

March 14, 2014

**Public Notice for Water Quality Certification and/or Waste  
Discharge Requirements (Dredge/Fill Projects)**

**Redwood National Park Strawberry Creek Restoration Project  
WDID No. 1B14017WNHU**

**Humboldt County**

On February 28, 2014, the North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Water Board) received an application from Redwood National Park (Applicant), requesting Federal Clean Water Act, section 401, Water Quality Certification for activities associated with the Strawberry Creek Restoration Project (Project). The proposed Project will cause disturbances to waters of the United States associated with Strawberry Creek and wetlands within the Redwood Creek Hydrologic Unit No. 107.10. The Project site is located at latitude 41.275350°N, and longitude 124.075350°W. The Project is located west of the town of Orick, Humboldt County, within the Redwood National Park. Permanent impacts to waters of the U.S. include approximately 2.2 acres of wetlands. Temporary impacts to waters of the U.S. include approximately 136 linear feet of stream bed and bank and approximately 395 linear feet of temporary impacts to waters of the State stream bed and bank.

The primary purpose of the Project is restoration 1,600 linear feet of Strawberry Creek and tributaries for anadromous salmonid habitat and passage for all life stages of fish. The proposed Project would include excavating extensive mats of invasive plants along 1,200 linear feet of Strawberry Creek and 390 feet of the West Tributary, a tributary of Strawberry Creek within the project area. Both stream reaches will be restored by grubbing and excavating a channel, constructing planting mounds adjacent to each side of the channel and anchoring wood and rock structures in the channels to maintain channel grade and create fish habitat.

The proposed Project is self-mitigating restoring stream conditions and salmonid habitat for 1,600 linear feet of Strawberry Creek and tributaries including native riparian habitat. The project will improve condition for approximately 3 acres of wetlands, stream channel and riparian habitat. Improved stream crossings will prevent 630 cubic yards of sediment from entering the restored stream and improve fish passage for salmonids. The Project proposes to employ best management practices to prevent or reduce any discharges during and after construction.

The Project is planned to take place between April 2014 and March 2016.

The Applicant has applied for authorization from the United States Army Corps of Engineers for a Clean Water Act, section 404 permit; Individual 404 Permit 2009-00041N and Regional General Permit Number 12 (2003-27922N). The Applicant has applied to the California Department of Fish and Wildlife for a Streambed Alteration Agreement.

The California Department of Fish and Wildlife, as lead California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) agency, has produced a Mitigated Negative Declaration and filed with the State Clearinghouse (SCH No. 2011122047), pursuant to CEQA guidelines.

The information contained in this public notice is only a summary of the Applicant's proposed activities. The application for Water Quality Certification in the Regional Water Board's file contains additional details about the proposed Project including maps and photos. The application and Regional Water Board file are available for public review.

Regional Water Board staff are proposing to regulate this Project pursuant to Section 401 of the Clean Water Act (33 USC 1341) and/or Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act authority. In addition, staff will consider all comments submitted in writing and received at this office by mail during a 21-day comment period that begins on the first date of issuance of this letter and ends at 5:00 p.m. on the last day of the comment period. If you have any questions, please contact staff member Gil Falcone at (707) 576-2830 or Stephen Bargsten at (707) 576-2653 within 21 days of the posting of this notice.