

SUMMARY REPORT OF MINING INVESTIGATIONS IN THE  
CROW CREEK AND MOOSE PASS-HOPE DISTRICTS

to

B. D. STEWART, COMMISSIONER OF MINES

and

ITINERARY OF J. C. ROEHM, ASSOCIATE ENGINEER,  
TERRITORIAL DEPARTMENT OF MINES,

October 3 to October 11/35

October 3. Arrived Seward from Anchorage.

The Crow Creek district was not visited this season. Mr. Staser reports that the Crow Creek Mining Company has been operating all season with a crew of 10 men. Some ore was mined from the Jewel Mine. A 50-foot shaft was sunk in the upper tunnel of the Monarch on the ore. At the bottom a drift of 25 feet was run each way. Some high grade pockets were found in the shaft and drifts. The mill was run intermittently during the season. KX  
95-175

The A. S. Erickson placer operation on Crow Creek operated until September 15. On this date heavy rains flooded Crow Creek and washed out their dam and flooded the pit. This closed down operations for the season. Seven men were employed. KX  
95-175

Moose Pass-Hope District:

October 4. Heavy snow prevented the examination of several lode properties within the area. The heavy rain and flood of September 15 caused considerable damage to many of the placer operations and also washed out a bridge at Mile 22 on the Moose Pass-Hope highway and prevented examination of the operations in the vicinity of Hope.

Wyman Anderson reported that assessment work was done on his old Creek property and on the Skeen-Lechner property by Mel Horner. These two properties are still under option to the Falls Creek Mining Company. These mines are located four miles east of Mile 25, Alaska Railroad. The Falls Creek Mining Company was organized last year by Sam Godfrey, McMullen and H. Lamont of Tacoma. No work by this company has been done to date and this option is expected to terminate this fall. KX  
95-164

The Skeen-Lechner was reported as having a vein stripped 600 feet on the surface, striking northeast and dipping 45° E. Two tunnels totaling 1500 feet in length and vertically 125 feet between, were driven on the vein. The lowest tunnel has a reported elevation of 3100 feet. The lower tunnel has an incline shaft of 120 feet in depth on the slope, and it is located at a point 800 feet from the portal. The vein was reported as averaging 3 feet in width. The ore occurs in lenses along the vein and the values are rather spotty. This vein is in slate and graywacke. The mineralization consists of pyrite, galena, a little chalcopyrite, sphalerite, pyrrhotite and arsenopyrite. The gangue minerals are milky quartz, calcite and inclosed altered rock fragments. 95-163

Hh  
95-164

The old Greek property is located half a mile below the Skeen-Lechner property on Falls Creek at an elevation of 2,000 feet. The underground workings were reported as consisting of a 90-foot tunnel driven from the creek level on the north side. At a point 60 feet from the portal a shaft is down 40 feet. At the bottom of the shaft a drift of 140 feet has been driven on the vein. This vein was reported as extending the entire length of the drift, averaging 3 feet in width, and \$70 per ton in gold values. These workings are full of water and pumping is necessary before they could be examined. Located 100 feet south of Falls Creek the vein dips vertical and a shaft was sunk 12 feet at this point on the vein. In the shaft the vein was reported averaging  $3\frac{1}{2}$  feet in width and averaging \$70 per ton in gold. The machinery on the property consists of a Chicago Pneumatic (old type) air compressor, 6x8", vertical type. This is run with a 6-foot Pelton wheel.

Hh  
95-91

October 5. The Oracle Mine operated continuously since May 20 and operations closed on date of visit. The mill started operating on July 22 and a total of 151 tons was milled. Two shifts were worked in the mine and one in the mill. The number of men employed was seven, four of which worked under contract in the mine, and three men in the mill. The Airplane Spaulding mill was not a success, as the high rotating center wore out very rapidly. As a result a new Crescent mill was purchased and the Airplane mill is used as a coarse grind for the Crescent mill. Mr. Reed states that with the two mills a fairly satisfactory result was obtained. However, the Crescent mill alone, he believes would not be a suitable mill for his type of ore. This new Crescent mill is similar to the Spaulding Airplane mill, with the exception that the grinding unit has been improved, and it has inside plate amalgamation. This mill makes a recovery of 60 per cent and an additional 30 per cent is recovered on corduroy cloth and concentrator.

In the mine stoping has been done only in the north drift, and some in the upper tunnel this season. The stope in the upper tunnel caved from lack of timber, and some ore was lost. This stoping was done under contract at \$4 a ton delivered at the mill. Power, machinery and powder were furnished.

