

Debra Thompson

From: Cindi Lagoudakis <trembladakis@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, October 4, 2021 12:54 AM
To: Assembly
Subject: Transboundary Rivers Resolution

Dear Assembly Members,

As a former Assembly member during the Walker administration, I participated in transboundary river conversations with other representatives from Southeast communities, in hopes of developing a strategy for dealing with mining issues potentially affecting those river systems. Today, I am writing in support of the proposed transboundary rivers resolution being brought before the Assembly October 4 that has been proposed by Salmon Beyond Borders. British Columbia's record of insuring management and cleanup of mining operations and tailings has been a notably poor one. The number of historic and active mines on tributaries of and along transboundary rivers flowing into Southeast Alaska is hundreds more than most people realize. Many of these mines leach heavy metals and sediments into the productive rivers that are so important to our livelihood here in Petersburg.

The resolution calls for a permanent ban on tailings dams and a temporary halt to permitting and associated activities of new and expanded mining operations until international agreements and treaties are both in place and enforced. This is not a new issue, but it is a significant one. Other communities in Southeast Alaska have recognized the importance of this action and have already signed on to the resolution. In support of healthy ecosystems and productive fisheries, I urge you to do the same.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter,

Cynthia Lagoudakis