

May 2015

NOME DREDGERS RESOURCE GUIDE

A quick guide for 2015 dredging activities in Nome, Alaska

State of Alaska



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INTRODUCTION

This guide provides operators with important safety, regulatory, and legal information for conducting gold dredging off the coast of Nome, Alaska. The guide does not include every rule, regulation, or permit in full. Materials presented here may change. Permits vary depending on the mine plan, equipment size, and area of operation. No single guide can provide the appropriate process for permitting every operation. Additional information, on a case by case basis, will be necessary to ensure that you have the proper permits and safety equipment for your specific operation. This guide includes relevant agency contacts and web links following each subject. Please check with online and agency resources for the most up to date information.

THE DEADLINE FOR FILING PERMITS TO MINE IN THE PUBLIC MINING
AREAS IN NOME IN 2015 IS MAY 31, 2015.

NO APPLICATIONS FOR THE 2015 MINING SEASON WILL BE ACCEPTED
FOR THESE AREAS AFTER THAT DATE.

THE CITY OF NOME WOULD LIKE TO REMIND MINERS THEY ARE
RESPONSIBLE FOR THE REMOVAL OF ALL CAMPING AND OPERATION DEBRIS, TRASH,
AND EQUIPMENT AFTER THEY SUSPEND THEIR OPERATION.

GENERAL

NOME

Nome is located on the southern coast of the Seward Peninsula in Norton Sound. The population is approximately 3,700. There are currently no roads to Nome, although a regional network of roads extends to neighboring communities. Nome is accessed by air and barge services. Additional sources of information about Nome can be found through the convention and visitor's bureau, the City of Nome, and the local paper, *The Nome Nugget*.

- Nome Convention and Visitors Bureau <http://www.visitnomealaska.com/index.html>
 - Gold Dredging <http://www.visitnomealaska.com/nome-gold-dredging.html>
- City of Nome <http://www.nomealaska.org/>
- *The Nome Nugget* <http://www.nomenugget.net/>

NOME OFFSHORE PUBLIC MINING AREA AND DREDGING

Suction dredging is a popular form of recovering gold from placer gravels in freshwater streams and in marine sediments. Suction dredges are categorized by the size of the intake hose (nozzle) and horsepower of the pump engine. The Department of Natural Resources (DNR) provides a fact sheet with further information about suction dredging in Alaska. DNR provides additional information for those who are interested in gold dredging specifically in the area offshore of Nome. DNR has three Public Information Centers (PIC) where information may be sought in person or over the phone. The PICs are in Juneau, Fairbanks, and Anchorage. General information in this document is typically followed by specific agency contacts. Where that is not the case, the PIC is the best source for additional information.

The East and West Nome Beach Public Mining Areas are the only areas where people are allowed to suction dredge for gold on public land offshore of Nome without a mining lease. Commercial operations are not allowed in these areas. DNR has specific rules for mining in the Nome public mining areas. A map and coordinates depicting these areas are also available from DNR. Although some information from the following documents is summarized in this guide, please refer to the documents in their entirety to ensure a safe and legal offshore dredging season in Nome.



Review the following documents BEFORE beginning your mining activities:

- Suction Dredging Fact Sheet http://dnr.alaska.gov/mlw/factsht/mine_fs/suctiond.pdf
- Other DNR mining fact sheets <http://dnr.alaska.gov/mlw/factsht/>
- Nome Mining homepage and Notice to the Public Interested in Mining Offshore of Nome, Alaska <http://dnr.alaska.gov/mlw/mining/nome/>
- Suction Dredge Rules & Requirements & Permit Stipulations for the Nome East and West Public Beach Mining Areas http://dnr.alaska.gov/mlw/mining/nome/Nome_stipulations.pdf
- West Nome Beach Public Mining Area Map <http://dnr.alaska.gov/mlw/mining/nome/WestNomeBeachPublicMiningArea.pdf>

Public Information Centers and locations (PIC) <http://dnr.alaska.gov/commis/pic/>

Anchorage PIC

Robert T. Atwood Building
550 W. 7th Ave, Suite 1260
Anchorage, AK 99501
Ph 907-269-8400
Fax 907-269-8901
TDD 907-269-8411
Email dnr.pic@alaska.gov

Fairbanks PIC

3700 Airport Way
Fairbanks, AK 99709
Ph 907-451-2705
Fax 907-451-2706
TDD 907-451-2770
Email fbx-pic@alaska.gov

Southeast Land Section (PIC)

400 Willoughby Ave, 4th Floor
Juneau, AK 99801
Ph 907-465-3400
Fax 907-586-2954
Email sero@alaska.gov



STIPULATIONS AND PERMITS

PERMIT STIPULATIONS FOR THE NOME EAST AND WEST BEACH PUBLIC MINING AREAS Generally, the permit stipulations will apply in both public mining areas at Nome. The stipulations will be as follows:

No individual or association of individuals or a company may hold an interest in the operation of more than one suction dredge in the two public mining areas combined. The intent of this stipulation is to prevent any individual, association of individuals, or company from leasing out a number of dredges to be operated in the public mining areas and retaining a royalty on production from the dredges. Individuals or companies may rent multiple dredges for use in the public mining areas, but the dredges must be rented at a set rental rate, with no royalty on production.

West Beach Public Mining Area

- Suction dredge miners will be limited to six-inch or less suction nozzles with no more than 23 horse power pump engines. This limitation is to maintain the small/recreational mining character of the public mining area, and to extend the life of the resource in the new area.

East Beach Public Mining Area

- Suction dredge miners will be limited to eight-inch or less nozzles with no more than 46 horse power pump engines. These conditions and limitations have been in place for this area for several years now.

Both East and West Nome Beach Public Mining Areas

- Miners must maintain a minimum 75 feet distance between dredges. The first miner on site establishes their position; miners arriving later must locate with no part of their operation, dredge, anchors, or divers less than the separation distances cited above from prior miner's dredges.
- There is no winter (under-ice) dredging allowed in the East and West public mining areas. Winter dredging is only allowed on leases and mining claims.
- Suction dredges are only allowed in the two offshore public mining areas when occupied by the miner. Miners may not leave their suction dredge anchored in the public mining areas and go ashore.
- A floating suction dredge or a stationary high banker operated below the mean high tide is the only equipment allowed in the recreational mining areas. Tracked, wheeled and mechanical equipment are not allowed.
- Miners may not leave their suction dredge anchored overnight unless they are on the dredge during the night.
- Miners may not leave any type of marker to secure a location for their exclusive mining on future days.
- A miner only occupies a location while their dredge is on that location and they are in operation.
- The miner must be in the water. All of the uplands at Nome are privately owned. Avoid submerged claims. Any miners mining or camping on the beach or tundra above the beach will be in trespass unless they have permission from the land owner. Trespass is not allowed and is grounds for revocation of a miner's permit.
- Permits can be revoked for failure to follow stipulations or for aggressive behavior.
- Miners operating in either of the public mining areas will confine their operations to those public mining areas. Miners will not venture outside of the public mining areas without first being added to an approved mining claim or lease tract owner's Plan of Operation via the Nome Operator Supplemental form. Upon reasonable evidence that a miner operating in either of these two public mining areas is not in compliance with the above stipulation requirements, the miner's permit may be revoked and the miner will not be allowed to operate in the public mining areas.
- Offshore dredge operators do not have exclusive use of the Nome offshore. Small and slow-moving, suction dredges present a navigational hazard to harbor traffic and fisherman.



ENVIRONMENTAL MONITORING

- Monitoring will be required based on the size of suction dredge or other mining method and water depth.
- In addition to Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) requirements, the following are minimum monitoring requirements:
- The permittee must maintain a daily log for each piece of mining equipment (i.e. suction dredge, mechanical dredge) containing accurate GPS coordinates defining boundaries of mined areas, total acreage, water depths, and substrate type (i.e. sand, gravel, cobbles etc.) disturbed by mining. Logs must be made available to the authorized officer or a representative for inspection.
- All logs must be submitted to DNR with annual reclamation statements. Copies are acceptable.
- Turbidity must be monitored in accordance to DEC monitoring requirements.

Additional monitoring may be required by the authorized officer on a case-by case basis to address particularly sensitive environments or to avoid, minimize or mitigate significant adverse impacts.

