Geochemical Techniques for Detection of Blind Porphyry Cu-Au Mineralization under Basalt Cover, Woodjam Prospect, South-Central British Columbia (NTS 93A/03, /06)

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Statement of the problem



Chilcotin Group basalt

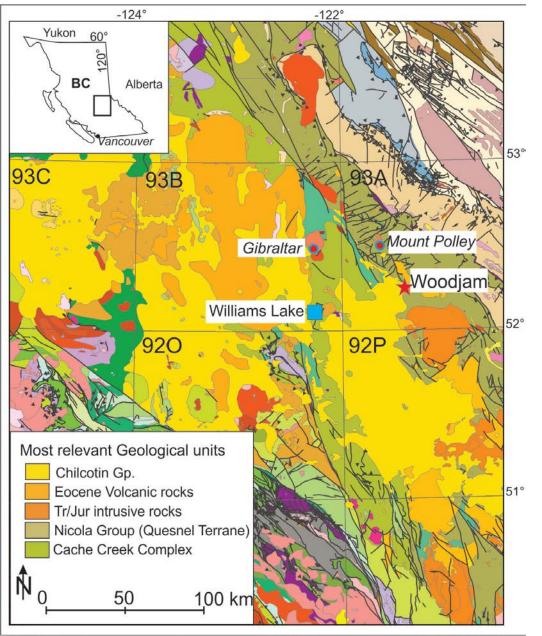
Alkalic intrusive complex with Cu showings

No drilling through basalt into well defined mineralization of any type anywhere in the province

^o 4 km North of Rayfield River Cu



General distribution of basalt cover



Given the absence of known mineralization below basalt

Woodjam where Cu-Au-Mo mineralization is defined close (within ~ 100 m) to basalt cover

Geology from Massey et al. 2005







Try everything...

- Characterization of basalt substrate
- Amygdules in Basalt (Clay and carbonate)
- B-horizon soils 7 different leaches
- Soil pH and conductivity
- Plants (Spruce twigs and bark)
- Complemented by exudates, plants, charcoal, Ah horizon data (Heberlein et al. in progress)





Colin's vacuum system Photo D. Heberlein









Disclaimer....

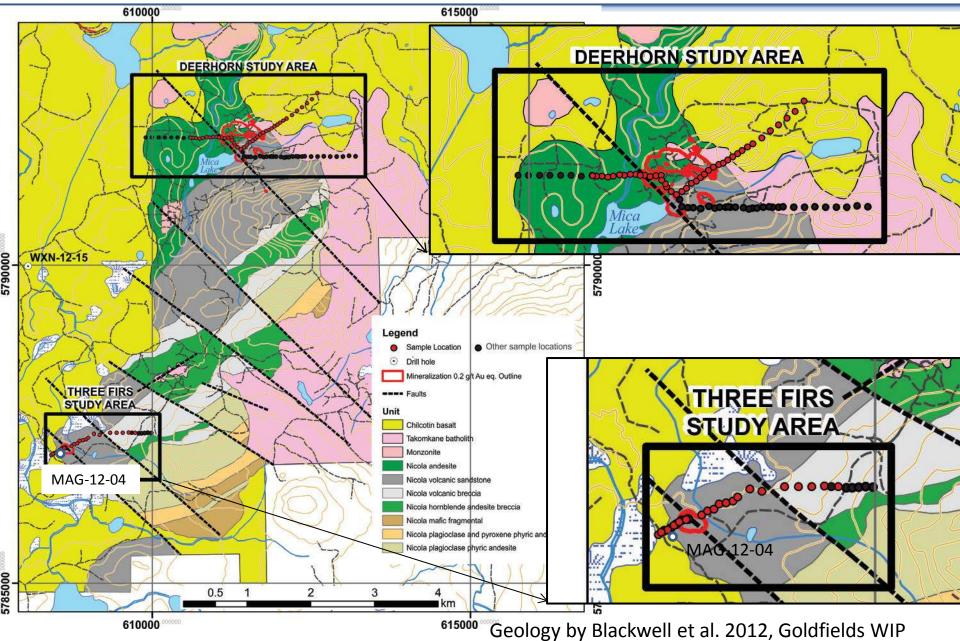




It could be all random I really have no idea what I am talking about...



