



FISH HABITAT PERMIT

SMALL-SCALE MINING – REGION 3 (INTERIOR/ NORTHERN AREA)

I hereby apply for a Fish Habitat Permit for small scale mining in streams within the Interior/ Northern Area (Region 3) as indicated below.

NAME: _____
ADDRESS: _____
CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____
TELEPHONE: _____
E-MAIL: _____

For Official Use Only	
PERMIT NUMBER:	FH26-III- _____ SD
DATE ISSUED:	_____
DATE EXPIRES:	October 15, 2026
ISSUED BY:	_____
Delegation from Doug Vincent-Lang, Commissioner Alaska Department of Fish & Game	

AUTHORIZED SMALL SCALE MINING EQUIPMENT

Suction Dredge: Intake (in.): _____ (must be 6 inches or less)
Horsepower: _____ (must be 18 hp or less)
Power Sluice: Horsepower: _____ (must be 18 hp or less)

“Power Sluicing” is defined as the use of a sluice box and small pump to process material delivered to the sluice with hand tools (shovels, buckets, etc.). This type of mining is also commonly referred to as “High Banking”.

I certify that I am a small scale miner and that I have read and understand this permit, including the permit conditions. I agree to strictly abide by all of the conditions of this permit and I affirm that all information provided herein is true and correct. I acknowledge that non-compliance with the conditions of this permit is subject to the penalty provisions of AS 16.05.841 and/or AS 16.05.871(d).

Signature of Applicant _____ Date _____

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Additional authorized Small-Scale Mining sites not included in the attached pre-approved list(s):

Creek/River Name	AWC Number	Section	Township	Range	Meridian	Dates Permitted

Authorized streams attached: Steese Highway Dalton Highway Fortymile River Additional Streams

In accordance with Alaska Statute (AS) 16.05.841 and AS 16.05.871(d), approval is hereby given to mine with the specified authorized equipment at the specified locations subject to the following stipulations.

(871) PERMIT STIPULATIONS – ANADROMOUS FISH STREAMS

These stipulations apply to anadromous water bodies specified under AS 16.05.871(a) (Catalog of Waters Important for Spawning, Rearing, or Migration of Anadromous Fishes):

Stipulations for ALL Small Scale Mining in Anadromous Streams

1. Mining activities below the ordinary high water (OHW) line may be seasonally restricted to protect incubating fish eggs, alevins, and fry within the streambed gravels. Consult the addendum attached herein for a list of anadromous streams to determine timing restrictions for specific water bodies.
2. Construction or maintenance of dams, diversions, fills, deflectors, and any other structures below the OHW (vegetation) line is prohibited.
3. Natural stream banks and vegetated gravel bars or vegetated islands shall not be mined, under cut, or disturbed.
4. Motorized equipment shall not be used to move boulders, logs, or other objects too large to be moved by hand.
5. Wheeled or tracked vehicles or equipment shall not be operated in the stream or disturb the stream bank.
6. No equipment leaking fuel, hydraulic fluid, or other pollutants shall be operated below the OHW.
7. Water withdrawal is restricted to processing material through the sluice box and shall not be used for hydraulic mining or any other purpose.

Additional Stipulations for Power Sluicing in Anadromous Fish Streams

8. Water intakes must be screened with 1/8-inch mesh to prevent the impingement and entrainment of fish.
9. Adequate flow must remain to maintain fish passage during mining activities.

(841) PERMIT STIPULATIONS – RESIDENT FISH STREAMS

These stipulations apply to resident fish streams pursuant to AS 16.05.841:

Stipulation for ALL Small Scale Mining in Resident Fish Streams

1. Construction or maintenance of dams, diversions, fills, deflectors, and any other structure that may impede the efficient passage of fish upstream or downstream is prohibited.

Additional Stipulations for Power Sluicing in Resident Fish Streams

2. Water intakes must be screened with 1/8-inch mesh to prevent the impingement and entrainment of fish.
3. Adequate flow must remain to maintain fish passage during mining activities.

This permit does not allow motorized vehicle use in anadromous (salmon bearing) streams. A separate Fish Habitat Permit is required to cross anadromous waters.

This determination applies only to activities regulated by ADF&G. This determination does not relieve you of the responsibility for securing other state, federal, or local permits nor does it authorize trespass on mineral claims or private property. It is the responsibility of the applicant/permit holder to obtain lawful permission from the landowner or land management agency prior to conducting activities authorized by this permit. Please contact the Fairbanks ADF&G Habitat office at (907) 459-7289 with any questions.

On state land, the Alaska Department of Natural Resources, Division of Mining, Land and Water (ADNR/DMLW) classifies suction dredges with an intake 6 inches or less as recreational. Dredge operators with an intake larger than 6 inches should contact the ADNR/DMLW at (907) 451-2790 to obtain commercial mining application instructions.

The Alaska Department of Natural Resources, Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation (ADNR/DPOR) has additional limitations on the use of motorized mining equipment within state park units. Miners should contact the ADNR/DPOR at (907) 451-2695 to obtain the latest information for those areas.

The Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) considers high bankers and freshwater dredges with intakes less than or equal to 6 inches and pump engines less than or equal to 18 hp, as small scale and requires coverage under the DEC *Small Suction Dredge Placer Miners General Permit*. Larger dredges require advanced notice and approval from the federal land manager and DEC. For more information, please contact DEC at (907) 451-2142.

The U.S. Bureau of Land Management (BLM) has additional limitations on the use of motorized small scale mining equipment within lands managed by BLM. Please contact the BLM at (907) 474-2200 to obtain the latest information for those areas.

The U.S. National Park Service (NPS) reviews all mining activities, regardless of size, under the Mining in Parks Act. Please contact the NPS at (907) 644-3510 to obtain the latest information for those areas.

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 stipulation 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 Habitat Section. Therefore, it is recommended you consult the Habitat Section immediately when a deviation from the approved plan is being considered.

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

This letter constitutes a permit issued under the authority of AS 16.05.841 and AS 16.05.871 and must be retained on site during project activities. Please be advised that this determination applies only to activities regulated by the Habitat Section; other agencies also may have jurisdiction under their respective authorities (see above). 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.

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. The department reserves the right to require mitigation measures to correct disruption to fish and game created by the project and which was a direct result of the 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.

AS 16.05.871 (anadromous stream) permit decisions may be appealed in accordance with the provisions of the Administrative Procedures Act (AS 44.62.330—44.62.630).

ecc: Fairbanks Mining, ADNR, Fairbanks
Al Ott, ADF&G, Fairbanks
Andy Gryska, ADF&G, Fairbanks
Placer Notices, ADEC, Fairbanks

AWT, Northern Detachment
Statewide Permit Coordinator, ADF&G Sport Fish
USFWS, Alaska Region
USACE, Alaska District