

4680 0018
PROPERTY NAME: Mercury Pit

OTHER NAMES:

MINERAL COMMODITY(IES): Sulfur

TYPE OF DEPOSIT: Hydrothermal - Hot Springs

ACCESSIBILITY: Good road access

OWNERSHIP: On patented claims, ownership unknown

PRODUCTION: Tonnage unknown; mostly for agriculture

HISTORY: Production of screened sulfur at some time prior to 1966. Extensive drilling in 1966. Average grade mined said to be 15-38% S.

County: Humboldt

Mining District: Sulphur

AMS Sheet: Lovelock

Quad Sheet: Sulphur 7 1/2'

Sec. Unsur. 35, T 35N, R 29E

Coordinate (UTM):

North 4 5 2 5 5 0 0 m

East 0 3 5 7 5 0 0 m

Zone

DEVELOPMENT: Very irregular, shallow pit about 400' N-S by 250: average depth about 20'.

ACTIVITY AT TIME OF EXAMINATION: None.

GEOLOGY: The Sulfur district is about 6500 feet long and averages about 1800 feet wide, with NNE trend, bounded on the east and the west by major faults. Rock exposed in the district are of Tertiary age and are predominately well-cemented conglomerates and some sandstone. Generally these rocks dip eastward at low angles. Most of the rocks are altered; the alteration products are variable and include silicification, opalization, argillation and alunization. Sulfur has been mined from about a dozen pits; sulfur generally is not present beyond these pits. The sulfur occur as disseminated grains, preferential replacement of conglomerate matrix, irregular veins and masses, and coatings on fracture surfaces. Mercury is present in some of the material and some silver occurs at the south end of the district.

In this pit all rocks are altered, with silicification, opalization and some kaolinization the principal types. Sulfur occurs in a number of areas up to about 25' across; the intervening areas have no sulfur. On the east side of the pit a red-stained kaolinized tuff-breccia (sample 2708) containing some sulfur overlies white material (2709) that contains no sulfur and consists of silica with minor anhydrite and pyrophyllite?. Sample 2707 is less altered material with abundant sulfur.

REMARKS:

REFERENCES:

EXAMINER: Keith G. Papke

DATE VISITED: 9/11/84