



North American Datum 1983
Shaded relief and contour lines derived from the digital elevation model supplied by
Natural Resources Canada. Illumination: azimuth 315°, altitude 45°, vertical exaggeration 1x.
Base map at the scale of 1:50,000 from Natural Resources Canada, with modifications.
Contour interval 10 metres. Elevations in metres above mean sea level.

ONE THOUSAND METRE GRID
UNIVERSAL TRANSVERSE MERCATOR GRID
ZONE 10 NORTH

GRID NORTH 1°01' WEST OF TRUE NORTH
APPROXIMATE MEAN MAGNETIC DECLINATION 2021 FOR CENTRE OF MAP IS 17°10' EAST,
DECREASING ANNUALLY 13.4"

Disclaimer: whilst every effort has been taken to ensure the accuracy of the information on this map, the data are provided "as-is" without any warranty, guarantee, or representation of any kind. Neither the Crown nor the Province of British Columbia is responsible for any errors or omissions, or for any damage or loss resulting from the use of this map. No liability is accepted for any damage or loss resulting from the use of this map. This map is not intended for navigation purposes.

Geoscience BC Map 2021-03-03b

Till sampling suitability of the Tezzeron Creek area NTS 093K/16, British Columbia

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Scale 1:50,000

Cartography by B. Elder

TILL SAMPLING SUITABILITY (TSS) CLASSIFICATION

TSS class	Description	Surficial geology map unit example*	Implications for exploration
High (1)	All subglacial till.	Tb; Tv	Surface sediment is composed entirely of subglacial till suitable for sampling or veneers of subglacial till punctuated by outcrop. Optimal conditions for till sampling. Historical samples are likely subglacial till.
Moderately high (2)	Dominantly subglacial till; all subglacial till with localized reworking.	Tb.O; Ts-RW_min	Majority of polygon area is composed of subglacial till suitable for sampling. Till polygons with the minor reworking (RW_min) overlay are interpreted to include localized areas of reworking, predominantly by meltwater processes. Till sampling can be planned throughout the majority of polygon; target topographic highs to avoid localized reworking. Historical samples are likely subglacial till.
Moderate (3)	Dominantly subglacial till with localized reworking; dominantly another surficial material with lesser amounts of subglacial till; subglacial till overlain by a veneer of another material.	Tb.GFv-RW_min; Ap.Tv; CvTb	Unmodified subglacial till suitable for sampling ranges from the minor component up to roughly half of the polygon area. Suitable subglacial till may be overlain by a veneer of colluvium, organics, or glaciolacustrine sediments. Unmodified till may be found on topographic highs and away from meltwater channels.
Moderately low (4)	All subglacial till with major reworking; dominantly another surficial material with lesser amounts of subglacial till that has been locally reworked; undulating ablation till.	Tb-RW_maj; GFv.Ts-RW_min; Tu	Subglacial till is commonly affected by meltwater or overlain by ablation till in these units; suitable till for sampling will be difficult to locate. Meltwater has potential to concentrate heavy minerals or remove the fine fraction completely. Suitable till may be located by targeting topographic highs and in deposits downslope from topographic highs that may have been partially protected. Drill-supported sampling may yield unmodified till samples where surface materials are sufficiently thick (e.g., Tb). Ablation till (e.g., Tu) is typically sourced from greater distances than subglacial till, assumed to have an inherent degree of reworking by meltwater and should be avoided. Tu may be sufficiently thin in some areas that underlying subglacial till can be accessed in deeper road or stream cuts.
Low (5)	Any amount of subglacial till with major reworking. Dominantly undulating ablation till or all hummocky ablation till.	Tb.GFh-RW_maj; GLv.Ts-RW_maj; Tu.O; Th	In situ subglacial till comprises a small proportion of these polygons; reworking by glacial or modern processes is common. Unmodified subglacial till may occur at depth in thicker till deposits that have been affected by meltwater or where it is stratigraphically overlain by other materials. Unmodified till is most likely to occur on topographic highs.
Very low (6)	No mapped till.	Ap.O; GFh.R	Unlikely to locate till for sampling; these units should be avoided in till sampling programs and historical analytical data from samples may not be suitable to evaluate local mineral potential. Drill-supported till sampling may be useful in areas where subglacial till is likely to occur at depth (e.g., beneath thick glaciolacustrine or ablation till deposits).

