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MAJOR SOIL SAMPLING PROGRAMME UNDERWAY

Highlights

- **Major 188km² regional soil sampling programme underway**
- **First such regional programme undertaken in the rich Herberton Tin Field**
- **Objective is to identify extensions to existing mineralised areas as well as focusing on the discovery of potentially new mineralised zones**

Monto Minerals Limited (Monto or the Company) have commenced a major 188km² regional soil geochemical survey at the Herberton Project, representing the first time a large systematic exploration programme has been undertaken in the area.

The survey will involve approximately 19,000 soil samples collected on 200m spaced lines at 50m intervals with analysis by hand-XRF, saving considerable time and expense on analytical costs.

The survey specifically incorporates tenement areas most prospective for tin mineralisation and includes several of the larger historic tin mines that produced “clean” cassiterite ores that are simpler to process than metallurgically complex multi-commodity ores such as is typically found, for example, in skarn-style deposits. A figure outlining the planned soil geochemical survey and historic tin production in the area is shown below.

As a function of the previous small patchwork nature of tenure within the Herberton Project area, historical exploration has been restricted to the delineation of immediate extensions to known mineralisation within small mining leases. There has been no systematic modern exploration undertaken within the exploration tenements.

The objective of the soil sampling programme is to identify and define mineralised trends for tin and other commodities such as copper and silver thereby working up targets for near-term drilling. The Herberton Tin Field has been a prolific high grade producer of tin, silver and copper, so this unprecedented regional soil survey represents a unique opportunity for the Company to generate a highly meaningful dataset which will guide future targeting and exploration.

The recent drilling at Streak Hill and Referendum has provided new information for interpreting the potential of specific styles of mineralisation. Multielement analysis of drill samples has provided a suite of pathfinder elements specific to cassiterite tin mineralisation that will be utilised when assessing the soil results. Monto has also been compiling historic mining records and exploration drilling and geochemistry information, producing three dimensional wireframes of underground mines from hard copy plans and generating a far more comprehensive drilling and geochemistry database than was inherited from previous explorers.

Monto is undertaking a regional approach to exploration with the aim of discovering new deposits rather than repeating the efforts of previous explorers who focused efforts on areas of known mineralisation. Despite the regional approach however, Monto will continue to review previously mined areas to provide a better understanding of the distribution and nature of tin mineralisation in the Herberton field. Monto has engaged consultants to reprocess aeromagnetic data producing magnetic inversion models that will be used to produce a three dimensional lithological and structural interpretation. The interpretation will be used to delineate major regional structures associated with tin mineralisation and also to determine depth to prospective granitic intrusives known to host tin mineralisation.

The synthesis of soil geochemistry results with the new aeromagnetic interpretation and geological mapping will provide the best approach for the discovery of new tin ore bodies. Further target delineation will involve infill soil sampling and possibly ground geophysics such as gradient array IP, which was shown at Streak Hill to be effective in detecting alteration associated with mineralisation, prior to undertaking drilling.

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