

From: [John Block](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: PROJECT NAME: ADL 109466
Date: Tuesday, February 17, 2026 7:04:16 PM

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Concerning the project ADL 109466 private non-exclusive easement for road and staging areas near Eagle and Herbert Rivers in Juneau.

DO NOT BUILD THIS ROAD. DO NOT APPROVE THIS PROJECT. I ABSOLUTELY OBJECT TO ANY CONSIDERATION TO BE GIVEN TO THIS PROJECT.

If you've ever spent any time, exploring the Eagle and Herbert River drainages, you'll understand that this proposed road will be very destructive to the natural environment. This area holds some of the most incredible forested wetlands in Juneau. There's an abundance of habitat for Beaver, migratory, birds, wolves, bears, deer and mustelids and not to mention the multitude of salmon spawning in the area. This is a phenomenal place to go hiking, running and mountain biking when not covered in snow. In the winter, it's hard to beat the backcountry cross-country skiing through the Herbert glacier Trail and out along the frozen beaver ponds.

The current mining activity that's going on around the Herbert glacier is already becoming disruptive to the area. Don't take it any further by authorizing a destructive projection such as this. The mining activity needs to stop.

John Block

From: [Colter Boehm](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: GPG Alaska Resources, Inc., for a proposed easement, serialized by DNR as ADL 109466
Date: Tuesday, February 17, 2026 8:23:50 AM

You don't often get email from colter@bobcatofjuneau.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

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Dear John,

As an avid outdoorsman and a local business owner of Juneau I would like to express my support for this road and the project.

Opening this road up to the general public for outdoor enthusiasts will allow us access to areas that are currently unreachable by certain handicapped persons.

In addition will make it much easier to reach farther into the wilderness for more extreme adventurers.

As a Business owner, this project will provide lots of Jobs for our locals.

And these will be excellent, long-term paying Jobs.

--

Thanks

Colter

Bobcat of Juneau & Ketchikan

5450 Glacier Hwy

Juneau, AK 99801

www.bobcatofjuneau.com

(907)-523-7920

Fax- (907) 523-0348



From: [Matthew Brodsky](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: Amalga mine road
Date: Tuesday, February 17, 2026 3:59:28 PM

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John,

I'm writing to express my opposition to the mining road adjacent to the Herbert River. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Matthew Brodsky

From: [Brooks Horan](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Cc: Redacted
Subject: Public Comment Opposing ADL 109466 – Easement Application by GPG Alaska Resources, Inc.
Date: Tuesday, February 17, 2026 4:58:34 PM

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To: John Driscoll

Division of Mining, Land and Water

Alaska Department of Natural Resources

Dear Mr. Driscoll,

I am writing to formally oppose the easement application (ADL 109466) submitted by [GPG Alaska Resources, Inc.](#) to construct a 1.3-mile access road and staging areas on state-managed lands adjacent to Glacier Highway Milepost 27.1 in the Eagle River watershed near Juneau.

This proposal offers no demonstrated public benefit to Alaskans while placing substantial environmental, financial, and community burdens on the State and local residents. The primary beneficiary of this easement is a private mining company seeking to advance exploration and potentially development of the New Amalga Gold Project on adjacent U.S. Forest Service land. The long-term easement request (35 years) clearly anticipates future mine development, yet the public is being asked to approve the first segment of an industrial access corridor without a full understanding of cumulative impacts.

1. Lack of Public Benefit

The proposed road serves a private mineral exploration project. It does not improve public access, community infrastructure, or transportation for residents. Instead, it facilitates industrial activity for corporate gain while exposing Alaskans to

environmental risk, infrastructure degradation, and potential long-term public costs. State lands should not be encumbered for decades primarily to benefit a single mining operator without clear, enforceable public advantages.

2. Unknown and Potentially Significant Environmental Impacts

The project is located within the Eagle River watershed, an ecologically sensitive area near Herbert Glacier and upstream of important salmon-bearing waters. Constructing a 60-foot-wide easement corridor with a 15-foot-wide, shot-rock road and staging areas introduces risks including:

- Sedimentation and water quality degradation
- Increased erosion from steep terrain and heavy precipitation
- Impacts to salmon habitat and downstream fisheries
- Disturbance of wetlands and riparian areas
- Long-term fragmentation of intact habitat

Approving a 35-year easement before comprehensive environmental review of full build-out mining operations raises serious concerns about piecemeal permitting. The long-term ecological impacts are not adequately known.

3. Known Negative Impacts on Wildlife

The project area provides habitat for black bear, moose, mountain goats, and migratory birds. Road construction and helicopter-supported exploration activities will increase:

- Habitat fragmentation

- Noise disturbance
- Human-wildlife conflict
- Long-term displacement from critical habitat

Industrial access roads are widely recognized as permanent vectors for wildlife disturbance. Once constructed, they fundamentally change land use patterns and ecological function.

4. Destruction of Existing Infrastructure and Impacts to Ferry Users

I took the ferry from Bellingham to the Auke Bay terminal this winter arriving in early January. The roads were snow and ice covered and traffic progressed at a snail's pace to avoid spinouts or sliding off the road. If the terminal is built at Cascade Point, it would have been absolutely treacherous to drive in those same conditions. Building a terminal at Cascade Point is foolhardy, and an obvious concession to private industry that will negatively affect vital transportation and access for Alaskans living in Juneau.

Furthermore, the already poorly maintained Glacier Highway corridor and connecting infrastructure are not designed for sustained heavy ore haul traffic. If mining proceeds, ore transport to a proposed marine terminal would subject the highway to repeated heavy industrial loads. This will:

- Accelerate roadway degradation
- Increase public maintenance costs
- Create traffic safety hazards
- Disrupt local residents and tourism

Additionally, increased industrial shipping and terminal use will negatively impact users of the [Alaska Marine Highway System](#). Ferry schedules, reliability, and dock access could be compromised by industrial priority use. Alaska's ferry system serves as

a critical transportation lifeline for Southeast communities, residents, and businesses. Public transportation infrastructure should not be subordinated to private ore export operations.

5. Long-Term Public Risk

The requested term (May 1, 2026 – April 30, 2061) effectively commits state land to private industrial use for 35 years. If exploration transitions to development, the State may face long-term environmental liabilities, infrastructure repair costs, and diminished public access. Historically, road approvals granted at the exploration stage often become irreversible commitments to full industrial development.

For these reasons, I respectfully urge the Department of Natural Resources to deny the easement application ADL 109466. At minimum, the State should require a comprehensive, cumulative environmental review and a clear demonstration of tangible public benefit before encumbering state lands for decades.

Alaska's public lands and transportation systems exist to serve Alaskans—not to subsidize private industrial expansion at public expense.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,

Brooks Horan

Juneau, AK

Redacted

From: [areq capito](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: Herbert mine access
Date: Wednesday, February 18, 2026 5:08:36 AM

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I oppose this project which will negatively impact tourist related outdoor recreation opportunities in the area. Noise from heavy equipment including helicopters, degrades a quality outdoor experience.

Outdoor recreation is a more sustainable economic activity than a mining operation.

And the State's ability/willingness to monitor this mine and insure environmental protection, (especially water quality) is suspect.

Thank you.

From: [Amy Carroll](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: ADL 109466: Private Non-Exclusive Easement for Road and Staging Areas near Eagle and Herbert Rivers in Juneau
Date: Wednesday, February 18, 2026 9:39:48 AM

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Good morning,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on ADL 109466. I would like to register my opposition. It's right in the middle of some Juneau's most beautiful recreation opportunities, and just because it "ends" at the Tongass National Forest boundary doesn't mean the effects of the road and all associated equipment and activity stop there.

I urge the State of Alaska do deny this easement.

Sincerely,

Amy Carroll
2544 Douglas Hwy
Juneau AK 99801

From: [Brett Collins](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: Public Comment Opposition to ADL 109466 – Easement Application
Date: Wednesday, February 18, 2026 12:11:57 PM

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To John Driscoll
Division of Mining Land and Water
Alaska Department of Natural Resources

I am writing to formally oppose the easement application (ADL 109466) submitted by GPG Alaska Resources, Inc. to construct a 1.3-mile access road and staging areas on state-managed lands near Glacier Highway Milepost 27.1 in the Eagle River watershed outside Juneau.

This proposal offers no demonstrated public benefit to Alaskans. Instead, it primarily serves a private mining company seeking to advance exploration—and potentially development—of the New Amalga Gold Project on adjacent U.S. Forest Service land. A 35-year easement clearly signals long-term industrial intentions, yet the public is being asked to approve the first segment of what would become an industrial access corridor without a full understanding of cumulative impacts.

The proposed road does not improve public access, strengthen infrastructure, or provide meaningful transportation improvements for residents. It facilitates private mineral exploration while shifting environmental risk, infrastructure strain, and potential long-term costs onto the public. State lands should not be committed for decades to benefit a single operator without clear, enforceable public advantages.

The project lies within the Eagle River watershed near Herbert Glacier and upstream of important salmon-bearing waters. Constructing a 60-foot-wide easement corridor with a shot-rock road and staging areas introduces significant risk, including sedimentation, erosion in steep terrain, water quality degradation, and impacts to salmon habitat and downstream fisheries. Disturbance of wetlands, riparian areas, and intact habitat should not be minimized.

Approving a 35-year easement before comprehensive review of potential full-scale mining operations raises serious concerns about piecemeal permitting. The long-term ecological consequences are not adequately understood.

This area provides habitat for black bear, moose, mountain goats, and migratory birds. Road construction and helicopter-supported exploration will increase habitat fragmentation, noise disturbance, human-wildlife conflict, and long-term displacement from critical habitat. Industrial access roads permanently alter land use patterns and ecological function. Once built, they rarely return to their original state.

Glacier Highway and connecting infrastructure are already strained and not designed for sustained heavy industrial haul traffic. If mining proceeds, ore transport to a proposed marine terminal would accelerate roadway degradation, increase maintenance costs borne by taxpayers, create safety hazards, and disrupt local residents and tourism.

Increased industrial shipping could also interfere with Alaska Marine Highway System operations. Ferry service is a critical transportation lifeline for Southeast communities. Public infrastructure should not be subordinated to private ore export operations.

The requested term effectively commits state land to private industrial use for 35 years. If exploration

transitions to development, the State may face environmental liabilities, infrastructure repair costs, and diminished public access. History shows that roads approved during exploration often become irreversible stepping stones toward full industrial development.

For these reasons, I respectfully urge the Department of Natural Resources to deny easement application ADL 109466. At a minimum, the State should require a comprehensive, cumulative environmental review and a clear demonstration of tangible public benefit before encumbering state lands for decades.

Alaska's public lands and transportation systems exist to serve Alaskans—not to subsidize private industrial expansion at public expense.

Brett Collins

From: [Michele Cornelius](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: The Almalga mining road should be stopped!
Date: Wednesday, February 18, 2026 6:10:00 PM

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The Almalga mine access road is a horrible idea and should not be approved! This would go through forest and wetlands in a popular recreation area near trails, and will ruin the area for recreation. Why would you want to punch in a road to help a Canadian mining company at our expense? As a Southeast Alaskan resident who uses these trails, I am strongly opposed to this road.

Sincerely, Michele Cornelius, Gustavus AK

From: [Tristan Knutson-Lombardo](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: Herbert River Road
Date: Wednesday, February 18, 2026 2:06:27 PM

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Hi John,

Please accept my comments on Grande Portage's proposed road in the Eagle River watershed: this is the wrong road for the wrong mine in the wrong place.

I am not opposed to mining operations in the Tongass. I see safe, well-regulated mining as a key component to addressing climate change. However, I am opposed to mining activity that is in direct conflict with an area's existing use. In the case of the New Amalga project, the Eagle River watershed has been home to heavy recreation use by both locals and visitors alike, making the location of this mine, and subsequent access road, a very poor choice in location.

Let's mine responsibly where it makes sense for everyone. Do not approve this access road.

Tristan Knutson-Lombardo
Juneau

From: [Nick Rutecki](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: Amalga mining road
Date: Wednesday, February 18, 2026 2:55:02 PM

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Comment: Make it a public road and pave it. Giving another access point to the alpine for skiing or snow machines is becoming a more pressing issue in Juneau. Ideally it would go into the alpine out that way.

From: [ScyllaLLC](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: Juneau. Road
Date: Wednesday, February 18, 2026 9:50:27 AM

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This road is a win for all of Juneau. It needs to be built.

From: [Kimberly Valverde](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: Public Comment re: New Amalga mining road
Date: Wednesday, February 18, 2026 12:34:35 PM

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Hello,

My name is Kimberly Valverde. I have been a full-time resident of Juneau since 2012. I am writing in objection to the proposed New Amalga mining road. The environmental and social impacts will be devastating and irreparable. I would be heartbroken and angry to see this habitat destroyed to only benefit a foreign mining company. Why must we continue to get the crap end of the stick? Juneau is already negatively impacted by the large footprint of the cruise ship industry. Do we also have to sacrifice natural and recreational areas that are farther from cruise ship reach to Canadian mining companies? I don't trust the mining companies to ever do the right thing. Look at the Mount Polley mining disaster, for example. And what do we get in return if this gets pushed through? Some jobs that will go mostly to out-of-state workers who don't pay state income tax. The residents and nature will pay the ultimate price of irreparable loss.

Earnestly,
[Kimberly Valverde](#)
[Redacted]

From: [Detlef Buettner](#)
To: [Doreen \(L\) John Henry \(G08\)](#)
Subject: Grand Forage/Amalga mine project
Date: Thursday, February 19, 2026 6:39:44 PM

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Hello John,
I am opposed to the development of a new mine out at Amalga/Herbert River. This project only benefits a few people short term but will harm the beauty and existing species diversity of the area which tourists and residents of Juneau enjoy so much. The area supports an abundant salmon run of primarily Chum salmon and the wildlife that depends on it. To give an idea - I counted 454 (!) Bald Eagles one day alone on Eagle Beach besides observing thousands of Gulls, Ravens and Crows feeding on salmon. The estuary supports Loons, Mergansers, Ducks, Geese, Humpback Whales, Sea Lions, Harbor Seals and River Otters to name just a few. The area also supports our local Dungeness Crab fishery. Please consider that many tourists enjoy this wildlife as much as local residents. The estuary and the pristine hiking opportunities upstream on Eagle River and Herbert River is a sanctuary for all of us. No mineral extractions and short term profits are worth harming this special location. We are much better off preserving the beauty of this location for visitors in the form of eco tourism and respecting the appreciation of the area by local residents. The animals will be benefitting as well. Please do not destroy this area.
Thank you, Detlef Buettner
Resident of Juneau since 1982

Red-throated Loon at Eagle Beach, July 2025
Photo by Detlef Buettner



Sent from my iPad

From: [claudia sipes](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: No mine out of Herbert Glacier
Date: Thursday, February 19, 2026 9:22:10 PM

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As a citizen and tax contributor to my community if Juneau, I strongly oppose the opening of any more mines in the CBJ. No expansion of any roads invading the Tongass. Please take my opinion in to your consideration before making a stupid, greedy decision. Thank you.

Claudia Sipes
2903 Simpson Ave.
Juneau, Ak. 99801

From: [Linda Kruger](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: Amalga/Herbert River
Date: Friday, February 20, 2026 10:12:20 PM

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Re: Grand Portage/Amalga mine project

I am writing to oppose the development of a new mine at Amalga/Herbert River.

This development would only benefit a few people but would harm the natural beauty and diversity of the surrounding area which is enjoyed by tourists and residents alike. The area supports an abundant salmon run of primarily Chum salmon and the wildlife that depends on it. The estuary supports Bald Eagles, Loons, Mergansers, Ducks, Geese, Humpback Whales, Sea Lions, Harbor Seals and River Otters to name just a few. The area also supports our local Dungeness Crab fishery.

The estuary and the pristine hiking opportunities upstream on Eagle River and Herbert River provide recreation and escape from the hustle of life. No mineral extractions or short-term profits are worth harming this special location. We should respect and appreciate this area for the benefits it provides without causing damage.

Thank you,

Linda Kruger
3042 Nowell Avenue
Juneau, AK 99801
Redacted

From: [Bridget Smith](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: New Amalga road
Date: Friday, February 20, 2026 9:31:17 AM

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Dear Mr. Driscoll:

Count me and my husband as opposed to the building of a road in our public lands. It is an outrage to give priority to private profit over public usage of public land. It is a popular place for Southeasterners to recreate.

Deny the application from Grande Portage.

Very sincerely,

Bridget Smith and Jim Asper

Bridget Smith
Redacted
Cell **Redacted**

From: [Larri Spengler](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: NO on proposed new Amalga road
Date: Friday, February 20, 2026 5:02:52 PM

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Greetings:

I firmly oppose the proposed new Amalga road.

The proposed route would punch through pristine rainforest and wetlands in a highly frequented public recreation area. This is an area where Juneau residents regularly hike and bike, camp at the Eagle Glacier and Windfall cabins, and forage for mushrooms and pick berries. The proposed road would disrupt all of those activities and interfere with both subsistence and recreational opportunities for many Juneauites.

Disturbing such valuable public lands for the possibility of private profit is not aligned with my values or those of my neighbors.

For these reasons, I strongly urge you to deny Grande Portage's application.

Larri Spengler

--

Larri Irene Spengler
4545 Thane Road
Juneau, Alaska 99801
Redacted
Redacted

From: [Laura Stats](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: Public Comment on New Amalga Rd
Date: Friday, February 20, 2026 7:26:17 AM

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Mr Driscoll,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide public comments on a New Amalga Rd to be built by the foreign owned Grand Potage mining company. I am absolutely opposed to building this road and really the entire project.

If you live in Juneau, you understand that "out the road" is the one of the Juneau community's sanctuary. Downtown Juneau contends with the impacts of 1.6 million visitors in the summer so to find some peace and solitude, a journey out the road has become more frequent than ever. The Herbert Glacier Trail area holds opportunities for biking, hiking and camping experiences with our young grandchildren. Snow conditions are more favorable out the road so cross country skiing is another opportunity enjoy Herbert Glacier Trail. It is a valuable foraging site for humans, bear and wildlife area.

Not only would a proposed road be disruptive to the peace and quiet of the area it is in a sensitive environmental area of old growth forest and wetlands. These areas must be protected not disturbed. Alaska is one of the last areas on the entire planet that has acres of undisturbed forests and wildlife. This is a treasure of great magnitude. To chop it up and to bring noise and granular disruption to a sensitive ecosystem should be in the forefront of all of our minds.

We must look at this additional Canadian mining in the whole context of the Juneau and Southeast area. The Southeast Rivers have been negatively impacted by mining. Our transboundary rivers of the Stikine, Taku and Unuk Rivers to the south have been impacted by historic Canadian mining. And a new transboundary mine is being proposed on the Unuk. All of these rivers are anadromous rivers. The EagleRiver and Herbert River tributaries are anadromous streams which must be taken into account. Our salmon stocks are being threatened all over our state. This must be taken into account.

These rivers hold natural resources. These natural resources need smart and effective stewardship. In my mind there is considerable concern for our fisheries as a natural resource and the impact the New Amalga Road will have on our fish. It also holds a bounty of opportunities for Juneau residents to find peace and quiet, to ground rejuvenate ourselves in the healing properties of nature.

I strongly urge this ask permit be denied.

Respectfully,
Laura Stats
Juneau Resident

From: [jetta whittaker](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: Oppose mining road at Amalga
Date: Friday, February 20, 2026 10:03:27 AM

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I oppose the construction of a road to a new mine at Amalga. The proposed route would punch through pristine rainforest and wetlands in a highly frequented public recreation area. I hike and bike in this area, and always appreciate the quietness of the Amalga Glacier Trail, as it is far from the tourists' helicopter routes. The road would disrupt that silence, but more importantly, it would also interfere with both subsistence and easily accessible recreational opportunities for many Juneauites. Disturbing such valuable public lands for private profit is not aligned with my values or that of my neighbors. For these reasons, I strongly urge you to deny Grande Portage's application.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide public comment.

jetta whittaker
502 W 10th
Juneau AK 99801

From: [Emily Kane](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: Mine near Herbert Glacier Trail
Date: Saturday, February 21, 2026 8:08:18 PM

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I strongly oppose this unnecessary destructive extractive project that would shift benefits from an entire community (many Juneauites live here because of the beautiful trails and clean environment) to a CEO and top investors in a private industry. This inequality in resource sharing epitomizes what is wrong with our society. Greed and speculation have led to irreversible bad decisions. The public has strongly weighed in against Cascade Point terminal. We are not stupid. Stop this wasteful speculative project now.

Thank you for registering my concern.

Dr Emily Kane
Juneau AK

www.DrEmilyKane.com

My primary care practice is closed.

Fullscript.com

Be well!

From: [Conor K](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: Amalga mine road public comment
Date: Saturday, February 21, 2026 7:51:07 PM

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Hello,

I would like voice my opposition to the proposed access road to the exploratory prospects in the New Amalga site.

Thank you,

Conor Kincaid
Juneau, Alaska

From: [P Rorick](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: Comments on proposed New Amalga mining road
Date: Saturday, February 21, 2026 10:11:33 AM

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Hello!

I am writing to express my disagreement with constructing the road for staging and helipad for the New Amalga mining road.

For years now, we have had to endure the endless noise and disruption of helicopters flying overhead while enjoying the pristine wilderness at Windfall Lake trail, Herbert Glacier trail, and Eagle River trail. I am a frequent user of all 3 trails as a hiker, a walker, a user of the cabins, a skier, and a fisher-person.

Once this phase and the rest of the road goes across the unspoiled wilderness of the Tongass, the recreation experience will be completely destroyed. Hikers and fishers will no longer be able to enjoy the peace, quiet, animals, birds, and fish on any of the trails.

Please leave this recreation area alone to be enjoyed by the people like me who hike, ski and fish there.

Thank you for receiving my comments.

Patricia Rorick

Juneau, AK

Redacted

From: [conor sullivan](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: Public comment- Opposing the easement application by GPG Alaska Resources- ADL 109466
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 9:02:05 PM

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To: John Driscoll

Division of Mining, Land and Water

Alaska Department of Natural Resources

Dear Mr. Driscoll,

I am writing to oppose the easement application (ADL 109466) submitted by [GPG Alaska Resources, Inc.](#) to construct a 1.3-mile access road and staging areas on state-managed lands adjacent to Glacier Highway Milepost 27.1 in the Eagle River watershed near Juneau.

This proposal places substantial environmental, financial, and community burdens on local residents of Juneau. The primary beneficiary of this easement is a private mining company seeking to advance exploration and potentially development of the New Amalga Gold Project on adjacent public land. The long-term easement request clearly anticipates decades of future mine development, yet the public is being asked to approve the first segment of an industrial access corridor without a full understanding of cumulative impacts.

1. Lack of Public Benefit

The proposed road serves a private mineral exploration project. It does not improve public access, community infrastructure, or transportation for residents. Instead, it

facilitates industrial activity for corporate gain while exposing Alaskans to environmental risk, infrastructure degradation, and potential long-term public costs. State lands should not be encumbered for decades primarily to benefit a single mining operator without clear, enforceable public advantages.

2. Unknown and Potentially Significant Environmental Impacts to river habitat

The project is located within the Eagle River watershed, an ecologically sensitive area near Herbert Glacier and upstream of important sockeye salmon-bearing waters. Constructing a 60-foot-wide easement corridor with a 15-foot-wide, shot-rock road and staging areas introduces risks including:

- Sedimentation and water quality degradation
- Heavy metals contamination
- Increased erosion from steep terrain and heavy precipitation
- Impacts to salmon habitat and downstream fisheries
- Disturbance of wetlands and riparian areas
- Long-term fragmentation of intact habitat

Approving a 35-year easement before comprehensive environmental review of full build-out mining operations raises serious concerns about piecemeal permitting. The long-term ecological impacts are not adequately known and I do not want to live and recreate near a mill with the potential for heavy metals contaminating our fish, forests, and waters.

3. Known Negative Impacts on Wildlife

The project area provides habitat for black bear, moose, mountain goats, and migratory birds. Road construction and helicopter-supported exploration activities will increase:

- Mine spoils run off
- Noise disturbance
- Human-wildlife conflict
- Long-term displacement from critical habitat

Industrial access roads are widely recognized as permanent vectors for wildlife disturbance. Once constructed, they fundamentally change land use patterns and ecological function.

4. Destruction of Existing Infrastructure and Impacts to Ferry Users

The often poorly maintained Glacier Highway corridor and connecting infrastructure are not designed for sustained heavy ore haul traffic. If mining proceeds, ore transport to a proposed marine terminal would subject the highway to repeated heavy industrial loads. This will:

- Accelerate roadway degradation
- Increase public maintenance costs
- Create traffic safety hazards
- Disrupt local residents and tourism

5. Long-Term Public Risk

The requested term (May 1, 2026 – April 30, 2061) effectively commits state land to private industrial use for 35 years. If exploration transitions to development, the State may face long-term environmental liabilities, infrastructure repair costs, and diminished public access. Historically, road approvals granted at the exploration stage often become irreversible commitments to full industrial development.

For these reasons, I respectfully urge the Department of Natural Resources to deny the easement application ADL 109466. At minimum, the State should require a comprehensive, cumulative environmental review and a clear demonstration of tangible public benefit before encumbering state lands for decades.

Alaska's public lands and transportation systems exist to serve Alaskans—not to subsidize private industrial expansion at public expense.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,

Conor Sullivan



February 24, 2026

Mr. John Driscoll
Division of Mining, Land and Water
Southeast Regional Office
Alaska Department of Natural Resources
P.O. Box 111020
Juneau, AK 99811-1020

Re: ADL 109466 – Support for Approval of Private Non-Exclusive Easement for Road and Staging Areas

Dear Mr. Driscoll,

On behalf of GPG Alaska Resources, Inc., the wholly-owned Alaska subsidiary of Grande Portage Resources Ltd. and 100% owner of the New Amalga Gold Project, I write to express our full and enthusiastic support for the approval of private non-exclusive easement ADL 109466.

Grande Portage Resources Ltd. is a publicly traded mineral exploration company focused on the discovery and development of high-grade gold resources in Alaska. Our principal asset is the New Amalga Gold Project, located approximately 13 miles north of Juneau International Airport. We hold 100% interest in a series of active, unpatented Bureau of Land Management (“BLM”) federal mining claims in the Herbert Glacier area and have been actively exploring for decades. With deep roots in Southeast Alaska, we value our long-standing working relationship with state and federal agencies and recognize Alaska Department of Natural Resources (“DNR”) mission to develop, conserve, and maximize the use of Alaska's natural resources.

As the project proponent, we have designed this low-impact easement with the highest standards of responsibility, safety, and environmental stewardship in mind. The 15-foot-wide, 1.3-mile-long unpaved access road and two one-acre staging areas at Glacier Highway Milepost 27.1 will serve as a secure, forward-operating hub in proximity to the project site with direct access from existing Glacier Highway.

This easement will deliver multiple clear benefits:

- **Respect for recreational and environmental values:** The minimal-footprint design fully preserves ongoing public use of the Herbert River Valley and proximity to the Herbert Glacier Trail.
- **Improved operational safety and efficiency:** Helicopter staging just 1.3 miles from the highway will dramatically shorten flight distances to the New Amalga deposit on adjacent U.S. Forest Service land, reducing overall flight cycles and operational risk for drilling and environmental monitoring programs.
- **Measurable environmental improvements:** Shorter helicopter routes will lower carbon emissions, fuel consumption, and noise exposure over Juneau residential areas and the international airport compared to previous airport-based staging.
- **Support for Juneau’s local economy:** Highway-accessible staging creates new, practical contracting opportunities for Juneau-based construction trades, earthwork crews, equipment technicians,

**1050 - 1090 West Georgia Street
Vancouver, British Columbia. V6E 3V7**

mechanics, security providers, and supply vendors. This work was previously not available under fully remote helicopter operations from the airport.

- **Responsible first step toward long-term development:** This 1.3-mile segment demonstrates our commitment to using existing infrastructure and low-impact methods during initial project planning which will continue through project development.

As 100% owner and operator of the New Amalga Gold Project, Grande Portage stands to benefit most directly from this easement. We will assume the full cost of construction, maintenance, and reclamation of this project and have taken extraordinary care to minimize impacts and maximize benefits for the State of Alaska and the Juneau community. Combined with our commitment to advancing this high-grade New Amalga Gold Project responsibly, we have designed the proposed easement to serve as a model of low-impact development that delivers measurable gains in safety, environmental performance, and local economic opportunity.

Approval of ADL 109466 with the requested 35-year term until April 30, 2061 will enable safe, efficient exploration in 2026 while providing the foundational infrastructure needed for any future responsible development of this important Alaska mineral resource.

We respectfully request the Department of Natural Resources approve this application. Thank you for the opportunity to comment and for DNR's ongoing stewardship of Alaska's lands.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ian Klassen', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Ian Klassen
President & CEO
Grande Portage Resources Ltd.

From: [jeffrey sauer](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: comments on road New Amalga Gold Mine
Date: Wednesday, February 25, 2026 2:49:12 PM

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I submit the following comments from myself, a longtime resident of Juneau. I am opposed to the proposed one mile plus road between Eagle and Herbert Rivers, proposed for the possible New Amalga Gold Mine.

This area is a heavily used recreation area for Juneau residents and visitors and currently retains high wilderness and recreational values. I believe that the road and associated mine, and all that those things entail:

Truck noise, mining noise, helicopter noise, blasting?, heavy truck on the highway, view impacts on the proposed forest service cabin, etc. would be detrimental to the present long standing use of the area. Not only are there three trails nearby that may be impacted but also the Windfall lake cabin. This area is unique in that it is accessible by road to Juneau residents.

I also am opposed to the boondoggle Cascade Pt. Ferry Terminal, and that it would be done in part for this Canadian owned mine. Suffice it to say the Cascade boondoggle has been roundly criticized, and I agree with that criticism. Thank you for the opportunity to comment. Jeff Sauer

Juneau

From: [Buffy Holdener](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: PROPOSED ALMAGA MINING ROAD
Date: Sunday, March 1, 2026 2:46:10 PM

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Dear John,

I am in opposition to the proposed Almaga Mining Road. I understand that Grande Portage Resources has received approval and has completed some preliminary drilling. I believe mining in this area will have a negative impact on the economic and conservation efforts in Juneau. It will have an even greater impact on the recreation opportunities that are already in place.

First, both Eagle and Herbert Rivers support salmon spawning. One just needs to take a hike during salmon season. Grande Portage indicates their process will not have an environmental impact and no tailings. Any mining will have an environmental impact? Has an outside agency been requested to provide an unbiased opinion?

Second, the road is in the middle of several trails and between the two rivers. Running big trucks in and out of their proposed staging area will increase pollution in the area affecting the surrounding trees. It will have a negative noise level which will discourage recreating in the area, which is of course what they would want.

I would also like to state the obvious of this is not an Alaskan company. What economic value will this give back to Alaska and/or Juneau?

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,
Brenda Holdener
Juneau, Alaska

From: [Stuart Cohen](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: Proposed New Amalga Mine Road
Date: Monday, March 2, 2026 4:03:02 PM

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Dear Mr. Driscoll,

I am writing to express my opposition to the proposed New Amalga Mine road and ask that it not be permitted.

First, this proposed mine is in the headwaters of a salmon stream. They do not have permits, and may not be able to get them. Permitting a road that will be a permanent scar on the land for a mine that may or may not happen is premature and destructive, and all for the purpose of saving this Canadian company some money on their further exploration efforts.

Second, this road is essentially the second step of the watershed being privatized for the benefit of Grand Portage. The proposed Forest Service Cabin that was to be built has already been cancelled for the benefit of the mine, and a road 500 feet from the existing trail will certainly impact the trail users' experience. Sure, people will be able to walk, but they'll also be able to hear trucks rumbling through the woods and, ultimately a mine operating nearby. Grand Portage will not "own" the land: the public will still be stuck with any fallout and lingering pollution from the mine, but Grand Portage will possess itself of the element of the watershed most valued by Juneauites: its peace and quiet.

The mine this road purports to facilitate will provide very few jobs for Juneauites. The Greens Creek mine employs 40% non-residents, and the Kensington employs 60% non-residents. Any Juneau resident who wants to work in a mine has adequate opportunities in the two existing mines, and it's likely that this proposed mine will be almost entirely out-of-state miners who pay zero taxes and add zero to the community. I'm not saying they are not nice people, I'm just saying they contribute nothing, while the mine and it's road will cost locals considerably.

Likewise, while New Amalga will property taxes, mines pay very little royalty or other income to the city or state due to Mining Act of 1872. By the time the State finishes widening roads and building Gold Belt and Grand Portage a ore shipment terminal, this will be another loser for the Alaska public. Likewise, Grand Portage will pay almost zero to the US government.

This is a bad deal for the vast majority of the public and adds nothing to our community. If Grand Portage wants to develop this mine, let them keep doing so with minimal impact, not try to save some bucks by degrading an important public asset.

Thank you for your consideration,

Stuart Cohen
th

725 5 St
Juneau, AK 99801

From: mycena39@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Michele Cornelius](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: I urge the State of Alaska to deny the easement application by Grande Portage Resources for Project ADL 109466.
Date: Monday, March 2, 2026 11:00:07 PM

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Dear John Driscoll,

I urge the State of Alaska to deny the easement application by Grande Portage Resources for Project ADL 109466.

I oppose the permitting, construction, maintenance, and private use of a 15-foot wide, 1.3 mile long unpaved access road 21 miles northwest of Juneau, Alaska, on public lands, near the Herbert glacier trailhead. I oppose turning sections of our intact temperate rainforest, that hosts a delicate ecosystem, into two 1-acre staging areas used to store equipment, drilling supplies, and rock core samples inside metal shipping containers.

The public notice states, "If a mining operation is approved and developed on the adjacent USFS land, the 1.3-mile long road on state land will serve as the first segment of the access road to the project site." I do not support altering one of the most popular recreational areas for Juneau's year-round residents for a mine that has not yet proven economic viability.

Allowing an unproven and unpermitted mine to begin etching roads into the forests north of Juneau, the final vast tract of temperate rainforest on the planet, is short-sighted and does not acknowledge the risks to the community and local environment. In addition to physical disruption and eyesores this project introduces, the staging areas will also be used for helicopter operations to transport supplies and materials to the applicant's mineral exploration sites; this means concentrated noise pollution for an area with sensitive wildlife and that has long been an area of peace and quiet for recreationists.

Further, this project is unnecessary; exploratory drilling has been conducted each summer for the past 19 years and there is no reason drilling cannot continue as it has. The footprint of the forest — especially in such valuable recreational and subsistence areas — should not be compromised merely as a cost-saving measure for the applicant.

Sincerely,

Ms. Michele Cornelius

PO Box 295 Gustavus, AK 99826-0295

Redacted

From: akaircraftunlimited@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Christopher Creglow](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: I urge the State of Alaska to deny the easement application by Grande Portage Resources for Project ADL 109466.
Date: Monday, March 2, 2026 11:00:15 PM

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Dear John Driscoll,

I urge the State of Alaska to deny the easement application by Grande Portage Resources for Project ADL 109466.

I oppose the permitting, construction, maintenance, and private use of a 15-foot wide, 1.3 mile long unpaved access road 21 miles northwest of Juneau, Alaska, on public lands, near the Herbert glacier trailhead. I oppose turning sections of our intact temperate rainforest, that hosts a delicate ecosystem, into two 1-acre staging areas used to store equipment, drilling supplies, and rock core samples inside metal shipping containers.

The public notice states, "If a mining operation is approved and developed on the adjacent USFS land, the 1.3-mile long road on state land will serve as the first segment of the access road to the project site." I do not support altering one of the most popular recreational areas for Juneau's year-round residents for a mine that has not yet proven economic viability.

Allowing an unproven and unpermitted mine to begin etching roads into the forests north of Juneau, the final vast tract of temperate rainforest on the planet, is short-sighted and does not acknowledge the risks to the community and local environment. In addition to physical disruption and eyesores this project introduces, the staging areas will also be used for helicopter operations to transport supplies and materials to the applicant's mineral exploration sites; this means concentrated noise pollution for an area with sensitive wildlife and that has long been an area of peace and quiet for recreationists.

Further, this project is unnecessary; exploratory drilling has been conducted each summer for the past 19 years and there is no reason drilling cannot continue as it has. The footprint of the forest — especially in such valuable recreational and subsistence areas — should not be compromised merely as a cost-saving measure for the applicant.

Sincerely,

Mr. Christopher Creglow

PO Box 3371 Soldotna, AK 99669-3371

Redacted

From: jan1ak@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Jan Crichton](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: I urge the State of Alaska to deny the easement application by Grande Portage Resources for Project ADL 109466.
Date: Monday, March 2, 2026 9:44:26 PM

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Dear John Driscoll,

I strongly urge the State of Alaska to deny the easement application by Grande Portage Resources for Project ADL 109466.

I oppose the permitting, construction, maintenance, and private use of a 15-foot wide, 1.3 mile long unpaved access road 21 miles northwest of Juneau, Alaska, on public lands, near the Herbert glacier trailhead. I oppose turning sections of our intact temperate rainforest, that hosts a delicate ecosystem, into two 1-acre staging areas used to store equipment, drilling supplies, and rock core samples inside metal shipping containers.

The public notice states, "If a mining operation is approved and developed on the adjacent USFS land, the 1.3-mile long road on state land will serve as the first segment of the access road to the project site." I do not support altering one of the most popular recreational areas for Juneau's year-round residents for a mine that has not yet proven economic viability.

There is a long history of mining companies despoiling favored recreational and scenic public lands that serve locals, tourism, and protect healthy commercial fisheries, leaving toxic residues and ruined natural areas.

