

Department of Conservation & Natural Resources

Joe Lombardo, *Governor*James A. Settelmeyer, *Director*Jennifer L. Carr, *Administrator*

FACTSHEET (pursuant to NAC 445A.236)

Permittee Name: KOA OF ELY

1596 US-93 ELY, NV 89301

Permit Number: NS2024503

Permit Type: GROUNDWATER DISCHARGE

Designation: GROUNDWATER

New/Existing: NEW

Location: KOA OF ELY, WHITE PINE

3 MILES SOUTH OF ELY, ELY, NV 89301

LATITUDE: 39.213281, LONGITUDE: -114.855506 TOWNSHIP: 16N, RANGE: 63E, SECTION: 35

Outfall / Well Num	Outfall / Well Name	Location Type	Well Log Num	Latitude	Longitude	Receiving Water
SS1	SEPTIC SYSTEM 1 3,000 GALLON	External Outfall		39.213140	-114.856039	GROUNDWATER
SS2	SEPTIC SYSTEM 2 3,000 GALLON	External Outfall		39.213737	-114.856150	GROUNDWATER
SS3	SEPTIC SYSTEM 3 8,000 GALLON	External Outfall		39.214246	-114.855455	GROUNDWATER
SS4	SEPTIC SYSTEM 4 5,000 GALLON	External Outfall		39.214280	-114.854961	GROUNDWATER
SS5	SEPTIC SYSTEM 5 7,500 GALLON	External Outfall		39.213661	-114.855693	GROUNDWATER
SS6	SEPTIC SYSTEM 6 5,000 GALLON	External Outfall		39.214774	-114.854258	GROUNDWATER
SS7	HOLDING TANK DUMP STATION 7 1,000 GALLON	External Outfall		39.214193	-114.856001	GROUNDWATER

Permit History/Description of Proposed Action

This is a new permit. Initially permitted and constructed in 2004 under General Permit #GNEVOSDS09L0063, the Ely KOA Campground currently operates six onsite systems for primary effluent disposal. The Permittee recently applied for an Individual Permit to operate an additional onsite system. A contracted pumper transports the domestic septage from the tanks to the City of Ely wastewater treatment plant (WWTP) (NS0070015). NDEP previously inspected the property in 2023 and 2005.

Facility Overview

The Ely KOA Campground, located at 1596 U.S. Hwy 93, approximately three miles south-southeast of Ely in White Pine County, offers rental spaces for about 16 mobile homes, 98 recreational vehicles (RVs), and 54 seasonal campers. The campground includes a central comfort station with toilets, showers, coinoperated laundry machines, and a holding tank dump station.

Outfall Summary

The septic tank outfalls are newly included in this permit and pertain to the on-site sewage disposal system (OSDS) for the 7 septic systems.

SS1 External Outfall - Septic System - Septic Tank and Leach Field 1 (3,000 gallons of tank capacity)

- SS2 External Outfall Septic System Septic Tank and Leach Field 2 (3,000 gallons of tank capacity) SS3 External Outfall Septic System Septic Tank and Leach Field 3 (8,000 gallons of tank capacity) SS4 External Outfall Septic System Septic Tank and Leach Field 4 (5,000 gallons of tank capacity) SS5 External Outfall Septic System Septic Tank and Leach Field 5 (7,500 gallons of tank capacity) SS6 External Outfall Septic System Septic Tank and Leach Field 6 (5,000 gallons of tank capacity) SS7 External Outfall Septic System Holding Tank Dump Station (1,000 gallons of tank capacity)
- SS1: Identified as an existing 3,000-gallon septic system servicing 10 mobile home spaces. Tank access lids are located in a fenced corral housing the campground's mascot (a small donkey).
- SS2: Identified as an existing 3,000-gallon septic system servicing 3 mobile home spaces, the camp store, and the central comfort station. The leach field extends into a grassy area with spaces for picnics and tent camping. One popup tent was observed in this area.
- SS3: Identified as an existing 8,000-gallon septic system servicing 36 RV spaces and a rental cabin with a bathroom. The tank is located in a grassy area near space #23.
- SS4: Identified as an existing 5,000-gallon septic system servicing 22 RV spaces and a rental cabin with a bathroom. The septic system is located in a grassy area behind the tepees.
- SS5: Identified as a future, 7,500 gallon septic system to connect 3 existing mobile homes (sewer lines to be rerouted from Tank ID #2), 15 new RV spaces and a multipurpose Clubhouse with restrooms and kitchen (conferences and meeting events). General tank location is by the office (graveled area), and the main and reserve leach fields will require the space presently occupied by the volleyball court. This OSDS may be constructed in a timeframe of the next several years.
- SS6: Identified as a newly constructed 5,000-gallon septic system servicing 25 RV spaces located alongside a graveled area fronting the highway. The septic system is situated in a dirt field located in front of the tepees. This OSDS was recently constructed (2022–23).
- SS7: The existing holding tank dump station, located on the main entrance road north of the store, has been identified as a facility offering wastewater disposal services to RV customers. The KOA has implemented a discount program for RV customers who have access to water and electrical service but do not have an individual sanitary sewer cleanout. In addition to utilizing the dump station holding tank, these customers are permitted to use the park's public restrooms, showers, and laundromat facilities.

