

Exploration and Mining Highlights, Southeast Region, 2023

Overview

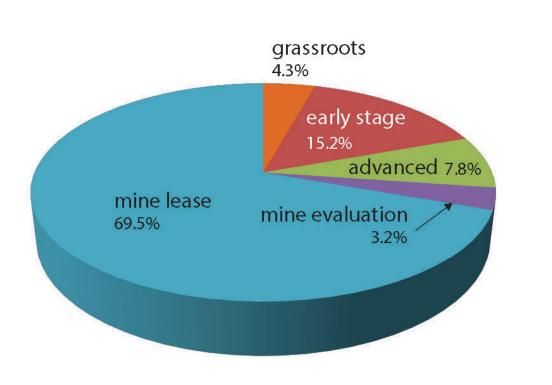
Four metallurgical coal mines operate in the Elk Valley of the Southeast Region, accounting for most of Canada's coal production and exports, and mine expansion and exploration continued at these mines. CertainTeed Gypsum Inc. moved gypsum production to its new Kootenay West quarry. Baymag Inc. continues to produce raw magnesite from its Mount Brussiloff mine.

Dating back to the mid-1800s, the region has a long history of metals mining, including lead, zinc, and silver from the past-producing Sullivan mine and gold and silver from the Rossland, Greenwood, Sheep Creek, and Slocan camps. Today, exploration in the region focusses on base and precious metals with some recent extensions into specialty metals on Canada's critical minerals list. The region hosts several industrial mineral mines and quarries, and placer mining continues. The Trail smelter (Teck Resources Ltd.) produces refined lead, and zinc (which is on Canada's critical minerals list), silver and cadmium along with other metals on Canada's critical minerals list (germanium, indium), and fertilizer products.

