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**DETAILED MAPPING AND RE-EVALUATION  
OF THE 'KNEE' ZINC MINERALIZATION,  
SWIFT RIVER, YUKON**

by

**Timothy Liverton PhD, FGS, FGAC**



Claims: Humbling 1 to 4 (YB93595, 6, 7 & 8). NTS sheet 105B-3, Watson Lake Mining Recorder's District, Yukon. Latitude 60°11' N, Longitude 131° 13' W.

Claims currently held by Doug Brown of Watson Lake.

Fieldwork by T.Liverton and H.Hibbing 10th, 20th August, 25th September 2002

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under Section 53 (4) Yukon Quartz  
Mining Act and is allowed as  
representation work in the amount  
of \$ 2000.00.

*M B h*  
for Regional Manager, Exploration and  
Geological Services for Commissioner  
of Yukon Territory.

Costs associated with this report have been  
approved in the amount of \$ 2000.00  
for assessment credit under Certificate of  
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*[Signature]*

Mining Recorder  
Watson Lake Mining District

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Claims: Humbling 1 to 4 (YB93595, 6, 7 & 8). NTS sheet 105B-3, Watson Lake Mining Recorder's District, Yukon. Latitude 60°11' N, Longitude 131° 13' W.

## INTRODUCTION

Access to the claims is possible by four wheel drive roads that continue on from the Pine Lake Airstrip. A road leaves the north side of the Alaska Highway 1km. west of Walker's Continental Divide lodge. The Swift River area has been prospected for base metals since 1946 and isolated high-grade zinc showings have been known since then. During the last 15 years the Dan or Bar (Minfile 027)-Atom (Minfile 026) trend of mineralization has been prospected by First Yukon Silver, during which time the property was optioned to Cominco and subsequently to Birch Mountain Resources. Both of these latter companies drilled geochemical and geophysical targets over the strike length of 7 km, following a marble - volcanic (rhyolitic tuff) contact in metamorphosed and highly deformed sedimentary and volcanic units of the Yukon Tanana Terrane. Claims in the NW part of this trend lapsed and the vacant ground was acquired for Rhyoflow Ltd. by Doug Brown since examination of mineralization exposed at the surface indicated that the drill hole 97-07 of Birch Mountain Resources might not have been deep enough to cut the down-dip extension of all the showings. The present assessment work consists of geological mapping at 1:500 scale to cover the region around DDH 97-07 to test that observation.

## REGIONAL GEOLOGY

The upper Swift River valley is at the contact of displaced North American Palaeozoic strata of the Cassiar Platform (i.e., the basal detachment that is correlated with the Inconnu thrust to the NE) with highly deformed and metamorphosed volcano-sedimentary units that are now assigned to the Yukon-Tanana terrane. The Dan-Atom trend of Zn-Ag±Cu mineralization is within the Ram Creek Assemblage, which at this locality consists of metavolcanics, marble or calc-silicate and siliceous cherty sediments that may be exhalites. The Assemblage has been deformed by three generations of folding (D'el-Rey Silva et al., 2001a & b). Isoclinal F<sub>1</sub> structures have transposed bedding and more open NE vergent mesoscopic and macroscopic F<sub>2</sub> folds control the distribution of outcrop-scale units. F<sub>3</sub> structures are a minor warping that do not significantly affect the macroscopic distribution of mapped units. This structural style is seen in the Dorsey Assemblage immediately to the south (Roots et al., 2003), which also contains similar mineralization. Three ages of plutonism have also affected this immediate locality: the Permian Ram stock; intrusion of a

sill-like gabbro to diorite of Jurassic age which shows frequent evidence of shearing and is considered syn-tectonic; and undeformed Cretaceous highly evolved biotite granite stocks satellite to the Seagull batholith. The Ram Creek Assemblage therefore shows evidence of both regional metamorphism to at least upper greenschist facies and contact metamorphism that has produced local pyroxene-garnet mineralogy, with widespread amphibole or amphibole-chlorite retrograde assemblages.

