MME Form 9
Rev. Nov. 65

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
Geological Survey

OFFICIAL DOCKET FILE Contract No. _____ Docket No. 6693

Application
- [x] Denied
- [ ] Withdrawn

Contract
- [ ] Terminated - Not Certified
- [ ] Terminated - Certified
- [ ] Cancelled
- [ ] Royalty Agreement

The records contained in this file are marked (x) and arranged in this order:

Folder No. 1:

Left Side

- [ ] Royalty Audits
- [ ] Certification of Discovery
- [ ] Closing Letter
- [ ] Cost Audits
- [ ] Termination Notice or Agreement
- [ ] Recision Notice
- [ ] Assignment of Contract
- [ ] Contract Amendments
- [ ] Contract with all exhibits and annexes
- [ ] Owner's Consent to Lien and Subordination Agreement
- [x] Application and Attachments

Right Side

- [ ] Project Summary (final)
- [ ] Work Completed Analysis (final)

All other material filed in chronological order including the following reports if checked:

- [ ] Field Team Semiannual Report for Certified Project
- [ ] Final Field Team Report (Tab)
- [ ] Operator's Final Report (Tab)
- [ ] Interim Field Team Reports
- [ ] Operator's monthly reports and all attachments
- [ ] On-site Exam. Report (Tab)
- [ ] Settlement Sheets
- [ ] Drill Logs

Additional Folders:

Left Side

Folders No. _____: Reports

- [ ] Analysis of Semiannual Inspection Reports
- [ ] Project Summary (Interim) by MME Engineers

Right Side

- [ ] Field Team Semiannual Report for Certified Project
- [ ] Field Team Interim Reports
- [ ] Operator's Monthly Reports with Transmittal, Narrative and Maps

Folders No. _____: Maps (Use pocket folder or envelope)

Folders No. _____: Settlement Sheets

Folders No. _____: Drill Logs

Folders No. _____: Royalty Material

72195-65

MME FORM 6 REFERENCE SLIP

REV. 2-59 OFFICE OF MINERALS EXPLORATION

	DATE	INITIALS
TO: Chief OME		
1. Re Forwarding new application (Gold)	1/29/68	RPW
2. Walter E. Gould A., and Thomas J. Riedberg		
3. ~~Wallace Power~~		
4. Idaho County, Idaho		
5.		
FROM:		

OFFICIAL COPY
O. M. E.
RECEIVED
JAN 31 1968
INITIALS CODE

FOR: Check items for action desired

____ Action ____ Reply for signature over
____ Approval ____ Investigate ____ Surname
____ Comment ____ Recommendations ____ Signature
____ Conference ____ Rewrite ____ Title
____ Instructions X Your information

REMARKS:

INT.-DUP. SEC., WASH., D.C. M56300-62

MME Form 40
Jan. 65

RECEIVED
JAN 10 1968

Budget Bureau No. 42-R1508
Approval expires Dec. 31, 1968

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

APPLICATION FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE IN MINERALS EXPLORATION

Pursuant to Public Law 85–701 (72 Stat. 700; 30 U.S.C. 641)

NAME OF APPLICANT *(Full legal name and mailing address as they should appear on contract if one is executed.)*

Walter E. Lindsey, Gerald A. Lindsey,
and Thomas J. Lindsey
Box 213
Grangeville, Idaho 83530

APPLICANT DO NOT USE THIS BLOCK

DOCKET NUMBER: 6693

DATE RECEIVED: 1/31/68

REGION: I

DIVISION CODE:

BUSINESS ORGANIZATION *(Check one)*

INDIVIDUAL	
CORPORATION	
PARTNERSHIP	X
OTHER *(Specify)*	

STATE IN WHICH FIRM IS ORGANIZED: Idaho

LIST CORPORATE OFFICERS OR PARTNERS HERE, IF APPLICABLE

NAME	ADDRESS	TITLE
Walter E. Lindsey	Box 213 Grangeville, Idaho	1/3 partner
Gerald A. Lindsey	Whitebird, Idaho	1/3 partner
Thomas J. Lindsey	Whitebird, Idaho	1/3 partner

MINERAL(S) FOR WHICH YOU WISH TO EXPLORE: Gold

ESTIMATED COST OF PROJECT: $ 28,000.00

PROPERTY NAME	LOCATION COUNTY	STATE
Wildcat Placer	Idaho	Idaho

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

Before filling out this application, please read the *OME Regulations for Obtaining Federal Assistance in Financing Explorations for Mineral Reserves* (30 CFR Chap. III). To assure prompt action, your application must provide all applicable material and information specified on the back of this application form. Avoid unnecessary correspondence and delays by submitting complete and accurate information. *Please submit two copies of this application and all accompanying papers* except as otherwise noted. Place your name and address on each sheet. Each item of information, maps, and reports required as a part of this application is described on the back of this form. Identify each attached statement by the item number to which it applies. If an item does not apply to your application, show the item number on your statement and after it write "not applicable." Maps or sketches should be used to supplement narrative descriptions of the property location and boundaries in item 2, existing mine workings and geology in item 3, and the proposed exploration work in item 5. When this information is not too complex, all of it may be shown on one map or sketch. All documents and other attachments submitted as a part of this application, except those in item 3(g) which you mark to be returned, become the property of the Government and will not be returned to the applicant. Send true copies, *not originals*, of leases, contracts, and other documents which are an essential part of your business records. *File this application with the Office of Minerals Exploration, Department of the Interior,* ~~Washington, D.C., or with the nearest OME Field Office.~~ Washington, D. C., 20242, or with the nearest OME Field Office.

CERTIFICATION

The undersigned, whether as an individual, corporate officer, partner, or otherwise, both in his own behalf and acting for the applicant, certifies that the information set forth in this form and accompanying papers is correct and complete, to the best of his knowledge and belief, and that he would not ordinarily undertake the proposed exploration under current conditions and circumstances at his sole expense.

January 8, 1968
DATED

Gerald A. Lindsey
Walter E. Lindsey
BY *(Signature)*

~~Representative of the~~ Partners
TITLE

Thomas J. Lindsey Jr

A wilfully false statement or certification to any Department or Agency of the United States Government is a criminal offense. U. S. Code, Title 18, Sec. 1001.

INFORMATION REQUIRED WITH THIS APPLICATION

1. Financial Eligibility:

(a) Submit evidence of efforts made within 90 days preceding the filing of this application to obtain credit from your bank of account and at least one other banking institution or other private source of credit. Such evidence shall include true copies of correspondence which show: (1) date of loan request, (2) amount and terms requested, (3) proposed use of loan funds, and (4) the replies from credit sources. If the loan was offered under terms which you consider unreasonable, state why you consider them so.

(b) List names and addresses of affiliated, parent, or controlling companies or organizations and state extent and nature of their interest.

(c) State how you propose to furnish your share of the cost of the exploration work.

