

## Woodlark reserves to grow

Michael Quinn

4 Aug 2016

10:01

NEW Woodlark Island gold project developer Geopacific Resources is looking to significantly and quickly add to established reserves at the project's two main deposits.



Woodlark project image courtesy of Kula Gold.

Woodlark has current total reserves of 766,000 ounces (at 2.2 grams per tonne), with the main contributions to that number coming from the Busai and Kulumadau deposits.

Both of those deposits are now under review, with Geopacific aiming to add a total of 500,000oz and in doing so take reserves to more than 1.2 million ounces.

At the biggest deposit, Busai, Geopacific expects to be able to convert a “considerable portion” of the 600,000oz of resources into reserves because the previous reserve estimate was made at the “top of the market in 2012” and hence features only the most cheaply exploitable ounces.

Current permitting for Woodlark supports the development of a 1.8 million tonne per annum operation.

Geopacific believes there is potential for the goldfield in Milne Bay Province to hold more than 5Moz.

Under a deal announced last month, Geopacific will spend up to \$A18.65 million over three tranches in order to earn an interest of up to 75% in Woodlark, and could ultimately attain an 80% interest.

Geopacific is aiming to become a 150,000oz miner, with a development decision targeted within the next two years.

Shares in Geopacific were up 15.5% to 5.2c in morning trade, capitalising the company at \$41 million. The stock has doubled in value since the start of July.