



STATE OF
COLORADO

Reilley - DNR, Robin <robin.reilley@state.co.us>

Partial Inspection March 2025

1 message

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Fri, Mar 14, 2025 at 8:15 PM

To: Graham Roberts <graham.roberts@trappermine.com>, Robin Reilley - DNR <robin.reilley@state.co.us>

Good Evening Graham,

Please find DRMS's March 2025 partial inspection report of the Trapper Mine. Please let me know of any questions that come up.

Thank you
Robin

Robin Reilley, M.S. GISP
Environmental Protection Specialist II

image.png

P [303.866.3567](tel:303.866.3567) |

F [303.832.8106](tel:303.832.8106)

Physical Address: 1313 Sherman Street St., Suite 215, Denver, CO 80203

Mailing Address: DRMS Room 215, 1001 E 62nd Ave, Denver, CO 80216

robin.reilley@state.co.us | <http://mining.state.co.us>



Inspection_Partial_Trapper_2025_03March.pdf

2774K




COLORADO
 Division of Reclamation,
 Mining and Safety
 Department of Natural Resources

11 March 2025

PERMIT INFORMATION

Permit Number: C1981010 Mine Name: Trapper Mine Operator: Trapper Mining, Inc. Operator Address: Mr. Graham Roberts P.O. Box 187 Craig, CO 81626	County: Moffat Operation Type: Surface Permit Status: Active Ownership: Federal
	Operator Representative Present: Graham Roberts
This report was issued electronically from the Divisions' Denver Office.	

INSPECTION INFORMATION

Inspection Start Date: 11 March 2025 Inspection Start Time: 9:00 a.m. Inspection End Date: 11 March 2025 Inspection End Time: 15:45 p.m.	Inspection Type: Partial Inspection Inspection Reason: Normal I&E Program Weather: Cloudy
Joint Inspection Agency: OSM	Joint Inspection Contacts:
Post Inspection Agency: None	Post Inspection Contacts:
Inspector(s): Robin A. Reilley, M.S. GISP	Inspector's Signature:  Signature Date: 14 March 2025

Inspection Topic Summary	
NOTE: Y=Inspected N=Not Inspected R=Comments Noted V=Violation Issued NA=Not Applicable	
Y - Air Resource Protection	R - Roads
N - Availability of Records	N - Reclamation Success
R - Backfill & Grading	N - Revegetation
NA - Excess Spoil and Dev. Waste	Y - Subsidence
R - Explosives	R - Slides and Other Damage
R - Fish & Wildlife	R - Support Facilities On-site
R - Hydrologic Balance	R - Signs and Markers
R - Gen. Compliance With Mine Plan	NA - Support Facilities Not On-site
NA - Other	NA - Special Categories Of Mining
NA - Processing Waste	R - Topsoil

COMMENTS

This was a partial inspection of the Trapper Mine; permit C1981010, operated by Trapper Mining Inc. The inspection was conducted, and the report and photos prepared by me, Robin Reilley of the DRMS. Graham Roberts Trapper Mine representative was present throughout the inspection. No hydrologic or air quality issues were detected at the time of inspection. Skies were partly cloudy, and there was an intermittent breeze. Temperatures ranged between 28 and 40 degrees Fahrenheit.

PERMITTING ACTIONS in PROGRESS:
PR12

INSPECTION

GENERAL MINE PLAN COMPLIANCE:

Roads were being watered, coal and overburden were being loaded and hauled. Ready line was in good repair. The Ash Pit surface was in adequate repair with some rutting, normal for this time of year when soils are beginning to thaw.

J Pit West: The highwall miner was active at the time of inspection and coal was being produced. The Queen Ann dragline was staged at the west end of the pit and was inactive at the time of inspection. A long pile of coal ready to haul and mix was stationed along north length of the highwall. Mining is scheduled for completion in late spring of 2025 so reclamation in the form of backfilling and grading could begin.

J Pit East: The Pit will not be further developed, 0.25 million tons will be left.

D Pit: D Pit discing and seeding are scheduled for the 2025 field season. A temporary seed mixture comprised of triticale had been applied and was still under snow. The pit appeared stable at the time of inspection.

N Pit: Loading and hauling overburden from N Pit.

L Pit: The Baby Doe was idle in north end of the pit and Molly Brown at the south end of the pit. Mining is occurring in the K and L seams.

