

PERMIT ALTERATION REQUEST FORM

**STATE OF ALASKA
DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME
PRIVATE NONPROFIT PROGRAM**

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

1. Fill in the blanks on the form provided (grey boxes will expand as you type).
2. Where necessary to fully answer a particular question, attach additional pages marked with the corresponding appendix number in the application.
3. Applications **must** be typed.
4. Applications **must** be signed by the legally authorized representatives of the corporate applicant.
5. The application should be forwarded to the following address:

STATE OF ALASKA
DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME
COMMERCIAL FISHERIES DIVISION
P.O. BOX 1125526
JUNEAU, AK 99811-5526

ATTENTION:
PNP HATCHERY PROGRAM MANAGER

6. Requests for assistance in preparation of the application or related activities should be directed to the Program Manager. Such requests will be honored to the extent available staff time and funds permit.

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DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME
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I. IDENTIFICATION OF APPLICANT

A. Applicant Information

Bart Watson		Armstrong-Keta, Inc.
Applicant Name		Organization
PO Box 1075		(907) 723-2222
Address		Phone Number
Sitka	AK	99835
City	State	Zip

B. Hatchery Information

Port Armstrong Hatchery		13
Hatchery Name		PNP Permit Number

II. STATEMENT OF APPLICANT'S GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

- A. Describe the nature of the requested alteration, why you have decided to request it, and what you generally expect to accomplish by the expansion of your program, including answers to the following questions. Will the proposed project affect wild salmon stocks or existing fisheries? How will a significant contribution to common property fisheries be made? How will potential effects and interactions between introduced or enhanced stocks and wild stocks be assessed? What marking and recovery studies are being proposed that will allow the project to be evaluated? What are the potential benefits to fisheries or wild stocks from the proposed project? Has this project been discussed with the department's area or regional management biologists? (Attach additional pages as necessary.)

Armstrong-Keta, Inc. (AKI) has pursued a path of progressively increasing its coho production over the past two decades. To facilitate this development, AKI has received the support of a series of federal pass-through grants administered by ADF&G, the latest in 2020, allowing the Port Armstrong Hatchery to reach its permitted capacity of 5 million green eggs.

Along the way, AKI has engaged in a number of experiments to optimize the production levels and marine survivals of its coho releases in order to make the most of its fresh water and existing raceway facilities. The most successful experiments with the greatest significance for the Port Armstrong Hatchery's coho production resulted in the development and expansion of AKI's early saltwater smolt introduction technique. These smolts, ponded annually into saltwater net pens in Port Armstrong bay in June have matched or exceeded the overall survivals of the freshwater raceway reared cohos and exceeded the survivals of the fall saltwater introduction smolts. By continuing to rear the 1 million coho smolts that fill the Port Armstrong freshwater rearing raceways, while maximizing the total rearing potential of the site with additional early saltwater introduction coho smolts, AKI can significantly increase its total coho production. Based on AKI's years of experience gradually increasing the annual production of the early introduction smolts with distinct coded wire tag lots and tracking marine survivals, AKI would now like to further boost its contribution to the common property fisheries, increase its potential for cost recovery and insure its broodstock needs are met by increasing coho production from the current 5 million to the optimum 8 million green coho eggs.

AKI presented this intention as a discussion item to the SE Regional Planning Team at the fall 2021 meeting. While there are some capital improvements needed to complete and optimize this coho expansion, primarily in the purchase of additional coho nets and the upgrade of several existing facilities on site, when fully implemented this proposal will result in the production of 2.55 million additional smolts and between 130,000 and 260,000 additional adult cohos in Southeast Alaska waters annually.

This proposal secures and expands AKI's strongest program, with its greatest benefits to the common property fisheries. The additional smolts will be coded wire tagged and tracked on the ADF&G tag report website as well as in broodstock returns and cost recovery harvests at the Port Armstrong Hatchery. The permit increase should not have a significant effect on wild stocks or existing fisheries, other than to increase the number of cohos available in Southeast waters to the fishing fleets.

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III. **IMPACTS ON EXISTING HATCHERY PROGRAM**

A. **Present Permitted Capacity**
(numbers of green eggs by species)

Pink	105 million	Coho	5 million
Chum	60 million	Chinook	0
Sockeye	0	Other	

B. **Capacity After Request**
(numbers of green eggs by species)

Pink	105 million	Coho	8 million
Chum	60 million	Chinook	0
Sockeye	0	Other	

C. **Water Use**

1. **List the total amount of water available and the source.**

25 cfs from Betty Lake and Jetty Lake

2. **List the amount of water presently being used.**

Up to 25cfs, depending on the time of year, with maximum use normally in September.

3. List the additional amount of water needed for this alteration.

No additional fresh water is needed. The expanded production will be early saltwater entry cohos, replacing current fall entry cohos and requiring less fresh water and raceway rearing space. Additional saltwater net pens will be used for the increase in production.

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IV. HATCHERY DESIGN

- A. Please provide a detailed description of new facilities needed with this alteration (e.g., buildings, incubators, rearing space, piping, etc.). This description should represent a solid concept of the proposed hatchery changes/expansion. Drawings showing the layout of new structures should be attached when appropriate.

The Port Armstrong Hatchery intends to make use of surplus chum rearing net pens. AKI will have to purchase approximately 13 additional 50' x 50' coho nets for those pens. Existing mooring equipment and tidelands lease areas will be used.

V. DECLARATION AND SIGNATURE

I declare that the information given in this application is, to my knowledge, true, correct, and complete.

Bart Watson

February 28, 2022

Name of Applicant

Date Signed



Signature of Applicant