

State of Alaska Comments – Pebble Project Preliminary Draft EIS, Section 3.19 and 4.19 - Noise General Comments

| Agency | Comment No. | Section, Paragraph, and Page # | Cooperating Agency Comment (and Purpose of Comment) | Proposed Resolution (Additions or Deletion of Text) | Response |
|----------------------------|--------------------|---------------------------------------|--|--|---|
| ADEC Commissioner's Office | 32 | Section 3.19, General Comment | A wide variety of discussions in this section note that "baseline noise levels were not measured at the XXX site." NEPA case law requires the discussion of missing information, whether it is important to the decision making process, whether the information could be available and what the cost would be to collect the information if it was available. | Please clarify where appropriate. | The absence of baseline noise data would not be considered a data gap in the EIS per NEPA CEQ guidance and screening (See Section 3.1, Introduction to Affected Environment). Adequate information is available in the EIS analysis area to conduct impact analyses. Section 3.19 has been expanded to better describe the methodology of determining baseline conditions throughout the EIS analysis area. |

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|----------------|--------------------|---------------------------------------|--|---|---|
| ADF&G Wildlife | N/A | Sections 3.19 and 4.19 GENERAL | Noise sections need to consider public uses (KOP's) at Chenik Lagoon within McNeil River SGR and vessel noise over the water of shipping traffic past both McNeil River SGR and the bear viewing camp at McNeil River SGS. | Update and revise section to consider noise impacts to McNeil River SGR and McNeil River SGS users. | Noise impacts addressing McNeil River State Game Refuge and Katmai National Park and Preserve are addressed in Section 4.5, Recreation. |