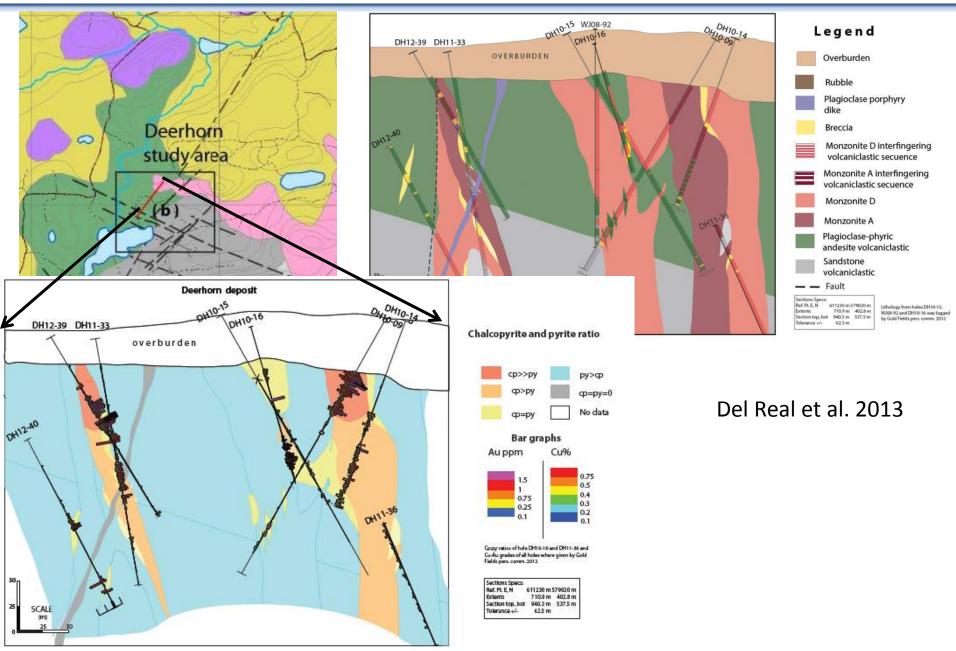






Deerhorn section through mineralization

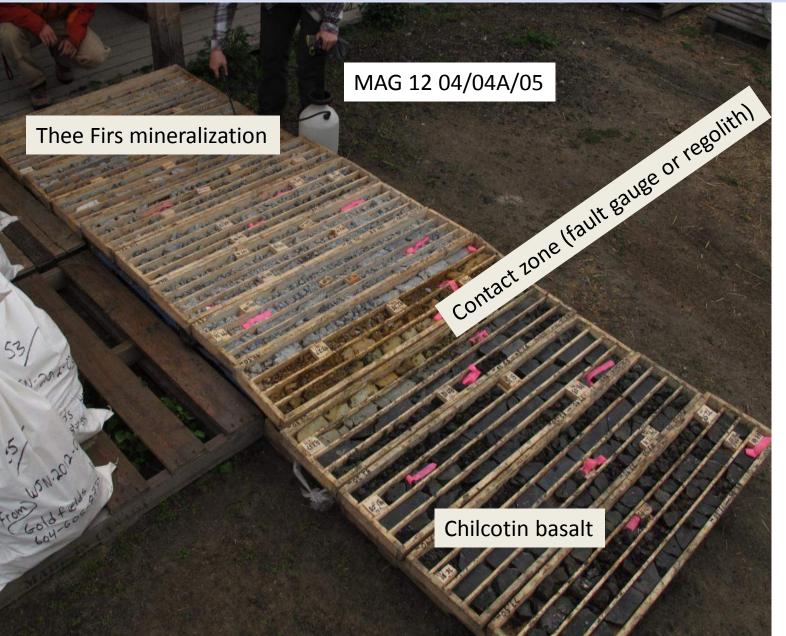






One of the only places where drilled through basalt into mineralization: Three Firs zone



