HOPPER PROPERTY

Premium Copper-Gold Prospect Ready for Resource Definition

- **Gold-enriched skarn mineralization remains open along strike and down-dip in multiple horizons; significant porphyry copper mineralization over a 2.3 km by 650 m area is largely untested by drilling**
- **2022 drilling returned 1.87% copper and 1.04 g/t gold over 15.27 m from the Copper Castle skarn target and 0.22% copper over 114.38 m from the Hopkins North porphyry target**
- **Road-accessible and permitted for a large drill program; the Hopper Project lies 22 km north of the Otter Falls hydroelectric generator and only 320 km from the deep sea port of Haines, Alaska**

The Hopper Project lies within the southern part of the Dawson Range Gold Belt (DRGB), a metallogenic province in west-central Yukon that hosts several major depositis, including Western Copper and Gold Corporation's Casino porphyry copper-gold deposit, located 190 km to the north-northwest (Figure 1). The property comprises 365 mineral claims covering a 74 km^2 area, and is accessible via a network of roads and trails. Mineral occurrences on the property, which collectively make up the Hopkins North porphyry target, Copper Castle skarn zone, and Northern Skarn target, are associated with a 4 by 6 km intrusion referred to as the Hopper Pluton (Figure 2). Dating of the pluton has yielded a Late Cretaceous age that is consistent with most mineralization along the belt, including the Casino deposit.

