1530 0002

Washoe Co.-general

NW-21-2
U

Item 50
(14 of 18)

Mining District: FORT SAGE MOUNTAIN URANIUM PROSPECTS, SEVEN LAKES MOUNTAIN AREA, RED ROCK CANYON AREA, WILLOW SPRINGS AREA (Uranium)

T. 23-24-25 N., R. 18-19 E.
Washoe County, Nevada
USGS Dogskin Mountain 15-min. quadrangle (1957)

GENERAL BACKGROUND

Numerous uranium prospects are located in area NW-21-2. To facilitate discussion, the area has been divided into four smaller geographic areas; each of which will be considered separately.

I. Fort Sage Mountain Uranium Prospects

Several uranium prospects are located in sections 6 and 8, T. 24 N., R. 18 E., on the south slope of State Line Peak in the Fort Sage Mountains. These prospects were not examined by the writers; AEC records indicate there apparently has been no production.

GEOLOGICAL AND TECHNICAL DATA

At a uranium prospect in section 6, autunite reportedly occurs as coatings on pebbles and in small pockets in sandstone. Two samples assayed by the AEC contained 0.04 and 0.05 percent equivalent U_3O_8. In section 8, torbernite, autunite, and carnotite(?) are present in a fault zone in metamorphic rocks. No samples were analyzed, but reportedly a high thorium content was recorded (2).

POTENTIAL FOR DEVELOPMENT

The uranium prospects in the Fort Sage Mountains are indicated to be economically submarginal. A minor amount of ore-grade material may be present at these properties, but when compared with other, more favorable areas in the planning unit, it is unlikely that any production will come from the Fort Sage Uranium Prospects in the future.

Past activities in the area have been confined to the excavation of prospect pits.

Bennett, Jan. 1973

COMPANIES AND CLAIMANTS ACTIVE IN AREA

1. DONALD Group
   S. P. Miller
   2491 W. 133 Ave.
   San Leandro, Calif.
   (2 lode claims)

2. BLACK HAWK Group
   H. E. Lupton
   Herlong, Calif.
   (9 lode claims)

II. Seven Lakes Mountain

Seven Lakes Mountain is located south of Fort Sage Mountain and north of Petersen Mountain. Several uranium prospects are located in sections 16, 19, 26, 27, 30, and 31, T. 24 N., R. 18 E. The properties were originally located during the uranium "boom" of the 1950's, but there has been no apparent production from any of the prospects. The area was not examined by the writers.

GEOLOGICAL AND TECHNICAL DATA

The oldest rocks exposed on Seven Lakes Mountain are ash-flow tuffs of the Hartford Hills Rhyolite. These rocks are overlain by volcanic rocks and associated sediments of the Pyramid Sequence.

Uranium mineralization occurs in fault zones and carbonaceous lenses in Tertiary ash-flow tuffs of the Hartford Hills Rhyolite. Autunite(?) and other unidentified uranium minerals have been reported, and assayed samples collected from several properties by the AEC averaged less than 0.10 percent equivalent U_3O_8 (2).

POTENTIAL FOR DEVELOPMENT

Some ore-grade uranium mineralization is reported to be present in a few prospects on Seven Lake Mountain. As the price of uranium rises, the area will again be of interest to prospectors. However, unless more promising ore bodies are discovered or a serious depletion in uranium stockpiles exists, the potential for production from the present properties seems slight.

Past mining operations consist of numerous prospect pits. Future workings, if any, would consist of open-pit or underground workings, or a combination of both.

COMPANIES AND CLAIMANTS ACTIVE IN AREA

The following list identifies some of the claimants in the Seven Lakes Mountain area:

Bennett, Jan. 1973

1. INDEPENDENCE Group
   Paul Langslet
   882 Main, Susanville, CA
   (12 lode claims)

2. NORMA J Group
   Paul Langslet
   (9 lode claims)

3. CRESENT Group
   Robert McPherson
   Star Rt. 2., Box 75
   Susanville, Calif.

4. BUCKEYE Group
   W. Howard Davis
   (8 lode claims)

III. Red Rock Canyon Area

GENERAL BACKGROUND

Numerous uranium prospects are present in the Red Rock Canyon area which is located at the northern end of Dogskin Mountain. These prospects were originally located during the uranium "boom" of the 1950's. There has been no apparent production from any of the properties.

GEOLOGICAL AND TECHNICAL DATA

The bulk of Dogskin Mountain is composed of Mesozoic granodiorite. At the northern end of the mountain, Tertiary Ash-flow tuffs of the Hartford Hills Rhyolite unconformably overlie the granodiorite.

