
North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board

August 6, 2015

Mr. Todd Becker
Humboldt County Public Works
1106 Second Street
Eureka, CA 95501
tbecker@co.humboldt.ca.us

Dear Mr. Becker:

Subject: Notice of Applicability (NOA) for Coverage under the State Water Resources Control Board General 401 Water Quality Certification Order No. SB12002GN for US Army Corps of Engineers 2012 Certified Nationwide Permits.

File: Jacobs Avenue Eureka Slough Levee Geotech Boring Project
WDID No. 1B15099WNHU, ECM PIN CW-817019

On July 29, 2015, the North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Water Board) received a 2012 Certified Nationwide Permit Notification Form, Notice of Intent (NOI) to comply with the terms of, and obtain coverage under, the General 401 Water Quality Certification Order No. SB12002GN for 2012 Nationwide Permits (General 401 Order) for the Jacobs Avenue Eureka Slough Levee Geotech Boring Project (Project). The Humboldt County Public Works Department is the applicant for the Project (Applicant).

The Project is located on the Eureka Plain Hydrologic Unit 110.00. The Project impacts to wetlands, waters of the US are located at five sites within Humboldt County, California. Coordinates of the Project locations are approximately, latitude 40.804539 ° N and longitude 124.136894 ° W, latitude 40.803051 ° N and longitude 124.132205 ° W, latitude 40.803491 ° N and longitude 124.128489 ° W, latitude 40.803767 ° N and longitude 124.124580 ° W, latitude 40.803838 ° N and longitude 124.121528 ° W.

Regional Water Board staff has determined that the Project, as described in the NOI, is categorically exempt from CEQA review (section 15306 – Information Collection) and

meets the eligibility requirements for coverage under the General 401 Water Quality Certification Order for 2012 Certified Nationwide Permits. The applicant has applied for authorization from the US Army Corps of Engineers under Nationwide permit No. 6.

Project Purpose and Description:

The primary purpose of the Project is to evaluate the geotechnical stability and hydraulic capacity of the levee. Results of the study will assist in assessing safety of the levee and determining whether it meets embankment and foundational stability requirements of FEMA's National Flood Insurance Program Standards. The Project includes, temporary placement of two, 4-foot by 8-foot traffic weighted steel plates at each waterside levee toe drilling location. The two steel plates (64 square feet at each of the five locations) will be installed and removed within a 2 hour period and will not contact surface waters. Drilling activities will be accomplished using a crane-deployed, track-mounted Geoprobe and cone penetrometer test mobile drill rig. Absorbent wattle perimeter control will be used to encircle drilling equipment during drilling activities. Containment vessels and clean-up BMPs will remain onsite through completion of the Project.

Project will temporarily impact approximately 0.007 acres of mud flat wetlands, waters of the State. The Project shall be constructed and maintained as described within application materials. The Project is expected to be implemented during the months of August through September 2015. Impacts are temporary to mudflats and do not necessitate restoration.

Receiving Water: Wetlands
Eureka Plain Hydrologic Unit 110.00

Filled Excavated Area: Permanent Area Impacted: None
Temporary Area Impacted: 0.007 acres wetlands

Latitude/Longitude: 40.804539 ° N / 124.136894 ° W,
40.803051 ° N / 124.132205 ° W,
40.803491 ° N / 124.128489 ° W,
40.803767 ° N / 124.124580 ° W,
40.803838 ° N / 124.121528 ° W

Regional Water Board staff has determined that the proposed activities may proceed under the General 401 Water Quality Certification Order No. SB12002GN.

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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Weblink: The State Water Resources Control Board the General 401 Water Quality Certification Order No. SB12002GN for 2012 Nationwide Permits can be found here:

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/cwa401/docs/generalorders/nwp_401.pdf

cc: Holly Costa, US Army Corps of Engineers, Holly.N.Costa@usace.army.mil