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## North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board

April 22, 2016

Mr. Richard Young  
Crescent City Harbor District  
101 Citizen's Dock Road  
Crescent City, CA 95531

Dear Mr. Young:

**Subject:** Amendment to the Federal Clean Water Act, Section 401, Water Quality Certification for the Citizen's Dock Fender Pile Repair Project

**Files:** Crescent City Harbor Citizen's Dock Fender Repairs; WDID 1A13027WNHU ECM PIN CW-791882

On February 25, 2016, we received your email requesting an amendment to the May 9, 2013, Federal Clean Water Act, section 401, Water Quality Certification (certification) for the Citizen's Dock Fender Pile Repair Project.

The Crescent City Harbor District has requested the certification be modified to allow for replacement of an additional 13 fender piles. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) has confirmed that the existing 404 permit already covers this activity. The National Marine Fisheries Service has indicated to the Corps that this activity does not require re-initiation of consultation.

In response to your request, this letter serves as a modification to Findings 4 and 7, modifying the project description, as outlined below:

**Finding 4:** Citizen's Dock repairs will include replacement of chocks, ladders, and ~~13~~ 26 fender piles. Repairs to the fish docks will include replacement of up to ~~1831~~ fender piles and associated chocks and walers. Fender piles are non-structural piles located on the exterior perimeter of the docks. The fender piles cushion and protect the docks, and the outer rows of bearing piles,

from damage caused by vessel impacts. Fender piles also protect the hulls of watercraft tied to the dock. Chocks are braces placed between fender piles that hold the piles in position and provide lateral stability. Fiver reinforced plastic (FRP) chocks will be used where existing chocks are being replaced. These repairs are necessary to protect and restore the structural integrity of the dock structures.

Finding 7: The project will result in ~~28,540.5~~ square feet of permanent impacts to the ocean floor associated with installation of the 31 FRP piles. Since permanent impacts are associated with installation of new piles with similar dimensions to the piles they replace, the project is not expected to result in any overall increase in the area of permanent impact to the ocean. The pile removal activities will also result in approximately 31 square feet of temporary impacts to waters of the United States. Compensatory mitigation is not required for the project. Non-compensatory mitigation includes implementation of Best Management Practices for pile removal and containment of debris.

I hereby issue an amendment to the project description in Findings 4 and 7 of the Certification for the Crescent City Harbor Citizen's Dock Fender Repairs Project (WDID 1A13027WNHU) certifying that the remainder of the Water Quality Certification sections of the May 9, 2013 Certification are still valid.

If you have any questions or comments, please contact Brendan Thompson at (707) 576-2699 or [Brendan.Thompson@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:Brendan.Thompson@waterboards.ca.gov).

Sincerely,

Matthias St. John  
Executive Officer

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cc: Carol Heidsiek, ACOE, [Carol.A.Heidsiek@usace.army.mil](mailto:Carol.A.Heidsiek@usace.army.mil)