CWA 401 Water Quality Certification Request

version 2.16

(Submission #: HQJ-N96B-7KTV9, version 1)

Details

Site: Aak'w Landing Development Project

Submission ID HQJ-N96B-7KTV9

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
Billing Contact
Application Preparer

Contact

Prefix
NONE PROVIDED

First Name	Last Name
Robin	Reich

Title
President and Senior Environmental Planner

Organization Name
Solstice Alaska Consulting, Inc

Phone Type	Number	Extension
Business	9079295960	

Email
robin@solsticeak.com

Mailing Address

2607 Fairbanks Street

Suite B

Anchorage, AK 99503

USA

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)
Applicant

Contact

Prefix
NONE PROVIDED

First Name	Last Name
Chris	Nielson

Title
Vice President

Organization Name
Turnagain Marine Construction

Phone Type	Number	Extension
Business	360-483-3801	

Email
cnielsen@turnagain.us

Mailing Address

5050 Cordova St.

Suite 200

Anchorage, AK 99503

USA

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-2025-00252

Project Name or Title
Aak'w Landing Development Project

Primary Receiving Waterbody Name
Gastineau Channel

Estimated Project Dates (+/- 30 days)

Project Estimated Start Date	Project Estimated End/Completion Date
08/01/2026	08/01/2027

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

Description	Discharge Estimated Start Date	Discharge Estimated End Date
Construction of new pile supported dock-only down the hole drilling no fill	08/01/2026	01/20/2027

Project Description (Nature of Activity, include all features)
Turnagain Marine Construction (TMC), under contract with Aak&#65533;w Landing, LLC, proposes to construct a seawalk and cruise ship dock adjacent to downtown Juneau, Alaska.

The project would construct a pile-supported seawalk from Egan Drive and a pile-supported seawalk from Whittier Street. Both seawalks would connect to a pile-supported fixed dock. From the fixed dock, a vehicle trestle would be constructed, connecting to a new cruise ship dock consisting of a pile-supported mooring trestle, a transfer span, and a pontoon float. The project would install two pile-supported float
restraint dolphins at each end of the pontoon float and two mooring dolphins past the end of the float, connected via gangway. The project would also remove a fixed T-dock directly adjacent to the project site supported by wood piles.

The project would occur in and over the waters of the United States. No ?ll, dredging, or blasting is proposed as part of the project.

Project Purpose (Describe the reason(s) for discharge)
The purpose of the Project is to construct a cruise ship dock and seawalk adjacent to downtown Juneau. The new dock, which would accommodate a class of increasingly larger cruise ships and their passengers, is needed to provide additional safe harbor in Juneau and allow docked ships to spread out across the waterfront, while eliminating ship-to-shore boat trips and reducing marine traffic congestion in Gastineau Channel. This project is part of a larger development effort that includes constructing dining, retail, and event spaces, as well as an indigenous knowledge, science, and cultural learning center.

Is any portion of the work already complete?
No

Description of current activity site conditions
The project location is within a developed sector of Gastineau Channel adjacent to downtown Juneau, next to a pile-supported Coast Guard dock. According to the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) ShoreZone Mapper, the Aak&#65533;w Landing Development Project site has an anthropogenic permeable habitat class and solid man-made structures with sandy beaches and sheltered riprap environmental sensitivity index.

Relevant Site Data, Photographs that Represent Current Site Conditions, or other Relevant Documentation

Aak'w USCG dock.jpg - 01/16/2026 12:52 PM
Aakw from Shore.jpg - 01/16/2026 12:52 PM
Aakw beach area.jpg - 01/16/2026 12:52 PM

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
DSM - Lat/Long converter

Project Location
58.298583080177885,-134.41617196284744

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	City and Borough of Juneau	Copper River	23	041 S	067 E

Directions to Site
From Juneau Airport, head southeast on Yandukin Drive towards Crest Street. Merge onto Eagan Drive. Turn right onto Whittier Street. Turn right and the project is located offshore of this area.

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 Rebecca (Becky)
Last Name Manbeck

Title
Regulatory Specialist

Organization Name
USACE- AK District

Phone Type	Number	Extension
Business	907-251-6716	

Email
Rebecca.S.Manbeck2@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?
No

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

Surface Area	Units
0	Linear Feet

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
Gastineau Channel

Discharge Location
58.298614704570454,-134.4161708186931

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
27912	City of Juneau Downtown Fire Station Tank 4	Diesel	58.3010	-134.4212	Soil	Kris Dent, 9072623411, kris.dent@alaska.gov
1982	GSA Juneau Federal Building	PCBs	58.3014	-134.4202	Soil	Jenny Gates, 9072628203, jenny.gates@alaska.gov
24533	GSA Juneau Federal Building LUST	Diesel	58.3019	-134.4197	Soil	Jenny Gates, 9072628203, jenny.gates@alaska.gov

Describe the identified contaminated site(s) or groundwater plume within 1,500 feet
There are three active contaminated sites that are landward of the proposed project. Two sites are associated with diesel and underground storage tanks and other site is a building with PCBs.

City of Juneau Downtown Fire Station (#27912) -a 550-gallon underground storage tank (UST) that supplied an emergency generator was found and soil contamination was discovered adjacent to the spill bucket.

GSA Juneau Federal Building (#1982)-PCB contamination from a snowmelt
system found in the building

GSA Juneau Federal Building LUST- A 1,000-gallon diesel UST used for emergency power generation was removed in March of1995. Suspected petroleum contamination was found near the tank fill pipe.

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
Pile removal and driving activities can can cause short-term degradation of water quality and increased siltation, turbidity, and sedimentation.

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 is proposed.

Avoidance Measures
The purpose of the project is to construct a dock that accommodates large cruise ships and their passengers. To meet the project purpose and need, construction must
occur within waters of the United States. The project would be located within the already
industrialized section of the Gastineau Channel.

Minimization Measures
The project uses the most compact design practicable (with the least number of piles and smallest pile sizes) to minimize impacts to waters of the United States.

Mitigation Measures
Treated timber piles associate with an old dock and other structures would be removed.
If contaminated sediments are encountered during construction, the contractor will immediately notify agencies and stop work until coordination on the appropriate response occurs with ADEC.
Wood that has been surface- or pressure-treated with creosote or treated with pentachlorophenol will not be used. If treated wood must be used, any wood that comes in contact with water will be treated with preservatives in accordance with Best Management Practices developed by the Western Wood Preservers Institute. Treated wood will be inspected before installation to ensure that no superficial deposits of preservative material remain on the wood.
Plans for avoiding, minimizing, and responding to releases of sediments, contaminants, fuels, oil, and other pollutants will be developed and implemented.
Spill response equipment will be kept on-site during construction and operation.

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
Cultural amenities

Economic Importance Analysis
Employment, job availability, and salary impacts
Tax base impacts
Commercial activities

Describe Social and/or Economic Importance of the project
The Aak�w Landing Development Project would include dining, retail, and event spaces, as well as an indigenous knowledge, science, and cultural learning center. It is economically important because 99% of all ships cruising in Southeast Alaska stop in Juneau, one of Alaska�s main ports-of-call. In 2024, Juneau received 1.68 million visitors through 697 individual port calls (Sabbatini 2024). In 2025, Juneau received approximately 692 cruise ship port calls between April and October (CLIA 2025). The project will provide an important employment opportunities, a tax base, and commercial opportunities during the visitor and off season. It will also provide a community gathering area and cultural amenities.

The project will help minimize pedestrian tourist-related congestion in downtown Juneau east of Seward Street. Currently, of all Juneau�s cruise ship docks are located along Seward Street and all pedestrians and shuttle services must walk or drive on Seward Street to access downtown and other Juneau areas. There is considerable pedestrian and vehicle congestion on the street when ships are in port, which leads to a poor visitor experience, which can lead to fewer dollars spent in the community or cruise ships not coming to Juneau. Aak�w Landing would move some cruise ship visitors to a less busy location on the southwest side of downtown and decrease congestion, traffic delays, and lead to a more positive visitor experience.

The project�s waterfront pedestrian infrastructure, the seawalk and pedestrian walkway, would unify the waterfront by creating a space that provides recreation, mobility, and social features for residents and tourists. A seawalk has been a primary goal for future waterfront development since the Juneau Long Range Waterfront Master Plan was adopted. In addition, according to City and Borough of Juneau Marine Park to Taku Dock Urban Design Plan, "As more visitors come to Juneau, a key component of the plan is to accommodate this growing industry with improved or expanded shoreside services or facilities and to create a waterfront destination for these visitors and our locals.

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
NMFS-AK	ESA	AKRO-2025-02435	08/07/2025	*NONE PROVIDED*	*NONE PROVIDED*
NMFS	MMPA/ESA	TBD	08/01/2025	*NONE PROVIDED*	*NONE PROVIDED*
NMFS	EFH/MSFMA	AKRO-2025-02980	09/29/2025	*NONE PROVIDED*	*NONE PROVIDED*

Other Agency or Local Contacts (1 of 3)

Contact Role
OTHER_REG_CNTCT

Other Agency and or Local Contacts

First Name	Last Name
Linda	Shaw

Title
Wildlife Biologist, Alaska Region

Organization Name
NOAA Fisheries

Phone Type	Number	Extension
Business	323-372-1664	

Email
linda.shaw@noaa.gov

Other Agency or Local Contacts (2 of 3)

Contact Role
OTHER_REG_CNTCT

Other Agency and or Local Contacts

First Name	Last Name
Leanne	Roulson

Title
Consultation Biologist

Organization Name
NMFS

Phone Type	Number	Extension
Business	813-291-0181	

Email
leanne.roulson@noaa.gov

Other Agency or Local Contacts (3 of 3)

Contact Role
OTHER_REG_CNTCT

Other Agency and or Local Contacts

First Name	Last Name
Jaclyn	Daly-Fuchs

Title
Fishery Biologist

Organization Name
NMFS-Office of Protected Resources

Phone Type	Number	Extension
Business	301-427-8438	

Email
jaclyn.daly@noaa.gov

Attachments

Copy of Federal Application (USACE, EPA, or FERC, etc.)
Aakw USACE App 07012025.pdf - 01/16/2026 12:52 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.

Aakw figures.pdf - 01/16/2026 12:52 PM

Comment

Permit figures also attached to Corps application

Document Attachments

NONE PROVIDED

Comment

NONE PROVIDED

Delegation of Authority for Submission of Application

Aakw DEC 401 Delegation of Authority-signed.pdf - 01/16/2026 12:52 PM

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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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 tcunha@turnagain.us on 01/16/2026 at 3:36 PM