





Landowner: NANA

Operator: Teck Alaska

Rookie Year 1989

Annual Output: 553K t zinc | 79.5K t lead

Reserves: 5M t zinc | 800K t lead

Workforce: ~550

Ownership Interest: 100% Teck Resources

The heavy hitter to which all other Alaska mines are a footnote, Red Dog was discovered in the DeLong Mountains north of Kotzebue in 1968 but unable to operate until 1989, after a road and port were built. It is the largest zinc producer in the world, responsible for up to 10 percent of global supply, with the largest zinc reserves. It is also the largest lead concentrate producer in the United States. The mine pays about 80 percent of revenue for the Northwest Arctic Borough. It is currently scheduled to retire in 2031. A new underground prospect about 8 miles away could continue operations, but the leases are on state land.