2. Applicant's Rights in Land:

(a) State your interest in the land and mineral rights, whether owner, lessee, purchaser under contract, or other. If you are not the owner, submit one true copy of the lease, contract, or other document (with address of owner) under which you control the property. Describe all liens, mortgages, or other encumbrances on the land and state book and page number and official place where recorded.

(b) State the legal description (section, township, and range; metes and bounds; patent number of claims) of the land upon which you wish to explore and all adjacent land which you own or control. Describe any part of the land or workings which should not be subject to Government royalty and liens. If the land consists of unpatented claims, state book and page number for each recorded location notice, including amended locations, and official place where recorded. State all the names by which you know the property.

(c) For all land or mineral rights encumbered or not owned, submit five copies of Lien and Subordination Agreements on MME Form 52. If the agreements cannot be obtained, state reasons and provide copies of letters of refusal.

3. Physical Description:

(a) Describe in detail and illustrate with maps or sketches all mining or exploration operations which you know have been or are being conducted upon the land. Include existing mine workings and all production facilities.

(b) State your interest, if any, in operations described in (a).

(c) State, if you know, the past and current production, supporting your statement with copies of settlement sheets, mine records, or published data if available.

(d) Describe known ore reserves, giving quantities and grades and sampling methods used. Support your statement with copies of assay certificates and assay maps if available.

(e) Describe by narrative and maps or sketches the geologic features of the property, including ore minerals, geologic formations if known, and type of deposit (vein, bedded, etc.).

(f) State your reasons for expecting to find ore, and if you have sampled the area you propose to explore, show where the samples were taken, describe sampling methods used, and provide copies of assay certificates.

(g) Send with your application at least *two* copies of all geologic or engineering reports, assay maps, or technologic information which you have, indicating whether you require their return.

4. Accessibility of Property:

(a) To aid the OME representative who may examine the property, state name and address of person who will meet him; give directions for reaching the property; and describe accessibility of property and of any mine workings.

(b) Name the shipping and supply points and state the distances to the property.

5. Exploration Work:

(a) Describe fully the proposed exploration work giving individual footages and sizes of openings *for each item of work.* Use narrative, maps, plans, and sections as necessary. Show location of the proposed work as related to geologic features such as veins, ore-bearing beds, contacts of rock formations, etc. Show also the relation of the proposed work to any existing mine workings and to *land boundaries* or to the closest identifiable corner.

(b) If an access road must be built, show the proposed location on the property map and state the length, type and construction methods proposed.

(c) If an OME contract is executed, state how soon thereafter work would be started and finished. State your anticipated average daily or monthly rate of progress for each type of work.

6. Experience:

State your operating experience and background to conduct this exploration work and also that of the person who will supervise the work.

7. Estimate of Costs:

Furnish detailed estimates of the necessary costs *for each item of the work proposed in 5(a)* under the headings listed below with a total for each heading and the estimated total cost of the work. Costs for any work to be performed by an independent contractor should be listed separately under category (a) below. Costs for any work that is not to be performed by an independent contractor should be listed under categories (b) through (g).

(a) Independent contracts. State the total cost of any proposed independent contract for all or any part of the work, and the number of units and the unit cost for each type of work, such as per foot of drilling, per foot of drifting, per hour of bulldozer operations, or per cubic yard of material moved. Cost estimates should be supported by bids from three contractors if possible. (*Note*—If none of the work is to be contracted, write "none" after this item.)

(b) Personal services. The cost of supervision, engineering and geological services, outside consultants, and labor should be itemized by numbers and classes of employees; rates of wages, salaries or fees; and periods of employment. State whether these services are available.

(c) Operating materials and supplies. List items of material and supplies giving quantity and cost of each. Include under this heading power, water, and fuel, and units of equipment and tools costing less than $50 each.

(d) Operating equipment. List items of equipment and tools costing $50 or more per unit. Give specifications and indicate how each item is to be acquired—i.e., rented, purchased or provided by the applicant. If rented or purchased, state the estimated rental or purchase price. If furnished by the applicant, state condition and present fair market value.

(e) Initial rehabilitation and repairs. Describe the type and the cost of *initial* rehabilitation or repair of existing buildings, fixtures, installations (exclusive of mine workings), and movable operating equipment now owned by the applicant which will be used in the exploration work.

(f) New buildings, fixtures, installations. Describe each building, fixed improvement, and installation to be purchased, constructed, or installed for the exploration work, stating specifications and cost including labor, materials, and supervision.

(g) Miscellaneous. Describe the type and estimate the cost of repairs and maintenance of the operating equipment listed in 7(d). Do not repeat initial repairs listed in 7(e). Show also the costs of analytical work, accounting, workmen's compensation and employees' liability insurance, payroll taxes, and other required costs that do not fall within the previous categories. [*Note*—The Government will not contribute to costs incurred before the date of the contract, or to costs of or incident to: (1) acquiring, using, or possessing land and any existing improvements, facilities, buildings, installations, and appurtenances, or the depreciation and depletion thereof; (2) general overhead, corporate management, interest and taxes (other than payroll and sales taxes); (3) insurance (other than employees' liability insurance); and (4) damages to persons or property (other than authorized repair to or replacement of equipment or other property used in the work).]

INT[illegible]P. SEC., WASH., D.C

INFORMATION REQUIRED ON APPLICATION
FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE IN MINERALS
EXPLORATION

We propose to furnish our share of the cost by using and starting in the face of the 250 foot tunnel we already have driven.

We the following Walter E. Lindsey, Gerald A. Lindsey and Thomas J. Lindsey are sole owners of the property. The property is free from all loands and mortgages.

The property is located on highway 195, seven miles north of Riggins, Idaho all of Lot six (6) Section thwenty-three (23) Township twenty-five (25) Range one Eastef the Boise Merdian., Idaho County, Idaho. This property has had a Geododical survey the survey shows 39.49 acres.

It is recorded in Grangeville, Idaho as the Wildcat Placer Book Number 11 and on page 123. There is no backlog or history on the property.

This is a high river placer bar with about 400 foot of overburden on bedrock. The bars down river were all minded and had high paying course gold pay stripes on them.

This bar that we own and the place that we are developing has not been minded for 2600 feet. The tunnel is located on the short side of the rive and on the short side of the river is the side gold makes it run or deposits on, plus the surface shows that we are going into a large eddy.

I, Walter E. Lindsey will supervise the work. I have worked and driven 800 feet of this type of tunnel in the past eight years. I feel well qualified to conduct this type of a job.

If this contract is executed we would like to obtain the money as soon as possible and start the work this winter and then do the work each 6 months of the winter for the next two winters thereafter.

In the past our costs have been $38.00 a foot for driving this type of tunnel. The following is an itemized list of the cost of driving at this rate.

