

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Alaska District
GENERAL PERMIT APPLICATION FORM

May be used instead of Form ENG 4345 to request verification under a Regional General Permit (RGP)

Applicant:	Phone:
Address:	Fax:
City, State, Zip:	Cell/Direct Line:
Point of Contact:	e-mail:

Agent:	Phone:
Address:	Fax:
City, State, Zip:	Cell/Direct Line:
Point of Contact:	e-mail:

Location of the Proposed Project Site:

Nearest Waterway:	
Section, Township, Range, and Meridian (if known):	
Latitude and Longitude (Decimal Degrees, NAD-83):	
Nearest City:	Subdivision:
Borough:	USGS Quad(s) (if known):
Driving Directions to Site:	

Project purpose:

Have any permits been issued for this site or project in the past (if known)?
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The GPA must include:

- Drawings of the site and project plans (For more information on acceptable drawings and plans, please visit our website at <http://www.poa.usace.army.mil/Missions/Regulatory/Permits/> and click on “Guide to Drawings”)
- Delineation of wetlands, other special aquatic sites (riffle and pool complexes, sanctuaries and refuges, mudflats, vegetated shallows, and/or coral reefs), and other waters, such as lakes and ponds, and perennial, intermittent, and ephemeral streams, on the project site. Wetland delineations must be prepared in accordance with the current method required by the Corps. If you need guidance please contact the Corps for further information.

Description of the proposed project:

Provide surface area of impacts in wetlands or other waters of the U.S. or linear feet for streams and rivers.

Provide information on type(s) (i.e. sand, gravel, cobble, topsoil etc...) of Material Being Discharged and the Amount of Each Type in Cubic Yards:

Type	Type	Type
Amount in Cubic Yards	Amount in Cubic Yards	Amount in Cubic Yards

Describe methods for rehabilitation of disturbed areas. If you intend to use other locally-obtained native materials, identify the source.

You must satisfy the requirements in Regional General Condition (Attached).

Describe how you will satisfy the requirement that you avoid and minimize adverse impacts to wetlands and other waters to the maximum extent practicable. Examples of avoidance measures include site selection, routes, design configurations, etc... Minimization measures include limiting fill discharges to the minimum amount/size necessary to achieve the project purpose.

Would your proposed project result in the loss of greater than 1/10 of an acre of wetlands?

YES or NO

If YES, describe your proposed compensatory mitigation to offset unavoidable impacts to waters of the U.S., or, alternatively, why compensatory mitigation is not appropriate or practicable for your project. Compensatory mitigation may involve the restoration, enhancement, establishment (creation), and/or the preservation of aquatic sites.

Information for the following section can be found at locations listed below:

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the National Marine Fisheries Service or their world wide Web pages at <http://www.fws.gov> or <http://www.fws.gov/ipac> and <http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/pr/species/esa/>

Assistance regarding information on the location of or potential for the presence of historic resources can be sought from the State Historic Preservation Officer

Information on the location of the USACE projects in Alaska are listed on the world wide web pages at <http://www.poa.usace.army.mil/About/Offices/Construction-Operations/Rivers-and-Harbors/> and at <http://www.poa.usace.army.mil/About/Offices/Construction-Operations/Erosion-and-Flood-Mitigation/>.

For a full list of Nationwide Permit General Conditions please visit our web page at <http://www.poa.usace.army.mil/Missions/Regulatory/Permits/Nationwide-Permits/>

Verification from the Corps must be received if your project is located in any of the areas listed below

Are there any listed species or designated critical habitat that might be affected or is in the vicinity of the project, or is the project located in designated critical habitat? Federal agencies must provide the appropriate documentation to demonstrate compliance with the agency's procedures for compliance with the ESA. Information on the location of threatened or endangered species and their critical habitat can be obtained directly from the offices of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the National Marine Fisheries Service. (see General Condition 18 and 22)

YES or NO

If YES, list all species:

Are there historic properties (listed on, determined to be eligible for listing on, or potentially eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places, including previously unidentified properties) that the proposed activity may have the potential to effect? Federal agencies must provide documentation demonstrating compliance with the Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. Assistance regarding information on the location of or potential for the presence of historic resources can be sought from the State Historic Preservation Officer. (see General Condition 20)

YES or NO

If YES, state which property or properties may be affected and/or attach a vicinity map indicating the location of the historic property or properties.

Are there any U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) federally authorized Civil Works projects (i.e. 'Harbor, Navigation Channel, flood control, etc.') in the vicinity of your project?

