

Notice of Request for Section 401 Water Quality Certification Action - Bureau of Water Quality Planning**Web Posting: 2/6/2026****Deadline for Comments: 3/9/2026****Kings River Beaver Dam Analogs
Humboldt County****Bureau of Land Management
5100 E Winnemucca Blvd.
Winnemucca, NV 89445****Certification Action Number NV-401-26-004**

The purpose of this project is to construct Beaver Dam Analogs (BDAs), along with willow plantings during maintenance activities, across the target stream reaches to restore incised riparian and aquatic habitat. Target streams are Crowley Creek, Pole Creek, Riser Creek, and Washburn Creek in Humboldt County, Nevada. Each of the BDA structures and willow plantings would measure up to 20 feet wide by up to 10 feet long. The BDAs would be constructed by hand with untreated wood posts and natural materials from the surrounding area, woven together in a manner similar to a natural beaver dam. Hand tools would be used (chainsaws, hydraulic fence pounders, loppers, and shovels). Sites would be accessed by truck on existing (established) two-track routes, and crews would continue by foot to project area. The nature of the proposed discharges is woody material for the BDAs, consisting of untreated wood posts and natural materials from the surrounding area, such as cut willow branches. Sediment from in-stream activity would also be temporarily disturbed during installation. The project's maximum anticipated impact includes approximately 132,000 linear feet, 76 acres, and 16,700 cubic yards of material as described above. Site surveys would occur March–April for Washburn Creek (2026), Riser Creek (2027), Pole Creek (2028), and Crowley Creek (2029). The BDAs would be installed August–October of the survey year to avoid Lahontan Cutthroat Trout (LCT) impacts, with possible June–July installation for Riser and Pole Creeks if LCT remain absent. The project proponent has requested certification for the use of Nationwide Permit 27 (Aquatic Habitat Restoration, Enhancement, and Establishment Activities) 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 3/9/2026:

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 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.