

CHECKLIST ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSME

COMPANY NAME: Michael Bazilan

Project: Cowan's Bar

PERMIT OR LICENSE: 00748

LOCATION: T8S, R10W, Sec's: 29, 30

County: Beaverhead

PROPERTY OWNERSHIP: Federal State Private

TYPE AND PURPOSE OF ACTION: Michael And Company propose to explore the bench gravels adjacent to Grasshopper Creek. Two 40' trenches are proposed. The topsoil will be salvaged whenever possible and kept for final reclamation. No proposed settling/infiltration pond location was given nor was any dimensions provided, but they were bonded for 1 day of excavator work as well as 2 days of mobilization since the location is not readily accessible due to landowner conflicts downstream.

Reclamation Plan: At closure the disturbed ground will be re-contoured to a suitable landform, covered with salvaged topsoil and seeded with a dry land native seed mix. A noxious weed monitoring program will need to be instigated given that knapweed, hounds-tongue, thistle and henbane were documented during my site visit.

N = Not present or No Impact will occur.
Y = Impacts may occur (explain under Potential Impacts).

IMPACTS ON THE PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT	
RESOURCE	[Y/N] POTENTIAL IMPACTS AND MITIGATION MEASURES
1. GEOLOGY AND SOIL QUALITY, STABILITY AND MOISTURE: Are soils present which are fragile, erosive, susceptible to compaction, or unstable? Are there unusual or unstable geologic features? Are there special reclamation considerations?	Placer gold can be found in Pliocene alluvial deposits. The source for the gold in the placer deposits probably originated from veins, scarns or replacement deposits in different sedimentary units near the Cretaceous granodiorite of the Bannack stock located south of town. Gold was concentrated in the alluvium from postglacial stream incision. (Economic Geology. Loen, 1994)
2. WATER QUALITY, QUANTITY AND DISTRIBUTION: Are important surface or groundwater resources present? Is there potential for violation of ambient water quality standards, drinking water maximum contaminant levels, or degradation of water quality?	N
3. AIR QUALITY: Will pollutants or particulate be produced? Is the project influenced by air quality regulations or zones (Class I airshed)?	N
4. VEGETATION COVER, QUANTITY AND QUALITY: Will vegetative communities be significantly impacted? Are any rare plants or cover types present?	There will be no long-term significant impacts to vegetation in the project area due to the projects' limited scope and short duration. There were 12 Species of Concern, and 45 Potential Species of Concern identified by the Natural Resource Information System (NRIS) database.
5. TERRESTRIAL, AVIAN AND AQUATIC LIFE AND HABITATS: Is there substantial use of the area by important wildlife, birds or fish?	Three mammal Species of Concern were identified by NRIS these species include: Wolverine, Hoary Bat, and the Fisher. Six avian species were identified as species of concern in an NRIS search. The bird species include: Northern Goshawk, Blue Heron, Cassin's Finch, Flammulated Owl, Great Gray Owl, and the Pacific Wren. The Bald Eagle was also identified as a special status species in my search of the NRIS database. The Westslope Cutthroat Trout was identified as an aquatic species of concern.

6. UNIQUE, ENDANGERED, FRAGILE OR LIMITED ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES: Are any federally listed threatened or endangered species or identified habitat present? Any wetlands? Species of special concern?	N
7. HISTORICAL AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES: Are any historical, archaeological or paleontological resources present?	N
8. AESTHETICS: Is the project on a prominent topographic feature? Will it be visible from populated or scenic areas? Will there be excessive noise or light?	N
9. DEMANDS ON ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES OF LAND, WATER, AIR OR ENERGY: Will the project use resources that are limited in the area? Are there other activities nearby that will affect the project?	N
10. IMPACTS ON OTHER ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES: Are there other activities nearby that will affect the project?	N
IMPACTS ON THE HUMAN POPULATION	
11. HUMAN HEALTH AND SAFETY: Will this project add to health and safety risks in the area?	N
12. INDUSTRIAL, COMMERCIAL AND AGRICULTURAL ACTIVITIES AND PRODUCTION: Will the project add to or alter these activities?	N
13. QUANTITY AND DISTRIBUTION OF EMPLOYMENT: Will the project create, move or eliminate jobs? If so, estimated number.	N
14. LOCAL AND STATE TAX BASE AND TAX REVENUES: Will the project create or eliminate tax revenue?	N
15. DEMAND FOR GOVERNMENT SERVICES: Will substantial traffic be added to existing roads? Will other services (fire protection, police, schools, etc.) be needed?	N
16. LOCALLY ADOPTED ENVIRONMENTAL PLANS AND GOALS: Are there State, County, City, USFS, BLM, Tribal, etc. zoning or management plans in effect?	N

17. ACCESS TO AND QUALITY OF RECREATIONAL AND WILDERNESS ACTIVITIES: Are wilderness or recreational areas nearby or accessed through this tract? Is there recreational potential within the tract?	N
18. DENSITY AND DISTRIBUTION OF POPULATION AND HOUSING: Will the project add to the population and require additional housing?	N
19. SOCIAL STRUCTURES AND MORES: Is some disruption of native or traditional lifestyles or communities possible?	N
20. CULTURAL UNIQUENESS AND DIVERSITY: Will the action cause a shift in some unique quality of the area?	N
21. PRIVATE PROPERTY IMPACTS: Are we regulating the use of private property under a regulatory statute adopted pursuant to the police power of the state? (Property management, grants of financial assistance, and the exercise of the power of eminent domain are not within this category.) If not, no further analysis is required.	N
22. PRIVATE PROPERTY IMPACTS: Does the proposed regulatory action restrict the use of the regulated person's private property? If not, no further analysis is required.	N
23. PRIVATE PROPERTY IMPACTS: Does the agency have legal discretion to impose or not impose the proposed restriction or discretion as to how the restriction will be imposed? If not, no further analysis is required. If so, the agency must determine if there are alternatives that would reduce, minimize or eliminate the restriction on the use of private property, and analyze such alternatives.	N
24. OTHER APPROPRIATE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC CIRCUMSTANCES:	N

25. Alternatives Considered: **N**

No Action: If no action were taken Michael Bazilan, would have to abandon their plans to explore this site.

Approval: It is recommended that this phase of the project be approved.

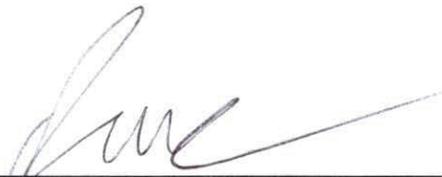
26. Public Involvement: **N/A**

27. Other Governmental Agencies with Jurisdiction: **N**
28. Magnitude and Significance of Potential Impacts: **Due to the limited scope and short duration of the proposal, there will be no long-term significant impacts or cumulative effects.**
29. Cumulative Effects: None

Recommendation for Further Environmental Analysis:

EIS More Detailed EA No Further Analysis

EA Checklist Prepared By: Robert Cronholm
Environmental Science Specialist
SMES and Exploration



Signature:

Date: 9/27/12