

August 27, 2012

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

**Sweetwater Springs Ranch Driveway Project  
WDID No. 1B12123WNSO**

Sonoma County

On July 9, 2012, the North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Water Board) received an application from Mr. Tom Atterbury, on behalf of Mr. Kyle Mack (Applicant), requesting Federal Clean Water Act, section 401, Water Quality Certification (certification) and/or Waste Discharge Requirements (Dredge/Fill Projects) for activities associated with installation of a 40 foot length bridge, and two culverts on three seasonal drainages. Project is located on seasonal tributaries to Porter Creek, 3000 Sweetwater Springs Road, Forestville, latitude 38.537792°N, and longitude 122.907144°W, in Sonoma County. The proposed project will cause permanent impacts to 853 square feet of bed and bank of seasonal drainages, Guerneville Hydrologic Subarea No. 114.11, Russian River Hydrologic Area 114.00.

The project includes the construction of a 1,333 foot long driveway, including upgrading of existing ranch roads and construction of new roadway. The driveway will be paved and will cross three drainages. The three crossings include a 40 foot long free span bridge, installation of a new 24 inch diameter culvert, and replacement of an existing 18 inch diameter culvert. Culvert outlets will incorporate energy dissipation rocks. Bioretention swales will be incorporated at two locations for low impact development (LID) treatment of concentrated stormwater flow from the new driveway area.

The North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board, as lead California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) agency, had determined that the project qualifies for a Categorical Exemption, 15304-Minor Alterations to Land, and will file a Notice of Determination with the State Clearinghouse concurrent with issuance of the 401 Water Quality Certification, 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 applied to US Army Corps of Engineers (File Number 2012-00225N) for a Clean Water Act Section 404 Nationwide Permit 29 – Residential Development.

Project is scheduled to start during the dry season of 2012. In-stream work should be completed by October 15, or by date determined by resource agencies.

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. The Section 401 Water Quality Certification is being issued concurrently with this Public Notice.

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