3380 0005 See also 83-4 for geochemical results.

near 334

Item 5

HUNTINGTON CREEK DISTRICT

Early mining in the Huntington Creek district was centered around Diamond Peak, an 8970' peak that crowns the northern Diamond Range. The district is approximately thirty-five miles north of Eureka and is bisected by the Eureka/White Pine County line. The main workings surround Diamond Peak and are reached by a rocky dirt road leading up Davis Canyon from Diamond Valley. Other workings south and east of the peak are accessible from Huntington Valley on the east side of the range.

The Diamond Range near Diamond Peak is underlain by carbonate and clastic sediments ranging from upper Mississippian through Permian in age. The sediments are folded into an asymmetrical syncline which traces a northwest-trending axis just east of Diamond Peak. A small circular exposure of Tertiary granodiorite forms the summit of the peak. The granodiorite intrudes cherty limestones and minor clastic rocks of the Pennsylvanian Ely limestone on the west limb of the syncline.

The intrusion of igneous rocks in the summit area resulted in the formation of copper-bearing replacement deposits in the limestone host rocks. Several adits and open cuts located below the peak expose skarn deposits adjacent to sill-shaped bodies of granodiorite. The intrusive rocks are relatively unaltered and show a range of compositions and textures. The skarn is mainly composed of green garnets and contains chalcopyrite, pyrite, copper, and iron oxides and minor scheelite. Marbleization of the wallrock extends for more than ten feet beyond the "sills". At least two periods of emplacement of felsic dikes and siliceous veins were observed that post-date the igneous intrusions. Minor faulting displaces the wallrock and steeply dipping fissures show concentrations of copper and iron oxides. Skarn samples from this locality contain anomalous tin (70-200 ppm) in addition to high copper values.

A few copper prospects are located in canyons on the east side of the range. In these deposits, copper minerals occur in the Diamond Peak Formation along

J. Tingley + P. Smith (1982) Mineral Inventory of Eureka — Shoeshone Resource Area: NBMG ~~82-40~~ 83-3

steep fault zones. At one copper prospect (unnamed) crystalline barite veins cut silicified clastic rocks and are, in turn, cut by veinlets of secondary malachite.

Sample 833, collected from the Mulligan prospect on the east side of the range, reported a high tin value (700 pm) and anomalous arsenic and antimony.

The only reported production from the district is from the Diamond Copper mine which yielded two tons of copper ore in 1950. Nickel is reportedly associated with the copper at the Keystone patented claim, but we were unable to locate the property.

There were no signs of recent exploration work within the district at the time of our examination.

Selected References:

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