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Date: 1/25/2013 12:03:03 AM
Subject: Donlin EIS: Revised version of the Scoping Meeting presentation
Attachments: ScopingMeetings Version 2 Jan 25 2013.pdf

Friends,

Please find attached the revised version, based on the discussions yesterday.

Notable changes:

Slide 1: Don will introduce only himself, Moxie and I.
Slide 3: new bullet on scoping for Section 106
Slide 7 - Introductions of the Cooperating Agency representatives in attendance. Each will say a few sentences about

their agencies responsibilities.
Slide 8 – new bullet on NHPA and Section 106
Slide 9 – new bullet on SHPO
Slide 11 – new bullet on Section 106
Slide 25 – new bullets under Cultural Resources
Slide 27 – new slides with Ideas for Scoping Comments (Molly, this is a subset of your more detailed list.)

Two previous slides pausing for questions after the EIS Section and after the Donlin Project Description have now been eliminated.

(Rachel, please substitute this version for the current version on the Web Page. Thanks!!)

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Donlin Gold Project Environmental Impact Statement

Don Kuhle, US Army Corps of Engineers

Scoping Meetings

January – March, 2013

Version 2

Agenda

Why We Are Here

EIS Project Milestones and Schedule

Overview of the Donlin Gold Project

Example Issues and Concerns

How to Get Involved

Why We Are Here

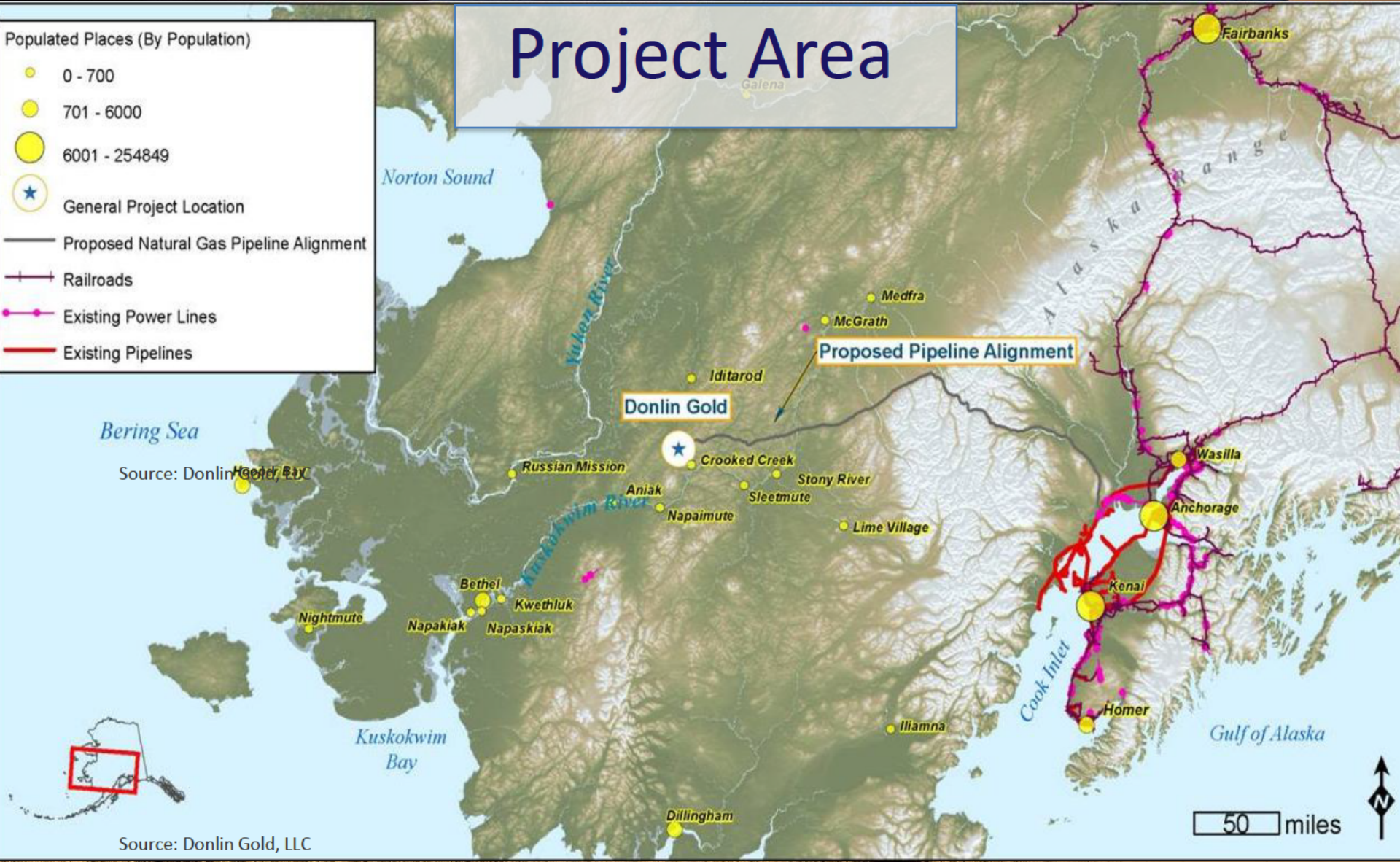
Donlin Gold, LLC has proposed an open pit gold mine 10 miles north of Crooked Creek, a community on the Kuskokwim River

