SITE INSPECTION REPORT FOR THE ABANDONED AND INACTIVE MINES IN IDAHO ON U.S. FOREST SERVICE LANDS (REGION 4)

CHAPTER NINE:
TARGHEE NATIONAL FOREST

PART C:
PALISADES RANGER DISTRICT

SECTION II:
PROPERTIES IN THE WILLOW CREEK-CARIBOU MINING DISTRICT, BONNEVILLE COUNTY, IDAHO

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TABLE

Table 9Cii-1. Summary of the results of the field inspection of the mines in Willow Creek-Caribou, Palisades Ranger District, Targhee National Forest. 9Cii-2

Geology

The mines in the Willow Creek-Caribou Creek mining district (Figure 1) are industrial rock and mineral deposits and coal occurrences in Paleozoic and Mesozoic sedimentary rocks (Figure 2). The most important commodity mined in this area is dimension stone from the Fall Creek travertine quarry (USBM, 1989). Also present are phosphate from the Permian Phosphoria Formation (Savage, 1961), limestone from various units (MINOBRAS, 1975), and coal in rocks of Cretaceous age (Savage, 1961). The coal deposits in the Fall Creek area contain about 0.02 percent uranium (Vine, 1959).

References

MINOBRAS, 1975, Idaho industrial minerals: MINOBRAS, 55 p.

Mitchell, V. E., and E. H. Bennett, 1979, Geologic map of the Driggs Quadrangle, Idaho: Idaho Bureau of Mines and Geology Geologic Map Series, scale 1:250,000.

Savage, C. N., 1961, Geology and mineral deposits of Bonneville County: Idaho Bureau of Mines and Geology County Report No. 5, 108 p.

USBM, 1989, Principal deposits of Industrial minerals in Idaho (excluding phosphate): U.S. Bureau of Mines Special Report, 302 p.

Vine, J. D., 1959, Geology and uranium deposits in carbonaceous rocks of the Fall Creek area, Bonneville County, Idaho: U.S. Geological Survey Bulletin 1055-I, p. 255-293.

Table 9Cii-1. Summary of the results of the field inspection of the mines in Willow Creek-Caribou, Palisades Ranger District, Targhee National Forest.

Site No.	Name	Rating	Adit discharge?	Open workings?	Hazardous materials?	Recommendations and Comments
DR 96	Pritchard Creek Deposit	low	No	Yes	No	Access is through locked USFS gate.
DR 114	Fall Creek Coal Mine	not rated				Could not locate property in the field.

