

## Exploration plan submitted by Talon Nickel (USA) LLC on March 22, 2023

## Summarized here by DNR Lands and Minerals Division

Talon Nickel (USA) LLC (Talon) proposes exploring for metallic minerals in Aitkin County approximately eight miles north and eight miles southeast of Tamarack, Minnesota (Figure 1). Kennecott Exploration Company (Kennecott) previously explored this area in 2011.

Kennecott holds the state leases and designated Talon as the operator for the proposed exploration activity. The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) has approved the operating agreement between Kennecott and Talon.

If the proposal meets the requirements of applicable state laws and is approved by the DNR, Talon will have the right to explore the specified state lands under a nonferrous metallic mineral lease consistent with the exploration plan, any conditions, and applicable laws and rules.

**Description of proposed exploration activity:** Talon proposes diamond drilling exploratory borings at up to twenty-five (25) drill sites. The proposal also includes conducting down-hole and ground geophysical surveys. Any exploration in wetlands will occur when the ground is frozen or while utilizing composite mats to minimize disturbances. Talon will clearly post drill sites and active survey areas. All exploratory boring activity will follow regulations set by the Minnesota Department of Health.

**Access:** Talon will use existing roads and trails as much as possible, but construction or improvement of temporary access trails may be required to safely reach some drill sites. To minimize disturbances, Talon may use composite mats to stabilize trails and drill sites. If access across non-state lands is required to reach the exploration area, Talon will contact surface owners to establish acceptable access prior to beginning proposed activities.

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## State nonferrous metallic mineral leases:

MLMB200003	MM-10010-N	MM-10349	MM-9806	MM-10176	MM-10006-N
MLMN200009	MM-10124-N	MM-10378-N	MM-9807	MM-10002-N	MM-10007-N
MLMN200013	MM-10125-N	MM-10379-N	MM-9808	MM-10003-N	MM-10008-N
MLMN200015	MM-10126-N	MM-9765-P	MM-9809	MM-10004-N	MM-10009-N
MLMN200019	MLMN200029	MM-9766-P	MM-9810	MM-10005-N	MM-10202-N
MM-10203-N	MM-9768-P	MM-10318	MM-9811	MM-9771-P	MM-9852-N
MM-10252-N	MM-9769-P	MM-10319	MM-9849-N	MM-9772-P	MM-9853-N
MM-10253-N	MM-9770-P	MM-10325	MM-9850-N	MM-9773-P	MM-9854-N
MM-9767-P	MM-10315	MM-10346	MM-9851-N	MM-9774-P	MM-9855-N
MM-9805	MM-9856-N				

**Expected time period:** upon approval by DNR through April 30, 2025

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This report is posted on the <u>DNR's exploration plan webpage</u>.

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