

# **Report on the Geology and Current Status of the Torlon Zinc Property**

**Chiantla Municipal District, Department of Huehuetenango,  
Guatemala**

**Latitude:           15°23'N**  
**Longitude:         91°32'W**

**Prepared for:**  
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February 17, 2005

## SUMMARY

The Torlon zinc property is located in the Cuchumatanes Highlands of western Guatemala, Central America about 140 kilometres northwest of Guatemala City and 12 kilometres west-northwest of the city of Huehuetenango. Access is by gravel road from the nearby town of Chiantla and then by horse trail for the final 1.5 kilometres. In December, 2004 Firestone Ventures Inc. entered into an agreement to purchase, through option payments, a 100% interest in the 16 hectare Torlon concession from La Cooperativa de Producción Industrial Juventud Minera, R.L. Firestone Ventures has also applied to the Guatemalan government for an additional 134 hectares (Orbita concession) surrounding the Torlon concession.

The Chiantla district hosting the Torlon zinc property has long been known as an historical mining center for silver, lead and zinc. The district lies within the Central American carbonate-hosted zinc-lead belt which is thought to be of the same generation as the large central Mexican zinc-lead districts.

Zinc mineralization at Torlon Mountain is hosted by an extensive unit of Permian dolostone breccias faulted onto a large serpentinite body. The formation of these breccias is probably tectonic in origin and related to major structural events along the nearby North American – Caribbean Plate boundary. The thorough brecciation created a favourable host rock for the later emplacement of zinc-lead (sulphide) mineralization. Subsequent supergene weathering oxidized almost all the known mineralization to secondary minerals, mainly smithsonite (zinc carbonate), limonitic iron oxides and local lead oxides (cerrusite) to depths of at least 50 metres below surface.

The Torlon property has historically been worked for lead on a small scale since the 16<sup>th</sup> century but its zinc potential had never been investigated prior to a field program carried out by Redhawk Resources Inc. in 2001. Redhawk completed a detailed topographic survey, detailed surface and underground geological mapping, surface and underground rock sampling, and a small reconnaissance magnetometer survey. The field program mainly focused on a 200 metre long portion of the 700 metre long Santa Rosa Corridor, the main zinc mineralized zone on the property. Extensive surface and underground bedrock exposures allowed good access for channel sampling. Beyond this section the Corridor is marked by a series of old collapsed underground workings that extend the zinc mineralization 180 metres further north and 320 metres further south. In the central part of the Santa Rosa Corridor, Redhawk collected over 450 channel samples and determined that zinc grades vary from 2% to 28% over true widths of 1 to 9 metres. The field work also demonstrated the potential for expansion of the known zinc mineralization at Torlon Mountain to the north, west and south.

The high-grade nature of the zinc mineralization, the surface exposures, and the potential for expansion suggests that there is significant potential for an open-pit economically mineable mineralized zone. A diamond drill program is warranted and recommended in conjunction with an environmental baseline study, additional surface exploration mapping and sampling, metallurgical work on the mineralized material and a preliminary scoping study on processing options and products, markets and capital costs of the various processing technologies. The total cost of this program is estimated at \$490,000.

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## 1.0 Introduction and Terms of Reference

In December, 2004, Firestone Ventures Inc. (“Firestone”) of Edmonton, Canada, entered into an agreement to purchase, through option payments, a 100% interest in the Torlon zinc project, located at 15°23’ N Latitude and 91°32’ W Longitude, in western Guatemala (Figure 1). The Torlon project was the subject of a surface exploration program in 2001 by Redhawk Resources Inc. of Vancouver, Canada in preparation for a drilling program. Redhawk held the property under option from ZincOx Resources of London, England. ZincOx in turn, held an option from the owners (Cooperativa de Producción Industrial Juventud Mineral). Due to negative market conditions for zinc at the time and other factors, both parties eventually let their options terminate. At the time of the December, 2004 agreement with Firestone, the Torlon property consisted of a 16 hectares (39.5 acres) concession. Firestone has applied to the Guatemalan government for an additional concession (“Orbita”) covering 134 hectares (331.1 acres) surrounding the Torlon property.

The author has been requested by Firestone to write this report using the following terms of reference:

- a) To review past work on the property, determine the exploration potential, and make recommendations for further exploration.
- b) To comply with the TSX-Venture Exchange regulatory requirements.
- c) To follow the guidelines and framework defined in the Form 43-101-F1, pertaining to National Instrument 43-101: “Standards of Disclosure for Mineral Projects”.
- d) To support the technical disclosures by Firestone in its Annual Information Form.