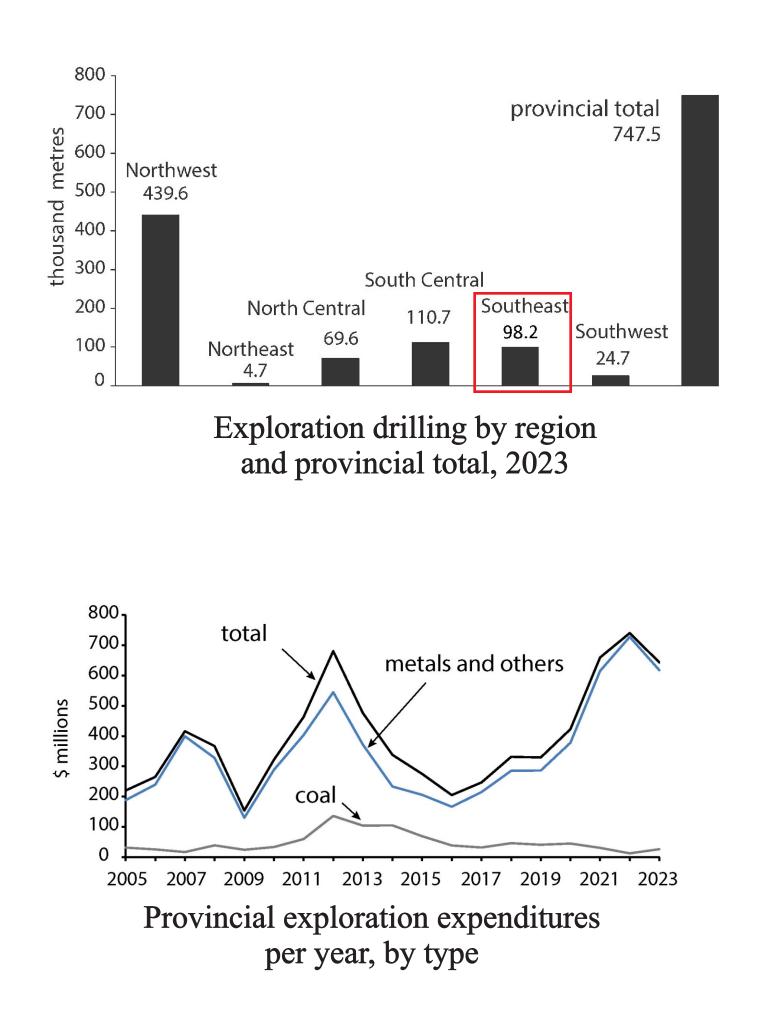
Exploration and drilling estimates

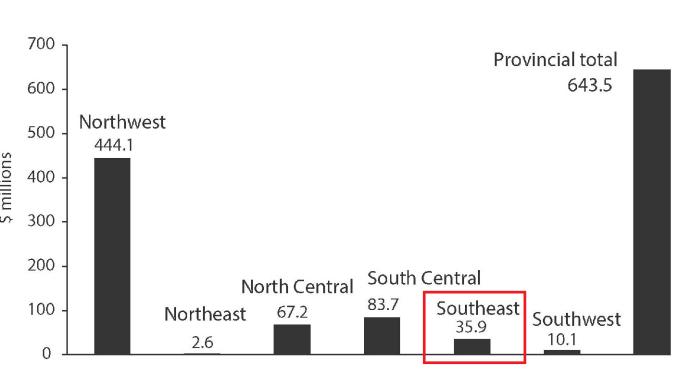
Estimated exploration expenditures: \$35.9M.

Estimated exploration drilling (all types): 98,210 m.



