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**SUMMARY**

Exploration Licence 29/90 Trowutta was granted to BHP Gold Limited for a period of one year as from 15 February 1991. Newmont Australia merged with BHP Gold Limited early in 1991 and changed names to Newcrest Mining Limited.

Previous exploration within the region has been aimed at tin, tungsten and base metals, with little work being carried out in search for gold mineralisation.

During this reporting period BHP Gold Limited and Newcrest Mining Limited carried out stream sediment and rock chip sampling programmes aimed at delineating "Carlin style" gold mineralisation associated with dolomitic successions located within the Cambrian Smithton Trough.

Weak drainage gold-base metal anomalism returned from this sampling is believed to relate to elevated background levels within mafic volcanics and sediments of the Crimson Creek Formation.

## 1. INTRODUCTION

BHP Gold Limited was granted Exploration Licence (EL) 29/90 Trowutta on 15 February 1991 for a term of one year. Newmont Australia Limited acquired the tenement following a merger with BHP Gold Limited, which was completed in February 1991. This merger subsequently resulted in a name change for Newmont to Newcrest Mining Limited, effective from 19 April 1991.

EL 29/90 lies within the Smithton Basin in northwest Tasmania and was selected by BHP Gold Limited as a potentially "Carlin-style" gold mineralised province (Figure 1).

Although no gold or base metal occurrences are known from the basin, exploration work comprising stream sediment sampling and rock chip sampling was completed to test for sediment-hosted fine grained gold mineralisation.

Total expenditure incurred during this reporting period was \$34 087, a breakdown of which is presented at the end of this report.

## 2. REGIONAL SETTING

The Smithton Basin is a triangular, fault-bounded Upper Precambrian to Cambrian basin unconformably deposited on the Rocky Cape Group. The basal sequence (Success Creek Group) comprises siliceous conglomerate and sandstone (Forest Formation), overlain by more than 300 m of carbonates, often as silicified dolomites (Black River Dolomite). These are in turn overlain by mafic volcanoclastics, tholeiitic basalts and a massive dolomite unit (Cambrian Crimson Creek Formation and Smithton Dolomite). Upper Cambrian quartzwackes and siltstones (Dundas Group equivalent) cap the sequence.

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103005

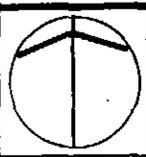
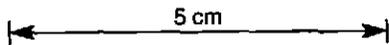
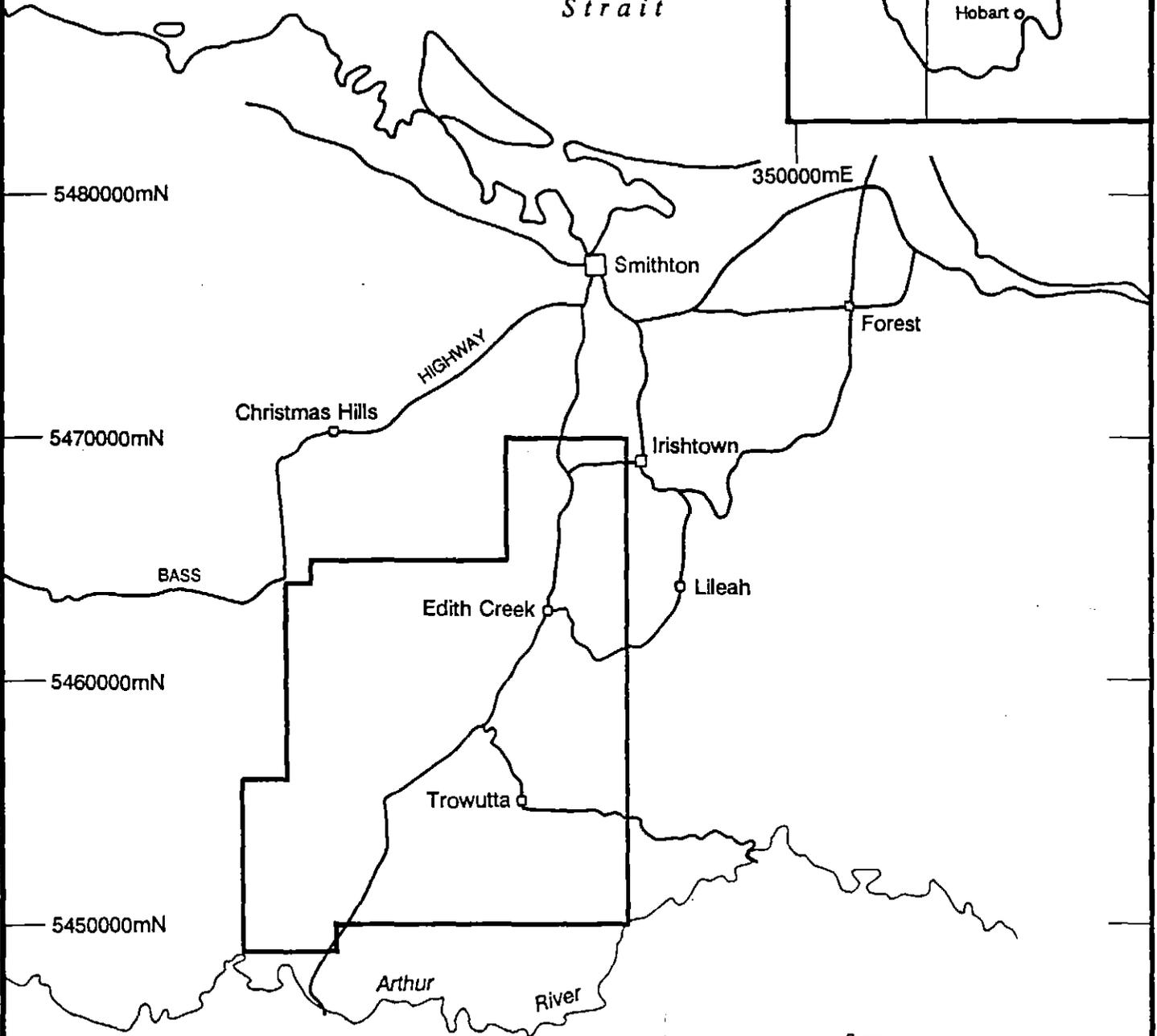
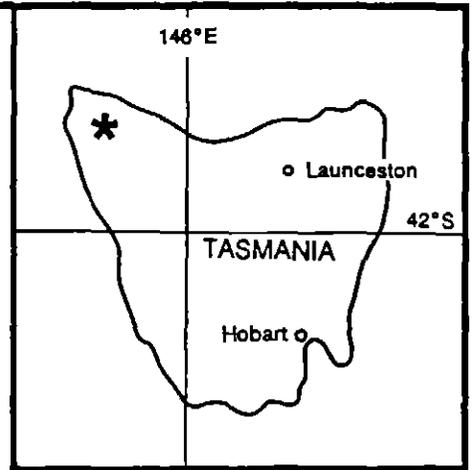
330000mE

