

# State Department of Geology and Mineral Industries

702 Woodlark Building  
Portland, Oregon

## LONG RIDGE MANGANESE

## CHETCO AREA

Manganese oxide is exposed about  $1\frac{1}{2}$  miles northeast of Long Ridge Lookout station on the upper Chetco River. The outcrop shows about a carload of oxide that has assayed 52 percent and better manganese. "Float", up the hill indicate the presence of more manganese. The area is heavily covered with brush and soil that make prospecting difficult. About \$500 would have to be expended for a road. This is one of the better prospects seen.

Owner: Nate Moore, Harbor, Oregon.

Location: SE $\frac{1}{4}$  sec. 14, T. 38 S., R. 12 W., about  $1\frac{1}{2}$  miles north-northeast of Long Ridge Lookout station.

Area: Unknown.

History: Mr. Moore discovered the manganese while hunting a number of years ago. Sitting on an exposed boulder, he ~~found~~ "bashed" it with his rifle butt, noticed the peculiar looking material, which when assayed proved to be manganese.

Development: The immediate outcrop has been exposed ~~the~~ so that about 40-50 tons of manganese are exposed. A bulldozer has brushed out a trail from the Forest Service road, northward to the outcrop, and some work is being done on the outcrop.

Geology: The area is heavily covered with brush and soil, and rock outcrops are very scarce. At the prospect, manganese oxides are found in the soil. These oxide masses vary in size from that of a walnut to a foot or so in diameter. These scattered oxides grow richer with depth until the solid manganese is found.

The manganese itself is soft, and probably is mostly pyrolusite with some manganite. The exposed material measures about 10 feet square and 4 feet thick, but the base has not been dug out. It is reported that "boulders" have been found both down-the-hill and up-the-hill from the prospect, indicating the presence of additional manganese bodies.

The immediate country rock is chert, enclosed in sandstone. The chert mass seems to have an east-west strike, but no data on dip could be determined. Another chert mass is found on top of the ridge near the Guard Station; it is manganese stained and some manganese pods may be located.

It is doubtful if this occurrence represents a manganese "ledge". It seems that the manganese is in pods or lenses, and careful prospecting will be necessary to uncover more lenses. Quantity available is undeterminable; about one carload is in sight and it is reasonable to expect that at least two or three carloads could be obtained from the present prospect; it is probable that more will be uncovered at the same place. The presence of float on the hillside indicates the presence of additional bodies.

Mining Conditions: The outcrop is about  $1\frac{1}{2}$  miles north of the Forest Service road and about 600 feet lower in elevation. The hillside is very steep. A truck road to the deposit would probably

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cost between \$500-\$1000. About 5 days work should uncover enough manganese to indicate whether sufficient can be found to justify the expenditure of development, including a road. The distance from the lookout to Brookings is 24 miles by mountain road, and approximately 100 miles farther to Grants Pass, the nearest railroad point.

Water is scarce. It is about a mile horizontally and 500 feet vertically to the Chetco River. The only water at the prospect is a small spring. Timber is scrub stuff and only a small amount would be usable for mining purposes.

Considerable manganese oxide is scattered throughout the loose rubble on top of the manganese masses. It might be feasible to transport some of this to water where the non-profitable material could be washed out.

This is the most promising prospect seen to date, except the probable mine in the Lake Creek District

Informant: Ralph Moore and Ray C. Treasher, May 24th, 1941.  
Report by: RCT 5/25/41

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Mr. Moore is familiar with bulldozers and trucking. His estimate of \$500 for a road into the prospect should be accurate. He stated that he would be willing to truck ore from the prospect, after the road is built to it, to Grants Pass, for \$7 a ton. Mining costs should be low and at present (May, 1941) prices for manganese, a profit of about \$6 a ton could be realized. Moore's idea would be to take out the ore by dump truck to a point about 10 miles east of Brookings, and there load it into transport-type trucks holding about 15 tons.

(RCT)