



ANNUAL REPORT

YEAR ENDING 28 AUGUST, 1989

EXPLORATION LICENCE 6098

BAN BAN SPRINGS, N.T.

**OPEN FILE**

CR89/671

Compiled by Golden Plateau N.L.  
September, 1989

## CONTENTS

|                                    | <u>Page</u> |
|------------------------------------|-------------|
| 1. INTRODUCTION                    | 1           |
| 2. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS | 1           |
| 3. CURRENT EXPLORATION             | 2           |
| 3.1 Geology and Geochemistry       | 2           |
| 3.2 Geophysics                     | 5           |
| 4. EXPENDITURE                     | 6           |
| 5. REFERENCES                      | 6           |

## LIST OF PLANS

| Fig No. | Title                | Scale     |
|---------|----------------------|-----------|
| 1       | Location Diagram     | 1:100,000 |
| 2       | Geological Map       | 1: 25,000 |
| 3       | Airmagnetic Contours | 1: 25,000 |

## 1. INTRODUCTION

Exploration Licence 6098 was granted on 29 September 1988 to Golden Plateau N.L. for a term of two years. Exploration was conducted by Golden Plateau N.L. during the first year of title.

The tenement consists of two blocks, each one minute square, and covers approximately 6.5 square kilometres commencing six kilometres NNW of Ban Ban Springs Homestead (Figure 1). The area is located on Burnside 1:50000, Batchelor 1:100000 and Pine Creek 1:250000 topographic maps. The area is also subject to Ban Ban Springs Pastoral Lease.

Previous investigations include base metal exploration by Geopeko and gold exploration by W R Grace and Western Mining Corporation. Open file reports of this activity are available at the Department of Mines and Energy, Darwin.

Exploration during the first year of title was directed at gold and included detailed geological mapping and the commencement of a rock chip sampling programme.

The tenement also falls within a regional air magnetic and radiometric survey completed for Golden Plateau N.L.

## 2. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Geological mapping and preliminary airmagnetic interpretation indicate the licence is mainly underlain by Gerowie Tuff which has been extensively intruded by Zamu Dolerite. Several northwest and northeast trending faults and lineaments pass through the area. These could be loci for gold mineralisation.

It is recommended that reconnaissance rock chip and drainage geochemistry is completed to determine gold distribution throughout the licence.

Further work will depend on the outcome of this reconnaissance.

### 3. CURRENT EXPLORATION

#### 3.1 Geology & Geochemistry

EL 6098 is located in the central part of the lower Proterozoic Pine Creek Geosyncline. Dating indicates that deposition took place about 1900 Ma ago on an Archaean (c2500Ma) basement (Needham et.al, 1988). The Pine Creek geosyncline contains an almost entirely sedimentary depositional pile estimated to be about 10km thick (Needham et.al., 1985). Sediments pass from fluvial at the base to shallow and deeper water marine (turbidite) environments at the top. The orogenic development of the Pine Creek geosyncline was punctuated by mafic and felsic magmatism, mainly evident from plutonic rocks. The orogenic stage spanned the interval from 1870 to 1780 Ma (Needham et.al, 1988). These features are widely interpreted to imply initiation of the Pine Creek Geosyncline as an intracratonic rift system which subsequently widened and deepened before undergoing a convergent stage which caused orogenesis (Stuart-Smith et.al., 1980; Etheridge et.al., 1985; Needham et.al., 1988).

The Pine Creek Geosyncline is major gold and uranium province which also contains many minor tin, lead-zinc and copper mineral occurrences. Most of these metalliferous deposits were probably formed by late-stage magmatic fluids associated with post orogenic granitoids (Palfreyman 1984; see also Needham and Roarty, 1980).

The geology of the tenement block is dominated by volcanoclastic sediments and cherts intruded by meta dolerite sills. This unit is the Gerowie Tuff which occupies the central position in the South Alligator Group and at this location about half the volume of the unit is intruded by Zamu Dolerite (Map 2) The two units comprise over 90% of the tenement.

About one kilometre south of EL 6098 a granite pluton, the Burnside Granite, forms the core of structural dome. The sequence faces north, away from the dome, and includes quartz sandstones of the Koolpin Formation and siltstones and shales of Mount Bonnie Formation. These lithologies lie respectively below and above the Gerowie Tuff and are the stratigraphic lowest and highest units within the Licence boundary.

