

INTRODUCTION

New geochemical data from re-analysis of archived stream sediment samples have been assessed using weighted sums modeling and catchment analysis as described in the methodology report that accompanies this map (Mackie et al., 2015). Both commodity and pathfinder element abundances are evaluated to highlight areas that show geochemical responses consistent with a variety of base and precious-metal mineral deposit types.

SAMPLING AND ANALYSIS PROGRAMS

Stream sediment and water samples from the Whitehorse Area (NTS 105D) were collected at a reconnaissance scale in 1985 as part of the Canada-Yukon Mineral Development Agreement (Geological Survey of Canada, 1986). Field descriptions and initial geochemical data for 1003 sites were released in Geological Survey of Canada (GSC) Open File 1218.

MINERAL OCCURRENCES

A variety of types of base and precious-metal mineralization has been identified in the Whitehorse Area as listed in Table 1 (Yukon MNFILE, 2015). The most significant deposits are classed as Cu skarn (Past Producing Whitehorse Cu deposit), Epithermal Au-Ag (Past Producing Tal-y-ho and Mount Skukum deposits), Polymetallic Ag-Pb-Zn-Au (Past Producing Union Mines, Venus and Big Three deposits) and unclassified quartz-vein related Au (Rose, Charleson, Gold Hill, Arscott and Joe Creek prospects).

WEIGHTED SUMS MODELING

As described in the methodology report (Mackie et al., 2015), two approaches have been used to subdue the influence of background lithological variation and secondary absorption on the composition of stream sediments. One uses data levelled by the dominant

geology mapped within each catchment, while the other uses residuals calculated from regression against selected principal components. Weighted sums models (WSM) have been generated using the processed data. The importance rankings used in WSMs are summarized in Table 2. Each model is optimized for a target deposit type however other deposit types may be represented in a given model due to similarities in elemental abundances and associations.

Exploratory data analysis using both raw element data and principal components indicate that lithological variation and secondary scavenging influence the distribution of certain commodity and pathfinder elements. However for this map area, signals related to mineralization are also prevalent. The first principal component, accounting for ~30% of the total geochemical variation, has high positive loadings in Cr, Ni, Co, Mg, V, Cu and Sc; and high negative loadings in Y, La, Ce, U, Bi, Pb, Th, Mo, Rb and Ag.

Regression analysis of selected metals against the relevant principal component(s) effectively filters the scavenging and lithological controls while preserving responses related to known occurrences. Levelling by mapped geology has a more subdued effect on filtering the interpreted lithological control on the distribution of certain pathfinder elements.

The effectiveness of historical sampling coverage has been assessed empirically using graphs of WSMs plotted against catchment surface area to determine the ideal maximum catchment size (14 km²). Catchments that cover larger areas (shown on the map with bold outlines) are interpreted to have been under-sampled and thus require further sampling to properly evaluate the area for geochemical anomalies.

Table 1: List of Mineral Occurrences for NTS map sheet 105D (Yukon MNFILE, 2015)

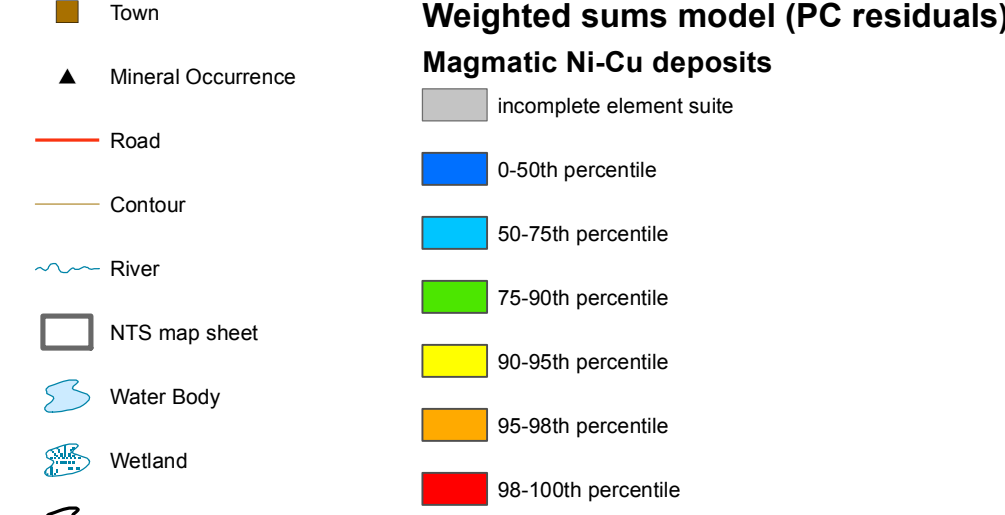
Table with 6 columns: Number, Name, Type, Status, Commodities. Lists various mineral occurrences such as Ashihik Lake, Lake Laberge, and Quiet Lake, along with their types (e.g., Vein Au-Quartz, Epithermal Au-Ag) and associated commodities (e.g., Silver, Gold, Lead, Zinc).

