

September 16, 2009

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

City of Santa Rosa
Paulin Creek Outfall Repair
WDID No. 1B090064WNSO

Sonoma County

On May 19, 2009, the North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Water Board) received an application from Ms. Sheri Emerson of the City of Santa Rosa (Applicant), requesting Federal Clean Water Act, section 401, Water Quality Certification for activities associated with repair of an existing outfall. The proposed project is located on Paulin Creek near Chanate Road, Santa Rosa, latitude 38.466624° N, longitude 122.711779° W, Sonoma County. The proposed project will cause permanent impacts to approximately 0.007 acres of waters of the State associated with Paulin Creek in the Santa Rosa Hydrologic Subarea No. 114.22, Russian River Hydrologic Area 114.00.

The purpose of the proposed project is to repair erosion and undermining of the sackcrete retaining wall around an existing outfall and the footing of an adjacent wall, which was damaged by flooding in the 2005-2006 New Years Storms.

The proposed project involves temporarily dewatering the side inlet to Paulin Creek. Cofferdams will be erected out of clean gravel, sandbags, or inflatable bladder. A qualified biologist will be on site during dewatering to relocate any aquatic species. A grout mix will be injected into the area underneath the overhanging sackcrete wall and concrete footer wall to return them to natural grade. Rip-rap and a non-woven geotextile fabric underlay will also be installed to protect the areas from further scour. A small gully on the bank to the side of the outfall will also be lined with rock to protect it from erosion. The least amount of fill necessary to stabilize the area will be utilized for the repair. All equipment shall be operated from the top of the bank, or from the bridge surface

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; and seeding and mulching. All erosion control measures will be installed and in place by October 15 and maintained thereafter by the contractor. Additionally, all required BMPs shall be on-site and ready for timely deployment before the start of construction activities.

Compensatory mitigation will consist of replacement of any removed trees at a three to one ratio and revegetation of all exposed surfaces with native seed mix. All plantings shall be irrigated and managed for a minimum of 5 consecutive years immediately following planting. Planted vegetation shall have at least an 85% survival rate of

thriving planted species at the end of five years. Annual reports shall be submitted to the Regional Water Board for five years, and shall include photos of the revegetated areas, and include survival rates and a narrative summary of the status of the revegetation effort.

The City of Santa Rosa, as lead California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) agency, has determined this project to be Categorical Exempt on September 21, 2006, pursuant to CEQA guidelines.

The Applicant has applied to the California Department of Fish and Game for a Lake and Streambed Alteration Agreement.

The Applicant has applied to US Army Corps of Engineers for a Clean Water Act Section 404 Nationwide Permit.

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 Boulevard, Suite A, Santa Rosa, California. Appointments are recommended for document review. Appointments can be made by calling (707) 576-2220.