
North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board

June 26, 2015

Mr. Brandt Gutermuth
Trinity River Restoration Program
1313 South Main Street
Weaverville, CA 96093

Dear Mr. Gutermuth:

Subject: Notice of Applicability (NOA) for Coverage under General Water Quality Certification Order No. R1-2015-0028 for Channel Rehabilitation Activities at the Limekiln Gulch Rehabilitation Site

File: Bureau of Reclamation, Trinity River Restoration Program - General Water Quality Certification R1-2015-0028, ECM PIN CW-810681

On June 10, 2015, the Trinity River Restoration Program filed a complete application for general water quality certification enrollment under section 401 of the Clean Water Act for channel rehabilitation activities at the Limekiln Gulch Site. The purpose of the channel rehabilitation activities is to provide increased habitat for all life stages of salmonids in the mainstem Trinity River through the restoration of healthy river functions including creation of habitat complexity and abundance using the alluvial processes of the Trinity River. Temporary impacts are proposed to be restored to pre-project condition. No permanent impacts are proposed.

On August 25, 2009, the Regional Water Board certified the Master Trinity River Mainstem Fishery Restoration Channel Rehabilitation and Sediment Management for Remaining Phase 1 and Phase 2 Sites Master Environmental Impact Report (SCH No. 2008032110). Phase 2 sites, like the Limekiln Gulch site, are now eligible for enrollment and CEQA coverage following the completion of any subsequent project-specific environmental analysis required to supplement the programmatic level review contained in the Master EIR. Under California Code of Regulations, title 14, section 15177, after a Master EIR has been prepared and certified, subsequent projects, which the lead agency determines as being within the scope of the Master EIR, will be subject to only limited environmental review. The preparation of a new environmental document and new written findings will

not be required if, based on a review of the Initial Study (IS) prepared for the subsequent project, the lead agency determines, on the basis of written findings, that no additional significant environmental effect will result from the proposal, no new additional mitigation measures or alternatives are required, and that the project is within the scope of the Master EIR.

On May 20, 2015, the Regional Water Board, as lead CEQA agency, issued a site specific Final Environmental Assessment / Initial Study (EA/IS) for the Trinity River Channel Rehabilitation Site: Limekiln Gulch project (SCH No. 2015022080). This Project EA/IS contains a site-specific Project description and other information required to apply for enrollment under General Permit R1-2015-0028 for Trinity River channel rehabilitation activities, which the Regional Water Board has considered. Based upon a review of the Project EA/IS, the Regional Water Board has determined that there are no additional significant effects, new additional mitigation measures or alternatives required for the subsequent project that are not already discussed in the Master EIR. Additional detail is provided in responses to comments on the project. Accordingly, the subsequent project is within the scope of the Master EIR.

Receiving Water: Trinity River, Trinity River Hydrologic Unit 106.31

Fill / Excavation of Wetlands: Permanent Area Impacted: None
Temporary Area Impacted: None

Channels and Shorelines: Permanently Impacted: None
Temporarily Impacted: 2,500 linear feet

Riparian Area: Permanently Impacted: None
Temporarily Impacted: 1.78 acres

Dredge Volume: None

Latitude/Longitude: 40.6841°N / 122.9015 °W

This letter hereby serves as a NOA for the Trinity River Restoration Program's channel habitat rehabilitation activities at the Limekiln Gulch Site (2015 Channel Rehabilitation Project). The 2015 Channel Rehabilitation Project is now subject to the requirements of General Water Quality Certification Order No. R1-2015-0028. Please be advised that coverage under this General Water Quality Certification Order requires submittal of an annual report that summarizes TRRP implementation activities to date, monitoring results and findings, and recommendations based on long-term monitoring and research.

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

Sincerely,

Matthias St. John
Executive Officer

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