

Tuesday, 18<sup>th</sup> January 2022

## Inaugural drilling program underway at the West Desert Deposit

- Diamond drilling has commenced at the West Desert zinc-copper-indium deposit, Utah
- The initial drill program is designed to expand the known mineralisation by testing the continuity of key high-grade zinc and copper zones
- The results will be used to support a JORC mineral resource estimation and to progress scoping study activities

American West Metals Limited (**American West** or **the Company**) (ASX: AW1), is pleased to announce that a 7,500m diamond drilling program has commenced at the West Desert Project in Utah (**West Desert** or the **Project**).

The West Desert Deposit is a large historical and foreign resource (Ni 43-101 compliant) of over **59Mt**, including a higher-grade core of approximately **16.5Mt @ 6.3% Zn, 0.3% Cu and 33g/t In**, which significantly, remains open at depth and along strike.

The drill program results will be used to prepare an updated JORC-compliant mineral resource estimate. Drilling data will also be used to complete detailed mining studies for a potential mining proposal including the evaluation of a low footprint, high-grade development scenario.

Major Drilling Group International Inc. has been awarded the drilling contract.

### **Dave O'Neill, Managing Director of American West Metals commented:**

*"We are excited to kick-off the year with the first ever drilling program by American West at the West Desert Project.*

*"The drilling is planned to test the West Desert resource in areas that already have some impressive zinc, copper and silver intercepts, and to confirm our assumptions that the continuity of these zones will support a range of development scenarios.*

*"The drilling will also be used to confirm the amenability of the shallow mineralisation to open-pit mining, further adding to the development optionality at West Desert.*

*"Whilst this drilling will focus on the West Desert resource, we are also working to secure a second drill rig to start drill testing of the exciting exploration targets that were defined in the recent gravity survey (see our ASX Release dated 11 January 2022 'Strong gravity survey results support potential for significant near mine mineralisation and expansion of the West Desert Deposit').*

*"Full credit must go to our US operations team for getting the program up and running immediately after the holiday break. We look forward to updating the market as the drilling progresses."*



*Figure 1: Drill hole WD22-01 underway at the West Desert Project. The photo was taken looking SW towards Snake Valley and the Deep Creek Range, with the drill rig and laydown area visible in the centre of the photo.*

#### HIGH IMPACT DRILLING PROGRAM

American West Metals' inaugural drilling program will focus on extending a number of key high-grade zinc and copper zones within the current West Desert resource (**59Mt** including **16.5Mt @ 6.3% Zn, 0.3% Cu, 33g/t In**), and acquiring material for metallurgical test work in the oxide and transitional zones.

The drilling will be completed in areas that have insufficient historical drilling, or that are open and have the potential to add significant tonnes and grade to the existing resource.

The higher-grade copper zones in particular (including **10.4m @ 3.2% Cu** in historical drill hole CC-39), are sparsely drilled and remain open. The confirmation of further high-grade mineralisation in these locations has the potential to significantly upgrade the overall copper grade and metal inventory of the West Desert Deposit.

Historical test work on the oxide and transitional zinc and copper ores at West Desert has shown promising results, with recoveries of up to 79% for copper and 95% for zinc. Additional testing of the mineralisation in these zones will aim to confirm the prior work, and allow for further optimization of the processing flow sheets.



