

May 6, 2016

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

**California Department of Transportation  
State Route 1 Storm Damage Repair Project  
38.501114°N, 123.217358°W <sup>1</sup>  
WDID No. 1B15154WNSO, ECM PIN CW-820044  
Caltrans EA No. 04-3G080, EFIS No. 04-0002-1272**

**Sonoma County**

On December 2, 2015, the North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Water Board) received an application from the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), requesting Federal Clean Water Act, section 401, Water Quality Certification (certification) for activities related to the proposed State Route 1 Storm Damage Repair Project (Project).

**Project Description**

The purpose of the Project is to stabilize a landslide so that the danger of soil and rocks sliding onto the existing highway would be minimized through the Project area. The Project area is on State Route 1 (SR 1) South of Fort Ross in Sonoma County at post-mile (PM) 30.5. The scope of the proposed work includes constructing two soil nail walls, realigning the north bound lane of Highway 1 slightly to the north and replacing a drainage pipe in kind in the eastern end of the project footprint. Caltrans is proposing the following activities:

- *Soil nail walls:* A 434-foot-long soil nail wall (retaining wall #1) and a 288-foot-long soil nail wall (retaining wall #2) shall be constructed on the north bound side. Construction of the walls would include excavation, drilling of soil nails, grouting the nails in place, placement of a drainage system, and the application of shotcrete and bearing plates. The lower retaining wall #2 shall be completely buried after construction is completed. The upper 434 foot wall shall be partially buried and the slope shall be graded to 2:1 or flatter.
- *Realignment:* The north bound lane shall be moved slightly to the north and east, and widened for a distance of 563 feet. When completed, the roadway would have two 12-foot-wide lanes, a 4-foot-wide shoulder on the north bound, and a 1- to 10-foot-wide shoulder on the south bound lane.

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<sup>1</sup> WGS 84 Datum

- *Drainage System:* A new 620-foot-long drainage system would be installed beside the north bound lane. The drainage system would include eight drainage inlets and nine 18-inch diameter alternative pipe culverts (APC). The existing 36-inch-diameter corrugated steel pipe (CSP) drainage system would be replaced with a 36-inch-diameter plastic pipe and a new drainage inlet. The replacement pipe is 49.6 feet long, and it will be reconnected to an existing outlet pipe.

One-way reversing traffic control would also be required during construction. Staging would be located on paved roadway, existing pullouts, and private property within the Project limits.

### **Impacts**

The proposed Project would result in approximately 0.012 acres of permanent impacts and 0.0031 temporary impacts to wetlands due to the new road alignment. The proposed Project would also result in approximately 224 linear feet (0.015 acres) of temporary impacts to jurisdictional waters due to the new drainage system being installed.

### **Proposed Mitigation**

To compensate for 0.030 acres of permanent and temporary impacts to jurisdictional waters and wetlands, Caltrans is proposing to purchase 0.2 acres of riparian habitat credits from the East Austin Creek Conservation Bank. Caltrans is proposing to revegetate temporarily impacted areas.

### **Post-Construction Storm Water Treatment**

Project implementation would result in approximately 0.15 acres of new and reworked impervious surface. To control roadway pollutants, post-construction, Caltrans would install an infiltration trench onsite to treat 0.15 acres of stormwater runoff.

### **Construction Timing**

The Project is expected to require 2 years of construction. The Project is proposed to begin in April 2017, and be completed in October 2019.

### **Disturbed Ground Area**

Project implementation would result in greater than one acre of disturbed soil area. Caltrans shall apply for coverage under the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System General Permit for Storm Water Discharges Associated with Construction and Land Disturbance Activities (Order No. 2009-0009-DWQ) and prepare a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan detailing best management practices (BMPs) to control pollution from the Project area during construction. All temporarily disturbed areas within the Project area shall be appropriately stabilized and/or replanted with appropriate native vegetation.

### **Other Agency Permits**

Caltrans has applied for coverage under a reporting U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Nationwide Permit No. 33, *Temporary Construction, Access, and Dewatering*, pursuant to section 404 of the Clean Water Act. Caltrans has also applied for a Biological Assessment and a Biological Opinion from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

### **CEQA Compliance**

On June 26, 2014, Caltrans signed a Notice of Determination approving a Mitigated Negative Declaration for the Project (State Clearinghouse No. 2015021063) in order to comply with the California Environmental Quality Act.

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 phone calls and comments submitted in writing and received within 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 or comments, please contact staff member Brandon Stevens at (707) 576-2377 or [Brandon.Stevens@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:Brandon.Stevens@waterboards.ca.gov) within 21 days of the posting of this notice.

The information contained in this public notice is only a summary of Caltrans's proposed activities. The Regional Water Board's Project file includes the application for certification and additional details of the proposed Project, including maps and design drawings. Project documents and any comments received are on file and may be reviewed or copied at the Regional Water Board office, 5550 Skylane Boulevard, Suite A, Santa Rosa, California. Appointments are recommended for document review. Appointments can be made by calling (707) 576-2220.