

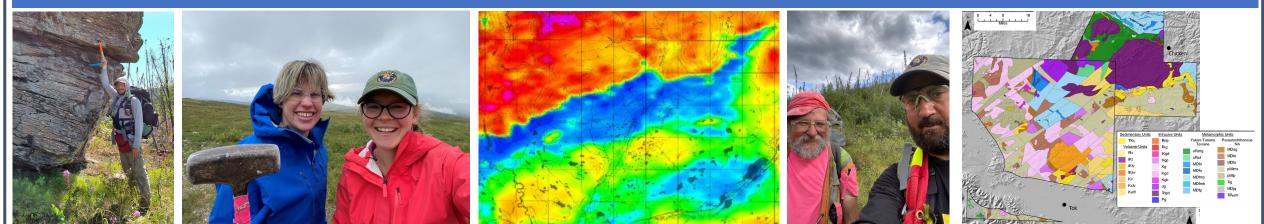
Alaska DGGS: 2023 Earth MRI Update

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Mineral Resources Section Alaska Division of Geological & Geophysical Surveys

> Alaska Arc User Group Anchorage, AK, June 21, 2023

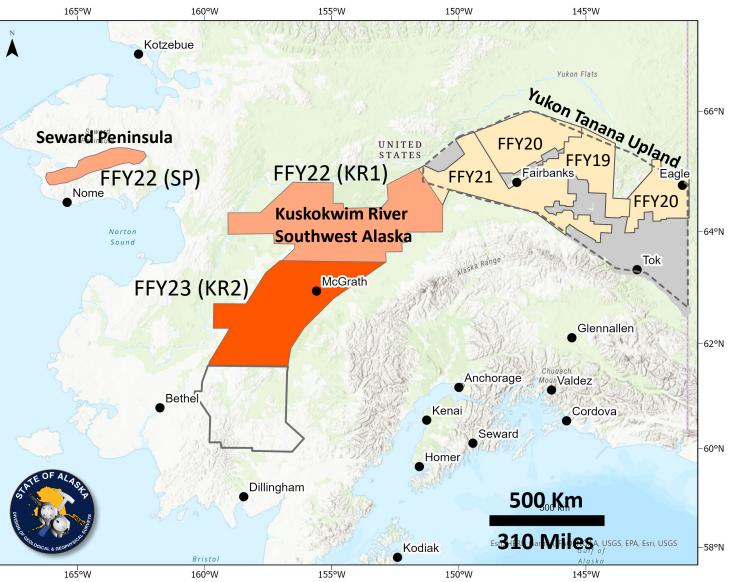




Alaska's Earth MRI Geophysics Program

-Modern, Tier II magnetic + radiometric surveys
-Yukon Tanana Upland completed magnetics
-SW Alaska (in progress); Seward Peninsula (Aug. 1)

Federal FY	Square Km	Type(s)	Status
2019 2020 2021	56,000 total	Fixed-wing magnetics, radiometrics	Complete Complete Complete
2022	45,000	Fixed-wing & helicopter magnetics, radiometrics (KR1); Helicopter time- domain EM (SP)	KR1 started May 14; SP starts August 1
2023	40,000	Fixed-wing & helicopter magnetics, radiometrics (KR2)	KR2 data collection summer 2024

