STATE OF COLORADO

Wein - DNR, Clayton <clayton.wein@state.co.us>

McClane Canyon Mine, C-1980-004, September Partial Inspection of Sediment Control Structures

1 message

Wein - DNR, Clayton <clayton.wein@state.co.us> Wed, Oct 15, 2025 at 10:52 AM
To: Chuck Silengo <csilengo@bresnan.net>, David Darko <daviddarko@att.net>, joe <joe@ridgerunnergeo.com>
Cc: DNR DRMS_CoalAdmin - DNR <dnr_drms_coal_admin@state.co.us>

Good morning Everyone,

Attached with my email is the Division's report for the inspections conducted at the McClane Canyon Mine following the September 12th precipitation event. The report documents the site conditions and the maintenance that is required at the site. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,
Clayton Wein
Environmental Protection Specialist

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

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McClane Canyon Mine, C-1980-004, September Partial Inspection Report_CCW.pdf
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COLORADO
Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety
Department of Natural Resources

PERMIT INFORMATION

Permit Number: C-1980-004 **Mine Name:** McClane Canyon Mine **Operator:** ARC McClane Canyon, LLC **Operator Address:** Joe Brinton 652 Peony Dr Grand Junction, CO 81507	**County:** Garfield **Operation Type:** Underground **Permit Status:** Temporary Cessation **Ownership:** Private
	Operator Representative Present: Chuck Selingo
Operator Representative Signature: (Field Issuance Only)	

INSPECTION INFORMATION

Inspection Start Date: (a) September 16, 2025 (b) September 29, 2025 **Inspection Start Time:** (a) 12:15 (b) 09:30 **Inspection End Date:** (a) September 16, 2025 (b) September 29, 2025 **Inspection End Time:** (a) 13:30 (b) 10:30	**Inspection Type:** Coal Partial Inspection **Inspection Reason:** Normal I&E Program **Weather:** Cloudy
Joint Inspection Agency: None	**Joint Inspection Contacts:** None
Post Inspection Agency: None	**Post Inspection Contacts:** None

Inspector(s): Clayton Wein Travis Marshall	**Inspector's Signature:** Clayton Wein	**Signature Date:** 10/15/2025

1313 Sherman St. Room 215
Denver, CO 80203
(303) 866-3567

Inspection Topic Summary
NOTE: **Y**=Inspected **N**=Not Inspected **R**=Comments Noted **V**=Violation Issued **NA**=Not Applicable

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

COMMENTS

(a) This report documents the Division's observations during a partial inspection of the McClane Canyon Mine. Clayton Wein and Travis Marshall of the Division attended the September 16, 2025, inspection with Chuck Selingo of Arc McClane Canyon, LLC (AMC). The weather was partly cloudy and the ground conditions were partly muddy.

(b) This inspection report also documented the Division's observations taken during a follow-up partial inspection of the McClane Canyon Mine. The inspection was conducted on September 29, 2025, by Clayton Wein of the Division. AMC was represented during the inspection by Chuck Selingo. Thew weather was clear with a temperature of 62 °F. Ground conditions were dry during the inspection.

(c) The third portion of this inspection report documents updated progress of the maintenance and repairs being conducted on the sediment control structures at the McClane Canyon Mine as of October 9, 2025.

On September 12, 2025, a large-scale precipitation event occurred in the vicinity of the McClane Canyon Mine. Using the NOAA website, the Division was able to determine that the precipitation event was at least a 30-minute, 100-year storm event. Precipitation was recorded at 1.2 inches of rain in 20 minutes. The McClane Canyon Mine's sediment pond emergency spillway is designed to handle up to a 25-year, 24-hour storm event, which is 2.1 inches of precipitation. On the morning of September 15, 2025, Chuck Selingo notified the Division of the large precipitation event that occurred at the mine site. Mr. Selingo informed the Division that all of the mine site's sediment control structures had been filled with sediment and that the sediment pond had overtopped.

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:

(a) September 16, 2025:

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 1
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Secondary Containment:

Fuels and other hydrocarbons are stored on the mine office pad within secondary containment. The container was identified during a complete inspection on September 9, 2025, to have been damaged but functional. There was no indication of a leak or material that escaped the secondary containment during the September 12, 2025, Precipitation event.

Catch pans placed underneath the loaders and grader were observed to have been unaffected by the precipitation event. There were no impacts observed.

Hydrocarbons are also stored in the shop on the upper portals bench. The hydrocarbons were observed to be placed in secondary containment. The secondary containment within the shop was unaffected by the precipitation even and no impacts were observed.

Disturbed Area Sediment Controls:

The inspection started at the mine office pad. The north office sump was observed to be holding water but not discharging (Photo 1). The embankment for the sump had been breached on the north and south sides. Evidence of water flowing out of the south embankment breach traveled down the haul road to the bridge over East Salt Creek (Photo 2). The flow path then went over the bridge and down the north side of the road into East Salt Creek (Photo 3). The northern embankment breach's flow path lead west into East Salt Creek. The sump requires cleaning and repairs.

The south office sump was also holding water during the inspection (Photo 4). No discharge occurred. The silt fence was intact. There was no indication that water had bypassed the outlet of the sump. No damage to the sump's embankment was observed.

Evidence of flow across the southern portion of the mine office pad was observed. The flow originated from the south bar ditch from the haul road. The flow traveled on the east side of the mine office and then around to the southern side of the pad. There was no breach identified in the mine office pad's embankment.

