



US Army Corps  
of Engineers  
Alaska District

# Special Public Notice of Application

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

**PUBLIC NOTICE DATE:** June 22, 2015

**EXPIRATION DATE:** July 21, 2015

**REFERENCE NUMBER:** SPN 2015-82

**WATERWAY:** West Arm Behm Canal

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## Special Public Notice 2015-82

### United States Navy proposed amendment for West Arm Behm Canal, Ketchikan, Alaska, Restricted areas

The Alaska District has received a request from the Naval Surface Warfare Center, Ketchikan Alaska for an amendment to 33 CFR Part 334.1275 West Arm Behm Canal, Ketchikan, Alaska, Restricted Area. The proposed amendment would revise the wording of the existing restricted area description to accurately describe the installed light configuration, update contact information and increase vessel transiting area.

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 Linda Speerstra at (907) 747-0658 or toll free from within Alaska at (800) 478-2712, or by email at [linda.speerstra@usace.army.mil](mailto:linda.speerstra@usace.army.mil) if further information is desired concerning this notice.

APPLICANT: Commander Carderock Division, Naval Surface Warfare Center, Southeast Alaska Acoustic Measurement Facility

AGENT: Mr. William J. Harney, Jr., Carderock Division, Naval Surface Warfare Center, Southeast Alaska Acoustic Measurement Facility, Site Director, No. 1 Back Island Ketchikan, AK 99901, William.j.harney@navy.mil, 907-247-6289.

LOCATION: Restricted Area No. 5 encompasses: The waters of Behm Canal bounded to the north by a line starting from Point Francis on the Cleveland Peninsula to Escape Point on Revillagegedo Island then south along the shoreline to Indian Point, then south to the Grant Island Light at 55°33.3' N latitude, 131°43.62' W longitude then bearing 218° T. to the south end of Back Island and continuing to the intersection of the shoreline on Betton Island at about 55°31.55' N latitude, 131°45.98' W longitude then north along the shoreline of Betton Island to the western side below Betton Head at about 55°30.83' N latitude, 131°50' W longitude then bearing 283° T. across Behm Canal to the intersection of shoreline near the point which forms the southeast entrance of Bond Bay at about 55°31.60' N latitude, 131°56.58' W longitude, then northeast to Helm Point on the Cleveland Peninsula, then northeast along the shoreline to the point of beginning at Point Francis.

ACTION: The Corps proposes to revise 33 CFR Part 334 DANGER ZONE AND RESTRICTED AREA REGULATIONS

AUTHORITY: 40 Stat. 266; (U.S.C. 1) and 40 Stat. 892; (33 U.S.C. 3)

DESCRIPTION: Revise portions of § 33 CFR 334.1275 to read as follows:

(b)(5) Area No. 5. (i) The area will be open unless the Navy is actually conducting operations. To ensure safe and timely passage through the restricted area vessel operators are required to notify the Facility Control Officer of their expected time of arrival, speed and intentions. For vessels not equipped with radio equipment, the Navy shall signal with flashing beacon lights whether passage is prohibited and when it is safe to pass through the area. A flashing amber beacon means that the area is closed to all vessels and to await a clear signal. The flashing amber beacon not lighted is the clear signal and indicates that vessels may proceed through the area. Each closure of the area by the Navy will normally not exceed 20 minutes.

(b)(5)(ii) When area 5 restrictions are in place, vessels may operate within 1000 yards of the shoreline at speeds no greater than 5 knots in accordance with the restriction in effect in Area No. 3.

(c) Vessels will be allowed to transit Restricted Area #5 within 20 minutes of marine radio or telephone notification to the Navy Facility Control Officer.

(d) Enforcement. The regulations in this section shall be enforced by the Commander, Naval Surface Warfare Center, Carderock Division, and such agencies he/she may designate.

EVALUATION: The decision whether to revise 33 CFR 334.1275 West Arm Behm Canal, Ketchikan, Alaska, Restricted Area, will be based on an evaluation of the probable impacts including cumulative impacts of the proposed activity on the public interest. That decision will reflect the national concern for both protection and utilization of important resources. The benefit, which reasonably may be expected to accrue from the proposal, must be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments.

Comments are being solicited from the public; Federal, States, and local agencies and officials; Indian Tribes; and other interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of the proposed activity. Any comments received will be considered by the Corp of Engineers to determine whether to grant, modify, condition or deny authorization of this proposal. To make this decision, comments are used to assess impacts on endangered species, historical properties, water quality, general environmental effects, and other public interest factors listed above.

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.

Written comments concerning the proposed action described above may be submitted directly to the District Engineer, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Alaska District, CEPOA-CO-RD, Attn: Linda Speerstra, Regulatory Division, Post Office Box 16, Sitka, Alaska 99835, 907-747-0658, within the comment period as specified above to receive consideration.

District Engineer  
U.S. Army, Corps of Engineers

Enclosures