




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.

MINE NAME: MSF/Feister Pit #1	MINE/PROSPECTING ID#: M-2006-010	MINERAL: Sand, gravel and borrow material for construction	COUNTY: Las Animas
INSPECTION TYPE: Monitoring	WEATHER: Foggy	INSP. DATE: April 25, 2025	INSP. TIME: 08:30
OPERATOR: Las Animas County	OPERATOR REPRESENTATIVE: Keith Woodring	TYPE OF OPERATION: 112c - Construction Regular Operation	
REASON FOR INSPECTION: Normal I&E Program	BOND CALCULATION TYPE: None	BOND AMOUNT: \$0.00	
DATE OF COMPLAINT: NA	POST INSP. CONTACTS: None	JOINT INSP. AGENCY: None	
INSPECTOR(S): Amber M. Gibson	INSPECTOR'S SIGNATURE: 	SIGNATURE DATE: May 14, 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>Y</u>	(FN) FINANCIAL WARRANTY----- <u>Y</u>	(RD) ROADS----- <u>Y</u>
(HB) HYDROLOGIC BALANCE----- <u>Y</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>Y</u>
(MP) GENL MINE PLAN COMPLIANCE- <u>Y</u>	(FW) FISH & WILDLIFE----- <u>N</u>	(RV) REVEGETATION---- <u>N</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>Y</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 MSF/Feister Pit #1 was inspected by Amber Gibson with the Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety (Division/DRMS). The inspection was completed as part of the Division's routine monitoring inspection program. The site was previously inspected by the Division on September 24, 2020. Keith Woodring with the Las Animas County Road & Bridge Department (Permittee/Operator) accompanied me during the inspection. The weather was cool and cloudy upon arrival, but the fog was gradually subsiding throughout the inspection.

The MSF/Feister Pit #1 is located approximately 23.3 miles west of Aguilar, Colorado. The site is permitted as a 112c Construction Materials Reclamation Permit for 27.1-acres. The primary commodity being mined at the site is sand, gravel, and borrow material for construction. The approved post-mining land use is rangeland.

Availability Of Records:

Las Animas County (Permittee/Operator) became the Permittee for this site in April 2012, via a Succession of Operators (SO1) application. The previous Operator had been found in violation of affecting land outside of the approved permit boundary. In July 2012, the Permittee submitted a conversion application (CN1) to encompass the areas where the previous operator had affected.

There are no outstanding infractions cited for this site. The annual fee, report, and map are paid and current through August 9, 2025.

Financial Warranty:

The MSF/Feister Pit #1 is permitted and operated by Las Animas County. The Division does not hold a financial warranty for county operations.

Roads:

There is one pre-existing road that leads into and out of the permit area. The road to the site is restricted during the majority of the year. The gate leading to the main permit area has locks placed upon it by the Operator, the landowner, a logging company, and a few other approved entities. When the mine is operating, the Operator stated that they use signage and other safety protocols to ensure the safety of all entities using the road during that time.

Hydrologic Balance and Sediment Control:

A small impoundment pond is located in the southeast corner of the site, as mentioned in the mining plan. The pond held some water at the time of the inspection (Photo 1). All disturbance onsite is lined and sloped towards the east side of the pit. No excess sediment was observed offsite during the inspection.

General Compliance with Mine Plan:

Excavation at this site moves from east to west. Approximately 11.4 acres have been disturbed at this time. It appears that since at least 2011, the disturbance area has not increased. The site consists of an excavated pit area that is approximately 12 feet deep. An area in the northeastern side of the pit, and southwestern side, have highwalls that are at approximately a 1.5-2H:1V slope or shallower (Photos 2-6). A large product stockpile is located near the site entrance (Photos 6-7). There are also various piles of overburden and unsorted product throughout the pit area (Photos 8-10).

On the west side of the pit, there is an elevated area where topsoil had been removed and stockpiled (Photos 11-15). An abundance of stabilized and seeded topsoil piles lines the entirety of the disturbed area (Photos 16-19).

Because the mine is only allowed to operate for a few months out of the year, the Operator states that it has been difficult to make much progress. However, hauling has still occurred regularly during the active months. The west side of the permit boundary has not yet been affected by mining (Photo 20).

