CWA 401 Water Quality Certification Request

version 2.15

Digitally signed by: dec.alaska.gov Date: 2025.07.08 12:00:14 -08:00 Reason: Submission Data Location: State of Alaska

(Submission #: HQD-YAM6-MDKGF, version 1)

Details

Site: Cama'i Gravel Pad

Submission ID HQD-YAM6-MDKGF

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 3)

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 Last Name Ana Fisk Title President **Organization Name** Afognak Leasing, LLC Phone Type Number Extension Business 9072229579 Email afisk@afognak.com Mailing Address 3909 Arctic Boulevard, Suite 500 Anchorage, Alaska 99503 [NO COUNTRY SPECIFIED]

Contact Information (2 of 3)

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

Contact

Prefix NONE PROVIDED First Name Last Name Victor Ross Title Principal **Organization Name** Stantec Phone Type Number Extension Mobile 9075213588 Email victor.ross@stantec.com Mailing Address 5005 West Stratford Court Wasilla, AK 99623

United States

Contact Information (3 of 3)

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)

Application Preparer Consultant

Contact

Prefix NONE PROVIDED **First Name** Last Name Victor Ross Title Principal **Organization Name** Stantec Extension Phone Type Number Mobile 9075213588 Email victor.ross@stantec.com Mailing Address 5005 West Stratford Court Wasilla, AK 99623 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-2018-00302

Project Name or Title Cama'i Gravel Pad

Primary Receiving Waterbody Name

NONE PROVIDED

Estimated Project Dates (+/- 30 days)

Project Estimated Start Date	Project Estimated End/Completion Date	
06/30/2025	06/30/2030	

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

Description	Discharge Estimated Start Date	Discharge Estimated End Date		
NONE PROVIDED	06/30/2025	06/30/2030		

Project Description (Nature of Activity, include all features)

Afognak proposes to construct the remaining 16.24 acres of the Cama vi Pad previously authorized for construction by POA-2018-00302. Fill material will be clean, contractor furnished fill from commercial sources. The attached Figures shows the proposed project overview, plan, and cross-sectional drawings.

The proposed pad would have two additional driveways providing access to Spine Road, each of which would be 40 feet wide with a CMP culvert to maintain hydrologic flow. The pad would be used to support North Slope Oil & Gas development projects (described in Block 19).

On May 23, 2024, the Alaska Department of Natural Resources (ADNR) authorized an entry authorization extension to Afognak for an additional 5 years; the extension is set to expire on September 18, 2029 (Attachment 2). The North Slope Borough conducted a Title 19 review of the permitted project, dated June 10, 2019, providing concurrence with the project aligning with North Slope Borough (NSB) Comprehensive Plan (Attachment 3). The site is zoned for industrial development.

The proposed project will not occur in phases as was originally authorized; the project will begin construction after all permits are obtained.

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

The proposed pad would accommodate continued North Slope Oil & Gas energy development projects by providing new infrastructure to support the logistical, operational, and housing needs of various oil and gas operators on the North Slope. It would serve as a storage area for moveable buildings, camps, oilfield support equipment, supplies and modules, and a portion of the pad may be used for one or more work force personnel housing facilities. The Camation Pad will not store fuel.

Afognak proposes to construct the remaining 16.24 acres of the Camati Pad previously authorized for construction by POA-2018-00302. Fill material will be clean, contractor furnished fill from commercial sources. Fill calculations in cubic yards have a 10% buffer. See figures and cross-sectional drawings of the proposed project.

The proposed pad would have two additional driveways providing access to Spine Road, each of which would be 65 feet wide with a CMP culvert to maintain hydrologic flow. The pad would be used to support

North Slope Oil & Gas development projects (described in Block 19).

On May 23, 2024, the Alaska Department of Natural Resources authorized an entry authorization extension Afognak for an additional 5 years; the extension is set to expire on September 18, 2029. The proposed project aligns with the goals and objectives of the North Slope Borough (NSB) Comprehensive Plan as the site is zoned for industrial development

Is any portion of the work already complete?