Erection of a small electric ore car.....	$900.00	
Powder caps and fuses.....	236.00	
Electricity	144.00	
1000 Foot of Electric wiring.....	650.00	
Electric jack hammer drills.....	600.00	(16inch)
Steel for drill.....	140.00	
Carbide bits for steel.....	220.00	
Small tools, shovels, picks, hammers, pinch bars, and pry bars.....	80.00	
Expense for sharpening tools.....	240.00	
Labor.....	25,300.00	

We propose to drive an extended 750 foot of tunnel to the existing 4x7,250 foot tunnel.

Your representative can contact Walter E. Lindsey at Box 213 Grangeville, Idaho phone number 983-0154 after 6 in the evening. Yours truly,

Walter E. Lindsey

ome

December 26,1967

Mr. Harriman Henry
First Security Bank
Grangeville, Idaho

Dear Mr. Henry,

We, Thomas J. Lindsey, Gerald A. Lindsey and Walter E. Lindsey would like to borrow $28,500 to drive a 750 foot tunnel to develop our Wildcat placer mining claim consisting of 39.49 surveyed acres located 7 miles north of Riggins, Idaho on Highway 95.

If you should submit this loan we have agreed to pay the loan back at the rate of $200.00 per month plus interest.

Yours truly,

Walter E. Lindsey

Walter E. Lindsey
Representative for
Thomas J.,Gerald A. and Walter E. Lindsey

December 26,1967

Mr. Floyd Swanson
Bank of Central Idaho
Grangeville, Idaho

Dear Mr. Swanson

We, Thomas J. Lindsey, Gerald A. Lindsey and Walter E. Lindsey would like to borrow $28,500 to drive a 750 foot tunnel to develop the Wildcat placer mining claim consisting of 39.49 surveyed acres located 7 miles north of Riggins, Idaho on Highway 95.

If you should submit this loan we have agreed to pay the loan back at the rate of $200.00 per month plus interest.

Yours truly,

Walter E. Lindsey

Walter E. Lindsey
Representative for
Thomas J, Gerald A. and Walter E. Lindsey

Dec. 28, 1967

Mr. Walter E. Lindsey
Box 213
Grangeville, Idaho

Dear Mr. Lindsey:

We have received your letter of Dec. 26, 1967 requesting a loan in the amount of $28,500.00 to develop your placer mining claim seven miles north of Riggins.

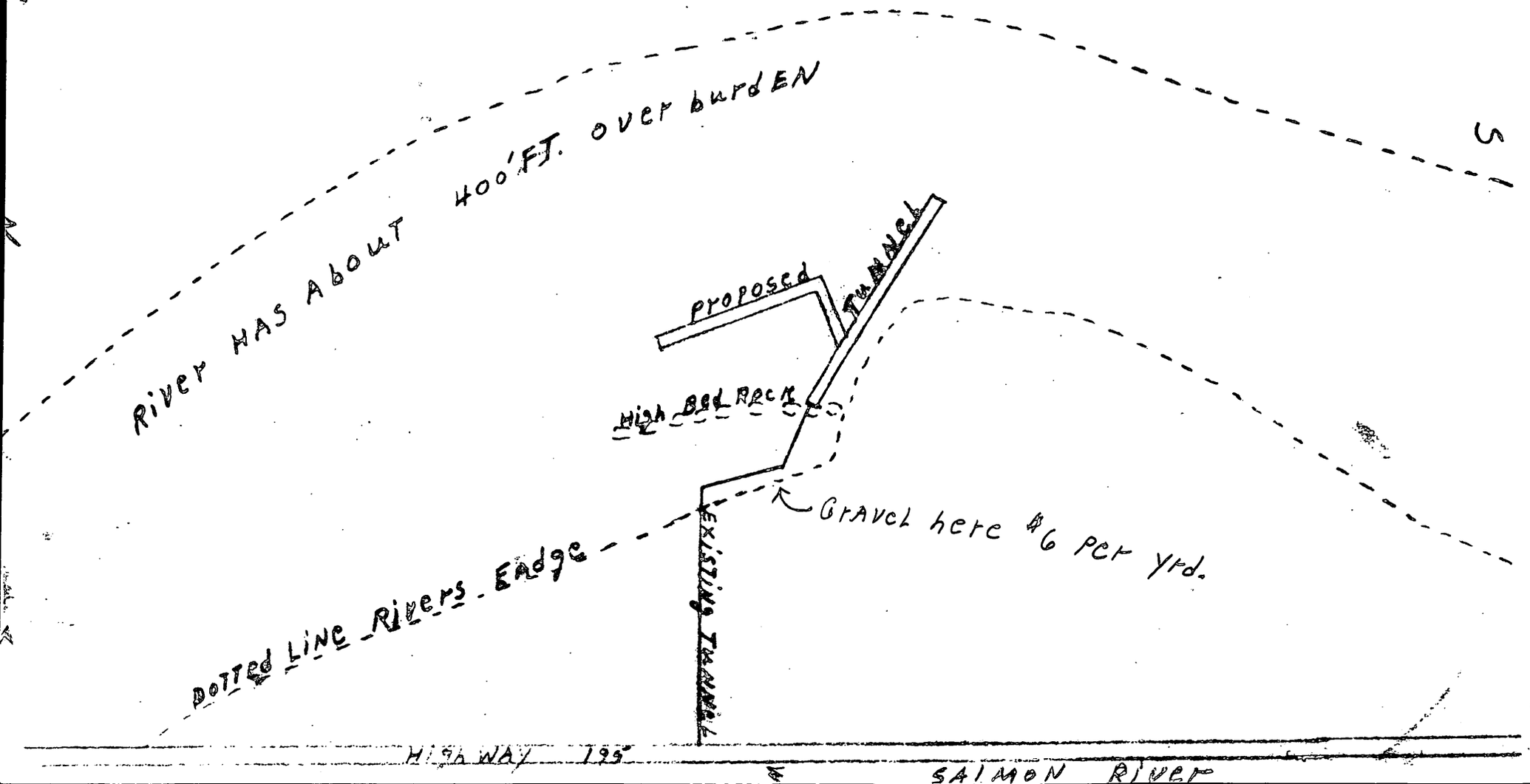
We regret to inform you that this does not appear to be a loan that we can handle, and regretfully decline to make the loan.

Very truly yours,

Harriman T. Henry
Manager

HTH:em

COPY


River HAS About 400'FT. over burdEN
proposed TunnEL
High Bed Rock
GrAvel here $6 per yrd.
DOTTED LINE Rivers Edge
EXISTING TunnEL
HIGHWAY 195
SALMON RIVER

OFFICIAL
COPY
O. M. E.
RECEIVED
JAN 31 1968

INITIALS	CODE

MME Form 7
(2/63)

OFFICIAL FILE COPY

Date	Surname	Code
8/20/68	Peters	120
"	Stoberemo	120
"	Johnson	110
8/21	CD Peterson	220
8/21	Sheldon	
		110
		220

AUG 2 1968

AIRMAIL

Mr. Walter E. Lindsey
P. O. Box 213
Grangeville, Idaho 83530

Re: OME-6693 (Gold)
Walter E. Lindsey, et al.
Wildcat Placer
Idaho County, Idaho

Dear Mr. Lindsey:

A careful study of your application for financial assistance to explore the subject property and of other information available to us indicates that the probability of disclosing significant ore reserves on the property is not sufficiently promising to justify Government participation in the proposed exploration. Accordingly, we regret to inform you that your application for assistance is denied.

