

STATE OF ALASKA

SARAH PALIN, GOVERNOR

DEPT. OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION

DIVISION OF WATER

Wastewater Discharge Authorization Program

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March 20, 2009

Certified Mail 7007-0710-0004-3850-

Mr. Dave Palmer, Airport Manager
Juneau International Airport
1873 Shell Simmons Drive, Suite 200
Juneau, Alaska 99801-7005

Subject: Gastineau Channel Juneau Airport
Reference No. POA-1981-320-M22
State ID No. AK 0705-03J

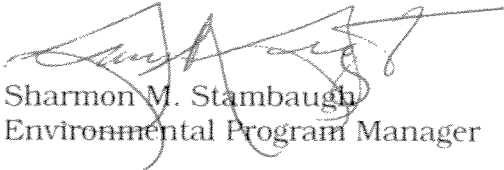
Dear Mr. Palmer:

In accordance with Section 401 of the Federal Clean Water Act of 1977 and provisions of the Alaska Water Quality Standards, the Department of Environmental Conservation is issuing the enclosed Certificate of Reasonable Assurance for projects related the airport Runway Safety Area expansion and associated projects.

Department of Environmental Conservation regulations provide that any person who disagrees with this decision may request an adjudicatory hearing in accordance with 18 AAC 15.195 - 18 AAC 15.340 or an informal review by the Division Director in accordance with 18 AAC 15.185. Informal review requests must be delivered to the Director, Division of Water, 555 Cordova St., Anchorage, AK 99501, within 15 days of the permit decision. Adjudicatory hearing requests must be delivered to the Commissioner of the Department of Environmental Conservation, 410 Willoughby Avenue, Suite 303, PO Box 111800, Juneau, AK 99811-1800, within 30 days of the permit decision. If a hearing is not requested within 30 days, the right to appeal is waived.

By copy of this letter we are advising the Corps of Engineers and the Division of Coastal and Ocean Management of our actions and enclosing a copy of the certification for their use.

Sincerely,



Sharmon M. Stambaugh
Environmental Program Manager

Enclosure

cc: (with encl.)

Randal Vigil, ACOE-Juneau
Jackie Timothy, ADF&G/Habitat
Tom Carson, Carson Dorn, Inc

Erin Allee, DNR, DCOM
William Ashton, ADEC
Greg Drzewiecki, ADEC

STATE OF ALASKA
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION
CERTIFICATE OF REASONABLE ASSURANCE

A Certificate of Reasonable Assurance, in accordance with Section 401 of the Federal Clean Water Act and the Alaska Water Quality Standards, is issued to the Juneau International Airport, 1873 Shell Simmons Drive, Suite 200, Juneau, Alaska 99801-7005 for the following proposed work that will consist of nine projects in and around the Juneau International Airport. The applicant proposes to discharge approximately 770,000 cubic yards of fill material into approximately 65.6 acres of wetlands and waters of the United States.

The nine projects consist of the following:

1. Construction of a Snow Removal Equipment Facility approximately 600 feet by 500 feet, filling approximately 2.5 acres of wetlands. The stated purpose is to increase snow removal equipment storage and maintenance capacity and reduce mobilization time for snow removal operations.
2. Construction of the Northeast Development Project, which expands the existing apron in the northeast quadrant of the airport by approximately 1,200 feet by 1,200 feet filling approximately 19.9 acres of wetlands. The stated purpose is to provide aviation facilities to satisfy existing demand for commercial and general aviation aircraft.
3. Relocation of the Automated Surface Observation System to a site east of the TEMSCO facility requiring a 450 foot by 12 foot access road and an 80 foot by 40 foot pad. Approximately 0.40 acre of wetlands would be filled. The stated purpose is to allow development in the northeast quadrant of the airport.
4. Removal of a 25 foot wide by 5 foot deep "dam" composed of rocks, fine gravels, and silt at the outfall of the Jordan Creek culvert under the runway. Approximately 0.01 acre of Jordan Creek would be affected. The stated purpose is to eliminate a small pond near the runway where fish pool and birds congregate, creating a wildlife hazard to aircraft.
5. Removal of material from the bottom and sides of the Float Plane Pond. Approximate area of material removal would be 5,300 feet by 1,000 feet affecting approximately 82.8 acres of wetlands. The amount has been recently computed to be 960,000 cubic yards of material. The stated purpose is to eliminate the food source for birds at the bottom and sides of the Float Plane Pond and to provide fill material for other airport projects.
6. Construction of the Northwest Development Project, which includes apron expansion in the northwest quadrant of the airport by approximately 1,100 feet by 300 feet. Approximately 5.0 acres of wetlands would be filled. The relocation of Duck Creek and the creation of approximately 3.6 acres of wetlands are also proposed in this component. The stated purpose is to provide sufficient parking and hanger facilities to satisfy existing demand for general aviation aircraft, and to reduce the wildlife hazard posed by birds congregating at the Duck Creek outlet.

