CWA 401 Water Quality Certification Request

version 2.15

(Submission #: HQG-868K-7K7ZQ, version 1)

Details

Site: Salmon Falls Housing

Submission ID HQG-868K-7K7ZQ

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
Billing Contact

Contact

Prefix
NONE PROVIDED

First Name	Last Name
Michael	Pountney

Title
Director of Facility Services

Organization Name
Southeast Alaska Regional Health Consortium

Phone Type	Number	Extension
Business	907-966-8413	

Email
michaelp@searhc.org

Mailing Address

222 Tongass Drive

Sitka, AK 99835

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

Contact

Prefix
NONE PROVIDED

First Name	Last Name
Baila	Matthaey

Title
Environmental Scientist

Organization Name
PND Engineers, Inc.

Phone Type	Number	Extension
Business	907-646-2762	

Email
bmatthaey@pndengineers.com

Mailing Address

1506 W. 36th Avenue

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-2021-00531

Project Name or Title
Salmon Falls Housing

Primary Receiving Waterbody Name
NONE PROVIDED

Estimated Project Dates (+/- 30 days)

Project Estimated Start Date	Project Estimated End/Completion Date
04/01/2026	02/28/2027

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

Description	Discharge Estimated Start Date	Discharge Estimated End Date
Structural fill (clean gravel)	04/01/2026	09/30/2026

Project Description (Nature of Activity, include all features)
SEARHC proposes to construct a 12-unit housing building on the vacant hillside space of the SEARHC medical campus in Juneau, Alaska. A short road will be constructed to connect the housing to the rest of the medical campus. The project will require 0.75 acres of vegetation clearing and grubbing and will encompass a total footprint of 0.89 acres. Construction in the wetland area will require the removal of the surficial muskeg/organic soil and underlying soil and bedrock to the design building pad grade. Materials will be from an established, permitted source. The building pad grade has been set based on the maximum grade allowed for an access road. There is a stream buffer along Salmon Falls Creek on the northwest side of the lot which will not be disturbed. Construction will not impact medical operations or patient care.

Project Purpose (Describe the reason(s) for discharge)
Southeast Alaska has many remote villages where medical care is limited, so residents frequently travel to Juneau for care. Juneau has a severe housing and lodging shortage, and the project would provide much accommodations for patients and providers traveling from out of town. Vacant property inventory in the area is also extremely limited. This property has set vacant for decades due to challenges with site work. SEARHC has the resources to develop this property and aims to provide relief to the Juneau housing market by not introducing burden when additional patients and providers visit Juneau. Specialty medical providers are often on travel rotations and the project would also provide accommodations for visiting providers who are working on the campus.

Is any portion of the work already complete?
No

Description of current activity site conditions
The property is large and located on a hillside. Challenges to development are the steep topography and location of Salmon Creek. Salmon Creek will not be disturbed during construction. The portion of the property with a wetland is the last remaining piece of the parcel that is reasonably developable. Other areas of the site that are not WOTUS have already been developed. The limits will be confined to the areas reasonable to develop.

Relevant Site Data, Photographs that Represent Current Site Conditions, or other Relevant Documentation
20230607_124054.jpg - 10/10/2025 11:21 AM
5.jpg - 10/10/2025 11:21 AM
Comment
Existing gravel pad on site; also the steep hill where veg clearing and construction will occur.

Is this a linear project? (i.e., utility line, road, etc.)
No

Project Address
Salmon Creek Lane
Juneau, AK 99801

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

Project Location
58.331930,-134.465101

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
7B0901100000	City and Borough of Juneau	Copper River	9	41S	67E

Directions to Site
From the airport, head south on Yandukin Drive and merge onto Egan Drive and continue for 5 miles. Turn left on Glacier Highway and right on Hospital Drive. Turn left on Salmon Creek Lane and continue to the end of the drive. The site will be on the uphill end of the medical campus.

