

Yukon Placer Database Operations Report



Field Name: Gould, 1960-1988, 1993-1994, 1998-2002

Last Update: 29-Dec-2004

Status: Active Producer

Stream: Hunker: a tributary of Klondike

Map Sheet(s): 1150/14

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Operators

Name	From (Date)	To (Date)	Comment
Paul O'Brien	2002/01/01	2002/12/31	
Ian Thomas	1998/01/01	2003/12/31	
David Gould	1998/01/01	2003/12/31	
Allen Gould	1993/01/01	1994/12/31	
David Gould	1993/01/01	1994/12/31	
J. Gould	1988/01/01	1988/12/31	
Peter Gould	1984/01/01	1984/12/31	
R. Gould	1983/01/01	1983/12/31	
J. Gould	1980/01/01	1984/12/31	Claims have been in the Gould family since 1903 (three generations).
R. Gould	1960/01/01	1960/12/31	
J. Gould	1960/01/01	1960/12/31	

Owners

Name	From (Date)	To (Date)	Comment
Paul O'Brien	2002/01/01	2002/12/31	
Ian Thomas	1998/01/01	2003/12/31	
David Gould	1998/01/01	2003/12/31	
Allen Gould	1993/01/01	1994/12/31	
David Gould	1993/01/01	1994/12/31	
J. Gould	1988/01/01	1988/12/31	
Peter Gould	1984/01/01	1984/12/31	
R. Gould	1983/01/01	1983/12/31	
J. Gould	1980/01/01	1984/12/31	Claims have been in the Gould famil
R. Gould	1960/01/01	1960/12/31	
J. Gould	1960/01/01	1960/12/31	

General Location

In 1980, the property was situated along Hunker Creek, approximately 375 metres (1,250 feet) downstream from the mouth of Not Much Gold Creek. In 1983, the property was situated at the upstream end of Nugget Hill, a high level left limit bench of Hunker Creek, approximately 400 feet downstream from the rim of the Independence Creek Valley.

Three separate locations were mined in 1993 and 1994. Most of the mining in 1993 was along the right limit of Hunker Creek just upstream of 54 Pup, and at the base of Nugget Hill. The operation moved upstream in the fall of 1993 to a location between the left limit tributaries Colorado Creek and Not Much Gold Creek.

Location Details

Date:	Latitude Deg : Min : Sec	Longitude Deg : Min : Sec	Elevation (feet)	Distance from Mouth (feet)
2003/01/01	63 58 20	138 59 35		

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Location Details

Date:	Latitude			Longitude			Elevation	Distance from Mouth
	Deg :	Min :	Sec	Deg :	Min :	Sec	(feet)	(feet)
2002/01/01	63	58	0	139	0	0		
2001/01/02	63	59	0	139	1	0		
2001/01/01	63	58	0	139	0	0		
1998/01/01	63	58	0	139	0	0		
1993/01/01	63	58	12	139	0	0		
1983/01/01	63	59	0	139	2	0		
1980/01/01	63	58	0	139	0	0		

Water Licence(s)

Number	Comments
PM01-237	Expires: 2004/10/31
PM01-245	Expires: 2007/05/01
PM93-098	
PM90-064	
PM98-016	Expiry Date 5/1/02, Class Number IV, Effluent Standard 5.0 ml/L, Status A.

Work History

In 1960, R.S. and J.A. Gould hydraulic mined at Nugget Hill, between Hester and Independence Creeks.

In 1980, work at this location was done on the bench deposits. A small cut of approximately 150 square metres (1,600 square feet) was mined, and several test pits were dug.

In 1981-1984, Mr. J. Gould and Mr. R. Gould mined on the property.

In 1988, four people worked on the property. Three cuts were mined, for a total production of 40,000 cubic yards. David and Allen Gould mined in 1993 and 1994. A small cut was sluiced at the base of Nugget Hill and the 1992 cut was finished in 1993. Very little sluicing was done in 1993. A cut approximately 100 feet by 180 feet was sluiced in 1994. A small cut was sluiced at the base of Nugget Hill and the 1992 cut was finished in 1993. Very little sluicing was done in 1993. A cut approximately 100 feet by 180 feet was sluiced in 1994.

