



# Minerals Exploration Plan on State Nonferrous Metallic Minerals Leases

Submitted by [Vermillion Gold Inc. \(VGI\)](#) on November 24, 2020 and summarized here by [DNR Division of Lands and Minerals](#)

**Narrative:** Vermillion Gold Inc. (VGI) submitted a plan to resume exploration for metallic mineral deposits in Itasca County. Exploration will occur on leased state mineral rights in an area about 11 miles southeast of Big Fork, Minnesota. The last time VGI explored for gold in this area was 2010.

VGI plans to drill up to three exploratory borings using the diamond core drilling method. Drilling activity, including sealing, will follow regulations set by the Minnesota Department of Health. All drilling will occur this winter.

**Exploration is proposed on the following State nonferrous metallic minerals leases:** MLMN200033.

**Public Land Survey location:** Part or all of Section 17 of T60N R24W as shown on Figure 1.

**Types of exploration activity:** Diamond core drilling

**Expected time period of activity:** Upon authorization by DNR through January 31, 2021

**Access:** Access to sites will be via the existing public and forest road network, and other existing access routes. New temporary trails from existing access routes are planned for each drill site.

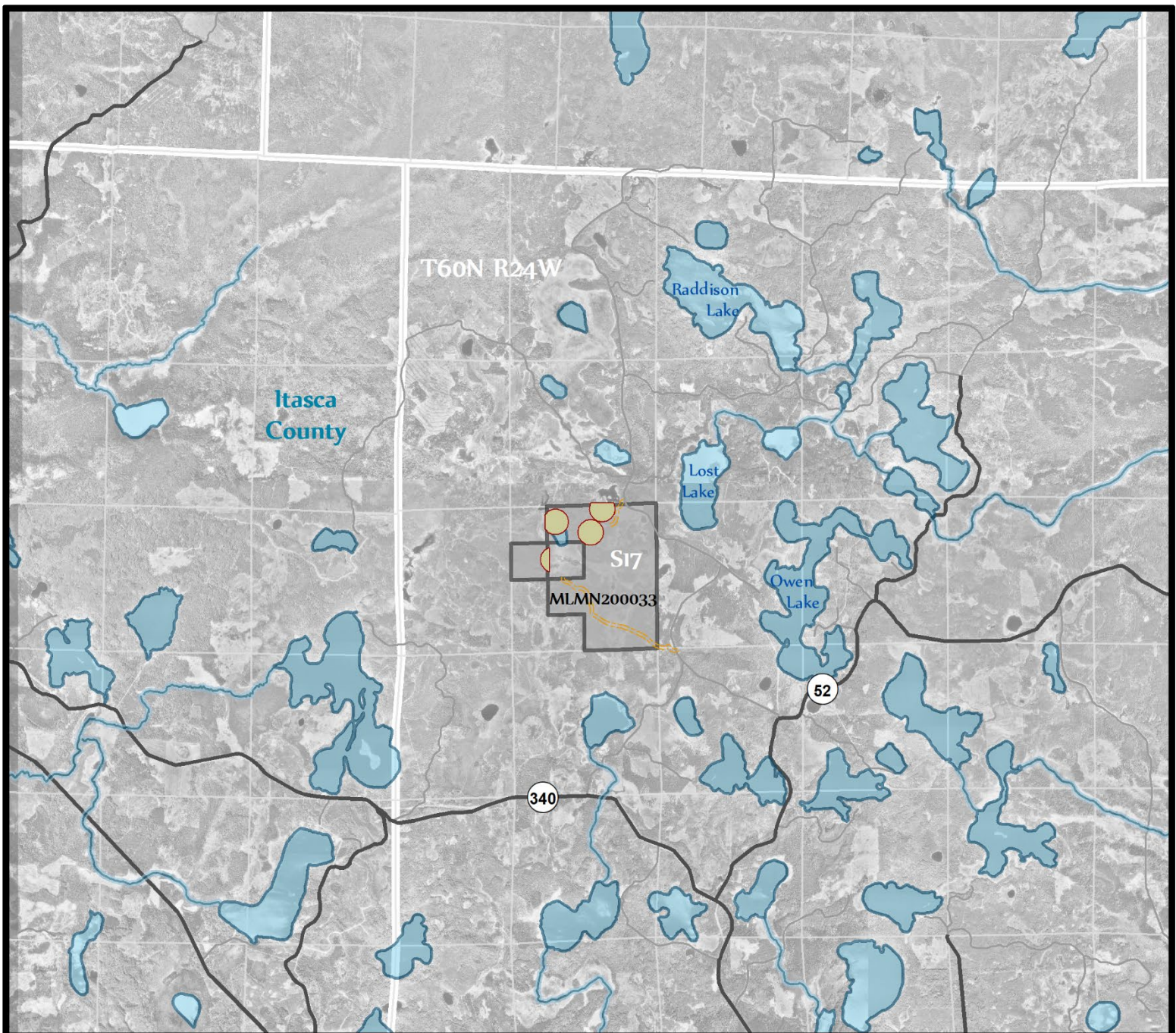
**Surface ownership:** Exploration or access to exploration sites may occur on DNR and County-administered state lands as well as on private lands. The company will consult with the Itasca County Land Department and private land owners for access as needed. Upon DNR approval, which may include stipulations, exploration may proceed as described in the exploration plan on state-owned surface lands.

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This report is posted on the [DNR's exploration plan webpage](#).


#### **Maps and Data Disclaimer**


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**Figure 1. DNR Overview Map of Exploration Plan**

 State Nonferrous Metallic Mineral Leases

 State, County, Local, Pit, and Forest Roads

 Access Trails

 Public Waters

 Proposed Exploratory Boring Sites

0 0.75 1.5 3 Miles

Environmental features intersecting leases with proposed exploration are shown.

This map is for reference purposes only. The State of Minnesota's land and mineral interests GIS data including lease boundaries is mapped at 40 acre Public Land Survey resolution.

GIS Data Sources - Exploration areas as provided by the Explorer. State minerals leases, public waters inventory, and PLS boundaries from DNR. Highways and roads from MnDOT. Aerial photography from Farm Service Agency.

**Exploration Plan Area**

