

IOWA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

## EcoNewsWire Environmental Services

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE January 21, 2021

- Public comment sought on Section 401 water quality certification of regional
  permits 33, 42 and 43
- DNR enforcement actions
- A note on Iowa DNR and COVID-19

## Public comment sought on Section 401 water quality certification of regional permits 33, 42 and 43

MEDIA CONTACT: Christine Schwake, DNR, at 515-725-8399 or Christine.schwake@dnr.iowa.gov.

DES MOINES -- The Iowa Department of Natural Resources is asking for public comment on the certification of new U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) Regional Permits 33, 42 and 43.

In accordance with state and federal statutes and regulations, applicants seeking authorization under Section 404 of the federal Clean Water Act from the Corps must also have a Clean Water Act Section 401 Water Quality Certification (certification) authorizing a discharge to waters of the United States.

Regional Permit 33 authorizes fill material placed in waters of the United States for certain conservation practices sponsored by U.S. Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service and Department of Housing and Urban Development.

Regional Permit 42 authorizes fill material placed in waters of the United States for the construction of recreational ponds up to 10 acres in size. Regional Permit 43 authorizes the placement of fill materials into waters of the United States for the construction, maintenance, repair, and removal of utility lines and associated facilities.

Find draft certifications, draft antidegradation analyses, and supporting information on <u>DNR's Wetlands Permitting</u> page.

Written comments regarding the certifications can be submitted until 4:30 p.m. Feb. 14, 2021. Please send written comments via email to <u>Section401WQC@dnr.iowa.gov</u> or by mail to Iowa DNR, Attn: Section 401 Water Quality Certification, 502 East Ninth St., Des Moines, IA 50319.

Questions can be directed to Christine Schwake at <u>christine.schwake@dnr.iowa.gov</u> or 515-725-8399.

### **DNR enforcement actions**

# MEDIA CONTACT: Tamara McIntosh, DNR, at 515-725-8242 or Tamara.Mcintosh@dnr.iowa.gov.

DES MOINES – DNR staff work with individuals, businesses and communities to help them protect our natural resources by complying with state and federal laws. This approach is very effective. In the few cases where compliance cannot be achieved, the DNR issues enforcement actions. The following list summarizes recent enforcement actions. Find the entire, original orders on DNR's website at www.iowadnr.gov/EnforcementActions.

**Consent Orders** A consent order is issued as an alternative to issuing an administrative order. A consent order indicates that the DNR has voluntarily entered into a legally enforceable agreement with the other party.

#### **Cerro Gordo and Floyd Counties**

Denver Larson, dba Larson Salvage

Cease improper handling and storage of appliances; cease and prevent illegal open burning; and pay a \$2,500 administrative penalty.

#### **Dallas County**

**Charles Manning** 

Cease illegal disposal of solid waste and illegal open burning of solid waste; properly reuse, recycle or dispose of all solid waste in compliance with law; within 60 days remove and properly dispose of all solid waste on site, including ash from burning; and pay a \$5,350 administrative penalty.

#### **Emmet County**

#### City of Armstrong

Submit a wastewater treatment facility plan to the Department for approval no later than December 2021; submit final plans and specifications to the Department for approval no later than April 2022; complete construction of the wastewater treatment facility by November 2023; and pay a \$2,000 administrative penalty.

#### Wayne County

Double A Pork, Inc. Pay a \$2,000 administrative penalty.

## A note on Iowa DNR and COVID-19

The lowa Department of Natural Resources is working with state and local officials to reduce the spread of COVID-19 and has transitioned employees to work remotely. DNR offices are closed to the public during this time and only available by appointment.

In another effort to further reduce the spread of COVID-19, the DNR is encouraging the use of the online services for submitting applications, payments and other daily tasks and interaction with DNR staff.

- Full list of DNR's online services
- Up-to-date information on DNR services, facilities and events impacted by COVID-19
- Technical information for regulated businesses in regards to COVID-19

We thank you for your patience and flexibility during this time. If you need to contact DNR staff you can reach them by email or phone or by calling 515-725-8200.