ROADS – Rule 4.03

Construction 4.03.1(3) I 4.03.2(3); Drainage 4.03.1(4) I 4.03.2(4); Surfacing and Maintenance 4.03.1(5) and (6) I 4.03.2(5) and (6); Reclamation 4.03.1(7) I 4.03.2(7)

- Main haul roads were dry and in good repair.
- Access roads were accessible although muddy and in adequate repair at the time of inspection.
- Ditches along haul roads and access roads appeared to be functioning adequately.

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 5

Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 3

HYDROLOGIC BALANCE – Rule 4.05

Drainage Control 4.05.1, 4.05.2, 4.05.3; Siltation Structures 4.05.5, 4.05.6; Discharge Structures 4.05.7, 4.05.10; Diversions 4.05.4; Effluent Limits 4.05.2; Ground Water Monitoring 4.05.13; Drainage- Acid and Toxic Materials 4.05.8; Impoundments 4.05.6, 4.05.9; Stream Buffer Zones 4.05.18

Not all ponds were accessible due to steep access roads and muddy conditions. Pond banks were stable and vegetated, spillways, appeared in good repair at the time of inspection. Dam out slopes were vegetated and no seepage was observed through the dams of the ponds visited at the time of inspection. Ponds were frozen over.

Ponds visited include:

- East Middle Flume #1 is ice covered and beginning to melt out. No apparent discharge. The pond is on the on list to dredge in 2025. The inlet is being eroded by clear pit water that is pumped at head of inlet.
- Middle Flume #1 holding water and ice covered.
- East Pyeatt#1, #2, #3 Full and ice covered at the time of inspection.
- Middle Pyeatt #1 has a delta at the inlet.
- No Name #4 and #5 holding water and iced over.
- No Name #2 shows significant sedimentation and will be dredged this summer.

TOPSOIL – RULE 4.06

Removal 4.06.2; Substitute Materials 4.06.4(4); Storage and Protection 4.06.3; Redistribution 4.06.4

Depth of topsoil was verified in the D and E Pit parcels.

- No instability or riling were noted on the observed topsoil piles. Topsoil piles are vegetated, with vegetation mostly snow covered at the time of inspection.
- Topsoil piles are marked.

USE of EXPLOSIVES – Rule 4.08

General Requirements 4.08.1; Pre blasting survey 4.08.2; Public Notice of Blasting Schedule 4.08.3; Surface Blasting Requirements 4.08.4; Records of Blasting for Surface Coal Mining 4.08.5; Seismographic Measurements 4.08.6d stripping.

- A blast was ready for detonation at the end of the day.

SLIDES and OTHER DAMAGE- Rule 4.12

- A crack has existed at top of D Pit. Despite 2023 efforts to mitigate the cracking, the crack remerged in 2024.
- The operator routinely monitors the scarp areas throughout the site for any changes, specifically additional movement, cracking or slumping.

BACKFILL and GRADING – RULE 4.14

- Reclamation consists of benched (dragline), and dozer piled overburden in L Pit awaiting grading, generally an ongoing activity at Trapper Mine.
- The flat surfaces of the Ash Pit were dry and firm, with no standing water or ruts.

REVEGETATION - Rule 4.15

General Requirements 4.15.1; Use of Species 4.15.2, Grazing 4.15.5

- Revegetated areas of reclamation appear stable. Species were dormant and snow covered at the time of inspection.

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FISH and WILDLIFE– RULE 4.18

Wildlife sightings included a herd of elk, red and white tailed hawks, golden eagles, and ravens.

*INSPECTION, ENFORCEMENT and CIVIL PENALTIES – RULE 5**Inspections 5.02; Availability of Records*

- As this was a partial inspection, records were not checked.

DOCUMENTS RECEIVED

None

ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS/COMPLIANCE

No enforcement actions were initiated as a result of this inspection, nor are any pending. Previous actions are listed below.

PHOTOGRAPHS

Photo 1: View of L Pit K Knob looking east.

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Photo 2: Dragline activities at the south end of L Pit.



Photo 3: L Pit looking east. Water lying against the highwall.

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Photo 4: L Pit looking up to the south.



Photo 5: Inlet sediment fan in East Middle Flume #1 Pond.

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Photo 6: Ice covered Middle Flume #1 Pond.



Photo 7: Three 50,000 gallon diesel fuel tanks showing lined containment berm.

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Photo8: Looking north to the East Pyeatt Ponds #2 and #3.



Photo 9: Looking southeast along East Pyeatt Pond #1.

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Photo 10: Looking north at No Name Pond #5 discharge flume, that was carrying water.



Photo 11: No Name Pond #5 looking west. Ice is beginning to melt out.

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Photo 12: N Pit coal pile along north highwall, looking east.