



ALASKA MINERS
ASSOCIATION

**SOUTHEAST OPPORTUNITIES AND
RESPONSIBILITY IN ACTION**

Deantha Crockett, Executive Director

Alaska Miners Association

- Established in 1939
- Over 1,400 members
- Eight statewide branches – Haines!
- Placer mines: small; family-owned
- Large-scale mines and projects
- Sand, gravel, quarry rock
- Support contractors and businesses

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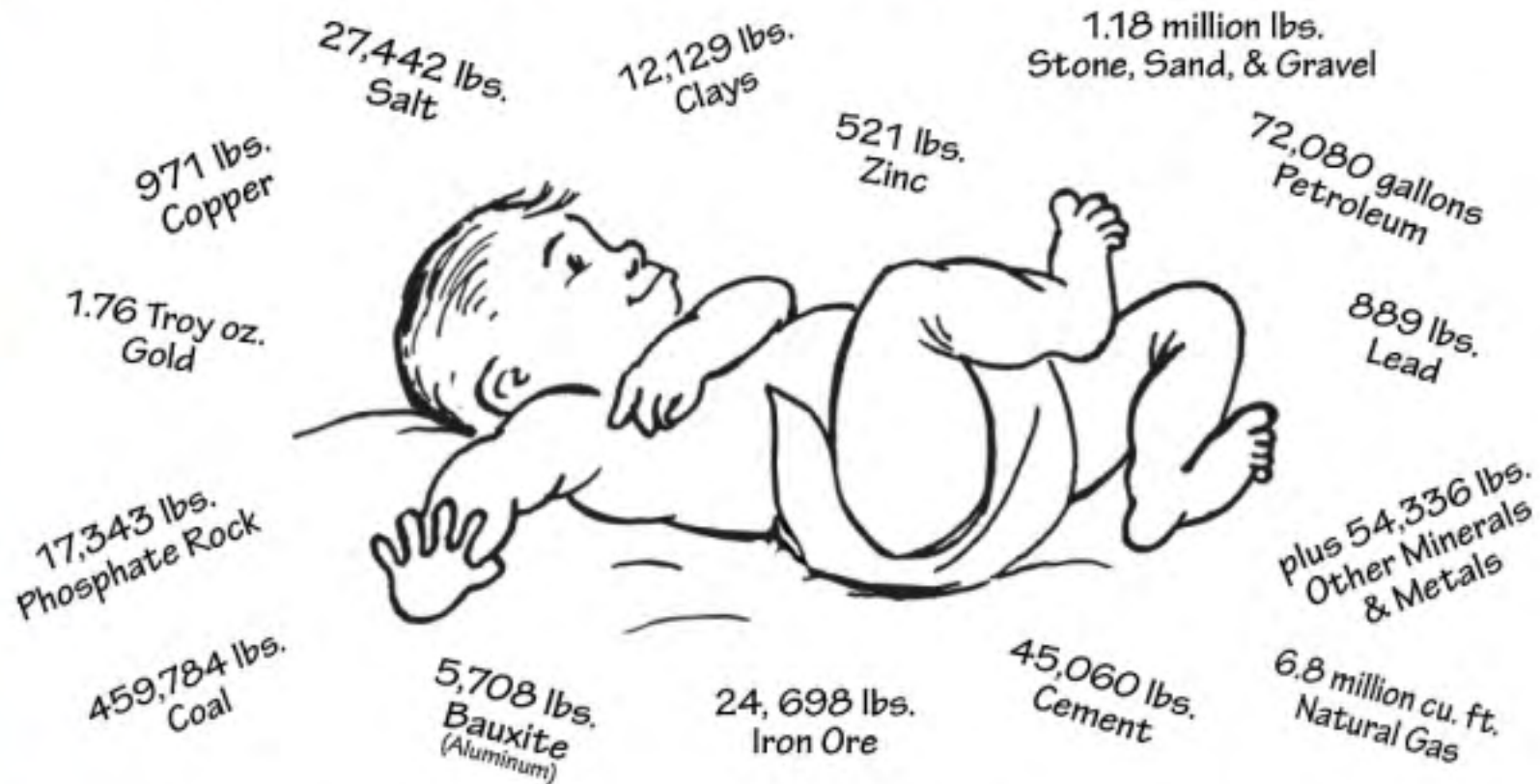
Southeast Opportunities and Responsibility in Action

- Why mining?
- Update on mining around Alaska
- Exploration and development in Southeast
- Permitting a mine in Alaska
- Water Quality and Fish Habitat
- Success Stories

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Every American Born Will Need...



