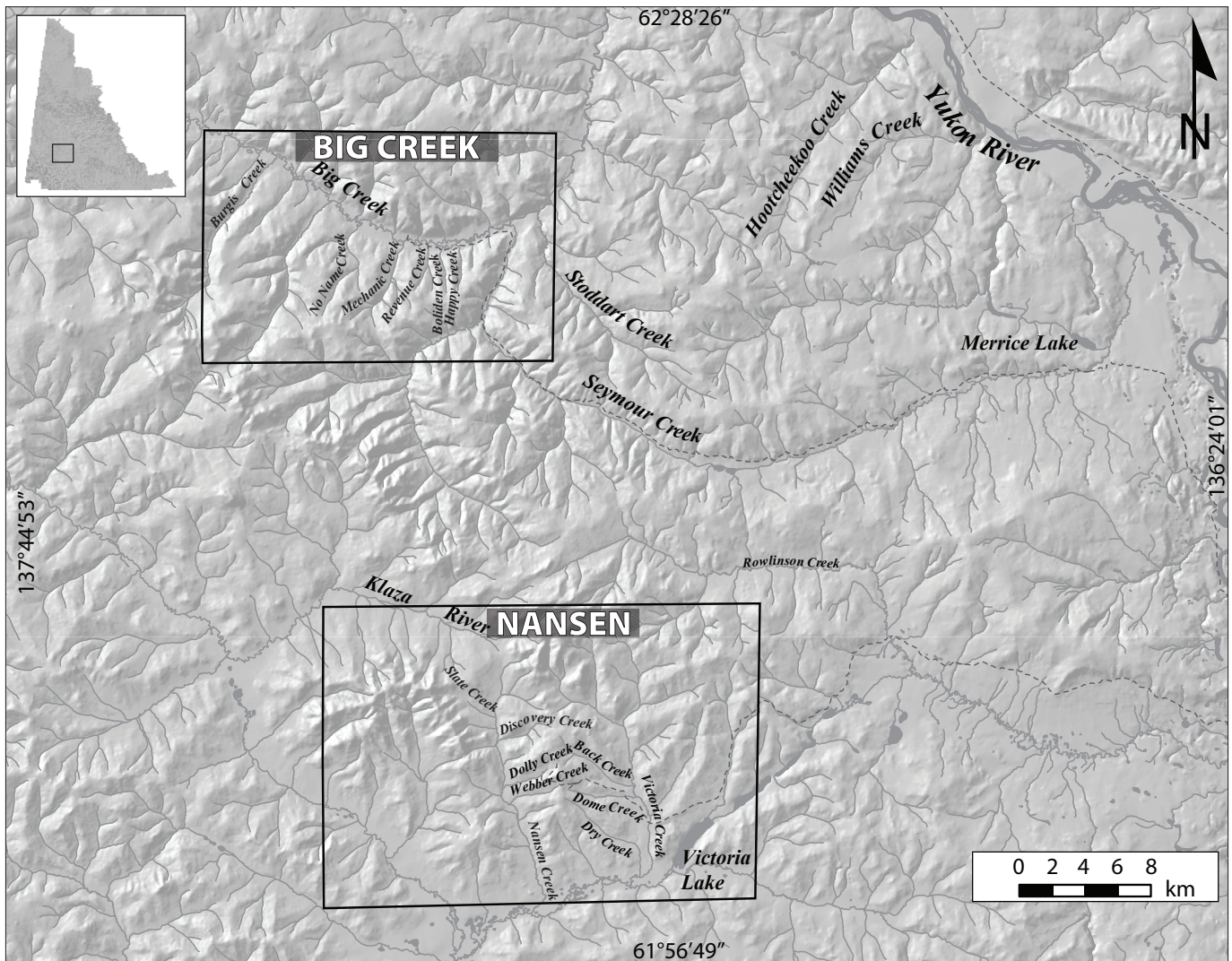


# DAWSON RANGE DRAINAGES

SITES  
163-176



Inset maps are shown on pages following.

