




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.

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| MINE NAME: Ferrero Pit | MINE/PROSPECTING ID#: M-2000-028 | MINERAL: Sand and gravel | COUNTY: Huerfano |
| INSPECTION TYPE: Surety Release Inspection | WEATHER: Cloudy | INSP. DATE: April 23, 2025 | INSP. TIME: 12:45 |
| OPERATOR: Mike A. Ferrero | OPERATOR REPRESENTATIVE: Mike A. Ferrero | TYPE OF OPERATION: 110c - Construction Limited Impact | |
| REASON FOR INSPECTION: Surety Release Requested | BOND CALCULATION TYPE: None | BOND AMOUNT: \$13,887.00 | |
| DATE OF COMPLAINT: NA | POST INSP. CONTACTS: None | JOINT INSP. AGENCY: None | |
| INSPECTOR(S): Amber M. Gibson | INSPECTOR'S SIGNATURE:  | SIGNATURE DATE: May 7, 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.

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| (AR) RECORDS----- <u>Y</u> | (FN) FINANCIAL WARRANTY----- <u>N</u> | (RD) ROADS----- <u>N</u> |
| (HB) HYDROLOGIC BALANCE----- <u>N</u> | (BG) BACKFILL & GRADING----- <u>N</u> | (EX) EXPLOSIVES----- <u>N</u> |
| (PW) PROCESSING WASTE/TAILING---- <u>N</u> | (SF) PROCESSING FACILITIES----- <u>N</u> | (TS) TOPSOIL----- <u>N</u> |
| (MP) GENL MINE PLAN COMPLIANCE- <u>N</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 Ferrero Pit was inspected by Amber Gibson with the Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety (Division/DRMS). The inspection was completed as part of the requirements for a Surety Release (SL1) application process. The site was previously inspected by the Division on July 28, 2021 as part of the Division's routine monitoring program. Mike Ferrero, the Permittee, accompanied me during the inspection. The weather was cool and cloudy.

The Ferrero Pit is located in Huerfano County approximately 12 miles south-southeast of Walsenburg off of County Road 317. The mine is a 110 construction materials permit for 7.3 acres on property owned by Larry and Barbara Menegatti. The primary commodity that was mined at the site was gravel. The approved post mining land use is rangeland and the land surrounding the pit is rangeland.

Availability of Records:

- The annual report, map, and fee are paid and current through April 26, 2026.
- The Permittee brought the Surety Release (SL1) application form to the inspection to request a full and final release of the permit. This inspection was thence conducted as part of the requirements for the consideration of a full and final release.

Reclamation Success:

The Permittee stated that had ceased at the site around 2011, and that it's been reclaimed since 2017. Mr. Ferrero stated that it has been a few years since he was last at the site when he had done some re-seeding work and the Landowners have done some weed control. During the inspection, the Division observed that the disturbed area consisted of a bowl-shaped depression that is approximately 2.2 acres in size. Mr. Ferrero stated that that had been the pit and was the only area that had been excavated during the mining operation.

Permit boundary markers were located around the permit boundary. Per the reclamation plan, the reclaimed pit area will remain as a shallow depression. The side slopes within the pit area had been backfilled and graded to 3H:1V slopes or shallower. The pit has also been topsoiled, seeded, and re-seeded. Some of the vegetation growing within the reclaimed area consists of bunchgrasses, clover, native cactus, and yucca plants. A herd of deer were grazing within and around the reclaimed area during the inspection.

The Division is satisfied with the status of the vegetative cover onsite, and believes that the reclamation implemented at the site meets the requirements of Rule 3.1. The Division **will approve** the SL1 application. The notice of approval will be sent as separate correspondence.

Conclusion:

This concludes the Division's Inspection Report; photographs taken during the time of the inspection are included below. If you need additional information or have any questions, please contact me by email at amber.gibson@state.co.us or by telephone at (720) 836-0967.

Inspection Contact Address

Mike A. Ferrero
34320 Hwy 12
Trinidad, CO 81082

CC: Mary Sciacca
Jared Ebert, DRMS

PHOTOGRAPHS



Photo 1: Looking northeast at the northern reclaimed pit slope. Pictured is a deer laying on the slope.



Photo 2: Wide-angle photo showing the entirety of the reclaimed excavated area.



Photo 3: Looking at the vegetation on the pit slopes.



Photo 4: Looking south at the vegetation on the reclaimed pit slopes.



Photo 5: Looking west at the southern slopes in the reclaimed pit area.



Photo 6: Looking west at the reclaimed slopes in the pit.