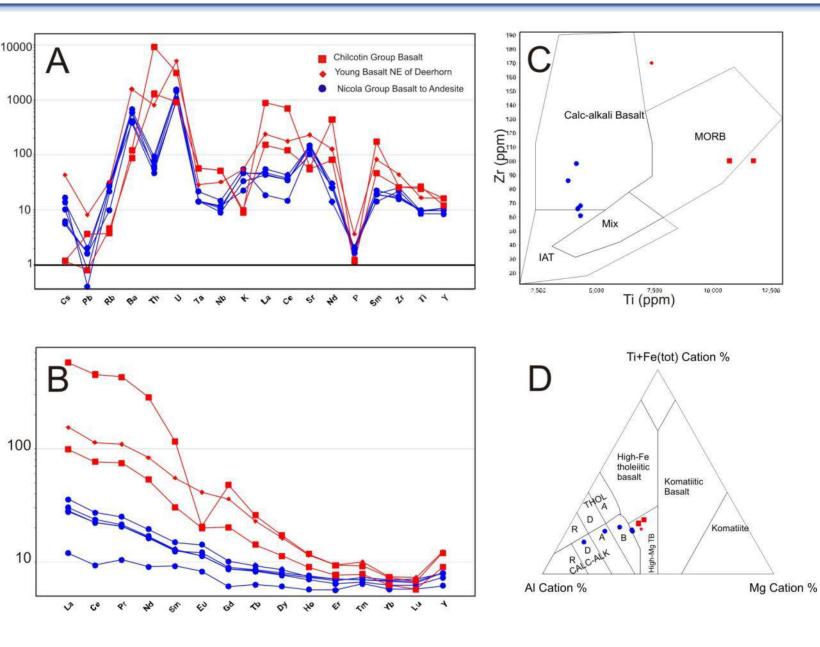


~ 65 m of till ~ 25 m of basalt ~ mineralization



Chilcotin vs. Nicola Group basalt







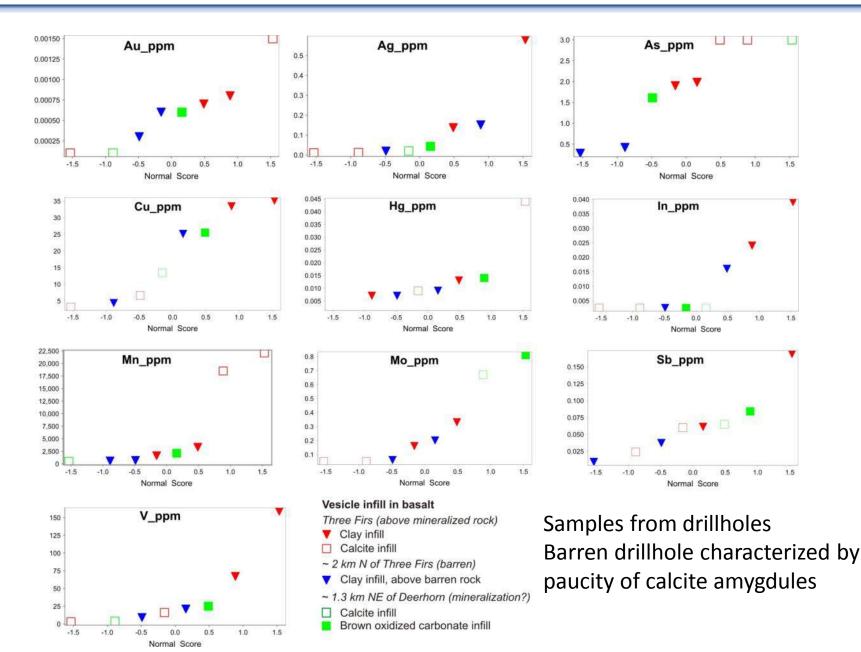






Amygdule chemistry (Aqua Regia)