Sump P, located on the north side of the haul road in-between the office pad and Sump Q, was dry during the inspection. The silt fence was intact and the berms for the sump were stable (Photo 5).

Sump Q was muddy and entirely filled with sediment (Photo 6). The discharge culvert was plugged. A breach in the southern berm was observed. The flow through the breach followed the north bar ditch for the haul road down to Sump P and the north office sump. Sump Q requires cleaning and repairs to the berm.

The sediment pond was holding water during the inspection (Photo 7). The level of water in the pond was at the top of the primary spillway (Photo 8). The primary spillway's valve was not open during the inspection, and no discharge was occurring. Evidence of flow through the emergency spillway was observed. The amount of water being impounded in the sediment pond from the precipitation event was too large for the emergency (Photo 9) to handle. Evidence of flow overtopping the pond's western embankment was observed (Photos 10, 11 and 12). There were no rills or gullies observed to be cut into the embankment. There was also no indication of sloughing or instability with the embankment. Water will need to be discharged to restore some of the sediment pond's capacity. The primary discharge outlet pipe's exit remained uncovered, however, debris from backflow into the

pipe was observed (Photo 13). The outlet to the pipe requires cleaning so the primary outlet can function as designed.

The sump for the subsoil stockpile had filled with sediment and the silt fence had been bypassed by flow during the precipitation event. The sump requires cleaning, and the silt fence needs to be repaired (Photo 14.

Sump J was damp and full of sediment (Photo 15). The level of sediment deposited within the sump had reached the level of the discharge outlet. Sump J requires cleaning and maintenance on the berm to restore the sump's capacity and functionality.

Sump I was holding a small amount of water during the inspection. There was no discharge from the sump occurring. Sediment had been deposited within the sump above the level of the discharge culvert (Photo 16). Evidence of flow breaching the sump's southern embankment was identified. The flow appeared to enter the north bar ditch for the haul road. Sump I requires cleaning and the embankment requires repair.

Haul Road Bar Ditches:

The north haul road bar ditch is composed of two main sections. The north office sump east to Sump Q and then Sump Q east to Sump I. The north haul road bar ditch was intact all the way to Sump Q from the north office sump. Evidence of flow within the ditch was observed. Some down-cutting within the ditch was observed. No breaches in this section were identified. Repairs to the down-cut sections of the ditch are required. The portion of the north haul road bar ditch from Sump Q east to Sump I was observed to have been affected more significantly than the other portion. Much of this portion of the north haul road bar ditch had been down-cut. Approximately a 10-foot section of the ditch's berm had been eroded during the precipitation event (Photo 17). This portion of the ditch was located west of Sump I. This portion of the bar ditch requires repairs to both the berm and the down-cut areas.

The south haul road bar ditch extends from the mine office pad to the sediment pond, then from the sediment pond to the outlet of Sump J, and from the inlet of Sump J to the base of the lower portals ditch. The portion of the ditch that extended to the sediment pond from the office had minimal erosion to it. The flow within the ditch did not breach the berm. Minor down-cutting within the ditch was observed. This section of the ditch will require minor repairs. The portion of the ditch closest to the sediment pond had downcutting within it. The portion of the ditch closer to the outlet of Sump J had filled in with sediment. This section of the ditch requires repair and cleaning (Photo 18). The remaining portion of the south haul road bar ditch, from Sump J to the base of the portals lower bench was intact but had been down-cut by the flow of water. This section of the bar ditch requires repair.

Clearwater Diversions:

All five of the clearwater diversions are located around the portals area.

Sump A was observed to be completely filled in with sediment (Photo 19). The embankment for the sump had overtopped. Evidence of flow down the slope behind the embankment was observed. The flow down the hill eroded the material covering Sump A's culvert and had exposed the culvert Photo 20). Sump A requires cleaning and the hillside behind the sump's embankment needs to be repaired.

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Sump B was also filled entirely with sediment (Photo 21). Indications of flow over the sump's embankment was identified. Sump B requires cleaning.

Sump C had filled to the top with sediment (Photo 22). The sump was muddy during the inspection. Evidence of flow over the sump's embankment was observed. Sump C requires cleaning.

Sump D was filled up to the top with sediment (Photo 23). Flow had overtopped the sump's embankment and flowed down the hillside behind the embankment. Minor erosion on the hillside had occurred (Photo 24. The sump needs to be cleaned and the hillside behind the embankment requires maintenance.

Sump E is located on the hillside adjacent to the southeast of the shop. Sump E had filled with sediment and the hillside below the sump had been eroded around the sump's culvert (Photo 25). Sump E needs to be cleaned and the hillside surrounding the culvert requires repair.

Other Facilities Drainage Control Structures:

The D-2 Ditch on the upper portals bench had filled with sediment (Photo 26). The ditch will require cleaning. The open culvert extending down from the upper portals bench to the D-3 Ditch had been under-cut (Photo 27 and 28). The adjacent clearwater culvert to the open culvert had also been eroded underneath. The hillside under these two culverts requires repairs to support the culverts.

The D-3 connects the upper portals bench to the south haul road bar ditch. The D-3 Ditch had been down-cut from the precipitation event. The connection of the D-2 open culvert and the D-3 Ditch had been completely exposed (Photo 29). The concrete base was intact but all the rocks surrounding the concrete base had been removed by the water flowing within the ditch. The D-3 Ditch requires repairs.

