The mineral potential of New Zealand – Part 2: New Zealand mineral deposits and resources classified by their commodity and mineral deposit type

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

This Part 2 of the report describes occurrences of mineral deposits and resources in more detail than Part 1. The descriptions are ordered under the element, mineral or material name, and many include sections of mineral deposit types for that element, mineral or material. Mineral sites are assigned identification codes from the Geological Resource Map (GERM) database and 1:1 million metallogenic map (MM) of Brathwaite and Pirajno (1993), where these are available. All mineral commodities described in Part 1 (Christie et al. 2024) are expanded on in Part 2, apart from offshore sand and glauconite, which are only included in Part 1.

2.0 MINERAL DEPOSIT MODELS

Mineral deposit models (e.g. Cox and Singer 1986; Kirkham et al. 1993; Eckstrand et al. 1995; Lefebure and Ray 1995; Lefebure and Höy 1996) describe the essential geological and geochemical attributes that are common to a number of similar mineral deposits that are presumed to have been formed by the same genetic process. The main attributes used in classifying a mineral deposit type are: tectonic setting, structural controls, host-rock lithology, form of the deposit, main economic elements or minerals, mineralogy of ore and host rocks and geochemical and geophysical characteristics. Mineral deposit models used in this report are listed in Table 2.1 (onshore elements, minerals and materials) and drawn mainly from international models assembled by the United States Geological Survey (USGS) and British Columbia Geological Survey (BCGS). Additionally, offshore mineral deposit types are listed in Table 2.2.

Deposit models are linked to grade-tonnage models, which show the range of grade and tonnage of different deposits of a specific type and derive statistical parameters such as the average grade and tonnage (Cox and Singer 1986). Grade-tonnage models are compiled from pre-mining resource estimates or from production figures for mined-out deposits. These figures vary according to mining conditions (e.g. mining method used) and economic factors (e.g. metal prices). For many of the models, the data are drawn from historic mining of higher grades and smaller volumes than are sought or mined at present.

| Element or Mineral | Mineral Deposit Model or Type | Examples |
|-----------------------|--|---|
| Metallic Minerals | | |
| Aluminium (Al) | Lateritic bauxite | Kerikeri-Kaikohe-Kaeo, Northland |
| Antine and (Ch) | Orogenic quartz vein Sb | Endeavour Inlet, Marlborough |
| Antimony (Sb) | Hot spring Sb–As | Rangitarore Hill (Lanigan's Mine), Northland |
| Beryllium (Be) | Be pegmatite | Charleston, West Coast |
| Chromium (Cr) | Podiform Cr | Dun Mountain, East Nelson |
| Cobalt (Co) | By-product Co | |
| Copper (Cu) | <i>Volcanogenic massive sulfide (VMS) Cu,</i> sub-models: | |
| | • VMS Cu (Cyprus type) | Pakotai, Northland |
| | • VMS Cu (Besshi type) | Kawau Island, North Auckland |
| | VMS lenses in the Pounamu Ultramafics | Wilberg Range |
| | Serpentine-hosted Fe–Cu | United Mine, Dun Mountain, East Nelson |
| | Porphyry Cu | Ohio Creek, north Thames, Coromandel Peninsula |
| | Copper skarn | Copperstain Creek, near Takaka, West Nelson |
| | Hydrothermal quartz and sulfide vein Cu of uncertain origin | Baton River, West Nelson |
| | Dissemination and stratiform concentrations in metamorphic rocks of Fiordland and Rakiura / Stewart Island | Mt Solitary, Fiordland |

 Table 2.1
 Onshore elements, minerals and materials described in this part of the report, including relevant mineral deposit models (in italics), deposit types and New Zealand deposit examples where available.

| Element or Mineral | Mineral Deposit Model or Type | Examples |
|-----------------------|--|---|
| Gallium (Ga) | Geothermal gallium | Geothermal fields of the Taupō Volcanic Zone |
| Gold (Au) | Orogenic shear zone Au, sub-models: | |
| | Orogenic shear zone Au – Paleozoic | Blackwater (Snowy River project), Reefton, West Coast |
| | Orogenic shear zone Au – Mesozoic | Steep vein type: Bendigo field, Otago Thrust shear zone type: Macraes, Otago |
| | Epithermal Au, sub-models: | |
| | Low-sulfidation epithermal Au–Ag | Waihi, Coromandel Peninsula |
| | Intermediate-sulfidation epithermal Zn-Pb-Cu-Ag-Au | Tui, Coromandel Peninsula |
| | High-sulfidation epithermal Au–Ag | Lookout Rocks, Coromandel Peninsula |
| | Reduced-granitic intrusion-related Au | None (potential on the West Coast) |
| | Alkali intrusion-related Au | Sams Creek, West Nelson |
| | Gabbroid-associated Au-Ni-Cu | Arethusa, Longwood Range, Southland |
| | Sediment (carbonate)-hosted (Carlin) type | None (potential in Northland) |
| | Gold skarn | None (potential in West Nelson) |
| | Detachment-fault-related polymetallic deposits | None (potential on the West Coast) |
| | <i>Placer Au</i> , sub-models <i>:</i> | |
| | Alluvial placer Au | Ross, West Coast and Clutha River, Otago |
| | Beach placer Au | Addisons Flat, Hou Hou Lead and Lamplough Lead, West Coast |
| | Marine place Au | Harvester project, West Coast |
| | Shoreline placer Fe | Waikato North Head, South Auckland |
| Iron (Fe) | Bog Fe | Okaihau, Northland |
| | Transported residual Fe | Onekaka, West Nelson |
| | <i>Li pegmatites</i> (LCT [Lithium-Caesium-Tantalum] pegmatites) | None (potential in West Coast pegmatites) |
| Lithium (Li) | Li-bearing hydrothermal clays and lacustrine sediments | None (potential in the Taupō Volcanic Zone) |
| Magnesium (Mg) | Ultramafic-hosted Talc-magnesite | Cobb, West Nelson |
| Manganese (Mn) | Volcanogenic Mn | Parua Bay, Northland |
| Molybdenum (Mo) | Porphyry Mo | Taipo, West Nelson |
| Nickel (Ni) | Dunitic Ni-Cu | Red Hill Range, South Westland |
| | Gabbroid-associated Ni-Cu | Riwaka, West Nelson |
| | Lateritic Ni | Surville Cliffs, Northland |
| | Magmatic PGM | Longwood Range, Southland |
| Platinum Group | <i>Dunitic PGM</i> – Dun Mountain Ophiolite Belt | Mount Baldy, Matakitaki, south Nelson |
| Metals (PGM) | Placer PGM | Round Hill, Southland |

| Element or Mineral | Mineral Deposit Model or Type | Examples |
|------------------------|--|--|
| Rare Earth Elements | Carbonatite-hosted REE | None (potential in the Alpine Dike Swarm, Westland) |
| (REE) | Alkali complex-hosted REE | French Creek Granite, Westland |
| | REE-bearing monazite in granitic and metamorphic rocks | None (potential in Foulwind and French Creek granites, West Coast) |
| | REE associated with the Paparoa metamorphic core complex | Paparoa Range, West Coast |
| | Clay-bearing REE | None (potential in Northland clays) |
| | Placer REE | By-product in West Coast ilmenite sand deposits |
| Silver (Ag) | Epithermal Au–Ag | Maratoto, Coromandel Peninsula |
| T : (0) | Greisen Sn | Tin Range, Rakiura / Stewart Island |
| Tin (Sn) | Placer Sn | Tin Range, Rakiura / Stewart Island |
| | Magmatic Fe-Ti-V | Mt George, Fiordland |
| Titanium (Ti) | By-product Ti (in titanomagnetite ironsand) | Waikato North Head, South Auckland |
| | Shoreline placer Ti | Barrytown, West Coast |
| | Vein W (orogenic scheelite-bearing quartz veins) | Glenorchy, Otago |
| | Greisen W-Sn | Bateman Creek, West Coast |
| Tungsten (W) | Tungsten skarn | None |
| | Stratabound W | Lake Stanley, West Nelson |
| Vanadium (V) | By-product V (in titanomagnetite ironsand) | Waikato North Head, South Auckland |
| | Zinc-Lead skarn | Motukokaka (Piercy) Island, Northland |
| Zing lagd (Zn Dh) | Polymetallic veins | Richmond Hill, West Nelson |
| Zinc-lead (Zn-Pb) | Sediment-hosted Zn-Pb | Mt Irene, Fiordland |
| | Volcanic massive sulfide Zn-Pb | Johnston's United, West Nelson |
| Zirconium (Zr) | <i>Placer Zr</i> (by-product in ilmenite sand) | Orepuke, Southland |
| Non-Metallic Min | erals and Rocks | |
| Aggregate and | Hard-rock sources | Hunua and Drury quarries |
| sand | River-gravel sources | Manawatu, Waimakariri and Oreti rivers |
| Barite (Ba) | Vein barite | Thomson Hill, West Nelson |
| | Freshwater bentonite | Coalgate, Canterbury |
| Bentonite clay | Marine bentonite | Mangatu, East Coast, North Island |
| Halloysite clay | Halloysite clay from weathered rhyolite | Matauri Bay, Northland |
| | Kaolinite from surface weathering of clay-rich rocks | Port Waikato, South Auckland |
| Kaolinite clay | Kaolinite from acid leaching of mudstone – coal-measure clay | Malvern Hills |
| | Kaolinite from hydrothermal alteration of rhyolite | Hahei, Coromandel Peninsula, Waikato |

| Element or Mineral | Mineral Deposit Model or Type | Examples |
|-----------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| Distantita | Freshwater diatomite | Mercer |
| Diatomite | Marine diatomite | Oamaru |
| Dolomite | Dolomitisation of limestone and marble | Mt Burnett, West Nelson |
| | Feldspar in pegmatites | Charleston, |
| Feldspar | Feldspar – weathered granite | Motueka area, West Nelson |
| | Feldspar-rich sand | Ruakaka, Northland |
| Fluorine (F) / fluorspar | Vein F | Thomson Hill, West Nelson |
| Garnet | Placer garnet | Westport |
| Glauconite | Marine greensand glauconite | Otaka, East Cape |
| Magnesite | Talc-magnesite | Cobb Valley, West Nelson |
| Marble | - | Ngarua, Takaka Hill, West Nelson |
| Limestone | - | Te Kūiti, Waikato |
| Perlite | Perlitic rhyolite | Maungati Dome, Atiamuri |
| Phosphate | Marine phosphate | Clarendon, Otago |
| Pounamu | - | Arahura River, Westland |
| Potassium (K) / | Weathered feldspar | Separation Point Granite, West Nelson |
| potash | Glauconite | Otaka, East Cape |
| Pumice | Alluvial pumice | Atiamuri |
| Salt (NaCl) | Evaporite salt | Lake Grassmere, Marlborough |
| Serpentinite | Ultramafic serpentinite | Mossburn, Southland |
| | Silica sand | Parengarenga, Northland |
| Silica (SiO ₂) | Silica gravel | Pebbly Hills, Southland |
| | Amorphous silica | Tikitere, Rotorua |
| | Volcanogenic S | Lake Rotokawa, Waikato |
| Sulfur (S) | Hydrothermal pyrite S | Copperstain Creek, West Nelson |
| Talc-magnesite | Ultramafic-hosted Talc-magnesite | Cobb Valley, Northwest Nelson |
| Wollastonite | - | Holyoake Valley, West Nelson |
| | Hydrothermal zeolite | Ngakuru, Waikao |
| Zeolite | Metamorphic zeolite | Taringatura Hills, Southland |
| Coal | | |
| | Bituminous | Stockton, Buller, West Coast |
| Coal | Sub-bituminous | Rotowaro, Waikato |
| | Lignite | New Vale, Waimumu, Southland |

Table 2.2Offshore elements, minerals and materials described in this part of the report, including relevant
deposit models and New Zealand deposit examples where available.

| Element or Mineral | Mineral Deposit Type | Examples |
|---|-------------------------------|---|
| Metallic Minerals | | |
| Copper (± zinc, ± lead, ± silver, ± gold) | Volcanogenic massive sulphide | Brothers volcano, Kemadec Arc |
| Iron (titanomagnetite) | Placer titanomagnetite | Offshore Pātea, Taranaki |
| Gold | Marine placer Au | Harvester project, West Coast |
| Manganese | Ferromanganese nodules | Campbell Plateau |
| Titanium (ilmenite) | Placer ilmenite | Offshore Waihi Beach |
| Non-Metallic Minerals and Materials | | |
| Potassium (glauconite) (see Part 1) | Marine glauconite | Chatham Rise |
| Phosphate | Phosphorite nodules | Chatham Rise |
| Sand (see Part 1) | Marine sand | Kaipara Harbour, Northland and North Auckland |

3.0 ONSHORE METALLIC MINERALS

3.1 Aluminium (AI)

3.1.1 International Description

International data for aluminium are listed in Table 3.1.

 Table 3.1
 Major minerals, world production, reserves and resources and major uses of aluminium.

| | A | luminium (Al) | |
|---------------|--|--|--|
| | Ore Minerals : Bauxite – a mixture of oxid but also may have andalusite Al ₂ SiO ₅ , an | le minerals, principally gibbsite Al(OH) $_3$ and boehmite AlO(OH) d alunite Kal $_3$ (SO $_4$) $_2$ (OH) $_6$ | |
| | World production (2023) (USGS 2024) | 400 Mt of bauxite ore; 142 Mt of alumina (Al ₂ O ₃) | |
| International | Major world bauxite producers (% of average total 2022) | Australia (26%), China (24%), Guinea (23%), Brazil (9%), Indonesia (6%), India (4%), Russia (1%), Saudi Arabia (1%), Kazakhstan (1%), Vietnam (1%) | |
| nter | World reserves (USGS 2024) | 30 Bt of bauxite | |
| _ | World resources (USGS 2024) | 55–75 Bt | |
| | Uses: Aluminium metal and alloys are used in transportation (e.g. manufacture of automobiles, aircraft, railway carriages, marine vessels and bicycles), building and construction (e.g. windows frames, doors, sheathing, roofing), packaging (e.g. cans, foil and frame), electricity-related items (e.g. conductor alloys, motors and transformers) and house-hold items (e.g. cooking utensils, furniture). | | |

3.1.2 Lateritic Bauxite

3.1.2.1 International Mineral Deposit Model

Features of the Lateritic bauxite international mineral deposit model are listed in Table 3.2.

| International Mineral Deposit Model – Lateritic Bauxite | |
|---|--|
| Reference | USGS model 38b Laterite-type bauxite (Cox and Singer 1986) |
| Description | Bauxite is residual material in subsoil formed by weathering of aluminous silicate rocks under tropical or semi-tropical conditions. It consists mainly of gibbsite or a mixture of gibbsite and boehmite in a gangue mineral assemblage of hematite, goethite, anatase and, locally, quartz. Ore textures are pisolitic, massive, earthy and nodular. A typical bauxite contains $35-65\%$ Al ₂ O ₃ , $2-10\%$ SiO ₂ , $2-10\%$ Fe ₂ O ₃ , $1-3\%$ TiO ₂ and $10-30\%$ combined water. For aluminium ore, bauxite should contain preferably at least 35% Al ₂ O ₃ and less than 5% SiO ₂ , 6% Fe ₂ O ₃ and 3% TiO ₂ . |
| International Examples | Jamaica; Surinam; Weipa, Jarrahdale, Coore and Mitchell Plateau (Australia); Georgia–Alabama (USA) |
| Grade-Tonnage Model | USGS model 38b 50 th percentile = 25 Mt at 45% Al_2O_3 (Cox and Singer 1986). |

 Table 3.2
 Features of the Lateritic bauxite international mineral deposit model.

3.1.2.2 New Zealand Occurrences of Lateritic Bauxite Deposits

Bauxite deposits are found in Northland, within a triangular area between Kerikeri, Kaikohe, and Kaeo (MM I5; GERM P04/e18, 19, 26, 41, 42, 43) (Figure 3.1). Late Miocene to Early Pleistocene Kerikeri Basalt has been extensively altered to halloysite, and, where rainfall and leaching has been sufficient, gibbsite (bauxite) has been produced from the halloysite-altered material (Carr et al. 1980). At Otoroa (Matauri Bay area), where the largest resources are known, the average thickness of the gibbsite-rich profiles is between 3 and 4.6 m and the maximum thickness is 12 m.

Prospecting and research by DSIR (Department of Scientific and Industrial Research) resulted in a resource estimate for the Otoroa area of 20 Mt of bauxite, typically grading 37.4% Al₂O₃ (equivalent to 30.6% extractable alumina), 5.5% SiO₂, 23.3% Fe₂O₃, 2.3% FeO and 6.4% TiO₂ (Kear et al. 1961). Additional auger drilling by Comalco / Consolidated Zinc (Evans 1963) and, later, Magellan (Pearson 1973), confirmed the DSIR resource estimate of the Otoroa deposit and identified another 15 small deposits nearby, collectively containing about 9.25 Mt of bauxite with 30% alumina or better. The largest of these deposits contained about 2.4 Mt.

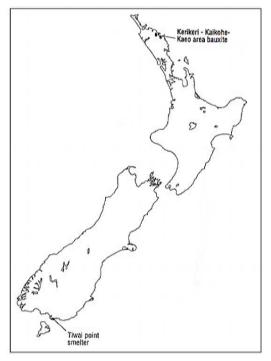


Figure 3.1 Location of lateritic bauxite deposits in Northland and the Tiwai Point smelter in Southland, where aluminium is produced by electrolytic smelting alumina imported from Queensland, Australia (after Christie et al. [1993]).

Previously estimated resources for the Kerikeri-Kaikohe-Kaeo area are 30 Mt of bauxite at 30% Al₂O₃ (alumina). Beneficiation tests showed that the Otoroa bauxite could be upgraded from 30% extractable alumina to approximately 44% by wet screening, but this increase in grade was coupled with a more than 40% reduction in the tonnage of the alumina resource to about 8 Mt Al₂O₃. The area of this resource is only a very small part of the total area of young basalt, therefore there is likely to be some additional potential.

Aluminium is currently produced at the Tiwai Point aluminium smelter, with bauxite ore imported from Queensland, Australia.

Key References: Kear et al. (1961); Brathwaite and Pirajno (1993); Christie et al. (1993); Christie and Barker (2007).

3.2 Antimony (Sb)

3.2.1 International Description

International data for antimony are listed in Table 3.3.

Table 3.3 Major minerals, world production, reserves and resources and major uses of antimony.

| Antimony (Sb) | | |
|---------------|---|--|
| | Ore Minerals: Stibnite Sb ₂ S | 3 |
| nal | World production | 83,000 t in 2023, but a high of 178,000 t in 2011 |
| nternatio | Major world producers | China (55%), Russia (18%), Tajikistan (15%), Australia (2%), |
| ern | (% of average total 2022) | Burma (2%), Bolivia (2%), Turkey (1%), Mexico (1%) |
| Int | Uses: Antimony is used as a agent in lead-acid batteries a | fire retardant in construction and defence applications and as an alloying and small arms munitions. |

3.2.2 Antimony in New Zealand

The antimony mineral stibnite (Sb_2S_3) occurs principally in association with orogenic gold-bearing quartz veins in greywacke in Westland and in schist in Marlborough and Otago (*Orogenic quartz vein Sb*, see Section 3.2.3) (Figure 3.2). Other occurrences include those in quartz veins in Mesozoic greywacke in Northland (Rangitarore Hill or Lanigan's Mine, Waikare Inlet) and in epithermal quartz veins and sinters associated with late Cenozoic volcanism in Northland (Puhipuhi, Ngawha), Coromandel Peninsula (e.g. Te Ahumata, Mahakirau and Thames), and the Taupō Volcanic Zone (Hot Spring Sb, see Section 3.2.4).

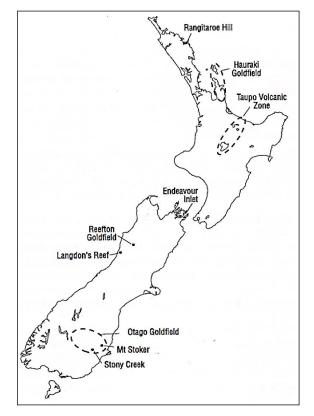


Figure 3.2 Location of antimony (stibnite) deposits in New Zealand (after Christie and Brathwaite [1993]).

Key References: Williams (1974); Pirajno (1979); Brathwaite and Pirajno (1993); Christie and Brathwaite (1993); Price (2016).

3.2.3 Orogenic Quartz Vein Sb

3.2.3.1 International Mineral Deposit Model

Features of the Orogenic quartz vein Sb mineral deposit model are listed in Table 3.4.

Table 3.4Features of the equivalent international mineral deposit models to the Orogenic quartz vein Sb model
used in this report.

| International Min | International Mineral Deposit Model – Simple Sb Deposits; Stibnite Veins and Disseminations | |
|---------------------------|---|--|
| Reference | USGS model 27d Simple Sb deposits (Cox and Singer 1986); BCGS model I09 Stibnite veins and disseminations (Lefebure and Höy 1996) | |
| Description | Stibnite veins, pods and disseminations in or adjacent to brecciated or sheared fault zones | |
| International Examples | Amphoe Phra Saeng (Thailand); Caracota (Bolivia); Coimadai, Victoria (Australia); Last Chance, Nevada (USA); Lake George, New Brunswick (Canada) | |
| Grade-Tonnage Model | USGS model 27d 50 th percentile = 180 t at 35% Sb | |

3.2.3.2 New Zealand Occurrences of Orogenic Quartz Vein Sb Deposits

Stibnite occurs in orogenic gold-bearing quartz lodes in lower Paleozoic-age greywacke in Westland (Reefton Goldfield and at Langdons and Croesus Knob reefs in the Paparoa Range), and in schist in Marlborough (Endeavour Inlet) and Otago (Hindon, Waipori, Carrick and Nenthorn) (Table 3.5). Some quartz lodes in Reefton are particularly rich in stibnite where it was reported from mines at Blackwater, Globe Hill, Crushington, Capleston-Specimen Hill, Big River, Ajax, Murray Creek, Blacks Point-Painkiller, Merrijigs and Alexander River. Mineralisation in the Murray Creek area was especially antimony-rich, with up to 7% reported in ore concentrates by Henderson (1917) and abundant stibnite reported from the Golden Treasure lode by Downey (1928) and Suggate (1957). A discrete antimony-bearing lode, the Bonanza lode, was described from Aulds Creek by McKay (1883). Williams (1974) noted that, at the Blackwater mine, a discrete stibnite lode was found in the country rock not far from the main lode. Reconnaissance geochemical exploration for antimony in the Reefton Goldfield (Riley and Ball 1971, 1972a, 1972b; Viljoen 1972) highlighted several potential targets where new resources might be found.

A total of 3900 t of antimony ore has been produced, of which 3000 t was from Endeavour Inlet (late 1800s). Antimony could be produced as a by-product of mining some orogenic gold deposits. Siren Gold is currently exploring for antimony at Auld Creek and other Reefton gold deposits.

Resources at Endeavour Inlet (MM C30; GERM P26/e34–37) have been estimated at 25,000 t at 15% Sb (3750 t Sb). Other known antimony deposits are small.

| Table 3.5 | Orogenic quartz vein Sb model occurrences (data modified after Brathwaite and Pirajno [1993]). |
|-----------|---|
| | Minerals: Au = gold; Sb = antimony, W = tungsten, As = native arsenic; aspy = arsenopyrite, Ci sulf |
| | = bismuth sulfides; gn = galena; py = pyrite, sch = scheelite; sp = sphalerite. |

| Region | Occurrence | MM ¹ | GERM ² | Production (t) | Deposit Form | Minerals Major (minor) | Host Rocks |
|-------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------|---|-------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| | Endeavour Inlet | C30 | P26/e34– 37 | ~1000 Sb ore | Sb-Au-quartz veins | sb,(aspy, py, gold) | Quartzofeldspathic chlorite schist |
| Marlborough | Jacksons Head | - | Q26/e2 | - | Sb-quartz veins | - | Chlorite schist |
| | Resolution Bay | - | Q27/e1 | - | Sb-quartz veins | - | Chlorite schist |
| | Murray Creek group | A62 | L30/e215 | 1.234 Au | Au quartz veins | py, sb, aspy, gold | Greywacke, argillite |
| | Ajax group | A63 | - | 3.007 Au | Au quartz veins | py, aspy, sb, gold | Greywacke, argillite |
| | Blacks Point- Painkiller group | A64 | - | 0.221 Au | Au quartz veins | py, aspy, sb, gold | Greywacke, argillite |
| | Crushington group | A65 | - | 12.635 Au | Au quartz veins | py, aspy, sb, gold | Greywacke, argillite |
| West Coast | Globe Hill Group | A68 | L30/e235 (Globe Progress mine) | 13.198 Au (historic) | Au quartz veins | py, aspy, sb, gold | Greywacke, argillite |
| | Big River group | A70 | L31/e34 (Big River mine) | 3.841 Au | Au quartz veins | py, sb, aspy, gold | Greywacke, argillite |
| | Alexander group | A73 | L31/e39 (Alexander mine) | 1.280 Au | Au quartz veins | py, aspy, sb, gold | Greywacke, argillite |
| | Langdons | A83 | K31/e64 | 0.049 Au | Au-Sb quartz veins | py, sb, gold | Greywacke, argillite |
| | Croesus Knob reefs | A80 | K31/e66 | 0.082 Au | Quartz veins | py, sp, gn, aspy, sb, gold | Greywacke, argillite |
| | Rogers Gully, Macetown | C67 | F41/e48 | - | Sb quartz veins | Sb | Pelitic schist and greenschist |
| | Carrick | C71 | F42/e26, 27 | 0.453 Au | Au quartz veins | py, gold, aspy, ±sb, (sp, cp) | Quartzofeldspathic chlorite schist |
| Otago | Nenthorn | C85 | l43/e23, e28, e31 | 0.222 Au | Au quartz veins | py, sb, gold, (sp, Bi sulf, gn) | Quartzofeldspathic chlorite schist |
| | Barewood | C86 | l43/e34, e36 | 0.420 Au, 12 W | Au-W quartz veins | py, sch, sb, gold, (gn) | Quartzofeldspathic chlorite schist |
| | Hindon (Mt Stoker) | C87 | l43/e24 | 0.049 W, Au | Au quartz veins | py, sb, gold | Quartzofeldspathic chlorite schist |

¹ MM = Metallogenic map code (Brathwaite and Pirajno 1993).

² GERM = Geological Resource Map code.

3.2.4 Hot Spring Sb–As

3.2.4.1 International Mineral Deposit Model

In the *Hot spring Sb–As* mineral deposit model, quartz veins and sinters are formed at the surface and in the near surface environments of epithermal systems. These are hosted in volcanic and sedimentary rocks and contain stibnite, pyrite and cinnabar. There is no well-documented international model.

3.2.4.2 New Zealand Occurrences of Hot Spring Sb–As Deposits

Occurrences of *Hot Spring Sb–As* deposits are listed in Table 3.6. At Rangitarore Hill (Lanigan's Mine), 10 km southeast of Russell, stibnite is found within a 3-m-wide silicified crush zone, dipping 80° SW, in Waipapa Group greywacke (Ferrar 1925). The deposit was first mined in 1907, and 115 t of ore, at an average grade of 50–60% Sb, was extracted and exported. Fricker (1970) reported analyses of up to 40% Sb and 0.51% Hg in samples taken from the lode.

At Puhipuhi, stibnite occurs in sinter and silicified greywacke associated with mercury deposits. At Ngawha, minor stibnite is associated with mercury in Pleistocene lake sediments and is related to the active Ngawha geothermal system.

In the Hauraki Goldfield, stibnite is found in some epithermal quartz veins, particularly at Te Ahumata (Great Barrier Island; Ramsay and Kobe 1974), Mahakirau (Fraser and Adams 1907; Robson 1979) and Thames (Fraser 1910; Merchant 1978, 1986).

| - | | | | | | |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------|-------------------|-------------------|---------------------------|--|---------------------------------|
| Occurrence | MM ¹ | GERM ² | Production (t) | Deposit Form | Minerals Major (minor) | Host Rocks |
| Te Pene | 14 | P04/e52 | - | Quartz veins | sb, aspy | Greywacke |
| Rangitarore Hill (Lanigan's Mine) | 113 | Q05/e13 | 58 Sb | Quartz veins | Sb | Silicified greywacke |
| Ngawha | 112 | P05/e56 | 33 Hg | Stratabound dissemination | cin, Hg, sb, real | Lake beds, basalt |
| Puhipuhi | 115 | Q06/e70 | 55 Hg | Stratabound | cin, marc, py, sb | Sinter, silicified greywacke |
| Te Ahumata | 122 | S09/e1 | 1.295 Ag–Au | Quartz veins | py, pyrarg, el, sb, ag sulfosalts | Rhyolite, andesite and porphyry |
| Mahakirau | 142 | T11/e29.30, 33 | 0.017 Au–Ag | Quartz veins | py, sb, el | Andesite flows and tuffs |
| Thames | 154 | - | 67.095 Au–Ag | Quartz veins | py, pyrg, el, sb, (sp, cp, td, tel) | Andesite flows and breccias |

Table 3.6Hot spring Sb-As model occurrences in New Zealand. Minerals: ag sulfosalts = silver sulfosalts; aspy
= arsenopyrite; cin = cinnabar; Hg = mercury; el = electrum; marc = marcasite; pyrg = pyrargyrite;
py = pyrite; real = realgar; sb= stibnite; td = tetrahedrite; tel = tellurides.

¹ MM = Metallogenic map code (Brathwaite and Pirajno 1993).

² GERM = Geological Resource Map code.

3.3 Beryllium (Be)

3.3.1 International Description

International data for beryllium are listed in Table 3.7.

 Table 3.7
 Major minerals, world production, reserves and resources and major uses of beryllium.

| | Beryllium (Be) | | | | |
|---------------|--|---|--|--|--|
| | Ore Minerals: Barylite BaBe ₂ Si ₂ O ₇ , bertrandite Be ₄ Si ₂ O ₇ (OH) ₂ , beryl Be ₃ Al ₂ Si ₆ O ₁₈ , chrysoberyl BeAl ₂ O ₄ , eudidymite NaBeSi ₃ O ₇ (OH, helvite Mn,Fe,Zn) ₄ Be ₃ Si ₃ O ₁₂ S, phenakite/phenacite Be ₂ SiO ₄ | | | | |
| | World production (USGS 2024) 330 t in 2023 from a high of 337 t in 2014 | | | | |
| International | Major world producers (% of average total 2023) (USGS 2024) | USA (58%), China (22%), Brazil (12%), Mozambique (7%) | | | |
| Inte | World resources (USGS 2024) | 100,000 t (60% in the USA) | | | |
| | World reserves (USGS 2024) | N/A | | | |
| | Uses: Beryllium is widely used in automotive, aerospace and electronics applications. It also has many applications in the defence sector. | | | | |

In the *Be Pegmatite* mineral deposit model (Bradley et al. 2017), beryl occurs in coarsely crystalline pegmatite dikes located peripheral to granitic intrusions. The pegmatites are composed of quartz, sodic plagioclase and microcline with or without spodumene, muscovite or lepidolite.

3.3.2 Beryllium in New Zealand

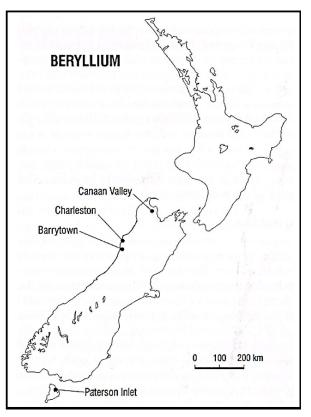
Beryl occurs in pegmatite dikes and quartz veins and in trace quantities in West Coast beach sand (Figure 3.3).

Be Pegmatite occurrences are found near Charleston on the West Coast and on the north shore of Paterson Inlet, Rakiura / Stewart Island. The pegmatites near Charleston are hosted in banded granitic Constant Gneiss and contain coarse-grained quartz, feldspar, muscovite and biotite. Beryl occurs as columnar, pale green to colourless crystals up to 125 mm across and containing 12.82% BeO (Hutton and Seelye 1945; NZGS 1970a). At Paterson Inlet, beryl occurs as fine-grained crystals in association with abundant tourmaline (McKay 1890). Hutton and Seelye (1945) referred to the existence of beryl at Dusky Sound but gave no specific location or reference.

A quartz vein occurrence at Canaan Valley, Pikikiruna range (Figure 3.3; GERM N26/e510), is associated with Separation Point Granite and contains rare, blue and colourless beryl crystals and scheelite (Williams et al. 1959). The beryl is mostly very fine grained, but a few crystals up to 8 mm in size are present. Beryl is also present in nearby stream alluvium (NZGS 1970a).

Analyses from the ilmenite-bearing beach sand on the West Coast during prospecting in the 1970s showed traces of beryl. In the Birchfield area, it comprised 0.01% of the heavy-mineral fraction and 0.02% at Hokitika (Zuckerman 1972a; Painter 1973). Hutton (1950) noted that some West Coast dredge concentrates contained rare grains of gadolinite that were probably eroded from pegmatites in the Karamea granite.

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Key References: Brathwaite and Pirajno (1983); Christie and Brathwaite (1999a).

3.4 Chromium (Cr)

3.4.1 International Description

International data for chromium are listed in Table 3.8.

Table 3.8Major minerals, world production, reserves and resources and major uses of chromium.

| | Chromium (Cr) | | | | |
|---------------|--|--|--|--|--|
| | Ore Minerals: Chromite FeCr ₂ O ₄ . Because of substitution, natural chromite has the general formula o (Fe,Mg)O(Cr,Al,Fe) ₂ O ₃ . | | | | |
| | World production of chromite ore (USGS 2024) | 41 Mt (2023) | | | |
| ional | Major world producers in 2023 (USGS 2024) | South Africa (44%), Kazakhstan (15%), Turkey (15%), India (10%), Finland (5%) | | | |
| International | World reserves of chromite ore in 2023 (USGS 2024) | 560 Mt | | | |
| - | World resources of chromite ore in 2023 (USGS 2024) | >12 Bt | | | |
| | Uses: The creation of metal alloys accounts for 85% of the available chromium's usage, for example, stainless steel (>11% Cr) and Inconel nickel superalloys (18.6% Cr). The remainder of chromium is used in electroplating, pigments, timber preservatives and the refractory and foundry industries. | | | | |

3.4.2 Chromium in New Zealand

Chromite is found in *Podiform chromite* deposits described in the *Podiform chromite* model section below, as well as in small peridotite and serpentinite bodies near North Cape, Wellsford and Piopio in the North Island (Figure 3.4).

At North Cape, minor disseminated chromite is found in serpentinite at Surville Cliffs in Northland. Bennett (1976) noted that the cumulate harzburgite-lherzolite zone of the Murimotu Intrusives contains disseminated chromite and that a possible underlying tectonite harzburgite zone with podiform chromite could lie offshore.

In the South Island, chromite is also present in the ultramafic rocks of the Cobb Igneous Complex, in the vicinity of the magnesite and asbestos mines, mainly:

"as highly irregular masses from 5 cm to 4 m in size, in the serpentinised orthopyroxenite masses which cut peridotite." (Hunter 1977)

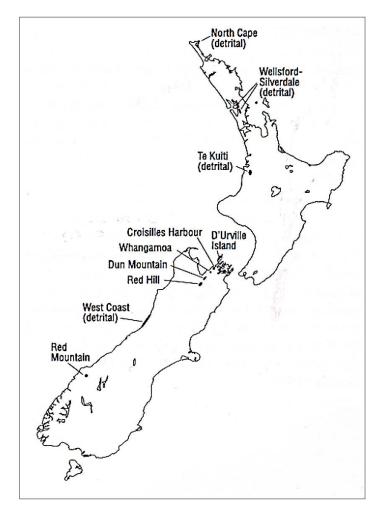


Figure 3.4 Location of chromite deposits in New Zealand (after Christie et al. [1994]).

Key References: Williams (1974); Brathwaite and Pirajno (1993); Christie et al. (1994); Brathwaite et al. (2012c, 2016).

3.4.3 Podiform Chromite

3.4.3.1 International Mineral Deposit Model

Features of the Podiform chromite mineral deposit model are listed in Table 3.9.

 Table 3.9
 Features of the Podiform chromite international mineral deposit model.

| International Min | International Mineral Deposit Model – Podiform Chromite | | | | | |
|---------------------------|---|--|--|--|--|--|
| Reference | USGS models 8a (minor) and 8b (major) Podiform chromite (Cox and Singer 1986); BCGS model M03 Podiform chromite (Lefebure and Höy 1996); and USGS Podiform chromite model (Mosier et al. 2012). | | | | | |
| Description | Deposits of massive chromitite occur as pods, tabular lenses or layers within ophiolitic ultramafic rocks. The deposits are formed as a primary magmatic differentiate during early olivine and chrome-spinel crystal fractionation of basaltic liquid at an oceanic spreading centre. The host rocks represent obducted fragments of oceanic, lower crustal and upper mantle ultramafic rocks within accreted oceanic terranes. | | | | | |
| International Examples | Guleman ore field (Turkey); Kalimash-Kukes-Tropoje district, Bulquize and Todo Manco- Bater-Martanesh district (Mirdita ophiolite) (Albania); Tiébaghi ophiolite and Massif du Sud, (New Caledonia); Acoje and Masinloc-Coto (Zambales range / ophiolite), Luzon (Philippines); Batamshinsk, Stepninsk, Tagashaisai and Main SE ore fields (Kempirsai massif), Southern Urals (Russia); Xeraivado and Skoumtsa mines (Vourinos ophiolite) (Greece); Semail ophiolite (Oman); Luobusa, Donqiao, Sartohay, Yushi, Solun, Wudu and Hegenshan deposits (China). | | | | | |
| Grade-Tonnage Model | Grades range from 20 to 60% Cr_2O_3 and tonnages range from several thousand to several million tonnes. USGS model 8b major podiform chromite deposits 50 th percentile = 20,000 t at 46% Cr_2O_3 (9200 t Cr_2O_3) and trace Rh, Ir, Ru, Pd and Pt (Cox and Singer 1986). | | | | | |

3.4.3.2 New Zealand Occurrences of Podiform Chromite Deposits

In the South Island, chromite is found as pods or disseminations in ultramafic rocks of the Dun Mountain Ophiolite Belt (Permian) and is most abundant in the Nelson Mineral Belt from Croisilles Harbour to the Wairau River (Johnston 1987; Brathwaite et al. 2016, 2017a), as well as at Red Mountain in west Otago (Figure 3.4 and Table 3.10). The deposits were formed during partial melting of ultramafic mantle rocks.

Recorded production from the Dun Mountain area was 5870 t of ore $(20-54\% Cr_2O_3)$ between 1858 and 1866. About 200 t of ore was produced from Croiselles Harbour between 1900 and 1902.

| Region | Occurrence | MM ¹ | GERM ² | Production (t) | Deposit Form | Minerals Major (minor) | Host Rocks |
|--------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------|-------------------|-------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Northland | Surville Cliffs | - | N02/e18 | - | Lenses | Chromite | Serpentinite |
| West | Cobb magnesite mine | - | M26/e599 | - | Lenses | Magnesite, talc | Serpentinite |
| Nelson | Cobb asbestos mine | - | M27/e596 | - | Lenses | asbestos | Serpentinised harzburgite |
| | Croisilles | B4 | O26/e549 | ~50 | Podiform lenses | Chromite | Serpentinite |
| | Maungatapu | B6 | O27/e574 | Very small | Podiform lenses | Chromite | Serpentinised peridotite |
| | Dun Mountain | B15 | O27/e573 | ~1400 | Podiform lenses | Chromite | Serpentinised dunite and harzburgite |
| | Jackson Creek | B16 | O27/e572 | Very small | Podiform lenses | Chromite | Serpentinised dunite and harzburgite |
| East | Miner Creek | B17 | O27/e576 | Very small | Podiform lenses | Chromite | Serpentinised dunite and harzburgite |
| Nelson | Serpentine Valley | B18 | N28/e557 | Very small | Podiform lenses | Chromite | Serpentinised dunite and harzburgite |
| | Chromite Creek | B19 | N28/e578 | Very small | Podiform lenses | Chromite | Serpentinised dunite and harzburgite |
| | Mt Starveall | B20 | N28/e580 | Very small | Podiform lenses | Chromite | Serpentinised peridotite |
| | Little Ben Nevis | B21 | N28/e579 | Very small | Podiform lenses | Chromite | Serpentinised dunite and harzburgite |
| | Chrome Trig, Red Hills | B22 | E39/e5 | Very small | Podiform lenses | Chromite | Serpentinised dunite and harzburgite |
| | Red Spur | B24 | E38/e3 | - | Podiform lenses | Chromite | Peridotite |
| | Martyr Hill | B26 | E28/e5 | - | Chromatite | Chromite | Peridotite |
| | Red Hills Trig | B28 | E39/e5 | - | Chromatite layers | Chromite | Dunite, peridotite |
| Otago Southland | Steep Creek, Little Red Hill | B31 | E39/e8 | - | Podiform | Chromite | Dunite |
| Southand | Stag Pass | - | E39/e7 | - | Podiform chromite | Chromite boulders | - |
| | Simonin Stream | - | E39/e6 | - | Podiform chromite | Chromite | - |
| | Greenhills | B43 | - | - | Disseminated in layers | Chromite | Dunite |

Table 3.10Podiform chromite and other chromite occurrences in New Zealand (data modified after Brathwaite
and Pirajno [1993]).

¹ MM = Metallogenic map code (Brathwaite and Pirajno 1993).

² GERM = Geological Resource Map code.

3.5 Cobalt (Co)

3.5.1 International Description

International data for cobalt are listed in Table 3.11. Cobalt production is mostly as a by-product of nickel mining.

 Table 3.11
 Major minerals, world production, reserves and resources and major uses of cobalt.

| | - | Cobalt (Co) | | | | |
|---------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| | Ore Minerals: Cobaltite (CoAsS), safflorite CoAs ₂ , glaucodot (Co,Fe)As, skutterudite CoAs ₃ and small CoAs ₂ | | | | | |
| _ | World mine production in 2023 (USGS 2024) 230,000 t | | | | | |
| International | Major world producers (% of total 2023 world production) (USGS 2024) | Democratic Republic of Congo (74%), Indonesia (10%), Russia (3%), Australia (3%), Madagascar (3%), Philippines (2%), Cuba (2%), New Caledonia (1%), Papua New Guinea (1%), Turkey (1%) | | | | |
| ľ | World reserves (USGS 2024) 11 Mt | | | | | |
| | World resources (USGS 2024) | 25 Mt (plus more than 120 Mt in seafloor polymetallic nodules) | | | | |
| | Uses: Cobalt is a key constituent of most lithium-ion batteries used in electric vehicles, consumer goods and stationary energy storage. It is also used in nickel-based alloys and tool materials. | | | | | |

3.5.2 New Zealand Cobalt Occurrences

A limited range of cobalt-bearing minerals have been observed in New Zealand and include the following: wairauite, cobaltite, glaucodot and linnaeite (Railton and Watters 1990; Durance et al. 2018). Wairauite was first identified in the Red Hills in Marlborough as minute grains in serpentinite (Challis and Long 1964). Bell et al. (1911) noted nickel and cobalt in analyses of ore from copper mines in the east Nelson Dun Mountain Ophiolite Belt.

Any likely future production of cobalt in New Zealand would be as a by-product of mining one of New Zealand's nickel prospects, e.g. Riwaka.

Key References: Williams (1974); Brathwaite and Pirajno (1993); Durance et al. (2018).

3.6 Copper (Cu)

3.6.1 International Description

International data for copper are listed in Table 3.12.

 Table 3.12
 Major minerals, world production, reserves and resources and major uses of copper.

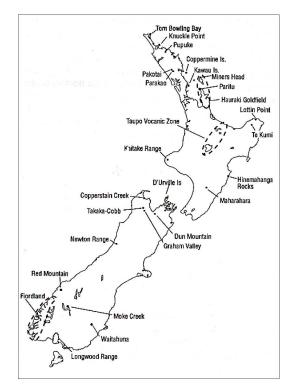
| | Copper (Cu) | | | | |
|---------------|---|--|--|--|--|
| | | H)₂, bornite Cu₅FeS₄, chalcopyrite CuFeS₂, native copper Cu, Ilite CuS, enargite Cu₃AsS₄, malachite Cu₂CO₃(OH)₂, tetrahedrite | | | |
| | World production (USGS 2024) | 22 Mt in 2023 | | | |
| International | Major world producers (% of average total 2022) (USGS 2024) | Chile (24%), Democratic Republic of Congo (10%), Peru (10%), China (9%) USA (6%), Russia (5%) | | | |
| rnat | World reserves (USGS 2024) | 1 Bt | | | |
| Inte | World resources in 2015 (USGS 2024) | 2.1 Bt identified (plus an estimated 3.5 Bt undiscovered) | | | |
| | Uses: Copper is used as a conductor of heat and electricity, as a building material and as a constituent of various metal alloys, such as sterling silver used in jewellery, cupronickel used to make marine hardware and coins and constantan used in strain gauges and thermocouples for temperature measurement. Copper compounds are used as bacteriostatic agents, fungicides and wood preservatives. | | | | |

3.6.2 Copper in New Zealand

New Zealand has a wide variety of copper deposits; these have been classified and grouped here by international mineral deposit models: *Porphyry Cu, Porphyry Mo-Cu, Volcanogenic massive sulfide, Serpentine-hosted Fe-Cu, Gabbroid-associated Ni-Cu, Intermediate sulfidation epithermal Au*, orogenic and *Copper skarn* deposits. The primary origin and potential genetic classification of some quartz vein and disseminated stratabound/stratiform deposits, particularly in Fiordland, is difficult to determine because of insufficient information; therefore these are listed in separate tables.

3.6.3 Production

A little more than 7500 t of copper ore has been mined in New Zealand (Table 3.13) since the country's first underground mine was opened on Kawau Island in 1842. This production was mainly from *Volcanogenic massive sulfide* (Kawau Island, Pakotai, Pupke, Parakao, Te Kumi, Maharahara, Moke Creek, Waitahuna), *Serpentinite-hosted* (Dun Mountain, D'Urville Island), *Hydrothermal (epithermal) vein* (Tui Mine) and *Porphyry Cu* (Miners Head, Great Barrier Island) deposits (Figure 3.5).



- Figure 3.5 Location of copper deposits (after Christie and Brathwaite [1994]).
- Table 3.13Deposits with recorded copper production. VMS = Volcanogenic massive sulfide; conc = concentrate.
Note: Ore production and years from Williams (1974), Brathwaite and Pirajno (1993) and Christie and
Brathwaite (1994).

| Deposit | MM ¹ | GERM ² | Deposit Type | Ore Production (t) | Grade | Years |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------|-----------|-------------------------|
| Parakao | E5 | P07/e20 | VMS | 1040 | - | 1961–1966 |
| Pupuke | E2 | P04/e30 | VMS | 30 | conc | 1892–1912, 1964–1968 |
| Pakotai | E4 | P06/e23-25 | VMS | 1400 | conc | 1947–1951 |
| Kawau Island | C14 | R09/e56 | VMS | 2500 | - | 1846–1860 |
| Miners Head, Great Barrier Island | 120 | S08/e2 | Porphyry Cu | 2325 | conc | 1857–1867 |
| Tui Mine | 181 | T13/e53 | Epithermal | 404 | From conc | 1967–1974 |
| Te Kumi | C21 | Y15/e12 | VMS | Very small | - | 1917–1920 |
| D'Urville Island | B1–3 | P25/e1–3, 5, P26/e41–47 | Serpentine- hosted Fe-Cu | 5 | - | 1879–1880 |
| Dun Mountain | B7, 9–13 | O27/e524–526, 528–530, 532–535 | Serpentine- hosted Fe-Cu | 930 | conc | 1886, 1908–1909 |
| Maharahara | C23 | T23/e37 | VMS | 50 | 2% Cu | 1881–1891, 1930 |
| Moke Creek | C61 | F42/e85 | VMS | c. 3 | conc | ?1880s–1968 |
| Waitahuna | C97 | H44/e14 | VMS | 17 | conc | 1880s |

¹ MM = Metallogenic map code (Brathwaite and Pirajno 1993).

² GERM = Geological Resource Map code.

3.6.4 Resources

Previously published information on copper resources is available for some deposits in the mineral research and exploration literature (Table 3.14; Part 1, Table 7.2).

| Deposit | MM ¹ | GERM ² | Deposit Type | Ore (t) | Grade (% Cu) | Copper (t) | Reference |
|----------------------|-----------------|-------------------|------------------------------|-------------------|-----------------|---------------|----------------------------------|
| Monowai ³ | 149 | T11/e26 | Epithermal vein | 143,000 38,000 | 0.6 0.5 | 858 190 | Roberts (1989) |
| Tui Mine | 181 | T13/e53 | Epithermal vein | 140,000 | 0.5 | 700 | Bates (1989b) |
| Copperstain Creek | A9 | M25/e542 | Copper skarn, porphyry Mo | 10,000,000 | 0.15 | - | Smale (1970), Wodzicki (1972) |

 Table 3.14
 Resource estimates from the literature.

¹ MM = Metallogenic map code (Brathwaite and Pirajno 1993).

² GERM = Geological Resource Map code.

³ The two separate resource estimates (ore, grade and tonnage) for the Monowai deposit represent two categories reported by Roberts (1989), corresponding to high-grade and low-grade resources. The low-grade estimate is for low gold and higher copper grades, while high-grade represents high gold and lower copper grades.

3.6.5 Potential and Prospectivity

Although the known copper deposits in New Zealand are all small, the varied geology and number of deposits show significant potential for future copper production, possibly as a by-product of mining other metals. Different types of deposits, such as the porphyry copper, volcanogenic massive sulfide and sediment-hosted deposits, will inevitably be sought for copper in future mineral exploration. Based on international examples and this assessment, the porphyry Cu deposits are likely to yield the largest resources of copper.

Key References: Williams (1974); Brathwaite and Pirajno (1993); Christie and Brathwaite (1994, 2006); Turnbull et al. (2023).

3.6.6 Volcanogenic Massive Sulfide Deposits

Volcanogenic massive sulfide (VMS) deposits are formed by seafloor hydrothermal systems generated by submarine volcanic activity. The known VMS deposits in New Zealand consist of small sulfide lenses composed mainly of pyrite and chalcopyrite that are associated with (a) marine basalts of Cretaceous age in Northland and East Cape (*VMS Cu [Cyprus type]*), (b) chert and pillow lava in greywacke sequences of Permian–Jurassic age and their metamorphic equivalents (*VMS Cu [Besshi type]*) and (c) greenschists (metabasalts) and metaserpentinite of Permian–Triassic age in Westland. Exploration from the 1970s has focused mainly on prospects at Lottin Point and Te Kumi near East Cape, as well as the Maharahara deposit in the Ruahine Ranges (Figure 3.6).

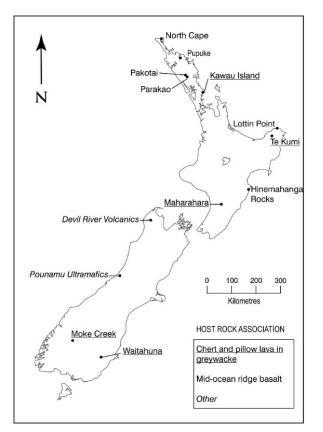


Figure 3.6 Locations of main volcanogenic massive sulfide copper deposits (after Christie and Brathwaite [2006]).

3.6.6.1 VMS Cu (Cyprus Type) Deposits in Northland and East Cape

International Mineral Deposit Model

Features of the VMS Cu (Cyprus type) model are listed in Table 3.15.

| Table 3 15 | Features of the Ophiolite-hosted VMS Cu (Cyprus type) international mineral deposit model. |
|------------|--|
| 10010 0.10 | r datarde el tile opinicite neeted ville ed (e)pide type) international mineral dependented. |

| International Mine | eral Deposit Model – <i>VMS Cu (Cyprus Type)</i> |
|---------------------------|--|
| Reference | USGS model 24a Cyprus massive sulfide (Cox and Singer 1986); BCGS model G05 Cyprus massive sulfide Cu (Zn) (Lefebure and Ray 1995); and USGS Volcanogenic massive sulfide occurrence model (Shanks and Thurston 2012). |
| Description | Seafloor deposition of sulfide mounds contemporaneous with mafic volcanism, such as spreading ridges and back-arc basins. Deposits typically comprise one or more lenses of massive pyrite and chalcopyrite hosted by mafic volcanic rocks and underlain by a well-developed pipe-shaped stockwork zone. Lenses are commonly in tholeiitic or calcalkaline marine basalts, commonly pillowed, near a transition with overlying argillaceous sediments. Many lenses appear to be structurally controlled, aligned near steep, normal faults. The main minerals are pyrite, chalcopyrite, magnetite and sphalerite, with lesser marcasite, galena, pyrrhotite, cubanite, stannite-besterite and hematite, in a gangue mineral assemblage of talc, chert, magnetite and chlorite. |
| International Examples | Cyprus; York Harbour and Betts Cove, Newfoundland (Canada); Turner-Albright (USA); Lokken (Norway). |
| Grade-Tonnage Model | USGS model 24a 50 th percentile = 1.6 Mt at 1.7% Cu (27,200 t Cu), possible by-product Ag, Au, Pb and/or Zn (0–33 g/t Ag; 0–1.9 g/t Au, 0–2.1% Zn) (Cox and Singer 1986). See also Lefebure and Höy (1996; Table 7) for BCGS model G05. |

New Zealand Occurrences of VMS Cu (Cyprus Type) Deposits

Previously mined copper deposits at Pupuke, Pakotai and Parakao in Northland, as well as copper shows at Lottin Point in East Cape, are associated with Cretaceous ophiolite sequences (Tangihua Complex and Matakoa Volcanics, respectively) (Table 3.16). Several other copper occurrences are associated with the ophiolite sequences near North Cape. Recent geochemical trace and rare earth element studies have indicated that they contain island arc tholeiites, in addition to mid-ocean ridge basalts, and were formed in a suprasubduction zone setting close to their Late Oligocene obduction site (e.g. Nicholson and Black 2004; Whattam et al. 2004, 2005).

Key References: Mason (1973); Roser (1983); Mason and Kobe (1989); Brathwaite and Christie (2006); Brathwaite et al. (2008, 2012b).

Table 3.16 *VMS Cu (Cyprus type)* deposits (data modified after Table 16 of Brathwaite and Pirajno [1993]). Minerals: bn = bornite, cp = chalcopyrite, Cu = native copper, cup = cuprite, gn = galena, hm = hematite, mt = magnetite, marc = marcasite, py = pyrite, sp = sphalerite.

| Region | Occurrence | MM 1 | GERM ² | Production (t) | Deposit Form | Minerals Major (minor) | Host Rocks |
|----------------|------------------------------------|----------------|----------------------|-------------------|----------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| | Pupuke | E2 | P04/e30 | 30 Cu conc | Stratiform lenses | py, marc, cp | Shale, dolerite, basalt |
| | Pakotai | E4 | P06/e23, e24, e25 | 1381 Cu conc | Stratiform lenses | py, cp, (sp) | Shale, basalt, andesite |
| Northland | Parakao | E5 | P07/e20 | 1026 Cu conc | Stratiform lenses | ру, ср | Shale, chert, dolerite |
| | Purua | E6 | Q06/e117 | - | Stratabound | cp, bn, (mt, hm) | Basalt |
| East | Upongongaruru | E8 | - | - | Stratiform lenses | py, cp, mt | Argillite, basalt |
| Cape | Lottin Point | E9 | Y14/e11– 13 | - | Stratiform lens | py, cp, (gn, sp) | Argillite, chert, basalt |
| Hawke's Bay | Hinemahanga (Kairakau) Rocks | E11 | - | - | Disseminated | Cu, cup | Limestone, basalt |

¹ MM = Metallogenic map code (Brathwaite and Pirajno 1993).

3.6.6.2 VMS Cu (Besshi Type)

International Mineral Deposit Model

Features of the VMS Cu (Besshi type) mineral deposit model are listed in Table 3.17.

 Table 3.17
 Features of the VMS Cu (Besshi type) international mineral deposit model.

| International Mine | ral Deposit Model – VMS Cu (Besshi Type) |
|---------------------------|---|
| Reference | USGS model 24b Besshi massive sulfide (Cox and Singer 1986); BCGS model G04 Besshi massive sulfide Zn-Cu-Pb (Lefebure and Ray 1995); and USGS Volcanogenic massive sulfide occurrence model (Shanks and Thurston 2012). |
| Description | Thin, sheet-like bodies of massive to well-laminated pyrite, pyrrhotite and chalcopyrite within thinly laminated clastic sediments and marine volcanic rocks; basaltic tuffs and flows, shale and siltstone, commonly calcareous; less commonly chert and iron formations. The deposits represent seafloor deposition of sulfide mounds in back-arc basins, or several other tectonic settings, contemporaneous with volcanism. |
| International Examples | Besshi and Motoyasu (Japan); Greens Creek, Alaska (USA); Kieslager (Austria); Raul (Peru) |
| Grade-Tonnage Model | USGS model 24b 50 th percentile = 0.22 Mt at 1.5% Cu (3300 t Cu), possible by-product Ag, Au and/or Zn (2–9 g/t Ag, 0.4–2% Zn) (Cox and Singer 1986). See also Lefebure and Höy (1995, Table 6) for BCGS model G04. |

New Zealand Occurrences of VMS Cu (Besshi Type) Deposits

In both the North and South Islands, several small copper deposits occur in Torlesse Supergroup and Waipapa Group greywacke, as well as Haast Schist associated with cherts and/or spilitic pillow lavas (Table 3.18).

Key References: Williams (1974); Lowery (1979); Roser (1983); Brathwaite and Pirajno (1993); Christie and Brathwaite (2006).

Table 3.18VMS Cu (Besshi type) deposits (data modified after Tables 14a and 14c of Brathwaite and Pirajno
[1993]). conc = concentrate. Minerals: cp = chalcopyrite, mt = magnetite, marc = marcasite, po =
pyrrhotite, py = pyrite, sp = sphalerite.

| Occurrence | e MM ¹ GERM ² Production (t) | | Deposit Form | Minerals Major (minor) | Host Rocks | |
|-----------------|--|---------|-----------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------------|
| Kawau Island | C14 | R09/e56 | ~2500 Cu ore | Stratiform lenses | cp, py, marc, (sp) | Chert, green argillite |
| Te Kumi | C21 | Y15/e12 | Very small | Stratiform | py, cp, (mt, sp) | Argillite, spilite |
| Makaretu | C22 | U22/e3 | - | Stratiform | ру, ср | Red chert, spilite |
| Maharahara | C23 | T23/e37 | 50 Cu conc | - | py, cp, (sp, po) | Red chert |
| Makatote Stream | - | U25/e31 | - | - | - | - |
| Moke Creek | C61 | E41/e85 | ~3 Cu conc | Stratiform | sp, py, po, (cp) | Greenschist metavolcanics |
| Waitahuna | C97 | H44/e14 | 17 Cu conc | Stratiform sulfide | cp, py, marc, po, (sp) | Greenschist metavolcanics |

¹ MM = Metallogenic map code (Brathwaite and Pirajno 1993).

² GERM = Geological Resource Map code.

3.6.6.3 VMS Lenses in the Pounamu Ultramafics

Small massive sulfide lenses are present in greenschist metavolcanics and metaserpentinite of the Pounamu Ultramafics on the western side of the Southern Alps in Westland (Table 3.19). The Pounamau Ultramafics are interpreted as ophiolite (ocean crust) basement to the Torlesse terrane (Cooper and Reay 1983). Copper-bearing sulfide lenses have been found in the Newton Range (J33/e85, e86; Beck 1965), Diedrich, Meta and Bowen ranges (MacKenzie 1984), Whitcombe River area (Cooper and Reay 1983) and in the Wilberg Range (Gardiner RT 1971; Coleman 1980). Those in the Wilberg Range appear to be the largest, with a mineralised zone 3–9 m wide and 1500 m long containing numerous pyrite-chalcopyrite lenses (30–90 cm wide) (MacPherson 1970). Later exploration in the same area (Coleman 1980) identified a much more extensive zone of mineralisation comprising many small pods of massive sulfide within greenschist, with grades between 0.5 and 2.0% Cu. An analysis from the Diedrich Range returned 5.1% Cu and 3.9 ppm Ag.

Table 3.19Volcanogenic massive sulfide stratiform lenses and disseminations in the Southern Alps (data
modified after Table 14c of Brathwaite and Pirajno [1993]). Minerals: cp = chalcopyrite, mt =
magnetite, mal = malachite, po = pyrrhotite, py = pyrite.

| Occurrence | ence MM ¹ GERM ² Production Deposit (t) Form | | • | Minerals Major (minor) | Host Rocks | |
|------------------|---|---------|---|---------------------------|---|------------------|
| Newton Range | C45 | J33/e86 | Stratiform lens po, py, cp, Serpentinite, biotite and quartz schist | | Newton Range | |
| Whakarira George | C46 | J33/e85 | Stratiform lens | py, cp, mt | Talc schist | Whakarira George |
| Noisy Creek | C47 | J34/e1 | Stratiform disseminated | py, cp, mal | Metaserpentinite, greenschist metavolcanics | Noisy Creek |
| Wilberg Range | C48 | l34/e14 | Stratiform lens | ру, ср | Greenschist metavolcanics and metasediments | Wilberg Range |

¹ MM = Metallogenic map code (Brathwaite and Pirajno 1993).

² GERM = Geological Resource Map code.

3.6.7 Serpentine-Hosted Fe-Cu

Small shear-controlled lenses of copper mineralisation are present in serpentinised ultramafic rocks of the Dun Mountain Ophiolite Belt in the Nelson region (D'Urville Island and Dun Mountain) and in Southland (Red Mountain) (Table 3.20). There has been historic mining at D'Urville Island and Dun Mountain (e.g. United Mine 700 t copper ore) in Nelson. Although there is no corresponding international mineral deposit model, these have many features of the *Dunitic Ni-Cu* deposits of Cox and Singer (1986) (see Section 3.14) but without recorded nickel minerals.

