

Blue Buzzard Pb-Ag Mine, Mescal Range

16N 13E Sec. 25 SBM	35.43807000000	-115.53612000000
16N 13E Sec. 25 SBM	35.43671000010	-115.53664000000

The Blue Buzzard mine (Hewett, no. 78, pl. 2) is located on the east end of the high ridge known as the Mescal Range, nearly 1,000 feet above the nearby valley. (From Hewett, 1956, p. 146).

The Blue Buzzard is in the fault zone of the Mescal Thrust and hosted, on the surface, by Goodsprings dolomite that outcrops between the Mescal Thrust and the Bird Springs Fault (Evans, 1971).

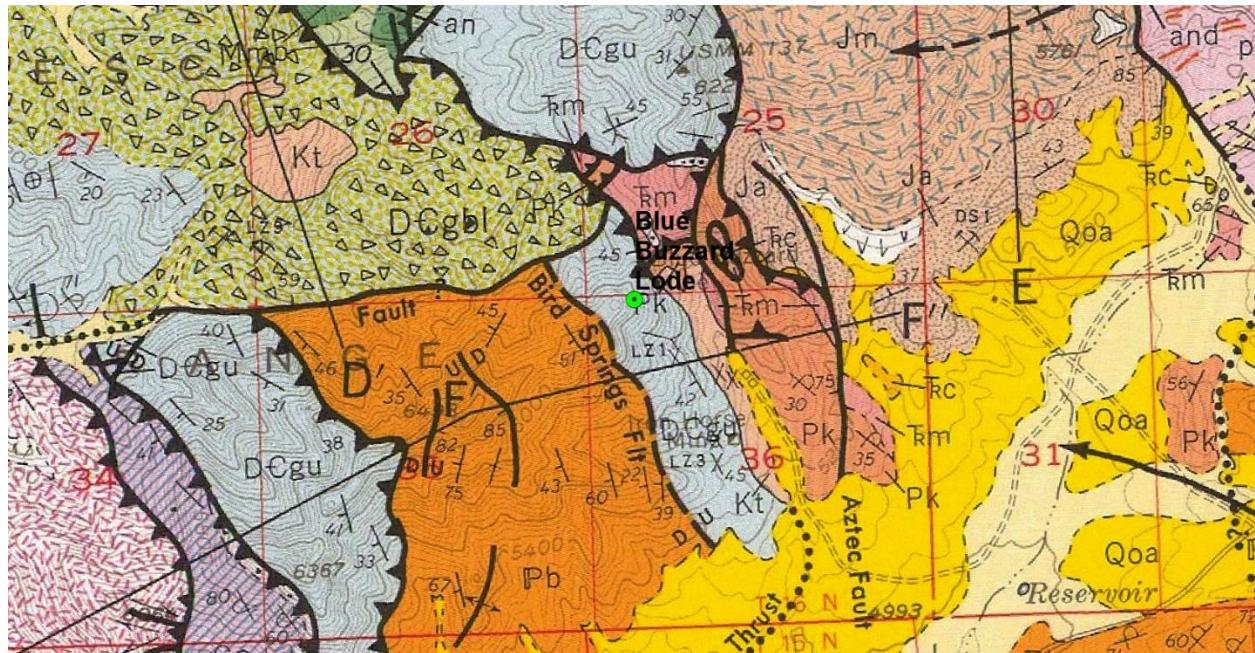


Figure 1, Geologic map of the Blue Buzzard mine and surrounding area. From Evans, 1971.

The mine is an inclined shaft 60 feet deep, from the bottom of which a drift extends 55 feet northwest. Raises from this drift and from the shaft explore the ore shoot. The thin-bedded limestone of the Sultan limestone and dolomite of the Goodsprings dolomite which underlie the east end of Mescal Range trend generally N. 10°-30° W. and dip 35° SW. Near the mine, these beds trend N. 35° W. and dip 60° SW., but half a mile south near the Jackrabbit mine, they again trend N. 30° W. The zone explored by the mine lies about 150 feet above the wedge of monzonite which is the northern extension of the enormous body that underlies many square miles in the south half of the quadrangle. A pale-greenish dike, much like those intrusive into the dolomite near the Mohawk and Copper World mines, lies in the hanging wall of the deposit. It is locally altered to serpentine. Recorded production of the Blue Buzzard mine ranged from 10,000 to 26,154 pounds of lead from 1925 to 1948. (From Hewett, 1956, p. 146).

The mine explored two lenses of lead and iron minerals 6 to 15 inches wide separated by 3 to 5 feet of bleached dolomite in the midst of the normal dark-gray dolomite near the base of the Sultan limestone. Apparently plumbojarosite and iron oxides were the most abundant minerals. (From Hewett, 1956, p. 146).

Mine developed in 1925 by a 90-foot inclined shaft and 60 feet of drifts. Recorded production 1925, 1940, 1947-48. Smelter recovery on ore shipped was 22.7% lead, 2.12 ounces of silver, and 0.38% copper. The mine is located about 3 miles south of Mt. Pass. A two to five foot shear zone in limestone several hundred feet from granite contact is highly chloritized and heavily stained with iron oxides. The zone is traceable for 150 feet in a northwest direction; dip is SW and parallels the bedding. (From Goodwin, 1957, p. 617).