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# **BIOGEOCHEMICAL ORIENTATION SURVEYS IN THE FISH LAKE AND CLISBAKO RIVER AREA**

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Brief orientation surveys were carried out in mid-July, 1992, in preparation for more comprehensive surveys in 1993.

## **CLISBAKO RIVER**

Lodgepole Pine (*Pinus contorta*) is the dominant tree species on the Nechako Plateau. In the Clisbako River area, within property staked by Minnova Inc., outer bark and the top 3 years growth of pine (Plate 1) were collected from 21 sites in the general vicinity of epithermal precious metal mineralization of Eocene age. In addition a few samples of shrub birch, willow and alder were obtained.

In general trace element concentrations are fairly low, although there is weak enrichment of Au, Mo, As, Cs, and Ni in the pine tops. Bark samples yield higher concentrations of Au, Ag, As, Cd, and confirm the elevated background levels of Mo. Birch twigs are locally enriched in Au and As. Ash samples of alder yield unusually high levels of Au (300 ppb) and Mo (73 ppm) near the North Zone.

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