US Army Corps of Engineers to prepare EIS to identify and analyze potential impacts

Scoping meetings are a first step in the EIS

Scoping meetings also can address cultural resources under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act

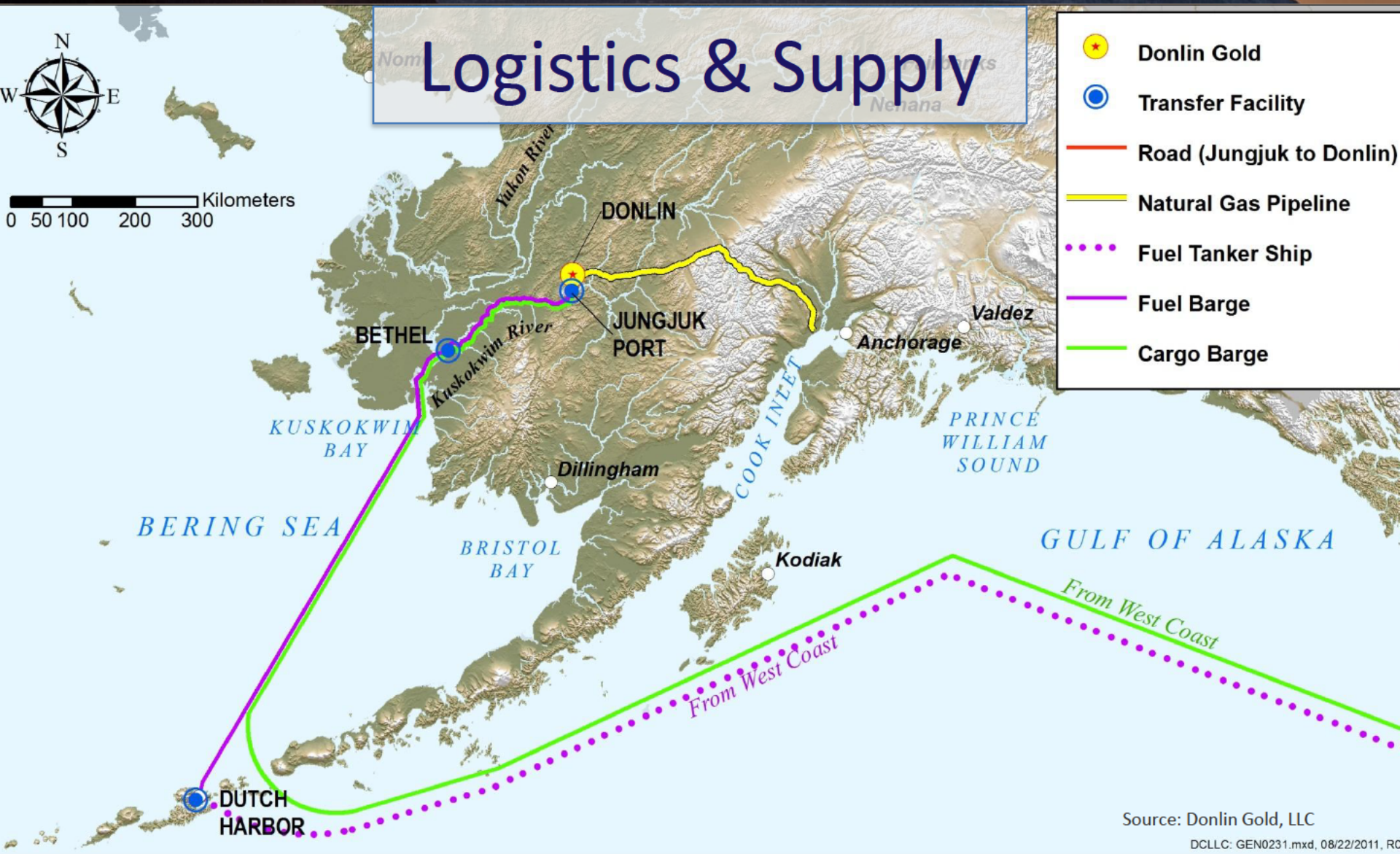
Project Area



Source: Donlin Gold, LLC

Source: Donlin Gold, LLC

Logistics & Supply



Source: Donlin Gold, LLC

DCLLC: GEN0231.mxd, 08/22/2011, RC

Why Prepare an EIS?

