3240 0002

(39)

NW-40-1
Au, Ag, Pb

Item 2

Mining District: MOUNT SIEGEL DISTRICT
RED CANYON (SILVER LAKE) DISTRICT
(Gold, Silver, Lead)

T. 11-12 N., R. 22 E.
Douglas County, Nevada
USGS Mt. Siegel 15-min. quadrangle (1957) and
Wellington 15-min. quadrangle (1957)

GENERAL BACKGROUND

Because of the different mode of minerals occurrence at these two areas, each district will be treated separately.

I. Mount Siegel

The Mount Siegel area is located north of Mount Siegel in the Pine Nut Mountains, at the southern end of Pine Nut Valley. The area was first organized in 1891 when placer gold was discovered in the gravels of Pine Nut Valley. The Slater mine is the only property in the area and is owned by The Ancient Age Gold Placer Mines Company. Production from this mine has been recorded at $3,500, but previous owners put the figure at slightly over $100,000 (2).

GEOLOGICAL AND TECHNICAL DATA

Placer gold is dispersed throughout Quaternary gravels in Pine Nut Valley. Occasionally the gold has been concentrated immediately above a "false bedrock" of hardpan or clay. The basement complex, immediately below the gravels, consists of granitic rocks of Cretaceous age.

The gravels are relatively loose, unassorted rock, sand and gravel, and soil. Very few large boulders are present in the placer deposit--a definite economic asset. Gold occurs both as fine and coarse flakes and occasionally as nuggets. The average fineness of the gold is 880. Origin of the gold has been ascribed to the reworking of Tertiary river gravels and to the erosion of small gold-bearing veins in the area (2).

In the past the gravels have been worked by underground drifts, small open cuts, and hydraulicking. The gold obtained from the clean-up of 600 yards of sluiced gravels in 1896 indicated a value of approximately $2.00 per yard at the old value of $20.67 per ounce of gold (2). However, the distribution of values is erratic and additional exploration would be necessary to outline the extent of paying gravels.

Bennett, June 1973

POTENTIAL FOR DEVELOPMENT

The outlook for precious metals, especially gold, is very good. Development of the Mount Siegel gold placers have historically been hampered by the lack of sufficient water to work the deposit. As the price of gold continues to rise, it is likely that this property will be sporadically worked, depending upon the availability of water. Should ample water be brought into the area, large-scale development would probably be immediate.

COMPANIES AND CLAIMANTS ACTIVE IN AREA

1. BOOM Group
   Toska Slater
   (2,120 acre palcer claims)

2. GREEN GEM Group
   R.E., R.W. Chaney
   2530 Empire Ranch Rd.
   Carson City, Nev.
   Oct. 1958
   (2 lode claims)

II. Red Canyon

The Red Canyon area is in the southern Pine Nut Mountains. The area is approximately bounded on the south by Red Canyon and on the north by Mt. Siegel. Most of the district is within the Walker Planning Unit. The Winters mine (section 26, T. 12 N., R. 22 E.) and Longfellow mine (section 10, T. 11 N., R. 22 E.) are the most important properties in the area. Recorded production from these two mines indicates the extraction of over 2,000 tons of gold, silver, and lead ore, grossing about $102,000.

GEOLOGICAL AND TECHNICAL DATA

The oldest rocks in the area are metasedimentary rocks of Triassic and Jurassic age. These older rocks have been intruded by granite of Cretaceous age. Mineralization in the area occurs along the contact between the granite and metamorphic rocks, in quartz veins in the granite, and as replacement bodies in lenses of limy metasediments intruded by granite.

Ore at the Winters mine consists of galena, chalcopyrite, stibnite, and pyrite. The ore occurs as replacement bodies in calcareous metasedimentary rocks. The Longfellow mine contains gold, galena, chalcopyrite, pyrite, and specular hematite in quartz veins in granitic rock. Secondary copper minerals are present at both mines.

Most of the ore at these two mines was extracted from the oxidized zone that extended to a depth of 150 feet in the Winters mine and 250 feet in the Longfellow mine. Below these depths sulfide minerals were occasionally encountered, but the amount of ore grade material was not large. None of the workings exceed 300 feet in depth.

