# Exploration and mining in the South Central Region, British Columbia

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Recommended citation: Pothorin, C., 2025. Exploration and mining in the South Central Region, British Columbia. In: Provincial Overview of Exploration and Mining in British Columbia, 2024. British Columbia Ministry of Mining and Critical Minerals, British Columbia Geological Survey Information Circular 2025-01, pp. 115-143.

## 1. Introduction

The South Central Region is the most active mining district in British Columbia and the most productive copper mining district in Canada. Currently five major metal mines are in operation, including **Highland Valley Copper**, **Gibraltar**, **Copper Mountain**, **Mount Polley**, **New Afton**, and one smaller operation (**Elk**). **Basin Coal** is the only coal mine in operation. Three projects are proposed or are in the permitting process. There are several operating industrial mineral mines or quarries, hundreds of active placer gold operations, and dozens of aggregate quarries. More than 100 exploration projects are active in the region, but not all companies publish or record exploration work.

With a wide range of tectonic settings and resultant geological environments, the South Central region hosts a variety of metallic ore deposit types including porphyry copper (Cu-Mo and Cu-Au-Ag), orogenic gold, epithermal gold, volcanogenic massive sulphide, mafic-ultramafic Ni-Co-PGE, polymetallic veins, skarn, pegmatite REE, and placer gold. Industrial mineral products include zeolite, bentonite, gypsum, diatomite, crushed stone, building stone, and aggregate.

Estimates for exploration expenditures, drilling programs, and other metrics were captured in the British Columbia Mineral and Coal Exploration Survey, a joint initiative of the Province of British Columbia Ministry of Mining and Critical Minerals, the Association for Mineral Exploration (AME), and EY LLP. For the South Central Region, exploration expenditures are estimated at \$68.2 million. The estimate for exploration drilling is 132,200 m (Clarke et al., 2025; EY LLP, 2025).

Taseko Mines Limited increased ownership interest in the **Gibraltar** mine to 100% through the purchase of 12.5% interest from Dowa Metals and Mining Co. Ltd. and Furukawa Co. Ltd. Teck Resources Limited is advancing a program to extend mine life at the **Highland Valley Copper** mine, as is New Gold Inc. at the **New Afton** mine. The **Cariboo Gold** project of Osisko Development Corporation received B.C. Mines Act and Environmental Management Act permits in Q4 2024. Fortescue Canada Resources Limited staked a 357,626 ha area between Williams Lake and Cache Creek as the **Quesnel Regional** 

project. GSP Resource Corp. released a resource calculation for the **Alwin Mine** project.

### 2. Geological overview

The tectonic and metallogenic evolution of the Canadian Cordillera are intimately linked (Fig. 1; e.g., Nelson et al., 2013). The South Central Region straddles three of British Columbia's five morphogeological belts (from west to east: Coast; Intermontane; Omineca). The mid-Mesozoic and older geological framework is represented by cratonic and pericratonic rocks in the east, and a series of Late Paleozoic through mid-Mesozoic arc and oceanic terranes to the west (Fig. 1). Younger rocks include Jura-Cretaceous siliciclastic and local volcanic rocks, Eocene volcanic rocks, Neogene and Quaternary basalt, and Middle Jurassic to Eocene granitic intrusions.

The oldest rocks in the region are Paleoproterozoic basement gneiss complexes at the eastern boundary, such as in the Monashee complex. These are interpreted as parts of the North American craton (Armstrong et al., 1991), overlain by Neoproterozic to Paleozoic cover deposited following rifting that formed the western margin of Ancestral North America (McDonough and Parrish, 1991; Murphy et al., 1991). To the northwest, the Cassiar terrane consists of Neoproterozoic to mid-Paleozoic siliciclastic and carbonate rocks interpreted as distal facies of the North American platform (Struik, 1988a). Also affiliated with Ancestral North America, the Kootenay terrane (deep-water basin strata on Figure 1) include Neoproterozoic to mid-Paleozoic deep-water facies equivalents deposited west of the North American platform. Lower Cambrian and older rocks are similar to North American strata to the east, but the overlying lower Paleozoic succession is characterized by units of coarse siliciclastic and mafic volcanic rocks that may reflect intermittent crustal extension (Colpron and Price, 1995).

This belt also includes Devono-Mississippian calc-alkaline to alkalic volcanic rocks and associated granitoid intrusions, found mainly in the Eagle Bay assemblage (Schiarizza and Preto, 1987), which reflect the initiation of east-dipping subduction beneath the North American plate margin. These



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rocks host polymetallic volcanogenic massive sulphide (VMS) occurrences, and the **Yellowhead** bulk tonnage copper deposit. Slide Mountain terrane is the easternmost tract of oceanic rocks in the Canadian Cordillera. These rocks may be the remnant of a Late Paleozoic marginal basin that formed behind a westward-retreating volcanic arc in Quesnel terrane. The Fennell Formation hosts copper-zinc-silver massive sulphide mineralization at the Chu Chua occurrence.

Quesnel terrane is a Late Triassic to Early Jurassic island arc complex (e.g., Mortimer, 1987; Struik, 1988a, b; Unterschutz et al., 2002). It also includes a Late Paleozoic arc sequence, represented by the Harper Ranch Group (Beatty et al., 2006) and, in the south, assemblages of oceanic rocks (Tempelman-Kluit, 1989). The Mesozoic rocks are represented mainly by Middle to Upper Triassic volcanic and sedimentary rocks of the Nicola Group, together with abundant Upper Triassic to Lower Jurassic calc-alkaline to alkaline intrusions (Preto, 1977, 1979; Mortimer, 1987; Panteleyev et al., 1996; Schiarizza et al., 2013). The Nicola Group consists mainly of volcanic and volcanic-derived sedimentary rocks, but also includes siltstone and slate intercalated with quartzite and limestone (Bloodgood, 1990; Schiarizza et al., 2013; Mihalynuk et al., 2015; Schiarizza, 2019; Mihalynuk and Diakow, 2020). The volcanic rocks are mainly augite-phyric shoshonitic basalts, but the western part of the group locally includes a belt of calc-alkaline volcanic rocks with substantial amounts of rhyolite and dacite (Preto, 1977, 1979; Mortimer, 1987). A younger stratigraphic component of Quesnel terrane consists of Lower to Middle Jurassic sedimentary rocks that unconformably overlie the western parts of the Nicola Group (Travers, 1978; Logan and Moynihan, 2009; Schiarizza et al., 2013). Quesnel terrane is important for its porphyry copper deposits (e.g., Logan, 2013; Logan and Mihalynuk, 2014). The plutons that host these deposits conform, in part, to a pattern defined by parallel belts of calc-alkaline and alkalic plutons that become progressively younger from west to east (Schiarizza, 2014). The western (Late Triassic) calc-alkaline belt includes the Guichon Creek batholith, host to the Highland Valley Copper Mine (coppermolybdenum), and the Granite Mountain batholith, host to the Gibraltar mine (copper-molybdenum). A well-defined belt farther east comprises younger, latest Triassic alkalic plutons, which host alkalic porphyry copper-gold deposits, including producing mines at Copper Mountain and New Afton and the **Mount Polley** mine, which has resumed operation. A third belt, younger and farther to the east, is defined by several large, Lower Jurassic calc-alkaline plutons.

Cache Creek terrane, consisting of Carboniferous to Early Jurassic chert, argillite, basalt, limestone, sandstone, gabbro, and serpentinized ultramafic rocks of the Cache Creek complex, forms a belt to the west of Quesnel terrane in the central and northern parts of the region. It is interpreted, at least in part, as a subduction complex responsible for generating the Quesnel magmatic arc (Travers, 1978; Struik et al., 2001).

Cadwallader terrane, as interpreted by Schiarizza (2013), underlies parts of the Intermontane and eastern Coast belts, west of Cache Creek and Quesnel terranes. It includes a Late Permian-Early Triassic primitive oceanic arc complex, and an overlying Late Triassic-Middle Jurassic arc complex and associated siliciclastic apron. Bridge River terrane is in the eastern Coast belt, west of Lytton and Lillooet, where it is partially enveloped by Cadwallader terrane. It is represented mainly by the Bridge River complex, comprising structurally interleaved slivers of chert, argillite, basalt, blueschist, gabbro, serpentinite, limestone, and sandstone (Schiarizza et al., 1997). Both Cadwallader and Bridge River terranes are shown as 'Cache Creek and affiliates' on Figure 1.

Stikinia (Stikine terrane) is a mid-Paleozoic to Middle Jurassic arc terrane that is markedly similar to Quesnellia (Quesnel terrane) and forms a predominant component of the Cordillera in central and northern British Columbia. It is represented in the northwestern part of the South Central Region by a few scattered exposures of volcanic and sedimentary rocks correlated with the Hazelton Group (Upper Triassic to Middle Jurassic; Tipper, 1959, 1969). Younger stratigraphic units overlap older terranes and cover large parts of the region. These units include: Upper Jurassic to Upper Cretaceous siliciclastic rocks of the Tyaughton-Methow basin, which overlap Cadwallader and Bridge River terranes in the eastern Coast belt (Schiarizza et al., 1997); and mid-Cretaceous arc volcanic rocks of the Spences Bridge Group, which form a northwest-trending belt that overlaps Quesnel and Cache Creek terranes in the Merritt-Lillooet area (Monger and McMillan, 1989), and continues westward across the Fraser River where it overlaps Cadwallader and possibly Stikine terranes (Mahoney et al., 2013). Eocene volcanic and subordinate sedimentary rocks (e.g., Kamloops Group, Penticton Group, Princeton Group) are prominent in some locations. Neogene basalt of the Chilcotin Group overlaps Quesnel, Cache Creek, Cadwallader, and Stikine terranes throughout much of the central part of the region (Dohaney et al., 2010). Granitic plutons, ranging from late Middle Jurassic to Eocene, occur throughout the region and, in some cases, are responsible for significant mineralization (e.g., IKE, New Prosperity).

#### 3. Mines and selected quarries

In the South Central region, two metal mines produce copper and molybdenum (**Highland Valley Copper** and **Gibraltar**), three produce copper, gold, and silver (**Copper Mountain**, **Mount Polley**, and **New Afton**) and one produces gold and silver (**Elk**; Fig. 1; Table 1). Three major projects are proposed or are in the permitting process. More than 50 industrial mineral mines or quarries operate in the region; they produce bentonite, zeolite, diatomite, gypsum, crushed stone, building stone, and aggregate. Dozens of placer mines are permitted and active on a seasonal or intermittent basis. The **Basin** coal mine was the only coal mine in operation.

More than 100 exploration projects are active in the region, but not all companies publish or record exploration work.

Mine	<b>Operator</b> (partner)	Commodity; Deposit type; MINFILE	Forecast 2024 Production (based on Q1- Q3)	Reserves	Resources	Comments
Copper Mountain	Hudbay Minerals Inc. 75%, Mitsubishi Materials Corporation 25%	Cu, Au, Ag; Porphyry Cu- Au, alkalic; 092HSE001	60.2 Mlb Cu, 20,000 oz Au, 295,000 oz Ag	P+Pr: 366.9 Mt 0.25% Cu, 0.12 g/t Au, 0.69 g/t Ag	M+I: 137.8 Mt 0.21% Cu, 0.10 g/t Au, 0.69 g/t Ag Inf: 371.3 Mt 0.25% Cu, 0.13 g/t Au, 0.61 g/t Ag	Reserve/resource estimate Jan. 1, 2024. Updated mine plan, 21-year mine life with current reserves.
Elk	Gold Mountain Mining Corp.	Au, Ag; Au-quartz veins; 092HNE009, 295, 41, 261	1050 oz Au	na	M+I: 4.359 Mt 5.6 g/t Au, 11.0 g/t Ag Inf: 1.497 Mt 5.3 g/t Au, 14.4 g/t Ag	Operations conducted at reduced pace while ongoing improvements are implemented for efficiency including mining methods, grade control, and ore processing.
Gibraltar	Taseko Mines Limited	Cu, Mo; Porphyry Cu±Mo±Au; 093B 012	102.70 Mlb Cu, 1.1 Mlb Mo	P+Pr: 645 M short tons 0.25% Cu, 0.008% Mo (sulphide mineral reserves) P+Pr: 18 short tons 0.15% (acid soluble Cu)	M+I: 1143 M short tons 0.25% Cu, 0.007% Mo (inclusive of reserves) Inf: 75 M short tons 0.22% Cu, 0.004% Mo	Reserve/resource estimate Dec. 31, 2023. Taseko acquired 100% interest of the Gibraltar Mine in March 2024. Operations were interrupted from June 1-18, 2024 due to a labour strike. In-pit crusher relocation completed in Q2 2024.
Highland Valley Copper	Teck Resources Limited	Cu, Mo; Porphyry Cu±Mo±Au; 092ISW012, 45	221.3 Mlb Cu, 1.5 Mlb Mo	P+Pr: 263.1 Mt 0.30% Cu, 0.009% Mo	M: 594.7 Mt 0.30% Cu, 0.008% Mo I: 519.7 Mt 0.26% Cu, 0.010% Mo Inf: 70.1 Mt 0.22% Cu, 0.010% Mo	Reserve/resource estimate as of Dec. 31, 2023. HVC 2040 project initiated to extend mine life from 2028 to 2042. HVC 2040 project EAC application made Oct. 2023; accepted by Environmental Assessment Office (EAO) July 10, 2024.
Mount Polley	Imperial Metals Corporation	Cu, Au; Porphyry Cu- Au, alkalic; 093A 008	35.3 Mlb Cu, 39,400 oz Au, 88,200 oz Ag	P+Pr open pit and underground: 49.029 Mt 0.342% Cu, 0.318 g/t Au, 0.916 g/t Ag	M+I open pit and underground: 203.852 Mt 0.282% Cu, 0.299 g/t Au, 0.509 g/t Ag Inf: 10.389 Mt 0.164% Cu, 0.184 g/t Au, 0.177 g/t Ag	Reserve/resource estimate from 2016 and adjusted for mining to Jan. 1, 2024. Drill program of approximately 14,000 m. e.g., SD-24-196 from 27.5-922.5 (895 m) of 0.26% Cu and 0.32 g/t Au. e.g., SD-24-180 from 35.0-292.5 (257.5 m) of 0.71% Cu and 0.39 g/t Au.

