

# CWA 401 Water Quality Certification Request

version 2.14

(Submission #: HQA-D5XD-30XE3, version 1)

Digitally signed by:  
dec.alaska.gov  
Date: 2025.02.14 13:27:19 -09:00  
Reason: Submission Data  
Location: State of Alaska

## Details

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**Site:** PTU Screeding and Dredging

**Submission ID** HQA-D5XD-30XE3

## Form Input

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### Form Instructions

#### Form Instructions

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Instructions for filling out the 401 Prefiling Meeting Request Form are located on the Alaska DEC website at the link below.

[401 Prefiling Meeting Request Form Instructions](#)

**Agents:** For Delegation of Authority to act on behalf of the applicant in processing the application, use the following form, have signed, and upload with application.

- [Delegation of Authority - 401 Application](#)

### Contact Information (1 of 1)

#### Required Contacts

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The following **Contact Roles are REQUIRED**. Please select the appropriate role(s) for each contact and complete the contact details. Multiple role(s) may be assigned to each unique individual.

- **Applicant** (Responsible Party)
- **Billing Contact**

#### Contact Role(s)

Applicant

Billing Contact

**Contact**

**Prefix**

NONE PROVIDED

**First Name**

erin.bragg@hilcorp.com

**Last Name**

erin.bragg@hilcorp.com

**Title**

Environmental Specialist

**Organization Name**

Hilcorp Alaska

**Phone Type**

Business

**Number**

9075645382

**Extension**

**Email**

erin.bragg@hilcorp.com

**Mailing Address**

3800 Centerpoint Dr

Ste. 1400

Anchorage, Alaska 99503

**Project / Facility Site Info**

**Identify the applicable federal license or permit**

A copy of the federal permit or license application is required to be submitted with the request for the water quality certification. (18 AAC 15.130, 18 AAC 15.180)

**Federal Agency**

Army Corps of Engineers (USACE)

**Permit License Number (ex. USACE: POA-XXXX-XXXX; FERC: FERC-xxxx-xxxx; EPA: AK#####)**

POA 2001-1082-M1

**Project Name or Title**

PTU Screeding and Dredging

**Primary Receiving Waterbody Name**

NONE PROVIDED

**Estimated Project Dates (+/- 30 days)**

Project Estimated Start Date	Project Estimated End/Completion Date
07/01/2025	11/01/2026

**Approximate date(s) when any Discharge(s) may commence (+/- 30 days)**

Description	Discharge Estimated Start Date	Discharge Estimated End Date
Screeding and/or Dredging	07/01/2025	10/01/2025
Screeding and/or Dredging	07/01/2026	10/01/2026

**Project Description (Nature of Activity, include all features)**

Hilcorp proposes to screed and/or dredge the Point Thompson Unit (PTU) Central Pad Service Pier. Barges transporting modules, equipment, or supplies to Point Thompson require a specified draft for offloading. In instances when a barge must be grounded on the seabed to allow one or more heavy objects to be transferred between the barge and the dock, the seabed must be screeded and/or dredged to provide proper support for the barge. Screeding and/or dredging will be conducted to provide the required seabed depth profile.

Screeding involves redistributing the existing marine sediment to provide the required seabed depth profile for the barges. This is accomplished by dragging a beam fixed to the bottom of a barge to redistribute and level the marine sediments. The beam is mounted on a barge propelled by a tug, with the height of the beam set to the desired depth. Hilcorp anticipates using a Deck Cargo Barge with a screed kit attached.

The sediments around the PTU Service Pier are subject to transport by waves, currents, ice, and barge propeller wash. As a result, screeding and/or dredging are necessary to maintain navigable water depths. Screeding and dredging will be conducted in summer 2025 and 2026 in front of the Service Pier. The Service Pier is approximately 70 feet offshore from Central Pad and is where screeding will take place. The area where screeding and/or dredging could occur is an estimated 154,200 square feet (3.53 acres) area of sub tidal seafloor. The dredging and screeding area starts at the end of the Service Pier and goes seaward (north) approximately 500 feet and east and west approximately 450 feet (Figure 3). The screeding specific area is approximately 815' x 120' (2.25 acres). Barges transporting equipment, materials or supplies to the Service Pier require a minimum of 5.5 foot- MLLW depth to access the Pier. No more than 5,740 cubic yards of material will be distributed or removed.

Screeding and dredging could be conducted sequentially in different areas. As a result, to achieve the needed seabed profile the dredged material will be removed, drained and placed on the PTU gravel storage pad.

Specifically, dredged material will be removed via excavator to barge deck, the material will drain on barge deck, drained material will be barged back to the dock where a loader will remove from the barge deck and place in a rock truck, the rock truck will transport it to the existing gravel storage pad.