## **GEOLOGY OF THE HUMBLING CLAIMS: 2002 MAPPING**

The Humbling claims cover both volcano-sedimentary units of the Ram Creek Assemblage and a sequence of black chert and often pyritic siltstone (Unit DMEC on map 1C) that might be correlated with continental Earn Group clastics. The present detailed mapping, which was performed using compass, tape and clinometer traverses, covers the exposures of tuff and calc-silicate rocks that are part of the Ram Creek assemblage. The fault contact with the 'black clastics' of unit DMEC (Cassiar terrane) is approximately 50 metres east of the map (Fig. 5). The tuff unit is a pale green to grey aphanitic, finely banded rock that shows a crenulation cleavage (Fig. 7). No unaltered marble (as is common at the tuff contact in the Dan to Lucy showings to the SE) was seen in the old trenches, but a wide range of calc-silicate mineralogy occurs in the units surrounding the tuff. Garnet, pyroxene (close to the hedenbergite end member), actinolite, epidote (pistacite), and vesuvianite are common. Sulphide mineralization consists of massive pyrrhotite to the SW of the area mapped with several units of massive to disseminated sphalerite within a stratigraphic interval of  $\approx 40$ m to the NE. This mineralization is found both in calc-silicate mineral assemblages and within the tuff unit. A prevailing steep SW dip is seen. Down-dip continuity may not be ubiquitous here due to the  $F_1$  isoclinal folding having transposed bedding. Surface exposure here is not adequate for detailed structural mapping. Many of the textures and the mineralogy of these mineralized rocks indicate replacement by contact metasomatism, but it is considered possible that this mineralization could be of stratiform (exhalative) type that was locally remobilized by Jurassic contact metasomatism.

This mapping indicates that not all of the massive sphalerite mineralization seen in outcrop would have been intersected by the one previous drillhole (Figs. 5 & 6), especially since surface mineralization is still seen some 15m SE of the eastern limit of this year's work.

## **FURTHER PROSPECTIVE AREAS**

In addition to the Zn mineralization seen in the calc-silicate rocks of the Ram Creek Assemblage examination of the exposures of black clastics along the road to Pine Lake (i.e. within 2km SE of the claims) has indicated that a considerable amount of very fine grained bedded sulphides occur in some horizons. This mineralization has neither been properly mapped nor

sampled for assay in the past. The black clastic - tuff/calc-silicate contact is mappable for several hundred metres to the SE and sulphide mineralization in the calc silicates is likely.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

It does seem that the Birch Mountain drill hole 97-07 did not intersect the entire down-dip extension of the sphalerite mineralization seen at surface. During the 2003 season the detailed mapping should be extended to cover the whole of the claim block and especially to document exposures of black clastics in the small canyons that drain northward to Crescent Lake and the Swift River. Mineralization should be channel sampled where practicable and in particular, be assayed for gold. Once drill core from DDH 97-07, which is currently in Calgary, becomes available it should be re-logged to enable a better correlation with surface exposures.

## BIBLIOGRAPHY

D'el-Rey Silva, L.J.H., Liverton, T., Paradis, S. and Roots, C. 2001. A structural analysis of the upper Swift River area (105B/3), Yukon, Part I: Dan Zn occurrence and implications for sulphide mineralization. *In: Yukon Exploration and Geology 2000*, D.S. Emond and L.H. Weston (eds.), Exploration and Geological Services Division, Yukon, Indian and Northern Affairs Canada, p. 289-300.

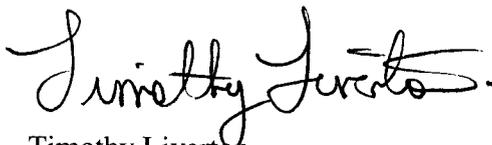
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Roots, C., Liverton, T. and Heaman, L. 2003. Geology and U-Pb zircon geochronology of Upper Dorsey Assemblage near the TBMB claims, upper Swift River, southern Yukon. *In: Yukon Exploration and Geology 2002*, D.S. Emond and L.L. Lewis (eds.), Exploration and Geological Services Division, Yukon, Indian and Northern Affairs Canada, p. 199-212.

