

CWA 401 Water Quality Certification Request

version 2.15

(Submission #: HQC-S9EK-N42K4, version 1)

Digitally signed by:
dec.alaska.gov
Date: 2025.06.16 08:46:13 -08:00
Reason: Submission Data
Location: State of Alaska

Details

Site: Wales to Tin City Road

Submission ID HQC-S9EK-N42K4

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)

Agent

Consultant

Application Preparer

Contact

Prefix

Mr.

First Name

brianp@pcgeng.net

Last Name

brianp@pcgeng.net

Title

Project Manager

Organization Name

Pederson Consulting Group

Phone Type

Number

Extension

Business

907-992-0046

Email

brianp@pcgeng.net

Mailing Address

411 Deinhard Lane

Suite 201

McCall, ID 83638

us

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)

Owner

Operator

Billing Contact

Applicant

Onsite Contact

Contact

Prefix

Mr.

First Name

Benjamin

Last Name

Payenna

Title

Kawerak Transportation Director

Organization Name

Kawerak Inc.

Phone Type

Number

Extension

Business

907-443-4395

Email

bpayenna@kawerak.org

Mailing Address

P.O. Box 948

Nome, AK 99762

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-2025-00140

Project Name or Title

Wales to Tin City Road

Primary Receiving Waterbody Name

NONE PROVIDED

Estimated Project Dates (+/- 30 days)

Project Estimated Start Date	Project Estimated End/Completion Date
06/02/2025	10/30/2026

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

Description	Discharge Estimated Start Date	Discharge Estimated End Date
Road Construction	06/02/2025	10/30/2026

Project Description (Nature of Activity, include all features)

The proposed project includes reconstruction of an approximate 4.25 mile stretch of existing road between Wales and Tin City, Alaska. The upgraded segment starts 3.8 miles from Wales, just before Boulder Creek (an alluvial wash that transports water during spring thaw and flood cycles) and the current road traverses alongside and within the creek bed. The proposed project includes installing a bridge over Boulder Creek and then tying the realignment into the existing road system once it is out of the creek bed. The upgraded road will include two 10-foot travel lanes for a total travel width of 20-feet, and will have 2:1 side slopes. The final surfacing will be gravel aggregate with a dust palliative. The Boulder Creek bridge will be a 26-foot wide, 100-foot long new steel girder bridge with concrete decking. A second bridge will also be installed over Goodwin Creek, located at mile 3.2 along the proposed upgraded road, and is also a 26-foot wide, 100-foot long new steel girder bridge with concrete decking. A third drainage improvement will include upgrading culverts over Granite Creek at mile 2.2 along the proposed upgraded road. All three drainage improvements will better accommodate spring flooding and control road erosion at the installed locations. None of the three creeks are considered anadromous. Additional drainage culverts are depicted in the submitted drawings. Material for the proposed project will come from road cuts and adjacent gravel sites along the proposed alignment. Staging areas for equipment and supplies will be at the current Tin City barge landing site, as well as along the proposed alignment, and will be determined by the contractor. Construction is expected to occur from May until October over the course of two years.

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

Ocean deep draft supply barges can no longer land in Wales due to water depth. Barges carrying goods and supplies, and some barges carrying fuel for the community, land in Tin City and these goods and supplies are then transported overland from Tin City to Wales. The proposed project was identified in the Wales 2023-Long Range Transportation Plan and would include structurally engineered and aligned roads with appropriate surface material, drainage provisions and dust control in order to improve transportation between the barge landing and the community of Wales. The proposed project would also include construction of two bridges in order to improve access mobility.

Is any portion of the work already complete?

No

Description of current activity site conditions

There is no current activity on the site. The road is an existing gravel road.

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.)

Yes

Linear Feet

22,440

Project Address

[NO STREET ADDRESS SPECIFIED]
Wales, AK [NO ZIP CODE SPECIFIED]

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

Project Location

65.61673,-167.98529

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
NA	Nome Census Area	Kateel River	35	3N	45W
NONE PROVIDED	Nome Census Area	Kateel River	1,2,3,4	2N	45W

Directions to Site

From the Wales Airport drive east out of town toward Tin City. The proposed project begins at approximately 3.6 miles on the Wales to Tin City Road, just before the crossing of Boulder Creek.

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	
John	Sargent	
Title		
REgulatroy Project Manager		
Organization Name		
US Corps of Engineers		
Phone Type	Number	Extension
Business	907-347-1801	
Email		
john.c.sargent@usce.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
The majority of the material will come from the roadway cuts.

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

Type	Cubic Yards
Borrow	24,000

Type	Cubic Yards
Subase	12,000
Crushed aggreagte	11.000

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

Surface Area	Units
8.894	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

Wetlands

Discharge Location

65.61673,-167.98529

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

Turbidity

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 project is required to have a storm water pollution prevention plan therefore the potential impacts will be minimum.

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

The project is required to have a storm water pollution prevention plan.

Avoidance Measures

The work is limited to the right-of-way boundary which will avoid disturbance for any wetlands that are outside the roadway construction.

Minimization Measures

The roadway was designed to minimize impacts to the wetlands.

Mitigation Measures

The project contractor will deploy BMP's in accordance with the project's Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan.

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
Access to a transportation network

Describe Social and/or Economic Importance of the project
The project will improve the barge landing road for the community. The improvements will allow supplies and materials to be able to be trucked to the community.

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
ADFG	Habitiat Permit	FH25-III0056	<i>NONE PROVIDED</i>	04/09/2025	<i>NONE PROVIDED</i>

Other Agency or Local Contacts (1 of 1)

Contact Role
OTHER_REG_CNTCT

Other Agency and or Local Contacts

First Name **Last Name**
Dave Cremer
Title
Enviromental Protection Specilist
Organization Name
Office of Tribal Transportation
Phone Type **Number** **Extension**
Business 360-619-7607
Email
david.cremer@dot.gov

Attachments

Copy of Federal Application (USACE, EPA, or FERC, etc.)
[Wales_TinCity_404permit.pdf - 05/22/2025 08:13 AM](#)
[WalesTinCity_WetlandMitigation.pdf - 05/22/2025 08:13 AM](#)
[2025-02-10 Wales to Tin City COE Permitting.pdf - 05/22/2025 08:13 AM](#)
[FH25-III-0056; Kawerak; Boulder and Goodwin Crks; Bridge Install.pdf - 05/30/2025 07:29 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.

[Wales to Tin City Construction Plans.pdf - 05/22/2025 08:13 AM](#)

Comment

NONE PROVIDED

Document Attachments

NONE PROVIDED

Comment

NONE PROVIDED

Delegation of Authority for Submission of Application

[delegation-of-authority-401-application.pdf - 05/22/2025 08:13 AM](#)

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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- 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;*
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 - 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**

bpayenna@kawerak.org bpayenna@kawerak.org on 05/30/2025 at 8:07 AM