0250 0014

106
Item 14

EA No: N66-EA8-062

for

ATLAS PRECIOUS METALS INC.

Amendment to Atlas Gold Bar II

Plan of Operation

(Plan No.: N66-87-002P)

prepared by

Atlas Precious Metals, Inc.

and

The Bureau of Land Management

Battle Mountain District Office

Shohsone-Eureka Resource Area

July 16, 1988

DRAFT

I. INTRODUCTION

A. Purpose and need for action:

Atlas precious metals, Inc. (Atlas) is proposing to conduct mineral exploration activities in the Roberts Mountains, Eureka County, Nevada (see Figure 1). The project area is located on public lands administered by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Battle Mountain District Office, Shoshone-Eureka Resource Area. An exploration plan of operations was received by BLM on May 27, 1988.

The 1969 National Environmental Protection Act and the 1976 Federal Land Policy and Management Act require the BLM to review actions proposed on public lands and analyze the impacts of such actions on the affected environment.

B. Background

Atlas began minerals exploration in the project area in July, 1986 under a notice of intent (N66-N06-32). Successive notices (N66-86-32 A, B, C, D, and E) authorized additional road construction and drilling.

In November, 1986, Atlas filed a plan of operations (N66-87-002P) for extensive road building and closer spaced drilling. The environmental assessment (N66-EA7-09) was found to have no significant impact and the plan was approved in February, 1987.

There have been three relatively minor amendments filed by Atlas and approved by BLM subsequent to the original plan approval. They are:

1. Ziff Amendment - The Ziff Amendment, filed April, 1987 and EA N66-EA7-27 authorized an additional seven acres of road building for exploration purposes.

2. Roberts Creek Access Amendment - The Roberts Creek Access Amendment filed in November, 1987 and EA N66-EA8-29 of January, 1988 authorized an additional 7,900 feet of road construction to tie the exploration area with the Roberts Creek Road. A subsequent amendment filed in February, 1988 and EA N66-EA8-30 authorized maintenance work on the Roberts Creek road, Cabin Creek road and Roberts Creek Access collectively.

3. Cottonwood Canyon Amendment - The Cottonwood Canyon Amendment, filed in February, 1988 and EA N66-EA8-46 authorized remedial work on the access road.

Atlas has been conducting exploration activities under the approved plan of operations and EA since March of 1987. The impacts of a total of 85.6 acres of disturbance has been analyzed under the plan and EA's. Atlas has now disturbed approximately 65.4 acres or 76 percent of the total authorized acreage.

In May, 1988, Atlas filed a major amendment to the approved plan of operations which proposed to continue exploration activities within the same area in a much more intensive manner. This amendment is included as Appendix A.

II. OPERATORS PROPOSED ACTION AND ALTERNATIVES

A. Operators Proposed Action

Atlas Precious Metals Inc. has expanded its proposed exploration program to include a possible cumulative surface disturbance of 321.9 acres. This acreage includes the 85.6 acres authorized under the approved plan and amendments.

Atlas proposes to conduct exploration activities within thirteen target areas in the manner described in the original plan of operations. This amendment is to allow for continued exploration activities through the Stage 3 pre-development and Stage 4 development drilling.

The original plan of operations describes the phased approach to exploration activities but can be summarized as:

Stage 1 - Mapping, geochemical, soil, and rock chip sampling with essentially no surface disturbance.

Stage 2 - Preliminary access road building with wide spaced drilling on access roads.

Stage 3 - Pre-development grid drilling on 200 foot centers.

Stage 4 - Development drilling on 100 foot or less centers.

One of the target areas is into the Stage 4 development. Three areas have reached Stage 3 and will likely proceed into Stage 4. Two areas have had some Stage 2 activity. Four areas are at or near completion of Stage 1. Three areas have not yet been located within the claim block.

The following is a summary of each subproject activities (see Figure-3):

1. The Goldstone area was in Stage 3 pre-development at the time the plan was filed. Since that time, infill drilling has been accomplished consistent with Stage 4 development. Additional ore body delineation will be accomplished under this amendment consistent with Stage 4 activities described in the plan. Some additional Stage 3 drilling may be accomplished around the perimeter of the ore body if warranted. When the ore body is delineated to the point where pre-production stripping is feasible, this area will be isolated and filed as a separate mining plan of operations.

2. The Gold Ridge area was in the early phases of Stage 3 pre-development at the time the plan was filed. Since that time, Stage 3 activities have been accomplished over most of the targeted area. Continued activity includes completion of Stage 3 and proceeding to Stage 4 development. When the ore body is delineated to the point where preproduction stripping is feasible, this area will be isolated and filed as a separate mining plan of operations.

3. The Gold Ridge South area was in the preliminary phases of Stage 3 at the time the plan was filed. Priorities are to establish the validity of the target and define any ore body continuity between Gold Ridge and Gold Ridge South. Stage 3 pre-development will progress as long as results are favorable. Positive results will lead to Stage 4 development drilling. With positive Gold Ridge South results, the Gold Ridge and Gold Ridge South areas would likely be combined into a single mining plan of operations.

4. The Wonder Rock area had some Stage 2 activity when the plan was filed. Additional Stage 2 activity has been accomplished on a limited scale since that time. Immediate plans are for the completion of Stage 2 exploration and, pending assay results and evaluation, proceeding through Stages 3 and 4.