B-horizon soils. Weakly developed Podzol, Brunisol, locally Gleysol

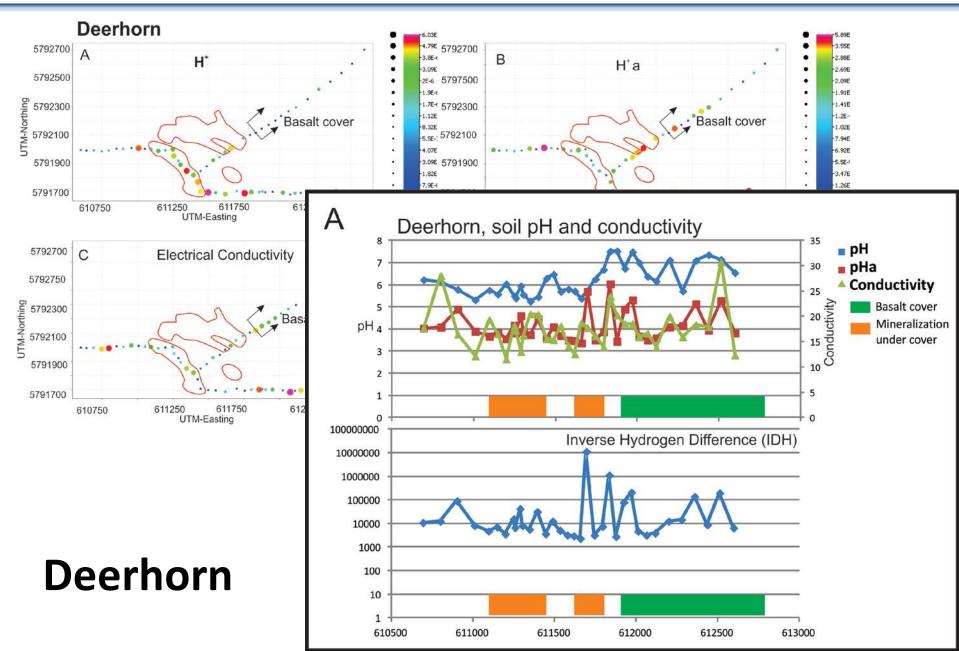


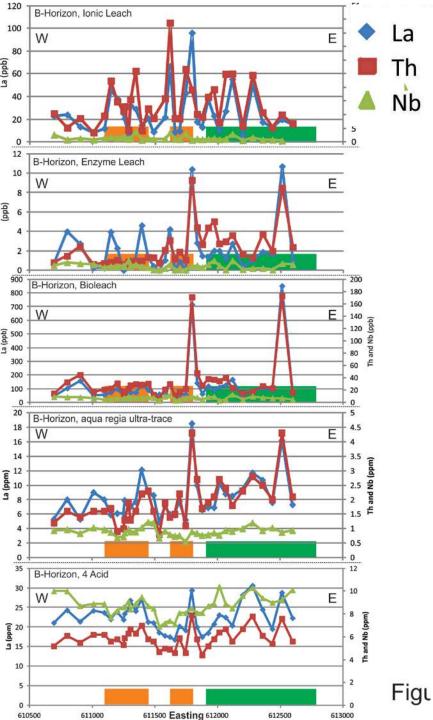


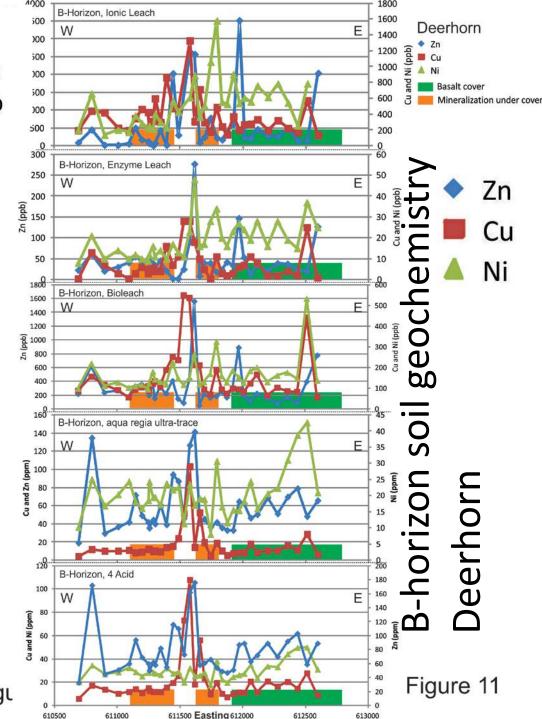


Soil pH and conductivity



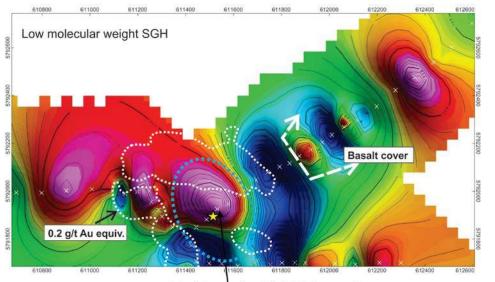






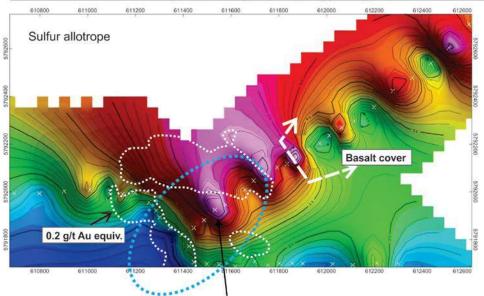






Copied from standard report provided by Actlabs Sutherland 2012a,b)

Apical Anomaly with SGH Copper Signature

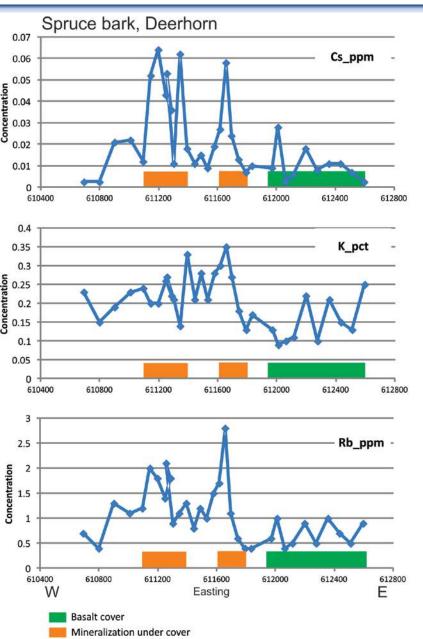


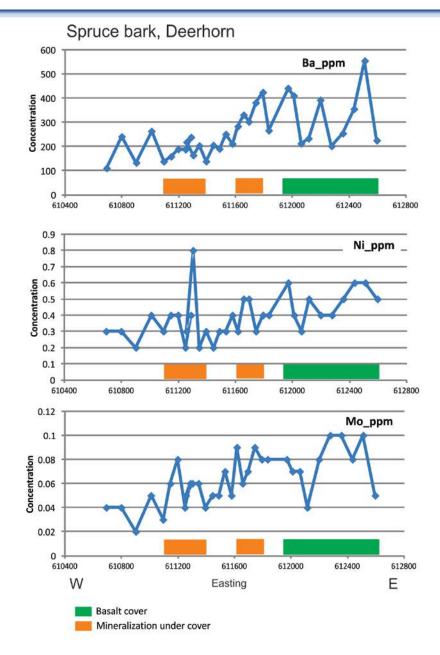
Roughly coinciding interpretation for anomaly and known mineralization

Possible Nested Rabbit Ear Anomaly with OSG Copper Signature











Three Firs/ Magalloy

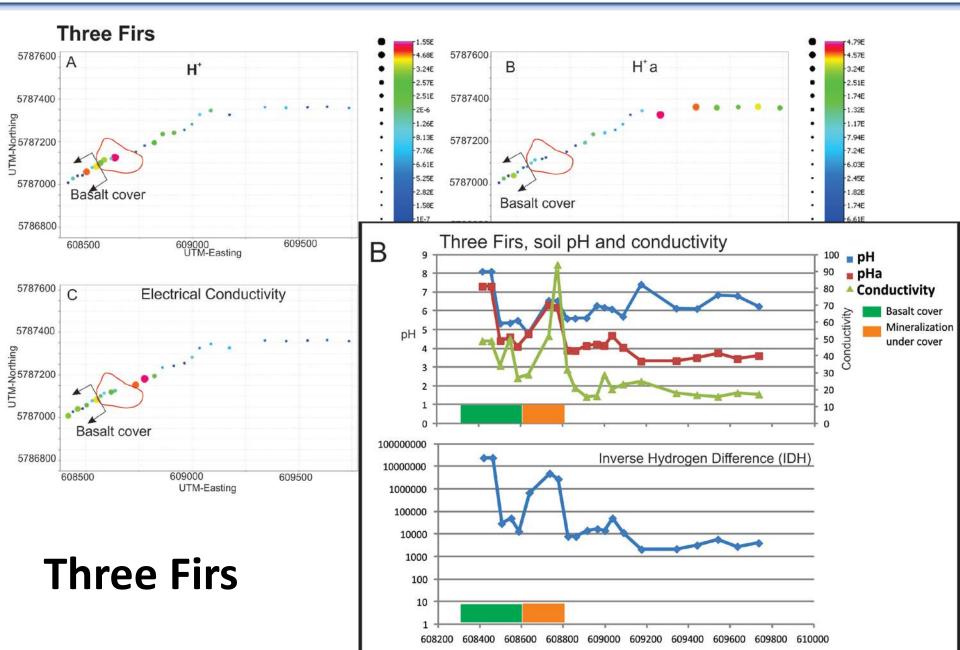


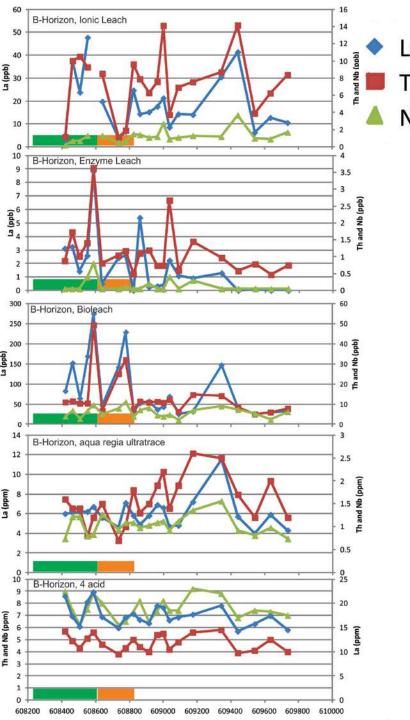


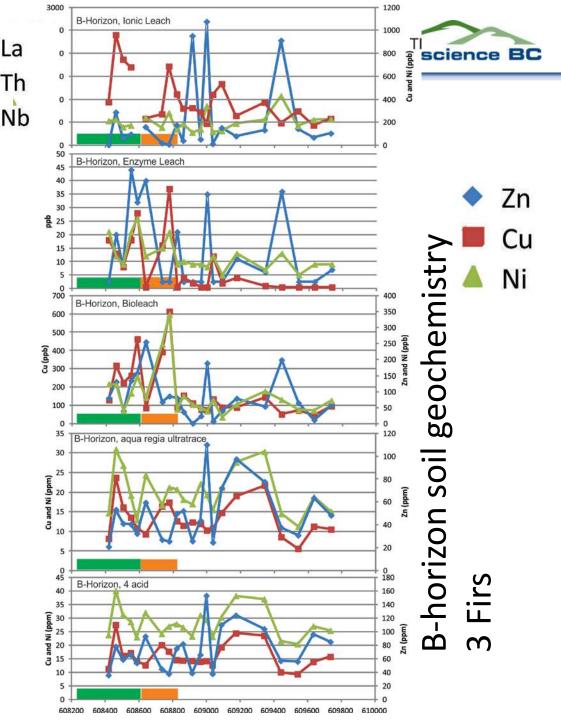


Soil pH and conductivity





