MCN 671 McKeddies Prospect, Pine Creek, Northern Territory
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Introduction

Mining Claim MCN 671 was acquired by Whitvista Pty Ltd in 2006. The original grant date was 17th November 1983. The Mining Claim consists of 8 hectares. The claim was due for expiry on 31st December 2007, but has been renewed for retention (as applied for on 14th September 2007).
Apogei Pty Ltd held this claim in recent years and now Yellow Rock Resources Limited holds 20% of Apogei Pty Ltd at the time of writing this report. Yellow Rock Resources limited is the operating partner of the licence.

Location and Access

McKeddies Prospect is situated about 160 kilometres southeast of Darwin, NT. Access to the area is through the main road (Stuart Highway) to Pine Creek and thereafter 46 kilometres northwards on minor roads and tracks via Esmeralda and Frances Creek. Field work undertaken during the anniversary year was conducted on a fly-camp basis and no local accommodation or community facilities were used.
There are no Registered or Recorded Aboriginal Sacred Sites on the claims (AAPA letter of 15th October 2007).

Regional Geology

The McKeddies leases are underlain by the metamorphosed Palaeo-Proterozoic Pine Creek Geosyncline (pre-1800 Ma). This provides several complex structures and suitable host sites for gold and base metal mineralization. The area lies on the southern end of a large inlier of Proterozoic rocks surrounded by Quaternary alluvium and Recent soils. It is believed that the rock succession at McKeddies is part of the Lower Proterozoic Masson Formation and this is unconformably overlain to the east and west of the tenements by the Mt Partridge Group arenaceous sediments

Tenement Geology

The Palaeo-Proterozoic sequence of the Pine Creek Geosyncline is represented by the following sequence seen in the trenches at McKeddies (youngest at top):
Soil and alluvial cover (usually thin)
Laterite and clay
Dolerite dykes and sills (probably of Oenpelli age)
Green Mudstone or Tuff (pelitic units, mainly massive and poorly stratified)
Carbonaceous Siltstone, large grey bands or intercalated light and dark beds
Graded Sandstone or quartzite

Exploration History

Gold exploration in the Pine Creek Goldfields led to the discovery of alluvial gold at McKeddies Prospect in 1900. Over the next five years a large quantity of gold was extracted as mainly coarse nugget gold or high grade open pit ore. The work was mainly completed by various private prospectors.
Three costeans were cut by Mineral Resources Corporation Pty Ltd (MRC) and in partnership with Union Oil Development Company (UODC) the trenches and surrounding area was geologically mapped, logged and sampled in 1986. UODC identified an auriferous quartz vein stockwork containing 8g/t Au over a 15 metre zone in siltstone and interest in the area increased. Although no official resource was estimated the tonnage of mineralised material was said to be in excess of 625,000 tonnes.

Lack of permanent water, lack of public company interest, a low gold price and isolation from the main gold mining centres deterred further exploration at McKeddies until the 1990's. By 1993 surface mapping and sampling by MRC provided several additional good gold assays. This led to the building of dams and a reservoir on site in preparation for a drilling program. However, the planned drilling did not eventuate due to a downturn in the gold price. Recent Fieldwork revealed the following:

7 trenches dug in the alluvial gold area highlighted extensive alteration and weak gold anomalies.
Values from 0.3 g/t Au in alteration to 8.15 g/t Au in quartz veins
Strong arsenic anomalies exceeding 10 ppm and up to 100 ppm
Anticline structure of repeated sedimentary units

Exploration Work undertaken

Exploration work conducted on the McKeddies Prospect during the period ending 31st December 2008 included:

GPX Airborne Services geophysical survey. 30 kilometres of flight path over the tenement at 100m flight line spacing. The survey included radiometric and magnetic readings and images were produced at various contour intervals.
A review of historic tenement mapping data
A review of NTGS regional geology maps covering the area
A review of NTGS and public geophysics images for the area

Conclusions to date

Exploration activities completed to date indicate that the work carried out on the McKeddies tenements has

- confirmed the presence of weak uranium anomalies at 1.2-1.6 times background levels
- confirmed that follow-up rock chip sampling is necessary for both gold and uranium
- not yet established the cause of the low-tenor uranium radiation count anomalies

Further Work

YRR is planning further substrate testing of the area with a drilling program to evaluate the bedrock geology and geochemistry for potential gold and uranium mineralisation.