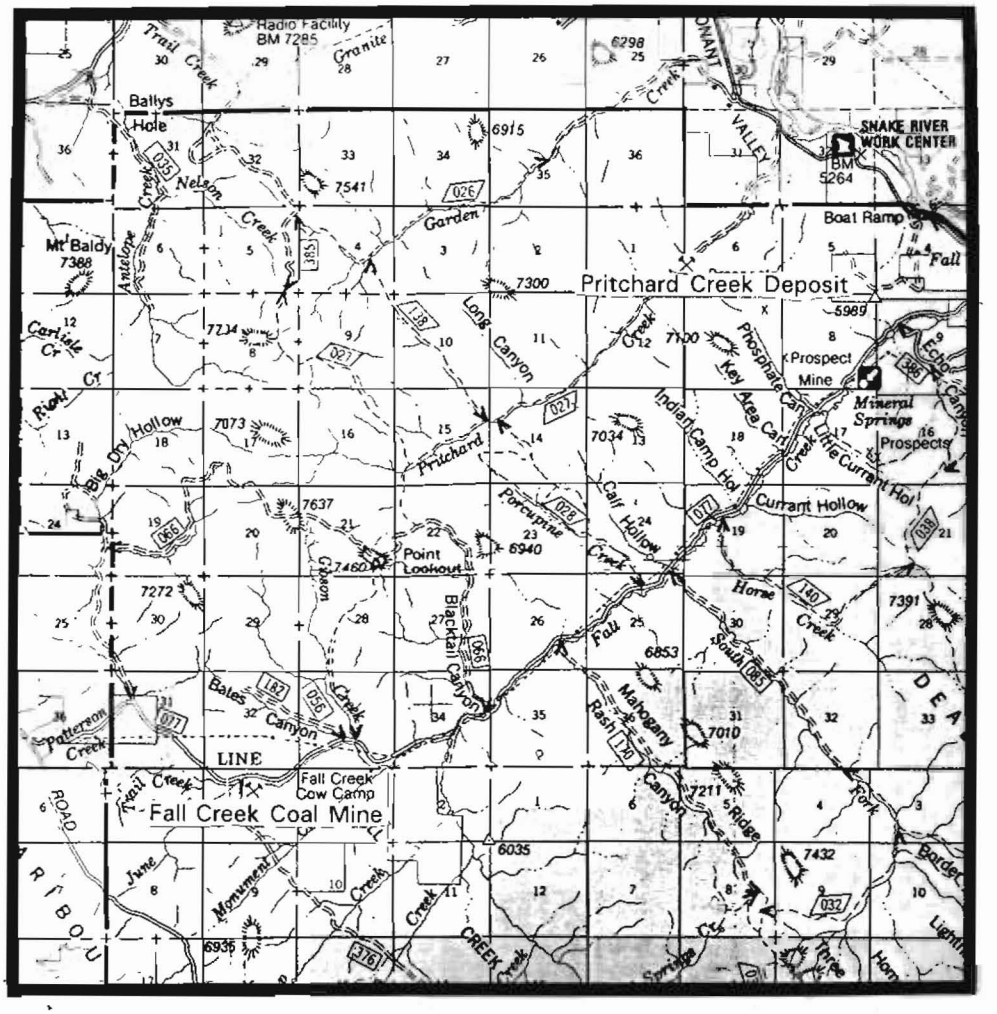

Figure 9Cii-1. Location map of the Willow Creek-Caribou mining district and vicinity, Bonneville County, Idaho (U.S. Forest Service Targhee National Forest map, scale ½ inch = 1 mile).

Figure 9Cii-2. Geology of the Willow Creek-Caribou mining district and vicinity, Bonneville County, Idaho. Mmc = Mississippian Mission Canyon Limestone; PMa = Mississippian and Pennsylvanian Amsden Formation; PPw = Pennsylvanian and Permian Wells Formation and associated rocks; Pp = Permian Phosphoria Formation and associated rocks; Ŧwd = Triassic Woodside and Dinwoody Formations; Ŧat = Triassic Ankareh Shale and Thaynes Formation; Jn = Jurassic Nugget Sandstone; Jtc = Jurassic Twin Creek Limestone; Jsp = Jurassic Stump Sandstone and Pruess Sandstone (KJs includes the Cretaceous Ephraim Conglomerate; Kg, Kt, Kgm = Cretaceous Gannet Group; Kbr = Cretaceous Bear River Formation; Kfa = Cretaceous Frontier Formation and Aspen Shale; Kw = Cretaceous Wayan Formation; Ttr, Tk = Pliocene rhyolite tuffs and flows; Tsl = Pliocene Salt Lake Formation; Tvs = volcanic rocks and Salt Lake formation; Qtr = Pleistocene travertine; Qb = Pleistocene basalt; Qls = Quaternary landslide deposits; Ql = Quaternary loess; Qc = Quaternary colluvium; Qal = Quaternary alluvium. Heavy lines are faults; sawteeth mark the upper plates of thrust faults. Lines with double arrows are axes of folds (Mitchell and Bennett, 1979).

(circle one potential) **LOW** MEDIUM HIGH

AIM SITE DISCOVERY FORM

Swan Valley Phosphate Mine

Name: Pritchard Creek Deposit Region 4 Forest Targhee District Palisades Site No. DR 96

State ID County Bonneville Lat. 43-26-30 Long. 111-26-54 Tract # _____

Principal Meridian BOISE Section 1 Township 1N Range 42E USGS 7.5 Quad Conant Valley

Land Ownership (circle one) Private land; **FS land**; Mixture; Undetermined; if private land, does it affect FS land? If no, stop here.

CRITERIA A Answer each question with Y=yes or N=no.

N 1. Are there adits with discharge or evidence of discharge?

N 2. Are there millsites or tailings present?

3. If the mine waste rock volume is > 500 yd^3, then complete (a) through (e), otherwise go to 4.

N (a) Is the potential source located in a municipal watershed?

