



Blackwater: An emerging gold and silver district in the Stikine Terrane of central British Columbia

Presented by

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TREK Project Workshop

Vancouver, BC

October 17, 2017

- **Regional Setting**
- **Blackwater Deposit**
 - Host rocks, structures
 - Alteration & Mineralization
 - Age Dating & Sulfur Isotopes
- Epithermal – Intrusive link
- Conclusions & Questions



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Cautionary statements



ALL AMOUNTS IN U.S. DOLLARS UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED

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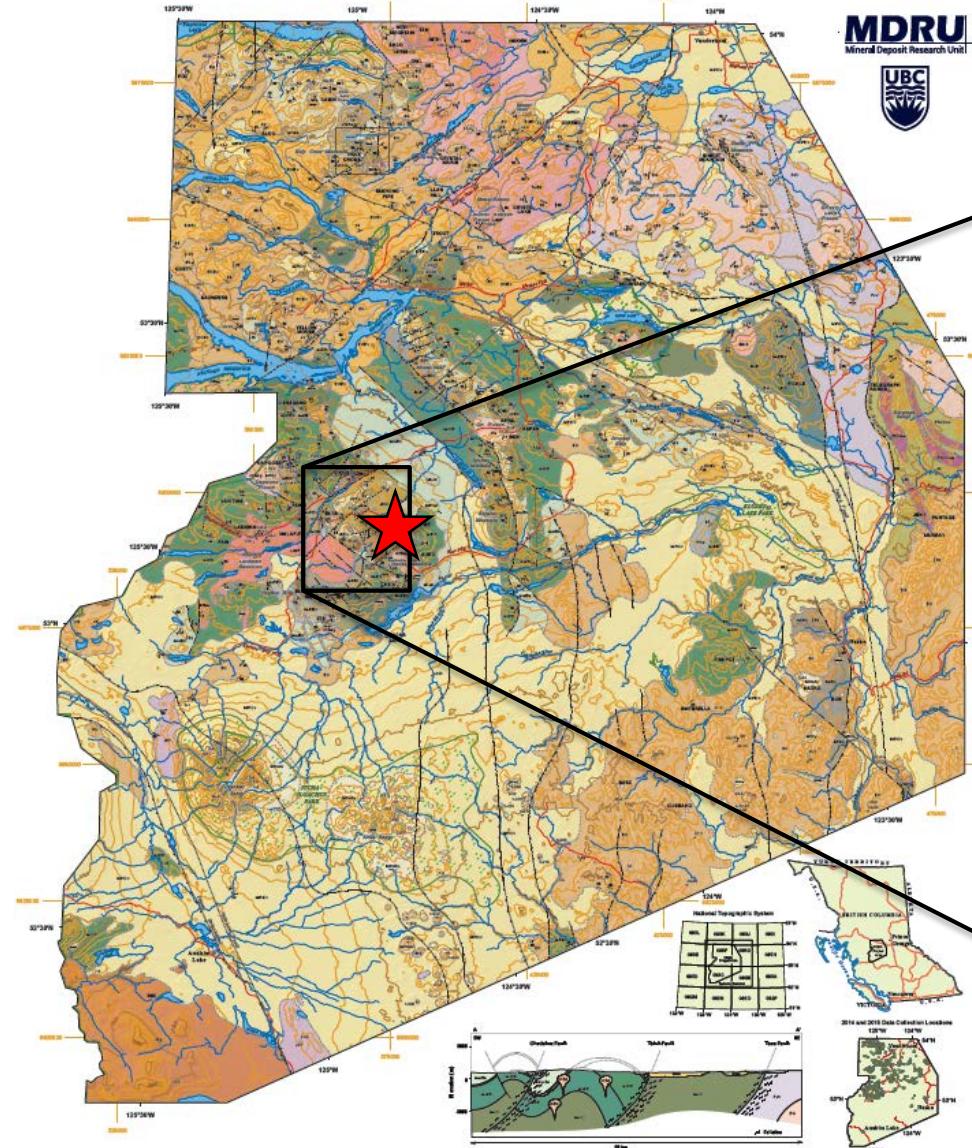
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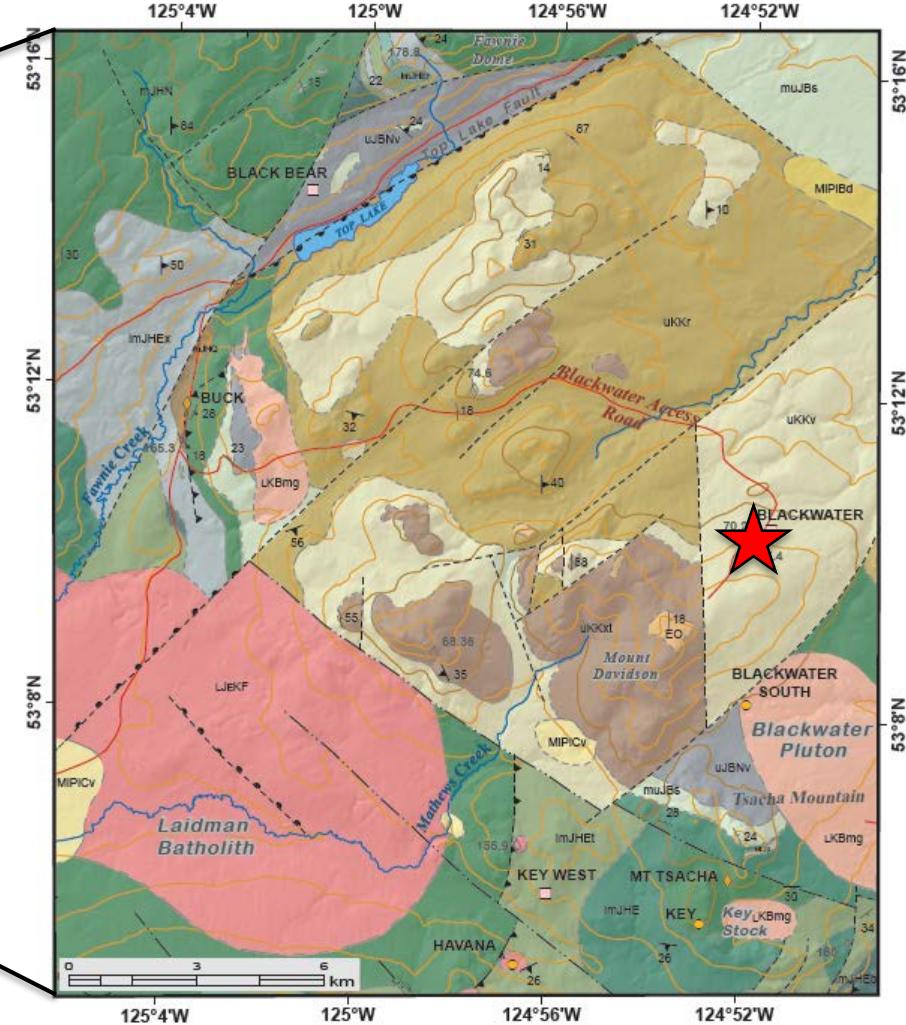
The footnotes, endnotes and appendix to this presentation contain important information. The endnotes and appendix are found at the end of the presentation. All amounts in US dollars unless otherwise indicated.

