

# CWA 401 Water Quality Certification Request

version 2.15

(Submission #: HQD-DQZW-KTAFH, version 1)

Digitally signed by:  
dec.alaska.gov  
Date: 2025.06.17 10:54:16 -08:00  
Reason: Submission Data  
Location: State of Alaska

## Details

**Site:** Sag River Channel Maintenance Modification

**Submission ID** HQD-DQZW-KTAFH

## 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 1)

### 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

Billing Contact

Contact

Prefix

NONE PROVIDED

First Name

keri.iles@hilcorp.com

Last Name

keri.iles@hilcorp.com

Title

Regional Environmental Manager

Organization Name

Hilcorp Alaska

Phone Type

Number

Extension

Business

9077778368

Email

keri.iles@hilcorp.com

Mailing Address

3800 Centerpoint Drive

#1400

Anchorage, AK 99503

[NO COUNTRY SPECIFIED]

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-2020-00147

Project Name or Title

Sag River Channel Maintenance Modification

Primary Receiving Waterbody Name

NONE PROVIDED

Estimated Project Dates (+/- 30 days)

Project Estimated Start Date	Project Estimated End/Completion Date
10/01/2025	11/30/2025

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

Description	Discharge Estimated Start Date	Discharge Estimated End Date
Sag River dredging and contouring	10/01/2025	NONE PROVIDED

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

Seasonal flooding in the Sagavanirktok (Sag) River occurs annually and impacts the Sag River vehicle and pipeline bridges. This flooding deposits large quantities of silt and gravel immediately upstream and downstream of the bridges and causes scour depressions around the bridges support structures. Hilcorp North Slope, LLC (Hilcorp) is requesting modification to the existing multi-year maintenance permit (POA-2020-00147) to excavate silt and gravel from the river channels and infill scour areas with recovered gravel. The maintenance work is designed to support the integrity of the bridge supports and ensure adequate fish transport in the area surrounding the bridges. The maintenance is expected to decrease flood damage to infrastructure including pipelines, roads, and production pads on the Sag River flood plain. Endicott Road is a vital transportation corridor and is the only summer vehicle access route for the Duck Island Unit.

The scope of this project is to improve water flow under the Sag River vehicle bridge and pipe bridge by recontouring the river bottom to follow the natural slope of the riverbed. This will be done by excavating high areas down to the 4 ft above sea level elevation and filling low areas back up to the 4 ft elevation. Additional area downstream of the bridges will be scoured to remove gravel plugging the pump supplying water for PBOC. Without remediation, the pump will become unusable. The details of the execution are as follows:

**Recontouring of Sag Riverbed:**

- Dredge approximately 13 acres of riverbed to remove approximately 45,000 cubic yards of gravel
- Dredged material will be spread over approximately 7 acres to flatten the river bottom
- Leftover material will also be placed on the opposite side of the vehicle and pipe bridges to replenish the bulkhead area of the east bank
- Typical equipment to be used for excavation and recontouring includes dozers and excavators of various sizes

**Access Ramps:**

- Construct a 100-foot by 50-foot temporary gravel ramp on the west bank of the Sag River using approximately 200 cubic yards of gravel
- Construct an additional 100-foot by 50-foot temporary gravel ramp on the east bank using approximately 200 cubic yards of gravel
- Gravel ramps will be used to remove material from the excavation area and manage water flow to protect the work area during project execution

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

The maintenance work is designed to support the integrity of the bridge supports and ensure adequate fish transport in the area surrounding the bridges. The maintenance is expected to decrease flood damage to infrastructure including pipelines, roads, and production pads on the Sag River flood plain. Endicott Road is a vital transportation corridor and is the only summer vehicle access route for the Duck Island Unit.

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

No

**Description of current activity site conditions**

The work area is an active river channel. Seasonal flooding deposits large quantities of silt and gravel immediately upstream and downstream of the existing bridges. This causes scour depressions around the bridge support structures.

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

NONE PROVIDED

**Comment**

NONE PROVIDED

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

No

**Project Address**

[NO STREET ADDRESS SPECIFIED]

Deadhorse, AK [NO ZIP CODE SPECIFIED]

Visit the link below to help with conversion between DMS and Latitude/Longitude

[DSM - Lat/Long converter](#)

**Project Location**

70.249850,-148.304944

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	Umiat	3	10N	15E

Directions to Site

The Sag River project site is accessible from the Deadhorse Airport. It is approximately 7 road miles northeast along the East Dock Road, then southeast on the Endicott Road.