We wish to thank you for your interest in the minerals exploration program and for bringing your property to our attention.

Sincerely yours,

FRANK E. JOHNSON

Frank E. Johnson
Chief, Office of
Minerals Exploration

cc: Director's Reading File
Economic Geology File
OME Docket
OME Reading File
Region I
Mr. Peterson
130

ECPeterson/sbl 8/20/68

MME Form 7
(2/63)

OFFICIAL FILE COPY

Date	Surname	Code
8/20/68	Kirkham	120
		120
8/20	Johnson	110
		220
		120M

August 20, 1968

Memorandum

To: The File

From: Edward C. Peterson

Subject: OME-6693 (Gold)
Walter E. Lindsey, et al.
Wildcat Placer
Idaho County, Idaho

Justification for Denial of Application

The OME field examiner found no geologic evidence on the property to indicate that further exploration was warranted. He concluded that the probability of discovering any significant ore reserves with the proposed exploration was too remote to justify Government participation in the work.

Available information suggests that any reserves that may exist on the property are limited to small gold-bearing streaks scattered in the gravel of the old river channel with little economic potential.

I concur with the examiner and recommend that the application for assistance be denied.

Edward C. Peterson

cc: Director's Reading File
Economic Geology File
OME Docket
OME Reading File
Mr. Peterson

ECPeterson/bsl 8/20/68

MME FORM 6 REFERENCE SLIP

REV. 2-59 OFFICE OF MINERALS EXPLORATION

TO: Chief, OME	DATE	INITIALS
1.	8/6/68	
Re: OME-6693 (Gold)		
2. Walter E. Lindsey, et al.		
Wildcat Placer		
3. Idaho County, Idaho		
4.		
5. D. R. MacLaren		
FROM: Field Officer, Reg. I		

FOR: Check items for action desired

X Action ____ Reply for signature of ____

____ Approval ____ Investigate ____ Surname

____ Comment ____ Recommendations ____ Signature

____ Conference ____ Rewrite ____ File

____ Instructions ____ Your information

REMARKS: Transmittal of on-site examination report recommending denial. I concur with the recommendation.

INT.-DUP. SEC., WASH., D.C. M56300-62

Pme

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

OFFICE OF MINERALS EXPLORATION
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY
U. S. Court House, Rm. 656
W. 920 Riverside Avenue
Spokane, Washington 99201
August 6, 1968

	CODE
gla	130
g	120 M
~~fd~~	~~140~~
on lease	120 P
~~CO~~	~~120~~

Memorandum

To: Field Officer, OME, Region I

From: Willard P. Puffett, Geologist W.P.P.

Subject: On-site Examination
OME-6693 (Gold)
Walter E. Lindsey, et al.
Wildcat Placer
Idaho County, Idaho

On-site Exam Report

INTRODUCTION

The applicant proposes to explore a placer gold deposit in bench gravels on the east side of the Salmon River about 7 miles north of Riggins, Idaho. He has explored part of these gravels by driving an inclined "drift" east from the edge of U. S. Highway 95 through bedrock and into the east side of the gravel-filled channel. Fairly coarse gold can be panned from the sand around boulders near bedrock. The proposed exploration will cut across the assumed long dimension of the channel and will define the richest part of the gravel. The drift is about 250 feet long and the proposal is to extend it 750 feet.

I examined the underground workings on the Wildcat Placer on Saturday, July 13, 1968. Mr. Walter E. Lindsey and Mr. Tucker Lindsey directed me through the underground workings, panned samples of the gravel, and explained their method of mining. About 2½ hours were spent on the property.

RECOMMENDATIONS AND SUMMARY

It is recommended that the application be denied. The work that has been completed shows that gold occurs in the gravel near bedrock. The gravel is probably part of an old channel of the Salmon River. The lower part of the inclined "drift" becomes flooded when the level of the Salmon River raises. The proposed extension of the drift will be into ground that will be below or near the normal level of the Salmon River. Lorain (1938, p. 81) reports that there is a range of 15 to 20 feet between the high- and low-water levels of the river. It thus appears probable that much of the lower workings would be in danger of annual flooding. Little now is known of the actual width of the old channel of the Salmon River. The proposed

exploration will probably find rich gold-bearing streaks in the channel, but there seems little probability of finding a significant ore body that can be successfully mined. The placer is buried by 300-500 feet of colluvium and it does not seem feasible to explore it by drilling vertical holes from the surface.

PROPERTY

The applicant's property is the Wildcat Placer claim in lot 6, sec. 23, T. 25 N., R. 1 E., Idaho County, Idaho and is recorded on page 123, book 11 at Grangeville, Idaho. An inclined "drift", the portal of which is adjacent to U. S. Highway 95, has been driven eastward through bedrock to gravel, and about 200 feet of "drift" has explored the gravel (fig. 2). The rock removed in the drifting was transported by wheelbarrow across U. S. Highway 95 and dumped along the steep eastern banks of the Salmon River. The hillslope rises steeply above the portal and there is probably about 300 to 500 feet of cover above the easternmost of the underground workings. A power line crosses the property a few hundred feet east of the portal. From this power line, the applicant obtained electricity to operate small electric drills and for the electric lights he strung through his workings when he was "drifting." U. S. Highway 95 and the eastern edge of the Salmon River crosses the northwest corner of the claim. There are no buildings on the property.

GEOLOGY

General

The bedrock in the vicinity of the Wildcat Placer claim is schistose, silicic tuff of Paleozoic or Mesozoic age that has been named the Fiddle Creek Schist (Hamilton, W., 1963, p. 18). Lorainé and Metzger (1938, p. 82) report that there are many quartz veins and stringers in the schist, but few, if any, of the veins contain gold. They report that quartz veins in granite about 10 miles above (sic) Riggins, Idaho (7 miles south of the Wildcat Placer claim) are gold bearing. A generalized map of the area in the vicinity of the Wildcat Placer claim is shown in figure 1.

Lorainé and Metzger (1938, p. 79-91) have described in detail the geology of the gold placer deposits along Salmon River in Idaho County, Idaho. They describe bench gravels in old river channels that are from 15 to 200 feet above the present level of the Salmon River. In these gravels the gold is largely concentrated on or near bedrock. The gravel in some of the old stream channels is more than 100 feet thick but may be as much as 200 feet thick. Many of the gravel benches are covered with a capping of topsoil and talus.