Blackwater Project – TREK 2017

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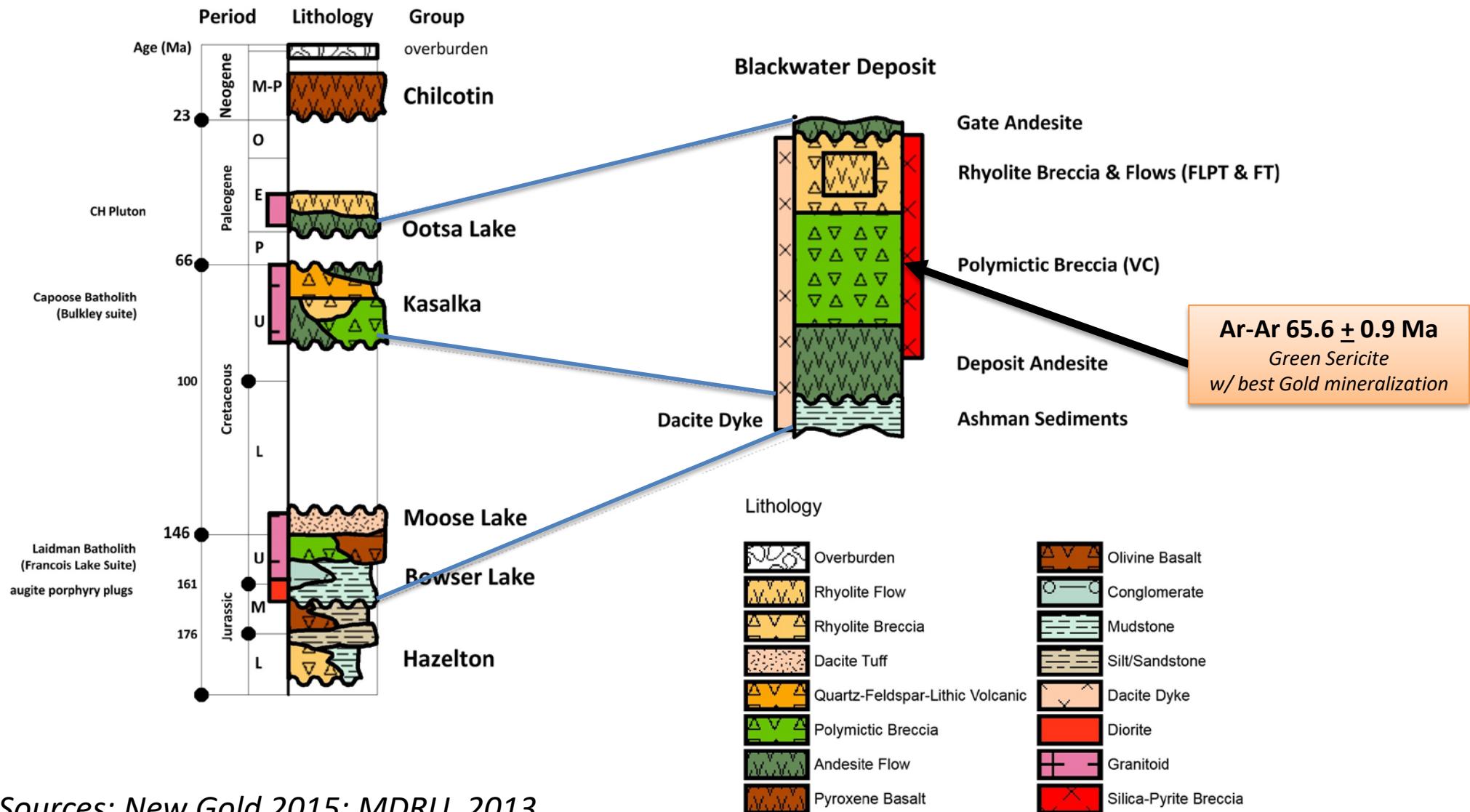
Detailed Geology of the Tsacha Mountain Area



Source: Angen et. al. 2017

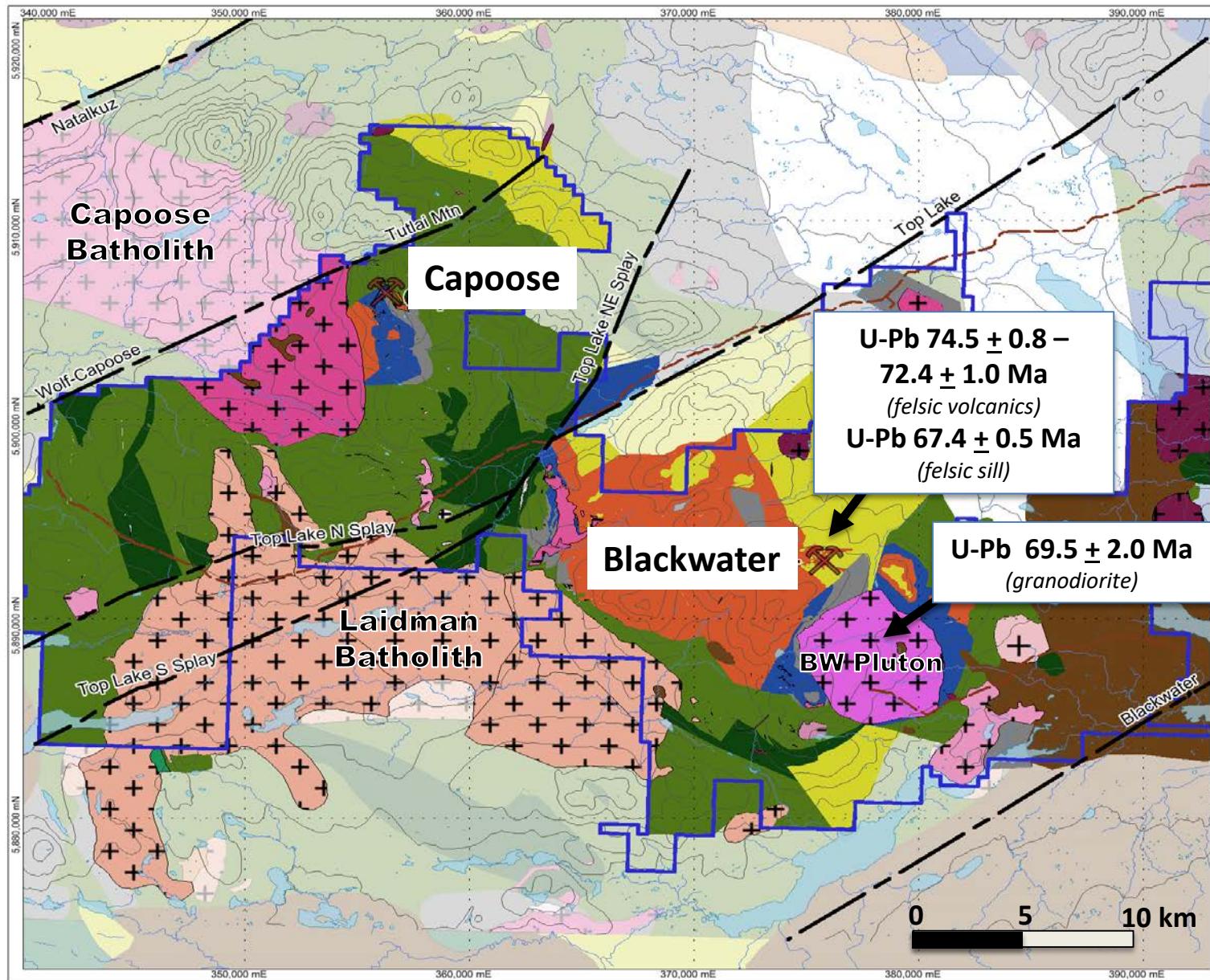
Stratigraphy

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Bedrock Geology

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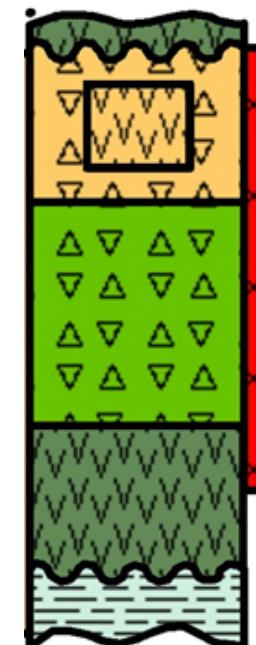
Local stratigraphy

