



2025



State of Montana Department of Environmental Quality Mineral Exploration License Supplemental Information

Please return this document via email to DEQSMESandExploration@mt.gov

SECTION A – APPLICATION INFORMATION

Application Type: ☐ New License ☒ Amendment to Existing License (# 00878)

1. Licensee Name (Person or Company): Falcon Copper Corporation

2. Date Submitted: 3 February 2026

3. Contact Name: Eric LeLacheur

Address: 304 Milwaukee Ave. Office 22 Box 16 City: Deer Lodge State: MT Zip: 59722

Phone: 406-980-0626 Email: elacheur@falconcopper.com

NOTE: All official correspondence will be directed to the email provided above.

Authorized Agent: Eric LeLacheur

Phone: 406-980-0626 Email: elacheur@falconcopper.com

Additional Information: The exploration license does not convey a right to occupy land not owned by the licensee. A licensee is responsible for obtaining and maintaining a lease or other authorization from the landowner to occupy the land on which the licensee is to conduct exploration activity. The Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) does not confirm whether the licensee has obtained such authorization and does not resolve any disputes regarding access between a licensee and the landowner.

SECTION B – PROJECT LOCATION

1. Project Name: Blue Copper

2. County in which the proposed site is located: Powell and Lewis and Clark

3. Project Coordinates: (Decimal Degree Only) Latitude: 46.67169 Longitude: -112.53494

4. Landowner: ☒ Private ☒ BLM ☒ USFS ☐ DNRC/State ☐ Other

Contact Name: Eric LeLacheur

Phone: 406-980-0626 Email: elacheur@falconcopper.com

SECTION C – PROJECT TIMELINE

1. Proposed Start Date of Exploration: May 2027 Proposed End Date of Exploration: May 2032

2. Proposed Start Date of Reclamation: October 2027 Proposed End Date of Reclamation: December 2032

NOTE: Final reclamation of all surface disturbances would be required to be completed no later than 2 years following the conclusion of exploration unless otherwise incorporated into an Operating Permit.

3. Hours of Operation:

Shifts per Day: 2 Hours per Shift: 12 Total Hours per Day: 24

Total Days per Week: 7 Additional Information: _____

SECTION D – Maps

1. **Refer to Map Guideline for further information:** <https://deq.mt.gov/mining/assistance>
2. **General Location Map (Required)** – The intent of this map is to provide a map showing the location of the proposed operation sufficient to allow the public to locate the proposed site. The General Location Map may be displayed on an aerial or topographic background and must show the site's location in relation to the nearest town or city. Roads must be labeled from the nearest town to the site on the General Location Map.
3. **Project Map (Required)** – The intent of this map is to show the location of the proposed project with an aerial background. The map must be at a scale to adequately display the features of the project. The Project Map must display all project disturbances including but not limited to:
 - a. New roads
 - b. Overland travel routes
 - c. Label all Trenches
 - d. Label all Portals
 - e. Label all Drill Pads
 - f. Sump Locations (if outside of drill pad footprint)
 - g. Buildings (existing, proposed and temporary)
 - h. Camp Area
 - i. Lay down/loadout area
 - j. Fuel Storage Area
 - k. Water Crossings
 - l. Other features pertinent to the project

NOTE: Provide as many Project Maps as necessary to depict the proposed area(s) at a viewable/readable scale.

SECTION E – Exploration Methods and Description

1. Exploration Methods (check all that apply):
☒ Drilling ☒ Trenching ☐ Placer ☐ Underground
☐ Other (describe): _____
2. Volume of Material to be tested: NO bulk sampling
3. Description of Project:

[See next page for Project Description.](#)

Section E. Exploration Methods and Description

3. Description of Project:

Falcon Copper Corporation (Falcon Copper) proposes to conduct mineral exploration for copper, gold, silver tungsten, germanium, and gallium within eight exploration target areas at the Blue Copper Project (Project) located in Powell and Lewis and Clark Counties, Montana (Figure 1-1). The surface mineral estates associated with the Project are located on public lands administered by the United States Forest Service (USFS), Helena-Lewis and Clark National Forest, Helena Ranger District and the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Missoula Field Office, and controlled by Federal unpatented lode and placer claims owned by Falcon Copper and on uncontrolled inholdings (Figure 1-2). The outer boundary of the Project claims is shown in Figure 1-2.

