

STATE OF ALASKA  
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION  
410 Willoughby Avenue, Suite 303  
Juneau, Alaska 99801

**REGIONAL SOLID WASTE GENERAL PERMIT  
FOR LAND DISPOSAL OF WOOD WASTE IN ROCK PITS  
IN SOUTHEAST ALASKA<sup>1</sup>**

General Permit No. SWGPWOOD-25

Date Effective: July 28, 2025

Date Expires: July 27, 2030

DEC, under authority of AS 46.03 and 18 AAC 60, issues this regional solid waste general permit for the disposal of small-sized wood waste and associated rock, soil, and mud from timber operations in Southeast Alaska into existing rock pits. The following criteria must be met to conduct disposal under this permit:

- At least 95% of the total fill volume shall be comprised of wood waste or rocks measuring less than 1 cubic foot in size.
- No more than 5% of the total fill volume shall be comprised of wood waste or rocks measuring up to 5 cubic feet in size.
- There shall be no disposal of waste materials larger than 5 cubic feet in size.
- The total volume of waste disposed into a single rock pit may not exceed 25,000 cubic yards.

If the applicant is not able to meet the conditions of this general permit, then an individual permit may be applied for under 18 AAC 60.480.

Written permission of the property owner must be obtained prior to the disposal if the applicant is not the owner of the property. This permit does not relieve the permittee of the responsibility for complying with other state, federal, or local laws.

A person who wishes to dispose of waste under the conditions of this general permit must complete the appropriate application form and submit it to DEC. Waste may not be placed in the disposal site until the DEC has approved the application in writing.

A disposal site authorized under this permit will be subject to the applicable annual fee defined in Table E-4 of 18 AAC 60.700.

The permit holder shall manage and operate the facility in accordance with 18 AAC 60 and the permit application materials submitted to and approved by DEC. In addition, the following general and specific permit conditions and stipulations are required:

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<sup>1</sup> For the purposes of this general permit, Southeast Alaska refers to that portion of the state comprised of the Alexander Archipelago, the City and Borough of Juneau, the Haines Borough, the Municipality of Skagway Borough, and the City and Borough of Yakutat.

## **SPECIFIC CONDITIONS**

### **1. Size and Volume Restrictions**

- a) A maximum of 25,000 cubic yards of wood waste including small-sized rock, mud, soil, and bark is allowed in any landfill authorized by this general permit.
- b) To minimize the potential for air pockets within the wood waste that can lead to and sustain a fire, the particle size of the disposed wood waste shall be limited as follows: At least 95% of the disposed waste must consist of particles measuring less than 1 cubic foot in volume. No more than 5% of the waste disposed can be wood waste or rock measuring up to 5 cubic feet in volume. There shall be no disposal of wood waste or rock measuring greater than 5 cubic feet in volume.

### **2. Site Development and Operating Requirements**

- a) Waste disposal may not occur within 100 feet of any surface water body or within 500 feet of a drinking water well.
- b) Wood waste may not be disposed into standing water within the rock pit. Any standing water within the rock pit and any depressions in the floor of the rock pit in which water might accumulate must be filled with rock or dirt prior to placing any wood waste into the rock pit.
- c) During disposal operations, the disposed waste must be graded and sloped to prevent sloughing onto adjacent roads and ditches and to minimize erosion of the waste. The side slopes of the waste disposal area must not be steeper than a 3(H):1(V) slope.
- d) To minimize leachate formation, the wood waste must be graded so that water from rain and snow melt will run off the waste rather than pool on and sink into the waste.
- e) The wood waste must be placed in compacted layers that are no more than 2 feet thick. Compaction must be achieved by at least 3 passes of a tracked vehicle over the disposed waste.
- f) Ditches and berms must be installed as needed to ensure surface water run-on from outside the rock pit does not flow over or through the covered or uncovered wood wastes.
- g) Drainage from the rock pit shall be controlled to prevent water quality violations in nearby surface water bodies. Any leachate from the wood waste must be contained and controlled within the boundaries of the rock pit.
- h) During the active life of the facility, the landfill operator shall limit unauthorized access to the facility.

### **3. Prohibitions and Special Restrictions**

- a) The following wastes are prohibited from disposal in the wood waste disposal site: hazardous waste, municipal solid waste, putrescible waste, waste oil, oily waste, septic tank pumpings, sewage sludge, metal objects including metal cables and shop waste, asbestos or asbestos waste, and construction/demolition waste.
- b) Fires of any kind and for any purpose are prohibited within the boundaries of the rock pit during the active life of the disposal facility.

### **4. Monitoring and Reporting**

- a) Visually monitor and record observations at the site each month during the operating season on the monitoring form provided in Appendix A.
  - i. Implement as soon as possible all corrective action(s) that are needed to resolve any problem(s) noted during visual monitoring.
  - ii. Contact ADEC within 10 days upon observing evidence of combustion within the waste or possible water quality violations in nearby surface water bodies.
- b) Each calendar year, before December 31, submit a report on the current status of the facility to DEC using the annual reporting form provided in Appendix B.
- c) Keep records of all inspections, visual monitoring, and/or sampling in a place that is readily accessible for inspection.
- d) Retain copies of all reports, monitoring forms, and other records required by this permit until closure is approved by DEC.

### **5. Closure and Post-Closure Care**

- a) Ensure that final cover is applied within 90 days after (1) the last waste is deposited, (2) the waste reaches the final contour of the adjacent land, or (3) the maximum allowable disposal volume of 25,000 cubic yards is reached, whichever comes first.
  - i. Final cover must consist of at least two feet of soil with at least the top six inches capable of promoting successful revegetation of the site. For the purposes of this permit, the soil used for final cover can contain up to 50% wood particles.
  - ii. The landfill must be graded and shaped to promote surface water runoff without erosion or ponding, and minimize the amount of water entering the waste.
  - iii. Exposed side slopes of the completed landfill shall not exceed a grade of 3(H):1(V).

- b) Implement a revegetation effort for the closed site within the first growing season, using plant species recommended by the Alaska Plant Material Center, which can be contacted at (907) 745-4469.
- c) Prepare an as-built survey or other facility record drawings showing the location and boundaries of the wood waste disposal area within the rock pit.
- d) Record the as-built survey or facility record drawings at the State Recorder's Office or other appropriate land records office approved by DEC, along with a plat note or other file includes:
  - i. A notation that the area was used for the disposal of wood waste;
  - ii. The geographical location of the disposal area; and
  - iii. A description of the final cover.
- e) Submit a closure report to DEC for approval no later than 180 days after final waste is deposited. The report must include:
  - i. A copy of the as-built survey or facility record drawing showing the boundaries of the wood waste disposal area within the rock pit;
  - ii. Documentation of the amount of wood waste deposited;
  - iii. Evidence that the required notation has been made to the property deed; and
  - iv. Photographic documentation showing the integrity of the final cover.
- f) Post-closure care will be required after facility closure is approved if DEC determines that significant erosion or insufficient revegetation of the final cover has occurred, or there is an apparent threat to human health or the environment.

## GENERAL CONDITIONS

1. **Access and inspection** - The Permittee shall allow the Commissioner or representatives access to the permitted facilities at reasonable times to conduct scheduled or unscheduled inspections or tests to determine compliance with this permit, State laws, and regulations.
2. **Information access** - Except for information relating to confidential processes or methods of manufacture, all records and reports submitted in accordance with the terms of this permit shall be available for public inspection at the State of Alaska, Department of Environmental Conservation, 410 Willoughby Avenue, Juneau, AK 99811.
3. **Civil and criminal liability** - Nothing in this permit shall relieve the Permittee from civil or criminal penalties for noncompliance, whether or not such noncompliance is due to factors beyond his control, including, but not limited to, accidents, equipment breakdowns, or labor disputes.

