

LAUNCESTON (ALLUVIAL) ANOMALIES (38)

16/5/84

Location - NW portion of the licence. Covering the Launceston, Constables and Nevada Creeks.

Anomalies - Numerous anomalies ranging upto 1.2% tin closely related to granitic alluvial cover of Quaternary age.

Followup Technique - Since most samples are related to tin-bearing alluvium detailed followup at each site was not considered necessary.

Attention was placed on streams/creeks draining low hills in the area to determine if cassiterite was being removed during present day erosion/transport.

Geological inspection of outcropping rock was used to determine the likelihood of mineralization in this granitic terrain.

Alluvial cassiterite in this area is black and red generally highly rounded plus often coarse grained.

Geology - Outcropping rocks include:

1. Mg to cg biotite adamellite with associated porphyritic and aplite contact (chill) phases. (- quartz veining and minor greisen vein development was noted in the Constables Creek close to the granite contact).
2. Hb-Bi granodiorite east of the Ferntree Falls. - fine grained contact phases are present.
3. Mathinna Bed sediments.
4. Alluvial cover (common).

No mineralization was observed in outcrop in this area. The biotite granite was generally unveined and homogenous.

Quaternary Alluvium

Granite derived Quaternary alluvium contains large amounts of alluvial tin in this area. Alluvial concentrations occur in the Transit Flats, Argonaut and Ruby Creek areas and along Launceston Creek.

It's clear that the level of alluvium was much higher in the past with current drainage incising Quaternary alluvium down to bedrock. This incision has led to residual tin-bearing alluvium quits some way up hillstopes and in pockets in youthful stage creeks/streams.

The residual granitic-derived Quaternary alluvium has complicated stream sediment followup all over the Scamander licence.