



Background

Peak Materials (formerly LG Everist and Everist Materials) has been operating in Silverthorne and the Lower Blue Valley since 1965. All but one lake in Silverthorne is the result of gravel extraction for construction of the Eisenhower Tunnel and Dillon Dam. Now, these reclaimed lakes serve as home to wildlife, recreational access and open space. Moving north of Silverthorne, the company won the Jack Starner Memorial Reclamation Award in 2003 for the Love Pit reclamation located directly east of the existing Maryland Creek Ranch operation.

The Maryland Creek Ranch operation, located just north of Silverthorne, began in 1995 with a long-term outlook on aggregate supply for Summit County and is currently the only large-scale aggregate, ready mix and asphalt supplier in the county. There are two components to this operation – the raw aggregate source which will ultimately be reclaimed into lakes and the 20-acre processing facility at the north end of the operation. The on-site raw aggregate source is non-renewable and the company is projecting that based on market demand, it will be exhausted sometime in the next 10 years.

Overview

Maintaining a long-term view and understanding the existing Maryland Creek Ranch reserve will be depleted in the coming years, Peak Materials is seeking an off-site raw aggregate source to supply the existing Maryland Creek Ranch processing facility.

Peak Materials would like to maintain the existing Maryland Creek Ranch processing facility in its current location and identify an off-site source for several reasons:

- Environmental considerations – the impacts of the current processing facility have been established and mitigated. The relocation of this facility would result in additional impacts to the environment in another location.
- Quality raw aggregate supply – the Lower Blue Valley has, over the course of several decades, proven to be an excellent, high quality aggregate source. Identifying an aggregate source close to the existing operation will provide consistent, high quality products as well as limit the need for long-distance truck hauling to and from the Maryland Creek Ranch location. Other Peak aggregate sources in Summit County, such as Mascot Placer, are not suitable for ready mix or asphalt products.
- Conservation – the property identified to serve as the raw aggregate source will be reclaimed as a lake(s) and will provide recreational public access to the Blue River. The State of Colorado would hold a bond to ensure that the reclamation occurs in a timely and complete fashion.

Next Steps

Summit County issued a conditional use permit in 2016 for the Maryland Creek Ranch location to maintain the current operations through 2026. This permit will require an amendment to allow for raw aggregate to be brought in from off-site. Additionally, the off-site property will need to be permitted to allow for gravel extraction through both Summit County and the State of Colorado. As part of these applications, the following information will be studied and thoughtfully mitigated:

- Wildlife assessments
- Wetland delineations
- Traffic impact studies
- Reclamation plans
- Water needs analysis

For More Information

Please contact the Peak Materials office at 970-468-2521 with questions or comments.