5. West Wonder Rock was at or near completion of Stage 1 exploration when the plan was filed. Minimal Stage 2 exploration has been accomplished under the plan. Future exploration will include completion of Stage 2 and, pending assay results, proceeding through Stages 3 and 4.

6. Each of the Ziff, Flat, North Flat, and Northwest Flat areas are either through Stage 1 or in some late phase of Stage 1. Some drilling has been done in the Ziff area, but assay results have shifted the target area. Because no drilling has been done in the target areas, these boundaries are most likely to shift as Stage 2 and 3 drilling is accomplished. Stage 2, 3, and 4 exploration drill roads will be located as a function of drilling results. The progression of Goldstone, Gold Ridge, and Gold Pick are examples of typical development through the various stages of exploration. Roads for Stage 3 drilling are usually built on contour and roughly parallel. Stage 4 development is ordinarily infilling on existing roads and spur roads off existing roads.

Atlas' exploration success in the project area warrants continued Stage 1 reconnaissance over the remainder of the claim block. Three new targets will likely be established which will follow the same staged approach as the established targets. Each of the three new targets will be approximately 150 acres, which is the average acreage of the ten existing target areas.

Atlas has estimated the extent of surface disturbance associated with each phase of exploration activities based on actual disturbances measured under the approved plan of operations. Table 2 shows each target area and the total acreage expected to be disturbed at the end of each phase of exploration. Atlas proposes a maximum disturbance under this amendment of 321.9 acres, which assumes that all thirteen target areas proceed through Stage 4 development.

Atlas intends to use and maintain access on the Roberts Creek road, Cabin Creek road, and the Roberts Creek Access (N66-EA8-29). An existing road which accesses the Flat, North Flat, and Northwest Flat will also be used. This road connects with the Roberts Creek road in Section 24, T. 22 N., R. 50 E. Atlas intends to make use of these roads during all seasons. This may require snow removal, surface blading, and application of surface materials (gravel) to ensure all-weather access. Atlas has entered into a general road maintenance agreement with Eureka County, the holder of the Roberts Creek road right-of-way.

Continued exploration will require the storage of various types of construction materials and equipment at convenient locations. Typical materials stored are drill pipe, bits, drilling additives, and blasting agents. Storage areas will be located away from the Roberts Creek drainage halfway up the Cabin Creek/Gold Pick Access Road in SE¼ action T. 22 N., R. 50 E.

Period of operations is expected to begin from August 1988 to the end of the 1989 exploration season.

B. No Action Alternative

The No Action alternative is considered as an alternative as required by the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969. The No Action Alternative provides a basis from which to measure the impacts of all other alternatives including the proposed action.

The No Action Alternative would allow no further mining exploration activities and would cause no further impacts to the environment.

U.S Dept. of the Interior's 43 CFR 3809 surface mining regulations and current Bureau of Land Management policy contain provisions allowing for mineral exploration on public lands as long as it is operated in an environmentally sound manner and would not cause undue or unnecessary degradation of the environmental resources.

Selection of the No Action Alternative would eliminate from consideration the potential discovery of gold and silver mineral resources as proposed by the project sponsor. During the initial review and analysis of the proposed action, no sufficient reason was found to select the No Action Alternative. Therefore, it will not be discussed further in the environmental assessment of the proposed action.

III. AFFECTED ENVIRONMENT

A. Air Resources

Air quality around the project area reflect that which might be expected in consideration of the area's topographic, vegetative, demographic and industrial characteristics. The air quality of the area is high do to the limited population of the area and absence of concentrated industrial activity.

B. Water Resources

The project area will be mostly located at elevations ranging from 6500 feet to 8500 feet. Most precipitation in central Nevada is from frontal storms mainly from the north and west during the winter months and convectional storms during the summer months. Frontal storms are generally low-intensity, short duration events covering large areas. Convective storms are generally high intensity thunderstorms, short duration events of limited areal extent.

Precipitation and snow melt runoff from the mountain slopes are rapid, spreading across the alluvial fans where much of it infiltrates through the soil and into the alluvial aquifers within the surrounding valleys. Water ponding may occur on the playa, but is rapidly evaporated. Some of the surface water may percolate further into deeper carbonate aquifer, however, it is dependent on fluctuations of amount of precipitation.

The surface water resources in the area exist as precipitation and perennial first order drainages. Snow accumulation in the area is high and during melt periods contributes a considerable volume of runoff to the surface water system. Additional runoff is produced during summer high-intensity thunderstorms.

Information suggests that the regional ground water surface s at about 6,600 feet. Atlas' exploration drilling has generally been consistent with this elevation. Boreholes drilled within the project area have not encountered significant amounts of water and have usually bottomed out above that elevation. Perennial drainages are fed by springs which are probably perched above the regional ground water system. The aquifer is recharged primarily from percolation of melting snowpack.

Roberts Creek and Cottonwood Creek are the only perennial drainages near the project area. Roberts Creek courses from north to south down the east side but outside of the project area. Portions of the northwest part of the project area are located within the Cottonwood Creek watershed. The creek is located outside of and flows away from the project area.

C. Wildlife Habitat

The project area is located in the Roberts Mountains wildlife habitat management area. It's purpose has been the improvement of habitat for mule deer, sage grouse, and trout. Special emphasis has been given to the protection and enhancement of riparian and meadow communities.

