



State of Utah

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Environmental Quality

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Executive Director

DIVISION OF WATER QUALITY  
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Director

C/025/005 Incoming

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CC: Karl  
Ken OK

DEC 05 2013

Mr. Larry Johnson, Mine Manager  
Alton Coal Development, LLC – Coal Hollow Mine  
463 North 100 West, Suite 1  
Cedar City, Utah 84721

Dear Mr. Johnson:

Subject: Reconnaissance Inspection, Alton Coal Development, LLC – Coal Hollow Mine,  
UTG040027 (at that time)

On June 5, 2013 John Whitehead, Chris Bittner and myself completed a Reconnaissance Inspection of the Coal Hollow Mine site. The purpose of the inspection was to become familiar with the surrounding watersheds. No deficiencies were noted and we very much appreciate the help of you and your staff. No response to this report will be necessary.

If you have any questions or comments regarding this matter, please contact me at (801) 536-4386 or via e-mail at [mherkimer@utah.gov](mailto:mherkimer@utah.gov).

Sincerely,

Mike Herkimer, Environmental Scientist  
UPDES Engineering Section

MH:pe

Enclosures (2):  
1. 3560-3 form, (DWQ-2013-008261)  
2. Inspection report, (DWQ-2013-008262)

cc: Stephanie Gieck, EPA Region VIII (w/encl)  
Robert Beers, South West Utah Health Dept. (w/encl)  
Daron Haddock, DOGM (w/encl)

DWQ-2013-008260  
M:\wp\Alton Coal Development RI Inpsection 2013\Cover letter for RI on 6-5-2013.docx

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United States Environmental Protection Agency  
Washington, D.C. 20460

# Water Compliance Inspection Report

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## Section A: National Data System Coding (i.e., ICIS)

Transaction Code N	NPDES U T G 0 4 0 0 2 7	yr/mo/day 1 3 0 6 0 5	Inspection Type R	Inspector S	Fac. Type 2
21	11	17	18	19	20
Remarks					
Inspection Work Days 2	Facility Self-Monitoring Evaluation Rating 3	BI N	QA N	Reserved	
67	69	70	71	72	73 74 75 80

## Section B: Facility Data

Name and Location of Facility Inspected (For industrial users discharging to POTW, also include POTW name and NPDES permit number) Alton Coal Development, LLC – Coal Hollow Project, Alton Utah	Entry Time/ Date 6/5/13 8:00 AM	Permit Effective Date 5/1/2009
	Exit Time/ Date 6/5/13 3:30 PM	Permit Expiration Date 7/31/2013
Name(s) of On-Site Representative(s)/Title(s)/Phone and Fax Number(s) Larry Johnson, Mine Manager 435-691-2983 Kirk Nicholes, Environmental Specialist 435-691-1551 Eric Hanson, Consultant	Other Facility Data (e.g., SIC NAICS, and other descriptive information)	
Name, Address of Responsible Official/Title/Phone and Fax Number Larry Johnson, Mine Manager 463 North 100 West, Suite 1 Cedar City, Utah 84721	Contacted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	

## Section C: Areas Evaluated During Inspection (Check only those areas evaluated)

<input type="checkbox"/> Permit	<input type="checkbox"/> Self Monitoring Program	<input type="checkbox"/> Pretreatment	<input type="checkbox"/> MS4
<input type="checkbox"/> Records/Reports	<input type="checkbox"/> Compliance Schedule	<input type="checkbox"/> Pollution Prevention	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Facility Site Review	<input type="checkbox"/> Laboratory	<input type="checkbox"/> Storm Water	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Effluent/Receiving Waters	<input type="checkbox"/> Operations & Maintenance	<input type="checkbox"/> Combined Sewer Overflow	
<input type="checkbox"/> Flow Measurement	<input type="checkbox"/> Sludge Handling/Disposal	<input type="checkbox"/> Sanitary Sewer Overflow	

## Section D: Summary of Findings/Comments

(Attach additional sheets of narrative and checklists, including Single Event Violation codes, as necessary)

SEV Codes	SEV Description
<input type="checkbox"/>	_____

**RECEIVED**  
**DEC 06 2013**  
**DIV. OF OIL, GAS & MINING**

Name(s) and Signature(s) of Inspector(s) MICHAEL D HERKIMER, ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENTIST	Agency/Office/Phone and Fax Number(s) DIVISION OF WATER QUALITY, (801) 536-4386	Date 12/4/13
Name and Signature of Management QA Reviewer JOHN KENNINGTON, MGR, UPDES ENG SECTION	Agency/Office/Phone and Fax Number(s) DIVISION OF WATER QUALITY (801) 536-4380	Date 12/4/13

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## INSTRUCTIONS

### Section A: National Data System Coding (i.e., ICIS)

**Column 1: Transaction Code:** Use N, C, or D for New, Change, or Delete. All inspections will be *new* unless there is an error in the data entered.

