

State of Alaska Comments – Pebble Project Preliminary Draft EIS, Section 3.1 – Introduction to Affected Environment and Appendix K3.1

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	Appendix K; Section 3.1, p. K3.1-5	This section references the EPA Assessment of Potential Mining Impacts on Salmon Ecosystems of Bristol Bay Alaska. It is not clear how the EPA study is applicable unless there is a comparison of the size of the mine assumed in the EPA assessment and the size of the mine that is currently being proposed.	Please provide a comparison of the size of the mine in the EPA assessment and the mine currently being proposed.	Comment acknowledged; however, as the process describes an initial assessment of TEK for the project area, comparison of mine size is irrelevant. Various sources were consulted to inform the USACE on TEK to develop the framework for TEK analysis in the document.
ADEC Commissioner's Office	2	3.1.3.1; p. 3.1-2	This section on traditional ecological knowledge references the EPA Assessment of Potential Mining Impacts on Salmon Ecosystems of Bristol Bay Alaska. It is not clear how the EPA study is applicable unless there is a comparison of the size of the mine assumed in the EPA assessment and the size of the mine that is currently being proposed.	Please provide a comparison of the size of the mine in the EPA assessment and the mine currently being proposed.	See above response.
ADF&G/Habitat/SPCS	3	Appendix K; Section K3.1.1; p. K3.1-1	Scoping comments refer to "underwater" streams in the headwaters that are important to small fish fry and fingerlings.	Further clarification would be helpful on what is meant by underwater streams.	This text is from a scoping comment from the public; no further clarification is available.