

**U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Alaska District**  
**PRECONSTRUCTION NOTIFICATION FORM**

May be used instead of Form ENG 4345 to request verification under a Nationwide Permit (NWP)

<b>Applicant:</b>	Phone:
Address:	Fax:
City, State, Zip:	Cell/Direct Line:
Point of Contact:	e-mail:

<b>Agent:</b>	Phone:
Address:	Fax:
City, State, Zip:	Cell/Direct Line:
Point of Contact:	e-mail:

**Location of the Proposed Project Site:**

Nearest Waterway:	
Section, Township, Range, and Meridian:	
Latitude and Longitude (Decimal Degrees, NAD-83):	
Nearest City:	Subdivision:
Borough:	USGS Quad(s):
Driving Directions to Site:	

**Project Description:**

To ensure a project meets the requirements for an NWP, read all of the NWP General Conditions and Regional Conditions, which can be found on our website at <a href="http://www.poa.usace.army.mil/Missions/Regulatory/Permits.aspx">http://www.poa.usace.army.mil/Missions/Regulatory/Permits.aspx</a>
Description of the proposed project, including the area of impacts and the volume of fill material to be used (If there is a NWP that you think would apply to your proposed project, please include that in this section):
Project purpose:
Describe any direct and/or indirect adverse environmental effects that may result from the proposed project:

Do you intend to use any other authorizations for any part of the proposed project or any related activity, for example, a NWP, General Permit (GP), or Individual Permit (IP)?

YES or NO

If YES, specify what permit type (NWP, GP, IP) and for what aspect of the project:

Will your proposed project result in the loss of greater than 1/10 of an acre of wetlands?

YES or NO

If YES, describe how you will satisfy the mitigation requirement in Nationwide Permit General Condition 23 (attached). If additional space is needed, please attach sheets.

Are there any listed species or designated critical habitat that might be affected or is in the vicinity of the project, or is the project located in designated critical habitat? Federal agencies must provide the appropriate documentation to demonstrate compliance with the agency's procedures for compliance with the ESA. Information on the location of threatened or endangered species and their critical habitat can be obtained directly from the offices of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the National Marine Fisheries Service.

YES or NO

If YES, list all species:

Are there historic properties (listed on, determined to be eligible for listing on, or potentially eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places, including previously unidentified properties) that the proposed activity may have the potential to effect? Federal agencies must provide documentation demonstrating compliance with the Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. Assistance regarding information on the location of or potential for the presence of historic resources can be sought from the State Historic Preservation Officer.

YES or NO

If YES, state which property or properties may be affected and/or attach a vicinity map indicating the location of the historic property or properties.

Will the proposed work involve ground disturbing activities?

YES or NO

If YES, attach a short narrative describing the topsoil or organic materials (including seed) that you intend to use for rehabilitation. If you intend to use other locally-obtained native materials, identify the source.

Attach the following in addition to the above applicable items:

- Drawings of the site and project plans (For more information on acceptable drawings and plans, please visit our website at <http://www.poa.usace.army.mil/Portals/34/docs/regulatory/guidetodrawings2012.pdf> )
- The PCN must include a delineation of wetlands, other special aquatic sites (riffle and pool complexes, sanctuaries and refuges, mudflats, vegetated shallows, and/or coral reefs), and other waters, such as lakes and ponds, and perennial, intermittent, and ephemeral streams, on the project site. Wetland delineations must be prepared in accordance with the current method required by the Corps. The applicant may request the Corps to delineate the special aquatic sites and other waters and if the PCN does not include a delineation we will take that to mean you are requesting the Corps for one. In these cases, the PCN will not be considered complete until we complete the delineation.

Note: If you request a Corps delineation, you may be delayed in receiving authorization for your proposed project.

Application is hereby made for a permit or permits to authorize the work described in this preconstruction notification form.

I certify the information in this preconstruction notification form is complete and accurate. I further certify that I possess the authority to undertake the work described herein or am acting as the duly authorized agent of the applicant.

\_\_\_\_\_  
SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT

\_\_\_\_\_  
DATE

\_\_\_\_\_  
SIGNATURE OF AGENT

\_\_\_\_\_  
DATE

## NATIONWIDE PERMIT GENERAL CONDITION 23: MITIGATION

The district engineer will consider the following factors when determining appropriate and practicable mitigation necessary to ensure that adverse effects on the aquatic environment are minimal:

(a) The activity must be designed and constructed to avoid and minimize adverse effects, both temporary and permanent, to waters of the United States to the maximum extent practicable at the project site (i.e., on site).

(b) Mitigation in all its forms (avoiding, minimizing, rectifying, reducing, or compensating for resource losses) will be required to the extent necessary to ensure that the adverse effects to the aquatic environment are minimal.

(c) Compensatory mitigation at a minimum one-for-one ratio will be required for all wetland losses that exceed 1/10-acre and require preconstruction notification, unless the district engineer determines in writing that either some other form of mitigation would be more environmentally appropriate or the adverse effects of the proposed activity are minimal, and provides a project-specific waiver of this requirement. For wetland losses of 1/10-acre or less that require pre-construction notification, the district engineer may determine on a case-by-case basis that compensatory mitigation is required to ensure that the activity results in minimal adverse effects on the aquatic environment. Compensatory mitigation projects provided to offset losses of aquatic resources must comply with the applicable provisions of 33 CFR part 332.

(1) The prospective permittee is responsible for proposing an appropriate compensatory mitigation option if compensatory mitigation is necessary to ensure that the activity results in minimal adverse effects on the aquatic environment.

(2) Since the likelihood of success is greater and the impacts to potentially valuable uplands are reduced, wetland restoration should be the first compensatory mitigation option considered.

(3) If permittee-responsible mitigation is the proposed option, the prospective permittee is responsible for submitting a mitigation plan. A conceptual or detailed mitigation plan may be used by the district engineer to make the decision on the NWP verification request, but a final mitigation plan that addresses the applicable requirements of 33 CFR 332.4(c)(2)–(14) must be approved by the district engineer before the permittee begins work in waters of the United States, unless the district engineer determines that prior approval of the final mitigation plan is not practicable or not necessary to ensure timely completion of the required compensatory mitigation (see 33 CFR 332.3(k)(3)).

(4) If mitigation bank or in-lieu fee program credits are the proposed option, the mitigation plan only needs to address the baseline conditions at the impact site and the number of credits to be provided.

(5) Compensatory mitigation requirements (e.g., resource type and amount to be provided as compensatory mitigation, site protection, ecological performance standards, monitoring requirements) may be addressed through conditions added to the NWP authorization, instead of components of a compensatory mitigation plan.

(d) For losses of streams or other open open waters that require pre-construction notification, the district engineer may require compensatory mitigation, such as stream rehabilitation, enhancement, or preservation, to ensure that the activity results in minimal adverse effects on the aquatic environment.

(e) Compensatory mitigation will not be used to increase the acreage losses allowed by the acreage limits of the NWPs. For example, if an NWP has an acreage limit of 1/2-acre, it cannot be used to authorize any project resulting in the loss of greater than 1/2-acre of waters of the United States, even if compensatory mitigation is provided that replaces or restores some of the lost waters. However, compensatory mitigation can and should be used, as necessary, to

ensure that a project already meeting the established acreage limits also satisfies the minimal impact requirement associated with the NWPs.

(f) Compensatory mitigation plans for projects in or near streams or other open waters will normally include a requirement for the restoration or establishment, maintenance, and legal protection (e.g., conservation easements) of riparian areas next to open waters. In some cases, riparian areas may be the only compensatory mitigation required. Riparian areas should consist of native species. The width of the required riparian area will address documented water quality or aquatic habitat loss concerns. Normally, the riparian area will be 25 to 50 feet wide on each side of the stream, but the district engineer may require slightly wider riparian areas to address documented water quality or habitat loss concerns. If it is not possible to establish a riparian area on both sides of a stream, or if the waterbody is a lake or coastal waters, then restoring or establishing a riparian area along a single bank or shoreline may be sufficient. Where both wetlands and open waters exist on the project site, the district engineer will determine the appropriate compensatory mitigation (e.g., riparian areas and/or wetlands compensation) based on what is best for the aquatic environment on a watershed basis. In cases where riparian areas are determined to be the most appropriate form of compensatory mitigation, the district engineer may waive or reduce the requirement to provide wetland compensatory mitigation for wetland losses.

(g) Permittees may propose the use of mitigation banks, in-lieu fee programs, or separate permittee-responsible mitigation. For activities resulting in the loss of marine or estuarine resources, permittee-responsible compensatory mitigation may be environmentally preferable if there are no mitigation banks or in-lieu fee programs in the area that have marine or estuarine credits available for sale or transfer to the permittee. For permittee-responsible mitigation, the special conditions of the NWP verification must clearly indicate the party or parties responsible for the implementation and performance of the compensatory mitigation project, and, if required, its long-term management.

(h) Where certain functions and services of waters of the United States are permanently adversely affected, such as the conversion of a forested or scrub-shrub wetland to a herbaceous wetland in a permanently maintained utility line right-of-way, mitigation may be required to reduce the adverse effects of the project to the minimal level.