

# SUSANVILLE PLACER MINES

(1)

## SUSANVILLE DISTRICT

The Susanville district is about 22 miles down the Middle fork of the John Day river from Austin, a station on the Sumpter Valley Railroad. A good wagon road could be built rather easily in place of the present one, which in 3 or 4 places deliberately leaves water grade to swing around over rocky ridges to return after some circling to the stream again. Not only is the distance longer, but the ascent and descent of rocky ridges makes it a disagreeable and expensive haulage road.

Production at the present time is small and comes from the placers.

~~Placer Mines.~~—The placer mines of Susanville were discovered in 1864 and have been worked practically every season since then.

Elk creek has produced the most, but other creeks lower down, along the north side of the John Day, have also yielded considerably. The total placer production is approximately \$600,000.

The Middle fork, below Elk creek, is reported to have produced \$50,000 in fine flour gold, but the creeks usually contain coarse gold, 865 fine.

The largest gold nugget found on Elk creek during the more active operations was worth \$480. Deep creek had one worth \$625. Buck gulch, below Deep creek, years ago had one worth \$800, but on June 19, 1913, George Armstrong found another on Buck gulch weighing 80.4 ounces, which at \$17.60 per ounce would be worth \$1,415. Most of the gold in the Elk creek placers seems to have come

Susanville Placers

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# SUSANVILLE PLACERS

(2)

GREENHORN  
MT. REGION  
SUSANVILLE  
DISTRICT

from the west side of the creek, although the most productive quartz mine is on the other side.

Considerable drifting has been done near the Middle fork of John Day underneath the basalt capping, in hopes of cutting old stream channels in the search for placer gold, but such operations have not been successful because they have as yet been unable to cut through the rim-rock to enter these old channels anywhere near the bed-rock.

The Middle fork from a point somewhat above Elk creek down stream for a distance of 4 or 5 miles, was partially prospected in 1898 with a view to dredging, but nothing came of it. In this same ground in 1913 the entire valley for this distance was under option, and test pits were sunk at various points. The results of these shafts are said to average 14 or 15 feet in depth and to contain sufficient value to warrant a systematic drilling of the ground with a view to the installation of a dredge.

Swartley, 14:

*Susannah Passes*

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NAME OLD NAMES PRINCIPAL ORE MINOR MINERALS

*Elk Creek, Deep Creeks, Bush Gulch, etc*

*Gold*

PUBLISHED REFERENCES

*Sewally 14 = 169-170  
Organ: Pull 14 B = 147*

T R S

*Grant* COUNTY

*Susannah* AREA

ELEVATION

ROAD OR HIGHWAY

DISTANCE TO SHIPPING POINT

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

PRESENT LEGAL OWNER (S) .....

Address .....

OPERATOR .....

Name of claims Area Pat. Unpat.

Name of claims Area Pat. Unpat.

EQUIPMENT ON PROPERTY

REPORTS

SHIPMENT AND ASSAY RECORDS

MAPS

*Claim map 300' to the inch. Including Chabrooga*

X

*Oregon Gold Mine*

*Homestead Mining Co., Oregon, Suisunite Mine Corp., Jackson.*

*Tompson Mining Co., Ventura Sept 1898*