



---

**NORTHERN DYNASTY MINES INC.**

**DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL BASELINE STUDIES  
PROPOSED 2007 STUDY PLANS**

**CHAPTER 15.  
RECREATION**

***DRAFT***

**SEPTEMBER 2007**

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

TABLE OF CONTENTS ..... 15-i

LIST OF TABLES ..... 15-i

LIST OF FIGURES ..... 15-i

ACRONYMS ..... 15-ii

15. RECREATION ..... 15-1

## LIST OF TABLES (attached)

Table 15-1, Study Summary for Recreation, 2005-2007

## LIST OF FIGURES (attached)

Figure 15-1, Study Area, Recreation Baseline Description

## 15. RECREATION

Kevin Waring Associates will complete the baseline description of recreational uses and activities for the area potentially affected by development and operations associated with the Pebble Project.

The objectives, study area, and methods for the recreation baseline study continue as described in the 2005 study plan and 2006 addendum, except as noted below.

The major tasks and activities remain generally as described in the 2005 and 2006 study plans: collection and analysis of recreation information in the study area from a variety of sources, interpretive mapping of major recreational uses and related activities, analysis of the current and future economic role of recreation, and preparation of the recreation baseline description.

In response to agency and public concern about the omission of the recreation resources for part of the Nushagak River drainage from the original recreation study plan, the western study area boundary has been extended to include additional sportfishing and hunting resources and activity along the Nushagak River corridor (Figure 15-1) west of the original study area. The interpretive maps for sportfishing and hunting activity are being revised to reflect the expanded study area. Coincidentally, this revision brings the study area for recreation more closely, though not perfectly, into alignment with the study area for the subsistence baseline studies.

Two Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) Game Management Unit, Uniform Coding Units (UCUs) are wholly within the transportation-corridor study area. Six other UCUs are partly within but mostly outside the transportation-corridor study area. Because the hunt data are aggregated by UCU, the data tabulations and maps commingle data for the transportation-corridor study area with territory to the northwest, west, and southwest of the study area. As feasible, the original ADF&G hunt reports will be retrieved and reviewed to determine the location and level of hunting effort and harvest that actually occurred in the transportation-corridor study area. This information may be put into a supplemental report for later integration into an updated recreation baseline study.

This 2007 study plan is also incorporates newly available annual ADF&G series data on sportfishing and hunting activity for 2005. The sportfishing database now covers seven years (1999 through 2005), and the hunting database covers six years (2000 through 2005). Visitation statistics for National Park Service venues in the study area also will be updated to incorporate 2006 data. Finally, as appropriate, other baseline information will be updated to reflect circumstances as of the time of report preparation.

Table 15-1 provides a summary of tasks for the recreation study in 2005 through 2007.

## TABLE

**TABLE 15-1**  
**Pebble Project Environmental Studies**  
**Study Summary for Recreation, 2005-2007**  
**Consultant: Kevin Waring Associates**

Discipline	2005 Data Collected or Tasks	2006 Data Collected or Tasks	2006 Tasks to be Completed
<b>Recreation</b>	2005 Study Plan	2006 Study Plan	2006 Study Plan Summary
	Inventory federal, state and other recreational lands and assets	Update all annual data series	Update all annual data series
	Compile data and trends on visitation and commercial users for national parks & preserves	Verify accuracy of other recreational information	Compile and map additional sportfish and hunt data for expanded study area
	Document and quantify as feasible recreational uses and activities	Develop descriptive and interpretive maps to show locale and intensity of recreational activities, especially sportfishing and hunting	Coordinate with preliminary results of related baseline studies, e.g., visual aesthetics, terrestrial wildlife, fish and aquatic habitat, etc.
	Compile and analyze ADF&G sportfishing and hunting data	Begin draft recreational baseline description	Complete draft recreational baseline description
	Identify and locate recreation lodges		Develop archive for sportfish and hunt data
	Identify points of access and travel routes to recreational destinations		
	Collect data on economic importance of commercial and non-commercial recreation		

## FIGURE

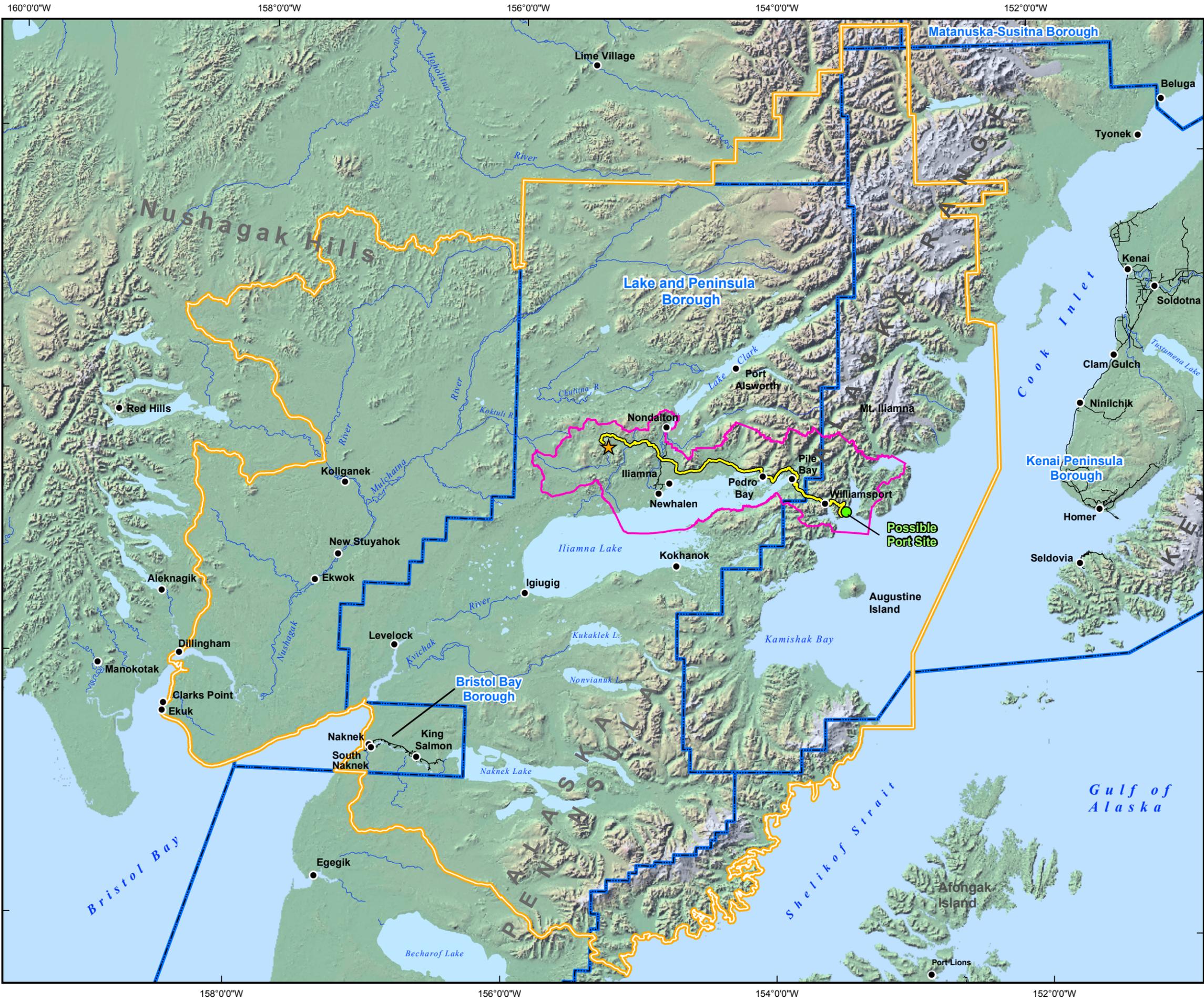
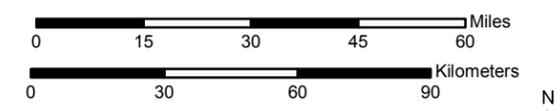


Figure 15-1  
 Study Area  
 Recreation Baseline Description  
**DRAFT**

- Legend**
- Study Area
  - Primary Study Area
  - General Pit Location
  - Borough Boundary
  - Possible Road
  - Existing Roads
  - Possible Port Site



Scale 1:1,620,000  
 Alaska State Plane Zone 5 (units feet)  
 1983 North American Datum