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**STATE DEPT OF GEOLOGY  
& MINERAL INDS.**

Josephine County

- Name:** Egger Placer Mine (gold placer)
- Old Name:** Laymen Placer
- Owner:** Fannie M. Egger, Wolf Creek, Oregon.
- Leased to** Olen Bell, Wolf Creek, Oregon.
- Location:** On Wolf Creek six miles east of Wolf Creek Post Office in Sec. 9 and 10, T. 33 S., R. 5 W.
- Area:** 11 placer claims. 220 acres held by location. The claims run up Wolf Creek for a distance of a mile and a quarter.
- History:** The history prior to 1929 is unknown. Mr. Egger purchased the property in 1929. Sold it in 1931 and it was repossessed it in 1935. Mr. Egger died in 1931, but Mrs. Egger has carried on and leased it out each winter since 1935.
- Geology:** Gulch operation, steep mountainside. Greenstone and slate bed rock. No large boulders or clay. Fine and course gold.
- Water right:** One ditch one and one-fourth miles long. November to June mining season.
- Misc. Information:** No exploration work. About one acre has been mined. Elevation 1960 feet. Maximum 3 ft. of snow. In cold weather the water freezes in the ditch. Two No. 2 giants and 1500 feet of 11 to 26 inch pipe.
- Informant:** J. E. Morrison. 7/19/38.
- Confidential:** Mrs. Egger did not know anything about the water right. She states there is sufficient water for two 4 inch nozzles. I do not find any water rights listed under her name. She did not have any idea what the ground run per yard.





Older, small workings are in evidence both above (the easterly end of the property) and below for a distance of some three miles.

All pits show values at bed rock and up into the gravel.

#### TIMBER:

There is a large quantity of dry and green timber on the property sufficient for all mining purposes for the life of the mine.

#### EQUIPMENT:

The property is equipped with the following:

- 2 No. 2 Hydraulic giants
- 2 - 15 inch gates
- 150 feet Hungarian riffles made in sections
- 1 - 11 inch gate
- About 20 tons R.R. iron rails
- About 1800 feet used pipe, 11 to 24 inches
- 400 feet good pine flume, 32 inches wide
- 1 donkey or logging equipment, with 800 feet  
5/8 inch steel cable, and 600 feet  
1 1/8 inch steel cable
- 5 pieces steel boiler plate 3 x 12 feet
- Pick, shovels and sundry tools
- 4 cabins, 1 garage, 1 tool house, 1 barn
- 2 wood sheds, 1 cool room, or fruit house

#### IMPROVEMENTS:

There are also two dams with head gates, trash racks, ditches, flumes, spillways, sand traps, forebays, and penstocks which bring water to the larger pipe lines listed above - most of which are in place to the giants.

The LEHMAN, or north ditch, which is generally in good condition, is about 1 mile long. It's reservoir capacity is estimated at 2 million gallons. The dam is of heavy planking, 45 degree down stream slope, 120 feet long, 20 feet high and is in good condition.

The High Line ditch, which needs some cleaning, is about 1 1/4 miles long. It has no reservoir at the dam but is a "runoff" type using the drainage area for collection during the 5 months rainy season.

Both penstocks are in working order. The high line pipe (10 inch) on the valley floor needs 2 - 4' sections replaced.



The main cabin is of four rooms and kitchen. It is in liveable condition. The garage, tool shed and other cabins are useable.

GEOLOGY:

The only gravels noted are on the present stream-bed level and the adjacent terrace to the north. No effort has been made to establish proof of high terrace gravel beds.

The pebbles vary much in form but are generally not too well rounded but are subangular to angular.

The gravel lies mainly on blue slate bed rock. There is no indication that the values have been derived from this slate, but more probably from auriferous quartz veins which still exist in their present eroded condition higher up on the creek headwaters.

PROSPECTIVE OUTLOOK:

Owing to the limited time sampling was confined to the larger, or newer, pit. Value per yard of ground removed cannot be obtained due to the fact that the former lessee did not send his gold to the mint, but disposed of it to private interests. Not only did he fail to report, but also did not remit royalties to the owner. It is stated by interested parties that \$13,000 was traced as having come from the operation at the upper pit. Checking this figure against the yardage removed from the pit would give an approximate figure of \$0.30 per yard.

Our sampling consisted of 20 pans taken from this pit. The gold was saved and weighed, and checking this against the weight of the gravel gave \$0.32 per yard.

The black sand was saved, but has not been assayed as yet. This black sand is said to contain platinum and showed small particles of gold and if saved in mining will tend to increase the value per yard.

The latter part of May when the water was quite short, two men worked for a short time with a giant and recovered a little more than \$200.00 from what was said to be about 800 yards.



The Wolf Creek placer properties are said to have produced \$1,300,000.00, according to mint reports. This came from workings both above and below the property in question.

The gold is rather coarse and rough. The finer particles are more in the form of pellets than flakes and should not be difficult to save.

There is ample room for storage of tailings, a portion of which will have to be handled by drag-line, if very large, and the balance by the use of hydraulic ramps and one giant.

FUTURE WORK:

The lateral extent of the pay gravel has, of course, not been determined accurately as that can be determined only by test pits, or in actual operation of the property. A conservative estimate of the total yardage would be 1,300,000 cubic yards. This may be found to be ultra conservative. The cost of clearing the land will be an item, but should not exceed \$0.02 per cubic yard; mining cost about \$0.10 per yard.

In the workings now open there is no doubt about the existence of gold in paying quantities, but the extent of the gold bearing gravel can only be determined by more work such as test pits or drilling. The cost of this work would probably be in excess of the cost of actual operation. In other words, it would be cheaper to start the giants with the fall rains, about November 1st, and test the property under actual mining operation. This, of course, may complicate negotiations but it is for the prospective purchaser to make this decision.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert M. Betts, E.M.

Eugene, Oregon

July 21, 1936.