

REPORT ON JORDON'S GOLD PROSPECT, WINNALEAH.

LOCATION AND ACCESS: The prospect is situated one mile and a half north-west of Winnaleah township, on 314 acres purchased from the Crown by Commercial Bank of Tasmania Limited (owned by C. Jordon), 24 ac. 3 rds. 36 pr., D.F. Rainbow and 100 acres 1 rd. 12 prs. J. Stevenson.

Access is gained by means of Winnaleah - Banca road to within a short distance of the properties.

TOPOGRAPHY: No outstanding topographical features are present. Trout Creek flowing westerly to Boobyalla River in a flat open valley, drains the area with the assistance of several tributary streams. Hills on either side of the main valley rise with moderate steepness for 200 to 300 feet to level of adjacent basalt plateau.

GEOLOGY: The basement rocks of the area, consisting of Devonian granite, are exposed on the hill slopes rising on the south side of Trout Creek. These are overlain on north side of the stream by Tertiary basalt. In places, usually in higher parts of tributary valleys, small areas of Tertiary clays and gravels are exposed which have survived the denudation necessary to remove the original basaltic cover rocks.

Recent gravels and alluvium are distributed along the bed of Trout Creek and the lower portions of its affluents.

ALLUVIAL GOLD DEPOSITS: Alluvial gold occurs in the bed of a small stream running north-north-westerly to join Trout Creek through the three properties mentioned; only the upper portion of which is included in Jordon's land.

The stream is generally steep sided but varies in its gradient. In the lower six chains of its course the bed is wide, swampy and covered with alluvium where the grade assumes that of the main valley. This portion is reported to have been bored by means of hand auger with unfavourable results for gold.

The creek bed then rises with moderate steepness, in a narrow channel, over a distance of four chains. Along this portion recent gravels and clays occur in association with granite boulders to an average depth of eighteen inches above granite bedrock. The included gravels consist of slightly waterworn pebbles of quartz, granite and sandstone, averaging 2" in size. A dish prospect from the lower gravels revealed 14 small to medium, flaky, colours of gold, together with small amounts of fine tin oxide, pleonaste, magnetite and ilmenite. A small area of these gravels has recently been worked by means of a sluice-box and it is stated that three ounces of gold were won.

Ten chains further upstream the valley floor widens to a maximum of three chains in a flat area extending for several chains in length. On the eastern bank prospecting cuts and shafts have exposed Tertiary clays and gravels 8 feet in thickness, without revealing the granite bottom. Fine colours of gold occur in the lowest accessible portion of this deposit and suggest the possibility of gold concentrations immediately above the unexposed bedrock.

TESTING: The most satisfactory method of testing the value of the lower shallow deposit would probably be to carry out

a small amount of ground sluicing.

In the upper area of deeper Tertiary clays and gravels the proving of depth, extent, and value of the occurrence could be most expeditiously undertaken by means of a hand boring plant in conjunction with casing.

MINING CONDITIONS: Conditions for mining by hydraulic sluicing are favourable. Adequate fall is procurable for disposal of tailings by gravitation. During the recent wet season the creek in which the deposits occur contained approximately two sluiceheads of water, and it is said to be a permanent stream.

Dam sites are available for conservation in creek bed above the deposits and sufficient head pressure should be obtainable for all purposes.

SUMMARY: A minor amount of prospecting has exposed clays and gravels in the bed of a small creek. Small quantities of gold are present and it is recommended that further testing be undertaken by an experienced alluvial miner to ascertain the possibilities of working the deposit for that mineral. A little tin oxide is associated with the gold in places, but not in payable quantities.

(F. Blake) Sgd.

ACTING GOVERNMENT GEOLOGIST.

Mines Department,
Hobart.

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