

Juneau Field Office Regulatory Division (1145) CEPOA-RD Post Office Box 22270 Juneau, Alaska 99802-2270

Public Notice of Application for Permit

PUBLIC NOTICE DATE:

March 7, 2019

EXPIRATION DATE:

March 22, 2019

REFERENCE NUMBER:

POA-2019-00108

WATERWAY:

Lutak 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 (U.S.) as described below and shown on the enclosed project drawings.

All comments regarding this Public Notice (PN) 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 PN reference number listed above.

All comments should reach this office no later than the expiration date of this PN to become part of the record and be considered in the decision. Please contact Randal Vigil at (907) 790-4491, or by email at Randal.P.Vigil@usace.army.mil if further information is desired concerning this notice.

APPLICANT: Alaska Marine Lines, Inc., PO Box 24348, Seattle, WA 98124.

<u>AGENT</u>: Tom Mortensen, Tom Mortensen Associates, LLC, PO Box 113192, Anchorage, AK 99663.

<u>LOCATION</u>: The project site is located within Section 10, T. 30 S., R. 59 E., Copper River Meridian; USGS Quad Map Skagway B-2; Latitude 59.282958° N., Longitude 135.467892° W.; 21123 Lutak Road, at the Lutak Dock, in Haines, Alaska.

<u>PURPOSE</u>: The applicant's stated purpose is to replace the existing degraded roll-on/roll-off (Ro-Ro) ramp located off the west side of the existing dock. The proposed new dock would be

oriented to improve the current barge docking from barge-end loading to barge-side loading and unloading, which would improve the efficiency and the safety of operations.

<u>PROPOSED WORK</u>: The applicant requests authorization for the following work in waters of the U.S., including navigable waters:

From below the mean high water mark (approximate elevation +15.8 feet above the 0.0 foot contour) (MHW) remove by pulling or cutting off at the mudline 12 each 16-inch diameter steel pipe piles of two berthing dolphins associated with the existing steel cargo bridge;

Place 4,000 cubic yards of gravel and 1,000 cubic yards of riprap fill material into 0.3 acres below the High Tide Line (approximate elevation +21.2 feet above the 0.0 foot contour) (HTL) of Lutak Inlet to construct a causeway;

Install below MHW one each 46-foot long x 15-foot wide steel float;

Install below MHW four each 24-inch diameter steel pipe piles to construct two float strut dolphins;

Install below MHW six each 36-inch diameter steel pipe piles to construct two breasting dolphins;

Place over navigable waters one each 120-foot long x 24-foot long steel bridge;

Work would include the construction of a 40-foot wide x 40-foot long, pile supported (three each 30-inch diameter steel pipe piles), concrete abutment within the proposed causeway fill in order to support the proposed bridge.

All work would be performed in accordance with the enclosed plan (sheets 1-7), dated Feb. 2019.

<u>APPLICANT PROPOSED MITIGATION</u>: The applicant proposes the following mitigation measures to avoid, minimize, and compensate for impacts to waters of the U.S. from activities involving discharges of dredged or fill material.

- a. Avoidance: Minimal project footprint because the proposed project will impact only those marine waters necessary to complete the work.
- b. Minimization: Project activities would not affect wetlands as defined by the USACE. Best Management Practices will be used to protect water quality, including a Hazardous Material Control Plan. Only the minimum area will be filled to meet the need for causeway construction.
- c. Compensatory Mitigation: There will be a temporary loss of habitat, but the rocky shore habitat produced by the rip rap erosion protection will re-vegetate over a year or two, and there would be no net loss of habitat. No Compensatory Mitigation is proposed.

<u>WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION</u>: 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.

<u>CULTURAL RESOURCES</u>: 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 (NRHP). There is a site (SKG-00551) in the permit area or within the vicinity of the permit area, which has been determined to be ineligible for inclusion in the NRHP. The permit area has been determined to be the footprint of the propose activity. Consultation of the AHRS constitutes the extent of cultural resource investigations by the Corps of Engineers (Corps) at this time, and we are otherwise unaware of the presence of such resources. The Corps has made a No Historic Properties Affected (No Effect) determination for the currently proposed project. This application is being coordinated with the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO). Any comments SHPO 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. The Corps is requesting the SHPO's concurrence with this determination.

<u>ENDANGERED SPECIES</u>: The project area is within the known or historic range of humpback whales (*Megaptera novaeangliae*) and Steller sea lions (*Eumetopias jubatus*) in the Western Distinct Population Segment (WDPS).

