



FISH HABITAT PERMIT
FH22-III-0084-AMENDMENT 3

ISSUED: February 16, 2024
EXPIRES: December 31, 2024

Northern Star (Pogo) LLC
Attn: Michael Murenbeeld
PO Box 145
Delta Junction, AK 99737

RE: Water Withdrawals
APMA 9500
Goodpaster River (334-40-1100-2490-3407)
Sections 22, 23, 27, T 5S, R 14E, FM (Big Delta B-2)
Multiple Waterbodies (See Table 1)
Median Withdrawal Coordinate (WGS84): 64.4134 N, 144.7385 W

Dear Michael Murenbeeld:

Pursuant to AS 16.05.871(b) and AS 16.05.841 (Fishway Act), the Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) Habitat Section has reviewed your proposal to add additional water withdrawal sources to FH22-III-0084-A2, in support of your exploration activities.

Project Description

You will withdraw water from the Goodpaster River as well as multiple waterbodies listed in Table 1 in support of your exploratory drilling operation. Water will be withdrawn from May 15 to September 30 each season.

Anadromous Fish Act

The Goodpaster River (Stream No 334-40-11000-2490-3407) has been specified as being important for the spawning, rearing, or migration of anadromous fishes pursuant to AS 16.05.871(a). This reach of the river provides spawning and migratory habitat for Chinook and chum salmon, and juvenile Chinook salmon rear in the river near your project – see Stipulation #2 for intake special instructions. In addition, all listed streams (Table 1) support or are likely to support resident fish, such as Arctic grayling, slimy sculpin, and Alaska blackfish.

Table 1: Water Withdrawal Locations (not anadromous)

Waterbody	Township	Range	Section
Aluggnutt Creek	5S	16E	32
Behrens Creek	5S	13E	24
Blarny Creek	6S	16E	9, 16
Cactus Creek	6S	15E	4, 8, 9, 16
Contact Creek	5S	14E	28, 29, 33
Jake Creek	5S	16E	32
North Creek	5S	14E	24, 25
North Star Creek	6S	14E	1, 2, 36
Oriental Creek	6S	16E	3
Otter Creek	5S	15E	32, 33
Pogo Creek	5S	14E	35
Shawnee Creek	6S	15E	1, 2
Shawnee Creek West Fork	5S	15E	26, 34, 35
Sonora Creek	6S	15E	3, 10, 15
Sonora Creek West Fork	6S	15E	3,10
Star Creek	6S	14E	1
Stingray Creek	5S	15E	29, 30, 32
Tam Creek	6S	15E	11, 14, 15
Unagi Creek	5S	14E	15, 16
Unnamed Pond	5S	14E	27
West Creek	6S	14E	5, 6
West Goodpaster Creek	5S	14E	21, 22

Your project as proposed should not have adverse effects on anadromous fish or their habitat and should not obstruct the free passage of fish.

In accordance with AS 16.05.871(d) and AS 16.05.841, your project is approved subject to the project description and permit terms, with the following stipulations:

- 1) Each water intake structure shall be designed to prevent the entrainment, impingement and/or entrapment of fish and shall be installed and maintained at each intake location. The effective screen openings may not exceed 0.25 inches (1/4 inch), and water velocity at the screen/water interface may not exceed 0.5 feet per second when the pump is operating.
- 2) Intake structures deployed in the Goodpaster River shall be suspended in the water column with a depth that prevents disturbance of stream/lakebed material from July 15 – September 30 each season.

For detailed information regarding screened intake device design please consult our webpage <http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=uselicense.withdrawal> and Technical Report No. 97-8 (http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/static/license/uselicense/pdfs/97_08.pdf).

Permit Terms

This letter constitutes a permit issued under the authority of AS 16.05.871 and AS 16.05.841 and must be retained on site during project activities. Please be advised that this determination applies only to activities regulated by the Habitat Section of ADF&G; other agencies also may have jurisdiction under their respective authorities. This determination does not relieve you of your responsibility to secure other permits; state, federal, or local. You are still required to comply with all other applicable laws.

You are responsible for the actions of contractors, agents, or other persons who perform work to accomplish the approved project. For any activity that significantly deviates from the approved plan, you shall notify the ADF&G Habitat Section and obtain written approval in the form of a permit amendment before beginning the activity. Any action that increases the project's overall scope or that negates, alters, or minimizes the intent or effectiveness of any provision contained in this permit will be deemed a significant deviation from the approved plan. The final determination as to the significance of any deviation and the need for a permit amendment is the responsibility of the ADF&G Habitat Section. Therefore, it is recommended that you consult the Habitat Section before considering any deviation from the approved plan.

You shall give an authorized representative of the state free and unobstructed access to the permit site, at safe and reasonable times, for the purpose of inspecting or monitoring compliance with any provision of this permit. You shall furnish whatever assistance and information the authorized representative reasonably requires for monitoring and inspection purposes.

In addition to the penalties provided by law, this permit may be terminated or revoked for failure to comply with its provisions or failure to comply with applicable statutes and regulations. You shall mitigate any adverse effect upon fish or wildlife, their habitats, or any restriction or interference with public use that the commissioner determines was a direct result of your failure to comply with this permit or any applicable law.

You shall indemnify, save harmless, and defend the department, its agents, and its employees from any and all claims, actions, or liabilities for injuries or damages sustained by any person or property arising directly or indirectly from permitted activities or your performance under this permit. However, this provision has no effect if, and only if, the sole proximate cause of the injury is the department's negligence.

Portions of this permit decision issued under the authorities of AS 16.05.871 (anadromous waterbodies only) may be appealed in accordance with the provisions of AS 44.62.330-630.

Please direct questions about this permit to Habitat Biologist Lauren Yancy at 907-459-7254 or lauren.yancy@alaska.gov.

Sincerely,
Doug Vincent-Lang
Commissioner



By: Audra L. J. Brase
Fairbanks Regional Supervisor

ecc: Al Ott, ADF&G Habitat, Fairbanks
Permit Coordinator, ADF&G SF
Jenny March, ADNR Mining and Water, Fairbanks
DNR Mining, Fairbanks
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