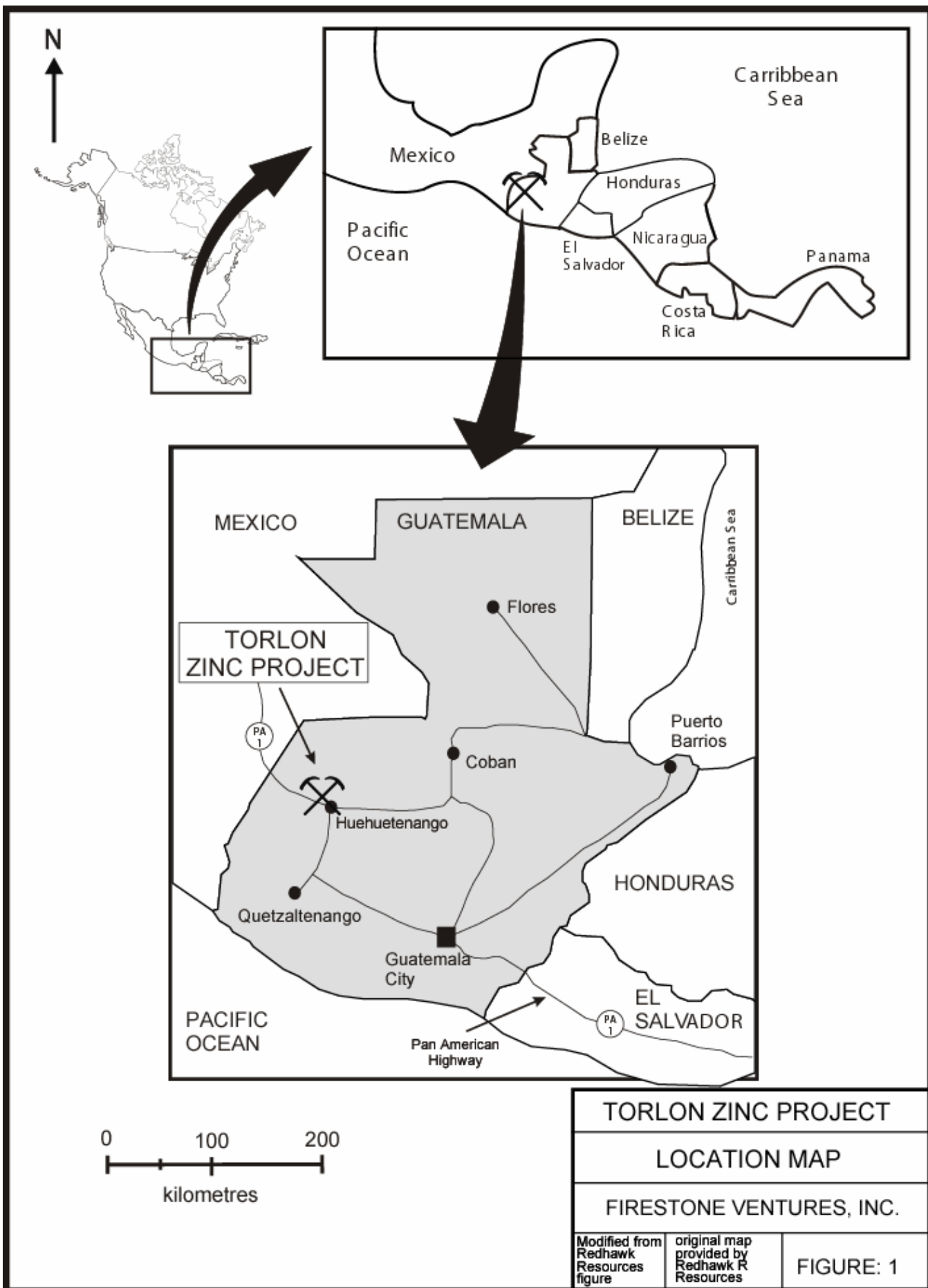
Much of the information on the geology and previous sampling was taken from the comprehensive July 14, 2001 Report by Mr. George Gorzynski and Mr. Alastair Findlay entitled “Torlon Zinc Oxide Prospect – 2001 Phase One Field Program, Mapping and Sampling, Summary Report, Vol. 1 and 2”. The private company report was commissioned by Redhawk Resources Inc. of Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada and was supplied to Firestone by the Torlon property owners. Other information was obtained from United States Geology Survey Bulletin No. 1034 (1957) by R. Roberts and E. Irving entitled “Mineral Deposits of Central America” and from various geology maps and reports on Guatemala and on zinc oxide deposits.

The author visited the property on May 30, 2004 and November 13, 2004 and is familiar with the geology and ore deposits of Guatemala.

Disclaimer: The author cannot verify the quality of sample collection, preparation, analysis, shipping and security, or of reporting of geological, geochemical, structural or any other geoscience data obtained from historical documents pertaining to the Torlon property

## 2.0 Property Description and Location

The Torlon Property consists of a 16 hectare (39.5 acres) surveyed concession. The Torlon property monument is located at UTM coordinate 657 266 mE, 1702 783 mN. The property



is centered at 15°23' N Latitude and 91°32' W Longitude, in western Guatemala in the Chiantla Municipal District, Department of Huehuetenango, Republic of Guatemala (Figure 2).

On December 7, 2004, through its Guatemalan subsidiary, Fuego Estrella, S.A., Firestone Ventures Inc. entered into a four year option to purchase agreement for 100% interest in the Torlon property from La Cooperativa de Producción Industrial Juventud Minera, R.L. Torlon is the name of a mining interest registered under file CT-148 in the General Directorate of Mining of the Republic of Guatemala.

To earn this interest, Firestone agreed to pay the owners a total of US \$385,000 according to the following schedule; US \$2,000 on signing (paid), US \$18,000 by April 30, 2005, US \$25,000 by April 30, 2006, US \$35,000 by April 30, 2007, US \$125,000 by April 30, 2008 and US \$180,000 by November 30, 2008. The option includes the surface rights. The Cooperativa will be allowed to continue small scale lead mining until the agreement is fulfilled, at which time they will cease mining activities. There are no back-in rights or other encumbrances in the Agreement pertaining to the property.

The main zinc mineralized zone on the property is called the “Santa Rosa Corridor”. The north-northwest trending Santa Rosa Corridor has been traced for over 700 metres in surface outcrop and old mine workings. The Santa Rosa Corridor runs subparallel to the east slope of Torlon Mountain and dips moderately east. Work done by Redhawk Resources in 2001 focused on a 200 metre long central portion of the Santa Rosa Corridor where surface and underground bedrock exposures allowed good access for sampling. There are old underground workings that extend 180 metres further north of the central portion of the Corridor and 320 metres further south. On the far west side of Torlon Mountain, there are indications of at least one other undiscovered zone of zinc mineralization. Much of Torlon Mountain is marked with underground workings and exploration adits.

Small scale lead mining at Torlon has taken place since the 16<sup>th</sup> century. Members of the local mining cooperative recover galena nuggets, usually less than 5 centimetres, from surface and underground workings using pick and shovel mining. The galena nuggets are contained within a large oxidation envelope of zinc oxide-style mineralization. A galena concentrate is produced in nearby wooden sluiceboxes and then the concentrate is processed in a crude local smelter to produce 25 centimetre long lead ingots. The locals also produce ochre pigment and high-grade earthy zinc oxides used as a fertilizer additive. The total production of the various products is estimated at less than 150 tonnes per year. There are scattered piles and dumps of the “waste” zinc mineralization (smithsonite).

To the knowledge of the author, the Torlon property is not subject to any environmental liabilities and to date no baseline environmental studies have been initiated by Firestone. ZincOx/Redhawk, the previous lessees, were required to submit an environmental “Mitigation Study” pursuant to the mining laws of Guatemala before starting their exploration program.

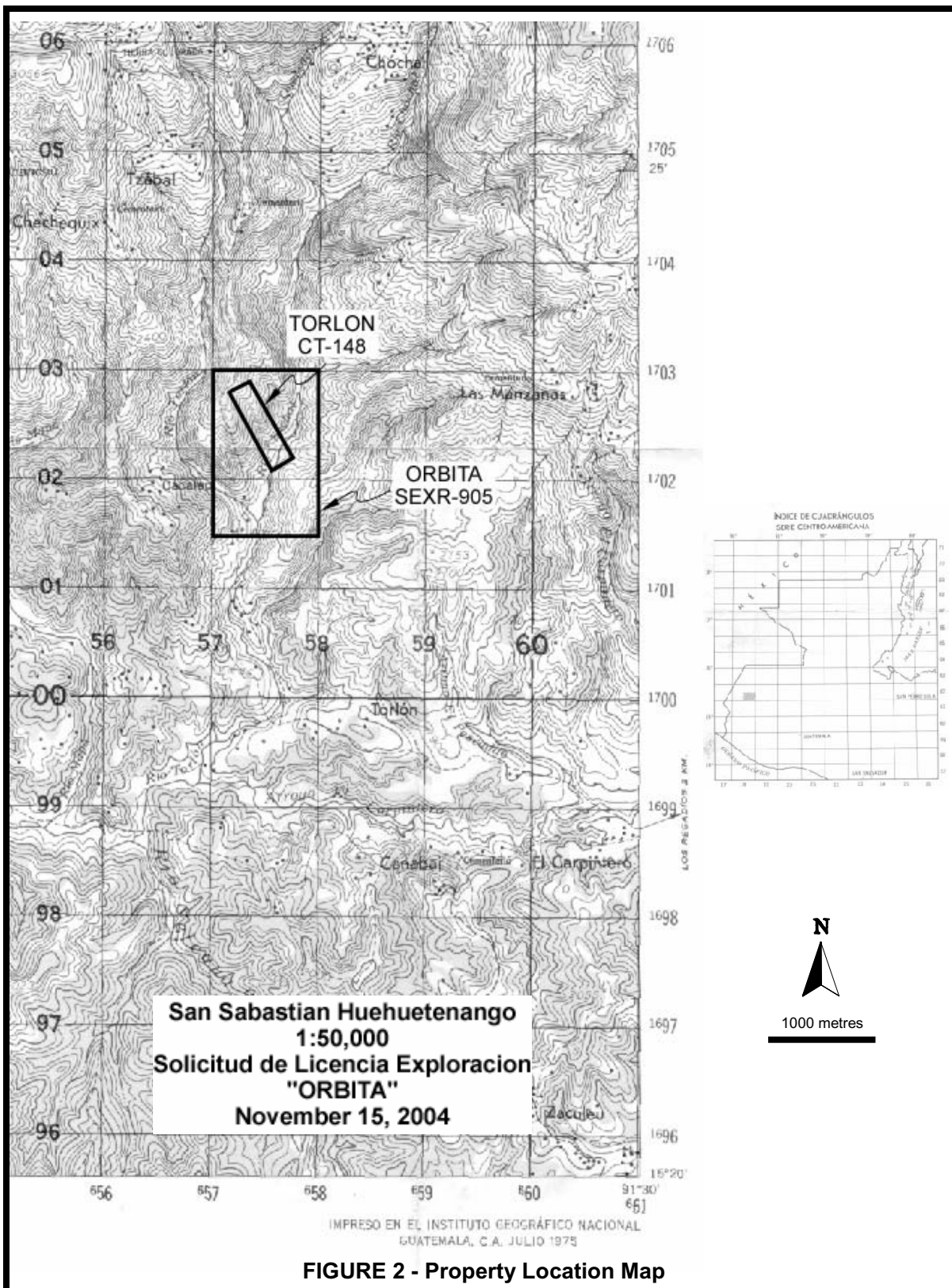


FIGURE 2 - Property Location Map

### **3.0 Accessibility, Climate, Local Resources, Infrastructure and Physiography**

The Torlon property is about 140 kilometres northwest of Guatemala City, in the Chiantla Municipal District in the Department of Huehuetenango in western Guatemala. Travel time along the Pan-American Highway from Guatemala City to Huehuetenango is about five hours. A good, all-weather gravel road leads west from Chiantla, 5 kilometres north of Huehuetenango, to the small farming community of Torlon. During the rainy season, the final 0.5 kilometres of road may be accessed only by foot if the Rio Chochal river crossing is impassable. The main zinc-lead workings are a distance of about 1.5 kilometres north from Torlon village along a horse trail.

Torlon Mountain is located along the southern slopes of the Sierra Los Cuchumatanes, one of the highest mountain chains of Central America, with altitudes up to 4,000 metres. The Torlon area ranges in elevation from 1,960 to 2,350 metres. Torlon Mountain is a steep-sided, north-south trending ridge immediately north of the junction of the Torlon (Uva) and Chochal rivers. The main zinc-lead showings are on the east slope of the mountain.

The climate is characterised by moderate, year-round temperatures with a rainy season from May to October.

Open pine forest is the predominant vegetation in the general area with scattered fields of corn and broccoli. Thick oak-laurel bush with creepers and spiny agave occur locally, particularly upslope from main zinc-lead showings. Gravity flow irrigation pipes are used to distribute water, which would be readily available for exploration drilling.

Huehuetenango, with a population of 40,000, is serviced by the Pan American Highway extending from Mexico through Guatemala. The city has all basic services, including hotel, food and fuel supplies and air flights to Guatemala City. Members of the Torlon mining cooperative have had training and experience in sampling and other fieldwork by assisting with Redhawk's 2001 exploration program. Redhawk used a rented house in Chiantla (a 40 minute drive to the property) as a base for their exploration activities.

The Torlon property area is limited in size, and the ability to contain any future mining, milling and waste disposal areas would depend on the scale of activities. The water supply should be adequate to service any future operations. Rural electrification extends from Chiantla to the village of Torlon.

### **4.0 History**

The main source of information on the history of the Torlon project was provided by Gorzynski and Findlay (2001) with additional detail supplied by Roberts and Irving (1957).

The Chiantla district has long been known as an historical mining center for silver, lead, and zinc. At Torlon, small scale lead mining has been carried on for at least 250 years. Spanish

priests from the colonial period reportedly brought the method for treatment of lead ore from Spain. The treatment is described by Roberts and Irving (1957). After concentrating the galena ore in wooden sluiceboxes, the concentrate is placed in a simple blast furnace consisting of a vertical chimney and a pressure chamber created by a column of water falling down a closed tube. When the compressed air strikes glowing charcoal, a blast flame melts the ore and molten lead and slag run out of a small opening in the bottom of the chimney where they are collected in basins.

In 1943 Roberts and Irving (1957) mapped the Torlon workings and included detailed descriptions and maps in their final report. They placed the known lead-zinc deposits in Guatemala in context with other lead-zinc deposits extending in a belt from Mexico through to Honduras and included detailed descriptions of the lead material processed by the Torlon miners. A total of nine rock samples of the zinc material were collected and returned 4.7 to 17.4% lead, 1.8 to 36.0% zinc and up to 6 ounces of silver per ton. They noted that the local miners sought only lead ore, and ground rich in zinc was generally avoided.

Gorzynski and Findlay (2001) noted that there were additional exploration adits and workings on the property not noted by Roberts and Irving (1957) that were probably excavated with mining machinery sometime after 1943.

The first modern exploration at Torlon took place in 2001. At that time, the Torlon mineralized material was originally identified by ZincOx, a British company, as possibly being amenable to new technologies for processing. ZincOx is a British company founded in 1997 that promotes a new hydrometallurgical approach to recover zinc from zinc oxide-style deposits and waste. The primary example of a low-cost zinc oxide-style mining/processing operation is the Skorpion mine in Namibia.

ZincOx acquired an option on the Torlon property from the owners and then in turn optioned the property to Redhawk Resources who carried out a surface exploration program in the area of the Santa Rosa Corridor, including a detailed topographic survey, detailed surface and underground geological mapping, surface and underground sampling and a small reconnaissance magnetometer survey. Redhawk collected a total of 498 rock samples, including duplicates; almost all were bedrock channel samples collected from surface and underground exposures. The objective was to complete a detailed initial evaluation of the zinc potential of the Torlon property in preparation for a drill program. They also examined the geological setting, distribution, and structural controls of the zinc mineralization.

The detailed sampling, fieldwork, and interpretation by Redhawk further defined the main zinc structure on the property, the Santa Rosa Corridor. Results from the sampling of the various zinc zones within the structure are given in summary below:

Compilation: Torlon Mountain Zinc Zones (from Gorzynski and Findlay, 2001)		
Mineral Zone	Estimated Typical True Width	Average Grade
	(metres)	(% Zn)
<b>Zone N-1(combined)</b>	1-9	20.3

Bulge	9	28.4
N-1a (NW sheet)	5	13.8
N-1b (NE sheet)	1-7	10.0
N-1c (SW sheet)	2	15.2
N-1d (SE sheet)	3	24.2
<b>Zone N-2</b>	2-4	11.2
<b>Other Zones</b>		
Zone W-1	3	8.5
Zone E-1	1.3	9.7
Zone E-2	1.7	0.2
Zone F-1	1	6.2
<b>Corridor Breccias (combined)</b>	17	3.5
Upper Breccias	13	1.6
Middle Breccias	19	2.9
Lower Breccias	18	8.1

