



Photo by J. Monkman/NRCM

The Katahdin Region is No Place for a Mine

Wolfden Resources is a virtually unknown Canadian company that has proposed building a mine at Pickett Mountain, in northern Penobscot County, near Baxter State Park and the Katahdin Woods & Waters National Monument.

In January 2023, Wolfden Resources submitted its second application to the Land Use Planning Commission (the LUPC) to rezone 374 acres of land to mine for zinc.

The Katahdin region and Penobscot River watershed are sacred to the Wabanaki tribes. The tribes have an intimate cultural and physical relationship with the land and water, which continues today through traditional practices such as sustenance fishing and hunting.

The Katahdin region's wild beauty and clean water are extraordinary—it's no place to put a mine.

Clean Water and Outstanding Fisheries are at Risk

- The proposed mine is a threat to the region's beautiful streams and valuable fisheries, which support guides, sporting camps, and outfitters.
- The mine would be located in critical habitat for endangered Atlantic salmon in the headwaters of the West Branch of the Mattawamkeag River. It would also be next to three State Heritage Fish Waters, which are ponds with outstanding brook trout fisheries.



Photo courtesy of Bill Bridgeo

Wolfden is an Inexperienced and Underfunded Company

- When it passed the 2017 mining law, the Legislature intended that only companies that have extensive technical expertise and strong finances be allowed to mine in Maine. Wolfden has neither.
- Wolfden has not demonstrated the ability to treat wastewater to the stringent standards Maine law requires.
- The company won't even say where it would put its concentrator facility for processing ore, a major component of any mining operation.

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Empty Promises

- Wolfden has made all sorts of promises, such as developing mining training programs at local colleges and universities and hiring local workers. The company has been here since 2017 and has not started any programs.
- Thomas Michael Power, a leading economist on mining says, “Across the United States, mining communities...are noted for high levels of unemployment, slow rates of growth of income and employment, high poverty rates, and stagnant or declining populations.”



Pickett Mountain Pond by J.Monkman/NRCM

Take Action

- **Email the Land Use Planning Commission** at WolfdenRezoning.LUPC@maine.gov to submit comments.
- **Sign up to receive email updates** at www.nrcm.org/get-involved.
- **Deliver testimony to the LUPC in-person** at one of the evening public comment sessions:

Monday, October 16 at 6:30 p.m. in Millinocket at Stearns Jr./Sr. High School, 199 State St

Tuesday, October 17 at 6:30 p.m. in Millinocket at Stearns Jr./Sr. High School, 199 State St

Monday, October 23 at 6:30 p.m. in Bangor at the Cross Insurance Center, 515 Main St

Let us know if you plan to attend one of these hearings at tinyurl.com/pickettmountain.

FMI: email nrcm@nrcm.org or visit nrcm.org/programs/waters/metal-mining-pollution-maine



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