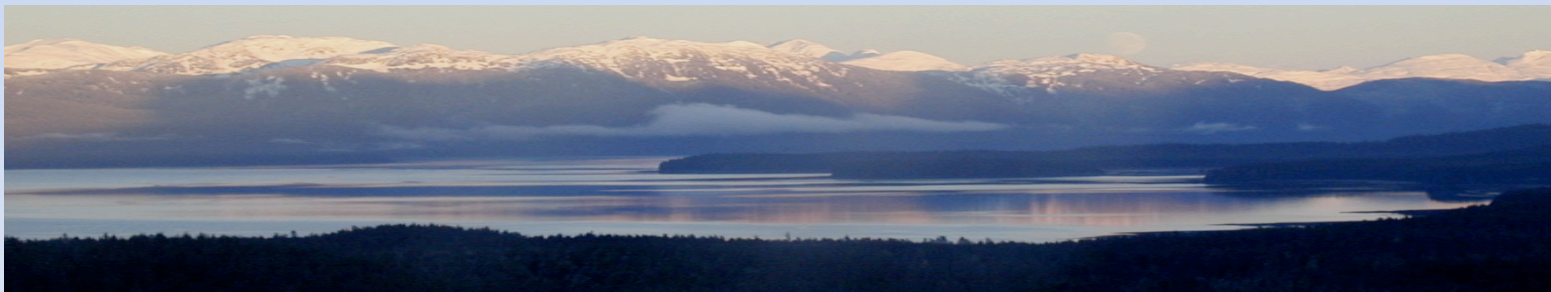




# Socio-Economic Impacts of the Greens Creek Mine



Presented by Ron Plantz  
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## What will we cover today?

- Quick overview of Greens Creek & Hecla
- Juneau Household opinions of Greens Creek
- Greens Creek impacts on the Alaskan economy
- Possible impediments to continuing success
- Greens Creek moving forward
- Our socio-economic goal



Which of the many Greens Creek socio-economic impacts to Juneau may be the toughest to grasp?



That even in the presence of giants, we remain Juneau's largest private sector employer!





## Greens Creek at a Glance

- Owned by Hecla Mining Company, Coeur d'Alene, ID
- Underground mine and surface concentrator
- Pristine environmental locale (National Monument)
- Polymetallic ore body (silver, zinc, lead & gold)
- Dore' and three concentrates produced (lead, zinc & bulk)
- Smelter customers around the world in Japan, Korea, Canada, Mexico, and China
- Long-lived mine, in operation for 20+ years and reserves for at least ten more!



# Household Opinions of Greens Creek

- McDowell Group telephone survey released in 2007, involving over 200 Juneau households.
- The majority of Juneau residents have a positive impression of the Greens Creek Mine operation.
- Nearly 64 percent think that Greens Creek Mine is doing a good job of protecting the environment.
- More than 78 percent of residents feel that mining has a positive impact on Juneau.



## Impacts on the Alaskan Economy

- McDowell socio-economic studies, 2004, 2006 and 2008
- Largest private sector employer in Juneau
- 330+ employees; >500 total direct and indirect jobs
- Over \$26M pay and benefits; average earnings of \$92,000 more than twice the state worker average
- Over \$20M purchases and contracted services
- Over \$50K in philanthropic contributions & scholarships
- CBJ property taxes of over \$1.3 million; several million \$ in Alaska Minerals License Tax



# Possible Impediments to Success!

Actions that needlessly increase costs or permitting & compliance uncertainty, discouraging investment in the future

- “Disguised” attacks on one that actually affect many
- Changes to state mining taxes or coastal zone management rules
- Anti-mining ballot initiatives and lawsuits with no scientific basis
- Federal mining law reform that targets gross revenue, not profit
- Duplicative EPA financial assurance requirements -- streamlining to provide more efficient regulation and protection should be a goal of agencies too!
- Federal legislation that redefines “fill” material relative to wetlands
- Skilled manpower shortages when economy improves



# Greens Creek Moving Forward

- We must improve efficiencies to remain viable during tough economic times and grow our reserve base to continue to provide significant economic benefits to Southeast Alaska
- Over \$4m/year planned for surface & UG exploration
- Increasing use of hydro power = eco-friendly emission reductions, lower operating costs; positive impacts on homeowner utility rates and contributes to possible intertie expansion
- Millions in spending to local & state contractors
- Evolving partnerships with the State on workforce development
- Continuing positive relationship with our neighbors in Angoon
- Projected mine life of over 10 years – again!



# Greens Creek's Socio-Economic Goal

To balance economic, social and environmental objectives through safe, responsible and efficient mining.



We appreciate your past and future economic, political and moral support as we achieve our goal -- "Gunalcheesh!"