

Yukon Placer Database Operations Report



Field Name: Newcan Placers Ltd., 1995-1999, 2003

Last Update: 17-Feb-2005

Status: Active Producer

Stream: Henderson: a tributary of Stewart

Map Sheet(s): 1150/6

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Operators

Name	From (Date)	To (Date)	Comment
Bruce Cowan	1995/01/10	1999/12/31	

Owners

Name	From (Date)	To (Date)	Comment
Bruce Cowan	1995/01/10	1999/12/31	
Newcan Placers Ltd.	1995/01/01	2003/12/31	

General Location

Newcan Placers Ltd. own a large number of claims on the Henderson Creek watershed and the operation moved often. A small cut a few miles downstream from the camp along the left limit, adjacent to old dredge tailings, was mined in the spring of 1996. The operation was then moved upstream to the mouth of Golden Gate Pup, a right limit tributary of Henderson Creek, near the main camp. The last part of 1996 was spent mining a cut adjacent to the airstrip along the right limit. The operation was moved downstream to the left limit of Henderson Creek just upstream from the confluence with North Henderson Creek for the first part of 1997. The season finished with a cut approximately one mile downstream from the main camp at the old dredge workshop. A testing operation was also conducted on Emaline Pup, a left limit tributary of North Henderson Creek during 1997. Bruce Cowan operated on Henderson Creek throughout 1998 and on Moosehorn Creek during 1999.

Location Details

Date:	Latitude Deg : Min : Sec	Longitude Deg : Min : Sec	Elevation (feet)	Distance from Mouth (feet)
2003/01/01	63 23 24	139 14 54		
2003/01/01	63 22 0	139 22 0		
1998/01/01	63 23 0	139 14 0		
1995/01/10	63 22 0	139 19 0		

Water Licence(s)

Number	Comments
PM96-079	Expires: 2005/04/30
PM96-002	
PM94-090	

Work History

Bruce Cowan moved his operation to Henderson Creek in the fall of 1995 and started mining in 1996. A crew of four miners and one camp person ran the mine 24 hours each day during 1996. The crew was reduced to three for 1997.

Several different locations were mined in 1996 and 1997.

At Golden Gate Pup - 300 feet long by 200 feet wide.

Adjacent to airstrip - 2000 feet long by 150 feet wide.

At confluence of Henderson and North Henderson - 1500 feet long by 200 feet wide.

At dredge workshop - 1000 feet long by 100 feet wide.

A single employee and a camp cook ran a single 12 hour shift in 1998. The operation was increased in size to three miners and a camp cook for 1999. While mining on Moosehorn Creek two twelve hour shifts were run.

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Two cuts were sluiced on Henderson Creek during 1998. One cut measured 400 feet long by 100 feet wide and the other measured 500 feet long by 100 feet wide. Two cuts were sluiced on Moosehorn Creek in 1999. A large cut 1500 feet long by 300 feet wide and a second cut 400 feet long by 100 feet wide were processed. Bruce Cowan ceased operations in 1999 due to health problems and passed away August 22, 2000.

2002 - No work was done this season.

2003 - Operation was active this season under licence PM96-079.

Equipment

A Caterpillar D10N bulldozer and a Komatsu D155A bulldozer were used for stripping and levelling tailings. The wash plant was fed with an Hitachi UH143 excavator and an Hitachi EX200 excavator was used to dig drains when required and other miscellaneous jobs. The wash plant consists of a hopper feeding into a 5 foot diameter trommel which classifies the pay to ½ inch minus. The oversize material is carried off with a 35 foot conveyor and stacked. The ½ inch minus material is washed through a single sluice run 12 feet wide by 8 feet long. The first 2½ feet of the run are equipped with hydraulic riffles and the remainder of the run is lined with matting and 1 inch flat bar. A 6 inch by 6 inch Ajax pump powered by an Isuzu engine supplied the 1000 igpm required to sluice between 90 and 100 cubic yards per hour. Water was pumped from instream pump ponds on Henderson Creek to the sluice plant. The effluent was then treated in old mine pits downstream from the operation prior to being discharged back to Henderson Creek. No recycling was necessary. Due to water shortages a partial recycle system was needed on Moosehorn Creek. A finishing pond on Henderson Creek was used while sluicing on Moosehorn Creek.

Landforms

Landform	Comments
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Alluvial Valley	
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Surficial Geology

Several different locations were mined in 1996 and 1997. At the mouth of Golden Gate Pup, 5 feet of muck and gravel mix overlying 4 feet of gravel. On the right limit at airport - 10 feet of black muck overlying 6 feet of gravel. At forks of Henderson and North Henderson - 25 feet of frozen black muck over 3 feet of sand and 4 feet of gravel. The cut at the dredge workshop - 10 feet of frozen black muck overlying 3 feet of sand and 3 feet of gravel. Bedrock was usually found to be hard, broken and blocky. An average of 4 feet of gravel and 2 feet of bedrock was sluiced. Up to 6 feet of bedrock was sluiced in the cut at the dredge workshop.

In 1998 and 1999, the ground on Henderson Creek averaged 10 feet deep with 8 feet of frozen black muck overlying 2 to 3 feet of gravel. The cuts on Moosehorn Creek averaged 15 feet deep with a 10 foot layer of mixed frozen black muck and sand overlying 2 feet of sand and 2 to 3 feet of gravel. All of the gravels and 1 to 2 feet of the bedrock was sluiced.

Bedrock Geology

The rocks exposed along the valley consist mainly of granite gneisses and other igneous schists. At the forks 3 miles above the mouth, inliers of white crystalline limestone associated with quartz mica schists and quartzite are noted.

Gold Comments

The gold was reported to be primarily fine grained and varied in purity from 734 in 1996 to 780 in 1997.

In 1998 and 1999, the gold on Henderson Creek ranged from fine to coarse and had an average purity of 760 fine.

The gold on Moosehorn Creek tended to be more coarse with some small nuggets and had a purity of 820 fine.

References

Mining Inspection Division, Yukon Region. Yukon Placer Mining Industry 1995, 1996, 1997. Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development, Whitehorse, Yukon, 1998.: p. 120

Nowosad, M. Placer Mining Year End Summary, 2003. Client Services and Inspections Division, Yukon Energy Mines and Resources, 2004.: p. 90-91

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References

Thomson, R.F. Yukon Placer Mining Industry 1991-1992. Whitehorse: DIAND, 1993.: p. 77

Pictures

Title: Newcan Placers Ltd., Henderson & Moosehorn
Creeks

Notes:

