



STATE OF  
COLORADO

Reilley - DNR, Robin <robin.reilley@state.co.us>

---

## Inspection complete 2025 May

1 message

---

**Reilley - DNR, Robin** <robin.reilley@state.co.us>

Thu, May 22, 2025 at 9:45 AM

To: Graham Roberts <graham.roberts@trappermine.com>, Robin Reilley - DNR <robin.reilley@state.co.us>

Good Morning Graham,

Please find DRMS's 2025 May inspection report for Trapper Mine. This was a complete inspection.

Thank you

Robin Reilley, M.S. GISP  
Environmental Protection Specialist II

image.png

P [303.866.3567](tel:303.866.3567) |

F [303.832.8106](tel:303.832.8106)

Physical Address: 1313 Sherman Street St., Suite 215, Denver, CO 80203

Mailing Address: DRMS Room 215, 1001 E 62nd Ave, Denver, CO 80216

[robin.reilley@state.co.us](mailto:robin.reilley@state.co.us) | <http://mining.state.co.us>



**Insp\_Complete\_Trapper\_2025\_05May.pdf**

1603K



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

**20 May 2025**

PERMIT INFORMATION

Permit Number: C1981010 Mine Name: Trapper Mine Operator: Trapper Mining, Inc. Operator Address:  Mr. Graham Roberts P.O. Box 187 Craig, CO 81626	County: Moffat Operation Type: Surface Permit Status: Active Ownership: Federal  Operator Representative Present: Graham Roberts
This report was issued electronically from the Divisions' Denver Office.	

INSPECTION INFORMATION

Inspection Start Date: <b>20 May 2025</b> Inspection Start Time: 8:30 a.m. Inspection End Date: <b>20 May 2025</b> Inspection End Time: 4:30 p.m.	Inspection Type: <b>Coal Complete Inspection</b> Inspection Reason: Normal I&E Program Weather: Partly Cloudy
Joint Inspection Agency:	Joint Inspection Contacts:
Post Inspection Agency: None	Post Inspection Contacts:
Inspector(s): Robin A. Reilley, M.S. GISP	Inspector's Signature:  Signature Date: <b>22 May 2025</b>

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 7

Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 4

Inspection Topic Summary	
NOTE: Y=Inspected N=Not Inspected R=Comments Noted V=Violation Issued NA=Not Applicable	
R - Air Resource Protection	R - Roads
R - Availability of Records	R - Reclamation Success
R - Backfill & Grading	R - Revegetation
NA - Excess Spoil and Dev. Waste	Y - Subsidence
R - Explosives	Y - Slides and Other Damage
R - Fish & Wildlife	R - Support Facilities On-site
R - Hydrologic Balance	R - Signs and Markers
R - Gen. Compliance with Mine Plan	NA - Support Facilities Not On-site
NA - Other	NA - Special Categories of Mining
NA - Processing Waste	R - Topsoil

### COMMENTS

This was a complete inspection of the Trapper Mine; permit C1981010, operated by Trapper Mining Inc. The inspection was conducted, and the report and photos prepared by me, Robin Reilley of the DRMS. Graham Roberts, Trapper Mine representative, was present throughout the inspection. No hydrologic or air quality issues were detected at the time of inspection. Skies were partly cloudy. Temperatures hovered around 42 degrees Fahrenheit with some wind.

#### *PERMITTING ACTIONS in PROGRESS:*

*PR 12 and MID TERM 8*

#### *MAINTENANCE ITEMS IDENTIFIED*

1. *Certain ponds are scheduled for dredging this field season.*
2. *East Middle Flume #1 Pond. Inflow channel requires stabilization.*
3. *Constructed drainages in D and K Pits will be tidied up as some channel deepening occurred and various check dams require stabilizing.*

#### ***INSPECTION***

##### ***GENERAL MINE PLAN COMPLIANCE:***

Coal and overburden were being loaded and hauled from L and N Pits. Two blasts were being developed at the south end of the L Pit. The blasts will access the M seam and then down to the Q seam. At the time of inspection the Molly Brown was idle at the top of the L Pit on the south end of the pit. The Baby Doe was backfilling mid L Pit. The remainder of the topsoil stripping was occurring for the last cut of L Pit on the east side.