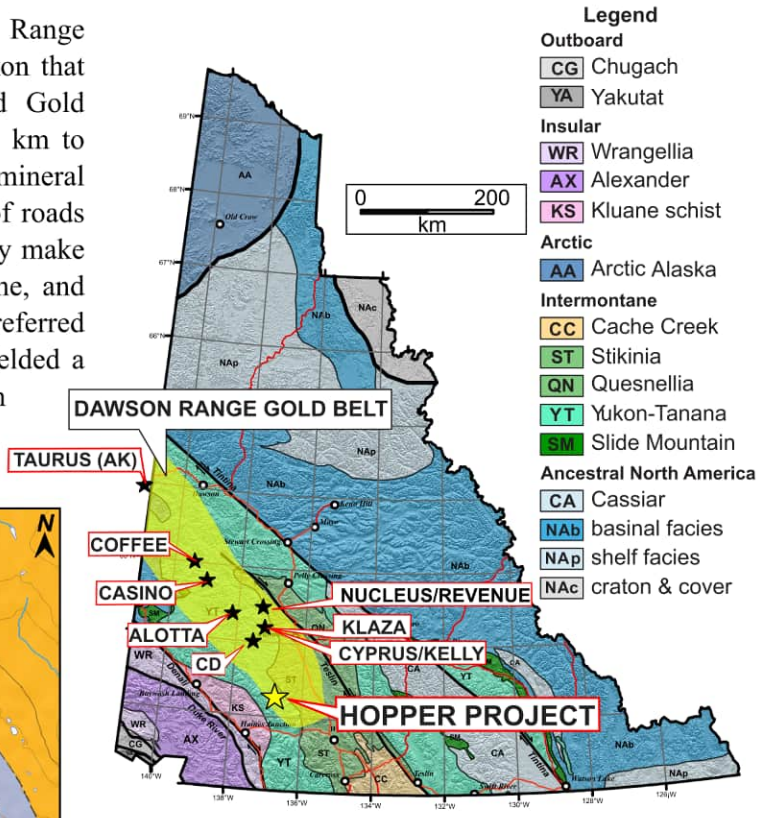

Figure 1. *Tectonic assemblage map of Yukon*

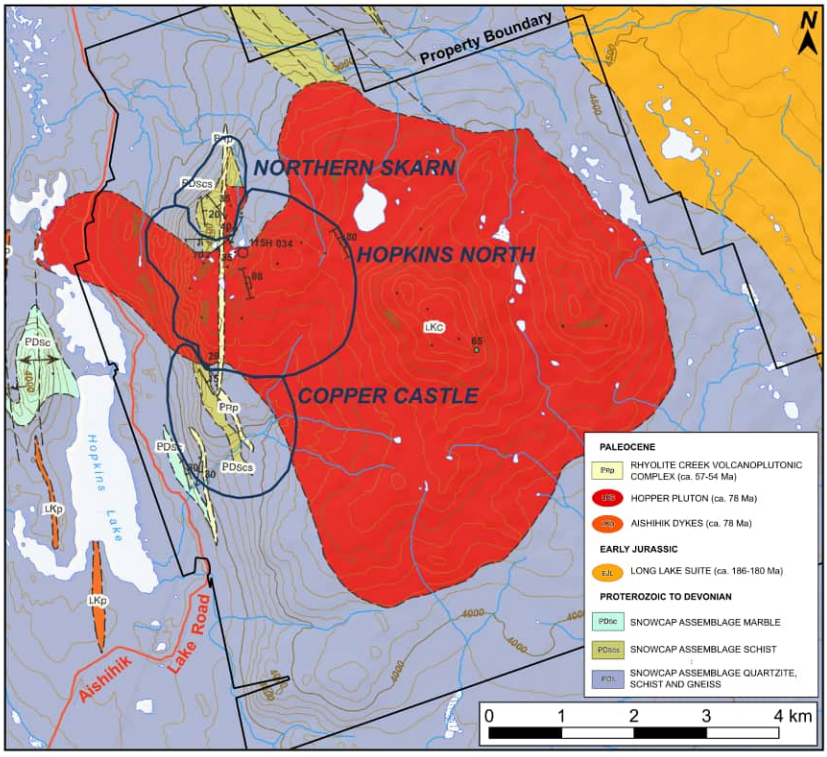

Figure 2. *Yukon regional geology and Hopper targets*

Hopper is underlain by Devonian and older metasedimentary rocks of the Snowcap assemblage. These rocks are intruded by the Hopper Pluton, as well as north trending dykes and sills that are cogenetic and coeval. The mineralized hydrothermal system is centred on a porphyry-style copper zone at Hopkins North that is flanked by skarn horizons and distal veins. Gold-enriched skarn mineralization at the Copper Castle Zone, immediately south of the pluton, is deveoped in at least 11 stacked horizons representing a known vertical section approximately 425 m thick. The skarns have been only partially delinated and remain open down dip and along strike to the south. The Northern Skarn target mirrors Copper Castle but has seen only minor work.

Interest in the Hopper area was generated by early copper and gold discoveries on Franklin Creek. Following, an 800 by 1,200 m area of mineralization, encompassing several showings collectively referred to as the Copper Castle Zone, was defined by prospecting, mapping, hand and minor cat trenching, soil and rock geochemistry, airborne and ground-based geophysical surveying, and limited diamond and percussion drilling. Skarn horizons at Copper Castle can be intermittently traced from the JG showing near the southern contact of the Hopper Pluton to south of Franklin Creek (Figure 3). The horizons, which strike northerly and dip shallowly to the east, are about 30 to 50 m apart stratigraphically and typically range from 2 to 20 m in thickness. Mineralization is characterized by both prograde (garnet-diopside) and retrograde (chlorite-actinolite) skarn assemblages, with varying amounts of magnetite, pyrrhotite, chalcopyrite, rare pyrite, trace bornite and local molybdenite. The skarns are cut by various types of steep intrusive dykes, some of which are weakly mineralized with copper or molybdenum.

