



EAGLE MINE (Beach Placer)

Beach Area

Owner: Mrs. Della C. Ridle

Temporary address is Scio, Oregon. Generally lives in vicinity of Bandon, Oregon. This property is being purchased by the Western Consolidated Mining Corporation, E. McKenzie, President, Leo G. Ross, Secretary & General Manager, Yakima, Washington.

Location: 4 miles north of Bullards, Oregon, on the Seven Devils Road.

Area: 120 acres more or less of patented ground in secs. 28 and 33.

T. 27 S., R. 14 W.

"The deposit was discovered about the middle 60's and actively worked until 1873. Of late years the mine has been worked with indifferent success from time to time.

"All the mining has been done on the smaller tract. The 80-acre tract is said to contain deposits of black sand, but their value and extent have not been proven.

"The old beach sands that were successfully worked in the early days outcrop a few feet above the bed of the creek and have a cover of 50 to 60 feet of fine gray sand. A short distance up the creek they reach water level and soon disappear beneath the creek bed.

"The gold is not uniformly distributed, but appears to be in well-defined streaks or shoots, the richest part of the bed being the east or

landward side. The gold content of the material mined in the early days must have been fairly high, but the unworked part of the deposit will probably not average more than a few cents a ton, although claims of \$1 to \$5 a ton in gold are made by those most interested. Platinum and its associate minerals, osmium and iridium, occur in a ratio of 5 to 10 percent of the gold content.

"At first the creek channel was worked for the gold that had concentrated from the erosion of the black sand beds. Later tunnels were driven into the outcrops above water level, and drifts were run in either direction following defined pay shoots. As the workings were extended to the east, water was encountered, which stopped mining in that direction. To the west the shoots were worked until the limit of the pay dirt was reached. Finally pumps were installed and an attempt made to carry the workings below water level, but this proved too expensive, and the mine was closed down; probably, however, not before the richest part of the deposit had been worked out.

"The material mined was trammed in cars to sluice boxes, fitted with riffles and having the bottom covered with burlap, where it was washed to obtain a black sand concentrate containing gold and platinum. The concentrate was treated by amalgamation for the gold, little attention being given in the early days to the platinum.

"In recent years a number of attempts have been made to open and work this mine, but all efforts have invariably met with failure.

Recent Developments.

"About four years ago the property was acquired by some San Francisco parties and, under the direction of G. W. Bradford, was extensively prospected by drilling with an Empire hand-drill. In all, about 50 holes were drilled, all of which are reported to have shown the presence of gold and platinum.

"Seemingly, the drilling was not done in a systematic manner, and the results, which were not available to the writer, are likely to be unreliable and misleading. The drill holes indicated an overburden of 60 to 75 feet with an average of perhaps 65 feet." (Ref: Hornor 18).

"The Eagle mine, on Cut Creek north of the Pioneer mine, was idle at the time of visit. As described by Hornor it contains a bed of black sand 200 to 250 feet wide and several hundred feet long that is lenticular in cross section and 6 to 8 feet thick in the middle. This bed is composed of chromite, magnetite, ilmenite, and other heavy minerals, with a little gold and platinum. Except along Cut Creek, there is an overburden of 50 to 60 feet of fine-grained gray sand. Part of the deposit that has been worked, mainly by drifting, is said to have made a relatively large production, of which 5 to 10 percent of the value was in platinum and the remainder in gold.

"According to a report made in 1927 by J. D. Meehan for the owners of the property, a layer averaging $5\frac{1}{4}$ feet thick yields 50 percent of concentrate composed as follows: