

From: Mike Magnuson
To: Wagner, Jon
Date: 3/7/2008 1:13 PM
Subject: Re: Duluth Metals Proposal

The permit they purchased last year is for last year's timber. R/O/W trees that they felled this past summer/fall/winter will be tallied and a new sale will be made to them so the product may be removed.

Mike

Mike Magnuson
DNR-Forestry
650 Hwy 169 Tower MN 55790
218-753-2580 Ext. 261
Fax 218-753-4517
mike.magnuson@dnr.state.mn.us

>>> On 3/7/2008 at 9:15 AM, in message <47D107A0.6F9F.0020.0@dnr.state.mn.us>, Jon Wagner wrote:
Oops. I just sent you an email about this...I should have checked my own inbox before clicking "send"!

Oh well.

Two questions though. Is the timber permit they mention in the plan still in effect? And is it ok for them to inform you after felling merchantable timber, and not before?

thx jon

>>> Mike Magnuson 3/7/2008 8:34 AM >>>
Jon,

*↑
yes, per mike
3/10/08*

Paul Albers sent me a copy of Duluth Metals latest proposal dated Feb 29,2008 regarding drilling for 75 sites in the Spruce Road locale.

Tower Forestry has no specific resource concerns. We understand wetland BMP's will be followed and timber damage will be minimized as practicable.

I'll forward their letter and CD to Tom Rusch.

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From: Paul Albers <palbers@duluthmetals.com>
To: Jon Wagner <Jon.Wagner@dnr.state.mn.us>
Date: 3/20/2008 7:09 AM
Subject: RE: Spruce Road plan approval

Hi Jon,

Thanks for the notice. As usual, we'll work closely with Mike and Rick to ensure they are well aware of our progress.

Thanks,

Paul Albers
Project Geologist
Duluth Metals Corp
Nokomis Deposit
1347 E. Washington St.
Ely, MN 55731
DMC Office 218-365-2328
DMC Cell 218-341-6784
DMC Fax: 218-365-7322
Pers. Cell 218-780-8635

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From: Jon Wagner [Jon.Wagner@dnr.state.mn.us]
Sent: Wednesday, March 19, 2008 1:36 PM
To: Paul Albers
Cc: Mike Magnuson; Rick Ruhanen
Subject: Spruce Road plan approval

Hi Paul,

Attached is a scanned copy of the approval memo for Duluth Metals' drilling plan for the Spruce Road project. I will put the hard copy in the mail.

Thanks,

Jon Wagner
MN Dept. Natural Resources
Division of Lands and Minerals
Transactions Section
(651) 259-5421

From: "Cinadr, Thomas" <Thomas.Cinadr@MNHS.ORG>
To: "Jon Wagner" <Jon.Wagner@dnr.state.mn.us>
Date: 3/19/2008 11:22 AM
Subject: RE: hist arch sites

THIS EMAIL IS NOT A PROJECT CLEARANCE.

This message simply reports the results of the cultural resources database search you requested. The database search produced results for only previously known archaeological sites and historic properties. Please read the note below carefully.

No archaeological sites or historic structures were identified in a search of the Minnesota Archaeological Inventory and Historic Structures Inventory for the search area requested.

The result of this database search provides a listing of recorded archaeological sites and historic architectural properties that are included in the current SHPO databases. Because the majority of archaeological sites in the state and many historic architectural properties have not been recorded, important sites or structures may exist within the search area and may be affected by development projects within that area. Additional research, including field survey, may be necessary to adequately assess the area's potential to contain historic properties.

If you require a comprehensive assessment of a project's potential to impact archaeological sites or historic architectural properties, you may need to hire a qualified archaeologist and/or historian. If you need assistance with a project review, please contact Kelly Gragg-Johnson in Review and Compliance @ 651-259-3455 or by email at kelly.graggjohnson@mnhs.org.

