



**FISH HABITAT PERMIT FH22-V-0019-GP**

**ISSUED:** January 3, 2022  
**EXPIRES:** December 31, 2026

General Public:

**RE: Small-Scale Recreational Placer Mining in Sixmile Creek and Associated Tributaries**

**Sixmile Creek**

Water Body No. – 247-60-10170  
Including Associated Tributaries  
(See attached list and map)

Alaska law (AS 16.05.841 and AS 16.05.871) requires that a permit from the Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G), Habitat Section, be obtained prior to conducting small-scale mining below the ordinary high water mark of streams within the Sixmile Creek watershed. Pursuant to AS 16.05.871(b) and AS 16.05.841, Habitat Section, has determined that both the public interest and the proper protection of fish and game resources would be served by issuing a General Permit (GP) authorizing small-scale recreational mining activities in the Sixmile Creek watershed (please see attached list of specific water bodies).

Small-scale mining equipment authorized by this permit is restricted to the use of motorized pumps of 18 horsepower or less and intake hoses with diameters of 6-inches or less.

This GP does not authorize motorized vehicle use in anadromous (salmon-bearing) streams. A separate Fish Habitat Permit is required to cross anadromous waters.

In accordance with AS 16.05.871(d) and AS 16.05.841, approval is hereby given to mine with the specified equipment in Sixmile Creek and its tributaries subject to the permit terms and the following stipulations:

**PERMIT STIPULATIONS – ANADROMOUS FISH STREAMS**

These stipulations apply to anadromous water bodies specified under AS 16.05.871(a) (Catalog of Waters Important for Spawning, Rearing, or Migration of Anadromous Fish). Mining activities below the ordinary high water (OHW) line are seasonally restricted to protect incubating fish eggs, alevins, and fry within the streambed gravels.

1. **This permit must be retained onsite during small-scale recreational mining activities.**

2. Small-scale mining below the OHW mark in the anadromous water bodies in the Sixmile Creek watershed (see attached list and map) is restricted to May 15 – July 15.
3. Construction or maintenance of dams, diversions, fills, deflectors, and any other structures below the OHW (vegetation) line is prohibited.
4. Natural streambanks and vegetated gravel bars or vegetated islands shall not be mined, under cut, or disturbed.
5. Motorized equipment or winches shall not be used to move boulders, logs, or other objects too large to be moved by hand.
6. Wheeled or tracked vehicles or equipment shall not be operated in the stream or cause disturbance to the stream bank.
7. No equipment leaking fuel, hydraulic fluid, or other pollutants shall be operated below the OHW line.
8. Water withdrawal is restricted to processing material through the sluice box and shall not be used for hydraulic mining or any other purpose.

#### **Additional Stipulations for Power Sluicing in Anadromous Fish Streams**

9. Water intakes must be screened with 1/8-inch mesh to prevent the impingement and entrainment of fish.
10. Adequate stream flow must remain to maintain fish passage during mining activities.

#### **PERMIT STIPULATIONS – RESIDENT FISH STREAMS**

These stipulations apply to resident fish streams pursuant to AS 16.05.841.

#### **Stipulation for ALL Small-Scale Mining in Resident Fish Streams**

1. Construction or maintenance of dams, diversions, fills, deflectors, and any other structure that may impede the efficient passage of fish is prohibited.

#### **Additional Stipulation for Power Sluicing in Resident Fish Streams**

2. Water intakes must be screened with 1/8-inch mesh to prevent the impingement and entrainment of fish.

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**This determination applies only to activities regulated by ADF&G.** This determination does not relieve you of the responsibility for securing other state, federal, or local permits, nor does it authorize trespass on mineral claims or private property.

**On state land, the Alaska Department of Natural Resources, Division of Mining, Land, and Water (ADNR/DMLW) also classifies suction dredges with an intake 6 inches or less as recreational.** Dredge operators with an intake larger than 6 inches or a pump larger than 18 horsepower should contact ADNR/DMLW at (907) 269-8647 to obtain commercial mining application instructions.