**Columns 3-11: NPDES Permit No.** Enter the facility's NPDES permit number - third character in permit number indicates permit type for U=unpermitted, G=general permit, etc. (Use the Remarks columns to record the State permit number, if necessary.)

**Columns 12-17: Inspection Date.** Insert the date entry was made into the facility. Use the year/month/day format (e.g., 04/10/01 = October 01, 2004).

**Column 18: Inspection Type\*.** Use one of the codes listed below to describe the type of inspection:

A Performance Audit	X Toxics Inspection	6 IU Non-Sampling Inspection with Pretreatment
B Compliance Biomonitoring	Z Sludge - Biosolids	7 IU Toxics with Pretreatment
C Compliance Evaluation (non-sampling)	# Combined Sewer Overflow-Sampling	! Pretreatment Compliance (Oversight)@
D Diagnostic	\$ Combined Sewer Overflow-Non-Sampling	Follow-up (enforcement)
F Pretreatment (Follow-up)	+ Sanitary Sewer Overflow-Sampling	{ Storm Water-Construction-Sampling
G Pretreatment (Audit)	& Sanitary Sewer Overflow-Non-Sampling	} Storm Water-Construction-Non-Sampling
I Industrial User (IU) Inspection	\ CAFO-Sampling	: Storm Water-Non-Construction-Sampling
J Complaints	= CAFO-Non-Sampling	~ Storm Water-Non-Construction-Non-Sampling
M Multimedia	2 IU Sampling Inspection	< Storm Water-MS4-Sampling
N Spill	3 IU Non-Sampling Inspection	- Storm Water-MS4-Non-Sampling
O Compliance Evaluation (Oversight)	4 IU Toxics Inspection	> Storm Water-MS4-Audit
P Pretreatment Compliance Inspection	5 IU Sampling Inspection with Pretreatment	
R Reconnaissance		
S Compliance Sampling		
U IU Inspection with Pretreatment Audit		

**Column 19: Inspector Code.** Use one of the codes listed below to describe the lead agency in the inspection.

A- State (Contractor)	O- Other Inspectors, Federal/EPA (Specify in Remarks columns)
B- EPA (Contractor)	P- Other Inspectors, State (Specify in Remarks columns)
E- Corps of Engineers	R- EPA Regional Inspector
J- Joint EPA/State Inspectors—EPA Lead	S- State Inspector
L- Local Health Department (State)	T- Joint State/EPA Inspectors—State lead
N- NEIC Inspectors	

**Column 20: Facility Type.** Use one of the codes below to describe the facility.

- 1- Municipal. Publicly Owned Treatment Works (POTWs) with 1987 Standard Industrial Code (SIC) 4952.
- 2- Industrial. Other than municipal, agricultural, and Federal facilities.
- 3- Agricultural. Facilities classified with 1987 SIC 0111 to 0971.
- 4- Federal. Facilities identified as Federal by the EPA Regional Office.
- 5- Oil & Gas. Facilities classified with 1987 SIC 1311 to 1389.

**Columns 21-66: Remarks.** These columns are reserved for remarks at the discretion of the Region.

**Columns 67-69: Inspection Work Days.** Estimate the total work effort (to the nearest 0.1 work day), up to 99.9 days, that were used to complete the inspection and submit a QA reviewed report of findings. This estimate includes the accumulative effort of all participating inspectors; any effort for laboratory analyses, testing, and remote sensing; and the billed payroll time for travel and pre and post inspection preparation. This estimate does not require detailed documentation.

**Column 70: Facility Evaluation Rating.** Use information gathered during the inspection (regardless of inspection type) to evaluate the quality of the facility self-monitoring program. Grade the program using a scale of 1 to 5 with a score of 5 being used for very reliable self-monitoring programs, 3 being satisfactory, and 1 being used for very unreliable programs.

**Column 71: Biomonitoring Information.** Enter D for static testing. Enter F for flow through testing. Enter N for no biomonitoring.

**Column 72: Quality Assurance Data Inspection.** Enter Q if the inspection was conducted as follow-up on quality assurance sample results. Enter N otherwise.

**Columns 73-80:** These columns are reserved for regionally defined information.

### Section B: Facility Data

This section is self-explanatory except for "Other Facility Data," which may include new information not in the permit or PCS (e.g., new outfalls, names of receiving waters, new ownership, other updates to the record, SIC/NAICS Codes, Latitude/Longitude).

### Section C: Areas Evaluated During Inspection

Check only those areas evaluated by marking the appropriate box. Use Section D and additional sheets as necessary. Support the findings, as necessary, in a brief narrative report. Use the headings given on the report form (e.g., Permit, Records/Reports) when discussing the areas evaluated during the inspection.

### Section D: Summary of Findings/Comments

Briefly summarize the inspection findings. This summary should abstract the pertinent inspection findings, not replace the narrative report. Reference a list of attachments, such as completed checklists taken from the NPDES Compliance Inspection Manuals and pretreatment guidance documents, including effluent data when sampling has been done. Use extra sheets as necessary.

\*Footnote: In addition to the inspection types listed above under column 18, a state may continue to use the following wet weather and CAFO inspection types until the state is brought into ICIS-NPDES: K: CAFO, V: SSO, Y: CSO, W: Storm Water 9: MS4. States may also use the new wet weather, CAFO and MS4 inspections types shown in column 18 of this form. The EPA regions are required to use the new wet weather, CAFO, and MS4 inspection types for inspections with an inspection date (DTIN) on or after July 1, 2005.

# Reconnaissance Inspection

## Alton Coal Development, LLC – Coal Hollow Project

UPDES Permit Number (UTG040027)

June 5, 2013

### Facility Description

**Location:** 2060 South Alton Road, Alton, Utah 84710. The mine is approximately three miles south of Alton, Utah in Kane County

**Main Office:** 463 North 100 West, Suite 1  
Cedar City, Utah 84721

**Average flow:** There has been no discharge from this facility since November of 2011.

**Receiving Water:** The receiving water is lower Robinson Creek and Sink Valley Wash.

**Description & Process:** This is a surface coal mining operation. Around 1500 tons of coal is mined per day. The Coal Hollow Project covers an area of 636 acres of which 435 is being actively mined. This facility has six discharge points.

### Narrative

John Whitehead, Chris Bittner and Mike Herkimer of the Division of Water Quality met Larry Johnson, Kirk Nicholes and Eric Hanson of the Coal Hollow Project. The main purpose of the inspection was to familiarize DWQ personnel with the site. Upper Robinson Creek, lower Robinson Creek, Kanab Creek, in the area of the mine and Sink Valley Wash were all observed. Pictures taken during the inspection are included below.

### Deficiencies:

None

### Corrective Action Required

None



Photo #1: SW101 sampling site and upstream view

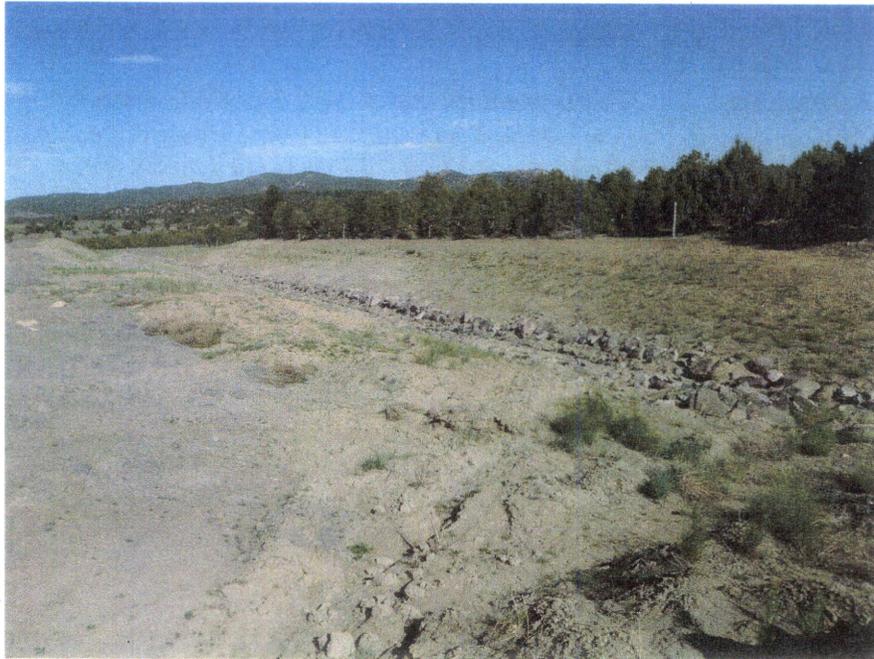


Photo #2 Reconstructed lower Robinson Creek



Photo #3: See caption under photo #4



Photo#4: In photos #3 and #4 reconstruction zone ends and natural lower Robinson Creek begins. Fence is mine property

