
North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board

July 10, 2013

Ms. Patty Madigan
Mendocino County Resource Conservation District
206 Mason Street, Suite F
Ukiah, CA 95482

Dear Ms. Madigan:

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: Navarro Headwaters TMDL Implementation, Lawson Ranch
WDID No. 1B13047WNME

On April 25, 2013, 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 Navarro Headwaters TMDL Implementation, Lawson Ranch (Project). The Project is located on two unnamed tributaries to Rancheria Creek, Navarro River Hydrologic Area 113.50, Mendocino Coast Hydrologic Unit 113.00. The Project is located at 28574 Elkhorn Road, Yorkville, California. Coordinates of the project are latitude 38.865622° N, and longitude 123.206511° W. Regional Water 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 to improve fish passage for steelhead trout and control episodic sediment delivery. To achieve these goals, the Project will replace three undersized culverts to upgrade stream crossings on class 1 tributaries to Rancheria Creek. The crossings will be realigned and upgraded to pass the 100 year recurrence interval flood flows. One upgrade will consist of an 84" culvert embedded in stream channel to allow for deposition of bedload and maintain channel materials within the culvert. Two flat car bridges with "V" interlock block abutments will replace undersized culverts at the two other sites. Channel stored sediments will be excavated from the upstream channel to connect upstream and downstream reaches with consistent channel gradient. The Project will provide year-round fish passage and access to approximately 1.26 miles of fish habitat. Additionally, the improvements will prevent approximately 450 cubic yards of sediment

delivery to these streams. Project totals of permanently impacted area approximate 0.25 acres and 450 linear feet. The Project shall be constructed and maintained as described within application materials. The Project is expected to be implemented during the dry season of 2013.

Receiving Water: Two unnamed tributaries to Rancheria Creek Navarro River Hydrologic Area 113.50, Mendocino Coast Hydrologic Unit 113.00

Area Permanently Impacted: 0.0005 acres of creek bed/bank and 0.05 acres of riparian habitat
Area Temporarily Impacted: 0.05 acres of creek bed/bank and 0.15 acres of riparian habitat

Total Linear Impacts: Length Permanently Impacted: Approximately 60 linear feet of creek bed/bank and 40 linear feet of riparian habitat
Length Temporarily Impacted: Approximately 123 linear feet of creek bed/bank and 225 linear feet of riparian habitat

Fill Volume: Net fill of 5 cubic yards of rip-rap

Latitude/Longitude: 38.865622° N, 123.206511° W

Regional Water 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 or Gil Falcone at (707) 576-2830 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Matthias St. John
Executive Officer

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cc: Robert Lawson, 28574 Elkhorn Road, Yorkville, CA 95494