



STATE OF  
COLORADO

West - DNR, Lucas <lucas.west@state.co.us>

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## C-1981-008 New Horizon June 2025 Partial Inspection Report

1 message

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**West - DNR, Lucas** <lucas.west@state.co.us>

Wed, Jun 11, 2025 at 2:50 PM

To: "Tennyson, Tony (Colowyo)" <ttennyson@tristategt.org>, Clayton Wein - DNR <clayton.wein@state.co.us>, DNR  
DRMS\_CoalAdmin - DNR <dnr\_drms\_coal\_admin@state.co.us>

Good Afternoon Tony,

Please find the attached Inspection Report from my Partial Inspection last week. As always, things looked great on site and no maintenance items were noted. Please let me know if you have any questions, thanks!

Lucas

Lucas West

Environmental Protection Specialist

Minerals Program, Grand Junction Field Office



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

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**C-1981-008 June 2025 Partial Inspection Report.pdf**


1379K



**PERMIT INFORMATION**

<b>Permit Number:</b> C-1981-008 <b>Mine Name:</b> New Horizon Mine <b>Operator:</b> Elk Ridge Mining and Reclamation, LLC <b>Operator Address:</b> Mr Tony Tennyson P.O. Box 628 27646 West 5th Avenue Nucla, CO 81424	<b>County:</b> Montrose <b>Operation Type:</b> Surface <b>Permit Status:</b> Active <b>Ownership:</b> Private
	<b>Operator Representative Present:</b>  None
<b>Operator Representative Signature: (Field Issuance Only)</b>  	

**INSPECTION INFORMATION**

<b>Inspection Start Date:</b> June 3, 2025 <b>Inspection Start Time:</b> 14:56 <b>Inspection End Date:</b> June 3, 2025 <b>Inspection End Time:</b> 15:40	<b>Inspection Type:</b> Coal Partial Inspection <b>Inspection Reason:</b> Normal I&E Program <b>Weather:</b> Cloudy
<b>Joint Inspection Agency:</b>  None	<b>Joint Inspection Contacts:</b>
<b>Post Inspection Agency:</b>  None	<b>Post Inspection Contacts:</b>
<b>Inspector(s):</b>  Lucas West	<b>Inspector's Signature:</b>  <b>Signature Date:</b>  6/11/2025

**Inspection Topic Summary**

NOTE: Y=Inspected N=Not Inspected R=Comments Noted V=Violation Issued NA=Not Applicable

N - Air Resource Protection

N - Availability of Records

N - Backfill &amp; Grading

N - Excess Spoil and Dev. Waste

N - Explosives

N - Fish &amp; Wildlife

R - Hydrologic Balance

N - Gen. Compliance With Mine Plan

N - Other

N - Processing Waste

N - Roads

R - Reclamation Success

N - Revegetation

N - Subsidence

N - Slides and Other Damage

N - Support Facilities On-site

N - Signs and Markers

N - Support Facilities Not On-site

N - Special Categories Of Mining

R - Topsoil

**COMMENTS**

This partial inspection was conducted as part of the normal monitoring program established by the Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety. Mindy Sickels of Elk Ridge Mining and Reclamation, LLC. was contacted however he did not accompany the inspection. The weather was clear and dry the day of the inspection. Six Photos accompany this report to illustrate the current site conditions.

The overall footprint of the site was in good condition and no maintenance items were identified.

**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; Surface 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:

During this Inspection Pond 013 as well as the rock lined storm water conveyance was observed. Pond 013 was found to be in good condition with active inflow and aeration at the time of the inspection. The water levels in the pond appeared to be normal and the baffle curtains appeared to be functioning as designed. The aeration structure also appeared to be functioning as designed. Pond 013 can be seen in Photo One.

Photo Two shows the rock lined storm water conveyance that is intended to direct sheet flow from the DP-21 area toward Pond 013. The conveyance appeared stable at the time of the inspection and no evidence of recent flow was noted.

**RECLAMATION SUCCESS - Rule 4.15, Rule 3:**

The reclamation of areas DP-18, 20 and 21 as well as IC-1 were also observed during this inspection. For the DP-18, 20 and 21 area the backfill and topsoiling appeared to be stable at the time of the inspection. No evidence of settling, slumping or erosion was noted in any of the areas. The revegetation efforts were also found to be improving with a higher proportion of reclamation species identified, and the presence of annual weeds decreasing. These areas can be seen in Photos Three through Five respectively.

The IC-1 area, shown in Photo Six was also found to be in excellent condition. Irrigation was not active at the

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time of the inspection and the first cutting of alfalfa appears to not yet have occurred. No evidence of differential settling or slumping was noted.

#### TOPSOIL – Rule 4.06

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

Topsoil stockpiles D and C were observed adjacent to the shop facilities just south of 5th street. Topsoil stockpile D has been recently seeded for stabilization after a withdraw from the stockpile, but no new vegetation was evident. No signs of erosion or sediment transport or erosion was noted on either pile, and the ring berms around the pile were in tact and appeared to be functioning as designed.

