

**American Fly Fishing Trade Association, American Sportfishing Association, Bass Pro Shops, Cabela's, Camp Fire Club of America, Camp Fire Conservation Fund, Coastal Conservation Association, Congressional Sportsmen's Foundation, Delta Waterfowl, Guy Harvey Ocean Foundation, Houston Safari Club, International Game Fish Association, Izaak Walton League of America, Marine Fish Conservation Network, Mule Deer Foundation, National Wildlife Foundation, Orvis, Quality Deer Management Association, Ranger Boats, Shimano North American Holding Inc., Simms Fishing Products, Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership, Tracker Boats, Trout Unlimited, Wild Sheep Foundation, Yamaha U.S. Marine Business Unit**

June 19, 2020

President Donald J. Trump  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW  
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

On May 1<sup>st</sup> twenty-six prominent hunting, angling and outdoor manufacturing entities wrote to you respectfully asking that you not permit a Canadian investment company—which has never constructed a mine before—to destroy many square miles in Alaska for a proposed mine. From Bass Pro Shops to the Houston Safari Club to the Camp Fire Club of America, these groups described an overwhelming consensus of expert comments—including from your Interior Department and the EPA—critical of the proposal.

The Canadian company, PLP, responded in a May 6<sup>th</sup> letter, blithely claiming that these hunters, anglers and manufacturers are simply trying to block economic development, and, ignoring our citations to the record, making claims easily refuted by the record. These groups are certainly not against mining or economic development—in fact, most are successful businesses that rely on mining—but the massive impact this mine would have on an irreplaceable national treasure is undeniable.

The Canadian company concedes that its proposal would obliterate more than a hundred miles of salmon streams and wetlands the size of a city, while risking far worse. The Corps has not undertaken an analysis of a tailings dam failure nor an evaluation of a breach to the tailings facility, despite PLP's assurances it would do one. A breach could be catastrophic to the fish and wildlife and local economies of Bristol Bay. The company continues to claim either the Corps has studied what a dam failure would do, or in other instances, it has stated the Corps doesn't need to conduct such a study. Since a tailings dam failed just six years ago in British Columbia, the idea that a study isn't necessary is utter nonsense. Even PLP's "economic development"

pitch rings hollow, because their plan would displace a thriving, world-famous fishing and hunting economy worth \$1.5 billion annually.

The Corps needs to deny the permit. Three State of Alaska agencies and five federal agencies submitted comments critical of the Corps' work to date. The record is replete with the comments "no support for the conclusion", "no supporting evidence", and "needs further study." The Canadian company's assertion that "all these issues have been addressed" is fully discredited by the record.

Alaskans are opposed to this mine, solid companies are opposed, and sportsmen and sportswomen are opposed. We urge you to protect Alaska from this devastation.

Respectfully,

American Fly Fishing Trade Association  
American Sportfishing Association  
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Cabela's  
Camp Fire Club of America  
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