

NAME OF PROPERTY **McDAME CREEK**

OBJECT LOCATED **McDame Creek at Centreville.**

UNCERTAINTY IN METERS Lat. **59°16'20"** Long. **129°24'**

Mining Division **Liard** District **Cassiar**

County Township or Parish

Lot Concession or Range

Sec Tp. R.

OWNER OR OPERATOR AND ADDRESS

HISTORY OF EXPLORATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Placer gold was discovered in McDame creek in 1874 and during that year gold to the value of \$200,000 was recovered. The following year recovery increased to \$300,000, after which there was a gradual decline, and in 1895 the yield was only \$9,600. From 1874 to 1895 this area yielded placer gold to the value of \$1,597,500. This all came from individual operators using crude shovelling methods on shallow ground of the low bench, and also some limited drifting on the old-channel high bench. The records show an average daily yield from the old workings of \$6 to \$100 to the shovel when mining was at its best. Many Chinese miners participated in these operations. The gold was valued at \$17.75 to \$18 per ounce. Subsequent activity was sporadic and generally of limited extent; the larger operations include the following: The Princess May Hydraulic Mining Company, Limited, during the period 1916 to 1921. The Pendleton Gold Mining Corporation, of Seattle, carried out a limited amount of drag-line work below Centreville between the years 1923-1926, and in 1928. Moccasin Mines, Ltd., operated a washing plant fed by a dragline during 1948-1949.

DESCRIPTION OF DEPOSIT

McDame Creek flows easterly from McDame Lake for about 6 miles in a broad, drift-filled valley underlain by volcanic rocks of the Sylvester Group. For the next 5 miles to Centreville the valley is narrow and the stream has cut gorges in rocks of mainly pre-Sylvester age. The placer gold, much of it relatively coarse, has been derived from gold-quartz veins that are abundant in the Sylvester volcanics in the vicinity of McDame Lake. Practically all of the gold recovered to 1895 was from the shallow areas of the low bench of the old channel on the north side of the creek, the richest ground of this category covering what appeared to be the swing-over of the old channel from the north to the south bank in the vicinity of Centreville. Records indicate this area contained the richest shallow ground worked by "old-timers" in British Columbia. From 1 mile below Centreville to Quartzrock creek, a distance of about 13 miles see Card 2

Associated minerals or products of value

HISTORY OF PRODUCTION

Recorded production for McDame Creek for the period 1874-1945 totals 64,117 ounces of gold.

Recorded production from the tributaries, Somers, Gold, and Snow creeks for the period 1876-1910 totals 4,703 ounces (Holland, 1950).

REFERENCES

- Mandy, Joseph T.; McDame Creek; Report of Minister of Mines, British Columbia; 1931, pp. 54-61.
- Black, J.M.; McDame Creek; Report of Minister of Mines, British Columbia; 1947, p. 188.
- Gabrielse, H.; McDame Map-Area, Cassiar District, British Columbia; Memoir 319, p. 111, Geol. Surv. of Canada, 1963.
- Holland, Stuart S.; Placer Gold Production of British Columbia; Bulletin No. 28, pp. 57, 59, British Columbia Dept. of Mines, 1950.
- Hanson, G. & McNaughton, D.A.; Eagle-McDame Area, Cassiar District, British Columbia; Memoir 194, p. 13, Geol. Surv. of Canada, 1936.
- Mineral Development Sector; Corporation Files: "Moccasin Mines, Ltd."

MAP REFERENCES

Map 1110 A, McDame, (Geol.), Sc. 1":4 miles - Accomp. Memoir 319.

*Map 104 P/6, Good Hope Lake, (Topo.), Sc. 1:50,000.

Map 104 P/5, Cassiar, (Topo.), Sc. 1:50,000.

REMARKS

Comp./Rev. By	DMacR							
Date	3-74							

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DESCRIPTION OF DEPOSIT (continued)

upstream, what appears to be an old channel occupies sections of the high-bench ground on the north bank of the creek. Some drifting in this high-bench ground also yielded rich returns. The richest ground and the most extensive "old-timers" workings covered the lower sections of several creeks flowing from the north and cutting across the high-bench ground, including Somers, Gold, Hot, and Snow creeks. There is little doubt that the gold recovered from the lower sections of these transverse creeks resulted from a reconcentration of the gold in the old-channel high bench ground.