

State of Alaska Comment – Pebble Project Preliminary Draft EIS, Section 3.16 – Surface Water Hydrology

Agency	Comment No.	Section or Figure	Cooperating Agency Comment (and Purpose of Comment)	Proposed Resolution (Additions or Deletion of Text)	Response
ADF&G (sport fish)	Excel line 9	Fig. 3.16-4	Figure 3.16-4 does not show Stream Gaging Stations as cited in the text, it only depicts Meteorological Stations. Map lacks basic elements such as scale and north arrow.	Replace with correct map with standard map elements	Gaging stations have been added to Figure 3.16-4 and Figure 3.16-5. Other map elements added as required. Meteorological stations added to Figure 3.16-4.
ADF&G (sport fish)	Excel line 10	Fig. 3.16-5	Figure 3.16-5- resolution of figure is too poor to read some labels.	Provide map with higher resolution	Figure 3.16-5 added at larger scale than Figure 3.16-4 to more clearly depict gaging stations in vicinity of mine site.
ADF&G (sport fish)	Excel line 11	Fig. 3.16-2	Figure 3.16-2 does NOT "depict all gaging station locations in the three watersheds" as stated in text.	Replace with Figure 3.16-3	Figures added to section. Figure 3.16-4 and Figure 3.16-5 comprehensively depict gaging station locations.
ADF&G (sport fish)	Excel line 12	Fig. 3.16-3	Figure 3.16-3 lacks basic standard map information such as north arrow and scale. Very poor resolution, difficult to read labels.	Provide high resolution map with standard map elements	Figures modified with current GIS data to improve clarity. Added other map elements as required.
ADF&G (sport fish)	Excel line 13	Fig. 3.16-4	Figure 3.16-4 is incorrectly referenced under heading North Fork Koktuli River. Figure does NOT show stream gaging stations. Map lacks basic elements such as scale and north arrow.	Replace with correct map with standard map elements	Figure call-outs have been corrected or added as needed. Other map elements added as required.
ADF&G (sport fish)	Excel line 14	Fig. 3.16-3	Figure 3.16-3 is incorrectly referenced in last paragraph.	Reference Figure 3.16-2	See above response.
ADF&G (sport fish)	Excel line 15	3.16.1.1	Meteorological Inputs- references Knight Piesold 2018a and 2018d. These references are not included in references sections and document could not be located.	Provide required reference documentation for all Knight Piesold 2018 documents	All referenced documents are available on the public project website.

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ADF&G (sport fish)	Excel line 16	3.16.1.2	Lack of data or surface water investigations for southern segment of mine access road from ferry terminal to Amakdedori.	Conduct detailed surface water investigations to assess impacts from this alternative	Where sufficient streamflow data are not available, it is standard practice in Alaska to design the drainage structures using regional regression equations to predict the design. Regional regression equations that might be used for this project are the USGS regression equations published in 2016 (Curran et al. 2016).
ADF&G (sport fish)	Excel line 17	3.16.1.2	Lack of data or surface water investigations for southern segment of mine access road.	Conduct detailed surface water investigations to assess impacts for this alternative. Ideally, a minimum of 5 years of continuous flow records are desired; however, shorter periods can be agreed upon and used when field data are combined with synthetic data and mutually agreed-upon analyses.	See response above.
ADF&G (sport fish)	Excel line 18	3.16.1.2	Many surface water extraction sites along road routes are likely very small streams. But no information is provided about hydrology along south access road corridor. Hydrology data will be needed to size culverts along this corridor and assess impacts to fish habitat.	Provide information on how water extraction from small streams may impact fish habitat.	Comment refers to impacts to fish habitat. Please refer to Section 4.24, Fish Values.
ADF&G (sport fish)	Excel line 19	3.16.1.2	ADF&G requires sufficient seasonal instream flows be maintained in all waterbodies supporting fish and wildlife resources.	Provide information on how water extraction from small streams may impact fish habitat.	Comment refers to impacts to fish habitat. Please refer to Section 4.24, Fish Values.
ADF&G (sport fish)	Excel line 20	3.16.1.2	ADF&G holds Certificates for Reservations of Water on Lower Talarik Creek, Newhalen River, and Kvichak River. A	Surface water extraction will not be permitted if extraction may have impacts to senior water right/water reservations	Noted.

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			Reservation of Water is on file for the Iliamna River.		