4. **Availability** - The Permittee shall post or maintain a copy of this permit available to the public at the disposal facility.
5. **Adverse impact** - The Permittee shall take all necessary means to minimize any adverse impacts to the receiving waters or lands resulting from noncompliance with any limitation specified in this permit, including any additional monitoring needed to determine the nature and impact of the noncomplying activity. The Permittee shall clean up and restore all areas adversely impacted by the noncompliance.
6. **Cultural or paleontological resources** - Should cultural or paleontological resources be discovered as a result of this activity, work which would disturb such resources is to be stopped, and the State Historic Preservation Office, Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation, Department of Natural Resources, is to be notified immediately (907-269-8721).
7. **Other legal obligations** - The requirements, duties, and obligations set forth in this permit are in addition to any requirements, duties, or obligations contained in any permit that the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation or the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has issued or may issue to the Permittee. This permit does not relieve the Permittee from the duty to obtain any and all necessary permits and to comply with the requirements contained in any such permit or with applicable state and federal laws and regulations. All activities conducted by the Permittee pursuant to the terms of this permit and all plans implemented by the Permittee pursuant to the terms of this permit shall comply with all applicable state and federal laws and regulations.
8. **Pollution prevention** - In order to prevent and minimize present and future pollution, when making management decisions that affect waste generation, the Permittee shall consider the following order of priority options: waste source reduction; recycling of waste; waste treatment; and waste disposal.

This permit expires **on July 27, 2030** and may, upon 30 days written notice, be modified, revoked and reissued, or terminated in accordance with 18 AAC 60.255.

  
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*Robert J. Blankenburg, P.E.*  
*Solid Waste, Hazardous Waste, & Pesticides Program Manager*

## Appendix A: Visual Monitoring Checklist

<b>Facility Name:</b>	
<b>Inspector:</b>	
<b>Date:</b>	

Evaluate each item and check whether acceptable (A) or unacceptable (U). Complete any required information, and make notes on the conditions observed, as well as any corrective actions taken. Keep these forms available for use in completing the annual and closure reports for this facility.

A	U	Notes
		Wood waste is not disposed into standing water and rock or dirt is used to fill in areas of ponding where wood waste is to be placed.
		Run-on water is properly diverted around the waste so that water does not enter the pile.
		Wood waste is compacted in 2-foot layers with slopes no greater than 3(H):1(V).
		There is no evidence of combustion within the wood waste.
		There are no signs of erosion or other damage or potential damage to any portion of the facility, including berms, trenches, ditches, or other structures.
		There are no signs of sloughing within the waste pile.
		There is no ponding or accumulation of standing water.
		There is no evidence of leachate leaving the rock pit.
		Is there any other evidence of instability within the waste?

A	U	Notes
		Are there unauthorized types of waste in <b><u>or near</u></b> the disposal site?
		Is there evidence of other violations of permit conditions or regulations?
		Waste Volume – <b>Estimate</b> how much wood waste has been deposited in the landfill this month.

## Appendix B: Annual Reporting Form

Complete the information below, attach the appropriate documents, and submit to the applicable DEC Solid Waste Program staff. Keep these forms available for use in completing the closure report for this facility.

<b>Facility Name:</b>	
<b>Inspector:</b>	
<b>Date:</b>	

Notes
Waste Volume – <b>Calculate</b> how much wood waste (in cubic yards) has been deposited in the landfill this year. If appropriate, use monthly totals to calculate the annual estimate.
Have any repairs been made to the landfill, ditches, berms, or other run-on and run-off controls? If so, describe those repairs.
Describe or explain any other issues regarding the landfill that need to be addressed with DEC:
Attach copies of all monthly inspection reports completed this year. If some or all monthly reports are not available, explain why.
Attach at least three photos of the waste disposal site. Provide descriptions for each photo in the space provided below: