

August 31, 2006

**Public Notice for Water Quality Certification and/or Waste  
Discharge Requirements (Dredge/Fill Projects)  
Sonoma County Department of Transportation and Public Works  
Geysers Road Culvert Replacement Project  
Sonoma County (WDID# 1B06077WNSO)**

On May 26, 2006, the North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Water Board) received an application from Mr. Steve Dee on behalf of the Sonoma County Department of Transportation and Public Works requesting a Water Quality Certification and/or Waste Discharge Requirements for the Geysers Road Culvert Replacement Project. The proposed project will disturb Waters of the United States associated with Lovers Gulch Creek and the Russian River Hydrologic Unit No. 114.00, and the Geyserville Hydrologic Sub Area 114.25.

The proposed project is located at Post Mile 15.18 on Geysers Road near the town of Geyserville in Sonoma County, California. The purpose of the project is the replacement of an existing culvert that was damaged in winter storms. The project will improve the drainage adjacent to Geysers Road.

During the 2004/2005 storm season significant erosion occurred at the upstream end of the culvert, jeopardizing the integrity of the roadway. The Applicant proposes to replace the existing culvert with a longer 36-inch diameter culvert and install rock rip rap at the inlet and outlet of the culvert.

The Applicant has applied for a permit from the California Department of Fish and Game and the United States Army Corps of Engineers. Biological surveys and identification of threatened or endangered species will be conducted prior to replacement of the culvert.

The Applicant will use Best Management Practices (BMPs) to control erosion and sediment transport, including fiber roll check dams. No equipment will enter the channel, and no fuel or oil will be stored in the project area during construction. All fill material used on the site will be clean and free of contaminants.

The Regional Water Board has found the project categorically exempt pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

The applicant estimates the proposed project will be completed between May 15<sup>th</sup> and October 15<sup>th</sup>, during which time the creek is typically dry.

The project is scheduled for construction as soon as permitted and will be completed prior to 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 issuance date of this letter. If you have any questions or comments, please contact Gabriel Chavez (707) 576-2835 or at [gchavez@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:gchavez@waterboards.ca.gov).

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