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## North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board

August 8, 2012

Mr. Richard Franceschi  
20002 Coleman Valley Road  
Bodega Bay, CA 95423

Dear Mr. Franceschi:

**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:** Richard Franceschi 17400 Hwy 1, Bodega Bay  
WDID No. 1B12093WNSO

On, May 22, 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 Richard Franceschi 17400 Hwy 1 Estero Americano Watershed Sediment Reduction Project, Phase II (Project). The Project is located on two unnamed tributaries to Lower Estero Americano Creek, Estero Americano Hydrologic Area 115.30, Bodega Bay Hydrologic Unit 115.00, 17400 Hwy 1, Bodega Bay, California. Coordinates of the project are latitude 38.336312° N, and longitude 122.97482° 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 goals of the Project are three-fold: 1) to measurably reduce current sediment loading to the estuary's remaining open water and critical wetland habitat; 2) to reduce long-term sediment loading rates in the watershed; and 3) to provide a replicable model for landowner training. To achieve these goals, the project will fund the restoration of two actively eroding gullies identified as high priority in an extensive 2007 erosion site survey. Restoration of the two sites will reduce sediment loading to the estuary by a minimum of 2, 690 cubic yards. To achieve significant long-term sediment load reductions, the project will fund a series of workshops and small-scale demonstration

projects to instruct agricultural landowners on how to identify, prevent, and treat erosion sites before they become significant sediment sources. Project totals approximately 0.57 acres and 450 linear feet. Project shall be constructed and maintained as described within application materials. Project is expected to be implemented during the dry season of 2012.

Receiving Water: Two unnamed tributaries to Lower Estero Americano Creek, Estero Americano Hydrologic Area 115.30, Bodega Bay Hydrologic Unit 115.00

Filled or Excavated Area: Area Permanently Impacted: 0.57 acres of creek bed/bank

Total Linear Impacts: Length Permanently Impacted: Approximately 450 linear feet of creek bed/bank

Dredge Volume: Net removal of 15 cubic yards of soils

Latitude/Longitude: 38.336312° N, 122.97482° W

Regional Board staff has determined that the proposed activities may proceed under the General 401 Order. Please be advised that coverage under this General Order requires that Monitoring Reports be submitted at least annually documenting the achievement of performance standards and project goals. In addition, 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 Luis Rivera For

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Matthias St. John  
Executive Officer

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cc: Ms. Noelle Johnson, Gold Ridge RCD, P.O. Box 1064, Occidental, CA 95465