The Minnesota SHPO Survey Manuals and Database Metadata and Contractor Lists can be found at <http://www.mnhs.org/shpo/survey/inventories.htm>

Tom Cinadr
Survey and Information Management Coordinator
Minnesota State Historic Preservation Office
Minnesota Historical Society
345 Kellogg Blvd. West
St. Paul, MN 55102

651-259-3453 (voice)
651-282-2374 (fax)

-----Original Message-----

From: Jon Wagner [<mailto:Jon.Wagner@dnr.state.mn.us>]
Sent: Thursday, March 13, 2008 10:48 AM
To: Cinadr, Thomas
Subject: hist arch sites

Hi Tom,

Would you please check these sections for historic/archaeologic sites?

T61-R11-Secs. 3, 4, 5
T62-R11-Sec. 34

From: Jon Wagner
To: Joyal, Lisa
Subject: Re: Duluth Metals exploration plan

Hi Lisa,

I agree that the map shows the access trail near 190 being only used in winter. In my approval letter to the company, I will state that they need to contact us if their plans change and they intend to access the site during a different time of year.

Thanks, Jon

>>> Lisa Joyal 3/7/2008 2:51 PM >>>
Jon,

If I'm reading their map correctly, Site #190 & the access trails to it will be used in the winter only. Depending on how much disturbance this type of work causes, they may not need to move the trail to avoid the rare feature (as it will be underground and dormant). It's unclear to me whether they will be using the blue trail to the east of #190. If not, then it looks like they will avoid the known location. If I'm reading the map wrong, then we could ask them to move the trail if feasible.

Let me know if you would like to discuss this more.

Thanks,

Lisa

>>> Jon Wagner 3/7/2008 10:32 AM >>>
Hi Lisa,

This week I received a new exploration plan from Duluth Metals, which is for a continuation of their work in the Spruce Road project area (affecting Secs. 3,4,5 of 61-11, and Sec. 34 of 62-11).

There is an SPC near one of their proposed drill sites (#190) in the SENE of T61-R11-S3. I know that SPCs don't have legal protection, but want to know what I should tell them to do to avoid the feature.

It appears that the SPC is directly adjacent to an access trail, while the drill site is located a bit off the trail. We had the same situation last October with Encampment Resources, and told them to move their access route so as to avoid the feature. It seems that makes sense here too; we could tell them they need to move the path that leads from the access trail to the drill site to the west a bit.

I've attached a scanned copy of their plan and the map sent with the plan, as well as a map I made showing the affected sections (since it's not clear on their map where the sections are).

Thanks, Jon W

Note
↳ spoke w/ Lisa 3/10/08 to mention
there is also an SPC in Sec 5,
but that it's on other side
of the lake and won't be
affected. she said that's fine;
no problem.

From: Tom Rusch
To: Jon Wagner; Mike Magnuson
Date: 3/7/2008 4:05 PM
Subject: Re: Duluth Metals exploration plan

Nothing from Wildlife.

>>> Jon Wagner 3/7/2008 9:08:02 AM >>>
Hi Mike and Tom,

I've received another plan from Duluth Metals, which calls for more drilling related to their Spruce Road project. DOF is the surface administrator of all affected state parcels.

I've attached a scanned version of the plan, as well as a map they supplied showing their planned drill holes. (They gave me a PDF of this map but it was too big to email to you. I scanned and saved it as a JPG, but if the resolution is too low, let me know and I'll mail you a hard copy.) Since their map doesn't show TRS on it, I've also attached a map I made showing the affected sections.

Mike, the plan states that some trees will need to be removed, and that they would report the total numbers, species type and diameter of merchantable trees to you per State Timber Permit Number F010028. Is that permit still in effect, or would they need a new one?

Please look the plan over and let me know if you have specific comments or concerns.

Thanks,

Jon Wagner
MN Dept. Natural Resources
Division of Lands and Minerals
Transactions Section
(651) 259-5421