340000mE

146°E

42°S

Bass  
Strait



**Newmont Australia Limited**

COMPILED	BS	SCALE	1:250,000
DRAWN	BS	DRAWING No.	T001-1
NORTH	DATE	March 1990	FIGURE No. 1

**TROWUTTA EL 29/90  
TASMANIA  
LOCATION MAP**

### 3. PREVIOUS EXPLORATION

The Smithton Basin has seen regional exploration activity since the mid 1960's, conducted mainly by CRA Exploration Pty Ltd (CRAE) and BHP Pty Co Ltd in search of chromite, tin, tungsten and base metals.

Locally, in 1982 EZ Co of Aust Pty Ltd explored the northwestern part of the current EL 29/90 tenement area in search of skarn and pyrrhotite replacement style tin mineralisation. A photogeological survey and interpretation of an aeromagnetic survey failed to find any evidence for buried granites which could host mineralisation.

In 1984 Mineral Holdings Australia Pty Ltd, while exploring for industrial grade dolomite, obtained strongly anomalous gold and platinum values from rock chip sampling approximately 2.5 km north of EL 29/90. Grades of 3.09 g/t and 4.06 g/t Au along with 0.46 g/t Pt were obtained from samples of Smithton Dolomite, although resampling by joint venture partner CRAE failed to return any significant results. The tenement (EL 10/79) was subsequently relinquished without follow-up.

Pan Australian Mining Ltd, in joint venture with Mineral Holdings Australia Pty Ltd, resampled the original gold/PGE anomalous sites in 1985, but also failed to return any significant results (best of 0.017 ppm Au, 0.027 ppm Pt).

Aureole Resources Pty Ltd obtained two tenements (EL's 21/87 and 22/87) in 1988, to explore for PGE, gold and base metal mineralisation associated with mafic volcanic units of the Crimson Creek Formation. Rock chip sampling returned weakly elevated base metal and platinum (best of 630 ppm Cu, 275 ppm Zn, 11 ppb Pt) from mafic volcanics located adjacent to the faulted contact between the Crimson Creek Formation and Smithton Dolomite. A single gold anomalous result (10 ppb) was also returned from chalcedonic vein material located approximately 4 km south of EL 29/90. No follow-up work was completed.

In 1989, Mineral Holdings Australia Pty Ltd returned weakly gold anomalous values, to 210 ppb, in samples collected from a water monitoring bore located less than 1 km west of the area of surface anomalism located in 1984.

