

Taylor Creek Adit

The Taylor Creek Adit is located in the NW¼ Section 19, T. 14 N., R. 41 E., in the drainage of Taylor Creek in the Centennial Mountains approximately two miles due south of the Continental Divide/Montana-Idaho state line (Figure 150).

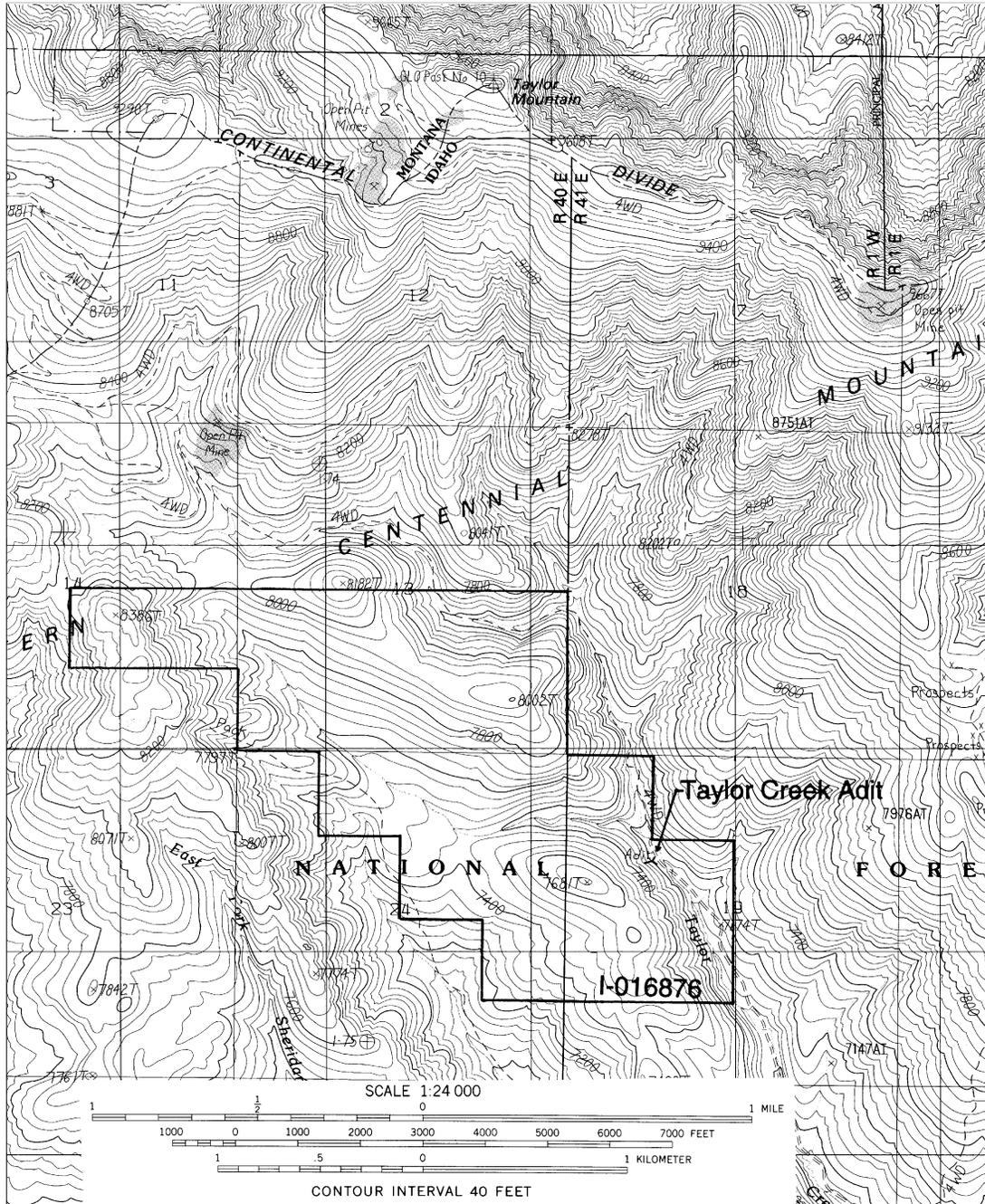


Figure 150. Map showing the location of the Taylor Creek Adit, Clark County, Idaho.