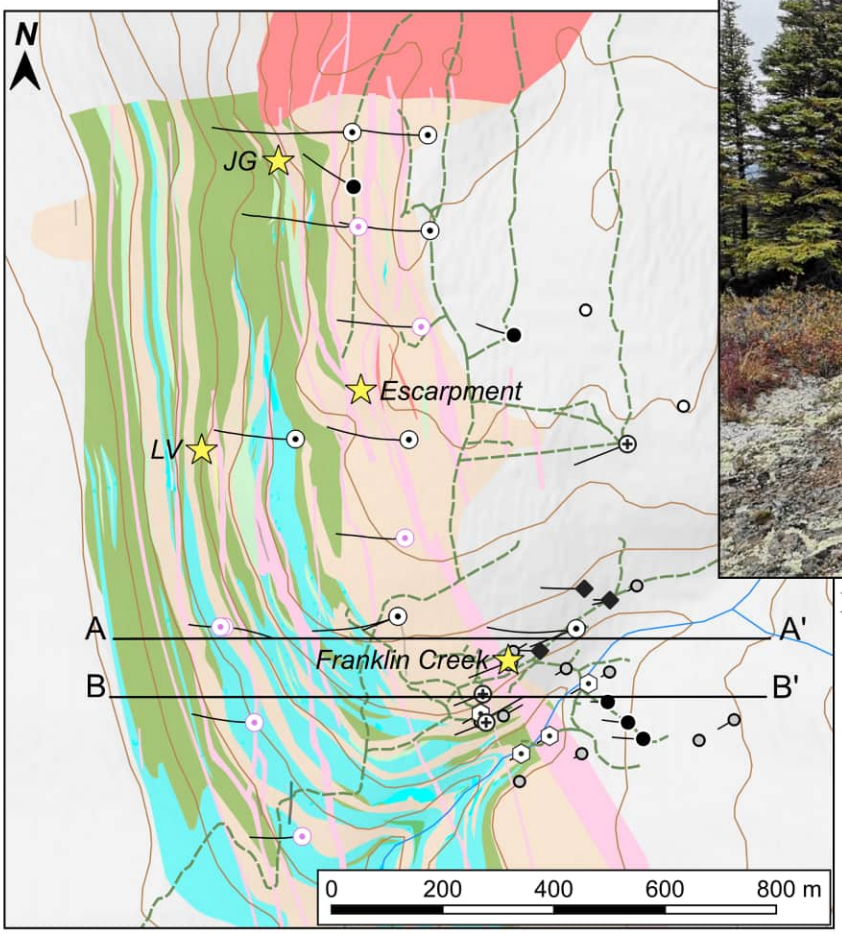

Photo 1. *Copper mineralization at the Escarpment Showing*

Mineralized skarn
Marble
Porphyry dyke
Diorite to granodiorite
Interbedded quartzite, schist and gneiss
Showing
Drill trail
DDH collar (by year)
1977
1978
1989
2009
2011
2015
2016
2021
2022

Figure 3. *Geology of the Copper Castle Zone*

The majority of work on the Project, between the years of 1970 to 2015, focussed on the immediate area of the Franklin Creek showing. Drill results from this period include **1.94% copper and 0.87 g/t gold over 18.59 m (true thickness approximately 12 m)**. Most of the historical drill holes were short; however, one of the few deeper holes cut a skarn with a much higher gold content than had been reported from any of the upper horizons. This intercept returned **9.44 g/t gold with only 0.01% copper over 2 m** within a broader interval that averaged **3.35 g/t gold and 0.43% copper over 7.5 m**.

In 2015, more widely spaced diamond drilling in the northern portion of Copper Castle confirmed the presence of the deeper, gold-rich skarn horizons, with intersections including: **12.15 g/t gold and 0.95% copper over 2.65 m** and **43.6 g/t gold over 1 m**. More recent drilling has targeted the blind-to-surface, down-dip extension of skarn horizons near Franklin Creek, associated with a very strong electromagnetic conductor, and have yielded some of the strongest results to date, including: **1.41% copper and 0.53 g/t gold over 22.28 m** from HOP21-01 and **1.87% copper and 1.04 g/t gold over 15.27 m** from HOP22-03. Cross sections A-A' and B-B' across Franklin Creek are presented on the following page as Figure 4.

