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LODI LAKE PLACER LEASES

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LODI LAKE PLACER LEASES

Consolidation Report Prepared by William S. Mullett, Consultant,

April 18, 1961

Vancouver, B. C.

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The Lodi Lake Placer leases are more specifically known and recorded under the numbers 5744, 5745, 5746, 6060, 6061 and 6062; the said leases lying along Ahbau Creek and extending from Lodi Lake in the north some four miles downstream almost to Ahbou Lake in the south. The area under study and under lease lies mainly to the west of Ahbou Creek along rising bench gravels and extends to the area of Rim Rock.

The above claims are now serviced by an excellent forestry road which runs through a portion of lease 6062. This road was completed in 1960 and made possible for the first time easy access to the property.

HISTORY

The above-noted leases lie in an area where substantial placer gold recoveries have been made through the years. The creek which flows through the leases derived its name from a Chinese by the name of Ah Bau. This man worked the creek from 1864 until his death in 1874. Government reports estimate he recovered nearly \$500,000 in gold by the most crude methods. Still later, many people worked Ahbau Creek and also Murray Creek with some success. It should be noted that over 1 mile of Murray Creek flows through lease 6062. It should be clearly pointed out that all gold obtained from this area over the years was recovered by hand methods which actually moved very little yardage and what gravels were handled was done by methods so crude as to lose much of the fine or flour gold. It is also pointed out that most of the gold was mined at a time when the price of gold was \$16.00 per ounce. Difficulty of transportation in this area made the movement of heavy machinery impossible until the construction of the present forestry road was completed in October of 1960.

EXPLORATION

Some limited testing was carried out in 1959 with interesting results. Murray Creek and Ahbau Creek were surface-tested by panning and some pans ran 3¢ each, indicating very good values per cubic yard. Further testing by pan indicated mineralization by Galena, Pyrite, Humatite and also considerable Quartz. The gravel content is similar to that found in the famous Williams Creek at Barkerville, B.C. The boulder content of the gravel is exceedingly low and such boulders as can be seen would appear to weigh less than 500 lbs. each.

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These preliminary tests were later supplemented by a limited churn-drill program. This limited drilling program was carried out in 1960 with the following results:

Hole #1 was drilled to a depth of 29' 9" and the results were inconclusive.

Hole #2 was drilled to a depth of 28' 9" with average values running 52¢ per cubic yard.

Hole #3 was drilled to a depth of 22' with average values running 52¢ per cubic yard.

It should also be noted that these drill tests were taken with inadequate machinery and as a result, they do not show values alon the bedrock. It should likewise be noted that, in the Caribou area, values occur primarily on bedrock and it is most gratifying to observe that these leases appear to carry gold values from the surface down.

Microscopic examination of both the gold and quartz specimens on hand shows that the samples are reasonably rough and angular in shape and will not present a problem of recovery.

A "Cat" road extends at this time through two of the leases and makes further exploration work relatively easy and inexpensive.

COMMENTS

The writer was over this area a number of years ago and, from the general geology and tests made of this area, there appears to be good reason to believe that these leases can be worked very profitably.

RECOMMENDATION

An open trench should be cut on either lease 6062 or 6061 from Rim Rock on the west down to Ahbau Creek. This cut should be made by a "Cat" and bulk samples taken from the cut for evaluation purposes. It would be advisable to erect a placer recovery unit which would serve two purposes:

(1) It would permit bulk sampling on site, and (2) The gold and concentrates recovered would pay some of the exploration costs. This method of proving up a placer ground is much more economical and much more trustworthy than an extended drilling program.

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CONCLUSIONS

The writer feels that the values in the ground are probably much greater than the drill tests show because of the inexperience of the personnel who conducted the tests and also because the writer doubts very much whether the drill used had sufficient horse-power to guarantee heavy gold recovery. In addition, bedrock was not reached on any drill test and it is reasonable to assume that values in this particular area will be greatest at bed rock. In the writer's opinion, these leases offer a very attractive placer mining possibility, both from the standpoint of volume of gravel and also the gold values contained in the gravel. Also, Murray Creek offers a close source of water which can be cheaply brought to the mining site. The disposal of tailings does not create a problem at this location. Taking all factors into consideration, this writer has no hesitation in expressing the opinion that these placer leases should result in a profitable operation.

William S. Mullett
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