



MINERAL OCCURRENCES

Table with columns: NAME, NUMBER, NTS, CLASS, MAJOR, MINOR, STATUS. Lists various mineral occurrences with their respective codes and locations.

Mineral occurrence data from DIAND (1993)

REFERENCES

List of references including geological surveys, scientific papers, and reports related to the study area.

TECTONIC FRAMEWORK

The Teslin area is underlain by six terranes (see Wheeler et al., 1991b) of contrasting sedimentary and structural histories that were juxtaposed in the Jur-Cretaceous and intruded by three main suites of post-tectonic plutonic rocks.

Kootenay-Cassiar-Slide Mountain. The contact of Kootenay terrane (Nasulin subterrane) with Cassiar terrane (North American margin) amphibolite facies of strongly contrasting metamorphic grade and deformation style. Kootenay terrane rocks are greenschist to amphibolite facies and penetratively ductile-deformed whereas those of Cassiar terrane are of subgreenschist to greenschist grade, locally stibite-cinnabar and affected by inhomogeneous spaced shear. A northeast-vergent thrust contact separates these differences and explains the topographically low exposures of low-grade, less-deformed rocks north of Nasulin Bay on a window of Cassiar terrane strata. Fabrics within Kootenay terrane both near the window and at the thrust front near Wolf River are steeply dipping and apparently truncated(?) at the thrust. On the basis of 40Ar-39Ar cooling ages Hansen et al. (1991) implied overthrusting of Teslin-Taylor Mountain and Nasulin (Kootenay terrane of this report) allochthon above North American margin of ~180 Ma. Consistent with this, the undeformed Early Jurassic intrusions form a 'stitching' plutonic suite implying proximity of the two terranes by ~180 Ma (Gorday and Stevens, 1994). Whether the bounding thrust is truncated by an Early Jurassic pluton or whether there has been post-Jurassic displacement along this boundary is uncertain. The relationships portrayed for the Early Jurassic pluton near Nasulin River are extrapolated beneath cover. The terrane affinity of units of folded mafic schist, gneissite, sheared metadiorite, metagabbro and marble (PMgr, PMgrc, PMgs and PMh) is unclear. These may be an imbricate part of the Kootenay terrane, a separate terrane (i.e. the Teslin-Taylor Mountain terrane of Hansen et al. (1991)), or metamorphosed and ductile-deformed equivalents of the Slide Mountain terrane. Ultramafic rocks tentatively assigned to the Slide Mountain terrane are interpreted to form a large thrust sheet above Cassiar terrane strata. The terrane affinity of conglomerate (Mscg) and diorite (MDi) spoliite associated with the ultramafic (PMa) is unclear.

Quesnel-Stikine-Kootenay-Cache Creek. Quesnel and part of Stikine terrane are bounded by two steep faults which merge south of Teslin and are contiguous with the Thicket fault in northern British Columbia. For the latter structure Gopalan (1985) proposed 75 km of pre-late Cretaceous dextral offset, but how this is partitioned along the two splices in Teslin area is unclear. One possibility is that most of this displacement has been taken up along the western splice. Restoration of 75 km of dextral slip along this structure and the Thicket fault oblique Quesnel terrane of the Teslin area with similar and partly corrective Quesnel strata. The Nazko and Shonkake formations in Jennings River map area. In this instance the western strand along Teslin valley (the structure traditionally called the Teslin fault) may have limited strike-slip offset. Alternatively, if most dextral displacement occurred along Teslin fault, restoration of 75 km of offset does not rejoin similar elements. Rather Quesnel strata of the Teslin area are restored adjacent to Slide terrane. A complicating factor is the possibility of unspecified displacements of Jurassic age indicated by Gopalan's (1985) restoration that lies the Thicket fault (and its contiguous strata in the Teslin area) with the Pihachi fault in central British Columbia.

The fault indicated between Quesnel and Stikine terranes near the Canal Road is assumed. Exposure in this area is poor and contact relationships unclear.

TECTONIC FRAMEWORK

CACHE CREEK-STIKINE. Traditional interpretation of the relationship of Cache Creek and Stikine terranes (e.g., Wheeler and McFery, 1991) portrays Cache Creek strata to plunge beneath and form the basement to Stikine. However, relationships in western Teslin area indicate the opposite: the Cache Creek terrane forms a large thrust sheet above Stikine terrane. Steep northeast and northwest trending normal faults have broken both the sheet and its footwall so that horsts of Stikine strata have locally popped up through the overlying Cache Creek. Examples include the fault blocks southwest of Streak Mountain and north of Jones Corner.

Mesozoic radiolarian ribbon chert and gneissite in the Cache Creek are the same age as the chert-free clastic succession of Stikine found along strike to the northwest. Westerly overthrusting of the Cache Creek terrane explains the juxtaposition of proximal (Stikine) and distal (Cache Creek) facies and intimacies that before thrusting both were deposited within the same basin.

