



U.S. Department of the Interior  
Bureau of Land Management

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# HiTech Minerals, Inc., McDermitt Exploration Project

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# Key Facts

- **Proponent:** HiTech Minerals Incorporated
- **Location:** approximately 20 miles west of McDermitt, NV
- **Project area:** 7,200 acres
- **Proposed Disturbance:** 100 acres (roads, drill pads, etc.)
- **Resource:** Lithium
- **Operational timeframe:** Seasonally, July 1 to November 30, to protect native species
- **Duration:** Up to 5 years from approval





	Project Area
	Paved Road
	Unpaved Road

NOTES:

Figure 1: Project Area



COORDINATE SYSTEM:	DESIGNED BY:	CHECKED BY:	DATE:
Coordinate System: NAD 1983 UTM Zone 11N Projection: Transverse Mercator Datum: North American 1983 Units: Meter	L. REINSEL	M. TUCKER	1/11/2023
SCALE:	DRAWN BY:	APPROVED BY:	JOB CODE:
 1:9K,000	L. REINSEL	M. TUCKER	JN001.009

HITECH MINERALS INC.

MCDERMITT EXPLORATION PROJECT  
FIGURE 1: PROJECT LOCATION  
& SITE ACCESS MAP

Document Path: R:\Projects\JN001\_015\01\_Map\6k\EPO\_v03\Figure 1\Fig Project\Fig1\MCD\_EP0\_v03\Figures1-9.aprx



# Proposed Disturbance

- The Plan proposes to construct:
  - Up to 267 drill sites with sumps;
  - up to 30.2 miles (159,559 linear feet) of roads;
  - a 300'x300' laydown and storage area
- The holes will be between 300 and 800 feet deep.
- Up to five boreholes will be converted to groundwater monitoring wells.
- Water for drilling operations will be obtained from a water well located within the project area.
  - The company has filed for a 5-year limited license for 34.69 acre feet.
  - The application is currently under review by the Oregon Water Master.



# Applicant-Committed Measures

**Air Quality:** Proponent will water roads, drill sites, and other disturbed areas as necessary to control fugitive dust.

**Livestock and Grazing Allotments:** HiTech will protect existing range improvements. HiTech will continue to coordinate with approved allotment holders to ensure that cattle operations are not impacted by Project activities. HiTech will retain fence repair equipment in their vehicles for light field repairs as needed and if encountered.

**Archaeological Resources:** Proponent will avoid known archaeological sites. Sites eligible for the National Register will have a protective buffer placed around them. HiTech will be responsible for ensuring that employees, contractors, or any others associated with the Project do not damage, destroy, or vandalize archaeological or historical sites.





# Applicant-Committed Measures

**Biological Resources:** Proponent has committed to the following measures to protect biological resources:

- 15 to 25 mph speed limit will be observed.
- HiTech will take all available measures to ensure wildlife are not unduly disturbed, whether through spatial avoidance or timing of exploration activities. Pre-construction nest clearance surveys will occur.
- All threatened, endangered, and sensitive species encounters will be documented and reported.
- The Project will conform to the approved Resource Management Plan for the Greater Sage-Grouse.
- All new construction will be conducted at least 300 feet from either side of the flood prone width for all perennial and intermittent waters, and outside of riparian habitat, whichever is greater.



# Applicant-Committed Measures

**Surface Water:** Only existing stream crossings (fords) will be used. No new crossings will be established. Surface water monitoring will be conducted.

**Groundwater:** Groundwater monitoring will be conducted to record baseline water chemistry at the existing water supply well and measure water levels within the Project Area.

**Erosion Prevention and Control:** Erosion and sediment control will be utilized during construction, operation, and reclamation to minimize sediment mobilization. Sediment control structures may include fabric and/or certified weed free straw filter fences, siltation or filter berms, sumps, mulch, and down gradient drainage channels to prevent unnecessary or undue degradation to the environment.



# Environmental Studies Conducted

## Archaeological Survey:

- Report is still in draft form pending edits required by the BLM.
- Survey identified 91 sites and 268 isolates. The project area is likely situated in a larger lithic landscape. BLM is working to define what that landscape is and how sites within the project area contribute to it.

## Cultural Resources and Traditional Knowledge:

- Consultation with local Tribal governments is ongoing and will continue throughout the life of the project.





# Environmental Studies Conducted

**Biological Resources** - surveys conducted:

• Greater Sage-grouse	• General Wildlife
• Eagles and other raptors	• Migratory Birds
• Western Burrowing Owl	• Special Status Plants
• Short-eared Owl	• Noxious Weeds
• Pygmy Rabbits	• Special Status Fish
• White-tailed Jackrabbit	• Habitat Characterization
• Kit Fox	• Riparian Systems
• Bats	• Wetlands



# Environmental Studies Conducted

## **Soil/Air/Water** investigations completed:

- Streams
- Seeps and Springs
- Stream morphology

## **Environmental plans** compiled:

- Interim Management Plan
- Reclamation Plan
- Noxious Weed Management Plan
- Emergency Response Plan
- Stormwater Management Plan



# Next Steps

- Public scoping (July 31 to August 29):
  - What issues should the BLM analyze?
  - What impacts could occur?
  - Do you see any alternatives?
- Review all comments
- Prepare an environmental document that analyzes and discloses any impacts to the human environment from the proposed project.
- 30-day public comment period
  - Your opportunity to review the document and provide your thoughts on the analysis and our conclusions
- Issue a decision selecting an analyzed option and setting a reclamation bond for the project