



THE STATE
of **ALASKA**
GOVERNOR MIKE DUNLEAVY

Department of Fish and Game

HABITAT SECTION
Southcentral Regional Office

333 Raspberry Road
Anchorage, Alaska
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FISH HABITAT PERMIT FH23-II-0055-GP

ISSUED: December 28, 2023
EXPIRES: December 31, 2026

General Public:

RE: Vehicle Stream Crossing
Lowe River (Water Body No. 221-60-11370)
Sections 23, 26, and 27, T 9 S, R 5 W, CRM
Location: 61.066617 N, 146.079796 W

Pursuant to the Anadromous Fish Act at AS 16.05.871 (b), the Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) Habitat Section has determined that the public interest would be served through the issuance of a General Permit for vehicle stream crossing of the Lowe River at the location shown on the enclosed map.

Project Description

This general permit authorizes the movement of wheeled or tracked vehicles weighing less than 10,000 lbs. dry weight on the bed and banks of the Lowe River at the above referenced location near milepost 7.3 of the Richardson Highway. The authorized crossing site is identified on the attached map. This General Permit authorizes river crossings during low flow periods or when the river is frozen to access and harvest timber for personal use.

Anadromous Fish Act

Water Body No. 221-60-11370 has been specified as being important for the spawning, rearing, or migration of anadromous fishes pursuant to AS 16.05.871(a). The water body provides habitat for Chinook, sockeye, chum, coho, and pink salmon, and Dolly Varden.

In accordance with AS 16.05.871(d), your project is approved subject to the project description, the following stipulations, and the permit terms.

1. Crossing is authorized between October 15 and April 30. Crossings outside of this time period will require an individual permit.

2. Crossing with wheeled or tracked vehicles equipped with buckets or blades are prohibited.
3. Crossings shall be made from bank to bank in a direction substantially perpendicular to the stream flow.
4. Streambanks and streambeds shall not be altered or disturbed in any way to facilitate crossings.
5. Vehicles shall not be refueled or serviced below ordinary high water. Vehicles leaking oil or other hazardous substances are prohibited from crossing the creek.
6. This permit must be retained onsite during stream crossing activities.

Permit Terms

This letter constitutes a permit issued under the authority of AS 16.05.871 and must be retained on site during project activities. Please be advised that this determination applies only to activities regulated by the Habitat Section; 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 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 Habitat Section. Therefore, we recommend you consult the Habitat Section immediately 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.

You may appeal this permit decision relating to AS 16.05.871 in accordance with the provisions of AS 44.62.330-630.

Please direct questions about this permit to the Habitat Section at 267-2342 or dfg.hab.infoanc@alaska.gov.

Sincerely,
Doug Vincent-Lang
Commissioner

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Ron Benkert". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

By Ron Benkert
Southcentral Regional Supervisor

Enclosures: FH23-II-0055-GP Vehicle Stream Crossing Map

Email cc:

- A. Ott, ADF&G HAB
- B. Blain, ADF&G SF
- J. Botz, ADF&G CF
- H. Scannell, ADF&G CF
- A. Beck, DPS/AWT
- D. Evans, ADNR Forestry
- C. Larson, ADNR DMLW
- USACE, Regulatory
- City of Valdez

FH23-II-0055-GP Authorized Stream Crossing Map

Vehicle crossing is authorized within the red polygon shown on the aerial photo below. Access from the Richardson Highway is at approximately milepost 7.3 across from Deep Lake Drive.

