

December 12, 2008

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

City of Santa Rosa
Dennis Lane Storm Drain Project
WDID No. 1B08145WNSO

Sonoma County

On October 1, 2008, the North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Water Board) received an application from Ms. Rita Miller, Associate Engineer, City of Santa Rosa, on behalf of the City of Santa Rosa (Applicant), requesting a Water Quality Certification and/or Waste Discharge Requirements (Dredge/Fill Projects) for the Dennis Lane Storm Drain Project (Project), located in Sonoma County. The latitude and longitude is 38.482949 N and 122.754769 W. The proposed Project will cause permanent impacts to 0.005 acres of seasonal wetland within the Santa Rosa Hydrologic Unit Subarea No 114.22, Russian River Hydrologic Unit No. 114.00.

The Project involves construction of approximately 250 feet of storm drain and drain inlet basin within the northerly roadside ditch and road, to provide positive drainage for offsite flows. The area has experienced flooding conditions in the past.

The purpose of the Project is to alleviate the potential for serious local flood and storm damage to existing residential structures on Dennis Lane and will improve the passage of vehicles and pedestrians during heavy rain events.

Work will be done during the dry season.

Compensatory mitigation will consist of purchasing credits from an approved mitigation bank. It is anticipated that credits will be purchased in the following ratio: 0.2:1 for California Tiger Salamander; 1.5:1 for Federally-endangered plant habitat; and, 2:1 for Seasonal Wetlands. These ratios are consistent with the 2007 U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Programmatic Biological Opinion for the Santa Rosa plain.

The project does not require California Department of Fish and Game 1600 Streambed Alteration Agreement.

Applicant has applied for a United States Army Corps of Engineers Permit, File Number 2008-00266N. The Army Corps has initiated a Section 7 consultation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

The City of Santa Rosa prepared a Mitigated Negative Declaration, and recorded a Notice of Determination with the Office of Planning and Research, State Clearinghouse Number 2008062047 on August 26, 2008, pursuant to California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) guidelines.

At a minimum, the following construction Best Management Practices (BMPs) will be incorporated into the final project plans as appropriate 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.

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 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 or comments, please contact staff member Stephen Bargsten at (707) 576-2653, or at 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.