

NGGDPP Project Final Report

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Project Title: Nevada Collections Inventory and Metadata for the National Catalog 2015

Name of the State Geological Survey: Nevada Bureau of Mines and Geology

Principal Investigator(s):

Craig dePolo
Research Geologist
Nevada Bureau of Mines and Geology
University of Nevada, Reno M.S. 178
Reno, Nevada 89557-0178
Work: (775) 682-8770 FAX: (775) 784-1709
E-mail: cdepolo@unr.edu

David A. Davis
Geologic Information Specialist
Great Basin Science Sample and Records Library
Nevada Bureau of Mines and Geology
University of Nevada, Reno
2175 Raggio Parkway
Reno, Nevada 89512
Work: (775) 682-8767 FAX (775) 785-6690
E-mail: ddavis@unr.edu

Authorized Institution:

University of Nevada, Reno

Representative:

Board of Regents
University of Nevada, Reno
Attn: Karen Smith
Director; Office of Sponsored Project Administration
University of Nevada, Reno
Reno, Nevada 89557
Work: (775) 784-1868 FAX: (775) 784-6680
E-mail: ospadmin@unr.edu

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Nevada Collections Inventory and Metadata for the National Catalog 2015

Abstract

Through this project, the Nevada Bureau of Mines and Geology (NBMG) entered a total of 56 new records to the NBMG Sample Collection Database (CORECUT) and Nevada Mining District Files Index (NVGEODEX). The additions included entries for core and related documents, mainly U.S. Bureau of Mines Reports of Investigations, covering 51 drill holes in five mineral exploration projects. The documents combined numbered about 200 pages, and the drill holes combined numbered about 530 core boxes of which about 60% had to be reboxed. These collections were formatted in accordance with the NNGDPP Metadata Preparation Guide (June 2015). The metadata spreadsheets and updated descriptions were submitted to Natalie Latysh, USGS Core Science Systems, for addition to the National Catalog.

Project Report

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Sample Collection Database (CORECUT)

The NBMG Sample Collection Database (CORECUT), which is an index of a number of large and small rock sample collections housed at the NBMG, was updated and the metadata submitted to the National Catalog. The samples indexed in CORECUT include hand samples, drill cuttings and core, chipboards, slabs, thin sections, and some samples crushed for geochemical analysis. The samples have identifying paperwork that has been curated in separate collections. Many of the samples are from now inaccessible places, and the core and cuttings are from mining, oil, and geothermal projects which cost from several hundred thousand to several million dollars to conduct. About 5,000 of the samples were geochemically analyzed through various USGS grants.

In 2015, CORECUT contained 11,754 entries. 11,132 entries had locations in longitude and latitude and were entered into the National Catalog as “Nevada Bureau of Mines and Geology Sample Collection Database”, with the NNGDPP-assigned unique metadata collection ID No. 5494ba35e4b0a2b9adad8ee3.

CORECUT was updated with the addition of 51 new records. These new records were of 51 core holes covering five projects drilled by the U.S. Bureau of Mines as part of the Defense Minerals Administration, Defense Minerals Exploration Administration, and related Government mandates between 1948 and 1956. These projects included the Copper Canyon lead-zinc deposit, Union lead-zinc mine, Gibellini manganese-zinc-nickel deposits, Kaiser fluorite mine, and

Yellow Pine zinc-lead mine, and were written up as U.S. Bureau of Mines Reports of Investigations. These Reports of Investigations with some minor related documents were accessioned into the Nevada Mining District Files Index (NVGEODEX).

The 51 drill holes combined numbered about 530 cardboard core boxes many of which were in various states of decay. About 60% of the boxes had to be carefully replaced. All of the boxes were systematically and consistently relabeled, accessioned into CORECUT, and properly shelved at the NBMG Great Basin Science Sample and Records Library warehouse. Core from nine similar U.S. Bureau of Mines projects had been curated and accessioned into CORECUT and NVGEODEX by previous NNGDPP grants.

