



# Modern exploration methods - locating hidden gold paleochannels in the Cariboo Mining District, BC, Canada.

Workshop – Opportunities in Canada’s Resource Sector and  
Different Financing Instruments for Mining Projects  
Embassy of Canada to Germany  
11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> December 2013

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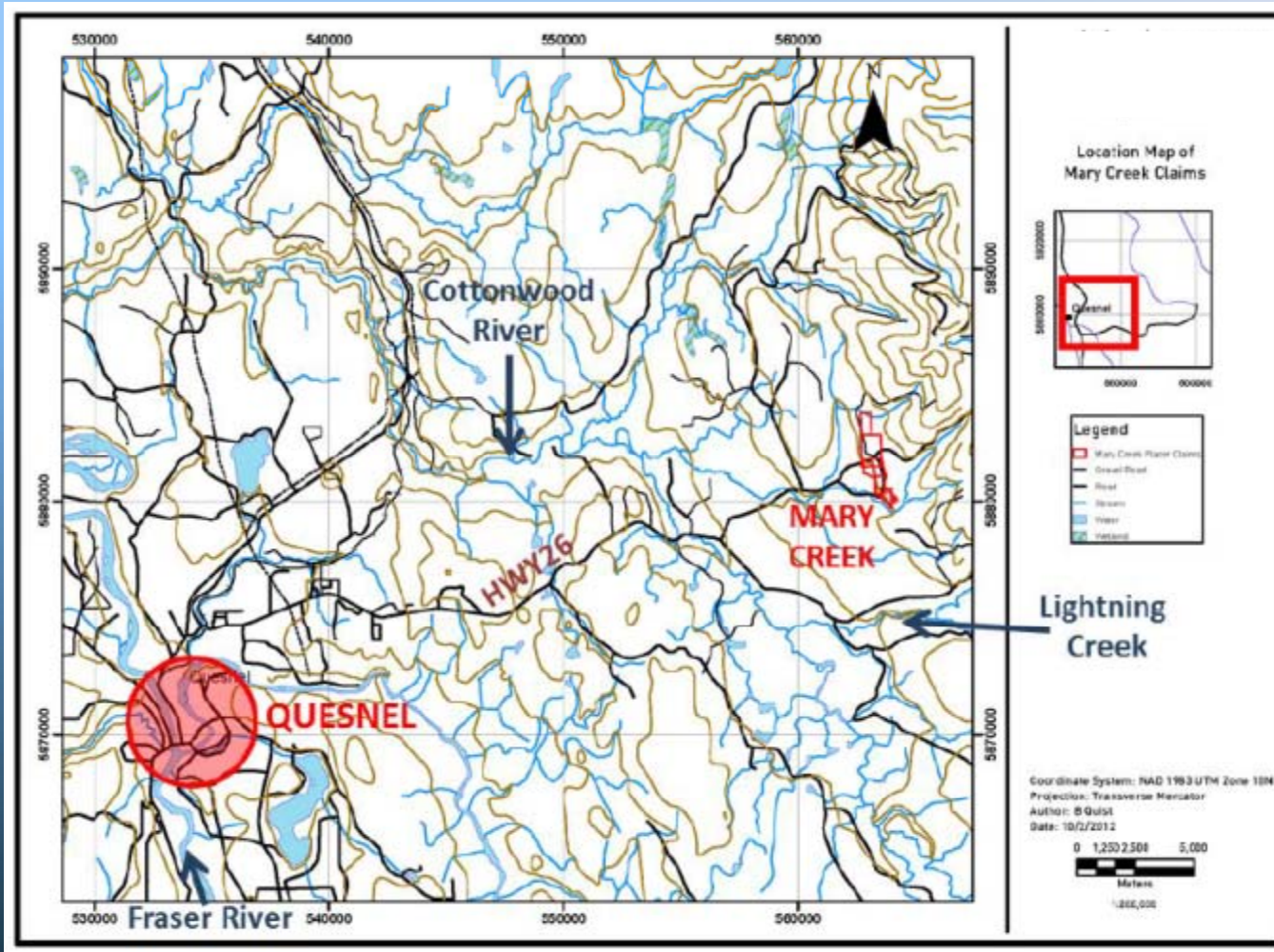
<sup>2</sup> Berlin Technical University, Germany

## Outline/Preview

- Geology of placer gold in the Cariboo gold mining district
- SkyTEM applied over the Mary Creek, Toop and Beaver Pass concessions
- Ground geophysics applied on selected buried target
  - 2D Resistivity
  - Refraction Seismics
- Drilling a conductive buried channel feature
- Discussion of results and conclusions

