

# Yukon Placer Database Operations Report



**Field Name: Prohaszka, 1989-2003**

**Last Update: 16-Feb-2005**

**Status: Active Producer**

**Stream: Big Gold: a tributary of Sixtymile**

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## Operators

Name	From (Date)	To (Date)	Comment
Steve Prohaszka	1991/01/01	2003/12/31	

## Owners

Name	From (Date)	To (Date)	Comment
Steve Prohaszka	1991/01/01	2003/12/31	

## General Location

In 1991 to 1994, this operation was located in the Big Gold Creek Valley between Big Gold and Glacier Creeks, approximately 1,550 feet upstream from the Sixtymile River. In 1995, the operation was located on Glacier Creek, near the mouth of the Big Gold Creek. This operation was located upstream from the confluence of Big Gold and Glacier Creeks, near the Sixtymile River, from 1998 to 2002.

## Location Details

Date:	Latitude			Longitude			Elevation (feet)	Distance from Mouth (feet)
	Deg	Min	Sec	Deg	Min	Sec		
2003/01/01	64	0	52	140	43	18		
1998/01/01	64	1	19	140	44	10		
1995/01/01	64	1	0	140	44	0		
1993/01/02	64	1	1	140	43	48	2,500	
1993/01/01	64	1	0	140	44	0		
1991/01/01	64	2	0	140	45	0		
1989/01/01	64	2	0	140	45	0		

## Water Licence(s)

Number	Comments
PM98-038	Expires: 2009/06/01
PM94-082	
PM87-003	
PM92-046	
PM89-164	

## Work History

This was a two person operation in 1989 and a cut, 30 by 300 feet was processed. The following year, the cut was about 200 by 100 feet total. In 1991, three miners worked 7 to 8 hours per day, and mined an area 300 by 500-600 feet. The following season, two miners worked 10 hours per day, and the area mined was 200 by 200 feet. During 1993-1994, preparatory stripping was performed on the right limit of Glacier Creek near the cuts being sluiced. The right limit material was not processed, and one cut measuring 300 by 200 feet was processed. In 1995, a single cut, 250 feet square, was mined, and between 1996-1997, a cut 100 by 200 feet was mined in each year. Durin the 1998-2002 seasons, Prohaszka and one employee worked the site each year. They usually worked an eight hour shift per day, and worked cuts both between the two creeks and on the right limit of Glacier Creek. In 1998 and 1999, one 200 by 300 foot cut was processed each year. The cut in 2000 was 300 feet by 400 feet and the cut in 2001 was 300 by 300 feet. In 2002, one cut 300 feet by 300 feet was mined on the right limit of Glacier

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Creek as well as a cut approximately 150 feet by 150 feet between the creeks. During 2003, Prohaszka continued the operation by himself.

**Production**

<b>Year</b>	<b>Stripped</b>	<b>Sluiced</b>
1997	Unknown	20000 square feet
1996	Unknown	20000 square feet
1995	Unknown	250 square feet
1993	Unknown	60000 square feet
1992	Unknown	40000 square feet
1991	Unknown	90000000 cubic feet
1990	Unknown	20000 square feet
1989	Unknown	9000 square feet

**Equipment**

In 1989 two Cat bulldozers, a D8 and a D9, were used to dig and push pay gravels Two Cat front end loaders, 980 and a 988, were used to feed the wash plant and remove and stack tailings. The wash plant was a 6 foot diameter trommel, 24 feet long with double sluice runs, each 30 inches by 24 feet long with alternating 2 foot sections of angle iron riffles and 2 foot sections of expanded metal riffles. An electric powered, 6-inch submersible pump delivered approximately 1500 igpm, which was used to process about 120 cubic yards per hour. Water was pumped from a small instream reservoir on Big Gold Creek. Wastewater was discharged to out-of-stream settling ponds before releasing it into Glacier Creek.

In 1991, two Caterpillar front-end loaders, models 988 and 980, were used for feeding the sluice plant. Two Caterpillar bulldozers, models D9H and D9G, were used for stripping. A Drott 50 backhoe with a 3/4 cubic yard bucket was used to dig drainage ditches. In 1991, the wash plant was a 6-foot diameter trommel 24 feet long, with double sluice runs 30 inches wide by 24 feet long, alternating 2-foot sections of angle iron riffles and 2-foot sections of expanded metal riffles.

In 1992, the wash plant was a Derocker with two sluice runs, each 4 feet wide by 24 feet long. The trommel processed 130 to 140 loose yards per hour, while the Derocker processed 120. Both plants used 1,600 igpm of water. Water was supplied to the trommel using an electric powered 6-inch submersible pump. Water was supplied to the Derocker using a 10-inch by 8 inch Cornell pump powered by a 6-cylinder GM diesel. Water for this operation was pumped from Big Gold Creek. Settling was accomplished in one large settling pond in old dredge tailings, with the discharge to Glacier Creek.

