

CWA 401 Water Quality Certification Request

version 2.17

(Submission #: HQR-V8FE-M20WW, version 1)

Digitally signed by:
dec.alaska.gov
Date: 2026.09.25 12:40:13 -08:00
Reason: Submission Data
Location: State of Alaska

Details

Site: Trans Alaska Pipeline System, Bank Erosion Mitigation (Pipeline Milepost 20)

Submission ID HQR-V8FE-M20WW

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 3)

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

Wesley Willson

Title

Pipeline Director

Organization Name

Alyeska Pipeline Service Company

Phone Type Number Extension

Business 9074504112

Email

wes.willson@alyeska-pipeline.com

Mailing Address

615 Bidwill Avenue

Fairbanks, AK 99701-7574

[NO COUNTRY SPECIFIED]

Contact Information (2 of 3)

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)

Owner
Billing Contact
Operator
Onsite Contact
Application Preparer

Contact

Prefix

NONE PROVIDED

First Name Last Name

Marc Johnson

Title

Water Quality Subject Matter Expert

Organization Name

Alyeska Pipeline Service Company

Phone Type Number Extension

Business 9077878806

Email

marc.johnson@alyeska-pipeline.com

Mailing Address

PO Box 196660

Anchorage, AK 99519

United States

Contact Information (3 of 3)

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)

Owner
Billing Contact
Operator
Onsite Contact
Application Preparer

Contact

Prefix

NONE PROVIDED

First Name Last Name

Shaylyn Storms

Title

Environmental Analyst

Organization Name

Alyeska Pipeline Service Company

Phone Type Number Extension

Business 9077878568

Email

ShaylynYosty.Storms@alyeska-pipeline.com

Mailing Address

PO Box 196660

Anchorage, AK 99519

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-2022-00357

Project Name or Title

Trans Alaska Pipeline System, Bank Erosion Mitigation (Pipeline Milepost 20)

Primary Receiving Waterbody Name

NONE PROVIDED

Estimated Project Dates (+/- 30 days)

Project Estimated Start Date	Project Estimated End/Completion Date
10/15/2026	12/31/2027

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

Description	Discharge Estimated Start Date	Discharge Estimated End Date
Runoff into river	10/15/2026	12/31/2027

Project Description (Nature of Activity, include all features)

An eroding buffer strip between the gravel pit and the Sag River will be restored along the entire eroding length of the pit. In-situ alluvial material will be scraped from a gravel bar to the east and used to widen the buffer strip. Along the restored buffer short buried rock sills will be installed to arrest future erosion towards the gravel pit. To access the work area temporary gravel ramps will be installed on previously disturbed locations. After construction the ramps will be removed, and the sites restored to their prior condition.

The work consists of:

1. Gravel mining from the Sag River gravel bar.
2. Installation of gravel and rip rap structures to protect TAPS.

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

The purpose of this work is to restore a buffer zone along an inactive gravel pit adjacent to the Sagavanirktok (Sag) River to protect the integrity of the shallow buried Trans Alaska Pipeline System (TAPS).

Is any portion of the work already complete?

No

Description of current activity site conditions

The project site is located 20 miles south of Pump Station 1 and 37 miles north of Pump Station 2 on the Trans-Alaska Pipeline System (TAPS).

At MP 20 the Sag River crosses the Arctic Coastal Plain, which primarily supports lowland tundra vegetation types. Wetland plant communities are the predominant vegetation type in the lowland tundra zone which includes mosses, lichens, herbs and low shrubs. The soils in this area consist of organic silt with some sand, gravel mixed with sand, numerous cobbles and scattered boulders.

The Sagavanirktok River has been specified as being important for the spawning, rearing, or migration of anadromous fish pursuant to AS 16.05.871(a). In addition to a large run of anadromous Dolly Varden, the river supports broad whitefish, humpback whitefish, pink salmon and chum salmon. The river is also inhabited by resident Arctic grayling, lake trout, round whitefish, least cisco, burbot, nine spine stickleback and slimy sculpin. The side channels are also considered anadromous because of their connection to the main channel.

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

NONE PROVIDED

Comment

NONE PROVIDED

Is this a linear project? (i.e., utility line, road, etc.)

