

Larimer County

Crystal Mountain District

The Crystal Mountain District stretches across three townships in Larimer County. Mining began as early as 1884 at the Buckhorn Mine; the Crystal Silica Mine began producing prior to 1910 (Thurston, 1955). Production occurred sporadically during the period 1935 to 1945 and 1955 through 1965. Beryl production was listed last in 1965 (Colorado Bureau of Mines, 1965). The Colorado Bureau of Mines report for 1964 notes that beryl and mica were being mined at the Yo-Jo, Big Boulder, Corral Pole and Langstone properties and that the Jolex Mica Plant operated during the year (Franz, 1964).

Martin (1993) describes the main country rock as schists of the Idaho Springs Formation. The pegmatites themselves are related to Silver Plume granites. Most of the pegmatites are unzoned feldspar (perthite) and quartz-rich with a good bit of black tourmaline. A few zone bodies are particularly rich in beryl.

Baillie (1962) describes specifically the Double Opening, Big Boulder and Hyatt Beryl Mines. Sharps (1962) assesses possible remaining mica reserves at the Buckhorn, Hyatt Beryl and Langston Pit. The Bureau of Mines surveyed specifically the Crystal Silica, Buckhorn, Tourmaline Prospect, Bull Elk Prospect and Beryl No. 5, along with an unidentified quarry (Langston Pit?) (Martin, 1993).

Minerals present (Mindat.org)

Albite (var: Cleavelandite)	Columbite-(Mn)	Magnetite	Sicklerite
'Albite-Anorthite Series'	'Dravite-Schorl Series'	Meta-autunite	Sillimanite
Allanite-(Ce)	'Feldspar Group'	'Mica Group'	Spessartine
Alluaudite	Ferrisicklerite	Microcline	Spodumene
Almandine	Fersmite	Molybdenite	Tantalite
Amblygonite	Fluorapatite	'Monazite'	Tantalite-(Fe)
Andalusite	var: Mn-bearing Fluorapatite	Muscovite	Thorianite
'Apatite'	Fluorite	var: Sericite	Topaz
Autunite	'Garnet'	'Perthite'	Torbernite
Bertrandite	Graftonite	Phosphosiderite	'Tourmaline'
Beryl	'Gummite'	Phosphuranylite	Triphylite
Beusite	Hematite	Purpurite	Triplite
Biotite	Heterosite	Pyrite	Uraninite
Bismuthinite	'Heterosite-Purpurite Series'	Quartz	Uranophane
Bismutite	Hydroxylapatite	var: Rose Quartz	Vandendriesscheite
Chrysoberyl	'K Feldspar'	var: Smoky Quartz	Vivianite
Clinocllore	Lepidolite	Samarskite-(Y)	'Wad'
var: Pennine	Leucophosphite	Scheelite	Zircon
Columbite	Lithiophilite	Schorl	Zwieselite

District Mines (Mindat.org)

Abandon Mine
Beryl Dike claims
Beryl No. 1 claim
Beryl No. 2 claim
Beryl No. 3 claim
Beryl No. 5 prospect
Big Boulder Mine
Black Beauty Prospect
Buckhorn Mica Mine
Bull Elk Bery Mine (Thodab Mine)
Calypso Beryl Mine
Carpit prospect
Clipper No. 1
(Jay Dee Bee; Keystone claims)
Cojade Mine
Corral Pole Mine
Crystal Mountain
Crystal Silica Mine
Crystal Snow Mine
Debbie Doll Mine
Double Opening Prospect
Eureka Group
Garnet & Beryl Mine
Giant Crystal Mine
Glen O. Barrett
Green Crystal Mine
Green Quartz Beryl Claims 1-9
HE&M No. 9
HG & J No. 15 & 23 claims
Hanks Hole Mine
Heline property
HG&S No. 3 Mine
Hide-A-Way Claim
Hideabove (Big Diggings) pegmatite
Hilltop No. 23 Mine
Hilltop No. 3 claims
Huckleberry Mine
Humphrey Beryl Prospect
Hyatt Ranch Mine
Jay Dee Dee claims
Kings Canyon Mine
Langston Mine
Lewis Beryl Prospect
Lodge Pole Mine
Lookout and Challenger Deposits
Mica-Beryl Prospect
Mica Dike Claim
Mona No. 4
Mount Ethel Mine
New Hope Claims
Pan Claims
Primorose Beryl Lode
Rattlesnake Park Mine
Rita Beryl Mine
Sherwood Place Prospect
Storm Mountain Mine
Tantalum Prospect
Tourmaline Prospect
Valley View Claims No. 142
Vona Mae Mine
Wisdom Ranch Prospect

References:

[Mineral Resource Data System \(MRDS\) - Online Spatial Data - Crystal Mountain Pegmatite](#)

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