# Technical Report On the Golden Trend Project Eureka County, Nevada

## Prepared for: American Eagle Gold Inc. 55 University Ave. #1805 Toronto, Ontario, Canada M5J2H7





DESERT VENTURES, INC. Mineral Exploration Consultants Reno, Nevada 775 825 0719

D. Kenneth Brook, CPG, QP 4

4<sup>th</sup> of January, 2021

#### CERTIFICATE of QUALIFIED PERSON

#### I, Doyle Kenneth Brook Jr., a Certified Professional Geologist, hereby certify that:

I am currently the President of: 1.

Desert Ventures Inc., a private Nevada corporation 2305 Pleasure Dr. Reno, Nevada 89509 Telephone 775 825 0719 Email; k.brookgeo@gmail.com

2. This Certificate applies to the following technical report:

#### TECHNICAL REPORT ON THE GOLDEN TREND PROJECT EUREKA COUNTY, NEVADA

4<sup>th</sup> of January, 2021

- 3. I have a B.Sc. degree in geology from the University of Texas at Austin, 1967, and a M.Sc. degree in geology from the University of Arizona, 1974.
- I am a Certified Professional Geologist by AIPG (CPG-11446), and a Registered 4. Consulting Geologist in the states of California (#3669) and Arizona (#16770). I am a member of the Society of Economic Geologists and the Geological Society of Nevada.
- 5. I have been engaged in my profession as a geologist since 1969 and have been employed by mining companies and others as a consulting geologist since 1977. Relevant experience for Nevada epithermal gold deposits during my 40 years of field work includes: (a) implementing regional reconnaissance programs to locate specific areas of alteration and gold mineralization, (b) detailed mapping of epithermal gold projects in multiple Nevada mining districts which are hosted by volcanic or sedimentary rocks. The maps show structure, alteration and lithology, (c) collecting hundreds of surface samples and evaluating the assay results, (d) compilation of all geologic, geochemical, and geophysical data for the project to determine if valid exploration targets exist, (e) selecting drill sites that will test the envisioned target, (f) supervising both core and reverse circulation drilling programs including logging the core or chips and selecting sample intervals, (g) evaluation of drill hole assay results and determining if the program should be terminated or enter a second phase of drilling, (h) writing interim and final reports for the project.
- I visited the property on June 23, 2020. 6.
- Other than the referenced quotes and selections from other's cited work, I am responsible 7. for all the items presented in this technical report.
- I am independent of the issuer applying all of the tests in section 1.5 of National 8. Instrument 43-101. I am also independent of the vendor and I have no ownership interest

in the Golden Trend Property.

9. I have had previous involvement with the property. In 2018 1 was commissioned to prepare a unpublished compilation report on the property, but was not directly involved with any of the prior exploration activity.

- 10. I have read the definition of "qualified person" set out in National Instrument 43-101 ("N43-101) and certify that by reason of my education, affiliation with a professional association (as defined in NI 43-101) and past relevant work experience, I fulfill the requirements to be a "qualified person" for the purpose of NI 43-101. This Technical Report has been prepared in compliance with National Instrument 43-101.
- As of the date of this Certificate and to the best of my knowledge, information and belief, 11. this Technical Report contains all scientific and technical information that is required to be disclosed to make the Technical Report not misleading.

Dated in Reno, Nevada this 4th day of January, 2021

meth Beach h.

Doyle Kenneth Brook Jr.





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#### 1.0 SUMMARY

**1.1 Property** The Golden Trend property comprises 111 unpatented lode mining claims that are located within the Cortez area of the Battle Mountain – Eureka trend of gold deposits about 45 miles (72 km) south east of the town of Battle Mountain, Nevada. The claims cover an area of 2,286 acres or 925 hectares and are located within sections 1, 2, 3, 4, 10, 11 and 12 of Township 25 north, Range 48 east and sections 32, 33, 34, and 35 of Township 26 north, Range 48 east, Mt. Diablo base meridian. The northwest corner of the claim block is located in UTM coordinates of 4,436,868 north and 53,876 east.

As of the date of this report, BLM records show a 100% ownership interest in the claims is held by Rubicon Resources Inc. (Rubicon), a private Nevada corporation. All of the claims are on ground administered by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM). On June 19, 2020, Rubicon Resources Inc. and American Eagle Gold Inc. (PPI), an Ontario corporation, entered into two separate agreements. The first agreement titled Option to Lease with Option to Purchase Agreement gives PPI the sole and exclusive option to lease with an option to purchase the property for a term of twelve months. The second agreement titled Mining Lease. With Option to Purchase Agreement gives PPI the exclusive right to explore, develop and mine the property for an initial term of 10 years with extensions of up to 99 years.

**1.2 Geology** The property occupies an area bounded by the Cortez fault system on the west, the Northern Nevada Rift on the east, the outcrop of the Roberts Mountain thrust on the north and an indistinct transition zone to the south. Most of the surface area has been mapped as various lithologies within the Vinini Formation, a common, upper-plate unit. Igneous rocks are rare on the property, and they are limited to a few small dikes and sills ranging from felsite to diabase. A typical assemblage of lower-plate carbonate rocks is believed to occur below the Roberts Mountain thrust. The identification of a Stromataporoid fossil in hole GT-05-01 shows the presence of lower plate Wenban Formation on the property at a depth of about 1,800 feet (548 m).

**1.3 Mineralization** Surface mineralization comprises two styles, the first being fracture and fault fillings of black clay gouge with minor quartz veining that contains malachite, azurite and iron oxides after pyrite and possibly chalcopyrite. This style is associated with elements of the Cortez fault system, and it has been exposed in trenching. This mineralization generates geochemically anomalous values of copper, arsenic, lead and zinc. The second style is vein and locally bedded barite which is exposed in pits, trenches and shallow shafts on the central and southern part of the property.

**1.4 Exploration** The property has had many owners who have completed geologic maps, sampling of outcrops, soil sampling grids, magnetic and gravity surveys. Prior to 2000, all of the drilling on and around the property was shallow, usually less than 500 feet-deep (152 m). More recent core and RC drilling has reached depths of 2,000 feet (609 m). This deeper drilling has gone into the carbonate rocks of the lower plate. The geologic model being used for exploration of the property is based on the published descriptions of the nearby, Cortez, Cortez Hills, Horse Canyon, Gold Rush, and the recently announced Four Mile gold deposits being mined or

developed by Barrick. The main components of the model are structure, host rocks and geochemistry.

**1.5 Conclusions** There are a number of conclusions that can be drawn from a review of the historic project data that suggest the property has an overall favorable, although high-risk, environment for hosting a significant gold deposit including:

- 1. The presence of regional-scale structures, like the Cortez fault, that are associated with gold deposits in the district and that could have served as channel ways for mineralized, hydrothermal fluids.
- 2. The presence of northeast-trending, project-scale structures that have brought the lower plate rocks closer to the surface and that have served as channel ways for mineralized hydrothermal fluids.
- 3. The presence of favorable, lower plate, carbonate lithologies that could serve as host rocks for a gold deposit at depths currently being mined in other parts of the district.
- 4. The presence of anomalous concentrations of gold and pathfinder elements along structures that show moderate hydrothermal alteration.
- 5. The property's location in a major gold producing district.
- 6. The property is worthy of additional work to test the favorable lower plate host rocks for the presence of gold deposits similar to the Gold Rush and Four Mile deposits.