No

Project Address

Dalton Highway Milepost 397.6

Deadhorse, AK 99734

Visit the link below to help with conversion between DMS and Latitude/Longitude

[DSM - Lat/Long converter](#)

Project Location

69.988,-148.681

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	North Slope Borough	Umiat	5	7N	14E

Directions to Site

Access is at Dalton Highway Milepost 397.6. Drive the site from Alyeska access road 134-APL/AMS-3A.

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	
Tyler	Marye	
Title		
Project Manager		
Organization Name		
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers		
Phone Type	Number	Extension
Business	9077535778	
Email		
Tyler.J.Marye@usace.army.mil		

Dredge Material to be Discharged

Is dredging involved?

Yes

How many acres?

7

How much volume? (Cubic Yards)

16,000.00

Is the dredging considered a new project, or maintenance?

New Project

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](#)

Has a Tier analysis been conducted of the dredged prism?

Yes

Attach tier analysis and sample results

2020 - GL 45180 - TAPS MP 42 Sag R 401 cert application (1).pdf - 09/25/2026 12:30 PM

Comment

This is the 2020 application to conduct mining of the gravel bar located at PLMP 42.

Fill Material to be Discharged

Will Fill Material be Discharged?

Yes

For fill material, identify the material source

alluvial gravel

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

Type	Cubic Yards
Alluvial gravel	16,000
Rip Rap	750

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

Surface Area	Units
2	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

Location Description

Sagavanirktok River

Placement of Dredged/Fill material discharge

Other: on the dry gravel bar

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

Saganavirktok River

Discharge Location

69.988,-148.681

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)

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

This project involves mining and placing in-situ alluvial gravel. The expected contaminants are sediment and turbidity.

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

See Avoidance Measures.

Avoidance Measures

Alyeska plans to use a number of BMPs to protect water quality in the Sagavanirktok River as described below.

BMP ♦ SUSTAINABLE QUANTITY OF GRAVEL MINED

As described in both the attached Permit Narrative and the attached Operations Material Site OMS 130-3 Mining and Reclamation Plan, Alyeska will mine volumes of depositional gravel that can be recharged by the Sagavanirktok River within 2 to 4 years. See the references in the documents for Sagavanirktok River recharge rates (Toniolo et al, 2019).

BMP ♦ MINING ONLY DURING LOW WATER LEVELS IN THE SAGAVANIRKTOK RIVER

As described in the attached Permit Narrative, Alyeska plans to mine only during low water conditions using an excavator and bulldozer to excavate/scrape the top of the gravel bars above the water line. Mining will not be conducted in any flowing water. If water levels rise in the Sagavanirktok River Alyeska will cease mining and remove equipment from the site.

BMP ♦ LIMITED ACCESS TO THE GRAVEL BAR

As described in both the attached Permit Narrative and the attached Operations Material Site OMS 130-3 Mining and Reclamation Plan, Alyeska will route the temporary gravel (or snow) ramp to avoid any small isolated waters or very minor river braids. Gravel ramps will be installed if needed for equipment access from the end of existing access roads and then removed after mining is completed.

BMP ♦ MINING LESS THAN +/- 3 FEET BELOW SURFACE

As described in both the attached Permit Narrative and the attached Operations Material Site OMS 130-3 Mining and Reclamation Plan, Alyeska will only excavate above the elevation of the active water in the Sagavanirktok (water table), to an approximate depth of 3 feet. It is anticipated that most mining operations will be 1 foot to 3 feet below surface level. Material will be removed in shallow, smooth, even lifts.

BMP ♦ 50 FOOT SETBACK FROM THE RIVER BANK

As described in both the attached Permit Narrative and the attached Operations Material Site OMS 130-3 Mining and Reclamation Plan, Alyeska will not mine any closer than 50 feet from the existing bank of the Sagavanirktok River.

BMP ♦ 30 FOOT SETBACK FROM THE ACTIVE WATER LEVEL OF THE SAGAVANIRKTOK RIVER

As described in both the attached Permit Narrative and the attached Operations Material Site OMS 130-3 Mining and Reclamation Plan, Alyeska will not perform any mining activities closer than 30 feet from the active water level of the Sagavanirktok River.

BMP ♦ ISOLATION BERM

As described in both the attached Permit Narrative and the attached Operations Material Site OMS 130-3 Mining and Reclamation Plan, Alyeska will construct a 3-foot-high gravel isolation berm.

BMP ♦ RESTRICT HEAVY EQUIPMENT USE TO UNVEGETATED GRAVEL BAR

As described in both the attached Permit Narrative and the attached Operations Material Site OMS 130-3 Mining and Reclamation Plan, Alyeska will drive and operate bulldozers, excavators and other heavy equipment only on unvegetated gravel bars.