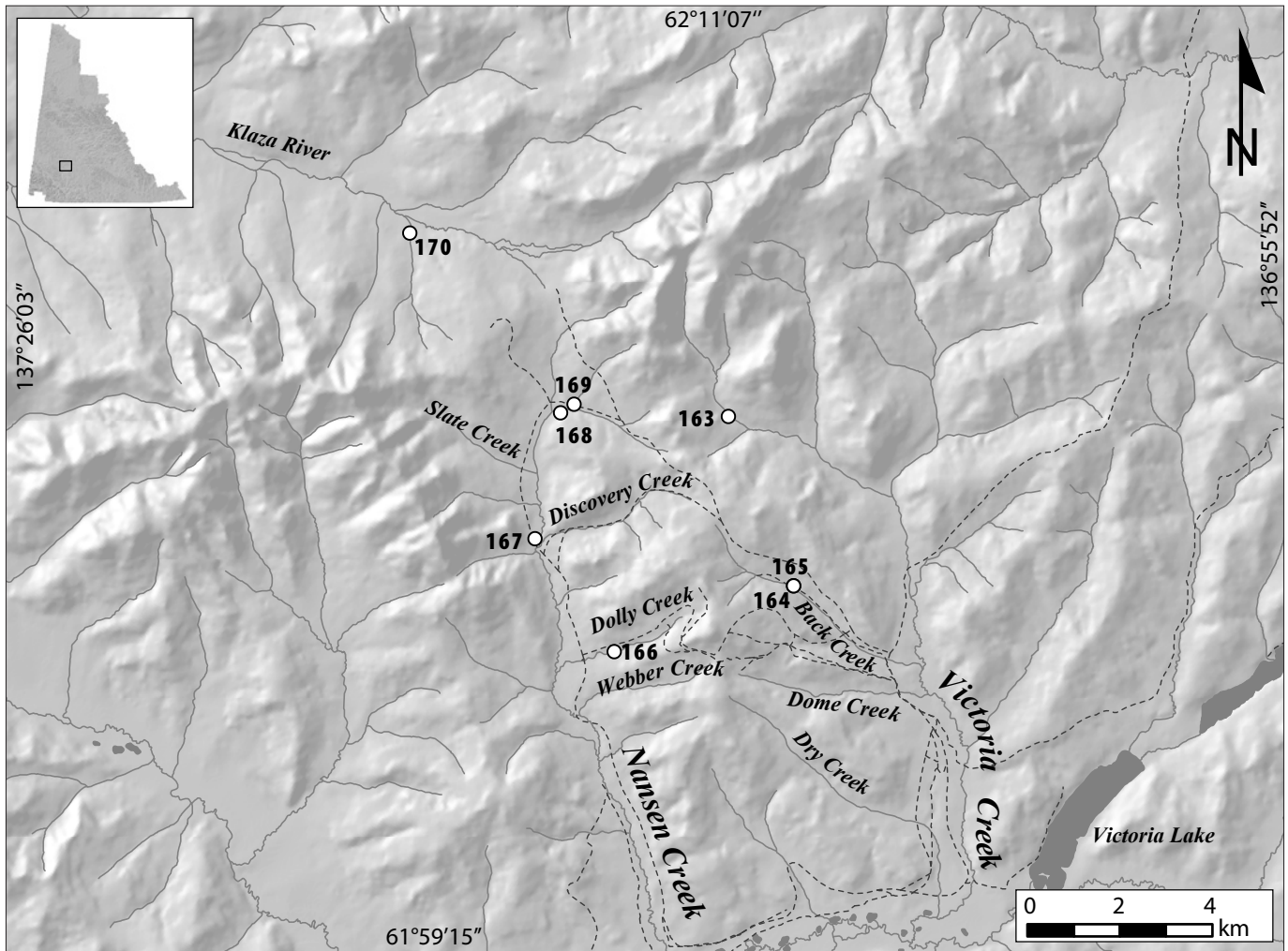


# DAWSON RANGE DRAINAGES

# NANSEN

## PLACER AREA

SITES  
163-170



### LEGEND

- 163.....Trout
- 164.....Trerice - Back Creek
- 165.....38557 Yukon Inc.
- 166.....Frizzell
- 167.....Johnson Exploration
- 168.....Coghlin
- 169.....38241 Yukon Inc.
- 170.....Trerice - unnamed tributary

**VICTORIA CREEK, a tributary of Nisling Creek**

1151/3

2004: 62°05'50"N, 137°08'41"W

**John Trout, Bud Davis**

Water license: PM99-133 (2005)

Active producer (2003-2004)

**Operation no. 163**

**LOCATION** The property was located on the left limit of Victoria Creek, across from its confluence with Eva Creek, locally known as upper West Victoria Creek.