YES or NO

If YES, state which USACE project is in the vicinity of your project.

Jurisdictional Determination

The Corps has received new guidance (Regulatory Guidance Letter 16-01) which states that the Corps will only complete a jurisdictional determination (JD) form if the applicant requests it. In other words, if the applicant does not request a JD, we can proceed straight into our permit evaluation, without completing a JD form.

If you wish to obtain a JD there are two types you may request:

An Approved Jurisdictional Determination (AJD) is completed when we can state definitively that we do or do not have authority over the aquatic resource in question. Approved JDs often require a site visit during the growing season. An AJD is appealable and expires after five years.

A preliminary jurisdictional determination (PJD) is when the Corps determines that we may have authority over the aquatic resources in the project area. A PJD often doesn't require a site visit and is expedited. It is not appealable and does not expire. Applicants who want a JD may request a PJD because it is often more expedient than an AJD.

Please indicate which you prefer:

NO JD REQUESTED or AJD or PJD

Application is hereby made for a permit or permits to authorize the work described in this preconstruction notification form. I certify the information in this preconstruction notification form is complete and accurate. I further certify that I possess the authority to undertake the work described herein or am acting as the duly authorized agent of the applicant.

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT DATE

SIGNATURE OF AGENT DATE

Regional General Condition: MITIGATION

The district engineer will consider the following factors when determining appropriate and practicable mitigation necessary to ensure that adverse effects on the aquatic environment are minimal:

(a) The activity must be designed and constructed to avoid and minimize adverse effects, both temporary and permanent, to waters of the United States to the maximum extent practicable at the project site (i.e., on site).

(b) Mitigation in all its forms (avoiding, minimizing, rectifying, reducing, or compensating for resource losses) will be required to the extent necessary to ensure that the adverse effects to the aquatic environment are minimal.

(c) Compensatory mitigation at a minimum one-for-one ratio will be required for all wetland losses that exceed 1/10-acre and require preconstruction notification, unless the district engineer determines in writing that either some other form of mitigation would be more environmentally appropriate or the adverse effects of the proposed activity are minimal, and provides a project-specific waiver of this requirement. For wetland losses of 1/10-acre or less that require pre-construction notification, the district engineer may determine on a case-by-case basis that compensatory mitigation is required to ensure that the activity results in minimal adverse effects on the aquatic environment. Compensatory mitigation projects provided to offset losses of aquatic resources must comply with the applicable provisions of 33 CFR part 332.

(1) The prospective permittee is responsible for proposing an appropriate compensatory mitigation option if compensatory mitigation is necessary to ensure that the activity results in minimal adverse effects on the aquatic environment.

(2) Since the likelihood of success is greater and the impacts to potentially valuable uplands are reduced, wetland restoration should be the first compensatory mitigation option considered.

(3) If permittee-responsible mitigation is the proposed option, the prospective permittee is responsible for submitting a mitigation plan. A conceptual or detailed mitigation plan may be used by the district engineer to make the decision on the NWP verification request, but a final mitigation plan that addresses the applicable requirements of 33 CFR 332.4(c)(2)–(14) must be approved by the district engineer before the permittee begins work in waters of the United States, unless the district engineer determines that prior approval of the final mitigation plan is not practicable or not necessary to ensure timely completion of the required compensatory mitigation (see 33 CFR 332.3(k)(3)).

(4) If mitigation bank or in-lieu fee program credits are the proposed option, the mitigation plan only needs to address the baseline conditions at the impact site and the number of credits to be provided.

(5) Compensatory mitigation requirements (e.g., resource type and amount to be provided as compensatory mitigation, site protection, ecological performance standards, monitoring requirements) may be addressed through conditions added to the NWP authorization, instead of components of a compensatory mitigation plan.

(d) For losses of streams or other open open waters that require pre-construction notification, the district engineer may require compensatory mitigation, such as stream rehabilitation, enhancement, or preservation, to ensure that the activity results in minimal adverse effects on the aquatic environment.

(e) Compensatory mitigation will not be used to increase the acreage losses allowed by the acreage limits of the NWPs. For example, if an NWP has an acreage limit of 1/2-acre, it cannot be used to authorize any project resulting in the loss of greater than 1/2-acre of waters of the United States, even if compensatory mitigation is provided that replaces or restores some of the lost waters. However, compensatory mitigation can and should be used, as necessary, to

ensure that a project already meeting the established acreage limits also satisfies the minimal impact requirement associated with the NWPs.