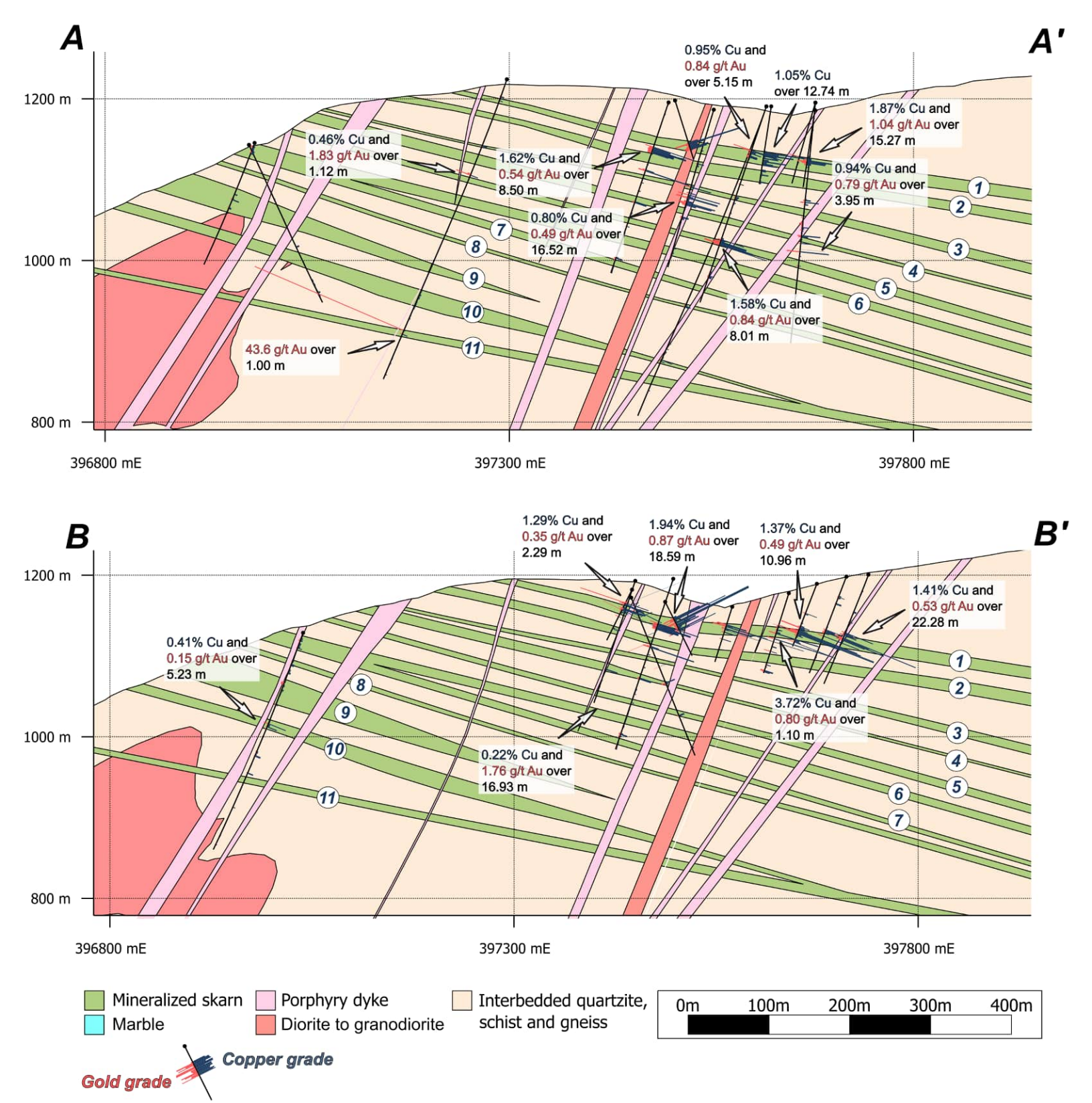

Figure 4. *Cross sections A-A' and B-B' across Franklin Creek, with highlight drill intercepts*

Airborne and ground-based magnetic, electromagnetic (EM), radiometric and induced polarization (IP) geophysical surveying has been performed over various parts of the Hopper property. Overall, the Hopper Pluton is characterized by a magnetic high and a low EM response. North of the pluton, the magnetic signature is subdued except for two smaller moderate highs, which may represent buried intrusive plugs. South of the pluton, the magnetic signature is more complex. The Copper Castle Zone has a strong magnetic signature that blends into the main Hopper Pluton magnetic anomaly (Figure 5). Significantly, a very strong EM conductor underlies the area of Franklin Creek, which remains untested to the southeast (Figure 6). About two kilometres south of Copper Castle there is a strong linear EM anomaly with a subtle, moderate conductor immediately to its west, which is also untested (not illustrated). IP surveying in 2015 over the Hopkins North porphyry target identified several areas of strong chargeability, coincident with copper-in-soil geochemical anomalies, suggestive of sulphide mineralization. Much of this prospective area is heavily vegetated and blanketed by various depths of overburden.

