

Robert Singletary
Executive Director



Kevin Stitt
Governor

PUBLIC NOTICE

April 18, 2025

The [Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality \(DEQ\)](#) has received an application for a Clean Water Act (CWA) Section 401 Water Quality Certification (Certification) pertaining to proposed activities on Sandy Creek in Alfalfa County. The activities require the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers permit under Section 404 of the CWA (Section 404 Permit). Under [Section 401 of CWA](#), the State is required to review any Federal permit regarding activities in Waters of the United States. 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 18, 2025, and will close on May 19, 2025.

Salt Plains National Wildlife Refuge (Refuge) submitted an application for water control structure & diversion outlet works replacement on Sandy Creek in the Refuge in Alfalfa County. The repair work is covered under Section 404 Permit, Nationwide Permit 3 (NWP3), Maintenance. WQS designates Sandy Creek as an Appendix B water. In December of 2020 DEQ required a project-specific WQC for NWP3 for projects in Appendix B waters.

The proposed project consists of hydrologic and hydraulic analyses, demolition of the existing structure, design and construction of a replacement water control structure with Department of Interior requested improvements. The redesign should eliminate sand and trash buildup. A temporary diversion dam to redirect Sandy Creek flow is also proposed to allow for construction of the project in dry conditions.

The project is located in Section 7, Township 27 North, Range 9 West, I.M, in Alfalfa County, Oklahoma.

DEQ is soliciting comments concerning the 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 19, 2025, 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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If you are receiving this in paper form, please help save money and the environment by receiving the notice in PDF format via e-mail. Just send your e-mail address to Water.Comments@deq.ok.gov

