

Custer County

Verde District

The Verde District is located by Dunn (2003) in the northeastern part of Custer County on the eastern slopes of the Sangre de Cristo Range. There is very little information available on the District. The District lies along Verde Creek, in the southeastern edge of the Beckwith Peak quadrangle. That quadrangle has not been mapped. The adjacent quadrangle to the south, however - Horn Peak - has been mapped. The mapped area is less than 500 feet from the southernmost mapped mine disturbance of the Verde District.

Based on the Horn Peak Quadrangle, the bedrock geology of the District appears to be a thick sequence of red arkose, arkosic sandstone, and conglomerate of the Sangre de Cristo Formation.

Dunn (2003) notes that the Verde District "may" contain the Arkansas No. 1, the New York, and the Grand View Mines. The Mineral Resource Data System (MRDS) shows the Verde Strip Mine lying in that area, but in the Electric Peak Quadrangle, two sections to the west. It is listed as a past producer, containing galena, chalcopyrite, molybdenite and pyrite in epithermal veins in the Sangre de Cristo Formation. This may represent the mineralogy present in the Verde District, although that can't be confirmed.

Eckel (1997) lists annabergite, chalcopyrite, pyrite and tetrahedrite at the Verde Mine.

References:

Dunn, Lisa, 2003; Colorado Mining Districts: A Reference; Colorado School of Mines, Golden CO.

Eckel, Edwin B., 1997, Minerals of Colorado; Friends of Mineralogy, Colorado Chapter, Denver CO.

Lindsey, David A., Scott, Glenn R., Soulliere, Sandra J., DeAngelis, Barbara L., 1984, Geologic Map of the Horn Peak Quadrangle, Custer and Saguache Counties, Colorado; U.S. Geological Survey Map MF-1623.