

The Winna-Winner Claims

A historical and geological research report on the south-east flank of Winnemucca Mountain, Winnemucca Mining District, Humboldt County, Nevada

Two 20-acre unpatented lode claims — the Winna-Winner and the Deep Winna-Winner — lie in Section 13, Township 36 North, Range 37 East, Mount Diablo Meridian, on the south slope of Winnemucca Mountain directly above the city of Winnemucca. This report gathers what the public record says about that ground: who worked it, what they shipped, what the rocks are, and what a prospector walking it today can expect to find. Everything here is drawn from named government publications and databases, and each is listed with a working link at the end so the reader can go to the page and see it for themselves.

Where the figures in different records disagree, or where a detail rests on a single secondary source, this report says so in plain language rather than smoothing it over. A claim with an honest paper trail is worth more than one with a tidy story.

1. The Ground and Its History

The Winnemucca Mountain Mine

The claims cover the ground historically worked as the Winnemucca Mountain Mine, also carried in the records as the Gold Hill Group. The U.S. Geological Survey's Mineral Resources Data System, drawing on Ronald Willden's 1964 *Geology and Mineral Deposits of Humboldt County, Nevada* (Nevada Bureau of Mines and Geology Bulletin 59), places the mine in the NE¼ of Section 13 on the south slope of the mountain. The record is unusually specific for a small Nevada producer:

- Owned by Gus and Ab Rogers from 1937 through 1945, and held as twenty-two unpatented claims.
- 2,227 tons of ore shipped, worth \$27,282, prior to 1943. The ore carried a high iron content and was sold primarily for use as smelter flux.
- Ore minerals recorded as gold and electrum; gangue of quartz and iron oxides, with molybdenite and chalcopyrite noted.
- Mineralization on a north-trending shear zone, developed by open cuts and shallow tunnels.
- Discovery year 1937.

Two points deserve a plain statement. First, the mine now appears under two separate MRDS records. Record 10037022, titled "Winnemucca Mountain Mine," carries the historic production and the Rogers ownership. Record 10310415, titled "Winnemucca Gold Property," is the later exploration-era entry for the mountain and states that it incorporates material from the older record M030034 for the old Winnemucca Mountain Mine. Anyone searching MRDS should pull both. Second, the two records give different years for first production — 1935 in the first, 1930 in the second — while both agree on a 1937 discovery year. The sensible reading is that the Rogers brothers were shipping ore in the early

1930s before formally organizing the claim group in 1937, but the records themselves do not say which year is right, and neither should we.

Both records also cite a 1937 *Prospectus for Winnemucca Mountain Mines Co.*, unpublished and on file at the Nevada Bureau of Mines and Geology in Reno. That document has not been examined for this report. It almost certainly holds workings sketches, assays and ownership detail that never made it into any published bulletin, and it is the first thing a serious buyer should order.

The district around it

Gold and silver were first discovered in the Winnemucca district in 1863, and several smelters were built along the Humboldt River during that decade. The Central Pacific Railroad reached Winnemucca on September 16, 1868, with the first train arriving about October 1 — the link that made shipping ore from this mountain practical. During 1910–1935 the district produced \$132,433 in gold and silver, and the USGS estimated total district gold through 1959 at about 35,000 ounces, most of it from the early Pride of the Mountain period.

The Pride of the Mountain

The district's famous early producer sits a short distance to the south-west of the claims, in the north-west part of Section 23, on ground held by others. It is included here because it shows what this side of the mountain was capable of. The mine was first worked in 1868 and continued through 1877. Its first ore was shipped to San Francisco; later ore was treated by stamping, roasting and amalgamation at the Humboldt Reduction Works in Winnemucca. Early-day ore ran \$40 to \$100 per ton in gold. Ferguson, Muller and Roberts, in their 1951 USGS geologic map of the Winnemucca quadrangle, credited the mine with about one million dollars in precious metals, and there was a further spell of gold and silver production in 1915.

A word on the databases: MRDS carries this mine under at least two records (10043970 and 10198618) with different coordinates and section numbers, and the Western Mining History index lists further variants. These are duplicate entries for one mine, not several mines; the primary sources put it in Section 23.