Uranium mineralization occurs within fault zones in the Hartford Hills Rhyolite and in carbonaceous zones along the basal contact of the tuffs and granodiorite. Autunite and phosphuranylite occur in the prospects.

Assays of samples from one of the more promising prospects (Divide Claims) located about 1 mile north of VABM 7464 on Dogskin Mountain averaged slightly more than 0.1 percent equivalent U_3O_8. Assays from four other groups of claims in the Red Rock Canyon area averaged 0.05 percent equivalent U_3O_8 (2).

POTENTIAL FOR DEVELOPMENT

Several prospects in the Red Rock Canyon area contain ore-grade uranium mineralization. However, the extent of ore-grade material at individual properties is not great, and unless larger orebodies are discovered the deposits will probably be of interest to small-scale operators only. Nevertheless, these uranium prospects, when considered as a whole, may constitute a potentially important future uranium reserve. As the demand for uranium increases in the future it is expected that the area will receive additional exploration, and should uranium prices be favorable it is anticipated that some production from the more promising prospects is likely.

Bennett, Jan. 1973

Past mining operations in the area consist of numerous small prospect pits, several adits, and shafts. Future activities in the area are anticipated to be the same as the past. If production occurs in the future, some of the properties will probably be mined by open pit methods.

COMPANIES AND CLAIMANTS ACTIVE IN AREA

The Red Rock Canyon area is heavily staked with lode mining claims. The following list identifies some of the claimants in the area:

1. COPPER GULCH Group
   I. W. Baker, et.al.
   3211 Heights, Reno
   Mar. 1968
   (30 lode claims)

2. RED TOP #1, HOT DOG Group
   Lee Smith, et.al.
   1735 Belford, Reno
   Apr. 1970, Nov. 1966
   (3 lode claims)

3. DIVIDE Group
   Divide Mining Co
   Chas Courvoisie
   Box 470
   Susanville, CA
   (10 lode claims)

4. TIC CANYON Group
   Bob Abolt
   1030 B St., Sparks
   (10 lode claims)

5. SUNNYSIDE Group
   J. R. Hardy
   245 Hall, Susanville, CA
   (2 lode claims)

6. GOGETTER, PUP Groups
   T & M Mining Co.
   447 Marsh, Reno

7. LAVA #9
   Claude Knox
   Box 1025, Janesville, CA
   (1 lode claim)

IV. Willow Springs Area

GENERAL BACKGROUND

Willow Spring is located in section 35, T. 24 N., R. 19 E. In the Nevada Mineral Resource Inventory (June 21, 1965) a mining property is identified adjacent to Willow Spring. The USGS quadrangle sheet referenced above shows an adit at this location. This property was not examined and the mineral commodities present, if any, are not known.

GEOLOGICAL AND TECHNICAL DATA

Bonham's (1) geologic map indicates that this property is located in granodiorite of Mesozoic age. It is likely that this prospect explores a fracture zone in the granodiorite. However, it is possible that the adit explores a rock type different than granodiorite, but which was too small to map on the scale used by Bonham.

Bennett, Jan. 1973

POTENTIAL FOR DEVELOPMENT

Unknown.

COMPANIES AND CLAIMANTS ACTIVE IN AREA

Unknown.

