



# PEBBLE PROJECT

## DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL BASELINE STUDIES PROPOSED 2008 STUDY PLANS

### CHAPTER 7. TRACE ELEMENTS

***DRAFT***



Prepared For:  
**State of Alaska Large Mine Permitting Team**  
**Department of Natural Resources**

Prepared By:  
 THE  
**pebble**  
PARTNERSHIP

3201 C Street, Suite 604  
Anchorage, AK 99503  
(907) 339-2600

June 16, 2008





# TABLE OF CONTENTS

<u>Section</u>	<u>Page Number</u>
TABLE OF CONTENTS.....	1
7. Trace elements.....	2
7.1 Mine Study Area.....	2
7.2 Transportation Corridor.....	2

## 7.0 TRACE ELEMENTS

This document summarizes the proposed scope of work for the 2008 trace elements program for the Pebble Project. SLR Alaska (SLR) is the lead consultant for the trace elements program. Bristol Environmental and Engineering Services Corporation (BEESC) performed sampling for the study in the transportation corridor.

The term “trace elements” refers to naturally occurring elements (mostly metals) that are analyzed for in various matrices. In Pebble Project documents, the term “trace elements” also is used to refer to the trace elements program. The trace elements program examines not only elements, but other naturally occurring compounds such as anions, cations, and biogenic hydrocarbons; the term “naturally occurring constituents” (NOC) is commonly used in this document to refer collectively to the analytical parameters included in the trace elements program.

The NOC studies in 2005, 2006, and 2007 are described in Chapter 7 of the Study Plans for those years. The discussions below indicate how the 2008 program differs from the studies in previous years.

### 7.1 Mine Study Area

No data on trace elements are being collected in the mine area in 2008.

### 7.2 Transportation Corridor

No data on trace elements are being collected in the transportation corridor in 2008.

**TABLE 7.1-1**  
**Pebble Project Environmental Studies**  
**Study Summary for Trace Elements, Mine Study Area, 2004-2008**  
**Consultant: SLR Alaska**

Discipline	2004 (completed by CH2M Hill)	2005 Data Collected or Tasks	2006 Data Collected or Tasks	2007 Data Collected or Tasks	2008 Tasks to be Completed
<b>Trace Elements</b>	<b>Mine Study Area</b>				
	Information gathering	Information gathering	Information gathering	Information gathering	Information gathering
	Scope, schedule, field sampling plan	Scope, schedule, field sampling plan	Scope, schedule, field sampling plan	Scope, schedule, field sampling plan	Scope, schedule
	2004 study plan	2005 study plan	2007 study plan summary	2007 study plan summary	2008 study plan summary
	Soil sampling (Aug/Sep)	Soil sampling (July and August)	Soil sampling (July)	Bacteriological soil, lichens and moss sampling (July)	Fish-tissue data analysis
				Surface soil sampling (July)	Coordination with HDR and BEESC
	Vegetation sampling (Aug/Sep--leaves and berries)	Vegetation sampling (July--leaves; Aug--leaves and berries)	Terrestrial vegetation sampling (July--leaves only; Aug--leaves and berries)	Terrestrial vegetation sampling (July--leaves only; Aug--leaves and berries)	Draft environmental baseline document
		Aquatic plant sampling (August)	Aquatic plant sampling	Aquatic plant sampling (coordinated with HDR;	Coordination with PLP, agency meetings, monthly
		Mercury/methylmercury fish-tissue data analysis	Fish-tissue data analysis	Fish-tissue data analysis	Communication and data management
			Pond sediment sampling	Pond/lakes sediment sampling (August)	Data analysis
			Stream-sediment and surface-water data analysis	Stream-sediment and surface-water data analysis	
			Coordination with HDR and BEESC	Coordination with HDR and BEESC	
			Draft environmental baseline document	Draft environmental baseline document	
		Coordination with NDM & agencies, monthly reporting	Coordination with NDM, agency meetings, monthly	Coordination with NDM, agency meetings, monthly	
		Communication and data management	Communication and data management	Communication and data management	
		Data entry and analysis	Data analysis	Data analysis	
QAPP review	QAPP update	QAPP update: aquatic			
	2004 progress report				

**TABLE 7.2-1a**  
**Pebble Project Environmental Studies**  
**Study Summary for Trace Elements, Transportation Corridor, 2004-2008**  
**Consultant: SLR Alaska**