 Table 1. Metal mines, South Central Region.

Table 1. Continued.

New Afton	New Gold Inc.	Au, Ag, Cu; Porphyry Cu- Au, alkalic; 092INE023	52.70 Mlb Cu, 69,700 oz Au, 90,700 oz Ag	P+Pr: 34.087 Mt 0.73% Cu, 0.67 g/t Au, 1.69 g/t Ag	M+I: 73.976 Mt 0.70% Cu, 0.57 g/t Au, 2.14 g/t Ag Inf: 10.219 Mt 0.45% Cu, 0.33 g/t Au, 1.36 g/t Ag	Reserve/resource estimated at Dec. 31, 2023. Resources exclusive of reserves. Increasing production rate by bringing C zone production online. Estimated 35,000 m of surface and underground drilling. e.g., K zone EA24- 510 from 405.0-489.0 (84.0 m) of 2.83% Cu, 1.9 g/t Au, and 14.15 g/t Ag (est. 30 m true width).

P = Proven; Pr = Probable; M = Measured; I = Indicated; Inf = Inferred

#### 3.1. Metal mines and mills

Six of British Columbia's nine operating metal mines are in the South Central Region (Fig. 1; Table 1). Two are coppermolybdenum mines (**Gibraltar** and **Highland Valley Copper**), three are copper-gold mines (**New Afton**, **Copper Mountain**, and **Mount Polley**), and one is a gold-silver mine (**Elk**).

# 3.1.1. Copper Mountain (Hudbay Minerals Inc. 75%, Mitsubishi Materials Corporation 25%)

The Copper Mountain copper-gold open-pit mine has been in production since August 2011 and operates at a milling capacity of 45,000 tpd. On June 20, 2023, Hudbay Minerals Inc. completed the purchase of all outstanding Copper Mountain Mining Corporation shares to gain 75% interest in the mine for an estimated \$US439 million. With this acquisition, Hudbay became the third largest copper producer in Canada. Copper Mountain updated its reserve and resource calculation on December 1, 2023. Proven and Probable reserves were reported at 366.9 Mt at 0.25% Cu, 0.12 g/t Au, and 0.69 g/t Ag. Projected mine life was 21 years. Measured and Indicated mineral resources were reported at 137.8 Mt at 0.21% Cu, 0.10 g/t Au, and 0.69 g/t Ag; Inferred mineral resources were 371.3 Mt at 0.25% Cu, 0.13 g/t Au, and 0.61 g/t Ag. In early 2024, Copper Mountain's production guidance was 81.4 Mlb Cu. Reported production for the first nine months of 2024 was 55.04 Mlb Cu, 15,145 oz Au, and 221,556 oz Ag. Hudbay is focused on stabilizing production at Copper Mountain by using all available haul trucks, adding mining faces, accelerating stripping to access higher grade ore, and improving mill efficiency and reliability. Mine life can be extended beyond the current 21 years through a reserve conversion drilling program to upgrade current resources. In early 2024, Hudbay conducted a 2675 m, 12 hole reverse circulation drill program at the North pit area to upgrade Inferred resources to Measured and Indicated, and to better define lithological contacts. Copper Mountain is an alkalic porphyry deposit. Late Triassic Nicola Group volcanic and sedimentary rocks were intruded by several plutonic phases. This includes the Copper Mountain suite, including the Voight stock (Late Triassic) and the polyphase Lost Horse intrusive complex (Late Triassic). Copper and gold mineralization is mainly in Nicola Group volcanic rocks and Lost Horse intrusive rocks and is thought to be temporally and spatially related to emplacement of the Lost Horse intrusive complex (Klue et al., 2022).

## 3.1.2. Elk (Gold Mountain Mining Corp.)

Gold Mountain Mining Corp. began operations at the Elk open-pit mine in November 2021. Production from the first half of 2024 saw sales of 523 oz Au from processing 245,449 t of ore. Gold Mountain Mining is currently producing at a reduced rate while adjustments are made to improve mining methods, grade control, and ore processing. The current mineral resource estimate at Elk has an effective date of December 7, 2021, with a total pit-constrained and underground Measured and Indicated resource of 4.359 Mt at 5.6 g/t Au and 11 g/t Ag (796 koz Au and 1.524 Moz Ag) and Inferred resource of 1.497 Mt at 5.3 g/t Au and 14.4 g/t Ag (259 koz Au and 686 koz Ag). The mining plan in the Preliminary Economic Assessment includes a 70,000 tpy open-pit operation that would transition to a 324,000 tpy underground operation in three years, with a total mine life of 11 years (Peters et al., 2021). Gold Mountain Mining conducted a 2570.5 m, 21-hole diamond drill program in 2024.

The Elk gold deposit is considered a mesothermal, intrusiverelated, structurally controlled gold-silver quartz vein system. The property is underlain by Triassic volcanic rocks of the Nicola Group in the west and the Osprey Lake batholith (Late Jurassic) in the east. Different phases of the Osprey Lake intrusions range in composition from diorite to granodiorite to quartz monzonite. Nine zones of gold-silver mineralization occur mostly in quartz-sulphide veins in phyllic- and silicaaltered Osprey Lake rock, with some in similarly altered Nicola Group volcanic rock (Peters et al., 2021).

## 3.1.3. Gibraltar (Taseko Mines Limited)

**Gibraltar** has processing capacity of 85,000 tpd. Production at the Gibraltar mine during the first nine months of 2024 was 77 Mlb of Cu and 853 klb of Mo in concentrate. Lower than expected production in the first half of 2024 was due to an 18day labour strike in June, the relocation of the in-pit crusher, and maintenance of a concentrator. Production guidance for 2024 was revised down from 115 Mlb to 110-115 Mlb of Cu. Taseko's most recent reserve calculation reports Proven and Probable 645 M short tons at 0.25% Cu and 0.008% Mo. Gibraltar's current mine life is estimated to be 23 years from the effective calculation date of December 31, 2021. Taseko increased ownership interest in Gibraltar from 87.5% to 100% through the purchase of all shares of Cariboo Copper Corp. from Dowa Metals and Mining Co. Ltd. and Furukawa Co. Ltd. on March 25, 2024. Payments will be made over ten years, and the transaction is valued, in part, on production; the total cost will vary between \$117 million to a maximum of \$142 million.

Gibraltar is considered a calc-alkaline Cu-Mo porphyry system. The mine is in Quesnel terrane, in a fault-bounded block consisting of Middle to Upper Triassic volcanic and sedimentary rocks of the Nicola Group, Late Triassic to Early Jurassic intrusions, and Early to Middle Jurassic sedimentary rocks of the Dragon Mountain succession. Mineralization is in the Granite Mountain batholith (Upper Triassic). Ductile shear zones are considered important controls on coppermolybdenum mineralization. (van Straaten et al., 2020).

#### 3.1.4. Highland Valley Copper (Teck Resources Limited)

Production in the first nine months of 2024 was 75,300 t Cu and 500 t Mo at Teck's Highland Valley Copper mine. Production guidance for 2024 was 112,000 to 125,000 t Cu and 1.3-1.6 Mlb Mo. The average ore processing rate is 136,000 tpd, with a maximum capacity of 200,000 tpd. Mine life is currently projected to 2028. Teck's 'HVC 2040' project has the objective of extending mine life to at least 2040, and the company applied for an Environmental Assessment Certificate in October 2023. The application was accepted by the Environmental Assessment Office (EAO) on July 10, 2024. The project is intended to process 900 Mt of ore for approximately 18 years to produce 4.3 Blb Cu. Key components include enlarging the Valley and Highmont pits, enlarging waste dumps and tailings storage, and increasing the average processing rate by 31%, peaking at 210,000 tpd. As the permit application is processed, Teck is continuing with First Nations engagement. Engineering design, production planning, and construction planning are anticipated to be completed by Q2 2025. Mineral reserves as of December 31, 2023 are Proven and Probable of 263.1 Mt at 0.30% Cu and 0.009% Mo. Resources are reported as Measured 594.7 Mt at 0.30% Cu and 0.008% Mo; Indicated 519.7 Mt at 0.26% Cu and 0.010% Mo; and Inferred 70.1 Mt at 0.22% Cu and 0.010% Mo.

Highland Valley Copper consists of a cluster of calc-alkaline porphyry Cu-Mo deposits in the Guichon Creek batholith (Upper Triassic), with production currently coming from the Lornex, Valley, and Highmont pits.

### **3.1.5.** Mount Polley (Imperial Metals Corporation)

Imperial Metals' Mount Polley mine produced

26.459 Mlb Cu and 29,635 oz Au in the first nine months of 2024 with mill throughput averaging 18,541 tpd. Production guidance for 2024 was 30-33 Mlb Cu and 35-40 koz Au. Open pit and underground mineral reserves as of January 1, 2024 are Proven and Probable 49.029 Mt at 0.342% Cu, 0.318 g/t Au, and 0.916 g/t Ag. Mineral resources are Measured and Indicated 203.85 Mt at 0.28% Cu, 0.30 g/t Au, and 0.51 g/t Ag; Inferred 10.39 Mt at 0.16% Cu, 0.18 g/t Au, and 0.18 g/t Ag. These values were calculated based on Brown et al. (2016) and adjusted for mining activity. Approximately 14,000 m were drilled for resource expansion, pit optimization, and testing new targets at the Springer pit area and the Cariboo pit. Some highlight intersections at the Springer pit include hole SD-24-180, which returned 35.0-292.5 (257.5 m) of 0.71% Cu and 0.39 g/t Au. Hole SD-24-196 was designed to test gaps in current pit design as well as depth of mineralization. It returned an intersection from 27.5-922.5 (895 m) of 0.26% Cu and 0.32 g/t Au. This hole extends mineralization 885 m vertically below the current pit floor.

Mount Polley is an alkalic porphyry Cu-Au deposit hosted in hydrothermal breccia and stockwork zones in the Mount Polley intrusive complex (Late Triassic). The composition of different intrusive phases ranges from diorite to monzonite. The Mount Polley complex intrudes Middle to Upper Triassic to Lower Jurassic Nicola Group volcanic and sedimentary rock.

#### 3.1.6. New Afton (New Gold Inc.)

Production at the **New Afton** copper-gold mine for the first nine months of 2024 was 39.5 Mlb Cu and 52,241 oz Au from milling an average of 10,851 tpd. New Gold's production guidance for 2024 was 50-60 Mlb Cu and 60,000 to 70,000 oz Au. New Afton is an underground block cave operation below the past producing Afton open pit mine, which closed in 1997. Reserves for New Afton as of December 31, 2023, are Proven and Probable 34.087 Mt at 0.73% Cu, 0.67 g/t Au, and 1.69 g/t Ag. Measured and Indicated resources are 73.976 Mt at 0.70% Cu, 0.57 g/t Au, and 2.14 g/t Ag, and Inferred resources are 10.219 Mt at 0.45% Cu, 0.33 g/t Au, and 1.36 g/t Ag.

New Gold is focusing on increasing production at New Afton from a current production rate of slightly more than 10,000 tpd, which includes production from the B3 and C zones. Current production from the B3 zone is stable at 9000 tpd. The increase would come from production at the C zone, where a series of draw bells have achieved steady self-caving (hydraulic radius) as of late October 2024. Production from C zone is targeted to reach 14,500 tpd by 2026. The gyratory crusher and conveyor system for the C zone were functioning by October. Upgrades to the New Afton tailings storage facilities include a new thickened and amended tailings plant (TAT). Three zones of mineral resources (C, East Extension, and D) are being evaluated for near-term conversion to mineral reserves to extend the current mine life beyond 2030.

Exploration is ongoing at New Afton, with an estimated 35,000 m of surface and underground drilling at the K zone (Fig. 2), the HW, and the AI-Southeast zone. Significant



Fig. 2. Logging K-zone core at New Afton mine (New Gold Inc.).

intervals from the K zone include hole EA24-485 from 330.0-547.0 (217.0 m) of 2.01% Cu, 1.79 g/t Au, and 10.43 g/t Ag, and an estimated true width of 40 m. Hole EA24-510 is reported to have the highest grade interval drilled at the property to date, with 2.83% Cu, 1.9 g/t Au, and 14.15 g/t Ag from 405.0-489.0 (84.0 m), and an estimated true width of 30 m. The K zone has a bornite rich core which transitions to chalcopyrite mineralization near the extremities. One notable drill hole at the HW zone (EA24-506) returned 50.9 m of 1.05% Cu, 1.08 g/t Au, and 4.04 g/t Ag from 202.0-252.9 m drilled depth (estimated true width of 40 m). At the AI-Southeast zone, hole EA24-512 from 152.2-182.0 (29.8 m) returned 0.30% Cu, 0.36 g/t Au, and 1.95 g/t Ag (estimated true width of 28 m).

New Afton is an alkalic porphyry Cu-Au deposit. It is hosted by Upper Triassic to Lower Jurassic Nicola Group volcanic and sedimentary rocks that were intruded by multiple phases of the Iron Mask batholith. These phases range in composition from diorite to monzonite; the Cherry Creek monzonite is thought to be the most significant driver of the New Afton system (Lipske et al., 2020).

### 3.1.7. Merritt Mill (Nicola Mining Inc.)

The **Merritt Mill** and tailings facility is at the Craigmont mine site. It has a 200 tpd capacity and is capable of custom milling various ore types. Several additions have been made since 2021, including a gravity jig separation and a shaker table system. It can produce gold or silver concentrates and is the only facility in British Columbia permitted to take feed from mines across the province. In April, Talisker Resources Ltd. made an agreement with Nicola Mining Inc. to process up to 6300 t of stockpiled ore from the Bralorne project (section 7.1.2.). As of late October, the first production of 55 dry t of concentrate at an estimated grade of 97.75 g/t Au had been shipped.

### 3.2. Coal mines

Only one coal mine operated in the South Central region (Fig. 1; Table 2).

