



FISH HABITAT PERMIT

FH20-III-0092

ISSUED: June 29, 2020
EXPIRES: December 31, 2025

Daniel Graham
Donlin Gold
4720 Business Park Blvd.
Suite G-25
Anchorage, AK 99503

RE: Beaver Dam Removal
Ruby and Queen Gulches
Section 26, T023N, R049W, SM (Iditarod A-5 Quad)
Location: 62.0587 N 158.2256 W

Dear Mr. Graham:

Pursuant to AS 16.05.841 (Fishway Act), the Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) Habitat Section has reviewed Donlin Gold's request to mechanically remove a beaver dam from a drainage ditch in the Ruby and Queen Gulches system. The beaver activity is eroding and damaging portions of the mine road.

Project Description

Donlin Gold proposes to remove a beaver dam that has caused flooding and erosion of the roadway. To restore positive drainage patterns Donlin Gold proposes using an excavator to reach out as far away from the roadway as possible and breach the dam. The proposed work in Ruby Gulch will begin in June 2020 and continue on an occasional basis as the beaver dams are rebuilt.

Fishway Act

Ruby and Queen Gulches in the area of your project support resident species of fish such as ninespine stickleback. Your project as proposed should not obstruct the efficient passage and movement of fish.

In accordance with AS 16.05.841, your project is approved subject to the project description and permit terms.

Permit Terms

This letter constitutes a permit issued under the authority of 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.

Please direct questions about this permit to Habitat Biologist Maria Wessel at (907) 459-7281 or maria.wessel@alaska.gov.

Sincerely,
Doug Vincent-Lang, Commissioner



BY: Audra L. J. Brase, Regional Supervisor
Habitat Section
Alaska Department of Fish and Game

ecc: John Chythlook, ADF&G SF, Fairbanks
Douglass Cooper, USFWS, Anchorage
Ellen Lyons, USACE, Fairbanks
AWT Northern Detachment, Fairbanks
Josh Peirce, ADF&G WC, McGrath
Aaron Tiernan, ADF&G CF, Anchorage

Al Ott, ADF&G HAB, Fairbanks
Catherine Heroy, ADNR, Fairbanks
Permit Coordinator, ADF&G SF, Anchorage
NOAA Fisheries, Anchorage
Michael Walton, ADNR, Fairbanks
Jenny March, ADNR, Fairbanks

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