

State Department of Geology and Mineral Industries

1069 State Office Building
Portland 1, Oregon

FOSSIL CONIFERS NEAR HEREFORD, OREGON

*BAKER COUNTY
UP. BURN RIVER*

At present it appears to be generally accepted that little confidence can be placed in age dating of rock formations on the basis of fossil woods. Perhaps as more data is accumulated this picture will change. In view of this possibility the following information has been assembled for future reference.

Location: Section 23, T. 11 S., R. 38 E. On the north bank of Whipple Gulch about 0.2 mile east of its junction with Big Creek.

Occurrence
of
Fossil wood: Two fairly well preserved stumps and several fragments of fossilized wood have been found here in a small island of agglomeratic andesite or basalt tuff of Tertiary age. The fossil wood is scattered through an area about 100 yards across. One of the stumps is shown in the attached photo. The other is less than 10 feet away. The tuff is probably not more than a few tens of feet in maximum thickness and overlies pre-Tertiary argillites and greenstones.

Identifi-
cation
of
Wood: Samples from the two stumps have been sent to Wallace B. Eubanks. The sample of the stump shown in the photo was identified by him as pine, the other as also a conifer but one without resin ducts---something on the order of Sequoia, Abies, Tsuga, etc. (personal communication, 11-8-1961)

Report by: Howard C. Brooks
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