

Special Public Notice

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

SUBJECT: Methodology for Calculating Compensatory Mitigation Credits and Debits in the Alaska District

PUBLIC NOTICE DATE: September 21, 2016

REFERENCE NUMBER: SPN-2016-00187

PURPOSE: The purpose of this public notice is to distribute the document titled Alaska District: Credit Debit Methodology (CDM), Version 1.0.

The purpose of the CDM is to address the requirements for making a determination of credits and debits identified in Sections 332.3(f), Sections 332.4(c)(6) and 332.8(o)(1) of the Mitigation Rule (33 CFR 332) and does not replace any mitigation plan requirements or components identified in the Rule. All mitigation plan documentation must be prepared in accordance with the Mitigation Rule, which governs planning, implementation, and management of permittee responsible and third-party compensatory mitigation projects.

Development of the CDM is an important step in promoting consistency in the Alaska District for determining the sufficiency of compensatory mitigation to offset specific unavoidable losses to aquatic resources authorized by Department of the Army (DA) permits. This document is intended to serve as a tool for determining the amount of debits resulting from project specific unavoidable impacts to jurisdictional waters and mitigation credits that a specific compensatory mitigation project will generate. Applicants and permittees may propose alternate methodologies to the Corps.

Use of the CDM allows an option for mitigation sponsors to obtain approval for a credit/debit methodology for their bank site or in-lieu fee program without creating a new methodology. Approved mitigation banks and in-lieu fee programs may choose to modify their instruments to utilize the CDM or continue to calculate credits utilizing their approved methodology. The CDM will also allow permittees requiring compensatory mitigation to calculate and propose to the Corps the appropriate amount of compensatory mitigation for their individual projects.

Questions: Questions pertaining to the CDM should be directed to the attention of Calvin Alvarez, who can be contacted at the above address, by calling (907) 753-2778, or by email at Calvin.L.Alvarez@usace.army.mil.

The CDM, Version 1.0 is enclosed with this Public Notice. The CDM is also available on the Regulatory In-lieu Fee and Bank Information Tracking System (RIBITS) website found at https://ribits.usace.army.mil/ with other useful information regarding compensatory mitigation. For questions regarding RIBITS, please contact Danielle Knight by email at Danielle.G.Knight@usace.army.mil.

District Commander U.S. Army, Corps of Engineers

Enclosure