



RRC Weekly Newsletter

For more information or to join, visit the Renewable Resources Coalition website at www.RenewableResourcesCoalition.org

November 16, 2007

Protect Clean Water!!

SIGNATURES NEEDED!

Alaska Clean Water Initiatives (I and III) need to be signed by 23,800 registered Alaskan voters in order to be placed on the ballot. We need to turn these signatures in to the Division of Elections in less than 60 days (Jan. 10th, 2008). **NOBODY HAS EVER COLLECTED THIS MANY SIGNATURES IN THIS SHORT OF TIME. PLEASE HELP US!!**

More information on these ballot initiatives can be seen on our website at http://www.renewableresourcescoalition.org/action_center.htm.

If you are registered to vote in the state of Alaska and would like to sign the petition to **stop the Pebble Mine and protect our wild salmon and clean water**, please contact us immediately for locations:

Email: hbrown@renewableresourcescoalition.org

Phone: (907) 743-1900 or (907) 274-9954 or (907) 632-9933

You can also stop by our office at:
500 L Street, Suite 502, to sign!

**For a (growing) list of where to sign,
please scroll to the bottom of this email**

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Mining initiatives move forward

MURKOWSKI ERA: Sponsors seek to reverse unpopular environmental decisions.

*by Elizabeth Bluemink
Anchorage Daily News
November 13, 2007*

While Alaska's mining industry recoils in fear of one statewide voter initiative designed to drastically curtail its future pollution discharges, two more citizen-led initiatives are getting under way to strike some previous industry-friendly decisions by the state.

To view article in its entirety, please click on
<http://www.adn.com/money/story/9450439p-9361936c.html>

Citizen initiatives on mining move ahead

*by Elizabeth Bluemink
Anchorage Daily News*

November 12, 2007

While Alaska's mining industry recoils in fear of one statewide voter initiative designed to drastically curtail its future pollution discharges, two more citizen-led initiatives are getting under way to strike some previous industry-friendly decisions by the state.

To view article in its entirety, please click on
<http://www.adn.com/front/story/9449446p-9360950c.html>

Taking on a brand new role: Reluctant activist pushes for better future for Alaska's resources

*by Dave Atcheson
Peninsula Clarion
November 12, 2007*

This is the story of a reluctant activist. Like a lot of folks, I made my way to Alaska as a young man and was immediately struck by the magic of this place.

To view article in its entirety, please click on
http://www.peninsulaclarion.com/stories/111207/oped_3422.shtml

RDC to focus on state's key issues

*by Tim Bradner
Alaska Journal of Commerce
November 11, 2007*

A broad range of resource challenges and opportunities faced by Alaskans will be outlined Nov. 14 and 15 in the Resource Development Council's "Alaska Resources 2008" conference in Anchorage.

To view article in its entirety, please click on
http://www.alaskajournal.com/stories/111107/hom_20071111001.shtml

Initiative could damage Alaska mining, critics say

*by Elizabeth Bluemink
Anchorage Daily News
November 9, 2007*

Alaska's mining industry -- despite enjoying record profits -- is under serious attack, according to a coalition of mine operators.

To view article in its entirety, please click on
<http://www.adn.com/money/story/9442160p-9353699c.html>

Salmon haul in 2007 fourth-largest since statehood

Preliminary estimates show 212 million fish harvested this year

*by Associated Press
Juneau Empire
November 9, 2007*

KENAI - Alaska's commercial salmon harvest in 2007 was valued at \$374 million, making the haul the fourth-largest since statehood, according to the Alaska Department of Fish and Game.

To view article in its entirety, please click on
http://www.juneauempire.com/stories/110907/sta_20071109032.shtml

Salmon protection, resource development possible

*by Glen Alsworth Sr.
The Bristol Bay Times, page 4
November 8, 2007*

A cursory review of the sockeye salmon ex-vessel prices over the last 20 years for various regions of Alaska reveal a consistent trend of some fisheries with better prices than others.

To view article in its entirety, please click on
http://www.alaskanewspapers.com/content/pdf/BT_11-08-07.pdf

DNR sets mine workshops

*The Bristol Bay Times, page 2
November 8, 2007*

The Alaska Department of Natural Resources commissioner Tom Irwin will lead a series of public workshops to provide information on how the state and federal agencies evaluate mine projects in Alaska.

To view article in its entirety, please click on
http://www.alaskanewspapers.com/content/pdf/BT_11-08-07.pdf

Alaska lands big and rich salmon season

*by The Highliner
Anchorage Daily News
November 7, 2007*

The Department of Fish and Game just released a summary of this year's commercial salmon season.

It's a strong report.

To view article in its entirety, please click on
<http://community.adn.com/node/112978>

Letters to the Editor

Want to help? Here's how!

1. *Write a letter to the editor by email.*
2. *Contact your legislator!*
3. *Forward this newsletter to 3 friends!*
4. *Sign up to be a member of RRC and refer your friends!*

Click [HERE](#) to go to the RRC website for newspaper and legislator contact information.