NOME OFFSHORE LEASES

On September 28, 2011, DNR held a competitive sale for offshore mineral leases at Nome. Lease tracts had not been offered for this offshore area since 1999. Bids were submitted by a range of individuals and companies, from small scale miners to larger, international corporations. The lease tract owner is responsible for submitting an Plan of Operations via the Application for Permit to Mine in Alaska (APMA) that includes all equipment and operators who plan to mine within the lease tract. Operators may not mine on leases or mining claims without first being added to an Approved Plan of Operation (APO) via the Nome Operator Supplemental form. It is the lease tract owner's responsibility to ensure all operators are included in the APO and to have a current copy onboard their dredge. (APO– described in detail in the Permits section.) Failure to comply with these requirements may result in a revocation of an existing APO and/or APMA. Under-ice dredging is only allowed on leases and mining claims and only in depths not to exceed 30 feet.

- 2011 Nome Offshore Mining Lease Sale Tract Location Map
http://dnr.alaska.gov/mlw/mining/nome/Nome_Offshore_Overview.pdf
- 2011 Nome Offshore Lease Coordinates
<http://dnr.alaska.gov/mlw/mining/nome/2011NomeOffshoreLeaseCoordinates.pdf>

PERMITS

The following permits, licenses, and rules apply for all sizes of suction dredge operations in East and West Nome Beach Public Mining Areas. Six-inch or smaller suction dredges with no more than 18 hp engines operating outside either the East or West Public Mining Areas, mining claims or lease tract area do not require a DNR Miscellaneous Land Use Permit (MLUP) or Approved Plan of Operation (APO); however, they do require a general permit from DEC.



Application for Permits to Mine in Alaska

An Application for Permits to Mine in Alaska (APMA) will be required for all sizes of dredges in public mining areas, mining claims, and lease tracts (the APMA will act as the application for the Approved Plan of Operation (APO) for offshore leases and claims). The APMA allows an applicant to file for permits from state and federal agencies using a single application. The APMA process is dependent on the location and type of operation submitted in your application. This requirement will allow the DNR to revoke permits for miners who do not follow the aforementioned stipulations for operating in the public mining areas.

- A \$150 processing fee must accompany the application for the first year. The APMA may be filed for a period of up to five years, with an additional fee of \$50 for each additional year.
- This is the coordinated effort for permitting oversight by multiple agencies with DNR as the lead.
- The APMA needs to be completed and approved annually. However, for multi-year APMAs only the Reclamation Plan, annual Reclamation Statement (due no later than December 31), and Bond Renewal (if applicable) need be submitted each year after the first year.
- Additional information may be required for permits issued by the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC), the Alaska Department of Fish and Game-Division of Habitat (ADFG), and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE).
- Permits are subject to revocation if trespassing, or if any rules, regulations, or stipulations are not followed.
- Miners must display the last four digits of their APMA number. The numbers must be at least 16 inches high and 10 inches wide and visible on the shoreward side of the dredge at all times.
- Miners must maintain a 300 foot buffer from any part of a set net; if your operation is mechanical or uses an eight inch or larger nozzle you must maintain a 500 foot buffer from set nets.
- APMA Fact Sheet http://dnr.alaska.gov/mlw/factsht/mine_fs/apmathru.pdf
- 2015 APMA Suction Dredging Forms <http://dnr.alaska.gov/mlw/forms/15apma/applicationpacket.pdf>
- 2015 Nome Offshore Operator Supplemental Information Form http://dnr.alaska.gov/mlw/forms/15apma/nome_offshore_operator_supplement.pdf

Contact: Lease/Claims:
Division of Mining, Land and Water
550 W. 7th Ave, Suite 900B
Anchorage, AK 99501-3577
Richard Lessard Ph 907-269-7889
Fax 907-269-8949
Email richard.lessard@alaska.gov

Contact APMA:
Division of Mining, Land and Water
3700 Airport Way
Fairbanks, AK 99709
Ph 907-451-2774 and 907-458-6887
Fax 907-451-2703
Email dnr.fbx.mining@alaska.gov
David Charron
Ph. 907-458-6887
david.charron@alaska.gov

Nome DNR Contact:
Nicholas Kimmel
Division of Mining, Land and
Water-Nome Contact
214 Front Street Suite 333
Nome, AK 99762
Ph 907-443-3546 Fax 907-443-3588
nicholas.kimmel@alaska.gov

Applications for the following permits are applied for through the APMA process described above.

Department of Natural Resources (DNR)

There have been three significant changes to the permitting process for Nome. While the DNR has changed the procedure and policy for permitting in the Nome offshore, at this time, DNR has not made changes to existing regulations.

These changes were implemented on 01/01/2015:

- 1) DNR is requiring all dredge vessels or water craft used for a mining operation to be registered with the State of Alaska Division of Motor Vehicles (DMV) unless exempted under AS 05.25.055 (i). Also, DNR is requiring all dredge vessels to undergo a USCG dockside safety inspection. Both DMV and USCG decals



must be properly displayed. The DNR will issue temporary waivers from the dockside safety exam, upon reasonable justification, until such time that a Coast Guard Inspector is available to conduct an examination.

- 2) DNR is issuing a different type of permit now called an APPROVED PLAN OF OPERATION (APO) rather than a MISCELLANEOUS LAND USE PERMIT (MLUP) for mining operations on lease tracts and mining claims. These authorizations are very similar in that the APMA application is still the application process, but the authorization is issued under different regulations. No changes have been made to the permitting process for miners operating in the East and West Nome Public Mining Areas. They will still be issued a MLUP.
- 3) In the past, DNR would issue multiple authorizations per lease tract or mining claim. Now, DNR will issue one all-encompassing Approved Plan of Operation (APO) that will include all operators. APMA's for mining operations on lease tracts or mining claims are to be submitted to DNR by the mineral estate owner or an agent for the mineral estate owner.

To ensure APMA applications are processed smoothly, each operator should submit the Nome Operator Supplemental Information Form to the mineral estate holder of the lease tract or mining claim for submission to DNR. This form contains the following information:

1. Name, Address, Contact Phone Number (Email if available)
2. Name and Phone Number of other known operators on the dredge (if more than one)
3. Detailed list of equipment including vessel type and size, dredge type, dredge nozzle size and horsepower
4. DEC General Permit # (If you have already been issued a DEC GP, a number that begins with an AKG prefix. Please include this number on the form to avoid duplication for DEC).
5. Vessel registration number (Either a State of Alaska Vessel Registration Number or a registration number valid in another state)
6. Estate owner approving operator and duration of authorization
7. Operator's housing information

The Nome Operator Supplemental Form is available in the Nome DNR field office or online at http://dnr.alaska.gov/mlw/forms/15apma/nome_offshore_operator_supplement.pdf

What does this mean if you previously mined in the Public Mining Areas?

There will be no changes to operations solely in the East and West Beach Public Mining Areas for the 2015 summer season. All permits issued in 2014 expired on December 31, 2014. Reclamation Statements and Reclamation Plan/Letter of Intent are required to be submitted by December 31st of each year and will queue the issuance of a new permit until the multi-year application expires. Permits will not automatically be reissued for operations which fail to submit the required Reclamation Statement and Reclamation Plan/Letter of Intent.

If you applied for a single year APMA or your Multi-Year APMA expired in 2014 you will need to submit a new 2015 Application.

What does this mean if you previously mined on lease tracts or mining claims?

If a miner is the mineral estate owner of a lease tract or mining claim they are responsible for filing an APMA to DNR that will include all operations on the lease tract or mining claim. If other operators would like to work on the lease tract or mining claim the operator would need to submit the Nome Operators Supplemental form to the mineral estate owner who will submit the form to DNR. The DNR will then issue an Approved Plan of Operation including a list of names of approved operators.

If a miner is not the mineral estate owner for a lease tract or mining claim then the miner would need to submit the Nome Operators Supplemental Information Form to the lease tract or mining claim owner to be included in their Plan of Operation. Once approved by the mineral estate owner and submitted the DNR will issue an Approved Plan



of Operations to the mineral estate owner with a list of approved operators. The operator should be aware of the expiations date on the supplemental form from the lease/claim owner. The mineral estate owner is responsible for distributing copies to operators.

Miners who currently have an APMA but are NOT MINERAL ESTATE OWNERS have 2 options:

- 1) Amend their APMA Application to meet the limits for the Recreation Areas.
- 2) Contact the DNR office in writing and request a refund for the remaining years of their APMA.

The DNR Mining Section relies on the cooperation of the mining public and lease tract or mining claim owners to enable DNR to implement an efficient process authorizing and monitoring the mining activities occurring in the offshore region. Thank you to the miners and the mining public for their continued support and patience.

Department of Fish and Game Office (ADF&G)

Fish Habitat Permits

Any activity or project that is conducted below the ordinary high water mark of any fish bearing water body requires review by ADF&G. All activity in anadromous waters requires a Fish Habitat Permit, and any activity that could impede fish passage in a resident fish stream also requires a Fish Habitat Permit.

Anadromous Stream Restrictions

- As a general rule, all mining is prohibited year-round within the 0.5 mile distance (radius) from any anadromous river mouth. Additionally, for 10 inch and larger suction dredge or mechanical placer mining operations, such as an excavator on a barge, mining within the 1 mile distance (radius) of any anadromous river mouth between the annual dates of June 1 – July 15 is prohibited. Exceptions to these mining prohibitions for the following anadromous rivers are as follows:
- Mining offshore of the mouths of the Snake River, Penny River and Cripple River, between the annual dates of September 15 to December 1, is allowed to a distance of 500 feet from the mouth of these rivers.
- At no time, from September 15 to December 1, may any mining operation be closer than 500 feet to these three river mouths.

Contact:

Alaska Department of Fish and Game
Division of Habitat
1300 College Road
Fairbanks, AK 99701
Ph 907-459-7289; Fax 907-459-7303

Website <http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=habitatregulations.prohibited>

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE)

A USACE permit could be required for:

- Mechanical land clearing
- Backfilling
- Mine cuts
- Construction of a stream diversion
- Some road construction activities
- Suction dredging in a stream or offshore
- Website <http://www.poa.usace.army.mil/Missions/Regulatory.aspx>

Contact:

U.S. Army Corps Engineers
Regulatory Branch-Permit Review Section
P.O. Box 6898
Elmendorf AFB, AK 99506-6898
Toll Free within Alaska 1.800.478.2712
Calling from outside of Alaska 1.907.753.2712

Regional General Permit (GP) POA-2007-372-MI, Floating Recovery Devices in Navigable Waters of the United States, For the Purpose of Mineral recover, in the State of Alaska

<http://www.poa.usace.army.mil/Portals/34/docs/regulatory/specialpns/gp2007372m1spn.pdf>



Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC)

Water Quality

A wastewater discharge permit is required for dredging.

- Suction dredges and mechanical dredges can be covered under one of the following general permits.
 - Small Suction Dredge General Permit (dredges with nozzles less than or equal to six-inches)
 - Available at: http://dec.alaska.gov/Water/WPSdocs/AKG375000_docs.pdf
 - Medium Suction Dredge General Permit (dredges with nozzles greater than six-inches and less than or equal to ten-inches)
 - Available at: http://dec.alaska.gov/Water/WPSdocs/AKG371000_docs.pdf
 - Large Dredge General Permit (suction dredges with nozzles greater than ten-inches and mechanical dredges)
 - Available at: http://dec.alaska.gov/Water/WPSdocs/AKG374000_docs.pdf
- All suction dredges and mechanical dredges shall
 - Maintain a copy of the permit on the dredge;
 - Avoid dredging of concentrated silt and clay that creates significant turbidity;
 - Ensure that turbidity plumes do not overlap with plumes from other active dredges; and
 - Not mine when sea ice is present, unless otherwise authorized (see below).
- Suction dredges with intake nozzle diameters larger than six-inches or with pump engines greater than 23 horsepower and mechanical dredges must keep daily records of turbidity monitoring and submit an annual report to DEC before January 31. Additionally, DNR requires all dredges keep daily records and submit them to DNR yearly as per the Environmental Monitoring stipulation of an MLUP or APO.
 - Forms are available at: <http://dec.alaska.gov/water/Compliance/permittee.html>.
- Under-ice operation is restricted as follows.
 - Suction dredges with intake nozzle diameters less than or equal to ten-inches:
 - Allowed, provided that under-ice operation is indicated on the APMA or on separate application submitted to DEC.
 - Limited to water depths less than or equal to 30 feet.
 - Suction dredges with intake nozzle diameters greater than ten-inches or mechanical dredges:
 - Currently not allowed under a general permit.
 - Must be covered by an individual permit with a separate application process.

Contact:

Nick Dallman, Placer Mine Coordinator

Ph 907-451-2142

Email nicholas.dallman@alaska.gov

Website <http://dec.alaska.gov/water/index.htm>

Mercury

If you encounter mercury or other pollutants, do not return them to the water. Mercury is highly toxic, particularly when heated to extract gold. Mercury vapors are released into the air and can be inhaled. Mercury may also be ingested when you eat contaminated food. Dredge permits do not authorize the addition of mercury or other chemicals for the enhancement of mineral recovery.

- DEC Mercury in the Environment <http://dec.alaska.gov/eh/docs/sw/Mercury%20Fact%20Sheet.pdf>
- Department of Health and Social Services (DHSS) Mercury, Gold Mining and Health Fact Sheet <http://www.epi.hss.state.ak.us/eh/MercuryGoldMiningFactsheet.pdf>

For more information contact: The Environmental Public Health Program at 907-269-8000



Solid Waste, Food Service, Sewage, and Drinking Water

The following permits are not included in the APMA process, but are pertinent if you are applying for a camp permit on state land. A separate application must be submitted to DEC. Also note that any hazardous waste encountered or generated by placer mining operations must be shipped out and disposed of at a facility permitted to accept hazardous waste.

Solid waste permit for domestic waste

Contact:

Neil Lehner, Industrial Waste Specialist

Ph 907-451-2134

Email neil.lehner@alaska.gov

Website <http://dec.alaska.gov/eh/sw/permitapps.htm>

Food service permit for camps serving 13 or more people

Contact:

Lorinda Lhotka, Environmental Program Manager

Ph 907-451-2119

Email lorinda.lhotka@alaska.gov

Website http://dec.alaska.gov/eh/fss/Food/Temp_Camp_Home.html

Sewage disposal

Contact:

Marie Klingman, Environmental Program Specialist

Ph 907-451-2101

Email marie.klingman@alaska.gov

Website <http://dec.alaska.gov/water/wwdp/dmww/dmww.htm>

Drinking water

Contact:

Lee Johnson, Engineer

Ph 907-451-2179

Email lee.johnson@alaska.gov

Website <http://dec.alaska.gov/eh/dw/index.htm>

All of the individuals above share this address:

Department of Environmental Conservation

610 University Ave

Fairbanks, AK 99709

Website <http://dec.alaska.gov/index.htm>



TAXES, RENTS, AND ROYALTIES

MINING LICENSE TAX

Alaska levies a mining license tax on mining net income and royalties received in connection with mining properties and activities in Alaska. A person engaging in the business of mining in the state must obtain a license from the Department of Revenue. New mining operations may be exempt from the tax for three and one-half years after production begins; however, a mining license must be in possession during that time. To qualify for the exemption an Affidavit of Initial Production must be recorded in the recording district in which the operation is located.

Mining licensees are required to file an annual return that is due before April 30 for the previous calendar year's business.

- Mining License Tax with link to forms
<http://www.tax.alaska.gov//programs/programs/index.aspx?60610>
- Mining Forms with links to Affidavit of Initial Production for Mining
<http://dnr.alaska.gov/mlw/forms/?tab=mining>

Contact: Cecilia Torres Blanco
Department of Revenue Tax Division
550 W 7th Ave, Ste 500
Anchorage, AK 99501-3566
Ph (907) 269-1017
Email cecilia.licht@alaska.gov

PRODUCTION ROYALTY

Alaska requires a production royalty on all revenues received from minerals produced on state land including in the East and West Nome Beach Public Mining Areas. Minerals produced include any mineral extraction or leached in place from the surface or subsurface and sold or removed from the state. The royalty is three percent (3%) of net income determined under your mining license tax. A production royalty return must be prepared and submitted before May 1 from the previous calendar year. Unlike the mining license tax, new operations are not exempt.

Production royalty returns on tide and submerged lands are to be filed by both the lease/claim holder and each of the operators listed on the APMA. The lease/claim holder is responsible for filing a production royalty return for all royalties received and any locatable minerals produced as part of their own operation. Operators are responsible for filing a production royalty return for all the locatable minerals produced except that which is paid to the lease/claim holder. Failure of either the lease/claim holder or operator to file a production royalty return may result in the lease being placed in default or claim abandoned. For miners that operate on multiple leases/claims only one production royalty return is required. Miners operating in the East and West Nome Beach Public Mining Areas must file a production royalty return as a condition of their permit.

Production Royalty Fact Sheet
http://dnr.alaska.gov/mlw/factsht/mine_fs/producti.pdf

Mining Forms with link to Production Royalty on Locatable Minerals
<http://dnr.alaska.gov/mlw/forms/?tab=mining>

Contact: Richard R. Lessard
Division of Mining, Land and Water
55 W. 7th Ave, Suite 900B Anchorage, AK
99501-3577
Ph 907-269-7889
Fax 907-269-8949
Email richard.lessard@alaska.gov



LABOR AND RENT FOR LEASEHOLDERS

Offshore Nome area leaseholders and claim owners must also file an annual affidavit of labor and pay annual rent.

