

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 notice in writing and published in the *Gazette*, for all or any claims in his district. Tunnel and drain licenses are also granted by him on the person applying giving security for any damage that may arise. Grants of right of way for the construction of tunnels or drains across other claims are also granted on payment of a fee of \$25, the owner of the claim crossed having the right for tolls, &c., on the tunnel or drain which may be constructed. These tolls, however, are, so far as the amount goes, under the discretion of the Gold Commissioner.

### *Placer Discovery Claims.*

The following provision is made for new discoveries of placer mining ground:—

‘If any free miner, or party of free miners, discover a new locality for the prosecution of placer mining and such discovery be established to the satisfaction of the Gold Commissioner, placer claims of the following sizes shall be allowed to such discoverers, viz.:—

‘To one discoverer, one claim..... 600 feet in length.

‘To a party of two discoverers, two claims, amount-  
ing together to..... 1,000 “

‘And to each member of a party beyond two in number, a claim of the ordinary size only:

‘Provided that where a discovery claim has been established in any locality no further discovery shall be allowed within five miles therefrom, measured along the watercourses. The width of such claims shall be the same as ordinary placer claims of the same class.’

No special privileges are allowed for discovery of new mineral claims.

### CO-OWNERS AND PARTNERSHIPS.

In both the ‘Mineral’ and ‘Placer Mining’ Acts provision is made for the formation of mining partnerships, both of a general and limited liability