

INITIATIVE PRO RIMELLA

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Subject: Mine location and access - Precise GPS position and track data

Reference: Your Ivrea Nickel and Copper Exploration Project, Region Piedmont, Italy

Ladies and Gentlemen,

in June 2015, while climbing on top of the mountains of Rimella, i.e. very near to Alpe Laghetto and Campello Monti, we've pictured the Air Walsler helicopter with the electromagnetic sonde working for your Ivrea Project. On our Wilderness Area sub-webpage http://www.klingenfuss.org/drim_wil.htm that covers the local geology with the famous supervulcano, we've now inserted a short description of your interesting exploration project. Congratulations for the nice pictures in your Power Point Presentation, from inside the old mines and of the old worker's buildings. You were indeed very lucky with the fine weather this summer.

It should be noted that there are several other old mines of great interest in the area, among them:

www.klingenfuss.org/mincevia.jpg

www.klingenfuss.org/mindue.jpg

www.klingenfuss.org/minigale.jpg

Most of these places are far away from everywhere and not as easy to reach as Alpe Laghetto di Sabbia, where you just hike up a mountain path marked by the Club Alpino Italiano from Varallo Sesia. In other words, considering that the access in times past has been exclusively on foot, there must have been a very strong reason - such as an exceptionally high mineral/ore concentration - to walk and climb up to these "absurd" places. More often than not, these remote places are situated somewhere in the "jungle" and thus not visible from above, and there is no obvious flat and cleared helicopter landing place nearby: you either walk and climb up or you rope down from a helicopter - if you knew where to go in the first place! Since the remaining population in the mountain villages is too old and weak, there's virtually nobody whom you can address on today's real situation of the access and location of these (g)old mines.

Total population of the Upper Sesia valley above Varallo Sesia, including the lateral valleys Mastallone and Sermenza, in reality is a mere 1k people. Only we know personally the old folk that still remembers some facts and stories on those historical mines, e.g. our good friend D.O. at 70+ years age who only recently has re-discovered the old "Strada delle Miniere" from Alpe Laghetto down to Ferrera!

We have tenthousands of pictures taken between 2004 and 2015, plus hundreds of precise GPS tracks and thousands of waypoint positions, plus a detailed text description of the access to these mines, and could make a selection available to you. Customer-specified datasets are available at a reasonable cost. For decades, between April and October each year, I've been up in these mountains to explore old and overgrown paths and remote places, discussing the situation with the very few locals, and serving as an experienced guide for small trekking groups in that unique wilderness area, in order to bring some money to Rimella where we sleep our groups in a small but fine hotel. I do speak German and Italian and the local dialect Valsesiano anyway, plus some technical English, since I've been writing and editing technical books and data in the radiocommunication field since 1968.

Needless to say, we do not compile fantasized imaginative data back home out of maps and graphics that are totally useless for our (and your) purposes anyway. It should be noted that even on the latest available digital and printed maps, such as the brandnew 4-sheet series covering the entire Valsesia area in detail, and the infamous CTRN, there is no trace at all of these old mines and access paths. What's more, there is absolutely nothing available on the Internet - except of a few of my own pictures with "coded" place names, of course. All of our position and track data has been registered on the spot and is available in the UTM grid system, i.e. Miniera del Laghetto at 32T 440943 5083738 at 1878 m altitude. We use high-precision handheld GARMIN devices specially for outdoor applications, such as the famous GPSmap 60 / 62 / 64 production series that gives us a real-world precision of 3-5 meters down in the valleys and 1-2 meters on the mountains, even with dense tree and vegetation cover. Data files are in the platform-independent .GPX format that can be read/used by any GPS hard- and software.

Attached are black-and-white copies of sample graphic files that you can download in colour and full resolution from our website, for the Prà dla Sella - Cima Valbella ascent:

Altitude Points	www.klingenfuss.org/aaa_ap.gif
Track Map	www.klingenfuss.org/aaa_tm.gif
Track Points	www.klingenfuss.org/aaa_tp.gif

Sincerely,

Joerg Klingenfuss