Yes

Please describe the completed work

Afognak Leasing, LLC (Afognak) was issued a USACE 404 permit, POA-2018-00302, on May 15, 2019, for fill placement (182,000 cy) into 21.88 acres of palustrine wetlands to construct the Cama'i gravel pad. Aportion of the authorized fill has not been completed due in part to the COVID pandemic, requiring a new permit application to be submitted as the authorized USACE permit expired April 30, 2024. The project was previously permitted under POA-2018-00302 for impacts to 21.88 acres of palustrine wetlands. That permit expired on April 30, 2024. To date, the constructed project totals 5.63 acres.

Description of current activity site conditions

Permitted Project:

The originally permitted action included three phases of construction, with a tentative schedule as follows:

Phase 1 included fill placement to 11.2 wetland acres to be completed in the summer of 2019.

Fill placement to total 92,500 cy.

Pad dimensions to be 972 x 490 x 972 x 495 with two 65 x 30 driveways. The pad to be offset 30 from the Spine Road.

Phase 2 included fill placement to 5.42 wetland acres to be completed in the summer of 2021. Fill placement to total 45,600 cy.

Pad dimensions to be 495 × 492 × 490 × 467 with one 65 × 30 driveway. The pad to be constructed contiguous to the southern end of Phase 1, with the 30 offset from Spine Road maintained.

Phase 3 included fill placement to 5.26 wetland acres to be completed in the summer of 2023.

Fill placement to total 43,900 cy.

Pad dimensions to be $494 \diamond \times 463 \diamond \times 497 \diamond \times 463 \diamond$. The pad to be constructed immediately northwest of the Phase 2 pad.

The currently filled/constructed area includes a gravel pad with two 40 wide access driveways providing connection to Spine Road. The total footprint is 5.63 acres, and the dimensions are 490 x 490 . The constructed pad is offset from Spine Road. The figures in shows the proposed and built pads, depicting dimensions, latitude and longitude of the pads four corners, as well as driveway locations. The proposed pad would accommodate continued North Slope Oil & Gas energy development projects by providing new infrastructure to support the logistical, operational, and housing needs of various oil and gas operators on the North Slope. It would serve as a storage area for moveable buildings, camps, oilfield support equipment, supplies and modules, and a portion of the pad may be used for one or more work force personnel housing facilities. The Cama i Pad will not store fuel. The original approval constructio was interrupted by COVID.

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] [NO CITY SPECIFIED], AK [NO ZIP CODE SPECIFIED]

Visit the link below to help with conversion between DMS and Latitude/Longitude <u>DSM - Lat/Long converter</u>

Project Location 70.255700,-150.140800

Visit the following link if you need to convert the lat/long to get the **PLSS information** <u>Converter for Section, Township, and Range</u>

PLSS Location (Public Land Survey System)

State Tax Parcel ID	Borough/Municipality	Meridian	Section	Township	Range
NONE PROVIDED	North Slope Borough	Umiat	4,5,33	10 N., 11N.	8E

Directions to Site

From Fairbanks, take AK-11 N/N Slope Haul Road north for approximately 493 miles. Turn right onto East Lake Collen Drive and travel 0.9 miles before turning left onto Spine Road. The project location is located on the right side of the road, approximately 50 miles.

Federal Agency Contact (1 of 1)

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

Federal Contact Role

Federal Agency Contact

First NameLast NameDrewSlingerDrewSlingerTitleProject ManagerOrganizationImage: Image: Image:

Dredge Material to be Discharged

Is dredging involved? No



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 the fact of the fact of

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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 accepter 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

existing source on slope

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

Туре	Cubic Yards
Gravel	130,000.0

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

Surface Area	Units
16.24	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. Discharge Location 70.255700,-150.140800

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:

- <u>Contaminated Sites Web Map</u>
- <u>Contaminated Sites Database Search website</u>

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 contamianted 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

Sediment could escape work sites. BMPs will be employed to contain sediment from reaching adjacent wetlands during construction. BMPs will be employed to reduce erosion, including contouring and seeding. Dust control measures will be implemented to reduce suspension of fugitive dust. Existing surface and sediment controls will be maintained on existing access roads (Spine Road). Postconstruction stabilization includes seeding with native plants. The material source being used is clean fill.

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:

Does a discharge of any parameter identified above occur to an impaired waterbody? $\ensuremath{\mathsf{No}}$

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

Erosion control and construction methods will be described in the SWPPP, as required by the Alaska Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Multi-Sector General Permit for Storm Water Discharges Associated with Industrial Activities. BMP s will be employed for embankment stabilization and erosion control. No fueling will occur within 100 feet of wetlands and/or waters. Existing surface drainage will not be impeded. Existing surface and sediment controls will be maintained on the roadways and parking areas.