- Annual Rental Fact Sheet http://dnr.alaska.gov/mlw/factsht/mine_fs/annualre.pdf
- Annual Labor Fact Sheet http://dnr.alaska.gov/mlw/factsht/mine_fs/annuala.pdf
- Mining Forms with links to Affidavit of Annual Labor Form and Rental Calculation Worksheet for
- Mineral Locations on State-Owned Land <http://dnr.alaska.gov/mlw/forms/?tab=mining>

FISHING AND ENVIRONMENT

SUBSISTENCE AND PERSONAL USE

Norton Sound and Port Clarence residents have relied on fish for cultural and nutritional sustenance for thousands of years. Subsistence and personal use set netting for fish occurs in the East and West Nome Beach Public Mining Areas and other locations offshore of Nome. Set nets are a type of gill net operation where the nets are up to 50 fathoms (300 feet) in length and are anchored at both ends just offshore marked with buoys. Adjacent nets are required to be 300 feet apart. Spin fishing (using a rod and reel) may occur along the drainages up and down the Nome coast.



Deploying or retrieving a set net in Cook Inlet, Alaska. Courtesy of ADF&G.

Offshore mining operators using suction dredge and mechanical placer mining equipment must implement the following buffer around these set nets. Maps are available at the Nome DNR office.

- Miners must maintain a 300 foot buffer from any part of a set net; if your operation uses an 8 inch or larger nozzle or is a mechanical placer mining operation (e.g. excavator with a wash plant on a barge or vessel), you must maintain a 500 foot buffer from set nets.
- As a general rule, all mining is prohibited year-round within the 0.5 mile distance (radius) from any anadromous river mouth. Additionally, for 10 inch and larger suction dredge or mechanical placer mining operations, such as an excavator on a barge, mining within the 1 mile distance (radius) of any anadromous river mouth between the annual dates of June 1 – July 15 is prohibited. Exceptions to these mining prohibitions for the following anadromous rivers are as follows:
 - Mining offshore of the mouths of the Snake River, Penny River and Cripple River, between the annual dates of September 15 to December 1, is allowed to a distance of 500 feet from the mouth of these rivers.
 - At no time from September 15 to December 1, may any mining operation be closer than 500 feet to these three river mouths.

Consistent with guidance in the Northwest Area Plan for State Lands and Department of Alaska Fish & Game, the DNR has implemented the preceding anadromous stream restrictions in all mining authorizations.

If a mining operator damages a set net, they will immediately report the damage to the Department of Fish and Game at 907-443-5167 and Department of Natural Resources at 907-443-3546.



SPORT FISHING

If you want to take fish for personal use in Southern Norton Sound, you must have a sport fishing license and adhere to all general and special regulations.

Fishing and Hunting License General FAQs

<http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=license.general>

Northwestern Drainages 2014 Sport Fishing regulations

<http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/static/regulations/fishregulations/PDFs/northern/2014NNNorthwesternDrainages.pdf>

Contact: Alaska Department of Fish and Game

103 E Front Street

Nome, AK 99762

Ph 907-443-5796 - Sport Fishing Information (summer only)

Website <http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=fishregulations.main>

PRIVATE LAND

The land surrounding Nome is privately owned. The majority of the land is owned by the City of Nome, the Nome Gold Alaska Corporation, and various Alaska Native Corporations. Ownership includes a combination of surface and subsurface rights. As such, you are not allowed to camp on or mine the beach or the uplands of this privately owned land. Because the uplands are all privately owned, any miners mining or camping on the beach or tundra above the beach will be in trespass unless they have written permission from the land owner. Trespass is not allowed and is grounds for revocation of the miner's permit.

For contact information for State and Federal agencies that may be able to assist you with questions concerning mining on State and Federal lands, please see the Nome Convention and Visitors Bureau webpage www.visitnomealaska.com/nome-gold-dredging.html and the individual private land owners and Native Corporations are listed below.

City of Nome

102 Division Street

P.O. Box 281

Nome, AK 99762

Ph 907-443-6663

Email tmoran@nomealaska.org

Website <http://www.nomealaska.org/>

Bering Straits Native Corporation

110 Front Street, Suite 300

Nome, AK 99762

Ph 907-443-5252 Ph 800-478-5079

Fax 907-443-2985

Email info@beringstraits.com

Website <http://www.beringstraits.com/>

Nome Gold Alaska Corporation

P.O. Box 1718

Nome, AK 99762

Ph 907-387-0308

Fax: 907-387-0309

Website <http://nome-gold.com/>

Sitnasuak Native Corporation

400 Bering St

Nome, AK 99762

Ph 907-387-1200

Toll Free 877-443-2632

Fax 907-443-3063

Exec Office Ph 907-387-0496

Website <http://www.snc.org/>

King Island Native Corporation

PO Box 992

Nome, AK 99762

Ph 907-443-5494

Website:

<http://www.kawerak.org/communities/kingsland.html>



SUBMERGED CLAIMS

Upland mining claims can extend into tide and submerged lands if at least two claim corners are at or above mean high water. A number of such claims have been located along the north coast of Norton Sound. This is the case both east and west of Nome and the offshore lease tracts.

Sometimes claims are staked improperly or are “paper staked.” In those cases a certificate of location is recorded, but no claim marker has actually been staked on the ground. Prospective miners should be extremely cautious if purchasing upland mining claims. DNR developed a fact sheet to protect yourself when considering the purchase of an existing claim.

Fact Sheet: Investigate That Claim Before You Buy http://dnr.alaska.gov/mlw/factsht/mine_fs/investig.pdf

HARBOR

Harbor space will be at a premium during the mining season. You should plan your operation such that you may not require space in the Small Boat harbor if occupancy is exceeded. Vessels should have their own trailer to haulout when necessary (during periods of significant overcrowding, i.e.: storm conditions, low visibility, etc.). Familiarize yourself with the Port Tariff Rules and Regulations, Harbor Moorage Policy, and harbor/river permit requirements. Vessel docking permits **must** be obtained in advance prior to launching.

All vessels are required to maintain a functioning VHF marine radio onboard at all times. VHF radios are to remain on Marine Channel 16 while traveling within the navigation channel and approach areas. Users must properly communicate with all other marine traffic when traveling in or out of the Nome Harbor.

Tariff rule and regulations and docking permit rates may be found on the port’s website.

- City of Nome Port & Harbor <http://www.nomealaska.org/department/?fDD=14-0>
- 2015 Ship Schedule http://www.nomealaska.org/egov/docs/1428604875_178771.pdf

Contact:

Port of Nome P.O. Box 281
307 Belmont Street
Nome, AK 99762
Ph 907-443-6619
Email port@nomealaska.org

VESSEL REGISTRATION

Dredges equipped with mechanical propulsion are considered “boats” under both state and federal law, and are subject to the same boating safety equipment and boat registration requirements as other boats.

Dredges that are 5 net tons or more must be federally documented. Documentation information is available at the National Maritime Center website: <http://www.uscg.mil/nvdc/default.asp>.

Dredges smaller than 5 net tons may be federally documented or state registered. The owner must complete a state registration application and pay appropriate fees to the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV).

Contact: Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) Nome Office
214 Front Street #219 (2nd floor of the SITNASUAK Building)
Nome, AK 99762
Ph 907-443-2350

Website <http://doa.alaska.gov/dmv/reg/boat.htm>

Hours: Open Monday through Wednesday and Friday 1:15pm - 4:30pm, Closed Thursdays and weekends



EQUIPMENT REQUIREMENTS AND SAFETY

STATE OF ALASKA REQUIREMENTS

Any floating platform or vessel associated with mining and used to transport persons and equipped with motorized propulsion will be considered a vessel for the purposes of vessel registration and equipment requirements. Mining in marine and navigable waters with a floating vessel is subject to both State and Federal equipment requirements. An individual operating a boat in the State of Alaska must adhere to the following conditions:

- Must carry required equipment (see Alaska Vessel Safety Requirements Summary table on page 15)
- Must register the boat
- Must not operate their boat in a reckless or negligent manner so as to endanger the life or property of another person
- All persons under the age of 13 must wear a USCG-approved personal flotation devices (PFD) / life vests
- Operating a boat under the influence of drugs or alcohol is strictly prohibited.

Sector Anchorage has issued Marine Safety Information Bulletin 05-15 to highlight federal requirements for dredge vessels in Nome.. An electronic copy of the MSIB is available on Sector Anchorage's website at <http://www.uscg.mil/d17/sectoranchorage/msib.asp>.



U.S. Department of
Homeland Security



United States
Coast Guard

Officer in Charge, Marine
Inspection

United States Coast Guard

Western Alaska

P.O. Box 5800

JBER, AK 99505-0800

Staff Symbol: s

Phone: (907) 428-4200

FAX: (907) 428-4218

sector.anchorage@uscg.mil

16710

April 28, 2015

MARINE SAFETY INFORMATION BULLETIN 03-15

Commercial Vessel Safety Requirements for Gold Dredge Operations in Nome, AK

- Ref:
- (a) Customs Service Decision 79-331
 - (b) Title 46 United States Code 55109
 - (c) Title 46 United States Code 2101
 - (d) Title 46 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Subchapter I
 - (e) Title 46 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Subchapter C
 - (f) Title 46 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) 67.7
 - (g) Title 33 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) 173
 - (h) Title 46 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) 15.805(a)(1)
 - (i) Title 46 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) 15.820
 - (j) Title 46 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) 15.410
 - (k) Title 46 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) 42.07
 - (l) Title 29 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Subpart T

OVERVIEW: The Coast Guard has determined that **gold dredge vessels are commercial vessels**. Effective May 1, 2015, the Coast Guard's outreach and enforcement teams in Nome, AK will regulate the gold dredge fleet using commercial vessel standards. This is a departure from previous years, when the Coast Guard applied recreational standards to gold dredges of less than 300GRT. The specific commercial standards that apply to each vessel will depend on the vessel's length, tonnage, age, area of operation, and means of propulsion. Small suction dredgers will see little difference from years past in the safety equipment standards they must adhere to, while larger excavator dredges may face compliance challenges related to loadline, mariner credentialing and inspection requirements. Sector Anchorage will reach out to operators of larger vessels individually to develop compliance plans to be implemented over the next two dredging seasons (summers 2015 and 2016).

BACKGROUND: The popularity of dredging for gold in the waters near Nome has increased significantly since the early 2000's. The dredging activity takes place within three nautical miles of the territorial sea baseline, and the mining activity is regulated by the State of Alaska Department of Natural Resources. Though Sector Anchorage has used recreational vessel standards as a means of achieving a baseline level of safety within the previously unregulated Nome gold dredge fleet, various commercial vessel standards are more directly applicable to the dredge vessels. Per reference (a), Customs has long held that the term *dredging* means "the use of a vessel equipped with excavating machinery in digging up or otherwise removing submarine material." Reference (b) applies the Coastwise Laws of the United States to vessels engaged in dredging, with the allowance that Alaskan gold dredge vessels may be documented under a *registry* endorsement, or a *coastwise* endorsement as would normally be required. *Registry* and *coastwise* are both endorsements on a vessel's Certificate of Documentation that are not *recreational* endorsements. Though vessels smaller than five net tons need not be federally documented, reference (b) implies that all dredge vessels are, by nature of their function, other than recreational. Reference (c) defines a recreational vessel as one that is "operated primarily for pleasure." Absent regulations that differentiate between commercial and recreational gold dredging, all vessels engaged in dredging for gold should be subject to the same regulatory framework applicable to other vessels not operating purely for pleasure.



PUBLICATIONS AFFECTED: Sector Anchorage MSIB 03-14 and MSIB 03-13 regarding dredge operations in Western Alaska are canceled.

VESSEL TYPES: The Coast Guard considers a *dredge vessel* to be any type of floating dredge, including excavators and dive platforms; the term includes jack-up dredges that float into position, but excludes bottom crawlers. A *self-propelled dredge vessel* has its own motorized propulsion unit(s), while a *non-self-propelled dredge vessel* is a barge that relies on another vessel for movement. The term *towing vessel* applies to any self-propelled vessel used to push or pull a non-self propelled vessel.

TONNAGE: Because many regulations depend on *net tonnage* and *gross registered tonnage (GRT)*, miners must know these measurements for their vessel. For guidance in determining tonnage, visit http://www.uscg.mil/hq/msc/interactive_tonnage.asp.

CERTIFICATES OF INSPECTION: Certain dredge vessels must maintain Coast Guard Certificates of Inspection (COIs) by adhering to the requirements of Reference (d). These vessels include: self-propelled dredges of 300 gross tons or more; and manned non-self-propelled dredges of any size. Operators of vessels requiring COIs should contact Sector Anchorage as soon as possible to discuss inspection plans.

UNINSPECTED DREDGE VESSELS: An uninspected dredge is a vessel that is self-propelled and less than 300 gross tons. Uninspected dredges must adhere to the general commercial vessel safety standards in Reference (e), which are very similar to the recreational boating safety standards the Coast Guard has applied to gold dredge vessels in Nome in previous years.

DOCKSIDE EXAMINATIONS: To aid uninspected dredge operators in understanding and applying uninspected commercial vessel regulations, the Coast Guard will offer dockside safety exams, which will be very similar to the dockside exams the Coast Guard has offered in Nome in previous years. The checklist to be used for this year's exams is included as Enclosure (1). The Coast Guard considers dockside exams for uninspected commercial vessels to be voluntary, but starting in 2015, the State of Alaska Department of Natural Resources will be requiring that dredge vessels pass dockside safety exams in order to engage in mining. Sector Anchorage examiners plan to be in Nome for two periods in June. The first exam window will be from June 9 through 14. The second exam window will be June 22 through 24. A third window in July may be announced later. Starting today, uninspected dredge vessel operators may call Mr. Jeff Ahlgren at Sector Anchorage at (907) 428-4183 to make an examination appointment. The Department of Natural Resources will issue temporary waivers from their dockside exam requirement only if dredge vessel owners can satisfactorily articulate why they have not yet had an opportunity to complete an exam.

REGISTRATION: Each dredge vessel of five net tons or more must hold a valid Certificate of Documentation with a coastwise or registry endorsement in accordance with Reference (f). A self-propelled dredge vessel of less than five net tons may, in lieu of a Certificate of Documentation, be registered with the State of Alaska, (or with another state if the dredge has operated in Alaska for less than 60 days) in accordance with Reference (g).

MERCHANT MARINER CREDENTIALS: A self-propelled dredge vessel of 200 gross tons or more must be operated by a master and chief engineer holding a Coast Guard Merchant Mariner Credential in accordance with Reference (h) and (i) respectively. A towing vessel 26 feet or longer must be operated by a master holding a credential in accordance with Reference (j).

LOADLINES: Each dredge vessel of 79 feet or longer built in 1986 or later (or 150 gross tons or more if built in 1985 or before) must maintain a valid Loadline Certificate in accordance with Reference (k). Dredges may maintain special service loadlines.



DIVE SAFETY: The Coast Guard strongly encourages gold dredge divers to follow the OSHA regulations in accordance with Reference (1). These regulations lay out training, operations, equipment, and recordkeeping requirements that improve diver safety and minimize risk. Two divers have died in Nome while dredging for gold (one in 2011 and one in 2014). Both deaths may have been avoided if the OSHA regulations had been implemented.

AT-SEA ENFORCEMENT: The Coast Guard may conduct underway boardings on dredge vessels off the coast of Nome to ensure compliance with applicable federal regulations. If violations are identified, fines or voyage termination may result.

MARINE CASUALTY REPORTING: Operators of federally documented dredge vessels must immediately report certain types of accidents to Sector Anchorage. Failure to report may result in the imposition of significant fines. More information about casualty reporting requirements is included in Enclosure (2). State-registered vessels must report deaths and serious injuries to the Coast Guard.

MANDATORY POLLUTION REPORTING: Operators must notify the Coast Guard National Response Center if oil or certain other hazardous pollutants enter the ocean, or waters leading to the ocean. This includes pollution spilled on or through the ice during winter dredging, as well as any spills from non-vessels (i.e. bottom crawlers). To report a spill, call 1-800-424-8802.

EMERGENCIES: The Coast Guard Sector Anchorage Command Center operates 24 hours a day, seven days a week, and can be reached via marine radio or by calling 907-428-4100.

CONTACT: Please direct questions or concerns to Sector Anchorage at 907-428-4164. You may also email sector.anchorage@uscg.mil

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Paul Mehler III", is written over a faint circular stamp.