Allowing an unproven and unpermitted mine to begin etching roads into the forests north of Juneau, the final vast tract of temperate rainforest on the planet, is short-sighted and does not acknowledge the risks to the community and local environment. In addition to physical disruption and eyesores this project introduces, the staging areas will also be used for helicopter operations to transport supplies and materials to the applicant's mineral exploration sites; this means concentrated noise pollution for an area with sensitive wildlife and that has long been an area of peace and quiet for recreationists.

Further, this project is absolutely unnecessary; exploratory drilling has been conducted each summer for the past 19 years and there is no reason drilling cannot continue as it has. The footprint of the forest — especially in such valuable recreational and subsistence areas — should not be compromised merely as a cost-saving measure for the applicant. The State's burden of responsibility is to take good care of the public lands and their traditional recreational and subsistence uses, not stripping them away for the convenience of outside interests!!

Sincerely,
Mrs. Jan Crichton
123 Behrends Ave Juneau, AK 99801-1413

Redacted

From: dinnans@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [John Dinnan](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: I urge the State of Alaska to deny the easement application by Grande Portage Resources for Project ADL 109466.
Date: Monday, March 2, 2026 8:22:14 PM

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Dear John Driscoll,

I urge the State of Alaska to deny the easement application by Grande Portage Resources for Project ADL 109466.

I oppose the permitting, construction, maintenance, and private use of a 15-foot wide, 1.3 mile long unpaved access road 21 miles northwest of Juneau, Alaska, on public lands, near the Herbert glacier trailhead. I oppose turning sections of our intact temperate rainforest, that hosts a delicate ecosystem, into two 1-acre staging areas used to store equipment, drilling supplies, and rock core samples inside metal shipping containers.

The public notice states, "If a mining operation is approved and developed on the adjacent USFS land, the 1.3-mile long road on state land will serve as the first segment of the access road to the project site." I do not support altering one of the most popular recreational areas for Juneau's year-round residents for a mine that has not yet proven economic viability.

Allowing an unproven and unpermitted mine to begin etching roads into the forests north of Juneau, the final vast tract of temperate rainforest on the planet, is short-sighted and does not acknowledge the risks to the community and local environment. In addition to physical disruption and eyesores this project introduces, the staging areas will also be used for helicopter operations to transport supplies and materials to the applicant's mineral exploration sites; this means concentrated noise pollution for an area with sensitive wildlife and that has long been an area of peace and quiet for recreationists.

Further, this project is unnecessary; exploratory drilling has been conducted each summer for the past 19 years and there is no reason drilling cannot continue as it has. The footprint of the forest — especially in such valuable recreational and subsistence areas — should not be compromised merely as a cost-saving measure for the applicant.

Sincerely,

Mr John Dinnan

PO Box 210261 Auke Bay, AK 99821-0261

Redacted

From: ksdinnan@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Karen Dinnan](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: I urge the State of Alaska to deny the easement application by Grande Portage Resources for Project ADL 109466.
Date: Monday, March 2, 2026 8:20:18 PM

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Dear John Driscoll,

I urge the State of Alaska to deny the easement application by Grande Portage Resources for Project ADL 109466.

I oppose the permitting, construction, maintenance, and private use of a 15-foot wide, 1.3 mile long unpaved access road 21 miles northwest of Juneau, Alaska, on public lands, near the Herbert glacier trailhead. I oppose turning sections of our intact temperate rainforest, that hosts a delicate ecosystem, into two 1-acre staging areas used to store equipment, drilling supplies, and rock core samples inside metal shipping containers.

The public notice states, "If a mining operation is approved and developed on the adjacent USFS land, the 1.3-mile long road on state land will serve as the first segment of the access road to the project site." I do not support altering one of the most popular recreational areas for Juneau's year-round residents for a mine that has not yet proven economic viability.

Allowing an unproven and unpermitted mine to begin etching roads into the forests north of Juneau, the final vast tract of temperate rainforest on the planet, is short-sighted and does not acknowledge the risks to the community and local environment. In addition to physical disruption and eyesores this project introduces, the staging areas will also be used for helicopter operations to transport supplies and materials to the applicant's mineral exploration sites; this means concentrated noise pollution for an area with sensitive wildlife and that has long been an area of peace and quiet for recreationists.

Further, this project is unnecessary; exploratory drilling has been conducted each summer for the past 19 years and there is no reason drilling cannot continue as it has. The footprint of the forest — especially in such valuable recreational and subsistence areas — should not be compromised merely as a cost-saving measure for the applicant.

Sincerely,

Ms. Karen Dinnan

PO Box 210261 Auke Bay, AK 99821-0261

Redacted

From: amy.kesten@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Amy KestEn](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: I urge the State of Alaska to deny the easement application by Grande Portage Resources for Project ADL 109466.
Date: Monday, March 2, 2026 9:05:40 PM

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Dear John Driscoll,

Why are you ruining our beautiful rain forest?

I have friends that live out here and chose to make this area home, because of the location, the beauty and the quiet. This project will cause so much upheaval to their lives and the natural habitat.

I urge the State of Alaska to deny the easement application by Grande Portage Resources for Project ADL 109466.

I oppose the permitting, construction, maintenance, and private use of a 15-foot wide, 1.3 mile long unpaved access road 21 miles northwest of Juneau, Alaska, on public lands, near the Herbert glacier trailhead. I oppose turning sections of our intact temperate rainforest, that hosts a delicate ecosystem, into two 1-acre staging areas used to store equipment, drilling supplies, and rock core samples inside metal shipping containers.

The public notice states, "If a mining operation is approved and developed on the adjacent USFS land, the 1.3-mile long road on state land will serve as the first segment of the access road to the project site." I do not support altering one of the most popular recreational areas for Juneau's year-round residents for a mine that has not yet proven economic viability.

Allowing an unproven and unpermitted mine to begin etching roads into the forests north of Juneau, the final vast tract of temperate rainforest on the planet, is short-sighted and does not acknowledge the risks to the community and local environment. In addition to physical disruption and eyesores this project introduces, the staging areas will also be used for helicopter operations to transport supplies and materials to the applicant's mineral exploration sites; this means concentrated noise pollution for an area with sensitive wildlife and that has long been an area of peace and quiet for recreationists.

Further, this project is unnecessary; exploratory drilling has been conducted each summer for the past 19 years and there is no reason drilling cannot continue as it has. The footprint of the forest — especially in such valuable recreational and subsistence areas — should not be compromised merely as a cost-saving measure for the applicant.

Sincerely,

Mrs Amy KestEn

12175 Glacier Hwy Juneau, AK 99801-8652

Redacted

From: lucas.mesdag@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Lucas Mesdag](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: I urge the State of Alaska to deny the easement application by Grande Portage Resources for Project ADL 109466.
Date: Monday, March 2, 2026 8:49:40 PM

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Dear John Driscoll,

I suspect the community support for this project mirrors the community support for the Cascade Point ferry debacle. I hope you listen to the members of our town and neighboring towns in doing all you can to stop this project. Juneau doesn't need to work hard to enrich the lives of foreign entities.

Sincerely,
Mr. Lucas Mesdag
PO Box 34606 Juneau, AK 99803-4606

Redacted

From: shuyakland@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [K. Murphy](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: I urge the State of Alaska to deny the easement application by Grande Portage Resources for Project ADL 109466.
Date: Monday, March 2, 2026 8:58:42 PM

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Dear John Driscoll,

I urge the State of Alaska to deny the easement application by Grande Portage Resources for Project ADL 109466.

I oppose the permitting, construction, maintenance, and private use of a 15-foot wide, 1.3 mile long unpaved access road 21 miles northwest of Juneau, Alaska, on public lands, near the Herbert glacier trailhead. I oppose turning sections of our intact temperate rainforest, that hosts a delicate ecosystem, into two 1-acre staging areas used to store equipment, drilling supplies, and rock core samples inside metal shipping containers.

The public notice states, "If a mining operation is approved and developed on the adjacent USFS land, the 1.3-mile long road on state land will serve as the first segment of the access road to the project site." I do not support altering one of the most popular recreational areas for Juneau's year-round residents for a mine that has not yet proven economic viability.

Allowing an unproven and unpermitted mine to begin etching roads into the forests north of Juneau, the final vast tract of temperate rainforest on the planet, is short-sighted and does not acknowledge the risks to the community and local environment. In addition to physical disruption and eyesores this project introduces, the staging areas will also be used for helicopter operations to transport supplies and materials to the applicant's mineral exploration sites; this means concentrated noise pollution for an area with sensitive wildlife and that has long been an area of peace and quiet for recreationists.

Further, this project is unnecessary; exploratory drilling has been conducted each summer for the past 19 years and there is no reason drilling cannot continue as it has. The footprint of the forest — especially in such valuable recreational and subsistence areas — should not be compromised merely as a cost-saving measure for the applicant.

Sincerely,
Mr. K. Murphy
AMALGA Hbr Juneau, AK 99821

Redacted

From: [Purchase](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: Comments on Project ADL 109466
Date: Monday, March 2, 2026 8:44:00 PM

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John,

I request that the State of Alaska deny the easement application by Grande Portage Resources for Project ADL 109466.

I oppose the permitting, construction, maintenance, and private use of an access road near the Herbert glacier trailhead. I oppose turning sections of our intact temperate rainforest, that hosts a delicate ecosystem, into staging areas used to store equipment, drilling supplies, and rock core samples inside metal shipping containers.

The area adjacent to the proposed action is a valuable recreation area. I do not support altering one of the most popular recreational areas for Juneau's year-round residents for a mine that has not yet proven economic viability.

Allowing an unproven and unpermitted mine to begin etching roads into the forests north of Juneau, the final vast tract of temperate rainforest on the planet, is short-sighted and does not acknowledge the risks to the community and local environment. In addition to physical disruption and eyesores this project introduces, the staging areas will also be used for helicopter operations to transport supplies and materials to the applicant's mineral exploration sites; this means concentrated noise pollution for an area with sensitive wildlife and that has long been an area of peace and quiet for recreationists.

Further, this project is unnecessary; exploratory drilling has been conducted each summer for the past 19 years and there is no reason drilling cannot continue as it has. The footprint of the forest — especially in such valuable recreational and subsistence areas — should not be compromised merely as a cost-saving measure for the applicant.

Thank you,
Jim Rehfeldt,
Juneau

From: dsanvik@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Douglas Sanvik](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: I urge the State of Alaska to deny the easement application by Grande Portage Resources for Project ADL 109466.
Date: Monday, March 2, 2026 8:59:32 PM

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Dear John Driscoll,

I urge the State of Alaska to deny the easement application by Grande Portage Resources for Project ADL 109466.

I oppose the permitting, construction, maintenance, and private use of a 15-foot wide, 1.3 mile long unpaved access road 21 miles northwest of Juneau, Alaska, on public lands, near the Herbert glacier trailhead. I oppose turning sections of our intact temperate rainforest, that hosts a delicate ecosystem, into two 1-acre staging areas used to store equipment, drilling supplies, and rock core samples inside metal shipping containers.

The public notice states, "If a mining operation is approved and developed on the adjacent USFS land, the 1.3-mile long road on state land will serve as the first segment of the access road to the project site." I do not support altering one of the most popular recreational areas for Juneau's year-round residents for a mine that has not yet proven economic viability.

Allowing an unproven and unpermitted mine to begin etching roads into the forests north of Juneau, the final vast tract of temperate rainforest on the planet, is short-sighted and does not acknowledge the risks to the community and local environment. In addition to physical disruption and eyesores this project introduces, the staging areas will also be used for helicopter operations to transport supplies and materials to the applicant's mineral exploration sites; this means concentrated noise pollution for an area with sensitive wildlife and that has long been an area of peace and quiet for recreationists.

Further, this project is unnecessary; exploratory drilling has been conducted each summer for the past 19 years and there is no reason drilling cannot continue as it has. The footprint of the forest — especially in such valuable recreational and subsistence areas — should not be compromised merely as a cost-saving measure for the applicant.

Sincerely,
Mr. Douglas Sanvik
PO Box 21774 Juneau, AK 99802-1774

Redacted

From: [Tyler Breen](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: SEACC Comments RE: Public Notice – ADL 109466 – Easement for Road and Staging Areas near Eagle and Herbert Rivers in Juneau
Date: Monday, March 2, 2026 11:49:27 AM
Attachments: [SEACC Comments RE Public Notice - ADL 109466 - Easement for Road and Staging Areas near Eagle and Herbert Rivers in Juneau.pdf](#)

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Dear Mr. Driscoll,

Please find attached written comments from the Southeast Alaska Conservation Council (SEACC) submitted in response to the State of Alaska Department of Natural Resources, Division of Mining, Land and Water public notice regarding ADL 109466.

SEACC appreciates the opportunity to comment and requests that the Division carefully consider the concerns raised regarding public interest, connected actions, and cumulative impacts before making a final determination on this application.

Please confirm receipt of this submission.

Respectfully,
Tyler

--

Tyler Breen
Policy Analyst
phone: (907) 586-6942 ext 202
cell: (805) 208-6515
pronouns: he/him

Southeast Alaska Conservation Council
2207 Jordan Ave, Juneau, Alaska 99801
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SEACC Comments RE: Public Notice - ADL 109466 - Easement for Road and Staging Areas near Eagle and Herbert Rivers in Juneau

March 2, 2026

John Driscoll, Natural Resource Specialist 3
Division of Mining, Land and Water, Lands Section
Alaska Department of Natural Resources
Southeast Regional Office
P.O. Box 111020
Juneau, AK 99811-1020
john.driscoll@alaska.gov

RE: Public Comments on ADL 109466 — Private Non-Exclusive Easement for Road and Staging Areas near Eagle and Herbert Rivers, Juneau, Alaska (Deadline: March 13, 2026)

Dear Mr. Driscoll,

The Southeast Alaska Conservation Council (SEACC) submits the following comments in response to the Public Notice issued on February 11, 2026, for ADL 109466, an application by GPG Alaska Resources, Inc. (a subsidiary of Grande Portage Resources Ltd., TSXV: GPG) for a Private Non-Exclusive Easement on state-owned, DMLW-managed uplands adjacent to Glacier Highway Milepost 27.1, within the *Asx'ée-L'ux* (twisted-tree/milky water) Eagle and Herbert River watersheds, approximately 21 miles northwest of Juneau, Alaska.¹ The proposed easement would authorize the construction of a 15-foot wide, 1.3-mile long, unpaved access road and two approximately 1-acre staging areas to serve the applicant's New Amalga Gold Project. The staging areas are also intended for helicopter operations to transport supplies and materials to the applicant's mineral exploration sites.²

SEACC is a regional nonprofit conservation organization based in Juneau, Alaska, with a mission to protect the natural ecosystems of Southeast Alaska and the livelihoods they support.

¹ Richard Carstensen, "Asx'ée-L'ux (Eagle & Herbert Rivers)," *JuneauNature*, Discovery Southeast, accessed February 19, 2026, <https://juneaunature.discoverysoutheast.org/category/places/juneau-watersheds/herbert-eagle/>

² Alaska Department of Natural Resources, Division of Mining, Land and Water, "Public Notice: ADL 109466 — Private Non-Exclusive Easement for Road and Staging Areas near Eagle and Herbert Rivers in Juneau," February 11, 2026, notice.alaska.gov/222641.



Southeast Alaska Conservation Council

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Juneau, AK 99801
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www.seacc.org

SEACC and its members have a direct, substantial interest in the protection of fish habitat, water quality, and ecological integrity in the Eagle River and Herbert River watersheds. SEACC requests that DMLW deny ADL 109466 or, in the alternative, require additional environmental analysis recognizing the connected actions related to the road access easement before any authorization is granted.

I. Background

GPG Alaska Resources, Inc. (doing business under its Canadian corporate parent Grande Portage Resources Ltd.) applied for this easement in or around August 2025 as part of its development planning for the New Amalga Gold Project. In December 2025, Grande Portage announced that the proposed road easement would constitute approximately one-third of the total distance from Glacier Highway to the mine project site, with the remaining two-thirds of the route traversing federal lands managed by the U.S. Forest Service (USFS) and requiring a separate federal environmental review process.³

The proposed road would traverse the Eagle River watershed, which supports documented anadromous fish populations including coho salmon, Dolly Varden, and cutthroat trout. The Herbert River and Eagle River drainages, which converge near the proposed easement corridor, are listed in the Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) Catalog of Waters Important for the Spawning, Rearing or Migration of Anadromous Fishes.⁴ As reported by KTOO, the proposed road would traverse forest and wetlands within a popular recreation corridor near the Eagle Glacier Cabin trail and Herbert Glacier Trail.⁵

The ADL 109466 easement application must also be understood in the context of GPG's publicly disclosed transportation infrastructure plans. According to GPG's December 2025 press release, the full mine access corridor is designed to terminate at Cascade Point, located approximately 15 miles northwest of the mine site along Glacier Highway, where GPG has executed a Letter of Intent with Goldbelt, Incorporated for development of a co-located ore shipment dock.⁶ GPG has expressly stated that its proposed ore export terminal is designed to operate alongside the Alaska Marine Highway System ferry terminal being advanced at

³ Grande Portage Resources Ltd., "Grande Portage Reports Advancements of Transportation Infrastructure at the New Amalga Gold Project," Press Release, December 15, 2025, <https://grandeportage.com/news/>. See also "Grande Portage Applies for Road Easement from State of Alaska," Press Release, August 21, 2025: "This initial road segment would span approximately one-third of the total distance from Glacier Highway to the project site.... Further road development will require separate federal environmental review and permitting."

⁴ Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Catalog of Waters Important for the Spawning, Rearing or Migration of Anadromous Fishes (Southeast Region), adopted by reference under 5 AAC 95.011. See also ADF&G Habitat Section, Survey Data for Herbert River-Eagle River Watershed (Nomination No. 21-567, 2021), documenting coho salmon in the watershed, available at https://www.adfg.alaska.gov/FDDDOCS/NOM_PDFs/SEA/21-567.PDF.

⁵ Yereth Rosen, "New Amalga Mining Road Proposal Opens for Public Comment," KTOO, February 17, 2026, <https://www.ktoo.org/2026/02/17/new-amalga-mining-road-proposal-opens-for-public-comment/>.

⁶ Grande Portage Resources Ltd., "Grande Portage Reports Advancements of Transportation Infrastructure at the New Amalga Gold Project," press release, December 15, 2025, <https://grandeportage.com/news/grande-portage-reports-advancements-of-transportation-infrastructure-at-the-new-amalga-gold-project/>.



Cascade Point by the Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (DOT&PF) under a Memorandum of Understanding with Goldbelt, with the two facilities intended to be built either concurrently or sequentially at the same site.⁷ In July 2025, DOT&PF awarded a \$28.5 million contract for Phase 1 uplands development and site preparation at Cascade Point. The ADL 109466 road easement is thus an element of a planned ore transportation corridor that, by the applicant's own account, runs from the mine portal to a state-subsidized marine terminal whose design, cost, and public interest implications are themselves the subject of active public controversy that may lead to legal disputes.⁸ This full scope of connected actions has not been presented to the public as part of the ADL 109466 application record, and its disclosure is essential to any meaningful public participation in DMLW's decision.

II. Legal Framework Governing DMLW Easement Decisions

Although AS 38.05.850 easements are exempt from the formal written best interest finding process, the Commissioner retains broad discretionary authority to approve or deny the application in the public interest. Article VIII, Section 1 of the Alaska Constitution establishes that it is the policy of the state to encourage the settlement of its land and the development of its resources by making them available for maximum use *consistent with the public interest*. Article VIII, Section 2 further provides that the legislature shall provide for the utilization, development, and conservation of all natural resources belonging to the state, including land and waters, for the *maximum benefit of its people*. These constitutional provisions impose an affirmative obligation on DMLW to consider long-term costs, such as reduction of access to subsistence and recreation areas, impacts to other related uses (such as fisheries, tourism, or other industries that utilize these resources), wildlife impacts, and cumulative effects before granting an easement that serves as a gateway to industrial mine development.⁹

The Commissioner's discretion is further guided by the state's statutory multiple-use mandate. AS 38.04.005 directs the Department of Natural Resources to "plan and manage state-owned land to establish a balanced combination of land available for both public and private purposes" in order to provide for "maximum use of state land consistent with the public interest."¹⁰ This policy is reinforced by the definition of "multiple use" codified in AS 38.05.965(12), which

⁷ *Ibid.*; Grande Portage Resources Ltd., "Grande Portage Resources Signs Letter of Intent with Goldbelt, Juneau's Alaska Native Corporation," press release, September 10, 2024,

<https://grandeportage.com/news/grande-portage-resources-signs-letter-of-intent-with-goldbelt-juneaus-alaska-native-corporation/>

; Goldbelt, Incorporated, "Goldbelt Signs MOU with Department of Transportation & Public Facilities for Cascade Point Development," press release, March 9, 2023,

<https://www.goldbelt.com/goldbelt-signs-mou-with-department-of-transportation-public-facilities-for-cascade-point-development/>.

⁸ See Jeremy Hsieh, "Cascade Point Ferry Terminal Unpopular Among Committee Members, Public," *Juneau Empire*, February 15, 2026, <https://www.juneauempire.com/2026/02/16/cascade-point-ferry-terminal-unpopular-among-committee-members-public/>.

⁹ Alaska Const. art. VIII, § 1 (policy of maximum use consistent with public interest); Alaska Const. art. VIII, § 2 (legislative obligation to provide for utilization, development, and conservation of natural resources for the maximum benefit of the people). See generally Alaska Legislature, "Article VIII: Natural Resources," Constitutional Commentary, https://www.akleg.gov/basis/get_documents.asp?docid=40099 (analyzing the public trust dimensions of Article VIII). Emphasis added.

¹⁰ Alaska Stat. § 38.04.005, *Policy*, Justia Law,

<https://law.justia.com/codes/alaska/title-38/chapter-04/article-1/section-38-04-005/>.



requires that state land and its "various resource values" be managed "in the combination that will best meet the present and future needs of the people of Alaska," explicitly accounting for "the short-term and long-term needs of present and future generations for renewable and nonrenewable resources, including recreation, range, timber, minerals, watershed, wildlife and fish, and natural scenic, scientific, and historic values."¹¹

SEACC contends that the easement is explicitly *not* in the public's best interest. The area currently embodies precisely the kind of multiple-use balance the statute demands. The land supports active residential recreational use (including hiking, hunting, camping, and fishing) and contributes to the region's tourism economy, which depends on the integrity of the surrounding watershed. Its intact watersheds and riparian systems provide ecosystem services that support anadromous fish populations of both commercial and subsistence significance. The area also holds recognized cultural value to Alaska Native peoples, particularly the Leineidi who trace their lineal descent to this area with historic and continued use for spiritual connection and subsistence harvesting of a myriad of species that support their lifeways. These overlapping uses (recreation, tourism, fisheries support, and cultural heritage) are mutually reinforcing and collectively constitute the kind of multiple-use management AS 38.04.005 and AS 38.05.965(12) are designed to protect.¹²

By contrast, the road easement and its associated mining project is not an additive use that coexists alongside these values. It is a reductive one. The New Amalga project would permanently alter the hydrology, degrade water quality, fragment habitat, and introduce industrial infrastructure and ore hauling traffic along the proposed road easement that forecloses recreational, ecological, and cultural uses. Approving this easement would not expand the beneficial use of state land, it would collapse a currently multiple-use landscape into a single extractive purpose, in direct tension with the constitutional and statutory framework governing the Commissioner's discretion.

III. The Federal NEPA Process for the Full Mine Access Corridor Must Not Be Preempted by Piecemeal State Approvals

The proposed mine access route to the New Amalga project does not traverse state land alone. The full corridor requires crossing lands within the Tongass National Forest, for which Grande Portage Resources (GPG) must obtain a special use permit from the U.S. Forest Service (USFS). A USFS special use permit constitutes a "major Federal action" within the meaning of NEPA, 42 U.S.C. § 4332(2)(C), and requires the agency to evaluate the environmental impacts of the full project it authorizes.¹³

¹¹ Alaska Stat. § 38.05.965(12), *Definitions – Multiple Use*, as referenced in SB 150, 33rd Alaska Legislature, <https://www.akleg.gov/basis/Bill/Text/23?Hsid=SB0150A>.

¹² *Ibid*

¹³ National Environmental Policy Act, 42 U.S.C. § 4332(2)(C); U.S. Forest Service, *Special-Use Permit Application*, <https://www.fs.usda.gov/working-with-us/contracts-commercial-permits/special-use-permit-application>.



The doctrine against improper segmentation is well-established in federal environmental law and derives from NEPA's core statutory requirements, independent of any agency regulation. Courts have consistently interpreted 42 U.S.C. § 4332(2)(C) to prohibit agencies from artificially dividing a unified project into disconnected segments to avoid full environmental review of the project's total impacts. The Ninth Circuit held in *Thomas v. Peterson* that where a Forest Service road and the timber sales it was built to serve were "connected actions" because it would be "irrational... to undertake the first phase if subsequent phases were not also undertaken," a single combined environmental impact statement was required.¹⁴ In *Daly v. Volpe*, the Ninth Circuit established the "independent utility" test, holding that a project segment may only be reviewed in isolation if it has utility such that the agency might reasonably consider constructing only that segment, standing alone.¹⁵

The state easement segment and the federal special use permit for the Tongass portion of the corridor are interdependent components of a single mine access route. The ADL 109466 easement application does not serve any independent utility: the proposed road has no purpose or function apart from providing access to the New Amalga mine, and GPG would have no reason to construct it absent the mine project. It serves no independent transportation, commercial, or public need that would justify its construction standing alone. This is precisely the type of connected action that *Thomas v. Peterson* requires analysis of in a single environmental review.¹⁶ That review is the USFS's obligation to conduct, and it has not yet occurred. The USFS has, to date, issued only a monitoring infrastructure permit and a drill permit related to New Amalga; no NEPA analysis of a mine access road or the mine itself has been completed or initiated.¹⁷

Although NEPA does not bind DMLW directly, the Commissioner's broad discretionary authority under AS 38.05.850 and the state's constitutional and statutory framework independently support deferring approval of the state segment until the USFS completes its NEPA review of the full corridor. Approving the state easement in advance of that federal review would create irreversible on-the-ground commitments and economic pressure that effectively forecloses alternatives, undermining the integrity of the federal process before it begins. Courts have recognized that segmented approvals of interconnected project components can impermissibly "foreshadow" and constrain subsequent federal NEPA review, converting what should be a genuine analysis of alternatives into a post-hoc ratification of decisions already made.^{18,19} DMLW should therefore require GPG to demonstrate that a comprehensive federal environmental

¹⁴ *Thomas v. Peterson*, 753 F.2d 754 (9th Cir. 1985).

¹⁵ *Daly v. Volpe*, 514 F.2d 1106 (9th Cir. 1975).

¹⁶ *Thomas v. Peterson*, 753 F.2d 754 (9th Cir. 1985).

¹⁷ Grande Portage Resources Ltd., "Grande Portage Receives US Forest Service Special Use Permit for Environmental Infrastructure at the New Amalga Gold Project," January 6, 2026, <https://www.stocktitan.net/news/GPTRF/grande-portage-receives-us-forest-service-special-use-permit-for-k48v655uq0ev.html>

¹⁸ *Thomas v. Peterson*, 753 F.2d 754 (9th Cir. 1985).

¹⁹ *Daly v. Volpe*, 514 F.2d 1106 (9th Cir. 1975).



review of the full mine access corridor is underway or completed before ADL 109466 is approved. The mine should also be required to show economic feasibility (without state subsidized infrastructure such as road developments related to Cascade Point), and easements should only be granted once permit applications for CWA 404 and related NEPA processes have been completed.

IV. The Proposed Road Poses Significant Threats to Anadromous Fish Habitat Protected Under State and Federal Law

The Eagle River and Herbert River watersheds provide documented habitat for coho salmon (*Oncorhynchus kisutch*), Dolly Varden (*Salvelinus malma*), and cutthroat trout (*Oncorhynchus clarkii*), among other species. These waters are listed in the ADF&G Anadromous Waters Catalog, adopted by reference under 5 AAC 95.011, and are therefore subject to the protections of Alaska's Anadromous Fish Act, AS 16.05.871–.901. Under AS 16.05.871, any person proposing to construct a hydraulic project or use, divert, obstruct, pollute, or otherwise alter a specified anadromous waterbody must obtain prior approval from ADF&G. All road crossings, gravel removal, water withdrawals, bank stabilization, and the use of equipment in or near the waterbody require ADF&G Fish Habitat Permit authorization.²⁰

Scientific research consistently documents the risks that mining access roads pose to salmonid-bearing watersheds. A 2022 study published in *Science Advances*, analyzing nearly 4,000 past-producing mines across northwestern North America, found that mines continue to harm salmonid-bearing watersheds through toxic contaminants, stream channel burial, and flow regime alteration despite impact assessments intended to evaluate risk and inform mitigation. Similarly, a peer-reviewed study assessing risks from a proposed mine transportation corridor in a roadless Alaskan watershed found that culverts at stream crossings could impede salmonid spawning migrations at multiple crossings, with long-term risks including filling or alteration of wetland habitats, toxic spills from transportation accidents, and reduced habitat quality from road dust. These findings are directly applicable to the proposed ADL 109466 road corridor, which would pass through forest and wetlands in close proximity to anadromous waterways.²¹

²⁰ Alaska Stat. § 16.05.871 (Anadromous Fish Act); Alaska Department of Fish and Game, "Fish Habitat Regulations," <https://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=habitatregulations.prohibited> (requiring permit approval before altering or affecting the natural flow or bed of a specified anadromous waterbody; applicable activities include road crossings, gravel removal, bank stabilization, water withdrawals, and use of equipment). See also Kenai Peninsula Borough, Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Habitat Section, <https://www.kpb.us/local-governance-and-permitting/land-use/streams-rivers-lakes/river-center/alaska-department-of-fish-and-game> (summarizing statutory responsibilities under AS 16.05.871).

²¹ Sean Anderson et al., "Risks of Mining to Salmonid-Bearing Watersheds," *Science Advances* 8, no. 27 (July 1, 2022), <https://doi.org/10.1126/sciadv.abn0929>; Michael Kravitz and Greg Blair, "On Assessing Risks to Fish Habitats and Populations Associated with a Transportation Corridor for Proposed Mine Operations in a Salmon-rich Watershed," *Environmental Management* (2019), PMID: 31079171, PMCID: PMC6783258, <https://doi.org/10.1007/s00267-019-01171-w>. See also The Nature Conservancy, *An Assessment of Ecological Risk to Wild Salmon Systems from the Proposed Pebble Mine, Bristol Bay, Alaska* (March 2010), <https://www.nature.org/content/dam/tnc/nature/en/documents/ecological-risk-assessment-bristol-bay-alaska.pdf>.



V. Granting This Easement Without Adequate Environmental Analysis Would Violate Alaska's Public Trust Obligations

Article VIII of the Alaska Constitution establishes that natural resources must be managed by the state as a public trust for the benefit of the people as a whole, rather than for the benefit of corporations or private individuals. This section prohibits the state from giving away public resources and requires that all transactions involving state land and resources be in full public view and in accordance with constitutional and statutory guidelines.²²

Granting this easement without adequate environmental review would undermine these public trust obligations. The state lands in question are adjacent to popular recreation areas and productive anadromous fish habitat that the public relies upon for fishing, hiking, and wildlife viewing. An easement that facilitates the construction of an industrial mine access road (a road that, by GPG's own admission, constitutes only a portion of a larger access corridor designed to enable a gold mine) requires careful scrutiny of all relevant environmental and social costs. At a minimum, DMLW should condition any easement approval on completion of a comprehensive environmental assessment addressing hydrology, anadromous fish habitat, wetlands, cumulative impacts, and alternatives to the proposed route, including any route segments crossing federal lands.

The state's public trust obligations require that any grant of public resources be predicated on a demonstrated public benefit, which is a threshold that cannot be met here given the project's current economic status. Grande Portage currently has only a Mineral Resource Estimate (Indicated and Inferred) with no reserves declared. Under NI 43-101, the company is required to disclose in all public filings that it has not determined whether the deposit is economically recoverable. As of this comment submission, Grande Portage Resources has not completed a Preliminary Economic Assessment (PEA) for the New Amalga Gold Project, nor has it published any NI 43-101-compliant reserve estimate, feasibility study, or economic analysis demonstrating that the mine is viable. GPG's own securities filings state that "the Company has not yet determined whether the property contains ore reserves that are economically recoverable,"²³ and the company's auditors have issued a going concern warning reflecting an accumulated deficit of over C\$25 million with zero revenues generated to date. The PEA was initiated only in October 2025 and remains incomplete. Granting a permanent easement over state public lands to facilitate a mine access corridor before that fundamental economic analysis exists inverts the public trust doctrine, as the state would be conveying an enduring interest in public land in exchange for speculative future benefit before the project proponent has demonstrated that any

²² Alaska Legislature, "Article VIII: Natural Resources," Constitutional Commentary, https://www.akleg.gov/basis/get_documents.asp?docid=40099. See also *Eric Biber and J.B. Ruhl*, "The Permit Power Revisited: The Theory and Practice of Regulatory Permits in the Administrative State," 64 *Duke Law Journal* 133 (2014) (discussing the public trust doctrine's role in limiting government discretion to grant private rights to public resources). For the public trust doctrine in Alaska specifically, see *Ecology Law Quarterly*, "Pushing the Boundaries of the Public Trust on the Last Frontier: A Study in Why the Doctrine Should Not Apply to Wildlife" (2017), at <https://www.ecologylawquarterly.org>.

²³ Grande Portage Resources Ltd., Management Discussion and Analysis for the Nine Months Ended July 31, 2025, September 26, 2025, https://grandeportage.com/site/assets/files/4352/gpg_2025ye_q3_mda.pdf.



public benefit will ever materialize. DMLW should defer any easement decision until a completed PEA has been publicly released, independently reviewed, and shown to demonstrate genuine economic viability under conditions that account for Alaska-specific infrastructure, environmental mitigation, and permitting costs.

VI. The Application Fails to Adequately Analyze Alternatives to the Proposed Route

DMLW's broad discretionary authority under AS 38.05.850 requires that any approval of an easement facilitating industrial development reflect a rational basis for concluding the proposal serves the public interest. Such a decision cannot be made without consideration of both the connected actions this easement will facilitate, nor any potential alternatives. SEACC is not aware that GPG has provided any alternatives analysis demonstrating that the proposed 1.3-mile road alignment is the most appropriate or least environmentally damaging practicable alternative. Specifically, DMLW should require GPG to evaluate:

- (1) alternative road alignments that minimize disturbance to anadromous fish habitat, wetlands, and riparian buffers;
- (2) the risk of contamination along the proposed ore haul corridor; and
- (3) whether the mine project itself is viable given the environmental constraints posed by the only available access corridor.
- (4) the impacts of mine-related road traffic on established recreational uses of the valley, including existing trail networks and camp facilities, which would be subject to ongoing visual and noise disturbance from industrial haul operations; and
- (5) whether the state's prior decision to rescind a cabin construction permit on the basis that the remote site's accessibility had changed reflects an implicit acknowledgment that this corridor is being reoriented toward industrial mine access at the expense of the public recreational values the land currently supports.

The absence of any alternatives analysis in the ADL 109466 application record is a significant deficiency that DMLW should cure before taking any action on this application.²⁴

²⁴ See *State, DNR v. Alaska Riverways, Inc.*, 232 P.3d 1203 (Alaska 2010) (discussing the public trust doctrine in the context of state land management decisions and the state's obligation to the public). See also Alaska Const. art. VIII, § 4 ("Fish, forests, wildlife, grasslands, and all other replenishable resources belonging to the State shall be utilized, developed, and maintained on the sustained yield principle, subject to preferences among beneficial uses.").



VII. Conclusion and Requested Relief

For the foregoing reasons, SEACC urges DMLW to deny the ADL 109466 easement application by GPG Alaska Resources, Inc., or in the alternative, to refrain from approving the application until the following conditions have been met:

1. GPG provides a comprehensive environmental analysis of the full mine access road corridor, including the two-thirds of the route traversing USFS-managed lands, addressing all direct, indirect, and cumulative impacts related to ore haul on anadromous fish habitat, wetlands, hydrology, wildlife, and public recreation values;
2. DMLW confirms, in writing, that all required state permits and approvals (including ADF&G Fish Habitat Permits under AS 16.05.871-.901, any APDES permit required under AS 46.03.100, and applicable water rights authorizations) have been applied for and that the application record for ADL 109466 reflects that the proposed road can be constructed in compliance with all applicable environmental standards;
3. GPG conducts a meaningful alternatives analysis evaluating whether the proposed road alignment is the most appropriate and least environmentally damaging practicable alternative; and
4. DMLW extend the public comment period and schedule a public hearing to allow for full public participation in this decision, given the significant public interest in the Eagle River and Herbert River watersheds and their recreational, ecological, and fisheries values, and the broader public interest in the connected infrastructure contemplated by the full New Amalga project. GPG's own press releases have expressly stated that its proposed ore terminal at Cascade Point is intended to be integrated with and co-located alongside the planned Alaska Marine Highway System ferry terminal, with the two facilities designed to operate concurrently or sequentially at the same site.²⁵ The ADL 109466 road easement is therefore not a discrete local action: it is an element of an ore transportation corridor that terminates at a state-subsidized mixed-use marine facility whose design, public review, and fiscal implications are themselves the subject of active public controversy.²⁶ This full scope of connected actions warrants expanded public participation before DMLW takes any action on the easement application.

²⁵ Grande Portage Resources Ltd., "Grande Portage Announces Important Developments for Direct Ore Shipping at the Proposed Cascade Point Marine Terminal Site near Juneau, Alaska," press release, May 28, 2025, <https://grandeportage.com/news/grande-portage-announces-important-developments-for-direct-ore-shipping-at-the-proposed-cascade-point-marine-terminal-site-near-juneau-alaska/>; Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities, "DOT&PF Advances Cascade Point Ferry Terminal," press release, May 22, 2025, <https://dot.alaska.gov/comm/pressbox/arch2025/PR25-0020.shtml>

²⁶ See Jeremy Hsieh, "Cascade Point Ferry Terminal Unpopular Among Committee Members, Public," *Juneau Empire*, February 15, 2026, <https://www.juneauempire.com/2026/02/16/cascade-point-ferry-terminal-unpopular-among-committee-members-public/>



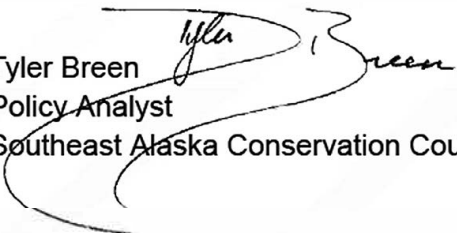
Southeast Alaska Conservation Council

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SEACC requests that DMLW include all submitted comments in the record for ADL 109466 and provide written responses to each substantive issue raised. SEACC also requests notification of any final decision on this application.

Thank you for your consideration of these comments. SEACC and its members are committed to working collaboratively with DMLW to ensure that state land management decisions for the Eagle River and Herbert River watersheds reflect Alaska's constitutional and statutory obligations to protect public resources for current and future generations.

Respectfully submitted,


Tyler Breen
Policy Analyst
Southeast Alaska Conservation Council

From: tom3@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Tom Snyder](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: I urge the State of Alaska to deny the easement application by Grande Portage Resources for Project ADL 109466.
Date: Monday, March 2, 2026 8:29:39 PM

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Dear John Driscoll,

I urge the State of Alaska to deny the easement application by Grande Portage Resources for Project ADL 109466.

I oppose the permitting, construction, maintenance, and private use of a 15-foot wide, 1.3 mile long unpaved access road 21 miles northwest of Juneau, Alaska, on public lands, near the Herbert glacier trailhead. I oppose turning sections of our intact temperate rainforest, that hosts a delicate ecosystem, into two 1-acre staging areas used to store equipment, drilling supplies, and rock core samples inside metal shipping containers.

The public notice states, "If a mining operation is approved and developed on the adjacent USFS land, the 1.3-mile long road on state land will serve as the first segment of the access road to the project site." I do not support altering one of the most popular recreational areas for Juneau's year-round residents for a mine that has not yet proven economic viability.

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Further, this project is unnecessary; exploratory drilling has been conducted each summer for the past 19 years and there is no reason drilling cannot continue as it has. The footprint of the forest — especially in such valuable recreational and subsistence areas — should not be compromised merely as a cost-saving measure for the applicant.

Sincerely,

Mr. Tom Snyder

4400 Riverton Ave Anchorage, AK 99516-3696

Redacted

From: Laurastatsdaugherty@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Laura Stats](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: I urge the State of Alaska to deny the easement application by Grande Portage Resources for Project ADL 109466.
Date: Monday, March 2, 2026 11:50:07 PM

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Dear John Driscoll,

I urge the State of Alaska to deny the easement application by Grande Portage Resources for Project ADL 109466.

I oppose the permitting, construction, maintenance, and private use of a 15-foot wide, 1.3 mile long unpaved access road 21 miles northwest of Juneau, Alaska, on public lands, near the Herbert glacier trailhead.

This is public land in an high recreational use area. The road is proposed in an area next to a recreational site that is used for the public to enjoy peace and quiet with the Tongass rainforest. A place to find solace and obtain rejuvenation in the surroundings provided. Public lands used for recreation by the Juneau population in this area is important because much of the town of Juneau is impacted by 1.6 million cruise ship passengers every summer. The Herbert River trail is exceedingly important and of high recreational value. My family and I are concerned about noise pollution. I'm speaking not only for humans but animals as well. This forest is a vast eco system that supports both fauna and flora. All over the globe wildlife is disappearing. These are natural resources that need protection.

The Grande Portage project is not conducive to the area, it is not permitted. I encourage you to protect the area in its entirety. Serve the people, not a foreign mining company.

Thank you,

Sincerely,

Ms. Laura Stats

418 7th St Juneau, AK 99801-1031

Redacted

From: kasyyahgei@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Ernestine Hanlon Abel](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: I urge the State of Alaska to deny the easement application by Grande Portage Resources for Project ADL 109466.
Date: Tuesday, March 3, 2026 6:38:39 AM

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Sincerely,

Ms Ernestine Hanlon Abel

454 Garteeni Way Hoonah, AK 99829

Redacted

From: naomiwbm@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Naomi BOYLES-MUEHLECK](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: I urge the State of Alaska to deny the easement application by Grande Portage Resources for Project ADL 109466.
Date: Tuesday, March 3, 2026 10:45:45 AM

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Sincerely,

Ms. Naomi BOYLES-MUEHLECK
5805 Thane Rd Juneau, AK 99801-7730

nRedacted

From: tnc@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Tim Covell](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: I urge the State of Alaska to deny the easement application by Grande Portage Resources for Project ADL 109466.
Date: Tuesday, March 3, 2026 5:49:45 PM

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Sincerely,

Mr. Tim Covell

PO Box 74 Healy, AK 99743-0074

Redacted

From: briendaugherty@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Brien Daugherty](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: I urge the State of Alaska to deny the easement application by Grande Portage Resources for Project ADL 109466.
Date: Tuesday, March 3, 2026 4:15:53 PM

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Sincerely,

Mr Brien Daugherty
418 7th St Juneau, AK 99801-1031

Redacted

From: carlocreek3@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Alfonso Gallo](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: I urge the State of Alaska to deny the easement application by Grande Portage Resources for Project ADL 109466.
Date: Tuesday, March 3, 2026 1:27:05 PM

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Sincerely,

Mr. Alfonso Gallo

C/O Don Surgeon 312 Islander Dr Sitka, AK 99835

Redacted

From: annemariiedh@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Anne Hasskamp](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: I urge the State of Alaska to deny the easement application by Grande Portage Resources for Project ADL 109466.
Date: Tuesday, March 3, 2026 2:51:24 PM

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Sincerely,
Mx. Anne Hasskamp
641 Broadway # 11 Skagway, AK 99840-2506

Redacted

From: hauserphotography@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Brandon Hauser](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: I urge the State of Alaska to deny the easement application by Grande Portage Resources for Project ADL 109466.
Date: Tuesday, March 3, 2026 11:00:37 AM

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Dear John Driscoll,

Hello,

I am not misinformed or confused by any of the proposed development and urge the State of Alaska to deny the easement application by Grande Portage Resources for Project ADL 109466.

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Sincerely,

Mr. Brandon Hauser

15580 Glacier Hwy Juneau, AK 99801-8431

Redacted

From: tyler.henegan@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Tyler Henegan](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: I urge the State of Alaska to deny the easement application by Grande Portage Resources for Project ADL 109466.
Date: Tuesday, March 3, 2026 10:08:20 AM

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Dear John Driscoll,

STOP USING PUBLIC MONEY FOR PRIVATE HANDOUTS

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Sincerely,
Badass Tyler Henegan
9740 Conifer St Anchorage, AK 99507-6097

Redacted

From: rjuzeler@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [rachael juzeler](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: I urge the State of Alaska to deny the easement application by Grande Portage Resources for Project ADL 109466.
Date: Tuesday, March 3, 2026 8:26:42 AM

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Dear John Driscoll,

Mines are finite! The land is not----

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Sincerely,

Ms. rachael juzeler

105 St Anns Ave Douglas, AK 99824-5532

Redacted

From: coleevan9@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Elizabeth Leban](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: I urge the State of Alaska to deny the easement application by Grande Portage Resources for Project ADL 109466.
Date: Tuesday, March 3, 2026 2:27:42 PM

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Sincerely,

Ms. Elizabeth Leban

9161 N Douglas Hwy Juneau, AK 99801-7652

Redacted

From: shanemitten@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Shane Mitten](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: I urge the State of Alaska to deny the easement application by Grande Portage Resources for Project ADL 109466.
Date: Tuesday, March 3, 2026 12:47:23 PM

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Sincerely,

Mr. Shane Mitten

3345 Tongass Blvd Unit 2 Juneau, AK 99801-9096

Redacted

From: cmniemi@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Christine Niemi](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: I urge the State of Alaska to deny the easement application by Grande Portage Resources for Project ADL 109466.
Date: Tuesday, March 3, 2026 11:29:42 AM

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Sincerely,
Ms. Christine Niemi
616 Alta Ct Douglas, AK 99824-5522

Redacted

From: richlroth@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Richard Rothstein](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: I urge the State of Alaska to deny the easement application by Grande Portage Resources for Project ADL 109466.
Date: Tuesday, March 3, 2026 2:28:03 PM

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Dear John Driscoll,

I urge the State of Alaska to deny the easement application by Grande Portage Resources for Project ADL 109466.

I oppose the permitting, construction, maintenance, and private use of a 15-foot wide, 1.3 mile long unpaved access road 21 miles northwest of Juneau, Alaska, on public lands, near the Herbert glacier trailhead. I oppose turning sections of our intact temperate rainforest, that hosts a delicate ecosystem, into two 1-acre staging areas used to store equipment, drilling supplies, and rock core samples inside metal shipping containers.

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Further, this project is unnecessary; exploratory drilling has been conducted each summer for the past 19 years and there is no reason drilling cannot continue as it has. The footprint of the forest — especially in such valuable recreational and subsistence areas — should not be compromised merely as a cost-saving measure for the applicant.

Sincerely,
Dr. Richard Rothstein
2409 La Honda Dr Anchorage, AK 99517-1343

Redacted

From: kesandberg@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Kate Sandberg](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: I urge the State of Alaska to deny the easement application by Grande Portage Resources for Project ADL 109466.
Date: Tuesday, March 3, 2026 8:44:07 AM

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Sincerely,

Dr. Kate Sandberg

PO Box 1025 Girdwood, AK 99587-1025

Redacted

From: nakubay@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Michael Yee](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: I urge the State of Alaska to deny the easement application by Grande Portage Resources for Project ADL 109466.
Date: Tuesday, March 3, 2026 3:40:51 AM

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Sincerely,

Mr. Michael Yee

PO Box 75 Skagway, AK 99840-0075

Redacted

From: augusto.campos6182@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Augusto Campos](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: I urge the State of Alaska to deny the easement application by Grande Portage Resources for Project ADL 109466.
Date: Wednesday, March 4, 2026 5:17:44 AM

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Sincerely,

Mr. Augusto Campos

8906 Gee St Juneau, AK 99801-8820

Redacted

From: scypa@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Steven Cypra](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: I urge the State of Alaska to deny the easement application by Grande Portage Resources for Project ADL 109466.
Date: Wednesday, March 4, 2026 7:09:59 AM

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Sincerely,
Mr. Steven Cypra
9201 N Sun Valley Dr Palmer, AK 99645-9254

Redacted

From: andisunshine@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Andrea Florendo](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: I urge the State of Alaska to deny the easement application by Grande Portage Resources for Project ADL 109466.
Date: Wednesday, March 4, 2026 8:06:16 PM

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Sincerely,

Ms. Andrea Florendo

PO Box 35192 Juneau, AK 99803-5192

Redacted

From: iskiair@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Staci Genet](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: I urge the State of Alaska to deny the easement application by Grande Portage Resources for Project ADL 109466.
Date: Wednesday, March 4, 2026 1:53:38 AM

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Sincerely,
Mr. Staci Genet
PO Box 296 Talkeetna, AK 99676-0296

Redacted

From: michellehebert907@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Michelle Hebert](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: I urge the State of Alaska to deny the easement application by Grande Portage Resources for Project ADL 109466.
Date: Wednesday, March 4, 2026 2:25:35 PM

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Dear John Driscoll,

I am opposed to the easement application by Grande Portage Resources for Project ADL 109466.
When us Juneau residents go out the road to enjoy the wilderness and outdoors, we are getting away from the helicopter noise of the Mendenhall valley, downtown Juneau float planes and alot of aerial traffic.

When we bike out to Herbert glacier, we enjoy the quietness of the area.

Thank you for thinking of us residents, now going on 40 years!!

Michelle Hebert
1310 Abby Court
Juneau, AK 99801

Sincerely,
Mrs. Michelle Hebert
1310 Abby Ct Juneau, AK 99801-9599

Redacted

From: jellyyfurr@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Jennifer Kardiak](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: I urge the State of Alaska to deny the easement application by Grande Portage Resources for Project ADL 109466.
Date: Wednesday, March 4, 2026 10:50:30 AM

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Sincerely,
Ms. Jennifer Kardiak
PO Box 216 Wrangell, AK 99929-0216

Redacted

From: nvkramarz@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Nadine Kramarz](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: I urge the State of Alaska to deny the easement application by Grande Portage Resources for Project ADL 109466.
Date: Wednesday, March 4, 2026 11:48:01 AM

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Sincerely,

Ms. Nadine Kramarz

4319 Conifer Ln Juneau, AK 99801-9274

Redacted

From: racecarol@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Carol Race](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: I urge the State of Alaska to deny the easement application by Grande Portage Resources for Project ADL 109466.
Date: Wednesday, March 4, 2026 10:57:23 AM

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Sincerely,

Ms Carol Race

312 B 6th St Juneau, AK 99801-1114

Redacted

From: saraelizabethdecoratorcrab@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Sara Ryan](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: I urge the State of Alaska to deny the easement application by Grande Portage Resources for Project ADL 109466.
Date: Wednesday, March 4, 2026 8:34:45 PM

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Sincerely,

Ms Sara Ryan

12020 Glacier Hwy Apt 1 Juneau, AK 99801-8593

Redacted

From: nancispear@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Nanci Spear](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: I urge the State of Alaska to deny the easement application by Grande Portage Resources for Project ADL 109466.
Date: Wednesday, March 4, 2026 5:14:10 PM

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Sincerely,
Ms Nanci Spear
945 Fritz Cove Rd Juneau, AK 99801-6835

Redacted

From: mudbaygal@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Sarah Zeiger](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: I urge the State of Alaska to deny the easement application by Grande Portage Resources for Project ADL 109466.
Date: Wednesday, March 4, 2026 6:32:33 PM

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Sincerely,

Ms Sarah Zeiger

3 Block C Mud Bay Subdivision Lot Haines, AK 99827

Redacted

From: [Ida Meyer](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: Public Comment: proposed road for New Amalga Gold mine project
Date: Thursday, March 5, 2026 10:04:07 PM

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Hello,

I am a part of a family of four living in Juneau, Alaska. I am a college student and a life-long resident of Juneau, Alaska, a place I resolve to return to when I have my law degree. Since I was a child, I've biked, run, and snowshoed in the Herbert Glacier, Eagle Glacier, and Eagle Beach areas. Some of my treasured memories took place at the Methodist Camp 400 meters down the road from the Herbert Glacier trailhead, where I attended Juneau's treasured Lynn Canal Running camp for 4 years. This year, I have been hired as a camp counselor to lead middle schoolers all around the trails and mountains of Juneau, appreciating the bountiful place we live in and experiencing the joy of being together outdoors. Some of the primary trails we ran on are: Windfall Lake, Herbert Glacier, Eagle Glacier, and more. These trails are treasured as places to retreat to from our ever-changing, quickly moving world. They are in ecosystems already at risk from climate change, and now due to the Amalaga Gold Mine project.

I feel very strongly about this area. I want to return to Alaska, where what is wild is kept wild, or used RESPONSIBLY. I want my children to grow up in Alaska, where the environment is respected, and so far, no environmental impact analysis has been associated with the permit application, showcasing a lack of concern for the impacts this project will have on the environment. The lack of information on the construction of the road is concerning.

I feel strongly about this area of land, and this project needs more scrutiny to at least meet the standards of those who care about the land it will disrupt. I strongly oppose the permit, for it cannot be loosely given. Thank you.

Ida F. Meyer
3051 Nowell Avenue, Juneau, AK

From: palmerjaylane@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Palmer Lane](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: I urge the State of Alaska to deny the easement application by Grande Portage Resources for Project ADL 109466.
Date: Thursday, March 5, 2026 10:02:32 AM

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Dear John Driscoll,

The entire reason people move to Juneau is because of the trail access. Juneau is suffering from loss of young population, taking away/hindering the best and most beautiful areas of that attraction is basically killing the city. It will definitely cost the city more in that way than we would ever gain from then a new mine. The cost benefit calculation toward the city of Juneau does not come out in favor for project.

Thanks,

I urge the State of Alaska to deny the easement application by Grande Portage Resources for Project ADL 109466.

I oppose the permitting, construction, maintenance, and private use of a 15-foot wide, 1.3 mile long unpaved access road 21 miles northwest of Juneau, Alaska, on public lands, near the Herbert glacier trailhead. I oppose turning sections of our intact temperate rainforest, that hosts a delicate ecosystem, into two 1-acre staging areas used to store equipment, drilling supplies, and rock core samples inside metal shipping containers.

The public notice states, "If a mining operation is approved and developed on the adjacent USFS land, the 1.3-mile long road on state land will serve as the first segment of the access road to the project site." I do not support altering one of the most popular recreational areas for Juneau's year-round residents for a mine that has not yet proven economic viability.

Allowing an unproven and unpermitted mine to begin etching roads into the forests north of Juneau, the final vast tract of temperate rainforest on the planet, is short-sighted and does not acknowledge the risks to the community and local environment. In addition to physical disruption and eyesores this project introduces, the staging areas will also be used for helicopter operations to transport supplies and materials to the applicant's mineral exploration sites; this means concentrated noise pollution for an area with sensitive wildlife and that has long been an area of peace and quiet for recreationists.

Further, this project is unnecessary; exploratory drilling has been conducted each summer for the past 19 years and there is no reason drilling cannot continue as it has. The footprint of the forest — especially in such valuable recreational and subsistence areas — should not be compromised merely as a cost-saving measure for the applicant.

Sincerely,
Mr Palmer Lane
9227 Emily Way Juneau, AK 99801-8874

Redacted

From: [Tom](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: Public Comment Re: proposed road for New Amalga Gold mine project
Date: Thursday, March 5, 2026 2:34:29 PM

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We are a family of four living in Juneau and based on the Herbert and Eagle river area's considerable recreational and wilderness value, oppose issuance of a permit authorizing construction of a road for the New Amalga Gold Mine exploration activities.

Over many years now, we have enjoyed the considerable recreational and wilderness values associated with the Herbert and Eagle Rivers. One or all of us in our family have biked, hiked, run, or camped at or adjacent to these rivers and associated amenities. We have stayed at the Methodist camp that's adjacent to Eagle River. We have hiked or snowshoed into Eagle Glacier Cabin. We have ridden our bikes many times to the Herbert Glacier. We have hiked to Windfall Lake. We have run these trails. We have enjoyed many events at the Eagle Beach state park. We have ridden our bikes on the highway from which the proposed road would be built. We have always appreciated these areas and rivers because for us, who don't own a boat, they offer considerable road-based wilderness and outdoor adventure experiences.

And, now, the State of Alaska is in position to authorize construction of gravel road that will split this valuable, intact wilderness and recreational area into two. The road will be used by heavy trucks and machinery for construction this year and that will eventually -if the mine receives claim patents and further developed- further disrupt and degrade the recreational and wilderness character.

The associated construction and mining truck activities will present safety risks to cyclists and other traffic on the highway . The relative peace and quiet will be disrupted. The road construction and use could disrupt wildlife. Road construction and use will be the predominant activity in an otherwise natural wilderness and recreation area. Hikers and bikers and campers are not disruptive to mining and road construction activity. It is the other way around. The road and its uses are inconsistent and disruptive with the area's current uses and character. Road construction and its use by the mining company will forever dominate the area and reduce its current wilderness and recreational qualities.

There is no environmental impact analysis associated with the State's consideration of the permit application. The State should consider the impacts of the road and its construction. Here's the State's approach: Shoot now, ask questions later. Those of us who wish to comment on this proposal have to do so without any information on what the State takes into consideration when making this irreversible decision. This makes commenting a challenge because we don't know what metrics the State are using and what information it is using for making a decision on the application.

It is also a challenge trying to connect just what is happening at the exploration site adjacent to Herbert Glacier and this road. In the past, the USFS has issued one year long exploration activity permits to New Amalga. If that's the case for this year, 2026, then its activities are limited to 2026. Why, then, should the State issue a permit authorizing road construction for a one-year long activity? Road construction activities and its use may be for a short-lived project. Why should the State jeopardize the area's current character for a risky bet that the road will be used in the long term and not just become a road to nowhere?

Some questions for which answers are unavailable: Who owns the road, if constructed? How long can it be used? How many heavy construction and ore trucks will use it? How dangerous and hazardous are materials that will taken to the facility at the end of the road and what risks do they present when transported on the highway? Will the road be private? Will the road be usable by the public during the winter? How will

wildlife be impacted by the road construction, use, and activities at the facility at the end?

In summary, I am opposed to the issuance of the permit. This road and its proposed use is inconsistent with the associated area's character and use. There are too many unanswered questions associated with construction and use impacts to the environment and that the State is making an uninformed, flawed decision that has no rational basis.

Thomas J. Meyer 3051 Nowell Avenue, Juneau AK

From: sharonresnick@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Sharon Resnick](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: I urge the State of Alaska to deny the easement application by Grande Portage Resources for Project ADL 109466.
Date: Thursday, March 5, 2026 3:29:30 PM

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Dear John Driscoll,

I urge the State of Alaska to deny the easement application by Grande Portage Resources for Project ADL 109466.

I oppose the permitting, construction, maintenance, and private use of a 15-foot wide, 1.3 mile long unpaved access road 21 miles northwest of Juneau, Alaska, on public lands, near the Herbert glacier trailhead. I oppose turning sections of our intact temperate rainforest, that hosts a delicate ecosystem, into two 1-acre staging areas used to store equipment, drilling supplies, and rock core samples inside metal shipping containers.

The public notice states, "If a mining operation is approved and developed on the adjacent USFS land, the 1.3-mile long road on state land will serve as the first segment of the access road to the project site." I do not support altering one of the most popular recreational areas for Juneau's year-round residents for a mine that has not yet proven economic viability.

Allowing an unproven and unpermitted mine to begin etching roads into the forests north of Juneau, the final vast tract of temperate rainforest on the planet, is short-sighted and does not acknowledge the risks to the community and local environment. In addition to physical disruption and eyesores this project introduces, the staging areas will also be used for helicopter operations to transport supplies and materials to the applicant's mineral exploration sites; this means concentrated noise pollution for an area with sensitive wildlife and that has long been an area of peace and quiet for recreationists.

Further, this project is unnecessary; exploratory drilling has been conducted each summer for the past 19 years and there is no reason drilling cannot continue as it has. The footprint of the forest — especially in such valuable recreational and subsistence areas — should not be compromised merely as a cost-saving measure for the applicant.

Sincerely,

Ms. Sharon Resnick

8 Mile Mud Bay Rd Haines, AK 99827

Redacted

Teri Rehfeldt
25200 Amalga Harbor Rd
Juneau, AK 99801

Redacted

March 6, 2026

State of Alaska Department of Natural Resources
Attention: John Driscoll
Via email john.driscoll@alaska.gov
SUBJECT: ADL109466 Amalga Mining Road

Mr. Driscoll,

I strongly oppose the proposed easement by Grande Portage Resources for Project ADL 109466 and urge the State of Alaska to deny this request.

Like thousands of other Juneau residents, I use this area year-round for skiing, hiking, biking, berry-picking, and most importantly, simply to enjoy quiet that is now impossible to find in other areas of the CBJ.

The proposed road and associated mining exploration activities, including a helicopter pad, would drastically and irrevocably harm recreational users and cause serious damage to wildlife in this last large undisturbed area of forest and wetlands in the borough.

The Amalga Mine is not permitted and not yet proven to be economically viable. Mining exploration has happened for 19 years without this road and can continue without it. The easement is a convenience for the mining company while sacrificing a critically important wildlife and recreation area and intact forest.

These lands belong to all Alaskans, and I oppose DNR's actions to degrade public lands for private use. industry. The noise impacts alone will change the entire experience out the road, and will further impact the tourism industry that depends on Juneau's wildlife, recreation, and unique quiet that can be found no where else. Do not grant this easement. Do not destroy what we all came here for and why we live here.

Thank you for considering my comments.

Sincerely,



Teri Rehfeldt

From: [Scott Spickler](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: New Amalga Access Easement ADL 109466
Date: Friday, March 6, 2026 9:18:45 AM

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Dear Mr. Driscoll

I am writing to express my support for the easement application submitted by GPG Alaska Resources Inc. for the access road and staging areas associated with the New Amalga exploration project in the North Juneau region.

From my perspective as a member of the Juneau community, the proposed access improvements represent a practical and responsible approach to supporting mineral exploration while minimizing impacts to surrounding areas. The proposal would create a relatively short access road and staging areas connected to Glacier Highway, significantly reducing helicopter staging distances currently originating in the Mendenhall Valley. This approach improves safety and logistics while also reducing helicopter traffic and noise over residential areas.

In reviewing projects such as this, the Alaska Department of Natural Resources must evaluate whether a proposed authorization is consistent with the public interest and the State's best interests under Alaska law. Several public interest considerations appear to support approval of this request, including improved operational safety, reduced impacts to nearby neighborhoods, efficient use of an existing transportation corridor along Glacier Highway, and the opportunity to support responsible exploration of Alaska's mineral resources.

Projects like this also demonstrate how responsible resource development can be balanced with the environmental values that are important to Southeast Alaska residents. Alaska has a long history of developing its natural resources under strong environmental oversight, and modern mining operations operate under rigorous state and federal regulatory standards.

The potential economic benefits to Juneau should also be recognized. If the New Amalga project ultimately advances to development, it could support up to approximately 200 high-paying mining and support jobs while also becoming a meaningful property taxpayer within the City and Borough of Juneau. This type of economic activity helps support local businesses, families, and public services such as the Juneau School District.

In addition, responsible mineral development helps diversify Juneau's economy by creating

opportunities in the private sector alongside the important roles played by government and tourism. Workforce development and skilled trade opportunities associated with projects like this provide meaningful long-term benefits for Southeast Alaska residents.

Approving access infrastructure for responsible exploration also aligns with broader state and national policy objectives encouraging development of Alaska's extraordinary natural resources. These priorities include federal efforts to responsibly develop domestic resources and strengthen American mineral supply chains, as reflected in recent executive actions aimed at unleashing Alaska's extraordinary resource potential.

For these reasons, I respectfully encourage the Alaska Department of Natural Resources to approve the requested easement for ADL 109466.

Thank you,
Scott Spickler
10754 Horizon Dr.
Juneau, AK.99801

Sent from my iPad

From: [Josh Brink](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: Strong Support for ADL 109466-Private Non-Exclusive Easement
Date: Friday, March 6, 2026 1:48:31 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

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To whom it may concern,

I am writing on behalf of Timberline Drilling Inc., the contracted drilling partner for Grande Portage Resources' New Amalga Gold Project in Southeast Alaska. We fully support the approval of a private non-exclusive easement, ADL 109466, for the proposed 1.3-mile unpaved access road and staging areas along Glacier Highway.

This low-impact setup will significantly reduce helicopter flight times, enhance safety for our crews, minimize fuel consumption and emissions, and create substantial employment opportunities for local residents. Specifically, it will enable mechanics, earthwork teams, and supply operations to be conducted directly from the highway rather than from the airport. We have observed the positive impact of such innovative infrastructure on project progress, ensuring minimal disruption to recreational activities and the environment.

Approving this request would allow us to commence fieldwork on schedule and demonstrate the responsible potential of mining in Alaska to generate job opportunities. We appreciate your consideration and are committed to collaborating with you to ensure the successful development of this project.

*Sincerely,
Timberline Drilling Inc.*

JOSHUA BRINK | PROJECT MANAGER

E: jbrink@timberline-drilling.com
M: (208)-512-7423

CORPORATE | 11784 N Reed Rd, Hayden, ID | 83835 | 208.665.7211
NEVADA | 2740 Last Chance Rd, Elko, NV | 89801 | 775.777.1100
MINNESOTA | 1997 9th Ave North, Virginia, MN | 55792 | 218.741.9287

www.timberline-drilling.com



From: jocelyn.marie92@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Jocelyn Andrea Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
To:
Subject: I urge the State of Alaska to deny the easement application by Grande Portage Resources for Project ADL 109466.
Date: Saturday, March 7, 2026 1:37:34 AM

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Dear John Driscoll,

I urge the State of Alaska to deny the easement application by Grande Portage Resources for Project ADL 109466.

I oppose the permitting, construction, maintenance, and private use of a 15-foot wide, 1.3 mile long unpaved access road 21 miles northwest of Juneau, Alaska, on public lands, near the Herbert glacier trailhead. I oppose turning sections of our intact temperate rainforest, that hosts a delicate ecosystem, into two 1-acre staging areas used to store equipment, drilling supplies, and rock core samples inside metal shipping containers.

The public notice states, "If a mining operation is approved and developed on the adjacent USFS land, the 1.3-mile long road on state land will serve as the first segment of the access road to the project site." I do not support altering one of the most popular recreational areas for Juneau's year-round residents for a mine that has not yet proven economic viability.

Allowing an unproven and unpermitted mine to begin etching roads into the forests north of Juneau, the final vast tract of temperate rainforest on the planet, is short-sighted and does not acknowledge the risks to the community and local environment. In addition to physical disruption and eyesores this project introduces, the staging areas will also be used for helicopter operations to transport supplies and materials to the applicant's mineral exploration sites; this means concentrated noise pollution for an area with sensitive wildlife and that has long been an area of peace and quiet for recreationists.

Further, this project is unnecessary; exploratory drilling has been conducted each summer for the past 19 years and there is no reason drilling cannot continue as it has. The footprint of the forest — especially in such valuable recreational and subsistence areas — should not be compromised merely as a cost-saving measure for the applicant.

We must keep Alaska wild to preserve the spirit of the state. This is a place to live closely with nature, not to contribute to suburban sprawl and capitalism.

Sincerely,

Ms. Jocelyn Andrea
1207 2nd St Douglas, AK 99824-5310

Redacted

From: [Megan Behnke](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: ADL 109466 Public Comment
Date: Saturday, March 7, 2026 12:55:43 PM

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To:
John Driscoll
State of Alaska Department of Natural Resources
Division of Mining, Land and Water
P.O. Box 111020, Juneau, AK 99811-1020

Re: ADL 109466: Private Non-Exclusive Easement for Road and Staging Areas near Eagle and Herbert Rivers in Juneau

Dear Mr. Driscoll,

As a born-and-raised Juneauite who chose to come back here after getting an education in the lower 48, I strongly oppose building a 15 foot wide, 1.3 mile long road and staging areas on state lands to support any mining exploration for the New Amalga Gold Project. This is not what Juneau wants and it is antithetical to the reasons that Juneau kids like me continue to choose to return home to our town with clean water, thriving fish populations, incredible recreation opportunities, and quiet wild spaces--all of which this project would damage.

The company driving this project--Grande Portage Resources--is Canadian and has no ties to Juneau and no stake in caring for the natural resources and lands that are integral to our identity as a the community. This proposed road smashes through land occupied by one of the most popular trails in Juneau--Herbert Glacier Trail--one of the few trails in town that can be biked and skied as well as hiked and used by dog walkers, fly fishermen, and hunters. The proposed location also impacts the Eagle Glacier Trail which provides year round to access the Eagle Glacier cabin--one of Juneau's many treasured and highly used public recreation cabins. Road building and mining exploration activities will damage the experience of users for both of these trails, as well as for those who float and fish on the Eagle and Herbert rivers themselves. The people of Juneau strongly wanted to build another Public Use Cabin at the much-loved Herbert Glacier; this idea has been shut down in favor of this out-of-State mining company. This is absurd; this is our land, and the State should not be prioritizing the well-being of foreign corporations over the well-being of Alaskans.

This proposed road would disturb the wildlife populations that draw people to these landscapes, create dust and noise pollution, and provide no benefit to the people of Juneau or Alaska--it is an example of horrific extractivist damage to a community by Outside Corporations (in this case literally from another country) and it goes against all the reasons that Juneau kids like me continue to decide to come back, bringing our higher education and economic power home to Juneau.

Please, please do not authorize this project. Even if a mine were ultimately developed, very few jobs would be created in Juneau--a recent Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development report states that non-residents make up over 44% of the mining workforce.

Let us decide to use our land for recreation, to preserve and care for to allow our children the same experiences we have of bountiful hunting and fishing and harvesting, wildlife and peace and quiet. 92% of gold goes straight into the luxury goods market for rich people--our state's and town's futures do not depend on more jewelry. But our future does depend on local kids deciding to keep coming home to live and work

here and raise families here--and we come back for the recreation, the peace and quiet, the lack of industry, the clean water and life-filled forests and the ties to the land.

Please do not authorize this project. Please stand up for Alaskans, for the actual people on the land who use and love and eat from these lands and waters.

Sincerely,
Megan Behnke

Juneau, Alaska

--

Megan Behnke
(she/her)

Redacted

I live and work in Lingít Aaní.

From: [Allison Bidlack](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: ADL 109466: Public Comment
Date: Saturday, March 7, 2026 12:31:21 PM

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To:
John Driscoll
State of Alaska Department of Natural Resources
Division of Mining, Land and Water
P.O. Box 111020, Juneau, AK 99811-1020

Re: ADL 109466: Private Non-Exclusive Easement for Road and Staging Areas near Eagle and Herbert Rivers in Juneau

Mr. Driscoll,

I am writing to express my strong opposition to building a 15 foot wide, 1.3 mile long road and staging areas on state lands to support mining exploration for the New Amalga Gold Project. This project is being driven by a Canadian company, Grande Portage Resources, with no ties to Juneau or interest in maintaining natural resources and lands treasured by the community. On one side of the proposed road is the Herbert Glacier trail, one of the most popular trails in Juneau, accessible to bikers, hikers, skiers, dog walkers, fly fishermen, and hunters. On the other side is the Eagle Glacier Trail, used by many people year round to access the Eagle Glacier cabin. Road building and mining exploration activities will impact the user experience on both of these trails, as well as on the Eagle and Herbert rivers themselves. The road will be a scar across the landscape, disturbing wildlife populations and creating dust and noise pollution. The proposed project will provide little, if any, benefit to Juneau or Alaska outside of some heavy equipment and logging operators and road engineers. Even if a mine is ultimately developed (and that is still a very long shot), very few jobs will be created in Juneau; in fact, a recent Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development report states that non-residents make up over 44% of the mining workforce. So why are we even considering this project? Why do we continue to destroy our environment and ransom our childrens' futures for short-term corporate gain? Why are we continuing to mine gold when 92% of it just goes right into the luxury goods (ie., jewelry) market and there's plenty of it in any pawn shop in the country? Please do not authorize this project. Stand up for Alaskans, for the people who actually live here, the people who use these trails and natural areas, who overwhelmingly wanted a recreation cabin built out near Herbert Glacier, not a mine.

Sincerely,
Allison Bidlack
Douglas, Alaska

From: [MacBook Pro](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: Oppose building of a road to Herbert Glacier (New Amalga Mining Site)
Date: Saturday, March 7, 2026 4:42:39 PM

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I oppose the building of road to the New Amalga Mining site. This road is too close to very popular and beloved trails - the Herbert Glacier trail and the Eagle Glacier Trail as well as our Eagle State Park and Campground, Eagle Picnic Area, and the Scout Camp and Trail. I oppose noise pollution during construction. I oppose heavy equipment use for how many years - ore hauling? I oppose the amount of traffic on the highway that will result. This project is ill-conceived. I live in Juneau due to the access to wilderness and foot trails. The helicopters are bad enough - please don't open up our recreation area to venture capitalists. It is way too valuable. Juneau residents are left dealing with all the negative effects. Carol Coyle, Douglas, Alaska

From: duehring@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Lauren Duehring](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: I urge the State of Alaska to deny the easement application by Grande Portage Resources for Project ADL 109466.
Date: Saturday, March 7, 2026 9:46:34 AM

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Dear John Driscoll,

I urge the State of Alaska to deny the easement application by Grande Portage Resources for Project ADL 109466.

I oppose the permitting, construction, maintenance, and private use of a 15-foot wide, 1.3 mile long unpaved access road 21 miles northwest of Juneau, Alaska, on public lands, near the Herbert glacier trailhead. I oppose turning sections of our intact temperate rainforest, that hosts a delicate ecosystem, into two 1-acre staging areas used to store equipment, drilling supplies, and rock core samples inside metal shipping containers.

The public notice states, "If a mining operation is approved and developed on the adjacent USFS land, the 1.3-mile long road on state land will serve as the first segment of the access road to the project site." I do not support altering one of the most popular recreational areas for Juneau's year-round residents for a mine that has not yet proven economic viability.

Allowing an unproven and unpermitted mine to begin etching roads into the forests north of Juneau, the final vast tract of temperate rainforest on the planet, is short-sighted and does not acknowledge the risks to the community and local environment. In addition to physical disruption and eyesores this project introduces, the staging areas will also be used for helicopter operations to transport supplies and materials to the applicant's mineral exploration sites; this means concentrated noise pollution for an area with sensitive wildlife and that has long been an area of peace and quiet for recreationists.

Further, this project is unnecessary; exploratory drilling has been conducted each summer for the past 19 years and there is no reason drilling cannot continue as it has. The footprint of the forest — especially in such valuable recreational and subsistence areas — should not be compromised merely as a cost-saving measure for the applicant.

Sincerely,

Miss Lauren Duehring

12175 Glacier Hwy Juneau, AK 99801-8652

Redacted

From: [Jake Maenpa](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: Re: Public Comment in Support of Easement Application ADL 109466 – Access Road and Staging Areas for the New Amalga Gold Project
Date: Saturday, March 7, 2026 1:51:22 PM
Attachments: [Outlook-tylerlogo](#)
[Outlook-kjlh2dlh.png](#)
[Letter of support 20260220 ADL09466 Support.pdf](#)

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Dear Mr. Driscoll,

On behalf of Tyler Rental, Inc., I am writing to express our strong support for approval of Easement Application ADL 109466 associated with the New Amalga Gold Project being advanced by Grande Portage Resources Ltd. north of Juneau, Alaska.

Tyler Rental has served Southeast Alaska's construction, infrastructure, and resource development sectors for many years by providing equipment, service, and technical support to contractors, construction firms, and mining projects across the region. From our perspective as a regional equipment and service provider, the proposed access road and staging areas represent an important and practical step that will improve logistics, safety, and economic participation for Juneau-area businesses.

The proposed 1.3-mile, 15-foot-wide unpaved access road and two one-acre staging areas near Glacier Highway Milepost 27.1 will create a secure and efficient logistics hub with direct access from the existing highway system. Establishing helicopter staging closer to the project area will shorten flight distances to the New Amalga deposit, improving operational safety while reducing fuel consumption, flight cycles, and aviation activity over populated areas.

Equally important are the meaningful economic opportunities this project creates for the Juneau community. Highway-accessible staging will allow drilling equipment, supplies, and heavy components to be delivered directly by local trucking and logistics companies. This will enable greater participation by Juneau-based contractors, mechanics, equipment suppliers, environmental monitoring firms, and safety service providers.

The construction and maintenance of the access road and staging areas themselves will also create direct opportunities for local earthwork contractors, equipment operators, and construction trades. These are tangible, on-the-ground projects that provide real employment and contracting opportunities for Southeast Alaska businesses.

Projects such as the New Amalga exploration program demonstrate how responsible resource development can support local economies while maintaining careful environmental stewardship. The limited footprint of the proposed infrastructure and the use of existing highway access represent a

thoughtful and balanced approach that supports both economic activity and environmental responsibility.

From Tyler Rental's perspective, responsible mineral exploration plays an important role in Alaska's economic future. It supports skilled trades, strengthens local supply chains, and provides opportunities for regional businesses to contribute to projects that may ultimately become long-term economic drivers for the state.

For these reasons, Tyler Rental respectfully encourages the Alaska Department of Natural Resources to approve Easement Application ADL 109466. We appreciate the Department's continued stewardship of Alaska's lands and thank you for the opportunity to provide comments in support of this proposal.

Sincerely,

Jake Maenpa

Jake Maenpa | VP of Operations | Tyler Rental, Inc.

jakem@tylerrental.com | Cell (907) 230-3412



 [Book time to meet with me](#)



Tyler Rental, Inc.
March 07, 2026

Alaska Department of Natural Resources
Division of Mining, Land and Water
Southeast Regional Office

Re: Public Comment in Support of Easement Application ADL 109466 – Access Road and Staging Areas for the New Amalga Gold Project

Dear Mr. Driscoll,

On behalf of Tyler Rental, Inc., I am writing to express our strong support for approval of Easement Application ADL 109466 associated with the New Amalga Gold Project being advanced by Grande Portage Resources Ltd. north of Juneau, Alaska.

Tyler Rental has served Southeast Alaska's construction, infrastructure, and resource development sectors for many years by providing equipment, service, and technical support to contractors, construction firms, and mining projects across the region. From our perspective as a regional equipment and service provider, the proposed access road and staging areas represent an important and practical step that will improve logistics, safety, and economic participation for Juneau-area businesses.

The proposed 1.3-mile, 15-foot-wide unpaved access road and two one-acre staging areas near Glacier Highway Milepost 27.1 will create a secure and efficient logistics hub with direct access from the existing highway system. Establishing helicopter staging closer to the project area will shorten flight distances to the New Amalga deposit, improving operational safety while reducing fuel consumption, flight cycles, and aviation activity over populated areas.

Equally important are the meaningful economic opportunities this project creates for the Juneau community. Highway-accessible staging will allow drilling equipment, supplies, and heavy components to be delivered directly by local trucking and logistics companies. This will enable greater participation by Juneau-based contractors, mechanics, equipment suppliers, environmental monitoring firms, and safety service providers.

The construction and maintenance of the access road and staging areas themselves will also create direct opportunities for local earthwork contractors, equipment operators, and construction trades. These are tangible, on-the-ground projects that provide real employment and contracting opportunities for Southeast Alaska businesses.

Projects such as the New Amalga exploration program demonstrate how responsible resource development can support local economies while maintaining careful environmental stewardship. The limited footprint of the proposed infrastructure and the use of existing highway access represent a thoughtful and balanced approach that supports both economic activity and environmental responsibility.

From Tyler Rental's perspective, responsible mineral exploration plays an important role in Alaska's economic future. It supports skilled trades, strengthens local supply chains, and provides opportunities for regional businesses to contribute to projects that may ultimately become long-term economic drivers for the state.

For these reasons, Tyler Rental respectfully encourages the Alaska Department of Natural Resources to approve Easement Application ADL 109466. We appreciate the Department's continued stewardship of Alaska's lands and thank you for the opportunity to provide comments in support of this proposal.

Sincerely,

Jake Maenpa

Jake Maenpa
Vice President of Operations
Tyler Rental, Inc.

From: [Carl Brodersen](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: Herbert River easement: No
Date: Sunday, March 8, 2026 3:38:42 PM

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Re: ADL 109466: Private Non-Exclusive Easement for Road and Staging Areas near Eagle and Herbert Rivers in Juneau

Dear Mr. Driscoll,

I oppose this easement. This public land is best suited for recreational use by the Public, rather than a giveaway to an out of town company that will drastically change the nature and usability of the area. Gold is \$5,000 an ounce. They don't need our largesse. And the Herbert and Eagle River watersheds are irreplaceable. Please say no.

Thank you,

-Carl Brodersen, Juneau

From: [Angela Rodell](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: Support for ADL 109466 Easement Application
Date: Sunday, March 8, 2026 10:22:03 PM

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I strongly support approval of ADL 109466 for GPG Alaska Resources, Inc. to construct and maintain access across state-managed lands near Glacier Highway Milepost 27.1. Providing timely and reasonable access for mineral exploration is essential if Alaska is serious about responsible resource development and long-term economic opportunity in Southeast Alaska.

Projects like the New Amalga Gold exploration effort represent exactly the type of private investment the State should encourage. Exploration activity creates jobs, supports local businesses, and helps build the information needed for future decisions about domestic mineral production. Denying or delaying basic access easements sends the wrong message about Alaska's commitment to developing its resources under strong environmental standards.

Granting this easement does not approve a mine. It simply allows the exploration work necessary for regulators, policymakers, and the public to make informed decisions through the established permitting process. Alaska already has rigorous state and federal review requirements, and those protections will remain in place.

I urge the Department of Natural Resources to approve this application and continue to support responsible development opportunities that strengthen Southeast Alaska's economy.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,

Angela Rodell

Juneau, Alaska

From: [Michael Hekkers](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: New Amalga Mine access Road should be canceled immediately
Date: Tuesday, February 17, 2026 11:10:05 AM

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This road should not move forward. This whole mine is a horrible idea in one of the most scenic spots on the Juneau road system. The Herbert Glacier watershed is spectacular and is no place for a mine nor a road.

Deny this application. The mine will hopefully never be built and this road would ruin the natural beauty of this important recreation spot for Juneauites and visitors.

DENY THE ROAD

Mike Hekkers
Juneau



International Union of Operating Engineers

LOCAL 302 • Washington • Alaska • Idaho • AFL-CIO

Daren Konopaski, *Business Manager & General Vice President*

March 9, 2026

Mr. John Driscoll
Alaska Department of Natural Resources
Division of Mining, Land and Water
P.O. Box 111020
Juneau, Alaska 99811-1020
Email: john.driscoll@alaska.gov

Re: Support for ADL 109466 – Easement for Road and Staging Areas near Eagle and Herbert Rivers (New Amalga Project)

Dear Mr. Driscoll,

On behalf of the members of the International Union of Operating Engineers Local 302, I am writing to express our support for the Alaska Department of Natural Resources approving the requested land authorization associated with ADL 109466, the easement for a road and staging areas supporting the New Amalga Gold Project near Juneau.

Local 302 represents skilled heavy equipment operators, mechanics, and construction professionals who build and maintain the infrastructure that allows responsible resource development to occur safely and efficiently throughout Alaska. Projects such as the New Amalga project represent the type of responsible development that supports Alaska's economy while maintaining strong environmental and safety standards.

Based on publicly available materials and the company's exploration activities to date, Grande Portage Resources and its affiliate GPG Alaska Resources have demonstrated a pattern of responsible, regulated, and well-managed operations. Their exploration work has been conducted in compliance with environmental and land management regulations while maintaining a commitment to minimizing impacts to surrounding lands and waters.

The requested authorization for a 1.3-mile access road and two staging areas located near Glacier Highway Milepost 27.1 will support safe and efficient logistics for ongoing exploration and potential future development. These facilities will allow equipment staging, storage of drilling materials, and helicopter transport operations supporting mineral exploration activities on adjacent U.S. Forest Service lands.

Sean Jeffries, *President* • Jason Alward, *Vice President*

18701 120th Avenue NE • Bothell, Washington 98011-9514

Telephone: (425) 806-0302 • Toll-free: 1-800-521-8882 • Fax: (425) 806-0030

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International Union of Operating Engineers

LOCAL 302 • Washington • Alaska • Idaho • AFL-CIO

Daren Konopaski, Business Manager & General Vice President

Projects such as the New Amalga project also support Alaska's skilled construction workforce and provide opportunities for trained heavy equipment operators represented by IUOE Local 302. Construction of the proposed access road, staging areas, and related infrastructure requires the type of specialized equipment operation performed by our members, including excavation, road construction, material handling, and site preparation. These types of projects support our registered apprenticeship and workforce development programs that train the next generation of operating engineers and provide long-term career opportunities for Alaskans in the resource development sector.

Approval of the requested easement would support several important public interests:

- Alaska jobs and workforce development through construction and infrastructure work associated with mineral exploration and potential mine development.
- Improved logistics and safety by locating staging areas near Glacier Highway, allowing more efficient localized helicopter operations and project support activities.
- Responsible resource development consistent with Alaska's constitutional policy encouraging the development of the state's natural resources for the maximum benefit of its people.
- Reduced diesel dependence through the potential future use of hydroelectric power within the project's electrical utility service area, which could reduce emissions and fuel transport and storage risks compared to diesel-based generation.

Local 302 members have a long history of supporting projects that combine strong environmental oversight with meaningful economic opportunity for Alaskans. The New Amalga project has the potential to create good-paying jobs, support regional economic activity, and strengthen Alaska's responsible mining sector.

For these reasons, we respectfully encourage the Department of Natural Resources to approve the requested easement under ADL 109466.

Thank you for your consideration and for the Department's continued work to ensure Alaska's resources are developed responsibly and for the benefit of its citizens.

Kindest regards,

Corey Baxter
District Representative

International Union of Operating Engineers Local 302

Sean Jeffries, President • Jason Alward, Vice President

18701 120th Avenue NE • Bothell, Washington 98011-9514

Telephone: (425) 806-0302 • Toll-free: 1-800-521-8882 • Fax: (425) 806-0030

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From: [Brenda Johnson](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: easement for road
Date: Monday, March 9, 2026 1:27:56 PM

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John,

I am writing to oppose the easement for the road for the New Amalga mine. I oppose the New Amalga mine .

This is a popular recreational area. It would create noise that can be heard on the trails.

It will pollute the environment with run off finding its way into the rivers and ponds in the area.

It will disrupt the wildlife that depends on the forest to live.

Brenda Johnson

From: [Paul L.](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: Public Comment – ADL 109466 Proposed Road Easement
Date: Monday, March 9, 2026 5:32:16 PM

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Hi,

I am writing regarding the proposed easement and access road associated with the New Amalga exploration project (ADL 109466).

The proposed road would be located between two trails I use frequently—the Herbert Glacier Trail and the Amalga Trail. The trailheads are less than half a mile apart, and farther up the valley the trails come within roughly 1,000 feet of one another. The proposed access road would run within 500 feet of both trails. Given this proximity, truck traffic and other industrial activity associated with the road would likely have significant impacts on recreation in this area.

These trails are heavily used year-round by both residents and visitors for hiking, biking, skiing, horseback riding, hunting, fishing, berry picking and other forms of recreation. Herbert Glacier trail is among the most accessible trails in Juneau with a glacier view. Outdoor recreation and scenic access are important components of Juneau's tourism economy, and industrial road construction and truck traffic in close proximity to these trails could substantially diminish the visitor experience.

The proposed road would also cross several anadromous streams within the Eagle River and Herbert River watersheds. Given the importance of these waters for fish habitat, road construction and stream crossings raise legitimate concerns about potential impacts to fish habitat and water quality.

Finally, the proposal appears inadequate for the requested 35 year easement and subsequent impacts. The notice does not describe any reclamation or removal plans should exploration or mining activity cease. Without clear reclamation provisions, infrastructure presented as temporary would effectively become a long-term road corridor.

Given the proximity of this proposed road to heavily used recreation trails, the lack of identified mitigation measures, and the apparent long-term nature of the proposed infrastructure, it is difficult to see how this proposal meets the standards required by the Alaska Constitution or State statute.

For these reasons, I strongly oppose the proposed easement and respectfully request that the Department of Natural Resources deny the application.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,
Paul Leininger

From: [Annika Ord](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: Public Comment: Opposition to ADL 109466 - New Amalga Mine Access Road
Date: Monday, March 9, 2026 8:17:01 PM

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To:
John Driscoll
State of Alaska Department of Natural Resources
Division of Mining, Land and Water
P.O. Box 111020, Juneau, AK 99811-1020
Re: ADL 109466: Private Non-Exclusive Easement for Road and Staging Areas near Eagle and Herbert Rivers in Juneau

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed 15-foot wide, 1.3-mile long road and staging area on state lands (ADL 109466) intended to support mining exploration for the New Amalga Gold Project. As a lifelong resident of Juneau who has used these trails all my life to hunt, bike, run, and forage, I believe this easement is **not in the best interest of the State of Alaska** for the following reasons:

1. Significant User Conflict and Impact on Public Assets

The proposed road sits directly between the Herbert Glacier and Eagle Glacier Trails—two popular recreational corridors. These trails are used year-round by hikers, bikers, skiers, and hunters. Industrializing this space with road construction, heavy equipment noise, and dust pollution will fundamentally degrade the "wild" character of these public assets. The DNR has a mandate to manage lands for multiple uses, and in this instance, industrial exploration directly threatens a well-established and thriving recreational area.

2. Ecological Risk to Glacially-Fed Watersheds

The Eagle and Herbert River watersheds are important salmon habitats. As Southeast Alaska faces rising river temperatures, glacially-fed systems like the Eagle and Herbert Rivers provide important cooling and thermal buffers that support salmon survival and the food security of local residents. By proactively safeguarding these "climate-resilient" watersheds from the impacts of road development and mining development, we help support Alaska's greatest renewable resource: wild salmon.

3. Lack of Local Accountability and Economic Benefit

The project is driven by Grande Portage Resources, a Canadian entity with no long-term stake in the sustainable management of Juneau's lands. History shows that foreign exploration companies are often less responsive to local environmental mitigation needs than resident-led initiatives. As we have seen elsewhere in the region, mining companies are notorious for not cleaning up their messes (e.g., Tulsequah Chief Mine).

Furthermore, the economic "promise" of this project is unsubstantiated. According to the Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, non-residents make up over 44% of the mining workforce. The modest short-term gain for a few heavy equipment operators does not justify the permanent "scar" across the landscape or the long-term loss of habitat and recreational value for the thousands of Alaskans who live here.

4. Community Priorities

The Juneau community has been clear: we value expanded public access and recreation—such as the

proposed new public use cabin—over industrial expansion in this specific corridor. Granting this easement would prioritize the speculative interests of a private foreign corporation over the documented desires and traditional uses of the local population.

I urge the Alaska Department of Natural Resources to deny this easement and instead prioritize the protection of the Herbert and Eagle River watersheds for the benefit of local Alaskans.

Sincerely,
Annika Ord

From: [Ashley Reed](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: ADL 109466 - Easement for Road and Staging Areas near Eagle and Herbert Rivers in Juneau-New Amalga Mine.
Date: Monday, March 9, 2026 2:11:38 PM

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I am writing in support of the easement referenced above.

From my perspective, this issue is of tremendous import that will create strong local economic benefits.

Road access will enable Grande Portage to source more equipment, supplies, and services directly from Juneau-based businesses, creating immediate opportunities for local contractors and vendors.

This private easement on state land provides a critical path forward, providing the first efficient segment of infrastructure for approved exploration of the New Amalga Gold Project, demonstrating Grande Portage's commitment to using existing highway access and low-impact methods to advance responsible resource development close to Juneau.

Please support this easement request. Thank you.

Ashley Reed
813 D Street #200
Anchorage, AK 99501

Redacted

From: [Larri Spengler](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: ADL 109466: Private Non-Exclusive Easement for Road and Staging Areas near Eagle and Herbert Rivers in Juneau
Date: Monday, March 9, 2026 3:46:36 PM

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John Driscoll
State of Alaska Department of Natural Resources
Division of Mining, Land and Water
P.O. Box 111020, Juneau, AK 99811-1020

Re: ADL 109466: Private Non-Exclusive Easement for Road and Staging Areas near Eagle and Herbert Rivers in Juneau

Dear Mr. Driscoll:

I am writing a second time to echo the comments of Allison Bidlack and to strongly oppose building a 15 foot wide, 1.3 mile long road and staging areas on state lands to support mining exploration for the New Amalga Gold Project. This project is being driven by a Canadian company, Grande Portage Resources, with no ties to Juneau or interest in maintaining natural resources and lands treasured by the community.

On one side of the proposed road is the Herbert Glacier trail, one of the most popular trails in Juneau, accessible to bikers, hikers, skiers, dog walkers, fly fishermen, and hunters. On the other side is the Eagle Glacier Trail, used by many people year round to access the Eagle Glacier cabin.

Road building and mining exploration activities will impact the user experience on both of these trails, as well as on the Eagle and Herbert rivers themselves. The road will be a scar across the landscape, disturbing wildlife populations and creating dust and noise pollution. The proposed project will provide little, if any, benefit to Juneau or Alaska outside of some heavy equipment and logging operators and road engineers.

Even if a mine is ultimately developed (and that is still a very long shot), very few jobs will be created in Juneau; in fact, a recent Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development report states that non-residents make up over 44% of the mining workforce.

Please do not authorize this project. Stand up for Alaskans, for the people who actually live here, the people who use these trails and natural areas, who overwhelmingly wanted a recreation cabin built out near Herbert Glacier, not a mine.

Sincerely,

Larri Spengler

--

Larri Irene Spengler

4545 Thane Road

Juneau, Alaska 99801

Redacted (phone/fax)

Redacted

From: [Bruce Abel](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: Re: Public Support for ADL 109466 – Road and Staging Area Easement for the New Amalga Project
Date: Tuesday, March 10, 2026 12:55:46 PM
Attachments: [AAC GPR Easement Support Letter 3-7-26.docx](#)

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AAC Access Alaska Coalition

*Fostering improved access to all Alaska...
for security, opportunity and prosperity for all Alaskans
today and for future generations*

Coalition Directors:

*Bruce Abel, Don Abel Building Supplies, Roger Calloway,
Wayne Coogan, Coogan Construction, Bruce Denton, BCD Company
Rochelle Lindley, Coeur Alaska, Dave Hanna, AK Concrete
Duff Mitchell, Juneau Hydropower, William Heumann, Chilkat Vistas, LLC
Pat Kemp, Retired, AKDOT Commissioner, Jim Wilcox, Corey Baxter,
IUOE 302 Operating Engineers, Trenton English, Laborers Local 942*

March 7, 2026

Mr. John Driscoll
Division of Mining, Land and Water
Southeast Regional Office
Alaska Department of Natural Resources
P.O. Box 111020
Juneau, Alaska 99811-1020

Sent via Email: john.driscoll_iii@alaska.gov

Re: Public Support for ADL 109466 – Road and Staging Area Easement for the New Amalga Project

Dear Mr. Driscoll,

The Access Alaska Coalition (AAC) is a pro-development, transportation-oriented coalition whose board members represent a diverse set of Juneau area business interests and large property taxpayers. Our mission is to foster improved access to all of Alaska for security, opportunity, and prosperity for all Alaskans today and for future generations.

AAC respectfully submits this letter in support of the application by GPG Alaska Resources Inc., a subsidiary of Grande Portage Resources Ltd., for the easement identified as ADL 109466 to construct a short access road and staging areas from Glacier Highway to support exploration activities at the New Amalga Gold Project.

From AAC's perspective, access infrastructure is foundational to Alaska's ability to develop its natural resources and support long-term economic opportunity responsibly. The proposed project represents a modest and carefully designed improvement that enhances logistical efficiency while minimizing environmental and community impacts.

Based on the application materials, the proposed project would include approximately 1.3 miles of unpaved roadway connecting to Glacier Highway and two one-acre laydown areas that would allow helicopter operations to stage closer to the exploration area. This improvement would significantly reduce helicopter flight distances currently originating from the Mendenhall Valley and would reduce aircraft noise and flight activity over residential neighborhoods.

The proposal demonstrates a practical and responsible approach to infrastructure development by:

- Concentrating access along an existing transportation corridor at Glacier Highway rather than opening new remote routes through undeveloped lands.

- Reducing helicopter transport distances, which improves operational safety and reduces aviation fuel use and emissions.
- Supporting exploration activities that could lead to responsible mineral development in the Berners Bay region.
- Creating opportunities for local contractors, aviation service providers, equipment operators, and other businesses in the Juneau area.

If the New Amalga project ultimately advances to development, it could support up to approximately 200 high-paying mining and support jobs and become a significant property taxpayer within the City and Borough of Juneau. Industrial development of this scale would contribute meaningfully to the local economy and help support public services, including the Juneau School District.

AAC also believes that responsible Alaska mineral development can be harmonized with the values of the Juneau community. Alaska has a long history of developing natural resources while protecting the environmental qualities that make Southeast Alaska unique. Modern mining projects operate under some of the most rigorous environmental standards in the world. With thoughtful planning and oversight, projects such as the New Amalga development can represent a balanced outcome—protecting environmental values while also creating meaningful economic opportunity. The potential workforce development, family-supporting jobs, and long-term economic activity associated with this project represent an opportunity for local prosperity that should not be understated.

In addition, projects such as this contribute to diversifying Juneau’s economy. While government and tourism remain important sectors of the local economy, the responsible development of Alaska’s natural resources provides additional opportunities for private-sector investment, skilled workforce development, and long-term economic stability for Southeast Alaska communities.

AAC believes projects such as this are consistent with Alaska’s long-standing policy of encouraging responsible development of the state’s natural resources while managing public lands for the benefit of all Alaskans. Alaska Statutes authorize the Department of Natural Resources to grant easements when doing so serves the best interests of the State. Infrastructure that improves access for mineral exploration and development while minimizing impacts to surrounding communities fits squarely within those objectives.

The project is also consistent with the State of Alaska’s current policy direction, which supports responsible resource development and economic opportunity. Governor Mike Dunleavy has issued administrative orders encouraging agencies to facilitate responsible investment in Alaska’s resource economy and improve coordination across agencies to support economic growth. Access infrastructure that supports exploration and potential future development aligns with these statewide priorities.



Finally, AAC recognizes that responsible mineral development in the North Juneau region could also create opportunities for the future electrification of mining operations using renewable energy resources.

Such opportunities could reduce reliance on diesel generation and further improve the long-term environmental and economic sustainability of resource development in Southeast Alaska.

For these reasons, the Access Alaska Coalition respectfully encourages the Alaska Department of Natural Resources to approve the requested easement for ADL 109466.

Thank you for your consideration and for your continued stewardship of Alaska's public lands.

Kindest regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Bruce Abel', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Bruce Abel
Committee Chairman

Access Alaska Coalition
Board of Directors

From: [Robert Banghart](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: Amalga Road
Date: Tuesday, March 10, 2026 12:37:28 PM

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Mr.. Driscoll,

I am writing to provide public comment on the proposed New Amalga road. I would like to be on record as being opposed to this proposed road through public land. Between the Herbert River trail, Eagle Glacier Trail and cabin and Windfall Lake cabin, this is a heavily used, family access, recreational area. The road would destroy the area's current value in supporting those activities.

Contrary to the claims in the proposal by Grande Portage's application, there is no amount of reclamation that will heal the land and its attributes destroyed by the intrusion of the road. The speculative nature of the mining industry gives reason to assume the road is being proposed to enhance the potential of selling the claim thus setting the patterns we have seen numerous times when the acquiring company fails to deliver on the obligations of the seller. The Telsequah mine in the Taku River drainage is a all to familiar example of failed efforts by state and federal governments to hold mining companies accountable for damage done by their projects.

To place the interests of Grande Portage above the interests of the environment is not in keeping with best practices of stewardship for our state.
Please deny Grande Portage's application.

Thank you.

Bob Banghart
Redacted

From: princesshousejoann@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [JoAnn Everson](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: I urge the State of Alaska to deny the easement application by Grande Portage Resources for Project ADL 109466.
Date: Tuesday, March 10, 2026 6:35:54 AM

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Dear John Driscoll,

I urge the State of Alaska to deny the easement application by Grande Portage Resources for Project ADL 109466.

I oppose the permitting, construction, maintenance, and private use of a 15-foot wide, 1.3 mile long unpaved access road 21 miles northwest of Juneau, Alaska, on public lands, near the Herbert glacier trailhead. I oppose turning sections of our intact temperate rainforest, that hosts a delicate ecosystem, into two 1-acre staging areas used to store equipment, drilling supplies, and rock core samples inside metal shipping containers.

The public notice states, "If a mining operation is approved and developed on the adjacent USFS land, the 1.3-mile long road on state land will serve as the first segment of the access road to the project site." I do not support altering one of the most popular recreational areas for Juneau's year-round residents for a mine that has not yet proven economic viability.

Allowing an unproven and unpermitted mine to begin etching roads into the forests north of Juneau, the final vast tract of temperate rainforest on the planet, is short-sighted and does not acknowledge the risks to the community and local environment. In addition to physical disruption and eyesores this project introduces, the staging areas will also be used for helicopter operations to transport supplies and materials to the applicant's mineral exploration sites; this means concentrated noise pollution for an area with sensitive wildlife and that has long been an area of peace and quiet for recreationists.

Further, this project is unnecessary; exploratory drilling has been conducted each summer for the past 19 years and there is no reason drilling cannot continue as it has. The footprint of the forest — especially in such valuable recreational and subsistence areas — should not be compromised merely as a cost-saving measure for the applicant.

This land is where my families homestead is, that was returned to the US Forest Service. I wish it to remain as Forest Service Land for all to use and not destroy.

Sincerely,

Mrs. JoAnn Everson

6590 Glacier Hwy Lot 47 Juneau, AK 99801-7917

Redacted

From: [Bob Willem](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: Mining Road Comment
Date: Tuesday, March 10, 2026 12:09:51 PM

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Hi John,

I'm writing today to submit a comment in relation to the proposed Amalga Mining Road. During my time living and working in Southeast Alaska, it's been a great pleasure to watch sustainable industries flourish. Tourism and recreation are booming, attracting people all over the world to enjoy and marvel at the absolute wonder of an ecosystem we get the privilege of living in. Supported by small business owners and local tribes, protecting and promoting the resilience and biodiversity of our region has become a time tested strategy for building up the economic stability and health of our region. The proposed mine and mining road threatens that. We need more trails, more environmental protections, and more opportunities for recreation, not more opportunities for dangerous, loud, and damaging extractive industries. The potential of both the mine and the mining road to harm the land and people by polluting the ecosystems we live in and live off of is catastrophic.

Instead of building roads we should be building cabins and trails. I urge the rejection of the proposed road.

All the best,
Bob Willem, of Juneau AK

From: wdc@cooganalaska.com
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: ADL109466 Easment--Amalga Mine Juneau
Date: Wednesday, March 11, 2026 2:01:48 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

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March 11, 2026

John Driscoll, Natural Resources Specialist

Alaska Department of Natural Resources Division of Mining, Land and Water

P.O. Box 111020 Juneau, AK 99811-1020 Email: john.driscoll@alaska.gov

Approval of ADL 109466 Road Access and Staging Easement for Amalga Mine Project Juneau

I encourage you to approve this easement request. It will result in a practical and reasonable use of state land limited to the most essential and reasonable road access and staging areas necessary to undertake the project. As you know, an approved easement constitutes the permittee's formal commitment to adhere to applicable regulatory parameters as referenced therein. It would help fulfill state policy of developing resources in a responsible manner for the benefit of all Alaskans. Moreover, your approval will assist in providing local jobs and business activity in support of a struggling Juneau and state economy.

This type of responsible development, and support by your agency, is urgently needed in Southeast Alaska. I respectfully urge ADNR to favorably approve ADL 109466. Your involvement is sincerely appreciated.



From: wildthings@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [John Hyde](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: I urge the State of Alaska to deny the easement application by Grande Portage Resources for Project ADL 109466.
Date: Wednesday, March 11, 2026 9:46:11 AM

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Dear John Driscoll,

I urge the State of Alaska to deny the easement application by Grande Portage Resources for Project ADL 109466.

I oppose the permitting, construction, maintenance, and private use of a 15-foot wide, 1.3 mile long unpaved access road 21 miles northwest of Juneau, Alaska, on public lands, near the Herbert glacier trailhead. I oppose turning sections of our intact temperate rainforest, that hosts a delicate ecosystem, into two 1-acre staging areas used to store equipment, drilling supplies, and rock core samples inside metal shipping containers.

The public notice states, "If a mining operation is approved and developed on the adjacent USFS land, the 1.3-mile long road on state land will serve as the first segment of the access road to the project site." I do not support altering one of the most popular recreational areas for Juneau's year-round residents for a mine that has not yet proven economic viability.

Allowing an unproven and unpermitted mine to begin etching roads into the forests north of Juneau, the final vast tract of temperate rainforest on the planet, is short-sighted and does not acknowledge the risks to the community and local environment. In addition to physical disruption and eyesores this project introduces, the staging areas will also be used for helicopter operations to transport supplies and materials to the applicant's mineral exploration sites; this means concentrated noise pollution for an area with sensitive wildlife and that has long been an area of peace and quiet for recreationists.

Further, this project is unnecessary; exploratory drilling has been conducted each summer for the past 19 years and there is no reason drilling cannot continue as it has. The footprint of the forest — especially in such valuable recreational and subsistence areas — should not be compromised merely as a cost-saving measure for the applicant.

Sincerely,

Mr. John Hyde

3130 Wilma Ave Juneau, AK 99801

Redacted

From: [Bronze Ickes](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: Public Comment Opposing Road Easement ADL 109466
Date: Wednesday, March 11, 2026 11:57:49 AM

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Attention Mr Driscoll,

I think it is a terrible idea to construct a road however small, and a helipad in the middle of a pristine wilderness area that happens to include critical watersheds and salmon habitat. It is poor judgment to prioritize gold and mineral extraction over protection of the Tongass, the world's largest intact temperate rain forest.

Grande Portage Resources seeks to make operations more affordable in the development of an unproven and un-permitted Amalga Mine. The disruption to wildlife that inhabit the area as well as the impact on citizens hiking and recreating in this area would be severely impacted in a negative way. Creating a staging area to transport supplies and materials into a wilderness area and construct a small road will negatively impact the quality of life for residents and numerous types of wildlife that live there too. All we need is some chemical or oil spill to get into the nearby rivers or even the ground water and cause irreparable damage to a pristine wilderness area and for what? To generate more profit from extraction of potential gold and precious metal mine? I would argue that salmon and the Tongass are really what is precious to our planet. This is not acceptable stewardship of public lands. It is driven by pure greed and a short term perspective. We must protect this area for the generations yet to come, else our children will pay the price for our bad judgement. The State of Alaska must deny the permit because a speculative mine is not worth destroying what's proven to be one of Juneau's most valued recreation and subsistence areas.

Respectfully Submitted,

Bronze Ickes

4461 Mountainside Dr.

Juneau, AK 99801

From: [Duff Mitchell](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#); [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: Support Letter for ADL 109466
Date: Wednesday, March 11, 2026 3:47:58 PM
Attachments: [JHI GPG Alaska support letter 3-11-26.pdf](#)

You don't often get email from duff.mitchell@juneauhydro.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

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Dear Mr. Driscoll,
Please find a Juneau Hydropower letter of support for this easement application.

Kindest regards,
Duff

Duff W. Mitchell
Managing Director

Office Phone 907-789-2775
Cell Phone 907-723-2481

duff.mitchell@juneauhydro.com

The information in this email (and any attachments hereto) is confidential. If you are not the intended recipient, you must not use or disseminate the information. If you have received this email in error, please immediately notify me by "Reply" command and permanently delete the original and any copies or printouts thereof.



Juneau Hydropower, Inc.
PO Box 22775
Juneau, AK 99802
www.juneauhydro.com
Telephone: (907) 789-2775
Fax: (907) 375-2973

March 11, 2026

Mr. John Driscoll
Division of Mining, Land and Water
Southeast Regional Office
Alaska Department of Natural Resources
P.O. Box 111020
Juneau, Alaska 99811-1020

Re: ADL 109466 – Support for Approval of Easement for Road and Staging Areas

Dear Mr. Driscoll,

Juneau Hydropower Inc. respectfully submits this letter in support of the application by GPG Alaska Resources Inc., a subsidiary of Grande Portage Resources Ltd., for approval of the private non-exclusive easement identified as ADL 109466.

The proposed easement would authorize construction of a short access road and staging areas from Glacier Highway to support exploration activities at the New Amalga Gold Project. Based on the application materials, the proposal appears to reflect a careful and responsible approach to access development that minimizes environmental disturbance while improving operational safety and efficiency.

As a regulated electric utility, Juneau Hydropower Inc. has an obligation to serve customers within its certificated service area. The New Amalga project lies within the Juneau Hydropower Utility service area, and if electrical service is requested in the future, JHI would serve the operation with reliable renewable hydropower. Providing clean hydroelectric power to industrial customers such as mining operations can reduce reliance on diesel generation and advance the public interest in responsible resource development in Southeast Alaska.

JHI also notes that GPG Alaska Resources has demonstrated a pattern of responsible and well-managed exploration activity in the region under applicable regulatory oversight. Therefore, Juneau Hydropower Inc. respectfully encourages the Department to approve the requested easement for ADL 109466.

Kindest regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Duff Mitchell", written over a horizontal line.

Duff Mitchell
Managing Director
Juneau Hydropower Inc.

From: [Lindsey McCulloch](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: Re: ADL 109466: Private Non-Exclusive Easement for Road and Staging Areas near Eagle and Herbert Rivers in Juneau
Date: Wednesday, March 11, 2026 2:25:48 PM

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Hello Mr. Driscoll,

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the construction of an easement road that would facilitate mining access and staging within the Herbert River Watershed. I believe that the construction of the New Amalga Gold Mine and associated operations will negatively impact not only the pristine beauty and peace that many recreationalists seek on the Herbert River trail, but also the health of the Tongass National Forest and robust fish populations that rear within the river. The Herbert is special to Alaskans for many reasons, and the construction of an easement road and staging area risks many aspects of the Herbert that locals hold dear.

As a Juneau resident and avid outdoor enthusiast, the Herbert watershed is one of my favorite places to trail run and have alpine adventures in Alaska. The braided river, large rock formations, waterfalls, and access to the glacier make it an extremely special place, and I have many fond memories of mountaineering trips to traverse the Herbert Glacier and trail runs to scramble up the rocks and touch the glacier toe. The forest approaching these objectives is so peaceful and quiet in the morning hours, and the construction of an access road, increase in helicopter noise traffic at the staging area, and mining development at the toe of the glacier would greatly disturb the tranquility and rugged beauty of the watershed. Additionally, I worry how such development, made in the interest of a Canadian mining company, would affect access to these spaces. Surely private holdings in what is currently the Tongass National Forest would prevent Alaskans from accessing our public lands, in addition to changing the nature of adventures within the watersheds, and this is unacceptable to me.

I also have concerns regarding the construction of the access road, staging area, and mining development from an environmental perspective. As a fish ecologist pursuing my PhD on how juvenile salmon use glacial watersheds, the idea of development within the Herbert fills me with dread. Glacial watersheds provide a really unique habitat for juvenile fish that is incomparable to other types of rivers, and are part of the reason that Southeast Alaskan coho salmon and Dolly Varden populations are so robust. The Herbert watershed is one of the most glacially-influenced watersheds in Juneau, and this characteristic as well as the health of the surrounding intact forest are integral to the wellbeing of fish within the Herbert. I have caught some of the largest juvenile coho salmon, Dolly varden, and cutthroat trout that I have ever seen in Southeast Alaska in the Herbert River watershed, and any land use changes or development within the Herbert may decrease the advantages that these fish are currently conferred by the pristine nature of their environment. Road construction has been shown to change runoff and drainage dynamics within other systems, and coho salmon specifically are susceptible to the toxic effects of chemical compounds that are leached from rubber tires during rain events. Additionally, the road application document and environmental risk questionnaire associated with this project page states that toxic hydrocarbons will be stored at this staging area in a tank **without leak detection devices**. The storage of unmonitored hazardous compounds, including both hydrocarbons and other materials associated with mining, poses a real risk to juvenile fish as the Herbert has high porous rock within the floodplain and high groundwater conductance, meaning that spills of these compounds could easily make their way into the river. The high degree of groundwater flow within the Herbert also means that mining development has a high risk of impacting water quality and trace metal concentrations within the Herbert River, which would negatively impact fish. Therefore, on principle I oppose the construction of an easement road that facilitates this activity as it would make it easier to develop the mine.

