

Nordic Nickel Limited (ASX:NNL)

Research Note – 9th February 2026

COMPANY OVERVIEW

Nordic Resources Limited (ASX:NNL) is an Australian mineral exploration company incorporated in 2021 and listed on the ASX in June 2022. Headquartered in Perth, the company is primarily focused on the exploration and development of gold and copper assets in Finland. Its flagship asset, Kopsa, is located within the Middle Ostrobothnia Gold Belt, which also contains the Kiimala Project and the Hirsangas gold project, which together host an estimated 1.04 million ounces under JORC-compliant resource classification.

PROJECTS

Overview

NNL's flagship asset, the Kopsa Project, is located within the Ostrobothnia Gold Belt in Finland and is prospective for gold and copper. Within the Gold Belt, the Kopsa, Kiimala and Hirsangas are contained. Other assets include the Pulju nickel-copper-cobalt project, located within Northern Finland.

Kopsa Project

Project Overview. The Kopsa gold-copper project is 100% owned by NNL and is located within the Ostrobothnia Gold belt in Finland. The project is located 8 km from Haapajärvi with rail access 5 km from the mine. The tenement package covers a total area of 10 km². Historically, the area has seen limited gold production, primarily from shallow and open-pit mining.

JORC. Kopsa hosts a substantial JORC estimate prepared in February 2025. The resource adopts a 0.5 g/t cut off and comprises 23.2 Mt of resource for gold equivalent 814,000 ounces. Specifically, the resource contains 631,100 ounces of gold and 38,360 tonnes of copper. Notably, 69% of the resource is classified as measured or indicated, which is indicative of extensive drilling and high confidence in the deposit. Applying Canary's adjustments, the Kopsa gold deposit contains an adjusted 451,850 ounces of gold and 26,630 tonnes of copper, equalling a total of 462,728 AuEq ounces. It is important to note that 90% of the JORC resource comes from a depth less than 150 metres, making it amenable to low-cost open pit extraction.

Cut-off Grade: 0.5 g/t	Tonnes (Mt)	Grade (g/t)	Contained Au (oz)
Inferred	6.75	0.89	193,200
Indicated	8.96	0.73	211,100
Measured	7.44	0.95	226,800
Total	23.2	0.85	631,100
Adjusted Total	23.2	0.85	451,850

Exploration Activities. On 15 September 2025 and 8 December 2025, NNL reported assay results from a 4,500-metre diamond drilling program commenced in late July 2025. Drilling targeted shallow extensions and deeper high-grade zones beyond the existing resource. In response to strong results, NNL expanded the program from 4,500 metres to 6,000 metres in order to increase the resource base.

It's important to note that, despite Kopsa's exceptional high-grade mining highlights, the overall average grade is approximately 0.85 g/t Au due to the scale of the project. While some zones exceed 1 g/t Au, most of the deposit falls within the 0.3–1.0 g/t Au range.

Hole ID	From (m)	To (m)	Interval (m)	Grade (g/t)	Gram-Metres
NRKOP22001	6	104.7	98.7	3.90	385.0
BELKOPDD102	19	73.5	54.5	2.49	135.9
BELKOPDD065	32	52.3	20.3	4.61	93.6
NRKOP25004	73	86	13	2.81	36.5
NRKOP25003	21	35	14	1.02	14.3

Hole NGKOP22001, BELKOPDD102 and BELKOPDD065 are highlights gathered from an ASX announcement on 15 September 2025. Hole ID NRKOP25004 and NRKOP25003 were gathered from an ASX announcement 8 December 2025.

Planned Exploration Activities. NNL intends to update the JORC resource estimate in 2026, incorporating new data gathered from mining exploration conducted in Q3 and Q4 of 2025. NNL also intends to upgrade their current conditional mining license to a full mining license once the remaining conditions are satisfied. NNL are still allowed to explore in the interim. Currently, the company is facing opposition from NGOs such as Mining Watch Finland, which are using the Mining Act 2023 to contest NNL's permits under the idea that exploration areas interfere with the habitats of protected species. Although this claim is only regarding the 1.5km road access, under the new law, all infrastructure must be treated at the same level of scrutiny. This claim could lead to the Natura 2000 Assessment, which can add up to 12-24 months of permitting time, as the company must pass a multi-stage legal and scientific process to prove they will not impair species and habitats. NNL's auxiliary permit has been validated as part of the Northgold acquisition on 4 June 2025. However, until its signed off by Tukes, NNL sits in administrative waiting.

