

## PERMITTING TALKING POINTS

### What the Permit Will Do

- Requested expansion will have minimal impact on Admiralty Island National Monument.
- Eliminates need for a new Tailings Disposal Facility.
- Avoids any disturbance to fish-bearing reaches of Tributary Creek.
- Allows mine to continue to operate in a safe, environmentally sound, cost-effective manner.
- Impacts less than 1/100th of 1% of the Monument.
- Would allow Greens Creek to operate the facility for as many as 40 more years.

### About Dry Stack Tailings

- Early adapter of utilizing a dry stack tailings facility.
  - Minimizes surface footprint
  - Reduces environmental exposure
  - Eliminate need for dam
- Reduced the initial tailings footprint from 150 acres to less than 30 acres.

### Environmental Performance

- Roughly half of tailings are mixed with cement and used to backfill underground
- Greens Creek has operated for decades while complying with, and many times going above and beyond, regulations and laws set forth by state and federal agencies.
- The mine is inspected frequently by the Forest Service, required by regulators to conduct ongoing monitoring, and every five years the state requires that the mine undergo an extensive environmental audit.
- The mine collects and treats all water that comes in contact with the operations at the 920 (mine and mill area), the tailings facility, and the Hawk Inlet facility.
- Water quality in the streams around the mine and in Hawk Inlet are constantly monitored to ensure there is no degradation to water quality.
- HGC recycles, reuses, recovers or disposes all waste generated at the mine site.
- Both state and federal regulators have approved HGC's closure plan and HGC has committed the financial resources needed to fully implement it.

### Economic Impact

- Greens Creek is the largest private sector employer in Juneau, supporting about 494 jobs and \$76 million in total wages.
- The mine purchases approximately \$65 million in goods and services from more than 350 Alaska businesses each year.
- Greens Creek has the highest taxable assessed property value in Juneau and pays \$2.5 million a year in property and sales taxes.
- The agreement with AEL&P keeps Juneau's power rates the lowest in Alaska – and gives the mine a clean source of energy.

### Community Involvement

- Greens Creek employees are involved in the community. On average, Greens Creek employee households donate \$549 a year and volunteer 167 hours.
- The company helps support more than 60 organizations.
- Hecla helps train the next generation by providing scholarships, mining courses, tools and equipment to the UAS Center for Mine Training, MAPTS Program and Prince William Sound College along with scholarships at UAA and UAF. It is also a major sponsor of Alaska Resource Education.