Avoidance Measures

The project evaluated a suite of Best Management Practices (BMPs) to further avoid impacts from the proposed project. Construction Methods

Staging and flagging will occur along the project boundary prior to the commencement of construction. Throughout construction, vehicles will be operated in a manner to avoid disturbing, blading, or removal of tundra or vegetative cover. No off-road (tundra) travel would take place related to construction of the proposed project as existing roads provide direct site access. A layer of fill material at least four feet thick would be placed to maintain the integrity of permafrost, where present. Appropriately sized culverts will be placed where needed to maintain hydrologic connectivity of drainage patterns. Fill material would not be discharged within 100-feet of the high-tide line of any tidal water or the ordinary high-water mark of any lake, stream, river, pond, slough, or other non-tidal water. Gravel fill would be manually compacted to expedite the settling process.

Erosion Control Measures

The project will comply with the State s Water Quality Standards. Erosion control and construction methods will be described in the Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan required by the State of Alaska. BMPs for road grading will be employed including proper ditch contouring and sizing; side slopes all fills would not exceed 3:1. BMPs for embankment stabilization will be employed, including contouring and seeding. Sediment will be managed by using filter materials such as silt fence, straw waddles, and filter fabric or through settlement in ponds or weir systems constructed in ditches. The existing road Spine Road will be reinforced and repaired as required. Disturbed vegetated areas will be stabilized with hydro-mulch and an approved seed mix if required.

Water needs for construction purposes will be withdrawn from Lake K214, as aligned with a sharing agreement between Afognak and all other users of K214.

Dust control measures would be implemented as needed to reduce suspension of fugitive dust during construction and operation. Dust is expected to have temporary and minimal impacts to the adjacent vegetation due to the BMPs that will be followed for watering of the roadways.

Surface drainage will be culverted to ensure hydrologic connectivity. Existing surface drainage will not be adversely impeded. Existing surface and sediment controls will be maintained.

Spill Control Measures

A fueling plan and Spill Prevention, Control & Countermeasures Plan will be developed and implemented that will minimize the potential for fuel spills and mitigate the impact if a spill does occur. A minimal amount of fuel, engine oil, hydraulic fluid, antifreeze, and wastewater from construction will be located on site, associated only with regular equipment maintenance. Long-term storage of hazardous substances is not anticipated at the Camati Pad. BMP to avoid and minimize spills would include

Properly and clearly labeling hazardous material containers;

Secondary containment around any fueling station would be used in the form of containment berms;

Though not expected to be present during construction, an impermeable lining and diking would be implemented for fuel storage facilities with a capacity greater than 660 gallons;

- Spill containment and cleanup kits would be located at the work area and at any fueling station;
- Regular inspection of equipment would be conducted to ensure proper functioning. Hydraulic equipment will be inspected daily for signs of wear or other potential sources of leaks;
- Refueling will occur in Deadhorse or via a fuel truck at least 100 feet from the closest waterbody;

Adequate liners will be used under all valves or connections to diesel fuel tanks to ensure no diesel spills onto the ground;

- Pink dye would be added to all diesel fuel prior to transporting to site to aid in spill detection;
- All spills would be reported to the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (ADEC) and cleaned up by Afognak;

o Oil or hazardous material spills exceeding 55 gallons would be immediately reported to the NSB. A report of all spills would be submitted weekly to the NSB.

Drip pans will be deployed for equipment parked in the work area for more than five minutes;

All empty grease tubes and sorbent pads will be hauled offsite by the contractor and disposed of properly;

Fuel storage will not be placed during 100 feet of wetlands throughout construction and fuel will not be stored on the pad following project completion.

Fish and Wildlife Avoidance

Vegetation will be cleared outside of the migratory bird timing windows to avoid nesting birds. If clearing must be completed during the windows, a qualified professional can conduct a clearing survey to ensure no impacts to nesting birds. There are no known eagle nests along the access roads or at/near the project site. No streams are crossed or impacted for the Project.