Donlin Gold, LLC submitted permit applications for mine project

Under NEPA*, Corps prepares an EIS to evaluate permit applications with regard to:

- Section 404, Clean Water Act
- Section 10, Rivers and Harbors Act

Corps makes a decision to issue or deny permits

Other federal and state agencies make permitting decisions

- Based on EIS and
- Applicable federal and state laws, including Section 106 of the NHPA**

** National Environmental Policy Act*

*** National Historic Preservation Act*

Lead and Cooperating Agencies

Corps is lead federal agency

Cooperating agencies:

- Bureau of Land Management
- Environmental Protection Agency
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration
- State of Alaska

Cooperating Tribal Governments:

- Crooked Creek
- Chuathbaluk
- Napaimute

Regional Cooperators:

- Kuskokwim River Watershed Council

Major Federal Permits & Consultations

Clean Water Act Section 404/ Rivers and Harbors Act Section 10 *(US Army Corps of Engineers)*

Rights of Way *(Bureau of Land Management)*

Prevention of Significant Deterioration Air Quality Review *(Environmental Protection Agency)*

Endangered Species Act Section 7 Consultation *(U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service/ National Marine Fisheries Service)*

Pipeline Special Permit *(Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration)*

Essential Fish Habitat Consultation *(NMFS)*

National Historic Preservation Act Section 106 *(all federal agencies)*

Major State of Alaska Permits & Consultations

Pipeline Rights of Way / Reclamation Plan Approval and Bonding / Port & Road Rights of Way / Dam Safety Certification *(Alaska Department of Natural Resources)*

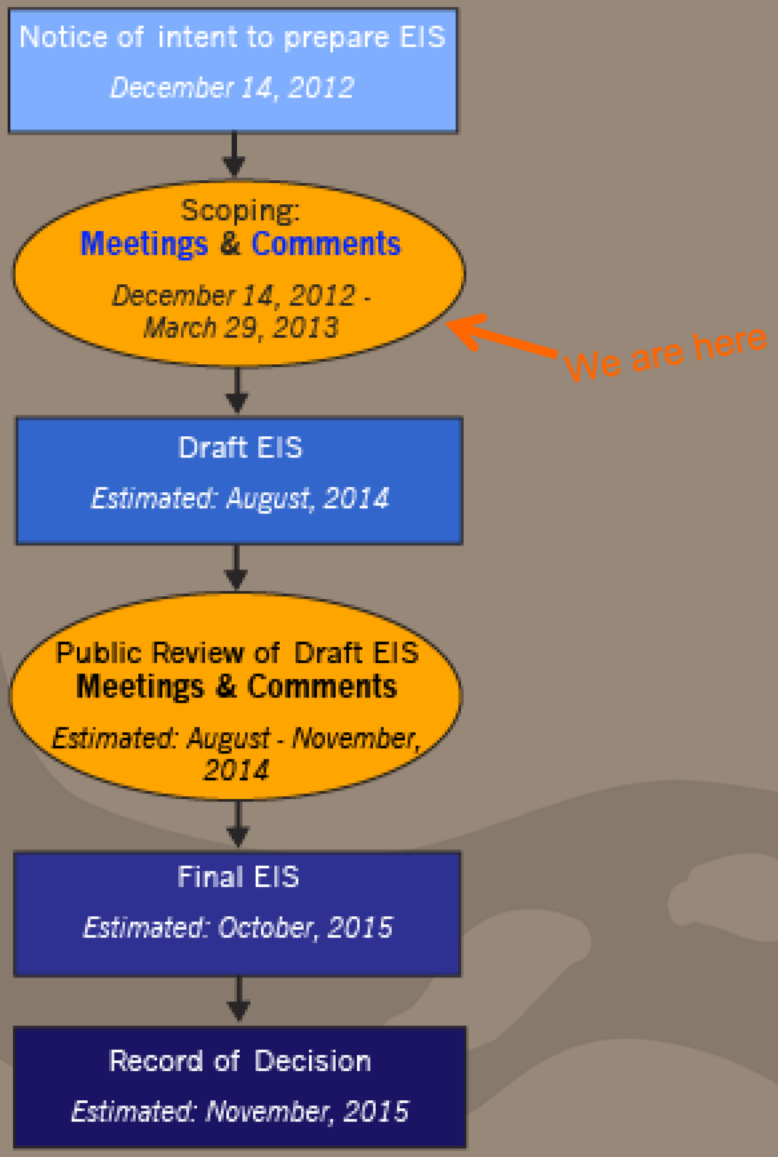
Wastewater Alaska Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permit/ Integrated Waste Permit and Bonding Air Quality Permit / Air Quality Permit / Spill Prevention & Response *(Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation)*