Hirsikangas Project

Project Overview. The Hirsikangas project is 100% owned by NNL and is located within the Himanka Volcanic Belt of western central Finland. The project is located 40 km south of Halsua. The tenement package covers a total area of 19 km². Historically, the area has seen limited gold production with the deposit itself being discovered in the mid-2000s and acquired from Northern Aspect Resource Oy in 2023. The transactions involved 70 million shares, which were issued to Northern Gold, as well as a \$325k payment. Together, the all-in cost of their acquisition was approximately \$4.25m.

JORC. Hirsikangas hosts a JORC Resource which is comprised of 7.29 Mt of resource totalling 264,000 ounces of gold. Like the Kopsa project, the Hirsikangas resource occurs at a shallow depth with much of its gold being located near the surface, making it amenable to open pit mining. Applying Canary's adjustments, the Hirsikangas deposit holds and adjusted 134,000 ounces of gold. It is important to consider that the majority of this resource is inferred.

Cut-off Grade: 0.5 g/t	Tonnes (Mt)	Grade (g/t)	Contained Au (oz)
Inferred	4.60	1.17	160,000
Indicated	2.69	1.10	100,000
Total	7.29	1.13	260,000
Adjusted Total	7.29	1.13	134,000

Exploration Activities. Following the acquisition of the Hirsikangas Project in mid-2025, NNL verified substantial gold intercepts. Nordic has not publicly itemised individual intercepts but has confirmed the drilling's reliability by publishing a JORC resource. No new drilling has been conducted at Hirsikangas.

Planned Exploration Activities. NNL intends to extend the Hirsikangas resource along strike and at depth. Particularly, through targeting lodes both to the southeast and northwest. NNL also intends to test parallel zones near the main deposit. Future drilling will include holes targeting these adjacent magnetic lineaments. Importantly, Nordic will need to enact environmental surveys along the 10 km trend to gather information that is required for permitting.

Kiimala Trend Project

Project Overview. The Kiimala Trend Project is 100% owned by NNL, containing the Angesneva and Vesipera prospects and is in the municipalities of Nivala, Haapavesi and Oulainen in central Finland. The project covers a tenement package of 27 km². Historically, the Kiimala area has hosted multiple gold occurrences and prospects that have seen past drilling, but no JORC estimates apart from the Angesneva project.

JORC. Within the Kiimala Trend, only the Angesneva project has a JORC equivalent resource. This JORC resource comprises 3.85 Mt, totalling 147,000 ounces of gold. The reported resource is a near-surface prospect, making it viable for open-pit mining. Applying Canary metrics, the Angesneva resource contains an adjusted 102,900 ounces of gold. Importantly, the entire JORC is listed as indicated, reflecting confidence in the validity of the resource.

Cut-off Grade: 0.5 g/t	Tonnes (Mt)	Grade (g/t)	Contained Au (oz)
Indicated	3.85	1.19	147,000
Total	3.85	1.19	147,000
Adjusted Total	3.85	1.19	102,900

Exploration Activities. Since acquiring the Kiimala trend in mid-2025, Nordic Resources has focused on data compilation and target prioritisation for new drilling targets. On 29 May 2025, NNL announced the verification of previous assay results from the Angesneva resource, which are seen below.

Hole ID	From (m)	To (m)	Interval (m)	Grade (g/t)	Gram-Metres
BELANG004	57.2	179.6	122.4	1.52	186.0
BELANG009	127.8	207.6	79.8	1.85	147.6
BELANG008	247.2	320.9	73.7	1.73	127.5

Planned Exploration Activities. NNL has indicated the intention to increase exploration of the Kiimala trend

through a resource validation and upgrade campaign, followed by a drilling campaign in 2026.

Pulju Project

Project Overview. The Pulju Project is 100% owned by NNL and is located in the Central Lapland Greenstone Belt (CLGB). The project is located about 50 km north of Kittila, the tenement package covers a total area of 200 km², with a prospective 395 km², if all exploration licences and additional applications are accepted. Historically, the area has seen significant production of gold and minor production of copper, cobalt and nickel, being located only 50 km away from Kittila, which hosts Agnico Eagle's largest mine in Europe.

