

June 22, 2022

Administrator Michael Regan 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W. Washington, DC 20460

CC: Casey Sixkiller, EPA Region 10 Administrator

RE: Protect America's outdoor heritage in Bristol Bay

Dear Administrator Regan:

The undersigned entities, representing hundreds of thousands of businesses, hunters, anglers, and outdoor enthusiasts, applaud your leadership and efforts to provide longstanding protection for the Bristol Bay fishery and the people who depend on it. We greatly support a strong and comprehensive Proposed Determination, and respectfully request that Clean Water Act 404c safeguards be finalized as quickly as possible. Clean Water Act protections for Bristol Bay would ensure that projects like the formerly proposed Pebble mine could not return, and that the hunting, fishing and outdoor heritage that is deeply valued in southwest Alaska can continue to thrive for generations to come.

The foundation of a successful business in this industry is clean water and access to streams and land that are still remote and wild. Bristol Bay rivers are some of the most sought-after fishing and hunting destinations in the world. Bristol Bay fishing and tourism industries account for more than 14,000 full and part-time jobs and contribute to a \$2 billion annual fishing economy. Alongside the robust

sportfishing and hunting industry, bear viewing tourism is worth more than \$35 million annually, and is also dependent on strong salmon runs to feed the highest concentration of brown bears on the planet. In 2021, the Bristol Bay sockeye salmon fishery reached an all-time record at 66.1 million fish running through the region. The 2022 salmon forecast is projected to exceed last year's record.

Two years ago, outdoor businesses and organizations came together to request the key federal permit for the proposed Pebble mine be denied. As businesses and organizations that rely on Bristol Bay's intact watershed, we have weighed in heavily and supported the local communities and hunting and fishing business owners who loudly and clearly said "no" to the formerly proposed Pebble mine for nearly two decades. Now, we stand behind local people once again in asking you to finalize Clean Water Act 404(c) safeguards to prevent Pebble – or another mining company – from returning to this region in the future.

Thank you again for your strong leadership on this issue and we look forward to weighing in and further supporting the advancement of Clean Water Act safeguards.

Respectfully,

## **National Fishing and Hunting Organizations**

American Fly Fishing Trade Association Fund Whitney Tilt Bozeman, MT

American Sport Fishing Association Mike Leonard Alexandria, VA

Angler Action Foundation Lake Worth Beach, FL

Backcountry Hunters & Anglers John Gale Missoula, MT

Delta Waterfowl John Devney Bismark, ND

Guy Harvey Ocean Foundation Greg Jacoski Dania Beach, FL

International Game Fish Association Jason Schratwieser Dania Beach, FL Izaak Walton League of America Jared Mott Gaithersburg, MD

Marine Fish Conservation Network Robert C. Vandermark Arlington, VA

Pope and Young Club Doug Clayton Chatfield, MN

Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership Jen Leahy Washington, DC

Trout Unlimited Chris Wood Arlington, VA

Wildlife Forever Pat Conzemius White Bear Lake, MT

<u>Alaska</u> Adams Guiding Service Bob Adams, LLC Eagle River, AK

Alaska Alpine Adventures Dan Oberlatz Alaska

Alaska's Enchanted Lake Lodge Daren & Tracy Erickson King Salmon, Alaska

Alaska's Fishing Unlimited, Inc Dave Tyson Port Alsworth, Alaska

Alaska Floats and Skis Melissa Lee Talkeetna, AK

Alaska Fly Anglers, Inc John Hohl King Salmon, Alaska

Alaska Salmon Camp Inc Kent Anderson Nushagak River, AK

Alaska Sportsman's Lodge Brian Kraft Igiugig, Alaska

Alaska Trophy Adventure Lodge Wayne & Jacob McGee King Salmon, AK

Alaska's Wild River Guides John Jinishian Dillingham, AK

Alaska Expedition Lodge Jason & Leslie Semler Pilot Point, AK

Angler's Alibi John Perry King Salmon, AK Arctic Alaska Guide Service David Morris North Pole, AK

Arctic Rivers Guide & Booking Service Jake Jacobson Kodiak & Kotzebue, AK

Backcountry Hunters and Anglers, Alaska Chapter Jacob Mannix Fairbanks, AK

Bear Trail Lodge Heath and Nanci Lyon King Salmon, AK

Blue Fly Patricia Edel King Salmon, Alaska

Blue Mountain Lodge Tracy Vrem Becherof Lake, Alaska

Bristol Bay Lodge Brian Kraft Dillingham, Alaska

Bristol Bay Sportfishing and Adventures Jerry Jacques Iliamna, Alaska

Coastal Alaska Adventures Keegan McCarthy Douglas, AK

Chinook Tours Felix Schneder Anchorage, AK

Coastal Alaska Safaris Keegan McCarthy Douglas, AK Copper River Lodge Joe Hyde Iliamna, AK

Corvus Alaskan Adventures Tia Shoemaker King Salmon, AK

Cusack's Alaska Lodge Bob Cusack Iliamna, AK

Custom Alaska Cruises Keegan McCarthy Douglas, AK

EPIC Angling & Adventure Rus Schwausch King Salmon, AK

Fish Alaska Magazine Melissa Norris Eagle River, AK

FishHound Expeditions Adam Cuthriell Willow, AK

Frontier Guns David Morris North Pole, AK

Frontier River Guides Marty Decker Alaska

Grizzly Skins of Alaska Phil Shoemaker King Salmon, AK

Igiugig Lodge, LLC Brad & Brenda Waitman Igiugig, AK

Island Air Service Taj Shoemaker Kodiak, AK Katmai Service Providers Brian Kraft Kodiak, AK

Kenai River Drifters Lodge Jack Mister Cooper Landing, AK

Kodiak Outdoor Adventures Paul Chervenak Kodiak, AK

Kodiak Custom Fishing Tackle Tony Davis Soldotna, AK

Kvichak Lodge Mike McDowell Igiugig, AK

Last Cast Lodge Indy & Stephanie Walton Igiugig, AK

MB Marine Keegan McCarthy Douglas, AK

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MotoQuest Philip Freeman Girdwood, AK

Munsey's Bear Camp Mike Munsey Kodiak, AK

No See Um Lodge John Holman Kvichak River, Alaska

Ouzel International Expeditions Amelia Beaudoin Girdwood, AK Peterson's Alaska Guide Service Nathan Peterson Sterling, AK

Royal Coachman Lodge Pat Vermillion Dillingham, Alaska

Royal Wolf Lodge Christ & Linda Branham King Salmon, Alaska

The Lodge at 58\* North Kate and Justin Crump King Salmon, AK

Traverse Journal Shoemaker/Cunningham Palmer, AK

Treasure Hunter Lodge Kurt Whitehead & Trina Nation Klawock, AK

Tyrrell's Trails Luke Tyrrell Fairbanks, AK

Wild Fly Pursuits Chuck Ash Alaska

Wrangell Outfitters, Will Koehler Delta Junction, AK

Vast Alaska Cash Joyve Wasilla, AK

## All Other States

AdventureCORPS, Inc Chris Kostman Oak Park, CA

AFTCO

Bill Shedd Santa Ana, CA

Klean Kanteen Jeff Cresswell Chico, CA,

Okuma Fishing Tackle Corp. Doug Lasko Ontario, CA

Peak Design Annie Nyborg San Francisco, CA

Pro-Troll Fishing Products Dick Pool Concord, CA

Sports Afield Diana Rupp Huntington Beach, CA

Last Exit Goods Ryan Mayo Steamboat Springs, CO

Captain Harry's Fishing Supply Carl Liederman Miami, FL

Captains For Clean Water Daniel Andrews Fort Myers, FL

Don Coffey Company Phil Lillo Orlando, FL

Engel Coolers Michael Dixon Jupiter, FL

Yamaha Marine Martin Peters

## Kennesaw, GA

First Lite Hunting Apparel Ford Van Fossan Hailey, ID

Idaho Council of Trout Unlimited Paul Patterson Boise, ID

NRS (Northwest River Supplies) Mike Dolmage Moscow, ID

Ron Spomer Outdoors Ron Spomer Malad City, Idaho

Grab Your Fly Charters Austin Adduci Orland Park, IL

Lee Wulff Chapter, Trout Unlimited Jerry Sapp BARRINGTON, IL

Illinois Council of Trout Unlimited, Edward Michael Oak Brook, IL

ButcherBox Kelly Hilovsky Boston, MA

North Point Brands (Cheeky Fishing and Wingo Outdoors) Peter Vandergrift North Adams, MA

