




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: Klement Pit	MINE/PROSPECTING ID#: M-2007-076	MINERAL: Gravel and sand	COUNTY: Cheyenne
INSPECTION TYPE: Surety Release Inspection	WEATHER: Cloudy	INSP. DATE: June 25, 2025	INSP. TIME: 12:00
OPERATOR: Cheyenne County	OPERATOR REPRESENTATIVE: Jim Brown	TYPE OF OPERATION: 110c - Construction Limited Impact	
REASON FOR INSPECTION: Surety Release Requested	BOND CALCULATION TYPE:	BOND AMOUNT: \$0.00	
DATE OF COMPLAINT: NA	POST INSP. CONTACTS: None	JOINT INSP. AGENCY: None	
INSPECTOR(S): Joel Renfro	INSPECTOR'S SIGNATURE: 	SIGNATURE DATE: July 28, 2025	

GENERAL INSPECTION TOPICS

This list identifies the environmental and permit parameters inspected and gives a categorical evaluation of each. No problems or possible violations were noted during the inspection. The mine operation was found to be in full compliance with Mineral Rules and Regulations of the Colorado Mined Land Reclamation Board for the Extraction of Construction Materials and/or for Hard Rock, Metal and Designated Mining Operations. Any person engaged in any mining operation shall notify the office of any failure or imminent failure, as soon as reasonably practicable after such person has knowledge of such condition or of any impoundment, embankment, or slope that poses a reasonable potential for danger to any persons or property or to the environment; or any environmental protection facility designed to contain or control chemicals or waste which are acid or toxic-forming, as identified in the permit.

(AR) RECORDS----- <u>N</u>	(FN) FINANCIAL WARRANTY----- <u>N</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>N</u>	(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>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

OBSERVATIONS

The Klement Pit was inspected by Joel Renfro with the Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety (Division/DRMS) on June 25, 2025 in response to a full/final release request (SL-1) filed on May 5, 2025. Jim Brown with Cheyenne County was present during the inspection. **Photos 1-6** taken during the inspection are included with this report.

This is a 110c operation permitted for 7.24 acres for the extraction of sand and gravel for County Road maintenance. The approved post-mine land use for this site is pastureland. The Klement Pit is located approximately 2.5 miles north of Arapahoe in Cheyenne County, CO. The site can be accessed from the west of Co Rd 53.

Reclamation work for this site included the completion of all earthwork, topsoil placement, and seeding about two years ago. During the inspection, it was observed that the current vegetation consists mostly of annual forbs such as sunflowers and kochia. Most of the site is well vegetated with only a few bare areas observed in the pit floor and western edge. Some noxious weeds were observed on site, including puncturevine, bindweed, scotch thistle, and downy brome (cheatgrass). The cheatgrass in particular was observed creeping into the site from the side of the road of Co Rd 53.

Criteria for appropriate revegetation release are based on Rule 3.1.10(1), stating "In those areas where revegetation is part of the Reclamation Plan, land shall be revegetated in such a way as to establish a diverse, effective, and long-lasting vegetative cover that is capable of self-regeneration without continued dependence on irrigation, soil amendments or fertilizer, and is at least equal in extent of cover to the natural vegetation of the surrounding area". While some perennial grasses were observed underneath the annuals, the site has not yet established a diverse, effective, and long-lasting vegetative cover capable of self-regeneration that is equal in extent of cover to the natural vegetation of the surrounding area. It appears the site requires a few more growing seasons for the perennial native species to fully establish and dominate before it can be considered ready for release. As a result, Klement Pit does not meet the Division's revegetation standards outlined in Rule 3.1.10 and is not ready to be released.

Additionally, some stormwater was present in the pit floor. While stormwater detention for more than 72 hours without a proper Colorado Department of Public Health and Safety (CDPHE) permit can be a concern, it was difficult to determine the duration of the detention given recent higher-than-average storm events and rainfall prior to the inspection. The Division advises the operator to maintain drainage and stormwater structures to prevent prolonged detention of stormwater in the pit floor.

Overall, some more work will need to be done before this site is ready for a full release. After 2-3 more growing seasons, or when a long-lasting vegetative cover is established, this site might be ready to be released. In the meantime, it is recommended to continue to follow the reclamation plan, manage noxious weeds, and control stormwater.

This concludes the report.

Any questions or comments regarding this inspection report should be forwarded to Joel Renfro at the Colorado Division of Reclamation, Mining, and Safety, 1313 Sherman Street, Room 215, Denver, CO 80203, via telephone at (720) 812-2002, or email at joel.renfro@state.co.us.

PHOTOGRAPHS



Photo 1. View of the site from the southern boundary, looking north.



Photo 2. Southwestern edge of the site, looking north.



Photo 3. Bare ground on the western edge of the site, looking north.



Photo 4. Northern portion of the site, looking east.



Photo 5. View of the site from the northern edge of the site, looking south.



Photo 6. The eastern edge of the site, showing cheatgrass moving into the site from the road, looking south.

Inspection Contact Address

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