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159

Item 2

RAVENSWOOD DISTRICT

The Ravenswood district, which includes what was once the Shoshone district, lies west of the Reese River about 25 miles northwest of Austin in the Shoshone Mountains.

Silver-lead-copper-bearing quartz veins were discovered southwest of Ravenswood Peak in 1863, and the district was organized the same year, one of the earliest districts to be organized in Lander County. The early activity was short-lived with little production resulting from it. Some activity is reported for the period 1906-1907, and the Rast Mine produced a small quantity of ore in 1924. Uranium prospecting activity was reported in the northeast corner of the district in 1954-55 (Stager, 1977). Tungsten-molybdenum mineralization was discovered just south of the old silver properties in the 1960's, and extensive exploration was done in the Reward Claim area by several companies during the 1970's. The area also received attention for disseminated gold following publication of U.S.G.S. Circular 563 in 1968. This circular described outcrops of Roberts Mountain Formation, host rocks for disseminated gold at other localities in northern Nevada, to be present in the Ravenswood area. Intense prospecting resulted and several mineralized areas were discovered. None of these have developed beyond the prospect stage, but exploration is continuing on some properties. Barite has been mined from one occurrence in the southern part of the district, and small turquoise prospects are mentioned south of the Reward area. Production from the district through 1969 is estimated at less than $10,000 (Stager, 1977).

The Ravenswood district is located in what is described by Stewart and McKee (1968) as the Ravenswood window, where Cambrian, Ordovician and Silurian quartzite limestones and shale are exposed in the lower plate of the Robert's Mountain Thrust, and nearby, Ordovician and Silurian chert, shale, sandstone, and quartzite, are exposed in the upper plate. The Roberts Mountains Formation crops out in

J. Tingley + P. Smith (1982) Mineral Inventory of Eureka-Shoshone Resource Area: NBMG OFR ~~82-17~~ 83-3. (See also 83-4 for geochemical results.

two small areas in the northern part of the window and in a fairly large area directly below the Roberts Mountains Thrust in the southern part of the window. The strata of the lower plate have been intruded by a porphyritic quartz monzonite that crops out over an area of about 2 square miles in the central part of the window. Tertiary welded tuffs cap much of the higher portion of the area (Stewart and McKee, 1968). The deposits in the old part of the Ravenswood district, in the northern part of the window, consist of small lenslike quartz veins that are predominantly in shale, quartzite and shale of early Cambrian age. The deposits, according to Hill (1916), contain chalcopyrite, galena, and tetrahedrite, all said to carry silver and a little gold.

The uranium prospects in the northeast part of the district cover disseminations of an unidentified radioactive mineral which occurs along the mudstone layers adjacent to fractures cutting tuffaceous lake beds of Miocene and Pliocene age (Stager, 1977).

At the Reward tungsten area, scheelite occurs as disseminations and thin fracture coatings in a silicated limestone horizon, probably of Cambrian age. Extensive trenching at the Reward has exposed a large area of mineralization, but it is of low grade. The scheelite appears to be confined to one major limestone horizon which has been complexly folded, this horizon appears to be repeated in several exposed benches. The host rocks are silicated, but do not contain typical dark-silicate skarn minerals. No intrusive contact is exposed at Reward, but intrusives are mapped to the southwest. Samples of silicated, K-feldspar rich rock have been seen from this same general area, and it is possible that some of the most recent exploration near Reward has been for molybdenum.

Disseminated gold exploration has been concentrated in the southern part of the district, extending south along the eastern front of the Shoshone Range from the Reward area to the Tempo Claim (Maloy Mine) area. At Tempo, anomalous

Formation which has been slightly altered (bleached, silicated) and cut in one area by barite veining.

No activity was noted in the district at the time of examination, but roads are maintained, and there was evidence of current assessment work on various claim blocks.

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