

April 29, 2011

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

Sonoma County Regional Parks
Healdsburg War Memorial Dam Repair Project
Sonoma County

On February 24, 2011, the North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Water Board) received an application from Ms. Michelle Julene, on behalf of Sonoma County Regional Parks (applicant), requesting Federal Clean Water Act, section 401, water quality certification for proposed activities associated with the Healdsburg War Memorial Dam, Repair Project (project). The proposed project will cause disturbances to approximately 0.015 acres of waters of the United States and waters of the State associated with Geyserville Hydrologic Sub Unit 114.25 within the Russian River Hydrologic Unit No. 114.00.

The proposed project is located at the Healdsburg Memorial Dam, River Mile 31.5 – 31.6, just west of Healdsburg Veterans' Memorial Beach, 13839 Healdsburg Avenue, Healdsburg, latitude 38.6025°N, longitude 122.86°W, in Sonoma County.

The primary purpose of the proposed project is to repair the existing dam foundation structure located in the Russian River channel. The repair is required by the California Department of Safety of Dams to insure structural integrity of supports for the dam's flashboard structure, which has historically been installed seasonally to impound water during the summer to form a deeper recreational swimming area in the Russian River channel adjacent to the Healdsburg War Memorial Beach River Park, owned and operated by the Sonoma County Regional Parks.

The proposed project involves the removal of eroding concrete from the dam cap to a uniform thickness to facilitate the installation of steel reinforced concrete approximately 6 inches thick. It is estimated that 17.5 cubic yards of conventional 6,000 psi concrete with protective concrete sealer will be utilized for the repair of the existing dam cap, upstream parapet wall and right abutment of the dam. The applicant proposes to isolate waters of the State from construction impacts by utilizing rubber bladders, visquene, flashboards, clay, and pumps to maintain dry work areas and pump out concrete wash water. Construction is planned for a total of 30 days and is tentatively expected to take place between September 6, 2011, and October 6, 2011. The construction dates were selected in consultation with CA Department of Fish and Game and National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration Fisheries.

Compensatory mitigation for the project is not necessary because the project is replacing former materials and impact will be of no greater extent. Additionally, Best Management Practices (BMP's) and techniques will be used to avoid impacts to water quality. Non-compensatory mitigation will include the use of BMP's for sediment and turbidity control, and pH control.

The applicant has applied to the United States Army Corps of Engineers for authorization to perform the project pursuant to Clean Water Act section 404. The

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

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.

The information contained in this public notice is only a summary of the applicant's proposed activities. The application for Water Quality Certification in the Regional Water Board's file contains additional details about the proposed activities including maps and detailed design drawings. The application and Regional Water Board file are available for public review.

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.