

July 10, 2007

**Public Notice for Water Quality Certification and/or Waste
Discharge Requirements (Dredge/Fill Projects)
California Department of Transportation, Slope Stabilization and Fish Passage
Facilitation Project
Mendocino County (WDID No. 1B06060WNME)**

On May 5, 2006, the North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Water Board) received an application from Ms. Susan Leroy of the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) requesting a Water Quality Certification and/or Waste Discharge Requirements for the Slope Stabilization and Fish Passage Facilitation Project in Mendocino County, California. The proposed project will impact Waters of the United States associated with Beebe Creek and John Hiatt Creek, tributaries to the Navarro River, Mendocino Coast Hydrologic Unit No. 113.50

The proposed project is located along route 128 west of Yorkville and east of Boonville in Mendocino County. Location 1 is at post mile (PM) 39.88; location 2 is at PM 39.95. The purpose of the project is to install a series of fish passage weirs and to stabilize banks using rock riprap.

At location 1, work will include stabilizing the road base around the culvert that conveys Beebe Creek under route 128. This will be achieved by placing approximately 112 cubic yards of rock riprap at the outlet of the culvert. Three concrete fish weirs with stage lengths of 11.5 feet will be installed downstream of the culvert outlet. The weirs are designed to reduce the velocity of the water. The weirs will either be pre-cast or cast in place. If they are cast in place, all concrete washing will be completely contained and properly disposed of. Staging for work at location 1 will be from an existing gravel turnout. Beebe creek should be restricted to subsurface flows during the work period, however if water diversion becomes necessary, the surface water will be dammed approximately 10 feet above culvert inlet and the water will be diverted to the point immediately downstream of the construction area.

Work at location 2 will consist of hand placing approximately 12 cubic yards of rock at the ends of three existing weirs downstream of the culvert that conveys John Hiatt Creek under route 128. All access to the site will be on foot.

Erosion control Best Management Practices shall be available on site, and should be installed if rain is forecast. Upon completion of the project the access road and all disturbed areas shall be hydroseeded and straw mulch shall be spread.

At location 1 it may be necessary to remove trees. Mitigation for these trees will be at a 10:1 ratio in the areas adjacent to the rock riprap. Trees suitable for planting are alders, Douglas firs, big leaf maple, and California bay.

Two CEQA document apply to this project. For work at location 1; on June 29, 2005, Caltrans adopted a negative declaration (SCH No. 2005042089) for the project in order to comply with CEQA. The Regional Water Board has considered the environmental document and any proposed changes incorporated into the project or required as a condition of approval to avoid significant effects to the environment. For work at location 2; the project meets the exemption criteria under title 14, California Code of Regulations, 15301 Existing Facilities. The Regional Water Board will file a Notice of

Exemption in accordance with the California Code of Regulations, title 14, section 15062 after issuance of this order.

The project is scheduled to begin August 2007, and end prior to October 15, 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 John Caleb Sarsfield at (707) 576-6728 or at jsarsfield@waterboards.ca.gov or Mona Dougherty at (707) 570-3761 or at mdougherty@waterboards.ca.gov within 21 days of the posting of this notice.

This is a brief summary of the project; the related documents and comments received are on file and may be inspected or copied at the Regional Water Board office, 5550 Skylane 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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