## Press Release

## United Tribes of Bristol Bay Opposes Pebble Limited Partnership's Assault on the Clean Water Act

For Immediate Release:

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DILLINGHAM - The United Tribes of Bristol Bay was not surprised to hear this morning that the Pebble Limited Partnership (PLP) has filed a lawsuit in the Federal District Court for the District of Alaska challenging the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) authority under the Clean Water Act to review the potential adverse environmental impacts posed by developing the Pebble deposit.

PLP's rhetoric leading up to this morning's announcement has been increasingly hostile, led in no small part by PLP's new Washington, D.C. CEO Tom Collier. Mr. Collier, who had never been to Bristol Bay until last week, cited the "great concerns to the entire development community" as justifying the lawsuit. He made no mention, however, of the concerns expressed by Bristol Bay's communities over the past decade as they have waited for PLP to file their permit applications.

Robert Heyano, spokesman for United Tribes of Bristol Bay, made the following statement regarding PLP's law suit:

"PLP has shown, time and again, that it will do or say anything to dig the largest open-pit mine in North America, and no one: not the tribal communities, the subsistence, commercial, or sport harvesters are going to get in PLP's way. Our Tribes stand with EPA. We asked them to come to region and they answered our call. Their rock-solid science provided the basis to initiate the Clean Water Act process and I am confident we will see that process upheld in court."

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