103007

#### 4. WORK COMPLETED

##### 4.1 Stream Sediment Sampling

A review of previous exploration activity within the area of EL 29/90 indicated that no significant programmes of stream sediment sampling for gold had been conducted. Subsequently, BHP Gold Ltd carried out a small scale, widely spaced stream sediment sampling programme over the tenement to gauge the prospectivity of the area. This survey resulted in eighteen (18) 4-5 kg, -4 mm active sediment samples being collected, which were analysed for Au (BLEG), Cu, Pb, Zn, As, Ba, and Sb (AAS) by Classic Laboratories, Adelaide. Selected samples were also analysed for Hg (AAS).

All sample locations and gold results are plotted on Plan 1, while laboratory certificates of analysis are included in Appendix I.

Analytical results indicate that gold anomalism is apparent in samples draining a major NNE trending fault zone which passes through the Roger River settlement. The highest BLEG value is 9.0, but the remaining "anomalous" values range from 0.5-1.0 ppb. Background for the region appears to be less than 0.2 ppb Au.

The clustering of all gold values >0.5 ppb along the major structure in the tenement area indicates that mineralisation may be associated with:

- The fault itself.
- The carbonate sequence located adjacent to the western margin of the fault (Smithton Dolomite).
- Mafic volcanoclastics of the Crimson Creek Formation, located adjacent to the eastern margin of the fault.

A second programme of close-spaced reconnaissance stream sediment sampling was carried out to better define areas of potential gold mineralisation. However, this sampling was severely restricted by heavy rains and local flooding in the northwest of Tasmania, with only seven samples eventually being collected. All samples were sieved to -2 mm in the field and sent to Australian Laboratory Services in Brisbane for analysis. Here each sample was split in half, with one half being analysed for Au, Ag (BLEG), Cu, Pb, Zn, Cd, As, Sb, Mo and Hg (ICP). Check sampling of the remaining sample halves for Au, Ag (BLEG) and Ba (XRF) was completed at a later date.

Sample locations and gold results are plotted on Plan 1, while sample ledgers and laboratory certificates of analysis are included in Appendix I.

All but one sample returned gold values  $>1.0$  ppb (best result recorded of 8.6 ppb from T001/B001) and were collected from streams draining the major NNE fault zone and Crimson Creek Formation. Highest gold analyses were returned from streams draining onto the tenement from the south, within State Forest located immediately north of the Arthur River. Most samples also recorded weakly elevated copper and zinc values (to 230 ppm Cu and 340 ppm Zn respectively), which can be related to high background base metal contents within the mafic volcanics of the Crimson Creek Formation.

#### 4.2 Rock Chip Sampling

Nineteen (19) rock chip samples were collected from limited areas of outcrop and disused quarries within the Smithton Dolomite (predominantly along its faulted contact with the Crimson Creek Formation) and Black river Dolomite. All samples were analysed for Au (Fire), Cu, Pb, Zn, Cd, As, Sb, Mo and Hg (ICP) by Australian Laboratory Services in Brisbane.

Sample Ledgers and laboratory certificates of analysis are presented in Appendix II, while sample locations and Au, As and Sb results are plotted on Plan 2.

Disappointing results were returned for all samples. Weakly elevated lead values were returned from sample numbers T001/R002, 3 and 5 (best of 210 ppm), while a single anomalous antimony value of 5.8 ppm was recorded from sample number T001/R022.

## 5. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

While the regional stream sediment sampling programme was not completed due to the adverse weather conditions, rock chip sampling of the carbonate successions was deemed adequate enough to delineate the potential for significant geochemical anomalism within the tenement area.

Field investigation of the Smithton Dolomite showed it to have low topographical relief and be extensively covered by recent alluvials (dominantly black soils), with less than 5% showing as outcrop. Although zones of silicification and banded quartz veining were located, rock chip geochemistry failed to outline any areas worthy of follow-up.

The Black River Dolomite exhibits more undulating relief, but again very little outcrop could be located within the tenement. Wide scale silicification of this unit, notably within the vicinity of the Trowutta Cave State Reserve, appears to be related to weathering effects, with no signs of hydrothermal alteration being observed.

Elevated gold and base metal values returned from stream sediment sampling within or downstream from the mafic volcanics and sediments of the Crimson Creek Formation may be attributed to high background levels, as indicated from previous exploration work.

Based on the results from the sampling programmes, little potential is believed to exist for locating mineralisation of economic proportions within the carbonate sequences, and consequently the tenement has been recommended for relinquishment.