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## COST STATEMENT

T. LIVERTON 3 days @ \$600.00	\$	1800.00
H.HIBBING 3 days @ \$200.00	\$	600.00
Vehicle 505 km @ \$0.42	\$	213.00
Meals	\$	105.00
Report preparation	\$	600.00
Total	\$	<u>3318.00</u>



Timothy Liverton

Watson Lake, Yukon  
4th. April 2003

## STATEMENT OF QUALIFICATIONS: T. LIVERTON

### Academic qualifications:

BSc in geology and geophysics, University of Sydney. Conferred 1965.

BSc (Hons) in economic geology, University of Adelaide. Conferred 1968.

PhD in petrology, geochemistry and structural geology, Royal Holloway, University of London 1992. Thesis: 'Tectonics and Metallogeny of the Thirtymile Range, Yukon Territory, Canada' pp. 325.

### Professional experience:

29 years' experience in exploration and mine geology in Australia, Brazil, Portugal, Norway, U.S.A., U.K. and Canada. 2 years as Visiting Professor in Economic Geology at the Universidade de Brasília, Brazil. Currently self-employed as a contract/consulting geologist.

### Professional Membership:

Fellow of the Geological Society of London

Fellow of the Geological Association of Canada

Member of the Geological Society of America

Member of the Society of Economic Geologists

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Timothy J. Liverton", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

## FIGURES

- Fig. 1. Location of the Humbling property and regional geology at 1: 2,000,000 and 1: 500,000 scales.
- Fig. 2. Claim map at 1: 30,000 scale (part of 105B-3).
- Fig. 3. Topographic map at 1: 50,000 scale showing base metal showings adjacent to the Humbling claims, as well as the location of Birch Mountain Resources 1997 diamond drill hole 07. This is now covered by the Humbling claims.
- Fig. 4. Geology of the Dan-Atom trend as mapped by Cominco geologists. Derived from compilation by P.J. McRobbie, with some modifications by the present author. Scale = 1: 25,000.
- Fig. 5. Mapping of the mineralized region about drillhole 97-07, performed during 2002. Scale = 1: 500.
- Fig. 6. Cross section through drill hole 97-07 from the current mapping. Scale 1: 500.
- Fig. 7. Crenulation cleavage shown by tuff at the 'Knee' showing. Thin section in transmitted light.

