

## Stop the Attack on the Clean Water Rule

### *Protect Alaska's Drinking Water*

The Clean Water Rule was recently finalized by the Obama administration after years of planning, 400 stakeholder meetings, and more than a million public comments. It safeguards our water and restores protections to the drinking water sources for 1 in 3 Americans. **The Clean Water Rule is a strong, commonsense policy that makes clean water a priority throughout the nation.** If Congress blocks the Clean Water Rule, millions of acres of wetlands nationwide will again be at risk from pollution and destruction from development, oil and gas production, and other industrial activities. Blocking this rule would imperil drinking water sources, as well as the small businesses and communities that rely on clean water.

#### **Black bear fishing in Anan Bay, AK**



Credit: brewbooks on [flickr](#)

- **Many Alaskans get** their drinking water from sources that rely on small streams that are protected by the Clean Water Rule.
- **Protections were restored to at least hundreds of miles of streams** that feed into Alaska's drinking water sources.
- **Thousands of acres of wetlands** that provide flood protection, recharge groundwater supplies, filter pollution, and provide essential wildlife habitat are safeguarded.

## Rule Provides More Economic Benefits than Costs

- **The Clean Water Rule restores, but does not expand, the historic coverage of the Clean Water Act.** EPA estimates that the rule will provide at least \$339 million and up to \$572 million annually in benefits to the public, including reducing flooding, filtering pollution, providing wildlife habitat, supporting hunting and fishing, and recharging groundwater.
- **Protecting small streams and wetlands supports fish and wildlife and Alaska's vibrant recreational industry.** The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service reports that in 2011, \$3.4 billion was spent on wildlife recreation in Alaska, including \$639 million on fishing, and more than 1.0 million people participated in these recreational activities in throughout the state.
- **Alaska's thriving brewing industry relies on clean water.** Alaska breweries contribute over \$150 million to our economy every year and support more than 1,200 jobs.

## Alaska Clean Water Rule Supporters

- **More than 1,400 Alaskans, out of more than 800,000 Americans, support the rule.**
- Groups like the Alaska Independent Fishermen's Marketing Association, Center for Science in Public Participation, and EPA Region 10 Regional Tribal Operations Committee support the rule.
- In 2003, Alaska opposed Bush administration efforts to roll back protections for small streams and wetlands.
- Recent polling shows that 79% of Americans want Congress to let EPA implement the Rule.

For more information, please visit [www.protectcleanwater.org](http://www.protectcleanwater.org)