3.03 million pounds of minerals, metals, and fuels in their lifetime

Minerals Make Life

Broken-down Raw Materials of Worth in Your iPhone 5



Minerals Make Life



An aerial photograph of a wind farm situated on a forested hillside. The landscape is a mix of green trees and grassy areas, with a dirt road winding through it. In the background, a large body of water is visible under a cloudy sky. Several wind turbines are scattered across the hillside. Overlaid on the image are labels for various minerals: 'steel' at the top center, 'rare earths' on the left, 'molybdenum' on the right, 'aluminum' in the lower left, 'copper' at the bottom center, and 'zinc' in the lower right.

steel

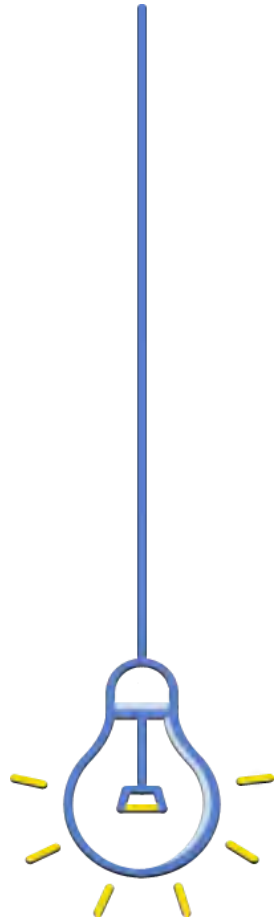
rare earths

molybdenum

aluminum

copper

zinc



If you have turned on a light, entered a building, driven on a road, made a phone call, used a computer, or visited a doctor, then mining is an important part of your life.

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Coeur Alaska Kensington mine



Greens Creek Mine



Niblack – Prince of Wales Island



Dotson Ridge – Prince of Wales



Palmer Project





Benefits to Alaska: jobs

- 4,350 direct jobs
- 8,600 total direct and indirect jobs
- \$675 million total payroll
- Average annual wage of \$108,000
- Residents of 50+ communities
- Contracts for AK businesses

AMA Economic Benefit report at www.alaskaminers.org

No Single Permit to Mine: there are many permits & authorizations

Mine permitting is a mixture of State, Federal and local permitting requirements.
Each project is unique.

STATE

- Plan of Operations (DNR)
- Reclamation and Bonding (DNR)
- Waste Management Permits and Bonding (ADEC)
- CWA Section 402 APDES Water Discharge Permit
- Certification of ACOE Permits (ADEC)
- Sewage Treatment System Approval (ADEC)
- Air Quality Permits (ADEC)
- Fish Habitat and Fishway Permits (ADF&G)
- Water Rights (DNR)
- Right of Way/Access (DNR/DOT)
- Tidelands Leases (DNR)
- Dam Safety Certification (DNR)
- Cultural Resource Protection (DNR)
- Monitoring Plan (Surface/Groundwater/Wildlife) (DNR/DEC/DFG)

FEDERAL

- US EPA Air Quality Permit review
- US EPA Safe Drinking Water Act (UIC Permit)
- US ACOE S. 404 Dredge and Fill Permit
- US ACOE S. 10 Rivers and Harbors Act
- US ACOE S. 106 Historical & Cultural Resources Protection
- NMFS Threatened & Endangered Species Act Consultation
- NMFS Marine Mammal Protection Act
- NMFS Essential Fish Habitat
- NMFS Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act
- USFWS Threatened & Endangered Species Act Consultation
- USFWS Bald Eagle Protection Act Clearance
- USFWS Migratory Bird Protection
- USFWS Fish & Wildlife Coordination Act

These are only some of the permits required!



True North (Fairbanks)



Poker Flats (Healy)

Reclamation and Closure

- Alaska law (AS 27.19) requires that a mine site must be returned to a stable condition compatible with the post-mining land use
- Plan must be approved by DNR Commissioner *before* operations begin
- Financial assurance applies to all companies
- Reviewed every 5 years or earlier if necessary

Water Quality and Fish Habitat



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All development does the same thing to obtain permits from ADF&G

Is it an anadromous stream?

Are fish present?

