

see comment

1980-09-09

840093

REPORT ON PROPERTY EXAMINATION

NAME New Moon

File: NTS 93E/13

LOCATION 127°45'W 53°56'N

Approximately 50 miles SW of Houston, B. C. on the W side of Morice Lake just S of Atna Bay. Access is by helicopter from Smithers. It would be possible to drive to the E side of Morice Lake, cross by boat then hike up the NE flowing creek which empties into the prominent point separating the S arm of Morice Lake and Atna Bay. The main showings are at 6800', and the old camp site is at 5000'.

OWNERSHIP

Charles (Chuck) Kowall holds 44 units which were staked in 1977 and 1978. Kowall is a prospector and can best be reached through Silver Standard, his former employer.

HISTORY

Kowall first staked the property in 1967 for Phelps Dodge. They did some trenching on the upper showings and dropped the claims. Aggressive Mining staked the area in 1970 and explored during 1971 and 1972. Five core holes were drilled near the Phelps Dodge showing totalling 1025'. They subsequently allowed the claims to lapse and the present owner restaked in 1977. During 1978 Norcen ran a Max-Min survey over the valley floor searching for the source of massive sulphide boulders within the glacial moraine. The survey was negative and their option was dropped. Silver Standard acquired an option in late 1979 but did no field work in 1980. Their option has now officially expired. However, Silver Standard did introduce Chevron to the prospect and should be somehow included in any possible future deals.

The writer visited the property on August 20, 1980.

GEOLOGY:

Most of the property is underlain by andesitic volcanics of mid Jurassic Hazelton group.

There is differentiation in the volcanics however and lithologies range from rhyolite to basalt. Flows, pyroclastics, breccias and chemical sediments (limestone and chert) have been mapped giving the impression of a primarily subaqueous environment possibly fairly near a volcanic center.

A large quartz monzonite intrudes the volcanics in the SE part of the claims. Basaltic to feldspar porphyry dykes are abundant and generally trend NE (parallel to major lineaments).

Alteration is generally silicification and epidotization.

MINERALIZATION

- (1) The in-place mineralization is confined to a shatter zone trending roughly N-S and about 100 m wide. Within this zone intense brecciation has occurred. Quartz cement and Pb/Zn/Ag mineralization followed the shattering.

Tracing the mineralization on surface is difficult because of weathering and extensive frost heaved cover. Ice and snow covers possible mineralization in places and the main S extension is covered by thick talus in a steep gully. Aggressive's drill holes seem to be reasonably well placed and indicate a zone 10 m thick grading 8% combined Pb/Zn (variable ratio) and .5 oz Ag. The deepest hole intersected mineralization at about 80 m below surface. In spite of the aforementioned cover, a general impression of irregular and discontinuous mineralization was formed. Highly variable sample results (both trench and drill) reinforce this impression.

- (2) Boulders of float are found in the valley floor of an entirely different mineralization type. These are generally copper rich and often massive chalcopyrite ± sphalerite ± pyrite. In some cases there are cherty rocks containing 50% or more sulphides (almost all chalcopyrite). The most common variety is a greenish rock, almost pure chlorite with significant chalcopyrite and again rare pyrite. Another common boulder type is very rich hematite with abundant epidote and ± 10% sphalerite with either 2-5% or only traces of chalcopyrite. These common types of mineralization would not be out of place in a contact metamorphic deposit such as Craigmont.

COMMENTS

Taken together the most likely source of these boulders is a skarn type deposit either under the moraine or under a glacier. The possibility of a massive sulphide cannot be ruled out however given the favourable host rocks, subaqueous differentiated volcanics, chemical sediments, and massive nature of some of the mineralization.

There are severe exploration problems relating to topography, cover and climate and the access problem certainly doesn't encourage reckless abandon during this early exploration stage. The tonnage implications of a skarn type deposit are also discouraging.

The prospect is a teaser with high grade boulders in float that may be derived from a significant massive sulphide.

Most of the known Cu showings in the Hazelton in this "subareal" facies in Central B. C. are very small and usually related to intrusives. This is the popular wisdom.

If the New Moon proves to be a true massive sulphide, substantial regional possibilities emerge.

CONCLUSION

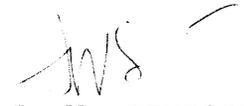
The access problem and lack of a good idea for the next significant exploration program as negative factors outweigh the attraction of high grade Cu boulders probably of "contact metamorphic" type. The potential for significant tonnage in the shatter zone is judged to be low. The possible occurrence of a massive sulphide deposit of volcanogenic type is acknowledged.

RECOMMENDATION

No further work.

REFERENCES

- 1) Norcen report 1978
- 2) Kowall report 1979


J. W. SIMPSON

JWS I feel that we should perhaps give this one a second look if it is available next year - perhaps giving someone several days on the ground. E.



