

PUBLIC NOTICE

April 16, 2024

The [Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality \(DEQ\)](#) has received an application for a Section 401 Water Quality Certification (WQC) pertaining to proposed activities on Robert S. Kerr Lake, OK220200020020_00, in Sequoyah County to be authorized under CWA Section 404 permit for the discharge of dredged or fill material. Under [Section 401 of the Clean Water Act \(CWA\)](#), the State is required to review any Federal permit regarding activities in navigable waters. The purpose of the Certification review, according to DEQ regulations [[Title 252, Chapter 611-3-1\(a\)](#)], is to determine whether the proposed discharge(s) will comply with the [Oklahoma Water Quality Standards](#) (WQS), and Sections 301, 302, 303, 306, and 307 of the CWA.

This Public Notice opens on April 16, 2024, and will close on May 16, 2024.

Federal Highway Administration, Central Federal Lands Highway Division submitted an application for shoreline stabilization of Robert S. Kerr Lake in Sequoyah National Wildlife Refuge in Sequoyah County. The repair work is covered under the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' Nationwide Permits 3 (NWP3) and 13 (NWP13), Bank Stabilization. The Oklahoma Water Quality Standards designates Robert S. Kerr Lake as an Appendix B water. For NWP 3 and NWP13, DEQ requires a project-specific WQC for Appendix B waters.

The proposed project aims to both preserve and enhance the visitor experience within the Refuge. This involves repairing damaged areas of the bank to safeguard the existing trail infrastructure. The proposed project would repair and stabilize 1,069 feet of shoreline. The project also includes reconstructing 417 feet of a 6-foot-wide asphalt trail within the Sandtown Woods area of the Refuge. The impacts represent permanent fill (approximately 1,400 cubic yards of riprap material placed along the shoreline and temporary disturbance from construction equipment). Standard construction practices will be implemented to protect water quality. No wetlands will be impacted by the proposed project, and Best Management Practices will be utilized to protect water resources from sedimentation during construction.

The project is located in Section 7, Township 11 North, Range 22 East, I.M, in Sequoyah County, Oklahoma.

DEQ is soliciting comments concerning water quality impacts of the project. The comments received will be considered by DEQ in issuing a Section 401 Water Quality Certification for the proposed project. Please submit your comments in writing by the end of the workday on May 16, 2024, to:

Elena Jigoulina
Water Quality Division
Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality
P.O. Box 1677
Oklahoma City, OK 73101-1677
(405) 702-8200
Water.Comments@deq.ok.gov



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