

# Field Inspection Report

## -Pebble Copper/Gold Exploration Project-

Personnel: Jim Vohden (ADNR/DMLW) and  
Scott Maclean (ADNR/OHMP)

Inspection Date: May 7, 2008

APMA No.: A086118

**Inspection Type**

- Complete:  
Partial: **Visited four of the eight drill rigs that were in operation or being installed (Figure 1).**
- Follow-up:
- Response to complaint:

**Weather Conditions**

- Temperature: **Approx 45° F**
- Wind: **E 35 Knots**
- Precipitation and types: **None**
- Visibility: **unlimited**
- Sky Conditions: **partly cloudy**
- Ground conditions: **variable; some open areas with no snow to areas with greater than 4 feet of snow cover.**

**Wildlife Observed**

- Bear: **Single set of tracks observed between Rig 2 and Rig 6**
- Caribou: n/a
- Moose: n/a
- Waterfowl: n/a
- Fish: n/a
- Other: **Two ground squirrels and unidentified raptor near Rig 6, fox tracks downstream of Frying Pan Lake.**

**Water level Frying Pan Lake: Not Observed (ice covered)**

- Observed inflow: Yes \_\_\_ No X
- Observed outflow: Yes \_\_\_ No X

**Comments:** Overall all rigs were clean and orderly, and fuel storage spill containment measures were in place. All drilling operations appeared to be in compliance.

**Recommendations:**

- Search and collect windblown litter.
- Cover trash cans to prevent debris from being blown away.
- Install tundra mat at drill rig number 8 to avoid impacting vegetation.

**Actions Needed:** See recommendations above.

**Well/Site No.: 8405**

**Activity: Operational (Current hole depth  
~3700'; Proposed depth is 4500')**

**Rig: No. 1**

**Date.: May 7, 2008**

**Condition of Drilling Site**

- Distance from water body: **> 600 ft.**
- Location of fuel storage: **On pad**
- Sorbent Pads Present or Not: **Yes**
- Tundra Mat: **Yes**
- Pipe off Tundra: **Yes**
- Litter: **None**
- Trash Containment: **Yes**
- Sanitary Facilities: **Yes**
- Any spills or staining, or 'none' for that matter:  
**None**
- General impression of site: **Clean. No  
disturbance to tundra other than discharged  
slurry of cuttings and drilling muds (Figure 2)**

**Drilling Activity**

- Drill additives in use (list): **Unknown**
- Drill water discharged: **Onto tundra, settling  
box in use to recycle drilling muds (Figure 3).**
- Water recirculation: **Yes**
- Artesian zone encountered: **Unknown**

**Sump Pit**

- Location: **N/A**
- Discharge trench: **N/A**
- Dimension pit: **N/A**
- In use: **N/A**
- Location and extent of discharged material? **N/A**

**Sump Pit Cont'd**

- Topsoil, muck, tundra stockpiled: **N/A**
- Location of secondary sump pit: **N/A**
- Hose color: **N/A**

**Drill Water Supply**

- Stream/Lake/Pond: **Well**
- Location: **>500 ft**
- Adequate water flow and depth for fish passage  
in streams? **N/A**
- Evidence of significant impacts to riparian  
vegetation or stream banks? **N/A**
- Relative water level? **N/A**
- General impression of water body, i.e. clear,  
turbid, tannic colored, etc.? **N/A**
- Intake structure: **N/A**
- Structure clear of debris: **N/A**
- Mesh size: **N/A**
- Submerged: **N/A**
- Pump location to source: **N/A**
- Catch basin for fuel supply: **Yes.**
- Sorbent Pads Present or Not: **Yes.**
- Hose color: **Black (insulated)**

**Well/Site No.: 8410**

**Activity: Operational (Current hole depth  
N/A; Proposed depth N/A)**

**Rig: No. 2**

**Date.: May 7, 2008**

**Condition of Drilling Site**

- Distance from water body: **>200 ft.**
- Location of fuel storage: **on pad**
- Sorbent Pads Present or Not: **Yes**
- Tundra Mat: **Yes**
- Pipe off Tundra: **Yes**
- Litter: **No**
- Trash Containment: **Yes**
- Sanitary Facilities: **Y/N**
- Any spills or staining, or 'none' for that matter:  
**None**
- General impression of site: **Clean. No  
disturbance to tundra other than sump pit  
(Figure 5).**

