

Property File

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REPORT
ON THE
PROPERTY
OF THE
CALIFORNIA MINE
Nelson, B. C.

To Mr. R. S. Whaley, President,
Condor Gold Mines, Ltd. N.P.L.

By Charles C. Starr,
November 23, 1928.

THE CALIFORNIA MINE

LOCATION: The group of mining claims comprising the property known as the California Mine is situated on the northeast slope of Toad Mountain at a distance of about three miles south of the city of Nelson, B. C.

PROPERTY: There are seven claims in the group, the California, Union, Hillside, and Deadwood which are Crown Granted, and the Gold King, Clift, and Waverley which are held by location. The total area is close to 300 acres.

TOPOGRAPHY: Approximate elevations, as given by aneroid barometer, vary from 2900 feet at the lowest open cut on the Clift claim, to 3350 feet at the No. 3 tunnel on the California, and 3650 feet at the Deadwood tunnel.

The surface is not rough, but slopes quite steeply eastward, and is covered with a heavy growth of brush.

TIMBER, WATER & POWER: There is small timber scattered over nearly the whole property, and in places, especially on the Deadwood claim, there is considerable large timber.

Small creeks occur at intervals across the property, and water is fairly plentiful.

A small amount of power could be developed near the property on Giveout Creek, but can better be obtained from the electric transmission line of the West Kootenay Power Co., which crosses the lower end of the property.

TRANSPORTATION: The tunnels on the California claim are connected with Nelson by a fair road; the old Silver King

road passes across the lower part of the Clift claim, and just above the Deadwood tunnel. Haulage charges on ore to Nelson should not be over \$2.00 per ton, and very much less if a large tonnage were to be handled.

Freight charges from Nelson to the Trail smelter vary with the grade of the ore, but should be little over \$1 per ton.

EQUIPMENT: Equipment is very limited and consists of track in the California No. 2 and No. 3 tunnels, several ore cars, a building for a blacksmith shop, and a poor though usable log cabin near the No. 3 tunnel.

HISTORY: The claims were located at various dates since 1892, by various men, and have been worked intermittently, generally under lease, by various individuals and companies.

The property was acquired by the present owner, Mr. William Moore of Nelson, partly by location and partly by purchase.

PRODUCTION: The total production of the property is not known. On the California claim, incomplete shipping records show an average gross value of \$34 per ton from sorted ore, practically all the values being in gold. Some ore has also been treated in the Athabaska mill.

Several small shipments from the Union vein assayed \$33 per ton, and a few tons from the Deadwood tunnel assayed \$13 per ton.

DEVELOPMENT: The most extensive development has been done on the California claim and consists of three tunnels driven mostly on the vein. No. 2 tunnel is approximately 600 feet long, and No. 3 over 1200 feet long;

the vertical distance between Nos. 1 and 3 is 270 feet.

There are also several short tunnels driven on the Union vein, and on a parallel vein to the California.

On the Deadwood claim there is a tunnel about one hundred feet in length. On the Hillside claim there is an old tunnel, now caved at the portal, of unknown length, and numerous open cuts and strippings. On the Clift claim the vein has also been exposed by open cuts and stripping.

GEOLOGY & VEINS: The rocks on the property consist of schists belonging to the Rossland Volcanic series, which have been intruded by the granites of the Nelson Batholith, the granite is, however, not much in evidence in the vicinity of the veins, except that the Union vein is partially in the granite.

The California vein has been by far the most thoroughly developed, over 2000 feet of level work having been done on it, besides raises, stopes, and open cuts. It strikes east and west, dips 50° to the southward, and is strong and persistent. The vein filling is schist, containing numerous bands and lenses of quartz over a width of from two to seven feet. The principal values are in gold, which is accompanied by iron pyrite and a little zinc blende and silver-bearing galena. It has been traced a long distance to the east of any of the underground workings. A nearby parallel vein has been opened at two points and is said to show fair values.

