REPORT OF MINERAL EXAMINATION  

Claimants: 
Cullen and Iris Campbell  
2379 Crestline Blvd.  
Olympia, Washington 98502  

A. L. and Lois Parks  
Route 11, Box 359  
Olympia, Washington 98502  

Reason for Examination: 
Administrative problem involving occupancy.  

Subject: 
Validity of a placer mining claim.  

Lands Involved: 
The Big Shot No. 3 placer claim is 1,340 x 660 feet to the middle of the Applegate River. The area is less than 20 acres within the W½ of sec. 19, T. 40 S., R. 3 W., W.M., Rogue River National Forest, Jackson County, Oregon.  

Land Status: 
National Forest land withdrawn from mineral entry since July 12, 1972 (Kanaka Flat Campground).  

Location Data:  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Document</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Claimant</th>
<th>Grantee</th>
<th>Recorded Book</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>426</td>
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<td>Cullen &amp; Iris Campbell and A. L. &amp; Lois Parks</td>
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Mining District: 
Applegate (unorganized)  

Mining Engineer: 
Colver F. Anderson  

Dates of Examination: 
October 3, 1972, and September 15, 1975
Location and Topography

The claim is part of Kanaka Flat which is up the Applegate River 28 miles from Medford. The major part of the claim is flat bar area partly dissected by old placer operations.

Surface Values

The flat has a good stand of fir timber as indicated in Picture 1. Also indicated is the excellent potential for a campground area. There are many acres of flat ground with shade for future recreation use.

Areal Geology

This basin is in the Applegate formation which consists of metasediments and metavolcanics. The immediate claim area is of volcanic derivation, probably andesite. This is the bedrock under gravel deposits laid down during Recent times.

Economic Geology

There is very little recorded information about the values recovered during early day placer mining in southern Oregon and no information about this portion of the Applegate River.

The ground evidence indicates that extensive mining took place along most of the river. The vicinity of the Big Shot No. 3 claim is no exception. (See Sketch.) A ditch conducted water to terrace gravels on the west side of the river for a distance of about 5 miles which includes the Kanaka Flat area.

After the pioneer mining activity and the depression mining along the streams, there should not be any significant volumes of valuable gravel remaining.

Pertinent Information

These claimants are not serious miners. A small amount of mining equipment is on the claim. Most of the equipment has not been used for several years. A rocker at the cabin was new and unused in 1972. Hose, cables and an automobile engine hoist at the lower end of the claim are useless.

Pits and cuts in gravel near the cabin are garbage dumps.

The claimants occupy the cabin for a short period in the summer and not much of this time is devoted to mining.

Occupancy

There is a nice cabin on the claim. Picture 1 is a westerly view. The river is in front of the cabin and about 30 feet lower. At present occupancy is only on a summer cabin basis.
Discovery

There is no sign of recent mining near the cabin. The edge of the terrace in front by the river was mined many years ago as was a channel north and west of the buildings. From that channel to the north end of the claim the gravel has been extensively worked at least 40 maybe 100 years ago.

The area of recent work is at the very north end of the claim as shown in Picture 2. The amount of gold obtained from one pan of gravel from this hole indicates $3.96 per cubic yard with gold at $175 per ounce. The remaining gravel is very limited - I estimated about 100 cubic yards. The hillside starts about 20 feet away at the top edge of the picture. Across the picture area the gravel extends about 50 feet. The depth to bedrock in the foreground is 4 feet. At the hillside the depth is 0. These figures indicate 74 cubic yards.

The remaining corner of gravel is very tight and bouldery. A yard or two per day is all that a man could mine with pick and shovel equipment. There is not enough volume to justify getting heavy enough machinery to move the gravel and break it up.

Environmental considerations are another significant cost item. There is no good place to impound tailings and wash water in order to drain clear water only into the river. The Applegate River is an important steelhead stream.

Conclusions

The Big Shot No. 3 placer claim and cabin has been used as a summer home recreation site instead of a mining occupancy for the last 16 years that I know of.

The main volume of economic gravel was mined many years ago and no significant areas remain.

Any discovery has been removed and the land is now non-mineral in character.

Recommendations

I recommend that the Big Shot No. 3 placer claim be taken to a hearing in order to determine the validity based upon the charges that:

1. The land is non-mineral in character.
2. A discovery has not been shown within the limits of the claim.

3. The claimants have not shown good faith by diligent mining within the limits of the claim.

Date ____________

APPROVED:

Date ____________

COLVER ANDERSON, Mining Engineer

MILVY M. SUCHY
Picture No. 1 - cabin and surrounding area.

Picture No. 2 - Shows recent work at the north end of the claim.