

Assessment Report on the

**2016 SOIL and TRENCHING SURVEY**

on the

**MOOSEHORN PROPERTY, YUKON**

<b>Grant Number</b>	<b>Claim Name</b>
YD06167 - YD06190	CIT 1 - CIT 24
YD06199 - YD06224	MHN 9 - MHN 34
YD131841 - YD131860	CIT 25 - CIT 44
YE27267 - YE27278	MHN 35 - MHN 46

Summary Technical report for  
YMEP 16-096 Target Evaluation Hard Rock

WHITEHORSE MINING DISTRICT

**Date(s) Worked:** June 8 – June 23, 2016

NTS Map 115N02  
UTM 507,500E; 6,991,500N (NAD 83, Zone 7)

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January 18, 2017

## Table of Contents

SUMMARY .....	4
INTRODUCTION .....	4
CLAIM DATA AND OWNERSHIP .....	4
PROPERTY DESCRIPTION .....	6
LOCATION.....	6
CLIMATE AND GEOMORPHOLOGY.....	6
INFRASTRUCTURE .....	7
HISTORY.....	7
PREVIOUS WORK.....	7
RECENT HISTORY.....	9
GEOLOGICAL SETTING .....	9
REGIONAL GEOLOGY .....	9
PROPERTY GEOLOGY .....	9
GEOCHEMISTRY.....	10
SOIL PROGRAM.....	10
TRENCHING PROGRAM.....	12
QUALITY ASSURANCE/QUALITY CONTROL .....	12
DISCUSSIONS .....	13
RECOMMENDATIONS.....	13
REFERENCES .....	15
STATEMENT OF QUALIFICATIONS.....	16
STATEMENT OF QUALIFICATIONS.....	17
STATEMENT OF EXPENDITURES.....	18

**List of Tables**

Table 1 – Moosehorn Claim Data..... 5

**List of Figures**

Figure 1 – Location Map ..... 5  
Figure 2 – Claim Map..... 6  
Figure 3 – Regional Geology.....10

**List of Appendices**

APPENDIX 1 Laboratory Assay Certificates.....19  
APPENDIX 2 Property Maps.....20

**List of Maps** (in envelope)

- 2016 Sample Locations
- Surface Sample Gold Geochemistry
- Trench Sample Gold Geochemistry and Geology

## **SUMMARY**

The Moosehorn property is an early stage exploration project located in a geographical area that has seen an abundance of exploration work in the past. Exploration activities on Moosehorn over the past six years have focused on targeting orogenic gold mineralization. A total of 164 soil samples, 9 prospecting samples, and 228 trench samples were collected over 43 man days in 2016. The soil geochemical survey returned anomalous results for gold and arsenic, extending the previously outlined 1.2 kilometre (km) anomaly to 1.4 km long. Trench samples with anomalous gold results were returned and appear to show a spatial association with a more mafic phase of the granodiorite intrusion.

## **INTRODUCTION**

This report describes a reconnaissance soil geochemical survey and trenching program conducted by Independence Gold Corp. (“InGold”) staff on the Moosehorn property. Soil sampling was conducted by a 5 person crew on June 8, 2016. Mechanical trenching was completed by a 4 person crew between June 15 and June 23, 2016. The authors managed and/or took part in the field program. This report is being filed and meets the requirements for both an assessment report and the YMIP summary technical report. The Statement of Qualifications are contained within this report.

The objective of the 2016 exploration program was to continue to evaluate the mineral potential of the Moosehorn property, which is geographically located in an area known to host multiple gold-bearing quartz veins, and has a rich history of placer mining activity. The Moosehorn property is proximal to historical gold discoveries made (most notably) by Barramundi Gold Ltd.

## **CLAIM DATA AND OWNERSHIP**

Silver Quest Resources Ltd. (“Silver Quest”) acquired the MHN and CIT claims from Archer, Cathro & Associated (1981) Limited in December 2009. The Moosehorn property comprises 82 contiguous quartz claims and covers a total area of about 1,720 hectares (ha). The claim block centers on 507,500E and 6,991,500N (NAD 83, Zone 7) on NTS map sheet 115N02 as shown on Figure 1 and 2. Quartz claims are registered to Independence Gold Corp with the Whitehorse Mining Recorder. Claim data is listed below on Table 1.



Figure 1 – Location Map

Table 1 – Moosehorn Claim Data

Grant Number	Claim Name	Owner/Operator
YD06167 - YD06190	CIT 1 - CIT 24	Independence Gold Corp.
YD06199 - YD06224	MHN 9 - MHN 34	Independence Gold Corp.
YD131841 - YD131860	CIT 25 - CIT 44	Independence Gold Corp.
YE27267 - YE27278	MHN 35 - MHN 46	Independence Gold Corp.

