

DICK AND DICK CLAIMS (Chromite)

WALDO DISTRICT

CONFIDENTIAL

Mr. Thompson has an urge to prospect the locality of the existing pits to determine whether other lenses can be picked up at depth. He wants to do this by sinking. I endeavored to point out to him that this is expensive and the results are highly problematical and until he has sufficient funds to justify this type of prospecting that he confine his work to something which could give him larger returns for less work.

I recommended very strongly the prospecting for additional lenses. Mr. Naue is a young man but seems to be a keen observer, and ^Iwould class him as an excellent prospector. I believe that Mr. Naue and Mr. Thompson could prospect this area and pick up additional lenses if they were present.

We know that this is a chromite area. We know that at least four chromite lenses have been found on the property. The chromite float indicates the presence of unmined chromite. In my opinion it would be a good gamble if someone wished to stake them for the prospecting that is necessary.

Ray C. Treasurer.

Owners: Located on May 15, 1940 by R. P. Thompson and Richard Naue, O'Brien, Oregon

Location: Sec. 28, T. 40 S., R. 9 W. Elevation 3000 feet. The claims lie along the crest of the divide between Rough and Ready Creek and the West Fork of the Illinois River. The property is about 47 miles from Grants Pass, 38 miles of which is by way of the Redwood Highway. Leaving the Redwood Highway at O'Brien, the Old Stage road is followed for some 7 miles to the beginning of the trail near the Forest Service section line board on the west line of sec. 26, elevation 1500 feet. Distance by trail is 1 1/2 miles; the first mile gains 1500 feet in elevation; the last half mile between 200 and 400 feet. It would not be difficult to construct a skid road from the property to either the West Fork or Rough and Ready Creek.

Area: Four standard size lode claims.

History: Three lenses were mined here during the first World War by a Mr. Reynolds; since that time the property has been idle.

Development: There are four open cuts from which small lenses of chromite were mined. The lower cut trends N. 15° E. and is about 30 feet by 5 feet by 3 feet. Elevation is 3000 feet. At elevation of about 3300 feet another pit with a volume of 15 feet by 5 feet by 2 feet trends N. 25° E. At 3400 feet elevation a third pit trends N. 25° E. and has about the same size as the second pit. To the southwest, another pit trends N. 45° E.; only a portion of the lens has been mined here.

Geology: The country rock is peridotite with associated ultra-basic rocks. They are cut by lenses of serpentine; two dikes of a dark fine-grained igneous rock similar to andesite were noted. The country rock frequently shows narrow bands of serpentine developed along joint and fracture planes. These ultra-basics weather to a light tan color and weathered surfaces are studded with resistant crystals; some of these resistant crystals are chromite.

The chromite lenses appear to be associated with serpentine, and in the three pits from which ore was mined the serpentine is slickensided so that the lenses seemed to have been surrounded by an envelope of serpentine. A peculiar mahogany-red soil is associated with some of the chromite lenses.

Some of the ultra-basics have a banded appearance, and some of these bands are narrow stringers of chromite.

Chromite float ranging from pieces the size of a pea to the size of one's fist covers certain areas. This float may have originated from chromite lenses part of which are still in place, or it may represent the eroded remnants of a chromite ^{lens} or narrow chromite stringers.

General: There is a small amount of water that might serve for domestic use, but it would be insufficient for milling purposes. Sufficient timber consisting of cedar and fir is available for mining purposes. Under present conditions the property could be worked about eight months of the year.

Area is mountainous. The crest of the long ridge between Rough and Ready Creek and the west fork is rather flat, and the ridge slopes to the NE at a rate of about 300 feet per mile. Below about a thousand feet above the stream levels the slopes become steeper in the order of a thousand feet to the mile. Soil overburden is thin and rock outcrops are frequent.

Report by: Ray C. Treasher, 5/20/40.