

June 30, 2006

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

Pinnacle Homes  
Nicoll Subdivision Project  
Mendocino County (WDID# 1B06023WNME)

On March 8, 2006, the North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Water Board) received an application from Pinnacle Homes requesting a Water Quality Certification and/or Waste Discharge Requirements (Dredge/Fill Projects) for the Nicoll Subdivision Project located at 301 Carter Lane, Ukiah, Mendocino County. The proposed project will cause disturbances to the bank of the Russian River in the Ukiah Hydrologic Sub Area No 114.31, Mendocino County Hydrologic Unit No 114.31.

The proposed project is located approximately three miles north of central Ukiah, lying directly west of the west branch of the Russian River and south of Lake Mendocino Drive (APN 169-130-19). The project site is accessible from Twin Rivers Drive, an internal road of the West Fork Subdivision. The purpose of the project is to install an outfall structure into the Russian River to provide storm water drainage for the proposed Nicoll Subdivision Project.

The project is part of a development entailing the construction of 15 medium density residential units on 4.2 acres. The proposed project consists of the installation of a storm drain outfall above the Ordinary High Water Mark (OHWM) on the bank of the west fork of the Russian River. The installation of the storm drain will require the use of heavy equipment to trench the line and place rock slope protection at the outfall. Construction activities will not occur within the active Russian River channel or below the OHWM.

Work on the site is scheduled to begin Summer 2006. In the event that construction will continue throughout the wet season, additional erosion control Best Management Practices (BMPs) will be used to winterize the site, ensuring that runoff from the construction site will not impact Waters of the State. According to the Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) the (BMPs) will include the use of silt fences, straw bale dikes and check dams, drainage swales and curbs, berms, and earthen dikes.

According to the application, storm water runoff will be pretreated by the installation of post-construction storm water treatment (BMPs) in the form of vegetated bioswales and/or lawns, which the runoff will sheet flow across prior to entering the storm drain system. Storm drain catch basins are proposed to be equipped with FloGard +PLUS® Catch Basin Insert Filters to separate sediment and to capture petroleum-based pollutants from first flush storm flows. These filters will be maintained by the individual property owners as outlined in the Nicoll Subdivision CC&Rs, which are the technical documents containing the maintenance agreement. In order to slow water velocity prior to discharging to the Russian River, the storm drain outfall will be equipped with energy dissipaters as well as a weir. Rock slope protection will be placed at the base of the outfall to reduce erosion.

Compensatory mitigation will include the removal of non-native plants and planting of native species, including trees, shrubs and grasses along the disturbed riverbank and adjacent areas. All plants will be monitored and maintained as necessary for five years with a proposed minimum of 80% survival at the end of five years, and 75% coverage after five years.

The proposed outfall structure will be constructed above the OHWM; therefore a United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Nationwide Permit is not required. On May 27, 2005 the California Department of Fish and Game issued a Lake and Streambed Alteration Agreement (Notification Number 1600-2005-0120-3).

Mendocino County, as the lead California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) agency, has determined that this project qualifies for a Negative Declaration pursuant to CEQA.

The Nicoll Subdivision Project will begin as soon as the project is permitted and work on the outfall is expected to be completed by October 15, 2006. Staff is 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. If you have any questions or comments, please contact staff member Johncaleb Sarsfield at 707-576-6728 or at [jsarsfield@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:jsarsfield@waterboards.ca.gov), or staff member Michelle Jensen at 707-576-6711 or at [mjensen@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:mjensen@waterboards.ca.gov), within 21 days of the posting of this notice.

The related documents and comments received are on file and may be inspected or copied at the Regional Water Board office, 5550 Skylane Blvd., Boulevard, Suite A, Santa Rosa, California. Appointments are recommended for document review. Appointments can be made by calling 707 576-2220.

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