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 Amanda **Last Name** Locken

Title
Regulatory Specialist

Organization Name
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Phone Type	Number	Extension
Business	907-347-6148	

Email
Amanda.N.Locken@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 accepte 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
Clean gravel from a licensed and permitted source based on contractor needs

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

Type	Cubic Yards
Clean gravel to be used as structural fill	1,525.0

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

Surface Area	Units
0.58	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
Other

Discharge Location
58.331930,-134.465101

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
2691	NETS Building	DRO	58.3308	-134.4718	Soil	IC Unit, dec.icunit@alaska.gov

Describe the identified contaminated site(s) or groundwater plume within 1,500 feet
This site is not active. Clean up is complete but there are institutional controls. Next review of groundwater/soil samples will be in 2029.

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)
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
Turbidity and sediment associated with fill activities. Fill will be kept to the minimum quantity necessary to meet project need. Best management practices (BMPs) will be implemented to minimize and reduce impacts to WOTUS.

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

1. Fill materials placed in WOTUS will be clean blasted rock with relatively few fines to reduce impacts from turbidity and sedimentation.

2. Review of best available data on migratory bird nesting will be conducted prior to construction to prevent impacts to protected bird species during clearing. If possible, clearing will be performed outside of seasonal nesting windows.

3. Staking of sensitive areas (including Salmon Creek and associated setbacks) will be done prior to construction to identify areas to be avoided, including wetlands without planned development.

Avoidance Measures

SEARHC has already performed site work on all areas of the property that are not WOTUS. However, the available area is insufficient for the housing needs of SEARHC's patients and providers. While WOTUS cannot be avoided, BMPs will be implemented to reduce impacts.

Minimization Measures

The property is large but presents challenges for development due to the presence of Salmon Creek, very steep topography, and lack of practical access. The portion of this property identified as WOTUS is the last remaining piece on this parcel that is reasonably developable. Other areas of the site that are not WOTUS have already been developed. The limits have been confined to areas that are reasonable to develop. WOTUS areas within the property still remain on steeper parts and within the Salmon Creek setback. Incorporation of BMPs listed avoid will avoid and minimize impacts to WOTUS to the extent possible.

Mitigation Measures

Impacts to WOTUS will be mitigated through implementation of proposed BMPs. Only clean fill will be used from a permitted source. Sensitive areas will be clearly delineated beforehand with staking techniques. Vehicles and construction equipment will be kept up to date on maintenance and checked for leaks before entrance onto the property.

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
Public health or safety improvements
Infrastructure improvements

Economic Importance Analysis

NONE PROVIDED

Describe Social and/or Economic Importance of the project

SEARHC is a tribal nonprofit health consortium that provides crucial healthcare services to remote communities in Southeast Alaska. These communities are located off the road system and are dependent on SEARHC for essential medical care, as well as lodging for surgeries and other extended procedures. Juneau has a severe housing and lodging shortage due to lack of developable land and heavy tourism. Patients traveling to Juneau for care at SEARHC often have little options for temporary lodging, including expensive hotels that have little or no vacancy during tourist season. For this reason, medical housing development is necessary and there are no alternative locations available for construction.

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
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 Name Michael **Last Name** Pountney

Title

Director of Facility Services

Organization Name

Southeast Alaska Regional Health Consortium

Phone Type	Number	Extension
Business	907-966-8413	

Email

michaelp@searhc.org

Attachments

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

Salmon Falls USACE Application 2025 _ SIGNED.pdf - 10/10/2025 11:21 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.

222012 Permit Drawings Sept 2025.pdf - 10/10/2025 11:21 AM

Comment

NONE PROVIDED

Document Attachments

Project Description Salmon Falls PDF.pdf - 10/10/2025 11:21 AM

Comment

NONE PROVIDED

Delegation of Authority for Submission of Application

Salmon Falls delegation-of-authority-401.pdf - 10/10/2025 11:21 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)

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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Signed By bmatthaey@pndengineers.com bmatthaey@pndengineers.com on 10/13/2025 at 9:59 AM