

Description of Required Plans

Discharge Plans (Vessels Specific Sampling Plan (VSSP) and Quality Assurance Project Plan (QAPP))

All vessels are required to have an approved Vessel Specific Sampling Plan (VSSP) 21 days before sampling¹. ADEC recommends submitting the VSSP 60 days prior to sampling to give ADEC adequate approval time. A VSSP template is available from the ADEC Cruise Ship registration webpage.

QAPP PLAN AND SAMPLE REPORTING FOR LARGE VESSELS:

Large vessels (over 250 lower berths) that are authorized to discharge under the Large Commercial Passenger Vessel Wastewater Discharge General Permit are required to follow the monitoring, QAPP, and reporting requirements of the General Permit. Owners/operators of large vessels that intend to discharge in Alaska waters, but have not received authorization under the General Permit are encouraged to notify ADEC during registration. Owners/operators of these vessels must submit a Notice of Intent to ADEC no later than 30 days prior to discharge in Alaska waters.

FOR ALL OTHER VESSELS:

The owner/operator of a vessel that intends to discharge wastewater into Alaskan waters must submit a wastewater sampling Quality Assurance Project Plan to ADEC by March 1.² Vessel owners may use the latest ADEC approved Quality Assurance Project Plan (QAPP) that was submitted by the Northwest & Canada Cruiseship Association, or they may submit an alternate QAPP, which includes the items required in 18 AAC 69.025, for Department approval. Please contact ADEC for details on submitting an alternate QAPP.

An essential component of the QAPP is that a laboratory report shall be submitted to the department within 21 days of completion of analytical testing for each sampling event. Any deviations from the QAPP or the Vessel Specific Sampling Plan must be documented in this laboratory report. The Department will accept laboratory reports submitted under another state or federal law that includes substantially equivalent information.

NOTE: You must also submit copies of all EPA or U.S. Coast Guard required sampling and testing reports to ADEC for vessels operating in Alaska waters within 21 days after completion of analytical testing regardless of whether you intend for these samples to satisfy ADEC requirements.³ For example, a large vessel operator must submit sampling results to ADEC for samples taken to obtain U.S. Coast Guard approval for continuous discharge.

Nonhazardous Solid Waste Offloading Plan (NSWOP).

The Nonhazardous Solid Waste Offloading Plan (NSWOP) is due March 1.⁴ It can be submitted for an individual vessel or for a fleet of vessels. Fleet plans should include any individual vessel variations from the plan. The NSWOP must describe:

1. an estimate of the volume of each waste type that the owner or operator anticipates offloading in this state or disposing into the marine waters of the state;
2. the proposed offloading or disposal method;
3. the name and address of each contractor to be used for offloading in this state or disposing into marine waters of the state; and
4. the harbors, landfills, or other offloading or disposal facilities in the state proposed to be used by the owner or operator or agent.

Hazardous Waste and Substance Offloading Plan (HWSOP)

The Hazardous Waste and Substance Offloading Plan (HWSOP) is due March 1.⁵ It can be submitted for an individual vessel or for a fleet of vessels. Fleet plans should include any individual vessel variations from the plan.

¹ 18 AAC 69.030

² 18 AAC 69.025

³ AS 46.03.475(b)

⁴ 18 AAC 69.035(b)

⁵ 18 AAC 69.040(b)

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The HWSOP will include, for all hazardous wastes or substances anticipated to be offloaded while the vessel is operating in the marine waters of Alaska:

1. An estimate of volume and type of each waste or substance;
2. The proposed offloading method;
3. Material Safety Data Sheets, if applicable;
4. The name and address of each contractor to be used for offloading;
5. The controlled storage, processing, or disposal facility or treatment works proposed to be used; and
6. A description of vessel crew training in offloading procedures.

Deviation Report

The Deviation Report is due November 15⁶. This report will document any deviations from the Hazardous and Nonhazardous Waste Offloading Plans. This report can be submitted electronically.

Vessel Voyage Report (VVR)

The Vessel Voyage Report is due November 15⁷. This report can be written or electronic (email) and must include the actual number of voyages in marine waters in the state during the calendar year. Any request for a refund of registration fees should be included in this report.

⁶ 18 AAC 69.065

⁷ 18 AAC 69.015 (b)