE corner pictured



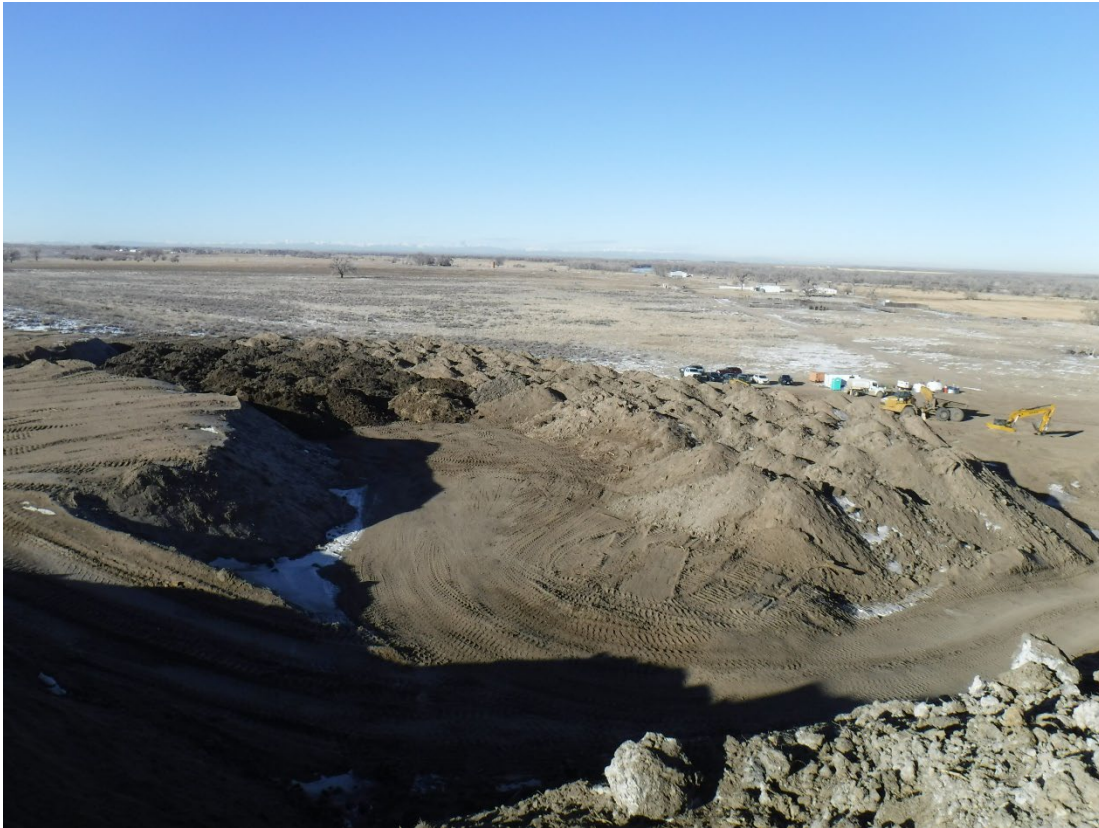


**Photo 3:** Looking south across the permit area, revegetated area in the foreground



**Photo 4:** Typical backfilled area along the eastern permit boundary area





**Photo 5:** Ongoing backfill activities near the southern end of permit area



**Photo 6:** Ongoing backfill activities near the northern end of permit area





**Photo 7:** Looking north at the southern toe of slope of backfilled material

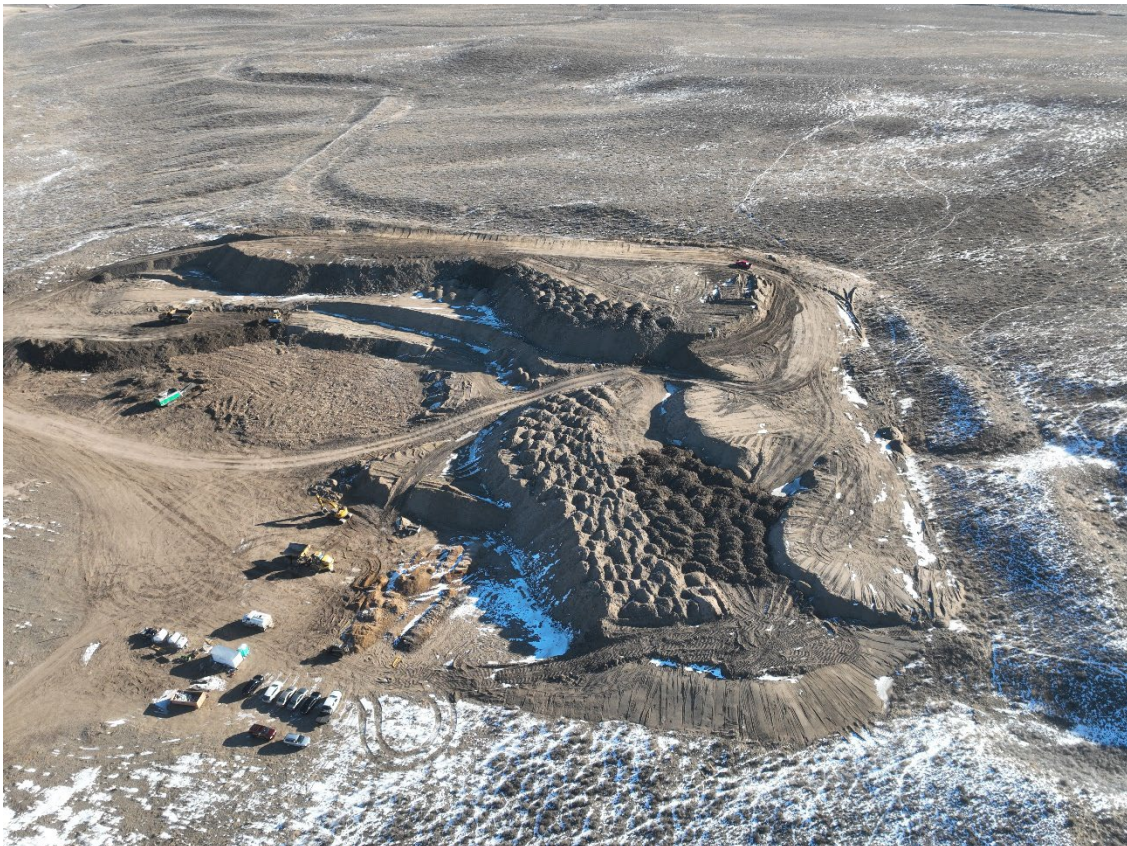


**Photo 8:** Aerial image looking from east to west across the site





**Photo 9:** Aerial image looking from north to south across the site



**Photo 9:** Aerial image looking from south to north across the site