

3.3 VOYAGER 19

i) Introduction

Voyager 19 defines a 500m square zone of highly altered Wart Hill Pyroclastics, centred on Wart Hill (AMG 379700E, 525800N). The alteration is recognisable due to the strong iron staining, which is caused by the oxidation of finely disseminated pyrite, and sericitic alteration of rhyolitic, lithic, lapilli-tuffs, crystal lapilli tuffs, agglomerates and lavas.

Reconnaissance rock chip sampling showed anomalous Cu, Pb, Zn and Fe values in the altered lithologies (Large, 1981). Other features of economic significance are the nearly coincident weak AEM anomalies from the Georex survey lying to the north (56) south (57) and west (55) of the alteration zone, respectively. However it is noteworthy that geochemical response in the streams draining the area was generally low. A zinc value of 60ppm was recorded from a stream draining the southern end of the alteration zone. Gold furnished anomalous levels in the -80 mesh stream sediments collected from the southern and western extremities of the alteration zones.

On this evidence the main rationale for the high priority rating ascribed to the Voyager 19 area was on geological grounds (Large 1981). The other supporting factors were partly instrumental in controlling the position and dimensions of the grid which was surveyed over the area. Initial ground-work in the 1980-1981 field season, following construction of a 1.3km x 1.8km^{arid} included geological mapping, Ghorizon soil sampling and gradient array IP. The results of these surveys are summarised in the following sections.