(f) Compensatory mitigation plans for projects in or near streams or other open waters will normally include a requirement for the restoration or establishment, maintenance, and legal protection (e.g., conservation easements) of riparian areas next to open waters. In some cases, riparian areas may be the only compensatory mitigation required. Riparian areas should consist of native species. The width of the required riparian area will address documented water quality or aquatic habitat loss concerns. Normally, the riparian area will be 25 to 50 feet wide on each side of the stream, but the district engineer may require slightly wider riparian areas to address documented water quality or habitat loss concerns. If it is not possible to establish a riparian area on both sides of a stream, or if the waterbody is a lake or coastal waters, then restoring or establishing a riparian area along a single bank or shoreline may be sufficient. Where both wetlands and open waters exist on the project site, the district engineer will determine the appropriate compensatory mitigation (e.g., riparian areas and/or wetlands compensation) based on what is best for the aquatic environment on a watershed basis. In cases where riparian areas are determined to be the most appropriate form of compensatory mitigation, the district engineer may waive or reduce the requirement to provide wetland compensatory mitigation for wetland losses.

(g) Permittees may propose the use of mitigation banks, in-lieu fee programs, or separate permittee-responsible mitigation. For activities resulting in the loss of marine or estuarine resources, permittee-responsible compensatory mitigation may be environmentally preferable if there are no mitigation banks or in-lieu fee programs in the area that have marine or estuarine credits available for sale or transfer to the permittee. For permittee-responsible mitigation, the special conditions of the NWP verification must clearly indicate the party or parties responsible for the implementation and performance of the compensatory mitigation project, and, if required, its long-term management.

(h) Where certain functions and services of waters of the United States are permanently adversely affected, such as the conversion of a forested or scrub-shrub wetland to a herbaceous wetland in a permanently maintained utility line right-of-way, mitigation may be required to reduce the adverse effects of the project to the minimal level.

Applicant Proposed Mitigation Statements

Definitions:

Enhancement: the manipulation of the physical, chemical, or biological characteristics of an aquatic resource to heighten, intensify, or improve a specific aquatic resource function(s). Enhancement results in the gain of selected aquatic resource function(s), but may also lead to a decline in other aquatic resource function(s). Enhancement does not result in a gain in aquatic resource area.

Establishment (creation): the manipulation of the physical, chemical, or biological characteristics present to develop an aquatic resource that did not previously exist at an upland site. Establishment results in a gain in aquatic resource area and functions.

In-lieu fee program: a program involving the restoration, establishment, enhancement, and/or preservation of aquatic resources through funds paid to a governmental or non-profit natural resources management entity to satisfy compensatory mitigation requirements for DA permits. Similar to a mitigation bank, an in-lieu fee program sells compensatory mitigation credits to permittees whose obligation to provide compensatory mitigation is then transferred to the in-lieu program sponsor. However, the rules governing the operation and use of in-lieu fee programs are somewhat different from the rules governing operation and use of mitigation banks. The operation and use of an in-lieu fee program are governed by an in-lieu fee program instrument. <https://ribits.usace.army.mil/>

Mitigation bank: a site, or suite of sites, where resources (e.g., wetlands, streams, riparian areas) are restored, established, enhanced, and/or preserved for the purpose of providing compensatory mitigation for impacts authorized by DA permits. In general, a mitigation bank sells compensatory mitigation credits to permittees whose obligation to provide compensatory mitigation is then transferred to the mitigation bank sponsor. The operation and use of a mitigation bank are governed by a mitigation banking instrument. <https://ribits.usace.army.mil/>

Permittee-responsible mitigation: an aquatic resource restoration, establishment, enhancement, and/or preservation activity undertaken by the permittee (or an authorized agent or contractor) to provide compensatory mitigation for which the permittee retains full responsibility.

Practicable: available and capable of being done after taking into consideration cost, existing technology, and logistics in light of overall project purposes.

Preservation: the removal of a threat to, or preventing the decline of, aquatic resources by an action in or near those aquatic resources. This term includes activities commonly associated with the protection and maintenance of aquatic resources through the implementation of appropriate legal and physical mechanisms. Preservation does not result in a gain of aquatic resource area or functions.

Restoration: the manipulation of the physical, chemical, or biological characteristics of a site with the goal of returning natural/historic functions to a former or degraded aquatic resource. For the purpose of tracking net gains in aquatic resource area, restoration is divided into two categories: re-establishment and rehabilitation.