**The Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (ADEC) considers dredges with an intake 6 inches or smaller as small-scale and has issued a General Permit (AKG375000) for small scale mining in Alaska.** Larger dredges are considered commercial operations and require prior notice or approval from the land manager and ADEC. For more information, please contact the ADEC at (907) 451-2142.

ADEC Small-Scale Suction Dredge GP: <https://dec.alaska.gov/water/oasys.aspx>

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**Permit Terms**

This letter constitutes a permit issued under the authority of AS 16.05.841 and AS 16.05.871 and must be retained on site during project activities. 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.

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 stipulation 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 a Habitat Section responsibility. Therefore, it is recommended you consult the Habitat Section immediately when a deviation from the approved plan is being considered.

For the purpose of inspecting or monitoring compliance with any condition of this permit, you shall give an authorized representative of the state free and unobstructed access, at safe and reasonable times, to the project site. You shall furnish whatever assistance and information as 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 Habitat Biologist Kaitlynn Cafferty at (907) 714-2481 or e-mail at [kaitlynn.cafferty@alaska.gov](mailto:kaitlynn.cafferty@alaska.gov).

Sincerely,

Doug Vincent-Lang

Commissioner

*Tony Munter*

By: Tony Munter  
Kenai Peninsula Area Manager  
ADF&G, Habitat Section

Enclosures:

List of Authorized Streams  
Map of Authorized Streams

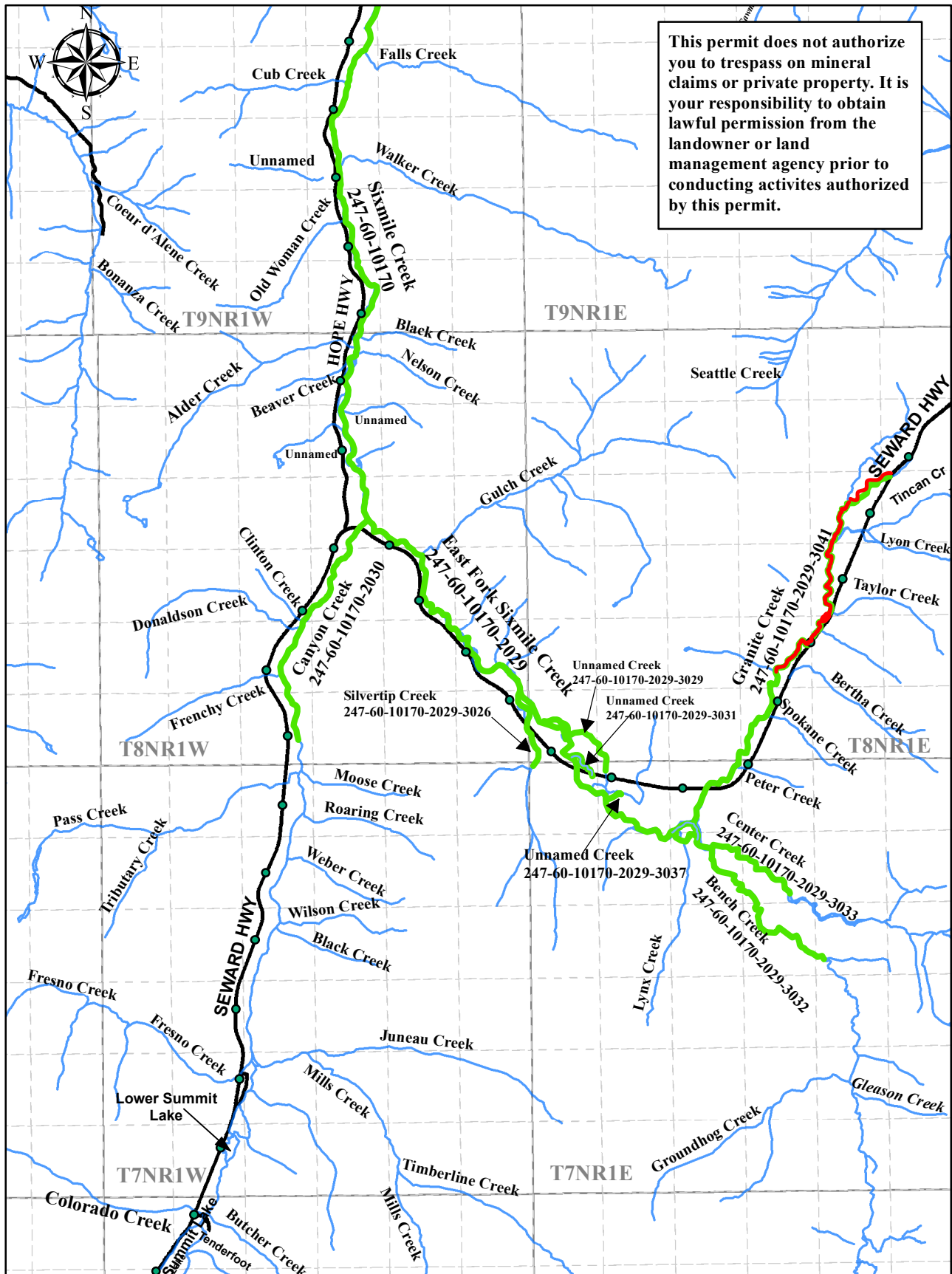
Cc: A. Ott, ADF&G  
T. Munter, ADF&G  
L. Smith, ADF&G  
C. Lipka, ADF&G  
DEC Group  
DFG, DSF Permit Coordinator  
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M. Aldridge, KPB  
S. Leslie USFS  
D. Ross, AWT  
AWT (Northern Detachment)  
COE-KFO

