

# Yukon Molybdenum Potential



Stormy Deposit



## CASINO DEPOSIT (115J 028)

Cu-Au-Mo mineralisation is centred on an altered breccia pipe associated with the Late Cretaceous (74-72 Ma) felsic Patton porphyry of the Prospector Mountain suite (LKP). Supergene and hypogene resources are present (see Table 1).

## CASH DEPOSIT (115I 037)

Cu-Mo-Au mineralisation (Table 1) is associated with Late Cretaceous (75Ma) feldspar porphyry plugs and dykes of the Prospector Mountain suite (LKP).

## WHITEHORSE COPPER (105D 053)

Best known for Cu mineralisation in 28 skarn deposits that stretch for 32 km along the western margin of the mid-Cretaceous Whitehorse Batholith, part of the Whitehorse Suite (mKW). However, Mo is abundant at the northern & southern ends of the belt where the pluton dips shallowly, e.g. Cowley Park (Table 1), Sue & War Eagle deposits.

## TAD (115I 031)

Mo mineralisation occurs as disseminations & in quartz veins within the Coffee Creek phase of the mid-Cretaceous Dawson Range Batholith (mKW). Zn-Au mineralisation occurs nearby & is associated with Late Cretaceous quartz-feldspar-biotite porphyry (LKP) that cuts the quartz monzonite.

## KLOT/PATT (115J 002)

Molybdenite & chalcopyrite mineralisation occurs on fractures & as disseminations in Tertiary miarolitic alaskite of the Nisling Range Suite (ETN).

## POW (105D 050)

Molybdscheelite occurs in garnet-diopsidite-apatite skarn developed along the contact between Triassic Lewes River limestone (uTAK) & hornblende granodiorite of the mid-Cretaceous Cap Creek pluton, part of the Whitehorse Suite (mKW).

## CORK (115G 015)

Cu-Mo mineralisation occurs in quartz veins and on fractures cutting Tertiary (26 Ma) feldspar porphyry sills and/or dykes of the Tkope Suite (OT).

## ITTLEMIT (115H 041)

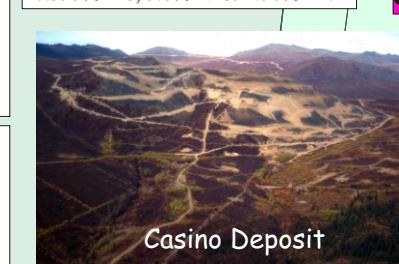
Molybdenite occurs as disseminations & in quartz veins in Early Tertiary Nisling Range Suite granodiorite (ETN). Cu-Mo-bearing skarn occurs in proximal Nisling Terrane rocks, e.g. Giltana prospect.

## LIME (105D 004)

Pockets and rosettes of molybdenum occur in a 750 x 150 m stockwork at the top of a quartz monzonite stock (?Late Cretaceous) that intrudes Cache Creek terrane oceanic rocks. Best reported result is 0.756% MoS<sub>2</sub> over 1.5 m in a trench.

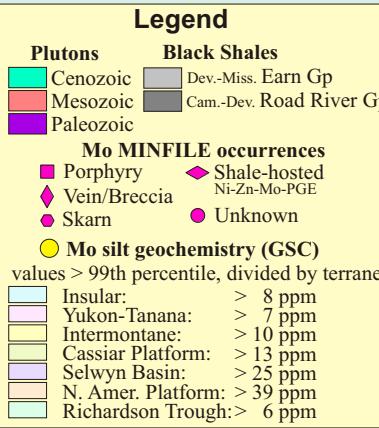
## NICK (106D 092)

Stratiform polymetallic massive sulphide occurs at the contact between Road River Group mudstone and overlying Earn Group chert. Samples returned up to 0.395% Mo, 5.8% Ni & 1.56% Zn.



## HOIDAHL, SEDGWICK (117A 021, 024)

Mo (Cu,W, Au,As,U) mineralisation is associated with Devonian biotite-quartz monzonite stocks of the Old Crow Suite (MLDO). Molybdenite occurs on fractures & in narrow quartz veins within the intrusive rocks & as Mo-bearing skarn in proximal Cambrian Slats Creek strata. A quartz vein sample returned 1.94% MoS<sub>2</sub>.



## Casino Deposit



## TWO BUTTES (105M 038)

Molybdenite occurs within quartz veinlets and stockworks within a 600 x 300 m area at the top of the mid-Cretaceous Two Buttes monzogranite stock. Scheelite-bearing skarn occurs on the pluton margins.

## STORMY (105F 011)

Mo ± W mineralisation (Table 1) is densely disseminated in mid-Cretaceous diorite of the Cassiar Suite (mKC) & within garnet-diopsidite skarn developed in proximal Lower Cambrian Rossella limestone (ICR).

## RED MOUNTAIN (105C 009)

Molybdenite (Table 1) occurs in quartz stockworks in a multi-stage Late Cretaceous quartz monzonite stock of the Prospector Mountain Suite (LKP).

## Devono-Mississippian Shale

Elevated levels of Mo ( $\pm$  Ni, Zn, V, U, Sn, Sb, Hg, Cu, Ba, Ag, Au) occur in Devono-Mississippian shales of the Road River & Earn Groups. Stream sediments draining these units contain up to 1240 ppm Mo.

## LOGTUNG DEPOSIT (105B 039)

Scheelite- & molybdenite-bearing quartz stockworks occur in a high level ?mid-Cretaceous felsic intrusive of the Cassiar Suite (mKC). Resource estimates are given in Table 1.

## TUNA (105H 082)

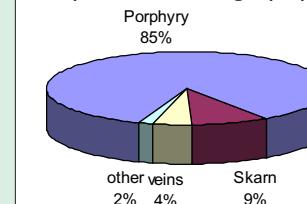
Mo ( $\pm$  W, Cu, Au, Ag, Sb, Bi, As) occurs in veins, breccia & stockworks in altered mid-Cretaceous granodiorite of the Selwyn Suite (mKS). In addition, disseminated Mo mineralisation occurs in the megacrystic core of the pluton, in aplite porphyry dykes & in tourmaline breccia & stockworks.

Julie Hunt & Craig Hart, Yukon Geological Survey

## Introduction

Molybdenum mineralisation occurs throughout the Yukon and is mainly associated with Devonian to Oligocene intrusive suites. This includes the large Logtung (W-Mo), Red Mountain (Mo) & Casino (Cu-Mo) deposits (Table 1). However, the most notable geochemical enrichments of Mo (with other metals) occur within Devono-Mississippian black shales in the Selwyn Basin & North American Platform, with up to 1240 ppm in regional (GSC) stream sediment samples.

## Molybdenum showing by type



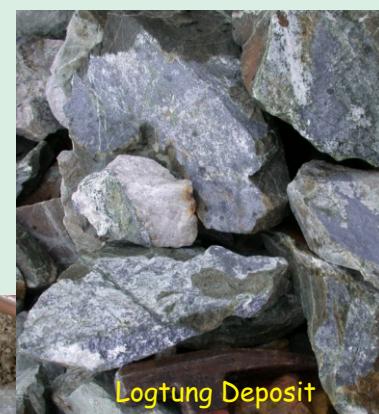
## Tonnes & Grade

Deposit	tonnes (x 10 <sup>3</sup> )	% MoS <sub>2</sub>	% Mo
<b>Casino</b>	675	--	0.02
<b>Logtung</b>	229	0.05	
<b>Red Mountain</b>	187.3	0.167	
<b>Cash</b>	36.3		0.018
<b>Stormy</b>	0.0134	0.73	
<b>Cowley Park</b>	0.884	0.066	

Table 1: Resources for Yukon molybdenum-bearing deposits.



Red Mountain Deposit



Logtung Deposit



Logtung Deposit



Tuna Prospect

## Geology of Deposits

Most significant molybdenum mineralisation in the Yukon is related to porphyritic rocks associated with the following intrusive suites:

- Devonian Old Crow Suite
- mid-Cretaceous Whitehorse Suite
- mid-Cretaceous Cassiar Suite
- mid-Cretaceous Selwyn Suite
- Late Cretaceous Prospector Mountain Suite
- Early Tertiary Nisling Range Suite
- Oligocene Tkope Suite

Mo mineralisation occurs largely in quartz vein stockworks & as disseminations in the tops of Mo-bearing intrusions, e.g. Casino, Tad, Patt, Two Buttes, Red Mountain, Logtung & Tuna.

Mo-bearing skarns developed in calcareous strata adjacent to the intrusive rocks are also significant, e.g. Whitehorse Copper, Pow & Stormy.

## Regional Geochemistry

Regional silt sample data (GSC) for Mo is displayed with respect to underlying terrane in the Yukon map to the left. In general, there is a good correlation between Mo values in the regional geochemical survey and areas known to host significant porphyry, skarn &/or vein molybdenum mineralisation. Exceptions to this occur in the Selwyn Basin and North American Platform where high Mo values were also returned by silts derived from Devono-Mississippian black shales and cherts of the Road River and Earn Groups. There appears to be at least one horizon within the sedimentary package that is locally highly enriched in metals (Mo  $\pm$  Ni, Zn, V, U, Sn, Sb, Hg, Cu, Ba, Ag, Au). Evidence of this is seen at the Nick prospect where there is a narrow bitumen-bearing horizon that contains vaesite, pyrite & sphalerite & elevated levels of Mo, Pt, Pd, Ag, Au, Re & Se.

## Exploration Models

Molybdenum deposit models useful for exploration in the Yukon include:

- 1) **Disseminated & stockwork Mo mineralisation** developed in Devonian, Cretaceous & Tertiary intrusive rocks. Associated elements include W & Cu. E.g. Hoidahl, Logtung & Klot/Patt.
- 2) **Molybdenite-bearing skarn deposits** developed in Paleozoic & Mesozoic carbonate rocks at or near contacts with felsic Devonian, Cretaceous and Tertiary intrusions. Associated elements include W & Cu. Examples: Whitehorse Copper & Pow.
- 3) **Molybdenite-bearing veins & stockworks** in hornfelsed sedimentary rocks proximal to Cretaceous & Tertiary intrusions. Associated elements include Cu, Co, Zn, W, As, Pb. Examples: Bloom & St Elias.
- 4) **Mo-bearing black shales** in areas underlain by Cambrian-Devonian Road River Group and Devono-Mississippian Earn Group in the Selwyn Basin and North American Platform. High values of Mo (& other metals) occur in regional silt samples (GSC) from creeks draining these areas.

## Further Reading

- © Hart CJR, Goldfarb RJ, Lewis LL and Mair JL (2004) The Northern Cordilleran mid-Cretaceous Plutonic Province: Ilmenite/magnetite-series granitoids and intrusion-related mineralisation. *Resource Geology* 54:3:253-280.
- © Sinclair WD (1987) Molybdenum, tungsten and tin deposits and associated granitoid intrusions in the northern Canadian Cordillera and adjacent parts of Alaska. In: Morin JA (ed.) *Mineral Deposits of Northern Cordillera Symposium*, CIMM, Special volume 37, pp. 216-233.
- © Schroeter TG (ed. 1995) Porphyry Deposits of the Northwestern Cordillera of North America. CIMM Special volume 46, 888p.

