

August 19, 2008

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

Humboldt State University – College Creek Student Housing, Culvert Replacement  
Project

WDID No. 1B08101WNHU  
Humboldt County

On June 19, 2008, the North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Water Board) received an application from Humboldt State University (applicant), requesting Federal Clean Water Act, section 401, Water Quality Certification (certification) for activities related to replacing a culvert on the Humboldt State University (HSU) campus in Arcata. The proposed project will cause disturbances to waters of the United States associated with an unnamed drainage channel in the Eureka Plain Hydrologic Area No. 110.00.

The proposed project is a component of ongoing campus development and improvements within the College Creek Student Housing Project element of the HSU Master Plan. The proposed project is located along the paved College Walk that provides pedestrian access from the intersection of LK Wood Boulevard and 14<sup>th</sup> Street to the central part of campus near the intersection of Harpst and Rossow Streets. A drainage channel flows along the northwestern side of the College Walk. The channel currently begins at the outlet of a 36-inch culvert near the corner of the HSU soccer field along Rossow Street. The draining channel is only open for approximately 200 feet downstream of the 36-inch diameter culvert outlet before entering a 48-inch diameter culvert at 14<sup>th</sup> Street. The area adjacent to the culverts and the channel is mostly manicured lawn.

The proposed project involves removing approximately 10 feet of the outlet end of the existing 36-inch diameter culvert and replacing the removed section with a 48-inch diameter culvert. The inlet to the new culvert section will connect to a new manhole. A new concrete headwall will be added around the culvert outlet. The proposed headwall will be 15-feet across, 5-feet tall, and 9-inches thick. Installation of the headwall requires excavation of a 2-foot wide and 1.5-foot deep footing across the channel bottom. The new culvert and headwall have been designed to be located within the footprint of the existing culvert.

The applicant has applied for authorization from the United States Army Corps of Engineers to perform the project under Nationwide Permit Number 18, pursuant to Clean Water Act, section 404. The applicant has also applied for a Lake or Streambed Alteration Agreement from the California Department of Fish and Game. On July 30, 2008, the California State University Trustees certified an amendment to the Final Environmental Impact Report (EIR) (SCH No. 2004052085) for the project in order to comply with CEQA. The specific project includes a revision to the 2004 Master Plan to reflect the revised student housing building footprint and re-orientation of the soccer field for the College Creek Housing Project, installation of a retaining wall to support the new soccer field alignment, installation of a fire lane and culvert replacement and

headwall installation. The Regional Water Board has considered the environmental documents and any proposed changes incorporated into the project or required as a condition of approval to avoid significant effects to the environment.

The information contained in this public notice is only a summary of the applicant's proposed activities. The application for Water Quality Certification in the Regional Water Board's file contains additional details about the proposed project including maps and design drawings. The application and Regional Water Board file are available for public review.

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.