**6. EXPENDITURE**

Total expenditure for the reporting period 15 February 1991 to 14 February 1992 was \$34 087, apportioned as set out below:

EXPENDITURE TYPE	\$
Salaries and Wages	15 884
Overheads	9 580
Travel and Accommodation	3 381
Vehicles	754
Freight	141
Administration	1 332
Dues and Memberships	306
Library	27
Assaying	1 380
Supplies	309
Field Living	14
Field Support	619
Advertising	90
Drafting	270
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$34 087</b>

**APPENDIX I**

**Stream Sediment Sample Ledger and Certificates of Analysis**

EL 29/90 TROWUTTA

SAMPLE LEDGERS - STREAM SEDIMENT SAMPLING

SAMPLE No	DATE	MAP REFERENCE (1:100 000)	NORTH (AMG)	EAST (AMG)	OUTCROP	FLOAT	COMMENTS
T001/B001	19/08/91	Sandy Cape	5449630	331920	Nil	100% Chert	State Forest, access on logging track
T001/B002	19/08/91	Arthur River	5451310	332230	Nil	100% Mas Basalt	Edge of State Forest. Resample of BHPG 250
T001/B003	19/08/91	Arthur River	5452510	333240	Basalt?	100% Basalt	O/c in stream only
T001/B004	19/08/91	Arthur River	5454150	333210	Nil	Nil	Flooded creek on cleared land
T001/B005	20/08/91	Arthur River	5455090	334790	Nil	100% silic Basalt	Cleared land at base of hills
T001/B006	20/08/91	Circular Head	5460990	338730	Nil	75% Mudst, 25% Basalt	
T001/B007	21/08/91	Circular Head	5468330	340920	Str wth Basalt	50% Basalt, 50% Mudst	Residual soil cover? Sampled downstream from dams


**CLASSIC LABORATORIES LTD**

Incorporated in WA; a wholly owned subsidiary of Amdel Ltd  
 Osman Place, Thebarton, South Australia 5031  
 Telephone: (08) 43 5722 Facsimile: (08) 234 0321



This Laboratory is registered by the National Association of Testing Authorities, Australia. The test(s) reported herein have been performed in accordance with its terms of registration. This document shall not be reproduced except in full.

Mr Frank Bunting  
 BHP Exploration  
 PO Box 425  
 SPRING HILL  
 QLD 4004

F I N A L    A N A L Y S I S    R E P O R T

Your Order No: NT4/16679

Our Job Number : OAD2871

Samples received : 05-SEP-1990

Results reported : 12-SEP-1990

No. of samples : 32

Report comprises a cover sheet and pages 1 to 1

This report relates specifically to the samples tested in so far as that the samples as supplied are truly representative of the sample source.

Note:

If you have any enquiries please contact Miss Anne Reed quoting the above job number.

Approved Signatory:

John Waters  
 Technical Manager - Adelaide

Report Codes:

N.A. - Not Analysed.  
 L.N.R. - Listed But Not Received.  
 I.S. - Insufficient Sample.

Distribution Codes:

CC - Carbon Copy  
 EM - Electronic Media  
 MM - Magnetic Media

"RELIABLE ANALYSES AT COMPETITIVE COST"

013



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Job: OAD2871

O/N: 16679

## ANALYTICAL REPORT

Sample	Au
DB006236	<0.05
DB006237	0.15
DB006238	0.10
DB006239	0.05
DB006240	<0.05
DB006241	9.0
DB006242	0.10
DB006243	0.25
DB006244	0.15
DB006245	0.15
DB006246	0.20
DB006248	0.10
DB006249	0.60
DB006250	0.75
DB006251	0.85
DB006252	0.50

DB006261 0.15

DB006266 0.30

Units ppb  
DL 0.05  
Scheme BLEG2



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Job: 0AD2871  
O/N: 16679

ANALYTICAL REPORT

Sample	Au
DB006236	<0.05
DB006237	0.15
DB006238	0.10
DB006239	0.05
DB006240	<0.05
DB006241	9.0
DB006242	0.10
DB006243	0.25
DB006244	0.15
DB006245	0.15
DB006246	0.20
DB006248	0.10
DB006249	0.60
DB006250	0.75
DB006251	0.85
DB006252	0.50

DB006261 0.15

DB006266

Units ppb  
DL 0.05  
Scheme BLEG2



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Osman Place, Thebarton, South Australia 5031  
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Mr Frank Bunting  
BHP Exploration  
PO Box 425  
SPRING HILL  
QLD 4004

FINAL ANALYSIS REPORT

Your Order No: 16689/NT4

Our Job Number : OAD3727

Samples received : 09-NOV-1990

Results reported : 03-DEC-1990

No. of samples : 32

Report comprises a cover sheet and pages 1 to 1, G1

This report relates specifically to the samples tested in so far as that the samples as supplied are truly representative of the sample source.

Note:

If you have any enquiries please contact Miss Anne Reed quoting the above job number.

