

CWA 401 Water Quality Certification Request

version 2.15

(Submission #: HQE-FN2M-FKFSJ, version 1)

Digitally signed by:
dec.alaska.gov
Date: 2025.07.30 14:18:14 -08:00
Reason: Submission Data
Location: State of Alaska

Details

Site: Nunam Iqua Aiport Improvements Project

Submission ID HQE-FN2M-FKFSJ

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)

Application Preparer

Contact

Prefix

Mr.

First Name

Bill

Last Name

Sexton

Title

Environmental Impact Analyst III

Organization Name

Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities

Phone Type

Business

Number

907-451-2290

Extension**Email**

william.sexton@alaska.gov

Mailing Address

2301 Peger Rd

Fairbanks, AK 99709

[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)

Applicant

Contact

Prefix

Mrs.

First Name

Kerri

Last Name

Martin

Title

Northern Region Environmental Manager

Organization Name

Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities

Phone Type

Business

Number

907-451-5289

Extension**Email**

kerri.martin@alaska.gov

Mailing Address

2301 Peger Rd

Fairbanks, AK 99709

United States

Contact Information (3 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)

Billing Contact

Contact

Prefix

Mrs.

First Name

Elizabeth

Last Name

Miller-Chapman

Title

Administrative Assistant II

Organization Name

Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities

Phone Type

Business

Number

907-451-5400

Extension**Email**

elizabeth.miller1@alaska.gov

Mailing Address

2301 Peger Road

Fairbanks, AK 99709

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-2025-00312

Project Name or Title

Nunam Iqua Airport Improvements Project

Primary Receiving Waterbody Name

NONE PROVIDED

Estimated Project Dates (+/- 30 days)

Project Estimated Start Date	Project Estimated End/Completion Date
04/01/2026	10/31/2028

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

Description	Discharge Estimated Start Date	Discharge Estimated End Date
NONE PROVIDED	NONE PROVIDED	NONE PROVIDED

Project Description (Nature of Activity, include all features)

The proposed project purpose is to remedy deficiencies and upgrade the Nunam Iqua Airport to meet current FAA design standards for A-II airports. This project is needed to address substandard operational surface geometries, settling of operational surfaces, the old age of airport facilities including lighting and the snow removal equipment building (SREB), and to stabilize and replace the existing segmented circle and windcone. The Nunam Iqua Airport is an essential transportation hub for the community and air is the primary transportation method into and out of the community.

Material for the proposed project will be contractor-furnished and is anticipated to be sources from a combination of imported material from either Nome or Marshall and local material from a dynamic landmass in the Yukon River. Material from Nome or Marshall is anticipated to be imported via barge and consist of shot rock and surfacing course. Local material from the Yukon River would consist of silty sand. This material is anticipated to be extracted in frozen conditions and placed adjacent to airport surfaces to be allowed to thaw and dewater over the course of a summer season before placing it in final permanent fill locations.

The proposed project is anticipated to result in approximately 11.02 acres (approximately 160,800 cubic yards) of permanent fill in WOTUS. Permanent fill is required to; expand the RSA length and width, expand the TSA width, construct a new apron area and airport access road, and construct new pads and access roads for PAPI, segmented circle, and windcone. Permanent fill placed as a result of construction of the new airport access road will include culverts to be placed as instructed by the construction engineer in order to maintain natural drainage patterns and allow for equalization of water across pond features.

Additionally, the proposed project is anticipated to result in approximately 29.03 acres of temporary impacts to WOTUS. Temporary impacts are anticipated to primarily result from excavation and dewatering of geotechnical materials from the proposed material site in Kwemeluk Pass. All temporary fills placed on wetlands for thawing and dewatering will be underlain by geotextile fabric to ensure fill material is separated from original ground. Temporary impacts may also occur if construction equipment requires access to areas outside of the proposed permanent fill. Where practicable, a 10-foot temporary work zone will be established from the toe of the proposed permanent fill area to allow for construction vehicle access. Construction mats will be utilized on thawed ground outside of the proposed footprint to minimize impacts to WOTUS.

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

The proposed project purpose is to remedy deficiencies and upgrade the Nunam Iqua Airport to meet current FAA design standards for A-II airports. This project is needed to address substandard operational surface geometries, settling of operational surfaces, the old age of airport facilities including lighting and the snow removal equipment building (SREB), and to stabilize and replace the existing segmented circle and windcone.

Is any portion of the work already complete?

No

Description of current activity site conditions

The Nunam Iqua Airport is an essential transportation hub for the community and air is the primary transportation method into and out of the community. No construction on site has been initiated at the time of this application.

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]

Nunam Iqua, AK 99666

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

[DSM - Lat/Long converter](#)

Project Location

62.52343622561276,-164.8444103240928

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	Yukon-Koyukuk Census Area	Seward	10, 15, 16	28N	84W

Directions to Site

Nunam Iqua is located on the west bank of the Yukon River at Kwemeluk Pass, approximately 150 miles south of Nome and 160 miles northwest of Bethel. Nunam Iqua can be accessed by boat, air, or by snowmachine in winter.