**AUTHORIZED STREAM LOCATIONS AND OPEN TIME PERIODS IN THE SIXMILE CREEK DRAINAGE**

|            | STREAM NAME<br>ANADROMOUS CATALOG STREAM NO.                            | LOCATION   | DATES<br>AUTHORIZED | 841/871    |
|------------|---|--|---------------------|------------|
| 1.         | Alder Creek   |  | year round          | 841        |
| 2.         | Beaver Creek  |  | year round          | 841        |
| 3.         | <b>Bench Creek</b><br><b>247-60-10170-2029-3032</b>                     | From river mile 2.2 to Center Creek<br>Secs 9, 10, 14, 15, T7N, R1E                    | <b>5/15 to 7/15</b> | <b>871</b> |
| 4.         | Bench Creek   | From river mile 2.2 upstream to end  | year round          | 841        |
| 5.         | Bertha Creek  |  | year round          | 841        |
| 6.         | Black Creek   |  | year round          | 841        |
| 7.         | Butcher Creek   |  | year round          | 841        |
| 8.         | <b>Canyon Creek</b><br><b>247-60-10170-2030</b>                         | From river mile 3.2 to Sixmile Creek<br>Secs 15, 21, 22, 28, 33, T8N, R1W              | <b>5/15 to 7/15</b> | <b>871</b> |
| 9.         | Canyon Creek  | From river mile 3.2 upstream to end  | year round          | 841        |
| 10.        | <b>Center Creek</b><br><b>247-60-10170-2029-3033</b>                    | From river mile 1.6 to outlet<br>Sec 4, 9, 10, T7N, R1E                                | <b>5/15 to 7/15</b> | <b>871</b> |
| 11.        | Center Creek  | From river mile 1.6 upstream to end  | year round          | 841        |
| 12.        | Clinton Creek   |  | year round          | 841        |
| 13.        | Colorado Creek  |  | year round          | 841        |
| 14.        | Cub Creek   |  | year round          | 841        |
| 15.        | Divide Creek  |  | year round          | 841        |
| 16.        | Donaldson Creek   |  | year round          | 841        |
| 17.        | <b>East Fork Sixmile Creek</b><br><b>247-60-10170-2029</b>              | Confluence of Granite Creek to<br>Sixmile Creek  | <b>5/15 to 7/15</b> | <b>871</b> |
| 18.        | Falls Creek   |  | year round          | 841        |
| 19.        | Frenchy Creek   |  | year round          | 841        |
| 20.        | Fresno Creek  |  | year round          | 841        |
| 21.        | Gleason Creek   |  | year round          | 841        |
| 22.        | <b>Granite Creek</b><br><b>247-60-10170-2029-3041</b>                   | Downstream from confluence of<br>Bertha Creek  | <b>5/15 to 7/15</b> | <b>871</b> |
