ASSESSMENT REPORT

# 105M-14-12

# SOUTH OF GAMBLER LAKE

PREPARED BY

DIAND TECHNICAL SERVICES

MARCH, 1994

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# SOUTH OF GAMBLER LAKE

## LOCATION

Latitude: 63° 57'41"N
Longitude: 135° 17'04"W

The site is located approximately 6km north of the old mining community of Keno and is reached by first travelling the road to the abandoned mining community of Wernecke. The site is then reached by taking a poorly defined trail, now overgrown with vegetation, about one kilometer north of Wernecke. An alternate route branches left off the road 1.5km south of Wernecke and goes directly to the site. This alternate route is in better condition than the route past Wernecke.

The elevation of the site is approximately 1100m above sea level.

Location maps and airphotos showing the site are included as Appendix A of this report.

## WORK HISTORY

A work history for this site could not be located.

## CLAIMS STATUS

Status of mineral claims and leases including claim/lease names and numbers, expiry dates, and current owners in the vicinity of the site have been noted as of 1994/02/15 as follows;

| CLAIM NAME/NUMBERS | EXPIRY DATE | OWNER |
|---|---|---|
| Travice (Lot 141) - lease | April 22, 2009 | United Keno Hill Mines Ltd. |
| Blue Bell (Lot 106) - lease | January 31, 2009 | United Keno Hill Mines Ltd. |
| Bar 1-4 - claim | January 24, 1994 | R. Barchen |

## CURRENT SITE CONDITIONS

The mine and exploration site is located on the lower part of the west facing slope of Keno Hill and is accessible during the summer by road from the community of Keno Hill. The best access to this site is gained by turning left off the road about 1.5km before the abandoned community of Wernecke. The remaining 3km road to the site is wet in spots but could be travelled by a four wheel drive vehicle in dry weather.

The site is on a gentle northwest facing slope covered by silt and gravel till overlying bedrock. The site has been cleared and levelled in the vicinity of the adit and loadout structure. No evidence showing any trenching activity was observed.

It was estimated that between 600-800 litres/minute of water was flowing from the one adit found on-site at the time of inspection on 1993/07/24. This water was flowing from the adit into a vertical shaft beside the adit. This shaft may have been constructed specifically as a drainage feature for the mine. The other surface water is channeled from a poorly defined gully upslope of the site which channels snowmelt and water from seasonal subsurface thawing across the site past the waste rock dump, continuing downslope into a gully below the site. It appeared that there may be some vegetation stress in the gully above and below the site.

The predominant species of vegetation cover is willow with black spruce making up 30% of the growth.

The collapsed adit is essentially closed off. Railway track extends out of the adit to a loadout and waste rock dump, a total distance of not more than 100m. The loadout structure was constructed as a wood retaining structure that is now collapsing. In addition to this infrastructure, the following material was found on-site;

- one ore car,
- one car body,
- 3 empty barrels,
- less than 10 pieces of rail and pipe, and
- wood waste dumped over the bank of the waste rock pile.

No buildings or hydrocarbon products were found.

Photographs showing current site conditions are attached as Appendix B of this report.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

This appears to be quite an old site and remaining infrastructure has been in place a long time. Remaining infrastructure from past activity includes a collapsed adit, a vertical shaft, loadout structure, waste dump area, road to the site, and various pieces of metal and wood waste scattered around the site. Site remediation plans should be implemented with care.

The open unmarked vertical shaft in front of the adit is quite dangerous as someone entering the area could fall into it. It is recommended that the site be posted to warn anyone entering the area of the potential hazards, or alternatively the shaft should be securely covered so nobody could fall into it. It is also recommended that the high volume of water flow into this shaft not be blocked as this appears to be an effective way of draining the water from the site. Blocking this flow will require rechanneling water across the site potentially causing erosion and/or increasing the potential of a slope failure. Securing this shaft properly is considered a **HIGH** priority.

Another safety hazard is the collapsing loadout structure. The wood retaining structure has rotted and is now starting to collapse. It is possible that this structure could fail suddenly and it should not be relied upon to support any loads. It is recommended that this structure be posted to warn anyone that it is potentially unsafe, or alternatively it could be dismantled. It would be more costly to dismantle this structure than to post warning signs in this very remote location. This is considered a **MEDIUM** priority.

It appeared that the vegetation in the gully above and below the mine site was coloured differently than the surrounding vegetation out of this gully. This minor discolouration was limited to a small area, less than one hectare in size. It was not obvious whether this discolouration is a natural occurrence or whether it is caused from environmental disturbance to the area such as leachate from the mine waste rock at this site or the Wernecke site above.. If this is of concern in this remote area, then vegetation sampling and analysis should be conducted. From the inspection this would appear to be a **LOW** priority.

