



US Army Corps  
of Engineers  
Alaska District

# Public Notice of Application for Permit

Regulatory Division (1145)  
CEPOA-RD  
Post Office Box 6898  
JBER, Alaska 99506-0898

<b>PUBLIC NOTICE DATE:</b>	<b>October 20, 2017</b>
<b>EXPIRATION DATE:</b>	<b>November 6, 2017</b>
<b>REFERENCE NUMBER:</b>	<b>POA-2005-1486-M2</b>
<b>WATERWAY:</b>	<b>Golovin Bay</b>

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Interested parties are hereby notified that a Department of the Army permit application has been received for work in waters of the United States as described below and shown on the enclosed project drawings.

Comments on the described work, with the reference number, should reach this office no later than the expiration date of this Public Notice to become part of the record and be considered in the decision. Please contact Mary Romero at (907) 753-2773, toll free from within Alaska at (800) 478-2712, by fax at (907) 753-5567, or by email at [mary.r.romero@usace.army.mil](mailto:mary.r.romero@usace.army.mil) if further information is desired concerning this notice.

**APPLICANT:** Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities, 2301 Peger Road, Fairbanks, Alaska 99709-5316, POC: Mr. Bill Kulash at (907) 451-5292.

**LOCATION:** The proposed project is located within Section 11, T. 11 S., R. 22 W., Kateel River Meridian; USGS Quad Map Solomon C-3; Latitude 64.551° N., Longitude 163.007° W.; Golovin Airport, at Golovin, Alaska.

**PURPOSE:** The applicant's stated purpose is to utilize additional wetlands for the stockpiling of material for the Golovin Airport expansion, because the quantity of overburden is greater than expected.

**PROPOSED WORK:** The applicant proposes the temporary stockpiling of overburden in 3.76 acres of Palustrine emergent wetlands in support of the construction airport improvements in Golovin, Alaska. After the material required to construct the airport improvements project has been extracted (120,000 cubic yards) from the gravel source then the overburden, being temporarily stockpiled, will be removed and used for reclamation of the quarry. The area where



the stockpile once sited will be graded to match existing contours and seeded. All work would be performed in accordance with the enclosed plan (sheets 1-3), dated August 18, 2017.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: POA-2005-1486 was originally permitted on December 9, 2011 for the construction of the airport improvements in Golovin, Alaska. On September 23, 2016, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (CORPS) modified the original permit to extend the time limit for completing the improvements. The materials site is deeper than what was anticipated. In addition, this frozen overburden contains more ice in the pore spaces and more ice lenses than what was anticipated. This ice rich material prevents the contractor from stacking it very high because there's considerable slump when the material thaws. The greater volume of overburden and the inability to stack it as high as was intended has resulted in the planned overburden stockpile area being quickly filled to capacity. Furthermore, the quarry was designed to be self-draining; its water is to flow into the drainage ditch along the runway. If the quarry is dug any deeper, then the elevation of its pit floor would be lower than the receiving drainage ditch.

APPLICANT PROPOSED MITIGATION: The applicant proposes the following mitigation measures to avoid, minimize, and compensate for impacts to waters of the United States from activities involving discharges of dredged or fill material.

- a. Avoidance: The project was sited to avoid wetlands as much as possible.
- b. Minimization: After the material required to construct the airport improvements project has been extracted then the overburden being temporarily stockpiled will be removed and used for reclamation of the quarry. The area that the stockpile was sited will be graded to match existing contours and seeded.
- c. Compensatory Mitigation: No compensatory mitigation was proposed for this project.

WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION: 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.

CULTURAL RESOURCES: The lead Federal agency, the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) through the Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (ADOT&PF), is responsible for compliance with the requirements of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. The Corps will review ADOT&PF's documentation and either concur with their documentation or continue to work with them until any issues are resolved. A permit for the described work will not be issued until the Section 106 process has been completed and the Corps concurs with ADOT&PF's work or documentation.

ENDANGERED SPECIES: The project area is within the known or historic range of the polar bear (*Ursus maritimus*), Steller's eider (*Polysticta stelleri*), and spectacled eider (*Somateria fischeri*).



The lead Federal agency, the FAA through the ADOT&PF has determined the described activity may affect the polar bear, Steller's eider, and spectacled eider. They initiated the appropriate consultation procedures under section 7 of the Endangered Species Act with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and received concurrence on October 5, 2017.

ESSENTIAL FISH HABITAT: 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).

No EFH species are known to use 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 Public Notice 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.

PUBLIC HEARING: 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)(1) 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 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.

AUTHORITY: This permit will be issued or denied under the following authority:

(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  
401 Certification Program  
Non-Point Source Water Pollution Control Program

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION  
WQM/401 CERTIFICATION  
555 CORDOVA STREET  
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99501-2617  
PHONE: (907) 269-7564/FAX: (907) 334-2415

## NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR STATE WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION

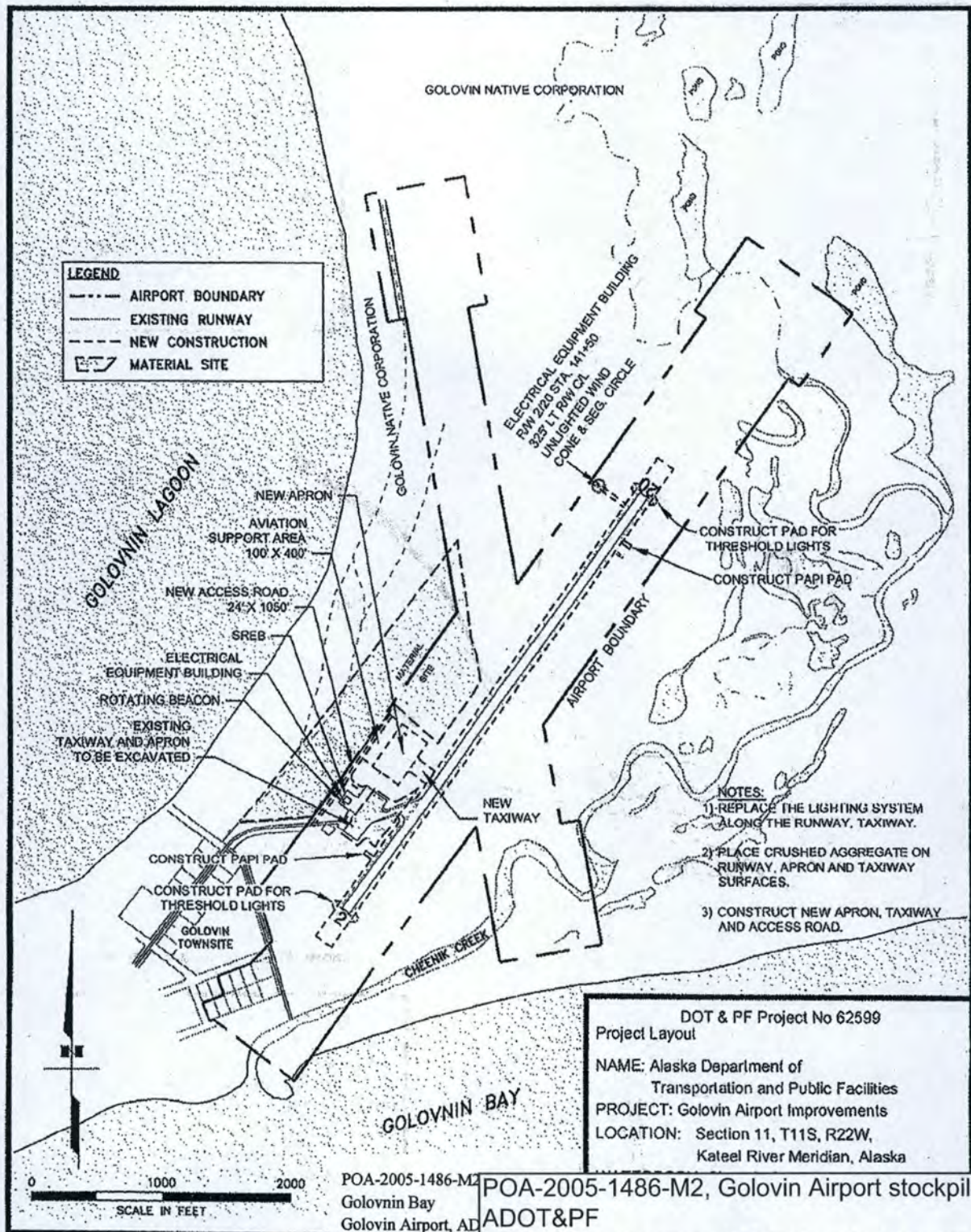
Any applicant for a federal license or permit to conduct an activity that might result in a discharge into navigable waters, in accordance with Section 401 of the Clean Water Act of 1977 (PL95-217), also must apply for and obtain certification from the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation 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 No. **POA-2005-1486-M2, Golovin Bay**, 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 by the expiration date of the Corps of Engineer's Public Notice.





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POA-2005-1486-M2  
 Golovin Bay  
 Golovin Airport, AD  
 Site Map  
 Date: 10/4/2011  
 Sheet 2 of 6

POA-2005-1486-M2, Golovin Airport stockpile area  
 ADOT&PF  
 Map of Airport expansion and current quarry site  
 Drawings dated August 18, 2017  
 Sheet 1 of 3





3.76 acres of temporary wetland impacts

GOLVIN, AK

LEGEND

AREA PREVIOUSLY AUTHORIZED UNDER POA-2005-1486-M1

TEMPORARY WETLAND IMPACTS WETLANDS NOT AUTHORIZED UNDER POA-2005-1486-M1

PROPERTY BOUNDARY

0 125 250 500

POA-2005-1486-M2, Golovin Airport stockpile area  
ADOT&PF  
Location for stockpile  
Drawings dated August 18, 2017  
Sheet 2 of 3





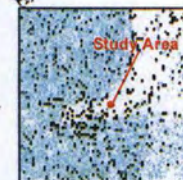
## Wetland NWI Types

D/D	Developed/ Disturbed
M2US2/3	Marine Intertidal Unconsolidated Shore Sand
PEM1/SS1/4B	Palustrine Emergent Persistent / Scrub Shrub Broad Leaved Deciduous / Needle-Leaved Saturated
PEM1B	Palustrine Emergent Persistent Saturated
PEM1J	Palustrine Emergent Persistent Intermittently Flooded
PSS1/4B	Palustrine Scrub Shrub Broad-Leaved Deciduous / Needle-Leaved Deciduous Saturated
PUBH	Palustrine Unconsolidated Bottom Permanently Flooded
R2UBH3	Riverine Unconsolidated Bottom Permanently Flooded Mud
R4US2	Riverine Intermittent Unconsolidated Bottom Sand
U	Upland
	Boundary
	Sample Points

**Note:**  
The aerial photo was georeferenced based on ALP dated 7/19/99, this allowed the map to be in scale but not in a projection.



Location Map



Vicinity Map

## Golovin Wetland Delineation Wetland NWI Types

ADOT & PF Project No. 62599

POA-2005-1486-M2, Golovin Airport stockpile area  
ADOT&PF  
Wetlands mapping  
Drawings dated August 18, 2017  
Sheet 3 of 3