

Yukon Placer Database Operations Report



Field Name: Erl Enterprises, 1961-2003

Last Update: 06-Jan-2005

Status: Active Producer

Stream: Hightet: a tributary of Minto

Map Sheet(s): 115P/16, 115P/9

Page 1 of 5

Operators

| Name | From (Date) | To (Date) | Comment |
|-----------|-------------|------------|---------|
| Frank Erl | 1961/01/01 | 2003/12/31 | |

Owners

| Name | From (Date) | To (Date) | Comment |
|-----------------|-------------|------------|---------|
| Erl Enterprises | 1961/01/01 | 2003/12/31 | |
| Frank Erl | 1961/01/01 | 2003/12/31 | |

General Location

In 1983, the property was located along the upper reaches of Hightet Creek, just upstream from the mouth of left limit tributary Rudolph Pup.

1998-2002 - Mining occurred in successive cuts following the creek channel upstream.

Location Details

| Date: | Latitude | | | Longitude | | | Elevation | Distance from Mouth |
|------------|----------|-----|-----|-----------|-----|-----|-----------|---------------------|
| | Deg | Min | Sec | Deg | Min | Sec | (feet) | (feet) |
| 2003/01/01 | 63 | 45 | 53 | 136 | 12 | 47 | | |
| 2003/01/01 | 63 | 46 | 0 | 136 | 12 | 0 | | |
| 1998/01/01 | 63 | 46 | 0 | 136 | 12 | 0 | | |
| 1995/08/30 | 63 | 45 | 33 | 136 | 12 | 30 | 3,450 | |
| 1993/01/01 | 63 | 45 | 20 | 136 | 13 | 48 | 35,000 | |
| 1991/01/01 | 63 | 43 | 0 | 136 | 12 | 0 | | |
| 1989/01/01 | 63 | 46 | 0 | 136 | 13 | 0 | | |
| 1983/01/01 | 63 | 46 | 0 | 136 | 13 | 0 | | |
| 1978/01/01 | 63 | 46 | 0 | 136 | 12 | 0 | | |
| 1965/01/01 | 63 | 45 | 30 | 136 | 9 | 0 | | |

Water Licence(s)

| Number | Comments |
|----------|--|
| PM89-078 | |
| PM96-038 | Renewal of license PM93-033. Expires: 2005/04/30 |
| PM93-033 | |

Work History

Erl worked at this location part-time from 1961 to 1979, and began mining full-time in 1980. Old workings, including a drift 60 m long, are present in the area.

In 1973, Mr. Erl stripped the ground in preparation for the upcoming season.

In 1974, Mr. Erl held 4 claims and a one-mile lease on the upper part of Hightet Creek.

In 1975, Mr. Erl mined for one month.

In 1976, Mr. Erl mined the lowest of his 16 claims on the upper part of Hightet Creek. Here, a series of right limit benches contain small amounts of gravel and abundant sericite phyllite and schist-like rock. Mr. Erl worked a second bench, approximately 100 feet above the creek, putting in one small cut 40 feet by 50 feet.

Status: Active Producer**Stream: Highet: a tributary of Minto****Map Sheet(s): 115P/16, 115P/9**

Through 1977-1979, Mr. Erl continued to mine full time.

In 1980, A cut approximately 18 metres (60 feet) wide, 40 metres (130 feet) long and 4.9 to 6 metres (16 to 20 feet) deep along the left limit of the creek was stripped and mined.

In 1981, Mr. Erl continued work, but no production figures were given.

In 1982, three cuts approximately 225 square metres (2,400 square feet) each were mined. From 1.8 to 6 metres (6 to 20 feet) of colluvium was stripped, and 2.4 metres of gravel was mined and sluiced at each cut.

Through 1983-1984, Mr. Erl sluiced approximately 2,000 cubic yards of material each year, but no gold recovery figures were given.

In 1987, two locations were mined; one on the left limit in the creek channel and the other on the right limit bench deposit. Approximately 830 cubic yards were processed.

In 1988, one cut measuring 300 by 60 by 10 feet deep was mined on the bench along the right limit of Highet Creek. Approximately 4,700 cubic yards were processed.

