



# **KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH**

## **Coastal Management Program**

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**JOHN J. WILLIAMS  
BOROUGH MAYOR**

December 28, 2006

Mr. Jim Renkert, Project Review Coordinator  
State of Alaska Department of Natural Resources  
Office of Project Management and Permitting  
Alaska Coastal Management Program  
550 West 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Suite 705  
Anchorage, Alaska 99501

Subject: Kwechek Creek/Dan Rough/ Sand and Gravel Extraction AK 0610-07 AA

Dear Mr. Renkert:

Kenai Peninsula Borough (KPB) Coastal District staff reviewed the above noted project for consistency with KPB Coastal Management enforceable policies. The project is located near Mile 5.5 of the Seward Highway within the SE1/4 of Section 14, Township 1 North, Range 1 West, Seward Meridian.

### Scope of Work

The project subject to this review is the extraction of up to 50,000 cubic yards of sand and gravel per year from the bed of Kwechek Creek. Up to 20,000 cubic yards of material may be stockpiled at any one time.

The applicant plans to bulldoze sand and gravel material from the creek bed to the west bank of the creek where it is to be removed by a rubber tired loader and dump truck. All extraction work is planned from exposed gravel bars and will be performed during low water periods. No material will be removed from below the creek's flowing water level or within the water table. No equipment or vehicles will be operated within nor will materials be removed from any flowing water in the creek. Materials extracted from the creek will be removed in uniform lifts of approximately one-foot to avoid creating fish entrapment basins. Material will be stockpiled adjacent to the west bank of Kwechek Creek. The maximum combined footprint of stockpiles will be one-acre. Some of the stockpiled material will remain year-round. No gravel washing operations will occur within the active creek bed. Vegetated banks will not be altered or disturbed during gravel removal or stockpiling operations.

Findings

Kwechek Creek is not catalogued as anadromous and therefore activity in the stream does not pose a threat to important salmon habitat.

1) Kenai Peninsula Borough Coastal Management Enforceable policy 10.2(g) Mining and Extraction from River and Streams, requires that the effects of sand and gravel removal on nearby lands and waters shall be minimized by, among other means, avoiding unnecessary clearing of riparian vegetation, or disturbance of natural banks.

To be consistent with Enforceable Policy 10.2(g) the applicant should avoid clearing stream bank vegetation and altering the natural bank of the stream.

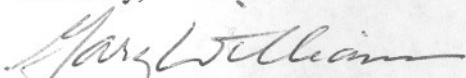
2) Kenai Peninsula Borough Coastal Management Enforceable Policy 3.3, Erosion, requires that development and resource extraction activities shall be sited and conducted to minimize accelerated shoreline erosion or adverse impacts to shore line processes. When development or other activities lead to removal of vegetation, erosion shall be prevented or, if it occurs, shall be remedied through revegetation or by other appropriate means.

To be consistent with Enforceable Policy 3.3, the applicant must attempt to avoid altering the stream bank to forestall future erosion of the bank. If alteration of the stream bank is unavoidable the applicant must take appropriate measures to remedy the alteration.

As an advisory, the applicant should be aware that this activity will occur in a floodway and floodplain. The applicant will be required to obtain a floodplain permit from the Kenai Peninsula Borough prior to commencing this project.

3) Kenai Peninsula Borough Coastal Management Enforceable Policy 2.7, Cumulative Impacts, provides that the cumulative effects of proposed development on coastal habitats shall be considered in the review of coastal projects. Inasmuch as this project involves stockpiling a large amount of material in a floodplain to be consistent with this provision the applicant must demonstrate or otherwise provide professional opinion that the stockpiled material will not contribute to damage secondary to flooding. It is recommended that the applicant seek advice from the Borough Floodplain Manager on the appropriate method of placing stockpiled material in a floodplain.

Sincerely,



Gary Williams  
Coastal District Coordinator

Copy: Jane Gabler, Kenai Peninsula Borough Floodplain Manager  
Bill Williamson, Chairman, Seward/Bear Creek Flood Service Area