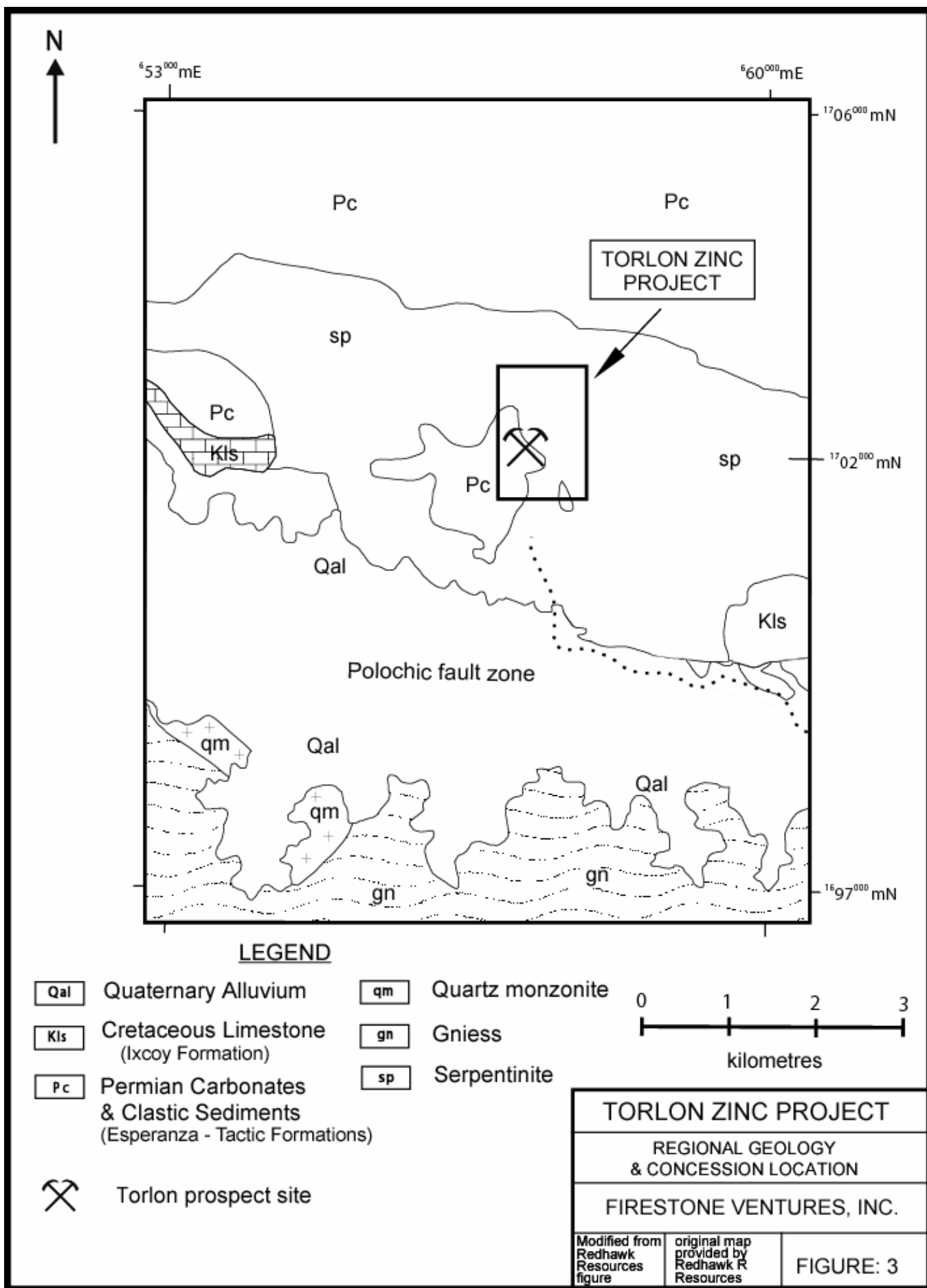
Redhawk concluded that the potential for expansion of the known zinc mineralization at Torlon Mountain is open to the north, west and south, and that considerable potential exists for discovering new zones on the far (west) side of the hill.

No exploration work has taken place on the property since the 2001 Redhawk program.

## 5.0 Geological Setting

Central Guatemala displays a complex geology derived from the juxtaposition of three major terranes which make up southeastern Mexico and Central America. The boundary between the North American Plate and Caribbean Plate boundary bisects the country east-west along the Motagua Suture Zone. The two plates collided during the late Cretaceous to Early Cenozoic, followed by left-lateral strike-slip offset which continues today. The Cocos Plate is subducting under the west coast of Guatemala, forming a northwest-southeast trending chain of active volcanoes parallel to the Pacific Coast.

The North American Plate is made up extensive marine sedimentary sequences, including the abundant limestone which underlies northern Guatemala. The Torlon zinc property is situated on the southern boundary of the North American Plate, approximately two kilometres north of the Polochic Fault, one of three major faults within the Motagua Suture Zone, which is marked by dismembered serpentinite bodies derived from obducted ophiolite (Figure 3). Although granitic intrusive rocks are widespread south of the Polochic Fault, they are uncommon to the north of the fault. Most of the intrusive rocks north of the fault predate the amalgamation of the North American and Caribbean plates.



The geology of the San Sebastian Huehuetenango area was mapped by Anderson (1972), and is available at 1:50,000 scale. The zinc-lead mineralization at Torlon is within an “island” of Permian carbonate breccia approximately 1.5 square kilometres surrounded by serpentinite. The serpentinite forms an east trending lenticular body 13 kilometres in length, bordered by the Polochic Fault along part of its southern margin and bounded on the north margin by the Taluca Fault. North of Torlon the sedimentary rocks are cut by major high-angle reverse faults. Additional zinc-lead occurrences in the Chiantla area are related to these faults.

On the Torlon property there are two main rock units. Carbonate breccia, the most widespread rock unit on the property underlies the western half of the Torlon area. Dolostone breccia is predominant over limestone breccia. The carbonate breccia is host to karst holes and caves. The northern and eastern boundaries of the carbonate are in fault contact with the serpentinite.

## 6.0 Deposit Types

Torlon and the other numerous lead-zinc mineralized bodies in the Chiantla area are considered to be direct replacement deposits in Permian limestone. The original primary ore minerals, galena, sphalerite and pyrite have been oxidized. Gorzynski and Findlay (2001) stated that the dolostone breccias at Torlon are likely tectonic in origin, which would account for their extensive brecciation and subsequent favourable environment for circulation of mineralizing fluids.

There are many carbonate hosted, manto-type zinc-lead deposits in southern Mexico, Guatemala and western Honduras. Large, well-known examples of this deposit type are in the western United States at Leadville, Colorado and Park City, Utah. In central and western Guatemala, carbonate hosted zinc-lead-silver mineralization occurs in the San Miguel, Coban and Chiantla districts as sulphide bodies replacing carbonates along fault zones with favourable stratigraphic horizons (Kesler and Ascarrunz, 1973). There are numerous zinc-lead replacement bodies in the Chiantla district, particularly at the intersections between northwest and northeast-trending faults.