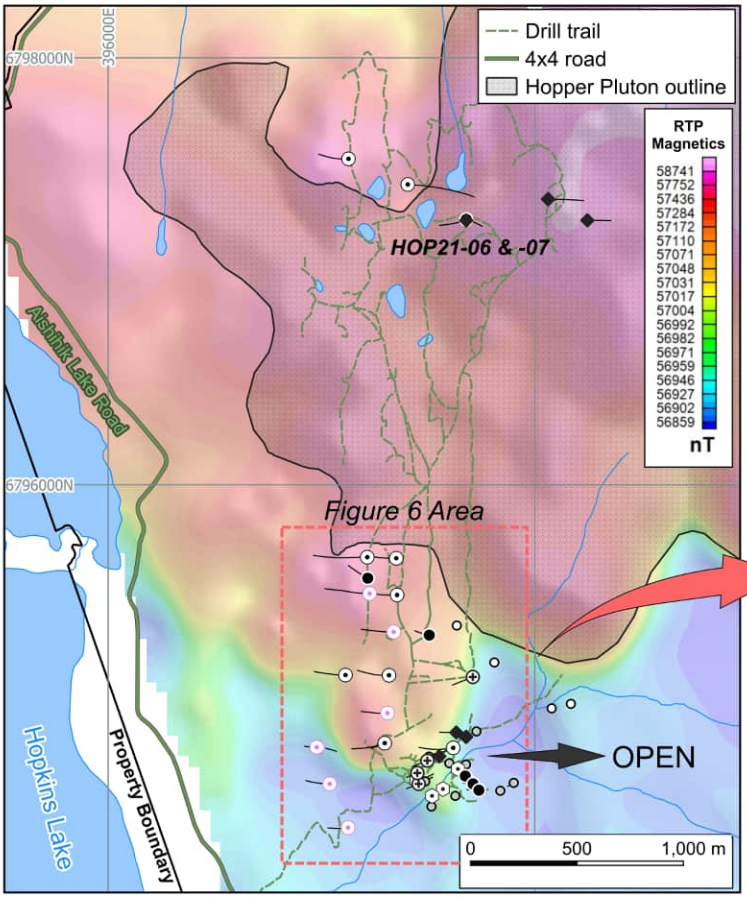

Figure 5. *Reduced to pole magnetics*

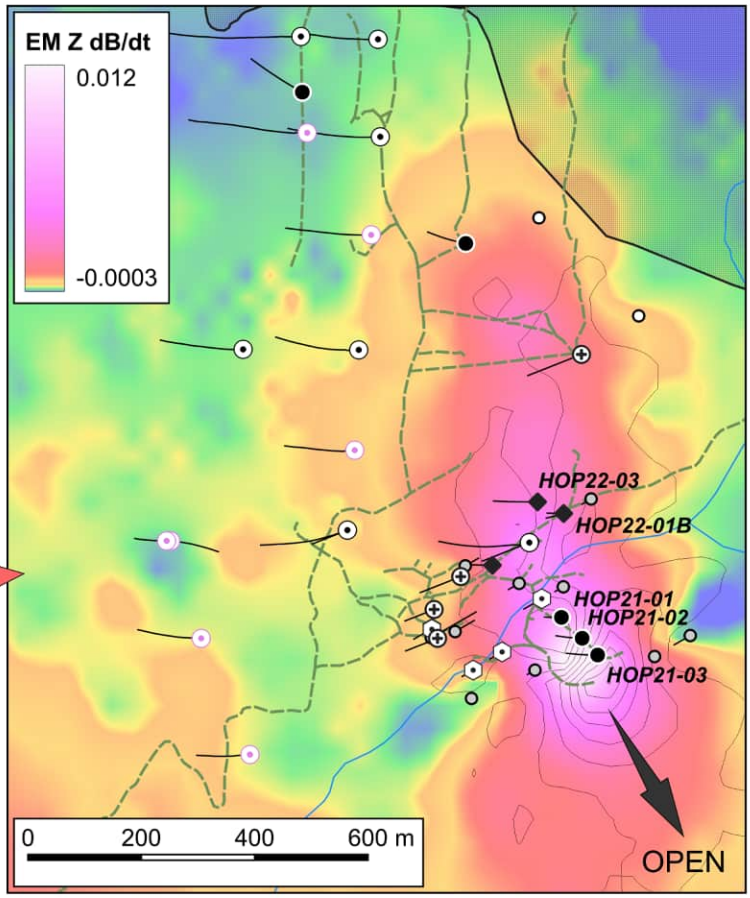

Figure 6. *dB/dT electromagnetics*

Drill Hole	From (m)	To (m)	Interval (m)	Cu (%)	Au (g/t)
HOP21-01	55.44	77.72	22.28	1.41	0.53
HOP21-02	70.00	79.39	9.39	0.62	0.20
HOP21-03	77.00	87.96	10.96	1.37	0.49
HOP22-01B	120.94	127.93	6.99	0.73	1.37
HOP22-03	62.23	77.50	15.27	1.87	1.04

Table 1. *2021 and 2022 Copper Castle Diamond Drilling Highlights*

Photo 2. *A) Molybdenite veinlets with K-feldspar halos; B) Vein-controlled chalcopyrite in granodiorite, with K-feldspar alteration halos; C) Re-activated, A-type veins with pyrite, chacopyrite, and a K-feldspar alteration halo, hosted in a porphyry dyke*

Historical work within the porphyry zone consisted of mechanized trenching and a number of widely spaced and very short, vertical percussion drill holes. Historical chip sampling from trenches at the porphyry target reportedly yielded 0.24% over 45.72 m, while several of the percussion holes bottomed in copper mineralization. In 2015, a single diamond drill hole tested Hopkins North and returned a weighted average grade of **0.17% copper over 162.85 m**. A follow-up hole in 2021, collared 320 m to the southeast, yielded **0.22% copper over 114.38 m** from surface (HOP21-06). A third hole, HOP22-07, directed at the same target, returned an intercept of **0.12% copper over 214 m**.

Mineralization within the porphyry consists of chalcopyrite, with lesser pyrite, pyrrhotite, magnetite and molybdenite as fracture fillings, disseminations and aggregates, and within quartz-carbonate veins hosted within a 2.3 km by 650 m area at the western edge of the Hopper Pluton (Photo 2). The best porphyry drill intersections to date comprise chlorite-altered monzonite and porphyry dykes, with zones of vein-controlled potassic alteration, indicating proximity to an untested, higher-temperature porphyry centre.

