




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: Diamond Rock Pit	MINE/PROSPECTING ID#: M-2000-047	MINERAL: Gravel	COUNTY: Huerfano
INSPECTION TYPE: Monitoring	WEATHER: Cloudy	INSP. DATE: April 23, 2025	INSP. TIME: 11:50
OPERATOR: Diamond B Enterprises, LLC	OPERATOR REPRESENTATIVE: None	TYPE OF OPERATION: 110c - Construction Limited Impact	
REASON FOR INSPECTION: Normal I&E Program	BOND CALCULATION TYPE: Complete Bond	BOND AMOUNT: \$16,000.00	
DATE OF COMPLAINT: NA	POST INSP. CONTACTS: None	JOINT INSP. AGENCY: None	
INSPECTOR(S): Amber M. Gibson	INSPECTOR'S SIGNATURE: 	SIGNATURE DATE: May 16, 2025	

The following inspection topics were identified as having Problems or Possible Violations. OPERATORS SHOULD READ THE FOLLOWING PAGES CAREFULLY IN ORDER TO ASSURE COMPLIANCE WITH THE TERMS OF THE PERMIT AND APPLICABLE RULES AND REGULATIONS. If a Possible Violation is indicated, you will be notified under separate cover as to when the Mined Land Reclamation Board will consider possible enforcement action.

INSPECTION TOPIC: Reclamation Success

PROBLEM: Failure to follow approved reclamation plan, or current reclamation plan needs to be updated and clarified pursuant to C.R.S. 34-32.5-116 (1). The operator must follow approved reclamation plan or provide sufficient information to describe or identify how the operator intends to conduct reclamation.

CORRECTIVE ACTIONS: The operator shall submit a Technical Revision, with the required \$216 revision fee, to update and clarify the current approved reclamation plan to reflect existing and proposed activities by the corrective action date.

CORRECTIVE ACTION DUE DATE: 7/31/25

INSPECTION TOPIC: Revegetation

PROBLEM: There are state-listed noxious weeds present on site. This is a problem for failure to employ weed control methods for state listed noxious weed species within the permitted area, and to reduce the spread of weeds to nearby areas as required by Section 3.1.10 (6) of the rule.

CORRECTIVE ACTIONS: Implement approved weed control plan and provide proof to the Division that this has been done. If a weed control plan is not already in place, the operator shall develop a weed control and

management plan in accordance with Section 3.1.10 (6) of the Rule. This plan should be developed in consultation with the county extension agency, or weed control district office and should include specific control measures to be applied, a schedule for when control measures will be applied and a post-treatment monitoring plan. This weed control plan shall be submitted to the Division as a Technical Revision to the approved plan with the appropriate Technical Revision fee of \$216.00 by the corrective action date.

CORRECTIVE ACTION DUE DATE: 7/31/25

OBSERVATIONS

The Diamond Rock Pit was inspected by Amber Gibson with the Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety (Division/DRMS). The inspection was conducted as a routine monitoring inspection. The site was previously inspected by the Division on July 28, 2021 as part of acreage and surety reduction requests (AR1 and SR1 respectively). No Operator representatives accompanied me during the inspection. The Division sent an email to all listed representatives to inform them of the date and time planned for the inspection, left a voicemail, and did not receive a response. The weather was warm and the sky was partly cloudy.

The Diamond Rock Pit is located in Huerfano County approximately 6 miles southeast of La Veta and 12 miles southwest of Walsenburg, CO. It is accessed 1.3 miles from the junction of County Roads 340 and 344. The pit is a 110 construction materials permit for 4.74 acres. The primary commodity that was mined at the site was sand and gravel. The approved post-mining land use is rangeland.

Availability of Records:

The AR1 applied for on July 14, 2021 was approved on September 7, 2021. The approval of the AR1 reduced the permit area from 9.9 acres to the current 4.74 acres. The annual report, map, and fee are paid and current through February 25, 2026.

Financial Warranty:

The Division has estimated the reclamation liability at this site and has determined that the currently held bond of \$16,000 is adequate at this time.

Hydrologic Balance and Sediment Control:

The affected area is surrounded by stabilized and vegetated berms of topsoil and overburden. No standing water was observed onsite during the inspection, nor were any signs of excess sediment leaving the site.

Reclamation Success:

This site has been in final reclamation since at least 2016. The site slopes around the pit have been graded to a 3H:1V or shallower, and the affected area has been revegetated (Photos 1-3). There is still one small product stockpile within the pit area, and vegetated overburden and topsoil piles lining the permit boundaries (Photos 4-7). The two most recently conducted inspections of the site were conducted on August 26, 2020 and July 28, 2021. Both reports state that the Operator was informed that they were required to submit a technical revision to update the reclamation plan and map to include the approval of topsoil berms and the remaining product and overburden stockpiles to remain after reclamation. The Operator was also instructed to submit a signed affidavit from the landowner agreeing to leave the topsoil and other stockpiles in place after the completion of reclamation. This has **been cited as a problem above**. The current Operator representatives must submit these materials, and the approval of these materials must be reached before the site is eligible for a full and final release.

Vegetation appears to have established a little more since the 2021 inspection. However, the establishment of the state listed noxious weed Mullein has also begun (Photo 8). This has **been cited as a problem above**. The Operator shall provide the Division with evidence that the weeds have been treated by the corrective action date. A mullein fact sheet has been attached to this report. The Division recommends that the Operator contacts the Huerfano County Noxious Weed Office for assistance.

Signs and Markers:

The permit sign was posted at the entrance to the site in accordance with Rule 3.1.12(1) (Photo 9). White pvc

poles were observed around the site, marking the permit boundary in accordance with Rule 3.1.12(2) (Photo 9).

Topsoil:

The topsoil berm along the east side of the permit area is 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

None

Diamond B Enterprises, LLC

38043 CR 32.4

Trinidad, CO 81082

Enclosure: Noxious Weed Mullein Fact Sheet

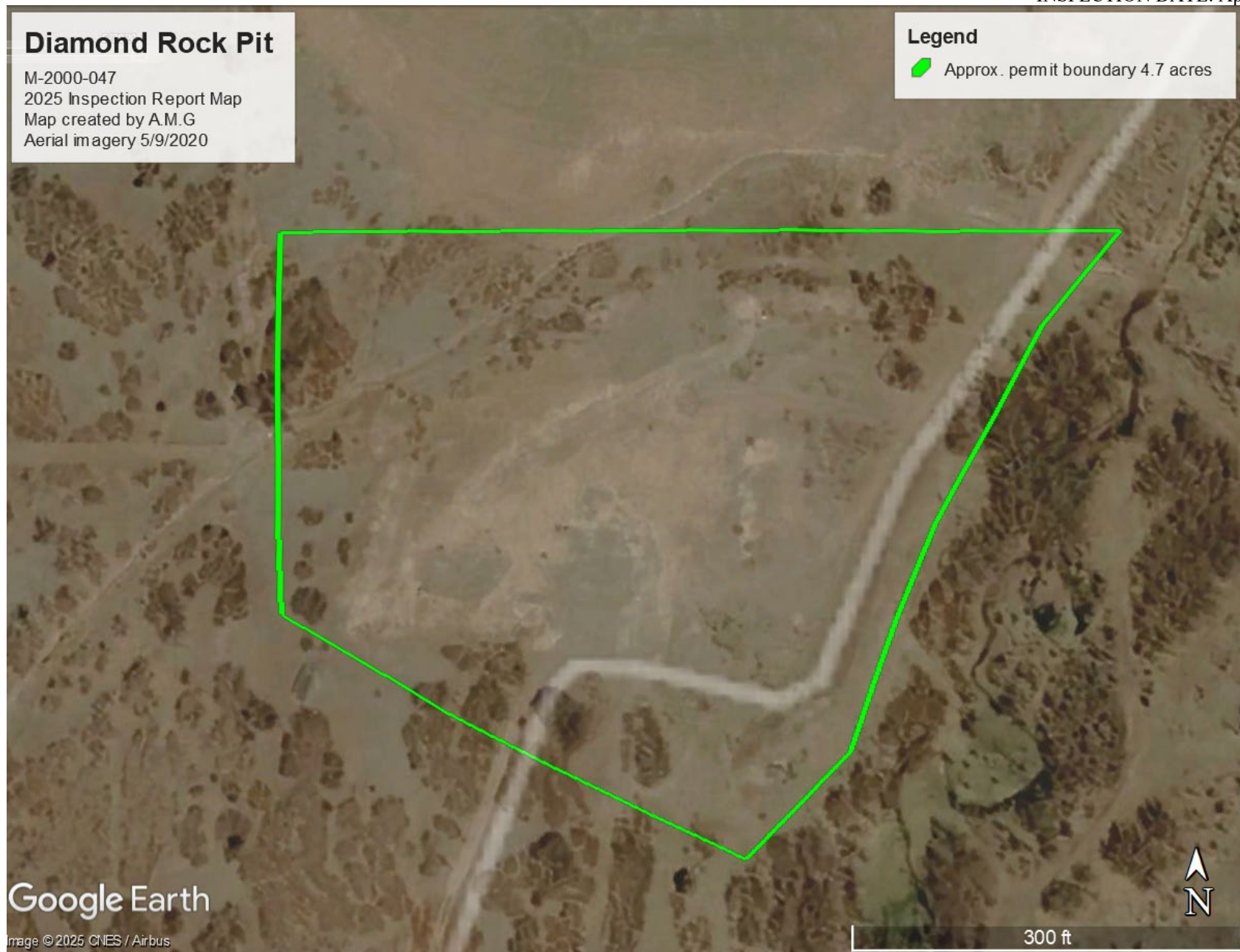
CC: Sarah, Brian, Laura, and Brad Blasi
Jared Ebert, DRMS

