

Elk Ridge

Geology and Uranium Deposits of Elk Ridge and Vicinity, San Juan Co., Utah

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Elk Ridge area receives 10-16 inches rain fall a year.
Its land is used for grazing and minor logging. Water is of great importance
in the area and supplies are limited.

Elk Ridge mines produced 50,000 tons at .25% U_3O_8 .
Uraninite is the chief uranium mineral of the Elk Ridge mines.
Chalcopyrite is the most abundant primary copper mineral.
Also bornite, domeykite, tennantite.
Secondary minerals:

Uranium:

andersonite
zippeite
coffinite
uranophane
metaautunite
schroeckingerite
uranothallite
tyuyamunite
uranophane

Copper minerals:

malachite
azurite
chalcanthite
chalcocite

Copper-uranium minerals:

cuprosklodowskite
metazeunerite

Vanadium minerals:

corvusite
volborthite

Other minerals:

ilsemannite
jarosite
erythrite
limonite
hematite
bieberite

Uranium host rocks of Elk Ridge are in the basil Chinle.

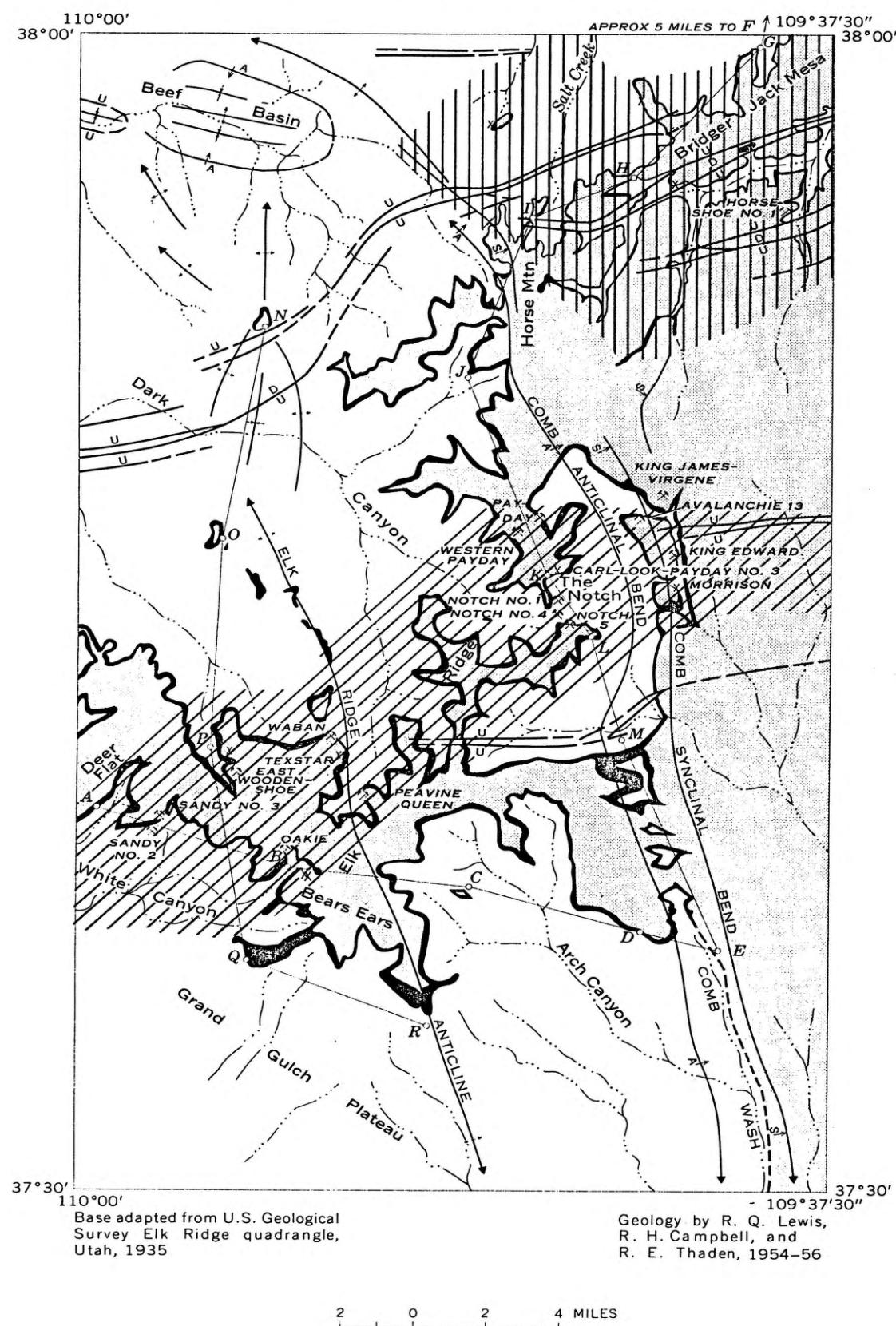


FIGURE 6.—Generalized geologic map of the Elk Ridge area, San Juan County, Utah, showing areas favorable for uranium deposits.