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- Eocene - Ootsa Lake Group andesites unconformably overlie deposit
- ❖ BW Host Sequence: Late Cretaceous - Kasalka Group andesites, felsic volcaniclastics, tuffs and breccia
 - Jurassic - Bowser Lake Group mudstones, sandstones, conglomerates underlie deposit



Blackwater Area Stratigraphy



Gate Andesite

Rhyolite Breccia & Flows

Polymictic Breccia (VC)

Deposit Andesite

Ashman Sediments

Ootsa

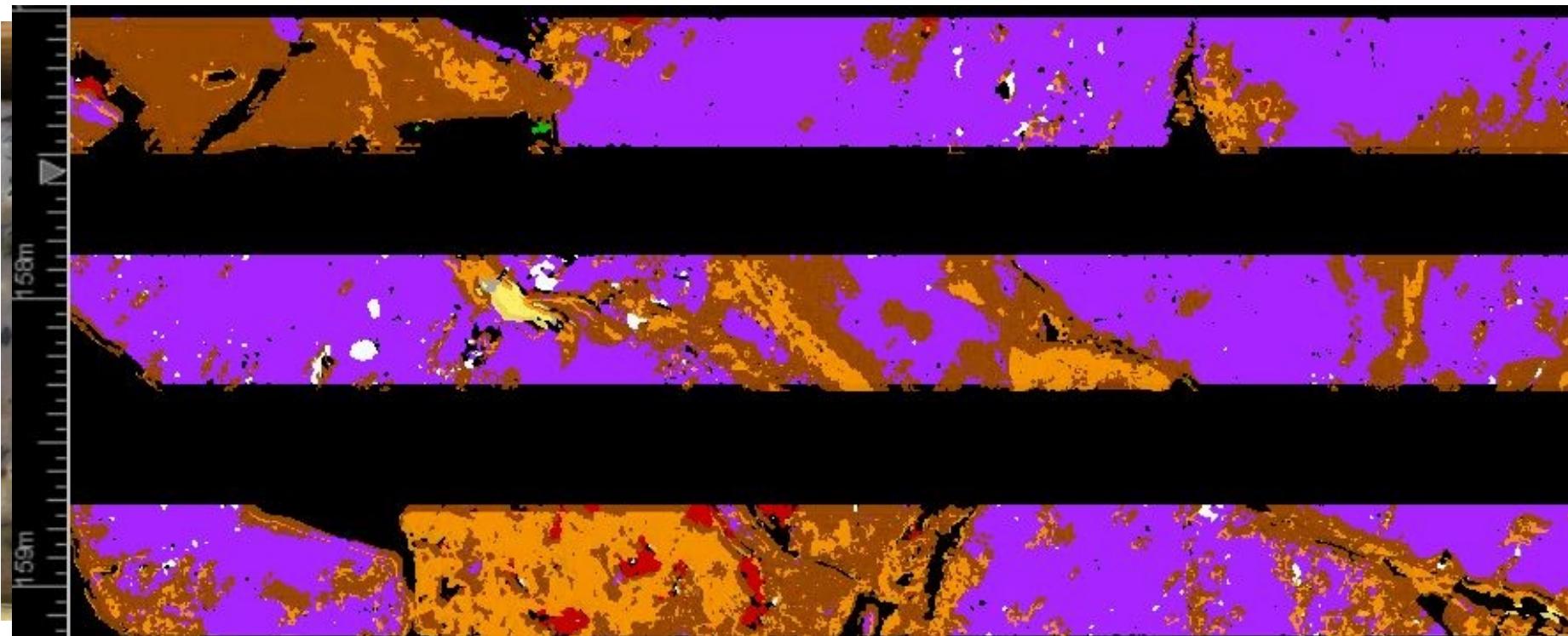
Kasalka

Bowser

Alteration & Mineralization Assemblages

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- **Pre-Gold assemblages:** actinolite - sulfide (distal), biotite - sericite - arsenopyrite (outer), garnet – sulfide (deposit)
- ❖ **Early Main Stage Gold:** green sericite - quartz (recrystallized) - pyrite \pm sphalerite \pm chalcopyrite
- ❖ **Late Main Stage Gold:** green sericite - radial chlorite - quartz - pyrrhotite – cpy – aspy \pm sphal \pm carbonates
 - **Post-Gold:** chlorite – smectite – marcasite
 - **Also NH₄-bearing:** sericite \pm Buddingtonite (ammonium feldspar, rare) – **Probably pre-Gold, no correlation to grade**



