

STATE OF
COLORADO

Gagnon - DNR, Nikie <nikie.gagnon@state.co.us>

Williams Fork Mine September Inspection Report

1 message

Gagnon - DNR, Nikie <nikie.gagnon@state.co.us>
To: Miranda Kawcak <MKawcak@peabodyenergy.com>

Mon, Oct 13, 2025 at 11:04 AM

Hi Miranda.

Please find attached the September Inspection Report for the Williams Fork Mine site. This was a complete inspection for Q3 2025. Minor maintenance items are highlighted in bold in the report.

Let me know if you have any questions.

Kind regards,

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Nikie Gagnon
Environmental Protection Specialist



COLORADO
Division of Reclamation,
Mining and Safety
Department of Natural Resources

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INSP-REPORT_C1981044_Williams Fork Mines_20250924.pdf
3057K



PERMIT INFORMATION

Permit Number: C-1981-044 Mine Name: Williams Fork Mines Operator: Moffat County Mining, LLC Operator Address: Mrs. Miranda Kawcak 29515 Routt County Road #27 Oak Creek, CO 80467	County: Moffat Operation Type: Underground Permit Status: Active Ownership: Private
	Operator Representative Present: Mike Howard
Operator Representative Signature: (Field Issuance Only) 	

INSPECTION INFORMATION

Inspection Start Date: September 24, 2025 Inspection Start Time: 09:00 Inspection End Date: September 24, 2025 Inspection End Time: 11:35	Inspection Type: Coal Complete Inspection Inspection Reason: Normal I&E Program Weather: Cloudy
Joint Inspection Agency: None	Joint Inspection Contacts: NA
Post Inspection Agency: None	Post Inspection Contacts: NA
Inspector(s): Nikie Gagnon Jared Ebert	Inspector's Signature:  Signature Date: 10/10/2025

Inspection Topic Summary

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

R - Air Resource Protection**R** - Availability of Records**N** - Backfill & Grading**NA** - Excess Spoil and Dev. Waste**NA** - Explosives**R** - Fish & Wildlife**R** - Hydrologic Balance**R** - Gen. Compliance With Mine Plan**NA** - Other**NA** - Processing Waste**R** - Roads**N** - Reclamation Success**R** - Revegetation**N** - Subsidence**N** - Slides and Other Damage**N** - Support Facilities On-site**R** - Signs and Markers**NA** - Support Facilities Not On-site**NA** - Special Categories Of Mining**R** - Topsoil**COMMENTS**

This was a complete inspection of the Williams Fork Mines, operated by Moffat County Mining LLC. Nikie Gagnon and Jared Ebert with the Colorado Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety (Division) conducted the inspection. Mr. Mike Howard representing Moffat County Mining accompanied the Division during the inspection. A records check was conducted at the nearby Foidel Creek Mine office. The weather was cool and foggy at the beginning of the inspection and partly sunny by the end.

Maintenance items are noted in bold text.

INSPECTION**GENERAL MINE PLAN COMPLIANCE:**

The Williams Fork Mines site was reclaimed from 2016 to 2023. Topsoiling and seeding is complete across the disturbance areas. The river bottom fields were irrigated and hayed in 2025. Ongoing maintenance activities include weed control and cleanout of drainage structures. Revegetation success surveys are ongoing and the Operator anticipates submitting a Phase I and Phase II release request for eligible acres when the revegetation metrics are indicated.

SIGNS and MARKERS – Rule 4.02

- The mine sign was in place at the site entrance and included the mine name, operator name, address, and phone number, however, the DRMS permit number is not illegible. **The Operator needs to replace or repair the sign to ensure the DRMS permit number is legible.**
- Topsoil stockpiles observed. Topsoil piles are marked with t-posts. Section 4.02.7 in the permit states that stockpiled topsoil will be marked with signs reading “topsoil”. The Division observed signs that have fallen off the posts that need to be reinstalled and, in some cases, no topsoil marker signs were observed. **The operator needs to reinstall topsoil signs on the stockpiles.**
- Stream buffer zone along the Williams Fork River in the cropland area is marked with white plastic stakes.
- Metal t-posts painted white with red tops mark the permit boundary throughout the site.