Soil sampling has outlined a 3.6 km long by 1 km wide, mostly ≥100 ppm, copper-in-soil anomaly encompassing the Northern Skarn, Hopkins North and Copper Castle zones (Figure 7). Parts of the copper anomaly are accompanied by clusters of high gold, silver and molybdenum values, the strongest of which occur along an escarpment at the western edge of the property, where overburden is thin and soil development is endemic. Soil values on the plateau to the east, which underlies much of the Hopper Pluton, is relatively subdued due to the presence of thick overburden.

There is good potential for a bulk tonnage copper-gold deposit on the Project. Mineralization is associated with the multiphase Hopper Pluton, dated at approximately 78-76 Ma - a date that places Hopper in the same metallogenic episode as the Patton Porphyry, which is associated with mineralization at the Casino porphyry copper-gold deposit. The Hopkins North target covers porphyry veining, alteration and associated copper-gold-molybdenum mineralization within a 2.3 km by 650 m area that covers the Hopper Pluton. This target is considered to be at a very early exploration stage, having been tested by only two diamond drill holes, which borth returned significant copper intersections. Skarn mineralization that flanks the pluton is remarkably similar to skarn deposits that were mined in the Whitehorse Copper Belt (WCB), which lies 120 km southeast of Hopper. In the WCB, multiple copper-gold skarn deposits along a 30 km trend produced at least 123,145 t of copper, 85,577 kg of silver, and 7,062 kg of gold between the years 1900 to 1981. Grades generally ranged from 0.71% to 1.84% copper, with about 0.7 g/t gold and 13 g/t silver[1].