We have determined the described activity may affect endangered humpback whales and Steller sea lions in the western DPS. We will initiate the appropriate consultation procedures under section 7 of the Endangered Species Act with the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS). 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.

<u>ESSENTIAL FISH HABITAT</u>: The Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management 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 within the known range of the Chinook (*Oncorhynchus tshawytscha*), chum (*Oncorhynchus keta*), coho (*Oncorhynchus kisutch*), pink (*Oncorhynchus gorbuscha*), and sockeye (*Oncorhynchus nerka*) salmon.

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

TRIBAL CONSULTATION: The Alaska District 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 the 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 PN 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 right or resource. Consultation may be initiated by the affected Tribe upon written request to the District Commander during the public comment period.

<u>PUBLIC HEARING</u>: 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)(l) 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.

The Corps 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 the Corps of Engineers 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.

<u>AUTHORITY</u>: This permit will be issued or denied under the following authorities:

- (X) Perform work in or affecting navigable waters of the United States Section 10 Rivers and Harbors Act 1899 (33 U.S.C. 403).
- (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 and a Notice of Application for State Water Quality Certification are enclosed with this Public Notice.

District Commander U.S. Army, Corps of Engineers

Enclosures

STATE OF ALASKA

DEPT. OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION DIVISION OF WATER

Wastewater Discharge Authorization Program (WDAP) / 401 Certification

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION WDAP/401 CERTIFICATION 555 CORDOVA STREET

ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99501-2617

PHONE: (907) 269-6285 | EMAIL: dec-401cert@alaska.gov

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR STATE WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION

Any applicant for a federal license or permit to conduct an activity that might result in a discharge into navigable waters, in accordance with Section 401 of the Clean Water Act of 1977 (PL95-217), also must apply for and obtain certification from the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation that the discharge will comply with the Clean Water Act, the Alaska Water Quality Standards, and other applicable State laws. By agreement between the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the Department of Environmental Conservation, application for a Department of the Army permit to discharge dredged or fill material into navigable waters under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act also may serve as application for State Water Quality Certification.

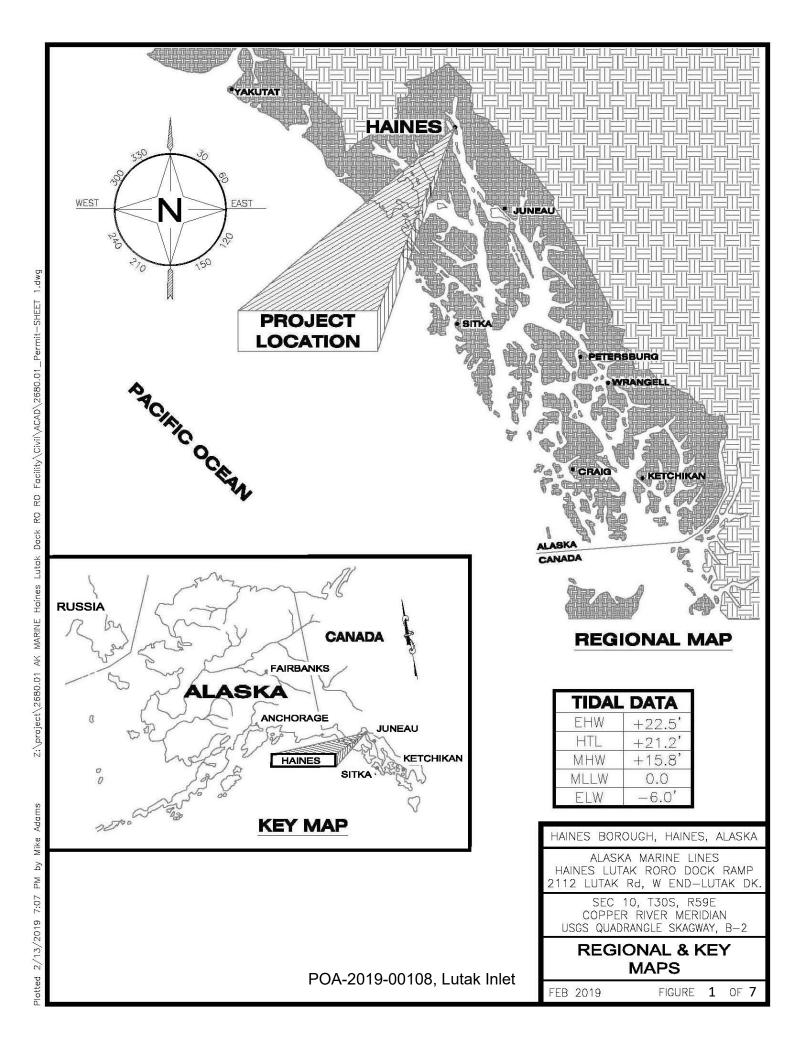
Notice is hereby given that the application for a Department of the Army Permit described in the Corps of Engineers' Public Notice (PN) Reference Number **POA-2019-00108**, **Lutak Inlet**, serves as application for State Water Quality Certification from the Department of Environmental Conservation.