Effluent Characterization

The wastewater treated in the septic tanks comes solely from bathrooms, mobile homes, RV units, rental cabins, coin-operated Laundromat, and office buildings onsite, with no industrial wastewater discharged into the system. Only domestic sewage, as defined by Nevada Administrative Code (NAC) 445A.9532, will be discharged into the system.

Pollutants of Concern

"Pollutants of concern" refers to any substances or parameters anticipated in the discharge that could affect the physical, chemical, or biological quality of the receiving water. When the septic tank system is properly operated and maintained, the primary pollutant of concern is total nitrogen.

When a septic tank system is properly operated and maintained, pathogens such as total coliform and E. coli are not considered Pollutants of Concern due to the separation provided between the effluent and the environment or human contact.

Receiving Water

The receiving water is the groundwater of the state. The depth to groundwater near septic systems depends on the geologic unit in which the system is located. In basin fill areas, groundwater depths typically range from 200 to 470 feet below ground surface (bgs). These estimates are based on a review of water

levels from nearby wells.

Compliance History

This is a new permit, and there is no compliance history associated with it. NDEP previously inspected the property in 2023 and 2005, providing only a few minor comments for improvement.

Proposed Effluent Limitations

The Permittee is authorized to discharge in accordance with the limitations, requirements and conditions of this permit. The Permittee is required to meet the following permit limits.

NS OTHER - Discharge Limitations Table for Sample Location Ss1 (Septic System 1 3,000 Gallon) To Be Reported Monthly

	Monitoring Requirements						
Parameter	Base	Quantity	Concentration	Monitoring Loc	_		Sample Type
Outfall observation,visual, y/n response	Positive Results	M&R Pass=0 Fail=1 (pass/fail)		See Footnote ^[1]	SS1	Monthly	VISUAL

Notes (NS OTHER - Discharge Limitations Table):

1. For the Onsite Sewage Disposal System (OSDS), if the visual inspection of the septic tank and leach field was performed, report "0" as "Pass." If the visual inspection was not conducted, or if any surfacing, damage, or leaks were observed, report "1" as "Fail." A visual inspection includes opening accessible covers, checking sludge and scum levels, and inspecting equipment. The sludge/solids depth must be measured annually, and if it reaches 50% of the liquid depth, the tank must be pumped. At a minimum, the tank should be pumped once every three years.

NS OTHER - Discharge Limitations Table for Sample Location Ss2 (Septic System 2 3,000 Gallon) To Be Reported Monthly

	Monitoring Requirements						
Parameter	Base	Quantity	Concentration	Monitoring Loc	_	Measurement Frequency	Sample Type
Outfall observation,visual, y/n response	Positive Results	M&R Pass=0 Fail=1 (pass/fail)		See Footnote ^[1]	SS2	Monthly	VISUAL

Notes (NS OTHER - Discharge Limitations Table):

1. For the Onsite Sewage Disposal System (OSDS), if the visual inspection of the septic tank and leach field was performed, report "0" as "Pass." If the visual inspection was not conducted, or if any surfacing, damage, or leaks were observed, report "1" as "Fail." A visual inspection includes opening accessible covers, checking sludge and scum levels, and inspecting equipment. The sludge/solids depth must be measured annually, and if it reaches 50% of the liquid depth, the tank must be pumped. At a minimum, the tank should be pumped once every three years.