Mutual contacts of Stikine and Cache Creek terranes are largely defined by site steep normal faults, so little of the thrust at the base of the Cache Creek is potentially exposed. Most ultramafic bodies within the Cache Creek occur as fault slices within volcanics. However, two bodies, one 17.7 km northwest of Streak Mountain and another in adjacent Whitehorse map area 26.4 km west-northwest of Streak Mountain (Wheeler, 1983) are surrounded by, and presumably rest directly above Stikine clastics.

The Cache Creek terrane is likely floored by the west-directed Nasulin fault (e.g., Wheeler and McFery, 1991), a large thrust fault with ultramafic bodies near and to its base that surfaces to the south and west in the Alin area. The age of structural duplication within the Cache Creek terrane and its time of emplacement above Stikine is constrained as pre-~170 Ma (pre-mid-Bajocian time scale of Horton et al., 1989)), the age of the post-tectonic Mt. Byde pluton, and post-Bajocian or early Turonian, the age of the youngest Cache Creek beds involved in deformation.

ECONOMIC GEOLOGY FRAMEWORK

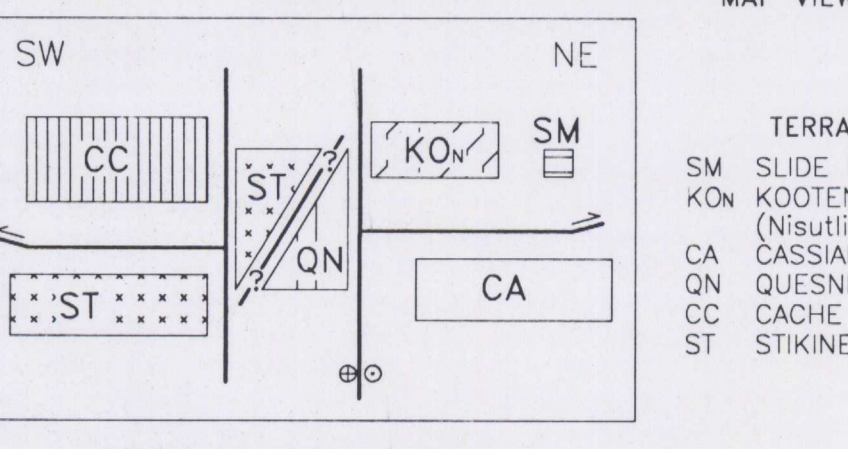
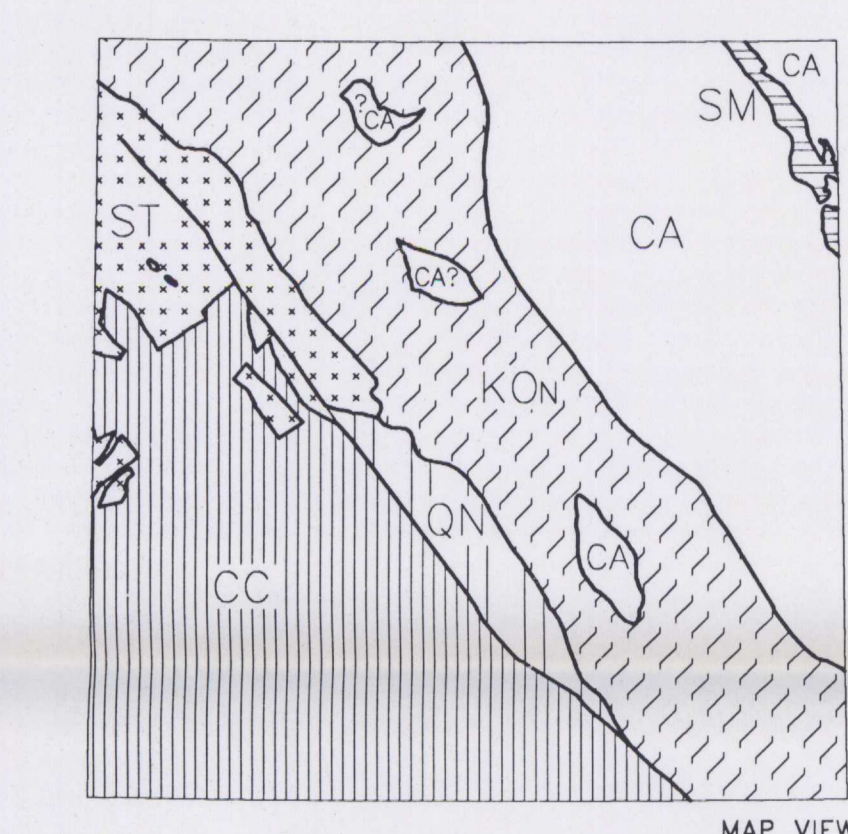
Two terranes within the map area host stratiform and have potential deposit types that are terrane specific. Ultramafic bodies in the Cache Creek terrane locally carry asbestos, and one small body of podiform dunite is known to host small concentrations of chromium (Stevens occurrence, DIAND (1993)). Carbonate alteration within ultramafic rocks (stewellite) that carries gem-quality veins, as seen in similar ultramafics of the Alin camp in British Columbia (Ash and Arxay, 1990), is recorded locally (Dalye (Tag) property, DIAND (1993)). Potential deposit types in strata of Cassiar terrane include secondary exhaustive barite-Pb-Zn-Ag and/or volcanogenic massive sulphide deposits (e.g., Bar occurrence, DIAND (1993)) in strata of Mississippian age.

