



US Army Corps
of Engineers
Alaska District

Public Notice of Application for Permit

FAIRBANKS FIELD OFFICE
Regulatory Division (1145)
CEPOA-RD
1046 Marks Road
Fort Wainwright, Alaska 99703

PUBLIC NOTICE DATE:	January 14, 2026
EXPIRATION DATE:	February 16, 2026
REFERENCE NUMBER:	POA-2025-00516
WATERWAY:	Corea Creek, Cook Inlet

Interested parties are hereby notified that a Department of the Army permit application has been received for work in waters of the United States as described below and shown on the enclosed project drawings.

All comments regarding this public notice should be sent to the address noted above. If you desire to submit your comments by email, you should send it to the project manager's email as listed below or to regpagemaster@usace.army.mil. All comments should include the public notice reference number listed above.

All comments should reach this office no later than the expiration date of this public notice to become part of the record and be considered in the decision. Please contact John Sargent at (907) 347-1801, toll free from within Alaska at (800) 478-2712, or by email at John.C.Sargent@usace.army.mil if further information is desired concerning this public notice.

APPLICANT: Hilcorp Alaska, LLC, Attn: Mr. Stetson Sannes

LOCATION: The project site is located within Latitude 60.1033° N., Longitude 151.5924° W.; 11615 Sterling Highway in Ninilchik, Alaska.

PURPOSE: The applicant's stated purpose is to expand the existing Kalotsa gravel pad to increase natural gas operations in the area, as well as support current and future exploration and development activities.

PROPOSED WORK: Hilcorp Alaska would like to expand the existing Kalotsa Pad used for natural gas activities by approximately 84,102 square feet or 1.93 acres. Of this area, 79,271

square feet or 1.82 acres is considered wetland. All work would be performed in accordance with the enclosed plan (sheets 1-4), dated December 30, 2025.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: Ninilchik Native Association's Notice of Development

APPLICANT PROPOSED MITIGATION: The applicant proposes the following mitigation measures to avoid, minimize, and compensate for impacts to waters of the United States from activities involving discharges of dredged or fill material.

- a. Avoidance: The entire project area contains jurisdictional waters of the United States; therefore, complete avoidance is not practicable. Hilcorp proposes to include the following practicable avoidance measures: • Project limits will be delineated with silt fencing or similar material to avoid impacts outside the proposed pad area • Work will occur from the existing pad surface to avoid additional temporary impacts to Waters of the U.S.
- b. Minimization: Hilcorp will incorporate the following minimization measures into project design and construction to reduce overall impacts on Waters of the United States: • The pad will be constructed with a minimum 2 Vertical:1 Horizontal side slopes to minimize fill area and impacts to wetlands. • Regular pad surface watering will occur during operation to minimize fugitive dust deposition to the area. • Existing gravel sources will be used
- c. Compensatory Mitigation: Hilcorp Alaska requests that compensatory mitigation requirements be waived due to the project's small size, the common wetland type that would be filled, and the apparent overall health of the Corea Creek watershed in the project area.

WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION: A permit for the described work will not be issued until a certification or waiver of certification, as required under Section 401 of the Clean Water Act (Public Law 95-217), has been received from the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation.

CULTURAL RESOURCES: The latest published version of the Alaska Heritage Resources Survey (AHRs) has been consulted for the presence or absence of historic properties, including those listed in or eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places. There are no cultural resources in the permit area or within the vicinity of the permit area. The permit area has been determined to encompass the fill material proposed in wetlands and areas where this fill activity may affect historic properties. Consultation of the AHRs constitutes the extent of cultural resource investigations by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) at this time, and we are otherwise unaware of the presence of such resources. USACE has made a No Historic Properties Affected (No Effect) determination for the proposed project. This application is being coordinated with the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO), Federally recognized Tribes, and other consulting parties. Any comments SHPO, federally recognized Tribes, and other consulting parties may have concerning presently unknown archeological or historic data that may be lost or destroyed by work under the requested permit will be considered in our final assessment of the described work. USACE is requesting the SHPO's concurrence with this determination.