Haul Road:

Several portions of the haul road had the road surface eroded due to water flow (Photo 30 and 31). Evidence of water flowing down the haul road was observed. The haul road bar ditches had mor water flowing in them than what could be contained within the ditches. Water flowed onto the road as a result. The haul road needs to be resurfaced west of the sediment pond and from the lower portals bench south towards Sump J.

(b) September 29, 2025:

The inspection on September 29, 2025, was conducted to check the progress of maintenance and repairs of the sediment control structures at the McClane Canyon Mine. The following information documents the observations from the Division of that day.

Disturbed Area Sediment Controls:

During the inspection, the sediment pond was holding significantly less water than the September 16th inspection (Photo 32). Water was discharged through the primary spillway until the level of water impounded in the pond was below the primary spillway. There was approximately 2-3 feet of water still impounded within the pond. The operator used a pump to discharge water further on September 29th. The level of water within the pond appeared to be about 1 foot deep. The sediment level deposited in the pond during the precipitation event on September 12, 2025, precipitation event could be evaluated during the inspection. Sediment deposited within the pond was at a

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level that requires cleaning. Approximately a third to a quarter of the pond's original capacity was available for storage. The pond's embankment was stable and there were no indications of seepage, sloughing or erosion at the time of the inspection. The primary discharge outlet was clear of debris and able to function as designed. The emergency spillway was clear of debris and stable. The removal of sediment from the pond will progress as the material in the pond dries out. Equipment is likely to get stuck in the soft mud as material approaches the center and southern areas within the pond if the equipment is placed on top of this material before it has dried.

Sediment from Sump J was observed to have started to be removed (Photo 33). The sediment deposited in the sump is still damp and soft in the middle. Mr. Selingo has been removing sediment from the sump as it dries out to avoid the risk of getting the equipment stuck in soft mud. A significant portion of the sediment deposited in the sump still remained in the sump. Sump J requires further cleaning and repairs to the sump's embankment have not yet been completed.

The remaining sumps and ditches named in the September 16, 2025, inspection have yet to be cleaned and repaired. An excavator will be required to complete these tasks and will be on-site Monday October 6, 2025 according to Mr. Selingo.

Haul Road Bar Ditches:

The 10-foot section of the north haul road bar ditch was repaired on September 29th, 2025 (Photo 34. Material was replaced on the ditch embankment to return the berm to the original design. No other portions of the north or south haul road bar ditches had the down-cutting repaired.

Clearwater Diversions:

Preparation had begun for cleaning the clearwater diversion sumps. An excavator is required to be able to clean the sediment from these sumps. Excess sediment had been removed allowing for equipment to access the sumps when it arrives on October 6, 2025. All five of the clear water diversions (Sumps A through E) still required cleaning. Repairs to the hill slopes below Sumps A, D and E embankments had not yet been repaired.

Other Facilities Drainage Control Structures:

The middle portion of the D-2 ditch had been cleaned (Photo 35). The ditch was clear of debris and stable. The upper-most portion of the D-2 ditch required further cleaning. Mr. Selingo plans to complete the cleaning of this portion of the ditch when an excavator is on-site. The open culvert at the end of the ditch remained in the same condition as on September 16, 2025.

(c) October 9, 2025:

The Division received Photographs from Mr. Selingo showing updates to the work being conducted at the McClane Canyon Mine with regard to the maintenance and repairs of the sediment control structures. Photos were provided to the Division showing additional progress had been made since the September 29, 2025 inspection. Sediment had started to be removed from the northeast end of the sediment pond (Photo 36). Water was still impounded within the pond. The level of the water was below the primary discharge outlet.

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Sediment had started to be removed from Sump J (Photo 37). The amount of sediment deposited within the sump requires further cleaning. Similar to the sediment pond, Sump J will be cleaned in phases to allow sediment to dry and then be removed. Equipment used by the operator is likely to get stuck in the sump if the sediment is still saturated.

The hill slope behind Sump A's embankment had been repaired (Photo 38). The culvert outlet for the sump was covered and buried. There were no erosional issues on the hill slope.

DOCUMENTS RECEIVED: None

OTHER (SPECIFY): None

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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: The breach in the north office sump's berm leading to flow on the haul road.

Photo 2: The flow from the north office sump breach towards the bridge over East Salt Creek.

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Photo 3: The west side of the bridge and East Salt Creek. Flow from the north office sump continued to flow off the road and into East Salt

