

CWA 401 Water Quality Certification Request

version 2.15

(Submission #: HQD-EQZ3-1VYRT, version 1)

Digitally signed by:
dec.alaska.gov
Date: 2025.06.21 10:52:12 -08:00
Reason: Submission Data
Location: State of Alaska

Details

Site: Gateway Aviation II New Haul Out and Hangar

Submission ID HQD-EQZ3-1VYRT

Form Input

Form Instructions

Form Instructions

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 2)

Required Contacts

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

Owner

Billing Contact

Operator

Contact

Prefix

Mr.

First Name

Last Name

Russell

Thomas

Title

LLC Manager

Organization Name

Gateway Aviation II, LLC

Phone Type

Number

Extension

Mobile

907-617-3619

Email

russellt@aseresorts.com

Mailing Address

1600 Tongass Ave

Ketchikan, AK 99901

United States

Contact Information (2 of 2)

Required Contacts

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)

Agent

Consultant

Application Preparer

Contact

Prefix

NONE PROVIDED

First Name

Last Name

Kristina

Neptun

Title

Project Manager

Organization Name

Jacobs Engineering

Phone Type

Number

Extension

Business

907-762-1081

Email

kristina.neptun@jacobs.com

Mailing Address

3800 Centerpoint Drive

Suite 920

Anchorage, AK 99503

United States

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-2024-00028

Project Name or Title

Gateway Aviation II New Haul Out and Hangar

Primary Receiving Waterbody Name

NONE PROVIDED

Estimated Project Dates (+/- 30 days)

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

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

Description	Discharge Estimated Start Date	Discharge Estimated End Date
Add fill to tidal & non-tidal wetland	08/01/2025	03/01/2026

Project Description (Nature of Activity, include all features)

Nature of the activity ♦ Place 22,925 cubic yards of shot rock, 2,670 cubic yards of D-1 crushed base, 2,100 cubic yards of armor rock, and 3,150 square yards (0.65-acre) of filter fabric into 4.49 acres of wetlands to construct a hovercraft facility. A rock pad measuring approximately 660 feet long by 270 feet wide would be used as the foundation for the hovercraft facility. A 50-foot-wide by 114-foot-long haul out ramp would be placed below the mean high water (MHW) mark (14.6 feet). A total of approximately 1,424 linear feet of perennial stream would be diverted. The rock would be sourced from Log Jam♦s rock pit at mile 6.5 on the North Tongass Highway. A maintenance building would be on the eastern side of the property and measure 100 feet by 200 feet. Two (2) streams (approximately 542 and 567 linear feet) would be diverted to the west and flow into the stream on the western property boundary (approximately 872 linear feet). One (1) stream (approximately 315 linear feet) would be diverted to the east and flow into the stream on the eastern property boundary (approximately 927 linear feet). A rock wall would be placed between this existing stream channel and the eastern property boundary stream. The rock wall would be 87 lineal feet along the northeast edge of the proposed rock pad and measure five (5) feet tall, with three (3) of the feet below the extreme high tide elevation.

The diverted channels parallel to the North Tongass Highway would be filled with shot rock and reinforced with seven (7) 6- to 8-inch cedar logs for spawning enhancement structures. The logs would include a V-notch weir to ensure fish passage during low flows. The remaining length of the diversion channels would be filled with on-site materials. To ensure the constructed streambeds would be able to withstand high flows, the applicant proposes to install five (5) 45-degree angle shot rock flow diverters to guide the flow from six (6) culverts under the North Tongass Highway into the channels. The streambeds of the westernmost and easternmost streams would not be affected, except for the increase of flow from the other streams.

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

Project purpose: Provide access for equipment to be hauled out of the water, stored and maintained.

Fill material ♦ see sheet 5, or list here as in the USACE application:

♦ Shotrock ♦ 22,925 CY

♦ D-1 Crushed base ♦ 2670 CY

♦ Armor rock ♦ 2100 CY

Project Surface area: 4.12 acres wetland plus 0.117 acres upland

♦ 0.35 acres below Mean high water

♦ 0.08 acres ramp area seaward of mean high water line

♦ 1.82 acres tidal wetland (between mean high water and high tide line)

♦ 1.87 acres non-tidal wetland above high tide line

♦ (includes re-routing 446 sf stream #5, 796 sf stream #4, 984 sf stream #3, 614 sf Stream #2 = 2840 sf = 0.06 acres)

Is any portion of the work already complete?

Yes

Please describe the completed work

Based on national wetland inventory maps and USACE preliminary jurisdiction of non wetland areas on site (PJD Letter received 02/02/2024) fill was placed in approximately 1.5 acres of the eastern portion of the site presumed to be upland. Upon receiving a revised preliminary jurisdiction letter from USACE (10/24/2024) no additional fill or work was conducted.

Description of current activity site conditions

The site is relatively flat. Based on receipt of the PJD, fill was placed in approximately 1.5 acres of the eastern portion of the site. The work was stopped and a wetlands delineation was conducted in April 2025. The western portion of the property is still in its natural state.