NS OTHER - Discharge Limitations Table for Sample Location Ss3 (Septic System 3 8,000 Gallon) To Be Reported Monthly

	Monitoring Requirements						
Parameter	Base	Quantity	Concentration	Monitoring Loc	•	Measurement Frequency	Sample Type
Outfall observation,visual, y/n response	Positive Results	M&R Pass=0 Fail=1 (pass/fail)		See Footnote ^[1]	SS3	Monthly	VISUAL

Notes (NS OTHER - Discharge Limitations Table):

1. For the Onsite Sewage Disposal System (OSDS), if the visual inspection of the septic tank and leach field was performed, report "0" as "Pass." If the visual inspection was not conducted, or if any surfacing, damage, or leaks were observed, report "1" as "Fail." A visual inspection includes opening accessible covers, checking sludge and scum levels, and inspecting equipment. The sludge/solids depth must be measured annually, and if it reaches 50% of the liquid depth, the tank must be pumped. At a minimum, the tank should be pumped once every three years.

NS OTHER - Discharge Limitations Table for Sample Location Ss4 (Septic System 4 5,000 Gallon) To Be Reported Monthly

	Monitoring Requirements						
Parameter	Base	Quantity	Concentration	Monitoring Loc	•	Measurement Frequency	Sample Type
Outfall observation,visual, y/n response	Positive Results	M&R Pass=0 Fail=1 (pass/fail)		See Footnote ^[1]	SS4	Monthly	VISUAL

Notes (NS OTHER - Discharge Limitations Table):

1. For the Onsite Sewage Disposal System (OSDS), if the visual inspection of the septic tank and leach field was performed, report "0" as "Pass." If the visual inspection was not conducted, or if any surfacing, damage, or leaks were observed, report "1" as "Fail." A visual inspection includes opening accessible covers, checking sludge and scum levels, and inspecting equipment. The sludge/solids depth must be measured annually, and if it reaches 50% of the liquid depth, the tank must be pumped. At a minimum, the tank should be pumped once every three years.

NS OTHER - Discharge Limitations Table for Sample Location Ss5 (Septic System 5 7,500 Gallon) To Be Reported Monthly

	Monitoring Requirements						
Parameter	Base	Quantity	Concentration	Monitoring Loc	•	Measurement Frequency	Sample Type
Outfall observation,visual, y/n response	Positive Results	M&R Pass=0 Fail=1 (pass/fail)		See Footnote ^[1]	SS5	Monthly	VISUAL

Notes (NS OTHER - Discharge Limitations Table):

1. For the Onsite Sewage Disposal System (OSDS), if the visual inspection of the septic tank and leach field was performed, report "0" as "Pass." If the visual inspection was not conducted, or if any surfacing, damage, or leaks were observed, report "1" as "Fail." A visual inspection includes opening accessible covers, checking sludge and scum levels, and inspecting equipment. The sludge/solids depth must be measured annually, and if it reaches 50% of the liquid depth, the tank must be pumped. At a minimum, the tank should be pumped once every three years.

NS OTHER - Discharge Limitations Table for Sample Location Ss6 (Septic System 6 5,000 Gallon) To Be Reported Monthly

	Monitoring Requirements						
Parameter	Base	Quantity	Concentration	Monitoring Loc	•	Measurement Frequency	Sample Type
Outfall observation,visual, y/n response	Positive Results	M&R Pass=0 Fail=1 (pass/fail)		See Footnote ^[1]	SS6	Monthly	VISUAL

Notes (NS OTHER - Discharge Limitations Table):

1. For the Onsite Sewage Disposal System (OSDS), if the visual inspection of the septic tank and leach field was performed, report "0" as "Pass." If the visual inspection was not conducted, or if any surfacing, damage, or leaks were observed, report "1" as "Fail." A visual inspection includes opening accessible covers, checking sludge and scum levels, and inspecting equipment. The sludge/solids depth must be measured annually, and if it reaches 50% of the liquid depth, the tank must be pumped. At a minimum, the tank should be pumped once every three years.