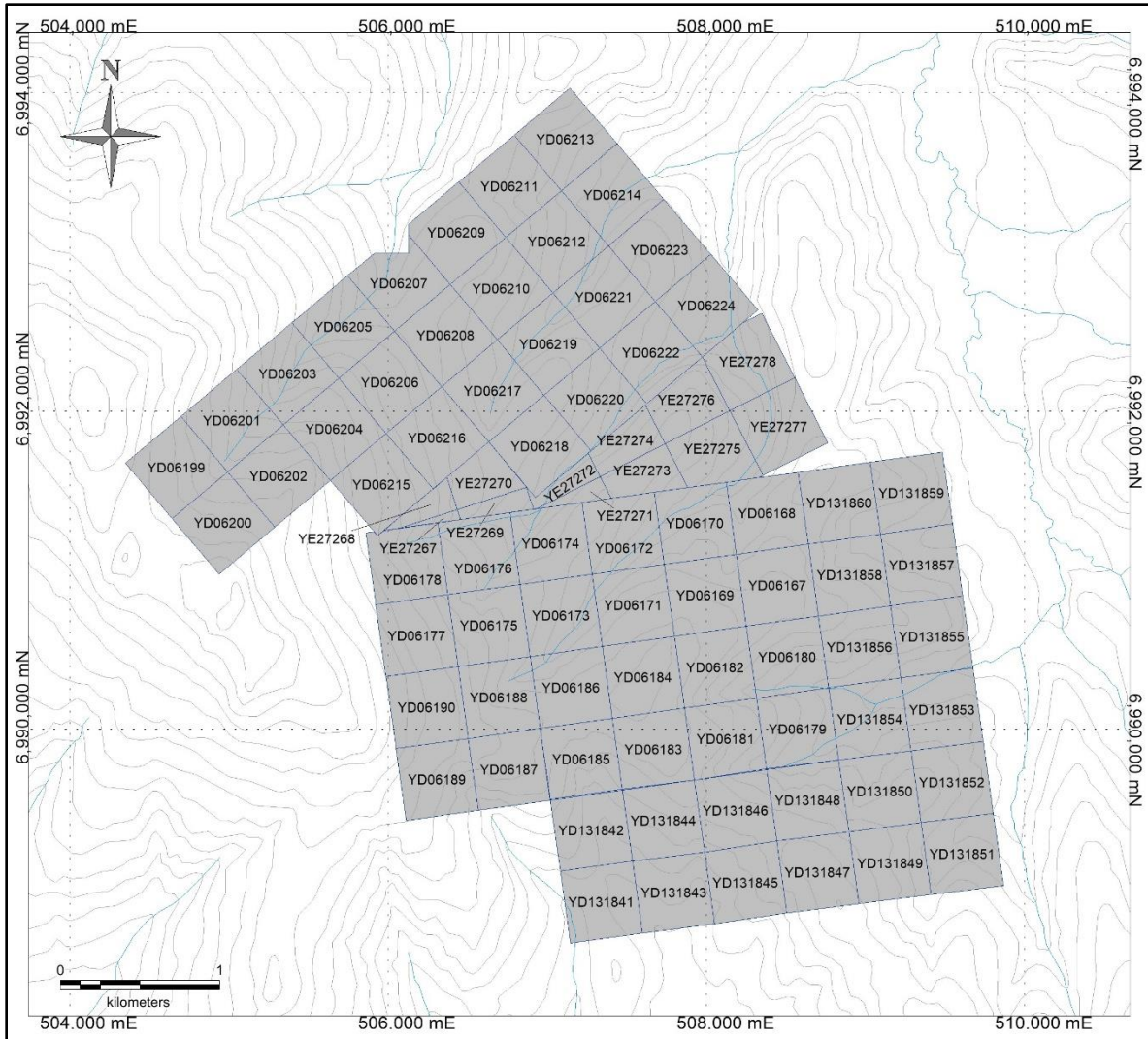


Figure 2 – Claim Map

## PROPERTY DESCRIPTION

### LOCATION

The Moosehorn property is located in the Moosehorn mountain range area of west-central Yukon about 8 km east of the Yukon-Alaska border and 135 km southwest of Dawson City (Figure 1).

### CLIMATE AND GEOMORPHOLOGY

The Moosehorn property lies within the Moosehorn mountain range with the geological area known as the Dawson Range; an area characterized by its rolling hills. Local elevations range from 650 to 1,400 metres (m) above sea level. The higher elevation areas of the property are thickly vegetated with stunted, aspen, birch and spruce trees; willow and birch brush and thin

moss cover. Lower elevations support a mixture of aspen, birch and spruce forest with thick brush, and moss-covered slopes. Lesaux Creek, a tributary of the Ladue River is the main drainage channel of the Moosehorn property.

Climate in the region is described as sub-arctic with short mild summers and long cold winters. Temperatures generally average approximate 11 degrees Celsius during the summer months. Precipitation was observed almost daily throughout July and August. Appendix 2 contains a detailed weather log from the 2016 season.

Due to the mild summer temperatures, permafrost can be found throughout the geographic region. Locally permafrost is discontinuous, depending on slope direction, elevation and drainage patterns. Multiple freeze thaw cycles have resulted in flesenmeer slopes, covered with a thin layer of moss. The Dawson Range remained unglaciated during the Pleistocene, making outcrops rare, and maintaining a soil profile that is relatively in-place. The few outcrops that are present are located along sparsely vegetated ridges and in main creek drainages.

## **INFRASTRUCTURE**

Access to the Moosehorn property in 2016 was via a Bell206 L3 helicopter operated by Heli Dynamics of Whitehorse and based out of InGold's Independence Creek Camp, approximately 62 km to the southeast of the property. A Can-Dig excavator was used for trenching and was flown in using a fixed wing aircraft from Dawson to the Moosehorn strip, located 6 km north of the property boundary. Additionally, there are two winter road access routes for the property from the Alaska Highway, one on either side of the Yukon-Alaska border.

The property is surrounded by placer mining activity. The largest operation is owned by Ian Warrick and Kate Robertson of Moosehorn Exploration, and is located 5 km north of the property.

## **HISTORY**

### **PREVIOUS WORK**

In 1970, high grade quartz gold veins west of the current Moosehorn claims were found by Quintana Minerals Ltd. (Sears and Heaton, 1997). The claims lapsed, and were re-staked by A. Harman and R.S. Adamson in 1972 as the Dea block, incorporating part of the current Moosehorn property. They were then optioned to Great Bear Mining in 1975 (Greig, 1975), and drilled in the

same year following a large program of trenching, geophysics, geochemistry and geological mapping (Waugh, 1975).

In 1974, J. M. Kenyon staked the area to the west of the Dea claims, known as the Lori claims following the collection of a hand sample containing 88 g/t Au. The Lori claims were optioned to Claymore Resources in 1975 (Greig 1975) and drilled in the same year, discovering no significant mineralization, but acknowledging the possible presence of mineralization. Claymore switched to placer mining with the discovery of gold on Kenyon Creek in 1975. A rich quartz vein was discovered during mining, traceable to the top of the Moosehorn Range. Processing of near surface materials confirmed grades over 80 grams per tonne gold across narrow vein widths (Baker and Swanton, 2010).

In the late 1980s, Canada Tungsten Mining Corp. extracted over 13,000 oz of gold from these creeks. Sikanni Oilfield Construction Ltd. acquired the ground covering all three of the above-mentioned creeks as well as a small scale hard rock operation (Davidson, 1995) which extracted 3,225 ounces of gold before operations ceased in 1996 (Sears et al. 2000). Sikanni divested its interest in the claims with the ground being acquired by Barramundi Gold Ltd. who, in 1996 carried out a program including geophysical surveying, field mapping, trenching and surface sampling of felsenmeer, soil and stream sediments. Follow up work in 1999 consisted of diamond drilling, soil sampling and detailed geophysics. The program confirmed the presence of a gold-bearing quartz vein system of moderate size in Swede's Pit and intersected several smaller gold-bearing veins directly to the north (Sears et al. 2000).