The Exploration Plan of Operations boundary (defined as the Project area) will encompass approximately 10,816 acres with an estimated total new disturbance footprint of approximately 57.38 acres on publicly managed land. The Project area also encompasses ongoing active disturbances associated with mineral exploration on USFS-managed lands (1.87 acres) as outlined below and further described in Section 1.6 of the Exploration Plan of Operations, for a total of 59.25 acres.

General activities associated with the proposed mineral exploration will include:

- Construction of drill pads (including sumps).
- Construction of access roads (including overland travel).
- Maintenance of access roads including grading and stormwater management.
- Improvement to access roads including culvert installations and road widening, as needed.
- Drilling (core, sonic, auger, Reverse Circulation [RC]). Exploration drilling will utilize up to 5 drill rigs at a time. Falcon Copper expects to use both Core and RC drill rigs.
- Installation of monitoring wells and VWPs.
- Metallurgical, geochemical and geotechnical data collection including excavation and sampling of trenches.
- Geophysical surveys, including induced polarization surveys, or ground gravity surveys.
- Continued use of previously utilized access roads on USFS administered land (2023 Blue Copper Mineral Exploration Project Plan of Operation and Exploration License #00878, as amended).
- Use of 3 laydown yards on private land (as included separately under Amendment #4).

Please see the Blue Copper Project Exploration Plan of Operations for a complete Project description, including figures (submitted to the MDEQ, USFS, and BLM on 30 January 2026).

SECTION F – PROJECT QUANTITIES AND DIMENSIONS**1. Exploration Drilling:****a. Drill Pads**

i. Quantity: 127 Length (ft): 100 Width (ft): 100 Depth (ft): _____

b. Internal Drill Sumps

i. Quantity: 127 Length (ft): 40 Width (ft): 20 Depth (ft): 8

c. External Drill Sumps

i. Quantity: 0 Length (ft): 0 Width (ft): 0 Depth (ft): 0

d. Drill Holes

i. # Holes per Pad: 6 Total # Drill Holes : 762 Maximum Depth (ft): 7,000

ii. Total depth of all drill holes (ft): a maximum of 1,250,000 feet over five years

iii. Please complete the attached Drill Pad & Drill Hole Inventory (Appendix A)

NOTE: The maximum drill hole depth will be used to in the assessment of environmental impacts of the proposed project. Exceedance of this depth would require a new amendment and MEPA review. It is recommended that operators overestimate the maximum depth drilled so as to avoid unnecessary impacts to drilling operations.

2. Other Surface Disturbances:**a. Trenches/Test Pits**

i. Quantity: 13 Length (ft): 200 Width (ft): 15 Depth (ft): 15

b. Waste Rock Stockpiles

i. Quantity: 0 Length (ft): 0 Width (ft): 0 Volume (yd³): 0

c. Laydown Area

i. Quantity: _____ Length (ft): _____ Width (ft): _____ Depth (ft): _____

d. New Roads

i. Length (ft): 14,225 Width (ft): 22 Depth (ft): _____

e. Overland Travel

i. Length (ft): 1002 Width (ft): 10 Depth (ft): _____

f. Culverts

i. Quantity: 1 Length (ft): 30 Diameter (in): 60

g. Slash Piles

i. Quantity: 0 Length (ft): 0 Width (ft): 0 Height (ft): 0

h. Heli-Pads

i. Quantity: 0 Length (ft): 0 Width (ft): 0 Depth (ft): 0

i. Camping Area

i. Length (ft): 0 Width (ft): 0

ii. Arrival Date: 0 Departure Date: 0

iii. List all vehicles, tents, etc. located in the camping area: 0

j. Other (please describe)

