**Keifer Kanayurak**

**ADF&G Title 16 Permit (Habitat)**

**Summary:**

The title 16 permit focuses on the preservation of anadromous fish (e.g. as salmon), wildlife and its respective habitat. Instead of focusing on the harvesting, the permit addresses land use activities along inhabited streams, sanctuaries, as well as other critical habitats serving as refuge.

**Habitat Permit**

1. Fish Habitat Permit
2. Special Area Permit
3. Small Scale Mining Permit
4. General Permits

**APPLICABILITY**

1. Fish Habitat Permit (referring to waterways inhabiting fish)?
   1. Culvert & bridge (installation, modification and removal).
   2. Water-crossings with motorized vehicles or equipment.
   3. Mining for gold or sand & gravel.
   4. Water withdrawal.
   5. Bank stabilization or restoration.
   6. Stream modification
   7. Hydroelectric facility
   8. Any other activity that may affect fish or fish habitat.
2. Special Area Permit (The Alaska state legislature has designated 32 critical habitats, game refuges, and sanctuaries throughout the state).
   1. commercial guide camps
   2. off-road use of wheeled or tracked equipment
   3. boat storage
   4. clearing or vegetation disturbance
   5. natural resource development or energy exploration
   6. construction or placement of structures
   7. streambank or shoreline altering activities
   8. grazing or animal husbandry
   9. or any other activity that affects soil stability, fish & wildlife or their habitat, vegetation, drainage, and water quality.
3. Small Scale Mining Permit
   1. Use of a suction dredge with an intake diameter less than or equal to six inches and powered by a less than or equal to, 18 horsepower engine.
   2. Use of a sluice box and suction pump (less than or equal to 18 horsepower) to process material gathered with hand tools.
4. General Permits
   1. General permits exist for specified boat launchings, stream crossings, and special areas that see recurring use and have been proven to have low impact on fish & wildlife or their respective habitats.

**PROCESSING TIMES**

1. The time required to process the habitat permit typically takes two to four weeks but the overall time can depend upon the complexity of the project in review.

**Agency Coordination:**

**Anchorage**

*Municipality of Anchorage, Prince William Sound,*

*Kodiak, Aleutians, Southwest*

Alaska Department of Fish and Game

Habitat Section

333 Raspberry Rd, Suite 2068

Anchorage, AK 99518

(907) 267-2342

[dfg.hab.infoanc@alaska.gov](mailto:dfg.hab.infoanc@alaska.gov)

**Craig**

*Prince of Wales Island, Ketchikan*

Alaska Department of Fish and Game

Habitat Section

Westwind Plaza, Suite 302

Craig, AK 99921

(907) 826-2560

[dfg.hab.infocga@alaska.gov](mailto:dfg.hab.infocga@alaska.gov)

**Douglas**

Southeast, Yakutat

Alaska Department of Fish and Game

Habitat Section

802 3rd Street, 1st Floor

Douglas, AK 99824

(907) 465-4105

[dfg.hab.infodou@alaska.gov](mailto:dfg.hab.infodou@alaska.gov)

**Fairbanks**

Interior, Northwest, Arctic Slope

Alaska Department of Fish and Game

Habitat Section

1300 College Road

Fairbanks, AK 99701-1551

(907) 459-7289

[dfg.hab.infofai@alaska.gov](mailto:dfg.hab.infofai@alaska.gov)

**Palmer**

Mat-Su Borough

Alaska Department of Fish and Game

Habitat Section

1801 S. Margaret Drive, Suite 6

Palmer, AK 99645-6736

(907) 861-3200

[dfg.hab.infopaq@alaska.gov](mailto:dfg.hab.infopaq@alaska.gov)

**Soldotna**

Kenai Peninsula Borough

Alaska Department of Fish and Game

Habitat Section

514 Funny River Road

Soldotna, AK 99669-8255

(907) 714-2475

[dfg.hab.infosxq@alaska.gov](mailto:dfg.hab.infosxq@alaska.gov)

**Information Necessary** (the necessary information can be gathered by contacting the above listed office location nearest to your project/activity location)**:**