At Torlon and many of the other lead-zinc prospects in the Chiantla area, oxidation of the sulphide minerals is extensive and few remnants of the original sulphide minerals remain. These heavily oxidized zinc occurrences are classified as “non-sulphide zinc occurrences”, of which there are about forty around the world. At one time the oxidized zinc material was processed in Waltz kilns to produce zinc oxide. However, until recently, oxidized zinc material was of note mainly as an indicator of a potential underlying rich zinc sulphide deposit. Tonnages of the non-sulphide type of zinc deposit generally range from less than 1 million tonnes to more than 200 million tonnes with grades of 7% to more than 30% zinc. Examples include the Skorpion Mine in Namibia, Shimmered in Kazakhstan and Jamal in Yemen. Since commercial production began at the Skorpion Mine in Namibia, there has been renewed commercial interest for non-sulphide zinc ore deposits.

## 7.0 Mineralization

Mineralization at the Torlon property consists almost entirely of zinc and lead secondary minerals and aggregates with very rare primary galena, sphalerite, pyrite and stibnite. Gorzynski and Findlay (2001) describe four distinct types of zinc oxide-style mineralization, based on visual observation and X-ray diffraction analysis: breccia mineralization; ochre mineralization; cellular mineralization; and extremely hard, fine-grained, red-brown mineralization referred to as “BRF”. The predominant zinc mineral overall is smithsonite ( $\text{ZnCO}_3$ ) with minor hemimorphite ( $\text{Zn}_4\text{Si}_2\text{O}_7(\text{OH})_{2.2}(\text{H}_2\text{O})$ ). The only lead oxide mineral noted during their studies was crosstie ( $\text{PbCO}_3$ ). The lead mineralization sought after by artisan miners occurs in narrow lead-bearing vein lets less than 5 centimetres wide and as coarse crystals, typically less than 1 centimetre.

The oxidization level appears to extend to a depth of at least 50 metres below the surface. The main zinc mineralized structure on the property is the Santa Rosa Corridor, which runs sub-parallel to the east slope of Torlon Mountain (Figure 4). It has been mapped over a distance of 700 metres in surface outcrops and old mine workings. In the central area where the main Santa Rosa underground workings are located, the Santa Rosa Corridor is 25 to 30 metres true width and buttressed by two sheets of massive gossans and gossanous breccia zinc mineralization named Zone N-1 and Zone N-2. Zone N-1 contains several sheets of zinc mineralization, including a central “Bulge” with an average grade of 28.4% zinc over a true width of 9 metres (Figure 5). There are other sheets to the north and south and a zone of manto-style mineralization just above the basal fault contact with the serpentinite. There are indications from Roberts and Irving (1957) that there is significant mineralization 180 metres further north of the area explored by Redhawk and that new zones of mineralization may exist on the far west side of Torlon Mountain.

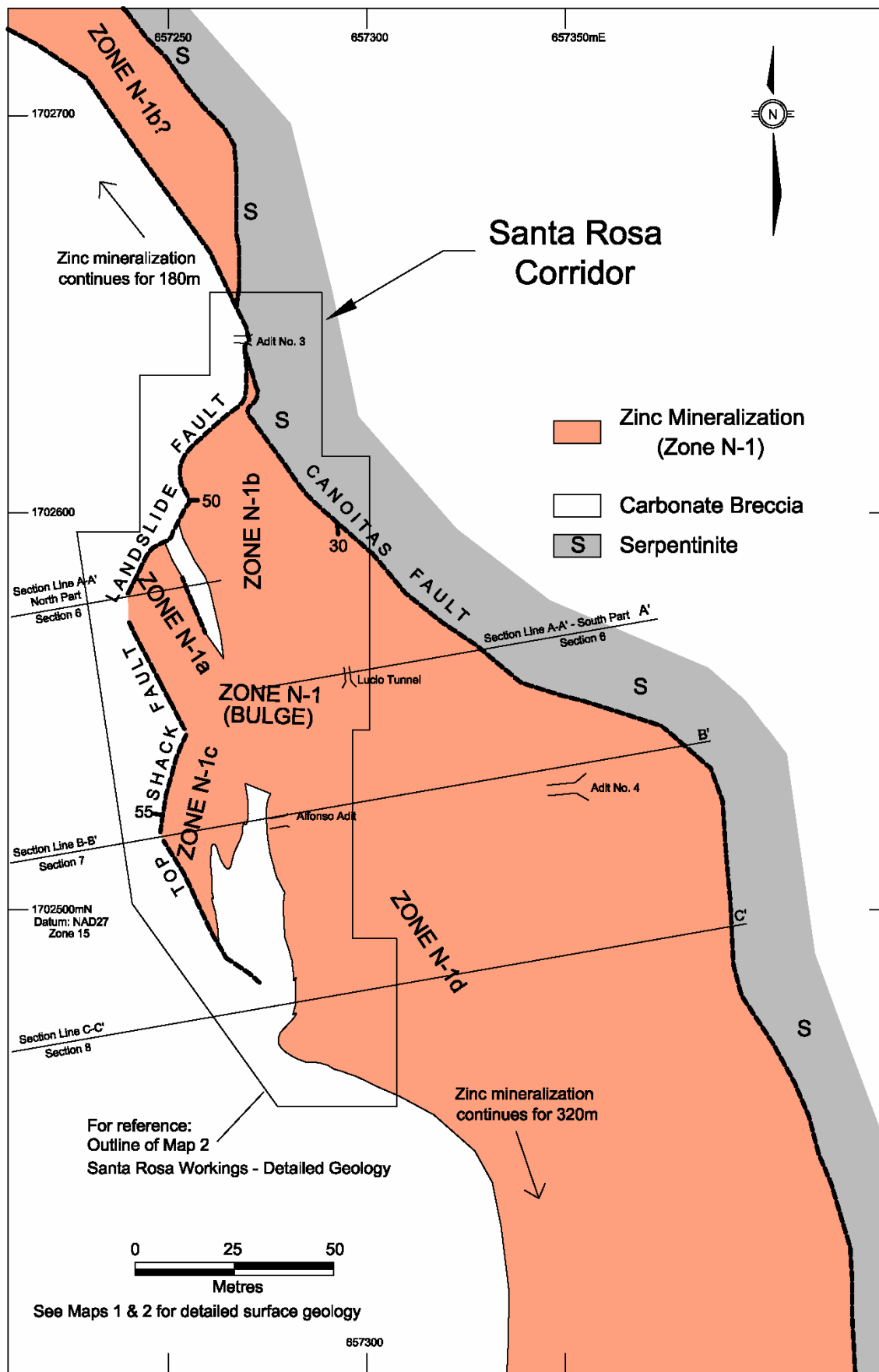
## 8.0 Exploration by Firestone

No exploration work has been conducted on the Torlon property by Firestone or on behalf of Firestone. Previous exploration work carried out by Redhawk Resources Inc. is described in Section 4.0 (History).

## 9.0 Interpretation and Conclusions

The only modern exploration to take place on the Torlon zinc property was the surface and underground exploration program conducted by Redhawk Resources Inc. in 2001. The main objective of this program was to complete a detailed initial evaluation of the Torlon property in preparation for a subsequent drill program. The program was successful in that it demonstrated the presence of a large zinc-oxide style system.

The author cannot verify the sampling and analytical procedures performed during the Redhawk program; however, the report is exceptionally detailed and well-done and certainly the work could be presumed to meet standards equivalent to those required under National Instrument 43-101. In addition to describing the program and results, Gorzynski and Findlay

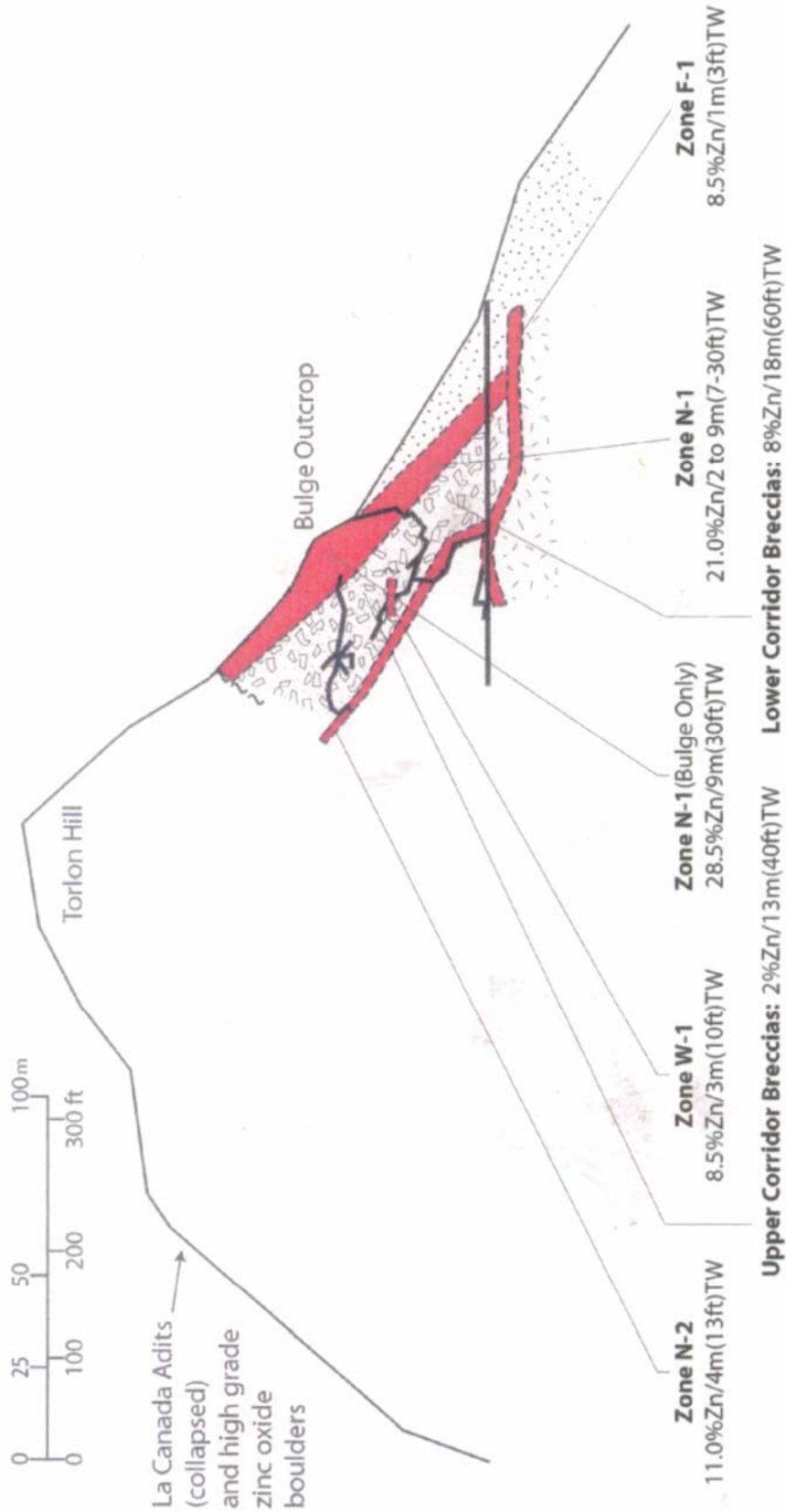


**FIGURE 4 - Torlon Concession Geology and Mineralization**  
 (Note: Entire mineralized zone is within the Torlon Concession)

# Torlon Zinc Project

## SCHEMATIC CROSS SECTION

Looking North Showing Area of Phase One Sampling



Compilation of zinc oxide results from the 2001 sampling program ~ June 2001

(2001) included discussions on the nature of mineralization, controls on mineralization and certainly valid.

