

Sept. 13, 1941. *McC*

# State Department of Geology and Mineral Industries

702 Woodlark Building  
Portland, Oregon

## GOLD BACK PLACER

Powers area

Owner: L. E. McCorkle, Marial, Oregon.

Location: N $\frac{1}{2}$  N $\frac{1}{2}$  NW $\frac{1}{4}$  and N $\frac{1}{2}$  N $\frac{1}{2}$  NE $\frac{1}{4}$  sec. 10, T. 32 S., R. 10 W., on West Fork Cow Creek. (Reached via the road to Mt. Reuben at Sawmill Gap, then 26 miles west on the road toward Eden Valley)

Area: Four placer claims held by location, three in 1936 and one in 1941. Recorded at Coquille.

Development: A large pit about 200 feet in diameter has been opened and is being hydraulicked by two giants.

Equipment: Two No. 1 giants. 200 feet of 15 inch; 50 ft. of 11 in.; and 200 ft. of 9 inch hydraulic pipe. 1 $\frac{1}{2}$  miles of ditch and flume to bring water from Cow Creek and Fuller Creek under about 80 ft. of head.

Mining Conditions: Mining season is about 90 days in an average year. The gravel ranges from 10 ft. to 75 ft. in depth, with 3 ft. of clay at the surface. Gold ~~is~~ occurs from the top down although about 75 percent is concentrated on bedrock. Gold is fine to medium coarse, and has a fineness of about 900. Bedrock is reasonably smooth and rather soft. For the most part, bedrock is slate, similar to the Galice slates farther east. Some conglomerate (very hard) is exposed in a few places. Boulders are small, and 1 foot ~~is~~ size are maximum.

Water is held under water rights on both West Fk. Cow Creek and on Fullers Creek; 2 sec. feet from each.

Indications are that there is a sizeable area of placer gravel at this mine. The old level of Cow Creek seems to be about 25 feet higher than at present. In the pit, the direction of stream flow was west, - counter to the present stream flow. This may mean that Cow Creek once flowed westward to the Coquille, at this point; or what is more probable, the the present placer pit represents a westward flowing meander of a generally eastward flowing stream.

Informant: L. E. McCorkle and Roy C. Treasher, Sept. 12, 1941  
Report by: RCT, 1941, Sept. 13.

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