Fish Habitat Permits *(Alaska Department of Fish & Game)*

Consultation on Cultural Resources (*State Historic Preservation Officer)*

EIS Milestones

- EIS process allows for full disclosure of potential effects of proposed project
- Opportunity for tribes and local communities to understand proposal, voice concerns



Purpose of Scoping

(b) (6)

Provide information about EIS milestones

Share information about proposed project

Identify issues & concerns to examine in EIS

Identify issues & concerns to examine in Section 106 process

Identify useful information from communities

(b) (6)

Scoping Meetings

January – March 2013

Week 1	Communities	Week 2	Communities	Week 3	Communities	Week 4	Communities
Mid January	Crooked Creek	Late January	Quinhagak	February	Toksook Bay	March	
	Aniak		Kipnuk		Hooper Bay		Holy Cross
	Bethel		Nunapitchuk		Emmonak		McGrath
	Anchorage		Akiak		Saint Mary's		

- 13 community meetings in the project area
- 1 meeting in Anchorage
- Scoping ends on March 29, 2013

Donlin Gold Project Summary

Donlin Gold, LLC proposed gold mine:

- Calista Corporation - subsurface owner
- The Kuskokwim Corporation - surface owner

Large-scale development

- About 1 million ounces of gold produced per year
- 27.5 years estimated mine life
- 59,000 tons of ore processed each day

Donlin Gold Project Summary

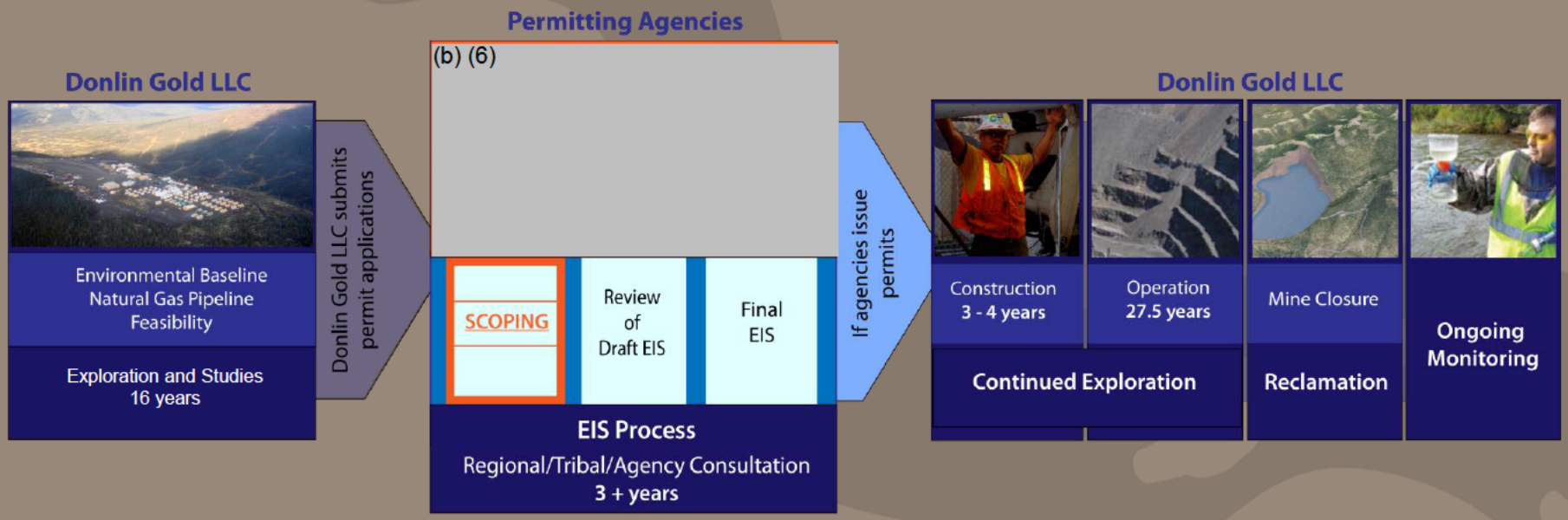
Remote project area, undeveloped lands and waters

- Cook Inlet to Kuskokwim River valley
- 66 communities rely on lands, resources, and economic opportunities that could be affected by project
- Many permits required, many agencies involved

