

EQUITY RESEARCH

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SPEC BUY

Current Price \$1.66
Valuation \$1.61
Target Price \$2.41

Code: GMD Sector: **Metals and Mining** * All figures in AUD unless stated otherwise 251 Shares on Issue (M): 416 Market Cap (\$M): Net cash 24 Enterprise value* (\$M): 388 52 wk High/Low (ps): \$1.86 \$0.59 12m av. daily vol. (Mshs): 0.48 **Key Metrics** FY27e FY25e FY26e P/E (x) 11.9 8.8 9.3 EV/EBITDA (x) 2.9 3.0 4.3 Financials: FY25e FY26e FY27e 177 Revenue (\$M) 242 241 EBIT (\$M) 93 70 87 NPAT (A\$M) 53 68 Net assets (\$M) 129 190 248 Op CF (\$M) 76 113 108 Per share data: EPS (c) 13.9 8.8 17.8 Dividend (cps) 0.0 0.0 0.0 Yield (%) 2,877.7 CF/Share (cps) 19.9 5.6 28 4 Prod (koz Au) 89.2 0.0 131.6 Share Price Graph and trading volumes (msh)



Please refer to important disclosures at the end of the report (from page 8)

Friday, 4 February 2022

Genesis Minerals (GMD)

Edge Pieces First

Analyst | Royce Haese

Quick Read

When Raleigh Finlayson commences as MD this quarter he is going to have a few puzzles to contend with. We are leaning into this puzzle metaphor so please humour us. The Puzzle North discovery continues to provide broad, high-grade results. We think there is potential for a large deposit here but more work will be required, both to define the edges of mineralisation and resolve the internal geometry. The other puzzle facing Finlayson in the near term is what to do with his newly acquired vehicle, we discuss some options herein. We have elected to factor Puzzle North into our mining model we use to value GMD, a higher throughput and increase ounce profile has resulted in a revised target price of \$2.41, which remains at a subjective premium to our valuation.

Edge Pieces First

Puzzle North: As the discovery has progressed, we continue to review the publicly available drill data in 3D. Despite the 100 holes reported to date with numerous scissor holes, no clear geometry or mineralisation control is discernible. This is typical of granite hosted orebodies. The closest recent analogy we can think of is Anglo Australian's (ASX-AAR) Mandilla discovery. In its current state we think Puzzle is about half the size of AAR's ~660koz Theia, at a slightly higher grade, and open in all directions.

Finlayson's First Move: The four-hundred-million-dollar question is what is Raleigh Finlayson going to do when he commences full time at Genesis? Assuming he sticks with gold, we see three options:

- Full time focus on developing Ulysses
- Regional consolidation with Ulysses as the centrepiece, may include exploration assets or potentially a processing facility
- Focus elsewhere, via acquisition of a separate development proposition or mining hub

All options have their pros and cons, the eventual result may be some combination. This is discussed further in the body of this research.

Argonaut's Mining Scenario and Valuation: We have assumed Puzzle North will contribute ~300kozs to our mining scenario. This increase to the total mine plan justifies a larger 2.5Mtpa processing facility with unit-cost flow-on benefits. Our sum-of-parts valuation improves to \$403M or \$1.61 per share, we retain our 50% subjective management premium. At this stage our Puzzle North ounces are high-risk ounces in our valuation. Industry wide cost pressures are also a key-risk.

Recommendation

Maintain Speculative Buy. Target price \$2.41, prior \$2.20.