Quantity: _____ Length (ft): _____ Width (ft): _____ Depth (ft): _____

SECTION G – PROJECT OPERATIONAL ELEMENTS

1. Equipment and Vehicles- What equipment will be on site during exploration and reclamation?

a. Drill Rig(s)	Quantity: <u>5</u>	Make: _____	Model: _____
b. Water Trucks	Quantity: <u>5</u>	Make: _____	Model: _____
c. Fuel Trucks	Quantity: <u>1</u>	Make: _____	Model: _____
d. Excavators	Quantity: <u>2</u>	Make: _____	Model: _____
e. Bulldozers	Quantity: <u>2</u>	Make: _____	Model: _____
f. Backhoes	Quantity: <u>3</u>	Make: _____	Model: _____
g. Haul/Dump Trucks	Quantity: <u>0</u>	Make: _____	Model: _____
h. Skid Steers	Quantity: <u>3</u>	Make: _____	Model: _____
i. ATV/UTVs	Quantity: <u>3</u>	Make: _____	Model: _____
j. Generators	Quantity: <u>5</u>	Make: _____	Model: _____
k. Wash Plants	Quantity: <u>0</u>	Make: _____	Model: _____
l. Conveyors	Quantity: <u>0</u>	Make: _____	Model: _____
m. Personal Vehicles	Quantity: <u>6</u>	Make: _____	Model: _____
n. Other	Quantity: <u>See next</u>	Make: <u>page for Equipment Table</u>	Model: _____

2. Structures- Identify any temporary structures that would be on site during exploration and reclamation.

o. Core Sheds	Quantity: <u>0</u>	Size: _____	Description: _____
p. Connex/Containers	Quantity: <u>0</u>	Size: _____	Description: _____
q. Campers/Trailers	Quantity: <u>0</u>	Size: _____	Description: _____
r. Tents	Quantity: <u>0</u>	Size: _____	Description: _____
s. Saw Shacks	Quantity: <u>0</u>	Size: _____	Description: _____
t. Warehouses	Quantity: <u>0</u>	Size: _____	Description: _____
u. Portable Toilets	Quantity: <u>5</u>	Size: _____	Description: _____
v. Water Pumps	Quantity: <u>3</u>	Make: _____	Model: _____

3. Fluid Storage/Transport- Identify any fluid storage containers or transport lines that would be on site during exploration and reclamation.

w. Large Fuel Tanks	Quantity: _____	Capacity (gal): _____
x. Small Fuel Containers	Quantity: _____	Capacity (gal): _____
y. Water Tanks	Quantity: <u>5</u>	Capacity (gal): <u>4000</u>
z. Water Lines	Length (ft): <u>2500</u>	Diameter (in): <u>2</u>

4. Onsite Personnel- Identify the person(s) associated with the project and their position/duties.

a. Position: <u>Managing Geologist</u>	Quantity: <u>1</u>
b. Position: <u>Logging Geologist</u>	Quantity: <u>5</u>
c. Position: <u>Field Geologist</u>	Quantity: <u>2</u>
d. Position: <u>Geo-technicians</u>	Quantity: <u>3</u>
e. Position: <u>Operators</u>	Quantity: <u>3</u>
f. Position: <u>Supervisor</u>	Quantity: <u>3</u>
g. Position: <u>Mechanic</u>	Quantity: <u>5</u>

