

State Department of Geology and Mineral Industries

702 Woodlark Building
Portland, Oregon

McMANUS PLACER GOLD HILL MINING DIST. JACKSON COUNTY

RECEIVED
MAR 21 1947

Owner and operator:

R. E. McManus, General Delivery, Gold Hill, Oregon

STATE DEPT OF GEOLOGY
& MINERAL INDS.

Location:

Sec. 1 and 12, T37S, R4W. The property is located three miles up the Left Fork of Foots Creek just north of the county road.

Areal

The property is on patented land and it is estimated that there are 5 to 10 acres of hydraulic ground.

History:

This is one of several old claims located in this area in the late 1800's. Production has been sporadic and from this property probably won't amount to more than a few thousand dollars.

Development work:

Over a period of 10 years or more Mr. McManus has prospected the whole area with pits and trenches in an endeavor to locate "pockets" or rich spots. When areas of "high pay" are located they are outlined by the same method.

Geology:

In general the area is predominantly metavolcanics with lenses of metasediments (Wells, DOGAMI Map Series #5).

The material worked is "old channel" terrace gravels that now are quite badly weathered. Relic gravels and residual soil is all

that remains. It is likely that the area has been "enriched" in spots by erosion of quartz veins in the underlying metavolcanics.

Thickness of placer ground varies from a few inches to 10' or more with an average of around 3 to 4 feet.

Bedrock is usually quite soft and easy to work. Boulders are scarce.

Gold is coarse--mainly in subangular particles from 10¢ to \$5.00 in size, averaging around 15 to 20¢.

Mining:

Mining is by hydraulic methods. One giant with nozzle fittings from 1½" to 2½" are used with most of the work being done with a 2" nozzle.

Water is pumped up hill from the Left Fork of Foots Creek between 50 and 100 feet and over a lateral distance from 1000 to 1500 feet. Pressure at intake is reported as 110 lbs. p.s.i. and at discharge (with a 2" nozzle) as 90 lbs. p.s.i.

The water right calls for 750 gal. per min. from the Left Fork of Foots Creek.

Gold is reclaimed in a 20 ft. riffle box.

Equipment :

One giant with nozzle fittings from 1½" to 2½".

2000' of welded 8" pipe with automatic couplers.

400' of fire hose.

War surplus Chrysler heavy duty fire fighting pump--unit number 101.

Informant:

R. E. McManus

Report by:

H. M. Dole, March 13, 1947

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GOLD HILL MINING DISTRICT

JACKSON COUNTY

McMannus Placer Status of Placer Operations for 1947-48 Season

R. E. McMannus
General Delivery
Gold Hill, Oregon

Hydraulic - 1 giant. Will be in limited operation all season.

H. D. Wolfe
Nov. 20, 1947

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Economics:

Mr. McManus has just completed installing all the above new equipment on his property. He has lived here for many years and has worked the area off and on. Now he is getting along in years and has decided to build his home on the property and make a semi-serious attempt to work the ground off.

Water is a very serious obstacle. So far this year he has been able to work but a maximum of 3 hours in one day. However, this has been a dry year. Total yardage moved is approximately 1000 yards and is reported to average 65¢ per yard.

He reports that he cleans up an average of \$10.00 for each hour he pipes.

This is strictly a "retired mans" operation.

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