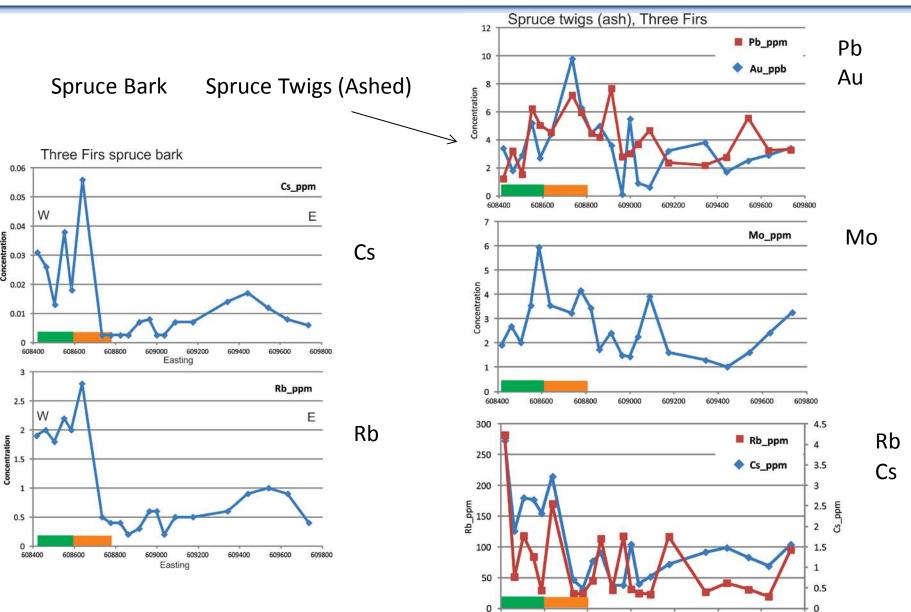






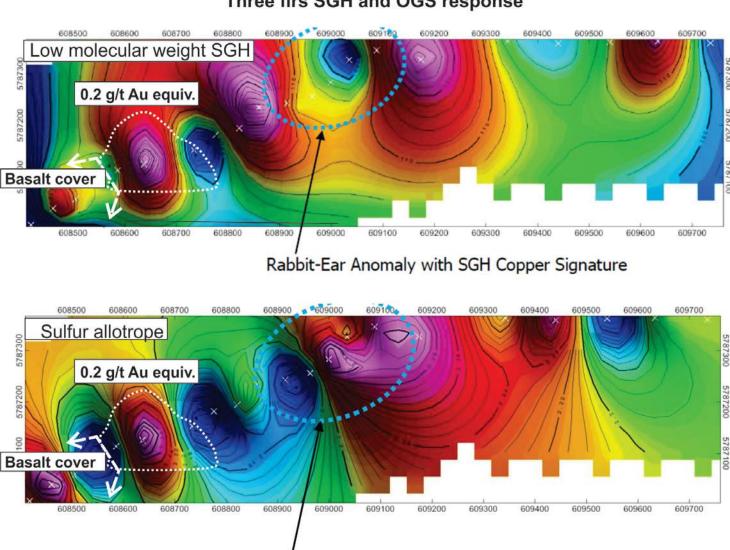
Vegetation results Three Firs







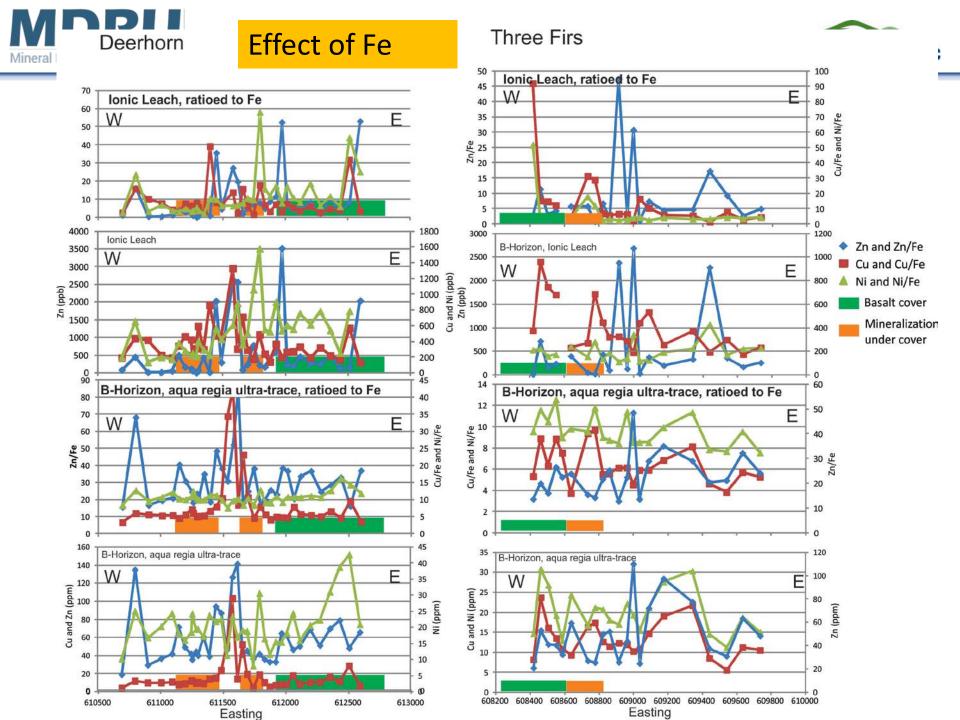




Three firs SGH and OGS response

Interpretation for anomaly and known mineralization not in the same spot. Sample set too small?