*For full explanation of surficial geology classification see companion map publication "Surficial geology of the Tezzeron Creek map area (NTS 093K/16), British Columbia. Geoscience BC map 2021-03-03a"

ONSITE SYMBOLS

Till sample site	
Mineral occurrence (see Table 1; numbers indicate Map ID)	
Past Producer	
Prospect	
Developed Prospect	
Showing	
Park or protected area	
Road	
Rail line	
Stream	
Definite	
Intermittent or indefinite	

1: Roads displayed on map are from the CanVec 1:50k database (Natural Resources Canada) and do not include the extensive gravel forest service road network present in the area.
2: Classification provided by BC Freshwater Atlas.

Table 1. Mineral occurrences from MINFILE database (MINFILE, 2020). Letter and number designation under deposit type correspond to definitions provided by Lefebvre and Ray (1995) and Lefebvre and Hoy (1996).

Map ID	MINFILE No.	Name	Status	Commodity	Deposit Type
1	093K004	HA-1	Showing	Cu	
2	093K020	MAX	Showing	Cu, Au	L03: Alkaline porphyry Cu-Au
3	093K077	DEM	Showing	As, Au, Ag	K04: Au skarn
4	093K080	TAS	Prospect	Au, Cu	L03: Alkaline porphyry Cu-Au
5	093K083	LYNX	Showing	Cu	K01: Cu skarn
6	093K084	HAT LAKE	Showing	Cu	L03: Alkaline porphyry Cu-Au
7	093K086	K-2	Showing	Cu, Ag	I06: Cu+/-Ag quartz veins
8	093K091	FREE GOLD ZONE	Showing	Au, Cu	L03: Alkaline porphyry Cu-Au
9	093K109	FRAN	Prospect	Au, Ag, Cu, Zn, Pb	L03: Alkaline porphyry Cu-Au
10	093K108	BIO	Showing	Cu	L03: Alkaline porphyry Cu-Au
11	093K110	TAS-WEST	Prospect	Au, Cu	I05: Polymetallic veins Ag-Pb-Zn+/-Au L03: Alkaline porphyry Cu-Au
12	094C178	TAS-WEST	Prospect	Au, Cu	I05: Polymetallic veins Ag-Pb-Zn+/-Au L03: Alkaline porphyry Cu-Au
13	094C179	BIO	Showing	Cu	L03: Alkaline porphyry Cu-Au



Descriptive Notes

The mapping presented here is part of a series of surficial geology, till sampling suitability, and drift thickness maps completed for Geoscience BC's Central Interior Copper-Gold Research (CICGR): Surficial Exploration Project (See index map). The purpose of this map series is to inventory and characterize surficial materials and landforms to inform resource exploration (e.g., mineral, water and aggregate) and infrastructure development in British Columbia. The surficial geology interpretations follow standardized mapping protocols defined by the Geological Survey of Canada (Deloraine et al., 2016) and used by the British Columbia Geological Survey, ensuring accordance with existing and ongoing surficial geology mapping produced by the government. Polygons are delineated based on surficial material and morphology, and overlays are used to indicate geomorphological processes. Features such as bedrock outcrop or glaciolacustrine landforms that are too small to delineate as polygons are identified using point and line symbols. The surficial geology was interpreted from 1.5 m resolution colour and near-infrared SPOT satellite imagery. Pseudo-stereo images were produced from the imagery using the Canadian Digital Elevation Model (Natural Resources Canada, 2015). The till sampling suitability mapping builds on earlier drift exploration potential maps developed by Proudfoot et al. (1995) and basal till potential mapping (e.g., Sacco et al., 2014; Ferby, 2014).