The placer gold of the lower Salmon River occurs mostly in very fine grains, although rarely nuggets worth $2.50 to $3.00 have been found. The gold is from 825 to 865 fine. The total production of placer gold in Idaho County before 1904 is unknown but has been estimated to be between $40,000,000 and $60,000,000. Between 1905 and 1936 a total production of 101,354 ounces of placer gold was recorded (Lorain, S. H., and Metzger, O. H., 1938, p. 8-9). There was $42,210 in gold produced from placers along the Salmon River in 1936 (idem, p. 80).

Wildcat Placer Claim

No detailed geologic map was made of the underground workings on the Wildcat claim and the following is from notes. The portal of the underground workings is on the east edge of U. S. Highway 95, about 10 feet from the edge of the pavement. The average size of the drift is 4 x 7 feet. The first 90 feet (according to the application) is in bedrock (schist) (fig. 2). The contact with gravel and schist is nearly vertical. A short drift to the south of the incline has explored the contact between gravel and schist. Boulders of granitic rock, schist, and basalt as large as 2 feet in diameter are abundant and probably constitute more than 50 percent of the gravel. Locally, much of the gravel is composed of smaller material, averaging 2 to 5 inches in diameter. Sand collected from around boulders near bedrock on the west side of the drift was panned and several grains of gold, some as much as 2 mm across, were in the concentrate.

The incline had been extended to another contact with bedrock and another short drift to the south had explored this contact (fig. 2). Where the bedrock is well exposed, it consists of iron-stained quartzose rock in which small potholes have been scoured. Drifting to the north showed that the bedrock did not persist in this direction. The applicant believes that this bedrock is part of a narrow ridge and that the central part of the gravel-filled channel is east of the bedrock ridge. An attempt to drift around the north end of the bedrock ridge encountered heavy ground and was not continued.

An incline to the west or northwest from the bedrock ridge has been sunk an unknown distance. At the time of the examination it was partly filled with water. The applicant stated that the depth of water in the drift depended on the level of the Salmon River. Lorain and Metzger (1938, p. 81) report that there is a range of 15 to 20 feet between the high- and low-water levels of the river.

It seems probable that the gravel explored by the applicant's underground workings is in an old abandoned channel of the Salmon River and, as indicated on figure 1, might extend across the sharp bend in the present stream course. If this is true, the old channel probably connects with the Salmon River in the northwest part of

sec. 26 or the NE corner of sec. 27 and is saturated by an inflow from the Salmon River in this area. It is not known if the bottom of the old channel is at or above the normal level of the Salmon River. Possibly, an impervious barrier across the old channel near its confluence with the present stream would prevent flooding of the old channel.

The applicant states that 35 cubic yeards of gravel from their underground workings ran $6.00 per yard and yielded 7 ounces of gold. I am not certain if these 35 yards of gravel included the coarse large boulders that constitute a large part of the gravel, for these boulders were generally removed separately from the rest of the gravel. Undoubtedly, gold occurs in the gravel as evidenced in the result of the panning of some of the sand.

The applicant has estimated the width of the channel to be about 450 feet. He did not explain in his application how he arrived at this figure. I was not able, during the examination, to learn how the width of the channel was determined.

APPLICANT'S METHOD OF "DRIFTING"

The applicant described in detail the method used in driving the drifts. In general, three men were employed. One man would work at the face and the other two removed the loosened rock from the drift. Periodically during the day, the men would alternate at their respective tasks. The sand around the boulders is removed by using small scrapers and picks. In loosening sand around boulders in the back, a wood stull is tapped upward against the boulder until sand is loosened; the boulder is then pried down. All loosened rock is removed by wheelbarrow. Occasionally, a small amount of blasting powder is used to break some of the larger boulders. A small electric drill is used to make a hole in the rock for the powder. There are no timbers in the mine; wood stulls were used for temporary support of some of the larger boulders, but these had been removed. Apparently, the gravel is well-cemented for the drifts have remained open without timber for nearly 20 years; the applicant did not deem it necessary to wear a hard hat during the examination. The average daily advance for three men in driving the drift was about 2 feet.

APPLICANT'S PROPOSAL

The applicant has proposed extending the drift an additional 750 feet. This new work would explore the width of the channel and would explore high-grade streaks along the length of the channel. The great depth of overburden makes it unfeasible to explore the channel by drilling from the surface. Total cost of the proposed work is $28,500 or $38 per foot.

The general bearing of the proposed new work will be at right angles to the assumed trend of the old channel. Presumably, after the width of the channel is learned, the remaining work will follow the lowest part of the channel. The applicant has shown on a sketch map the general trend of the channel but did not document how the trend or width of the channel had been determined.

DISCUSSION OF PROPOSAL

There are two obvious problems to be solved if the applicant's proposal were to be favorably considered; one would be to be able to systematically sample the deposit to determine the gold content of the placer and the other would be to prevent flooding by waters which seem to be related to the level of the Salmon River. I am not certain how either problem can be solved.

If it were not for the water problem, one could possibly plan a crosscut in bedrock below the placer and from the crosscut drive raises to the base of the gravel. Mining could then proceed laterally from the raises. It seems very probable that flooding waters in the drifts in the gravel will gradually weaken the natural rock support and the workings will cave. Obviously, if the crosscut is below the placer, the flooding waters in the placer will cause drainage problems in the workings in bedrock.

The sampling of the placer ahead of actual mining is a peculiar problem and the actual values in the placer might deviate greatly from that projected from values in the drift. Undoubtedly, the values will be in narrow paystreaks. Considerable work in the placer will be necessary before one could reasonably predict the extent of paystreaks crossed by the exploration.

The minimum value of ore from which royalty would be obtained to repay the Government's exploration cost in the project proposed by the applicant is $28,500 x 75% x 20 or $427,500.

If one can assume, very optimistically, that the pay zone will be 30 yards wide, 1 yard thick, and 400 yards long (the claim is 1,320 feet or 440 yards long), it would include a total of 12,000 cubic yards. This volume of pay dirt in the placer would have to yield about 1 ounce of gold per yard to equal the above minimum calculated value of $427,500 as a target for the proposed exploration. It seems that such a high gold content for the placer is not reasonable.

CONCLUSIONS

There is an old abandoned, gravel-filled channel of the Salmon River on the Wildcat Placer claim. Placer gold occurs near bedrock. The width of the channel is not known. Water saturates the lower part of the channel and its level is dependent on the level of the Salmon River. Drifts driven in the lower part of the channel will be flooded periodically by the water. It seems unfeasible to explore the gravel by drilling through the thick overburden which overlies it and it is probably not feasible to crosscut in bedrock and drive raises to explore the placer. The total value of gold in the placer to be explored by the proposed work is probably less than that necessary to repay, by 5 percent royalty, the Government's share of the exploration work. It is recommended, therefore, that the application be denied.