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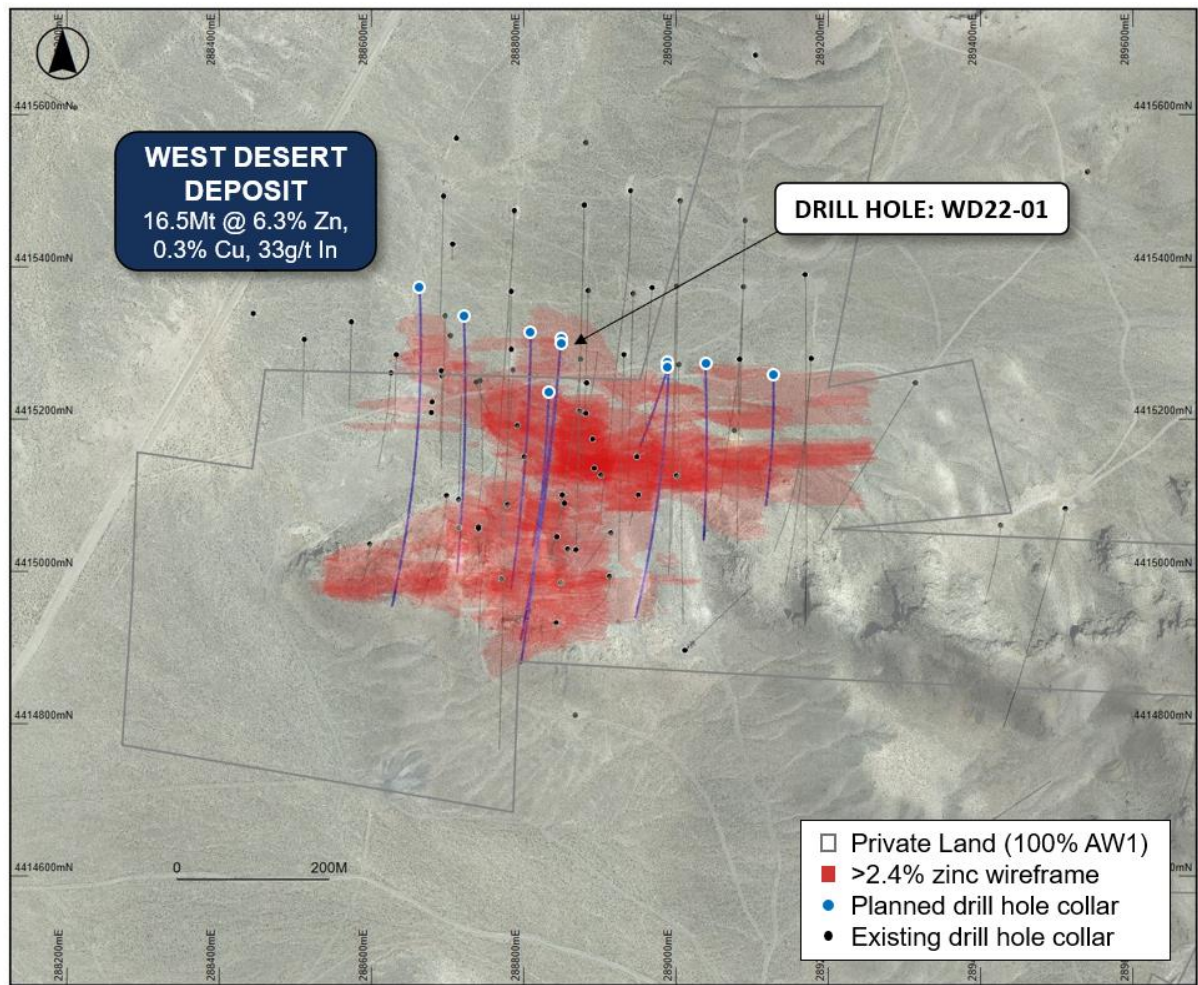


Figure 2: Plan view of the planned and historical drilling at the West Desert Deposit (>2.4% zinc resource shell highlighted in red shading), overlaying claim boundaries and topography

Ten diamond drill holes are initially planned for approximately 7,500m, with drill hole depths ranging from 450m to 800m. Additional drill holes will be added as required and a second drill rig is expected to join the program in the coming months. The second drill rig will be used for resource extension and to test a number of the exciting West Desert look-alike exploration targets in the near mine area.