Section G – Project Operational Elements

1. Equipment and Vehicles – What equipment will be on site during exploration and reclamation?

Type of Equipment	Projected Quantity of Equipment	Specifications	Number of Roundtrips
Track or Truck Mounted Drill Rig	4		
Modular or Compact Drill Rig (remote site) OR Truck-Mounted Reverse Circulation Drill Rig	1		
Solids Removal Unit	2	8x16 foot trailer mounted unit (not usable if access steep)	Travels with drill.
Pipe Truck	3		
Large Excavator	2	Cat 320 or equivalent	1 roundtrip for road reconstruction and drill site construction. 1 roundtrip for reclamation.
Bulldozer	2	Cat D8 or equivalent	1 roundtrip for road reconstruction and drill site construction. 1 roundtrip for reclamation.
Road Grader	1	Cat 140 or equivalent	1 roundtrip for road reconstruction and drill site construction
Backhoe	3	Cat 440 or equivalent	1 roundtrip for road reconstruction and drill site construction. 1 roundtrip for reclamation.
Skid-Steer with Forks and Bucket	3		1 roundtrip to mob to the next drill site.
Telehandler	2	Cat THO642 or equivalent	
Water Trucks (1 per drill rig)	5	3,000-gallon	2 roundtrips per day.
Light Plants	5	Trailer-mounted	1 roundtrip to mob to the next drill site.
Water Pumps	3	American Model 435 hydrostatic pumps or equivalent, ground-based	
Small Water pump	3	2-inch portable, gas-powered, Ground-based	
Air Compressor	2	Auxiliary air compressor, trailer-mounted	
3,000-4,000-gallon standing polypropylene water tanks	5	Ground-based	
Generator – 20 kilowatt (kw) Gas/Propane Portable	1	20kw gas/propane portable genset, ground-based	
Generators – 5 kw Portable Gas/Propane	4	5 Kw portable gas/propane genset, ground-based	

Type of Equipment	Projected Quantity of Equipment	Specifications	Number of Roundtrips
All-terrain Vehicles	3	4-seat vehicles	
2-inch water line	2,500 feet		
Pickup Trucks	6	3/4-ton 4x4 pickups	4 roundtrips per day.
Equipment fuel truck	1	Pickup-mounted 300-gallon tank	2 roundtrips per day.
Safety snow fence	750	150 feet per drill; Polymer (HDPE): 4 ft x 50 ft rolls	
Metal gate panels for sumps	15	3 panels per drill; 5 ft high x 4 ft long	
Metal fencing panels for sumps	1,800 feet	5 ft high x 10 ft long panels	
Metal t-posts	150	30 posts per drill	
Geophysical wire	Up to 40 kilometers		
Metal swing gates for access roads	10	16 feet wide	

2. Structures

w. Vibrating Wire Piezometers Quantity: 12

x. Monitoring Wells Quantity: 3

4. Onsite Personnel

j. Position: Water Truck Driver Quantity: 5

h. Number of people per drill rig/ Standard drill rig crew:

i. Drill rig operator Quantity: 1

ii. Helpers Quantity: 3

iii. Water Truck Driver Quantity: 1

iv. Supervisor Quantity: 1 per 2 drill rigs in service

v. Mechanic Quantity: 1 per 2 drill rigs in service

h. Position: Drill Rig Operator Quantity: 5

i. Position: Helpers Quantity: 15

5. Water- Would water be used in the operation? Provide source and daily consumption details.

a. Natural Spring

i. Latitude: _____ Longitude: _____ Section/Twp/Rge: _____

b. Stream/Pond/Lake Take-Point

i. Latitude: 46.67383° North Longitude: -112.54698° East Section/Twp/Rge: 25/ 11 N/ 8 W

c. Domestic Water Well

i. Ground Water Information Center ID#: 135820

ii. Completion Date: 6/30/93

iii. Total Depth (ft): 100

iv. Static Water Level (ft): 30

v. Yield (gpm): 15

d. Daily Water Usage (gallons/day): up to 24,000; See Exploration Plan of Operations for additional water source.

6. Supplemental Lighting- would supplemental lighting be required during exploration or reclamation operations?

a. Type of lighting to be used (describe): Trailer-mounted light plant

i. Hours of Operation: 7pm to 7am

b. Light pollution controls to be used:

☒ Downward Facing Lights

☒ Light Shrouds/Shields

☒ Directional Lighting

☐ Motion Sensors

☐ Automatic Timers

☐ Other

7. Air Quality- Identify measures proposed to minimize impacts on air quality.

Proposed Best Management Practices (BMPs):

☒ Application of water to roads

☒ Factory Emissions Controls

☐ Controlled slash burning

☒ Reduce speed while traveling

☒ Reduced traffic volume

☐ Other: _____

8. Erosion Control- Identify measures proposed to control erosion and sediment transport.

Proposed Best Management Practices (BMPs):

☒ Vegetated Buffers

☒ Temporary Seeding

☒ Mulch Cover

☒ Earthen Berms

☒ Water Diversions

☒ Surface Roughening

☐ Plastic Liners

☒ Secondary Containment

☒ Straw Wattles

☒ Silt Fence

☒ Spill Prevention/Response

☒ Sediment Traps

9. Solid Waste- Describe plan to store and control solid waste.

a. Trash Cans/Dumpsters: Quantity: See AMD #4 Capacity (yd³): _____

b. Disposal Facility: Name: _____ City: _____

10. Historic and Archaeological Resources- Describe any measures that would be taken to reduce the impact to any historic and archeological resources that may be encountered. See Sections 3.17 and 3.18 of Exploration Plan of Operations.

11. Hazardous Substances- Identify the type, volume, and storage of all hazardous materials and toxic substances which would be on site during exploration and reclamation operations;

a. Petroleum Products

- | | | |
|------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------|
| i. Diesel Fuel: | Quantity: <u>1 per drill rig</u> | Capacity (gal): <u>300</u> |
| ii. Gasoline: | Quantity: <u>1 per drill rig</u> | Capacity (gal): <u>100</u> |
| iii. Lubricants: | Quantity: <u>1 per drill rig</u> | Capacity (gal): <u>5</u> |
| iv. Other: | Quantity: _____ | Capacity (gal): _____ |

Note: BMPs proposed to prevent the release of petroleum products to the environment:

- ☒ Spill Kits ☒ Regular Equipment Maintenance ☒ Secondary Containment

b. Solvents

- | | | |
|-------------------|--------------------|-----------------------------|
| i. Brake Cleaner: | Quantity: <u>5</u> | Capacity (gal): <u>0.25</u> |
| ii. Carb Cleaner: | Quantity: <u>5</u> | Capacity (gal): <u>0.50</u> |
| iii. Degreaser: | Quantity: <u>5</u> | Capacity (gal): <u>0.25</u> |
| iv. Other: | Quantity: _____ | Capacity (gal): _____ |

Note: BMPs proposed to prevent the release of solvents to the environment:

- ☒ Spill Kits ☒ Proper and Secured Storage ☒ Secondary Containment

- c. Cyanide: 0
- d. Millings: 0
- e. Process and laboratory reagents: 0
- f. Explosives: 0
- g. Other: Per the Exploration Plan of Operations, there will be no bulk storage of fuel in the Project Area.

SECTION H – RECLAMATION

12. Weed Control Plan

- a. Describe how noxious weeds would be controlled during exploration operations: See Section 3.7 and 4.8 of Exploration Plan of Operations.
- b. Describe how noxious weeds would be controlled after reclamation: See Section 4.8 of Exploration Plan of Operations.

13. Reclamation Plan

- a. Describe ongoing reclamation that may occur during exploration operations: See Sections 4.6, Interim Management Plan, Section 5.4.4. Concurrent Reclamation, in Exploration Plan of Operations.
- b. If proposed work spans multiple operating seasons, describe “end-of-season” reclamation: See Section 4.6, Interim Management Plan, in Exploration Plan of Operations.
- c. Describe final reclamation of the site: See Section 5.0, Reclamation Plan, in Exploration Plan of Operations.
- d. Describe any surface disturbance or structures that would remain unreclaimed at the request of the landowner: _____

(ARM) 17.24.106, detailed as follows;

17.24.106 EXPLORATION DRILL HOLE PLUGGING

(1) Except as provided in (3) of this rule, all exploration drill holes must be plugged at the surface five to ten feet with cement.