This map series was initiated to streamline the CICGR regional till geochemical and mineralogical sampling program. Subglacial till is ideal for assessing bedrock hosted mineral potential in areas covered by Quaternary sediments because it is commonly the first derivative of bedrock (Shills, 1993). It has a relatively simple and predictable transport history related to ice-flow directions, and geochemical and mineralogical anomalies in till are more extensive than its bedrock source (Leverson, 2001). This mapping focuses on identifying discrete occurrences of subglacial till to guide exploration programs. In central British Columbia, it is specifically important to distinguish subglacial till facies, as ablation till has a more complex history and transport and depositional history and, therefore, is less suitable for mineral exploration.

Till sampling suitability is derived from the surficial geology interpretations. Each mapped polygon is attributed a suitability using a multi-class index that considers the proportions of surficial materials and geomorphological processes that have affected them. Suitability ratings are ultimately a function of the proportion of a polygon that contains in situ subglacial till that is suitable for sampling. This helps to inform the planning and execution of till sampling surveys by identifying areas where subglacial till can be readily sampled and areas where efforts or alternative sampling methods or materials may be required.

Drift thickness mapping provides an indication of the relative thickness of Quaternary sediment cover based on the results of the surficial geology interpretations. Drift thickness estimations consider the interpreted surface expression of map units (polygons) and the potential for preserved stratigraphic sequences. Stratigraphic sequences are assumed where depositional environments and pre-existing materials are likely preserved (e.g., beneath glaciolacustrine sediments and ablation till). The interpretations have not been calibrated with known depths to bedrock. Drift thickness maps can be used to inform bedrock mapping and prospecting programs because they identify areas where bedrock outcrops are likely present or where bedrock is overlain by shallow cover and may be accessed with hand tools. This mapping can also be used in combination with till sampling suitability to identify areas where drilling or trenching may be required to sample till, or provide information such as ice flow direction for drift-based exploration programs.

The surficial geology of the Tezzeron Creek map area (NTS map sheet 093K/16) was previously interpreted at a scale of 1:100 000 by Ploffe (2000). The map area lies primarily in the Fraser Basin physiographic region, except for a northeastern portion within the Nechako Plateau and a small southwestern portion within the Nechako Plain (Holland, 1976). The region is characterized by flat to gently rolling topography with surface elevation typically between 800 and 1500 m. The map area is dominantly composed of till (Tb) that is locally streamlined to the northeast. Till is thinner in upland areas that occur on the west and east edges of the map area, which are punctuated by bedrock outcrop at the highest locations. Ablation till (Tu, Th) and ice-contact glaciolacustrine materials (GFv, GFh, GFricur) locally throughout the map area in valley bottoms indicating the location of stagnant or detached masses of ice. Glaciolacustrine material is rare, limited to the relatively low-lying area north of Tezzeron Lake. Ice dominantly flowed northeast across the map area; however, ice-flow indicators representing the later stages of deglaciation indicate that it transitions to the east (Ploffe, 2000; Sacco et al., 2017). It is possible that the late-stage changes in ice-flow direction minimally affected sediment transport direction and distribution as macromorphs were only minimally reoriented to a more easterly direction, dominantly in the south of the map area.

The Tezzeron Creek map area is well suited to till sampling due to the extensive occurrence of subglacial till throughout the region. The abundance of streamlined till (e.g., Ts) in the south of the map area is conducive to till sampling because road construction can create numerous exposures that provide access to unweathered material. At higher elevations, where till cover is thin, till sampling efforts should focus on the down-slope side of the topographic highs. High ablation till occurs locally throughout areas of low elevation and in most valleys and should be avoided during till sampling programs. Subglacial till is likely preserved beneath ablation till and glaciolacustrine sediments due to the non-erosive nature of its deposition. Where these materials are thin, underlying subglacial till may be accessed using hand-tools or in deep road cuts. Where these materials are thicker, mechanical assistance (e.g., drilling or trenching) will likely be required to access subglacial till.

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