The tenement lies outside of the belt of known gold occurrences which are found to the south of the Burnside Granite (BMR 1:100000 Batchelor-Hayes Creek).

Results of mapping EL 6098 provide general agreement with the Bureau of Mineral Resources (BMR) stratigraphy. The units are described in more detail below.

### Koolpin Formation

Rocks of the Koolpin Formation (South Alligator Group) are exposed on the flanks of the Burnside Granite structural dome (BMR 1985 map) and form the base to the sequence held under EL 6098.

The Formation is represented by quartz sandstones in the southern part of the Licence along with a thin unit of schist and phyllite immediately east of the Licence.

On a regional scale the main rock types are graphitic and white mica schist and phyllite, spongy ironstone (gossan) and 'clean' metaquartzite. Associated with some quartzite layers are bedded zoisite - plagioclase (?) calc-silicate rocks. The inferred depositional environment is a sediment and oxygen starved basin (Needham et.al., 1988) or possibly a shelf onto which small volumes of probably mature detritus were sporadically introduced.

### Gerowie Tuff

This unit conformably overlies the Koolpin Formation (Needham et.al., 1980) cropping out around the Burnside Dome and occupies the greater part of EL6098.

It comprises a atuffaceous grey-black chert with lesser tuffaceous (?) white shale. Regionally the Gerowie Tuff is widely distributed and is interpreted as a sequence of water-lain felsic tuffs (See Crick et.al, 1978, Stuart-Smith et.al., 1980).

### Zamu Dolerite

Sill-like mafic intrusions of the Zamu Dolerite are the oldest (meta-) igneous rocks recognised in the area. They are generally metadolerite with an amphibole plagioclase assemblage in which a sub - ophitic texture is well preserved. Layering at up to 1m scale, conformable with that of the enclosing stratigraphy, is evident over a 10m interval som 2km south of the southern boundary of the EL block. This is defined by intervals of different grainsize and mafic/felsic mineral content. A distinctive mafic lithotype crops out next to the Burnside Granite, southwest of EL 6098. It is massive, green, fine grained mafic rock, apparently rich in epidote, amphibole and pyrrhotite. This lithotype probably reflects hydrous retrogression/metasomatism related to the Burnside Granite.

### Mount Bonnie Formation

The Mount Bonnie Formation appears to be conformable with, and gradational into, the underlying Gerowie Tuff. On a regional scale the Formation is mudrock dominated and this is the case in the northwestern and northeastern areas of EL 6098.

The Formation is commonly finely banded with centimetre scale grading occasionally observed.

### Metamorphism

The regional metamorphic grade in this area is probably lower amphibolite facies as suggested by the amphibolite-plagioclase assemblage which forms Zamu Dolerite. On a regional scale, metamorphic grade increases towards the Burnside Granite. Given the presence of a domal structure centred on the Burnside Granite, this grade increase may simply reflect increasing burial depth.

### Folding

The axes of three north-trending open folds are mapped within EL 6098 (Map 2). The two anticlines and one syncline plunge to the north and the axes are parallel to a regional fold direction.

Regional mapping evidence adjacent to the Burnside Granite contact and outside the licence area provided evidence of rotation of the granite block or its precursor. However, it is likely that this did not play a significant part in the generation of these folds and the major effect of the block was to cause a northerly plunge as a result of up-doming.

### Faulting

Two dominant fault directions occur on a regional scale, northwest - southeast and northeast - southwest. These tend to show dextral and sinistral displacements of up to 2km respectively. This suggests a conjugate relationship as a fault set formed in an east-west compressional fold.

A number of photolineaments with these orientations are mapped within the licence (Map 2). Displacement or repetition of stratigraphy is only evident on two rather discontinuous northwest trending features. While these are both undoubtedly faults, the remaining and more continuous features are better described as lineaments on the basis of evidence available within the Licence.

### Rock Chip Sampling

A programme of rock chip and drainage sampling was planned to be undertaken simultaneously with mapping. This sampling was interrupted by the onset of thunderstorm activity in November after only four samples had been collected from the tenement and adjacent area. All samples were analysed for gold to 1ppb Au detection using acid digest, solvent extraction and graphite furnace AAS techniques by Amdel/Classic Comlabs Laboratories in Darwin.

Sample locations and gold values (3 x 0.002 ppm Au and 1 x 0.003 ppm Au) are shown on the geological map (Map 2).

