

Julius resource statement nears

After spending most of 2007 extending the known mineralised zone at its Julius deposit, Echo Resources Ltd has now turned its attention to resource definition with the possibility of a maiden resource estimate before the end of the year.

RAB and aircore drilling extended mineralisation at Julius – halfway between the operating Jundee and Bronzewing mines in the north-eastern Goldfields of Western Australia – by 160m to 760m in June, but Echo's most recent RC drilling programme has focused on more central zones.

"Some of the holes are testing

shallow areas to the south but we were not extending the strike as aggressively as we were with the step-out drilling in June," managing director Ernst Kohler told **Gold Mining Journal**.

Mineralisation at Julius is associated with extensively altered ultramafic and granitic rocks beneath 8m of transported cover. The host rocks have been weathered to a depth of 70m, and are within a highly prospective gold mineralised corridor extending southwards from Jundee.

The recent RC drilling has provided better coverage of areas of near-surface (potentially open-cuttable) gold mineralisation within laterite and bedrock, with an eye towards a resource statement.

Intersections from the campaign included 12m @ 5.3 g/t, 6m @ 5.1 g/t and 12m @ 2 g/t gold.

"We are still doing some of the step-out drilling but we have

come back into the central area for infill drilling and to get a better feel for what the high-grade structures are doing," Kohler said.

"There are a few high-grade structures so far but this is still very much a work in progress. We are basically focusing on a small area at the moment with a view to putting out a resource."

The deposit remains open to both the north and west.

Kohler said by the end of the year the company would have spent \$1.2-1.5 million at Julius, one of six prospects so far identified on the company's Yandal project.

– Dominic Piper



Collaring of an RC hole on Echo Resources' Julius prospect in August