

Department of Energy Mines and Resources
Mineral Assessment Program

2002 Special Management Area (SMA) Evaluations

Lewes-Marsh proposed SMA NTS 105 D/9&10 21.3 km² (HPA)

The proposed Lewes-Marsh Habitat Protection Area SMA is located west of the Alaska Highway and covers the wetlands along the Yukon River upstream to the Alaska Highway Bridge Crossing and includes the northwestern portion of Marsh Lake. The SMA has been proposed to be included in the Kwanlin Dun First Nation Final Agreement. Two quartz claim blocks that extend west of the highway are excluded from the proposed SMA. The negotiations leading to the proposed SMA included the understanding that the proposed SMA will be withdrawn from claim staking. The proposed SMA is in an area ranked as relative moderate regional mineral potential.

Mid-Cretaceous andesite to dacite volcanic rocks host precious metal bearing quartz-sulphide veins in outcrops east of the highway. Rocks of the Cache Creek Terrane underly the southeast corner of the proposed SMA. Ultramafic related mineral occurrences have been explored on the structural break between the two exotic terranes. The Jurassic Aged Laberge Group volcanic and sedimentary rocks outcrop west of Marsh Lake and the proposed SMA. Base metal skarn occurrences have been staked in the region. The Rossbank 27 & 29 mineral claims are located along the Alaska Highway covering the only known rock outcrops in the proposed SMA. The existing claims are being excluded from the final SMA boundaries.

The aero-magnetic survey results indicate a major structural break that juxtaposes rocks of the Cache Creek Terrane with the Stikine Terrane rocks in the southeast corner of the proposed SMA and under Marsh Lake.

The RGS does not cover the proposed SMA. The highest response in multi-elements for potential economic metals is associated with the mafic-andesite volcanic rocks east of the highway and SMA.

The proposed field work will concentrate on potential gold placer creeks draining into the proposed SMA and known mineral occurrences surrounding the proposed SMA. Multi-element lithogeochemical and soil and/or silt concentrate sampling is to be carried out from outcrops, streams and across stratigraphic or structural zones to characterize the mineral occurrences on claims within and adjacent to the proposed SMA.

Due to the easy access to the area day traverses will be carried out commuting from Whitehorse. The initial evaluation will consider the lack of outcrop within the proposed SMA and focus on the rocks outcropping around the area. There will be an estimated 15 rock, silt, soil and pan concentrate samples collected in the initial examination. Follow-up examination of prospective areas will depend upon the initial analytical results.

Budget Items for field work:

Wages Initial evaluation	6 man days @ \$ 300 /md	\$ 1,800.00
Wages Follow up	2 man days @ \$ 300 /md	600.00
Samples		
Rock	10 @ \$ 20 /samp (32 ICP + Au)	200.00
Soil/silt	5 @ \$ 15 /samp (32 ICP + Au)	75.00
Truck Travel costs		<u>200.00</u>
Total		\$ 2,875.00