

AURUM DISTRICT

The Aurum mining district is located in the northern part of the Schell Creek Range about twenty miles southeast of the town of Cherry Creek. The district is divided into five subdistricts which are scattered between Duck Creek and Lovell Peak. Most of these subdistricts are east of the Egan Resource Area and are not described in this report. A few workings in the Schellbourne subdistrict lie within the Resource Area, however, and were examined briefly during our investigation.

According to Lincoln (1923), the Aurum district was discovered in 1871. Silver was sought in various parts of the district in the early 1870's and was explored by a number of shallow workings. Although silver is the principal commodity of the district, some production of copper, lead, zinc, manganese, and tungsten has been reported. Most of the tungsten ore was mined from the Siegel and Schellbourne subdistricts in 1954 (Smith 1976).

Several prospects southwest of Lovell Peak are within the Egan Resource Area. The prospects are underlain by Cambrian limestones and shales. Tungsten and silver-bearing replacement and vein deposits are concentrated near faults in the sediments. Granitic to andesitic dikes and stocks occur locally along faults and in the mineralized areas.

At the White Horse claim, quartz and calcite veins cut brecciated and silicified limestones of the Lincoln Peak Formation. The veins, which contain visible tungsten and copper minerals, parallel a northeast striking fault exposed in a small glory hole. Analysis of the sampled vein material showed

See also 83-2 for geochemical results.

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J. Tingley + J. Bentz (1982) Mineral Res. of Egan Resource Area; NBME OFR

high silver but low tungsten values. Samples taken from other localities within the district also record silver, in addition to anomalous amounts of arsenic and antimony.

#### Selected References

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