The PTU Central Pad Screeding Project is necessary to maintain navigable water depths to allow for safe access to the Service Pier.

**Project Purpose (Describe the reason(s) for discharge)**

Hilcorp proposes to screed and/or dredge the Point Thompson Unit (PTU) Central Pad Service Pier. Barges transporting modules, equipment, or supplies to Point Thompson require a specified draft for offloading. In instances when a barge must be grounded on the seabed to allow one or more heavy objects to be transferred between the barge and the dock, the seabed must be screeded and/or dredged to provide proper support for the barge. Screeding and/or dredging will be conducted to provide the required seabed depth profile.

**Is any portion of the work already complete?**

No

**Description of current activity site conditions**

The site consists of natural seabed.

**Relevant Site Data, Photographs that Represent Current Site Conditions, or other Relevant Documentation**

- [Project Description PTU\\_Screeding.pdf - 02/14/2025 10:39 AM](#)
- [PTU\\_Central\\_Pad\\_Screeding\\_and\\_Dredging\\_Project.pdf - 02/14/2025 10:39 AM](#)
- Comment**  
NONE PROVIDED

**Is this a linear project? (i.e., utility line, road, etc.)**

No

**Project Address**

Point Thomson Unit  
[NO CITY SPECIFIED], AK [NO ZIP CODE SPECIFIED]

Visit the link below to help with conversion between DMS and Latitude/Longitude  
[DSM - Lat/Long converter](#)

**Project Location**

70.17433606284034,-146.25642834723044

Visit the following link if you need to convert the lat/long to get the **PLSS information**  
[Converter for Section, Township, and Range](#)

**PLSS Location (Public Land Survey System)**

State Tax Parcel ID	Borough/Municipality	Meridian	Section	Township	Range
NONE PROVIDED	North Slope Borough	Umia	34	10N	23E

### Directions to Site

Fly to Deadhorse, Alaska. From Deadhorse, fly to the Point Thomson Unit. Travel approximately 0.25 miles northeast from the airstrip before turning north onto Central Pad Road. Then continue on Central Pad Road for approximately 2.15 miles, not turning west at the 3-way intersection, before eventually curving northeast into the Central Pad. North on the Central Pad is the Dock. Beyond the dock is where screeding will take place.

## Federal Agency Contact (1 of 1)

### Have you been working with anyone in the Federal Agency?

Yes

### Federal Contact Role

USACE

### Federal Agency Contact

**First Name**      **Last Name**

Jonathan          Hegna

**Title**

North Section Chief Supervisor

**Organization Name**

USACE

**Phone Type**    **Number**          **Extension**

Business          9077532708

**Email**

Jonathan.R.Hegna@usace.army.mil

## Dredge Material to be Discharged

### Is dredging involved?

Yes

### How many acres?

3.53

### How much volume? (Cubic Yards)

5,740.00

### Is the dredging considered a new project, or maintenance?

New Project

## Tier Analysis

A tier analysis is comprised of a layered approach to determine the need for testing the dredge material to aid in generating physical, chemical, toxicity and bioaccumulation information, but not more information than is necessary to make factual determinations.

The tier analysis is a series of tiers (I ♦ IV) or levels of intensity (and cost) of investigation. It is necessary to proceed through the tiers only until information is sufficient to make factual determinations, no further testing is required.

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- **Tier I - Site Evaluation and History.** The initial tier (Tier I) uses readily available, existing information (including all previous testing). For certain dredge materials with readily apparent potential for environmental impact (or lack thereof), information collected in Tier I may be sufficient for making factual determinations.

- **Tier II - Chemical Testing** is concerned solely with sediment and water chemistry.

- **Tier III - Biological Testing (bioassay and/or bioaccumulation testing)** is concerned with well-defined, nationally accepted toxicity and bioaccumulation testing procedures.

- **Tier IV - Special Studies** allows for case-specific laboratory and field testing, and is intended to for use in unusual circumstances.

For more information regarding a Tier analysis, see below references

- [EPA Inland Testing Manual](#)
- [USACE Seattle District Civil Works DMMP User Manual](#)

**Has a Tier analysis been conducted of the dredged prism?**

No

Note, if marked NO; A Tier analysis may be required later upon review of the request.