Field Descriptions:

- Collection ID:** Number assigned by NNGDPP personnel
- Title:** Document Title, which will mainly include: collection or project name and sample number and usually a rock or location name sometimes with a brief description for collection samples, project and hole name for mineral exploration, and operator and well name for oil and geothermal well samples.
- Abstract:** Compilation containing the NBMG Index No. for all samples and other information including but not limited to: original sample, drill hole, and well descriptions and notes; collection or project name; collector; commodities; drill sample intervals; location problems; logs if available; missing or condensed samples; and well status.
- DataType:** Sample type: chip board, chip tray, concentrates, core, core, crushed sample, cuttings, hand sample, jar, pulp, slab, thin section, and/or thin section plug.
- SupplementalInformation:** Website containing database and related search engine.
- Coordinates:** Site location in Latitude and Longitude (NAD 83), which marks the exact site for most samples, but when exact site is uncertain, it may mark the center point location of a mining district, the center point of a topographic map, or center point of a portion of the public land survey.
- DatasetReferenceDate:** Date data table was created for NNGDPP.
- AlternateTitle:** Other identifying information when applicable including: alternate collection or project names, alternate sample numbers, API numbers, codes, and permit numbers.
- AlternateGeometry:** Various other location references when known and applicable including: county; known geothermal resource area, mining district, oil field, public land survey, and UTM's (for all entries) in NAD 1927.
- OnlineResource:** Website containing database and related search engine.
- BrowseGraphic:** Left blank but future submissions may have an HTML online link to PDFs of scanned documents.
- Date:** Date when sample was taken or hole completed.
- VerticalExtent:** Units (ft – feet), maximum depth, and minimum depth for core and/or cuttings interval for drill hole samples.

Mining District File Index (NVGEODEX)

The NBMG Nevada Mining District Files Index (NVGEODEX) was updated and the metadata submitted to the National Catalog. NVGEODEX is the index of the NBMG Mining District

Files, which consists of maps, reports, photographs, printed spreadsheets and tables, assays, correspondence, claim and mine locations, mine workings information, and related materials dating from the 1860s to the present. Much of it is one-of-a-kind. The indexed documents contain a unique identification number and most have been scanned as 300 dpi TIFFs for archiving and converted to PDFs for viewing on our website. Most indexed documents not scanned are not done so because of copyright or related issues. However a backlog of several hundred indexed documents are awaiting to be scanned. Though the unscanned documents are not presently viewable on-line at this time, their existence is still documented in NVGEODEX, and the paper copies are available for public viewing at the Great Basin Science Sample and Records Library.

NVGEODEX in the National Catalog was last updated in 2014 when the metadata for 26,805 records was submitted and given the NCGDPP-assigned unique metadata collection ID number 4f4e49cbe4b07f02db5d877f. NVGEODEX was updated with the addition of the five U.S. Bureau of Mines Reports of Investigations and some minor related documents containing about 200 pages combined covering the projects for the 51 core holes noted in the CORECUT section.

Field Descriptions:

- Collection ID:** Number assigned by NCGDPP personnel
- Title:** Document Title.
- Abstract:** Name of mining district or County if site is not in a district; document description; list of site/mine/claim names mentioned in document; commodities; authors of document.
- DataType:** Paper (the form of the original documents), and format if scanned (TIF, PDF)
- SupplementalInformation:** Website containing database and related search engine.
- Coordinates:** Site location in Latitude and Longitude (NAD 83) based on center point location of the mining district, center point of the county for documents not associated with a district, with some county-only sites having their locations plotted and being measured on 7.5' topographic maps.
- DatasetReferenceDate:** Date data table was created for NCGDPP.
- AlternateTitle:** NBMG ID Number.
- AlternateGeometry:** Mining district and County.
- OnlineResource:** Website containing database and related search engine.
- BrowseGraphic:** HTML online link to PDFs of scanned documents.
- Date:** Date of document or latest date if document spans a range of dates.

Summary

The additions to and updating of the NBMG Sample Collection Database (CORECUT) and Nevada Mining District Files Index (NVGEODEX) and their inclusion in the NCGDPP National Catalog will help increase public awareness and access to this significant earth-science collection at the NBMG. They will increase efficiency in responding to information inquiries, make significantly more Earth-science information about Nevada universally available on the Web, and add significantly to the development of the National Digital Catalog of the National Geologic and Geophysical Data Preservation Program.