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## North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board

June 27, 2014

Mr. Andrew Bundschuh  
Humboldt County Department of Public Works  
1106 Second Street  
Eureka, CA 95501-707  
[Abundschuh@co.humboldt.ca.us](mailto:Abundschuh@co.humboldt.ca.us)

Dear Mr. Bundschuh:

**Subject:** Notice of Applicability for Coverage under the General 401 Water Quality Certification for County Road Management and Activities Conducted Under the Five Counties Salmonid Conservation Program

**File:** HU – Flatcar Bridge Replacement – Morgan Slough Road PM 0.10  
WDID No. 1B14041WNHU

On May 9, 2014, the North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board received the request for General 401 Water Quality Certification for the Flatcar Bridge Replacement - Morgan Slough Road PM 0.10 Project (Project).

On July 1, 2013, the North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Water Board) received the county of Humboldt's Notice of Intent (NOI) to comply with the terms of, and obtain coverage of county road maintenance and activities under, the *Waiver of Waste Discharge Requirements and General Water Quality Certification for County Road Management and Activities Conducted Under the Five Counties Salmonid Conservation Program In the Counties of Del Norte, Humboldt, Mendocino, Siskiyou, and Trinity In the North Coast Region* (5C Waiver), Order No. R1-2013-0004. County road projects covered under the 5C Waiver that are required to obtain federal Clean Water Act (CWA) Section 404 permitting, are eligible to receive General 401 Water Quality Certification without undergoing a project CEQA analysis.

**Project Purpose and Description (excerpted from Project Description in application):**

The Project is located on Morgan Slough Road, along Morgan Slough, (Lower Eel River Hydrologic Area No. 1111.00) approximately 4.5 miles north-west of Ferndale, in Humboldt County, California. The purpose of the Project is to replace an existing flatcar

bridge with a new flatcar bridge of equal length and width. The existing abutments may require maintenance work to bring them up to current standards. The northern abutment contains wooden timbers supported by rock slope protection (RSP), several of which have rotted and in some places have failed and/or are non-existent. Additional RSP may need to be used to supplement each abutment for stability and support. The additional RSP will be placed within the existing abutment footprint and will not encroach into any wetlands or the slough channel. Handwork may occur in the active slough channel due to construction activities (e.g. removal of old abutment timbers and resetting of RSP). Any impacts that may occur to the slough channel will be minimal and temporary in nature.

Receiving Water: Morgan Slough, Lower Eel River Hydrologic Area No. 1111.00

Total Filled or Excavated Area:

- Area Temporarily Impacted: 40 ft<sup>2</sup> of wetland/slough channel
- Area Permanently Impacted: No permanent impacts

Total Linear Impacts:

- Length Temporarily Impacted: 15 linear feet of slough channel
- Length Permanently Impacted: No permanent impacts

Total Dredge Volume: None

Latitude/Longitude: 40.614485N/124.293398 W

Regional Water Board staff has reviewed the Project and determined that it meets the eligibility requirements for coverage under the General 401 Water Quality Certification contained within the 5C Waiver. Please be advised that the 5C Waiver requires that BMP implementation and effectiveness monitoring reports be conducted to document the achievement of performance standards and project goals. In addition, a Notice of Completion (NOC) must be submitted no later than 30 days after project completion. Please include the project name and the WDID number with all future inquiries and document submittals.

Please contact Maggie Robinson at (707) 576-2292, or [maggie.robinson@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:maggie.robinson@waterboards.ca.gov), if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Original Signed By

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Matthias St. John  
Executive Officer