Thank you so much for reading my email stating my strong opposition to the construction of the mining access road for the New Amalga Project. I hope that you protect our forests, fish, and Alaskan access to the Herbert River watershed by blocking the construction of this road and refusing to authorize the project.

Lindsey McCulloch

From: seaksailor@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Theresa Tavel](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: I urge the State of Alaska to deny the easement application by Grande Portage Resources for Project ADL 109466.
Date: Wednesday, March 11, 2026 9:17:09 PM

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Dear John Driscoll,

I urge the State of Alaska to deny the easement application by Grande Portage Resources for Project ADL 109466. I oppose the permitting, construction, maintenance, and private use of a 15-foot wide, 1.3 mile long unpaved access road 21 miles northwest of Juneau, Alaska, on public lands, near the Herbert glacier trailhead.

I oppose turning sections of our intact temperate rainforest, that hosts a delicate ecosystem, into two 1-acre staging areas used to store equipment, drilling supplies, and rock core samples inside metal shipping containers.

The public notice states, "If a mining operation is approved and developed on the adjacent USFS land, the 1.3-mile long road on state land will serve as the first segment of the access road to the project site."

I do not support altering one of the most popular recreational areas for Juneau's year-round residents for a mine that has not yet proven economic viability.

Allowing an unproven and unpermitted mine to begin etching roads into the forests north of Juneau, the final vast tract of temperate rainforest on the planet, is short-sighted and does not acknowledge the risks to the community and local environment. In addition to physical disruption and eyesores this project introduces, the staging areas will also be used for helicopter operations to transport supplies and materials to the applicant's mineral exploration sites; this means concentrated noise pollution for an area with sensitive wildlife and that has long been an area of peace and quiet for recreationists.

Further, this project is unnecessary; exploratory drilling has been conducted each summer for the past 19 years and there is no reason drilling cannot continue as it has. The footprint of the forest — especially in such valuable recreational and subsistence areas — should not be compromised merely as a cost-saving measure for the applicant.

Sincerely,
Ms. Theresa Tavel
1350 Fritz Cove Rd Juneau, AK 99801-6808

Redacted

From: [Peggy and Alex](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: Herbert River ADL 109466
Date: Wednesday, March 11, 2026 5:37:39 PM

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Dear Mr. Driscoll,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the easement application (ADL 109466) submitted by Grande Portage (as GPG Alaska Resources, Inc.) to the Alaska Department of Natural Resources pursuant to AS 38.05.850.

I am opposed to this project going forward as described. The project is in the middle of a popular recreation area, which would be heavily impacted by the construction and operation of the staging facility. The area has been managed as part of the Juneau Green Zone. Federal, municipal, state, and private landowners have cooperated to conserve and connect open spaces in the Juneau Green Zone, which includes the Eagle and Herbert River watersheds, with the objective to maintain a contiguous network of habitat and minimally developed public access north of Juneau for recreational, subsistence, and cultural uses. This project would disrupt residents' use to benefit a foreign mining company.

Because the work is still in exploratory phase, the project should be denied at this time. Exploration can continue using existing infrastructure, as it has for years, with minimal impact on public users. If and when the mining company applies to permit an operating mine at the exploration site, then a permit process to consider the full impact of the road and mine can be initiated. In the meantime, it is not appropriate to start the industrialization of the Herbert/Eagle watershed.

Sincerely,

Alex Wertheimer
17200 Andreanoff Drive
Juneau, AK 99801

From: georgiegracebutler@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Georgie Butler](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: I urge the State of Alaska to deny the easement application by Grande Portage Resources for Project ADL 109466.
Date: Thursday, March 12, 2026 6:46:56 PM

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Dear John Driscoll,

I urge the State of Alaska to deny the easement application by Grande Portage Resources for Project ADL 109466.

I oppose the permitting, construction, maintenance, and private use of a 15-foot wide, 1.3 mile long unpaved access road 21 miles northwest of Juneau, Alaska, on public lands, near the Herbert glacier trailhead. I oppose turning sections of our intact temperate rainforest, that hosts a delicate ecosystem, into two 1-acre staging areas used to store equipment, drilling supplies, and rock core samples inside metal shipping containers.

The public notice states, "If a mining operation is approved and developed on the adjacent USFS land, the 1.3-mile long road on state land will serve as the first segment of the access road to the project site." I do not support altering one of the most popular recreational areas for Juneau's year-round residents for a mine that has not yet proven economic viability.

Allowing an unproven and unpermitted mine to begin etching roads into the forests north of Juneau, the final vast tract of temperate rainforest on the planet, is short-sighted and does not acknowledge the risks to the community and local environment. In addition to physical disruption and eyesores this project introduces, the staging areas will also be used for helicopter operations to transport supplies and materials to the applicant's mineral exploration sites; this means concentrated noise pollution for an area with sensitive wildlife and that has long been an area of peace and quiet for recreationists.

Further, this project is unnecessary; exploratory drilling has been conducted each summer for the past 19 years and there is no reason drilling cannot continue as it has. The footprint of the forest — especially in such valuable recreational and subsistence areas — should not be compromised merely as a cost-saving measure for the applicant.

Sincerely,

Miss Georgie Butler

420 Wexford Overlook Dr Roswell, GA 30075-5544

Redacted

From: [Catherine Allen](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: Herbert Road proposal at Mile 27 for mining
Date: Thursday, March 12, 2026 11:27:17 AM

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To whom it may concern:

I am totally opposed to this idea, being a person who appreciates the fish, the wildlife and the quiet beauty of that area. The constant helicopter noise and construction in this pristine area would be quite offensive to the neighboring inhabitants, as well as the local folks who escape the town and Valley area for more quiet during busy summers.

Secondly, this endeavor would only profit a small number of people and not be an improvement serving the majority of the people in our city.

Thank you for considering my plea

Respectfully,

Catherine Allen

19181 Randall Road

Juneau, AK 99801

From: sacoleman18@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Sam Coleman](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: I urge the State of Alaska to deny the easement application by Grande Portage Resources for Project ADL 109466.
Date: Thursday, March 12, 2026 7:59:10 PM

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Dear John Driscoll,

I urge the State of Alaska to deny the easement application by Grande Portage Resources for Project ADL 109466.

I oppose the permitting, construction, maintenance, and private use of a 15-foot wide, 1.3 mile long unpaved access road 21 miles northwest of Juneau, Alaska, on public lands, near the Herbert glacier trailhead. I oppose turning sections of our intact temperate rainforest, that hosts a delicate ecosystem, into two 1-acre staging areas used to store equipment, drilling supplies, and rock core samples inside metal shipping containers.

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Allowing an unproven and unpermitted mine to begin etching roads into the forests north of Juneau, the final vast tract of temperate rainforest on the planet, is short-sighted and does not acknowledge the risks to the community and local environment. In addition to physical disruption and eyesores this project introduces, the staging areas will also be used for helicopter operations to transport supplies and materials to the applicant's mineral exploration sites; this means concentrated noise pollution for an area with sensitive wildlife and that has long been an area of peace and quiet for recreationists.

Further, this project is unnecessary; exploratory drilling has been conducted each summer for the past 19 years and there is no reason drilling cannot continue as it has. The footprint of the forest — especially in such valuable recreational and subsistence areas — should not be compromised merely as a cost-saving measure for the applicant.

Sincerely,

Mr. Sam Coleman

915 W 80 1/2 St Minneapolis, MN 55420-5703

Redacted

From: jbrown@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Maureen Conerton](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: I urge the State of Alaska to deny the easement application by Grande Portage Resources for Project ADL 109466.
Date: Thursday, March 12, 2026 10:09:26 PM

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Dear John Driscoll,

I urge the State of Alaska to deny the easement application by Grande Portage Resources for Project ADL 109466.

I oppose the permitting, construction, maintenance, and private use of a 15-foot wide, 1.3 mile long unpaved access road 21 miles northwest of Juneau, Alaska, on public lands, near the Herbert glacier trailhead. I oppose turning sections of our intact temperate rainforest, that hosts a delicate ecosystem, into two 1-acre staging areas used to store equipment, drilling supplies, and rock core samples inside metal shipping containers.

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Further, this project is unnecessary; exploratory drilling has been conducted each summer for the past 19 years and there is no reason drilling cannot continue as it has. The footprint of the forest — especially in such valuable recreational and subsistence areas — should not be compromised merely as a cost-saving measure for the applicant.

Sincerely,

Ms Maureen Conerton

1640 Fritz Cove Rd Juneau, AK 99801-6806

Redacted

From: [Lisa Daugherty](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: No on ADL 109466
Date: Thursday, March 12, 2026 11:49:14 AM

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Hello,

I am writing in opposition to ADL 109466, the requested easement for a road answer staging areas near Eagle and Herbert River in Juneau. I do not oppose mining in general, as it extracts resources we all use every day. But I do oppose for-profit mines requesting/being dependent on public handouts, like tax dollars to build a dock at Cascade Point and access to develop private roads and storage areas on public land to make their operations more profitable.

No on ADL 109466.

Thank you,

-Lisa

From: [Alan Davis](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: New Amalga Mine Road
Date: Thursday, March 12, 2026 10:30:47 AM

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I am opposed to the proposed road at Herbert River for the New Amalga Mine. This is a prized recreation area and the road and the helicopter access it will permit will inevitably degrade the experience of all who use the trails in the area. My opposition is probably meaningless, since the decision in these matters always follows the money. Since my use of the area has no monetary value, any proposal that promises money to be made trumps my use.

Also, despite endless assurances of “responsible environmental stewardship,” the entire area will eventually be degraded and the Hebert River will be polluted and yet another example of pristine wilderness will be destroyed.

Do not permit this road to be built.

From: [Don Habeger](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: Commenting on ADL 109466
Date: Thursday, March 12, 2026 1:12:27 PM
Attachments: [DNR-ADL 109466, Road Easement, New Amalga Gold Project 03122026.pdf](#)

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Mr. Driscoll,

We are sending in our comments on ADL 109466 via the attached letter.

Sincerely,
Don Habeger
Executive Director
First Things First Alaska Foundation



P.O. Box 240605
Douglas, AK 99824

907.586.1254 phone
907.463.3433 fax
FTFAKFoundation.org
firsttfinc@gmail.com

March 12, 2026

RE: ADL 109466: Private Non-Exclusive Easement for Road and Staging Areas
near Eagle and Herbert Rivers in Juneau.

Frank Bergstrom
President

Dear Mr. Driscoll,

Jason Palmer
Vice President

First Things First Alaska Foundation respectfully submits this letter in support of the application by GPG Alaska Resources Inc., a subsidiary of Grande Portage Resources Ltd., for approval of the private non-exclusive easement identified as ADL 109466.

Wayne Coogan
Secretary

Neil MacKinnon
Treasurer

The proposed easement would authorize construction of a short access road and staging areas accessible from Glacier Highway to support exploration activities at the New Amalga Gold Project. The proposal includes approximately 1.3 miles of unpaved roadway and staging areas intended to support helicopter logistics closer to the project site.

Directors
Roger Calloway
Dennis DeWitt
Joseph Kahklen
Mac Meiners
JoAnn Wallace

Based on the application materials submitted to the Department, the proposal reflects a careful and responsible approach to access development. The design minimizes environmental disturbance while improving operational safety and efficiency by reducing helicopter staging distances and concentrating infrastructure along an existing transportation corridor.

In Memoriam
Rosemary Hagevig
John Sandor

Responsible mineral exploration and development remain essential to Alaska's long-term economic vitality. Projects such as New Amalga have the potential to support substantial employment opportunities, including construction jobs, long-term mining positions, and a wide range of supporting services such as aviation, logistics, equipment operators, contractors, and local businesses. If the project advances to production, it could support approximately 200 high-paying jobs, generate meaningful property tax revenue for the City and Borough of Juneau, and support public services such as schools and infrastructure.

Don Habeger
Executive Director

Alaska's commitment to responsible resource development is embedded in Article VIII of the Alaska Constitution, which provides that the State's natural resources are to be developed, utilized, and conserved for the maximum benefit of the people of Alaska. Facilitating responsible access for mineral exploration is consistent with this constitutional framework.

First Things First Alaska Foundation (FTFAF) is dedicated to preserving the economic viability and future of Alaska through education. There is a clear need to educate the public on the benefits of responsible economic development and natural resource management.

Re: ADL 109466

March 12, 2026

Page 2 of 2

The State has also reinforced these principles through policy direction encouraging responsible economic development. Governor Mike Dunleavy has established the Alaska Development Team to encourage new businesses to invest in Alaska.

First Things First Alaska Foundation believes Alaska's future depends on balancing stewardship of our natural environment with responsible access to the state's abundant natural resources. The proposed easement represents a practical step that allows exploration to proceed responsibly while supporting job creation and economic opportunity for Southeast Alaska.

For these reasons, First Things First Alaska Foundation respectfully encourages the Department to approve the requested easement for ADL 109466.

Thank you for your consideration and for the Department's continued stewardship of Alaska's public lands.

Kindest regards,



Don Habeger

Executive Director

First Things First Alaska Foundation

From: [Juneau Chamber Director](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Cc: [Corey Baxter](#)
Subject: Comments on ADL 109466
Date: Thursday, March 12, 2026 5:16:02 PM
Attachments: [Outlook-udpo3vme.png](#)
[3.12.26 Support or ADL 109466.pdf](#)

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Dear Mr. Driscoll,

Please find attached the Juneau Chamber of Commerce's comments regarding ADL 109466.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide input.

Becca



JUNEAU
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Rebecca Parks

Executive Director

Office: 907-463-3488

Email: director@juneauchamber.com

3030 Vintage Blvd Ste 100

Juneau, AK 99801

www.juneauchamber.com

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March 8, 2026

Mr. John Driscoll
Alaska Department of Natural Resources
Division of Mining, Land and Water
P.O. Box 111020
Juneau, Alaska 99811-1020
Email: john.driscoll@alaska.gov

Re: Support for ADL 109466 – Easement for Road and Staging Areas (New Amalga Project)

Dear Mr. Driscoll,

The Juneau Chamber of Commerce respectfully submits this letter in support of the Alaska Department of Natural Resources approving the requested easement authorization under ADL 109466 for road access and staging areas associated with the New Amalga Gold Project.

The Juneau Chamber of Commerce represents a broad cross-section of businesses, employers, and community organizations throughout the City and Borough of Juneau. Our members are committed to fostering a strong, diverse, and sustainable economy for Southeast Alaska.

The proposed authorization would allow the construction of a 1.3-mile access road and two staging areas located near Glacier Highway Milepost 27.1 to support mineral exploration activities on adjacent U.S. Forest Service lands near Herbert Glacier. These staging areas will support equipment storage, drilling operations, and helicopter logistics necessary for the continued exploration of the New Amalga Gold Project.

The Chamber recognizes that responsible resource development has historically been an important part of Juneau's economy and continues to provide opportunities for local employment, investment, and business activity. Exploration projects such as New Amalga support a wide range of local businesses, including transportation providers, equipment suppliers, contractors, engineering services, lodging, and other service industries within the Juneau community.

We also note that the requested easement is limited in scope and supports early-stage exploration and logistical support activities. The proposed staging areas and access road appear to be designed to minimize impacts while improving safety and operational efficiency for helicopter operations and supply transport.



If exploration activities ultimately lead to future development, projects like New Amalga have the potential to contribute to long-term economic activity in Juneau, Alaska, while operating within Alaska's strong environmental and regulatory framework, providing a much-needed additional tax base for our schools and local economy.

The Juneau Chamber of Commerce supports the Department of Natural Resources issuing the requested authorization under ADL 109466.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on this matter and for the Department's continued work in managing Alaska's lands and resources responsibly.

Respectfully,

Rebecca Parks

Rebecca Parks
Executive Director
Juneau Chamber of Commerce

Corey Baxter

Corey Baxter (Mar 12, 2025 16:38:55 AKDT)

Corey Baxter
Board President
Juneau Chamber of Commerce

From: salmongal@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Heather Hardcastle](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: I urge the State of Alaska to deny the easement application by Grande Portage Resources for Project ADL 109466.
Date: Thursday, March 12, 2026 10:15:48 PM

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Dear John Driscoll,

I urge the State of Alaska to deny the easement application by Grande Portage Resources for Project ADL 109466.

I oppose the permitting, construction, maintenance, and private use of a 15-foot wide, 1.3 mile long unpaved access road 21 miles northwest of Juneau, Alaska, on public lands, near the Herbert glacier trailhead. I oppose turning sections of our intact temperate rainforest, that hosts a delicate ecosystem, into two 1-acre staging areas used to store equipment, drilling supplies, and rock core samples inside metal shipping containers.

The public notice states, "If a mining operation is approved and developed on the adjacent USFS land, the 1.3-mile long road on state land will serve as the first segment of the access road to the project site." I do not support altering one of the most popular recreational areas for Juneau's year-round residents for a mine that has not yet proven economic viability.

Allowing an unproven and unpermitted mine to begin etching roads into the forests north of Juneau, the final vast tract of temperate rainforest on the planet, is short-sighted and does not acknowledge the risks to the community and local environment. In addition to physical disruption and eyesores this project introduces, the staging areas will also be used for helicopter operations to transport supplies and materials to the applicant's mineral exploration sites; this means concentrated noise pollution for an area with sensitive wildlife and that has long been an area of peace and quiet for recreationists.

Further, this project is unnecessary; exploratory drilling has been conducted each summer for the past 19 years and there is no reason drilling cannot continue as it has. The footprint of the forest — especially in such valuable recreational and subsistence areas — should not be compromised merely as a cost-saving measure for the applicant.

Sincerely,
Ms. Heather Hardcastle
1903 Malano Ct Santa Rosa, CA 95401-3659

Redacted

From: karlajhart@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Karla Hart](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: I urge the State of Alaska to deny the easement application by Grande Portage Resources for Project ADL 109466.
Date: Thursday, March 12, 2026 8:21:23 PM

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Dear John Driscoll,

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I have hiked in the Herbert Glacier valley since the 1960s. In the late 1980s-early 1990s, I was guiding hikes on the Herbert Glacier Trail under permit from the US Forest Service. This was a favorite hike for viewing mountain goats. Once the mining exploration/drilling began, the mountain goats moved away from the area where they were reliably spotted for many years prior.

The public notice states, "If a mining operation is approved and developed on the adjacent USFS land, the 1.3-mile long road on state land will serve as the first segment of the access road to the project site." I do not support altering one of the most popular recreational areas for Juneau's year-round residents for a mine that has not yet proven economic viability.

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Sincerely,
Ms. Karla Hart
4948 Wren Dr Juneau, AK 99801-8750

Redacted

From: kirshark@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Kirsas Hughes-Skandijis](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: I urge the State of Alaska to deny the easement application by Grande Portage Resources for Project ADL 109466.
Date: Thursday, March 12, 2026 9:05:03 PM

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Dear John Driscoll,

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Sincerely,

Ms. Kirsas Hughes-Skandijis

9087 N Douglas Hwy Juneau, AK 99801-7653

kRedacted

From: kristalkissner@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Krista Kissner](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: I urge the State of Alaska to deny the easement application by Grande Portage Resources for Project ADL 109466.
Date: Thursday, March 12, 2026 8:02:11 PM

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Dear John Driscoll,

I urge the State of Alaska to deny the easement application by Grande Portage Resources for Project ADL 109466.

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Sincerely,

Ms. Krista Kissner

9344 Turn St Juneau, AK 99801-9620

Redacted

From: [David Waters](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: Grande Portage Resources Ltd. easement application
Date: Thursday, March 12, 2026 7:39:24 PM

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I am strongly opposed to the easement application for the GPG Alaska Resources Inc., Project name: ADL 109466.

My name is Kristine Allen and I moved to Juneau in 1979. I always gravitated to this area and 36 years ago I bought my home and moved out the road. I know how special Herbert and Eagle River Valley is. Over the years, I have worked tirelessly on many issues that threatened this area, its ecological and environmental significance to all of Southeast Alaska. Herbert and Eagle Rivers flow to an incredibly rich tidal savanna that supports abundant wildlife, migrating waterfowl and birds, whales and other sea mammals and a very important salmon fishery. The Amalga Gold Project is still an unproven mine. How can GPG Alaska Resources, a Canadian Company build a road and helicopter pads, with all its environmental hazards and noise, be allowed to forever alter this place. One of the reasons Herbert and Eagle Rivers Valley, along with Eagle Beach State Recreation Area, Methodist Camp, Boy Scout Camp and trail to the outer beach is so treasured by Juneauites is because it is a place of amazing beauty, a peaceful place to get away from aircraft noise. And its still unclear whether this mine would be economically and environmentally viable. Therefore the Herbert Glacier Mining Project is speculative while the potential impacts are not and will forever change this special area. How can this be allowed?

Thank you for listening to my concerns. Please do not grant this project from proceeding.

Sincerely,
Kristine Allen

From: [Laura Lucas](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: Amalga Road: Say NO
Date: Thursday, March 12, 2026 1:12:42 PM

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I am writing in opposition to Grand Portage's application for an easement to build a 1.3 mile road on State of Alaska public lands. This road will be located between 2 very popular trails that provide access to the rainforest for the year round recreational enjoyment of both Alaskans and visitors. The intrusion of a road erodes the the peace and quiet that one goes to the rainforest to experience.

We are informed that the justification for the road is to provide Grande Portage Resources with the convenience of storage of supplies and helicopter access. The public is also told that the New Amalga Mine is yet to be proven as profitable nor is it permitted.

Consequently, Alaska is being asked to allow for a road for a project that at this point is speculative. That strikes me as a lousy deal for the people who risk losing the current pristine nature of this area and do not stand to benefit from Grand Portage's reduced exploration costs or prospective profits.

Please deny the permit for this road.

Laura Lucas
6615 North Douglas Hwy
Juneau, Alaska 99801

From: riley.moser@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Riley Moser](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: I urge the State of Alaska to deny the easement application by Grande Portage Resources for Project ADL 109466.
Date: Thursday, March 12, 2026 11:58:02 AM

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Dear John Driscoll,

This public easement is a blatant example of the state disregarding the will and overwhelming opposition vocalized by Alaskans. Unsurprisingly such disregard is not unexpected by a state that focuses on continued colonization and exploitation of the land for the benefit of the highest bidder and in this case a foreign mine that will wring as much profit out of our lands as they can while dumping the pollution and environmental cleanup onto the public as every mine has done throughout history without exception. This mine as with all other mines can only be profitable long term if it can eventually offload the burden of the cleanup and environmental monitoring onto the local community. Dunleavy and the others complicit in this easement will carry the shame of green-lighting this damaging business venture while Southeast Alaskans will carry the pollution in the fish that we eat and the scarcity of wildlife driven away from the Herbert Glacier area to Cascade Point as there will be 24/7 ore runs and guaranteed contamination of the soil, our watersheds and Berners Bay by ore-dust, oil slicks and mining equipment.

Sincerely,
Mr. Riley Moser
8278 Garnet St Juneau, AK 99801-9115
Redacted

From: [Deborah Rudis](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Cc: [Deborah Rudis](#)
Subject: Eagle River area proposed road
Date: Thursday, March 12, 2026 11:06:07 PM

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To: Mr. John Driscoll
Department of Natural Resources
State of Alaska

I strongly oppose the proposed road near the Eagle and Herbert Rivers by the Canadian Company, Grande Portage Resources. I am not aware of any environmental review of this project and analysis of what would be it's deleterious effects to this near-wilderness area.

This is a popular location for recreational activities during all seasons for both residents and visitors. Hiking, biking, skiing and backcountry cabin use are all enjoyed without disruption by any type of motorized vehicles. Wildlife observation occurs because of little disruption to this area by loud mechanical noise. Any road through this area would forever alter the quiet solitude many enjoy when visiting this place. This is an unspoiled extensive watershed which should not be damaged by a road of any length. Noise from loud mining vehicles would create disturbances that would carry for a distance from a road, negatively affecting human users on the nearby trails and wildlife inhabitants. Road dust and runoff would adversely affect the area and cause sediment deposition in waterbodies, including the Eagle River. Sediment input into any salmon-bearing waters can cause salmon population declines. The wetlands in this area support numerous species of waterfowl and other avian inhabitants and are home to a variety of fish. Any disruption to these wetlands will have negative effects to many of those species. This is an important topic that needs to be thoroughly addressed in a formal report before any decisions are made on road construction.

As a wildlife biologist who worked for a resource agency reviewing both U.S. and Canadian mine proposals, I know too well what adverse effects can and will occur from this road and the associated mine project development. This State land should not be used for the benefit of a private company whose road development would result in the detriment to all other users.

Thank you for considering these comments.

Deborah Rudis
Certified Wildlife Biologist
4638 River Rd
Juneau, Alaska 99801

[Redacted]

From: jsiirila2@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Jolene Siirila](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: I urge the State of Alaska to deny the easement application by Grande Portage Resources for Project ADL 109466.
Date: Thursday, March 12, 2026 7:28:35 PM

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Dear John Driscoll,

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I oppose the permitting, construction, maintenance, and private use of a 15-foot wide, 1.3 mile long unpaved access road 21 miles northwest of Juneau, Alaska, on public lands, near the Herbert glacier trailhead. I oppose turning sections of our intact temperate rainforest, that hosts a delicate ecosystem, into two 1-acre staging areas used to store equipment, drilling supplies, and rock core samples inside metal shipping containers.

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Further, this project is unnecessary; exploratory drilling has been conducted each summer for the past 19 years and there is no reason drilling cannot continue as it has. The footprint of the forest — especially in such valuable recreational and subsistence areas — should not be compromised merely as a cost-saving measure for the applicant.

Sincerely,

Ms. Jolene Siirila

9951 Stephen Richard Dr Spc 32 Juneau, AK 99801-9680

Redacted

From: steeler@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Richard Steele](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: I urge the State of Alaska to deny the easement application by Grande Portage Resources for Project ADL 109466.
Date: Thursday, March 12, 2026 9:42:32 PM

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Dear John Driscoll,

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Further, this project is unnecessary; exploratory drilling has been conducted each summer for the past 19 years and there is no reason drilling cannot continue as it has. The footprint of the forest — especially in such valuable recreational and subsistence areas — should not be compromised merely as a cost-saving measure for the applicant.

Sincerely,
Mr. Richard Steele
1507 2nd St Douglas, AK 99824-5210

Redacted

From: [David Waters](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: Grande Portage Resources easement application - ADL 109466
Date: Thursday, March 12, 2026 10:36:20 AM

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Thank you for taking comments on Grande Portage Resources Ltd. easement application.

I oppose the Division of Mining, Land and Water granting this easement for a number of reasons. The New Amalga Gold Project is still an unproven mine and it seems premature to proceed with this application with so many other unknowns. Cascade Point Ferry Terminal project received 92% unfavorable public comments, and the timeline for beginning construction has been pushed back until the fall. The applicant states *"The intent is to replace the existing staging area in the Mendenhall Valley, greatly reducing the distance of supply helicopter shuttles and related noise impacts to residential areas near the current staging area."* One of the reasons the Herbert and Eagle River Valleys, along with Eagle Beach State Recreation Area, the Boy Scout trail and Outer Beach is so treasured by Juneauites, is because it is a place to get away from aircraft noise impacts. Hiking, camping, picnicking, fishing, and so many other outdoor recreation opportunities will be diminished with increased road and aircraft activities. This area has already felt increased pressure from Cruise ship tourism with "Jeep Excursions" bringing more traffic. During the 2020 season when Coastal Helicopters was slinging drill supplies for Grande Portage about a mile and one half south of the proposed easement, they were refueling the helicopters at that site. Will that be happening at the helo pad areas? If so, what precautions are proposed for any spills? Applicants Figure 2 shows the close proximity to wetlands and without more information about refueling at the helo pad areas it seems the application is incomplete. I am also concerned about other fuel storage. The applicant states *"They would consist of metal double-walled containers or would be stored within bermed containment areas lined with fuel-proof membrane with at least 110% fluid capacity with a cover to prevent rainwater from filling the reservoir."* So far this winter we have recorded over 13 feet of snow in this Valley. Of that, 75" fell during the last 5 days of December. Herbert River Road was impassable for 4 day with 3' of snow before it was cleared with front end loaders. Numerous structures collapsed, Spruce snapped off and fell. Heavy January rains created stream flooding. I'm not sure what the *"cover to prevent rainwater from filling the reservoir."* is. If a fuel leak did occur, it might not be discovered until Spring. In Alaska Department of Fish and Game's *Juneau Fish Habitat Assessment (Revised) Regional Information Report 5J12-03 pp. 56-57* states *Herbert River contains populations of coho, pink, chum, and sockeye salmon; cutthroat and steelhead trout; and Dolly Varden. Herbert River is essentially in a natural condition, especially in the upper reaches. The stream adjacent to the Herbert River road has been subjected to some gravel removal. Future mining and/or gravel extraction would probably pose the greatest threats to fish habitat in the Herbert River drainage.* Again, I think it is premature to grant this easement.

Thank you for considering these comments.
David Waters

From: [Deantha Skibinski](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: ADL 10946: Private Non-Exclusive Easement for Road and Staging Areas near Eagle and Herbert Rivers in Juneau
Date: Friday, March 13, 2026 10:25:46 AM
Attachments: [AMA Comments Herbert River easement.pdf](#)

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Attached are comments by the Alaska Miners Association. Thank you.

Deantha Skibinski
Executive Director
Alaska Miners Association
deantha@alaskaminers.org
cell/text: 907-317-6323



121 W. FIREWEED SUITE 120 | ANCHORAGE, ALASKA | 99503 | 907.563.9229 | ALASKAMINERS.ORG

March 13, 2026

John Driscoll
Alaska Department of Natural Resources
Division of Mining, Land, and Water
PO Box 111020
Juneau, AK 99811
Submitted via email

Re: ADL 10946: Private Non-Exclusive Easement for Road and Staging Areas near Eagle and Herbert Rivers in Juneau

Dear Mr. Driscoll:

The Alaska Miners Association (AMA) appreciates the opportunity to provide comments in support of the easement application by GPG Alaska Resources, Inc.

AMA is a professional membership trade organization established in 1939 to represent the mining industry in Alaska. AMA's more than 1,400 members come from eight statewide branches: Anchorage, Denali, Fairbanks, Haines, Juneau, Kenai, Ketchikan/Prince of Wales, and Nome. Alaska's miners are individual prospectors, geologists, engineers, suction dredge miners, small family mines, junior mining companies, major mining companies, Alaska Native Corporations, and the contracting sector that supports Alaska's mining industry.

GPG Alaska Resources has requested to construct, maintain, and use a 15-foot wide, 1.3-mile long, unpaved access road and two 1-acre staging areas on state-owned, uplands approximately 21 miles northwest of Juneau, Alaska. The staging areas will be used to store equipment, drilling supplies, and rock core samples inside metal shipping containers. The staging areas will also be used for helicopter operations to transport supplies and materials to the applicant's mineral exploration sites (New Amalga Gold Project) on adjacent United States Forest Service (USFS) land near Herbert Glacier. If a mining operation is approved and developed on the adjacent USFS land, the 1.3-mile long road on state land will serve as the first segment of the access road to the project site.

This private easement on state land provides the first efficient segment of infrastructure for approved exploration of the New Amalga Gold Project, demonstrating GPG Alaska Resources' commitment to using existing highway access and low impact methods to advance responsible mineral development close to Juneau.

Staging helicopter operations at the proposed laydown areas just 1.3 miles off Glacier Highway will dramatically shorten flight distances to the New Amalga Gold Project, improving efficiency and safety

for 2026 drilling and environmental monitoring programs. Relocating helicopter staging away from Juneau International Airport and residential areas will reduce flight cycles, lowering carbon emissions, fuel use, and noise pollution over populated parts of Juneau while supporting essential exploration work.

The 15-foot unpaved access road and two one-acre staging areas have been carefully engineered by Grande Portage to minimize disturbance and fully respect ongoing recreational use in the Herbert River Valley and proximity to the Herbert Glacier Trail.

Road access to the laydown areas will enable GPG Alaska Resources to source more equipment, supplies, and services directly from local businesses, creating immediate economic opportunities for local vendors and contractors.

With the tremendous effort to mitigate local, safety, and environmental concerns, the easement application by GPG Alaska Resources should be approved. Doing so would be the first step toward a new mining opportunity in Southeast Alaska, bringing significant economic and community benefits to the State.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit these comments.

Sincerely,



Deantha Skibinski
Executive Director

From: jocelyn.marie92@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Jocelyn Andrea Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
To:
Subject: I urge the State of Alaska to deny the easement application by Grande Portage Resources for Project ADL 109466.
Date: Friday, March 13, 2026 10:11:11 AM

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Dear John Driscoll,

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KEEP ALASKA WILD.

Sincerely,
Miss Jocelyn Andrea
1207 2nd St Douglas, AK 99824-5310

Redacted

From: [Stephen Ball](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: Public Comment for ADL 109466: Private Non-Exclusive Easement for Road and Staging Areas near Eagle and Herbert Rivers in Juneau
Date: Friday, March 13, 2026 10:49:19 AM

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Dear Alaska Department of Natural Resources,

I am writing to express strong support for approval of the Application for Easement (ADL 109466) submitted by **GPG Alaska Resources Inc.** The proposed Eagle–Herbert River Road easement represents a well-considered use of state land that reduces community impacts, improves operational efficiency, and reflects responsible environmental and land-use planning.

Most notably, the proposal would relocate helicopter staging operations away from the Mendenhall Valley to a more remote location on state land between the Herbert and Eagle River bridges. This change would substantially reduce helicopter flight distances and associated noise impacts to nearby residential areas, providing a clear and meaningful benefit to the Juneau community while supporting continued mineral exploration activity.

The development plan outlined in the application demonstrates a measured and responsible approach. The proposed unpaved access road and laydown areas are limited in footprint, phased in construction, and supported by clear commitments to erosion control, drainage management, spill prevention, and regulatory compliance. Fuel and hydrocarbon handling measures are well defined, and the application acknowledges the need for appropriate state and federal permits prior to construction in sensitive areas. The proposal does not include permanent buildings and relies on existing highway access, further limiting long-term impacts.

In addition, the application anticipates eventual reclamation of the roadway and laydown areas once their use is complete, including removal of infrastructure and restoration of natural drainage and vegetation. This flexibility, along with the temporary and conditional nature of the proposed use, aligns well with the State's interest in responsible land stewardship and orderly resource development.

Taken together, these elements demonstrate that the proposed easement balances resource development with environmental protection and community considerations. For these reasons, I support approval of the requested easement and believe the proposal represents an appropriate and reasonable use of state land. I respectfully encourage the Department to approve the application.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide public comment.
Sincerely,

Stephen Ball

From: Redacted
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: Comment regarding ADL 109466
Date: Friday, March 13, 2026 12:25:50 PM

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To: Alaska DNR, Attention John Driscoll

I am opposed to the road and helicopter landing pad construction proposed by Grand Portage Resources (ADL 109466: Private Non-Exclusive Easement for Road and Staging Areas near Eagle and Herbert rivers in Juneau.)

This relatively undeveloped watershed is an important area for wildlife, recreation and fishing to the residents of Juneau. A road road would bring habitat degradation, erosion and disturbance to sensitive wildlife such as brown bears and the American goshawk, sensitive species that have been recorded in this area.

Further, it is premature to allow such extensive infrastructure when it is not known if a mine will ultimately be built, and exploration has been possible with other staging areas thus far.

Thank you for considering my comments.

Gwen Baluss
10236 Heron way
Juneau Alaska 99801

From: [John Barry](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: GPG Alaska Resources, Inc. Easement Application
Date: Friday, March 13, 2026 11:14:57 AM

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Dear Mr. Driscoll,

The State of Alaska DNR, Division of Mining, Land and Water should grant the Right of Way requested by GPG Alaska Resources, Inc. There isn't a compelling environmental issue that would preclude constructing the proposed 15 foot wide, 1.3 mile road and two one acre staging areas. Any future mining development will be reviewed based on its potential environmental impacts. For now only the road is being requested. This is ordinary development that should be a routine matter for approval by DNR.

Sincerely,

John Barry
Gustavus, AK

From: ngblanco95@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Nicolas Blanco](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: I urge the State of Alaska to deny the easement application by Grande Portage Resources for Project ADL 109466.
Date: Friday, March 13, 2026 9:58:44 AM

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Dear John Driscoll,

I urge the State of Alaska to deny the easement application by Grande Portage Resources for Project ADL 109466.

I oppose the permitting, construction, maintenance, and private use of a 15-foot wide, 1.3 mile long unpaved access road 21 miles northwest of Juneau, Alaska, on public lands, near the Herbert glacier trailhead. I oppose turning sections of our intact temperate rainforest, that hosts a delicate ecosystem, into two 1-acre staging areas used to store equipment, drilling supplies, and rock core samples inside metal shipping containers.

The public notice states, "If a mining operation is approved and developed on the adjacent USFS land, the 1.3-mile long road on state land will serve as the first segment of the access road to the project site." I do not support altering one of the most popular recreational areas for Juneau's year-round residents for a mine that has not yet proven economic viability.

Allowing an unproven and unpermitted mine to begin etching roads into the forests north of Juneau, the final vast tract of temperate rainforest on the planet, is short-sighted and does not acknowledge the risks to the community and local environment. In addition to physical disruption and eyesores this project introduces, the staging areas will also be used for helicopter operations to transport supplies and materials to the applicant's mineral exploration sites; this means concentrated noise pollution for an area with sensitive wildlife and that has long been an area of peace and quiet for recreationists.

Further, this project is unnecessary; exploratory drilling has been conducted each summer for the past 19 years and there is no reason drilling cannot continue as it has. The footprint of the forest — especially in such valuable recreational and subsistence areas — should not be compromised merely as a cost-saving measure for the applicant.