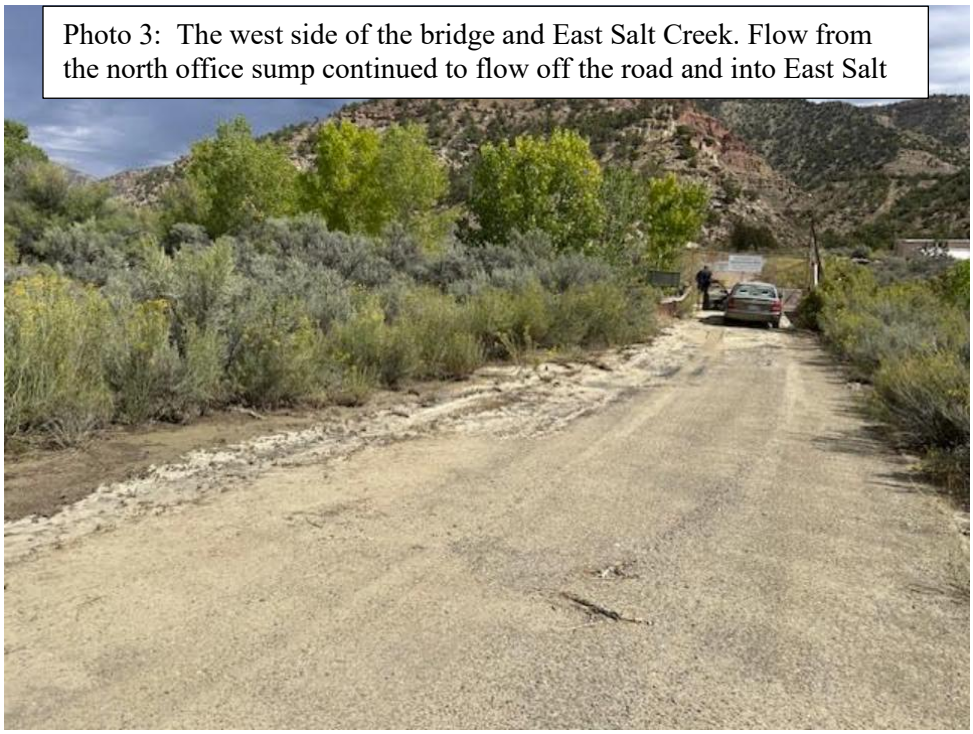

Photo 4: The south office pad sump.

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Photo 5: Sump P.

Photo 6: Sump Q completely filled with sediment.

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Photo 7: The sediment pond's inlet.

Photo 8: The sediment pond's primary discharge pipe.

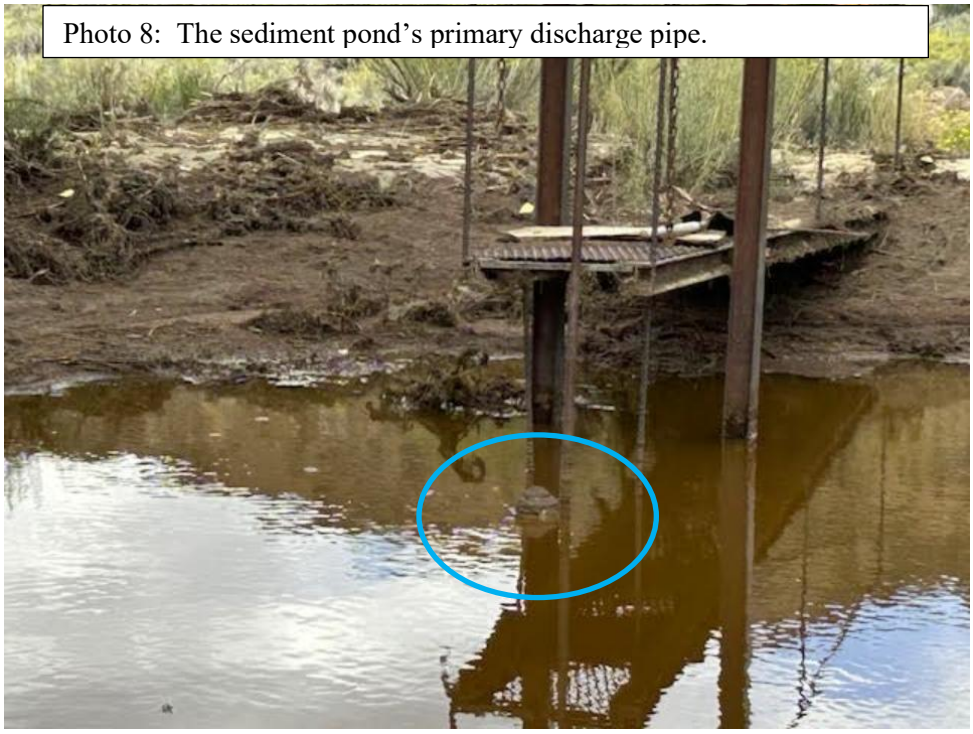

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Photo 9: The sediment pond's emergency spillway showing evidence of flow.

Photo 10: The southern portion of the sediment pond's embankment with evidence of overflow.

