Occurrence Details

Occurrence Number: 115J 042
Occurrence Name: Wels Nickel
Occurrence Type: Hard-rock
Status: Anomaly
Date printed: 12/15/2025 1:07:03 PM

General Information

Secondary Commodities: chromium, cobalt, iron, magnesium, nickel
Aliases: Wels East
Deposit Type(s): Unknown
Location(s): 62°27'7.13" N - -139°42'9.86" W
NTS Mapsheet(s): 115J05
Location Comments: Location marks site of highest nickel soil assay.
Hand Samples Available: No
Last Reviewed:

Capsule

WORK HISTORY

On March 31, 2002, the Yukon and Canadian Governments signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the White River First Nation to create the Wellesley Lake Special Management Area (SMA). As part of process, geologists employed by the Yukon Geology Program (now Yukon Geological Survey) conducted a detailed mineral assessment of the area. The mineral assessment consisted of a "table top" exercise and two days of field work. Field work consisted of reconnaissance geological mapping, prospecting and rock, soil and silt sampling. The results of the mineral assessment were publically released in 2006.

Staked within Wels cl 127-136 (YD73839) in Mar/2011 by R. Hulstein and F.J. Andersen. The men staked Wels 1-28 (YE41635), cl 31-56 (YE41665) and cl 63-88 (YE31697) approximately 12 km to the southwest and Wels cl 95-104 (YD73805) and cl 111-120 (YD73821) approximately 27.5 km to the southeast at the same time.

On June 6, 2011 Hulstein and Andersen optioned a 100% interest in all three claims groups to Gorilla Resources Corp in return for cash, shares and certain work commitments. The agreement also gave the men a 3% Net Smelter Return (NRS). Gorilla Resources renamed the three claim groups Wels East, (this occurrence), Wels South and Wels West, based on their geographic position to each other. In Sep/2011 the company carried out prospecting and grid soil sampling over the three claim groups.

In Mar/2011 Gorilla Resources staked Wels cl 189-201 (YF35068) on the north and east sides of the Wels East claim group. The company also staked Wels cl 137-162 (YF35016) on the west side of the Wels West claim group and Wels cl 163-188 (YF35042) on the east side. Upon completion of the staking Gorilla Resources renamed the Wels East claim group, the Wels Nickel property and the Wels West claim group, the Wels Gold property. The new names reflected the main type of mineralization sought on each property.

The Wels Nickel property has been assigned its own unique Minfile occurrence number i.e. 115J 042, to reflect its nickel affinity. The Wels Gold property has been assigned Minfile occurrence number 115J 039 to reflect its gold affinity.

On April 10, 2012 Gorilla Resources announced a reverse takeover of CNRP Mining Inc, a wholly owned subsidiary of Gorilla Resources. As part of reverse takeover Gorilla Resources transferred the Wels Nickel, Wels South and Wels Gold claim groups to a new company; Gorilla Minerals Corp. Following completion of the reverse takeover Gorilla Resources was renamed Winston Resources Ltd.

On April 30, 2012 Gorilla Minerals optioned the Wels Nickel claim group to Defiant Minerals Corp (a former subsidiary of Gorilla Resources), for cash, shares and certain work commitments.

No exploration work was carried out on the Wels Nickel property in 2012. On October 2, 2012 Gorilla Minerals terminated its option with Defiant Minerals for failure to make required option payments.

On October 31, 2015 Gorilla Minerals optioned the Wels Nickel property to Enfield Exploration Corp for cash shares and certain work commitments subject to a 5% net smelter return (NSR) to Gorilla Minerals. On November 4, 2013 A. Doherty, a supervising geologist for Gorilla Minerals visited the claims and collected two rock samples to confirm earlier results. On November 15, 2013 Doherty filed a 43-101 compliant report on the Wels Nickel property.

No further exploration work has been carried out on the Wels Nickel property. On October 31, 2014 Gorilla Minerals terminated the option agreement with Enfield Exploration Corp.

On March 23, 2015 Wels cl 189 to 202 (YF35068) expired. The remaining Wels claims (127 to 136 - YD73837) are scheduled to expire on March 29, 2016.

GEOLOGY

The Wels Nickel property is located approximately 7 km northeast of Wellesley Lake in west-central Yukon. The area is quite remote. The nearest settlement is the small community of Beaver Creek located 50 km to the west on the Alaska Highway. Whitehorse the capital of Yukon and the main supply point is located approximately 446 km to the southeast via the Alaska Highway. Access to the area is by helicopter based in Dawson City approximately 190 km to the north or if available Beaver Creek to the west.

The Wels Nickel property lies within a complex, poorly understood area of the Yukon. D.J. Tempelman-Kluit (1974) of the Geological Survey of Canada mapped the area at reconnaissance scale in the early 1970's. Beginning around 2006, the Yukon Geological Survey with assistance of others began remapping the area. Murphy et. al., (2007) released a preliminary 1:50 000 scale map of the area; however ongoing fieldwork continuing to the present has resulted in many changes. Readers are advised to consult the Yukon Geological Survey and/or the YGS Map Maker available on their web site for the most up to date version of geology in the area.

