

Inspection Photos

6/28/2023

Operator: CAERUS PICEANCE LLC #10456

Location Number: 479215

Rio Blanco County, CO

Aaron Trujillo
NW Reclamation Specialist
COGCC

Inspection Photos

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Location Number: 479215



Photo 1: Photos 1-2 taken from the south end of the Location. Photos provide an overview of the Location from west, northwest, northeast to east.

Inspection Photos
Operator Name: CAERUS PICEANCE LLC #10456
Location Number: 479215



Photo 2: See comments under photo 1.

Inspection Photos

Operator Name: CAERUS PICEANCE LLC #10456

Location Number: 479215



Photo 3: Photo left taken from the Location entrance on the south end of the Location, photo right taken from the Location entrance on the north end of the Location. Photos show signage has not been posted at either Location entrance.

Inspection Photos
Operator Name: CAERUS PICEANCE LLC #10456
Location Number: 479215



Photo 4: Photos 4-5 taken from the access road, to the east of the Location. Photos shows BMPs to properly protect, as well as to minimize erosion, degradation and sediment transport are missing or insufficient at the topsoil stockpiles along the east end of the Location.

Inspection Photos
Operator Name: CAERUS PICEANCE LLC #10456
Location Number: 479215



Photo 5: See comments under photo 4.

Inspection Photos
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Location Number: 479215



Photo 6: Photo taken from the south end of the Location. Photo shows topsoil eroding into the excavation. BMPs to properly segregate and protect the topsoil are missing or insufficient.

Inspection Photos
Operator Name: CAERUS PICEANCE LLC #10456
Location Number: 479215



Photo 7: Photo taken from the south end of the Location. Photo shows BMPs to properly protect the topsoil, including BMPs to minimize erosion, degradation and sediment transport are missing or insufficient. Photo also show Operator appears to have mixed subsoils with the topsoil.

Inspection Photos
Operator Name: CAERUS PICEANCE LLC #10456
Location Number: 479215



Photo 8: Photos show stormwater retention pond on the southwest end of the Location.

Inspection Photos

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Location Number: 479215



Photo 9: Photo shows stormwater retention pond on the northwest end of the Location.

Inspection Photos

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Location Number: 479215



Photo 10: Photos taken from the topsoil stockpile on the southwest end of the Location. Photo shows Operator has mixed subsoils with the topsoil; Operator appears to have pushed subsoils on top of the topsoil stockpile during construction of the retention pond.

Inspection Photos
Operator Name: CAERUS PICEANCE LLC #10456
Location Number: 479215



Photo 11: Photo taken from the topsoil stockpile on the west end of the Location. This photo is an example showing Operator had applied hydromulch to the soil stockpiles and slopes throughout the Location. Hydromulch only appears to have been applied to the east facing slopes, and/or has degraded throughout the majority of the areas where it has been applied; BMP is no longer in proper functioning condition to protect/stabilize the soil stockpiles/slopes.

Inspection Photos

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Location Number: 479215



Photo 12: Photo taken from the topsoil stockpiles along the perimeter of the Location. Photos 12-15 examples showing Operator has constructed the topsoil stockpiles with steep slopes, including sections that were completely vertical, and have not been adequately stabilized/protected. This does not proper topsoil storage and protection; BMPs to protect, and to minimize erosion, degradation and sediment transport missing or insufficient at the topsoil stockpiles.

Inspection Photos

Operator Name: CAERUS PICEANCE LLC #10456

Location Number: 479215



Photo 13: See comments under photo 12.

Inspection Photos

Operator Name: CAERUS PICEANCE LLC #10456

Location Number: 479215



Photo 14: See comments under photo 12. Photo also shows areas where erosion/degradation at the topsoil stockpile has resulted in offsite sediment transport.

Inspection Photos

Operator Name: CAERUS PICEANCE LLC #10456

Location Number: 479215



Photo 15: See comments under photo 12. Photo also shows areas where erosion/degradation at the topsoil stockpile has resulted in offsite sediment transport.

Inspection Photos

Operator Name: CAERUS PICEANCE LLC #10456

Location Number: 479215



Photo 16: Photos 16-20 show erosion logs installed along the perimeter of the Location, and at the base of the soil stockpiles. Photos examples showing erosion logs have not been installed per good engineering requirements, or maintained in a proper functioning condition. Sections of wattles observed to have been flattened/compressed, have been filled/covered with sediment, and/or have been only placed on the soil surface rather than properly trenched and backfilled.

Inspection Photos
Operator Name: CAERUS PICEANCE LLC #10456
Location Number: 479215



Photo 17: See comments under photo 16.

Inspection Photos

Operator Name: CAERUS PICEANCE LLC #10456

Location Number: 479215



Photo 18: See comments under photo 16.

Inspection Photos
Operator Name: CAERUS PICEANCE LLC #10456
Location Number: 479215



Photo 19: See comments under photo 16.

Inspection Photos
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Location Number: 479215



Photo 20: See comments under photo 16.

Inspection Photos

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Location Number: 479215



Photo 21: Photo taken from the topsoil stockpile adjacent to the northern Location. Photo shows fine soil/sediment materials appear to have been blown onto the soil stockpile (light colored soils, arrow) .

Inspection Photos

Operator Name: CAERUS PICEANCE LLC #10456

Location Number: 479215



Photo 22: See comments under photo 21.



Photo 23: See comments under photo 21. Areas above top arrow include residual hydromulch, however, the fine soils (light colored soils) appear to have also been blown onto these areas of the soil stockpile as well.

Inspection Photos

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Location Number: 479215



Photo 24: Photos taken from the cut slopes on the east end of the Location. Operator appears to have placed topsoil back onto the slopes. Operator also appears to have previously applied hydromulch to the slopes; BMP has degraded and is no longer in proper functioning condition.