



STATE OF OREGON

INTEROFFICE MEMO

TO: FILE

DATE: March 4, 1991

FROM: FRANK R. HLADKY

SUBJECT: JOSEPHINE CREEK PLACERS, PEGASUS ENTREPRENEURIAL ENTERPRISES
(GOLDEN PRINCESS) - FH 3-4-91**Introduction**

On February 15, 1991, DOGAMI personnel Frank Hladky and Kathleen Murphy accompanied by Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) biologist Tom Satterthwaite field inspected the lower Josephine Creek drainage including a placer operation of Pegasus Entrepreneurial Enterprises. We visited with mine employee Jeff Williams. Bill and Virginia Gilliam, long-time miners in the district, were on the site visiting.

Location

NW $\frac{1}{4}$ sec. 31 and SW $\frac{1}{4}$ sec. 30, T. 38 S., R. 8 W.; Illinois River Mining District, Josephine County. Cave Junction 1:24,000 quadrangle.

Property Position

300 acres.

Current Status

Processing a few hours a day, maintenance the rest of the day. Mine employees are camped on site. Operation has existed for four years according to Jeff Williams. On last year's overflight with Len Ramp I observed the same large red trackhoe on site as on the visit of February 15. On the day of our visit the trackhoe was cooling down from the day's work and Jeff Williams and a colleague were welding repairs to the shaker screener.

History

Placer activity on Josephine Creek initiated as early as 1852. No production data exists for placer production except to say that Josephine Creek was a major contributor to the area's gold production (Brooks and Ramp, 1968).

Regional Geology

Josephine Creek drains an area underlain by ultramafic rocks Ramp, 1979) of the Josephine Peridotite, a formation of the Smith River subterrane of the Western Klamath terrane (Silberling and others, 1987).

Local Geology

Bedrock consists of sheared serpentinite, talc, and peridotite. The property itself is underlain by stranded, unconsolidated bench gravels now creeping downslope. These gravels are at least 15 feet thick over most of the property, and probably locally much thicker.

Ore Bodies

Gold is finely disseminated throughout the bench gravels. Flakes of gold up to 4 mm were observed in their sluice.

Reserves

Actual reserves are unknown. Average grades are also unknown or, if known, were not being reported.

Equipment

Equipment on site included at least one caterpillar (D-6 to D-8 size), trucks, and a track-hoe.

The mill consists of a hopper with a grizzly that feeds to a shaking screen mill which classifies three size fractions, the least of which is $\frac{1}{4}$ -minus. The $\frac{1}{4}$ -minus fraction feeds to a sluice lined with prospectors carpet.

Plan

Operations continue several months out of the year. The operators have been on site for four years

References

Brooks, H. C. and Ramp, Len, 1968, Gold and silver in Oregon: Oregon Department of Geology and Mineral Industries Bulletin 61, 337 p.

Ramp, Len, 1979, Geologic map of Josephine County, Oregon, in Ramp, Len, and Peterson, N.V., Geology and Mineral Resources of Josephine County, Oregon: Oregon Department of Geology and Mineral Industries Bulletin 100, scale 1:124,000.

Silberling, N.J., D.L. Jones, M.C. Blake, Jr., and D.G. Howell, 1987, Lithotectonic terrane map of the western conterminous United States: U.S. Geological Survey Miscellaneous Field Studies Map MF-1874C, 1:2,500,000.