SELECTED REFERENCES

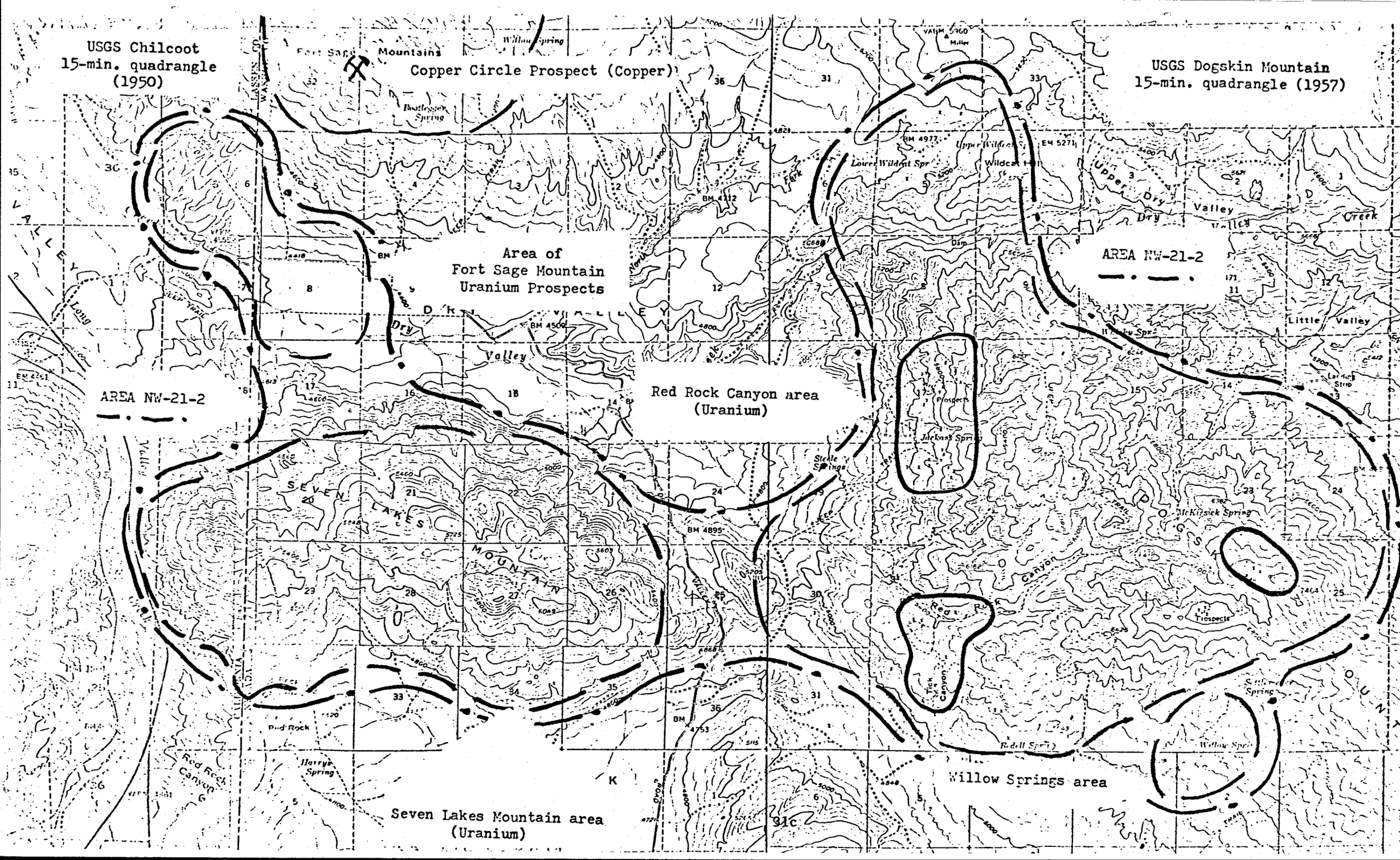
1. Bonham and Papke: Geology and Mineral Resources of Washoe and Storey Counties, Nevada; Nev. Bur. Mines Bull. 70, 1969. (Includes Geologic Map of Resource Area)

2. US AEC: Reports of Uranium Investigations, 1955 (unpublished).

FIELD EXAMINATION

Mallery and Bennett (Red Rock Canyon Area only), Nov. 1972

Bennett, Jan. 1973


USGS Chilcoot
15-min. quadrangle
(1950)
USGS Dogskin Mountain
15-min. quadrangle (1957)
Copper Circle Prospect (Copper)
Area of
Fort Sage Mountain
Uranium Prospects
Red Rock Canyon area
(Uranium)
AREA NW-21-2
AREA NW-21-2
Seven Lakes Mountain area
(Uranium)
Willow Springs area
Fort Sage Mountains
Upper Dry Valley
Little Valley
Long Valley
Red Rock Canyon
Jacknife Spring
McKissick Spring
Willow Springs
Harrys Spring
Bootlegger Spring
Lower Wildcat Spr
Upper Wildcat Spr
Wildcat Hill
Stickle Springs
Prospects
Dam
Landing Strip
Red Rock
Tick Canyon
Redell Spring
Willow Spring
Seven Lakes Mountain
Dogskin Mountain
Dry Valley
Long Valley
Lassen Co
Washoe Co
BM 4977
BM 4912
BM 4500
BM 4895
BM 4753
EM 5271
EM 4261
Vatim 5960
Miller
31c

Washoe Co. - general

Item [redacted]

89

Mineral Resources Inventory and Analysis

of the

Pyramid Resource Area

Carson City District
Nevada and California

by

R. E. Bennett and H. W. Mallery

1973

See Washoe County - general file for the complete introduction to this report (0160 0035)