Table 2: Importance rankings for weighted sums models using residuals on principal components.

Table with 12 columns: Target Deposit Type, Other Deposit Types, and 11 elements (Mn, Fe, Co, Ni, Cu, Mo, Zn, Pb, Ag, Au, As, S). It provides numerical rankings for different deposit types across various elements.

\*Polymetallic Ag-Pb-Zn type includes vein and mantle styles; SEDEX = sedimentary exhalative Pb-Zn-(Ag); VMS = volcanically-hosted massive sulfide deposits; \*Raw data following a log10 transformation

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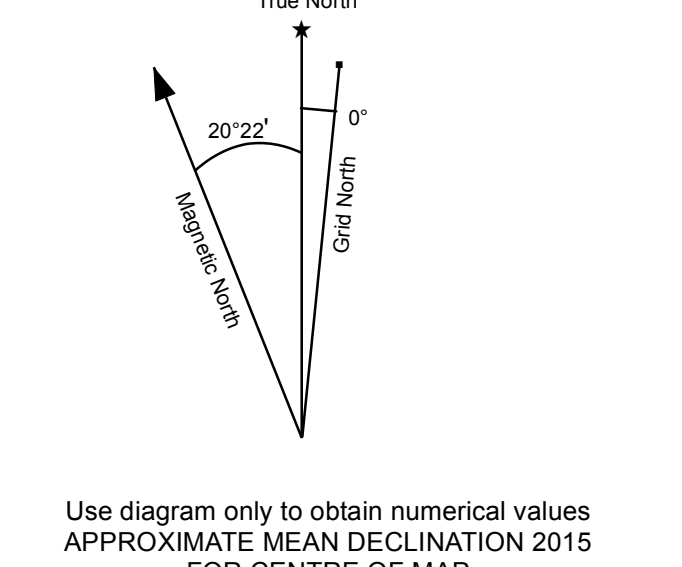
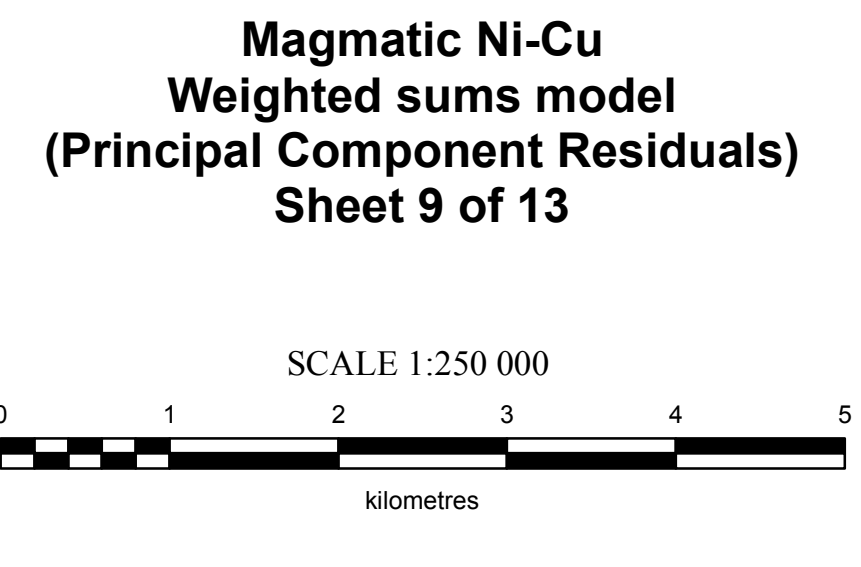
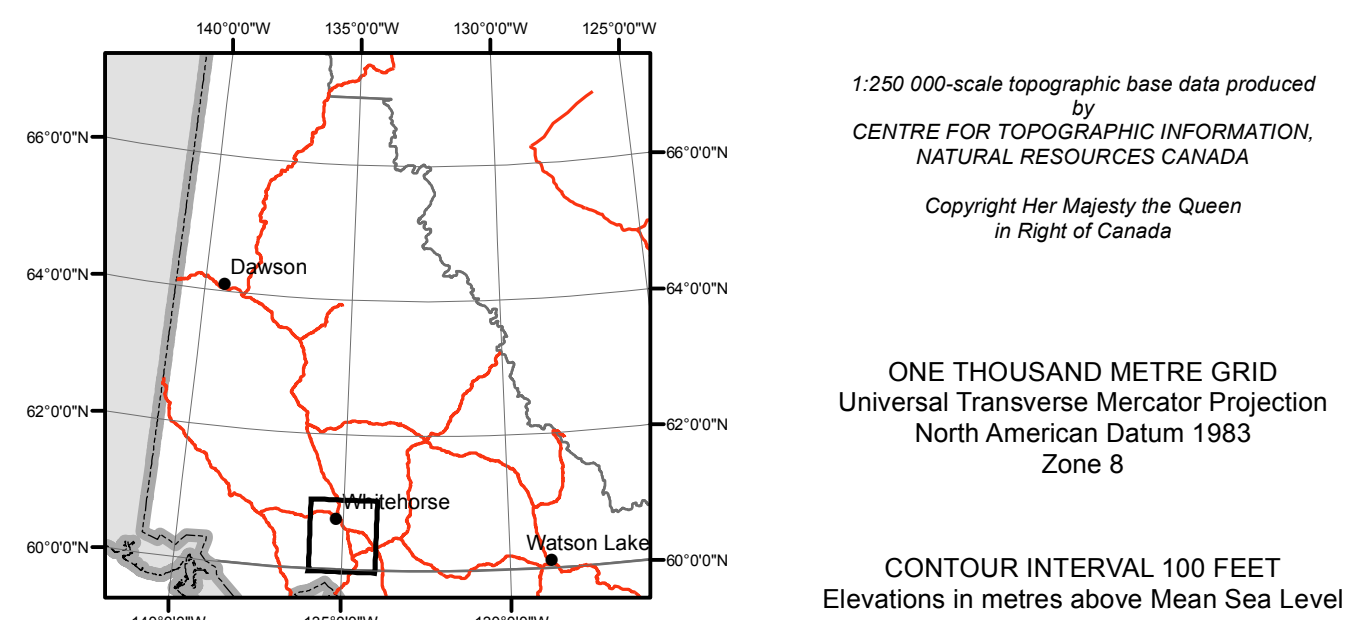