**1.6 Recommendations** Previous work on the property has generated useful data that will form the basis on which to develop a drill target aimed at confirming the presence of lower plate rocks which are the known host to gold deposits in the district. The total cost of the recommended program has an estimated cost of \$415,000, summarized in Table 1 and will focus on the following:

- 1. Defining the relationship of the large, northwest-trending structures to alteration and mineralization.
- 2. Defining the relationship of the northeast-trending structures to alteration and mineralization.
- 3. Defining the relationship of felsic and other dikes to alteration and mineralization.
- 4. Determining the vertical displacement on the northeast-trending structures by more detailed mapping of the Vinini Formation.
- 5. Establishing a stratigraphic section by conforming the depth of the Roberts Mountain thrust and composition and alteration associated with the lower plate carbonaceous rocks found beneath the thrust

A second, more extensive follow-up phase will be developed based on the outcome of this work.

TARGET IDENTIFICATION	Cost US\$	
Labour	15,000	
Field Costs		6,500
Data Acquisition		13,875
Sampling		10,000
Re-Monument all Claims		11,100
Compilation and Interpretation		12,000
Subtotal Targeting	68,475	
DRILLING		
Labour		42,000
Field Costs		26,125
Drilling		220,000
Assaying		20,125
Subtotal Drilling		308,250
Contingency	37,673	
TOTAL RECOMMENDED PROGRAM	414,398	
SAY	415,000	

Table 1

Recommended Budget Summary

#### 2.0 INTRODUCTION

**2.1 Purpose of Report** D. Kenneth Brook Jr., a Certified Professional Geologist, a QP and president of Desert Ventures, Inc. of Reno, Nevada, has prepared this report on the Golden Trend property at the request of Stephen Stewart, Executive Chairman of American Eagle Gold Inc. (PPI) an Ontario corporation with offices at Suite 1805, 55 University Ave., Toronto, Ontario, Canada M5J 2H7.

The property is located along the Cortez Trend of gold deposits in Eureka County, Nevada about 45 miles (72 km) southeast of the town of Battle Mountain. The report is meant to comply with the provisions of Canadian National Instrument 43-101, to describe the exploration work conducted on the property, and to assess the property's potential to host an economically viable gold deposit.

The author has studied and reviewed all of the technical information relevant to the report supplied by PPI as of June 23, 2020, listed in Section 27, References. Certain of these reports were prepared either as internal unpublished documents or prior to the implementation of National Instrument 43-101, in 2001 and regulation 43-101 in 2005. The authors of such reports presented their findings in a professional manner to a standard application to the exploration community at the time. The author of this report has no reason to believe that the information used in the preparation of this report is either invalid or misrepresents the current understanding of the property geology and exploration status.

**2.2** Terms of Reference This report is based on a review of pertinent technical reports and data provided to Desert Ventures by PPI and on other published data as referenced. These reports describe the general setting, geology, history of the project along with exploration activities and results. These reports were generally made by established mining or exploration companies under the supervision of a qualified geologist and are believed to be generally accurate and representative of the Golden Trend property.

Measurements in this report are given in both Imperial and metric units, using the following conversion formulas.

1 meter	= 3.2808 feet
1 kilometer	=0.621 mile
1 hectare	=2.471 acres
1 tonne (T)	=1.1023 short tons (t)

All currency referenced in this report is in U.S. dollars. UTM Coordinates are given in terms of the NAD 27, Zone 11 S grid.

**2.3 Property Inspection** Mr. Brook, made a site visit to the property on June 23, 2020. During the site visit outcrops of upper-plate rocks, surface sample sites and old drill sites were examined. Inasmuch as the anticipated gold mineralization on the property is at a projected depth of 2,000 feet (609 m), no surface samples were collected.

#### **3.0 RELIANCE ON OTHER EXPERTS.**

This report has been prepared by the Author for American Eagle Gold Inc. For the purpose of this report there was no reliance on other experts except for the property ownership information which was provided by American Eagle Gold Inc. The Author has not researched property title or mineral rights for the Property and expresses no opinion as to the ownership status of the property.

#### 4.0 PROPERTY DESCRIPTION AND LOCATION

**4.1 Property Size and Location** The Golden Trend property is located within the Cortez area of the Battle Mountain – Eureka trend of gold deposits about 45 miles (72 km) south east of the town of Battle Mountain, Nevada, Figure 1 (modified from Shaddrick, 2017).

The property comprises 111 unpatented mining claims listed in Table 2. The property covers an area of 2,286 acres or 925 hectares, including approximately 98.5 acres that overlap pre-existing Barrick claims. The claims are located within sections 1, 2, 3, 4, 10, 11 and 12 of Township 25 north, Range 48 east and sections 32, 33, 34, and 35 of Township 26 north, Range 48 east, Mt. Diablo base meridian, Figure 2. The northwest corner of the claim block is located in UTM coordinates of 4,436,868 north and 53,876 east.





Property location map



**4.2** Nature of Title and Obligations As of the date of this report, BLM records show a 100% ownership interest in the claims is held by Rubicon Resources Inc. (Rubicon), a private

Claim	No of				
Number	Claims	Owner	NMC Number	T,R, Section	Date
GT 1-20	20	Rubicon Resouces Inc.	680268-287	T25N, R48E, Sec 3	7/10/1993
GT 21-36	16	Rubicon Resouces Inc.	268288-303	T25N, R48E, Sec 2	7/10/1993
GT 37-42	6	Rubicon Resouces Inc.	268303-309	T25N, R48E, Sec 1	7/10/1993
GT 43-58	16	Rubicon Resouces Inc.	380310-325	T25N, R48E, Sec 2	7/11/1993
GT 59-66	8	Rubicon Resouces Inc.	368326-333	T25N, R48E, Sec 3	7/11/1993
GT 67-70	4	Rubicon Resouces Inc.	702491-494	T26N, R48E, Sec 35	5/15/1994
GT 71-78	8	Rubicon Resouces Inc.	702495-502	T26N, R48E, Sec 34	5/15/1994
GT 79-80	2	Rubicon Resouces Inc.	702503-504	T26N, R48E, Sec 33	5/15/1994
GT 81-82	2	Rubicon Resouces Inc.	489943-945	T25N, R48E, Sec12	2/19/1998
GT 83-90	8	Rubicon Resouces Inc.	789946-952	T25N, R48E, Sec11	2/19/1998
CTZ 1-15	15	Rubicon Resouces Inc.	805848-862	T26N, R28E, Sec33	5/21/1999
CTZ-18-23	6	Rubicon Resouces Inc.	805863-868	T25N, R48E, Sec3	7/9/1999
No of Claims	111				

Table 2

List of Claims

Nevada corporation. All of the claims are on ground administered by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM). Under the US Mining Law of 1872, the locator of a claim has the right to explore, develop and mine minerals on the claim. Unpatented claims do not convey ownership of the surface to the claimant, but the claimant is allowed to explore the surface. Access is via established, paved, graded and two-track dirt roads that cross over BLM lands. Currently, there is not a Federal royalty on mineral production from federal lands. A standard claim is 600 feetwide (182.9 m) and 1,500 feet-long (457.3 m), covers 20.6 acres (8.34 hectares) and has each corner marked with a two-inch by two-inch, or four inch by four inch, by four feet-high wooden post. Another post located on the center line of the claim contains the Notice of Location, which describes who has located the claim and its size. All claims require an initial filing fee with the BLM of \$212.00 and a county fee of \$37.50 per claim. There is, also, an annual filing of a "Notice of Intent to Hold" along with payment of \$165 per claim maintenance fee to the BLM and \$10.50 per claim fee to the county in which the claim is located. Rubicon has paid the required BLM maintenance and county filing fees, and the claims are valid until September 1, 2020. The claims generally conform to the shape of the sections, and some were located using a Brunton compass and a Topofil string-based measuring device, and some were located using a Trimble GPS unit. None of the claims have been surveyed.