ENDANGERED SPECIES: We have determined the described activity would have no effect on any listed or proposed threatened or endangered species and would have no effect on any designated or proposed critical habitat, under the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (87 Stat. 844). Therefore, no consultation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service or the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) is required. However, any comments they may have concerning endangered or threatened wildlife or plants or their critical habitat will be considered in our final assessment of the described work.

ESSENTIAL FISH HABITAT: The Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (Magnuson-Stevens Act), as amended by the Sustainable Fisheries Act of 1996, requires all Federal agencies to consult with the NMFS on all actions, or proposed actions, permitted, funded, or undertaken by the agency, that may adversely affect Essential Fish Habitat (EFH).

The project area is not within mapped EFH.

We have determined the described activity would not adversely affect EFH in the project area.

TRIBAL CONSULTATION: USACE fully supports tribal self-governance and government-to-government relations between Federally recognized Tribes and the Federal government. Tribes with protected rights or resources that could be significantly affected by a proposed Federal action (e.g., a permit decision) have the right to consult with USACE, Alaska District, on a government-to-government basis. Views of each Tribe regarding protected rights and resources will be accorded due consideration in this process. This public notice serves as notification to the Tribes within the area potentially affected by the proposed work and invites their participation in the Federal decision-making process regarding the protected Tribal rights or resources. Consultation may be initiated by the affected Tribe upon written request to the District Commander. This application is being coordinated with federally recognized tribes and other consulting parties. Any comments federal recognized tribes and other consulting parties may have concerning presently unknown archeological or historic data that may be lost or destroyed by the work under the requested permit will be considered in USACE's final assessment of the described work.

PUBLIC HEARING: Any person may request, in writing, within the comment period specified in this notice, that a public hearing be held to consider this application. Requests for public hearings shall state, with particularity, reasons for holding a public hearing.

EVALUATION: The decision whether to issue a permit will be based on an evaluation of the probable impacts, including cumulative impacts of the proposed activity and its intended use on the public interest. Evaluation of the probable impacts, which the proposed activity may have on the public interest, requires a careful weighing of all the factors that become relevant in each particular case. The benefits, which reasonably may be expected to accrue from the proposal, must be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. The outcome of the general balancing process would determine whether to authorize a proposal, and if so, the conditions under which it will be allowed to occur. The decision should reflect the national concern for both protection and utilization of important resources. All factors, which may be relevant to the proposal, must be considered including the cumulative effects thereof. Among

those are conservation, economics, aesthetics, general environmental concerns, wetlands, cultural values, fish and wildlife values, flood hazards, floodplain values, land use, navigation, shore erosion and accretion, recreation, water supply and conservation, water quality, energy needs, safety, food and fiber production, mineral needs, considerations of property ownership, and, in general, the needs and welfare of the people. For activities involving 404 discharges, a permit will be denied if the discharge that would be authorized by such permit would not comply with the Environmental Protection Agency's 404(b)(1) guidelines. Subject to the preceding sentence and any other applicable guidelines or criteria (see Sections 320.2 and 320.3), a permit will be granted unless the District Commander determines that it would be contrary to the public interest.

USACE is soliciting comments from the public; Federal, State, and local agencies and officials; Indian Tribes; and other interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of this proposed activity. Any comments received will be considered by USACE to determine whether to issue, modify, condition, or deny a permit for this proposal. To make this decision, comments are used to assess impacts on endangered species, historic properties, water quality, general environmental effects, and the other public interest factors listed above. Comments are used in the preparation of an Environmental Assessment and/or an Environmental Impact Statement pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act. Comments are also used to determine the need for a public hearing and to determine the overall public interest of the proposed activity.

AUTHORITY: This permit will be issued or denied under the following authority:

(X) Discharge dredged or fill material into waters of the United States – Section 404 Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. 1344). Therefore, our public interest review will consider the guidelines set forth under Section 404(b) of the Clean Water Act (40 CFR 230).

Project drawings are enclosed with this public notice.