| <b>23.</b> | <b>Granite Creek</b><br><b>247-60-10170-2029-3041</b>                   | <b>Upstream from confluence of<br/>Bertha Creek</b>                                    | <b>closed</b>       | <b>871</b> |
| 24.        | Groundhog, Gulch, and Juneau Creeks                                     |  | year round          | 841        |
| 27.        | Lynx Creek, Lyon Creek, Mills Creek                                     |  | year round          | 841        |
| 30.        | Moose Creek, Nelson Creek, Ohio Creek                                   |  | year round          | 841        |
| 33.        | Old Woman Creek, Pass Creek, Petes Creek                                |  | year round          | 841        |
| 36.        | Roaring Creek   |  | year round          | 841        |
| 37.        | <b>Silvertip Creek</b><br><b>247-60-10170-2029-3026</b>                 | From river mile 1.1 to outlet<br>Sec 36, T8N, R1W; Sec 31, T8N, R1E<br>Sec 6, T7N, R1E | <b>5/15 to 7/15</b> | <b>871</b> |
| 38.        | Silvertip Creek   | From river mile 1.1 upstream to end  | year round          | 841        |
| 39.        | <b>Sixmile Creek</b><br><b>247-60-10170</b>                             | Confluence of East Fork Sixmile<br>Creek to outlet                                     | <b>5/15 to 7/15</b> | <b>871</b> |
| 40.        | Spokane Creek, Stormy Creek, Taylor Creek                               |  | year round          | 841        |
| 43.        | Tenderfoot Creek, Timberline Creek                                      |  | year round          | 841        |
| 45.        | Tincan Creek, Tributary Creek   |  | year round          | 841        |
| 47.        | <b>Unnamed trib to EF Sixmile</b><br><b>247-60-10170-2029-3029</b>      | Intersection of Seward Hwy to outlet<br>Sec 31, 32, T8N, R1E; Sec 5, T7N, R1E          | <b>5/15 to 7/15</b> | <b>871</b> |
| 48.        | <b>Unnamed trib to EF Sixmile</b><br><b>247-60-10170-2029-3031</b>      | Intersection of Seward Hwy to outlet<br>Sec 31, T8N, R1E; Sec 6, T7N, R1E              | <b>5/15 to 7/15</b> | <b>871</b> |
| 49.        | <b>Unnamed trib to EF Sixmile</b><br><b>247-60-10170-2029-3037-0020</b> | Gravel pit ponds to outlet<br>Sec 5, T7N, R1E  | <b>5/15 to 7/15</b> | <b>871</b> |
| 50.        | Walker Creek  |  | year round          | 841        |
| 51.        | Weber Creek   |  | year round          | 841        |
| 52.        | Wilson Creek  |  | year round          | 841        |
| 53.        | All other unnamed tributaries to Sixmile Creek                          |  | year round          | 841        |

# Sixmile Creek and Drainages



## Legend

- Open to mining May 15 to July 15 ONLY
- Open to mining year round
- CLOSED to all mining

