

882343

Field Season Report 2000

VGS → ~~Field~~
'00
→ PGEs
→ Dobbin

Platinum-Group-Element Environments in BC

This project aims to advance our understanding of the geological environments which host significant concentrations of platinum-group elements (PGE) in the Cordillera in response to a dramatic increase in exploration activity focused on the PGE. The field season focused on a Cu-PGE sulphide-bearing system associated with the Whiterocks Alkalic Complex located 25 km NW of Kelowna, some 20 km north of the former Brenda Mine.

NTS location: 82L/4-82E/13 (50th parallel)

Accomplishments:

Area mapped: ~100 square kilometres in and around the Whiterocks Mountain Complex

Claim Group: Dobbin property (Verdstone/Molycor)

Sampling: 30 lithogeochemical assay samples
60 lithogeochemical whole-rock samples
50 soil samples
30 biogeochemical samples
2 U-Pb geochronometry samples
3 Ar⁴⁰/Ar³⁹ geochronometry samples

Industry and Collaborative Activity: Verdstone/Molycor began a small (~\$100K) program of trenching and sampling towards the end of the field season with a geologist and two other crew members on site. I also understand that some new claims were added to the claim block. The company are funding the analysis of biogeochemical samples collected by Colin Dunn (GSC) as part of our program. In addition, Colin collected soil samples to be analyzed for PGE and other trace elements (*gratis*) by Gwendy Hall (GSC, Ottawa) using an ultra-low level leaching technique developed by her which is capable of detecting Pt in soils at ~0.1 ppb (*i.e.* x20 lower than standard exploration analytical methods). We hope to have all the results written up in time to be published in Geological Fieldwork. The company will have access to the results prior to public release since they own the ground over which the soil and biogeochemical surveys were conducted.

Project Status: On track for yet another exciting adventure into the world of the PGE. Impressions from the fieldwork: Cu-PGE mineralization appears to be related to a Cu skarn developed in mafic-ultramafic rocks and apparently related to a monzonitic intrusion that underlies Whiterocks Mountain and the northwestern margin of the property. From whence the PGE? Dunno exactly - yet!

Safety Record: no problems or incidents to report - despite driving a Ford Explorer with the infamous exploding tires!

Budget: On track. Could use some extra \$\$\$ for analysis of rock samples collected but not submitted for age dating. The age of the complex is presently undefined.

Planned Output: as per PIAP. May be able to complete an Open File Geological Map (not scheduled to be delivered in Performance Measures) in time for Roundup. We will be delivering two Geological Fieldwork articles - one geology (scheduled in Performance Measures), one soil geochemistry (unscheduled), with the possibility of a third biogeochemical contribution authored by Colin Dunn.

TITLE + ABSTRACT for Roundup Poster and Talk:

Platinum-Group Elements in the Whiterocks Mountain Alkalic Complex: Geology, Soils and Biogeochemistry

G. T. Nixon (B. C. Geological Survey), C. E. Dunn and G. E. M. Hall (Geological Survey of Canada)

The Whiterocks Mountain Alkalic Complex, located 25 km NW of Kelowna and some 20 km north of the site of the former Brenda Mine, comprises a suite of pyroxenite-monzodiorite-monzonite intrusions of probable Jurassic age. The occurrence of significant amounts of platinum-group elements (PGE) recently identified in drill core assays (up to 0.95 g/t Pd and 1.32 g/t Pt over 15m) appear to be associated with chalcopyrite-pyrite mineralization in the cores and Cu anomalies in soils in the NW part of the complex. Recent geological fieldwork has shown that the complex extends further south than originally mapped and has identified new occurrences of pyroxenite and melanocratic monzonite, lithologies that are spatially associated with Cu-PGE mineralization in the northern part of the complex west of Whiterocks Mountain. The results of new geochemical analyses for rocks and soils, including a new technique for ultra-low level detection of Pt (~0.1 ppb) in soils, and the results of a biogeochemical orientation survey, will be discussed in the context of the geological setting of the PGE.

Schroeter, Tom EM:EX

From: Schroeter, Tom EM:EX
Sent: Thursday, October 05, 2000 10:49 AM
To: Lefebure, Dave EM:EX
Cc: Nixon, Graham EM:EX
Subject: RE: Nixon Project Info FYI

Thanks very much for sharing the info. Graham - hope you had a great summer. FYI - Off to Giant Mascot today/tomorrow. Also, hopefully some work will commence at the Iron Lake PGE occurrence NE of Lac La Hache. Tom.

From: Lefebure, Dave EM:EX
Sent: Tuesday, October 03, 2000 5:10 PM
To: Schroeter, Tom EM:EX
Cc: Cathro, Mike EM:EX
Subject: Nixon Project Info FYI

From: Nixon, Graham EM:EX
Sent: Friday, September 29, 2000 1:48 PM
To: Lefebure, Dave EM:EX
Subject: Files for Field report and Abstract

<<File: Field Season Report 2000.doc>><<File: Roundup 2001 Poster and Talk.doc>>

Dave,
Here are the files you need - note the updated abstract.

Hasta La Vista,
Graham

Schroeter, Tom EM:EX

From: Schroeter, Tom EM:EX
Sent: Thursday, October 05, 2000 10:46 AM
To: Cathro, Mike EM:EX; Lefebure, Dave EM:EX
Subject: RE: Confidential Info - Dobbin

Will do. Thanks for sharing the info. Tom.

From: Lefebure, Dave EM:EX
Sent: Tuesday, October 03, 2000 5:14 PM
To: Cathro, Mike EM:EX; Schroeter, Tom EM:EX
Subject: Confidential Info - Dobbin

Mike and Tom:

Please keep the information regarding the "new occurrences of pyroxenite and melanocratic monzonite" confidential for now because we believe they are unstaked.

Thanks,
Dave

From: Lefebure, Dave EM:EX
Sent: Tuesday, October 03, 2000 5:10 PM
To: Schroeter, Tom EM:EX
Cc: Cathro, Mike EM:EX
Subject: Nixon Project Info FYI

From: Nixon, Graham EM:EX
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Graham