

Yukon Placer Database Operations Report



Field Name: Bardusan Placers Ltd., 1991-1992, 1998-2003

Last Update: 21-Feb-2005

Status: Active Producer

Stream: Lightning: a tributary of Duncan

Map Sheet(s): 105M/14

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Operators

Name	From (Date)	To (Date)	Comment
Claus Barchen	1998/01/01	2002/12/31	
Hans Barchen	1998/01/01	2003/12/31	
Claus Barchen	1991/01/01	1992/12/31	
Hans Barchen	1991/01/01	1992/12/31	

Owners

Name	From (Date)	To (Date)	Comment
Claus Barchen	1998/01/01	2002/12/31	
Hans Barchen	1998/01/01	2003/12/31	
Claus Barchen	1991/01/01	1992/12/31	
Hans Barchen	1991/01/01	1992/12/31	
Bardusan Placers Ltd.	1991/01/01	2003/12/31	

General Location

This property is located on Lightning Creek approximately 1 mile downstream from the mouth of Thunder Gulch.

Location Details

Date:	Latitude			Longitude			Elevation	Distance from Mouth
	Deg	Min	Sec	Deg	Min	Sec	(feet)	(feet)
2003/01/01	63	54	45	135	15	27		
2003/01/01	63	54	0	135	21	0		
1998/01/01	63	54	0	135	21	0		
1995/12/27	63	54	41	135	16	56	3,200	15,400
1991/01/01	63	53	0	135	15	0		

Water Licence(s)

Number	Comments
PM98-043	Expires: 2004/05/01
PM90-060	

Claims

File Date	Number	Name	Status
	P2193		
	P2179		
	P16061		
	P16058		

Work History

Between December 1902 and February 1903, John Durand prospected claim #13 above the canyon on the left fork of Duncan Creek [Lightning Creek]. A 35 feet shaft was sunk.

This creek was named after the river boat 'Lightning' that brought miners and supplies up the Stewart River to the Duncan Creek area. It was prospected at the same time as Duncan but it yielded little and was soon deserted.

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During 1991 and 1992 Bardusan Placers Ltd began preparation for mining in the valley. Overburden was hydraulically and mechanically stripped from an area 90 feet by 80 feet. An excavation 24 feet deep was made without reaching bedrock. In 1992 the creek was diverted to the right limit, and excavation continued on the bedrock drain, which was 700 feet long, 14 feet wide and 28 feet deep.

1998-2002 - The mining in 1998 began with digging a bedrock drain, constructing two settling ponds and mining two cuts totalling 47,000 cubic yards. In 1999, mining continued upstream, processing similar volumes to 1998. Three mining cuts were mined in 2000 totalling 119,863 cubic yards. Total mine cut dimensions in 2000, were 330 feet in length by 140 feet wide and 65-70 feet deep. Two mine cuts in 2001 totalled 101,557 cubic yards with dimensions of 140 feet wide by 280 feet long by 70 feet deep. The 25 feet of materials above bedrock were processed as pay gravels and sluiced. In 2002, an estimated 102,000 cubic yards were processed in three sequential mine cuts, with 40% being sluiced. This operation remained active throughout the 2003 season.

Production

Year	Stripped	Sluiced
2002	102000 cubic yards	Unknown
2001	101557 cubic yards	Unknown
2000	119863 cubic yards	Unknown
1999	47000 cubic yards	Unknown
1998	47000 cubic yards	Unknown

Equipment

1998-2002 - A UH 20 Hitachi excavator, a Caterpillar D-7 bulldozer and two Caterpillar loaders (980 and a 988) were used for processing material during the operations. A 10-foot by 20-foot Derocker fed a 3-foot by 24-foot long, double run sluice box. Eighty to 100 cubic yards of material were processed per hour. The mine cut was below the water table which, when pumped to drain the cut, provided the water for the wash plant. An estimated 20% of the required water volumes was acquired from Lightning Creek, while the remainder came from ground water in the mine cut. As mining progressed upstream from the 1998 mine cut, a permanent, covered bedrock drain was installed to the settling facilities which allowed placement of waste materials over top of the drain in the narrow valley. Two settling facilities have been utilized, each an estimated 400 feet long by 80 feet wide by 24 feet deep.

Landforms

Landform	Comments
Alluvial Valley	

Surficial Geology

At this site Lightning Creek is narrow with a moderate gradient. In 1992, the bedrock drain was sunk up to 28 feet deep but still did not reach bedrock.

1998-2002 - The ground mined in 1998 was 60 feet to bedrock which progressively got deeper as the mining moved upstream toward the mouth of Thunder Gulch. In 2001, the bedrock was overlain by 75 feet of silty stream gravels mixed with slide rock. The mining in 1999 produced the largest green boulders found in the area.

Bedrock Geology

Bedrock in the canyon is interbedded quartzite and quartz-sericite schist.

Gold Comments

1998-2002 - Well-worn flattened gold nuggets were produced in 1998, 1999 and 2000 with a fineness of 810. Well-rounded large nuggets were mined in 2001, with 40% being size 4 Tyler sieve screen. Gold recovered in 2002 was . after and

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References

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Mining Inspection Division, Yukon Region. Yukon Placer Mining Industry 1998-2002. Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development, Whitehorse, Yukon, 2003.: p. 174

Nowosad, M. Placer Mining Year End Summary, 2003. Client Services and Inspections Division, Yukon Energy Mines and Resources, 2004.: Mayo, p. 1

Thomson, R.F. Yukon Placer Mining Industry 1991-1992. Whitehorse: DIAND, 1993.: p. 32

Pictures

Title: Looking Downstream on Barchan's Operation; 2001

Notes:

