

**Department of Environmental Conservation
Response to Comments**

For

**Ward Cove Wastewater Treatment Facility
APDES Permit No. AK0053384**

Public Noticed March 6, 2020 – April 6, 2020

FINAL, April 13, 2020



**Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation
Wastewater Discharge Authorization Program
555 Cordova Street
Anchorage, AK 99501**

1 Introduction

1.1 Summary of Facility / Permit

Full Cycle LLC operates the Ward Cove Wastewater Treatment Facility (WWTF), approximately 5 miles north of Ketchikan, Alaska. The Ward Cove WWTF provides secondary treatment of domestic wastewater using activated sludge and extended aeration and chlorine disinfection. The design rate for the facility is 0.025 million gallons per day. The facility has an internal compliance point, Outfall 001A, and continually discharges treated effluent to Ward Cove through Outfall 001B at 55° 24' 15" North latitude and 131° 43' 58" West longitude. No mixing zone is authorized. A Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) was finalized by EPA in 2007 and remains in effect, with a Wasteload Allocation for the Ward Cove WWTF for dissolved oxygen.

1.2 Opportunities for Public Participation

The Department of Environmental Conservation proposed to reissue an Alaska Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (APDES) wastewater discharge permit to the Full Cycle LLC for the Ward Cove WWTF. To ensure public, agency, and tribal notification and opportunities for participation the Department:

- identified the permit on the annual Permit Issuance Plan posted online at: <https://dec.alaska.gov/water/wastewater/pip/>
- notified potentially affected tribes and local governments that the Department would be working on this permit via letter, fax and/or email on November 5, 2019.
- posted a preliminary draft of the permit on-line for a 10-day applicant review on February 13, 2020 and notified tribes, local governments, and other agencies
- formally posted public notice of the draft permit on March 6, 2020 on the Department's public notice web page
- sent email notifications via the APDES Program List Serve when the preliminary draft and draft permits were available for review

The Department did not receive any comments during the public notice period. The Department requested comment from the Departments of Natural Resources (DNR) Fish and Game (DFG), the National Marine Fisheries Service, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. The Department contacted the permittee on April 7, 2020. The permittee waived the five day proposed final applicant review in writing. The Department proceeded to issuance of the final permit consistent with 18 AAC 83.120(m).

1.3 Final Permit

The final permit was issued by the Department on April 13, 2020. There were no changes from the public noticed permit.