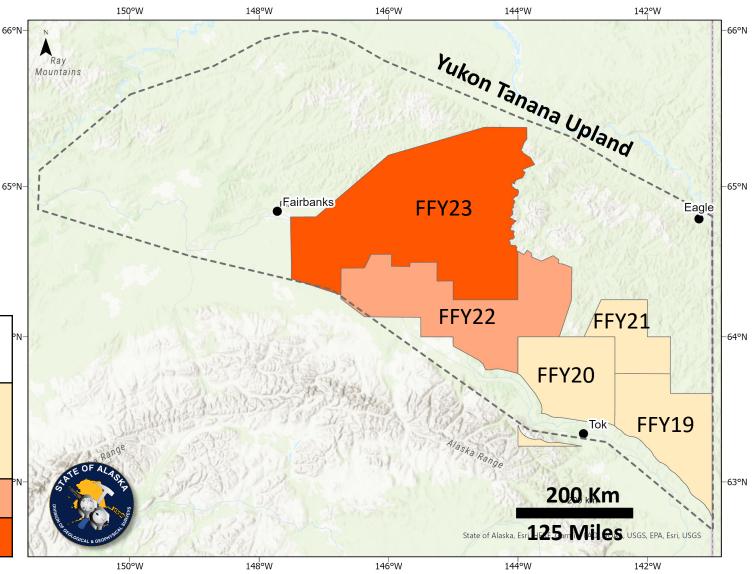


Alaska's Earth MRI Geologic Mapping Program

YUKON-TANANA UPLAND

- -Existing mapping primarily 250,000 scale -New EMRI 100,000-scale geologic mapping (19,500 square km to date)
- -Summer 2023 EMRI project (June 5-August 13; additional 14,500 square km)
- -Significantly changing geologic understanding of YTU and its mineral-resource potential

Federal FY	Square Km	Map Name	Status 🔊
2019 2020 2021	11,500 total	E. Tanacross W. Tanacross Taylor Mountain	Complete Complete Complete
2022	8,000	Mt. Harper	In progress
2023	14,500	Chena	In progress



Planned Geochemical Re-Analyses - FFY2023-26



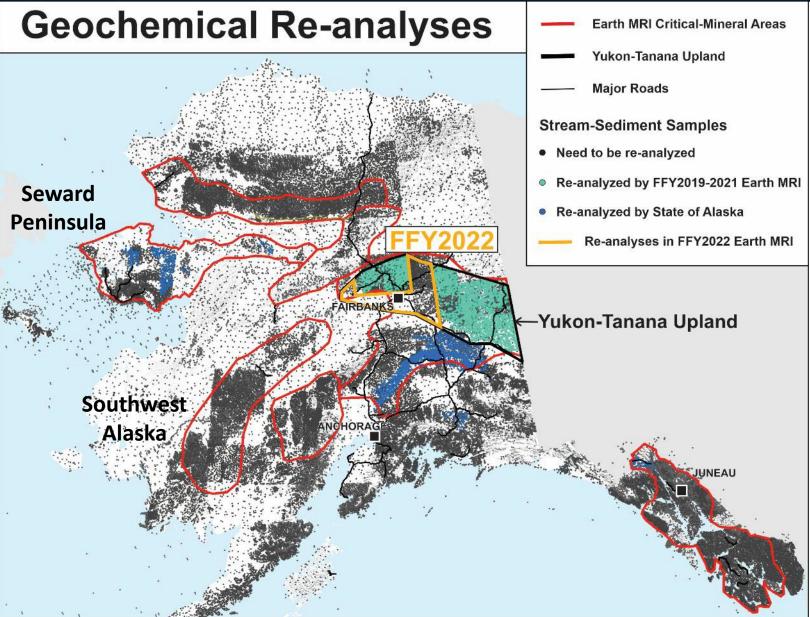
New geochemical anomalies can be found by re-analyzing historical streamsediment samples with modern analytical methods

Older data is missing elements of interest, has poor detection limits, or used non-quantitative methods

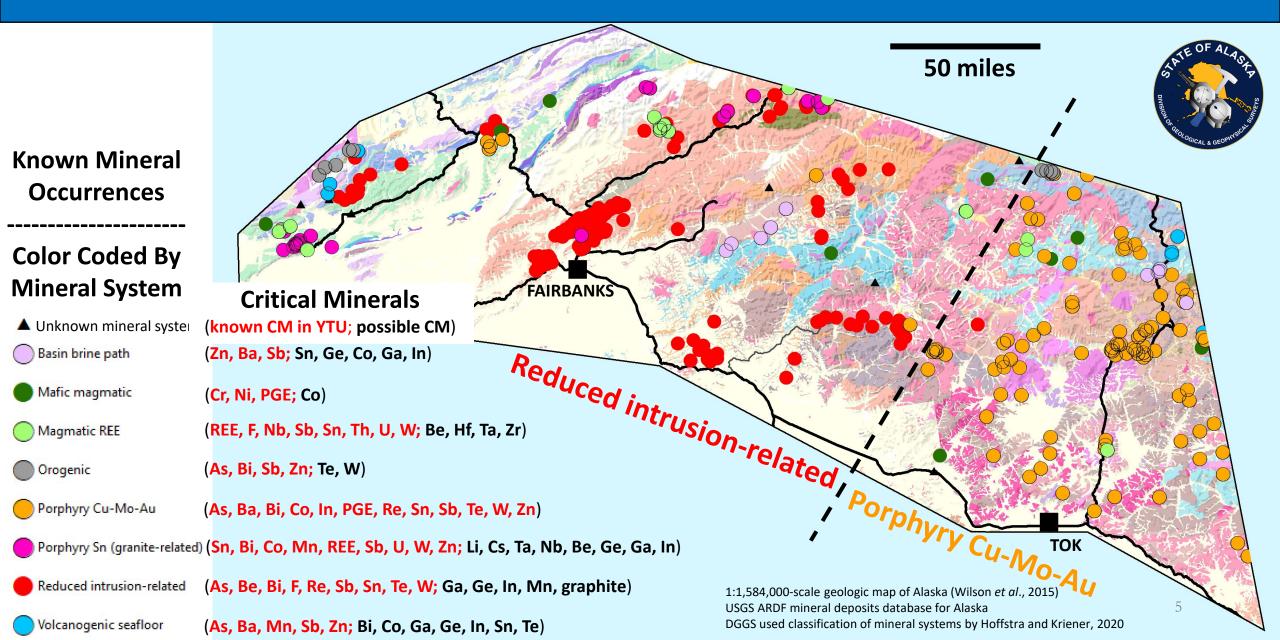
FFY2022 – Re-analyze 2,500 additional stream-sediment samples in Yukon-Tanana Upland

FFY2023-2026 – Re-analyze samples in Southwest Alaska and Seward Peninsula

Goal is to complete geochemical reanalyses of all stream-sediment samples within Alaska's Critical Mineral Belts (red outlines) – 10 years



Yukon-Tanana Upland - Critical-Minerals in Lode Deposits



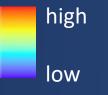
Yukon Tanana Uplands

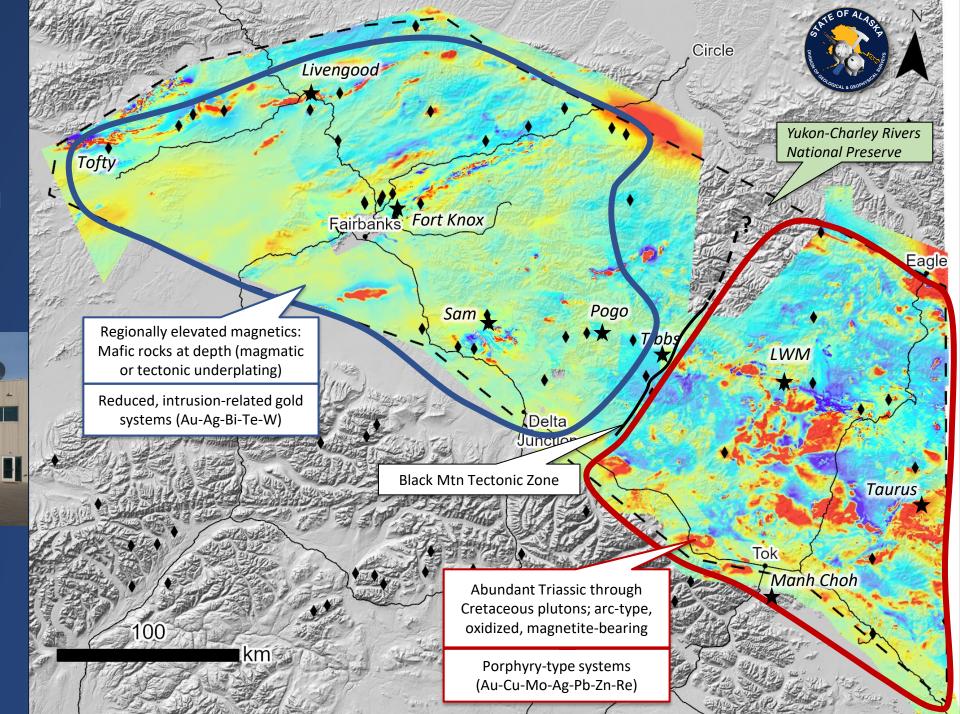
Magnetics

- Modern dataset completed
- Visually merged
- True merged-data grids are planned



