



STATE OF
COLORADO

Simmons - DNR, Leigh <leigh.simmons@state.co.us>

C1981022, Elk Creek Mine, April Inspection Report

Simmons - DNR, Leigh <leigh.simmons@state.co.us>
To: Doug Smith <Doug.Smith@oxbow.com>

Fri, May 2, 2025 at 4:15 PM

Attached

Leigh Simmons
Environmental Protection Specialist



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

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INSP-REPORTC_C1981022_LDS_05022025040253.pdf
4081K



PERMIT INFORMATION

Permit Number: C-1981-022 Mine Name: Elk Creek Mine Operator: Oxbow Mining, LLC Operator Address: Mr Doug Smith 3737 Hwy 133 P. O. Box 535 Somerset, CO 81434	County: Delta, Gunnison Operation Type: Underground Permit Status: Active Ownership: Private
	Operator Representative Present: Doug Smith
Operator Representative Signature: (Field Issuance Only) 	

INSPECTION INFORMATION

Inspection Start Date: April 24, 2025 Inspection Start Time: 14:00 Inspection End Date: Inspection End Time:	Inspection Type: Coal Partial Inspection Inspection Reason: Normal I&E Program Weather: Clear
Joint Inspection Agency: None	Joint Inspection Contacts:
Post Inspection Agency: None	Post Inspection Contacts:
Inspector(s): Leigh Simmons	Inspector's Signature:  Signature Date: May 2, 2025

Inspection Topic Summary

NOTE: Y=Inspected N=Not Inspected R=Comments Noted V=Violation Issued NA=Not Applicable

N - Air Resource Protection
N - Availability of Records
Y - Backfill & Grading
N - Excess Spoil and Dev. Waste
N - Explosives
N - Fish & Wildlife
R - Hydrologic Balance
Y - Gen. Compliance With Mine Plan
N - Other
N - Processing Waste

Y - Roads
N - Reclamation Success
R - Revegetation
N - Subsidence
N - Slides and Other Damage
N - Support Facilities On-site
Y - Signs and Markers
N - Support Facilities Not On-site
N - Special Categories Of Mining
Y - Topsoil

COMMENTS

This was a partial inspection by Leigh Simmons of the Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety (Division). The weather was clear and dry. The status of the Elk Creek Mine is “active” however no coal is being mined and the only activity since the last inspection was site maintenance.

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; Surface 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:

Spring runoff was moderate, water was flowing in Elk Creek but the flow rate was not particularly high. The reclaimed channel was stable.

REVEGETATION – Rule 4.15

Vegetative Cover; Timing:

Weed spraying was in progress around the facilities area. The banks of the reclaimed channel were well-vegetated with excellent diversity and very few weeds observed.

DOCUMENTS RECEIVED

N/A

OTHER (SPECIFY)

N/A

ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS/COMPLIANCE

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

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 7

Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 3

PHOTOGRAPHS



Figure 1: Elk Creek channel, 1 of 8



Figure 2: Elk Creek channel, 2 of 8

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 7

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Figure 3: Elk Creek channel, 3 of 8



Figure 4: Elk Creek channel, 4 of 8

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 7

Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 3



Figure 5: Elk Creek channel, 5 of 8

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 7

Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 3



Figure 6: Elk Creek channel, 6 of 8

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Figure 7: Elk Creek channel, 7 of 8



Figure 8: Elk Creek channel, 8 of 8

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