Species inhabiting the site include a variety of animals typical to the mountain areas of the Great Basin. The area provides excellent nesting habitat for a variety of raptors.

The entire management area is important sage grouse habitat. In the past, approximately 65% of the Eureka County sage grouse harvest attributed to this area. Populations have declined to where three of the past seasons have been closed to hunting. This is thought to be due mainly to the loss of brooding habitat. A decrease in strutting ground habitat is also becoming increasingly important

The Roberts Mountains are considered crucial summer habitat for mule deer. Some winter use is also known to occur. Public interest in mule deer has intensified since the Nevada Division of Wildlife (NDOW) began managing deer hunting in the Roberts Mountains on a quota system. With this system, hunters are generally experiencing an every other year opportunity to hunt.

The riparian habitat along Roberts Creek is in poor condition. The Shoshone-Eureka Resource Management plan (RMP) and Amendment (1986, 1987) established objectives and management actions to improve this habitat to good or better condition within the short term (five years from issuance of the final RMP).

Roberts Creek is a suitable habitat for several species of fish. The RMP identifies priority species for habitat enhancement including brook, brown, and rainbow trout. NDOW stocks Roberts Creek with trout on an annual basis.

D. Threatened or Endangered Species

No threatened or endangered species animals are known to occur in the proposed project area. Bald Eagles are seen occasionally in central Nevada but occur only as winter migrants. Lahontan cutthroat trout, a federally listed threatened species, have been reintroduced into Pete Hansen Creek (several miles northwest of the project area) as part of the RMP.

No threatened or endangered species plants are known to occur in the proposed project area. Twelve "candidate" plant species occur in the Battle Mountain District. Surface reconnaissance for potential T&E plant species is being conducted in the Roberts Mountains in June, 1988 with results pending.

E. Range

The proposed activity is located within the Roberts Creek Allotment. This allotment includes approximately 173,863 acres which is estimated to support 17,705 AUM's of dual usage (see Figure 2). Actual use by livestock in the project area (or approx. vicinity) is one band of sheep (850 head) for about 40 days which equals 227 AUM's. The normal period of use in this area is late spring/early summer June/July when the flowers are in bloom. The area around Roberts Creek is heavily used because the creek is the closest regular water source in the project area vicinity.

F. Vegetation and Soils Resources

A complete description of soil and associated vegetative is contained in Appendix B. In addition, the Shoshone-Eureka Resource Management Plan contains the objective to improve the riparian area along Roberts Creek to good or better condition in the short term.

G. Wilderness

The area of proposed exploration lies adjacent to the Roberts Mountain Wilderness Study Area (WSA). The southernmost extension of the WSA is more than a mile to the north of the Gold Bar II project area and is separated topographically from the proposed activity by the Roberts Creek drainage.

H. Cultural Resources

Forty two archaeological and historic sites have been documented in the project area. This information is the result of a class II and class III archaeological survey conducted in November, 1987 and June, 1988 over some 5080 acres including the project area. Twenty seven had pre-historic components and sixteen were from the historic period.

I. Socioeconomic Resources

The nearest population center to the proposed activity is the town of Eureka, which is located about 30 miles to the southeast. There is a significant housing shortage to newcomers to the area. The current population of Eureka is estimated at about 800. The public water and sewer system is at or above design capacity with current usage. Schools, law enforcement, road maintenance, and sanitation facilities are generally at or near capacity.

J. Visual Resources

The Gold Bar II project lies partially in a class II visual resource management area (VRM) and partially in a class IV VRM area.

Potential surface water impacts are primarily associated with sedimentation carried by surface runoff. It is possible that maintenance activities and use of the Roberts Creek Access would increase sediment contributions to Roberts Creek. The application of surface materials would decrease rutting, associated surface erosion, fugitive dust, and minimize sedimentation of the creek.

Sediments carried by runoff from the target areas will have an insignificant affect on surface water quality due to the physical distance between the disturbed areas and the perennial drainages, the undisturbed vegetation stand between the two.

Additional minor surface disturbances may occur in establishing and using a gravel source for road improvements and maintenance.

C. Wildlife Habitat

The proposed activity will greatly expand the road construction and drilling program which will increase habitat loss through surface disturbance and associated human impacts. Impacts to mule deer will come from the cutting of migration routes by roads and grid drilling and the removal of portions of key use areas. It may become necessary to enhance certain key use areas to help offset losses from mineral exploration.

D. Threatened or Endangered Species

No known impact.

E. Range

Figure 2 shows the range designations within and adjacent to the proposed project area. Table 2 summarizes the affects of the proposed activities on each of the range categories. The removal of vegetation resulting from the exploration activityies would result in decrease of 23 AUM of forage, based on the range survey calculations. This is only one tenth of one percent of the total AUM's associated with this allotment. The total 321.9 acre disturbance is only two tenths of one percent of the total acreage included in the allotment.

Exploration roads constructed on steep hillsides may disturb a small number of surface acres overall. However, these roads can render the itervening areas inaccessible to livestock and wildlife. Large-scale exploration operations may have the effect of total exclusion of animals. Total exclusion of livestock would mean a loss of 227 Aum's of sheep us in the allotment.

The impacts of exploration activities on rangeland will be temporary until reclamation is accomplished. There is some potential for a reduction in the grazing allotment during exploration on the basis of a proportionate reduction in AUM's. A loss of 23 AUM's out of some 17,705 AUM's for the Roberts Creek allotment is not considered a significant impact.

