



US Army Corps
of Engineers

Alaska District
Regulatory Branch
Post Office Box 898
Anchorage, Alaska 99506-0898

Public Notice

Date: June 26, 1992

Identification No SPN 92-9

In reply refer to above Identification Number

SPECIAL PUBLIC NOTICE 92-9

Corps of Engineers Regulatory Program Applicant Supplied Jurisdictional Determinations

The requirement to make jurisdictional determinations (JDs) of waters of the United States (U.S.), including wetlands, for Department of the Army (DA) permit requirements constitutes an increasingly significant portion of the workload of the Alaska District regulatory program. In the Alaska District, this body of work coupled with a restricted field inspection season, is a major cause of time delays in responding to requests for determinations of jurisdiction and the need for DA permits.

Accordingly, the Corps of Engineers (Corps) encourages all permit applicants and others requiring jurisdictional determinations to provide a preliminary jurisdictional determination (PJD) with their permit application or other requests for determinations of jurisdiction. Time delays in responding to requests for JDs would be reduced where the application or request is accompanied by a suitable PJD supplied by the applicant or requester. It is emphasized that providing a PJD with permit applications or other requests is optional. The Corps will continue to honor and process all permit applications and requests for jurisdictional determinations whether or not a PJD is provided.

While many agencies and larger corporations may possess in-house expertise to perform PJDs, those who do not may wish to retain the services of a consulting firm. A list of firms which have indicated to the Corps that they have the expertise to perform wetland delineations on a consulting basis is attached to this Special Public Notice. The Corps neither endorses nor certifies the organizations listed, however, PJDs which are adequately documented will be accepted by the Corps. Consulting firms interested in inclusion on the list are encouraged to contact this office.

Applicants and requesters are under no obligation to accept wetland JDs performed by any agency other than the Corps of Engineers or the Environmental Protection Agency. The Corps is the final authority for the validity of PJDs performed by any agency or other entity. However, if an applicant or requester is willing to accept a wetland boundary determined by the Environmental Protection Agency, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, or the Soil Conservation Service, and if a written statement from one of these agencies confirming that boundary is included with the PJD, the Corps will normally accept the PJD.

The Corps is the final authority with respect to the delineation of wetland areas and other waters of the U.S., as well as the determination of activities requiring DA permits. All wetland jurisdictional determinations must be conducted and documented in accordance with the 1987 Corps of Engineers Wetlands Delineation Manual (Technical Report Y-87-1, dated January, 1987). The Corps will review all PJDS to verify their accuracy and consistency with the requirements of the manual. Copies of wetland delineation forms are available upon request at the address listed below.

Assistance and further information regarding the above and all other aspects of the Corps of Engineers Regulatory Program may be obtained by contacting:

Regulatory Branch
Corps of Engineers
Post Office Box 898
Anchorage, Alaska 99506-0898
(907) 753-2712

or

Toll free, in Alaska only, (800) 478-2712
FAX (907) 753-5567

District Engineer
Alaska District, Corps of Engineers