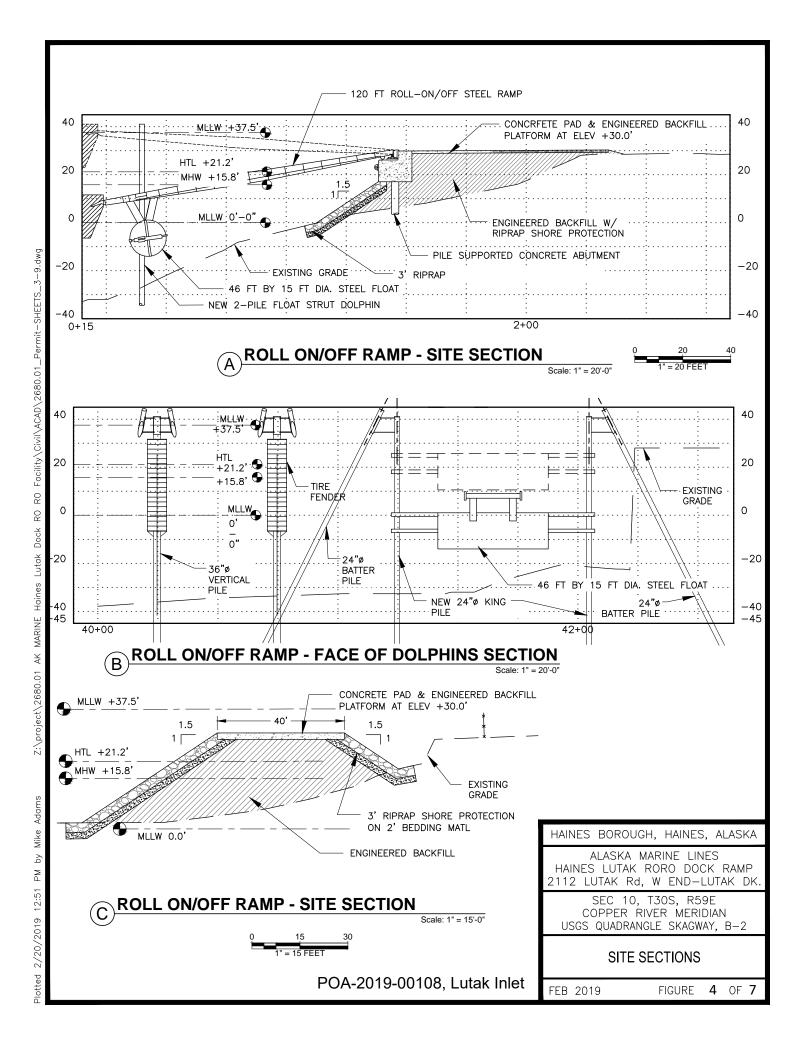
After reviewing the application, the Department may certify there is reasonable assurance the activity, and any discharge that might result, will comply with the Clean Water Act, the Alaska Water Quality Standards, and other applicable State laws. The Department also may deny or waive certification.

Any person desiring to comment on the project with respect to Water Quality Certification, may submit written comments to the address above or via email to dec-401cert@alaska.gov by the expiration date of the Corps of Engineer's Public Notice. All comments should include the PN reference number listed above. Mailed comments must be postmarked on or before the expiration date of the public notice.

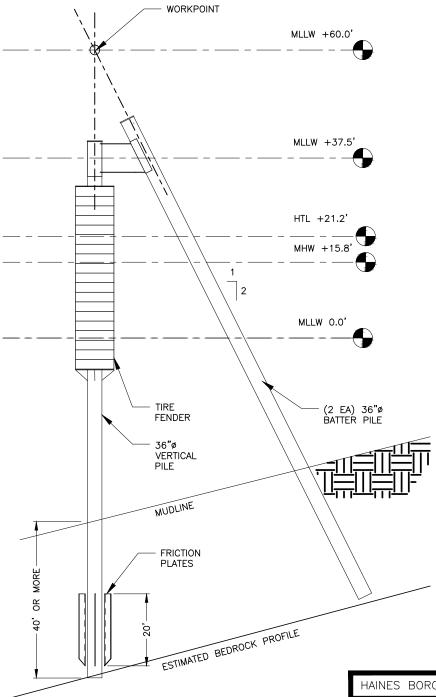
Disability Reasonable Accommodation Notice

The State of Alaska, Department of Environmental Conservation complies with Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. If you are a person with a disability who may need special accommodation in order to participate in this public process, please contact Theresa Zimmerman at 907-465-6171 or TDD Relay Service 1-800-770-8973/TTY or dial 711 within 5 days of the expiration date of this public notice to ensure that any necessary accommodations can be provided.