The work described above focused primarily on the western slope of the Moosehorn Range, which is not covered by the current Moosehorn property. The streams draining the eastern flank of the ridge were first explored for the potential of placer gold in 1986 and it was concluded that the area had potential for producing similar grades to those seen in Kenyon Creek (Warrick and Robertson, 1987).

The Moosehorn Range area was the subject of Nancy Joyce's Masters Thesis from the University of British Columbia. Joyce (2002) described the tectonic setting and timing of intrusive bodies in the area, post-intrusion structural events, and the geochemistry of the gold-bearing quartz veins which have been the focus all historical economic exploration.

## **RECENT HISTORY**

In 2010, Equity Exploration Consultants Ltd. on behalf of Silver Quest collected 43 soil samples from a single soil contour line with 50 m spaced samples, one rock sample and one silt sample. This work was completed in one day by two prospectors (Baker and Swanton, 2010).

In 2011, Silver Quest collected 67 soil samples, along two separate sampling lines with 100 m spaced samples. No rock or silt samples were taken during this program. Two anomalous gold-in-soil zones with coincident arsenic and antimony were discovered in the southeast part of the property in 2011 (Congdon, 2011). At the end of 2011, the property was transferred to InGold. InGold collect 447 soil samples from 2 ridge top sampling grids spaced at 50 m intervals in 2012. The 2012 program outlined a 1.2 km long gold and arsenic anomaly. Further work including trenching was recommended.

## **GEOLOGICAL SETTING**

### **REGIONAL GEOLOGY**

Moosehorn is situated within the Yukon-Tanana Terrane approximately 160 km southwest of the Tintina Fault in west-central Yukon. This area is characterized by various pericratonic terranes that were accreted to the ancestral continental margin of North America in the early Jurassic. During the mid-Cretaceous the pericratonic terranes were intruded by a northwest-southeast trending plutonic suite known as the Dawson Range plutonic belt (Hart et al. 2004).

### **PROPERTY GEOLOGY**

The country rock in the Moosehorn Range is composed of biotite-quartz  $\pm$  feldspar  $\pm$  muscovite gneiss and schist; these rocks were intruded by a Cretaceous pluton belonging to the Whitehorse Plutonic Suite (Kg) which directly underlies the Moosehorn property. The Kg plutonic rocks form as a massive hornblende-biotite granodiorite (Joyce, 2002). This intrusion was followed by a younger intrusion (96 and 100 Ma) of numerous porphyritic dykes of diorite to granodiorite (Joyce 2002) which cut the main body of the Whitehorse Plutonic Suite. Replacement of hornblende by biotite or chlorite  $\pm$  epidote is widespread in the Moosehorn area (Joyce, 2002). Current understanding suggests that these dykes belong to the upper Cretaceous Carmacks Group volcanic rocks (uKCv) (Gordey and Ryan, 2005).

Structural geology of the area is difficult to interpret due to lack of in-place outcrop. Topographic lineaments define a major set of NNW-trending features connected by a smaller set of northeast-trending features. Lows on a magnetic total field map are parallel to this system (Joyce, 2002).

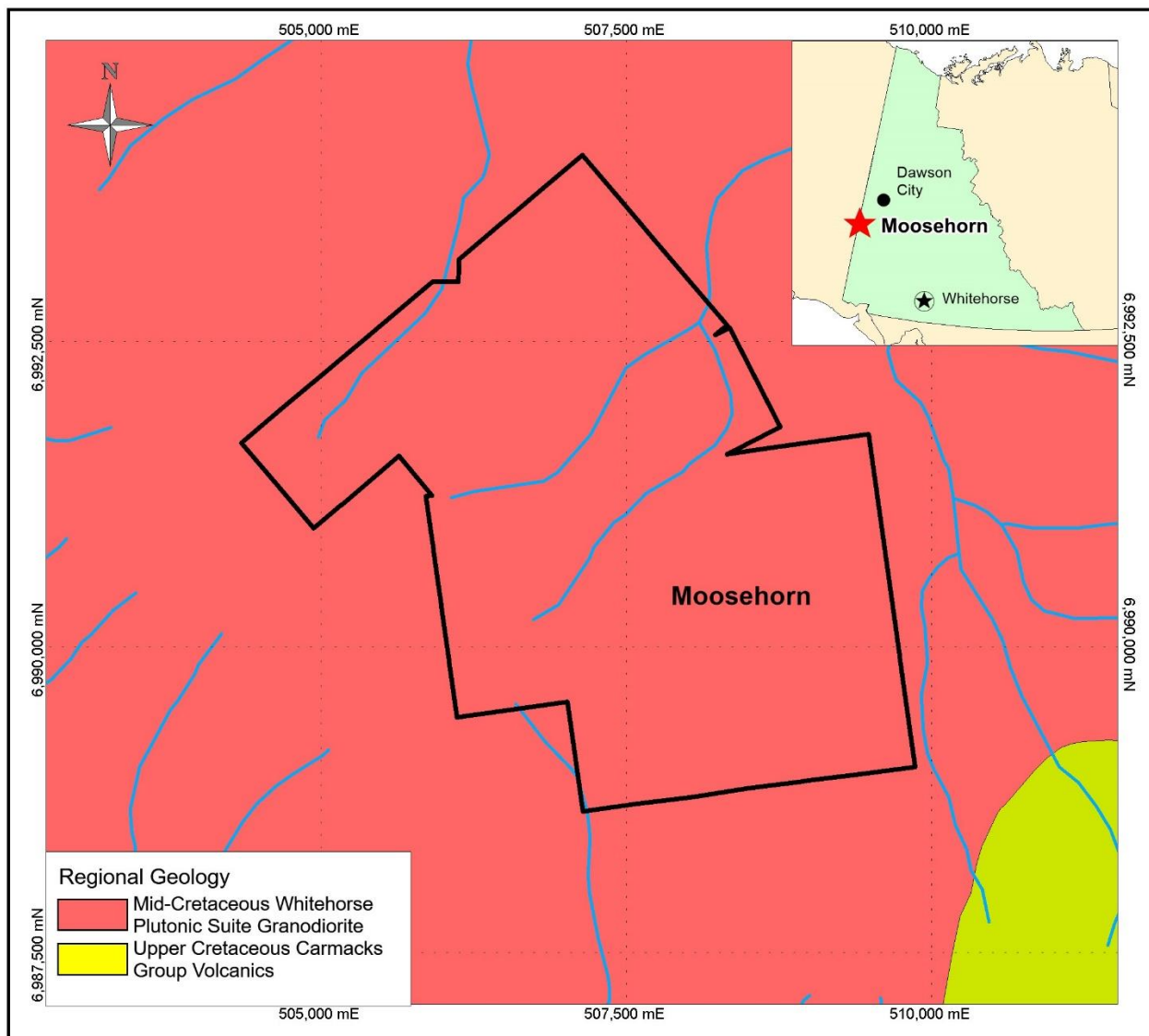


Figure 3 – Regional Geology

## GEOCHEMISTRY

### SOIL PROGRAM

During a single day on June 8, 2016, a five-person Groundtruth Exploration crew flew down from Dawson and collected 164 soil samples (See Map 2016 Sample Locations). Three grids were completed and focused on expanding the gold-in-soil anomaly to the north and south, and

