How do I obtain coverage under the new WPCF 600 General Permit?

1. Complete a WPCF 600 General Permit application. Only a single applicant can be registered for WPCF 600 General permit coverage.

2. Submit a completed application and all applicable fees to the DEQ regional offices provided below. DEQ will not approve an unsigned or incomplete application or an application with incorrect fee payment. Please submit your application for mobile operation at least 30 calendar days in advance of the day you plan to start operations. Please submit nonmobile operation applications and required plans at least 90 days ahead of expected operation start. After receipt of the complete application, permit coordinators will try to process your application within 15 business days.

3. DEQ will review the application information and will take one of the following actions:
   a. Issue written notice of assignment to the WPCF 600 General Permit. DEQ will send an assignment letter and a WPCF 600 General Permit to the applicant.
   b. Request additional information if the application submitted is incomplete or unclear.
   c. Deny coverage under the WPCF 600 General Permit. The applicant will be notified if the applicant's operation cannot be approved for coverage under this General Permit, and that the applicant may need to obtain an individual permit.

How long is my permit coverage valid?

Permittees registered under the WPCF 600 General Permit can operate until the expiration date provided on the cover page of this General Permit. The WPCF 600 General Permit is considered valid when the applicant receives the DEQ authorization letter and the WPCF 600 General Permit with the applicants name and DEQ File number.

Facilities processing more than 10,000 cubic yards per year of lode ore or placer material must apply for an individual permit in accordance with the procedures in OAR 340-045-0030. Any person not wishing to be covered or limited by this general permit may also apply for an individual permit.

What additional information is required for non-mobile facility operations?

1. The latitude and longitude of the approximate center of the facility or site in degrees/minutes/seconds. Latitude and longitude can be obtained from DEQ’s location finder web site at http://deq12.deq.state.or.us/website/findloc/ or from United States Geological Survey (USGS) quadrangle topographic maps by calling toll-free at 1-888-ASK-USGS (1-888-275-8747).
2. The Township, Range, Section, and Tax Lot or Mineral/Mining Claim numbers for the regulated site.
3. A complete Land Use Compatibility Statement (LUCS) signed by the local land use authority. The application will not be processed without evidence that the proposal is approved by the local land use authority and meets statewide planning goals. A LUCS is not required if the local land use authority provides a letter to DEQ stating that their comprehensive plan requirements do not apply to small scale mining activity.
4. A vicinity map and a copy of a USGS quadrangle map, showing the location of the operation in relation to topographic features.
APPLICATION AND FEE SUBMITTAL

A New Permit Application Fee of $213 is required for new applicants with operations that process 1,500 cubic yards or more per year and 10,000 cubic yards or less per year. The New Permit Application Fee must accompany the application.

No fees are required for:

- operations that process less than 1,500 cubic yards per year, or
- operations that are renewing their registration under the WPCF 600 General Permit.

Please send pages 3 through 6 of this WPCF 600 General Permit application to the DEQ office depending on where you reside. If you are an out-of-state applicant or an Oregon resident of DEQ’s Northwest Region, please send your application to the Headquarters office. Oregon residents in DEQ’s Eastern Region, submit your application to the Pendleton office, and Oregonians in DEQ’s Western Region, send your application to the Eugene office (see table below for county listings by DEQ Region and contact details). If you process less than 1,500 cubic yards per year, there is no fee. If you process 1,500 or more cubic yards per year and do not exceed 10,000 cubic yards per year, submit the $213 new permit application fee payment with the application. Make the fee payment check or money order payable to “Department of Environmental Quality” or “DEQ”. If you have questions about your application, contact the Permit Coordinator where you are directed in the following table to send the completed application and fee (if any). You may contact any Permit Coordinator with general questions.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DEQ OFFICE</th>
<th>PERMIT COORDINATOR</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **Out-of-State Resident or Resident of Northwest Region:** Clackamas, Clatsop, Columbia, Multnomah, Tillamook, Washington | Address: Oregon DEQ  
Water Quality Division  
ATTN: Cecilia Mitchell  
811 SW Sixth Avenue  
Portland, OR 97204-1390  
Phone: 503-229-6114 or  
toll-free in Oregon: 800-452-4011, ext. 6114  
Email: Mitchell.Cecilia@deq.state.or.us |
| **Resident of Western Region:** Coos, Curry, Douglas, Lane, Jackson, Josephine, Benton, Lincoln, Linn, Marion, Polk, Yamhill | Address: Oregon DEQ  
Western Region – Eugene Office  
ATTN: Kathy Jacobsen  
165 E 7th Ave, Suite 100  
Eugene, Oregon 97401  
Phone: 541-687-7326 or  
toll-free in Oregon: 800-844-8467  
Email: Jacobsen.Kathy@DEQ.state.or.us |
| **Resident of Eastern Region:** Baker, Gilliam, Grant, Malheur, Morrow, Umatilla, Union, Wallowa, Wheeler, Crook, Deschutes, Harney, Hood River, Jefferson, Klamath, Lake, Sherman, Wasco | Address: Oregon DEQ  
Eastern Region – Pendleton Office  
ATTN: Jackie Ray  
800 SE Emigrant Ave, Suite 330  
Pendleton, OR 97801  
Phone: 541-278-4605 or  
toll-free in Oregon 1-800-304-3513  
Email: Ray.Jackie@DEQ.state.or.us |
A New Permit Application Fee of $213 must accompany this application for new applicants with operations that process 1,500 cubic yards or more per year but not exceed 10,000 cubic yards per year.