NS OTHER - Discharge Limitations Table for Sample Location Ss7 (Holding Tank Dump Station 7 1,000 Gallon) To Be Reported Monthly

	Monitoring Requirements						
Parameter	Base	Quantity	Concentration	Monitoring Loc	_	Measurement Frequency	Sample Type
Outfall observation,visual, y/n response	Positive Results	M&R Pass=0 Fail=1 (pass/fail)		See Footnote ^[1]	SS7	Monthly	VISUAL

Notes (NS OTHER - Discharge Limitations Table):

1. For the holding tank, if the visual inspection of the holding tank was performed, report "0" as "Pass." If the visual inspection was not conducted, or if any surfacing, damage, or leaks were observed, report "1" as "Fail." A visual inspection includes opening accessible covers, checking sewage levels, and inspecting equipment. The sewage level must be measured monthly, and if it reaches 75% of the maximum tank holding capacity, the tank must be pumped. At a minimum, the holding tank should be pumped once every year.

Summary of Changes From Previous Permit

This is a new permit, and no summary of changes from a previous permit is applicable.

Technology Based Effluent Limitations

This permit is for an OSDSs, and no technology-based effluent limitations (TBELs) are applicable. NDEP does not typically apply TBELs to OSDS permits, as these limitations are primarily used for larger, more complex wastewater treatment systems, particularly those handling industrial discharges or municipal wastewater treatment plants (WWTPs). Septic tanks, which are decentralized systems treating domestic sewage, are usually regulated through performance standards, maintenance requirements, and water quality-based limits rather than TBELs.

NDEP focuses on the following for OSDS:

- * Operational and maintenance requirements, including periodic pumping, inspections, and proper disposal of sludge.
- * Design standards for septic systems, including tank size, soil percolation rates, and setbacks from water bodies.
- * Nutrient or pathogen limits, depending on the environmental sensitivity of the area.

NDEP may enforce these regulations under their own guidelines, but septic systems generally fall under Onsite Wastewater Treatment System (OWTS) or OSDS regulations, rather than the TBEL framework.

Water Quality Based Effluent Limitations

Water Quality-Based Effluent Limitations are not applicable to this permit.

Basis for Effluent Limitations Septic Systems:

The Permittee is required to perform visual inspections of the septic systems to verify whether the scum and sludge have exceeded 50% of the liquid depth in the septic tank and to ensure the septic systems are functioning adequately to treat domestic sewage. Once the scum or sludge reaches 50%, the Permittee is required to pump the septic tank.

Leach Fields:

The Permittee is required to perform visual inspections of the leach field systems to ensure that no water reaches the surface. If surface water appears, the Permittee shall follow the instructions in the Operation

and Maintenace (O&M) Manual.

Anti-backsliding

To prevent backsliding, effluent limitations in reissued permits must be as stringent as those in the previous permit. This permit is not subject to backsliding because it is a new permit.

Antidegradation

The Division has developed an antidegradation regulation that is applied statewide and meets the statutory requirements of Nevada's water pollution control law, as outlined in Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS) 445A.520 and NRS 445A.565. This regulation is consistent with the federal antidegradation policy outlined in Title 40 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) § 131.12. The objective of the Division's antidegradation regulation is to prevent the degradation of Nevada's surface waters and to maintain the unique attributes, special characteristics, and water quality associated with high-quality waters.

Since this permit is for potential discharges to groundwater, not surface water, the new antidegradation rule is not applicable. Currently, there are no specific water quality standards that have been formally adopted by the State for groundwater.

Special Conditions

See the Special Approvals / Conditions Table below.