Recommendation Current Price Valuation Target Price	Specu	\$1.66 \$1.61 \$2.41					Sector Issued Capital (M: Market Cap (M)	shs)	Metal Friday, 4 Feb	s & Mining 251 \$416 ruary 2022
Profit & loss (\$M) 30 June	2022E	2023E	2024E	2025E	Financial ratios		2025E	2026E	2027E	2028E
Sales Revenue	0	0	0	177	GCFPS	A¢	19.9	29.7	28.4	27.6
+ Other income/forwards - Operating costs	0	0 0	0 0	0 -57	CFR EPS	X A¢	8.3 13.9	5.6 18.9	5.8 17.8	6.0 16.8
- Royalties	0	0	0	-57 -6	PER	X	11.9	8.8	9.3	9.9
- Corporate & administration	-4	-4	-6	-24	DPS	A¢	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Total Costs	-4	-4	-6	-87	Yield	%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
EBITDA	-4	-4	-6	90	Interest cover	x	17.8	28.8	34.3	44.6
- margin	0%	0%	0%	51%	ROCE	%	34%	50%	54%	61%
- D&A	0	0	0	-20	ROE	%	51%	47%	34%	26%
EBIT	-4	-4	-6	70	Gearing	%	62%	32%	16%	7%
+ Finance Income/Expense	0 - 4	0	-3	-4 cc	On anotion a summany		2025E	2026E	20275	20205
PBT - Tax expense	- 4 0	- 4 0	- 9 0	66 -13	Operations summary Ulysses Project		20256	2020E	2027E	2028E
- Impairments and other	O	· ·	Ü	13	Ore processed (Mt)		1.3	2.5	2.5	2.5
NPAT	-4	-4	-9	53	Head grade (g/t)		2.45	1.82	1.79	1.79
					Met. recovery		0.90	0.90	0.90	0.90
					Gold prodn (kozs)		89	132	132	132
Cash flow (\$M)	2022E	2023E	2024E	2025E						
+ Revenue	0	0	0	177	Cost per milled tonne (A\$		55	40	42	44
- Cash costs	-4	-4	-6	-87	Cash costs pre royalty (A\$	5/oz)	845	828	874	921
- Forwards -Tax payments	0 1	0	0 0	0 -10	Sustaining capital (\$M)	/o=\	9 1010	9 957	9 1003	9 1051
+ Interest & other	0	0	-3	-10 -4	All in sustaining costs (A\$ Growth capital (\$M)	/02)	8	957 7	7	7
Operating activities	-3	-4	-9	76	CAIC (A\$/oz)		1498	1160	1192	1213
- Property, plant, mine devel.	0	-5	-184	-16	, ,					
- Exploration	-16	-16	-16	-16	Price assumptions		2025E	2026E	2027E	2028E
- Deffered Consideration	0	0	0	0	AUDUSD		0.73	0.73	0.73	0.73
Investment activities	-16	-21	-200	-32	Gold US\$/oz		1750	1750	1750	1750
+ Borrowings	0	0	120	-20	Gold A\$/oz		2414	2414	2414	2414
- Dividends	0	0	0	0	V-1				a da a	A & /-b
+ Equity Financing activities	0 0	24 24	100 220	0 - 20	Valuation summary Ulysses project 7% real af	ter tay DR			A\$M 425	A\$/sh 1.69
Cash change	-20	-1	11	24	Exploration	ter tax Dit			85	0.34
cush change		-			Corporate overheads				-60	-0.24
Balance sheet	2022E	2023E	2024E	2025E	Cash				24	0.10
Cash & bullion	15	13	24	48	Debt				0	0.00
Other Current Assets	0	0	0	0	Tax benefit				10	0.04
Total current assets	15	13	24	48	Hedging				0	0.00
Property, plant & equip. Investments/other	24 0	29 0	212 0	209 0	Option/equity dilution NAV				-80 403	-0.32 1.61
Total non-curr. assets	24	29	212	209	Target Price. NAV + Mana	agement Premi	um (50%)		605	2.41
Total assets	38	42	237	257			(5575)			
Trade payables	0	0	0	14	Directors, management					
Short term borrowings	0	0	20	20	Tommy McKeith			١	Non-Executive C	hairperson
Other	3	3	4	14	Raleigh Finlayson				-	ng Director
Total curr. liabilities	3	3	24	48	Neville Power				Non-Executi	
Long term borrowings	0	0	100	80	Gerry Kaczmarek				Non-Executi	
Other Total non-curr. liabil.	0 0	0 0	0 100	0 80	Michael Bowen Geoff James				Non-Executi	y Secretary
Total liabilities	3	3	124	128	Geon James				Compan	y Secretary
Net assets	36	40	113	129	Top shareholders				M shs	%
					Alkane Resources		_		43.6	17.4
					Paradice Investment Man Raleigh Finlayson	nagement			18.6 11.7	7.4 4.7
Shares	2022E	2023E	2024E	2025E						
Assumed # shs via equity raise	0	14	53	0	Resources Mar '21		Mt	g/t Au		Mkt cap/oz
Assumed options exercised	0	5	20	15	Ulysses Gold Project		27.3	1.80	1,608	259
Assumed perf rights	3	0	0	3	Measured & indicated		15.2	1.98	984	
Net New shs issued	3 0.00	19 1.27	75 1.33	18 0.88	Inferred		12.1	1.60	625	
Average issue price Ordinary shares - end	254	273	1.33 348	365	Argonaut model Sep '21		Mt	g/t Au	Kozs	
Diluted shares - end	296	325	381	381	TOTAL INVENTORY		21.9	g/t Au 1.77	1,250	333
*See Argonaut Mining Scenario and Valuation s			501	301	Ulysses Underground		4.1	3.84	510	
					Open Pits w/Resources		10.6	1.29	440	
					Puzzle North Open Pit		7.2	1.30	300	



