

The Blue Mountain Dredging Co., a division of Porter Brothers, of Helena, Montana, is testing ground in the Granite district, covering 14 miles of creek beds with a view to dredging operations.

Mining Activity in Granite District Near Boom Stage

"Have you made the trip to Granite this summer? You should. You'll find a lot of mining activity out that way." This was the greeting of Leo Adler to his friends the fore part of the week.

Mr. Adler, who at all times has his eyes open to progress and what is doing about him, drove over the mountains to Granite a few days ago and he found that mining activity in that section is the greatest in many years. In fact it seemed to be almost a boom.

Work is progressing rapidly with the Porter company gold dredge on Bull Run creek near Granite and there are a lot of other operations with everybody busy or getting started with some project.

Dredging Companies Coming to Granite

Gold dredging and power shovels in the recovery of placer gold promise to be the big factor in the revival of mining in the Granite district west of Sumpter in 1938.

During the past season the Porter Brothers of Spokane and Montana, have had a testing crew drilling and sinking shafts along Granite, Olive and Clear creeks to determine the possibility of working the gravels at a profit. These people also prospected Crane Flat north of Granite. A small dredge operated a short time more than 30 years ago on Crane Flat.

At present Sid Campbell has a crew sinking test holes for the Western Gold, Inc., of Boise, Idaho. He plans to carry on the work as long as the weather permits.

This company is reported to have 400 acres of land under option, and in the spring will start a dragline operation. It is also said the company will install a standard type bucket dredge.

The ground under option to the Boise company is along Granite and Clear creeks, including what is known as the Milwaukee meadows and the old Lawton townsite.

Report Dredging, Denver, Sept. 17, 1907

**DREDGE GROUND BEING
TAKEN IN GRANITE COUNTRY**

According to the Canyon City Eagle, 12 miles of the streams of Olive and Clear creeks have been taken under option for dredging, five miles of Granite creek, nine miles of Bull Run creek and two miles on Deep creek. The Eagle also reports a boom along the North Fork for dredging ground.

Second Engineer
October 17, 1907

Write Brothers - The Deep
JEA.

Eastern Oregon News, Baker
September 23, 1938

DREDGE RUNS NICELY

For more than a week the Porter company dredge near Granite has now been digging. A. E. Murray, manager of the company, says everything is working like a charm, and the machinery is gradually being smoothed out so that the boat is getting off to a good start.

Eastern Oregon Review, Baker
Sept. 16 1938

PORTER DREDGE STARTS DIGGING NEAR GRANITE

New Dredge Put in Oper-
ation the First of
the Week

EQUIPMENT BUILT
BY THE YUBA CO.

Start of Dredge Marks
New Era in Placer
Mining in Famous Gran-
ite District.

One of the bright spots in the mining fields of Eastern Oregon is the Granite district west of Baker, in Grant county. The latest big thing for the district is the starting of diggings by the Porter company dredge which was an event of this week.

The new boat, built by the Porter Brothers of Spokane, with A. E. Murray local manager, who superintended the construction, is the last word in gold dredging machinery built by Yuba Construction company of California. There are larger boats, the buckets on the digging ladder having a capacity of 4½ cubic feet of gravel, while the dredge in Sumpter valley digs with 10-cubic-foot buckets.

Power for the boat is furnished by the Eastern Oregon Light & Power company. Its main power line is tapped at Lawton, by the line for the boat, a distance of about four miles.

The new dredge is on Bull Run about two miles from Granite and the road passes close to the operation.

In the pioneer days of mining Eastern Oregon the Granite district was one of the leading mining sections. Large areas in the vicinity of Granite and along Clear creek and other tributaries of Granite creek as far as Greenhorn were worked over by the early day placer miners. Following there were many years in which there was very little placer work. Now with modern dredges and dragline shovel plants miles of the streams that were worked by the old time miners will be worked over with modern machinery.

A NEW MINING OPERATION

Opening of the Porter gold dredge near Granite within the next few days launches another important mining operation in the eastern Oregon district of which Baker is the acknowledged capital.

The company has in sight a profitable operation of several years. The ground has been thoroughly prospected, so there is every assurance of success. The payroll will include about 20 men and there will be large expenditures for electric current, machinery, taxes, etc., making the dredge a very substantial asset to Baker and Grant counties.

This year will go into the books as one of marked revival in this section. The Cornucopia Gold Mines company has gone on to bigger things, with heavy production and a large payroll. Best of all, there is every prospect of further and larger developments within the next few weeks.

Dredge Will Start At Granite Soon

End of Week Will See Operation, Belief

This district's second gold dredge will get into operation by the end of the week, Superintendent A. E. Murray of Porter and Company, predicted this morning.

The Porter boat is being completed at near the Pollman ranch one mile above Granite and will work from there up Bull Run creek, the operation probably covering a period of several years.

The dredge is a steel-pontooned all-electric Yuba of a size known as a four-foot boat. It will handle considerable yardage, though working in relatively shallow ground.

About 25 men have been employed by the company which contemplates a 24-hour schedule following the preliminary trial run.

Also noticed near Granite is the machinery now on hand and a crew of men at work on the Western Gold corporation washing equipment being put on the 400 acres of patented ground on Clear and Granite creeks. This equipment, now with a steel hull, was moved from the Clearwater river near Golden, Idaho. S. K. McKinson of Boise is head of the company.