## 3.2.1. Basin Coal Mine (Basin Mine Holdings Ltd.)

Basin Mine Holdings Ltd. produced approximately 50,000 t of coal from the Basin coal mine from May 2024 to year end. Basin is a historic producing mine in the Similkameen coalfields with exploration dating back to 1908 and operations to 1912. Basin Mine Holdings Ltd. is a private company that gained control of the Basin Coal project in 2021. The project is permitted to produce up to 350,000 tpy. Infrastructure includes a 250 tph operating Parnaby wash plant, which produces clean coal through a filter press system. Water is recycled to the plant and the process results in a low volume of tailings material. A historic resource calculation from July 2009 noted Measured and Indicated resources of 82.3 Mt and Inferred 35 Mt at a cut off stripping ratio of 8:1. The main seam has an average thickness of 17 m, and the lower seam 7.4 m. The coal is classified as high volatile bituminous and C thermal coal and is considered appropriate for metallurgical coking.

### 3.3. Selected industrial mineral mines and quarries

More than ten industrial mineral mines and quarries operate in the South Central region; only a selection is reported here (Fig. 1; Table 3). About 23 permitted sand and gravel pits operated in 2024.

#### 3.3.1. Ashcroft (I.G. Machine and Fibers Ltd.)

The Ashcroft basalt quarry has been in operation since 2001. The operator is I.G. Machine and Fibers Ltd., is a subsidiary of IKO Industries Ltd. Nicola Group basalts are processed into roofing granules. The permit allows up to 500,000 tpy production of basalt, which will produce 300,000 tpy of roofing granules with a 40% waste ratio. The original mineable and probable reserves would allow for about 30 years of production. Estimated 2024 production is 250,000 t.

### 3.3.2. Bud (Progressive Planet Solutions Inc.)

The **Bud** quarry is a bentonite producer. In 2022, Progressive Planet Solutions Inc. purchased Absorbent Products Ltd., taking ownership of the **Bud** quarry and **Red Lake** quarry (see below). Approximately 4995 t were produced in 2024. Progressive Planet markets bentonite as an absorbent for spills and as an absorbent and deodorizer for pet and livestock applications.

## 3.3.3. Falkland (Lafarge Canada Inc.)

Lafarge's **Falkland** quarry is permitted to produce gypsum and anhydrite. They are exploring the possibility of using gypsum and anhydrite to produce a natural fertilizer. The company is also testing the commercial application of PozGlass 100G, which is a proprietary cement additive produced by Progressive Planet Solutions Inc. designed to reduce carbon emissions. In 2024, production was an estimated 17,822 t. Lafarge is not mining limestone at **Falkland**, so except for producing construction aggregate, their Kamloops cement plant is on care and maintenance.

Table 2	2.	Coal	mines,	South	Central	Region.
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Mine	<b>Operator</b> (partner)	Commodity; Deposit type; MINFILE	Forecast 2024 Production (based on Q1-Q3)	Reserves	Resources	Comments
Basin Coal	Basin Mine Holdings Ltd.	Bituminous coal; 092HSE157	50,000 t	na	M+I: 82.3 Mt Inf: 35 Mt 8:1 stripping ratio (Historic NI 43-101 resource)	Began production May; production is seasonal. Mine is permitted to produce up to 350,000 tpy.

P = Proven; Pr = Probable; M = Measured; I = Indicated; Inf = Inferred

 Table 3. Selected industrial mineral mines and quarries, South Central Region.

Mine	<b>Operator</b> (partner)	Commodity; Deposit type; MINFILE	Forecast 2024 Production (based on Q1-Q3)	Reserves	Resources	Comments
Ashcroft	IG Machine and Fibers Ltd. (IKO Industries Ltd.)	Basalt (roofing granules); 092INW104	250,000 t	na	13.3 Mt in 2002	Typically mines 500,000 t with 60% processed into granule products.
Bud	Progressive Planet Products Inc.	Bentonite; 092HSE162	5000 t	na	na	Progressive Planet Solutions Inc. acquired in 2022.
Falkland	Lafarge Canada Inc.	Gypsum; 082LNW001	18,000 t	na	1.8 Mt	Testing cement applications with Progressive Planet Solutions' PozGlass 100 product.
Kettle Valley Quarries	Kelowna Sand and Gravel Ltd./Kettle Valley Stone Company	Ashlar, flagstone, thin veneer; 082ENW109, 111, 112	na	na	na	
Nazko	CanLava Mining Corporation	Lava rock; Cinder cone; 093B 060	15,000 t	na	Historical: 45 Mt	
Red Lake	Progressive Planet Solutions Inc.	Diatomaceous earth; Lacustrine diatomite; 092INE081	13,000 t	na	na	Progressive Planet Solutions Inc. acquired in 2022.

P = Proven; Pr = Probable; M = Measured; I = Indicated; Inf = Inferred

# **3.3.4.** Kettle Valley quarries (Kelowna Sand and Gravel Ltd.)

Kelowna Sand and Gravel Ltd. operates several quarries in the region, producing a variety of decorative, landscaping, drainage, and dimension stone, as well as sand and gravel. Kettle Valley Stone Company is an affiliated company and vendor of veneer finishing stone.

## 3.3.5. Nazko (Canlava Mining Corp.)

Canlava Mining Corp. produces a variety of commercial products including lightweight fill, filler material for lightweight cement, landscaping rock, traction aid on ice, filtration media, soil conditioner, and beauty products. These are made from red and black scoria from the **Nazko** quarry. Production from 2024 was an estimated 15,000 t.

# 3.3.6. Red Lake (Progressive Planet Solutions Inc.)

The **Red Lake** quarry produces diatomaceous earth, which is marketed for a variety of pet and livestock uses and industrial spill absorbents. In 2022, Progressive Planet Solutions acquired Absorbent Products Ltd. and the **Red Lake** and **Bud** quarries. For 2024, estimated production is 12,636 t.

# 4. Placer operations

In 2024, 83 placer mines were classified as 'operating' in the South Central region. Of these, only eleven were classified as 'working'. Most are operated on an intermittent basis, and details are not reported. See section 7.1.23. for Omineca Mining and Metals Ltd.'s **Wingdam Placer** project.

## 5. Mine development

Mine development projects are those for which a decision to produce has been made, key government approvals are in place, and on-site construction has begun. The South Central Region has no projects that qualify as being in mine development.

# 6. Proposed mines

Proposed mines are feasibility stage projects for which proponents have begun the environmental certification process (in the case of large projects) or have submitted applications for Mines Act permits (in the case of projects below British Columbia Environmental Assessment Act thresholds) or are waiting for existing permit amendments. Projects that have permits in place but have yet to obtain financing to begin site construction are also considered to be at the proposed stage. The South Central Region has three proposed mines: Ajax, Cariboo Gold, and New Prosperity (Fig. 1; Table 4).

## 6.1. Proposed metal mines

# 6.1.1. Ajax (KGHM Ajax Mining Inc. 80%, Abacus Mining and Exploration Corporation 20%)

**Ajax** is an alkalic porphyry copper-gold project in the Iron Mask batholith (Triassic). A 2016 Feasibility Study proposed an open-pit mine with 65,000 tpd milling capacity and 18-year mine life. The project was denied a provincial Environmental Assessment certificate in late 2017 and, in June of 2018, Natural Resources Canada, Fisheries and Oceans Canada, and the Canadian Coast Guard also denied federal certification. Project operator KGHM reopened an office in Kamloops in 2020 to continue engagement with local Indigenous Peoples and evaluate the possibility of resubmitting a modified application.

# 6.1.2. Cariboo Gold (Osisko Development Corp.)

Osisko Development Corp. acquired Barkerville Gold Mines Ltd. and the **Cariboo Gold** project in 2019. The project is a series of structurally controlled orogenic gold-quartz vein deposits that extend along strike for 3.7 km in one corridor (Valley, Cow, Mosquito, and Shaft zones) and for 3.0 km along another (Bonanza Ledge, BC Vein, Lowhee, and KL zones). Several other zones occur along strike and farther to the southeast, including the BC, William Creek, and Prosperine zones.

Osisko completed a Feasibility Study on December 30, 2022. Proven and Probable reserves are 16.7 Mt at 3.78 g/t Au and 0.7 g/t Ag. Measured and Indicated resources are 14.68 Mt at 3.33 g/t Au: Inferred resources are 15.47 Mt at 3.44 g/t Au. The Feasibility Study proposes a 12-year mine life with annual production of 163,695 oz Au and a 5.9 year after-tax payback period. Initial capitalization costs are estimated at \$137.4 million and the expansion at \$451.1 million. All-in sustaining costs were estimated at \$U\$968.10 per ounce of gold produced, net of credits and including royalties. Milling would begin at 1500 tpd and increase to 4900 tpd after three years. A crushing and ore-sorting circuit is planned on site to reduce the volume of material shipped to the Quesnel River mill about 110 km from the mine site. Osisko is working on an updated feasibility study, which is projected to be completed by mid-2025. Project parameters to be updated include optimized mining and processing flowsheets, a condensed timeline to arrive at 4900 tpd production, and updated operating costs, capital costs, and metal prices.

Excavation of a 1172 m drift from Cow Portal to the Lowhee zone began in early 2024. Once the drift is completed, a 10,000 t bulk sample for metallurgical testing will be collected from the Lowhee zone. The project received an Environmental Assessment (EA) certificate in October 2023 and Mines Act permits for the Cariboo Gold mine and the QR mill in November 2024. The Environmental Management Act permits for the mine, mill, and Bonanza Ledge were received during Q4 of 2024.

### 6.1.3. New Prosperity (Taseko Mines Limited)

Taseko Mines Limited received a provincial Environmental Assessment certificate (EAC) for the New Prosperity project in 2010. However, in February 2014 the Government of Canada refused to authorize the project. In 2019, Taseko entered a standstill agreement with the Tŝilhqot'in Nation to suspend any legal actions between the parties in order to pursue dialogue. Ongoing discussions have reportedly made progress. In March 2024, Taseko and Tŝilhqot'in renewed the standstill agreement for the final time with a plan of arriving at a resolution by year end. New Prosperity is a porphyry copper-gold deposit with Measured and Indicated resources of 1.01 Bt of 0.24% Cu and 0.41 g/t Au. The mine plan proposed an open-pit mine processing 70,000 tpd.

## 6.2. Proposed coal mines

No coal mines are proposed in the South Central Region.

#### 7. Selected exploration activities and highlights

In 2023, most projects in the South Central Region targeted precious metals, base metals, base and precious metals, and other metals (Fig. 1; Table 5).

Project	<b>Operator</b> (partner)	Commodity; Deposit type; MINFILE	Reserves	Resources	Comments
Ajax	KGHM Ajax Mining Inc. (KGHM Polska Miedź SA 80%, Abacus Mining and Exploration Corporation 20%)	Cu, Au; Alkalic porphyry; 092INE012, 13	P+Pr (NSR cut off US\$7.10/t): 426 Mt 0.29% Cu, 0.19 g/t Au, 0.39 g/t Ag	M+I (NSR cut off US\$7.10/t): 568 Mt 0.26% Cu, 0.18 g/t Au, 0.35 g/t Ag	Environmental certification denied by provincial (2017) and federal ministers (2018). Proponents are investigating a possible resubmission.
Cariboo Gold	Osisko Development Corp.	Au; Au-quartz veins; 093H 140, 139, 19, 6	P+Pr: 16.7 Mt 3.78 g/t Au, 0.7 g/t Ag	M+I: 14.682 Mt 3.33 g/t Au Inf: 15.47 Mt 3.44 g/t Au (all zones)	Feasibility Study Dec. 30, 2022; resource and reserve calculations updated. Environmental Assessment Certificate received Oct. 2023. B.C. Mines Act and Environmental Management Act permits received in Q4 2024. Underground development of 1170 m drift from Cow Mountain portal to Lowhee zone for 10,000 t bulk sample.
New Prosperity	Taseko Mines Limited	Cu, Au; Porphyry; 092O 041	P+Pr (NSR cut off \$5.50/t): 830 Mt 0.23% Cu, 0.41 g/t Au containing (recoverable) 3.6 Blb Cu, 7.7 Moz Au	M+I (cut off 0.14% Cu- inclusive of reserves): 1011 Mt 0.24% Cu, 0.41 g/t Au	Granted provincial Environmental Certificate 2010 (expired): denied federal approval 2014. Taseko and Tŝilhqot'in Nation in discussions anticipated to conclude by 2024.

**Table 4.** Selected proposed mines or quarries, South Central Region.

P = Proven; Pr = Probable; M = Measured; I = Indicated; Inf = Inferred

#### 7.1. Selected precious metals projects

This section includes projects for which precious metals are the main commodities sought.

# 7.1.1. Blackdome-Elizabeth (Somerset Minerals Limited, previously Tempus Resources Limited)

In June, Tempus Resources Ltd. changed its name to Somerset Minerals Limited. In September, Somerset began plans to divest the **Blackdome-Elizabeth** project through a sale to Blackdome Mining Ltd. Terms of the sale include staged cash payments and work commitments. Tempus Resources published an updated mineral resource for the **Elizabeth** deposit in November, 2023, with an Indicated resource of 317,200 t at 5.97 g/t Au (60,900 oz Au) and an Inferred resource of 315,000 t at 3.48 g/t Au (35,200 oz Au) at a 1.5 g/t Au cut off. The former **Blackdome** gold mine is about 30 km north of the Elizabeth deposit. A 2010 Preliminary Economic Assessment proposed mining at both sites and processing at Blackdome with the existing and permitted plant. Blackdome is a low sulphidation epithermal deposit in Cenozoic intermediate to felsic volcanic rocks whereas Elizabeth is considered an orogenic gold vein deposit with mineralized veins in a Paleocene quartz diorite intrusion of the Shulaps ultramafic complex.