A No Effect Determination is recommended for Essential Fish Habitat. Essential Fish Habitat is mapped in the region by the National Marine Fisheries Service s Alaska Essential Fish Habitat Mapper and the Alaska Department of Fish and Game s

Anadromous Waters Catalog. No Essential Fish Habitat is mapped for the project. The closest Essential Fish Habitat is in the marine waters of Cook Inlet.

Work will be done outside of the bird nesting window.

The spectacled eider was listed as an endangered species on May 10, 1993; as such, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) conducted a Programmatic Biological Opinion for the project in 2018 (USFWS 2018. Spectacled eider near the project area were estimated to occur at a density of 0.008 per km2 (USFWS 2015). The findings of the 2018 review state that the proposed project would result in minimal permanent habitat loss to the spectacled eider.

Afognak would comply with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Conditions, dated February 1, 2019, as well as with the Federal Endangered Species Act, as follows:

Ground disturbing activities would not occur between June 1 and July 31;

- Project components would not include overhead wires or guyed towers;
- Lighting shielding would be implemented to decrease the potential of bird stikes;
- A Spill Prevention and Response Plan would be developed, approved, and implemented;

A wildlife interaction plan, including polar bear interaction guidelines would be developed, approved, and implemented (or Afognak would adopt the Service s Polar Bear Interaction Guidelines prior to conducting field activities);

A No Effect Determination is recommended for the Endangered Species Act. Consultation with the USFWS Information for Planning and Consultation determined that the proposed action is not likely to adversely affect listed species because (1) the applicant would adhere to the Minimization Measures described above, including the timing restriction intended to minimize take of nesting eiders, and (2) effects to spectacled eiders are expected to be insignificant., and stated the unlikely and unexpected event incidental take occurs, we will consider it to have been authorized under the programmatic Biological Opinion because the project applicant has agreed to adhere to minimization measures prescribed therein.

Minimization Measures

The project minimized impacts to wetlands and waters to the greatest extent practicable by proposing to construct a pad that maximizes utility. The project footprint, and the larger surrounding area are all mapped as wetlands or waters by the NWI. A revegetation plan will be developed in consultation with the USACE upon termination of the lease. At a minimum, the revegetation plan will address removal and treatment of the gravel, types of vegetation to be used, performance standards, and monitoring. Afognak will be liable for revegetation or reclamation efforts until all performance standards have been met.

Mitigation Measures

This project has already been permitted by USACE. This permit application proposes to finish the work authorized by the original permit, no new impacts are proposed. Therefore, no additional mitigation is proposed.

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 Access to recourses Commercial activities

Describe Social and/or Economic Importance of the project

The location of the pad will minimize the distance companies in the area must travel for access to staged materials and equipment. The construction, maintenance, use of the storage pad will provide short-term construction jobs, longer term maintenance work, and lease payments to the State of Alaska.

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
North Slope Borough SB	Land Use	NSB 19-563	NONE PROVIDED	06/19/2019	NONE PROVIDED
ADNR	Entry Authorization	ADL 421107	NONE PROVIDED	05/23/2024	NONE PROVIDED
ADEC	CWA 401	POA 2018-302	NONE PROVIDED	04/11/2019	NONE PROVIDED
USACE	CWA 404 Permit	POA-2018-0032	NONE PROVIDED	05/15/2019	NONE PROVIDED
NONE PROVIDED	NONE PROVIDED	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 NameLast NameAnaFiskTitlePresidentOrganization NameAfognak Leasing, LLCPhone TypeNumberExtensionBusiness9072229579Email
afisk@afognak.comFisk

Attachments

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

04212025024852-0001.pdf - 07/08/2025 11:24 AM 4345-0001_signed.pdf - 07/08/2025 11:24 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.

Supplement USACE_Cama'i Gravel Pad_250428.pdf - 07/08/2025 11:24 AM

Comment NONE PROVIDED

Document Attachments

2024-5-23_ADL 421107_Executed EA Extension.pdf - 07/08/2025 11:24 AM NSB 19-563, Afognak Leasing, LLC.pdf - 07/08/2025 11:24 AM POA-2018-00302 Miluveach River_2ndTrans.pdf - 07/08/2025 11:24 AM Comment NONE PROVIDED

Delegation of Authority for Submission of Application

4345-0001_signed.pdf - 07/08/2025 11:24 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.

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;

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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 victor.ross@stantec.com victor.ross@stantec.com on 07/08/2025 at 11:55 AM