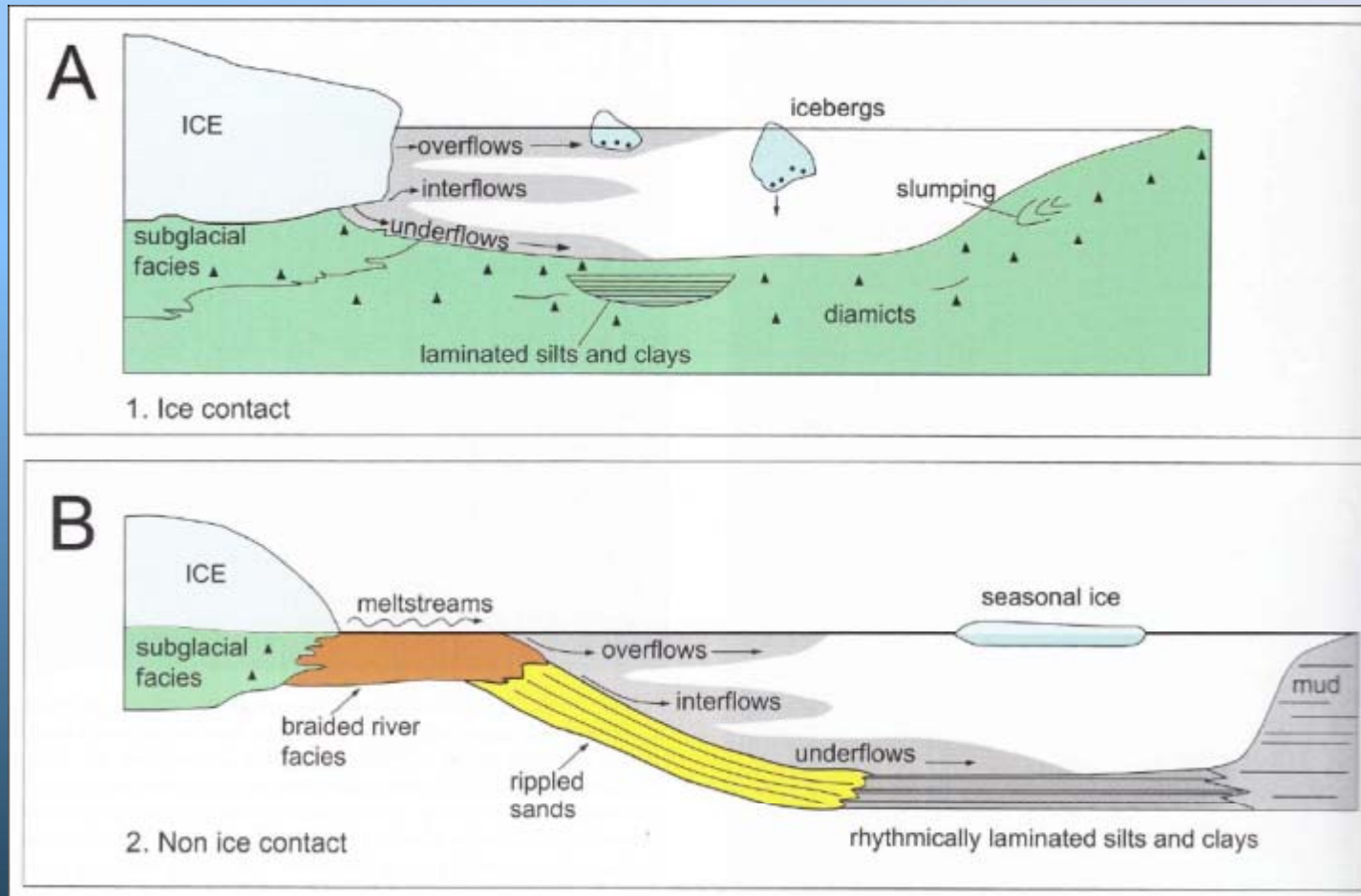
## Location



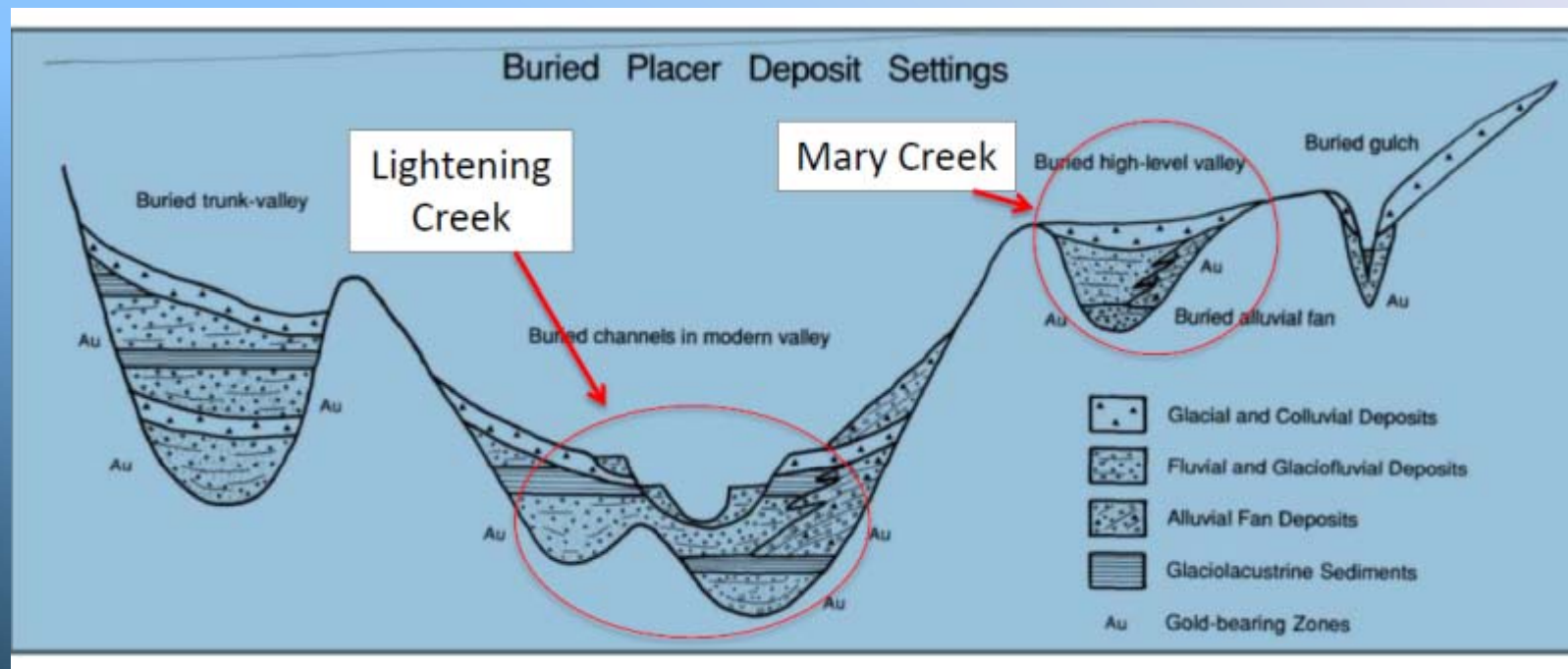








## Two types of glaciolacustrine deposit sediments (James and Dalrymple, 2012)



**Schematic of buried placer deposit settings.**  
(Levson and Giles, 1995)



## Data Acquisition



Line direction W – E  
Spacing 50 m  
Tie line direction N – S  
Spacing 500m

Nominal terrain clearance of system 30 m  
Flight speed 40 – 80 km/h

Transmitter area 314 m<sup>2</sup>

- Tx Low Moment  
Repetition Frequency 210 Hz  
Peak Moment ca. 3300 NIA
- Tx High Moment  
Peak Moment ca. 145 000 NIA  
Repetition Frequency 22.5 Hz







#### Generator

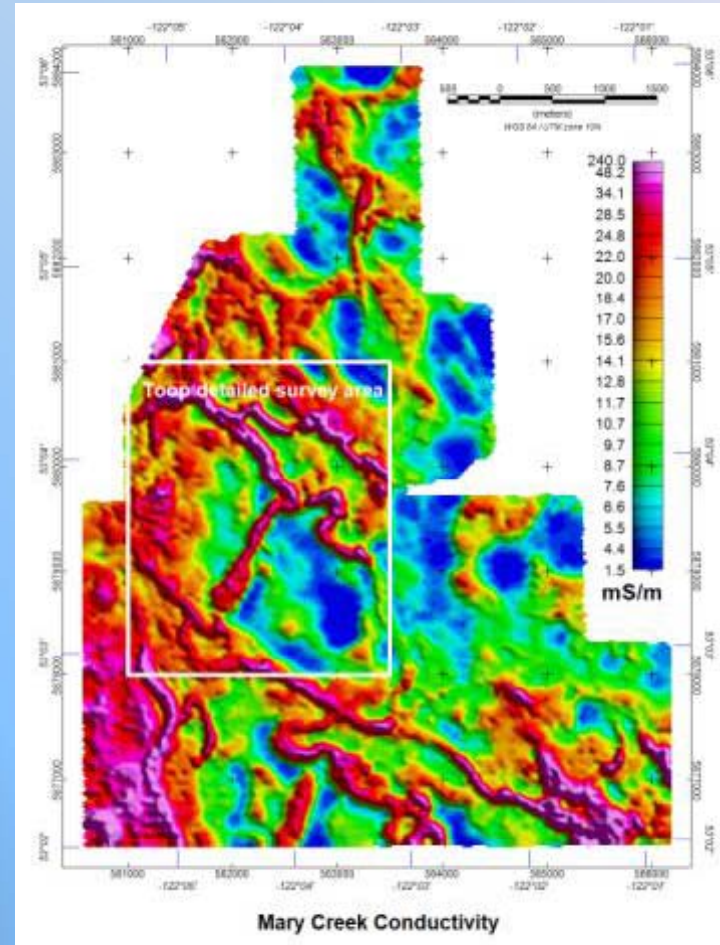
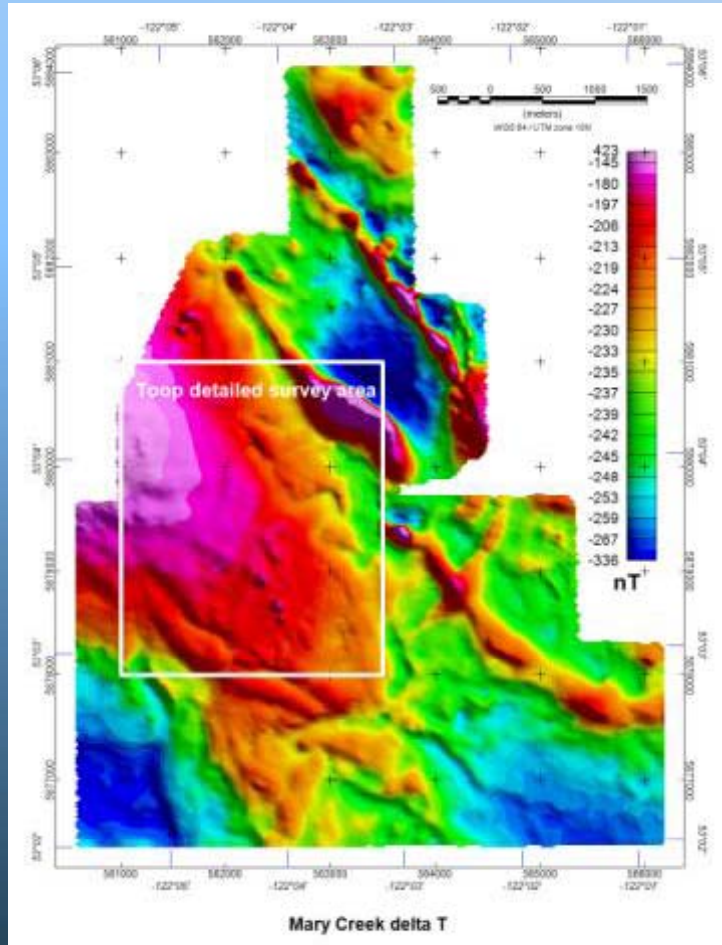
- flying 10 m beneath the helicopter
- powering the TDEM system