**4.3** Agreements and Royalties On June 19,2020, Rubicon Resources Inc. and PPI entered into two separate agreements. The first agreement titled Option to Lease with Option to Purchase Agreement gives PPI the sole and exclusive option to lease with an option to purchase the property. The term of this Option Agreement is for twelve months and can be extended by PPI paying Rubicon \$1,000. By August 15, 2020, PPI is required to reimburse Rubicon the cost of the 2020 BLM and county filing fees required to keep the claims in good standing. The amount of the BLM payment is \$17,205, and the county payment is \$1,170. If PPI has not exercised its option by May 31, 2021, it must again reimburse Rubicon the costs for the 2021BLM and county filing fees. PPI will also reimburse Rubicon the \$220 per month rental on a storage unit holding core and samples from the property.

The second agreement titled Mining Lease With Option to Purchase Agreement gives PPI the exclusive right to explore, develop and mine the property for an initial term of 10 years with extensions of up to 99 years. PPI has the option to purchase a 100% interest in the property subject to a three percent (3 %) Net Smelter Return Royalty (NSR) retained by Rubicon. PPI has the right to purchase up to two thirds of the royalty for \$2,000,000. Upon exercising this Mining Lease With Option to Purchase Agreement, PPI is obligated to make the following payments to Rubicon.

\$50,000
\$15,000
\$15,000
\$15,000
\$15,000
\$15,000

Every six months thereafter \$17,000

If PPI elects to exercise the option to purchase the property it will pay Rubicon \$2,000,000 and issue 2,000,000 common shares of PPI's common stock. An initial payment of 10% of the purchase price is required at the exercise of the option with the balance payable over the next four years. PPI is required to: (1) make the required payments to keep the claims in good standing, (2) follow all government regulations for exploration, (3) maintain a liability insurance policy in the amount of \$2,000,000. If the property is returned to Rubicon, PPI must provide copies of all the data it generated, final summary report, and all of the drill core, chips and assay pulps it generated on the property. PPI can terminate the Agreement at any time by giving 30 days notice.

**4.4 Environmental Liabilities** The author is not an expert in environmental matters. To the author's knowledge there are no known environmental or land claim issues with respect to the property. Rubicon has represented in personal communication, that the BLM has accepted all previous reclamation work.

**4.5 Permitting Requirements** Any exploration work, which creates a surface disturbance on unpatented mining claims is subject to and administered by the U.S. Department of Interior, Bureau of Land Management (BLM) rules and regulations under the Federal Land Policy and management Act of 1976 (FLPMA). A "Notice of Intent to Operate" (Notice) describing the planned work must be filed with the BLM for surface disturbances under five acres (2.02 hectares). BLM approval of the Notice must be obtained, and the required reclamation bond must be posted before any surface disturbance takes place. Surface disturbances greater than five acres require a "Plan of Operation" (Plan) to be filed with the BLM, and the Plan involves an in-depth environmental review of the property. Previous drilling programs on the property have been conducted under the Notice rules. All needed site reclamation has been done.

**4.6** Other Factors Affecting Property Currently, the property is surrounded by claims which are owned by other mining and exploration companies. Figure 2 was supplied by Rubicon and shows that the northern 480 feet (146 m) of the GT claims and portions of the CTZ claims cover senior claims belonging to Barrick. This overlap area belongs to Barrick and not Rubicon. These other claims may have an impact on the availability of processing water and the availability of additional ground that may be needed for mining and processing operations in the future. As of the date of this report, the author is not aware of any other significant factors and risks that may affect access, title or the right to explore the property.

## 5.0 ACCESSIBILITY, CLIMATE, LOCAL RESOURCES, INFRASTRUCTURE and PHYSIOGRAPHY

**5.1 Topography, Vegetation and Climate** The property lies at the southern end of a NNW-trending ridge in the Cortez mountains. The claims cover an area of flat to moderately steep terrain that is partially covered in pinion pine trees, sagebrush and other desert shrubs and grasses. The property ranges in elevation from 5,800 to 6,400 feet (1,768 - 1,950 m). The climate is typical of the Nevada high desert with about 10 inches of rainfall per year. Higher elevations can receive 20 inches of snow during the winter. Temperatures can vary from  $10^{\circ}$  F in the summer. Mines in the area operate year round, but exploration work may be hindered by winter snowfall.

**5.2** Access to the Property The property is easily accessible from both the north and south via county-maintained gravel roads and Nevada state highways. Access from the north is via state route 306 which turns south from I 80 29.5 miles (47.5 km) east of the town of Battle Mountain. Approximately 29 miles (46.7 km) south of I 80, the Cortez Mine road turns to the south east and leads to the property, Figure 3. Access from the south is via state route 278 which turns north about 3.4 miles (5.4 km) west of the town of Eureka. Approximately 35 miles (56.4 km) north of highway 50, the JD Ranch Road turns to the west and leads to the property, Figure 3.

**5.3 Proximity to Population Centers** The property is about 74 miles (119 km) from Battle Mountain and 61 miles (98 km) from Eureka. Eureka is a small town that can supply some services and basic food and lodging. Battle Mountain can provide some additional services and has most of its population employed by the local mines. Complete services and supplies are available in Reno and Elko.

**5.4 Sufficiency of Surface Rights** The size of the current claim block would seem to be of sufficient size to contain the processing plant and waste dumps needed for underground mining and processing operations. There are power transmission lines within six miles of the property that supply power to the Cortez and Pipeline mines. The availability of additional power from these lines is has not been evaluated. Water for processing would have to be developed with wells in the valley to the east and south of the property. Barrick's Cortez operation and their planned expansion into the Gold Rush zone require significant volumes of processing water. The availability of water from the valleys around the property has not been evaluated.



Figure 3

Access to property

#### 6.0 HISTORY

**6.1 Previous Owners and Exploration Work** Gold was first discovered in the district in the early 1800's. Since that time a series of major discoveries (Figure 4) has resulted in the area developing into one of the largest gold producing districts in Nevada.



The property has had many owners, and the following descriptions are taken from the referenced reports that have been prepared for the property. The earliest record of claims in the area is a small group of claims in the south-central part of the Golden Trend property that were held until the mid 1980's (Raven, 1994). Work on these claims consisted of trenching and sinking of a few shallow (10 - 30 feet-deep) shafts on small barite veins and zones with argillic alteration and local silicification. There is no evidence of drilling during this period and no record of commercial production from the property.

Since that time exploration on the property included surface mapping and rock and soil sampling, magnetic, resistivity, electromagnetic, VLF and gravity geophysical surveys and six drill campaigns on or in close proximity to the property boundary.

**6.2** Noranda Noranda controlled the property in the mid to late 1980's as part of a large, district-scale land package, Durgin (2004). They did a resisitivity geophysical survey and drilled 21 rotary holes to a depth of 500 feet (152 m) or less. Only five of the holes, GP88 1R, 2R, 3R, 5R and

9R were on or near the Golden Trend property. Of these five holes, three hit bedrock consisting of the Vinini Formation and none of the drill hole assays returned anomalous gold values. A summary of the description of these holes is presented in Table 2, below.