Exploration expenditures 2023

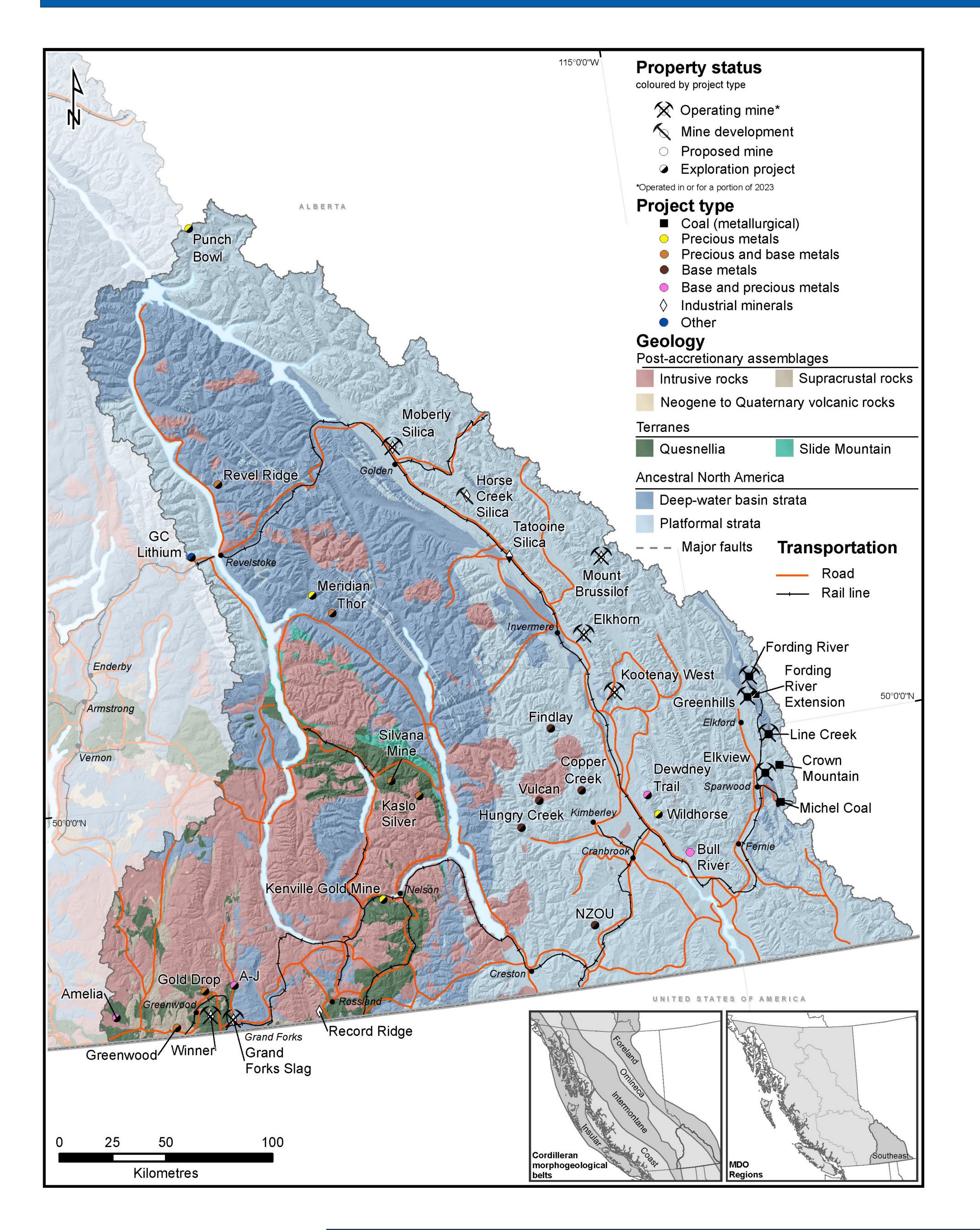


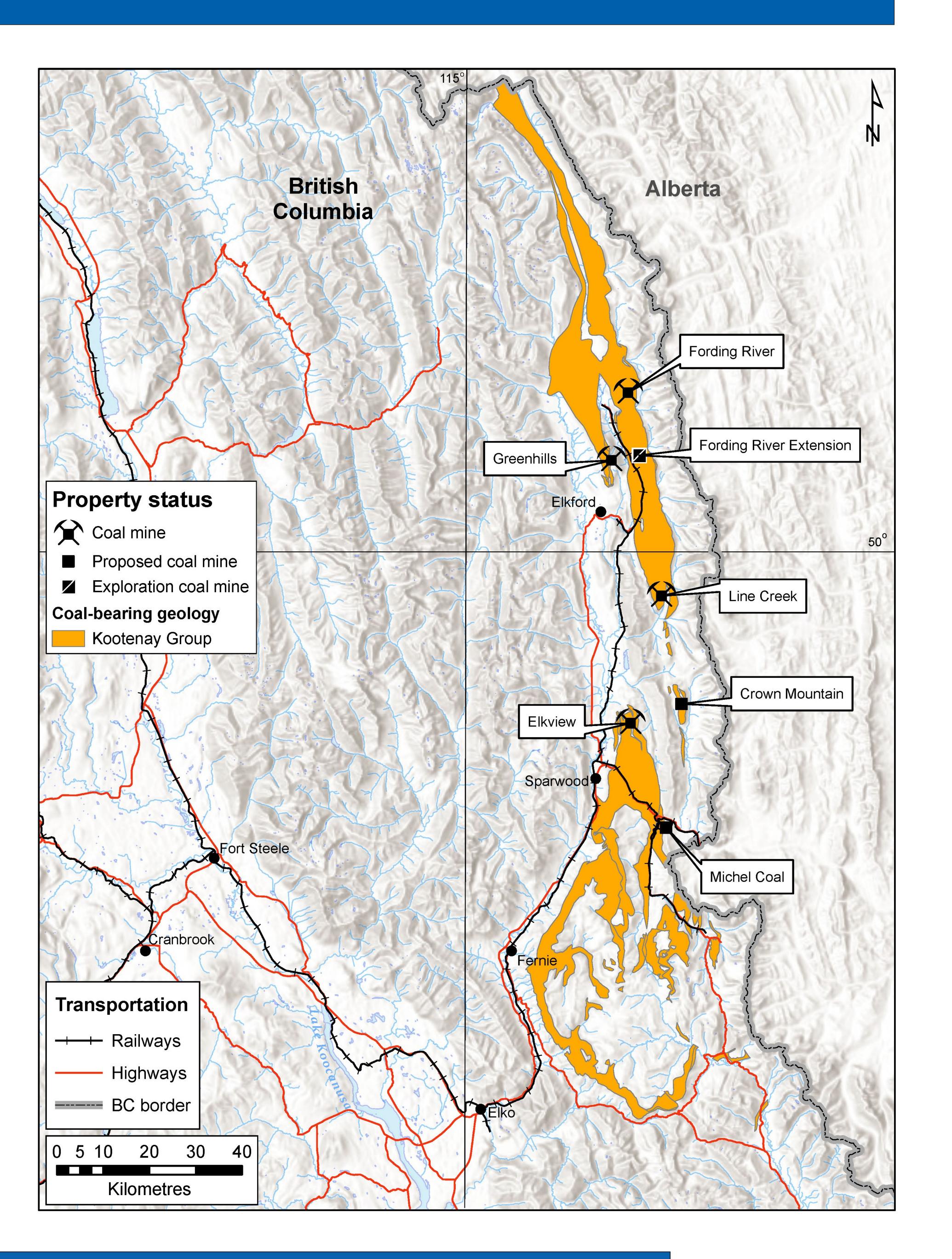


Exploration expenditures by region, 2023

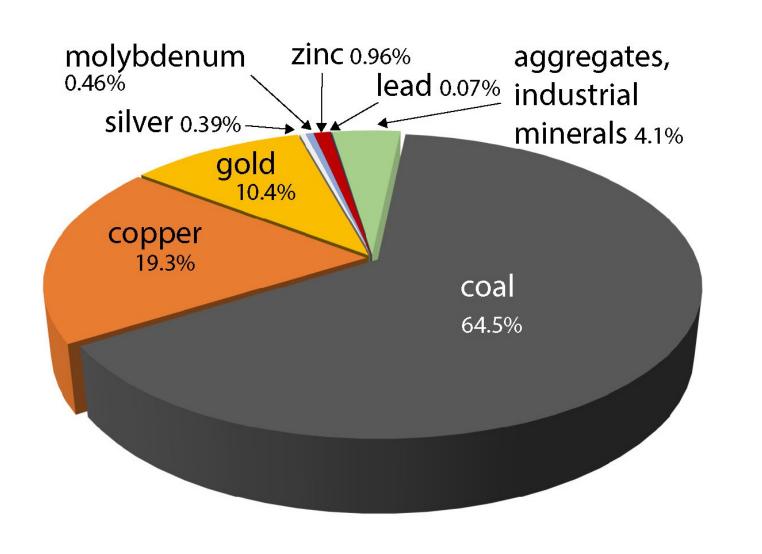


Mines, mine development, proposed mines, and selected exploration projects

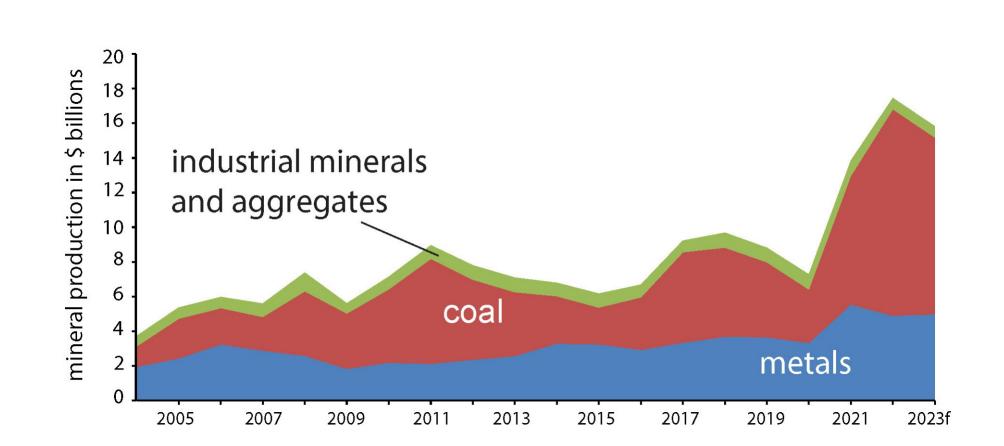




Mining highlights



Most of the provincial metallurgical coal production is from the Southeast Region. Teck Coal Limited has four operating mines in the Elk Valley (Fording River, Greenhills, Line Creek, and Elkview) and one major coal mine expansion project (Fording River Extension). For 2023, coal is forecasted to account for 64.5% (\$10.2 billion) of the total value of all mineral production in the province.