1989 - Erl worked one 11 hour shift each day. 5 to 6 feet of gravel and one foot of bedrock were sluiced. The stripping to sluicing ratio was 0.3 to 1. A number of cuts were made on the right limit bench deposits and one cut was made to the creek channel. Approximately 16,000 cubic yards were sluiced both in 1989 and 1990. Water was in short supply. In 1990, Erl had a helper for the season. An additional 3,000 cubic yards were sluiced.

1991-92 - With 2 helpers, Erl worked an 11 hour shift. Several cuts were made on the right limit bench deposits, and one cut was made in the creek channel on the left limit.

In 1993, 6000 cubic yards were sluiced and 1000 cubic yards stripped. In 1994, 4000 cubic yards were sluiced and 4000 cubic yards stripped. The bench deposit was mined during high water.

Through 1995-97, one cut was mined each year. In 1995 and 1997 the cuts measured 400 feet long by 20 feet wide. The cut mined in 1996 was 400 feet long by 40 feet wide. One cut was mined each year. In 1998 and 1999, the cuts measured 40 feet by 200 feet long and averaged a depth to bedrock of 8 feet. In 2000, the depth averaged 10 feet and the cut size was increased to 40 feet wide by 250 feet long. The 2001 season saw a pay channel being defined which required a widening of the mining cut to 60 feet, which in turn reduced the mine cut length to 120 feet. A total of 2200 cubic yards was sluiced in 2001. The 2002 season saw further development of the pay gravels with a mining cut 200 feet long by 150 feet wide and as much as 30 feet deep. In 2003, a cut was stripped and sluiced on the left limit hillside to the downstream channel of Highet Creek.

Production

| Year | Stripped | Sluiced |
|-------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| 1997 | Unknown | 8000 square feet |
| 1996 | Unknown | 16000 square feet |
| 1995 | Unknown | 8000 square feet |
| 1994 | 4000 cubic yards | 4000 cubic yards |
| 1993 | 1000 cubic yards | 6000 cubic yards |
| 1990 | Unknown | 3000 cubic yards |
| 1989 | Unknown | 16000 cubic yards |
| 1988 | Unknown | 4700 cubic yards |
| 1987 | Unknown | 830 cubic yards |
| 1984 | Unknown | 2000 cubic yards |
| 1983 | Unknown | 2000 cubic yards |
| 1982 | Unknown | 675 square meters |
| 1980 | 4320 cubic meters | 4320 cubic meters |
| 1976 | Unknown | 2000 square feet |
| 1973 | 4800 cubic yards | Unknown |
| 1965 | Unknown | Unknown |

Status: Active Producer**Stream: Hightet: a tributary of Minto****Map Sheet(s): 115P/16, 115P/9****Production**

| Year | Stripped | Sluiced |
|-------------|-----------------|------------------|
| 1964 | Unknown | 2500 cubic yards |
| 1962 | Unknown | 900 cubic yards |

Total Gold Reported -252 oz.**Equipment**

When Mr. Erl started he used a 3-foot by 42-foot sluice box and a HD bulldozer.

In 1976, Mr. Erl used a D8 Caterpillar bulldozer to strip. He moved material to the grizzly equipped sluice with a tracked 1 1/2 yard front-end loader. Water was supplied to the workings by means of a 1-mile ditch and 200 feet of 6-inch diameter pip allowing the use of a low-pressure monitor.

In 1978, a 941 tracked loader was added.

In 1981, a grizzly was added to the single-channel sluice box. Water for sluicing was gravity-fed from a small reservoir.

In 1983, a Caterpillar D8 bulldozer, and a Caterpillar 941 Traxcavator were used. The sluicing plant consisted of a wet grizzly, a dump box, and a single run sluice box. Water was supplied to the sluicing plant by two methods, simultaneously. Water from Hightet Creek was diverted through a pipeline made from 45-gallon drums, and gravity-fed to the end of the dump box. The total creek flow was directed through the sluice box in dry periods. At the same time, a ditch along the right limit the creek supplied water from farther upstream to a 6-inch diameter pipeline at a 70-foot head. This water was fed to spray bars above the grizzly. The water washed material being screened by the grizzly and then dropped into the dump box. Effluent from sluicing was settled downstream from the operation, where the Hightet Creek valley widened.

