

## 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:	MINE/PROSPECTING ID#:	MINERAL:	COUNTY:
Cross Gold Mine	M-1977-410	Gold, copper, silver, zinc	Boulder
INSPECTION TYPE:	WEATHER: Windy	INSP. DATE:	INSP. TIME:
Monitoring	-	May 20, 2025	09:30
OPERATOR:	<b>OPERATOR REPRESENTATIVE:</b>	TYPE OF OPERATION:	
Grand Island Resources LLC	Richard Mittasch, Ben Langenfeld, Je'an-Paul	110(2) - Hard Rock Limited Impact	
<b>REASON FOR INSPECTION:</b>	BOND CALCULATION TYPE:	BOND AMOUNT:	
Priority	None	\$546,751.00	
DATE OF COMPLAINT:	POST INSP. CONTACTS:	JOINT INSP. AGENCY	
NA	None	None	
INSPECTOR(S):	INSPECTOR'S SIGNATURE:	SIGNATURE DATE:	
Patrick Lennberg	Particle Lg	May 27, 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>N</u>	(FN) FINANCIAL WARRANTY <u>N</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>N</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>N</u>
(ES) OVERBURDEN/DEV. WASTE <u>N</u>	(SC) EROSION/SEDIMENTATION <u>N</u>	(ST) STIPULATIONS Y
(AT) ACID OR TOXIC MATERIALS <u>Y</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 Cross Gold Mine was inspected by Patrick Lennberg with the Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety (Division/DRMS). The inspection was completed as part of the Division's increased inspection frequency, the permit is to be inspected on a quarterly basis. The site was previously inspected by the Division on March 27, 2025, during the first quarter inspection of 2025. Richard Mittasch, Je'an-Paul Brewer, and Ben Langenfeld, representing Grand Island Resources, LLC (GIR), the Permittee/Operator, accompanied me during the inspection. The weather was clear and windy.

The Cross Gold Mine is a 110(2) underground mine operation permitted for 9.9 acres for the mining of gold, silver, and other minerals. The permit area includes two discharging mine openings: the Cross Mine portal (at the Cross Mine) and the Idaho Tunnel portal (at the Caribou Mine). Mine effluent is directed to a plastic-lined pond (Pond 1) prior to being treated and discharged into Coon Track Creek at the CDPHE permitted discharge point (CO0032751). The mine is located on land owned by the Permittee. The site is located approximately 4 miles northwest of Nederland, CO in Boulder County, at an elevation of approximately 9,760 feet. Access to the site is from Caribou Road. A separate entrance exists for each of the two mines at the site, the Cross Mine (to the south) and the Caribou Mine (to the north). The approved post-mining land use is a combination of forestry and residential.

On December 16, 2024, the Operator submitted a conversion application for permit M1977-410. The application is to convert the current 110(2) permit to a 112(d)-3 permit. The application was called complete on February 16, 2025 and the close of the public comment period was April 2, 2025. During the public comment period the Division received approximately 425 comments and objections on the application. On May 9, 2025, the Division issued its Preliminary Adequacy Review letter, and the Applicant/Operator is currently working on responses to the items contained in the letter. The designated mining operation (DMO) conversion application was a Board Ordered conversion application that was to be submitted prior to January 2025.

The site was not active during the inspection. The only activities reported to be taking place are related to normal operational activities associated with the water treatment plant and general site maintenance.

During this inspection the Division followed up regarding the certification of the operator in charge of the water treatment system. This item was discussed in the previous inspection and was an item in several of the objection letters received during the public comment period for the DMO application. The Operator stated that they are waiting for a test date to be released so their water treatment operator can take the required test to become State certified at the appropriate level to gain compliance with CDPHE.

On April 30, 2025, the Operator submitted the First Quarter 2025 Groundwater, Mine Effluent, Surface Water and Treatment Plant Effluent Quality Report. As an addendum to that report, the Operator submitted a report about copper specific sampling in the Caribou Well in response to recent quarterly copper exceedances in the well. The report details the sampling results of two long-term purging events of the Caribou Well. In mid-April the Operator collected samples at regular intervals during purging and had those samples analyzed for dissolved copper. The results indicate that the longer the well is purged the concentrations of copper decrease. The previous copper exceedances could be attributed to the well maybe located in a zone of increased copper mineralization leading to copper accumulation in the well during well inactivity associated with reduced staff at the mine, corrosion of copper pipes within the mine buildings, reduced groundwater elevations during low flow months. To date, the point-of-compliance well, Cabin Well, has not had any recent detections of copper.

The Caribou effluent was being discharged to the Joliet Raise through a pipeline that bypasses the 3-series ponds and diverted prior to the discharge point at Pond 1. Pond 1 was receiving water from Joliet Raise and was being run through the water treatment plant and discharged at the CDPHE discharge location.

The Division observed the inside of the warehouse. In the warehouse the Division noted a SuperSac of spent filters and approximately 10 SuperSacs of sediment from the water treatment operations, including sediment from the water treatment methods used by the previous Operator. The sediment is from the cleaning out of the ponds and backflush material from the treatment system. This material is to be disposed of in an appropriate off-site facility. The Operator is to submit to the Division prior to transporting the sediment and filters off-site, for proper disposal, a memo that provides information from analytical sample results of the materials where the materials are to be disposed and any other relevant information that shows proper disposal protocols are being followed.

Photographs taken during the inspection are attached.

If you have any questions regarding this report please contact me by email at <u>patrick.lennberg@state.co.us.</u>

#### **Inspection Contact Address**

Richard Mittasch Grand Island Resources LLC 4415 Caribou Rd Nederland, CO 80466

- cc: Jared Ebert, DRMS
- ec: Je'an-Paul Brewer, Grand Island Resources LLC, <u>jpbrewer@nedmining.com</u> Richard Mittasch, Grand Island Resources, LLC, <u>rmittasch@nedmining.com</u> Ben Langenfeld, Lewicki & Associates, PLLC, <u>benl@lewicki.biz</u>

#### PERMIT #: M-1977-410 INSPECTOR'S INITIALS: JPL INSPECTION DATE: May 20, 2025



# **PHOTOGRAPHS**

Photo 1: Idaho Tunnel effluent discharge



Photo 2: Idaho Tunnel effluent discharge directed to grated drop structure to enter pipeline



Photo 3: Series 3 Ponds 3A and 3B not in use



Photo 4: Pond 1 with the Joliet Raise inflow and Idaho Tunnel effluent being direct to the Raise



Photo 5: Coon Track Creek upstream of the approved discharge point



Photo 6: Pond 2 looking south



Photo 7: Pond 2 looking north



Photo 8: Approved discharge point at Coon Track Creek



Photo 9: Downstream of approved discharge point on Coon Track Creek



Photo 10: Cross Well



Photo 11: Cabin Well, point-of-compliance well



Photo 12: Warehouse



Photo 13: SuperSac of spent water treatment filters



Photo 14: SuperSacs of sediment from water treatment operations