District Commander
U.S. Army, Corps of Engineers

Enclosures

Figure 1: Kalotsa Site Pad Expansion Vicinity Map



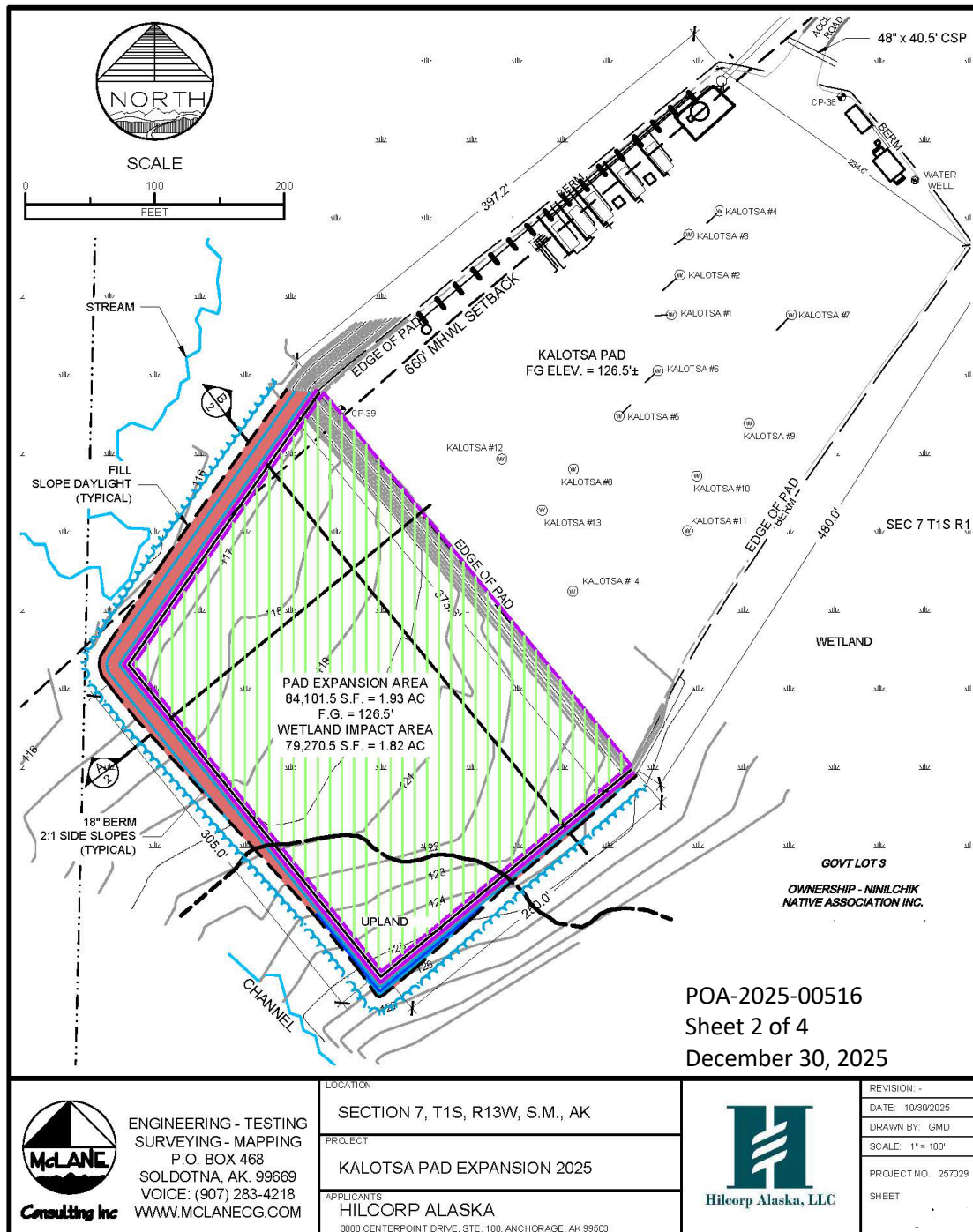


