



THE STATE  
of **ALASKA**  
GOVERNOR SEAN PARNELL

## Department of Natural Resources

Division of Mining, Land & Water

**ANCHORAGE OFFICE**

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3700 Airport Way  
Fairbanks, AK 99709-4699  
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November 1, 2012

Dear Miner:

Attached you will find the **2013** Hardrock, Placer Mining or Suction Dredge Application. As always we encourage you to submit your application early. This cover letter contains important information pertaining to the application. Please review it carefully. There are three applications.

Hardrock Exploration  
Placer Mining  
Suction Dredging

**Federal Operators:** If your operation involves federal land managed by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), and you want to use this application as a Notice or Plan of Operations, please obtain BLM approval for any bonding requirements prior to the submission of the application to the State Department of Natural Resources (DNR). Bonding forms are available at BLM and DNR. Depending on the scope of new proposed operations the BLM may require submission of supplemental information with the applications referenced here. You are encouraged to contact your local BLM office to discuss your proposed operations prior to filing.

**Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) Permitting:** Your application can act as a Notice of Intent (NOI) /Application for the Alaska Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (APDES) General Permit. **Effective October 31, 2010, the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) assumed permitting authority from EPA; therefore, any questions regarding discharge must now be directed toward DEC.**

There are several types of APDES permits available depending on the nature of your operation.

- Placer Mining: Fill and sign item #26 to apply for a general permit.
- Suction Dredgers: Fill and sign item #21 to apply for a general permit
- An individual permit with a separate application may be needed if your operation exceeds certain thresholds.

Please contact Nick Dallman by phone at (907) 451-2142 or email at [nicholas.dallman@alaska.gov](mailto:nicholas.dallman@alaska.gov)

**U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Permitting**

Your application can be used to apply for a USACE Regional General Permit. (RGP) There are several types of USACE permits available depending on the nature of your operation.

- For placer miners: RGP 2006-1944 for mines with surface disturbance 10 acres or less and stream diversions less than 2000 linear feet.
- For suction dredgers: RGP 2007-372 applies to suction dredging in streams or marine waters with intake nozzles less than 10", and water depth less than 20 feet.
- If your operation exceeds these limits, an Individual Permit using a separate application may be needed.

Please contact Leslie Tose at 1-800-478-2712 (within Alaska) or (907) 753-2712 or Debby McAtee (907) 474-2166, or email at [leslie.w.tose@usace.army.mil](mailto:leslie.w.tose@usace.army.mil) or [Debby.McAtee@USACE.army.mil](mailto:Debby.McAtee@USACE.army.mil).

*"To responsibly develop Alaska's resources by making them available for maximum use and benefit consistent with the public interest."*

**Multi-Year Renewal Requirements:**

For miners with a multi-year permit, the following forms still need to be submitted annually:

1. Signed Bond Renewal form with appropriate fees (if applicable),
2. Signed Reclamation Plan,
3. Signed Reclamation Statement

Permits for other agencies, such as DEC and the USACE, may have expiration dates separate from the multi-year permit expiration date. Miners should be aware of expiration dates on all permits, and submit separate applications as appropriate.

**Processing Fees:**

The annual application fee is \$150.00. A Multi-Year is \$150 for the first year and \$50 for each year thereafter, for up to 5 years, payable in advance. A 5 year application is \$350.00. There is also a \$50.00 fee for any amendment to the application. Other agencies such as DEC may require additional fees for permits or authorizations.

**Reclamation Statements: DECEMBER 31, 2012 DEADLINE:**

2012 applicants whose proposed operations involved a total disturbance of less than five acres, are required to submit an Annual Reclamation Statement, whether or not activity took place in 2012 (AS 27.19.050(c)). For activity involving cross-country access of equipment you are advised to submit the application by December 31, 2012.

**Department of Revenue, Mining License Requirements:**

The Department of Revenue (DOR) issues mining licenses on an annual basis for the period of May 1 through April 30. A current license holder can renew their mining license by checking the renewal box on the 2012 Mining License Tax Return. A Mining License Application (MLA) is not required if one was filed with DOR in 2012.

Lessees and operators of a new mining operation that are in the development or production phase are required to file a MLA with DOR. Owners are required to file a MLA once the property enters the production phase. Please contact Sarah Wilson at 907-269-1017. Forms can be found online at [www.tax.alaska.gov](http://www.tax.alaska.gov).

**Notice of Mining Activity:**

The Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA) requires that all mining operations file a notice of legal identity. Section 3(h)(1) of the Act defines the term "mine" and includes related milling operations within that definition. Mine development, rehabilitation activities, and exploration work at an established mine are within the Act's scope. All types of mining, including placer, dredge, and hydraulic operations must be inspected. Government owned or operated mines and mills, whether federal, state, county, or other, are included within the jurisdiction of the Act. All such operations located anywhere in the United States, as well as in any of its territories, protectorates, or commonwealths, must be inspected.

Applications for Legal Identity can be obtained at the local field office or can be filed online at [www.msha.gov](http://www.msha.gov). Please contact the Anchorage, AK field office at (907) 271-1250 for more information and assistance.

If assistance is required, please contact one of our offices – Anchorage (907) 269-8647 or (907) 269-5916, or in Fairbanks (907) 458-6896 or (907) 451-2774. We post the applications and related forms to our web page at: <http://www.dnr.alaska.gov/mlw/forms>.

Sincerely,



Kerwin Krause  
Geologist, Minerals Property Manager