

May 9, 2008

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

City of Yreka - Storm Drain Improvement Project  
WDID No. 1A08026WNSI

Siskiyou County

On February 22, 2008, the North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Water Board) received an application from the City of Yreka (applicant), requesting Federal Clean Water Act, section 401, Water Quality Certification for activities related to replacement of two existing subsurface storm drain systems and their associated outfalls to Yreka Creek in the City of Yreka. The proposed project will cause disturbances to waters of the United States associated with Yreka Creek in the Shasta Valley Hydrologic Area No. 105.50.

The purpose of the proposed project is to implement storm drain improvements that are recommended in the City of Yreka's Master Plan of Drainage. Storm drain piping replacement is designed to lessen flooding in downtown Yreka along Yreka Creek. The proposed project involves installation of approximately 2,810 linear feet of upgraded storm drain piping within the City's existing storm drain infrastructure systems located under Yreka Street and Center Street. The existing storm drain systems will be replaced with larger diameter pipes. Hydrodynamic storm water debris separators will also be added to both of the new storm drain systems to treat storm water runoff prior to discharge into Yreka Creek. The debris separators use a patented technology that is designed to screen, separate, and trap sediment, debris, and oil and grease from storm water runoff.

The proposed project includes replacement of two existing storm drain outfalls that extend through the bank of Yreka Creek. The existing outfalls are located on concrete armored sections of the creek bank. Proposed project activities include boring through the concrete armoring to allow for installation of larger diameter pipes. Approximately two cubic yards of rock riprap will also be placed below the Yreka Street storm drain outfall.

The Yreka Street storm drain outfall and rock riprap will result in 20 linear feet and 0.01 acre of permanent impacts to the stream bank. The Center Street storm drain outfall will result in 3.5 linear feet and .0002 acre of permanent impacts to the stream bank. Compensatory mitigation is not required for the proposed project. Noncompensatory mitigation for this project includes the use of Best Management Practices for sediment and erosion control and for the operation of heavy equipment near a waterway.

The applicant has obtained authorization (File No. 2008-00086) from the United States Army Corps of Engineers to perform the project under Nationwide Permit Number 3, pursuant to Clean Water Act, section 404. The applicant has also obtained a Lake or

Streambed Alteration Agreement from the California Department of Fish and Game. On June 7, 2007, the City of Yreka approved a Mitigated Negative Declaration (State Clearinghouse number 2007032159) for the project in order to comply with the California Environmental Quality Act. 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.

Regional Water Board staff are 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 submitted in writing and received at this office by mail during a 21-day comment period that begins on the first date of issuance of this letter and ends at 5:00 p.m. on the last day of the comment period. If you have any questions, please contact staff member Dean Prat at (707) 576-2801 within 21 days of the posting of this notice.