The occurrence of phosphate resources in the Centennial Mountains has been known for many years (Bowen, 1918; Condit, 1919; Condit and others, 1928). The phosphate resources in the Taylor Creek drainage were mapped by F. S. Honkala August 24 to September 11, 1950 (BLM unpublished data). The final results of Honkala's mapping were published in 1953 (Honkala, 1953).

Development of the phosphate resources in this area started in 1954 with the exploration and development of the open-pit Centennial Mine two miles north of the area of the Taylor Creek Adit. It was not until 1965 that the phosphate on Taylor Creek attracted attention. Table 10 shows the prospecting permitting activity of one company, Northern Investment Company (a corporation). In particular, Northern Investment Company filed a prospecting permit application (I-016876) with the

Table 10. Northern Investment Company's historic permitting/leasing activities in the area of Taylor Creek.

Serial Number	Location (Township, Range, Section)	Date of Application	Date of Issue of Permit	Date Permit Expired/Term.
I-016876*	T. 14 N., R. 40 E., Secs. 13, 14, 24 T. 14 N., R. 41 E., Sec. 19	11/23/65	02/02/67	02/02/69
I-016877	T. 15 N., R. 44 E., Secs. 8, 17, 18, 20 T. 16 N., R. 44 E., Secs. 19, 29-30	11/23/65	08/30/66	10/11/67
I-016878	T. 14 N., R. 41 E., Secs. 10, 15 T. 14 N., R. 42 E., Secs. 19-21	11/23/65	08/30/66	08/30/70
I-68**	T. 14 N., R. 42 E., Secs. 15-22	08/05/66	02/14/67	02/14/69
I-326	T. 14 N., R. 42 E., Secs. 17-22, 27-31	10/03/66	03/30/67	07/08/69
I-327	T. 14 N., R. 40 E., Secs. 14-16, 24	10/31/66	10/18/67	10/17/69
I-328	T. 14 N., R. 41 E., Secs. 24-25, 36	10/31/66	03/30/67	03/30/69
I-925	T. 14 N., R. 41 E., Secs. 10-11, 14-15	02/15/67	08/14/67	08/11/71
I-926	T. 15 N., R. 44 E., Secs. 17, 29	02/15/67	08/11/67	08/11/71
I-2061	T. 14 N., R. 40 E., Secs. 23-25 T. 14 N., R. 41 E., Secs. 19-20, 29-32	01/05/68	04/30/68	04/30/71
I-2936	T. 14 N., R. 42 E., Secs. 15-17, 19-22	05/01/69	10/17/69	10/17/71

* Prospecting Permit I-016876 resulted in a Preference Right Lease Application (PRLA) that was issued as non-competitive phosphate Lease I-016876 on July 1, 1969.

** Prospecting Permit I-68 resulted in a PRLA that never was issued as a non-competitive phosphate lease.

BLM on November 23, 1965. The permit was approved on February 2, 1967, and exploration work started as soon as the weather conditions permitted. Northern Investment Company contracted with Sun Oil Company to act as the operator and Sun drilled six exploration holes in the permit area. Based on the drill hole data and information on previous USGS trenches (Honkala, 1953), a site for an underground exploration adit was selected. Sun Oil Company contracted with the Ralph M. Parsons

Company of Los Angeles, California (who further subcontracted the work to the Centennial Development Company of Salt Lake City, Utah) to excavate the exploratory adit. Prior to the start of the underground activities, the prospecting permit was assigned to a new company, Northern Investment Company (a co-partnership) on May 1, 1968. This partnership consisted of Leonard J. Garrand, Josephine Garrand, David A. Aro, Joan A. Aro, Leonard J. Lewis, and Lois Ann C. Lewis.