N (b) Is the potential source located in a floodplain?

N (c) Are there dwellings, residences, campsites, or other public use areas nearby (e.g. 200 feet)?

Y (d) Are there domestic wells within a 4-mile radius of the site?

Y (e) Are there surface water intakes within 15 miles downstream of the site?

N 4. Is there known damage to fisheries, T&E species, downstream aquatic communities, wetlands, or other sensitive environments?

N 5. Are there unidentified materials, chemicals, or wastes, etc., on site?

GENERAL INFORMATION

Are there open adits or shafts present? (circle one) **yes** no 1 open adit

Are there dangerous structures present? (circle one) yes **no** Access is through locked gate. Must be USFS to go through

Total area/Disturbed area (acres) _____ / 2

Level of public interest: Low X Medium ___ High ___

FJM _____ 6/29/94 _____

Signature Date

If any answer in CRITERIA A is yes, go to CRITERIA B, otherwise circle LOW on top of page and stop.

Swan Valley Phosphate Mine
Name Pritchard Creek Deposit Region 4 Forest Targhee District Palisades Site No. DR 96

CRITERIA B Answer each question with Y=yes, or N=no.

N 6. Is site under regulatory or legal action?

N 7. Is there a mine waste stability concern?

N 8. Is there evidence of acidic and/or heavy metal conditions present? Check Y if any answer to questions (a) through (d) below is circled.

(a) Is surface water discolored?	Yes	**No**	dry
(b) Is vegetation affected?	Yes	**No**	
(c) Is pH value < 4?	Yes	**No**	
(d) Others (explain)	Yes	**No**	

If question (6), (7), or (8) is answered yes, It is a HIGH POTENTIAL SITE, otherwise, it is a MEDIUM POTENTIAL SITE. Circle the appropriate entry on the top of the page and continue.

DETAIL DESCRIPTION/COMMENTS (fill in as much information as appropriate)

Stream or discharge water: Dry

Flow rate (cfs)	date_____	value_____	date_____	value_____
pH value	date_____	value_____	date_____	value_____
Specific conductivity	date_____	value_____	date_____	value_____

NFS Watershed Code_____ Affected stream name and length Pritchard Creek

Total area/Disturbed area (acres) / 2 Adit No. 1 Shaft No._____

Impoundment area (acres)_____ Tailings (yd^3) 1 Waste Rock (yd^3) 1,500?

Structures (buildings, headframes, mills, etc.) Explain:_____

Other data, comments, and explanations included on the back of this page? Yes___ No X

