

Helicopter Mineral Reserves Exploration Survey in Greece

It is with great honor and responsibility to introduce the **EU funded upcoming mineral exploration survey** that is about to take place in the Skouries – Fisokas mining areas in Greece within the month of November. Known for the quality of its mineral wealth, the area of NE Halkidiki offers a unique opportunity of additional mineral reserves discovery, which could lead to a possible extension of sustainable mine life in this region. Our research project is all about contributing to the exploration work of several mine sites in an environmentally-friendly and non-invasive manner, as the surveys we carry out are conducted without the involvement of drilling.

The **Smart Exploration Project** was launched in December 2017 with the aim of developing environmentally friendly, cost effective, state-of-the-art solutions for mineral exploration in the European Union (EU). The project is **funded by the EU's Horizon 2020** Funding Programme with a budget of just over € 5.2 million under grant agreement No. 775.971. More information about the project can be found on www.smartexploration.eu , [YouTube channel](#) and [LinkedIn](#).

In total, 27 partners over 9 EU countries from the Academia, SMEs and the mining industry came together to develop five innovative technologies and six software to support the EU's mandate for the critical raw materials. **4 organizations from Greece** have contributed to the achievement of ambitious goals of this project: the National Technical University of Athens, Delphi – Distomon S.A., Hellas Gold, Seismotech Geophysical Solutions LLC.

One of the new technologies developed by the project is an **Helicopter-based, deep penetrating TEM system** by **SkyTEM Surveys**, a company located in Denmark. This system is used for various purposes from mineral exploration to hydrogeological conditions and provides valuable information about the deposits underground. As part of the Smart Exploration project, **SkyTEM will perform a helicopter-based geophysical survey in Fisoka, over the current mining area.**

The survey will be conducted **between 14-30 November**, with field operations taking place east of Neochori. The helicopter will fly along the lines shown on the map below. The helicopter will carry a geophysical array in a towing system beneath the helicopter, which will fly at a speed between 60 and 80 kph along those lines. The geophysical array will be approximately 30 to 40 m above the ground, while the helicopter itself will be at roughly 80 m above the ground. The helicopter will fly in a North-to-South flight trajectory for approximately 2.5 hours on each flight with a line spacing of 200 meters. **No flights are to be conducted over residential areas**, while the **necessary permits have been obtained** from the competent authorities. On the bottom of this letter, you will find the precise trajectory of the helicopter on the map.

The geophysical system works like a 3D-scanner of the ground. The electromagnetic field transmitted by the geophysical system does not pose any risk to local communities, environment or animals. The impact of this system is less than a typical electric train.

In case of any questions about the survey flights project representatives are available to be contacted.

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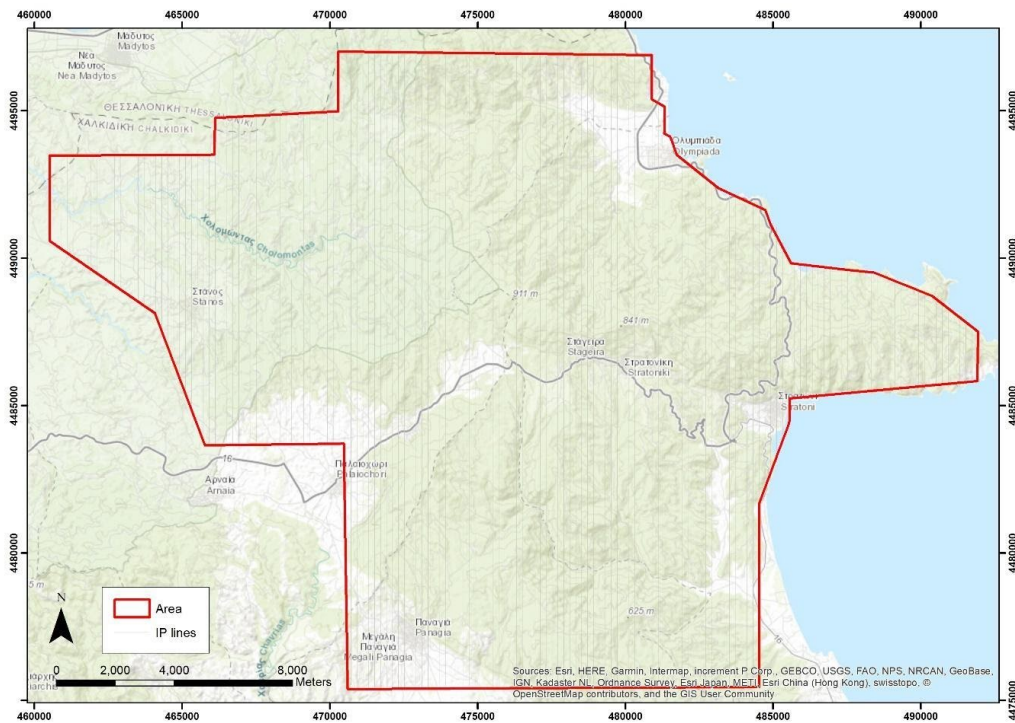


Figure 1. Map showing the IP's geophysical survey covered area.