

Tom Irwin
Commissioner
550 W. 7th Ave., Ste 1400
Anchorage, AK 99501
907-269-8431



Public Information Center
550 W. 7th Ave., Ste. 1260
Anchorage, AK 99501
www.dnr.alaska.gov
907-269-8400

Press Release

COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE

DIVISION OF GEOLOGICAL & GEOPHYSICAL SURVEYS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Media Contacts: Laurel E. Burns, 907-451-5021

Date: May 18, 2010

Melanie B. Werdon, 907-451-5082

NEW GEOPHYSICAL DATA RELEASED FOR MORAN SURVEY AREA, MELOZITNA MINING DISTRICT, CENTRAL ALASKA

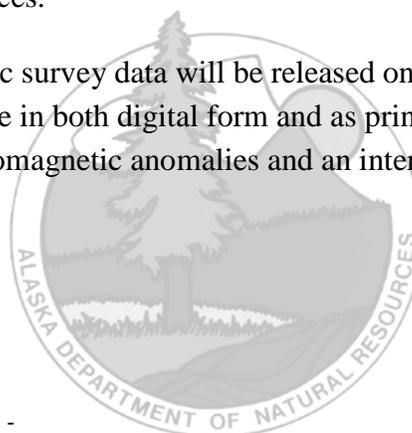
Parts of Tanana and Melozitna quadrangles

(Fairbanks, AK)—The Division of Geological & Geophysical Surveys (DGGS) on May 18 will release airborne geophysical data and maps for about 653 square miles of the south-central Melozitna mining district, located about 150 miles west-northwest of Fairbanks and 25 miles west of the village of Tanana. DGGS believes the data from this survey will provide valuable information to help decipher the complex geology of the area.

Reconnaissance geologic mapping suggests the country rock of the area is composed largely of Paleozoic pelitic schist and quartzite, with lesser greenstone, greenschist, limestone, dolomite, and many small marble bodies. One or more plutons of Cretaceous granite, granodiorite, and other granitic rocks intrude the area. The Kaltag fault, a regional-scale, strike-slip fault, underlies and is sub-parallel to the Yukon River in this area, but may have a large splay north of the Yukon River in the eastern survey tract. Many subsidiary high-angle faults are expected to be associated with this major fault system.

About 13,000 troy ounces of placer gold has been produced from the Melozitna mining district. The area has not been extensively explored. The district contains known plutonic-related gold prospects, and has the potential for hosting porphyry copper \pm molybdenum \pm gold, mesothermal, epithermal, proximal to distal skarn, and polymetallic vein deposits. Ductile- to brittle-structural features in the area (including high- and low-angle faults), as well as metamorphic-stratigraphic controls, may play a significant role in controlling the localization of stacked, sheeted-gold-vein sets and other mineral occurrences.

The electromagnetic, total-field aeromagnetic, and radiometric survey data will be released on Tuesday, May 18, 2010, at DGGS's office in Fairbanks, and will be available in both digital form and as printed map sheets. Data are downloadable from our website at no charge. Electromagnetic anomalies and an interpretive project report will be available at a later date.



--- MORE ---

Funding was provided by the Alaska State Legislature as part of the Alaska Department of Natural Resources' DGGs Airborne Geophysical/Geological Mineral Inventory (AGGMI) program. Data for the Moran survey area were collected and processed in 2009 and 2010 by Fugro Airborne Surveys.

Physical materials are available for the cost of reproduction. They can be inspected and purchased beginning at 8:30 a.m. (Alaska Standard Time) Tuesday, May 18, 2010, at DGGs, 3354 College Road, Fairbanks, Alaska 99709-3707. Call 907-451-5020 to place phone orders. Mail orders should be sent to the Fairbanks DGGs office via fax (907-451-5050) or e-mail (dggspubs@alaska.gov). Location maps and order forms will be available on the DGGs website: <http://www.dggs.alaska.gov/pubs/pubs?reftype=orderform&projectID=666>. The digital data and map sheets are downloadable at no charge through links on the order form.

These materials also will be available for inspection beginning June 15, 2010, at the Alaska Resources Library and Information Services (ARLIS) at 3211 Providence Drive, Anchorage, AK 99508 (907-272-7547), and at the Historical Collection of the Alaska State Library in the State Office Building in Juneau (open 1:00 to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday; 907-465-2927).

--- END ---

