
North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board

June 6, 2014

Ms. Christine Aralia, Land Project Manager
Save the Redwoods League
114 Sansome St., Suite 1200
San Francisco, CA 94104

Dear Ms. Aralia:

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 SB09016GN

File: SRL Orick Mill Bamboo Removal Project
WDID No. 1B14045WNHU

On May 19, 2014, 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 SRL Orick Mill Bamboo Removal Project (Project). The Project is located within wetlands adjacent to Prairie Creek, Redwood Creek Hydrologic Unit 107.10, Orick Sub-Area. The Project sites are located 1.25 miles north of the town of Orick on the former Orick Mill site north of the confluence of Prairie and Redwood Creeks, Humboldt County, California. Coordinates of the Project are latitude 41.3054° N, and longitude 124.0409° 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 purpose of the Project is to restore a wetland area and riparian habitat of the Prairie Creek floodplain that has been overgrown with an invasive bamboo stand. The Project involves removal of the bamboo and other invasive plant species by hand and with appropriately-sized excavation equipment. Following the removal of invasive plants, disturbed ground will be stabilized for erosion control and revegetated with Native plants in accordance with the *Project Description and Technical Memorandum Orick Mill site Bamboo Removal Biological Survey Results and Restoration and Revegetation Plan* submitted by LACO Associates to the Regional Water Board on May 19, 2014. Project totals temporarily impacted area of approximate 0.2 acres of wetlands and 0.3 acres of riparian

habitat. The Project shall be constructed and maintained as described within application materials. The Project is expected to be implemented during the months of September through December of 2014.

Receiving Water: Prairie Creek and wetlands
Redwood Creek Hydrologic Unit 107.10, Orick Sub-Area

Filled Excavated Area: Permanent Area Impacted: None
Temporary Area Impacted: 0.2 acres of wetlands
Temporary Area Impacted: 0.3 acres of riparian

Fill Volume: None

Latitude/Longitude: 41.3054° N / 124.0409° 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. Monitoring reports will be submitted to the Regional Water Board electronically, in September of 2015 – 2017. 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. The NOC shall demonstrate that the Project has been carried out in accordance with the Project description as provided in the applicants NOI. Please, include the project name and the WDID number with all future inquiries and document submittals. Document submittals shall be made electronically to:
NorthCoast@waterboards.ca.gov.

Please call Gil Falcone at (707) 576-2830 or Stephen Bargsten at (707) 576-2653 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Original Signed By

Matthias St. John
Executive Officer

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Weblink: The State Water Resources Control Board General 401 Water Quality Certification Order for Small Habitat Restoration Projects SB09016GN can be found here:

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/cwa401/docs/generallorders/shrp_cert.pdf

Electronic
Copy to :

Mr. Ryan Wells, Associate Planner, Project Manager, LACO Associates
wellsr@lacoassociates.com