infilling the historical survey. Prospecting by a team of two geologists was completed on the same day and 9 samples were collected. The Groundtruth Exploration personnel used to complete this work were: Yoann Voyer (Project Manager), Jack Taforo, Julian Moore, Louis-David Durocher and Mark Severinsen. Their address is C/O Groundtruth Exploration, Box 70, 37440 Raspberry Lane, Dawson City, Yukon, Y0B 1G0. Two Independence Gold employees completed the prospecting work: David Gale and Bruce Kienlen and their address is C/O Independence Gold Corp, Suite 1020 – 625 Howe Street, Vancouver, BC, V6C 2T6.

All samplers use rigorous sampling procedures when collecting the C-horizon soil samples. Samplers began by removing a 30 centimetre (cm) by 30 cm section of moss mat or vegetative cover. Second, a soil pit of similar dimensions was hand excavated; exposing A and B soil horizon boundaries and reaching the top of the C-horizon where feasible. The depth of the pit varied from 20 cm to 60 cm, depending on sampling conditions. A handheld Dutch auger was then placed in the bottom of the pit, and used to auger as deep as possible (~75 – 90 cm total depth). Soil cores, the length of the head of the auger, were removed from the auger hole each time the auger filled with soil. This core of soil material (300 grams to 400 grams) obtained from the final core was collected in a standard KRAFT soil sample bag and transported to the 2016 Independence Creek Camp.

All sample locations were rehabilitated by back-filling the soil pit and replacing the moss mat or vegetative cover. This was done to minimize the environmental impact. Locations with permafrost or areas lacking mineral soils were not sampled. Equipment such as shovels and trowels were cleaned between samples. All sample locations were recorded using a hand-held GPS, and coordinates are referenced to the 1983 North American Datum (NAD 83), Zone 7. A complete description of soil type, depth, thickness of the sample, the surrounding environment and the terrain was recorded at each location.

Samples were submitted to SGS Canada Inc. laboratory facility in Vancouver, an ISO 17025 certified facility. Samples were analysed by aqua regia digestion and inductively coupled plasma with optical emission spectroscopy (ICP-OES) analysis for 34-elements SGS GE ICP14B. Gold was analysed by fire assay and atomic absorption spectroscopy (FAA313). Assay certificates of analysis, laboratory certification and analytical method summaries are presented in Appendix 1.

## **TRENCHING PROGRAM**

A Can-Dig excavator was mobilized from Dawson to the Moosehorn airstrip located 6 km to the north of the property. From there a Bell 206 Long Ranger helicopter was used to transport equipment and personnel to the site of trenching. Three trenches were excavated during a 9-day field program that started June 15 and ended on June 23, 2016 (see Map Trench Sample Gold Geochemistry and Geology). The trenches were located within the centre of the gold-in-soil anomaly and a total of 228 rock samples were collected from 527 m of trenches. Limited brushing was completed in preparation for trenching with no large trees (diameter >5 cm) cut down for the program. Surveying of the trenches was done using the Garmin handheld GPS with approximately 1.5 m accuracy. Compositing samples were collected every 2 m and the material sampled variably consisted of broken bedrock to lower C-horizon. In trench 1 and 2 isolated, 1.5-3 m intervals were not sampled due to tree root networks. In trench 3, intervals up to 28 metres were not sampled due to permafrost. The average width of the trenches was 60 cm and depending on terrain, the depths ranged from 20 to 100 cm. Assuming these dimensions (70 cm average depth), approximately 221 m<sup>3</sup> of material was displaced. All trenches were left open to conduct follow-up work once assay results were received. Two contractors were hired to do the work from Groundtruth Exploration: Robin Miller and Daniel Frost and their address is C/O Groundtruth Exploration, Box 70, 37440 Raspberry Lane, Dawson City, Yukon, Y0B 1G0. Two Independence Gold employees completed the trench sampling: David Gale and Bruce Kienlen and their address is C/O Independence Gold Corp, Suite 1020 – 625 Howe Street, Vancouver, BC, V6C 2T6.

## **QUALITY ASSURANCE/QUALITY CONTROL**

The Quality Assurance-Quality Control (QAQC) procedures differed between the soil sampling and the trenching programs. Duplicate soil samples were collected every 25 samples and there were no blanks or standards used. There were no issues identified and the duplicates demonstrate good correlation between duplicate pairs. For all rocks collected (i.e. prospecting and trenching) QA/QC sampling included the insertion of blanks, standards and duplicates into the sample stream at set intervals. Blanks were inserted on every sample identification number ending in 20, 50 and 80; while a gold standard (CDN-GS-5R, purchased from CDN Resource Laboratories) was inserted on every sample identification number that ended in 30, 60 and 90. The values from these blanks were used to check for contamination between samples, and gold standards were used to check the consistency of the analytical procedures used by SGS Canada Inc. Erroneous QA-QC results are investigated and appropriate re-analysis undertaken when necessary. Internal

SGS Canada Inc. blanks, duplicates, standards and spikes were also used to confirm the accuracy of the analytical methods and instruments.

Quality Assurance-Quality Control (QAQC) samples for the Moosehorn property passed without any concerns.

## **DISCUSSIONS**

The gold-in-soil anomaly was expanded to the north and currently has a strike length of 1,400 m (see map Surface Sample Gold Geochemistry). The prospecting rock samples returned values ranging from detection to 939 ppb Au with highly anomalous arsenic (up to 982 ppm) and antimony (14.9 ppm). These rock samples were collected in the general area of trenching.