DGPS sensors on frame and base station

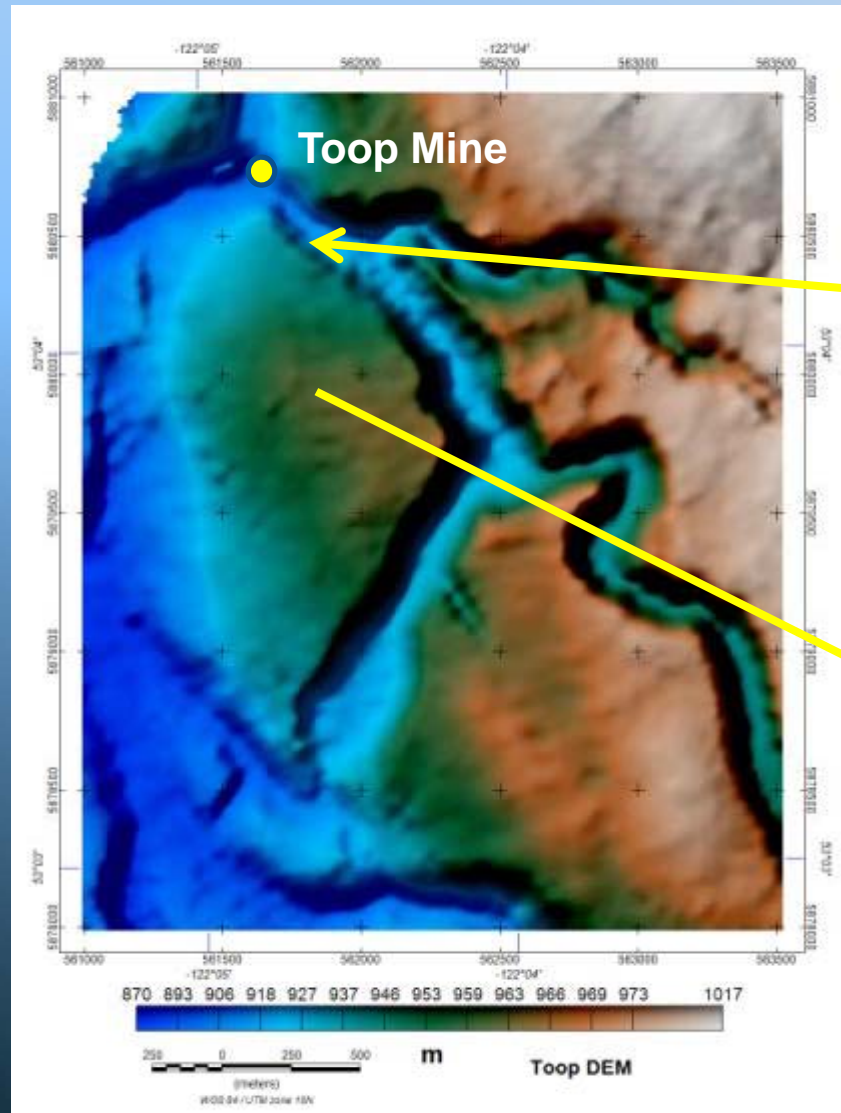


Mag sensor  
Readings at 45 Hz are taken in between  
each HM pulse

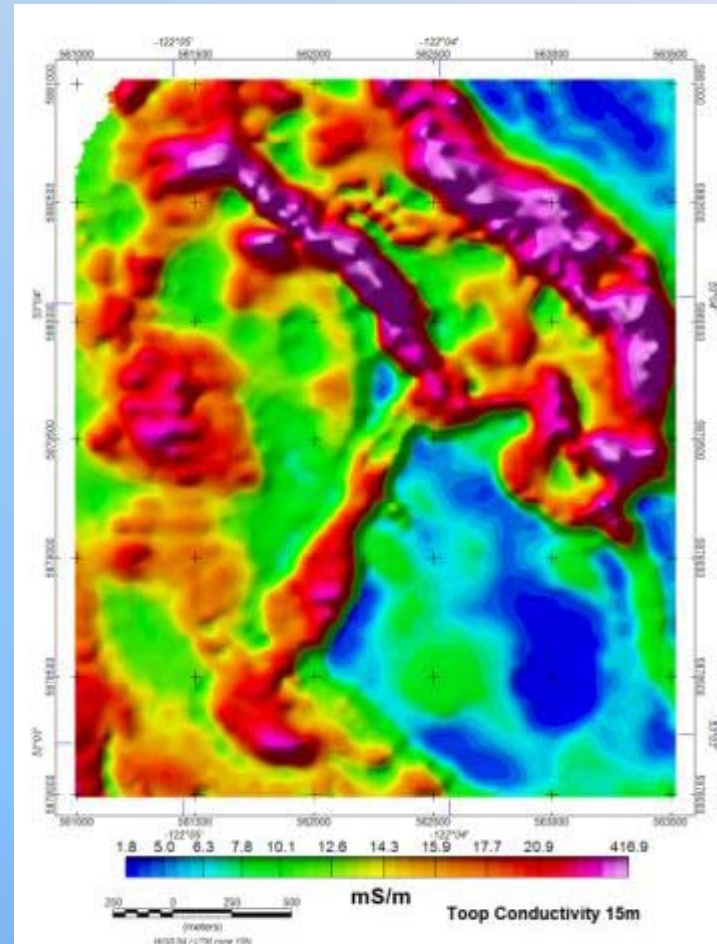
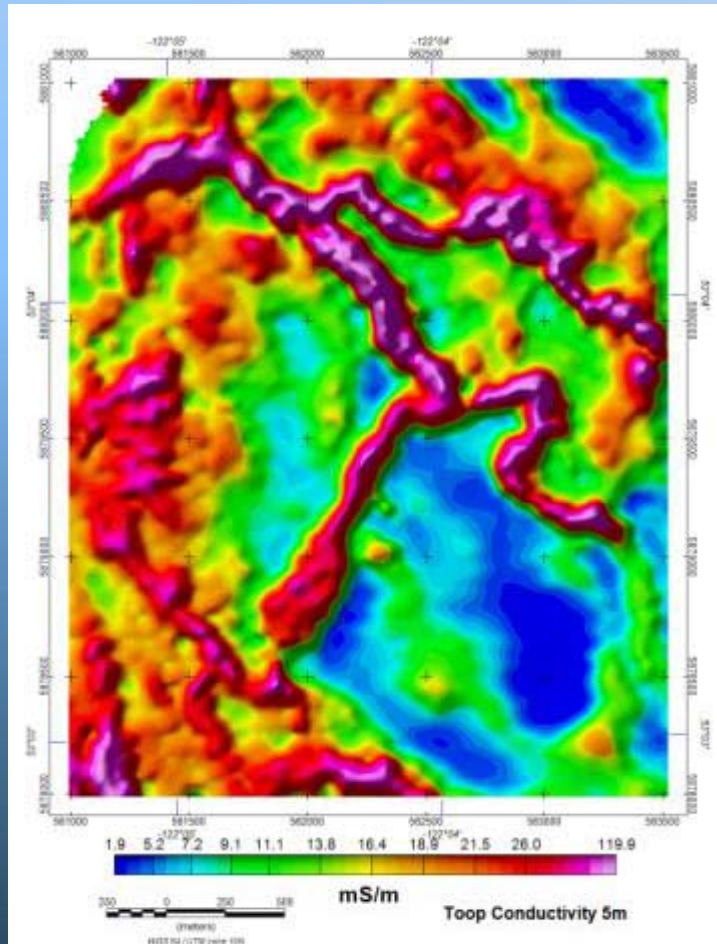


## Mary Creek magnetic and conductivity survey data

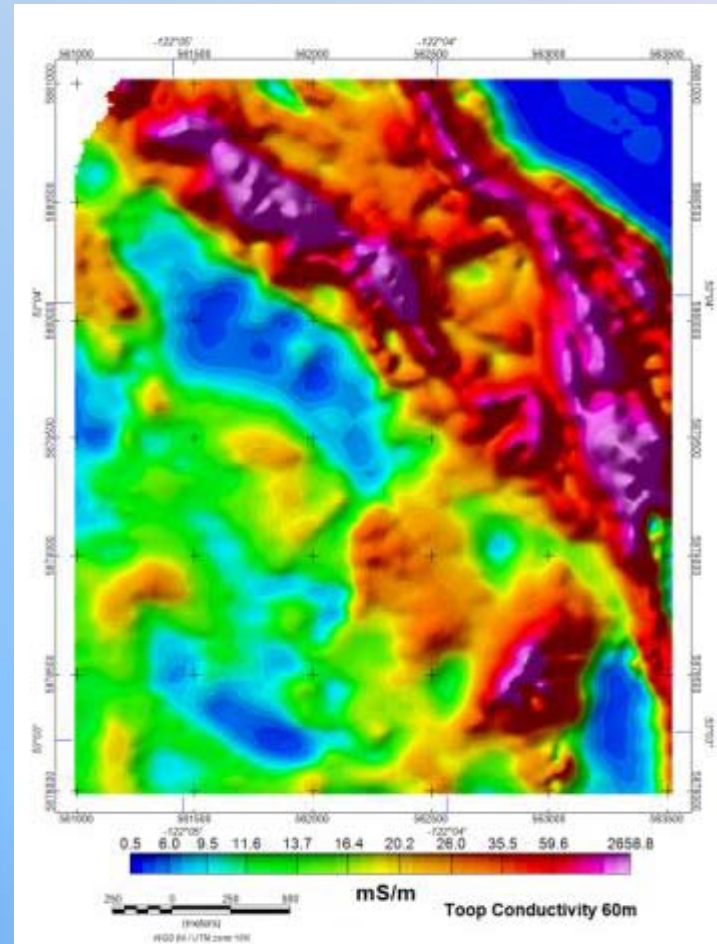
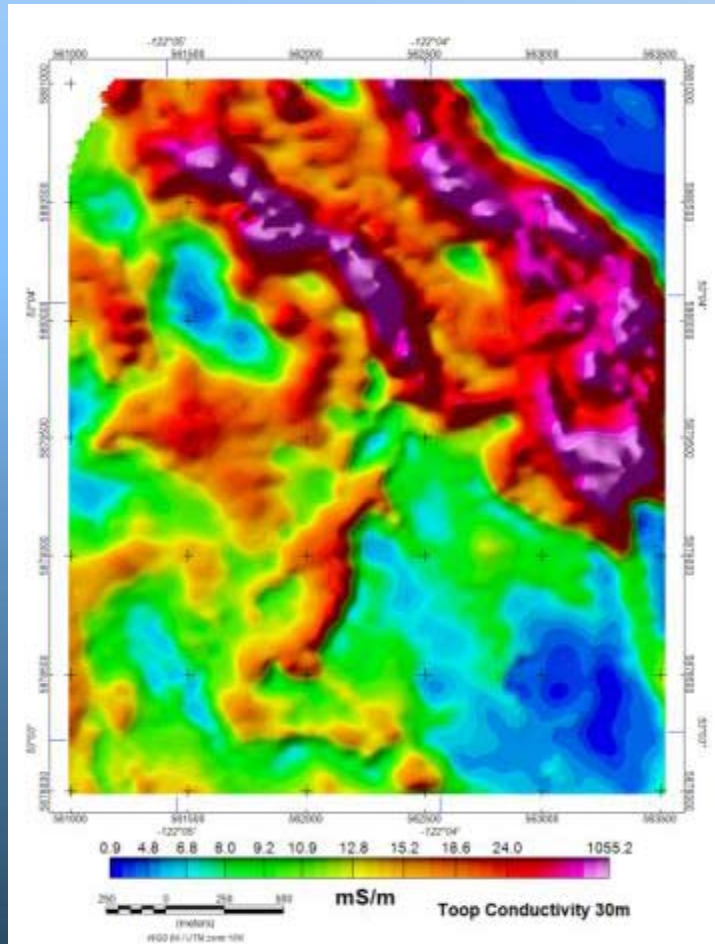




