

# **BUXTON RESOURCES LTD (BUX)**

# Ticking the boxes for a major nickel-copper discovery

Buxton (BUX) expects to commence drilling at the Double Magic Ni-Cu Project (100% BUX) in the West Kimberley region of WA upon completion of the northern wet season. We would anticipate drilling starting mid Q2 CY17, weather permitting.

The Company is initially testing a major Induced Polarisation (IP) anomaly which may prove to be related to significant Ni-Cu sulphide accumulations. The anomaly is "textbook" in regards to response, geometry, and location within a highly favourable tectonic and structural setting. In addition the target is well supported by surface geology with Ni-Cu sulphides identified in outcrop over a continuous 700m long zone, elevated PGE levels confirming primary magmatic genesis and by previous drilling.

Drilling by BUX in 2015 intersected (largely) disseminated Ni-Cu sulphides in two holes (**18m @ 0.51% Ni, 0.21% Cu** from 152m and **9.6m @ 0.59% Ni, 0.21% Cu** from 142.4m) from within the upper confines of the chargeable target. These results further support the potential existence of a large Ni-Cu sulphide system within the Merlin prospect.

## Large chargeable body, highly prospective, soon to be tested

The IP anomaly at Merlin is substantial, defined to be over 2km long, several hundred metres across and occurs at a depth range of ~60m to over 400m below surface. The eastern end of the anomaly is considered of particular interest, and may represent the magmatic feeder for the Ni-Cu system. The pipe-like body is moderately chargeable (up to ~30 mV/V), indicative of a large volume of mafic rock containing disseminated (Ni-Cu) sulphides.

The Merlin prospect has already been confirmed to contain shallow, highgrade Ni-Cu massive and net-textured sulphide mineralisation, with hole DMRC0003 drilled to test Conductor D in August 2015, intersecting **8m** @ **3.05% Ni, 1.88% Cu** from 50m. Directly up-dip of this zone, detailed mapping and sampling identified a ~700m ridge of Ni-Cu sulphides in outcrop, which again validates the concept of a large mineralised system at depth.

## Exciting drill targets – Speculative Buy

BUX has confirmed exciting new drill targets at Merlin, within highly fertile mafic rocks which already host Ni-Cu mineralisation. The IP target is sizeable and has the potential to contain substantial Ni-Cu sulphides, which we would expect to be largely disseminated (if proven by drilling). The target area also has potential to contain higher grade massive Ni-Cu sulphides, which in our opinion is the big prize potential, but may take some time to delineate in economic accumulations (if present).

Panoramic Resources' (PAN) Savannah Ni-Cu operation, which is located in a similar tectonic setting in the Kimberley provides a good example of realised value, providing the vast majority of some +A\$600m of cash generation and +A\$110m in dividends over a +12 year production history. While BUX is still a long way from this type of translated success, we see an attractive risk to reward profile from a project which is ticking the boxes towards discovery.

BUX is engaged in high risk/reward exploration, in which drill success cannot be guaranteed. We expect the Company's current cash position (~A\$1.9m) to fund some of the planned activities, but additional funds will likely be needed if, and when, drilling is accelerated. We maintain our Speculative Buy.

# BUX.asx Speculative Buy

	20 Mar 2017
rice (last):	\$0.270

#### Brief Business Description

Junior base metal explore

Hartleys Brief Investment Conclusion Nickel-copper discoveries made at Double Magic, West Kimberley. Formed new JV with IGO in the Fraser Range. Major IP anomaly identified at Double Magic.

#### Issued Capital

Share P

88.5m
110.8m
101.2m
\$23.9m
\$29.9m
\$27.3m
\$1.9m
\$22.0m
\$28.0m
\$20.9m

### Main Projects

Do Fra

Ya

De No

uble Magic	Base Metals (Ni, Cu)
aser Range JV	Base Metals (Ni, Cu)
lbra	Graphite
mpster	Gold, Nickel
rthampton	Base Metals

#### **Board & Management**

Seamus Cornelius (NE Chairman) Eamon Hannon (MD)

#### **Top Shareholders**

National Business Holdings (VU) Ltd	9.8%
Montezuma Mining Company	4.0%
Directors & Management	3.2%
Company Address	

1st Floor, 14-16 Rowland St, Subiaco, WA, 6008



## Author:

Mike Millikan Resources Analyst Ph: +61 8 9268 2805 E: mike\_millikan@hartleys.com.au

Hartleys has provided corporate advice within the past 12 months and continues to provide corporate advice to Buxton, for which it has earned fees and continues to earn fees. The analyst has a beneficial interest in BUX shares. See back page for full disclosure.