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	
Andrew	Kastning	
Title		
NONE PROVIDED		
Organization Name		
USACE		
Phone Type	Number	Extension
Business	907-753-2554	
Email		
Andrew.C.Kastning@usace.army.mil		

Dredge Material to be Discharged

Is dredging involved?

Yes

How many acres?

13

How much volume? (Cubic Yards)

45,000.00

Is the dredging considered a new project, or maintenance?

Maintenance

If maintenance, how frequent?

Annually

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](#)

**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?**

Yes

**For fill material, identify the material source**

Riverbed

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

Type	Cubic Yards
Gravel from riverbed	45,000

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

Surface Area	Units
13	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**

Sagavanirktok River

**Placement of Dredged/Fill material discharge**

In Water

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

Saganavirktok River

### Discharge Location

70.249850,-148.304944

## 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)

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**

The extraction of gravel from the Sagavanirktok River channel is to promote water flow and help alleviate the severity of washouts during annual flooding events. The extraction of gravel will have minimal turbidity and suspended sediment impact. Therefore, there is no expected water quality degradation from this project. All appropriate BMPs will be implemented in accordance with permits, APDES general permit, and Hilcorp's approved SWPPP.

### 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)** <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 will prevent water quality degradation to the greatest extent possible by removing gravel from the Sag River during autumn months, when the river is at lowest flow. All appropriate BMPs will be implemented in accordance with permits, APDES general permit, and Hilcorp's approved SWPPP.

### **Avoidance Measures**

Hilcorp will prevent water quality degradation to the greatest extent possible by removing gravel from the Sag River during autumn months, when the river is at lowest flow. All appropriate BMPs will be implemented in accordance with permits, APDES general permit, and Hilcorp's approved SWPPP.

### **Minimization Measures**

Hilcorp will prevent water quality degradation to the greatest extent possible by removing gravel from the Sag River during autumn months, when the river is at lowest flow. All appropriate BMPs will be implemented in accordance with permits, APDES general permit, and Hilcorp's approved SWPPP.

### **Mitigation Measures**

Hilcorp will prevent water quality degradation to the greatest extent possible by removing gravel from the Sag River during autumn months, when the river is at lowest flow. All appropriate BMPs will be implemented in accordance with permits, APDES general permit, and Hilcorp's approved SWPPP.

## **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**

Infrastructure improvements

### **Economic Importance Analysis**

Employment, job availability, and salary impacts

Tax base impacts

Commercial activities

Describe Social and/or Economic Importance of the project

Annual flooding has caused major infrastructure damage on the east side of the Sag River. The extraction of channel gravel will promote greater water flow during flooding events, therefore preventing washouts from occurring adjacent to the river. This allows for safe and continued oil and gas operations in the existing infrastructure in the Sag River area.

This project provides direct employment and availability to salaried and contract construction workers, heavy machine operations, and technical professionals. This project also provides fees to many agencies through the permitting process.

This project contributes to many commercial activities including construction and drilling activities in the oil fields.

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
ADNR DOG	LONS	TBD	NONE PROVIDED	NONE PROVIDED	NONE PROVIDED
USACE	POA	2020-00147	05/28/2025	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      Last Name  
Andrew              Kastning  
Title  
Regional Project Manager  
Organization Name  
USACE  
Phone Type      Number              Extension  
Business              907-753-2554  
Email  
Andrew.C.Kastning@usace.army.mil

Attachments

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

[Hilcorp to USACE Request for Modification to POA-2020-00147 Sag River Dredging.pdf - 06/17/2025 08:56 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.

[Sag Dredging Modification - PD and Figures.pdf - 06/17/2025 08:56 AM](#)  
Comment  
NONE PROVIDED



**Document Attachments**

USACE Avoidance Minimization\_Sag Rive Channel Maintenance Mod.docx - 06/17/2025 08:56 AM

**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** keri.iles@hilcorp.com keri.iles@hilcorp.com on 06/17/2025 at 8:59 AM