

MR-60/Grade

LIST OF OPERATORS, FORTY MILE DISTRICT, 1957

DEPARTMENT OF  
 REVENUE  
 NOV 2 1957

<u>Name and Address</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Type of Operation</u>	<u>Manpower Crew</u>
Barrett, Frank <sup>60-58</sup> Chicken	Mosquito Fork -60	Prospecting	1
Chicken Hill Mines, Inc. (George Turner) 2458 N. Shore Street <sup>no. 34</sup> Chicago 45, Ill.	Lost Chicken Hill	Non-float -60	2
Crozier, Myron 305 Eagle Street Græhl via Fairbanks	O'Brien Cr -60	Non-float (part-time)	1
Johansen, Engbret <sup>60-37</sup> Chicken	Ingle Cr	Small-scale hand	1
McCombe, Robert <sup>60-20</sup> Chicken	South Fork of -60 Fortymile River	Non-float	1
Meldrum, William <sup>60-23</sup> Chicken	Chicken Cr and -60 Stonehouse Cr	Non-float	1
Puddy Brothers Chicken	Chicken Cr -60	Non-float	2
Rambeud, John <sup>60-45</sup> Chicken	Napoleon Cr -60	Non-float	3
Robinson, George Boundary	Walkers Fork 60	Non-float	1
Squaw Creek Mining Co. (Jack Wilke) <sup>60-48</sup> Boundary	Squaw Cr	Non-float	1
U. S. S. R. & M. Co. Box 1170, Fairbanks <sup>60-41</sup>	Mosquito Fork	Stripping	17
Weston, Dave <sup>60-136</sup> Chicken	Fortymile River	Non-float	2

## MINING OPERATIONS IN THE FORTY MILE DISTRICT, 1957

In 1957 there were eleven active mining operations and one full-time prospector in the Fortymile District. Three of the operators that mined in 1956 did not mine in 1957. The Franklin Mining Company on Chicken Creek and E. D. Manske on Ingle Creek did not mine this year, but both had mining equipment on their properties. The LaCross Mining Co., which mined on Davis Creek in 1956, was reported to have moved into Canada. Few of the mining operations in the District have enough water for continuous sluicing in a normal year, and in 1957 the exceptionally dry weather created a severe water shortage that seriously decreased the sluicing time for many of the operators.

Prospecting for asbestos on the Canadian side of the border has created some interest in asbestos in the Fortymile and Eagle Districts. Dave Weston staked an asbestos prospect near the road about one mile north of Fortymile River. Lou Schene found a small stringer of asbestos near the Fortymile River, but he considered it too small to be of economic importance, and he did not stake it. Many of the geologists and engineers working for the Canadian companies have spent some time looking for asbestos deposits on the American side of the border.

Purdy Brothers. Fred and Arthur Purdy are mining on the left limit side of the mouth of Myers Fork on ground that probably is an old bench of Chicken Creek. They spent the early part of the summer stripping, and, on July 23, they were setting up their sluice

box to take out their first cut of the season. They began sluicing late in the afternoon of that day. They use a D-8 Caterpillar tractor for both mining and stacking tailing; they use a sluice plate at the head of their boxes. Water for mining comes through a ditch and pipeline from Myers Fork.

William Meldrum<sup>1-60-53</sup>. William Meldrum is mining on Chicken Creek about 150 yards downstream from where he was in 1953, and his equipment and method of mining have not changed since then. Early in the summer he did some mining on lower Stonehouse Creek.

U. S. S. R. & M. Co.<sup>1-60-51</sup>. The U. S. Smelting Company has been stripping on its property on Mosquito Fork and Chicken Creek each season since 1953. Pipelines with giants have been extended upstream on Chicken Creek as far as the property owned by the Franklin Mining Co. It appears that the stripping will be completed this year.



View looking up Chicken Creek showing U.S.S.R. & M. Co. stripping cut.

460-34  
Chicken Hill Mines, Inc. George Turner is continuing his preparatory work at Lost Chicken Hill. He has installed a Sauerman slack-line with a Crescent scraper for stripping thawed muck near the top of the hill, and he also plans to try using the scraper for mining and for stacking tailing. He is considering purchasing a washing plant in order to be able to wash the gravel with less water than is required for the ordinary sluice box. He has been working on the property each season since 1953, and his work is still in the experimental stage. He believes that the cost of pumping water from Mosquito Fork might be too great for profitable mining, and he is trying to devise methods of mining and stripping economically without using much water. Syvert Koland is working for him again this season.

460-36  
Robert McCombe. Robert McCombe is mining on Atwater Bar on the left limit side of the South Fork of Fortymile River across from the mouth of Atwater Creek. He purchased a small washing plant, but he has used it very little because of the difficulty in feeding it. He uses a conventional sluice plate arrangement and pumps water from the South Fork for sluicing. The material being mined contains a large quantity of black sand, and the sand packing in the riffles has created a serious problem in sluicing. He has installed a device, as shown in the diagram, at the head of the sluice box to remove a large part of the black sand. The black sand is being piped into 50-gallon drums. In July he had not yet determined whether he would ship all the contents of the drums to the smelter or try to remove the gold from the black sand by further treatment.

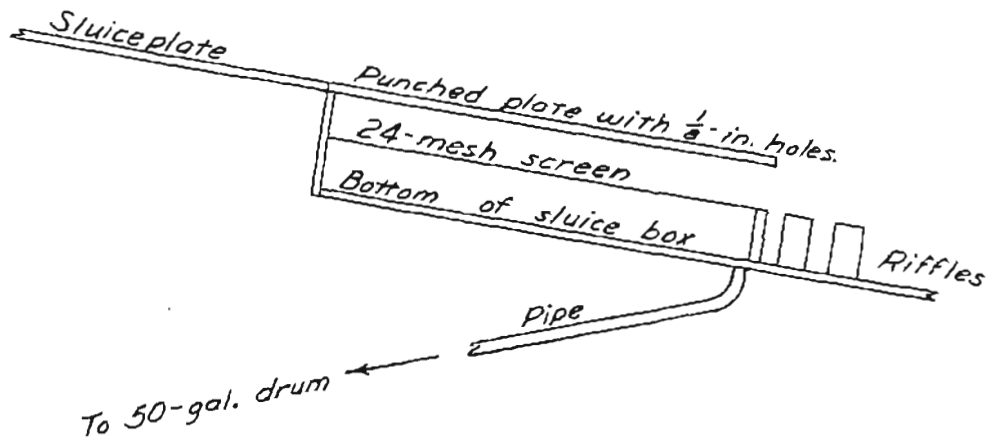


Diagram of device used by Robert McCombe to remove black sand from sluice box.

Kxt n 136 Dave Weston. Dave Weston was not mining when his property was visited. He had started stripping a cut on the right limit side of the Fortymile River on the downstream side of the highway bridge. A bulldozer is used for both stripping and mining. The sluice box concentrates have contained large amounts of scheelite, and a report will be written describing the scheelite occurrences on this property.

The other mining operations in the District were not visited, but information about them was obtained from local residents. George Robinson moved his equipment from Wade Creek to Walkers Fork in 1957 and began a new mining operation there. Other operators continued as in previous years.

November 1957

Robert H. Saunders  
Territorial Mining Engineer