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**Trump Administration Steam-Rolls Bristol Bay's Fishing Fleet with Decision to Reverse Proposed Protections in Bristol Bay**

*Bristol Bay fishermen send S-O-S to Alaska's Senators to suspend corrupt permitting process*

Naknek, AK - Less than a week after visiting Bristol Bay and meeting with commercial fishermen, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) released a memo this morning announcing that it would begin the process of reversing the agency's own proposed protections for the Bristol Bay watershed. Their announcement comes as the Bristol Bay fishing fleet is consumed with 24/7 work of fishing during the short timing window in which the salmon run is peaking in Bristol Bay.

"It's an understatement to say that Bristol Bay's commercial fishermen are incredibly disappointed to see EPA take this step. It's clear that their intention with last week's trip to Bristol Bay was simply to check off a box and they have no real interest in upholding their own scientific data that shows the Pebble Mine would have unacceptable adverse impacts on Bristol Bay's salmon fishery," said Alexis Kwachka from the Fishing Vessel No Point in Bristol Bay. "This Administration is pure politics over science or principles. Pebble has invested heavily in lobbying the Trump White House and what we are seeing in this action today is the best government their money can buy."

"It's alarming to see our own federal government so actively go out of its way to benefit a Canadian mining company and abandon America's hard-working fishing families. We need our members of Congress and in particular Alaska's Senators to speak out now and not stand by as Alaskans are steam-rolled by a corrupt permitting process."

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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](http://fishermenforbristolbay.org).*