The Copper Castle Zone at Hopper remains open to expansion along strike and down dip, while its full stratigraphic thickness remains untested. In addition, strong geochemical and electromagnetic anomalies on the property present compelling drill targets.

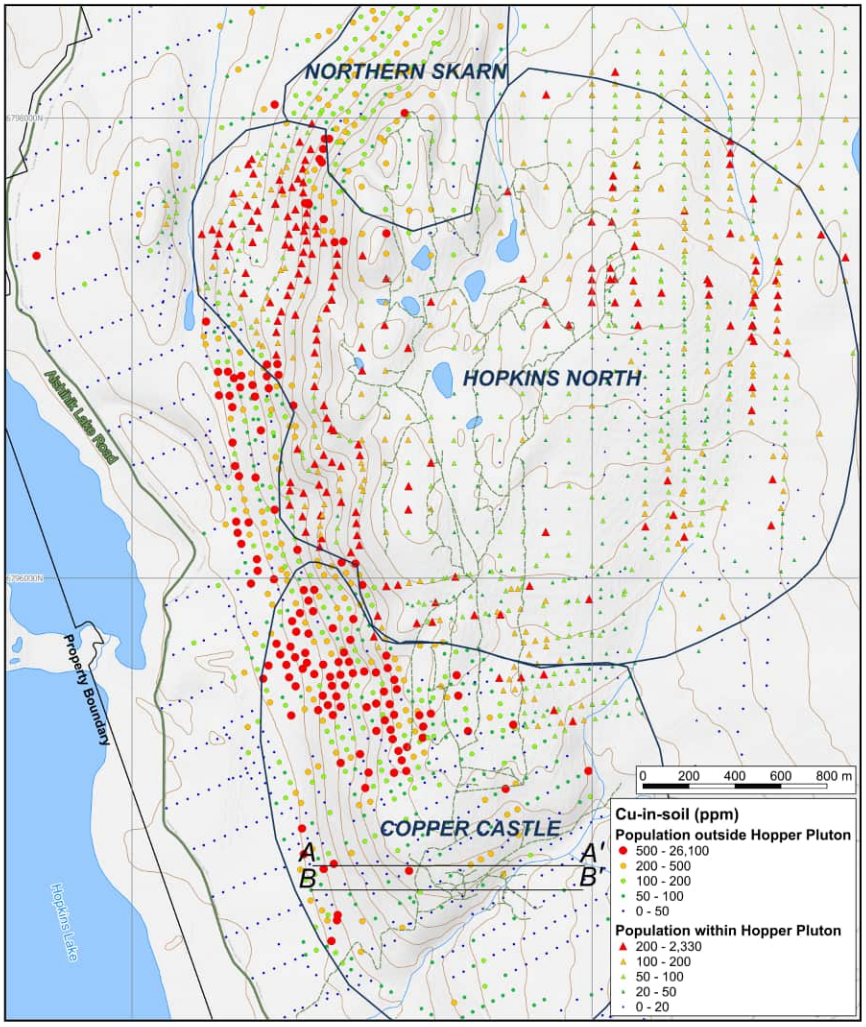

Figure 7. *Copper-in-soil geochemistry with section lines illustrated (note: depressed copper geochemistry under the section lines as much of the mineralization is blind to surface)*

Technical information in this brochure has been approved by Strategic Metals' Vice President Exploration, Jackson Morton, P.Geo., a qualified person as defined under the terms of National Instrument 43-101.

References: 1. Deklerk, R., 2009. The MINFILE Manual. Yukon Geological Survey, CD-ROM.

Strategic metals ltd.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THIS PROPERTY

Contact Richard Drechsler
Phone: 604-687-2522
Email: rdrechsler@strategicmetalsltd.com

Doug Eaton
Phone: 604-688-2568