The Adamson

The Adamson mine — also called the A. & T., the Golden West group and the Wannamuck — lies to the north in Section 11. The 2007 geological report on the mountain, citing Willden, records gold production from rich ore in 1911–1912 totaling \$13,711. That figure is the sum of two entries in the older MRDS record for the mine (record 10104001); the newer record, 10149395, carries the coordinates but no production. The number is real, but a reader should know it was added up rather than reported as a single total.

2. Geology and Mineralization

Host rocks

The rocks of the south end of Winnemucca Mountain are calcareous slates, locally metamorphosed to hornfels, with beds of gray limestone. Waldemar Lindgren described them in 1915 in USGS Bulletin 601, and fossil shells collected from the south-slope workings are what dated them. The unit is now the Winnemucca Formation, which the USGS Geolex lexicon assigns to the Late Triassic.

The intrusive

Intruding those sediments on the southern side of the mountain is the largest intrusive body on Winnemucca Mountain: a Jurassic(?)–Cretaceous stock about 2 by 2.75 kilometers across. The 2007 geological report describes it as containing more plagioclase than mafic minerals and therefore compositionally a diorite. The stock baked the surrounding slates into hornfels and locally recrystallized the limestones, producing a contact-metamorphic aureole around the south and east flanks — the setting in which the district’s gold-silver-copper-lead veins formed.

What the ore tells you

Put the pieces together. The Rogers ore was iron-rich enough to sell as flux, which is the signature of an oxidized, iron-stained cap over a sulfide system. Gold and electrum in quartz, with molybdenite and chalcopyrite alongside, is not a placer fleck; it is the chemistry of a hydrothermal system tied to an intrusive. The mineralization follows a mapped north-trending shear, and the historic workings never went past open cuts and shallow tunnels. That is a structure mined for what was easy to reach and never followed down.

It is worth being clear about what the record does *not* contain. No modern resource estimate has been published for any site on the east or south flank. The 130,000–140,000 ounce “proven” gold figure that circulates for Winnemucca Mountain belongs to the west-flank exploration property, is a historic estimate that predates modern reporting standards, and has nothing to do with this ground. A buyer should form their own view from the rocks, and the recent fire has made that easier than it has been in decades.

3. The 2025 Fire and What It Exposed

The Winnemucca Mountain Fire was discovered on June 15, 2025, about 1.8 miles north-west of Winnemucca. It was human-caused, burned 2,321 acres of brush and grass, and was declared contained on June 17, 2025 (one local news report gave June 18). The practical result for a prospector is that the brush cover which hid outcrop on this mountain for a generation is gone. The shear zone, the contact and the old cuts are easier to walk and read now than they have been since the Rogers brothers worked them, and iron-stained ground stands out plainly against the burn.

4. Location, Access and Infrastructure

Winnemucca is the county seat and only incorporated city in Humboldt County, with a 2020 census population of 8,431 (up from 7,396 in 2010). It sits on Interstate 80 at the junction with U.S. 95, on the Union Pacific transcontinental mainline. A paved road ascends Winnemucca Mountain to the radio

facilities on the summit. From the claim centroid the center of town is roughly two and a half to three miles away in a straight line — a map estimate, not a surveyed figure, but close enough that you can sleep in a motel and be on the ground before your coffee cools.

The claims themselves are two separately staked 20-acre blocks about a half mile apart, each roughly 1,320 feet north-south by 700 feet east-west and monumented at its discovery point. Corner coordinates are given below and in the accompanying KMZ.

	The Winna-Winner	The Deep Winna-Winner
NE	40.996352°, -117.761753°	41.001825°, -117.766618°
NW	40.996373°, -117.764329°	41.001892°, -117.768999°
SE	40.992743°, -117.761909°	40.998191°, -117.766704°
SW	40.992798°, -117.764467°	40.998199°, -117.769071°
Centroid	40.994566°, -117.763115°	41.000027°, -117.767848°
Monument	40.993176°, -117.763172°	40.998517°, -117.767922°

Datum WGS 84, taken from the Google Earth KMZ prepared for the claims.