REFERENCES

Geological Survey of Canada, 1986. Regional Stream Sediment and Water Geochemical Reconnaissance Data, Yukon (105D). Geological Survey of Canada, Open File 1218.
Jackman, W., 2015. Regional Stream Sediment Geochemical Data, Whitehorse area, southern Yukon (NTS 105D). Yukon Geological Survey, Open File 2015-12.

RECOMMENDED CITATION

MACKIE, R., ARNE, D. AND PENNIMPEDE, C., 2016. Weighted sums model for Magmatic Ni-Cu deposits using principal component residuals. In: Enhanced interpretation of stream sediment geochemical data for NTS map sheet 105D. Yukon Geological Survey, Open File 2016-26, scale 1:250 000, sheet 9 of 13.
Catchment basin polygons generated by the Yukon Geological Survey (J. O. Bruce).
Any revisions or additional geological information known to the user would be welcomed by the Yukon Geological Survey.



Map grid table showing coordinates for various locations: 115H, 105E, 105F, 115A, 105D, 105C, 114P, 104M, 104N.

Yukon Geological Survey, Energy, Mines and Resources, Government of Yukon. Open File 2016-26. Weighted sums model for Magmatic Ni-Cu deposits using principal component residuals (NTS 105D) Sheet 9 of 13. by Rob Mackie, Dennis Arne, and Chris Pennimpede.