



Village of Solomon, Box 2053, Nome, Alaska 99762 phone (907) 443-4985 fax (907) 443-5189

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**Contact:** Liz Curran Johnson  
**Phone:** 907 443-4985  
**Email:** [liz@villageofsolomon.org](mailto:liz@villageofsolomon.org)

**Tribe Opposes Mining at Bonanza Channel**

***Solomon Tribal Council Says NO to IPOP LLC'S Application for Mining and Exploration Project in Solomon.***

Nome, Alaska—On September 11, 2019 the Solomon Tribal Council, the governing body of the Village of Solomon (“Tribe”) adopted a Resolution formally opposing IPOP, LLC’s proposal for a mining and exploration project in Solomon, Alaska.

The Solomon Tribal Council, a seven (7) member duly elected tribal governing body for the citizens of the Tribe is committed to protecting its subsistence activities--an important component to the Tribe’s success for the nutritional and spiritual wellness of the Tribe. The Tribal Council added that it was asserting its inherent right and authority to continue its subsistence way of life just as their ancestors did for thousands of generations before them.

For over a year, the Tribe and landowners Solomon Native Corporation (Corp) has been following the progression of state and federal mining permits requested for the project named Bonanza Channel/Safety Sound/Solomon River IPOP, LLC. Though the mining company has been informed through the application process that there are at least 4-6 Alaska Native Tribes that utilize these areas for subsistence activities and that Tribes need to be notified, so far, IPOP, LLC, has not approached nor demonstrated that it values the input of the people and communities with the most at risk from this proposal. “It’s disappointing that this company has been so unforthcoming from day one. No one from IPOP has attempted to communicate what they intend to do in Solomon, we read about it in the local newspaper or Facebook—it just puts us in an awkward position of mistrust” says Corp President Liz Curran Johnson. “Regardless, at the end of the day we won’t support irresponsible mining when it threatens our cultural and spiritual livelihood..period.”

Tribe President Kirsten hopes that others will show support, "We now call on all those who love our homelands as much as we do to join us in vehement opposition to all efforts by IPOP to create their pipe dream, gimmick mining operation that has disregard for permitting regulations and complete oblivion for private property and threatens our subsistence land and waters!"

The Village of Solomon is a federally recognized Alaska Native tribe based in Nome, Alaska with inherent sovereignty and governance authority. Its primary responsibility is to enhance the quality of life for its tribal citizens by promoting self-sufficiency while maintaining its cultural values and subsistence way of life. Solomon is located at Mile 34 of the Nome Council highway and is mainly used for subsistence gathering.

IPOP, LLC is a division of the California based company Rivers of Gold that has submitted applications and multiple amendments to its application to the state and federal permitting agencies in efforts to start a mining project in Solomon's Bonanza Channel. Its Corps of Engineers Identification is POA-2018-00123, APMA 2875, Bonanza Channel/Safety Sound/Solomon River IPOP, LLC.