

# State Department of Geology and Mineral Industries

702 Woodlark Building  
Portland, Oregon

Report by H. M. Dole  
October 8, 1946

Grizzley Bear Group (gold placer)

Lobster Creek Mining District  
Curry County

Owner:

F. M. and Louisa Parker

Box 1221  
Powers, Oregon

Area:

4 placer and 2 lode claims, total of 120 acres. All held by location.

Location:

On Bluebell Creek, a tributary of Boulder Creek, in the south one half of section 4 and northeast quarter of section 9, T34S, R12W. The property is 41 miles south of Powers on the Powers-Middle Elk-Agness road and 32 miles north and west of Agness on the same road. A trail leads from the road to the property one half mile away.

History:

The claims were located in 1930 by Mr. Parker. He has worked them a few months out of each year up until six years ago. No work has been done since then.

Mr. Parker reports that the total production of the property is between \$2,000 and \$3,000.

Topography:

Very rough, steep mountainous topography.

The property is inaccessible during the months of January, February and March.

E Elevation at cabin is 3100 feet aneroid.

Development work:

Several thousand feet of ditches are on the property. All are in need of repair.

There are four short drifts. The longest is approximately 70' and the others are approximately 40', 12' and 12'. All are in poor condition; the two 12' tunnels being the only ones safe to enter.

An estimated 2 acres of ground has been placered.

Geology:

Shales of the Myrtle formation (Cretaceous) outcrop along most of the length of Bluebell Creek. At the junction of Bluebell and Boulder Creek, immediately to the northwest of the property, there is a contact between argentine and shale. Serpentine is also in contact with the shales approximately 200' above the creek along the upper ditch at the south end of the property.

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About 1000' southeast of the junction of Bluebell Creek and its East Fork the shales are intruded by a small gabbro mass. The intrusion has caused minor local folding in the shales but apparently has not effected them for any great distance. The two 12' tunnels are near this contact and in the distorted zone. Several small stringers from the gabbro are exposed in the tunnels; these stringers show no mineralization.

The general strike of the shales is NE-SW with dips around 45° to the NW.

The gold that is found is in water worn nuggets from 50¢ to \$25.00 in size. They are usually found on the shale surface just below the soil mantle. The only exception being one small, angular nugget that was found in one of the 12' tunnels about 18" below the surface. According to Mr. Parker the soils have been washed on several occasions but have failed to reveal a color. The shales of the tunnels have been assayed but they, too, were found to be barren. Fine gold (or dust) appears to be absent or nearly so. For the first few years of the property sluice boxes were used but because no fines were recovered they have been abandoned.

Evidently the gold found was derived from the erosion of many small auriferous veins intruded into the Myrtle formation by the gabbro and related masses. The rough surface of the shales acted as a natural riffle and effected the concentration of the values at bedrock. Why no fines are recovered is not clearly understood. It must be that they have either been washed downstream or the methods used for recovery have not been efficient enough to reclaim them. Of the two the latter seems the most likely.

## 7 Mining:

Ground sluicing has been the principal method of mining. An attempt was made one year to wash the ground with a fire hose but the quantity of material moved by this method is very small compared to the former method.

After a given area has been washed clean of the overburden it is examined visually for nuggets. No other attempt is made to reclaim the gold.

According to Mr. Parker the values seem to be evenly distributed throughout the whole area of the creek bottom and on the side hills for a vertical distance of approximately 20'. No concentrations or "hot spots" were apparent.

No estimate as to the value per square yard of the area has been made.

Overburden will average around three feet plus.

An estimated four-fifths of the mineable area has been worked.

## Reference:

Geologic Atlas of the U.S.--Port Orford Folio, No. 89.

## Informants:

F. M. Parker

Bonanza Basin Lease of 1892

Leases

Francis M. Parker,	Pacifica Ocean	1/4
" <del>John</del> <del>Richard</del> "	" "	each
Carl. Smedberg	Gold Beach Ocean	

All claims in Big Four and Giggley/Kear groups more particularly described as follows:

Price & Terms

Terms. 10% Royalty -  
 Excursion agent - Bank of Pacific Ocean  
 Length of Time - until exhausted  
 Entire removal of <sup>all</sup> men from ground not more than 30 days - weather permitting  
 F M Parker to go on ground at any time  
 Lodes discovered <sup>in operation</sup> excluded from contract  
 Payment of Bills  
 Obeying the law - Compensation  
 Equipment can be removed.

R M address of Vancouver Wash

Boulder Creek Mining Dist Curry Co Ore

Name - book no. - page



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WHITE ELEPHANT GROUP (placer & lode)

LOBSTER CREEK AREA

Owner: Mrs. Caroline Wallace, Agness, Oregon. (Mrs. Tom Wallace)

Location: SW $\frac{1}{4}$  NW $\frac{1}{4}$  sec. 4, and east-center sec. 5, T. 34 S., R. 12 W., headwaters of Boulder Creek and west of Ophir Mtn., 8 mi. northwest of Illahe via trail.

Area: Four placer claims with a total of 80 acres, held by location.

History: Discovered and worked by George Curry and Bill Coy 1874 to 1876. 1876 to 1927 worked intermittently and changed ownership several times. Dan Rowlan owned it in 1927 and sold it to Mr. and Mrs. Tom Wallace. With the exception of two years, it has been worked since 1927. According to Mr. Coy, it has produced \$150,000. Another report claims \$70,000. Two acres have been mined.

Other names are: Curry Mine; Bonanza Placer Mine (see 1940 ed. Bull. 14-C, vol. 1, State Dept. G. & M. I.)