Torlon has all the features of a direct replacement zinc-oxide type occurrence hosted in Permian dolostone breccias. The breccias are tectonic in nature and were generated by juxtaposition of the North American and Caribbean Plates creating a favourable environment for later sphalerite and galena mineralization. Supergene weathering in place resulted in the oxidization of almost all the known mineralization to smithsonite, limonitic iron oxides and local lead oxides to vertical depths of at least 50 metres below the surface.

Descriptions of the property mineralization by Gorzynski and Findlay (2001) and by Roberts and Irving (1957) suggest that there is significant potential for the expansion of known zinc mineralization at Torlon to the north, west and south. Intersections of major mineralized structures are targets for high-grade mineralization.

Metallurgical work on the Torlon mineralized material is needed to determine the average grade and nature of other metals, such as silver and to determine the minor metal and minor element content. For example, significant quantities of germanium are associated with zinc-lead mineralization at the Tres Marias project in Mexico.

## **10.0 Conclusion and Recommendations**

The detailed sampling and mapping program by Redhawk Resources Inc. showed that a significant zone of zinc mineralization exists at Torlon. The author agrees with the findings of the Redhawk Report that considerable potential exists for expansion of the mineralized zone to the north, south and west.

It is the author's opinion that the character of the property is of sufficient merit to justify the recommended program. It is appropriate to continue the evaluation of the Torlon zinc-lead occurrence with a detailed surface drilling program in conjunction with metallurgical testing and additional surface and underground sampling. The main objective of this program will be to confirm the grade and thickness of the zinc mineralization and to delineate an economically mineable ore deposit.

The proposed diamond drilling program will consist of eighteen holes totalling 1440 metres. Most holes will average between 25 to 100 metre depth, although two deeper holes are planned to test the vertical extent of the zinc mineralization. The drill program will be preceded by an environmental baseline study and will be concurrent with a surface exploration program consisting of surface and underground mapping and sampling. In addition, a bulk sample of mineralized material will be collected and sent for metallurgical testing and a preliminary desktop scoping study prepared on available processing technologies, markets and potential capital costs of mining/processing facilities.

The drilling program and exploration program are expected to last for six weeks.

## Budget (Canadian Dollars)

Diamond Drilling, supplies, drill moves, mob-demob, materials (Based on 1500 metres @ \$100/metre)	\$170,000
Wages: Geologist (Qualified Person), Assistant Geologist, Field Assistants	\$ 63,000
Trail Building, Reclamation	\$ 15,000
Camp (house rental in Chiantla, food, supplies)	\$ 18,000
Truck Rental	\$ 15,000
Fuel, Field Supplies, Communications, Shipping	\$ 27,000
Travel	\$ 12,000
Geochemistry, Metallurgy	\$ 55,000
Environmental Baseline Study	\$ 18,000
Preliminary Scoping Study	\$ 15,000
Report Writing, Data Processing	\$ 18,000
Sub-total	\$426,000
Contingency (15%)	\$ 64,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$490,000</b>

## 11.0 References

Anderson, T.H., 1972, Mapa geologico San Sebastian Huehuetenango (Hoja 1862 II), Guatemala; Instituto Geografico Nacional de Guatemala; 1:50,000

Gorzynski, G. and Findlay, A., 2001, Torlon zinc oxide prospect - 2001 phase one field program mapping and sampling summary report, internal report by Redhawk Resources, Inc.

Kesler, S.E. and Ascarrunz-K, R., 1973, Lead-Zinc mineralization in carbonate rocks, Central Guatemala. *Economic Geology*, vol. 68, p. 1263-1274.

Roberts, R.J. and Irving, E.M., 1957, Mineral deposits of Central America with a section on manganese deposits of Panama, USGS Bulletin 1034, 205p, 16 plates, 15 figures.

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## **AUTHOR'S CERTIFICATE**

I, John G. Cleary of Reno, Nevada, USA do hereby certify:

- (1) I am a consulting geologist for Firestone Ventures Inc. #52 10203 – 178<sup>th</sup> Street, Edmonton, Alberta, T5S 1M3.
- (2) I am Registered Geologist No. 5321 with the State of California since 1991 and Certified Professional Geologist No. 7420 with the American Institute of Professional Geologists since 1986. I am a Fellow of the Society of Economic Geologists since 1986 and a Member of the Society of Mining Engineers since 1974.
- (3) I am a graduate of Dartmouth College with a B.A. (Honours) in Geology (1974) and of the University of Montana with an M.S. in Economic Geology (1976).
- (4) I have practiced my profession in North, Central, and South America and overseas for 31 years.
- (5) I have read the definition of “qualified person” set out in National Instrument 43-101 and certify that by reason of my education, affiliation with professional associations and past relevant work experience, I fulfill the requirements to be a “qualified person” for the purposes of NI 43-101.
- (6) I am responsible for the preparation of the technical report entitled “Report on the geology and current status of the Torlon zinc property, Guatemala, dated February 17, 2005. I visited the Torlon property on May 30, 2004 and on November 13, 2004.
- (7) I have not had prior involvement with the Torlon property.
- (8) I am not aware of any material fact or material change with respect to the subject matter of the technical report that is not reflected in the technical report, the omission to disclose which makes the technical report misleading.
- (9) I am independent of the issuer applying all tests in section 1.5 of National Instrument 43-101.
- (10) I have read National Instrument 43-101 and Form 43-101F1, and the technical report has been prepared in compliance with that instrument and form.
- (11) I consent to the filing of the technical report with any stock exchange and other regulatory authority and any publication by them for regulatory purposes, including electronic publication in the public company files on their websites accessible by the public, of the technical report.

Dated this 17th day of February, 2005, in Reno, Nevada, USA.

*“John G Cleary”*

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*“Seal”*