

Survey No. 138

CHAINS

Following is a description of the Nickel and Chrome Mine in order to give the department a better opportunity to judge its classification.

This mine is situated on the southern slope of a mountain formerly known as "Piney" but now known as Nickel Mountain, about 8 miles west of Canyonville and about 3½ miles west of Riddle Station on the O. & C. R.R. This mountain has an elevation of 3400 feet above the sea and 2640 ft. above Riddle Station. This mountain is timbered with pine principally, some fir, cedar and oak.

Description of Ore Bodies

The nickel ore occurring at these mines is an hydrate silicate of nickel and magnesia similar in all respects to the New Caledonian ores and is found in beds or deposits, some places covering an area of ten acres or more, the area of deposits being judged by the outcroppings characteristic of the nickel ores. In places is found a good quality of chrome iron; very fine quality of chrysoprase has also been found. The country rock is a serpentine.

A large amount of development has been done by the claimants by way of running open cuts, tunnels, sinking shafts and quarries. Anyone can see by examining the different works, that the ores assume the formation of beds, deposits or horizontally in strata, varying in thickness from 2 inches to 6 ft. In no place does the development show indication of a vein or lode formation and I am satisfied that there is no vein or lode within the boundaries of this claim.

The improvement has been placed on the claim by the claimants or their grantors. The excavations are partly in dirt and partly in rock. The value of said improvements together with the labor expended on the said claim is not less than five hundred dollars.

The center of trade is Canyonville, or Riddle.

There is no well known system of lode deposits, or individual lodes nearer than five miles from this claim.

There has not been any water brought upon said mine for the purpose of placer mining. It has not been the intention of the parties interested to work this as a placer gold mine. The minerals sought after are in the form of ores and, being in beds or deposits, will have to be mined by open cuts or quarries.

The soil on this mountain is highly colored with the oxid of iron and is not of a productive nature and totally unfit for cultivation.

All of which is respectfully submitted

W. F. Briggs

U. S. Deputy Mineral Surveyor

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 24th day of November,
A. D. 1886.

Chas Bealman

Justice of the Peace.