



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

2021 AMA Advocacy Efforts and Activities What is AMA Doing for You?

AMA's work on Federal issues:

- Adoption of AMA Federal Issues of Concern [document](#)
- Monitoring of transition of Presidency and Congress:
Tracking appointees and providing issue background and questions for hearings, evaluating moratoriums, Presidential and agency orders, etc. providing of information about impact to miners, ongoing monitoring and education of DOI Secretarial Order suspending NEPA actions, plans of operations, land conveyances, and more
- Communication to connect President Biden's goals to pursue green technologies and correlating demand of minerals; evaluation of Executive Order on America's Supply Chains, subsequent policies discouraging mineral investment
- Mining Law Reform:
Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee hearings and efforts to review current structure and propose process to adopt royalties for hardrock mining on federal lands, oppose U.S. House reconciliation language with punitive proposals impacting hardrock mining royalty structure, reclamation efforts and achievements, raising claim maintenance fees, instructing BLM to revise rules and regulations, provide input on ill-conceived hearing on mining legacy
- Clean Water Act:
Evaluation of proposal to repeal and replace Navigable Waters Protection Rule, [request](#) for extension of inadequate comment period, participation in stakeholder listening sessions, [comments](#) submitted urging retention of durable rule, court decision vacating entire NWPR, monitoring agencies' halt of implementation of NWPR; comments on applying the EPA guidance document for the U.S. Supreme Court *County of Maui* decision to the Section 402 National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit program, participation in special invitation to provide EPA team with Alaska mining-specific review, review of EPA proposal to rescind Guidance document; work to review EPA CWA 401 certification changes, information on EPA Rule to rescind guidance document Rule
- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers program changes: – coordination of stakeholder and industry sessions with Alaska District in all agency program areas, Compensatory Mitigation working group, review of Fact Sheets, reissuance of Regional General Permit, Nationwide Permits, changes in staffing, policy, and other focus areas
- Review and evaluation of Petition for Rulemaking to revise hardrock mining regulations
- Review of the Council of Environmental Quality proposal to nullify 2020 permitting and efficiency reforms to National Environmental Policy Act
- Roadless Rule Exemption for Tongass National Forest:
Record of Decision exempting Tongass from Roadless Rule intervenor status, Roadless Rule lawsuit: AMA one of 30+ intervenors with State of Alaska; following Administrative Policy under USDA Secretary Vilsack, Roadless Rule: Administration repeal and replace, new USDA management "Southeast Alaska Sustainability Strategy", AMA/Southeast Conference [Op-ed](#), Roadless Rule: Administration repeal and replace, new USDA management "Southeast Alaska Sustainability Strategy", and USFS/DNR/AMA outreach session, meeting with USDA Secretary orchestrated by Alaska Delegation to get meaningful Alaska stakeholder feedback
- Provided [comments](#) to urge mining to be included as covered sector under FAST-41 permitting program; continued advocacy under umbrella of Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act
- Pebble Project:
Assessment of rejected US Army Corps of Engineers Permit, opposition to Congressional proceedings pertaining to "protections" mechanisms of Bristol Bay, special workgroup meetings with Alaska Delegation to discuss industry-wide and broader implications stemming from abuse of permitting process, information to membership via magazine [column](#), EPA initiation of steps toward 404c at Pebble: multi-industry press [conference](#) with Governor to improve cross-cutting damage to Alaska

