



The key to understanding the area's potential will be updated mapping of the disconformable alteration zones (pipes) that mark the conduit for ascending hydrothermal fluids forming the deposits, and regionally extensive stratabound semiconformable alteration zones within the stratigraphic succession hosting the deposits. Semiconformable alteration zones provide the evidence of widespread, vigorous hydrothermal alteration, and exploration should focus in these areas. Figure 15 represents the available mineral interests that could be explored for these type of deposits.

Additional mineral potential could exist for placer gold deposits in alluvium material on the core and western flank of the Tusas Mountains. Locals have narrated stories about panning for gold in area streams, but no

documentation of discovery is reported or recorded. Based on the geology of the alluvium source, it is highly probable to expect potential for placer gold in these regions. Figure 16 indicates available mineral interests either in the range and/or on the western flank where this potential might exist.

In the early 1950's intensive exploration for uranium deposits occurred with claims staked on sparse showings in the Dakota and Chinle formations. Locals have also talked about drilling taking place in the 70's for similar interests. Uranium prices and the lack of adequate water sources hindered any production or development; therefore no value is presently placed on these speculative deposits.