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Contact:

Robin Samuelsen, Commercial Fishermen for Bristol Bay, 907.843.1642

Elizabeth Herendeen, Commercial Fishermen for Bristol Bay, 970.889.1440

Bristol Bay fishermen ask Senators Murkowski and Sullivan to follow Walker's lead: suspend Pebble permit process

ANCHORAGE, AK - Nearly 500 commercial fishermen today asked Alaska's leaders to call for a suspension of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineer's Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) process in Bristol Bay. In a petition sent this morning to Alaska's elected officials, fishermen urged the state's U.S. Senators to "ensure that the Army Corps does not fast-track Pebble's permit application at the expense of Alaska's already existing businesses and largest private sector employer."

"We commend Governor Walker and Lieutenant Governor Mallott for their recent leadership and for looking out for Alaska's fishermen, businesses, and communities. The Pebble Mine should not continue further in the permitting process until there's a complete and honest application on the table. Until then, Bristol Bay's fishermen wholeheartedly agree with Governor Walker that the EIS process be suspended until all information is submitted and concerns are met," said Bristol Bay permit holder and Commercial Fishermen for Bristol Bay representative Robin Samuelsen.

"We hope that Alaska's Senators will follow the Governor's lead and not cater to foreign mining companies, which have no genuine interest in benefiting Alaska's people and communities. It's time we take a stand for Alaska and maintain control of our most prized and irreplaceable resource: wild salmon."

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Commercial Fishermen for Bristol Bay is a coalition of over 100 fishing organizations and thousands of individual fishermen around the country working to protect the 14,000 jobs, more than \$500 million in annual income, and over half the world's wild sockeye salmon provided by Bristol Bay's sustainable fishery. Learn more at fishermenforbristolbay.org.