For more information regarding a Tier analysis, see below references

- [EPA Inland Testing Manual](#)
- [USACE Seattle District Civil Works DMMP User Manual](#)

### Fill Material to be Discharged

**Will Fill Material be Discharged?**

No

**Surface area in (acres or linear feet) of wetlands or other waters filled**

Surface Area	Units
0	Acres

### Discharge Location Information (1 of 1)

**Identify the location and nature of any potential discharge that may result from the proposed project and the location of receiving waters**

**Discharge Location ID (001, 002, 003, - increment by one)**

001

**Location Description**

Gravel Pad Storage

**Placement of Dredged/Fill material discharge**

Other: Gravel pad storage

NOTE: if you have a receiving water that is Wetlands, just enter the generic term "Wetlands". Do not enter "Wetlands of Tanana River", for example.

Please select 'Other' if your waterbody is not in the list below.

You can start typing the name of the waterbody to filter the list.

**Receiving Waterbody / Wetlands Name**

NA, on established gravel pad storage

**Discharge Location**  
70.146381,-146.256211

## **Other Pollutant Sources**

### **Contaminated Site Information**

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Determine if your project is **within 1,500 feet** of a known Alaska DEC Contaminated Site. See the *Alaska DEC Contaminated Web Map* below. This will help you to identify if any potential pollutants/parameters of concern may be present on your project site., see DEC's website:

- [Contaminated Sites Web Map](#)
- [Contaminated Sites Database Search website](#)

**Is the project within 1,500 feet of a known contaminated site?**

No

## **Parameters of Concern that may be present in discharge**

### **Parameter(s) of Concern**

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Identify the parameters of concern that may be present in your discharge from the dredge and/or fill material.

Note, **TURBIDITY** and **SEDIMENT** are routine parameters associated with dredge and/or fill activities.

Consider if other parameters may be present from past activities in the area such as contaminated site data, impaired waters or other relevant water quality data, or other parameters of concern identified during the application process.

### **Parameter(s)**

Turbidity  
Sediment

**If known, describe respective concentrations, persistence, and potential impacts to the receiving water and data on parameters that may alter the effects of the discharge to the receiving water**

Unknown

### **Impaired Waters**

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An **impaired waterbody** are those listed as a **Category 4 [304(b)]** or **Category 5 [303(d)]** in the current EPA approved **Alaska's Integrated Water Quality Monitoring and Assessment Report**.

For the most recently *Approved Integrated Water Quality Monitoring And Assessment Report (Integrated Report)*, see DEC's website:

- [Integrated Water Quality Monitoring And Assessment Report https://dec.alaska.gov/water/water-quality/integrated-report](https://dec.alaska.gov/water/water-quality/integrated-report)

**Does a discharge of any parameter identified above occur to an impaired waterbody?**

No

If determined necessary and requested by the Department, submit sufficient and credible baseline water quality information for the receiving water which meets the requirements of 18 AAC 70.016(a)(6)(A-C).

## **Avoidance & Minimization BMPs and Mitigation Measures**

**Describe how impacts are being avoided and minimized on the project site. Include best management practices (BMPs) for sediment and erosion controls that will be implemented to minimize environmental impacts, and any methods and means proposed to monitor the discharge and the equipment or measures planned to treat, control, or manage the discharge.**

### **Include a description of any methods and means proposed to monitor the discharge and the equipment or measures planned to treat, control, or manage the discharge**

Hilcorp has reviewed options to avoid dredging adjacent to the PTU Central Pad Service Pier at established barge access channels and loading areas. The area experiences sedimentation due to Beaufort Sea currents, storms, addition of sediment into the water column from area rivers and run-off. If project specific dredging does not occur, the operability and initial purpose for the construction of the pier may no longer be met and use of the dock for barge and other vessel access may not be able to continue.

### **Avoidance Measures**

Hilcorp has avoided and minimized, to the extent practicable, impacts to waters of the US to access the PTU dock at Central pad. No other alternative is available to meet the stated purpose for the project and use of the PTU Dock. Additionally, this work was previously permitted during development in 2012. No new or increased impacts to the environment from these activities are anticipated. Therefore, Hilcorp proposes that no compensatory mitigation be required for project specific activities at PTU dock area.

### **Minimization Measures**

Hilcorp has avoided and minimized, to the extent practicable, impacts to waters of the US to access the PTU dock at Central pad. No other alternative is available to meet the stated purpose for the project and use of the PTU Dock. Additionally, this work was previously permitted during development in 2012. No new or increased impacts to the environment from these activities are anticipated. Therefore, Hilcorp proposes that no compensatory mitigation be required for project specific activities at PTU dock area.

### **Mitigation Measures**

The proposed project specific dredging will be limited to the current scope, area and volumes necessary to accommodate vessels utilizing PTU. Hilcorp proposes to screed and dredge no more than 5,740 cy of material annually. The design depths reflect hull draft for large sea-lift operations. The requested volumes reflect the minimum dredging that may be necessary annually or to the current design depth at for PTU and its approach. Screeding and dredging will only be conducted as necessary to provide utilization of the PTU dock as was previously permitted in the original approval by the ADEC/USACE.

