

6th January 2025

Picha Project, Peru selected for BHP Xplor's 2025 accelerator program

Strong technical support and non-dilutive funding to expedite property wide Copper exploration at the Picha Project, Peru

Key Points

- Firetail is one of eight early-stage exploration companies selected to participate in the 2025 BHP Xplor program
- BHP Xplor will provide approximately US\$500,000 in non-dilutive funding to support and accelerate its exploration plans for the Picha Project during the 6-month period of the program
- Selection for BHP Xplor also gives Firetails' technical team access to BHP's global expertise, networks and partnerships
- BHP Xplor expected to accelerate geological concept build-out and exploration timeframe at the Picha Project, Peru

Firetail Resources Limited (**Firetail** or **the Company**) (ASX:FTL) is pleased that following a rigorous selection process, it has been selected as one of eight exploration companies to participate in BHP's 2025 Xplor program. The eight BHP Xplor 2025 cohort explorers were selected from hundreds of applicants.

The Xplor program was established in 2023 to support promising minerals explorers to accelerate the exploration needed to support the energy transition. Over a six-month program period, BHP Xplor targets development of technical, business and operational excellence within participating companies. As a 2025 BHP Xplor cohort, Firetails' Picha Project will benefit from a one-off, non-dilutive grant of up to US\$500,000, and Firetail will receive in-kind services, mentorship, and networking opportunities with BHP and other industry experts and investors.

There are no obligations or commitments on Firetail beyond the conclusion of the BHP Xplor program attached to the grant other than certain pre-emption rights in some circumstances as defined in Table 1 below.

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BHP’s Head of Xplor, Marley Palin congratulated Firetail, commenting:

“The field of applicants for BHP Xplor was extremely strong this year. Successful applicants had to demonstrate not only that their critical-mineral projects were highly prospective but also that they were committed to pushing industry boundaries in their geological concepts and data-gathering, testing and processing to realise the project. Firetail and their Picha Project more than met these criteria and we look forward to partnering with them.”

Firetail’s Managing Director, Glenn Poole, commented:

“This is an exciting opportunity for Firetail and a strong endorsement of the exploration strategy underway at the Picha Project. We have always sought to operate at the cutting edge of exploration practices and it’s pleasing to be recognised for our approach by BHP Xplor, a clear industry leader. It’s hard to imagine a more desirable industry partner as we work to realise the potential of the Picha Project.”

It is expected Firetail’s participation in Xplor will expedite the build-out of geological concepts and the exploration timeframe at the Picha Project in Southern Peru. Firetail intends to use the grant to advance the wider project area through the use of various advanced airborne geophysics and geochemical analysis techniques to further understand the potential.

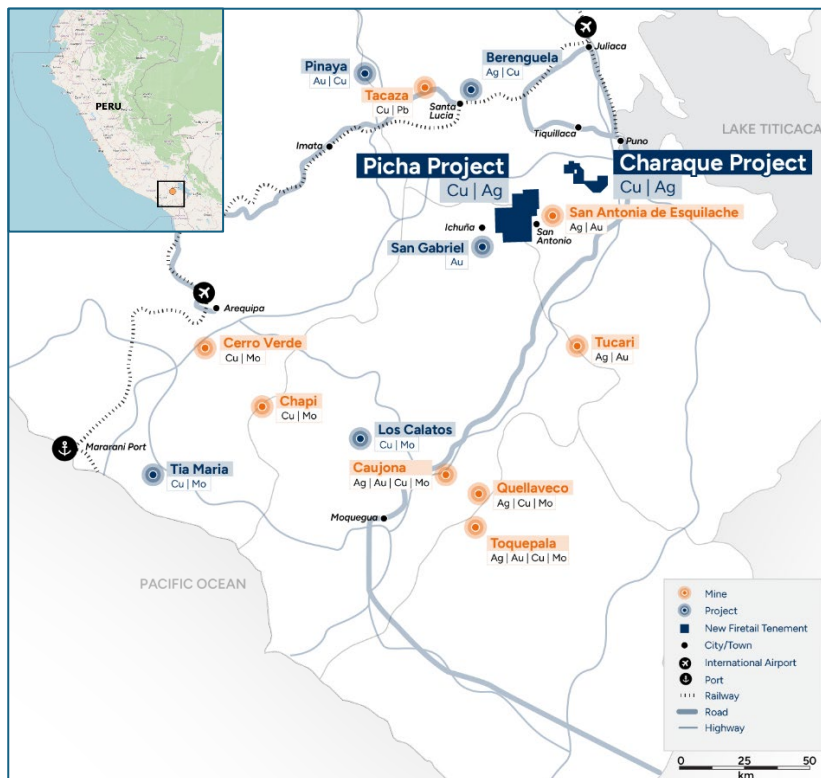


Figure 1: Picha Project, Peru Overview Map

About Firetail Resources

Firetail Resources (ASX: FTL) is an Australian-based copper exploration company currently focused on its flagship Skyline Copper Project located in Newfoundland, Canada and generative exploration at Picha Project in Peru.

The Skyline Copper Project is an advanced high-grade Copper-Zinc-Silver VMS Project in Newfoundland, Canada, host to historic production of 100,000 tonnes mined at 3-12% Cu, 7% Zn and 1-3oz/t Ag (refer to Firetail's ASX announcement dated 6 June 2024). The project area covers 110km² with a 25km strike of highly prospective lithology and contact zones currently being targeted by high impact drilling and high resolution geophysics.

Firetail also has exposure to over 280km² of greenfield high-grade copper potential through its 70% holding in the Picha Copper-Silver Project (222 km²) and Charaque Copper Project (60 km²) in Southern Peru. The Picha and Charaque Projects are hosted within the Tertiary volcanic belt and is also in the NW extension of the Tucari and Santa Rosa high sulfidation systems and in the SE extension of the skarn-porphyry belt that hosts the Tintaya district. The area is prospective for epithermal, stratabound, carbonate replacement (CRD) and porphyry related styles of copper mineralization. Picha is a very lightly explored copper-silver project where Firetail is generating multiple drill-ready targets. The Peru Projects are held through the Peruvian entity Kiwanda S.A.C (70% ASX:FTL /30% ASX:THB).

The Company currently has active exploration programs across the Skyline Project, including processing of recently completed airborne EM survey, modelling of mineralisation intersected in recent drilling and analysis of drilling results. In Peru the in-country exploration team is conducting ground-based mapping and soil sampling to define existing and additional high potential copper targets.

This announcement has been authorised for release to the ASX by the Company's Board of Directors.

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Table 1 – Summary of Exclusivity, Pre-Emption Rights and Data Sharing

<p>Exclusivity</p>	<p>For the duration of the 6 month program term, Firetail or its related party will not, without the prior written consent of BHP:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • undertake or propose to undertake any transaction which is not a Permitted Transaction (Restricted Transaction); • solicit or enter into any discussions regarding the foregoing; or • reclassify, sell, assign, pledge or encumber any Project assets. <p>A Permitted Transaction is a transaction which doesn't have the purpose or effect of raising capital in connection with the Project or which is only for general working capital purposes of the business of Firetail.</p> <p>The Project area is Firetails Picha Project, defined by the area as specified in the Xplor program agreement.</p>
<p>Pre-Emptive Rights</p>	<p>If during the program term, BHP or a related entity elect to make a non-binding proposal for an investment in the Project or Firetail, BHP has a Right of First Refusal (ROFR) until 12 months after the end of the program term as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If Firetail, its related party or a third party propose a Restricted Transaction, BHP will have the ROFR to negotiate a definitive agreement as the exclusive counterparty regarding any proposed Restricted Transaction on the same terms and conditions as offered in the proposed Restricted Transaction; and • If Firetail or its related party intends to undertake an IPO or direct listing, BHP will have the ROFR to negotiate and enter into a definitive agreement to subscribe the number of equity securities in Firetail at the IPO issue price or fair market value in relation to a direct listing that would result in BHP holding up to 19.9% of the equity securities in Firetail post any institutional or retail offering of Firetails equity securities in relation to an IPO or up to 19.9% of the equity securities in Firetail or its related party immediately prior to a direct listing.
<p>Data Sharing</p>	<p>During the program term Firetail commits to provide BHP with certain information including progress reports regarding the Project, technical data obtained and expenditure incurred.</p>

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