In 1993, two Caterpillar loaders, models 980 and 988, were used for sluicing and hauling tailings. Three Caterpillar bulldozers, models D9G, D9H and D8K, were used for stripping and pushing up pay gravel. The processing plant was a 24-foot long by 6 1/2 foot diameter trommel, which screened to 3/4 inch. Two sluice runs 16 feet wide by 38 feet long with 12 feet of expanded metal on the lower portion and 2 by 2 inch angle iron riffles on the upper portion were used for recovery. Water was furnished by a 6-inch submersible pump powered by a 6-cylinder Lister engine at a rate of 1,600 igpm. One hundred to 120 loose yards per hour of pay gravel were processed. Process water was pumped from Big Gold Creek. Pre-settling of effluent occurred in a pond immediately downstream from the sluice plant, with final settling in mined-out cuts in the Sixty Mile River valley prior to discharge to Big Gold Creek.

In 1995, two bulldozers, D9G and D9H, two Caterpillar loaders, 980 and 988, and one Drott 50 excavator were used to mine the property. Both of the bulldozers were equipped with U-blades and rippers. The loaders had 5 cubic yard buckets. The excavators had 3/4 cubic yard buckets. The bulldozers were used to strip. The loaders were used to feed the plant and haul tailings. The excavator was used for digging drains and other jobs. In 1995 the wash plant used was a 6 1/2 foot trommel, which fed to 24 foot by 7-foot sluice runs equipped with Hungarian riffles and 3M matting. The slope of the sluice runs was 2.5 inches per foot. In 1996 and 1997 a dump box and a

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40-inch by 40 foot sluice run were used. The sluice run was equipped with 2 inches per foot. A 6-inch Flygt submersible pump powered by a 94 kilowatt Lister generator provided 1600 igpm of water to process 100 loose yards of pay gravel per hour. Water was obtained from Big Gold Creek or when there was enough water, from Glacier Creek. When possible, primary settling was at the sluice site with final settling downstream on Glacier Creek in mined out areas, prior to discharge to the Sixtymile River.

In 1998 to 2003, two caterpillar bulldozers, models D9H and a D9L, both with U-blades and rippers, a Caterpillar 988 loader with a 6-yard bucket and a Drott 50 backhoe were used. Mr. Prohaszka sluiced using a 2-metre diameter trommel which he built on-site. The sluice runs were 24 feet by 8 feet with 2-inch ripples. The plant processed 180 loose cubic yards of material per hour. In 2002, a 3-foot by 6-foot shaker plant was used. It had 7-foot by 7-foot sluice runs equipped with New Zealand live ripples. This plant processed 80 loose yards per hour. Water was supplied to both plants using a 6-inch submersible pump to provide the 1600 imperial gallons per minute. Jigs are used to clean up concentrates from the wash plants. Settling occurred in the first cut on the right limit of Glacier Creek. Prohaszka did not utilize the licenced settling downstream in the Sixtymile River Valley.

### **Landforms**

<b>Landform</b>	<b>Comments</b>
Alluvial Valley	

### **Surficial Geology**

The stratigraphic section was a very thin layer (only one or 2 feet max) of black muck over a very deep gravel layer, which varied from 30 to 80 feet deep. The bottom 5 or 6 feet of gravel plus 3 feet of bedrock were processed. At the site mined in 1991, the ground had a total depth of 22 to 23 feet. One foot of moss lay over an average of 14 feet of frozen black muck, which in turn lay over 8 feet of gravel. The sluice section was 2 to 3 feet of pay gravel and 3 to 4 feet of bedrock. At the site mined in 1993, the waste section was 14 feet of muck covering 4 feet of frozen gravel. The sluice section was 2 1/2 feet of pay gravel and 5 feet of bedrock. In 1995, the sluice section taken at this property was 3 to 4 feet of gravel and 4 feet of bedrock. The waste section varied from 35 to 40 feet of muck and 5 to 6 feet of gravel in 1995 to 20 feet of muck and gravel in 1996 and 1997. All material was frozen. In 1998 and 1999 Prohaszka had to strip 32 feet of frozen muck and 5 feet of waste gravel to get to the 4 feet of pay gravel and 6 feet of bedrock which he sluiced. In 2000 and 2001, the frozen muck layer increased to 40 feet and the pay gravel increased to 5 feet.

### **Bedrock Geology**

Bedrock at the creek mouth is decomposed andesite and andesite breccia. The decomposition extends 4 feet down from the bedrock-gravel interface. Bedrock is also decomposed andesite and andesite breccia. The decomposition extends 4 feet down from the bedrock-gravel interface.

### **Gold Comments**

In 1989 the gold recovered was fine grained with no nuggets and a fineness between 820-840. The gold recovered in 1991 was fine and flat with very little coarse gold, and fineness of 870. In 1993, it was bright, with no nuggets and the purity was 844 fine. During 1995-2002, the gold recovered was mostly very fine grained material with a fineness of 840.

### **References**

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