



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Forest
Service

Manti-La Sal
National Forest

Ferron/Price Ranger District
Ferron Work Center
115 West Canyon Road
P.O. Box 310
Ferron, UT 84523
Phone # (435) 384-2372
Fax # (435) 384-3296

File Code: 2820-4

Date: December 3, 2002

*Incoming
1/007/007 OK*

Mary Ann Wright
Associate Director Mining
Division Oil, Gas and Mining
1594 West North Temple, Suite 1210
P. O. Box 145801
Salt Lake City, UT 84114-5801

RECEIVED *a.g.w.*

DEC 09 2002

DIV. OF OIL, GAS & MINING

*Copy PFD, Priscilla,
FAM*

Dear Mary Ann:

An inspection of the White Oak subsidence feature #23 was conducted on Wednesday, November 6, 2002 with Dave Miller from Lode Star Energy; Pete Hess and Priscilla Burton from DOGM; and Brian McClelland and Catharine Woodfield from the Forest Service. It was determined that only one of the cut and fill sections A-A from the Reclamation Plan Appendix RP1 Plate B was completed. This allows the water to migrate through the depression without ponding. The cut material was put back into the sinkhole, roughened with the bucket, recommended seed mix was applied to the disturbed area, curlex fabric was placed over the disturbed area, and a few already fallen trees were placed over the site as per the reclamation plan. This represents only a partial reclamation according to the approved plan.

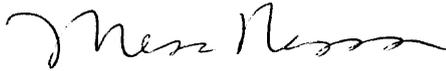
Outlined below are several of the non-compliance issues and concerns the Forest Service has:

- In the second paragraph under the heading of Mitigation Plan in Appendix RP-1 -1 the aspen trees around the sinkhole were to be removed by cutting with a chainsaw and/or knocked down with the track hoe and put back on top of the site after reclamation was completed, this was not completed.
- The topsoil in the area surrounding the sinkhole was to be pulled back to a depth ranging from 10 to 20 inches, reserved until all material was placed in the sinkhole. The topsoil was then to be replaced, re-graded, and pocked over the sinkhole.
- Planned excavation on the remaining three cut-and-fill sections B-B, C-C, and D-D in the Reclamation Plan Appendix RP1 Plate B was not completed. The subsoil from the cuts was to be used as fill for the sinkhole to gently slope the depression to the original surface expression.
- Surface damages were caused by the track hoe trampling to and from the site. It created a small ditch on the down hill side that increases the potential ponding and possible long-term erosion problems.
- Several pieces of flagging were hanging from the trees along the access road and on the ground, and the old fallen down fence was still in place. These items need to be removed from the access road and the site.



These items are in non-compliance with the approved plan. A spring of 2003 inspection will be necessary to determine any further the health and safety hazards at the site and to further determine the need for further mitigation. If you have any questions or comments please contact Tom Lloyd, District Geologist at (435) 384-3596.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Mesia Nyman".

MESIA NYMAN
District Ranger

CC: DAVE MILLER