

August 19, 2010

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

Chevron – Eureka Terminal Shed Demolition
WDID No. 1B10081WNHU

Humboldt County

On July 15, 2010, the North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Water Board) received an application from the Chevron Products Company (applicant), requesting Federal Clean Water Act, section 401, Water Quality Certification (certification) for activities related to removal of an abandoned shed and associated debris located on the southwest portion of the Chevron Eureka Terminal Pier on Humboldt Bay. The proposed project will cause disturbances to waters of the United States associated with Humboldt Bay in the Eureka Plain Hydrologic Unit No. 110.00.

Prior to January 2010, the project area consisted of two abandoned wooden shed buildings that extended over the rock protected shoreline and into Humboldt Bay. The buildings were supported by piers that held them above the water level. On January 9, 2010 an earthquake damaged the two shed buildings and their support pier foundations. The pier foundation under the western shed structure was severely damaged which caused the structure to slump into Humboldt Bay. The eastern shed structure was also severely damaged but it is still standing. The proposed project involves demolition and removal of the eastern shed and the remaining dilapidated structures along the shoreline.

The eastern shed is an approximately 25-foot long by 15-foot wide structure that is mostly comprised of wood. The eastern shed and all remaining debris associated with the previously damaged western shed will be removed from the shoreline area. Metal rubble and other waste that has accumulated around these abandoned buildings will also be removed and properly recycled or disposed of offsite as appropriate.

The existing piers associated with the shed foundations will be removed during low tide. Conical holes will be dug around the piers to allow workers to cut the piers off at least one foot below the surface using chainsaws and hand tools. Sawdust and debris generated during pier cutting activities will be contained on plastic sheeting secured to the piers and covering the bay substrate around the piers. The sheeting and contained debris will be removed from the area immediately following removal of each pier and the bay substrate will be replaced in the excavated holes.

No new piers or other impacts to the shoreline, rock slope protection, or bay substrate are proposed. The proposed project will not result in any new permanent impacts to waters of the United States. Proposed activities associated with removal of the piers will result in temporary impacts to 500 square feet of Humboldt Bay tidelands. Compensatory mitigation is not required for this project. Non-compensatory mitigation measures include the use of Best Management Practices for containment of demolition

debris. The proposed project is scheduled for late September 2010 and is expected to take 3 days to complete.

The applicant has applied (File No. 2010-00267) for authorization from the United States Army Corps of Engineers to perform the project under Letter of Permission, pursuant to Rivers and Harbors Act, section 10. A Lake or Streambed Alteration Agreement (1600 Permit) from the California Department of Fish and Game is not required for this project. Regional Water Board staff have determined that this project is categorically exempt from CEQA review (Class 1, Section 15301 – existing facilities) and anticipate filing a Notice of Exemption for this project.

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 Dean Prat at (707) 576-2801 within 21 days of the posting of this notice.