**WORK HISTORY AND MINING CUTS** John Trout began operating here in 1994 and mined for a time each summer until he passed away in September, 2004. In 2003 and 2004, a crew of three miners worked single 10-hour shifts. Six cuts were processed each year, each with dimensions of 100 by 100 feet (30 x 30 m). Lloyd Wade purchased the operation from the Trout estate and began testing ground in 2006.

**EQUIPMENT AND WATER TREATMENT** Equipment included a Caterpillar D8H with U-blade and ripper, a Caterpillar D7E with a straight blade and winch, an Insley 875 excavator with a ¾-cubic-yard bucket and a Caterpillar 966 loader with a 5-cubic-yard bucket. The wash plant consisted of a Simmons 4- by 8-foot screen deck classifying to minus 1 inch and

feeding to a 24-inch-wide sluice run with an active water riffle section, an 8-foot riffle section and 8 feet of expanded metal. A 4- by 4-inch pump supplied enough water to process 45 loose cubic yards per hour. Water was acquired from Victoria Creek and settled out-of-stream. Clean-ups were done with a pulsating jig, followed by classifying screens and pans.

**SURFICIAL GEOLOGY AND STRATIGRAPHY** The section was from 15 to 20 feet (5 to 6 m) thick with the localized frozen lens. The largest rocks were boulders 2 feet (0.6 m) in diameter with the average size less than 1 foot (0.3 m) in diameter. The lowest 10 feet (3 m) of gravel plus 1 to 2 feet (0.3 to 0.6 m) of bedrock were sluiced.

**BEDROCK GEOLOGY** At this site, Cretaceous felsic volcanic and granitic plutonic rocks lie in fault contact with each other. The fault runs roughly parallel to the creek in the location of the operation.

**GOLD CHARACTERISTICS** The gold was reported as flat with some angular and wire pieces. Approximately 15% of the gold was plus 10 mesh-size rounded nuggets, some containing quartz. Considerable black sand was encountered and the fineness was 770 to 780.



*John Trout's property on Victoria Creek showing reclamation in the foreground, Ennsley excavator and washplant in the background. Photo taken in 2006 after the ground was purchased by Lloyd Wade.*

**BACK CREEK, a tributary of Victoria Creek**

1151/3

2005: 62°03'48"N, 137°07'18"W

**Bill Trerice**

Water license: PM99-047 (2009)