If the answer to either of these is yes, then:

- Assess potential impacts of proposed activity
- Identify alternatives to address these impacts
- Submit a plan to ADF&G
- Address agency's comments and feedback
- Prepare detailed plans subject to agency review/alteration
- Implement plan under the terms of the permit

Fish habitat permitting in Alaska is rigorous and effective

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Doing it Right: Fort Knox Mine

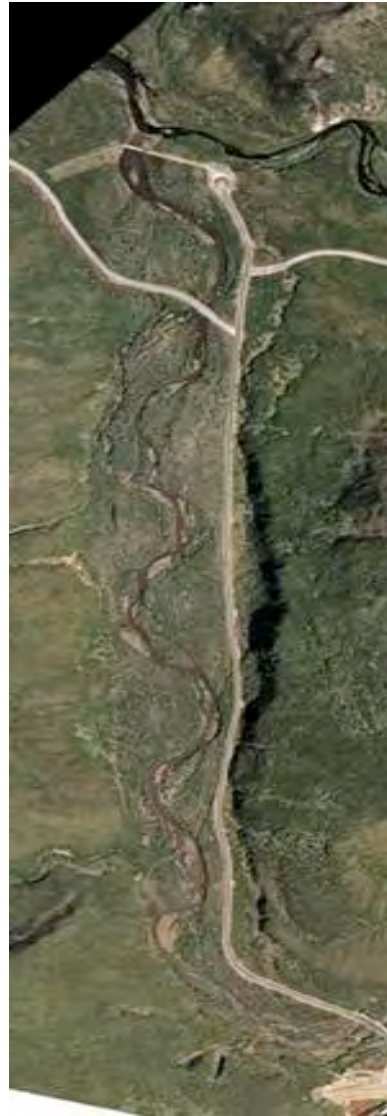


Doing it Right: Red Dog Mine

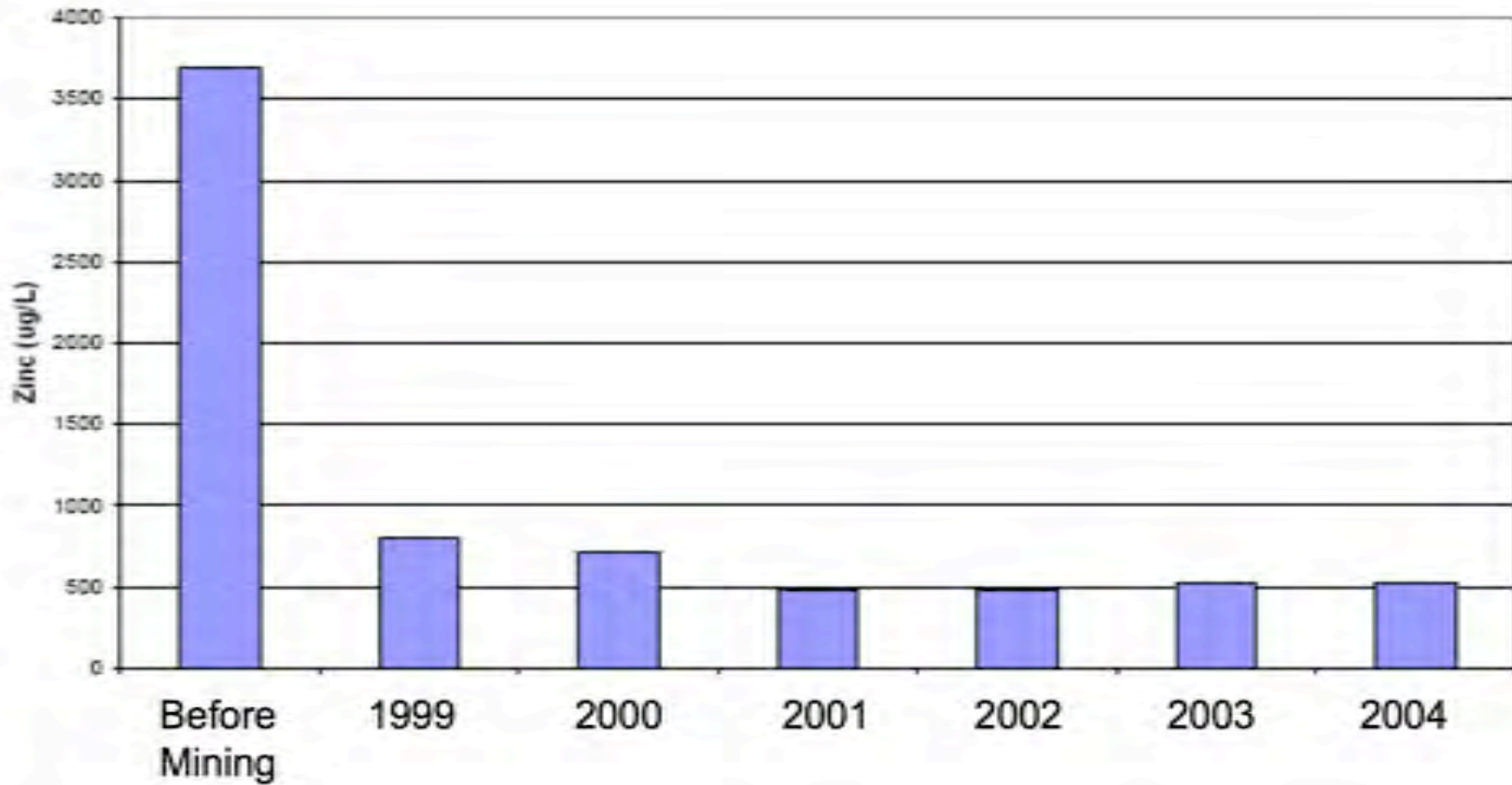
Before
Mining
(1982)



