Dear Ms. Kratochvil:

I believe the same party discussed these matters with me on the phone more than a week ago. We have little more information than is contained in our Bulletin 75 on "Geology and Mineral Resources of Douglas County," 1972. The mining was first done in the middle to late 1960's. To our knowledge little has been done since that time. We do not have the name of the quarry operator on file. If the quarry operations were on lease from the U.S. Forest Service, they should have some records. If they were mining claims, the County Clerk's office will have a record of the ownership and assessment work.

My apologies for the lack of information. If we obtain further significant information in the near future, we will forward it to you.

Sincerely,

Len Ramp
Resident Geologist

LR:rep
Western Field Operation Center  
February 29, 1972

Mr. Len Ramp  
Resident Geologist  
Department of Geology and Mineral Industries  
Grants Pass Field Office  
521 N.E. "E" Street  
Grants Pass, Oregon  97526  

Dear Len:

Attached is a copy of Buel's memorandum examination report on the Stuempges prospect. It isn't much, but neither is the property, apparently. If you use the data in your report, please restrict it to factual data, leaving out the ore reserves (if any) and opinions such as contained in "Conclusions and Recommendations."

I have also included a list of all of our Douglas County reports. If you need anything from them, please let me know.

I have strong hopes of coming to Grants Pass this year, using as an excuse the Wild River Studies, so I may see you.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

R. N. Appling, Jr., Chief  
Western Field Operation Center

Attachments
INTRODUCTION

A preliminary examination was made of the subject property on September 24, 1955. The examining engineer was accompanied by Mr. Orrin W. Stuempges, a lessee.

The examination was made at the request of the lessees. Purpose of the examination was to gather field data of new sources of strategic metallic minerals in the Northwest.

Conditions permitted an adequate examination of the salient geologic features of the deposit.

LOCATION AND ACCESSIBILITY

The Stuempges' copper prospect is in Secs. 16 and 21, T. 29 S., R. 5 W., W.M., Douglas County, Oregon. The upper workings lie at an approximate elevation of 1300 feet. The principal workings are present along a grassy slope that lies directly east of the South Umpqua River and the Southern Pacific Railroad (see location map).

The property is reached from Myrtle Creek, Oregon by following the Dole Road, which leads along the east bank of the South Umpqua River and Southern Pacific tracks, for a distance of 1.6 mile to a locked gate of the McCormack Sheep Ranch. A steep rocky road, which passes through numerous bulldozed areas on the "A" mine chrome property, is followed for about 1.5 mile. The workings are found less than 300 feet east of the road.

PROPERTY AND OWNERSHIP

The extent of the leased property is not known. As shown on the accompanying sketch map (see fig. 1), the copper showings lie on the McCormack Sheep Ranch and the Drake Estate.
Stuempges and Sons of Box 8, Myrtle Creek have leases from Fred McCormack and members of the Drake Estate, whose addresses are given as Myrtle Creek, Oregon.

THE DEPOSIT

The property is located within an area composed predominantly of serpentine. The serpentine has resulted from the alteration of saxonite and gabbro. The serpentine is broken by shearing into small blocks or an aggregation of curved shiny translucent plates. These plates range from yellow through olive green to black in color. The general geology is shown in figure 1.

The property has been explored by two short shallow trenches and one small shallow pit (see fig. 2). No other workings exist on the property except for several nearby trenches of the "A" mine, developed for chrome.

Ore mineralization consists of surficial copper staining of the fractured serpentine rock. The extent of the staining as seen from the workings does not appear to be found at depths more than 4 or 5 feet. The lateral extent also appears to be of rather small limitations as suggested by the upper workings. A small shallow trench a short distance from and below the only pit on the property did not disclose any copper-stained serpentine.

Ore minerals present are malachite and chrysocolla. No other copper minerals were noted.

SAMPLE AND ORE RESERVE DATA

A grab sample (Bl-13) taken from the pit area gave a copper assay of 2.54 percent.

The property's workings do not reveal any but superficial amounts of copper mineralization. Therefore, there are no known ore reserves as indicated by the lack of any significant copper mineralization and favorable geological features for copper deposition.
CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The Stuempges' copper prospect represents a minor amount of copper-stained serpentine country rock. Present exposures do not indicate that the copper stains are any more than merely surficial staining. Source of copper solutions was not determined because of overburden. Topography and geologic features do not appear to be favorable for any appreciable copper concentrations at depth or near the surface.

