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Prospector dies during mine search

The body of a United States visitor who collapsed and died earlier this week in rugged country north of Pitt Lake while on a vacation prospecting trip was carried out of the bush Friday by an eight-man RCMP party.

Lewis Earl Hagbo, 49, of Bremerton, Wash., was prospecting in the Lost Creek gold mine area with his brother-in-law, Frank U. Mattson of Bainbridge Island, Wash., when he was stricken

Mattson hiked six miles over mountainous country to the nearest farm and reported the death late Wednesday.

The area is named after a mine sought ever since an Indian appeared in New Westminster 70 years ago with a fortune in gold which he said came from a mine there. The Indian was hanged for murder the following year without revealing exact location of the mine.

More than 20 men have died in the intervening years while seeking the mine in almost impassable country.

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