

or bed of earth, gravel or cement mined for gold or other precious minerals or stones.' Placer claims are of four classes, as follows:—

' "Creek diggings:" any mine in the bed of any stream or ravine:

' "Bar diggings:" any mine between high and low water marks on a river, lake, or other large body of water:

' "Dry diggings:" any mine over which water never extends:

' "Precious stone diggings:" any deposit of precious stones, whether in veins, beds, or gravel deposits.'

The following provisions as to extent of the various classes of claims are made by the Act:—

' In "creek diggings" a claim shall be 250 feet square: Provided always that the side lines of each claim shall be measured in the general direction of the watercourse or stream:

' In "bar diggings" a claim shall be:—

' (a.) A piece of land not exceeding 250 feet square on any bar which is covered at high water, or

' (b.) A strip of land 250 feet long at high water mark in the width extending from high water mark to extreme low water mark:

' In "dry diggings" a claim shall be 250 feet square.'

Every placer claim shall be as nearly as possible rectangular in form, and marked by four legal posts at the corners thereof, firmly fixed in the ground. On each of such posts shall be written the name of the locator, the number and date of issue of his free miner's certificate, the date of the location and the name given to the claim. In timbered localities all boundary lines of a placer claim shall be blazed so that the posts can be distinctly seen, underbrush cut, and the locator shall also erect legal posts not more than 125 feet apart on all boundary lines. In localities where there is no timber or underbrush monuments of earth or rock, not less than two feet high and two feet in diameter at base, may be erected in lieu of the said last mentioned legal posts, but not in the case of the four legal posts marking the corners of the claim.

A placer claim must be recorded in the office of the Mining Recorder for the Mining Division within which the same is situate, within fifteen days after the location thereof, if located within ten miles of the office of the Mining Recorder by the most direct means of travel. One additional day shall be allowed for every ten miles additional or fraction thereof. The number of days shall be counted inclusive of the day upon which such location was made, but exclusive of the day of application for record. The application for such record shall be under oath and in the form set out in the schedule to this Act. A claim which shall not have been recorded within the prescribed period shall be deemed to have been abandoned.

To hold a placer claim for more than one year it must be re-recorded before the expiration of the record or re-record.

A placer claim must be worked by the owner or someone on his behalf, continuously, as far as practicable, during working hours. If work is discontinued for a period of 72 hours, except during the close season, lay over, leave of absence, sickness, or for some other reason to the satisfaction of the Gold Commissioner, the claim is deemed abandoned.

Lay-overs are declared by the Gold Commissioner upon proof being given to him that the supply of water is insufficient to work the claim. Under similar circumstances he has also the power to declare a close season, by a