

On the Clubine Comstock property on the east side of the Hall syncline, north of Salmo, Yellowjack Resources Ltd. exposed a 0.3-metre vein in trenches; the best assay ran 55 per cent lead and 2185 grams per tonne silver. This high-grade vein, hosted by the Hall Formation, will be drilled in 1991. Earlier drilling had followed a quartz vein.

On the Rely property, between Nelson and Castlegar, gold occurs with pyrite and pyrrhotite in erratic vein-like zones within a section of hornfelsed Archibald Formation siltstones and interbedded felsic to intermediate volcanics. Pegasus Gold Inc. drilled an induced polarization anomaly but with less encouraging results than in 1989 when a 6.1 metre intercept assayed 8.74 grams per tonne gold.

On the Whitewater property, Teck Corporation drilled a breccia in Rossland Group rocks, near the contact with Nelson intrusive rocks, with inconclusive results.

In the Rossland camp Antelope Resources renewed drilling on the Rossland claims late in the year, focusing on the Bluebird and New North areas in the south belt. A large (62-metre) interval of lead-zinc mineralization was intersected in one hole and a narrow high-grade gold-silver zone in another (0.37 metres of 376 grams per tonne silver, 14.5 per cent lead, 7.5 per cent zinc and 10.3 grams per tonne gold). Traditional mineralization on this claim block consists of massive pyrrhotite-chalcopryrite shoots in altered monzonite and Elise Formation volcanics. Interestingly, gold occurs with arsenopyrite but not necessarily with the massive sulphides.

Southwest of Rossland, at the Midnight mine, underground development continued on quartz veins and about 1500 tonnes of ore was hauled to a mill in Northport, Washington.

SKARN

North of Nancy Greene Park, in an area underlain by Mount Roberts Formation, CAMECO drill-tested two areas in which trenching had exposed massive pyrite-pyrrhotite mineralization with elevated gold values in skarn.

OTHER

In the Salmo camp, Yellowjack Resources Ltd. explored for gold in Lower Paleozoic limestones and phyllites on the Ore Hill-Summit property. Sulphides, including sphalerite, galena and minor chalcopryrite, and free gold are present in crackle zones confined to the more carbonate-rich facies. Mineralized intercepts in three holes returned values of 6.24 to 12.48 grams per tonne gold in intervals of 2 to 3 metres. Old mine workings nearby exploited a rich polymetallic quartz-siderite vein.

SLOCAN AREA (KASLO - NEW DENVER - SLOCAN)

At the Silvana silver-lead-zinc mine, drilling from surface and underground explored for the faulted western extension of the lode structure and tested the ground between the Silvana mine and Carnation workings without much success.

Avril Explorations Ltd. opened up, mapped and sampled levels 2, 3, 5 and 5A on the Grey Copper vein (a high-grade zinc vein) located near the former mining town of Cody.

Kokanee Explorations Ltd. drilled the Hope prospect which consists of a skarned pendant of the Slocan Group surrounded by rocks of the Nelson plutonic suite. Potential for extension of modest reserves is limited.

The Millie Mack property, site of an extensive program in 1989 by Dragoon Resources Ltd., underwent limited drilling without much success.

The True Blue massive sulphide prospect, hosted by the Upper Paleozoic Milford Group, was tested by a single hole drilled by QPX Minerals Inc. This prospect of banded massive pyrite-pyrrhotite-chalcopryrite up to 1.2 metres thick warrants further work.

CRESTON AREA

Kokanee Explorations Ltd. drilled the Wilds Creek property near Wyndell, where sphalerite occurs in two apparently stratabound units within the Dutch Creek Formation. The Dutch Creek Formation consists of interbedded green, quartz phyllite, black phyllite (with magnetite) and argillaceous limestone together with a very thin volcanic unit. The sphalerite occurs with coarse-banded pyrite.

West of Creston, White Knight Resources Ltd. explored bedded sulphide zones in metamorphosed Aldridge rocks on the Sullivan Two property.

CRANBROOK-YAHK AREA

Kokanee Explorations Ltd.'s Vine prospect near Cranbrook has been tested for 375 metres along strike and for a depth of 800 metres. Polymetallic mineralization in a siliceous or calcitic gangue occurs in veins, primarily on the hangingwall and footwall of a steeply dipping gabbroic dike which occupies a northwest-trending fault. A hangingwall vein is most persistent, up to 4 metres wide but averaging 2 metres. The mineralogy is galena, sphalerite, pyrrhotite, pyrite and gold-bearing arsenopyrite. Drilling to date totals 16 385 metres in 54 holes with three principal mineable zones having been defined. A decline and bulk sampling is planned for 1991.