Enclosures
Distribution:
- OME
- USGS(SRO)
- Docket
- Puffett

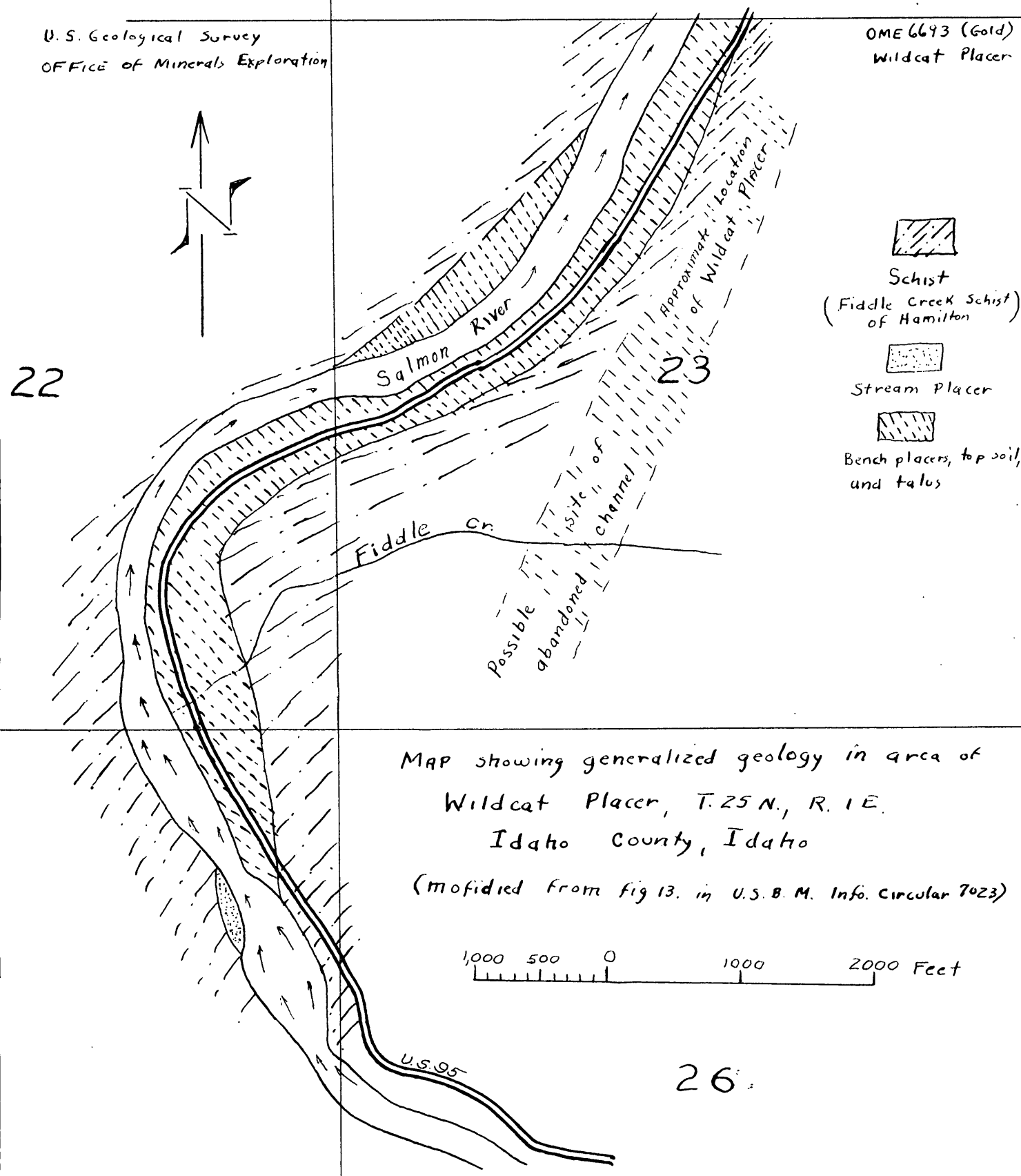
REFERENCES CITED

Hamilton, Warren, 1963, Metamorphism in the Riggins region, Western Idaho: U. S. Geol. Survey Prof. Paper 436, 95 p.

Lorain, S. H., and Metzger, O. H., 1938, Reconnaissance of placer mining districts in Idaho County, Idaho: U. S. Bur. Mines Inf. Circ., 7023, 93 p.

U. S. Geological Survey
OFFICE of Minerals Exploration

OME 6693 (Gold)
Wildcat Placer



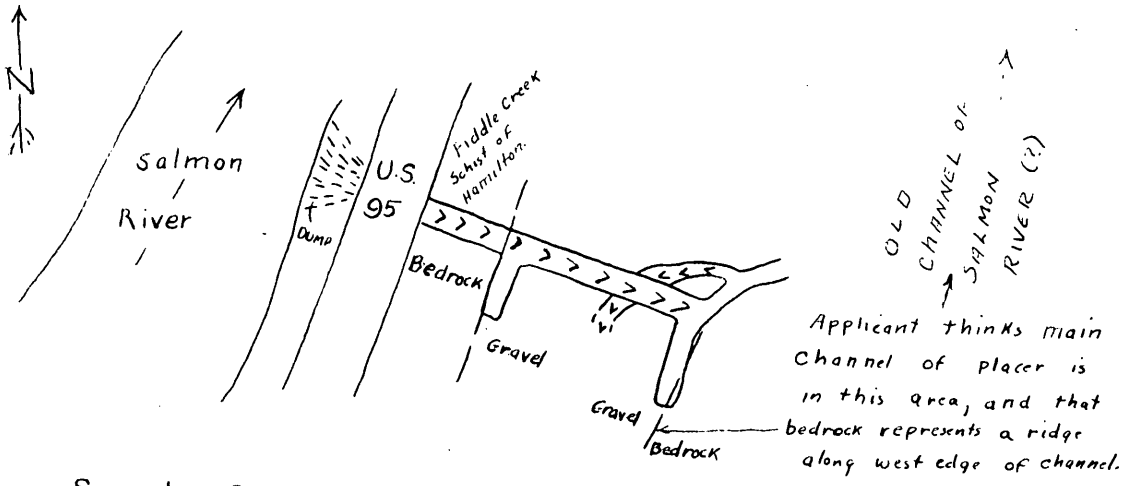
MAP showing generalized geology in area of Wildcat Placer, T. 25 N., R. 1 E. Idaho County, Idaho

(mofidied from fig 13. in U.S.B.M. Info. Circular 7023)

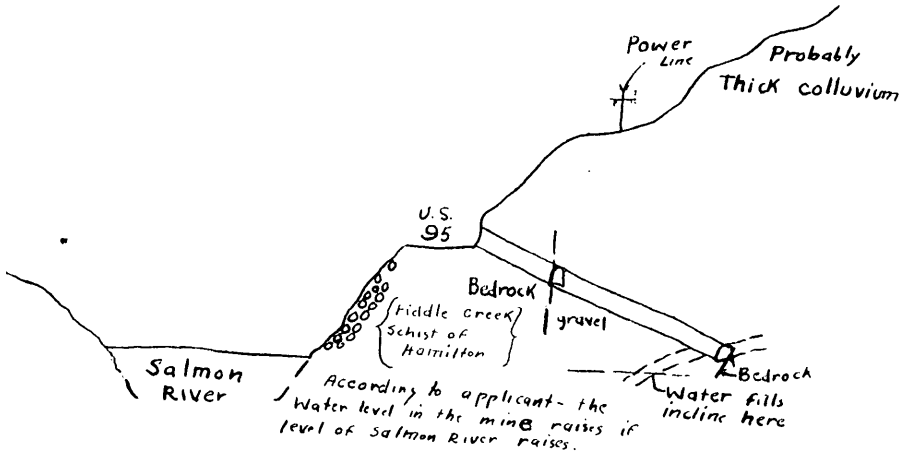
Figure 1.

