

October 14, 2011

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

**City of Ukiah Department of Public Works
Transportation Improvements for
Redwood Business Park: Culvert Extension
WDID No. 1B11074WNSO**

Mendocino County

On September 7, 2011, the North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Water Board) received an application from Mr. David D. Davis of Winzler & Kelly on behalf of City of Ukiah, Department of Public Works (applicant), requesting Federal Clean Water Act, Section 401, water quality certification (Certification) for proposed activities associated with the Transportation Improvements for Redwood Business Park: Culvert Extension Project (project). The proposed project will cause disturbances to approximately 0.018 acres, 152 linear feet, of waters of the United States and waters of the State within the Ukiah Hydrologic Subarea No. 114.31, Russian River Hydrologic Unit No. 114.00.

The proposed project site is located in southeastern Mendocino County, approximately 1.5 miles south-southeast of the central part of Ukiah, at Airport Park Boulevard/Airport Road, (APN's 180-11-010,180-11-008), latitude 39.12419°N, longitude 123.19558°W.

Two unnamed tributaries are within the project area: S-2 (for stream 2) flows from west to east and connects to a larger, well-defined, north south creek (S-1) that flows under Highway 101 and connects to the Russian River on the east side of Highway 101.

The primary purpose of the proposed project is to widen 465-feet of the southern portion of Airport Park Boulevard from 22-feet to 60-feet to match the existing alignment of Airport Park Boulevard North. Three existing culverts located in S-2, under Airport Boulevard, will be extended by 37 feet, to accommodate the transportation improvements.

A cast-in-place reinforced concrete headwall will be constructed at the outfall of the extended culverts for support and stabilization. In addition, the north bank of S-2 will be regraded to provide improved flow. Concrete shall be allowed to cure for a time sufficient, or through the use of approved curing agents or sealers, to assure that the pH levels of any water contacting the work area shall not exceed 0.5 units of changes from normal ambient pH.

Storm water runoff from the proposed roadway expansion will be treated as outlined in, *Riparian Habitat Mitigation Plan for the Redwood Business Park Transportation Improvement Project, Ukiah, Mendocino County, CA* (J. Valerius, May, 2011), Winzler & Kelly, Figure 4, using roadside bioretention planter strips to slow, infiltrate, and filter

storm water. Overflow from the bioretention capture area will discharge into the storm drain system.

Compensatory mitigation will include: S-2 top of bank will be planted with valley oaks and understory shrubs species to create a layered riparian plant community. Right and left bank of S-2 will each be planted with trees and shrubs for a length of 100 feet. The width of the riparian area revegetation will be 10 feet wide. In addition, five (5) valley oak (*Quercus lobata*) trees will be planted at 40-foot center along the top of bank of S-1. Success criteria will be an 85% survival rate of the plantings over a 5 year period with annual reporting submitted to the North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board.

Non-compensatory mitigation measures include the use of Best Management Practices (BMPs) to be employed during construction to minimize sediment production and prevent the movement of loose soil off-site. All disturbed soil will be revegetated with native species or seeded with native grasses. If vegetation cannot be reestablished before expected rainfall, mulching, erosion control fabric, or other sediment control measures will be implemented to prevent delivery of sediment to waters of the State. All equipment will be maintained in good working order and spill kits will be on hand during construction. Equipment shall not be staged, or fueled, within the stream. Additionally, all required BMPs shall be on-site and ready for timely deployment before the start of construction activities.

The applicant has applied for authorization from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to perform the project pursuant to Clean Water Act, section 404. The applicant has also applied for a Lake or Streambed Alteration Agreement from the California Department of Fish and Game. The City of Ukiah has filed a Notice of Exemption for this project in order to comply with CEQA.

The Russian River is identified as impaired on the Clean Water Act Section 303(d) list. The Russian River is listed as impaired for sediment and temperature. At present, total maximum daily loads (TMDLs) have not been established for this water body. If TMDLs are established and implementation plans are adopted for this watershed prior to the expiration date of the requested Certification, the Regional Water Board may revise the provisions of that Certification to address actions identified in such action plans. Bank erosion is identified as a source contributing to the sediment impairment. Removal of riparian vegetation is identified as a source contributing to temperature impairment. Activities that will be authorized by the pending certification are designed to increase riparian vegetation and reduce sediment discharges from bank erosion. Actions authorized by this Order require implementation of Best Management Practices (BMPs) for sediment and turbidity control and planting of more riparian zone shade vegetation at and near the project site. Accordingly, this Order is consistent with, and implements BMPs that would attenuate sediment and temperature adverse impacts.

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 notice 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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