PAUL MEHLER III
Captain, U. S. Coast Guard
Officer in Charge Marine Inspection,
Western Alaska



VOLUNTARY GOLD DREDGE SAFETY EXAMINATION

Coast Guard Sector Anchorage

Inspections Division: 907-428-4161 • anchorage.inspections@uscg.mil
Command Center: 907-428-4100 • sector.anchorage@uscg.mil
Website: <http://www.uscg.mil/dl7/sectoranchorage>



Exam Results

PASS: A Coast Guard examiner has examined this vessel and found that it was in full compliance with applicable vessel safety requirements at the time of the exam. **Issued decal #** _____.

FAIL: This vessel was *not* in full compliance with applicable vessel safety requirements at the time of the exam.

Vessel Particulars

Note: Nome gold dredges require Coast Guard Certificates of Inspection if they are: (a) self-propelled vessels over 300GRT; or (b) manned barges of any size. This form does not apply to these vessels.

Vessel Name:	Official Number or State Number:
AK DNR Mining Permit Number:	Vessel Length:
Recreational Areas Only: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes; <input type="checkbox"/> No	Vessel Gross Registered Tonnage:
Claim(s) worked:	Number of engines: <input type="checkbox"/> none; <input type="checkbox"/> single; <input type="checkbox"/> twin; <input type="checkbox"/> more:
Owner's Name:	<input type="checkbox"/> Gasoline; <input type="checkbox"/> Diesel; <input type="checkbox"/> Other:
Captain's Name:	<input type="checkbox"/> Outboard; <input type="checkbox"/> Inboard; <input type="checkbox"/> Other:
Crew# (max including captain):	Hull type: <input type="checkbox"/> Monohull; <input type="checkbox"/> Catamaran; <input type="checkbox"/> Pontoon

Dockside Exam Details

Date of Exam:	Location of Exam: <input type="checkbox"/> Nome Harbor; <input type="checkbox"/> Beach
Vessel Representative's Name:	<input type="checkbox"/> Other:
Vessel Representative's Role: <input type="checkbox"/> Owner; <input type="checkbox"/> Captain; <input type="checkbox"/> Other:	Previous decal issued: <input type="checkbox"/> No; <input type="checkbox"/> Yes - year:
Vessel Representative's Phone:	USCG Examiner's Name:
Vessel Representative's Email:	USCG Examiner's Phone:
	USCG Examiner's Unit:

Items Required for Decal

GENERAL	REFERENCE	yes	no	n/a
Certificate of Documentation (COD) with coastwise or registry endorsement: required for vessels of 5 net tons or more • min 4" name both sides of bow • min 4" name and hailing port on stern • min 3" official number on interior structural member	46 CFR Subchapter G			
State Certificate of Number: required if vessel has no Certificate of Documentation • must be AK if used in AK 90+ consecutive days • numbers both sides of bow	33 CFR 173 AS 05.25.055			
Merchant Mariner Credentials: required for master and chief engineer if 200 GRT or larger • original MMCs must be on board	46 CFR 15.805 46 CFR 15.820			
Load Line: domestic special service • required for vessels 79ft or longer built since 1986 • required for vessels 150GRT or more built in 1985 or before	46 CFR 42, 44 46 USC 5102			
NAVIGATION AND COMMUNICATION	REFERENCE	yes	no	n/a
Marine VHF Radio: verify transmission on 16	AK DNR Permit			
Navigation Lights: under 39.5ft may combine sidelights into centerline red/green and combine masthead and sternlight into all-around (alternative is separate sidelights, sternlight, mastlight) • 39.5ft up to 164ft need sidelights, sternlight, masthead, all-around anchor light) • 164ft or longer need sidelights, sternlight, 2 mastheads, 1 all-around anchor light, 1 anchor ball (or 2 nd anchor light)	46 CFR 25.10-3 COLREGS Rules 20, 21, 22, 23, 30, Annex I			
Diver Lights and Shapes: for dredges that employ divers • 3 vertically-arranged all-around lights (red-white-red) • rigid International Code Flag A (white and blue)	COLREGS Rule 27(e)			
Tide Tables: for area of operation	46 CFR 26.03			



Charts: <i>may print NOAA Booklet Chart (Norton Sound - Nome Harbor and Approaches)</i>	46 CFR 26.03			
Light List: <i>may print just the two pages relevant to Nome from www.navcen.uscg.gov</i>	46 CFR 26.03			
Coast Pilot 9: <i>may print just 2-page "Chart 16206" section of "Bering Sea" Chapter from www.nauticalcharts.noaa.gov</i>	46 CFR 26.03			
Sound Signaling Appliance: <i>hand-held air horn is acceptable for vessels up to 65.5ft • vessels 65.5ft or longer must have an installed horn</i>	COLREGS Rules 32, 33, Annex III			
Bell: <i>required only for vessels 65.5ft or longer • bell diameter must be min 11.8" (300mm)</i>	COLREGS Rules 32, 33			
Visual Distress Signals: <i>readily accessible • all need 3 red flares (hand-held, rocket and/or parachute) or 1 electric distress light • over 16ft using electric light in lieu of red flares also need orange flag or 3 orange smokes</i>	33 CFR 175 Subpart C			
EPIRB: <i>required if operating more than 3NM from shore • float-free Category 1 • properly registered • battery and release not expired</i>	46 CFR 26-20 46 CFR 26-50			
LIFESAVING	REFERENCE	yes	no	n/a
PFDs (Lifejackets): <i>readily accessible • at least one for each person on board • under 40ft need Type I, II or III • 40ft or longer need Type I • may substitute Type V (if worn) or immersion suit • if workvests are used, store separately</i>	46 CFR 25.25-5 46 CFR 20.25-9 46 CFR 26.30			
PFD Lights: <i>one for each PFD or immersion suit • not expired</i>	46 CFR 25.25-13			
PFD Retro-reflective Tape: <i>min 31 square inches Type I tape each side near shoulders</i>	46 CFR 25.25-15			
Life Ring: <i>required for vessels 26ft or longer • min 20" diameter • immediately available</i>	46 CFR 25.25-5 46 CFR 20.25-9			
FIREFIGHTING AND FIRE PREVENTION	REFERENCE	yes	no	n/a
Fire Extinguishers (up to 65ft): <i>under 26ft need one B-I • 26ft up to 40ft need two B-I's • 40ft up to 65ft need three B-I's • may substitute one B-II for two B-I's • if at least 26ft may substitute fixed machinery space extinguishing system for a B-I • none required under 26ft with outboards and no closed spaces to entrap vapors from fuel tanks</i>	46 CFR 25.30			
Fire Extinguishers (65ft and longer): <i>under 50GRT add one B-II • 50GRT up to 100GRT add two B-II's • 100GRT up to 300GRT add three B-II's • 300GRT up to 500GRT add three B-II's, plus either one B-III (secured to vessel) or a fixed engine space fire-fighting system • for all vessels 65ft or longer, also add a B-II for each 100 break HP of main engines (round up)</i>	46 CFR 25.30			
Ventilation: <i>for vessels with gasoline engines or generators • 2 cowled ducts required for each engine and fuel compartment • intake extending at least half-way down bilge or to carburetor intake • exhaust extending close to bottom of bilge</i>	46 CFR 25.40-1			
Backfire Flame Control: <i>for non-outboard gasoline motors (including generators)</i>	46 CFR 25.35			
POLLUTION PREVENTION	REFERENCE	yes	no	n/a
Marine Sanitation Device: <i>required if piped toilets installed • under 65ft, Type I, II or III • 65ft or longer, Type II or III • Type III discharge locked closed inside 3NM</i>	33 CFR 159			
Oil Retention: <i>no vessel may pump oily bilge water overboard • fixed machinery space discharge piping and pump required if 100GRT or more with no oily water separator</i>	33 CFR 155.350 33 CFR 155.420			
Oil Pollution Placard: <i>required on vessels 26ft or longer in machinery space or near bilge pump controls</i>	33 CFR 155.450			
Garbage Placard: <i>required for vessels 26ft or longer</i>	46 CFR 25.50			
Waste Management Plan: <i>required for vessels 40ft or longer • write down how to collect, store and discharge garbage, plus who is responsible</i>	46 CFR 151.57			

Discussion Items	
Marine casualty reporting requirements	Exhaust (distanced from diver's air intake)
Post-casualty alcohol and drug (DOT) testing	Diver training and communication
Role of fatigue, drugs and alcohol in accidents	Boating and diver safety education courses
PFD wear and man-overboard drowning	Navigation rules (book not required, be familiar with rules)
Pollution reporting (NRC 1-800-424-8802)	Drills (fire, man-overboard, abandon ship)
Housekeeping (reduce fire risk and slip/trip/fall risks)	First aid training and kits (prep for hypothermia)
Heating and cooking systems (fire/explosion danger)	Float plan / emergency contact ashore
Fire extinguisher mounting	Anchor with line/chain ready for use
Machinery guards and grab rails	Bilge pumps and alarms