GENERAL INSPECTION TOPICS

The following list identifies the environmental and permit parameters inspected and gives a categorical evaluation of each

(AR) RECORDS----- <u>Y</u>	(FN) FINANCIAL WARRANTY----- <u>Y</u>	(RD) ROADS----- <u>N</u>
(HB) HYDROLOGIC BALANCE----- <u>Y</u>	(BG) BACKFILL & GRADING----- <u>Y</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>N</u>	(FW) FISH & WILDLIFE----- <u>N</u>	(RV) REVEGETATION---- <u>PB</u>
(SM) SIGNS AND MARKERS----- <u>Y</u>	(SP) STORM WATER MGT PLAN---- <u>N</u>	(RS) RECL PLAN/COMP-- <u>PB</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



Map 1: 2025 inspection map generated using Google Earth Pro.

PHOTOGRAPHS



Photo 1: Looking at the graded slopes, pit floor, and an overburden/topsoil berm.



Photo 2: Looking at the graded slopes and the pit floor.



Photo 3: Looking at the graded slopes on the south side of the pit.



Photo 4: Small remaining product stockpile within the pit.



Photo 5: Berm consisting of an overburden/topsoil mix lining the permit boundary.

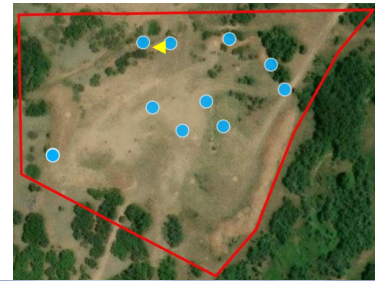


Photo 6: Berms consisting of an overburden/topsoil mix lining the permit boundary.



Photo 7: Berms consisting of an overburden/topsoil mix lining the permit boundary.



Photo 8: (Left) Mullein florets. (Right) Mullein stalks.

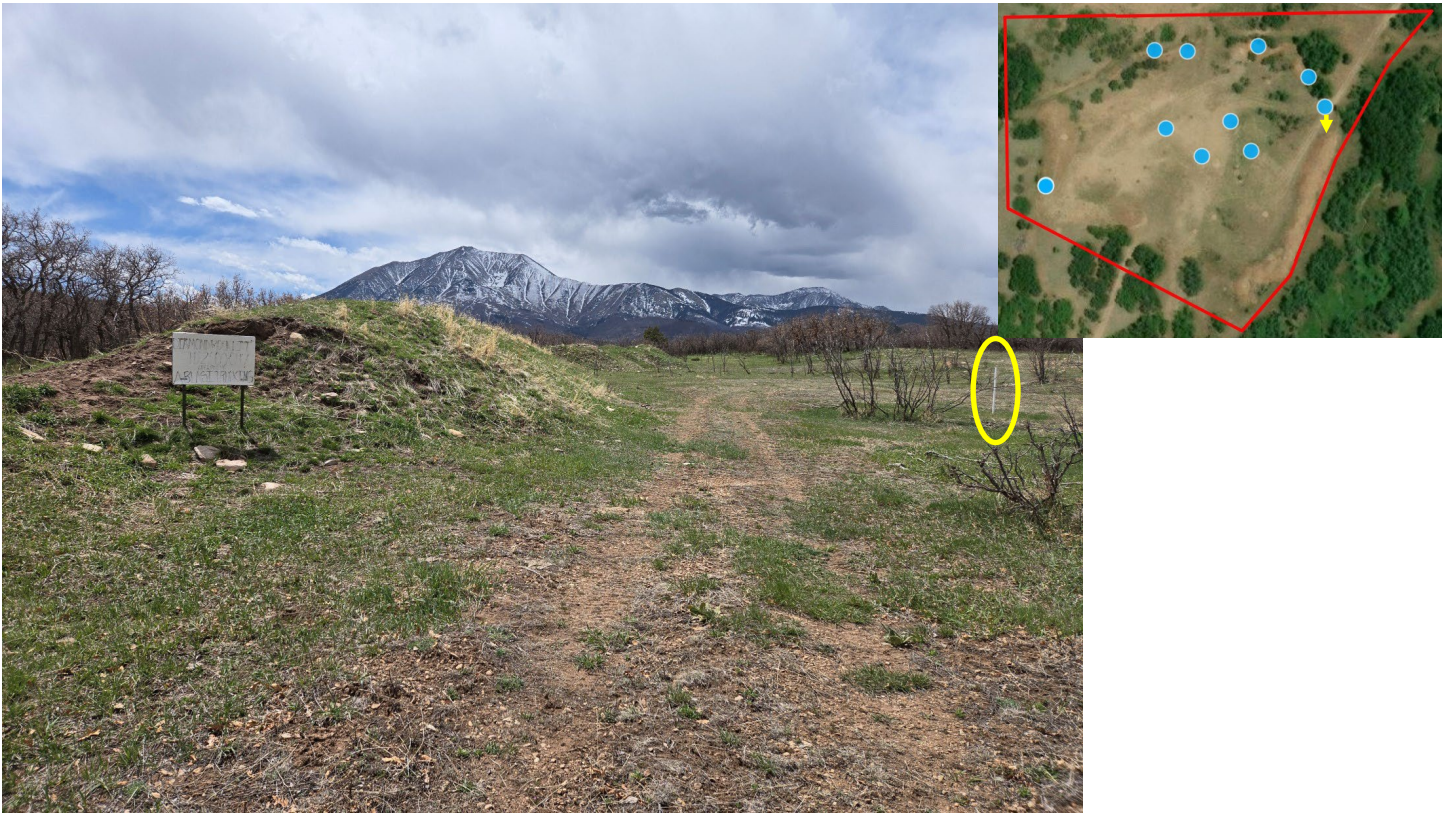


Photo 9: Looking west at the permit sign and a permit marker (yellow circle) near the entrance to the site.

Common mullein

Colorado Department of
Agriculture

305 Interlocken Pkwy
Broomfield, CO 80021

(303) 869-9030
weeds@state.co.us

Identification and Management



Common mullein, due to the hairy leaves of the plants. The plants were originally introduced as a medicinal plant. The Europeans used the flowers for tea, and the leaves for many remedies like burns and rashes. Both the Europeans and the Indians smoked the dried leaves to treat bronchitis.

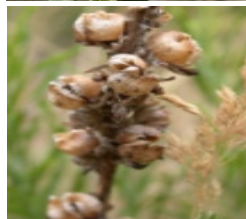
The key to effective control of Common mullein is preventing the production of seeds. This plant is difficult to control due to the large amount of seed produced and seed bank left in the soil. Mechanical, cultural, biological and chemical treatments can be successful if utilized together in an integrated weed management plan. Details on the back of this sheet can help to create a management plan compatible with your site ecology.

