

## NAME OF PROPERTY

COTTONWOOD RIVER

OBJECT LOCATED - Confluence of Cottonwood River and  
Umity Creek.

UNCERTAINTY IN METRES 100. Lat. 53°05'15" Long. 122°14'30"

Mining Division Cariboo District Cariboo

County Township or Parish

Lot Concession or Range

Sec Tp. R.

## OWNER OR OPERATOR AND ADDRESS

## DESCRIPTION OF DEPOSIT

The formations cut by the river consist of alternating bands of volcanic and sedimentary rocks. The bands are usually several hundred feet in width. The sediments are chiefly thin-bedded argillites. They are considerably folded, strike mainly northwesterly with southwesterly dip. The volcanics are andesitic and contacts are very poorly defined.

These rocks are intruded at a number of places by batholithic tongues and by stocks of considerable size. Although the intruded rocks show considerable pyritization at different points, there is little evidence of the existence of quartz veins in the formation exposed by the river. However the presence of a large amount of quartz pebbles in the pre-Glacial gravels suggest that quartz veins occurred in the eroded formations.

The gold occurred mostly in bench-type deposits (remnants of earlier stream beds) and originated either from glacial materials or from the reworking of glacial or pre-glacial channel deposits.

Associated minerals or products of value

## HISTORY OF EXPLORATION AND DEVELOPMENT

The Cottonwood River flows northwestward to join the Fraser River about 12 miles north of Quesnel. The Cottonwood River has incised a valley to a depth of 300 to 350 feet in the Fraser Plateau. Heading north, the river first meanders in a wide valley, then enters a narrow valley of steep-rocked canyons, then cuts through a mass of glacial debris hundreds of feet in thickness and finally, passes through a second short rock canyon, terminating at the bridge on the Prince George-Quesnel Highway.

Extensive old workings are situated on the right bank of the river upstream from Deep Creek, at the head of 10-Mile Canyon, and at the lower end of this canyon.

A number of individual operators have worked the Cottonwood River over the years. Well over 90% of the gold produced to 1945, was recovered during the period 1874-1895. These deposits were largely worked by hand.

In 1936, one company, Cinema Gold Placers Ltd., and a number of individuals, were actively engaged in mining the bench deposits.

By the late 1940's, a number of companies, including the Umity Valley Gold Mines Limited and Swift River Dredging Co. Ltd. had acquired a large number of placer leases. Dredges were used in most of the operations and the volume of gravels worked increased tremendously.

During the following years most of the placer activity on the Cottonwood River reverted to small scale private workings. In 1972, Brent Explorations Ltd. performed some \$30,000 worth of work in testing a section of the river 4 miles east.

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Mineral Development Sector, Department of Energy, Mines and Resources, Ottawa.

## HISTORY OF PRODUCTION

Recorded production up to and including 1945, totals 9,984 oz. of placer gold recovered from the Cottonwood River.

## MAP REFERENCES

- Map 3-1969, Prince George, (Geol.), Sc. 1:250,000 - Preliminary Series Geol. Surv. of Canada.  
 Map 93 G/1 W, Cottonwood, (Topo.), Sc. 1:50,000.  
 #Map 93 G/1 E, Cottonwood, (Topo.), Sc. 1:50,000.  
 Fig. 4, Placer Creeks in part of the Cariboo and Quesnel Mining Divisions - Bulletin No. 28, British Columbia Dept. of Mines.  
 Map 49-1960, Prince George, (Geol.), Sc. 1":4 miles.  
 Map 1548 G, Hixon, (Aeromag.), Sc. 1":1 mile.

## REMARKS

Comp./Rev. By	DH						
Date	11-75						

## REFERENCES

- Reports of Minister of Mines, British Columbia: 1874, p. 5; 1878, p. 373; 1883, p. 402; 1885, p. 380; 1890, p. 360; 1893, p. 1037; 1894, p. 726; 1896, p. 508; 1897, p. 472; 1898, p. 979; 1899, p. 574; 1901, p. 954; 1902, p. 60; 1904, p. 44; 1921, p. 113; 1922, p. 120; 1932, p. 99; 1935, p. C-37; 1936, p. C-17; 1938, p. C-39; 1939, p. A-107; 1940, p. A-94; 1941, p. A-88; 1942, p. A-88; 1943, p. A-83; 1944, p. 78; 1945, p. 126; 1946, p. 197; 1947, p. 194; 1948, p. 177; 1949, p. 230; 1950, p. 200; 1951, p. 205; 1952, p. 238; 1953, p. 176; 1955, p. 85; 1956, p. 141; 1960, p. 123; 1961, p. 133; 1962, p. 141.
- Geology, Exploration, and Mining; British Columbia Dept. of Mines: 1972, p. 568; 1973, p. 526.
- Holland, S.H.; Placer Gold Production of British Columbia; Bulletin No. 28, British Columbia Dept. of Mines, 1950.
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- Galloway, J.D.; Placer Mining in British Columbia, British Columbia Dept. of Mines, Bulletin No. 1, 1933.
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- Mineral Development Sector; Corporation Files: "Brent Explorations Ltd. (Prospectus - May 1972).