

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

California Department of Transportation  
Highway 1 – Westport Sink Storm Damage Repair Project  
WDID No. 1B09080WNME

Mendocino County

On February 10, 2010, the North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Water Board) received an application from the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), requesting Federal Clean Water Act (CWA), section 401, Water Quality Certification for activities related to the proposed Highway 1- Westport Sink Storm Damage Repair Project (project). Additional project information was received on February 16, 2010 and April 5, 2010. The proposed project will cause disturbances to waters of the United States (U.S.) and waters of the State associated with ephemeral coastal streams located within the Mendocino Coast Hydrologic Unit No.113.00 (Rockport Hydrologic Area 113.10).

The proposed project is located on Highway 1 at post mile (PM) 74.74 and PM 75.89, in Mendocino County. The purpose of the proposed project is to repair and upgrade the roadway and drainage facilities that were damaged during the winter of 2005/2006. Caltrans proposes: repairing two culverts; installing rock slope protection; excavating and reconstructing the roadway embankments; paving the roadway; and applying erosion control to stabilize slopes. The proposed project will result in temporary and permanent impacts to waters of the U.S and waters of the State.

The proposed project will result in temporary and permanent impacts to waters of the U.S and waters of the State. Caltrans has determined the temporary impacts to streams identified as waters of the U.S. and State would total approximately 66 feet<sup>2</sup> (17 linear feet). The proposed project would result in 1,487 feet<sup>2</sup> (264 linear feet) of permanent impacts to streams identified as waters of the U.S and State.

Caltrans will utilize Best Management Practices (BMPs) to provide erosion control and pollution prevention throughout the project area during construction. All disturbed soil areas affected by the construction activities will be stabilized and/or replanted with appropriate native vegetation and monitored to ensure success. Caltrans has evaluated implementing post-construction storm water treatment at the site and determined that implementing them within the project area was not feasible.

The proposed project will be conducted in summer months during low flow conditions. The proposed project is scheduled to be conducted between May 16, 2010 and October 14, 2010. The entire project is expected to take 100 days to complete and all project activities will be conducted between May 15<sup>th</sup> and October 15<sup>th</sup>.

Caltrans has applied for authorization from the United States Army Corps of Engineers to perform the project under their Nationwide Permits No. 14 (linear transportation projects) pursuant to Clean Water Act, section 404. In addition, Caltrans has applied to the California Department of Fish and Game (CDFG) for a 1602 Lake and Streambed Alteration Agreement. On June 14, 2005, Caltrans certified a Negative Declaration

(State Clearing House No. 2008082087) for the project in order to comply with the California Environmental Quality Act. The Regional Water Board has considered the environmental document and any proposed changes incorporated into the project or required as a condition of approval to avoid significant effects to the environment.

Regional Water Board staff are proposing to regulate this project pursuant to Section 401 of the CWA (33 USC 1341) and/or Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act authority. In addition, staff will consider all phone calls and comments submitted in writing and received within 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 Jeremiah Puget at (707) 576-2835 or [jpuget@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:jpuget@waterboards.ca.gov) within 21 days of the posting of this notice.

The information contained in this public notice is only a summary of the applicant's proposed road construction 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 related documents and comments received are on file and may be reviewed 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.