### 3.2 Geophysics

A regional airborne magnetic/radiometric survey was flown by Aerodata between November 1987 and January 1988. Data were processed into contour plans, Map 3, which also shows survey specifications. Data were also processed into a variety of black-and-white and colour-enhanced images with which to supplement available geology.

#### 3.3.1 Magnetism

Contoured magnetic data (Map 3) broadly reflect the distribution of rock types shown by geological mapping (Map 2).

Within EL 6098 the magnetic data can be divided into a regular northern set and a very noisy southern set. The southern set is essentially coincidental with Zamu Dolerite outcrop although it should be noted that Zamu Dolerite mapped on the northern tenement boundary does not have a similar noisy signature. Gerowie Tuff and the limited amount of Mount Bonnie Formation within the licence are represented by featureless magnetic data.

The lineaments and faults described above are defined by breaks in magnetic features probably the result of alteration of magnetic minerals along these zones.

#### 3.3.2 Radiometrics

Potassium data reveal positive anomalies associated with K-rich felsic igneous rocks or their derivatives. The Gerowie Tuff within EL 6098 is associated with significant positive anomalies.

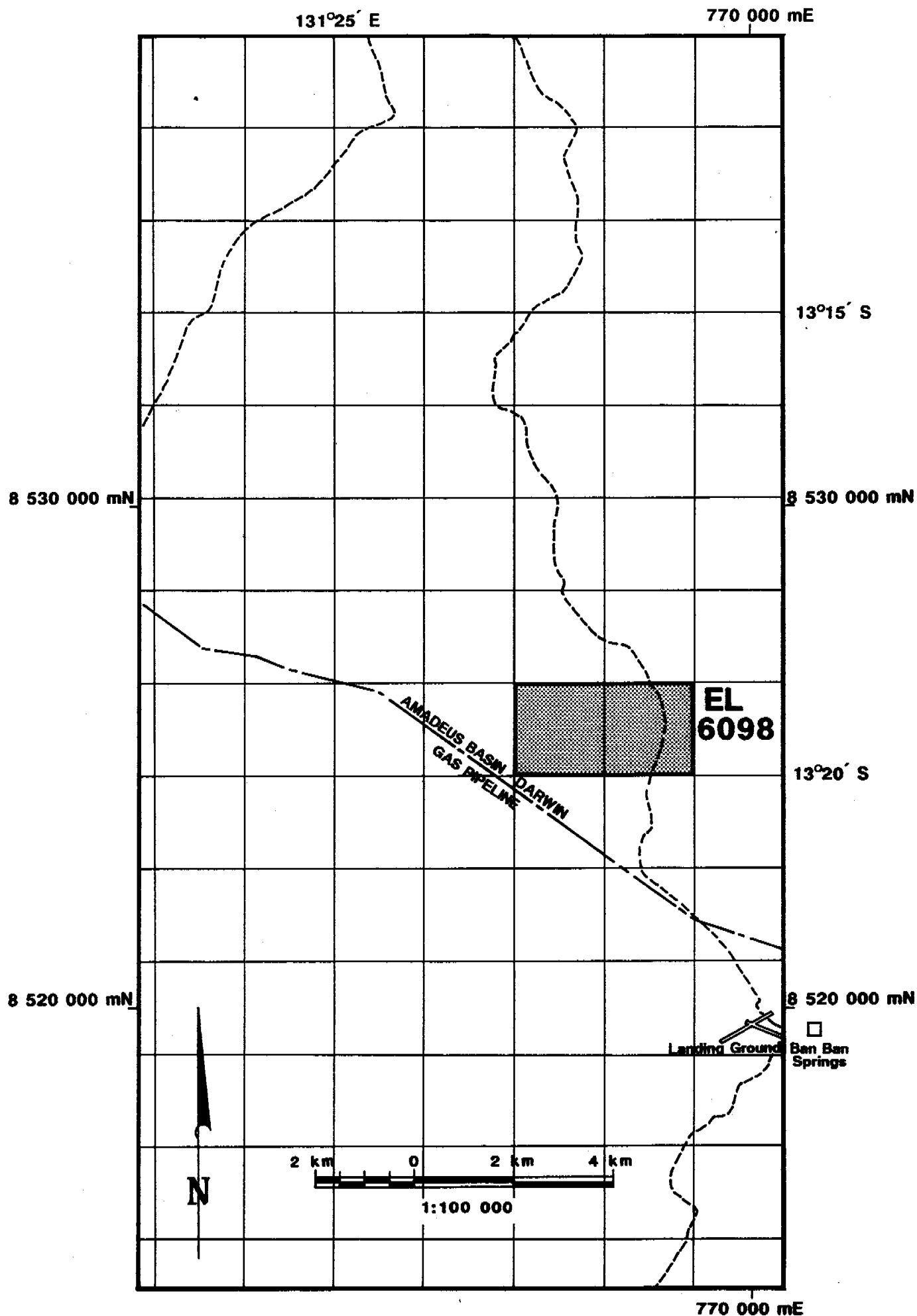
There are no anomalies associated with thorium or uranium data. These data were not processed into contour map form.