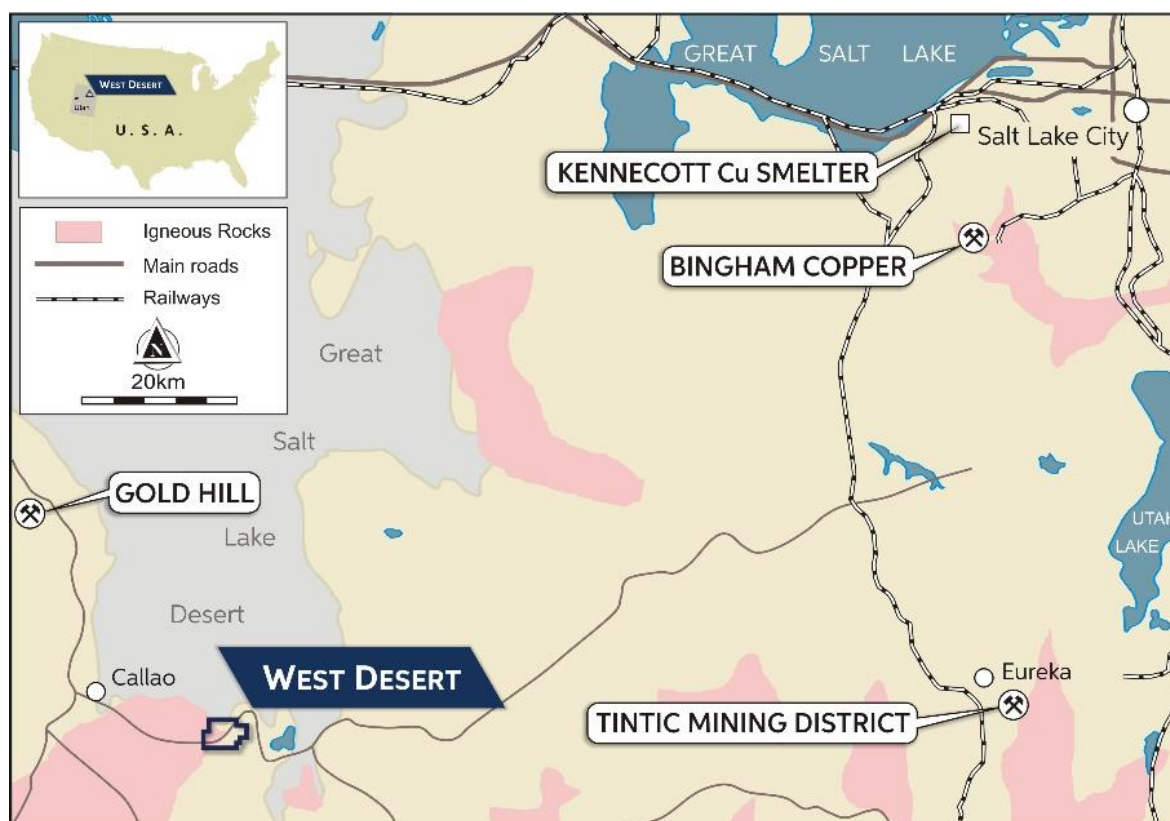
Figure 3: Major Drilling Group International Inc. drill rig and support equipment located on drill hole WD22-01.



#### ABOUT WEST DESERT PROJECT, UTAH

The West Desert Project is located 160km southwest of Salt Lake City, Utah, within the heart of the Sevier Orogenic Belt which hosts the world class Bingham Canyon copper deposit and Tintic Mining District. The Project now comprises 330 acres of private land, 336 unpatented lode mining claims and a single State Metalliferous Mineral Lease, for a total land holding of approximately 32km<sup>2</sup>.

The West Desert Deposit is 100% owned by American West Metals, and contains a historical and foreign resource (Ni 43-101 compliant) of over **59Mt**, which contains a higher-grade core of approximately **16.5Mt @ 6.3% Zn, 0.3% Cu and 33g/t In** (1.03Mt Zn, 45Kt Cu and 545t In).



This announcement has been approved for release by the Board of American West Metals Limited.

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**ASX Listing Rule 5.12**

The Company has previously addressed the requirements of Listing Rule 5.12 in its Initial Public Offer prospectus dated 29 October 2021 (released to ASX on 9 December 2021) (**Prospectus**) in relation to the West Desert Project. The Company is not in possession of any new information or data relating to the West Desert Project that materially impacts on the reliability of the estimates or the Company's ability to verify the estimates as mineral resources or ore reserves in accordance with the JORC Code. The Company confirms that the supporting information provided in the Prospectus continues to apply and has not materially changed.

This ASX announcement contains information extracted from the following reports which are available on the Company's website at <https://www.americanwestmetals.com/site/content/>:

- 29 October 2021 Prospectus

The Company confirms that it is not aware of any new information or data that materially affects the exploration results included in the Prospectus. The Company confirms that the form and context in which the Competent Person's findings are presented have not been materially modified from the Prospectus.

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## ABOUT US



### ABOUT AMERICAN WEST METALS

**AMERICAN WEST METALS LIMITED** (ASX: AW1) is an Australian company focused on growth through the discovery and development of major base metal mineral deposits in Tier 1 jurisdictions of North America. We are a progressive mining company focused on developing mines that have a low-footprint and support the global energy transformation.

Our portfolio of copper and zinc projects include significant existing resource inventories and high-grade mineralisation that can generate robust mining proposals. Core to our approach is our commitment to the ethical extraction and processing of minerals and making a meaningful contribution to the communities where our projects are located.

Led by a highly experienced leadership team, our strategic initiatives lay the foundation for a sustainable business which aims to deliver high-multiplier returns on shareholder investment and economic benefits to all stakeholders.