Other work that could be completed at this site would be to clean-up any metal or wood debris. The metal debris could be gathered and hauled from the site, and the wood debris could be piled and burned on-site. This is considered a **LOW** priority and should be completed only if a general clean-up program is initiated in the area.

## SUMMARY

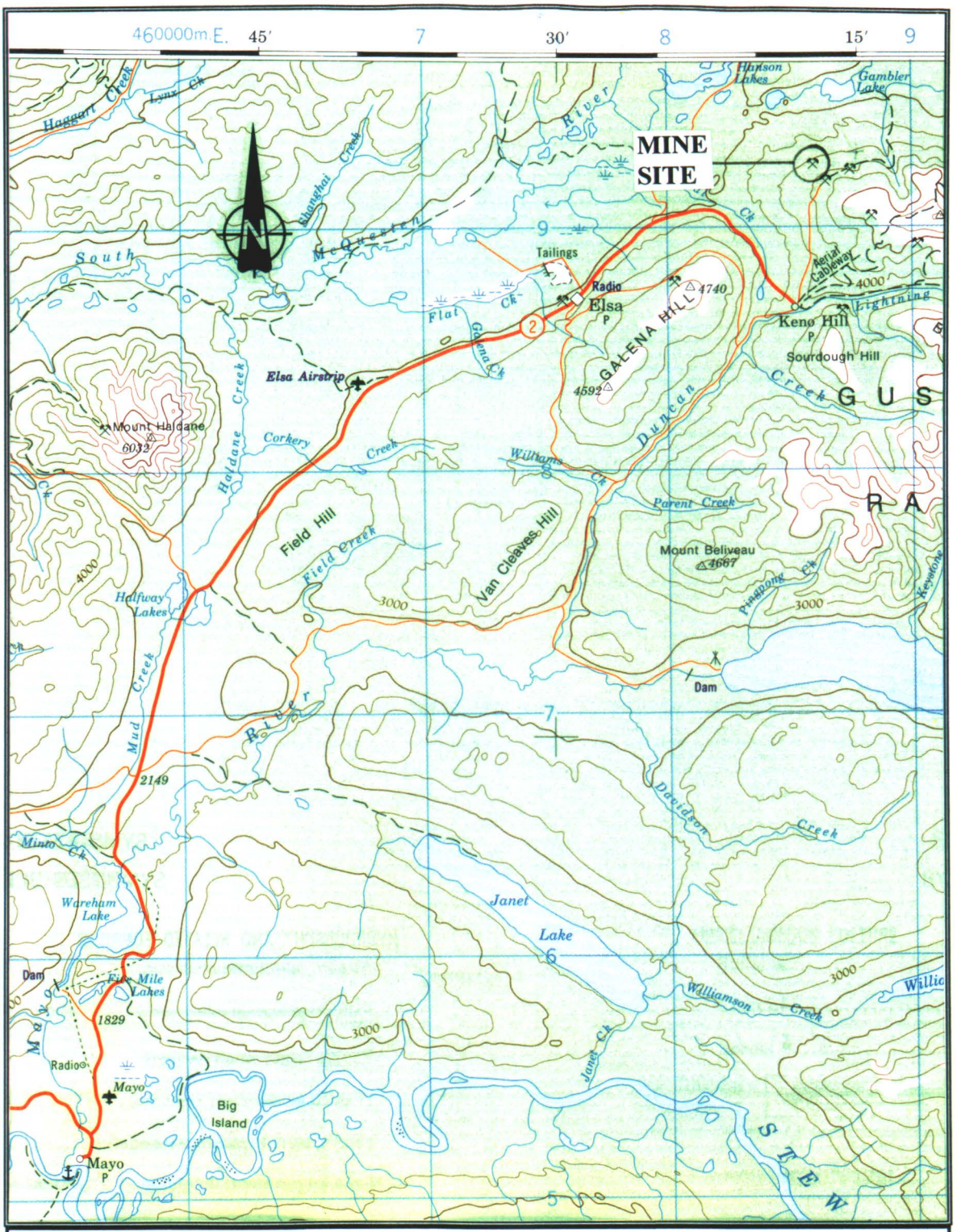
Although this site is in quite a remote location items concerning public safety, such as the unmarked open shaft and the collapsing adit, are considered to be **HIGH** priorities for implementation. As a minimum, posting the site to warn of any potential hazards should be completed as soon as possible.

The vegetation that appeared to be discoloured from the surrounding vegetation is limited to a small area. If it was found that some form of leachate was causing this problem it is likely that a decision would have to be made whether or not this very small area under distress can be improved economically.

Also it is recommended that a general clean-up program be completed at this site to remove any unsightly material, however this material is not considered to be causing ongoing environmental damage and is therefore considered a **LOW** priority.