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

[Gateway_IMG_5106_nontidalwetland_edgeoffill_CMP.JPG - 06/18/2025 03:28 PM](#)
[Gateway_tidalMarshfacingeast.jpg - 06/18/2025 03:28 PM](#)
[Gateway_streamchannel_withinNon-tidalWetland.jpg - 06/18/2025 03:28 PM](#)
[Gateway_nontidal_freshwaterwetland.jpg - 06/18/2025 03:28 PM](#)

Comment

NONE PROVIDED

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

No

Project Address

9400 Block N Tongass Highway
Ketchikan, AK 99901

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

Project Location

55.4192,-131.7648

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	Ketchikan Gateway Borough	Seward	29	74S	90E CRM

Directions to Site

Drive north from Ketchikan proper on North Tongass Highway. Property is located on the water side of the highway at approximately mile 9.5.

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**
Olivia Ortiz

Title
Regulatory Specialist

Organization Name
USACE

Phone Type **Number** **Extension**
Business 9077532586

Email
olivia.k.ortiz@usace.army.mil

Dredge Material to be Discharged

Is dredging involved?
No

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.

- **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](#)

Fill Material to be Discharged

Will Fill Material be Discharged?
Yes

For fill material, identify the material source
Log Jam's rock pit at 6.5 miles North Tongass Highway

Types of material being discharged and the amount of each type (cubic yards)

Type	Cubic Yards
Shot rock	22,925
D-1 Crushed Base	2,670
Armor Rock	2,100

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

Surface Area	Units
4.12	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

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

Mud Bay

Discharge Location

55.4192,-131.7648

Other Pollutant Sources

Contaminated Site Information

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

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)

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

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>

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

Impacts during construction will be minimized by adding fill to tidal areas during low tide and by the selection of fill that does not contain a large portion of fine materials. Fabric will be placed between the fill and the armor rock to prevent fines from being pulled into the water as the tide changes.

Avoidance Measures

The site selection process considered the storage needs for equipment and looked at 10 different properties for zoning, accessibility, availability, water access, utility access and possible expansion. The selected property was the viable one to meet these needs. At least one site with substantial fill, pilings and additional tideland impacts was rejected in favor of this site.

Minimization Measures

When filling drainage streams, the new route will be created first and lined with shot rock to create the flow Channel and sloped banks. This will include stilling and calming areas. Once the new channels are in place the previous drainage streams will be filled to the new elevation of the rock pad, thus rerouted into the new channels.

Mitigation Measures

Compensation for impacts to wetlands will be mitigated by purchasing compensatory mitigation credits from an approved mitigation bank.

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
Access to a transportation network
Expanded leases and royalties
Employment, job availability, and salary impacts
Tax base impacts

Describe Social and/or Economic Importance of the project

This project addresses the applicant's need for a large indoor storage area designed to store and maintain company equipment including aircraft, vessels, large construction equipment, and fleet vehicles, among other things. The indoor space will allow the applicant to do necessary maintenance during the winter, which is not possible when these pieces of equipment are stored outdoors. This project has the potential to create two additional full-time, year-round maintenance/mechanic positions that have previously been only summer seasonal position.

Additionally, once the applicant's needs are met, the space provides additional opportunity for revenue generation by leasing indoor and outdoor storage space to outside entities, generating an additional revenue source for the applicant and tax revenue for the Ketchikan Gateway Borough.

The property also provides improved efficiency for the applicants operation by providing water access, allowing the applicant to pull vessels from the water without the work and expense required to move the vessels on the highway. Some of the applicant's vessels exceed the height requirements for road transportation, requiring the cab to be removed, the vessel trucked to its storage location, and the cab reattached. The process is time consuming and expensive. Being able to pull the vessels from the water on site will eliminate the need for this extra work and provide additional safety by keeping the large vessel off the highway.

The indoor storage is also expected to improve the applicant's efficiency by keeping the vessels, equipment, vehicles, etc... warm and dry over the winter. Currently the applicant stores most of these items outdoors, and then spends a significant amount of time and money each spring dealing with issues like mold, corrosion, water damage, and increased wear and tear related to being outside. It is expected that indoor heated storage will drastically reduce maintenance costs and extend the life of each piece of machinery.

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
Alaska DOT	Driveway Permit	33136	02/05/2024	02/20/2024	NONE PROVIDED

Other Agency or Local Contacts (1 of 1)

Contact Role
OTHER_REG_CNTCT

Other Agency and or Local Contacts

First Name Last Name
Olivia Ortiz
Title
Regulatory Specialist
Organization Name
USACE
Phone Type Number Extension
Business 9077532586
Email
olivia.k.ortiz@usace.army.mil

Attachments

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

[USACE Application.pdf - 06/21/2025 10:46 AM](#)

[USACE Application Attachment A.pdf - 06/21/2025 10:47 AM](#)

Comment

USACE application was originally filed on 4.17.24. Applicant plans to re-submit an application in the near future.

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.

[NTH 9400 THOMAS 3.pdf - 06/18/2025 03:28 PM](#)

Comment

NONE PROVIDED

Document Attachments

NONE PROVIDED

Comment

NONE PROVIDED

Delegation of Authority for Submission of Application

[GA II - Alaska DEC - Delegation of Singatory Authority - 5.14.25.pdf - 06/18/2025 03:28 PM](#)

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)

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 russellt@aseresorts.com russellt@aseresorts.com on 06/21/2025 at 10:48 AM