

State Department of Geology and Mineral Industries^{RS 114}

702 Woodlark Building
Portland, Oregon

MAR 23 1947

OSBORN AND FLETCHER
(Gold Placer)

UPPER APPLGATE

JACKSON COUNTY

STATE DEPT OF GEOLO
& MINERAL INDS.

Operator and lessee:

R. C. Fletcher, and D. E. Osborn, P.O. Box 522, Jacksonville,
Oregon.

Owner of property:

McDonough Bros., Sunnyside, Ruch, Oregon.

Location:

Sec. 23, T38S, R3W. On Bishop Creek, a tributary of Forest
Creek. The property is located just east of State Highway 238
approximately 2 miles north of Ruch.

Area:

The area to be mined is approximately 300' wide by $\frac{2}{3}$ of a mile
long. All is on patented land.

History:

This is the first time this area has been mined. It is one
of the few creeks in this area that has not been worked over by the
placer miners of the 1800's. The reason is probably due to the
lack of water and the flat topography besides the low values.

Geology:

This is a gulch type placer.

Wells (DOGAMI map series #2 and 5) maps this area as predominantly
metavolcanics. Metasediments occur to the northeast approximately

1½ miles and the summit of the hill 1 mile to the north is mapped as Chico.

The bedrock where exposed is metavolcanics. It is usually quite easily dug but one spot, about 200' wide, between test pits was so hard as to necessitate the dismantling and reassembling of the boat.

The gravels will average 5' in thickness with a maximum of 10'. They vary from well rounded to angular. Boulders comprise approximately 5-10% of the gravels and reach a maximum size of 3'.

Some clay is present and in at least one spot has been so tough as to be nonworkable.

Overburden will average 2' and varies from 0' to 3'.

The bulk of the gold is fine but some nuggets up to \$1.50 in size have been recovered. It is reported it runs 990 fine.

Mining:

Mining is done by conventional dragline-floating washing plant methods.

The equipment is designed for mobility, to tear it down and reassemble takes a little over 3 days.

Approximately 50 yds. per hour is the digging rate.

Three men are employed one shift a day.

Leveling and resoiling the tailings will be done.

Equipment:

Dragline--a Byers ¾ yd. Boom, 40'.

Bucket--a ¾ yd. heavy duty Paige.

Boat--size, 24' x 28', 3 wooden pontoons. Trommel--40"

x 14' with 4' of blank and the remainder 5/8" stamped holes.
Stacker--2' x 30'. Power-Waukasha gas motor. 5" water-pump.

Accessory equipment---Hobart welder, Allis-Chalmers K O Cat.
with 8' Issacs blade.

General Information

Dredging started in February 1947.

Water sufficient for operating 9 months a year.

Informant:

R. C. Fletcher

Report by:

H. M. Dole, March 26, 1947

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Status of Placer Operation for 1947-1948 Season

Dragline and floating washing plant. Reported to be getting equipment in shape for operation. Operation in near future doubtful from general condition of equipment.

Reported by Harold D. Wolfe
November 26, 1947

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Economics:

The gravels are reported to run 35¢/yd.

The boat was bought from Christean and Dobbyn and is the one the latter used last year in Jacksonville.

The rest of the equipment is "surplus property" purchased through the FHP. It is to be used by this outfit for logging operations in the summer months when water is not available for mining and in the winter months for mining. The dragline is reported to have cost \$3900.00, brand new and is a bargain at that price, the welder, \$600.00.

This is another of the small mobile dredges which is to be utilized for ground the larger dredges could not get.

At the present rate of operation this outfit will be in this location for a year or more during the mining season.

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