




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: Walsenburg Gravel Pit	MINE/PROSPECTING ID#: M-2000-092	MINERAL: Sand and gravel	COUNTY: Huerfano
INSPECTION TYPE: Monitoring	WEATHER: Clear	INSP. DATE: May 20, 2025	INSP. TIME: 11:00
OPERATOR: City of Walsenburg	OPERATOR REPRESENTATIVE: None	TYPE OF OPERATION: 110c - Construction Limited Impact	
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: June 23, 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: Signs & Markers

PROBLEM: The mine identification sign was not posted at the entrance of the mine site. This is a problem for failure to post a mine identification sign as required by Section 3.1.12(1) of the rule. The Operator shall, at the entrance of the mine site post a sign, which shall be clearly visible from the access road, with a minimum size equaling one hundred and eighty-seven (187) square inches, such as eleven (11) inches in height and seventeen (17) inches in width, with appropriate font size, with the following: the name of the Operator, a statement that a reclamation permit for the operation has been issued by the Colorado Mined Land Reclamation Board; and the permit number.

CORRECTIVE ACTIONS: The Operator shall, at the entrance of the mine site, post a sign which shall be clearly visible from the access road with the following: the name of the Operator, a statement that a reclamation permit for the operation has been issued by the Colorado Mined Land Reclamation Board; and the permit number. The Operator shall submit photo documentation that a proper sign has been posted by the corrective action date.

CORRECTIVE ACTION DUE DATE: 9/01/25

OBSERVATIONS

The Walsenburg Gravel Pit 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 May 26, 2021 as part of the Division's routine monitoring. No representatives from the City of Walsenburg (Operator/Permittee) accompanied me during the inspection. The weather was warm and the skies were clear.

The Walsenburg Gravel Pit is located in Huerfano County approximately 3 miles northeast of Walsenburg off of Highway 10. The mine is a 110 construction materials permit for 9.9 acres on property owned by the City of Walsenburg. The primary commodity that was mined at the site was gravel. The approved post-mining land use is rangeland and the land surrounding the pit is rangeland.

Availability of Records:

The annual report, map, and fee are paid through December 14, 2025. There are no outstanding infractions.

Backfilling and Grading:

The Division's 2021 inspection mentioned a section of highwall that still needed to be backfilled and graded. It appears that this has been done since the last inspection. No highwalls remain onsite, and the slopes onsite appear to mostly be at 3H:1V slope or shallower.

Reclamation Success:

The site has not been active since at least 2017. The Division's 2021 report states that the Operator representatives stated that they no longer wished to mine at the site. I had conversations with the current Operator representative (Mr. Moore) in 2023 and 2024 where he stated that they wanted to seek the permit's release. After this inspection, it appears that it will soon be eligible for release, but there are a few areas – including the recently backfilled and graded highwall – that require more vegetation growth. The Operator is advised to spread some seeds this fall in the sparse areas, being careful not to disturb the diverse vegetation established throughout the rest of the site. The Operator shall re-visit the site next spring and monitor vegetation growth before filing for the permit's release.

Hydrologic Balance and Sediment Control:

No standing water was observed within the permit area at the time of the inspection. Water that falls on the disturbed area is sloped towards the bottom of the pit. No evidence of excess sediment leaving the site, nor excess erosion, were observed during the inspection.

Roads:

The road leading to the Walsenburg Gravel Pit is also shared by another operation permitted as the Lone Tree Pit (permit no. M-2014-034). The gate was locked at the time of the inspection. The Inspector crossed the gate on-foot and walked to the site located approximately 0.35 miles northeast of Highway 10. The 0.16 mile section of road leading to the pit that branches off of the road leading to the Lone Tree Pit has been revegetated.

Signs and Markers:

The mine sign mentioned at the 2021 inspection was not observed. **This has been cited as a problem above.** The Operator shall provide evidence that a sign in compliance with Rule 3.1.12(1) is posted at the site by the corrective actions date. T-posts marking the permit boundary were observed around the site and were posted in compliance with Rule 3.1.12(2).

Financial Warranty:

The Walsenburg Gravel Pit is permitted to and operated by the city of Walsenburg. The Division does not hold a financial warranty for Operators that are units of municipal or county governments (Rule 4.1.2(2)).

Conclusion:

This concludes the Division's Inspection Report; a couple maps displaying topics discussed in the report, 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

James Moore
City of Walsenburg
525 S Albert Ave
Walsenburg, CO 81089

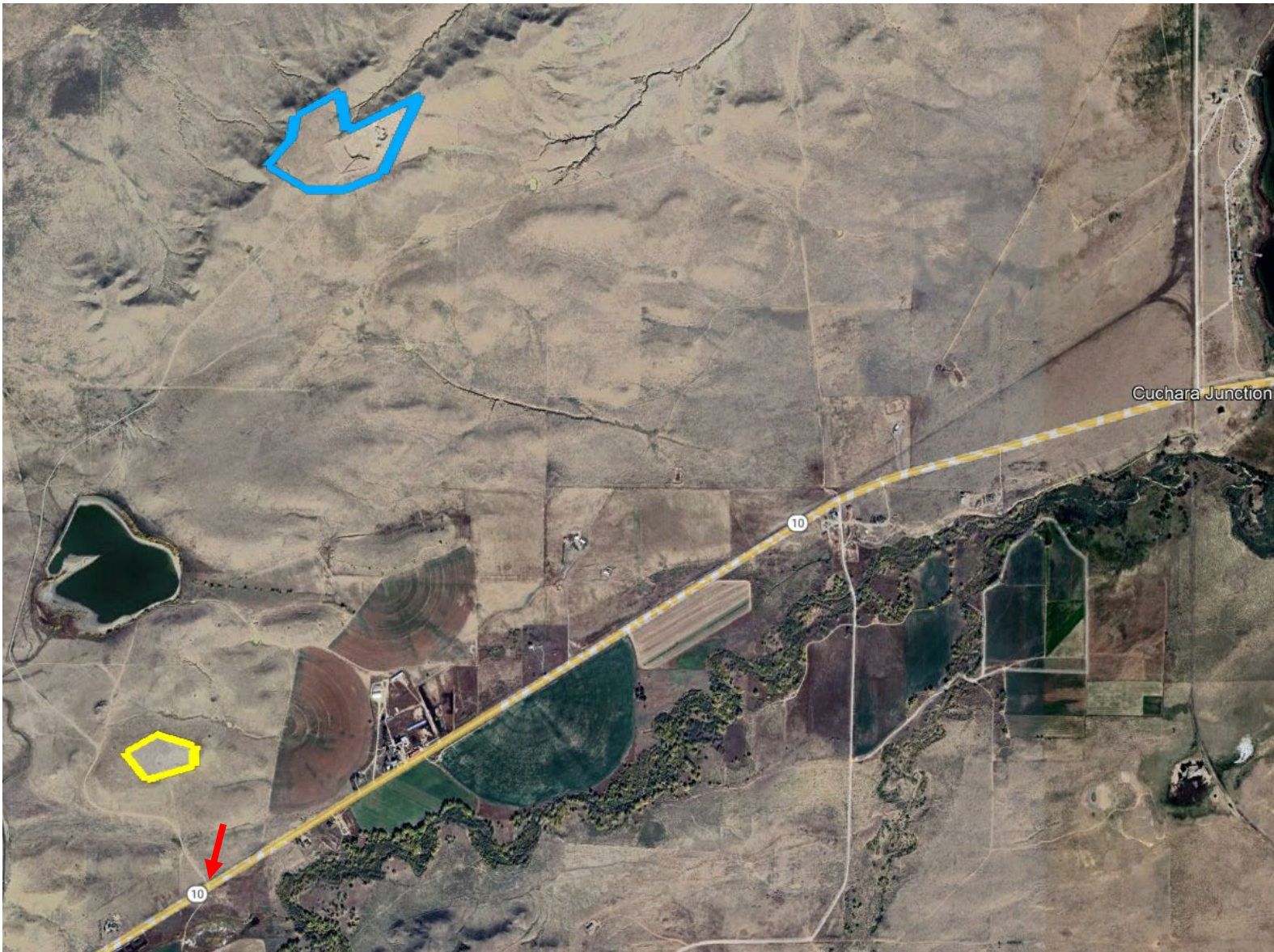
CC: James Moore, City of Walsenburg
Jared Ebert, DRMS

GENERAL INSPECTION TOPICS

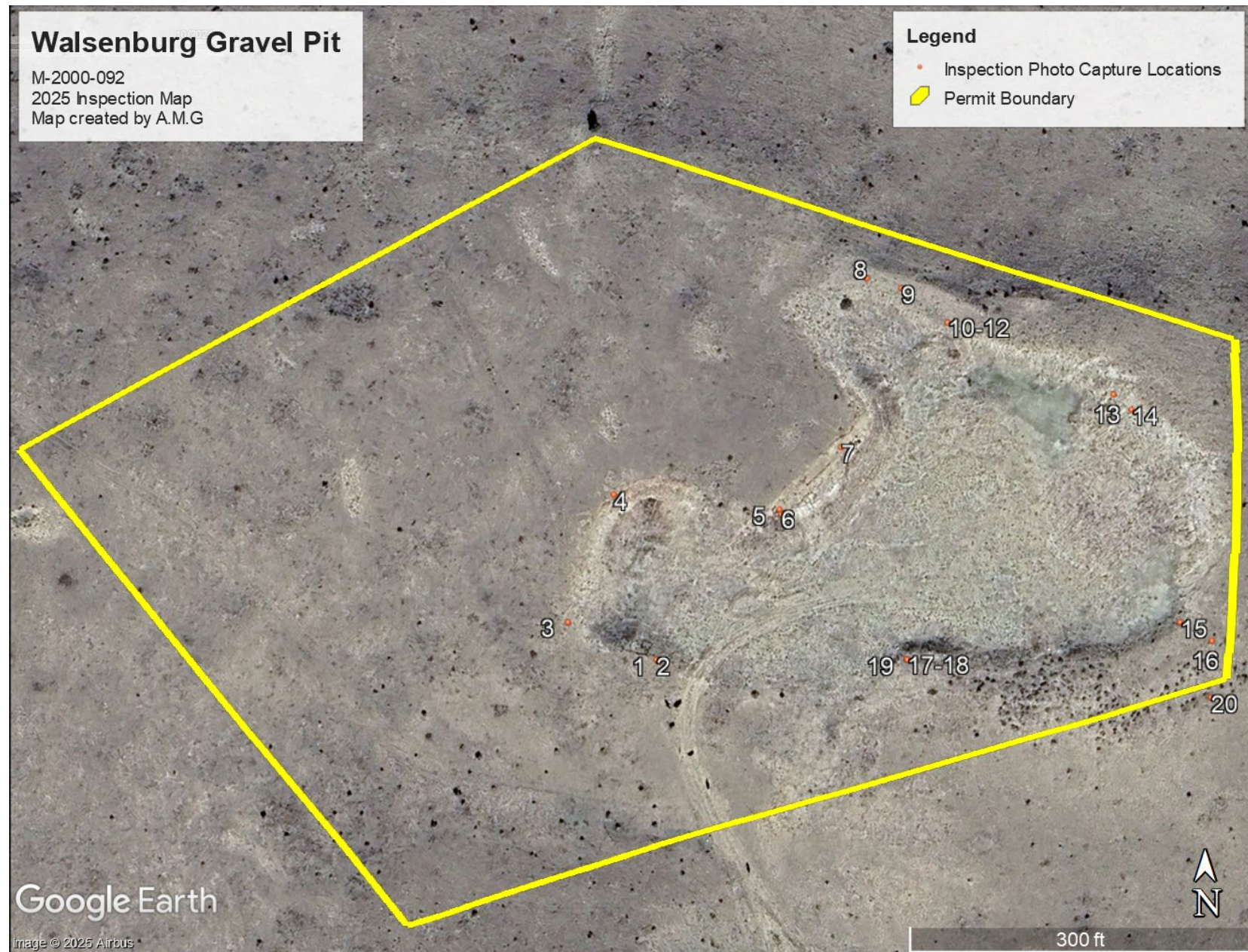
The following list identifies the environmental and permit parameters inspected and gives a categorical evaluation of each

(AR) RECORDS----- <u>Y</u>	(FN) FINANCIAL WARRANTY----- <u>Y</u>	(RD) ROADS----- <u>Y</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>N</u>
(MP) GENL MINE PLAN COMPLIANCE- <u>N</u>	(FW) FISH & WILDLIFE----- <u>N</u>	(RV) REVEGETATION---- <u>Y</u>
(SM) SIGNS AND MARKERS----- PB	(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



Map 1: Index map showing the relation between the Walsenburg Gravel Pit's location (yellow polygon) and the Lone Tree Pit's location (blue polygon). The red arrow points to where the locked gate is located.



Map 2: Inspection report map for the 2025 inspection. The aerial imagery is dated 10/23/2024. The numbers correspond with the inspection report photos below.

PHOTOGRAPHS



Photo 1: Looking north along the western side of the disturbed area. The slope on the northside is the highwall that has been backfilled and graded since the 2021 inspection.



Photo 2: Looking at where the highwall has been backfilled and graded. The vegetation around it is well established but this area could use some additional cover.



Photo 3: Looking west at the undisturbed area within the permit boundary.



Photo 4: Looking west along the recently backfilled and graded highwall.



Photo 5: Looking west along the recently backfilled and graded highwall. The slope to the east that has been backfilled and graded for awhile has well established vegetation.



Photo 6: Looking east at an area along the north side of the disturbed area that requires additional revegetation.



Photo 7: Looking west at an area along the north side of the disturbed area that requires additional revegetation.



Photo 8: Looking at the diverse vegetation established along the northeast corner of the disturbed area.



Photo 9: Looking south at the diverse vegetation established along the northeast corner of the disturbed area.



Photo 10: Looking at the diverse vegetation established along the eastern edge of the disturbed area.



Photo 11: Looking at reclaimed slopes and the diverse vegetation established along them.



Photo 12: Looking at the gentle sloping reclaimed areas that have diverse vegetation established.



Photo 13: Looking at an area that has some vegetation established along the eastern most slope.



Photo 14: Looking at area that has some vegetation established along the eastern most slope.



Photo 15: Looking along the southern sloped area where vegetation has become well established.



Photo 16: Looking along the easter sloped area where vegetation has become pretty established.



Photo 17: Looking east along the southern slopes where vegetation has become well established.



Photo 18: Looking west along the southern slopes where vegetation has become well established.



Photo 19: Looking east along the southern slopes where vegetation has become well established.



Photo 20: One of the t-posts marking the permit boundary around the site.



Photo 21: Locked gate at the entrance to both the Walsenburg Gravel Pit and the Lone Tree Pit. The red arrow points to where the Walsenburg Gravel Pit is located just over the ledge.



Photo 22: Examples of some of the diverse vegetation established within the site.