Sincerely,

Mr. Nicolas Blanco

8497 Thunder Mountain Rd Juneau, AK 99801-9164

Redacted

From: s.bonneson@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Sarah Bonneson](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: I urge the State of Alaska to deny the easement application by Grande Portage Resources for Project ADL 109466.
Date: Friday, March 13, 2026 3:52:53 PM

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Dear John Driscoll,

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I oppose the permitting, construction, maintenance, and private use of a 15-foot wide, 1.3 mile long unpaved access road 21 miles northwest of Juneau, Alaska, on public lands, near the Herbert glacier trailhead. I oppose turning sections of our intact temperate rainforest, that hosts a delicate ecosystem, into two 1-acre staging areas used to store equipment, drilling supplies, and rock core samples inside metal shipping containers.

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Sincerely,

Miss Sarah Bonneson

19295 Randall Rd Juneau, AK 99801-8209

Redacted

From: mattbrodsky@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Matthew Brodsky](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: I urge the State of Alaska to deny the easement application by Grande Portage Resources for Project ADL 109466.
Date: Friday, March 13, 2026 9:30:36 AM

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Dear John Driscoll,

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Sincerely,
Mr. Matthew Brodsky
631 St Anns Ave Douglas, AK 99824-5541

Redacted

From: [Bryce Saviers](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: Easement Road for Herbert Glacier
Date: Friday, March 13, 2026 9:08:29 AM

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I am writing in to oppose the Easement road for Herbert Glacier. This will be a private road that negatively impacts Juneau residents. Herbert glacier and its trail system are used by a wide range of recreational users. There is no way to have mine road so close to a recreational trail and not have it negatively effect users. Not to mention the toll the mine road and its activities will have on the wildlife. Please put Juneau residents above outside interests and do not approve this road.
Sent from my iPhone

From: summlns@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Summer Callan](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: I urge the State of Alaska to deny the easement application by Grande Portage Resources for Project ADL 109466.
Date: Friday, March 13, 2026 1:33:11 PM

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Dear John Driscoll,

I urge the State of Alaska to deny the easement application by Grande Portage Resources for Project ADL 109466.

I oppose the permitting, construction, maintenance, and private use of a 15-foot wide, 1.3 mile long unpaved access road 21 miles northwest of Juneau, Alaska, on public lands, near the Herbert glacier trailhead. I oppose turning sections of our intact temperate rainforest, that hosts a delicate ecosystem, into two 1-acre staging areas used to store equipment, drilling supplies, and rock core samples inside metal shipping containers.

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Sincerely,

Mrs. Summer Callan

2519 Chandler Ave Simi Valley, CA 93065-0996

Redacted

From: [Roger Calloway](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: Favorable Approval of ADL 109466
Date: Friday, March 13, 2026 12:29:40 PM
Attachments: [Support for Favorable Approval of ADL 109466.docx](#)

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March 13, 2026

John Driscoll
Natural Resources Specialist
Alaska Department of Natural Resources
Division of Mining, Land, and Water
P.O. Box 111020
Juneau, AK 99811-1020
Email: john.driscoll@alaska.gov or organized access and

Subject: Support for Favorable Approval of ADL 109466

Dear Mr. Driscoll: I am writing to express strong support for the Alaska Department of Natural Resources' favorable approval of ADL 109466, the requested private non-exclusive easement for a road and staging areas near the Eagle and Herbert Rivers in Juneau, to facilitate the New Amalga Gold Project.

This limited-scope easement provides a structured, reviewable framework for organized access and project support, including road corridors and designated staging areas. It promotes orderly operations over uncoordinated or ad hoc activities, enabling the efficient transport of equipment and supplies, storage, and helicopter-supported work under State oversight.

Approval would not diminish ADNR's regulatory authority; the Department would retain full ability to impose appropriate stipulations, conditions, and environmental safeguards. This approach aligns with responsible State land management practices.

Beyond project logistics, the easement supports a broader public interest. If the New Amalga Mine advances responsibly—with strong environmental protections—it offers meaningful economic benefits to the Juneau area. These include direct and indirect jobs, workforce training opportunities, contracts for local businesses, and expanded economic activity. Such development can diversify the regional economy, strengthen the tax base, and enhance funding for essential public services like education, infrastructure, and public safety.

Importantly, responsible resource projects like this can deliver targeted advantages to underprivileged, underserved, and marginalized residents. They create entry-level and skilled employment pathways, support vocational training, and generate contracting and supply-chain opportunities for small and minority-owned businesses. Increased local spending and economic circulation often reach lower-income households, reducing poverty and building community resilience in Southeast Alaska. For these reasons, I respectfully urge ADNR to approve ADL 109466.

Sincerely,
L. Roger Calloway Jr./Retired
(C): 907-723-2896 E-Mail: roger@reliabletransfer.com
E-Mail: roger@reliabletransfer.com
Mailing: P.O. Box 210736, Auke Bay, Alaska 99821-0736

Residence:10835 Glacier Highway, Juneau, Alaska 99801

March 13, 2026

John Driscoll
Natural Resources Specialist
Alaska Department of Natural Resources
Division of Mining, Land, and Water
P.O. Box 111020
Juneau, AK 99811-1020
Email: john.driscoll@alaska.gov

Subject: Support for Favorable Approval of ADL 109466

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L. Roger Calloway Jr./Retired
(C): 907-723-2896 E-Mail: roger@reliabletransfer.com
E-Mail: roger@reliabletransfer.com
Mailing: P.O. Box 210736, Auke Bay, Alaska 99821-0736
Residence: 10835 Glacier Highway, Juneau, Alaska 99801

From: dgc4306@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Dan Cannon](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: I urge the State of Alaska to deny the easement application by Grande Portage Resources for Project ADL 109466.
Date: Friday, March 13, 2026 8:37:18 AM

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Dear John Driscoll,

I urge the State of Alaska to deny the easement application by Grande Portage Resources for Project ADL 109466.

I oppose the permitting, construction, maintenance, and private use of a 15-foot wide, 1.3 mile long unpaved access road 21 miles northwest of Juneau, Alaska, on public lands, near the Herbert glacier trailhead. I oppose turning sections of our intact temperate rainforest, that hosts a delicate ecosystem, into two 1-acre staging areas used to store equipment, drilling supplies, and rock core samples inside metal shipping containers.

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Further, this project is unnecessary; exploratory drilling has been conducted each summer for the past 19 years and there is no reason drilling cannot continue as it has. The footprint of the forest — especially in such valuable recreational and subsistence areas — should not be compromised merely as a cost-saving measure for the applicant.

Sincerely,

Mr. Dan Cannon

1420 Glacier Ave Juneau, AK 99801-1469

Redacted

From: cateskann@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Kelly Cates](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: I urge the State of Alaska to deny the easement application by Grande Portage Resources for Project ADL 109466.
Date: Friday, March 13, 2026 1:48:26 PM

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Sincerely,

Dr. Kelly Cates

2113 2nd St Douglas, AK 99824-5116

Redacted

From: hailie.christenson@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Hailie Christenson](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: I urge the State of Alaska to deny the easement application by Grande Portage Resources for Project ADL 109466.
Date: Friday, March 13, 2026 9:58:42 AM

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Sincerely,
Mrs Hailie Christenson
4031 Delta Dr Apt C Juneau, AK 99801-9192

Redacted

From: colemans907@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Michael Coleman](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: I urge the State of Alaska to deny the easement application by Grande Portage Resources for Project ADL 109466.
Date: Friday, March 13, 2026 4:18:42 AM

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Sincerely,
Mr. Michael Coleman
8323 Counterpane Ln Juneau, AK 99801-9216

Redacted

From: gkc193@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Grace Corrigan](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: I urge the State of Alaska to deny the easement application by Grande Portage Resources for Project ADL 109466.
Date: Friday, March 13, 2026 9:00:58 AM

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Dear John Driscoll,

Hi John - this proposed access road is smack dab in the middle of precious and ancient salmon streams that feed bears, people and forest. There are marbled murrelet nests adjacent to this proposed road. There are protected bald eagle nests adjacent to this road. There is mountain goat habitat ALL OVER this valley, and you're going to let a private mining company run its helicopters in and out of this precious place all day? We demand investigation into the protected species habitat that surrounds this monstrosity of a road. The people of southeast Alaska are tasked with this continuous and neverending onslaught of government overreach and sellout. There are not that many of us! There are not that many of us that have the capacity to speak up! Take our comments seriously! I've not met a single person in Juneau in favor of this access road project. These are enormous, future changing decisions being made, for the sole purpose of mining unnecessary gold for a foreign company! You will be a part of poisoning eagle and herbert river, forever! Once they are gone, they are gone!

I urge the State of Alaska to deny the easement application by Grande Portage Resources for Project ADL 109466.

I oppose the permitting, construction, maintenance, and private use of a 15-foot wide, 1.3 mile long unpaved access road 21 miles northwest of Juneau, Alaska, on public lands, near the Herbert glacier trailhead. I oppose turning sections of our intact temperate rainforest, that hosts a delicate ecosystem, into two 1-acre staging areas used to store equipment, drilling supplies, and rock core samples inside metal shipping containers.

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Sincerely,
Ms. Grace Corrigan
10972 Mendenhall Loop Rd Juneau, AK 99801-8660

Redacted

From: debferreira510@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Debbie Driscoll](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: I urge the State of Alaska to deny the easement application by Grande Portage Resources for Project ADL 109466.
Date: Friday, March 13, 2026 4:36:09 PM

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Dear John Driscoll,

I urge the State of Alaska to deny the easement application by Grande Portage Resources for Project ADL 109466.

I oppose the permitting, construction, maintenance, and private use of a 15-foot wide, 1.3 mile long unpaved access road 21 miles northwest of Juneau, Alaska, on public lands, near the Herbert glacier trailhead. I oppose turning sections of our intact temperate rainforest, that hosts a delicate ecosystem, into two 1-acre staging areas used to store equipment, drilling supplies, and rock core samples inside metal shipping containers.

The public notice states, "If a mining operation is approved and developed on the adjacent USFS land, the 1.3-mile long road on state land will serve as the first segment of the access road to the project site." I do not support altering one of the most popular recreational areas for Juneau's year-round residents for a mine that has not yet proven economic viability.

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Further, this project is unnecessary; exploratory drilling has been conducted each summer for the past 19 years and there is no reason drilling cannot continue as it has. The footprint of the forest — especially in such valuable recreational and subsistence areas — should not be compromised merely as a cost-saving measure for the applicant.

Sincerely,

Ms. Debbie Driscoll

25120 Amalga Harbor Rd Juneau, AK 99801-8109

Redacted

From: clairedgaia@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Claire DGaia](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: I urge the State of Alaska to deny the easement application by Grande Portage Resources for Project ADL 109466.
Date: Friday, March 13, 2026 3:25:16 AM

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Sincerely,

Ms. Claire DGaia

823 W State St Apt 2 Springfield, MO 65806-2802

Redacted

From: rickdriscoll9@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Rick Driscoll](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: I urge the State of Alaska to deny the easement application by Grande Portage Resources for Project ADL 109466.
Date: Friday, March 13, 2026 1:41:11 PM

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Dear John Driscoll,

Dear Alaska Department of Natural Resources,

I am writing to strongly oppose the proposed easement application by Grande Portage Resources to construct a 15-foot-wide, 1.3-mile-long unpaved access road on State of Alaska public lands near the Herbert Glacier trailhead.

The Herbert Glacier area is one of the most important and heavily used recreation areas along the Juneau road system. Residents and visitors regularly use this area for hiking, backcountry skiing, snowshoeing, hunting, berry picking, wildlife viewing, and simply enjoying one of the few accessible wild landscapes close to town. For many of us who live in Amalga Harbor and northern Juneau, this area is our backyard. It is where we bring visiting friends and family, where we go for quiet time in nature, and where many of us recreate year-round.

The proposed road would significantly alter the character of this landscape. A 1.3-mile industrial access road, along with the staging of metal shipping containers, drilling supplies, equipment, and increased helicopter activity, would introduce long-term visual and environmental impacts in an area that is currently valued for its natural setting and recreational access. This is not a remote industrial corridor — it is a well-known recreation destination used by the public throughout the year.

It is also important to recognize that exploratory drilling has already taken place in this area for nearly two decades without the need for a permanent access road. For 19 years, exploration work has been conducted using helicopter-supported access. The fact that this work has continued successfully without road construction strongly suggests that this easement request is about convenience and cost savings rather than necessity.

Public lands should not be permanently disturbed simply to reduce operational costs for a private exploration project. Once a road is built into a place like this, the impacts rarely remain temporary. Roads bring increased disturbance, long-term habitat fragmentation, potential erosion and sediment impacts to nearby streams, and pressure for expanded infrastructure in the future.

For those of us who live nearby and recreate regularly in the Herbert Glacier area, the value of this landscape is personal and immediate. It is one of the few places along the Juneau road system where people can easily access intact forest, glacial landscapes, and relatively quiet backcountry. The area supports hiking, ski touring in winter, berry picking in late summer, hunting in the fall, and wildlife viewing year-round. It is an important place for both residents and visitors seeking outdoor experiences close to Juneau.

The State of Alaska has a responsibility to carefully consider the long-term public interest when evaluating easements across public lands. In this case, the permanent alteration of a valued recreation landscape does not appear justified when exploration activities can continue using the helicopter-supported access methods that have already been used successfully for nearly twenty years.

For these reasons, I respectfully urge the Department of Natural Resources to deny this easement application and protect the Herbert Glacier area from unnecessary road construction and industrial development.

Thank you for considering my public comment.

Sincerely,

Rick Driscoll
25120 Amalga Harbor Rd
Juneau, AK 99801

Sincerely,
Mr. Rick Driscoll
25120 Amalga Harbor Rd Juneau, AK 99801-8109
Redacted

From: [Lauren Duehring](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: Easement Road
Date: Friday, March 13, 2026 1:06:15 PM

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To whom it may concern,

This will ruin our recreating in that area. Leave our public's lands out of the hands of the corporate mines. This should not even be in consideration. That land is for public use not private mines. It will be loud and noisy and awful, disruptive to humans and wildlife alike.

Leave it alone.

Lauren

From: dwyer.nicole93@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Nic Dwyer](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: I urge the State of Alaska to deny the easement application by Grande Portage Resources for Project ADL 109466.
Date: Friday, March 13, 2026 3:53:16 PM

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Dear John Driscoll,

This easement would ruin one of the best and most accessible biking, hiking and recreational trails. The Herbert Glacier trail is a place I love to use each summer to mountain bike and pick berries. This berry picking area would be polluted and damaged by the increased traffic and exposed to mining equipment. I would hate to lose another locally loved trail. Too many have already been opened up to or blocked off due to tourism interests. Don't let mining ruin some of the last places we have in the community to get away from tourist crowds in the summer.

I urge the State of Alaska to deny the easement application by Grande Portage Resources for Project ADL 109466.

I oppose the permitting, construction, maintenance, and private use of a 15-foot wide, 1.3 mile long unpaved access road 21 miles northwest of Juneau, Alaska, on public lands, near the Herbert glacier trailhead. I oppose turning sections of our intact temperate rainforest, that hosts a delicate ecosystem, into two 1-acre staging areas used to store equipment, drilling supplies, and rock core samples inside metal shipping containers.

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Further, this project is unnecessary; exploratory drilling has been conducted each summer for the past 19 years and there is no reason drilling cannot continue as it has. The footprint of the forest — especially in such valuable recreational and subsistence areas — should not be compromised merely as a cost-saving measure for the applicant.

Sincerely,

Mx. Nic Dwyer

3710 Sanders St Juneau, AK 99801-8842

Redacted

From: [Shannon Easterly](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: ADL 109466 Public Comment
Date: Friday, March 13, 2026 4:53:59 PM

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I am writing in strong opposition to ADL 109466: "Private Non-Exclusive Easement for Road and Staging Areas near Eagle and Herbert Rivers in Juneau".

Granting an easement in order for a private company to build a road is inappropriate, especially given the potential environmental impact as well as the impact on an important recreation area in Juneau.

Shannon Easterly

From: sarahjfrost@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Sarah Frost](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: I urge the State of Alaska to deny the easement application by Grande Portage Resources for Project ADL 109466.
Date: Friday, March 13, 2026 2:47:17 PM

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Sincerely,
Ms Sarah Frost
1215 5th St Douglas, AK 99824-5328

Redacted

From: [sharon gaipman](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: amalga mine road
Date: Friday, March 13, 2026 4:31:03 PM

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john,

just a quick last minute email to tell you i am opposed to the amalga mine road segment! nothing to add except i would hate to see it!

thank you!!!
sharon gaipman

From: neil.gillespie.veteran@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Neil Gillespie](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: I urge the State of Alaska to deny the easement application by Grande Portage Resources for Project ADL 109466.
Date: Friday, March 13, 2026 12:00:37 AM

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Sincerely,
Mr. Neil Gillespie
707 Grant St Ketchikan, AK 99901-6582

Redacted

From: anniekgoodenough@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Annie Goodenough](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: I urge the State of Alaska to deny the easement application by Grande Portage Resources for Project ADL 109466.
Date: Friday, March 13, 2026 11:38:26 AM

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Sincerely,
Ms. Annie Goodenough
4416 Columbia Blvd Juneau, AK 99801-8933

Redacted

From: skipq@ak.net
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: R.E. GPG Alaska Recourses Inc application
Date: Friday, March 13, 2026 4:25:22 PM
Attachments: [Herbert Glacier Staging area - comment r.e. Grand Portage application - Jonathan Gray - 3 13 26.doc](#)

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Mr. Driscoll,

Attached, please find comments R.E. GPG Alaska Recourses Inc application to construct a road and staging areas near Herbert and Eagle Glaciers. Please forward to the appropriate individual(s).

Thanks,

Jonathan Gray

From: Jonathan Gray
4464 Mountainside Drive
Juneau, Alaska 99801

Redacted

To: John Driscoll, Alaska Dept of Natural Resources
R.E. GPG Alaska Recourses Inc application to construct a road and staging areas near Herbert and Eagle Glaciers.

Having reviewed the application by GPG Alaska Resources Inc (who I shall hereafter refer to as Grand Portage), I have found it lacking in critical information needed to come to any conclusion about how appropriate the alignment of their proposed road is, which they have stated in the application and in the media, will be the first segment of a road all the way to their proposed mine near the face of Hebert Glacier (I presume, given the locations of their exploratory drilling) if the mine comes to fruition. How can I know if the alignment of this first stage makes any sense if I don't know what the alignment will be for the rest of the road which I assume will end at the still undermined (as far as I know) location of their mining facilities. I have zero reference as to how the alignment of this stage of the road could be improved or whether or not it should even be allowed without knowing "the rest of the story".

Permitting Grand Portage to build the first stage of the road without having any idea about how it fits into the big picture of the fully developed mine seems to me to be an illegal phasing of the project. At the least, it would be unfair to the public and other stakeholders to allow the permit without first requiring Grand Portage to supply as much information as is possible about realities of the rest of the proposed project and extending the public comment period to allow interested parties time to digest the information and prepare knowledgeable comments.

The application is also deficient in describing the habitat the project would impact. It gives only a cursory description of the vegetation and I saw zero reference to the kinds of wildlife that inhabit the area and whether or not the physical destruction of the habitat, noise (especially helicopter traffic) and possible fuel spills might affect individual animals or populations. Do mountain goats inhabit the nearby Mountains? It is a known fact that helicopter traffic can stress and panic mountain goats and lead to injuries or death. Will this be a problem with the proposed project?

There is also no discussion of how the noise associated with both the construction and operation of the facilities will affect recreational users of the area who, like myself, go there in part to enjoy the peace and quiet and natural sounds.

Given the lack of meaningful information in the application, I have to ask the Dept of Natural Resources to deny the permit.

From: gracieharrison95@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Gracie Heald](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: I urge the State of Alaska to deny the easement application by Grande Portage Resources for Project ADL 109466.
Date: Friday, March 13, 2026 12:07:39 PM

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Sincerely,
Mrs. Gracie Heald
205 Rhode Island St Buffalo, NY 14213-2164

Redacted

From: hsieh.rebecca22@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Rebecca Hsieh](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: I urge the State of Alaska to deny the easement application by Grande Portage Resources for Project ADL 109466.
Date: Friday, March 13, 2026 11:46:14 AM

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Sincerely,

Ms Rebecca Hsieh

1006 Coogan Dr Juneau, AK 99801-9569

Redacted

From: hhunterphoto@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Hillary Hunter](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: I urge the State of Alaska to deny the easement application by Grande Portage Resources for Project ADL 109466.
Date: Friday, March 13, 2026 12:22:51 PM

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I oppose the permitting, construction, maintenance, and private use of a 15-foot wide, 1.3 mile long unpaved access road 21 miles northwest of Juneau, Alaska, on public lands, near the Herbert glacier trailhead.

As a local I find it insulting that we don't have money from the state to support our public marine highway but the state is willing to spend the money to build an environmentally damaging road that will benefit a corporation. I oppose turning sections of our intact temperate rainforest, that hosts a delicate ecosystem, into two 1-acre staging areas used to store equipment, drilling supplies, and rock core samples inside metal shipping containers.

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Sincerely,

Ms. Hillary Hunter

2121 Lawson Creek Rd Douglas, AK 99824-5051

Redacted

From: walker@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Walker Janelle](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: I urge the State of Alaska to deny the easement application by Grande Portage Resources for Project ADL 109466.
Date: Friday, March 13, 2026 5:48:36 AM

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Further, this project is unnecessary; exploratory drilling has been conducted each summer for the past 19 years and there is no reason drilling cannot continue as it has. The footprint of the forest — especially in such valuable recreational and subsistence areas — should not be compromised merely as a cost-saving measure for the applicant.

Sincerely,
Mr. Walker Janelle
5021 36th Ave E Tacoma, WA 98443-1517

Redacted

From: especialy4ry@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Rylee Jensen](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: I urge the State of Alaska to deny the easement application by Grande Portage Resources for Project ADL 109466.
Date: Friday, March 13, 2026 9:15:54 AM

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Dear John Driscoll,

I urge the State of Alaska to deny the easement application by Grande Portage Resources for Project ADL 109466.

I oppose the permitting, construction, maintenance, and private use of a 15-foot wide, 1.3 mile long unpaved access road 21 miles northwest of Juneau, Alaska, on public lands, near the Herbert glacier trailhead. I oppose turning sections of our intact temperate rainforest, that hosts a delicate ecosystem, into two 1-acre staging areas used to store equipment, drilling supplies, and rock core samples inside metal shipping containers.

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Sincerely,

Ms. Rylee Jensen

544 W 8th St Juneau, AK 99801-1801

eRedacted

From: johnson.kaitn@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Kait Johnson](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: I urge the State of Alaska to deny the easement application by Grande Portage Resources for Project ADL 109466.
Date: Friday, March 13, 2026 10:25:42 AM

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Sincerely,

Miss Kait Johnson

2126 2nd St Apt A Douglas, AK 99824-5115

Redacted

From: [Brian Holst](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Cc: [Daniel King](#)
Subject: ADL 109466, Comments from JEDC
Date: Friday, March 13, 2026 1:23:27 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)
[JEDC Support for Easement Grande Portage 2026.pdf](#)

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Dear Mr. Driscoll,

Please find attached comments by the Juneau Economic Development Council related to ADL 109466, GPG Alaska Resources, Inc.

Regards,

Brian

Brian Holst *(he)* | **Executive Director**

[Juneau Economic Development Council](#)

Direct: 907-523-2333 | 612 West Willoughby Avenue

Invest in Juneau: www.JEDC.org/investors





612 W. Willoughby Avenue
Juneau, AK 99801
Phone: (907) 523-2300
www.JEDC.org

March 11, 2026

Mr. John Driscoll
Division of Mining, Land and Water
Southeast Regional Office
Alaska Department of Natural Resources
P.O. Box 111020
Juneau, AK 99811-1020

Re: ADL 109466 – Support for Approval of Private Non-Exclusive Easement for Road and Staging Areas

Dear Mr. Driscoll,

On behalf of the Board of Directors of the Juneau Economic Development Council, I am writing to express support for the approval of private non-exclusive easement ADL 109466 application submitted by GPG Alaska Resources, Inc.

Created in 1987, the JEDC is an independent, non-profit, whose mission is to foster a healthy and sustainable economic climate in Juneau and throughout Southeast Alaska. In collaboration with other organizations, we implement initiatives to maintain, expand, and create economic opportunities. JEDC supports responsible resource development that strengthens Juneau and Southeast Alaska's economy while maintaining the environmental stewardship and community values that define the region. The proposed easement represents a modest, carefully designed piece of infrastructure that will improve the efficiency and safety of exploration activities at the New Amalga Gold Project while creating meaningful opportunities for local businesses and workers.

From an economic development perspective, the project's logistics improvements are significant. Establishing staging areas accessible from Glacier Highway will allow equipment, supplies, and services to be sourced more readily from Juneau-based businesses. Local trucking and logistics providers will be able to transport drilling and exploration equipment directly to the access road, reducing reliance on longer helicopter supply routes. Juneau vendors supplying tools, safety equipment, fuel, and other operational consumables will also benefit from more efficient delivery pathways to the project area.

The proposed road and staging pads themselves create new near-term contracting opportunities for local construction and earthwork firms. Building and maintaining the 15-foot unpaved road and the two one-acre staging areas will require skilled operators, equipment technicians, and related services that can be provided locally. Additional opportunities may emerge for Juneau companies involved in site security, environmental monitoring support, and operational services associated with exploration activities.

Importantly, this initial infrastructure segment demonstrates a practical commitment to using existing highway access and regional contractors where possible. Establishing a forward-operating hub near the project site not only improves current exploration logistics but also positions local trades, service providers, and suppliers to participate more fully in future phases of development if additional infrastructure is approved.

The proposal also incorporates design considerations that minimize its footprint and respect existing recreational uses in the Herbert River Valley area. By shortening helicopter flight distances from staging areas near the highway to the exploration site, the project may also reduce flight cycles and associated noise and emissions over Juneau's residential areas and airport corridor.

The JEDC Board vote of support was not unanimous. Also, two Board members abstained due to potential conflicts of interest. JEDC believes this proposal reflects a balanced approach to advancing responsible mineral exploration while supporting the economic vitality of the Juneau community. The easement would enable new business activity, strengthen local supply chains, and create contracting opportunities for Juneau companies, all while utilizing existing transportation infrastructure.

For these reasons, JEDC supports approval of ADL 109466 and appreciates the opportunity to provide comment.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brian Holst", written over a faint circular line.

Brian Holst

Executive Director

Juneau Economic Development Council

bholst@jedc.org | (907) 523-2333

From: ktj.kjohnson@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Kayla Johnson](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: I urge the State of Alaska to deny the easement application by Grande Portage Resources for Project ADL 109466.
Date: Friday, March 13, 2026 11:26:33 AM

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Dear John Driscoll,

I urge the State of Alaska to deny the easement application by Grande Portage Resources for Project ADL 109466.

I oppose the permitting, construction, maintenance, and private use of a 15-foot wide, 1.3 mile long unpaved access road 21 miles northwest of Juneau, Alaska, on public lands, near the Herbert glacier trailhead. I oppose turning sections of our intact temperate rainforest, that hosts a delicate ecosystem, into two 1-acre staging areas used to store equipment, drilling supplies, and rock core samples inside metal shipping containers.

The public notice states, "If a mining operation is approved and developed on the adjacent USFS land, the 1.3-mile long road on state land will serve as the first segment of the access road to the project site." I do not support altering one of the most popular recreational areas for Juneau's year-round residents for a mine that has not yet proven economic viability.

Allowing an unproven and unpermitted mine to begin etching roads into the forests north of Juneau, the final vast tract of temperate rainforest on the planet, is short-sighted and does not acknowledge the risks to the community and local environment. In addition to physical disruption and eyesores this project introduces, the staging areas will also be used for helicopter operations to transport supplies and materials to the applicant's mineral exploration sites; this means concentrated noise pollution for an area with sensitive wildlife and that has long been an area of peace and quiet for recreationists.

Further, this project is unnecessary; exploratory drilling has been conducted each summer for the past 19 years and there is no reason drilling cannot continue as it has. The footprint of the forest — especially in such valuable recreational and subsistence areas — should not be compromised merely as a cost-saving measure for the applicant.

Sincerely,

Ms. Kayla Johnson

1207 2nd St Douglas, AK 99824-5310

Redacted

From: nathandeankelley@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Nathan Kelley](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: I urge the State of Alaska to deny the easement application by Grande Portage Resources for Project ADL 109466.
Date: Friday, March 13, 2026 9:01:42 AM

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Dear John Driscoll,

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Sincerely,

Mr. Nathan Kelley

10972 Mendenhall Loop Rd Juneau, AK 99801-8660

Redacted

From: eli.kestenbrackett@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Eli Kesten-Brackett](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: I urge the State of Alaska to deny the easement application by Grande Portage Resources for Project ADL 109466.
Date: Friday, March 13, 2026 11:31:50 AM

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Sincerely,

Mr Eli Kesten-Brackett

12175 Glacier Hwy Juneau, AK 99801-8652

Redacted

From: amandakoztattoos@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Amanda Kociszewski](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: I urge the State of Alaska to deny the easement application by Grande Portage Resources for Project ADL 109466.
Date: Friday, March 13, 2026 4:32:32 PM

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Sincerely,

Mrs Amanda Kociszewski

6871 Revere Dr Derby, NY 14047-9522

Redacted

From: [Matthew Kok](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: Public Comment on ADL 109466
Date: Friday, March 13, 2026 3:23:41 PM

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Hello,

I am reaching out to express my disapproval of the proposed easement road and staging areas near Eagle and Herbert Rivers.

As a Juneau resident, I know that this project will disturb eagle nests, goshawk nests, murrelet nests, mountain goat habitat and more. This would disturb brown bear, black bear, wolf and deer territory and constitutes irresponsible development, benefiting private companies rather than the public good.

Please do not move forward with this road.

From: [Lisa Kramer](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: Grande Portage project
Date: Friday, March 13, 2026 10:12:39 AM

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Dear Mr. Driscoll,

I am opposed to granting an easement to the Grande Portage mining company for a road into the Herbert Glacier area and oppose a mine there as well. I feel the short term gains will not outweigh the long term consequences.

Since the project is in the exploratory phase, why not continue as is, instead of destroying this pristine recreation area? If the company applies for a mining permit, then a road's consequences could be studied more thoroughly. It sounds as if Canadians will benefit economically from this project but perhaps not many Alaskans. Canadian mining companies don't have the best environmental record either.

Helicopter noise and the masses of people have driven many of us away from the trails and recreation areas on Douglas, and from Thane to Auke Bay. We go out the road to escape the hoards and the noise. This road will take that away as well. This one project will impact so many cabins: Eagle River, Windfall, Amalga, Blue Mussel, Cowee Meadow and the three cabins at Eagle Beach. It is probably responsible for the cancellation of the Herbert River cabin which was the most requested location in the fairly recent poll. 34The estuary at Eagle Beach supports countless bird and animal species. It also supports a more positive eco-tourism.

Thank you for the opportunity to express opinions.

Sincerely,

Lisa Kramer

From: [Jf Clark](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: Re: ADL 109466 – Support for Approval of Private Non-Exclusive Easement for Road and Staging Areas
Date: Friday, March 13, 2026 4:35:24 PM
Attachments: [3-13-26 Amalga Harbor.docx](#)

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Dear Mr. Driscoll. Re: Please accept this letter in support of approval of ADL 109466 – a Private Non-Exclusive Easement for Road and Staging Areas for the Amalga Project.

Regards, Jim Clark.

LAW OFFICE OF JAMES F. CLARK
1109 C Street
Juneau, Alaska 99801
Telephone: 907-586-0122 Cell: 907-723-6952

Mr. John Driscoll
Division of Mining, Land and Water
Southeast Regional Office
Alaska Department of Natural Resources
P.O. Box 111020
Juneau, AK 99811-1020

March 13, 2026

Re: ADL 109466 – Support for Approval of Private Non-Exclusive Easement for Road and Staging Areas

Dear Mr. Driscoll.

Please accept this letter in support of a private easement on state land which is needed to provide the first efficient segment of infrastructure for approved exploration of the New Amalga Gold Project.

Responsible Path Forward for Alaska

This private easement on state land provides the first efficient segment of infrastructure for approved exploration of the New Amalga Gold Project, demonstrating Grande Portage's commitment to using existing highway access and low-impact methods to advance responsible resource development close to Juneau.

Strong Local Economic Benefits

Road access to the laydown areas will enable Grande Portage to source more equipment, supplies, and services directly from Juneau-based businesses, creating immediate opportunities for local contractors and vendors.

- Road access to the new laydown areas will enable Grande Portage to source more equipment, supplies, and services directly from Juneau-based

businesses, creating immediate and ongoing contracting opportunities for local companies during the 2026 exploration program and beyond

- o **Trucking & Logistics**

- Local haulers will be able to deliver drilling and other heavy equipment via Glacier Highway to the access road

- o **Service & Supply Vendors**

- Juneau suppliers of consumables, tools, safety gear, etc, will see a better opportunity with road access closer to the deposit (short-hop helicopter lifts to the New Amalga site may improve their own business efficiency)
 - Opportunities for Juneau firms in site security and environmental monitoring support

- o **Construction & Earthwork Contractors**

- Juneau contractors will be contracted to build and maintain the 15-foot unpaved road and two 1-acre staging pads. This is new, on-the-ground work that didn't exist previously

- o **Broader & Future Opportunities**

- This initial road segment demonstrates Grande Portage's commitment to using existing highway infrastructure and local labor. It positions Juneau trades and suppliers for even greater involvement if the full access road is later approved.

Improved Logistics & Safety

Staging helicopter operations at the proposed laydown areas just 1.3 miles off Glacier Highway will dramatically shorten flight distances to the New Amalga Gold Project, improving efficiency and safety for 2026 drilling and environmental monitoring programs.

Measurable Environmental Gains

Relocating helicopter staging away from Juneau International Airport and residential areas will reduce flight cycles, lowering carbon emissions, fuel use, and noise pollution over populated parts of Juneau while supporting essential exploration work.

Respectful, Low-Impact Design

The 15-foot unpaved access road and two one-acre staging areas have been carefully engineered by Grande Portage to minimize disturbance and fully respect ongoing recreational use in the Herbert River Valley and proximity to the Herbert Glacier Trail.

In summary, the potential of another mine in Southeast would be good for Juneau and the region.

Regards,

s/ James F. Clark

James F. Clark

From: AKunionmaid@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Nadine Lefebvre](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: I urge the State of Alaska to deny the easement application by Grande Portage Resources for Project ADL 109466.
Date: Friday, March 13, 2026 4:38:45 PM

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Dear John Driscoll,

I urge the State of Alaska to deny the easement application by Grande Portage Resources for Project ADL 109466.

I oppose the permitting, construction, maintenance, and private use of a 15-foot wide, 1.3 mile long unpaved access road 21 miles northwest of Juneau, Alaska, on public lands, near the Herbert glacier trailhead. I oppose turning sections of our intact temperate rainforest, that hosts a delicate ecosystem, into two 1-acre staging areas used to store equipment, drilling supplies, and rock core samples inside metal shipping containers.

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Sincerely,

Mrs. Nadine Lefebvre

2479 B Scott Dr Juneau, AK 99801-9312

Redacted

From: [wil licht](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: Comment on ADL 109466: Private Non-Exclusive Easement for Road and Staging Areas near Eagle and Herbert Rivers in Juneau
Date: Friday, March 13, 2026 11:21:23 AM

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Hello John,

I am emailing you to comment my opposition to construction and maintenance of this easement.

First, it will be highly disruptive to both the Herbert Glacier and Amalga Trails which our community uses very frequently year round. This disruption will ruin what is best about those trails- the peaceful quiet that people live here for.

Second, this road would be crossing multiple anadromous streams in the Eagle River watershed and that is never good for populations of fish. It will require monitoring from adfg for decades to come, and very likely negatively impact those fish populations. Again, this is not in line with the values our community share.

Third, this is not a temporary easement. 35 years and substantial road construction with no clear plan for reclamation renders this functionally permanent.

Fourth, this is inconsistent with state land standards: Conflicts with multiple-use and best-interest management requirements (Alaska Constitution Art. VIII; AS 38.05.035).

I strongly believe that DNR should deny this easement for all the above reasons. Many others in the community feel the same way as I do. Please listen to us and deny this easement.

Thank you for considering our input on these matters.

Sincerely,
Wil Licht

From: [Destry Lietz](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: Public Comment New Amalga project
Date: Friday, March 13, 2026 1:44:31 PM
Attachments: [Public Comment New Amalga.docx](#)

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Hi John,
Attached is my public comment in support of the new Amalga project.
Thanks,

--

[Destry Lietz](#)
Redacted

Mr. John Driscoll, Alaska DNR **from : Destry Lietz Date:** March 13, 2026

Re: Support for ADL 109466 – New Amalga Project Easement

Dear Mr. Driscoll,

I am writing to you today as a lifelong Alaskan. I was born and raised here, and I care deeply about the future of our community. I'm submitting this comment to voice my strong support for the Alaska Department of Natural Resources approving the requested land authorization (ADL 109466) for the New Amalga Gold Project.

Growing up here, I've seen that we need more than just seasonal work to keep our families together. We need real, year-round industry. I support this project because it's about providing the kind of high-quality careers that allow the next generation to stay in Alaska instead of moving south for work.

Based on the plans for the 1.3-mile access road and staging areas near Glacier Highway (Milepost 27.1), I believe this is the right way to move forward for a few key reasons:

- **Investing in Our People:** I really value that this project supports the skilled Alaskans who build our state—the heavy equipment operators and mechanics. Specifically, seeing support for registered apprenticeship programs tells me this company is looking to train our local kids for long-term careers, not just bring in outside help.
- **Responsible Energy:** It's rare to see a project like this looking at hydroelectric power to reduce diesel dependence. As someone who spends my time in our woods and on our waters, I appreciate that kind of thinking. It shows a real commitment to keeping our air clean and reducing the risks that come with hauling fuel.
- **Safety and Common Sense:** The plan to use localized staging areas for helicopter operations and equipment storage is just smart logistics. It keeps the footprint small and the operations efficient, which minimizes the impact on the surrounding lands I grew up exploring.
- **Following Our Values:** Alaska was built on the idea of using our resources for the "maximum benefit" of the people. To me, that benefit is a strong economy that respects our environmental standards. Grande Portage and GPG Alaska have shown they can do this work responsibly and in compliance with our regulations.