In 1998 approximately 3500 square yards of bedrock were mined. In 1999 about 3000 square yards of bedrock were mined in three cuts. In 2000 about 3500 square yards of bedrock were mined and in 2001 two cuts were mined with a total of about 2300 square yards of bedrock mined. The operation moved back upstream near the top of the property in 2002. A piece of ground along the left limit immediately downstream of Independence Creek was drained and stripped. As in past years, the pay gravels were removed and stockpiled so that they could be sluiced back into the mine pit with no discharge. Pay values and drilling did not warrant further work and the operation was reclaimed and abandoned.

Production

Year	Stripped	Sluiced
1988	Unknown	40000 cubic yards
1980	Unknown	1600 bedrock square feet

Equipment

In 1980, a metal sluice box, 60 cm (24 inches) wide and 6 metres (20 feet) long was used to process the material mined.

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In 1983, a Caterpillar D4 bulldozer was used to strip overburden. A John Deere 350B tracked loader was used to feed the sluice plant and remove tailings. A monitor with a 4 inch diameter nozzle with water under a head of approximately 50 feet was used to wash down the gravel face. After the material was washed down, the monitor was used to wash it thoroughly at the foot of the face. The loader then picked up the large boulders and stacked them on the waste pile before transporting the remaining gravel to the sluice plant. The sluice plant had a capacity of 30 cubic yards per hour. It consisted of a dump box 10 feet wide and 18 feet long with slick plate throughout, and a single sluice run. The sluice run was 24 inches wide and 20 feet long, and was lined with riffles, expanded metal, and coco matting. It was set at a gradient of 1 to 1 1/2 inches to the foot. Water for the monitor and for sluicing was supplied from a reservoir directly above the mine face. The reservoir was fed by a ditch tapping Independence Creek 2 miles upstream. Most work was done in the spring when run-off water was available. Effluent was directed over the edge of Nugget hill by a bedrock drain, and partially settled in the tailings fan below before entering Hunker Creek.

In 1984, an International TD 25C bulldozer was used to strip ground prior to monitoring. A Caterpillar 930 rubber tired loader removed boulders and fed the sluice plant.

In 1988, the addition of a trommel (scrubber) has reportedly increased production significantly over previous years. The trommel measures 4 feet in diameter by 30 feet in length. A manifold in the dump box begins breaking up the material as it passes into the top of the scrubber. The first 26 feet is solid, with the last 4 feet being lined with 1 inch punch plate. The material to be sluiced is pre-classified to minus 1 inch, with oversize going directly to tailings. Two 1 1/2 inch nozzles at the end of the trommel, aid in the washing and breaking up of the pay gravels. Two 20 by 4 foot shaking sluice runs receive the classified material. Nomad matting with one layer of expanded metal is used in the runs. An International TD 25 bulldozer was used for stripping, with the occasional help of a rented D9 Caterpillar bulldozer when needed. Loading the wash plant was accomplished by a Caterpillar 930 loader, with a 966D loader handling the tailings. The required 1,000 igpm waster was supplied by way of a 5 by 6 inch Cornell high pressure pump. This was powered by a John Deere 225 hp diesel, which was replaced for a while by a Caterpillar 3208 diesel. At spring melt, and at times of heavy rainfall, runoff was captured by the Independence Creek ditch. Otherwise water was delivered through an 8 inch pipeline from Hunker Creek, running 1,600 feet with a 400 foot lift. Initial settling was aided using flocculants in a presetting pond and recirculation system on Nugget Hill, with final settling occurring in the tailings ponds along Hunker Creek.