Due to lack of available water for livestock use in the project area access to existing tanks along Cabin Creek and the drainages to the south will be restricted or cut off as a result of the increase in exploration drilling and road constrcution activities.

F. Vegetation and soils

The impact to vegetation will be temporary. Road and drill pad construction will result in a loss of vegetation in areas of excavation until reclamation is accomplished. Application of appropriate mitigation to prevent soil erosion will prevent adverse impact to Roberts Creek.

The impact to soils resources will be temporary. Road construction will consist of side-casting topsoil adjacent to the roadway. This method stockpiles excavated soils adjacent to where it will be used for reclamation and minimizes the potential for mixing of soil types.

G. Wilderness

The northern boundary of the Gold Bar II project area is located approximately one mile south of the Roberts Mountain WSA. The Ziff target area and portions of the Goldstone area are readily visible from observation points on the south facing slopes of the WSA.

H. Cultural Resources

Determination has been made that some of the historic properties located during the cultural inventory will suffer adverse impacts which cannot be avoided. Other sites will require further investigation if impacts are anticipated. (See mitigation section.)

I. Socioeconomic Resources

Atlas' continued exploration activity will not increase the current level of employment in the area. Atlas employees and earthwork contractors already live in the Eureka area. Contract drillers, usually from other areas, use the local motels and restaurants during the work week and commute back home on days off. The number of non-Atlas employees is not expected to be different than those seen in 1987.

There may be a slight decrease in ranch wealth due to the minor reduction of AUM's available. This will be offset by an increase in the sale of water by the ranch owner. All expected changes relating to red meat production, loan value, resale value and AUM fees to the Federal Government are insignificant.

J. Visual Resources

The area of the proposed activity is topographically above the surrounding area to the east, south, and west and is visible from points in these directions. The features which will be produced during exploration are not expected to be dominant due to the distance from frequently used viewing areas such as U.S. highway 50 (see Appendix C).

The key visual observation point is State Route 278 located about ten miles to the east. The project area could be viewed only for about 3 miles and it is not anticipated that any of the produced features will be dominant because of their small size and the distance from the viewing point. The area will normally be viewed only while traveling in a northerly direction. Travel in a southerly direction would place the disturbed area behind the viewer. Most of the proposed disturbance is located behind hills and mountains where it cannot be seen even though it is higher in elevation than the viewing area.

The Roberts Creek road, a Eureka County road, is the only public road where activities would be readily visible at some locations. From this road, the viewer could see drill road systems for approximately 1 to 2 miles when traveling in either a northerly or southerly direction. Much of the disturbance will be obstructed from view from the Roberts Creek road due to vegetation and topographic obstructions. Changes in basic elements (form, line, color, texture) should not be evident in the characteristic landscape. Contrasts can be seen and do attract attention. Every effort should be made to accomplish reclamation as soon as possible.

K. Forestry

Some woodland vegetation will be removed during construction of drill roads. The resource will be utilized by fuel wood harvesters where it is accessible. The loss of pinyon, juniper, and mahogany is minor compared to the total resource available. Following reclamation, woodland species will regenerate on previously disturbed areas.

Some areas with limber pine stands will be affected in the Gold Pick and Gold Stone areas. Loss of individual trees will result from road construction.

Mitigation of impacts to pinyon, juniper and mountain mahogany are necessary at this stage due to the minor impacts to the resource. In areas of limber pine, roads should be locatec to avoid, damage to trees wherever possible.

L. Irretrievable Commitment of Resources

There is no irretrievable commitment of resources at this stage of exploration.

V. MITIGATION AND RECLAMATION

Reclamation of disturbed areas will be accomplished as soon after the decision to abandon an area is made as is practical. Reclamation practices shall consist of:

A. Surface recontouring and the redistribution of topsoil to as close to the original contour as is practical.

B. Scarify soils on contour to encourage runoff collection over the disturbed area (to help seed germination).

C. Seed the prepared soils with a range mix of (or other BLM approved mix):

Bitterbrush	2 No. PLS/ac
Great Basin Wildrye	4 No. PLS/ac
Bluebunch Wheatgrass	3 No. PLS/ac
Idaho Fescue	2 No. PLS/ac

Seeding shall be done in late fall, but before the snow accumulates.

D. Areas where road building can be avoided by traveling cross country, angle drilling, or alternative means shall be evaluated by Atlas on a case-by-case basis.

E. Water dips and water bars shall be constructed and maintained to direct surface runoff off of the roadways. Intervals between water dips/bars will be adequate to prevent excessive erosion. Roads shall be constructed so that they do not to block drainages.

F. Surface blading of access and drill roads will be allowed only for snow removal, application of appropriate surface materials, and to maintain a suitable road prism. Removal of surface mud to get down to drier materials capable of supporting vehicles and equipment is not considered normal maintenance activities.

G. The application of water, rock, or dust inhibitors may be necessary to maintain compliance with state air quality requirements.

H. Areas which have sensitive archaeologic or historic values shall be mitigated as follows:

All cultural sites will be avoided to the extent practical. In most cases, identification and recordation are considered sufficient mitigation. However, several sites were identified which will require more intensive investigation. If these properties are to be impacted by future operations further mitigation measures will be determined by the BLM.

BLM shall be notified when the decision is made to explore within these areas. Preliminary access to these areas shall have little or no road construction. If stage 2 drilling is successful, Atlas and BLM will determine, on a case-by-case basis, what mitigation measures will be necessary.

VI. CONSULTATION AND COORDINATION

Nevada Division of Wildlife: On June 10, 1988, Dale Elliott (NDOW) was contacted by telephone by Barbara Filas (Atlas). Atlas' continued exploration in the Roberts Mountains were discussed on a casual, preliminary basis. Mr. Elliott's main concerns were with regard to impacts on mule deer populations, although other species are also of concern.

Eureka County Commission: On June 28, 1988, David Rubio (Atlas) contacted a member of the Eureka County Commission to discuss whether the Commission would like Atlas to receive questions on the project at the Commissioner's meeting either July 6 or July 20, 1988. If the Commissioners feel it is necessary, Atlas representatives will attend the scheduled Commissioners meeting.

Grazing Allotment Permittee: On June 23, 1988, Richard Kehmeier and Chris Broili (both Atlas) contacted Filbert Etcheverry (Eureka Livestock Company) to discuss the rancher's concerns regarding Atlas proposed activity. Mr. Etcheverry requested that the Roberts Creek road (County road on private land) be re-routed around the Roberts Creek Ranch, rather than through the ranch. He also said that long range concerns with mine development would include provisions for keeping livestock off of ore haulage roads. Atlas has taken these concerns under advisement and is expected to address them at the upcoming commissioners set for July 20, 1988.

Shoshone-Eureka Resource Area Staff

Karl Sheetz - Supervisory Range Conservationist
Gary Foulkes - Archaeologist and Wilderness Coordinator
Joe Lowe - Wildlife Biologist
Jon Menten - Forrester and Environmental Coordinator
Ahmed Mohsen - Geologist and co-preparer
Barbara Filas - Atlas Environmental Coordinator and co-preparer.

TABLE 1

PROPOSED DISTURBANCES

	Target Area Acres	Stage 2 Acres	Stage 3 Acres	Stage 4 Acres	Existing Disturb.	Additional Allowable Disturbance
Goldstone	100	-	-	16.5	11.9	4.6
Gold Ridge	147	-	13.2	24.3	6.9	17.4
Gold Ridge So.	79	-	7.1	13.0	2.4	10.6
Gold Pick	482	-	43.4	79.5	11.9	67.6
Wonder Rock	103	3.6	9.3	17.0	2.3	14.7
Wonder Rock W.	49	1.7	4.4	8.1	0.7	7.4
Ziff	320	11.2	28.8	52.8	7.0	45.8
Flat	66	2.3	5.9	10.9	0	10.9
North Flat	69	2.4	6.2	11.4	0	11.4
Northwest Flat	85	3.0	7.7	14.0	0	14.0
New Target -1	150	5.3	13.5	24.8	0	24.8
New Target -2	150	5.3	13.5	24.8	0	24.8
New Target -3	150	5.3	13.5	24.8	0	24.8
Access Road/Other					22.3	(22.3)*
Maximum Disturbance this Amendment:				321.9	65.4	256.5

* Access roads have been included as a part of the total acreage for each target area.

See Figure 2 for project area map.

TABLE 2
RANGE IMPACTS

ACRES OF DISTURBANCE IN EACH RANGE DESIGNATION

Range Class/Area	LK-12	CB-21	LK-11	JC-31	CB-24	B-22
Goldstone		6.6	2.5		7.4	
Gold Ridge					24.3	
Gold Ridge So.				13.0		
Gold Pick				59.6	18.3	1.6
Wonder Rock					17.0	
Wonder Rock West					8.1	
Ziff	23.8	29.0				
Flat				10.9		
North Flat				11.4		
Northwest Flat				14.0		
New Target - 1*	24.8					
New Target - 2*	24.8					
New Target - 3*	24.8					
TOTAL ACRES	98.2	35.6	2.5	108.9	75.1	1.6

DISTURBANCE AFFECT ON ALLOCATED AUM'S

AREA	AC/AUM	AC DIST	AUM LOSS
LK-12	9	98.2	10.9
CB-21	30	35.6	1.2
LK-11	16	2.5	0.2
JC-31	26	108.9	4.2
CB-24	12	1.6	6.3
CB-22	200	1.6	---
TOTAL			22.8

* LK-12 has the lowest rate of 9 SA/AUM. Correspondingly, the greatest reduction in surface usage will be realized if development is localized in these areas. This makes this evaluation a "worst case".

Form 8400-4
(September 1985)

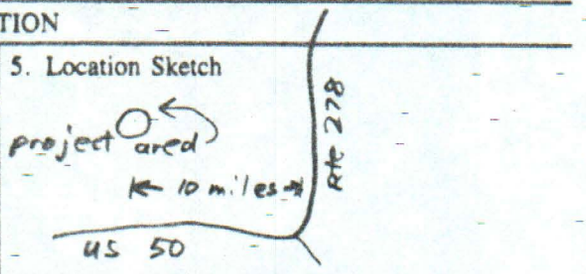
UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

VISUAL CONTRAST RATING WORKSHEET

Date 7-14-88
District NV-060
Resource Area Shoshone - Eureka
Activity (program) 4132 -12

SECTION A. PROJECT INFORMATION

1. Project Name: Atlas Gold Bar II
2. Key Observation Point: State Route 278
3. VRM Class: II
4. Location
   Township T. 22+23N.
   Range 50 E.
   Section Various
5. Location Sketch



