

### COLORADO DIVISION OF RECLAMATION, MINING AND SAFETY COAL PROGRAM INSPECTION REPORT



# **PERMIT INFORMATION**

Permit Number: X-1983-169-08 Mine Name: Twentymile Fish Creek Operator: Twentymile Coal Company Operator Address: Mr Scott Cowman PO Box 250, 36600 Routt County Road 27 Hayden, CO 81639 **County:** Routt **Operation Type:** Coal Exploration **Permit Status:** Active **Ownership:** Private

**Operator Representative Present:** 

Scott Cowman

**Operator Representative Signature:** (Field Issuance Only)

### **INSPECTION INFORMATION**

Inspection Start Date: July 10, 20 Inspection Start Time: 07:00 Inspection End Date: July 10, 201 Inspection End Time: 16:30			<b>Inspection Type:</b> Coal Expl <b>Inspection Reason:</b> Surety F <b>Weather:</b> Clear	
Joint Inspection Agency:		Joint Inspection Contacts:		
None				
Post Inspection Agency:		Post Inspection Contacts:		
None				
Inspector(s):	Inspector	r's Sig	nature:	Signature Date:
Elliott R. Russell	É	-Qu	ell	7/15/2013

Inspection Topic Summary           NOTE:         Y=Inspected         N=Not Inspected         R=Comments Noted         V=Violation Issued         NA=Not Applicable				
<ul> <li>N - Air Resource Protection</li> <li>Y - Backfill &amp; Grading</li> <li>N - Fish &amp; Wildlife</li> <li>N - Hydrologic Balance</li> <li>N - Gen. Compliance With Mine Plan</li> <li>N - Other</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Y - Roads</li> <li>R - Reclamation Success</li> <li>Y - Revegetation</li> <li>N - Slides and Other Damage</li> <li>Y - Signs and Markers</li> <li>N - Topsoil</li> </ul>			

# **COMMENTS**

This was a coal exploration bond release inspection of X-1983-169-08 conducted by Elliott Russell of the Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety (Division). A request for bond release was received by the Division on February 17, 2012 and a request for an inspection was received July 8, 2013 via email.

Scott Cowman of Peabody Sage Creek Mining, LLC accompanied the inspection.

The weather was clear and the ground was dry at the time of the inspection.

This NOI involved the drilling of 9 bedrock wells, 27 alluvial wells across 6 separate alluvial transects with 8 boreholes and 7 test pits along these transects too, and 12 siesmic survey lines. The bedrock wells were tempoarily plugged for future use in the fal of 1987. The exploration activities' locations were navigated to using a Trible Yuma GPS unit utilizing a Final Relemation Map, which was submitted on March 21, 1988.

The results of the inspection, including sample photographs of the sites, are provided below.

#### RECLAMATION SUCCESS - Rule 2.02(g) and 4.21.2(2):

Alluvial Transect A was located and identified by two single T-posts on either side of the Fish Creek valley bottom. Between these two T-posts there were four locations identified by either a single T-post of two that crossed. These were the only remaining sign of where the alluvial wells were located. These wells were either reclaimed following exploration activities or reclaimed and abandoned in the summer of 2010, which was discussed in the 2012 Bond Release Request.

Alluvial Transect B could not be located with the exception of T-post, possibly identifying the southern extent of the alluvial transect, on the south edge of the Fish Creek valley bottom.

Alluvial Transect C was identified by three T-posts identifying three of the four alluvial wells.

Alluvial Transect D was identified by three locations where two T-posts were crossing. These sites also had old remnants of the 2" PVC casing.

Alluvial Transect E was identified by three locations. Two had a small wood stake and the third only had remnants of the 2" PVC casing. This transect was east of Fish Creek and west of the railroad.

Alluvial Transect F was located near Foidel Creek. Only the two southern most alluvial well locations were identified by crossing T-posts with PVC casing remnants. The other six alluvial well locations were not marked and could not be found.

All transects showed no signs of erosion, evidence of noxious/invasive species, or any other problems as a result of exploration and no alluvial wells remain. There was no remaining sign of the test pits and boreholes on any of the alluvial transects, most likely as a result of being reclaimed immediately after the 1983 exploration program. The seismic lines could not be found. This is as a result of not being marked by T-posts and that the small charges that were detonated didn't cause any surface disturbance.

Six of the nine bedrock wells have yet to be reclaimed. The well ID numbers and locations (NAD83 UTM Zone 13N meters) for the remaining bedrock wells with 4" fiberglass casing are as follows: FBR-12A (4473161.3N, 328703.9E), FBR-12B (4473178.2N, 328711.0E), FBR-13(4474593.2N, 329079.7E), FBR-14 (4475194.8N, 328868.3E), FBR-15A (4476189.5N, 327907.7E), and FBR-15B (4476193.8N, 327930.6E). The three remaining wells, FBR-11A, FBR-11B, and FBR-11C, could not be found after thoroughly searching the location of these well cluster. These must have also been the wells reclaimed and abandoned in the summer of 2010, which were discussed in the 2012 Bond Release Request. All the bedrock well areas showed no signs of erosion, evidence of noxious/invasive species, or any other problems as a result of exploration. It is noted that the temporary plug on FBR-15B is bad and has gone artesian; at the time of the inspection there was a small leak causing the surface around the well to pool with water.

During the inspection, some wells and structures were identified, even though unrelated to this NOI. These were: Well FI-1, consisting of two 4" PVS casings, two T-posts, and a rebar (4472575.7N, 327480.9E); Monitoring Well 14, identified with writing under cap of a 2" monitoring well in an 8" casing (4473050.9N, 327480.9E); Well FI-2, a 4" PVC casing and T-post (4473248.0N, 328576.8E); Reclaimed Well FO-1, marked by a T-post and a rebar with a stamped cap; Stream gagging station FO-A. All of these besides MW-14 were also identified on the 1988 Final Reclamation Map.

Based on this inspection, the Division determines that the exploration activities associated with X-1983-169-08 have been adequately reclaimed, except the 6 bedrock wells that remain. The Division recommends the reclamation bond release for all activities except for wells **FBR-12A**, **FBR-12B**, **FBR-13**, **FBR-14**, **FBR-15A**, and **FBR-15B**.

## ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS/COMPLIANCE

No enforcement actions are pending and none were taken as a result of this inspection.

# PHOTOGRAPHS



Alluvial well location on Alluvial Transect A. Scott standing at next T-post location. Seismic Line FSS-2 located between these two locations.



Sothern most T-post marking the location of a reclaimed alluvial well on Alluvial Transect C. Looking perpendicular of the transect.



Two T-posts and PVC remnant of alluvial well location on Alluvial Transect D. Northern most location and marker in background near the large cut-bank.



Wood stake identifying an alluvial well location on Alluvial Transect E.

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Two southern most locations of reclaimed alluvial wells on Alluvial Transect F.



Approximate location of Seismic Line FSS-10.



FBR-12



FBR-12B



FBR-13



FBR-14



FBR-15A. FBR-15B located in background.



FBR-15B. Note that the temporary plug is bad and artesian well is leaking.

PHOTOGRAPHS OF UNRELATED ACTIVITIES THAT WERE IDENTIFIED



FI-1 Monitoring well 14

FI-2

Stream Gagging Station FO-A



Reclaimed well FO-1. Site and marker.