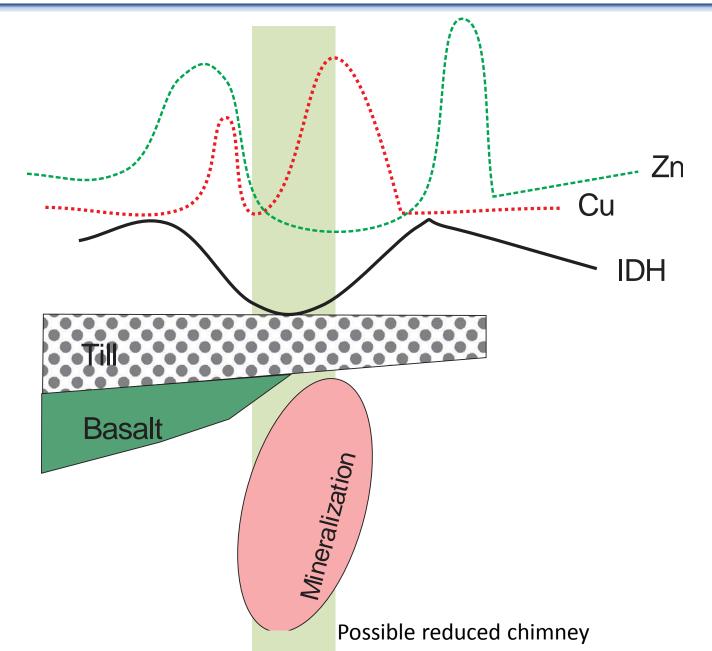
Narrow Rabbit-Ear Anomaly with OSG Copper Signature





The situation simplified/interpreted at Three Firs

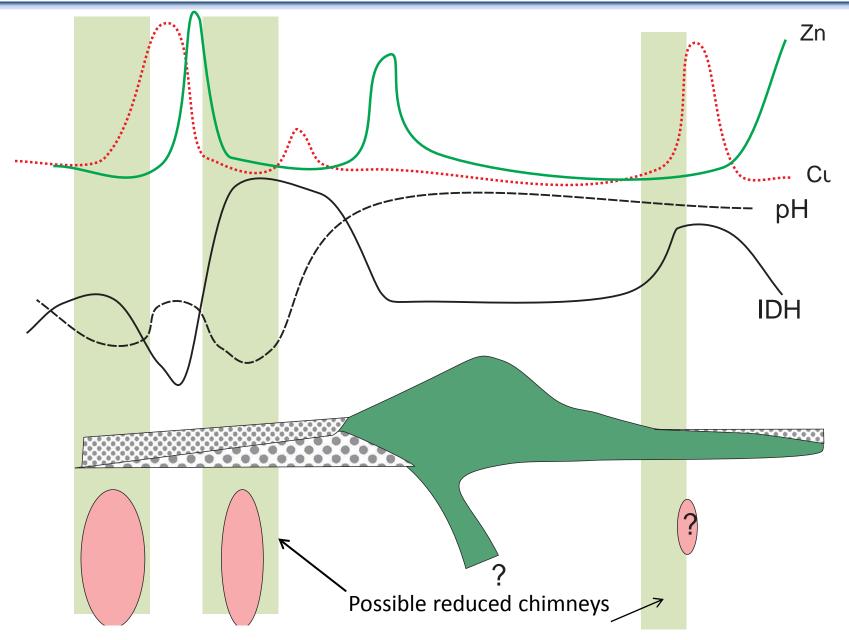






The situation simplified/interpreted at Deerhorn





What does it all mean....

What works well at Woodjam:

Soil pH (IDH) seems to get you close to mineralization

B-horizon soil geochemistry seems to be able to detect anomalies related to mineralization.

In general: Bioleach > AR/Enzyme Leach > Ionic Leach > 4 Acid (but depends on question and element)

Plant geochemical response is subtle but Cs, Rb, K are able to detect potassic alteration over mineralization. Other elements like Cu, Pb, Mo, Au, Se, show only subtle contrast. What does it all mean....

Basalt is not impermeable to geochemical signal:

(Zn)

One "ear of the rabbit" over basalt, the other over till at both Three Firs (several elements) and Deerhorn

Why should it be anyway? Columnar jointing, porosity....

Ideas and further work (but not planned specifically): Amygdule chemistry expanded Does the presence of calcite amygdules by itself indicate location at the edge of reduced chimney?





Constructive comments are appreciated...

Spruce exudate field tasting for anomalies



Hop tea tasting far beyond anomalies

