

June 25, 2007

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

**Sonoma State University  
Copeland Creek Bank Repair Project  
Sonoma County (WDID# 1B07081WNSO)**

On May 31, 2007, the North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Water Board) received an application from Sonoma State University requesting a Water Quality Certification and/or Waste Discharge Requirements (Dredge/Fill Projects) for the Copeland Creek Bank Repair Project located in Sonoma County. The proposed project causes disturbances to Waters of the State associated with Copeland Creek and the Russian River Hydrologic Unit No.114.00.

The proposed project is located in the town of Rohnert Park at 1801 East Cotati Avenue, Sonoma County, California, (APN. No. 047-131-011, 018, 036 and 037). The latitude and longitude is 38.3427°N and -122.6694°W. The purpose of the project is to remove a gravel bar and stabilize a stream bank that have been damaged in the heavy storm events of December 2005 and January 2006.

The proposed project will reduce sedimentation by stabilizing the collapsing bank wall and redirecting the main stream flow away from the bank wall. An existing bar of sediment and gravel with invasive Himilayan blackberries will be removed from the creek and deposited on an undeveloped portion of the property. All gravel and rock that is larger than one inch in diameter will be redistributed in the streambed with only minimal fines being removed and relocated to landscape areas on campus. The eroding bank will be built out to the original contour using rock rip rap sunk two feet into the streambed with approximately three feet of rip rap above the streambed. The rip rap will be further stabilized by backfilled clean compacted soils. Extensive use of native plantings above the rip rap will further stabilize the bank. Rip rap will be used at the minimum necessary to stabilize the eroding bank.

The applicant has applied for authorization from the United States Army Corps of Engineers to perform the project under Nationwide Permit, pursuant to Clean Water Act, section 404. The California Department of Fish and Game (CDFG) has determined that this project is statutorily exempt from California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) review (Section 15269 – Emergency Projects). Based on a review of the project information submitted to date, Regional Water Board staff determined that this project is categorically exempt from CEQA review (Class 1, Section 15269 – Declared Emergency) and anticipate filing a Notice of Exemption for this project.

The applicant has applied for a California Department of Fish and Game 1602 Streambed Alteration Agreement, on May 17, 2007, Notification Number: 1600-2007-0230-3.

Construction Best Management Practices (BMPs) will be incorporated into the final project plans in order to reduce and control soil erosion. Construction activities are proposed to take place between August 1<sup>st</sup> and October 15<sup>th</sup>, 2007.

The Copeland Creek Bank Stabilization Project is scheduled to begin Summer 2007 and end in Fall 2007. 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 Stephen Bargsten at (707) 576-2653, or at [sbargsten@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:sbargsten@waterboards.ca.gov), or Darren Bradford at (707) 576-2466, [dbradford@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:dbradford@waterboards.ca.gov), within 21 days of the posting of this notice.

This is a brief summary of this project; all 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.