

US Army Corps of Engineers Alaska District

ANCHORAGE Regulatory Division (1145) CEPOA-RD Post Office Box 6898 JBER, Alaska 99506-0898

## Public Notice of Application for Permit

PUBLIC NOTICE DATE: June 10, 2025

**EXPIRATION DATE: June 25, 2025** 

**REFERENCE NUMBER: POA-2020-00066** 

WATERWAY: Beaufort Sea

Interested parties are hereby notified that a Department of the Army permit application has been received for work in waters of the United States as described below and shown on the enclosed project drawings.

**TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:** The purpose of this notice is to advise the public that the following request associated with the Oliktok Dock Dredging Project has been submitted for a Department of the Army (DA) permit under the provisions of Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899, Section 404 of the Clean Water Act, and/or Section 103 of the Marine Research, Protection, and Sanctuaries Act of 1972, as amended. In Executive Order (EO) 14156 the President declared a national emergency under the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1621) based upon the finding that the United States' insufficient energy production, transportation, refining, and generation constitutes an unusual and extraordinary threat to our Nation's economy, national security, and foreign policy. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps), Alaska District has found that this permit request meets the terms of EO 14156 and is therefore subject to special emergency permitting procedures to address an energy supply situation which would result in an unacceptable hazard to life, a significant loss of property, or an immediate, unforeseen, and significant economic hardship if corrective action requiring a permit is not undertaken within a time period less than the normal time needed to process the application under standard procedures. The Alaska District will implement the special processing procedures approved by Pacific Ocean Division in accordance with 33 CFR § 325.2(e)(4).

## APPLICANT: ConocoPhillips Alaska, Inc.

**LOCATION OF WORK:** The project site is located within Section 5, T.13 N., R. 9E., Umiat Meridian; Latitude 70.5128° N., Longitude 149.87119° W.; at Oliktok Point, Alaska.

**DESCRIPTION OF WORK:** The proposed project would involve annual screeding of approximately 2.5 acres and annual dredging of approximately 5.84 acres between May 1 and October 31 in the Simpson Lagoon to provide vessels access to the Oliktok Dock and to maintain continued seawater flow at the Seawater Treatment Plant intake bays. A maximum of up to 10,000 cubic yards of material would be dredged and disposed of at 5 upland locations above the high tide line for erosion control. All work would be performed in accordance with the enclosed design plan.

**MITIGATION STATEMENT:** The applicant has proposed no compensatory mitigation. Dredging and screeding will be limited to the minimum necessary to maintain navigation capacity and to maintain continued seawater flow at the Seawater Treatment Plant intake bays.

**WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION:** Compliance with Section 401 Water Quality Certification procedures is required for this project.

**HISTORIC PROPERTIES**: In accordance with the special processing procedures established by Pacific Ocean Division, the district is coordinating with the State Historic Preservation Office [or Tribal Historic Preservation Officer] under 36 CFR Part 800.12 in accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act.

**THREATENED AND ENDANGERED SPECIES:** In accordance with the special processing procedures approved by Pacific Ocean Division in accordance with 33 CFR § 325.2(e)(4), the district is consulting with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and/or National Marine Fisheries Services (NMFS) under 50 CFR Part 402.05 in accordance with Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act.

**ESSENTIAL FISH HABITAT:** In accordance with the special processing procedures established by Pacific Ocean Division, the district is consulting with the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) under 50 CFR Part 600.920 in accordance with the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act.

**PUBLIC INTEREST:** This application will be reviewed in accordance with 33 CFR Parts 320-332, the Regulatory Program of the Corps, and other pertinent laws, regulations, and executive orders. Our evaluation will also follow the guidelines published by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency pursuant to Section 404(b) (1) of the Clean Water Act (40 CFR Part 230). Interested parties are invited to state any objections they may have to the proposed work. The decision whether to issue a permit will be based on an evaluation of the probable impact including cumulative impacts of the proposed activity on the public interest. That decision will reflect the national concern for both protection and utilization of important resources. The benefit that reasonably may be expected to accrue from the proposal must be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. All factors that may be relevant to the proposal will be considered including

the cumulative effects thereof; of those are conservation, economics, aesthetics, general environmental concerns, wetlands, historic properties, fish and wildlife values, flood hazards, floodplain values, land use, navigation, shoreline erosion and accretion, recreation, water supply and conservation, water quality, energy needs, safety, food and fiber production, mineral needs, considerations of property ownership and, in general, the needs and welfare of the people. The district will make a permit decision after considering/addressing any comments submitted by the agencies.

**COMMENTS:** Comments and requests for additional information should be submitted electronically to Jonathan Hegna by email at <u>Jonathan.R.Hegna@usace.army.mil</u> or via the Regulatory Request System at <u>https://rrs.usace.army.mil/rrs</u>

If you do not have internet access, comments may be submitted through the U.S. Postal Service (USPS) to the following address:

United States Army Corps of Engineers ATTN: Alaska District, Regulatory Division (CEPOA-RD) Public Notice: POA-2020-00066 P.O. Box 6898 JBER, AK 99506-0898

Comments should only be provided through the USPS when electronic transmission is not possible. Precautionary internal mail handling procedures may be instituted to protect our workforce, which may result in longer than normal times to process and receive hard copy submissions. To be considered in our evaluation, comments submitted through the USPS should have a postmark dated on, or prior to, the close of the comment period.

Please note that submitted comments in response to this Public Notice become part of our administrative record and, as such, may be available to the public under provisions of the Freedom of Information Act. Thank you for your interest in our Nation's water resources.