Discipline	2004 Data Collected or Tasks	2005 Data Collected or Tasks	2006 Data Collected or Tasks	2007 Tasks to be Completed	2008 Tasks to be Completed
<b>Trace Elements</b>	<b>Transportation Corridor</b>				
	None	Information Gathering	Information Gathering	Information Gathering	Information Gathering
			Scope, Schedule, Field Sampling Plan	Scope, Schedule, Field Sampling Plan	Scope, Schedule
		BEESC Study Plan Review	2006 Study Plan Summary	2007 Study Plan Summary	2008 Study Plan Summary
			Coordination with HDR and BEESC	Coordination with HDR and BEESC	Coordination with HDR and BEESC
		Coordination with NDM & Agencies	Coordination with NDM and Resource Agencies, Monthly Reporting	Coordination with NDM and Resource Agencies, Monthly Reporting	Coordination with PLP and Resource Agencies, Monthly Reporting
		Data Analysis	Data Entry and Analysis	Data Entry and Analysis	Data Entry and Analysis
		2004 Progress Report	Prepare Preliminary Environmental Baseline Document	Prepare Preliminary Environmental Baseline Document	Prepare Preliminary Environmental Baseline Document

**TABLE 7.2-1b**  
**Pebble Project Environmental Studies**  
**Study Summary for Trace Elements in Vegetation and Sediment, Transportation Corridor, 2004-2008**  
**Consultant: BEESC**

Discipline	2004 Data Collected or Tasks	2005 Data Collected or Tasks	2006 Data Collected or Tasks	2007 Data Collected or Tasks	2008 Tasks to be Completed
<b>Trace Elements, Vegetation</b>	<b>Transportation Corridor</b>				
	Information Gathering	None	Information Gathering	Information Gathering	Information Gathering
	Scope, Schedule, Field Sampling Plan		Scope, Schedule, Field Sampling Plan	Scope, Schedule, Field Sampling Plan	Data Compilation
	Field Sampling--August		Field Sampling--August	Field Sampling--August	Report Writing
	Communication and Data Management		Communication and Data Management	Communication and Data Management	Communication and Data Management
	Coordination with local communities for observers		Coordination with local communities for observers	Coordination with local communities for observers	
	Prepared presentation		Data Compilation	Data Compilation	
	Report Writing		Report Writing	Report Writing	
<b>Trace Elements, Sediment</b>	<b>Transportation Corridor</b>				
	Information Gathering	Information Gathering	Information Gathering	Information Gathering	Information Gathering
	Scope, Schedule, Field Sampling Plan	Scope, Schedule, Field Sampling Plan	Scope, Schedule, Field Sampling Plan	Scope, Schedule, Field Sampling Plan	Data Compilation
	Field Sampling--July, Sept.	Field Sampling--May, July, Sept.	Field Sampling--August	Field Sampling--August	Report Writing
	Communication and Data Management	Communication and Data Management	Communication and Data Management	Communication and Data Management	Communication and Data Management
	Coordination with NDM	Coordination with NDM	Coordination with NDM	Coordination with NDM	
	Coordination with local communities for observers	Coordination with local communities for observers	Coordination with local communities for observers	Coordination with local communities for observers	
	Prepared presentation	Data Compilation and Analysis	Data Compilation and Analysis	Data Compilation and Analysis	
Report Writing	Report Writing	Report Writing	Report Writing		

**TABLE 7.1-2b**  
**Pebble Project**  
**Sample Site Period-of-Record Index**  
**Trace Elements, Mine Study Area, Pebble East**

Monitoring Site	Year	Period-of-Record by Discipline																								Notes																				
		Vegetation												Soil								Sediment																								
		J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D		J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D								
335245	2004																																													
	2005																																													
	2006										X	X											X																					Lowland wet graminoid moss meadow habitat		
	2007										X	X										X																								
335244	2004																																													
	2005																																													
	2006										X	X											X																					Riverine willow scrub habitat		
	2007										X	X											X																							
335246	2004																																													
	2005																																													
	2006																						X																					Riverine willow scrub habitat		
	2007																						X																							
335141	2004																																													
	2005																																													
	2006										X	X											X																						Upland dwarf, low & tall scrub habitat	
	2007										X	X											X																							
335142	2004																																													
	2005																																													
	2006										X	X											X																						Upland dwarf, low & tall scrub habitat	
	2007										X	X											X																							
335143	2004																																													
	2005																																													
	2006										X	X											X																						Upland dwarf, low & tall scrub habitat	
	2007										X	X											X																							
335144	2004																																													
	2005																																													
	2006										X	X											X																						Upland dwarf shrub habitat	
	2007										X	X											X																							
335132	2004																																													
	2005																																													
	2006																						X																						Upland dwarf shrub habitat	
	2007																						X																							