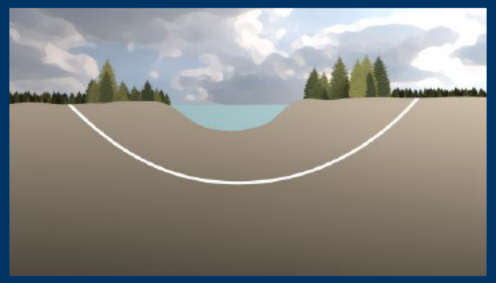
Donlin Gold Project Summary

- 16 years of studies, 3 years of permitting
- 3-4 years of construction, 27.5 years of operation
- Reclamation at closure, permanent monitoring, water management

Timeline Donlin Gold Project



Major Components



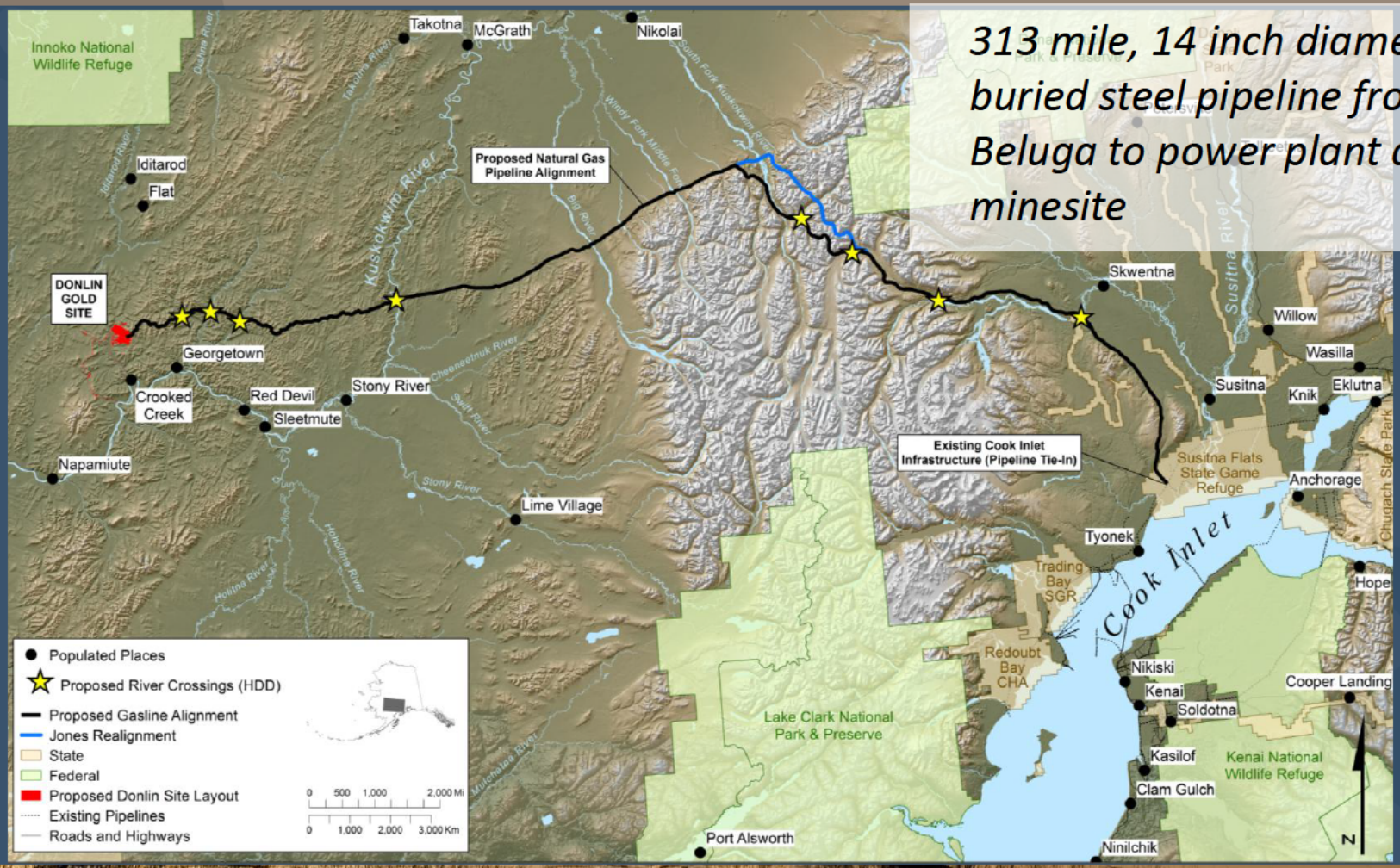
Pipeline

- Buried pipe: 200-ft construction right-of-way; 50-ft maintenance right-of-way
- Horizontal Directional Drilling (HDD) under 8 major river crossings
- 19 mainline block valves (about 1 every 20 miles)