In 1993, the equipment consisted of a 950B Caterpillar loader, a PC220 Caterpillar hoe, and a D3 Caterpillar bulldozer. The loader was primarily used for sluicing but was also used for stripping. The hoe was used for stripping and sluicing. A dump box fed into a 12-foot long sluice run. The washed gravel ran over a grizzly before channeling through another 12 feet of sluice run. The upper sluice run used 1.5-inch angle iron riffles and nomad matting while the lower sluice run was lined with expanded metal and Nomad matting. The sluice plant was estimated to handle approximately 30 cubic yards per hour. A Gorman Rupp 6 inch pump supplied the 1000 igpm needed for sluicing. A full recirculation system utilizing out-of-stream dredge ponds was used in both 1993 and 1994. Discharge was by ground seepage only.

In 1998 a Caterpillar D9 bulldozer was used for stripping dredge tailings and excavating pay gravel. A Caterpillar 950B loader was used to haul pay gravel to the wash plant and remove washed tailings. A Komatsu PC220 excavator was used to dig pay gravel and to feed the wash plant. The wash plant was a 4 feet diameter trommel, 20 feet long, which classified down to 1/2 inch minus. A single sluice run, 5 feet wide by 8 feet long, was lined with hydraulic riffles. A Gorman Rupp 6 inch water pump supplied about 700 igpm which were used to process between 25 and 60 cubic yards per hour. Gold was cleaned up using a gold wheel. Mining cuts were excavated below the water table and had to be pumped out while pay gravels were being stockpiled. Then the pits were allowed to flood and the groundwater was recycled and used to sluice the pay gravel back into the cut, with no discharge to the creek.

Environmental Work

Year	Reclamation Work
2003	All reclamation work was completed.

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Landforms

Landform	Comments
Mining Cut	
Alluvial Valley	

Surficial Geology

At the property situated along Hunker Creek, deposits present on a low left limit bench in a broad, north facing amphitheatre comprise a sequence at least 4.5 metres (15 feet) thick of discontinuous colluvium, black muck, and gravel layers. Tailings from old underground mining operations on the bench deposits are present. At the property situated at the upstream end of Nugget Hill, deposits present consisted of 2 feet of gummy clay overlying 18 feet of White Channel gravel with quartz boulders near bedrock up to 3 feet in diameter. Gold values reported in the gravel were as high as 12 feet above bedrock. In 1993, a cut at the base of Nugget Hill was started but was found to have been mined out by the old-timers' old workings. Gravel was sluiced from the last 1992 cut and then the operation moved upstream. The area of the 1993/94 mine cut was dredged in about 1919. The profile was altered by the dredge and the natural stratigraphy is not known. A layer of coarse tailings 12 feet deep covered 10 feet layer of sand and 12 feet of mud. The top 2 to 3 feet of bedrock and any gravels missed by the dredge were sluiced. In 1998, the area being mined had been previously dredged which left up to 10 feet of coarse tailings on top of 8 feet of sandy gravel and then 12 feet of mud and silt on the bottom. Below this was mostly decomposed bedrock with a few patches of gravel which were missed by the dredge. This bottom gravel plus 2 or 3 feet of bedrock were processed. In 2001 the area mined was previously in mined and consisted of 20 to 25 feet of organic mud and sand on top of a gravel layer about 5 feet deep. The bottom 3 feet of gravel plus about 2 feet of bedrock were sluiced.

Bedrock Geology

Bedrock consists of irregular competent carbonaceous schist.

Gold Comments

Gold from the property located at the upstream end of Nugget Hill was reported to be fine grained, and flat, while gold recovered from Nugget Hill next to the rim of Independence Creek valley was reported to be more coarse and angular. Fineness ranged from 800 to 870, indicating the possibility of several sources. The majority of the gold, however, reportedly had a fineness of 800 to 840.

In 1993, most of the gold was fine and fairly flat. The purity was 820 fine.

In 1998, fine gold that was flat and smooth, and had fineness of 820 was recovered..

References

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Pictures

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Title: David Gould on Hunker Creek

Notes:

