

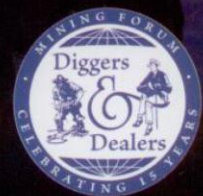
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GOLD & MINERALS

GAZETTE



Diggers & Dealers preview



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New platinum hope for Australia

Sandfire stokes up the market

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Sorpresa sharpens the aspirations of Rimfire Pacific

Penny stock Rimfire Pacific Mining NL (ASX:RIM) is probably hoping the latest results from its Sorpresa prospect in the Fifield region of New South Wales' central west will give it some elevated stockmarket status.

The company has released a series of gold exploration results from Sorpresa where it is exploring for platinum group metals. Also looking in the region are larger companies like Platina Resources Ltd (ASX:PGM).

The latest results were from a 19-hole programme to test for additional gold-mineralised trends along the south-west strike of the Sorpresa area.

The best result was hole Fil60 with 14 metres grading 21.9 grams/tonne gold from 34m depth, including 2m at 87.5 g/t and 2m at 46.5 g/t.

Other strong results were: Fil61: 16m at 4.57 g/t from 36m, including 2m at 21.3 g/t; Fil53: 14m at 3.41 g/t from 22m, including 2m at 18.5 g/t; Fil41: 14m at 1.27 g/t from

2m, including 4m at 2.21 g/t; and 14m at 0.96 g/t from 2m, including 4m at 4.69 g/t.

Executive chairman John Kaminsky said the drilling had shown Rimfire was dealing with a significant gold system and that the latest results added to the first-pass drilling carried out in 2011.

He said the gold system in the top 60m at Sorpresa represented "a series of exploration targets with strong commercial potential" and follow-up drilling would continue to define the full extent of the gold and silver at the prospect.

The bigger picture, he said, would be with mineralisation at depth in the greater Sorpresa area, as indicated by an IP survey and the known geological setting.

Exploration chief Colin Plumridge said that gaining grades of 1 to 3 ounces per tonne in intersections across a strike of more than 150m in the Trench 31 area alone at Sorpresa "was significant".

He said the gold grade in parts of hole Fil60 was effectively four times the

previous best intersection.

"We are building up the three-dimensional picture for the gold mineralisation from this drilling and we will follow-up with additional drilling to extend the open mineralised area and infill any knowledge gaps to construct resource estimates in due course," he said.

Plumridge said scout drilling had also been encouraging. Gold was seen in low levels in some of these holes, which "are distanced" from previous known gold mineralisation.

He said the interpreted Rift Valley geology at Fifield was stacking up to represent potential for an extraordinary disseminated gold mineralised system.

"The existing work at Sorpresa, as good as it is looking in the zero to 60m zone, is likely to be just at the margin of this bigger potential system operating at the basin centre at Fifield," he said.

Ross Louthean

Drilling in Quade Paddock at the Sorpresa project.