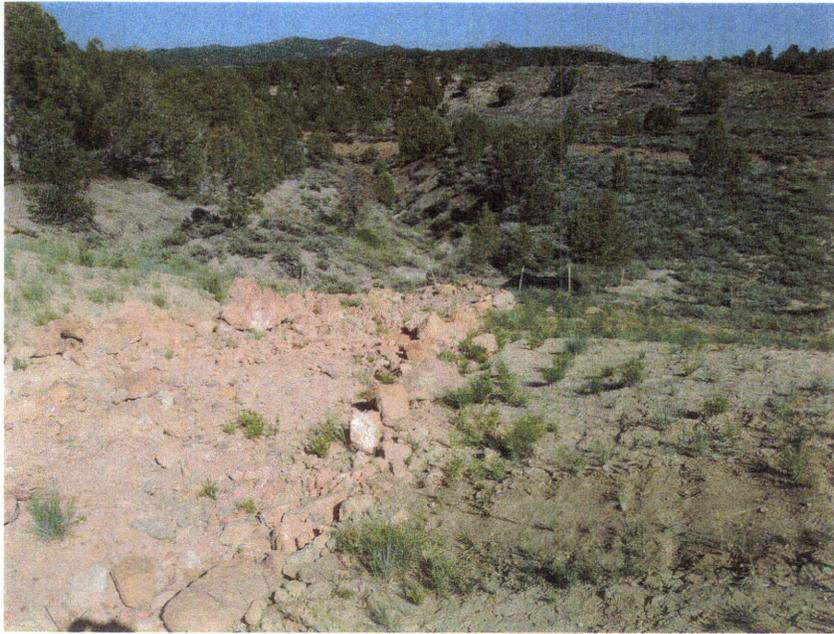


Photo #5: Outlet from Pond #3

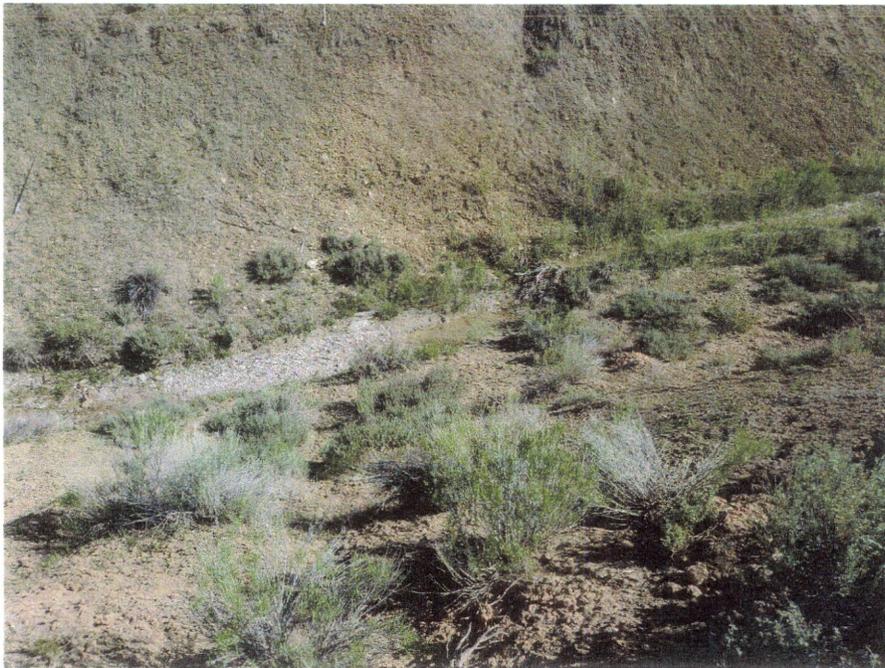


Photo #6: Lower Robinson Creek Flow

Photos #7 and #8 show the coal mining pit with seam and overburden



Photo #7

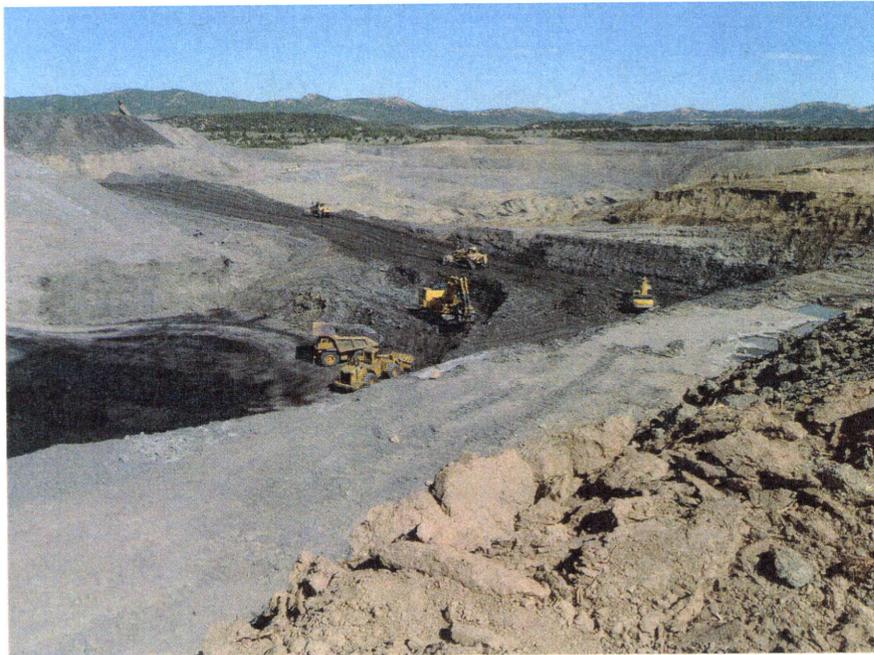


Photo #8

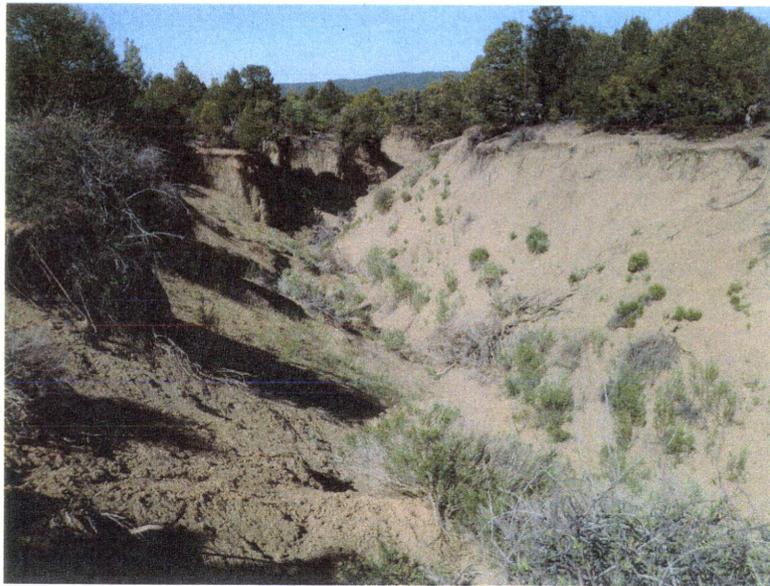


Photo #9: SW4A – Upper Robinson permit boundary looking downstream

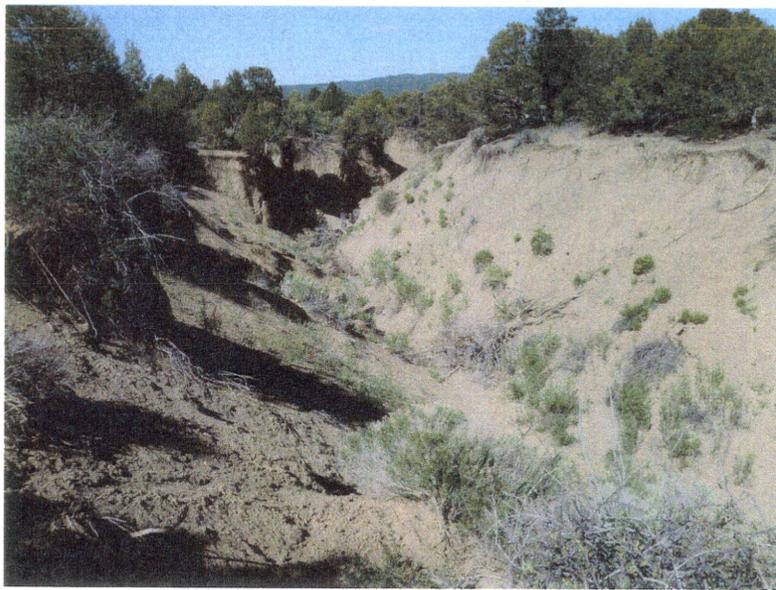


Photo #10: SW 4 - Upper Robinson Creek looking downstream