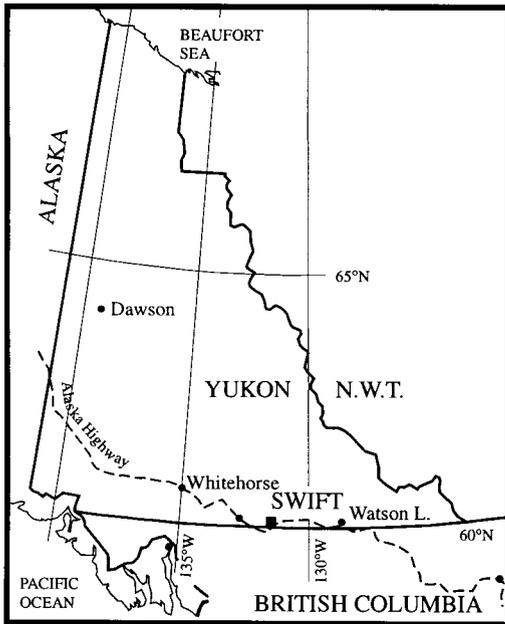


FIGURE 1a

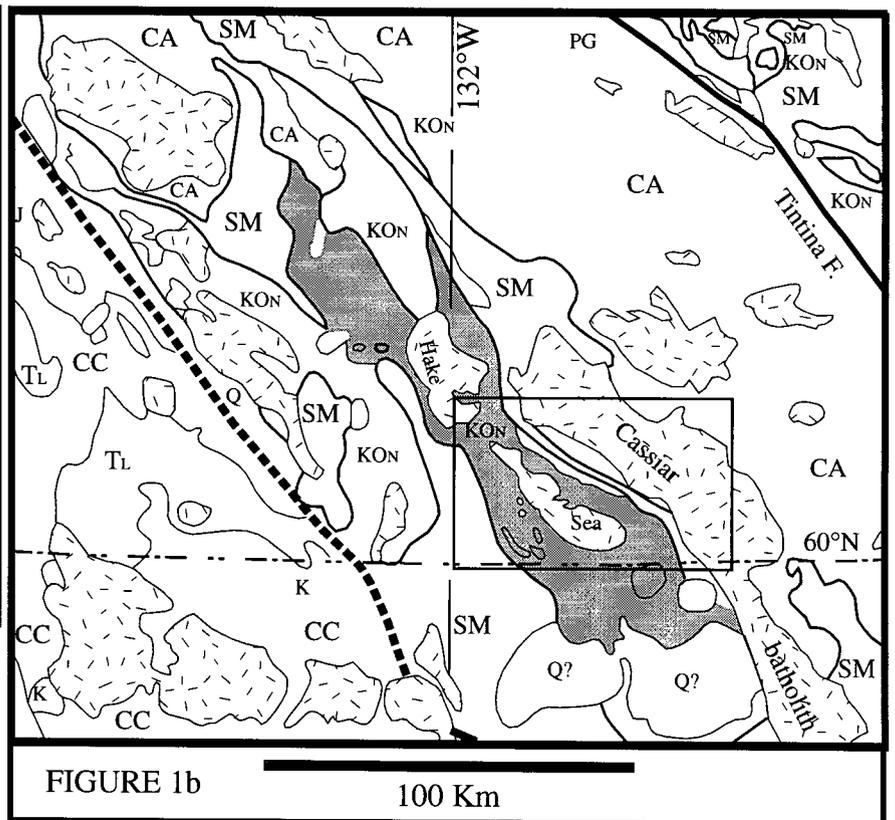


FIGURE 1b 100 Km

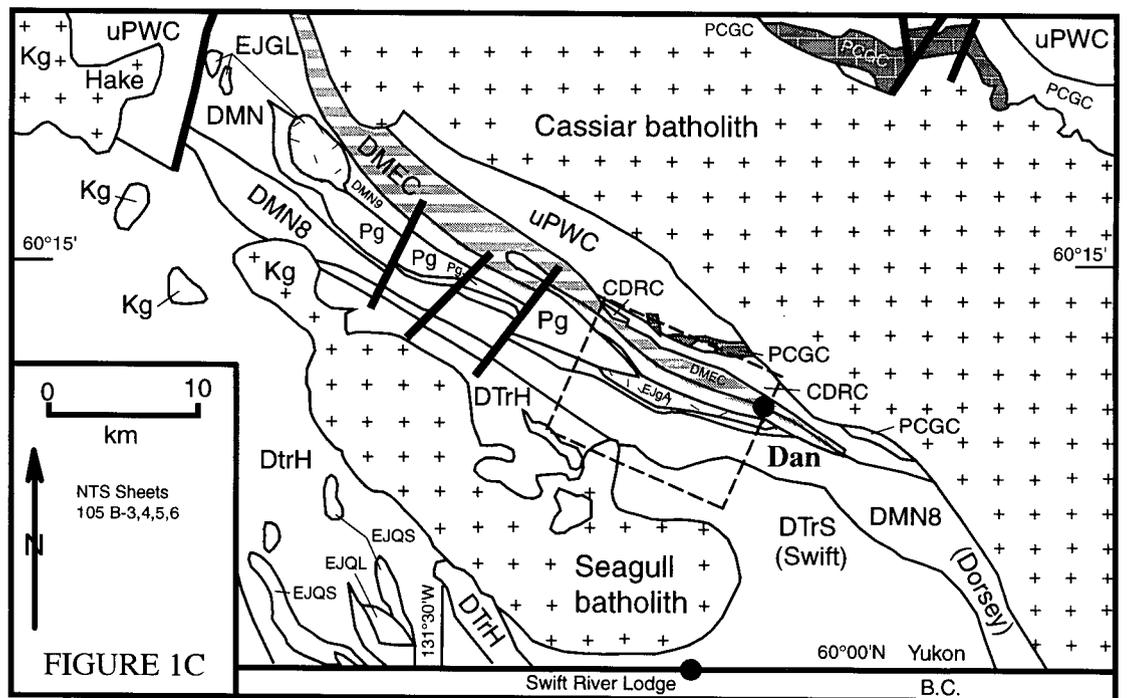


FIGURE 1c

**Figure 1a:** Location of the Humbling claims (105 B-3) within the Yukon.

**Figure 1b:** Regional geology at 1:2,000,000 scale from Wheeler et al. (1991). The shaded unit is the 'Dorsey terrane', now considered to be in part Yukon-Tanana equivalent. The rectangle indicates location of map 1c.