I want to see my hometown thrive, and that requires supporting projects that balance economic opportunity with common-sense oversight. I respectfully urge the DNR to approve this easement and help keep our community moving forward.

Thank you for your time and for the work you do for Alaskans.

Sincerely,

Destry Lietz 8904 Birch Lane Juneau, Alaska

From: [Chris Lunsford](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: Public comment on ADL 109466
Date: Friday, March 13, 2026 1:01:04 PM

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Mr. Driscoll,

I am writing to comment on the proposed project ADL 109466. I do NOT support this requested activity based on the following reasons:

- The 1.3 mile long access road will be disruptive to the natural settings and recreational activities that take place in the area.
- The 1.3 mile long access road does not directly connect to the proposed mine location. Therefore it is simply a "segment" towards having full access and should not be allowed until a mining operation is requested and approved and some level of development and economic return is agreed to with the applicant.
- The applicant has every right to alter the development site but should not be allowed this easement request or create disruption to the adjacent easement lands until a mining operation plan is officially submitted and approved.
- The 1.3 mile long access road is not critically needed for the applicant to continue exploration. I support a staging area in private commercially owned property in the Juneau region and would be willing to support a small easement area directly accessed off Glacier Highway. Both options will allow the applicant to continue exploration and use helicopters to stage material until a mine is approved and developed.
- Public lands and dollars should not be used to support private "exploration" unless no other option exists. Once a commitment is made by the applicant that provides a comprehensive mining plan along with economic and social benefits that will be realized, private interests should pay to develop and explore their own properties. This project has alternatives to continue exploration without the need for a public easement road.

Thank you for allowing me to comment on this proposed action.

Chris Lunsford
Juneau, Alaska

From: [Patrick Malecha](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: Public comment on ADL 109466
Date: Friday, March 13, 2026 2:15:42 PM

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March 13, 2026

John Driscoll
Division of Mining, Land and Water
Southeast Regional Office
P.O. Box 111020
Juneau, AK 99811-1020
john.driscoll@alaska.gov

RE: ADL 109466 – Opposition to Private Non-Exclusive Easement for Road and Staging Areas, Eagle/Herbert River Area

Dear Mr. Driscoll and the Division of Mining, Land and Water:

I am writing to formally oppose the easement application ADL 109466, submitted by GPG Alaska Resources, Inc., for a 1.3-mile access road and two one-acre staging areas on state-owned land adjacent to the Eagle and Herbert Rivers, approximately 21 miles northwest of Juneau. I urge the Department of Natural Resources to deny this application.

The easement would simply be a convenience for a potential mining operation that is still very far from becoming a reality. Meanwhile the development of the access road would cause lasting environmental and recreational disturbances even though a mining operation may never actually be implemented. Exploratory mining operations in the Herbert and Eagle areas do not require this unneeded access road to continue and staging areas on private or public lands are already available elsewhere thus do not need to be created in pristine forestlands.

The Eagle and Herbert River drainages provide critical habitat for Pacific salmon, Dolly Varden, and the wildlife and communities that depend on them. The construction of a compacted shot-rock road and permanent staging areas (with a requested term extending through 2061) would introduce lasting physical disturbance, altered hydrology, increased sediment loading, and a permanent industrial footprint in an area currently free of such infrastructure.

The primary beneficiary of this proposed access road is the corporate applicant, not the public. The burden of any environmental risk, habitat degradation, or future remediation falls on Alaska's lands, waters, and communities. This is not an equitable exchange, and the State should not authorize permanent infrastructure on public land primarily to reduce operational costs for a foreign mining corporation.

The public interest is best served by denying this easement application and requiring that any future exploration or development proposals in this area undergo comprehensive, project-level environmental review that accounts for cumulative impacts, long-term land use implications, and the full scope of the intended mining project rather than evaluating only the immediate infrastructure request in isolation.

I respectfully urge the Division of Mining, Land and Water to deny ADL 109466.

Sincerely,

Patrick Malecha

Juneau, Alaska

From: [Max Mertz](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: ADL 109466
Date: Friday, March 13, 2026 1:13:37 PM

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Dear Mr. Driscoll, I would like to sit on my public comment on a ADL109466.

As an over 30 year resident of Juneau, I greatly support the proposed road expansion and other uses mentioned in CPG Alaska's requested activity.

The activity will have minimal impact on the environment. But it will have significant impact on the Juneau in southeast Alaska economies Juneau greatly needs development such as this to provide jobs tax base and support our local community.

The existing minds have proven to be great community partners. I look forward to the day when this new mind begins construction and operation.

I urge you to keep your stipulations for this activity at a minimum, and approve it as quickly as possible.

Max E. Mertz

Redacted

From: njmichalsen@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Naomi Michalsen](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: I urge the State of Alaska to deny the easement application by Grande Portage Resources for Project ADL 109466.
Date: Friday, March 13, 2026 1:55:32 PM

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Dear John Driscoll,

I urge the State of Alaska to deny the easement application by Grande Portage Resources for Project ADL 109466.

I oppose the permitting, construction, maintenance, and private use of a 15-foot wide, 1.3 mile long unpaved access road 21 miles northwest of Juneau, Alaska, on public lands, near the Herbert glacier trailhead. I oppose turning sections of our intact temperate rainforest, that hosts a delicate ecosystem, into two 1-acre staging areas used to store equipment, drilling supplies, and rock core samples inside metal shipping containers.

The public notice states, "If a mining operation is approved and developed on the adjacent USFS land, the 1.3-mile long road on state land will serve as the first segment of the access road to the project site." I do not support altering one of the most popular recreational areas for Juneau's year-round residents for a mine that has not yet proven economic viability.

Allowing an unproven and unpermitted mine to begin etching roads into the forests north of Juneau, the final vast tract of temperate rainforest on the planet, is short-sighted and does not acknowledge the risks to the community and local environment. In addition to physical disruption and eyesores this project introduces, the staging areas will also be used for helicopter operations to transport supplies and materials to the applicant's mineral exploration sites; this means concentrated noise pollution for an area with sensitive wildlife and that has long been an area of peace and quiet for recreationists.

Further, this project is unnecessary; exploratory drilling has been conducted each summer for the past 19 years and there is no reason drilling cannot continue as it has. The footprint of the forest — especially in such valuable recreational and subsistence areas — should not be compromised merely as a cost-saving measure for the applicant.

Sincerely,

Mrs Naomi Michalsen

87 Chacon St Ketchikan, AK 99901-9609

Redacted

From: [Michelle Brown](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: Public Comment ADL 109466 GPG Alaska Resources Inc. Easement
Date: Friday, March 13, 2026 4:53:57 PM

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Dear Sirs,

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed easement for GPG Alaska Resources Inc. regarding mining activities near Glacier Highway, specifically around Mile 26.3.

The proposed easement borders SEAL Trust property, which is protected for its pristine natural state. This unique environment supports extensive community recreation, diverse flora and fauna, and essential water resources for residents not connected to the CBJ water system. The proposed activities threaten the environmental health of this area through increased heavy truck traffic, potential water contamination, and noise pollution.

Our current roads and bridges are already strained. Increased industrial use would cause significant congestion and noise in an area treasured for its peaceful qualities. Furthermore, the local forest and wildlife habitats would suffer from land damage and potential chemical spills, which could contaminate the rivers and underground aquifers that supply clean drinking water to local homes.

The State and CBJ already struggle to maintain infrastructure against current recreational demands. Introducing large industrial trucks would lead to the rapid deterioration of our roads and bridges.

Juneau has limited land suitable for recreation. This area is a unique corridor providing access to glaciers, rivers, white sand beaches, and several community camps. It is one of the few places in Juneau that offers such diverse natural resources from a single location. Approving this project would irreversibly damage a precious community resource for short-term financial gain.

I urge you to deny this easement, as it is not in the best interest of our community or the environment.

Thank you for your consideration.

Best regards,

Michelle and Jeff Brown
26610 Herbert River Rd
Juneau, AK 99801
Redacted

From: [John Moran](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: Opposition to ADL 109466 – GPG Alaska Resources, Inc.
Date: Friday, March 13, 2026 1:39:44 PM

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Mr. Driscoll,

I am writing to formally express my opposition to the issuance of a private non-exclusive easement (ADL 109466) requested by GPG Alaska Resources, Inc. for the construction of an access road and staging areas near the Eagle and Herbert Rivers.

I believe that mineral exploration sites can be accessed by helicopters based out of an existing location without giving up public land and recreational opportunities. In the event that the mining operation is approved, road access can be revisited. Currently, development of the Herbert River drainage is premature.

Sincerely,

John Moran

Juneau, AK

From: hanstonja@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Tonja Moser](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: I urge the State of Alaska to deny the easement application by Grande Portage Resources for Project ADL 109466.
Date: Friday, March 13, 2026 12:58:58 AM

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Dear John Driscoll,

I urge the State of Alaska to deny the easement application by Grande Portage Resources for Project ADL 109466.

I oppose the permitting, construction, maintenance, and private use of a 15-foot wide, 1.3 mile long unpaved access road 21 miles northwest of Juneau, Alaska, on public lands, near the Herbert glacier trailhead. I oppose turning sections of our intact temperate rainforest, that hosts a delicate ecosystem, into two 1-acre staging areas used to store equipment, drilling supplies, and rock core samples inside metal shipping containers.

The public notice states, "If a mining operation is approved and developed on the adjacent USFS land, the 1.3-mile long road on state land will serve as the first segment of the access road to the project site." I do not support altering one of the most popular recreational areas for Juneau's year-round residents for a mine that has not yet proven economic viability.

Allowing an unproven and unpermitted mine to begin etching roads into the forests north of Juneau, the final vast tract of temperate rainforest on the planet, is short-sighted and does not acknowledge the risks to the community and local environment. In addition to physical disruption and eyesores this project introduces, the staging areas will also be used for helicopter operations to transport supplies and materials to the applicant's mineral exploration sites; this means concentrated noise pollution for an area with sensitive wildlife and that has long been an area of peace and quiet for recreationists.

Further, this project is unnecessary; exploratory drilling has been conducted each summer for the past 19 years and there is no reason drilling cannot continue as it has. The footprint of the forest — especially in such valuable recreational and subsistence areas — should not be compromised merely as a cost-saving measure for the applicant.

Sincerely,

Ms Tonja Moser

3850 N Douglas Hwy Juneau, AK 99801-9402

Redacted

From: [Kathy Nielson](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: ADL109466 project
Date: Friday, March 13, 2026 12:50:58 PM

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Thank you for providing public comment opportunities on the Amalga Gold mine proposal.

I am vehemently opposed to this project.

Alaska and southeast Alaska particularly has suffered from reduced natural salmon production and catch. Herbert River, near the proposed site are very productive for coho, pink, chum and sockeye salmon spawning as well as cutthroat and steelhead trout. (ADF&G Juneau habitat assessment 5J12-03) This is enough reason alone to deny this permit.

Additionally, this area serves as a vital recreation area for Juneau residents during all seasons- skiing in winter, hiking and camping during the rest of the year. As a lifelong Juneau resident, I note that all Juneau residents are increasingly faced with crowded summer trails, to the extent that several trails are virtually solid with tourists during the summer. The Herbert River and Eagle River areas provide Juneauites some much needed respite from these crowded conditions. Again, deny this permit.

Finally, this is an unproven gold area and Juneau lives with the hazards and residue of proven areas- ie the AJ gold mine and Treadwell. While the City and private organizations have worked to mitigate decades old residue from former staging areas and production areas, these sites are dangerous and toxic. This danger and potential toxicity is not what we want for the nearly pristine Herbert/Eagle River areas. Deny this permit.

Sincerely,
Kathy L. Nielson
965 Fritz Cove Road
Juneau. Alaska 99801

"Travel is fatal to prejudice, bigotry, and narrow-mindedness, and many of our people need it sorely on these accounts. Broad, wholesome, charitable views of men and things cannot be acquired by vegetating in one little corner of the earth all one's lifetime." Mark Twain

From: cameronogden11@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Cameron Ogden](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: I urge the State of Alaska to deny the easement application by Grande Portage Resources for Project ADL 109466.
Date: Friday, March 13, 2026 12:48:49 PM

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Dear John Driscoll,

I urge the State of Alaska to deny the easement application by Grande Portage Resources for Project ADL 109466.

I oppose the permitting, construction, maintenance, and private use of a 15-foot wide, 1.3 mile long unpaved access road 21 miles northwest of Juneau, Alaska, on public lands, near the Herbert glacier trailhead. I oppose turning sections of our intact temperate rainforest, that hosts a delicate ecosystem, into two 1-acre staging areas used to store equipment, drilling supplies, and rock core samples inside metal shipping containers.

The public notice states, "If a mining operation is approved and developed on the adjacent USFS land, the 1.3-mile long road on state land will serve as the first segment of the access road to the project site." I do not support altering one of the most popular recreational areas for Juneau's year-round residents for a mine that has not yet proven economic viability.

Allowing an unproven and unpermitted mine to begin etching roads into the forests north of Juneau, the final vast tract of temperate rainforest on the planet, is short-sighted and does not acknowledge the risks to the community and local environment. In addition to physical disruption and eyesores this project introduces, the staging areas will also be used for helicopter operations to transport supplies and materials to the applicant's mineral exploration sites; this means concentrated noise pollution for an area with sensitive wildlife and that has long been an area of peace and quiet for recreationists. Our public lands should prioritize use for the public and NOT Canadian corporations.

Further, this project is unnecessary; exploratory drilling has been conducted each summer for the past 19 years and there is no reason drilling cannot continue as it has. The footprint of the forest — especially in such valuable recreational and subsistence areas — should not be compromised merely as a cost-saving measure for the applicant.

Sincerely,

Ms. Cameron Ogden

631 St Anns Ave Apt A Douglas, AK 99824-5541

Redacted

From: [Link Olson](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: ADL 109466
Date: Friday, March 13, 2026 1:47:37 PM

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John Driscoll
State of Alaska Department of Natural Resources
Division of Mining, Land and Water
P.O. Box 111020, Juneau, AK 99811-1020

Re: ADL 109466: Private Non-Exclusive Easement for Road and Staging Areas near Eagle and Herbert Rivers in Juneau

Dear Mr. Driscoll,

I am writing to very emphatically express my strong opposition to building a 15-foot-wide, 1.3-mile-long road and staging areas on state lands to support mining exploration for the New Amalga Gold Project. Why kowtow (again!) to a Canadian company with no vested interest in Southeast Alaska's future beyond its own profits? With one side of the proposed road being the Herbert Glacier trail—one of Juneau's most popular and accessible--and the other being the Eagle Glacier Trail, used by many people year-round to access the Eagle Glacier cabin, the proposed road would destroy two very beautiful birds with one soon-to-be-exported nugget. Road building and mining exploration activities will impact the user experience on both trails, as well as on the Eagle and Herbert rivers themselves.

I have yet to read or hear what, if any, meaningful long-term benefit the proposed project would bring to Juneau or Alaska outside of an untold but small number of jobs in heavy equipment operation, logging, and road construction/engineering. Even if a mine is ultimately developed (and that remains a very long shot), very few jobs will be created in Juneau. As noted in a recent Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development report, non-residents make up over 44% of the mining workforce in Alaska, and fully 100% of the mine workers at Kennicott that I've encountered live elsewhere in Alaska, if not Outside.

And all for what, in the end? More bling and a handful of jobs for outsiders? And when will it end? When do we say, "OK, that's enough; let's not destroy what makes Juneau the magical place it is?" Do any residents truly want to live in the industrialized theme park a handful of profiteering elites want to subject us to? Please stand up for Alaska and Alaskans, for the people who actually live here, the people who use these trails and natural areas, the people who made it overwhelmingly clear that they wanted a recreation cabin built near Herbert Glacier, not another ~~scar that will never heal~~ mine.

Sincerely,
Link Olson
Juneau, Alaska

From: mackenzie.olver5@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Mackenzie Olver](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: I urge the State of Alaska to deny the easement application by Grande Portage Resources for Project ADL 109466.
Date: Friday, March 13, 2026 1:05:11 PM

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Dear John Driscoll,

I urge the State of Alaska to deny the easement application by Grande Portage Resources for Project ADL 109466.

I oppose the permitting, construction, maintenance, and private use of a 15-foot wide, 1.3 mile long unpaved access road 21 miles northwest of Juneau, Alaska, on public lands, near the Herbert glacier trailhead. I oppose turning sections of our intact temperate rainforest, that hosts a delicate ecosystem, into two 1-acre staging areas used to store equipment, drilling supplies, and rock core samples inside metal shipping containers.

The public notice states, "If a mining operation is approved and developed on the adjacent USFS land, the 1.3-mile long road on state land will serve as the first segment of the access road to the project site." I do not support altering one of the most popular recreational areas for Juneau's year-round residents for a mine that has not yet proven economic viability.

Allowing an unproven and unpermitted mine to begin etching roads into the forests north of Juneau, the final vast tract of temperate rainforest on the planet, is short-sighted and does not acknowledge the risks to the community and local environment. In addition to physical disruption and eyesores this project introduces, the staging areas will also be used for helicopter operations to transport supplies and materials to the applicant's mineral exploration sites; this means concentrated noise pollution for an area with sensitive wildlife and that has long been an area of peace and quiet for recreationists.

Further, this project is unnecessary; exploratory drilling has been conducted each summer for the past 19 years and there is no reason drilling cannot continue as it has. The footprint of the forest — especially in such valuable recreational and subsistence areas — should not be compromised merely as a cost-saving measure for the applicant.

Sincerely,

Ms. Mackenzie Olver

17025 Island View Dr Juneau, AK 99801-8357

Redacted

From: kevinonealsmith@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Kevin ONeal-Smith](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: I urge the State of Alaska to deny the easement application by Grande Portage Resources for Project ADL 109466.
Date: Friday, March 13, 2026 12:06:05 PM

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Dear John Driscoll,

I urge the State of Alaska to deny the easement application by Grande Portage Resources for Project ADL 109466.

I oppose the permitting, construction, maintenance, and private use of a 15-foot wide, 1.3 mile long unpaved access road 21 miles northwest of Juneau, Alaska, on public lands, near the Herbert glacier trailhead. I oppose turning sections of our intact temperate rainforest, that hosts a delicate ecosystem, into two 1-acre staging areas used to store equipment, drilling supplies, and rock core samples inside metal shipping containers.

The public notice states, "If a mining operation is approved and developed on the adjacent USFS land, the 1.3-mile long road on state land will serve as the first segment of the access road to the project site." I do not support altering one of the most popular recreational areas for Juneau's year-round residents for a mine that has not yet proven economic viability.

Allowing an unproven and unpermitted mine to begin etching roads into the forests north of Juneau, the final vast tract of temperate rainforest on the planet, is short-sighted and does not acknowledge the risks to the community and local environment. In addition to physical disruption and eyesores this project introduces, the staging areas will also be used for helicopter operations to transport supplies and materials to the applicant's mineral exploration sites; this means concentrated noise pollution for an area with sensitive wildlife and that has long been an area of peace and quiet for recreationists.

Further, this project is unnecessary; exploratory drilling has been conducted each summer for the past 19 years and there is no reason drilling cannot continue as it has. The footprint of the forest — especially in such valuable recreational and subsistence areas — should not be compromised merely as a cost-saving measure for the applicant.

Sincerely,
Mr. Kevin ONeal-Smith
3001 Glacierwood Dr Juneau, AK 99801-7137

Redacted

From: [Justin Pahl](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: ADL 109466 Public Comment
Date: Friday, March 13, 2026 12:29:42 AM

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To:
John Driscoll
State of Alaska Department of Natural Resources
Division of Mining, Land and Water
P.O. Box 111020, Juneau, AK 99811-1020

Re: ADL 109466: Private Non-Exclusive Easement for Road and Staging Areas near Eagle and Herbert Rivers in Juneau

Dear Mr. Driscoll,

I strongly oppose building a 15 foot wide, 1.3 mile long road and staging areas on state lands to support any mining exploration for the New Amalga Gold Project. This is not what Juneau wants and it is antithetical to the reasons that Juneau residents like me chose to move here, to a town with clean water, thriving fish populations, incredible recreation opportunities, and quiet wild spaces--all of which this project would damage.

The company driving this project--Grande Portage Resources--is Canadian and has no ties to Juneau and no stake in caring for the natural resources and lands that are integral to our identity as a the community. This proposed road smashes through land occupied by one of the most popular trails in Juneau--Herbert Glacier Trail--one of the few trails in town that can be biked and skied as well as hiked and used by dog walkers, fly fishermen, and hunters. The proposed location also impacts the Eagle Glacier Trail which provides year round to access the Eagle Glacier cabin--one of Juneau's many treasured and highly used public recreation cabins. Road building and mining exploration activities will damage the experience of users for both of these trails, as well as for those who float and fish on the Eagle and Herbert rivers themselves. The people of Juneau strongly wanted to build another Public Use Cabin at the much-loved Herbert Glacier; this idea has been shut down in favor of this out-of-State mining company. This is absurd; this is our land, and the State should not be prioritizing the well-being of foreign corporations over the well-being of Alaskans.

This proposed road would disturb the wildlife populations that draw people to these landscapes, create dust and noise pollution, and provide no benefit to the people of Juneau or Alaska--it is an example of horrific extractivist damage to a community by Outside Corporations (in this case literally from another country).

Please, please do not authorize this project. Even if a mine were ultimately developed, very few jobs would be created in Juneau--a recent Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development report states that non-residents make up over 44% of the mining workforce.

Let us decide to use our land for recreation, to preserve and care for it to allow our children the same experiences we have of bountiful hunting and fishing and harvesting, wildlife and peace and quiet. 92% of gold goes straight into the luxury goods market for rich people--our state's and town's futures do not depend on more jewelry. But our future does depend on local kids deciding to keep coming home to live and work here and raise families here--and we come back for the recreation, the peace and quiet, the lack of industry, the clean water and life-filled forests and the ties to the land.

Please do not authorize this project. Please stand up for Alaskans, for the actual people on the land who use

and love and eat from these lands and waters.

Sincerely,
Justin Pahl

Juneau, Alaska

From: Apes0199@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Alexander Pesci](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: I urge the State of Alaska to deny the easement application by Grande Portage Resources for Project ADL 109466.
Date: Friday, March 13, 2026 4:56:57 PM

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Dear John Driscoll,

I urge the State of Alaska to deny the easement application by Grande Portage Resources for Project ADL 109466.

I oppose the permitting, construction, maintenance, and private use of a 15-foot wide, 1.3 mile long unpaved access road 21 miles northwest of Juneau, Alaska, on public lands, near the Herbert glacier trailhead. I oppose turning sections of our intact temperate rainforest, that hosts a delicate ecosystem, into two 1-acre staging areas used to store equipment, drilling supplies, and rock core samples inside metal shipping containers.

The public notice states, "If a mining operation is approved and developed on the adjacent USFS land, the 1.3-mile long road on state land will serve as the first segment of the access road to the project site." I do not support altering one of the most popular recreational areas for Juneau's year-round residents for a mine that has not yet proven economic viability.

Allowing an unproven and unpermitted mine to begin etching roads into the forests north of Juneau, the final vast tract of temperate rainforest on the planet, is short-sighted and does not acknowledge the risks to the community and local environment. In addition to physical disruption and eyesores this project introduces, the staging areas will also be used for helicopter operations to transport supplies and materials to the applicant's mineral exploration sites; this means concentrated noise pollution for an area with sensitive wildlife and that has long been an area of peace and quiet for recreationists.

Further, this project is unnecessary; exploratory drilling has been conducted each summer for the past 19 years and there is no reason drilling cannot continue as it has. The footprint of the forest — especially in such valuable recreational and subsistence areas — should not be compromised merely as a cost-saving measure for the applicant.

Sincerely,

Mr. Alexander Pesci

8496 Mendenhall Loop Rd Juneau, AK 99801-9782

Redacted

From: sheariverpost@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Shea Post](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: I urge the State of Alaska to deny the easement application by Grande Portage Resources for Project ADL 109466.
Date: Friday, March 13, 2026 4:33:54 PM

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Dear John Driscoll,

I urge the State of Alaska to deny the easement application by Grande Portage Resources for Project ADL 109466.

I oppose the permitting, construction, maintenance, and private use of a 15-foot wide, 1.3 mile long unpaved access road 21 miles northwest of Juneau, Alaska, on public lands, near the Herbert glacier trailhead. I oppose turning sections of our intact temperate rainforest, that hosts a delicate ecosystem, into two 1-acre staging areas used to store equipment, drilling supplies, and rock core samples inside metal shipping containers.

The public notice states, "If a mining operation is approved and developed on the adjacent USFS land, the 1.3-mile long road on state land will serve as the first segment of the access road to the project site." I do not support altering one of the most popular recreational areas for Juneau's year-round residents for a mine that has not yet proven economic viability.

Allowing an unproven and unpermitted mine to begin etching roads into the forests north of Juneau, the final vast tract of temperate rainforest on the planet, is short-sighted and does not acknowledge the risks to the community and local environment. In addition to physical disruption and eyesores this project introduces, the staging areas will also be used for helicopter operations to transport supplies and materials to the applicant's mineral exploration sites; this means concentrated noise pollution for an area with sensitive wildlife and that has long been an area of peace and quiet for recreationists.

Further, this project is unnecessary; exploratory drilling has been conducted each summer for the past 19 years and there is no reason drilling cannot continue as it has. The footprint of the forest — especially in such valuable recreational and subsistence areas — should not be compromised merely as a cost-saving measure for the applicant.

Sincerely,

Mr. Shea Post

17225 Glacier Hwy Juneau, AK 99801-8365

Redacted

From: [Oliver Price](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: ADL 109466 Comment
Date: Friday, March 13, 2026 11:52:25 AM

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I oppose the granting of the easement at this time for 3 reasons.

1. Helicopter and truck activity in this area would bring a lot of noise and disrupt peaceful recreation. The State Park and Herbert River trail are used heavily in the summer and some of the best places in town for quiet recreation away from heavy tourist/air traffic.
2. The location of this industrial easement and fuel storage so close to riparian zones is also concerning to me.
3. The mine should be permitted before the State disposes of such valuable property.

Sampling work can continue without a local staging area. Until the mine is fully permitted and viable, the State shouldn't subsidize Canadian companies with our ecologically and recreationally valuable land.

If the State is going to support this project anyways, it should not be with such a long term easement or land disposal. A temporary lease to GPG, fully revocable by DNR is appropriate. A term of 5 to 10 years is also much more appropriate than 35.

A staging area a sufficient distance from the highway is also possible without a road through the whole parcel. A short driveway with a wide pad closer to the road makes more sense. Future recreational use would be better supported and that space converted to easily plowed parking.

The State shouldn't impact the recreational value of the rest of the property unnecessarily.

In the event that the mine is not viable, this valuable property needs to be preserved and retained for public recreational use.

Thank you for your consideration,

Oliver Price

From: [Alex Reich](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: Public comment on ADL 109466
Date: Friday, March 13, 2026 9:21:02 AM

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John Driscoll and/or Whom It May Concern,

I am writing to object to the proposed easement (ADL 109466) that would allow GPG Alaska Resources, Inc. to construct a road and staging areas on state land in support of the New Amalga Gold Project.

The proposed road is located in an area that receives substantial recreational use from Juneau residents. The corridor runs between the Herbert Glacier Trail and the Amalga Trail (Eagle Glacier Trail), both of which are heavily used for hiking, skiing, wildlife viewing, and other non-motorized recreation. Industrial road construction and associated truck activity would degrade the recreation experience in this area through noise, dust, and diesel emissions. According to the public notice, the road would serve as the first segment of access to a potential mining operation on adjacent federal land. While Glacier Highway north of Juneau is not a high-traffic corridor, it currently does not experience regular industrial trucking. The introduction of frequent large truck traffic associated with a mining operation would noticeably change the character of travel and recreation "Out the Road."

It is also concerning that representatives associated with the New Amalga project have previously requested limitations on recreation access in the area during the public process for the Herbert Glacier Cabin Project. This raises concerns that the development of mining infrastructure in this corridor could lead to further pressures to restrict public recreation access to nearby public lands. The proposal also raises environmental questions that should be addressed before any easement is granted. This watershed supports important salmon habitat, and road construction and stream crossings have the potential to affect anadromous fish through sedimentation and altered drainage patterns. The public notice does not clearly state how many streams would be crossed or what protections will be implemented.

Finally, the public notice indicates that the proposed road would serve as the first segment of an access route to a potential mining operation on adjacent federal land. Approving this segment now would commit state land to part of a larger mining access corridor before the full route and associated impacts are publicly evaluated. Approving infrastructure in pieces limits the public's ability to evaluate the full impacts of the overall project. For these reasons, I urge the Department of Natural Resources to deny the requested easement or require a more comprehensive review of the impacts associated with the proposed mining access route.

Sincerely,
Alexandra Reich
Juneau, Alaska

From: amundrongstad@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Amund Rongstad](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: I urge the State of Alaska to deny the easement application by Grande Portage Resources for Project ADL 109466.
Date: Friday, March 13, 2026 4:41:32 PM

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Dear John Driscoll,

I urge the State of Alaska to deny the easement application by Grande Portage Resources for Project ADL 109466.

I oppose the permitting, construction, maintenance, and private use of a 15-foot wide, 1.3 mile long unpaved access road 21 miles northwest of Juneau, Alaska, on public lands, near the Herbert glacier trailhead. I oppose turning sections of our intact temperate rainforest, that hosts a delicate ecosystem, into two 1-acre staging areas used to store equipment, drilling supplies, and rock core samples inside metal shipping containers.

The public notice states, "If a mining operation is approved and developed on the adjacent USFS land, the 1.3-mile long road on state land will serve as the first segment of the access road to the project site." I do not support altering one of the most popular recreational areas for Juneau's year-round residents for a mine that has not yet proven economic viability.

Allowing an unproven and unpermitted mine to begin etching roads into the forests north of Juneau, the final vast tract of temperate rainforest on the planet, is short-sighted and does not acknowledge the risks to the community and local environment. In addition to physical disruption and eyesores this project introduces, the staging areas will also be used for helicopter operations to transport supplies and materials to the applicant's mineral exploration sites; this means concentrated noise pollution for an area with sensitive wildlife and that has long been an area of peace and quiet for recreationists.

Further, this project is unnecessary; exploratory drilling has been conducted each summer for the past 19 years and there is no reason drilling cannot continue as it has. The footprint of the forest — especially in such valuable recreational and subsistence areas — should not be compromised merely as a cost-saving measure for the applicant.

Sincerely,

Mr. Amund Rongstad
706 6th St Juneau, AK 99801-1085

Redacted

From: [Sally Rue](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: Comments on Project ADL 109466
Date: Friday, March 13, 2026 1:55:43 PM
Attachments: [260313 comments on ADL 109466 Herbert road easement.pdf](#)

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Please see attached letter opposing the granting of ADL 109466 easement application.

John Driscoll
Natural Resource Specialist 3
AK Dept. of Natural Resources

March 13, 2026

Re: ADL 109466

Dear Mr. Driscoll,

I appreciate the opportunity to comment on the easement application (ADL 109466) to the AK Dept of Natural Resources by Grand Portage (GPG Alaska Resources) in support of their possible future gold mining project on federal land near Herbert Glacier.

The applicant has requested a 60-ft easement to construct, maintain, and use a 15-foot wide, 1.3-mile long, unpaved access road and two 1-acre staging areas on state-owned, DNR-managed uplands. The roadbed would entail a 2-3 foot layer of compacted shot rock, and staging areas would be used to store equipment, drilling supplies, and rock core samples, and for helicopter operations to and from the exploration site. If a mining operation is eventually approved and developed on the adjacent USFS land, the 1.3-mile long road on state land would serve as the first segment of the access road to the project site.

The Herbert River area and trail are well-used recreation sites for Juneau residents and visitors. The area is cooperatively managed by state, federal, municipal and private landowners for public access for recreation, habitat, conservation, subsistence and cultural purposes.

The GPG New Amalga Gold Project is still in its exploration phase, and has been proceeding without a road for years with minimal impact on area users. I believe it is premature for DNR to grant an easement for development of a road partway to the site now. If and when GPG applies for permits for an operating mine, then the application for a road easement can be undertaken and impacts fully and fairly assessed.

For these reasons, I oppose granting this road easement at this time for a speculative project in the future.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,

Sally Rue
7083 Hendrickson Rd
Juneau, AK 99801

From: ksargoy@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Kristin Sargoy](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: I urge the State of Alaska to deny the easement application by Grande Portage Resources for Project ADL 109466.
Date: Friday, March 13, 2026 12:03:38 PM

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Dear John Driscoll,

To add to all the valid pre written reason below I oppose the hell out of this road. The Herbert glacier area is such an important habitat for Bald eagle nests, martins, beavers, and all sorts of vital wildlife that will be further threaten by your unnecessary, greedy actions. The people of Juneau want a cabin. So we can enjoy OUR wild spaces. We. Do. Not. Want. This. And should this go forward. The people of this community will make your lives incredibly difficult. Stay off our public lands you greedy self centered scum.

I urge the State of Alaska to deny the easement application by Grande Portage Resources for Project ADL 109466.

I oppose the permitting, construction, maintenance, and private use of a 15-foot wide, 1.3 mile long unpaved access road 21 miles northwest of Juneau, Alaska, on public lands, near the Herbert glacier trailhead. I oppose turning sections of our intact temperate rainforest, that hosts a delicate ecosystem, into two 1-acre staging areas used to store equipment, drilling supplies, and rock core samples inside metal shipping containers.

The public notice states, "If a mining operation is approved and developed on the adjacent USFS land, the 1.3-mile long road on state land will serve as the first segment of the access road to the project site." I do not support altering one of the most popular recreational areas for Juneau's year-round residents for a mine that has not yet proven economic viability.

Allowing an unproven and unpermitted mine to begin etching roads into the forests north of Juneau, the final vast tract of temperate rainforest on the planet, is short-sighted and does not acknowledge the risks to the community and local environment. In addition to physical disruption and eyesores this project introduces, the staging areas will also be used for helicopter operations to transport supplies and materials to the applicant's mineral exploration sites; this means concentrated noise pollution for an area with sensitive wildlife and that has long been an area of peace and quiet for recreationists.

Further, this project is unnecessary; exploratory drilling has been conducted each summer for the past 19 years and there is no reason drilling cannot continue as it has. The footprint of the forest — especially in such valuable recreational and subsistence areas — should not be compromised merely as a cost-saving measure for the applicant.

Sincerely,

Ms. Kristin Sargoy

1360 Glacier Hwy Juneau, AK 99801-7817

Redacted

From: Redacted
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Cc: Redacted
Subject: Herbert river mining road comments.
Date: Friday, March 13, 2026 8:56:57 AM

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I oppose this project as a five generation family and Dot employee that I see no ea or eis study worthy of the impact to the river resources trapping and animals finally making a comeback here. Our family were miners. But no thought today to care about how we trapped (currently) and fish etc is being put out nowadays ensuring a trade off at least or detrimental impact at best. Bob saviers.

Sent from my iPhone

From: [John Hudson](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Cc: [Rob Cadmus](#)
Subject: ADL109466
Date: Friday, March 13, 2026 1:56:34 PM
Attachments: [2026 March public comments SAWC final.pdf](#)

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John,

Please accept these public comments for project ADL 109466.

John

--

John Hudson
Restoration Biologist
Southeast Alaska Watershed Coalition
john@sawcak.org
907-419-4677
alaskawatershedcoalition.org

5/13/2026

John Discoll
Alaska Department of Natural Resources
Division of Mining, Land and Water
P.O. Box 111020
Juneau, AK 99811-1020

Subject: ADL 109466, GPG Alaska Resources, Inc.

Mr. Driscoll,

The Southeast Alaska Watershed Coalition (SAWC) is a regional non-profit organization that fosters partnerships and inspires Southeast Alaskans to steward our watersheds. With our partners throughout the region, we support communities through participatory projects, research, and learning. Since 1998, SAWC and our predecessor organizations –Mendenhall Watershed Partnership and Juneau Watershed Partnership – have worked with citizens and municipal, state, and federal agencies to assess watershed conditions, identify problems, and implement and monitor restoration projects. These projects restore fish and wildlife habitat and water quality on public and private lands in our region, including in the greater Juneau area. Most of this work addresses the adverse impacts of land use and development on watershed health, including the health of 5 state-listed impaired urban salmon streams in Juneau that have suffered from urbanization.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the easement application referenced above. The applicant proposes constructing an access road and staging areas on DMLW-managed land between the Herbert and Eagle Rivers east of North Glacier Highway north of Juneau. The purpose of the development is to support the applicant's mineral exploration activities at the proposed New Amalga Mine near Herbert Glacier.

The Herbert and Eagle River watersheds contain a remarkably large proportion of the high-value fish and wildlife habitat found in the Juneau area. Due to limited development, the land within the watersheds and associated watershed functions are virtually intact, particularly upstream of Glacier Highway. As dynamic alluvial channels flowing through floodplain large-tree coniferous forest, the creation and maintenance of salmon habitat is one of the most

important functions of these rivers. This process involves lateral channel migrations that erode banks importing habitat-forming trees to the channel. Within the channel, these trees promote pool formation, riffle development, and channel meandering, which increases channel resilience to disturbance (e.g., floods) and habitat complexity for salmon and other aquatic species. The trees also provide cover for fish as a shelter from predators and high flows. The importance of tree recruitment to the proper functioning of streams cannot be overstated and these two rivers recruit trees by eroding their banks. Throughout the Pacific Northwest, watershed restoration efforts are spending hundreds of millions of dollars placing trees in streams to restore degraded salmon habitat and stabilize channels following historic timber harvest on floodplains.

