



CERTIFICATION

STATE OF ARIZONA
Clean Water Act §401 Water Quality Certification
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers File No.: SPL-2014-00173
ADEQ LTF No.: 76134

1. AUTHORIZATION

This State Water Quality Certification (WQC) is issued by the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) under the authority of §401(a) of the Federal Clean Water Act (CWA) (33 U.S.C. §1251 et seq.) and Arizona Revised Statutes (ARS) §49-202.

The conditions listed in Section 5 are in addition to conditions in the pending U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Application No. SPL-2014-00173. These conditions are enforceable by the USACE and are subject to civil penalties if violated. Criminal penalties may also be levied if a person knowingly violates any provision of the CWA.

Subject to the conditions in Section 5, ADEQ certifies that based on the information in Section 3, the activities proposed for the SR260 Little Colorado Bridge repairs project will not violate applicable Surface Water Quality Standards (SWQS) in the Little Colorado River and Water Canyon Creek.

Pursuant to ARS 49-202C, ADEQ's review authority extends only to activities occurring within the ordinary high water mark of WUS. Not all of the project elements involve discharges of dredged or fill material to WUS requiring a §401 WQC.

This §401 WQC is not applicable to portions of the project that may be located on the Hualapai Indian Reservation.

APPLICANT INFORMATION

Project Name: SR260 Little Colorado Bridge
Latitude: 34° 6' 13.1356" Longitude: -109° 18' 55.1982"

Applicant: Arizona Department of Transportation
Matt Moul
2407 E. Navajo Blvd.
Holbrook, AZ 86025

AUTHORIZING SIGNATURE

Christopher Henninger
Water Quality Division
Arizona Department of Environmental Quality

Date
Reading file: SWP19-0118

2. DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITIES TO BE CERTIFIED

On State Route 260 in Eagar, AZ, ADOT is planning the following repairs on two areas:

- Rehabilitating the existing three-span reinforced concrete slab bridge crossing the Little Colorado River; and
- Extending the existing concrete box culvert at Water Canyon Creek.

Little Colorado River Bridge:

At the Little Colorado River Bridge, work in waters of the U.S. (WUS) will consist of placing shotcrete on top of the existing bank protection, repairing pier wall foundations around two piers, and constructing a scour floor. The scour floor will be buried approximately 3-feet below the existing streambed directly underneath the existing bridge and extend 10 feet from the upstream and downstream faces of the bridge. The scour floor will be constructed in two phases, in order to allow for diversion of flows around the active worksite, as described below in more detail. Flagging will be used to identify the work limits and to mark the ordinary high water mark (OHWM) within WUS.

In order to access the river channel, two 15-foot-wide temporary access roads will be constructed along the north (downstream) side of the Little Colorado River Bridge. Vegetation will be removed and grading performed as necessary, to construct the temporary roads. Due to the perennial nature of the Little Colorado River, diversion (bypass) channels will be used for the two-phase construction of the scour floor. The existing low-flow channel will be separated into two diversion channels during construction. The channels will be excavated a maximum of 3-feet deep and 20-feet wide, which will accommodate expected flows.

During Phase 1, a diversion channel will be excavated on the west side of the low-flow channel. River flows will be diverted into this bypass channel while construction occurs in the east side of the channel. During Phase 2, once construction is complete in the east side of the channel, the contractor will excavate a diversion channel and divert the flow to the east side of the channel so construction could occur on the west side. Earthen berms or temporary concrete barriers will be used to contain any flow within the diversion channel and away from the construction zone. Best Management Practices, including restoring the low-flow channel to its original alignment and condition, and reseeded all areas outside the OHWM, will be used to reestablish the banks after construction.

The two construction staging and stockpiling areas for the project will be outside WUS. One area will be south of SR 260 and east of the Little Colorado River. The second area will be north of SR 260 and east of Water Canyon Creek. Any excavated material will be removed daily from the river and stockpiled in the stockpiling areas. Once work is completed, the stockpiled material will be placed back over the scour floor. The bridge rehabilitation work is expected to take approximately four months.

Water Canyon Creek:

The Water Canyon Creek reinforced concrete box culvert at MP 394.9 will be extended by 13–14 feet on each end. Fill will then be placed over the new extensions to extend the recovery area on each roadway shoulder. Construction vehicles and equipment may be required to temporarily enter and turn around within Water Canyon Creek for construction of the culvert extension. Flows in the creek are ephemeral except during irrigation season, when tailwater enters the creek. Construction will not occur within the creek if water is flowing, so construction is planned outside of the irrigation season. In the event of rain, the contractor will cease work and remove equipment from the creek or temporarily block the flow of water upstream and pump water from the construction zone. The culvert extension work has an anticipated duration of 4 to 6 weeks, which will occur concurrently with the bridge rehabilitation work described above.