The adit was started July 24, 1968. Elevation at the portal was 7,420 feet. The adit was 8' x 10' in cross section, with timbered square sets of 6-foot centers and with solid board lagging on the back and ribs. Ventilation was provided by a centrifugal blower fan on the surface with vent tubing into the adit. A mucking machine was used to load waste and phosphate ore into a small diesel tram car mounted on rubber tires. The adit was extended 323 feet in a southwesterly direction with a crosscut to the northwest at 220 feet from the portal. This crosscut extended approximately 153 feet. A side drift at 58 feet from the main drift extended to the northeast and contained an experimental stope. The phosphate ore zone was encountered at 224 feet from the portal. The average overburden over the exploration adit is 220 feet. All in all, there was approximately 464 feet of underground development (Figures 151, 152, and 153).

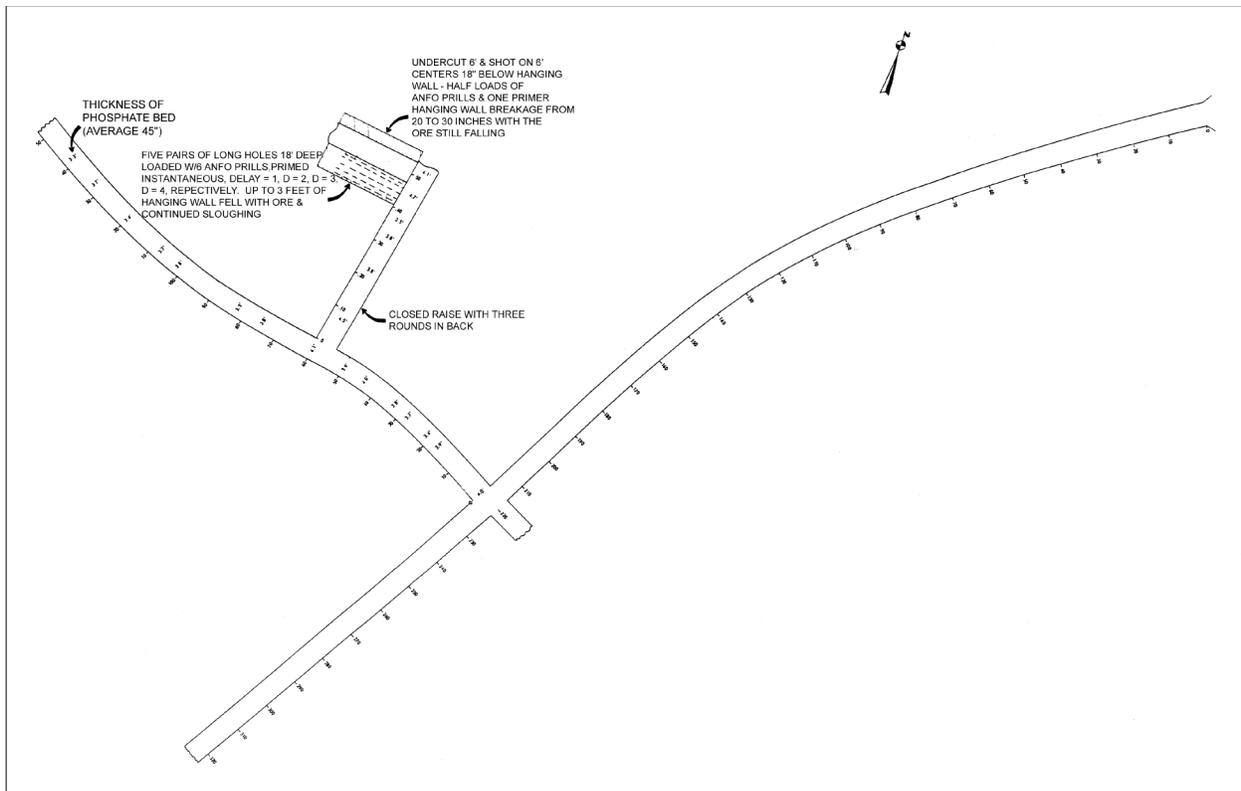


Figure 151. Underground mine map of the Taylor Creek Adit. Map from BLM files.