- Evaluation of Dept. of Interior 30x30 lands conservation initiative: outlining data on Alaska's land status that clarifies Alaska met its 30% conservation goal long before 2030
- Review and comment development of U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service rescission of Critical Habitat regulations
- BLM land planning: substantive [comments](#) on Central Yukon Management Plan, tracking of implementation of Bering Sea – Western Interior Plan
- Toxics Release Inventory
Ongoing communications and education on the Toxics Release Inventory program; tracking and collaboration with Alaska DEC, Teck Alaska and NANA to demonstrate absence of pollutants
- Evaluation and engagement on Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act bill: work to evaluate benefits and spending, differentiation between bipartisan bill and reconciliation attempts
- [Comments](#) on Kensington Project Amendment Draft EIS for Plan Amendment, review of Final EIS and monitoring of objection period and US Forest Service responses
- [Comments](#) on Grande Portage drilling program
- Work with Alaska Division of Geological & Geophysical Surveys to prepare information for Dept. of Energy to identify critical minerals for “Minerals Sustainability”
- Compilation of Alaska data for renewal of Abandoned Mine Lands Program
- Administrative delay and court decisions affecting the Willow Project: [Letter](#) with partner trade organizations on Willow Project to highlight extensive and thorough permitting process
- Collaboration with BLM/AK Dept. of Conservation on restoration plan for Gold Creek
- Review and feedback on State of Alaska's Unlocking Alaska Initiative
- Evaluation and distribution of USGS Minerals Commodity Summaries
- Review of final National Park Service regulations to implement U.S. Supreme Court *Sturgeon* decision
- Held meeting with U.S. House Natural Resources Committee Ranking Member Congressman Bruce Westerman to highlight challenges to the mining industry
- Review and monitoring of litigation on Ambler Road analysis
- Study of revocation of ANCSA 17(d)(1) withdrawals per Secretarial order
- Feedback to Alaska Delegation on nomination of anti-development BLM Director
- Engagement with Alaska's mining districts on changes in BLM's 3809 compliance process
- Participation in BLM Resource Advisory Council
- Evaluation of “PRO” Act
- Review of Mendenhall Glacier Mineral Withdrawal
- Review of Resolution Copper legal decision and implications to land status for Alaska's miners
- Consideration of new Rule on Incidental Take of Migratory Bird Treaty Act
- Work with BLM to distribute Multi-agency placer operations/claims brochure
- Preparation of data for anticipated 36 CFR 228 rulemaking
- Review of BLM conducting camp inventories
- Ongoing participation in National Mining Association Minerals Policy Task Force, Government Affairs, and Environment Committees and subcommittee meetings, and American Exploration & Mining Association Environment Committee

AMA's work on State Issues

- Adoption of AMA State Issues of Concern [document](#) finalized and shared in tandem with positive increases in mining benefits from Annual Economic Benefits of Alaska's Mining Industry [report](#)
- Elections Watch and analysis and legislator profiles for AMA members following statewide election
- New and existing Legislator briefings on economic benefits and environmental record of Alaska's mines and projects
- Coordination of COVID-19 related workforce and community protection plans and dedicated AMA [webpage](#) of resources for miners, [letter](#) in support of emergency declaration to extend state authority on mandates

- Critical technical [comments](#) on mining regulations developed following passage of SB155 legislation, continued work with DNR and Governor's office to educate on needed provisions, outreach to miners for assistance in absence of updated regulations
- Technical [comments](#) on revisions to DNR's water regulations: education on provisions related to Instream Flow Reservations and water rights, ongoing engagement with Governor's office, coordination of testimony for legislative hearing examining regulations, [comments](#) on technical reviews of existing reservations
- Coordination with DEC and BLM on Gold Creek impaired waterbody to evaluated released integrated report and creation of industry/agency watershed recovery plan
- Tier 3 Waters legislation discussions with Legislators, DEC, Minerals Commission; development of fact sheets and background information
- Testimony and [comments](#) in support of extension of Citizens Advisory Commission on Federal Areas (CACFA)
- Engagement on DNR proposed fee regulations and [comments](#) focused on limiting open-ended travel costs for mining inspections
- [Comments](#) on Sullivan Creek Mineral Closing Order in mining rich area
- Engagement with Alaska Minerals Commission on appointments, meeting, assistance
- DEC Triennial Review [comments](#)
- [Comments](#) on APDES General Permit
- Testimony in support of West Susitna Access
- Rebuttal of Cook Inletkeeper Power [Report](#) on "mining not a fiscal gap filler"
- Multi-organization meeting with AIDEA on communications strategy
- Evaluation and feedback on Alaska Energy Independence Act
- Review of Consumer Data Privacy Act
- Coordination with Fortymile Mining District on DOT maintenance and clearing of Taylor Highway
- Meeting with DNR and member companies on APMA issues and agency communication
- Review of SB3002, changing corporate tax on s-corps
- Wishbone Hill permit renewal informal conference [comments](#)
- Support of University Lands Legislation
- State Oversight Alaska 404c Primacy working group
- DGGS economic mapping survey distribution
- State of Alaska travel mandates updates for members
- Coordination with other trade organizations on ballot measure reform
- Review of DEC mining general permits for need for AMA comment
- Review of DGGS Minerals Report
- Senate Resources hearings on mining overview, history of ANILCA, Alaska land status
- Following State Office of Administrative Hearings decision on DEC 401 certification for Donlin Project
- Participation in Transboundary Bilateral Working Group meeting
- Extensive review of Governor's Land Disposal bills
- Review and renewal of claim locator tags for AMA office
- Meetings with State of Alaska Departments (DEC, DNR, DCCED) in Fairbanks to highlight how to promote mining in Alaska
- [Letter](#) supporting AMHT lease at Ester Dome
- Inclusion in multi-organization letter to Legislature supporting budget actions to avoid state shutdown and continued fiscal work in August special session
- Review of state regulatory system and issues with Governor's office, coordination with impacted mining companies to get specifics and solutions
- State Office of Administrative Hearings decision on DEC 401 certification for Donlin Project
- Engagement in State of NV tax changes for implications to Alaska system
- Submittal of nomination of Hecla Greens Creek as Alaska Chamber Large Business of the Year