BMP ♦ REMOVAL OF ISOLATION BERM AND RE-GRADING AFTER MINING

As described in both the attached Permit Narrative and the attached Operations Material Site OMS 130-3 Mining and Reclamation Plan, Alyeska will grade the site level, contour the site to minimize water ponding, and slope it towards the downstream end at the end of the mining season.

BMP ◆ MINIMAL STOCKPILES

As described in both the attached Permit Narrative and the attached Operations Material Site OMS 130-3 Mining and Reclamation Plan, Alyeska will remove the gravel and take it off site instead of stockpiling. All temporary stockpiles will be removed less than 5 days after completion of active mining operations.

BMP ◆ NO PUMPING WATER FROM SITE

As described in both the attached Permit Narrative and the attached Operations Material Site OMS 130-3 Mining and Reclamation Plan, Alyeska will not need to do any dewatering since the gravel will be mined above the level of the water table. Any water (such as precipitation) will rapidly percolate into the permeable sandy gravel river bar material.

BMP ◆ SEDIMENTATION CONTROL MEASURES

As described in both the attached Permit Narrative and the attached Operations Material Site OMS 130-3 Mining and Reclamation Plan, Alyeska will install specific BMPs (as dictated by site conditions) to minimize sediment from leaving the site including silt fences and wattles.

BMP ◆ WATER DIVERSION

As described in both the attached Permit Narrative and the attached Operations Material Site OMS 130-3 Mining and Reclamation Plan, Alyeska will install specific BMPs (as dictated by site conditions) to route water around the site such as temporary culverts and low water crossings.

ADDITIONAL BMPs FOR RIVER STRUCTURES

- ◆ Limit permanent fill and disturbance below ordinary high water to the minimum necessary for stabilization and infrastructure protection.
- ◆ Use stable, clean materials appropriately sized for anticipated velocity, ice, bed load, and scour conditions.
- ◆ Retain existing riparian and floodplain vegetation wherever practicable and stabilize disturbed areas promptly.
- ◆ Use temporary structures, mats, fills, and access features only as needed; remove them and restore affected areas after construction.
- ◆ Photograph and survey pre-work and as-built conditions to demonstrate the maintenance footprint and final configuration.
- ◆ Use existing access routes and previously disturbed areas where practicable.
- ◆ Limit construction crossings to designated locations and minimize the number, width, and duration of crossings.
- ◆ Minimize temporary fill in waters and wetlands; clearly stake approved limits of disturbance.
- ◆ Maintain drainage and aquatic connectivity through temporary access features.
- ◆ Remove temporary fills and restore channel, bar, bank, and floodplain contours.
- ◆ Minimize sidecasting or loss of fill outside the approved construction footprint.
- ◆ Account for all permanent and temporary fill quantities and locations in project drawings and permit documentation.

Minimization Measures

See Avoidance Measures.

Mitigation Measures

See Avoidance Measures.

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

Employment, job availability, and salary impacts

Describe Social and/or Economic Importance of the project

The gravel is needed to maintain gravel structures which protect the Trans Alaska Pipeline.

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	see attached 404 application	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 Last Name
Willow Weimer

Title
Environmental Program Specialist 4

Organization Name
Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation

Phone Type Number Extension
Business 9072696096

Email
willow.weimer@alaska.gov

Attachments

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

mp20bankerosionmitigation26-4345_SIGNED.pdf - 09/25/2026 12:30 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.

Perm_narr_MP_20 gravel pit-2026.pdf - 09/25/2026 12:30 PM
MP20bankerosionmitigationPlates.pdf - 09/25/2026 12:30 PM
Comment
NONE PROVIDED

Document Attachments

DOA POA-2022-00357.pdf - 09/25/2026 12:30 PM
Comment
NONE PROVIDED

Delegation of Authority for Submission of Application

DOA POA-2022-00357.pdf - 09/25/2026 12:30 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)

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;
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- 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 marc.johnson@alyeska-pipeline.com marc.johnson@alyeska-pipeline.com on 09/25/2026 at 12:35 PM
Xtsdo5Ce4xZg4YPVRXbeIJOEU7khItC8QhL0C+LhviMY354uAtP8iMkP18gft05WPHRNJ9yJLd5d9zi8JNsg==