Message

From: Shoren Brown, Trout Unlimited [sbrown@tu.org]
Sent: 2/12/2013 5:55:22 PM
To: Stoner, Nancy [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=Dda7244a389640c3bac29eecef1db4a1-Stoner, Nancy]
Subject: Bristol Bay in the News February 12, 2013

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Save Bristol Bay

Commercial fishermen, sportsmen and Alaska Natives all expressed strong disappointment in the Environmental Protection Agency's announcement that it will conduct an additional, redundant review of its Bristol Bay Watershed Assessment. With the added delay, EPA said it would finalize the report sometime this year.

The Commercial Fishermen for Bristol Bay network put out a statement that read, in part: "As the industry most directly affected by EPA's decision to delay, we are disheartened that the agency would drag its review out and only increase the uncertainty for fishermen and processors," said Bob Waldrop, executive director of the Bristol Bay Regional Seafood Development Association. "Three years ago, commercial fishermen, Alaska Native tribes and sport fishermen asked the Obama Administration to protect the world's greatest sockeye salmon fishery and the 14,000 jobs it sustains from the threats of mega mining. We did not ask for years of study and process."

Trout Unlimited said the added delay is "unacceptable to Bristol Bay's communities and stakeholders, and leaves a dark cloud of uncertainty hanging over Bristol Bay's 14,000 jobs and its commercial and sport fishing industries."

In New England, a blog post covered a meeting between Rhode Island Senator Jack Reed, Bristol Bay fishing captain Katherine Carscallen, and Rhode Island fishermen, who weighed in on the need to "support their colleagues on a distant coast: Bristol Bay, Alaska."

An excerpt from the story reads: "With the cuts in groundfish here in the Northeast for the upcoming year everyone will hear a lot about a fishery disaster declaration," said Jeff Grant, who makes his living quahogging in Narragansett Bay and halibut fishing in southeast Alaska, and is vice president of the Rhode Island Shellfishermen's Association. "We have the opportunity to avoid a fishery disaster on the other side of the country just by stopping the development of the Pebble Mine."

Lastly, the Natural Resources Defense Council ran a full page Washington Post ad featuring Robert Redford that asks the President to protect the people, economy and environment of Bristol Bay.

For more information, visit www.savebristolbay.org

Shoren Brown
Bristol Bay Campaign Director

Tim Bristol
Trout Unlimited Alaska Director

EPA plans final Bristol Bay assessment this year
Anchorage Daily News (Also in *My San Antonio*, *San Francisco Chronicle*, *Yahoo News*, *Juneau Empire*)
Becky Bohrer
The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency plans to issue a final report this year on the impacts of large-scale mining in the Bristol Bay region, regional director Dennis McLerran said. McLerran spoke Tuesday to the Alaska Forum on the Environment in Anchorage ... Click here to read more

EPA's Bristol Bay Watershed Assessment Goes Back To The Drawing Board
Alaska Public Radio
Dave Bendinger
The EPA has taken their Bristol Bay watershed assessment back to the drawing board for revisions. When finished, the assessment could become a basis for the EPA to veto the proposed Pebble mine, but a final version of the controversial study now won't likely be completed until the end of the year ... Click here to listen

Check out NRDC's Stop Pebble Mine ad in the Washington Post
Switchboard
Taryn Kiekow
Today NRDC unveiled a new ad aimed at stopping the proposed Pebble Mine in Bristol Bay, Alaska. The ad features NRDC trustee, environmental activist and actor Robert Redford, who calls on President Obama to protect Bristol Bay ... Click here to read more

R.I. Fishermen Rally for Counterparts in Alaska
ecoRI News
Sarah Schumann
Times are tough for New England's commercial fishing industry. Just last week federal fisheries regulators announced sweeping cuts to the number of cod that fishermen are allowed to catch. But even in the midst of regional suffering, Rhode Island's fishermen recently pulled together to support their colleagues on a distant coast: Bristol Bay, Alaska ... Click here to read more

Research paper explores century cycles of salmon runs
Bristol Bay Times
Hannah Heimbuch
Alaskan fishermen are no strangers to the roller coaster flux of salmon returning to home spawning grounds. Most fishermen have experienced or at least witnessed both banner years and disaster years, riding out the consequences of a life lived according to marine resources ... Click here to read more

Feige introduces 'Lucy Lawless bill'

San Francisco Chronicle

Becky Bohrer

An Alaska lawmaker has introduced legislation that would make it a felony to interfere with permitted oil and gas, timber or other development projects. Rep. Eric Feige is calling HB92 the "Lucy Lawless bill," after the actress who last year boarded a Shell drill ship before it left New Zealand for the U.S. West Coast ... Click here to read more

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