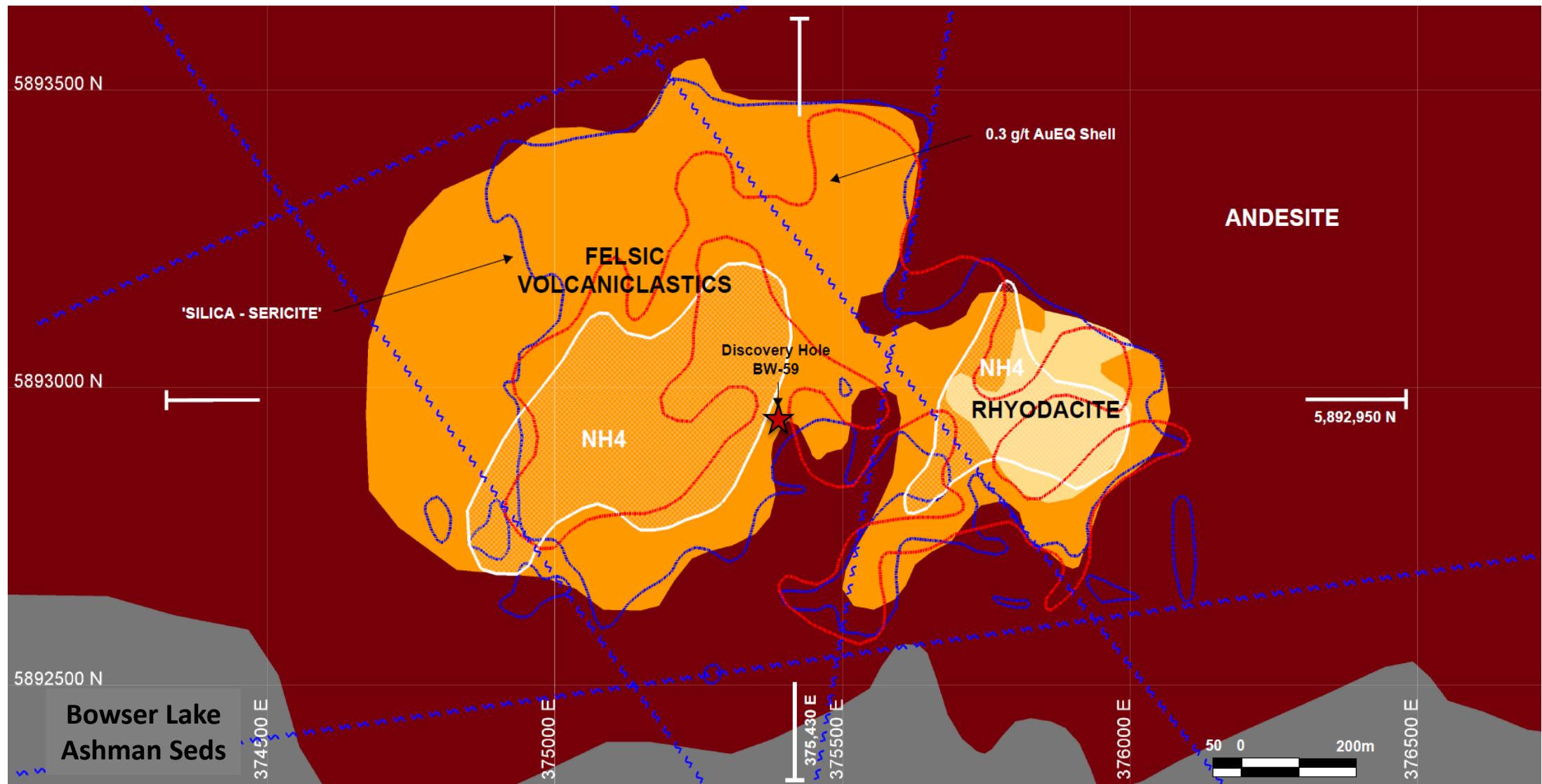
Hole BW-179

muscovite
illite
NH4-bearing min

Sources: Looby, 2015,
in review;
New Gold 2013-2015

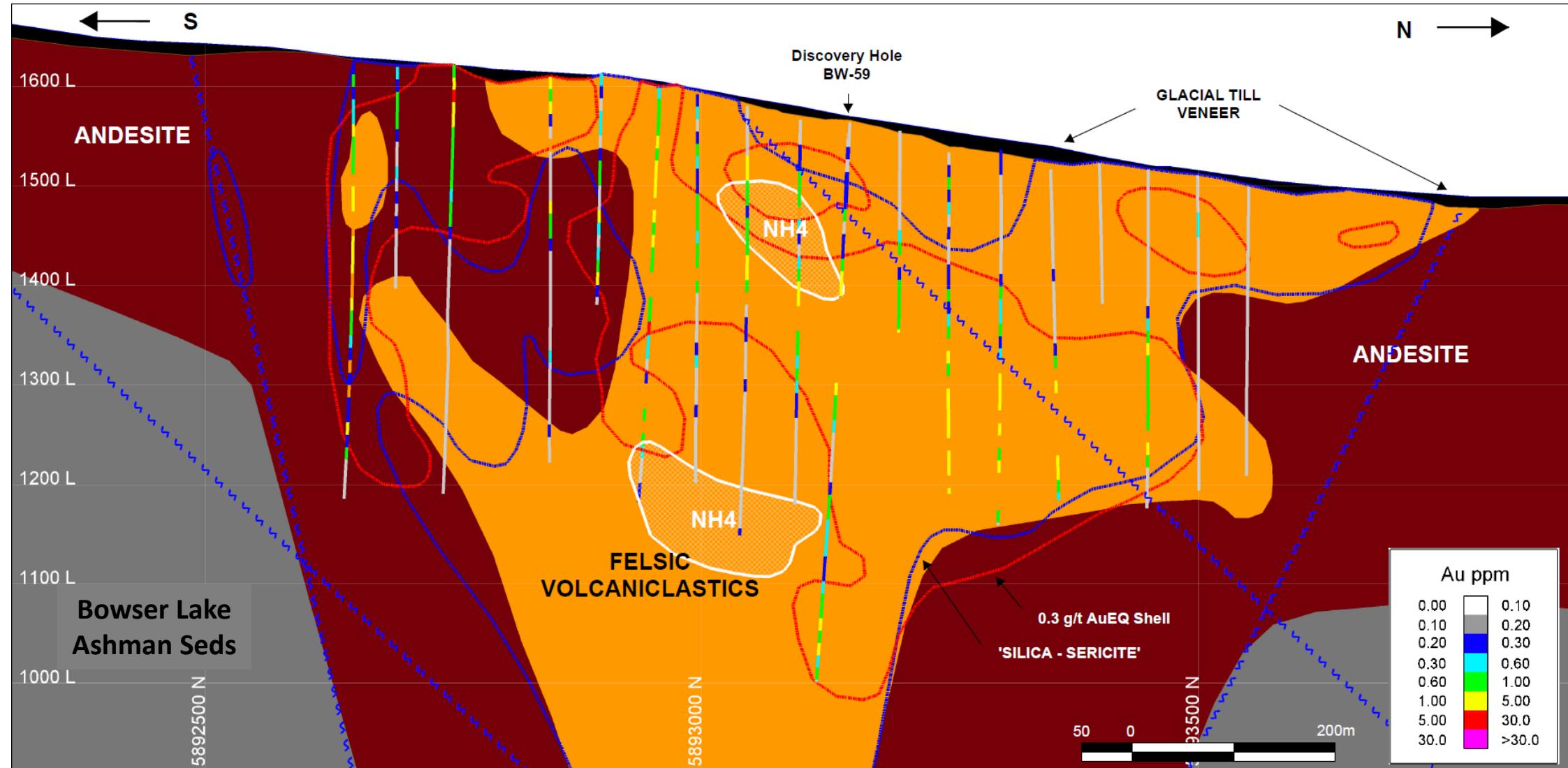
Deposit plan view

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Section view looking West

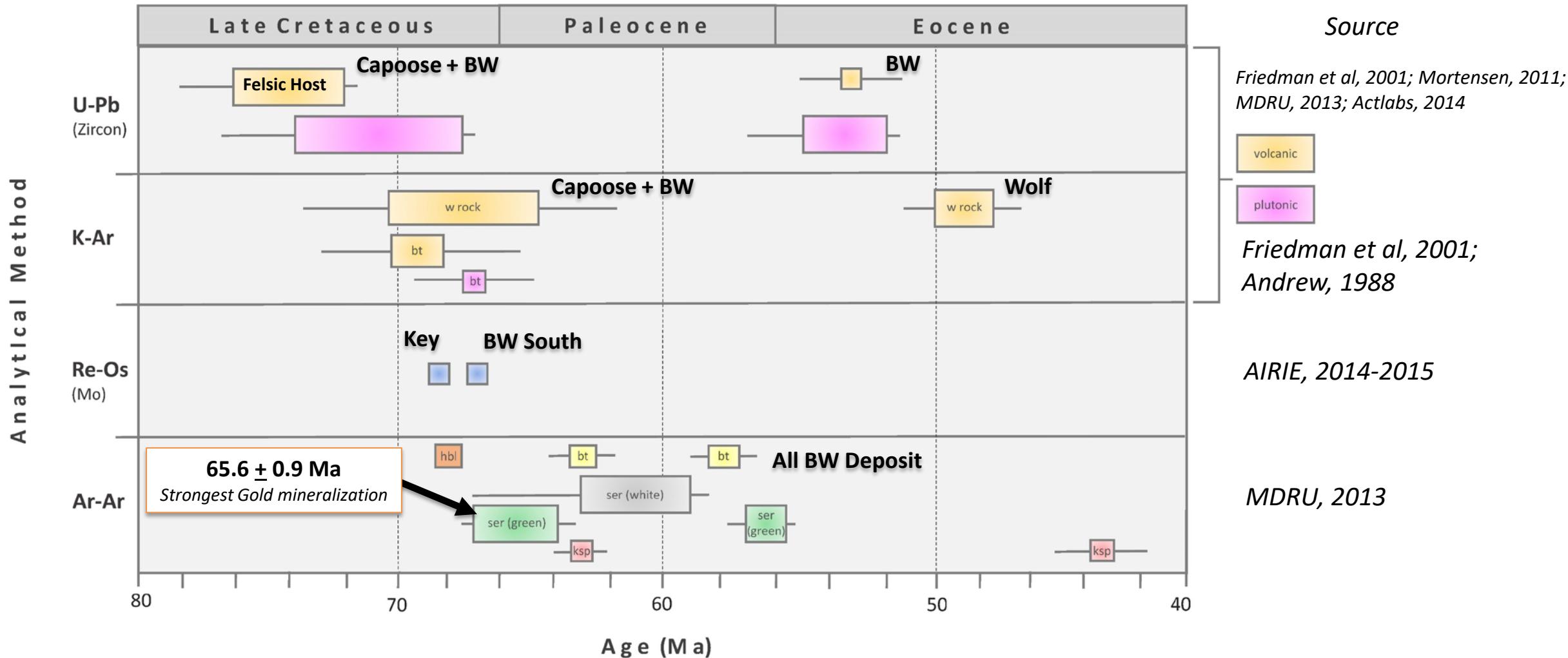
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Age Dating