In total, the proposed project will permanently impact 0.0754 acre of WUS (including 0.004 acres of wetlands) and temporarily impact 0.271 acre of WUS (including 0.093 acres of wetlands).

3. INFORMATION REVIEWED

During the development of this WQC, ADEQ had access to and reviewed the following documents which are on file with ADEQ:

- A. U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), Los Angeles District Public Notice: SPL-2014-00173 for SR260 Little Colorado River Bridge; comment period December 6, 2018 – January 7, 2019
- B. CWA §401 WQC application package including the CWA §404 permit application with project descriptions and maps, dated October 9, 2018 and received by ADEQ on March 29, 2019. Permittee: Matt Moul, Arizona Department Transportation, Northeast District.
- C. State of Arizona Surface Water Quality Standards (SWQS), Arizona Administrative Code (A.A.C.) Title 18, Chapter 11, Article 1. Designated uses for the Little Colorado River are:
 - Agriculture – Irrigation (AgI);
 - Agricultural - Livestock watering (AgL);
 - Aquatic and Wildlife cold (A&Wc);
 - Full Body Contact (FBC); and
 - Fish Consumption (FC).

Designated uses for Water Canyon Creek are:

- Agricultural - Livestock watering (AgL);
- Aquatic and Wildlife cold (A&Wc);
- Full Body Contact (FBC); and
- Fish Consumption (FC).

4. NOTIFICATION PROVISIONS

For any correspondence regarding this project, the ADEQ mailing address is:
Arizona Department of Environmental Quality
Rosi Sherrill
Surface Water Section / 401 WQCs / mailstop 5415A-1
1110 West Washington Street
Phoenix, Arizona 85007

For questions or general comments:
Email: sherrill.laurie@azdeq.gov

Voice: (602) 771-4409

In any correspondence, reference:
SR260 Little Colorado Bridge
USACE File No.: SPL-2014-00173
ADEQ LTF No.: 76134
Reading file: SWP19-0118

5. CONDITIONS FOR STATE 401 WATER QUALITY WQC

For the purposes of this WQC, the following definitions apply:

- Waters of the U.S. (WUS) as defined by the USACE and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) under the Clean Water Act. This WQC applies only to activities within a WUS.
- Fill material means soil, sand, gravel and other natural materials that are similar in physical, chemical and biological composition to existing natural materials in the project area and which are free from pollutants in quantities and concentrations that can cause or contribute to an exceedance of applicable Surface Water Quality Standards (SWQS).

GENERAL CONDITIONS

1. ADEQ's §401 WQC of these activities proposed by the applicable CWA §404 Permit, does not affect or modify in any way the obligations or liability of any person for any damages, injury, or loss, resulting from these activities. This WQC is not intended to waive any other federal, state or local laws.
2. If monitoring, by ADEQ or others, indicates that a discharge from the certified activities results in a violation of Arizona's surface water quality standards (numeric or narrative), ADEQ may file a Report of Potential Unauthorized Activity with the USACE, requesting an investigation of the situation.
3. Issuance of a §401 WQC does not imply or suggest that requirements for other permits including, but not limited to Aquifer Protection Permits, Arizona Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permits, Construction General Permits, DeMinimis Permits and Reclaimed Water permits are met or superseded. Applicant should contact ADEQ to ensure all applicable permits are obtained.

4. This WQC applies only to the activities described in Section 2 and is based upon the information listed in Section 3. This WQC is valid for the same period as the CWA §404 permit issued by the USACE. The applicant must apply for renewal, modification or extension of this WQC if the CWA§404 permit is renewed, modified, extended or otherwise changed. This WQC may be reopened by ADEQ at any time due to a change (e.g., lowered or more stringent) in a SWQS for a parameter likely to result from project activities. ADEQ may add or modify conditions in this WQC to ensure that the applicant's activities comply with the most recent SWQS.
5. The applicant shall provide a copy of this WQC to all appropriate contractors and subcontractors. The applicant shall also post and maintain a legible copy of this WQC in a weather-resistant location at the construction site where it may be seen by the workers.
6. The applicant shall notify ADEQ within 30 days of submitting the notice of completion of work required by the CWA §404 permit for this activity.
7. The applicant is responsible to ensure that certified activities do not cause or contribute to any exceedances of SWQS in any WUS.
8. This WQC does not authorize the discharge of mining, construction or demolition wastes, wastewater, process residues or other potential pollutants to any WUS except as specified in the application, supporting documents, and/or in the CWA §404 permit.