



NEVADA DIVISION OF
**ENVIRONMENTAL
PROTECTION**

A division of the
Nevada Department of Conservation & Natural Resources

STATE OF NEVADA
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Vinson Guthreau, Director
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**Notice of Request for Section 401 Water Quality Certification Action - Bureau of Water Quality
Planning**

Web Posting: 8/27/2026

Deadline for Comments: 9/26/2026

**Tahoe Meadows Interpretive Trail Improvements
Washoe County**

**Ascent, Inc.
455 Capitol Mall, Suite 300
Sacramento, CA 95814**

Certification Action Number NV-401-26-020; SPK-2025-00739

The purpose of the proposed project is to perform improvements to the Tahoe Meadows Interpretive Trail in Washoe County, Nevada, approximately 10 miles north of Incline Village. The proposed activities include improvements to the existing trail that involve hardening the trail's existing natural surface and recontouring the grades to meet ADA and ABA standards, where possible, widening the trail to allow people with mobility difficulties to pass one another, replacing an existing bridge and three existing boardwalks, adding a new boardwalk, improving any steps or rock encroachments to widen and ease movement, and enhancing scenic views for all users. This project would also address trail erosion by improving drainage through culvert replacement or installation. Pending final design, three new culverts may be installed in place of existing foot bridges. Two of these culverts would be installed in ephemeral drainages. The third culvert would be installed to convey intermittent overland sheet flow and localized surface runoff through an area that lacks a defined bed and banks. A new boardwalk would address existing direct impacts on the scrub wetland that is currently bisected by the existing trail. The project proponent has requested certification for the use of Nationwide Permit 18 (Minor Discharges) 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 9/26/2026:

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.