Residual magnetic field



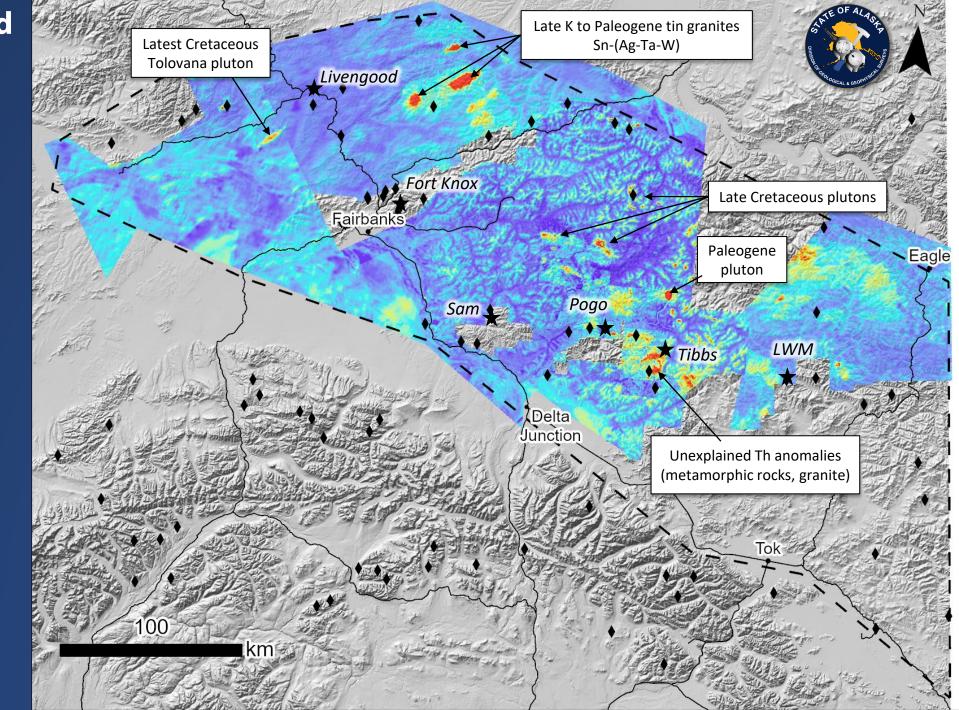


Yukon Tanana Upland Surveys

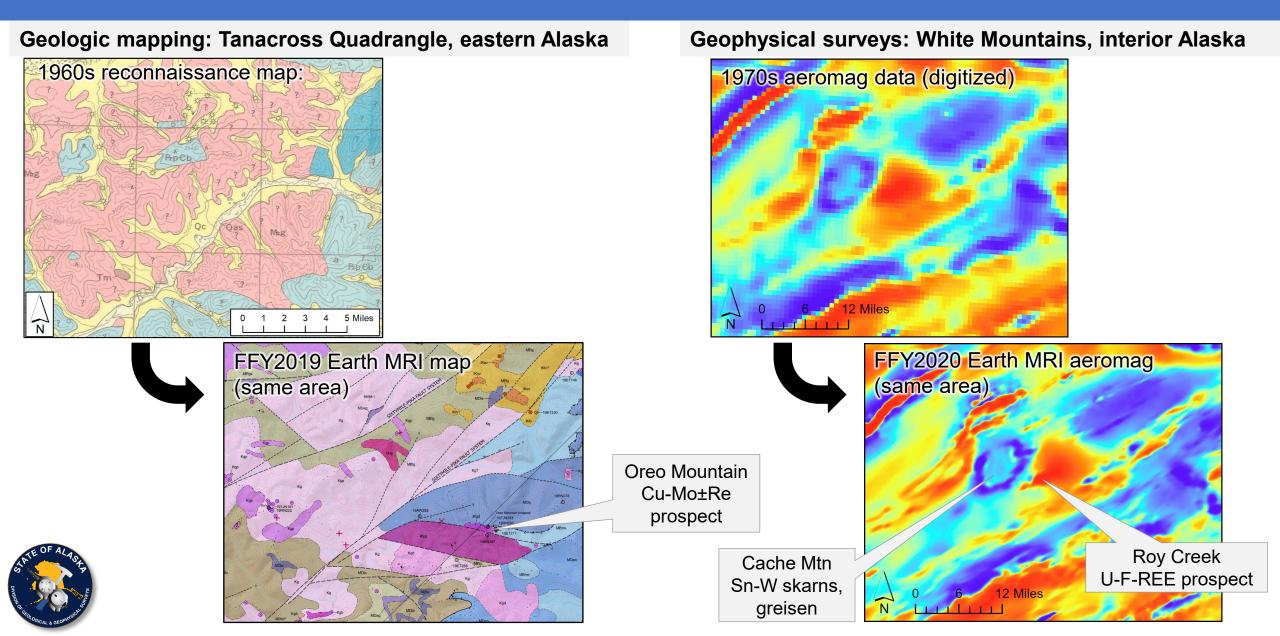
Radiometrics

- Obtained "Opportunistic" radiometric data during magnetic surveying (not optimized for radiometric data collection)
- Area is partially covered/ vegetated, resulting in some noise, topo signal
- Late Cretaceous-Paleogene plutonic suites are clearly mapped, especially by Thorium

Th equivalent



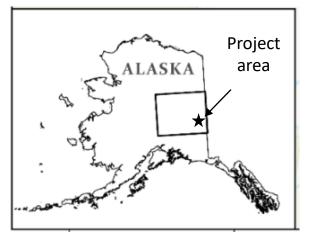
Examples of Improvements from Earth MRI Work

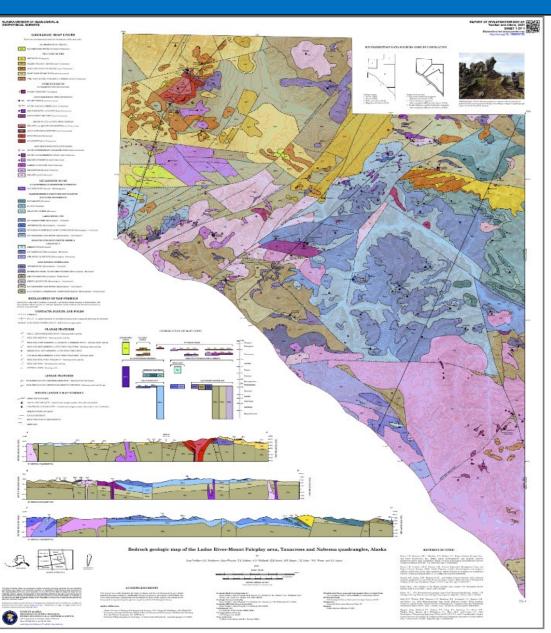


FFY2019 Earth MRI – Eastern Tanacross

- First EMRI project was in the E. Tanacross area of the YTU
- 1,860 mi2 (4,800 km2) were mapped at 1:100,000
- Tertiary/Cretaceous magmatism mapped in detail
 - Defined, dated, & characterized new map units
 - Helps understand mineral potential (Cu, Au, Mo, REE)
 - Mt. Fairplay petrology and REE-potential study
- Paleozoic metamorphic terranes significantly re-mapped
 - Resolved Yukon "border fault" & broader scientific Qs:
 - Mesozoic tectonic assembly of Interior Alaska
 - VMS and orogenic-Au metallogeny implications
- Published summer 2021

