



## Exploration plan submitted by Talon Nickel (USA) LLC on March 13, 2025

[Summarized here by DNR Lands and Minerals Division](#)

Minnesota DNR received an exploration plan from Talon Nickel (USA) LLC (Talon) on March 13, 2025. Talon proposes to continue nonferrous mineral exploration on state leases in Aitkin and Carlton counties. The plan covers an area extending from 6.5 miles north to 8 miles southeast of Tamarack, MN. The plan proposes drilling exploratory borings and conducting various down-hole and ground geophysical surveys. This exploration plan is nearly identical to Talon exploration plans submitted in March of 2023 and March of 2024, which were both authorized by the DNR. DNR exploration plan authorizations typically have a one-year duration and only authorize activities on state lands.

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-three (23) 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				

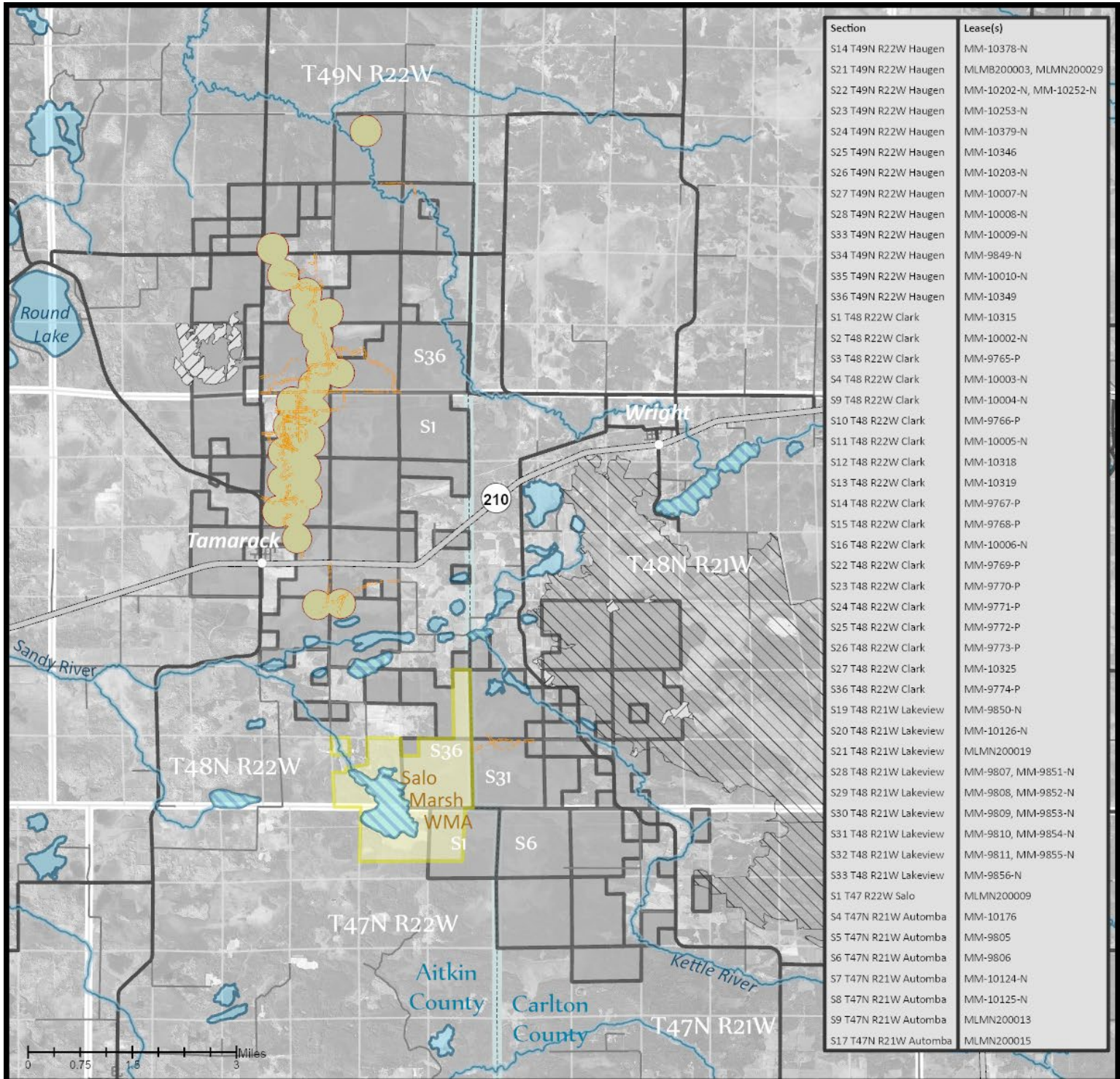
**Expected time period:** upon approval by DNR through April 30, 2026

