

# **Department of Fish and Game**

HABITAT SECTION Southeast Region Office

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# FISH HABITAT PERMIT FH22-I-0060-GP

**ISSUED:** May 19, 2022 **EXPIRES:** December 31, 2026

### **General Public:**

**RE:** Gulf Coast Stream Crossings

Carson Creek at Icy Bay to Duktoth River

Table 1

Along the Gulf of Alaska coastline between Carson Creek (at Icy Bay) and the Duktoth River (at Cape Yakataga), stream crossings below the high tide line are required to access private and public lands for a variety of purposes. Pursuant to Alaska Statute 16.05.871(b), the Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) determined the public interest is served and fish and game are properly protected with the issuance of a General Permit for vehicles crossing anadromous water bodies between Carson Creek and the Duktoth River (Table 1) below the high tide line where stream mouths are subject to shifting from wave action and generally do not provide suitable salmonid spawning habitat. This General Permit authorizes beach crossings below the high tide line within the area bounded by red lines in Figure 1.

Any other use within the water bodies listed in Table 1 or within other water bodies cataloged as anadromous requires an individual Fish Habitat Permit.

#### **Anadromous Fish Act**

The streams listed in Table 1 have been specified as being important for the spawning, rearing, or migration of anadromous fishes pursuant to AS 16.05.871(a).

Table 1.—Crossing locations.

Stream Name	Stream Number	Anadromous species present	Section	Township	Range	USGS Quadrangle
Carson Creek	186-15-10550	CO	20	22S	23E	Icy Bay D2&D3
Unnamed	186-15-10500-2005	CO	29	22S	23E	Icy Bay D2&D3
Watson Creek	186-15-10400	CO	34	22S	23E	Icy Bay D2&D3
Unnamed	186-15-10400-2011	CO	33	22S	22E	Icy Bay D2&D3
Priest River	191 20-13800	CO	32	22S	22E	Icy Bay D2&D3
Unnamed	191-20-13700	CO	32	22S	22E	Icy Bay D2&D3
Big River	191-20-13600	CO, DV	35	22S	21E	Icy Bay D2&D3
Unnamed	191-20-13400-2030	CO, DV	26	22S	21E	Icy Bay D2&D3
Big Sandy	191-20-13400	CO, DV	18	22S	21E	Bering Glacier A3
Unnamed	191-20-11750	CO	10	22S	20E	Bering Glacier A4
Shokum Creek	191-20-11600	CO	12	22S	19E	Bering Glacier A4
Unnamed	191-20-11500	CO	12	22S	19E	Bering Glacier A4
Crooked Creek	191-20-11300	CO	2	22S	19E	Bering Glacier A4
Unnamed	191-20-11200	CO	3	22S	19E	Bering Glacier A4
Felton Creek	191-20-11100	CO, DV	4	22S	19E	Bering Glacier A4
White River	191-20-11000	CO	31	21S	19E	Bering Glacier A4
Unnamed	191-10-11370	CO	30	21S	18E	Bering Glacier A4
Unnamed	191-10-11400	CO	25	21S	17E	Bering Glacier A4
Mink Creek	191-10-11470	CO, P	23	21S	17E	Bering Glacier A4
Yakataga River	192-30-11500	CO, K, DV, S	23	21S	17E	Bering Glacier A4
Duktoth River	192-30-10100	CO, K, DV	15	21S	16E	Bering Glacier A5

Note: CO: coho salmon, DV: Dolly Varden char, P: pink salmon, K: Chinook salmon, S: steelhead trout.

In accordance with AS 16.05.871(d), stream crossings within the authorized waterbodies supporting anadromous fish are approved subject to the description above, permit terms, and the following stipulations:

- 1. Vehicle operations shall be limited to that necessary to safely cross in the most direct manner.
- 2. Vehicles may not be refueled or serviced in the streams.
- 3. Equipment leaking fuel, hydraulic fluid, or other pollutants shall not be operated in streams.
- 4. The streambed and streambanks shall not be altered or disturbed to facilitate stream crossings.

# **Permit Terms**

This letter constitutes a permit issued under the authority of AS 16.05.871. Please be advised that this determination applies only to Habitat Section regulated activities; other agencies also may have jurisdiction under their respective authorities. This determination does not relieve you of your responsibility to secure other state, federal, or local permits. You are still required to comply with all other applicable laws.

The vehicle owner and operator (permittee), or the legal guardian of minor dependents, is responsible for the actions of contractors, agents, or other persons who participate in the approved activity. Prior to engaging in any activity that significantly deviates from this approval, the responsible party shall notify the Habitat Section and obtain written approval in the form of

an individual permit. Any action taken by the permittee or agent of the permittee that increases the activity's overall scope or that negates, alters, or minimizes the intent or effectiveness of any stipulation contained in this permit will be deemed a significant deviation from the approved activity. The final determination as to the significance of any deviation and the need for an individual permit is a Habitat Section responsibility. Therefore, it is recommended that Habitat Section be consulted immediately when a deviation from the approved activity is being considered.

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 by requesting a hearing under AS 44.62.370.

Please direct questions about this permit to Habitat Biologist Greg Albrecht at (907) 465-6384 or greg.albrecht@alaska.gov.

Sincerely,

Doug Vincent-Lang Commissioner

By: Kate Kanouse

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Regional Supervisor

## Email cc:

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Habitat Conservation Division, NMFS, Juneau
Sgt Jesse Darby, DPS AWT, Anchorage
State Trooper Mike Cresswell, DPS AWT, Cordova

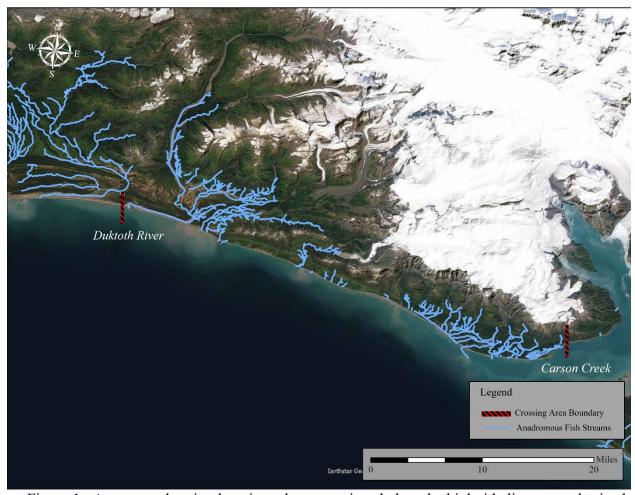


Figure 1.—Area map showing location where crossings below the high tide line are authorized.