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TRIDENT PEAK AREA

LOCATION

The Trident Peak area is in the central part of the Bilk Creek Mountains, northern Humboldt County and covers several square miles north and south of Trident Peak. The area is an immensely scenic, alpine highland of snow capped peaks, sharply incised canyons lined with aspen, and clear, active streams. Traces of mining activity are found in sections 5 and 6, T46N,R32E, and section 29, T47N,R32E. Access to the area south of Trident Peak is from the Wilder Ranch, 6 miles to the east via Wilder Creek. The northern area is accessible at times via Maggie Creek from the west. The route up Maggie Creek is by no means a certainty and is usable only in the late summer and early autumn.

HISTORY

A number of properties in the area are referred to as mines on the Trident Peak 15' map and includes the Jensen and Slater mines on the south side of Trident Peak and the Catlow and Lucky Strike mines on the north side of the peak. All of the properties are found above 6500 feet in elevation with the Slater Mine the highest at 7200 feet. Although the properties are referred to as mines they are in fact very small prospects with no recorded history of production. None of the properties are referenced in the mining or geologic literature for Humboldt County.

GEOLOGIC SETTING AND ORE DEPOSITS

The Trident Peak area is underlain by granodiorite of Cretaceous age and is partly covered by basaltic and andesitic rocks of Tertiary age.

The Lucky Strike Mine consists of two west trending adits that are mostly caved but were driven on minor quartz veins possibly containing molybdenite and lead-silver sulfides. Very little mining activity has taken place here.

The Slater Mine consists of several shallow adits that follow a white bull quartz vein that contains no visible mineralization. The host rock is a deeply weathered granodiorite and the underground workings are all caved. Below the workings are the remnants of a one-roomed cabin that has collapsed.

The workings at the Jensen Mine are along shears with minor quartz veins in granodiorite. Below the workings is a small crushing and washing facility. The mine workings appear to have been small and the milling operation was very primitive but there was some ore processed as crushed vein material and minor tailings, maybe a truck load, can be seen there. This may have been no more than a one man operation but at least it resembles a mine and milling effort, however crude. A nearby log cabin may have been part of the original complex and may date the time this operation was active, maybe thirty or forty years ago.

SELECTED REFERENCE

Willden, R. (1964) Geology and Mineral Deposits of Humboldt County,
Nevada: NBMG Bull. 59.