

PLAN OF OPERATIONS FOR MINING ACTIVITIES ON NATIONAL FOREST SYSTEM LANDS

USE OF THIS FORM IS OPTIONAL! 1st TIME USERS SHOULD DIRECT QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS FORM OR REGULATIONS (36 CFR 228A) TO THE FOREST SERVICE DISTRICT OFFICE NEAREST YOUR AREA OF INTEREST.

Submitted by: _____
Signature Title Date
(mm/dd/yy)

Signature Title Date
(mm/dd/yy)

Plan Received by: _____
Signature Title Date
(mm/dd/yy)

I. GENERAL INFORMATION

- A. **Name of Mine/Project:** Mining Bear Placer
- B. **Type of Operation:** Small Scale Suction Dredging
(lode, placer, mill, exploration, development, production, other)
- C. **Is this a (new/continuing) operation?** *(check one).*
If continuing a previous operation, this plan (replaces/modifies/supplements) a previous plan of operations. *(check one)*
- D. **Proposed start-up date (mm/dd/yy) of operation:** 7/15/2013
- E. **Expected total duration of this operation:** 5 Years (for duration of NPDES General Permit)
- F. **If seasonal, expected date (mm/dd/yy) of annual reclamation/stabilization close out:** 8/15/2013
- G. **Expected date (mm/dd/yy) for completion of all required reclamation:** 8/15/2018

II. PRINCIPALS

- A. **Name, address and phone number of operator:**
 Smokey Bear
 125 Tree Lane
 The Forest, ID 12345
 (208)-987-6543

- B. **Name, address, and phone number of authorized field representative (if other than the operator).**
Attach authorization to act on behalf of operator.
 Woodsey Owl
 123 Hollow Tree
 The Forest, ID 12345
 (208)-987-4321

- C. **Name, address and phone number of owners of the claims (if different than the operator):**

Smokey Bear	Woodsey Owl
125 Tree Lane	123 Hollow Tree
The Forest, ID 12345	The Forest, ID 12345
(208)-987-6543	(208)-987-4321

(If more space is needed to fill out a block of information, use additional sheets and attach form)

D. Name, address and phone number of any other lessees, assigns, agents, etc., and briefly describe their involvement with the operation, if applicable:

Woodsey Owl 123 Hollow Tree The Forest, ID 12345	Yogi Bear 555 Cave Dr. The Forest, ID 12345 (406)333-6789
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Fellow suction dredger and partial claim owner

III. PROPERTY OR AREA

(Name of claim, if applicable, and the legal land description where the operation will be located.)

MC#	Name	Section	Township	Range
12345	Mining Bear Claim (example)	29	40N	11E

IV. DESCRIPTION OF THE OPERATION

A. Access. Show on a map (USGS quadrangle map or a National Forest map, for example) the claim boundaries, if applicable, and all access needs such as roads and trails, on and off the claim. Specify which Forest Service roads will be used, where maintenance or reconstruction is proposed, and where new construction is necessary. For new construction, include construction specifications such as widths, grades, etc., location and size of culverts, describe maintenance plans, and the type and size of vehicles and equipment that will use the access routes.

Access to the claim will be by entering the Forest near Judge Town on primary FS road 250 up to Old Kelly Creek Work Center, then on primary FS road 255 to near Moose City. Primary FS road 255 runs through the Mining Bear claim. Traffic to the Mining Bear claim would be limited to two F350 pickup trucks similar to the use by other forest users in the area. No addition roads will be built and no improvements are recommended. The use of motorized vehicles on any roads or trails not currently open to the general public will be subject to prior approval by the forest and will not include any repair of maintenance requiring heavy equipment.

B. Map, Sketch or Drawing. Show location and layout of the area of operation. Identify any streams, creeks or springs if known. Show the size and kind of all surface disturbances such as trenches, pits, settling ponds, stream channels and run-off diversions, waste dumps, drill pads, timber disposal or clearance, etc. Include sizes, capacities, acreage, amounts, locations, materials involved, etc.

The attached map shows the location of the claim and proposed location of camping areas and port-a-potty

A revised map will be submitted before each dredging season if the location of the dredge or location of camping trailers and other equipment changes.

Within each stream reach shown, up to 350 total linear feet or 2500 square feet of stream channel will be identified for potential dredging activity in 2013, with a similar amount identified for 2014. This area will be delineated on-site with the presence of the forest geologist or his representative prior to June 21, 2013. If during the 2013 season, I find that the area is not sufficient, then I will contact the forest geologist to delineate additional areas.

(If more space is needed to fill out a block of information, use additional sheets and attach form)

C. Project Description. Describe all aspects of the operation including mining, milling, and exploration methods, materials, equipment, workforce, construction and operation schedule, power requirements, how clearing will be accomplished, topsoil stockpile, waste rock placement, tailings disposal, proposed number of drillholes and depth, depth of proposed suction dredging, and how gravels will be replaced, etc. Calculate production rates of ore. Include justification and calculations for settling pond capacities, and the size of runoff diversion channels.

Numbers in parentheses correspond to the 32 operating conditions, design features, mitigation measures in the Record of Decision signed in March 2010

This operation would consist of two small suction dredges (4 inch suction nozzle and 10 Hp engine) operated by two people per dredge on Rock Creek within the extents of the Mining Bear claim (4).

In Stream Operations: Dredging will only occur within the wetted perimeter below the ordinary high water line (1). The intake of the pump will be covered with a 3/32-mesh screen (5). Dredging will only occur in the daylight hours, and prevent disturbing, destabilizing, and undercutting of the stream banks (7, 8). Dredging will last approximately 5 hours per day and 5 days per week. Operations will be ceased during wet periods to prevent excessive ground disturbance (11). Dredging will occur in a manner that prevents bank erosion (12). Woody debris or boulders that extend from the bank into the channel will not be removed, undermined, or excavated (13). In stream woody debris or boulders greater than 12 inches will not be removed, relocated or disturbed (14). Dredgers will not dam the stream channel, change the thalweg of the stream, operate in the gravel bar areas at the tails of pools, or operate in such a way the fine sediment from the dredge blankets gravel bars (16, 18, 19, 20). No mechanized equipment will be operated below the mean high water mark except for the dredge itself and the life support system necessary to operate the dredge (17). Suction dredges will not operate within 800 (per NPDES) linear feet of stream channel of each other (25). Suction dredging will go to bedrock. In this area that is about 8 ft. below the stream bank. Ore production rates cannot be predicted due to the elusive nature of the gold, but approximately 10 cubic yards of material will be processed per day.

We understand the requirements of the Record of Decision for the SEIS and will cooperate with frequent inspections by FS Staff.

Suction dredges, tools used while dredging, and associated equipment will be cleaned with a pressure washer and dried for at least 5 days prior to use on the National Forest in order to prevent the spread of aquatic invasive species (32).

Camping: A campsite will be maintained on the claim seasonally for the full 30 days of the suction dredging season. No large down or standing woody debris or trees will be collected or disturbed from within 100 feet of the stream (15). All solid waste will be handled as specified in section V. subsection C. in this document. All camping structures will be removed at the conclusion of the operation each year.

D. Equipment and Vehicles. Describe that which is proposed for use in your operation (Examples: drill, dozer, wash plant, mill, etc.). Include: sizes, capacity, frequency of use, etc.

Two suction dredges with a 4 inch suction nozzles and a 10 Hp engines (used daily)

Two Ford F350 trucks for transportation to and from the site on existing roads (driven approx. once every 4 days)

An enclosed trailer will be hauled by the truck to transport mining equipment and other supplies. The trailer will be driven up at the beginning of the season, remain on the site for the season, and then removed at the end of the season

A self-contained fifth-wheel trailer will be used for camping and will remain on the site for the length of the dredge season.

E. Structures. Include information about fixed or portable structures or facilities planned for the operation. Show locations on the map. Include such things as living quarters, storage sheds, mill buildings, thickener tanks, fuel storage, powder magazines, pipelines, water diversions, trailers, sanitation facilities including sewage disposal, etc. Include engineering design and geotechnical information for project facilities, justification and calculations for sizing of tanks, pipelines and water diversions, etc.

(If more space is needed to fill out a block of information, use additional sheets and attach form)

A 14'x17' wall tent will be located as shown on the enclosed map to store dredging equipment. (The tent will be at least 100 ft. from the stream since hazardous materials are present)

A portable outhouse will be placed as shown on the map (no closer than 200 ft. to the stream) (29).

All permanent temporary structures will be removed at the conclusion of the dredging season.

V. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION MEASURES (SEE 36 CFR 228.8)

- A. Air Quality.** *Describe measures proposed to minimize impacts on air quality such as obtaining a burning permit for slash disposal or dust abatement on roads.*

Excessive travel on dusty roads will be avoided

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- B. Water Quality.** *State how applicable state and federal water quality standards will be met. Describe measures or management practices to be used to minimize water quality impacts and meet applicable standards.*

1. *State whether water is to be used in the operation, and describe the quantity, source, methods and design of diversions, storage, use, disposal, and treatment facilities. Include assumptions for sizing water conveyance or storage facilities.*
2. *Describe methods to control erosion and surface water runoff from all disturbed areas, including waste and tailings dumps.*
3. *Describe proposed surface water and groundwater quality monitoring, if required, to demonstrate compliance with federal or state water quality standards.*
4. *Describe the measures to be used to minimize potential water quality impacts during seasonal closures, or for a temporary cessation of operations.*
5. *If land application is proposed for waste water disposal, the location and operation of the land application system must be described. Also describe how vegetation, soil, and surface and groundwater quality will be protected if land application is used.*

Mining operations will be conducted in the stream. Permits required and obtained for this type of work include: EPA's NPDES permit, Corps of Engineers/State of Idaho Joint 404/Permit to alter a stream channel, State 401 certification (30).