Figure 3: Kalotsa Site Pad Expansion Cross Section

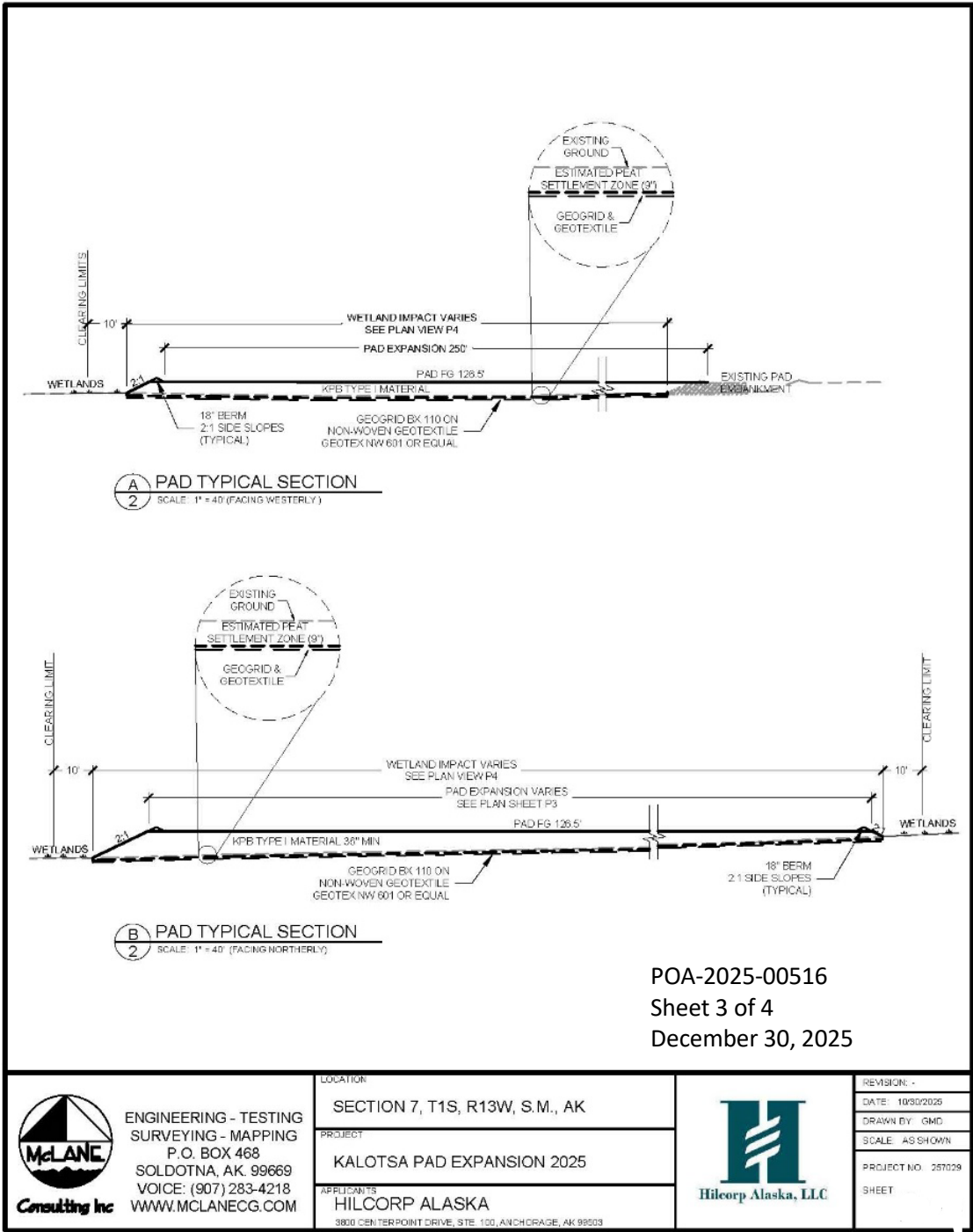


Figure 4: Kalotsa Site Pad Expansion Wetland Overview

