

from NBME OFR 83-9
See also 83-10
for geochemical
results.

HALLECK DISTRICT

ETKO Co. - general

Item 59

2250 0003

The Halleck district of Whitehill, 1875 and Smith, 1976 covers a small area adjacent to Secret Creek in the north western portion of the Ruby Mountains and the west portion of the East Humboldt Range. Much of the area is under private ownership.

The district was first organized in 1873 after soldiers discovered gold and silver-bearing "vein" deposits "on the northwestern slope of the Ruby Range, about 6 miles from Fort Halleck" (Whitehill, 1875). The deposits apparently didn't warrant further development or may never have existed as currently the district contains only one patented placer mine and a few very minor prospects. The placer mine, named Hawthorne Placer, is located in the south western East Humboldt Range in sections 35 and 36, T35N, R59E.

The northern most part of the Ruby Mountains south of Secret Creek are predominately underlain by Precambrian through Ordovician metaquartzites and schists. Biotite-quartz monzonite gneiss of Mesozoic age encircles the Secret Peak area. North of Secret Creek the rocks consist of Mississippian through Permian limestone conglomerates and siltstones overlain on the flanks of the range by Tertiary sedimentary and volcanic rocks. The rocks in both areas are complexly deformed along numerous high-angle and low-angle faults.

Several areas within the Halleck district were examined for signs of past or present mining activity. Locations of mine areas cited in CRIB (see mining district folder for Halleck district) and the one or two active claims in the area were briefly examined. No sign of any mining activity was noted in any of the areas except for two shallow prospects located in sections 30 and 31, T35N, R60E about 1 mile north of the Secret Pass Hwy. The prospects are developed along a silicified fault contact between thickly bedded dolomitic limestones of Permian (?) age and chert-quartzite conglomerates of the Diamond Peak Formation (?). Calcite and quartz veinlets cut the bleached limestone at the prospect. Some samples show

slickensides. The conglomerate forms low ledges directly north of the sampled prospect. It is heavily iron-stained and cut by fine siliceous veinlets. No significant mineralization was noted in either rock type.

Selected References:

- Howard, K. A., et al (1979) Geologic map of the Ruby Mountains, Nevada: USGS MI Map I-1136.
- Smith, R. M. (1976) Mineral resources of Elko County, Nevada: USGS OFR 1976-56. p. 80.
- Snelson, S. (1957) The geology of the northern Ruby Mountains and the East Humboldt Range, Elko County, northeastern Nevada: Ph.D. thesis, Univ. of Washington.
- Thorman, C. H. (1966) Mid-Tertiary K-Ar dates from late Mesozoic metamorphosed rocks, Wood Hills and Ruby-East Humboldt Range, Elko County, Nevada (abs): GSA Spec. Paper 87, p. 234-235.
- Whitehill, H.R. (1875) Biennial report of the state mineralogist of the State of Nevada for the years 1873 and 1874: Nev. Mineralogist, p. 31.