U.S. Geological Survey
OFFICE OF MINERALS EXPLORATION

OME 6693 (Gold)
Wildcat Placer
Idaho County, Idaho.



Sketch of Plan of Wildcat Placer mine



Sketch cross-section of Wildcat Placer

Scale - Approximately 1" = 100'

Figure 2.

SKETCHES OF WILDCAT PLACER

7 miles north of Riggins, Idaho

Lot 6, Sec. 23, T. 25 N., R. 1 E.

Idaho County, Idaho

Sketch by W. P. Puffett
7/68

GEOLOGICAL SURVEY
U. S. Court House, Rm. 656
W. 920 Riverside Avenue
Spokane, Washington 99201
July 15, 1968

JUL 23 1968
CODE
120
120 M
120 P

Mr. Walter E. Lindsey
P. O. Box 213
Grangeville, Idaho 83530

Re: OME-6693 (Gold)
Walter E. Lindsey, et al.
Wildcat Placer
Idaho County, Idaho

Dear Mr. Lindsey:

You might be interested in learning that the placer gold deposits near your Wildcat claim are described in U. S. Bureau of Mines Information Circular No. IC 7023. We have this publication in our library and possibly the University of Idaho has a copy. The report was published in June 1938, so I doubt that copies for distribution are available.

Sincerely yours,

Willard P. Puffett
Geologist

WPPuffett/mls

cc: OME

Director's Reading File

Form 7
(63)

OFFICIAL FILE COPY

Date	Surname	Code
2/26/68	Peterson	120
	(on leave)	120
		110
2/26	Cat	220
		120M

AIRMAIL

FEB 26 1968

To: Field Officer, Region I

From: Chief, Office of Minerals Exploration

Subject: OME-6693 (Gold)
Walter E. Lindsey, et al.
Wildcat Placer
Idaho County, Idaho

We are referring the subject application to you for further study, a field examination, if required, and recommendations.

The Applicant has proposed a program consisting of 750 feet of drifting to explore for commercial quantities of gold on the Wildcat placer property. However, no geologic evidence has been provided to support the proposed project, and according to the Applicant, his attempts to obtain such data have been unsuccessful. Therefore, further correspondence with the Applicant is a futile exercise because an on-site examination would be required to determine whether geological conditions indicate that an exploration target is present.

We note the Applicant's comment that placers down stream from the Wildcat property apparently have been mined with reasonable success, but further information regarding these operations is not given.

The estimated cost for drifting seems somewhat low in comparison with similar work in the area. Costs for assaying, supervision-engineering were not included in the estimate.

FRANK E. JOHNSON

Frank E. Johnson

Enclosure

cc: Director's Reading File
Division File
Economic Geology File
OME File
OME Reading File
Mr. Peterson
130

ECPeterson/bsl 2/26/68

E Form 7
2/63)

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Date	Surname	Code
2/23/68	Peterson	120
		120
		110
		220
		120M

FEB 26 1968

AIRMAIL

Mr. Walter E. Lindsey
P. O. Box 213
Grangeville, Idaho 83530

Re: OME-6693 (Gold)
Walter E. Lindsey, et al.
Wildcat Placer
Idaho County, Idaho

Dear Mr. Lindsey:

This will acknowledge receipt of your letter of February 19, 1968, enclosing additional information in support of the subject application for assistance.

The application is now being referred to Mr. D. R. MacLaren, Field Officer, Region I, Office of Minerals Exploration, U.S. Geological Survey, U.S. Courthouse, Room 656, West 920 Riverside Avenue, Spokane, Washington 99201.

Mr. MacLaren will notify you if he requires additional information and to arrange for an on-site examination of the property, if necessary.

Sincerely yours,

FRANK E. JOHNSON

Frank E. Johnson
Chief, Office of
Minerals Exploration

cc: Director's Reading File
Division File
Economic Geology File
OME File
OME Reading File
Mr. Peterson
Region I

ECPeterson/bsl 2/23/68

Copy to R-I

OFFICIAL COPY
O. M. E.
RECEIVED
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| 110
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February 19, 1968

Mr. Frank E. Johnson
Chief, Office of Minerals Exploration
United States Department of the Interior
Geological Survey
Washington D.C. 20242

Re: OME-6693 (Gold)
Walter E. Lindsey, et al.
Wildcat Placer
Idaho County, Idaho

Dear Mr. Johnson:

In reply to your letter dated February 5,1968 we will offer the following explanations per your request:

Year around basis requirements

We can commit ourselves on year around basis and work diligently, efficently in a workman like manner and in accordance with good mining standards to fulfill any contract stipulations.

Assurance of Partnership

The partnership can furnish its share of the costs in the event an exploration contract is let without pay for 90 days with the assurance payment will be forthcoming from the Government.

Geologic Evidence

We have tried to obtain any geological information from the Bureau of Mines, University of Idaho, in Moscow Idaho on the high placer bars on the Salmon River and cannot obtain any geologists reports on these bars.

Sample and Assay Data

We placed 35 yeards of gravel in a bunker for measurement purposes and this ran $6.00 a yard and produced 7 ounces of gold.

Width of Channel

As described in last letter this pay streak is a slop-over from thehigh rim which paralles down the center of the river. We have figured this width of channel to be about 450 feet wide. There is 400 feet of overburden on bedrock. We own 1320 feet long of this unexplored channel.

