

STATE OF
COLORADO

Girardi - DNR, Chris <chris.girardi@state.co.us>

Mortensen's - M1994081

1 message

Brandon Garrison <brandongarrison39@gmail.com>

Wed, Mar 19, 2025 at 3:26 PM

To: "Girardi - DNR, Chris" <chris.girardi@state.co.us>

Cc: Marcus Mortensen <mortensenmw@gmail.com>

Good afternoon Chris,

I'm sorry this has taken me so long to get together. We just wanted to make sure it was correct. I also apologize for the quality of some of the pictures. Incimate weather (particularly high winds) have prevented me from getting aerial drone footage, however, I believe they are adequate enough to show our corrections.

Here are the corrective actions we have completed in regards to Peat Mine, permit number M-1994-081 after a routine monitoring inspection performed on September 6, 2024.

INSPECTION TOPIC: Peat stock piles outside of boundary:

Peat stock piles were not only moved but completely removed and considered mined. The area they were placed in was cleared and graded back to original status. We believe the stock piles were placed outside our boundary due to the lack of boundary markers at that time. Pictures of this will be attached.

INSPECTION TOPIC: Signs and markers:

Three signs were created and installed near the three roads entering the permitted property. These signs contain all information in accordance with Rule 3.1.12, including operator name, permit number and contact information. Pictures and a location map of this will be attached.

Boundary markers have been placed on the western, northern and eastern portions of the property. We did not place markers on the southern portion, as the road is the boundary and very obvious. If this needs to be changed, we will do so immediately. We did NOT have a survey conducted to find the boundaries, however. We obtained a detailed plot diagram from the Alamosa County Assessor office with detailed footages and markings. We used a measuring wheel and a metal detector and located property pins that were in the ground from a previous survey. After the first few were located, footages on the plot diagram were found to be accurate and pins were located where they showed to be. T posts with white tops were placed in the ground approximately one foot inside these pins as boundary markers. Pictures and a location map will be attached.

INSPECTION TOPIC: Revegetation:

We will be implementing the approved weed control plan sent to us that was based on the Technical Revision (TR-1) from 12/19/2016. We have made arrangements with a Qualified Supervisor licensed with the Department of Agriculture to begin spraying the permitted property. This will be done with a 4-wheeler and a tow behind tank and sprayer with extendable arms. We are currently scheduled to begin this process the week of April 14, 2025 (weather and wind permitting). We estimate approximately three days to complete the entirety of the property. We will periodically inspect to see when another application is required.

We are working with our seed supplier to mix seed for us to meet the standards of the suggested Table 1 Seed Mix. We will, however, miss the specified planting period of November 1 to March 31 for this season. We will do more on this in the upcoming year.

INSPECTION TOPIC: Mine Plan:

In our current area of mining, we have pushed down all high walls and sloped them to a 3:1 grade as required. Pictures of this will be attached.

A map was found in the files from the original owner and permittee with nine segmented divisions of the property. A note on this map stated "approximate 10 acre segments". We will be adopting this map into our mine plan as guidelines for the mining process in phases. A copy of this will be attached, showing the section currently affected and active mining area. We are currently only disturbing area 1, and we approximate only about 2 acres at this time. Again, not by survey, but with measuring wheel and mathematical calculations. At this time we estimate we will be in this same 10 acre section for the next five years. This is based on past reports of the amount of material (sand and peat) actually mined. It is difficult for us to predict when we will be actively mining or how much material we will possibly mine, as it is all based on demand from customers for our mixed topsoil, which we mix, screen and sell at our store front and yard in town. For last year, 2024, we recorded 450 cubic yards of sand mined and 150 cubic yards of peat.

When mining, we do not go any deeper than 12 feet as to not get into ground water level. If moisture is seen or detected, it is covered with sand and graded out and depth is adjusted. When mining, we leave our equipment (typically just our front end loader) on property. With each session of mining, when completed, we will push down any new high walls and slope to a 3:1 grade as required. Once complete, we remove our equipment, for fear of vandalism or theft, but it

is merely "roaded" less than a mile from the property to a company associate's property and home for access to power for block heater, etc..

I believe this is all that we discussed on the phone. If I'm missing anything, or something needs changed or further corrective actions are needed in any such area, just let us know. Thank you for working with us on all this, and thank you for your time.

Brandon Garrison
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Mortensen's Landscape & Irrigation
719-580-7006

11 attachments

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579K



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541K



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317K



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