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Mar-17

# SUMMARY PAGE

Buxton R BUX	esource	es Limitec	l Sh	are Price \$0.270
Key Market Inf	ormation			
Share Price Market Capitalis Net Cash (debt) Issued Capital Issued Capital ( Issued Capital ( Options	) fully diluted		25.98n	<b>\$0.270</b> \$23.9m \$1.9m 88.5m 110.8m 136.7m n @ A\$0.17
EV - ords				\$22.0m
EV - ITM option	ns			\$24.6m
EV - fully dilute				\$30.5m
12Mth Price Ta				N/A
Projects	Interest	Location	Comn	nodity
Double Maria	1000/	10/0	Ni	Cu
Double Magic Zanthus*	100%	WA		Cu u, Fe
Zanthus Widowmaker*	10% 10%	WA WA	,	Cu
Yalbra	10%	WA		ohite
Dempster	90%	WA		, Ni
Northampton	100%	WA		Metals
	-	th IGO (90%), E	BUX free-c	carried to
Resources	Mt	Grade	Metal	Attr.
Base Metals - I Iron Ore - Mag			Fe	100%
Interreu	103.0	26.5%	ге	100%
Graphite Inferred	4.0	16.2%	TGC	85%
P&L		FY2015F F	Y2016F	FY2017F
Net Revenue		na	na	na
Total Costs		na	na	na
EBITDA		na	na	na
Deprec/Amort EBIT		na	na	na
Net Interest		na	na	na
Pre-Tax Profit		na	na	na na
Tax Expense		na na	na na	na
NPAT		loss	loss	loss
Abnormal Items	5	na	na	na
	-			

Directors	Com	pany Det
Seamus Cornelius (NE Chairman)	1st Floor, 14-16	Rowland
Eamon Hannon (MD)	Subiad	co, WA, 6
Anthony Maslin (NED)	+61	8 9380 6
Feng (Frank) Xue (NED)		
Stuart Fogarty (NED)	www.buxtonresou	urces.com
Top Shareholders	m shs	%
National Business Holdings (VU) Ltd	8.67	9.8%
Montezuma Mining Company	3.58	4.0%
Directors & Management	2.84	3.2%

Exposure to base metal (nickel-copper) exploration in the Fraser Range and in the West Kimberley of WA.

Multiple drill-ready targets providing strong newsflow and has already discovered potentially significant nickel-copper mineralisation. Portfolio of opportunities including high-grade graphite project.

Newsflow				Project
Q1 CY17	Target generation			Double Magic
Q1/Q2 CY17	Drill planning and ap	provals		Double Magic
Q2 CY17	Merlin target testing			Double Magic
Q3/Q4 CY17	Review results, follow	w-up activi	ties	Double Magic
Unpaid Capital	No (m)	\$ (m)	Ave Pr	% Ord
Options				
30-Jun-17	0.00	0.0	0.00	0%
30-Jun-18	3.76	1.1	0.28	4%
30-Jun-19	8.92	1.7	0.19	10%
30-Jun-20	13.30	1.8	0.13	15%
Total	25.98	4.5	0.17	29%

Exploration success already demonstrated at Double Magic. New targets being generated in preparation of drill-testing. IGO JV partner for Fraser Range tenure.

Analyst: Mike Millikan

**Reported Profit** 

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Last Updated: 20/03/2017

Sources: IRESS, Company Information, Hartleys Research

loss

loss

loss

Comments

Located ~100 km north-east from Derby in the Kimberley Region of WA

The Double Magic -Merlin discovery hole - DMRC003 included 8m @ 3.05% Ni, 1.88% Cu from 50m

Ground-based activities are about to recommence, upon completion of the northern wet

Highly prospective, proven Ni-Cu mineralisation and still largely un-explored

# DOUBLE MAGIC PROJECT (100% BUX)

The Double Magic Nickel-Copper Project is situated ~100 km north-east of Derby in the Kimberley Region of Western Australia.

