

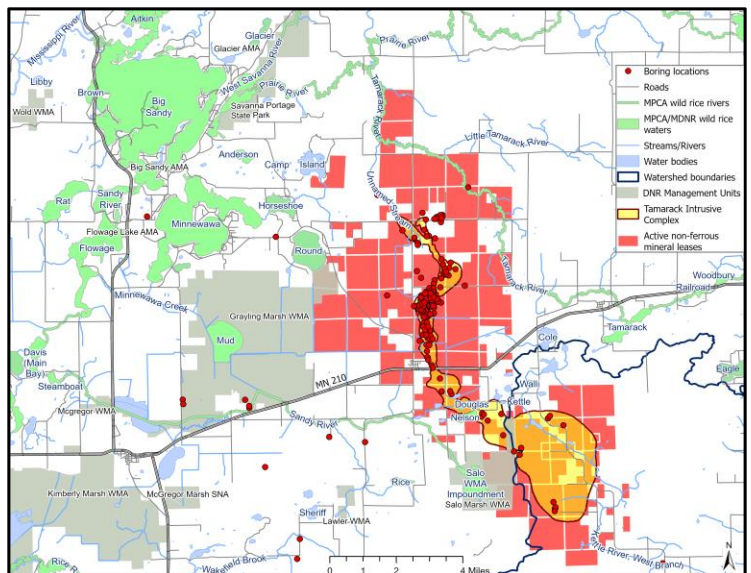
TALON NICKEL MINE: WHY YOUR VOICE IS NEEDED

Talon Metals' Tamarack Mine Threatens Water, Fish, Wild Rice

- Talon would mine a “massive sulfide unit” to obtain nickel and other ores, releasing sulfate and heavy metals to groundwater, surface water, and air.
- The Talon mine would be less than 50 miles from the Fond du Lac Reservation and less than 10 miles upstream of Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe Tribal lands and waters.
- Aitkin County, where the proposed mine would be located, is one of the world’s most abundant “wild rice baskets” with naturally low sulfate lakes.
- Fish tissue mercury in Big Sandy Lake, Round Lake, and Lake Minnewawa already violates standards set to protect the developing brains of fetuses, infants, and children.
- Adding sulfate to low-sulfate waters increases mercury methylation and accumulation in the food chain, releases nutrients that cause algae blooms, and harms wild rice.
- The Talon site may be the wettest site ever proposed for a nickel sulfide ore mine. Groundwater is less than a foot from the surface on 77% of the site.
- Construction and operation of the Talon underground mine for just 10 years would bring more than a billion gallons of highly contaminated mine contact water to the surface.
- **No sulfide ore mine has operated in a water-rich environment without polluting surface water and/or groundwater, with acid mine drainage and/or toxic metals.**



Talon mine dewatering and sulfate would increase mercury contamination of fish in local and downstream waters and degrade wild rice, harming health and exercise of Treaty-reserved rights.



Talon mine pollution would flow into the Mississippi River and, if the Talon mine expands into a “district scale” mine, would also contaminate the St. Croix River.

TALON NICKEL MINE: WHY TAKE ACTION

Weak State Regulation? Talon Mine Bait-and-Switch?

- Talon and Rio Tinto have drilled over 554 borings in the Tamarack area, dumping drill wastes in unlined sumps. **No Minnesota agency has tested or regulated these sumps.**
- Talon controls 31,000 acres of mineral leases, but its proposal for EIS environmental review includes less than one-tenth of 1% of the mineral deposit it controls.
- A permit to mine in Minnesota is irrevocable and would neither limit future expansion or require that metals be used for “renewable energy.”
- The Talon EIS proposal claims that ore and waste rock will be sent 475 to 560 miles to North Dakota or Michigan for processing and tailings storage. Neither plan will be studied.
- Talon’s recent corporate slide deck states: “The Tamarack Nickel Project does not contain reserves, and no production decision has been made. This conceptual design is preliminary in nature and is not supported by a prefeasibility study, a feasibility study or any other form of engineering study or report . . . It is uncertain if the project will be built.”
- **Minnesota’s DNR has taken Talon’s “proposal” at face value to limit environmental review.** DNR has allowed many mine expansions and **never** required a new EIS.
- **Talon mine ore and mine waste could be stranded in Minnesota.**



TAKE ACTION NOW!

**COMMENT ON TALON EIS
NOW TO SEPT. 14**

**COME TO PUBLIC MEETINGS
AUG. 5 AND AUG. 12**



Scan & Comment on Talon Mine



Scan & Join Us at Public Meetings