

A. E. Aho
G. Davis
J. Brock
J. Bruk
S. Jones
H. R. Whittall

PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PROSPECTING
MT. AHO AREA, Y. T.

July 22, 1972

018137

INTRODUCTION

Purpose of this venture was to check rust seepages and to prospect east of the silver-lead discoveries made in 1969 by the Hess project, with a view toward lead-zinc replacement deposits, tungsten and high grade silver-lead veins. The prospecting party consisted of A. E. Aho, T. M. Skonseng, Robert Etzel and Silvia Rousseau.

The area lies between Rogue River and the headwaters of Fido Creek, 70 miles WNW of Hudson Bay's Tom deposit (30 miles WNW of Jake Lake) along the same belt and 110 miles north of Ross River. Access is by float plane from Ross River and then by helicopter since the area itself has no central lakes. Three camps have been occupied by helicopter-Fido Creek July 11 to 16; Pass to Johnny Creek July 16-22 and Johnny Creek July 22-29. The next move is to the main showing.

RESULTS TO DATE

From the first camp, all streams, rust seepages and lower slopes available were sampled. Skonseng discovered massive galena-tetrahedrite float in slate talus (Sample TS-1 498 oz/ton silver) 1½ miles N10°W of camp (on open meadow); Aho and Etzel discovered a large travertine seepage and manganese staining 1½ miles south of camp. Soils and silts are being analyzed for Cu, Pb, Zn.

During the move to the next camp, Aho silt sampled most of the drainages to the northeast nearly to Old Cabin Creek; samples being analyzed for Cu, Pb, Zn and W.

From Johnny Pass similar prospecting and geologic mapping resulted in several discoveries of vein-type silver-lead-zinc, copper-cobalt, barite and pyrrhotite mineralization to the south and west by Skonseng; two new float discoveries of vein or replacement type lead-zinc mineralization down Johnny Creek by Etzel (near the pyrrhotite and barite); and preliminary geologic interpretation by Aho (Samples TS-2, TS-3 and R-1, R-2 for assay)

The mineralization found to date appears to be localized on the south flank of an anticlinal structure whose core consists of impure rusty to dolomitic quartzite, dolomite, red and green slates and minor dark grey limestone; its flanks being overlain by cherts, slates and also sections of the above rocks. The anticline contains a quartz porphyry sill, is intruded along its north flank by two granitic stocks of the Mackenzie arc, is cut by steeply dipping N30°W faults with right lateral movement, is cut by NE linears (probably faults), shows some axial plane faulting (90-110°) and minor N-S quartz-carbonate veining. It is not yet known which of these fracture sets localize mineralization since none of the float localities has been opened up by trenching. After prospecting of Johnny Creek, it is proposed to hand-trench the main showing of the previous Greg claims to determine its width, extent, values and geologic controls, while awaiting geochemical results from sampling of other localities.

The unusually high silver content of the first assay is very promising for general potential of the area.

CONCLUSIONS

1. This area is more widely mineralized and higher in silver than indicated by previous work, and it appears to be a mineral district rather than a few related veins.

2. The 1968 (and perhaps 1969) geochemical results may be subject to analytical errors of unknown magnitude and several promising areas do not appear to have been sampled.
3. The geologic setting and silver content are analogous in many ways with the Keno Hill district which lies along the same regional arc.
4. The abundance of mineralization and the geologic setting suggest good economic possibilities for high grade veins in brittle rocks or replacements in limy sections.
5. The main showing and other localities could prove much more promising when opened up by trenching.

A. E. Aho,

July 28, 1972.