

COMMERCIAL FISHERMEN FOR BRISTOL BAY

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Bristol Bay Fishermen Disappointed with Pebble's Rushed Permitting Process

Juneau, AK - In response to the Army Corps of Engineers' surprise release of its Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the proposed Pebble Mine in Bristol Bay's headwaters, Commercial Fishermen for Bristol Bay representative Alexis Kwachka (F/V No Point) released the following statement:

"Bristol Bay's commercial fishermen are incredibly disappointed to see the Army Corps release its draft Environmental Impact Statement despite our unanswered questions and continued concerns about the Army Corps' highly rushed permitting process. Everything that we have seen from the Army Corps in their review of the Pebble Partnership's permit application falls short of the rigorous, scientific permitting process that we have been promised and deserve. Instead, their timeline is being driven by the Pebble Partnership's financial and political agenda and not what's best for the American public.

The Army Corps' ultimate decision in Bristol Bay could profoundly change my life and that of thousands of other Americans. The Pebble Mine is a direct and proven threat to more than 14,000 fishermen who depend on Bristol Bay's salmon for our jobs. That's why Bristol Bay's fishermen ask that the Army Corps uphold the original purpose and intent of our federal laws and not continue to push this irresponsible mining project forward at the expense of the greatest wild salmon fishery left on earth."

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