Noranda Drilling S	1988 Drill Pi Jummary	rogram											
Date	Hole 10	Bear	Inclin	TD (feet)	Location	Quik Log from	to	interval		Samp from	ied to	ŝnt.	Composites
4-Jan	GP88- 1R	0	-90	485	Site C	0	50	50	Qal	20	485	465	20
						50	185	115	blk, carbonaceous shale-siltstone				
						165	170	5	minor bx, qtz-calcite matrix				
						265	270	5	minor quartz veining				
						395	405	10	thin quartz veins				
						440	475	35	thin felsic dike 20-30%				
?	GP86- 2R	٥	-90	282	Site B	0	280	280	Qat	215	260	45	20'
						~160			Hit H2O, ~50 gpm				
9-Feb	GP88- 3R	D	-90	445	Site E	D	445	445	Óal	Ale des	-	abla	
						~160		.,	Hit H2O	140 08	4 GV40	acier.	
2/10/68	GP88- 4R	0	-90	310	Site A	0	310	310	Qal	No dat	a avail	able.	
11-Feb	GP88- 59	0	-90	500	Site F	0	73	73	Qal	50	480	430	201
						73	143	70	v. carbonaceous siltstone - vía as	•••		400	20
						143	160	17	interbedded gy ch & sitsu/ss				
						160	230	70	E gy ch				
						230	483	253	sitsni +minor ss or atzite				
						483	500	17	aphanitic felsic sit				
2/11/88	GP88-6R	0	-90	500	Site J	0	500	500	Qal	No dat	a avail	eb/e.	
2/13/88	GP88- 7R	0	-90	460	Site 0	0	35	35	Qal	0	460	480	201
						35	107	72	giz arenite	•			
						107	460	353	qtz arenite +interbeds of ss/sitsn				
2/12/68	GP88- 8R	٥	-90	360	Site H	0	30	30	Qat	45	365	320	207
						30	360	330	Pz's: carbonaceous, silicified mud and silistones.			46.0	20
2/13/88	GP68- 9R	0	-90	500	Site G	0	15	15	Qal	45	500	455	20,
						15	500	485	qtz arenite +interbeds of se/siten			-03	24

Table 2

Noranda Drilling

**6.3 ECM** ECM staked the eastern part of the property in 1998, and ECM leased it to Tenneco Minerals. Tenneco did geologic mapping, collected and analyzed 189 grab samples for gold, silver, arsenic, mercury, antimony and barium, and drilled seven rotary holes a bit east of the current property. No significant gold values were reported in the drill hole assays, and the property was dropped in 1992.

At the same time, Kennecott completed a helicopter-borne electromagnetic survey and drilled four (4) holes for south of the property.

**6.4 Rubicon Resources** Rubicon Resources acquired the property by staking an initial block of 66 claims in 1993. Rubicon optioned the property to Rocket Resources, Ltd. of Vancouver in the spring of 1994.

6.4.1 Rocket Resources Raven (1994) describes the work done on the property by Rocket Resources. A grid was established on the property, and the property was mapped using stations along the grid lines. A total of 539 soil samples was taken from the "B" horizon at 100 m intervals along the grid lines and, and 82 rock samples were collected from outcrops on the property. Samples were analyzed by American Assay Labs in Sparks, Nevada for gold, silver, arsenic, antimony,

mercury, copper, lead and zinc. American Assay is a recognized commercial lab and is ISO 17025 accredited. Results for the soil sampling program are shown in Figures 5, 6 and 7 by Shaddrick (2017).

Although the absolute metal values from the soil samples are modest, there is a definite zonation pattern. The northwest-trending gold zone occurs along the Cortez fault and corresponds well to the mercury zone. The gold and mercury zones are flanked to the northeast by the arsenic and antimony zones. The copper, lead, zinc and silver zones are outboard of the arsenic –antimony zones. This geochemical pattern could reflect a subtle zonation created by an intrusion-related hydrothermal system at depth.

Assay values from the outcrop samples were generally very low. Raven (1994) reports that the highest values received are from samples #620, 26 ppb Au, and #621, 44 ppb Au, #625, 18 ppb Au, and #626, 44 ppb Au. These samples were from two old trenches (two samples from each trench) found near the southern claim boundary. Samples #620 and #621 are from a small trench by L 18S, 5+00W underlain by brecciated siltstone that has moderate malachite and weak azurite staining. These two samples also contain elevated arsenic assaying 108 and 83 ppm. respectively.





Samples #625 and #626 are from a small trench underlain by chert breccia with moderate limonite staining located at L15+50S, 4+50W.

All of the surface outcrops on the property are Ordovician age Vinini Formation. The Vinini consists primarily of black or grey to pale green chert and grayish quartzite with very minor siltstone and sandstone. Outcrops are fairly sparse throughout the property and are usually found on hill tops and ridges or dry creek bottoms, Raven (1994).

In the fall of 1994, VLF-EM and ground magnetic surveys were carried out on the soil grid, and the results of these surveys are taken from a report by Lebel (1994). The VLF-EM surveys recorded a large number of anomalies on the property. Although initially considered suspicious, many of the anomalies show line to line similarities and correlation thereby substantiating their validity. Many of the conductors defined correlate with known or inferred geological features. The main feature in the VLF-EM results is a series of en echelon to parallel conductors which crosses the east side of the area from about line 500N, 200W to line 1800S, 800E. The trend correlates with a normal fault inferred from the geology to down-drop the formations to the east. The VLF-EM suggests a wide fault zone or several parallel features as would be expected along the flank of a horst. This fault coupled with the Cortez Fault to the west along the range front is interpreted to uplift the formations underlying the property. This movement may bring the favorable lower plate rocks, which underlie the Roberts Mountain thrust and host many of the gold deposits in the area, closer to the surface.

Lebel (1994) reports that the magnetic survey is largely featureless over most of the property as was anticipated in advance because of the predominance of sedimentary lithologies. Two distinct magnetic features are present in the south-east corner, however. One consists of narrow highs of up to 500 nano Teslas, which define two linear to lenticular, northerly trending anomalies caused by shallow dike-like bodies. The second magnetic feature is a gradual build-up in the magnetic field at the east ends of lines 1000S to 1500S. This build-up reflects the edge of a north-westerly trending, oblong 1 km. by 0.5 km. high centered just east of the property. Although drilling was recommended, Rocket Resources dropped the property in 1996.

6.4.2 Claimstaker Resources Ltd. – J-Pacific Gold Inc. In 1996, Claimstaker Resources Ltd. leased the property from Rubicon, but no significant work was done on the property until 1998 when. K.N. Tullar compiled the available data that had been generated on the property. Tullar also collected numerous rock chip samples and re-mapped the geology (Tullar, 1998a). Three, shallow, reverse- circulation drill holes (GC 1, 2, 3) totaling 950 feet (289 m) were drilled to test near-surface targets, Figure 8. No significant gold values were reported from these three holes.

In 1998, a new ground magnetic and VLF-EM surveys were conducted to clarify problems with the old geophysical data and to extend the coverage, Figure 9; (Carpenter, 1998). The VLF data were



Figure 9. Ground magnetic map

problematic and not definitive. In addition to the geophysical surveys, a second reverse- circulation drilling program of 2,020 feet (615 m) in six holes (GC-4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9) with a maximum depth of 500 feet (152 m) was completed under Tullar's supervision, Figure 8. These drill holes tested specific near-surface structures, and the maximum gold value for the six holes was 126 ppb (Mitchell, 2001). Tullar also sampled the trenches that were used as mud pits for the drill holes, and two of the trenches contained copper values over 1,000 ppm. The drill holes adjacent to the trenches contained elevated copper, 100 - 15 ppm, in the upper 200 feet (61 m) of the hole. The high levels of copper in the trenches may be due to secondary enrichment.