Reclamation Success:

No reclamation has yet occurred at this site. The Operator stated that they are currently evaluating the plans for this site and may consider closing operations and reclaiming in the next few years.

Signs and Markers:

A mine sign was posted in compliance with Rule 3.1.12(1) and was located on the locked entrance gate leading to the site (Photo 21). The permit area is marked in compliance with Rule 3.1.12(2) and is identified by t-posts (Photo 22 and Map 1). The Inspector walked with the Operator around the permit boundary and collected the t-post's coordinates in the Esri Field Maps application. The permit boundary posts are indicated by the green circle icons on Map 1. There were also two additional t-posts with orange tops located near the pit on the northeast and southeast sides (see the orange slashed circles on Map 1).

Topsoil:

As mentioned in the General Compliance with the Mine Section above, the topsoil piles line the affected area and are vegetated and stable.

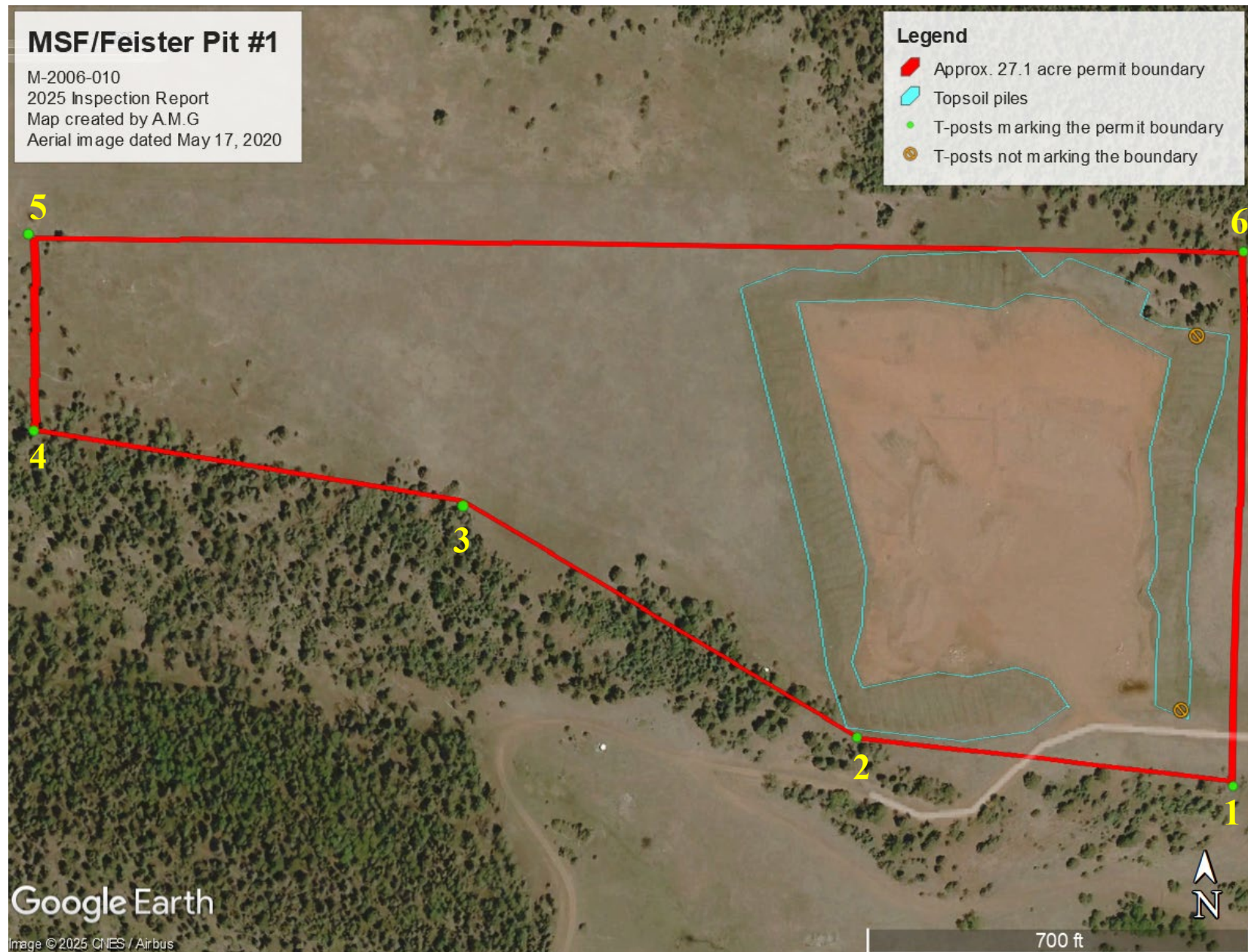
Conclusion:

This concludes the Division's Inspection Report; a map displaying topics discussed during the inspection, and a subset of corresponding photographs that were 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

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Las Animas County
2000 N. Linden
Trinidad, CO 81082

CC: Jared Ebert, DRMS



Map 1: Inspection map for the inspection conducted on April 25, 2025. The aerial imagery is the clearest-most recent available in Google Earth Pro. The yellow numbers correspond with the t-post locations shown in Photo 22.

PHOTOGRAPHS



Photo 1: Mine sign posted on the entrance gate.



Photo 2: Looking west at where the excavated pit meets the elevated topsoil salvaged area.

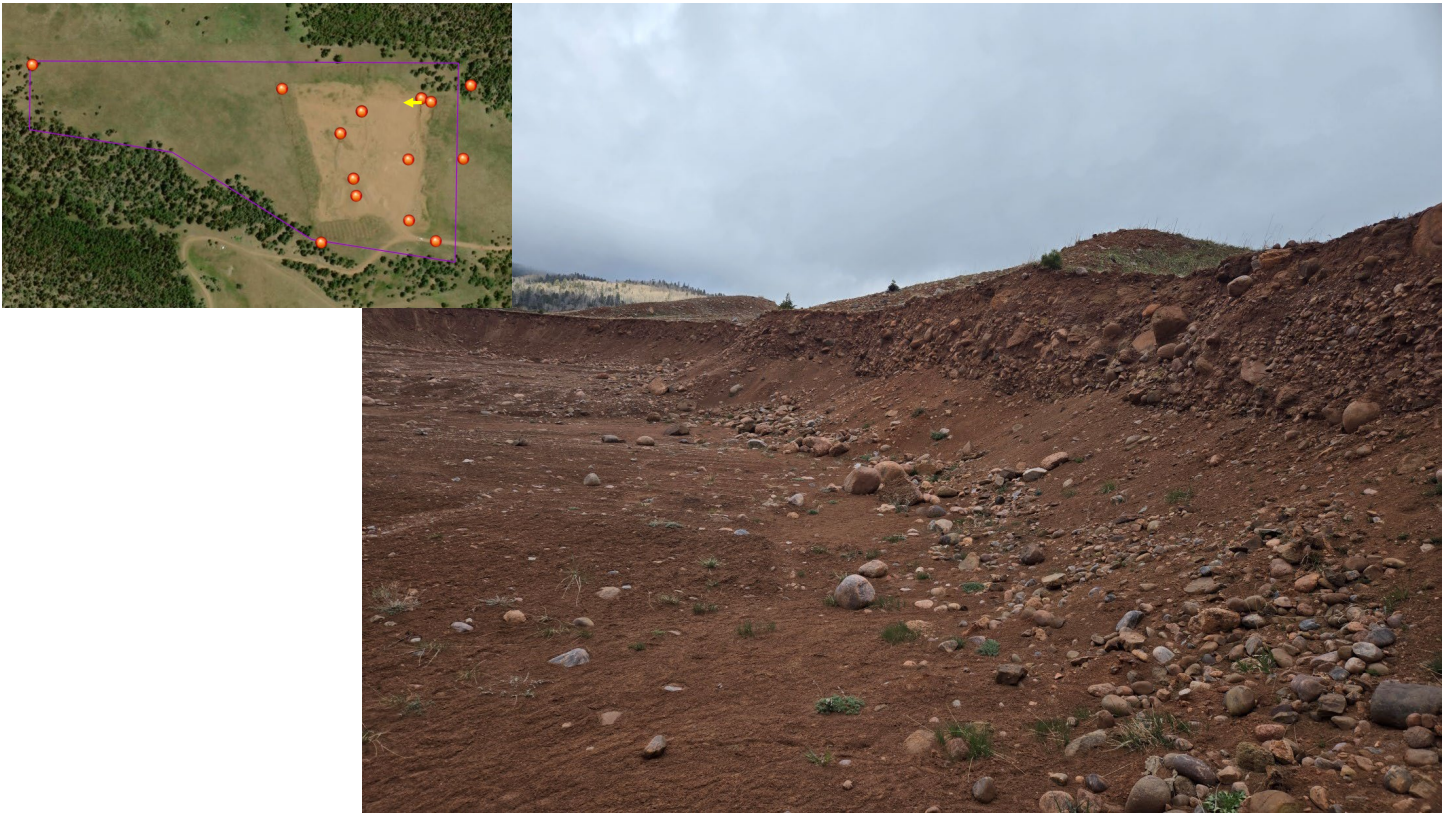


Photo 3: Steepest portion of the highwall within the pit.



Photo 4: Gentler highwall slopes within the pit area.



Photo 5: Red arrows point to some overburden stockpiles within the pit. The product stockpile is seen in the left side of the photo. Topsoil piles lining the pit can be seen from the center to the right side of the photo.



Photo 6: Looking south along the east side of the pit towards the entrance to the site.

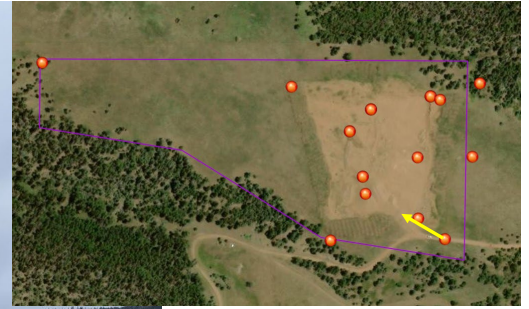


Photo 7: Looking into the site from the entrance road.

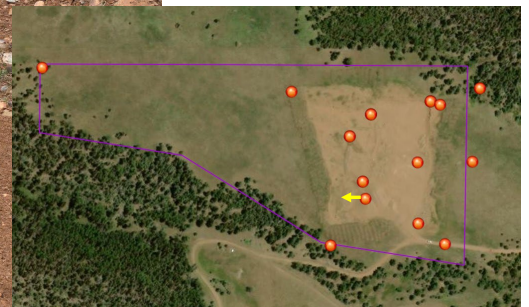


Photo 8: Large unsorted/uncrushed product material stockpile.

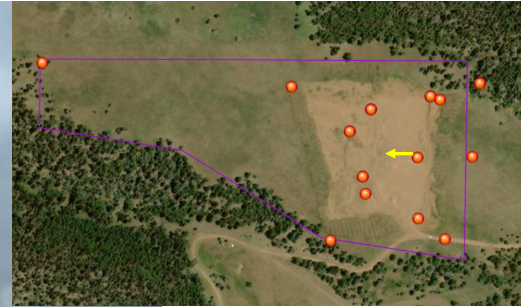


Photo 9: Uncrushed/unsorted material stockpile.

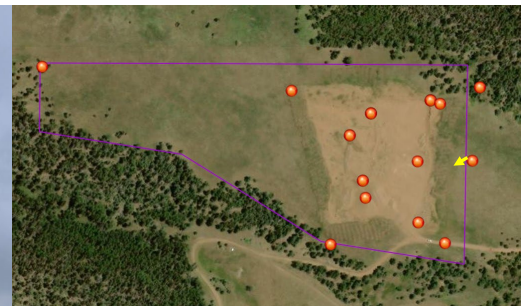


Photo 10: Small stockpile located east of the pit and east of the eastern topsoil berm, but within the permit boundary.



Photo 11: Path from within the pit up to the elevated western area.



Photo 12: Looking across the pit from the elevated area.