SA - Special Approvals / Conditions Table

Item #	Description								
1	The rated treatment capacity of each septic tank shall not be exceeded.								
2	The septic tank treatment and disposal systems shall be used only for the treatment of domestic sewage. Domestic sewage is defined in NAC 445A.9532 as any liquid and waterborne waste derived from ordinary living processes and of a character that permits its satisfactory disposal into a public sewer or an onsite sewage disposal system without special treatment. The term does not include industrial waste. The discharge of toxic, hazardous, industrial, or laboratory waste material to any permitted wastewater treatment plant (WWTP) is strictly prohibited.								
3	Septic tank(s) shall be pumped by a licensed septage hauler whenever the combined depth of scum and sludge equals or exceeds 50% of the total liquid depth, or more frequently as necessary to maintain efficient solids removal. Septic tanks shall be pumped at least once every three years for maintenance purposes. The date, tank number, volume of septage removed, and the name of the septage hauler shall be recorded and maintained onsite in accordance with Part A.2.8 of the permit. Sludge disposal shall comply with applicable regulations.								

Discharges From Future Outfalls/ Planned Facility Changes

The Permittee intends to discharge from future outfall SS5.

Tank ID #5: Identified as a future, 7,500-gallon septic system to connect 3 existing mobile homes (sewer lines to be rerouted from Tank ID #2), 15 new RV spaces and a multipurpose Clubhouse with restrooms and kitchen (conferences and meeting events). General tank location is by the office (graveled area), and the main and reserve leach fields will require the space presently occupied by the volleyball court. This OSDS may be constructed in a timeframe of the next several years.

Corrective Action Sites

There are no known Bureau of Corrective Actions sites located within a 1-mile radius of this site.

Wellhead Protection Program

The outfalls are located 45 to 780 feet away from the two Public Water Supply (PWS) wells placing the outfall in the Drinking Water Protection Area, which is defined by a 3,000-foot radius around a PWS well,

and in the Wellhead Protection Area (WHPA), which represents an approximate 10-year capture zone of a well. The wells are located in a confined aquifer at a depth of 350 to 470 feet. The recent chemical history of the well reports that the well had an exceedance of iron in 2018. Based on the well structure and chemical history, the well is at minimal risk of contamination.

Schedule of Compliance:

SOC – Schedule of Compliance Table

Item #	Description	Due Date
1	All Discharge Monitoring Reports (DMRs) shall be submitted electronically through the Nevada NetDMR website: https://netdmr.ndep.nv.gov/netdmr/public/home.htm.	10/28/2025
2	The Permittee shall submit two (2) copies of a new Operations and Maintenance (O&M) Manual for review and approval by the Division. One copy shall be a hard copy, and the second shall be an electronic copy. The O&M Manual shall be prepared and stamped by a Nevada Registered Professional Engineer. O&M Manuals prepared by a Nevada Registered Professional Engineer must be signed and stamped in accordance with NAC 625.610. If no updates or revisions are required, the Permittee shall submit a letter stating such by the due date noted.	10/1/2025
3	A Notice of Termination shall be submitted for General Permit KOA of Ely - GNEVOSDS09L0063.	10/1/2025

Deliverable Schedule:

DLV- Deliverable Schedule for Reports, Plans, and Other Submittals

Item #	Description	Interval	First Scheduled Due Date
1	Quarterly DMRs	Quarterly	10/28/2025
2	Annual Report	Annually	1/28/2026

Procedures for Public Comment:

The Notice of the Division's intent to issue a permit authorizing the facility to discharge to groundwater of the State of Nevada subject to the conditions contained within the permit, is being mailed to interested persons on our mailing list and will be posted on our website at https://ndep.nv.gov/posts. Anyone wishing to comment on the proposed permit can do so in writing until 5:00 P.M. 5/19/2025, a period of 30 days following the date of the public notice. The comment period can be extended at the discretion of the Administrator.

A public hearing on the proposed determination can be requested by the applicant, any affected State, any affected interstate agency, the Regional Administrator of EPA Region IX, or any interested agency, person, or group of persons. The request must be filed within the comment period and must indicate the interest of the person filing the request and the reasons why a hearing is warranted.

Any public hearing determined by the Administrator to be held must be conducted in the geographical area of the proposed discharge or any other area the Administrator determines to be appropriate. All public hearings must be conducted in accordance with NAC 445A.238.

The final determination of the Administrator may be appealed to the State Environmental Commission pursuant to NRS 445A.605.

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Proposed Determination:

The Division has made the tentative determination to issue/re-issue the proposed 5-year permit.

Prepared by: Lior Singer P.E. M.Sc.

Date: 4/16/2025

Title: Environmental Engineer