Approved Signatory:

*Smithton Basin, Tasn.  
Streams,  
Silt geochemistry.  
Littoral programme.*

John Waters  
Technical Manager - Adelaide

Report Codes:

- N.A. - Not Analysed.
- L.N.R. - Listed But Not Received.
- I.S. - Insufficient Sample.

Distribution Codes:

- CC - Carbon Copy
- EM - Electronic Media
- MM - Magnetic Media

"RELIABLE ANALYSES AT COMPETITIVE COST"



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Job: OAD3727

O/N: 16689

## ANALYTICAL REPORT

Sample	Cu	Pb	Zn	As	Ba	Sb
DB006236	6	6	8	<2	25	4
DB006237	24	14	52	5	95	<4
DB006238	36	22	88	<2	125	<4
DB006239	6	<4	52	<2	30	<4
DB006240	17	8	22	<2	50	4
DB006241	19	6	65	2	65	4
DB006242	18	16	120	4	140	<4
DB006243	26	14	105	3	130	<4
DB006244	20	25	76	2	120	<4
DB006245	16	22	130	2	130	<4
DB006246	30	22	100	7	195	<4
DB006248	28	24	115	2	165	<4
DB006249	120	24	125	2	155	<4
DB006250	185	30	200	3	230	4
DB006251	135	25	105	3	70	<4
DB006252	56	16	50	4	110	<4
DB006261	8	5	28	2	20	<4
DB006266	150	28	175	7	135	<4
Units	ppm	ppm	ppm	ppm	ppm	ppm
DL	2	4	2	2	10	4
Scheme	AAS1	AAS1	AAS1	XRF1	XRF1	XRF1



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Page G1

Client Ref. 16689

Report 0AD3727

Sample ID Code Results in	Hg AAS 5 ppm
DB006239	<0.05
DB006240	<0.05
DB006241	<0.05
DB006242	<0.05
DB006249	<0.05
DB006250	<0.05
DB006251	<0.05
DB006252	<0.05







**AUSTRALIAN  
LABORATORY  
SERVICES P/L**  
A.C.N. 009 936 029

**Brisbane Head Office and Laboratory**  
32 Shand Street, Stafford, Q. 4053  
P.O. Box 66, Everton Park, Q. 4053  
Telephone: (07) 352 5577  
Facsimile: (07) 352 5109

# ANALYTICAL REPORT

PAGE 1 of 1

CLIENT: NEWCREST MINING LIMITED  
ADDRESS: 2ND FLR JOHN OXLEY CENTRE  
339 CORONATION DRIVE  
MILTON QLD 4064

LABORATORY: STAFFORD  
BATCH NUMBER: ST2731-0

CONTACT: MR G MCEWEN

No. of SAMPLES: 7  
DATE RECEIVED: 27/11/91  
DATE COMPLETED: 05/12/91

ORDER No: B 5053 EX ST2284

SAMPLETYPE: STREAM SEDIMENT

PROJECT No:

SAMPLE NUMBER	ELEMENT UNIT METHOD	Ag	Au	S. Wt		
		ppb PM216M	ppb PM216M	Kg ALS		
T001/B001		4.2	8.6	1.57		
T001/B002		4.1	4.9	2.03		
T001/B003		8.0	2.0	2.25		
T001/B004		3.3	1.3	1.84		
T001/B005		1.3	2.1	2.27		
T001/B006		3.0	0.9	1.59		
T001/B007		2.4	1.2	1.47		
DETECTION LIMIT:		0.1	0.1	0.01		

COMMENTS:

Townsville Laboratory  
Phone: (07) 79 9155 Fax: (077) 79 9729  
Charters Towers Laboratory  
Phone: (077) 87 4155 Fax: (077) 87 4220  
Orange Laboratory  
Phone: (063) 63 1722 Fax: (063) 63 1188  
Bendigo Laboratory  
Phone: (054) 46 1380 Fax: (054) 46 1389

Perth Laboratory  
Phone: (09) 249 2988 Fax: (09) 249 2942  
Kalgoorlie Laboratory  
Phone: (090) 21 1457 Fax: (090) 21 6253  
Southern Cross Laboratory  
Phone: (090) 49 1292 Fax: (090) 49 1374

All pages of this report  
have been checked and  
approved for release.

