

July 20, 2005

**Public Notice for 401 Water Quality Certification
and/or
Waste Discharge Requirements (Dredge/Fill Projects)**

**Todd Griswold
Griswold Property Residential Development Project
WDID No. 1B04102WNSO
Sonoma County**

On July 19, 2004, the North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Water Board) received an application from Charlie Traboulsi, on behalf of Todd Griswold, requesting a Water Quality Certification and/or Waste Discharge Requirements (Dredge/Fill Projects) for the permanent fill of 0.65 acres of seasonal wetland habitat associated with the development of a residential subdivision in Santa Rosa, Sonoma County. The proposed project will cause disturbances to the Waters of the United States (U.S.) associated with seasonal wetland habitat in the Santa Rosa Hydrologic Unit No. 114.22.

On August 12, 2003, the Applicant submitted an application for the development of a 4.5-acre site (one parcel, WDID No. 1B03152WNSO) in northern Santa Rosa, at 3718 Barnes Road, Santa Rosa, Sonoma County. This project was reviewed by Regional Water Board staff, determined incomplete, and issued a Denial Without Prejudice on January 12, 2004. At the Applicants request, the two separate applications have been combined into one project, titled Griswold Property Residential Development Project (WDID No. 1B04102WNSO). The file for the previous application (WDID No. 1B03152WNSO) has been closed.

The proposed project involves the permanent fill of 0.65 acres of seasonal wetland associated with the construction of a residential development on a 6.2-acre site in northeastern Santa Rosa, at 3714 Barnes Road (APN No.059-001-034 and 034-024-013). The proposed development would include construction of 45 detached, single-family homes, one duplex, and two “granny” units, for a total of 7.5 units per acre. Associated infrastructure would include the installation of drainage pipes connecting the subdivision to the existing City of Santa Rosa storm sewer, sanitary sewer, and water service, as well as parking spaces, and necessary access roads or driveways. The purpose of the project is to provide residential housing within the city of Santa Rosa.

The project affects 0.65 acres of jurisdictional Waters of the U.S., as delineated by Mr. Charles Patterson, Plant Ecologist, and verified by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE).

No listed species of concern have been observed to occur on the project site during six years of plant surveys conducted by Mr. Charles A. Patterson, Plant Ecologist. Surveys were also conducted for the California Tiger Salamander (CTS). The California Fish and Wildlife Service (CFWS) has determined that the proposed development will not result in a take of the CTS, and a “no effect” determination was granted for the project site.

This development is proposed to begin in the spring or summer of 2005. Duration of this project has not been determined, as plans have not been finalized. If this project is incomplete by October 15, 2005, the applicant will be required to winterize the site, and resume construction the following spring.

Compensatory Mitigation is required for this project, to compensate the loss of 0.65 acres of seasonal wetland habitat. The Applicant is proposing to mitigate these impacts with the purchase of wetland mitigation bank preservation credits and creation credits equal to the amount of wetland impact (0.65 acres preservation credits and 0.65 acres creation credits). Wetland mitigation bank credits have been reserved for this project at the Hale Mitigation Bank, located on Todd Road, in Santa Rosa, and proof of credits has been submitted to this office.

Non-compensatory mitigation measures include the use, which may include straw wattles, seed and mulching of all exposed areas, sediment basins and/or filters to temporarily ensure sediment does not reach the storm drain system, straw bales, and sand bags, as described in the Erosion Control and Sedimentation Plan prepared by Baechtel Hudis, dated June 9, 2005, and approved by Regional Water Board staff. Work will be confined to the low flow/dry season between June 15th and October 15th.

The City of Santa Rosa, as the lead California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) agency, has determined that this project qualifies for a Negative Declaration (dated May 11th, 2004), pursuant to CEQA.

The Applicant has filed an application for an Individual Permit from the USACE, dated December 6, 2004 (File No. 27030N).

Regional Water Board staff is proposing to regulate this project pursuant to Section 401 of the Clean Water Act (33 USC 1341) and Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act Authority. In addition, staff will consider all comments received during a 21-day comment period that begins on the first date of issuance of this notice. If you have any questions or comments please contact staff member Andrew Jensen at (707) 576-2683 or at ajensen@waterboards.ca.gov within 21 days of the posting of this notice.