

# State Department of Geology and Mineral Industries

702 Woodlark Building  
Portland 5, Oregon

Conner Creek Placers (Placers Inc. claims)

Conner Creek District  
Baker County

Operator: Placers Inc. This is an Oregon company incorporated during December 1953. Vernon McClure, Midvale, Idaho, president; Jacob Schoesler, Ontario, Oregon, Route 2, vice-president; Harry Schaffer, Ontario, Oregon, secretary.

Location: T. 12 S., R. 45 E., Sec. 3.

Area: The property consists of four gulch type placer claims laid out end to end and recorded as "The Group of Hunting<sup>ton</sup> Placers."

History: These claims were formerly owned and operated by the Pedro Brothers who purchased them from Bert Basche in 1947. The land has undoubtedly been held in one part or another by a great many other claimants prior to the Basche ownership as Conner Creek was one of the notable early day placer diggings in eastern Oregon which has been extensively worked by both surface washing and drift methods.

Geology: The property is a typical gulch placer confined within the bounds of a rather narrow, deep canyon. Bedrock is for the most part steeply dipping schist. Both coarse, well rounded nugget gold and rough angular gold with quartz is found. Two grades of fineness are reported. Both cinnabar and native quicksilver are also reported as present. The gravel is quite coarse, and made up of limestone, basalt, greenstone and granite from the higher reaches of Lookout Mountain country as well as of a finer sized rubble of the metamorphic country rock in which the claims lie.

General: That this ground has been worked on in the early days is generally known, but how extensive these early workings have been, and how much unworked gravel remains is something which can't be accurately estimated as the canyon is subject to flash flooding which has served to obliterate most of the evidence of the early day operations. The Pedro Brothers' operation disclosed some patches of rich virgin ground and it would seem virtually certain that similar patches of virgin gravel should exist in the portions of the channel which remains to be reworked as the early workings were doubtless quite selective in nature, especially so the drift operations.

The present company plans to continue the Pedro operation on a stepped up scale. This operation consists of digging gravel to bedrock with a power shovel and trucking it to a stationary washing plant situated down stream from the working face and sufficiently high on the creek bank to allow for as much tailings accumulations as possible. The plant is to be skidded upstream to new locations as the working face advances.

\*\*\*\*

Report by: N.S.W.  
Date: 2/2/54  
Informant: Harry Schaffer

# CONNOR C.R. PLACERS

## CONNOR CREEK DISTRICT

The Connor creek district is one of the oldest in Oregon. The well-known Connor Creek mine was discovered in 1871.

### PLACER MINING

Upon the several small streams which flow into the Snake river there have been placer mines since early days. Those on Connor creek have been the most productive. It naturally has derived considerable coarse gold from the Connor creek vein. The whole creek below the mine has been worked over twice and parts of it are worked at the present time. The total production of the placer gold for this locality is about \$125,000.

# State Department of Geology and Mineral Industries

702 Woodlark Building  
Portland, Oregon

*Consider this as Pink Paper glass, pending*

CONNOR CREEK PLACERS

Connor Creek District  
Baker County

**Foreword:** This operation has not been examined by this department and the following information was offered by Mr. Farrel Anderson, M.E.

**General:** A Mr. Steck, owner of the Ford agency in Weiser, with a Mr. Raymond Pedro superintending the field work, have recently completed the digging of a drain ditch in Connor Creek proper about  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile below Dry Creek. This drainage has been carried an estimated depth of 15' for a distance of about 300 yards. The purpose of the ditch was to permit drift mining of a tract of supposedly virgin placer, except that it turned out that the Chinamen had been there first. Anyway, the operators reportedly plan to continue underground development. I have listed this operation for eventual examination.

Report by N. S. Wagner  
Dated, Nov. 20, 1947

\*\*\*\*\*

RECEIVED  
NOV 24 1947  
STATE DEPT OF GEOLOGY  
& MINERAL INDS.