Key References: Williams (1974); Johnston (1987); Brathwaite and Pirajno (1993).

| Table 3.20 | Occurrences of Serpentine-hosted Fe-Cu model (data modified after Table 13a of Brathwaite and |
|------------|--|
| | Pirajno [1993]). Minerals: cc = chalcocite, cp = chalcopyrite, Cu = native copper, cup = cuprite, mt = |
| | magnetite, mal = malacite, po = pyrrhotite, py = pyrite. |

| Οςςι | urrence | MM ¹ | GERM ² | Production (t) | Deposit Form | Minerals Major (minor) | Host Rocks |
|--------------------|-------------------|-----------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| and | Otu Point | B1 | P25/e1 | - | Stratabound lenses | py, cp, mal | Basaltic tuffs and lavas |
| e Isla | Out Bay | - | P25/e2,3,5 | - | - | - | - |
| D'Uberville Island | Punaatawheke Bay | B2 | P25/e20 | - | Disseminated/ stratabound | py, mt, cp, (Cu) | Basaltic tuffs and lavas |
| | Copper Mine Bay | В3 | P26/e41–47 | 5 | Lenses in shear | cup, Cu, cc | Serpentinite |
| | Windy Point Group | В7 | (O27/e524, 525, 526, 528, 529) | ~3 | Lenses in shear zones | po, cp, mt, Cu, cup | Serpentinite |
| | Duckpond | B8 | Q27/e595 | Very small | Lenses in shear zones | po, cup, mal, mt | Serpentinite |
| . <u>e</u> | Mt Claude | В9 | O27/e532 | 5–6 | Lenses in shear zones | cup, mal, mt | Serpentinite |
| Dun Mountain | Imperial | B10 | O27/e533 | Very small | Lenses in shear zones | po, mal | Serpentinite |
| Dun N | Monster | B11 | O27/e530 | 200 | Lenses in shear zones | po, cp, mal | Serpentinite |
| | United | B12 | O27/e535 | 700 | Lenses in shear zones | po, cp, cup, Cu | Serpentinite |
| | Champion | B13 | O27/e534 | 30 | Lenses in shear zones | po, Cu, cp | Serpentinite |
| | Johnstons United | B14 | N28/e536 | Very small | Lenses in shear zones | po, cu oxides | Serpentinite |

¹ MM = Metallogenic map code (Brathwaite and Pirajno 1993).

3.6.8 Porphyry Cu

3.6.8.1 International Mineral Deposit Model

Features of the *Porphyry Cu* mineral deposit model are listed in Table 3.21.

| Table 3.21 | Features of the <i>Porphyry Cu</i> international mineral deposit model. |
|------------|---|

| International Mine | ral Deposit Model – <i>Porphyry Cu</i> |
|---------------------------|--|
| Reference | USGS model 17 Porphyry copper (Cox and Singer 1986); BCGS model L04 Porphyry Cu ± Mo ± Au (Lefebure and Ray 1995); USGS Porphyry copper deposit model (John et al. 2010) |
| Description | Quartz vein stockwork, breccia and disseminated Cu ± Au ± Mo mineralisation is centred around small cylindrical porphyry stocks or swarms of dikes typically of intermediate to felsic calc-alkaline composition. In some cases, the mineralised intrusions represent cupolas of larger underlying plutons or batholiths. Undeformed deposits commonly have circular or elliptical shapes in plane view, with diameters typically between 0.1 and 1.0 km and vertical dimensions similar to their horizontal dimensions. The vertical extent of hypogene ore is generally 1–1.5 km or less. Copper-mineralised rock can continue several kilometres deeper at uneconomic grades. Zonal patterns of hydrothermal alteration are generally present, typically from central potassic (quartz, K-feldspar, biotite) through sericitic (quartz, sericite, pyrite) and advanced argillic (quartz, kaolinite, alunite) to distal propylitic (chlorite, epidote, carbonate). The main metallic minerals are chalcopyrite and pyrite, with local bornite and magnetite. Copper grades vary from several tenths of 1% to greater than 1% with an average of 0.44% Cu in producing deposits (John et al. 2010). |
| International Examples | Ray, Kalamazoo, Santa Rita and Yerrington/Ann-Mason, Arizona; Butte, Montana; Bingham, Utah (USA); Chuquicamata, La Escondida, El Salvador, Refugio and El Teniente (Chile); Alumbera (Argentina); Far South East (Philippines); Batu Hijau and Grassberg (Indonesia); Panguna (Papua New Guinea); Cadia (Australia) |
| Grade-Tonnage Model | USGS model 17 50 th percentile = 140 Mt at 0.54% Cu (756,000 t Cu), possible by-product Ag, Au and/or Mo (Cox and Singer 1986). See also Lefebure and Höy (1996, Table 19) for BCGS model L04. |

3.6.8.2 New Zealand Occurrences of Porphyry Cu Deposits

Porphyry-style mineralisation occurs associated with Miocene-age intrusive rocks (e.g. quartz diorites and quartz monzonites) at Knuckle Point, Coppermine Island and Whangārei Heads in Northland, as well as Miners Head (Great Barrier Island), Paritu, Manaia and Ohio Creek (Thames) in the Coromandel Volcanic Zone (Figure 3.5 and Table 3.22). Copper occurrences in the South Island of possibly porphyry Cu style include: Piano Clearing (GERM L27/e562), Copper Creek Reef (Mt Radiant; L27/e504), Little Wanganui (L27/e567) and Campbell Creek (M26/e537), all on the West Coast, and Ruggedy Range (D48/e7) on Rakiura / Stewart Island.

Miners Head, Great Barrier Island, is the only example previously mined, which produced 2500 t copper ore (hand-picked concentrate). At Ohio Creek, exploration, including six diamond drillholes totalling some 2530 m, was carried out by Amoco Minerals (Merchant 1978,1986; Dimo et al. 1982, Brathwaite et al. 2001). The drillholes intersected a quartz vein stockwork containing pyrite-chalcopyrite mineralisation, with an average grade of 0.18% Cu.

Key References: Wodzicki and Thompson (1970); Brathwaite and Pirajno (1993); Brathwaite et al. (2001); Turnbull et al. (2023).

Table 3.22Porphyry Cu occurrences (data modified after Tables 21a and 21b of Brathwaite and Pirajno [1993]).Minerals: cc = chalcocite, cp = chalcopyrite, gn = galena, mt = magnetite, mal = malacite, marc = marcasite, mo = molybdenite, po = pyrrhotite, py = pyrite, sp = sphalerite.

| Region | Occurrence | MM ¹ | GERM ² | Production (t) | Deposit Form | Minerals Major (minor) | Host Rocks |
|---------------|---|-----------------|---------------------|------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| | Kerr Point | - | N02/e17 | - | - | - | - |
| | Pihakoa Point | 11 | O03/e8 | - | Stockwork, disseminated | ру, ср | Diorite |
| | Knuckle Point | 12 | O03/e7 | - | Stockwork, disseminated | cp, py, mal | Diorite |
| Northland | Kauri Mountain | | R07/e9 | - | - | - | - |
| | Coppermine Island | 118 | R07/e10 | - | Stockwork, disseminated | py, cp, po, (marc, mo) | Diorite and dacite breccia |
| | Whangārei Heads, Reef Bay | 117 | - | - | Sulfide vein | py, sp, gn, cp | Andesite porphyry, siltstone |
| | Dolphin Creek, Great Barrier Island | 119 | S08/e3, e4 | - | Vein/breccia zone | gn, sp, cp | Felsic dike, greywacke |
| | Miners Head, Great Barrier Island | 120 | S08/e2 | 2300 Cu concentrate | Stockwork, disseminated | cp, py, (gn, sp, po) | Diorite porphyry, greywacke |
| Coromandel | Paritu | 124 | S10/e4 | - | Stockwork, disseminated | py, cp, mt | Granodiorite and quartz diorite |
| Volcanic Zone | Manaia (Kakatarahae Stream) | 143 | T11/e17 | - | Stockwork, disseminated | py, cp, mt, (sp, gn, mo) | Diorite porphyry, greywacke |
| | Puru-Upper Waiomu | 150 | T11/e80, T12/e19 | - | Stockwork, disseminated | ру, ср, (mo, cc) | Quartz dorite porphyry |
| | Ohio Creek | 152 | T12/e47 | - | Stockwork, disseminated | ру, ср, (mo) | Diorite porphyry |

¹ MM = Metallogenic map code (Brathwaite and Pirajno 1993).

3.6.9 Copper Skarn

3.6.9.1 International Mineral Deposit Model

Features of the Copper skarn mineral deposit model are listed in Table 3.23.

| Table 2 22 | Features of the Copper skarn international mineral deposit model. |
|------------|---|
| Table 5.25 | reactives of the copper skarn international milleral deposit model. |

| International Mineral Deposit Model – Copper Skarn | | | | | | |
|--|---|--|--|--|--|--|
| ReferenceUSGS model 18b copper skarn (Cox and Singer 1986); and BCGS model K01 copper skarns (Lefebure and Ray 1995). | | | | | | |
| Description | Deposits consist of Cu–Ag sulfide minerals as replacement bodies in contact metasomatic rocks where limestone is intruded by felsic stocks. | | | | | |
| International Examples | Ruth, Mason Valley, Victoria and Copper Canyon, Nevada; Carr Fork, Utah (USA); Ok Tedi (Papua New Guinea) | | | | | |
| Grade-Tonnage Model | USGS model 18b 50 th percentile = 0.56 Mt and 1.7% Cu (9520 t Cu), possible by-product Ag and Au (Cox and Singer 1986). See also Lefebure and Höy (1996, Table 14) for BCGS model K01. | | | | | |

3.6.9.2 New Zealand Occurrences of Copper Skarn Deposits

At Copperstain Creek, about 11 km west of Takaka, copper mineralisation is associated with skarns developed by the intrusion of small granodiorite porphyry stocks and sills into Lower Paleozoic sedimentary rocks of Mount Arthur Marble and Onekaka Schist (Wodzicki 1972; GERM M0825; Brathwaite et al. 2004). Wodzicki (1972) suggested that there is a lateral metal zonation, from molybdenum in the granodiorite, out through copper, to lead-zinc in peripheral locations. Mount Arthur (M27/e17), Arthur Range (M27/e556) and Leslie River (M27/e561) copper occurrences also have a skarn association. Resources at Copperstain Creek were estimated at 10 Mt at 0.15% Cu (Smale 1970; Wodzicki 1972).

Key References: Smale (1970); Wodzicki (1972); Brathwaite and Pirajno (1993); Brathwaite et al. (2004).

3.6.10 Hydrothermal Quartz and Sulfide Vein Copper of Uncertain Origin

In addition to the epithermal quartz veins, chalcopyrite is found in quartz and sulfide veins of several other types of geological settings and formation processes, for example, hydrothermal-magmatic and hydrothermal-metamorphic, and, in many cases, their specific genesis is uncertain. Host rocks include granitic, metasedimentary and other metamorphic rocks. Veins found in and adjacent to granitic intrusions are possibly formed by magmatic-related hydrothermal fluids. This classification is used to group quartz veins listed in Table 3.24 that have insufficient information to readily assign them to other genetic models, such as the orogenic and epithermal quartz veins.

Table 3.24 Copper-bearing vein, disseminated and stratiform deposits of uncertain genesis and classification (after Christie and Brathwaite [1999b]). Minerals: bn = bornite, cc = chalcocite, cp = chalcopyrite, cv = covellite, gn = galena, hm = hematite, mal = malachite, marc = marcasite, mo = molybdenite, mt = magnetite, pent = pentlandite, po = pyrrhotite, py = pyrite, sp = sphalerite.

| Brathwaite and Pirajno (1993) | Occurrence | MM ¹ | GERM ² | Deposit Form or Type | Minerals Major (Minor) | Host Rocks | Genesis |
|---|------------------------|-----------------|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|---|--------------|
| | Loveridge Creek | - | M27/e546 | Quartz veins | cp, gn, py | Argillite and quartzite | Hydrothermal |
| | Mount Arthur | - | M27/e16, 17 | Quartz veins | - | Lamprophyre sill | Hydrothermal |
| | Mossey Creek | - | M27/e13 | Quartz veins | - | Pyroxene-feldspar porphyry | Hydrothermal |
| | Middle Wangapeka River | - | M28/e551 | Quartz veins | cp, bn, hm, cc, mal | Sandstone, chert | Hydrothermal |
| | Patriarch Range area | - | M28/e548 | Quartz veins | py, marc, | Hornblende porphyry in siltstone, sandstone and shale | Hydrothermal |
| | Baton River | - | M27/e545 | Quartz veins | ср, ру | Basaltic lava and tuff | Hydrothermal |
| | Bastite Creek | - | M27/e543 | Quartz veins | cp, cv, cc, py, mt | Serpentinised ultramafics | Hydrothermal |
| Vein deposits, Western Province, West Nelson | Mount Benson | - | M26/e42 | Quartz veins | - | Quartzose sedimentary rock | Hydrothermal |
| | Anatoki Range | - | M26/e23 | Quartz veins | - | Metasediments and volcanics | Hydrothermal |
| | Hardy Ridge | - | M26/e10 | Quartz veins | - | Volcanics | Hydrothermal |
| | Copper Mine | A4 | M25/e522 | Quartz veins | cp, py, (bn) | Chloritoid schist | Hydrothermal |
| | Mt Evans | A12 | N26/e507 | Quartz veins | py, cp (mo, aikinite) | Granite | Hydrothermal |
| | Copper Creek | A28 | L27/e504 | Quartz veins | ру, ср | Biotite granite | Hydrothermal |
| | Mackays Reef | A31 | L28/e538 | Quartz veins | py, cp, (gn, sp) | Foliated granite | Hydrothermal |
| | Wangapeka River | A35 | - | Sulfide veins | cp, (bn, hm) | Sandstone | Hydrothermal |

| Brathwaite and Pirajno (1993) | Occurrence | MM ¹ | GERM ² | Deposit Form or Type | Minerals Major (Minor) | Host Rocks | Genesis |
|--|----------------|------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------|------------------------------|
| | Waiwhio Creek | A78 | - | Quartz veins | ру, ср | Greywacke, argillite | Hydrothermal |
| Vein deposits, Western Province, Westland | Waiahio Creek | | K31/e60 | Quartz veins | py, cp, mal | Greywacke, argillite | Hydrothermal- magmatic |
| Province, westiand | Aynsley Creek | - | K31/e71 | Quartz veins | - | Quartz float | Hydrothermal- magmatic |
| | Milford Sound | A89 | D40/e7 | Sulfide vein | ср | Mafic orthogneiss | Magmatic segregation? |
| Western Province, Fiordland and Rakiura / Stewart Island | Bligh Sound | A90 | C41/e6 | Sulfide vein | ср | Mafic orthogneiss | Magmatic segregation? |
| | George Sound | A91 | C41/e5 or e9 (entrance) | Sulfide vein | ру, ср | Dioritic gneiss | Magmatic segregation? |
| | Doubtful Sound | A99 | C41/e5 or e9 (entrance) | Sulfide vein | ро, ср, ру | Amphibolite gneiss | Hydrothermal- metamorphic |

¹ MM = Metallogenic map code (Brathwaite and Pirajno 1993).

3.6.10.1 Disseminations and Stratiform Concentrations of Copper in Metamorphic Rocks of Fiordland and Rakiura / Stewart Island

Disseminations and stratiform concentrations of copper have been recorded in metamorphic rocks of Fiordland and Rakiura / Stewart Island as listed in Table 3.25. There is minimal information available for the individual deposits; therefore, their origin is uncertain and no resource assessment has been made.

Table 3.25Copper-bearing vein, disseminated and stratiform deposits of uncertain genesis and classification
(after Christie and Brathwaite [1999b]). Minerals: cp = chalcopyrite, mt = magnetite, marc = marcasite,
pent = pentlandite, po = pyrrhotite, py = pyrite.

| Brathwaite and Pirajno (1993) | Occurrence | MM ¹ | GERM ² | Deposit Form or Type | Minerals Major (Minor) | Host Rocks | Genesis |
|---|----------------------------|-----------------|-------------------|--|------------------------------|--|------------------------------|
| | Camera Lake | A92 | D41/e2 | Disseminated | po, cp, marc | Anorthosite | Magmatic segregation? |
| | Falls Creek | A93 | D41/e3 | Disseminated | py, cp, po, mt | Gabbro | Magmatic segregation? |
| Disseminated and | Aragorn Peak | A94 | D41/e6 | Disseminated | py, mt, po, cp | Gabbro, granite | Hydrothermal- metasomatic |
| stratiform deposits, Western Province, | U Pass West | A95 | D41/e4 | Disseminated | py, cp, mt | Diorite | Hydrothermal- replacement |
| Fiordland and | Mt Luxmore | A97 | C43/e7 | Disseminated | cp, cup | epidiorite | Hydrothermal |
| Rakiura / Stewart Island | Mt Solitary Copper Lode | A102 | B44/e2 | Disseminated in amphibolite band | po, pent, cp | Diorite, gneiss, amphibolite | Magmatic segregation? |
| | Mt Solitary | A103 | B44/e5 | Disseminated | po, cp, pent | Metadiorite, peridotite | Magmatic segregation |
| | Lake Hauroko (Cu, Ni) | A105 | C44/e3 | Disseminated | ру, ро, ср | Gabbro, pyroxenite | Magmatic segregation |
| | Wet Jacket Arm | A100 | (B44/e3) | Stratiform | po, cp, sp | Mafic gabbro | Hydrothermal |
| Stratiform deposits | Mt Ponder | A101 | B44/e11 | Stratiform | py, po, cp, mt | Hornblende schist, quartz schist | Hydrothermal |

¹ MM = Metallogenic map code (Brathwaite and Pirajno 1993).

3.7 Gallium (Ga)

3.7.1 International Description

International data for gallium are listed in Table 3.26.

 Table 3.26
 Major minerals, world production, reserves and resources and major uses of gallium.

| | | Gallium (Ga) | | |
|---------------|--|---|--|--|
| | Ore Minerals: Bauxite Al ₂ O ₃ .2H ₂ O (Ga substitutes for Al), sphalerite ZnS (trace Ga), germanite Cu ₂₆ Fe ₄ Ge ₄ S ₃₂ , renierite (Cu,Zn) ₁₁ (Ge,As) ₂ Fe ₄ S ₁₆ | | | |
| | World mine production in 2023 (USGS 2024) 610,000 kg | | | |
| International | Major world producers (% of total world mine production in 2023) | China (98%), Russia (0.8%), Japan (0.5%), Republic of Korea (0.3%) | | |
| iterr | World reserves (USGS 2024) | 1.1 M kg (production capacity) | | |
| - | World resources (USGS 2024) | > 1 Mt in bauxite, but less than 10% is potentially recoverable | | |
| | Uses: Widely used in electronic and optical systems, particularly in integrated circuits, lighting and CIGS (copper indium gallium selenide) solar cells. Its use in photovoltaics may grow in the future. | | | |
| | Notes: Gallium is almost exclusively produced as a by-product of bauxite (aluminium) mining. However, it can also be a by-product of zinc mining from the mineral sphalerite. | | | |

3.7.2 New Zealand Occurrences of Gallium

Gallium is present in muds and sinters of geothermal fields of the Taupō Volcanic Zone (Crump 1994). Reported gallium concentrations range between 8 and 144 ppm in 48 surface samples from 11 major geothermal fields. Crump (1994) considered that, in the mud samples, the gallium was probably present in kaolinite, substituting for aluminium. Samples with high gallium concentrations (>70 ppm) also contain high concentrations of antimony (400 to >5000 ppm) and arsenic (800 to >10,000 ppm). These two elements form colloids that are efficient scavengers of metals. Co-precipitation of gallium with these colloids is a possible deposition mechanism.

3.8 Gold (Au)

3.8.1 International Description

International data for gold are listed in Table 3.27.

| Table 3.27 | Major minerals, | world production, | reserves and | resources and | major uses of gold. |
|------------|-----------------|-------------------|--------------|---------------|---------------------|
|------------|-----------------|-------------------|--------------|---------------|---------------------|

| | Gold (Au) | | | | |
|---------------|--|---|--|--|--|
| | Ore Minerals: Calaverite AuTe ₂ , electrum AuAg, gold (native) Au, nagyagite (black tellurium) | | | | |
| | Pb ₅ Au(Te,Sb) ₄ S ₅₋₈ , petzite (Au,Ag) ₂ Te, polybasite (Au,Cu) ₁₆ Sb ₂ S ₁₁ and sylvanite (Au,Ag)Te ₂ | | | | |
| a | World mine production (2023) | 3644 t | | | |
| International | Major world producers (% of total world mine production in 2023) | China (11%), Russia (9%), Australia 9%), Canada (5%), USA (5%), Ghana (4%), Peru (4%), Indonesia (4%), Mexico (3%) | | | |
| <u>ц</u> | World reserves (USGS 2024) | 59,000 t | | | |
| | World resources (USGS 2024) | N/A | | | |
| | Uses: Jewellery, electronics, coinage, medicine, medals, trophies and decoration (foil). | | | | |

3.8.2 Gold in New Zealand

Gold occurs primarily in quartz veins deposited from hydrothermal fluids in fault zones at medium (orogenic or mesothermal) or shallow (epithermal) depths in the crust. Because of its high density and chemical stability, gold eroded from vein deposits, particularly from orogenic (mesothermal) veins, is concentrated by water flow in river-bed gravels (alluvial) and beach sands to form placer gold deposits. There are a large number of alluvial gold plants in operation in the West Coast region, and some are also present in the Otago and Southland regions.

Past production consists of about 20 Moz from hard-rock gold deposits and 18 Moz from placer gold deposits to date (Figure 3.7 and Table 3.28). Annual production in 2021 and 2022 is listed in Table 3.29. Resources are listed in Part 1 (Table 7.2) and in some sections below.

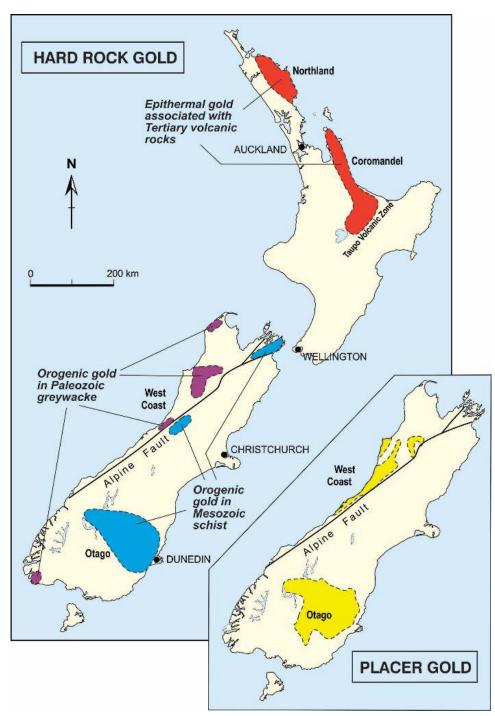


Figure 3.7 Main areas of past gold mining and potential for future discoveries (after Christie and Barker [2013]).

| Gold Deposit | Host Rocks | Estimated Total Production | Estimated Total Production | Annual Production | Major Production | Minor Production | Significant Mines |
|-----------------|---|-------------------------------|--|----------------------|------------------------------------|--|---|
| Туре | | 1860–1952 | 1980–2022 | in 2022 | Production | Production | and Deposits |
| Orogenic | Paleozoic greywacke | 2 Moz Au | 0.7 Moz Au (Globe) | - | Reefton and Lyell goldfields | Golden Blocks, Mt Greenland and Preservation Inlet | Globe Progress, Blackwater, Keep-It-Dark, (Crushington mine group), Big River |
| | Mesozoic schist (and greywacke) | <1 Moz Au | >5 Moz Au (Macraes) | 143,688 oz Au | Otago | Marlborough, Southern Alps | Macraes and Rise & Shine |
| Epithermal | Cenozoic volcanic rocks (and underlying Mesozoic basement greywacke) | 8 Moz Au | >3 Moz Au (Waihi, Golden Cross, Karangahake and Broken Hills) | 39,114 oz Au | Hauraki Goldfield | - | Waihi (Martha, Favona, Correnso), Golden Cross, Karangahake (Talisman), Komata, Thames mine group, Coromandel mine group |
| Placer | Cretaceous to Recent sedimentary rocks and sediments | 16 Moz Au | >3 Moz Au >200 mining operations | 31,776 oz Au | West Coast, Otago and Southland | West Nelson and Marlborough | Grey River, Arahura, Rimu, Ross, Mikonui, Shotover, Clutha, Nokomai, Wakaia |

 Table 3.28
 New Zealand gold production (modified after Christie [2019]).

Key References: Williams (1974); Brathwaite and Pirajno (1993); Christie and Brathwaite (1996c, 1997a).

| | | 20 | 21 | 20 |)22 | |
|--------|---|------------------|-----------------|------------------|-----------------|--|
| Metal | Mines | Quantity (oz) | Value (NZ\$) | Quantity (oz) | Value (NZ\$) | |
| | Waihi mines | 27,685 | 69,376,628 | 39,114 | 110,910,386 | |
| | Macraes mines | 130,330 | 332,840,799 | 143,688 | 412,346,542 | |
| | Other hard rock | 1 | 2,438 | 5.5 | 14,675 | |
| | Placer West Coast | 26,431 | 64,631,428 | 29,079 | 80,127,516 | |
| Gold | Placer Otago/Southland | 809 | 1,817,613 | 1214 | 3,032,261 | |
| Gold | Placer Marlborough | 11 | 27,147 | 14.8 | 39,803 | |
| | Placer Nelson/Tasman | 1697 | 4,147,993 | 1468 | 3,857,539 | |
| | | 2021 | | 2022 | | |
| | Total gold production (oz) and values (\$NZ) | 186,977 | 472,844,046 | 214,583 | 610,328,723 | |
| | Waihi | 93,045 | 3,254,829 | 120,058 | 4,118,710 | |
| | Macraes mine | 5172 | 182,840 | 6041 | 155,571 | |
| | | 2021 | | 2022 | | |
| Silver | Total silver production (oz) and values (\$NZ) | 98,217 | 3,437,670 | 126,098 | 4,274,281 | |
| | Total gold and silver produced (oz) and values (\$NZ) | 285,181 | 476,281,716 | 340,681 | 614,603,004 | |

| Table 3.29 | New Zealand gold and silver production 2021 and 2022 (Source: New Zealand Petroleum & Minerals). |
|------------|--|
| | |

3.8.3 Orogenic Shear Zone Au – Paleozoic

3.8.3.1 International Mineral Deposit Model

Features of the *Orogenic shear zone Au – Paleozoic* mineral deposit model are listed in Table 3.30.

Table 3.30Features of international mineral deposit models equivalent to the Orogenic shear zone Au –
Paleozoic mineral deposit model.

| International Mineral Deposit Model – Orogenic Shear Zone Au – Paleozoic | | | | |
|--|--|--|--|--|
| Reference | BCGS model I03 Turbidite-hosted Au veins (Lefebure and Höy 1996); Orogenic gold deposits (Groves et al. 1998; Goldfarb et al. 2001, 2005); and GNS Science turbidite-hosted mesothermal gold deposit Model 1A Paleozoic mesothermal Au (Christie 2002). | | | |
| Description | Gold-bearing quartz veins, segregations, lodes and sheeted zones hosted by fractures, faults, folds and openings in anticlines, synclines and along bedding planes in turbidites and associated poorly sorted clastic sedimentary rocks (Lefebure and Höy 1996). The predominant host-rock types are greywacke, siliceous wacke, shale and carbonaceous shale. Bedded cherts, iron formations, fine-grained impure carbonate rocks; minor polymictic conglomerate, tuffaceous members and minor marine volcanic flows may also be part of the stratigraphic sequence. There are younger granitic intrusions in many belts. Metamorphic grade is generally greenschist but may reach amphibolite rank. | | | |

| International Mine | International Mineral Deposit Model – Orogenic Shear Zone Au – Paleozoic | | | | |
|---------------------------|---|--|--|--|--|
| International Examples | Bendigo, Ballarat, Castlemaine and Stawell (Victoria, Australia) and Goldenville and other deposits in the Meguma Group (Nova Scotia, Canada). | | | | |
| Grade-Tonnage Model | USGS model 38a 50 th percentile = 30,000 t at 16 g/t Au for 15,400 oz Au. Christie and Brathwaite (1999b) suggested that, based on some large occurrences in New Zealand (e.g. Blackwater >1.4 Moz Au production and resources; Globe Progress 1.2 Moz Au production), a more representative model was 250,000 oz of contained Au. A higher figure could be justified by production of correlative deposits in Victoria, which had a total historic production of more than 30 Moz, with 17 Moz produced from one goldfield, Bendigo. | | | | |

3.8.3.2 New Zealand Occurrences of Orogenic Shear Zone Au – Paleozoic Deposits

Orogenic, turbidite-hosted, quartz-vein gold deposits in Western Province Ordovician metagreywacke include deposits at Golden Blocks and Aorere in Northwest Nelson; Mokihinui, Lyell, Reefton, Langdons and Mt Greenland on the West Coast; and Preservation Inlet in Fiordland (Figure 3.8a).

Characteristic features of the Western Province Paleozoic orogenic shear zone Au deposits and some exploration parameters were summarised by Christie (2019). The deposits exhibit many similarities to orogenic gold deposits in Victoria, Australia (e.g. Bendigo and Ballarat). Most are hosted in Ordovician greywacke and argillite (Greenland Group); notable exceptions are deposits at Golden Blocks and Preservation Inlet, which are hosted in graptolitic black slate-greywacke sequences of Golden Bay Group and Greenland group, respectively. The host rocks are weakly metamorphosed up to lower greenschist facies, with metamorphic mineral assemblages of quartz, albite, muscovite and chlorite. The deposits consist of quartz veins that were formed in steeply dipping shear and fault structures. In Blackwater, in the Reefton Goldfield, the largest vein averages 0.61 m wide, has a strike length of 1070 m, and was mined to a depth of 830 m, with an average grade of 21.9 g/t Au (15 g/t Au recovered grade). Additionally, some deposits such as Globe Progress have clay-rich breccia zones bordering the main quartz veins. The veins contain native gold, pyrite and arsenopyrite, with stibnite, chalcopyrite and galena locally present. The vein quartz typically exhibits ribbon-banded, crack-seal textures. Wallrock hydrothermal alteration consists of secondary illite/sericite, pyrite, chlorite and carbonate in narrow zones, generally less than 1 m in width, enveloping the quartz lodes. A much wider alteration halo is present at Globe Progress where alteration extends outward for c. 30 m from the main vein.

Reefton: The most important deposits are those in the Reefton area, where over 67 t of gold were produced from 84 mines between 1870 and 1951 (Barry 1993; Christie et al. 2006b). The gold quartz lodes are contained within a NNE-trending belt of Greenland Group metasedimentary rocks, some 34 km in length by 10 km in width, which is in intrusive and/or fault contact along its eastern side with granites of Devonian and Cretaceous ages (Figure 3.8b). To the south, the belt passes under Quaternary cover and to the north is cut off by granite.

The largest historic gold producers were the Blackwater (732,907 oz Au between 1909 and 1951) and Globe Progress (418,343 oz Au between 1879 and 1920) underground mines in the Reefton Goldfield. Between 2007 and 2015, Globe Progress was mined as an open pit to produce 536,494 oz Au (McIntosh and Cooksey 2016). At Blackwater, Federation Mining's recent Snowy River project has included a 3.3-km-long twin tunnel decline from the Snowy River to reach the Birthday Reef below the historic workings at the Blackwater gold mine.¹

^{1 &}lt;u>https://federationmining.com.au/blackwater-gold/</u>

They are currently undertaking an extensive diamond drilling programme to prepare a new Joint Ore Reserves Committee (JORC)-compliant Mineral Resource statement.

Lyell: A number of gold-bearing quartz lodes, varying from 0.3 to 6 m in width, were worked or prospected over a 5-km-long zone extending NNW from Lyell Creek to New Creek. Most of the production was from the United Alpine mine (2.504 t Au, 1874–1912) from a short but thick ore shoot mined down to 500 m (Downey 1928; Barry 1996). Around Lyell Creek, a phyllitic argillite unit carrying minor pyrite and arsenopyrite hosts the quartz lodes (M1321). In the New Creek area, the country rocks are intruded and baked (producing hornfels) by granite dikes (Morgan and Bartrum 1915). Modern exploration was summarised by Christie (2016a) and consisted predominantly of stream sediment and soil geochemical surveys.

Exploration: In addition to Tasman Mining's Snowy River project, in 2024, Rua Gold (Reefton Gold Ltd; Aldrich 2024) is exploring a northern group of vein systems, including the former Capleston, Murray Creek, Ajax and Crushington mining areas. They recently discovered a new vein system (Pactolus) southeast of the Capleston system. Siren Gold (Reefton Resources Pty Ltd) is exploring a southern group of vein systems, including the Auld Creek, Cumberland, Alexander River and Big River former mining areas. They have released several gold resource estimates for these areas (see Part 1, Table 7.2).

Opportunities: Crown Minerals (2002) mapped and ranked prospectivity based on a GIS-based study of research and exploration data (Figure 3.9).

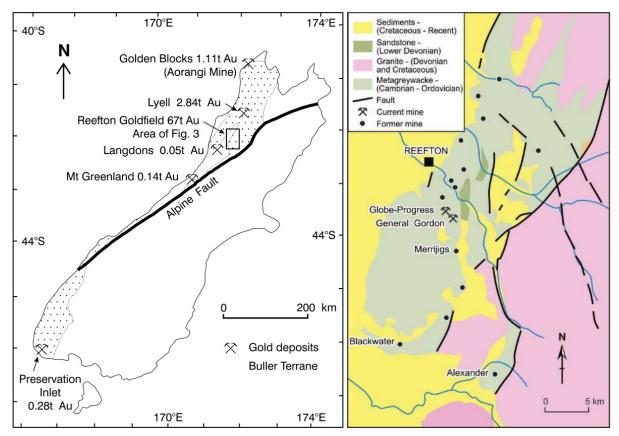


Figure 3.8 (a) Location of Paleozoic orogenic gold deposits, groups and their historic gold production up to 1952 (after Christie and Brathwaite [2003]). (b) Geology of the Reefton Goldfield (after Christie and Barker [2013]).

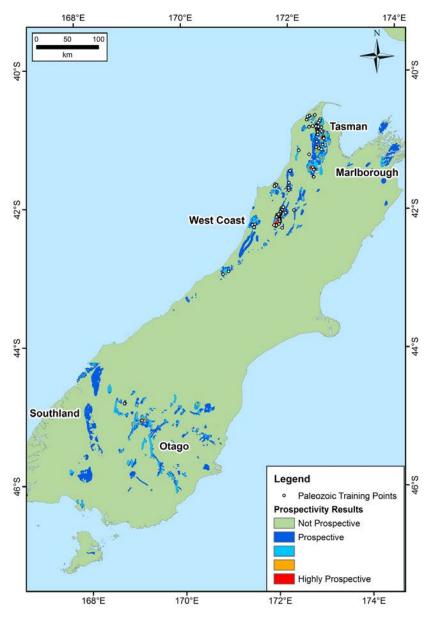


Figure 3.9 Orogenic shear zone Au – Paleozoic mineralisation prospectivity map showing the most prospective areas in red, moderately prospective areas in orange and light blue and areas above the prior probability in dark blue (after Kenex 2011).

Resource estimates for *Orogenic shear zone Au – Paleozoic* deposits in the Reefton Goldfield are listed in Table 3.31.

| Deposit | Туре | Resource | Categories | Date | Reference |
|-------------------------------------|------|---------------|---|---------------|-------------------|
| Supreme | JORC | 103,000 oz Au | Inferred Resources | April 2023 | Siren Gold |
| Big River | JORC | 105,000 oz Au | Inferred Resources | April 2023 | Siren Gold |
| Blackwater / Snowy River project | JORC | 785,000 oz Au | Indicated Resources + Inferred Resources | - | Federation Mining |
| Alexander River | JORC | 170,000 oz Au | Inferred Resources | 2023 | Siren Gold |

| Table 3.31 | Estimated resources in the Reefton orogenic gold deposits. |
|------------|--|
| | |

Occurrences of Orogenic shear zone Au – Paleozoic deposits are listed in Table 3.32.

 Table 3.32
 Orogenic shear zone Au – Paleozoic model occurrences in the Buller Terrane of the West Coast and Fiordland (data modified after Brathwaite and Pirajno 1993).

 Minerals: aspy = arsenopyrite; bourn = bournonite; cp = chalcopyrite; el = electrum; gn = galena; marc = marcasite; py = pyrite; sp = sphalerite.

| Region | Area | Occurrence | MM ¹ | GERM ² | Production (t) | Deposit Form | Minerals Major (minor) | Host Rocks |
|----------------|----------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------|---------------------------------|-------------------|-----------------|---------------------------|--|
| West Nelson | - | Golden Blocks | A1 | M25/e604–608 | 1.110 Au | Au quartz veins | marc, py, gold | Carbonaceous slate, quartzite (chert) |
| | | Larry Creek- Caledonian group | A56 | L30/e196, 197 | 0.164 Au | Au quartz veins | py, aspy, gold, (gn) | Greywacke, argillite |
| | | Italian Gully group | A57 | L30/e195 | 0.034 Au | Au quartz veins | py, aspy, sb, gold | Greywacke, argillite |
| | | Capleston- Specimen Hill group | A58 | L30/e203–211 | 4.325 Au | Au quartz veins | py, aspy, sb, gold | Greywacke, argillite |
| | | Kirwan Hill | A60 | L30/e198 | 0.342 Au | Au quartz veins | aspy, py, gold | Greywacke, argillite |
| | Reefton Goldfield | Wheel Creek | A61 | L30/e250 | - | Quartz veins | gold | Greywacke, argillite |
| | | Murray Creek group | A62 | L30/e136, 212–217 | 1.234 Au | Au quartz veins | py, sb, aspy, gold | Greywacke, argillite |
| | | Ajax group | A63 | L30/e219, 222 | 3.007 Au | Au quartz veins | py, aspy, sb, gold | Greywacke, argillite |
| West Coast | | Blacks Point- Painkiller group | A64 | L30/e231–234 | 0.221 Au | Au quartz veins | py, aspy, sb, gold | Greywacke, argillite |
| | | Globe Progres | A68 | L30/e235 | 13.198 | Au quartz veins | py, aspy, sb, gold | Greywacke, argillite |
| | | Crushington group | A65 | L30/e223–225, 227, 228 | 12.635 | Au quartz veins | py, aspy, sb, gold | Greywacke, argillite |
| | | Maori Gully group | A67 | L30/e229, 230, 296 | 0.013 Au | Au quartz veins | py, gold | Greywacke, argillite |
| | | Merrijigs group | A69 | L30/e236–239; L31/e18–24, 27 | 1.200 Au | Au quartz veins | py, aspy, sb, gold | Greywacke, argillite |
| | | Big River group | A70 | L31/e34–38 | 3.841 Au | Au quartz veins | py, sb, aspy, gold | Greywacke, argillite |
| | | Millerton | A71 | L31/e48 | 0.052 | Au quartz veins | py, gold | Greywacke, argillite |
| | | Alexander River group | A73 | L31/e39 | 1.280 Au | Au quartz veins | py, aspy, sb, gold | Greywacke, argillite |
| | | Blackwater | A72 | L31/e29–31 | 22.810 Au | Au quartz veins | py, aspy, gold | Greywacke, argillite |

| Region | Area | Occurrence | MM ¹ | GERM ² | Production (t) | Deposit Form | Minerals Major (minor) | Host Rocks |
|------------|-----------------------|--|-------------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|--|
| | Lyell | New Creek | A45 | - | Very small | Au quartz veins | py, lollingite, gold | Greywacke and argillite (semi-schistose) |
| | Goldfield | Lyell | A46 | L29/e134 (Alpine United mine) | 2.841 Au | Au quartz veins | py, aspy, gold | Greywacke, argillite |
| | | Mohikinui | - | L28/e559 | - | - | - | - |
| | | Red Queen | A41 | - | 0.103 Au | Quartz veins | py, gold | Greywacke, argillite |
| | - | Waimangaroa Taffy ³ Croesus Knob ³ | | - | 0.203 Au | Quartz veins, disseminated | py, gold | Hornfelsed greywacke |
| | | | | - | 0.031 Au | Quartz vein stockwork | py, gold | Greywacke, argillite |
| West Coast | | | | - | 0.082 Au | Quartz vein | py, sp, gn, aspy, sb, gold | Greywacke, argillite |
| | | Roaring Meg Creek ³ | A81 | - | 0.001 Au | Quartz veins | py, gold | Greywacke, argillite |
| | | Minerva ³ | A82 | - | 0.024 Au | Quartz veins | py, gold | Greywacke, argillite |
| | | Langdons | A83 | K31/e64 | 0.049 Au | Au-Sb quartz veins | py, sb, gold | Greywacke, argillite |
| | | Donellys Creek ³ | A85 | - | 0.024 | Quartz veins | gold | Greywacke, argillite |
| | | Mt. Greenland | A86 | J33/e76, 78 | 0.137 Au | Au quartz veins | py, cp, (gold, bourn) | Greywacke, argillite |
| | | Mt Rangitoto ³ | Mt Rangitoto ³ A87 | | - | Quartz-sulfide veins | py, sp, gn, aspy, cp, (el) | Greywacke, argillite, granite |
| | | Cuttle Cove | A107 | - | 001 Au | Au quartz veins | Gold | Greywacke, argillite |
| Fiordland | Preservation Inlet | Morning Star | A108 | B46/e5 | 0.234 Au | Au quartz veins | Gold | Graphitic slate |
| | | Golden Site | A109 | B46/e2 | 0.044 Au | Au quartz veins | Gold | Quartzose greywacke, slate |

¹ MM = Metallogenic map code (Brathwaite and Pirajno 1993); ² GERM = Geological Resource Map code; ³ The genesis of Taffy, Croesus Knob, Roaring Meg Creek, Minerva, Donellys Creek and Mt Rangitoto deposits is uncertain; these may be magmatic-related.

Key References: Downey (1928); Williams (1974); Brathwaite and Pirajno (1993); Christie et al. (2006b); Allibone et al. (2018a); Christie (2019).

3.8.4 Orogenic Shear Zone Au – Mesozoic

3.8.4.1 International Mineral Deposit Model

Features of the *Orogenic shear zone Au – Mesozoic* mineral deposit model are listed in Table 3.33.

 Table 3.33
 Features of international mineral deposit models equivalent to the Orogenic shear zone Au – Mesozoic mineral deposit model.

| International Mine | ral Deposit Model – Orogenic Shear Zone Au – Mesozoic |
|---------------------------|---|
| Reference | USGS model 36a low-sulfide Au-quartz veins (Cox and Singer 1986); BCGS model I03 turbidite-hosted Au veins (Lefebure and Höy 1996); Orogenic gold deposits (Groves et al. 1998; Goldfarb et al. 2001, 2005); and GNS Science turbidite-hosted mesothermal gold deposit Model 1B Mesozoic mesothermal Au (Christie 2002) |
| Description | Similar features to the Paleozoic orogenic shear zone gold model |
| International Examples | Alaska-Juneau, Treadwell and Kensington, Alaska; Mother Lode, Alleghany and Grass Valley, California (USA); Sheba, Mitchell and Hunter, Yukon (Canada). |
| Grade-Tonnage Model | Grade-tonnage data: Model 36a 50 th percentile = 0.03 Mt and 16 g/t Au (15,400 oz Au), possible by-product Ag, Sb, W (Cox and Singer 1986). These low tonnage and grade figures are biased by data from historic small high-grade mines. Christie and Brathwaite (1999b) suggested that, based on the occurrence of Macraes (>5 Moz Au production) in Otago, a more representative model was 250,000 oz of contained Au. |

3.8.4.2 New Zealand Occurrences of Orogenic Shear Zone Au – Mesozoic Deposits

Gold-bearing quartz lodes and disseminated mineralisation are hosted in the Mesozoic Haast Schist of Otago, Marlborough and the Southern Alps (Skinner and Brathwaite 1999; Craw and MacKenzie 2016; Christie 2019). Although they accounted for only 2.6% of New Zealand's total pre-1980 gold production, the deposit at Macraes is now New Zealand's largest known gold deposit worked by the largest operating gold mine. Most are Cretaceous age; however, Cenozoic-age gold-bearing quartz-carbonate veins in greenschist facies rocks of the Southern Alps are suggested as younger analogues of the Cretaceous-age vein deposits in Otago (Craw et al. 1987, 2006; Craw 2006; Pitcairn et al. 2006, 2014).

Characteristic features of the Eastern Province Mesozoic orogenic shear zone Au deposits and some exploration parameters were summarised by Christie (2019). The quartz veins are typically less than 1 m wide, localised along single or multiple parallel shear zones that generally dip steeply, have normal dip-slip displacements and are discordant to the schist foliation. A notable exception is at Macraes mine in Otago, where mineralisation occurs in shear veins and stockwork veins and is disseminated within the 26-km-long, NW-striking and gently south-dipping (c. 30°) Hyde–Macraes Shear Zone. Gold ore is mined from a series of open pits and an underground mine. The current mining operation began late in 1990 and has now produced more than 5 Moz Au, with a current annual production of c. 200,000 oz Au per year (Craw and MacKenzie 2016; Doyle et al. 2016). Scheelite was mined from lodes at Wakamarina, Glenorchy, Macraes and Barewood and is present in many others. Stibnite was mined at Endeavour Inlet and Carrick and is also present at Macetown, Hindon, Nenthorn and Waipori. Many of the lodes were only worked in the oxidised zone and became uneconomic when the finer-grained, refractory gold of the primary zone was reached, typically only 20–30 m below the surface.

In 2024, exploration for Mesozoic-age orogenic gold deposits in Otago features Santana Minerals' resource definition and exploration on the Rise & Shine Shear Zone (Figure 3.10) and various projects by other companies, including: Midway Resources (Mareburn), Mineral Rangahau, Newpeak NZ (Garibaldi and Raggedy Range), KO Gold NZ (Rough Ridge South, Carrick Range, Tokomairiro, Glenpark and Smylers prospects), Gondwana Gold NZ (Teviot East), Nimitz Resources, New Age Exploration (Lammerlaw) and Lammerlaw Resources (Lammerlaw). New Age Exploration also has an exploration project in Marlborough.

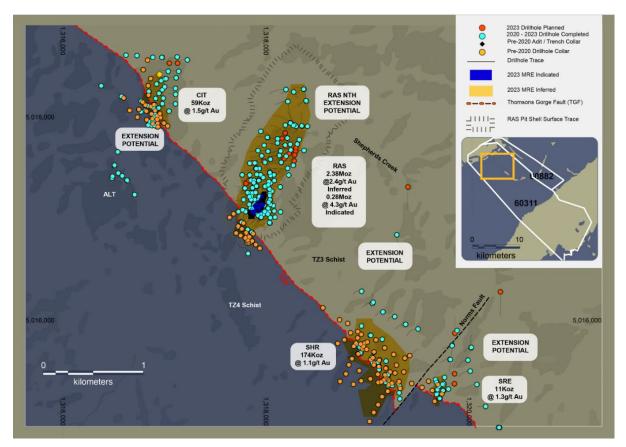


Figure 3.10 Drilling on the Bendigo-Ophir prospect on the Rise & Shine Shear Zone (RSSZ) (Source: Santana Minerals). The project contains a new Mineral Resource Estimate (MRE2024) of 2.45 Moz gold at 2.0g/t (0.5 g/t Au lower cut-off grade with top-cut), an estimate based on drill results to January 2024 and reported in February 2024. The Bendigo-Ophir resources occur in four deposits that extend in a northerly direction within the RSSZ, which hosts gold mineralisation over a recognised strike length of >20 km.

Studies by Crown Minerals (1992) and Kenex (2011) have mapped and ranked prospectivity based on a GIS-based study of research and exploration data (Figure 3.11).

Total gold production from the *Orogenic shear zone* Au - Mesozoic deposits is more than >5 Moz Au. Reported Reserve and Resource estimates are listed in Table 3.34, and a list of deposits is presented in Table 3.35.

Table 3.34Joint Ore Reserves Committee (JORC)-compliant Reserve (0.6 Moz Au) and Resource (Moz)
estimates for Macraes 31 December 2023 (Grant et al. 2024; OceanaGold 2024). See Figure 3.10
for Resources at Rise & Shine Shear Zone and Part 1 (Table 7.2) for Ophir.

| Project Area | | | R | leserve | es | Resources | | | | | | | |
|------------------------|------|-------------|----------|-------------|------------------------|-------------|-------------|------|-------------|------|-------------|------|-------------|
| | Pro | ven | Probable | | Proven and Probable | | Measured | | Inferred | | Inferred | | |
| | (Mt) | (Au g/t) | (Mt) | (Au g/t) | (Mt) | (Au g/t) | (Au Moz) | (Mt) | (Au g/t) | (Mt) | (Au g/t) | (Mt) | (Au g/t) |
| Macraes underground | 0.2 | 2.0 | 2.8 | 1.97 | 3.0 | 1.97 | 0.19 | 0.3 | 2.60 | 7.6 | 2.43 | 7.9 | 2.43 |
| Macraes open pits | 6.0 | 0.51 | 13.6 | 0.71 | 19.6 | 0.65 | 0.41 | 10.2 | 0.73 | 23.5 | 0.63 | 33.8 | 0.66 |
| Macraes total | 6.2 | 0.55 | 16.4 | 0.92 | 22.5 | 0.82 | 0.60 | 10.5 | 0.78 | 31.2 | 3.1 | 41.7 | 1.00 |

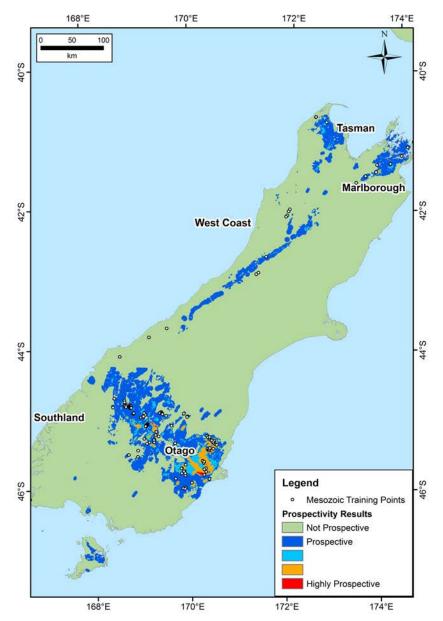


Figure 3.11 Orogenic shear zone Au – Mesozoic mineralisation results showing the most prospective areas in red, moderately prospective areas in orange and light blue and areas above the prior probability in dark blue over the extent of the study area (after Kenex [2011]).

| Table 3.35 | Orogenic shear zone Au – Mesozoic model occurrences in the Haast Schist and Mesozoic greywacke |
|------------|--|
| | (data modified after Brathwaite and Pirajno [1993]). Minerals: aspy = arsenopyrite; Bi sulf = bismuth |
| | sulfides; bourn = bournonite; cp = chalcopyrite; gn = galena; py = pyrite; sb = stibnite; sch = scheelite; |
| | sp = sphalerite. |

| Region | Occurrence | MM ¹ | GERM ² | Production (t) | Deposit Form | Minerals Major (minor) | Host Rocks |
|---------------|-------------------------------|-----------------|----------------------|-------------------|----------------------|------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| | Galatea | C25 | R27/e67 | Very small | Au quartz veins | Gold | Argillite |
| Wellington | Terawhiti Ridge | C26 | Q27/e12, 13 | Very small | Au quartz veins | py, gold | Greywacke, argillite |
| Welli | Breakneck Ridge, Terawhiti | C27 | - | Very small | Au quartz veins | Gold | Greywacke, argillite |
| | Bakers Hill | C28 | R27/e79 | Very small | Au quartz veins | Gold | Greywacke, argillite |
| | Ravenscliff | C29 | - | Very small | Au quartz veins | Gold | Quartzofeldspathic chlorite schist |
| | Golden Point | C31 | - | Very small | Au quartz veins | Gold | Quartzofeldspathic chlorite schist |
| цbr | Waikakaho | C32 | - | Very small | Au quartz veins | Gold | Quartzofeldspathic chlorite schist |
| Marlborough | Wakamarina | C33 | O27/e592, O28/e20 | Very small | W–Au quartz veins | sch, py, gold | Quartzofeldspathic chlorite schist |
| Ма | Sutherlands | C35 | O28/e613 | Very small | Au–W quartz veins | sch, gold | Quartzofeldspathic chlorite schist |
| | Jubilee | C36 | O28/e16, 612 | Very small | Au quartz veins | Gold | Quartzofeldspathic chlorite schist |
| | Top Valley | C37 | O28/e615 | Very small | W–Au quartz veins | sch, (aspy, py, sb) | Quartzofeldspathic chlorite schist |
| | Poerua | C38 | K32/e83 | 0.001 Au | Au quartz veins | po, cp, (gold) | Quartzofeldspathic garnet schist |
| | Taipo Corner | C39 | K33/e53 | - | Au quartz veins | py, (gold) | Schistose greywacke |
| Alps | McQuilkans Reef | C40 | K33/e54 | - | Au quartz veins | py, cp, hm, (gold) | Chlorite schist |
| Southern Alps | Gold Creek, Taipo River | C41 | - | - | Au quartz veins | py, (gold) | Metagreywacke |
| Sou | Wilsons Reward | C42 | K33/e51 | - | Au quartz veins | py, cp, (gold) | Greywacke, argillite |
| | Fiddes Reef | C43 | K33/e50 | - | Au quartz veins | py, cp, (gold) | Greywacke, argillite |
| | Pfahlerts Reef | C44 | K33/e49 | - | Au quartz veins | py, cp, hm, (gold) | Greywacke, argillite |

| Region | Occurrence | MM ¹ | GERM ² | Production (t) | Deposit Form | Minerals Major (minor) | Host Rocks |
|--------|----------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|----------------------|-------------------------------------|---|
| | Bullendale, Skippers | C62 | | 1.089 | Au quartz veins | py, aspy, gold, (cp) | Pelitic schist and greenschist |
| | Copper Creek, Skippers | C63 | E41/e115– | Very small | Au quartz veins | py, sb, gold | Pelitic schist and greenschist |
| | Crystal Reef, Skippers | C64 | 121, 123; F41/e58, | 0.05 Au | Au quartz veins | aspy, py, gold | Pelitic schist and greenschist |
| | Skippers Reef, Skippers | C65 | 118 | 0.07 Au | Au quartz veins | py, aspy, gold | Pelitic schist and greenschist |
| | Cotters Creek, Skippers | C66 | | Very small | Au quartz veins | py, aspy, gold | Pelitic schist and greenschist |
| | Macetown Field | C68 | F41/e25– 33, 35–57 | 1.283 Au | Au quartz veins | py, gold, (aspy) | Pelitic schist and greenschist |
| | Arrow Field | C69 | F41/e59, 61–67 | 0.044 Au | Au quartz veins | py, gold | Quartzofelspathic and pelitic chlorite schist |
| | Carrick Field | C71 | F41/e17; F42/e2–25 | 0.453 Au | Au quartz veins | py, gold, aspy, ±sb, (sp, cp) | Quartzofelspathic chlorite schist |
| Otago | Bendigo Field | C72 | G41/e16, 17 | 5.039 Au | Au quartz veins | aspy, gold, (gn, sp) | Quartzofelspathic chlorite schist |
| Ŏ | Alta | C73 | G41/e19 | Very small | Au-W quartz veins | sch, gold | Quartzofelspathic chlorite schist |
| | Rise and Shine | C74 G41/e20 | | - | Au quartz veins | py, aspy, gold | Quartzofelspathic chlorite schist |
| | Conroys | C75 | G42/e88 | 0.017 Au | Au quartz veins | py, gold | Quartzofelspathic and pelitic chlorite schist |
| | Whites Reef | C76 | G42/e24 | 0.205 Au | Au quartz veins | py, gold | Quartzofelspathic and pelitic chlorite schist |
| | Nicholsons Reef | C77 | G42/e26 | Small | Au quartz veins | aspy, gold, (sch) | Quartzofelspathic chlorite schist |
| | Ophir | C78 | G41/e90 | 0.038 Au | Au quartz veins | py, gold | Quartzofelspathic chlorite schist |
| | Rough Ridge (Oturehua) | C79 | H41/e18, e72 | 0.147 Au | Au quartz veins | py, aspy, gold, (sp, bourn) | Quartzofelspathic chlorite schist |
| | Golden Gully | C81 | H43/e8 | 0.007 Au | Au quartz veins | py, gold | Quartzofelspathic chlorite schist |
| | Nunns (Mareburn) | C82 | l42/e76 | 0.020 Au | Au-W quartz veins | sch, gold | Quartzofelspathic chlorite schist |

| Region | Occurrence | MM ¹ | GERM ² | Production (t) | Deposit Form | Minerals Major (minor) | Host Rocks |
|--------|---------------------------------|-----------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------|---|---------------------------------------|---|
| | Macraes field | C83 | l42/e14, 28, 29, 46, 49, 53, 56 | ~640 W 3.331 Au | Au–W quartz veins and Au disseminated | py, aspy, sch, gold | Quartzofelspathic and pelitic (graphitic) chlorite schist |
| | Bonanza | C84 | l43/e18 | 0.062 Au | Au quartz veins | py, gold | Quartzofelspathic chlorite schist |
| | Nenthorn | C85 | l43/e23, 27–32 | 0.112 Au | Au quartz veins | py, sb, gold, (sp, Bi sulf, gn) | Quartzofelspathic chlorite schist |
| | Barewood | C86 | l43/e25, 34, 36 | 0.420 Au 12 W | Au–W | py, sch, sb, gold, (gn) | Quartzofelspathic chlorite schist |
| | Hindon | n C87 l43/e24 | | 0.049 Au | Au quartz veins | py, sb, gold | Quartzofelspathic chlorite schist |
| ob | Saddle Hill | C88 | l44/e38 | 0.016 Au | Au quartz veins | py, sch, gold | Quartzofelspathic chlorite schist |
| Otago | Bootlemans, Waipori | C89 | H44/e1 | Very small | Au quartz veins | gold | Quartzofelspathic chlorite schist |
| | Cosmopolitan- Cox's, Waipori | C92 | H44/e7 | Very small | Au–W quartz veins | gold, sch | Quartzofelspathic chlorite schist |
| | Bella, Waipori | C94 | H44/e8 | Very small | Au–W quartz veins | gold, sch | Quartzofelspathic chlorite schist |
| | ABC-Nuggety Gully, Waipori | C95 | H44/e42 | Very small | Au quartz veins | gold | Quartzofelspathic chlorite schist |
| | QPC-Canton Waipori | C96 | H44/e12 | 0.421 Au | Au quartz veins | py, aspy, gold | Quartzofelspathic chlorite schist |
| | Gabriels Gully | C99 | H44/e13 | 0.035 | Au quartz veins | gold | Pelitic chlorite schist |
| | Canada-Ocean View | C100 | H45/e8 | 0.110 | Au quartz veins | py, gold, (gn) | Quartzofelspathic chlorite schist |

¹ MM = Metallogenic map code (Brathwaite and Pirajno 1993).

² GERM = Geological Resource Map code.

Key References: Brathwaite and Pirajno (1993); Craw and MacKenzie (2016); Allibone et al. (2017, 2018b); Christie (2019); Grant et al. (2024).

3.8.5 Low-Sulfidation Epithermal Au–Ag Deposits

3.8.5.1 International Mineral Deposit Model

Features of the Low-sulfidation epithermal Au–Ag mineral deposit model are listed in Table 3.36.

 Table 3.36
 Features of international mineral deposit models equivalent to the Low-sulfidation epithermal Au–Ag mineral deposit model.

| International Mine | ral Deposit Model – Low-Sulfidation Epithermal Au–Ag |
|---------------------------|--|
| Reference | USGS model 25c Comstock epithermal veins (Cox and Singer 1986) and BCGS model H05 Epithermal Au–Ag: low sulfidation (Lefebure and Höy 1996). Hot spring Au–Ag sub-class: USGS model 25a Hot-spring Au–Ag (Cox and Singer 1986); and BCGS model H03 Hot-spring Au–Ag (Lefebure and Höy 1996). |
| Description | Au + Ag ± Zn ± Pb ± Cu-bearing quartz veins, quartz vein stockworks and hydrothermal breccias hosted in andesitic, dacitic and rhyolitic lavas, breccias and tuffs, and adjacent basement sedimentary rocks, typically greywacke. The deposits form at depths between ~1500 m and the surface. The main ore minerals are electrum and acanthite with ubiquitous pyrite, and some deposits contain significant sphalerite, galena and chalcopyrite at depth. Quartz and calcite are the main gangue minerals, with Mn-carbonate, adularia and inesite present in some deposits. Bladed quartz and quartz pseudomorphous after calcite lattice textures are common in some veins. A Hot spring Au–Ag sub-class consists of deposits formed in the uppermost parts of epithermal systems that develop mineralised siliceous caps a few metres to hundreds of metres below surface, with subaerial siliceous sinter deposits at the water table and hydrothermal eruption breccias above. The mineralogy is typically pyrite, marcasite, electrum, stibnite, sulfosalt minerals, realgar and cinnabar in a gangue mineral assemblage of quartz and chalcedony, calcite, dolomite and barite. |
| International Examples | Comstock, Nevada (USA); Guanajuato (low Au:Ag ratio), Mexico; Hishikari (Japan). Hot spring examples include: McLaughlin, California; Round Mountain, Nevada; Delamar, Idaho (USA); Fruta del Norte (Ecuador). |
| Grade-Tonnage Model | See Lefebure and Höy et al. (1996, Table 9) for BCGS model H05. The median size of 41 low-sulfidation deposits listed for USGS model 25c was 0.77 Mt at 7.5 g/t Au and 110 g/t Ag (186,000 oz Au and 2,723,000 oz Ag) (Cox and Singer 1986). These figures are compiled from historic mining of small high-grade deposits and may be underestimates. |

3.8.5.2 New Zealand Occurrences of Low-Sulfidation Epithermal Au–Ag Deposits

Low-sulfidation epithermal Au–Ag deposits occur associated with Miocene to Recent volcanism in the Northland, Coromandel and Taupō volcanic zones (Figure 3.12), although all gold production has been from the Hauraki Goldfield in the Coromandel Volcanic Zone. In the Taupō Volcanic Zone, gold and silver deposition is occurring in active geothermal systems and provides key insights into epithermal processes that have aided gold exploration in New Zealand and elsewhere.

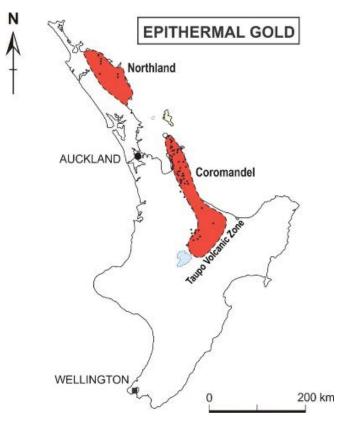


Figure 3.12 Location of epithermal gold deposits, North Island.

The Hauraki Goldfield, which extends southwards from Great Barrier Island to Muirs Reef near Te Puke (Figures 3.13 and 3.14), contains about 50 known epithermal Au–Ag quartz vein deposits that produced about 44 Moz of Au–Ag bullion between the 1860s and 1952, mostly from veins hosted by Miocene andesite and dacite. Miocene–Pliocene rhyolitic rocks host some deposits, but these were generally small producers. A new phase of mining commenced in 1988 at Waihi (Martha open pit), followed by Golden Cross in 1991, Favona in 2000, Trio (with Amaranth and Union) in 2003, Correnso in 2009 and continues today with underground mining under the Martha open pit. Characteristic features and a mineral systems exploration model for epithermal deposits in the Hauraki Goldfield was described by Christie (2019).

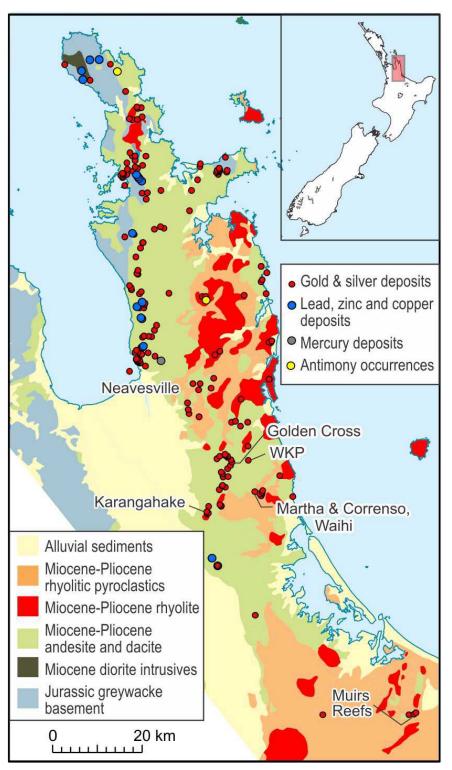


Figure 3.13 Geology and location of epithermal Au–Ag mines and prospects in the Coromandel Volcanic Zone – Hauraki Goldfield (after Christie et al. [2019]).

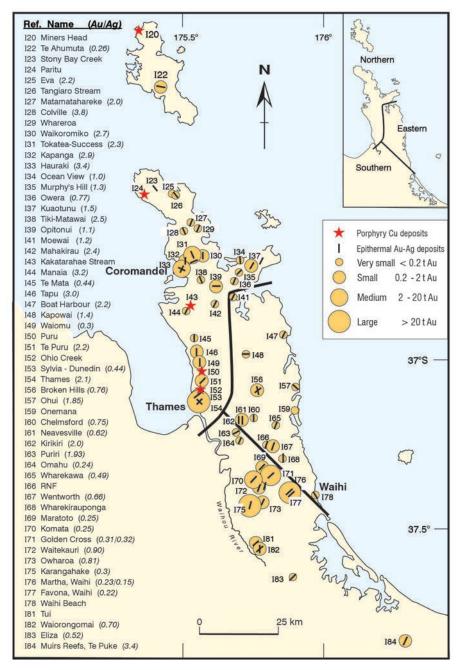


Figure 3.14 Relative size of past Au–Ag production, Au:Ag ratios and dominant vein orientation of epithermal Au–Ag deposits of the Hauraki Goldfield (after Christie et al. [2019]). The direction of bar symbols shows the dominant strike of veins. Deposit reference codes are from Brathwaite and Pirajno (1993). Inset map shows broad geographic groupings of deposits into northern, southern and eastern provinces based on mineralisation style described by Christie et al. (2006a, 2007).

In the Hauraki Goldfield, Au–Ag mineralised quartz veins generally dip steeply, strike N–ENE and are 1–5 m wide (rarely up to 30 m wide) and up to 800 m in length. Historically, these were mined over a vertical interval of 170–330 m but were mined up to 700 m at Karangahake and 600 m at Waihi. Individual deposits occur as vein systems occupying areas up to 3 km² (e.g. Waihi and Karangahake) that are surrounded by areas of up to 14 km² of hydrothermally altered rocks. The gold mostly occurs as electrum and is associated with pyrite, and, in some veins, various Ag-, Cu-, Pb- and Zn- sulfides and sulfosalts; selenides and tellurides. Silver to gold ratios are typically 1:1 to 10:1, but are much higher in the Ag-rich deposits at Te Ahumata and Maratoto. Base metal-rich mineralisation is present at the Tui Mine, which was mined for Pb-Zn-Cu during 1967–1972. Mineral exploration in the Hauraki Goldfield was reviewed by Barker and Christie (2016a).

The Martha mine is the largest producer, with 35 Moz of Au–Ag bullion produced from underground workings between 1878 and 1952 (Brathwaite and Faure 2002). The mine was re-opened in 1988 as an open pit. Four major veins (Martha, Welcome, Empire and Royal) and numerous smaller veins strike in a north-easterly direction and form a braided vein system over 2.5 km long by 600 m wide, extending to a depth of over 600 m. Several other vein systems have also been found in the Waihi area. Historical mining at Union Hill south of Martha focused on the Union and Amaranth veins. Underground mining has been on new discoveries of the Favona (-Moonlight), Trio and Correnso vein systems (Torckler et al. 2016) and more recently on veins adjacent and beneath the Marth open pit (Maton et al. 2021).

Small quantities of ore-grade gold and silver have been and are actively being deposited by geothermal fluids in several geothermal fields of the Taupō Volcanic Zone, including Ohaaki (Broadlands), Rotokawa, Waiotapu and Kawerau (Figure 3.15). Gold-silver mineralisation is also present in fossil geothermal systems in the Taupō Volcanic Zone, with 12 prospects identified and explored to date (Barker and Christie 2016b). Most drilling has been at the Ohakuri prospect.

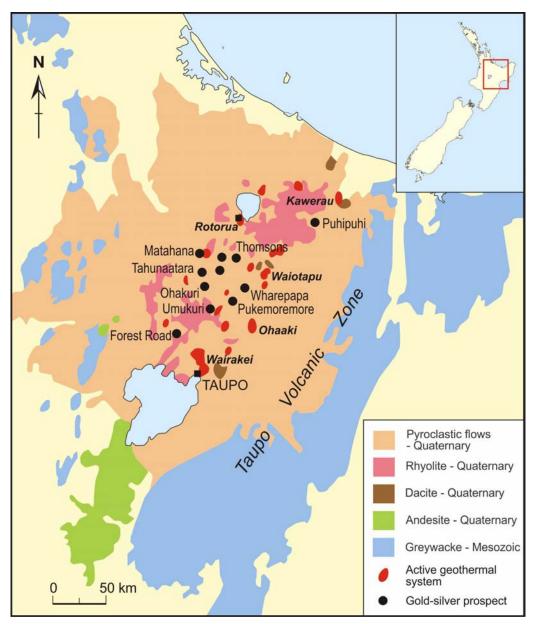


Figure 3.15 Geology and location of epithermal Au–Ag prospects and geothermal fields in the Taupō Volcanic Zone (after Christie et al. [2019]).

Ten hot-springs-type epithermal deposits have been explored in Northland (Barker and Christie 2016c). Small quantities of silver and mercury have been produced at Puhipuhi, north of Whangārei, and mercury at Ngawha, near Kaikohe (Figure 3.16). Reconnaissance drilling to intersect feeder quartz veins at Puhipuhi intersected potentially economic gold grades (Grieve et al. 2006; Beach and Hobbins 2016).

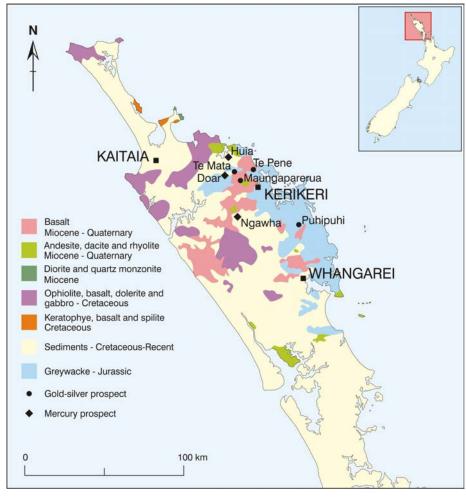


Figure 3.16 Geology and location of epithermal Au–Ag deposits and prospects in Northland (after Christie et al. [2019]).

Exploration highlights: From the 1980s, there has been a succession of new vein discoveries at Golden Cross and in the Waihi area that have since been mined. Significant resources have been discovered at the Wharekirauponga deposit north of Waihi, and the development of a new gold-silver mine is being investigated.

Current exploration: Exploration in the Hauraki Goldfield is currently being carried out by a number of companies, including OceanaGold (Dome Field, Twin Hills, Neavesville, Wharekirauponga, Waihi North and Golden Cross prospects), Reefton Gold (Rua Gold; Glamorgan prospect), Cladan Industries (Waihi East prospect), Nimitz Resources (Muirs Reefs prospect) and Midway Resources (Muirs area).

In Northland, exploration is being carried out by Mineralogy International on the Hazelbrook, Pungaere and Puhipuhi prospects.

In the Taupō Volcanic Zone, companies actively exploring include Bathurst Minerals, Green Energy Minerals (Maroa prospect), Mineralogy International (Paeroa Range, Whirinaki and Reporoa prospects) and Zedex Gold (Ohakuri and Forest Road prospects).

Production and resources: The mines in Waihi produce about 3700 kg Au (120,000 oz Au) and 7800 kg Ag (250,000 oz Ag) annually. Reported resource estimates are listed in Table 3.37.

| (A) Reserves – JOR | 2 | | | | | | | | |
|--------------------------------|------------|----------|----------|----------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------|----------|--|--------------------------------------|
| Drojact Area | | Probab | le | | Pro | ven and | | Deference | |
| Project Area | (Mt) | (Au g/t) | (Ag g/t) | (Mt) | (Au g/t) | (Ag g/t) | (Au Moz) | (Ag Moz) | Reference |
| Martha Underground | 3.30 | 4.51 | 15 | 3.30 | 4.51 | 15 | 0.48 | 1.5 | OceanaGold (2024) |
| (B) Resources – JOF | RC | | | | | | - | | _ |
| Project Area | | Indicate | ed | | Inferre | d | Тс | otal | Reference |
| Project Area | (Mt) | (Au g/t) | (Ag g/t) | (Mt) | (Au g/t) | (Ag g/t) | (Au Moz) | (Ag Moz) | Reference |
| Wharekirauponga | 2.0 | 15.9 | 25.3 | 1.2 | 9.0 | 17 | 1.41 | 1.3 | OceanaGold (2024) |
| Martha Underground | 6.4 | 5.43 | 23.0 | 3.1 | 4.7 | 24 | 1.62 | 7.2 | OceanaGold (2024) |
| Martha and Gladstone open pits | 7.2 | 1.73 | 12.7 | 5.7 | 1.7 | 16 | 0.7 | 5.9 | OceanaGold (2024) |
| Talisman, Karangahake | - | - | - | - | - | - | 0.350 | - | New Talisman Gold Mines (2022) |
| (C) Resources – Est | imates | 5 | | | | | | | |
| Project Area | Αι | ı Moz | Ag M | oz | Resourc | се Туре | | Reference | es |
| Monowai | 0 | .169 | 0.92 | 1 | Resource 'defined a | es and estima | ted' | Roberts (19 | 989) |
| Thames area | 0 | .894 | 0.500 | | Resources 'defined and estimated' | | | Mineral Resources of New Zealand (1998) | |
| Neavesville | 0 | .260 | 0.86 | 8 | - | | | ACM NZ Lt (Barker and | d d Christie 2016a) |
| Scotia, Waitekauri | 0 | .146 | 0.10 | 0 | Resource | es (inferrec | I) | Couper (19 | 81a, 1982, 1983) |
| Maoriland, Waitekauri | 0.096 0.57 | | 0 | Resource | es (inferrec | Couper (19 | 81b) | | |
| Waiorongomai | 0 | 0.045 | | 0.270 | | es (inferrec Zn, Cu) | 1) | Bates (1989b) | |
| Muirs | 0 | .219 | - | | Resource (inferred | es resources) | | Grieve (20 ⁻ | 13) |

Occurrences of Low-sulfidation epithermal Au–Ag deposits are listed in Table 3.38.

Table 3.38Low-sulfidation epithermal Au-Ag model occurrences (data modified after Brathwaite and Pirajno
[1993]). Minerals: ac = acanthite; Ag sulf = silver sulfosalts; As = native arsenic; aspy = arsenopyrite;
Au = native gold; Au-Ag-As-Se sulfosalts = gold-silver-arsenic-selenium sulfosalts ; Bi sulf = bismuth
sulfides; bourn = bournonite; cin = cinnabar; cp = chalcopyrite; cup = cuprite; el = electrum; gn =
galena; hes = hessite; Hg = native mercury; marc = marcasite; orp = orpiment; po = pyrrhotite; proust
= proustite; py = pyrite; pyrarg = pyrargyrite; real = realgar; sb = stibnite; sch = scheelite; sp =
sphalerite; tel = tellurides; td = tetrahedrite.

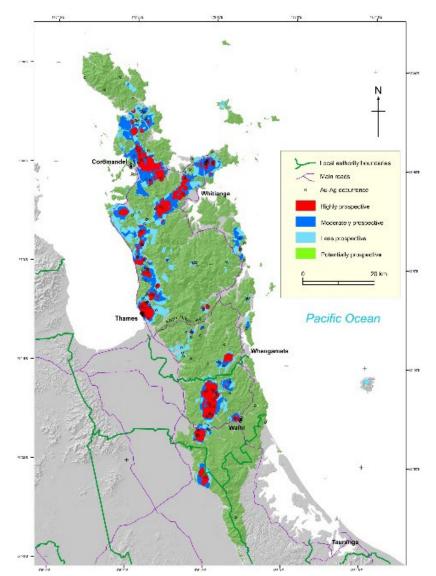
| Region | Occurrence | MM ¹ | GERM ² | Production (t) | Deposit Form | Minerals Major (minor) | Host Rocks |
|------------|---|----------------------|--------------------|-------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|
| | Huia (Hazelbrook including Toolshed and Backyard) | - | P04/e56, 57) | - | Quartz veins | - | - |
| | Te Pene | 14 | P04/e52 | - | Quartz veins | sb, aspy | Greywacke |
| | Te Mata | 18 | P04/e53, e59 | - | Quartz veins | As, orp, real, py, marc | Siltstone, greywacke |
| g | Ngawha | 112 | P05/e92 | 33 Hg | Stratabound, disseminated | cin, hg, sb, real | Lake beds, basalt |
| hlan | Waikaire | - | Q05/e27 | - | Quartz veins | sb | Greywacke |
| Northland | Puketotara | - | P05/e110 | - | Quartz veins | cin, cp, sp, py, marc | Basalt and interbedded lacustrine sediments |
| | Parekura | - | Q05/e18 | - | Quartz veins | | Greywacke |
| | Puhipuhi | 114 | - | 0.042 Ag | Quartz veins | marc, py, proust, (td, cp) | Silicified greywacke |
| | Puhipuhi | I15 | Q06/e73 | 55 Hg | Stratabound | cin, marc, py, sb | Sinter, silicified greywacke |
| | Te Ahumata | 122 | S09/e1 | 1.295 Ag–Au | Quartz veins | py, pyrarg, el, sb, Ag sulfosalts | Rhyolite, andesite and porphyry |
| | Eva | 125 | S10/e3 | 0.015 Au–Ag | Quartz vein | el | Andesite |
| Goldfield | Tangiaro Stream | 126 | T10/e12 | - | Quartz vein | py, aspy, (td, cp, sp, el) | Andesite |
| Hauraki Go | Matamataharakeke | Matamataharakeke I27 | | 0.001 Au–Ag | Quartz veins | py, aspy, el | Andesite tuffs and breccias |
| Hau | Colville | 128 | T10/e23, 25, 26 | 0.021 Au–Ag | Quartz veins | py, aspy, el | Rhyolite flows and tuffs |
| | Whareoa | 129 | T10/e33 | 0.010 Au–Ag | Quartz veins | aspy, (el, cp, sp, gn) | Andesite tuffs |
| | Waikoromiko | 130 | T10/e71 | 0.409 Au–Ag | Quartz veins | py, el | Andesite |

| Region | Occurrence | MM ¹ | GERM ² | Production (t) | Deposit Form | Minerals Major (minor) | Host Rocks |
|-------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------|-----------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| | Tokatea – Success | 131 | T10/e27, 29, 31, 69 | 3.940 Au–Ag | Quartz veins | py, el, (hes, sp, gn) | Andesite, greywacke |
| | Royal Oak, Coromandel | - | T10/e69 | - | Quartz veins | py, el | Greywacke |
| | Kapanga, Coromandel | 132 | T10/e20 | 2.299 Au–Ag | Quartz veins | py, aspy, el | Andesite breccias and flows |
| | Hauraki, Coromandel | 133 | T10/e14–17 | 5.121 Au–Ag | Quartz veins | py, aspy, el, sb | Andesite breccias and flows |
| | Preceeces Point | - | T11/e13 | - | Quartz veins | py, el | Andesitic tuff and lava flows |
| | Whangapoua (Lillis) | - | T10/e35 | - | Quartz veins | py, el, Au | Andesite, tuff and breccia |
| | Ocean View, Matarangi | 134 | T10/el37, 38 | 0.487 Au–Ag | Quartz veins | el | Andesite |
| | Murphys Hill | 135 | T11/e36 | 0.002 Au–Ag | Quartz veins | el | Andesite |
| Hauraki Goldfield | Owera | 136 | | 0.069 Au–Ag | Quartz veins | el | Andesite |
| | Kuaotunu | 137 | T10/e39– 43, 48 | 2.969 Au–Ag | Quartz veins | py, el, (aspy, po, sp, gn) | Andesite, greywacke |
| | Tiki-Matawai | 138 | T11/e75, 76 | 0.336 Au–Ag | Quartz veins | py, el, (sp, cp, gn, sb) | Greywacke |
| Ϋ́ | Opitonui | 139 | T11/e31 | 0.968 Au–Ag | Quartz veins | el | Andesite |
| | Moewai | I41 | T11/e78 | 0.003 Au–Ag | Quartz veins | el | Andesite |
| | Mahakirau | 142 | T11/e29, 30, 33 | 0.017 Au–Ag | Quartz veins | py, sb, el | Andesite flows and tuffs |
| | Manaia River | 144 | T11/e23, 28 | 0.009 Au–Ag | Quartz veins | py, el | Greywacke |
| | Te Mata | 145 | T11/e20– 22, 24–27 | 0.007 Au–Ag | Quartz veins | el | Andesite |
| | Тари | 146 | T11/e15, 16, 18, 56, 68 | 0.472 Au–Ag | Quartz veins | py, el | Andesite, greywacke |
| | Boat Harbour | 147 | T11/e37 | 0.003 Au–Ag | Quartz veins | py, el | Andesite, greywacke |
| | Kapowai | I48 | T11/e34, 35, 47 | 0.192 Au–Ag | Quartz veins | py, el | Rhyolite tuffs and flows |
| | Te Puru | I51 | T12/e20, 22–24, 88 | 0.487 Au–Ag | Quartz veins | py, el | Andesite flows and breccias |
| | Sylvia-Dunedin | 153 | T12/e36, 46, 47 | 5.403 Au–Ag | Quartz veins | py, gn, sp, cp, el | Andesite |

| Region | Occurrence | MM ¹ | GERM ² | Production (t) | Deposit Form | Minerals Major (minor) | Host Rocks |
|-------------------|------------------|-----------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------------------------|--|---|
| | Thames | 154 | T12/e17, 22, 54, 69–85, 87 | 67.095 Au–Ag | Quartz veins | py, pyrarg, el, sb, (sp, cp, td, tel) | Andesite flows and breccias |
| | Ohui | 157 | T12/e42, 43, 44 | 0.007 Au–Ag | Quartz veins | py, el | Rhyolite |
| | Broken Hills | 156 | T12/e37 | 1.716 Au–Ag | Quartz veins and breccia pipe | py, marc, ac, el, (Au-Ag-As-Se sulfosalts) | Rhyolite |
| | Golden Hills | 156 | T12/e35 | | | | |
| | Onemana | 159 | T12/e90, 93 | - | hydrothermal breccia | py, el | Rhyolite, rhyolite breccia |
| | Chelmsford | 160 | T12/e34 | 0.097 Au–Ag | Quartz veins | el | Andesite |
| | Neavesville | l61 | T12/e30, 31 | 0.097 Au–Ag | Quartz veins | py, el, mrc, (cp) | Rhyolite tuffs, andesite |
| | Kirikiri | 162 | T12/e29 | 0.017 Au–Ag | Quartz veins | el | Andesite |
| | Puriri | 163 | T12/e26 | 0.050 Au–Ag | Quartz veins | py, el | Andesite |
| | Omahu | 164 | T12/e27, 28, 32 | 0.062 Au–Ag | Quartz veins | py, el | Andesite |
| oldfield | Wharekawa | 165 | - | 0.410 Au–Ag | Quartz veins | el | Rhyolitic pyroclastics |
| Hauraki Goldfield | RNF | 166 | T12/e91 | - | Quartz veins | py, el | Rhyolitic pyroclastics, andesite |
| - | Wentworth | 167 | T12/e40, 41 | 0.516 Au–Ag | Quartz veins | py, el | Andesite |
| | Wharekirauponga | 168 | T12/e45 | 0.001 Au–Ag | Quartz veins | py, el | Rhyolite flows and tuffs |
| | Waiharakeke | _ | T13/e6 | - | Quartz veins | - | Dacite flows and tuff |
| | Maratoto group | 169 | T13/e29, 34, 43–46 | 5.972 Au–Ag | Quartz veins | py, marc, gn, sp, cp, ac, hes, el | Andesite breccias and flows |
| | Komata | 170 | T13/e27 | 16,668 Au–Ag | Quartz veins | py, ac, el, (sp, gn, cp) | Rhyolite, andesite breccias and flows |
| | Golden Cross | 171 | T13/e41, 42 | 12,204 Au–Ag | Quartz veins | py, marc, el, ac, (pyrarg) | Andesite and dacite lavas and pyroclastics |
| | Waitekauri group | 172 | T13/e28, 30, 33, 37, 38, 40 | 4.437 Au–Ag | Quartz veins | py, cp, gn, sp, el | Andesite and dacite breccia |

| Region | Occurrence | MM ¹ | GERM ² | Production (t) | Deposit Form | Minerals Major (minor) | Host Rocks |
|---------------------|------------------------------|-----------------|--------------------|------------------------------|--|------------------------------------|--|
| ield | Owharoa | 173 | T13/e31 | 3.865 Au–Ag | Quartz veins | py, marc, ac, el, (cin) | Dacite and rhyodacite |
| | Rahu | - | T13/e57 | - | Quartz veins | py, marc, ac, el | Rhyolitic tuff and sediment |
| | Karangahake | 175 | T13/e58, 59, 61 | 126,712 Au–Ag | Quartz veins | py, sp, gn, cp, el, ac | Andesite breccias and flows overlain by rhyolite lava |
| | Martha, Waihi | 176 | T13/e47–52 | 1122.223 Au–Ag | Quartz veins | py, sp, gn, el, ac | Quartz andesite flows and breccias |
| Hauraki Goldfield | Union Hill, Waihi | 177 | - | 4.376 Au–Ag | Quartz veins | py, cp, gn, sp, ac | Andesite flows |
| ki G | Favona | - | T13/e52 | - | Quartz veins | py, cp, gn, sp, ac | Andesite flows |
| aura | Corenso | - | - | - | Quartz veins | py, cp, gn, sp, ac | Andesite flows |
| Ha | Waihi Beach | 178 | U13/e1 | 0.001 Au–Ag | Quartz veins | py, el | Rhyolite |
| | Tui | 181 | T13/e53 | 7291 Zn 4424 Pb 404 Cu | Quartz veins | sp, gn, cp, py, (marc, td, cin) | Andesite flows and pyroclastics |
| | Waiorongomai | 182 | T13/e54 | 2.123 Au–Ag | Quartz veins | py, cp, gn, sp, el | Dacite, andesite flows |
| | Eliza | 183 | T14/e100 | 0.001 Au–Ag | Quartz veins | py, el, (sp, gl, cp) | Andesite |
| | Muirs Reefs (Te Puke) | 184 | U14/e100, 101 | 1.685 Au–Ag | Quartz veins | py, el | Andesite overlain by rhyolite |
| Taupō Volcanic Zone | Puhipuhi or Goldmine Hill | - | V16/e12 | - | Quartz veins | py (el, ac) | Dacite |
| | Horohoro | 190 | - | - | Chalcedony lens, sinter | ру | Sinter, pumice, sand and gravel |
| | Matahana | - | - | - | Silicified breccia, quartz veins | ру | Ignimbrite, breccia |
| | Thomsons | - | - | - | Quartz veins, sinter | ру | lgnimbrite rhyolite |
| | Ohakuri | 193 | U17/e105 | - | Quartz and pyrite veins | ру | Ignimbrite |
| | Wharepapa | - | - | - | Quartz veins | ру | Ignimbrite |
| | Umukuri | - | - | - | Sinter, veins | ру | Ignimbrite |
| | Forest Road | - | - | - | Quartz veins | ру | Ignimbrite |

¹ MM = Metallogenic map code (Brathwaite and Pirajno 1993).



Opportunities: Crown Minerals (2003) mapped and ranked prospectivity based on a GIS-based study of research and exploration data (Figure 3.17).

Figure 3.17 Prospectivity map for epithermal gold-silver deposits in the Coromandel Peninsula, Hauraki Goldfield (modified after Rattenbury and Partington [2003]).

Key References: Downey (1935); Brathwaite et al. (1989); Brathwaite and Pirajno (1993); Christie et al. (2007); Christie (2019).

3.8.6 Intermediate-Sulfidation Epithermal Vein Zn-Pb-Cu-Ag-Au

3.8.6.1 International Mineral Deposit Model

Features of the *Intermediate-sulfidation epithermal vein Zn-Pb-Cu-Ag-Au* model are listed in Table 3.39.

 Table 3.39
 Features of the Intermediate-sulfidation epithermal vein Zn-Pb-Cu-Ag-Au international mineral deposit model.

| International Mineral Deposit Model – Intermediate Sulfidation Epithermal Vein Zn-Pb-Cu-Ag-Au | | | | |
|---|--|--|--|--|
| Reference | USGS model 25b Creede epithermal veins (Cox and Singer 1986) | | | |
| Description | Sulfide-rich veins containing sphalerite, galena, silver sulfide and sulfosalt minerals in a quartz and carbonate gangue. These veins are typically hosted in volcanic rocks but can also be hosted by metasediments and subvolcanic intrusive rocks. The veins are typically steeply dipping, narrow, tabular or splayed. They commonly occur as sets of parallel and offset veins. Individual veins vary from centimetres up to more than 3 m wide and can be followed from a few hundred to more than 1000 m in length and depth. Veins may grade into broad zones of stockwork or breccia. | | | |
| International Examples | Comstock and Tonopah, Nevada; Creede, Colorado (USA); Fresnillo, Guanajuato, Pachuca and Tayoltita (Mexico); Casapalca and Finlansdia (Peru); Toyoha (Japan); Baguio (Philippines) | | | |
| Grade-Tonnage Model | There is no published grade-tonnage model. Among the largest deposits: Comstock Lode, USA, produced ~8.3 Moz Au and ~192 Moz Ag; Tayoltita, Mexico, produced 4.89 Moz Au and 305 Moz Ag; Tonopah, USA, produced ~1.86 Moz Au and ~174 Moz Ag; Creede, USA, produced ~0.15 Moz Au and ~84 Moz Ag; Guanajuato, Mexico, produced 5.14 Moz Au and 1.1 Goz Ag; Pachuca-Real del Monte district, Mexico, produced 6.4 Moz Au and 1.3 Goz Ag (John et al. 2018). Peñasquito prospect, Mexico, has pre-mining reserves of ~9.7 Moz Au, ~530 Moz Ag, ~1.7 Mt Pb and ~4.1 Mt Zn. | | | |

3.8.6.2 New Zealand Occurrences of Intermediate-Sulfidation Epithermal Vein Zn-Pb-Cu-Ag-Au Deposits

Some of the epithermal quartz vein deposits in the Hauraki Goldfield are rich in base metals (Table 3.40); note that some are also listed as low-sulfidation epithermal Au–Ag deposits in Table 3.38). Tui was mined during 1967–1972, producing zinc, lead, copper, silver and gold concentrates exported to Japan.

Table 3.40Intermediate-sulfidation epithermal Zn Pb-Cu-Ag-Au occurrences (data modified after Brathwaite
and Pirajno [1993]). Minerals: cin = cinnabar; cp = chalcopyrite; el = electrum; gn = galena; marc =
marcasite; py = pyrite; sp = sphalerite; td = tetrahedrite.

| Region | Occurrence | MM ¹ | GERM ² | Production (t) | Deposit Form | Minerals Major (minor) | Host Rocks |
|----------------------------------|---|-----------------|-----------------------------|-------------------|-----------------|---------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| | Stony Bay-Ongohi Stream, Paritu | 123 | S10/e5, 6, 8 | None | Quartz veins | gn, sp, cp, py | Quartz diorite, greywacke |
| | Petote and Aitken streams, Coromandel | - | T10/e50, 51, 52, T11/e46 | None | Quartz veins | gn, sp, cp, py | Greywacke |
| | Te Mata | - | T11/e20–22, 24–27 | - | Quartz veins | py, gn, sp, cp, el | Andesite flows and breccias |
| Hauraki Goldfield | Тари | - | T11/e15, 16, 18, 56, 68 | - | Quartz veins | py, gn, sp, cp, el | Andesite flows and breccias |
| (Coromandel Volcanic Zone) | Te Puru | I51 | T12/e20, 22– 24, 88 | 0.487 Au–Ag | Quartz veins | py, el | Andesite flows and breccias |
| 2010) | Sylvia | 153 | T12/e46 | 5.403 Au–Ag | Quartz veins | py, gn, sp, cp, el | Andesite |
| | Tui | 181 | T13/e53 | 7291 Zn | Quartz veins | sp, gn, cp, py, (marc, td, cin) | Andesite flows and pyroclastics |
| | Wairorongomai | 182 | T13/e54 | 2.123 Au–Ag | Quartz veins | py, cp, gn, sp, el | Dacite, andesite flows |

¹ MM = Metallogenic map code (Brathwaite and Pirajno 1993).

² GERM = Geological Resource Map code.

3.8.7 High-Sulfidation Epithermal Au–Ag

3.8.7.1 International Mineral Deposit Model

Features of the *High-sulfidation epithermal Au–Ag* mineral deposit model are listed in Table 3.41.

Table 3.41Features of international mineral deposit models equivalent to the High-sulfidation epithermal Au–Ag
model used in this report.

| International Mineral Deposit Model – High-Sulfidation Epithermal Au–Ag | | | | |
|---|---|--|--|--|
| Reference | USGS model 25e Epithermal quartz-alunite Au (Cox and Singer 1986); and BCGS model H04 Epithermal Au-Ag-Cu: high sulfidation (Lefebure and Höy 1996). | | | |
| Description High-sulfidation, acid-sulfate or quartz-alunite deposits are characterised by the presence of sulfide minerals with a high sulfur/metal ratio, such as enargite/luze tetrahedrite. They are associated with calcalkalic andesite, dacite and rhyodacit were probably formed within or below stratovolcanoes and above porphyry copy systems. Advanced argillic alteration with alunite and pyrophyllite, as well as active leached rock represented by 'vugg', 'slaggy', residual silica are characteristic. | | | | |
| International Examples | Goldfield, Nevada; Summitville, Colorado (USA); Nansatsu (Japan); El Indio (Chile); Temora, New South Wales (Australia); Yanacocha (Peru); Pueblo Viejo (Dominica); Lepanto and Nalesbitan (Philippines) | | | |
| Grade-Tonnage Model | Model 25e 50 th percentile = 1.6 Mt and 8.4 g/t Au and 18 g/t Ag (432,154 oz Au, 926,045 oz Ag), possible by-product Cu (Cox and Singer 1986). See also BCGS model H04 in which Panteleyev (Lefebure and Höy 1996) noted that underground mines range in size from 2 to 25 Mt, with grades from 178 g/t Au, 109 g/t Ag and 3.87% Cu (El Indio) to 2.8 g/t Au, 11.3 g/t Ag and 1.8% Cu (Lepanto), whereas open-pit mines typically grade about 4 g/t Au. Recently, some large high-sulfidation gold deposits have been developed in Peru, ranging in size up to the Yanacocha deposit, which contains more than 30 Moz of Au. | | | |

3.8.7.2 New Zealand Occurrences of High-Sulfidation Epithermal Au–Ag Deposits

There are no known unequivocal examples of *High-sulfidation epithermal Au–Ag* deposits in the Hauraki Goldfield, but the characteristic style of alteration associated with these deposits is present in Coromandel Group rocks at Lookout Rocks, Pumpkin Hill and Black Jack (Kuaotunu). Also, enargite, a characteristic mineral of high-sulfidation deposits, is present in some of the Thames veins.

Given the likely proximity to porphyry-copper-style mineralisation, high-sulfidation epithermal deposits are more likely to be found in the eastern parts of Northland and western parts of the Hauraki Goldfield because of their deeper levels of erosion, exposing the deeper style of mineralisation. There is also potential for undiscovered deposits buried beneath cover rocks.

3.8.8 Reduced-Granitic Intrusion-Related Au

3.8.8.1 International Mineral Deposit Model

Features of the *Reduced-granitic intrusion-related Au* mineral deposit model are listed in Table 3.42.

Table 3.42Features of international mineral deposit models equivalent to the *Reduced-granitic intrusion-related*
Au model used in this report.

| International Mineral Deposit Model – Reduced-Granitic Intrusion-Related Au | | | | |
|---|--|--|--|--|
| Reference | Reduced granitic intrusion-related Au (Thompson and Newberry 2000; Hart 2007); intrusion-related Au (Lang et al. 2000; Lang and Baker 2001; Hart 2005); granite-related Au deposits associated with W granites (Baker et al. 2005); BCGS model L02 Plutonic related Au quartz veins and veinlets (Lefebure and Hart 2005) | | | |
| Description | Quartz vein stockworks with Au-Bi-Mo-W-Sb ± Sn associated with moderately reduced (ilmenite-series) granites and granodiorites. The main metallic minerals are pyrrhotite, pyrite, arsenopyrite, molybdenite, scheelite and bismuth and telluride minerals. | | | |
| International Examples | Fort Knox, Alaska; Bald Mountain, Nevada (USA); Dublin Gulch and Scheelite Dome (intrusion-related gold deposit and skarn), Yukon (Canada); Timbarra, New South Wales (Australia); Morila in Mali and Bonikro in Côte d'Ivoire (both intrusion-related gold deposit over-printed with orogenic gold) (West Africa) | | | |
| Grade-Tonnage Model | The main example is Fort Knox, Alaska, which has resources of approximately 6.5 Moz Au. Other deposits include Donlin Creek (10.4 Moz Au), Vasilkovskoe (9.5 Moz Au), Pogo (4.9 Moz Au) and Kidston (4.5 Moz Au). | | | |

3.8.8.2 New Zealand Occurrences of Reduced-Granitic Intrusion-Related Au Deposits

There are no known examples of these types of deposits in New Zealand, with the one known intrusion-related gold deposit, Sams Creek, better classified as an alkali intrusion-related gold deposit (discussed in the next section).

In exploration for reduced granitic intrusion-related gold, GIS prospectivity modelling by Kenex using regional geochemical data revealed an association of Au and Bi in several granite intrusions of the West Coast region (Mustard and Partington 2005; Partington 2009). The Buller George, Mt Rangitoto and Mt Greenland areas were considered the most prospective. Past stream-sediment surveys (e.g. REGCHEM database; Christie and Stewart 2016) returned concentrations of up to 70 ppm Bi in the Buckland Granite and 150 ppm Bi in the Mt Rangitoto area. Follow-up sampling and analyses of granites from Mt Greenland and the Buckland granite by Auzex Resources identified bismuth and tellurium in analyses of disseminated pyrite and arsenopyrite (Mustard and Partington 2005).

3.8.9 Alkali Intrusion-Related Au

3.8.9.1 International Mineral Deposit Model

Features of the Alkali intrusion-related Au mineral deposit model are listed in Table 3.43.

 Table 3.43
 Features of the Alkali intrusion-related Au international mineral deposit model.

| International Mineral Deposit Model – Alkali Intrusion-Related Au | | | | |
|---|---|--|--|--|
| Reference | BCGS model H08 Alkalic Intrusion-related Au–Ag (Lefebure and Höy 1996). | | | |
| Description | Alkali intrusion-related gold deposits are typically magmatic-hydrothermal or phreatomagmatic pipe-like breccias associated with the intrusion of stocks, plugs, sills or dikes into a wide variety of host rocks ranging in age from Precambrian to Tertiary (Sillitoe 1991). As-Au-Ag \pm Zn \pm Pb mineralisation occurs in quartz-vein stockworks hosted by silicified and carbonate-altered alkalic intrusive rocks. The main metallic minerals are pyrite and arsenopyrite, with minor sphalerite, galena, gold, chalcopyrite, pyrrhotite and graphite. | | | |
| International Examples | Kidston and Mount Leyshon, Queensland (Australia); Montana Tunnels (26.6 Mt at 0.61 g/t Au), Golden Sunlight (42.8 Mt at 1.9 g/t) and Zortman Landusky (55.7 Mt at 0.68 g/t Au) Montana; Colosseum, California (USA). | | | |
| Grade-Tonnage Model | Montana Tunnels (26.6 Mt at 0.61 g/t Au), Golden Sunlight (42.8 Mt at 1.9 g/t) and Zortman Landusky (55.7 Mt at 0.68 g/t Au). | | | |

3.8.9.2 New Zealand Occurrences of Alkali Intrusion-Related Au Deposits

To date, only one deposit is known in New Zealand: Sams Creek (MM A15; GERM M26/e38) in west Nelson. The main features of the Sams Creek deposit and a mineral systems exploration model were described by Christie (2019). The mineralisation is hosted in a peralkaline granite dike emplaced in lower Paleozoic age sedimentary rocks (Tulloch 1992; Brathwaite et al. 2006; Faure and Brathwaite 2006). The porphyritic Sams Creek granite consists of phenocrysts of perthite, arfvedsonite-riebeckite amphibole and quartz, with accessory ilmenite and rutile (Faure and Brathwaite 2006; Tulloch and Dunlap 2006). The main phase of mineralisation consists of veins of gold-bearing arsenopyrite-pyrite-quartz-siderite, with minor galena, sphalerite, pyrrhotite and graphite.

There is uncertainty over the age of the dike and timing of gold mineralisation in relation to emplacement of the dike. Tulloch and Dunlap (2006) reported a Carboniferous age of 319 ± 8 Ma for the dike based on Ar-Ar dating of amphibole, whereas Phillips (2015) reported a Cretaceous age of 109 ± 9 Ma from U-Pb dating of zircon. The linking of mineralisation with D3 by Angus et al. (2016) suggests that mineralisation occurred well after dike emplacement, possibly related to a younger granite phase located deeper than the current depth drilled.

The dike is up to 60 m wide and has a strike length of c. 20 km. Most exploration to date has been on a 600-m-long zone known as the Main Zone.

Indicated and Inferred Resources at Sams Creek (consistent with the 2012 JORC Code), are estimated to be 8.9 Mt at 2.82 g/t Au for 807,772 oz Au (Siren Gold).

Key References: Brathwaite et al. (2006); Faure and Brathwaite (2006); Tulloch and Dunlap (2006); Phillips et al. (2013); Phillips (2014, 2015); Angus et al. (2016).

3.8.10 Gabbroid-Associated Au-Ni-Cu

This is a gold-rich version of the *Gabbroid-associated Au-Ni-Cu* model listed under Section 3.14. The gold is associated with disseminated sulfide mineralisation in mafic rocks.

The Asbestos Creek (M27/e21) and Meter Creek (M26/e43–45, 47 and M27/e22, 23) areas of the Takaka Valley contain Au-Cu-Ni mineralisation, with local Pt and/or Bi, which has been prospected by Kennecott (Smale 1971) and CRA (Stegman 1987, 1988a, 1988c). The mineralisation occurs within the Cambrian Devil River Volcanics as vein stockworks with pyrrhotite, chalcopyrite, pyrite and pentlandite. The host rocks comprise metasediments cut by diorite and porphyritic andesite dikes.

Otama Complex: A gold-bearing lode (at 6 g/t) was reported near the Otama Complex in the vicinity of Waikaia Hill (Stewart 1906). Traces of gold were also detected in a geochemical survey of the Otama Igneous Complex (Lay 1976). Locally derived gold from the Otama Igneous Complex has been suggested as a possible source for unusually coarse detrital flakes recovered at Charlton and Waimumu (MacArthur 1984; Mutch and Baker 1989).

Longwood Range: Gold-bearing quartz lodes were unsuccessfully worked in the 1870s to 1880s at several locations on the flanks of the Longwood Range, with the largest production from the Arethusa Claim (D46/e44, e45; Wood 1966; Nicolson et al. 1988). Sigma re-investigated the deposits in the 1980s and considered that the Upper Merrivale Goldfield, between Foals Creek and Buckton Creek on the northeastern Longwoods, was the most promising prospect for further work, although this was not carried out (Nicolson et al. 1988). At the 'Foals Creek' prospect, the quartz lodes are hosted in quartz-sericite-pyrite altered diorite within an anomalous zone of 1300 m x 200 m defined by drainage, soil, outcrop and float geochemical samples. The best channel samples of exposed mineralisation were 1.2 m at 12 ppm Au, and 0.3 m at 130 ppm Au and 12 ppm Ag.

Disseminated gold, with associated platinum, has been reported in plutonic rocks on the southern tops of the Longwood Complex (D46/e43; Challis and Lauder 1977; Nicolson et al. 1988). The best gold assay obtained by Sigma was 0.2 ppm (with 0.5 ppm Pt and 0.3 ppm Pd), although the best total precious metals assay was 0.1 ppm Au, 0.6 ppm Pt and 0.5 ppm Pd, both on float rocks (Nicolson et al. 1988).

3.8.11 Sediment (Carbonate)-Hosted Au–Ag (Carlin Type)

3.8.11.1 International Mineral Deposit Model

Features of the Sediment (carbonate)-hosted Au–Ag (Carlin type) mineral deposit model are listed in Table 3.44.

 Table 3.44
 Features of international mineral deposit models equivalent to the Sediment (carbonate)-hosted

 Au-Ag (Carlin type) model used in this report.

| International Mine | ral Deposit Model – Sediment (Carbonate)-Hosted Au–Ag (Carlin Type) | | | |
|--|--|--|--|--|
| Reference USGS model 26a Carbonate-hosted gold-silver (Cox and Singer 1986); and BCGS model E03 Carbonate-hosted disseminated Au–Ag (Lefebure and | | | | |
| Description | Very fine-grained gold and sulfides disseminated in zones of decarbonated calcareous rocks and associated jasperoids. Gold occurs evenly distributed throughout the host rocks in stratabound concordant zones and in discordant breccias. The host rocks are thin-bedded carbonaceous shales and silty or argillaceous carbonaceous limestone or dolomite, mostly of Cambrian to Devonian age. Cretaceous- and Cenozoic-age felsic intrusive rocks are found in, or nearby, many deposits. The deposits are generally tabular, stratabound bodies localised at contacts between contrasting lithologies. Bodies are irregular in shape but commonly straddle lithological contacts which, in some cases, are thrust faults. Felsic plutons and dikes are also mineralised at some deposits. Silica replacement of carbonate is accompanied by volume loss so that brecciation of host rocks is common. Tectonic brecciation adjacent to steep normal faults is also common. Generally less than 1% fine-grained sulfides are disseminated throughout the host rock. Native gold (micron-sized), pyrite, realgar, orpiment, as well as local arsenopyrite, cinnabar, fluorite, barite and stibnite, occur in a gangue mineral assemblage of quartz, calcite, barite and carbonaceous matter. | | | |
| International Examples | Carlin, Post, Gold Quarry, Getchell, Cortez, Gold Acres, Jerrit Canyon, Nevada; Mercur, Utah (USA) | | | |
| Grade-Tonnage Model | USGS model 26a 50 th percentile = 5.1 Mt and 2.5 g/t Au (410,000 oz Au), possible by-product Ag (Cox and Singer 1986). Mosier et al. (1992) reported the median size of 39 United States deposits as 6.6 Mt grading 2.3 g/t Au (488,000 oz Au), with most deposits in the range between 1 and 50 Mt, with grades from 1.0 to 6 g/t. However, two zones of the Carlin trend are significantly larger, Gold Quarry-Deep West-Maggie Creek, with 464 Mt at 1.32 g/t Au, and Goldstrike-Post-Blue Star-Genesis-Bobcat-North Star, with 307 Mt at 2.89 g/t Au. | | | |

3.8.11.2 New Zealand Occurrences of Sediment (Carbonate)-Hosted Au–Ag (Carlin Type) Deposits

Exploration for Carlin-type deposits has been carried out in Northland, and some formations of Northwest Nelson may also be prospective. The continental setting of North American deposits is a negative factor for New Zealand potential.

3.8.12 Gold Skarn

3.8.12.1 International Mineral Deposit Model

Features of the *Gold skarn* mineral deposit model are listed in Table 3.45.

 Table 3.45
 Features of the Gold skarn international mineral deposit model.

| International Mineral Deposit Model – Gold Skarn | | | | |
|--|---|--|--|--|
| Reference | BCGS model K04 gold skarns (Lefebure and Ray 1995). | | | |
| Description | Gold-dominant mineralisation associated with skarns developed by metasomatic and hydrothermal processes where plutons intrude carbonate-bearing rocks. Gold skarns are hosted by sedimentary carbonates, calcareous clastics, volcaniclastics or (rarely) volcanic flows. They are commonly related to high- to intermediate-level stocks, sills and dikes of gabbro, diorite, quartz diorite or granodiorite composition. There is a worldwide spatial, temporal and genetic association between porphyry copper provinces and calcic Au skarns. Gold skarns vary in form from irregular lenses and veins to tabular or stratiform orebodies, with lengths ranging up to many hundreds of metres. Rare examples occur as vertical pipe-like bodies along permeable structures. Orebodies form veins or stratiform tabular lenses containing ore mineral assemblages of native gold, chalcopyrite, pyrrhotite, arsenopyrite and tellurides. The skarn gangue consists of Ca-Fe-Mg silicate minerals, such as clinopyroxene, garnet and epidote. | | | |
| International Examples | Nickel Plate, British Columbia (Canada); Fortitude, McCoy and Tomboy-Minnie, Nevada; Buckhorn Mountain, Washington; Diamond Hill, New World district and Butte Highlands, Montana; Nixon Fork, Alaska (USA); Thanksgiving (Philippines); Browns Creek and Junction Reefs-Sheahan-Grants, New South Wales; Mount Biggenden, Queensland; Savage Lode, Coogee, Western Australia (Australia); Nambija (Ecuador); Wabu, Irian Jaya (Indonesia) | | | |
| Grade-Tonnage Model | Skarn deposits range from 0.4 to 10 Mt and grade from 2 to 15 g/t Au. Nickel Plate in British Columbia, Canada, has produced over 8 Mt grading 7.4 g/t Au (Lefebure and Ray 1995). | | | |

3.8.12.2 New Zealand Occurrences of Gold Skarn Deposits

There are no known *Gold skarn* occurrences in New Zealand, and there has been no exploration for this type of deposit despite suitable geological environments, for example, intrusions into Mt Arthur Marble in northwest Nelson.

3.8.13 Detachment-Fault-Related Polymetallic Deposits

3.8.13.1 International Mineral Deposit Model

Features of the *Detachment-fault-related polymetallic deposits* mineral deposit model are listed in Table 3.46.

 Table 3.46
 Features of the Detachment fault-related polymetallic deposits international mineral deposit model.

| International Mineral Deposit Model – Detachment-Fault-Related Polymetallic Deposits | | | | |
|--|--|--|--|--|
| Reference | Detachment fault-related mineral deposits (Long 2004). | | | |
| Description | Massive replacements, stockworks and veins of iron and copper oxides and locally sulfides along detachment-fault structures. These deposits sometimes contain economic concentrations of gold and silver. Distal veins of quartz-barite-fluorite-Mn oxides are emplaced along high-angle faults in the upper plate of detachment-faulted terranes. | | | |
| International Examples | Bullard, Copperstone, Osborne, Planet, Harris, Tiger Wash and Newsboy, Arizona (USA). | | | |
| Grade-Tonnage Model | The Copperstone deposit has resources of 386,000 oz Au at 2.6 g/t, and the Newsboy deposit has 67,500 at 1.54 g/t (Long 2004). | | | |

3.8.13.2 New Zealand Occurrences of Detachment-Fault-Related Polymetallic Deposits

Tulloch (1988b, 1995) suggested that gold anomalies, with associated Ag, As, Sb and Cu, in exploration stream-sediment geochemical surveys of the Paparoa Range may be related to a detachment-fault system associated with the Paparoa Metamorphic Core Complex (Figure 3.18). Silver, fluorite, barite, sulfide and uranium occurrences in the lower Buller Gorge were considered to have formed by hydrothermal activity associated with the Ohika detachment fault (Tulloch 1988b, 1995; Tulloch and Kimbrough 1989).

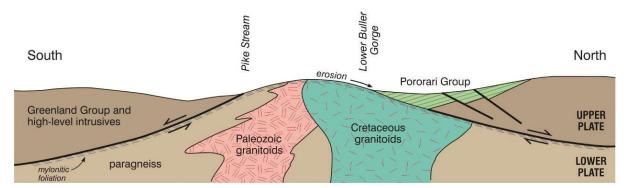


Figure 3.18 Diagrammatic cross-section through the metamorphic core complex in the Paparoa Range. The lower plate was uplifted along shallow-dipping mylonitic detachment faults, displacing the upper plate of early Paleozoic Greenland Group and some small granitoid intrusives. The extensional deformation also resulted in the formation of fault-bounded basins in the upper plate that were rapidly filled with Pororari Group terrestrial sediments derived from the eroding lower plate (after Nathan et al. [2002]).

3.8.14 Placer Au, Onshore, Beach and Offshore

3.8.14.1 International Mineral Deposit Model

Features of the *Placer Au, onshore, beach and offshore* mineral deposit model are listed in Table 3.47.

Table 3.47Features of international mineral deposit models equivalent to the Placer Au, onshore, beach and
offshore model used in this report.

| International Mineral Deposit Model – Placer Au, Onshore, Beach and Offshore | | | | |
|---|---|--|--|--|
| Reference | Onshore: USGS model 39a Placer Au-PGE (Cox and Singer 1986); BCGS model C01 Surficial placers (Lefebure and Ray 1995); and BCGS model C02 Buried-channel placers (Lefebure and Ray 1995). Offshore: BCGS model C03 Marine placers (Lefebure and Ray 1995). | | | |
| DescriptionOnshore: Detrital gold grains and (rarely) nuggets in gravel, sand, silt and clay, and the consolidated equivalents, in alluvial, beach ('blacksand leads') and fluvioglacial deposits Alluvial deposits typically formed as channel-lag and gravel-bar deposits, as well as ber boulders where gradients flatten and river velocities lessen. Winnowing action of surf ca gold concentrations in raised, present and submerged beaches. Offshore: Detrital gold and other heavy minerals occurring at the present or paleo-seaf surface. These usually occur in Holocene raised or submarine beach or strandline depor along wave-dominated shorelines but can also be found in coastal dunes, drowned fluv channels or as offshore relict lag concentrations. | | | | |
| International ExamplesOnshore: Sierra Nevada, California (USA); Victoria (Australia); Klondike, Yuko Rio Tapajos (Brazil); Yana-Kolyma belt (Russia).Offshore: Nome, Alaska (USA); Bermagui (Australia); Country Harbour, Nova (Canada). | | | | |
| Grade-Tonnage Model | Onshore: Deposits are small to high tonnage (0.1–100 Mt) but low grade (0.05–5 g/t Au). Placer concentrations are highly variable both within and between individual deposits. Modern operations in the South Island work deposits typically between 1000 and 60,000 oz Au (e.g. Manhire et al. 2006). Offshore: Deposits are typically high tonnage (0.1–100 Mt) but low grade (0.05–0.25 g/t Au). | | | |

3.8.14.2 New Zealand Occurrences of Placer Au, Onshore, Beach and Offshore Deposits

Giant placer gold fields are present in Cenozoic gravel and sand in Westland and Otago– Southland, and smaller placers are found in west Nelson and Marlborough (Figure 3.19). About 18 Moz of gold were produced in the past, initially during the gold rushes of the 1860s and 1870s and later by sluicing and dredging operations, particularly in the early 1900s and 1930s. Small quantities of platinum group metals were a by-product of placer gold mining at Round Hill and Orepuki in Southland. Since 1980, there have been a large number of small- and medium-scale gold recovery operations using hydraulic excavators and mobile gold recovery plants, with a peak exceeding 150 operations in the late 1980s. The rapid throughput and relative mobility of these plants have enabled mining of ground that was not accessible or too small in volume for mining by large bucket-line dredges. The largest operations have been at Rimu, Arahura, Ross, Mikonui, Shotover Gorge, Kawarau Gorge, Island Block, Nokomai and Waikaia. Additionally, one bucket line dredge, the Grey River Dredge, has operated intermittently near Ngahere since 1988, but it is currently under maintenance. Current annual production from placer gold deposits in New Zealand is c. 32,000 oz Au.

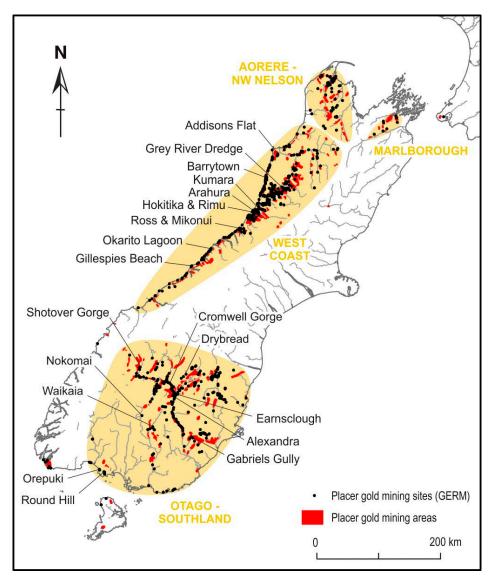


Figure 3.19 Nearly all of the alluvial gold produced in New Zealand has been from the South Island. These gold fields are still producing, mainly from small-scale operations using mining equipment rather than the picks and shovels of the gold-rush miners (after Christie [2016c]).

Gold placers in Otago and Southland were formed by erosion of the Haast Schist and deposition of auriferous conglomerates during several major fluvial depositional phases since the Cretaceous. On the West Coast, gold placers are found in late Pleistocene and recent alluvial and fluvioglacial gravels eroded from the uplifting Southern Alps. The alternating glacial and interglacial periods formed deposits associated with buried river channels, fluvial deposits, glacial meltwater channels and degraded terraces. An important factor in developing economic gold concentrations was the re-working, recycling and concentration of gold through the stratigraphic successions, resulting in some of the youngest placers being the richest. In Otago and Southland, another factor has been the authigenic growth of gold particles by chemical dissolution, transport and accretion processes, increasing the grain size of some gold particles.

Beach placers are found on the west and south coasts of the South Island in present-day beaches, older post-glacial beach deposits and the raised beach deposits of successive marine interglacials that underlie the remnants of coastal terraces. Gold is concentrated with other heavy minerals into lenticular 'blacksand leads'. The largest deposits on the West Coast were leads in Addisons Flat and adjacent terraces near Westport, in terraces near Charleston and Barrytown, the Hou Hou Lead and associated leads west of Kumara, the Lamplough Lead north of Hokitika, and leads near Okarito Lagoon and on Gillespies Beach.

Current production: In Westland, Otago and Southland, there are about 123 alluvial mining operations and more than 200 hobby-scale river and beach operations, each consisting of excavators that supply gravel to mobile gold screens (e.g. Cotton and Rose 2006; Manhire et al. 2006; Christie and Herridge 2016; Cotton and Wood 2016; Henderson et al. 2016). A new bucket-ladder dredge operated on the Grey River briefly in 1989 and, after modification, started up again in 1992 but closed in 2015 (Cotton and Birchfield 2006). Large backhoe-fed floating plants have operated recently in the Arahura River in Westland, in eastern Otago and at Waikaia in Southland (Manhire et al. 2006; Becker and Batt 2016).

There is little exploration information available for assessment of undiscovered resources. Total resource estimates have been previously reported as 10 Moz of gold by Douch (1988) and 22 Moz of gold for the West Coast alone by Jury and Hancock (1989). Christie and Brathwaite (1999b) suggested a more conservative estimate of 2 Moz in the Marlborough, West Coast, Otago and Southland regions.

Key References: Brathwaite and Pirajno (1993); Becker and Batt (2016); Cotton and Wood (2016).

3.9 Iron (Fe)

3.9.1 International Description

International data for iron are listed in Table 3.48.

| | Iron (Fe) | | | | | | |
|---------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| | Ore Minerals: Chamosite (Fe,Mg,Al) ₆ (Si,Al) ₄ O ₁₀ .(OH) ₈ , goethite Fe ₂ O ₃ .H ₂ O, hematite Fe ₂ O ₃ , native iron Fe, magnetite Fe ₃ O ₄ , marcasite FeS ₂ , melanterite FeSO ₄ .7H ₂ O, pyrite FeS ₂ , pyrrhotite FeS, siderite FeCO ₃ , titanomagnetite (Magnetite-ulvöspinel mixture) Fe ₃ O ₄ + Fe ₂ TiO ₄ and vivianite Fe ₃ P ₂ O ₈ .8H ₂ O | | | | | | |
| = | World production 2.5 Bt of ore with 1.5 Bt of iron content | | | | | | |
| International | Major world producers (% of average total) | Australia (38%, Brazil (18%), China (11%), India (11%), Russia (4%), Iran (3%), Canada (3%), South Africa (2%), Kazakhstan (2%), USA (2%), Sweden (1%), Ukraine (1%) | | | | | |
| 2 | World reserves (USGS 2024) | 190 Bt ore with 87 Bt iron content | | | | | |
| | World resources (USGS 2024) | More than 800 Bt of ore containing more than 230 Bt of iron. | | | | | |
| | Uses: Making steel and various alloys, machinery and tools, rails, automobiles, ship hulls, concrete reinforcing bars, as well as the load-carrying framework of buildings, catalysts and compounds. | | | | | | |

 Table 3.48
 Major minerals, world production, reserves and resources and major uses of iron.

3.9.2 New Zealand Occurrences of Iron

New Zealand iron deposits (Figure 3.20) are classified under four main mineral deposit types: *Shoreline placer Fe, Bog Fe, Transported residual Fe* and *Magmatic Fe-Ti-V* (see Titanium; Section 3.19).

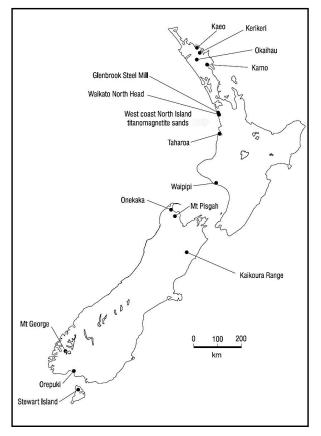


Figure 3.20 Location of iron deposits in New Zealand (after Christie and Brathwaite [1997b]).

3.9.3 Shoreline Placer Fe

3.9.3.1 International Mineral Deposit Model

Features of the Shoreline placer Fe mineral deposit model are listed in Table 3.49.

 Table 3.49
 Features of international mineral deposit models equivalent to the Shoreline placer Fe model used in this report.

| International Mineral Deposit Model – Shoreline Placer Fe | | | | |
|---|---|--|--|--|
| Reference | BCGS model C01 Surficial placers (Lefebure and Ray 1995); USGS model for heavy-mineral sands in coastal environments (Van Gosen et al. 2014) | | | |
| Description | Detrital iron minerals and other heavy minerals concentrated by shallow marine, beach and dune processes. Elongate 'shoestring' ore bodies parallel to coastal beaches and dunes. | | | |
| International Examples | Bardaskan, Khorasan-e-Razavi (Iran); Kerala (India) | | | |
| Grade-Tonnage Model | Individual economic deposits typically have 10 Mt of sand at >2% heavy minerals and may occur in districts with >1 Bt of sand averaging 5% heavy minerals (Van Gosen et al. 2014). Titanomagnetite/magnetite contents of the heavy-mineral sand fraction are variable between deposits. | | | |

3.9.3.2 New Zealand Occurrences of Shoreline Placer Fe Deposits

Titanomagnetite ironsand (blacksand) forms Quaternary onshore beach and dune deposits and offshore marine deposits along 480 km of coastline from Kaipara Harbour south to Wanganui on the west coast of the North Island (Figure 3.21). The onshore deposits include the present beach and dune sand, as well as older coastal sand deposits that have been preserved by uplift due to faulting and/or lowering of sea level. In addition to titanomagnetite, the sands contain plagioclase, pyroxenes (mostly augite), hornblende, rock fragments and minor quartz, K-feldspar and olivine. North of the Waikato River, ilmenite becomes a significant component

The main source of titanomagnetite in the ironsands is from erosion of the late Pleistocene– Holocene andesite volcanoes of the Taranaki Mounga volcanic field, although, from the mouth of the Waikato River northwards, there is a minor contribution from Pleistocene ignimbrites and rhyolites of the Taupō Volcanic Zone, mainly transported by the Waikato River (Brathwaite et al. 2017b, 2021). Coastal sands eroded from the Taranaki volcanoes and their extensive ring plain deposits have been transported from Cape Egmont northwards and southwards by a long-period swell from the southern ocean, coupled with the prevailing southwesterly wind and wave action, and subsequently concentrated by wave and wind action into beach and dune lag deposits. Deposits present offshore on the continental shelf were probably concentrated as coastal deposits when sea level was lower than at present, and then re-worked under littoral conditions during the Holocene transgression.

Exploration during the 1940s to 1960s (e.g. Kear 1979) discovered several large ironsand deposits, and mining operations were established at the three largest: Waikato North Head in 1969, Waipipi in 1971 and Taharoa in 1972. The Waikato North Head and Taharoa mines continue today, but Waipipi closed in 1987.

Mining at Waikato North Head and Taharoa processes sand with c 18–25% titanomagnetite. This is concentrated by gravity and magnetic methods to produce a product with approximately 80% titanomagnetite. This material has a chemical composition of approximately 57% iron, 7.7% titanium dioxide and 0.4% vanadium oxide. New Zealand produces more than 2 Mt of ironsand concentrate annually. Production from Waikato North Head is used for making steel at the Glenbrook steel mill, whereas all of the ironsand concentrate from Taharoa is exported to steel mills in Asia.

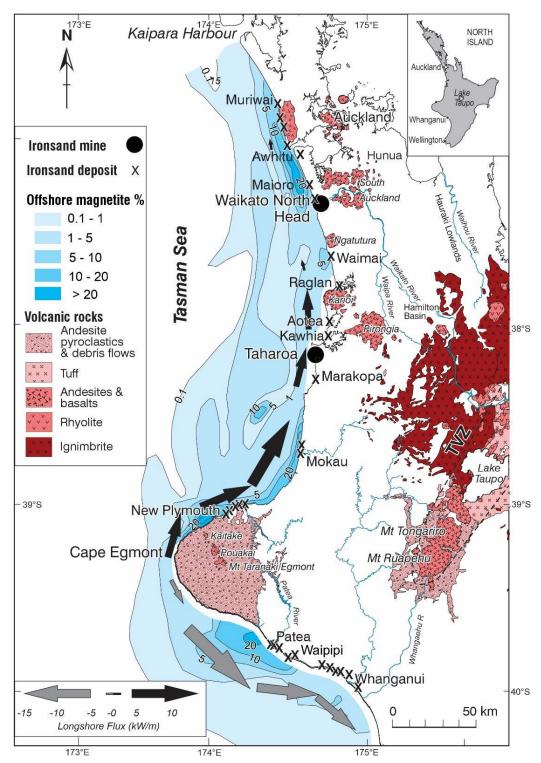


Figure 3.21 Distribution of ironsand deposits and volcanic-source rocks along the west coast of the North Island, showing the location of the operating mines at Waikato North Head and Taharoa and the former mine at Waipipi (from Brathwaite et al. [2017b]). The offshore magnetite wt.% contours are from Carter (1980). The black and grey arrows show the magnitude of northwards and southwards longshore current directions. TVZ = Taupō Volcanic Zone.

Production is currently from mines at Waikato North Head and Taharoa. The Waikato North Head mine produces about 1 Mt/yr of concentrate for making steel at Glenbrook and for export. A vanadium-rich slag is produced as a by-product at the Glenbrook steel mill and is exported. The Taharoa mine produces about 1.2 Mt/yr of titanomagnetite concentrate for export. A total of 15.7 Mt of concentrate for export were produced from Waipipi in southern Taranaki when it operated between 1971 and 1987.

Estimated in-ground resources at operating mines are: Waikato North Head – 140 Mt of concentrate; Taharoa – 208 Mt of concentrate (Table 3.50). A small resource remains at the Waipipi deposit. Rough estimates of other resources are known (Table 3.51) and amount to a total of 874 Mt, including Waikato North Head and Taharoa. The concentrate contains 55–56% Fe, 7–9% TiO₂ and 0.3–0.4% V₂O₅.

For many of the deposits, exploration drilling has been only on a reconnaissance scale and was carried out in the 1940s, 1950s and early 1960s; therefore, there is scope for improving the resource estimates with modern exploration. For example, the Aotea deposit was estimated to contain a large volume of ironsand (500 Mt of sand) but insufficient drilling was done in this early phase of exploration to estimate the grade in terms of Mt concentrate and percentage of Fe. Since then, drilling from 2009 resulted in a 2014 indicated plus inferred resource estimate of 29.547 Mt of concentrate at 53.1% Fe (Wood et al. 2016).

Waikato North Head production is limited by the capacity of the Glenbrook steel mill to 1.2 Mt of concentrate annually. Taharoa has previously produced up to 2 Mt in a year. Assuming increasing markets (e.g. China), ironsand production could be 3.2 Mt from the current operations and more if another mine is developed. In addition to by-product vanadium-rich slag, there is potential to produce a titanium mineral-rich concentrate from the ironsand mining.

| Deposit | Resource Category | Ironsand (Mt) | Magnetic Content (%) | Magnetics (Mt) | Fe (%) | Source |
|------------|----------------------|------------------|-------------------------|-------------------|-----------|--------------------|
| Aotea | Inferred | 202.6 | 14.6 | 29.5 | 53.1 | Wood et al. (2016) |
| | Measured | 27.4 | 31.6 | 8.7 | - | |
| Taharoa | Indicated | 341.8 | 23.6 | 82.2 | - | Mauk et al. (2016) |
| | inferred | 5 | 11.1 | 0.6 | - | |
| Waikato | Measured | 374.3 | 20.5 | 76.7 | | |
| North Head | Indicated | 312.3 | 13.2 | 41.2 | - | Mauk et al. (2016) |
| | Inferred | 43 | 6 | 2.6 | | |
| Total | - | 1176.8 | - | 222.1 | - | |

 Table 3.50
 Resource estimates for titanomagnetite ironsand resources.

| Table 3.51 | Ironsand resources, west coast, North Island (after Brathwaite [1990]). |
|------------|---|
|------------|---|

| Deposit | MM ¹ | GERM ² | Quantity of Sand (Mt) | Grade (% Magnetics) | Quantity of Concentrate (Mt) |
|---------------------------------|-----------------|-------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Muriwai ³ | G1 | Q11/e32 | 90 | 15 | 13 |
| Bethells ³ | G2 | Q11/e33 | 20 | 15 | 3 |
| Piha ³ | G3 | Q11/e34 | 3.45 | 24 | 0.8 |
| Whatipu ³ | G4 | Q11/e35 | 17 | 31 | 5.3 |
| Irwins ³ | G5 | R12/e35 | 20 | 18 | 5 |
| Maioro North 3 | G6 | R12/e36 | 200 | 10 | 20 |
| Maioro South ⁴ | G7 | R13/e18 | 150 | 21 | 30 |
| Maioro South ³ | G7 | R13/e18 | 50 | 12 | 6 |
| Waikato North Head ⁴ | G8 | R13/e1 | 780 | 18 | 140 |
| Port Waikato | G9 | R13/e19 | - | - | - |

| Deposit | MM ¹ | GERM ² | Quantity of Sand (Mt) | Grade (% Magnetics) | Quantity of Concentrate (Mt) |
|---------------------------|------------------------|--------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Waimai ³ | G10 | R14/e16 | 98 | 44 | 43 |
| Raglan ⁴ | G11 | R14/e11 | 78.7 | 19.7 | 15.5 |
| Raglan ³ | G11 | R14/e11 | 49.0 | 20.4 | 10.0 |
| Aotea ³ | G12 | R15/e5 | 500 | - | - |
| Kawhia ³ | G13 | R15/e6 | 1500 | 13 | 200 |
| Taharoa ⁴ | G14 | R16/e1 | 593 | 35 | 208 |
| Harihari ³ | G15 | R16/e7 | 1 | 58 | 1 |
| Marakopa ³ | G16 | R16/e8 | 55 | 45 | 25 |
| Awakino ³ | G17 | R17/e19 | 9 | 63 | 5.8 |
| Mokau ³ | G18 | R18/e47 | 10.5 | 37 | 3.9 |
| Waitara | G19 | Q19/e98 | - | - | - |
| Waiongana | G20 | Q19/e99 | - | - | - |
| Waihowaka | G21 | Q19/e100 | - | - | - |
| Fitzroy | G23 | P19/e74 | - | - | - |
| New Plymouth ³ | - | - | 33 | 24 | 8 |
| Patea ³ | G24 | Q21/e18, Q22/e5 | 73.5 | 33 | 23.5 |
| Waipipi ⁴ | G25 | Q22/e1 | 153 | 26 | 40 |
| Nukumaru | G26 | R22/e60 | - | - | - |
| Okehu | G27 | R22/e61 | - | - | - |
| Kai lwi | G28 | R22/e62 | - | - | - |
| Wanganui ³ | - | R22/e75 | 236 | 16 | 37 |
| Rapanui | G29 | R22/e63 | 300 | 10 | 30 |
| Westmere | G30 | R22/e64 | - | - | - |
| Total | - | - | - | - | 873.8 |

¹ MM = Metallogenic map code (Brathwaite and Pirajno 1993).

² GERM = Geological Resource Map code.

³ Inferred estimate.

⁴ Indicated and/or measured estimate.

Where both inferred and indicated figures are listed, these are added together to give a total resource.

Key References: Kear (1979); Brathwaite (1990); Christie and Brathwaite (1997b); Briggs et al. (2009); Brathwaite and Christie (2014, 2015); Brathwaite et al. (2017b, 2021).

3.9.4 Bog Fe

Limonitic *Bog Fe* is formed from leaching of iron-bearing rocks, such as basalt by carbonated surface and ground waters with subsequent deposition at the surface as ferric hydroxides. In New Zealand, limonitic bog-iron deposits occur in Northland near Kaeo, Okaihau, Kerikeri and Kamo (Table 3.52). These have been formed from leaching of iron from Kerikeri Basalt. The deposit near Okaihau was intermittently worked until 1961, producing a total of 39,111 t of iron ore.

Key References: Williams (1974); Brathwaite and Pirajno (1993); Christie and Brathwaite (1997b).

| Occurrence | MM ¹ | GERM ² | Production (t) | Deposit Form | Minerals Major (Minor) | Host Rocks |
|------------------|-----------------|-------------------|-------------------|--------------------|---------------------------|------------------|
| Potaetupuhi Bush | - | - | - | Laterite | Limonite | - |
| Каео | - | P04/e54 | - | Stratiform | Limonite | Andesite breccia |
| Okaihau | I11 | P05/e67 | 40,000 Fe ore | Laterite pods | Limonite | Basalt |
| Kerikeri | - | P05/e69 | - | laterite | limonite | basalt |
| Kamo | I16 | - | 9000 Fe ore | Laterite sheets | Limonite | Basalt |

Table 3.52 Bog Fe deposit model occurrences (data modified after Brathwaite and Pirajno [1993]).

¹ MM = Metallogenic map code (Brathwaite and Pirajno 1993).

² GERM = Geological Resource Map code.

3.9.5 Transported Residual Fe

A deposit of residual limonite is present in a belt from Ironstone Creek, Onekaka, north to the Parapara Inlet (Figure 3.20). The material overlies Ordovician-age marble but is thought to be laterite, transported from the Tertiary-age peneplain and deposited in caves within the marble. The iron was possibly derived from iron sulfide disseminations in nearby schist. About 813,000 t were mined between 1922 and 1935 to produce 40,640 t of pig iron (Grindley and Watters 1965). Landreth (1946) estimated resources of 9.65 Mt at a grade of 40% Fe.

Key References: Williams (1994); Brathwaite and Pirajno (1993); Christie and Brathwaite (1997b).

Occurrences of miscellaneous iron deposits are listed in Table 3.53.

| Table 3.53 | Iron occurrences additional to the titanomagnetite and Bog Fe deposits listed above. Minerals: hm = |
|------------|---|
| | hematite; il = ilmenite; mt = magnetite; rt = rutile. |

| Occurrence | MM ¹ | GERM ² | Production (t) | Deposit Form | Minerals Major (Minor) | Host Rocks | Genesis |
|---------------|-----------------|-----------------------|-------------------|---------------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--|
| Onekaka | A8 | M25/e585, M25/e584 | >40,000 Fe | Stratiform pods | Limonite | Weathered marble and schist | Surficial chemical concentration |
| Mr Pisgah | A10 | N26/e586 | - | Magnetite- ilmenite layer | mt, il, (hm, rt) | Diorite | Magmatic segregation |
| Mt George | A98 | C43/e4 | - | Layered zone | il, mt | Metagabbro | Magmatic segregation |
| Dromedary | B44 | - | - | Stratiform | mt | Cemented blacksand in sandstone | Placer |
| Catlins River | B45 | - | - | Stratiform | mt | Cemented blacksand in sandstone | Placer |

¹ MM = Metallogenic map code (Brathwaite and Pirajno 1993).

² GERM = Geological Resource Map code.

3.10 Lithium (Li)

3.10.1 International Description

International data for lithium are listed in Table 3.54.

Table 3.54 Major minerals, world production, reserves and resources and major uses of lithium.

| | Lithium (Li) | | | | |
|---|---|---|--|--|--|
| | Ore Minerals: Pentalite LiAI(Si ₂ O ₅) ₂ , lepidolite K(Li,AI) ₃ (AI,Si,Rb) ₄ O ₁₀ (F,OH) ₂ , spondumene LiAI(SiO ₃) ₂ | | | | |
| | World production 2023 (USGS 2024) | 180,000 t | | | |
| International | Major world producers (% of 2023 total world mine production) (USGA 2024) | Australia (48%), Chile (24%), China (18%), Argentina (5%), Brazil (3%), Canada (2%), Zimbabwe (2%) | | | |
| Inte | World reserves (USGS 2024) | 28 Mt | | | |
| | World resources (USGS 2024) | 105 Mt | | | |
| Uses: Batteries, ceramics/glass and lubricating greases. Lithium is a key constituent of libatteries used in electric vehicles, consumer devices and energy storage. | | | | | |

3.10.2 New Zealand Occurrences of Lithium

Turnbull et al. (2018) reported that lithium is found in New Zealand associated with pegmatites (i.e. Lithium-Caesium-Tantalum [LCT] pegmatites) and hydrothermally altered rhyolitic, lacustrine sediment-hosted deposits – see their model descriptions below.

Key References: Christie and Brathwaite (1999b); Turnbull et al. (2018, 2019).

3.10.3 Li Pegmatites

3.10.3.1 International Mineral Deposit Model

Features of the *Li pegmatites* mineral deposit model are listed in Table 3.55.

| T 11 0 55 | |
|------------------|---|
| Table 3.55 | Features of the <i>Li pegmatites</i> mineral deposit model. |

| International Mineral Deposit Model – Li Pegmatites and LCT Pegmatites | | | |
|--|--|--|--|
| Reference | Bradley et al. (2017) | | |
| Description | Lithium-bearing granite pegmatites are found as dikes peripheral to granite intrusions and were formed by crystallisation of late-stage residual fluids (Turnbull et al. 2018). Lithium occurs in a paragenetic range from early-stage minerals, such iron-rich spodumene, through intermediate stages (spodumene, petalite, lepidolite and amblygonite) to lower-temperature hydrothermal alteration products such as eucryptite, bikitaite and cookeite. | | |
| International Examples | King Mountain, North Carolina; Black Hills, South Dakota (USA); Bernic Lake, Manitoba (Tanco pegmatite); CV5, Corvette, Quebec (Canada); Aracuai, Minas Gerais (Brazil); Altai Mountains (China); Chita region (Russia); Bikita mine (Bikita pegmatite) (Zimbabwe); Karibib (Rubicon and Helicon pegmatites) (Namibia); 'tin mineral province' in Zaire; Greenbushes pegmatite field, Western Australia (Australia). | | |
| Grade-Tonnage Model | No published data. Bradley et al. (2017) listed data for 10 deposits ranging from 1.6 Mt at 1.2% Li ₂ O to 70.4 Mt at 2.6% Li ₂ O. Grades of the 10 ranged from 0.7% to 2.76% Li ₂ O. | | |

3.10.3.2 New Zealand Occurrences of Li Pegmatites

Pegmatites associated with strongly fractionated I-S-type felsic plutonic rocks are most likely to be associated with granitoids of the Karamea, Ridge, Rahu and Foulwind petrogenetic intrusive suites of the Tuhua Intrusives (Turnbull et al. 2018). These rocks of early Paleozoic to Cretaceous age are found in west Nelson, West Coast, Fiordland and Rakiura / Stewart Island. van de Ven et al. (2020) described a strategy for exploring for LCT pegmatites in the Hohonu Batholith.

3.10.3.3 Lithium-Bearing Hydrothermal Clays and Lacustrine Sediments

Lithium is leached from rhyolitic rocks by meteoric and hydrothermal fluids, then enriched and structurally bound in volcanic-derived clays (hectorite) by hydrothermal alteration of rhyolitic lacustrine sediments.

A GIS-based prospectivity study by Turnbull et al. (2018) indicated that the Taupō Volcanic Zone was the most prospective area for hydrothermally altered volcaniclastic/lacustrine sediments, particularly in the Huka Falls Formation (Huka Group), Ngakuru Formation and Waitemata Group sediments (Figure 3.22). In a follow-up study focusing on the Taupō Volcanic Zone, Turnbull et al. (2019) noted that localised areas within or proximal to the Wairakei, Tauhara, Mokai, Rotokawa, Ngatamariki, Ohaaki, Waiotapu and Rotorua geothermal fields have the highest potential for lithium mineralisation.

Felsic volcanic rocks in the Coromandel Peninsula and on Great Barrier Island may also be prospective for lithium.

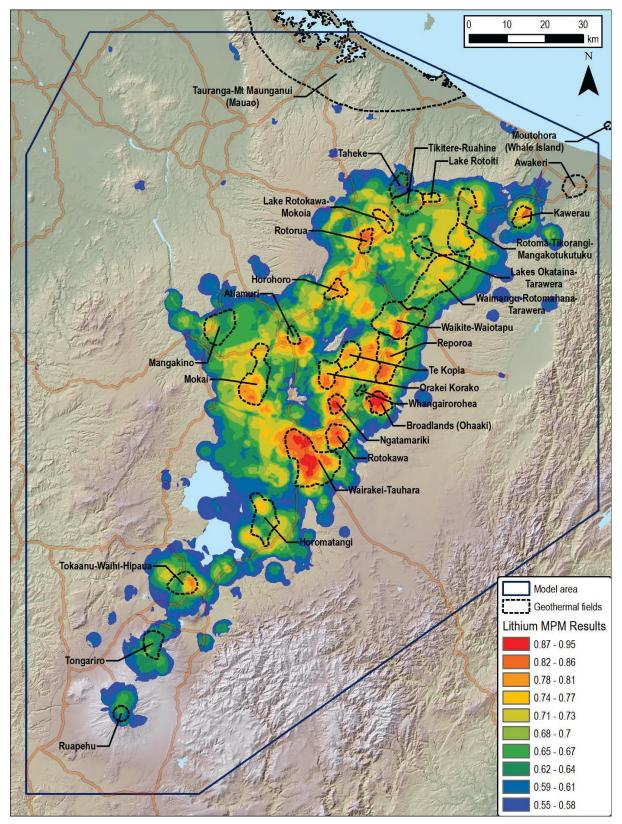


Figure 3.22 Prospectivity maps for hydrothermally altered rhyolitic lacustrine sediment-hosted lithium potential in the Taupō Volcanic Zone using a mineral systems approach. Warm colours represent higher potential (after Turnbull et al. [2019]).

3.11 Magnesium (Mg)

3.11.1 International Description

International data for magnesium are listed in Table 3.56.

 Table 3.56
 Major minerals, world production, reserves and resources and major uses of magnesium.

| | Magnesium (Mg) | | | | |
|---------------|---|---|--|--|--|
| | Ore Minerals: Bischofite MgCl ₂ .6H ₂ O, brucite Mg(OH) ₂ , dolomite CaCO ₃ .MgCO ₃ , epsomite MgSO ₄ ·7H ₂ O, magnesite MgCO ₃ , periclase MgO and talc (steatite; soapstone) Mg ₃ Si ₄ O ₁₀ (OH) ₂ | | | | |
| | World mine production in 2023 (USGS 2024) 22 Mt of magnesite | | | | |
| International | Major world producers of magnesite (% of total world mine production 2023) (USGS 2024) | China (59%), Turkey (8%), Brazil (8%), Russia (4%), Australia (4%), Austria (4%), Spain (3%), Slovakia (2%), Greece (2%), Saudi Arabia (2%) | | | |
| | World reserves (USGS 2024) | 7.7 Bt magnesite | | | |
| | World resources (USGS 2024) | 13 Bt magnesite | | | |
| | Uses: Transport automotive, packaging and construction. Its use is growing in light-weighting for road vehicles and military applications. | | | | |

3.11.2 International Occurrences of Magnesium

Magnesium deposits include deposits of magnesite, seawater and brines, and contact metamorphic deposits of brucite along granite-dolomite contacts (e.g. Malyy Khingan, Russia; Marble Canyon, Texas, USA). Magnesia is produced from surface or subterranean brines in the USA, the Netherlands, Israel and Mexico.

Natural magnesite occurs in a few, but very large, high-grade (70–90% MgCO₃) crystalline magnesite deposits and a large number of small, lower-grade (>12% MgCO₃) deposits of amorphous or cryptocrystalline magnesite. The crystalline deposits form by replacement of sedimentary dolomite by magnesite, either by hydrothermal alteration or metamorphism. International examples include: Veitsch, Styria, Austria; Slovakia; Navarra, Spain; Satka, Russia; Serra des Eguas, Bahia, Brazil; Mount Brussilof, British Columbia, Canada; Gabbs, Nevada, USA; and Jabal Al Rokhan, Saudi Arabia.

Rogers (1996) developed a grade tonnage model for 14 crystalline and amorphous magnesite deposits (model B11; Rogers et al. 1995) from world-wide localities with a 50^{th} percentile of 28.6 Mt at 91.6% MgO₃.

3.11.3 New Zealand Occurrences of Magnesite

Magnesite occurs with talc in *Talc-magnesite* deposits hosted in ultramafic rocks in Northwest Nelson, Westland, north Otago and Southland (NZGS 1970b; Williams 1974) (Figure 3.23).

The Cobb-Upper Takaka district was a small producer of talc-magnesite for agriculture and industry from 1944 to the 1980s. The talc-magnesite and quartz-magnesite lenses are derived from serpentinite of the Cobb Igneous Complex outcropping southwards between the Cobb and headwaters of the Takaka River (Wellman 1942, 1943; Williams 1974).

Ultramafic bodies containing lenses of serpentinite, talc-magnesite and steatite, up to 200 m in length, occur within the Waingaro Schist at Richmond Hill near Collingwood (Riley 1972; Thompson 1989). Talc-magnesite also occurs along shear zones in the serpentinitic matrix of the Patuki and Croisilles melanges of east Nelson. Although some is of very high grade, the quantities available are small.

Talc-magnesite is present as segregations and veins within serpentinite of the Pounamu Ultramafics (NZGS 1970b). All known deposits are small, and access is difficult. Minor talc-magnesite occurrences are also present in ultramafic rocks in northern Otago and Southland.

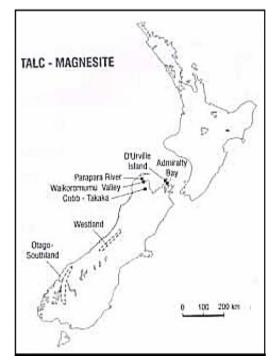


Figure 3.23 Location of magnesite (and talc) deposits in New Zealand (Christie and Brathwaite [1999a]).

Key References: NZGS (1970b); Williams (1974); Thompson (1989); Christie and Brathwaite (1999a).

3.12 Manganese (Mn)

3.12.1 International Description

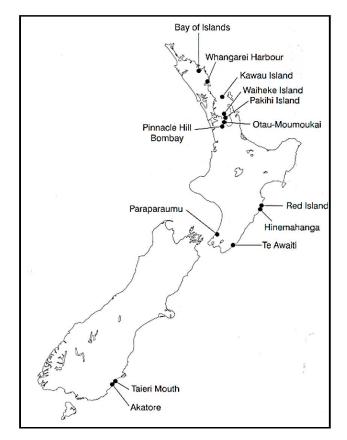
International data for manganese are listed in Table 3.57.

Table 3.57 Major minerals, world production, reserves and resources and major uses of manganese.

| | | Manganese (Mn) | |
|---------------|---|---|--|
| | Ore Minerals: Braunite 3(Mn,Fe) ₂ O ₃ MnSiO ₃ , manganite Mn ₂ O ₃ .H ₂ O, psilomelane BaMn ₉ O ₁₆ (OH) ₄ , pyrolusite MnO ₂ , piemontite Ca ₂ (Mn,Fe ³⁺ ,Al) ₂ AlO·OH(Si ₂ O ₇)(SiO ₄), rhodochrosite MnCO ₃ and wad (Mn oxides with variable composition) | | |
| lal | World mine production in 2023 (USGS 2024) | 20 Mt | |
| International | Major world producers (% of average total 2015–2019) | South Africa (36%), Gabon (23%), Australia (15%), Ghana (4%), China (4%), India (4%), Brazil (3%), Cộte de Ivoire (2%) | |
| Inte | World reserves (USGS 2024) 1.9 Bt | | |
| | World resources (USGS 2024) | Large. South Africa accounts for 70% of world's manganese resources. | |
| | Uses: The dominant use of manganese is in steel, but it is also a key constituent of lithium-ion batteries for electric vehicles and a host of other purposes. | | |

3.12.2 New Zealand Occurrences of Manganese

Manganese occurs in *Volcanogenic Mn* type deposits in both the North and South Islands (Figure 3.24).





3.12.3 Volcanogenic Mn

3.12.3.1 International Mineral Deposit Model

Features of the Volcanogenic Mn mineral deposit model are listed in Table 3.58.

 Table 3.58
 Features of the Volcanogenic Mn international mineral deposit model.

| International Mineral Deposit Model – Volcanogenic Mn | | | |
|--|--|--|--|
| Reference | USGS model 24c Volcanogenic Mn (Cox and Singer 1986) | | |
| Description Lenses and stratiform bodies of manganese oxide, carbonate and silicate in chert associated with sedimentary and mafic volcanic rocks. Their genesis is related to volcanogenic processes. Host rocks include chert, shale, sandstone, greywacke, jasper, basaltic lava and tuff and serpentinite. The ore minerals occur in fine-grained massive crystalline aggregates, or botryoida colloform and lensoid masses, veinlets and disseminations. The main ore minerals psilomelane, pyrolusite, rhodochrosite, hausmannite, braunite and neotocite. | | | |
| International Examples | Olympic Peninsula, Washington; Franciscan Type, California (USA) | | |
| Grade-Tonnage Model | USGS model 24c 50 th percentile = 47,000 t at 42% Mn (Cox and Singer 1986). | | |

3.12.3.2 New Zealand Occurrences of Volcanogenic Mn Deposits

Small manganese deposits occur in association with spilitic red-rock suite rocks in the Permian–Jurassic greywacke and argillite of the North Island (Waipapa Group and Torlesse Supergroup), as well as their metamorphosed equivalents in the South Island (Haast Schist) (Table 3.59). The red rocks consist of mafic lava, chert, jasperite and volcaniclastic argillite. The manganese deposits are usually hosted by red argillite and chert.

New Zealand's first metal-mining operation was the extraction of manganese from an adit on Kawau Island in 1842. Subsequent production was mainly from deposits in Northland, Bombay (South Auckland) and Taieri Mouth (Otago), continuing intermittently until 1960 to produce a total of 26,102 t of ore, mostly at grades of 40–50% metallic manganese.

Table 3.59Volcanogenic Mn model occurrences (data modified after Brathwaite and Pirajno [1993]). Minerals:
crypt = cryptomelane; hm = hematite; mang = manganite; Mn oxides = manganese oxides; psm =
psilomelane.

| Region | Occurrence | MM ¹ | GERM ² | Production (t) | Deposit Form | Minerals Major (Minor) | Host Rocks |
|-----------|-------------------------------|-----------------|----------------------------|-------------------|----------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| | Kairawaru Bay | C1 | P04/e27 | - | Stratiform beds | crypt, Mn oxides | Red argillite, spilite |
| | Wharengaere Road | C2 | P04/e55 | - | Stratiform beds | braunite, crypt, Mn oxides | Chert |
| | Mataka | C3 | - | - | Stratiform | Mn oxides | Chert |
| | Pokaka Mt | C4 | P05/e111 | - | Stratiform | crypt, psm, Mn oxides | Chert, argillite |
| | Urupukapuka | C5 | Q05/e26 | - | Stratiform pods | pyrolusite | Red chert, greywacke |
| | Tikitikiora – Tikiora Hill | C6 | Q05/e15 | 200 Mn ore | Stratiform lenses | braunite, crypt, Mn oxides | Chert, red argillite |
| | Frenchman's Hill | C7 | Q05/e16 | Very small | Stratiform lenses | Mn oxides | Chert |
| | Kiripaka Hill | C8 | Q05/e11 | Very small | Stratiform | crypt, Mn and Fe oxides | Chert, argillite |
| Northland | Helena Bay | C9 | - | 50 Mn ore | Stratiform | pyrolusite | Chert |
| | Ruapekapeka | - | Q06/e64 | - | - | - | - |
| | Otonga | C10 | Q06/e94 and Q06/e103 | Very small | Stratiform layer | psm, Mn and Fe oxides | Red clay on greywacke |
| | Patua Island | C11 | - | - | Stratiform | psm, pyrolusite | Red chert, argillite, spilite |
| | Parua Bay | C12 | Q07/e67 | 200 Mn ore | Stratiform lenses | jacobsite, psm, Mn oxides | Red argillite, chert, greywacke |
| | Manganese Point | C13 | Q07/e66 | - | Stratiform | crypt, psm | Red chert, argillite, spilite |
| | Kawau Island | C15 | R09/e56 | Very small | Stratiform lenses | Mn oxides | Chert, green argillite |
| | Waiheke Island | C16 | S11/e24– 26, e31–36 | Very small | Stratiform lenses | craunite, mang | Chert, red argillite |
| Auckland | Pakihi Island | C17 | S11/e38 | Very small | Stratiform lenses | crypt, braunite | Red argillite |

| Region | Occurrence | MM ¹ | GERM ² | Production (t) | Deposit Form | Minerals Major (Minor) | Host Rocks |
|-------------------|---------------|-----------------|--------------------|------------------------|----------------------|---|---|
| | Otau | C18 | - | 5760 Mn ore | Stratiform lenses | braunite, crypt, (hm) | Chert, red argillite, spilite |
| South Auckland | Moumoukai | C19 | S12/e43 | 1900 Mn ore | Stratiform lenses | crypt, psm, (hm, pyrolusite) | Chert, red argillite |
| | Pinnacle Hill | C20 | S12/e3, S12/e21 | 550 Mn ore | Stratiform lenses | braunite, psm, crypt, pyrolusite | Chert, red argillite |
| Wellington | Paraparaumu | C24 | - | - | Stratiform | rhodochrosite, calcite, Mn oxides | Chert, argillite, pillow lava |
| Marlborough | Onamalutu | C34 | Q28/e636 | - | Stratiform lenses | hm, piemontite, spessartine | Metachert, quartzofeldsp athic schist |
| Otago | Tooth Peak | C70 | E41/e25 | - | Stratiform bands | Mn oxides | Argillite and chert, pillow lavas |
| | Akatore | C101 | - | ~100 Mn concentrate | Stratiform bed | pyrolusite, mang | Chert, mafic tuff and lava |

¹ MM = Metallogenic map code (Brathwaite and Pirajno 1993).

 2 GERM = Geological Resource Map code.

Key References: Reed (1960); Sekula (1972); Stanaway (1972); Stanaway et al. (1978), Roser (1983); Brathwaite and Pirajno (1993).

3.13 Molybdenum (Mo)

3.13.1 International Description

International data for molybdenum are listed in Table 3.60.

Table 3.60 Major minerals, world production, reserves and resources and major uses of molybdenum.

| | Molybdenum (Mo) | | | |
|---------------|--|---|--|--|
| | Ore Minerals: Molybdenite MoS ₂ , w | ulfenite PbMoO ₄ and powellite Ca(MoW)O ₄ | | |
| = | World mine production in 2023 (USGS 2024) | 260,000 t | | |
| International | Major world producers (% of 2023 total world production) | China (42%), Chile (18%), Peru (14%), USA (13%), Mexico (6%), Armenia (3%) | | |
| Ē | World reserves (USGS 2024) | 15 Mt | | |
| | World resources (USGS 2024) | 20 Mt | | |
| | Uses: Steel, alloys and chemicals. | | | |

3.13.2 New Zealand Occurrences of Molybdenum

Molybdenum is presently associated with igneous intrusions in the South Island, mostly as *Porphyry Mo* deposits and epithermal vein deposits in the Hauraki Goldfield – both low-sulfidation and intermediate-sulfidation epithermal deposits (Figure 3.25).

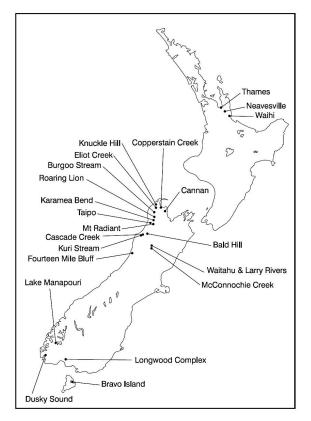


Figure 3.25 Location of molybdenum deposits in New Zealand (after Christie and Brathwaite [1995c]).

Key References: Williams (1974); Eggers and Adams (1979); Tulloch and Rabone (1993); Brathwaite and Pirajno (1993); Christie and Brathwaite (1995c).

3.13.3 Porphyry Mo

3.13.3.1 International Mineral Deposit Model

Features of the Porphyry Mo mineral deposit model are listed in Table 3.61.

 Table 3.61
 Features of the Porphyry Mo international mineral deposit model.

| International Mine | International Mineral Deposit Model – Porphyry Mo | | | | |
|---------------------------|--|--|--|--|--|
| Reference | USGS model 21b Porphyry Mo, low-F (Cox and Singer 1986); BCGS model L05 Porphyry Mo (low-F-type) (Lefebure and Ray 1995); and USGS Arc-related porphyry molybdenum deposit model (Taylor et al. 2012). | | | | |
| Description | Stockwork of molybdenite-bearing quartz veinlets and fractures in granitic rocks and associated country rocks. Deposits are low-grade but large and amenable to bulk-mining methods. | | | | |
| International Examples | Endako and Boss Mountain, British Columbia; Red Mountain, Yukon (Canada); Quart Hill, Alaska; Cannivan, Montana; Thompson Creek, Idaho (USA); Compaccha (Peru), East Kounrad (Russia); Jinduicheng (China) | | | | |
| Grade-Tonnage Model | USGS Model 21b (low F) 50 th percentile = 94 Mt and 0.085% Mo (Cox and Singer 1986). See also Lefebure and Höy (1996, Table 20) model L05. Copper is generally low-grade (e.g. Endako 0.002% Cu, Glacier Gulch 0.04% Cu, Kitsault 0.004% Cu, Quartz Hill 0.003% Cu, Red Bird 0.07% Cu and Adanac/Ruby Creek 0.001% Cu; John and Taylor 2016). | | | | |

3.13.3.2 New Zealand Occurrences of Porphyry Mo Deposits

Exploration in the late 1960s to early 1980s discovered several *Porphyry Mo* deposits in the northwestern part of the South Island (Table 3.62). These are genetically related to the emplacement of Late Cretaceous (120–106 Ma) I-type Separation Point suite granitoids into the Paleozoic S-type granites of the Karamea suite (e.g. Karamea Batholith) or adjacent quartzose metasedimentary rocks of the Aorere and Greenland groups. Most of the deposits are hosted by the metasedimentary rocks or by the intrusive Cretaceous granitic stocks, with a few (e.g. Taipo Spur) hosted in Paleozoic Karamea suite granite.

The geochemistry of the molybdenum-bearing granitoids is characterised by low K_2O , Rb and F, as well as high Sr and Ti, confirming the classification of the deposits as Mo end members of the porphyry Cu-Mo family, also known as quartz-monzonite-type, granodiorite-type and calc-alkaline-type porphyry molybdenum rather than Climax type (Tulloch and Rabone 1993).

A slightly older (133.5 Ma) porphyry Mo deposit (Brathwaite et al. 2004) is associated with the copper skarn mineralisation at Copperstain Creek.

Key References: Eggers and Adams (1979); Rabone (1989a, 1989b); Tulloch and Rabone (1993).

Table 3.62Porphyry Mo occurrences (data modified after Tables 12a, 12b and 12c of Brathwaite
and Pirajno [1993]). Minerals: cp = chalcopyrite, cup = cuprite, gn = galena, hm = hematite, mt =
magnetite, mo = molybdenite, po = pyrrhotite, py = pyrite, sb = stibnite, sch = scheelite, sp =
sphalerite, td = tetrahedrite.

| Occurrence | MM ¹ | GERM ² | Deposit Form | Minerals Major (Minor) | Host Rocks |
|----------------------------------|-----------------|-------------------|---------------------------------|---|---|
| Copperstain Creek | A9 | M25/e542 | Disseminated | py, cp, mo | Skarn, schist, marble, granodiorite porphyry |
| Gold Creek | A13 | N26/e508 | Quartz vein stockwork | py, mo | Quartzite |
| Eliot Creek | A20 | M25/e512 | Quartz vein stockwork | mo, py, (cp, po, sp, gn, Bi-minerals) | Phyllite, quartzite, granodiorite |
| Knuckle Hill | - | M25/e517 | Quartz vein stockwork | mo, py | Granite |
| Burgoo | A21 | M25/e511 | Quartz vein stockwork | mo, py | Phyllite, quartzite, granodiorite |
| Roaring Lion – Discovery | A22 | M26/e516 | Quartz vein stockwork | mo, py, (cp, gn, sp) | Hornfelsed quartzite and siltstone; granodiorite |
| Roaring Lion – Cobra | A23 | M26/e515 | Quartz vein stockwork | mo, py, (po, mt, cp, gn, sp) | Quartzite and hornfelsed sanstone |
| Roaring Lion – Grace | A24 | M27/e514 | Multiple quartz pegmatite veins | mo, py, (cp, sb) | Hornfelsed sandstone and siltsone; granite |
| Ugly | - | M27/e518 | Quartz vein stockwork | mo, cp, gn, sp | Potassic granite, granodiorite |
| Karamea Bend | A25 | M27/e513 | Quartz vein stockwork | mo, py, (sp, cp, tennantite, gn, po, Bi-minerals) | Quartz-sericite schist and argillite; quartz monzonite and diorite |
| Kakapo | A26 | M27/e509 | Quartz vein stockwork | py, mo, (mt) | Quartz monazite and granodiorite |
| Allen River | - | M28/e501 | Quartz vein stockwork | - | Porphyritic granite |
| Mt Scarlett | A27 | L27/e503 | Quartz veins | po, cp, mo | Biotite granite |
| Anaconda | A29 | L27/e506 | Quartz-sulfide vein | cp, mo, py | Granite gneiss |
| Copper Creek Reef, Mt Radiant | - | L27/e504 | Quartz vein stockwork | cp, py, bn, cup, sch | Porphyritic biotite granite |
| Stormy Ridge area | - | L27/e559 | Quartz vein stockwork | mo, py | Porphyry granite, granodiorite |
| Mt Radiant | A30 | L28/e505 | Quartz and pegmatite veins | py, cp, mo, (td, bn, emplectite) | Foliated granite and granite gneiss; quartz monxonite and granodiorite |
| Таіро | A32 | M28/e502 | Multiple quartz veins | py, mo, (mt, hm) | Porphyritic granite; microgranite |

| Occurrence | MM ¹ | GERM ² | Deposit Form | Minerals Major (Minor) | Host Rocks |
|-------------------------|-----------------|-------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------------|--|
| Bald Hill | A44 | L29/e142 | Quartz vein stockwork | mo, py, (cp, bismuthinite) | Hornfelsed greywacke and argillite; trondhjemite porphyry |
| Cascade Stream | A48 | K29/e74 | Quartz vein stockwork | py, cp, mo, mt | Hornfelsed greywacke; quartz porphyry |
| Kuri Stream | A49 | K29/e73 | Quartz vein | py, mo, cp | Greywacke |
| McConnochie Creek | A66 | L30/e252 | Quartz veins | cp, mo, py, bismuth | Greywacke, argillite; granite |
| Fourteen Mile Bluff | - | J31/e25 | Quartz vein stockwork | mo, py | Greywacke intruded by granite |
| Seventeen Mile Bluff | A77 | J31/e26 | Quartz vein stockwork | mo, py, cp, (sp, Bi-minerals) | Hornfelsed greywacke; granite |

¹ MM = Metallogenic map code (Brathwaite and Pirajno 1993).

 2 GERM = Geological Resource Map code.

3.14 Nickel (Ni)

3.14.1 International Description

International data for nickel are listed in Table 3.63.

| Table 2.62 | Major minorale world production | , reserves and resources and major uses of nickel. |
|-------------|---------------------------------|--|
| 1 able 3.03 | | |
| | | |

| | | Nickel (Ni) | | | |
|---------------|---|---|--|--|--|
| | Ore Minerals: Breithauptite NiSb, choanthite (white nickel) NiAs ₂ , garnierite (Ni,Mg) ₃ Si ₂ O ₅ (OH) ₄ (nickel serpentine), gersdorffite NiAsS, millerite (yellow nickel) NiS, niccolite (red nickel, kupfernickel) NiAs, pentlandite (Fe,Ni)S, pyrrhotite (Fe,Ni)S and ullmannite NiSbS | | | | |
| _ | World production in 2023 (USGS 2024) | 3.6 Mt | | | |
| International | Major world producers (% of 2023 total world production) (USGS 2024) | Indonesia (50%), Philippines (11%), New Caledonia (6%), Russia (6%), Canada (5%), Australia (4%), China (3%), Brazil (2%) | | | |
| ľ | World reserves (USGS 2024) | >130 Mt | | | |
| | World resources (USGS 2024) >350 Mt with 54% in laterites and 35% in magmatide deposits | | | | |
| | Uses: Most nickel is used in stainless steel, but its use in lithium-ion batteries for electric vehicles is growing rapidly. | | | | |

3.14.2 New Zealand Occurrences of Nickel

Nickel occurrences are shown in Figures 3.26 and 3.27. Nickel is associated with maficultramafic rocks in the South Island. The nickel and associated metals precipitated out during cooling and crystallisation of mafic-ultramafic magmas. Nickel occurs as pentlandite, along with accessory minerals pyrrhotite, chalcopyrite and magnetite. The relatively high density of the sulfur liquids and associated sulfide minerals results in these settling at the base of the magma chamber, potentially at ore-grade concentrations. In New Zealand, these types of deposits are classified as *Dunitic Ni-Cu* and *Gabbroid-associated Ni-Cu*. Weathering of these primary deposits may develop *Lateritic Ni*.

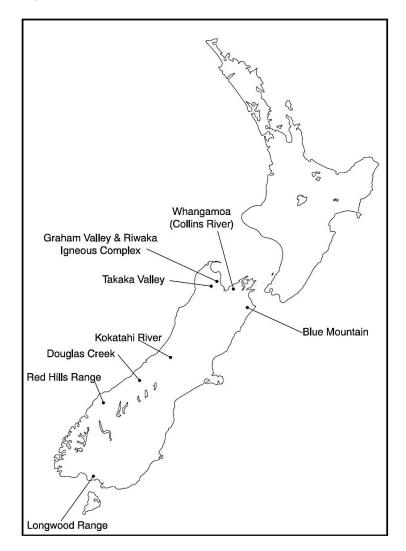


Figure 3.26 Location of nickel deposits in New Zealand (after Christie and Brathwaite [1995b]).

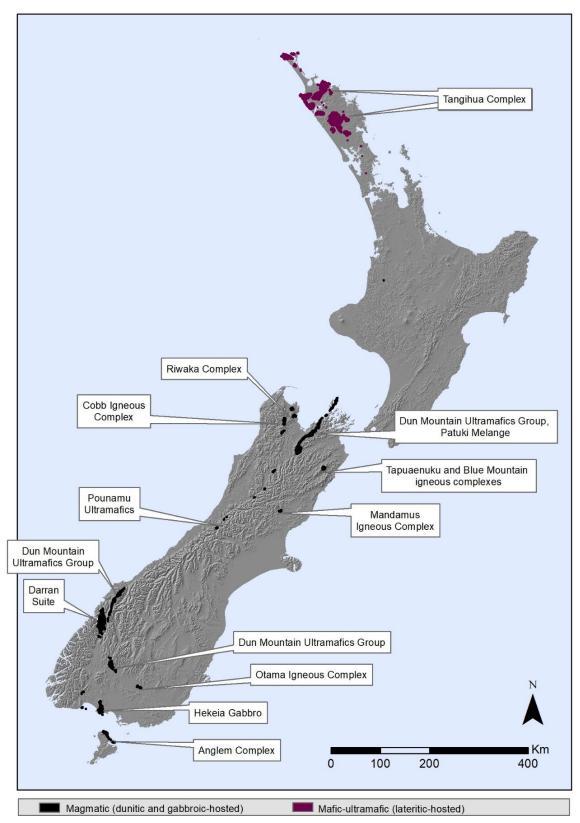


Figure 3.27 Location of mapped, ultramafic and mafic geology that could potentially host magmatic nickel and cobalt deposits in New Zealand (after Durance et al. [2018]).

Key References: Williams (1974); Brathwaite and Pirajno (1993); Christie and Brathwaite (1995d); Christie et al. (2010); Christie and Barker (2016); Christie and Turnbull (2016); Brathwaite et al. (2016, 2017a, 2017b); Turnbull et al. (2017); Durance et al. (2018).

3.14.3 Dunitic Ni-Cu

3.14.3.1 International Mineral Deposit Model

Features of the *Dunitic Ni-Cu* mineral deposit model are listed in Table 3.64. Note that there is overlap with the *Gabbroid-associated Ni-Cu* model.

 Table 3.64
 Features of international mineral deposit models equivalent to the Dunitic Ni-Cu model used in this report.

| International Mine | International Mineral Deposit Model – <i>Dunitic Ni-Cu</i> | | | | |
|---------------------------|---|--|--|--|--|
| Reference | USGS model 6b Dunitic Ni-Cu (Cox and Singer 1986) and USGS model for magmatic sulfide-rich Ni-Cu-(platinum group elements) deposits related to mafic and ultramafic dike-sill complexes (Schulz et al. 2014) | | | | |
| Description | Disseminated sulfide mineralisation in intrusive dunites. Typically, dunitic and olivine peridotite lenses up to 1 km long and 100 m thick host lenticular shoots of massive, matrix and breccia sulfide. Ore minerals include pyrrhotite, pentlandite, magnetite, pyrite, chalcopyrite and chromite. Dunitic Ni-Cu deposits are analogous to the Ni-Cu deposits in basal ultramafic parts of greenstone belts with komatiitic, dunitic and picritic sub-types of Dill (2010) | | | | |
| International Examples | Jinchuan, Xiarihamu (China); Kabanga (Tanzania); Wellgreen, Yukon; Voisey's Bay, Newfoundland (Canada); Noril'sk and Pechanga (Russia); Agnew and Mt Keith, Western Australia (Australia) | | | | |
| Grade-Tonnage Model | USGS model 6b 50 th percentile = 29 Mt at 1% Ni, possible by-product Cu, PGM, Au and Co (Cox and Singer 1986) | | | | |

3.14.3.2 New Zealand Occurrences of Dunitic Ni-Cu Deposits

In New Zealand, this deposit type is associated with disseminated sulfide mineralisation in ultramafic and mafic intrusive rocks and has the potential to be hosted in the Permian serpentinite, dunite and peridotite of the Dun Mountain Ultramafic Group rocks (e.g. Serpentine-hosted Fe-Cu deposits; Table 3.20), as well as the Mesozoic lensoid schistose serpentinite of the Pounamu Ultramafics and in areas associated with other ultramafic igneous complexes. The occurrence of disseminated nickel mineralisation in the form of awaruite \pm heazlewoodite \pm pentlandite \pm native copper in serpentinised peridotites in the Dun Mountain ultramafics in east Nelson (Brathwaite et al. 2016, 2017a) is similar to disseminated awaruite in serpentinised ophiolitic peridotites of the Cache Creek complex in British Columbia (Britten 2017) that have economic potential for nickel.

3.14.4 Gabbroid-Associated Ni-Cu

3.14.4.1 International Mineral Deposit Model

Features of the Gabbroid-associated Ni-Cu mineral deposit model are listed in Table 3.65.

 Table 3.65
 Features of the Gabbroid-associated Ni-Cu international mineral deposit model.

| International Mine | International Mineral Deposit Model – Gabbroid-Associated Ni-Cu | | | | |
|---------------------------|--|--|--|--|--|
| Reference | USGS model 7a Synorogenic-synvolcanic Ni-Cu (Cox and Singer 1986). Gabbroid-associated Ni-Cu deposits are analogous to the Ni-Cu-(platinum group elements [PGE]) deposits in rift-related volcanic host rocks of Dill (2010). USGS model for magmatic sulfide-rich Ni-Cu-(PGE) deposits related to mafic and ultramafic dike-sill complexes (Schulz et al. 2014) | | | | |
| Description | Massive lenses, matrix and disseminated sulfide in small- to medium-sized gabbroic intrusions in greenstone belts. The sulfides are commonly in the more ultramafic parts of the complex and near the basal contacts of the intrusion. Host rocks are norite, gabbro- norite, pyroxenite, peridotite, troctolite and anorthosite, forming layered or composite igneous complexes. The main ore minerals are pyrrhotite, pentlandite and chalcopyrite, as well as local pyrite, Ti-magnetite, Cr-magnetite, graphite, by-product Co and PGE. | | | | |
| International Examples | Sudbury Igneous Complex (Canada); Stillwater Complex (USA); Bushveld Igneous Complex (South Africa); Great Dyke (Zimbabwe) | | | | |
| Grade-Tonnage Model | Model 7a 50 th percentile = 2.1 Mt and 0.77% Ni and 0.47% Cu (for 16,170 t Ni and 9870 t Cu; using 16,000 t Ni and 10,000 t Cu), possible by-product Co, Au and platinum group metals (Cox and Singer 1986) | | | | |

3.14.4.2 New Zealand Occurrences of Gabbroid-Associated Ni-Cu Deposits

The most significant occurrence is Ni-Cu sulfide mineralisation associated with the Riwaka mafic-ultramafic complex of Late Devonian age in the Graham Valley, Northwest Nelson (Table 3.66; Christie and Turnbull 2016; Turnbull et al. 2017). The complex is a series of layered intrusions emplaced along a fault zone in marble, phyllite and biotite schist (Bates 1989a). The Graham Valley Ni-Cu mineralisation occurs mainly within the cumulus gabbro between the Graham and Pearce valleys (e.g. Prospect, Field and Price's creeks), where sulfide content ranges from 1 to 50%, characteristically with Ni>Cu. Nickel sulfide mineralisation is also associated with mafic-ultramafic rocks in the Cobb Valley (upper Takaka, e.g. Meter Creek) and at Blue Mountain in Marlborough. Minor occurrences are found in mafic-ultramafic rocks of the Red Hills range of Westland and Otago, the Darran Mountains of Fiordland (e.g. Camera Lake and Falls Creek), various locations in Southland, including West Dome, Otama Igneous Complex, Longwood Range and Takitimu Mountains, and in the Anglem Complex of Rakiura / Stewart Island.

Drilling at the Riwaka prospect in the 1970s was mainly to shallow depths and there is potential to expand on this exploration for Ni-Cu, along with associated platinum group elements (PGE).

Challenges: The Riwaka prospect lies on the margin of the Kahurangi National Park with part of the prospect within the park.

Key References: Bates (1989a); Christie and Brathwaite (1995d); Christie et al. (2010); Partington et al. (2001); Christie and Turnbull (2016); Turnbull et al. (2017); Durance et al. (2018).

Table 3.66Gabbroid-associated Ni-Cu model occurrences (data modified after Brathwaite and Pirajno [1993]).Minerals: cp = chalcopyrite; il = ilmenite; mt = magnetite; pnt = pentlandite; po = pyrrhotite; py = pyrite.

| Occurrence | MM ¹ | GERM ² | Deposit Form | Minerals Major (Minor) | Host Rocks |
|--|-----------------|-----------------------|------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Riwaka Complex, Graham Valley | A18 | M27/e569, 570, 519 | Disseminated lenses | po, cp, pnt, py, mt | Pyroxenite, gabbro |
| Cobb Igneous Complex (e.g. Meter Creek) | - | M26/e43, 46 | - | - | Diorite |
| Mt Solitary | A103 | B44/e2 | Disseminated | po, cp, pnt | Petadiorite, peridotite |
| Blue Mountain | D1 | P29/e10 | Disseminated | ро, ср | Alkali gabbro, pyroxenite |
| Mt Tapuaenuku | D2 | O30/e2 | Disseminated | py, po, cp, mt, il, apatite | Pyroxenite, gabbro, anorthosite |

¹ MM = Metallogenic map code (Brathwaite and Pirajno 1993).

² GERM = Geological Resource Map code.

3.14.5 Lateritic Ni

3.14.5.1 International Mineral Deposit Model

Features of the Lateritic Ni mineral deposit model are listed in Table 3.67.

| International Mine | ral Deposit Model – <i>Lateritic Ni</i> | | | | | |
|---------------------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| Reference | USGS model 38a Lateritic Ni (Cox and Singer 1986); Dill (2010); and Ni-Co laterites (Marsh et al. 2013) | | | | | |
| Description | Nickel-rich <i>in situ</i> lateritic weathering products developed from ultramafic rocks, particularly peridotite, dunite and serpentinised peridotite. Nickel-rich iron oxides are most common. Some deposits are predominantly nickel silicates. | | | | | |
| International Examples | Poro (New Caledonia); Cerro Matosa (Columbia); Nickel Mountain, Oregon (USA); Greenvale, Queensland (Australia) | | | | | |
| Grade-Tonnage Model | USGS model 38a 50 th percentile = 44 Mt at 1.4% Ni (616,000 t Ni, using 600,000 t Ni) (Cox and Singer 1986). | | | | | |

 Table 3.67
 Features of the Lateritic Ni international mineral deposit model.

3.14.5.2 New Zealand Occurrences of Lateritic Ni Deposits

Traces of nickel have been found in the laterite developed on the serpentinite and gabbro at Surville Cliffs, North Cape (Bell and de C Clarke 1909). Durance et al. (2018) suggested that there was potential for lateritic nickel in the ultramafic components of the ophiolitic Tangihua Complex.

3.15 Platinum Group Metals (PGM)

3.15.1 International Description

International data for platinum group metals are listed in Table 3.68.

 Table 3.68
 Major minerals, world production, reserves and resources and major uses for platinum group metals.

| | Platinum Group Metals (PGM) | | | | | | | | | | |
|---------------|---|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| | Ruthenium (Ru) | nium (Ru) Rhodium (Rh) Palladium (Pd) Osmium (Os) Iridium (Ir) Platinum (Pt) | | | | | | | | | |
| nal | Ore Minerals: Braggite (Pt,Pd,Ni)S, cooperite (Pt,Pd)S, iridosmine OsIr, geversite PtSb ₂ , laurite RuS ₂ , monchelite (Pt,Pd)(Te,Bi) ₂ , native palladium Pd, native platinum Pt, native iridium Ir, osmiridium IrOs, rutheniridosmine RuOsIr, sperrylite PtAs ₂ , stabio-palladinite Pd ₃ Sb Ruthenium Uses: Electronics, jewellery, medical and dental tools, mechanical bearings and parts Rhodium Uses: Vehicle exhaust catalysts, crucibles, thermocouples, electrodes | | | | | | | | | | |
| International | Palladium Uses: Vehicle exhaust catalysts, jewellery, electronics, dentistry, chemical reagents | | | | | | | | | | |
| nteri | Osmium Uses: Jewellery, fountain pen nibs, medical and dental tools, mechanical bearings and parts | | | | | | | | | | |
| - | Iridium Uses: Crucibles, thermocouples, electrodes | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Platinum Uses: Jewellery, vehicle-exhaust catalysts, dentistry, glass, crucibles, thermocouples, electrodes, coinage, chemicals manufacture | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Trends: The use for PGMs is mainly for emissions-capping catalytic converters in diesel and petrol engines. Increasing electrification of vehicles has resulted in a decline in the demand and price for PGMs. | | | | | | | | | | |

3.15.2 Platinum Group Metals in New Zealand

PGM occur in three main geological environments: layered mafic igneous complexes, ophiolites, and in association with placer gold deposits (Figure 3.28). Past production of PGM has seen the recovery of small quantities in the late 1800s and early 1900s as a by-product of placer gold mining in Southland.

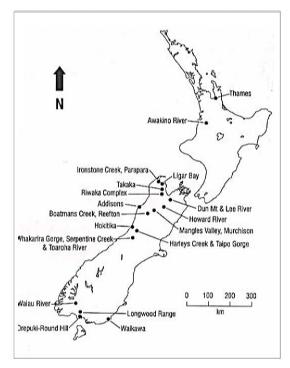


Figure 3.28 Location of platinum group metal occurrences (after Christie and Challis [1995]).

Key References: Williams (1974); Cowden et al. (1990); Brathwaite and Pirajno (1993); Christie and Challis (1995); Christie et al. (2006c); Ashley et al. (2012); Craw et al. (2016).

3.15.3 Magmatic PGM

3.15.3.1 International Mineral Deposit Model

Features of the *Magmatic PGM* mineral deposit model and *Alaskan-type* sub-model are listed in Table 3.69.

Table 3.69Features of international mineral deposit models relevant to the Magmatic PGM model and Alaskan-
type sub-model used in this report.

| International Mine | ral Deposit Model – <i>Magmatic PGM</i> |
|---------------------------|---|
| Reference | USGS model 2b Merensky Reef platinum group elements (Cox and Singer 1986); and USGS model for reef-type PGE and contact-type Cu-Ni-PGE deposits (Zientek 2012). <i>Alaskan-type</i> sub-model USGS model 9 Alaskan PGE (Cox and Singer 1986); and BCGS model M05 Alaskan-type Pt±Os±Rh±Ir (Lefebure and Höy 1996). |
| Description | Ultramafic intrusive complexes, commonly zoned, forming sills, stocks or intrusive. <i>Alaskan-type</i> sub-model: Ultramafic intrusive complexes, commonly zoned, forming sills, stocks or intrusive bodies with poorly known external geometry. Sub-economic platinum group elements (PGE) in lode occurrences are associated with: (1) thin (centimetre-scale), disrupted chromitite layers, (2) thick (metre-scale) concentrations of cumulus magnetite or (3) clinopyroxenite. Chromitite-hosted PGE occurrences are the main source of PGE for placer deposits. Lode occurrences of PGEs are primarily controlled by magmatic cumulate stratigraphy: (1) chromitites are restricted to dunites where they form thin discontinuous layers, or schlieren, pods and nodular masses seldom more than a metre in length; (2) magnetities and concentrations of cumulus magnetite form well-bedded, locally continuous, layers up to 6 m thick, intercalated with hornblende clinopyroxenite; (3) lenses and vein-like bodies of relatively coarse-grained or 'pegmatoid', biotite and magnetite-poor, PGE-bearing clinopyroxenites are enclosed by finer-grained biotite and magnetite-rich PGE-poor clinopyroxenites. |
| International Examples | <i>Alaskan-type</i> sub-model Red Mountain, Goodnews Bay, Alaska; Tin Cup Peak, Oregon (USA); Ural Mountains and Aldan Shield (Russia); Fifield district, New South Wales (Australia) |
| Grade-Tonnage Model | Major overseas deposits are in the tens of millions of tonnes and grade 10–20 g/t PGM, as well as associated nickel and copper. We suggest a model size of 5 Mt, grading 5 g/t PGM (~0.8 Moz PGM). |

The *Alaskan-type* sub-model described in Table 3.70 is a sub-type of the *Magmatic PGM* model, and some *Magmatic PGM* deposits in New Zealand are similar to this model, particularly the Greenhills Complex at Bluff.

3.15.3.2 New Zealand Occurrences of Magmatic PGM Deposits

PGM are associated with magmatic nickel-copper sulfides in layered mafic complexes. Complexes that have been identified as prospective by the presence of *in situ* PGE, or nearby placer PGE with high Pt+Pd/Ru+Os+Ir ratios include the Riwaka, Rotoroa, Longwood and Greenhills (Bluff) complexes (Challis 1989; Mitchell 1995) These and other prospective intrusive complexes are listed in Table 3.70 and their locations shown in Part 1 (Figure 8.9). Exploration to date has been of a reconnaissance nature and consisted mostly of stream-sediment, soil and rock-chip geochemical surveys. The most advanced prospect, the Longwood Complex, has been tested by four drill holes totalling 2500 m (Figure 3.29) in 2024; this is being explored by Midway Resources.

Table 3.70Prospects explored for Magmatic PGM (data modified after Brathwaite and Pirajno [1993]). Minerals:
cp = chalcopyrite; il = ilmenite; mt = magnetite; pnt = pentlandite; po = pyrrhotite; py = pyrite; Pt =
platinum.

| Region | Occurrence | MM ¹ | GERM ² | Deposit Form | Minerals Major (Minor) | Host Rocks |
|-------------|-------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| | Riwaka Complex | A18 | M27/e519, 569, 570 | Disseminated lenses | po, cp, pnt, py, mt | Pyroxenite, gabbro |
| West Nelson | Rotoroa Complex | - | - | Disseminated | - | - |
| | Cobb Igneous Complex | - | - | Chromitite veins | - | Pyroxenite, peridotite |
| | Blue Mountain | D1 | P29/e10 | Disseminated | ро, ср | Alkali gabbro, pyroxenite |
| | Mt Tapuaenuku | D2 | O30/e2 | Disseminated | py, po, co, mt, il, apatite | Pyroxenite, gabbro, anorthosite |
| Marlborough | Takitimu Mts | - | - | Disseminated | - | - |
| | Woodlaw | - | - | Disseminated | - | - |
| | Longwood Complex | B40 | D46/e43, 46, 47 | Disseminated | cp, Pt, gold | Anorthosite, troctolite |
| | Green Hills Complex, Bluff | | - | Disseminated in layers | chromite | Dunite |

¹ MM = Metallogenic map code (Brathwaite and Pirajno 1993).

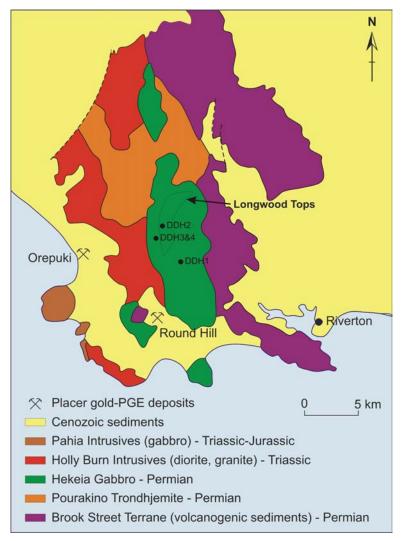


Figure 3.29 Geology of the Longwood Complex and environs, Southland (modified after Christie et al. [2006c]).

Except for Blue Mountain and Tapuaenuku, all of the gabbroic complexes with known associated PGE mineralisation lie within the Median Batholith, a narrow band of predominantly plutonic rocks separated into northern and southern sections by a 480 km offset across the Alpine Fault (Figure 3.30). The Devonian-Cretaceous Median Batholith (Mortimer et al. 1999) is a fundamental tectonic unit of the South Island separating the Western and Eastern Provinces, which consist of Paleozoic–Mesozoic meta-sedimentary terranes. The Western Province was part of the Gondwana supercontinent since at least the Permian. Rocks of the Eastern Province have been progressively accreted to the Western Province and Median Batholith since about 240 Ma (Early Triassic).

The Median Batholith comprises a variety of calc-alkaline plutons of gabbro, diorite and granite, with mostly Triassic–Cretaceous ages in the range 230–125 Ma, but some Permian gabbros and Devonian–Carboniferous plutons are also present. Genetically related metavolcanic and metasedimentary rocks make up about 10% by area of the Median Batholith.

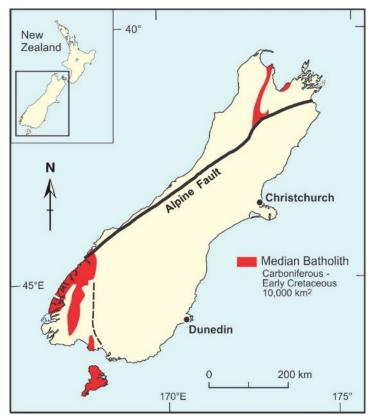


Figure 3.30 Location of the Median Batholith.

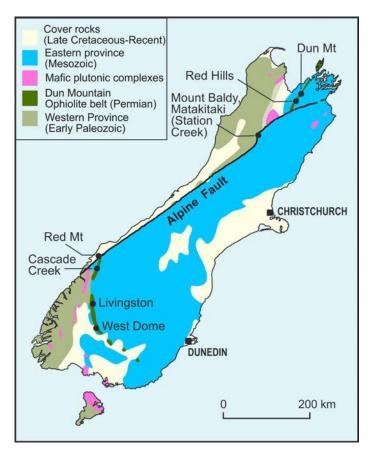
3.15.4 *Dunitic PGM* – Dun Mountain Ophiolite Belt

Several chromite occurrences in the Permian Dun Mountain Ophiolite Belt have been investigated for PGM potential. Locations of interest are listed in Table 3.71 and Figure 3.31. The Mount Baldy, Matakitaki, occurrence in east Nelson contains elevated Pt (717–1069 ppb) and Pd (287–531 ppb) in chromite (Brathwaite et al. 2012c, 2016, 2017a).

| Region | Occurrence | MM ¹ | GERM ² | Production (t) | Deposit Form | Minerals Major (Minor) | Host Rocks |
|----------------------|----------------------------|-----------------|-------------------|--------------------|--------------------------|------------------------------|--|
| | Dun Mt | B15 | O27/e573 | ~1400 | Podiform lenses | Chromite | Serpentinised dunite and harzburgite |
| West Nelson | Red Hills | B22 | N29/e11 | - | Podiform lenses | Chromite | Dunite and harzburgite |
| | Mount Baldy, Matakitaki | B23 | - | - | Chromite segregations | Chromite, Pt, Pd | Gabbro, diorite |
| Otago – Southland | Red Mt | E39/e5 | - | Podiform lenses | Chromite | Ultramafics | - |

Table 3.71 Prospect explored for *Dunitic PGM*. Minerals: Pd = palladium; Pt = platinum.

¹ MM = Metallogenic map code (Brathwaite and Pirajno 1993).





3.15.5 Placer PGM

3.15.5.1 International Mineral Deposit Model

Features of the *Placer PGM* mineral deposit model are listed in Table 3.72.

| International Mineral Deposit Model – Placer PGM | | | | | | | |
|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| Reference | USGS model 39a Placer Au-PGE (Cox and Singer 1986) | | | | | | |
| Description | Elemental gold and PGE alloys in grains and (rarely) nuggets in gravel, sand, silt and clay, and their consolidated equivalents, in alluvial, beach, eolian and (rarely) glacial deposits. | | | | | | |
| International Examples | Sierra Nevada, California (USA); Victoria (Australia) | | | | | | |
| Grade-Tonnage Model | Model 39a 50 th percentile = 1.1 Mt and 0.2 g/t Au/PGM, possible by-product Ag (Cox and Singer 1986). | | | | | | |

3.15.5.2 New Zealand Occurrences of Placer PGM Deposits

Detrital platinum has been recorded from several locations in the South Island, associated with placer gold (Figure 3.32; Challis 1989). The main alluvial prospects of economic interest are in Southland, principally the Waiau River and various prospects peripheral to the Longwood Complex (Table 3.73; Hay 1989; Stevens and Phillip 1992; Stevens 1992). Additionally, several beach-sand deposits may be prospective, including Te Wae Wae Bay and beaches on the southeast Catlins coast such as Waikawa (Graves 1987; Clark and Norton 1990; MacDonell 1992). These are primarily placer gold prospects with potential for by-product PGE.

Other occurrences of detrital PGM include Ironstone Creek near Parapara, Ligar Bay, near Collingwood, from alluvial gold workings around Takaka, in the Howard River in south Nelson, Lee River in the east Nelson Dun Mountain Ophiolite Belt and in alluvial and beach gold workings on the West Coast.

Challis (1989) noted that the mineralogy of the detrital PGE could be used to characterise the source, principally by using the ratio of Pt+Pd to Ru+Os+Ir. High ratios are indicative of a layered igneous complex source, whereas low ratios suggest derivation from the Dun Mountain Ophiolite Belt, Pounamu Ultramafics or similar sources. Therefore the Pt+Pd/Ru+Os+Ir ratio of detrital PGE occurrences can be used as a prospecting tool to highlight the PGE prospectivity of nearby igneous complexes.

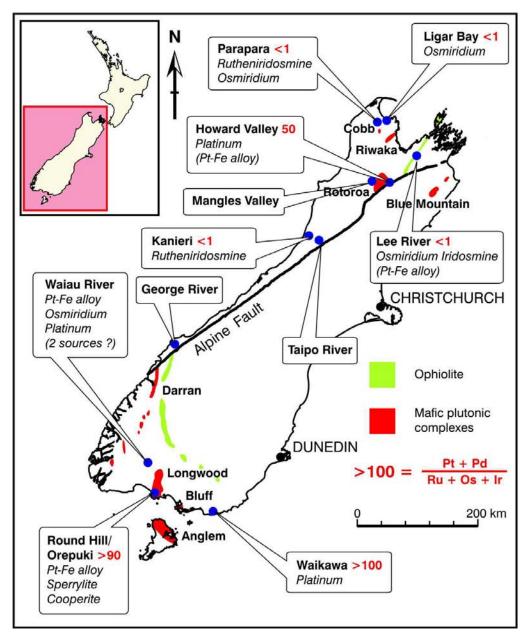


Figure 3.32 Locations of detrital platinum group metals (PGM) and *Placer PGM* where known (from data in Challis [1989]; Mitchell [1995]). Placer PGE from layered mafic complexes have high ratios of Pt+Pd/Ru+Os+Ir, whereas PGE sourced from ophiolites have low ratios (after Christie and Barker [2013]).

Production consists of 47 kg of PGM that was produced as a by-product of placer gold mining at Round Hill near Orepuki (1897–1907) and 13 kg of PGM concentrate that was produced from gold claims along the south coast of Southland (1907–1916) (Brathwaite and Pirajno 1993).

Occurrences of *Placer PGM* deposits are listed in Table 3.73.

Table 3.73*Placer PGM* model occurrences. Minerals: il = ilmenite; mt = magnetite; mz = monazite; rt = rutile;
Pt = platinum; th = thorite; zr = zircon.

| Region | Occurrence | MM ¹ | GERM ² | Production (t) | Deposit Form | Minerals Major (Minor) | Host Rocks | |
|----------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------|-------------------|----------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------|--|--|
| | Parapara- Collingwood | F10 | M25/e591 | Small | Gold | | Quartz conglomerate | |
| West Nelson | Lee River | - | N28/e590 | - | Alluvial placer | Pt | - | |
| | Maud Creek | - | M29/e21 | - | Alluvial placer | Pt | - | |
| Southland | Tunnel Claim, Waiau Mouth | F190 | D46/e31 | Very small | Beach placer | Gold, mt, zr, rt, Pt, mz | Beach sand (black sand leads) | |
| | Orepuki | F191 | D46/e41 | Very small | Alluvial and beach placers | Gold, mt, ze, rt, Pt, mz | Beach sand and terrace gravels | |
| | Round Hill | F192 | D46/e42 | >2.5 Au >0.047 Pt | Alluvial placer | Gold, mt, il, mz, Pt | Gabbro gravels | |
| | Waipapa Beach | F193 | F47/e13 | Very small | Beach placer | Gold, Pt, mt | Beach and dune sands (black sand leads) | |
| | Haldane Bay | F194 | F47/e10 | Very small | Beach placer | Gold, Pt | Beach and dune sands (black sand leads) | |
| | Porpoise Bay | F195 | - | Very small | Beach and eolian placer | Gold, Pt | Beach and dune sands | |
| | Wallace Beach | F196 | D47/e12 | Very small | Beach placer | Gold, Pt, il, zr | Beach sand | |
| | Progress Valley Beach, Waikawa | F197 | - | Very small | Beach placer | Gold, Pt, mz, th | Beach sand (black sand) | |

¹ MM = Metallogenic map code (Brathwaite and Pirajno 1993).

3.16 Rare Earth Elements

3.16.1 International Description

International data for rare earth elements (REE) are listed in Table 3.74.

Table 3.74Major elements, ore minerals, world production, reserves and resources and major uses of rare earth
elements, as well as associates scandium, yttrium and thorium.

| | Platinum Group Metals (PGM) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|------------|--|-------------|------------------|----------------|-----------------|---|-------------------------------|-----------------|--------------|-----------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|----------------|---------------|---------------|-------------|--------------|
| | Lanthium (La) | Cerium (Ce) | Praseodmium (Pr) | Neodymium (Nd) | Promethium (Pm) | Samarium (Sm) | Europium (Eu) | Gadolinium (Gd) | Terbium (Tb) | Dysprosium (Dy) | Holmium (Ho) | Erbium (Er) | Thulium (Tm) | Ytterbium (Yb) | Lutetium (Lu) | Scandium (Sc) | Yttrium (Y) | Thorium (Th) |
| nal | | | | | | | | | F | | | | | | | | | |
| Internatio | Ore Minerals: Allanite (epidote group) CaCe(Fe ²⁺ Al ₂)(SiO ₄) ₃ (OH) or CaY(Fe ²⁺ Al ₂)(SiO ₄) ₃ (OH), apatite (Ca,Na,Ce,Th) ₅ (P,Si,S,Bi) ₃ O ₁₂ (F,OH,Cl,O), bastnaesite (Ce,La)(CO ₃)F, brannerite (U,Th,Ca,Y)(Ti,Fe) ₂ O ₆ , cerite Ce ₉ (Ca)Fe ³⁺ ,Mg)(SiO ₄) ₆ [SiO ₃ (OH)](OH) ₃ , euxenite (Y,Ca,Ce,U,Th)(Nb,Ta,Ti) ₂ O ₆ , fergusonite (Y,Ce,U,Th,Ca)(Nb,Ta,Ti)O ₄ , florencite REEAl ₃ (PO4) ₂ (OH) ₆ , gadolinite Be ₂ FeY ₂ Si ₂ O ₁₀ , huttonite ThSiO ₄ , loparite (niobium perovskite) (Ca,Ce,N) ₂ (Nb,Ti) ₂ O ₆ , monazite (Ce,La,Nd,Th)PO ₄ , thorite ThSiO ₄ , uranthorite (U,Th)SiO ₄ , xenotime YPO ₄ and zircon ZrSiO ₄ | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | World production | | | | | 2 | 200,914 t (average 2015–2019) | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Major world producers (% of average total 2015–2019) | | | | | China (76%), Burma (9%), Australia (8%) | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | s: High | | ngth m | agnet | s (e.g | . electr | ic veh | icles a | and wir | nd turl | bines) | catal | ysts ai | nd poli | ishing | | |

3.16.2 New Zealand Occurrences of Rare Earth Elements

The main locations of interest for PGM are shown in Figures 3.33 and 3.34. Monazite $(Ce,La,Y,Th)PO_4$ and xenotime YPO_4 occur as trace minerals in some granites, pegmatites and gneisses and are concentrated in placer-sand deposits derived from these source rocks. The main occurrences are in heavy-mineral-rich beach placers in Northwest Nelson, Westland and Southland and at Port Pegasus on Rakiura / Stewart Island. REE are also associated with carbonatite dikes and alkaline intrusive rocks in the South Island. REE may also be concentrated in clays produced by weathering of Late Miocene–Pliocene alkaline rhyolite domes.

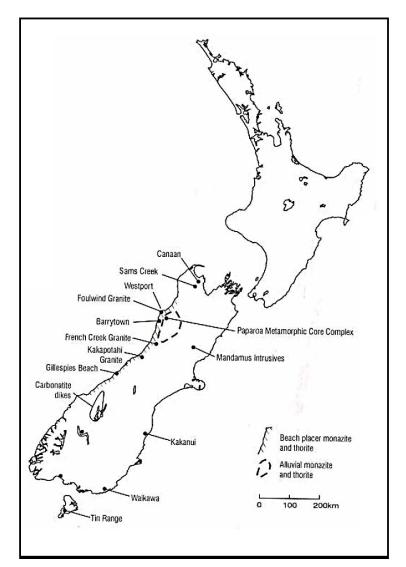


Figure 3.33 Location of rare earth element occurrences in New Zealand (after Christie et al. [1998]).

Key References: Williams (1974); Brathwaite and Pirajno (1993); Christie et al. (1998).

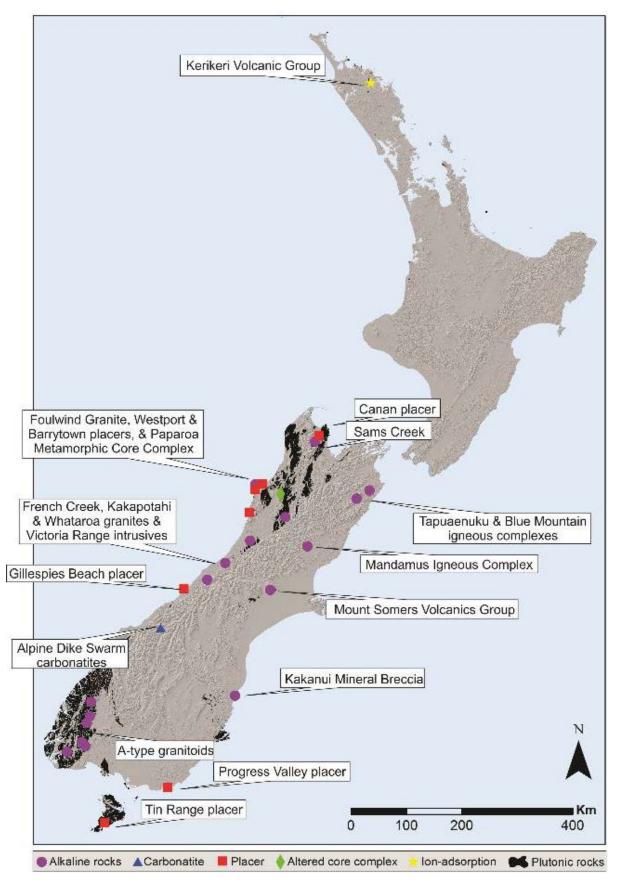


Figure 3.34 The location of plutonic rocks (black polygons) and lithologies with rare earth element potential in New Zealand (after Morgenstern et al. [2018]).

3.16.3 Carbonatite-Hosted REE (Rare Earth Elements)

3.16.3.1 International Mineral Deposit Model

Features of the Carbonatite-hosted REE mineral deposit model are listed in Table 3.75.

Table 3.75Features of international mineral deposit models equivalent to the Carbonatite-hosted REE model
used in this report.

| International Mine | International Mineral Deposit Model – Carbonatite-Hosted REE | | | | | |
|---------------------------|---|--|--|--|--|--|
| Reference | USGS model 10 Carbonatite deposits (Cox and Singer 1986); BCGS model N01 Carbonatite-hosted deposits (Simandl et al. 1999); and USGS Carbonatite and peralkaline intrusion-related REE deposits (Verplanck et al. 2014). | | | | | |
| Description | Magmatic and metasomatic rare earth element mineralisations are found associated with some carbonatite and alkaline igneous intrusives. | | | | | |
| International Examples | Bayan Obo, Inner Mongolia (China); Mountain Pass, California (USA) | | | | | |
| Grade-Tonnage Model | USGS model 10 50 th percentile = 6.3 Mt at 0.36% Nb ₂ O ₅ and 0.009% Re ₂ O ₅ for 22,680 t Nb ₂ O ₅ and 567 t Re ₂ O ₅ (Singer 1998). Deposits range in size up to 62.5 Mt at an average grade of 4.1% rare earth oxides (Bayan Obo in Inner Mongolia, People's Republic of China). The USGS model is biased toward Nb deposits. | | | | | |

3.16.3.2 New Zealand Occurrences of Carbonatite-Hosted REE Deposits

Carbonatitic lamprophyre rocks are associated with the Alpine Dike Swarm that intrude Haast Schist in south Westland and northwest Otago (Christie et al. 2010), as well as with the maficultramafic Tapuaenuku Igneous Complex in Marlborough (Jongens et al. 2012). Carbonatite rocks in the Haast River, containing monazite, thorite, apatite, rutile, aegirine, albite, pyrite, sphalerite and galena, have recorded up to 12,560 ppm La+Ce+Y, or up to 8690 ppm Ce, 3810 ppm La and 2720 ppm Nd (Cooper and Paterson 2008). Analyses of carbonatite rocks in Marlborough have recorded up to 224 ppm Ce, 104 ppm La and 121 ppm Nd (Turner 2015).

In addition to dikes, the area of the South Westland dike swarm also has sills and a few diatreme-facies breccia pipes, similar to those exhibited by many kimberlites (Cooper 1986). The intrusives range in size from veinlets only a few centimetres wide to a sill 85 m thick. These are late Oligocene to Early Miocene in age and consist of a magmatic series ranging in composition from ultramafic peridotite, through dominant lamprophyre to subordinate tinguaite, trachyte and carbonatite (Cooper 1971, 1986, 1996). Fenitisation of immediately adjacent country rock is widespread. Carbonatite varieties make up only a small proportion of the intrusives. These are found in dikes and sills up to 1.2 m thick and carry accessory albite, titanian acmite, pyrite, sphalerite, galena, rutile, apatite, monazite and thorite.

3.16.4 Alkali Complex-Hosted REE

The USGS model for carbonatite and peralkaline intrusion-related REE deposits (Verplanck et al. 2014) describes magmatic and metasomatic REE mineralisations that are found associated with some alkaline igneous intrusives.

3.16.4.1 New Zealand Occurrences of Alkali Complex-Hosted REE Deposits

Alkaline igneous intrusive rocks are found on the West Coast (Foulwind, French Creek, Kakapotahi and Whataroa granites and Victoria Range intrusives), in Fiordland (Large, Clarke Hut, Electric, Jackson Peaks and Pomona Island granites, and Cozzete, Houseroof and Expedition plutons), on Rakiura / Stewart Island (Freds Camp Pluton), in Canterbury (Mandamus Igneous Complex and Mount Somers Volcanics Group), in northwest Nelson (Sams Creek) and in Marlborough (Tapuaenuku and Blue Mountain igneous complexes) (Morgenstern et al. 2018). Of these, the French Creek Granite (600 ppm) and the peralkaline Sams Creek granite (719 ppm) are notably enriched in REE. Reconnaissance exploration has been carried out on the French Creek Granite, and Mandamus and Tapuaenuku complexes (Price and Ryland 2011; Jongens et al. 2012; Price 2013; Strategic Materials 2013; Morgenstern et al. 2018). Morgenstern (2016) carried out a detailed REE mineralogical study of the French Creek Granite, reporting REE hosted in bastnäsite group minerals, allanite, zircon, fergusonite, (fluor)apatite, monazite, xenotime, florencite and perrierite-loparite.

3.16.5 REE-Bearing Monazite in Granitic and Metamorphic Rocks

3.16.5.1 International Mineral Deposit Model

Features of the *REE-bearing monazite in granitic and metamorphic rocks* mineral deposit model are listed in Table 3.76.

Table 3.76Features of international mineral deposit models equivalent to the REE-bearing monazite in granitic
and metamorphic rocks model used in this report.

| International Mine | International Mineral Deposit Model – REE-Bearing Monazite in Granitic and Metamorphic Rocks | | | | | | |
|---------------------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| Description | Granites, pegmatites and gneisses enriched in monazite (Ce,La,Y,Th)PO ₄ and xenotime YPO ₄ . The REE-bearing minerals may be concentrated in hydrothermal veins or by weathering (e.g. ion adsorbtion clay-type deposits). | | | | | | |
| International Examples | Hydrothermal veins: Steenkamstraal (South Africa) Ion adsorbtion clay-type deposits: Longnan and Xunwu, Jiangxi Province (China) | | | | | | |
| Grade-Tonnage Model | No published data. Grades (5–0.05% rare earth oxides) and tonnage of producers and prospects are highly variable with a large proportion of REE production as a by-product. | | | | | | |

3.16.5.2 New Zealand Occurrences of REE-Bearing Monazite in Granitic and Metamorphic Rocks

Monazite is a common accessory mineral in many granitoid rocks of Westland. It is present in all of the main granitoid suites (Karamea, Rahu, Separation Point; Tulloch 1988a) but absent from Paleozoic Paringa (Cooper and Tulloch 1992) and Triassic to Early Cretaceous Median Suites. It is conspicuous in Foulwind and French Creek granites of the A-type Toropuhi Suite and French Creek Suites, respectively. Over the last ~15 years monazite has been used extensively for radiometric dating of igneous and metamorphic rocks, utilising both U-Pb and Th-Pb decay systems (Ireland and Gibson 1998). Xenotime accompanies monazite in Foulwind Granite and Kakapotahi granite.

Estimated monazite contents range from 0.005 wt% in Mt Murchison Granite (Separation Point Suite) to 0.015 wt% and 0.021 wt% in core and rim, respectively, of the Barrytown Pluton (Karamea Suite), to 0.029 wt% and 0.042 wt% in Foulwind Granite at Cape Foulwind and Tauranga Bay, respectively.

3.16.6 REE Associated with the Paparoa Metamorphic Core Complex

Hydrothermal systems formed when hot rocks from the deep crust were rapidly uplifted and juxtaposed under brittle, water-saturated upper crustal rocks along crustal-scale detachment faults. This led to the development of extensive alteration in the vicinity of these faults in the Paparoa Range (Tulloch 1995). In addition to traces of Au, Ag, Cu, Ba, F, Fe, carbonate and U mineralisation, Tennant and Sewell (1967) reported elevated levels of REE in Paparoa Range stream sediment samples. REE abundances in Otututu and Ohikanui rivers are about four times greater than those in the Karamea area. Tulloch and Christie (2000) suggested that this mineralisation in the northern Paparoa Range, with its clear relationship to major continental rifting, has much in common with the Olympic Dam style of mineralisation, albeit the latter being much larger and generally of Proterozoic age.

3.16.7 Clay-Bearing REE

In Northland, halloysite clays associated with sub-tropically weathered alkaline rhyolite domes of the Kerikeri Volcanic Group record anomalously high REE concentrations, representing an ion-adsorption mineralisation style. Maximum Ce+La+Y anomalies of 678 ppm occur at Matauri Bay (Brathwaite et al. 2012a), 647 ppm at Pungaere (Smith et al. 1977) and 320 ppm at Maungparerua (Brathwaite et al. 2014). Another volumetrically minor occurrence of halloysite containing anomalously high REE concentrations (La+Ce+Y up to 527 ppm) is within the hydrothermally altered French Creek Granite (Morgenstern 2016).

3.16.8 Placer REE

Detrital REE minerals such as monazite, thorite, uranothorite, and xenotime occur in the heavy-mineral fraction of beach and river sand.

3.16.8.1 New Zealand Occurrences of Placer REE Deposits

Monazite and xenotime have been identified in ilmenite-rich, heavy-mineral beach sands in Fiordland, Southland, Rakiura / Stewart Island, West Coast and northwest Nelson, as well as in West Coast alluvial deposits (Hutton 1950; Christie and Brathwaite 1999b; Christie et al. 2010; Tay et al. 2021). The largest known concentrations of detrital monazite occur at Westport and Barrytown (0.005-0.12 volume percentage). Smaller deposits occur at Cape Foulwind, Nine Mile Beach, Waitakere / Nile River and Constant Bay (0.001–0.02 volume percentage). A recent, scanning electron microscope (SEM) study by Ritchie (2017) found that allanite was the most abundant REE-bearing mineral in the beach sands of Westland, with abundance increasing northwards. It is sourced from both Alpine Schist rocks and Western Province granitoids (particularly those in the Paparoa and Victoria ranges). The richest concentrations of detrital allanite are at Rapahoe Beach (0.83 volume percentage), and allanite could potentially be an economic by-product of garnet processing in Westland (Ritchie 2017; Ritchie et al. 2019). Tay et al. (2021) documented the abundance and geochemistry of REE-bearing minerals from beaches in North Westland and found that concentrations of REE in allanite, monazite and xenotime were highest in terraces at Waimangaroa, Little Wanganui and Barrytown.

Monazite is a by-product of ilmenite heavy-mineral sand mining at Westport and is planned to be recovered in the proposed mining at Barrytown.

Monazite has been found in alluvial deposits of the Tin Range on Rakiura / Stewart Island and at Canaan in northwest Nelson. Monazite and xenotime have also been reported in West Coast gold-dredge concentrates (Arahura, Atarau, Barrytown, Blackball, Grey River, Kaniere, Ngahere, Rimu, Slab Hutt and Snowy River). Monazite has been found in quartz conglomerates in Otago (Christie et al. 1998), and granitic clasts with elevated REE concentrations occur in the Kekerengu, Murihiku and Mt Saul conglomerates (Christie et al. 2011).

Key References: Cooper and Paterson (2008).

3.17 Silver (Ag)

3.17.1 International Description

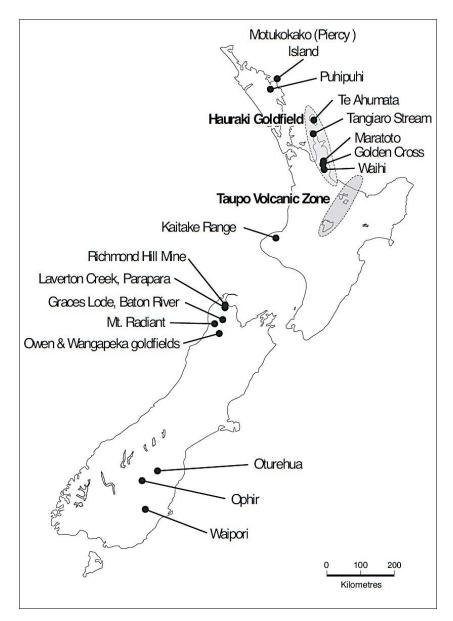
International data for silver are listed in Table 3.77.

Table 3.77 Major minerals, world production, reserves and resources and major uses for silver.

| | Silver (Ag) | | | | | | |
|---------------|--|---|--|--|--|--|--|
| | Ore Minerals: Argentite/acanthite Ag ₂ S; cerargyrite (horn silver) AgCl; electrum AuAg; miargyrite AgSbS ₂ ; petzite (Au,Ag) ₂ Te; polybasite (Ag,Cu) ₁₆ Sb ₂ S ₁₁ ; proustite (light ruby silver) Ag ₃ AsS ₃ ; pyrargyrite (ruby silver) Ag ₃ SbS ₄ ; silver (native) Ag; stephanite Ag ₅ SbS ₄ ; sylvanite (Au,Ag)Te ₂ ; and tetrahedrite (Cu,Fe,Zn,Ag) ₁₂ Sb ₄ S ₁₃ | | | | | | |
| | World mine production 2023 (USGS 2024) | 26,000 t | | | | | |
| International | Major world producers (% of 2023 total world mine production) | Mexico (25%), China (13%), Peru (12%), Poland (5%), Chile (5%), Russia (5%), Bolivia (5%), Australia (5%), USA (4%), Argentina (4%) | | | | | |
| Inte | World reserves (USGS 2024) | 720,000 t | | | | | |
| | World resources (USGS 2024) | N/A | | | | | |
| | Uses: Solar panels, water filtration, jewellery, ornaments, high-value tableware and utensils (hence t term 'silverware'), coinage, electrical contacts and conductors, specialised mirrors, window coatings, catalysis of chemical reactions, as a colorant in stained glass and in specialised confectionery. Its compounds are used in photographic and X-ray film. | | | | | | |

3.17.2 New Zealand Occurrences of Silver

The main occurrences of silver are in epithermal Au–Ag deposits in Late Cenozoic rocks of Northland, the Coromandel Peninsula (Hauraki Goldfield) and the Taupō Volcanic Zone, listed in Section 3.8 (Figure 3.35; Table 3.78). Silver also occurs in polymetallic veins described in the Zinc-lead section (Section 3.22).





Key References: Williams (1974); Brathwaite and Pirajno (1993); Christie et al. (2007).

Table 3.78Silver occurrences. Minerals: ac = acanthite; Ag sulfoslats = silver sulfosalts; cp = chalcopyrite;
el = electrum; gn = galena; hes = hessite; marc = marcasite; proust = proustite; py = pyrite; pyrarg =
pyrargyrite; sp = sphalerite; td = tetrahedrite.

| Occurrence | MM ¹ | GERM ² | Production (t) | Deposit Form | Minerals Major (Minor) | Host Rocks | Genesis |
|----------------------|-----------------|-----------------------|-------------------|-----------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Richmond Hill | A6 | M25/e520 | - | Quartz veins | td, gn, py, cp, sp | Granite porphyry | Hydrothermal – magmatic |
| Parapara prospect | A7 | M26/e595 | - | Quartz veins | gn, sp, py | Quartzite, diorite | Hydrothermal – magmatic |
| Mt Rangitoto | A87 | l34/e24 | - | Quartz- sulfide veins | py, sp, gn, aspy, cp, (el) | Greywacke, argillite, granite | Hydrothermal – magmatic |
| Puhipuhi | 114 | - | 0.042 Ag | Quartz veins | marc, py, proust, (td, cp) | Silicified greywacke | Hydrothermal – hot spring |
| Te Ahumata | 122 | S09/e1 | 1.295 Ag–Au | Quartz veins | py, pyrarg. El, sb, Ag sulfosalts | Andesite and porphyry, rhyolite | Hydrothermal – epithermal |
| Tangiaro Stream | 126 | T10/e12 | - | Quartz veins | py, aspy, (td, cp, sp, el) | Andesite | Hydrothermal – epithermal |
| Maratoto | 169 | T13/e29, 34, 43–46 | 5.972 Au–Ag | Quartz veins | py, marc, gl, sp, cp, ac, hes, el | Andesite breccias and flows | Hydrothermal – epithermal |
| Tui | 181 | T13/e53 | - | Quartz veins | sp, gn, cp, py, (marc, td, cin) | Andesite flows and pyroclastics | Hydrothermal – epithermal |

¹ MM = Metallogenic map code (Brathwaite and Pirajno 1993).

3.18 Tin (Sn)

3.18.1 International Description

International data for tin are listed in Table 3.79.

 Table 3.79
 Major minerals, world production, reserves and resources and major uses for tin.

| | Tin (Sn) | | | | | | |
|---------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| | Ore Minerals: Cassiterite (or tinstone) SnO ₂ , stannite Cu ₂ FeSnS ₄ and teallite PbSnS ₂ | | | | | | |
| | World mine production in 2023 | 290,000 t | | | | | |
| International | Major world producers (% of 2023 total world mine production) | China (23%), Burma (19%), Indonesia (18%), Peru (8%), Congo (7%), Bolivia (6%), Brazil (6%), Australia (3%), Nigeria (3%), Malaysia (2%), Vietnam (2%) | | | | | |
| erna | World reserves (USGS 2024) | 4.3 Mt | | | | | |
| Inte | World resources (USGS 2024) | Principally in western Africa, southeastern Asia, Australia, Bolivia, Brazil, Indonesia and Russia. | | | | | |
| | Uses: Solders, chemicals and tinplate. Future trends: Tin use in solders for a wide range of new technologies is expected to grow as decarbonisation proceeds. | | | | | | |

3.18.2 New Zealand Occurrences of Tin

The main occurrences of the tin mineral cassiterite in New Zealand are in greisen and placer deposits on the West Coast and in southern Rakiura / Stewart Island, in association with scheelite in hydrothermal vein deposits in Westland and in pegmatites at Wilmot Pass in Fiordland and at Wakaputa Point in the Longwood Complex (Figure 3.36).

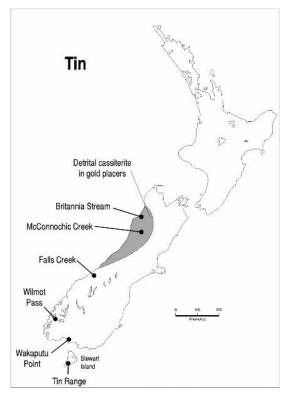


Figure 3.36 Location of tin occurrences in New Zealand (after Christie and Brathwaite [1996a]).

Key References: Williams (1974); Brathwaite and Pirajno (1993); Christie and Brathwaite (1996a, 1998).

3.18.3 Greisen Sn

3.18.3.1 International Mineral Deposit Model

Features of the Greisen Sn mineral deposit model are listed in Table 3.80.

 Table 3.80
 Features of international mineral deposit models equivalent to the Greisen Sn model used in this report.

| International Mine | International Mineral Deposit Model – Greisen Sn | | | | | |
|---------------------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| Reference | USGS model 15c Sn greisen deposits (Cox and Singer 1986); and BCGS model I13 Sn veins and greisens | | | | | |
| Description | Disseminated cassiterite and cassiterite-bearing veinlets, stockworks, lenses, pipes and breccia in greisenised granite. | | | | | |
| International Examples | Lost River, Alaska (USA); Anchor Mine, Tasmania (Australia); Erzgebirge (Czech Republic) | | | | | |
| Grade-Tonnage Model | USGS model 15c 50 th percentile = 7.2 Mt at 0.28% Sn (Cox and Singer 1986) for 20,160 (20,000) t Sn | | | | | |

3.18.3.2 New Zealand Occurrences of Greisen Sn Deposits

The main occurrence is on the Tin Range in the Port Pegasus area of southern Rakiura / Stewart Island (Table 3.81). Cassiterite is also present in several hydrothermal vein and greisen type W-Sn occurrences along the western side of the Karamea Batholith in southwest Nelson and Westland (Pirajno 1985; Tulloch and Mackenzie 1986; Kutsukake 1988; Brathwaite and Pirajno 1993). The mineralisation is localised in the apical (cupola) zones of structurally controlled granitic sheets or stocks and in their contact zones with Greenland Group greywacke or earlier granitoid rocks. In contrast to classic Sn-W granite provinces (e.g. northeast Tasmania), the mineralisation is unusual in containing scheelite with little wolframite, cassiterite, fluorite and topaz (Tulloch and Brathwaite 1986). Occurrences where cassiterite is the main mineral of economic interest are Britannia Stream, Falls Creek and Tin Range. Other occurrences where traces of cassiterite accompany scheelite are Bateman Creek, Kirwans Hill, Barrytown and Doctor Hill. At McConnochie Creek, cassiterite occurs with chalcopyrite and molybdenite (Pirajno 1982). These deposits are described in Section 3.20.

Table 3.81Greisen Sn model occurrence (data modified after Brathwaite and Pirajno [1993]). Minerals: bis =
bismuthinite; bn = bornite; cas = cassiterite; cp = chalcopyrite; marc = marcasite, mo = molybdenite;
py = pyrite; sch = scheelite; tm = tourmaline; wf = wolframite.

| Occurrence | MM ¹ | GERM ² | Production (t) | Deposit Form | Minerals Major (Minor) | Host Rocks |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------------------|---|-----------------------|
| Waimangaroa (Britannia Stream) | A42 | L29/e149 | 0.203 Au | Quartz veins, disseminated | cas, py, cp, bn | Granite |
| Farmer Creek | A54 | L30/e294 | - | Quartz veins | cas, py | Greywacke, granite |
| McConnochie Creek | A66 | L30/e252 | - | Quartz veins | cp, mo, py, marc, sp, bis | Greywacke and granite |
| Barrytown (W-Sn) | - | K31/e63 | - | Veins and greisen | sch, wf, py, cp, cas, bis, rutile, tm, mo, topaz | Biotite granite |

| Occurrence | MM ¹ | GERM ² | Production (t) | Deposit Form | Minerals Major (Minor) | Host Rocks |
|--------------------|------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|---|-------------------------|
| Doctor Hill | A84 | J33/e79 | - | Quartz veins | sch, cas, tm | Biotite granite |
| Falls Creek (W-Sn) | - | J33/e68 | - | Veins and greisen | sch, wf, py, cp, cas, bis, rutile, tm, mo, topaz | Biotite granite |
| Tin Range | A111 | D49/e4 | 1.0 Sn | Veins and greisen | wf, cas | Granite, mica schist |

¹ MM = Metallogenic map code (Brathwaite and Pirajno 1993).

² GERM = Geological Resource Map code.

3.18.4 Placer Sn

3.18.4.1 International Mineral Deposit Model

Features of the *Placer Sn* mineral deposit model are listed in Table 3.82.

Table 3.82 Features of international mineral deposit models equivalent to the *Placer Sn* model used in this report.

| International Mineral Deposit Model – Placer Sn | | | | | | |
|---|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| ReferenceUSGS model 39e Alluvial placer Sn (Cox and Singer 1986); and BCGS model C01 Surfical placers (Lefebure and Ray 1995). | | | | | | |
| Description | Detrital cassiterite grains in gravel, sand, silt and clay, in alluvial deposits | | | | | |
| International Examples | Lost River, Alaska (USA); Anchor Mine, Tasmania (Australia); Erzgebirge (Czech Republic) | | | | | |
| Grade-Tonnage Model | Deposits are typically large tonnage (0.1–100 Mt) but low-grade (50–200 g/t Sn). | | | | | |

3.18.4.2 New Zealand Occurrences of Placer Sn Deposits

Detrital cassiterite has been reported from alluvial gold operations on the West Coast and Rakiura / Stewart Island (e.g. Hutton 1950). The West Coast occurrences are mainly in dredge concentrates.

In the Port Pegasus area of Rakiura / Stewart Island, cassiterite is associated with gold in small stream and eluvial gravel deposits on the flanks of the Tin Range (McKay 1890; Williams 1934; Howard 1940; Williams and Mackie 1959). The main localities are Pegasus Creek (D49/e6, 9), McArthurs Creek (D49/e5) and Robertson River (D49/e2, 3). The cassiterite is derived from the greisen zone on the crest of the Tin Range. Heavy mineral concentrates of the alluvial deposits contain magnetite, cassiterite, garnet, wolframite, monazite, gahnite, epidote, topaz, zircon, rutile and gold (Williams 1934). The placers were worked intermittently from 1888 until 1914, producing 1 t of tin concentrate and small quantities of gold.

3.19 Titanium (Ti)

3.19.1 International Description

International data for titanium are listed in Table 3.83.

 Table 3.83
 Major minerals, world production, reserves and resources and major uses for titanium.

| | Titanium (Ti) | | | | | | | |
|---------------|---|---|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| | Ore Minerals: Ilmenite FeTiO ₃ ; pero | vskite CaTiO ₃ ; rutile, anatase and brookite TiO ₂ ; and titanite (sphene) CaTiSiO ₅ | | | | | | |
| | World mine production for 2023 8.6 Mt ilmenite and 560,000 t rutile | | | | | | | |
| International | Major world producers (% of 2023 total world mine production) | Ilmenite: China (36%), Mozambique (19%), South Africa (12%), Canada (6%), Norway (5%), Australia (5%), Senegal (4%) Rutile: Australia (36%), Sierra Leone (20%), South Africa (18%), Kenya (10%), Ukraine (9%), India (2%) | | | | | | |
| Inte | World reserves (USGS 2024) | 750 Mt TiO ₂ | | | | | | |
| | World resources (USGS 2024) 2 Bt collectively of anatase, ilmenite and rutile | | | | | | | |
| | Uses: Paints, polymers and aerospace. Future trends: The role of titanium in light-weighting transport, especially aerospace, is expected to grow. | | | | | | | |

3.19.2 New Zealand Occurrences of Ilmenite

Ilmenite $FeTiO_3$ occurs in beach sand placers on the West Coast, Southland and Coromandel Peninsula and as stratiform segregations with magnetite in gabbro at Mt George in Fiordland, in anorthosite on Mt Tapuaenuku in the Kaikoura Ranges and in diorite at Mt Pisgah in Northwest Nelson (Figure 3.37).

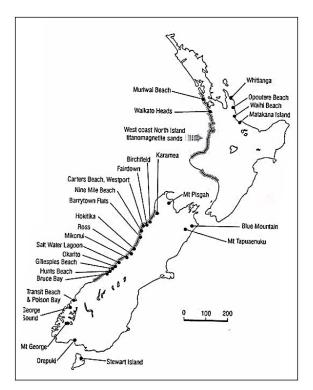


Figure 3.37 Location of titanium deposits in New Zealand (after Christie and Brathwaite [1998]).

Key References: Nicholson et al. (1958); Williams (1974); Brathwaite and Pirajno (1993); Christie and Brathwaite (1998); Brathwaite and Christie (2006).

3.19.3 Magmatic Fe-Ti-V

3.19.3.1 International Mineral Deposit Model

Features of the Magmatic Fe-Ti-V mineral deposit model are listed in Table 3.84.

Table 3.84Features of international mineral deposit models equivalent to the Magmatic Fe-Ti-V deposit model
used in this report.

| International Mine | International Mineral Deposit Model – <i>Magmatic Fe-Ti-V</i> Deposits | | | | | |
|---------------------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| Reference | USGS Model 3 Bushveld Fe-Ti-V (Cox and Singer 1986); and USGS magmatic Fe-Ti-oxide deposits related to Proterozoic massif anorthosite plutonic suites (Woodruff et al. 2013). | | | | | |
| Description | Layers of Ti-V-rich magnetite in the upper parts of large repetitively layered mafic- ultramafic intrusions. | | | | | |
| International Examples | Bushveld Complex (South Africa); Egersund (Norway); Allard Lake, Quebec (Canada); Tahawus, New York (USA); as well as Duluth gabbro in Minnesota (USA). | | | | | |
| Grade-Tonnage Model | Deposits range from 1 to 300 Mt, containing 10–45% TiO ₂ , 32–45% Fe and 0.2% or less V. 50^{th} percentile is 50 Mt at 15% TiO ₂ , 35% Fe and 0.1% V for 7.5 Mt TiO ₂ , 17.5 Mt Fe and 50,000 t V. | | | | | |

3.19.3.2 New Zealand Occurrences of Magmatic Fe-Ti-V Deposits

Ilmenite occurs as stratiform segregations with magnetite in diorite at Mt Pisgah in Northwest Nelson, in gabbroic rocks on Mt Tapuaenuku and Blue Mountain in the Kaikōura Ranges and in gabbro at Mt George in Fiordland (Figure 3.26; Table 3.85).

In central Fiordland, stratiform bands of massive ilmenite and magnetite are present in a northerly trending discontinuous band of gabbroic to dioritic intrusions that extends over a distance of about 90 km, from Mt Soaker south to Lake Poteriteri. The intrusions are lenses and tabular bodies representing remnants of sills deformed during metamorphism and folding. Gabbroic phases attain a thickness of over 200 m and, in places, contain magmatic segregations of magnetite and ilmenite. The magnetite-ilmenite-rich layers contain from 3% to 25% magnetite, slightly lesser ilmenite and up to 2% sulfide (pyrite, pyrrhotite and minor chalcopyrite). The magnetite concentrates contain 1.2-1.4% V₂O₅. Mt George is the best-known example, although several others have been described, including Howitt Peaks, Mt Troup near Doubtful Sound, Wilmot Pass, Lake Roe and Bow Lake in the Lake Hauroko area, as well as the Northwest Arm of Lake Te Anau.

At Mt George, a 180-m-thick gabbro orthogneiss sill strikes north/south and dips steeply west (Figure 3.38). It contains 2–50-cm-thick segregation layers of magnetite-ilmenite in a 5–50-m-thick oxide zone immediately overlying a generally less than 10-m-thick basal layer (east) of coarse-grained hornblende, plagioclase, magnetite and ilmenite with minor clots of sulfide minerals (pyrite, pyrrhotite and chalcopyrite). Magnetite concentrates contain an average of $1.2\% V_2O_5$.



- Figure 3.38 Mount George Gabbro of Cretaceous age at Mount George (the nearer rocky peak at left). Primary mamatic layering, including bands rich in magnetite and ilmenite, runs diagonally across the tussock face towards the lake (centre right) and dips to the west (left). The prominent scree ledge with a small tarn (centre left) separates the mineralised gabbro from overlying diorite. The entrance to Doubtful Sound lies at the far upper left, directly above Mt George (after Figure 33 of Turnbull et al. [2010]). Photo CN48264B: DL Homer.
- Table 3.85Magmatic Fe-Ti-V model occurrences (data modified after Brathwaite and Pirajno [1993]). Minerals:
cp = chalcopyrite; hm = hematite; il = ilmenite; mt = magnetite; po = pyrrhotite; py = pyrite; rt = rutile.

| Region | Occurrence | MM ¹ | GERM ² | Deposit Form | Minerals Major (Minor) | Host Rocks |
|----------------|----------------------------------|-----------------|-------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Maribaraush | Blue Mountain | D1 | P29/e9 | Disseminated | ро, ср | Alkali gabbro, pyroxenite |
| Marlborough | Mt Tapuaenuku | D2 | O30/e2 | Disseminated | py, po, cp, mt, il, apatite | Pyroxenite, gabbro, anorthosite |
| West Nelson | Mt Pisgah | A10 | N26/e586 | Magnetite- ilmenite layer | mt, II, (hm, rt) | Diorite |
| | Mt George | A98 | C43/e4 | Layered zone | II, mt | Metagabbro |
| | Howitt Peaks | - | C42/e4 | - | mt, il, py, po, | Hornblendite |
| Fiordland | Lake Roe near Lake Hauroko | - | C44/e1 | Stratiform | mt, il | Gabbro sill |
| Tiordiand | Bow Lake near Lake Hauroko | - | C44/e2 | Stratiform | mt, il | Gabbro sill |
| | Northwest Arm of Lake Te Anau | - | C42/e2 | Stratiform | mt, il, sulfides | Hornblende gneiss |

¹ MM = Metallogenic map code (Brathwaite and Pirajno 1993).

3.19.4 By-Product Ti

The very large resources of titanomagnetite in the west coast North Island ironsands contain 7-8% TiO₂. Investigations on the recovery of a titanium mineral-rich concentrate from titanomagnetite ironsands of the west coast of the North Island have so far been unsuccessful. However, New Zealand Steel has investigated methods of producing a 40-45% TiO₂ concentrate by-product by separating the titanium minerals ilmenite, leucoxene and rutile from ironsand at the Waikato North Head mine. The concentrate would be used in the manufacture of ferrotitania, which is used in steel alloys.

3.19.5 Shoreline Placer Ti

3.19.5.1 International Mineral Deposit Model

Features of the Shoreline placer Ti mineral deposit model are listed in Table 3.86.

| International Mine | International Mineral Deposit Model – Shoreline Placer Ti | | | | | | |
|---------------------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| Reference | USGS model 39c Shoreline placer Ti (Cox and Singer 1986); and USGS model for heavy-mineral sands in coastal environments (Van Gosen et al. 2014) | | | | | | |
| Description | Detrital ilmenite and other heavy minerals concentrated by beach processes. Elongate 'shoestring' ore bodies parallel to coastal beaches and dunes. | | | | | | |
| International Examples | Green Cove and Trail Ridge, Florida; Lakehurst, New Jersey; Concord and Brink, Virginia (USA); Eneabba (Western Australia); Erasama, Chhatrapur, Srikakulam, Visakhapatnam, Ratnagiri, Kollam and Manavalakurichi areas (India); Pulmoddai (Sri Lanka); Ranobe and Fort Dauphin (Madagascar); Mokaba (Sierra Leone); Beihai, Haikanng, Dianbai, Nanshanhai, Sai-Lao, Wuzhaung and Xinglong districts (China) | | | | | | |
| Grade-Tonnage Model | USGS model 39c 50 th percentile = 100 Mt at 1.3% TiO ₂ (Cox and Singer 1986). | | | | | | |

 Table 3.86
 Features of the Shoreline placer Ti international mineral deposit model.

3.19.5.2 New Zealand Occurrences of Shoreline Placer Ti Deposits

Ilmenite beach placers are found in the Coromandel Peninsula, along the west coast of the South Island and in Southland. In the Coromandel Peninsula, ilmenite occurs in significant concentrations in some Holocene beach and dune sands on the east coast (Wharekaho Bay at Whitianga, Opoutere Beach and Waihi Beach) and on Matakana Island (Table 3.87).

Table 3.87Shoreline placer Ti model occurrences in the eastern Coromandel Peninsula, North Island. Minerals:il = ilmenite; hm = hematite; mt = magnetite; zr = zircon.

| Occurrence | MM ¹ | GERM ² | Deposit Form | Minerals Major (Minor) | Host Rocks |
|-------------------------------|-----------------|-------------------|-----------------|------------------------------|---------------------|
| Wharekaho Beach, Whitianga | 140 | T11/e48 | Stratiform | il, mt, hm | Beach sand |
| Oputere Beach | 158 | T12/e52 | Stratiform | il, mt, hm, zr | Dune sand |
| Waihi Beach | 179 | U13/e2 | Stratiform | il | Dune sand |
| Matakana Island | 180 | U14/e23 | Stratiform | il | Dune and beach sand |

¹ MM = Metallogenic map code (Brathwaite and Pirajno 1993).

In the South Island, ilmenite is present in coastal sand deposits along 320 km of coastline between Karamea River in the north and Bruce Bay in the south (Figure 3.37 and Table 3.88). The deposits consist of narrow, elongate Holocene beach and dune deposits, generally parallel to and backing the modern storm beach (e.g. Barrytown). In some areas, ilmenite is present in a succession of raised (interglacial) beach deposits, which may be cemented to varying degrees. In the beach sands, ilmenite has been concentrated by wave action into blacksand leads with grades of 10–25% ilmenite. In the dune sands, ilmenite occurs in concentrations generally less than 6%. Other associated heavy minerals include garnet, magnetite, zircon, and rutile, as well as traces of gold, monazite, beryl, uranothorite, scheelite, cassiterite and xenotime.

Ilmenite is also found in Southland beaches at Coal River, Grace Burn, Te Wae Wae Bay, Orepuki and Riverton, as well as on several beaches on the northeast coast of Rakiura / Stewart Island.

Ilmenite beach-sand deposits on the West Coast are a potentially large resource. Ilmenite makes up 5–25% of the sands, but the titanium oxide content of the ilmenite is low (45–47% TiO_2) by world standards due to inclusions of garnet and other silicate minerals. The largest deposits are at Westport and Barrytown. Westport has a resource of 122 Mt of sand with an average grade of 4.5% ilmenite, equivalent to 5.5 Mt of contained ilmenite. Barrytown has 50 Mt of potentially mineable sand at an average grade of 13.8% ilmenite (6.9 Mt), 0.2% zircon, 100 mg/m³ gold and less than 0.1% each of monazite and rutile. These and other identified deposits make up a total resource of about 30 Mt of ilmenite.

Production of a heavy-mineral sand concentrate commenced at Westport in 2023 and may commence at Barrytown in late 2024. The concentrate is shipped overseas for processing and separation of ilmenite, garnet, zircon, monazite and gold.

| Location | MM ¹ | GERM ² | llmenite (Mt) | Grade (% Ilmenite) | Other Recoverable Minerals |
|-----------------------------|-----------------|---------------------|------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------------|
| West Coast | | | • • | | |
| Karamea North | H1 | L27/e593 | 2.5 | 6% | Zircon, monazite |
| Karamea South | H2 | L27/e594 | 0.65 | 3.6% | Zircon, monazite |
| Birchfield | H3 | K29/e44 | 1.0 | 5.8% | Zircon, monazite |
| Fairdown | H4 | K29/e45 | No estimate | - | - |
| Carters Beach | H5 | K29/e46 | 6.5–9.6 | 7.6–15% | Zircon, monazite, gold |
| Nine Mile Beach North | H6 | K29/e70 | 1.8–2.4 | 5.4–7.4% | Zircon, monazite, gold |
| Nine Mile Beach South | H7 | K29/e82 | 0.45–0.58 | 10–13% | Zircon, monazite, gold |
| Barrytown Flats | H8 | K30/e14, K31/e42 | 6.9 | 13.8% | Zircon, monazite, gold |
| New River | H9 | J32/e46 | No estimate | - | - |
| Hokitika North (Awatuna) | H10 | - | 0.42 | 6.0% | Zircon, monazite, gold |

Table 3.88South Island shoreline placer titanium ilmenite resources (data modified after NZGS [1970a];
Brathwaite and Pirajno [1993]; Christie and Brathwaite [1999b]; Brathwaite and Christie [2006];
Christie et al. [2009]).

| Location | MM ¹ | GERM ² | llmenite (Mt) | Grade (% Ilmenite) | Other Recoverable Minerals |
|----------------------------|-----------------|--------------------|------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Hokitika | H11 | - | 0.65 | 5.9% | Zircon, monazite, gold |
| Hokitika South | H12 | - | 3.0 | 6.4% | Zircon, monazite, gold |
| Ross | H13 | 133/e2 | 0.56 | 5.5% | Zircon, monazite, gold |
| Mikonui | H14 | - | 0.17 | 5.2% | Zircon, monazite, gold |
| Ounatai | H15 | 133/e4 | Small | - | - |
| Saltwater Lagoon | H16 | l34/e20 | 0.51 | 10.1% | Zircon, monazite, gold |
| Five Mile Beach Okarito | H17 | H34/e1, H35/e16 | 0.47 | 5.6% | Zircon, monazite, gold |
| Omoeroa | H18 | H35/e19 | No estimate | 1.6% | - |
| Gillespies Beach | H19 | H35/e14 | 0.44 | 3.2% | Gold |
| Hunts Beach | H20 | - | 0.31 | 11.0% | Zircon, monazite |
| Bruce Bay | H21 | - | 0.12 | 6.0% | Zircon, monazite |
| Fiordland | | 1 | | 1 | |
| Transit Beach | H22 | D40/e3 | - | - | Garnet, zircon, monazite |
| Poison Bay | H23 | C40/e1 | - | - | Garnet, zircon, monazite |
| Southland | | 1 | | 1 | |
| Orpuki Beach | - | D46/e56 | - | - | Garnet, rutile, zircon, monazite |
| Riverton Beach | - | D46/e67 | - | - | Garnet, zircon, monazite |
| Rakiura / Stewart Island | | | | | |
| Ringaringa Beach | - | E48/e2 | - | - | - |
| Doughboy Bay | - | D49/e8 | - | - | - |
| Lonnekers Beach | - | E48/e5 | _ | - | - |

¹ MM = Metallogenic map code (Brathwaite and Pirajno 1993).

3.20 Tungsten (W)

3.20.1 International Description

International data for tungsten are listed in Table 3.89.

 Table 3.89
 Major minerals, world production, reserves and resources and major uses for tungsten.

| | Tungsten (W) | | | | | | |
|---------------|--|---|--|--|--|--|--|
| | Ore Minerals: Scheelite which is a solid solution mixture of scheelite CaWO ₄ and powellite CaMoO ₄ . Wolframite which is solid solution mixture series between of ferberite FeWO ₄ and huebnerite MnWO ₄ | | | | | | |
| onal | World mine production in 2023 (USGS 2024) | 78,000 t | | | | | |
| International | Major world producers (% of 2023 total world mine production) | China (81%), Vietnam (4%), Russia (3%), North Korea (2%), Bolivia (2%), Spain (2%), Rawanda (2%) | | | | | |
| 드 | World reserves (USGS 2024) | 4.4 Mt | | | | | |
| | World resources (USGS 2024) | N/A | | | | | |
| | Uses: Milling/cutting tools, construction/mining tools and other wear tools. | | | | | | |

3.20.2 New Zealand Occurrences of Tungsten

Orogenic schist-hosted quartz-scheelite ± gold lodes in Otago and Marlborough form the most abundant type of tungsten deposit in New Zealand (Figure 3.39). Glenorchy, Macraes and Wakamarina are the largest of these. Scheelite also occurs in quartz veins associated with granite in Northwest Nelson, Buller and Westland. Wolframite accompanies cassiterite in greisen on the Tin Range in southern Rakiura / Stewart Island.

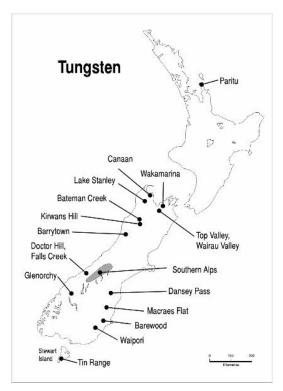


Figure 3.39 Location of tungsten occurrences in New Zealand (after Christie and Brathwaite [1996b]).

Key References: Williams (1974); Brathwaite and Pirajno (1993); Christie and Brathwaite (1996b); Durance and Polette (2016).

3.20.3 Orogenic Scheelite-Bearing Quartz Veins

Orogenic *Vein W* quartz lodes within the Marlborough, Alpine and Otago schists contain scheelite, gold-scheelite, gold, gold-stibnite, stibnite or cinnabar (Table 3.90). Most were mined for their gold content, but several produced significant tungsten. The lodes are developed along shear zones that are generally discordant to the foliation of the host schist.

The Wakamarina field in Marlborough produced 475 t of concentrate containing $65\% WO_3$ (1874–1944), mainly from the Golden Bar lode (Skinner and Brathwaite 1999). Scheelite is present in many of the quartz lodes on the northern side of the Wairau valley in Marlborough (Johnston 1993), such as the Sylvia lode on the Junction Spur in Top Valley. The most important prospect outside of the Junction Spur was the King John on the west side of Staircase Creek, a tributary of Top Valley Stream.

In the Glenorchy area, west Otago, the schists contain metavolcanic greenschist, Fe-Mnbearing metachert and sulfide-rich pelitic schist, as well as quartzofeldspathic and pelitic schist of the Caples Terrane. The lodes consist of lensoid shear zones containing crushed schists and irregular quartz lodes. The lodes are gently dipping and cross-cut schistosity in the enclosing schists at a high angle.

Exploration data and mine plans were compiled in a GIS and re-assessed by New Zealand Antimony (Fulton 2001; Yardley 2002) to estimate prospective resources of 143,000 t at 1.7% WO₃ (Table 3.90).

The main minerals present in the lodes are quartz, scheelite, pyrite, arsenopyrite, calcite and magnetite. The total estimated production from 1881 to 1965 from the five main producing lodes on the Glenorchy Field was 2188 t of scheelite concentrate.

Scheelite is associated with gold mineralisation at Barewood, where three parallel, well-defined vein systems, about 1 km apart, are traceable for several kilometres.

New Zealand's total recorded production of tungsten is 3828 t of tungsten concentrate, of which 475 t was from Wakamarina (1874–1944), 2353 t from the Glenorchy field (1881–1988) 1000 t from Macraes Flat (1875–1936) and 19 t from Barewood (1907–1917 and 1943).

Key References: Williams (1974); Brathwaite and Pirajno (1993); Christie and Brathwaite (1996b).

Table 3.90Vein W model occurrences. Minerals: aspy = arsenopyrite; cp = chalcopyrite; gn = galena; py = pyrite;
mo = molybdenite; mt = magnetite; sb = stibnite; sch = scheelite.

| Region | Occurrence | MM ¹ | GERM ² | Production (t) | Deposit Form | Minerals Major (Minor) | Host Rocks |
|-------------|--------------------------|-----------------|-------------------|-------------------|--|------------------------------|---|
| | Wakamarina | C33 | O27/e592 | 243 W 0.525 Au | W-Au quartz veins | sch, py, gold | Quartzofeldspathic schist |
| Marlborough | Top Valley | C37 | O28/e18 | 2 W | W-Au quartz veins | sch, (aspy, py, sb) | Quartzofelspthic chlorite schist |
| | Ngakawau | - | L29/e9 | - | Quartz veins | sch, py, aspy, cp, mo | Metagreywacke and metapelite |
| West Coast | Kirwan Hill Extension | - | L30/e253 | - | Quartz veins | sch, py, po, sp | Metagreywacke and metapelite |
| | Lake Stream | - | L31/e43 | - | Quartz veins | py, sch, mt, mo, cp | Metagabbro/ porphyritic granite |
| | Dechen Creek | C49 | G37/e8 | - | Quartz veinlets | sch | Pelitic and quartzofelspathic chlorite schist |
| | Mt Ward-Baker Creek | C50 | H37/e3, e4 | - | Quartz veinlets | sch | Pelitic and quartzofelspathic chlorite schist |
| | Dodger Stream | C51 | H37/e1 | - | Quartz- carbonate veinlets | sch | Quartzofelspthic chlorite schist |
| Southern | Boanerges | C52 | H37/e2 | - | Quartz- carbonate veinlets | sch | Quartzofelspthic chlorite schist |
| Alps | Fergusson Creek | C53 | G38/e5 | - | Quartz veinlets | sch | Quartzofelspathic and pelitic schist |
| | Long Flat Creek | C54 | G38/e6 | - | Quartz veinlets and bedding laminae | sch | Quartzofelspathic and pelitic schist |
| | Scrubby Flat Creek | C55 | G38/e7 | - | Quartz veinlets and bedding laminae | sch | Pelitic and chloritic schist |
| | Lake Creek | C56 | L31/e43 | - | Quartz veins | sch | Chloritic argillite |

| Region | Occurrence | MM ¹ | GERM ² | Production (t) | Deposit Form | Minerals Major (Minor) | Host Rocks |
|--------|-----------------------------|-----------------|---|--------------------|----------------------|-------------------------------|--|
| | Nunns (Mareburn) | C82 | l42/e76 | 0.020 Au 18 W | Au-W quartz veins | sch, gold | Quartzofelspathic chlorite schist |
| | Macraes field | C83 | l42/e27 (e28, 29, 33, 47, 48, 50, 53, 54, 55, 56, 76 | ~640 W 3,331 Au | Au-W quartz veins | py, aspy, sch, gold | Quartzofelspathic and pelitic (graphitic) chlorite schist |
| | Mt Alfred Lode, Paradise | C57 | E40/e13, e14 | Small | W-quartz veins | sch, py | Pelitic schist and greenschist |
| | Invincible Lode | C58 | E40/e35 | 0.146 Au | Au-W quartz veins | py, sch, gold | Pelitic schist and greenschist |
| | Twelve Mile Creek Lode | C59 | E40/e16 | Very small | W-quartz veins | sch | Pelitic schist and greenschist |
| Otago | Glenorchy field | C60 | GERM has ~90 localities, e.g. E41/e24 | ~1000 W | W-Au quartz veins | sch, py, aspy, gold | Pelitic schist and greenschist |
| | Barewood | C86 | l43/e25, e36 | 0.420 Au 12 W | Au-W quartz veins | py, sch, sb, gold, (gn) | Quartzofelspathic chlorite schist |
| | Stony Creek, Waipori | C90 | H44/e6 | ~22 Sb | Sb-W quartz veins | sb, sch | Quartzofelspathic chlorite schist |
| | Russells, Waipori | C91 | H44/e41 | - | W quartz veins | sch | Quartzofelspathic chlorite schist |
| | Lammerlaw Creek | C93 | H44/e9 | 8 W | W quartz veins | sch | Quartzofelspathic chlorite schist |
| | Bella Point | C94 | H44/e8 | Very small | Au-W quartz veins | gold, sch | Quartzofelspathic chlorite schist |

¹ MM = Metallogenic map code (Brathwaite and Pirajno 1993).

² GERM = Geological Resource Map code.

Resources estimated by Yardley (2002) from historic data are listed in Table 3.91.

 Table 3.91
 Prospective resources at Glenorchy calculated from a GIS compilation of historic data (after Yardley [2002]).

| | Estimated Tonnage within Grade Range (t) | | | | | | | |
|------------------------------|--|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|--------------------------|--|--|--|
| Grade Range | 0–0.5% WO ₃ | 0.5–1.0% WO₃ | 1.0–1.5% WO₃ | 1.5–4.0% WO₃ | +4.0% WO ₃ | | | |
| Kelly Reef (Mt Judah) | 16,419 | 3305 | 1794 | 4159 | 5469 | | | |
| Glenorchy Reef (Mt Judah) | 10,526 | 2256 | 1225 | 2830 | 3734 | | | |
| Mt McIntosh | 1,202,000 | 96,800 | 21,500 | 22,200 | -2 | | | |
| Total | 1,228,945 | 102,361 | 24,519 | 29,189 | 9203 | | | |

3.20.4 Greisen W-Sn

3.20.4.1 International Mineral Deposit Model

Features of the Greisen W-Sn mineral deposit model are listed in Table 3.92.

 Table 3.92
 Features of international mineral deposit models equivalent to the Greisen W-Sn model used in this report.

| International Min | International Mineral Deposit Model – Greisen W-Sn | | | | | | |
|---------------------------|---|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| Reference | USGS model 15a W veins (Cox and Singer 1986); and USGS model 15c Sn greisen deposits (Cox and Singer 1986) | | | | | | |
| Description | Scheelite (± cassiterite) in sheeted quartz veins, stockwork quartz veins and disseminations in greisenised granitic rocks and adjacent metasedimentary rocks. | | | | | | |
| International Examples | Erzgebirge on both sides of the Czech-German border (e.g. Cinovec [Czech Republic]; Sadisdorf [Germany]); Panasqueira (Portugal); Lost River, Alaska (USA); Wolfram Camp (Australia); Xihuashan (China); Mawchi (Myanmar); Yugodzyr (Mongolia). Note that most of these are wolframite deposits. | | | | | | |
| Grade-Tonnage Model | Model 15a 50 th percentile = 0.56 Mt and 0.9% W (Cox and Singer 1986) (These are for wolframite deposits) | | | | | | |

3.20.4.2 New Zealand Occurrences of Greisen W-Sn Deposits

A number of hydrothermal vein and *Greisen W-Sn* occurrences have been discovered along the western side of the Karamea Batholith in southwest Nelson and Westland, including Bateman Creek, Kirwin Hill, Barrytown, Doctor Hill and Falls Creek (Table 3.93; MacKenzie 1983; Pirajno 1985; Maxwell 1989; Pirajno and Bentley 1995; Tulloch and Mackenzie 1986; Brathwaite and Pirajno 1993; Durance and Polette 2016). In contrast to classic Sn-W granite provinces (e.g. northeast Tasmania), the mineralisation is unusual in having scheelite dominant over wolframite and cassiterite, together with a paucity of fluorite and topaz (Tulloch and Brathwaite 1986). The greisen of the Tin Range on Rakiura / Stewart Island is more typical of the classic type in containing cassiterite and wolframite and no scheelite.

| Occurrence | MM ¹ | GERM ² | Deposit Form | Minerals Major (Minor) | Host Rocks |
|---------------|-----------------|-------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|--|
| Canaan | A11 | N26/e510 | Quartz veins | Sch, (py, cp, gn, mo) | Marble, granodiorite |
| Ngakawau | A43 | L29/e9 | Quartz vein stockwork | sch, py, (aspy, gold) | Hornfelsed greywacke, quartz porphyry |
| Bateman Creek | A55 | L30/e295 | Quartz veins | sch, py, (cp, mo) | Greywacke, granite |
| Kirwan Hill | A59 | L30/e253 | W quartz veins | sch, po, (cp) | Greywacke, argillite |
| Barrytown | A76 | K31/e63 | W quartz veins, greisen | sch | Chert, argillite, biotite granite |
| Lake Stream | A74 | L31/e43 | Concordant quartz veins | py, mt, sch, (mo, cpy) | Metagabbro, porphyritic granite |
| Doctor Hill | A84 | J33/e79 | Quartz veins | sch, cas, tm | Biotite granite |
| Falls Creek | - | J33/e68 | Veins & greisen | tm, sch, cas, py | Biotite granite |

Table 3.93Greisen W-Sn model occurrences. Minerals: aspy = arsenopyrite; cas = cassiterite; cp = chalcopyrite;
gn = galena; mo = molybdenite; mt = magnetite; po = pyrrhotite; py = pyrite; sch = scheelite.

¹ MM = Metallogenic map code (Brathwaite and Pirajno 1993); ² GERM = Geological Resource Map code.

3.20.5 Tungsten Skarn

3.20.5.1 International Mineral Deposit Model

Features of the *Tungsten skarn* mineral deposit model are listed in Table 3.94.

Table 3.94Features of international mineral deposit models equivalent to the *Tungsten skarn* model used in this
report.

| International Min | eral Deposit Model – <i>Tungsten Skarn</i> |
|---------------------------|---|
| Reference | USGS model 14a tungsten skarn deposits (Cox 1986) |
| Description | Skarns formed in the contact zones and roof pendants of granitoid batholiths and thermal aureoles of apical zones of stocks that intrude carbonate rocks. The intrusive rocks are typically tonalite, granodiorite and/or quartz monzonite. The ore mineralogy consists of scheelite ± molybdenite ± pyrrhotite ± sphalerite ± chalcopyrite ± bornite ± arsenopyrite ± pyrite ± magnetite ± traces of wolframite, fluorite, cassiterite and native bismuth. Alteration mineralogy consists of diopside-hedenbergite + grossular-andradite. Late-stage spessartine + almandine. Outer barren wollastonite zone. Inner zone of massive quartz may be present. |
| International Examples | Pine Creek and Strawberry, California (USA); MacTung, British Columbia; Cantung Northwest Territories; Dublin Gulch, Yukon (Canada); King Island, Tasmania (Australia); Sangdong (South Korea); Xianglushan, Jiangxi; Xintianling, Hunan (China) |
| Grade-Tonnage Model | USGS model 14a 50 th percentile = 6 Mt at 0.44% WO ₃ (Green et al. 2020) |

3.20.5.2 New Zealand Occurrences of Tungsten Skarn Deposits

No true tungsten skarn deposits are known, although quartz-scheelite veins are associated with garnet-hedenbergite skarn at Canaan (Table 3.93), and suitable geological environments exist in Northwest Nelson where granodiorite of the Cretaceous Separation Point Batholith intrudes Paleozoic calcareous metasedimentary rocks in the Pikikiruna and Mt Arthur ranges.

During the 1970s, Carpentaria Exploration carried out regional exploration for tungsten skarns in seven areas along the Separation Point Granite / Arthur Marble contact zone. Although no areas for follow-up work were located, the potential for tungsten was not fully tested because of analytical problems, as well as the use of standard stream-sediment samples instead of the pan-concentrate sampling methods now commonly used (Zuckerman 1972b, 1972c).

3.20.6 Stratabound W

3.20.6.1 International Mineral Deposit Model

Features of the Stratabound W mineral deposit model are listed in Table 3.95.

 Table 3.95
 Features of international mineral deposit models equivalent to the Stratabound W model used in this report.

| International Min | International Mineral Deposit Model – Stratabound W | | | | | | |
|---------------------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| Reference | Tungsten, stratabound deposits in NERC (2011). | | | | | | |
| Description | Concordant lenses of stratiform scheelite in submarine volcano-sedimentary sequences. Tungsten is syngenetically deposited in sediments from submarine hydrothermal solutions. Stratiform scheelite mineralisation, commonly with stibnite and cinnabar in some metavolcanic sequences, was considered to be volcanogenic exhalative in origin by Höll and Maucher (1976). A possible modern analogue is Frying Pan Lake at Waimangu Geothermal Field (Seward and Sheppard 1986). | | | | | | |
| International Examples | Examples occur in Austria (Kleinarltal and Mitersill), Sardinia (Turkey), Spain, Argentina, Broken Hill district (Australia), New Mexico (USA) and China (Damingshan, Guangxi Zhuang). | | | | | | |
| Grade-Tonnage Model | The type deposit, Felbertal in Austria, had pre-mining resources of about 12 Mt at 0.5% WO ₃ for 60,000 t WO ₃ . | | | | | | |

3.20.6.2 New Zealand Occurrences of Stratabound W Deposits

Stratabound scheelite mineralisation of possible synsedimentary-exhalative origin occurs near Lake Stanley (Northwest Nelson (M26/e902), hosted in marble lenses within the Cambrian Balloon Formation (Maxwell 1983; Brathwaite and Pirajno 1993). Scheelite is in streaks and lenses, each a few millimetres thick, within carbonate laminae that are interbedded with carbonaceous or siliceous laminae. Stockworks of scheelite-bearing quartz veinlets are also present in some places and were probably formed by metamorphic re-mobilisation of the synsedimentary mineralisation.

Reconnaissance exploration in the Southern Alps by CRA Exploration Pty Ltd outlined an extensive zone containing weak scheelite mineralisation in a belt about 8 km wide and 60 km long from Lake Hawea north to Mount Cook National Park (Purvis et al. 1982; Hawke and Price 1983, 1989; Price et at. 1985). Scheelite is in quartz veins and segregations and is regionally localised to the vicinity of the pumpellyite-actinolite/greenschist facies boundary. It is commonly associated with calc-silicate and carbonate minerals. Occurrences of disseminated and bedding laminae-bound scheelite in chert and carbonaceous pelite were found in Long Flat and Scrubby Flat creeks, Hunter River area (Purvis et al. 1982). Wood (1983) also recognised widespread scheelite occurrences over a distance of 360 km in greenschist facies schist along the Southern Alps. He described the scheelite as occurring in disseminated spots, as well as in fine quartz veins. Craw and Norris (1991) considered that scheelite-quartz vein formation at Lake Hawea was synmetamorphic and represented tungsten mobilisation during metamorphism of the greywackes.

Stratabound scheelite mineralisation is also present at Dansey Pass, North Otago, in rocks of the Permian Dansey Metavolcanic Formation. Exploration by a Lime & Marble Ltd – Kennecott Explorations (Australia) Ltd joint venture (McClelland 1981a, 1981b), and later by BP (Rutherford and MacKay 1984), located two zones of scheelite vein mineralisation grading up to 1.3% WO₃ in shear zones in metavolcanics. Exploration by BP of the metavolcanic units

interbedded with Haast Schist of the Kakanui Mountains, southeast of Dansey Pass, located rare scheelite mineralisation restricted to small scale quartz veining, quartz segregations and coatings on joint planes (MacKay 1984).

3.21 Vanadium (V)

3.21.1 International Description

International data for vanadium are listed in Table 3.96.

Table 3.96 Major minerals, world production, reserves and resources and major uses for vanadium.

| | Vanadium (V) | | | | | |
|---------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| | Ore Minerals: Vanadiferous minerals such as titanomagnetite, magnomagnetite, magnetite, rutile and ilmenite; vanadinitie; carnotite; patronite; roscoelite | | | | | |
| - | World 2023 production (USGS 2024) | 100,000 t | | | | |
| International | Major world producers (% of 2023 total world mine production) (USGS 2024) | China (68%), Russia (20%), South Africa (9%), Brazil (6%) | | | | |
| nteri | World reserves (USGS 2024) | 19 Mt | | | | |
| - | World resources (USGS 2024) | More than 63 Mt | | | | |
| | Uses: High-strength low-alloy steel, special steel and super-alloys. Future trends: Vanadium redox flow batteries may become increasingly important for stationary energy storage. | | | | | |

3.21.2 Occurrence of Vanadium in New Zealand

Vanadium occurs in association with iron and titanium in placer titanomagnetite deposits of the west coast of the North Island and magnetite-ilmenite deposits in Fiordland (see iron and titanium; Sections 3.9 and 3.19, respectively).

A vanadium-rich slag is produced by BHP New Zealand Steel during steel manufacture at the Glenbrook Steel mill. Currently 12,000 t/yr is produced and exported to China, representing 10% of the world's vanadium production. The slag is processed to enrich V_2O_5 with the product used to make ferrovanadium, which is used as an additive in steel.

Key References: Williams (1974); Brathwaite and Pirajno (1993).

3.22 Zinc (Zn) – Lead (Pb)

3.22.1 International Description

International data for zinc and lead are listed in Table 3.97.

Table 3.97 Major minerals, world production, reserves and resources and major uses for lead and zinc.

| | | Zinc (Zn) | Lead (Pb) |
|---------------|--|---|---|
| | Ore Minerals | Smithsonite $ZnCO_3$ and sphalerite ZnS | Anglesite PbSO4, bournonite PbCuSbS3, cerussite PbCO3, galena PbS and jamesonite Pb4FeSb ₆ S ₁₄ |
| | World mine production in 2023 (USGS 2024) | 4.5 Mt | 12.43 Mt |
| International | Major world producers (% of total 2023 world production) (USGS 2024) | China (42%), Australia (10%), USA (6%), Mexico (6%), Peru (6%), Russia (4%), Bolivia (2%), Sweden (2%), Turkey (2%), Iran (1%), Tajikistan (1%) | China (33%), Peru (12%), Australia (9%), India (7%), USA (6%), Mexico (6%), Bolivia (4%), Kazakhstan (3%), Russia (3%) |
| <u> </u> | World reserves (USGS 2024) | 95 Mt | 220 Mt |
| | World resources (USGS 2024) | More than 2 Bt | 1.9 Bt |
| | Uses: | Building and construction (e.g. roofing material, cladding, flashing, gutters and gutter joints), sculptures, ballast, ammunition, radiation shielding, alloys (e.g. brass) | As an anti-corrosion agent (e.g. galvanisation coating of iron and steel), sacrificial anode, batteries and alloys |

3.22.2 New Zealand Occurrences of Zinc and Lead

Zinc (sphalerite ZnS) and lead (galena PbS) usually occur together in their main types of ore deposits. In New Zealand, most of the known lead-zinc deposits are in hydrothermal veins, commonly associated with gold and silver, as in the Coromandel Peninsula. The only deposit mined specifically for zinc and lead was the Tui Mine near Te Aroha between 1967 and 1973, having produced 13,159 t of zinc concentrate and 7755 t of copper-lead concentrate, with remaining resources estimated at 140,000 t of ore grading approximately 5.5% Zn, 4% Pb and 0.5% Cu (Bates 1989b) (Figure 3.40). Other small Au–Ag deposits containing potentially economic Zn and Pb mineralisation are Monowai and Sylvia near Thames and Waiorongomai near Te Aroha.

In the South Island, there are a number of hydrothermal lead-zinc-quartz vein occurrences related to granite intrusions, as at Parapara Peak, Richmond Hill and Rolling River in Northwest Nelson and Bradshaws Reef in Fiordland (Figure 3.40).

A sphalerite-galena bearing pyroxene-garnet skarn has been found in Oligocene-age limestone at Motukokako (Piercy) Island in the Bay of Islands (Figure 3.40) (Brathwaite et al. 1990).

Massive sulfide sphalerite-galena-pyrite-gold ore in quartz-sericite schist at Johnstons United Mine in Northwest Nelson (Figure 3.40), was formerly worked for gold (1866–1897) and is a likely example of a metamorphosed volcanogenic massive sulfide deposit. Bedded sphalerite-pyrite mineralisation associated with graphitic schist at Mt Irene in Fiordland is interpreted as a metamorphosed shale-hosted lead-zinc deposit.

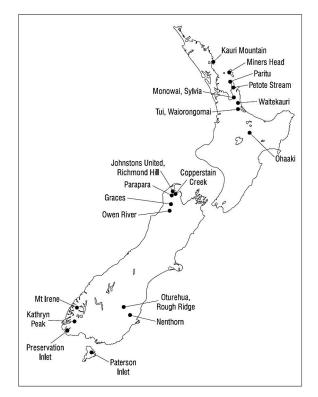


Figure 3.40 Location of lead and zinc deposits in New Zealand (after Christie and Brathwaite [1995a]).

Key References: Williams (1974); Bates (1989b); Brathwaite and Pirajno (1993); Christie and Brathwaite (1995a),

3.22.3 Zinc-Lead Skarn

3.22.3.1 International Mineral Deposit Model

Features of the Zinc-lead skarn mineral deposit model are listed in Table 3.98.

| Table 3.98 | Features of the Zinc-lead skarn international mineral deposit mode | əl. |
|------------|--|-----|
|------------|--|-----|

| International Mineral Deposit Model – Zinc-Lead Skarn | | | | |
|---|--|--|--|--|
| Reference | USGS model 18c zinc-lead skarn (Cox and Singer 1986); and BCGS model K02 zinc-lead skarns (Lefebure and Ray 1995). | | | |
| Deposits consist of Zn-Pb-Ag sulfide minerals as replacement bodies in limestone proximal or distal to quartz diorite stocks. They contain disseminated sphalerite, gale and pyrite. | | | | |
| International ExamplesSan Antonio and Santa Eulalia (Mexico); Yeonhua (South Korea); Ban Ban (Austra El Sapo (Columbia) | | | | |
| Grade-Tonnage Model | USGS model 18c 50 th percentile = 1.4 Mt, and 5.9% Zn and 2.8% Pb, possible by-product Ag, Au and/or Cu (Cox and Singer 1986). See also Lefebure and Höy (1996, Table 15) BCGS model K02. Worldwide, skarn deposits range from <1 to 30 Mt and grade 10–20% Zn + Pb and 30–300 g/t Ag. | | | |

3.22.3.2 New Zealand Occurrences of Zinc-Lead Skarn Deposits

Zinc-lead skarn mineralisation is present in Oligocene Whangārei Limestone at Motukokako (Piercy) Island (MM I10; GERM Q05/e25) (Brathwaite et al. 1990). The skarn is composed of the calc-silicate minerals hedenbergite, garnet, epidote, axinite, ilvaite and babingtonite, which are enriched to varying degrees in manganese and iron. Sphalerite and galena are disseminated in the skarn, the adjacent re-crystallised limestone and in quartz veins that cut the limestone and the unconformably underlying greywacke. The skarn mineralisation was formed by hydrothermal fluids generated by an unexposed intrusion. The grade of the skarn mineralisation is of the order of 1–6% Zn and 0.2–1% Pb, with up to 100 ppm Ag (Brathwaite et al. 1990).

3.22.4 Polymetallic Veins

3.22.4.1 International Mineral Deposit Model

Features of the *Polymetallic veins* mineral deposit model are listed in Table 3.99.

| International Mineral Deposit Model – <i>Polymetallic Veins</i> | | | | |
|---|--|--|--|--|
| Reference | USGS model 22c Polymetallic veins (Cox and Singer 1986) USGS model 25b Creede epithermal veins (Cox and Singer 1986); and BCGS model I05 Polymetallic veins Ag-Pb-Zn±Au (Lefebure and Höy 1996). | | | |
| Description | Sulfide-rich veins containing sphalerite, galena, silver and sulfosalt minerals in a carbonate and quartz gangue. These veins can be sub-divided into those hosted by metasediments and another group hosted by volcanic or intrusive rocks. The latter type of mineralisation is typically contemporaneous with emplacement of a nearby intrusion. The veins are typically steeply dipping, narrow, tabular or splayed. They commonly occur as sets of parallel and offset veins. Individual veins vary from centimetres up to more than 3 m wide and can be followed from a few hundred to more than 1000 m in length and depth. Veins may grade into broad zones of stockwork or breccia. | | | |
| International Examples | Metasediment host: Coeur d'Alene district, Idaho (USA); Harz Mountains and Freiberg district (Germany); Příbram district (Czechoslovakia). Igneous host: Sunnyside and Idorado, Silverton district and Creede, Colorado (USA); Pachuca (Mexico). | | | |
| Grade-Tonnage Model | Individual vein systems range from several hundred to several million tonnes, grading from 5 to 1500 g/t Ag, 0.5 to 20% Pb and 0.5 to 8% Zn. The 50 th percentile for polymetallic veins given by Cox and Singer (1986) is 7600 t at 820 g/t Ag, 0.13 g/t Au, 9% Pb and 2.1% Zn for 684 t Pb, 160 t Zn, 200,390 oz Ag and 32 oz Au. | | | |

 Table 3.99
 Features of the Polymetallic veins international mineral deposit model.

3.22.4.2 New Zealand Occurrences of Polymetallic Vein Deposits

These are quartz-vein deposits that contain base metal and silver mineralisation. Their origin is poorly known, although most are generally considered to be mesothermal and granite-related. The intermediate-sulfidation epithermal Zn-Pb-Cu-Ag-Au deposits described in Section 3.8 and associated with Miocene–Pliocene volcanic rocks have many similarities with this class.

Occurrences of *Polymetallic vein* deposits are listed in Table 3.100.

Table 3.100Polymetallic vein model occurrences (data modified after Brathwaite and Pirajno [1993]). Minerals:
aspy = arsenopyrite; bourn = bournonite; cp = chalcopyrite; el = electrum; gn = galena; py = pyrite;
sb = stibnite; sp = sphalerite; td = tetrahedrite.

| Region | Occurrence | MM ¹ | GERM ² | Production (t) | Deposit Form | Minerals Major (Minor) | Host Rocks |
|--------------|-------------------------|-----------------|-------------------|-------------------|-----------------------------|--|----------------------------------|
| N | Тирои Вау | 13 | - | - | Quartz veins | py, sp, gn, cp | Sandstone |
| Northland | Reef Bay | 117 | - | - | Sulfide vein | py, sp, gn, cp | Andesite porphyry, siltstone |
| | Richmond Hill | A6 | M25/e520 | - | Quartz veins | td, gn, py, cp, sp | Granite porphyry |
| | Parapara | A7 | M26/e595 | - | Quartz veins | gn, sp, py | Quartzite, diorite |
| | Rolling River | A36 | M26/e634 | - | Quartz- sulfide veins | py, gn, sp, gold | Sandstone, marble |
| | Beilbys Reef | A37 | M28/e552 | 0.002 Au | Quartz- sulfide veins | py, gn, sp, gold | Marble, slate |
| | Owen River | A38 | M28/e553–555 | - | Quartz veins | py, sp, gn, gold | Marble, slate |
| South Island | Aynsley Creek | - | K31/e72 | - | Quartz veins | - | - |
| | Croesus Knob | - | K31/366 | - | Quartz veins | Au, py, sp, gn, cp, sb, bourn | Greywacke, argillite |
| | Seventeen Mile Bluff | - | J31/e26 | - | Quartz veins | cp, mo, py | Greywacke intruded by granite |
| | Mt Rangitoto | A87 | l34/e24 | - | Quartz- sulfide veins | py, sp, gn, aspy, cp, (el) | Greywacke, argillite, gneiss |
| | Galena Creek | - | G36/e17 | - | Quartz veins | - | Schist, gneiss |
| | Cowan Creek | - | F37/e8 | - | - | gn, Au | Carbonatite |

¹ MM = Metallogenic map code (Brathwaite and Pirajno 1993).

² GERM = Geological Resource Map code.

3.22.5 Sediment-Hosted Zn-Pb

3.22.5.1 International Mineral Deposit Model

Features of the Sediment-hosted Zn-Pb mineral deposit model are listed in Table 3.101.

 Table 3.101
 Features of international mineral deposit models equivalent to the Sediment-hosted Zn-Pb model used in this report.

| International Mineral Deposit Model – Sediment-Hosted Zn-Pb | | | | | |
|---|---|--|--|--|--|
| ReferenceUSGS model 31a Sediment exhalative zinc-lead (Cox and Singer 1986); and USGS model for Sedimentary exhalative Zn-Pb-Ag deposits (Emsbo et al. 2016) | | | | | |
| Description | These are synsedimentary deposits formed by submarine exhalations of hydrothermal fluid. The ores are concordantly interbedded within marine black shale, siltstone, sandstone, chert, dolomite and limestone. There is no apparent volcanic association. | | | | |
| International Examples | Hilton-George Fischer, Mount Isa, Century and Cannington, Queensland (Australia); Red Dog, Alaska (USA); McArthur River HYC, Northern Territory (Australia); Howards Pass, Yukon (Canada); Kholodninskoye (Russia); Sullivan, British Columbia (Canada); Broken Hill, New South Wales (Australia) | | | | |
| Grade-Tonnage Model | Deposits contain 4–550 Mt of ore (the average of 38 worldwide examples is 60 Mt) and have grades of 0.6–18% (av. 7.3%) Zn, 0.3–13% (av. 4%) Pb, nil–1.0% (av. 0.1%) Cu, and trace to 180 g/t Ag (av. 48 g/t). Model 31a 50 th percentile = 15 Mt and 5.6% Zn, 2.8% Pb and 30 g/t Ag (Cox and Singer 1986). See also Lefebure and Höy (1996), model E14. | | | | |

3.22.5.2 New Zealand Occurrences of Sediment-Hosted Zn-Pb Deposits

Corner and Jennings (1994) noted that zinc and lead anomalies in geochemical surveys of the Burgoo Stream, Hodge Creek, Crow River, Island Stream-Roaring Lion and Sputnik Creek, in Northwest Nelson, indicated the potential for sediment-hosted zinc mineralisation. Zinc anomalies in stream sediments are discussed by Carver (2009) and are particularly common in the Takaka volcanic-volcaniclastics.

Occurrences of Sediment-hosted Zn-Pb deposits are listed in Table 3.102.

Table 3.102Occurrence of Sediment-hosted Zn-Pb deposits (data modified after Brathwaite and Pirajno [1993]).Minerals: cp = chalcopyrite; po = pyrrhotite; py = pyrite; sp = sphalerite.

| Occurrence | MM ¹ | GERM ² | Deposit Form | Minerals Major (Minor) | Host Rocks | Genesis |
|--------------|-----------------|-------------------|-----------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|
| Mt Irene | A96 | C42/e3 | Stratiform | py, sp, po, cp | Calc-schist, marble | Hydrothermal – seafloor |
| Kathryn Peak | A104 | B44/e6 | Stratiform | py, sp | Quartzofelspathic schist | Hydrothermal seafloor |

¹ MM = Metallogenic map code (Brathwaite and Pirajno 1993).

² GERM = Geological Resource Map code.

3.22.6 Volcanogenic Massive Sulfide (VMS) Zn-Pb

3.22.6.1 International Mineral Deposit Model

Features of the VMS Zn-Pb mineral deposit model are listed in Table 3.103.

 Table 3.103
 Features of international mineral deposit models equivalent to the VMS Zn-Pb deposits model used in this report.

| International Min | International Mineral Deposit Model – Volcanogenic Massive Sulfide (VMS) Zn-Pb | | | | |
|---|---|--|--|--|--|
| Reference | USGS model 24a Cyprus massive sulfide (Cox and Singer 1986); USGS model 24b Besshi massive sulfide (Cox and Singer 1986) USGS Volcanogenic massive sulfide (Shanks et al. 2012) | | | | |
| Description VMS deposits are polymetallic seafloor deposits formed by hydrothermal systems the were generated by submarine volcanic activity and are partly syngenetic and partly epigenetic in origin. These typically occur as multiple stratiform lenses within rhyolitic basaltic submarine volcanic and associated rocks, commonly overlying, or adjacent discordant feeder zones containing low-grade stringer and disseminated mineralisat | | | | | |
| International Examples | Buchans, Newfoundland; Perseverence, Quebec; Kidd Creek, Ontario (Canada); Hellyer, Tasmania (Australia); Laochang (China) | | | | |
| Grade-Tonnage Model | Most VMS ore bodies contain between 0.1 and 10 Mt of ore, although groups of related deposits commonly aggregate more than 100 Mt. Kuroko deposits typically contain 4–5% Zn, 1–2% Cu and 1–1.5% Pb. Rosebery-type deposits are higher grade with up to 30% Zn+Pb+Cu, and up to 200 g/t Ag and 3 g/t Au. Major deposits include the Kuroko deposits of Japan; Rosebery, Hellyer and Woodlawn in Australia; and Kidd Creek in Ontario, Canada. | | | | |

3.22.6.2 New Zealand Occurrences of VMS Zn-Pb Deposits

Lead-zinc mineralisation occurs as small lenses of massive sulfide in quartz-sericite schist at Johnston's United Mine (MM A2; GERM M25/e539) in the Aorere goldfield. Although originally mined for gold between 1866 and 1897, the style of mineralisation attracted some exploration for VMS deposits (Roberts 1975; Canyon Resources Pty Ltd 1984; Brathwaite and Pirajno 1993). Minerals present include: pyrite, arsenopyrite, pyrrhotite, galena, sphalerite, chalcopyrite and tetrahedrite (Grindley and Wodzicki 1960).

In the early 1990s, Westland Ilmenite Ltd carried out reconnaissance prospecting for VMS deposits associated with the volcanic rocks of the Haupiri Group in Northwest Nelson (Mathison et al. 1992; Jones and Savory 1993). Several anomalies were identified in an airborne electromagnetic and magnetic survey and were followed up by geochemical surveys, mapping and ground electromagnetic surveys. This work outlined a few areas of VMS-style alteration and massive pyrite mineralisation, with low concentrations of copper, lead and/or zinc located in tributaries of the Anatoki and Waingaro rivers.

3.23 Zirconium (Zr)

3.23.1 International Description

International data for zirconium are listed in Table 3.104.

Table 3.104 Major minerals, world production, reserves and resources and major uses for zirconium.

| | Zirconium (Zr) | | | | | |
|---------------|--|---|--|--|--|--|
| | Ore Minerals: B addeleyite ZrO ₂ and zircon ZrSiO ₄ | | | | | |
| | World mine production in 2023 (USGS 2024) | 1.6 Mt of Zr mineral concentrates | | | | |
| nal | Major world producers | Australia (31%), China (9%), South Africa (9%), USA (6%), | | | | |
| International | (% of total 2023 world | Indonesia (6%), Mozambique (6%), Sengal (3%), Kenya (2%), | | | | |
| srna | production) (USGS 2024) | Madagascar (2%), Sierra Leone (2%) | | | | |
| Inte | World reserves (USGS 2024) | 74 Mt Zr concentrates | | | | |
| | World resources (USGS 2024) | N/A | | | | |
| | Uses: As a refractory and opacifier, resistance to corrosion. | although small amounts are used as an alloying agent for its strong | | | | |

3.23.2 New Zealand Occurrences of Zircon

Zircon is widely distributed as an accessory detrital mineral in titanomagnetite and ilmenite beach-sand deposits of the North and South Islands (Figure 3.41). Detrital zircon also occurs in alluvial placers in Westland, Otago and Southland.

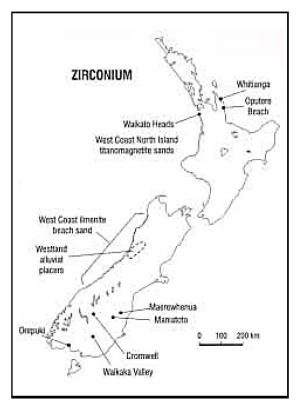


Figure 3.41 Location of zirconium deposits in New Zealand (after Christie and Brathwaite [1999a]).

Key References: Williams (1974); Brathwaite and Pirajno (1993); Christie and Brathwaite (1999a).

3.23.3 Placer Zircon

3.23.3.1 International Mineral Deposit Model

Features of the *Placer zircon* mineral deposit model are listed in Table 3.105.

 Table 3.105
 Features of international mineral deposit models equivalent to the *Placer zircon* model used in this report.

| International Mineral Deposit Model – Placer Zircon | | | | | |
|---|---|--|--|--|--|
| Reference | USGS Deposit model for heavy-mineral sands in coastal environments (Van Gosen et al. 2014) | | | | |
| Description | Detrital zircon in the heavy-mineral fraction of beach sands. Zircon occurs as an accessory mineral in all types of igneous rocks and is abundant in silica-rich rocks. It is extremely resistant to weathering and concentrates along with some other heavy minerals in beach- and alluvial-sand deposits that may contain up to 3% zircon. Zircon is mined as a co-product of beach-sand mining for titanium ores (see Section 3.19). The main deposits are the relatively young beach sands found on or near active coast lines of Australia, South Africa, the USA, India, Sri Lanka, Malaysia, China, Thailand and Tanzania. | | | | |
| International Examples | Jacinth and Ambrosia in Eucla Basin, Western Australia – South Australia; Eneabba, Cataby and Mindarie, Western Australia; Balranald, Ginkgo and Snapper in the Murray Basin, New South Wales; North Stradbroke Island and Fraser Island, Queensland (Australia); Geelwai Karoo and Richards Bay (South Africa); Moebase and Naburi (Mozambique); Trail Ridge, Florida; Brunswick, Georgia (USA) | | | | |
| Grade-Tonnage Model | Individual economic deposits typically have 10 Mt of sand at >2% heavy minerals and may occur in districts with >1 Bt of sand averaging 5% heavy minerals (Van Gosen et al. 2014). Zircon contents of the heavy-mineral-sand fraction are variable between deposits. | | | | |

3.23.3.2 New Zealand Occurrences of Placer Zircon Deposits

Ilmenite beach-sand deposits near Whitianga and at Wharekawa on the east coast of the Coromandel Peninsula are reported to average 1% zircon (McLaughlin 1973). If these deposits are ever mined for ilmenite, the zircon would be a potentially recoverable by-product.

The titanomagnetite beach sands on the west coast of the North Island contain trace zircon, but few details are known. The Waikato North Head deposit, currently mined for iron ore, contains about 0.1% zircon that is potentially recoverable (Shannon et al. 1965).

The ilmenite beach sands of the West Coast, South Island, typically contain 0.1–0.39% zircon, with locally higher concentrations up to 0.5% zircon (McPherson 1978; Nicholson et al. 1966; Nicholson 1967; Minehan 1989). Beach sand at Orepuki, Southland, contains 0.1–1.1% zircon (Martin and Long 1960). Zircon is a by-product of ilmenite heavy mineral sand mining at Westport and is expected to be recovered at the proposed heavy-mineral sand mining operation at Barrytown.

In Otago and Southland, zircon was identified in alluvial gold workings, for example, Maniototo, Maerewhenua, Lowburn and Waikaka Valley. The grade of the zircon in the alluvial gravels is unknown but is probably well below 0.1%. However, it may be worth recovering as a by-product in any future large alluvial gold mining operation.

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4.0 ONSHORE NON-METALLIC MINERALS

4.1 Aggregate and Sand

Aggregate is hard inert material used for making roads and for construction of buildings, bridges and other structures (mainly as concrete), with lesser quantities used for reclamation, harbour protection and railway ballast (Figure 4.1). Sand has similar applications in building, as well as several industrial uses, such as moulding sand. Aggregate suitability is determined by its physical properties (strength, durability, cohesiveness, size), chemical properties, few or no deleterious minerals and good homogeneity and volume of material at a quarry site. Naturally occuring rocks, sand and gravel are the most widely used aggregate materials and can be produced from a range of rock types, including greywacke, basalt, andesite, limestone, schist and gravel transported by rivers and glaciers (Figure 4.2). The latter are extracted from river channels and alluvial terraces where natural transport processes have upgraded their quality through the breakdown of weaker material. Quarried rock is crushed and screened to make various sized products (Figures 4.3 and 4.4). River gravels may not require crushing before screening.

This section briefly reviews aggregate production, issues and opportunities, and the reader is referred to descriptions by MacFarlan and Barry (1991), Christie et al. (2001b), Black (2009, 2014), Hill (2021) and Hill and Chilton (2024a–e) for additional information.

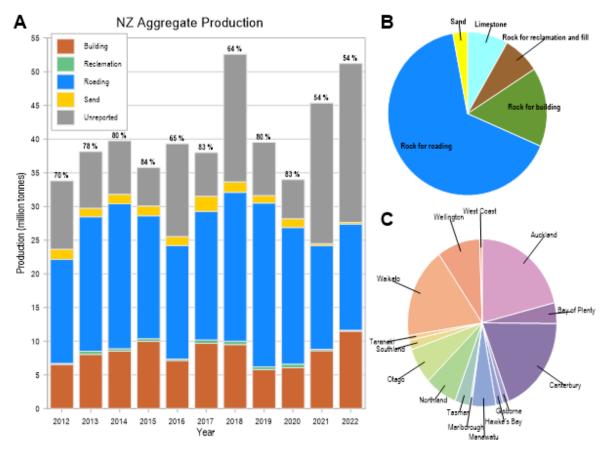


Figure 4.1 New Zealand aggregate production statistics. (a) annual production for aggregate for building, reclamation and fill and for roading, as well as industrial sand end uses for the last 10 years. Significant under-reporting of production values in New Zealand (reporting percent labelled) limits total production value statistics (unreported sections shown here in grey are estimated from missing percentage). (b) Ratio of rock, sand and limestone aggregate extracted for the 2019 production year. (c) Regional distribution of industrial minerals extracted for the 2019 production year (Source: New Zealand & Petroleum and Minerals).



Figure 4.2 Examples of extractive quarrying activity in New Zealand. (a) A hard-rock greywacke (sandstone and siltstone) quarry in Otaki; (b) limestone armour rock (rip-rap) stockpile in southern Hawkes Bay; (c) sand quarried from an inland dune deposit on the Kāpiti Coast; (d) basalt quarry in Auckland City; and (e) gravel and sand stock piles at a processing site in the Manawatū. Photographs A–C, E by Matt Hill; photograph D by Bruce Hayward.

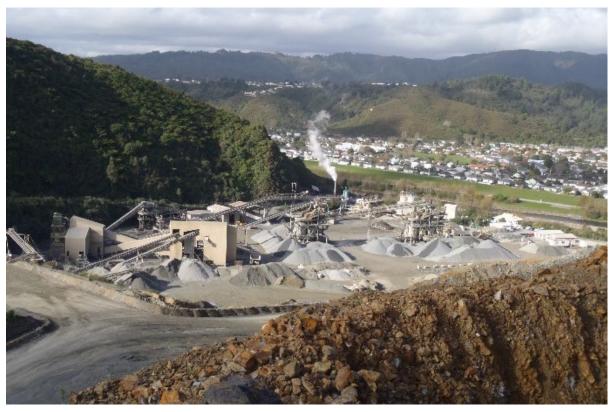


Figure 4.3 Aggregate processing plant at Belmont quarry in Lower Hutt. Greywacke rock is quarried and then crushed and screened into various-sized products.

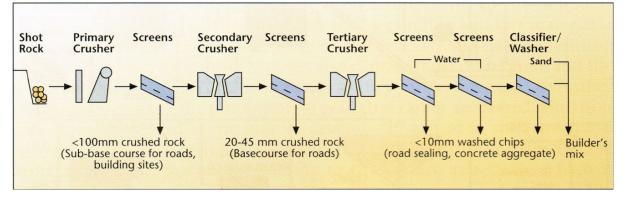


Figure 4.4 Aggregate rock is crushed and screend to make various-sized products.

New Zealand is fortunate to have large areas of accessible rock and gravel deposits throughout most of the country that can be utilised for aggregate. However, resources that are economic to develop need to be accessible, of suitable quality for their end use and close to the point of demand to control costs and the effects of transport (Figure 4.5). As a result, economic aggregate resources near cities are scarce commodities that need to be managed to ensure that supplies are available for the future. As their location is determined by natural processes, the location of quarries is restricted to very few potential locations, unlike many other land uses.

The main source rock for aggregate is greywacke (a layered sandstone and siltstone rock), which occurs in many parts of New Zealand. Hard-rock quarries are the main source of supply in the North Island. Gravel deposits are significant producers in Canterbury, the West Coast and Southland in the South Island, and the Kāpiti Coast and Hawke's Bay in the North Island. Volcanic rocks, mainly andesite and basalt, are worked locally, particularly in the North Island.

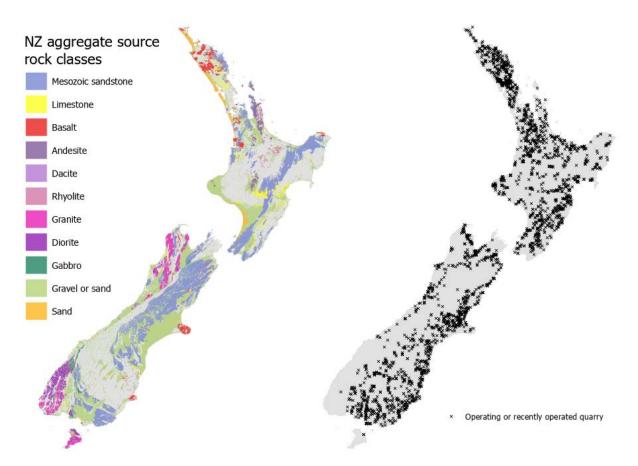


Figure 4.5 The occurrence of main aggregate source rocks in New Zealand divided into their major resource classes (left; derived from Heron [2024] geological map data and interpretation by Hill and Chilton [2024a–e]) and distribution of quarries around New Zealand (right; based on AQA [2024]).

The total annual production of aggregates in 2022 reported to the Ministry of Business, Innovation & Employment (MBIE) was about 28 Mt (Table 4.1); however, Market Economics (McIIrath and Harris 2024) estimated the true total at about 47.9 Mt as only 54% of surveyed quarries reported data. The production is from several hundred quarries and pits located throughout the country. The aggregates industry is dominated by the activities of a small number of major companies, whereas there are a large number of smaller producers who cater primarily for very localised demand (Table 4.1). Most of the large quarries in New Zealand have been operating for many years.

| Size o | of Production | Percentage of Production |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------|---|
| Large scale More than 500,000 tpa | | About 20% of production |
| Medium scale | 50,000–500,000 tpa | About 65% of production and about 20% of the operations |
| Small scale | Less than 50,000 tpa | About 15% of production |

| Table 4.1 | Size of aggregate operations (after Happy [1993]; Happy and Ashby [1993]). |
|-----------|--|
| | Size of aggregate operations (after happy [1990], happy and Ashby [1990]). |

Aggregate is a major component of infrastructure (NZIC 2021; Wilson et al. 2022; McIlrath and Harris 2024). Demand for it is driven by the level of economic activity, which in turn is related to total population and the rate of population and economic growth. The re-building of Christchurch following the earthquakes in 2010 and 2011 and urban expansion in Auckland have increased the demand for building aggregate and concrete.

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Road construction and maintenance accounts for more than half of the aggregate being used in New Zealand. While some of our high-traffic roads have a smooth asphaltic concrete ('bitumen hotmix') surface, most have a chipseal (sprayed bitumen film with a coating of stones on top). High-quality aggregate is used for these surface layers, but most of the aggregate used in road making goes into the base course and sub-base layers that support the road surface (Figure 4.6).

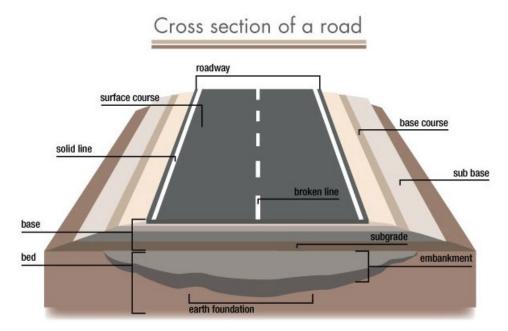


Figure 4.6 Profile of the construction materials in a road (Source: AQA).

Aggregate used for sub-base and base-course layers under roads can be upgraded by using additives such as lime, cement, bitumen or slag that helps bind the finer aggregate particles, increasing its strength (Figure 4.7). This allows lower-quality material to be used for road building. Recycling of some aggregate materials, such as road aggregate and concrete, reduces waste. Asphalt pavement is now recycled and re-used for sealing roads.



Figure 4.7 Stabilisation of road aggregate to bond particles.

4.1.1 Resources

There are no detailed resource estimates, although, on a national basis, there are very extensive deposits of greywacke and volcanic rocks to meet future demand for aggregates. However, the quantity of rock available for any specific purpose is variable from area to area. Generally there are adequate local sources, although two notable exceptions are the Taranaki and Gisborne areas, which lack high-grade rock materials. Also, the Auckland area, with its large population and consequent high volume of use, is having to transport aggregate from farther afield as existing quarries are being worked out.

4.1.2 Challenges

Finding sites for new quarries is difficult because workable aggregate resources need to be located near major transport routes and, predominantly, close to towns and cities to minimise transport impacts and costs. In general, transporting aggregate a distance of 30 km doubles its cost at the quarry (NZIC 2021).

Because of the high demand in urban areas, the potential for new aggregate production is usually greatest in urban-fringe areas where competing land uses, particularly urban expansion, may cause the closure of existing quarries and prevent the opening of new ones, effectively sterilising the resource.

AQA (2020) suggested that adequate provision must be made in planning documents to protect existing and potential aggregate and sand deposits and provide for their extraction. Without planning to secure adequate access to resources at workable locations, and protect them from encroachment, there is the real risk of losing access to such proximate resources.

As for all extractive activities, cultural sensitivity and social licence to operate are important considerations. Ideally, quarries should be located close to their markets, but the sensitivity of residents to quarrying can place significant constraints on operators. Developing a new quarry near a built-up area can generate considerable opposition because of truck movements, dust, noise and visual appearance of the operation. This is also reflected in reverse sensitivity – as communities encroach upon existing operations, they are affected by, and frequently negatively respond to, the quarrying and associated activities.

These factors have resulted in the trend toward fewer and larger aggregate quarries and pits, generally involving longer transport distances, increasing the costs of aggregate.

Sand has been mined at several locations offshore; however, local concern over perceived environmental risk, particularly the potential for beach erosion, has terminated most of these operations and alternative sources of sand have been sought, such as obtaining the sand-sized fraction from crushed rock.

4.1.3 **Opportunities**

Hill (2021) and Hill and Chilton (2024a–e) have carried out GIS modelling to map 'aggregate opportunity' in New Zealand by considering a number of factors in addition to geological source material, including:

- Land use (e.g. conservation land, Department of Conservation land and land cover).
- Future demand (e.g. roading and construction).

- Supporting infrastructure (e.g. access to roads, railway, electricity supply and labour market).
- Cultural sensitivity (e.g. visibility, residential areas, population density and mapped community sites and features).

The resulting maps shown in Figures 4.8 and 4.9 can be used to:

- 1. Manage aggregate resources to ensure that infrastructure providers have a reliable and affordable supply.
- 2. Determine regional import demand or export potential.
- 3. Identify land for protection from urbanisation, ensuring availability of aggregate resources for future production.
- 4. Generate targets for exploration activities.
- 5. Provide insight into future resource availability (Hill 2021).

More detailed modelling has been carried out for the Auckland, Bay of Plenty, Wellington and Otago regions (Hill and Chilton 2024a–e) to help councils and the local industry understand the regional aggregate opportunity and protect resources before other land use prevents access. However, New Zealand requires more detailed geological mapping of advanced rock and engineering parameters to fully understand aggregate resources.

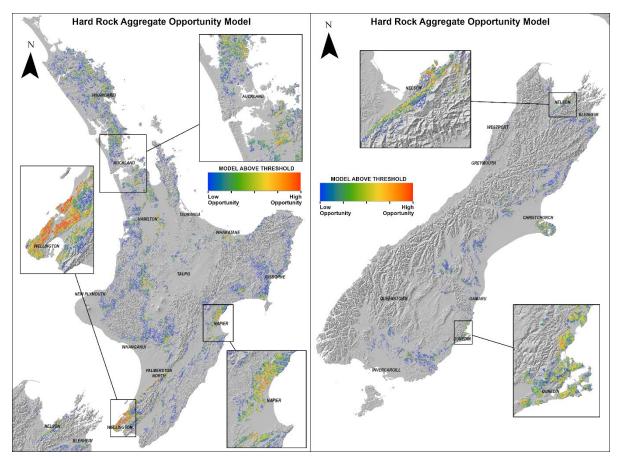


Figure 4.8 Maps of the aggregate opportunity hard-rock model for the North Island (left) and South Island (right) from Hill (2021). Colours represent the level of aggregate opportunity determined from modelling of geology, land use, demand, infrastructure and cultural sensitivity.

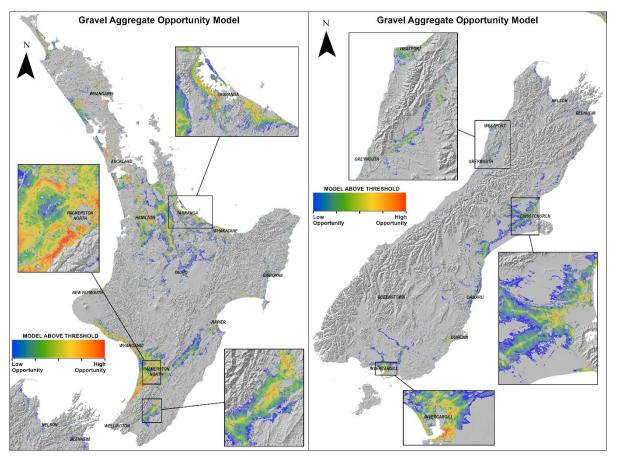


Figure 4.9 Maps of the aggregate opportunity gravel model for the North Island (left) and South Island (right) from Hill (2021). Colours represent the level of aggregate opportunity determined from modelling of geology, land use, demand, infrastructure and cultural sensitivity.

Key References: MacFarlan and Barry (1991); Happy (1993); Christie et al. (2001b); Black (2009, 2014); Hill (2021); Hill and Chilton (2024a–e).

4.2 Barium (Ba)

4.2.1 International Description

International data for barite are listed in Table 4.2.

| Table 4.2 | World production, | reserves and resources | and major uses of barite. |
|-----------|-------------------|------------------------|---------------------------|
|-----------|-------------------|------------------------|---------------------------|

| | Barium (Ba) | | |
|---------------|---|--|--|
| | Major Minerals: Barite BaSO ₄ | | |
| International | World mine production of barite in 2023 (USGS 2024) | 8,500,000 t barite | |
| | Major world producers of barite (% of total 2023 world production) (USGS 2024) | India (32%), China (22%), Morocco ((14%), Kazakhstan (7%), Laos (7%), Iran (4%), Mexico (3%), Russia (3%), Turkey (3%) | |
| Interi | World reserves of barite (USGS 2024) | >278,000,000 t | |
| | World resources of barite (USGS 2024) | 2 Bt; only 740 Mt are identified resources | |
| | Uses: Weighting agent in oil and gas well-drilling muds; preparation of barium compounds; pigment in paints and weighted filler for paper, cloth and rubber. | | |

4.2.2 New Zealand Occurrences of Barite

Six occurrences of barite mineralisation have been reported from Thomson Hill (MM A34), between the Wangapeka and Baton valleys in Northwest Nelson. The mineralisation consists of hydrothermal barite-fluorite-quartz-adularia veins, up to 30 cm thick, cutting Arthur Marble near the contact with hydrothermally altered Separation Point Suite granitoid. The barite is near pure BaSO₄ end-member composition and locally constitutes up to 95% of the veins. The largest occurrence of barite has an estimated resource of <3000 t of crude ore. Grades of 45.6–59.5% BaSO₄ were obtained from grab samples.

Key References: NZGS (1970b); Williams (1974).

4.3 Building Stone

Although few buildings in New Zealand are constructed entirely of building stone, there is a widespread use of building stone for decorative walls and general paving. Many rock types are suitable for use as a dimension stone, including (Hayward 1987):

- **Limestone:** Oamaru; Whangārei; Hanmer; Te Kūiti; various localities in Hawke's Bay, Canterbury and north Otago.
- **Sandstone:** Dobson near Greymouth; Charteris Bay on Lyttelton Harbour.
- **Dolomite:** Mt Burnett in west Nelson.
- **Marble:** Takaka Hill, Canaan Valley, Riwaka Valley, Takaka Valley, as well as in west Nelson and Caswell Sound and Malaspina Sound in Fiordland.
- Schist: Otago.
- Serpentine: Griffin Range near Taramakau.
- **Tonalite:** Paritu in the northern Coromandel Peninsula.
- Granite: Tonga Bay.
- Norite: Bluff Hill.
- **Ignimbrite:** Hinuera Valley, Putaruru.
- **Basalt:** Northland, Auckland, Port Hills on Banks Peninsula and around Dunedin.

However, only dolomite from Mt Burnett, Takaka marble, schist from Otago, Oamaru limestone and Hinuera stone have recently produced in quantity.

Key References: Hayward (1987).

4.4 Bentonite Clay

4.4.1 International Description

International data for bentonite clay are listed in Table 4.3.

Table 4.3World production, reserves and resources and major uses of bentonite clay.

| Bentonite [(Ca,Na)₀,₃(Al,Mg)₂Si₄O₁₀(OH)₂⋅n H₂O] | | |
|--|--|--|
| Alternative Name: Calcium bentonite is also known as | | te is also known as fuller's earth. |
| | World mine production in 2023 (USGS 2024) | Bentonite: 20,000,000 t Fuller's earth: 4,300,000 t |
| International | Major world producers (% of total 2023 world production) (USGS 2024) | Bentonite: USA (24%), India (19%), Turkey (12%), China (11%), Greece (7%), Denmark (5), Iran (4%), Czechia (1%) Fuller's earth: USA (53%), India (17%), Spain (13%), Mexico (3%), Senegal (3%), Turkey (1%) |
| | World resources (USGS 2024) | Extremely large |
| Uses: Drilling mud (50% of world consumption) and as a bin | | nsumption) and as a binder, purifier, absorbent and carrier for |

fertilisers and pesticides, filler, sealant, catalyst in petroleum refining and in medicine.

4.4.2 New Zealand Occurrences of Bentonite Clay

Bentonite, deposited in a freshwater environment during the Late Cenozoic, is mined by Transform Minerals (NZ) Limited in the Harper Hills near Coalgate, 65 km west of Christchurch (Figure 4.10). Non-swelling calcium bentonite occurs in a main bed up to 62 m thick, separated from a lower, carbonaceous, bentonite bed by 3–4 m of quartz sand and gravel. It is processed by treatment with soda ash to impart swelling properties. In the 1980s, resources totalled around 10 Mt (Mintech [NZ] Ltd in MacFarlan and Barry [1991]). Coalgate bentonite is used for paper-making, as a drilling mud, as a growing medium, a stock feed additive, for sealing ponds and reservoirs and for treating wastewater and effluent.

Marine bentonitic beds are widespread along the east coast of both the North and South Islands. They have been worked in the past at Mangatu, north of Gisborne and at Porangahau, where there is a resource of about 1 Mt (Mintech [NZ] Ltd in MacFarlan and Barry [1991]).

The main uses are as a binder in foundry sand, for drilling muds, for sealing drillholes, for sealing dams and diaphragm walls in construction projects, as a bitumen emulsifier, in fibre cement and as pellet hardener in stockfood.

Key References: Williams (1974); MacFarlan and Barry (1991); Christie et al. (2000).

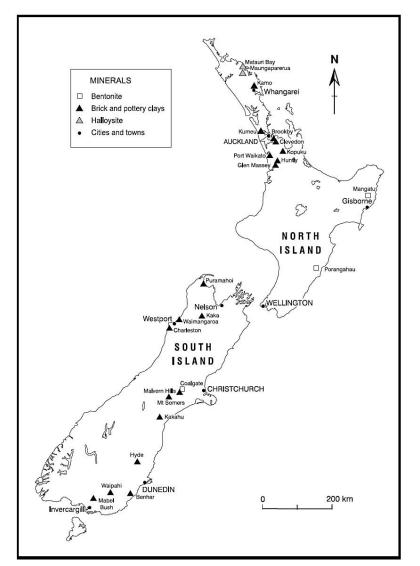


Figure 4.10 Location of selected clay deposits in New Zealand (after Christie et al. [2000]).

4.5 Halloysite Clay [Al₂SiO₅(OH)₄·nH₂O]

Halloysite clay is produced from deposits at Matauri Bay, 100 km north of Whangārei in Northland (Figure 4.10) by Imerys Ceramics (Townsend 1989; Harvey et al. 1990; Luke 1997; Brathwaite et al. 2014; Brathwaite and Christie 2016). Two pits are worked on the Matauri Bay and Mahimahi rhyolite domes, located 2 km apart. The company also has deposits at Shepherds Hill to the west of Matauri Bay and Maungaparerua, 8 km west of Kerikeri.

The high-purity halloysite possesses exceptional whiteness and brightness, as well as an overall fine particle size. Iron oxides average 0.28% and titania averages 0.08%. The inherent brightness of the raw material, coupled with low iron and titania levels, imparts whiteness and translucency to the finished product.

The processed halloysite is exported for the manufacture of high-quality ceramics, principally porcelain but also fine bone china and technical ceramics. There are two main applications in the technical ceramics sector.

The deposits have been worked since 1969. Annual production data for recent years has been withheld and was last reported in 2019 as 50,569 t of raw clay mined from the Matauri Bay and Mahimahi pits (61,650 t in 2016). Plant capacity is about 25,000 tpa of processed halloysite.

Sufficient resources exist at the Matauri Bay and nearby Mahimahi deposits to sustain production for over 30 years at current rates. Potential resources are present in other deposits at Shepherds Hill west of Matauri Bay and at Maungaparerua near Kerikeri.

Key References: Townsend (1989); Luke (1997); Brathwaite et al. (2014); Brathwaite and Christie (2015, 2016).

4.6 Kaolinite Clay for Bricks, Pottery and Industry

4.6.1 International Description

International data for kaolinite clay are listed in Table 4.4.

 Table 4.4
 World production, reserves and resources and major uses of kaolinite clay.

| | Kaolinite Clay [Al ₂ Si ₂ O ₅ (OH) ₄] | | |
|---------------|--|---|--|
| | Alternative Name: Kaolin | | |
| International | World mine production in 2023 (USGS 2024) | 51,000,000 t | |
| | Major world producers (% of total 2023 world production) (USGS 2024) | Uzbekistan (17%), China (16%), India (16%), USA (9%), Czechia (6%), Russia (5%), Turkey (4%), Iran (4%), Brazil (2%) | |
| Inte | World reserves (USGS 2024) | Large | |
| | World resources (USGS 2024) | Extremely large | |
| | Uses: Filler and whitener in paper, ceramics and paint. It also has other industrial uses, as well as in medicines and cosmetics. | | |

4.6.2 New Zealand Occurrences of Kaolinite Clays

In New Zealand, kaolinite clays are formed mainly by:

- 1. Surface weathering of clay-rich rocks such as argillite and greywacke in several locations near Auckland, for example, Port Waikato, Brookby and Glen Massey.
- 2. Acid leaching of mudstone to produce fireclays associated with coal measures (e.g. Kamo, Maramarua and Huntly in the North Island, and Puramahoi, Malvern Hills, Kakahu, Hyde, Benhar, Waipahi and Mabel Bush in the South Island).
- 3. Weathering of mudstone and siltstone at West Auckland and near Nelson.
- 4. Hydrothermal alteration of rhyolite in the Coromandel Peninsula and Canterbury.

Recent production statistics for clay for bricks, tiles, etc., are withheld and were last reported in 2014 as 125,508 t. Production has mainly been from clay pits in West Auckland, Brookby, Port Waikato, Maramarua, Malvern Hills, Mt Somers and Waipahi. Kaolinite clays for pottery are produced at Kaka, Malvern Hills, Hyde and Mabel Bush.

Kaolinite clays are used widely for domestic brick, tile, pipe, ceramics and pottery manufacture. Some kaolinite is also used as a filler in rubber, bitumen and adhesives. High-purity kaolinite is used by the New Zealand paper industry for paper coating and filling.

The quantity of clay present in most areas is poorly defined but known to be large, especially in weathered argillite and greywacke and coal measure clay deposits.

Key References: Thompson (1989); MacFarlan and Barry (1991); Christie et al. (2000).

4.7 Diatomite

4.7.1 International Description

International data for diatomite are listed in Table 4.5.

 Table 4.5
 World mine production, reserves and resources and major uses of diatomite.

| | Diatomite / Diatomaceous Earth (SiO ₂) | | |
|---------------|---|---|--|
| | Name: Diatomaceous earth is the commercial name for diatomite. | | |
| International | World mine production in 2023 (USGS 2024) | 2.6 Mt | |
| | Major world producers (% of total 2023 world production) (USGS 2024) | USA (32%), Denmark (17%), China (10%), Turkey (8%), Argentina (4%), Mexico (4%), France (4%), Mozambique (3%); Spain (2%), Czechia (2%), Germany (2%), South Korea (2%), Russia (2%) | |
| | World reserves (USGS 2024) | Large (521 Mt for USA, China, Spain and Turkey only) | |
| | World resources (USGS 2024) | N/A | |
| | Uses: Filtration material, sorbents, fillers, heat-insulation materials, pet litter, agriculture and a soil for | | |

potted plants.

4.7.2 New Zealand Occurrences of Diatomite

Diatomite is used as a pozzolan cement, mild abrasive, filtration medium, filler in insulating material and as pet litter. Recent annual production data is withheld and was last reported in 2013 as 4 t (95 t in 2010). Most production has been from Whirinaki, Middlemarch and Oamaru, with minor production at Kingsland and Papakaio (Williams 1974).

The lacustrine deposit at Mercer contains about 180,000 t of extractable diatomite and pumicite (Waterhouse 1967; Thompson 1989). In the Rotorua basin, there are considerable quantities of lacustrine diatomite between Ngongotaha and Hamurana. Resources at Whirinaki (Ngakuru) are estimated at 2 Mt, containing more than 50% high-grade material with more than 50% diatoms (NZGS 1970b). At Middlemarch, diatomite lake beds are more than 35 m thick and approximately 5 Mt are present (Gordon 1959; Williams 1974). Near Oamaru, marine diatomite beds cover an area of about 26 km² and vary in thickness from a few centimetres to 9 m. A cave valley near Oamaru was estimated to have 140,000 t of diatomite (Edwards 1991); however, this is one of many occurrences in the area, suggesting a much larger resource.

Key References: Ritchie (1962); Williams (1974); Thompson (1989); MacFarlan and Barry (1991).

4.8 Dolomite

4.8.1 International Description

International data for dolomite are listed in Table 4.6.

| Table 4.6 | World mine production, reserves and resources and major uses of dolomite. |
|-----------|---|
| 10010 1.0 | Wond mine production, received and recourses and major dece of determine. |

| Dolomite [CaMg(CO ₃) ₂] | | | |
|--|-------------------------------|--|--|
| | Major world exporters in 2021 | China (9.1 Mt), United Arab Emirates (2.1 Mt), Canada (1.6 Mt), Belgium (1.1 Mt), Philippines (1.1 Mt), Slovakia (1 Mt) | |
| International | Major world importers in 2021 | India (4.6 Mt), Japan (2.4 Mt), USA (1.9 Mt), Taiwan (0.7 Mt), China (0.6 Mt), the Netherlands (0.6 Mt) | |
| erna | World reserves and resources | Very large | |
| E Uses: Agricultural and horticultural fertiliser, ornamental stone, concrete aggregate and a source magnesium oxide, as well as in the Pidgeon process for the production of magnesium and a magnarium substrate. Calcined dolomite is used as a catalyst in industrial processes. | | Pidgeon process for the production of magnesium and a marine | |

Dolomite is formed as a magnesium replacement of limestone or of lime mud before lithification. The dolomitisation process may be assisted by microbial activity.

4.8.2 New Zealand Occurrences of Dolomite

The main occurrence of dolomite is on Mt Burnett in Northwest Nelson (Figure 4.11), where it is present in discontinuous lenses in a folded dolomite-marble sequence of Paleozoic age. The dolomite is 60-70% CaCO₃ and 28-39% MgCO₃, with up to 3% SiO₂ and up to 0.66% Fe₂O₃ (Bishop and Braithwaite 1969). The main lens of dolomite contains about 70 Mt. Other lenses each contain up to 1 Mt (Williams and Katz 1974).

The Mt Burnett quarry is operated by Golden Bay Dolomite. The plant at the quarry has a capacity of around 100,000 tpa, although current output is of the order of 25,000–40,000 tpa.

About 80% of the product is used as an additive to phosphatic fertilisers for spreading on magnesium-deficient soils, and the balance is used for aggregate and rip rap, with large blocks used for river and coastal protection in the Wellington region. The dolomite has formerly been used in glass manufacture and in the steel industry.

Recent production statistics are withheld and were last reported as:

- Agriculture (2018): 25,297 t (298,948 t in 2010).
- Industry (2014): 43,624 t (86,399 t in 2010).

Key References: Bishop and Braithwaite (1969); Williams (1974); Thompson (1989); MacFarlan and Barry (1991); Thompson et al. (1995).

4.9 Feldspar

4.9.1 International Description

International data for feldspar are listed in Table 4.7.

 Table 4.7
 Major minerals, world production, reserves and resources and major uses of feldspar.

| | Feldspar | | |
|---------------|--|--|--|
| | Major Minerals: Plagioclase group with end members albite (NaAlSi ₃ O ₈) and anorthite (CaAl ₂ Si ₂ O ₈), as well as potassium feldspar (K-spar) end member (KAlSi ₃ O ₈) | | |
| International | World mine production in 2023 (USGS 2024) | 27 Mt | |
| | Major world producers (% of total 2023 world production) (USGS 2024) | Turkey (23%), India (19%), China (9%), Italy (8%), Iran (7%), Republic of Korea (3%), Spain (3%), Brazil (3%), Saudi Arabia (2%), Mexico (2%), Czechia (2%), Pakistan (2%) | |
| Ē | World reserves (USGS 2024) | >2.294 Bt with most in China and Turkey | |
| | World resources (USGS 2024) | Very large | |
| | Uses: As a raw material in glassmaking and ceramics, and as a filler and extender in paint, plastics and rubber. | | |

4.9.2 New Zealand Occurrences of Feldspar

Feldspar deposits of possible economic potential occur in four main geological environments:

- 1. Pegmatite and aplite dikes in granites of Paleozoic and Mesozoic age along the western side of the South Island (e.g. Separation Point Granite, Deep Creek, Charleston).
- 2. In the weathered zone of granite plutons in Northwest Nelson.
- 3. Weathered feldspar-rich volcanic rocks in Northland, Rotorua-Taupō, Malvern Hills and Dunedin.
- 4. Dune, beach and marine sands of Quaternary age at Ruakaka Flat south of Whangārei and near Kaipara Harbour are rich in calcium feldspar.

Feldspar-rich sand (50–75% feldspar) has been dredged about 200 m offshore between Mangawhai and Pakiri on the east coast of Northland. This material is mined for use as sand rather than for production of feldspar.

Sand dunes at Ruakaka Flats, south of Marsden Point in Northland, contain more than 400 Mt of sand that could yield, at 60% recovery, 240 Mt of feldspar (see Thompson [1989]).

Key References: Williams (1974); Thompson (1989).

4.10 Fluorite / Fluorspar (CaF₂)

4.10.1 International Description

International data for fluorite are listed in Table 4.8.

 Table 4.8
 World mine production, reserves and resources and major uses of fluorspar.

| | Fluorite / Fluorspar (CaF ₂) | | |
|--|--|--|--|
| | Name: Fluorspar is the commercial name for fluorite. | | |
| | Major Minerals: Fluorite (CaF ₂), bastnaesite, cryolite, sellaite, villiaumite, fluorite, fluorapatite, various phyllosilicates and topaz | | |
| a | World mine production in 2023 (USGS 2024) | 8.8 Mt | |
| International | Major world producers (% of total 2023 world production) (USGS 2024) | China (65%), Mexico (11%), Mongolia (11%), South Africa (5%), Vietnam (2%), Spain (2%), Iran (1%) | |
| - | World reserves (USGS 2024) | 280 Mt mostly in China and Mexico | |
| | World resources (USGS 2024) | 5 Bt of fluorspar in 74 Bt of phosphate rock | |
| | Uses: Fluorspar is used directly as a fluxing material and as an additive in different manufacturing | | |
| | processes. It is the source of fluorine in the production of hydrogen fluoride or hydrofluoric acid, which is | | |
| used as the feedstock for numerous organic and inorganic chemical compounds. | | organic and inorganic chemical compounds. | |

4.10.2 New Zealand Occurrences of Fluorite

Fluorite occurs in veins associated with barite at Thomson Hill (MM A34), with grades from 7.8 to 19.5% CaF₂. At Wekakura (MM A19), near the mouth of the Heaphy River, thin veins, clusters and lenticular patches of fluorite occur within granite of the Karamea Suite. Chip sampling at the most mineralised sites gave CaF₂ content in the range 0.16–0.36%, with the best channel sample at 5.4% over 3 m (Riley and Hume 1973).

In the headwaters of Kehu Stream (MM A47), green fluorite veins, less than 0.3 m thick, cut Berlins Porphyry (Nathan 1978), and a breccia pipe containing up to 30% fluorite was located in the Kehu pluton by AHI Minerals (Leach 1976).

Numerous minor occurrences of fluorite veining have been reported throughout the Sinclairs Castle area (MM A50), including sparse small veins in pink porphyry in Fluorite Creek and fluorite-bearing float in the Cascade, V37 and Rochfort creeks (Bates 1978).

Key References: NZGS (1970b).

4.11 Garnet

4.11.1 International Description

International data for garnet are listed in Table 4.9.

 Table 4.9
 World mine production, reserves and resources and major uses of garnet.

| Garnet [(Mg,Fe,Mn) ₃ Al ₂ (SiO ₄) ₃] | | |
|---|--|--|
| World mine production in 2023 (USGS 2024) | 970,000 t | |
| Major world producers (% of total 2023 world production) (USGS 2024) | Australia (40%), China (32%), South Africa (19%), USA (7%), India (2%), Pakistan (0.2%) | |
| World reserves (USGS 2024) | Moderate to large (e.g. 51 Mt in China, India, USA and South Africa) | |
| World resources (USGS 2024) | Large | |
| Uses: Garnet is mainly used as an abrasive for industrial blast-cleaning, polishing, sand papering an water-jet cutting. It is starting to replace silica in abrasives because silica is dangerous to worker head (i.e. silicosis). Garnet is also used for filtration and in jewellery. | | |

4.11.2 New Zealand Occurrences of Garnet

Garnet is a minor constituent in most Quaternary fluvial and ilmenite beach-sand deposits on the West Coast, but, in the Westport area, it is a major constituent and is typically twice as abundant as ilmenite. Composition is typically in the pyrope-almandine field, with minor andradite (Hutton 1950). Grain morphology is either angular or sub-rounded, suggesting two sources (McPherson 1978). The presence of angular grains in the Fox, Four Mile and Totara rivers suggests local sources, likely from the Charleston Metamorphic Group gneiss. The well-rounded garnet is derived from the extensive garnet-zone schists in the Southern Alps and has been transported northwards by longshore drift. Also, some garnet may have been re-worked through intermediate deposits, perhaps Tertiary or Quaternary in age.

In 2023, Westland Mineral Sands started mining mineral sands near Westport for export and processing to produce ilmenite, garnet and other mineral products. Garnet is also likely to be produced from mineral sand mining at Barrytown.

Ritchie et al. (2019) estimated garnet resources at several West Coast locations listed in Part 1 (Table 7.2).

Key References: Williams (1974); Ritchie (2017); Ritchie and Scott (2019); Ritchie et al. (2019).

4.12 Glauconite (K,Na)(Fe,Al,Mg)₂(Si,Al)₄O₁₀(OH)₂

4.12.1 International Description

Glauconite is an iron-potassium silicate that contains up to 9% K₂O and can be used as a potential feedstock for production of potash, a potassium fertiliser and soil conditioner (e.g. in Brazil). Glauconite forms exclusively in marine settings, typically on the continental shelf in areas with slow rates of sediment accumulation. In concentration, this green mineral imparts a green colour to the sand and hence the name 'greensands'.

4.12.2 New Zealand Occurrences of Glauconite

Glauconite occurs as greensand in Cretaceous–Miocene-age sedimentary sequences on the eastern parts of the North and South Islands and Chatham Islands. Eocene-age Wanstead Formation greensand has recently been explored at Otaka, East Cape, for use in manufacturing potash fertiliser (Merchant 2012, 2013; Bridson 2014, 2015a, 2015b). The greensands are contained within folded sediments that lie in fault-bound zones. In a western zone, grades of are typically 5.4–5.8% K₂O, whereas, in the eastern zone, the rocks average about 7.2%. Gangue minerals are quartz, lesser feldspar and locally calcite. The beds are east-dipping and post-dated by glauconitic Oligocene-age Weber Formation limestones that locally contain up to 45% glauconite and have associated phosphate. Exploration was abandoned in 2015.

Similar greensand units in the Wairarapa, south of Waipukerau, were also prospected by Glauconite NZ and later NZ Potash (Drew 2014), but the units were found to be thin and had insufficient glauconite (20–50%).

Reconnaissance exploration has also been carried out on the greensands in the Castle Hill basin in northern Canterbury by Middle Island (2013), where glauconites had been described previously by McConchie and Lewis (1978, 1980). Middle Island also carried out reconnaissance exploration of the Otepopo Greensand in the Herbert to Moeraki area, southwest of Oamaru (Middle Island 2015, 2020) but found the glauconite content to be low grade at around 5% K₂O equivalent.

Glauconitic greensands have potential uses as soil conditioners/fertilisers, substituting for potash (Lefond 1975) and for water purification by filtration and ion exchange.

Merchant (2012) suggested that Otaka and similar deposits have potential for hundreds of millions of tonnes with grades in the range of 7-7.5% K₂O.

Opportunities: Glauconite offers a potential substitute for imported potash used to make fertiliser.

Key References: Merchant (2012, 2013).

4.13 Limestone

4.13.1 International Description

International data for limestone are listed in Table 4.10.

 Table 4.10
 World production, reserves and resources and major uses of limestone.

| | Limestone (CaCO ₃) | | |
|---------------|---|---|--|
| | Major Minerals: Calcite and aragonite, both CaCO₃, and dolomite CaMg(CO₃)₂ Limestone may be converted to: Agricultural lime by crushing to a fine size. Burnt lime, also known as unslaked lime or quicklime, by burning (calcination) limestone in a lime kiln above 900°C, producing calcium oxide CaO. Hydrated lime, also known as slaked lime, by adding water to burnt lime, producing calcium hydroxide Ca(OH)₂. | | |
| tional | World quicklime and hydrated lime production in 2023 (USGS 2024) | 430 Mt | |
| International | Major world producers of quicklime and hydrated lime (% of total 2023 world production) (USGS 2024) | China (72%), India (4%), USA (4%), Russia (3%), Brazil (2%), Japan (1%), Germany (1%), Republic of Korea (1%), Turkey (1%), Iran (1%), Italy (1%), France <1%)(), Australia (<1%), Ukraine (<1%) | |
| | World reserves (USGS 2024) | Adequate for many years of demand | |
| | World resources (USGS 2024) | Very large | |
| | Uses: Limestone is mostly used as a raw material in the production of lime, primarily for treating soils, purifying water and smelting ores. It is also used in cement production, as aggregate, in chemical industries, as an acid buffer and as an additive in toothpaste, paper, plastics, paint, tiles and other materials as both a white pigment and a filler. | | |

4.13.2 New Zealand Occurrences of Limestone

Limestone deposits are widespread throughout New Zealand (Figure 4.11). Mortimer and Strong (2014) and Thomson et al. (2021) reported analyses of limestone and agricultural lime with an overall average of 84% calcium carbonate (CaCO₃).

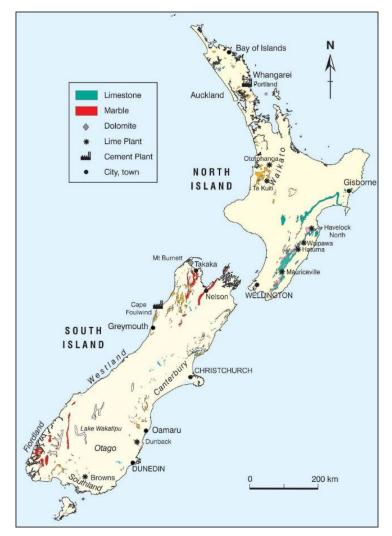


Figure 4.11 Locations of limestone, marble and dolomite deposits (after Christie and Barker [2013]).

Limestone containing more than 70% CaCO₃ is used for agricultural fertiliser (Morton 2019) for roading aggregate. High-grade limestone and marble suitable for domestic and export industrial use are widespread. The best-quality large tonnage deposits, containing 97.4–99.5% CaCO₃, are present in the south Waikato near Te Kūiti, where limestone is produced for a wide range of industrial uses and for making burnt lime. High-quality limestone is used domestically as a filler in paper, plastics, paint and rubber, for paper surface coatings and in glass making.

Uses of burnt lime (calcium oxide, CaO) include steelmaking at the Glenbrook mill, in processing gold ore at the Martha Hill gold mine at Waihi, at Macraes in Otago and offshore at Lihir (Papua New Guinea) and at Gold Ridge (Solomon Islands). Domestic uses also include pulp and paper manufacture at the Tasman and Carter Holt Harvey paper mills, in the sugar industry, in soil stabilisation and in sewage sludge and wastewater treatment.

Limestone and marl (calcite-bearing mudstone) are used in cement manufacture at Portland, near Whangārei, operated by Golden Bay Cement Company Limited. The domestic market is the principal consumer of the cement products, although some is exported to the Pacific Islands.

Production statistics for 2022 are presented for three uses:

- Marl and cement: Currently withheld.
- Agriculture: 625,832 t in 2022.
- Industry: 628,176 t in 2022.

Limestone for agricultural use is produced at more than 68 quarries throughout New Zealand (Thompson et al. 2021). There are extensive deposits, mostly in the tens of millions of tonnes and more, in the known limestone areas.

Key References: Williams (1974); MacFarlan and Barry (1991); Turnbull and Smith Lyttle (1999); Christie et al. (2001a); Mortimer and Strong (2014).

4.14 Magnesite

See Magnesium (Section 3.11).

4.15 Marble

4.15.1 International Description

International data for marble are listed in Table 4.11.

| Table 4.11 | World production, reserves and resources and major uses of marble. |
|------------|---|
| | Trona production, recentree and recourses and major dece of maiole. |

| | Marble | | |
|---------------|--|---|--|
| | Major Minerals: Calcite (CaCO ₃), dolomite [CaMg(CO ₃) ₂] | | |
| | Top five countries for high-quality marble | Turkey, Italy, Greece, Iran and Spain | |
| International | Major world exporters in 2018 (percentage of the world market) | Turkey (42%), Italy (18%), Greece (10%) | |
| | Major world importers in 2018 (percentage of the world market) | China (64%), India (11%), Italy (5%) | |
| - | World resources (USGS 2024) | Very large | |
| | Uses: Sculpture and building stone (construction or dimension stone), for example, wall and floor tiles, kitchen benches, baths and hand basins, furniture (e.g. tables). | | |

Marble is a metamorphic rock consisting of carbonate minerals, most commonly calcite $CaCO_3$ or dolomite $CaMg(CO_3)_2$. It has a crystalline texture, and is generally not foliated (layered).

4.15.2 New Zealand Occurrences of Marble

Marble occurs mainly in Ordovician sedimentary sequences in Northwest Nelson (e.g. Takaka Hill and Pikikiruna Range) and Fiordland (e.g. Caswell, Doubtful and Breaksea sounds) (Figure 4.11). Marble is used as building stone, in industry as a filler and for surface coating, as well as for agricultural lime. The main production has been from quarries on Takaka Hill in Northwest Nelson, particularly the Ngarua quarry operated by Ravensdown that has been producing marble with a calcium carbonate content greater than 98.6%. The deposits of marble are very large, particularly in the Pikikiruna and Arthur ranges and Takaka Hill deposits in Northwest Nelson.

Key References: Thompson (1989); MacFarlan and Barry (1991); Christie et al. (2001a).

4.16 Perlite

4.16.1 International Description

International data for perlite are listed in Table 4.12.

 Table 4.12
 World mine production, reserves and resources and major uses of perlite.

| | Perlite | | |
|---|--|--|--|
| World mine production in 2023 (USGS 2024) | 4.9 Mt | | |
| Major world producers (% of total 2023 world production) (USGS 2024) | China (31%), Turkey (29%), Greece (22%), USA (9%), Armenia (4%), Hungary (2%), Iran (2%) | | |
| World reserves (USGS 2024) | NA (307 Mt in Greece, the USA, China, Slovakia and Iran) | | |
| World resources (USGS 2024) Large with significant resources in China, Greece, Turkey and the USA | | | |
| insulation and ceiling tiles. Other a | Uses: Construction and manufacturing application using lightweight plasters, concrete and mortar, insulation and ceiling tiles. Other application include filtering beer and uses in foundries, cryogenic insulation and ceramics (as a clay additive). | | |

4.16.2 New Zealand Occurrences of Perlite

Perlite is an expanded material made from perlitic rhyolite, a volcanic glass that occurs as near-surface layers on rhyolite domes and as perlitic flows of glassy rhyolite lava. The main localities for the surface layer type are in the Rotorua–Taupō area, particularly at Earthquake Flat, and for the lava flow type at Maungaiti Dome (Atiamuri) and on Great Barrier Island. Other localities include Mokohinau Island, Paku Island and Gebbies Pass.

Perlite is used in the domestic market as an inert insulator and filler, as well as for horticultural/ pot-plant mixes.

No annual production statistics have been reported recently, with the last reported in 2012 at 3598 t. Perlite is quarried intermittently at Cashmores Perlite quarry near Atiamuri, southwest of Rotorua, by Industrial Processors Limited, producing about 9000 t of ore per year. The material is processed in Auckland by crushing, screening and heating to 900°C to expand the perlite by 7–20 times.

Inferred resources of perlitic rhyolite are 100 Mt at Awana on Great Barrier Island and 20 Mt at Maungaiti Dome south of Rotorua. Small quantities are also present in the Whitianga–Tairua area and around the Rotorua–Taupō area (Thompson 1989).

Opportunities: The high expansion capacity of perlite from the Taupō Volcanic Zone, which results partly from its young age, makes it particularly good for filtration applications. There is potential for developing this market.

Key References: Thompson et al. (1954); Thompson (1989); MacFarlan and Barry (1991).

4.17 Phosphate

4.17.1 International Description

International data for phosphate are listed in Table 4.13.

| Table 4.13 | World mine production, recorded and recourses and major uses of pheephete |
|------------|--|
| Table 4.15 | World mine production, reserves and resources and major uses of phosphate. |

| | Phosphate Rock (PO4 ³) ⁻ | | |
|--|--|---|--|
| International | World mine production in 2023 (USGS 2024) | 220 Mt of phosphate rock containing 63.6 Mt of P_2O_5 | |
| | Major world producers (% of total 2023 world production) (USGS 2024) | China (41%), Morocco (16%), USA (9%), Russia (6%), Jordon (5%), Saudi Arabia (4%), Brazil (2%), Egypt (2%), Peru (2%), Tunisia (2%), Australia (1%), Israel (1%, Senegal (1%) | |
| | World reserves (USGS 2024) | 74 Bt of phosphate rock | |
| Inte | World resources (USGS 2024) | More than 300 Bt of phosphate rock | |
| Uses: Mostly in agriculture as a fertiliser. For other applications, phosphate is typically turned in phosphoric acid, which is used in a wide variety of products, such as food, cosmetics, animal fe electronics. | | | |

4.17.2 New Zealand Occurrences of Phosphate

At Clarendon, south of Dunedin, the 40-m-thick glauconitic Clarendon Sand of Early Miocene age contains phosphate-rich beds near both its base and top. L&M Mining is currently exploring the Clarendon deposit and also other prospects in North Canterbury, South Canterbury and Waitaki (Manhire et al. 2024). Clarendon produced about 140,000 t ($25\% P_2O_5$) during 1920–1924, and a further 53,000 t between 1942 and 1944, for use as a fertiliser. There has been no production since 1944.

Phosphate is used to make superphosphate fertiliser by dissolving phosphate rock in sulfuric acid. New Zealand has two superphosphate manufacturing companies, Ballance Agri-Nutrients and Ravensdown Fertiliser Co-op, which operate a total of four plants across them.

Douglas (1989) estimated that Clarendon has a possible resource of 5 Mt of phosphate rock, averaging 11% P_2O_5 . Recent exploration by L&M Mining has indicated that the drilled areas (1/25th of the deposit) contain a resource of 1.6 Mt of phosphate ore, with an average grade of 18% P_2O_5 (Manhire et al. 2024).

Opportunities: New Zealand imports about 680,000 t of phosphate annually, mostly (~60%) from Morocco. These imports could potentially be substituted by local production from onshore phosphate deposits (e.g. Clarendon; Manhire et al. 2024) or Chatham Rise phosphorite nodules (see Section 7.1). There is potential for a combined phosphate and glauconite operation at Clarendon, provided suitable processes and markets can be developed.

Key References: Thompson (1989); MacFarlan and Barry (1991).

4.18 Pounamu (Greenstone)

Pounamu, also known as New Zealand greenstone and New Zealand jade, is the Māori term for nephrite, an amphibole group mineral with a composition within the tremolite $(Ca_2Mg_5Si_8O_{22}(OH)_2)$ -actinolite $(Ca_2(Mg,Fe)_5Si_8O_{22}(OH)_2)$ series. Pounamu includes a wide variety of rocks; both nephrite and bowenite (a serpentine mineral). Jade is generally either nephrite or jadeite (pyroxene group). For example, Chinese jade is jadeite and therefore not strictly equivalent to the New Zealand nephrite jade.

Pounamu is found in western South Island and formed by the metamorphism of the contact zone between schist and ultramafic rocks or magnesium-rich carbonates (Figure 4.12).

Most pounamu has been recovered as river boulders from the West Coast, especially from the Arahura, Taramakau and Hokitika rivers and their tributaries, although some has also been recovered from glacial boulders (e.g. Cascade Plateau). However, in several localities, nephrite has been located in outcrop within the Pounamu Ultramafics belt.

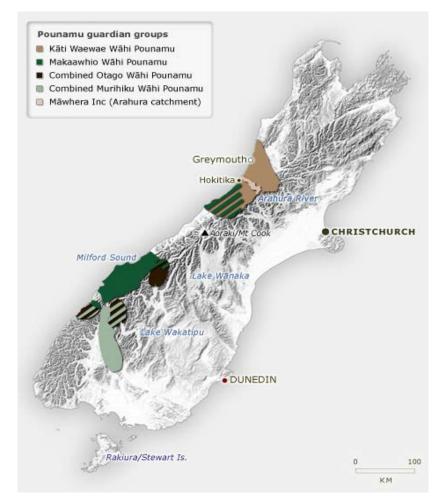


Figure 4.12 Pounamu resources of New Zealand, most of which are owned and managed by Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu. The resource is managed by local rūnanga or kaitiaki (guardians) who have authority over their respective fields, depending on historical interests (Source: Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu, Pounamu Management Plan).

Pounamu has been used by Māori for jewellery, tools (e.g. adzes, chisels gouges and knives for carving and cutting wood, fish hooks) and weapons (e.g. clubs and points for spears) and has strong cultural and spiritual significance. Modern use is mainly for jewellery and ornaments. Ownership of pounamu was vested with Ngāi Tahu in September 1997 as part of their Tiriti o Waitangi claim.

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Studies have been carried out to assess pounamu resources (Cox et al. 2005; Cox and Nibourel 2015) and to fingerprint their source (Adams et al. 2007; Campbell et al. 2008). Resource estimates made to date are confidential. Because pounamu has significant spiritual value to Māori, the value of the resources may be far greater to the owners, Ngāi Tahu, than can be estimated as a mineable mineral commodity.

Key References: Beck (1984); Beck and Mason (2002); Adams et al. (2005, 2007); Cox et al. (2005); Cox and Nibourel (2015); Campbell et al. (2008).

4.19 Potassium (K) – Potash (KCl, K₂O)

4.19.1 International Description

International data for potash are listed in Table 4.14.

 Table 4.14
 World production, reserves and resources and major uses of potash.

| | Potash (KCl, K ₂ O or K ₂ Mg ₂ O ₁₂ S ₃) | | |
|---------------|--|--|--|
| | Terminology and composition: Potash denotes a variety of mined and manufactured salts that contain the element potassium in water-soluble form. In agriculture, the term 'potash' refers to potassic fertilisers, which are potassium chloride (KCI), sulfate of potash and potassium magnesium sulfate (SOPM) or langbeinite. MOP (muriate of potash) is an agriculturally acceptable mix of KCI (95% pure or greater) and sodium chloride for fertiliser use. | | |
| International | World mine production in 2023 (USGS 2024) | 970,000 t (K ₂ O equivalent) | |
| Intern | Major world producers (% of total 2023 world production) (USGS 2024) | Canada (33%), Russia (17%), China (15%), Belarus (10%), Germany (7%), Israel (6%), Jordon (0.5%), Laos (0.5%) | |
| W | World reserves (USGS 2024) | >11 Bt of recoverable ore and 3.6 Bt of K ₂ O equivalent | |
| | World resources (USGS 2024) | 7 Bt | |
| | Uses: The main use is for fertiliser. | | |

4.19.2 New Zealand Occurrences of Potash

Exploration for minerals that might be used to make potash has included glauconite (see Section 4.12) and feldspar. NZ Potash inspected a regolith of feldspar, mostly orthoclase, in weathered Separation Point Granite southwest of Motueka and east of the Arthur Range (Bridson 2015c). This material had been previously trialled as a source of feldspar for ceramics, but the high iron content made it unsatisfactory. Williams (1974) noted that the feldspar assayed 11–12% K₂O. The Ngakuru zeolitic tuff deposits contain 10–25% K-feldspar and average 4% K₂O (Brathwaite 2003)

New Zealand imports about 25,000 t of potash annually, which is mostly potassium chloride from Canada, representing about 65% of potash imports.

Opportunities: East Cape glauconite is a possible substitute potassium fertiliser.

Key References: Williams (1974); Douglas (1989); MacFarlan and Barry (1991).

4.20 Pumice

4.20.1 International Description

International data for pumice are listed in Table 4.15.

| | Pumice | | |
|---------------|--|--|--|
| | World mine production in 2023 (USGS 2024) | 18 Mt of pumice and pumicite | |
| | Major world producers | Turkey (48%), Uganda (8%), Greece (6%), Saudi Arabia (5%), | |
| nal | (% of total 2023 world | Algeria (5%), Ecuador (4%), Chile (4%), Ethiopia (3%), | |
| tio | production) (USGS 2024) | Guatemala (3%) | |
| International | World reserves (USGS 2024) | Large | |
| Inte | World resources (USGS 2024) | Large | |
| | Uses: Pumice is used an abrasive, especially in polishes, pencil erasers and the production of stone- washed jeans. It is also used in water filtration, chemical spill containment, cement manufacturing, horticulture and the pet industry. | | |

Pumice is a pyroclastic volcanic rock that was molten when erupted but cooled quickly, with the dissolved gasses released causing a froth that consolidated into a highly vesicular, porous and rough-textured rock of volcanic glass.

4.20.2 New Zealand Occurrences of Pumice

Primary pumice deposits are found in the Taupō-Bay of Plenty area and include Haparangi Rhyolitic Pumice and Waitahanui, Mihi and Rotoiti breccias. Secondary deposits consist of alluvial and slope-wash deposits found near Hamilton and on the Hauraki Plains, as well as alluvial pumice deposits along the Waikato and Wanganui rivers.

Pumice is used as fill in road construction, for sand in concrete block manufacture, in wallboard manufacture, for foundations and drainage ditches, for horticultural soil mixes and for stone-washing of denim clothing.

Recent annual production statistics are withheld, with the last reported in 2020 at 37,034 t (233,888 t in 2018) mainly produced from the Bay of Plenty area. The main recent producers are the Atiamuri sand and pumice quarry operated by Industrial Processors, and Bakers Pumice located in Awakeri, near Whakatāne, which is closing down. Other operations include Okareka pumice (Moore TW) at Okareka, Taupō Pumice pit (Jaks Haulage) near Rotokawa, and Tauhara pumice pit (Robert Glenn) (Inside Resources²).

Large resources are available in the Taupō – Bay of Plenty area, along the Waikato River valley, on the Hauraki Plains, along the Wanganui River at Taumarunui and at Wanganui.

Key References: NZGS (1970b); MacFarlan and Barry (1991).

² https://www.insideresources.co.nz/

4.21 Salt

4.21.1 International Description

International data for salt are listed in Table 4.16.

| Table 4.16 | World mine production, | reserves and | resources and | major uses of salt. |
|------------|------------------------|--------------|---------------|---------------------|
| | | | | |

| Salt (NaCl) | | |
|--|--|---|
| International | World mine production in 2023 (USGS 2024) | 270 Mt |
| | Major world producers (% of total 2023 world production) (USGS 2024) | China (20%), USA (16%), India (11%), Germany (6%), Australia (5%), Canada (4%), Chile (3%), Russia (3%), Mexico (3%), Turkey (3%), the Netherlands (2%) |
| Iter | World reserves (USGS 2024) | Large |
| 2 | World resources (USGS 2024) | Large |
| Uses: As a feedstock for the production of chemicals, plastics and paper pulp, water conditioning, de-icing highways, agricultural uses and as edible salt. | | |

4.21.2 New Zealand Occurrences of Salt

There are no known natural-bedded salt deposits in New Zealand. Salt is produced by Dominion Salt Limited at Grassmere, south of Blenheim, by solar evaporation of sea water. The evaporation ponds are constructed in a low-lying area close to the sea. They are separated into paddocks with gates to admit and retain sea water. Low rainfall, high sunshine hours and adequate wind assist in the evaporation of the sea water. The final processing includes washing, crushing, drying and screening before packing. The company supplies raw solar- and vacuum-dried salt to the domestic market for use in chlorine manufacture, edible salt, water treatment, tanning, dairy and agricultural usage and commercial and industrial applications, such as pharmaceuticals.

Recent annual production statistics are withheld, last reported in 2013 at 52,343 t. Annual production is probably about 60,000 t of salt.

Potential import substitution: New Zealand imports about 75,000 t annually, mainly from Australia, the Bahamas and Netherlands Antilles. It may be possible to substitute some of the imported salt by increased local production at Lake Grassmere.

4.22 Serpentinite

4.22.1 International Description

International data for serpentinite are listed in Table 4.17.

 Table 4.17
 World production, reserves and resources and major uses of serpentinite.

| Serpentinite [(Mg, Fe) ₃ Si ₂ O ₅ (OH) ₄] | | | |
|--|---|--|--|
| | Major Minerals: Antigorite [(Mg, Fe) ₃ Si ₂ O ₅ (OH) ₄], lizardite [Mg ₃ (Si ₂ O ₅)(OH) ₄], chrysotile [Mg ₃ (Si ₂ O ₅)(OH) ₄] | | |
| - | Main occurrences | Australia, Armenia, Italy, Russia, the USA, Canada, Paraguay, New Zealand, and Brazil | |
| iona | World mine production in 2022 | >3 Mt | |
| International | Major world producers 2002 | China, Brazil | |
| Inte | World resources | 200 Mt | |
| | Uses: Decorative stone in building, particularly counter- and table-tops, flooring and wall cladding concrete aggregate; fertiliser; refractory applications such as linings for furnaces and kilns; in meta for addition of magnesium and as a flux in steelmaking; medicines; and ornamental purposes such jewellery and carvings; decorative stones in gardens and landscaping. | | |

Serpentinite is a metamorphic rock composed predominantly of one or more serpentine group minerals formed by near to complete serpentinisation of mafic to ultramafic rocks.

4.22.2 New Zealand Occurrences of Serpentinite

The serpentinite used in the New Zealand industry has been mined from deposits formed in four main geological settings:

- 1. As part of the ultramafic rock sequence of the Dun Mountain Ophiolite Belt (Permian) in the South Island. The main deposits are on D'Urville Island, from Whangamoa to Red Hills in east Nelson and at Mossburn in Southland.
- 2. Layered bodies of serpentinised gabbro and peridotite of Permian age at Greenhills in Southland.
- 3. Lenses of metamorphosed ultramafic rock (Pounamu Ultramafics) occurring within medium-grade metamorphic rocks of the Alpine Schist in Westland.
- 4. Diapiric serpentine bodies, up to 1 km in length and 60 m in width, emplaced vertically along a fault separating rocks of Mesozoic age from those of Oligocene age at Piopio in Waikato. Serpentine bodies in the Silverdale-Brynderwyn area have likely been re-deposited within a large landslide rather than intruded along fault planes.

The main use is as an additive to superphosphate fertiliser to supply magnesium and assist in the free-running properties of fertiliser required for aerial topdressing. The development of granulated, free-running superphosphate has reduced this market.

Some serpentine is also used as ornamental stone.

Some former quarries closed for health reasons because their serpentine was found to contain asbestos fibres.

Recent annual production statistics have been withheld, with the last reported in 2013 at 52,343 t. The production is from three quarries: Aria, 10 km south of Piopio, near Te Kūiti (Part 1, Figure 9.1), Mossburn (E44/e11; Reed 1950; Coleman 1966), at Black Ridge in Southland and Greenhills, near Bluff in Southland. The Aria quarry is operated by Rorisons RMD and in the past has produced between 40,000 and 50,000 t of serpentine annually (Inside Resources). The Mossburn quarry was active from the 1940s but closed in 1984 after the closure of the Mossburn to Lumsden railway line. Southland Serpentine re-opened the quarry in 2006. The product is distributed from a processing plant in Lumsden. At Greenhills, layered bodies of serpentinised gabbro and peridotite are present in the Bluff Complex.

Although most of the serpentinite bodies around Silverdale-Brynderwyn and Piopio have been largely worked out, there are unmeasured but large quantities still present at Whangamoa and Lee River in Nelson, and at Mossburn in Southland. A resource of 18 Mt is present at Greenhills (Richards 1978).

Key References: Coleman (1966); Williams (1974); MacFarlan and Barry (1991).

4.23 Silica

4.23.1 International Description

International data for silica are listed in Table 4.18.

Table 4.18Element properties, major minerals, world production, reserves and resources and major uses of
silicon/silica.

| Silicon (Si) and Silica (SiO ₂) | | |
|---|--|---------------------------------------|
| = | Ore Minerals: Quartz and other forms of (SiO ₂) such as tridymite, cristobalite, coesite, stishovite, lechatelierite and chalcedony | |
| iona | World production | 2,786,994 t (average 2015–2019) |
| International | Major world producers (% of average total 2015–2019) | China (79%), Brazil (5%), Norway (5%) |
| Uses: Chemicals, aluminium alloys and solar panels. It is a key constituent of most solar photovolta cells. Widely used in semi-conductors for numerous applications. | | |

4.23.2 New Zealand Occurrences of Silica

4.23.2.1 Quartz-Rich Sand (Silica Sand) in Dune, Beach and Shallow Offshore Marine Environments

Quartz-rich (silica) sand of Quaternary age forms dune, beach and shallow offshore marine sand deposits along the present-day coastline. The main localities are all in Northland, at Parengarenga Harbour on the east coast and around Kaipara Harbour on the west coast (Part 1, Figure 9.1). Previously, about 40,000 tpa of sand were dredged from Parengarenga Harbour and processed into glass at a plant in Auckland. There is about 120 Mt at the northern Kokota Spit and regional resource of about 1500 Mt (Williams 1974).

On the Kaipara Harbour, the Glorit silica sand quarry is operated by James Hardie. The extracted sand is transported to a plant in Penrose, Auckland, to make fibre-cement building materials, including exterior claddings, internal linings and fire-resistant and acoustic wall panels. The quarry is near the end of its life, so operations are moving to McLachlan Road, Kaukapakapa, about 16 km south of Glorit (Inside Resources). Tapora Sands quarry in Tapora

is operated by ISL (Industrial Sands Ltd) and the high-purity silica sand is processed at a plant in Glorit for use in foundry casting and mould making. Other applications include specialised flooring, resin and grout fillers, glass manufacturing and anti-slip surfaces. There is possibly silica sand resources of 10 Mt in the Kaipara Harbour area (Williams 1974).

4.23.2.2 Quartz-Rich Sand Concentrated on Erosional Land Surfaces and Associated with Coal Measures

Quartz-rich (silica) sands are concentrated on some erosional land surfaces associated with coal measures in the South Island. The main occurrences are at Mt Somers in Canterbury and at Charleston in Westland. There are other deposits in East Otago and Southland.

At Mt Somers, resources are estimated at 165,000 t of sand, containing more than 99% SiO₂, and other deposits are present in the same area. The several million tonnes of sand at Charleston contain mica (10%) and feldspar (30%), which make it unsuitable for glassware, but it has been used in cement-making. Silica sand (glass grade) at Hyde has resources estimated at a minimum of 134,000 t. The resources of mica-rich sands at Fairfield (Dunedin), in the Ida valley are probably large.

4.23.2.3 Quartzite Formed by Metamorphism of Quartz Sandstones of Paleozoic Age

Quartzites containing 90–93.7% SiO₂ occur in eastern Northland, formed by metamorphism of quartz sandstones within greywacke sequences. Deposits associated with schist at Aorere have a resource of about 1 Mt of quartzite (97–97.6% SiO₂) of ferrosilicon quality (Riley 1972). At Reefton, there is a maximum of 600,000 t of poor-quality quartzite associated with shist and containing 85–96% SiO₂ (Young 1964; Williams 1974).

4.23.2.4 Quartz Gravel Associated with Coal Measures

Quartz gravels in Southland (Part 1, Figure 9.1) are widespread and have potential for use in the production of ferrosilicon or silicon metal (Williams 1974; Strong et al. 2016). Preliminary tests conducted on the raw silica from Pebbly Hills by a ferrosilicon producer have indicated the suitability of this material for that purpose. The availability of abundant low ash coal and hydro-electricity are other factors favourable to a ferrosilicon industry in Southland. Material from Pebbly Hills is presently being investigated by Silicon Metal Industries (NZ) Ltd as a raw material for silicon metal production. Similar deposits occur elsewhere in Otago and northern Southland.

The quartz gravels around Pebbly Hills-Mabel Bush are inferred to contain more than 350 Mt, averaging 98% SiO₂ (MacFarlan and Barry 1991). Elsewhere the quantities are smaller – Waimumu (170+ Mt of 97.9% SiO₂), near Dunedin (5+ Mt), Central Otago (70 Mt of 97.7% SiO₂) and North Otago (small, 97.4% SiO₂).

4.23.2.5 Amorphous Silica and Chalcedonic Quartz Deposited in Hot Springs and Epithermal Quartz Veins

Amorphous silica is deposited by hot springs as silica sinter and by hydrothermal alteration of nearby rocks, mostly rhyolitic, in volcanically active areas. In the Taupō Volcanic Zone, acid sulfate alteration in the near-surface parts of active geothermal systems has resulted in the conversion of all minerals, except primary quartz, to an assemblage of amorphous silica + cristobolite \pm native sulfur, alunite, cinnabar and barite (Roberts 1997). The end result is a low-density, white, porous rock composed primarily of amorphous silica and residual quartz

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phenocrysts. Three amorphous silica deposits have been explored recently, Tikitere and Taheke, near Rotorua, and Lake Rotokawa, near Taupō (Part 1, Figure 9.1). The Tikitere amorphous silica operation is owned by Microsilica New Zealand, a subsidiary of Golden Bay Cement. The plant currently produces about 3000 tpa of silica from two pits – a high grade and a low grade (Inside Resources). The material is processed to make products for a pozzolanic cement additive to produce high-quality, strong and durable concrete, sprayed tunnel linings, mortars and grouts.

The resource at Taheke is of the order of several million tonnes, and investigations in the 1990s outlined a resource of 4.5 Mt at Lake Rotokawa near Taupō (Roberts 1997).

Recent annual production statistics for silica are withheld. Last reported production statistics were:

- Amorphous silica: Last reported in 2016 at 29,531 t.
- **Silica sand:** Last reported in 2019 at 34,320 t (113,231 t in 2010).

Geo40 is currently extracting small quantities of amorphous silica from geothermal fluids at the Ohaaki geothermal field.

Key References: Williams (1974); Thompson (1989); MacFarlan and Barry (1991); Thompson et al. (1995); Roberts (1997); (Strong et al. 2016).

4.24 Sulfur (S)

4.24.1 International Description

International data for sulfur are listed in Table 4.19.

| Table 4.19 | Element properties, n | najor minerals, | world production, | reserves and resources and | l major uses of sulfur. |
|------------|-----------------------|-----------------|-------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------|
| | | | | | |

| | - | Sulfur (S) |
|---------------|--|---|
| | Ore Minerals: Native sulfur (S) and | sulfide minerals such as pyrite (FeS ₂) |
| | World mine production in 2023 (USGS 2024) | 82 Mt |
| International | Major world producers (% of total 2023 world production) (USGS 2024) | China (23%), the USA (10%), Saudi Arabia (10%), Russia (9%), United Arab Emirates (7%), Canada (6%), Kazakhstan (5%), India (4%), Japan (4%) |
| erná | World reserves (USGS 2024) | N/A |
| Int | World resources (USGS 2024) | Large (many billion tonnes) |
| | chemicals and applications. Sulfur is | used for making sulfuric acid, mostly as a precursor to other s used as a fertiliser, in car batteries, oil refining, water processing, esticides, pharmaceuticals, rubber vulcanisation, bleaching paper |

and gunpowder.

4.24.2 New Zealand Occurrences of Sulfur

Sulfur occurs mainly as native sulfur in volcanic areas and as the sulfide mineral pyrite (FeS₂). Native sulfur is associated with present-day and fossil geothermal areas in Northland at Ngawha and in the Bay of Plenty and Rotorua–Taupō areas, mainly on Whakaari / White Island, at Tikitere and Okere Springs near Rotorua, and at Lake Rotokawa near Taupō (Table 4.20). On Whakaari / White Island, sulfur is being deposited around active fumaroles and with gypsum in lake beds within the active crater.

Lake Rotokawa, 12 km northeast of Taupō, offers the best potential for sulfur mining, although the location of this resource within an active geothermal system poses some mining problems. Two types of deposits are present – lacustrine sulfur present within a buried lake-bed and surface mineralisation where crystalline sulfur impregnates a brecciated pumice horizon (Sinclair 1989). In the lacustrine type, the sulfur occurs in a colloidal state disseminated throughout the lake mud. The mineralisation is buried some 25–75 m below the present land surface and extends under Lake Rotokawa.

Pyrite is present in many types of metallic mineral deposits but only two have been investigated as a potential source of sulfur in New Zealand – one in the Kauaeranga Valley near Thames and the other at Copperstain Creek near Takaka. In the Kauaeranga Valley, high concentrations of pyrite are associated with hydrothermally altered andesitic lava and breccia and silty sediments of Miocene age. At Copperstain Creek, pyrite is present in a skarn deposit adjacent to an Early Cretaceous age granite that has intruded marble and biotite schist.

| Occurrence | MM ¹ | GERM ² | Production (t) | Deposit Form Minerals Major H (Minor) | | Host Rocks | Genesis |
|--------------------------------|-----------------|-------------------|-------------------|--|-----------------------------|---------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Whakaari / White Island | 185 | W14/e1 | 10,000 S | Stratiform beds and vent encrustations | Sulfur, gypsum | Andesite and lake beds | Fumarolic sublimation |
| Whale Island | 186 | W15/e101 | - | Encrustations in vents | Sulfur | ulfur Sinter and andesite | |
| Taheke | 187 | U15/e104 | 2147 S | Encrustations in sinter | Sulfur | Sinter and ignimbrite | Fumarolic sublimation |
| Te Tarata | 188 | U15/e106 | 5000 S | Massive encrustations | Sulfur | Pumice | Fumarolic sublimation |
| Postmaster Bath | 189 | - | 4800 S | Surface encrustations | Sulfur | Lake sediments | Fumarolic sublimation |
| Rotokawa | 195 | U17/e104 | 16,141 S | Stratiform and encrustations | Sulfur, py, metastibnite | Lacustrine silt, pumiceous tuff | Hydrothermal – hot spring |
| Ahuahu Creek, Kaitake Range | 196 | P19/e28 | - | Chalcedonic quartz-pyrite veins | py, sulfur, cp, barite | Andesite, silicified tuff | Hydrothermal – hot spring |

| Table 4.20 | Sulfur occurrences. Min | erals: cp = chalcopyrite; py = pyrite. |
|------------|-------------------------|--|
|------------|-------------------------|--|

¹ MM = Metallogenic map code (Brathwaite and Pirajno 1993).

² GERM = Geological Resource Map code.

Sulfur is used to make sulfuric acid for the manufacture of superphosphate fertiliser. Sulfur has been mined mainly from Whakaari / White Island, Tikitere, Lake Rotorua and Lake Rotokawa, predominantly for use in making superphosphate fertilisers. There is currently no mining of sulfur in New Zealand.

At Lake Rotokawa, drilling has outlined a resource of 57 Mt of lake sediments containing an estimated 4.9 Mt of elemental sulfur (MacFarlan and Barry 1991). Although the overall grade for the lacustrine mineralisation is estimated at 10% sulfur, there are several layers within the bed where it is concentrated to 60–80% sulfur. The surface deposits are much smaller, with resources of approximately 100,000 t of pumice breccia containing between 10% and 15% sulfur (10,000–15,000 t of sulfur). These surface deposits were intermittently mined up to 1991 but are now considered too small for further commercial development.

Pyrite sulfur in the Kauaeranga Valley contains about 15–20 Mt of mineralised rock, averaging 7–8% sulfur (Kear 1957). Drilling at Copperstain Creek found resources of 10.5 Mt of 7.5% sulfur, with associated copper and molybdenum (Williams 1974). It is highly unlikely that pyrite would be mined for producing sulfur.

Key References: Williams (1974); MacFarlan and Barry (1991); Thompson et al. (1995).

4.25 Talc-Magnesite

See Magnesium (Section 3.11).

4.26 Wollastonite (CaSiO₃)

4.26.1 International Description

International data for Wollastonite are listed in Table 4.21.

| Table 4.21 World production, reserves and | d resources and major uses of wollastonite. |
|---|---|
|---|---|

| | | Wollastonite (CaSiO ₃) | | | | | |
|---------------|---|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| | World mine production in 2023 (USGS 2024) | 1.1 Mt | | | | | |
| nal | Major world producers (% of total 2023 world production) (USGS 2024) | China (82%), India (9%), Mexico (7%), Canada | | | | | |
| atio | World reserves (USGS 2024) | More than 100 Mt | | | | | |
| International | World resources (USGS 2024) | New Zealand. Large resources have been identified in China, Finland, India, Mexico and the USA. | | | | | |
| | Uses: Wollastonite is widely used as a flux in the casting of steel and in the production of paints and coatings. In paints, wollastonite provides reinforcement, hardening and low oil absorption, as well as other benefits. In textured coatings, such as stucco, wollastonite provides crack resistance, reinforcement and | | | | | | |
| | high brightness. It is also used in the | e manufacture of adhesives, joint compounds, refractories and rubber. | | | | | |

4.26.2 New Zealand Occurrences of Wollastonite

In the Holyoake Valley, west of Motueka, a reef-like body containing over 70% wollastonite occurs where the contact between Paleozoic age marble and schist has been partly intruded by the Cretaceous Separation Point batholith. About 500 t of wollastonite were produced in the 1960s and used in the manufacture of ceramics. Non-JORC compliant resources are 17,000 t proven and about 36,000 t indicated (Brathwaite et al. 1976).

Key References: Williams (1974); (Brathwaite et al. 1976); MacFarlan and Barry (1991).

4.27 Zeolite

4.27.1 International Description

International data for zeolite are listed in Table 4.22.

Table 4.22 Major minerals, world production, reserves and resources and major uses of zeolite.

| | Zeolite (Na | tural) [(Ca,K,Na)₂Al₂Si₂O ₈ nH₂O] | | | | |
|---------------|---|--|--|--|--|--|
| | Major Minerals: Analcime, chabazit | e, clinoptillite, mordenite, natrolite, heulandite, phillipsite and stillbite | | | | |
| | World mine production in 2023 (USGS 2024) | 1.1 Mt | | | | |
| | Major world producers | Slovakia (20%), China (18%), South Korea (12%), New Zealand | | | | |
| a | (% of total 2023 world | (9%), Indonesia (9%), USA (8%), Cuba (7%), Turkey (6%), | | | | |
| ion | production) (USGS 2024) | Russia (3%), Hungary (3%) | | | | |
| International | World reserves (USGS 2024) | N/A (although two companies in the USA reported combined reserves of 80 Mt in 2022) | | | | |
| - | World resources (USGS 2024) | N/A | | | | |
| | purification and softening (e.g. the w remove Ca ²⁺ and Mg ²⁺ ions). Other u | ts, as molecular sieves, in ion-exchange beds and in water orld's largest use is in laundry detergents as a water softener to uses are in building materials as an additive in asphalt and a litter and in agriculture as a soil treatment. | | | | |

4.27.2 New Zealand Occurrences of Zeolites

Zeolites are typically formed by low-temperature hydrothermal (<200°C) alteration and metamorphism in tuffs and volcanic sandstones, as well as volcanic-rich lake and deep-sea sediments. The main occurrences (Figure 4.13) are in:

- 1. Weakly metamorphosed marine tuffs and tuffaceous sandstones of Triassic age in Southland.
- 2. Marine tuffs of Miocene age in Northland and Auckland.
- 3. Hydrothermally altered tuffs and lake sediments of Quaternary age in the Taupō Volcanic Zone.

The Taupō Volcanic Zone hosts a number of zeolite deposits formed by hydrothermal alteration of suitable precursors such as vitric tuffs (Roberts 1997; Brathwaite 2003; Brathwaite et al. 2006; Brathwaite and Rae 2021). A large occurrence is at Ohakuri, where glass within the Ohakuri ignimbrite and younger pyroclastics has been hydrothermally altered to the zeolites mordenite and clinoptilolite, as well as smectite and opal.

The only deposits worked commercially were discovered in 1992 at Ngakuru, 20 km south of Rotorua. Pacific Blue Minerals mines zeolite from three deposits in the area and a further five large deposits have been identified. At Ngakuru, hydrothermally altered tuffaceous lacustrine sediments are exposed intermittently along several faults within a 6 x 3 km area and have a thickness in excess of 40 m. The alteration has produced a zeolite + smectite + cristobolite + amorphous silica assemblage, locally containing between 25 and 90% zeolites, mainly clinoptilolite and mordenite. When compared with zeolite deposits mined in other parts of the world, those from Ngakuru are young in geological terms (250,000 years) and have exceptional properties of adsorption. Current uses of zeolite are: (1) as adsorbents for soaking up oil/ chemical spills, as cat and animal litters and as a stockfeed additive; (2) as water softening,

waste and potable water treatment, sports turf and potting mix amendment; and (3) as odour adsorbents and cosmetic additives. Blue Pacific Minerals has produced a modified zeolite (Aqual-P) that is has been used at Lake Okaro near Rotorua to absorb phosphate and nitrogen nutrients and control the growth of algal blooms that affect aquatic life.

Recent annual production statistics are withheld, with the last reported in 2011 at 3523 t (21,750 t in 2009), all from Ngakuru.

Other occurrences of zeolite in New Zealand are known from Southland (Coombs et al. 1959), and in Northland and Auckland (Sameshima 1978), but all are small.

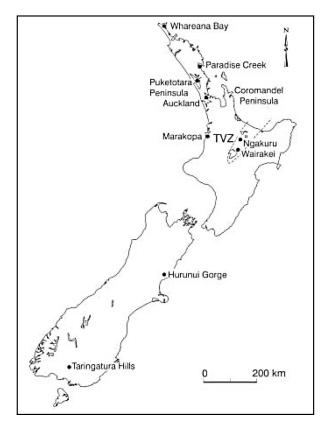


Figure 4.13 Location of zeolite deposits in New Zealand (after Christie et al. [2002]).

Key References: Christie et al. (2002); Brathwaite (2003, 2017); Brathwaite and Henderson (2016); Brathwaite and Rae (2021).

5.0 COAL

5.1 Coal Introduction

This section briefly reviews coal in New Zealand in terms of its occurrence, history, production, challenges and opportunities. For additional information and more detail, the reader is referred to descriptions by Barry et al. (1994), Edbrooke (1999) and Sherwood (2019).

5.2 Coal Occurrence

The economically significant coals were formed between 30 and 70 Ma in the Late Cretaceous, Eocene–Oligocene and Miocene as part of Cretaceous–Cenozoic sedimentary sequences. Their age contrasts with most of the world's coals, which were typically formed between 300 to 350 Ma. Also, many of New Zealand's coalfields are geologically and structurally complex.

In all, there are over 50 separate coalfields (Figure 5.1; Part 1, Figure 10.1). Bituminous coal is found almost entirely in Westland, sub-bituminous coal is found mainly in Waikato and lignite is located mainly in Southland and Central Otago.

5.2.1 North Island Coal

North Island coalfields are in Northland, Waikato and northern Taranaki (Figure 5.1a). Most known areas of sub-bituminous coal in Northland have been worked out, and the last mine closed in 1955.

Thirteen coalfields, extending from Drury (30 km south of Auckland) to Mangapehi (20 km south of Te Kūiti), are geologically grouped as Waikato coalfields. Much of their coal resources are in seams that are too deep to mine. In 2022, opencast mines at Maramarua and Rotowaro were the only Waikato mines still working.

Waikato coals are all sub-bituminous, deposited in the Eocene and Oligocene periods. Seams in the north of the region generally have low to medium ash and low sulfur contents, while seams in the south have medium to high ash and sulfur contents. The main seam is typically 3–10 m thick but reaches 20 m or more in parts of the Huntly and Waikare coalfields.

5.2.2 West Coast

The South Island's West Coast region (Figure 5.1b) contains New Zealand's only bituminous coals. Some have unusual properties that are in demand in international coal markets. There are 13 coalfields of various sizes between Greymouth and Seddonville (40 km north of Westport). The Buller, Greymouth, Inangahua and Reefton coalfields are the most economically important.

There are large quantities of in-ground coal remaining in the region, but most of the easily won coal has been mined. Over three-quarters of resources are in the Greymouth coalfield (mostly underground) and Buller coalfield (mostly opencast), but how much is mineable depends on coal prices, land access and a resumption of underground mining. After an explosion at the Pike River mine in 2010 that killed 29 men, the government decided that there would be no further mining in the area, which has been added to the Paparoa National Park.

There are two main types of coal measures on the West Coast: late Cretaceous to earliest Tertiary Paparoa coal measures and Eocene Brunner coal measures. Both Paparoa and Brunner coalfields contain seams up to 20 m thick. Paparoa coals are characterised by low ash and sulfur contents. Brunner coals have similar properties but with varying sulfur contents.

West Coast coals are almost all bituminous, with some exceptions, such as sub-bituminous Brunner (Echo, New Creek) and Rotokohu Coal Measures (Giles Creek) and a small deposit of anthracite at Fox River. Their properties see them valued as blending coals on world markets.

5.2.3 Otago and Southland

The bulk of New Zealand's coal resources are lignite (brown coal) in the south of the South Island. Over 7 Bt of mineable lignite resources have been proven in Otago and Southland, enough to provide a significant proportion of New Zealand's energy needs for a long period if needed.

Otago coalfields include very large lignite deposits in Central Otago, the Kaitangata coalfield south of Dunedin and several smaller coalfields (Figure 5.1b). Central Otago lignites are in seams up to 90 m thick and typically have 40–50% in-ground moisture and low to medium ash and low sulfur contents.

The eastern Southland lignite fields are comparable to other large brown coal deposits in the world and are, by far, New Zealand's largest known fossil fuel energy resource. These form extensive multiple seams up to 18 m thick and typically have 40–65% in-ground moisture and low to medium ash and low sulfur contents.

The Ōhai coalfield in central Southland has seams up to 23 m thick containing sub-bituminous and bituminous coals, generally with low ash and sulfur contents.

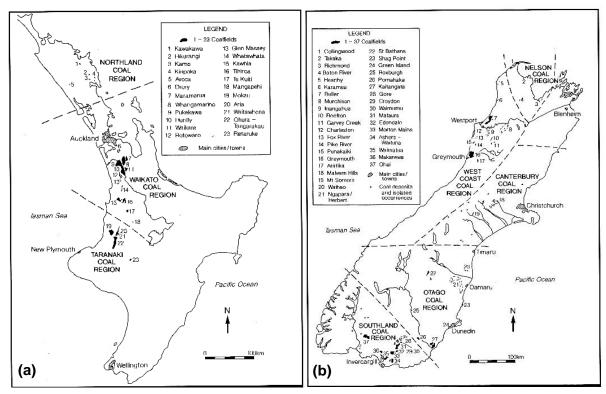


Figure 5.1 Coal regions and coalfields of the (a) North Island and (b) South Island, including small coal deposits for the latter (after Barry et al. [1994]).

5.3 History

Coal was discovered first in the South Island in the 1840s, and the first small coal mine was opened at Saddle Hill near Dunedin in 1849. North Island coal was not found until the 1860s.

The gold rushes of the 1860s resulted in rapid population booms that created much of the demand for coal, especially in Otago and the West Coast. For many years, coal was the main source of energy, but production fell from the 1960s once coal was no longer used by the railways and shipping, and most electricity was produced from hydro, natural gas and geothermal power stations. By the 1970s, most coal was extracted from opencast mines, being used for the Glenbrook steel mill, for Huntly power station and for dairy factories; high-quality coking coal from the West Coast was, and continues to be, exported.

About 1400 coal mines have operated in New Zealand, but most have been small in scale and run by private cooperatives. Sherwood (2019) noted that the key changes over the last 150 years of coal mining have been a steady reduction in the number of mines, increased mechanisation, the progressive displacement of underground mining by open-casting after World War II and the adoption of completely different standards of environmental management in modern mines.

The Government became a major coal miner following the establishment of State Coal Mines in 1901, and, by 1950, it was the largest producer of coal – at its operational peak in 1952, it operated 28 underground and 13 opencast mines. State Coal Mines was absorbed into the Mines Department in 1952 and in 1987 made into a state-owned enterprise, Coal Corporation of New Zealand or Coalcorp, which was rebranded as Solid Energy in 1996. Solid Energy got into financial trouble in the early to mid-2010s and its assets were closed or sold off to private companies in 2017, mostly to Bathurst Resources, which is now the major coal producer in New Zealand.

5.4 Production

New Zealand's coal production can be divided into three areas:

- 1. In the North Island, coal production is centred in the Waikato region where large coalfields like Maramarua and Rotowaro produce sub-bituminous coal.
- 2. Coal extracted on the West Coast of the South Island is mostly bituminous coal, along with some sub-bituminous. The bituminous coal is mostly exported for steelmaking.
- 3. Otago and Southland production is sub-bituminous coal and also lower-energy lignite in Southland.

Fourteen mines were operating in New Zealand at the end of 2022 compared to 18 at the end of 2020 (Table 5.1). Production for 2023 is listed in Table 5.2 below; production trends between 1992 and 2023 are shown in Part 1 (Figure 4.4).

| Coalfield | Mine Operator | | Rank | Production 2022 (tonnes) |
|--------------|--------------------------|------------------------|------|-----------------------------|
| Waikato | | | | |
| Maramarua | Kopuku | BT Mining | SB | 204,790 |
| Rotowaro | Awaroa | BT Mining | SB | 406,848 |
| West Coast | | | | |
| Buller | Stockton | BT Mining | В | 938,821 |
| Buller | Escarpment ¹ | Buller Coal | В | - |
| Reefton | Reefton Operations | Moore Mining | SB | 56,210 |
| Reefton | Boatmans ² | Boatmans Coal | SB | - |
| Garvey Creek | Echo | Francis Mining | В | 105,095 |
| Inangahua | Giles Creek | Birchfield Coal | SB | 202,219 |
| Inangahua | Berlins Creek | Heaphy Mining | SB | - |
| Inangahua | New Creek | New Creek Mining | SB | 0 |
| Greymouth | Strongman | Birchfield Coal | В | 54,810 |
| Greymouth | Rajah | Roa Mining | В | 129,866 |
| Charleston | Charleston | Charleston Coal | SB | 105 |
| Otago | | | | |
| Kaitangata | Castle Hill ² | Kai Point Coal | SB | - |
| Southland | | | | |
| Ohai | Takitimu ³ | Bathurst Coal | SB | 221,982 |
| Waimumu | New Vale ² | New Vale and Ohai Coal | L | - |
| Ashers | Waituna ² | Sinclair Contracting | L | - |

Table 5.1 Operating coal mines at the end of 2022 (Source: MBIE). B – Bituminous; SB – Sub-bituminous; L - Lignite.

¹ Production obtained from stockpiles or from former stockpiles as part of rehabilitation.

² Private coal operation.

³ Mixture of Crown-owned and private coal. Only Crown-owned coal production is presented.

Table 5.2 Coal production by rank and region for 2023 (tonnes) (Source: MBIE).

| | Bituminous (tonnes) | Sub-Bituminous (tonnes) | Lignite (tonnes) | Total |
|--------------|------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------|-----------|
| Waikato | - | 535,079 | - | 535,079 |
| NORTH ISLAND | - | 535,079 | - | 535,079 |
| West Coast | 1,306,699 | 224,041 | - | 1,530,740 |
| Canterbury | - | - | - | - |
| Otago | - | 25,036 | - | 25,036 |
| Southland | - | 233,796 | 275,433 | 509,229 |
| SOUTH ISLAND | 1,306,699 | 482,873 | 275,433 | 2,065,005 |
| NEW ZEALAND | 1,306,699 | 1,017,952 | 275,433 | 2,600,084 |

5.5 Usage and Consumption

Most of New Zealand's premium bituminous coal is exported. It is valued internationally for its:

- Low ash, sulfur and phosphorous contents.
- Characteristics such as high swelling, fluidity and reactivity, which allow blending with other coals for use in the steel industry.

New Zealand domestic use of coal includes (Figures 5.2 and 5.3):

- Electricity generation at the Huntly Power Station as a back-up to renewable sources.
- Steel making at New Zealand Steel's Glenbrook Steel Mill.
- Cement and lime manufacture.
- Food processing including milk powder and other dairy products; meat, vegetable canning, salt, gelatine and dried herbs.
- Heating commercial horticultural hothouses during cooler months.
- Other industrial process, including processing of timber, wool and leather.
- Heating commercial and public facilities, including schools, universities and hospitals.

Substitution of other energy sources have reduced the use of coal. Currently, renewables substitute for most coal-fired base load at Huntly, but the plant is still important as a back-up to renewable energy generation from hydroelectric, wind and solar sources, with coal playing a vital role in providing energy security in dry years and/or in periods of reduced wind and sunshine, and additionally in times of gas outages. Electricity generated from coal fell to 2.9% of total generation in 2022, a decrease from 7% of total electricity generation in 2021 (Figure 5.4).

New Zealand Steel is currently investigating a transition away from burning coal as part of its production processes with assistance from government funding. It is estimated that, if this transition is possible, it will reduce New Zealand's total greenhouse gas emissions by 1%. Similarly, the Golden Bay cement plant is investigating reducing its coal consumption. The diary industry and other food processors are major coal users, especially in the South Island, because gas is not reticulated there and other heating alternatives are more expensive.

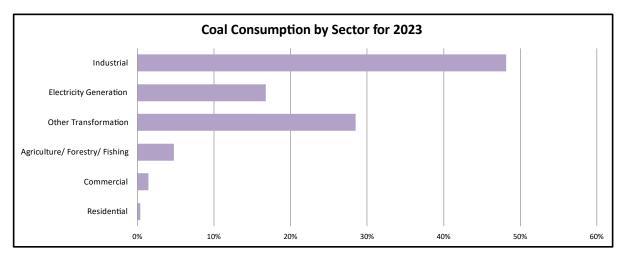


Figure 5.2 Coal consumption by sector for 2023 (percentage of total) (Source: MBIE).

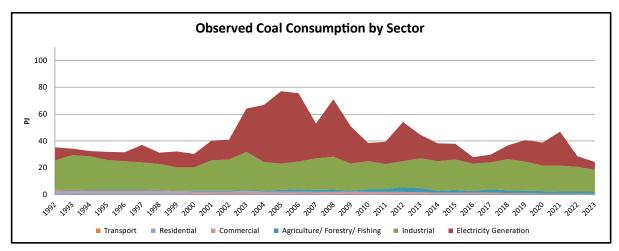


Figure 5.3 Coal consumption (PJ) by sector for 1992–2023 (tonnes) (Source: MBIE).

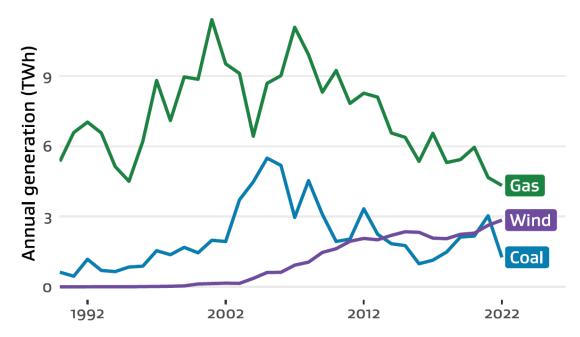


Figure 5.4 Share of total electricity generation by source, from 1990 to 2022 (Source: MBIE).

5.6 Resources

New Zealand's estimated in-ground coal resources are more than 15 Bt, being about 12 Bt of lignite and nearly 4 Bt of sub-bituminous and bituminous coal. However, most of these resources are classified as inventory coal and are largely non-recoverable (Sherwood 2019). Using a JORC-style classification scheme (Part 1, Table 7.1), Sherwood (2019) estimated that Coal Reserves were 38.5 Mt for bituminous coal and 9.0 Mt for sub-bituminous coal; and that Coal Resources were 230 Mt for bituminous coal and 66 Mt for sub-bituminous coal (Part 1, Table 7.3). Equivalent estimates for lignite resource are unavailable for these categories. Nevertheless, Southland's lignite resources are New Zealand's largest conventional energy resource. Coal Reserves and Resources reported to MBIE to the end of 2023 are listed in Part 1 (Table 7.4). Privately owned coal is not included because there is no requirement for reporting privately owned coal resource and reserve data.

5.7 **Opportunities**

Investigations have looked at developing the Southland lignite resources with a variety of projects, including the production of liquid fuels and fertiliser and as a petrochemical feedstock.

5.8 Challenges

- Because of the need to reduce emissions by substitution of renewable energy for coal, the market for coal is generally declining.
- The viability of coal exports from the West Coast are primarily dependent on global coking coal prices, as well as access to resources and controlling costs in production and transport to markets.

6.0 OFFSHORE METALLIC MINERALS

6.1 Offshore Placer Gold

In the South Island, gold-bearing sediments in beach deposits have been worked along the West Coast and south coast on a small scale. West Coast offshore deposits were investigated in some detail in the 1980s, along with areas off the south coast of the South Island and offshore from the Clutha River in Otago using geophysical surveys and dredge sampling.

Youngson and Stevenson (2016) noted that onshore gold production from the Westland placers has nearly all been recovered from downstream (west) of a succession of Pleistocene glacial moraines north of Ross (Figure 6.1). These moraines effectively form a 'gold line' that is oblique to the present coastline and crosses it in the vicinity of the Waitaha River just south of Ross. North/south of Waitaha River, most of the terminal moraines and any associated gold-bearing fluvial outwash systems are presently submerged on the inner continental shelf, where they are now overlain by a variable thickness of post-glacial marine sand, silt and mud. The now offshore terminal moraine deposits have been re-worked and upgraded by subsequent cycles of sea-level transgression and transgressive shoreface erosion, as well as by northward-directed storm and tidal currents.

6.1.1 Exploration

Four successive companies or groups have explored the West Coast offshore placer potential (Youngson 2006; Stevenson 2008):

- 1. In 1967, Alpine Geophysical Associates Inc (AGA 1968), under contract to Marine Mining Corporation, carried out extensive seismic (Sparker) surveys and some sampling.
- 2. In the early 1970s, Carpentaria Exploration Co Pty Ltd (Painter 1973) explored two near-shore areas of South Westland, largely to assess potential offshore extensions to heavy-mineral sands identified onshore.
- 3. In the 1980s, CRA Exploration Ltd (Price 1983a, 1983b; Price 1985, Price and Coles 1985; Wotherspoon 1986; Corner 1989) used the AGA seismic surveys as a basis for extensive grab-sampling of surface sediments and carried out vibro-coring programmes in an area offshore from the Arahura River ('Harvester Project'). It defined a c. 400,000 oz resource within this area but considered the grade too low and abandoned the area.
- 4. From 2004, Seafield Resources, in a joint venture with DeBeers, carried out target development (Youngson 2006); offshore chirp sub-bottom profiling (Stevenson 2006); onshore ground magnetic surveys of beaches (Kirkpatrick 2006); offshore aeromagnetic surveys (Kirkpatrick 2007); seismic surveys (Hargrave 2006); and echo sounding, swath bathymetry and marine magnetic surveys (Sedyn and Esterhuizen 2007). These surveys defined two target areas referred to as the Northern target area and Southern target area, which were tested during 2010 by a coring programme using a Sonic Vibro-Coring (SVC) tool that could core to a maximum depth of 10 m but was restricted to operations in water depths greater that 20 m. A total of 55 cores were recovered from the two target areas, mostly in the CRA Harvester Project area. The seismic data provided information on the thicknesses, geometries, extents, inferred probable facies types and depositional environments of the different seismic stratigraphic units (Stevenson 2008). Using this data, the extension of some geological features on the present-day coastal plain were mapped into the offshore environment. The exploration programme was abandoned in mid-2011.

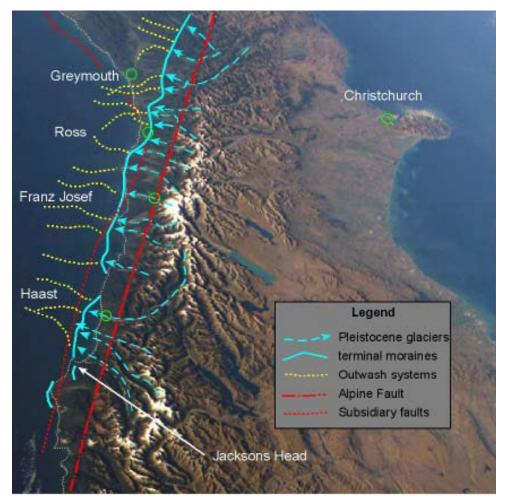


Figure 6.1 Schematic depiction of West Coast Late Pleistocene glaciers, terminal moraines and outwash systems, after Youngson (2006). Note that the terminal moraines south of Ross lie mainly offshore.

Resource estimates: A low-grade resource of about 400,000 oz of gold was defined by CRA in the West Coast offshore area.

Key References: Corner (1989); Youngson and Stevenson (2016).

6.2 Offshore Placer Titanomagnetite Ironsand

The Quaternary age titanomagnetite ironsand deposits found onshore along the western coast of the North Island have equivalent deposits offshore (Figure 3.21; Part 1, Figure 8.6). These are mostly interpreted as former beach, coastal dune and river deposits formed at times of lower sea level (Figure 6.2) and partly redistributed by the marine transgression and subsequent tidal currents and storm-wave action.



Figure 6.2 Past New Zealand sea levels. At the peak of the last glaciation about 20,000 years ago, temperatures were about 5°C below the current mean. Ocean water was locked up in massive ice sheets, so sea levels were 120–130 m lower than they are today. This extended the land area of New Zealand and the North and South Islands were joined. By 12,000 years ago, Cook Strait was flooded and the temperature had warmed sufficiently, so sea level was only about 70 m below present levels (after Mullan et al. [2006]).

Carter (1980) described cores taken from the seabed of the west coast continental shelf, penetrating as deep as 3 m, as exhibiting a transgressive sequence of shell-bearing sand with prominent gravely sand and sandy gravel horizons, overlain by fine to very fine terrigenous sand, locally capped by post-transgression mud. In most cores, the quantity of ironsand is highest in the shell-bearing layers, probably representing the highest-energy environments that redistributed the ironsand during the transgression.

In addition, the presence of ironsand below the depth of the piston cores was known from petroleum well samples and in samples from a drill hole for the Kupe well-head (P Vermeulen 2008, pers. comm.; Hartshorn and Selliani 2009).

6.2.1 Exploration

Concentrations of ironsand on the sea bottom were identified off the west coast of the North Island following sampling of offshore sediments during the 1960s to 1970s by the New Zealand Oceanographic Institute (now the National Institute of Water & Atmospheric Research [NIWA]) (Carter 1980). Sampling penetrated the seabed to a maximum depth of c. 3 m. Highest concentrations were identified in five areas: Manukau to the Waikato River mouth (Maukau),

c. 25 km offshore of Awakino, Mokau to Tongaporutu (Mokau), west of New Plymouth and west of Pātea (Figure 3.21; Part 1, Figure 8.6). From 2005, several companies followed up this work with offshore exploration, beginning with Iron Ore New Zealand (IONZ) and followed by Rio Tinto Mining and Exploration Limited (Rio Tinto), initially in joint venture with IONZ, Trans-Tasman Resources Ltd (TTR), Ironsands Offshore Mining Ltd and FMG Pacific (Fortescue Metals Group) (Figure 6.3). The larger exploration programmes undertook aeromagnetic surveys to identify target areas for bottom sampling and drilling. Aeromagnetic data exhibit positive magnetic anomalies interpreted to represent concentrations of ironsands in paleo-shorelines and paleo-river channels formed when sea level was lower than at present (Figure 6.2). Some may also represent lag deposits of ironsand left following winnowing by the marine transgression and more recent wave action during storms.

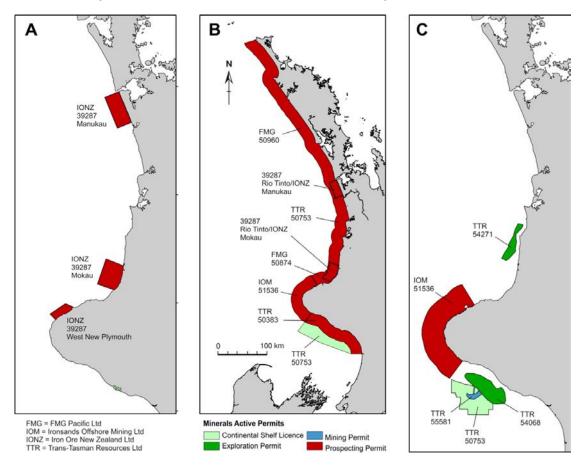


Figure 6.3 Mineral permits for offshore ironsand exploration in (a) 2005, (b) 2009 (c) and August 2016. Note that map B is at a smaller scale than maps A and C (after Christie [2016b]).

Marine geophysical surveys, such as shallow seismic profiling (e.g. boomer), and side-scan sonar and depth sounder surveys have also been used primarily to characterise the seafloor topography, sediment type and shallow stratigraphy. Some of the magnetic data was modelled in 3D to develop resource models for ironsand concentrations (modelled as TiFe) to depths up to 60 m below the seabed (e.g. Loftus 2010).

Sampling of the seafloor sands has included grab samples, core samples (to a maximum 5 m depth) collected using a vibracorer and reverse-circulation drilling using custom-developed equipment, the latter to attain deeper seafloor penetration than a vibracorer. For example, TTR developed two different submersible reverse-circulation drill rigs to obtain sediment samples; a versatile shallow system, fitted with drill strings of 5–11 m and a separate deep-drilling system with a depth penetration of up to 42 m and requiring a larger launching vessel. To 2014, more than 800 holes were drilled up to 11 m deep and an additional 17 deep holes up to 35 m deep.

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6.2.2 Resources

TTR defined a JORC Indicated and Inferred ironsand resource of 482 Mt at 48% Fe located between 22 and 36 km offshore from Pātea in water depths of 20–42 m (see Part 1, Table 7.2) and was granted a mining permit in 2014.

6.2.3 Mining Proposal

A mining proposal was developed for excavation of up to 50 Mt (27 km³) per year of seabed material containing ironsand. Processing on an offshore floating vessel would yield c. 10% iron ore for export, with the remaining material returned to the seabed. Mining permit MP55581 was granted to TTR in May 2014.

6.2.4 Challenges to Mining

The TTR seabed mining proposal has faced ongoing opposition from iwi, the fishing industry and environmental groups. Much of the opposition is focused on the potential environmental impact of the sediment plume generated by mining operations, particularly on the Pātea shoals, a shallow-water fishery nearer to the coast, and whether that could disrupt dolphins, whales and other marine mammals.

There is also opposition to any form of mining, as well as claims by iwi that the proposed mining harms the mauri of the South Taranaki Bight and also cuts across their rights and interests in their coastal waters and the fisheries within them.

6.2.5 Status

A mining proposal by TTR was granted for an area offshore of Pātea, but a marine consent application submitted in 2014 was declined by the Environmental Protection Agency. A new marine consent application was submitted by TTR to the Environmental Protection Agency in August 2016 and a marine consent was granted in August 2017. This was followed by various appeals and, in April 2024, TTR withdrew its application.

Key References: Carter (1980); Christie (2016c).

6.3 Offshore Placer Ilmenite

Ilmenite occurs offshore associated with placer gold deposits on the East Coast (see above, Section 6.1) and offshore in the Bay of Plenty (Figure 6.4). Little is known of the Bay of Plenty deposits; although several companies have proposed exploration, very little work has been carried out.



Figure 6.4 Area (brown) of Pacific Offshore Mining's prospecting permit 52474 to explore for ilmenite sands offshore of Waihi Beach in the Coromandel Peninsula (Source: NZP&M Minerals Permit Webmaps).

6.4 Offshore Volcanogenic Massive Sulfide Mineralisation

6.4.1 Introduction

The Kermadec arc, striking for 1200 km from Monowai volcano to the North Island of New Zealand, represents the southern portion of the contiguous ~2500 km Kermadec-Tonga arc (Part 1, Figure 11.1). The Kermadec arc is populated by 30 volcanic centres comprising single, large caldera or cone volcanoes or, less commonly, groups of relatively smaller cones. All of these volcanic centres lie to the west of the Kermadec Ridge in the southern and mid-parts of the arc – by up to 70 km in the case of Rumble II West – then merge with the Kermadec Ridge near the Kermadec Islands around 30°S. The volcanoes then diverge away (westward) from the Kermadec Ridge in the northern reaches of the arc (Part 1, Figure 11.1). Approximately 80% of these volcanoes are identified as hydrothermally active, and at least four of them have metal-rich fluids associated with the submarine volcanic activity, producing volcanogenic massive sulfide mineralisation (Figure 6.5). GNS Science (and, to a lesser extent, NIWA) and its international research partners have undertaken many research cruises to identify the volcanoes, their volcanic and hydrothermal activity and the presence of seafloor massive sulfide mineralisation.

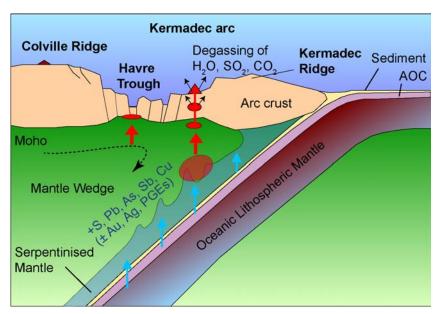


Figure 6.5 Schematic model of Kermadec arc petrogenesis (after Timm et al. [2016]).

6.4.2 Research Exploration

Since the serendipitous recovery of massive sulfide samples from Brothers and Rumble II West volcanoes in 1996 (Wright et al. 1998), subsequent research exploration initially focused on the discovery, spatial location and characterisation of seafloor hydrothermal systems of the Kermadec intraoceanic arc using hydrothermal plume surveys (Table 6.1). The plumes are used to vector in on the hydrothermal vent fields. The entire ~1300 km of the Kermadec arc that lies within New Zealand's EEZ (Economic Exclusive Zone) has been surveyed for hydrothermal emissions, with about 80% of all the major submarine volcanoes being host to active vent fields (see Part 1, Figure 11.1). This makes the Kermadec arc the most hydrothermally active intraoceanic arc in the world (de Ronde et al. 2003a).

Additional cruises (see Table 6.1) have since re-visited several of the volcanoes as part of a time-series project to survey the hydrothermal plumes to model the chemical evolution of these seafloor systems. Considerably more samples of massive sulfide mineralisation have been recovered from Brothers volcano since 1996, using dredging, remotely operated vehicle (ROV) sampling and drilling (de Ronde et al. 2005, 2011, 2019).

Deployment of the manned submersibles Shinkai 6500 in 2004 and Pisces V in 2005 meant that focused sampling of seafloor hydrothermal systems along the Kermadec arc was possible. Recovered chimney and other mineralised samples could then be placed in their proper geological and geochemical context, together with the analysis of vent fluids, with a view to further constructing a model for the formation of submarine arc-related massive sulfide deposits (e.g. de Ronde et al. 2011). In addition, the deployment at Brothers volcano in 2007 of the autonomous underwater vehicle (AUV) ABE, and later Sentry in 2011 and 2017, meant that high-resolution bathymetric maps (i.e. a resolution of ≤ 2 m compared to ~ 25 m using surface vessels) were obtained of the seafloor (Kusek 2007). Additional information obtained by an array of sensors that can be fitted to the vehicle (e.g. a magnetometer; and pH, Eh, light-scattering and temperature probes) enables precise location of the boundaries of the active and inactive hydrothermal fields, the location of the main active chimney clusters and the vertical extent of fluid up-flow zones within the volcanoes (Caratori Tontini et al. 2012; Caratori Tontini and de Ronde 2016). Deployment of the ROVs Quest 4000 in 2016 and Jason II in 2018 meant that high-precision sampling continued at Brothers until it was drilled by the International Ocean Discovery Program (IODP) in 2018.

Massive sulfide mineralisation is known to occur at Brothers, Clark, Rumble II West and Hungaroa volcanoes (Part 1, Figures 11.1 and 11.2). At Brothers, numerous samples of what were either active chimneys or dead spires have been sampled from the main NW Caldera vent field, where at least 100 dead and active sulfide chimney spires occur, typically 2–3 m in height, with some reaching 6–7 m. More recently, chimneys up to 20 m tall have been sampled at the Upper Caldera site at Brothers (Figure 6.6). Ages of the NW Caldera chimneys fall into three groups: <4 years, 23 and 35 years old (at the time of sampling). Less common are massive sulfide crusts 2–3 m thick. Two main types of chimney predominate: Cu-rich (up to 28.5 14 wt.% Cu and including up to 91 ppm Au) and, more commonly, Zn-rich (up to 43.8 wt.% Zn; see Figure 6.6). Similarly, metal concentrations are relatively high for the limited number of samples recovered from Rumble II West (up to 9.8 wt. % Cu; 4.7 ppm Au; de Ronde et al. 2003b) and Clark volcanoes (5.8 ppm Au; de Ronde 2006).

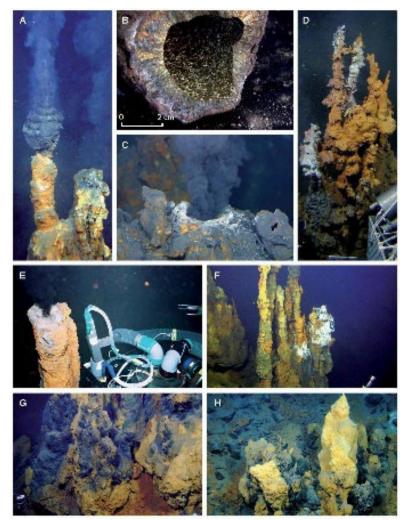


Figure 6.6 Brothers volcano chimneys *in situ*. (a) Classic beehive-type structure on the ~15-cm-tall, left-hand of the two smaller chimneys that sit atop this large ~4-m-high chimney complex. The maximum vent temperature within the NW Caldera field of 302°C was recorded at this chimney, at a depth of 1665 m. (b) Close-up of the left-hand chimney shown in (a) after being broken off by the submersible's robotic arm, showing predominantly Cu-rich mineralisation lining the orifice. (c) Vent orifice at what was the base of a small (~0.5 m tall) chimney sitting atop a 1–2-m-high sulfide mound with a vent temperature of 292°C (1627 m). Field of view is ~0.5 m. (d) Top of a ~4-m-tall, in-active chimney on the NW Caldera slopes. Depth is ~1610 m. (e) A ~2-m-tall chimney perched on a steep slope where other dead chimneys had fallen (1670 m). Vent fluid had a maximum temperature of 274°C. Field of view is ~1.5 m. (f) Cluster of dead chimney spires, all ~2 m high, seen ~25 m west of Marker #20 (1689 m). White material is bacterial mat. Chimney on left-hand side (partially obscured) is 5 m tall. (g) Base of cluster of Mn-coated, Fe-silica chimneys seen at a depth of ~1615 m. Field of view is ~2 m. (h) Another example of low temperature Fe-silica-rich chimneys seen here at a depth of ~1620 m. Field of view is ~3 m.

6.4.3 Mineral Exploration

Neptune Resources held prospecting permits over much of the Kermadec arc and part of the Colville Ridge and in 2008 applied for a mining permit over Brothers volcano. Its prospecting permits expired in 2010. The company conducted several surveys along both arcs that mapped the area with geophysical and multi-beam bathymetry data (e.g. Neptune Resources 2007; Downey and Perrin 2008; John 2011) and collected geological and biological seafloor and sediment samples (e.g. McConachy et al. 2005, 2006). Sampling was done with ROVs and seafloor drills that primarily targeted black-smoker chimney field and mineral-rich sediments to a maximum depth of 14.8 m below seafloor, for a total core recovery of 47.17 m from 107.3 m drilled. Neptune Resources also collected environmental data with oceanographic moorings.

Nautilus Resources Ltd applied for a prospecting permit along the back-arc region of the Kermadec arc but no work eventuated.

6.4.4 **Prospectivity Categories**

Datasets that are available for delineating the mineral prospectivity of offshore volcanoes include:

- Regional bathymetric mapping from surface vessels.
- Regional gravity.
- Regional magnetics.
- Hydrothermal plume mapping and water-column sampling over individual volcanoes.
- Dredge (rock and mineral) samples recovered using surface vessels.
- Vent fluid and chimney samples recovered using manned submersibles and ROVs.
- High-resolution seafloor mapping using AUVs.
- Precise location of vent field boundaries using AUVs.
- High-resolution magnetics using AUVs.
- Drilling (Brothers) using IODP.

Based on the information available, de Ronde et al. (2010) assigned the volcanoes of the Kermadec arc to four levels, or categories, of VMS mineral prospectivity: Category A being the highest and Category D the lowest level of prospectivity. Their assessments were confined to the volcanoes that make up the active arc front of the Kermadec arc. However, they also briefly referred to nearby regions, such as the Kermadec Ridge, the back-arc to the arc front (Havre Trough) and the Colville Ridge for their (sulfide) mineral potential. The following sections define each of these categories and outline the criteria used to delineate them, as well as update the prospectivity analyses with information available up to April 2024.

6.4.5 Category 'A' Volcanoes – High Prospectivity

Category 'A' volcanoes are those known to host VMS mineralisation. That is, samples of sulfide, typically collected using a manned submersible, ROV or dredge, have been recovered and/or sulfide chimneys have been observed. Mineralisation is of the massive sulfide type (i.e. rich in one or other of Cu, Zn or Pb, with accompanying Au making them more economically attractive), commonly mined from ancient, now land-based, deposits, and is the primary deposit type sought by mineral exploration companies in the offshore environment. Assignment of category 'A' to a volcano does not necessarily infer 'economic' concentrations, or grades of metal found in the mineralisation, nor the size of the resource (tonnage). However,

limited information for both grade and tonnage is available (or can be inferred) for volcanoes presently assigned this category. Category 'A' volcanoes would be the most attractive to offshore mineral exploration companies, as they provide hard evidence for a possible ore deposit that could be exploited. Exploration companies could assess the viability of moving to more detailed sampling of the chimney fields, as well as geophysical surveys to delineate their boundaries (particularly depth), using ROVs or by seafloor drilling. Both are expensive operations. Thus, detailed information on the potential deposit site(s) would be advantageous and cost-effective prior to engaging these operations.

Four volcanoes have been given Category 'A' status: Brothers, Clark, Rumble II West and Hungaroa.

6.4.5.1 Brothers Volcano

Brothers volcano represents the most-studied arc volcano along the Kermadec arc (and likely the world), resulting in the availability of a considerable amount of data (see Table 6.1). This includes numerous plume, bathymetric, magnetic, gravity and towed-camera surveys, dredging, nine manned submersible dives, 14 ROV dives and a detailed AUV survey. It is the only volcano that has been drilled (e.g. seafloor drilling by Neptune Resources and IODP). One large site (main NW Caldera site) and another significant one (Upper Caldera site) are host to numerous chimneys and massive sulfide crusts. Approximately 25 sulfide chimneys have been sampled, dated and assayed from the NW Caldera site; fewer from the Upper Caldera site. Chimneys are typically 2–7 m tall, with 20-m-tall chimneys found at the recently discovered Upper Caldera site representing a large mass of sulfide. Two other sites (i.e. SE Caldera and W Caldera) have evidence for massive sulfides. However, except for one small sample recovered by dredging from the SE Caldera site, massive sulfides from the W Caldera and SE Caldera hydrothermal sites have effectively not been sampled.

6.4.5.2 Clark Volcano

Clark Volcano has had sulfide samples (and vent fluids) recovered by the submersible *Pisces V* during two dives in 2005. It has also been mapped by multi-beam for its bathymetry, by towed camera, and surveyed for hydrothermal plumes (several times). One main area and another, smaller, one have been identified as hosting active chimneys (up to 7 m tall) and what appear to be massive sulfide 'mounds', or probable remnants of older chimneys. These have been sampled, dated and assayed.

6.4.5.3 Rumble II West Volcano

Rumble II West has been surveyed with surface vessels for its bathymetry and hydrothermal plumes, the latter on several occasions. Rumble II West volcano is known to host at least one chimney field. Samples of massive sulfide have been recovered from this volcano during dredging operations in 1996 and 2011. In 2011, it was surveyed by the AUV *Sentry*, which revealed a more-detailed picture of hydrothermal activity and likely mineralisation that may extend over hundreds of metres.

6.4.5.4 Hungaroa Volcano

Hungaroa volcano was sampled in 2018 using the German research vessel *R/V Sonne* and three dives with the ROV *Quest 4000*. A number of sulfide samples were collected from massive sulfide mounds located in a hydrothermal vent field near the summit. The samples have been dated and assayed. They are dominated by sphalerite (Zn) and barite (Ba) and, to a lesser degree, chalcopyrite (Cu) mineralisation.

6.4.6 Category 'B' Volcanoes – Medium Prospectivity

Category 'B' volcanoes are those known to host active seafloor hydrothermal vents. That is, plume surveys conducted during the NZAPLUME series of cruises established that Category 'B' volcanoes were hydrothermally active. This category, as well as Category 'A' would be equivalent to the 'brown fields' category commonly referred to by on-land mineral exploration companies. The bathymetry of these volcanoes has also been mapped using various multi-beam systems. Recognition of hydrothermal activity does *not* automatically mean that there is associated VMS mineralisation, as not all vent fluids carry metals to the seafloor (e.g. de Ronde et al. 2001, 2003a, 2005, 2007, 2011). However, details of the plume chemistry can elucidate the composition of the fluid being expelled by the seafloor vents. This in turn can provide insight as to the likelihood of there being associated sulfide mineralisation.

Category 'B' volcanoes include (from south to north; see Part 1, Figure 11.1): Tangaroa, Rumble V, Rumble III, Healy, Kibblewhite, Sonne, Ngatoroirangi, Kuiwai, Hungaroa, Wright, Havre, Vulkanolog, Macauley cone, Macauley caldera, Giggenbach, Henetapeka, Putoto, Gamble, Rakahore, Hineputa and Monowai cone and caldera (volcanoes U and V shown in Figure 11.1 of Part 1 sit within Tonga's territorial waters).

Pisces V submersible dives have been made on Monowai caldera (4), Macauley cone (2), Giggenbach (3), Wright (1), Healy (2), Rumble V (2) and Tangaroa (2). Massive sulfide mineralisation was not seen during any of these dives, although a later ROV dive on the Monowai site possibly identified mounds of sulfide on the seafloor. However, this has not been verified (i.e. by the recovery of any samples). All category 'B' volcanoes have been dredged to varying degrees, with mostly unmineralised rocks and, in some cases, samples of native sulfur having been recovered. Vent fluid samples were recovered during the *Pisces V* dives from all volcanoes mentioned above, with the exception of Wright volcano. ROV dives made by *Quest 4000* were conducted at Macauley cone (4), Hungaroa (3) and Rumble III (2), collecting vent fluids and select rock and/or mineralised samples.

6.4.7 Category 'C' Volcanoes – Low Prospectivity

Category 'C' volcanoes are those that have no evidence for hydrothermal activity from limited prospecting. That is, plume surveys conducted during the NZAPLUME series of cruises did not establish that the volcano was hydrothermally active. The volcanoes include (from south to north): Whakatane, Rumble IV, Lille, Rumble II East, Silent II, Cotton, Cole, Wright, Speight, Oliver and Q.

6.4.8 Category 'D' Volcanoes/Regions – Prospectivity Unknown

Category 'D' volcanoes/regions are those areas where we have little, or no, evidence to evaluate VMS prospectivity. That is, insufficient work has been done to determine the likelihood, or not, of a region being host to VMS mineralisation. This category would be similar to the 'green fields' category commonly referred to by on-land mineral exploration companies. This category includes the volcanoes Yokosuka, Rapuhia and Giljanes in the back-arc to the active arc front (not shown in Figure 11.1 of Part 1), as well as possible ancient volcanoes, or remnants thereof, on the Kermadec Ridge. This category also includes the immediate back-arc to the active arc front of the Kermadec arc (i.e. the Havre Trough), and the Colville Ridge (Part 1, Figure 11.1). The latter regions may be host to ancient equivalents of the active seafloor hydrothermal systems noted above. The southern parts of these areas to ~33°S have had regional bathymetry, gravity and magnetic surveys completed.

6.4.9 Research Required to Increase Prospectivity

The work required to elevate the prospectivity of hydrothermal systems in the four prospectivity categories described is illustrated in Figure 6.7.

Key References: Baker et al. (2003); Berkenbosch et al. (2012); Caratori Tontini et al. (2012); Caratori Tontini and de Ronde (2016); de Ronde et al. (2005, 2010, 2011, 2012).

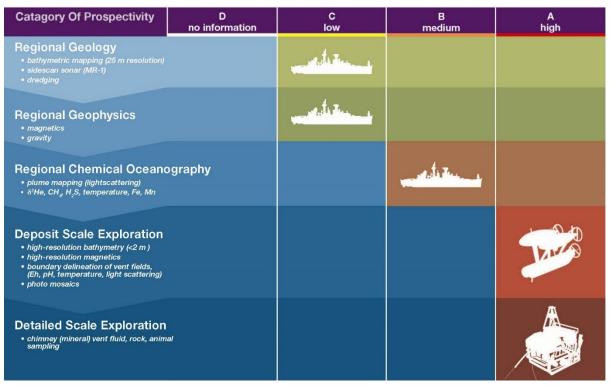


Figure 6.7 Recommended stages of exploration for seafloor massive sulfide deposits on the Kermadec Arc. Silhouettes are of preferred platforms (e.g. ships, AUVs, ROVs) (after de Ronde et al. [2010]).

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Table 6.1 Kermadec arc volcano inventory and prospectivity rank. * = Sub-aerial. Note: latitude and longitude are approximately the volcano centre. Cruise name: 1 = LAU HARVE 1997; 2 = SONNE 135 1998; 3 = NZAPLUME I 1999; 4 = NZAPLUME II 2002; 5 = NZAPLUME III 2004; 6 = SHINKAI 2004; 7a = PISCES leg I 2005; 7b = PISCES leg lia 2005; 7c = PISCES leg lib 2005; 8 = MANGO 192/2 2007; 9 = ROVARK 2007; 10 = UWASH 2009; 11 = *R/V Sonne* and *Quest 4000*; 12 = *R/V Thompson* and *Jason II.* Rank: A = massive sulfide recovered; B = Hydrothermally active; C = Inactive volcano/caldera; D = No data – including northern regions of Kermadec Ridge, Havre Trough and Colville Ridge. AUV = autonomous underwater vehicle.

| Volcano | | Latitude °S | Longitude °W | Cruise Name | Rank | Shipboard Bathymetry | AUV Bathymetry | Shipboard Gravity | Shipboard Magnetics | AUV Magnetics |
|---------------|---------------------|----------------|-----------------|-------------------------------------|------|-------------------------|-------------------|----------------------|------------------------|------------------|
| Calypso Ver | nt sites | 37°41.7' | 177°06' E | 2, 8 | В | Y | N | N | N | N |
| Whakaari / \ | White Island * | 37°52' | 177°58' | 2, 3 | В | N | N | N | N | N |
| Whakatane | | 36°49.545' | 177°27.921' E | 3, 4 | С | Y | N | N | Ν | N |
| Clark | | 36°27.653' | 177°50.320' E | 2, 3, 4, 7b | Α | Y | N | N | N | N |
| Tangaroa | | 36°19.750' | 178°2.430' E | 3, 4 | В | Y | Ν | N | Ν | N |
| Rumble IV | | 36°199' | 178°079' | 3 | С | Y | Ν | N | Ν | N |
| Rumble V | | 36°8.390' | 178°11.850' E | 3, 4, 6, 7a, 7c | В | Y | Ν | N | Ν | N |
| Lillie | | 35°51.217' | 178°26.214' | 3 | С | Y | Ν | Ν | Ν | Ν |
| Rumble III | | 35°45.260' | 178°30.00' E | 2, 3, 4, 10, 11 | В | Y | Ν | N | Ν | N |
| Rumble II Ea | ast | 35°418' | 178°585' | 3, 6 | С | Y | Ν | N | Ν | N |
| Rumble II W | /est | 35°21.270' | 178°30.480'E | 3, 4, 6, 10 | Α | Y | Ν | N | Ν | N |
| Thompson | | 35°17.100' | 178°51.750' | 3 | D | Y | Ν | N | N | N |
| Silent II Wes | st | 34°42.374' | 178°34.269' | 3, 4 | D | Y | N | N | N | N |
| Silent II | | 35°172' | 178°889' | 3, 6 | С | Y | N | N | N | N |
| Cotton | | 35°045' | 178°973' | 3 | С | Y | N | N | N | N |
| | Healy Cone (SW) | 34°992' | 178°994' | 3, 4, 5, 6, 7c, 9 | В | Y | N | N | N | N |
| Healy | Healy Caldera | 34°984' | 178°999' | 3, 4, 5, 6, 7c, 9 | В | Y | N | N | N | N |
| Rapuhia | | 34°46.743' | 178°30.322' | 4 | D | Y | N | N | N | N |
| Giljanes | | 34°46.570' | 178°34.886' | 4 | D | Y | N | N | N | N |
| Yokosuka | | 34°42.544' | 178°32.717' | | D | Y | N | N | N | N |
| Brothers | Brothers Cone | 34°53.01' | 179°04.04' E | 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7c, 9, 10, 11, 12 | Α | Y | Y | N | Y | Y |
| | Brothers NW Caldera | 34°52.29' | 179°3.35' E | 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7c, 9, 10, 11, 12 | В | Y | Y | N | Y | Y |
| | Brothers Lala (W) | 34°53.78' | 179°03.01' E | 2, 3, 4, 5, 9, 10 | Α | Y | Y | N | Y | Y |
| | Brothers SE Caldera | 34°51.772' | 179°05.894' E | 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 9, 10 | Α | Y | Y | N | Y | Y |
| Kibblewhite | | 34°34.506' | 179°15.300' | 4, 6, 11 | В | Y | N | N | N | N |
| Sonne | | 34°3.505' | 179°35.336' | 4 | В | Y | Ν | N | Ν | N |
| Ngatoroiran | gi | 33°43.850' | 179°49.610' | 4 | В | Y | Ν | N | Ν | N |
| Cole | | 33°24.679' | 179°52.337' | 4 | с | Y | Ν | N | Ν | N |
| Kuiwai | | 33°9.523' | 179°57.475' | 4 | В | Y | Ν | N | Ν | N |
| | Haungaroa Vent one | 32°36.38' | 179°36.57' | 4, 11 | Α | N | Ν | N | Ν | N |
| Haungaroa | Haungaroa Vent two | 32°36.76' | 179°36.42' | 4 | В | N | N | N | N | N |
| Wright | | 31°51.001' | 179°11.258' | 5, 7a | С | Y | Ν | Ν | Ν | N |
| Speight | | 32°23.289' | 179°35.457' | 4 | С | N | N | N | N | N |
| Oliver | | 32°23.680' | 179°40.150' | 4 | С | Y | N | N | N | N |
| Havre | | 31°20.710' | 178°54.510' | 4 | В | Y | N | N | N | N |
| Vulkanolog | | 30°41.242' | 178°27.188' | 2, 4 | В | Y | N | N | N | N |
| L'Esperence | e * | 31°26' | 178°54' | Curtis 2002 | D | N | N | N | N | N |
| Curtis Island | * t | 30°32.32' | 178°26' | Curtis 2002 | В | N | N | N | N | N |
| Macauley Is | land * | 30°14' | 178°26' | 5 | D | N | N | N | N | N |
| Moogulas | Macauley Cone | 30°12.789' | 178°26.914' | 4, 5, 7a, 11 | в | Y | N | N | N | N |
| Macauley | Macauley Caldera | 30°9.870' | 178°27.730' | 4, 5, 7a | В | Y | N | N | N | N |
| Giggenbach |) | 30°2.780' | 178°42.940' | 4, 7a | В | Y | N | N | N | N |
| Raoul Island | * t | 29°16.0' | 177°55.10' | 2, 5 | В | N | N | N | N | N |
| Hinetapeka | | 28°33.813' | 177°39.324' | 5 | В | Y | N | N | N | N |
| OP | | 27°42.546' | 177°34.726' | 5 | D | N | N | N | N | N |
| Putoto | | 27°52.675' | 177°36.004' | 5 | В | Y | N | N | N | N |
| Q | | 27°34.186' | 177°35.289' | 5 | С | Y | N | N | N | N |
| Gamble | | 27°12.528' | 177°25.999' | 5 | В | Y | N | N | N | N |
| Rakahore | | 26°51.771' | 177°24.991' | 5 | В | Y | N | N | N | N |
| Hinepuia | | 26°05.305' | 177°15.064' | 5 | В | Y | N | N | N | N |
| | | | 177°11.098' | 5, 2, 8 | В | Y | N | N | N | N |
| Monowai | Monowai Cone | 25°53.509' | 177 11.090 | 5, 2, 8 | D | | | | | |

Table 6.1 Continued.

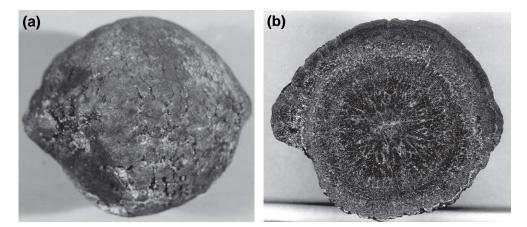
| | | | | | | Plume | | | | | Vent | Rock | Massive | Seafloor | Seafloor |
|------------------|----------------------|--------|--------|-----------------|-------------------|--------|----------|--------|--------|--------|--------|---------|----------|----------|----------|
| Volcano | | L/S | рН | CH ₄ | δ ³ He | Metals | Salinity | Т | µ Biol | Vent T | Fluids | Samples | Sulfides | Photos | Video |
| Calypso Ve | nt sites | N | Ν | N | Ν | N | N | Ν | N | Ν | Y | Y | N | Y | Y |
| Whakaari / V | White Island * | Ν | Ν | Y | Ν | N | N | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | N | Y | Y |
| Whakatane | | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | N | Ν | N | Ν | N | N | N |
| Clark | | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y |
| Tangaroa | | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Ν | N | Y | Y | Y | N |
| Rumble IV | | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | N | N | Ν | N | N | N | N |
| Rumble V | | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | N | Y | N | Y | Y |
| Lillie | | Ν | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | N | N | Ν | N | N | N | N |
| Rumble III | | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Ν | Ν | Y | N | Y | Y |
| Rumble II E | ast | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | N | Ν | N | N | N | N | N |
| Rumble II W | /est | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Ν | N | N | Y | N | N |
| Thompson | | Ν | N | Ν | Ν | Ν | Ν | Ν | N | Ν | Ν | N | N | N | N |
| Silent II We | st | Ν | N | Ν | N | N | N | Ν | N | N | Ν | N | N | N | N |
| Silent II | | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | N | N | N | N | N | N | N |
| Cotton | | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | N | N | N | N | N | N | N |
| Healy | Healy Cone (SW) | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | N | Y | Y |
| | Healy Caldera | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | N | Y | Y |
| Rapuhia | | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | N | N | N | N | N | N | N |
| Giljanes | | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | N | N | N | N | N | N | N |
| Yokosuka | | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | N | N | N | Y | N | N | N |
| Brothers | Brothers Cone | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y |
| | Brothers NW Caldera | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y |
| | Brothers Lala (W) | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | N | N | N | Y | Y | Y | Y |
| | Brothers SE Caldera | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | N | N | N | Y | Y | Y | Y |
| Kibblewhite | | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | N | N | N | N | N | N |
| Sonne | | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | N | N | N | Y | N | N | N |
| Ngatoroiran | ai | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | N | N | Y | N | N | N |
| Cole | 3. | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | N | N | N | N | N | N |
| Kuiwai | | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | N | N | N | N | N | N |
| | Haungaroa Vent one | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | N | N | N | Y | Y | Y | Y |
| Haungaroa | Haungaroa Vent two | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | N | N | N | N | N | N | N |
| Wright | riddiigalod Volit Wo | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | N | Y | N | Y | Y |
| Speight | | N | N | N | Y | N | N | N | N | N | N | N | N | N | N |
| Oliver | | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | N | N | N | N | N | N |
| Havre | | Y | Y | N | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | N | N | N | N | N | N |
| Vulkanolog | | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | N | N | Y | N | Y | Y |
| L'Esperence | a * | N N | N | N | N | N | N | N | N | N | N | Y | N | Y | N |
| Curtis Island | | N | N | N | N | N | N | N | N | N | N | Y | N | Y | N |
| Macauley Is | | N | N | N | N | N | N | N | N | N | N | N | N | Y | N |
| | Macauley Cone | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | N | Y | N | Y | Y |
| Macauley | Macauley Collera | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | N | Y | N | Y | Y |
| Giggenbach | - | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | N | Y | Y |
| Raoul Island | | N | N | N | N | N | N | Y | N | N | Y | Y | N | Y | Y |
| | | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | N | | Y | N | | N |
| Hinetapeka OP | | r N | Y N | r N | r N | r N | r N | r N | r N | N | N N | r N | N | N N | N |
| Putoto | | N Y | N Y | N Y | N Y | | | | | | | N Y | | | |
| | | Y Y | Y Y | Y Y | | Y | Y | Y Y | Y | N | N | | N | N | N |
| Q | | | | | Y | Y | Y | | N | N | N | N | N | N | N |
| Gamble | | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | N | N | Y | N | N | N |
| Rakahore | | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | N | N | N | Y | N | N | N |
| Hinepuia | | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | N | N | Y | N | N | N |
| Monowai | Monowai Cone | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | N | Y | Y |
| | Monowai Caldera | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | N | Y | Y |

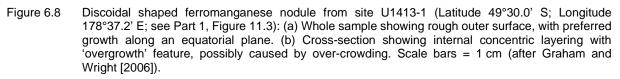
6.5 Offshore Ferromanganese Nodules

6.5.1 Introduction and Overview

Ferromanganese nodules (also known as polymetallic nodules) are accretions of manganese oxides and iron oxyhydroxides up to tens of centimetres in diameter, onto which metals such as cobalt (Co), nickel (Ni), copper (Cu), molybdenum (Mo), lithium (Li), titanium (Ti) and REE, as well as yttrium (REY) are scavenged. These form on or just below the sea floor on the abyssal plains of the deep ocean via precipitation from either ocean water or sediment pore water (e.g. Hein et al. 2020). Ferromanganese nodules cover vast areas of the global ocean floor, particularly in deep water (~3500–6500 m, below the carbonate compensation depth) where sedimentation is slow and bottom waters are well oxygenated.

Internally, ferromanganese nodules are concentrically layered and have numerous pores containing trapped silicate minerals and microfossils (Figure 6.8). Although relatively heavy and denser than sediment, they maintain their growth position on the seafloor for long periods of time via bottom currents winnowing away loose sediment that builds up around them as they rest on more-compacted sediment beneath.





There are two types of nodules, both of which require a nucleus (e.g. a rock, bone or tooth) around which metallic layers can precipitate (Figure 6.9). Hydrogenetic nodules form directly from oxygen-rich ocean waters via oxidation of dissolved Mn^{2+} and Fe^{2+} , which drives precipitation of Mn and Fe oxide colloids. These nodules form at very slow rates (a few millimetres per million years) and tend to contain roughly equal amounts of Fe and Mn (bulk Fe/Mn ~1) and very high concentrations of Co, Te, Ce and Pt. Diagenetic nodules form via precipitation from sediment-pore fluids just below the sea floor at faster rates of a few tens of millimetres per million years. These nodules are generally more Mn-rich (bulk Mn/Fe >10) and contain high levels of Ni, Cu and Li.

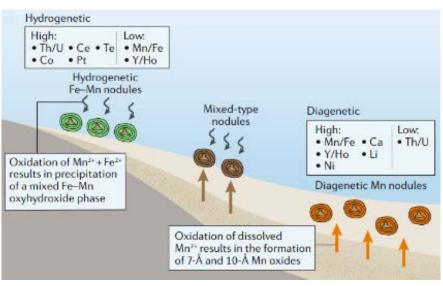


Figure 6.9 Schematic showing formation of hydrogenetic nodules via precipitation from seawater on the ocean floor, as well as diagenetic nodules via precipitation from pore fluids below the sediment-seawater interface. Mixed nodule types involve both precipitation mechanisms (after Hein et al. [2020]).

6.5.2 Distribution

Large nodule fields are common in the world's abyssal ocean, although most are in areas beyond national jurisdiction. Most well-studied fields are in the Pacific Ocean (e.g. Peru Basin and Penrhyn Basin-Cook Islands).

A large nodule field abuts the southeastern slope of the Campbell Plateau and extends into the Southwest Pacific Basin, beneath the Deep Western Boundary Current (DWBC) and Antarctic Circumpolar Current (ACC) (e.g. Carter 1989; Carter and McCave 1997). The field is inferred to be some 300–500 km wide in areas west of 174°E, between 59 and 48°S. Further east, it narrows to ~200 km at 55°S and 120 km at 49°S as the bottom currents are deflected eastward (Wright et al. 2005). Much of this field is within New Zealand's EEZ and/or Extended Continental Shelf.

The distribution of nodules within the northeastern sector of the Campbell field (the part closest to New Zealand) has been characterised in detail based on seafloor mapping (3.5 kHz profiling), photography and dredge sampling (Chang et al. 2003a, 2003b; Wright et al. 2005; Graham and Wright 2006). Here, abundant nodules form the substrate on undulating abyssal hills, locally eroded by scouring from the DWBC/ACC. The largest and oldest (~200 mm and 15 million years old [Graham et al. 2003]) nodules occur beneath the main flow axis of the DWBC-ACC. The seafloor density (i.e. areal coverage) of nodules in the southern part of this northeast sector increases eastward from <25% at the lower Campbell Slope to up to 84% on the Campbell skin drift. In the northern part of this sector, the highest densities (up to 90%) are on the lower Campbell Slope, decreasing to patchy coverage of 25–35% further east. No detailed studies of the distributions or compositions of nodules have been undertaken in other sectors of the field, adjacent to the southern or western Campbell Plateau. Estimates of seafloor densities vary here, from >75% (e.g. Glasby 1976) to patchier distributions of 25–75% (Carter and McCave 1997; Carter and Wilkin 1999).

6.5.3 Nodule Compositions and Economic Potential

The compositions of individual nodule layers and bulk samples from two dredge transects in the northeast sector of the Campbell field were studied by Chang et al. (2003b). Both were found to vary widely (e.g. Cu from 280 to 3100 ppm, Co from 320 to 4600 ppm [Table 6.2]),

although most fall within the range typical of hydrogenetic growth (Mn/Fe <1). More recently, Davies (2018) analysed the outer-most rims (<1 mm) of nodules from these same transects and an additional site on the southwest corner of the Campbell Plateau. Her dataset includes a wider suite of elements and also highlights the dominance of hydrogenetic growth regimes, but it is of limited use for assessing bulk compositions and the overall resource.

| | Northeast Campbell Field | Cook Island – Penrhyn Basin | Clarion-Clipperton Zone (Central- Eastern Pacific) | Central Indian Ocean Basin | Peru Basin |
|--------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|--|-------------------------------|------------|
| Fe/Mn | 1.08 | 0.96 | 0.22 | 0.21 | 0.25 |
| Mn (wt%) | 15.17 | 16.9 | 28.4 | 24.4 | 34.2 |
| Fe (wt%) | 16.37 | 16.2 | 6.16 | 7.14 | 6.12 |
| Ni (wt%) | 0.27 | 0.377 | 1.3 | 1.1 | 1.3 |
| Cu (wt%) | 0.11 | 0.23 | 1.07 | 1.04 | 0.60 |
| Ti (wt%) | 0.90 | 1.28 | 0.32 | 0.42 | 0.16 |
| Co (wt%) | 0.15 | 0.375 | 0.21 | 0.111 | 0.048 |
| Mo (ppm) | 198 | 295 | 590 | 600 | 547 |
| Total REE (ppm) | 1535 | 1537 | 717 | 931 | 334 |
| V (ppm) | 298 | 504 | 445 | 497 | 431 |
| Zr (ppm) | 346 | 555 | 307 | 752 | 325 |
| TI (ppm) | n.d. | 146 | 199 | 347 | 129 |
| Li (ppm) | n.d. | 51 | 131 | 110 | 311 |
| Y (ppm) | 101 | 141 | 96 | 108 | 69 |
| As (ppm) | 98 | 150 | 67 | 150 | 65 |
| W (ppm) | n.d. | 59 | 62 | 92 | 75 |

Table 6.2Mean concentrations of selected elements in nodules from the northeast part of the Campbell field
(data from Chang et al. [2003b]) and four other fields in the Pacific and Indian Oceans (data compiled
by Hein et al. [2020]). n.d. = Not determined.

Based on an average nodule size of 3 cm, mass of 0.3 kg and seafloor density of 50%, Graham and Wright (2006) estimated a total mass of 2×10^9 kg for ferromanganese nodules within the 50,000 km² northeast part of the Campbell field. Taking average compositions from Chang et al. (2003b), these were equated to resources of 5×10^6 t of Ni, 2×10^6 t of Cu and 3×10^6 t of Co (of which 60–70% lies within New Zealand's EEZ). These resources were considered uneconomic at that time, given commodity prices and recovery costs. The average combined Ni + Cu + Co contents for the Campbell nodules are below the ~2–3 wt% cut-off that has more recently been considered to define 'resource-grade' nodules (e.g. Hein et al. 2020; Verlaan and Cronan 2022). However, the areal density of nodules and concentrations of other critical metals needs to be considered for a robust and up-to-date assessment of economic potential for the Campbell field. As for the Cook Islands–Penrhyn Basin nodules (Hein et al. 2015), relatively high Ti and REY contents of the Campbell nodules may make these a viable prospect despite their low Cu + Ni and modest Co contents (Table 6.2). The bulk abundances of a number of economically important metals (e.g. Li, TI, W, Te, Pt) in the Campbell nodules are unknown and should be quantified as part of a more complete assessment of this resource.

Key References: Carter (1989); Carter and McCave (1997); Graham and Wright (2006).

7.0 OFFSHORE NON-METALLIC MINERALS

7.1 Chatham Rise Phosphorite

Deposits of phosphorite lie on the crest of the Chatham Rise at water depths of between 350 and 450 m (Cullen 1989) and were formed about 5 million years ago by phosphatisation of Miocene chalk (McArthur et al. 1990). The phosphorite occurs as irregularly shaped grains and nodules, ranging in size from 0.5 to 350 mm. The nodules lie on and within a thin layer of phosphorite-bearing glauconitic sand with an average thickness of 0.2 m but can reach thicknesses of more than 0.5 m in places. The sand layer consists of mainly silt and sand-sized sediments with the phosphorite nodules. The layers would have been originally stratified with phosphorite nodule layers, representing the periods of erosion and phosphatisation; however, later post-depositional modifications have resulted in these layers becoming disrupted. The underlying chalk layer occurs as a white ooze at the base on the sand. The upper 20–30 cm of this zone can be mixed due to bioturbation and include burrows filled with the overlying sand. The ooze also contains weathered chalk, an important constituent for phosphorite nodule formation. At depth, the ooze grades into an indurated chalk layer.

Phosphatisation is due to upwelling of nutrient-rich seawater. The flux of dead organic matter from high-productive waters to the seafloor supplies the phosphorus to the anoxic seabed. The decay of the organic matter and corresponding release of phosphorus from sulfate-reducing bacteria results in the precipitation of phosphorite (Wood et al. 2015; Wood and Falconer 2016). The Cenozoic-age chalk layers exposed on the central Chatham Rise provide the material for phosphorite nodules to form. The chalky seabed was intensively phosphatised, and biological activity produced the phosphoritic nodules as a lag deposit in the top sedimentary layer. When phosphatisation ceased, the phosphoritic nodules were coated with the mineral glauconite, protecting them from dissolution on the seabed.

Chemical analyses of the phosphorite nodules measured the abundance of major oxides and key environmental trace elements (Table 7.1). Analysis of trace elements in the phosphorite nodules showed that, compared to other phosphorite sources, cadmium levels are extremely low (Table 7.1) and that uranium abundance is somewhat elevated.

| Parameter | Phosphorite (Global) ¹ | Coarse (>8 mm) Chatham Rise Phosphorites ² | Fine (<8 mm) Chatham Rise Phosphorites ³ |
|------------|--------------------------------------|---|---|
| Arsenic | 2–23 | 11 (5–39) | 39 (5–79) |
| Barium | - | 63 (0–300) | 36 (4–140) |
| Cadmium | 0.1–510 | <2 ⁻³ | <2 ⁻³ |
| Chromium | 1–160 | 0 (0–30) | 9 (0–24) |
| Cobalt | 0.37–385 | 14 (0–26) | 15 (1–33) |
| Copper | 5.5–130 | 10 (5–85) | 7 (5–69) |
| Lead | 50 | 7.0 (5.0–16) | 15 (5–24) |
| Molybdenum | - | 6.0 (3.0–17) | 7.0 (3.0–10) |
| Nickel | 2–120 | 15 (6–37) | 30 (14–59) |
| Rubidium | - | 16 (5–27) | 52 (8–64) |

Table 7.1Trace element abundances in Chatham Rise sediments, phosphorite nodules and glauconite-rich
sands (after Wood and Falconer [2016]). Note: All units are mg/kg dry weight.

| Parameter | Phosphorite (Global) ¹ | Coarse (>8 mm) Chatham Rise Phosphorites ² | Fine (<8 mm) Chatham Rise Phosphorites ³ |
|-----------|--------------------------------------|---|---|
| Strontium | - | 1600 (1400–1800) | 1300 (1200–1700) |
| Thallium | - | 12 (9–19) | 11 (6–15) |
| Uranium | 64–140 | 240 (20–480) | 170 (120–310) |
| Vanadium | - | 56 (0–140) | 74 (61–91) |
| Yttrium | - | 25 (19–54) | 49 (23–91) |
| Zinc | 6–520 | 11 (5–30) | 22 (9–80) |
| Zirconium | - | 5.0 (5.0–14) | 12 (5–23) |

¹ Aydin et al. (2010), except cadmium (Mar and Okazaki 2012), arsenic and uranium (Syers et al. 1986).

² Data from *R/V Sonne* survey, median data with range in parentheses.

³ DD-4 median data with range in parentheses; n = 13.*n = 46, **n = 31.

7.1.1 Exploration

The Chatham Rise phosphorite deposits were discovered in 1952 when New Zealand Geological Survey geoscientists on board the RRS Discovery II dredged phosphorite from the seabed on the crest of the Chatham Rise. Between 1966 and 1981, several surveys and studies were undertaken for exploration by Global Marine Incorporated (1967-1968), JBL Exploration (NZ) New Zealand (1971) and Fletcher Challenge, as well as for research by the New Zealand Oceanographic Institute in collaboration with the German Geological Survey, resulting in research voyages by the R/V Valdivia (1978) and R/V Sonne (1981) and collection of more than 1100 seafloor samples (Table 7.2). In 2008, Chatham Rock Phosphate (CRP) was granted an exploration permit covering c. 3900 km² of the area identified as the most prospective by the earlier studies, and in 2011 it was granted a mining permit for the central 820 km² of the prospecting permit. Exploration by CRP included six cruises in the project area in 2011 and 2012, using the M/V Tranguil Image and R/V Dorado to validate the previous work and collect further geological, geotechnical, geophysical and environmental data. This work included collection of multi-beam bathymetry, side-scan sonar, magnetic data, additional seafloor samples for geological analysis and cone penetration test measurements of the physical properties of the sea floor. Seafloor traverses completed by the CRP surveys, and another by NIWA in 2013, used an ROV and deep-towed camera system to collect video and still images of the sea floor and samples of benthic fauna. Box cores were also collected along these traverses and analysed for infauna. In collaboration with its research partner, Royal Boskalis Westminster NV ('Boskalis'), CRP proposed a mining system based on a conventional trailing suction hopper dredge, adapted for greater depth on the Chatham Rise. A mining permit was granted in December 2013 for a duration of 20 years but, in February 2015, New Zealand's Environmental Protection Agency turned down CRP's application for an environmental consent to begin mining. CRP is yet to re-apply.

| Company or Vessel | Survey Dates | Seafloor Sampling Methods | Seafloor Sample Area | Sampling Depth |
|-------------------------|--------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------|
| Global Marine Inc. | 1967–1968 | 45-cm-diameter pipe dredge | - | - |
| R/V Tangaroa | 1975–1978 | No information | No information | No information |
| R/V Valdvia | 1978 | 0.12 m ³ grab | 45 x 45 cm to 66 x 66 cm | 33 cm |
| R/V Sonne | 1981 | 0.8 m³ grab | 1.06 x 1.90 m | 38 cm |
| R/V Tranquil Image | 2011 | Van Veen grab sampler | 0.25 m ² | - |
| R/V Dorado Discovery | 2011–2012 | Clamshell grab | 2.03 x 1.42 m | - |
| | | Box corer | 20 x 30 cm to 50 x 50 cm | 50 cm |

| Table 7.2 | Exploration and sampling surveys of the Chatham Rise phosphorite. |
|-----------|---|
| | Exploration and sampling surveys of the Chatham Rise phosphonic. |

7.1.2 Resources

Sterk (2014) reported a global JORC Inferred Mineral Resource totalling 80 Mm³ at an average grade of 290 kg/m³ and a cut-off grade of 100 kg/m³ for a total contained 23.4 Mt of phosphorite (Table 7.3). The phosphorite is suggested to have an average grade of 18–19% P_2O_5 (of screened material). The average thickness of the resource is 0.20 m. The resource has an E–W extent of 60 km and N–S extent of 10–30 km. Additional exploration potential is in the order of 40 Mm³, with 8–12 Mt of contained phosphorite at grades between 200 and 300 kg/m³.

Table 7.3Statement of Mineral Resources (phosphorite) for Mining Permit 55549, Chatham Rise (after Sterk
[2014]). Estimates are rounded to reflect the level of confidence in these resources.

| Classification | Volume (m ³) | Thickness (cm) | Ph kg/m³ | Contained Ph Mt |
|----------------|--------------------------|----------------|----------|-----------------|
| Inferred | 80,000,000 | 20 | 290 | 23.4 |

Notes: The Mineral Resource is reported in accordance with the JORC Code, 2012 edition. The Mineral Resource is contained within MP 55549. All resources have been rounded to the nearest 0.1 Mt. Ph kg/m³ is the weight of phosphorite per cubic metre. Contained Ph Mt is contained weight of phosphorite per million tonnes. Even though a representative average grade for the specification (phosphate grade) cannot be determined for the Mineral Resource, the tenor of the specification (in the order of 18–19% P₂O₅ of screened material) is suitable to allow classification into the Inferred Resource category. Mineral Resource is reported at 100 kg/m₃ cut-off grade.

Key References: Cullen (1989); Sterk (2014); Wood et al. (2015); Wood and Falconer (2016).

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