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**
 Carolyn Farmer

Title
 NONE PROVIDED

Organization Name
 U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Phone Type **Number** **Extension**
 Business 561-785-5634

Email
 carolyn.h.farmer@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 to 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](#)

Fill Material to be Discharged

Will Fill Material be Discharged?

Yes

For fill material, identify the material source

Yukon River Gravel Bar, Cape Nome Material Site, Marshall Material Site

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

Type	Cubic Yards
Silty Sand/Borrow	72,000.0
Shot Rock/Subbase	53,000.0
Crushed Rock/Surfacing Course	27,500.0
Topsoil	8,300.0

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

Surface Area	Units
11.02	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

62.52366508616343,-164.84432449340412

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?

Yes

Contaminated Sites

Hazard ID#	Contaminated Site Name	Contaminant Type	Latitude	Longitude	In soil or groundwater?	CS Staff Contact
1893	Nunam Iqua (Sheldon Point) Electric	Diesel Fuel	62.529778	-164.851250	Soil	Bill O'Connell, 9072693057 bill.oconnell@alaska.gov

Describe the identified contaminated site(s) or groundwater plume within 1,500 feet

Diesel fuel spill at the Nunam Iqua power plant, located across Swan Lake from the proposed project. Fuel was spilled into soil, Swan Lake Corporation sent letter to DEC agreeing to remove and remediate said soils and backfill the excavated areas with clean soil. The project area is not within or adjacent to this contaminated site, this site will not be impacted by the proposed action.

1,000 gallons of diesel spilled at power plant. Second spill was 250 gallons of diesel fuel leaked from broken pipe and was assigned Reckey 1994250127202. Information from that Reckey was added to this. 470 funds used to provide the village with equipment and "know how". Second spill was Reckey 1984250127202, LC14813060, and was combined with this Reckey.

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

Transport of sediment into wetlands and the Yukon River itself are a potential impact of the proposed action. Implementation of a project SWPPP and utilization of BMPs will prevent the sedimentation of project area wetlands and waters.

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 Construction Contractor will obtain a Construction General Permit (CGP) prior to construction activities. A SWPPP will be prepared by the contractor, and reviewed by DOT&PF, for the proposed project. BMPs are will be installed and maintained throughout construction where needed according to the CGP.

Avoidance Measures

- No fill, equipment, or construction materials shall be stockpiled or stored on wetlands that do not have authorization for these activities.
- Existing airport surfaces have been incorporated into the airport layout as much as practicable while still meeting FAA geometry standards.

Minimization Measures

- Stockpiled materials from Kwemeluk Pass will be stabilized or covered while being allowed to thaw and dewater. Sediment control measures will also be installed along all downgradient perimeter areas.
- All temporary fills placed on wetlands for thawing and dewatering will be underlain by geotextile fabric to ensure fill material is separated from original ground.
- Erosion and sediment perimeter control measures (silt fences, straw wattles, etc.) will be placed and maintained throughout construction.
- Where possible, vegetative buffers will be implemented as a perimeter control measure. Any evidence of sediment accumulation within the wetland vegetative buffer shall be reported to the Corps of Engineers and appropriate BMPs shall be installed to prevent further accumulation. Vegetative buffers are not appropriate in areas with standing water or emergent wetlands adjacent to the impact area. In these areas, appropriate BMPs shall be installed to prevent the accumulation of sediment outside of the permitted impact area.
- Vegetation clearing in wetland areas outside of the proposed permanent fill limits will be accomplished while soils are frozen or by hand using only low ground-pressure, wheeled ATVs for access to minimize temporary wetland impacts.
- Temporary work mats will be utilized for any equipment requiring access to wetland areas in thawed conditions beyond the footprint of proposed permanent fill limits.
- Existing drainage patterns will be maintained or enhanced wherever possible.
- Permanent fill placed as a result of construction of the new airport access road will include culverts to be placed as instructed by the construction engineer in order to maintain natural drainage patterns, allow for equalization of water across pond features, and to avoid entrapment of resident fish species.

Mitigation Measures

Given the steps provided above to avoid and minimize wetland impacts, the community need for a safe and reliable airport facility, and the ubiquitous nature of wetlands in the project area, DOT&PF is not proposing compensatory mitigation for this project.

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

Community services provided
Infrastructure improvements
Public health or safety improvements

Economic Importance Analysis

Employment, job availability, and salary impacts
Commercial activities
Access to a transportation network

Describe Social and/or Economic Importance of the project

The Nunam Iqua Airport is an essential transportation hub for the community and air is the primary transportation method into and out of the community. The proposed project is intended to ensure the continued safe operation of aircraft to and from Nunam Iqua. Improvements to airport facilities will ensure that the Nunam Iqua Airport is capable of receiving aircraft in inclement and frozen weather conditions. Aircraft is the only means of emergency medical transport from the community year-around.