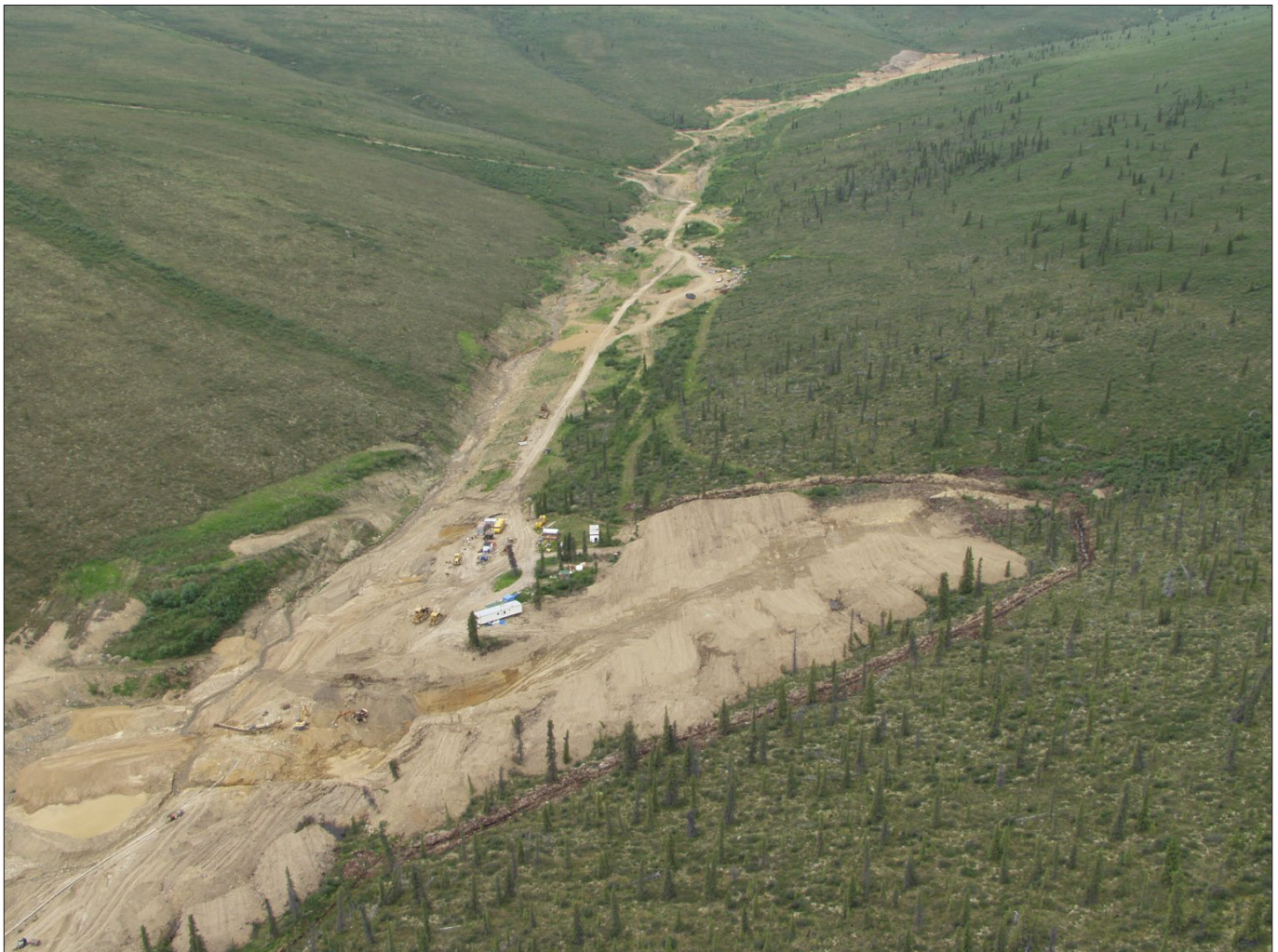
Active producer (2003-2005)

**Operation no. 164**

**LOCATION** The area of mining activity was in the valley and on the left limit of Back Creek approximately 2 miles (3 km) upstream of the confluence with Victoria Creek.

**WORK HISTORY AND MINING CUTS** Bill Trerice began mining here in 1999, and mined until 2005. In 2003, a crew of two miners worked a single 9-hour shift daily to process two cuts: one 100 by 150 feet (30 x 45 m) and one 50 by 150 feet (15 x 45 m). The operation concentrated approximately 100 feet (30 m) from the valley centre on the left limit, near the confluence of an unnamed side pup. In 2004, the same crew worked a daily 8-hour shift to mine a cut 130 by 200 feet (40 x 60 m). In 2005, a crew of three miners worked a daily 9-hour shift to mine one cut 150 by 450 feet (45 x 140 m).

**EQUIPMENT AND WATER TREATMENT** In 2003 and 2004, a Komatsu D355A bulldozer with U-blade and ripper and a Caterpillar D8H with U-blade and ripper were used for stripping, while a Komatsu 220 excavator with a  $\frac{3}{4}$ -cubic-yard bucket was used to feed the wash plant. A Case 125B excavator with a  $\frac{3}{4}$ -cubic-yard bucket was used for ditching and stockpiling pay. Mr. Trerice also had a churn drill on the site for testing. The wash plant consisted of a 4- by 26-foot Beaver trommel, supplied with 1200 igpm by a Monarch 6-inch pump powered by a 30 hp electric motor. The processing rate was 35 loose cubic yards per hour. Effluent was settled in-stream and recycled. Due to low water supply, only 300 hours were spent sluicing in 2004. In 2005, the Komatsu D355A bulldozer was used for stripping while a Komatsu WA250 loader was used for hauling overburden, moving pay to the wash plant and feeding the wash plant. The Komatsu 220 excavator was used for ditching and stockpiling and the Caterpillar D8H was used for stockpiling. The same wash plant was used but the processing rate was reduced to 30 loose cubic yards per hour. Effluent was settled in-stream and



*Aerial view of Bill Trerice's operation on Back Creek, 2003.*

recycled. A total of 600 hours were spent sluicing. Clean-ups were done each year with the ‘Green Machine’.

