




**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: White Banks Mine	MINE/PROSPECTING ID#: M-1999-042	MINERAL: Alabaster, marble, quartz	COUNTY: Pitkin
INSPECTION TYPE: Monitoring	INSPECTOR(S): Dustin M. Czapla	INSP. DATE: July 23, 2013	INSP. TIME: 09:30
OPERATOR: Avalanche Creek Marble & Alabaster LLC	OPERATOR REPRESENTATIVE: None	TYPE OF OPERATION: 110c - Construction Limited Impact	

REASON FOR INSPECTION: Normal I&E Program	BOND CALCULATION TYPE: Complete Bond	BOND AMOUNT: \$15,525.00
DATE OF COMPLAINT: NA	POST INSP. CONTACTS: None	JOINT INSP. AGENCY: U.S. BLM
WEATHER: Clear	INSPECTOR'S SIGNATURE: 	SIGNATURE DATE: July 30, 2013

The following inspection topics were identified as having Problems or Possible Violations. OPERATORS SHOULD READ THE FOLLOWING PAGES CAREFULLY IN ORDER TO ASSURE COMPLIANCE WITH THE TERMS OF THE PERMIT AND APPLICABLE RULES AND REGULATIONS. If a Possible Violation is indicated, you will be notified under separate cover as to when the Mined Land Reclamation Board will consider possible enforcement action.

1. INSPECTION TOPIC: Availability Of Records

PROBLEM/POSSIBLE VIOLATION: Problem: Rule 1.13.5 states that if an Operator temporarily ceases production of the mining operation for one hundred eighty (180) days or more, the Operator must file a Notice of Temporary Cessation in writing to the Office.

CORRECTIVE ACTIONS: The Operator must file a notice of Temporary Cessation. The start date of the initial 5 year Temporary Cessation period is retroactive to the last date the site was active. If that date is more than 5 years ago, the operator is required ask the Board for a 5 year extension to the Temporary Cessation period (per rule 1.13.5 (3) and 1.13.8 (b) or begin reclamation.

CORRECTIVE ACTION DUE DATE: 8/30/13

2. INSPECTION TOPIC: Financial Warranty

PROBLEM/POSSIBLE VIOLATION: Problem: The financial warranty is not adequate to reclaim the site in accordance with the approved reclamation plan. This is a failure to maintain the proper financial warranty amount to complete reclamation of the affected lands pursuant to C.R.S. 34-32.5-117(4)(b) of the Act.

CORRECTIVE ACTIONS: The operator shall submit adequate financial warranty, as determined by the Division. The Division will be sending a separate surety increase notice to the operator regarding the increase of the financial warranty. The operator will have 60 days from the date on the surety increase notice to post the additional financial warranty.

CORRECTIVE ACTION DUE DATE: 9/30/13

OBSERVATIONS

This inspection was conducted as part of the Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety's (Division) normal monitoring program, and at the request of U.S. Forest Service in order to review the adequacy of the current financial warranty amount. A representative for the operator was not present during this inspection. Olivia Garcia, representing the Forest Service, was present. Photographs are included with this report in order to illustrate some of the conditions observed.

The White Banks Mine is located approximately ten miles south of Carbondale and accessed from Avalanche Creek Road (FR 310). The site is a 110c operation that includes a total of 3.5 permitted acres. The Division currently holds a financial warranty amount of \$15,525.00 for this site. The Division has reviewed the reclamation costs, in order to ensure the financial warranty reflects the actual current cost of fulfilling the requirements of the Reclamation Plan, and determined that the current financial warranty amount is insufficient. The Operator will be notified under separate cover of a financial warranty increase.

Adequate mine identification signage was posted on the cabin on the north side of the road.

The affected area was marked by fencing that was clearly visible and adequate to delineate the permit boundary. Much of the fence wire had been laid down, but the posts were still in place.

Signs of any recent activity at the site were not evident. According to the operator's most recent annual report the last mining activity occurred in August, 2012. This site has not been approved as an intermittent operation. Pursuant to Rule 1.13.5 the operator must file a Notice of Temporary Cessation.

South side of FR 310

A "bathhouse" was located in the conifer grove on the south side of the parking area. The structure appeared to be in a dilapidated condition. Various refuse and debris was located outside the structure. A flat-bed gooseneck trailer was located on the east side of the bathhouse. This piece of equipment appeared to be operational. The "temporary" stockpile of material, which was addressed through TR-2 in 2004, was still located in the southeast part of the conifer grove.

North side of FR 310

Miscellaneous pieces of equipment were located in the south part of this area. Although much of the equipment appeared to be nonfunctional, it was stored in an orderly manner. The main cabin structure appeared to be structurally sound and in decent condition. Stability of the structures that have been attached to the cabin however, such as the deck on the east side, the awning on the west side and the entry stairs on the south side, was questionable. The portal entrance was securely locked during this inspection.

No other problems or violations were noted during this inspection.

Responses to this inspection report should be directed to Dustin Czapla at the Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety, Grand Junction Field Office, 101 South 3rd Street, Room 301, Grand Junction, Colorado 81501, phone number (970) 243-6299.

PHOTOGRAPHS



Figure 1: View of the bathhouse and parking area on the south side of FR 310



Figure 2: View of the parking and work/storage area on the south side of FR 310



Figure 3: Bathhouse



Figure 4: Bathhouse



Figure 5: TR-2 material stockpiled in southeast part of conifer grove



Figure 6: Equipment stored in south part of mine yard on north side of FR310



Figure 7: Cabin located on north side of FR 310



Figure 8: Cabin located on north side of FR 310



Figure 9: Cabin located on north side of FR 310



Figure 10: Cabin located on north side of FR 310



Figure 11: Portal entrance



Figure 12: Vent pipe stored near portal entrance

GENERAL INSPECTION TOPICS

The following list identifies the environmental and permit parameters inspected and gives a categorical evaluation of each

(AR) RECORDS----- <u>PB</u>	(FN) FINANCIAL WARRANTY----- <u>PB</u>	(RD) ROADS----- <u>N</u>
(HB) HYDROLOGIC BALANCE----- <u>Y</u>	(BG) BACKFILL & GRADING----- <u>N</u>	(EX) EXPLOSIVES----- <u>N</u>
(PW) PROCESSING WASTE/TAILING--- <u>N</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>N</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>N</u>	(SC) EROSION/SEDIMENTATION--- <u>Y</u>	(RS) RECL PLAN/COMP-- <u>N</u>
(AT) ACID OR TOXIC MATERIALS----- <u>Y</u>	(OD) OFF-SITE DAMAGE----- <u>N</u>	(ST) STIPULATIONS----- <u>N</u>

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

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