September 13, 2007

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

David Parker
Spring Creek Emergency Watershed Protection Project
WDID# 1B07101WNSO

Sonoma County

On June 27, 2007, the North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Water Board) received an application from Sotoyome Resource Conservation District, on behalf of David Parker, requesting a Water Quality Certification and/or Waste Discharge Requirements (Dredge/Fill Projects) for the Spring Creek Emergency Watershed Protection Project located in Sonoma County. The proposed project causes permanent impacts to 120 linear feet of stream bank in Spring Creek, Santa Rosa Hydrologic Sub Unit No. 114.22.

The proposed project is located on Spring Creek in Santa Rosa, Sonoma County, California, (APN. No. 014-171-048-000). The latitude and longitude is 38.44108˚N and -122.69176˚W. The purpose of the project is stabilize approximately 120 linear feet of stream bank, provide a wider, more stabile creek geometry, and rebuild the slope to minimize further degradation of soil and water resources and reduce the threat to life and property.

The proposed restoration project includes a stacked loose boulder toe built at a 1:1 slope and constructed to a depth 3 feet below the creek bed. This boulder revetment will extend up the bank approximately 7 feet to a height above the five year design storm elevation and will be interplanted with willows (Arroyo willows will not be used). The boulder revetment buttresses a fabric-reinforced earthen fill constructed at a 2:1 slope and interplanted with 4 layers of live willow brush. The upper slope will be replanted with approximately 60 native container plants to further stabilize the stream bank and enhance the riparian habitat. Heavy equipment will be operated in the creek bed but will not enter the stream. The project requires dewatering of the creek for efficient construction. Creek dewatering will entail the construction of sandbag cofferdams upstream and downstream of the project site, a fish rescue, and the pumping of water through a pipe with a screened inlet around the project site. The National Oceanic & Atmospheric Association (NOAA) will consult at the project site prior to construction activities. All fish collection and relocation will be performed in compliance with NMFS established guidelines. Upon completion of the project, the fish screen, sump pump and cofferdams will be removed. Project construction work would be performed in general accordance with the drawings entitled, “Parker Residence, Spring Creek Bank Stabilization“ in seven (7) sheets, revision dated September 11, 2007.

This project is designed to be self mitigating as the bank stabilization and planting will reduce sediment delivery to the creek, provide creek shading, and reduces threats to life and property. Future monitoring, maintenance and management of the site after

construction are the responsibility of the landowner. An 85% survival rate of all proposed plant species after five years will be implemented.

At a minimum, the following construction Best Management Practices (BMPs) will be incorporated into the final project plans in order to reduce and control soil erosion: work in and around waterways will be conducted during the dry season; installation of construction barrier fencing to preclude equipment entry into sensitive areas; installation of silt fencing or fiber rolls to prevent sediment loss from immediate work area; topsoil salvage and reapplication; and seeding and mulching.

The Spring Creek Emergency Watershed Protection Project is scheduled to begin in 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. Under Title 23, California Code of Regulations, Section 3858(a): "The executive director or the executive officer with whom an application for certification is filed shall provide public notice of an application at least twenty-one (21) days before taking certification action on the application, unless the public notice requirement has been adequately satisfied by the applicant or federal agency. If the applicant or federal agency provides public notice, it shall be in a manner and to an extent fully equivalent to that normally provided by the certifying agency. If an emergency requires that certification be issued in less than 21 days, public notice shall be provided as much in advance of issuance as possible, but no later than simultaneously with issuance of certification." Due to the nature of emergency associated with this project, 401 Water Quality Certification will be issued during the 21-day public comment period. Public comments will still be accepted and reviewed during the entire 21-day comment period.

If you have any questions or comments, please contact staff member Stephen Bargsten at (707) 576-2653, or at **sbargsten@waterboards.ca.gov**, or Darren Bradford at (707) 576-2466, **dbradford@waterboards.ca.gov,** within 21 days of 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.