In October 2004, Dana Durgin a Reno-based consulting geologist started a two hole drilling program for J-Pacific, and the description of this work is taken from his report (Durgin, 2005). The location of the two holes, GT-04-1 and GT-04-2 and the location of the earlier drill holes drilled on the property are shown Figure 8.

Drilling conditions were generally poor, and most of the core recovered from GT-04-1 was broken rubble from the Vinini Formation. The first hole is thought to have gone down a steeply dipping fault, and although the hole was drilled to a depth of 2,000 feet (609 m), it did not reach the target of the lower-plate carbonate rocks. Drill hole GT-04-2 was drilled with a reversecirculation rig and reached a depth of 1,140 feet (347 m). It encountered similar broken siliceous rocks of the Vinini Formation. Gold values from both of these holes were generally less than 40 ppb.

In 2005, a single-hole core drilling program was completed, hole GT-05-01, and the description of this program is taken from Durgin (2006). Approximately 1.4 miles (2.3 km) to the north of the northern boundary of the Golden Trend claim group, the Roberts Mountain thrust and the altered carbonate rocks of the lower plate are exposed in the nose of an anticline that plunges gently to the south. Drill hole GT05-1 was sited near the northern claim boundary and directly down-plunge of the crest of that anticline. This site was chosen as a likely point where the depth to the thrust contact and potentially mineralized rocks below it was projected to be less than 2,000 feet (609 m). Soil sampling in the past also indicated a modest Au-Hg-As geochemical anomaly in that area. Drilling conditions were again difficult due to the broken nature of the Vinini Formation, but the target depth of 2,000 feet (609 m) was reached. The upper portion of this hole from 190 to 200 feet (58 to 61 m) contained 617 ppb Au, but no other significant gold values were reported from this hole.

A recent reassessment of the lower portions of GT-05-01 by Dr. Harry Cook (Shaddrick, 2015, personal communication) has indicated that the lower portions of the hole (1870 - 1970 feet) comprise Devonian-age rocks that are most likely the Denay Formation. The Denay is one of the many local facies variants of the Wenban Formation, and it is one of the host rocks for the ores at the Pipeline, Cortez Hills and Gold Rush mines. The identification of this unit as Denay is based on the identification of both the sequence stratigraphy displayed in the core and the identification of a fossil stromataporoid characteristic of that stratigraphic interval. The Roberts Mountain thrust has, therefore, been penetrated at some point higher in the hole.

6.43 Coyote Resources In October of 2009, KMR Resources leased the project from Rubicon. In August of 2010, KMR changed their name to Coyote Resources.

No physical work was done on the property (Shaddrick, 2018, personal communication), and the property was returned to Rubicon in 2012.

6.4.4 Kinross Gold Corporation In November of 2016, Rubicon leased the property to Kinross Gold Corporation. Wright (2016) completed a review of the gravity data, Figure 10, and Kinross drilled two core holes. The gravity survey was focused on



Determining the depth to bedrock in the valley west of the claim block. Depth to bedrock ranged from 200 to 1,400 m (Wright, 2016). The following interpretation of the gravity data is taken from the Wright report of 2016. Figure 11 presents the first vertical derivative and helps remove the strong northwest to southeast gradient in the CBA gravity to reveal finer detail. The strong bounding structures to the main horst are well reflected as prominent gradients in the vertical derivative and are identified with thick, black, dashed lines. Between the prominent bounding

structures, atop the main horst, are two weaker features marked with narrow, dashed lines. These faults are bounding structures to two smaller scale horsts sitting atop a larger horst. The increased gravity associated with the smaller horsts being produced by uplift of the underlying carbonates relative to basin fill on one side and siliciclastic rock on the other side.

The first drill hole, GT-17-01, was core and was drilled at the northern edge of the claim block in an effort to reach the lower plate carbonate rocks at a reasonable depth. This area of the property is overlapped by senior claims owned by Barrick Gold. Barrick confiscated all of the drill hole data from hole GT-17-01, and it is not available. Drill hole GT-17-02 was RC and was drilled to a depth of 1,500 feet (457 m) with the top 1,370 feet (417 m) being in the siliceous rocks of the Vinini Formation. From 1,370 to 1,500 feet (417 to 457 m) the rock was a siliceous siltstone. No significant gold values were reported from GT -17-02. Drill hole locations are shown in Figure 12. Kinross returned the property to Rubicon in October of 2017.



Figure 12 Kinross drill hole map

#### 7.0 GEOLOGIC SETTING AND MINERALIZATION

**7.1 Regional Geology** The following description of the regional geology is drawn from Mitchell (2001) and others. The region around the property is underlain by Paleozoic, Mesozoic and Cenozoic sedimentary and igneous rocks. Two distinct litho-tectonic assemblages are evident in the Paleozoic units. These two assemblages represent the upper and lower plates of the Roberts Mountain thrust, a major structural feature which was generated during the Devonian- to Mississippian-age Antler orogeny. Upper plate rocks have been thrust eastward up to 90 miles (145 km) (Stewart, 1980). The upper plate assemblage consists of deep-water siliceous sedimentary and minor volcanic rocks. The lower plate is almost entirely composed of shallow marine carbonates.

During the Antler orogeny, the upper plate assemblage was often intensely folded and then it was domed by the intrusion of granitic rocks during the Mesozoic. This doming accentuated the Shoshone Fold Belt, a series of north east-trending, broad amplitude folds with widths up to seven miles. Tertiary events included the intrusion of quartz porphyry dykes, the deposition of quartz latite and rhyolitic tuffs (Caetano tuffs), along with extensive basaltic volcanism. Later, deep erosion occurred which exposed paleo-highs along the apex of regional fold structures. This erosion resulted in structural "windows" in the upper plate units through which lower plate rocks are exposed. A later extensional tectonic period resulted in extensive northwest-trending normal faults throughout central Nevada. The Cortez fault, which can be traced southeast from the Cortez mine through the property, is one of the most prominent of these features in the basin and range province.

Formations which belong to the upper plate assemblage include the following:

- Elder Creek Formation (Silurian (Se)). A unit comprised of feldspathic sandstones, chert and some limestone beds.
- Slaven Chert (Devonian (Dsl)). Primarily chert with some shale
- Valmy Formation (Ordovician (Ov)). Mainly dolomitic sandstone, quartzite and chert with minor amounts of siltstone, shale limestone and mafic volcanics.
- Vinini Formation (Ordovician (Ovi)). Mainly shales, chert with minor amounts of quartzite, grindstones and limestones.
- Four Mile Canyon Formation (Silurian (Sf)). Limestones, chert, shales and siltstones.

The upper plate assemblage hosts a number of significant vein and vein stockwork/breccia type gold deposits in the region. These include, the Tenabo, Buckhorn, Elder and Hilltop deposits.

The lower plate rocks present in the region are dominantly shallow marine carbonate units with some shale beds. Two formations belonging to the lower plate have been identified in the project area:

- Wenban Limestone Formation (Devonian (Dw)). Thick bedded, to shaley limestone, some bioclastic beds.
- Roberts Mountain Formation (Silurian/Devonian (Sr)). Laminated to shaley calcareous limestone.