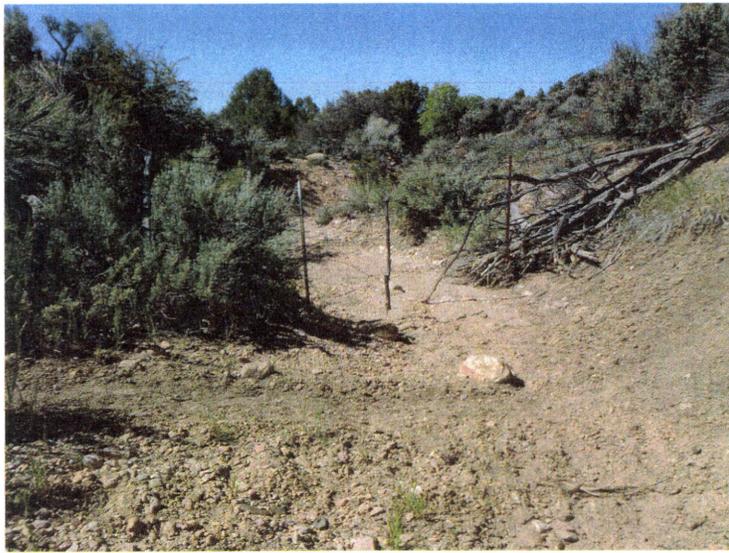


Photo #11: SW 4 – Upper Robinson Creek looking upstream



Photo #12: Ephemeral wash upstream of Kanab Creek, looking upstream



Photo#13: Ephemeral wash upstream of Kanab Creek, looking downstream



Photo #14: In the distance is Priscilla Creek which empties into Kanab Creek. Priscilla Creek has been measured around 10,000 mg/L TDS

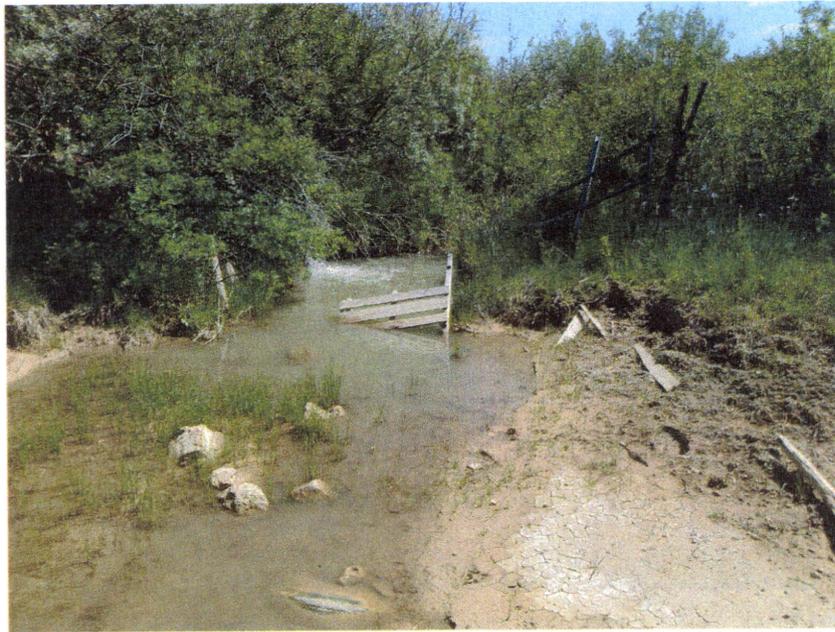


