



# SUMMER 2021 NEWSLETTER

Last year was a roller coaster in the fight to stop Pebble Mine. From the low point of July, when it looked like the project might get a greenlight, to the media frenzy of August, when key political figures and grassroots supporters pushed back with bipartisan, science-based opposition to Pebble throughout the nation, to September's revelations in the Pebble Tapes that triggered Alaska's senators to clearly stand against the mine – the saga played out month to month. Finally, at the end of November, the Army Corps denied Pebble's permit, delivering a major short-term victory. However, we want to be absolutely clear: The work to truly protect Bristol Bay is far from done and we will need your help now more than ever in the coming year!

**"True protections for Bristol Bay must provide a lasting guarantee to future generations that our lands and waters will not become a mining district."  
— United Tribes of Bristol Bay Board President Robert Heyano**

## The Army Corps denied the permit for Pebble's current design. Nothing stops Pebble from coming back with a new proposal to mine in Bristol Bay.

In fact, on January 21, Pebble formally challenged the decision from the Army Corps and asked them to reconsider its mine plan. Alaska Governor Mike Dunleavy even filed an appeal on behalf of the State of Alaska challenging the Army Corps decision. The Pebble Limited Partnership and Dunleavy clearly have no intention of backing down and the company is leaning on remaining political allies to help them continue. Though the State of Alaska's appeal was denied, the process to settle Pebble's appeal could take more than a year to conclude.

### TIME TO END THE MINING THREAT

For over a decade, the communities of Bristol Bay have called for the United States Environmental Protection Agency to use its authority under the Clean Water Act to create lasting protections for the region.

Bristol Bay communities that rely on salmon have been most threatened by Pebble, and they have fought long and hard to stop the toxic project. Bristol Bay's Tribes and fishermen are calling on President Biden and the EPA to veto Pebble and protect Bristol Bay through Clean Water Act 404(c) action.

2020: Army Corps denies permit for Pebble's current plan

#### WHAT COULD HAPPEN NEXT

Pebble submits new mining plan

#### HOW WE STOP PEBBLE - FOR GOOD

1  
EPA uses authority under Clean Water Act to VETO Pebble Mine

2  
Congress passes bill to permanently protect Bristol Bay

BRISTOL BAY PROTECTED

TAKE ACTION @ [utbb.org/public-comment](https://utbb.org/public-comment) TO PROTECT BRISTOL BAY, or hold your camera up to this QR code!



SCAN ME

# The Call to Protect Bristol Bay

# New Study! Economic Benefits of Bristol Bay Salmon

At the end of 2020, Bristol Bay organizations released the "Call to Protect Bristol Bay," a roadmap outlining true protections that will provide long-term certainty for those dependent on the region's clean water and robust salmon runs. Our salmon runs not only feed Bristol Bay communities but they fuel a \$2.1 billion fishing industry and provide seafood to the world.

The Call has two steps. First, the EPA must use section 404(c) of the Clean Water Act to veto the Pebble Mine. No other approach can create an immediate safety net for those who depend on Bristol Bay. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and the Environmental Protection Agency have all concluded that mining in the headwaters of the Nushagak and Kvichak rivers presents a clear danger to the productivity of Bristol Bay's salmon runs. Yet, the agencies haven't removed the long-term threat. The EPA must start its veto process immediately.

Second, the Call outlines the importance of Congress in protecting Bristol Bay for the long term. It urges Congressional legislation to prevent toxic mines like Pebble now and into the future to protect the watersheds of Bristol Bay in perpetuity.

**It is time to permanently protect Bristol Bay so it can continue to sustain our cultures, communities, and economy—all while supplying healthy, sustainable food to people around the world.**

**BRISTOL BAY SALMON GENERATE \$2.2 BILLION IN ECONOMIC VALUE**  
and support more than **15,000** American jobs annually

**STOP PEBBLE MINE**

**BRISTOL BAY SUBSISTENCE FISHERS HARVEST OVER 500,000 POUNDS OF FISH ANNUALLY**

**NOURISHES** 40+ Alaskan communities  
**PROVIDES** spiritual and physical nourishment for Alaska Natives  
**SUPPORTS** two of the world's last wild, sustainable, salmon-based cultures

**STOP PEBBLE MINE**

**BRISTOL BAY TOURISM SUSTAINS 2,300 SEASONAL JOBS**  
and provides **\$67.9 million** in labor income

**STOP PEBBLE MINE**

New economic analysis of Bristol Bay's famed salmon runs show that the fishery's economic benefits exceeded **\$2.2 billion** in 2019, generating more than **15,000 jobs** while feeding hundreds of thousands of people. The commercial fishery supplies as much as **57% of the world's sockeye salmon catch**, driving \$990 million in economic activity in Alaska alone, and \$800 million in induced impacts for the Pacific Northwest.

The report titled "[The Economic Benefits of the Bristol Bay Salmon Fishery](#)" was produced by McKinley Research Group and can be found at: [fishermenforbristolbay.org/news](http://fishermenforbristolbay.org/news) UTBB Executive Director Alannah Hurley said: "**Salmon have sustained the people of Bristol Bay since time immemorial. This report begins to capture the enormous value our fishery contributes to the local, state and national economies, but salmon are so much more than just a source of money or food in Bristol Bay – they are our gold in every sense. It's time for the EPA to take action to ensure that this irreplaceable food source, economic engine and cultural resource are protected for future generations.**"

Overall, the numbers show that the world's last great wild sockeye run is an economic powerhouse that must not be endangered by the proposed Pebble Mine, and bolsters the call for the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to use the Clean Water Act to protect Bristol Bay.

## What You Can Do!



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**STOP PEBBLE MINE**

- 1. Take action by making a call or signing a letter to EPA!** Sign a letter at [utbb.org/public-comment](http://utbb.org/public-comment) or hold your camera up to the QR code above!
- Protecting Bristol Bay will require the help of Congress – **Call & Write your elected officials** to ask them to support EPA's initiation of the 404(c) process in Bristol Bay immediately!
- 3. Write letters to your editor** - even small local papers are read by our elected officials, and prospective investors read the news as well. They all need to hear how widespread and dedicated the opposition to this mine really is. Don't forget to share your published letter with us!
- 4. Paint your favorite gear, boat, or accessories with a "Stop Pebble Mine" stencil!** Get in touch with UTBB/CFBB staff at 907-843-2623 to get more info. Don't forget to share a pic on social media and send your favorite pics or videos to [photos@fishermenforbristolbay.org](mailto:photos@fishermenforbristolbay.org) to be featured and help tell our story!
- 5. Be vocal everywhere you can!** Amplify your actions on social media and follow us to stay up to date. Facebook: @UnitedTribesBB & @FishermenforBristolBay Instagram: @unitedtribesofbristolbay & @Fishermen4BristolBay
- 6. DONATE!** Please consider supporting the critical work to protect Bristol Bay! Any and all donations appreciated! To donate please visit: [utbb.org/donate](http://utbb.org/donate) or call 907-842-1687.

**TAKE ACTION TO VETO PEBBLE!**  
**FISHERMENFORBRISTOLBAY.ORG & UTBB.ORG**



united  
TRIBES OF BRISTOL BAY

**COMMERCIAL FISHERMEN  
FOR BRISTOL BAY**