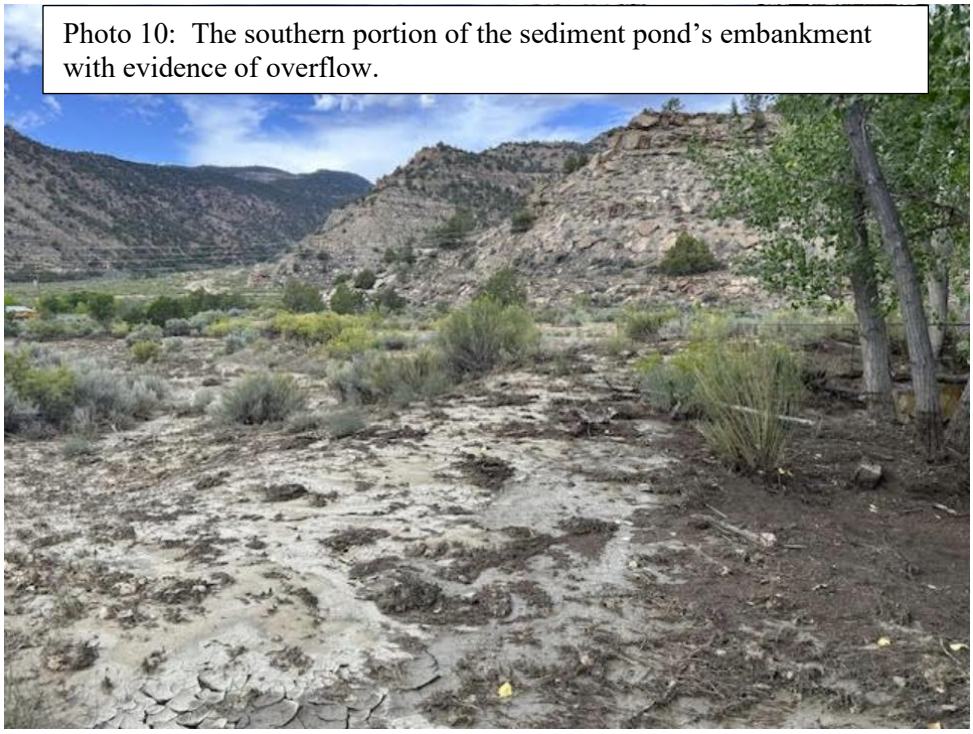

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Photo 11: The central portion of the sediment pond's embankment with evidence of overflow.

Photo 12: The sediment pond's northern portion of the embankment with evidence of overflow.

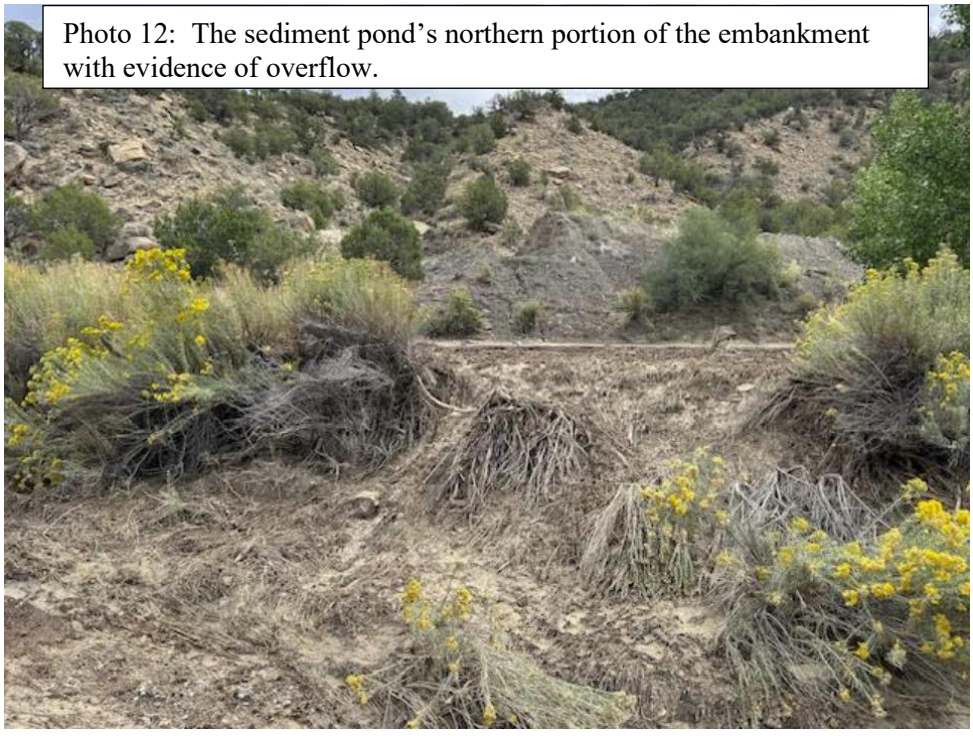

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Photo 13: The outlet of the sediment pond's primary discharge pipe with debris from backflow.

Photo 14: The subsoil stockpile sump filled with sediment.

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Photo 15: Sump J filled with sediment.

Photo 16: Sump Q filled with sediment.

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Photo 17: The portion of the north bar ditch for the haul road that was breached by flow.

Photo 18: D-6 ditch and haul road between Sump J and the sediment pond.

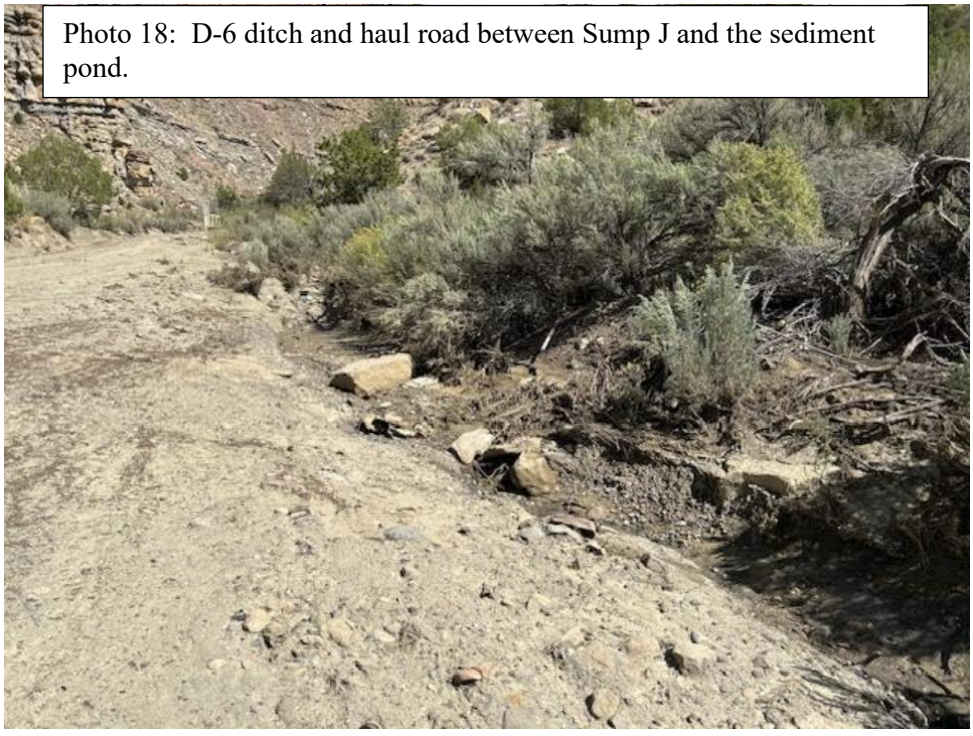

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Photo 19: Sump A and embankment full of Sediment and evidence of overflow.