Photo #15: SW1 – Upstream view on Kanab Creek. The creek is always flowing like in this picture



Photo #16: Downstream view of Kanab Creek



Photo #17: Just upstream on lower Robinson Creek at where it joins Kanab Creek

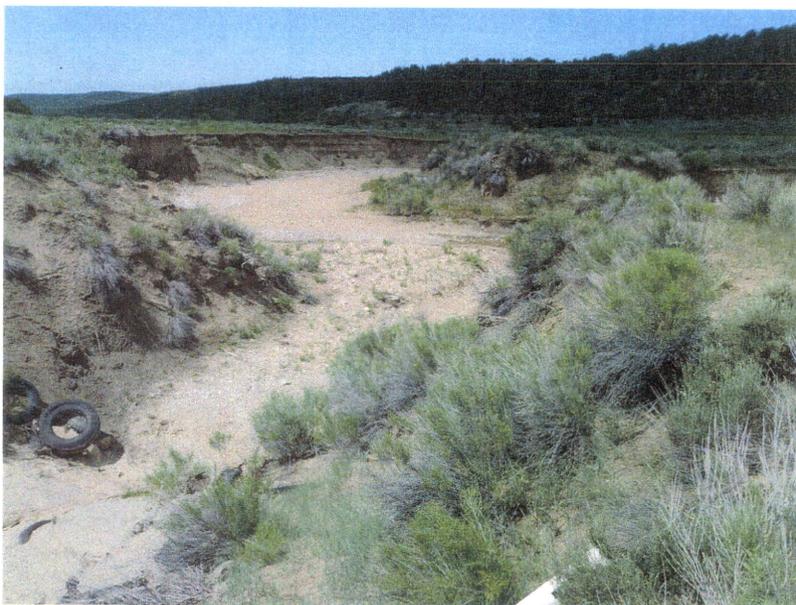


Photo #18: Looking downstream on lower Robinson Creek to where it joins Kanab Creek



Photo # 19: Sampling site on the Kanab River



Photo #20: Pond #4, will be mining near this pond after the present Pit #9 is done. This would be Pit #28.