Geo. Lindsay, located above the Oracle Mine, and on the upward extension of the orebody, has been operating his arrastre since May.

Above Lindsay, F. Case and Sands are also operating an arrastre. This latter operation is mining ore in the vicinity of the Gilpatrick dike. Both arrastres will have a small production.

Hh  
95-91

R. Hatcher has an option on the Gilpatrick property. Nineteen tons of ore was mined and milled at the Oracle mill this season. Next season Hatcher expects to put a 10-ton mill on the property.

KX  
95-139

The Moose Pass Placers, Inc., a new organization under the management of W. H. Williams, is operating on Mills Creek,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  miles up from the mouth. A group of 27 claims were purchased last year from Fred Metz. Two bulldozers are used to push gravel into the pit and thence hydraulicking into boxes. This season operations began on May 8 and sluicing started on July 1. 14,000 bedrock feet have been cleaned to date. Low narrow benches are worked along the creek bed. The pay gravels average 5 feet in thickness and are covered with 15 to 20 feet of glacier moraine gravels. The bedrock is fractured graywacke and some spots are fairly soft. Between one and two feet of bedrock is taken up. The pay gravels are somewhat worn and unsorted and partly cemented with glacial clay. The glacial moraine gravels are unsorted and contain numerous boulders of all sizes. This makes a very hard operation. The pay was reported as averaging 45 cents per bedrock foot. The gold is well worn and ranges from fine up to \$15 to \$20 nuggets.

Two and one half miles of road, one mile gravel, and one and a half caterpillar, was built to the camp on Mills Creek from the Moose Pass highway.

The machinery used consists of a Diesel International (new this year) 125 H. P. engine direct-connected to a Worthington, 4,000 gal. per minute pump. Four hundred feet of pipe 14 to 12" is used. A No. 4 giant with a 5-inch nozzle is used to hydraulic gravel into the boxes. A small No. 1 giant is used to clean bedrock. The company owns one new 40 H. P. diesel International tractor with Isaacson bulldozer. Another tractor and bulldozer of the same make was hired for the season. A Jaeger pump and a half-ton International truck are also owned by the company. Sixty feet of boxes with wooden block riffles are used. Next season two miles of ditch is to be dug and a hydraulic with a 200-foot head is to be used in place of the pumping plant. Two 10-hour shifts are worked and nine men are employed.

Plowman and Edwards worked a small strip and cleaned four pits at the mouth of Mills Creek on Canyon Creek. Operations were started on May 20 and closed on August 11. Two giants were used and four men were employed. Next year they expect to move further down the rim near the head of the canyon.

Shields and B. Agostino have two men employed and are hydraulicking below Plowman on Canyon. They have a Fordson tractor for hauling out boulders. C. A. Davis is hydraulicking alone on Canyon Creek at Mile 26, Moose Pass-Hope highway. Ester Bros. have two men employed and are working on the old Carden property on Groundhog Creek, five miles above Lynx Creek. They have a small hydraulic plant. Gordon McCann is hydraulicking along on Six Mile Creek below the Kenai dredge property. Mike Connelley is sniping at Sunrise.

Resurrection Creek:

Charles & Robert Mathieson are operating a steam shovel on Resurrection Creek, two miles up from Hope. The Clark Bros. are hydraulicking on the junction of Palmer and Resurrection creeks. They are running two camps. Ed Brenner and Son are hydraulicking on Resurrection Creek. Louis Shell and Son are hydraulicking on Bear Creek. The Seward Mining Company is operating with two No. 3 giants on ground owned by Oscar Dahl. They were reported as having 15 to 20 feet of overburden and 6 feet of pay gravels on a clay false bedrock. On the Kenai River, Becherstaff & Jones drilled six holes with a 6-inch drill on the left limit two miles below the mouth of Cooper Creek. This drilling was done on the old Hubbard property. Reports were that logs showed 10 feet of gravel and then a false bedrock under which is an unknown depth of glacial muck.

October 7-8. Linke has four placer claims staked at the mouth of Cooper Creek. This includes the old workings of 30 years ago, and on which considerable money was spent. Several miles of ditches were dug and a production of \$10,000 was reported recovered during the old operations. Mr. Linke has put down a few test pits and done a little sluicing. The gravels are mainly glacial mixed with some well worn gravels. One dollar nuggets were the largest found. The gold appears rather flat in character.

October 9. Arrived at the camp of the Crown Point mine. The Tulare Bros. have been operating this mine all season with the mill running intermittently. Over 500 ounces were recovered on the plates and an unknown amount in the concentrates. Deep snow prevented visiting this mine, which had just closed for the season.

October 11-13. En route Seward to Juneau.

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