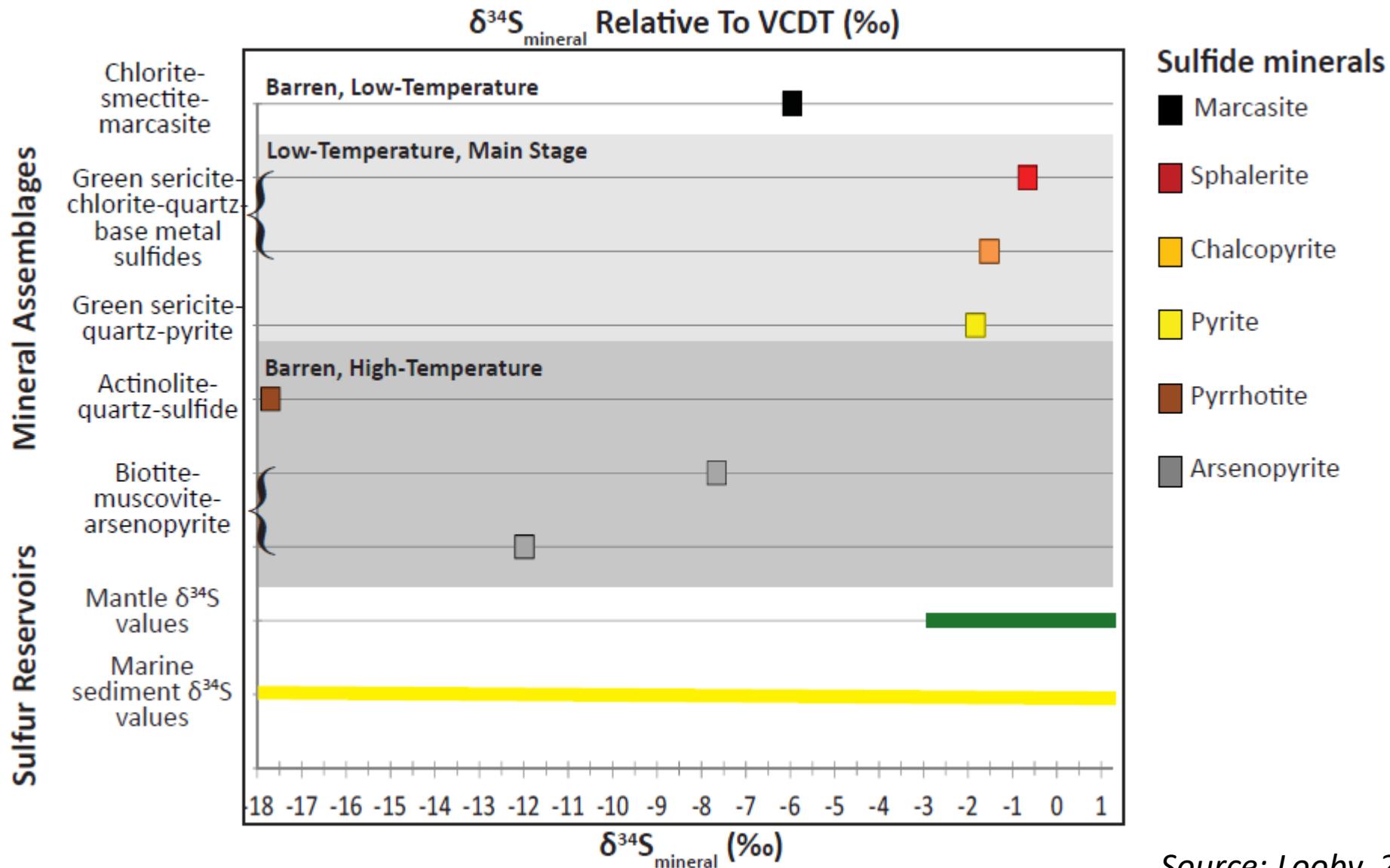
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Compilation of Age Dates by Analytical Method - Blackwater Region



Sulfur Isotopes

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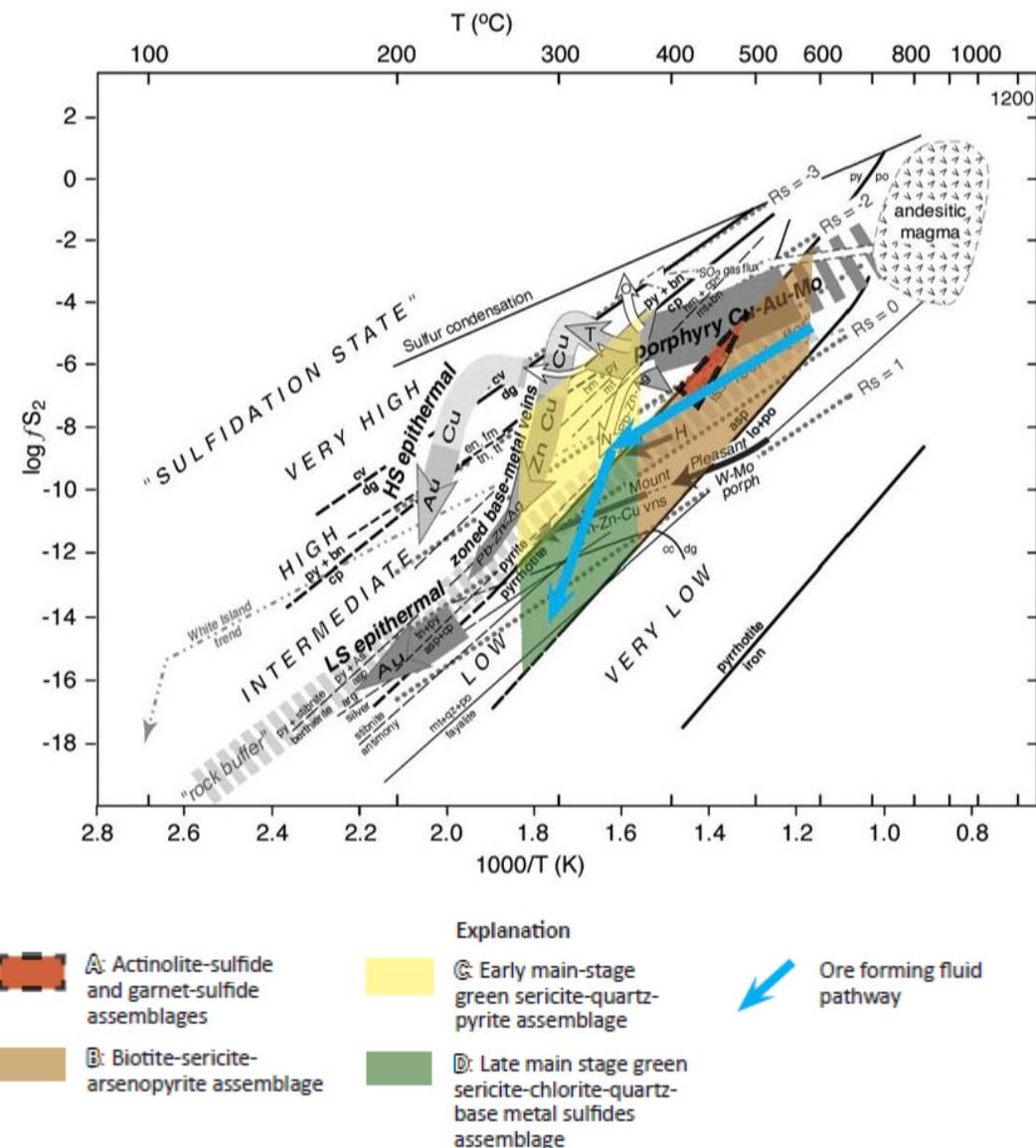


