

**MOUNT CAMERON EL 21/2002  
NE TASMANIA**

**ANNUAL REPORT**

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Annual Report – Mount Cameron  
A R Nicholas & S Summers



CREEKCO MOBILE BULK SAMPLING/PRODUCTION PLANT UNDER CONSTRUCTION

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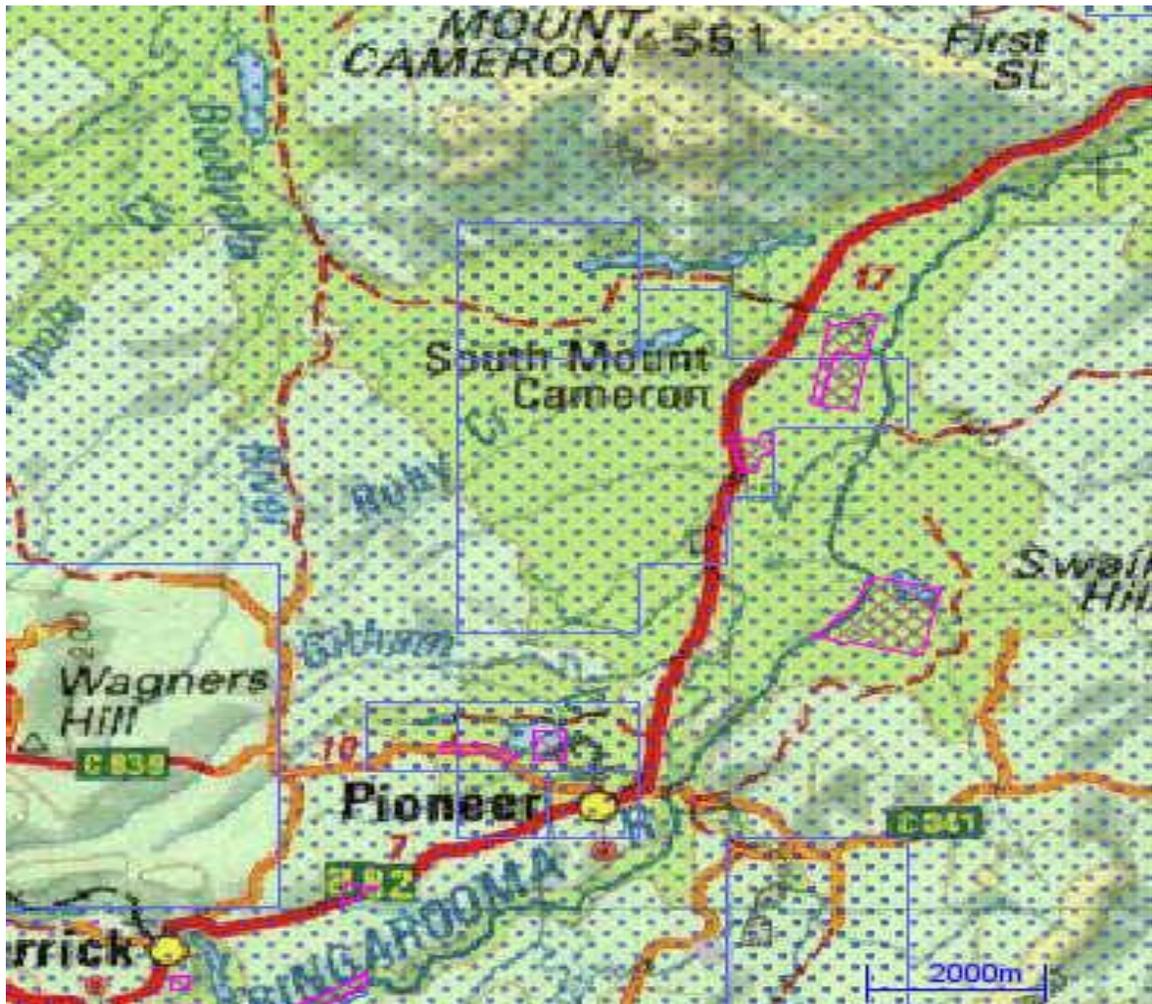
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LIST OF PLANS

No            TITLE

1                LOCALITY OF EL

SCALE : AS SHOWN ON MAP



## **SUMMARY**

Exploration of the Mount Cameron EL 21/2002 during 2003-2004 was confined to site reconnaissance and detailed checking of historical records. The field work confirmed the need to conduct systematic bulk sampling of the alluvium within the EL. The reports covering the EL strongly indicate that it may contain significant tonnages of low-grade, but economically recoverable, alluvial cassiterite. A decision was therefore made to design and construct a bulk sampling/production plant (see photograph, page two) that could be used to accurately assess the economic viability of the cassiterite within the EL.

At time of writing, construction of the bulk sampling/processing plant is nearing completion. Sampling is scheduled to begin within the EL during summer of 2004-2005. The optimum number of samples, their location and size is currently under consideration.

## **INTRODUCTION**

The Mount Cameron EL 21/2002 has a total area of approximately fourteen square kilometers. It is about six kilometers north of the township of Pioneer in north-east Tasmania and encompasses the old township of South Mount Cameron.

## **TENURE**

The EL is currently held by Alistair Roy Nicholas (50%) and Shane Summers (50%). It was granted on the 21<sup>st</sup> February, 2003. Mr. Summers has formally agreed to transfer his shareholding to Mr. Nicholas and an application for the transfer has been lodged with MRT Tasmania.

The EL is comprised of a mix of Crown Land, State Forest and MDC Informal Reserve.

## **PREVIOUS MINING AND EXPLORATION**

Mining within the EL has been extensive and included considerable drilling of the alluvial sediments. Historical drill sections were either assayed as a single bulk sample, or as splits comprised of varying lengths / weights of recovered sediments. In addition, different methods were used to obtain concentrate samples from adjoining mining operations throughout the area covered by the present-day EL. e.g., by pan sampling, sluicing and cradles.

The records show instances of mining of high-grade deposits being terminated at some lease boundaries without any follow-up assessment of the mineralisation, or mining, by the adjoining leaseholder. These are sites of present-day interest that need to be sampled and assessed. There is also evidence in the records, that tailings may have been deposited directly on top of unworked ground at a number of sites. Again, these areas need to be sampled and assessed. An additional area of interest is the upper reaches of the Corduroy Creek where dredge mining of high-grade alluvium was blocked by a combination of the (then) important Gladstone Road and rising topography.

## **GEOLOGY**

The rocks within the EL are Mathinna Group beds of early Ordovician to early Devonian age, substantially covered by Tertiary sediments and detritus from weathered granite.

## **DISCUSSION**

A programme of systematic bulk sampling is planned to be undertaken during the coming summer of 2004-5. A purpose-built bulk sampling plant has been designed and built for the project. It should enable rapid estimates of recoverable alluvial cassiterite (tin oxide) grades and inferred/probable tonnages to be determined for each of the sites of interest. Costs to date of building the plant amount to several hundred thousand dollars.

The final decision on the exact location for each of the bulk samples and the optimum size for each of them will be made shortly. The samples will be removed from the areas of interest and transported by truck to a nearby mining lease (most probably ML 14M/1998 or 7M/2001) for processing by the bulk sampling plant. The gangue material will be returned to each site of extraction by truck and the original ground covering replaced.

## **G R L E A R**

## REFERENCES

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A FIELD GUIDE TO GOLD DEPOSITS IN NORTHEASTERN TASMANIA - BOTRILL, TAHERI, KEELE AND McCLENAGHAN. MINERAL REOURCES TASMANIA REPORT 1994/19