No further work is recommended by the Bureau of Mines.
March 6, 1972

Mr. R. N. Appling Jr., Chief
U.S. Bureau of Mines
West 222 Mission Ave.
Spokane, Washington 99201

Dear Nort:

Thanks very much for sending the report on Stuempges Copper and the list of other reports for Douglas County.

We have some information on most, but not all, of the properties listed. Just to be sure we don’t lack some pertinent information and since many of our reports are quite old, I’d like to have copies of the following:

- Crumpton
- Dooley
- Forget-Me-Not
- Glucinum
- Green Copper
- E.H. Rosborough
- T & M Antimony
- Victory Placer
- Winsenberg
- Yellow Rock No. 1

Bentonite clay
Chrome, Hg
Au, Ag
Be
Cu
Arsenic
Sb
Hg, Sb
Asbestos
WO₃

Sec. 4, T. 30 S., R. 1 W.
Sec. 17, 18, T. 29 S., R. 3 W.
Sec. 12, T. 33 S., R. 5 W.
Sec. 26, 27 S., R. 3 E.
Sec. 35, T. 30 S., R. 7 W.
Sec. 13, T. 29 S., R. 1 W.
Sec. 11, T. 32 S., R. 1 W.
Sec. 33, T. 32 S., R. 7 W.
Sec. 36, T. 32 S., R. 4 W.
Sec. 22, T. 29 S., R. 1 E.

Your efforts on this are very much appreciated. Hope you are able to visit us this year. I am also supposed to do some work on the Wild River Study for the Illinois. Perhaps we’ll be working together on it.

Best regards.

Sincerely,

Len Ramp
Resident Geologist

LR:rep
September 12, 1968

Mr. Norman V. Peterson, Geologist  
Department of Geology and Mineral Industries  
Grants Pass Field Office  
P. O. Box 417  
Grants Pass, Oregon 97526

Dear Mr. Peterson:

Thank you for your letter of September 10 concerning the finding of a fossil in Myrtle Creek.

Enclosed is a piece of the material removed from the creek bed. The part remaining in the creek is that which we wish to remove under your professional supervision.

I would appreciate your examination of the material enclosed. Then, you could call 672-3311, ext. 63, or write to verify that you are interested. I will then give you directions to the site, which is on the James W. Clack property on North Myrtle Creek. The Clacks have said that September 17 would be a good day for your visit.

Sincerely,

Myrl R. Barkhurst  
Administrative Assistant

MRB:ce
September 9, 1968

Mr. Kenneth F. Barneburg
County School Superintendent
Courthouse Annex
Roseburg, Oregon

Attention: Myrl R. Barkhurst, Admin. Assistant

Dear Mr. Barneburg:

I am sending a copy of your letter to our Grants Pass Field Office where Mr. Len Ramp and Mr. Norman Peterson hold forth. I am sure they will be getting in touch with you in the very near future to advise on digging of the fossils on the farm in the Myrtle Creek area. On the work we do, there will be no charge.

This sounds like an interesting find and we look forward to joining with you in the excavation of this interesting fossil material.

Sincerely yours,

Hollis M. Dole
State Geologist

Grants Pass -

My heart bleeds for these poor people at the two universities! Nevertheless I think this is a good deal and something we should do. Give Myrl Barkhurst a call to see if you can arrange some time and some place. It could very well be that you might want to write this up as an ORE BIN article inasmuch as you haven't anything else to do.

Regards.
September 4, 1968

Mr. Hollis M. Dole, State Geologist
Department of Geology and
Mineral Industries
1069 State Office Building
Portland, Oregon

Dear Mr. Dole:

A farmer in Myrtle Creek has asked this office for assistance in recovering what appears to be an elephant tusk from a creek bed on his property. Unfortunately, part of the object was removed prior to his calling upon us for advice. The portion removed crumbled to powder.

We have asked Cyrus W. Field of Oregon State University and Dr. Arnold Shotwell for on the spot assistance in removing the fossil. They have replied that they cannot do this because of budgetary limitations.

Would it be possible for someone from your staff to travel to Myrtle Creek to help us remove and preserve the fossil? There could be no financial assistance from the farmer or this office. We could provide the labor, if a trained person could provide the advice.

Fall rains will cause the creek to rise and may bring about the loss of the object. An elephant tooth was found in the general area of the tusk, but apparently not in association with it.

