



MOTHER LODE

CHAMBER OF MINES OF EASTERN BRITISH COLUMBIA

A non-profit bureau of information providing authentic, reliable data to the general public and the mining industry of Eastern British Columbia

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NEWSLETTER

Editor - John Murray

JUNE 1999

REDHAWK OPTIONS MORE GROUND NEAR REMAC

from: <http://www.canada-stockwatch.com>

Redhawk Resources Inc. received regulatory approval May 13th for an optional agreement with Cominco to acquire another 2.5 kilometres of the favourable limestone stratigraphy at Remac, 35 kilometres SE of Cominco's smelter complex at Trail, B.C. Under the agreement Redhawk has the right to purchase from the vendor a 100 per cent interest in 42 claim units, known as the Bow property which surrounds the company's Grouse Group of claims approximately two kilometres northeast of the company's main holdings. This acquisition extends the company's hold on the prospective zinc permissive stratigraphy to over 16 kilometres.

Last year Cominco's work on the property included mapping, rock and soil geochemistry and ground magnetics. Its work was highlighted by the location of a significant drill-ready target with

coincident geochemical and ground magnetics anomaly. Zinc values ranged between 170 parts per million (ppm) and 6,418 ppm and lead values ranged between 45 ppm and 687 ppm in the anomaly which is open to the west and which measures approximately 400 metres by 100 to 150 metres. This limited program points out the usefulness of doing geochemistry for these strata-bound targets beyond the known zones where the host rock is near to surface. Redhawk intends to extend this tool to include more of the optioned ground and

to start its use over the balance of the company's property at Remac.

Consideration for the property consists of: the issuance of a total of 120,000 shares over six years (an initial option payment of 20,000 shares upon regulatory approval, subject to a one-year hold to May 12, 2000), exploration expenditures on the property totalling \$855,000 (a firm initial expenditure of \$5,000) over six years ending April 15, 2005, and the vendor shall retain a 2% net smelter return royalty. ■

VITAL STATISTICS: THE WORLD'S LARGEST GOLD MINES

from: Drillbits & Tailings, Volume 4, Number 9, June 1, 1999,

	NAME	LOCATION	OWNER	TONS
1	Grasberg/Ertsberg	Indonesia	Freeport McMoRan	91.04
2	Freegold	South Africa	Anglo American	60.44
3	Vaal Reefs	South Africa	Anglo American	58.63
4	Carlin	USA	Newmont	49.00
5	Driefontein	South Africa	Anglo American*	46.73
6	Betze Post	USA	Barrick	46.61
7	West Deep	South Africa	Anglo American	43.86
8	Cortez	USA	Placer Dome/Rio Tinto	35.40
9	Twin Creeks	USA	Newmont	29.12
10	Obuasi	Ghana	Lonmi	26.40
11	Meikle	USA	Barrick	26.35
12	Randfontein	South Africa	Consolidated African	26.00

* Anglo American owns 50% of Driefontein. The remaining shares in this mine are owned by Gencor and Rembrandt, also of South Africa.

SOURCE: Raw Materials Data, Stockholm 1999

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MINING: GOOD NEIGHBOUR AND PROVIDER TO THE WORLD

EKES CALLING FOR KBLUP TO BE DECLARED "HIGHER LEVEL" PLAN

by J. Murray, P. Geo.

"In a broader sense, higher level plans refer to plans, agreements or objectives as defined in the Forest Practices Code. They are a 'higher level' relative to operational plans and are the primary source of objectives that play an important role in determining the forest practices described in an operational plan. A plan such as the (Kootenay Boundary Land Use Plan) may be approved as government policy. However, this approval does not make it a higher level plan. It, or a portion of the plan, must first be formally declared by the Lieutenant Governor in Council or the ministers as a higher level plan before the provisions of the Code concerning these plans can apply." (from www.for.gov.bc.ca/tasb/legregs/fpc/hilevel/chap2.htm)

The KBLUP is government policy, and not yet a higher level plan. It supposedly assures us access to all areas not Protected. At a Boundary Mining Association meeting last year the Boundary Forest District Manager astonished me by boldly declaring that he was not bound by government policy to permit us access; he is bound only by legislation, and evidently didn't care what policy direction cabinet may have given!

The government has assured us that Bill 12 gives us access to all lands outside Protected Areas; however, Bill 12 explicitly states that mining activities must be carried out "in accordance with higher level plans under the Forest Practices Code". The section dealing with 'certainty of access' states a special

use permit under the FPC must be issued "subject to any applicable higher level plan under that Act". In other words once declared a Higher Level Plan the FPC applies, as do any objectives and guidelines (including no road access) for that Plan, overriding both the MX Code and Bill 12.

The Ministry argues that this is irrelevant and should be of no concern to us because no Higher Level Plan can be declared without the signature of the Minister of Mines.

The East Kootenay Environmental Society argues (Newsletter: April, 1999 Volume 13 Issue 7, www.cyberlink.bc.ca/~ekes/) "To date, other than Protected Areas, most provincial government conservation land use management initiatives are addressed through 'government policy'. Government policies are not legislation. The implementation of the policies depends on the good faith of the regional government agencies and industry. Without legislation of the policies, the conservation standards of the province will not be implemented.

The Forest Practices Code is a legislated provincial Act that to date has done little to provide environmental protection. The Forest Practices Code does not affect conservation land use management until these management guidelines are declared as Higher Level Plan. The Kootenay Boundary Land Use Plan (KBLUP) legislated the protected areas of the region but the implementation of management guidelines is yet to be legislated. The Kootenay Boundary Land Use Plan Implementation Strategy includes management guidelines for Mountain Caribou, Community and Domestic Watersheds, Ungulate Winter Range, and Grizzly Bear (access), but is yet to be legislated. The KBLUP Implementation Strategy needs to become a Higher Level Plan under the Forest Practices Code to move conservation forward.

EKES is presently working to get policies around Special Resource Management Zones, Landscape Unit Planning, Identified Wildlife Management Strategy and the KBLUP Implementation Strategy legislated in order to create environmental protection tools. [Ed. emphasis]

... Furthermore, industries other than the forest industry are not required by legislation to address key environmental concerns. Mining and tourism development must be held accountable in open and transparent processes to address environmental impacts in their planning and development processes."

It seems very clear that pressure to have Land Use Plans such as KBLUP declared and legislated as Higher Level Plans can only increase. How long will this government (or the next) resist? How much confidence can we really have in the 'certainty of access' supposedly assured in Bill 12? And how much confidence can we have when lower level bureaucrats won't take direction from cabinet without legislation? ■

FOREST DEVELOPMENT PLAN REVIEWS

Kalesnikoff Lumber has provided the Chamber with a map identifying proposed road deactivation plans in its 1999-2003 Forest Development Plan. "To receive consideration all concerns and comments must be received in writing by July 7th, 1999."

Atco Lumber has prepared an FDP for the south half of the Arrow District showing proposed development, maintenance and deactivation. All comments to be received by July 26th. Viewing at Chamber or at Atco office. ■

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