# **Department of Fish and Game**





HABITAT SECTION Fairbanks Regional Office

1300 College Road Fairbanks, AK 99701-1551 Main: 907.459.7289 Fax: 907.459.7303

## FISH HABITAT PERMIT

## FH20-III-0045

ISSUED: March 19, 2020 EXPIRES: December 31, 2025

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

RE: Water Withdrawals APMA F159500 Otter Creek Sections 32-33, T4S, R15E, FM Big Delta B-2 West Creek Sections 5-6, T6S, R14E, FM Big Delta B-2 Star Creek Section 1, T6S, R15E, FM Big Delta B-2 Liese Creek Sections 25, 26, 36, T5S, R14E, FM Big Delta B-2 Unnamed Pond Section 27, T5S, R14E, FM Big Delta B-2 North Creek Sections 24, 25, T5S, R14E, FM Big Delta B-2 Shawnee Creek Sections 1,2, T6S, R15E, FM Big Delta B-2 Jake Creek Section 32, T5S, R16E, FM Big Delta B-2 Aluggnutt Creek Section 32, T5S, R16E, FM Big Delta B-2 Blarny Creek Sections 9, 16, T6S, R16E, FM Big Delta B-2 Oriental Creek Section 3, T6S, R16E, FM Big Delta B-2 Behrens Creek Section 24, T5S, R13E Big Delta B-2

Median Water Withdrawal Coordinates (WGS84): 64.4628N, 144.8508W.

### Dear Mr. Hohbach;

Pursuant to AS 16.05.841 (Fishway Act), the Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) Habitat Section has reviewed your proposal to withdrawal water from multiple non-anadromous streams in the Goodpaster River drainage.

### **Project Description**

You propose to withdraw water from the referenced streams and unnamed pond to facilitate exploration activities. These activities are referenced in TWUAs 2019 130-132.

#### **Fishway Act**

The referenced streams and unnamed pond may support resident fish species, such as Arctic grayling and slimy sculpin, in the area of your proposed project. 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, with the following stipulation:

 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 0.5 inches (1/2 inch), and water velocity at the screen/water interface may not exceed 0.5 feet per second when the pump is operating.

Note: For detailed information regarding screened intake device design please consult our webpage <u>http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=uselicense.withdrawal</u> and Technical Report No. 97-8 (<u>http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/static/license/uselicense/pdfs/97\_08.pdf</u>). Feel free to contact our office for additional assistance.

### **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 Justin Burrows at 907-459-7254 or justin.burrows@alaska.gov.

Sincerely, Doug Vincent-Lang Commissioner

By: Audra L. J. Brase Fairbanks Regional Supervisor

ecc: Brandy Baker, ADF&G SF, Delta Bob Henszey, USFWS, Fairbanks Ellen Lyons, USACE, Fairbanks Leslie Tose, USACE, Anchorage Fairbanks Mining, ADNR, Fairbanks Jeanne Proulx, ADNR, Fairbanks Permit Coordinator, ADF&G, SF, Anchorage Jenny March, ADNR, Fairbanks Al Ott, ADF&G, Fairbanks Tim Pilon, ADEC, Fairbanks AWT Northern Detachment, Fairbanks

jb/AB