

April 23, 2009

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

City of Ukiah, Gobbi Street/Oak Manor Drive/Babcock Lane Realignment  
WDID No. 1B08169WNME

Mendocino County

On November 21, 2008, the North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Water Board) received an application from Mr. Tim Eriksen, P.E., Public Works Director/City Engineer, of the City of Ukiah (applicant), requesting Federal Clean Water Act, section 401, Water Quality Certification (certification) for activities associated with construction of a new set of natural stream bed (bottomless) culverts to align Babcock Lane with Oak Manor Drive at their intersection with Gobbi Street (Project). The proposed Project is a pedestrian safety project, and is located at the intersection of Gobbi Street, Babcock Lane, and Oak Manor Drive in the City of Ukiah, latitude 39.145317°N, 123.191997°W, Mendocino County. The proposed Project will cause permanent impact to approximately 0.07 acres, and temporary impact to 0.03 acres of waters of the State associated with Gibson Creek in the Ukiah Hydrologic Subarea No. 114.31, Russian River Hydrologic Area 114.00.

The proposed Project involves the realignment of Babcock Lane with Oak Manor Drive at their intersection with Gobbi Street to create a standard 90 degree intersection. The existing low profile concrete bridge over Gibson Creek will be replaced with two pre-cast concrete bottomless rectangular culverts, and a short segment of Gibson Creek will be realigned. Specific elements of the proposed Project include:

- Demolition of existing bridge across Gibson creek, and removal of existing non-Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) pedestrian bridge northwest of the intersection.
- Construction of a temporary creek crossing over Gibson Creek.
- Re-aligning a segment of Gibson Creek to accommodate the new intersection geometry.
- Construction of new bottomless culverts.
- Demolition and removal of existing street pavement.
- Relocation of any utilities that conflicts with the realigned street and creek.
- Construction of new roadway, curb, gutters, sidewalk, and ADA curb ramps.
- Construction of new storm drain manhole and relocation of existing storm drain, and vegetated bio-swales for discharge to Gibson Creek.
- Restoration of Gibson Creek within limits of Project disturbance.

Compensatory mitigation consists of revegetation of impacted area with species native to the area, per the *Restoration and Enhancement Monitoring and Reporting Plan*, by Winzler & Kelly, November 2008. Additionally, trees removed larger than 4 inches in diameter at breast height, will be replaced with a minimum of 3 replacement trees (of same or endemic species) on or near the streambank at the project site.

Revegetation/restoration area should result in an area larger than impact and of better quality shade and habitat. Planted vegetation will be monitored for at least five years, with yearly reports submitted to the Regional Water Board. Revegetation shall have an

85% survival rate at the end of five years. Plants shall be irrigated as necessary for survival and establishment. Invasive plant species such as vinca and Himalayan blackberry will be removed. The Project will comply with California Department of Fish and Game fish passage guidelines.

Post-construction stormwater treatment features will be incorporated to treat stormwater runoff. Landscape based treatment such as bioswales will treat stormwater before it is discharged to Gibson Creek.

The City of Ukiah, as lead California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) agency, has prepared and filed a Mitigated Negative Declaration, and Notice of Determination with the Office of Planning and Research, (State Clearinghouse No. 2007102093, April 21, 2008), pursuant to California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) guidelines.

Applicant has applied to the California Department of Fish and Game (Notification No. R1-08-0581) and the US Army Corps of Engineers, for their respective permits.

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 Stephen Bargsten at (707) 576-2653 within 21 days of the posting of this notice.