

Yukon Placer Database Operations Report



Field Name: Beron Placers Co. Ltd., 1998-2003

Last Update: 21-Mar-2005

Status: Active Producer

Stream: Irish Gulch: a tributary of Eldorado

Map Sheet(s): 1150/14, 1150/16

Page 1 of 2

Operators

Name	From (Date)	To (Date)	Comment
Bern Johnson	1998/01/01	2003/12/31	
Ron Johnson	1998/01/01	2003/12/31	

Owners

Name	From (Date)	To (Date)	Comment
Beron Placers Co. Ltd.	1998/01/01	2003/12/31	
Bern Johnson	1998/01/01	2003/12/31	
Ron Johnson	1998/01/01	2003/12/31	

General Location

During the past four years Ron and Bern Johnson mined progressively upstream on Irish Gulch, since starting at its confluence with the left limit of Eldorado Creek in 1997.

Location Details

Date:	Latitude Deg : Min : Sec	Longitude Deg : Min : Sec	Elevation (feet)	Distance from Mouth (feet)
2003/01/01	63 54 35	139 19 36		
1998/01/01	63 54 0	138 18 0		

Water Licence(s)

Number	Comments
PM99-137	Expires: 2005/03/31
PM95-003	Expires: 2005/03/31

Work History

At the downstream end of Irish Gulch, mining cuts up to 300 feet long each were excavated to a width of about 75 feet. Mining moved upstream on the gulch at a rate between 300 and 500 feet per season, and width of cuts increased to 125 feet, then to a maximum of 150 feet. In 2000, a bench was discovered on the right limit that had been worked by oldtimers. This bench was finished in 2002, and extended for 600 to 700 feet upstream. The gravels buried under from 20 to 30 feet of black muck had been accessed by previous placer miners through drifts and production shafts. Many old shafts and other evidence of early mining was found in Irish Gulch. Reclamation at this site is progressive in nature, using mining cuts as settling facilities.

In 2002 stripped frozen overburden mechanically and hydraulically, with instream settling ponds in Irish Gulch and recycle pond in Eldorado Valley with discharge to Eldorado Creek.

Equipment

In 1998-2001, a Caterpillar D6C bulldozer was used for stripping and to pull a 6 inch auger drill used for testing. A Caterpillar D8K bulldozer was used for stripping overburden and stockpiling pay gravel. A Caterpillar 245 excavator was used to dig pay gravel, feed the wash plant and clean out settling ponds. A Caterpillar 950 loader was used to remove tailings. A mobile wash plant mounted on wheels consisted of a 17 feet by 15 feet dump box and vibrating screen deck, 4 feet wide by 20 feet long, with four 4 feet wide by 10 feet long sluice runs which narrowed into a single sluice run 42 inches wide by 7 feet long. A conveyor 48 inches wide by 50 feet long was used to stack tailings. A Paco water pump, 8 inches by 10 inches, powered by a GM 871 diesel engine, supplied approximately 2500 igpm which was used to sluice up to 150 cubic yards per hour. Water was pumped from a

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Page 2 of 2

large reservoir/recycle pond located in the Eldorado Creek Valley, uphill into Irish Gulch using 2000 feet of 10 inch aluminum pipe. A series of cross valley rock filled dams created permanent instream settling ponds in Irish Gulch. Gold was cleaned up using a Wilfley Table.

In 2003 settling ponds were stepped as mining moved upstream; built in the mined out pits.

Environmental Work

Year	Reclamation Work
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2003	The cross valley rock dams are covered with bailed black muck to promote vegetation. Reclamation is still progressive.
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Landforms

Landform	Comments
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Gulch	
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Surficial Geology

Frozen black muck overburden increased in depth as mining progressed upstream in Irish Gulch, starting with only 10 feet near the mouth and increasing to more than 50 feet deep on the upper right limit of the gulch. Near the middle of the gulch about 15 feet of black muck mixed with angular rocks covered pay gravels 3 to 5 feet deep. Up to 3 feet of broken bedrock was also sluiced.

Pay gravel is approximately 0.5m thick, light brown and rests on chlorite schist that slopes north. The gravel is overlain by 5m of muck that contains massive ground ice and an old ice-filled adit.

Bedrock Geology

Bedrock is mapped as Klondike Schist.

Gold Comments

Coarse, angular gold with numerous nuggets and fineness around 650 was recovered from Irish Gulch and cleaned up using a Wilfley table. Rounded, smooth gold with a fineness of 750 has also been recovered from this mine.

References

Lowey, G.W. 2004. Placer Geology of the Stewart River (115N&O) and part of Dawson (116B&C) map areas, west-central Yukon, Canada. Yukon Geological Survey, 275p.: p. 34

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Nowosad, M. Placer Mining Year End Summary, 2003. Client Services and Inspections Division, Yukon Energy Mines and Resources, 2004.: p. 12-13