# APPENDIX A

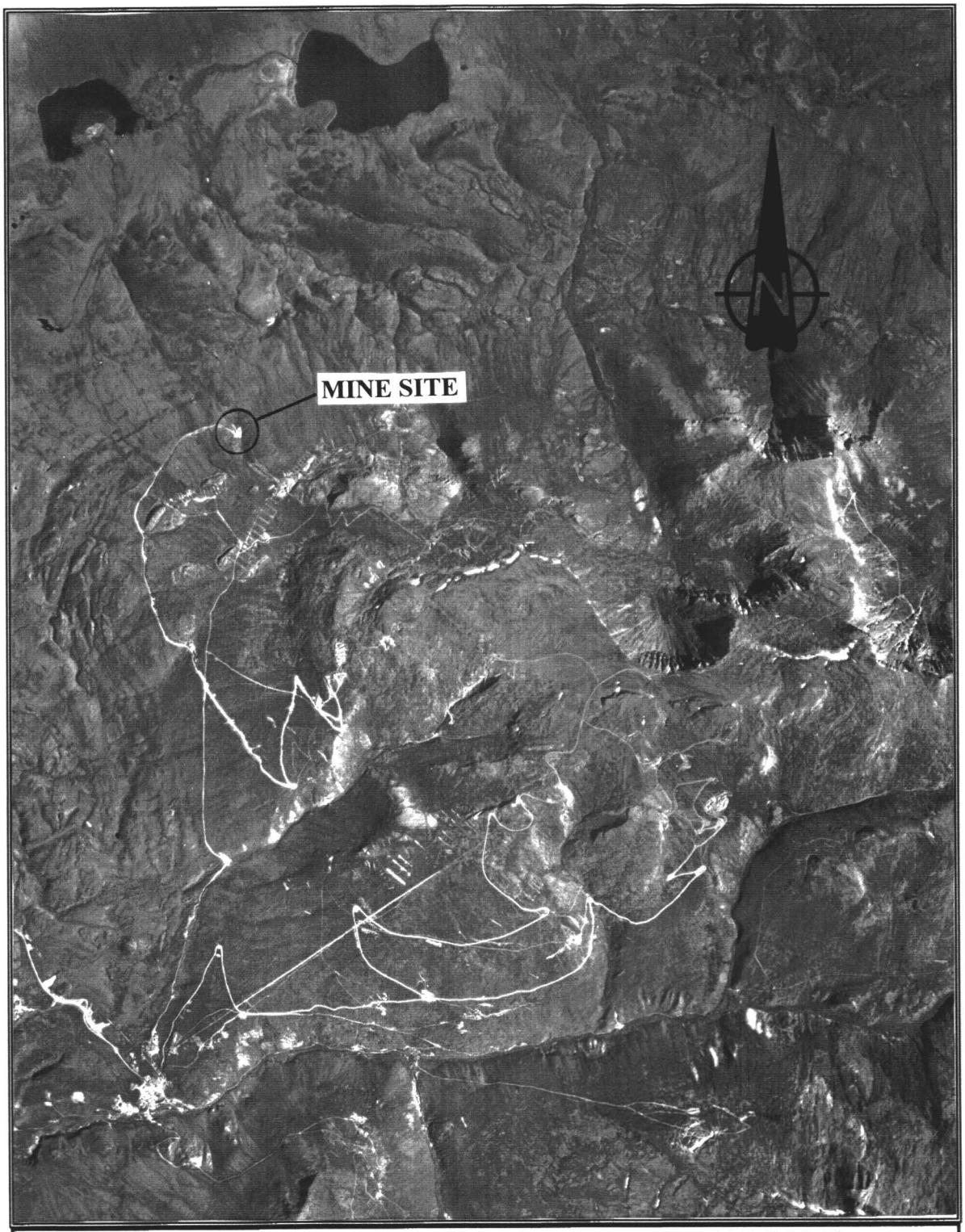
**SITE LOCATION MAPS**




SITE NAME: **SOUTH OF GAMBLER LAKE** SITE NUMBER: **105M-14-12**

MAP NUMBER: **105M** MAP NAME: **MAYO** MAP SCALE: **1:250000**

SITE LOCATION: LATITUDE: **63° 57'41"** LONGITUDE: **135° 17'04"**




SITE NAME: **SOUTH OF GAMBLER LAKE** SITE NUMBER: **105M-14-12**

AIRPHOTO NUMBER: **A19980-11** YEAR: **1968** AIRPHOTO SCALE: **1:56000**

SITE LOCATION: LATITUDE: **63° 57'41"** LONGITUDE: **135° 17'04"**

# APPENDIX B

**SITE PHOTOGRAPHS**

COLLAPSED ADIT AND ADJACENT SHAFT

COLLAPSING LOADOUT

ABANDONED CAR BODY

GULLY ABOVE SITE

WASTE ROCK AND GULLY DOWNSLOPE