USCG Use Only: MILSE Entry Complete



COAST GUARD REPORTING

in the Arctic and in Western Alaska (west of 148°26')



Sector Anchorage Command Center

call 24/7 via radio or phone

phone: **907-428-4100**

fax: 907-428-4114

sector.anchorage@uscg.mil



The events described in 46 CFR 4.05 (see page 2) are *Reportable Marine Casualties*. Commercial vessel operators have two reporting responsibilities:

1. Call Sector Anchorage's Command Center **immediately** via radio, sat phone or cell phone to make an initial verbal report. *Note: Immediate reporting is not just for situations in which life or property is in danger; it is required for any incident described in 46 CFR 4.05. If you are unsure about whether or not an event meets the definition, call and ask to discuss the situation with an Investigating Officer.*
2. Complete form CG-2692 and turn it in within **five days** of the accident. Captains can email or fax the form to Sector Anchorage's Command Center, or mail or hand deliver a hard copy to: Sector Anchorage; Marine Safety Detachment Dutch Harbor; Marine Safety Detachment Kodiak; or Marine Safety Detachment Homer.

Some *Reportable Marine Casualties* require follow-up chemical testing. These are *Serious Marine Incidents* (see page 2 for definition). These events require alcohol testing (within 2 hours unless safety concerns delay to within 8 hours) and DOT drug testing (within 32 hours). Not everyone needs to be tested in every event; it is the marine employer's responsibility to determine which crewmembers were directly involved in the incident. Report drug and alcohol testing to the Coast Guard within five days of the accident using form CG-2692b. If drug test results are not available within five days, turn the CG-2692b in and send results later.

Per Coast Guard policy, those involved in *Serious Marine Incidents* should also complete 96-hour work/rest history forms (available at <http://www.uscg.mil/d17/SectorAnchorage/>).



PERSONAL FLOTATION DEVICES (PFD)

While wearing a PFD is only mandatory in Alaska for children under 13 years old, using a PFD while working on the deck of a dredge is highly encouraged. For information about PFD styles that have been tested and reviewed by commercial fishermen for ease of wear while working, visit www.livetobesalty.org.

OVERVIEW

PFDs That Work

Researchers from the NIOSH Alaska Pacific Office asked commercial fishermen from 4 gear groups (crabbers, trawlers, longliners, gillnetters) to rate the comfort and acceptability of six modern personal flotation devices (PFDs). About 200 fishermen evaluated various PFDs for one month while working on deck so that wearable PFDs could be identified.¹

Fishermen evaluated inflatable PFDs and foam PFDs that were either integrated into their rain gear or were worn in addition to raingear. Since deck work and fishing season varies for each gear group, fishermen had different preferences. Each gear group identified PFDs that are comfortable and easy to wear and are currently available for sale. The gear group specific results can be found at www.cdc.gov/niosh/topics/fishing.

Personal Flotation Devices Prevent Fishermen Deaths

The key to finding the proper PFD is to try on many to make sure they will work for the specific activities related to your type of fishing. Working on crowded decks and in close proximity to gear make it vitally important that a PFD not become a snagging hazard. Fishermen who work in colder weather may prefer a PFD with more foam padding for insulation against the weather.



Regatta Fishermen's Oilskins with Flotation



NIOSH researchers teach gillnet fishermen about their inflatable PFDs



Crab fishermen in Dutch Harbor try on two different inflatable PFDs



Inflatable PFDs

- Slim, lighter weight
- Higher maintenance
- Must purchase re-arm kits
- Must be worn over rain gear
- Slightly more expensive

Mustang Inflatable Suspenders (MD3188)



Foam PFDs

- Thicker, sometimes heavier
- Low maintenance
- No accessories needed
- Can be worn under rain gear
- Typically lower cost

Stearns Foam Work Vest (1424)



POLLUTION AND FUEL SPILLS

During vessel refueling, be sure to prevent spills into surface waters or to groundwater. Clean all spills with materials such as sorbent pads and booms. The use of dispersants such as dish soap is prohibited.

The Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation has two 20-foot response Conex's with spill prevention and response materials available located at the Department of Transportation and Public Facilities site north of the City Airfield.

Contact for access:

Evan Booth

Ph 907-443-3411

Alt Ph 907-304-1297

<http://dec.alaska.gov/spar/perp/lra/inventory/nome.pdf>

If pollutants (oil, diesel, chemicals) are spilled into the water or if sheening is observed,
YOU MUST notify: Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation at 1-800-478-9300
and the National Response Center at 1-800-424-8802 or 1-202-267-2675
Online at <http://cgmix.uscg.mil/NRC/>

BOATING SAFETY

Dredge operators do not have exclusive access to the waters offshore of Nome Harbor. Small and slow-moving suction dredges present a navigational hazard to the wide variety of vessel traffic off the coast of Nome as well as to other activities such as fishing. Know and follow all U.S. Coast Guard and Nome Harbor rules and regulations. Respect fishermen and other offshore users.

Most boating fatalities in Alaska result from drowning in cold water while not wearing a life jacket. Cold water immersion can kill in several ways, and most people die long before they become hypothermic. The Alaska Boater's Handbook can provide additional, Alaska-specific information concerning, but not limited to:

- Federal and State safety requirements and equipment
 - Registration requirements and how-to's
 - Additional boating laws
 - Boat capacity, loading, and stability
 - Navigation rules
 - Communication
 - Emergencies
 - The Alaska Boater's Handbook
- <http://www.dnr.alaska.gov/parks/boating/pdf/AlaskaBoater%27sHandbook082010.pdf>

Contact:

Alaska Department of Natural Resources

Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation

Office of Boating Safety

550 West 7th Ave, Suite 1380

Anchorage, AK 99501-3565

Ph 907-269-8705. Cell 907-947-6421

Fax 907-269-8701

Website <http://www.alaskaboatingsafety.org/>



Alaska Marine Safety Education Association (AMSEA)

AMSEA is a source of specialized marine safety and dive safety awareness training, but they are not a dive certification organization. AMSEA:

- Offers training nationwide, including dive awareness training, see website calendar for schedule or call to set up a workshop. <http://www.amsea.org/calendar.html>
- Their education program *Defensive Diving: What Every Tender Should Know About Dive Harvest Safety* introduces dive tenders to vessel safety, basic dive operations, and dive emergencies. It is available for \$20 plus shipping.

Alaska Marine Safety Education Association (AMSEA)
2924 Halibut Point Road
Sitka, AK 99835
Phone 907-747-3287, Fax 907-747-3259
Website <http://amsea.org/index.html>

Center for Disease Control's National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH)

NIOSH also has pertinent information on mine and commercial fishing safety.

Commercial Fishing Safety <http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/topics/fishing/>
Office of Mine Safety and Health Research Information <http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/mining/>
Diver's Beware: Training Dives Present Serious Hazards to Fire Fighters
<http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/docs/wp-solutions/2004-152/pdfs/2004-152.pdf>

National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH)
Jennifer Lincoln
4230 University Drive, Suite 310
Anchorage, AK 99508
Ph 907-271-2382
Email JLincoln@cdc.gov
Website <http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/>

Divers Alert Network (DAN)

DAN is a nonprofit, dive safety organization. DAN's mission is to help divers in need of medical emergency assistance and to promote dive safety through research, education, products, and services.

