

March 22, 2015

David W. Schade, Chief of the Water Resources Section  
Division of Mining, Land and Water  
Department of Natural Resources  
550 W. 7<sup>th</sup> Ave, Suite 1260  
Anchorage, Alaska 99501-3514



Subject: Comments on Applications for Reservation of Water within Stream  
2003/Middle Creek (LAS 27340 – Main Reach; LAS 27436 – Lower Reach; LAS 27437  
– Middle Reach).

Dear Mr. Schade:

The Alaska Fly Fishers (AFF) represents approximately 350 members residing in all regions of Alaska. AFF works to promote and educate public on the sport of fly fishing. AFF also works to preserve fish habitat through conservation projects. One of our largest conservation efforts is the annual Kenai River Cleanup held each September.

AFF wishes to thank the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) for extending the comment period on the above referenced water reservation applications. We have members that fish all the streams in the Chuitna River area which PacRim Coal LLC (PacRim) is proposing to mine coal.

After reviewing the PacRim proposed mining plan, we do not believe the existing interaction between surface and ground water will be able to be achieved or replaced after mining is complete. AFF members that are Fish Biologists Geologists and Engineers support this conclusion. As a result, fish habitat will be impacted. To preserve fish habitat for existing and future uses, AFF strongly recommends DNR approve the water reservation application submitted by the Chuitna Citizens Coalition, Inc.

Thank you for your consideration.

Very truly yours,

William P. Huber  
President, Alaska Fly Fishers  
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