JORC. Pulju hosts a JORC resource which is comprised of 418 Mt of resource totalling 862.8 Kt of nickel, 40 Kt of copper and 22.1 Kt of cobalt. The resource is of relatively low grade but of very large scale, underscoring Pulju's potential as a large-scale open-pit or underground nickel project. Applying Canary's adjustments, the Pulju project holds an adjusted 372.9 Kt of nickel, 17.26 of Cobalt and 19.7 Kt of copper. Importantly, the 418 Mt resource covers only 5 km² of the Pulju project area.

Cut-off Grade: 0.5 g/t	Tonnes (Mt)	Ni (%)	Co (ppm)	Cu (ppm)	Ni (oz)	Co (oz)	Cu (oz)
Inferred	376	0.20	95.3	52.4	308,040	143,200	78,800
Indicated	42	0.22	99.5	56.3	64,890	29,400	16,800
Total	418	0.21	95.7	52.8	372,930	172,600	95,600

Exploration Activities. Nordic undertook metallurgy work in late 2024 and reported excellent results, which enhanced the viability of the large low-grade resource. Recognising the size of the resource, NNL also reported engaging in joint venture discussions with strategic partners in 2024.

Planned Exploration Activities. NNL plans to unlock further value at Pulju by conducting more advanced geophysical surveys and drill testing new targets. With 5 new exploration licenses being approved in 2025, NNL looks to drill new targets outside the well-defined Hotinvaara deposit. In addition, NNL has continued to progress their joint venture with a strategic partnership expected to be announced soon.

FINANCIALS

Cash Position and Debt Owed

In the most recent quarter, Q1 FY26, NNL reported a cash balance of \$12.26m. According to its most recent half-yearly report, NNL holds no debt.

Cash Burn and Runway

In the most recent quarter, Q1 FY26, NNL had a cash burn of \$1.35m, with the four-quarter average being \$1.03m. With \$8.5m raised during the last quarter, the company has an estimated cash balance of \$12.26m. It is estimated that NNL will have 11 quarters of potential operational runway left before having to raise additional capital.

Exploration Expenditure

NNL spent \$1.26m in the latest quarter, which is an increase of \$0.139m from Q4 FY25. Over the past 4 quarters, a steady increase in exploration and evaluation expenditure can be observed, which can be attributed to diamond drilling programs and the expansion of the Kopsa project JORC. Additionally, the company's recent capital raises have provided extra funding to more aggressively advance exploration activities.

In '000s of AUD	Q1 FY26	Q2 FY25	Q3 FY25	Q4 FY25
Exploration and Evaluation Expenditure	1,259	252	1,169	1,120

Capital Raise

In its last capital raise on 22 October 2025, NNL raised \$8.5m through a placement to new and existing institutional investors conducted at a premium of the company's 15-day VWAP. The placement was completed through the issuance of 38,636,364 new shares at an issue price of \$0.22. This placement was cornerstoned by the commodity-focused Paragon Fund as well as numerous other Australian resource funds.

Capital Structure

Share Price	\$0.21
Ordinary Shares Outstanding	376.05m
Market Capitalisation	\$78.97m
Debt	-
Cash	\$12.26m
Enterprise Value	\$66.71m
Options and Performance Rights Outstanding	62.10m
Diluted Shares Outstanding	438.15m

Relative Valuation

Given its adjusted ounces of 0.68 Moz and a gold price of \$6,500/oz, we estimate that the market value of NNL's gold resources is ~\$4.48 billion. On an EV/Ounce basis, the market is currently valuing NNL's resources at \$102/oz. This EV/Ounce is well below the peer average of approximately \$331/oz.

	Metric
Adjusted Ounces	688,750
Adjusted Grade (g/t)	0.94
Market Value of Adjusted Ounces (at \$6,500/oz)	\$4,476m
EV/Ounce (\$)	102
Peer Median EV/Ounce (\$)	331

MANAGEMENT

Management Biographies

Dr Robert Wrixon – Executive Director (since 2021). Dr Rob Wrixon holds a PhD in Mineral Engineering from UC Berkeley and has over 20 years of experience in corporate strategy, mining M&A, and mineral exploration. Wrixon founded and managed resource investment firm Starboard Global Ltd. He also currently serves as a director on the boards of Pivotal Metals Ltd and Emmerson PLC. Prior to Nordic, Dr Wrixon held roles that blend technical and financial expertise, which makes him well-suited to steer a junior explorer's growth.

