

June 10, 2010

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

Taylor Mountain Interim Public Access
Sonoma County Regional Parks
WDID No. 1B10006WNSO

Sonoma County

On January 13, 2010, the North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Water Board) received an application from Mr. Mark Cleveland, of Sonoma County Regional Parks (Applicant), requesting Federal Clean Water Act, section 401, Water Quality Certification (certification) and/or Waste Discharge Requirements (Dredge/Fill Projects) for activities associated with the Taylor Mountain Interim Public Access (Project). Project is located on an seasonal stream that is tributary to Todd Creek, on the southeast side of the City of Santa Rosa, latitude 38.40523°N, and longitude 122.68913°W, in Sonoma County. The proposed project will cause permanent impacts to approximately 0.01 acres, of bed and bank of a seasonal stream, tributary to Todd Creek, Laguna de Santa Rosa Hydrologic Subarea No. 114.21, Russian River Hydrologic Area 114.00.

The purpose of the project is to install an armored crossing across the creek to minimize erosion and sedimentation associated with increased equestrian, bicycle, pedestrian and patrol vehicle use of the creek crossing. The crossing is within a new Sonoma County Regional Park, and is being done as an interim project to allow the park to be opened for limited public use, prior to full improvements necessary to open the park completely in the future.

The work includes armoring a stream crossing approximately 8 feet wide by 20 feet long. Approximately 10 cubic yards of 12 inch diameter rip-rap will be individually placed within an excavation of the creek bed and approaches. Disturbed soil areas will be seeded with native grasses and wildflowers, and covered with straw, for erosion control. Work will be done during the dry season, before October 15.

Compensatory mitigation will include planting of oak trees at a nearby watercourse that needs restoration.

Sonoma County Agricultural Preservation & Open Space District, as lead California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) agency, prepared a Mitigated Negative Declaration, and filed it with the State Clearing House (SCH No. 2008102051), on October 20, 2009, 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 to the US Army Corps of Engineers for Clean Water Act Section 404 Nationwide Permits No. 14, and No. 18.

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.

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