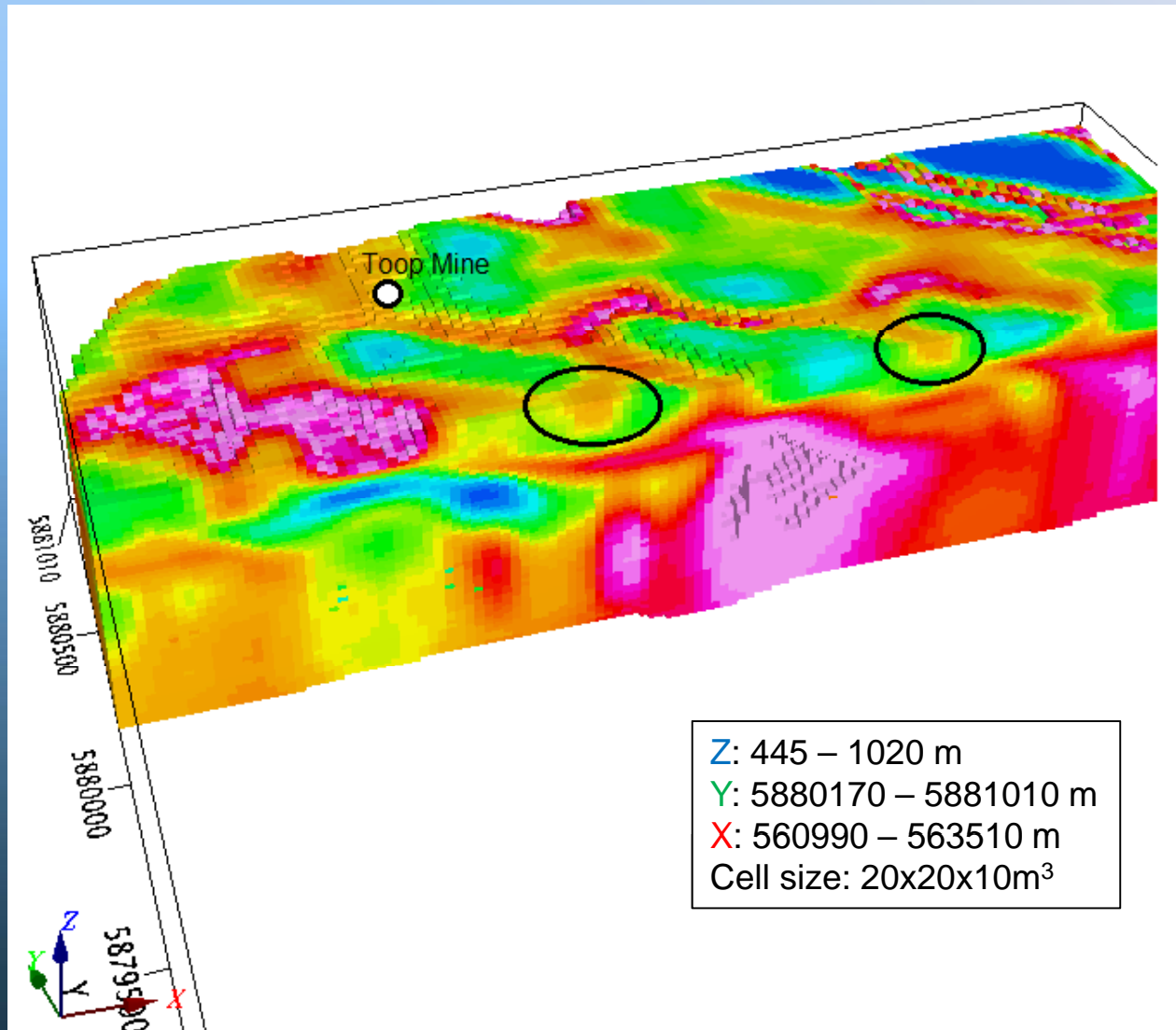




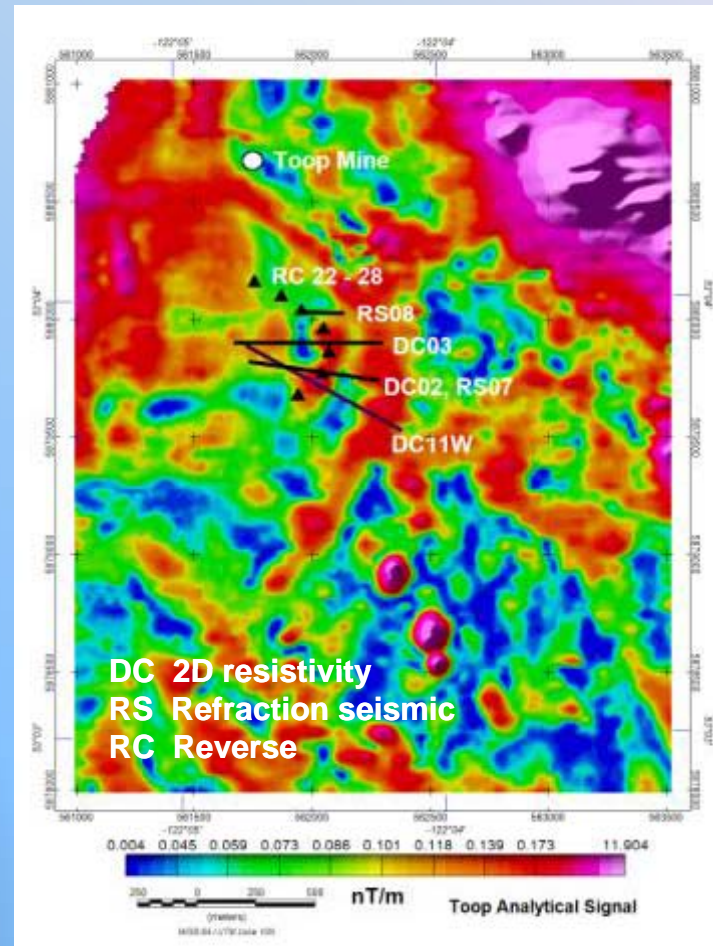
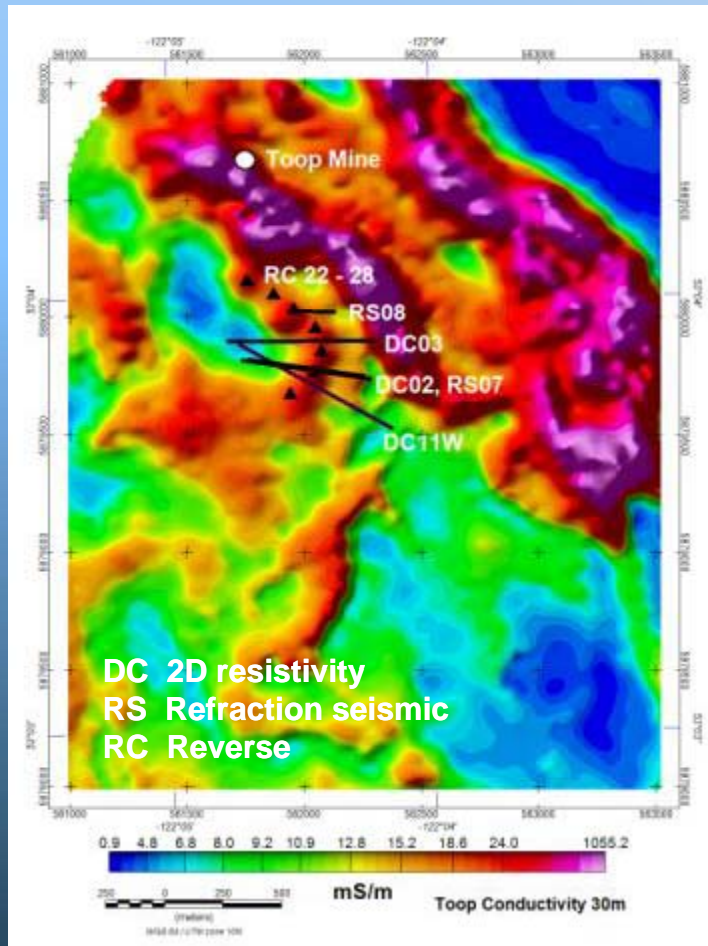
## Conductivity at 5 m and 15 m below surface



## Conductivity at 30 m and 60 m below surface



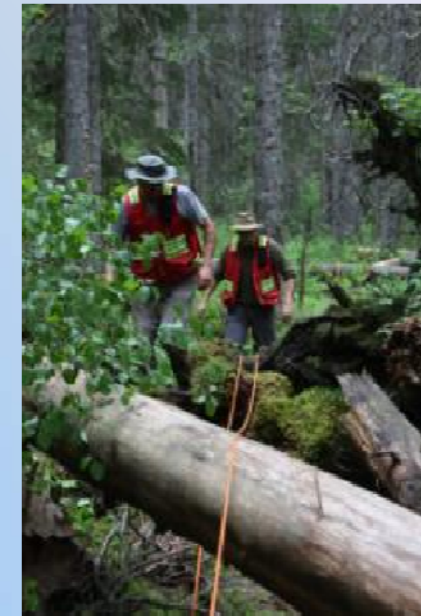
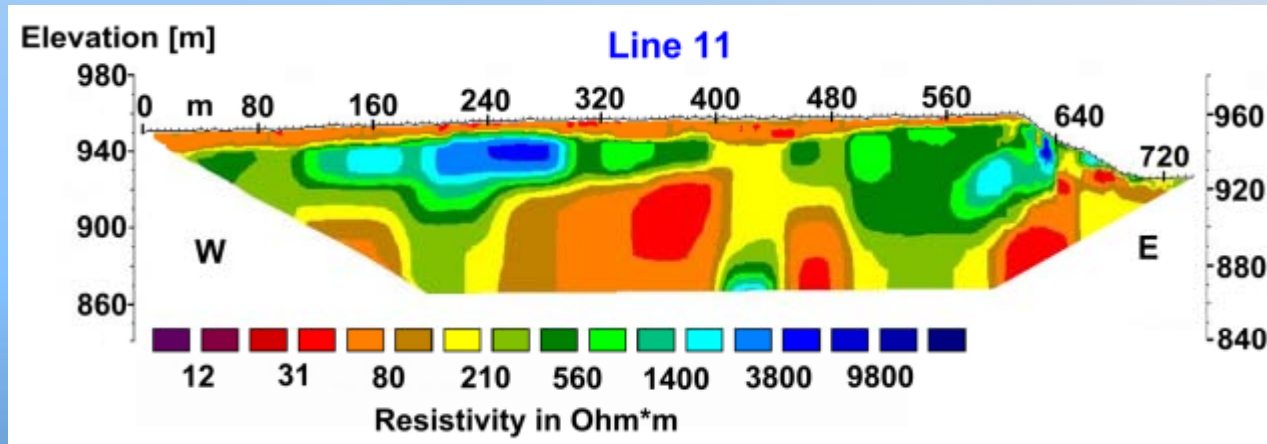