Gold mineralization was confirmed in sub-crop in each of the three trenches which accounts for the gold-in-soil anomaly (see map Trench Sample Gold Geochemistry and Geology). Trench 1 intersected 2.0 m of 5,140 ppb Au. Trench 2 intersected 6.0 m of 730 ppb Au and 6.0 m of 524 ppb Au. Detailed quartz vein sampling within the anomalous zones of trench 2 returned values ranging from 100 to 1,600 ppb Au. All gold values occur within a broader arsenic halo with values ranging from below detection to 3,990 ppm arsenic. In trench 2, grab and trench samples of quartz veins hosting semi-massive stibnite returned up to 1.39% Sb. The rocks within the three trenches are dominated by the hornblende and biotite bearing granodiorite with irregularly developed diorite or tonalite, presumably occurring as dykes. In both trench 1 and 2, the eastern most 35-40 metres is comprised of diorite with only minor granodiorite. The occurrence of the diorite demonstrates a crude spatial association with elevated gold values so there could be a genetic relationship between diorite dykes and mineralization. All the intrusive rocks observed in the trenching are massive with no foliation.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS**

The following recommendations can be made for further exploration on the Moosehorn property:

- The potential of the entire property must be evaluated before considering a drilling program. To accomplish this a ridge and spur soil sampling program is recommended. Sample sites spaced at 100 m along 7 separate lines (total length: 15 km) have been

proposed. If multi-element soil anomalies are identified along these lines then detailed soil grid sampling, followed by trenching will be required to further refine the targets.

- Secondly, basic mapping and prospecting is recommended to identify possible structures and sources of mineralization in the area of the new anomaly and across the rest of the property.
- Further soil geochemical work is recommended to follow-up on anomalous gold values in soil at the north end of the soil anomaly. Detailed soil grids (50 m x 50 m spacing) would be beneficial to further delineate and extend the known anomaly.

## REFERENCES

- Baker, D. and Swanton, D. 2010, Geochemical Report on the Moosehorn Property, Equity Exploration Consultants Ltd. On behalf of Silver Quest Resources Ltd, submitted for Assessment to Yukon Mines, Energy and Resources.
- Congdon, R.J.F (2011), 2011 Soil Geochemical Survey on the Moosehorn Property, Yukon, Yukon Geological Survey Assessment Report, Silver Quest Resources Ltd.
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## STATEMENT OF QUALIFICATIONS

I, David Gale, PGeo, MSc, of 3358 Passaglia Place, Coquitlam, British Columbia, hereby certify that:

I am a graduate of the Memorial University of Newfoundland having obtained the degree of Bachelor of Science in Geology in 1994 and am a graduate of Queen's University in Kingston having obtained a Masters of Science degree in Geology in 1997.

I am a registered member of the Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of British Columbia (#27366).

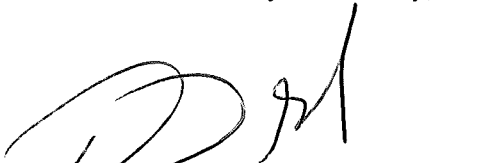
I have been continuously employed in the mineral exploration industry in Canada since 1994.

I am currently employed as a Senior Geologist, by Independence Gold Corp. Suite 1410-650 West Georgia Street, Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada, V6B 4N8.

I am the author of the report entitled "2016 Soil and Trenching Survey on the Moosehorn Property, Yukon".

I helped to manage, log rock chips and reviewed the geological work on site reported herein.

Dated this 18<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2017.



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David Gale, PGeo, MSc

## STATEMENT OF QUALIFICATIONS

I, Kendra A. Johnston, PGeo, BSc, of Suite 206-1550 Barclay Street, Vancouver, British Columbia, hereby certify that:

I am a graduate of the University of Victoria, British Columbia having obtained the degree of Bachelor of Science in Earth and Ocean Science and Geography, 2005 and Smith School of Business at Queen's University having obtained the degree of Masters in Business Administration.

I am a registered member of the Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of British Columbia (#37719).

I have been continuously employed in the mineral exploration industry in Canada since 2005.

I am currently employed as Manager, Corporate Development, by Independence Gold Corp. Suite 1020-625 Howe Street, Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada, V6C 2T6.

I am the author of the report entitled "2016 Soil and Trenching Survey on the Moosehorn Property, Yukon".

I managed and reviewed the geological work on site reported herein.

Dated this 18<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2017.



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Kendra A. Johnston, PGeo, MBA, BSc