Pebble mining wealth for season ultimately will pollute forever

Larry Schweigert - Soldotna
Anchorage Daily News
November 14, 2007

<http://www.adn.com/opinion/letters/story/9452723p-9364243c.html>

All wealth is based on only two things ---- agriculture and mining. Both are necessary but mutually incompatible in varying degrees depending on circumstances. What trade-offs are acceptable?

Decades-long gross-wealth productivity of Pebble mine and Chuitna coal mine (most of the wealth going out of state) will almost certainly heavily pollute and otherwise eviscerate both Bristol Bay's and Cook Inlet's ecosystems for centuries, if not millennia. Effective remediation of major problems is statistically and historically unlikely. Quality long-term agricultural productivity of both watersheds, including consumable fish and land animals, will be degraded, perhaps destroyed by traffic, hydrocarbons, waste heaps, toxic dusts, smog and heavy metals. The Red Dog Mine serves as example.

Pebble mine tailings will create a hazard for centuries beyond mine closure. How long will those 700-foot-high dams hold even without earthquakes common to the area? How much leakage will seep through the surrounding permeable soils, short and long term, even without structural failure? Who funds, monitors and maintains these toxic dumps beyond mine closure?

Numerous other serious questions are unanswered about the safety of two major watersheds ---- Bristol Bay and Cook Inlet.

Around Alaska and Beyond

Mining Law Reform is a No-Brainer

by Bill Schneider
New West Bend
November 15, 2007

You have to admire staying power, and there's probably no better example than the General Mining Law of 1872. (No, that isn't one of my typos. It's 1872, not 1972.)

To view article in its entirety, please click on
http://www.newwest.net/city/article/mining_law_reform_is_a_no_brainer/C509/L509/

Salmon permit values expected to leap in Bristol Bay

The Arctic Sounder
November 12, 2007

Alaska salmon permit values, along with the price of fish, are ticking upwards.

The trend is especially notable at Bristol Bay, home to the world's largest sockeye salmon fishery. The bay accounts for one third of Alaska's total salmon earnings and holds the most salmon permits at more than 2,800 fishermen.

To view article in its entirety, please click on
<http://thearcticsounder.com/news/story/769>

MSC recertifies Alaska salmon fishery as sustainable for 5 years

by Margaret Bauman
Alaska Journal of Commerce
November 11, 2007

Alaska's commercial salmon fishery has been recertified as sustainable under Marine Stewardship Council standards for sustainably managed fisheries, state fisheries officials said Nov. 5.

To view article in its entirety, please click on
http://www.alaskajournal.com/stories/111107/fis_20071111082.shtml

Groups ask judge to order rules for salmon-killing pesticides

The Associated Press
Alaska Journal of Commerce
November 11, 2007

Salmon advocates filed a lawsuit Nov. 5 to force the Bush administration to obey a 5-year-old court order requiring it to make permanent rules to keep agricultural pesticides from killing salmon.

To view article in its entirety, please click on
http://www.alaskajournal.com/stories/111107/fis_20071111079.shtml

2006 a record year for Alaska mining

by The Associated Press
Seattle Times
November 8, 2007

ANCHORAGE - Alaska's mining industry posted a record-breaking year in 2006, largely because of the high prices for zinc and other metals, state officials said Wednesday.

To view article in its entirety, please click on
http://seattletimes.nwsourc.com/html/localnews/2004001180_alaskamining08m.html



Blogs

Pebble Mine Video
<http://www.missionlodge.com/blog/?p=93>

Final Cut: Equilibrium
<http://jasonborger.com/ffwblog/?p=153>

Money Talks and Bull**** Walks
<http://busterwantstofish.com/?p=250>

How can a grass roots effort stop a mine in the planning stage?
<http://www.answerquestions.cn/redirect.php?fid=31&tid=647815&goto=nextoldset>

And you thought copper was expensive before...
http://radioinsight.com/boards/index.php?t=rview&goto=58916&th=13308#msg_58916

Clean Water Initiatives I & III *Where to sign*

Anchorage:

- The Mall at Sears
 - Kiosk in center of mall is staffed by volunteers
- Northway Mall
 - Volunteer stationed outside of Gottshalks most days between 11:00 and 3:00
- Terra Bella Coffee House (Dimond area)
- Kaladi Brothers Coffee (midtown by REI)

Homer:

- Ring of Fire Meadery
- K-Bay Cafe
- Cook Inlet Keeper

Fritz Creek:

- Fritz Creek General Store

Coming Soon!

- Hackle Shack on The Spit

THANK YOU to those businesses and people who have booklets already and are out there getting signatures!! Your help and support has been incredible!

If you would like to have the Clean Water Initiative I & III petition booklets at your location for people to drop by and sign, please let us know and we will add you to the list and get booklets to you immediately!

You may also contact one of the area representatives to locate a petition booklet:

Dave Atcheson, Kenai Peninsula dave@renewableresourcescoalition.org

Ron Archer, Southwest Region ron@renewableresourcescoalition.org

Susana Orr, Southeast Region susanna@renewableresourcescoalition.org

Richard Jameson
Renewable Resources Coalition, Inc.

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