Picture taken? Yes X No__ If YES Film roll number 515185 Frame numbers 2-3

FJM 6/29/94
Signature Date

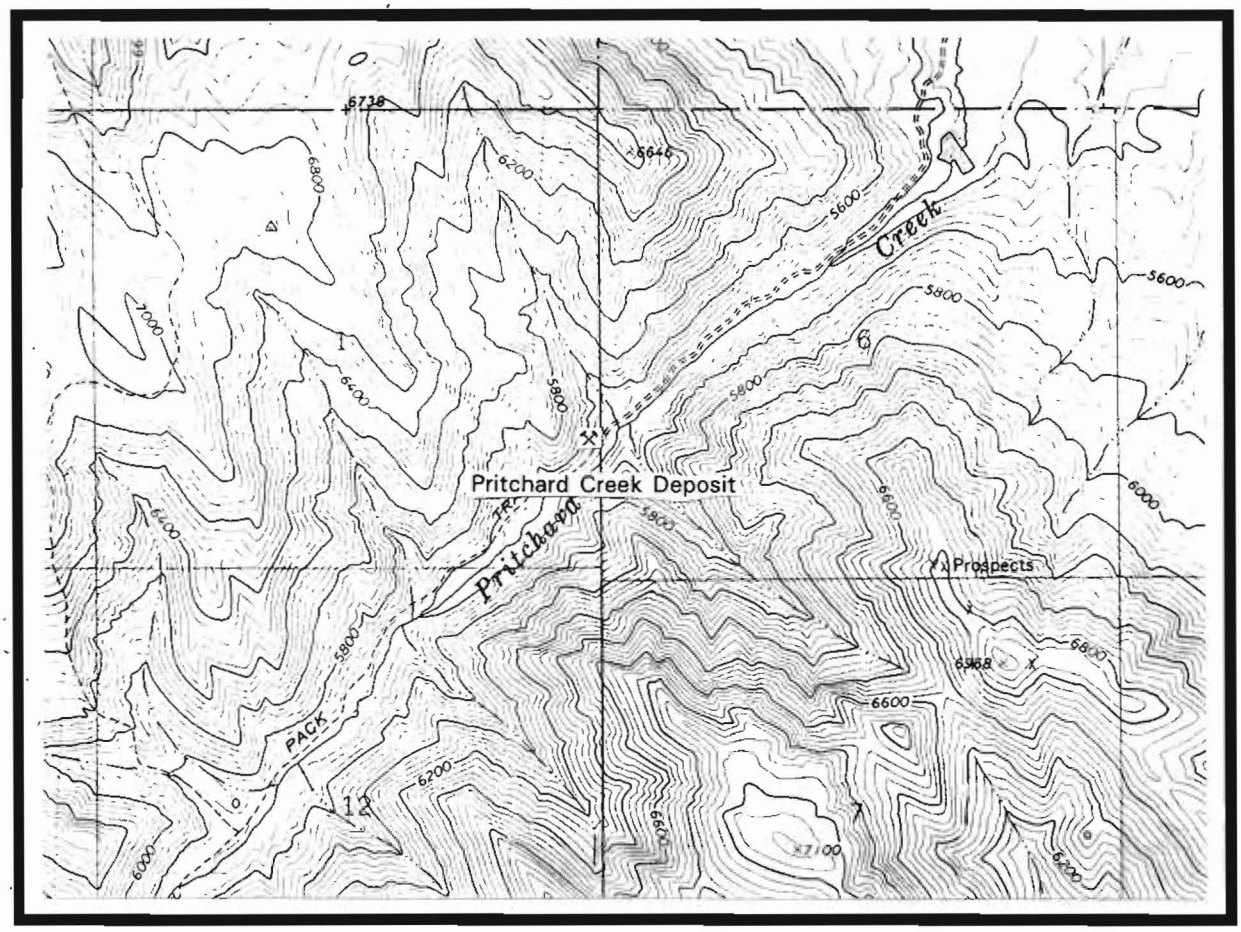

Figure 9Cii-3. Topographic map of the Pritchard Creek Deposit (Swan Valley Phosphate Mine) and vicinity (U.S. Geological Survey Conant Valley 7.5-minute topographic map).

Figure 9Cii-4. Open adit at the Pritchard Creek Deposit (Swan Valley Phosphate Mine) (Roll 515185, frame #2).

(circle one potential) LOW MEDIUM HIGH

AIM SITE DISCOVERY FORM

Could not locate property in the field.

Name: Fall Creek Coal Mine Region 4 Forest Targhee District Palisade Site No. DR 114

State ID County Bonneville Lat. _____ Long. _____ Tract # _____

Principal Meridian BOISE Section 4 Township 1S Range 42E USGS 7.5 Quad Castle Rock

Land Ownership (circle one) Private land; FS land; Mixture; Undetermined; if private land, does it affect FS land? If no, stop here.

CRITERIA A Answer each question with Y=yes or N=no.

____ 1. Are there adits with discharge or evidence of discharge?

____ 2. Are there millsites or tailings present?

3. If the mine waste rock volume is > 500 yd^3, then complete (a) through (e), otherwise go to 4.

____ (a) Is the potential source located in a municipal watershed?

____ (b) Is the potential source located in a floodplain?

____ (c) Are there dwellings, residences, campsites, or other public use areas nearby (e.g. 200 feet)?

____ (d) Are there domestic wells within a 4-mile radius of the site?

____ (e) Are there surface water intakes within 15 miles downstream of the site?

____ 4. Is there known damage to fisheries, T&E species, downstream aquatic communities, wetlands, or other sensitive environments?

____ 5. Are there unidentified materials, chemicals, or wastes, etc., on site?

GENERAL INFORMATION

Are there open adits or shafts present? (circle one) yes no

Are there dangerous structures present? (circle one) yes no

Total area/Disturbed area (acres) _____/_____

Level of public interest: Low ___ Medium ___ High ___

FJM _____ _____

Signature Date

If any answer in CRITERIA A is yes, go to CRITERIA B, otherwise circle LOW on top of page and stop.