Bennett, June 1973

POTENTIAL FOR DEVELOPMENT

Most of the ore in the area was extracted from the oxidized zone and favorable values were probably the result of secondary enrichment. The ill-defined distribution of primary sulfide mineralization below the oxidized zone suggests a poor potential for the discovery of ore bodies of minable grade and extent. However, the geology of the area is favorable for the discovery of mineral deposits and existing mines could be subject to exploration by small operators in anticipation of the discovery of economic ore bodies.

Past workings consist of numerous shafts, adits, and prospect pits. Future workings, if any, will be underground.

COMPANIES AND CLAIMANTS ACTIVE IN AREA

Unknown, but presumably under lode location.

SELECTED REFERENCES

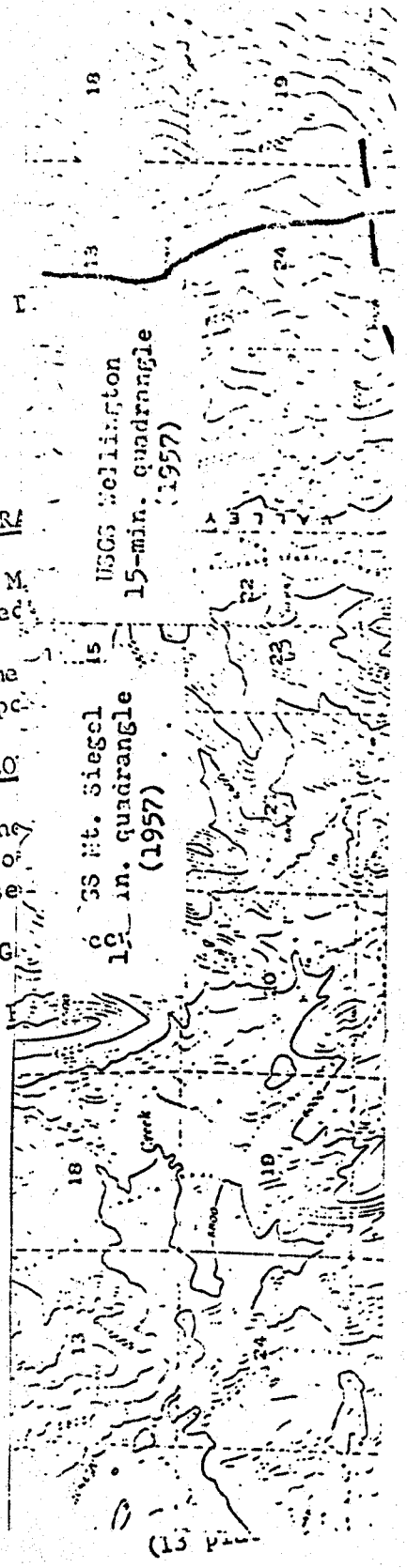
1. Moore: Geology and Mineral Deposits of Lyon, Douglas, and Ormsby Counties, Nevada; Nev. Bur. Mines Bull. 75, 1969. (Includes geologic map of area)