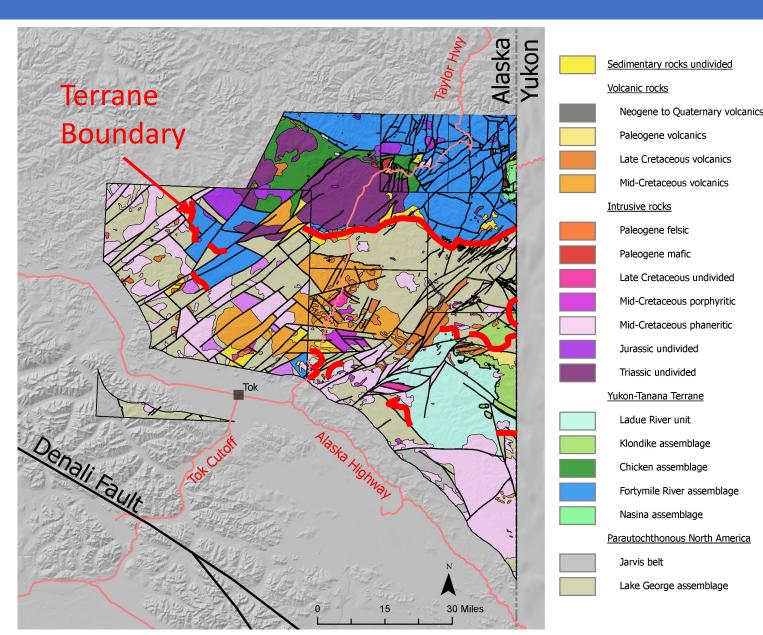






Terranes, Assemblages, Structures, Magmatism

- -Mapping boundary between the overlying allochthonous Yukon-Tanana Terrane & underlying parautochthonous North America (bold red line).
- -Defining assemblages within terranes
- -Determining metamorphic grade, conditions, & structures
- -Locating high-angle faults broadly related to the regional-scale, Denali and Tintina strikeslip fault systems
- -Distinguishing Triassic, Jurassic, Cretaceous, and Tertiary magmatic suites
- -Evaluating the YTU's mineral-resource potential





Alaska's FFY2019-2022 Earth MRI Publications

Geologic Maps & Reports

FFY2019 Eastern Tanacross

Field stations, magnetic susceptibility data https://doi.org/10.14509/30268 Geochemical data https://doi.org/10.14509/30267 U-Pb zircon data https://doi.org/10.14509/30732 ⁴⁰Ar/³⁹Ar data https://doi.org/10.14509/30466 Geologic map https://doi.org/10.14509/30735 Professional geologic report https://doi.org/10.14509/30734 Regional metamorphic correlations https://doi.org/10.14509/30737 Structural geology https://doi.org/10.14509/30738 Igneous rocks geochemistry https://doi.org/10.14509/30739 Economic geology https://doi.org/10.14509/30740 Sedimentary rocks U-Pb DZ https://doi.org/10.14509/30683 REE study & geologic report https://doi.org/10.14509/30736 Mount Fairplay igneous complex https://doi.org/10.14509/30463 Presentation https://doi.org/10.14509/30429 Geologic map poster https://doi.org/10.14509/30414

FF2020 Western Tanacross

Field stations, magnetic susceptibility data https://doi.org/10.14509/30838 Geochemical data https://doi.org/10.14509/30844 U-Pb zircon report https://doi.org/10.14509/30732 FF2021 Taylor Mountain Field station locations, magnetic susceptibility data https://doi.org/10.14509/30837 Geochemical data https://doi.org/10.14509/30843 U-Pb zircon report https://doi.org/10.14509/30732 Presentation https://doi.org/10.14509/30910

FFY2022 Mt. Harper Field stations, magnetic susceptibility data https://doi.org/10.14509/30963

Geochemical Re-analyses

Yukon Tanana Uplands completed (DGGS & USGS publications) Southwest Alaska (requested)

Airborne Geophysical Surveys

Presentation https://doi.org/10.14509/30911

FFY2019 + 2021 Tanana River & Big Delta magnetic + radiometric survey <u>https://doi.org/10.14509/30899</u>

FFY2020 Eagle airborne magnetic and radiometric geophysical survey <u>https://doi.org/10.14509/30755</u>

FFY2022 White Mountains airborne magnetic and radiometric geophysical survey <u>https://doi.org/10.14509/30756</u>





Products & Publications

-All data served out via DGGS website: <u>https://dggs.alaska.gov/</u>

-Geophysical surveys (published in variety of industry-standard formats)

- -Geochemical reports and databases
- -Geochronological reports and databases
- -Field-station + magnetic susceptibility databases

-Geologic maps:

- -Bedrock + surficial maps
- -Bedrock-only maps (interpret under cover using geophysics)
- -Associated topical interpretive reports (mineral-resource potential, structural history, metamorphism, igneous suites, geochronology, etc.)