SECTION B. CHARACTERISTIC LANDSCAPE DESCRIPTION

	1. LAND/WATER	2. VEGETATION	3. STRUCTURES
FORM	Basin & Range Topography	patchy	Fencelines
LINE	irregular, continuous	discontinuous	horizontal, linear
COLOR	tan, gray	gray green, tan	steel gray, brown posts mine
TEXTURE	mottled	smooth to mottled	smooth

SECTION C. PROPOSED ACTIVITY DESCRIPTION

	1. LAND/WATER	2. VEGETATION	3. STRUCTURES
FORM	no change	slight increase in vegetation edge	no change
LINE	no change	linear edge more pronounced	no change
COLOR	no change	slight change from gray green to tan	no change
TEXTURE	no change	from mottled to smooth in some areas	no change

SECTION D. CONTRAST RATING ☒ SHORT TERM ☐ LONG TERM

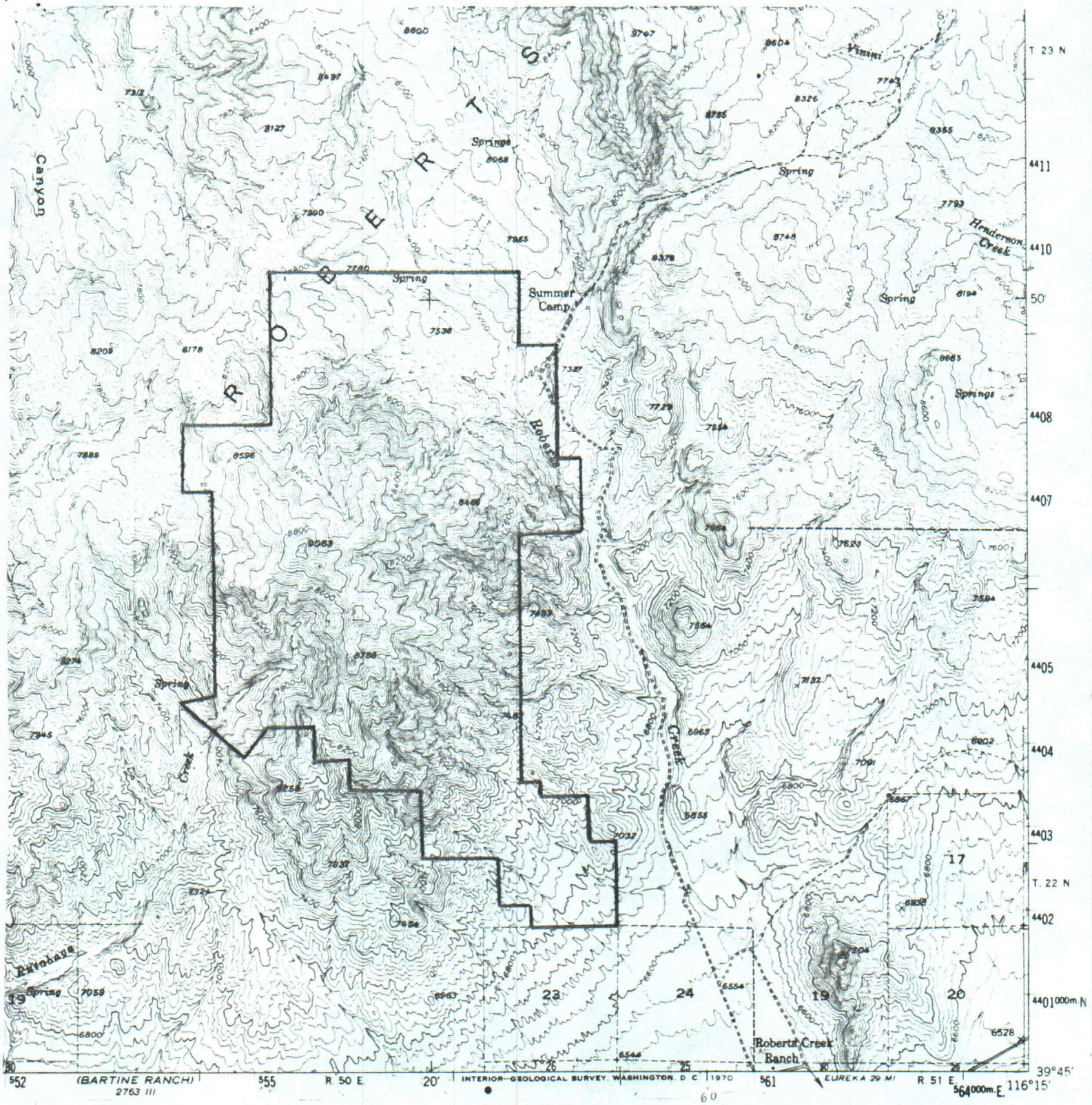
1. DEGREE OF CONTRAST

ELEMENTS	FEATURES: LAND/WATER BODY (1) Strong	Moderate	Weak	None	VEGETATION (2) Strong	Moderate	Weak	None	STRUCTURES (3) Strong	Moderate	Weak	None
Form				X			X					X
Line				X		X						X
Color				X			X					X
Texture				X			X					X

2. Does project design meet visual resource management objectives? ☒ Yes ☐ No (Explain on reverse side)

3. Additional mitigating measures recommended ☐ Yes ☒ No (Explain on reverse side)

Evaluator's Names: Jon Martin — Date: 7-14-88



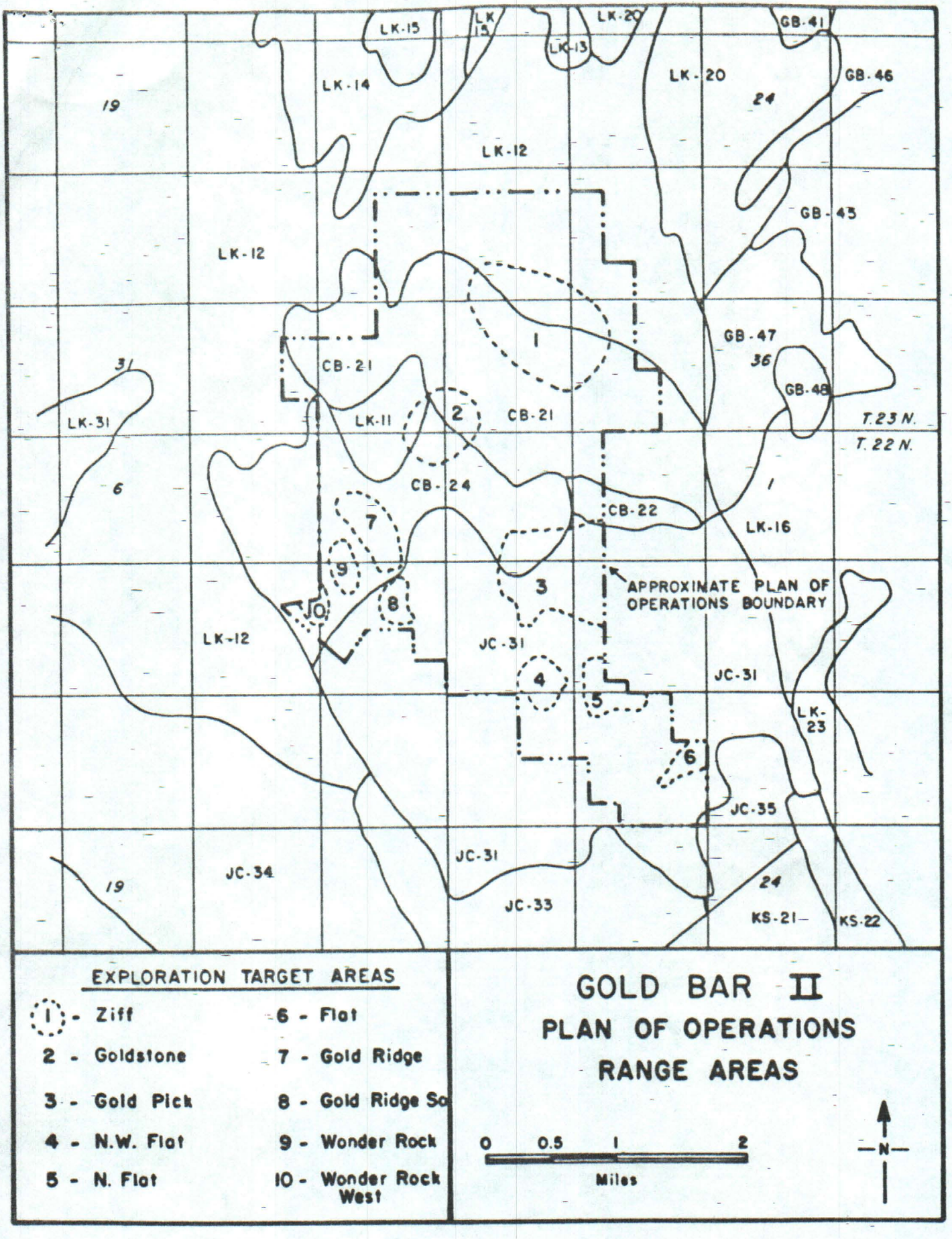
ROBERTS CREEK MTN., NEV.