Based on recent research the area is underlain by Yukon-Tanana terrane rocks which overlie a large block of displaced ancient North American Basin terrain (Selwyn Basin equivalent) located north and northwest of Wellesley Lake. Isolated pockets of oceanic basalts and greenstones (in the south) and variably serpentinized ultramafic rocks (in the north) assigned to the Slide Mountain terrain thrust over the ancient North American lithologies and Yukon Tanana terrain. Within the ultramafic unit, podiform chromite mineralization has been reported on Harzburgite Peak to the north. Upper Cretaceous Carmacks (Donjek) volcanics unconformably overlie the various terrains.

Based on limited geological mapping the Wels Nickel property is underlain by dark green sheared ultramafic rocks, massive thick gabbro, bedded basalt with quartzite, siltstone and chert. Rare light grey rhyolite or strongly bleached silicified andesite was observed by Stroshein and Hulstein during the original mineral assessment exercise. Within the regionally mapped

ultramafic unit, dun-brown weathering, dark green to black, partly serpentinized massive harzburgite and dunite rocks have been mapped.

Sampling on the Wels Nickel property (originally called Wels East) carried out by the Yukon Geological Survey in 2002 for the mineral assessment study returned two soil samples containing 12.6 and 15.4 ppb gold and one rock sample that contained 111.6 ppm copper and 58.4 ppm cobalt.

Soil sampling carried out in 2011 by Gorilla Minerals on the Wels Nickel property outlined a 1 200 m by greater than 200m wide nickel in soil anomaly ranging from greater than 200 ppm to greater than 701.8 ppm nickel. Within the anomaly chromium values range up to 395 ppm, cobalt values range up to 63 ppm, iron values range up to 6.2 %, strontium range up to 286 ppm and magnesium values range up to 10.5 %. Upon receipt of these results, Gorilla Minerals split the Wels Nickel property off from the Wels Gold and South properties and offered it for option as a standalone nickel exploration property.

Gorilla Minerals used the 2011 exploration results to justify staking Wels cl 189-202 (YF35068) in Mar/2012. It appears that due to the general downturn in the mining industry Defiant Minerals could not raise the funds needed for an exploration program.

During the Nov/2013 site visit, A. Doherty collected 2 rock samples from outcrops of gabbro located on the eastern side of the soil anomaly. Neither sample returned any appreciable amounts of mineralization.

It appears Enfield Exploration was unable to raise the funds necessary for their proposed option and the deal was terminated.

In the November 15, 2013 Technical Report, A. Doherty concluded that the Wels Nickel property is a property of merit subject to the following cautionary statement. "Exploration on the Wels Nickel property would be carried out under the assumption that ultramafic lithologies capable of hosting podiform chromite are present but as yet un-recognized on the Wels Nickel property".

Work History

Date	Work Type	Comment
12/13/2013	Geochemistry	Doherty collected two gabbro rock samples on eastern side of nickel soil anomaly.
12/13/2012	Other	Property broken out as separate project, i.e. "Wels Nickel".
12/13/2011	Geochemistry	Grid based soil sampling.
12/13/2011	Other	Prospected as part of larger Wels project.
12/13/2002	Studies	Yukon and Canadian governments conducted detailed mineral assessment of Wellesley Lake area.
12/13/2002	Geochemistry	Two soil and 1 rock sample collected during assessment.

Assessment Reports that overlap occurrence

Report Number	Year	Title	Worktypes	Holes Drilled	Meters Drilled
095771	2011	2011 Exploration Geochemical Survey on the Wels Project	Soil - Geochemistry, Soil - Geochemistry, Prospecting - Other, Prospecting - Other		

Related References

Number	Title	Page(s)	Reference Type	Document Type
2006-11	Report on the Detailed Mineral Assessment of the Proposed Wellesley Lake Special Management Area, Yukon		Yukon Geological Survey	Open File (Geological - Bedrock)
YEG2008_19	'Windy-McKinley' terrane, western Yukon: new data bearing on its composition, age, correlation and paleotectonic settings		Yukon Geological Survey	Annual Report Paper
2007-9	Preliminary bedrock geology of part of Stevenson Ridge area (NTS 115J/3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, parts of 11 and 12; 115K/1, 2, 7, 8, 9, 10, parts of 15 and 16).		Yukon Geological Survey	Open File (Geological - Bedrock)
YEG2002_07	Harzburgite Peak: A large mantle tectonite massif in ophiolite from southwest Yukon		Indian & Northern Affairs Canada/Department of Indian & Northern Development: Exploration & Geological Services Division	Annual Report Paper
2012-12	First finding of Pt-Pd-rich chromitite and platinum-group element mineralization in southwest Yukon mantle peridotite complexes		Yukon Geological Survey	Open File (General)
YEG2007_17	Windy McKinley terrane, Stevenson Ridge area (115JK), western Yukon: composition and proposed correlations, with implications for mineral potential.		Yukon Geological Survey	Annual Report Paper
YEG2006_17	The three `Windy McKinley' terranes of Stevenson Ridge (115JK), western Yukon.		Yukon Geological Survey	Annual Report Paper