**Figure 1c:** Regional geology, with units as in D'el-Rey Silva et al. (2001). Cassiar Platform rocks are, CDRC, PGC = Lower Palaeozoic carbonate; uPWC = Late Proterozoic clastics; DTrS = Swift River Assemblage; DMN8 = Dorsey assemblage; DMN9 = Ram Creek Assemblage; DMEC = Mid Palaeozoic argillite. Intrusions are: Pg = Permian Ram Stock; EJGL, EJQA = Jurassic and Kg = Cretaceous. The dashed rectangle indicates location of Fig. 4.

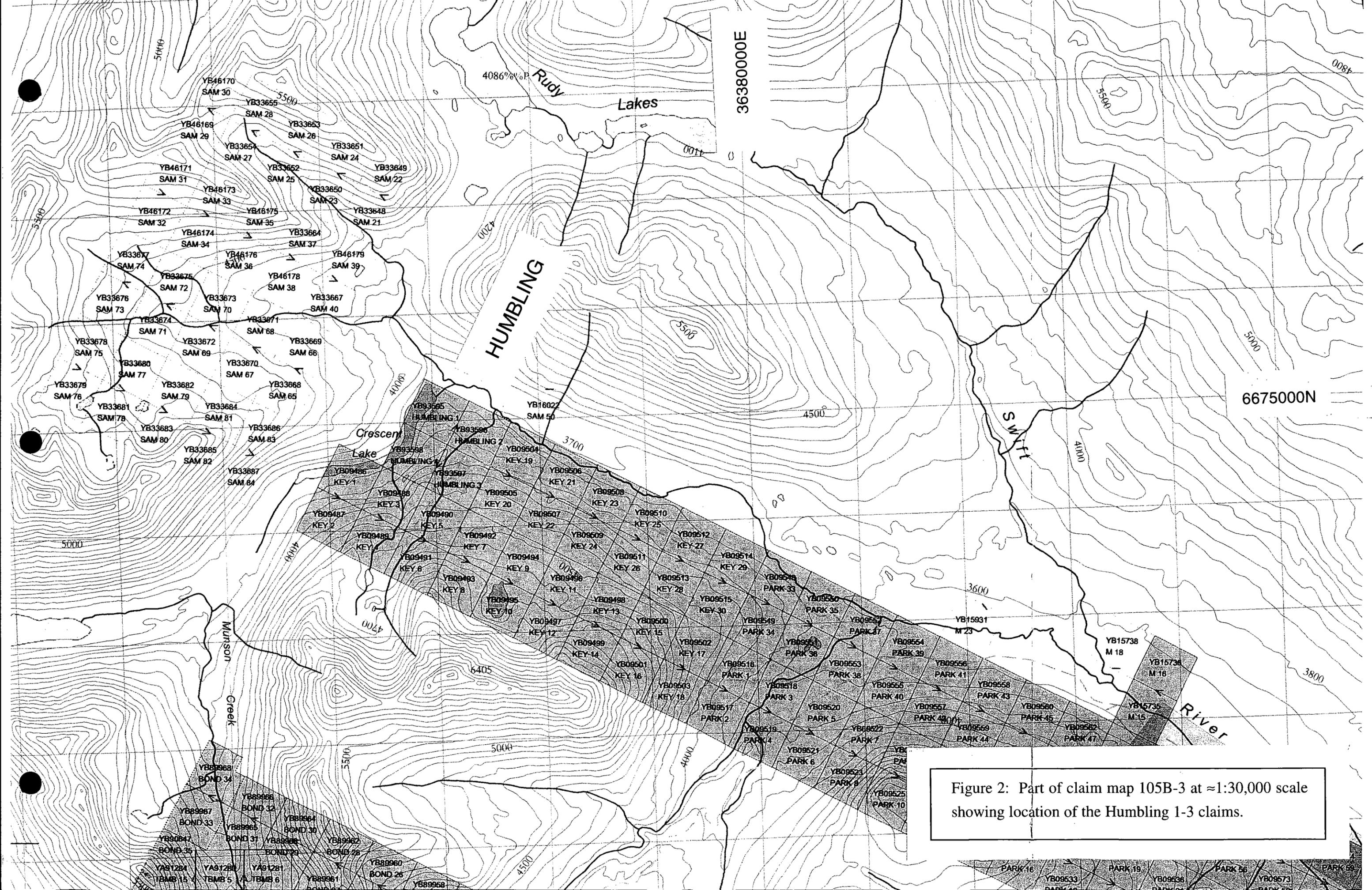
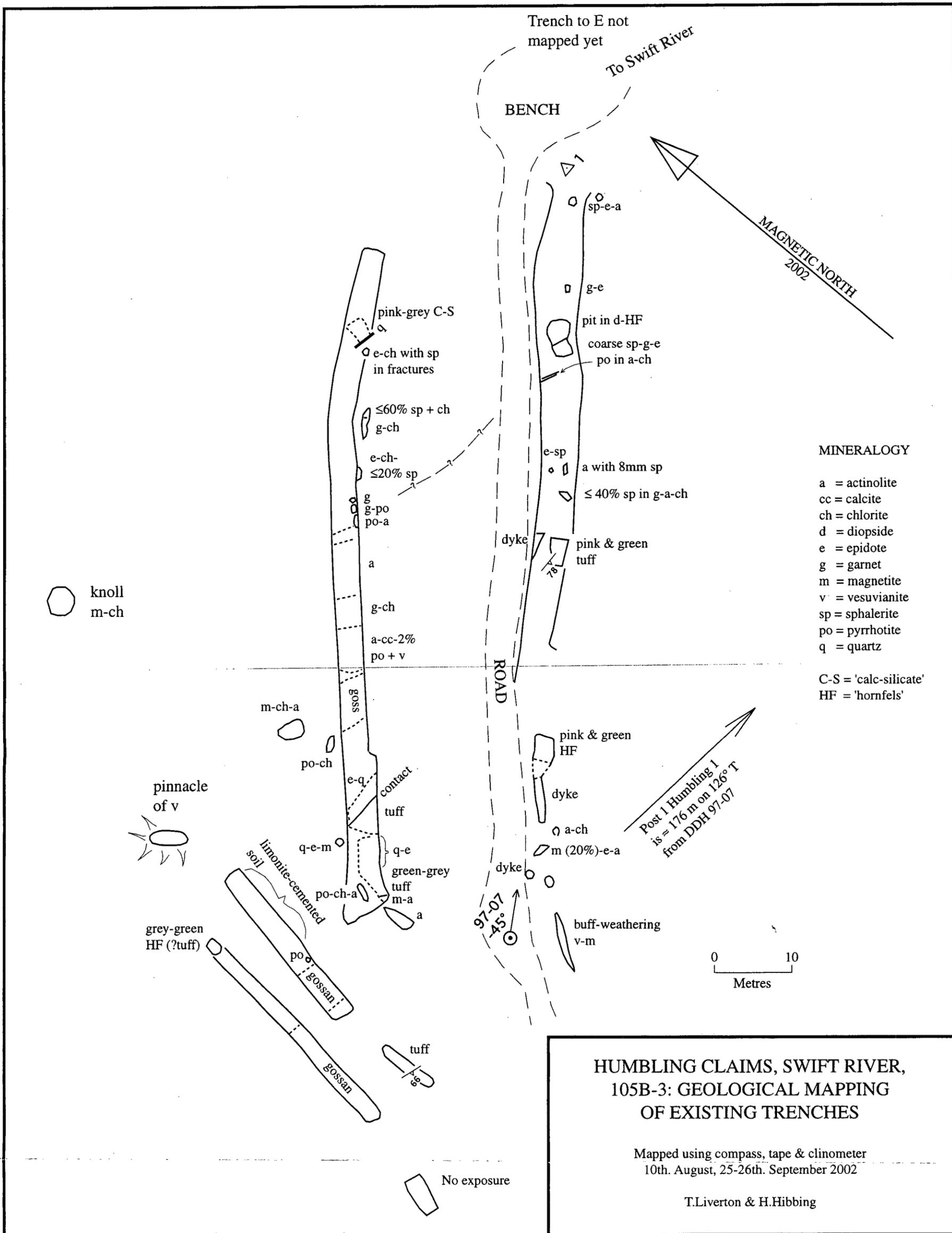
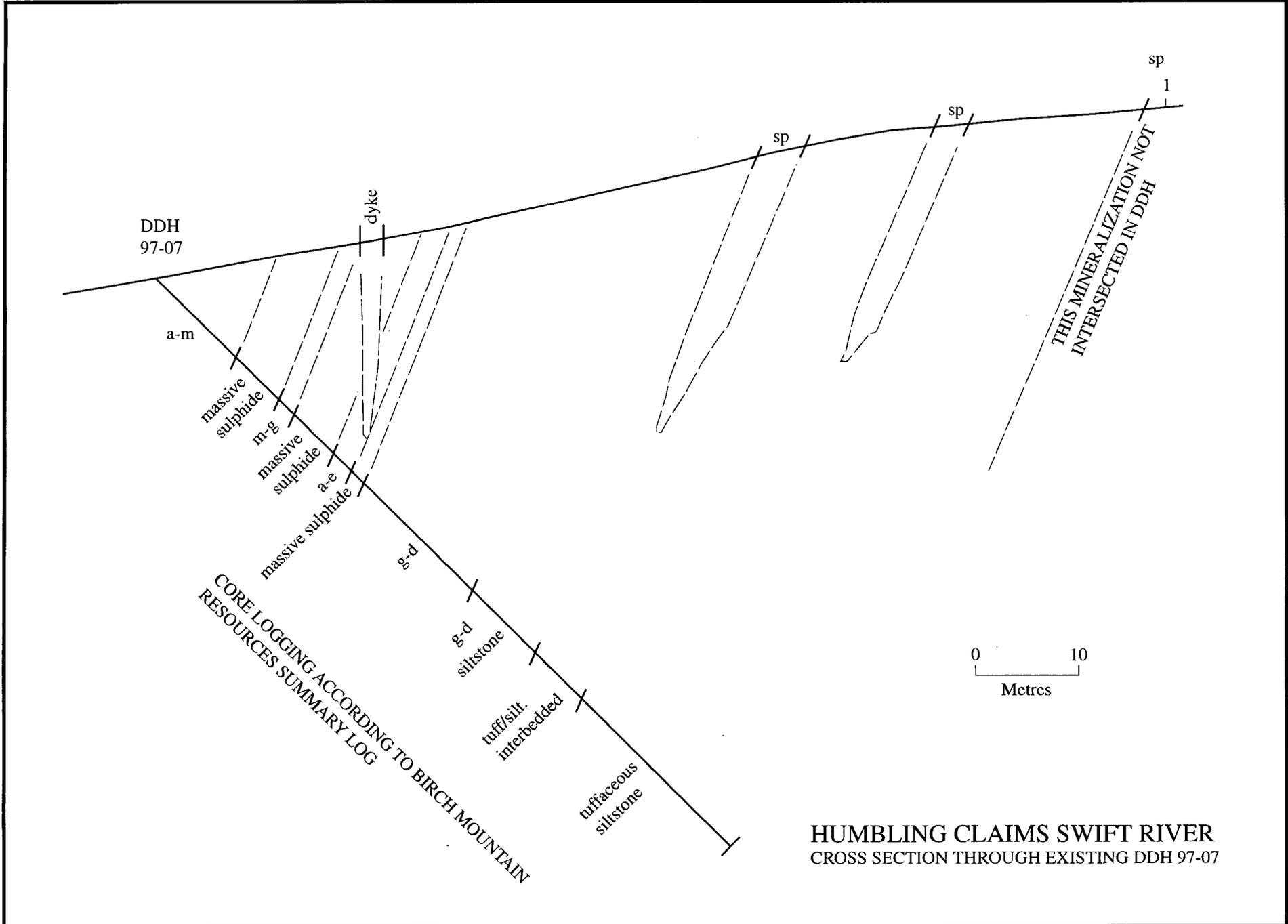