  
Signed

**AUSTRALIAN  
LABORATORY  
SERVICES P/L**  
A.C.N. 009 936 029

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32 Shand Street, Stafford, Q. 4053  
P.O. Box 66, Everton Park, Q. 4053  
Telephone: (07) 352 5577  
Facsimile: (07) 352 5109

# ANALYTICAL REPORT

PAGE 1 of 1

CLIENT: NEWCREST MINING LIMITED  
ADDRESS: 2ND FLR JOHN OXLEY CENTRE  
339 CORONATION DRIVE  
MILTON QLD 4064

LABORATORY: STAFFORD  
BATCH NUMBER: ST2731-1

CONTACT: MR G MCEWEN

No. of SAMPLES: 7  
DATE RECEIVED: 27/11/91  
DATE COMPLETED: 05/12/91

ORDER No: B 5053 EX ST2284

SAMPLETYPE: STREAM SEDIMENT

PROJECT No:

SAMPLE NUMBER	ELEMENT UNIT METHOD	Ca ppm XRF1				
T001/B001		210				
T001/B002		270				
T001/B003		220				
T001/B004		170				
T001/B005		190				
T001/B006		220				
T001/B007		160				
DETECTION LIMIT:		10				

COMMENTS:

Townsville Laboratory  
Phone: (077) 79 9155 Fax: (077) 79 9729  
Charters Towers Laboratory  
Phone: (077) 87 4155 Fax: (077) 87 4220  
Orange Laboratory  
Phone: (063) 63 1722 Fax: (063) 63 1189  
Bendigo Laboratory  
Phone: (054) 46 1390 Fax: (054) 46 1369

Perth Laboratory  
Phone: (09) 249 2968 Fax: (09) 249 2942  
Kalgoorlie Laboratory  
Phone: (080) 21 1457 Fax: (080) 21 6253  
Southern Cross Laboratory  
Phone: (090) 49 1292 Fax: (090) 49 1374

All pages of this report  
have been checked and  
approved for release.

*[Signature]*  
Signed

**APPENDIX II**

**Rock Chip Sample Ledger and Certificates of Analysis**

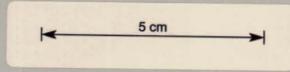
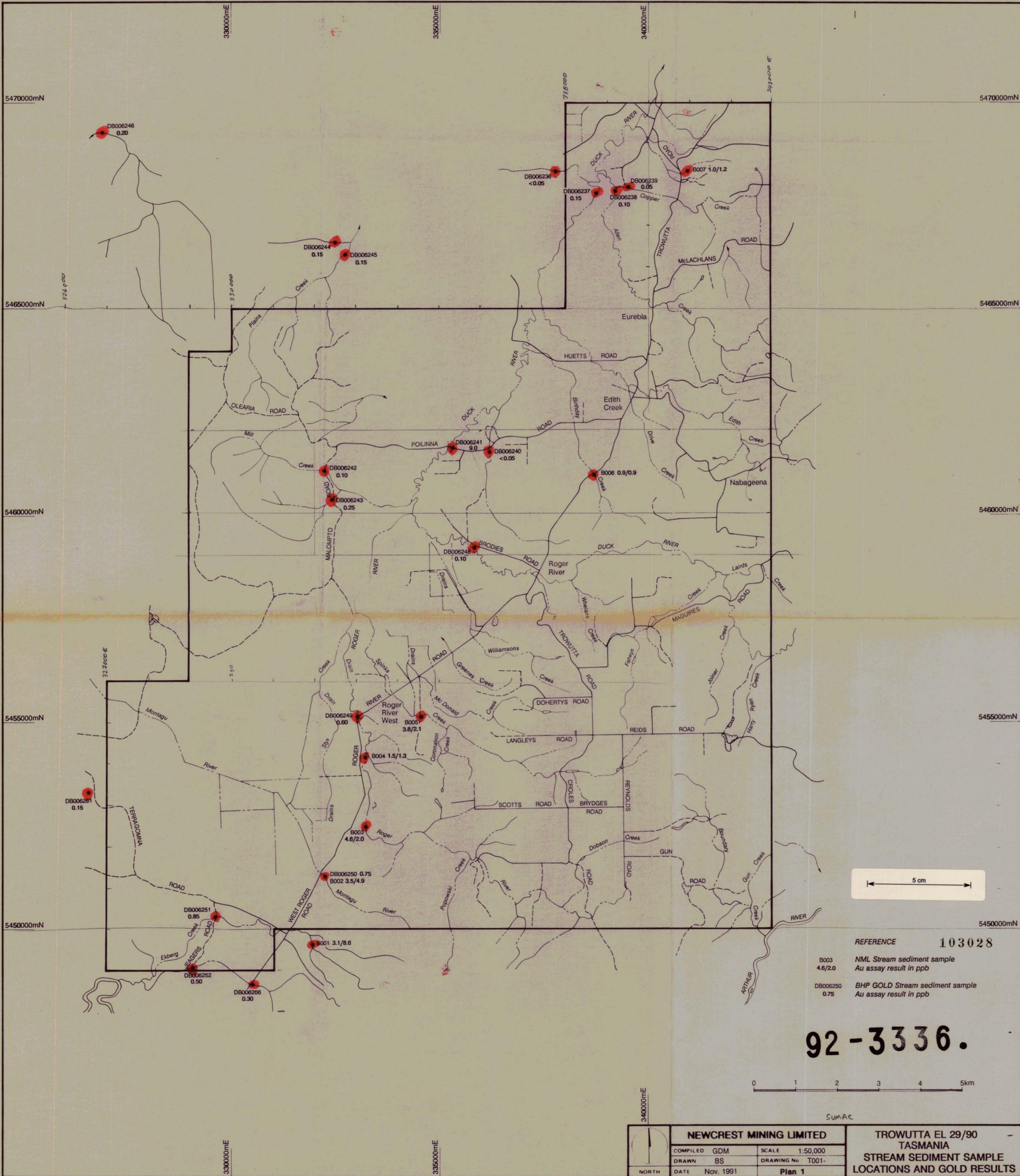
NEWCREST MINING LIMITED  
ROCK CHIP SAMPLE LEDGER

