




**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.

<b>MINE NAME:</b> Cresson Project	<b>MINE/PROSPECTING ID#:</b> M-1980-244	<b>MINERAL:</b> Gold and silver	<b>COUNTY:</b> Teller
<b>INSPECTION TYPE:</b> Monitoring	<b>WEATHER:</b> Clear	<b>INSP. DATE:</b> August 20, 2025	<b>INSP. TIME:</b> 09:30
<b>OPERATOR:</b> Cripple Creek & Victor Gold Mining Company	<b>OPERATOR REPRESENTATIVE:</b> Paulina Berrela	<b>TYPE OF OPERATION:</b> 112d-3 - Designated Mining Operation	
<b>REASON FOR INSPECTION:</b> Normal I&E Program	<b>BOND CALCULATION TYPE:</b> Complete Bond	<b>BOND AMOUNT:</b> \$319,158,980.00	
<b>DATE OF COMPLAINT:</b> NA	<b>POST INSP. CONTACTS:</b> None	<b>JOINT INSP. AGENCY:</b> None	
<b>INSPECTOR(S):</b> Ben Hammar	<b>INSPECTOR'S SIGNATURE:</b> 	<b>SIGNATURE DATE:</b> September 2, 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>Y</u>	(FN) FINANCIAL WARRANTY----- <u>NA</u>	(RD) ROADS----- <u>Y</u>
(HB) HYDROLOGIC BALANCE----- <u>Y</u>	(BG) BACKFILL & GRADING----- <u>Y</u>	(EX) EXPLOSIVES----- <u>NA</u>
(PW) PROCESSING WASTE/TAILING----- <u>NA</u>	(SF) PROCESSING FACILITIES----- <u>Y</u>	(TS) TOPSOIL----- <u>NA</u>
(MP) GENL MINE PLAN COMPLIANCE- <u>Y</u>	(FW) FISH & WILDLIFE----- <u>Y</u>	(RV) REVEGETATION---- <u>NA</u>
(SM) SIGNS AND MARKERS----- <u>NA</u>	(SP) STORM WATER MGT PLAN---- <u>NA</u>	(RS) RECL PLAN/COMP-- <u>NA</u>
(ES) OVERBURDEN/DEV. WASTE----- <u>NA</u>	(SC) EROSION/SEDIMENTATION--- <u>Y</u>	(ST) STIPULATIONS----- <u>Y</u>
(AT) ACID OR TOXIC MATERIALS----- <u>Y</u>	(OD) OFF-SITE DAMAGE----- <u>Y</u>	

Y = Inspected / N = Not inspected / NA = Not applicable to this operation / PB = Problem cited / PV = Possible violation cited

## **OBSERVATIONS**

This was a routine monitoring inspection of the Cresson Project (Permit No. M-1980-244) conducted by Ben Hammar of the Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety (Division/DRMS). The Division was accompanied by Paulina Barreira and others during the inspection. This is a 112d-3 Designated Mining Operation (DMO) permitted for 6,007 acres to mine and process gold ore. The site is located between the towns of Cripple Creek and Victor in Teller County. The approved post-mining land use is a combination of rangeland and wildlife habitat. Photos 1-20 taken during the inspection are included with this report.

This inspection was to include the following:

- Seepage collection improvement observations.
- Schist Island Backfill observations.
- VLF2 Phase 3 Stage B Construction observations
- VLF2 Spill Area observations.

The weather was clear and mild at the time of inspection.

### **Completed Grassy Valley ECOSA Seep Collection Improvements**

The Division inspected seep areas 1-5 as part of this inspection, and all construction of the collection improvements had been completed approximately 2 weeks prior to this inspection. All seep areas held water at the time of inspection, and seeps 5, 3/4, and 1 had signs of active solution drainage. Seep 2 was clear and appeared to only contain rainfall collection.

Pumping activities took place within a few hours of inspection, and per the operator representative occur regularly. According to the operator a final report detailing the completed seep improvements will be sent to the Division shortly after this inspection. Photos of the complete improvements are shown in photos 1-4.

### **Schist Island Backfill Observations**

Due to an initiative by the operator to accelerate ore stacking and issues with haul truck maintenance, no progress on the Schist Island Backfill was observed during this inspection. Per conversation with the Newfields representative present during the inspection, efforts to monitor and provide QA on the placement of fill are ongoing.

### **VLF2 Phase 3 Stage B Construction**

Liner installation and Drain Cover Fill (DCF) placement was also observed during this inspection with an operator and Newfields representative. During this inspection the second bench area was being lined and covered with material. This area and the area immediately upgradient were stated to be expected to be completed within a few days following this inspection.

According to Newfields, generally this section of VLF2 has been progressing quickly and no significant QA issues were mentioned. Plans for how to proceed within the area where the operator proposed downhill

stacking are still in development, and the proposed relocation of the haul road for this area have not been decided upon at the time of inspection. A Newfields representative was observed performing QA duties at the time of inspection.

### **VLF2 Spill Area Observations**

The recent spill site was observed during this inspection, which according to the operator was caused by surface flow from areas of the VLF2 stacked ore areas. Contaminated soils were found in the central contaminated area up to the maximum depth of sampling, and further excavation of affected soils were stopped due to the potential to damage the liner.

At the time of inspection, the operator was awaiting a drilling report to identify the depth of bedrock under the impacted area, and potential preventative mitigation techniques were still being discussed. The previously excavated area has since been backfilled.

### **Inspection Contact Address**

Paulina Berrela  
Cripple Creek & Victor Gold Mining Company  
P. O. Box 191  
Victor, CO 80860

Enclosure

CC:

**PHOTOGRAPHS**



Photo 1: Seep collection area 5 facing east. Note the red-colored process water.



Photo 2: Seep collection area 2, with affected process water.





Photo 3: Seep 3/4. Note little to no process water from seepage appears to be contained within it at the time of inspection.



Photo 4: Seep 1 with pump. Per the operator pumping activities had occurred close to the time of inspection.





Photo 5: Overlook of VLF2 expansion.



Photo 6: Newfields truck located near the current liner installation area.





Photo 7: Recently installed liner area. Note minor ponding due to recent rainfall.



Photo 8: Recent DCF placement areas.





Photo 9: Newfields representatives performing QA monitoring of liner install.



Photo 10: Backfilled spill excavation area.