Sincerely yours,

Kenneth F. Barneburg
County School Superintendent

By - Myrl R. Barkhurst
Administrative Assistant
Dear George:

The fossil wood from the Cavitt Creek area is either late Eocene or early Oligocene age. This means that the log is in the range of 35 million years old plus or minus 5 million. It would help to know the exact legal description of their source. They are either out of the late Eocene Colestin Formation or the Oligocene Little Butte Volcanic Series.

The slab of pebbly sandstone with fossil oysters from Hubbard Creek area is apparently from the Tyee Formation of Middle Eocene age and about 45 million years old plus or minus 2 or 3 million.

Thanks for sending the "Umpqua Trapper" with the China Ditch article. One other item we discussed, which I didn't get was a photo of one of the old wildcat oil well drill rigs. If you have a good print that we might use, it would be appreciated.

Am sending a few back issues of the Ore-Bin that may be of interest to you.

Best regards.

Sincerely,

Len Ramp
Resident Geologist
January 23, 1973

Mr. George B. Abdill, Curator
Douglas County Museum
P. O. Box 1550
Roseburg, Oregon 97470

Dear George:

Thank you for your comments on Bulletin 75.

I'm now working on a similar report for Coos County (I'm not the principal author) and we are trying to gather all we can on their mineral resources. If you happen to have some information such as you have on Douglas County, or could direct me to someone who has, it would be most helpful. I'm particularly short on information about clay and building stone. Diller (1901) mentioned very briefly one brick plant in Myrtle Point. He also commented briefly about building stone but apparently very little stone has been used from the county and the quality is generally poor.

I am loaning you 3 pictures of the Old Kernin Oil drill rig that I obtained from the Portland office. They may have negatives, but were unable to find them on short notice. Hope you can make copies of these.

Thanks for your informative letter.

Sincerely,

Len Romp
Resident Geologist

LR: rep
Encl: 3 photos
August 19, 1971

R. E. Corcoran
State Geologist
1069 State Office Building
Portland, Oregon 97201

Dear Andy:

On August 3 I met with the Douglas County Commissioners regarding our preparing an inventory of Douglas County mineral resources. Ray Doerner reported that the county had a budget of $4,000 set aside for the mineral resources report. I informed him that the State is willing to prepare such a study and pay for ½ the cost. They have the facilities available for printing the report when it is completed.

We did not come to a decision on the exact nature of the report. I merely informed Mr. Doerner that a fairly comprehensive report could be prepared from the information that we already have available and listed such sources as the bulletins on Gold and Silver; Chromite; Quicksilver; Bulletin 64; and the old Metal Mines Handbook; as well as our file reports on various prospects; on nickel; silica; various Ore Bins, etc.

The report should probably have a composite geologic map of the county; but we may not be able to afford the fancy multi-color variety. It should also have a base map with all the known mineral occurrences including mines and known prospects. It should contain a summary discussion of the geology as related to mineral resources and a discussion of where one may prospect for valuable minerals. Some space should also probably be given to industrial minerals such as building stone and perhaps the availability of good road base rock. A brief discussion of oil potential and mineral fuels should also be included. In other words you can visualize a bulletin of about the same size as the Chromite Bulletin.

If our estimators can come up with an idea of the cost of such a report we should get together again with the Board of County Commissioners and make up an agreement.

Sincerely,

Len Ramp
Resident Geologist
Mr. Len Ramp  
Resident Geologist  
Department of Geology and  
Mineral Industries  
Grants Pass Field Office  
521 N.E. "E" Street  
Grants Pass, Oregon 97526  

Dear Len:  

Attached is a copy of Buel's memorandum examination report on the Stuempges prospect. It isn't much, but neither is the property, apparently. If you use the data in your report, please restrict it to factual data, leaving out the ore reserves (if any) and opinions such as contained in "Conclusions and Recommendations."

I have also included a list of all of our Douglas County reports. If you need anything from them, please let me know.

I have strong hopes of coming to Grants Pass this year, using as an excuse the Wild River Studies, so I may see you.

Sincerely,

R. N. Appling, Jr., Chief  
Western Field Operation Center

Attachments
Dear Mr. White:

I am enclosing a rough map of the area we looked at last week which had been extensively explored by Dorothy Kartes. This is the area we looked at in the afternoon in Sec. 36, T30S, R7W.

Hoping this information is sufficient to help you, and that you will have something definite as to future possibilities of a more intensive survey soon.

Very truly yours,

DOUGLAS COUNTY LAND DEPARTMENT

Robert E. Kischel, Forester
Mr. David White  
State Assay Laboratory  
Grants Pass, Oregon  

Dear Dave:

The enclosed copy of letter will be self-explanatory.

