

SURFACE MINING (OPEN PIT)

Terminology

Define the following terms as they relate to mining.

Area mining/strip mining -

Quarry –

Surface mining (strip mining) –

Overburden –

Aggregates –

Alluvium –

Placer –

Dredging –

Dragline –

Panning –

Sluice Box –

Hydraulic Mining or Hydraulicking –

Questions

Answer the following questions related to surface mining.

1) Describe the workings of a surface mine. Please describe how surface mines were worked historically (i.e. panning) versus how surface mines are worked today (i.e. size of dump trucks).

Planning and sluicing –

Hydraulic mining –

Dredging –

Modern open pit mining –

2) What type of geological deposit is mined by surface mining?

3) Where are abandoned and current surface mines located in Park County?

4) How do surface mines use water in the mining process?

5) What are the environmental impacts caused by surface mining?

6) What are the water quality impacts caused by surface mining?

7) When were gold placer deposits formed and how? (BONUS)