

Lone Buck Group of Lode Claims

NAME			OLD NAMES	PRINCIPAL ORE	MINOR MINERALS
------	--	--	-----------	---------------	----------------

15 S	38 E	32			
T	R	S			

PUBLISHED REFERENCES

Malheur COUNTY

Unclassified AREA

..... ELEVATION

10.5 miles ROAD OR HIGHWAY

25 miles to Brogan DISTANCE TO SHIPPING POINT

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

PRESENT LEGAL OWNER (S) J. L. Lawrence

Joseph Buttice

John Nelson

.....

Address Vale, Oregon

..... Vale, Oregon

..... Milton, Oregon

.....

OPERATOR

Name of claims	Area	Pat.	Unpat.
7			x

Name of claims	Area	Pat.	Unpat.

EQUIPMENT ON PROPERTY

State Department of Geology and Mineral Industries

702 Woodlark Building
Portland 5, Oregon

Lone Buck Group of Lode Claims

Unclassified District
Malheur County

Foreword: This examination was made on a request basis for the purpose of advising the owners how best to continue prospecting. The chiefest recommendation given was that an abundance of systematic channel sampling be done to establish the worth of the mineral showings already exposed. This recommendation was made because of the nature of the mineral showing itself (meager, spotty and vague in trend and relationship) and because it is apparent that the sampling done during the course of prospect-development was highly "selective" in nature rather than representative.

Owners: J. L. Lawrence - Vale, Oregon
Joseph Buttice - Vale, Oregon
John Nelson - Milton, Oregon

Location: T 15 S; R 38 E; Section 32; NE 1/4 of NE 1/4. This is 10.5 miles by an unpaved county road from the John Day highway at a point 1/4 mile west of Ironside. The nearest rail terminal is at Brogan, 25 miles distant from Ironside.

Area: Seven unpatented lode claims known as the Lone Buck Claims numbers one to seven respectively.

History: There has been no development of consequence on this property previous to that conducted by the present owners.

Development
and
Geology

The development work done to date consists of one shaft about 50 feet in depth, three pits from 20 to 30 feet deep, several widely separated shallow trenches and a dozer cut made to face up a tunnel site. This work was done over a period of years, mostly immediately prior to World War II.

These workings are situated on the flank of a steep hillside with the lowest excavation (a 20 \pm deep pit) at an aneroid elevation of 4600 feet and the highest excavation (the 60 \pm foot shaft) at an elevation of 4900 feet. At the time of this examination the shaft was inaccessible. It was also abundantly filled with brush and sloughed wall rock, a short distance below the collar so that nothing could be seen of the vein on which it was sunk. Otherwise all other pits were open and clean, but inaccessible because of the lack of ladders.

Under the circumstances no close inspection of the veins or formations revealed by these workings was possible. From what could be seen, however, it was readily apparent that no two pits were sunk in common on any single well-defined vein. While some of the workings were sunk in vein material, it is questionable as to whether or not any real vein material at all was encountered in others.

All of the workings occur in a country rock which is undoubtedly the Rastus series as mapped by Lowery. This formation is composed of schists and slates and limey tuffs. Although the workings are situated a mile from the southern border of the Lowery map (Ironside Mountain Quadrangle, NE quarter-1943) the map does show the Rastus series to be exposed over a wide area in close proximity to the property, with the property sit-

uated in line with the projected trend of the formation. Some of the pits are in slate or schist exclusively. Others are in what may be the limey tuff faces, or in close association with a local dike. The pits in the slates showed at best only narrow discontinuous vein-like zones of brown colored gouge or sheared rock formation as far as could be seen. The dumps showed silicified wall rock impregnated with pyrite (some samples rather heavily) and to a lesser degree with chalcopyrite. The exact nature or extent of this wall rock mineralization could not be ascertained because of the inaccessibility of the workings, but the limited amount of this sulphide-bearing wall rock found in the dumps indicates a rather scant, spotty development of the sulphides within the rock mass. The pits on the limey tuff faces contained quartz stringers. These were, for the most part, very narrow, ($\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ ") but locally numerous. Malachite was conspicuous in small, local bunches. The deep shaft was reportedly sunk its full distance on a 4 foot wide vein of a porous, dark brown manganese bearing iron oxide. Large pieces of this sort of material were abundant in the dump although the vein could be seen on the surface for only a very short distance in spite of a very thin soil covering.

Economics

Our cut sample was taken from a stringer zone at the collar of one of the pits. Otherwise samples of the most mineralized, highest appearing grade material were taken from the dumps of the other pits. These samples are: JB 120, 121, 122, 123, and 124. Except for JB 120 which ran 0.60 oz/ton in silver, all of these samples assayed nil in gold and silver and copper. This is at great variance with the owners' assay results as acquired over the period of years during which prospect development work

was carried on. This is not surprising considering the spotty nature of the mineralization as samples that will yield higher assay results can doubtless be obtained from thin seams and bunches. In view of the discontinuous and ill-defined nature of the mineralization, however, there would appear to be little incentive for continued prospecting unless on a "pocket hunting" basis--and this only providing materially significant leads be encountered.

Report by: N.S. Wagner
Date Exam: June 12, 1949
Date Report: July 22, 1949
Informant: J.L. Lawrence

PROPERTY: ...
LOCALITY: ...
AREA: ...
REMARKS: ...