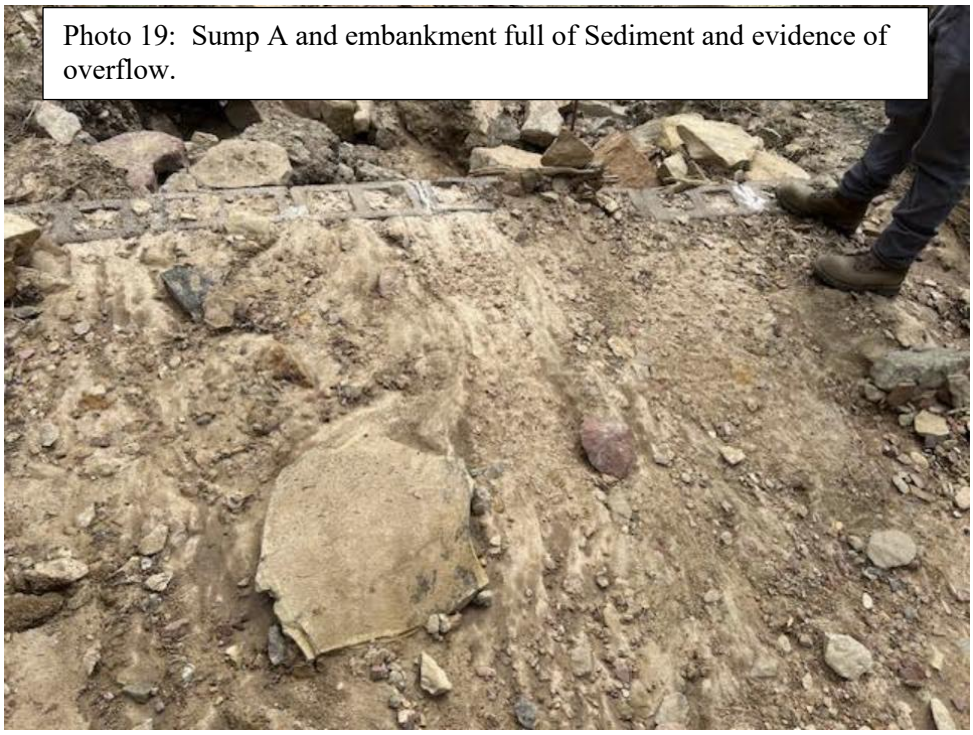

Photo 20 Sump A's embankment with erosion exposing the discharge pipe.

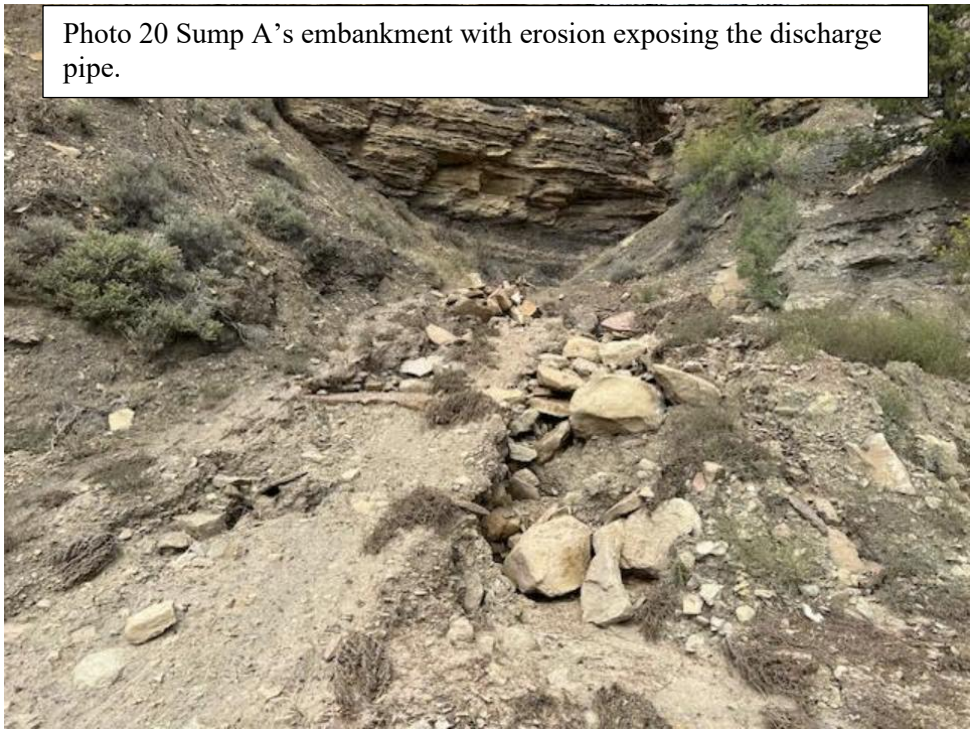

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Photo 21: Sump B filled with sediment.