2. Vanderburg: Placer Mining in Nevada; Univ. Nev. Bull 4, 1936

FIELD EXAMINATION

Bennett, May 1973, June 1973

Bennett, June 1973



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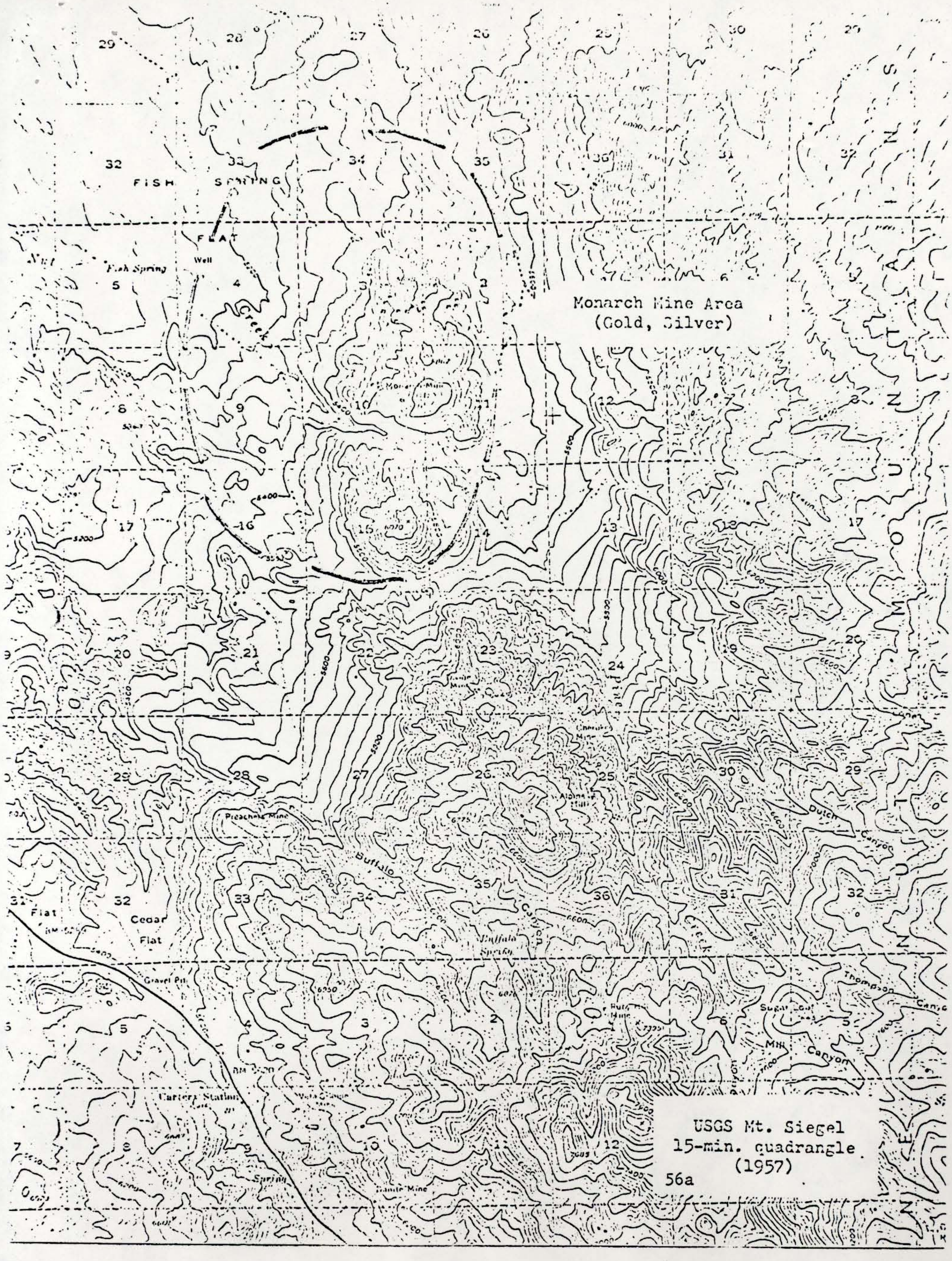
SELECTED REFERENCES

1. Moore: Geology and Mineral Deposits of Lyon, Douglas, and
Counties, Nevada; Nev. Bur. Mines Bull. 75, 1969.
(Includes geologic map of area)

FIELD EXAMINATION

Bennett, May 1973


Monarch Mine Area
(Gold, Silver)
FISH SPRING
FLAT
Fish Spring
Well
Creek
Monarch Mine
Preachers Mine
Buffalo
Canyon
Buffalo Spring
Creek
Dutch
Canyon
Thompson
Canyon
Mill
Canyon
Cedar
Flat
Gravel Pit
Carter Station
Spring
Granite Mine
USGS Mt. Siegel
15-min. quadrangle
(1957)
56a

Taken from:

Mineral Resources Inventory and Analysis

of the

Pine Nut Planning Unit

Carson City District
Nevada and California

By

R. E. Bennett

1973

see Douglas County - general

Item 15

for preface & general background information