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YEIP 96-012 1996

GRASSROOTS PROSPECTING GRANT

WHITE RIVER DELTA

NUMBER YMIP 96-012

NTS 115-0-4

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BY

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SUMMARY

I worked the Grassroot prospecting program during the last week in August till early October, working off the Yukon river and the White river. I would walk up high geochem creeks and also magnetic high areas taking soil and rock samples.

I also worked allot of bans along the White river taking pan samples and counting colors. I outlined some interesting bars (30-40 colors). No rock samples have come in at the present time of writing this report and they are to follow.

I would have liked to do more work up the White river, but there was an early freeze up and the ice was starting to come down the White river in late September.

LOCATION

The project area was located 100 miles south of Dawson City along the Yukon River at the delta of the White and the Yukon rivers.

ACCESS

I accessed the area via the Yukon river. Our method of travel was a 1950 cedar strip freighter canoe and a 30 Hp Yamaha Enduro motor.

Traveling up river to the White took a minimum of eight hours from Dawson. A larger motor would have been better on the Yukon, but the boat and motor were perfect for the White river.

HISTORY OF PREVIOUS WORK IN THE AREA

The area has had some prospecting done. Ogilvie reports hearing stories of a high grade gold quartz vein found on the west bank two or three kilometers up river on the Yukon from Stewart island. There was also a report of a quartz vein assaying \$20 000.00/ton across from the mouth of the White river (min file 1150-10 and 1150-12).

According to min file 1150-13, there was some work done on Donahue creek in the early 1900, with Fred Stretch being the last prospector to seriously look at the area in 1993. Fred passed away that Fall and did complete his exploration program on Frisco creek. His son Eric, has begun working a small trommel, hoe and D-7 cat on Frisco. They sluiced for about two or three weeks. They must have picked something up because they staked the rest of Frisco creek in placer and put two hard rock lines high above the creek.

GENERAL GEOLOGY

The subject area is underlain with a group called the Yukon group with Carmack volcanics, a granite to syenite porphyry and gneissic granites intruding at various locations.

INTERESTING GEOLOGY FINDS

A) The magnetic high that comes across from Donahue creek to north of Frisco creek has a nice outcrop coming up behind an island on the second small creek below Frisco. I found a well foliated metamorphic schist with 10% pyrite and potential chalcopyrite.

B) Three miles south from Stewart island there was a nice outcrop face on the right hand side looking south. It's a beautiful outcrop of quartz mixed with green limestone and calcite and pyrite.

C) At the headwater of Minneapolis creek there is on the right limit first tributary creek high above it to the south, a nice outcrop of garnet schist.

D) I found more placer bar gold on the White than I expected.

WORK AREAS

Since I have already submitted in my diary. I will break down my final report into my main area of interest.

WHITE RIVER PLACER

I spent about a week or more mapping out placer bars on the White river. Dan Hermanutz showed me an old map with a few placer bars marked on it, so we checked them out. Of course these have moved, but we did find more placer bars. I tried a few pans at each location and tried various depths. Most of the gold was in the top foot. Some bars were around six to ten colors with a couple of bars up to forty colors.

On one of these forty color bars, I tried a small suction dredge with Dan Hermanutz. It didn't work too well, so I continued the process by hand. We moved about a yard through a high bank Keenan wash plant, again without much success. I guess we couldn't hold the fine gold in our riffles, so it was back to panning. We panned various bars and creeks and ended up forty miles up river to a creek called Copper creek. We thought this bar gold could be coming from the Ladue river, which it still may, but we continued to find gold up to Copper creek which at this point we ran out of gas and time.

We tested allot of creeks on the way up and found only a small speck on Copper creek.

MINNIAPOLIS CREEK

I began my prospecting with this creek. I started by digging a test shaft and only getting five feet till I hit frozen ground. I panned the bottom with no success, so I tried a small bar on the edge of the Yukon where the creek empties out and I managed to get a speck.

Back up the creek I went to find an old cabin. A good sign I feel! At about four hundred metres from the river I found a place where the creek has detoured underground, giving a perfect spot to dig. I tested the top creek gravel with little success, so I tried digging into the side bank hoping to hit gravel. Well, I only got three feet until I hit frozen ground. So, I brought in a small water pump and attempted to wash a hole. This worked somewhat. It was only good to sample because I could not cut through the frozen ground too quick. I used a small sluice box on the gravel that fell from the frozen muck and if I did get some gold I was so surprised that I thought I better try it again. Well it worked again so we staked a one mile placer lease. I brought a sample of gold back to Dawson and showed it to a few placer miners. It was felt that I found around \$1.20 worth and moved about a yard worth each time.

After spending enough time looking for placer, I started looking farther up the creek. I found some large blocks of quartz boulder. I remember min file # 12 which talked about Ogilvie hearing a rumour about high grade quartz samples found across from the White river. Could these be them? So I spent some time looking and finding a few more large blocks of quartz boulders. I couldn't find any evidence of these boulders on top, so it must be from an old deteriorated vein about 3/4 the way up. I could see no evidence of mineralization.

I continued working my way up the creek taking pan samples along the way without any real success. I did start finding allot of garnets and as I worked my way to the top north side I found a garnet schist which explained all the garnets in my pan sample. I ended up taking a few more pan and soil samples of the creek and its tributaries. I also took a few rock samples around the garnet schist.

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WALL RIDGE

I call it Wall ridge because its high cliff that stands out and runs parallel to the Yukon river from the mouth of the White river heading toward Thistle creek.

There is a high mag running from north of Frisco along the Yukon to the top end of Donahue creek. I made a few traverse, taking soil and rock samples up to the mag high area along the top.

Along the Yukon river, right in front of the camp, I found where some large boulders broke away from the cliff face showing green rock type which ended up to be mariposa, a chromium oxide. This may be a link to the mag high. After finding this oxide material, I soil sampled the ridge in the various draws that run into the Yukon. I feel this ridge has some potential. I'm just not sure what. The government geochem is showing high numbers in Au, Ni, As, Ba from Minneapolis and Thorsen creeks. I checked the mag high where it runs into the Yukon and found what may be chromium, but until my samples are back, I'm still uncertain.

RESULTS

My assays are to follow in a few weeks.

RECOMMENDATIONS

I have three recommendations.

One is to dig a shaft on Minneapolis creek by finding some fine gold in the upper layer and finding an old cabin lead's to a potential promising creek.

Two is to reexamine area north west of Stewart mountain.

Three is to search creeks further up the White river south of the Ladue river.

RECEIPTS

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Joins Map 7840G "Snag"

MAP 7854 G

STEWART RIVER YUKON TERRITORY

Scale One Inch to Four Miles = $\frac{1}{253,440}$ Miles 0 4 8

COPIES OF THIS MAP MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE DIRECTOR, GEOLOGICAL SURVEY OF CANADA OTTAWA

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MAS MAP

AREA B

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