**SURFICIAL GEOLOGY AND STRATIGRAPHY** From 2003 to 2005, the section consisted of 30 to 45 feet (10 to 15 m) of frozen glacial till overlying 10 to 15 feet (3 to 5 m) of pay gravel on bedrock. All of the material below the glacial till was sluiced.

**BEDROCK GEOLOGY** Bedrock at this site is decomposed schist.

**GOLD CHARACTERISTICS** In 2003, the gold was described as angular with 80% minus 12 mesh, but with some nuggets up to 2 ounces, including a few with attached quartz. The fineness was 820. Gold recovered in 2004 was finer grained with very few nuggets, and the fineness was 820. In 2005, the gold became coarser on the upstream end of the cut, and was similar to that recovered in 2003. The fineness was 815.

**BACK CREEK, a tributary of Victoria Creek**

1151/3

2006: 62°03'48"N, 137°07'18"W

38557 Yukon Inc.

Water license: PM99-047 (2009, Licensee: Bill Terrice)

Active producer (2006)

**Operation no. 165**

**LOCATION** The area of mining activity was in the valley and on the left limit of Back Creek approximately 2 miles (3 km) upstream of the confluence with Victoria Creek.

**WORK HISTORY AND MINING CUTS** The operators bought this property from Bill Terrice in 2005. They had sluiced approximately 1800 cubic yards (1400 m<sup>3</sup>) as of September 6, 2006.

**EQUIPMENT AND WATER TREATMENT** In 2006, equipment on site included a loader, Caterpillar D8H bulldozer and wash plant. The operator was recycling water for sluicing and used a total of four ponds.

**SURFICIAL GEOLOGY AND STRATIGRAPHY** The section consisted of 30 to 45 feet (10 to 15 m) of frozen glacial till overlying 10



*Bill Terrice sluicing on Back Creek, 2004.*

to 15 feet (3 to 5 m) of pay gravel on bedrock. All of the material below the glacial till was sluiced.

**BEDROCK GEOLOGY** Bedrock at this site is decomposed schist.

**GOLD CHARACTERISTICS** Gold was described as a mixture of fine and coarse grains. The fineness was 815 to 820.

#### DISCOVERY CREEK, a tributary of Nansen Creek

1151/3 2005: 62°03'09"N, 137°11'53"W

Don Frizzell

Water license: PM98-058 (2008)

Active producer (2003-2005)

Operation no. 166

**LOCATION** This operation was located on Discovery Creek, a left-limit tributary to Nansen Creek.

**WORK HISTORY AND MINING CUTS** Don Frizzell began mining on Discovery Creek in 2002. No mining was conducted in 2003, although some access road repairs were done. In 2005, mining was done on weekends over the summer. Two areas were stripped as a test and improvements were made to settling ponds. One small cut was mined at the confluence of Eliza Creek with Discovery Creek.

**EQUIPMENT AND WATER TREATMENT** In 2005, equipment included a Caterpillar D7E bulldozer, a Caterpillar 966 loader, and a Caterpillar 235 excavator. The wash plant consisted of a grizzly feeding into a 4- by 19-foot trommel which screened to minus ¾-inch and fed two 2- by 12-foot oscillating sluice runs. Tailings were stacked with a 32-foot conveyor. Water was pumped at 1000 igpm by a GM671-powered 8- by 6-inch pump and material was processed at 40 to 50 loose cubic yards per hour. Water was acquired from Discovery Creek, groundwater and permafrost melt and effluent was settled into an in-stream pond with some recirculation. Clean-ups were done with a two-cell jig.

**SURFICIAL GEOLOGY AND STRATIGRAPHY** The area of mining activity was in a steep, narrow valley with 2 to 6 feet (0.6 to 2 m) of partly frozen overburden which contained boulders to a depth of up to 3 feet (1 m). In 2005, the operator exposed some clay layers on north-facing slopes.

**BEDROCK GEOLOGY** Bedrock along the main stream varies from fractured to decomposed quartz feldspar porphyry and granodiorite. On the South Fork the bedrock is yellow decomposed schist.

**GOLD CHARACTERISTICS** In 2005, the gold was very fine grained with some small flat nuggets ½ inch to ¾ inch (1 to 2 cm). Black sand was abundant and some mercury was noted. The fineness was 850.

