
North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board

July 31, 2012

Mr. Dave Dammuller
Sonoma County Department of Transportation
2300 County Center Drive, Suite B100
Santa Rosa, CA 95403

Dear Mr. Dammuller:

Subject: Notice of Applicability (NOA) for Coverage under the State Water Resources Control Board General 401 Water Quality Certification Order for Small Habitat Restoration Projects

File: Sonoma County DOT, Tower Road Fish Passage Culvert Replacement Camp Meeker, CA
WDID No. 1B12125WNSO

On, July 10, 2012, the North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Water Board) received a Notice of Intent (NOI) to comply with the terms of, and obtain coverage under, the General 401 Water Quality Certification Order for Small Habitat Restoration Projects (General 401 Order) for the Sonoma County Department of Transportation Tower Road Fish Passage Culvert Replacement Project (Project). The Project is located on Fern Creek a tributary to Dutch Bill Creek and the Russian River, Guerneville Hydrologic Sub-Area 114.11, Russian River Hydrologic Unit 114.00, Tower Road, Camp Meeker, California. Coordinates of the project are latitude 38. 425119° N, and longitude 122.962943° W. Regional Board staff has determined that the Project, as described in the NOI, is categorically exempt from CEQA review (section 15333 - Small Habitat Restoration Projects) and meets the eligibility requirements for coverage under the General 401 Water Quality Certification Order for Small Habitat Restoration Projects.

Project Purpose and Description:

The project will replace the existing damaged culvert and roadway on Tower Road above Fern Creek, a tributary to Dutch Bill Creek, and the Russian River, located in Camp Meeker. The existing corrugated metal pipe culvert collapsed during the 2006 winter flood, resulting in the failure of Tower Road above, and the erosion of the roadbed and adjacent creek banks. The current situation is a complete fish passage barrier. Replacement of the culvert with a natural-bottomed culvert will restore fish

passage opportunity to areas above the culvert. The replacement structure will be a concrete con-span arch culvert with a natural stream bed bottom. Rock slope protection will also be placed at the foundation footings. Access will be from a location on the southeasterly bank of Fern Creek. Only minor vegetation removal will be necessary. Approximately 20 cubic yards of material will be excavated, and forms for the con-span arch footings will be built and the concrete footings poured. A natural creek bed will be constructed within the culvert with a low-flow channel and appropriate aggregate size to match surrounding native stream bed, which will restore the opportunity for fish passage and other animals. Con-span arches will be placed, and the road bed and roadway will be reconstructed, on top of the culvert. The footprint of the new structure will be essentially the same as the existing culvert and rock slope protection. Total length of the project is approximately 80 feet, with an area of approximately 965 square feet. Project shall be constructed and maintained as described within application materials. Stormwater construction and erosion control BMPs will be appropriately implemented. Project is expected to be implemented during the dry season of 2012.

Receiving Water: Fern Creek, Guerneville Hydrologic Sub-Area 114.11,
Russian River Hydrologic Unit 114.00

Filled or Excavated Area: Area Permanently Impacted: none
Area Temporarily Impacted: 965 square feet

Total Linear Impacts: Length Temporarily Impacted: 80 linear feet of creek
bed/bank

Dredge/Fill Volume: Net fill of approximately 15 cubic yards of soils and rock
slope protection

Latitude/Longitude: 38.425119° N, 122.962943° W

Regional Board staff has determined that the proposed activities may proceed under the General 401 Order. You must submit a Notice of Completion (NOC) no later than 30 days after project completion. A complete NOC includes photographs with a descriptive title, the date the photograph was taken, the name of the photographic site, the WDID number indicated above, and the photographic orientation. Please, include the project name and the WDID number with all future inquiries and document submittals.

Please call Stephen Bargsten at (707) 576-2653 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Original Signed By David Leland For

Matthias St. John
Executive Officer

120731_SKB_ef_SoCo_DOT_TowerRoadFishPassageCulvertReplacement_Small_Hab_Gen_401_NOA

cc: Mr. Rich Stabler, Sonoma County PRMD, 2550 Ventura Avenue, Santa Rosa,
CA 95403