

REPORT OF MINERAL EXAMINATION

**Claimant:** Daniel R. Tucker  
521 Deer Creek Road  
Selma, Oregon

**Reason for Examination:** Administrative problem involving right to motorized ingress and egress to Little Chetco area of the Kalmiopsis Wilderness.

**Subject:** Validity of mining claims.

**Lands Involved:** Two placer claims and one lode claim in sections 13 and 14, T. 39 S., R. 10 W., W.M., Siskiyou National Forest, Curry County, Oregon

**Land Status:** National Forest Wilderness open to mineral entry.

**Location Data:** Independence No. 1 (placer), 20 acres, no record of location notice found. Quit Claim Deed dated July 14, 1955, from Clarence and Ethel Alber to William L. Harbour; recorded in Volume 15, page 605, Deed records.

Independence No. 2 (placer), 18 acres, located August 22, 1955, by William L. Harbour; recorded in Volume 15, page 721.

Independence Hardrock No. 1, 20 acres, located August 11, 1955, by William L. Harbour, recorded in Volume 15, page 719.

Quit Claim Deed from Willian L. Harbour and Mabel N. Harbour to Daniel R. Tucker for all three claims, dated April 2, 1959; recorded in Volume 19, page 9, Deed records.

**Mining District:** Little Chetco

**Mining Engineers and Dates of Examination:** Lloyd E. Holmgren, July 19 and 21, 1963  
Colver F. Anderson, October 21 and 22, 1964

**Accompanied by:** Joe Hagenmuller (July 19 and 21, 1963)  
Daniel R. Tucker and wife, Margaret, claimants (October 21 and 22, 1964)

ABSTRACT

The Tucker claims are in the bottom of the Little Chetco River canyon approximately 29 miles from U. S. 199 over very rough mountain roads.

Timber at this location probably has very low commercial value. Some areas would be suitable for recreation sites.

Rock types are metasedimentary and serpentine or peridotite. Some small gold-bearing veins have developed in both types, and they have contributed to the placer gold.

The gold in the Independence placers looks like it has weathered from vein deposits.

The physical position and extent of this bar are favorable for a placer mining operation. Ample water is readily available for many months each year. Sufficient gold exists in the gravel. All of these items help demonstrate the presence of a discovery. There is enough gravel for a few years of intensive operation, after which there would no longer be a discovery.

The Independence No. 1 is a valid claim and the Independence No. 2 has an excellent chance also.

### Location and Topography

The Tucker claims are located approximately 29 miles from U. S. 199 beginning at an intersection between Kerby and Selma where the Eight Dollar Road starts. The open road ends 24 miles later at Canyon Peak. Four miles of jeep road lead into the Kalmiopsis Wilderness and the bottom of the Little Chetco River canyon. From the end of the jeep road at the Davis place there is 1 mile of formerly jeep road which is now only a trail. This former road ends on the Tucker claims.

The more important parts of the claims are located on a fairly level gravel bar just above stream level. Hills at the edge of the gravel are steep and high.

### Surface Values

There are some commercial-sized trees on these claims. The surface of the gravel bar is fairly swampy but could be made into a recreation site.

### Areal Geology

The general country rock of the claim area is a slate member of the Galice formation. Serpentine or peridotite is common, but their relationship to the Galice rocks was not noted. Granodiorite boulders occasionally show in the gravel, so an area of this rock probably exists above the claims.

### Economic Geology

The adjoining claims downstream are part of the same gravel bar and have been declared valid. The same rock outcrops continue on both sides of the Little Chetco without any major drainages entering to influence the gold content of the gravel. Large boulders are sparse enough not to be a serious problem. The gravel is packed but not cemented. Both the depth and volume of gravel are satisfactory throughout the bar.

### History and Production

The claimant states that approximately 30 ounces of gold have been recovered from the 20- by 30- by 10-foot pit shown in Picture 2. This figures out at \$4.73 per yard. There are no published figures for this specific area.

Occupancy

A campsite has been in existence on the Independence No. 1 claim for many years. There is a main cabin about 20 feet square, a much smaller sleeping cabin, a garage, two woodsheds, and a storage shed now used for a waterwheel-operated washing machine. The big cabin is well maintained.

A shelter is a necessity for people working in areas as remote as the Little Chetco River. The evidence on the ground is sufficient to prove that the claimant does more mining than that necessary for assessment work. The cabins are used for mining purposes.

There is no usable road from the Davis place to the Tucker camp now, but there was once a jeep road which could be repaired.

Discovery

The present claimant has concentrated his efforts in a small pit just south of the old pit (see sketch). He has prospected the old pit and found gold. The gravel bank above (northeast of) the cabin has gold in it. The best place is the area just south of the old pit.

He has been ditching water to this area and washing the gravel through a section of sluice. At the time of Holmgren's visit a narrow cut was all that had been made. The gold content of the gravel increased when the cut was widened as shown in Pictures 1 and 2. The northwest bank next to the old pit has the least values (left side of Picture 2). Gold has been found from bedrock near the bottom of Picture 1 to the roots of a stump at the surface.

During the reconnaissance on October 21, 1964, two pans of gravel were taken from portions of the new cut; one from the northwest bank had only black sand, and the second from the head of the cut had a small nugget which weighs 59 milligrams. These two pans were combined to make sample A64-19. The cubic measurement of a 16-inch gold pan is such that 176 level pans equal 1 cubic yard. ( $176/2 \times .059$  grams = 5.19 grams per cubic yard and \$5.19 per yard for gold which is 890 pure.) Sample A64-20 is a one-half-yard sample run the next day from the head of the pit. This should be more nearly representative of the values which may be expected. The gold recovered weighed .780 grams and represents \$1.56 per yard. The gold recovered is nearly all coarse and can be picked up by hand. One piece in the second sample weighs a

half gram. The sparseness of the fines is noteworthy. Ten pieces made up the .780 grams and each is large enough to weigh individually.

The two samples indicate that the gold is fairly well scattered in the gravel, and the final average value is likely to be a little higher than the result of the A64-20 sample.

Water is easy to bring to any part of the bar. The ground is not difficult to work. The gold values are sufficient so that a profitable operation may be expected.

The purpose of this examination was to determine the presence or absence of a discovery, so there is no immediate necessity of determining the validity of the other two claims. However, the Independence No. 2 has an excellent chance of being valid because the same gravel bar extends onto it. The Hardrock claim is probably invalid.

#### Conclusion

A discovery has been determined to exist on the Independence No. 1 so the claimant is entitled to use the facilities, which are also on the claim, and to have ingress and egress to the claim.

Date Feb. 4, 1965

/s/ Colver F. Anderson  
Colver F. Anderson, Mining Engineer

APPROVED:

Date: Feb. 10, 1965

/s/ Jack I. Groom  
Acting Assistant Regional Forester

Peterson Bar

Sample	Volume (cubic feet)	Gold Content	
		Description of flakes	Weight (milligrams)
1	0.3	0	0
2	7.0	2, very fine	not determined
3	3.0	0	0
4	0.5	0	0
5	0.13	0	0
6	0.13	0	0
7	1.1	0	0
8	0.8	2, very fine	not determined
9	0.3	0	0
10	0.13	0	0
11	0.13	0	0
12	4.5	2, very fine	not determined