



Exploration plan submitted by NewRange Copper Nickel LLC on October 19, 2026

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

NewRange Copper Nickel LLC (NewRange) submitted an exploration plan to explore for metallic minerals in St. Louis County in an area approximately four and a half (4.5) miles south of Babbitt, Minnesota. This area has been explored intermittently since 1998.

Exploration plans are not a proposal to mine. Rather the plan proposes drilling exploratory borings and conducting down-hole geophysical surveys.

If the exploration proposal meets the requirements of applicable state laws, NewRange will have the right to explore the specified state lands under a nonferrous metallic mineral lease that it currently holds. The exploration would need to be conducted consistent with the exploration plan, any state-imposed conditions, and applicable laws and rules.

The proposed exploration activity would occur on state-administered school trust lands located in the St. Louis River Watershed.

Description of proposed exploration activity: NewRange proposes drilling exploratory borings at up to eleven (11) drill sites. The proposal also includes conducting down-hole geophysical surveys. Any exploration in wetlands will occur when the ground is frozen or while utilizing best management practices, such as composite mats, to minimize disturbances. NewRange will clearly post drill sites and active areas. All exploratory boring activities will follow regulations set by the Minnesota Department of Health.

Access: NewRange will use existing roads and trails as much as possible, but construction or improvement of temporary access trails is required to safely reach some drill sites. If access across non-state lands is required to reach the exploration area, New Range will contact surface owners to establish acceptable access prior to beginning proposed activities.

State nonferrous metallic mineral leases: MM-9831-N

Expected time period: Upon authorization through March 2028

Explorer contact: Cullen Phillips (218)-235-7539 or Cullen.Phillips@newrangecoppernickel.com

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

Maps and Data Disclaimer: The State of Minnesota makes no representations or warranties express or implied, with respect to the use of the information contained herein regardless of its format or the means of its transmission. There is no guarantee or representation to the user as to the accuracy, currency, suitability, completeness, usefulness, or reliability of this information for any purpose. The user accepts the information "as is." The State of Minnesota assumes no responsibility for loss or damage incurred as a result of any user's reliance on this information. All maps, reports, data, and other information contained herein are protected by copyright. Permission is granted to copy and use the materials herein for any lawful noncommercial purpose. Any user of this information agrees not to transmit or provide access to all or any part of this information to another party unless the user shall include with the information a copy of this disclaimer.

DNR Summary Report for NewRange Copper Nickel LLC Exploration Plan Submitted on October 19, 2026 and published by DNR Lands and Minerals Division on October 26, 2026.

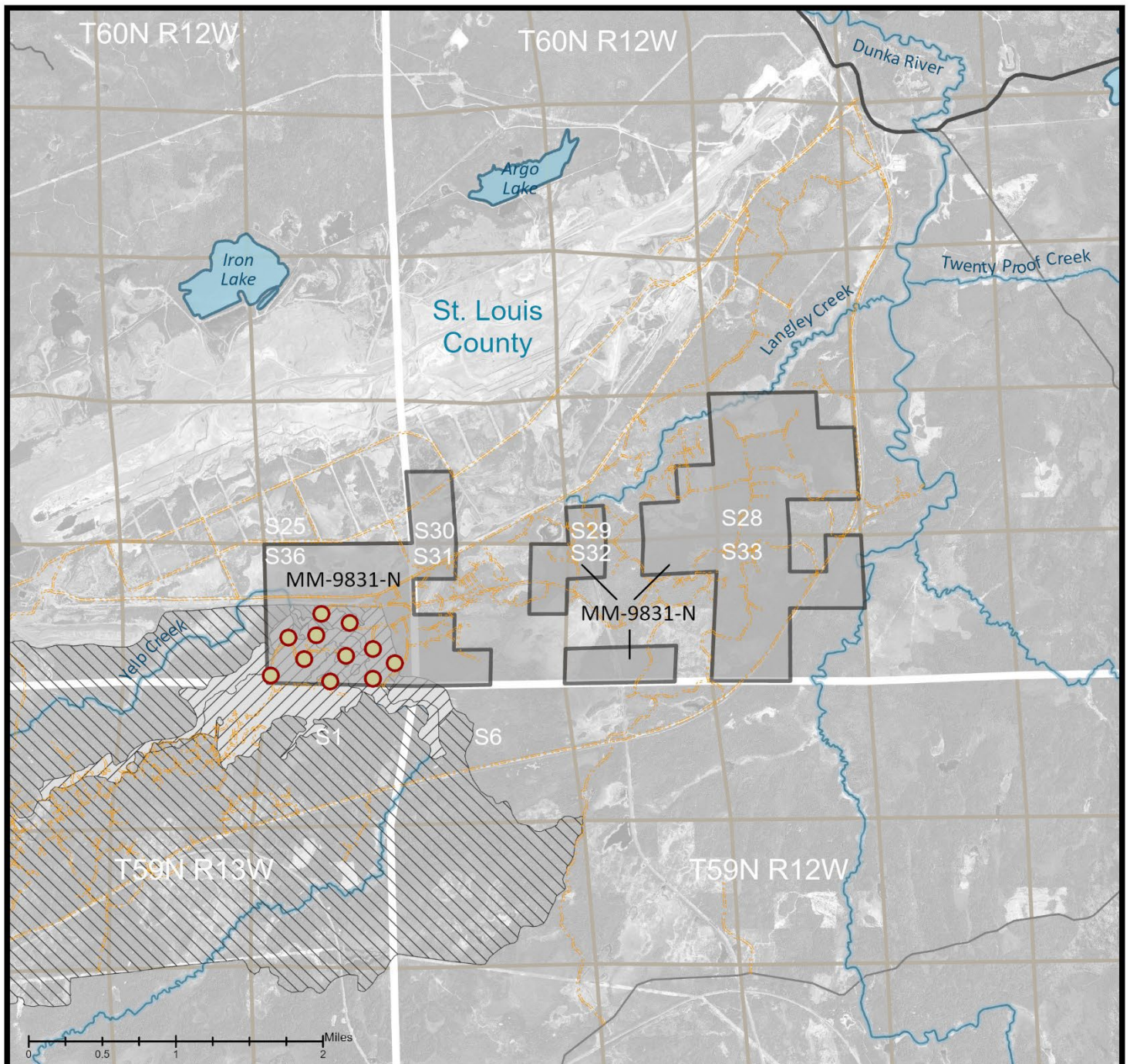


Figure 1. DNR Overview Map of Exploration Plan

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

