



Exploration Plan on State Nonferrous Metallic Minerals Leases

Submitted by Teck American Incorporated, on November 10, 2022 and summarized here by DNR Lands and Minerals Division

Exploration summary: Teck American Incorporated (Teck) submitted a proposed exploration plan to continue exploring for metallic mineral deposits in St. Louis County. Exploration will occur on leased state mineral rights in an area about five miles southeast of Babbitt, Minnesota (Figure 1). Teck has drilled in this area of St. Louis County since 2007.

Teck's exploration plan proposes drilling exploratory borings using the diamond core drilling method at up to fourteen drill sites. New access trails are proposed to reach some drill sites. Any trail preparation and drilling in wetlands will occur in winter under frozen conditions; trail preparation and drilling on uplands may occur at various times throughout the year. All drilling activity, including sealing borings, will follow regulations set by Minnesota's Department of Health.

Upon DNR approval, Teck has the right to explore state-owned lands consistent with the exploration plan, any stipulations, and applicable laws and rules.

State nonferrous metallic mineral lease numbers: MM-9831-N

Public Land Survey location: Sections 28 and 31 of T60N R12W

Types of exploration activity: Exploratory borings

Expected time of activity: Intermittently from January 2023 through March 2024

Access: Teck will access the leased lands by public roads, forest roads, and other existing access routes. Teck will clear new access routes on state land.

Surface ownership: Exploration is proposed on state-owned lands only. Teck may need to use existing access on non-state lands to reach some exploration sites. The exploration plan states that surface owners will be notified for access to the property. Upon DNR approval, which may include stipulations, Teck may proceed as described in its 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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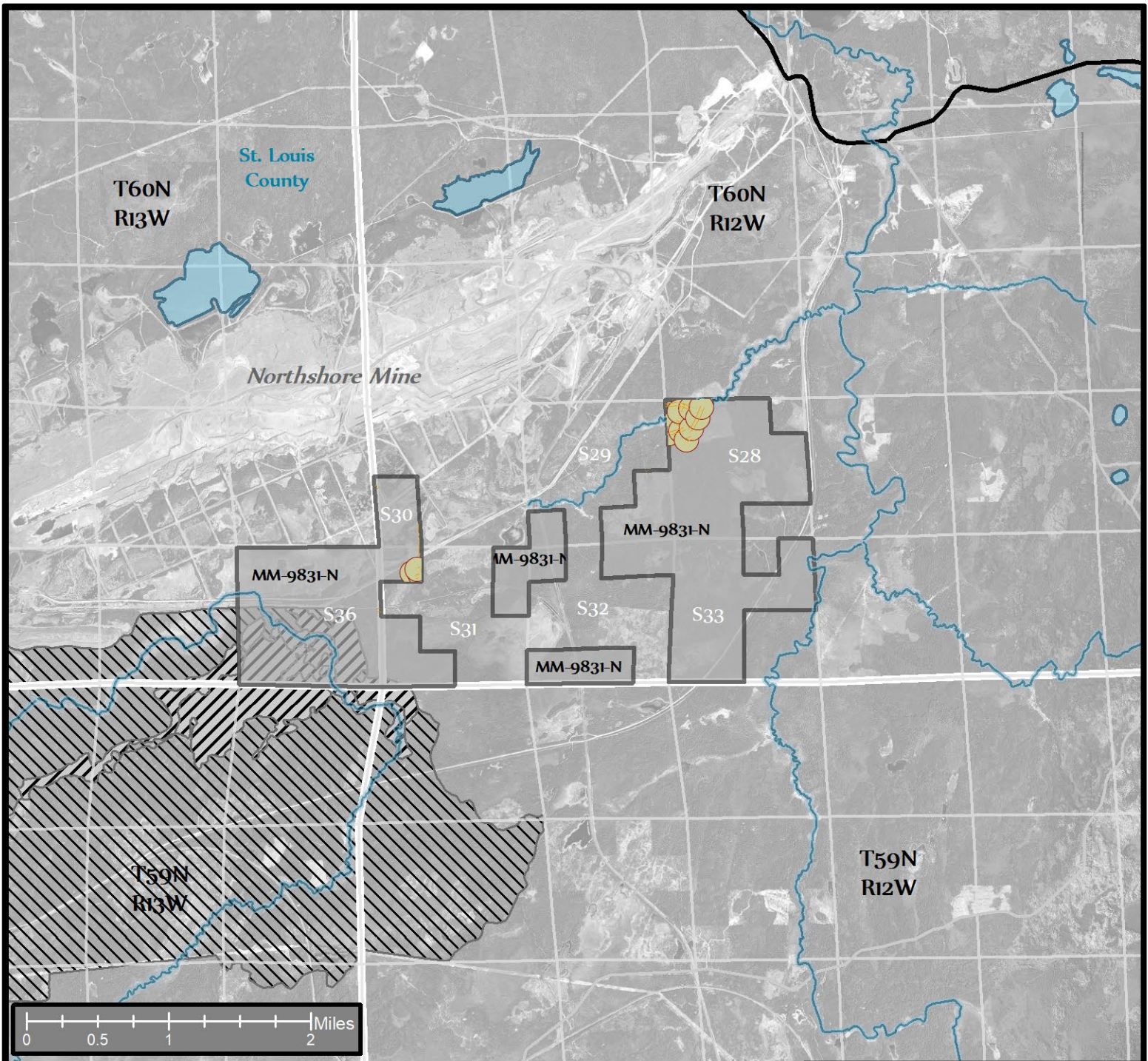





Figure 1. DNR Summary Map of Exploration Plan

-  Proposed Exploratory Boring Sites
-  State Nonferrous Metallic Mineral Leases
-  Native Plant Communities
-  Potential S2
-  MBS High Biodiversity Significance

-  State, County, Local, Pit, and Forest Roads
-  Access Trails
-  Public Waters

This map is for reference purposes only. Environmental features intersecting proposed exploration leases are shown. The State of Minnesota's land and mineral interests including lease boundaries are mapped at 40 acre Public Land Survey resolution.

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