☐ New Permit Application Fee enclosed  ☐ Fee Not applicable

### SECTION A. APPLICANT AND FACILITY REFERENCE INFORMATION

1. Legal Name of Applicant *(one applicant only)*:

2. Is the applicant the owner of the operation or facility?  ☐ Yes  ☐ No

3. Legal Status of Applicant (see definitions below):  ☐ Sole Proprietorship  ☐ Partnership  ☐ Limited Liability Company  ☐ Corporation  ☐ Other, specify:

4. Name of Facility (if different than legal name):

### SECTION B. LEGALLY AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE (LAR) AND FACILITY CONTACT INFORMATION

1. Legal Name of Legally Authorized Representative* *(if not applicant)*:  
   - Telephone #:
   - Mailing Address:  
   - E-Mail:  
   - City, State, Zip Code:

2. Facility Contact Name (if not applicant or LAR):  
   - Telephone #:
   - Facility Mailing Address:  
   - E-Mail:  
   - City, State, Zip Code:

### DEFINITION OF LEGALLY AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE*

Please also provide the information requested in brackets []

- **Sole Proprietorship** — Owner *(principal owner provide contact information in Section B, and each owner must sign the application in Section E)*
- **Partnership** — General partner *(attach list of general partners, their addresses and telephone numbers)*
- **Limited Liability Company** — Member *(attach articles of organization)*
- **Corporation** — *(president, secretary, treasurer, vice-president, or any person who performs principal business functions; or a manager of one or more facilities that is authorized in accordance to corporate procedure to sign such documents)*
1. Facility/operation is **mobile** (moves to different locations in the state) ☐

2. Facility/operation is **non-mobile** (remains in the same location) ☐ *If non-mobile, you must provide all information in Section D, below.*

3. Total amount of material processed is less than 1,500 cubic yards per year ☐

4. Total amount of material processed is 1,500 cubic yards or more per year ☐ *If total amount of material processed is 1,500 cubic yards per year or more, you must provide information in Section D in addition to the new application fee with the application.*

5. Please check the boxes next to the following statements that apply to your mining operation. If any of the following statements DO NOT apply to your operation (boxes NOT checked), your mining operation is ineligible for general WPCF 600 permit coverage. You may apply for an individual permit.

☐ I will locate my small-scale mining operation off-stream above ordinary high water level of any nearby state waters and NOT discharge wastes to state waters. Operations located below ordinary high water level of state waters (e.g., located in the stream, within the channel or non-flowing or dry side channel, on the bank, on an island or peninsula) are considered in-water operations and NOT located OFF-STREAM. Discharge of pollutants from off-stream operations registered under WPCF 600 coverage to Oregon waters is prohibited.

☐ I will process less than 10,000 cubic yards of lode ore or placer material per year.

☐ I will use water only (no chemicals) for lode ore or placer material processing.

