



Pebble Mine is still a threat.

Fall 2017 Update



Alaska is well known for its vast and diverse resources, and the Bristol Bay region stands alone as one of the richest -- with giant 30-inch rainbow trout, the wildest of wildlife, and salmon runs so thick that emerald-green water glows red with their spawning colors. This year alone, a record-breaking 59 million salmon returned to Bristol Bay.

For the past decade, a high-profile battle between mega-mining interests and the clean water and reliable salmon runs that are essential to life in Bristol Bay has been fought. Trout Unlimited members from throughout the country have played an important role in ensuring there is no mine in Bristol Bay today, and Bristol Bay needs your help once again.

Proponents of the proposed Pebble Mine were up against the ropes in 2014 when the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) proposed significant restrictions to protect the vital salmon resources of the area by limiting the size and scope of future mines in the region. After an overwhelming outpouring of public support to the proposed

The Proposed Pebble Mine

The proposed Pebble mine is a massive open-pit gold and copper mine that threatens the largest remaining wild sockeye salmon run in the world and a fishing industry that employs thousands of Americans and contributes \$1.5 billion annually to the economy. It would create massive tailings reservoirs containing billions of tons of mining waste that would require perpetual remediation. The mine and associated infrastructure sits at the headwaters of several of the most productive trout and salmon fishing rivers the world has ever known. Given the size, location and type of mine, Pebble threatens irreversible harm to salmon, Alaska Native cultures, recreational and commercial fishing businesses and the region's unique fish and wildlife.

protections, it looked like victory for the region's world-renowned fisheries was within reach.

Unfortunately, a string of lawsuits by the Pebble Partnership effectively delayed progress and prevented the EPA from finalizing its proposed protections. Following a shift in political winds and a change in leadership at the EPA, in May of 2017 the EPA settled the remaining lawsuit with the Pebble Partnership and agreed to initiate the process for withdrawing the proposed protections for Bristol Bay.

If the EPA follows through with rescinding the proposed protections, it will turn its back on the millions of Americans that voiced support for protecting Bristol Bay and once again put the region's unique fisheries, cultures and communities at risk.

So, once again we need to stand united for Bristol Bay. The clean rivers, healthy fisheries, thriving culture and fish-based economy in Bristol Bay need OUR help. The new EPA leadership needs to hear loud and clear from Americans that Bristol Bay is special, and that the proposed Pebble Mine is the wrong mine in the wrong place. Walking back the proposed protections for Bristol Bay puts American jobs and a hunting and fishing paradise at risk. It's up to us to protect rivers, and special places that we love to fish or dream of fishing.

Here's how you can help.

1. Fill out and send in the postcard included in the meeting materials or visit standup.tu.org/save-bristol-bay/ The deadline to voice your opposition to the Pebble mine is October 17th.
2. Spread the word through your Chapters and Councils. Email ebooton@tu.org for a template email. We are always happy to schedule virtual presentations or provide additional information by phone or email.
3. Be sure to follow TU's Save Bristol Bay page on Facebook to stay up to date with the latest news and ways you can help.

For more information

Eric Booton
907-770-1776
ebooton@tu.org

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