# Mo MINFILE Occurrences

MINFILE #	Names	Status	Major	Minor
<b>Porphyry</b>				
105A 020	MURRAY	Showing	Au, Mo	W
105A 046	TAFFIE	Anomaly	Mo	
105B 010	TROY	Anomaly	Cu	
105B 039	LOGTUNG	Deposit	W, Mo	Be
105B 087	MCPRES	Prospect	Mo, Cu	Ag
105B 103	THRALL	Showing	Ag, Mo	Cu
105B 108	REGIONAL	Anomaly	Mo	W, Sn
105C 009	RED MTN	Deposit	Cu, Mo, Ag, W	
105D 004	LIME	DP	Mo	Cu
105D 010	CARCROSS	DP		Cu, Mo
105D 015	FINGER	Showing	Au, Zn, Pb, Ag	Cu
105D 016	LATREILLE	Showing	Ag, Mo, Au, Cu	
105D 023	FAWLEY	DP	Au, Cu	Ag
105D 041	ALLIGATOR	Showing		Cu, Mo
105D 044	ARK	Showing		Cu, Mo
105D 058	KOOKATSOON	DP		Cu, Mo
105D 059	DUGDALE	DP		Cu, Au, Mo
105D 080	IMP	Anomaly		Cu
105D 081	STONY	Showing		Mo
105D 100	INCO	Showing	Au, Ag	Cu
105D 104	SUITS	DP	Mo, Cu	Au
105D 135	WEST ARM	Anomaly	U	Mo
105D 167	BOVE	Anomaly	Mo	
105D 180	SILVER QUEEN	DP	Ag	Au, Cu, Pb
105D 190	WARD	Showing	Au, Ag, Cu	Pb + Zn
105E 002	TUV	Prospect	Cu	F, Pb, Mo, W
105E 024	HIG	Showing	Mo	Cu
105E 024	HIG	Showing	Mo	Cu
105E 025	LORI	Showing	Mo	Cu
105E 027	BACON	Showing	Cu	Au
105F 004	GOPHER	Prospect	Pb, Mo, Ag	Au, Zn
105F 011	STORMY	Deposit	Mo, W	
105F 079	MURPHY	Showing	U	W, Cu
105H 044	RENA	Showing	W, Mo	
105H 053	TILLEI	Showing	Mo, W	Pb, Zn
105H 082	TUNA	Showing	W, Mo	As, Sb, Bi, Au, Ag, Cu
105H 082	TUNA	Showing	W, Mo	As, Sb, Bi, Au, Ag, Cu
105H 097	TUS	Showing	Mo	W
105J 006	TAC	Anomaly	Mo, Cu	
105L 055	HODDER	Showing	Mo	
105M 038	TWO BUTTES	DP	W	
105O 003	JEFF	Unknown	Mo	
105O 008	KEELE	Showing	Mo	
105O 030	GRIZZ	Showing	Mo, W, Ag, Au	
105O 031	VAN ANGEREN	Showing	Mo	
105O 056	GOLD	Unknown	Au	
106C 001	KOHSE	Prospect	Cu	Cu, Mo, Ag, W, Sb
115A 002	DALTON	DP		
115A 012	CAVE	Prospect	Cu	Ag
115A 024	DEVILHOLE	Showing	Cu, Mo	Pb
115A 043	SOUTHER	Showing	Mo, Cu	Zn, Pb, Ag
115A 045	TATSHENSHINI	Showing	Cu	Mo
115F 030	SHARPE	Showing	Ag, Au	Cu, Au, Mo, Ag
115F 031	GALLOPING	Showing		Mo
115F 032	ICE FIELD	Anomaly		Cu, Mo
115F 034	GARLIC	Prospect	Au	Cu, Mo
115F 047	EPIC	Showing		Cu, Mo
115F 087	CANYON MTN	Showing	Au	Cu
115G 004	MULLER	Anomaly		Mo
115G 014	AMP	Anomaly		Cu