Exploration highlights

Kootenay West

CertainTeed Gypsum Canada Inc. transferred production from its Elkhorn quarry to its new Kootenay West quarry. Active mining began in 2023 with a planned 400,000 tpy production and a 43-year mine life. The deposit is in evaporites of the Burnais Formation (Devonian) in a section 20-25 m thick grading 75-95% gypsum.

Record Ridge

West High Yield Resources Ltd.'s magnesium project is in a variably serpentinized and locally carbonatized ultramafic cumulate body. The body is cut by Coryell intrusion syenites, quartz-poor monzonites, and granodiorite to the west and faulted against andesite and basalt of the Elise Formation to the east. The company has provided an amended Mines Act permit to the BC Mines Development Review Committee following feedback from public meetings earlier in the year. Additionally, the company has signed a Cooperation Agreement with the Osoyoos Indian Band.

Bull River

Canadian Critical Minerals Inc. is continuing development of its Bull River mine. The company completed the mine preapplication process, which was accepted by the Ministry of Energy Mines and Low Carbon Innovation and the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy. The company has signed an ore concentrate processing agreement with New Gold Inc. The final mine permit and environmental permit processes are ongoing.

Revel Ridge

Rokmaster Resources Corp. completed drilling nine holes (1969 m total) that were designed to test extensions of both the Yellowjacket and Main zones. All holes intersected mineralization. Selected intersections include: 0.11 g/t Au, 60.54 g/t Ag, 2.64% Pb, 6.67% Zn over 28.5m in the Yellowjacket zone and 3.88 g/t Au, 28.00 g/t Ag, 0.52% Pb, 1.15% Zn in the Main zone.

Notable transactions

The major news for the the region was the announced sale of **Teck's** steelmaking coal division to **Glencore PLC** with a minority stake by Nippon Steel Corporation and POSCO for an announced amount of US\$9.0 billion. Terms of the sale includes assurances that Glencore PLC will continue operations and retain staff and sub-contractors in southeast BC. The deal is projected to be closed by the third quarter of 2024.

Further information

EY LLP, 2024 British Columbia Mineral and Coal Exploration Survey 2023 Report.

Hancock, K., 2024. Exploration and mining in the Southeast Region, British Columbia. n: Provincial Overview of Exploration and Mining in British Columbia, 2023. British Columbia Ministry of Energy, Mines and Low Carbon Innovation, British Columbia Geological Survey Information Circular 2024-01, pp. 125-135.

Clarke, G., Northcote, B.K., Corcoran, N.L., Pothorin, C., Heidarian, H., and Hancock, K., 2024. Exploration and Mining in British Columbia, 2023: A summary. In: Provincial Overview of Exploration and Mining in British Columbia, 2023. British Columbia Ministry of Energy, Mines and Low Carbon Innovation, British Columbia Geological Survey Information Circular 2024-01, pp. 1-53.



BRITISH COLUMBIA Energy, Mines and Low Carbon Innovation

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Resources as reported by the company:

Measured: 28.4 Mt @ 24.82% Mg Indicated: 14.6 Mt @ 24.12% Mg Inferred: 1.07 Mt @ 24.37% Mg.

Resources as reported by the company:

Indicated: 2.26Mt @ 1.80% Cu, 0.42 g/t Au, 15.3 g/t Ag Infferred: 1.36Mt @ 1.60% Cu, 0.42 g/t Au, 13.6 g/t Ag

Resources as reported by the company:

Yellowjacket and Main zones

Measured and Indicated: 7.156 Mt @ 4.14 g/t Au, 51.2 g/t Ag, 1.96% Pb and 4.19% Zn Inferred: 7.563 Mt @ 4.42 g/t Au, 46.9 g/t Ag, 1.48% Pb, 2.62% Zn