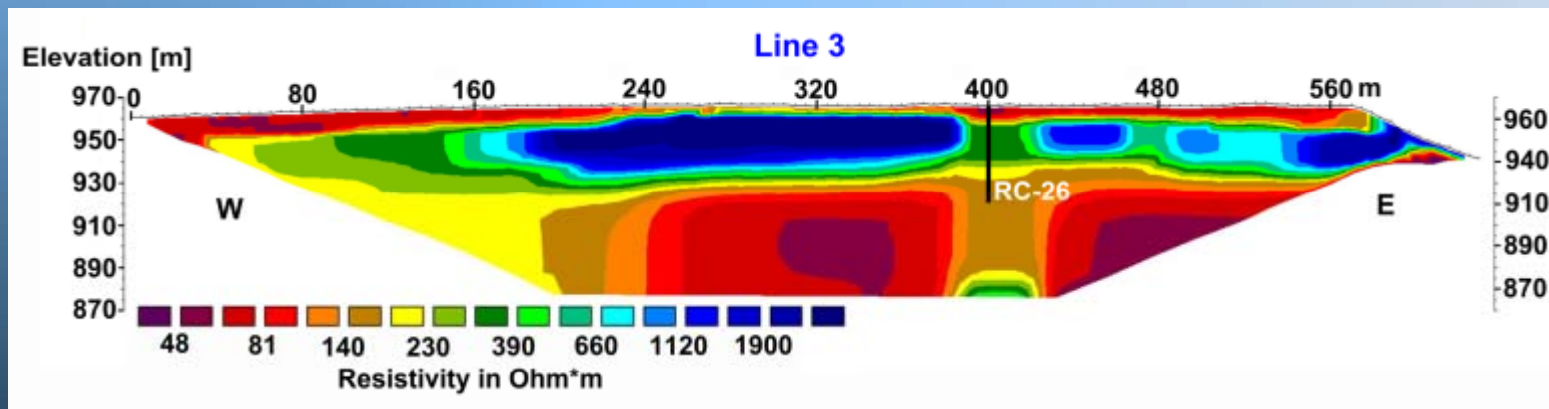
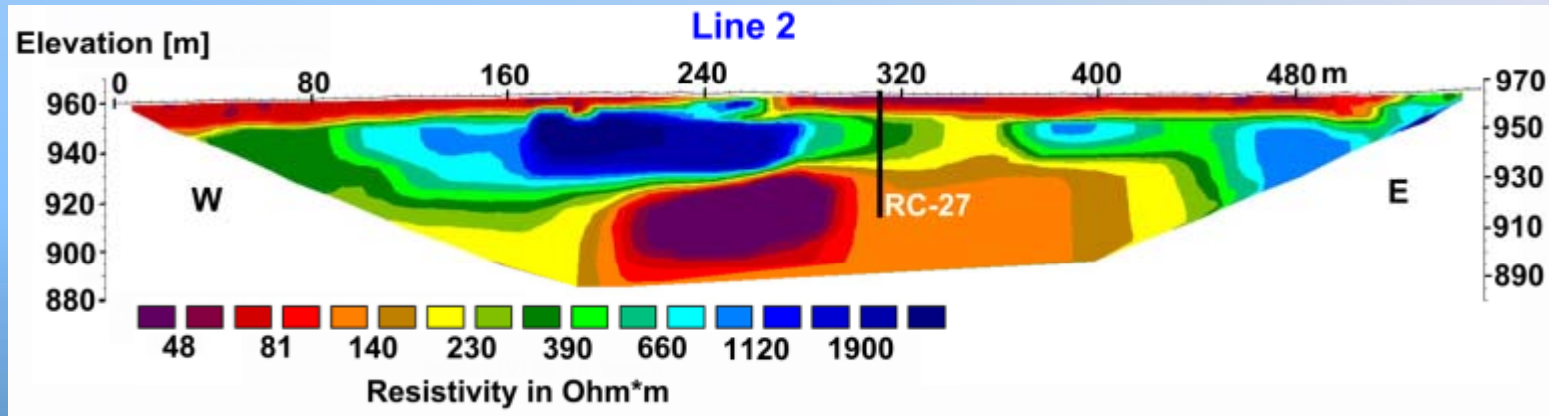
Lippmann IP and Earth Resistivity Meter combined with stainless electrodes manufactured by [geoanalysis.de](http://geoanalysis.de)



