

1280 0034
PROPERTY NAME: Horse Canyon Drill Roads
OTHER NAMES: (Sample Sites 1517, 1518, 1519)
MINERAL COMMODITY(IES): Au
TYPE OF DEPOSIT: Disseminated (upper plate? host), Roberts Mt. Thrust
ACCESSIBILITY:
OWNERSHIP: Cortez Gold Mining Company

County: Eureka ⁽¹⁰⁹⁾ Item 32
Mining District: Cortez
AMS Sheet: Winnemucca
Quad Sheet: Cortez 15'
Sec. Unsurveyed 26N 48E
27N R 48E

Coordinate (UTM):
North 4 4 4 5 4 0 0 m
East 0 5 3 7 2 5 0 m
Zone +11

PRODUCTION:
HISTORY: This is Cortez Au Min. Co.'s new discovery. The Horse Canyon ore zone has estimated reserves of 3.4 million tons at .0555oz Au/tons. (NBMG open file report 82-1)
Annual recovery - 40,000 oz Au/yr 83-9, p.7.

DEVELOPMENT: Numerous drill roads along east flank of Mt. Tenabo. Tight drill pattern at sample locations 1518 & 1519 indicates this is probably the future site of the proposed open pit mine.

ACTIVITY AT TIME OF EXAMINATION: Property is being prepared for open pit mining. Haul road was in the process of being completed.

GEOLOGY: The drill roads are located at the head of Horse Canyon on the east flank of Mt. Tenabo. The roads form a "tight" pattern to the north^{west} near the saddle between Horse Canyon & Mill Canyon. This is the probable location of the future open pit mine. In total, the roads extend almost continuously for more than one mile from the saddle to the southeast.

First, the rocks exposed along the southern^{most} drill roads were examined. The most obvious feature in this area is the presence of a Vinini hosted "jasperoid" breccia which forms a resistant NW-striking rib above the drill roads. Upon close examination, the "jasperoid" is highly silicified, fractured & Fe-stained along the fractures. Bedding is preserved in the jasperoid in places & dips to S.E. Below the jasperoid breccia, we find thin, contorted beds of black carbonaceous shales. In one area, the shales, which dip to the SE, were cross-cut by an altered igneous dike. The dike was mostly altered to clays & had bleached the surrounding shales. Various rocks were sampled at this location. Sample 1517A consists of drill cuttings from near the floor of the valley. The cuttings consist of black siliceous shales & cherty shales, with some carbonaceous material also.

To the north^{west} where the drill pattern becomes very tight (Sample locations 1518 & 1519), the resistant rib of Vinini jasperoid breccia is still present. The rocks exposed below the breccia consist of thin bedded siliceous sediments. A large boulder of breccia found on the road was cut by a small breccia vein containing a clast of quartz-eye porphyry. However, the most notable discovery was the occurrence of abundant, euhedral jarosite crystals developed in the open fractures in the jasperoid. (1518B). Some barite vein & gangue was also noted in this area.

Sample 1519 consists of drill cuttings of dark grey calcareous shales with fine disseminated sulfides. North of the drill hole, lower plate, grey limestones of the Devonian Wenban Fm. are exposed.

Although the jasperoid breccia lies along the approximate^(Roberts Mtns) thrust plate contact, which is an important structure in this area, it is quite probable the mineralization discovered^{here} by Cortez is concentrated in the upper plate rocks along a later developed N-striking high-angle structure. Some small rhyolite intrusives are located to south & east of drill roads less than 1 mile away.

Sample 1517A - Drill cuttings; 1517A - altered dike; 1517C - Vinini Jsp Brx; 1518A - Silicified breccia & gossan; 1518B - Jsp Brx with jarosite; 1519 - Shale drill cuttings.

Photos.

REFERENCES:

EXAMINER: Bentz/Bonham/Tingley/Smith

DATE VISITED: 7/82