

REPORT OF MINERAL EXAMINATION

Job No. 750

Illinois River

Claimant: Thomas J. McMahon
General Delivery
Selma, Oregon 97538

Reason for Examination: Occupancy due to a new cabin under construction

Subject: Validity of a mining claim

Lands Involved: An odd shaped claim approximating 20 acres in the SE 1/4 of Section 2, T. 39 S., R. 9 W., W.M., Siskiyou National Forest, Josephine County, Oregon

Land Status: National Forest land open to mineral entry

Location Data: See discussion under "Pertinent Information"

Mining District: Josephine Creek *Illinois River*

Mining Engineer: Colver F. Anderson

Date of Examination: August 22, 1972

Accompanied by: Tom Atwood, Forester and
Columbia Broadcasting Co. news crew

Location and Topography

This location is in Josephine Creek Canyon between Madison Gulch and Canyon Creek. Access is via 2 miles of trail from the Fiddler Gulch Road which is a branch off the Eight Dollar Road beginning at the Redwood Highway between Selma and Kerby.

The bordering hillsides are steep with tendencies to landslide.

Economic Geology

This claim is in an area which probably produced much gold simply because this portion of the creek is just below the very rich Canyon Creek. The gravel in the stream was limited due to the gradient. On the east bank of Josephine Creek there are no high gravel terraces such as appear on the west bank.

Pertinent Information

The description of the Hope claim located June 1, 1972, by Thomas J. McMahon is very poorly worded. The recorded notice of location in Book 78, page 85 is not a duplicate of the notice found on the ground. Neither notice describes a closed area. One side is 1,200 feet long and the other 1,500 feet long. The north end is 400 feet wide and the south end 500 feet wide.

The notice on the ground states that the claim is bounded on the west by Josephine Creek and on the east by "Nock Ditch." These limits describe an area approximately 300 feet wide. The intent seems to be to describe the area around the old cabins (Picture 2).

Occupancy

Picture 2 shows the condition of the old cabin and Picture 1 shows the A-frame cabin now under construction.

Mr. McMahon has a family, one of whom is a very young baby. He also has a horse which will need shelter.

The only building on the ground with adequate shelter now is the old outhouse which went with the old cabin. The outhouse is being used to store the horse harness.

Discovery

The McMahons, like many others of the type, are not interested in mining. There is no mining equipment being brought in.

The description of the claim covers serpentine hillsides and slide talus such as the cabin site. There is no gravel remaining in workable condition. The creek channel is practically bare bedrock and the east bank is a high serpentine bedrock up to the slide talus seen in Picture 2.

Conclusion

This occupant has made no effort to mine and has no mining equipment.

The claim is not properly described.

There is not sufficient placer ground within the limits of the claim to support a discovery.

Recommendation

A validity hearing should be requested based upon the charges that:

1. A discovery has not been demonstrated, and
2. The claimant is not a bonafide miner.

Date 9/15/72

Colver F. Anderson
COLVER F. ANDERSON, Mining Engineer

APPROVED:

Date 10/16/72

William W. Smith
Assistant Regional Forester

