Potential Mining Locations in Maine

Volcanic and sedimentary deposits occur across large areas of Maine and can contain sulfide deposits, which may include metals such as copper, gold, and zinc. Mining sulfide deposits can create serious pollution problems when waste rock and tailings react with air and water to form sulfuric acid. This acid leaches into ground and surface waters, where it can harm water quality and aquatic creatures and dissolve toxic heavy metals, like arsenic, from the surrounding rock.