Malcolm Norris – Non – Executive Chairman (since 2025). Mr Malcolm Norris is a highly respected geologist with over 40 years’ experience in the mining industry. He joined NNL as Chairman in mid-2025. Holding an MSc in Geology and an M.App.Fin, Mr Norris is best known for his world-class discovery of the Tujuh Bukit copper gold project in Indonesia. As Chairman, Norris provides strategic oversight and technical guidance, leveraging his exploration success track record to drive Nordic’s projects forward.

Marcello Cardaci – Non - Executive Director (since 2021). Mr Marcello Cardaci is a lawyer and corporate finance expert with 25+ years of experience advising mining companies. Formerly, a partner at Gilbert + Tobin’s Corporate Advisory Group, where he specialised in equity raising, M&A, takeovers and joint ventures. Cardaci possesses a deep knowledge of public company transactions and regulatory compliance. His legal and financial acumen helps ensure strong governance and deal-making, which is of high importance, and NNL looks to seek strategic partnerships.

Juho Haverinen – Non-Executive Director (since 2022). Mr Juho Haverinen is a Finnish geologist bringing crucial country-specific insight to Nordic. He has over a decade of experience in mineral exploration in Finland. Currently, Haverinen sits as a board member of the Finnish Mining Association. He holds BSc and MSc degrees in geology from the University of Helsinki. His presence ensures the company's activities align with Finnish practices and can leverage local networks.

Aaron Bertolatti – Chief Financial Officer and Company Secretary (since 2021). Mr Aaron Bertolatti is a Chartered Accountant with over 15 years of experience in corporate accounting and governance for ASX-listed companies. He has previously served as CFO or Company Secretary for multiple junior resource companies, including notable stints at Highfield Resource Ltd. Aaron is responsible for Nordic’s financial management, regulatory reporting and compliance. His experience administering ASX-listed companies, combined with his involvement in Nordic’s governance and financial controls since its IPO, positions him well to support financial stability alongside growth.

Management Compensation

In FY23, the share-based payments were higher than in subsequent years because it’s the year that NNL went public. This meant that NNL front-loaded equity incentives during their first year of listing in order to align with management’s interest without depleting cash raised for exploration. In addition, Mr Bertolatti engaged in a consulting agreement to receive fees of \$8,500 per month. Importantly, a service agreement with all non-executive directors dictates that remuneration cannot exceed \$250,000 per annum. This amount can only increase with the approval of shareholders at a general meeting.

<i>In AUD</i>	Salary and Fees	Superannuation	Cash Bonus	Share-Based Compensation	Total Compensation
FY25	329,056	8,357	-	194,114	531,527
FY24	590,727	30,000	-	196,464	817,191
FY23	590,727	28,632	-	545,816	1,165,175

INVESTMENT ANALYSIS

Investment Thesis

Significant Undervaluation. Currently, NNL trades at a significant undervaluation with an EV/ounce of 102, a \$229 discount to the peer median of \$331. With an adjusted 0.68Moz of gold, NNL is estimated to have a resource worth \$4.48 billion at a gold price of \$6,500/ounce.

Strong Cash Position. NNL is in an exceptionally strong financial position, reporting \$12.26 million in cash and equivalents established through institutional placements, which were overly subscribed by notable resource specialist investors. This provides capital to extend diamond drilling programs and removes the need for short-term capital raises, allowing NNL to focus on exploration.

Significant Near-Surface Resource. The company's inventory is characterised by high confidence and a shallow nature. As these resources are close to the surface, they are highly amenable to low-cost open-pit mining, which carries lower capital and operational risk. In addition, recent drilling in January 2026 has identified new high-grade zones, which suggest a significant resource upgrade later this year.

Investment Risks

Permitting and Regulatory Issues. NNL is currently facing opposition from NGOs such as Mining Watch Finland, who are inciting the New Mining Act 2023 to challenge Tukes' approval of their permits. While the NGO's claims are considered technically and legally unsubstantiated, even low-merit appeals can trigger a mandatory judicial review process, potentially extending administrative timelines. Historically, however, dismissal rates for such appeals have been high.

INVESTMENT RECOMMENDATION

NNL presents a compelling investment case, supported by high-grade mineralisation, favourable open-pit economics, and a strong cash position that enables accelerated project advancement. This underpins a disconnect between the company's current market capitalisation and its implied resource value. The permitting process represents a key swing factor: an adverse outcome could materially impair fundamental value, whereas a positive resolution would likely act as a significant catalyst and drive meaningful upside. On balance, we believe the company's strong fundamentals outweigh the permitting risks. Accordingly, we issue a **buy** recommendation on NNL.

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