In 1987, a D 82U Caterpillar was used for stripping, and a 950 rubber-tired Caterpillar loader with a 2 cubic yard bucket was used to feed the box and remove tailings. A 1969, a 941 Caterpillar loader with 1.5 cubic yard bucket was used for testing. The wash plant consisted of a wet grizzly 4 feet long by 5 feet wide and a single run sluice 20 feet long by 3 feet wide. The sluice box was lined with angle iron riffles spaced 1.25 inches apart, expanded metal and Coco matting, processing 30 cubic yards per hour. Water was supplied directly from Hightet Creek and by a pipeline feed from a 700 foot "old-timers" ditch.

In 1988, water was gravity-fed to the sluicing plant directly from a small reservoir in Hightet Creek. Using 1,800 feet of 6-inch diameter metal and PVC pipeline, water was supplied to spray bars on the grizzly. No shortage of water was experienced this season. Effluent was treated in two instream ponds measuring 100 by 100 feet and 50 by 40 feet respectively. Two out-of-stream ponds also treated effluent, 50 by 40 feet, which were cleaned out regularly. Effluent was treated in a series of instream ponds. A small pre-settling pond was cleaned out regularly.

1989 - A Cat D82U bulldozer was used for stripping overbuden. A Cat 950 rubber tire loader with a 2 yard bucket was used to feed the box and remove tailings. The wash plant consisted of a wet grizzly 4 feet long by 5 feet wide a single run sluicie 20 feet long by 3 feet wide. The spacing of the pipes is 1 inch at the top and 3 inches at the bottom. The sluice box is lined with angle iron riffles spaced 1 1/4 inches apart, expanded metal and Coco matting. The processing rate was 30 cubic yards per hour. Water was supplied to the sluicing plant directly form a small reservoir in Hightet Creek by a 1800 foot long 6 inch diamter metal and PCV gravity fed pipe line. This pipeline supplied water to spray bars on the grizzly. Effluent was treated in 2 instream ponds measuring 100 by 100 feet and 50 by 40 feet, and to out-of-stream ponds the same size that were cleaned out regularly. A small presettling pond was also cleaned out regularly.

In 1995, a 950 Caterpillar loader fed the box and removed tailings. A D8K Caterpillar bulldozer was used for stripping, pushing up pay on the bench, and leveling tailings. Slide rock in the creek workings was ripped with a D8H Caterpillar bulldozer. A wet grizzly 4 feet long by 5 feet wide fed three inch minus material to a single run sluice box 20 feet long by two feet wide. The sluice box was lined with angle iron riffles spaced 1.25 inches apart, expanded metal, and cocoa matting. The processing rate was 30 cubic yards per hour. A PVC and aluminum pipeline 200 feet long and 6 inches in diameter supplied water by gravity to spray bars on the wash plant at a rate of 600 igpm.

Field Name: Erl Enterprises, 1961-2003

Last Update: 06-Jan-2005

Status: Active Producer

Stream: Hightet: a tributary of Minto

Map Sheet(s): 115P/16, 115P/9

Page 4 of 5

1998-2002 - A 950 Caterpillar loader with a 1.5 yard bucket fed the sluice box and removed tailings while a D8H Caterpillar bulldozer was used for stripping and levelling tailings. Water was provided by gravity pipeline to the wash plant, with three in-stream settling ponds lower on the claims. A wet grizzly 4 feet long by 5 feet wide fed 3-inch minus material to a single run sluice box 18 feet long by 2 feet wide. The sluice box was lined with Hungarian riffles spaced 1¼ inches apart, expanded metal, and cocoa matting. A PVC and aluminum pipeline, 200 feet long and 6 inches in diameter, supplied water by gravity to spray bars on the wash plant at a rate of 600 igpm. Effluent was treated in a series of in-stream ponds. A small pre-settling pond was utilized and cleaned out regularly.

Surficial Geology

Five feet of gravel mixed with quartzite and granite boulders under two feet of gravel and yellow clay layers and two feet of black muck. The bench ground was frozen and all gravels were sluiced. The creek deposit was not frozen but was deeper. Five to six feet of gravel and one foot of bedrock were sluiced. Eight to 10 feet of fine material and slide rock were stripped off.

Deposits consist of 1.8 to 6 meters (6 to 20 feet) of colluviums overlying 1.8 to 2.4 meters (6 to 8 feet) of sandy gravel with iron and manganese oxide staining. The Hightet Creek Valley is narrow in this area, and the colluvium thickens rapidly along the left limit of the creek due to the steepness of the slope there.