**Explorer contact:** Brian Goldner (218) 768-3292 or [goldner@talonmetals.com](mailto:goldner@talonmetals.com)

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

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DNR Summary Report for Talon Nickel (USA) LLC Exploration Plan Submitted on March 13, 2025 and published by DNR Lands and Minerals Division on March 20, 2025.



Section	Lease(s)
S14 T49N R22W Haugen	MM-10378-N
S21 T49N R22W Haugen	MLMB200003, MLMN200029
S22 T49N R22W Haugen	MM-10202-N, MM-10252-N
S23 T49N R22W Haugen	MM-10253-N
S24 T49N R22W Haugen	MM-10379-N
S25 T49N R22W Haugen	MM-10346
S26 T49N R22W Haugen	MM-10203-N
S27 T49N R22W Haugen	MM-10007-N
S28 T49N R22W Haugen	MM-10008-N
S33 T49N R22W Haugen	MM-10009-N
S34 T49N R22W Haugen	MM-9849-N
S35 T49N R22W Haugen	MM-10010-N
S36 T49N R22W Haugen	MM-10349
S1 T48 R22W Clark	MM-10315
S2 T48 R22W Clark	MM-10002-N
S3 T48 R22W Clark	MM-9765-P
S4 T48 R22W Clark	MM-10003-N
S9 T48 R22W Clark	MM-10004-N
S10 T48 R22W Clark	MM-9766-P
S11 T48 R22W Clark	MM-10005-N
S12 T48 R22W Clark	MM-10318
S13 T48 R22W Clark	MM-10319
S14 T48 R22W Clark	MM-9767-P
S15 T48 R22W Clark	MM-9768-P
S16 T48 R22W Clark	MM-10006-N
S22 T48 R22W Clark	MM-9769-P
S23 T48 R22W Clark	MM-9770-P
S24 T48 R22W Clark	MM-9771-P
S25 T48 R22W Clark	MM-9772-P
S26 T48 R22W Clark	MM-9773-P
S27 T48 R22W Clark	MM-10325
S36 T48 R22W Clark	MM-9774-P
S19 T48 R21W Lakeview	MM-9850-N
S20 T48 R21W Lakeview	MM-10126-N
S21 T48 R21W Lakeview	MLMN200019
S28 T48 R21W Lakeview	MM-9807, MM-9851-N
S29 T48 R21W Lakeview	MM-9808, MM-9852-N
S30 T48 R21W Lakeview	MM-9809, MM-9853-N
S31 T48 R21W Lakeview	MM-9810, MM-9854-N
S32 T48 R21W Lakeview	MM-9811, MM-9855-N
S33 T48 R21W Lakeview	MM-9856-N
S1 T47 R22W Salo	MLMN200009
S4 T47N R21W Automba	MM-10176
S5 T47N R21W Automba	MM-9805
S6 T47N R21W Automba	MM-9806
S7 T47N R21W Automba	MM-10124-N
S8 T47N R21W Automba	MM-10125-N
S9 T47N R21W Automba	MLMN200013
S17 T47N R21W Automba	MLMN200015

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

- State Nonferrous Metallic Mineral Leases
- Proposed Exploratory Boring Sites
- Native Plant Communities Potential S2
- MBS High Biodiversity Significance
- Access Trails
- State, County, Local, Pit, and Forest Roads
- Public Waters
- Wild Rice Waters

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.