N Pit has reached its eastern end; Panel one. Highwall mining will occur in the L seam then the pit will be deepened to the next layer of coal. Mining will occur down to R seam with truck and loader in panel two which is almost complete.

The Ash Pit comprised loose ash piled around the perimeter of the flat surfaces. The flat surfaces of the Ash Pit were dry and firm, with no standing water or ruts and appeared to be functioning adequately at the time of inspection.

The Queen Anne dragline in the west panel remains idle. Coal stockpiled in the pit has diminished in size.

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 7

Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 4

*SIGNS and MARKERS – Rule 4.02*

- Pond identification signs were prominently displayed in the vicinity of the ponds and were in adequate repair at the time of inspection.
- Topsoil stockpiles observed were clearly marked with identifying signs.
- Mine Identification showed all required information: DRMS permit number, operator address and phone number.
- Blasting signage at the entrance to the site indicated the required warning system.
- Permit markers were observed along the north boundary at the Pyeatt Systems.

*ROADS – Rule 4.03*

*Construction 4.03.1(3) I 4.03.2(3); Drainage 4.03.1(4) I 4.03.2(4); Surfacing and Maintenance 4.03.1(5) and (6) I 4.03.2(5) and (6); Reclamation 4.03.1(7) I 4.03.2(7)*

- Main haul roads were dry and had been bladed.
- Haul road ditches were being bladed.
- All access roads were accessible.
- Ditches along haul roads and accessible access roads appeared to be functioning adequately.
- Roads were dry. Wind gusts caused some airborne dust.

*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; Drainage- Acid and Toxic Materials 4.05.8; Impoundments 4.05.6, 4.05.9; Stream Buffer Zones 4.05.18*

Pond banks were stable and vegetated, spillways, discharge structures; flumes and decant structures appeared in good repair at the time of inspection. Dam out slopes were vegetated and no seepage was observed through the dams at the time of inspection.

1. No Name #2 exhibits a large sediment fan. Spoil is piled above the pond. The pond is scheduled for dredging.
2. No Name #4 was full and discharging a trickle of clearwater through the decant culvert.
3. No Name #5 was discharging through the flume.
4. Middle Flume #3 was being drawn down for road watering purposes and for dredging. The pond exhibits a significant delta at the inlet.
5. East Flume appeared dry at the time of inspection.
6. Middle Flume #1 needs its water pumped for dredging scheduled later this summer.
7. East Middle Flume #1 was holding water and requires pumping for dredging this field season. The pond is covered emergent cattails. Rocked inflow channel requires stabilization.
8. Middle Pyeatt system Pyeatt #1 was holding water at the time of inspection. Pyeatt #2 and #3 were dry.
9. West Pyeatt system was dry. West Pyeatt #2 exhibits significant sediment and will be put on the 2026 list for dredging.

*TOPSOIL – RULE 4.06*

*Removal 4.06.2; Substitute Materials 4.06.4(4); Storage and Protection 4.06.3; Redistribution 4.06.4*

- No instability or riling were noted on the observed topsoil piles. Topsoil piles are vegetated, with vegetation beginning to green.
- Topsoil piles exist at the ponds for future pond reclamation and throughout the site were active mining is underway.

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 7

Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 4

- Topsoil piles are marked.
- Crops of white top were present on some topsoil piles. The operator has a vigorous weed mitigation program the generally begins in mid spring.
- West panel stripped area is lush with sweet clover and bulbous bluegrass

*USE of EXPLOSIVES – Rule 4.08*

*General Requirements 4.08.1; Pre blasting survey 4.08.2; Public Notice of Blasting Schedule 4.08.3; Surface Blasting Requirements 4.08.4; Records of Blasting for Surface Coal Mining 4.08.5; Seismographic Measurements 4.08.6d stripping.*

- Blasts were being prepared in L Pit
- Blasting records for quarter 1 were checked. All required information was adequately documented in the blasting logs and no irregularities were noted.

*SLIDES and OTHER DAMAGE- Rule 4.12*

- No slides or other damage (other than some badger holes) were observed over the course of the inspection.
- Several cracks and slide prone areas exist throughout the site. These are regularly monitored by staff.

