

State Department of Geology and Mineral Industries

702 Woodlark Building
Portland 5, Oregon

MEMORANDUM ON LOOKINGGLASS OIL SEEP

Douglas County
Umpqua District

Location: Sec. 3, T. 28 S., R. 7 W. On west side of Lookingglass-State Highway No. 42 road: 4.8 miles north of State Highway No. 42, 0.1 mile south of Reston-Lookingglass junction, and 2.2 miles southwest of Lookingglass.

Owner: W. F. Wilson
Rural Route #4, Box 715
Roseburg, Oregon

History: The domestic water well in which the oil accumulates was drilled in 1945 or 1946 by the Andrus Bros. of Roseburg. The owner of the property at that time was Lewis Robertson, who lives near Lookingglass. Oil was first noticed by W. F. Wilson when he raised the suction intake of the well in 1951.

Water stands within 10 feet of the collar of the well throughout the year. Oil accumulates most rapidly in the late summer, August or September, and least rapidly during the winter and spring months. At the time of this visit only the barest trace was recovered from the well.

General: Both Union Oil Company and Shell Oil Company have visited and sampled this seep. Union Oil reported to Mr. Wilson that the oil was a high gravity oil very similar to their Grays Harbor No. 1 well.

Union Oil leased this land in 19⁵2. The lease is to run for 5 years.

Depth of the well is 50-60 feet and it has a 6-inch casing.

Geology: The well is drilled on the valley floor of Lookingglass Creek. Low hills border the valley and are within a short distance of the well site on all but the north side. Alexander Butte is the prominent landmark to the south. It is Eocene boulder conglomerate and has a N. 30° W. strike and a 30° dip to the southwest. Immediately north of Alexander Butte are Eocene sandstones and shales with minor conglomerate. Attitudes vary widely within short distances and suggest a zone of faulting. The ridge northwest of Alexander Butte contains pillow lavas. Quarries for road metal are in these lavas along the Lookingglass-Roseburg road.

Two samples of water were obtained from the well at the time of the visit. One (P-14733) was obtained in the presence of the writer, and the other (P-14734) was a sample collected by Mr. Wilson approximately a month before. Both smelled strongly of oil but only the latter sample showed the presence of oil by the method used in the laboratory in Portland. These samples will be kept in the Portland office for a limited time.

Report by: H. M. Dole

Informant: All information but the geology was obtained from Mr. W. F. Wilson.

Date of visit: July 1, 1953.

Bandon, Oregon
June 1, 1953

The Northwest Scouting Service
912 Public Service Building
Portland 4, Oregon

Gentlemen:

At request of Mr. E. W. McDowell of San Antonio, Texas, I herewith enclose two Samples of Oregon Crude Oil - Testing 40 Gravity - which was bailed from a 58' water well, in Lookingglass Area, Oregon.

The oil accumulates on top of the water, the oil increasing in quantity as the water level decreases, in dry weather or from extensive use of said water from this well.

Mr. McDowell wishes your office to keep one sample, and the other to be given to Mr. Stewart (I believe that is his name) who is connected with the Oregon Mineral & Geology Office.

Will you have blank for permit for drilling of oil or gas well forwarded at once to Oregon Coastal Corporation, c/o E. G. Ray, P.O. Box 305, Bandon, Oregon, said test well to be known as Coy No. 1. Location being: NW corner of NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ sec. 4, T. 29 S., R. 14 W. of Willamette Meridian, Coos County, Oregon.

Permit me to state - drilling equipment should be on location before ten days (hence the rush for drilling permit), also priority for 31 tons of carbon steel oil country tubular goods, has been duly authorized for said well by Director Production Division, Petroleum Administration for Defense, of Washington, D. C.

Thanking you for your kind cooperation in this matter, which can be of vast importance to Coos County, Oregon and the nation as well.

Yours very sincerely,

/s/ E. G. Ray
P.O. Box 305
Bandon, Oregon