

State Department of Geology and Mineral Industries

702 Woodlark Building
Portland, Oregon

See also Confidential file

Report by: Randall E. Brown
Date of visit: Feb. 10, 1942

Leith Manganese

Gold Beach Area

Curry County

Manganese stained cherts are found in several localities and in one locality the chert is partly replaced by manganese. The grade of manganese is low, silica is abundant and no development work has been done. The deposit is easily accessible.

Owner: James Leith, Leith's Auto Camp, Gold Beach, Oregon

Location: East of Gold Beach near Leith reservoir on Grizzly Mtn. road, less than 1/2 mile from Gold Beach. In the SW 1/4 of Sec. 31, T. 36 S., R. 14 W.

Area: Deeded land

History: Prospect examined recently and manganese stated to run "over 40%".

Topography: Easily accessible, on road, within half mile of Gold Beach.

Development work: No development work done. Road to Grizzly Mtn. exposed manganese stained cherts.

Geology: Country rock of area is serpentine. Manganese is in a chert lens trending north-south and apparently dipping east and a moderate angle. Chert consists of two zones, a red "jaspery" zone on the road, and a white to reddish zone to the east and below the road. Evidently the white zone overlies the red chert zone. Manganese stain only is present in the red chert. The white chert contains stringers and seams of peilomelane replacing the chert, and is the richer deposit, yet probably does not exceed 15% manganese.

Recommendations: Further prospecting justified on basis of accessibility and lack of knowledge of extent of manganese

Informants: James Leith

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The property was previously examined by C.C. Hall of the "Strategic Minerals Company". Leith stated that Hall claimed the manganese stained cherts ran 40% manganese, and vaguely talked about options and royalties but refused to be specific. Leith has kept his feet on the ground, did not expect anything of his deposit.

This is one of several cases of attempted promotion of manganese properties due to the national emergency, that have been brought to the attention of this member of the department.

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