(2) Except as provided in (3) of this rule, exploration drill holes must be plugged with bentonite or a similar compound from the bottom of the hole to within five to ten feet of the surface, and with cement from the top of the bentonite to the surface if one or more of the following conditions apply:

- (a) two aquifers are intercepted;
- (b) one aquifer is intercepted and an existing or potential beneficial use (domestic, agricultural or fish/ wildlife water supply) exists;
- (c) one or more artesian aquifers are intercepted causing either surface flow or significant water rise in the hole; or
- (d) the potential exists for downward water loss from an aquifer (cascade effect) as determined by the department.

(3) Exceptions to (1) and (2) of this rule may be granted by the department if:

- (a) shallow placer holes are drilled using a churn or percussion drill or similar equipment in alluvium in which the holes will be obliterated as the drill stem is withdrawn, leaving no evidence of the hole;
- (b) the drill hole contained no water, is not geologically likely to contain water or the hole is to be destroyed during mining or mining related disturbances;
- (c) the drill hole is developed into a water well, monitoring well, or piezometer with the written agreement of the landowner and to the specifications of the appropriate state agency; or
- (d) other site-specific hydrogeological and topographic situations necessitate exceptions.

(4) All drill holes must be plugged prior to removing the drill rig from a hole unless removing the drill rig is necessary to the hole plugging operation or unless otherwise approved by the department.

(5) If the flow of an artesian drill hole is not completely stopped, after exhaustion of all methods, the operator must:

- (a) obtain a discharge permit from the Department of Environmental Quality; or
- (b) develop a water well in compliance with the requirements of other applicable local, state and federal statutes, including water rights. In addition, the landowner must concur, the amount and use of flow must be compatible with the approved postmining land use, and the water quality must meet standards set under the Title 75, chapter 5, MCA.

(6) In areas and geological formations of known artesian well potential, bonding for drill sites must be adequate to ensure artesian hole plugging.

Authorizing statute(s): 82-4-321, MCA

Implementing statute(s): 82-4-302, 82-4-332, 82-4-355, MCA

History: NEW, 1994 MAR p. 2952, Eff. 11/11/94; TRANS, from DSL, 1996 MAR p. 2852; AMD, 2002 MAR p. 3590, Eff. 12/27/02; AMD, 2022 MAR p. 1830, Eff. 9/24/22

The Applicant May Need Additional Authorizations From The Following State or Federal Agencies & Programs

State of Montana Authorizations

310 Permit – For work proposed in streams, wetlands, floodplains, and other water bodies. One joint application form is available to apply for several different Local/State/Federal permits.

See: <http://dnrc.mt.gov/divisions/cadd/conervation-districts/the-310-law>

Montana Water Rights: <http://dnrc.mt.gov/divisions/water/water-rights>

Montana Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (MPDES) Permit – for projects that have a surface water discharge.

See: <https://deq.mt.gov/water/assistance>

Montana Ground Water Pollution Control System (MGWPCS) Permit – for projects that have a groundwater discharge.

See: <https://deq.mt.gov/water/assistance>

Stormwater Permit – for projects that have the potential to contribute sediment or pollution to surface waters from surface disturbances as a result of a storm event.

See: <https://deq.mt.gov/water/assistance>

Suction Dredge Permit – for projects that utilize a suction dredge. See:

<http://deq.mt.gov/Water/WPB/mpdes/suctiondredge>

Sage Grouse – In response to Senate Bill 261 and Executive Orders 10-2014 and 12-2015, many DEQ permits and approvals in sage grouse core, general, or connectivity habitat, received on or after January 1, 2016, must include a letter of comment from the [Sage Grouse Habitat Conservation Program](#).

See: <https://sagegrouse.mt.gov/>

Federal Authorizations

USFS – Contact local USFS office. See: <https://www.fs.usda.gov/r1/>

BLM – Contact local BLM office. See: <https://www.blm.gov/montana-dakotas>

811 – Before You Dig: <https://call811.com/>

US Army Corp of Engineers 404 Permit – may be required for any work in streams or wetlands See:

<http://www.usace.army.mil/Missions/Civil-Works/Regulatory-Program-and-Permits/Obtain-a-Permit/>