#### NANSEN CREEK, a tributary of Nisling Creek

1151/3

2005: 62°04'32"N, 137°13'42"W

Johnson Exploration, Brian Johnson, Loren Johnson

Water license: PM04-449 (2015)

Active producer (2003-2006)

Operation no. 167

**LOCATION** The property was located on the left limit of Nansen Creek, between just downstream of the mouth of Dolly Creek and just upstream of the mouth of Discovery Creek.

**WORK HISTORY AND MINING CUTS** Brian and Loren Johnson have been mining on Nansen Creek since 1994. From 2003 to 2006, the Johnson brothers continued daily 12-hour shifts to mine cuts averaging 200 by 325 feet (60 x 100 m) each year.

In 2003, extensive reclamation work was conducted on the property and sluicing operations continued. In 2004, operators stripped the lower claim to a depth of approximately 30 feet (10 m). Pay material was transported by loader upstream to the sluice plant. In 2005, they started stripping the claims on the left limit of Nansen Creek above the mouth of Discovery Creek. In 2006, they diverted Discovery Creek to the left limit of Nansen Creek and began mining the upper claim area.

**EQUIPMENT AND WATER TREATMENT** Equipment consisted of a Caterpillar D9H for stripping, stacking pay and reclamation; a Caterpillar 235 excavator for stripping, establishing drainage and stacking pay; a Caterpillar 988B loader for stripping, hauling pay and tailings; a Caterpillar 980C loader for stripping, hauling pay and tailings; and a Caterpillar 966D loader for hauling pay and tailings. The wash plant consisted of a 16-foot belt feeder which fed pay to a 7-foot-diameter by 40-foot-long trommel which classified to minus 1 inch. The two 26-foot sluice runs, each had 10 feet of live bottom riffles followed by 16 feet of 2½-inch expanded metal screens. Water was supplied from Nansen Creek and pumped by a 4- by 4-inch Cummins-powered pump at 800 igpm, enough to process 100 loose cubic yards per hour. Effluent was treated in two large ponds and discharged back to Nansen Creek. Clean-ups were done with an IRD Duplex clean-up jig with two 12- by 12-inch cells, and final concentration was done with a magnet and gold wheel.

**SURFICIAL GEOLOGY AND STRATIGRAPHY** The section consisted of 4 to 6 feet (1 to 2 m) of organic material overlying 12 to 16 feet (4 to 5 m) of sandy gravel overburden overlying 6 feet (2 m) of clay-rich cobbly gravel. Most of the lower gravel was sluiced.

**GOLD CHARACTERISTICS** The majority of the gold was 50 mesh and finer, but with localized nuggets weighing less than 12 grams (0.4 oz). The fineness was 800.



*Johnson Exploration mining on Nansen Creek at the mouth of Discovery, 2003.*

**EAST FORK OF NANSEN, a tributary of Nansen Creek**

1151/3

2003: 62°05'57"N, 137°12'36"W

**Jack Coghlin, Beryl Potter**

Water licenses: PM98-069 (2009), PM97-051 (2008)

Active producer (2003)

**Operation no. 168**

**LOCATION** This operation was located on the East Fork of Nansen Creek.

**WORK HISTORY AND MINING CUTS** Jack Coghlin and Beryl Potter began mining on the East Fork of Nansen Creek in 1995, after moving from Back Creek. They operated every season until 2004. In 2003, Coghlin began the season stripping

an area on the left limit of East Fork of Nansen Creek, just upstream from the previous seasons' mining area. Overburden was stripped on the right limit of the south fork of Nansen Creek, above the settling facilities. This operation was sold in 2004 to Frank Yan (38241 Yukon Inc.).

**EQUIPMENT AND WATER TREATMENT** Caterpillar D9H and D7F bulldozers, both equipped with U-blades and rippers, were utilized for stripping and pushing pay. A 6-cubic-yard Trojan loader was used to feed the sluice plant and move tailings. The wash plant included a 10- by 16-foot hopper over a 6- by 24-foot trommel with a ½-inch screen, feeding a 2- by 24-foot sluice run lined with 2 feet of riffles. The

amount of pay material processed was 30 to 40 cubic yards per hour. Effluent was settled out-of-stream in a series of ponds, the largest of which measured 100 by 50 by 12 feet. During periods of low water, the operator recycled 100% of the process water and during periods of normal water flows, a 40% recycle rate was employed. Water was acquired from the East Fork and provided to the sluice plant by a GM electric motor-powered 6-inch Flyte pump at a rate of 800 igpm.