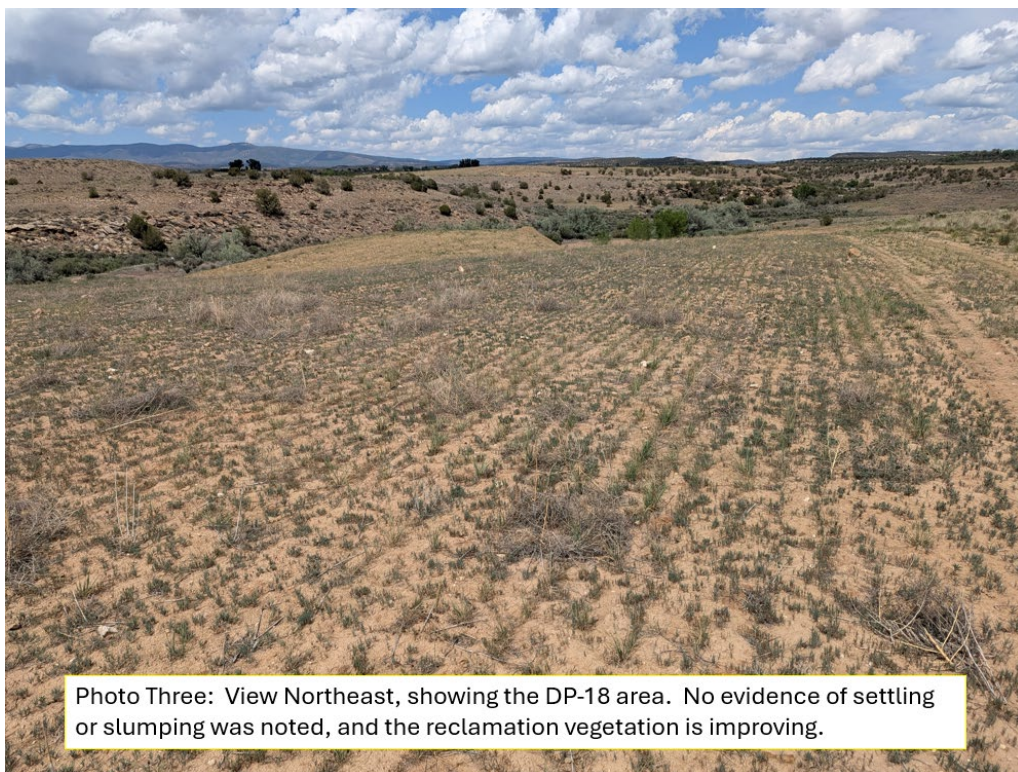
### **PHOTOGRAPHS**



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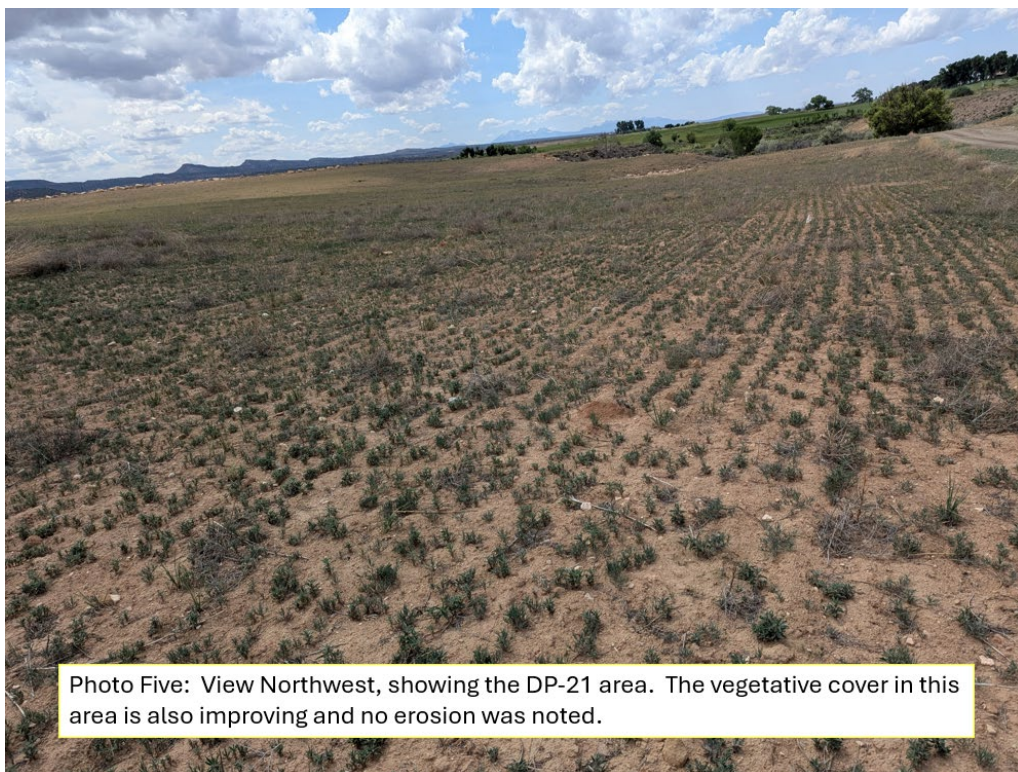




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Photo Six: View South, showing the IC-1 area. Irrigation was not active at the time of the inspection and no evidence of differential settling was noted.

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