

July 21, 2008

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

**Sonoma County Office of Education,  
Proposed Community School Project**

**Sonoma County (WDID# 1B07173WNSO)**

On November 27, 2007, the North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Water Board) received an application from Laurence Stromberg, on behalf of the Sonoma County Office of Education (Applicant) requesting a Water Quality Certification and/or Waste Discharge Requirements (Dredge/Fill Projects) for the Proposed Community School Project (Project) located in Sonoma County. The proposed project causes permanent impacts to 0.07 acres of isolated seasonal wetlands within the Laguna HSA Hydrologic Sub Unit No. 114.21.

The proposed Project is located at 3255 and 3261 Dutton Avenue, Santa Rosa, Sonoma County, California, (APNs 134-072-016, -019). The latitude and longitude is 38.39790 °N and -122.72401 °W. The purpose of the project is to construct a community school to provide an alternative education program.

The Project will consist of the construction of a community school intended to provide an alternative learning environment for 12 to 18 year-old students that encounter difficulties in a traditional school setting and/or exhibit negative behavior patterns in either school or the community at large. The school will include 21,000 square feet (ft<sup>2</sup>) of buildings, play fields, and attendant facilities. The buildings will include a 1,000 ft<sup>2</sup> administration building, two large classrooms with a combined area of 6,000 ft<sup>2</sup>, two medium-sized classrooms with a combined area of 3,000 ft<sup>2</sup>, five standard classrooms with a combined area of 5,000, and a 5,700 ft<sup>2</sup> multi-use room. The multi-use room will include a restroom, a kitchen, a stage and assembly area, and an indoor play area. Outdoor play areas will include two basketball courts and a field that will serve as a combined soccer and baseball field. Entry access and 25 parking spaces will be provided along with car pickup-drop off areas. The existing residence and warehouse/garage in the northwest quarter of the site will be retained for administrative purposes and to provide storage facilities.

The project lies within the boundaries of the *Santa Rosa Plain Conservation Strategy* (SRPCS) area. The SRPCS is a strategy to protect the California Tiger Salamander (CTS) and four listed plant species. Projects in this area are required to mitigate for wetland and endangered plant impacts based on a programmatic biological opinion for the four endangered plant species, and the California Tiger Salamander (CTS) on the Santa Rosa Plain.

Compensatory Mitigation for impacts to Waters of the State will take place through the acquisition of credits from agency approved mitigation and conservation banks on the Santa Rosa Plain. The Applicant will purchase mitigation credits for impacts to 0.07 acres of seasonal wetland habitat, impacts to 0.07 acres of Sebastopol Meadowfoam

habitat, and for impacts to 4.13 acres (total project area less existing impervious area) of CTS habitat.

Post construction storm water treatment for the project consists of pervious pavement and vegetated swales. Pervious concrete will be used for the parking areas and drive aisles. Pervious walkways will be installed onsite. All areas will drain into grassy swales before being discharged to the existing storm drain. These stormwater treatment controls provide biological and filtration treatment, as well as attenuation for the peak storm flow to aid in flood prevention.

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. Additionally, all required BMPs shall be on-site and ready for timely deployment, before start of construction activities. All required BMPs shall be on-site and ready for timely deployment, before start of construction activities. BMPs shall be installed following the manufacturers' specifications for preparation, installation, and maintenance of these products. Qualified personnel shall inspect and keep a log of inspections of the construction site at least every fourteen calendar days and within 24 hours of the end of a rainfall event that is 0.5-inch or greater.

On December 6, 2007, the Sonoma County Office of Education adopted a mitigated negative declaration (SCH No. 2007102119) 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.

The Sonoma County Office of Education, Proposed Community School Project is scheduled to begin Spring 2009 and end in Fall 2009. 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) 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.