Construction of the proposed project will bring short-term employment opportunities to local community members. Proposed improvements and rehabilitation of the airport will also ensure continued service to the community by commercial airlines transporting passengers and goods.

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
USFWS	Section 7 Consultation Concurrence	2025-0109187-S7-001	04/10/2025	06/23/2025	NONE PROVIDED
NMFS	Section 7 Consultation Concurrence	AKRO-2025-00914	04/04/2025	04/16/2025	NONE PROVIDED
NMFS	MSA EFH Consultation Concurrence	AKRO-2025-01075	04/03/2025	04/23/2025	NONE PROVIDED
SHPO	Section 106 Consultation Concurrence	3130-1R FAA/2024-00060	04/29/2025	07/28/2025	NONE PROVIDED
ADF&G	Title 16 Fish Habitat Permit	N/A	NONE PROVIDED	NONE PROVIDED	NONE PROVIDED

Other Agency or Local Contacts (1 of 8)

Contact Role

OTHER_REG_CNTCT

Other Agency and or Local Contacts

First Name Last Name

Leo Mahaney

Title

City Mayor

Organization Name

City of Nunam Iqua

Phone Type Number Extension

Business 907-498-4250

Email

cityofnunam@gmail.com

Other Agency or Local Contacts (2 of 8)

Contact Role

OTHER_REG_CNTCT

Other Agency and or Local Contacts

First Name **Last Name**
Edward Adams Sr.

Title
President

Organization Name
Native Village of Nunam Iqua

Phone Type **Number** **Extension**
Business 907-498-4184

Email
nunamtribe@gmail.com

Other Agency or Local Contacts (3 of 8)

Contact Role
OTHER_REG_CNTCT

Other Agency and or Local Contacts

First Name **Last Name**
Darlene Pete

Title
President

Organization Name
Swan Lake Corporation

Phone Type **Number** **Extension**
Business 907-498-4800

Email
swanlakecorporation@yahoo.com

Other Agency or Local Contacts (4 of 8)

Contact Role
OTHER_REG_CNTCT

Other Agency and or Local Contacts

First Name **Last Name**
Mary Martinez

Title
Land Planner

Organization Name
Calista Corporation

Phone Type **Number** **Extension**
Business 907-802-0807

Email
mmartinez@calistacorp.com

Other Agency or Local Contacts (5 of 8)

Contact Role
OTHER_REG_CNTCT

Other Agency and or Local Contacts

First Name **Last Name**
Kendall Campbell
Title
ARP Cultural Resources EPS
Organization Name
Federal Aviation Administration
Phone Type **Number** **Extension**
Business 907-271-5030
Email
kendall.d.campbell@faa.gov

Other Agency or Local Contacts (6 of 8)

Contact Role
OTHER_REG_CNTCT

Other Agency and or Local Contacts

First Name **Last Name**
Jack Gilbertsen
Title
Lead Environmental Protection Specialist
Organization Name
Federal Aviation Administration
Phone Type **Number** **Extension**
Business 907-271-5453
Email
jack.gilbertsen@faa.gov

Other Agency or Local Contacts (7 of 8)

Contact Role
OTHER_REG_CNTCT

Other Agency and or Local Contacts

First Name **Last Name**
Steven Street
Title
Director AVCP Dept. of Cultural and Environmental Sciences
Organization Name
Association of Village Council Presidents
Phone Type **Number** **Extension**
Business 907-543-7371
Email
sstreet@avcp.org

Other Agency or Local Contacts (8 of 8)

Contact Role
OTHER_REG_CNTCT

Other Agency and or Local Contacts

First Name	Last Name	
Elyse	Applegate	
Title		
Archaeologist II; DOT&PF Liaison		
Organization Name		
DNR-OHA		
Phone Type	Number	Extension
Business	907-269-8944	
Email		
elyse.applegate@alaska.gov		

Attachments

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

[ENG_4345_PermitApplication_Combined.pdf - 07/30/2025 12:35 PM](#)

[POA-2025-00312_YukonRiverPN.pdf - 07/30/2025 12:39 PM](#)

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.

[20250616_SPX_Project Figure Set.pdf - 07/30/2025 12:35 PM](#)

Comment

NONE PROVIDED

Document Attachments

[2005 Sheldon Point Airport Delineation.pdf - 07/30/2025 12:35 PM](#)

[SPX_404_CoverLetter_signed.pdf - 07/30/2025 12:35 PM](#)

[2005 Jurisdictional Determination.pdf - 07/30/2025 12:35 PM](#)

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)

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 `william.sexton@alaska.gov` `william.sexton@alaska.gov` on 07/30/2025 at 12:40 PM