The majority of the twenty-two known mineral occurrences in the Teslin area (i.e. excluding unmineralized targets, DIAND, 1993) include Ag-Pb-Zn vein deposits as well as Pb-Zn, Cu-Fe and Sn-W skarns. These are hosted by Kootenay and Cassiar terrane rocks and all are likely related to Cretaceous plutonism. Tin-bearing skarns are genetically associated with the Hake batholith (and Segal batholith to the southeast in Wolf Lake area (Abbott, 1981)) and compositionally similar Cretaceous plutons in the Thirty Mile Range. The most intensively explored property in the map area, the Red Mountain porphyry Mo prospect, is hosted in a small intrusion of quartz monzonite porphyry about 85 Ma old (Brown and Kahner, 1986; Stevens et al., 1992).

LEGEND

- Q unconsolidated glacial and alluvial deposits
CRETACEOUS
UPPER CRETACEOUS
uKv basalt, dacite
LATE CRETACEOUS
IKg quartz monzonite porphyry, diorite(?) and rhyolite porphyry(?)
MID-CRETACEOUS
Kq undivided: 1, biotite-hornblende quartz monzonite and quartz monzonite; 2, locally porphyritic biotite granite and quartz monzonite; 3, leucocratic biotite granite
JURASSIC
MIDDLE JURASSIC
mJg hornblende monzonite and hornblende-biotite quartz monzonite; minor hornblende
EARLY JURASSIC
eJg hornblende tonalite, quartz monzonite, granodiorite, and quartz diorite; minor hornblende and porphyritic hornblende-augite gabbro
JURASSIC(?)
Ju diorite, minor pyroxenite
Jg chloritized hornblende-pyroxene diorite and gabbro
TRASSIC AND JURASSIC
UJtsv augite-bearing gneissite and lesser siltstone and shale; minor volcanic breccia with clasts of augite and augite-feldspar porphyry; minor(?) augite-feldspar crystal tuff; minor dikes and sills of augite porphyry
CACHÉ CREEK TERRANE
CACHÉ CREEK GROUP (Uts, Pk, CPv, CPI, CU, Ct, Cg)
UJtsv massive, fine to medium grained gneissite, shale and siltstone; minor conglomerate with limestone, gneissite and volcanic clasts
STIKINE TERRANE
UPPER TRASSIC
Lewes River Group (uLts, uLts)
uLts massive, fine crystalline limestone; minor laminated chert
uLts massive gneissite; may include Jps
TRASSIC AND JURASSIC
EARLY AND(?) MIDDLE JURASSIC
LAWRENCE GROUP (Jps)
Jps massive, fine to medium grained gneissite, shale and siltstone; minor conglomerate with limestone, gneissite and volcanic clasts
UPPER TRASSIC
LEWES RIVER GROUP (uLts, uLts)
uLts massive, fine crystalline limestone; minor laminated chert
uLts massive gneissite; may include Jps

TERRANE RELATIONSHIPS



GEOLOGY YUKON

Scale 1:250 000

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The authors express their thanks to Norm Graham (Discovery Helicopters, Alin) and Denny Demian (Coyote Air, Teslin) for square helicopter and fixed wing support. Assistance in the field was provided by D. Scott (1990), J.P. Rankin and P. Dunbar (1991) and L. Barnham and R. Lemel (1993). Workbooks for the Whitehorse were kindly made available by S.R. Marston of Indian and Northern Affairs Canada.

CASSIAR TERRANE (NORTH AMERICAN MARGIN)

- MSISSISSIPPIAN
Mv intermediate to mafic, rarely augite phytic, fine grained volcanics and flows; 1, biotite meta-andesite to meta-basalt, metamorphosed; 2, mafic gneissite
MI fine crystalline, light grey, locally coralline and crinoidal limestone and minor dolomite, locally with irregular masses and nodules of chert; minor quartz arenite; locally mylonitic
MP muscovite-chlorite phyllite, impure, fine grained quartzite and siltstone; locally calcareous; locally mylonitic
DEVONIAN(?) AND CARBONIFEROUS
DMps shale, chert sandstone and chert-pebble to cobble conglomerate, locally mylonitic
OROVIVIAN(?) TO MISSISSIPPIAN
OMI dark grey to black chert and siliceous argillite; minor(?) chert sandstone and chert pebble conglomerate; locally mylonitic
PROTEROZOIC
Ps arkose quartz-eye sandstone to quartz feldspar grit; siltstone; locally mylonitic; 1, identify uncertainty, may include Mp or other units of Cassiar terrane
Pc fine crystalline limestone and dolomite; locally hornfelsed to tremolite marble; minor quartz arenite
PPn biotite-muscovite-sillimanite-quartzofeldspathic schist to gneiss; biotite-pyrite quartzite to quartz schist; cut by massive silts and dikes of biotite quartz monzonite and felsic pegmatite; affiliation with North America (Cassiar) terrane uncertain



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