MINFILE #	Names	Status	Major	Minor
115G 015	CORK	DP	Mo, Cu	Cu
115G 069	TALBOT	Showing		Mo, Cu, W
115G 070	RAFT	DP		Mo, W, Cu
115G 071	ROCKSLIDE	DP		
115G 072	NORTH STAR	Unknown		
115G 073	BED	Anomaly		
115G 074	ALASKITE	Anomaly		
115G 075	TYRRELL	Anomaly		
115G 076	DWARF	Showing		
115G 079	RHYOLITE	DP	Cu, Mo	
115H 003	NIPPON	Showing		
115H 007	SNIPE	Showing		
115H 014	LION	DP		
115H 021	SATO	Showing		
115H 025	KATHY	Unknown		
115H 027	POPLAR	Anomaly		
115H 028	STEVENS	Anomaly		
115H 029	OCCIDENT	Anomaly		
115H 032	KIRI	Anomaly		
115H 033	BUFF	Showing		
115H 036	BILQUIST	Unknown		
115H 038	TAHTE	Showing		
115H 041	ITTLEMENT	Showing		
115I 023	PAL	DP		
115I 026	PELLY	DP		
115I 029	DELTA	Anomaly		
115I 031	TAD	DP		
115I 032	PHELPS	Prospect		
115I 037	CASH	Deposit		
115I 038	KLAZAN	DP		
115I 039	COM	Anomaly		
115I 042	REVENUE	DP		
115I 045	NEWKIRK	Showing		
115I 047	TRITOP	Anomaly		
115I 048	EDGAR	Anomaly		
115I 050	GRANGER	DP		
115I 056	CYPRESS	DP		
115I 070	MALONEY	DP		
115I 074	COMANCHE	DP		
115I 076	TUF	Showing		
115I 081	KERR	DP		
115I 087	KOOK	Anomaly		
115I 093	GOULTER	DP		
115I 094	GIANT	DP		
115I 102	LUMBY	Anomaly		
115I 107	NUCLEUS	Deposit		
115I 108	TOOT	Showing		
115J 002	KLOT	Showing		
115J 003	MIM	Showing		
115J 004	SOMME	Anomaly		
115J 015	CROCK	Unknown		
115J 017	COCKFIELD	Showing		
115J 025	PEG	Anomaly		
115J 028	CASINO	Deposit		
115J 029	HOLE	Anomaly		
115J 031	CLEVELAND	Anomaly		
115J 032	RONGE	Anomaly		
115J 034	GEP	Anomaly		
115J 035	AZTEC	Anomaly		
115J 036	ZAPPA	DP		
115J 040	BOREAL	Showing		

MINFILE #	Names	Status	Major	Minor
115J 044	BID	Showing		
115J 045	VINA	Showing		
115J 048	HANNA	Anomaly		
115J 064	LYON	Anomaly		
115J 072	SCROGGIE	Showing		
115J 089	PATTISON	DP		
115J 090	INDIANA	DP		
115J 091	AMOCO	Showing		
115J 101	ANA	DP		
115K 081	WRANGELL	Anomaly		
115K 082	TRUDI	DP		
115N 021	ARIES	Showing		
115N 026	LADUE	Showing		
115N 029	PAX	Anomaly		
115O 020	APOLLO	Anomaly		
115O 085	MCMICHAEL	Showing		
115P 032	MOZI	Anomaly		
116B 002	BENSON	Anomaly		
116B 055	FIREWEED	Anomaly		
116C 134	PLUTO	DP		
116C 143	SWEDE	Unknown		
117A 021	HOIDAHL	Showing		
117A 024	SEDGWICK	Showing		
<b>Skarn</b>				
105B 090	SWIFT	Unknown		
105B 093	RALFS	Unknown		
105B 097	URP	Showing		
105C 035	ENGLISHMAN	Showing		
105D 050	POW	Showing		
105D 053	WHITEHORSE	Cu		
105D 125	FOOT	PP		
105F 001	MOLLY	DP		
105H 040	CREE	Showing		
105H 052	DODGE	Showing		
105H 088	BILLINGS	Showing		
105J 035	SASK	Showing		
115J 052	TONI TIGER	Showing		
115G 068	BROOKS	Showing		
115H 015	MORAINE	Prospect		
115H 016	GILTANA	DP		
116B 060	MULTIPLY	Showing		
<b>Vein</b>				
105B 135	GOLDEX	Anomaly		
105C 030	MUSKRAT	Anomaly		
105G 018	GRASS	Showing		
105N 012	BLOOM	Showing		