## STATEMENT OF EXPENDITURES

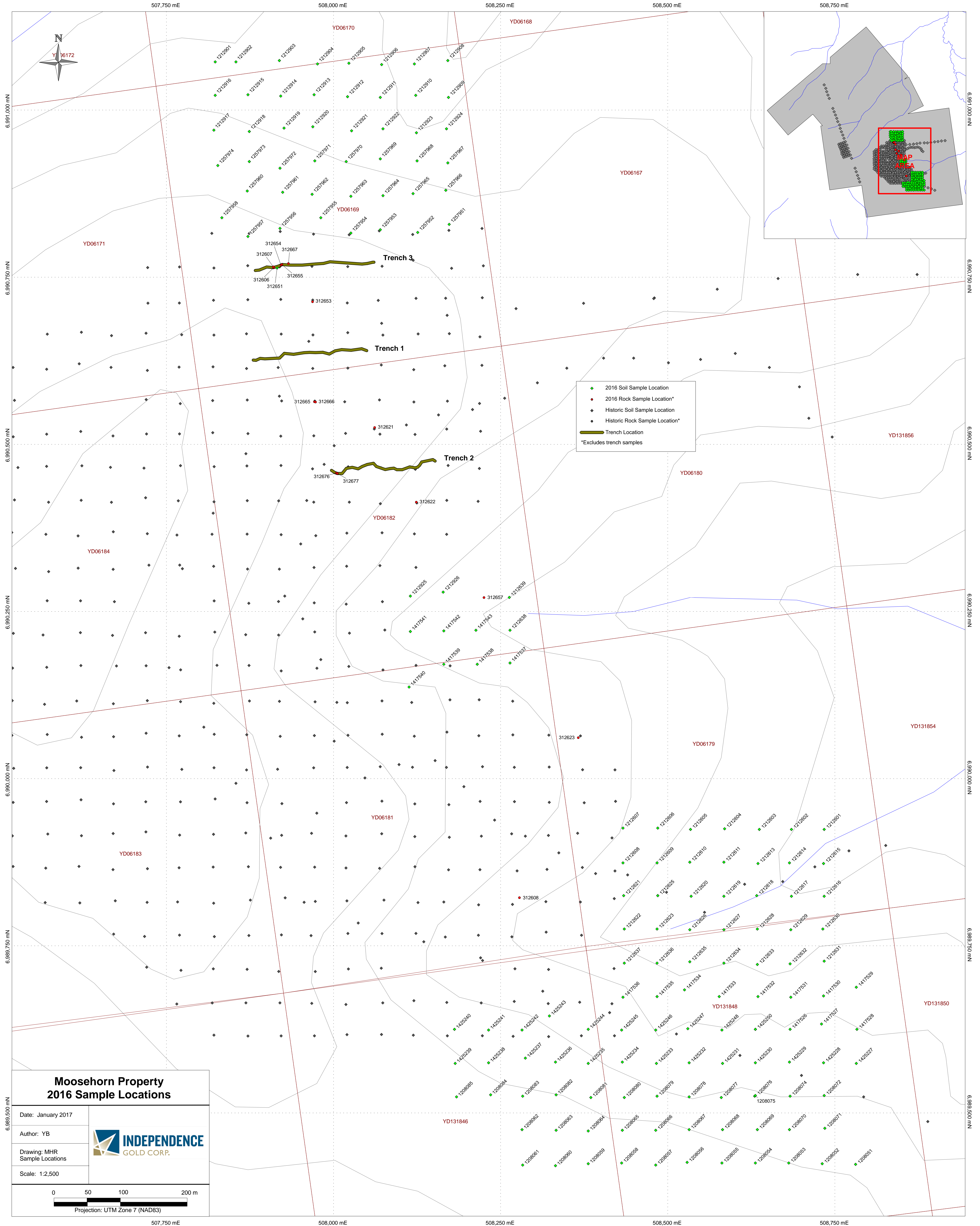
	Quantity	Rate	Cost	
Samples Collected	401	\$ 26.50	\$ 10,626.50	
Sample Shipping	1	\$ 415.00	\$ 415.00	
Sample Technician day(s)	5	\$ 350.00	\$ 6,300.00	
Senior Geologist day(s)	20	\$ 500.00	\$ 10,000.00	
Can-dig Technician day(s)	18	\$ 350.00	\$ 6,300.00	
Planning and reporting day(s)	15	\$ 500.00	\$ 7,500.00	
Camp Costs (per man day)	43	\$ 100.00	\$ 4,300.00	
Heavy Equipment Day(s) (75%)	9	\$ 285.00	\$ 2,565.00	
Fixed Wing Flight(s)	5	\$ 3,980.00	\$ 19,900.00	
Helicopter Hour(s)	26	\$ 1,325.00	\$ 34,450.00	
Helicopter Fuel (drums)	26	\$ 300.00	\$ 7,800.00	
			<u>\$ 110,156.50</u>	
	Supervision: 12%		\$ 13,218.78	
	Total:		<u>\$ 123,375.30</u>	
	Claims Worked: 7	\$ 17,625.04		per claim worked
	Claims Grouped: 82	\$ 1,504.58		Per claim grouped