The stream will be visually monitored for turbidity 150 ft. downstream. If noticeable turbidity is observed, the dredge will be shut down or turned down until no increase in turbidity is observed 150 ft. downstream (21).

Per the NPDES General Permit, minimum dredge spacing will be 800 feet.

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- C. Solid Wastes.** *Describe the quantity and the physical and chemical characteristics of solid waste produced by the operation. Describe how the wastes will be disposed of including location and design of facilities, or treated so as to minimize adverse impacts.*

(If more space is needed to fill out a block of information, use additional sheets and attach form)

All human waste will be kept more than 200 ft. from live water (29). All garbage will be kept in bear resistant containers, and removed regularly to prevent the attraction of bears. All waste will be removed by the conclusion of the dredge season (29)

All tailings will remain in the active channel and will not be placed on the banks

D. Scenic Values. *Describe protection of scenic values such as screening, slash disposal, or timely reclamation.*

Any required reclamation will be completed in a timely fashion to reduce negative scenic impacts. Campsites and dredging sites will be kept neat and free of trash, and revegetated or otherwise restored to the original pre-mining condition at the end of the dredge season (10).

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- E. Fish and Wildlife.** *Describe measures to maintain and protect fisheries and wildlife, and their habitat (includes threatened, endangered, and sensitive species) affected by the operations.*

We will meet with a FS fisheries biologist at a mutually agreed upon date and time between June 3 and 21, 2013 to inspect the proposed dredge site before dredging occurs (3). Dredging will occur in areas of large substrate not preferred for spawning, and at least 50 ft. from identified spawning areas (6) and areas within the proposed dredge site that are unsuitable for dredging will be identified and marked with the assistance of the Forest Service Fisheries Biologist. If any sick, dead, or injured specimen of a threatened and endangered species is found, the dredging operation will shut down immediately and the Vancouver Field Office of NOAA Law Enforcement will be notified for steelhead trout, or the USFWS Division of Law Enforcement will be notified for bull trout. Proper handling of the specimen will be observed, according to USFS SEIS 2004(24).

- F. Cultural Resources.** *Describe measures for protecting known historic and archeological values, or new sites in the project area.*

If cultural resources are found during the implementation of this project, operations will cease, resources will not be removed, and a Forest Archaeologist will be notified so that an assessment of the continued operations can be made (31).

G. Hazardous Substances.

1. *Identify the type and volume of all hazardous materials and toxic substances which will be used or generated in the operations including cyanide, solvents, petroleum products, mill, process and laboratory reagents.*

Petroleum Products: Gasoline for dredge (10 gal. on site at any one time), oil for dredge (4 quarts at any one time), grease for dredge (14 oz. at a time)

2. *For each material or substance, describe the methods, volume, and frequency of transport (include type of containers and vehicles), procedures for use of materials or substances, methods, volume, and containers for disposal of materials and substances, security (fencing), identification (signing/labeling), or other special operations requirements necessary to conduct the proposed operations.*

Gasoline will be stored in a plastic or metal spill proof container away from the stream to minimize the opportunity for accidental spillage (26). The suction dredge and associated equipment will be checked for leaks, and all leaks repaired, prior to the start of operations each day. The fuel container used for refueling will contain less fuel than the amount needed to fill the tank. The suction dredge will be anchored to the stream bank when refueling in the water, so that fuel does not need to be carried out into the stream. No more than 1 gallon of fuel at a time will be transferred during refilling. A funnel will be used while pouring, and absorbent material will be placed under the fuel tank to catch any spillage from fueling operations. A spill kit will be available in case of accidental spillage. Any soil contaminated by spilled petroleum products will be excavated to the depth of saturation will be removed from the National Forest and disposed of properly (27).

3. *Describe the measures to be taken for release of a reportable quantity of a hazardous material or the release of a toxic substance. This includes plans for spill prevention, containment, notification, and cleanup.*

If mercury is discovered during mining operations, it will not be entrained, mobilized or dispersed. Operations will cease and the Forest Service will be notified if mercury is encountered in dredged material. No mercury, cyanide, or other hazardous or refined substance will be used to recover or concentrate gold (28).