Access to the project is via the Gibb River Road to Napier Downs Station and use of station tracks. The properties which comprise Double Magic are tenements E04/1533, E04/2026 and E04/2142, and E04/2060, BUX secured a 100% interest in the project tenements (covering ~93km<sup>2</sup>); through the issuance of ~1.67m BUX shares to the project vendors, back in April 2015. BUX also holds tenure at the Sentinel Project, to the south-east of Double Magic.

On the 10<sup>th</sup> of August 2015, BUX announced the discovery intercept (Hole DMRC0003) of 17m (down-hole) @ 1.78% Ni, 1.16% Cu from 46m, including 8m @ 3.05% Ni, 1.88% Cu from 50m, while drill-testing Conductor D, within the Merlin prospect. The intersection of high-grade mineralisation from very shallow depths was a great outcome in only the third hole into the Company's maiden drill program. The result validated and upgraded the project area and the prospectivity of the Proterozoic Ruins Dolerite (host rock).

The Merlin prospect lies within a similar tectonic setting as Panoramic Resources (PAN) Savannah Ni-Cu mine. Double Magic lies within the King Leopold Orogen, whereas, Savannah lies within the Halls Creek Orogen.

To date, BUX has completed field mapping, sampling, ground-based geophysics (EM and IP) and two phases of drilling at Double Magic. The Company is in the process of finalising a 3D geological model for Merlin, which will determine initial drill hole positions for the next round of fieldwork. A Program of Works is expected to be submitted and approved soon, allowing for drilling to commence in Q2 CY17.

A target of this size may require multiple drill holes, with down-hole EM and/or other geophysical techniques used to vector-in on the higher grade massive sulphide zones (if present). The Company's current cash position (~A\$1.9m) provides some funding for ongoing exploration, but depending on the drill program additional funds may be sought.

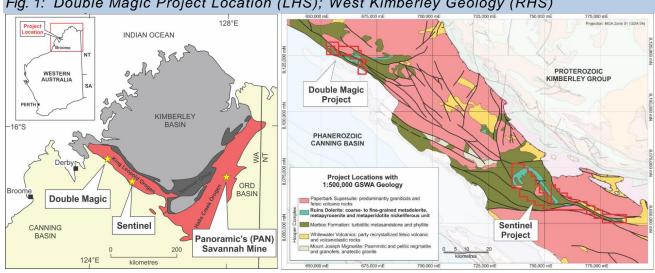


Fig. 1: Double Magic Project Location (LHS); West Kimberley Geology (RHS)

Source: Buxton Resources Limited

The <u>Merlin Prospect</u> remains the main exploration focus at **Double Magic**, containing Ni-Cu massive sulphide discoveries, and new untested targets



Massive sulphide veins at Conductor D (LHS) and C (RHS) – over 8%Ni and 6%Ni respectively

The new IP target at Merlin is substantial with dimensions of +2km long, +300m wide over +300m deep

The eastern end of the anomaly may represent a potential magmatic feeder zone

# IP survey used to identify disseminated sulphide zones

BUX commissioned a large Induced Polarisation (IP) survey over the Merlin prospect in late August 2016. The Company decided to deploy IP at Double Magic because previous exploration recognised that the main target type (primary magmatic sulphides) was not easily detectable by time-domain electromagnetics (EM), the only electrical survey technique applied in the region prior to the IP use.

The completed IP survey was high-powered and provided high density pseudo-3D IP and resistivity data. The IP anomaly generated from the survey is very large and corresponds to a moderately chargeable ( $\sim 20 \text{ mV/V}$  up to  $\sim 30 \text{ mV/V}$ ) pipe-like body, which occurs at a depth range of  $\sim 60 \text{m}$  to over 400m below surface.

A review of previous drilling (BUX 2015) over the new significant IP target, highlights that only two drill holes have intersected this anomaly, with both holes reporting Ni-Cu sulphides (largely disseminated) of:

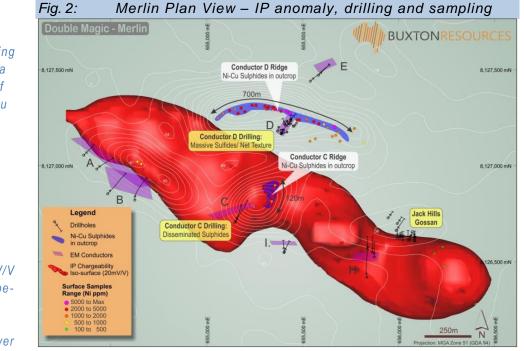
- 18m @ 0.51% Ni, 0.21% Cu from 152m and
- 9.6m @ 0.59% Ni, 0.21% Cu from 142.4m.

These drill results are consistent with the latest interpretation that this IP anomaly represents a large volume of mafic rock, considered highly prospective for accumulations of Ni-Cu sulphides. The dimensions of the new target are substantial, providing an exploration focus area of +2km, over several hundred metres across and down to depths of 500m, but within 60m from surface in parts. The eastern end of the anomaly is considered of particular interest, and may represent the magmatic feeder for the Ni-Cu system.

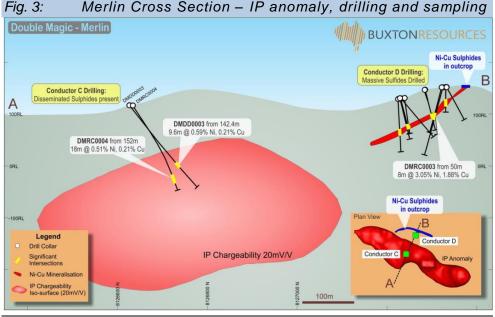
A geological explanation for this anomaly is:

- Mafic rock with variable grade Ni-Cu sulphide mineralisation *obviously the preferred outcome, and supported by drilling (but only 2 holes).*
- Disseminated magnetite within later mafic rocks, or within surrounding schists however no magnetic response from detailed magnetics.
- Some other mass of chargeable rock of an unexpected nature unknown.

BUX's geophysical consultants (Southern Geoscience), has interpreted the large chargeability anomaly to have three discrete internal zones, two isolated features to the east and a longer, broader feature to the west, with potential structural influences observed. The IP anomaly remains well located within a proven mineralised area, beneath known EM conductors, which have been found to correspond to Ni-Cu sulphide accumulations.



Source: Buxton Resources Limited



Source: Buxton Resources Limited

# PGE analysis highlights magmatic origins

A range of mineralisation styles (disseminated, net textured/matrix and massive sulphide) were analysed for PGE concentrations, with the results confirming a primary magmatic origins for the Ni-Cu sulphide mineralisation. Samples selected were from surface and diamond core (mineralised) samples analysed for a full suite of PGE elements (Os, Ir, Ru, Rh, Pt and Pd).

Key findings were the elevated Os, Ir and Ru levels which are rather immobile PGEs only present in magmatic systems, suggestive of a primary mineralised source. This adds an additional layer of confidence to the interpretation that the Double Magic

Mapping and sampling in 2016 identified a 700m long zone of disseminated Ni-Cu sulphides

The IP anomaly corresponds to a moderately chargeable (~20 mV/V up to ~30 mV/V) pipelike body, which occurs at a depth range of ~60m to over 400m below surface

The eastern end of the anomaly may represent a potential magmatic feeder zone for the Ni-Cu mineralisation; requires drill-testing

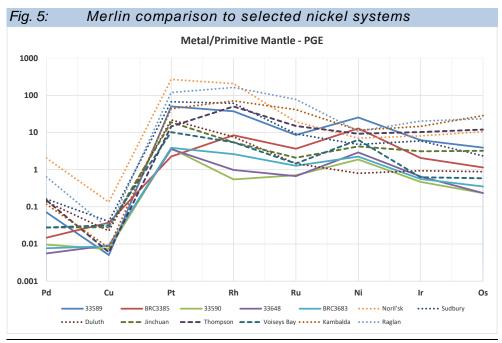
Key findings from the analysis of PGE concentrations were the elevated Os, Ir and Ru levels which are only present in magmatic systems, suggestive of a primary mineralised source Project hosts a primary magmatic mineralising system with good potential to host significant accumulations of Ni-Cu sulphides.

Fig. 4:	Mer	lin -	PGE	Resu	ılts fr	om S	elect	ed M	inerali	sed Styles
Sample	Pd (g/t)	Cu (%)	Pt (g/t)	Rh (g/t)	Ru (g/t)	Ni (%)	Ir (g/t)	Os (g/t)	PGE (g/t)	Description
33589	0.255	0.13	0.347	0.034	0.041	6.35	0.020	0.013	0.71	Massive
BRC3385	0.053	1.00	0.016	0.008	0.018	3.22	0.007	0.004	0.10	Net/Matrix
33590	0.035	0.19	0.026	0.001	0.003	0.47	0.002	0.001	0.07	Disseminated
33648	0.020	0.25	0.025	0.001	0.003	0.73	0.002	0.001	0.05	Disseminated
BRC3683	0.028	0.23	0.027	0.002	0.006	0.56	0.002	0.001	0.07	Disseminated

Source: Buxton Resources Limited

Sample 33589 represents a massive sulphide zone at a depth of ~144m, which graded an impressive 6.4% Ni. The net textured/matrix sulphide sample (BRC3385) contained 3.2% Ni and ~1% Cu, which compares to three disseminated samples which grade from 0.47% Ni to 0.73% Ni, 0.19% Cu to 0.25% Cu, which provides an average nickel to copper ratio of 2.6:1 (Ni:Cu). Interesting to note Savannah (PAN) has nickel to copper ratio of 2.2:1 (Ni:Cu) and Nova (IGO) has a nickel to copper ratio of 2.5:1 (Ni:Cu).

Both Savannah and Nova are hosted in a geotectonic setting consisting of Precambrian tholeiitic mafic–ultramafic intrusions emplaced in rift zones of Proterozoic orogens. Savannah has been dated to be 1844Ma, with the Ruins Dolerite having a similar intrusion age of ~1861Ma. Due to the mafic nature of host rock we would anticipate a high Fe/MgO ratio for any potential concentrates generated from Double Magic considered highly desirable for nickel smelters.



Source: Modified after Naldrett 2004, Lesher 2015

We would expect nickel-copper deposit(s) if proven with the Double Magic project area to have desirable low MgO concentrates

Some selected nickel system for comparison – note data for Nova or Savannah (Sally Malay) not found

# RISKS

Key risks for BUX include making an economic discovery and obtaining funding for ongoing exploration. Weather, land access, drill rig availability, retaining key people are all risks.

ig. 6: Key Risks			
Assumption	Risk of not realising assumption	Downside risk to share price if assumption is incorrect	Comment
Funding for ongoing exploration	Med	Med-High	We estimate BUX has a current cash position ~\$2.0m. The Company has a number of options to raise additional funds for future exploration, including new equity issuances and potential new joint venture deals. The Company operates under a lean corporate structure (low cost base) The Company is funded for some planned exploration drilling in 2017.
Discovery Success	Med-High	Med	The Company has confirmed a new Ni-Cu sulphide discovery but with only a few holes into mineralisation, size and overall grade cannot be determined (economic viability is unknown). BUX's management team has a high level of technical expertise and will now commence a fu technical review of data prior to planning the next phase of exploration, which does provide some level of comfort in the program(s) ahead.
Commodity Prices	Med	Med-High	The projects remain highly sensitive to commodity price movements and sentiment. Current exploration focus is nickel, copper and gold.
Conclusion At	this stage we have no valuation		nedium to high risk of not being achieved. 's extensive project portfolio with high prospectivity e Company is undervalued.

Source: Hartleys Research

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Buy Accumulate	Share price appreciation anticipated. Share price appreciation anticipated but the risk/reward is not as attractive as a "Buy". Alternatively, for the share price to rise it may be contingent on the outcome of an uncertain or distant event. Analyst will often indicate a price level at which it may become a "Buy".
Neutral	Take no action. Upside & downside risk/reward is evenly balanced.
Reduce / Take profits	It is anticipated to be unlikely that there will be gains over the investment time horizon but there is a possibility of some price weakness over that period.
Sell No Rating	Significant price depreciation anticipated. No recommendation.
Speculative Buy	Share price could be volatile. While it is anticipated that, on a risk/reward basis, an investment is attractive, there is at least one identifiable risk that has a meaningful possibility of occurring, which, if it did occur, could lead to significant share price reduction. Consequently, the investment is considered high risk.

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