

Porphyry-Related Cu Skarn at the Midway Target, Farewell Tract

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The Farewell Tract comprises about 98,000 acres of CIRI land on the northwest side of the Alaska Range, 150 miles northwest of Anchorage and 70 miles southeast of McGrath. Anaconda first documented carbonate-replacement Cu–Ag mineralization in the Midway–Tin Creek area in the early 1980s (Anaconda, 1982). In 2024, CIRI’s Phase 2 program flew a 50 m line-spaced airborne magnetic and radiometric survey over a magnetic high first outlined by the 2014 DGGs regional survey, followed by 3D inversion modeling, mapping, and sampling. Two copper zones were found above the flanks of the buried magnetic body, including an altered porphyry dike returning ~30% Cu and ~4,000 ppm Ag.

The 2026 Phase 3 program, funded through the BIA Energy and Mineral Development Program, completed three NQ diamond core holes totaling 3,506 feet. Collars were sited from the 3D inversion model to test the magnetic body beneath the surface copper zones. Assays from 202 core samples are pending at ALS.

Our 2026 AMA Core Shack display features core from 26FWDH003, showing the range of copper mineralization intersected, from disseminated and blebby sulfides in skarn to the semi-massive chalcopyrite–pyrrhotite at the bottom of the hole. The display also includes molybdenite veining, which has not been observed at surface at Midway.

The progression from pyrrhotite hornfels to Cu skarn suggests the drilling is vectoring toward the mineralizing intrusion. The copper may be confined to skarn along intrusive contacts, or the skarn may be the outer expression of porphyry-style mineralization at depth. Assays and further drilling are needed to tell the two apart, and the system remains open at depth.

