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Trump NEPA rollback sidelines communities in favor of corporate interests

Washington — Today, the Trump administration is announcing changes to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), a bedrock environmental law signed into law by President Richard Nixon in 1970, that will make it easier to build highways, pipelines, chemical plants and other projects that pose environmental risks.

Statement by Adam Kolton, Executive Director, Alaska Wilderness League:

“This illegal gutting of NEPA would silence the voices of the people and communities most impacted by proposed projects. And it would do so in favor of helping developers and multinational corporations’ interest in taking short-cuts that could threaten public and worker safety and our natural resources.

“This new Trump administration scheme would sideline science, ignore the climate crisis and give short shrift to wildlife. In Alaska, it will slam the door on thousands of hunters, anglers and Alaska Native communities that depend on public lands for their lives and livelihoods. NEPA was established under a Republican administration and has long enjoyed bipartisan support. Today’s announcement is an incredible overreach and is badly out of step with what Americans want and what the law requires.”

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Alaska Wilderness League stands with, serves and supports the many people and organizations that believe in a sustainable future for Alaska. We honor and respect the cultures of Alaska Natives whose way of life remains deeply connected to the state’s land, waters, and wildlife. We believe that Alaska’s long-term economic future and subsistence traditions are inexorably tied to the health and sound stewardship of its natural resources, which support hunting, fishing, tourism and unrivaled outdoor experiences that are central to Alaskans’ quality of life.



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