## **Social / Economic Importance**

### **Social or Economic Importance**

(18 AAC 70.016(c)(5): Provide information that demonstrates the accommodation of important social or economic development. The applicant shall complete either a social OR economic importance analysis (or both) for each affected community in the area where the receiving water for the proposed discharge is located.

### **Social Importance Analysis**

NONE PROVIDED

### **Economic Importance Analysis**

Commercial activities

### **Describe Social and/or Economic Importance of the project**

The work associated with keeping the pier/dock accessible to barges will continue to maintain the necessary support for operations at the Point Thomson Unit.

### **Description of Social or Economic Importance, if needed**

NONE PROVIDED

**Comment**

NONE PROVIDED

## **List of Other Permits or Certificates**

\*Would include but is not restricted to zoning, building, and flood plain permits.

Include a list of all other federal, interstate, tribal, state, territorial, or local agency authorizations required for the proposed project, including all approvals or denials already received.

Agency	Type of Approval*	Identification Number	Date Applied	Date Approved	Date Denied
USF&W	ITR LOA	24-INC-04	NONE PROVIDED	08/01/2024	NONE PROVIDED
USACE	Individual Permit	POA 2001-01082	11/20/2024	NONE PROVIDED	NONE PROVIDED
ADNR- DOG	LONS Amendment	LONS 12-002	NONE PROVIDED	NONE PROVIDED	NONE PROVIDED
NSB	Administrative Approval	NONE PROVIDED	NONE PROVIDED	NONE PROVIDED	NONE PROVIDED

## Other Agency or Local Contacts (1 of 1)

### Contact Role

OTHER\_REG\_CNTCT

### Other Agency and or Local Contacts

**First Name**  
erin.bragg@hilcorp.com

**Last Name**  
erin.bragg@hilcorp.com

**Title**  
Environmental Specialist

**Organization Name**  
Hilcorp Alaska

**Phone Type**                      **Number**                      **Extension**  
Business                              9075645382

**Email**  
erin.bragg@hilcorp.com

## Attachments

### Copy of Federal Application (USACE, EPA, or FERC, etc.)

[Generated\\_Bragg\\_7488\\_7461\\_0\\_ENG\\_4345\\_Permit.pdf - 02/14/2025 11:06 AM](#)

#### Comment

NONE PROVIDED

### Figures and/or Drawings/Plan Sets. To include a map or diagram of the proposed activity site, including the proposed activity boundaries in relation to local streets, roads, and highways.

[PTU\\_Central\\_Pad\\_Screeding\\_and\\_Dredging\\_Project.pdf - 02/14/2025 10:53 AM](#)

#### Comment

NONE PROVIDED

### Document Attachments

NONE PROVIDED

#### Comment

NONE PROVIDED

### Delegation of Authority for Submission of Application

NONE PROVIDED

#### Comment

NONE PROVIDED

As per 18 AAC 15.030 signing of applications, all permit or approval applications must be signed as follows:

- 1) in the case of corporations, by a principal executive officer of at least the level of vice president or his duly authorized representative, if the representative is responsible for the overall management of the project or operation;
- 2) in the case of a partnership, by a general partner;
- 3) in the case of a sole proprietorship, by the proprietor; and
- 4) in the case of a municipal, state, federal or other public facility, by either a principal executive officer, ranking elected official, or other duly authorized employee.



The project proponent hereby certifies that all information contained herein is true, accurate, and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief. The project proponent hereby requests that the certifying authority review and take action on this CWA 401 certification request within the applicable reasonable period of time.

## Agreements and Signature(s)

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*As per 18 AAC 15.030 signing of applications, all permit or approval applications must be signed as follows:*

- 1) in the case of corporations, by a principal executive officer of at least the level of vice president or his duly authorized representative, if the representative is responsible for the overall management of the project or operation;*
- 2) in the case of a partnership, by a general partner;*
- 3) in the case of a sole proprietorship, by the proprietor; and*
- 4) in the case of a municipal, state, federal or other public facility, by either a principal executive officer, ranking elected official, or other duly authorized employee.*

*The project proponent hereby certifies that all information contained herein is true, accurate, and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief. The project proponent hereby requests that the certifying authority review and take action on this CWA 401 certification request within the applicable reasonable period of time.*

**Signed**  
**By** erin.bragg@hilcorp.com erin.bragg@hilcorp.com on 02/14/2025 at 11:07 AM