

June 6, 2014

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

**Cummings Road Burn Ash Site Corrective Action Project
WDID No. 1B14035WNHU**

Humboldt County

On April 8, 2014, the North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Water Board) received an application from the Recology Humboldt County and Humboldt Waste Management Authority (Applicant), requesting Federal Clean Water Act, section 401, Water Quality Certification for activities associated with the Cummings Road Burn Ash Site Corrective Action Project (Project). The proposed Project will cause disturbances to waters of the United States and the State associated with unnamed tributaries to Ryan Creek within the Eureka Plain Hydrologic Unit 110.00. The Project is located at 5775 Cummings Road, Eureka, Humboldt County, at latitude 40.7634°N, and longitude 124.0903°W. Permanent impacts to waters of the U.S. and the State include approximately 1,498 Linear Feet of stream bed and bank and approximately 1.85 acres of riparian habitat. No temporary impacts to waters of the U.S. and the State are proposed.

The primary purpose of the Project is to remove burn ash debris from the landfill site and restore the area required by the Cleanup and Abatement order R1-2013-0033 issued by the Regional Water Board. The proposed Project would include diversion of waters to access waste material, vegetation clearing, removal of waste material associated with the burn ash sites, testing underlying soils to determine cleanup goals are met, restoring impacted watercourses and restoring native vegetation. Removal will be conducted using excavation machinery as well as by hand within watercourses, along banks and riparian areas. Waste material will be disposed of appropriately and clean fill material will be used for revegetation where necessary. The Project is designed remove burn ash waste material, improve condition and water quality of impacted waters of the U.S. and State.

The proposed Project includes a plan to restore stream bed and banks, incorporate large wood structures where appropriate and revegetate disturbed areas with appropriate native plant species. The Proposed plan shall incorporate native plantings and natural recruitment as well as monitoring to ensure success criteria are met. The Project proposes to employ best management practices to prevent or reduce any discharges during and after construction.

The Project is planned to take place between July and October of 2014.

The Applicant has applied for authorization from the United States Army Corps of Engineers for a Clean Water Act, section 404 permit. The Applicant has also applied to the California Department of Fish and Wildlife to obtain a Streambed Alteration Agreement.

On May 9, 2014, Humboldt Waste Management Authority, as lead California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) agency, has produced an Initial Study and Proposed Mitigated Negative

Declaration and filed with the State Clearinghouse (SCH No. 2014022033), pursuant to CEQA guidelines.

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 Project including maps and photos. 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 Gil Falcone at (707) 576-2830 or Stephen Bargsten at (707) 576-2653 within 21 days of the posting of this notice.

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