Porter Dredge Will Be Four-Foot Boat

To Wash Bull Run Creek Gravel Soon

Construction of the second floating dredge in this immediate district, in Grant county, however, will be started in the next few days by Porter and Company, a Montana mining concern which has tested ground in the Granite sector the past year.

The new boat will naturally not be as large as the nine-foot Sumpter dredge of the Sumpter Valley Dredging company. It will work the relatively shallow ground starting one mile from Granite up Bull Run creek.

The boat will be a steel-pontooned four-foot Yuba powered by electricity. A two-mile line has been run from the Eastern Oregon Light & Power company lines.

According to A. E. Murray, local superintendent for the company, the new boat will be equipped with usual recovery apparatus and tables. Bull Run was at one time worked by a shovel and frequently by hand-miners. It is thought the present operation will cover a period of about three years.

Men are already employed for construction and operation, but will number probably 25 when the boat is on a contemplated 24-hour basis. Electrical supplies and some superstructure are already on the ground, actual work held pending arrival of the pontoons.

Dredge Construction of Porter Company Getting Under Way

Construction of the new gold dredge for the Porter Company is getting well under way on Bull Run creek near Granite.

Lumber, equipment and materials are being delivered at the site of construction. The boat is being built on the Coleman ranch about two miles from Granite. Camp buildings for the crew built in sections which are bolted together when set up, and can be taken down and moved to new locations with little loss of time when desired.

Sumpter News, Baker, May 6, 1938

GRANITE, OREGON, MAY 6, 1938

DREDGE TO BE BUILT IN THE GRANITE AREA

Porter Brothers Have a
Caterpillar and to
be used in operation

4-FOOT BUCKET BOAT TO BE USED

Road Over Mountain Is
Cleared of Ice and Snow
Now Open for Motor
Travel.

The road over the mountain to Granite from Sumpter was opened the first of the week for motor travel. Ice in the road over the summit had held back cars while the road was clear of snow in the lower country on each end of the road.

A. E. Murray who is in charge of the Porter Brothers operations in the Granite country went on the road last week with a caterpillar tractor to clear it of ice. It is now reported to be in pretty good condition except for mud and soft places in the road.

Mr. Murray tested several miles of the creek beds in the Granite district last year for the Porter Brothers and has returned to start operations for the company which it is understood will include the installation of a 4-foot bucket type gold dredge which is now being built in California.

In the meantime he is using the caterpillar in clearing the ground of brush preparatory for the boat. Several truck loads of equipment were taken over the mountain this week and he is now getting the work started.

Mr. Murray leased the Thornburg hotel building at Granite and will use it for accommodation of the crew to be employed in the work.

Testing in that area has proven ground for about eight years work for the boat, it is understood.

Miner's Contract Review Dec. 21 1937

The Porter Dredging Co. expects to follow up its extensive testing in the Granite district with regular operations in the spring.

Porter Brothers, Helena, Montana, are going to install a bucket type dredge in the Granite area, according to A. E. Murray, in charge of operations.—Eastern Oregon News.

Construction on the Porter Brothers gold dredge is well under way on Bull Run Creek near Granite.

Eastern Oregon News, Baker,
Dec. 17 1937

The Porter Dredging company, which spent the most of the past year testing dredging ground in this district, intend to start operations as soon as the snow goes in the spring. With this outlook we anticipate Granite will be quite a lively camp for the next few years. We still "live in hopes even if we die in despair."

The Mining Journal, October 15, 1933

Operations have been started by the new dredge of the **Blue Mountain Dredging Company**, R. P. Porter, 520 Monroe Avenue, Helena, Montana, president. The company holds ground on Bull Run about two miles from Granite, Oregon. A. E. Murray is local manager. Power for operations is supplied by the Eastern Oregon Light and Power Company. Company offices have been established on Washington Street, Baker. Clyde Rude is dredgemaster.

The Mining Journal, September 15, 1938

The Yuba Manufacturing Company is reported to have started construction of a dredge for the **Blue Mountain Dredging Company**, the Oregon division of Por-

ter Brothers Gold Corporation of Helena, Montana. The property is located near Granite, Oregon. Camp buildings are being built in sections which are bolted together and can be moved easily from one location to another. R. P. Porter, 520 Monroe Avenue, Helena, Montana, is president.

The Mining Journal, Aug. 15, 1938

The **Blue Mountain Dredging Company**, operating in the Granite district west of Baker, Oregon, has applied for six second feet of water from Crane Creek, a tributary of the John Day River. The company is planning to install dredging equipment and work the creek bed where it has been conducting extensive test work for the past year. Blue Mountain is a division of the Porters Brothers Gold Corporation of Helena, Montana. R. P. Porter, Helena, is president.

Dredging Company Asking for Water

SALEM, Or., July 9.—(P)—The Blue Mountain Gold Dredging company, Baker, has filed application with the state engineer here to appropriate 6 second feet of water from Crane creek, tributary to the John Day river, for placer mining, operation of a gold mining dredge and domestic use in Grant county.

The **Blue Mountain Dredging Company** is testing ground in the Granite district west of Baker, Oregon. The company is a division of the Porter Brothers Gold Corporation of Helena, Montana, and is testing 14 miles of creek bed with a view to installing dredging equipment. R. P. Porter of Helena is president of Porter Brothers.