

# State Department of Geology and Mineral Industries

702 Woodlark Building  
Portland 5, Oregon

## CURRY COUNTY

## Sixes River Mining District

Memorandum report on reconnaissance up Floras Creek road from U.S. 101 to half a mile beyond Floras Creek bridge.

G.M.I. Short Paper No. 9 states that "The Floras Creek area contains many chert lenses, several of which enclose known manganese deposits. . . ." This reconnaissance was made to see if any chert outcropped along the road. Only one barren lens was found.

Near the section line common to secs. 5 & 6, T. 31 S., R. 14 W., and in a large cut where the road is high above Floras Creek, an arenaceous shale was exposed which had considerable manganese oxide staining along the fractures. The staining was no more than a very thin film. Diller (U.S. Geol. Survey, Geologic Atlas #69, Port Orford Folio) maps this area as Myrtle formation. The lithology and mineral assemblage in hand specimen of this shale was similar to the Knoxville shales in the Riddle area.

Just north of the bridge across Floras Creek in sec. 3, T. 31 S., R. 14 W., is a fairly large borrow pit in a greenish buff shale. Manganese oxide and chlorite(?) staining is prominent along the fractures in the shale. A chip sample taken across a width of about 20' near the base of the borrow pit showed 0.23% Mn and a trace of copper (P-10474).

Approximately half a mile west of the bridge (downstream) on a private road a small chert lens outcrops. No manganese oxide or rhodonite was found.

Approximately half a mile east of the bridge (upstream) a reported occurrence of manganese was investigated. This outcrop was determined as black serpentine in an area of landsliding.

Report by: H. M. Dole  
Date of visit: October 10, 1950  
Visited by: F. W. Libbey, H. M. Dole