Date(s) worked: June 8, 2016 and June 15 – 23, 2016

Work Completed by: Independence Gold Corp. and Ground Truth Exploration

**APPENDIX 1**  
**Laboratory Assay Certificates**

## **APPENDIX 2 Property Maps**



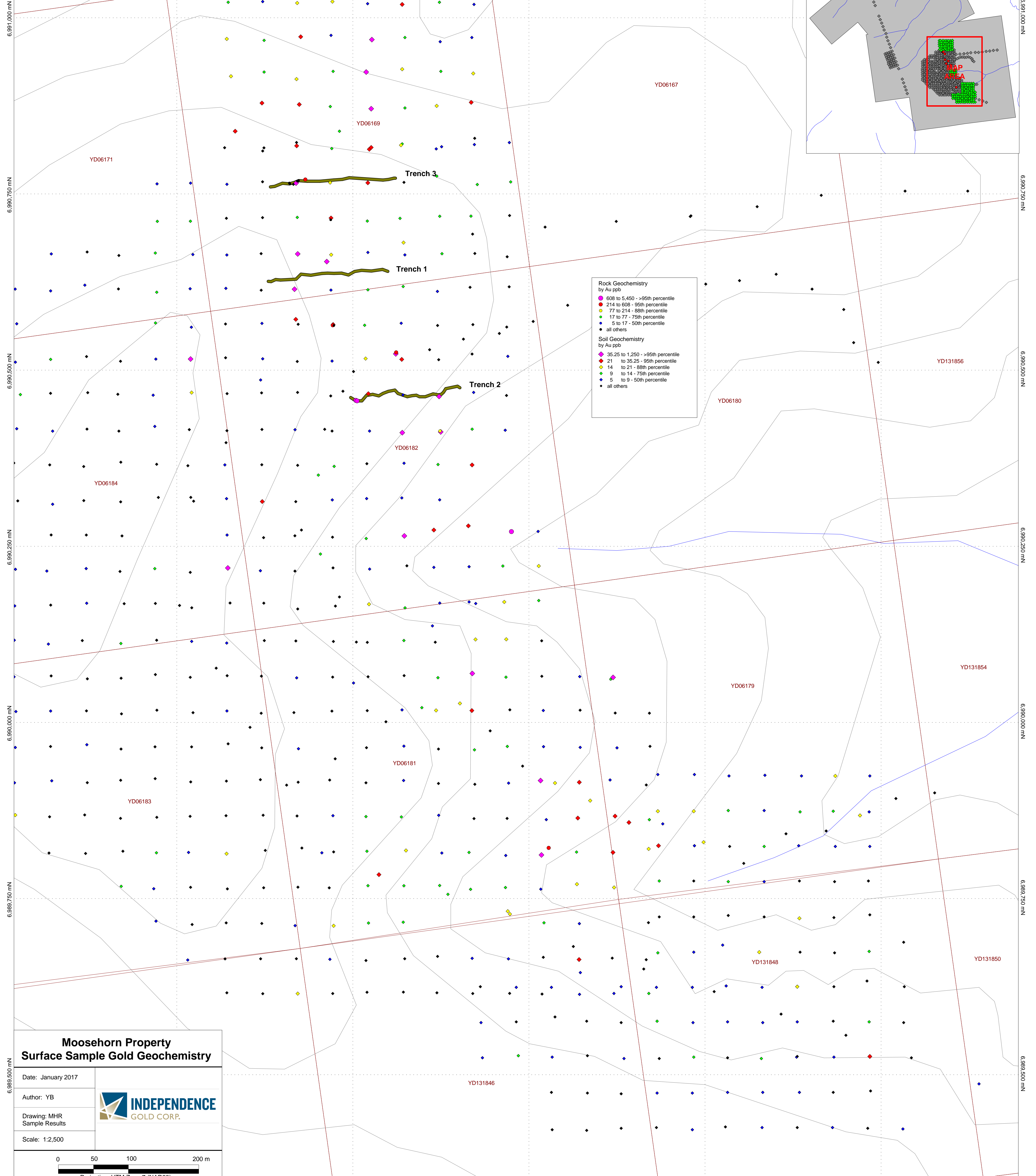
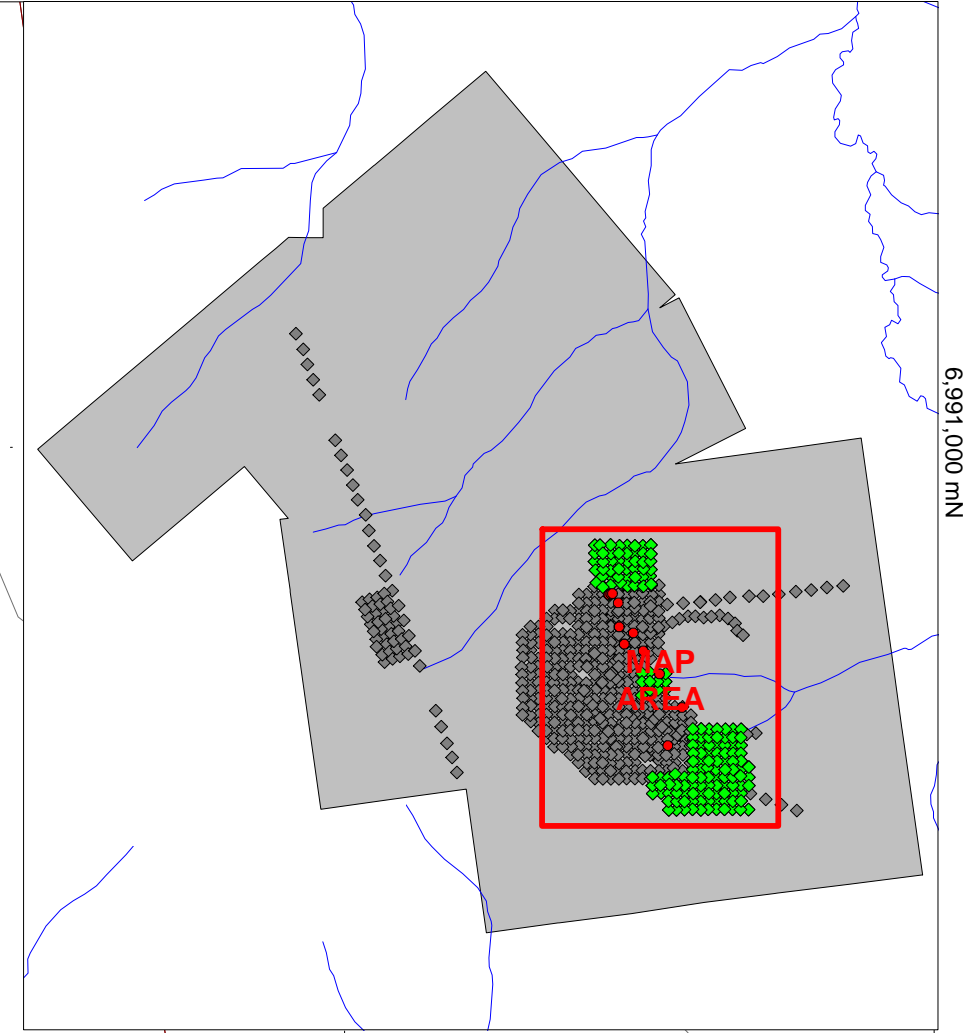
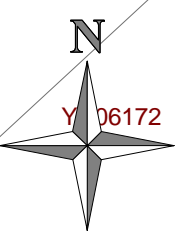
◆ 2016 Soil Sample Location  
◆ 2016 Rock Sample Location\*  
◆ Historic Soil Sample Location  
■ Historic Rock Sample Location\*  
— Trench Location  
 \*Excludes trench samples

**Moosehorn Property  
2016 Sample Locations**

Date: January 2017	
Author: YB	
Drawing: MHR Sample Locations	
Scale: 1:2,500	

Projection: UTM Zone 7 (NAD83)

507,750 mE 508,000 mE 508,250 mE 508,500 mE 508,750 mE



**Rock Geochemistry by Au ppb**

- 608 to 5,450 - >95th percentile
- 214 to 608 - 95th percentile
- 77 to 214 - 88th percentile
- 17 to 77 - 75th percentile
- 5 to 17 - 50th percentile
- all others

**Soil Geochemistry by Au ppb**

- 35.25 to 1,250 - >95th percentile
- 21 to 35.25 - 95th percentile
- 14 to 21 - 88th percentile
- 9 to 14 - 75th percentile
- 5 to 9 - 50th percentile
- all others

