

196 AR
(Imp. Metals)

Chaco Bear

The Chaco Bear property, located 10 kilometres west of the B.C. Rail siding at Bear Lake and 150 kilometres north of Smithers, British Columbia, was acquired in 1996 based on prospecting and sampling which revealed several areas of anomalous precious and base metal mineralization.



Vuggy quartz vein/breccia with veins of grey, massive specular hematite

A float sample of weathered vein material, assayed 10,530 g/t (307.1 oz/t) silver and 39% copper. Values from numerous grab samples returned assays of up to 25.5 g/t (0.744 oz/t) gold, 36.9% copper, 2.9% lead and 5.6% zinc. A drill program abbreviated by the onset of winter, managed to test a northwest striking shear zone that assayed 1.49 g/t (0.043 oz/t) gold, 14.7 g/t (0.429 oz/t) silver and 0.58 % copper over 7 metres on surface. Just under 500 metres of drilling was carried out in 5 holes. All holes were mineralized and fairly consistent with the surface showing. Because of winter conditions, several other targets could not be accessed and further work is planned in 1997.

Imperial holds an option to acquire a 100% interest in the Chaco Bear property.

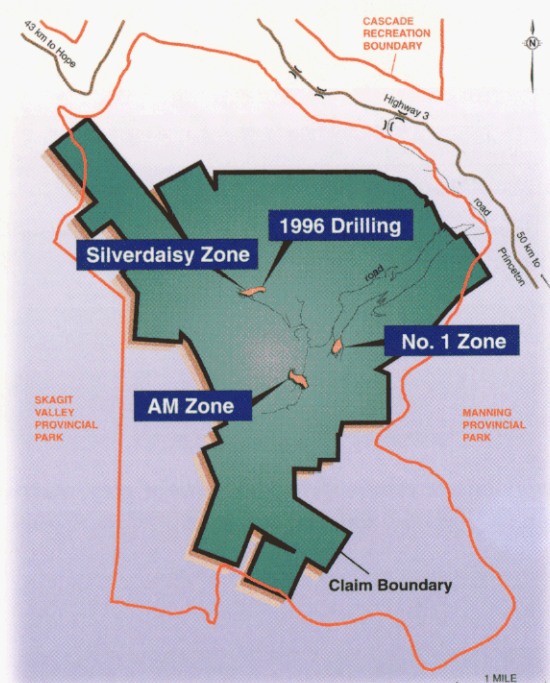


Looking north over lake on central part of property

Invermay

Imperial was very active during the summer and fall on its 100% owned Invermay (formerly Giant Copper) project located 40 kilometres east of Hope, B.C. The 1996 program included 2,837 metres of diamond drilling in 15 holes. Thirteen holes were drilled at the Silverdaisy zone to test for porphyry style mineralization below the high grade silver veins present at surface.

Work carried out at the Invermay property during the last two field seasons has delineated an open pitable resource of 29.5 million tons grading 0.653% copper, 0.011 oz/t (0.4 g/t) gold, 0.360 oz/t (12.3 g/t) silver. The focus of 1996 exploration work was the Silverdaisy Zone, approximately 1.5 kilometres northwest of the AM Zone, where 13 holes were drilled. Although all holes were mineralized with some fairly impressive intersections, the mineralization encountered thus far at Invermay is sub-economic. Notwithstanding, the system at Invermay appears to be very large and warrants ongoing systematic exploration.



Beekeeper

Imperial holds a 50% interest in the Beekeeper property, located approximately 22 kilometres southeast of the Mount Polley mine. An 11 hole, 1370 metre drill program completed in 1996 gave encouraging results, including a 22 metre intersection grading 0.7% copper and 0.96 g/t (0.028 oz/t) gold. The mineralization is located in a previously

unrecognized intrusive breccia, very similar to the host of the Mount Polley deposit.

The geological similarity and physical proximity to Mount Polley makes this target worthy of further exploration. Work planned for 1997 includes additional drilling and ground geophysics.