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Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 1

ROADS – Rule 4.03 Construction 4.03.1(3) I 4.03.2(3); Drainage 4.03.1(4) I 4.03.2(4); Surfacing and Maintenance 4.03.1(5) and (6) I 4.03.2(5) and (6); Reclamation 4.03.1(7) I 4.03.2(7)

- Main haul roads were dry and well maintained.
- Roadside ditches were dry, functioning as designed and no excess sedimentation was noted.

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; Drainage- Acid and Toxic Materials 4.05.8; Impoundments 4.05.6, 4.05.9; Stream Buffer Zones 4.05.18
Pond banks appeared stable and vegetated. Dams appeared stable and vegetated with no signs of seepage. All ponds were dry at the time of inspection.

- Pond 5A-P1 was well vegetated. Willows and rabbitbrush were observed growing in the bottom of the pond.
- Pond 5-P2 is well vegetated. **A large Russian olive tree is growing in the center of the pond. The tree will need to be removed.**
- Pond 5-P3 is well vegetated. **Two large Russian olive trees are growing in the bottom and a few hoary cress plants were observed around the pond. The trees need to be removed, and the noxious weeds should be treated according to the weed management plan.**
- Stream buffer zone along the Williams Fork River was marked.
- The Division observed the drainage ditch that runs north/south through the cropland. **In the area of the reclaimed silo, sediment was observed around the drainage ditch indicating water is pooling outside the ditch. The operator needs to excavate the ditch in this area to restore the drainage channel.**
- Pond 5A-P1 below the #5A Portal and Services Building is well vegetated with grasses and rabbitbrush.
- Ponds on the east and south sides of the permit area are revegetated with grasses and no issues were noted.

TOPSOIL – RULE 4.06 Removal 4.06.2; Substitute Materials 4.06.4(4); Storage and Protection 4.06.3; Redistribution 4.06.4

- Topsoil piles located next to the ponds were observed to be stable, vegetated, displaying adequate cover.

COAL MINE WASTE BANKS– RULE 4.10 General Requirement 4.10.1; Site Inspection 4.10.2; Water Control Measures 4.10.3; Construction Requirements 4.10.4

- The revegetated refuse pile appears stable with no significant rills or gullies forming.
- Desired grasses are growing uniformly across the area.
- A large area of yellow sweet clover was observed on the northeast side. Isolated patches of cheat grass were noted. **The Operator will need to continue to spray the noxious weeds according to the weed management schedule.**

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SLIDES and OTHER DAMAGE- Rule 4.12

- No areas of instability, slumping or sliding were noted at the time of inspection.

REVEGETATION - Rule 4.15 General Requirements 4.15.1; Use of Species 4.15.2, Grazing 4.15.5

- #5 Portal /R.R. Spur/Shop areas along the west side are revegetated to cropland. Desired hay species were observed, including alfalfa and wheat plants. The field was last harvested in July 2025.
- 5A Portal area slopes are revegetated and stable and no erosion rills were noted.
- The slope below the service building, adjacent to the 5A portal, is vegetated with russian thistle and some desired grasses are filling in. Bare ground was also noted here. **A large erosion rill was observed on the slope leading to Pond 5A-P1. The Operator will need to monitor this and repair the rill.**

FISH and WILDLIFE– RULE 4.18.

- Wildlife sightings included red tailed hawks and sandhill cranes.

INSPECTION, ENFORCEMENT and CIVIL PENALTIES – RULE 5

Inspections 5.02; Availability of Records

- Records were reviewed at the Foidel Creek Mine Office. See the records checklist at the end of this report. Records are kept in paper and electronic forms.

DOCUMENTS RECEIVED

None

ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS/COMPLIANCE

No enforcement actions were initiated as a result of this inspection, nor are any pending

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PHOTOGRAPHS



Photo 1: Looking southwest across the reclaimed croplands around the #5 Portal.



Photo 2: Looking northwest across the reclaimed croplands around the #5 Portal and Rail Spur.

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Photo 3: Mine sign posted at the entrance. DRMS permit number is illegible.

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Photo 4: Ponds HR-P1a and P1b observed on the north end of the site.



Photo 5: Looking northwest at cropland in the RR Spur area.

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Photo 6: Looking northwest across Cropland near the #5 Portal/Shop area.



Photo 7: Ditch on the east side of the #5 Portal/Shop area. Water and sediment appear to pool in this area.

