

2.4 SPICER (M. J. Hutton)

2.4.1 Introduction

Compilation of previous data from the Selina-Dora area revealed that a narrow zone of prospective Mt. Read Volcanics, including several old workings, between Lake Spicer and line 144S of the Dora Grid, had not been fully evaluated.

During 1980-81 a 16.1 line-km grid was cut with 13 grid lines at 200 m intervals and grid pegs at 20 m intervals. Exploration included geological mapping, soil and rock geochemistry, gradient array and dipole-dipole I.P. and total field ground magnetics. Details of work completed in 1980-81 are given in Appendix H.

The only significant result was a zone of moderate-order gradient array chargeability anomalies corresponding with mineralised altered tuffs between line 152S, 2040E and line 200S, 2360E (Figures 45 and 52). The highest response was 39.5 mV/V at 152S, 2030E. Several old workings within this zone revealed pyrite-magnetite-hematite-(chalcopyrite-galena-sphalerite) mineralisation. Picked mine dump samples assayed up to 0.93% Cu, 4.0% Pb, 5.7% Zn and 160 g/t Ag.

2.4.2 Access

The four-wheel-drive track from Rolleston Camp to Lake Spicer was found to be in reasonable condition and only minor pick and shovel work was required to repair it. However, it usually took at least one hour to drive to the grid area from Rolleston Camp, the base for the field parties.

A 2.4 km baseline was cut on a bearing of 350° AMG, commencing at the end of the road at the northern end of Lake Spicer. Thirteen grid lines, totalling 13.7 km, were cut at 200 m intervals on a bearing of 258° AMG and pegged at 20 m spacings. The numbering of the lines was a continuation of the series used for the adjoining Dora Grid to the north, which was cut in 1969-70. The Spicer Grid cutting and pegging were done by Mount Lyell field assistants.

2.4.3 Geology

1. Introduction

Geological mapping of the Spicer Grid area was undertaken in 1976 as part of the E.L. 10/69 (Dora-Huxley) mapping programme (Brophy, 1976), and again during 1980-81 in conjunction with geochemical soil and rock sampling traverses. Five major rock units were recognised (Figure 46):

- Owen Conglomerate
- Jukes Formation
- Dora Conglomerate
- Central Volcanic Sequence
- Lower Cambrian Sediments

The amount of outcrop is excellent due to the scouring by ice sheets during the Pleistocene glacial periods, and allows fairly detailed mapping of the various units. Alteration of the volcanics, however, has clouded the primary textures and prevented accurate field identification of the volcanic lithologies.