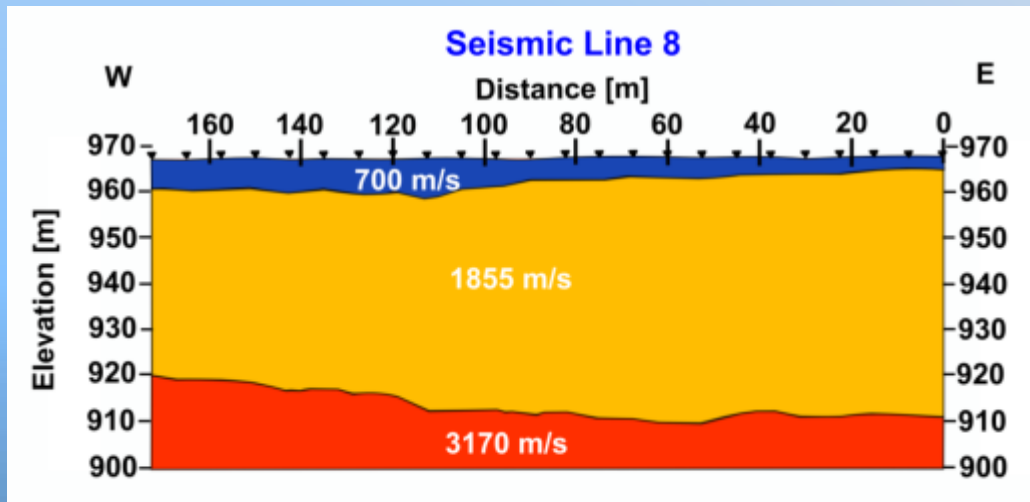


2D resistivity section with 5 m electrode spacing

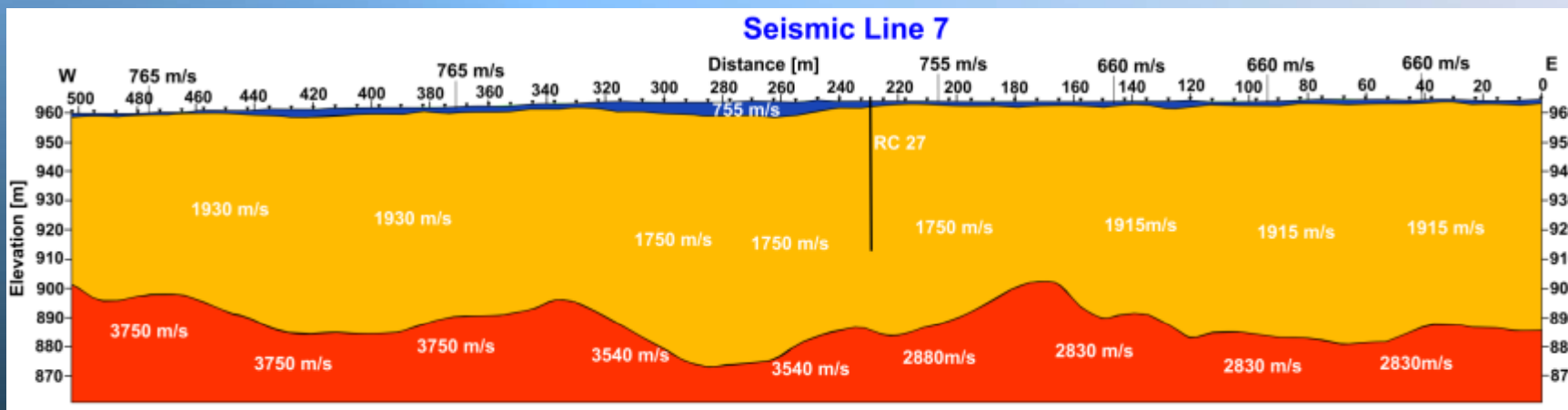




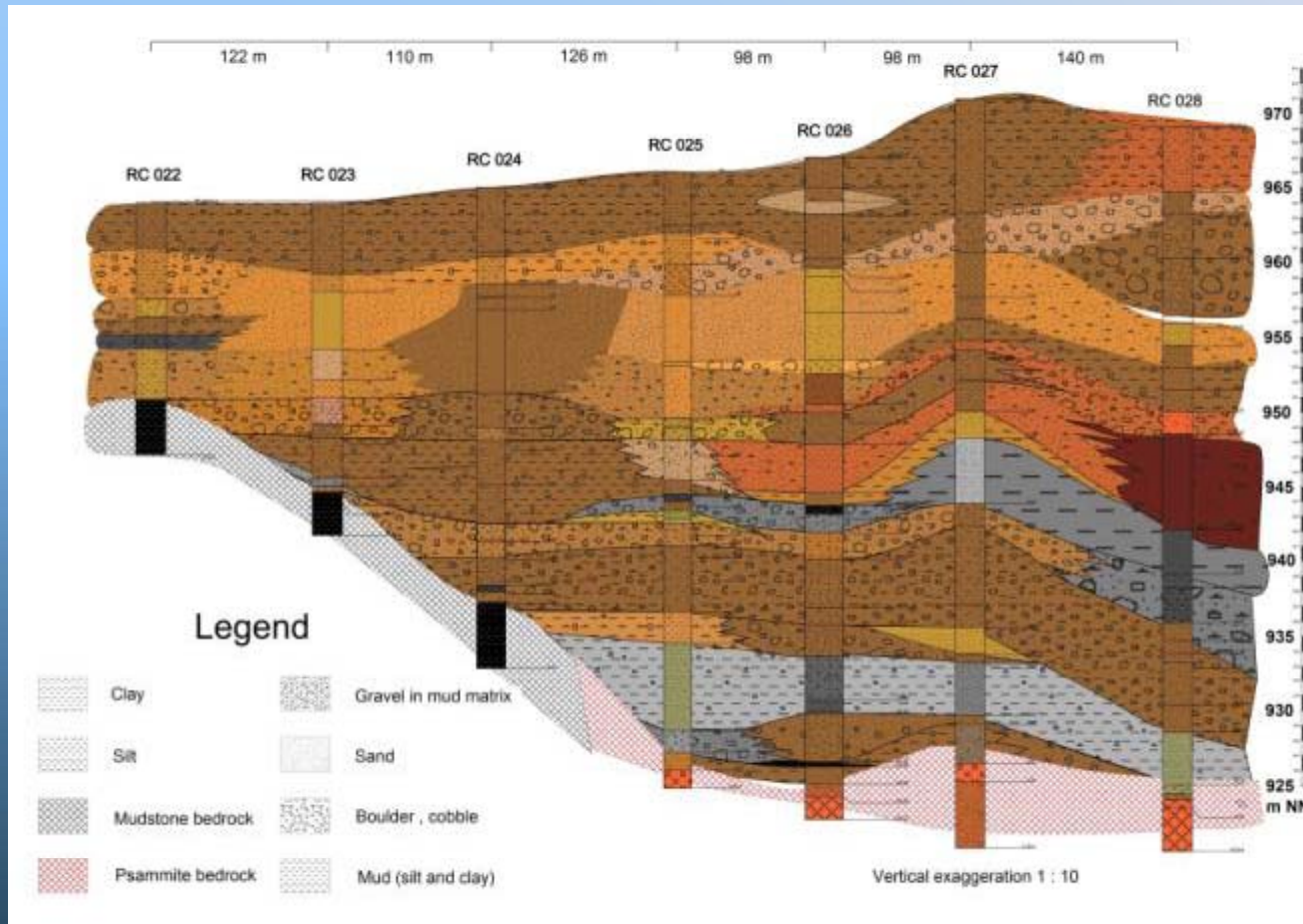
2D resistivity sections with 5 m electrode spacing



Mean thickness of glacial sediments between 40 and 60 m



## Refraction seismics



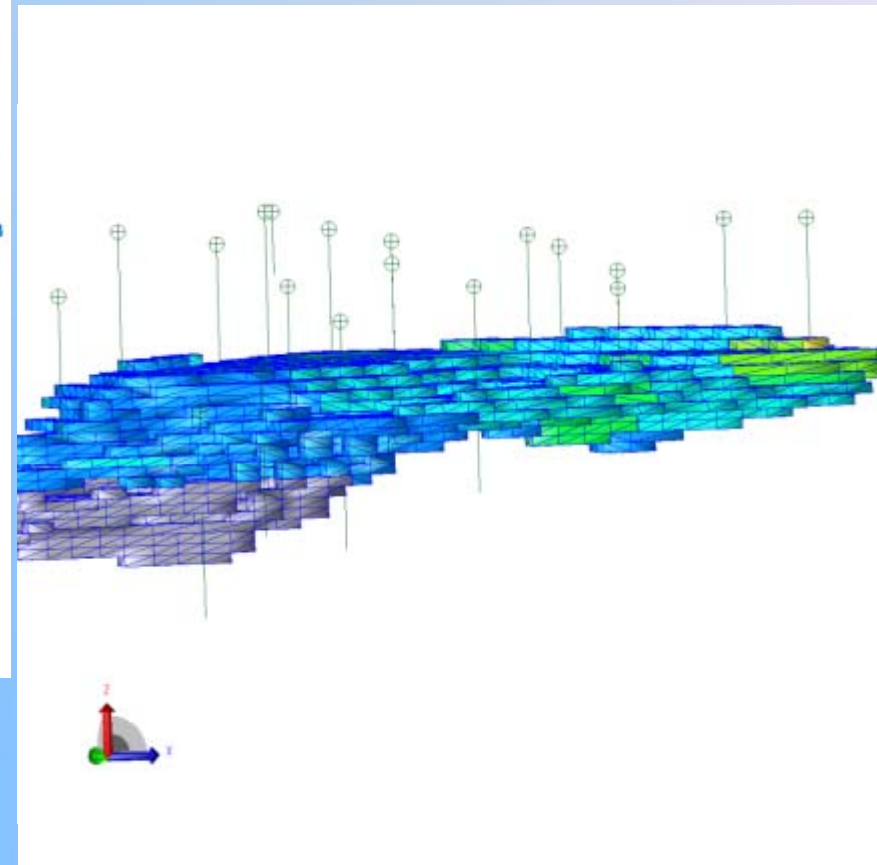
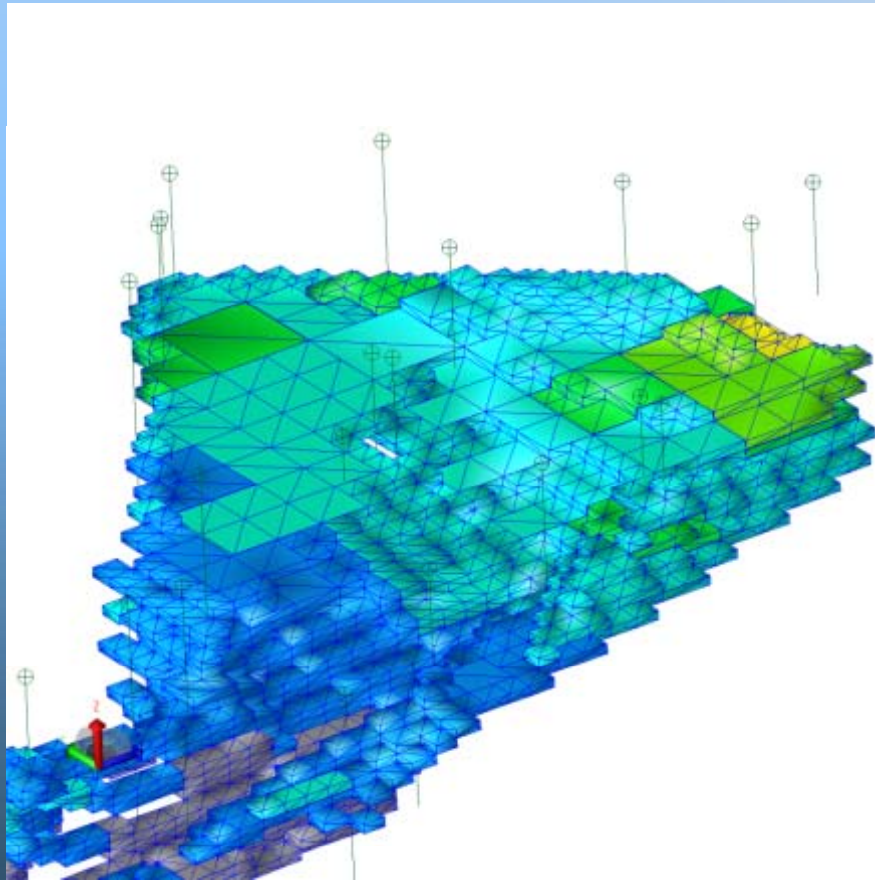
Vertical lithology section along conductive channel fill constructed from borehole logs

