



COLORADO DIVISION OF RECLAMATION, MINING AND SAFETY
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: Mancos Gravel Pit	MINE/PROSPECTING ID#: M-1985-031	MINERAL: Sand and gravel	COUNTY: Montezuma
INSPECTION TYPE: Monitoring	INSPECTOR(S): Wallace H. Erickson	INSP. DATE: August 16, 2012	INSP. TIME: 09:45
OPERATOR: Montezuma County	OPERATOR REPRESENTATIVE: Randy Smith	TYPE OF OPERATION: 112c - Construction Regular Operation	

REASON FOR INSPECTION: Normal I&E Program	BOND CALCULATION TYPE: None	BOND AMOUNT: \$0.00
DATE OF COMPLAINT: NA	POST INSP. CONTACTS: None	JOINT INSP. AGENCY: None
WEATHER: Cloudy	INSPECTOR'S SIGNATURE: <i>Wallace H. Erickson</i>	SIGNATURE DATE: August 21, 2012

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>NA</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>Y</u>	(SF) PROCESSING FACILITIES----- <u>Y</u>	(TS) TOPSOIL----- <u>Y</u>
(MP) GENL MINE PLAN COMPLIANCE- <u>Y</u>	(FW) FISH & WILDLIFE----- <u>Y</u>	(RV) REVEGETATION---- <u>Y</u>
(SM) SIGNS AND MARKERS----- <u>Y</u>	(SP) STORM WATER MGT PLAN---- <u>N</u>	(SB) COMPLETE INSP---- <u>Y</u>
(ES) OVERBURDEN/DEV. WASTE----- <u>Y</u>	(SC) EROSION/SEDIMENTATION--- <u>Y</u>	(RS) RECL PLAN/COMP-- <u>Y</u>
(AT) ACID OR TOXIC MATERIALS----- <u>NA</u>	(OD) OFF-SITE DAMAGE----- <u>Y</u>	(ST) STIPULATIONS----- <u>NA</u>

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

OBSERVATIONS

This inspection occurred in accordance with the Division's routine monitoring of permitted operations. Mining and reclamation activities were active during the inspection. Two photos accompany this report.

Public access to the pit area is controlled by locked gate and fencing. Mine identification sign was posted but not legible due to numerous bullet holes. The Division discussed options for a less expensive sign and perhaps less appealing for target practice.

Mining activities have advanced into the Phase 3 area, as delineated on the mining and reclamation maps, and appeared compliant with permit conditions. As shown in the enclosed photos, the crusher was active, processed materials were being stockpiled. The permit area includes previous agricultural lands. Irrigated fields are located up gradient of the active pit area. The Operator indicated the mining operation occasionally intercepts minor drainage from these up gradient areas, evident in intermittent drainage from the highwall and/or along the shale strata immediately underlying the gravel deposit. Minor water was flowing in the natural drainage channel, evident on the south side of the processing yard and extending down gradient and off permit. Minor water was also observed at an isolated location in the reclaimed Phase 2 area, immediately west of the processing yard. The water at the Phase 2 reclaimed areas was several inches deep. Willows, cat tails, rushes and sedges were present at the location of minor water in the Phase 2 reclaimed area. The drainage appeared associated with the irrigation activity located up gradient of the active pit area; otherwise the wetted area should receive additional backfill as necessary to ensure the ground water is not exposed. Deer were observed in the Phase 2 reclaimed area.

Reclamation of mined out areas appeared current. Backfilled and graded areas appeared stable; no evidence of slumping, settling or excessive erosion was observed in reclaimed areas. Reclamation vegetation was inconsistent and ranged from sparse and weedy to dense and diverse. If the Operator is considering re-seeding the Division recommends including some shrub species in the seed mix and altering the post-mining land use from pastureland to rangeland, as appropriate for the shrub species. The modified seed mix should be submitted for Division review and approval through the Technical Revision process.

Inspection Contact Address

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Montezuma County
1680 North Highway 145
Cortez, CO 81321

Enclosure: photos

ec: Russ Means, DRMS GJFO

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