

Interoffice Memo

To: Ruth Gothard
From: Danièle Héon
CC:
Date: December 12, 2000
Re: Bluefish Cave

The Bluefish cave is located in the southwest corner of map 116N, at approximately 140 deg 47' long. and 67 deg 07' lat. The following is a comment on the mineral potential of the area outlined on a provided map, as requested by Heritage Branch.

The caves are hosted by a Cambrian to Devonian limestone to dolomite of the Bouvette Formation (map Unit CDb). This unit is prospective for Mississippi-Valley-type mineralization as well as replacement and vein-style lead-zinc mineralization. Regionally, this unit hosts various lead-zinc occurrences, in breccias as well as in veins and as replacements. Argentiferous galena and barite are also known to occur with this rock unit. The upper contact of this formation may also be prospective for exhalative-style mineralization. No regional geochemistry is available for the area, and the area is definitely under-explored. Both these factors hinder the evaluation of the mineral potential of this formation.

The area under study was assessed as part of the regional mineral potential for northern Yukon. The geological tract that includes the Bluefish Caves ranked 4th highest out of 6 categories, when compared to other geological tracts in northern Yukon.

No known mineralization occurs in the immediate vicinity of the caves. The eventual withdrawal of the Bluefish Caves, as per the small area outlined on the provided map, does not conflict with any known or predicted mineral interests.

In summary, the rocks hosting the Bluefish Cave rank moderately high in a regional mineral potential study. The specific area surrounding the Cave, however, is currently of relatively minimal mineral value.