### 7.1.2. Bralorne (Talisker Resources Ltd.)

Talisker Resources Ltd. released an inaugural resource estimate for their **Bralorne** project in January 2023 (Pelletier et al., 2023), with Indicated 117,300 t at 8.85 g/t Au and Inferred 8.033 Mt at 6.32 g/t Au. The resource was calculated based on 660 drill holes and extends along a strike length of 4.5 km to a depth of 700 m, including the historic King, Charlotte, Bralorne, and Pioneer mines. Historic mining was to a maximum depth of 1900 m. Since acquiring the project in 2019, Talisker has assembled a property package that includes numerous gold showings and past-producing mines not included in the current resource. Resource upgrade drilling began in October of 2023 and was completed on February 12, 2024, with a total of 14,949 m drilled in 81 holes in the King area. The objective was to upgrade current resources from Inferred to Indicated. An intersection in hole SB-2023-014 returned 129.99 g/t Au

Project/ Property	<b>Operator</b> (partner)	Commodity; Deposit type; MINFILE	Resources (NI 43-101 operator compliant unless indicated otherwise)	Comments
Alwin Mine	GSP Resource Corp.	Cu, Ag, Au, Mo; Porphyry Cu-Au (alkalic); 092ISW010, 21	Inf: 1.46 Mt 1.08% Cu (0.2% Cu open pit cut off, 0.8% Cu underground cut off)	Results from October-November 2023 drilling of five holes, 640 m total. Example intersection: AM-23-01 from 138.0-150.8 m (12.8 m) of 2.42% Cu, 47 g/t Ag, and 0.57 g/t Au. Completed 3D modelling of historic data and recent drilling. Diamond drilling (6-8 holes) began late October. Released initial resource calculation.
Aspen Grove	Kodiak Copper Corp.	Cu, Au; Porphyry Cu-Au (alkalic); 092HNE169, 115	na	Optioned from Pinwheel Resources Ltd.; review of historical data and core from previous drilling.
Beaver-Lynx	Inomin Mines Inc.	Ni, Co; Ultramafic-mafic; 093B 073, 285	na	Property expanded by staking 2836 ha. Applied for hydrogen rights. Sumitomo Metal Mining Canada Inc. signed term sheet to earn up to 80% of project: agreement subject to due diligence.
Blackdome- Elizabeth	Somerset Minerals Limited and Blackdome Mining Ltd.	Au, Ag; Au-quartz veins, Epithermal Au-Ag-Cu (low sulphidation); 092O 053, 12	I: 317,200 t 5.97 g/t Au Inf: 315,000 t 3.48 g/t Au	Tempus Resources Ltd. changes name to Somerset Minerals Limited. Plan to divest Elizabeth-Blackdome project to Blackdome Mining Ltd.; transaction subject to shareholder and regulatory approval.
Blue River	Capacitor Metals Corp.	Ta, Nb; Carbonatite; 083D 005, 35	I: $48.41 \text{ Mt}$ $197 \text{ ppm Ta}_2O_5$ , $1610 \text{ ppm Nb}_2O_5$ Inf: 5.4 Mt $191 \text{ ppm Ta}_2O_5$ , $1760 \text{ ppm Nb}_2O_5$ (Historical 43-101 compliant resource)	Resource prepared by AMEC Americas Limited, June 21, 2013. Prepared new NI 43-101 technical report for CSE listing.
Bralorne	Talisker Resources Ltd.	Au; Au-quartz veins; 092JNE001	I: 117,300 t 8.85 g/t Au Inf: 8.033 Mt 6.32 g/t Au	Infill drilling (81 holes, 14,949 m total) between Oct. 17, 2023 and Feb. 15, 2024. Example intersection: SB-2023-014 from 374.2-376.2 m (2.0 m) of 129.99 g/t Au. Mustang Mine portal and decline expanded to 4 by 4 m along 400 m; completed Feb. 12, 2024. Ore purchase agreement signed with New Gold Inc. for up to 350,000 t ore. Milling agreement signed with Nicola Mining Inc. for processing up to 6300 t stockpiled ore.
Brett	Ximen Mining Corp.	Au, Ag; Epithermal Au-Ag-Cu (low sulphidation); 082LSW110, 131	na	Diamond drilling (8 holes, 1356.5 m) completed in November. Prospecting and surveying.

 Table 5. Selected exploration projects, South Central Region.

Table 5. Continued.

CHG	Basin Uranium Corp.	Au, Ag; Carbonate-hosted disseminated Au, Ag; 092P 083	na	2023 RC drilling unsuccessful in seven attempted holes; could not get through gravelly overburden. March 2024 one diamond drill hole to 139 m depth did not reach target depth; no significant results.
Comstock	North Valley Resources Ltd.	Pb, Zn, Ag, Cu; Polymetallic veins; 092ISE052, 156	na	Prospecting and alteration mapping. Receive amended 5-year drill permit to allow up to 100 holes including historic showings and geophysical anomalies.
Copper Keg	District Copper Corp.	Cu, Mo, Ag; Porphyry Cu±Mo±Au; 092INW031	na	Added three claims to project; soil sampling. Follow up geophysics planned.
Copper Queen	Sable Resources Ltd.	Cu, Mo, Au, Ag; Porphyry Cu±Mo±Au; 093C 001, 4	na	Project staked and later expanded to 13,880 ha. Prospecting and mapping; 251 rock and 123 soil samples; grab sampling returned up to 1.02% Cu with anomalous Au and Ag. 520 line-km airborne VTEM survey.
Cowtrail	BRS Resources Ltd.	Au, Cu; Alkalic porphyry Cu-Au; 093A 266, 116	na	Results from 2023 diamond drilling (5 holes, 690.8 m). Example intersection of: CT23-16 from 60.0- 168.0 m (108 m) of 0.15% Cu. Optioned to BRS Resources Ltd. to earn up to 60%.
Donna	Eagle Plains Resources Ltd.	Au, Ag, Pb, Zn; Polymetallic veins; 082LSE022	na	Geological mapping, geochemical sampling.
Eagle Lake	Trailbreaker Resources Ltd.	Cu, Au, Ag; Alkalic porphyry Cu-Au; 093A 268, 255	na	High-resolution magnetic survey.
Eldorado	Gelum Resources Ltd.	Au, Cu; Polymetallic veins, Au- quartz veins; 092O 026, 092JNE105, 95, 45	na	Reported on 2023 drilling (6 holes, 1340 m). Example intersection: ELD23-03 from 101.65-197.5 m (95.85 m) of 0.412 g/t Au.
Fame	Longhorn Exploration Corp.	Au, Ag, Cu; Au-quartz veins, Epithermal Au-Ag-Cu (low sulphidation); 0920 019	na	Volterra AMT (audio-frequency magnetotelluric) survey.
Foothills	Neotech Metals Corp.	REE; Carbonatite-associated deposits	na	Staked project area; 16,517 ha. Regional mapping and sampling. Ground magnetic and radiomentric geophysics.
Getty	Getty Copper Inc.	Cu, Mo, Au, Ag; Porphyry Cu±Mo±Au; 092INE043, 38	I: 114.406 Mt 0.373% Cu Inf: 41.759 Mt 0.275% Cu Prob: 86.561 Mt 0.40% Cu (Historical resource and reserve)	Report on 2023 drilling (5 holes, 737 m). Example intersection: GL- 23-01 from 93.9-94.4 m (0.5 m) of 8.11% Cu, 1.54 g/t Au, 41.5 g/t Ag, and 60 ppm Mo.

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Golden Sable	Trailbreaker Resources Ltd.	Au; Plutonic-related Au-quartz veins; 092P 027	na	Soil sampling confirmed and extended known 3 km gold-in-soil anomaly by 1 km. Mapping and prospecting.
Hen-DL	Happy Creek Minerals Ltd.	Au, Ag, Cu, Pb, Zn; Au skarn; 093A 212	na	Rock, till, soil, and stream-sediment sampling at Hen-DL project. Rock chip sample in skarn assayed 1.45 g/t Au along 0.35 m.
Highland Valley	Metal Energy Corp	Cu, Mo, Au, Ag; Porphyry Cu±Mo±Au; 092ISE199	na	Metal Energy Corp. bought the project from Happy Creek Minerals Ltd. in October 2024. Happy Creek Minerals Ltd. reported on late 2023 work including audiomagnetotelluric (AMT) survey, interpretation of airborne magnetic data, soil and stream-sediment geochemistry, and rock sampling. Metal Energy Corp. fall work includes ground AMT, passive seismic, and hyperspectral studies.
IKE	Amarc Resources Ltd.	Cu, Mo, Au, Ag; Porphyry Cu±Mo±Au; 092O 067, 25	na	Geophysics (25 line-km of IP and 7 km <sup>2</sup> of drone aeromagnetic) and 31 km <sup>2</sup> lidar survey. Relogging and reassaying 23 historical holes, 1744 samples. Example intersection: 90-21 from 140.5-192.9 m (52.4 m) of 1.10% Cu, 1.21 g/t Au, 2.5 g/t Ag, and 0.006% Mo. Drilling (9 holes, 1873 m).
Iron Lake	Tech-X Resources Inc.	Cu, Au, Ni, Pt, Pd, Co; Alkalic porphyry Cu-Au, Ultramafic hosted; 092P 132, 113, 182, 222	na	Samples collected for geochronology.
Keefers-Hanna	Homegold Resources Ltd.	Au, Ag; Au-quartz veins; 092ISW093, 94, 95, 71	na	Prospecting. One diamond drill hole.
Khrysos	Kermode Resources Ltd.	Ag, Pb, Zn, Au; Polymetallic veins; 082ENE082	na	Gravity concentration tests from mine dumps.
Kolos	Torr Metals Inc.	Cu, Mo, Au, Ag; Porphyry Cu±Mo±Au; 092ISE229	na	Results from late 2023 sampling program and ZTEM geophysical survey. In 2024, rock sampling and staking; project area now extends across about 240 km <sup>2</sup> .
Koster Dam	Cariboo Rose Resources Ltd. 55%, (Discovery Lithium Inc.	Au, Ag; Au-quartz veins; 092O 031	na	Prospecting.

# Table 5. Continued.

45%)

Lac La Hache	EnGold Mines Ltd.	Cu, Au, Ag, Fe; Alkalic porphyry Cu-Au, Cu skarn; 092P 120, 108, 2, 153	Aurizon Inf: 1.99 Mt 2.32 g/t Au, 0.6% Cu, 5.37 g/t Ag Spout zone open pit I: 6.5 Mt 0.33% Cu, 1.34 g/t Ag, 0.05 g/t Au, 11.62% magnetite Inf: 7.66 Mt 0.27% Cu, 0.99 g/t Ag, 0.04 g/t Au, 9.5% magnetite Spout zone u/g Inf: 0.39 Mt 1.0% Cu, 2.58 g/t Ag, 0.13 g/t Ag, 10.33% magnetite G1 u/g Inf: 1.71 Mt 1.25% Cu, 6.45 g/t Ag, 0.19 g/t Au, 30.94% magnetite	Diamond drilling began August (4 holes, 588 m): two holes on Road Gold zone and two to southeast of Spout zone. Example intersection: R24-06 from 82.0-83.0 m (1.0 m) of 1.65 g/t Au, 3.0 g/t Ag, and 0.19% Cu.
Lawless Creek	Tech-X Resources Inc.	Cu, Mo, Au; Porphyry Cu±Mo±Au; 092HNE039, 17, 129	na	Detailed geological mapping; soil geochemistry sampling; IP and gravity geophysical surveys; geochronologic sampling.
Liberty	Trailbreaker Resources	Cu, Mo, Au, Ag; Porphyry Cu±Mo±Au; 093G 077, 78, 79	na	Trailbreaker Resources acquired the project in January from a private owner through an option to earn 100%. Diamond drilling (7 holes, 2442 m). Example intersection: LIB24-003 from 385.0-419.2 m (34.2 m) of 0.18% Cu and 428 ppm Mo. Soil geochemical survey and prospecting. Geophysical surveys in October included ZTEM and IP.
Lightning Peak	Kermode Resources Ltd.	Au, Ag, Pb, Zn; Polymetallic veins; 082ENE022, 23, 72, 73	na	Gravity concentration tests from mine dumps.
Little Fort	New Gold Inc.	Cu, Au, Ag; Alkalic porphyry Cu-Au; 092INE023	na	Geological mapping, soil and rock geochemistry sampling. Drilling (1216 m). Claim expansion through acquisition.
Lost Horse	Eagle Plains Resources Ltd.	Cu, Au, Ag; Alkalic porphyry Cu-Au; 092P 166	na	Soil and till geochemistry; geological mapping, prospecting.

# Table 5. Continued.

Magic	Golden Age Exploration Ltd.	Au, Ag; Au-quartz veins, Epithermal Au-Ag-Cu (low sulphidation)	na	Expanded mobile metal ion (MMI) soil sampling grid; rock sampling and prospecting.
Miner Mountain	Sego Resources Inc.	Cu, Au; Alkalic porphyry Cu-Au; 092HSE203, 78	na	3D exploration model based on 22 drill holes at the South Gold zone; potential for 100-150 koz Au at 0.5- 0.7 g/t Au.
Mount Polley West	Eagle Plains Resources Ltd.	Cu, Au; Alkalic porphyry Cu-Au; 093A 018, 118, 313, 314	na	Till sampling.
Mont	1244893 B.C. Ltd.	Bentonite; 092ISE218	na	Diamond drilling, November 2024. Leach tests for Cs, Ba, Sr, Rb.
MPD	Kodiak Copper Corp.	Cu, Au; Alkalic porphyry Cu-Au; 092HNE243, 55, 191, 244	na	Drilling (25 holes, 9252 m). Example intersection: AXE-24-007 from 89.0-446.0 m (357 m) of 0.43% Cu, 0.02 g/t Au, and 10.05 g/t Ag. Regional exploration (2000 soil samples, 25 line-km IP).
New Brenda	Flow Metals Corp.	Au, Ag, Cu; Au-quartz veins; 092HNE289, 302, 303	na	3.2 line-km IP geophysical survey. Soil grid over 4 km <sup>2</sup> : 448 samples; Cu-Mo-Ag in soil anomaly.
New Craigmont	Nicola Mining Inc.	Cu, Au; Cu skarn; 092ISE035	na	IP geophysical survey extending across 6.5 km <sup>2</sup> in two zones. Diamond drilling (14 holes, 4872 m).
New Raven	Dinero Ventures Ltd.	Au; Au-quartz veins; 092JNE056, 182	na	Report on results from 2023 sampling of 197 rock samples, 7 silt samples, 6 pit samples; reported 69 g/t Au in grab sample. Diamond drilling (approx. 760 m).
Newton	Carlyle Commodities CorpMiramis Mining Corp., Axcap Ventures Inc.	Au, Ag; Epithermal Au-Ag-Cu (low sulphidation); 092O 050	Inf: 42,396,600 t 0.63 g/t Au, 3.43 g/t Ag	In September 2024, Carlyle Commodities Corp. began the process of amalgamating with Miramis Mining Corp. In January 2024, Carlyle Commodities Corp. completed drilling (7 holes 840.3 m). Example intersection: N23-093 from 14.9- 54.0 m (39.1 m) of 0.75 g/t Au and 1.90 g/t Ag. Preliminary metallurgical testing shows up to 80% Au recovery. Sale of project to Axcap Ventures Inc. in process at year end.
Peak	Red Canyon Resources Ltd.	Cu, Mo, Au; Porphyry Cu±Mo±Au; 093A 045, 7	na	Four diamond drill holes tested geophysical and geochemical anomalies.
Peerless	Bathurst Metals Corp.	Au, Ag, Pb, Zn; Polymetallic veins; 092JNE076	na	Diamond drilling (4 holes, 702 m). Example intersection: PR24-004 from 103.0-108.1 m (5.1 m) of 6.3 g/t Au. Soil sampling.
Perk-Rocky	Sable Resources Ltd.	Cu, Au, Ag; Porphyry Cu±Mo±Au; 092N 011, 12, 53	na	Rock sampling (343 samples) and geological mapping. Different grab samples assayed values of up to 560 g/t Au, 590 g/t Ag, and 24.1% Cu.
Placer Mountain	Bronco Resources Corp.	Au, Ag; Au-quartz veins; 092HSE263, 262	na	Diamond drilled late November (3 holes, 1500 m planned).

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# Table 5. Continued.

Ponderosa	Au Gold Corp.	Au, Ag; Au-quartz veins; 0921SE192	na	Extension to option agreement for three additional years.
Princeton Copper	Collective Metals Inc.	Cu, Au; Alkalic porphyry Cu-Au; 092HSE135	na	Application for 5-year multi-year area based exploration permit with diamond drilling and IP geophysics split between two claim blocks. Relogging and sampling four diamond drill holes from previous operator. Soil sampling, alteration mapping, prospecting.
Prospect Valley	Westhaven Gold Corp.	Au, Ag; Epithermal Au-Ag-Cu (low sulphidation); 092ISW107, 111	na	Stream silt sampling; prospecting and rock sampling. Partial results include a stream silt sample with 985 ppb Au. One float sample with 1170 ppm W and >10,000 ppm Mo.
Quesnel Regional	Fortescue Canada Resources Ltd.	Cu, Mo, Au, Ag; Porphyry Cu±Mo±Au	na	Staked 357,626 ha project area. Indigenous Nation group engagement.
Rabbit North	Tower Resources Ltd.	Cu, Au; Alkalic porphyry Cu-Au; 092INE045, 147	na	Renewed 5 year, multi-year area based permit. Drilling in two programs: first with five holes and 1015 m total, second with four holes and 1096 m total. Example intersection: RN24- 051 from 244.23-248.5 m (4.27 m) of 6.06 g/t Au.
Rayfield	Golden Sky Minerals Corp.	Cu,Au; Alkalic porphyry Cu-Au; 092P 005	na	IP geophysics, 15 line-km. Interpretation of IP and magnetic geophysical data. Staking to expand project area to 50,800 ha.
Redgold	Vizsla Copper Corp.	Cu, Au; Alkalic porphyry Cu-Au; 093A 058	na	IP geophysics. Diamond drilling (3 holes, 1089 m). Example intersection RG24-15 from 79.0- 109.0 m (30.0 m) of 0.18% Cu and 0.13 g/t Au.
Reliance Gold	Endurance Gold Corporation	Au, Ag, Sb; Au-quartz veins, Stibnite veins and disseminations; 092JNE033, 136, 191	na	Report on final 2023 drill results. Example intersection: DDH23- 076 from 9.3-22.0 m (12.7 m) of 8.52 g/t Au. New targets defined by arsenic geochemical anomalies in Olympic, Enigma, and Howe Creek zones; grab sampling of quartz-sulphide vein material up to 25.1 g/t Au. Prospecting, mapping, target generation, environmental baseline studies. Planned 10,000 m diamond drilling. Example intersection: DDH24-093 from 159.9- 161.9 m (2 m) of 74.29 g/t Au.

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Shovelnose	Westhaven Gold Corp.	Au, Ag; Epithermal Au-Ag-Cu (low sulphidation); 092HNE309, 308	I: 2.983 Mt 6.38 g/t Au, 34.1 g/t Ag Inf: 1.331 Mt 3.89 g/t Au, 16.9 g/t Ag	Final results from late 2023 diamond drilling. Example intersection: SN23-367 from 49.2-51.0 m (1.8 m) of 3.98 g/t Au and 43.74 g/t Ag. Received 5 year, multi-year area based permit allowing for 650 drill sites, trenching, bulk sampling, and geophysical surveys. Expand property by 24,000 ha. Prospecting, mapping, and sampling; (>2000 rock, 500 soil). IP and magnetic ground surveys in fall; 8.5 km <sup>2</sup> over Certes zone. Diamond drilling (27 holes, 8347 m). Example intersection: SN24-415 from 52.0-60.0 m (8 m) of 0.53 g/t Au and 0.48 g/t Ag.
Silverboss	Happy Creek Minerals Ltd.	Pb, Zn, Ag, Au, Cu; Polymetallic veins Ag-Pb- Zn±Au; 093A 019	na	Geological mapping; rock and basal till sampling. Outcrop grab sample assayed 0.11 g/t Au, 9.3 g/t Ag, and 625 ppm Cu.
Skyfire	LFNT Resources Corp.	Ag, Pb, Zn, Au; Polymetallic veins Ag-Pb- Zn±Au; 093A 346	na	Collected 196 top-of-bedrock soil samples in two areas for conventional and heavy mineral testing.
Spanish Mountain	Spanish Mountain Gold Ltd.	Au, Ag; Au-quartz veins; 093A 043	M+I: 294 Mt 0.50 g/t Au, 0.72 g/t Ag Inf: 18 Mt 0.63 g/t Au, 0.76 g/t Ag	Diamond drilling (11 holes, 5590 m). Example intersections: 24-DH- 1267 from 53.0-133.0 m (80.0 m) of 0.44 g/t Au. 24-DH-1265 from 124.0-133.0 m (9.0 m) of 2.09 g/t Au. Engineering, metallurgical testing, optimization studies, feasibility work continuing. Will resubmit project for permitting once updated project description is completed.
Spanish Mountain West	West Mining Corp.	Au, Ag; Au-quartz veins; 093A 297, 296	na	Interpretation of multispectral satellite images combined with geophysical and sampling data.
Treasure Mountain North	New Destiny Mining Corp.	Ag, Cu, Au, Zn, Pb; Porphyry Cu±Mo±Au; 092HSW066, 117, 092HSE240, 136	na	Interpretation of 2022 lidar survey, prospecting and sampling, diamond drilling (11 holes).
Upland Copper	Kobrea Exploration Corp.	Cu, Pb, Zn; Noranda/Kuroko massive sulphide Cu-Pb-Zn; 082M 051, 300, 110	na	Infill soil geochemical sampling; passive seismic survey, trenching (~1000 m).
Weyman	Greenridge Exploration Inc.	Cu, Mo, Au; Porphyry Cu±Mo±Au; 082LSW058	na	Soil sampling (269) across 6.3 km <sup>2</sup> ; 1:5000-scale geological mapping.
Wingdam Lode	Omineca Mining and Metals Ltd.	Au, Ag; Au-quartz veins; 093H 012	na	Diamond drilling in Lightning Creek Valley (10 holes, 4000 m planned).
Wingdam Placer	Omineca Mining and Metals Ltd., D&L Mining	Au placer; Au-quartz veins; 093H 012	na	RC geotechnical drilling. WD23- RC02 averaged 25.4 g/m <sup>3</sup> Au along 8 m. Underground development in 70 m drift; three crosscuts initiated to prepare for placer gold recovery.

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Table 5. Communu	Table	5.	Continued
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Woodjam	Vizsla Copper Corp.	Cu, Au; Alkalic porphyry Cu-Au; 093A 269, 78	Historic resource: Southeast zone Inf: 227.5 Mt 0.31% Cu Deerhorn zone Inf: 32.8 Mt 0.49 g/t Au, 0.22% Cu Takom zone Inf: 8.3 Mt 0.26 g/t Au, 0.22% Cu	Expanded property area by 16,008 ha through purchase and staking. IP >17 line-km. Drilling began in June (7 holes, 2980 m). Example intersections: DH24-120 from 208.5- 277.0 m (68.5 m) of 0.18% Cu and 1.07 g/t Au; SE24-122 from 65.0- 242.3 m (177.3 m) of 0.56% Cu and 0.29 g/t Au.
Woolford Creek	Rumble Resources Inc.	Cu-Pb-Zn-Ag; Noranda/Kuroko massive sulphide Cu-Pb-Zn; 082LNW078, 082M 118	na	Prospecting, rock sampling, VLF and magnetic surveys.
Yellowhead	Taseko Mines Limited	Cu, Au, Ag; Noranda/Kuroko; 082M 008, 9	P+Pr: 817 Mt 0.28% Cu, 0.03 g/t Au, 1.3 g/t Ag	Geotechnical site investigation. Indigenous group engagement.

M = Measured; I = Indicated; Inf = Inferred

over 2.0 m (374.2-376.2 m). An ore purchase agreement was signed with New Gold Inc. for up to 350,000 t of ore from Bralorne to be processed at the New Afton mine. Talisker enlarged the Mustang mine portal and decline to 4 by 4 m along 400 m to prepare for test mining; this project was completed by February 12, 2024. In April 2024, Talisker signed a milling agreement with Nicola Mining Inc. to process up to 6300 t of stockpiled ore from Bralorne. At Bralorne, gold mineralized quartz veins are in diorite, quartz diorite, gabbro, and granite of the Bralorne intrusive suite (Permian) and to a lesser extent in Permian-Triassic Pioneer Formation intermediate to mafic volcanic rocks. Total reported historical production was 4.2 Moz Au at an average head grade of 17.7 g/t Au from the Bralorne, King, and Pioneer mines, which operated from 1889-1971.

## 7.1.3. Brett (Ximen Mining Corp.)

Ximen began diamond drilling at the **Brett** property in 2024. A total of 1356.5 m in eight holes were drilled from August to November. Prospecting and land surveying were conducted during drilling. The target at Brett is low sulphidation epithermal gold-silver mineralization in Eocene Penticton Group volcanic rocks.

# 7.1.4. CHG (Basin Uranium Corp.)

Cariboo Rose Resources Ltd.'s **CHG** project is under option to operator Basin Uranium Corp. Reverse circulation drilling was attempted in 2023, but seven holes were unsuccessful in penetrating gravelly overburden; the maximum depth was 64 m. A single diamond drill hole was drilled to a depth of 139 m in March 2024 but lost in a fault zone before reaching target depth.

# 7.1.5. Donna (Eagle Plains Resources Ltd.)

Eagle Plains Resources and option partner Annacotty Resources Corp. conducted geological mapping and geochemical sampling on the **Donna** project, targeting intrusivehosted gold. The property extends across the historic St. Paul and Morgan mines (Au-Ag-Pb-Zn). Annacotty Resources has an option to earn up to 60% interest in the project.

# 7.1.6. Eldorado (Gelum Resources Ltd.)

Gelum Resources Ltd. completed drilling six diamond drill holes totalling 1340 m in October, 2023 at the **Eldorado** project. Results were reported in early 2024 including an intersection in drill hole ELD23-03 between 101.65 and 197.5 (95.85 m) of 0.412 g/t Au. Wealth Minerals Ltd. acquired an option to earn up to 20% of the Eldorado project on August 31, 2023. Eldorado is considered an orogenic quartz sulphide vein target.

## 7.1.7. Fame (Longhorn Exploration Corp.)

Longhorn Exploration conducted a Volterra AMT (audiofrequency magnetotelluric) geophysical survey on the **Fame** gold-silver project in July 2024. The target at Fame is low sulphidation epithermal Au-Ag mineralization.

### 7.1.8. Golden Sable (Trailbreaker Resources Ltd.)

Trailbreaker Resources Ltd. undertook soil sampling, mapping, and prospecting on the **Golden Sable** project. Drill collars from historic drill programs were located and mapped. The soil sampling was designed to confirm a previously reported 3 km-long gold-in-soil anomaly. The work confirmed previous results and extended the existing anomaly by 1 km. Gold-quartz veins in intrusive rocks are the exploration target.

#### 7.1.9. Keefers-Hanna (Homegold Resources Ltd.)

Homegold Resources Ltd. conducted prospecting and drilled one diamond drill hole at the **Keefers-Hanna** project targeting silver and gold-bearing quartz arsenopyrite veinlets in phyllites and schists of the Bridge River complex.

# 7.1.10. Koster Dam (Cariboo Rose Resources Ltd., Discovery Lithium Inc.)

Airborne magnetic geophysical targets and previous reconnaissance sampling helped to focus prospecting for goldquartz veins in volcanic rocks at the **Koster Dam** project. Cariboo Rose Resources holds 55% of the project, and Discovery Lithium Inc. 45%.

#### 7.1.11. Lightning Peak (Kermode Resources Ltd.)

Kermode Resources Ltd. conducted gravity concentration tests for Au and Ag recovery from mine dump material at the **Lightning Peak** project. Recovery was tested with the concentrate (37.8% Au, 8% Ag), middlings (21% Au, 20.3% Ag), and the tailings (41.2% Au, 71.7% Ag). Selected grab samples from mine dump material returned up to 22.4 g/t Au and 196 g/t Ag (sample 114719). Kermode received a multi-year area-based exploration permit (MYAB) for the Lightning Peak project in July.

## 7.1.12. Magic (Golden Age Exploration Ltd.)

Golden Age Exploration expanded coverage of mobile metal ion (MMI) soil geochemistry and rock sampling on the **Magic** project. Low-sulphidation epithermal Au-Ag mineralization is the target.

