



STATE OF TENNESSEE
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND CONSERVATION
KNOXVILLE ENVIRONMENTAL FIELD OFFICE – MINING SECTION
3711 MIDDLEBROOK PIKE
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Supplemental Inspection Information

The information contained within this document is supplemental to the inspection record(s) for this facility located online at the following web address:

https://dataviewers.tdec.tn.gov/pls/enf_reports/f?p=9034:34051::::34051:P34051_PERMIT_NUMBER:TN0070661

DATE OF INSPECTION: 4/28/2022

COMPANY NAME: Nate Pulley dba Yellow Creek Stone

FACILITY NAME: Yellow Creek Stone Quarry

NPDES PERMIT NUMBER: TN0070661

TDEC INSPECTORS PRESENT: Chris Pracheil

NARRATIVE STATEMENT (SUPPLEMENTAL TO ONLINE INSPECTION RECORD):

The Yellow Creek Stone Quarry was inspected on April 28, 2022, by TDEC Inspector Chris Pracheil in response to a complaint of sediment from the facility entering a pond via springs. The following items were observed during the inspection:

The spring fed pond below the quarry appeared to be turbid (photo 1); however, the spring water entering the pond was clear (photo 2). A potential conduit from the quarrying operation to the pond was identified (photo 3). It is recommended that the facility direct stormwater drainage away from this area and install BMPs, such as silt fencing and straw wattles, around this area to prevent sediment laden water from entering this potential conduit. It was also recommended that the facility stabilize the cleared land in this area with seed and straw or rock to prevent stormwater from accumulating large sediment loads. Additionally, allowing more littoral zone aquatic vegetation to grow along the pond shoreline may help trap and process sediment that enters the pond.

The facility appears to have installed an adequate tracking pad (photo 4) and BMPs are in place below the quarry entrance to manage stormwater runoff (photos 5-7). However, large areas of unstabilized soil were observed along the western and northern portions of the driveway that needs to be stabilized (photos 8-10). Additional BMPs such as check dams and sumps need to be installed along the driveway and roadway ditches, and unstabilized soil should be seeded and strawed.

The facility has begun developing the mining pit and extracting rock (photos 11-12) but did not have a rock crusher on site. Scales and a scale house have also been constructed (photo 13). The facility had adequately stabilized berms surrounding the mine site and disturbed areas (photos 14 & 15); however, there was a large

amount of unstabilized, disturbed area that did not drain to the pit or treatment basin (photos 16) and instead infiltrated through the berms. The facility needs to direct stormwater and process water into the mine pit or treatment basin and seed or otherwise stabilize the disturbed areas where mining activity is not occurring.

We request that within 30 days of receiving this report; the facility make improvements to the BMPs along the driveway and roadway ditches, direct stormwater drainage from disturbed areas to either the mine pit or sediment basin and stabilize any disturbed areas the facility is not actively using or planning on expanding into within the first year of operation. Please provide photos documenting the completion of this work to Chris Pracheil at christopher.pracheil@tn.gov or TDEC.mining@tn.gov.



Photo 1: Spring fed pond below the Yellow Creek Stone Quarry. Pond appeared quite turbid for not receiving any significant rain for the past 6 days.



Photo 2: Spring water entering the pond below the Yellow Creek Quarry.



Photo 3: Area of potential conduit to spring and pond below Yellow Creek Quarry. Stormwater drainage from disturbed area pools here behind the berm and slowly infiltrates through the berm or potentially into the spring. The facility needs to redirect this drainage into the mine pit or sediment basin, stabilize the disturbed area that they are not immediately expanding into, and protect this area with BMPs to prevent sediment laden water from draining into this potential conduit.



Photo 4: Tracking pad at the entrance of the facility.



Photo 5: Road ditch culvert at the facility entrance and a series of BMPs below the culvert.



Photo 6: Series of BMPs at the facility entrance to treat stormwater before it leaves the site.



Photo 7: Series of BMPs at the facility entrance to treat stormwater before it leaves the site.



Photo 8: Large amounts of unstabilized soil at the upper portion of the driveway.



Photo 9: Large amounts of unstabilized soil at the upper portion of the driveway.



Photo 10: Large amounts of unstabilized soil at culvert at upper portion of driveway.



Photo 11: Development of the mine pit.



Photo 12: Development of the mine pit.



Photo 13: Photo of scale pad, scale house and outslope berm.



Photo 14: Photo of stabilized berms at the edge of the disturbed area.



Photo 15: Photo of stabilized berm at the mine pit, note this berm could use more seed and straw.



Photo 16: Large amount of disturbed area that does not drain to the mine pit or sediment basin. This area needs to be regraded to drain to the pit or treatment basin or be seeded or rocked if the facility does not plan to expand to this area soon.