Fall Creek Coal Mine — DR 114

No one in the Palisades Ranger District office knew the location of this mine.

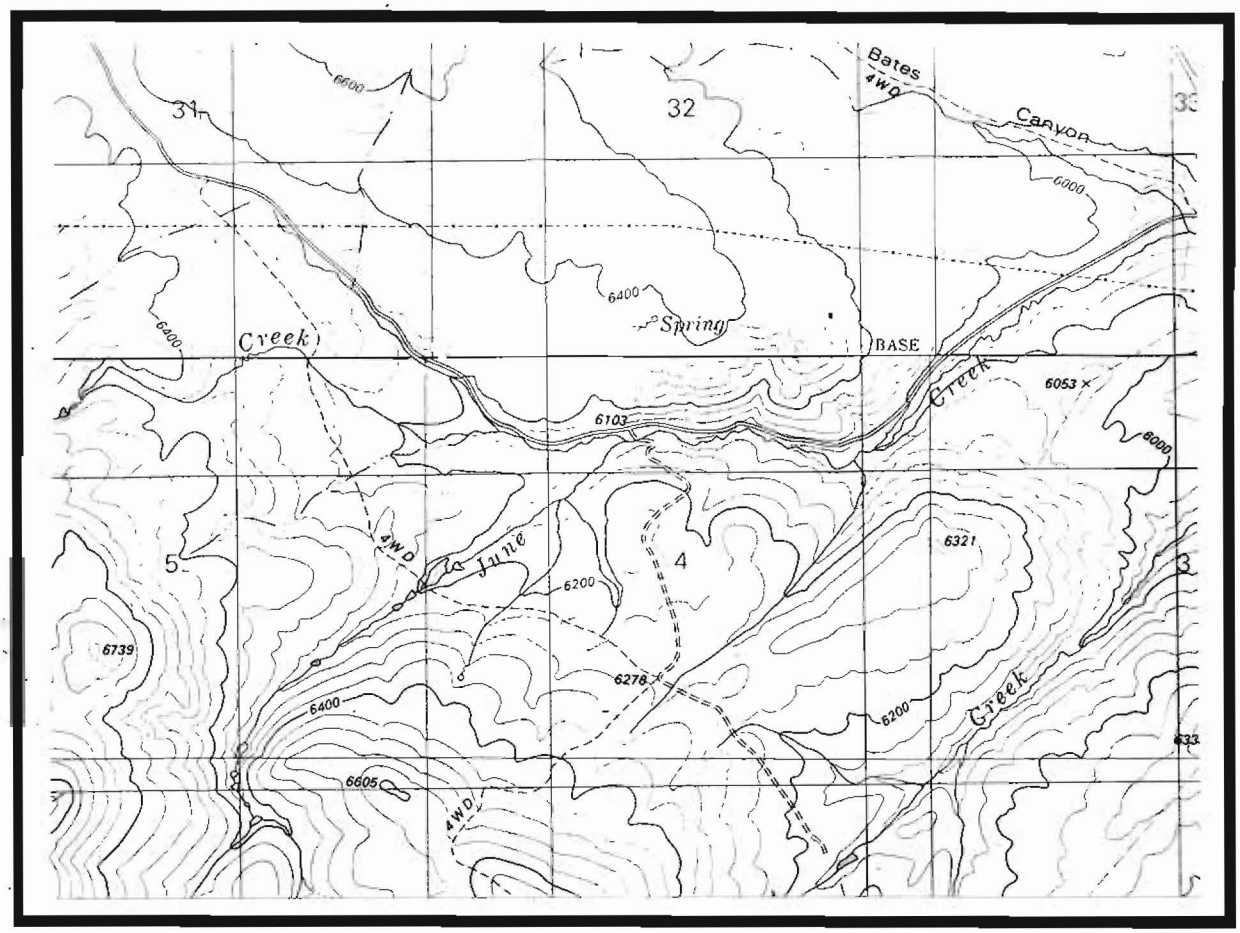

Figure 9Cii-5. Topographic map of the Fall Creek Coal Mine and vicinity (U.S. Geological Survey Castle Rock 7.5-minute topographic map).