Source: Looby, 2015, in review

Deposit Type (?)

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- S isotopes suggest magmatic contribution to main-stage fluids
 - Progression from low to intermediate and back to low sulfidation mineral assemblages over time
 - Assemblages are hot – porphyry hot to begin with
 - Lack of significant added silica
 - Lack of boiling textures

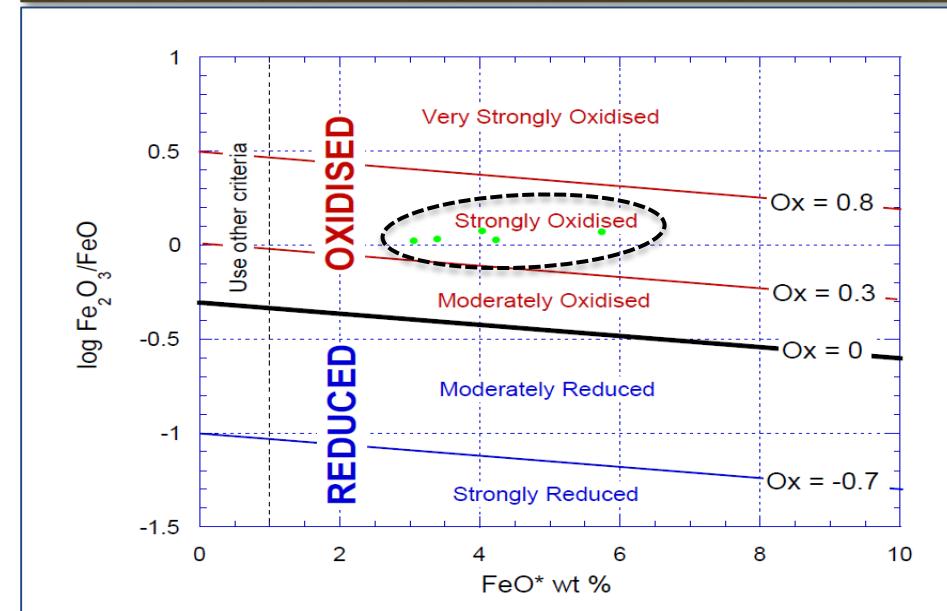
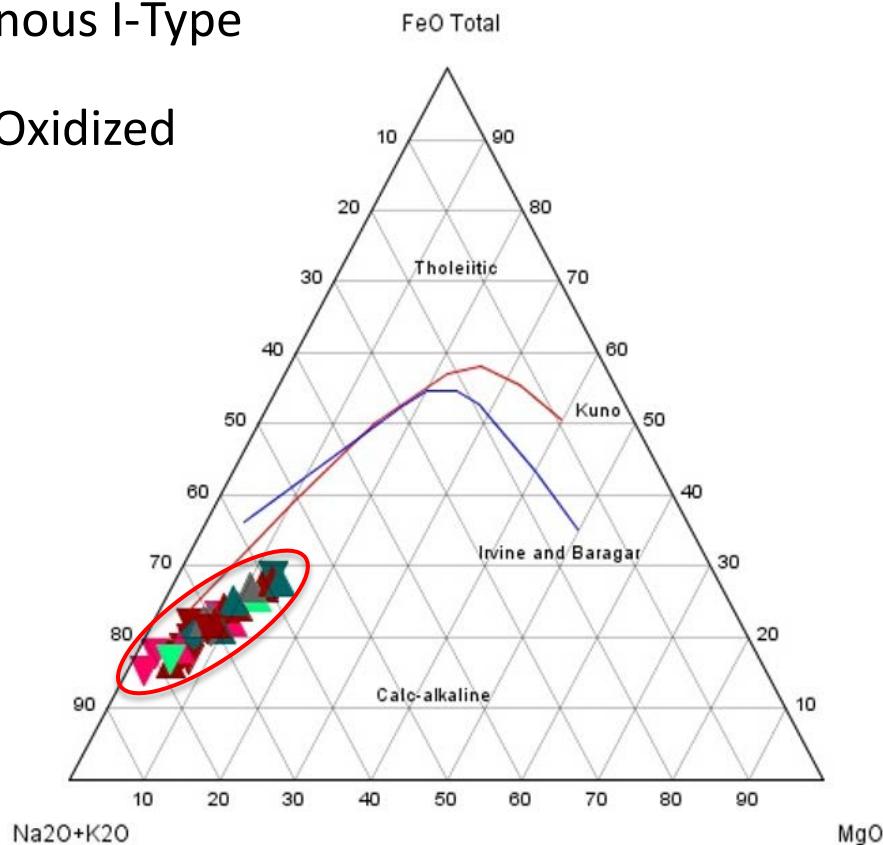