AMA outreach and participation in the community:

- Mining Day at Southeast Alaska State, Tanana Valley, and Alaska State Fairs
- Participation in Western States Mining Coordinating Council (Executive Directors of mining associations)
- American Exploration & Mining Association (AEMA) Alaska Session and coordination of Governor Dunleavy keynote address
- Participation in Minexpo convention
- Attendance and sponsorship of Circle Mining Picnic
- Community tour and presentation in Nome with Alaska Chamber
- Participation in subject matter expert panel at Conference of Young Alaskans
- Haines Ports and Harbors Advisory Commission participation
- Presentation to Anchorage Chamber of Commerce Young Professionals group
- Participation in Rocky Mountain Mineral Law Foundation Trustees meeting and Institute
- Kinross/Trout Unlimited Resurrection Creek stream restoration project in Hope
- Presentation to Southeast Conference mid-session summit and Annual Meeting events
- Participation in Southeast Conference Mining Committee
- Fairbanks Economic Development Corporation mining roundtable
- Women In Resources reception
- International Women's Day media event and followup women trade leaders interview
- Attendance at Gil groundbreaking
- Presentation to the Alliance with CAP
- Meet with Power the Future on job losses publicity
- Participation in RDC and Alliance breakfasts
- Participation in RDC Annual Conference
- Meeting with Alaska to Alberta Railway team
- Interview with Alaska Business magazine on copper potential
- Coordination with AIDEA on evaluation of Haines dock investment
- Meeting with outside mining consultant on mining public perception in Alaska
- Meeting with Advanced Supply Chain International on mining promotion/member support
- AMA/CAP presentation to first in person Fairbanks Chamber Luncheon

AMA Publications, Social Media, Website, and other Communications:

- Quarterly Alaska Miner [magazine](#) and monthly [journal](#)
- McKinley *Annual Economic Benefits of Alaska's Mining Industry* [Report](#)
- Annual AMA member Handbook and Service Directory
- Continuous management and added content to AMA website including advocacy, events, resources, and more
- Active Facebook and Twitter content management and engagement
- Management of "click to comment" tool to generate support comments

AMA Annual and Biennial Conventions:

- Spring planning of return to in-person Convention, associated committee meetings, speaker invitations, logistics, solicitation of sponsors and exhibitor booths, vendor contracts, and other event planning
- Extensive COVID-19 mitigation planning including technology investment, mitigation plan, alternative formats, virtual plug ins, and more
- Coordination of decision makers to cancel AMA convention among worsening conditions in Alaska
- Wrap-up of event details amid cancellation
- Planning AMA event committee to assess 2022 events

AMA Membership Recruitment, Retention, and Satisfaction:



- Regular meetings on statewide membership via zoom with rotating branch hosting duties, with specific regional or statewide focuses
- Weekly Executive Director reports to paid members outlining AMA activities and efforts
- Development of “What is AMA Doing for You” communications, to ensure that even during pandemic our members are aware of our efforts, a look ahead at 2021 and featuring testimonials supplied by members