




**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> Climax Mine	<b>MINE/PROSPECTING ID#:</b> M-1977-493	<b>MINERAL:</b> Molybdenum	<b>COUNTY:</b> Lake
<b>INSPECTION TYPE:</b> Monitoring	<b>WEATHER:</b> Clear	<b>INSP. DATE:</b> October 7, 2025	<b>INSP. TIME:</b> 12:40
<b>OPERATOR:</b> Climax Molybdenum Company, Climax Mine	<b>OPERATOR REPRESENTATIVE:</b> Eric Detmer	<b>TYPE OF OPERATION:</b> 112d-3 - Designated Mining Operation	
<b>REASON FOR INSPECTION:</b> Normal I&E Program	<b>BOND CALCULATION TYPE:</b> None	<b>BOND AMOUNT:</b> \$91,011,850.00	
<b>DATE OF COMPLAINT:</b> NA	<b>POST INSP. CONTACTS:</b> DRMS	<b>JOINT INSP. AGENCY:</b> None	
<b>INSPECTOR(S):</b> Amy Yeldell	<b>INSPECTOR'S SIGNATURE:</b> 	<b>SIGNATURE DATE:</b> October 21, 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>N</u>	(RD) ROADS----- <u>Y</u>
(HB) HYDROLOGIC BALANCE----- <u>Y</u>	(BG) BACKFILL & GRADING----- <u>Y</u>	(EX) EXPLOSIVES----- <u>N</u>
(PW) PROCESSING WASTE/TAILING---- <u>Y</u>	(SF) PROCESSING FACILITIES----- <u>Y</u>	(TS) TOPSOIL----- <u>N</u>
(MP) GENL MINE PLAN COMPLIANCE- <u>Y</u>	(FW) FISH & WILDLIFE----- <u>N</u>	(RV) REVEGETATION---- <u>N</u>
(SM) SIGNS AND MARKERS----- <u>Y</u>	(SP) STORM WATER MGT PLAN---- <u>Y</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>Y</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**

This inspection was conducted as part of the Colorado Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety (Division) normal monitoring program. Climax Mine is a 112d-3 Molybdenum mine and milling operation located in Summit, Eagle and Lake County and is accessed from Colorado State Highway 91. The site consists of 14,000 permitted acres, of which approximately 8,000 acres have been affected. The Division currently holds \$284,783,656.00 in Financial Warranty for the site. Eric Detmer represented Climax Molybdenum Company. Amy Yeldell represented the Division.

Division staff first checked in at the guard station at the main gates located on the east side of HWY 91. The annual safety training was completed. The weather was sunny and clear. The site has received snow this year however none was present during the inspection. Roads were well maintained, and the site was completely accessible.

The following areas were inspected/discussed: East Tailings Delivery Line (ETDL), Mixing (dichlorination) pond below Tucker Creek, and Sludge Cells.

### **ETDL:**

The ETDL extends from the mill area to 3 dam. Currently it is being used to convey process water (Storke, Ceresco and camp water) to the SDP treatment system. The line consists of primarily 36-inch diam and 42-in diam concrete and HDPE Pipe that is installed on the ground surface.

The #1 drop box is located just north of the water treatment plant. The cement pipe is the ETDL and the black HDPE pipe is tailings (Photos One and Two). This is one of the locations where the mine has the ability to switch between the two conveyance structures if need be.

The ETDL travels on the surface till the North 40 OSF (Photo Three), at which point it briefly is buried and parallels HWY. Then it hits the drop tower and goes under the highway and resumes being above ground. The pipeline ends at the SDP.

Several spots were observed where the cement pipe has been patched via pouring a cement cap (Photo Four). The CIPP lining of the ETDL is expected to start soon and be completed in stages over the next three years. To install the liner, flow will be diverted to East Side Channel to be conveyed to Tenmile TSF pond. This work includes videoing, cleaning, re-videoing, installation and curing. Climax has proposed to install 30" manholes every 700 feet for maintenance access of the ETDL. The surface disturbance will remain unchanged. A the CIPP resin liner will be installed inside the existing pipeline to prevent additional leaks or patches being needed. Given that this is maintenance of an existing EPF and the basic function will not change a TR will not be submitted but work has been authorized by the Division.

### **Pond:**

According to Mr. Detmer this used to be a historic processing pond that utilized ion exchange as a means to water treatments. This past summer (2025) the pond was mucked out. Sediment that was removed was placed in the Mayflower TSF. The area has since been hydroseeded and the pond has resumed filling (Photo Five). Once the water level rises it will overtop the spillway and continue downgradient in the existing channel. If need be there is a pump in the bottom of the pond as well.

### **Sludge Cells:**

TENORM sludges were hauled off site for permanent disposal in a certified landfill(Photo Six). Mr. Detmer

estimates that approximately 3 to 4 thousand tons of sludges were removed from the northern cell. Climax alternates cells, filling one cell then allowing the other to dewater before hauling off site the following year.

Recent Permitting Updates:

Upcoming Revisions:

TR-39: Anticipated to be received in the near future. Will update EPP and Submit WQMP (water quality monitoring plan) for all sample locations

TR-40: Pit dewatering system will be a part of the life of mine plan and re-evaluated for reclamation post-mining.

No Problems or Possible Violations were identified during this inspection.

Responses to this inspection report should be directed to: Amy Yeldell at the Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety, Rm 215, 1001 E 62nd Ave, Denver CO 80216. Direct contact can be made by phone at 970-210-1272 or via email at amy.yeldell@state.co.us

**Inspection Contact Address**

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**PHOTOGRAPHS**



Photo 1: #1 drop tower



Photo 2: Upper portion of ETDL





Photo 3: ETDL adjacent to North 40 OSF



Photo 4: Patch examples on ETDL





Photo 5: Cleaned out and hydro seeded pond



Photo 6: Recently cleaned out sludge cell