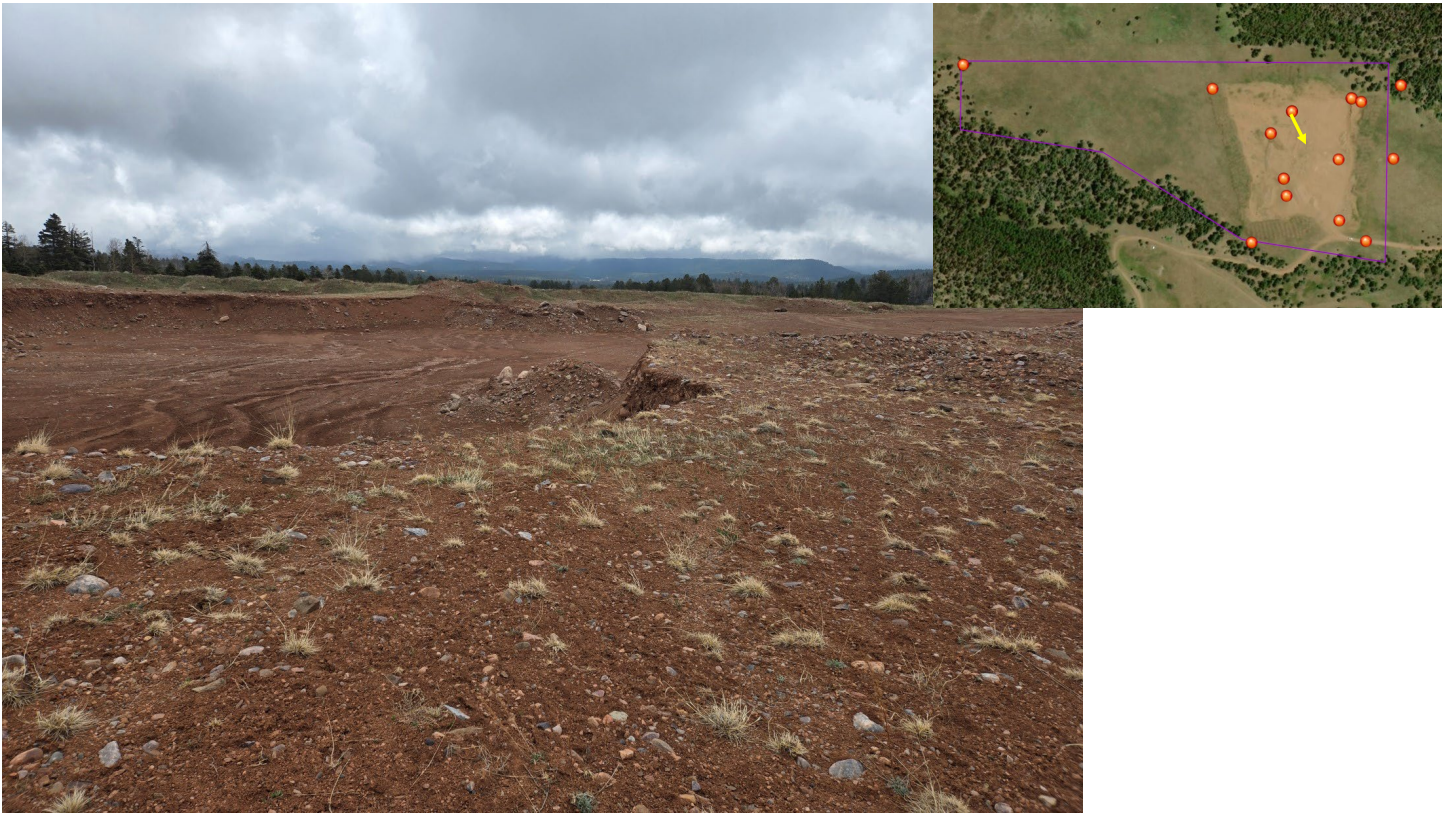


Photo 13: Looking across the pit from the elevated area.



Photo 14: Looking across the elevated area where topsoil had been salvaged.



Photo 15: Looking along the northern highwall from the elevated area.



Photo 16: Looking along the west side of the western stockpile where it abuts undisturbed land within the permit boundary.



Photo 17: Looking at the topsoil stockpile in the northeast corner. The red arrow points to one of the two t-posts that are in from the permit boundary and indicated by orange slashed circles on Map 1.



Photo 18: Looking southeast along the western topsoil stockpiles.



Photo 19: Looking west along the northern topsoil stockpiles where the disturbance abuts the undisturbed northern area within the permit boundary.



Photo 20: Looking east towards the pit from the northwestern permit boundary marker. This area has not yet been disturbed.



Photo 21: Looking at the mine sign posted on the entrance gate located to the east along the restricted road.



Photo 22: Permit boundary markers around the permit boundary. The photo numbers correspond with the labels on Map 1.