Thickness of Paystreak

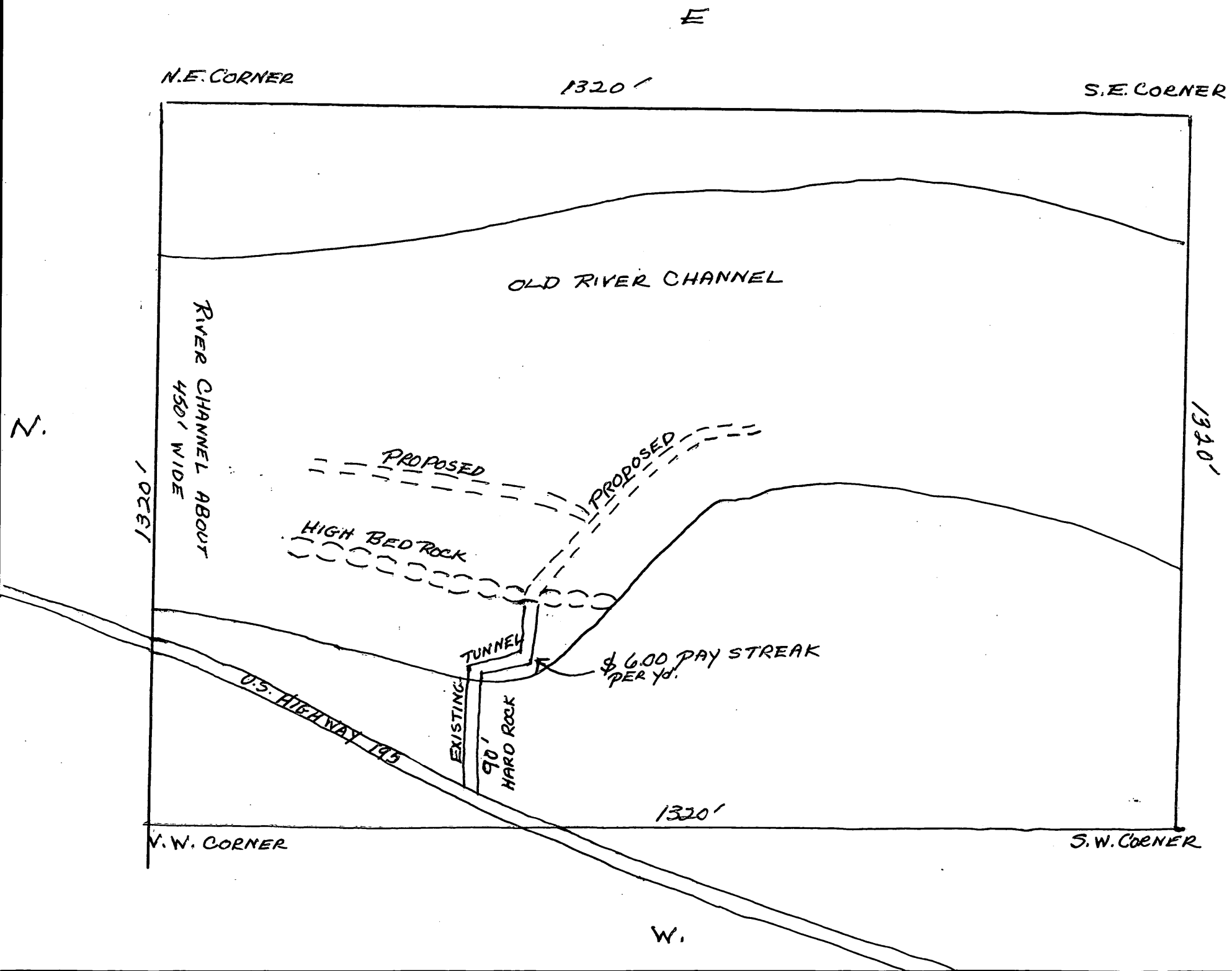
We have drifted along 120 feet of this pay streak, and sunk 14 foot shaft. We have not explored far enough to determine actual length of pay streak. What our proposal is

in our new exploration tunnel is to explore the back side of this high reef of bedrock and drift along the short side of the river..

Sincerely yours,

Walter E. Lindsey

Walter E. Lindsey
Box 213
Grangeville, Idaho 83530


E
N.E. CORNER
1320'
S.E. CORNER
OLD RIVER CHANNEL
RIVER CHANNEL ABOUT 450' WIDE
N.
1320'
1320'
PROPOSED
PROPOSED
HIGH BED ROCK
TUNNEL
$6.00 PAY STREAK PER Yd.
U.S. HIGHWAY 195
EXISTING
90' HARD ROCK
1320'
N.W. CORNER
S.W. CORNER
W.
S

Peterson 120
Kirkemo 120
110
CAC 220
120M

AIRMAIL

FEB 5 1968

Mr. Walter E. Lindsey
Box 213
Grangeville, Idaho 83530

Re: OMM-6493 (Gold)
Walter E. Lindsey, et al.
Wildcat Placer
Idaho County, Idaho

Dear Mr. Lindsey:

Your application for assistance to explore the subject property has been reviewed, and we offer the following comments.

Generally, the OMM does not participate in exploration projects where work is performed on an intermittent basis. A contract stipulates that the work shall be performed diligently and efficiently, in a workmanlike manner in accordance with good mining standards. It is doubtful these conditions could be complied with by working only during the winter months as you have proposed. Consequently, unless you can assure us that the work would be conducted in a more continuous manner, we would be unable to participate in the project.

In addition, we must have your assurance that the partnership can furnish its share of the costs in the event of an exploration contract. The cost of work performed by the Applicant prior to the date of the contract with the Government is not allowable.

For your information, funds are not paid in advance to the Operator under an OMM exploration contract. Rather, the Government pays its share of the cost at the end of each month after a voucher for the expenses incurred has been submitted and approved. It usually takes two or three weeks to process such a voucher. An Applicant, therefore, should have sufficient funds readily available to pay for all the costs of the project for the first two or three months.

If you can comply with these conditions, and you wish to continue with the application, the following additional information is required to complete it.

You have not presented any geologic evidence to indicate that the placer warrants exploration. Sample and assay data are required to support your proposal. The location of samples taken, how sampled, sample widths, and copies of the assay certificates should be forwarded for our evaluation. Information as to the width of the channel, thickness of pay streak, and copies of settlement sheets from past production, if available, are data needed to evaluate your proposal. Any geological reports, maps, or cross-sections of the placer area should also be submitted if available.

Furnish a sketch or map showing present workings and proposed exploration in relation to the property lines and corners. The sketch submitted does not provide this information.

We shall be pleased to consider your application further upon receipt of the requested information. Nothing in this letter should be construed as a commitment by the Government to grant an exploration contract.

Sincerely yours,

FRANK E. JOHNSON (gfo)

Frank E. Johnson
Chief, Office of
Mineral Exploration

cc: Director's Reading File
Division File
Economic Geology File
OME File
OME Reading File
Mr. Peterson
Region I

ECPeterson/bsl 2/5/68

January 31, 1968

Mr. Walter E. Lindsey
Box 213
Grangeville, Idaho 83530

Subject: OME-6693

Dear Mr. Lindsey:

Your application for exploration assistance, dated January 8, 1968, submitted to our office at Spokane, Washington, has been assigned Docket No. OME-6693.

Please identify all future correspondence relating to your application by this docket number.

Sincerely yours,

Frank E. Johnson
Chief, Office of
Minerals Exploration

Copy to Region I