



# California Regional Water Quality Control Board North Coast Region

John W. Corbett, Chairman

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Arnold  
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Secretary for  
Environmental Protection

July 12, 2007

Ms. Wendy Gjestland  
Sonoma County Water Agency  
P.O. Box 11628  
Santa Rosa, CA 95406

Dear Ms. Gjestland:

Subject: Amendment to the Clean Water Act Section 401 Certification (Water Quality Certification) Order for the Ludwigia Control Project

File: Sonoma County Water Agency, Ludwigia Control Project  
WDID No. 1B06082WNSO

On April 30, 2007, Ms. Wendy Gjestland of the Sonoma County Water Agency submitted a Request for an Amendment to the existing Clean Water Act Section 401 Certification (Water Quality Certification) Order for the Ludwigia Control Project. The project was originally permitted on June 6, 2006. The amendment request is based on an addition to the permit to include a two thousand linear foot section of the Gossage Creek channel that was not included in the original permit.

Amended Project Description: The amendment for the project will involve addition to the permit to include a two thousand linear foot section of the Gossage Creek channel. The work to be completed consists of the application of the herbicide triclopyr to heavy infestations of ludwigia within the channel. Followed by mechanical removal and offsite disposal of the Ludwigia biomass to prevent eutrophication of the channel waters.

The purpose of the project is to control exotic water primrose, *Ludwigia sp.* (Ludwigia), an aquatic plant species invading wetland areas and waterways in the Laguna de Santa Rosa. This project is a strategy to reduce the threat of West Nile virus, protect native plant species, maintain flood control functionality and protect water quality.

**California Environmental Protection Agency**

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All work shall be completed using the standards and Best Management Practices agreed upon in the original permit.

CEQA Compliance:

The Regional Water Board determined in the original permit that the project meets the exemption criteria under title 14, California Code of Regulations, section 15304 for minor alterations to land, pursuant to CEQA.

Expiration:

The authorization of this amendment for any dredge and fill activities expires on October 15, 2007. Conditions and monitoring requirements outlined in this amendment or the original certification are not subject to the expiration date outlined above, and remain in full effect and are enforceable.

I hereby issue an amendment to the Ludwigia Control Project Water Quality Certification Order (WDID No. 1B06082WNSO) certifying that the Water Quality Certification section of the Order is still valid. If you have any questions or comments, please contact Stephen Bargsten of my staff at (707) 576-2653 or at [sbargsten@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:sbargsten@waterboards.ca.gov).

Sincerely,

Catherine Kuhlman  
Executive Officer

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cc: Mr. Bill Orme, SWRCB, Acting 401 Program Manager,

Ms. Samantha Olson, SWRCB, Office of the Chief Counsel

Ms. Jane Hicks, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Regulatory Functions,  
1455 Market Street, San Francisco, CA 94103-1398

Mr. Bill Cox, California Department of Fish and Game, P.O. Box 47,  
Yountville, CA 94599

Mr. Julian Meisler, Laguna de Santa Rosa Foundation, P.O. Box 7886,  
Santa Rosa, CA 95407-7886