

**Public Notice for Section 401 Water Quality Certification  
and/or Waste Discharge Requirements**

CDOT – Highway 299, HUM PM 27.01-29.23 – Repair Two Culverts Project  
WDID No. 1B06009WNHU

Humboldt County

On February 1, 2006, the North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Water Board) received an application from Ms. Gail Popham, representing the California Department of Transportation (applicant), requesting Federal Clean Water Act, Section 401, Water Quality Certification for a proposed project involving installation of culvert liners and replacement of a downdrain. The proposed project will cause disturbances to waters of the United States associated with an unnamed tributary to Willow Creek in the Willow Creek Hydrologic Subarea No. 106.12 and an unnamed tributary to Captain Creek in the Beaver Hydrologic Area. No. 107.20.

The proposed project involves work at two existing culverts under Highway 299 near Berry Summit. The purpose of the proposed project is to rehabilitate bituminous-coated, corrugated steel culverts that have corroded inverts. The applicant proposes to install a 30-inch diameter high-density polyethylene culvert liner in the existing 48-inch corrugated steel culvert located at Post Mile 27.01 that carries an unnamed tributary to Captain Creek. The void between the existing culvert and the liner will be filled with concrete slurry. The seasonal watercourse may be dry during implementation of the project or the flow will be routed through the existing culvert. Approximately five cubic yards of soil and uprooted shrubs will be removed near the inlet end of the culvert and a small sinkhole on the shoulder of the eastbound lane will be filled with imported fill material.

The applicant also proposes to install a flexible plastic liner inside the existing 24-inch diameter culvert located at post mile 29.23 that carries an unnamed tributary to Willow Creek. The existing 120-foot long flume will be replaced with a 24-inch diameter high-density polyethylene downdrain with five anchor assemblies placed at 20-foot intervals. The seasonal watercourse at this location will be dry during implementation of the project.

The proposed project is scheduled to occur between August 1 and October 15, 2006. This project will permanently impact 0.017 acre of jurisdictional Waters of the State. Permanent impacts from this project will occur in existing culverted stream channels. Approximately 0.003 acre of stream channel will be temporarily impacted for construction access. Compensatory mitigation is not required. Noncompensatory mitigation measures for this project include the use of Best Management Practices for sediment and turbidity control.

The applicant has received authorization (File No. 300440N) to perform the proposed project under Nationwide Permit Nos. 3 and 33 from the United States Army Corps of Engineers, pursuant to Clean Water Act, Section 404. The California Department of Transportation, as the lead agency for CEQA, determined that the proposed project is categorically exempt from CEQA (Class 1, Section 15301. The applicant has applied for a Lake or Streambed Alteration Agreement (1600 Permit) from the California Department of Fish and Game.

Regional Water Board staff are proposing to regulate this project pursuant to Section 401 of the Clean Water Act (33 USC 1341) and/or 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 letter and ends at 5:00 p.m on the last day of the comment period. If you have any questions or comments, please contact staff member Dean Prat at (707) 576-2801 within 21-days of the posting of this notice.

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