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Photo 8: Looking west across the refuse pile reclamation

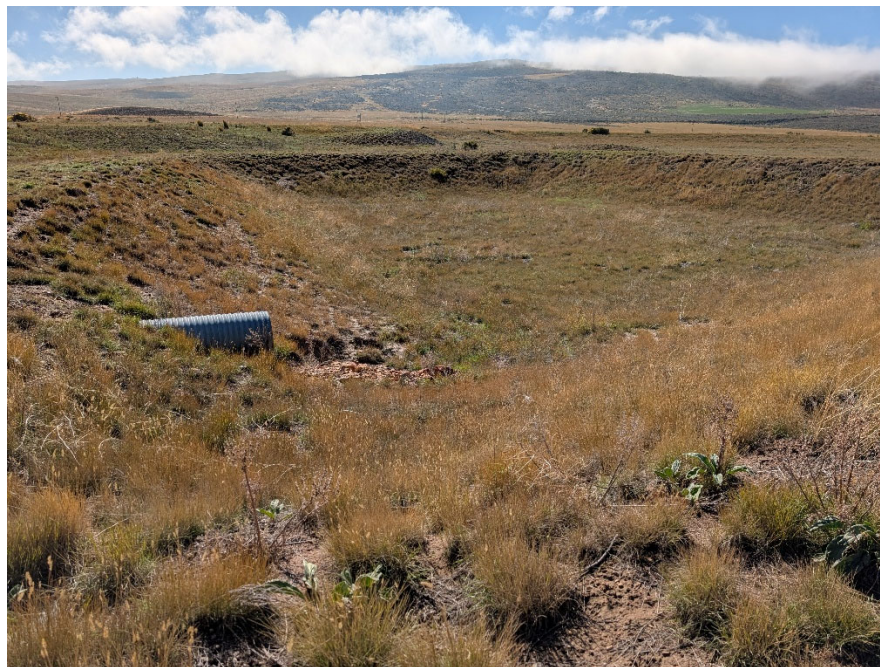


Photo 9: Pond 9-P6 on the east side of the site, well vegetated and stable.

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Photo 10: Erosion rill noted in slope below the #5A Portal and Service building.



Photo 11: Topsoil pile marked with t-post and sign. Sign has fallen off the stake.

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AVAILABILITY OF RECORDS**PERMIT RECORDS**

DRMS Permit	RN8 2023
Permit Application w/Revisions	Yes
Findings Document	RN8 2023 MT8
Insurance Certificate	Yes ex. 11/2025
Bond Document	Yes
Phased Bond Release	SL4 and SL5
Documents/Findings	Office
Air Emission Permits	NA
County Special Use Permits	NA
UG Mining Landowner Notification	NA
Subsidence Monitoring Reports	NA
Subsidence Monitoring Data	NA
Rill & Gully Survey	ARR
Vegetation Monitoring Data	Yes (Office)
Specific Variance Approvals	NA
Annual Reclamation Reports	2024
Midterm Review Documents	MT8 2021
DRMS/OSM Inspection Reports/Enforcement Actions (3 Years)	Yes
Transfers/Succession of Operator	Yes 2006
Temporary Cessation Notification	2016 deactivated
Reclamation Cost Estimate	RN8 2023
CERTIFICATIONS	
Pond Certifications	Permit
Annual Certifications for Impoundments	10/21/2024
Fill Certifications for Excess Spoil or Underground Development Waste	NA
• Quarterly Inspections	NA
• Compaction Testing	NA
• Final Certification	NA
Coal Processing Waste Banks	6/27/2025 Q2
Haul Road Certifications	Permit
Access Road Certifications	Permit

HYDROLOGIC RECORDS

NPDES Permit	Yes
NPDES Records	Yes (Office)
Stormwater Management Plan	Yes
SPCC Plan	Yes
MSHA Pond Inspections	NA
	NA
State Engineer's Pond Inspection	
Quarterly Pond Inspections	2024 Q1
Annual Hydrology Reports	2023
• Ground Water Monitoring	Yes
• Surface Water Monitoring	Yes
• Spring & Seep Monitoring	Yes
• Mine Water Discharge Monitoring	Yes
• Mine Inflow Study	Yes
• Water Consumption Records	Yes
Well Permits	Yes

BLASTING RECORDS

Blasting Publication	NA
Blasting Records (3 years)	NA
ATFE Explosives Permit	NA
Blasting Variances	NA
Pre-Blast Surveys	NA

ADDITIONAL RECORDS (specify)

COMMENTS:

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