1989-92 - The bench deposits consisted of 5 feet of gravel mixed with quartzite and granite boulders overlain by 2 feet of gravel and yellow clay layers and 2 feet of black muck. The creek deposit is in much deeper ground and the bank elevation increases rapidly into the hill side.

1998-2002 - The depth to bedrock was 24 feet on the left limit, tapering to 18 feet on the right limit valley wall. The waste section varied from 12 to 18 feet, consisting of slide rock 6 feet thick on the left limit overlying glacial gravels with reported poor returns. Beneath this was 4 to 6 feet of pay gravels which extended the full width of the mining cut.

Bedrock Geology

Bedrock is biotite schist and quartzite.

Gold Comments

In 1983, twenty five percent of the gold was larger than 3 mesh, 25% between 3 and 8 mesh, and the remainder was smaller than 8 mesh. Fineness was 840. Much of the gold from this location does not appear worn. Some grains bear the imprint of matrix material from a lode source, and some have quartz attached, but others appear rounded and well worn. Magnetite, scheelite, wolframite, and minor amounts of oxide-coated stibnite are recovered along with gold at this location.

In 1987-90, most of the bench deposit gold was fine-grained with an estimated 10% being coarse. The fineness was reported to be 840. Some scheelite was also found in the concentrates.

1991-92 - The fineness was 810. 25% of the gold was larger than 3 mesh, 25% between 3 and 8 mesh and 50% less than 8. Some scheelite was found in the concentrate as well.

1998-2002 - The gold was flat, smooth and fine throughout the pay gravels next to bedrock with increasing values as mining progressed upstream. During the 2001 season the richest pay was located in a channel on the right limit with coarse gold values. Fineness was 840.

References

Debicki R.L. Yukon Placer Mining Industry 1978-1982. Whitehorse: DIAND, 1983.: p. 117-118

Debicki R.L. Yukon Placer Mining Industry 1983-1984. Whitehorse: DIAND, 1986.: p. 100

LeBarge, W.P. and Morison, S.R. Yukon Placer Mining and Exploration 1985-1988; Exploration and Geological Services Division, Yukon, Indian and Northern Affairs Canada, 1990.: p. 132-133

Mining Inspection Division, Yukon Region. Yukon Placer Mining Industry 1995, 1996, 1997. Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development, Whitehorse, Yukon, 1998.: p. 145-146

Mining Inspection Division, Yukon Region. Yukon Placer Mining Industry 1998-2002. Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development, Whitehorse, Yukon, 2003.: p. 165

Field Name: Erl Enterprises, 1961-2003

Last Update: 06-Jan-2005

Status: Active Producer

Stream: Highet: a tributary of Minto

Map Sheet(s): 115P/16, 115P/9

Page 5 of 5

References

- Morin, J.A. Mineral Industry Report 1976 Yukon Territory. EGS 1977-1, Ottawa: DIAND, 1977.: p. 235
- Nowosad, M. Placer Mining Year End Summary, 2003. Client Services and Inspections Division, Yukon Energy Mines and Resources, 2004.: Mayo, p. 5-6
- Sinclair W.D. Mineral Industry Report 1973 Yukon Territory EGS 1975-7; North of 60. Ottawa: DIAND, 1975.: p. 139
- Sinclair W.D. Mineral Industry Report 1974 Yukon Territory EGS 1975-9; North of 60. Ottawa: DIAND, 1975.: p. 181
- Sinclair W.D. Mineral Industry Report 1975 Yukon Territory EGS 1976-15; North of 60. Ottawa: DIAND, 1976.: p. 184
- Thomson, R.F. Placer Mining Year End Summary, 2002. Mining Inspection Division, DIAND, 2003.: p. 8
- Thomson, R.F. Yukon Placer Mining Industry 1991-1992. Whitehorse: DIAND, 1993.: p. 112
- van Kalsbeek L.P. Yukon Placer Mining Industry 1989-1990. Whitehorse: DIAND, 1991.: p. 68
- van Kalsbeek L.P. Yukon Placer Mining Industry 1993-1994. Whitehorse: DIAND, 1996.: p. 105-106

Pictures

Title: Frank Erl at Highet Creek

Notes:

