



COLORADO

Division of Reclamation,
Mining and Safety


Department of Natural Resources

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: Pit 29	MINE/PROSPECTING ID#: M-1980-183	MINERAL: Sand and gravel	COUNTY: Adams
INSPECTION TYPE: Monitoring	WEATHER: Clear	INSP. DATE: July 10, 2025	INSP. TIME: 10:00
OPERATOR: Brannan Sand and Gravel Company, L.L.C.	OPERATOR REPRESENTATIVE: Alex Schatz and Steve Kelton	TYPE OF OPERATION: 112c - Construction Regular Operation	

REASON FOR INSPECTION: Citizen Complaint	BOND CALCULATION TYPE: Complete Bond	BOND AMOUNT: \$592,700.00
DATE OF COMPLAINT: NA	POST INSP. CONTACTS: None	JOINT INSP. AGENCY: None
INSPECTOR(S): Nikie Gagnon	INSPECTOR'S SIGNATURE: 	SIGNATURE DATE: July 24, 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 #1: The affected area boundary markers were not observed per the requirements of Rule 3.1.12 which states that the boundaries of the affected area must be marked by monuments or other markers that are clearly visible and adequate to delineate such boundaries.

CORRECTIVE ACTIONS: The operator shall conduct a survey and replace the boundaries around the affected area and submit photographic evidence of the boundaries in place. Additionally, the Division requests that the operator submit a map showing the location of the boundaries and include the lat/long locations for each marker.

CORRECTIVE ACTION DUE DATE: 8/25/25

INSPECTION TOPIC: Financial Warranty

PROBLEM #2: The financial warranty is not adequate to reclaim the site in accordance with the approved reclamation plan. This is a failure to maintain the proper financial warranty amount to complete reclamation of the affected lands pursuant to C.R.S. 34-32.5-117(4)(b) of the Act.

CORRECTIVE ACTIONS: Enclosed is the reclamation cost estimate. By the corrective action due date, please submit any questions you have regarding the estimate to the Division. After the corrective action due date, the Division may send a separate surety increase notice to the operator regarding the required increase of the financial warranty. The operator will have 60 days from the date on the surety increase notice to post the additional financial warranty.

CORRECTIVE ACTION DUE DATE: 8/07/25

OBSERVATIONS

The Van Cleave Pit was inspected by Nikie Gagnon representing the Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety (Division) as part of the Division's normal monitoring inspection program. Colby Van Cleave, the landowner and representative of VCA Aggregates, (Operator) accompanied the Division during the inspection. The site is located 13 miles northeast of New Raymer, on County Road 104 west of County Road 139 in Weld County.

General Compliance with the Mine Plan

The Van Cleave pit is permitted for 103.54 acres. The mine is classified as an intermittent operation due to the slow-moving pace of mining. The approved mine plan allows for a maximum of 15 acres of disturbance at any one time. During the inspection, the operator stated that they only removed a small amount of material from the site over the past year. Mr. Van Cleave does not have any plans to expand the mining area beyond the current footprint, which is approximately 15 acres.

During this inspection, the Division observed a flat mining area with a gradual slope to the south. Stockpiles of material are placed around the pit. Processing equipment was observed in the center of the pit. The mined slopes are 3H:1V or shallower on the south end of the pit, however on the north end, near the truck scale and office, the slopes are steeper than 3H:1V. The Division reminds the operator that the mining plan states that the slopes will be mined at approximately 3H:1V to eliminate any backfill or grading. Salvaged topsoil/overburden piles were observed on the western side of the disturbance area, along the permit boundary.

The Division observed a reclaimed area adjacent to the western side of the mining pit. During a previous inspection, the Division was concerned that the topsoil and overburden stockpiles were placed outside the permit boundary. The Operator moved the stockpiles east and reseeded an area on the west side. Native grasses are reestablished in this area.

Other than the small area of revegetation on the west side, reclamation has not been initiated at the site. The approved reclamation plan includes final grading the pit to 3H:1V slope, placing 6 inches of topsoil and drill seeding with the approved seed mix.

Permit Markers

In accordance with Rule 3.1.12, the Division observed the appropriate mine sign at the entrance to the site. However, some permit boundaries delineating the affected area could not be located. Although a metal permit stake was observed at the southwest corner of the permit area, the permit boundary is irregularly shaped along the western perimeter. Therefore, boundary markers should be placed at every corner to ensure the operation remains within the approved boundaries. As stated in Problem 1 above, the operator must conduct a survey and replace the boundary markers around the affected area to clearly define the existing approved permit area. Photographic evidence of the installed markers must be submitted to the Division. Additionally, the operator must provide a map with the photos, showing the permit markers with their latitude and longitude locations, to assist the Division in locating the boundaries in the future, especially since grazing cattle frequently dislodge them.

Financial Warranty:

The Division currently holds a financial warranty in the amount of \$42,200.00. The reclamation cost estimate hasn't been updated since 2014 when the permit was first issued. After this inspection, the Division estimated the reclamation liability at the site to be \$54,844.00 which is \$12,644.00 more than the currently held financial warranty, due to the increased reclamation costs since 2014. The Division's reclamation cost estimate is enclosed with this report for the Operator's review. The Division requests that any questions or concerns regarding the estimated liability level be forwarded to the Division by August 7, 2025. The Division may issue a surety increase revision after August 7, 2025. In accordance with Rule 4.2.1(2), VCA Aggregates will have sixty (60) days from the date of the notice of surety increase to provide the additional financial warranty.

This concludes the Division's Inspection Report; a subset of photographs taken during the time of the inspection are included below. If you need additional information or have any questions, please contact me at Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety, 1313 Sherman Street, Room 215, Denver, CO 80203, by telephone at 720-527-1640, or by email at nikie.gagnon@state.co.us.

PHOTOGRAPHS



Photo 1: Looking south across the floor of the mining pit.



Photo 2: Looking east across the mined pit area from the west side.



Photo 3: Looking northeast across the mined pit area from the western boundary of disturbance.



Photo 4: Looking southeast across the pit. Processing equipment observed in the middle of the pit floor. Slopes are 3H:1V here.



Photo 5: Looking west from the eastern side of the pit, outside the affected area.



Photo 6: Looking north towards the mining area from the permit boundary located in the southwest corner of the permit area.



Photo 7: Looking south across at the area on the west side that has been revegetated. The permit boundary marker observed in the southwest corner is marked by the red arrow.



Photo 8: Looking north across area on the west side that was revegetated.



Photo 9: Area near the entrance to the site on the north side of the farm road that has not been disturbed. The northern permit boundary runs through here.



Photo 10: Looking east at the farm road that runs through the middle of the permit area. This area has not been disturbed by mining. The red arrow points to the mining area.



Photo 11: Looking at the office at the north end of the mining area.



Photo 12: Looking at the truck scale at the north end of the mining area.

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>PB</u>	(RD) ROADS----- <u>N</u>
(HB) HYDROLOGIC BALANCE----- <u>N</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>N</u>	(FW) FISH & WILDLIFE----- <u>N</u>	(RV) REVEGETATION---- <u>Y</u>
(SM) SIGNS AND MARKERS----- <u>PB</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----- <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

Inspection Contact Address

Colby Van Cleave
VCA Aggregates LLC
4459 W. Pioneer Drive
Greeley, CO 80634

Enclosure: 2025 Reclamation Cost Estimate

CC: Mike Ausmus
Jared Ebert, Senior EPS, DRMS

COST SUMMARY WORK

Task description: Reclamation Cost Estimate

Site: Van Cleave Pit

Permit Action: 2025 Inspection

Permit/Job#: M2014064

PROJECT IDENTIFICATION

Task #: 000

State: Colorado

Abbreviation: None

Date: 7/24/2025

County: Weld

Filename: M064-000

User: NCG

Agency or organization name: DRMS

TASK LIST (DIRECT COSTS)

Task	Description	Form Used	Fleet Size	Task Hours	Cost
001	Place 6" of topsoil across 15 acres	DOZER	1	43.73	\$9,994
002	Reveg. 15 ac.	REVEGE	1	15.00	\$27,956
003	Mob/Demob	MOBILIZE	1	8.00	\$3,432
<u>SUBTOTALS:</u>				66.73	\$41,382

INDIRECT COSTS

OVERHEAD AND PROFIT:

Liability insurance: 2.02

Total = \$836

Performance bond: 1.05

Total = \$435

Job superintendent: 30.26

Total = \$2,273

Profit: 10.00

Total = \$4,138

TOTAL O & P = \$7,682

CONTRACT AMOUNT (direct + O & P) = \$49,064

LEGAL - ENGINEERING - PROJECT MANAGEMENT:

Financial warranty processing (legal/related costs): \$0

Total = \$0

Engineering work and/or contract/bid preparation: 4.25

Total = \$2,085

Reclamation management and/or administration: 5.00

\$2,453

CONTINGENCY: 3.00

Total = \$1,241

TOTAL INDIRECT COST = \$13,462

TOTAL BOND AMOUNT (direct + indirect) = \$54,844

BULLDOZER WORKTask description: **Place 6" of topsoil across 15 acres**Site: **Van Cleave Pit**Permit Action: 2025 InspectionPermit/Job#: M2014064**PROJECT IDENTIFICATION**Task #: 001State: ColoradoAbbreviation: NoneDate: 7/24/2025County: WeldFilename: M064-001User: NCGAgency or organization name: DRMS**HOURLY EQUIPMENT COST**Basic Machine: Cat D7R DS XR Series IIHorsepower: 240Blade Type: Semi-UniversalAttachment: 3-shank ripperShift Basis: 1 per dayData Source: (CRG)**Cost Breakdown:**

		<u>Utilization %</u>
Ownership Cost/Hour:	\$97.39	NA
Operating Cost/Hour:	\$80.69	100
Ripper own. Cost/Hour:	\$9.58	NA
Ripper op. Cost/Hour:	\$1.42	25
Operator Cost/Hour:	\$39.46	NA
Total unit Cost/Hour:	\$228.53	
Total Fleet Cost/Hour:	\$228.53	

MATERIAL QUANTITIESInitial Volume: 12,100Swell factor: 1.000Loose volume: **12,100 LCY**Source of estimated volume: Division of Reclamation, Mining & SafetySource of estimated swell
factor: Cat Handbook**HOURLY PRODUCTION**Average push distance: 250 feetUnadjusted hourly
production: 350.0 LCY/hrMaterials consistency description: Compacted fill or embankment 0.9Average push
gradient: -5 %Average site altitude: 4,750 feetMaterial weight: 1,600 lbs/LCYWeight description: Top SoilJob Condition Correction FactorSource

Operator Skill:	0.750	(AVG.)
Material consistency:	0.900	(CAT HB))
Dozing method:	1.100	(50% SL)
Visibility:	1.000	(AVG.)
Job efficiency:	0.830	(1 SHIFT/DAY)
Spoil pile:	0.800	(FND-RF)
Push gradient:	1.115	(CAT HB)
Altitude:	1.000	(CAT HB)
Material Weight:	1.438	(CAT HB)
Blade type:	1.000	(PAT)

Net correction: 0.7905

Adjusted unit
production: 276.68 LCY/hr
Adjusted fleet
production: **276.68** LCY/hr

JOB TIME AND COST

Fleet size: 1 Dozer(s)
Unit cost: \$0.826/LCY

Total job time: **43.73** Hours
Total job cost: **\$9,994**

REVEGETATION WORKTask description: Reveg. 15 ac.Site: Van Cleave PitPermit Action: 2025 InspectionPermit/Job#: M2014064**PROJECT IDENTIFICATION**Task #: 002State: ColoradoAbbreviation: NoneDate: 7/24/2025County: WeldFilename: M064-002User: NCGAgency or organization name: DRMS**FERTILIZING****Materials**

Description	Units / Acre	Unit	Cost / Unit	Cost /Acre
			\$	\$
			Total Fertilizer Materials Cost/Acre	\$0.00

Application

Description	Cost /Acre
	\$
Total Fertilizer Application Cost/Acre	\$0.00

TILLING

Description	Cost /Acre
Chisel plowing {DMG}	\$109.95
Total Tilling Cost/Acre	\$109.95

SEEDING

Seed Mix	Rate – PLS LBS / Acre	Seeds per SQ. FT	Cost /Acre
Blue Grama - Hachita	0.25	4.08	\$7.33
Sand Dropseed	0.10	11.94	\$1.33
Prairie Clover, Purple - Kaneb	0.32	2.19	\$14.71
Little Bluestem - Pastura	0.34	2.03	\$5.52
Sideoats Grama - El Reno	1.37	4.50	\$34.26
Alfalfa - Ladak (inoculated)	0.40	1.93	\$1.63
Western Wheatgrass - Arriba	4.00	10.10	\$37.00
Needle and Thread	0.55	1.45	\$45.86
Needlegrass, Green - Lodorm	0.48	1.99	\$4.25
Prairie Sandreed - Goshen	0.32	2.01	\$5.58

Saltbush, Four Wing	1.00	1.38	\$20.35
Winter Fat	0.02	0.05	\$0.96
Totals Seed Mix	9.15	43.64	\$178.78

Application

Description	Cost /Acre
Drill Seeding (DRMS Survey Cost)	\$242.30
Total Seed Application Cost/Acre	\$242.30

MULCHING and MISCELLANEOUS**Materials**

Description	Units / Acre	Unit	Cost / Unit	Cost /Acre
Straw, delivered	2.00	TON	\$504.56	\$1,009.12
Total Mulch Materials Cost/Acre				\$1,009.12

Application

Description	Cost /Acre
Crimping, with tractor {DMG survey data}	\$239.35
Total Mulch Application Cost/Acre	\$239.35

NURSERY STOCK PLANTING

Common Name	No / Acre	Type and Size	Planting Cost	Fertilizer Pellet Cost	Cost /Acre
					\$
Totals Nursery Stock Cost / Acre					\$0.00

JOB TIME AND COST

No. of Acres:	15	Cost /Acre:	\$1,779.50
Estimated Failure Rate:	20%	Cost /Acre*:	\$421.08
*Selected Replanting Work Items:	SEEDING		
Initial Job Cost:	\$26,692.50		
Reseeding Job Cost:	\$1,263.24		
Total Job Cost:	\$27,956		
Job Hours:	15.00		

EQUIPMENT MOBILIZATION/DEMOBILIZATIONTask description: **Mob/Demob**Site: **Van Cleave Pit**Permit Action: **2025 Inspection**Permit/Job#: **M2014064****PROJECT IDENTIFICATION**Task #: **003**State: **Colorado**Abbreviation: **None**Date: **7/24/2025**County: **Weld**Filename: **M064-003**User: **NCG**Agency or organization name: **DRMS****EQUIPMENT TRANSPORT RIG COST**Shift basis: **1 per day**Cost Data Source: **CRG Data**Truck Tractor Description: **GENERIC ON-HIGHWAY TRUCK TRACTOR, 6X4, DIESEL POWERED,
400 HP (2ND HALF, 2006)**Truck Trailer Description: **GENERIC FOLDING GOOSENECK, DROP DECK EQUIPMENT
TRAILER (25T, 50T, AND 100T)****Cost Breakdown:**

Available Rig Capacities	0-25 Tons	26-50 Tons	51+ Tons
Ownership Cost/Hour:	\$21.47	\$38.32	\$48.96
Operating Cost/Hour:	\$31.47	\$60.11	\$65.86
Operator Cost/Hour:	\$22.52	\$22.52	\$22.52
Helper Cost/Hour:	\$0.00	\$22.25	\$22.25
Total Unit Cost/Hour:	\$75.46	\$143.20	\$159.59

NON ROADABLE EQUIPMENT:

Machine Description	Weight/ Unit (TONS)	Owner ship Cost/hr/ unit	Haul Rig Cost/hr/unit	Fleet Size	Haul Trip Cost/hr/ fleet	Return Trip Cost/hr/ fleet	DOT Permit Cost/ fleet
Cat D7R DS XR Series II	32.01	\$97.39	\$143.20	1	\$240.59	\$143.20	\$250.00
Drill/Broadcast Seeder with Tractor	25.00	\$5.99	\$75.46	1	\$81.45	\$75.46	\$250.00

Subtotals: **\$322.04** **\$218.66** **\$500.00****ROADABLE EQUIPMENT:**

Machine Description	Total Cost/hr/ unit	Fleet Size	Haul Trip Cost/hr/ fleet	Return Trip Cost/hr/ fleet
Light Duty Pickup, 4x4, 1 T. Crew	\$31.11	1	\$31.11	\$31.11

Subtotals: **\$31.11** **\$31.11**

EQUIPMENT HAUL DISTANCE and Time

Nearest Major City or Town within project area region:	STERLING	
Total one-way travel distance:	40.00	miles
Average Travel Speed:	40.00	mph

Total Non-Roadable Mob/Demob Cost *	\$3,369.56
** two round trips with haul rig:	
Total Roadable Mob/Demob Cost **	\$62.22
** one round trip, no haul rig:	

Transportation Cycle Time:

	Non-Roadable Equipment	Roadable Equipment
Haul Time (Hours):	1.00	1.00
Return Time (Hours):	1.00	1.00
Loading Time (Hours):	1.00	NA
Unloading Time (Hours):	1.00	NA
Subtotals:	4.00	2.00

JOB TIME AND COST

Total job time:	8.00	Hours
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Total job cost:	\$3,432
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