STATE OF NEVADA



Department of Conservation & Natural Resources

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

Notice of Request for Section 401 Water Quality Certification Action - Bureau of Water Quality Planning

Web Posting: 4/1/2025

Deadline for Comments: 5/1/2025

Thomas Creek Bridge Replacement Washoe County

United States Forest Service 1200 Franklin Way Sparks, NV 89431

Certification Action Number NV-401-25-009

The purpose of this project is to replace a failing road bridge that crosses Thomas Creek in Reno, Washoe County, Nevada. The new bridge would be located approximately 30 feet downstream of the existing bridge to keep the current bridge open during construction. The anticipated permanent discharges below the ordinary high-water mark of Thomas Creek would be concrete for the abutments and footers, along with rock riprap to protect the new structure. The new bridge would over-span the channel, and most construction will take place outside the ordinary high-water mark. During construction a sandbag and plastic cofferdam would be hand-built to divert flows to the center of the channel, away from concrete forms on the new bridge, and away from the abutment walls on the existing bridge. Once the new bridge and road approaches are constructed the existing bridge will be removed. The proposed activities would result in 0.02 acres of impact within jurisdictional waters. The project would occur between August 1, 2025, through October 31, 2025. The project proponent has requested certification for the use of Nationwide Permit 14 (Linear Transportation Projects) under Clean Water Act Section 404 administered by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

A 401 certification (or a waiver of certification) is required for any federal license or permit that authorizes activities that may result in any discharge into waters of the United States. Nevada Division of Environmental Protection is in receipt of a complete request for certification in compliance with Clean Water Act Section 401 Certification regulations which the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency promulgated in 2023, codified as 40 CFR 121.

The Administrator is evaluating whether the proposed activity will comply with applicable water quality requirements. Certification actions are valid for the duration of the federal license or permit (typically five years). Any conditions contained within the certification action become a condition of the federal license or permit.

Persons wishing to comment on the application for consideration by the Administrator in making a determination regarding the certification action should submit their comments or request a hearing in writing, emailed no later than 5:00 P.M. on 5/1/2025:

Bureau of Water Quality Planning 901 South Stewart Street, Suite 4001 Carson City, Nevada 89701-5249 ndep401@ndep.nv.gov

The request for a hearing 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. All water quality-related comments or objections received within the thirty (30) day period will be considered in the formulation of final certification action regarding the application. If written

United States Forest Service Thomas Creek Bridge Replacement Notice of Certification Request Page 2 of 2

comments indicate a significant degree of public interest in the proposed permit, the Administrator shall hold a public hearing. A public notice of such hearing will be issued not less than thirty (30) days prior to the hearing date.

The applications, proposed permits, comments received, and other information are on file and may be copied, or copies may be obtained by writing to the above address or by contacting Zachary Carter, Bureau of Water Quality Planning, at (775) 687-9456 or ndep401@ndep.nv.gov. The public notice for this project can be viewed at the following website: https://ndep.nv.gov/posts/category/water.

Please bring the foregoing notice to the attention of all persons interested in this matter.