

Pitkin County

Snowmass District

The location of the Snowmass District is not well defined. Henderson (1926) describes it as four sections in T10S, R85W, placing it on the lower reaches of Snowmass Creek near the present location of the Buttermilk ski area and Snowmass Village. Vanderwilt (1947), on the other hand, describes the district as consisting of prospects near the head of Snowmass Creek, a location more than six miles southwest of Henderson's. Further, there are old prospects on the west side of Snowmass Village that don't fit either location.

Prospects and mines also appear within the Highland Peak Quadrangle (Bryant, 1972) and the Woody Creek Quadrangle (Freeman, 1972). For these reasons, the map associated with this description shows the tentative Snowmass District as including a very large area, encompassing all those above. While the lower reaches of Snowmass Creek lie around the developed areas noted above, the headwaters are within the Maroon Bells - Snowmass Wilderness Area.

Vanderwilt (1947) described the deposits as associated with a quartz monzonite stock that makes up Hagerman Peak and Capital Peak. Small veins occur with lead, zinc and copper. He reports no production, although some production is indicated on mindat.org for the district.

Mines listed in the Snowmass and Snowmass Creek Areas (mindat.org) include:

- [Snowmass Area](#)
 - [Big Buck Mine](#)
 - [Bionaz Group](#)
 - [Lucky Boy Tunnel](#)
 - [Panco Manganese Deposit](#)
 - [Snowmass Mountain](#)
- [Snowmass Creek Area](#)
 - [Munn Tunnel](#)
 - [Snowmass Creek Mine](#)

Minerals listed (mindat.org) include:

| | | |
|--------------------------------|----------------------------|------------|
| Alabandite | Calcite | Microcline |
| 'Albite-Anorthite Series' | Fluorite | Muscovite |
| Barite | Galena | Quartz |
| 'Biotite var: Manganophyllite' | Grossular | Sphalerite |
| Braunite | 'K Feldspar var: Adularia' | |

References:

Bryant, Bruce. 1972. Geologic Map of the Highland Peak Quadrangle, Pitkin County, Colorado. U.S. Geological Survey Geologic Quadrangle Map GQ-932, map scale 1:24,000.

Freeman, V.L. 1972. Geologic Map of the Woody Creek Quadrangle, Pitkin and Eagle Counties, Colorado. U.S. Geological Survey Geologic Quadrangle Map GQ-967, map scale 1:24,000.

Henderson, C.W. 1926. Mining in Colorado, a history of discovery, development and production. U.S. Geological Survey Professional Paper 138.

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

www.mindat.org, accessed July 2015.