

NOTICE OF PRELIMINARY DECISION TO ISSUE A SIGNIFICANT AMENDMENT TO AN INDIVIDUAL AQUIFER PROTECTION PERMIT

Pursuant to Arizona Administrative Code, Title 18, Chapter 9, Article 1, the Director of the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality intends to issue a Significant Amendment to Individual Aquifer Protection Permit (APP) for the following applicant:

Public Notice No. 26-19

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Permittee: Arizona State Parks Board

Facility: Patagonia Lake State Park Wastewater Treatment Plant

400 Patagonia Lake Rd,
Nogales, Arizona 85621
Santa Cruz County

Permit No.: 100624 **LTF No.:** 110553

Details

The permittee is authorized to operate the Patagonia Lake State Park Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP), with a maximum average monthly flow of 24,900 gallons per day (GPD). The WWTP utilizes Membrane Biological Reactor (MBR) package plant to treat wastewater at the park generated primarily from recreational restrooms/showers and RV dump station.

The purpose of this amendment is to repurpose the two-existing bentonite-clay lined facultative lagoons as lined effluent holding and evaporation basins following clean closure verification. Treated effluent is proposed to be managed primarily through discharge to the lined basins for on-site containment and evaporation. In an emergency, the facility has the option to discharge treated effluent to the nearby dry wash, a tributary to Patagonia Lake, in accordance with Arizona Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (AZPDES) Permit No. AZ0026620. Additionally, the applicant requested to replace the discharge monitoring parameter of Fecal Coliform with *E. Coli* and modify monitoring frequency for *E. coli* at discharge sampling point for consistency between this permit and AZPDES permit. This proposed alignment in monitoring frequency will ensure continued protection of public health and the environment.

How to Review the Documents

You can view the documents online by finding this notice in the list on [azdeq.gov/PublicNotices](https://www.azdeq.gov/PublicNotices).

The documents are also available at the ADEQ Records Center. Call 602-771-4380 to make an appointment, or visit the Records Center located at 1110 West Washington Street, Phoenix, Arizona. Learn more at [azdeq.gov/records](https://www.azdeq.gov/records).

How to Submit Comments

Written comments regarding the proposed action can be submitted two ways:

- Email comments to nafsin.nabila@azdeq.gov
- Mail comments to:
ADEQ Water Quality Division
Attn: Nabila Nafsin, Groundwater Reclamation and Reuse-Individual APP Unit,
1110 W. Washington St., Phoenix, Arizona 85007

The comment period begins October 14, 2026. Comments must be received or postmarked by November 13, 2026 to be considered.

You may request a public hearing on the proposed action by email or mail. A public hearing request must be in writing and must include the reasons for such request. If there is a significant degree of public interest, the Director will hold a hearing.

ADEQ will take reasonable measures to provide access to department services to individuals with limited ability to speak, write or understand English and/or to those with disabilities. Requests for language translation, ASL interpretation, CART captioning services or disability accommodations must be made at least 48 hours in advance by contacting the Title VI Nondiscrimination Coordinator, Joaquin Marruffo Ruiz, at 520-628-6744 or Marruffo.Joaquin@azdeq.gov. For a TTY or other device, Telecommunications Relay Services are available by calling 711.

ADEQ tomará las medidas razonables para proveer acceso a los servicios del departamento a personas con capacidad limitada para hablar, escribir o entender inglés y/o para personas con discapacidades. Las solicitudes de servicios de traducción de idiomas, interpretación ASL (lengua de signos americano), subtítulo de CART, o adaptaciones por discapacidad deben realizarse con al menos 48 horas de anticipación comunicándose con el Coordinador de Anti-Discriminación del Título VI, Joaquin Marruffo Ruiz, al 520-628-6744 o Marruffo.Joaquin@azdeq.gov. Para un TTY u otro dispositivo, los servicios de retransmisión de telecomunicaciones están disponible llamando al 711.