From: Shoren Brown, Trout Unlimited
To: Bill Dunbar
Subject: Bristol Bay in the News June 25, 2012
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Bristol Bay's commercial fishing season is underway, with a strong forecast for a harvest of nearly 22 million sockeye this year. The season has been open since June 1, although the wave of fish is slow to arrive in numbers yet. Fish Information & Services provides district by district forecast information and adds: "The EPA's research shows that this process would pose a significant threat to the long-term health of the watersheds that support the salmon fishery."

Kimberly Williams, head of Native group Nunamta Aulukestai, authors an opinion piece in *The Bristol Bay Times* urging people to comment on the EPA's watershed assessment before the July 23 deadline. She writes: "And it is not a matter of if the mine would impact water quality and salmon habitat, but when - and how severely. Under routine operation, the mine footprint alone would result in the direct loss of up to 87 miles of streams and 4,200 acres of wetlands - important salmon habitat. Evidence from similar large mines suggests that over the lifespan of a large mine, failures will occur."

Mining consultant and civil engineer Jack Caldwell shares a controversial, insider view on tailings dam failure in the industry. On his mining blog, Caldwell points out numerous causes of failure at these waste storage lagoons. In addition to mining companies falling on hard economic times and then inadequately monitoring their tailings facilities, he cited instances where colleagues disclosed failure to report problems with tailings dams, design flaws of dams, lack of adequate personnel for oversight and more.

Caldwell writes: "The point of all this, in my opinion, is that the statistics of tailings facility failure underestimate probabilities by a factor of two to ten. We simply do not get all the data. We do not record the failures and we do not document the lesson learnt. We are victims of the miner's lawyers and the

need to prop up share value."

A letter writer tells the *Anchorage Daily News* that despite attempts to paint action on Pebble as "premature," that with its thousands of holes of exploratory drilling, its direct mail pieces to people in the region, and more, Pebble is clearly a project in motion. She says the EPA is doing its job by assessing Bristol Bay's watershed. "This is no hypothetical project. State officials should grasp the real bigger picture," writes Anne McPeck Gabler.

For more information, visit www.savebristolbay.org

Shoren Brown
Bristol Bay Campaign Director

Tim Bristol
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Bristol Bay salmon run gets commercial forecast of 22 mln fish
Natalia Real
FIS
The world's largest wild sockeye run in Bristol Bay, Alaska is now open for fishing with a commercial forecast of 21.7 million fish. The forecast Bristol Bay sockeye salmon run is expected to reach 32.3 million fish...Click here to read more

Pebble Mine & Bristol Bay EPA Report Meet the Black Swan
Jack Caldwell
I Think Mining
Back to the Pebble Mine. Back to the eternal debate. Getting dull, yet ever fascinating. For the fate of this proposed mine will make mining history. If the mine does not go ahead because of opposition, all other anti-mining groups will be vitalized to oppose and stop many more proposed mines...Click here to read more

Opinion: Tell EPA "Just Say No" to Pebble Mine
Kimberly Williams
The Bristol Bay Times
For at least the last 50,000 years, the salmon have returned to southwest Alaska on their annual pilgrimage from the ocean to the rivers and streams of Bristol Bay, supporting subsistence and commercial fishermen alike...Click here to read more

Big Red: The Season for Bristol Bay Sockeye Salmon is Here
Bristol Bay Regional Seafood Development Association Release
Virtual Strategy and SeattlePI.com
Salmon enthusiasts, start your grills: the world's largest wild sockeye run, in Bristol Bay, Alaska, is open for commercial fishing—and with a commercial forecast of 21.7 million fish, it shaping up to be another abundant season for this delicious, healthy and sustainable fish...Click here to read more

Letters to the editor: EPA doing its job; Pebble mine is not a hypothetical

Ann McPeck Gabler, Anchorage AK
Anchorage Daily News
The Pebble Mine project is no "hypothetical large-scale mining project in the Bristol Bay area" as Michael Geraghty, Alaska attorney general, would like Alaskans to believe. Geraghty cites the Environmental Protection Agency's recent draft assessment of potential mining impacts...Click here to read more

How I became a Fish Hugger
Michelle Kiefer
The Daily Meal
I came to the conclusion recently that the food movement didn't want me. There are plenty of problems in our current food system I wanted to get behind (pink slime, childhood obesity, the Farm Bill), but in all of my attempts to get involved I could never find a concrete opportunity to make a difference. But then recently, a strange transformation happened. I became a fish hugger...Click here to read more

Overview of Bristol Bay Alaska Pebble Mine Project
Brooke Aspelund
BBNC Education Foundation
The extraction of natural resources has become the focus in securing economic power and stability in society. The extraction of these resources, like copper, gold, silver, and other precious metals have become the main source of employment in numerous states across America...Click here to read more

Opinion: EPA watershed hearings – Seattle vs. Anchorage faceoff
Eli Portell
The Bristol Bay Times
Just a while ago, two hearings occurred regarding the EPA's Bristol Bay Watershed Assessment, one in Seattle and one in Anchorage. Although there were six other hearings for testimony occurring in villages such as Dillingham, Nondalton, Naknek, and three others, these first two public comment events were held in the areas of highest population...Click here to read more

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