1. Fish Habitat Permit
   1. Applicant information
   2. Contact information
   3. Project description
   4. Project timeframe
   5. Project location
   6. Waterbody characteristics
   7. Short Description of in-water work
   8. Any stream crossings
   9. Any water withdrawal
   10. Plans, specifications, aerial photographs, rehabilitation plans, or any additional information pertaining to the project
2. Special Area Permit
   1. Applicant information
   2. Project location
   3. Project/activity description
   4. List of any other permits
3. Small Scale Mining Permit (application includes a list of preapproved locations)
   1. Applicant information
   2. Description of equipment (specifications within requirements)
4. General Permit
   1. Stream crossings
      1. Permit must be in possession at time of crossing
      2. Stream crossing shall be made as directly as possible
      3. Vehicle operation only as necessary to safely cross
      4. Vehicle shall not linger or delay crossing
      5. Ground contact vehicle shall not be parked below the high-water line
      6. Beds or banks shall not be altered or disturbed to facilitate crossing
   2. Boat launchings
      1. Gross Vehicle Weight (GVWR) shall be less than or equal to 10,000 pounds
      2. Note: Other vehicle operations within the described water bodies or vehicles used within other water bodies, not described in this permit, require additional authorization from the Division of Habitat prior to access.
      3. Note: Access to sites above high-water or sites beyond public easement may be conditional (i.e. private property or native corporation land).
      4. No streambed or bank alteration, gravel removal, water use, or diversion is authorized under this permit.
   3. Special Areas (include the following list of activities)
      1. Off-road use of Motorized Vehicles
      2. Shore Fishery Leases
      3. Off-road ATV Vehicles
      4. Trail use of MOtorized Vehicles
      5. Landing of Aircraft
      6. Blind and Tree Stand Installation
      7. Mooring Buoys and Running Lines
      8. Motorized Access & Stream Crossings
      9. Camping
      10. Organized Group Assembly
      11. Off-road Vehicle use of Designated Trails

**Enforcement and Penalties:**

1. Depending upon the classification, the misdemeanor can result in jail time extending up to a year in jail or a monetary value, for bail, set based upon severity of violation.
2. If the party or agency in repeal violates any of the requirements stated within the permit, the party or agency must return the area to its original condition along with any additional penalties set forth by the court.

**REGULATIONS**

[Anadromous Fish Act (AS 16.05.871- .901)](http://www.legis.state.ak.us/basis/folioproxy.asp?url=http://wwwjnu01.legis.state.ak.us/cgi-bin/folioisa.dll/stattx10/query=16!2E05!2E871/doc/%7B@1%7D?firsthit)

[Fishway (or Fish Passage Act AS 16.05.841)](http://www.legis.state.ak.us/basis/folioproxy.asp?url=http://wwwjnu01.legis.state.ak.us/cgi-bin/folioisa.dll/stattx10/query=16!2E05!2E841/doc/%7B@1%7D?firsthit)

**Other Resources**

[Permit Applications - Habitat Permits](http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=uselicense.permit_applications)

[Alaska Statute](http://www.legis.state.ak.us/basis/folioproxy.asp?url=http://wwwjnu01.legis.state.ak.us/cgi-bin/folioisa.dll/stattx10/query=16!2E05!2E871/doc/%7B@1%7D?firsthit)

[Alaska Fish Resource Monitor](https://adfg.maps.arcgis.com/apps/MapSeries/index.html?appid=a05883caa7ef4f7ba17c99274f2c198f)

[Example Permit Application (for culvert installation)](http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/static/license/uselicense/pdfs/fhpermitapp_culvertexample.pdf)

**Questions**

1. Q: What type of habitat permit would you apply for if you were wanting to cross a stream at a pre-approved location?

A: Trick question, you would not need to apply but should possess a copy of the general permit at the time of crossing.

1. Q: What is the maximum vehicle weight allowed for boat launching under a general permit?

A: 10,000 pounds

1. Q: How many habitat section offices exist within the state of Alaska?

A: 6 (+ credit for naming them: Anchorage, Craig, Douglas, Fairbanks, Palmer, and Soldotna)