7. Construction of a 430 foot by 28 foot access road connecting the general aviation ramp and the bulk fuel storage facility. Approximately 0.05 acres of wetlands would be filled. The stated purpose is to provide safe and efficient fuel transport between the bulk fuel farm and the general aviation ramp.
8. Relocation of the existing runway and expansion of the existing runway safety area. This component will require an additional 450 feet by 700 feet on the west end of the runway and 520 feet by 700 feet on the east end of the runway. Approximately 28.4 acres of wetlands and waterways would be impacted by the proposed fill. The stated purpose is to bring the airport into compliance with FAA standards.
9. Placement of fill material on approximately 490 feet by 1,000 feet of wetlands at the west end of the runway. Approximately 9.1 acres of wetlands would be impacted. The stated purpose is to eliminate wetlands and ponded areas near the runway that attract birds.

The proposed activity is located at Section 36, T. 40 S., R 65 E.; Sections 31 and 32, T. 40 S., R. 66 E.; and Section 1, T. 41 S., R. 66 E., Copper River Meridian, in Juneau, Alaska.

Public notice of the application for this certification was given as required by 18 AAC 15.180.

Water Quality Certification is required under Section 401 because the proposed activity will be authorized by a Corps of Engineers permit, reference number POA-1981-320-M22 and a discharge may result from the proposed activity.

Having reviewed the application and comments received in response to the public notice, the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation certifies that there is reasonable assurance that the proposed activity, as well as any discharge which may result, will comply with applicable provisions of Section 401 of the Clean Water Act and the Alaska Water Quality Standards, 18 AAC 70, provided that the following alternative measures are adhered to.

1. Reasonable precautions and controls must be used to prevent incidental and accidental discharge of petroleum products or other hazardous substances. Fuel storage and handling activities for equipment must be sited and conducted so there is no petroleum contamination of the ground, surface runoff or water bodies.
2. During construction spill response equipment and supplies, such as sorbent pads, shall be available and used immediately to contain and cleanup oil, fuel, hydraulic fluid, antifreeze or other pollutant spills. For any spill amount, there are Discharge Notification and Reporting Requirements (AS 46.03.755 and 18 AAC 75 Article 3). Most importantly, contact by phone the ADCE Area Response Team for Central Alaska during work hours for Southeast Area Response Team (907) 465-5340. After work hours call 1-800-478-9300 after

hours. Also contact by phone the National Response Center at 1-800-424-8802. Report all spills.

3. Fill materials must consist of clean sand, gravel, or rock fill and riprap that are free from fines and suspendible material to the extent practicable, and free from contamination by petroleum products or toxic substances.
4. This project is required to develop a Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) in conformity with the EPA's General Permit for Storm Water Discharges from Large and Small Construction Activities in Alaska (AKR100000). This SWPPP must also be submitted to ADEC (Greg Drzewiecki, 907-269-7692) prior to construction.
5. Design plans for the post-construction (permanent) collection and treatment of stormwater runoff and snowmelt runoff must be submitted to the ADEC (Greg Drzewiecki, 907-269-7692) and the applicant must receive ADEC's letter of non-objection prior to construction (18 Alaska Administrative Code 72.600).
6. Construction equipment shall not be operated below the ordinary high water mark or high tide line if equipment is leaking fuel, oil, hydraulic fluid, or any other hazardous material. Operation of tracked or wheeled equipment in the water shall be kept to a minimum. Equipment shall be inspected on a daily basis for leaks. If leaks are found the equipment shall not be used and pulled from service until the leak is repaired.
7. Disturbed ground and exposed soil not covered with fill, structures, or appurtenances must be stabilized and revegetated with endemic species, grasses, or other suitable vegetation in an appropriate and timely manner to minimize erosion and sedimentation, so that a durable vegetative cover is established and maintained.
8. Dredge spoils are to be transported and deposited in such a way that silt laden runoff water from the dredging activity shall not be allowed to discharge directly or indirectly into wetlands (other than those scheduled for filling), fresh or marine waters.
9. Construction activities must be confined to the minimum footprint necessary to complete construction.
10. All work areas, material access routes, and surrounding wetlands involved with the project shall be clearly delineated and marked in such a way that equipment operators do not operate outside of the marked areas.
11. If dewatering is to occur during the project, methods shall be implemented to filter or settle out suspended sediments from wastewater resulting from dewatering activities prior to its direct or indirect discharge into any natural body of water. Prior to dewatering, contact ADEC at 907-269-6285, to determine if an ADEC authorization to discharge is required.

12. All fills and disturbed areas resulting from project construction shall be stabilized to minimize erosion and subsequent sedimentation into streams and wetlands.
13. If during construction, placement of fill material, or backfilling, a turbidity plume is produced, a silt curtain shall be installed to enclose the activity causing the turbidity.

This certification expires five (5) years after the date the certification is signed. If your project is not completed by then and work under Corps of Engineers Permit will continue, you must submit an application for renewal of this certification no later than 30 days before the expiration date (18 AAC 15.100).

Date 3/20/2009


Sharmon M. Stambaugh
Environmental Program Manager