On the Water Media Kevin Blinkoff East Falmouth, MA

Seneca Valley Trout Unlimited, #369 Noel Gollehon Gaithersburg, MD Fishing Outfitters Association of Montana (FOAM) Michael Bias Twin Bridges, MT

Hubbard's Yellowstone Lodge Nancy Hubbard Emigrant, MT

MeatEater Inc, Ryan Callaghan Bozeman, MT

Revolution House Media Kate Ketschek Big Sky, MT

School of Trout Todd Tanner Bigfork, MT

Simms Fishing Products Diane Bristol Bozeman, MT

SITKA Gear Lindsey Davis Bozeman, MT

Skwala Fishing Kevin Sloan Bozeman, MT

Sweetwater Travel Dan Vermillion Livingston, MT

Trout Chasers Lodge Jason Fleury Bozeman, MT

Trout Scapes River Restoration LLC Brian Cowden Bozeman, MT Trout Stalkers LLC - Madison River Fishing Company Joseph Dilschneider Ennis, MT

Wild Montana Anglers Mark Fuller Coram, MT

Yellow Dog Community and Conservation Foundation Brooks Scott Bozeman, MT

Yellow Dog Flyfishing Adventures Jim Klug Bozeman, MT

Grady-White Boats, Inc. Jim Hardin Greenville, NC

Pisgah Chapter Trout Unlimited Bruce Jones Hendersonville , NC

The Articulate Fly Marvin Cash Charlotte, NC

Bullet Weights Joe Crumrine Alda, NE

New York State Council of Trout Unlimited Lawrence Charette Hicksville, NY

TackleDirect, Patrick Gill Egg Harbor Township, NJ

Caddis/Waterfowl Wading Systems Barbara Myers Redmond, OR Korkers Brian Chaney Portland, OR

Loon Outdoors Hogan Brown Ashland, OR

Maxima USA Tim Schoonover Hillsboro, OR

Oregon Council Trout Unlimited Mark Rogers Gladstone, OR

The Fly Fishing Show Ben Furimsky Somerset, PA

Pure Fishing Dave Bulthuis Columbia, SC

Shimano North America Fishing, Inc. Dave Pfeiffer Ladson, SC

Composite Forge Frank-Paul King Grand Prairie, TX

House of Outdoors Trey Epich Frisco, TX

Temple Fork Outfitters Trey Epich Dallas, TX

Sportco Marketing Hughes Andry Richmond, TX

D'Arcy Echols & Company D'Arcy Echols Millville, UT Northern Virginia Chapter Trout Unlimited Tony Hill Oakton, VA

Virginia Trophy Guides Josh Laferty Roanoke, VA

The Orvis Company Simon Perkins Sunderland, VT

Dakota Lithium Andrew Jay Seattle, WA

Emerald Water Anglers Dave McCoy Seattle, WA

FarWest Sports, Inc. Gabe Miller Puyallup, WA,

Grundens USA Ashley Williams Poulsbo, WA

Kitsap Olympic Peninsulas Chapter of Trout Unlimited Julie Kelner Poulsbo, WA

Morton and Associates Josh Hughes Woodland, WA

North Sound Trout Unlimited Bridget Moran Bellingham, WA Spokane Falls Trout Unlimited Brent Nichols Spokane, WA

Three Rivers Chapter Trout Unlimited Steve Laing Issaquah, WA Washington Council of Trout Unlimited Pat Hesselgessser Bellevue, WA

Washington State Council Fly Fishers International Mike Clancy Olympia, WA

Yakima Fly Fishers-TU chapter 094 Donna Broers Yakima, WA

St. Croix Rods Jesse Simpkins Park Falls, WI