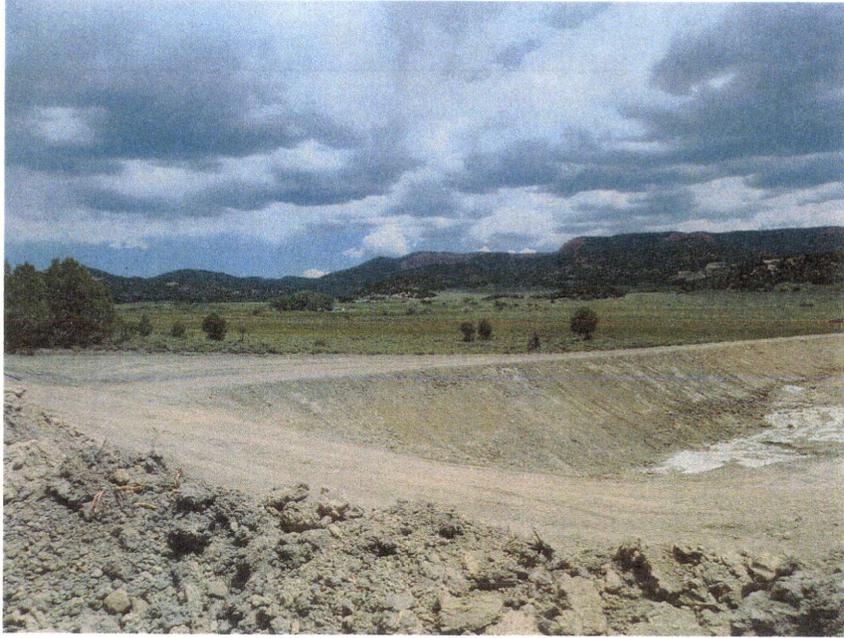


Photo # 21 A view of Sink Valley with Pond #4 in the lower right hand corner

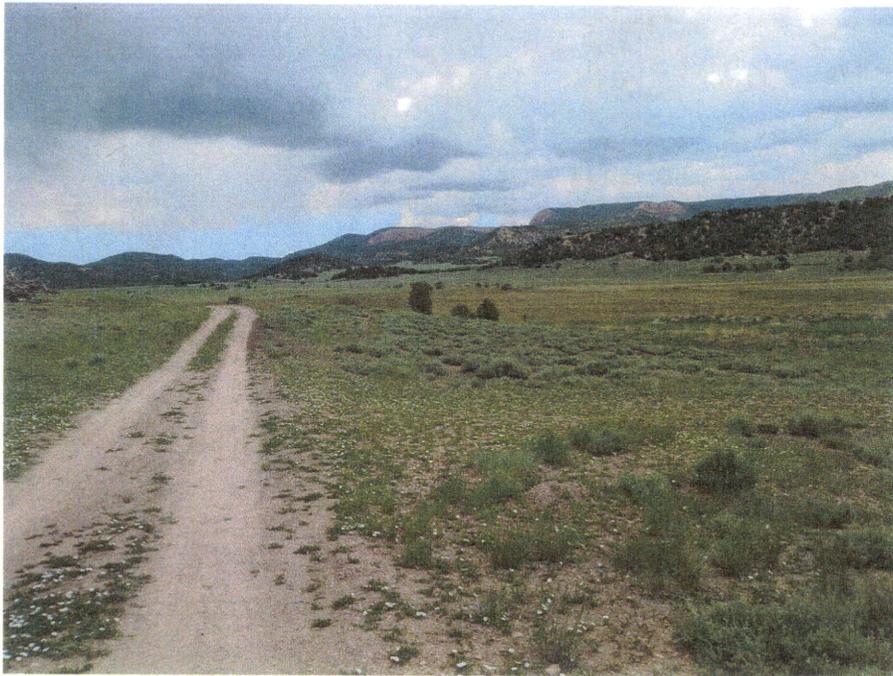


Photo #22, #23 and #24 are pictures of Sink Valley below Pond #4



Photo #23: See photo #22 above

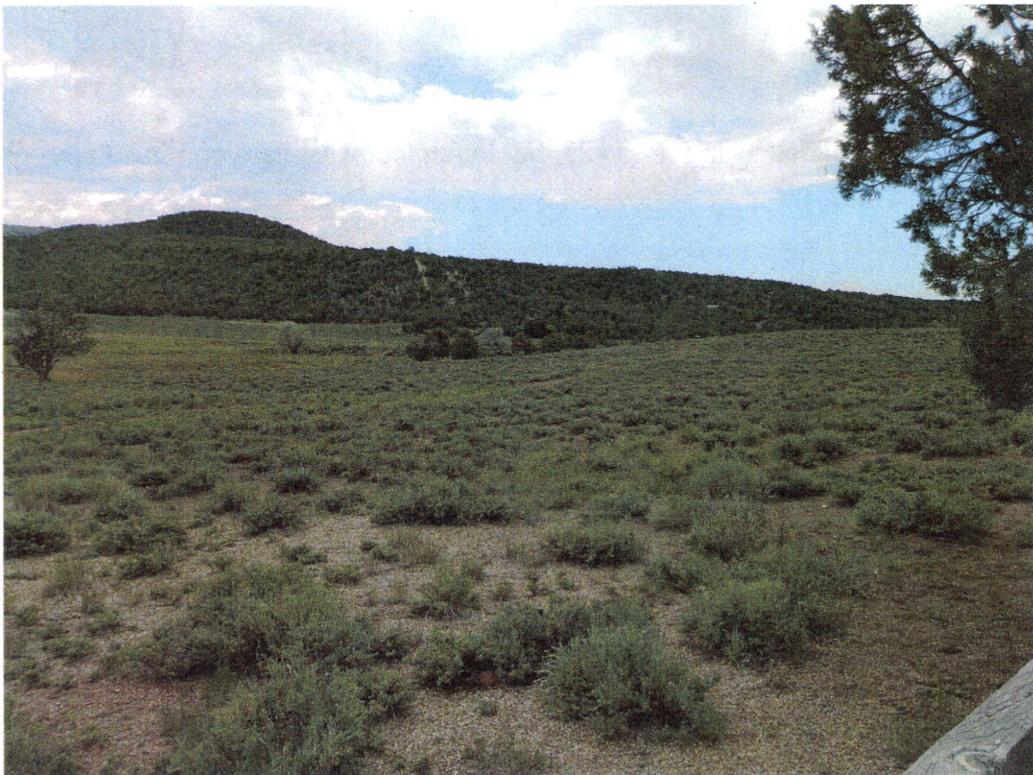


Photo #24: See photo #22 above

Photo #25: Sink Valley Wash well downstream of Pond #4 upstream view looking back toward Sink Valley