Figure 2: Part of claim map 105B-3 at  $\approx 1:30,000$  scale showing location of the Humbling 1-3 claims.









DDH  
97-07

a-m

massive  
sulphide

m-g  
massive  
sulphide

a-e  
massive sulphide

dyke

s-s

s-s  
siltstone

tuff/silt.  
interbedded

tuffaceous  
siltstone

sp

sp

sp

1

THIS MINERALIZATION NOT  
INTERSECTED IN DDH

CORE LOGGING ACCORDING TO BIRCH MOUNTAIN  
RESOURCES SUMMARY LOG

0 10  
Metres

HUMBLING CLAIMS SWIFT RIVER  
CROSS SECTION THROUGH EXISTING DDH 97-07

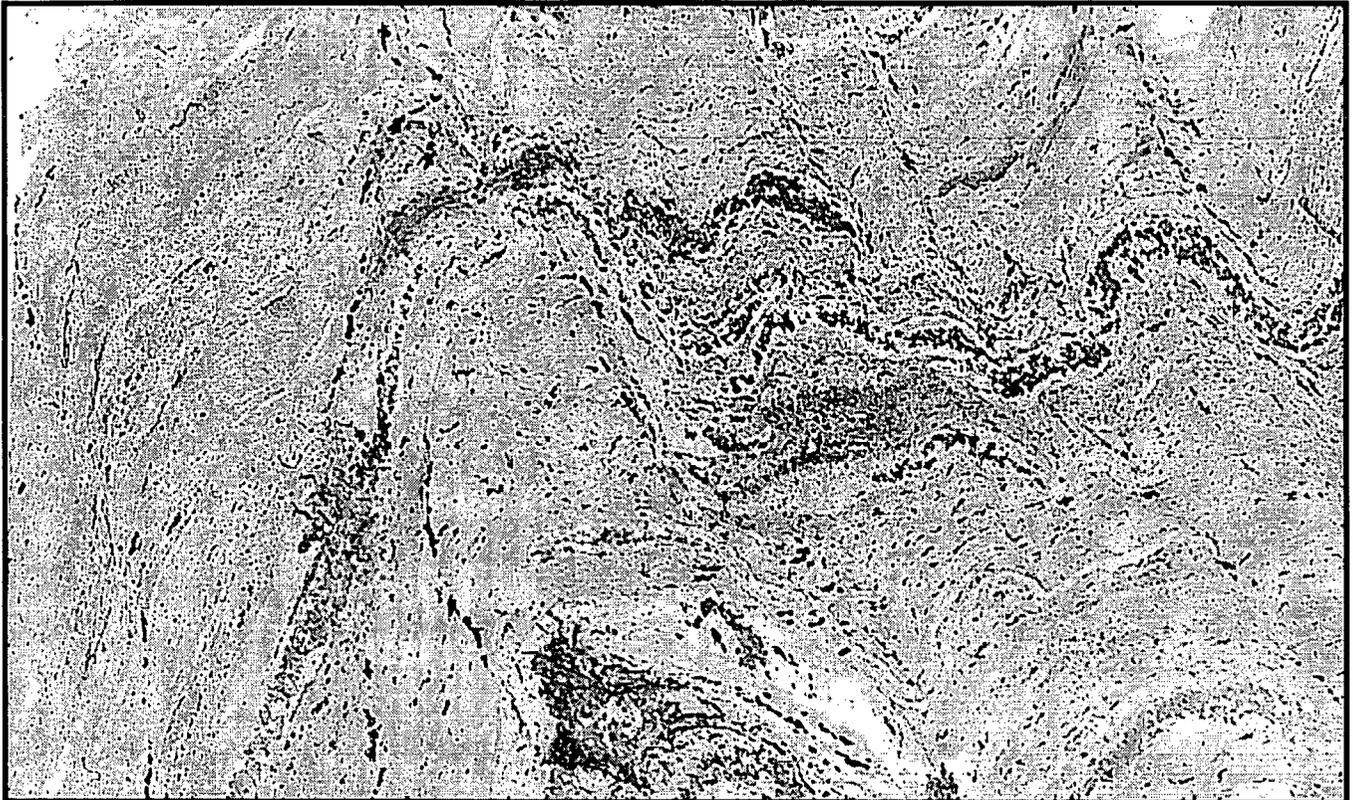


Figure 7. Thin section of tuff from the Humbling claims. Transmitted light, with width of field 40 mm. An incipient crenulation cleavage is developed.