*BACKFILL and GRADING – RULE 4.14*

- Reclamation consists of benched overburden in L, N and I/J Pits awaiting grading, an ongoing activity at Trapper Mine.

*REVEGETATION - Rule 4.15*

*General Requirements 4.15.1; Use of Species 4.15.2, Grazing 4.15.5*

- Revegetated areas of reclamation appeared stable with a diversity of grasses, shrubs and perennials and were beginning to green at the time of inspection.
- White top was observed to be in bloom in patchy areas throughout the site.
- C Pit stripped area was beginning to sprout the temporary seed mix.

*FISH and WILDLIFE– RULE 4.18*

Wildlife sightings included blue birds, red and white tailed hawks, and ravens.

*INSPECTION, ENFORCEMENT and CIVIL PENALTIES – RULE 5*

*Inspections 5.02; Availability of Records*

- As this was a complete inspection, records were checked. No issues were noted.

*DOCUMENTS RECEIVED*

*None*

*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: 4

PHOTOGRAPHS



*Photo 1: Blast configured in L Pit.*



Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 7

Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 4



**Photo 2:** Coal bedding on east highwall in L Pit, looking south.



**Photo 3:** Pumping equipment in place in Middle Flume #3 Pond.



**Photo 4:** Cattail crop covering East Middle Flume #1 Pond. Inflow channel requires stabilization.

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 7

Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 4





*Photo 5: No Name #2 Pond looking south with sediment fan beyond the cattail growth.*



*Photo 6: Blast notification sign at site entrance from Highway 31.*



*Photo 7: Mine identification sign at entrance.*

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 7

Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 4



## AVAILABILITY OF RECORDS

### PERMIT RECORDS

DRMS Permit	Exp. 12/31/2027
Permit Application w/Revisions	Yes
Findings Document	Pr12
Insurance Certificate	EXP. 1/2026
Bond Document	OK
Phased Bond Release	SL24
Documents/Findings	
Air Emission Permits	OK
County Special Use Permits	OK
UG Mining Landowner Notification	NA
Subsidence Monitoring Reports	NA
Subsidence Monitoring Data	NA
Rill & Gully Survey	NA
Vegetation Monitoring Data	SL22
Specific Variance Approvals	NA
Annual Reclamation Reports	2024
Midterm Review Documents	MT7
DRMS/OSM Inspection	Through April
Reports/Enforcement Actions (3 Years)	2025
Transfers/Succession of Operator	Na
Temporary Cessation Notification	Na
Reclamation Cost Estimate	PR12 App A VolV

### CERTIFICATIONS

Pond Certifications	App Q Sect XVI
Annual Certifications for Impoundments	July 2024 Coyote
Fill Certifications for Excess Spoil or Underground Development Waste	Horse Gulch
• Quarterly Inspections	2025 Q1
• Compaction Testing	NA
• Final Certification	NA
Coal Processing Waste Banks	OK
Haul Road Certifications	App S PR11
Access Road Certifications	M52

### HYDROLOGIC RECORDS

NPDES Permit	Yes
NPDES Records	April 2025
Stormwater Management Plan	NA
SPCC Plan	2012 July updated
MSHA Pond Inspections	2024 Aug
State Engineer's Pond Inspection	
Quarterly Pond Inspections	2025 Q1
Annual Hydrology Reports	2023
• Ground Water Monitoring	Yes
• Surface Water Monitoring	Yes
• Spring & Seep Monitoring	Yes
• Mine Water Discharge Monitoring	Yes
• Mine Inflow Study	NA
• Water Consumption Records	Yes
Well Permits	Yes

### BLASTING RECORDS

Blasting Publication	March 2025
Blasting Records (3 years)	Yes
ATFE Explosives Permit	Yes, Exp. 2026
Blasting Variances	NA
Pre-Blast Surveys	Blasting Office

### ADDITIONAL RECORDS (specify)

County Ash Disposal	Book 2 Office
Certification, Seismographs Rule4.08.5	Calibration 2025 Feb

COMMENTS: NPDES Permit number CO 00032115 renewed in 2020

Insurance rider received May 2025

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 7

Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 4