The geometry and controls of mineralisation at Puzzle North remain unclear to us, but consistent broad intercepts imply a large system

We think that Anglo Australian's Theia discovery is a geologically similar deposit to Puzzle North

Edge Pieces First

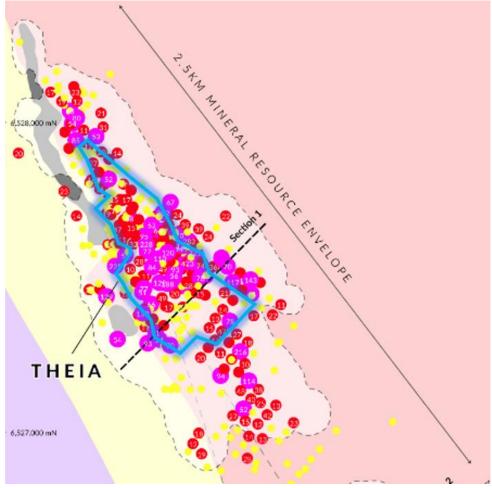
Puzzle North

The Puzzle analogy. As the discovery has progressed, we have plotted the released drill data in 3D with the aim to determine an order of magnitude inventory estimate for Puzzle. Despite the 100 holes reported, including scissors no clear geometry or mineralisation control is discernible from the data, or from reviewing company cross-sections. So, like a pile of oddly shaped pieces of cardboard it sits. Like the approach in completing a tabletop puzzle, Genesis will have a number of potential pathways, we like the idea of trying to find the edge of the current wide-open mineralisation first. Alternatively, Genesis could join a few pieces together and build out from there. Maybe both.

As analysts, with limited access to data including geological logging and down-hole surveys, our best approach is to look at a similar deposit and extrapolate. This is not our preferred approach, but it is the best we can do with the data available to us.

We think that Anglo Australian's (ASX:AAR) Theia deposit at Mandilla is the closest recent analogy. Both Puzzle North and Mandilla are hosted in granites adjacent greenstone belts, and if looking at cross sections side-by-side, appear geometrically similar.

Figure 1. Blue outline represents GMD's current interpreted Puzzle North mineralised envelope over AAR's Theia discovery at the same scale.

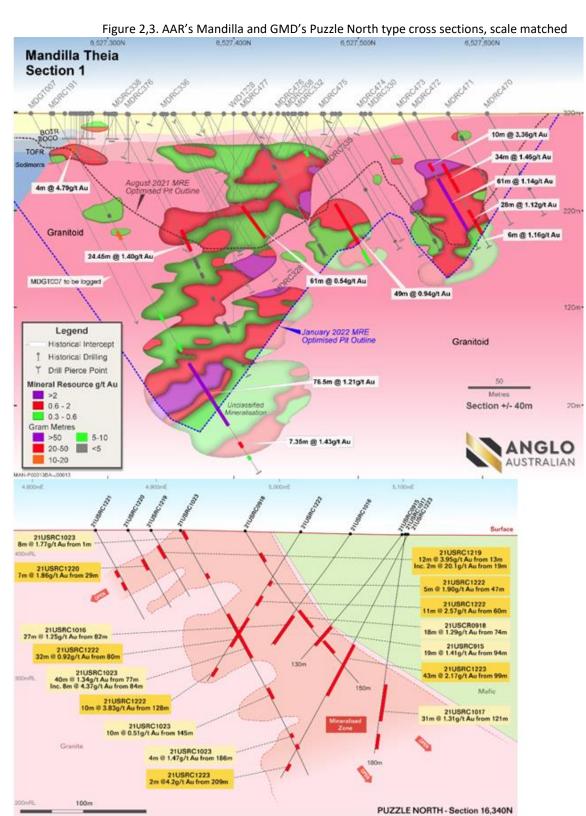


 $Source: Argonaut\ annotations,\ after\ AAR,\ envelope\ shape\ from\ GMD$



The component of Puzzle North drilled to date is about half the size of AAR's Theia, Puzzle North remains open

Puzzle North as it has been defined to date, has about half the mineralised footprint of Theia, comparing grades of results reported Puzzle North is on average ~50% higher grade, before considering some higher-grade zones to the north of Puzzle North as reported in this week's announcement (27 m @ 8.2 g/t Au from 30, 34 m @ 13.4 g/t Au from 42 m).



Source: AAR, GMD



Our low confidence estimate for Puzzle North is 400kozs @ 1.4 g/t Au at this stage In its January Resource Estimate update, AAR estimated Theia to contain 660koz Au at an average grade of 1.1~g/t. Using an admittedly 'thumb-suck' approach, we reckon that Puzzle North is about half the size of Theia, and a higher grade. Call it 400kozs Au at an average grade of 1.4~g/t.

Some of the better results are at the peripheries of the existing mineralised envelope, the deposit remains open in all directions

Puzzle North is open in all directions, with some of the better results at the limits of the currently drilled footprint. Genesis aims to release a maiden Resource estimate for Puzzle North this quarter. Genesis has both more data and more complicated estimation software at its disposal than we do, so it will be interesting to see if our thumb suck is in the ballpark.

Finlayson is due to commence as Managing Director this quarter

Finlayson's First Move

The other puzzle waiting for Finlayson when he arrives at Genesis, is what to do next. In our <u>previous research</u> we justified a subjective 50% management premium, as in our view, despite thinking that Ulysses is a quality asset, we don't think it alone warrants the current Genesis share price.

We see three potential options for his next move

Assuming he sticks with gold. We see three options:

- Full time focus on developing Ulysses
- Regional consolidation with Ulysses as the centrepiece, may include exploration assets or potentially processing facilities
- Focus elsewhere, via acquisition of a separate development proposition or mining hub

All options have their pros and cons, the eventual result will likely be some combination.

Ulysses has demonstrable exploration potential, money spent here will likely return ongoing positive results

Option 1: Full time focus on developing Ulysses.

The continual stream of some of the best-in-class discoveries and extensions of deposits at the Ulysses project is testament to the exploration work completed so far, and to the quality of the land holding. Most deposits are open in all directions, and what is described in ASX news release headlines as "deep" discoveries will in all likelihood fit within a pit shell at some stage.

While we don't think that the Ulysses project alone justifies the current share price yet, with each batch of drill results it does inch closer. Finlayson has a track record of extracting value from projects under his management and for us this remains the lowest-risk, although perhaps not highest-reward, pathway to generate shareholder value.

Option 2: Regional consolidation

In our view, consolidation of exploration assets would not be the most efficient use of capital for Genesis. While Genesis is continuing to make discoveries it would be hard to justify diverting a dollar away from the drill-bit to acquire more ground to explore.

A deal to allow access to a processing facility may make more sense, although not likely to be a simple process. The three closest processing facilities are:

- St Barbara's (ASX:SBM) Gwalia, 80 km by road, 50 km as the crow flies
- Red 5's (ASX:RED) KotH, 110 km by road, 80 km as the crow flies
- Dacian's (ASX:DCN) Mt Morgan, 175 km by road, 90 km as the crow flies

We don't think that consolidation of exploration assets is the most efficient use of capital for Genesis, a deal to access a processing facility may make more sense



All three come with their own complexities, best discussed elsewhere in more detail.

The acquisition and development of a second hub would likely be well received, although there are few options in WA for projects with near-term 'mid-tier' potential

We expect that given time, some consolidation around Ulysses will occur, and a second/third? hub will be established

We have elected to include Puzzle North in our mining scenario, these are high-risk ounces

We assume that 300kozs will be mined from Puzzle North at an average grade of 1.3 g/t Au. This justifies a re-size of our assumed processing facility and associated higher capex plus lower unit-costs

Option 3: Focus Elsewhere

The diversification into a second mining/development hub would likely be well received (if done so for the right price). As we discussed in our recent <u>quarterly advanced explorer review</u>, the field for gold projects with 'mid-tier' potential in Western Australia can be counted on one hand. Packaging up a few more early-stage projects, or just one with a longer-term view to add value through exploration, may provide options. As would looking abroad, although Australian miner's recent forays into 'Tier 1 Jurisdictions' hasn't gone so well.

Given time, a combination of option three, and one of the other two is most likely. We back Finlayson and his management team into making the right judgement call, hence our 50% management premium. We will look for Finlayson to start to outline his strategy once he assumes the Managing Director role at Genesis this quarter. Or, keeping in theme, to lay out some edge pieces.

Argonaut's Mining Scenario and Valuation

We have elected to include Puzzle North in our Mining Scenario. Due to the pre-Resource nature of this deposit and our rubbery estimate of contained ounces discussed above, these should be considered high-risk ounces.

From our 400koz thumb-suck, we assume 300kozs will be mined at an average grade of 1.3 g/t Au. The deposit is near-surface and wide, so we assume a strip ratio of 1.1:1 waste to ore. The inclusion of these 300koz into our mine plan warrant a re-size of our assumed processing facility and a flow-on lower estimated unit-cost. We now assume the construction of a 2.5Mtpa processing facility at an estimated pre-production capital cost of \$175M. We assume a processing cost of \$15/t of ore.

Summary of key assumptions are outlined in table 1.

Table 1: Summary of key assumptions used in Argonaut Mining Scenario

Input	Unit	Value
Underground Ore Mined	Mt/grade(g/t)/kOz	4.1 / 3.8 / 510
Existing Resource OP Mined	Mt/grade(g/t)/kOz	10.6 / 1.3 / 440
Puzzle North OP Mined	Mt/grade(g/t)/kOz	7.2 / 1.3 / 300
Total Ore Mined	Mt/grade(g/t)/kOz	14.7 / 2.0 / 950
Mining Duration	Years	8.5
Annual Throughput	Mtpa	2.5
Pre Production Capex	A\$M	175
Metallurgical Recovery	%	90
Processing cost	\$/t	15
ABC Average Strip Ratio	waste:ore	5.3:1
Ulysses Strip Ratio	waste:ore	3.9:1
Orient Well Strip Ratio	waste:ore	4.5:1
Puzzle North Strip Ratio	waste:ore	1.2:1
Open Pit Mining Cost	\$/BCM moved	8.0
Gold Price	US\$ (LOM average)	1750
AUD:USD	LOM average	0.725

Source: Argonaut



At this stage we have not assumed any mining at King, Danluce or Butterfly North, this offsets some of our riskier Puzzle North ounces because if it doesn't flesh out, Genesis has other options.

We assume a recovery of 90% for the blended ore

We assume a recovery of 90% for the blended ore, GMD has not provided a recovery estimate for any Kookynie prospects at this stage, Ulysses underground has previously been reported to be 89%. When the Butterfly pit was previously mined a recovery of 92% was estimated, but reconciled numbers are not available.

We now assume first gold in September 2024, this has had a negative impact to our valuation We have pushed back development and first gold by one year in our model. This has had a negative impact to our valuation. We now assume first gold in September 2024. Over our assumed 8.5 year mine-life we model 130kozpa gold production at full flight.

Argonaut has used internal gold price estimates which average to US\$1750 across the life of the project, and an AUD to USD currency conversion rate of \$0.725.

Using a 7% real after tax discount rate, we value the Ulysses Project at \$425M, or \$1.69 per share.

Using a 7% real after tax discount rate, we value the Ulysses Project at \$425M, or \$1.69 per share.

We assume \$200M to be raised through debt and equity in a 60/40 split to fund preproduction capital expenditure, plus a further \$20M raised prior to fund study-work. We assume equity is raised at a \$1.44 subscription price. The exercise of outstanding in-themoney options over the next four years is expected to result in an additional \$60M or working capital. If the grant of all outstanding performance rights is also included, we model total equity dilution of \$80M.

As a sum of parts, we value Genesis at \$403M, or \$1.61 per share. We add a premium to this to arrive at a target price of \$2.41

As a sum of parts, we value Genesis at \$403M, or \$1.61 per share. We add a premium to this to arrive at a target price of \$2.41 to acknowledge management's development credentials, likely improved access to capital and skills, and expected additional organic and inorganic growth opportunities.

Table 2. Argonaut's Genesis Valuation Summary

Valuation summary	A\$M	A\$/sh
Ulysses project 7% real after tax DR	425	1.69
Exploration	85	0.34
Corporate overheads	-60	-0.24
Cash	24	0.10
Debt	0	0.00
Tax benefit	10	0.04
Hedging	0	0.00
Option/equity dilution	-80	-0.32
NAV	403	1.61
Target Price. NAV + Management Premium (50%)	605	2.41

Source: Argonaut

Key Risks

Inputs used in our mining scenario are based on boiler-plate assumptions and may not necessarily be reflective of an eventual mining scenario at Ulysses. On the one hand, there is substantial room for the project to grow beyond parameters discussed, both through organic or inorganic growth, which may improve the valuation. On the other hand, rising costs and a volatile gold market may negatively impact valuation.



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Genesis Minerals (GMD): Argonaut acted as Joint Financial Adviser in respect of the Placement to raise up to \$16M announced in September 2021 and received GMD shares for this service. Argonaut acted as Lead Manager in respect of the Placement that raised \$10M in April 2021 and received fees commensurate with these services. Argonaut holds or controls 300,000 GMD shares and 1,918 GMD options exercisable on or before 17 December 2023.

The Analyst holds shares in GMD

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