

## COMPONENTS OF A DRILL SITE – PART 1

### WHY IS TWIN METALS MINNESOTA DRILLING?

Twin Metals' drilling program gathers rock samples – known as “core samples” – that are studied to develop a profile, or three-dimensional picture, of the strategic metals deposits that have been identified for possible underground mining development. The core samples also provide information critical to engineering the future mine and developing customized mineral processing and environmental protection technologies. Drilling depths reach hundreds and thousands of feet below the surface, and samples are meticulously recorded and saved by the mining company and the state of Minnesota.



### DRILL SITE

A drill site is a temporarily cleared area generally less than the size of a small homestead. Access to, clearing and reclamation of drill sites is generally regulated by state and/or federal governments, depending on land ownership. Some drill sites are regulated under seasonal restrictions. When drilling is completed, the drill site is “reclaimed” and allowed to return to natural habitat.

### DRILL RIG

Twin Metals partners with Virginia, Minn.-based IDEA Drilling to conduct its drilling program. IDEA utilizes modern mobile drill rigs that move site-to-site, reducing drilling time, noise and surface impacts. To date, the Twin Metals program has drilled more than 365 holes, with many holes serving as the starting point for multiple “angle holes” into a deposit.



### PROTECTIVE SWAMP MATS

At many drill sites, large wooden platforms, known as swamp mats, are used underneath the mobile drill rigs to protect sensitive land surfaces during both drilling and the transportation of the rig. The use of these mats is a “best practice” in the industry that often exceeds state and federal requirements.

