

October 22, 2009

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

Bodega Bay Public Utility District  
North and South Bodega Harbour High Pressure Zones 8-Inch Intertie  
WDID No. 1B09112WNSO  
Sonoma County

On September 17, 2009, the North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Water Board) received an application from Mr. Justin Witt of Brelje & Race Engineers, on behalf of the Bodega Bay Public Utility District (Applicant), requesting Federal Clean Water Act, section 401, Water Quality Certification (certification) for the North and South Bodega Harbour High Pressure Zones 8-Inch Intertie Project (Project), located in Sonoma County. The Project is located at Cheney Gulch, north of highway 1 at intersection of Highway 1 and South Harbour Way, latitude 38.72486° N and longitude 123.01014° W. The proposed Project will cause temporary impacts to approximately 0.11 acres of waters of the State associated with stream bed and bank of Cheney Gulch in the Bodega Harbor Hydrologic Sub Area No. 115.21, Bodega Hydrologic Unit 115.00.

The Project involves construction within the Bodega Bay public water system of an interconnection between two independent water service pressure zones within the Bodega Bay community. The independent water pressure zones are identified as Bodega Harbour North high zone and Bodega Harbour South high zone. Each zone is now served by a booster pump station that pumps water from a lower pressure zone to the higher pressure zones. Each zone also is served by a water storage tank placed at approximately the same elevation. Project components would include construction of approximately 2,300 feet of 8-inch diameter water main, installing of valves and accomplishing four connections to existing water mains. A portion of the project would be constructed within existing streets and the balance would be through undeveloped land. Crossing of Cheney Gulch would be required.

The Project is designed to impact waters of the State to the least extent practicable. It is anticipated that jack and bore/directional drilling techniques will be used to bore beneath Cheney Gulch. In the event that trenchless construction techniques are not possible, disturbed areas of waters of the State within the project area will be fully restored. Work is proposed during the dry season, July-October 2010.

Compensatory mitigation will consist of riparian habitat improvements to compensate for any lost riparian plants or impact to waters of the State. All plantings shall be 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/mitigation effort.

Ground disturbance will be limited to the minimum necessary and all disturbed ground will be treated with hydro-mulching, seeding or other erosion control measures. Silt fences, silt curtains and straw bales will be used to avoid delivery of sediment into sensitive areas during construction. All operations, including harvesting of local willow poles, will be done with respect to all wildlife and to cause the minimum of disruption necessary. All erosion control measures will be installed and in place by October 15 and maintained thereafter by the contractor. Additionally, all required Best Management Practices (BMPs) shall be on-site and ready for timely deployment before the start of construction activities.

The Bodega Bay Public Utility District, as lead California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) agency, submitted a Mitigated Negative Declaration to the State Clearinghouse (SCH No. 2009062053) on August 19 2003, 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 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](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 Boulevard, Suite A, Santa Rosa, California. Appointments are recommended for document review. Appointments can be made by calling (707) 576-2220.