



**US Army Corps
of Engineers
Alaska District**

FACT SHEET

General Permit (GP) 2014-55 for
Mechanical Placer Mining in the State of Alaska

Under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (CWA), the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) has jurisdiction over discharge of dredged and/or fill material into waters of the U.S., including streams and wetlands. A Department of the Army (DA) permit is required to place material into waters of the U.S., including wetlands, and streams.

The CWA applies to mining operations on state, federal, and private lands.

GP 2014-55 REQUIREMENTS:

- This GP authorizes up to five (5) acres of wetland disturbance and/or up to 1,500 linear feet (lf) of stream channel diversion or relocation, at any time. Uplands are not part of this GP.
- This GP includes two supplements, a Jurisdictional Determination (JD), and a Mitigation Statement. The Mitigation Statement also includes a Restoration Plan for Aquatic Resources.
- This information is required for a complete application based on 33 CFR 325.1(d). Applications that require a JD and/or Mitigation Statement, but do not submit them, will be returned as incomplete.

Corps Supplement, Attachment 1, JD:

- Submit the JD with APMAs for all new applications (New and Existing Operations)
- You will need a recent aerial photo of your operation, as well as site photographs, taken from ground level, of various features. Photos must be clear, legible and reproducible.

Corps Supplement, Attachment 2, Mitigation Statement

- Submit the Mitigation Statement with new applications (New and Existing Operations) when you know that your project will have impacts to wetlands and/or streams.
- The Mitigation Statement is a description of how you will avoid and minimize impacts to wetlands and streams at your site, specifically.
- If your mining operation impacts wetlands or streams, a Restoration Plan for Aquatic Resources is required.

NEW INFORMATION

- The application deadline of March 31 has been removed. Applications will be accepted at any time.
- For operators that submit Corps supplements through the APMA process, the Corps will date stamp your application within 15 days of downloading from the DNR Discuss site. APMA's are regularly downloaded.
- You may submit your Corps materials directly to the Corps or through the APMA process.
- General Condition III. A. 7c. has been revised. Maximum depth of ponds has been removed as long as the required littoral zone ranges in depth up to three (3) feet.

OTHER:

- Operations solely on Federal lands, that meet the terms of this GP, are non-reporting to the Corps, and will not receive a hard copy Corps permit. However, operators must still follow the terms and conditions of this GP, and the Corps will continue to conduct wetland determinations, track wetland disturbance on federal claims, and do compliance inspections.
- Impaired waters: Under this GP, operations in impaired waters under the State's 303(d) program have water quality reporting requirements until such time as the waters are removed from the impaired waters list, found at this url: <http://dec.alaska.gov/water/wqsar/waterbody/integratedreport.htm>
- An Individual Permit (IP) is required for mining operations that exceed the limits of the GP. Operators are responsible for obtaining appropriate authorization from the Corps. Operations that continue without proper authorization may be subject to a Notice of Violation.