Power Plant

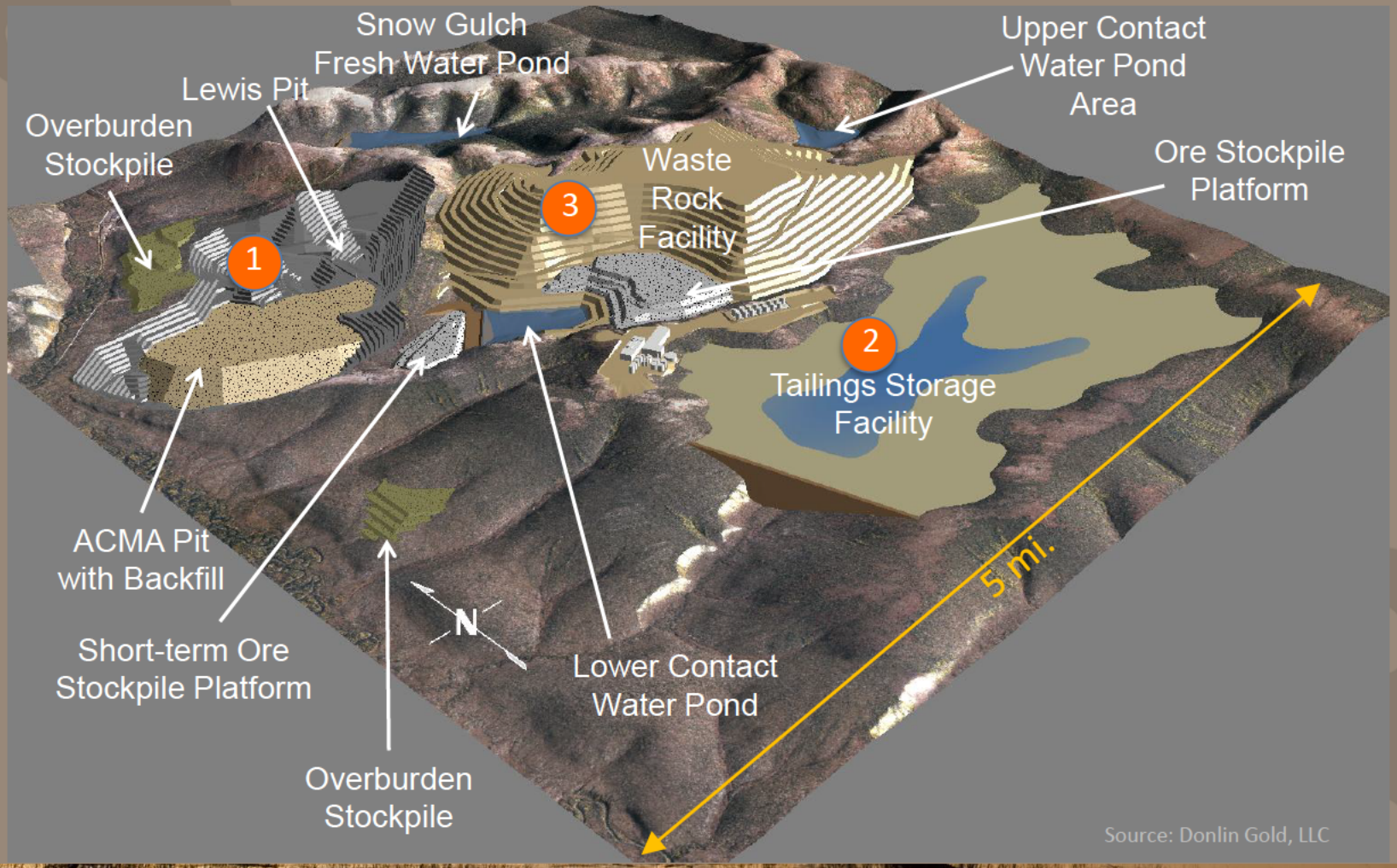
- Total connected load of 227 MW (scale of energy for Fairbanks)

Pipeline Route



313 mile, 14 inch diameter, buried steel pipeline from Beluga to power plant at minesite