PROJECT: EL 29/90 TROWUTTA  
PROSPECT: REGIONAL

SAMPLE NO	DATE	250 000 MAP REF	100 000 MAP REF	NORTH (AMG)	EAST (AMG)	COMMENTS
T001/R001	20/08/91	Burnie	Arthur River	5451310	332230	Strongly silicified and epidotised Basalt.
T001/R002	20/08/91	Burnie	Arthur River	5455130	334530	Crystalline, silicified Dolomite. Abund fine qtz veins
T001/R003	20/08/91	Burnie	Arthur River	5455110	334570	strongly quartz veined and silicified Basalt?
T001/R004	20/08/91	Burnie	Arthur River	5455110	334570	Quartz veined, mod silicified/epidotised Basalt
T001/R005	20/08/91	Burnie	Arthur River	5458050	336960	Crystalline, quartz veined, strongly silic Dolomite
T001/R006	20/08/91	Burnie	Arthur River	5458050	336960	Dolomite breccia. Strongly silicified
T001/R007	21/08/91	Burnie	Arthur River	5457320	336400	Wk iron stained, silicified Dolomite. Minor qtz veins
T001/R008	21/08/91	Burnie	Arthur River	5457400	336400	Massive, silicified Dolomite. Quarry face sample
T001/R009	21/08/91	Burnie	Arthur River	5457500	336430	Finely crystalline, silicified Dolomite
T001/R017	22/08/91	Burnie	Circular Head	5469150	338500	Massive silicified Dolomite
T001/R018	22/08/91	Burnie	Circular Head	5470150	339500	Banded, crystalline qtz veins in silicified Dolomite
T001/R019	22/08/91	Burnie	Circular Head	5470200	339500	As for T001/R018
T001/R020	22/08/91	Burnie	Circular Head	5470160	339450	As for T001/R018. Minor iron staining in qtz banding
T001/R021	22/08/91	Burnie	Circular Head	5470150	339550	Vuggy limonite-goethite. Weakly magnetic
T001/R022	22/08/91	Burnie	Circular Head	5464050	335900	As for T001/R021. Sampled from drainage ditch.
T001/R023	23/08/91	Burnie	Arthur River	5454750	341960	Well laminated, weakly silicified Dolomite
T001/R024	23/08/91	Burnie	Arthur River	5454750	341960	Str brecciated, qtz-carb vnd and silic Dolomite/Shale
T001/R025	23/08/91	Burnie	Arthur River	5454580	342150	Str brecciated, silicified and qtz veined Dolomite
T001/R026	23/08/91	Burnie	Arthur River	5448700	341500	Str silicified Dolomite breccia
T001/R027	24/08/91	Burnie	Arthur River	5459000	337440	Str silicified stromatolitic Dolomite
T001/R028	24/08/91	Burnie	Sandy Cape	5429850	324450	Vuggy, strongly pyritic quartz. Mine dump sample

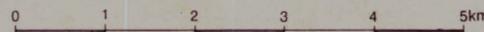






REFERENCE 103028  
 B003 NML Stream sediment sample  
 4.6/2.0 Au assay result in ppb  
 DB006250 BHP GOLD Stream sediment sample  
 0.75 Au assay result in ppb

**92-3336.**



SUMAC

 NORTH	<b>NEWCREST MINING LIMITED</b>		<b>TROWUTTA EL 29/90</b>	
	COMPILED	GDM	SCALE	1:50,000
	DRAWN	BS	DRAWING No	T001-
	DATE	Nov. 1991	Plan	1
			<b>TASMANIA</b>	
			<b>STREAM SEDIMENT SAMPLE</b>	
			<b>LOCATIONS AND GOLD RESULTS</b>	

