

**High Sensitivity Airborne Gamma-Ray Spectrometric and Anomagnetic Surveys**  
**Central British Columbia, 2004 - 2005**

In 2004 and 2005, Fugro Airborne Surveys completed two multi-sensor airborne geophysical surveys in the central region of British Columbia for the Geological Survey of Canada, the British Columbia and Yukon Chambers of Mines, Vancouver First Nation, and the industry partners, including Sengstack Resources Inc., Northern Minerals Ltd., Portland Ventures Corp., Duff Resources Inc., and Arken Resources Ltd. The Geological Survey of Canada provided survey supervision and quality control. The surveys were the highest quality airborne gamma-ray spectrometric and anomagnetic data. The surveys were from over two seasons, from September 18 to November 17, 2004 and June 15 to August 6, 2005, using Agave 500-BS and 500-B0 helicopters, C-130C, and C-765C.

**Gamma-ray Spectrometric Data**

The airborne gamma-ray measurements were made with an <sup>40</sup>K/2000 gamma-ray spectrometer using 102 x 102 x 400 mm (101 crystals, the main detector array consisted of eight crystals, total volume 20.8 litres, one crystal total volume 4.2 litres) shielded by the main tray, and used to detect variations in background radiation caused by atmospheric radon. The system constantly monitored the natural potassium peak for each crystal, and using a Gaussian least squares algorithm, adjusted the gain for each crystal.

Potassium is measured directly from the 1460 keV gamma-ray photons emitted by <sup>40</sup>K, whereas uranium and thorium are measured indirectly from gamma-ray photons emitted by daughter products (214Pb for uranium and 214Bi for thorium). Although these daughters are far from their respective decay chains, they are assumed to be in equilibrium with their parents. Thus gamma-ray spectrometric measurements of uranium and thorium are referred to as equivalent uranium and equivalent thorium, 1e, 4e and 4Th. The energy sensors used to measure potassium, uranium and thorium are:

Potassium (<sup>40</sup>K) 1460 - 1480 keV  
Uranium (<sup>214</sup>Pb) 2039 - 2080 keV  
Thorium (<sup>214</sup>Bi) 2410 - 2810 keV

Gamma-ray spectra were recorded at one-second intervals at a planned terrain clearance of 120m or 90m depending on the survey area and an air speed of 120km/h. The total potassium, uranium and thorium window counts were derived from the recorded 256 channel spectra. During processing, the spectra were energy calibrated, and counts were accumulated into the window described above. Counts from the main detector were recorded in a 1460 - 1480 keV window and radiation at energies greater than 2000 keV was recorded in the cosmic window. The window counts were corrected for dead time and for background activity from cosmic radiation, the radioactivity of the aircraft and atmospheric radon decay products. The window data were then corrected for spectral scattering to the ground, air and detector. Corrections for elevation of altitude from the planned terrain clearance and for variation of temperature and pressure were made prior to conversion to gross concentrations of potassium, uranium and thorium, using factors determined from flights over a calibration range near Ottawa.

Potassium 0.7 e.u./cps (1 cps = 1000 Bq) (1 cps = 1000 Bq)  
Uranium 0.7 e.u./cps (1 cps = 1000 Bq) (1 cps = 1000 Bq)  
Thorium 0.7 e.u./cps (1 cps = 1000 Bq) (1 cps = 1000 Bq)

Corrected data were filtered and interpolated to a 100m grid for the 1:50 000 scale maps and to a 50m grid for the 1:20 000 and 1:10 000 scale maps. The results of an airborne gamma-ray spectrometric survey represent the average surface concentrations that are influenced by varying amounts of outcrop, overburden, vegetation cover, and moisture and surface water. As a result, the measured concentrations are usually lower than the actual bedrock concentrations. The total air detector dose rate in nanSieverts per hour was produced from measured counts between 410 and 2810 keV.

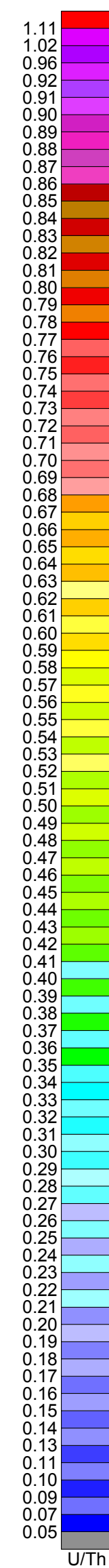
**Magnetic Data**

The helicopter was equipped with a Scripps CS-2 cesium vapour magnetic sensor mounted in a 10m high-resolution single sensor, single mounted system. The system recorded readings every 0.5 seconds with a noise level of less than 0.1 nT. Magnetic reference caused by aircraft movement were compensated using an EMI/EMI/EMI Magnetic compensator. Diurnal variations and GPS fluctuations were recorded using a Fugro GPS time station.

After editing the survey data, the intersections of traverse and control lines were determined and the differences in the magnetic values were corrected, analysed and manually verified to obtain the leveling network. The International Geomagnetic Reference Field was calculated and removed using a field date of October 15, 2004 and an altitude of the different corrected GPS height for each data point. The corrected magnetic data was interpolated to a 50m grid using a minimum curvature algorithm. The final vertical intensity grid was calculated from the corrected total magnetic intensity grid using an FFT based frequency domain filtering algorithm.

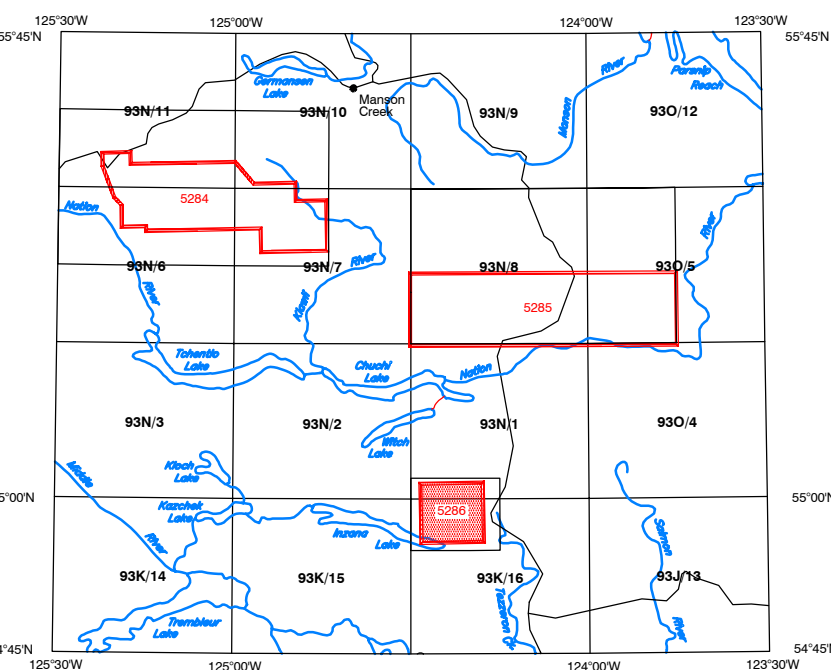
**Positional Data**  
Line spacing and direction for survey and control lines were selected for each block to ensure the best interpretation of local geological features. Terrain clearance was monitored by scale altimeter. Positional data were recorded using a dual frequency Novatel Millennium system. GPS groundstation data were combined with airborne GPS data to produce a differentially corrected positional data with an accuracy of 2 to 5 m.

**Data Presentation**  
Colour levels and contours were calculated for each grid and combined with map surround information to create postscript plot files, which were plotted using HP DesignJet colour plotters.



**Planimetric Symbols**

Topographic Contour	.....	1000 ft
Dam	.....	1000 ft
Road	.....	1000 ft
Canal	.....	1000 ft
Railway	.....	1000 ft
Flight lines, actual	.....	1000 ft



NATIONAL TOPOGRAPHICAL SYSTEM REFERENCE AND GEOPHYSICAL MAP INDEX  
SYSTEME NATIONAL DE REFERENCE CARTOGRAPHIQUE ET INDEX DES CARTES GEOPHYSIQUES

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2006. Geophysical Series - NTS 93N/1, 93K/16 - Wittich Creek, British Columbia.  
Geological Survey of Canada, Open File 5266.  
www.5266.gc.ca