

Summit County

Upper Blue River District

The Upper Blue River District is interpreted as encompassing the area of the upper Blue River, bounded on the south by the **Hoosier Gulch District**, on the west by the **Pollock District**, and extending downstream on the Blue River nearly to the town of Breckenridge, overlapping with the **Congers District** of the greater **Breckenridge District** to the north. Dunn (2003) describes the district as being centered on the common corner of four township blocks. Singewald (1951) describes the district as occupying 85 square miles. Vanderwilt (1947) describes it as adjoining the **Montgomery District** of adjacent Park County and states that it has not traditionally been listed as a district. So clearly the boundaries of the district are poorly defined, but the current configuration serves to encompass numerous small mines tapping widespread vein systems in the rock.

Singewald (1947) pointed out that the severe terrain of the district makes exploration and mining difficult. Many mines are "perched on cliffs that can be ascended only by aerial tramway or by foot". Ore deposits consist of veins - both fissure and replacement - in the Sawatch Quartzite, stratabound replacements and replacement veins in the Manitou and Dyer Dolomites and other calcareous beds, and as contact metamorphic deposits in the Morrison formation. Additional stringers are found in quartzite and in the intrusive porphyries themselves.

Mines listed in the district (mindat.org; Singewald, 1951) include:

- Arctic
- Briar Rose
- Brooks-Snider
- Diamond Jack
- El Dorado
- [Fredonia](#)
- Governor
- [Hunter Boy; Derilla](#)
- Iron Mask
- Last Dollar
- Ling
- Little Fool
- Monte Cristo
- Mountain Pride
- Senator
- [Seven-Thirty](#)
- Solitary and Big Bonanza (listed by mindat.org in Pollock District)
- [Twin Sisters](#)
- Vanderbilt
- [Warriors Mark](#)

Minerals listed in the district (Singewald, 1951) include:

Barite	Hematite	Pyrite
Bismuthinite	Huebnerite	Pyrrhotite
Chalcopyrite	Limonite	Silver
Galena	Magnetite	Sphalerite
Gold	Molybdenite	
Tremolite		

References:

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

Singewald, Q.D. 1947. Lode Deposits of the Upper Blue River Area, Summit County *in* Vanderwilt, John W. 1947. Mineral Resources of Colorado. Colorado Mineral Resources Board, Denver, Colorado.

Singewald, Q.D. 1951. Geology and Ore Deposits of the Upper Blue River Area, Summit County, Colorado. U.S. Geological Survey Bulletin 970.

Vanderwilt, John W. 1947. Mineral Resources of Colorado. Colorado Mineral Resources Board, Denver, Colorado.

www.mindat.org, accessed July 2015.