☐ I will properly dispose of processing wastes including wastewater to land for evaporation and seepage with no traceable discharge of wastes to groundwater or surface water. I may use off-stream sedimentation impoundments (also known as settling ponds) to contain the wastewater from processing. If I use a container, I may land dispose the process wastewater upland above ordinary high water level where it will not enter state waters.

☐ I will properly operate and maintain pollution treatment and control facilities, and I will manage settling pond and other spoils, petroleum spill waste, debris, and other solid wastes to prevent entry into state waters. You are required to comply with all state laws and permit conditions including but not limited to petroleum spills and solid and hazardous waste management.

☐ I will prevent discharge of wastewater and/or stormwater that contacts operations to state waters including disposal to groundwater.

☐ I will not adversely impact drinking water sources and/or existing or potential beneficial uses of groundwater including possible nearby monitoring or water wells with my small-scale mining operation.

☐ I will inspect mining operations and any stream or other state water upstream/upgradient and downstream/downgradient from the mining operation daily when operating. I will keep a log of inspection observations. I will keep these records until three years after the permit expiration and make these records available to DEQ or other government authority upon request.

☐ If the stream water or other state water downstream/downgradient from the mining operation is observed to be visibly more turbid (muddy) than the stream water upstream/upgradient from the mining operation, I will stop, move or alter operations to prevent the turbid wastewater from flowing overland to the stream or other state water or impacting groundwater that recharges the stream below ground.

☐ If I want to construct sedimentation impoundments with a surface area over 20,000 square feet, or if I want to build settling ponds with a surface area of 20,000 square feet or less with dams or dikes over 5-feet in height, I will obtain approval from DEQ prior to construction.

☐ I will remove sanitary waste from a temporary mining operation or provide a DEQ or county pre-approved onsite system for permanent operations.

☐ I will not disturb riparian vegetation unless it is unavoidable by mining operations. If mining operations disturb riparian vegetation, I will reclaim the area on an ongoing basis (not postponed until mining is completed) to pre-mining condition. If processing 1,500 cubic yards or more per year, I will submit a vegetation reclamation plan with this application.

☐ I will comply with Schedule F and all other general WPCF 600 permit conditions not provided in this application.
SECTION D. NON-MOBILE FACILITY INFORMATION

Mobile Facilities/Operations are not required to provide the information in Section D.
Non-mobile facilities must attach a complete Land Use Compatibility Statement (LUCS) signed by the local land use authority. The application will not be processed without evidence that the proposal is approved by the local land use authority and meets statewide planning goals. A LUCS is not required if the local land use authority provides a letter to DEQ stating that their comprehensive plan requirements do not apply to small scale mining activity.

1. Physical Street Address:

   City, State, Zip Code:  
   County:

2. Latitude: _____ degrees _____ minutes _____ seconds  
   Longitude: _____ degrees _____ minutes _____ seconds  
   Township: _______________  Section: _______________  
   Range: _______________  Claim or Tax lot #: _______________

3. Provide a mining plan that fully describes the location (mineral/mining claim or other legal description) and type of mining and processing operations including but not limited to sedimentation impoundment (settling pond) location, topsoil and debris storage areas, overburden/waste and lode ore or placer concentrate piles, stormwater diversion or stormwater containment features, fueling/petroleum product storage, septic facilities, list of machinery and equipment to be used, and any planned changes to the mining location. If I want to construct sedimentation impoundments with a surface area over 20,000 square feet, or if I want to build settling ponds with a surface area of 20,000 square feet or less with dams or dikes over 5-feet in height, I will obtain approval from DEQ prior to construction. Describe the horizontal area in square feet and vertical depth below ground surface in lineal feet of digging for placer or open-pit lode mining operations. Give the vertical depth in lineal feet below ground surface that groundwater is known to exist or expected, and disclose any expected need of de-watering open-pit and underground mining operations of lode ore. If mining operations disturb riparian vegetation, submit a vegetation reclamation plan that describes and shows how you will reclaim the area on an ongoing basis (not postponed until mining is completed) to pre-mining condition. Recent aerial photos may be necessary to show existing vegetation. If your operation is located near state waters that have a Total Daily Maximum Load or are considered impaired per Clean Water Act 303(d) listing for temperature, DEQ may require measures (e.g., buffer of undisturbed area between mining operations and state waters) to protect shade vegetation/trees. A vicinity map and a copy of a USGS quadrangle map must accompany this application, showing the location of the operations and infrastructure including access road(s) to scale in relation to topographic features.

