

may 3, 2023



I William Brent have been a resident of Wheeler Creek Admiralty Island since 1982. I have had the water Rights and had a Active Garden since the Early 1980. I have subsided off the land & sea for over 40 plus years. I over wintered 2 of last 3 winters at my cabin. I am the only year Round resident living with in 2 to 3 air miles from the Tailing pile. I & my Neighbor ^{& Family} at Wheeler Creek have seen white looking dust flying to our cabin & garden area.

I have seen the Tailing dusts flying 3 or 4 thousand feet coming from Hawk Ditch & landing on my property!

Years ago they ran Equipment on the tailing pile and with the North wind Blowing all the freeable dust come my way. What Resposable Company would put out 5 gallon bucket to catch the dust!!

Its not just me my family has been exposed at Wheeler Creek also.



In 2016 I lost my 22 year old daughter to a very rare cancer. 5 in a million get it. She grew up at Zehner Creek in the Summums, ate out of the garden + up land berry + drank the water that ran off the 500 foot hill behind our house.

I know the tailing pile is worth millions or billions of dollars and will one day be removed like all Big mines. How will the Forest Service catch the dust then, in 5 gallon buckets?? World Class mines doing the right thing. Keep their tailings under water.

Green Creek was at outer point ^{north} of Douglas, the flying dust would have never happened. I have been the only year round resident + my family close to the mine. I am against any up grade to the tailing pile.

Thank.
William E. Bent

over

Also the Red neck Clams that
we have eaten for years are gone!
They were in the Wheeler Creek
Delta which runs into Chatham.