The Union vein has been exposed by cuts and a short tunnel from which several small shipments have been made. At this tunnel the vein lies quite flat, in granite, and is about three feet wide of quartz with pyrite carrying gold.

The Clift vein has been exposed on the surface for a considerable distance and is of entirely similar character to the California vein.

The Deadwood vein, so called, is properly not a vein at all but a mineralized shear-zone which strikes S 25° E and dips 75° west. Its width has not yet been determined, but it appears to be a good many feet. It consists of schist, cut by seams of quartz and containing disseminated auriferous pyrite.

ORE VALUES: Recorded shipments from the California vein average \$34 per ton; it is not to be expected that any such ore is remaining exposed in the mine, but it indicates the grade of ore that further development may show. Leasers have undoubtedly taken out what pay-ore was available without additional development, as has been done in practically all mines of the district.

On the Union vein, leasers were stopped before they had finished taking out ore and there is probably good grade ore remaining; however, no samples were taken there during this examination.

On the Clift vein two samples were taken in the lowest open cut, one of which showed a value of \$3.55 across two feet, and the other a value of \$53.05 across

a width of a few inches; this is in entirely virgin ground.

The Deadwood vein produced a shipment of ten tons of \$13 ore during the driving of the tunnel; since that time it has been sampled a number of times with varying results. Two samples from at and near the face of the tunnel, each covering a width of three feet, showed \$2.23 and \$8.06 respectively, which is pay ore if developed in the quantity that is suggested by the size of the shear-zone.

COSTS: Development and mining costs on the California and Clift veins should be reasonable, and should be quite low on the Deadwood shear-zone; probably all costs of development, mining and milling on the Deadwood could be brought down to \$3 per ton of ore after operations were well under way.

GENERAL: It is a fair presumption that the California vein extends from the California claim across the Hillside and into the Clift claim, but further work is necessary to definitely determine this. It does not appear to be of any great importance, however, whether the California and the Clift are the same vein or not; both of them appear strong and persistent.

Tunnels started on the vein on the Hillside claim will develop virgin ground on that claim, and, if continued, will pass under the present California workings giving deeper development there. A tunnel on the vein on the Clift claim will develop that vein in virgin ground, and either lead to the California vein

at still greater depth, or approach it closely enough so that it may be tapped by a short crosscut.

The Deadwood shear-zone offers tremendous possibilities as a low grade, low cost, large tonnage proposition, but further work is required to determine the payable width of the zone, and its average value.

The property is well situated for transportation, power facilities, favorable locations for tunnels, roads, etc., and its ores should be easily and cheaply treated.

RECOMMENDATIONS: I would recommend that the first work to be done on the Deadwood should be crosscutting to both the east and the west from the face of the present tunnel, which is a drift, in order to determine the width of the shear-zone, and its average value across the full width.

On the Hillside and Clift claims further surface work, in the form of open cuts, should be done before starting a working tunnel, in order to determine the most favorable place to locate such a tunnel.

CONCLUSION: While I do not consider the California Group in any sense a developed mine, I consider it a prospect which is worthy of more thorough development at numerous points, and considering the price and terms, recommend that such work be undertaken. A comprehensive plan of development can best be deferred until the data that will be acquired from the work recommended above is at hand.

Respectfully submitted,

Chas. C. Starr

(Claim map accompanied Original)

LIST OF SAMPLES FROM THE CALIFORNIA MINE

NELSON, B. C.

Taken for the Condor Gold Mines, Ltd. by C. C. Starr
November 21 & 22 1928.

