CWA 401 Water Quality Certification Request

version 2.16

(Submission #: HQG-Q2AD-R1JR5, version 1)

Details

Site: basin creek

Submission ID HQG-Q2AD-R1JR5

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
Owner
Billing Contact
Application Preparer

Contact

Prefix
NONE PROVIDED

First Name	Last Name
john	reid

Title
owner/operator

Organization Name
western gold exploration llc

Phone Type	Number	Extension
Business	9074346288	

Email
johnnyreid7@hotmail.com

Mailing Address

po box 1124

nome, ak 99762

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.

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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-1988-00051

Project Name or Title
basin creek

Primary Receiving Waterbody Name
NONE PROVIDED

Estimated Project Dates (+/- 30 days)

Project Estimated Start Date	Project Estimated End/Completion Date
10/01/2022	10/01/2050

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

Description	Discharge Estimated Start Date	Discharge Estimated End Date
no discharge into water	*NONE PROVIDED*	*NONE PROVIDED*

Project Description (Nature of Activity, include all features)
project on basin creek is to placer mine for gold. Note that basin creek is 100% previously disturbed and has been mined through various mining methods since early 1900. previous mining methods included hydraulic monitoring to ground sluicing, bucket line dredging, drift shafting to modern day truck and shovel. basin creek itself has been relocated/diverted countless times in the last 100 years. mine narrative is to relocate/divert basin creek for approx. 2000 feet to a location which provides a non erosive sub straight (bedrock) for the creek bed. top soil and vegetation will be stripped off and relocated for reclamation when all mining is completed. truck and shovel will be used to then strip overburden and also haul paydirt to wash plant for processing. when the mineral deposit is 100% depleted and or is no longer economically viable to produce reclamation will then occur.

Project Purpose (Describe the reason(s) for discharge)
mining process does not discharge into water. 100% recycled recirculation system.

Is any portion of the work already complete?
Yes

Please describe the completed work
creek diversion is in place and completed. top soil/blackdirt has been relocated for reclamation.

Description of current activity site conditions
description of current activity and mine plans including map sketches and current photos are attached below.

Relevant Site Data, Photographs that Represent Current Site Conditions, or other Relevant Documentation
POA-1988-00051_BasinCreekPNUpdated(1)_251026_130726.pdf - 10/29/2025 09:43 AM
Comment
plan map of operation (mine sketch) includes original and amended copy , amended map from 12/18/2022 is current operation plan which does not include water discharge. sheet #8 is a current photo of work completed.

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
DSM - Lat/Long converter

Project Location
64.6814937846158,-165.29249486039953

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	Nome Census Area	Kateel River	28	9s	33w

Directions to Site
north on nome-taylor highway (kougarok/beam rd) to mile post 15.5

Federal Agency Contact (1 of 2)

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
army corps of engineers

Phone Type **Number** **Extension**
Business 5617855634

Email
carolyn.h.farmer@usace.army.mil

Federal Agency Contact (2 of 2)

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
army corps of engineers

Phone Type **Number** **Extension**
Business 5617855634

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 – 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
non perviable and non erosive material used for creek diversion dyke

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

Type	Cubic Yards
non erosive rock	15,000.0
non perviable clay	10,000.0

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

Surface Area	Units
2000	Linear Feet

Discharge Location Information (1 of 2)

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
Basin Creek

Discharge Location
64.68151432837006,-165.29129859141716

Discharge Location Information (2 of 2)

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)
002

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
Basin Creek

Discharge Location
64.68151432837006,-165.29129859141716

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 contamianted 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
when creek is diverted into diversion channel some sediment may enter water. after initial diversion, no more sediment will enter water.

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
no discharge into water during mining. 100% recirculated pond system. other then initial creek diversion no sediment to enter water

Avoidance Measures
creek is diverted to a non erosive creek bed (bedrock) which solidifies it in a permeant location. creek diversion dyke constructed with adequate blend of non previable and non erosive sub straight. diversion dyke is compacted in lifts to reach full compaction. daily inspection of creek.

Minimization Measures
safe environmental mining practices, no discharge of sediments and or water into creek. daily inspection of creek. diversion dyke is "over built" to account for any unforeseen high water events. reclamation procedure in place

Mitigation Measures
daily inspection of creek. equipment and material on site for any unforeseen events.

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 recourses
Employment, job availability, and salary impacts
Tax base impacts

Describe Social and/or Economic Importance of the project
project brings good paying jobs to community and provides building materials to improve infrastructure to 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
dnr	apma	7116	*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 **Last Name**
unknown unknown

Title
unknown

Organization Name
unkown

Phone Type **Number** **Extension**
Home 9072696096

Email
unknown@gmail.com

Attachments

Copy of Federal Application (USACE, EPA, or FERC, etc.)
POA-1988-00051_BasinCreekPNUpdated(1)_251026_130726 (1).pdf - 10/29/2025 09:43 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.
POA-1988-00051_BasinCreekPNUpdated(1)_251026_130726 (1).pdf - 10/29/2025 09:43 AM
Comment
NONE PROVIDED

Document Attachments

NONE PROVIDED

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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Signed By john reid on 01/14/2026 at 9:29 AM