

CWA 401 Water Quality Certification Request

version 2.17

(Submission #: HQP-XEK9-ZJ2E8, version 1)

Digitally signed by:
dec.alaska.gov
Date: 2026.07.16 07:40:12 -08:00
Reason: Submission Data
Location: State of Alaska

Details

Site: Jill and Andy Cowan's home site

Submission ID HQP-XEK9-ZJ2E8

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 1)

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

JILL

Last Name

COWAN

Title

Applicant

Organization Name

Jill Cowan

Phone Type

Number

Extension

Home

9072540206

Email

jillccowan@yahoo.com

Mailing Address

147 Pond Reef Road

Ketchikan, AK 99901

[NO COUNTRY SPECIFIED]

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-2020-00525

Project Name or Title

Jill and Andy Cowan's home site

Primary Receiving Waterbody Name

Tongass Narrows in Southeast Alaska

Estimated Project Dates (+/- 30 days)

Project Estimated Start Date	Project Estimated End/Completion Date
07/16/2026	07/31/2026

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

Description	Discharge Estimated Start Date	Discharge Estimated End Date
move soil and bedrock to create a flat building pad	07/16/2026	07/31/2026

Project Description (Nature of Activity, include all features)

Project is for creating a building pad for a single-family residence for Andy and Jill. Our desire is to excavate top soil and bedrock from an area of the building pad and move it towards the front of the lot to create a stable, flat building pad for our home.

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

The excavated material will be of good use to fill out to the front of the lot to fill a low spot to make the building site large enough to accommodate the house, parking and a garden. removing the excavated material by truck would cost an exuberant amount by means of dump truck.

Is any portion of the work already complete?

No

Description of current activity site conditions

The area we propose to excavate has not been disturbed as of yet, so no activity has occurred.

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

NONE PROVIDED
Comment
NA

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

Project Address
12188 North Tongass Hwy
Ketchikan, AK 99901

Visit the link below to help with conversion between DMS and Latitude/Longitude
[DSM - Lat/Long converter](#)

Project Location
55.4459,-131.8092

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
31353002300	Ketchikan Gateway Borough	Copper River	na	Ketchikan	na

Directions to Site
Drive north from Ketchikan on North Tongass Highway. At approximately 13 miles, turn right up an existing driveway with no name. The driveway extends most of the length of the southern facing side of the property. The rest of the property is north of the driveway consisting of a partially developed building pad

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	
Leah	Barrett	
Title		
Regulatory Specialist		
Organization Name		
US Army Corps of Engineers		
Phone Type	Number	Extension
Business	907-753-2760	
Email		
Leah.Barrett@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 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](#)
- [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

organic top soil and bed rock

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

Type	Cubic Yards
organic top soil	350
bed rock	1,200

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

Surface Area	Units
.124	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
55.4459,131.8092

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 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

At this time there are no know concentrations, persistence or potential impacts to the receiving 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](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 discharge will become part of the front yard of the house site. It will become space for planting a yard, garden. There has been no identified need to treat or control the discharge as there is no affected water body.

Avoidance Measures

For this non-water dependent project there is no alternative upland site existing that is available on our land. The rear (north side) of the property backs up to Ketchikan Gateway Borough land that is forested and steep. The area of the lot that already has an existing house pad and is ready to place our house cannot be used because it is already flat and ready for building. The front (South) side of the lot that has been chosen will be used for yard and gardening space. If we were to remove the discharge by standard size 10 yard dump truck would require approximately 152 trucking hours, adding an estimated cost of approximately \$22,800. Using this method would also cause extra pollution by use of the motorized truck.

Minimization Measures

The proposed excavation and fill area is in direct contact with an already developed building pad. Access to the proposed excavation and fill site would not impact anymore wetlands other than the proposed fill area.

Mitigation Measures

see above

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

NONE PROVIDED

Economic Importance Analysis

NONE PROVIDED

Describe Social and/or Economic Importance of the project

Social and/or economic importance does not apply for the project as it is for a single family residential home located on non-commercial property.

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
Ketchikan Gateway Borough	Zoning	11763	04/17/2026	05/01/2026	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

Alethea Johnson

Title

Zoning Official

Organization Name

Ketchikan Gateway Borough

Phone Type Number Extension

Business 9072286610

Email

aletheaj@kgbak.us

Attachments

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

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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.

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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)

Certification Statement

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 JILL COWAN on 07/16/2026 at 7:36 AM
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