The proposed access road and staging areas are in a fluvially dynamic and densely forested glacial outwash plain. This infrastructure would be constructed in-between and in close proximity to rivers that historically and presently experience significant lateral channel migration. These rivers need room to migrate, and their migrations create complex fish and wildlife habitat. Today, development in these types of riverscapes is not only avoided, many communities are removing buildings and roads from such high-risk areas to avoid flooding and to restore the natural channel processes that create and sustain salmon habitat.

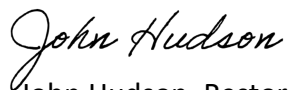
Placing infrastructure within the dynamic riverscape of the lower Herbert and Eagle Rivers should be avoided. Movement of the channels toward the proposed infrastructure is a foreseeable threat to that infrastructure. When channels migrate to the infrastructure, natural channel processes will be altered and bank armoring efforts to protect infrastructure will further disrupt these processes.

Further, it appears to us that this proposed infrastructure is not necessary for current operations, and alternative solutions that are cheaper and less impactful to public land may exist. There is no need for a new, mile-plus long road to create a helicopter staging area. Such a staging area could simply be created adjacent to Glacier Highway or, less impactful, on private property that is in the area and already disturbed. There is, for example, a private borrow pit and construction staging area close to the site. This alternative site would have an insignificant impact on helicopter flight distance.

We recommend that the Division identify other lands, preferably already developed private lands, outside of dynamic riverscapes to accommodate the proposed need.

Sincerely,

Rob Cadmus, Executive Director

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "John Hudson".

John Hudson, Restoration Biologist

From: [Margaret Custer](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Cc: [Dan Hysell](#)
Subject: Re: Public Notice - ADL 109466 - Easement for Road and Staging Areas near Eagle and Herbert Rivers in Juneau
Date: Friday, March 13, 2026 5:04:04 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[2026-03-12 SEALT Comment - ADL 109466.pdf](#)

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Hi John,

Please find attached the comment letter for the Southeast Alaska Land Trust on this matter. We appreciate your outreach very much and see DNR as a partner in land management on various properties. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Have a great weekend!

Margaret Custer, *Executive Director*
margaret@sealt.org | (907) 586-3100 | www.sealt.org
5150 Glacier Highway | Juneau, AK 99801



We live and work on Lingít Aaní. We strive to be consistent with and supportive of the stewardship of these lands by the Indigenous people of the region, recognizing that they have long cared for these lands and their living resources. Aatlein gunalchéesh.

On Wed, Feb 11, 2026 at 2:13 PM Driscoll III, John Henry (DNR) <john.driscoll_iii@alaska.gov> wrote:

Good Afternoon,

The State of Alaska; Department of Natural Resources (DNR); Division of Mining, Land and Water (DMLW) has received an application from GPG Alaska Resources, Inc., for a proposed easement, serialized by DNR as [ADL 109466](#). The proposed easement is for the construction and use of a 15-foot wide, 1.3-mile long, unpaved access road and two 1-acre staging areas on state-owned, DMLW-managed uplands, approximately 21 miles northwest of Juneau, Alaska. The Public Notice and application materials for this proposed easement are attached. The documents can also be found on the State of Alaska's Online Public Notice website at notice.alaska.gov/222641.

The public is invited to comment on this activity. The purpose of this notice is to gather input before a decision is made on this activity. After review and adjudication, DMLW may issue an authorization with

stipulations for the activity. The activity may be modified during the review and adjudication process.

To ensure consideration, written comments must be emailed to john.driscoll@alaska.gov or received by DMLW at P.O. Box 111020, Juneau, AK 99811-1020, **on or before 5:00 p.m. on Friday, March 13, 2026**. Questions concerning this activity should be directed to John Driscoll at (907) 465-3402 or john.driscoll@alaska.gov.

Sincerely,

John Driscoll

Natural Resource Specialist 3 | [Leases](#) and [Easements](#)

[State of Alaska](#) | [Department of Natural Resources \(DNR\)](#)
[Division of Mining, Land and Water \(DMLW\)](#)

[Lands Section](#) | [Southeast Regional Office \(SERO\)](#)

Mailing: P.O. Box 111020, Juneau, AK 99811-1020

Physical: [400 Willoughby Ave, 4th Floor, Juneau, AK](#)

Personal: (907) 465-3402 | john.driscoll@alaska.gov

SERO Front Desk: (907) 465-3400 | sero@alaska.gov

Website: dnr.alaska.gov/mlw/lands





SOUTHEAST ALASKA LAND TRUST

March 13, 2026

John Driscoll
Natural Resource Specialist 3, Leases and Easements
Alaska Department of Natural Resources
P.O. Box 111020, Juneau, AK 99811-1020
Via Email: john.driscoll@alaska.gov

RE: ADL 109466 – GPG Application for Easement Under AS 38.05.850

Dear Mr. Driscoll:

The Southeast Alaska Land Trust (SEALT) appreciates this opportunity to comment on the easement application (ADL 109466) submitted by Grande Portage (as GPG Alaska Resources, Inc.) to the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) pursuant to AS 38.05.850.

The Southeast Alaska Land Trust serves the people of Southeast Alaska by conserving lands of significant ecological, cultural, and recreational value for public benefit. We steward 3,800 acres across 44 conservation sites, including five properties comprising over 240 acres within and adjacent to the Eagle River and Herbert River watersheds. These sites include three properties owned by the City and Borough of Juneau (CBJ) upon which SEALT holds conservation easements; one privately-owned parcel upon which SEALT holds a conservation easement; and one larger property owned in fee by SEALT. The attached map shows the location of each of these conservation parcels. We are glad to provide additional information on these sites and their legally protected conservation values. We oppose the approval of this easement for practical, fiscal, legal, and cultural reasons, and we ask you to consider a few of the significant shortcomings in this easement application.

We recognize DNR's responsibility to evaluate whether this easement serves the best interests of the State of Alaska. We respectfully ask that this determination carefully consider the long-term and larger scale public interest implications of constructing a 1.3-mile access road and associated staging areas across state lands within the Eagle River watershed, to facilitate expanded mining operations near Herbert Glacier.

In summary, our major concerns with Grande Portage's application (as GPG Alaska Resources, Inc) are the following:

1. This project is contraindicated by DNR's injunction to permit **projects of best interests to the State of Alaska**, not surrender State land to predominantly benefit foreign investors with no local benefit;

2. The road will impact the **beloved and much-used recreational and subsistence use** of the Herbert and Eagle River watersheds for the people of Juneau;
3. The chief goal of this easement is to facilitate the industrial trucking of ore, which violates the intentions of the **Juneau Green Zone, in which DNR has vested stake and responsibility.**

Best Interest Determination

DNR is tasked to discern and permit projects for the best interests of the State. The primary beneficiaries of this infrastructure to expand mining operations on US federal land are a Canadian junior mining company. This is an ethical and legal nonalignment. Even if the mine proves economically viable for the individual company – pending a Preliminary Economic Assessment that has been out of reach for almost 20 years – the fact that the majority of Kensington Mine’s workforce (60%) are not local to Southeast Alaska reiterates that a foreign-based interest is not investing in resource extraction for the direct benefit of local communities.

The implications and natural resource risks of this 1.3-mile road extend beyond its literal length when the easement explicitly names its planned use for extractive industry. Grande Portage has stated that ore will be shipped between the two pristine rivers down to Glacier Highway and then to processing facilities elsewhere in the world from the proposed ore dock at Cascade Point. This gives Grande Portage flexibility to process ore at any location they choose, in the US, Canada, or even Asia where they can co-locate processing with smelting. While there has been public conversation that the ore will be processed by the US-based Kensington mine, it is possible, as it fiscally benefits Grande Portage, they will ship ore to Canada for processing to benefit from Canada’s permissive mining regulations, **benefitting no State or even American interests.** In this respect, authorizing this easement is not supported by DNR’s injunction to manage Alaska’s natural resources **for the benefit of the State and residents of Alaska.** Containerization, storage, spill discharge and prevention plans, risk management protocols for dust and runoff, and trucking plans should be transparently addressed as part of this review so downstream impacts—traffic, emissions, spill risk, and watershed exposure—can be evaluated.

The proposed easement would establish long-term infrastructure (requested term through 2061) on State land to support mining on federal land. We encourage DNR to carefully consider how issuing this easement and supporting extractive industry in a beloved recreational area and pristine watershed advances enduring public benefits for the State of Alaska or for the Juneau community, particularly in comparison to the far longer-term value of these lands for recreation, subsistence use, watershed integrity, and habitat continuity.

Recreation and Subsistence Impacts

The road, with its 24/7 industrial trucking of ore, will deteriorate the **beloved and much-used recreational and subsistence use** of the Herbert and Eagle River watersheds for residents and visitors of Juneau through point and non-point pollution, scenic and sound

pollution, and industrial traffic itself. The Herbert and Eagle River trails are popularly used by Juneau residents for hunting, fishing, hiking, wildlife viewing, climbing, mountain biking, subsistence food gathering, cultural activities, and quiet recreation. In 2025 a USFS cabin at Herbert Glacier was the most popularly requested cabin in the Tongass National Forest.

The proposed road, staging areas, helicopter activity, and potential future industrial trucking of ore would substantially alter the recreational experience, subsistence use patterns, and watershed integrity in this corridor. In addition to point and non-point pollution from construction, 24/7 industrial trucking will incur sound pollution, altering behavior of animals and attenuating opportunities for hunters and trappers in DNR land and adjacent federal and land trust-managed public lands. We respectfully request that DNR carefully consider and evaluate cumulative impacts to recreation and subsistence, including pollutants, spill risks, noise, traffic, safety concerns, and changes in access.

Inconsistency with Community Conservation Priorities

The goal of GPG in requesting this easement is to facilitate the industrial trucking of ore, which violates the principle of the **Juneau Green Zone – in which DNR has vested stake.**

SEALT's Herbert River Wetlands parcel, located downriver of the proposed mining expansion at Herbert Glacier, was protected in 2003 through a collaborative effort between DNR, SEALT, and the City and Borough of Juneau (CBJ). The property is owned by CBJ and legally protected in perpetuity through a conservation easement held by SEALT. Funding for this conservation site was awarded to DNR through the US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) National Coastal Wetlands Conservation Grant. SEALT's conservation easement – a binding legal agreement – places the Herbert River Wetlands under permanent protection for its natural, scenic, and open space values, as well as coastal habitat for fish and wildlife. The property is also protected for public benefit as space for environmental education, subsistence use including foraging and fishing, and non-motorized recreation including hiking and cross country skiing. **The conservation site is also subject to a second conservation easement held by the State of Alaska enacted following DNR's work towards its permanent protection.** The State of Alaska's conservation easement mandates that the site be used and maintained in accordance with the Coastal Wetlands Planning, Protection, and Restoration Act, Title III of Public Law 101-646 and states that in the event that the property is not so used and maintained, the State may be responsible for its restoration.

The location of Herbert River Wetlands downriver of the proposed mining expansion positions us to renew our partnership with DNR. Without an existing watershed ecological baseline outside the mine's own required studies, and with a historical and scientific precedent of pollution from mines into adjacent watersheds – all five of Alaska's operating hard rock mines have had at least one toxic spill and violated clean water regulations – Grande Portage's project contradicts existing DNR obligations. The approval of this easement request does not reasonably consider natural resources in DNR's care as inherently interwoven.

For more than twenty years, federal, municipal, state, and private landowners have collaborated to conserve and connect open spaces in the Juneau Green Zone, which includes the Eagle and Herbert River watersheds. This landscape includes additional conservation lands held by SEALT, properties owned by the City and Borough of Juneau, federal lands within the Tongass National Forest, and adjacent State recreation areas. The shared objective has been to maintain a contiguous network of habitat and minimally developed public access north of Juneau.

We respectfully ask DNR to position this easement request within the formation of the Green Zone framework and thoroughly consider if the proposed easement aligns with these longstanding community priorities. Even if technically permissible, infrastructure that enables sustained industrial trucking through this corridor is inconsistent with the intent – and years of interagency collaboration – to preserve this landscape primarily for habitat, recreation, subsistence use, and the cultural and lived values of Southeast Alaskans.

Request for Stipulations

SEALT's intention is to ensure that decisions made today reflect long-term stewardship values shared across agencies and the community. We value and appreciate our collaborations with DNR and welcome opportunities for dialogue.

We request also that DNR consider postponing the easement's approval until the mining project's long-term viability is proven through a Preliminary Economic Assessment, expansion plans that have been vetted and permitted, and necessity requires a permanent road of this nature.

If DNR elects to move forward with authorization either now or at a later date, we strongly encourage the inclusion of clear stipulations addressing water quality monitoring, erosion and sediment control, avoidance of contamination associated with ore transport, and ongoing consultation with affected landowners, the City & Borough of Juneau, Southeast Alaska Land Trust, Tlingit & Haida, and other stakeholders.

Thank you for your careful consideration of these comments and for your continued work stewarding Alaska's State lands. Please feel free to contact our office at (907) 586-3100 or info@sealt.org. We look forward to continued collaboration.

Sincerely,



Margaret Custer
Executive Director

From: kaymshep@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Kayla Shepherd](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: I urge the State of Alaska to deny the easement application by Grande Portage Resources for Project ADL 109466.
Date: Friday, March 13, 2026 1:34:08 PM

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Dear John Driscoll,

I urge the State of Alaska to deny the easement application by Grande Portage Resources for Project ADL 109466.

I oppose the permitting, construction, maintenance, and private use of a 15-foot wide, 1.3 mile long unpaved access road 21 miles northwest of Juneau, Alaska, on public lands, near the Herbert glacier trailhead. I oppose turning sections of our intact temperate rainforest, that hosts a delicate ecosystem, into two 1-acre staging areas used to store equipment, drilling supplies, and rock core samples inside metal shipping containers.

The public notice states, "If a mining operation is approved and developed on the adjacent USFS land, the 1.3-mile long road on state land will serve as the first segment of the access road to the project site." I do not support altering one of the most popular recreational areas for Juneau's year-round residents for a mine that has not yet proven economic viability.

Allowing an unproven and unpermitted mine to begin etching roads into the forests north of Juneau, the final vast tract of temperate rainforest on the planet, is short-sighted and does not acknowledge the risks to the community and local environment. In addition to physical disruption and eyesores this project introduces, the staging areas will also be used for helicopter operations to transport supplies and materials to the applicant's mineral exploration sites; this means concentrated noise pollution for an area with sensitive wildlife and that has long been an area of peace and quiet for recreationists.

Further, this project is unnecessary; exploratory drilling has been conducted each summer for the past 19 years and there is no reason drilling cannot continue as it has. The footprint of the forest — especially in such valuable recreational and subsistence areas — should not be compromised merely as a cost-saving measure for the applicant.

Sincerely,
Ms. Kayla Shepherd
5134 Thane Rd Juneau, AK 99801-7715

Redacted

From: [Nathan Soboleff](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: Grand Portage Easement Comment & Question
Date: Friday, March 13, 2026 2:14:17 PM

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My question/comment surrounding the road and helipad is why are they not proposing to use the existing(but gated) road that goes along the Herbert River? It goes 75% of the way to the proposed helipad. They should build off of the existing infrastructure. Less impact.

Nathan Soboleff

Sent from my iPhone

From: naomiastaley@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Naomi Staley](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: I urge the State of Alaska to deny the easement application by Grande Portage Resources for Project ADL 109466.
Date: Friday, March 13, 2026 2:16:52 PM

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The Herbert Glacier trail is used year round by many types of recreationists: skiers, hikers, runners, bikers, berry pickers, foragers. This project would endanger the recreational use of this land that is an important part of our community.

Sincerely,

Ms. Naomi Staley

401 Cordova St Apt F2 Juneau, AK 99801-1999

Redacted.com

From: ellie.stimpson2@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Ellie Stimpson](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: I urge the State of Alaska to deny the easement application by Grande Portage Resources for Project ADL 109466.
Date: Friday, March 13, 2026 6:03:25 AM

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Sincerely,
Miss Ellie Stimpson
1471 Greene Ave Brooklyn, NY 11237-4812

Redacted

From: morgan.d.stonecipher@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Morgan Stonecipher](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: I urge the State of Alaska to deny the easement application by Grande Portage Resources for Project ADL 109466.
Date: Friday, March 13, 2026 9:54:32 AM

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Sincerely,
Ms Morgan Stonecipher
426 East St Juneau, AK 99801-1041

Redacted

From: cmanhollan@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Chelsea Sweeney](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: I urge the State of Alaska to deny the easement application by Grande Portage Resources for Project ADL 109466.
Date: Friday, March 13, 2026 3:46:16 PM

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Sincerely,
Mrs. Chelsea Sweeney
308 Westgate Rd Buffalo, NY 14217-2210

Redacted

From: [Kim Titus](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#); [Kim Titus](#)
Subject: ADL 109466 -Proposed Eagle River watershed easement for road construction
Date: Friday, March 13, 2026 9:28:10 AM
Attachments: [ADL 109466 - Kim Titus comments Eagle River watershed road easement .pdf](#)

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13 March 2026

Mr. John Driscoll

Alaska Department of Natural Resources

State of Alaska

RE: ADL 109466 -Proposed Eagle River watershed easement for road construction

I have read the application documents for this proposed easement/road, and I urge the Alaska Department of Natural Resources (DNR) deny the application to GPG Alaska Resources Inc., a Canadian Company. The application has no details on the impact of this activity on a) the environment, and b) the users of this watershed. The information from DNR has no background documents on the public process (beyond this notice) and when environmental information will be available for public review.

This Eagle/Herbert rivers area is popular year-round by Juneau residents for hiking, biking, camping, skiing, and birding. The application makes no mention of any of these activities and the impacts of a road up the middle of the valley. DNR and the applicant need to evaluate these impacts. Issues like noise, seasonal use by hikers, bikers, skiers and campers must be addressed. There needs to be a cost benefit analysis of these significant impacts. Once built the road is essentially permanent and changes the entire character of the valley. There must be better public outreach.

Regarding the environmental impacts, the information provided is scant to nonexistent. Such a non-analysis "doesn't cut it." DNR knows how to conduct an environmental review and one is required here. I also request that the Forest Service (FS) be included given the lands they manage surround the watershed and the proposed mine area itself is on FS land.

This location of the proposed road is lowland, highly productive riparian forest. The forest floor has standing water even during dry summer periods. Questions arise such as how will the road be built – how much rock/fill, etc., - will be required? What are the noise impacts? How is the hydrology/water flow impacted? What wildlife surveys have been conducted? None of this is contained in the documents provided. Where will hikers, bikers go that don't want the noise and constant activity?

These and many other issues must be addressed by DNR and the applicant. The application falls far short of granting a permit to essentially "take" public lands. Again, I request the permit be denied.

Sincerely,

Kimberly Titus
River Road
Juneau

13 March 2026

Mr. John Driscoll

Alaska Department of Natural Resources

State of Alaska

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Sincerely,

Kimberly Titus

River Road

Juneau

From: [Jill Weitz](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Cc: [Richard Peterson](#); [Heather Gatti](#); [Raeanne Holmes](#); [Story, Andrea \(LEG\)](#); senator.jesse.kiehl@akleg.gov; Representative.Sara.Hannan@akleg.gov
Subject: ADL 109466 - Tlingit & Haida Comments
Date: Friday, March 13, 2026 4:40:21 PM
Attachments: [T&H FINAL AKDOTGPG 32026.pdf](#)
Importance: High

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Mr. Driscoll -

Please find, attached, Tlingit & Haida's comments regarding ADL 109466.

Please also confirm receipt of this email.

—
Gunalchéesh, Háw'aa (Thank you),

Jill Weitz

Central Council Tlingit & Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska

Government Affairs • Office of the President

Mailing Address: PO Box 25500 • Juneau AK 99802

Cell: 907.957.9504

jweitz@tlingitandhaida.gov • www.tlingitandhaida.gov

OUR MISSION:

“Preserve our sovereignty, enhance our economic and cultural resources, and promote self-sufficiency and self-government for our citizens.”

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Central Council of the Tlingit & Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska

March 13, 2026

Mr. John Driscoll
Division of Mining, Land and Water
Southeast Regional Office
Alaska Department of Natural Resources
Division of Mining, Land and Water
550 W. 7th Avenue, Suite 900C
Anchorage, Alaska 99501
Sent via email

RE: Tlingit & Haida Comments on ADL 109466 – GPG Alaska Resources Inc. Road Easement Application (Eagle–Herbert River Corridor)

Dear Mr. Driscoll,

The Central Council of Tlingit & Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska (Tlingit & Haida) submits the following comments regarding Canadian GPG Alaska Resources Inc. application for a private easement (ADL 109466) to construct an approximately 1.3-mile access road, laydown areas, and helicopter staging pads on State of Alaska land between the Herbert River (L'ux) and Eagle River (Asx'ée) bridges along Glacier Highway near Juneau (Dzantik'i Heeni).

Tlingit & Haida is the regional Tribe of Southeast Alaska and the largest federally recognized Tribe in the state, representing nearly 39,000 Tribal Citizens. Our people have stewarded the lands and waters of Lingít Aaní since time immemorial. The forests, rivers, and marine ecosystems of the L'ux and Asx'ée watersheds support hunting, fishing, and gathering practices that remain central to our food systems, culture, and identity.

The proposed easement lies within the traditional homelands of the Áak'w Kwáan Lingít people and adjacent to sacred burial sites, traditional and customary use areas, and important fish and wildlife habitat. For these reasons, Tlingit & Haida has significant concerns regarding the potential environmental, cultural, and subsistence impacts associated with this proposal.

Although the State of Alaska has recently acknowledged Alaska Native Tribes as sovereign governments, the State has not consistently treated Tribes as sovereigns for purposes of meaningful government-to-government consultation. Tlingit & Haida—the sovereign Tribe of Juneau—has not been consulted by the State regarding this easement application.

While the State retains authority over its lands, infrastructure or access authorizations that facilitate activities affecting subsistence resources on nearby federal lands or waters (that may also support subsistence harvests by rural Alaska communities) implicates federal subsistence protections and consultation responsibilities. Meaningful engagement with affected Tribal governments, the State of Alaska, and the U.S. Forest Service is therefore essential to ensure that Tribal knowledge, subsistence dependence, and cultural impacts are fully considered *before authorizing any development* that could affect Tribal homelands and food systems.

While the application characterizes the proposal as an exploration staging facility, it also states that the road and associated infrastructure could ultimately serve as the initial segment of a future mine access road extending onto U.S. Forest Service lands to support development of the proposed New Amalga Gold project. The application further anticipates the potential construction of a utility corridor containing high-voltage transmission lines and fiber infrastructure to service a future mine site.

These statements raise serious concerns regarding connected actions and segmentation of environmental review. Infrastructure designed to facilitate a future mining operation should be evaluated in the context of its reasonably foreseeable use. Constructing permanent access infrastructure at this stage risks committing the landscape to industrial development before the full consequences of a potential mine and associated developments are analyzed.

For this reason, Tlingit & Haida urges the State of Alaska to evaluate the proposed easement not as an isolated road project, but as infrastructure that could enable long-term mining development within the L'ux and Asx'ée watersheds. Authorizing the easement without a clear understanding of the broader environmental, cultural, and subsistence impacts would be premature.

Further, the L'ux and Asx'ée watershed ecosystems provide important habitat biodiversity for wildlife species relied upon by Alaska Native peoples for harvest, including deer, bear, wolves, and migratory birds. These forests and watersheds also contribute to salmon systems that support subsistence, cultural, and commercial fisheries in the region.

Alaska's waters and fisheries resources are held in trust by the State of Alaska for the benefit of the public under the public trust doctrine and Article VIII of the Alaska Constitution. Salmon systems and the watersheds that sustain them are of exceptional importance to the people of Alaska and to Alaska Native communities whose cultures and food systems depend on them. Decisions authorizing access infrastructure that

may affect salmon habitat, watershed hydrology, and wildlife populations (including marine species) must therefore be *fully evaluated* to ensure that these public trust resources are not impaired.

Activities associated with road construction and staging areas also risk altering drainage patterns and wetland hydrology within the project area. The application acknowledges that portions of the proposed corridor may require authorization from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers due to wetland impacts. Given the importance of these wetlands to salmon habitat and watershed function, these impacts warrant thorough USACE analysis (and appropriate federal permitting) *before* consideration of the requested easement.

The project also proposes storage of diesel fuel, gasoline, lubricants, and other hydrocarbons at laydown sites. While the application describes containment measures, fuel storage and heavy equipment operations near wetlands and salmon-bearing waters present inherent risks of spills or contamination. These risks further underscore the need for comprehensive environmental review and appropriate permitting and regulatory oversight *prior to any authorization*.

In addition, clearing forested areas for road construction and staging infrastructure may impact cultural trees, alter runoff patterns, and increase sedimentation in nearby streams. These effects could degrade fish habitat and downstream water quality within the watershed and must be fully understood *prior to any authorization*.

As mentioned, the project area lies within the traditional territory of the Áak'w Kwáan Lingít people. To date, Tribal consultation with Tlingit & Haida has not occurred regarding this proposal. The application materials likewise contain no documentation of Tribal consultation or engagement with direct Áak'w Kwáan lineal descendants, cultural resource review—including impacts to known sacred burial sites, or incorporation of Indigenous Knowledge in project planning. These impacts must be fully understood *prior to any authorization*.

The forests and watersheds of this area are part of the ancestral and living cultural landscape of the Lingít people. Decisions regarding industrial access infrastructure in this region must therefore be approached with care and with a full understanding of their long-term consequences. Evaluating the proposed easement in isolation would fail to account for broader ecological and cultural consequences.

Accordingly, Tlingit & Haida respectfully urges the State of Alaska to:

1. Conduct a comprehensive environmental review evaluating the cumulative and foreseeable impacts of the proposed easement and associated development;
2. Fully analyze potential impacts to sacred burial sites, subsistence resources, wildlife habitat, and marine and freshwater ecosystem health; and
3. Engage in formal government-to-government consultation with affected Tribal governments *prior to authorizing any easement*.

Tlingit & Haida therefore formally requests government-to-government consultation with the State of Alaska regarding this application *prior to any decision on the requested easement*.

Gunalchéesh, Háw'aa. Tlingit & Haida looks forward to working together on this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Richard J. Peterson".

Richard J. Peterson
Chalyee Éesh
President



From: [Johnson, Marci - FS, AK](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: RE: Public Notice - ADL 109466 - Easement for Road and Staging Areas near Eagle and Herbert Rivers in Juneau
Date: Friday, March 13, 2026 4:16:23 PM
Attachments: [image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)

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Good afternoon,

Thank you for notifying us of this easement request and considering our comments. The proposal outlines a 1.3-mi road with two staging areas used to support current mineral exploration near the Herbert Glacier terminus, and although it may one day serve as the start of an access road to a mine, the mine is not yet proposed nor permitted. As the specialist who reviews projects on adjacent USFS land regarding fish and wildlife, I'd like to relay the following:

1. Mountain goats: Our Forest Plan¹ calls for the protection of habitat in or within a mile of mountain goat winter range. Using a habitat model developed by ADFG and parameters identified in the Forest Plan, the easement and adjacent USFS lands contain high quality winter habitat. This development compromises the quality of winter habitat in the Forest within a mile of the boundary, and any activity in the area from November to May could disturb goats when they are vulnerable to physiological and behavioral impacts.
2. Goshawks: In the 1/16/26 USFS letter authorizing mineral exploration this season, the stipulations include avoiding helicopter activity over the lower reaches of the Herbert River to avoid disturbing nesting goshawks, as several nests have been documented in the vicinity of the easement. The Forest Plan expects a buffer of 600 feet around an active nest from disturbance and the protection of 100 acres of associated foraging habitat. I would like to see a broadcast survey completed on USFS lands within 600 feet of the second staging area (lying close to our boundary) and recommend felling trees between mid-August (after fledging) and November (to avoid bear dens). Should helicopter-supported exploration continue in 2027, I will again recommend that the flight paths avoid the Herbert River and discourage the use of the staging areas as a helipad for operations upriver on FS lands.
3. Eagles: Mitigations, surveys, and permits pursued by the State under the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act and the Migratory Bird Treaty Act ([timing windows](#)) would address concerns for other bird species frequenting USFS lands. In a recent survey of the Amalga (or Eagle Glacier) Trail, some bald eagles were exhibiting behavior that indicated there may be a nest in this area.
4. Fish: The proposal stated that the road would incorporate appropriately-sized culverts to protect hydrologic function and fish habitat. The standards and guidelines may differ if the road is ultimately extended across USFS lands, but if ADFG Habitat provides guidance on drainage, erosion, and aquatic organism passage in this area between these two anadromous rivers I do not expect significant impact to fish that spend a part of their life cycle within the Forest boundary.

Thank you for your time,
Marci Johnson

¹ United States Department of Agriculture. 2016. [Tongass Land and Resource Management Plan Final Environmental Impact Statement](#). R10-MB-769g.



Marci Johnson
Wildlife & Fisheries Biologist
Forest Service
Tongass National Forest
Admiralty Island National Monument
Juneau Ranger District
p: 907-789-6253
marci.johnson@usda.gov
8510 Mendenhall Loop Rd
Juneau, AK 99801

"I may not have done as well in my career as I could have, but damn it, I've seen the Mendenhall Glacier."
- last line in [Seasonal: A Life Outside](#) by Ed Engel

From: Driscoll III, John Henry (DNR) <john.driscoll_iii@alaska.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, February 11, 2026 2:13 PM
To: Driscoll III, John Henry (DNR) <john.driscoll_iii@alaska.gov>
Subject: Public Notice - ADL 109466 - Easement for Road and Staging Areas near Eagle and Herbert Rivers in Juneau

Good Afternoon,

The State of Alaska; Department of Natural Resources (DNR); Division of Mining, Land and Water (DMLW) has received an application from GPG Alaska Resources, Inc., for a proposed easement, serialized by DNR as [ADL 109466](#). The proposed easement is for the construction and use of a 15-foot wide, 1.3-mile long, unpaved access road and two 1-acre staging areas on state-owned, DMLW-managed uplands, approximately 21 miles northwest of Juneau, Alaska. The Public Notice and application materials for this proposed easement are attached. The documents can also be found on the State of Alaska's Online Public Notice website at notice.alaska.gov/222641.

The public is invited to comment on this activity. The purpose of this notice is to gather input before a decision is made on this activity. After review and adjudication, DMLW may issue an authorization with stipulations for the activity. The activity may be modified during the review and adjudication process.

To ensure consideration, written comments must be emailed to john.driscoll@alaska.gov or received by DMLW at P.O. Box 111020, Juneau, AK 99811-1020, **on or before 5:00 p.m. on Friday, March 13, 2026**. Questions concerning this activity should be directed to John Driscoll at (907) 465-3402 or john.driscoll@alaska.gov.

Sincerely,

John Driscoll

Natural Resource Specialist 3 | [Leases and Easements](#)
State of Alaska | [Department of Natural Resources \(DNR\)](#)
[Division of Mining, Land and Water \(DMLW\)](#)
[Lands Section](#) | [Southeast Regional Office \(SERO\)](#)

Mailing: P.O. Box 111020, Juneau, AK 99811-1020

Physical: 400 Willoughby Ave, 4th Floor, Juneau, AK

Personal: (907) 465-3402 | john.driscoll@alaska.gov

SERO Front Desk: (907) 465-3400 | sero@alaska.gov

Website: dnr.alaska.gov/mlw/lands



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From: [Scott Vulstek](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: ADL 109466 – Opposition to Private Non-Exclusive Easement for Road and Staging Areas, Eagle/Herbert River Area
Date: Friday, March 13, 2026 12:49:42 PM
Attachments: [ADL109466_Opposition_Letter.docx](#)

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Dear Mr. Driscoll and the Division of Mining, Land and Water:

I am writing to formally oppose the easement application ADL 109466, submitted by GPG Alaska Resources, Inc., for a 1.3-mile access road and two one-acre staging areas on state-owned land adjacent to the Eagle and Herbert Rivers, approximately 21 miles northwest of Juneau. I urge the Department of Natural Resources to deny this application.

While the application frames this as a modest, temporary exploration easement, the applicant's own submission makes clear that this road is intended to serve as "the first segment of the access road to the project site" should a mining operation be approved on adjacent U.S. Forest Service land. This candid disclosure reveals that the requested easement is not an isolated or minor infrastructure request; it is a foundational step toward large-scale industrial mining development in a sensitive, roadless area of the Tongass National Forest watershed.

The Eagle and Herbert River drainages provide critical habitat for Pacific salmon, Dolly Varden, and the wildlife and communities that depend on them. The construction of a compacted shot-rock road and permanent staging areas (with a requested term extending through 2061) would introduce lasting physical disturbance, altered hydrology, increased sediment loading, and a permanent industrial footprint in an area currently free of such infrastructure. Exploration-phase easements of this nature routinely become anchoring infrastructure for far larger projects, and that trajectory is explicitly acknowledged here.

Furthermore, this proposal must be considered in the context of other recent and proposed actions in the broader area, including the proposed Cascade Point ferry terminal project. Individually, any one of these projects may appear limited in scope. Cumulatively, however, they represent a pattern of incremental industrial development in the region — what might fairly be described as a "death by a thousand cuts" approach to the Tongass. Each individual authorization normalizes the next, and the aggregate effect on fish and wildlife habitat, watershed integrity, and the character of this nationally significant forest is substantial and largely irreversible.

It also bears noting that GPG Alaska Resources, Inc. is a subsidiary associated with Canadian mining interests. The primary beneficiary of reduced ground-based access costs is the corporate applicant, not the public. The burden of any environmental risk, habitat degradation, or future remediation falls on Alaska's lands, waters, and communities. This is not an equitable exchange, and the State should not authorize permanent infrastructure on public land primarily to reduce operational costs for a foreign mining corporation.

The public interest is best served by denying this easement application and requiring that any future exploration or development proposals in this area undergo comprehensive, project-level environmental review that accounts for cumulative impacts, long-term land use implications, and the full scope of the intended mining project rather than evaluating only the immediate infrastructure request in isolation.

I respectfully urge the Division of Mining, Land and Water to deny ADL 109466.

Sincerely,

Scott Vulstek
17230 Andreanoff Dr.
Juneau, AK 99801

[s](#)Redacted

March 13, 2026

John Driscoll
Division of Mining, Land and Water
Southeast Regional Office
P.O. Box 111020
Juneau, AK 99811-1020
john.driscoll@alaska.gov

RE: ADL 109466 – Opposition to Private Non-Exclusive Easement for Road and Staging Areas, Eagle/Herbert River Area

Dear Mr. Driscoll and the Division of Mining, Land and Water:

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Scott Vulstek
17230 Andreanoff Dr.
Juneau, AK 99801

Redacted

From: 19jwen98@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Jennifer Wen](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: I urge the State of Alaska to deny the easement application by Grande Portage Resources for Project ADL 109466.
Date: Friday, March 13, 2026 9:50:38 AM

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Dear John Driscoll,

I urge the State of Alaska to deny the easement application by Grande Portage Resources for Project ADL 109466.

I oppose the permitting, construction, maintenance, and private use of a 15-foot wide, 1.3 mile long unpaved access road 21 miles northwest of Juneau, Alaska, on public lands, near the Herbert glacier trailhead. I oppose turning sections of our intact temperate rainforest, that hosts a delicate ecosystem, into two 1-acre staging areas used to store equipment, drilling supplies, and rock core samples inside metal shipping containers.

The public notice states, "If a mining operation is approved and developed on the adjacent USFS land, the 1.3-mile long road on state land will serve as the first segment of the access road to the project site." I do not support altering one of the most popular recreational areas for Juneau's year-round residents for a mine that has not yet proven economic viability.

Allowing an unproven and unpermitted mine to begin etching roads into the forests north of Juneau, the final vast tract of temperate rainforest on the planet, is short-sighted and does not acknowledge the risks to the community and local environment. In addition to physical disruption and eyesores this project introduces, the staging areas will also be used for helicopter operations to transport supplies and materials to the applicant's mineral exploration sites; this means concentrated noise pollution for an area with sensitive wildlife and that has long been an area of peace and quiet for recreationists.

Further, this project is unnecessary; exploratory drilling has been conducted each summer for the past 19 years and there is no reason drilling cannot continue as it has. The footprint of the forest — especially in such valuable recreational and subsistence areas — should not be compromised merely as a cost-saving measure for the applicant.

Sincerely,
Ms. Jennifer Wen
4052 Delta Dr Juneau, AK 99801-9189

Redacted

From: karen.white52@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Karen White](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: I urge the State of Alaska to deny the easement application by Grande Portage Resources for Project ADL 109466.
Date: Friday, March 13, 2026 2:27:04 AM

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Sincerely,

Mrs. Karen White

18065 Point Stephens Rd Juneau, AK 99801-8350

Redacted

From: mwhitesall@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Megan Whitesall](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: I urge the State of Alaska to deny the easement application by Grande Portage Resources for Project ADL 109466.
Date: Friday, March 13, 2026 10:15:27 AM

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Sincerely,
Miss Megan Whitesall
5805 Thane Rd Juneau, AK 99801-7730

Redacted

From: Martinaworden21@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Martina Worden](#)
To: [Driscoll III, John Henry \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: I urge the State of Alaska to deny the easement application by Grande Portage Resources for Project ADL 109466.
Date: Friday, March 13, 2026 12:46:51 PM

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Sincerely,

Ms. Martina Worden

2577 Douglas Hwy Apt 4 Juneau, AK 99801-2029

Redacted