SECTION E. SIGNATURE TO CERTIFY APPLICATION

I certify under penalty of law that this document and all attachments were prepared under my direction or supervision. Based on my inquiry of the person or persons directly responsible for gathering the information, the information submitted is, to the best of my knowledge and belief, true, accurate, and complete. I am aware that there are significant penalties for submitting false information, including the possibility of fine and imprisonment for knowing violations.

__________________________________________  _____________________________  ____________________
Signature of Legally Authorized Representative  Title  Date

The signature of the Legally Authorized Representative* named in Section B (if different than Applicant named in Section A) must be provided in order to process this application.

______________________________________  _____________________________  ____________________
Signature of Owner in Proprietorship  Print Name  Date

______________________________________  _____________________________  ____________________
Signature of Owner in Proprietorship  Print Name  Date

______________________________________  _____________________________  ____________________
Signature of Owner in Proprietorship  Print Name  Date

______________________________________  _____________________________  ____________________
Signature of Owner in Proprietorship  Print Name  Date
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Designation</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sole Proprietorship</td>
<td>Owner</td>
<td>[principal owner provide contact information in Section B, and each owner must sign the application in Section E]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Partnership</td>
<td>General partner</td>
<td>[attach list of general partners, their addresses and telephone numbers]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Limited Liability Company</td>
<td>Member</td>
<td>[attach articles of organization]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Corporation</td>
<td>[president, secretary, treasurer, vice-president, or any person who performs principal business functions; or a manager of one or more facilities that is authorized in accordance to corporate procedure to sign such documents]</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS

Notwithstanding the terms and conditions of this general WPCF 600 permit, persons registered under this permit must also comply with all other applicable state and federal agency requirements to include but not limited to:
   a. Oregon DEQ Land Quality – Solid and Hazardous Waste Regulations
   b. Oregon Department of Geology and Mineral Industries
   c. Oregon Department of State Lands
   d. Oregon Department of Water Resources
   e. U.S. Forest Service
   f. U.S. Bureau of Land Management
   g. Oregon Department of Parks and Recreation
   h. Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife

DEQ provides the following information on potential DEQ stormwater management permitting and other state and federal mining authority requirements. DEQ gives clarification on working off-stream (not in-water below ordinary high water) and guidance on stormwater management permitting. Also, DEQ provides contact information on water rights licensing to use water for mining activities, diverting public waters for pump intake and other mining activities, and notice of intent or plan of operation on federal lands.

State and Federal Permitting for In-Water Work
Mining or processing operations that will be located in-water, or upland and discharge pollutants to state waters are ineligible for WPCF 600 permit coverage. To understand the meaning of “off-stream” operations and those operations working “in-water,” please note.

- Operations located in the stream or within other state waters, within the channel, on the bank, or below ordinary high water level of state waters are considered in-water operations and NOT located OFF-STREAM. Oregon Revised Statute 468B.005(10) defines “water” or “the waters of the state” to include lakes, bays, ponds, impounding reservoirs, springs, wells, rivers, streams, creeks, estuaries, marshes, inlets, canals, the Pacific Ocean within the territorial limits of the State of Oregon [within three miles of shoreline] and all other bodies of surface or underground waters, natural or artificial, inland or coastal, fresh or salt, public or private (except those private waters which do not combine or effect a junction with natural surface or underground waters), which are wholly or partially within or bordering the state or within its jurisdiction.
- A proposal to remove material from, move material within, or place fill into, waters requires a Joint Permit Application submitted to both the US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) and the Oregon Department of State Lands (DSL). These agencies process the applications separately. DEQs 401 Water Quality Certification (WQC) process is triggered when USACE makes a determination that an application 1) requires a permit and 2) results in a discharge of pollutants. Examples of other federal activities that may require 401 certification from the DEQ include US Bureau of Land Management and US Forest Service mining plans. Federal permits cannot be issued without a 401 WQC from DEQ (call 503-229-5263 and ask for staff in 401 WQC or see http://www.deq.state.or.us/wq/sec401cert/removalfill.htm).
- If the owner or operator obtains DEQ’s 401 Water Quality Certification, an individual NPDES permit may not be required for in-water mining or processing operations.

Diverting (Damming, Channeling, Etc.) Public Waters for Pump Intake and Other Mining Activities
Your operation must provide safe passage of fish around or through the active mining area if the stream supports a migratory fish population. Any removal/fill activity within the active stream, including construction of fish passage facilities, must comply with all applicable DEQ 401 Certification requirements.

If you need to divert stream water (e.g., create a dam to pool of water for pumping source water from state waters to my off-stream mining operation), and I will contact the Oregon Department of State Lands (DSL) at http://www.oregonstatelands.us/DSL/PERMITS/index.shtml or call (503) 986-5200, Salem. You may also need a
general authorization or removal-fill permit from the DSL in addition to DEQ's general WPCF 600 permit. DSL's Recreational & Small-scale Placer Mining web page has permitting information including the Essential Salmon Habitat map and the State Scenic Waterways map and descriptions.

**Water Rights Licensing to Use Stream or Groundwater for Mining Activities**

Contact Oregon Water Resources Department (WRD) Watermaster because you may need a temporary water right license to use groundwater that seeps into the settling pond or drawing water from nearby surface water as a source for ore and placer processing. To identify the Watermaster to contact, please reference the WRD Internet page at [http://www.wrd.state.or.us/OWRD/offices.shtml#Region_Watermaster_Map](http://www.wrd.state.or.us/OWRD/offices.shtml#Region_Watermaster_Map) or call (503) 986-0900 in Salem.

**Stormwater Management**

If stormwater is likely to become contaminated with runoff to surface waters from mining operations or construction activities, you must first get the appropriate stormwater permit coverage.

You must prevent stormwater from becoming contaminated by contacting mining operation activities or use contaminated stormwater as source water for ore or placer processing. Stormwater contacting any mining activity must be managed without impact to state waters or you must register with DEQ to obtain coverage under an industrial stormwater general NPDES 1200-Z discharge permit is required. For information, forms, and the NPDES General Permit for industrial stormwater discharges including mining activities, please visit DEQ's NPDES Stormwater Discharge Permits Industrial Activities web page ([http://www.deq.state.or.us/wq/stormwater/industrial.htm](http://www.deq.state.or.us/wq/stormwater/industrial.htm)) or call 503-229-5630 (or 1-800-452-4011 toll free in Oregon) and ask for the Stormwater Permit Coordinator for the DEQ region where your mining operation will be located.

You must register with DEQ to obtain general NPDES 1200-C permit coverage for stormwater discharges from construction activities if I must construct mining operation facilities where one acre or more is disturbed. For information, forms, and the NPDES General Permit for construction stormwater discharges, please call 503-229-5630 (or 1-800-452-4011 toll free in Oregon) and ask for the Stormwater Permit Coordinator for the DEQ region where your mining operation will be located or visit DEQ's NPDES Stormwater Discharge Permits Construction Activities web page ([http://www.deq.state.or.us/wq/stormwater/construction.htm](http://www.deq.state.or.us/wq/stormwater/construction.htm)).

Program topics and current news regarding stormwater permits are provided on the NPDES Stormwater Discharge Permits web page ([http://www.deq.state.or.us/wq/stormwater/stormwater.htm](http://www.deq.state.or.us/wq/stormwater/stormwater.htm)).

**Federal Notice of Intent or Plan Of Operation**

Contact federal authorities for possible notice of intent or plan of operation if my mining operation is located on federal land. You may need to submit notice of intent or get a pre-approved plan of operation for these mining activities on public land from the US Bureau of Land Management (BLM: see [http://www.blm.gov/or/programs/minerals/](http://www.blm.gov/or/programs/minerals/) or call (503) 808-6008, Portland), US Forest Service (USFS Region 6: see [http://www.fs.fed.us/r6/](http://www.fs.fed.us/r6/) or call the district ranger for the national forest where you want to mine, see [http://www.fs.fed.us/geology/](http://www.fs.fed.us/geology/), or other public land authority (state, county, or local).