The Roberts Mountain Formation is the primary host to the gold deposits of the Carlin Trend. In the Crescent Valley area, the Roberts Mountain Formation is the host to gold mineralization at the Gold Acres and Cortez deposits. The Pipeline deposit is also hosted by Roberts Mountain carbonates beneath valley fill and alluvial cover. The Horse Canyon deposit lies within both the upper plate Vinini Formation and the lower plate Wenban limestones.

Figure 13 (modified from Stewart and Carlson, 1976) shows the regional geology around the property. The Cortez and Horse Canyon mines are adjacent to the Mill Canyon stock. The GT claims are shown by the square in Figure 13 and cover the purple outcrops east of the "Upper plate siliciclastics" label.



Figure 13 Regional geology and structure

The long sections in Figure 13 illustrate the conceptual model for the upper plate rocks being vertically displaced by north and northeast-trending structures. These faults are believed to be responsible for bringing lower plate rocks closer to surface.

**7.2 Property Geology** The property occupies an area bounded by the Cortez fault system on the west, the Northern Nevada Rift ("NNR") on the east, the outcrop of the Roberts Mountain thrust ("RMT") on the north and an indistinct transition zone to the south, (Shaddrick, 2016). Most of the surface area has been mapped as various lithologies within the Vinini Formation, a common, upper-plate unit, Figure 14. Igneous rocks are rare on the property, and they are limited to a few small dikes and sills ranging from felsite to diabase. Several trenches and drill holes have been focused on these dikes during earlier exploration programs. It has been inferred that these dikes occupy through going structures, and in some of the drill holes the dikes were argillicly altered.



Figure 14 Project Geology

A typical assemblage of lower-plate carbonate rocks is believed to occur below the RMT as shown in Figure 15. The identification of a Stromataporoid fossil in hole GT-05-01 shows the presence of lower plate Wenban Formation on the property at a depth of about 1,800 feet (548 m).



Figure 15 District stratigraphy (not to scale)

On the property, stratigraphic and structural relationships in the exposed upper plate rocks are relatively consistent and can be projected from one place to another. Deformation styles and structural fabrics within the siliciclastic rocks appear to be relatively homogenous and penetrative across the project area (Shaddrick, 2016). The structural fabric of the property is dominated by the northwest-trending Cortez fault and the secondary, northeast-trending faults as shown on Figure 13. Most of the faults on the property are steeply dipping and may have been utilized by hydrothermal fluids to generate the anomalous geochemical patterns found in the soil samples as shown in Figures 5, 6, and 7.

In 2015, Dr. Harry Cook identified a fossil from 1,970 feet (600 m) in drill hole GT05-01 as a Stromataporoid, Figure 16, (Shaddrick, personal communication). The rock containing the fossil is a black, carbonaceous breccia with scattered pyrite, and the fossil shows thin growth rings.

The rock was identified by Dr. Harry Cook as Devonian-age, and it is most likely from the Denay Formation, one of the many facies variants of the Wenban Formation. The Wenban is the ore host rock at the Pipeline, Cortez Hills and Gold Rush mines. This identification of the unit as Wenban is based on the identification of both the sequence stratigraphy displayed in the core and the identification of a fossil Stromataporoid characteristic of that stratigraphic interval. The Roberts Mountain thrust has, therefore, been penetrated at some point higher in the hole.



Figure 16 Stromataporoid fossil

7.3 **Type and Character of Mineralization** Surface mineralization comprises two styles, the first being fracture and fault fillings of black clay gouge with minor quartz veining that contains malachite, azurite and iron oxides after pyrite and possibly chalcopyrite. This style is associated with elements of the Cortez fault system, and it has been exposed in trenching. This mineralization generates geochemically anomalous values of copper, arsenic, lead and zinc. The second style is vein and locally bedded barite which is exposed in pits, trenches and shallow shafts on the central and southern part of the property. Most of the gold, arsenic and mercury anomalies identified by soil geochemistry appear associated with these types of mineralization (Figures 5, 6, and 7). All of the anomalous soil samples are from soil derived from the siliceous rocks of the Vinini Formation. The main area of anomalous gold values occupies an area approximately 650 by 1,310 feet (200 by 400 m). The main area of anomalous arsenic values occupies an area approximately 1,640 by 980 feet (500 by 300 m). The main area of anomalous mercury samples occupies an area approximately 1,310 by 650 feet (400 by 200 m). It appears that these main anomalous zones may be related to northeast-trending faults that are mapped in the area. Surface samples from the outcrops gave much more erratic results

A ten-foot interval in the upper portion of drill hole GT05-01, from 190 to 200 feet (58 to 61 m) contained 617 ppb Au, but no other significant gold values were reported from this hole. This is the only drill hole on the property that has reported significant gold values.

#### 8.0 **DEPOSIT TYPE**

**8.1 Deposit Type** The type of mineral deposit that is being explored for on the property is a sediment-hosted, Carlin-type gold deposit. A Carlin-type deposit is typically hosted in carbonate rocks, and the mineralization is closely associated with anomalous concentrations of arsenic, mercury, antimony and thallium. District-scale structures and smaller, deposit-scale faults have introduced mineralized hydrothermal fluids into the favorable host rocks.

**8.2.** Geologic Model for Exploration The geologic model being used for exploration of the property is based on the published descriptions of the nearby, Cortez, Cortez Hills, Horse Canyon, Gold Rush, and the recently announced Four Mile gold deposits being mined or developed by Barrick. The main components of the model are structure, host rocks and geochemistry.

**8.2.1 Structure** All of the ore deposits in the district have a definite and usually well defined structural control. The district- to regional-scale faults, such as the Cortez fault zone and the Northern Nevada Rift, that are associated with the ore zones have a northwest trend, Figure 4. Figure 17 is from Arbonies et al (2010) and shows the pronounced northwest trend of the Cortez Hills lower zone ore body. The exploration model will focus on northwest-trending faults.



Figure 17 Cortez Hills Lower zone ore body

**8.2.2 Host Rocks** Almost all of the major ore zones in the district are hosted by the lower plate, carbonate units found below the RMT. Figure 18 is from the Barrick website and shows the structurally controlled northwest trend of the Goldrush orebody as well as the stratigraphic control of the mineralization by favorable lithologies in the Upper Wenban. There is some mineralization in the district that is hosted in breccia zones in the Vinini Formation just above the RMT. The focus of the exploration model will be the favorable, carbonate host rocks below the RMT.



Figure 18 Structural and stratigraphic control of the Goldrush orebody

**8.2.3 Geochemistry** In typical Carlin-type deposits, the mineralization is closely associated with anomalous concentrations of arsenic, mercury, antimony and thallium. The exploration model will focus on areas of the property that show anomalous concentrations of these pathfinder elements. Soil sampling on the property has shown zones of anomalous pathfinder elements that have a northwest trend and are believed to reflect northwest trending structures. The absolute values of elements in these zones is low, and these low values may be due to the sample sites being 2,000 feet (609 m) above the target zone. The maps are included in Appendix D.

#### 9. EXPLORATION

The Issuer has not conducted any exploration work on the property. All historic exploration work has been described in Section 6 of this report.

#### 10. DRILLING

The Issuer has not conducted any drilling on the property. All historic drilling programs have been described in Section 6 of this report.

#### 11. SAMPLE PREPARATION, ANALYSES, AND SECURITY

The Issuer has not collected any samples for assay from the property. The historic reports that describe assay results from previous work do not describe the methods used or security taken at the labs. All of the samples were taken by company-employees or professional consulting geologists and submitted to recognized assay labs in Reno. The author has no reason to doubt the validity or accuracy of these historic results.

#### **12. DATA VERIFICATION**

All of the data used in the evaluation of the property and the preparation of this report was supplied to the Issuer by the property owner. In some instances there were only summary reports that described the work and the results, and in some instances there were drill logs and assay results from a recognized lab. For the purposes of this report, which is to evaluate the exploration potential of the property, it is the author's opinion that the data are adequate and accurately report previous work done on the property.

#### SECTIONS 13.0 MINERAL PROCESSING AND METALLURCICAL TESTINGING

This section does not apply to the Golden Trend project.

#### SECTION 14 MINERAL RESOURCE ESTIMATES

This section does not apply to the Golden Trend project.

#### SECTION 15 MINERAL RESERVE ESTIMATES

This section does not apply to the Golden Trend project.

#### SECTION 16 MINING METHODS

This section does not apply to the Golden Trend project.

#### SECTION 17 RECOVERY METHODS

This section does not apply to the Golden Trend project.

#### SECTION 18 PROJECT INFRASTRUCTURE

This section does not apply to the Golden Trend project.

#### SECTION 19 MARKET STUDIES AND CONTRACTS

This section does not apply to the Golden Trend project.

#### SECTION 20 ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES, PERMITTING AND SOCIAL OR COMMUNITY IMPACT

This section does not apply to the Golden Trend project.

#### SECTION 21 CAPITAL AND OPERATING COSTS

This section does not apply to the Golden Trend project.

#### SECTION 22 ECONOMIC ANALYSIS

This section does not apply to the Golden Trend project.

#### SECTION 23.0 ADJACENT PROPERTIES

**23.1 Properties Discussed and Sources of Data** There are two adjacent properties that merit discussion because of the size of the mineralized zones and the importance of structural and stratigraphic control of the zones. The two properties that will be discussed are Barrick's Cortez district to the north, and Ryepatch Gold's project to the south and east. The information presented on these two properties is from publicly disclosed sources. The geology and mineralization on these adjacent properties do not indicate potential mineralization on the Golden Trend property, but they have contributed to the development of the Golden Trend exploration model.

**23.2 Barrick's Cortez District** The Cortez District comprises the Cortez, Cortez Hills, Horse Canyon, Gold Rush, and the recently announced Four Mile gold deposits and is approximately 10 miles (16.6 km) north of the Golden Trend property. The regional-scale, northwest-trending Cortez fault zone has localized mineralization in the Cortez pit and in the Cortez Hills deposits and continues to the southeast through the property, Figure 4. All of the mines and deposits in the district are classified as Carlin-type, and they are hosted in the carbonate rocks below the RMT. Many of the orebodies have a northwest trend and appear to be related to faults in the Cortez fault zone, Figures 17 and 18. Other controls on gold mineralization are low-angle thrust (?) faults and Tertiary-age quartz porphyry dikes, Figure 19, (Jackson et al, 2010). Figure 20 is from Barrick's website and shows core from a mineralized intercept from the Four Mile deposit. The host rock appears to be a breccia zone or debris flow in a black carbonaceous silty limestone thought to be the Wenban Formation. Barrick's website lists the total proven and probable gold resource for the district as 11,120,000 ounces of gold.

South of the Cortez pits is the Cortez Hills complex of mineralized zones, Figure 4. The following description of the complex is taken from Arbonies (et al, 2010). The Cortez Hills Complex is composed of two in-situ and connected Carlin-type ore bodies: the Cortez Hills breccia body and the Cortez Hills lower zone. There is also an exotic satellite deposit produced by eroding the adjacent Cortez Hills orebody. The upper portion of Cortez Hills consist of a

conical-shaped breccia body localized between Tertiary quartz porphyry sills cutting Wenban Limestone and the Horse Canyon Formation. This zone is the Cortez Hills Breccia zone and is currently being mined from surface and underground operations.

The following description of the discovery history of the Goldrush deposit is drawn from Creel and Bradley (2013). Barrick's Goldrush gold deposit is approximately 3.5 miles (5 km) NNE of the property, and the initial drilling was done by Homestake Mining Company in the late 1960s. In 2000, Barrick developed new structural and stratigraphic interpretations for the Cortez district. After deeper mineralization was discovered under the Red Hill area in 2002, additional drilling discovered the Cortez Hills deposit in 2004. In 2009, a step out drill hole more than a kilometer south of the Red Hill area intersected 20.5 m grading 27.8 g/t Au, and this is considered the discovery hole for Goldrush deposit.

**23.3** Garden Gate Pass Argonaut Gold (formerly Ryepatch Gold) has a block of claims immediately adjacent to the property's southern and eastern claim boundary, Figure 21. This project is called Garden Gate Pass was drilled by Rye Patch Gold Corp., between 2011 and 2014 and the results were summarized in referenced press releases.

Drill hole GGP-009 is shown as the southernmost red dot in Figure 21 intersected the RMT at 1,419 feet (432 m) and went into limestones of the Horse Canyon Formation. At 1,852 feet (564 m) the hole intersected limestone units of the Wenban Formation and stayed in the Wenban to the bottom of the hole at 2,371 feet (788 m). Hole GGP-008 bottomed at 940 feet (286 m) in Tertiary gravels (personal communication).



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Gold zone from the Four Mile deposit



Figure 21

Ryepatch Gold drill hole map

Hole GGP-007 was in Quaternary and Tertiary gravels until 1,710 feet (521 m) where it went into limestones in the Roberts Mountain Formation. Assays from the bottom of this hole contained 52 ppb Au and 150 ppm As. Drill hole GGP-006 went from Quaternary-Tertiary gravels into limestones of the Roberts Mountain Formation at 1,690 feet (515 m) and remained in the Roberts Mountain until the bottom of the hole at 2,040 feet (622 m). Hole GGP-009 is less than 1 km east of the property and illustrates that the favorable carbonate units in the lower plate are present at a depth of at 1,419 feet (432 m).

#### 24.0 OTHER RELEVANT DATA AND INFORMATION

The author is not aware of any other data that are needed to make this report understandable.

#### 25.0 INTERPRETATION AND CONCLUSIONS

**25.1 Interpretation** The Golden Trend property is an early-stage, gold exploration project in the Cortez district of the well known Battle Mountain – Eureka trend of gold mines. The Cortez district contains a growing number of large, plus one million ounces, Carlin-type gold deposits. Barrick controls all of the known deposits and is actively exploring throughout the district.

The general structural architecture of the property can be described as a northwest-trending horst that is bounded by the Cortez fault zone on the west and the structures of the Northern Nevada Rift on the east. The horst is cut by a number of northeast- to east-trending faults that appear to bring the lower plate rocks closer to the surface, Figure 22. This interpretation is supported by the gravity map in Figure 11, and by drill holes 05-1 and GPP-009 which intersected lower plate carbonates at 1,870 feet (570 m) and 1,400 feet (427 m) respectively.



At the property scale, the geology is relatively straightforward with most of the surface exposures being composed of siliciclastic rocks of the Vinini Formation. There are a few outcrops of felsic and diabasic dikes which are locally altered. The presence of lower plate carbonate rocks has been demonstrated by the two drill holes shown in Figure 22. Generalized geologic maps have been produced for the property, but the information shown on them is lacking in structural features and stratigraphic units.

The soil sampling results have defined some areas which contain low but anomalous values of gold, mercury, arsenic, antimony, copper, lead and zinc. Some of these anomalous areas are associated with known surface mineralization, and some of the other zones appear to be related to northwest- and northeast-trending structures.

The magnetic survey that was conducted on the property did not define any major deviations from the normal magnetic fields. All of the earlier IP surveys had much too small a dipole spacing to be of use in defining mineralization below 1,000 feet (304 m).

**25.2 Conclusions** There are a number of conclusions that can be drawn from a review of the historic project data that suggest the property has an overall favorable, although high-risk, environment for hosting a significant gold deposit including:

1. The presence of regional-scale structures, like the Cortez fault, that are associated with gold deposits in the district and that could have served as channel ways for mineralized, hydrothermal fluids.

- 2. The presence of northeast-trending, project-scale structures that have brought the lower plate rocks closer to the surface and that have served as channel ways for mineralized hydrothermal fluids.
- 3. The presence of favorable, lower plate, carbonate lithologies that could serve as host rocks for a gold deposit at depths currently being mined in other parts of the district.
- 4. The presence of anomalous concentrations of gold and pathfinder elements along structures that show moderate hydrothermal alteration.
- 5. The presence of a zoned geochemical pattern in soil samples that may have been generated by an intrusion-related, hydrothermal system.
- 6. The property's location in a major gold producing district.

The principal risk associated with exploration for an economic gold deposit on the Golden Trend property is associated with the depth of cover overlying the favorable lower plate host rocks. Both geochemical and geophysical surveys provide may provide anomalies indicating prospective targets but drill testing will be required to properly assess the potential.

In conclusion, the Author believes the property is worthy of additional work to test the favorable lower plate host rocks for the presence of gold deposits similar to the Gold Rush and Four Mile deposits.

#### 26.0 **RECOMMENDATIONS**

Previous work on the property has generated useful data that should form the basis for a new, two-phase exploration program that will focus on the following:

- 1. Defining the relationship of the large, northwest-trending structures to alteration and mineralization.
- 2. Defining the relationship of the northeast-trending structures to alteration and mineralization.
- 3. Defining the relationship of felsic and other dikes to alteration and mineralization.
- 4. Determining the possible amount of vertical displacement on the northeast-trending structures by more detailed mapping of the Vinini Formation.
- 5. Investigating the use of geophysical surveys that could help locate deep zones of sulfide mineralization and silicification.
- 6. Compiling the resulting data and developing drill targets.

Previous work on the property has generated useful data that will form the basis on which to develop a drill target aimed at confirming the presence of lower plate rocks which are the known host to gold deposits in the district. The total cost of the recommended program has an estimated cost of \$415,000, summarized in Table 4. The scope of work will focus on the following:

1. There is a tremendous amount of historic data on the project both in paper and digital form. All of this data should be reviewed and carefully cataloged along with a brief description. Having a complete list of maps, assays, drill logs and reports will insure that the maximum benefit possible is extracted from the data.

- 2. Most of the wooden posts marking claim corners on the property were placed in the early 1990s and have long since fallen down and deteriorated. In view of the existing and other potential conflicts with the other claims that surround the property, all of the GT and CTZ claim corners and location monuments should be replaced.
- 3. A high resolution lidar image of the property will be acquired and interpreted to complement the ground-based field mapping of major structures and relationships between Cortez fault and crosscutting NE trending faults. Lidar is particularly useful in mapping geologic features that are difficult to detect by traditional mapping.
- 4. The property should be completely remapped at a 1:2,400 scale, using high-resolution images available from Google as a mapping base. This imagery will show details and color changes that will assist in mapping individual lithologic units within the Vinini Formation. This stratigraphic information could identify other structures and demonstrate offsets along the faults.
- 5. During the mapping program, the geologist(s) should pay particular attention to northeast-trending linear trends which could be faults. Very selective outcrop sampling along these trends, particularly of any well fractured, brecciated or altered zones, will help define fluid pathways.
- 6. The enzyme leach method of analysis for soil samples permits the detection of very low quantities of gold, silver and the pathfinder elements. This process is considered useful in areas where the mineralized zone is deeply buried. Some test lines of soil samples should be collected from areas where the Cortez fault is crossed by the northeast-trending faults. If this method defines anomalous zones at the fault intersections, a larger area of the property could then be sampled.
- 7. In view of the importance of the lower plate rocks as hosts for mineralization, a geologist familiar with the lower plate rocks should relog the chips and core that may represent the RMT and the lower plate rocks. Once this initial call on the depth of the favorable lithologies has been made, Dr. Harry Cook should be retained to look at the selected intervals and to confirm or refute the presence of lower plate rocks.

Once all of the new information has been generated and compiled, a deep drill target will be selected and tested to a depth of ~2250 feet. (~700m).,. It will not be necessary to assay the Vinini formation in the upper part of the drill holes, unless some alteration, structure or dike is of interest. Careful attention to details as the anticipated depth to the RMT is approached will hopefully permit recognition of the lower plate rocks. Perhaps 50 feet (15 m) above the RMT should be sampled along with all five-foot intervals (1.5 m) below the RMT. All samples will be fire assayed for gold, and twenty-foot composites (four samples) (6 m) will be analyzed with multi-element ICP analysis.

An evaluation of the assays and lithologies encountered in the hole, together with the existing information will completed Particular attention should be given to alteration and increased

pathfinder element values, as these factors may provide a vector toward gold mineralization. A decision as to the merits of an expanded drill program will be made following this analysis.

Should significant gold mineralization be encountered, the exploration potential of the property will be dramatically enhanced as will be the opportunity to secure additional funding for the continued exploration of the property

#### **PROPOSED BUDGET**

TARGET IDENTIFICATION					
Senior Geologist Time	10	man days @	700.00	7,000	
Geologist	10	man days @	600.00	6,000	
H. Cook Consulting	2	man days @	1000.00	2,000	
Vehicle Operating Expenses	2500	miles @	0.55	1,375	
Meals & Accommodations	25	man days @	145.00	3,625	
Field Supplies, satellite images & Maps				1,500	
Re-Monument all Claims	111	claims @	100.00	11,100	
Rock Chip Samples	50	samples @	50.00	2,500	
Soil Sample Analysis	150	samples @	50.00	7,500	
Lidar Survey	9.25	4 km <sup>2</sup>	1500.00	13,875	
Data Compilation	10	man days @	1200.00	12,000	
Subtotal Target Identification					68,475
DRILL PROGRAM					
Senior Geologist Time	30	days @	700.00	21,000	
Geologist	35	days @	600.00	21,000	
Meals & Accommodations	65	days @	145.00	9,425	
Vehicle Operating Expenses	10000	miles @	0.55	5,500	
Field Supplies				5,000	
Drill Road Equipment Mob/Demob				3,500	
Drill Road Preparation	15	hours @	180.00	2,700	
Drill Crew Mob/Demob				25,000	
Drill Crew Per Diem	30	days @	300.00	9,000	
RC Drilling	1500	feet @	55.00	82,500	
Diamond Core Drilling	750	feet @	110.00	82,500	
Water & Hauling	30	days @	700.00	21,000	
Core Sampling	750	feet @	10.00	7,500	
Fire Assay Samples	200	samples @	50.00	10,000	
ICP Analysis, 4 samples	75	samples @	35.00	2,625	
Subtotal Drill Program					308,250
Total					376,725
Contingency	10.0%	Percent			37,673
TOTAL RECOMMENDED PROGRAM					414,398
SAY					415,000

Table 3

Budget Detail

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