330000mE

335000mE

340000mE

5470000mN

5470000mN

5465000mN

5465000mN

5460000mN

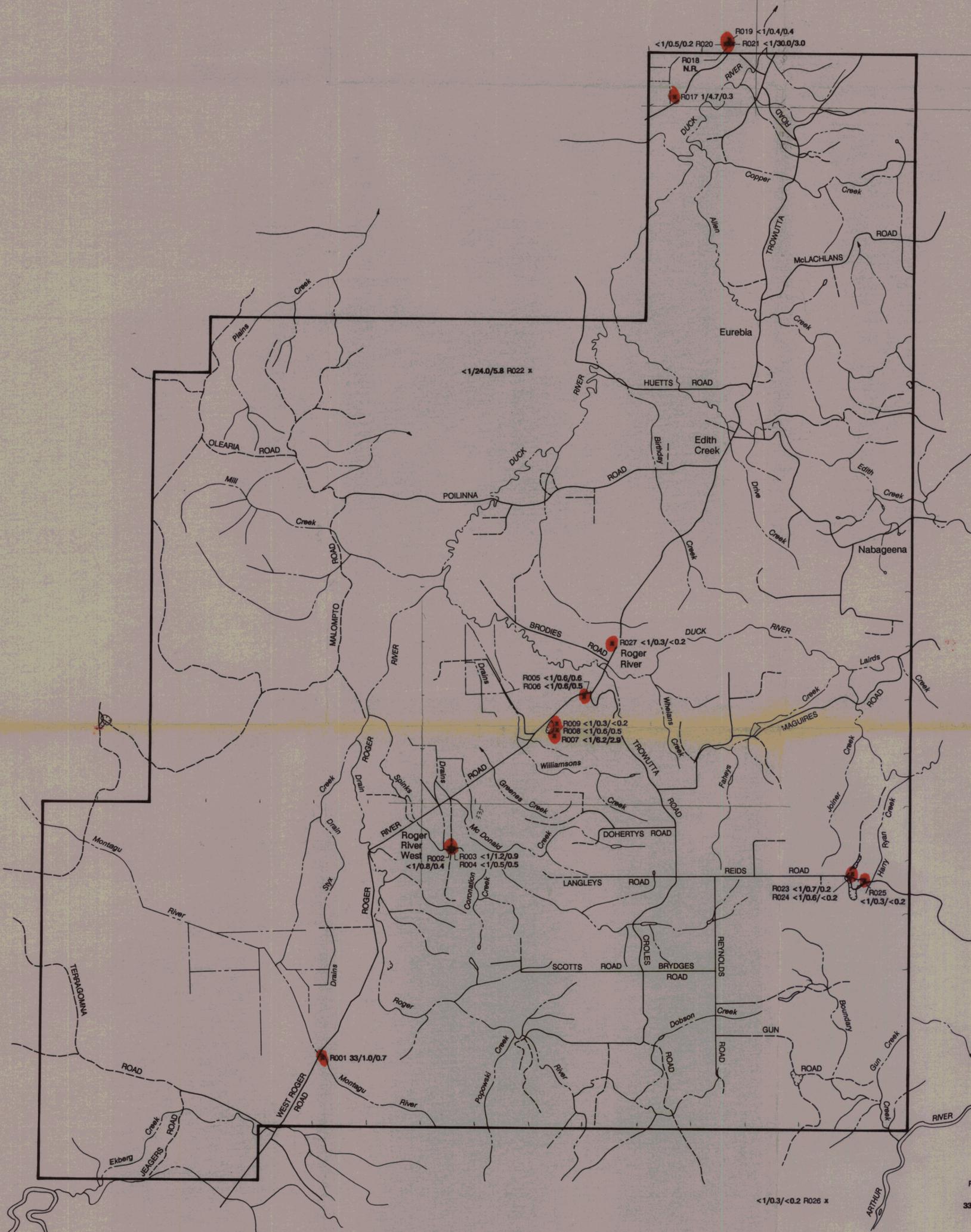
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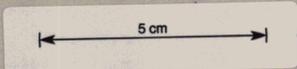
5455000mN

5450000mN

5450000mN



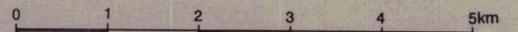
103029



92-3336.

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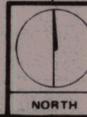
R001 x Rock chip sample no.  
 33/1.0/0.7 Assay results for Au(ppb)/As(ppm)/Sb(ppm)



340000mE

330000mE

335000mE



NEWCREST MINING LIMITED

COMPILED	GDM	SCALE	1:50,000
DRAWN	BS	DRAWING No.	T001-
DATE	Nov. 1991	Plan	2

TROWUTTA EL 29/90  
 TASMANIA  
 ROCK CHIP SAMPLE LOCATIONS  
 AND RESULTS