

## Clean Water Act § 401 Water Quality Certification

### San Pedro River Bridge No. 403

#### 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 (A.R.S.) § 49-202. This § 401 WQC will become part of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) § 404 Permit SPL-2024-00569.

Based on the information provided and identified in Section 3, ADEQ certifies that the replacement of San Pedro River Bridge crossing the San Pedro River will not violate applicable Surface Water Quality Standards (SWQS).

#### A. Location

ADEQ PLC: 135920

ADEQ LTF: 116646

#### B. Project Proponent Information

Jeremy Moore

Arizona Department of Transportation – Southcentral District

1221 S. Second Ave.

Tucson, AZ 85713

#### Authorizing Signature

Josephine Maressa

Deputy Director, Water Quality Division

Arizona Department of Environmental Quality

Date

## 2. Project Location

The project is located at the bridge crossing the San Pedro River on State Route 82 (SR82), south of Benson, Arizona. The location may be identified using these coordinates: Latitude: 31.723300 N, Longitude: -110.193784 W.

## 3. Description of Certified Activities

This project is being permitted by a U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Nationwide Permit #14 for Linear Projects. The Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT) plans to replace existing the San Pedro River Bridge (Structure #0403).

Activities include:

- The excavation and removal of two existing piers located approximately one-foot below grade within the San Pedro River bottom.
- Installation of three new concrete piers to support the new precast concrete girder bridge, requiring excavation of the San Pedro River bottom.
- Installation of railbank protection at the west bridge abutment.
- Surface flows in the San Pedro River will be temporarily diverted around active construction using typical dewatering methods, such as installing berms around the area and using pipes to temporarily divert surface flows. Once construction is complete, flows will be returned to baseline conditions.
- Permanent infiltration basins will be installed to collect stormwater runoff from SR82. These basins are designed to allow the runoff to percolate through soil, which naturally removes pollutants, and not diverted back to the San Pedro River.
- A construction general permit (CGP) for stormwater discharges during the bridge construction will be obtained and stormwater pollution prevention practices will be implemented throughout the site.
- During construction, an estimated 0.361 acres of the San Pedro River will be temporarily impacted for vehicle access and for the laydown of construction materials. Permanent impacts to the river are estimated at 0.012 acres loss to accommodate the installation of new piers within the river bottom.

## 4. Information Reviewed

During the development of this WQC, ADEQ accessed and reviewed the following documents and held the following information-sharing meetings:

- A. A CWA § 401 pre-filing notification meeting was held on June 4, 2026. Attendees included Patricia Patil, ADOT and Rosi Sherrill, ADEQ.
- B. The CWA § 401 WQC application package and associated details, plans, and maps which are dated and received by ADEQ from ADOT on June 8, 2026.
- C. A copy of the USACE Nationwide Permit (NWP) Preconstruction Notification application was received by ADEQ on June 8, 2026.
- D. Designated uses for the San Pedro River are Aquatic and Wildlife Warm (A&Ww), Full Body Contact (FBC), Fish Consumption (FC), Agriculture Irrigation (AgI), and Agriculture Livestock (AgL) (Arizona Surface Water Quality Standards (SWQS), Arizona Administrative Code (A.A.C.) Title 18, Chapter 11, Article 1, Appendix B).
- E. The San Pedro River at the location of the bridge activity is impaired for Dissolved Oxygen (DO) and *Escherichia coli* (*E. coli*) (2024 CWA Assessment, Appendix C – Impairments).

## 5. Notification Provisions

For any correspondence regarding this project, the ADEQ mailing address is:

Arizona Department of Environmental Quality  
Attn: Rosi Sherrill  
Surface Water Permits / 401 WQCs  
1110 West Washington Street, Phoenix, Arizona 85007

For questions or general comments:

Email: [sherrill.laurie@azdeq.gov](mailto:sherrill.laurie@azdeq.gov)  
Voice: (602) 771-4409

In any correspondence, please reference:

ADOT San Pedro Bridge No. 403  
USACE File No.: SPL-2024-00569  
ADEQ LTF No.: 116646

**6. Certification Notes**

This WQC applies only to the activities described in Section 3 and is based upon the information listed in Section 4. As noted in Section 1, this WQC will become part of the USACE § 404 Permit SPL-2024-00569 and is valid for the same time period as that permit. The project proponent must apply for renewal, modification, or extension of this WQC if the CWA § 404 permit is renewed, modified, extended, or otherwise changed.

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