## 7.1.13. New Raven (Dinero Ventures Ltd.)

In 2023, Dinero Ventures sampled at the **New Raven** project (197 rock, 7 stream silt, 6 pit). Results included a rock grab sample with 69 g/t Au. Dinero drilled 760 m in October targeting orogenic gold quartz-carbonate veins.

# 7.1.14. Newton (Miramis Mining Corp.-Carlyle Commodities Corp., Axcap Ventures Inc.)

At the **Newton** project, Carlyle Commodities Corp. drilled 840.3 m in seven holes between December 2023 and January 2024. The holes extended mineralization to the north from a 2022 pit-constrained resource calculation with Inferred 42.4 Mt grading 0.63 g/t Au and 3.43 g/t Ag at a 0.25 g/t Au cut off (O'Brien and Turnbull, 2022). A highlight result includes hole N23-093 from 14.9-54.1 (39.1m) of 0.75 g/t Au and 1.90 g/t Ag. Carlyle carried out metallurgical studies at Base Metallurgical Laboratories Ltd. to compare the efficiency of three different processes: gravity concentration, whole ore leach, and flotation at different grind sizes with a subsequent leach of the coarser fraction. The flotation and leach process resulted in the highest recovery, with extraction of 80.3% of the gold and 32.7% of the silver from the sample. In late September, Carlyle announced plans to amalgamate with Miramis Mining Corp., to continue operations as Miramis Mining Corp., and to sell the Newton project to Axcap Ventures Inc. This transaction received shareholder approval in December and was anticipated to conclude by year end. Miramis currently holds an option to acquire a 100% interest in the Nicola East project northeast of Merritt. Newton is a low to intermediate sulphidation epithermal gold project in Cretaceous intrusive, sedimentary, and volcanic rocks of the Spences Bridge Group (Cretaceous).

## 7.1.15. Peerless (Bathurst Metals Corp.)

Bathurst Metals Corp. completed their first drill program of 702 m in four diamond drill holes at the **Peerless** project. Notable intersections from two holes include PR24-004 from 103.0-108.1 m depth (5.1 m) grading 6.3 g/t Au, and PR24-002 from 38.0-40.0 (2.0 m) grading 5.72 g/t Au. Bathurst completed a follow-up detailed soil sampling program in October to improve resolution on Au-in-soil anomalies.

#### 7.1.16. Placer Mountain (Bronco Resources Corp.)

Bronco Resources Corp. initiated drilling 1500 m in three holes at the Kodiak zone of the **Placer Mountain** project in November. The Kodiak zone is defined by a 1.5 km-long gold-in-soil anomaly where four diamond drill holes in 2020 and 2021 returned significant results. An example is in hole KZ-21-05, which assayed 39.2 g/t Au and 80.4 g/t Ag over 3.0 m from 27-30.5 m depth. The target at Placer Mountain are gold- and silver-bearing quartz veins in Triassic Nicola Group volcanic and sedimentary rocks.

## 7.1.17. Ponderosa (Au Gold Corp.)

Au Gold Corp. reached an agreement to allow an additional three years to meet investment obligations at the **Ponderosa** project. Au Gold reported results from a 2023 soil sample survey (223 samples) and identified new gold-in-soil anomalies. Ponderosa is considered a low sulphidation epithermal Au-Ag target in Spences Bridge Group (Cretaceous) volcanic rocks.

#### 7.1.18. Prospect Valley (Westhaven Gold Corp.)

Westhaven Gold Corp. conducted stream silt orientation sampling, prospecting, and rock sampling at the **Prospect Valley** project. Partial assay results from stream silt included a value of 985 ppb Au; 14 samples assayed >100 ppb Au. One rock float sample with quartz veins returned 1170 ppm W and more than 10,000 ppm Mo. Prospect Valley is a low sulphidation epithermal precious metals project in intermediate to felsic volcanic rocks of the Spences Bridge Group (Cretaceous).

## 7.1.19. Reliance Gold (Endurance Gold Corporation)

Endurance Gold began a 10,000 m diamond drilling program in July at the Reliance Gold project. The main objective was to extend areas of known mineralization along strike and at depth along the 2 km-long Royal shear zone. As of mid-November, 7303 m in 26 holes had been completed, with drilling expected to continue to year end. Drilling results from 2023 released early in 2024 include a highlight intersection at drill hole DDH23-076 from 9.3-22.0 (12.7 m) of 8.52 g/t Au. Notable intersections from 2024 drilling include DDH24-093 from 159.9-161.9 (2 m) of 74.29 g/t Au, and DDH24-103 from 273.2-278.9 (5.7 m) of 7.61 g/t Au. Prospecting, biogeochemistry, talus fines and till geochemical sampling in 2023 defined several targets on the Olympic claims, about 2.5 km northeast of the Royal shear zone. Endurance Gold has an option to earn up to 100% of these claims from Avino Silver and Gold Corporation. Results reported in early 2024 include arsenic geochemical anomalies at the Olympic, Enigma, and Howe Creek zones, which are up to 1.8 km-long. Rock grab samples from a quartz vein in the Olympic area returned 25.1 g/t Au, and another grab sample from a quartz-stibnite vein in the Enigma area returned 7.5 g/t Au. Endurance initiated fieldwork in May 2024, which included prospecting, mapping, and environmental baseline studies. Reliance Gold is an orogenic gold quartz-sulphide vein deposit. Gold occurs in breccias, quartz-sulphide veins, and stockworks, and has been tested along a 1500 m strike length to a depth of 600 m. Mineralization is spatially associated with ankerite-sericite alteration in mafic volcanic rocks and is apparently related to a northwest-trending shear zone. The project area includes the historic Minto mine, which produced 17,500 oz Au before WWII.

#### 7.1.20. Shovelnose (Westhaven Gold Corp.)

In February, Westhaven Gold Corp. received a 5-year, areabased permit (MYAB) for the Shovelnose project, which allows for 650 drill sites, trenching, geophysical surveys, and bulk sampling. Results from late 2023 drilling were reported in January 2024 and include two holes from the MIK zone: SN23-363 from 50.0-52.14 (2.14 m) of 2.61 g/t Au and 5.34 g/t Ag, and hole SN23-367 from 49.2-51.0 (1.8 m) of 3.98 g/t Au and 43.74 g/t Ag. Westhaven drilled 27 holes and 8347 m total. Most of the initial drill holes were designed to test geological, geochemical, and geophysical exploration targets away from the main zone. An interval from hole SN24-415 from the MIK zone assayed 0.53 g/t Au and 0.48 g/t Ag over 8 m from 52.0-60.0 m depth. The project area was expanded by 24,000 ha in August to a total of 41,623 ha. Twelve claims and 23,550 ha were added through an agreement with Talisker Resources Ltd., and another 450 ha were added by staking. The additional area allows for extending a >11 km long, northwest-trending As-Sb soil anomaly that may delineate the gold-silver system ('Shovelnose corridor'). Westhaven has an ongoing program of mapping, prospecting, and sampling to generate additional targets. More than 2000 rock, 500 soil, and 38 stream-sediment samples were collected. An infrared spectral tool (TerraSpec) was used to help define alteration assemblages in rock and core samples. The company considers that banded chalcedony with mercury-bearing minerals at the Certes zone, which was discovered in 2024, represents the upper level of an epithermal Au-Ag system. Hole SN24-425 at the Certes zone intersected an interval of quartz-carbonate veinlets with local sphalerite and chalcopyrite mineralization. A ground IP and magnetic survey designed to extend across 8.5 km<sup>2</sup> was started at the Certes zone. Shovelnose is a low sulphidation epithermal precious metals project in intermediate to felsic volcanic rocks of the Spences Bridge Group (Cretaceous).

### 7.1.21. Spanish Mountain (Spanish Mountain Gold Ltd.)

A 2021 Pre-Feasibility Study projected a 14-year mine life with Proven and Probable reserves of 95.9 Mt at 0.76 g/t Au and 0.71 g/t Ag. Measured and Indicated resources were 294 Mt of 0.50 g/t Au and 0.72 g/t Ag, with Inferred resources of 18 Mt at 0.63 g/t Au and 0.76 g/t Ag. The mine plan called for an open pit with an on-site 20,000 tpd milling capacity. Treatment is with a gravity circuit, a flotation and concentration process, then a carbon in leach (CIL) adsorption process. Initial capital costs were \$607.2 million, and an after-tax payback period of 3.2 years. Mine life was estimated at 14 years. Spanish Mountain Gold Ltd. submitted a modified application to the British Columbia environmental assessment process in early 2022 for their **Spanish Mountain** project, but later withdrew the application.

After withdrawing from the permitting process, Spanish Mountain Gold began re-evaluating the project with Whittle Consulting Ltd., who reviewed all economic inputs to increase productivity and efficiency. Metallurgical tests were conducted to test recoveries with coarse ore flotation, determine flowsheet options, and minimize power and water consumption.

Exploration included diamond drilling (11 holes, 5590 m) to test continuity of mineralization northwest of the current mineral resource. Two highlight drill intersections include hole 24-DH-1267 from 53.0-133.0 m depth (80.0 m) which returned 0.44 g/t Au, and hole 24-DH-1265 from 124.0-133.0 m (9.0 m) which assayed 2.09 g/t Au. More than 175,000 m of core was relogged with a focus on structural geology. An updated structural interpretation and 3D model will be part of the updated project plan. Ausenco was awarded a contract to prepare an updated PEA, which is expected by Q1 2025. On the basis of the various studies conducted, Spanish Mountain Gold will apply for mining permits with an updated project description.

Spanish Mountain is considered a sediment-hosted vein deposit. Gold mineralization occurs in Nicola Group units as fine disseminations in graphitic argillite and as free gold or associated with sulphides in quartz veins in siltstone, tuff, and greywacke units (Gilmour, 2021).

#### 7.1.22. Spanish Mountain West (West Mining Corp.)

West Mining Corp. worked on data interpretation for the **Spanish Mountain West** project. Multispectral satellite

images were combined with geophysical and geochemical data to identify exploration targets. The target at Spanish Mountain West is sediment-hosted orogenic gold.

#### 7.1.23. Wingdam Lode (Omineca Mining and Metals Ltd.)

Omineca Mining and Metals Ltd. began diamond drilling 4000 m in ten holes at the **Wingdam Lode** gold project in late 2024 to test the Eureka thrust fault as a possible bedrock source of paleoplacer gold at the Wingdam Placer project.

# 7.1.24. Wingdam Placer (Omineca Mining and Metals Ltd. 50%, D&L Mining 50%)

Omineca Mining and Metals Ltd. is excavating access to a 2.4 km-long gold-bearing paleoplacer channel 50 m below Lightning Creek at their Wingdam Placer project. In early 2024, a private company (D&L Mining) took over a 50% interest from Hamilton Gold Royalties Ltd., where D&L would act as operator in exchange for 50% of production. Two geotechnical RC drill holes were used to confirm seismic data of the paleochannel location and to sample gravel in the paleoplacer channel. Hole WD23-RC02 averaged 25.4 g/m<sup>3</sup>Au over 8 m of paleoplacer gravel. Underground development continued in 2024 with completion of a 70 m long, 3.5 by 3.5 m access drift in bedrock parallel to the paleochannel, and excavation of cuts across the paleochannel. Three crosscuts were started into the paleochannel, with recovery of 10.25 oz of placer gold in the first 2.5 m of one crosscut. Drier ground conditions than expected in the paleochannel allowed for faster advances.

#### 7.2. Selected base metal projects

This section includes projects for which base metals are the main commodities sought.

#### 7.2.1. Beaver-Lynx (Inomin Mines Inc.)

The **Beaver** and **Lynx** projects are connected properties where Inomin Mines is exploring for Mg-Ni-Cr-Co. Initial metallurgical testing was done at SGS Canada Inc. to evaluate different methods for extracting Mg and Ni. HCl leaching resulted in recovery of 99% of Mg in magnesite and brucite from whole ore and after flotation. Inomin expanded the project area by staking 2836 ha of contiguous claims and also applied for hydrogen rights for the project. In November, Inomin signed a term sheet with Sumitomo Metal Mining Canada Inc. that would allow Sumitomo to earn up to 80% interest in the project through a staged \$8M investment over five years, subject to due diligence. Mineralization is in Permian to Triassic serpentinized dunite, peridotite, and gabbro of Cache Creek terrane.

# 7.2.2. Highland Valley (Metal Energy Corp., Happy Creek Minerals Ltd.)

Happy Creek Minerals reported on fieldwork from late 2023 on the **Highland Valley** project, which included a ground-based audiomagnetotellurics (AMT) survey on the northern end of the project, reinterpretation of airborne magnetic data, and soil, stream-sediment, and rock sampling. The geophysical survey and reinterpreted data identified several resistive, conductive, and magnetic anomalies. A grab sample of trench dump rock from the TAR showing returned 2.37% Cu, 31.8 g/t Ag, and 100 ppm Mo. Soil and stream-sediment samples found new or extended existing Cu and Mo anomalies. A multi-year areabased exploration permit is current to 2026.

In early November, Happy Creek Minerals sold the Highland Valley project to Metal Energy Corp. for a staged cash and shares transactions over five years and work obligations. Metal Energy Corp. began fieldwork in late 2024, including a ground AMT (audio magnetotelluric) geophysical survey, passive seismic, and hyperspectral studies. The Highland Valley project is adjacent to the operating Highland Valley mine of Teck Resources Limited, extends across 23,696 ha, and is underlain by different phases of Guichon Creek batholith and Nicola Group volcanic and sedimentary rocks.

#### 7.2.3. Liberty (Trailbreaker Resources Ltd.)

Trailbreaker entered into an option agreement with a private vendor to earn up to 100% in the **Liberty** project in January 2024. Historical data include a mobile metal ion (MMI) soil geochemical survey, IP geophysical data, and diamond drilling. Diamond drilling (7 holes, 2442 m) was completed in June. Hole LIB24-003 from 385.0-419.2 (34.2 m) assayed 0.18% Cu and 428 ppm Mo. A property-wide soil geochemical survey (1601 samples) and prospecting (47 rock samples) were completed with results including 2.15% Cu along a 2 m continuous chip sample. Trailbreaker staked an additional 1841 ha on the southwest side of the project to include a copper-in-soil anomaly. In mid-October, a property-wide ZTEM airborne geophysical survey began along with an IP geophysical survey focused over the copper-in-soil anomalies.

