

State Department of Geology and Mineral Industries

702 Woodlark Building
Portland 5, Oregon

Lake
Harney County

FLAGSTAFF LAKE

(Borax)

A sample of ulexite was submitted to the Department circa 1945 from Flagstaff Lake. Field investigation was made by E. M. Baldwin and R. S. Mason, of several areas bordering a series of lakes in the vicinity of Flagstaff Lake. Samples from shallow drill holes failed to show any borax minerals.

Apparently the diking and draining of the lake beds was responsible for the disappearance of the borax. Prior to drainage, the rising and falling of the water table permitted the formation of borax efflorescences on the surfaces of the playa. With the drop of the water table this condition no longer exists.

R. S. Mason
2-11-52