Development: Ten cuts, the largest being 75 ft. by 600 ft. by 6 ft. deep. Most of the work has been done along Boulder Cr. Practically all of the work has been done on the White Elephant claim. A small amount of work has been done on some of the quartz ledges.

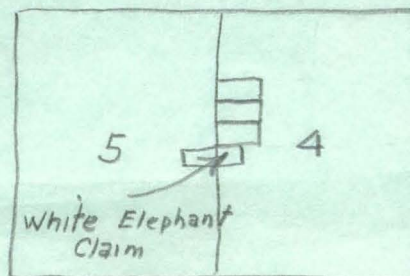
Geology: Topography is mountainous. At the west end of the White Elephant claim is a 200 ft. falls, and immediately upstream for 1000 feet was the good placer ground. The source of the gold is reported to be from pockets along a serpentine-porphry contact. The gold is fairly coarse, with many 25¢ to 50¢ pieces; seven ounces is the largest nugget.

Overburden is shallow, from 0 to 6 ft. and the gold is concentrated on bedrock. The overburden material is subangular and probably is slump and creep material.

There are several quartz seams that "pan" some gold. One of them has a serpentine gouge wall that "pans" well.

Mining Conditions: No water right but plenty of water. One mile is estimated length of ditch to be built to deliver water to property from Boulder Creek and tributaries. No equipment. November to June is the mining season.

Informant: J.E. Morrison, '38; George Dickinson (Gold Beach) 12/18/40  
Report by: RCT 12/20/40



T. 34 S.,  
R. 12 W.



REQUEST FOR INSPECTION OF PROPERTY

by

State Department of Geology and Mineral Industries

400 East I Street  
Grants Pass

702 Woodlark Building  
Portland

2102 Court Street  
Baker

PLEASE READ THIS CAREFULLY BEFORE FILLING IN BLANKS

Every blank should be completely filled in. The reasons are that: We cannot examine all of the properties we are asked to examine because we do not have enough engineers to go around. Our funds and personnel are limited. It costs the State a substantial amount for the examination of your property. We are just as anxious to examine it as you are to have us do so. Therefore, in order that there shall be no loss of time, we must know exactly where your property is, how to get to it, where to meet you or someone who can take us in, and how much there is to be seen. You'd be surprised how often people, in directing us to their own properties, give directions which are not clear or which are confusing or incomplete. Sometimes we lose hours or a full day which could have been saved if the blank had been properly filled in. Please give us a break and put down all the dope!

Fill in accurately all the following blanks as fully as possible (even if the answer is "No"), and mail this form to the office address above, nearest to your property. A field engineer will then get in touch with you and arrange for the trip.

Date . . . . . 194 . . . . .

Inspection requested by:

Owner of property:

Name: *F. M. Parker & Louisa Parker*

Name: *F. M. Parker & Louisa Parker*

Address: *Powers, Oregon  
Box 1221*

Address: *Powers Oregon . . . . . Box 1221*

What is property commonly called? . . . . . *Grizzly Bear Group*

What is your own interest in property?

Location of property:

Owner: *Yes* . . . . . Partner: . . . . .

County: *Curry* . . . . . Postoffice: *Powers, Ore.*

Lessee: . . . . . Other . . . . .

Section: *4* . . . . . Township: *34* . . . . . Range: *12 W*

What is the problem that is bothering you most? In other words, is it geological, metallurgical (milling), mining, how to continue exploration, financial, or what?

*We have placered up to this ledge picked up nuggets up to . . . but not above ledge. We would like to know if gold . . . is coming from ledge - It its a chimney - How to . . . begin mining. We have found Gold nuggets in a porous or Honey Comb formation in the ledge.*

*We would like to work on claim this fall - to open mine and put in production. It would be your earliest consideration would be appreciated - so that we would . . . operation.*



Directions to field man:

Who will accompany field man to property? *F. M. Pr. Ker*

Can we drive right to the property? *To within 1/2 mile* What kind of road is it? *Good*

How far must we pack equipment, samples, etc., from the road? *1/2 mile over Good Trail*

During what months is the property not accessible? *January, Feb., & March*

Detailed road and trail directions for getting from nearest Postoffice to property; or to place where field man will meet you or the guide:

*Will meet Field man at Powers. Anyone can direct you to our House.*

Description of property to be examined:

What kind of property: *Gold lode?*  *Placer?*  *Other?*

History: Is the property a prospect?  A past producing mine now idle?

Is it producing now? *No* During what periods was it in production? *Find nuggets when we prospect.*

Development: Describe the surface workings (open-cuts, pits, trenches) that are cleaned out so that we can see the rock or ore in place.

*Cut into side hill - then tunneled into ledge - the two tunnels are about 12' long*

How many feet of underground workings (tunnels, cross-cuts, drifts, shafts, raises) approximately are open so that we can examine the rock or ore?

*Two Tunnels about 12' long*

How many dumps are there? *2* Do you have a claim map of the property? *No*

Map of workings? *No* Assay map? *No* Mill flow sheet? *No* Engineer's report? *No*

How many samples have been taken and assayed? *Two*

FOR OFFICE RECORDS ONLY

*4796 / 47590*

Date request received. . . . . 194 Date set for visit . . . . . 194

Date property visited. . . . . 194 by: . . . . .

Cost of inspection: Salary . . . . . \$ 24.00  
Meals and Lodging . . . . . \$ 5.65  
Car Mileage-cost at 4¢ . . . . . \$ 14.52 *363 miles*  
Total . . . . . \$ 44.17