N3945—W11615/15

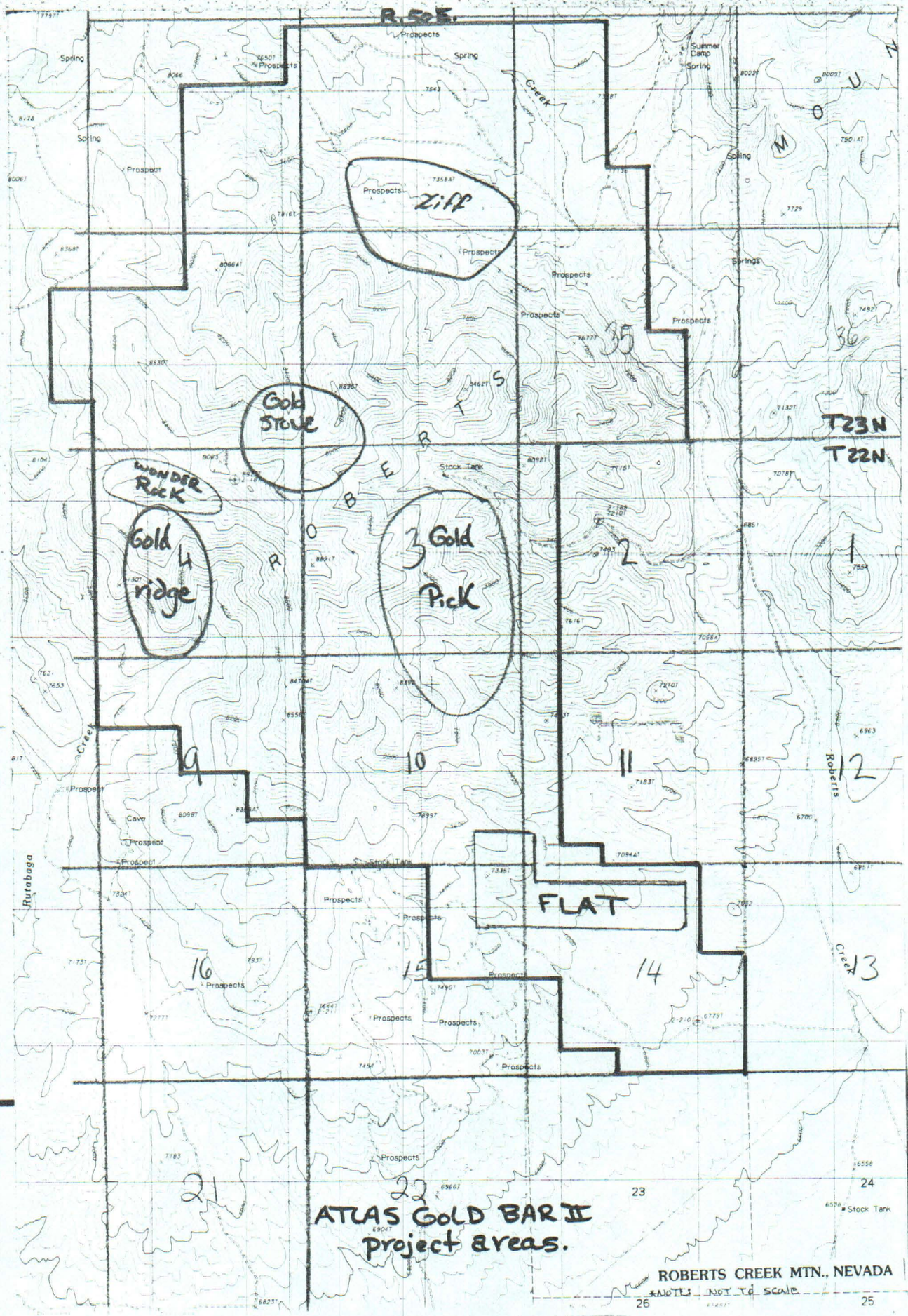
1949

AMS 2763 IV—SERIES V796

Figure-2



FIGURE



ATLAS GOLD BAR II
project areas.

ROBERTS CREEK MTN., NEVADA

*NOTE: NOT TO SCALE

Form 8400-4
(September 1985)

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

VISUAL CONTRAST RATING WORKSHEET

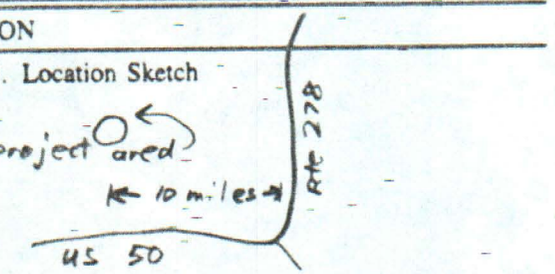
Date 7-14-88
District NV-060
Resource Area Shoshone - Eureka
Activity (program) 4132 - 12

SECTION A. PROJECT INFORMATION

1. Project Name: Atlas Gold Bar II
2. Key Observation Point: State Route 278
3. VRM Class: II

4. Location
Township T. 22+23N.
Range 50 E.
Section Various

5. Location Sketch



SECTION B. CHARACTERISTIC LANDSCAPE DESCRIPTION

	1. LAND/WATER	2. VEGETATION	3. STRUCTURES
FORM	Basin & Range Topography	patchy	Fencelines
LINE	irregular, continuous	discontinuous	horizontal, linear
COLOR	tan, gray	gray green, tan	steel gray, brown posts mine
TEXTURE	mottled	smooth to mottled	smooth

SECTION C. PROPOSED ACTIVITY DESCRIPTION

	1. LAND/WATER	2. VEGETATION	3. STRUCTURES
FORM	no change	slight increase in vegetation edge	no change
LINE	no change	linear edge more pronounced	no change
COLOR	no change	slight change from gray green to tan	no change
TEXTURE	no change	from mottled to smooth in some areas	no change

SECTION D. CONTRAST RATING ☒ SHORT TERM ☐ LONG TERM

1. DEGREE OF CONTRAST

ELEMENTS	FEATURES: LAND/WATER BODY (1) Strong	Moderate	Weak	None	VEGETATION (2) Strong	Moderate	Weak	None	STRUCTURES (3) Strong	Moderate	Weak	None
Form				X			X					X
Line				X		X						X
Color				X			X					X
Texture				X			X					X

2. Does project design meet visual resource management objectives? ☒ Yes ☐ No (Explain on reverse side)

3. Additional mitigating measures recommended ☐ Yes ☒ No (Explain on reverse side)

Evaluator's Names: Jon Martin
Date: 7-14-88