

**MAIN CREEK EL 27/2001
NE TASMANIA**

**ANNUAL REPORT
FEBRUARY 2003 – FEBRUARY 2004**

G R Lear
July 2004

Annual Report – Main Creek
A R Nicholas



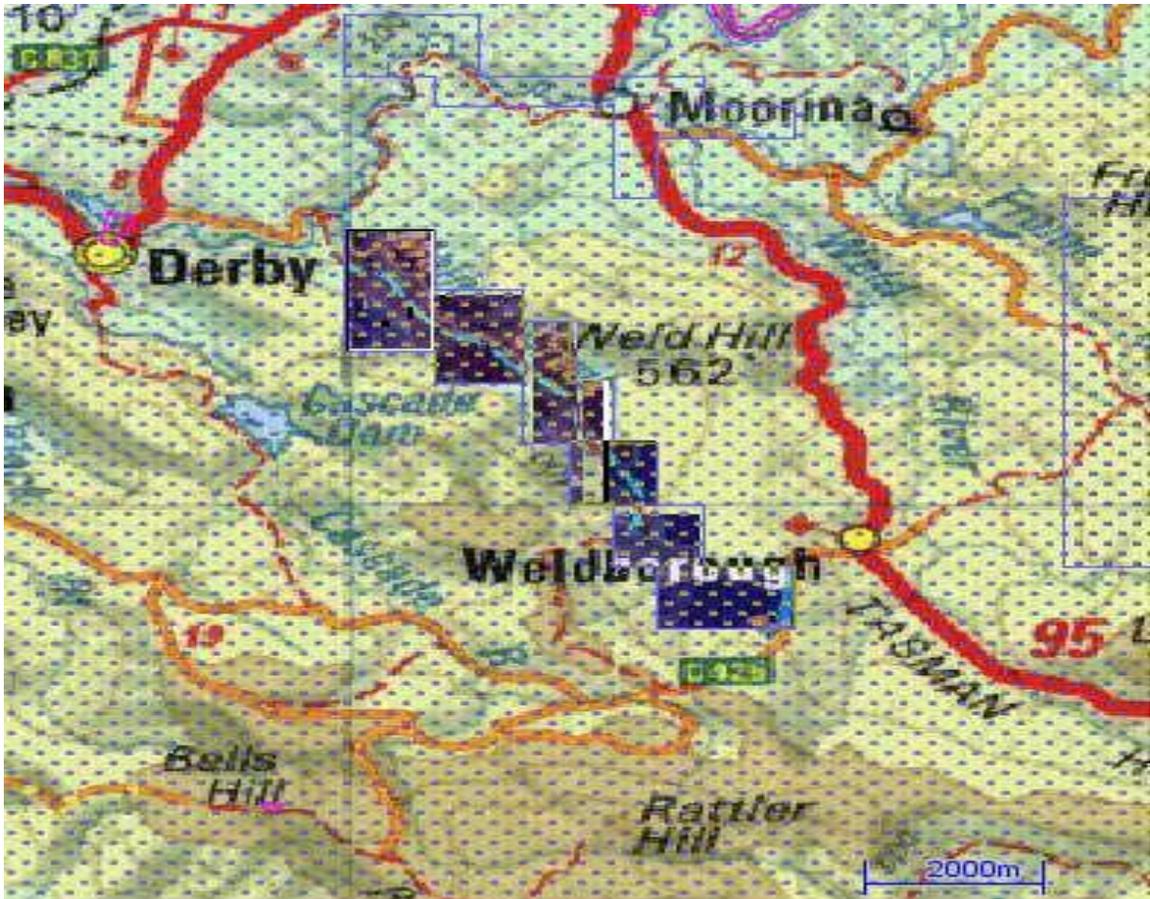
CREEKCO MOBILE BULK SAMPLING/PRODUCTION PLANT UNDER CONSTRUCTION

CONTENTS

- 1 SUMMARY
- 2 INTRODUCTION
- 3 TENURE
- 4 PREVIOUS MINING AND EXPLORATION
- 5 GEOLOGY
- 6 DISCUSSION
- 7 REFERENCES

LIST OF PLANS

<u>No</u>	<u>TITLE</u>	
1	LOCALITY OF EL	SCALE : AS SHOWN ON MAP



SUMMARY

Exploration on the Main Creek EL 27/2001 during 2003-2004 was confined to site reconnaissance and checking of historical records. The initial field work confirmed the need to conduct systematic bulk sampling of alluvium within the EL. The historical records that cover the EL indicate that it may contain significant tonnages of low-grade, but economically recoverable, alluvial cassiterite. A bulk sampling/production plant (see photograph, page two) has been designed and built that could be used to accurately assess the economic viability of the cassiterite within the areas of interest.

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 Main Creek EL 27/2001 has a total area of approximately eight square kilometers. It is five kilometers southeast of the township of Derby in north-east Tasmania. The region is characterised by hilly, well-forested terrain containing several large coups that have recently been logged.

TENURE

The EL is currently held by Alistair Roy Nicholas 100%.

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

PREVIOUS MINING AND EXPLORATION

Main Creek was one of the first tin-producing areas in the Derby region. The full length of Main Creek underwent extensive sluicing operations involving large-scale mining at the Black Boy Mine and Sarah-Anne Mine, downstream towards the Mutual Mine. Cassiterite tended to be very coarse in the areas of interest. There is good reason to believe that the historical tailings may hold high tonnages of cassiterite that could be extracted economically using an appropriately-designed, modern gravity circuit. The early mining methods used in Main Creek concentrating the cassiterite using high water flow rates over fairly crude sluices almost certainly resulted in significant losses to the tailings (particularly) of the finer mineral fraction.

GEOLOGY

The rocks within the EL are Devonian granites flanked by sandy soils and gravels derived from the weathering of Mathinna Group Beds.

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 LEAR

REFERENCES

70 0687 REPORT ON ANOMALIES IN THE MAIN CREEK AREA, EL 6/68- NE TASMANIA.
MORTIMER, I.R.

GSB39 SUB-BASALTIC TIN DEPOSITS OF THE RINGAROOMA VALLEY. NYE, P. B.

UR 1928A 038-42 NOTE ON RINGAROOMA TIN ALLUVIAL LTD. (FORMERLY MUTUAL
MINE). SCOTT, J.B.

UR 1928A – 178 – 181. REPORT ON MINERAL LEASES NOS 10334/M, 10331/M, 10333/M, 10332/M
AND 5085/M J. H. S. BRUMBY

UR 1928 A – 061 – 63 15/11/1928 NOTES ON THE LAFFER TIN MINE. SCOTT, J.B.

THE STORY OF DERBY – BROTHERS' HOME – JOHN BESTWICK 2003