5. The Neighborhood

Winnemucca sits in the middle of some of the most productive gold country in the United States. Humboldt County lode mines produced 811,712 ounces of gold from 1905 through 1959, plus 36,720 ounces from placers, and the county remains a cornerstone of Nevada's industry. The nearest large operations, with distances as their operators state them:

- **Turquoise Ridge Complex** (Twin Creeks and Turquoise Ridge) — about 64 km (40 miles) north-east of Winnemucca; operated by Nevada Gold Mines, the joint venture formed July 1, 2019 and owned 61.5% by Barrick and 38.5% by Newmont.
- **Hycroft** — 54 miles west, in the Sulphur district.
- **Florida Canyon** — about 45 miles south-west along Interstate 80, near Imlay.
- **Marigold** — about 36 miles east, four miles south of Valmy.
- **Lone Tree** — just west of the Valmy exit, roughly 30 miles east; no operator page gives a Winnemucca mileage, so treat that figure as read off a map.

These describe the district a buyer is entering. They are not statements about the Winna-Winner ground itself.

6. What to Look at First

For anyone planning a first visit, the record points to a short list:

- **The north-trending shear.** Walk it end to end across both claim blocks while the burn has it exposed. Note where the iron staining is heaviest and where quartz float thickens.
- **The diorite contact.** Find where the intrusive meets the baked slates and limestone. Contact zones are where this district's veins live, and the old cuts are the best guide to where the Rogers found ore.
- **The old cuts and shallow tunnels.** Sample the dumps and the faces. Iron-rich material that sold as flux is exactly what to expect at surface; the question is what the quartz carries.
- **Assay for gold, silver, copper and molybdenum.** The recorded ore and gangue minerals tell you which elements to ask the lab for.
- **Order the 1937 prospectus** from the NBMG mining district files in Reno, and the printed Winnemucca district pages of Willden (1964) and Vanderburg (1938). Neither is online, and both will contain detail this report cannot.

A note on the historic figures: all dollar values in this report are in the dollars of their day — gold at \$20.67 an ounce before 1934 and \$35 an ounce from 1934 to 1945 — and are not adjusted for inflation.

Sources

Every figure in this report comes from one of the following. Links were working as of September 2026.

Primary publications

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- Koschmann, A.H., and Bergendahl, M.H., 1968, *Principal Gold-Producing Districts of the United States*: U.S. Geological Survey Professional Paper 610. <https://pubs.usgs.gov/publication/pp610> — Humboldt County section transcribed at <https://westernmininghistory.com/library/124/page1/>
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Databases

- USGS MRDS record 10037022, Winnemucca Mountain Mine (historic production).
<https://westernmininghistory.com/mine-detail/10037022/>
- USGS MRDS record 10310415, Winnemucca Gold Property (incorporates old record M030034).
<https://westernmininghistory.com/mine-detail/10310415/>
- USGS MRDS record 10043970, Pride of the Mountain. <https://westernmininghistory.com/mine-detail/10043970/> — duplicate record 10198618: <https://thediggings.com/mines/usgs10198618>
- USGS MRDS records 10149395 and 10104001, Adamson / A. & T. mine.
<https://westernmininghistory.com/mine-detail/10149395/> and
<https://westernmininghistory.com/mine-detail/10104001/>
- Mindat: Winnemucca Mining District, <https://www.mindat.org/loc-23978.html>; Winnemucca Mountain mine (Gold Hill Group), <https://www.mindat.org/loc-59583.html>; Pride of the Mountain, <https://www.mindat.org/loc-59584.html>
- Western Mining History, Humboldt County index. <https://westernmininghistory.com/mine-county/nevada/humboldt/>
- USGS Geolex, Winnemucca Formation. https://ngmdb.usgs.gov/Geolex/UnitRefs/WinnemuccaRefs_12293.html

MRDS pages at mrdata.usgs.gov block automated requests; the Western Mining History and The Diggings mirrors reproduce the MRDS fields verbatim and are cited here for convenience.

Access, fire and regional context

U.S. Census Bureau, Winnemucca city, Nevada, 2020. <https://data.census.gov/profile/400XX00US96373>

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SSR Mining, Marigold technical report. https://www.ssrmining.com/_resources/marigold_tech_report.pdf

Compiled from public-record sources, September 2026. Historic production and resource figures are reconnaissance-level estimates from the publications cited and do not meet modern NI 43-101 or S-K 1300 reporting standards. Nothing in this report is a determination of title, ownership, boundaries or claim status; confirm those with the Bureau of Land Management, Winnemucca District Office, before acting.