After
Mining
(2005)

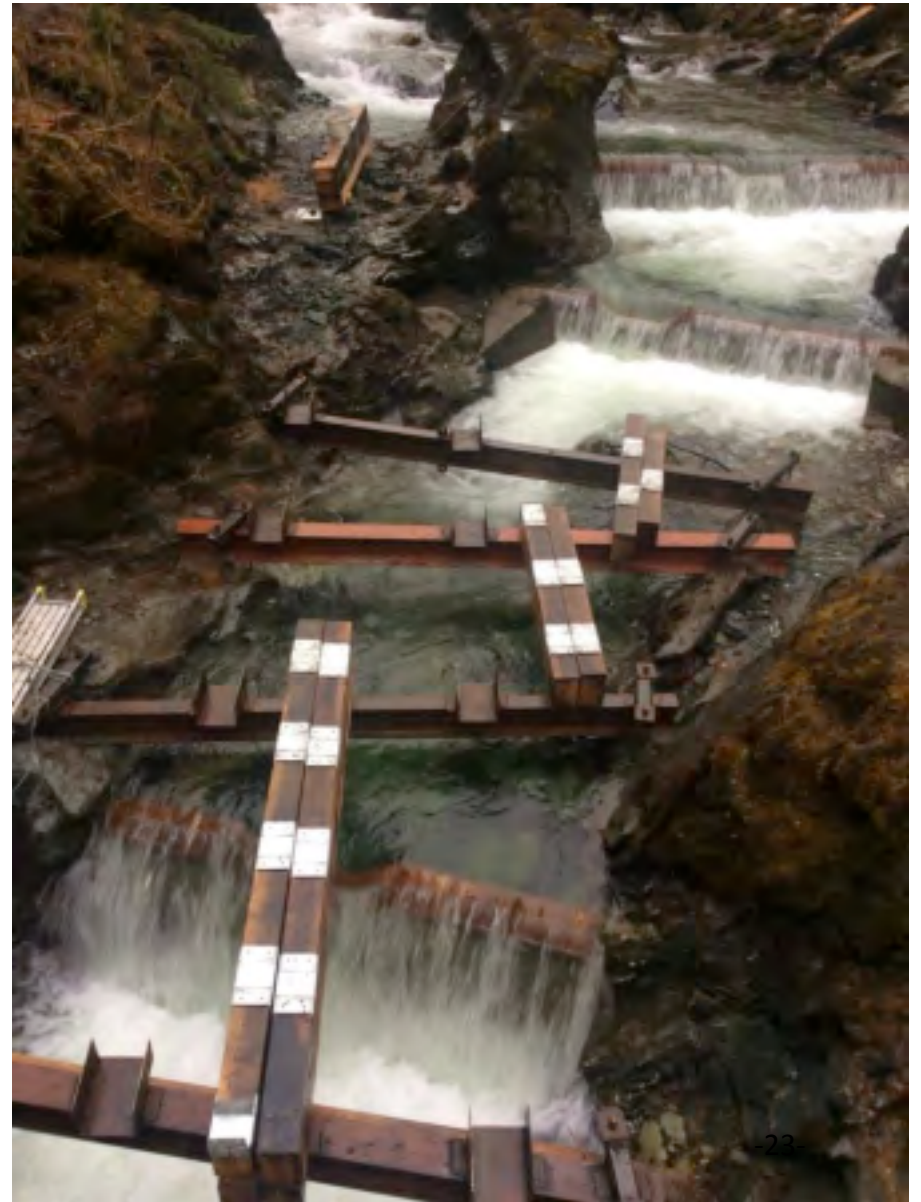


Doing it Right: Red Dog Mine



Source: EPA Environmental Assessment NPDES Permit (AK-003865-3) Renewal – January 2006

Doing it Right: Greens Creek Mine



Doing it Right: Greens Creek Mine



Thank you!

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