Divers Alert Network (DAN)
6 West Colony Place
Durham, NC 27705 USA
Phone

- Diving Emergencies (Remember: Call local EMS first, then DAN!) 919-684-9111
- Nonemergency medical questions 800-446-2671 or 919-684-2948, Mon.-Fri., 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m. (ET)
- All other inquiries 800-446-2671 or 919-684-2948

Website <http://www.diversalertnetwork.org/>



Alaska Marine Safety Education Association

2924 Halibut Point Road, Sitka, Alaska 99835-9668
phone 907.747.3287 / fax 907.747.3259 / www.amsea.org



Cold Water Safety and Survival for Gold Divers and Dredgers

**Classes will be offered on an on-demand basis.
Please call if you are interested in organizing a session.**

This hands-on safety training is designed for gold divers and dredge operators. Presentations and lots of hands-on practice on the following topics are covered:

- Seven Steps to Survival – emergency priorities, personal survival and “go” kits
- Cold water survival skills – “Stay Rules,” HELP and Huddle practice
- Cold water near drowning
- Hypothermia prevention and treatment
- Flotation: use and care of immersion suits and PFD choice and maintenance
- Location: emergency beacons - EPIRBs, PLBs & man overboard prevention/response, MAYDAYS and radio use
- Firefighting
- Flooding and damage control
- Vessel stability
- Crew safety orientations and station bills – who does what in an emergency?
- Defensive diving
- Dive tender duties
- Dive hazards
- Dive emergencies and treatment

Pre-registration required

Call: AMSEA 907-747-328

Support Organizations: Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium / National Institute for Occupational Safety & Health / Southeast Alaska Regional Health Consortium / State of Alaska Chronic Disease Prevention & Health Promotion / State of Alaska Office of Boating Safety / University of Alaska Sea Grant, Marine Advisory Program / U.S. Coast Guard Sector Anchorage

EMERGENCY CONTACTS

Alaska State Troopers
P.O. Box 1050
Nome, Alaska 99762
Ph 907-443-5525 or
Ph 907-443-2835

Nome Police
102 Bypass Road
Nome, AK 99762
Ph 907-443-5262
Fax 907-443-2266

Suicide Prevention Council
Alaska Care Line
1-877-266-HELP

US Coast Guard Sector Anchorage Command Center (24/7) **907-428-4100**

City of Nome Volunteer Ambulance Department <http://www.nomealaska.org/department/index.php?fDD=4-0>

Diver Alert Network (DAN)

- DAN Emergency Hotline 919-684-9111 is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week to assist with medical emergencies and to facilitate medical evacuation services.
- DAN also provides a Medical Information Line 919- 684-2948 during normal business hours for non- emergency questions.



ALASKA MINERS ASSOCIATION NOME CHAPTER

The Alaska Miners Association (AMA) Nome Chapter meets at noon at the Polar Café the first Friday of each month during the winter and occasionally during the summer.

AMA Website <http://www.alaskaminers.org/>

Meeting location
Polar Café
225 East Front Street
Nome, AK 99762
Ph 907-443-5191

ACCOMMODATIONS

Accommodations in Nome are limited. Most of the beaches around Nome are privately owned and explicit and prior permission is needed. Adhere to all trespassing and no camping signage. See the section concerning private land owners for their contact information.

- Nome Convention and Visitors Bureau's Places to Stay
<http://www.visitnomealaska.com/places-to-stay-in-nome.html>
- Nome Convention and Visitors Bureau Relocation Guide
<http://www.visitnomealaska.com/relocation-guide.html>
- **THERE ARE NO PRIVATE INDUSTRIAL CAMPGROUNDS IN NOME.**

Salmon Lake Campground

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Nome Field Station maintains Salmon Lake Campground, which is the only designated public campground on Nome's road-system. The campground is located approximately 40 miles north of Nome on the Kougarok Road. The campground offers six campsites with fire pits and picnic tables, a natural boat launch at Salmon Lake, and an outhouse. Depending on road conditions, the campground is open from late June through mid-October.

Contact:
Tom Sparks, BLM Nome Field Station
PO Box 925
Nome, AK 99762
Ph 907-443-2177
Fax 907-443-3611
Email: tsparks@blm.gov
Website <http://www.blm.gov/ak/st/en/fo/ado/nome.html>

NOME COMMUNITY RESOURCES

Copies of the Nome phonebook are often available at the post office. An expanded community resource guide is published here: <http://www.kawerak.org/forms/admin/Nome%20Resource%20Guide.pdf>

Nome Chamber of Commerce
PO Box 250
Nome, Alaska 99762
Ph 907-443-3879
Email visit@mynomealaska.com
2012 Nome Chamber of Commerce Member List <http://www.visitnomealaska.com/chamberpdfweb.pdf>



Nome Convention and Visitors Bureau
301 Front Street
Nome, Alaska 99762
Ph 907-443-6555. Fax 907-443-5832
Email visit@mynomealaska.com
Website <http://www.visitnomealaska.com/index.html>

Hours

- Memorial Day - August 31
Weekdays: 8:00am - 7:00pm
Weekends: 10:00am - 6:00pm
- Winter
Weekdays: 9:00am - 5:00pm
Weekends: Closed

U.S. Post Office
113 W Front St.
Nome, AK 99762-9800
Ph 907-443-2401

Hours

- Weekdays 9:00am – 5:00pm
- Weekend Closed

Norton Sound Regional Hospital
306 West 5th Avenue
Nome, AK 99762
Ph 907-443-3311 / 888-559-3311
Website <http://www.nortonsoundhealth.org/Divisions/Hospital-Services>
City of Nome Swimming Pool
Nome Beltz Jr./Sr. High School
2920 B Nome-Teller Highway
Nome, AK 99762
Ph 907-443-5717
Email skeeney@nomealaska.org
Website <http://www.nomealaska.org/department/division.php?fDD=16-75>

City of Nome Kegoayah Kozga Library
223 Front Street
Address: P.O. Box 1168
Ph 907-443-6628
Email library@nomealaska.org
Website <http://www.nomealaska.org/department/?fDD=9-0>

Hours

- Monday – Thursday Noon - 8:00 pm
- Friday – Saturday Noon - 6:00 pm
- Closed Sundays and Official Holidays



City of Nome Recreation Center

208 East 6th Avenue

Nome, AK 99762

Ph 907-443-5431

Website <http://www.nomealaska.org/departments/division.php?fDD=16-74>

Hours

- Weekdays 5:30am – 10:00pm
- Saturday: 12pm-8pm
- Sunday: 2pm-10pm

The following businesses were listed based on available information. For additional information see:

- Nome Chamber of Commerce Member List 2012
<http://www.visitnomealaska.com/chamberpdfweb.pdf>

MINING RELATED COMMERCIAL SERVICES

Nome Gold Alaska Corporation

P.O. Box 1718

Nome, AK 99762

Ph 907-387-0308

Fax 907-387-0309

Oxford Assaying and Refining Corporation

1st & Bering Street

Nome, AK 99762

907-304-1699

www.oxfordmetals.com

GRC - General Refining Corporation

Ken Hughes, Nome Representative

112 Front St. Suite 109

Nome, AK 99762

Ph 907-304-2175

Ph 800-721-3681

Website:

<http://www.generalrefining.com/about/alaska-nome.php>

Alaska Mining and Diving

3222 Commercial Drive

Anchorage, AK 99501

Ph 907-277-1741

Service 907-279-6113

Fax: 907-279-6398

Toll-Free (inside Alaska Only): 800-478-3444

Email sales@akmining.com

Website <http://www.akmining.com/mining.htm>

GROCERY AND CONVENIENCE STORES

Alaska Commercial Company

Mile 1 Nome Teller Highway

Nome, AK 99762

Ph 907-443-2243

<http://www.acvaluecenter.com/our-stores/location/nome.php>

Nome Liquor

303 Front Street

Nome, AK 99762

Ph 907-443-5461

Nome Trading Company

1008 East Front Street

Nome, AK 99762

Ph 907-443-4856

Bonanza Express

400 Bering Street

Nome, AK 99762

Ph 907-443-5526

Website

<https://www.snc.org/business-operations/petroleum>

Hanson's/Safeway

415 Bering Street

Nome, AK 99762

Ph 907-443-5454



SPORTING GOODS / HARDWARE STORES

There are no designated mining supply stores in Nome. There are several vendors that sell gold pans, classifiers, sniffer bottles and metal detectors. There are also hardware stores that carry general hardware supplies, PVC fittings, hoses, etc.

Alaska Commercial Company
Mile 1 Nome Teller Highway
Nome, AK 99762
Ph 907-443-2243
<http://www.acvaluecenter.com/our-stores/location/nome.php>

Nome Outfitters
120 West 1st Avenue
Nome, AK 99762
Ph 907-443-2880

Nome Trading Company
1008 East Front Street
Nome, AK 99672
Ph 907-443-4856
Fax 907-443-4708

TAXI SERVICE / VEHICLE RENTAL

Checker Cab, Inc.
310 East 4th Avenue
Ph 907-443-5211

E-Z Transportation (taxi service)
Ph 907-443-3000

Dredge no. 7 Inn – car rental for guests only
1700 Teller Highway
Nome, Alaska 99762
Ph 907-304-1270
Fax 907-443-5851
Website <https://www.dredge7inn.com/>

Stampede Vehicle Rentals (Aurora
Inn)
Ph 907-443-3838 / 800-354-4606
Website <http://www.aurorainnome.com/Stampede.htm>

Mr. Kab
Ph 907-443-6000

TRASH REMOVAL

Andersen Services
Ph 907-443-5590