**SURFICIAL GEOLOGY AND STRATIGRAPHY** Overburden was 2 to 4 feet (0.6 to 1 m) in thickness overlying about 4 feet (1 m) of gravel. The pay zone was generally 3 to 4 feet (0.9 to 1 m) thick and the size of material ranged from pebble size to small boulders. Bedrock near the mouth was between 25 to 30 feet (8 to 9 m) from surface.

**GOLD CHARACTERISTICS** Gold ranged from very fine-grained dust to rough-textured nuggets. The majority of gold was in the range of 35 mesh to 50 mesh. Fineness ranged from 790 to 820.

#### **EAST FORK OF NANSEN, a tributary of Nansen Creek**

1151/3 2004: 62°06'05"N, 137°12'31"W

**38241 Yukon Inc., Frank Yan**

Water licenses: PM98-069 (2009), PM97-051 (2008)

Active producer (2005-2006)

**Operation no. 169**

**LOCATION** This operation was located on the East Fork of Nansen Creek, and was bought by Frank Yan from Jack Coghlin in 2004.

**WORK HISTORY AND MINING CUTS** Frank Yan bought this property from Jack Coghlin in 2004 and began mining in 2005.

A crew of two miners worked a daily 10-hour shift to process two cuts: one 150 by 40 by 10 feet (45 x 10 x 3 m) or 2222 cubic yards (1700 m<sup>3</sup>), and one 200 by 100 by 6 feet (60 x 30 x 2 m) or 4444 cubic yards (3400 m<sup>3</sup>). In 2006, a series of test holes were excavated along the bottom end of the East Fork of Nansen Creek.

**EQUIPMENT AND WATER TREATMENT** Equipment consisted of a Caterpillar D9H with U-blade and ripper, a Trojan loader with a 6-cubic-yard bucket, a Michigan loader with a 4-cubic-yard bucket and a Hitachi excavator with a 1-cubic-yard bucket. The wash plant consisted of a 6- by 24-foot trommel with a hopper and two 2- by 24-foot sluice runs with expanded metal, active water riffles and Nomad matting. Water was acquired from the East Fork of Nansen and supplied by a 16-inch Flyte electric pump with a throughput of 400 igpm. Effluent was settled in four out-of-stream ponds. Clean-ups were done with a long tom and gold wheel.

**SURFICIAL GEOLOGY AND STRATIGRAPHY** The section consisted of 2 feet (0.6 m) of organic material overlying 4 feet (1 m) of overburden and 4 to 6 feet (1 to 2 m) of pay gravel. The gravel was frozen, orange and brown, and ranged in size from pea gravel to 12 inches (30 cm), with the average 1 inch (2 cm) in size. The section was above the water table.

**GOLD CHARACTERISTICS** The gold was described as rough, and mainly 35 to 60 mesh in size but ranging down to 100 mesh. It was dull in colour and the fineness was 800.

#### **UNNAMED CREEK, a tributary of Klaza River**

1151/3

2006: 62°08'12"N, 137°16'23"W

**Bill Trerice**

Water license: PM03-325 (2009)

Exploration (2006)

**Operation no. 170**

**LOCATION** This operation was located on an unnamed left-limit tributary of Klaza River in the vicinity of Ted Tullis' 1992 operation.

**WORK HISTORY AND MINING CUTS** Mr. Trerice worked a daily 10-hour shift drilling, stripping and testing in 2006. One cut 500 by 120 feet (150 x 40 m) was stripped along the right limit of the creek in preparation for slucing in 2007.

**EQUIPMENT AND WATER TREATMENT** Equipment consisted of a Case 125B excavator for stripping and testing, and a Hough 100 loader for stripping.

**SURFICIAL GEOLOGY AND STRATIGRAPHY** From 2 to 3 feet (0.6 to 0.9 m) of black muck was exposed overlying a thin gravel. Bedrock was not reached.



*38421 Yukon Inc. mining on the East Fork of Nansen Creek, 2005; view looking northwest.*