

# Talon Has Been Dumping Toxic Drilling Waste Since Day One

## **TALON METALS HAS BEEN DUMPING TOXIC DRILLING WASTE ON-SITE FOR MANY YEARS**

- Likely since drilling started in 2002
- These dump sites (sumps) can be viewed from Google Maps (turn on the satellite view and scroll about 1.5 miles north of Tamarack on the east side of Kestral.)
- This dumping is in violation of MN law.

## **SULFATE POLLUTION FROM TALON MINE DRILLING CREATE METHYLMERCURY**

- Sulfates interact with sulfate-reducing bacteria to produce the more bio-toxic form of mercury, methylmercury, a known neurodevelopmental toxin
- As methylmercury moves up the food chain, many fish are not safe to eat (limits set by DNR)
- Drilling adds PFAS (drilling fluid) to the environment (DNR / MPCA warn about the dangers of PFAS)



RIO TINTO - TALON METALS HEADQUARTERS | DRILLING FLUID SUMPS

**HELP STOP TALON FROM POLLUTING OUR WATERS**

**Voice Your Concern with the Responsible DNR contact:**  
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**TAMARACK**  
WATER ALLIANCE

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## TALON METALS HAS BEEN DUMPING TOXIC DRILLING WASTE ON-SITE FOR MANY YEARS

- Kennecott Exploration and Talon have drilled more than 554 boreholes, from 61 to 5,291 feet deep (puncturing aquifers leading to water contamination)
- Exploratory drilling in sulfide-bearing rock poses significant environmental risks for release of sulfuric acid and heavy metals,
- Talon's drilling takes place in wetlands, peat bogs, wet and open water conditions where containment of pollutants is difficult if not impossible.
- Talon's exploratory drilling sites overlap locations of residential drinking wells with no Talon or DNR plan for inspections or measures to protect drinking water
- Neither Talon's exploration plans nor DNR's summaries discuss protecting wild rice.
- Talon's exploratory drilling plan does not address spills, testing of drill sites, or protection of groundwater from PFAS toxic forever chemicals in drilling fluids.

## TALON METALS DRILLING VIOLATES MINNESOTA RULES

- Talon's exploratory drilling plan includes continued use of **unlined sumps** adjacent to wetlands that may result in pollution of groundwater and surface water, danger to wildlife, and violations of Minnesota Rules.
- Many existing Kennecott/Talon drill borings located in wet and muddy areas are partially or completely buried, violating Minnesota Rules that protect water (per DNR)
- Talon's exploratory drilling plan does not address the numerous unsealed and improperly sealed borings which violates Minnesota Rules and potentially result in significant pollution of surface water and groundwater.
- Talon's exploratory drilling plan includes drilling at extreme depths, and past exploration at depth has used an oil rig for deep drilling with injection of water into deep groundwater, inconsistent with Minnesota Rules and protection of groundwater.

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