SCENARIO ONE: THICK OVERBURDEN



POA-2019-00108, Lutak Inlet

FRICTION PLATE ANCHORS

40' + OVERBURDEN

Scale: SHOWN

0 10 20 FEET HAINES BOROUGH, HAINES, ALASKA

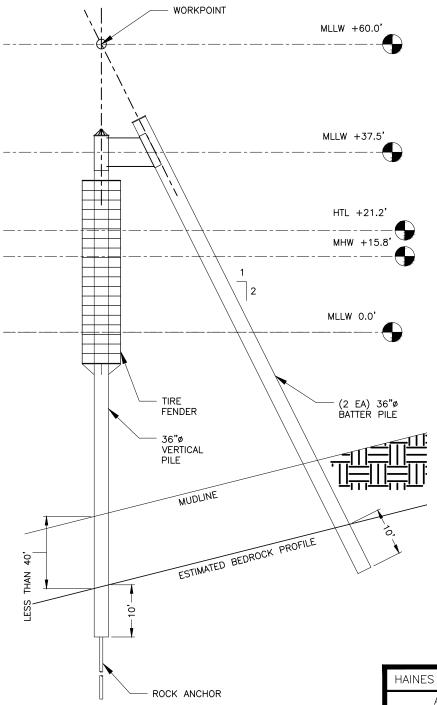
ALASKA MARINE LINES HAINES LUTAK RORO DOCK RAMP 2112 LUTAK Rd, W END-LUTAK DK.

SEC 10, T30S, R59E COPPER RIVER MERIDIAN USGS QUADRANGLE SKAGWAY, B-2

SECTION D-D

FEB 2019 FIGURE **5** OF **7**

SCENARIO TWO: THIN OVERBURDEN



POA-2019-00108, Lutak Inlet



< 40' OVERBURDEN

Scale: SHOWN

0 10 20 FEET HAINES BOROUGH, HAINES, ALASKA

ALASKA MARINE LINES HAINES LUTAK RORO DOCK RAMP 2112 LUTAK Rd, W END-LUTAK DK.

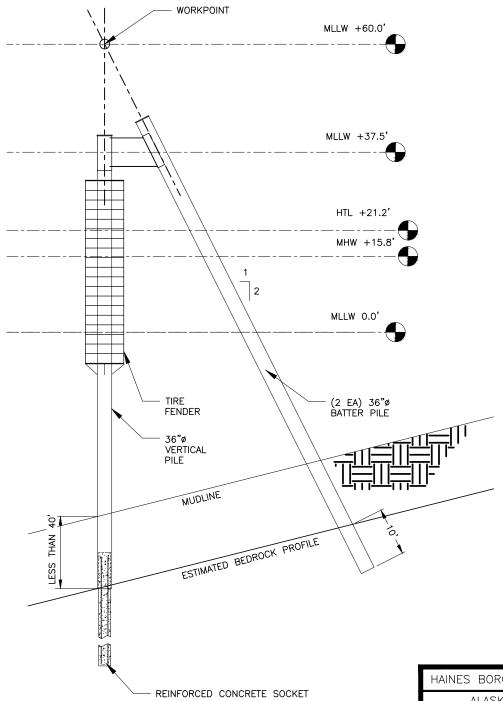
SEC 10, T30S, R59E COPPER RIVER MERIDIAN USGS QUADRANGLE SKAGWAY, B-2

SECTION D-D - OPTION ONE

FEB 2019

FIGURE 6 OF 7

SCENARIO TWO: THIN OVERBURDEN



OPTION TWO - POA-2019-00108, Lutak Inlet

REINFORCED CONCRETE SOCKET ANCHOR

< 40' OVERBURDEN Scale: SHOWN



HAINES BOROUGH, HAINES, ALASKA

ALASKA MARINE LINES HAINES LUTAK RORO DOCK RAMP 2112 LUTAK Rd, W END-LUTAK DK.

SEC 10, T30S, R59E COPPER RIVER MERIDIAN USGS QUADRANGLE SKAGWAY, B-2

> SECTION D-D -OPTION TWO

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