**Moosehorn Property  
Surface Sample Gold Geochemistry**

Date: January 2017

Author: YB

Drawing: MHR  
Sample Results

Scale: 1:2,500

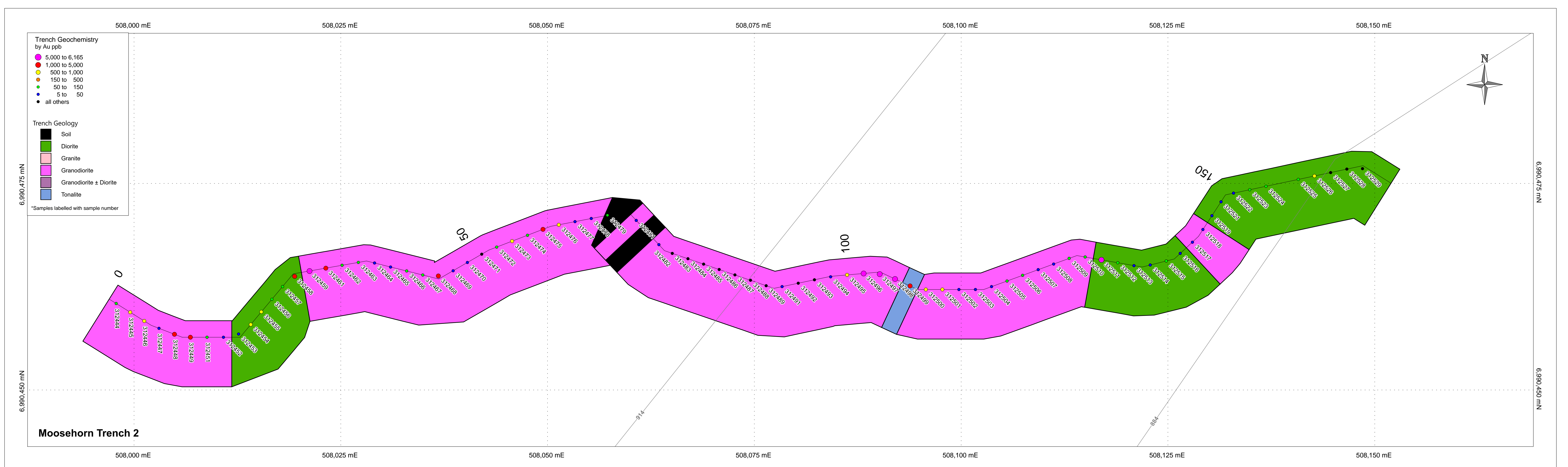
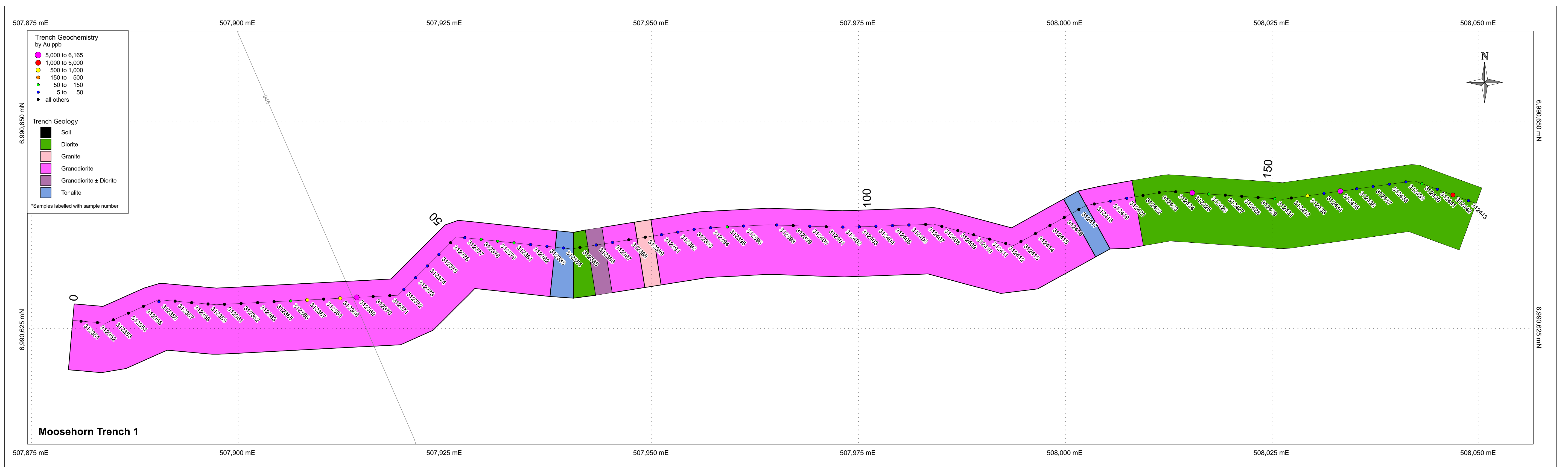
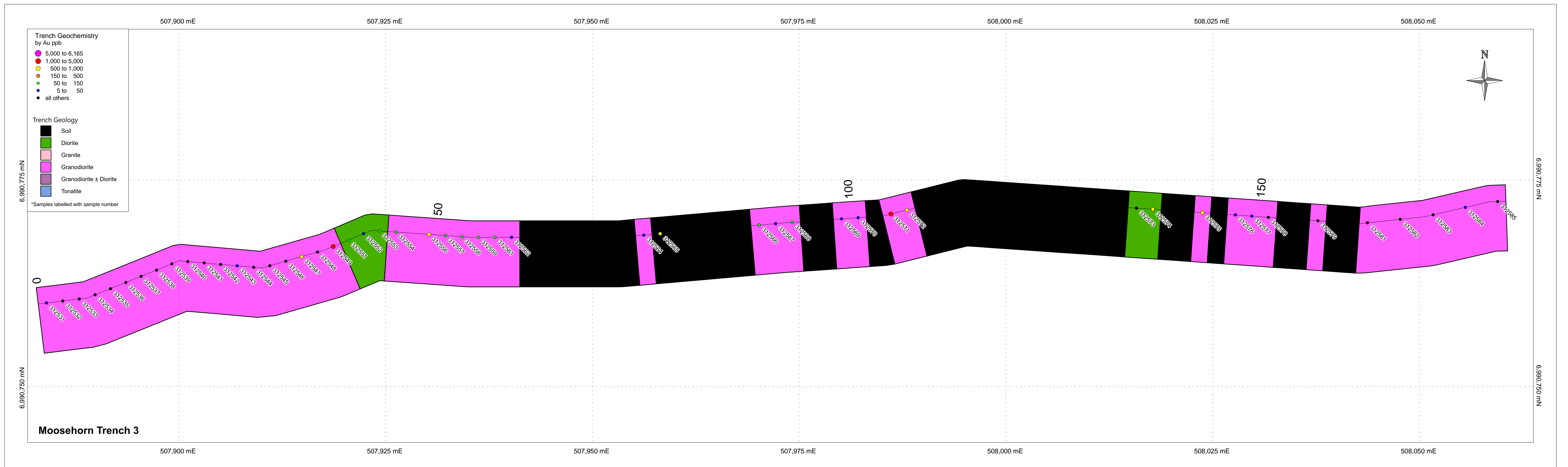
0 50 100 200 m

Projection: UTM Zone 7 (NAD83)

507,750 mE 508,000 mE 508,250 mE 508,500 mE 508,750 mE

6,991,000 mN  
6,990,750 mN  
6,990,500 mN  
6,990,250 mN  
6,990,000 mN  
6,989,750 mN  
6,989,500 mN

Nw 000 186 9  
Nw 027 186 9  
Nw 050 186 9  
Nw 027 186 9  
Nw 000 186 9  
Nw 027 186 9  
Nw 050 186 9  
Nw 027 186 9  
Nw 000 186 9  
Nw 027 186 9  
Nw 050 186 9



**Moosehorn Trench Sample Gold Geochemistry and Geology**  
 Projection: NAD83, Zone 7  
 Scale: 1:250