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H. Reclamation. Describe the annual and final reclamation standards based on the anticipated schedule for construction, operations, and project closure. Include such items as the removal of structures and facilities including bridges and culverts, a revegetation plan, permanent containment of mine tailings, waste, or sludges which pose a threat of a release into the environment, closing ponds and eliminating standing water, a final surface shaping plan, and post operations monitoring and maintenance plans.

If stream banks are disturbed in any way they will be restored to the original contour and revegetated with native species at the end of the operation (9). Camping areas, paths, and other disturbed sites that are associated with dredge operations will be re-vegetated or otherwise restored to their original conditions at the end of the operation (10).

In Stream Reclamation: Shallow areas will be restored to their original grade each day and natural pools will not be filled. Tailings will be redistributed to avoid creating unstable spawning gravels (22). All dredge piles will be dispersed and dredge holes will be backfilled before moving to a new dredging location and before the end of the operation (23).

Unauthorized Structures: Because my rock patio, flower beds, fire ring, and shower hut were never authorized under a plan of operations, 33% will be removed by the ending date each year during the first 3 years of this plan of operations. All human constructed items must be removed. Due to the extensive nature of these human constructions they will be removed incrementally.

Within the first year all structures, including the modified fire ring and shower hut will be removed at the end of the dredge season. (These items may be brought up each year but will be removed by the end of the dredge season).

Within the second year 1/2 of the rock patio will be reclaimed along with 1/2 of the flower beds

By the conclusion of this POO all of the patio and flower beds will be reclaimed and all personal property will be removed from the claim.

VI. FOREST SERVICE EVALUATION OF PLAN OF OPERATIONS

A. Required changes/modifications/special mitigation for plan of operations:

All requirements/stipulations from other government agencies apply to this POO.

The Record of Decision (dated/signed March 2010) and all documents associated with the Final Environmental Impact Statement (dated March 2010) are part of this document.

No salt licks or other items that attract animals to the area and cause significant disturbance are authorized.

B. Bond. Reclamation of all disturbances connected with this plan of operations is covered by Reclamation Performance Bond No. _____, dated (mm/dd/yy) _____, signed by _____ (Principal) and _____ (Surety), for the penal sum of _____. This Reclamation Performance Bond is a guarantee of faithful performance with the terms and conditions listed below, and with the reclamation requirements agreed upon in the plan of operations. This Reclamation Performance Bond also extends to and includes any unauthorized activities conducted in connection with this operation.

The bond amount for this Reclamation Performance Bond was based on a bond calculation worksheet. The bond amount may be adjusted during the term of this proposed plan of operations in response to changes in the operations or to changes in the economy. Both the Reclamation Performance Bond and the bond calculation worksheet are attached to and made part of this plan of operations. Acceptable bond securities (subject to change) include:

1. *Negotiable Treasury bills and notes which are unconditionally guaranteed as to both principle and interest in an amount equal at their par value to the penal sum of the bond; or*
 2. *Certified or cashier's check, bank draft, Post Office money order, cash, assigned certificate of deposit, assigned savings account, blanket bond, or an irrevocable letter of credit equal to the penal sum of the bond.*
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VII. TERMS AND CONDITIONS

- A. If a bond is required, it must be furnished before approval of the plan of operations.
- B. Information provided with this plan marked confidential will be treated in accordance with the agency's laws, rules, and regulations.
- C. Approval of this plan does not constitute certification of ownership to any person named herein and/or recognition of the validity of any mining claim named herein.
- D. Approval of this plan does not relieve me of my responsibility to comply with other applicable state or federal laws, rules, or regulations.
- E. If previously undiscovered cultural resources (historic or prehistoric objects, artifacts, or sites) are exposed as a result of operations, those operations will not proceed until notification is received from the Authorized Officer that provisions for mitigating unforeseen impacts as required by 36 CFR 228.4(e) and 36 CFR 800 have been complied with.
- F. This plan of operations has been approved for a period of ____ or until (mm/dd/yy) _____. A new or revised plan must be submitted in accordance with 36 CFR part 228, subpart A, if operations are to be continued after that time period.

VIII. OPERATING PLAN ACCEPTANCE

/ We have reviewed and agreed to comply with all conditions in this plan of operations including the required changes, modifications, special mitigation, and reclamation requirements.

/ We understand that the bond will not be released until the Authorized Officer in charge gives written approval.

Signature of Operator (or Authorized Representative)

(Date)
(mm/dd/yy)

IX. OPERATING PLAN APPROVAL

(Name)

(Title)

Signature of (Authorized Officer)

(Date)
(mm/dd/yy)

Burden and Non-Discrimination Statement

According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, an agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. The valid OMB control number for this information collection is 0596-0022. The time required to complete this information collection is estimated to average 12 hours per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information.

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