

584

GENERAL DESCRIPTION

The general elevation of this township ranges from about 5500 ft. above sea level near the southeast corner to about 11,000 ft. above sea level at the highest point, the summit which crosses in the southern portion of section 18. This summit runs in an easterly direction across the entire township, to emerge near the northeast corner of section 1, and forms the main divide between drainages North into unnamed canyons and South into Kyle Canyon. This same summit also branches to the southeast from about two miles, to end in abrupt cliffs. There is another divide which enters the township near the southwest corner of section 33 and runs in an easterly direction to emerge near the northeast corner of sec. 36. This divide separates drainages N. into Kyle Canyon and South into an unnamed canyon. These drainages, however, eventually join in Kyle Canyon, east of the township. The higher mountains are of very rugged nature, being in most cases steep, broken, limestone ledges and cliffs. The soil in the flood basins and low lands is of gravelly composition and although quite shallow, under irrigation would be fair for limited agriculture purposes where the area of level ground would permit. The soil in the higher mountains ranges from a very shallow and rocky mountain loam over a limestone bedrock to barren limestone ledges and cliffs. There is considerable commercial timber all along the western portion of the township, in the form of yellow pine and fir. These higher portions also afford heavy growths of cat-tail pine and balsam where the character of the soil affords a foothold. There are scattering groves of juniper, pinon, mahogany and cedar throughout the entire township, none of it, however, of any commercial value. These latter timbers will eventually be of value for firewood for the many campers patronizing this district. In the canyon bottoms, especially Kyle Canyon, considerable pinon and juniper timber has been destroyed by fire, the blackened trunks still standing. The undergrowth is sagebrush, wild currant bushes, service berry bushes, mountain rush, scrub oak, mahogany brush and some chaparral. The high timbered slopes support a good growth of native plants and grasses.

There are three fair sized springs in the township, one in the SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ of sec. 16; one in the SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ of sec. 17 and one in the NW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ of sec. 30. The springs in sec. 16 and 17 are undeveloped, and flow for short distances down the draws they head in to disappear in the ground. The spring in sec. 30 is carried by means of a pipe line to the Charleston Park Ranger Station and CCC Camp, which are situated in the north central part of sec. 32. This spring also supplies water by means of an old buried pipe line from a water tank on top of a low spur in sec. 29 to a concrete reservoir in sec. 28. Deer Creek, an intermittent stream near its source, heads west of the township and enters near the southwest corner of sec. 7, and drains northeasterly down Deer Creek Canyon to sink below the surface just before it reaches the section line between sections 7 and 8. The water from this creek, a small stream about 3 foot wide and from three to four inches deep, is used for public camp grounds along the creek banks and at the time of survey, to supply a temporary CCC camp near the center of sections 7 and 8. A pipe line with its beginning at the head of Deer Creek supplies water to two public camp grounds, one in section 8 and one in section 16, the latter under construction at the time of survey.

There are evidences of prospecting for mineral in the northern portions of sections 1 and 2, and several short tunnels and shallow open cuts have been made. This portion of the township was the only place any indication of mineral was noted.