Monitoring Site	Year	Period-of-Record by Discipline																								Notes												
		Vegetation												Soil								Sediment																
		Month	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N		D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N
335145	2004																																					
	2005																																					
	2006							X	X													X																Upland dwarf shrub habitat
	2007							X	X													X																
335233	2004																																					
	2005																																					
	2006							X	X													X																Subalpine dwarf & low scrub habitat
	2007							X	X													X																
335234	2004																																					
	2005																																					
	2006							X	X													X																Subalpine dwarf & low scrub habitat
	2007							X	X													X																
335235	2004																																					
	2005																																					
	2006																					X																Subalpine dwarf & low scrub habitat
	2007																					X																
335243	2004																																					
	2005																																					
	2006							X	X													X																Alpine rock & dwarf shrub habitat
	2007							X	X													X																
335242	2004																																					
	2005																																					
	2006							X	X													X																Alpine rock & dwarf shrub habitat
	2007							X	X													X																
335131	2004																																					
	2005																																					
	2006							X	X													X																Alpine rock & dwarf shrub habitat
	2007							X	X													X																
335241	2004																																					
	2006																																					
	2007							X	X													X																Alpine rock & dwarf shrub habitat
	2006							X	X													X																
335133	2004																																					
	2005																																					
	2006								X																									X				Tundra Pond
	2007								X																									X				Tundra Pond











**TABLE 7.2-2**  
**Pebble Project**  
**Sample Site Period-of-Record Index**  
**Trace Elements, Transportation Corridor**

Sample Location	Year	Period-of-Record by Discipline																																				Comment					
		Sediment												Vegetation												Soil																	
		J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D						
NHRIV	2004							F		F																																	
	2005					F		F		F																																	
	2006																																										
	2007																																										
GS20	2004							F		F																																	
	2005							F		F																																	
	2006																																										
	2007																																										
GS20A	2004							F		F																																	
	2005																																										
	2006																																										
	2007																																										
GS18A	2004							F		F																																	
	2005																																										
	2006																																										
	2007																																										
GS17A	2004							F		F		F																															
	2005					F		F		F																																	
	2006																																										
	2007																																										
GS14A	2004							F		F																																	
	2005																																										
	2006																																										
	2007																																										
GS14B	2004							F		F		F																															
	2005					F		F		F																																	
	2006																																										
	2007																																										
GS12A	2004							F		F																																	
	2005																																										
	2006																																										
	2007																																										
GS11A	2004							F		F		F																															
	2005					F		F		F																																	
	2006																																										
	2007																																										
GS8A	2004							F		F		F																															
	2005					F		F		F																																	
	2006																																										
	2007																																										





Sample Location	Year	Period-of-Record by Discipline																																				Comment
		Sediment												Vegetation												Soil												
		Month	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	
POND3	2004						F	F																														
	2005					F	F		F																													
	2006																																					
	2007																																					
POND4	2004							F	F																													
	2005					F	F		F																													
	2006																																					
	2007																																					
POND5	2004						F	F		F																												
	2005					F	F		F																													
	2006																																					
	2007																																					
POND6	2004																																					
	2005																																					
	2006								F												V																	
	2007								F												V																	
TE01	2004																				V	V								S								
	2005																																					
	2006																																					
	2007																																					
TE02	2004																				V									S								
	2005																																					
	2006																																					
	2007																																					
TE03	2004																				V									S								
	2005																																					
	2006																																					
	2007																																					
TE04	2004																				V									S								
	2005																																					
	2006																																					
	2007																																					
TE05	2004																				V	V								S								
	2005																																					
	2006																																					
	2007																																					
TE06	2004																				V									S								
	2005																																					
	2006																																					
	2007																																					
TE07	2004																				V									S								
	2005																																					
	2006																																					
	2007																																					

Sample Location	Year	Period-of-Record by Discipline																								Comment														
		Sediment												Vegetation													Soil													
		Month	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N		D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	
TE08	2004																				V	V													S					
	2005																																							
	2006																																							
	2007																																							
TE09	2004																				V													S						
	2005																																							
	2006																																							
	2007																																							
TE10	2004																				V													S						
	2005																																							
	2006																																							
	2007																																							
TE11	2004																				V													S						
	2005																																							
	2006																																							
	2007																																							
TE12	2004																				V	V												S						
	2005																																							
	2006																																							
	2007																																							
TE13	2004																				V													S						
	2005																																							
	2006																																							
	2007																																							
TE14	2004																				V													S						
	2005																																							
	2006																																							
	2007																																							
TE15	2004																				V													S						
	2005																																							
	2006																																							
	2007																																							
TE16	2004																				V													S						
	2005																																							
	2006																																							
	2007																																							
TE17	2004																				V	V												S						
	2005																																							
	2006																																							
	2007																																							
TE18	2004																				V													S						
	2005																																							
	2006																				V													S						
	2007																				V													S						

