

CALL OF THE WILD (copper, manganese)
formerly Grand Cove Prospect

Lake Creek area

Owner: R. E. Edmondson (address unknown)

General: "The Grand Cove prospect, in Jackson County, reveals native copper as nodules in volcanic breccia between vesicular flows of dark labradorite andesite or basalt without any vein or any indications of sulphides. It thus differs markedly from the mineral deposits previously described. The seven claims of the property comprise parts of secs. 29, 32, 33, and 35, T. 35 S., R. 2 E., 5 miles north of Lake Creek, on an open gently sloping upland bench. The distance by road from Medford, by way of Brownsboro and Salt Creek, is 26 miles. The $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles nearest the prospect could not be traveled by car in 1931.

"The workings consist of an open cut 60 feet long with a maximum depth of 10 feet and a shaft reported to be 30 feet deep on a gently sloping open bench at an altitude of nearly 2,900 feet. The deposit was discovered in 1917 by L. A. Obenchain, the owner, while searching for manganese. A carload of ore is said to have been shipped to the Tacoma Smelter, but no data on the shipment are available.

"The copper is confined to volcanic breccia associated with vesicular black labradorite andesite or basalt that is nearly horizontal but dips slightly to the west at the prospect. The flow rock contains red spots that are iddingsite pseudomorphs after olivine and calcite amygdules that are stained greenish near the rock. The breccia is largely altered to clay minerals and contains little greenish spots and veinlets consisting mainly of chrysocolla with a little malachite and very little azurite. Limonite and some manganese oxide occur in irregular black spots and fracture fillings through the altered rock. The copper occurs in dendritic form in nodules, some of which are 6 inches long. The copper is partly changed to cuprite (pl. 7,B), which is in turn surrounded by opal and chalcedony, with small amounts of chrysocolla and malachite. Openings are partly filled with the chocolate-colored clay mineral beidellite.

"Prospecting has not been sufficient to reveal the full extent of the deposit. The copper ore appears to be very erratic in its distribution."

The ground formerly included in the Grand Cove prospect was re-located by R. E. Edmondson and a partner, and re-named the Call of the Wild. No work has been done on the property and conditions are as indicated by Callaghan and Buddington, 38.

Reference: Callaghan and Buddington, 38:132 (quoted)

Informant: O. H. Metzger, May 21, 1943.