

**From:** [Lin Davis](#)  
**To:** [House Resources](#)  
**Subject:** No on HB 138 today at 1pm  
**Date:** Friday, May 3, 2019 11:18:42 AM

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Dear House Resources Committee:

Thank you for saying a loud NO to HB 138. Alaskans like me need a clear democratic path to Clean Water.

HB 138 is a democracy alert tactic. It convolutes the ability of regular Alaskans like me to weigh in on water quality in our backyards.

Currently there are high levels of corporate pressure to extract Alaskan minerals. When you dig deep into their projects they often imperil our waters and harm wild salmon.

Even low levels of heavy metals, levels below generally safe levels, cause salmon to lose their sense of smell and interrupt return to spawn.

Please don't let our waters be irreparably harmed while we Alaskans are gagged with the ultra political and legislative foot dragger called HB 138.

Lin Davis



Juneau

**From:** [Laura Stats](#)  
**To:** [representative.john.lincoln@legak.gov](mailto:representative.john.lincoln@legak.gov); [Rep. Geran Tarr](#); [Rep. Sara Hannan](#); [Rep. Grier Hopkins](#); [Rep. Ivy Spohnholz](#); [Rep. Chris Tuck](#); [Rep. David Talerico](#); [Rep. George Rauscher](#); [Rep. Sara Rasmussen](#)  
**Cc:** [House Resources](#)  
**Subject:** Tier 3 River Designation  
**Date:** Friday, May 3, 2019 9:07:15 AM

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Dear Chairs Tarr and Lincoln and members of the House Resource Committee,

I am opposed to the HB138. Tier 3 water designation should not to be controlled by Alaska statute. Doing so makes the decision political vs. science based.

Alaska is a source of numerous anadromous rivers that deserve protection. They are in themselves a thriving natural resource. We also have resource deposits of valuable metals located in watersheds that put the salmon at risk when they are developed. In these circumstances, it is my stance that one natural existing and thriving resource should not have the potential to undermine or obliterate another by a undeveloped resource. *We need to protect and provide stewardship for anadromous rivers and streams for the people, for the food, water and cultural qualities. Tier 3 status is what does that.*

I look to our legislature to protect that natural resource for generations to come. It is both economically and of sound judgment to preserve a working ecosystem *in perpetuity* than anything manmade, such as a tailings facility.

I look to the legislature to preserve what is best for the people not for corporations and shareholders. Our salmon are the "gold mine" of the land. My family is a fishing family both commercial and sport, we eat salmon all winter.

HB 138 is a reduntant bill. Currently there are currently three ways to designate a Tier 3 Water:

1. DEC has the authority to review nominations and designate Tier 3 waters through the triennial review process.
2. Waterways in national parks, state parks, or wildlife refuges can be designated as Tier 3 waters by default.
3. The legislature has always had the authority to designate Tier 3 waters at any time, in addition to the above avenues designation

This process was approved by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in July, 2018, as meeting all federal regulations.

*I would suggest that the DEC provide the transparent public process with identified timelines for ensuring the Department conducts its review and makes a decision on each nomination in a reasonable timeframe.* It is notable that the already are 5 nominations for Tier 3 status in Alaska which have not been processed.

Thank you for your work in the 31st legislature and thank you to your staff.

Kindest regards,

Laura Stats



Juneau, AK 99801