Sources: Looby, 2015, in review; Einaudi, 2003

Blackwater Intrusive Suite

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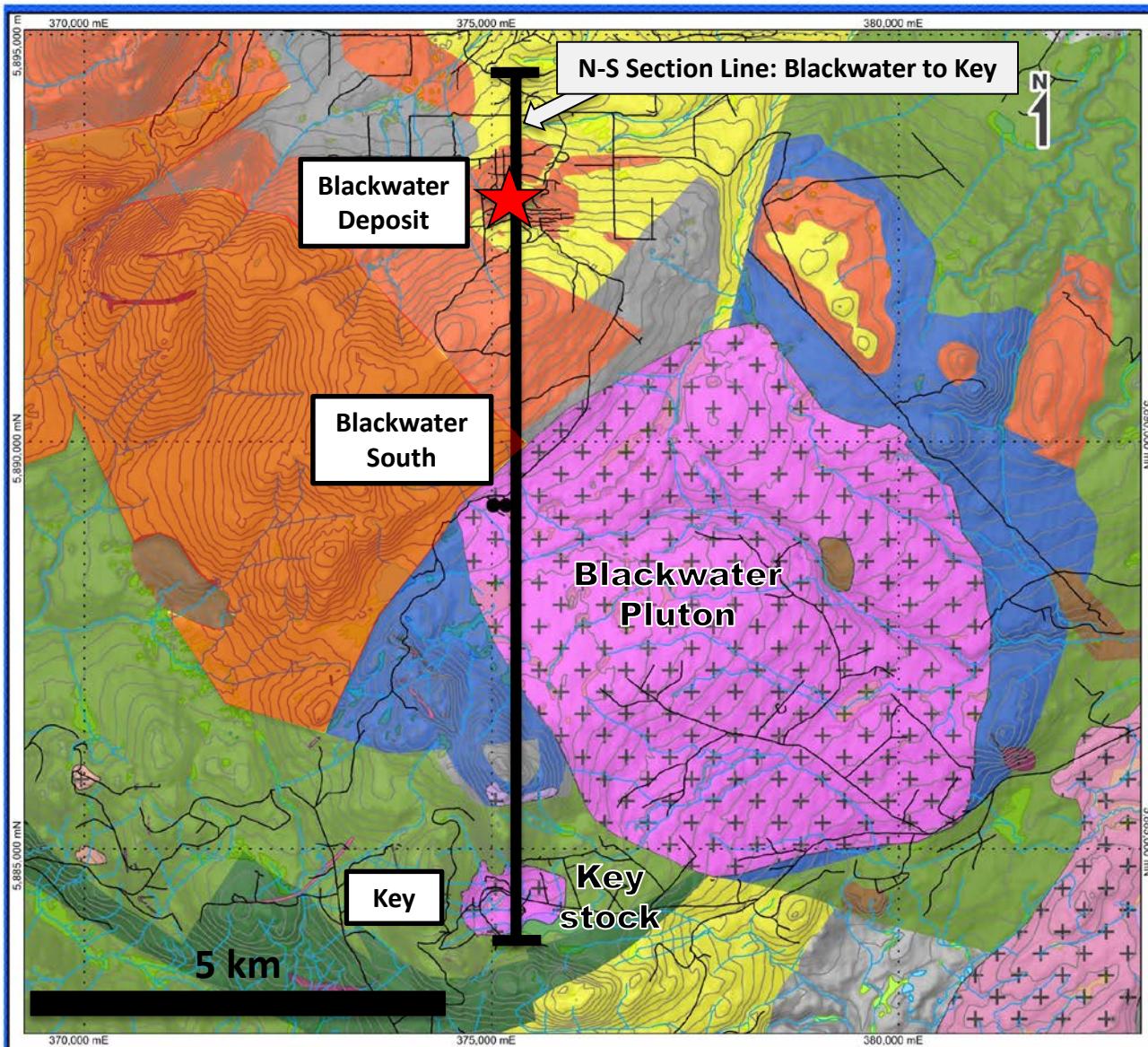
- Late Cretaceous granodiorite to monzogranite phases have calc-alkaline affinity
- Peraluminous I-Type
- Strongly Oxidized



Source: New Gold, 2012-2015

Blackwater to Key Stock Geology

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Stratigraphic Unit

[Color Box]	Chilcotin Group Neogene
[Color Box]	Ootsa Lake Group Eocene
[Color Box]	Kasalka Volcanics Lt Cretaceous
[Color Box]	Moose Lake Group Lw Cretaceous
[Color Box]	Bowser Nechako Mid Jurassic
[Color Box]	Bowser Ashman Mid Jurassic
[Color Box]	Hazelton Naglico Lw-Mid Jurassic
[Color Box]	Hazelton Entiako Lw-Mid Jurassic

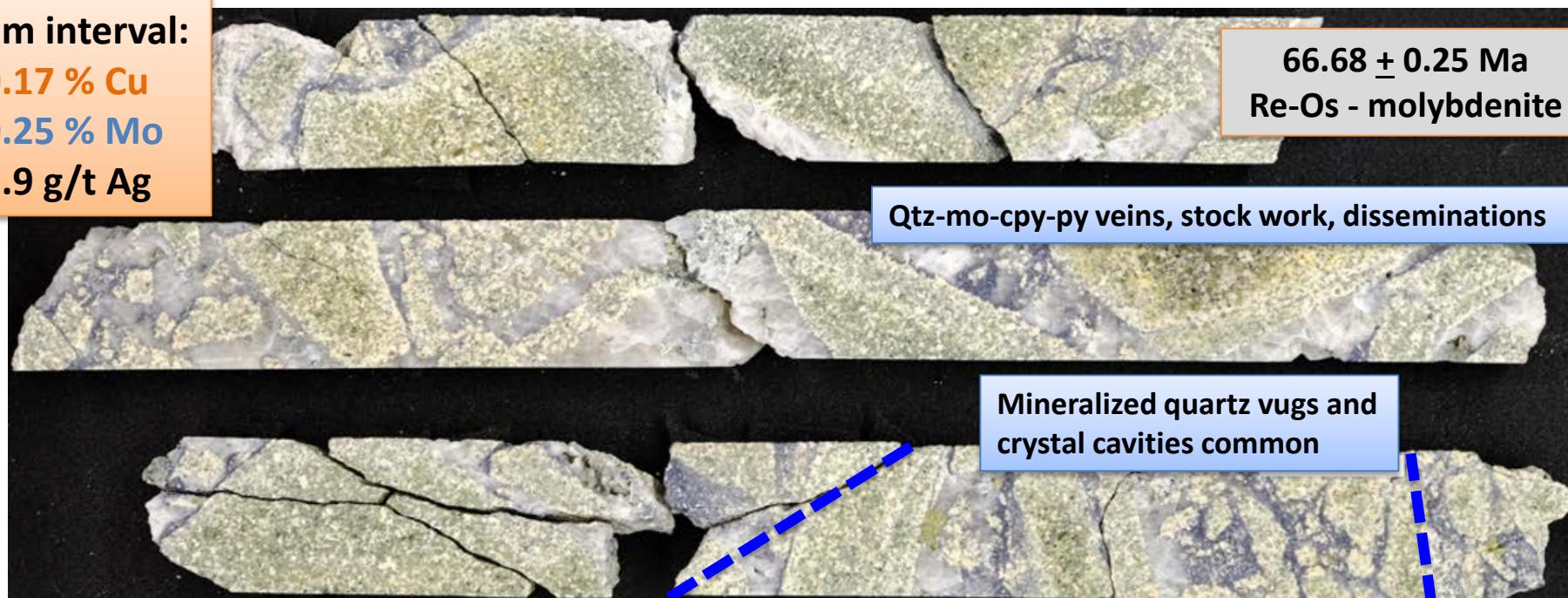
Source: New Gold 2015

BW South Mo-Cu Mineralization

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2m interval:
0.17 % Cu
0.25 % Mo
2.9 g/t Ag