Number	Location	Oz Gold	Oz Silver	Ft Wi
2151	648 Ft. in from portal No. 2 California Tunnel; face. Banded quartz	.04	0.8	0.6
2152	604 Do. On bottom; quartz, pyrite & schist	.02	0.2	2.0
(2153	567 Do On bottom quartz pyrite & galena	Tr	1.4	0.7
(2154	567 Do " " schist & some quartz	.10	0.4	2.0
2155	554 Do " " under stope; quartz & schist	.28	0.8	2.5
2156	501 Do " " " " : quartz & pyrite	Tr	0.2	2.5
2157	440 Do " " " " ; quartz with some pyrite & schist	.03	0.2	1.7
2158	393 Do " " between stopes; quartz schist & pyrite	.Tr	0.2	1.6
2159	368 Do " " under stope; quartz & schist	.08	0.4	1.3
2160	341 Do " " " " ; quartz & pyrite	.40	1.0	0.7
2161	311 Do & in stope 35 ft above track; quartz & schist & some galena	.04	1.0	2.8
2162	160 Do On side drift; quartz & coarse pyrite	.02	0.2	1.1
2163	108 Do " " " " ; " , pyrite & schist	.02	0.2	4.0
2164	West end last stope in No.3 California tunnel & 35ft above track; quartz pyrite & schist	.04	0.4	2.0
2165	East end, above stope; quartz & black schist	Tr	0.2	2.7
2166	21 ft toward portal from Raise to #2 tunnel; quartz & schist	.Tr	0.2	1.7
2167	30 ft Do quartz	.02	0.2	1.5
2168	37 ft up raise from #2 to #3 tunnels; thin banded quartz & schist	.03	0.2	2.0
2169	135 ft out from Raise to #2 tunnel, toward portal; quartz with pyrite	.04	0.2	3.0
2170	180 ft Do ; banded quartz & schist 10ft up in raise	.04	0.2	3.0

Over

SAMPLES FROM CALIFORNIA MINE - Continued.

Number	Location etc.	Oz Gold	Oz Silver	Feet Width
2171	Lowest open cut on Clift claim. Across quartz in face of cut	.16	0.6	2.0
2172	Same cut; quartz showing pyrite & galena, represents a small streak	2.56	3.2	
2173	Deadwood tunnel at right side of face; schist	.10	0.4	3.0
2174	" " left side 8 ft from face; schist with a little quartz	.38	0.8	3.2
2175	" tunnel; chip sample over tunnel	.04	0.4	-
2176	Hillside claim, surface cut east of No.3 California tunnel; specimens of quartz with galena	.04	0.4	-

NOTES ON THE
DEADWOOD CLAIM OF THE CALIFORNIA GROUP,
NELSON, B. C.

INTRODUCTION: Three samples were taken on the Deadwood claim during a previous examination of the whole California Group; the object of the present examination was to check up and enlarge upon the sampling.

LOCATION: Three miles south of Nelson, B. C. on Toad Mtn.

PROPERTY: One claim only is considered in this report, - the Deadwood, which is Crown Granted. The owner is William Moore of Nelson.

GENERAL: The elevation is about 3600 feet; there is some small timber, and a little water. A good road from Nelson crosses the claim.
There is no equipment. It is said that a few tons of ore were shipped from the tunnel which returned \$13 per ton in gold.

DEVELOPMENT: The only development consists of a shallow drift tunnel a little less than one hundred feet long.

GEOLOGY: The principal rock is a dark schist belonging to the Rosslund Volcanic series, which has been intruded by masses and tongues of granite.

At the tunnel the schist contains numerous small lenses and stringers of quartz, and the schist is strongly and rather uniformly impregnated with fine pyrite. The width of this zone is not definitely known, but a width of at least fifty feet is indicated by the cutting along the side of the wagon road. The strike is N 15 W and dip 70° E.

SAMPLES: The former sampling showed an average of \$5.15 over a width of six feet at the face of the tunnel.

Seven samples were recently taken across the face and across the best part of the mineralization as exposed in the tunnel, the highest of which assayed 87 cents and the lowest 21 cents in gold and silver. Since these samples were carefully taken it seems certain that there are no commercial values in the tunnel.

CONCLUSION: On account of the size of the mineralized zone an average value of a very few dollars would make the property very attractive, but since the value is less than a dollar per ton the claim has little or no value.

Chas. C. Starr

July 10, 1929.