

Lode Mines and Prospects in the Battle Ax 7.5' Quadrangle, North Santiam Mining District, Marion County, Oregon – Topographic Base

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Lode Mines and Prospects in the North Santiam Mining District,
Marion and Clackamas Counties, Oregon

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PLATE 1 of 8

NOTICE

This product is for informational purposes and may not have been prepared for or be suitable for legal, engineering, or surveying purposes. Users of this information should review or consult the primary data and information sources to ascertain the usability of the information. This publication cannot substitute for site-specific investigations by qualified practitioners. Site-specific data may give results that differ from the results shown in the publication. The views and conclusions contained in this document are those of the authors and should not be interpreted as necessarily representing the official policies, either expressed or implied, of the U.S. government.

DISCUSSION

The purpose of this map is to show the locations of 116 abandoned mine land (AML) features on a digital raster graphic (topographic) base of the Battle Ax 7.5' quadrangle, Marion County, Oregon (Figures 1 and 2). A companion lidar map (Plate 2) is used to display the locations of the same AML features.

These plates are part of an exchange-of-technology project related to how lidar-derived terrain data can be confidently and practically applied to the inventory of mine openings and other features associated with abandoned mine land. Using lidar to inventory AML features has a large potential for cost savings as a tool to aid field surveys. Lidar cannot completely replace field inspection of AML features, but the technology does provide a screening tool that will makes field surveys more accurate and efficient.

For this project, the North Santiam Mining District (NSMD) in the Cascade Range of Oregon was used as an example locale. This district is one of five gold/base metal mining districts that occur throughout the Cascade Range from the Columbia River to the California line, and the only one with full lidar coverage. The NSMD lies near the northeast corner of Marion County (Figure 1), within the Willamette National Forest, with dimensions roughly 17 km (~11 mi) long from east to west, and as much as 8 km (5 mi) at its widest (Figure 2). The primary access route is via the North Fork Road to Forest Road 2209. As can be seen in Figure 2, the Little North Santiam River flows westward through a fairly precipitous valley, the course of which serves to bisect the district and as the boundary between the Opal Creek Wilderness to the north and the Opal Creek Scenic Recreation Area to the south.

Topography in the district is characterized by rugged mountains that rise 914 to 1,524 m (3,000 to 5,000 ft) above sea level and by steeply incised valleys. Most of the area is densely forested with Douglas fir, Pacific silver fir, and Western Hemlock plant associations. Only rock cliffs are barren of timber.

After five periods of known mining in the NSMD at least 226 AML features (by this study's count) in the form of adits and open cuts/exploration pits, waste rock areas, etc. remain. Table 1 lists AMLs indexed to map number and name. The first mineral claims were made in the 1880s immediately west of this map area, near the confluence of Gold Creek and the North Santiam River. Placer gold was first discovered there and an ensuing rush was short-lived. However, early prospectors also found well-defined fissure veins that carried copper with zinc and lead. By 1903, most claims for these minerals had been located. When Callahan and Buddington (1938) and Lever (1941) visited the district, the mines were inactive. It was not until 1977 that mining in the district resumed when the Shiny Rock Mining Corporation reopened the Ruth Mine and several other claims were developed. By 1992, all mining activity in the district ceased with the closing of the Ruth Mine.

The Oregon Department of Geology and Mineral Industries (DOGAMI) compiled the important mines in the district in Bulletin 14-D (Oregon Department of Geology and Mineral Industries, 1951) and Bulletin 61 (Brooks and Ramp, 1968). The work of Olson (1978), Pollock and Cummings (1985, 1986), Cummings and Pollock (1984), and Ma and others (2009) put the district in its regional context with Cascade Range stratigraphy and structure. Cox (1985) and George (1985) provided cultural property inventories and historical surveys of the district. Niewendorp and Geitgey (2010) compiled these sites into Mineral Information Layer for Oregon, release 2.

The area of this project covers a portion of the Battle Ax 7.5' quadrangle and extends into three other quadrangles: Elkhorn, Bagby Hot Springs, and Rooster Rock (Figure 2; also see Plates 2–8).

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MAP SYMBOL

- 1 (index number) ● Location of AML feature; see Table 1

Warning: Respect the rights of private property owners. Understand that recreation in or around inactive mine sites is extremely dangerous and can result in serious injury or death. Stay out and stay alive!

Table 1. Index to map numbers and AML names.

1 Eureka 1 (c)	40 Seattle Extension	79 The New York (adit)
2 Eureka 22 (north)	41 Seattle Mine	80 Anita 4
3 Eureka 22 (south)	42 White Bull (east)	81 Aloa 3 (lower)
4 Eureka 18	43 Silver Spring (lower)	82 Aloa 3 (middle)
5 Whet Lode	44 Silver Spring (upper)	83 Aloa 3 (upper)
6 Santiam 7 (open cut)	45 Matterhorn	84 Anita 5
7 Santiam 7 (north adit)	46 Babe	85 Aloa 5
8 Santiam 7 (south adit)	47 Sue 1	86 Anita 6
9 Santiam 7 (prospect adit)	48 Lure 2	87 Adventure 1
10 Santiam 20	49 King 1	88 Adventure 4
11 Golden Bear	50 The Seattle	89 Ruth 30
12 Golden Bear (open cut)	51 Spokane (prospect)	90 Bertha E
13 Golden Bear (prospect 1)	52 Portland	91 Ruth 36
14 Golden Bear (prospect 2)	53 Queen 2 (east)	92 Ruth 28 (west)
15 Lavern	54 Queen 2 (west)	93 Ruth 28 (east)
16 Lavern (open cut)	55 Queen 2 (south)	94 Bueche (west adit)
17 Bull Moose (adit)	56 Big Boy 8	95 Bueche No. 3
18 Bull Moose (open cut)	57 Lure No. 3	96 Bueche No. 4
19 Mandalay (open cut)	58 Lure 5 (north)	97 Bueche No. 1
20 Copper Prospect	59 Lure 5 (south)	98 Bueche No. 2
21 Bee Fraction	60 Donna	99 Battle Ax Adit
22 Big Boy 13	61 Black Prince (cut)	100 Ruth 4 (lower adit)
23 Elmira (upper)	62 Black Prince	101 Ruth 4 (upper cut)
24 Mandalay	63 Dolores 1 (west)	102 Grace 1
25 Mandalay (prospect adit)	64 King 6 (discovery cut)	103 Grace 3 (south)
26 Ajax	65 Dolores 1 (east)	104 Ruth 8
27 Dolores 11 (adit)	66 King 5	105 Ruth #1, 5th Level
28 Dolores 11 (shaft)	67 King 4	106 Ruth #1, 4th Level
29 Tiger	68 Lure 6	107 Ruth #1, 3rd Level
30 Big Boy 14	69 Lure 4 (lower)	108 Ruth #1, 2nd level
31 Big Boy 9	70 Lure 4 (upper)	109 Ruth #1, 1st level
32 Elmira (lower)	71 The Clair	110 Santa Fe
33 Dolores 10 (west)	72 Big Boy 10	111 Blue Jay
34 Halfway	73 Big Boy 16	112 Bormite
35 Lure 1	74 The Tommy	113 Switchback Prospect
36 Big Boy 7	75 Big Boy 12	114 Anita 6
37 Dolores #10 North Adit	76 Anita 1	115 Ruth 28 (south)
38 Dolores #10 South Adit	77 Chipmunk 1	116 Ruth #4, Discovery Cut
39 White Bull (west)	78 The New York (cut)	

Names of AML features are based on a claim map by the Shiny Rock Mining Corp. (DOGAMI archives).

Figure 1. Location map of the North Santiam Mining District.

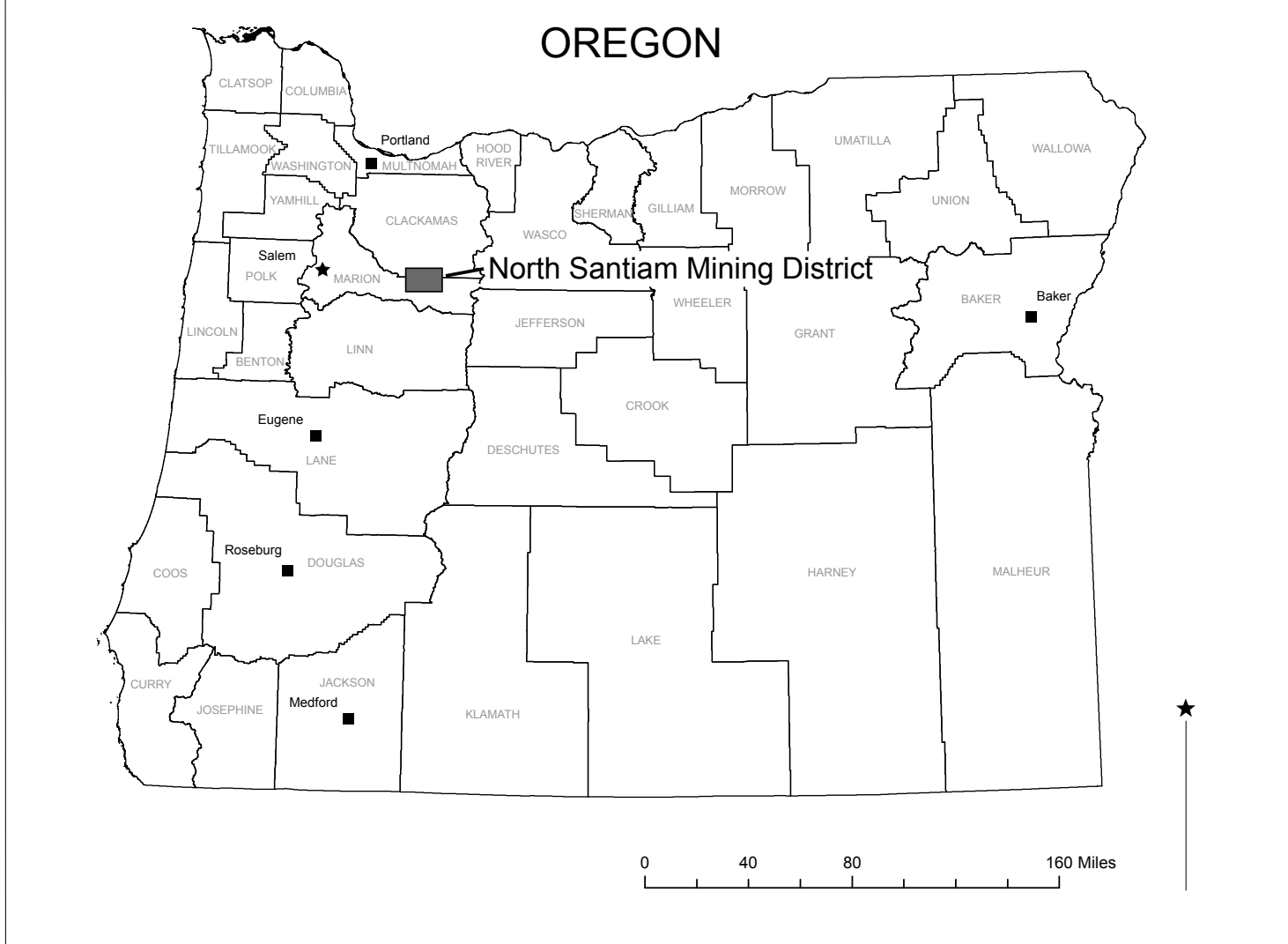


Figure 2. Hillshade image of the North Santiam Mining District (NSMD), Marion and Clackamas counties, Oregon. White dashed line represents the portion of the NSMD that contains the majority of abandoned mine land sites; blue lines are quadrangle boundaries.