4. EXPENDITURE

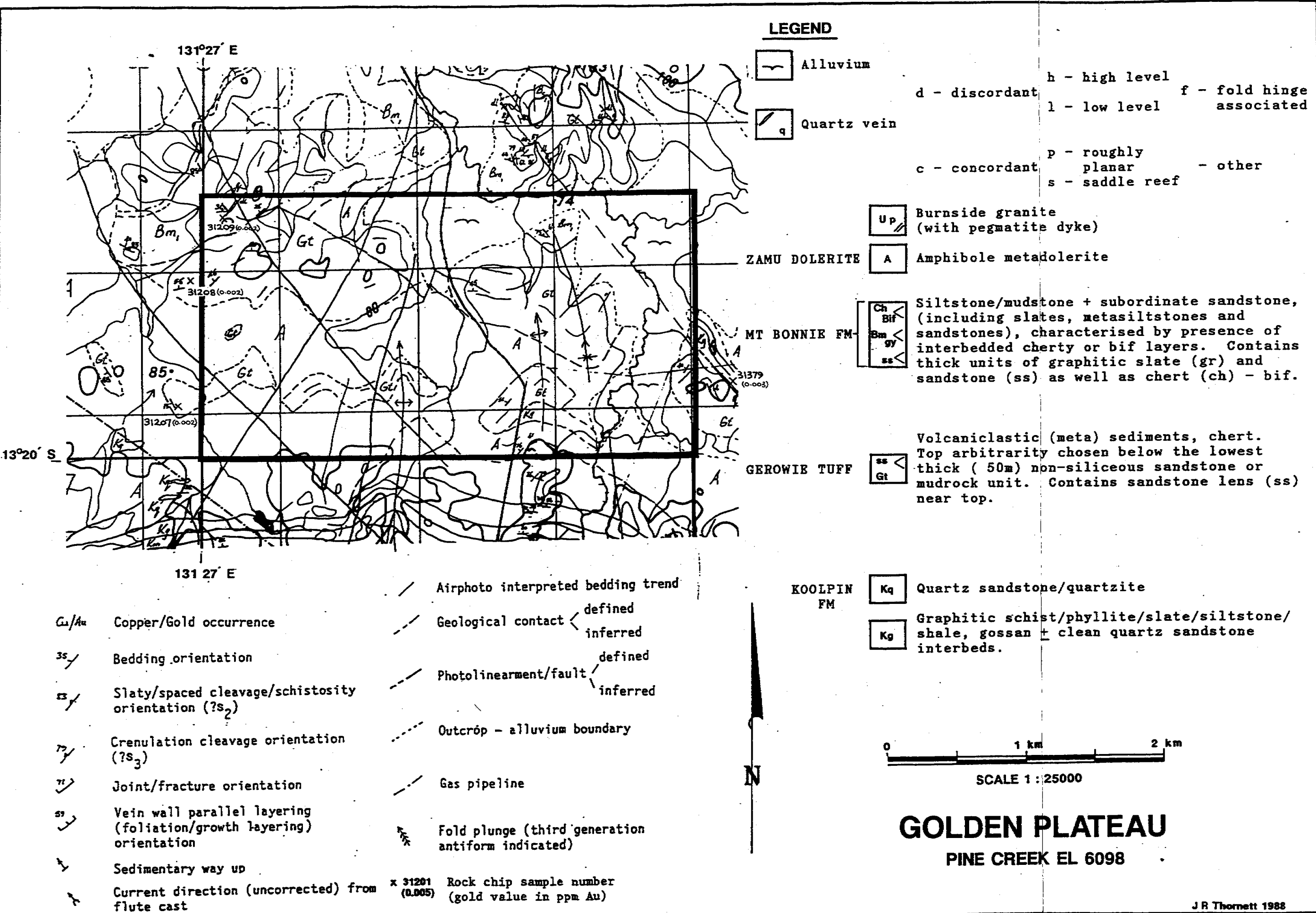
|   |          |
|---|----------|
| Geological consulting                   | 4,500    |
| Geophysical surveys and data processing | 4,000    |
| Drafting and reporting                  | 2,500    |
| Administration                          | 1,500    |
|   | <hr/>    |
|   | \$12,500 |
|   | <hr/>    |