66.68 ± 0.25 Ma
Re-Os - molybdenite



Alteration

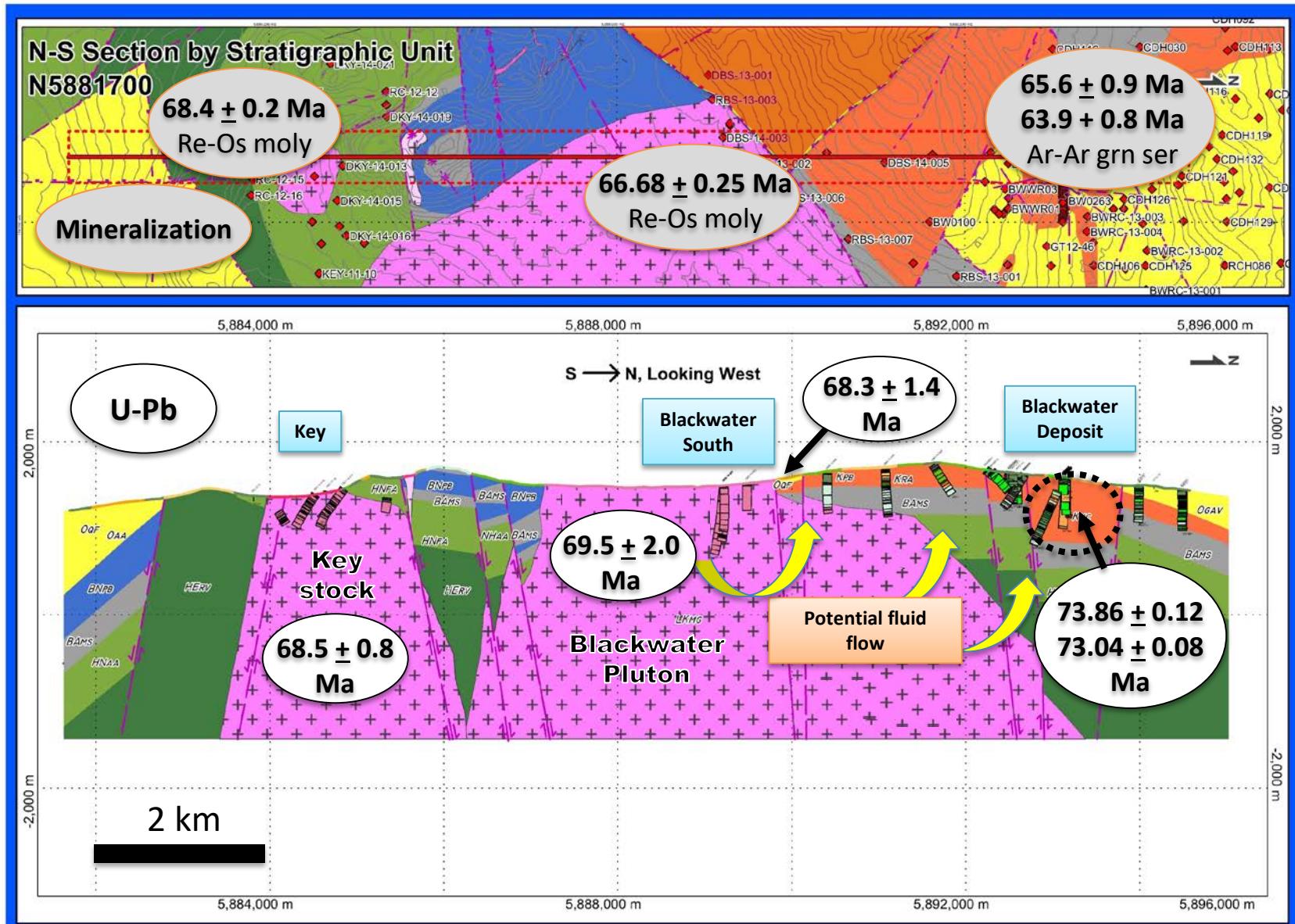
1. Kspar-qtz-chl-py
2. Qtz-sericite (green and white mica)-cly (ill-kaol) with coarse blebby cpy-mo±py±bi
3. Qtz-py-carb



Source: New Gold
Re-Os – AIRIE, 2015

North-South Section – Looking West

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Sources:

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Ar-Ar & U-Pb (BW Deposit) – MDRU, 2013

Re-Os – AIRIE, 2014-2015

U-Pb (others) – Actlabs, 2014

Conclusions

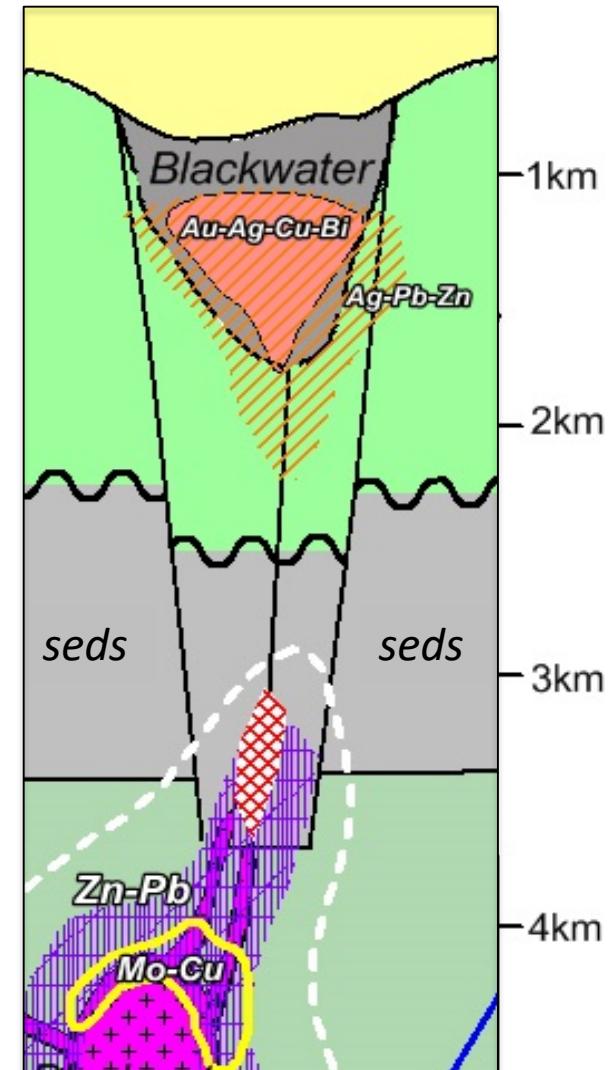
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- ❖ Blackwater mineral paragenesis spans from **low- to intermediate sulfidation** states with **peak magmatic contributions during main stage** mineralization
 - **Pre-Gold >300°C** - biotite-sericite-asp, actinolite-sulfide, garnet-sulfide:
low-sulfidation, sedimentary sulfur
 - **Main Stage Gold 250-350°C** – green sericite - Py/Po - Sp ± Cp (Au, Ag):
int. to low-sulfidation, igneous sulfur
- ❖ Age dating, S isotopes, and whole rock geochemistry indicate extensive Late Cretaceous to early Paleocene hydrothermal activity and a **close link between precious & base metal mineralization and igneous activity in the region**
- ❖ Blackwater rocks, metals, and alteration are consistent with a **low-intermediate sulfidation epithermal deposit** (Looby, 2015, in review).
- ❖ **HOWEVER**

Questions

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- ❖ **Epithermal?** <300°C, <1500m depth (Simmons, 2005)
 - Where's the added quartz and/or low temperature silica?
 - Mineral assemblages, especially early, are higher than typical for epithermal deposits
- ❖ **What drove gold precipitation?**
 - No boiling evidence
 - likely not sulfidation...
 - Fluid mixing?
- ❖ **Is there a mineralized stock sitting laterally or underneath?**
- ❖ **What are the implications for regional exploration?**



Source: Lipske, New Gold 2015

Acknowledgements

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New Gold Exploration & Development Team

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SRK Consulting (Canada)

Living Sky Geophysics

Quantec Geophysics

ALS

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