Photo 22: Sump C filled with sediment.

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Photo 24: Sump D filled with sediment.

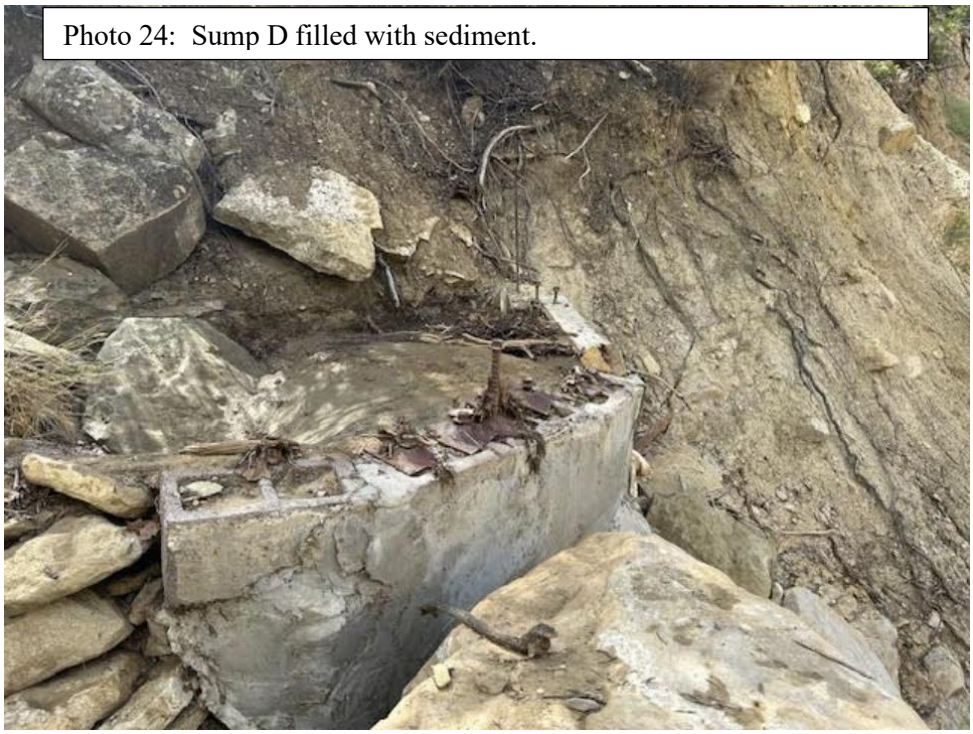

Photo 24: Sump D's embankment eroded, and the discharge pipe was exposed.

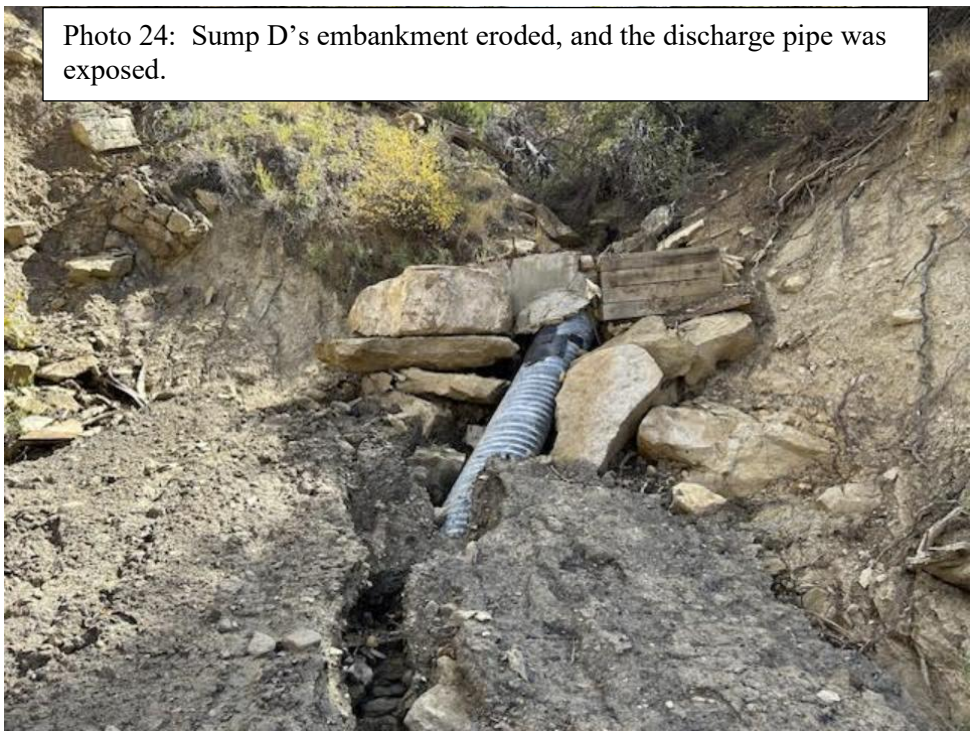

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Photo 25: The erosion around Sump E's discharge pipe.

Photo 26: The D-2 ditch full of sediment.

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Photo 27: The D-2 ditch open culvert with erosion under the pipe.

Photo 28: The clear water diversion pipe adjacent to the D-2 open culvert. Erosion under the clearwater pipe was observed.

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Photo 29: The junction of the D-2 open culvert with the D-3 Ditch. Erosion undercut the connection of the two ditches.

Photo 30: The lower portion of the haul road facing the mine office pad.

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Photo 31: The upper portion of the haul road with erosion. The photo was taken looking to the west.

Photo 32: The sediment pond inlet on September 29th.

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Photo 33: Sump J on September 29th.

Photo 34: The repaired section of the north bar ditch of the haul road.

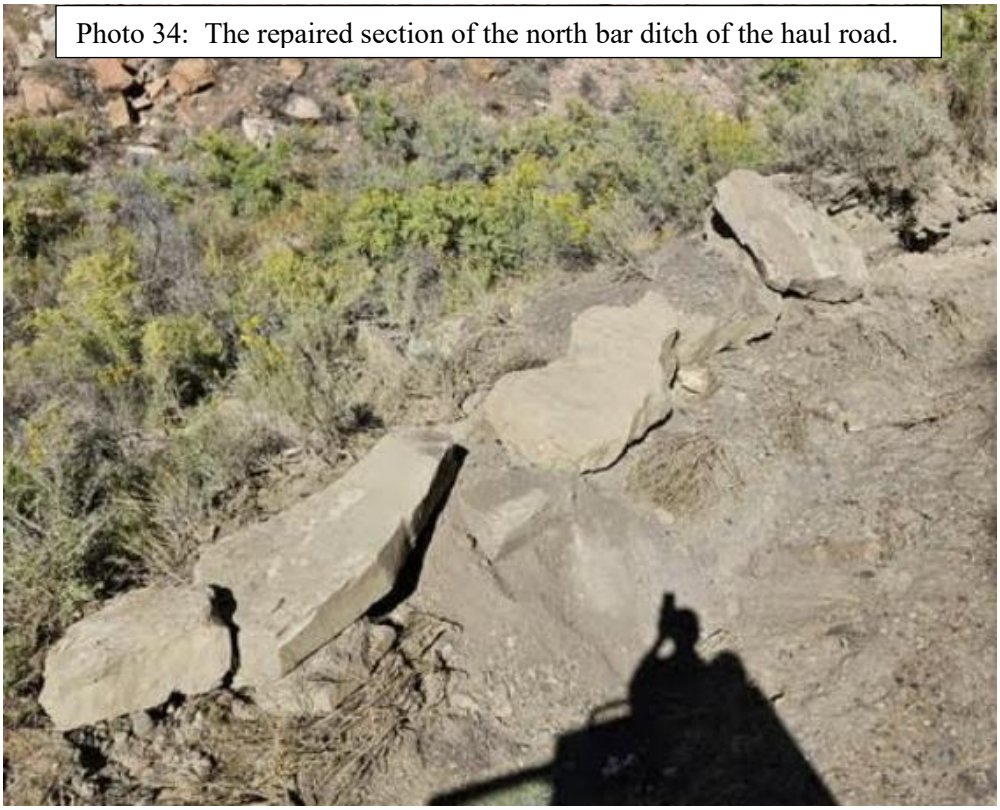

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Photo 35: The D-2 Ditch cleaned and observed on September 29th.

Photo 36: The inlet of the sediment pond with cleaning operations continuing on October 9th.

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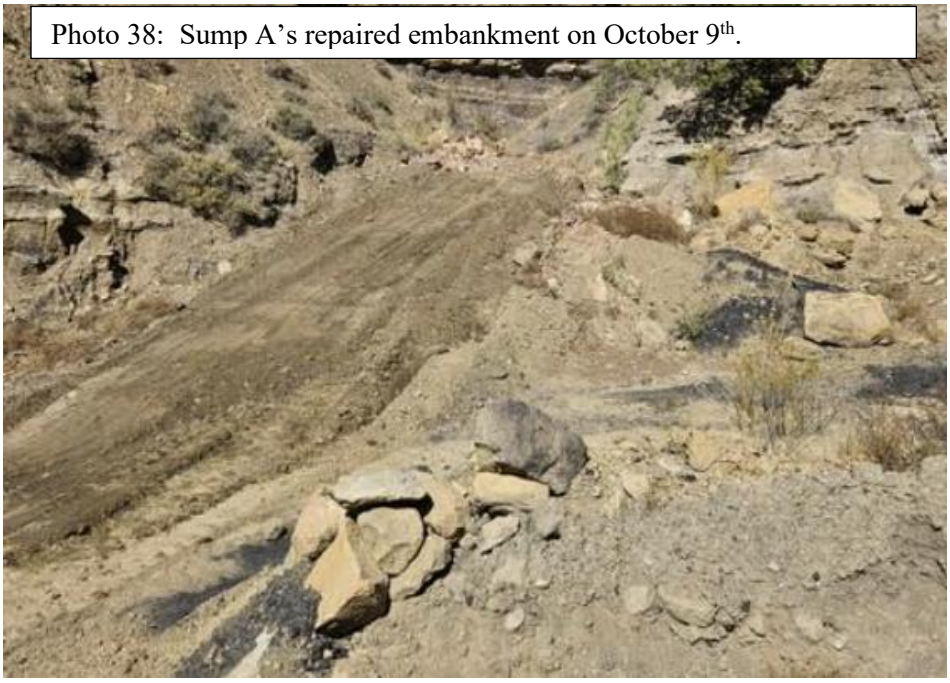
Photo 37: Sump J with continued cleaning operations on October 9th.

Photo 38: Sump A's repaired embankment on October 9th.



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