



STATE OF  
COLORADO

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

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## C-1981-008 July Partial Inspection Report

1 message

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

Wed, Jul 23, 2025 at 12:40 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 July Partial. As usual things look great and no maintenance items were identified. Please let me know if you have any questions.

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 July 2025 Partial Inspection Report.pdf**


1655K



**PERMIT INFORMATION**

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

**INSPECTION INFORMATION**

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|--|--|
| <b>Inspection Start Date:</b> July 17, 2025<br><b>Inspection Start Time:</b> 11:20<br><b>Inspection End Date:</b> July 17, 2025<br><b>Inspection End Time:</b> 11:53 | <b>Inspection Type:</b> Coal Partial Inspection<br><b>Inspection Reason:</b> Normal I&E Program<br><b>Weather:</b> Cloudy                                  |
| <b>Joint Inspection Agency:</b><br><br>None  | <b>Joint Inspection Contacts:</b>  |
| <b>Post Inspection Agency:</b><br><br>None   | <b>Post Inspection Contacts:</b>   |
| <b>Inspector(s):</b><br><br>Lucas West   | <b>Inspector's Signature:</b>  <b>Signature Date:</b><br><br>7/23/2025 |

**Inspection Topic Summary**

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

N - Air Resource Protection

N - Roads

N - Availability of Records

N - Reclamation Success

N - Backfill &amp; Grading

N - Revegetation

N - Excess Spoil and Dev. Waste

N - Subsidence

N - Explosives

N - Slides and Other Damage

N - Fish &amp; Wildlife

N - Support Facilities On-site

R - Hydrologic Balance

N - Signs and Markers

N - Gen. Compliance With Mine Plan

N - Support Facilities Not On-site

N - Other

N - Special Categories Of Mining

N - Processing Waste

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. Nine 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, Ponds 012, 013 and 016 were observed. Pond 012, as seen in Photo One was in good condition, contained no standing water and showed no signs of recent impoundment. The banks appeared stable at the time of the inspection and the discharge structure appeared to be able to function as designed. No evidence of discharge was noted. Pond 013, appeared to contain the normal amount of water, with water actively flowing in through the aeration structure. Pond 013 can be seen in Photo Two. Adjacent to Pond 013, the rock lined drop structure was observed. No signs of recent flows were noted. The banks of the pond, as well as the baffle curtains all appeared stable and in good condition. Pond 016 was dry as seen in Photo Three, with no signs of recent impoundment. The banks of both ponds appeared to be stable at the time of the inspection and in good condition.

**TOPSOIL – Rule 4.06**

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

Also observed during this inspection were Topsoil Stockpiles 11A, 11B, 14, 15 and 16 as well as the Bench 1 stockpiles adjacent to Pond 016 and Pond 012. Topsoil stockpiles 11A and 11B are located on the

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Morgan Property. Both stockpiles in this area are well vegetated and appeared stable at the time of the inspection. The ring berms around the piles are functioning as designed and no evidence of erosion or sediment transport was noted. The stockpiles can be seen in Photos Four and Five respectively.

Topsoil Stockpiles 14 and 15 are located adjacent to Pond 016 on the Johnson Property Area. Both stockpiles are well vegetated, with in-tact ring berms and show no signs of erosion. These stockpiles can be seen in Photos Six and Seven. The Bench 1 stockpile in the area appeared to be stable with no signs of significant erosion. The Bench 1 stockpile is also vegetated for stability.

Topsoil Stockpile 16 is also in good condition, and well vegetated for stability as seen in Photo Eight. The ring berm around the stockpile appears to be functioning as designed. The adjacent Bench 1 stockpile, as seen in Photo Nine shows no signs of sloughing or erosion and no evidence of recent hauling was noted. All observed stockpiles are in excellent condition.

### **PHOTOGRAPHS**



Photo One: View Northeast, showing Pond 012. The pond was dry during the inspection and shows no recent signs of impoundment.

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Photo Four: View South, showing Topsoil Stockpile 11A. The stockpile is well vegetated and appeared stable at the time of the inspection.



Photo Five: View Southwest, showing Topsoil Stockpile 11B. This stockpile is also well vegetated, and no evidence of erosion was noted.

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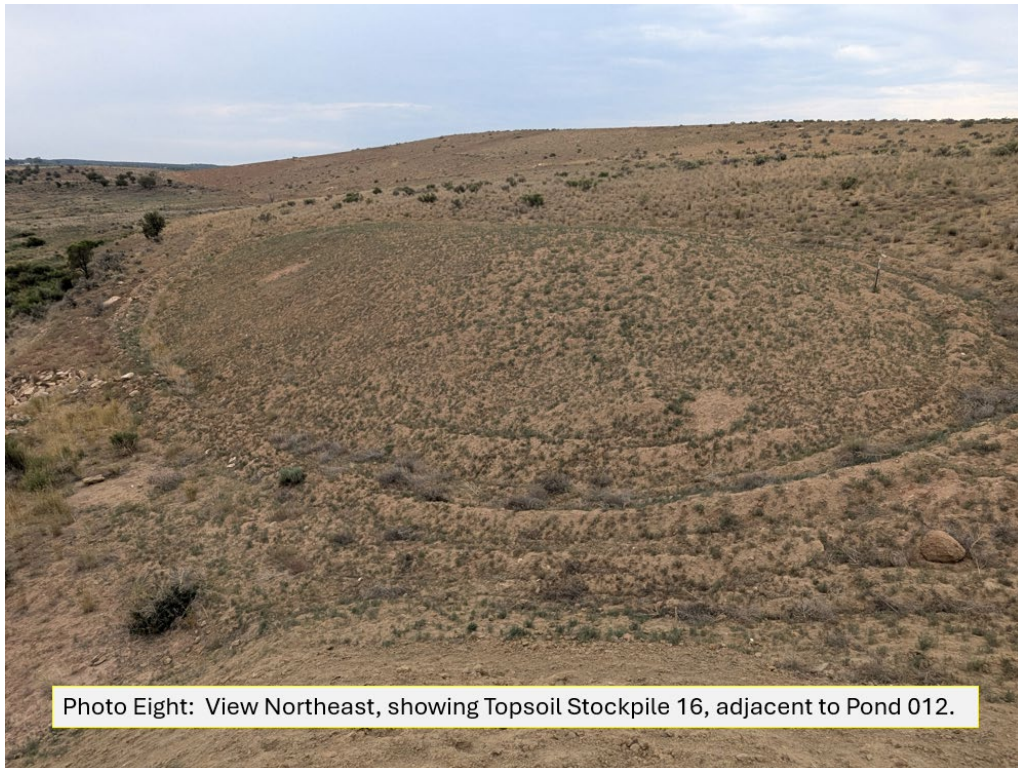




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