**Drilling Activity**

- Drill additives in use (list): **EZ-Mud**
- Water discharged: **Yes**
- Water recirculation: **No**
- Artesian zone encountered: **No**

**Sump Pit**

- Location: **adjacent**
- Discharge trench: **No**
- Dimension pit: **~ 8'x 10'**
- In use: **Yes**

**Sump Pit Cont'd**

- Location and extent of discharged material:  
**> 500' upslope**
- Topsoil, muck, tundra stockpiled: **Yes**
- Location of secondary sump pit: **N/A**
- Hose color: **White**

**Drill Water Supply**

- Stream/Lake/Pond: **Unnamed tributary of  
Upper Talarik Creek (Figure 4)**
- Location: **>200 ft. SW of Rig**
- Adequate water flow and depth for fish passage  
in streams? **N/A**
- Evidence of significant impacts to riparian  
vegetation or stream banks? **None**
- Relative water level? **Base Flow with  
increasing snow melt.**
- General impression of water body, i.e. clear,  
turbid, tannic colored, etc.? **Clear. No  
indication of pollution or sedimentation.**
- Intake structure: **Present**
- Structure clear of debris: **Yes**
- Mesh size: **¼ inch**
- Submerged: **>¾**
- Pump location to source: **> 100 ft**
- Catch basin for fuel supply: **Yes**
- Sorbent Pads Present or Not: **Yes**
- Hose color: **Black (insulated)**

**Well/Site No.: 7394**

**Activity: Operational (Current hole depth  
2995'; Proposed depth 6000')**

**Rig: No. 6**

**Date.: May 7, 2008**

**Condition of Drilling Site**

- Distance from water body: **> 250 ft.**
- Location of fuel storage: **On pad.**
- Sorbent Pads Present or Not: **Yes**
- Tundra Mat: **Yes**
- Pipe off Tundra: **Yes**
- Litter: **Yes ( two windblown pieces)**
- Spill Indications: **None**
- Trash Containment: **Yes**
- Sanitary Facilities: **Yes**
- Any spills or staining, or 'none' for that matter:  
**None.**
- General impression of site: **No disturbance to  
tundra other than sump pit and trench.**

**Drilling Activity**

- Drill additives in use (list): **EZ-Mud**
- Drill water discharged: **N/A**
- Water recirculation: **N/A**
- Artesian zone encountered: **Unknown**

**Sump Pit**

- Location: **Directly east of rig**
- Discharge trench: **Yes**
- Dimension pit: **~6' x 8'**
- In use: **Yes**
- Location and extent of discharged material?  
**Discharge into pit then pumped >500 ft  
upslope**

**Sump Pit Cont'd**

- Topsoil, muck, tundra stockpiled: **Yes**
- Location of secondary sump pit: **N/A**
- Hose color: **Black (insulated).**

**Drill Water Supply**

- Stream/Lake/Pond: **Kettle Pond**
- Location: **(see Figure x)**
- Adequate water flow and depth for fish passage  
in streams? **N/A**
- Evidence of significant impacts to riparian  
vegetation or stream banks? **No impact to  
stream bank observed.**
- Relative water level? **NA, pond was frozen  
over and snow covered.**
- General impression of water body, i.e. clear,  
turbid, tannic colored, etc.? **N/A**
- Intake structure: **Not observed, lake was frozen  
and snow covered.**
- Structure clear of debris: **NA**
- Mesh size: **NA**
- Submerged: **Yes.**
- Pump location to source: **> 50 feet**
- Catch basin for fuel supply: **Yes**
- Sorbent Pads Present or Not: **Yes**
- Hose color: **Black (insulated)**

**Well/Site No.: Groundwater Monitoring Well**

**Activity: Operational (Current hole depth  
N/A; Proposed depth N/A)**

**Condition of Drilling Site**

- Distance from water body: **> 200 ft.**
- Location of fuel storage: **On pad.**
- Sorbent Pads Present or Not: **Yes**
- Tundra Mat: **Yes**
- Pipe off Tundra: **Yes**
- Litter: **No**
- Spill Indications: **None**
- Trash Containment: **Yes**
- Sanitary Facilities: **Yes**
- Any spills or staining, or 'none' for that matter:  
**None.**
- General impression of site: **clean, tundra mat  
not in use adjacent to drill (Figure 6).**

**Drilling Activity**

- Drill additives in use (list): **N/A, using air**
- Drill water discharged: **NA**
- Water recirculation: **NA**
- Artesian zone encountered: **Unknown**

**Sump Pit**

- Location: **N/A**
- Discharge trench: **NA**
- Dimension pit: **N/A**
- In use: **N/A**
- Location and extent of discharged material? **N/A**

**Rig: No. 8**

**Date.: May 7, 2008**

**Sump Pit Cont'd**

- Topsoil, muck, tundra stockpiled: **N/A**
- Location of secondary sump pit: **N/A**
- Hose color: **N/A**

**Drill Water Supply**

- Stream/Lake/Pond: **Kettle Pond**
- Location: **West of drill rig**
- Adequate water flow and depth for fish passage  
in streams? **NA**
- Evidence of significant impacts to riparian  
vegetation or stream banks? **No impact to  
stream bank observed.**
- Relative water level? **NA, pond was frozen  
over and snow covered.**
- General impression of water body, i.e. clear,  
turbid, tannic colored, etc.? **NA**
- Intake structure: **Yes**
- Structure clear of debris: **NA**
- Mesh size: **NA**
- Submerged: **Yes.**
- Pump location to source: **> 50 feet**
- Catch basin for fuel supply: **Yes**
- Sorbent Pads Present or Not: **Yes**
- Hose color: **Black (insulated)**

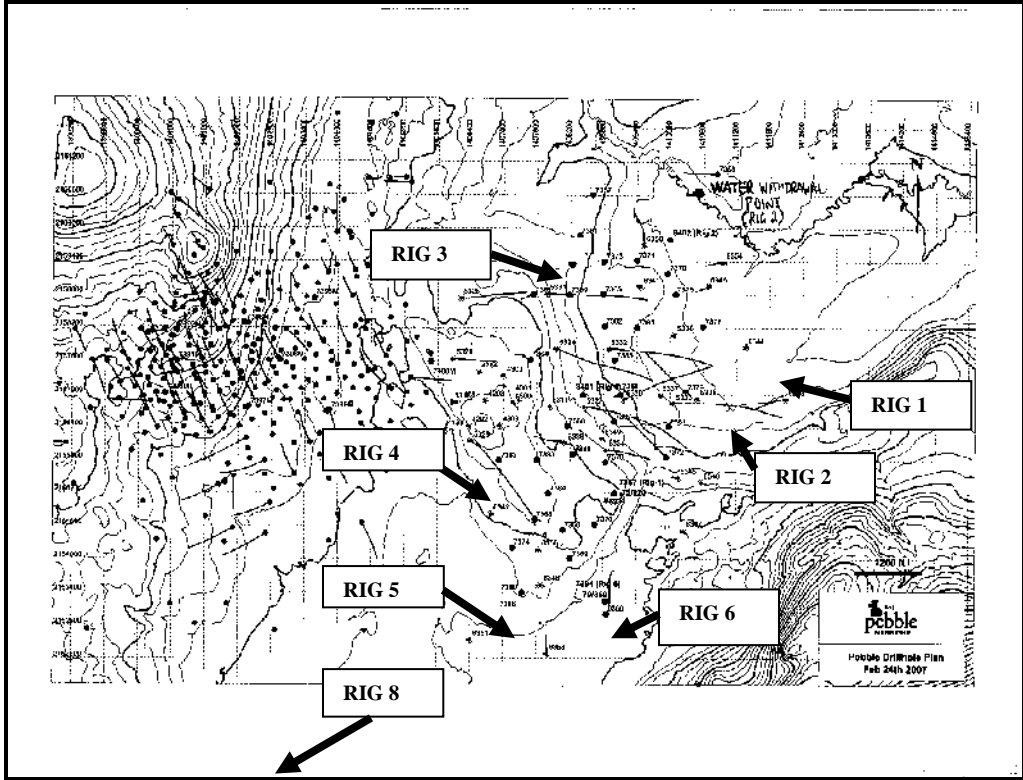


Figure 1. Approximate Location of drilling rigs.



Figure 2. Drill rig number 2.



Figure 3. Drill rig number 2, settling box for recycling drilling muds.



Figure 5. Drilling water sump, pump, and fuel storage at drill rig number 1. Drilling water was discharged onto uplands over 500 feet away from the drill rig through the white hose.



Figure 4. Water withdrawal point, drill rig number 1, Upper Talarik Creek Tributary. Screened intake was placed in an excavated site. Streamflow was observed immediately downstream of the intake in a 6 inch wide channel covered by vegetation.



Figure 6. Groundwater monitoring well installation, drill rig number 8.