Mine Site Layout

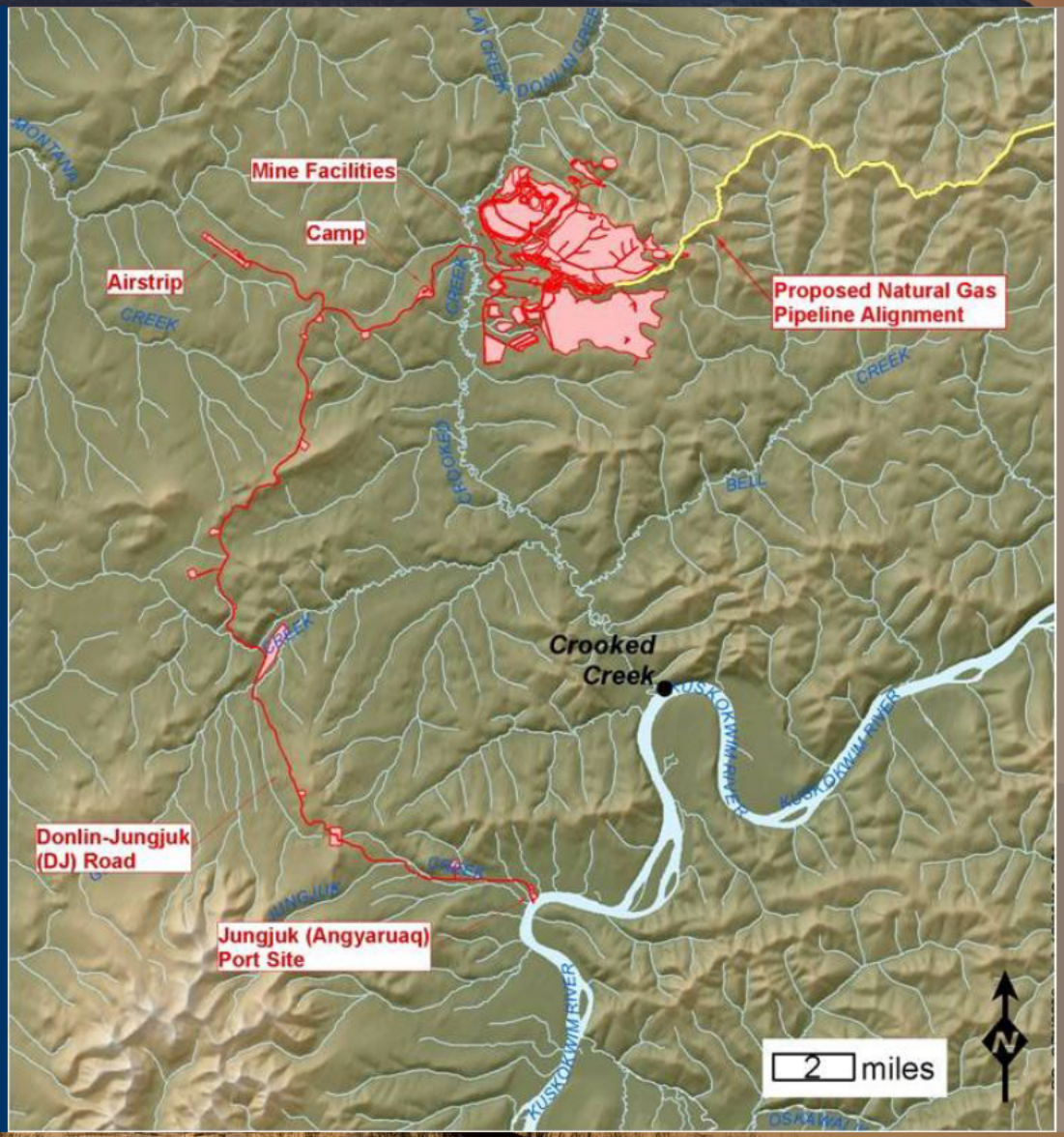


Source: Donlin Gold, LLC

Infrastructure

Transportation

- Port facilities in Bethel
- New barge landing near Jungjuk
- 30-mile road
- 5000-foot airstrip
- 40 million gallon diesel storage at minesite



Infrastructure

Barge Transportation:

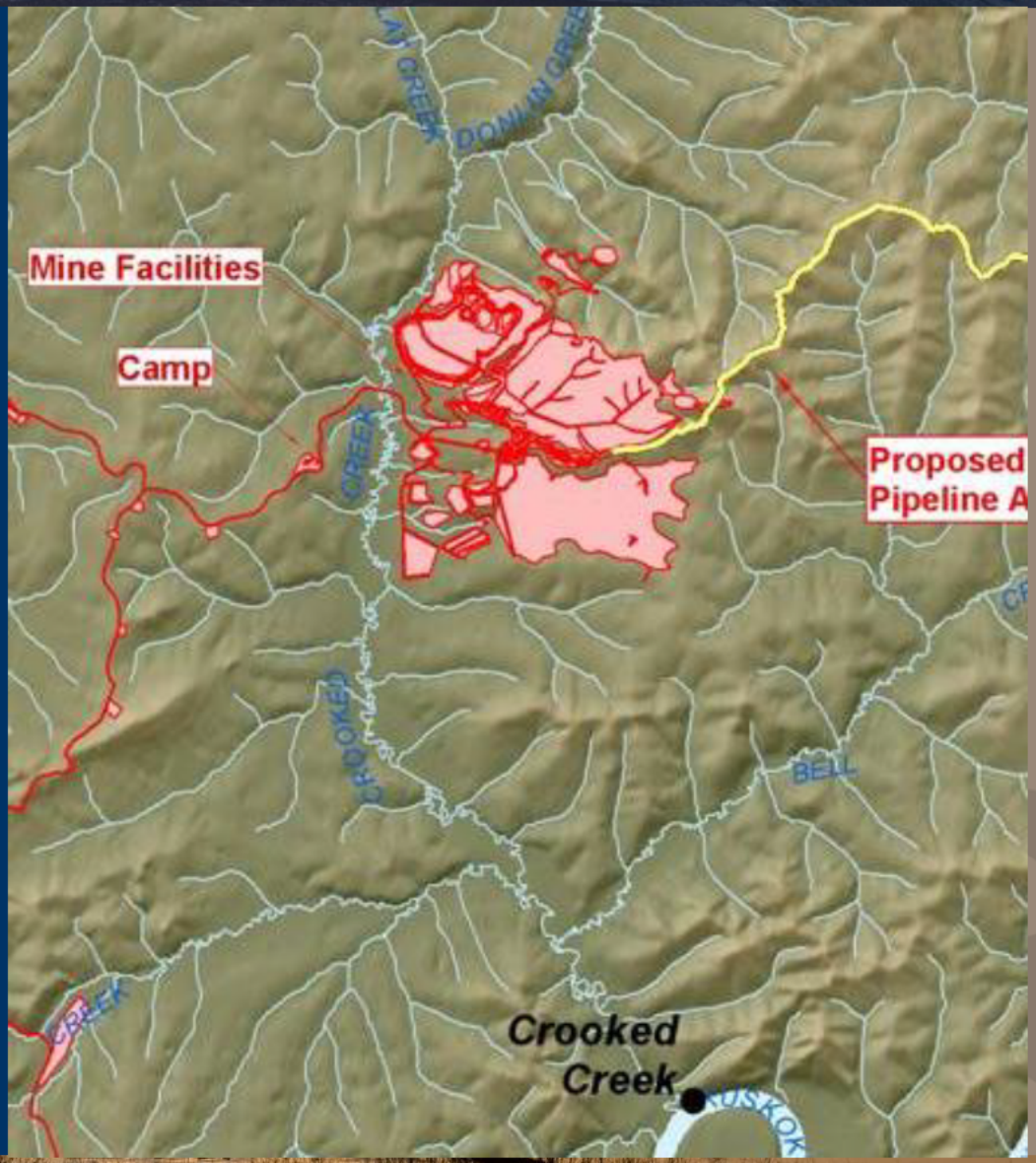
- 110-day season
- About three passings/day
- Four barges/tow
- 64 cargo barge tows/ season
- 58 fuel barge tows/season
- Cargo barges carry 550 tons each
- Fuel barges carry 173,000 gallons each

Simulation of Jungjuk Barge Landing

Infrastructure

Camp

- 2500-bed construction camp
- 600-bed permanent camp



Example Issues and Concerns

Water Resources

- Surface water diversion
- Ground water consumption
- Mine dewatering
- Acid mine drainage/ metal leaching
- Managing runoff from waste rock and tailings facilities

Example Issues and Concerns

Air Quality

- Vehicles, power plant, dust
- Climate change considerations

Mercury

- Fugitive mercury from the rock
- Mercury stack emissions
- Storage and transport of collected mercury (called a co-product)

Fuel or Hazardous Materials Spills

Example Issues and Concerns

Wetlands and Vegetation

- Construction, fill, spills

Fish and Wildlife

- Habitat loss
- Disturbance

River Travel

- Barge traffic

Subsistence and Traditional Land Uses

Example Issues and Concerns

Community Life

- New workforce
- New employment, income
- Effects on community and human health

Cultural Resources

- Historical/archeological sites
- Traditional Cultural Properties

Recreation and Visual Resources

(including the Iditarod National Historic Trail)

How to Get Involved

Participate:

Attend scoping meetings

Visit the website:

DonlinGoldEIS.com

Contact:

US Army Corps of Engineers, Alaska District

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Don.P.Kuhle@usace.army.mil

Amanda Shearer, Tribal Liaison • 907-753-5674
Amanda.M. Shearer@usace.army.mil

Ideas for Scoping Comments

- Issues and questions to analyze in the EIS
- Potential impacts and effects on resources
- Ideas for alternatives
- Important information available in your community