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Every person going home safe and healthy everyday

A golden find in a golden state

The allure of gold has beckoned the adventuresome to Alaska since the 1880 discovery of the yellow metal in the streams near what would later become Alaska's capital of Juneau. Over the century that followed, gold has been found in nearly every corner of the state, except for the oil-rich plains of the North Slope.

The Tintina Gold Belt is a particularly rich and vast aurum province that hosts such large Alaska gold deposits as Fort Knox, Pogo, Livengood and Donlin Gold. Bound on the north by the Tintina fault and on the south by the Denali fault, the Golden Arc cuts a swath about 850 miles long across the middle of the state, averaging more than 200 miles wide.

The gold mineralization of the Tintina Gold Belt is divided into two distinct groups: the eastern portion of the belt, running from the Alaska-Yukon border about 300 miles into the state; and the 74,000-square-mile Kuskokwim Gold Belt of Southwest Alaska.

The Kuskokwim Mineral Belt, a 400-mile-long, gold-rich terrain runs northeast from the Goodnews Bay region of Southwest Alaska. The gold mineralization found in this province was deposited by a widespread pulse of magmatism and mineralization about 70 million years ago, making it about 20 million years younger than the Fort Knox-type mineralization to the northeast.

The Donlin Gold project, regarded to be one of the largest, highest-grade open pit, and among the most prospective known gold deposits in the world with approximately 39 million¹ ounces of gold in the measured and indicated resource categories, highlights the potential of this Southwest Alaska province.

In 2007, NOVAGOLD and Barrick began a 50/50 partnership to develop the Donlin Gold LLC project. The companies also signed pacts with the Calista and The Kuskokwim Corporations to develop the mine. Shortly afterward, the name of the operation was changed to Donlin Gold LLC.

¹ Donlin Gold data as per the second updated feasibility study effective November 18, 2011, as amended January 20, 2012. Donlin Gold measured resources of 8 Mt grading 2.52 g/t and indicated resources of 534 Mt grading 2.24 g/t.