Figure 152. Taylor Creek Adit, September 24, 1980. BLM file photo.

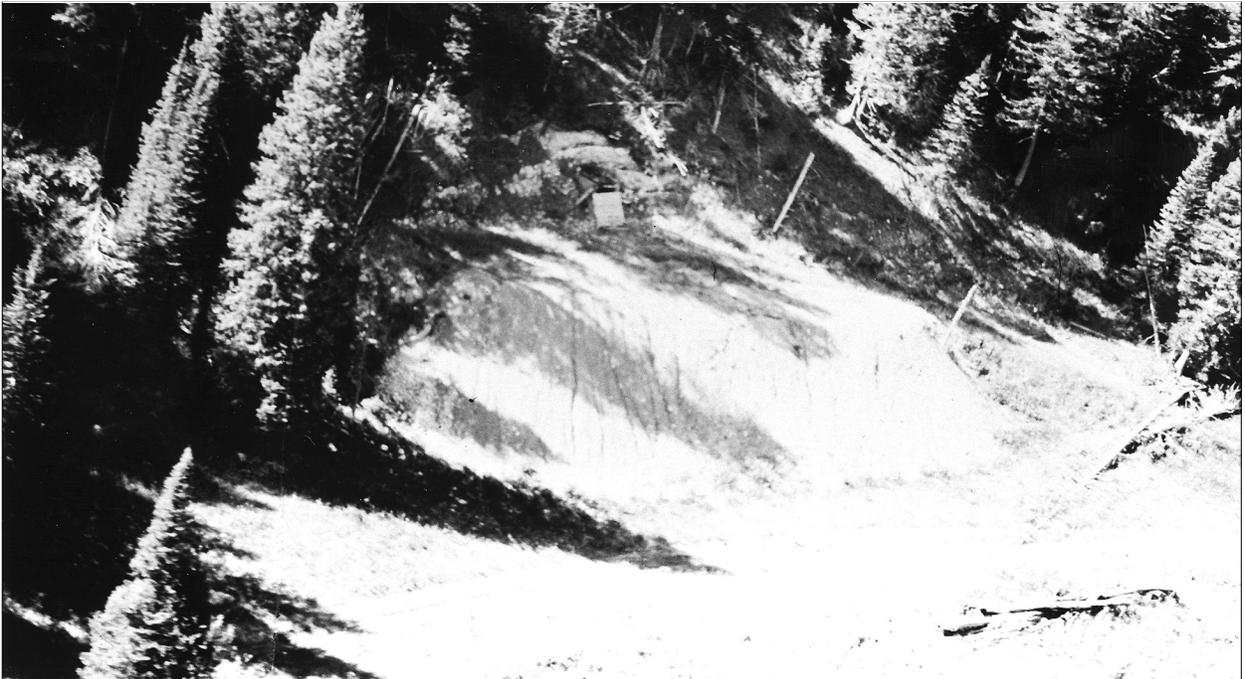


Figure 153. Taylor Creek Adit, September 24, 1980. BLM file photo.

Based on information developed in the underground operation, an application for a Federal Preference Right Lease was made on February 27, 1969. The lease (I-016876) was issued on July 1, 1969. There has been no further phosphate development on the lease since 1968, and the adit has been abandoned (Figure 154). However, the lease itself has a history of being assigned and reassigned. Northern Investment Company (a co-partnership) assigned the lease to Leonard J. Garrand on November 1, 1974. Garrand assigned the lease to Monida Resources, Inc. on January 1, 1994. As of this writing, Monida Resources, Inc. is the Federal leaseholder of record.



Figure 154. Abandoned Taylor Creek Adit, date and individuals unknown. BLM file photo.