5. REFERENCES

- B.M.R., GEOLOGY AND GEOPHYSICS, 1985. Geology of the Batchelor-Hayes Creek Region 1;100,000 map series.
- CRICK, I.H., STUART-SMITH, P.G., AND NEEDHAM, R.S., 1987: Stratigraphic significance of a discovery of a Lower proterozoic tuff in the Pine Creek Geosyncline. B.M.R. J. Aust Geol Geophys., 3, 163-165.
- ETHERIDGE, M.A., RUTLAND, R.W.R., and WYBORN, L.A.I., 1985: Tectonic process in the Early to Middle Proterozoic of Northern Australia. Conference on tectonics and geochemistry of Early to Middle Proterozoic Fold Belts, Prog. and Abstr., B.M.R. Rec 1985/28, 35-38.
- NEEDHAM, R.S., CRICK, I.H. and STUART-SMITH, P.G., 1980: Regional geology of the Pine Creek Geosyncline. In J. Ferguson and A.B. Goleby (eds) Uranium in the Pine Creek Geosyncline Proc. series IAEA, Vienna, 1-22.
- NEEDHAM, R.S., STUART-SMITH, P.G., and PAGE R.W., 1985: Tectonic evolution of the Pine Creek Geosyncline and contiguous terranes, Northern Territory. Conference on tectonics and geochemistry of Early to Middle Proterozoic Fold Belts, Prog. and Abstr., B.M.R. Rec 1985/28, 71-74.
- NEEDHAM, R.S., STUART-SMITH, P.G., and PAGE, R.W., 1988: Tectonic evaluation of the Pine Creek Inlier, Northern Territory. Precambrian Research, 41, 543-564.
- PALFREYMAN, W.D., 1984: Guide to the Geology of Australia. B.M.R. Bull 181, 43.
- STUART-SMITH, P.G., WILLS, K., CRICK, I.H., and NEEDHAM, R.S., 1980: Evolution of the Pine Creek Geosyncline. In J. Ferguson and A.B. Goleby (eds) Uranium in the Pine Creek Geosyncline. proc. Series IAEA, Vienna, 23-37.



**Locality Map**  
**PINE CREEK EL 6098**



765 000 mE



765 000 mE

## MAGNETICS EL 6098

AIRCRAFT  
VH-EXH ROCKWELL SHRIKE COMMANDER 500S

### MAGNETOMETER

SPLIT BEAM CESIUM SCINTREX V201  
RESOLUTION 0.01 nanoTesla  
CYCLE RATE 0.2 seconds  
SAMPLE INTERVAL 14 metres

### SPECTROMETER

256 CHANNEL EXPLORANIUM GR800B  
VOLUME 33.56 litres  
CYCLE RATE 1.0 seconds  
SAMPLE INTERVAL 70 metres

### DATA ACQUISITION

8 CHANNEL WATANABE MC 6700 CHART RECORDER  
HEWLETT PACKARD 9000 SERIES COMPUTER  
AERODATA DIGITAL ACQUISITION SYSTEM

### FLIGHT LINE SPACING

TRAVERSE LINES 200 metres  
TIE LINES 5000 metres

### FLIGHT LINE DIRECTION

TRAVERSE LINES 090 - 270 degrees  
TIE LINES 180 - 360 degrees

### SURVEY HEIGHT

MEAN TERRAIN CLEARANCE - 70 metres

### NAVIGATION AND RECOVERY

Using SYLEDIS UHF positioning system

### DATA PROCESSING

REGIONAL FIELD IGRF MODEL 1985 REMOVED  
BASE VALUE ADDED 46900 nanoTeslas  
GRID CELL SIZE 70 metres  
CONTOUR INTERVAL 2 nanoTeslas  
PARALLAX CORRECTION 0.7 fiducial  
— 50 fiducial interval

- 8525000 mN

Scale 1 : 25000



N

**GOLDEN PLATEAU NL**

**PINE CREEK EL 6098**