I should think that if you could find the places where chrome has been dug, it would only be necessary to sample whatever there is left of the chrome pod if any. As stated in my letter to the County Court, you would not be expected to prospect for new ore deposits.

Would you think it necessary or desirable to have Len come down and spend a short time with you on this job?

Sincerely,

Director

FWL: Jr  
Encl.
April 10, 1953

Douglas County Court
Courthouse
Roseburg, Oregon

Attention: Judge C. C. Hill
Commissioner L. V. Beckley
Commissioner E. R. Metzger

Dear Sirs:

I wish to acknowledge receipt of your letter dated April 8 mentioning that Mr. Kischel, County land agent, had discussed with our Mr. White the need for some reconnaissance work in an area which you describe as the Nickel Mountain–Cow Creek area in order to look into chromite possibilities.

We shall be glad to do what we can within our legal function to be of assistance in this matter, although you recognize that we would not be able to put a man on such a project to do a regular job of intensive prospecting. That would consume considerable time. As I understand it, your request concerns the examination and sampling of known deposits or places from which chrome has been mined in the area you mention.

I am instructing our Mr. White to go into the area and spend as much time as he can in order to get an idea of chromite potential. The amount of area he would need to look over would depend on the amount of serpentine or peridotite present since chromite would not occur in other rocks.

I am sending a copy of your letter to Mr. White in order to give him the legal description of the known chrome leads on County-owned land, although probably Mr. Kischel gave him the location.

Very truly yours,

F. W. Libbey
Director

FWL: jr
cc David J. White
Mr. F. W. Libbey, Director  
State Department of Geology & Mineral Industries  
1069 State Office Building  
Portland 1, Oregon

Dear Sir:

At numerous times in the past, we have been approached by mining interests relative to leasing our mineral rights for the exploitation of chrome in the Nickel Mountain - Cow Creek area. We are currently being requested to lease another 360 acres and feel that technical advice would be very helpful before going ahead.

Our land agent, Robert Kischel, has discussed the possibilities of a brief survey by your department with David White, your representative at Grants Pass. Such a survey of chrome potential on county-owned mineral rights would enable us to administrate leases in more proper form than has been done in the past.

The survey area requested would be confined to the principal existing known chrome leads on county-owned mineral rights in Township 30 South, Range 6 West and Township 30 South, Range 7 West.

Your early attention to this request will be greatly appreciated.

Very truly yours,

DOUGLAS COUNTY COURT

/s/ C. C. Hill  
County Judge

/s/ L. V. Beckley  
County Commissioner

/s/ E. R. Metzger  
County Commissioner
May 8, 1972

Mr. Len Ramp
Resident Geologist
Dept. of Geology and Mineral Industries
521 N.E. "E" St.
Grants Pass, OR  97526

Dear Len:

Thanks so much for your good letter and for the copies of The One-Bin. The latter are most welcome additions to our History Center Library's files, as we had practically nothing on local geology except the Diller book.

I will check our negative files to see if we have copied the oil well drilling photo. If not, I'll have Clyde Carstens copy it next week and get a print off to you.

Surely enjoyed our visit and hope you get up our way again in the near future. We are greatly interested in the work you are doing on the county's mineral resources.

Very sincerely,

George B. Abdill
Curator

GBA/ka
Mr. Len Ramp  
Resident Geologist  
Dept. of Geology & Mineral Industries  
521 N.E. "E" St. (Box 417)  
Grants Pass, Oregon  

Dear Mr. Ramp:

I regret that I was not in when you visited our museum, and wish to thank you for the kind comments.

We have a number of photographs of various mining operations in Douglas county and will be happy to supply prints of any you may deem suited for inclusion in your bulletin on the mineral resources of our county.

I look forward to the publication of the bulletin, as we have but very little material available on this subject in the museum’s History Center Library. We recently acquired four large sections of a petrified log, three feet in diameter, and if we knew the geological formation of the Cavitt Creek area, the paleobotanist at the University of Oregon might be able to furnish an approximate figure as to the age of these unusual specimens.

Our negative collections include several views of hydraulic mining in the county, one early placer mining shot, views of the cinnabar mines taken in the 1890's, probably Nonpamerl district, along with some views of the old nickel mine operations, and we also have early views of the Black Butte and Bohemia district mines, although the latter are in southern Lane county.

We will be pleased to assist in any way we can.

Very sincerely,

George B. Abdill
Curator, Douglas County Museum

24 April 1972