Common mullein is designated as a "List C" species on the Colorado Noxious Weed Act. It is required to be either eradicated, contained, or suppressed depending on the local jurisdictions managing this species. For more information, visit www.colorado.gov/ag/weeds or call the State Weed Coordinator at the Colorado Department of Agriculture, Conservation Services Division, 303-239-4100.

Identification and Impacts

Common mullein (*Verbascum thapsus*) is a biennial forb native to Europe and Asia. The first year of the plant it produces a basal rosette. Basal rosettes can grow to 30 inches in diameter. The leaves are light-green in color and are covered in fine soft hairs. The woolly leaves are alternate and overlapping each other and can grow over a foot long. In spring of the second year the plant bolts an erect stem, that grows 2 to 6 feet tall. The flowers of the plant are borne in terminal spikes. These terminal spikes may reach up to 20 inches in length. The flowers are sulfur-yellow in color and have five petals. The flowers range from 3/4 of an inch to 1 1/2 inches in diameter. Numerous two chambered fruits produce 100,000 to 250,000 seeds per plant. Flowering and seed production typical occur from June to August. The plant has a deep taproot along with a fibrous root system.

Habitats for Common mullein are roadsides, waste places, right-of-ways, pastures, hay fields, and abandoned lands. It prefers gravelly soil types, but can grow in other soil types. Livestock will avoid eating



Key ID Points



Photos © All Photos from Kelly Uhing, Department of Agriculture; Except Bottom left Mary Ellen (Mel) Harte, United States

Verbascum thapsus

**CULTURAL**

Cultural control can be effective in assistance with other treatment options. Once the parent plants have been removed, cultivating the area with desirable grasses and forbs may outcompete Common mullein seedlings. For specific seed recommendations contact your local Natural Resources Conservation Services for seed mixes.

**BIOLOGICAL**

Gymnetron tetrum, a seed eating weevil, biological control has been found in eastern Washington State and is currently working on populations there. The weevil has not yet been approved for use in Colorado. Contact the Palisade Insectary of the Colorado Department of Agriculture at 970-464-7916 for more information.

**MECHANICAL**

Hand pull or dig when soil is moist, prior to flowering and seed production can be effective. If flowers are present, bag specimens carefully so as not to scatter any potential seeds. The key to effective control is to prevent seed production and/or spread.

Integrated Weed Management:

Preventing the establishment and the seed production of Common mullein is key to controlling populations. If the population is established, using a combination of cultural, chemical, biological and mechanical treatments can aid in suppressing population size. Since plants produce thousands of seed treatments need to occur over an extended period of time.

HERBICIDES

NOTE: The following are recommendations for herbicides that can be applied to range and pasturelands. Rates are approximate and based on equipment with an output of 30 gal/acre. Please read label for exact rates. Always read, understand, and follow the label directions. The herbicide label is the LAW!

HERBICIDE	RATE	APPLICATION TIMING
Chlorsulfuron (Telar XP)	1-3 oz/acre	Apply to rosette stages in spring or fall prior to bolting. Add non-ionic surfactant @ 0.32 oz/gal water or 1 pt/100 gal water.
2,4-D Picloram (Grazon P+D *this is a Restricted Use Pesticide*)	4 pts/acre	Apply to rosette stages in spring or fall prior to bolting. Add non-ionic surfactant @ 0.32 oz/gal water or 1 pt/100 gal water. DO NOT apply near trees/shrubs/high water table.
Picloram (Tordon 22K *this is a Restricted Use Pesticide*)	1-2 qts/acre	Apply to rosette stages to early growth stages in spring or fall. Add non-ionic surfactant @ 0.32 oz/gal water or 1 pt/100 gal water. DO NOT Apply near trees/shrubs/high water table.
Metsulfuron (Cimmaron)	1.0 oz/acre	Apply to rosette stages in spring or fall. Add non-ionic surfactant @ 0.32 oz/gal water or 1 pt/100 gal water.

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Common mullein