#### 7.3. Selected base and precious metal projects

Porphyry deposits in the British Columbia commonly have both base and precious metal mineralization. Base and precious metals targets can include other deposit types such as VMS and mafic-ultramafic mineralization.

#### 7.3.1. Alwin Mine (GSP Resource Corp.)

GSP Resource Corp. has an option with a private vendor to earn a 100% interest in the **Alwin Mine** project. Alwin is a historic Cu-Ag-Au underground mine that produced from 1916 to 1981. It is immediately west of Teck Resources Limited's Highland Valley Copper Mine. GSP completed 640 m of diamond drilling in five holes in the fall of 2023. Assay results were released in 2024, and hole AM-23-01 returned a highlight intersection of 138.0-150.8 (12.8 m) at 2.42% Cu, 47.0 g/t Ag, and 0.57 g/t Au. GSP completed a compilation and modelling of historic information to generate a 3D model that will be used to guide future exploration. A conceptual open pit model and the location of historical underground stopes were included for planning purposes. GSP released an initial resource estimate for Alwin Mine with Inferred 1.455 Mt at 1.08% Cu using a 0.2% Cu cut off for open pit and 0.8% Cu cut off for underground resources. GSP began a 6-8 hole diamond drilling project in late October based on the 3D model data. GSP acquired the non-contiguous, 185 ha Mer claims from a private vendor. Alwin is a porphyry Cu-Ag-Au-Mo deposit in the Guichon Creek batholith.

## 7.3.2. Aspen Grove (Kodiak Copper Corp.)

Kodiak Copper Corp. entered into an option to earn a 100% interest in the 112 km<sup>2</sup> **Aspen Grove** project from Pinwheel Resources Ltd., which is contiguous with Kodiak's MPD project (section 7.3.19.). Aspen Grove has six known mineralized zones and historic exploration data including geological mapping, geophysical surveys, and drill results from 86 holes and 15,582 m. Kodiak Copper began a review of existing drill core in the fall of 2024. The target at Aspen Grove is alkalic porphyry Cu-Au mineralization.

#### 7.3.3. Comstock (North Valley Resources Ltd.)

North Valley Resources Ltd. prospected and conducted alteration mapping based on a property-wide 2023 airborne magnetic survey for their **Comstock** project. Fieldwork defined zones of phyllic alteration potentially related to porphyry Cu mineralization and banded silica possibly related to low sulphidation epithermal systems. North Valley received an amended 5-year drill permit that allows up to 100 drill holes to test historic showings and recently defined geophysical anomalies.

#### 7.3.4. Copper Keg (District Copper Corp.)

District Copper Corp. collected more than 500 soil samples in June 2024 at the **Copper Keg** project. Several copper-in-soil anomalies were discovered with values up to 1517 ppm Cu. Three claims were added to the project area, which now extends across 6628 ha. The exploration target is porphyry Cu-Mo-Ag in the Guichon Creek batholith.

#### 7.3.5. Copper Queen (Sable Resources Ltd.)

Sable Resources Ltd. staked the 2864 ha **Copper Queen** project and later expanded it to 13,880 ha. Sable conducted geological mapping and prospecting focused on locating mineralized breccias defined by previous operators. Grab samples returned values up to 1.02% Cu with anomalous Au, Ag, and Mo. A 520 line-km airborne VTEM geophysical survey was initiated in mid-November. Copper Queen is in a belt of Jurassic intrusive rock with multiple phases of varying intermediate composition. The exploration targets are porphyry Cu-related magmatic and hydrothermal breccia bodies.

### 7.3.6. Cowtrail (BRS Resources Ltd.)

BRS Resources Ltd. initiated exploration work at the **Cowtrail** project in late May 2023 and completed diamond drilling (5 holes, 690.8 m). Results were reported in early 2024, including hole CT23-16, which had an intersection from 60.0-168.0 (108.0 m) of 0.15% Cu and 0.009 g/t Au. BRS Resources

Ltd. has an option to earn up to 60% interest in the project from Cariboo Rose Resources Ltd. Cowtrail is contiguous and northeast of Vizsla Copper Corp.'s Woodjam project and southeast of Imperial Metals Corporation's Mount Polley mine. The target is porphyry Cu-Au.

#### 7.3.7. Eagle Lake (Trailbreaker Resources Ltd.)

Trailbreaker Resources Ltd. acquired the **Eagle Lake** project in 2022 through an agreement with Teck Resources Limited. A high-resolution magnetic ground survey was conducted over a 4 km<sup>2</sup> area in the Moffat zone with coincident induced polarization and multi-element mobile metal ion soil anomalies. Porphyry copper mineralization associated with the Takomkane batholith is the main target. The four northernmost claims from the project, which extend across 6482 ha, were optioned to Vizsla Copper Corp. in 2023.

## 7.3.8. Getty (Getty Copper Inc.)

Getty Copper reported on late 2023 diamond drilling at the Glossie zone of the **Getty** project (5 holes, 737 m). A highlight intersection was from hole GL-23-01 from 93.9-94.4 (0.5 m) of 8.11% Cu, 1.54 g/t Au, 41.5 g/t Ag, and 60 ppm Mo. The Getty project is adjacent to the Highland Valley Copper Mine of Teck Resources Limited.

#### 7.3.9. Hen-DL (Happy Creek Minerals Ltd.)

Happy Creek Minerals conducted prospecting and rock, soil, till, and stream geochemical sampling at the **Hen-DL** project. One rock chip sample along 0.35 m assayed 1.45 g/t Au. Reconnaissance soil samples assayed as high as 5.4 g/t Ag. The Hen prospect has calc-silicate skarn alteration that is elevated in Au, Ag, Cu, Mo, and Zn. The DL zone has quartz-carbonate veins in graphitic argillite that are anomalous in Au, Cu, and Zn.

#### 7.3.10. IKE (Amarc Resources Ltd.)

Amarc Resources Ltd. conducted geophysics, review and sampling of historical drill core, and diamond drilling at the **IKE** project. The geophysical surveys included 25 line-km of IP and 7 km<sup>2</sup> of drone aeromagnetics; a lidar survey extended across 31 km<sup>2</sup>. Twenty-three historical diamond drill holes were relogged and reassayed with 1744 samples taken. A highlight intersection from hole 90-21 assayed 1.10% Cu, 1.21 g/t Au, 2.5 g/t Ag, and 0.006% Mo along 52.4 m (from 140.5-192.9 m). A total of 1873 m were drilled in nine holes.

Two differing geological environments are present at the IKE project. The target at the IKE area is porphyry Cu-Mo-Agstyle mineralization hosted by Late Cretaceous granodiorite rocks of the Coast Plutonic complex. In the Empress area, similar intrusive rocks are in contact with Cretaceous volcanic, volcaniclastic, and sedimentary rocks of the Powell Creek Formation and Taylor Creek Group. Mineralization styles include porphyry Cu-Au-Ag-Mo, Cu-Au-bearing skarn, and high sulphidation epithermal Au-Ag.

# 7.3.11. Iron Lake (Tech-X Resources Inc.)

Tech-X Resources Inc. has an option to earn up to 80% interest in the **Iron Lake** project from Eastfield Resources Ltd. Samples were collected for geochronology. The project is underlain by the Iron Lake mafic-ultramafic intrusive complex in Nicola Group rocks and is targeting magmatic Cu-Ni-Co-Pt-Pd sulphides in ultramafic rocks and porphyry Cu-Au mineralization in the nearby Takomkane batholith.

# 7.3.12. Khrysos (Kermode Resources Ltd.)

The target at Kermode's **Khrysos** project is polymetallic Pb-Zn-Ag±Au-bearing quartz veins in Jurassic Nelson plutonic suite intrusive rocks. Kermode Resources Ltd. conducted gravity concentration tests for Au and Ag recovery from stockpiled quartz-sulphide vein material. Recovery was tested with the concentrate (18.5% Au, 3.9% Ag), middlings (51.8% Au, 40.4% Ag), and the tailings (29.7% Au, 55.7% Ag).

## 7.3.13. Kolos (Torr Metals Inc.)

Torr Metals Inc. staked the **Kolos** alkalic porphyry coppergold project in late 2023. Torr conducted a ZTEM airborne geophysical survey over a 48 km<sup>2</sup> area and collected 3348 soil and 47 rock samples. Results of this program were released in 2024 and indicate coincident ZTEM anomalies with Cu-Au-Mo geochemical anomalies over several known and new target areas. In May 2024, Torr staked additional area to the northeast to expand the project to a total of roughly 240 km<sup>2</sup>. Thirty-three rock samples were collected and returned values as high as 0.41% Cu and 0.29 g/t Au in the Rea zone. Kolos is underlain by Nicola Group (Late Triassic) volcanic and sedimentary rocks, which are cut by Late Triassic granodiorite to quartz monzonite intrusions.

# 7.3.14. Lac La Hache (Engold Mines Ltd.)

EnGold Mines Ltd.'s **Lac La Hache** project has a variety of porphyry-related deposit types, including the Aurizon zone hydrothermal breccia and quartz veins, the G1 and Spout Cu-Fe skarn zones, and the Ann North and Berkey alkalic porphyry Cu-Au zones. The Aurizon, G1, and Spout zones have existing resource estimates (see Table 5). ALS GoldSpot Discoveries Ltd. was engaged by EnGold to apply artificial intelligence processes to existing data in 2023. Through this process, 66 new exploration targets were generated. In 2024, Engold drilled 588 m in four holes targeting the Road Gold zone and southeast of the Spout zone. Hole R24-06 from 82.0-83.0 (1.0 m) assayed 1.65 g/t Au, 3.0 g/t Ag, and 0.19% Cu.

# 7.3.15. Lawless Creek (Tech-X Resources Inc.)

Tech-X Resources carried out geological mapping, soil geochemical sampling, IP and gravity surveys, and sampling for geochronology at the **Lawless Creek** project, which targets porphyry copper mineralization.

# 7.3.16. Little Fort (New Gold Inc.)

New Gold Inc. continued fieldwork at the Little Fort project

with geological mapping and rock and soil geochemistry to target alkalic porphyry Cu-Au mineralization. New Gold tested several targets with approximately 1216 m of diamond drilling. The Little Fort project was expanded in late 2023 through the acquisition of approximately 8700 ha of claims from Electrum Resource Corporation. Initial geological mapping and geochemical rock and soil sampling were carried out, and an application for a drill permit was made for the new area.

# 7.3.17. Lost Horse (Eagle Plains Resources Ltd., 1416753 B.C. Ltd.)

Eagle Plains and option partner 1416753 B.C. Ltd. engaged TerraLogic Exploration Inc. for a program including geological mapping, prospecting, and till and soil sampling at the **Lost Horse** project. In August, Eagle Plains terminated the property option with 1416753 B.C. Ltd. Lost Horse is a series of noncontiguous claim blocks in an area with historic porphyry Cu-Au, Cu-Mo, and skarn showings. A 5-year exploration and drilling permit was granted.

## 7.3.18. Miner Mountain (Sego Resources Inc.)

Sego Resources Inc. commissioned SRK Consulting (Canada) Inc. to generate a 3D model and exploration target review of the South Gold zone at the **Miner Mountain** project, based on 22 drill holes. The model indicates potential for 100,000 to 150,000 oz at a grade of 0.5 to 0.7 g/t Au, and acts as a guide for future infill and exploration drilling. Miner Mountain is considered an alkalic porphyry Cu-Au target.

## 7.3.19. Mount Polley West (Eagle Plains Resources Ltd.)

Eagle Plains conducted a glacial till sampling program on the central part of the **Mount Polley West** project, guided by previous till sampling and geophysical anomalies. The Mount Polley West project is underlain by Upper Triassic Nicola Group volcanic and marine sedimentary rocks and Late Triassic to Early Jurassic syenite to monzodiorite intrusive rocks and the target is porphyry Cu-Mo.

# 7.3.20. MPD (Kodiak Copper Corp.)

Kodiak Copper Corp. continued exploration at the **MPD** project with IP geophysical surveys, soil geochemistry, trenching, and drilling. Kodiak drilled 9252 m in 25 holes, collected 2000 soil geochemical samples, and conducted a 25 line-km IP geophysical survey. Kodiak engaged VRIFY's artificial intelligence (AI) software service to help identify and prioritize exploration targets. Some highlight drill intersections include AXE-24-007 from 89.0-446.0 (357 m) of 0.43% Cu, 0.02 g/t Au, and 10.05 g/t Ag, and AXE-24-009 from 21.0-348.0 (139 m) of 0.38% Cu, 0.05 g/t Au, and 5.37 g/t Ag. Kodiak acquired the contiguous Aspen Grove project through an option to earn 100% (section 7.3.2.), which brings the MPD and Aspen Grove project area to 338 km<sup>2</sup>. The MPD property hosts a series of alkalic porphyry Cu-Au targets, including the Man, Prime, Dillard, Gate, Adit, Celeste, and West zones.

### 7.3.21. New Brenda (Flow Metals Corp.)

Flow Metals Corp. conducted a 3.2 line-km IP survey at the **New Brenda** project. Two areas with chargeability highs coincide with surface copper-in-soil geochemical anomalies defined by sampling in 2023. The company is targeting porphyry Cu-Mo-Ag.

## 7.3.22. New Craigmont (Nicola Mining Inc.)

Nicola Mining conducted an IP survey at the **New Craigmont** project that extended across approximately 6.5 km<sup>2</sup> over the West Craigmont, Embayment, and Marb-Cas zones. Diamond drilling (14 holes, 4872 m) was designed to test geophysical and geological targets in the contact zone between volcanic and intrusive rocks. The Craigmont mine was developed on a series of Cu-Fe skarn orebodies at the contact between Upper Triassic volcanosedimentary rocks of the Nicola Group and the Guichon Creek batholith (Late Triassic to Early Jurassic). In addition to the historic Cu-Fe skarn mineralization, porphyry Cu-Au targets related to Guichon Creek batholith intrusive units are being evaluated.

#### 7.3.23. Peak (Red Canyon Resources Ltd.)

Red Canyon Resources drilled 4 diamond drill holes at the **Peak** project targeting coincident IP geophysical and soil and rock geochemical anomalies. The company is targeting porphyry Cu-Mo-Ag.

