



Site Description

Goldfield Mining District

(updated 2010)

Geologic setting:

Faulting, particularly the north-trending, east-dipping Columbia Mountain fault, has contributed to Goldfield's present structure. The Columbia Mountain fault channeled Jurassic-era dacite into narrow or sheetlike form, depending on local weakness. Many Goldfield mines coincide with the dacite, among them Red Top, Mohawk, Combination, Jumbo, and Florence silver mines. Following the intrusion, the region was eroded and capped by Tertiary-era lava flows. The mesa southwest of Goldfield could be interpreted as a low, domical uplift feature, underlain by Jurassic-to-Cambrian granites and metamorphic rock (Ransome, 1910).

Goldfield was mined for silver from 1900 to 1920.

Geothermal features:

Big Divide Mineshaft: Hot water was reportedly hit below the 300 m-level in the Big Divide Mine (NW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ Sec. 26, T2N, R42E) during the 1920s. About 159 m³/day were pumped during this time (Engineering and Mining Journal Press, 1923). Two miners were reportedly scalded in the shaft sump, and the shaft steamed at the surface in cold weather until the ventilation system was changed (Norman Coombs, personal commun., 1972)

Leasing information: N/A



Site Description

Bibliography:

Coombs, N., 1972, personal communication

Engineering and Mining Journal Press, 1923

Ransome, F.L., 1910, Geology and Ore Deposits of the Goldfield District, Nevada, Economic Geology, Vol. 5, No. 4., p. 301-311.