Message

From: Forsgren, Lee [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=A055D7329D5B470FBAA9920CE1B68A7D-FORSGREN, D]
Sent: 1/27/2018 12:52:43 AM
To: Bowman, Liz [Bowman.Liz@epa.gov]
CC: Greenwalt, Sarah [greenwalt.sarah@epa.gov]; Fotouhi, David [Fotouhi.David@epa.gov]
BCC: Drinkard, Andrea [Drinkard.Andrea@epa.gov]; Dennis, Allison [Dennis.Allison@epa.gov]
Subject: Fwd: Test Message - HTML Format:FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Bristol Bay Sportsmen, fishing business owners commend EPA decision

FYI

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Norm Van Vactor <norm@bbedc.com>
Date: January 26, 2018 at 7:42:49 PM EST
To: "Forsgren.Lee@epa.gov" <Forsgren.Lee@epa.gov>
Cc: "Matthew Paxton (matthew.paxton@arlaw.com)" <matthew.paxton@arlaw.com>
Subject: FW: Test Message - HTML Format:FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Bristol Bay Sportsmen, fishing business owners commend EPA decision

<!--[if !vml]--><!--[endif]--> <!--[if !vml]--><!--[endif]-->Just saw this as well....

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TROUT UNLIMITED

January 26, 2018

Contact: Nelli Williams, Director, Trout Unlimited Alaska Program, (907) 230-7121 or nwilliams@tu.org
Brian Kraft, president of the Katmai Service Providers, (907) 227-8719

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Sportsmen, fishing business owners commend EPA decision regarding proposed Pebble mine

ANCHORAGE, AK – In a surprise move, today the Environmental Protection Agency announced that it will suspend the withdraw of the 2014 Clean Water Act Proposed Determination for Southwest Alaska. Following years of extensive scientific analysis and public comment, the Proposed Determination recommended limiting the amount of mine waste that

could be disposed of in rivers and wetlands in the heart of the Bristol Bay region's salmon-producing rivers because of high potential for major harm to fish, drinking water, and recreation, among other things. Sportsmen and women and dozens of Alaskan business owners commend the Environmental Protection Agency for recognizing the overwhelming importance of the Bristol Bay region and its salmon and waters.

<!--[if !vml]--><!--[endif]--> <!--[if !vml]--><!--[endif]-->**Brian Kraft, owner of Alaska Sportsman's Lodge and president of Katmai Service Providers (Anchorage and Iguigig, AK), stated:**
"This is an encouraging step for many Alaskan businesses and families that depend on Bristol Bay salmon. The EPA made the right decision by listening to local people, dozens of Alaskan business owners, and sportsmen and women around the country. I am thankful the EPA has ensured that widely-supported restrictions on large-scale mining in Bristol Bay will remain an option to protect our fishery. Alaskans have known for years that the Pebble mine does not belong in Bristol Bay – it's too big of risk to our jobs, businesses, and a sport fishing paradise. It is reassuring to see the EPA acknowledge the uniqueness of this region, and the risks Pebble mine poses."

<!--[if !vml]--><!--[endif]-->**Nanci Morris Lyon, owner of Bear Trail Lodge (King Salmon, AK), stated:**
"Nearly 60 million salmon returned to the rivers of Bristol Bay last year, and fisheries experts are predicting another incredible run this year. It's good business sense to safeguard this region, which is an irreplaceable Alaskan and American asset. Preserving the Proposed Determination ensures that an important option to safeguard Alaskan families and businesses remains in play."

<!--[if !vml]--><!--[endif]-->**John Holman, owner of No-See-Um Lodge (Kvichak River and Wasilla, AK), stated:**
"It's reassuring to see the EPA Administrator acknowledge the uniqueness of this situation and the overwhelming and unprecedented number of comments supporting strong protections for the rivers of Bristol Bay. It demonstrates that the EPA recognizes the depth and breadth of Alaskan opposition to a mine that would put American jobs and businesses at grave risk."

Chris Wood, president and CEO of Trout Unlimited, stated:
"For over a decade, millions of sportsmen and women have strongly opposed the Pebble mine proposal because of the massive threat it poses to salmon runs, and how it would significantly change the wild, remote experience people expect when they visit southwest Alaska. Bristol Bay is a sporting paradise. It is too valuable for Pebble to turn it into an industrial mining district. I am glad the EPA is maintaining the option of prohibiting industrial-scale mining in the heart of Bristol Bay salmon country as so many Alaskans and Americans requested."

Background
The tens of millions of salmon that return to Bristol Bay each year fuel a $1.5 billion fishing economy, support 14,000 jobs and dozens of businesses run by hard-working American families. Northern Dynasty Minerals, a Canadian mining company and principle backer of the Pebble Partnership, has proposed to build a massive open-pit mine that, if built, would be in the headwaters of rivers that supply nearly half of the world's wild sockeye salmon, and in the heart of some of the world's most sought-after destinations to fish and hunt.

Last July, following settlement of a lawsuit by the proponent of the mine, the EPA proposed to withdraw the 2014 Proposed Determination. During the subsequent public comment period and several hearings in Alaska, EPA received more than one million comments opposing the withdrawal. More than 26,000 Alaskan comments poured in expressing support for protecting Bristol Bay's salmon and jobs, including dozens of business owners whose livelihoods depend on wild salmon.

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Trout Unlimited *is the nation's oldest and largest coldwater fisheries conservation organization. In Alaska, we work with more than 100 angling businesses and thousands of individual sportsmen and women to ensure the state's trout and salmon resources remain healthy through our local chapters and offices in Anchorage and Juneau. Follow TU on Facebook and Twitter, and visit us online at tu.org and savebristolbay.org.*

Katmai Service Providers *is an organization representing more than 50 tourism businesses (lodges, guides, air taxis and other tourism businesses) that operate in the Bristol Bay region of southwest Alaska.*

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Trout Unlimited Alaska Program
3105 Lakeshore Dr.
Anchorage, Alaska 99517
US

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