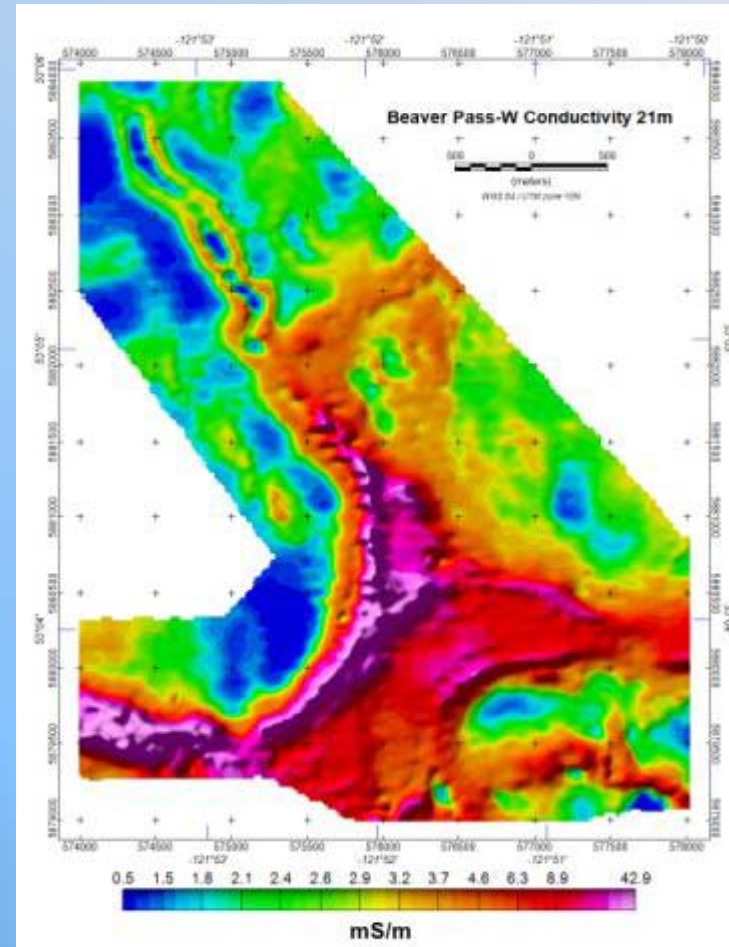
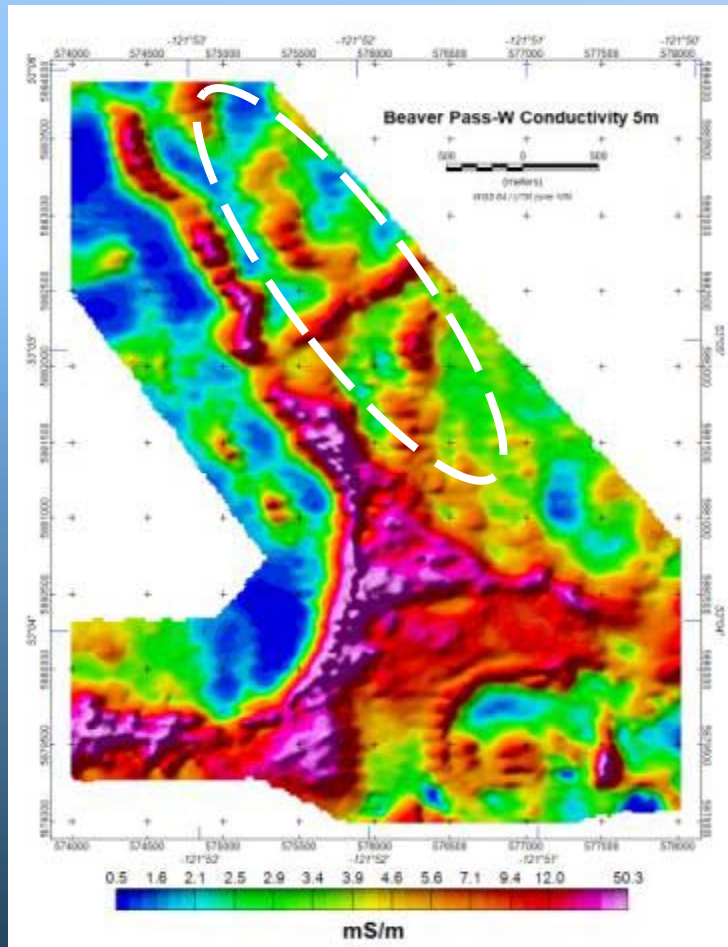


## Synopsis

Method	Depth to bedrock
2D resistivity	Near-surface resistive layer of 25 - 30 m thickness underlain by good conductor, bottom of which was not recognised
SkyTEM	Conductor in depth interval 15 – 35 m. Depth to resistive bedrock ca. 40 m.
Refraction seismics	60 – 80 m (3000 - 3500 m/s)
Drilling	40 - 45 m

# 3D Model all measured data (Geovia Surpac Software)



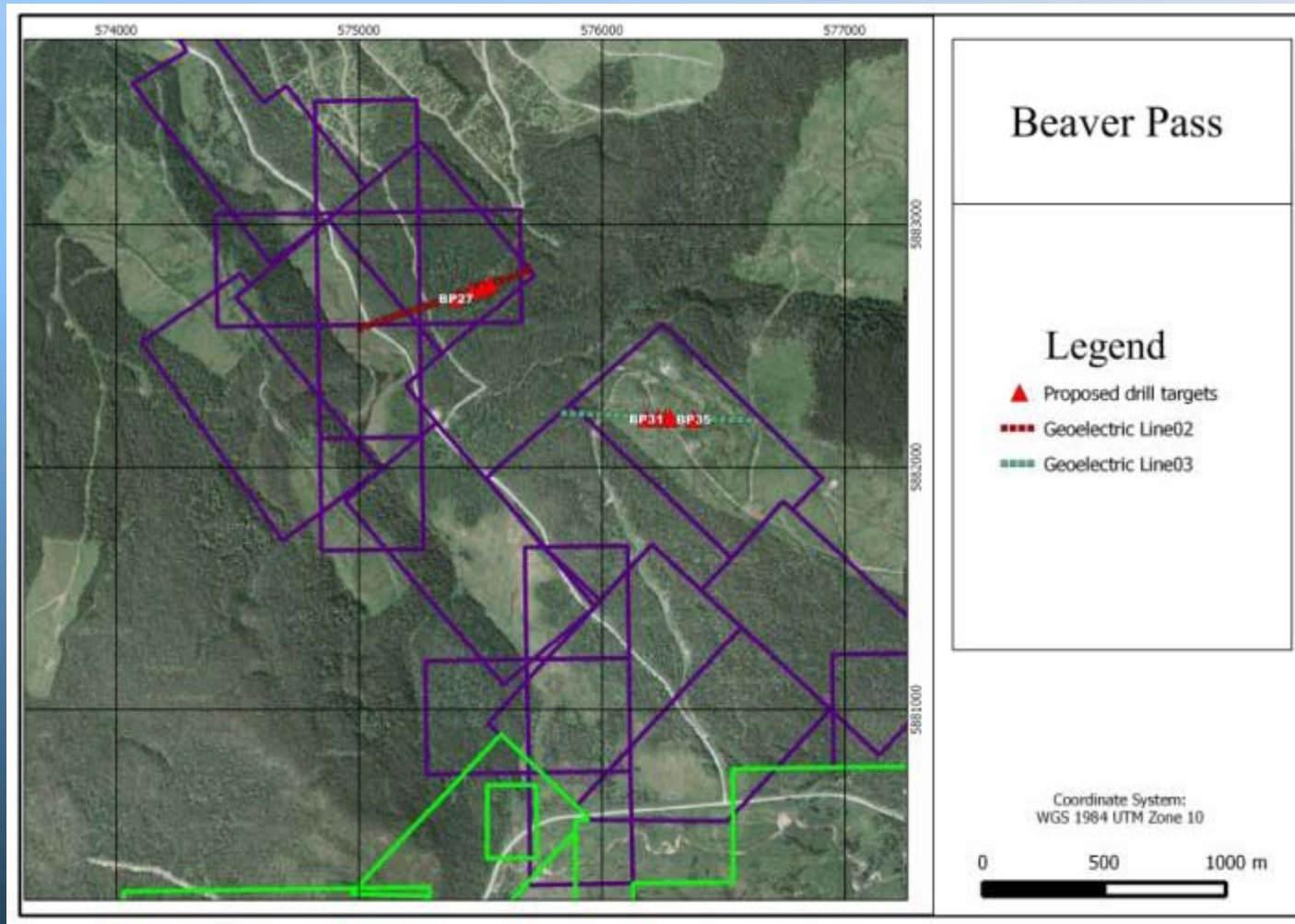


Pattern of buried high-level channels

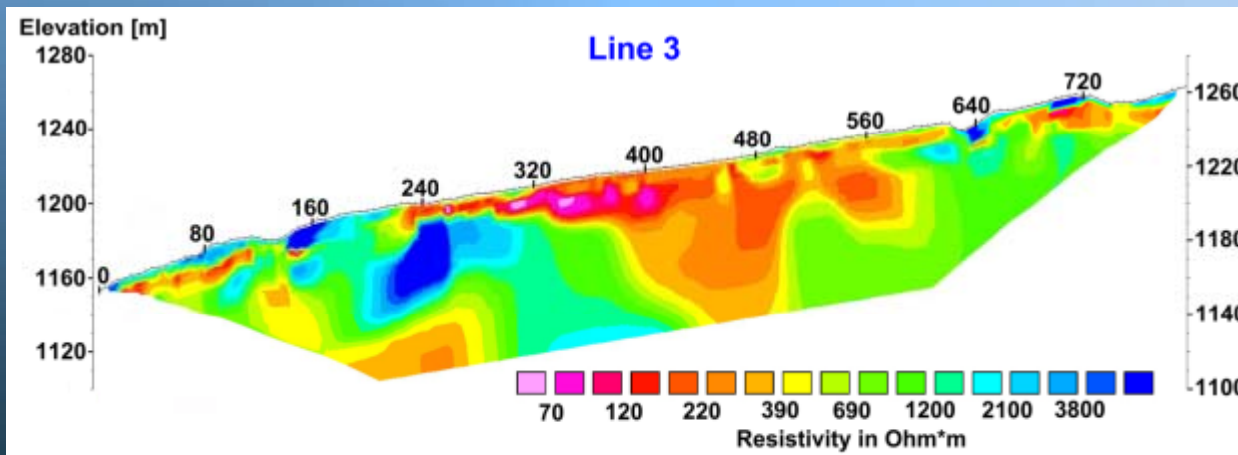
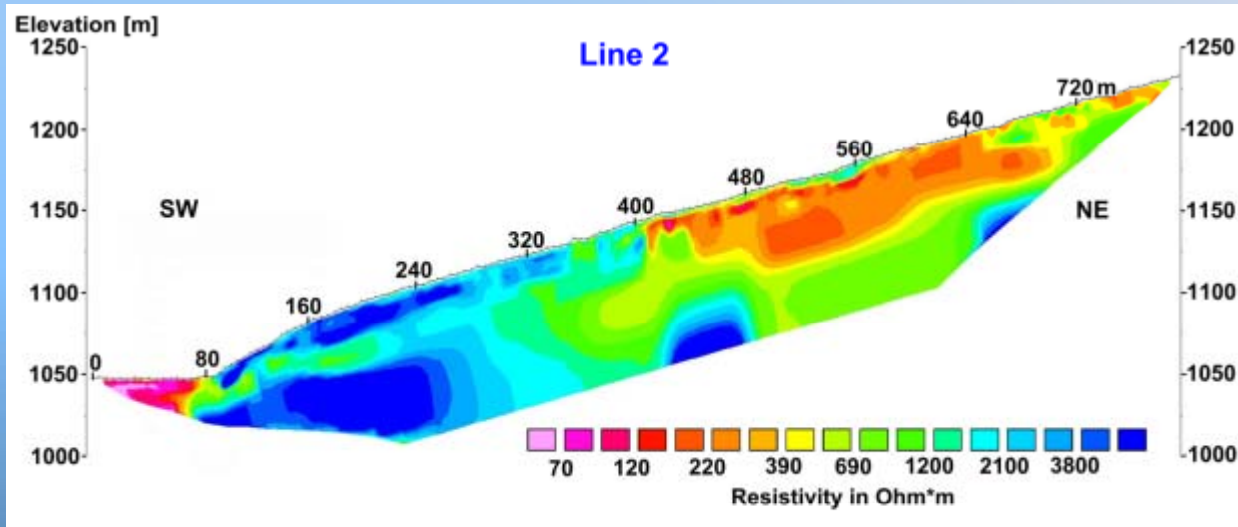


Glacial moraine  
or  
dried channel?





