



**US Army Corps
of Engineers** ®
Alaska District

Operations Branch
**Public Notice of
Section 408 Request**

Public Notice Date June 11, 2021
Expiration Date July 11, 2021
Identification No. 408-POA-2021-0002

Please refer to the identification number when replying.

**Northeast Boat Launch Renovation
Seward Harbor, Seward, Alaska**

The U. S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), Alaska District has received a request pursuant to Section 14 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 (33 U.S.C. 408), hereafter referred to as Section 408, from the City of Seward and the Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADFG), for actions that will alter the Federal maneuvering channel within Seward Harbor in Seward, Alaska.

Section 408 authorizes the Secretary of the Army, on the recommendation of the Chief of Engineers of the USACE, to grant permission for the alteration, occupation, or use of a USACE Civil Works project if the Secretary determines the activity will not be injurious to the public interest and will not impair the usefulness of the Federal project.

The requestor's proposed project will replace the existing northeast boat launch with a new 4-lane, 2-float configuration, that will allow continued safe public access to Resurrection Bay, Prince William Sound, and the Gulf of Alaska while meeting modern criteria set by the Americans with Disabilities Act and the State Organization for Boating Association. The existing fish cleaning float will also be relocated to the north with a new, dedicated access to the float provided with a gangway and access trestle. A map showing the requestors selected design alternative can be found under the Documents Available for Review (Operations and Maintenance) portion of the following webpage:

<https://www.poa.usace.army.mil/Library/Reports-and-Studies/>

Features of the requestor's proposed project would extend approximately 50 feet into the Federal navigation limits of the maneuvering channel where dredging is occasionally required. An alteration to reduce the channel dimensions would be required so that future dredging efforts do not undermine the launch ramp and associated features.

In accordance with Engineering Circular (EC) 1165-2-220, the USACE Alaska District is seeking public input as part of the decision-making process for this Section 408 request to alter the Federal maneuvering channel within Seward Harbor. The USACE Section 408 review is limited to the potential impacts to the usefulness of the Federal project, the public interest, and

the environment that may be caused by the alteration in-place. Potential environmental impacts will also be evaluated under a Department of the Army permit process managed by the USACE, Alaska District Regulatory Division. The actual construction of the project is the requestor's action which would assume responsibility for operation and maintenance upon completion of the launch ramp facility and area of the harbor which may be removed from the Federal maneuvering channel.

Please submit comments regarding the proposed alteration to the Federal maneuvering channel as a result of the Section 408 request to Michael.G.Tencza@usace.army.mil or to the address below:

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Alaska District
ATTN: CEPOA-EC-O (Tencza)
P.O. Box 6898
JBER, Alaska 99506-0898

No public meeting is scheduled for this action. If you believe a meeting should be held, then please send a written request to the above address during the 30-day review period explaining why you believe a meeting is necessary. For additional information about the proposed project, please contact Michael Tencza of the Operations Branch at (907) 753-2648, at the above email, or USACE Alaska District postal address.

Julie L. Anderson, P.E.
Chief, Operations Branch