#### 7.3.24. Perk-Rocky (Sable Resources Ltd.)

Sable Resources acquired the 10,475 ha **Perk-Rocky** project in May through an option to earn 100% and staked an additional 4806 ha. Sable conducted rock sampling (343 samples) and geological mapping. Partial grab sampling results returned values as high as 560 g/t Au, 590 g/t Ag, and 24.1% Cu in different samples. Sable is targeting porphyry copper-gold mineralization and associated precious metal-bearing quartz veins.

#### 7.3.25. Princeton Copper (Collective Metals Inc.)

Exploration work at Collective Metals Inc.'s **Princeton Copper** project included a detailed data review and compilation, relogging of core from previous operators, soil sampling, and prospecting in an area with a strong magnetic anomaly.

Collective Metals submitted an application for a 5-year multi-year area based (MYAB) permit that would allow for up to 60 drill sites and 100 line-km of IP geophysics, with the work split between northern and southern claim blocks. Soil samples (658) were collected to extend and infill existing soil grids. Alteration mapping and prospecting were conducted in several zones. Collective has an option agreement to earn up to 70% of the Princeton Copper project from Tulameen Resources Corporation. The Princeton Copper project is underlain by Nicola Group volcanic and sedimentary rocks (Late Triassic to Early Jurassic) cut by Boulder granodiorite to quartz diorite (Late Triassic to Early Jurassic) and several Early Cretaceous intrusive phases. The exploration target is alkalic porphyry Cu-Au.

# 7.3.26. Quesnel Regional (Fortescue Canada Resources Ltd.)

Fortescue Canada Resources Ltd. staked 357,626 ha in late June, 2024 informally calling the project **Quesnel Regional**. The area is largely underlain by Chilcotin and Kamloops Group flood basalt and sedimentary rocks, which vary widely in thickness. Fortescue's exploration strategy is to employ airborne geophysical surveys to help focus on prospective porphyry copper targets that may be obscured by Chilcotin Group and Kamloops Group cover. Promising areas would be followed up with ground geology and geophysics to establish drill targets. Fortescue completed a program of Indigenous Peoples engagement.

## 7.3.27. Rabbit North (Tower Resources Ltd.)

Tower Resources Ltd. renewed their existing multi-year area-based permit (MYAB) for five years for the **Rabbit North** project. Tower conducted two drilling programs; the first from mid-June to the end of August (5 holes, 1015 m), and the second starting mid-October of (4 holes, 1096 m). Drilling focused on the Thunder and Lightning gold zones and the Rainbow porphyry Cu-Au zone. Results from the first program include hole RN24-051 interval 244.23-248.5 (4.27 m) grading 6.06 g/t Au. Hole RN24-055 intersected 31.5 m of 4.15 g/t Au from 255.0-286.5 m at the Blue Sky zone (Fig. 3.) Rabbit North is considered an alkalic porphyry Cu-Au target.



**Fig. 3.** Blue Sky gold zone at the Rabbit North project, RN24-055 intersection from 255.0-286.5 (31.5 m) assaying 4.15 g/t Au (Tower Resources Ltd.).

#### 7.3.28. Rayfield (Golden Sky Minerals Corp.)

Golden Sky Minerals Corp. carried out an IP geophysics survey along 15 line-km at the **Rayfield** project, which indicated chargeability and resistivity anomalies. Magnetic vector intensity analysis (MVI) and machine learning tools were applied to interpret airborne and surface magnetic geophysics. Based on this work, Golden Sky staked an additional 50,800 ha. The target is alkalic porphyry Cu-Au.

### 7.3.29. Redgold (Vizsla Copper Corp.)

Vizsla Copper Corp. carried out an IP survey and drilled three holes (1089 m) at the **Redgold** project. Hole RG24-15 intersected 0.18% Cu and 0.13 g/t Au over 30 m from 79.0-109.0 m.

The Redgold project has a geological database including geophysical, geochemical, and drill data from 49 holes. It is contiguous between Vizsla's Woodjam project and Imperial Metals Corporation's Mount Polley mine. Vizsla has an option to earn up to 70% from private owners. The target is alkalic porphyry Cu-Au.

## 7.3.30. Silverboss (Happy Creek Minerals Ltd.)

Happy Creek Minerals carried out geological mapping, prospecting and rock and basal till sampling on the **Silverboss** project. Prospecting in 2024 found outcrops of altered quartz diorite of the Takomkane batholith with indications of potassic and phyllic alteration, quartz-pyrite-chalcopyrite veinlets, and trace molybdenite. One rock grab sample assayed 0.11 g/t Au, 9.3 g/t Ag, and 625 ppm Cu. Targets at Silverboss include Cu-Pb-Zn-Ag±Au polymetallic veins and porphyry Cu-Mo.

## 7.3.31. Skyfire (LFNT Resources Corp.)

LFNT Resources Corp. collected 196 top-of-bedrock soil samples from two separate target areas at the **Skyfire** project. The PIM (porphyry indicator mineral) grid covers most of the 1896 ha Skyfire project area and was used to collect 57 widely-spaced 11-kg samples. Ten kg of each sample was sent to Overburden Drilling Management Ltd. to test for porphyry indicator minerals; the remaining 1 kg of sample was sent for conventional analysis. An additional 139 samples were collected at tight spacing on the SV grid and were sent for conventional analysis. The SV grid was used to trace continuity of a vein structure. The target at Skyfire is polymetallic quartz-sulphide Pb-Zn-Ag veins and porphyry Cu-Mo.

# 7.3.32. Treasure Mountain North (New Destiny Mining Corp.)

New Destiny Mining Corp. released interpreted structural data from a lidar survey conducted on the **Treasure Mountain North** project in 2022 that extended across108.2 km<sup>2</sup>. Between July and September the company conducted diamond drilling (11 holes). New Destiny is targeting polymetallic quartz-sulphide vein and porphyry Cu-Mo-Au mineralization at the project.

## 7.3.33. Upland Copper (Kobrea Exploration Corp.)

Kobrea Exploration Corp. began fieldwork at the **Upland Copper** project in June with an infill soil sampling program and a passive seismic survey to determine overburden depth. Results from the survey defined a copper and gold-in-soil anomaly across a 1400 by 800 m area. Kobrea received an exploration permit for drilling, trenching, and construction of access trails in July. A program of up to 1000 m of trenching began in July to help map copper mineralization at surface. The Upland Copper project is a metamorphosed and partly remobilized volcanogenic massive sulphide target similar to Taseko Mines Limited's Yellowhead deposit located to the south.

#### 7.3.34. Weyman (Greenridge Exploration Inc.)

Greenridge Exploration collected 1269 soil samples across 6.3 km<sup>2</sup> for total metal ion analysis and conducted 1:5000-scale geological mapping at the **Weyman** project. The Weyman project is being explored for porphyry Cu-Mo-Au.

## 7.3.35. Woodjam (Vizsla Copper Corp.)

Vizsla Copper Corp. drilled 2980 m in 7 holes at the **Woodjam** project (Fig. 4). The objective was to extend areas of known mineralization in the Deerhorn, Three Firs, and Southeast zones. At the Deerhorn zone, hole DH24-120 intersected quartz-pyrite-chalcopyrite veinlet mineralization (Fig. 5), with 68.5 m grading 1.07 g/t Au and 0.18% Cu from 208.5-277.0 m. Drill hole SE24-122 at the Southeast zone returned 177.3 m grading 0.56% Cu and 0.29 g/t Au from 65.0-242.3 m depth. The Woodjam project area was expanded early in 2024 by 16,008 ha through the purchase of 1226 ha of internal claims from private vendors and staking 14,782 ha. An IP geophysical survey was conducted along 17 line-km to extend IP coverage south of the existing geophysical grid.

The Woodjam project is a porphyry Cu-Au-Mo target with both alkaline and calc-alkaline alteration and mineralization



**Fig. 4.** Diamond drilling at the Woodjam project, Southeast zone (Vizsla Copper Corp.).



**Fig. 5.** Deerhorn gold zone at the Woodjam project, DH24-120 intersection from 208.5-277.0 (68.5 m) assaying 1.07 g/t Au and 0.18% Cu with quartz-pyrite-chalcopyrite veinlets (Vizsla Copper Corp.). Scale increments in cm.

assemblages in different zones. Historic mineral resource estimates are available for three of six known mineralized zones at Woodjam (Southeast, Takom, and Deerhorn zones). The total is 262.8 Mt grading 0.30% Cu and 0.11 g/t Au.

#### 7.3.36. Woolford Creek (Rumble Resources Inc.)

Rumble Resources carried out initial work at the **Woolford Creek** project, which included rock and soil sampling, and VLF and magnetic geophysical surveys on two grid areas. A total of 59 rock and 55 soil samples were collected. Analysis of the samples returned Cu values up to 0.2%, Ag values up to 3.23 g/t, and Au values up to 0.73 g/t. The geophysical surveys indicate magnetic and VLF anomalies. The target at Woolford Creek is volcanogenic massive sulphide Cu-Pb-Zn-Ag.

#### 7.3.37. Yellowhead (Taseko Mines Limited)

Taseko Mines Limited conducted a site geotechnical investigation at the **Yellowhead** project and continued engagement with local Indigenous groups in preparation to enter the environmental assessment process. In 2020, Taseko completed a Feasibility Study on the project that outlined Proven and Probable reserves at 817 Mt at 0.28% Cu, 0.03 g/t Au, and 1.3 g/t Ag at a 0.17% Cu cut off (Weymark, 2020). The mill would process 90,000 tpd with a 25-year mine life. The Yellowhead project is considered a remobilized polymetallic volcanogenic massive sulphide (VMS) deposit. Mineralization is hosted in the 'EBA' mafic to intermediate volcanic rock (Devonian to Mississippian) unit of the Eagle Bay assemblage (Lower Cambrian to Mississippian) metamorphosed sedimentary and volcanic rock package.

**7.4. Selected industrial mineral projects** Industrial mineral projects are commonly developed by private individuals and details are rarely reported. Only one industrial mineral project active in 2024 in the South Central region is described in this section (Table 4).

#### 7.4.1. Mont (1244893 B.C. Ltd.)

1244893 B.C. Ltd. is conducting exploration at the **Mont** bentonite project. Work has focused on determining the extent and thickness of a bentonite bed that has been traced in continuous exposures across an  $\sim 2 \text{ km}^2$  area and in several outlying areas. Thickness of the bentonite bed varies. Surface mapping indicates that it can be less than 1 m, but it has been

drill tested to more than 55 m locally. Further diamond drill testing was completed in November. Geochemical analyses indicate elevated levels of cesium, barium, strontium, and rubidium. Extraction tests for these and other metals using a leach process are ongoing. The bentonite is considered to have been derived from weathered intermediate tuffs of the Kamloops Group (Eocene).

## 7.5. Selected rare earth element projects

One rare earth element project (**Foothills**, Neotech Metals Corp.) was active in the South Central Region in 2024 (Table 5).

## 7.5.1. Foothills (Neotech Metals Corp.)

The **Foothills** project of Neotech Metals Corp. was staked in January 2024 and totals 16,517 ha in two claim blocks. Staking was based on reporting by Rukhlov et al. (2024) that ranked the area as prospective for carbonatite-related rare earth elements. Neotech conducted regional geological mapping and sampling.

#### 7.6. Selected other projects

One project under this category was active in the South Central Region in 2024 (Table 5).

#### 7.6.1. Blue River (Capacitor Metals Corp.)

The **Blue River** project of Capacitor Metals Corp. is a Ta-Nb project hosted in carbonatite rocks. The project has an extensive exploration history with more than 271 drill holes, a historic resource calculation of 48.41 Mt grading 197 ppm  $Ta_2O_5$  and 1610 ppm  $Nb_2O_5$  in the indicated category, and 5.4 Mt grading 191 ppm  $Ta_2O_5$  and 1760 ppm  $Nb_2O_5$  in the inferred category prepared by AMEC Americas Limited in June 2013. Capacitor Metals prepared a current NI 43-101 technical report for the project in late 2024.

#### 8. Geological research

Emphasizing the need for high-precision geochronology by chemical abrasion isotope dilution thermal ionization mass spectrometry (CA-TIMS) to resolve temporal uncertainties in the depositional-intrusive history of rapidly evolving regions, Mihalynuk et al. (2025) presented new U-Pb detrital zircon data to establish the time of deposition of key units in the Nicola Group and concluded that porphyry mineralization in the southern Nicola arc is bracketed to 222.0 and 202.6 Ma, and that the Nicola arc, host to economically important deposits of copper, gold, silver, molybdenum, and other elements, was largely extinguished by 201.3 Ma. Schiarizza (2024) released final 1:125,000-scale bedrock geology maps from a multiyear project in the Bonaparte-Quesnel River area. Completing a project to test geoscience applications of remotely piloted aircraft in drift-covered areas of the Interior Plateau, Elia et al. (2024a) mapped surficial sediments using lidar, Elia et al. (2024b) examined sediment compositions using a drone-mounted magnetometer, and Ferbey et al. (2024) used a drone-mounted gamma-ray spectrometer to quantify potassium concentrations. Plouffe et al. (2024) examined detrital epidote

in subglacial tills derived from alteration haloes at the Highland Valley Copper, Gibraltar, Mount Polley, and Woodjam deposits to help detect porphyry Cu deposits buried in drift-covered areas, and Morris et al. (2025a, b) introduced an optimized analytical workflow for using magnetite as an indicator mineral in subglacial tills near the Mount Polley deposit. Rukhlov and Ootes (2025a, b) continued a project started by Rukhlov et al. (2024) to guide exploration for niobium, tantalum, rare earth element (REE) and other critical minerals in carbonatites and alkaline silicate rocks of the British Columbia alkaline province. Acuña-Duhart et al. (2024) tested the environmental performance of battery electric and diesel load-haul-dump vehicles at the New Afton mine. Steinthorsdottir et al. (2024) considered that the Tulameen ultramafic intrusion has high potential for carbon storage. Raudsepp et al. (2024) examined the origin of areally extensive magnesite deposits in modern closed-basin alkaline lakes in the Cariboo Plateau.

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