Photo #26: Same location as in Photo #25, but looking downstream on Sink Valley Wash.



Photo #27: Sampling site SW9 on Sink Valley Wash/Creek

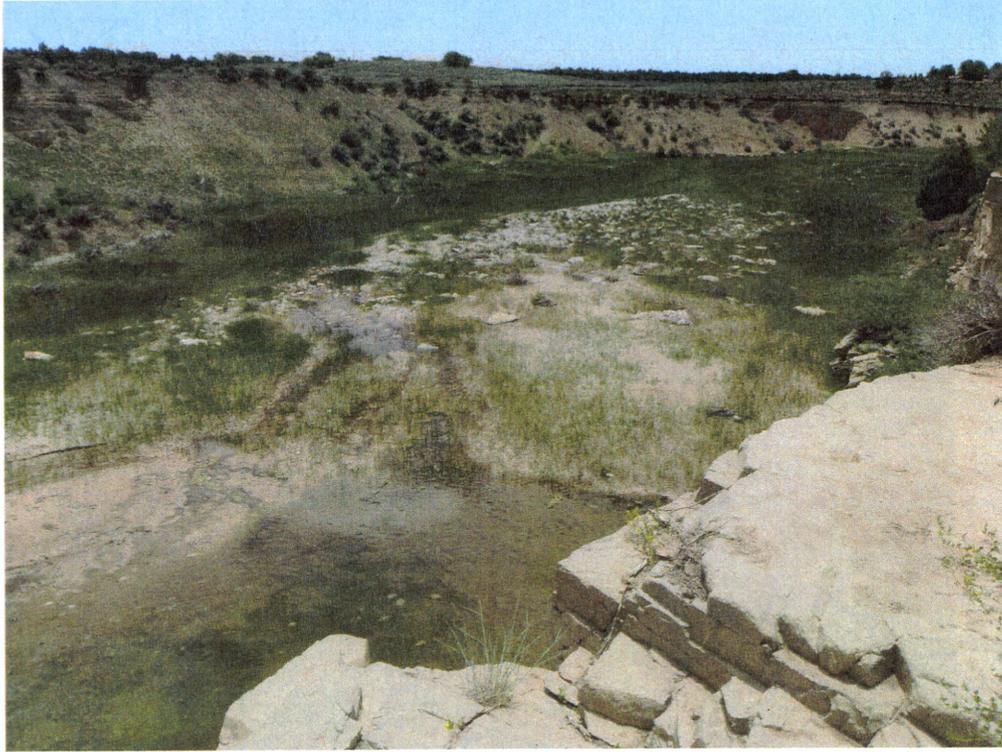


Photo #28 and #29: Sampling site Storet #0495138 and EPA sampling site. Standing ground water only, no flow above this site.



Photo #29: See photo #28



Photo #30: SP -34, Tributary to Sink Valley

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