

State of Alaska Comments – Pebble Project Preliminary Draft EIS, Section 4.5 – Recreation

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	1	4.5.2.3; p. 4.5-4	The first paragraph in the section notes that "Boat traffic to and from the port would be minimal: up to 27 concentrate vessels and 33 supply barges per year during operations. There would be a large number of boats during construction...."	It is not clear why the vessel traffic is being segmented this way. This document needs to address the impacts of vessel traffic over the life of the project.	The information is separated because the supply barges would not use the lightering location. The impacts apply to all vessel traffic and are not specific to vessel type.
ADEC Commissioner's Office	2	4.5.2.3; p. 4.5-5	Paragraph three on this page notes that "Overall, because recreational use of the Amakdedori Port is likely low, project-related wildlife and fish displacement, noise and activities would result in minimal displacement of wildlife viewing and fishing uses to other nearby shoreline areas."		No direction to revise given in comment. No edits were made.
ADEC Commissioner's Office	3	4.5.2.4; p. 4.5-5	Paragraph four on this page note that "The pipeline would not be visible above ground and would not remove any acreage from use for recreational opportunities." It is not clear how this statement can be true because the presence of underwater pipelines typically requires anchoring restrictions and restrictions on anchoring would remove an area from use for recreational opportunities.	Please clarify.	Text on anchoring added.
ADEC Commissioner's Office	4	4.5.3.2; p. 4.5-7	Paragraph seven on this page discusses traffic on the Williamsport-Pile Bay Road and refers to "anglers". The final sentence notes that few of these boats are recreational anglers.	Please simplify the discussion and just state that the traffic is due to the transport of commercial fishing vessels.	Text has been simplified to include just commercial vessels and references the transportation section.
ADEC Commissioner's Office	5	4.5.4; p. 4.5-9	Paragraph five on this page discusses traffic on the Williamsport-Pile Bay Road and refers to "anglers". As noted on page 4.5-7, few of these boats are recreational	Please simplify the discussion and just state that the traffic is due to the transport of commercial fishing vessels.	Text has been simplified to include just commercial vessels and references the transportation section.

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			nglers.		
ADEC Commissioner's Office	6	4.5.6; p. 4.5-10	The bullets on this page include both the Alaska Standalone Pipeline Project and the Alaska LNG project. Only one of these projects will be built, so it could confuse some readers to have both listed.	Please clarify that although both projects are listed only one would be built.	Text has been clarified.
ADF&G/Habitat/SPCS	7	4.5; p. 4.5-5	"Existing recreational use along the pipeline alignment in Cook Inlet and on the Kenai Peninsula consists of boating in the inlet and recreational use on the peninsula." Extremely vague statement that states that recreational use on the Kenai Peninsula consists of recreational use.	EIS needs to give a more thorough description of recreational use on the Kenai Peninsula as it relates to the proposed natural gas pipeline corridor.	Text revised to discuss what activities occur in the immediate vicinity.
ADF&G/Habitat/SPCS	8	4.5; p. 4.5-6	"Noise and activities during project construction and closure may also temporarily adversely affect recreation experiences for visitors to the Stariski State Recreation Site" Only describes noise impacts to users of the State Recreation Site.	EIS should describe impacts from noise and activities for the entire pipeline corridor on the Kenai Peninsula including hunting and fishing outside of the State Recreation Area.	Added text regarding impacts to general recreation activities in the area.