## DC 2D Resistivity



2D resistivity sections traversing up-hill channels



## Conclusions

- SkyTEM survey data prove useful in the exploration of high-level buried channels in the Cariboo gold district
- Drilling hit conductive channel fill in depth of burial predicted by 3D conductivity voxel
- Channel fill is supposed to contain increased contents of heavy minerals, e.g. magnetite, as follows from Analytical Signal transform of the airborne magnetic field
- Results from ground geophysical data (2D multi-electrode resistivity and refraction seismics) are inclusive

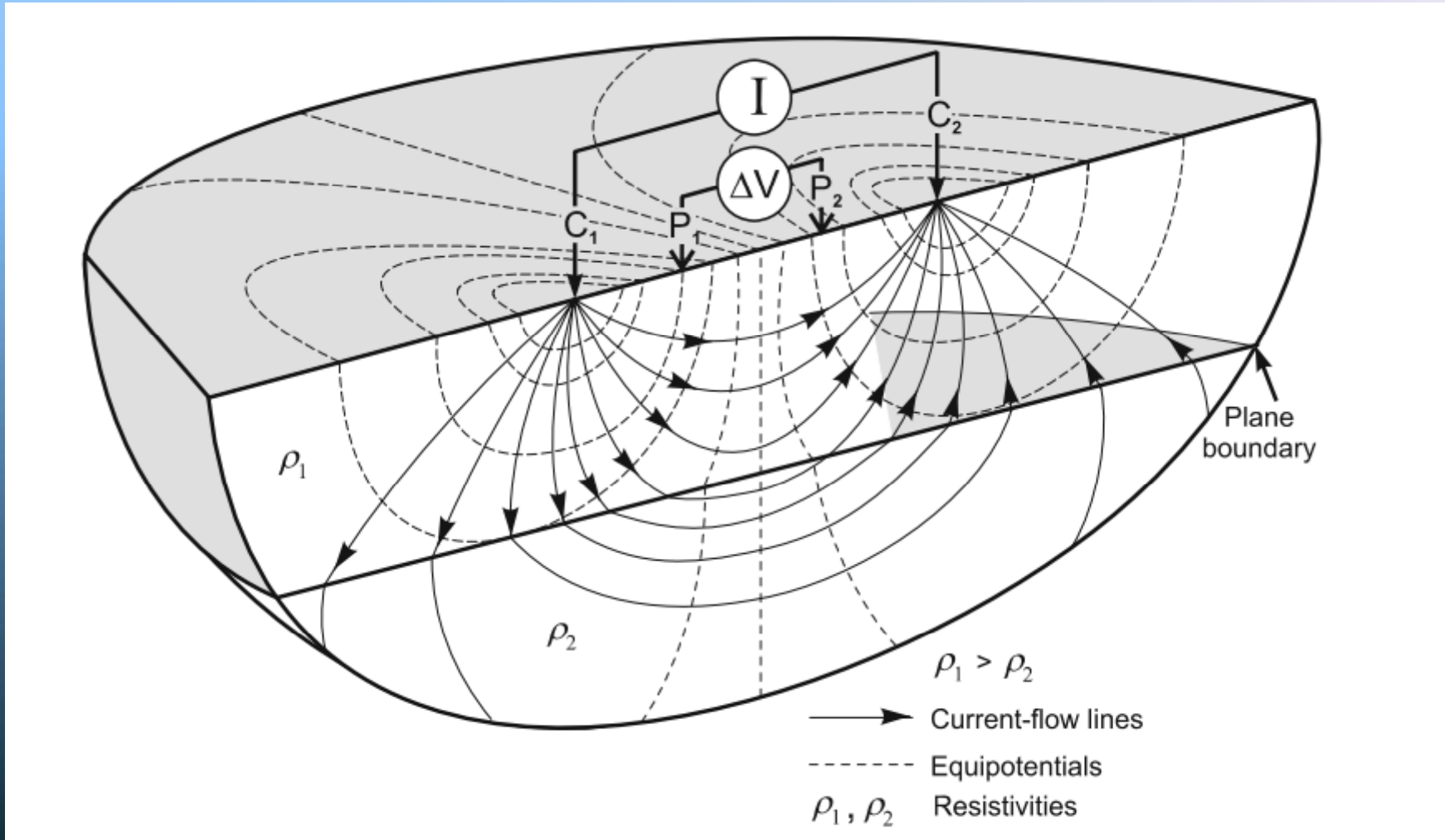
## Acknowledgement

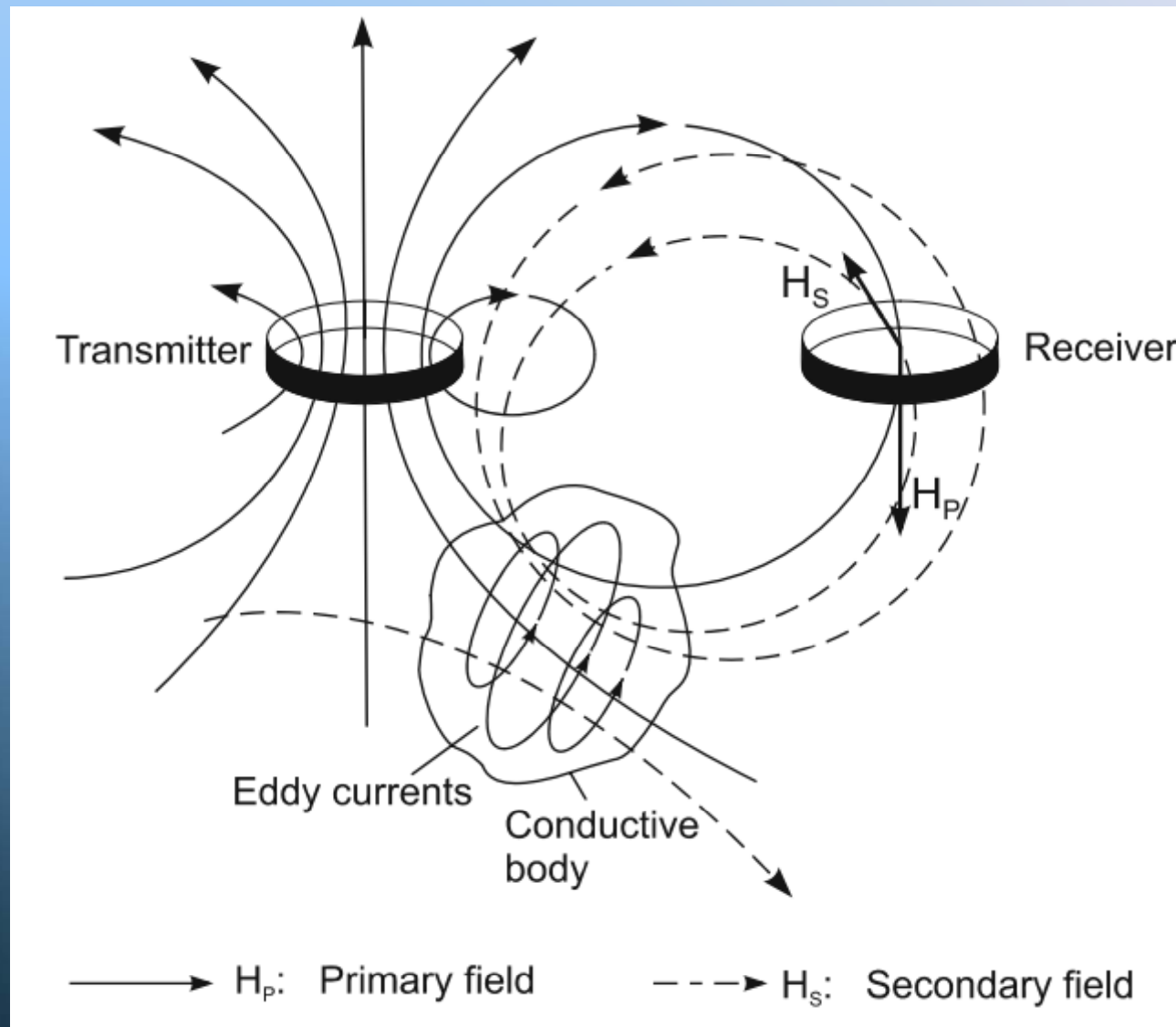
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for granting access to data and permission to publish.

Thank you very much  
for your attention!







# References

- James, N.P. and Dalrympe. R.W., (2012), Facies Models, GEOtext 6, Geological Association of Canada.
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