

May 29, 2014

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

City of Rohnert Park Dowdell Avenue Extension  
WDID 1B13121WNSO

Sonoma County

On February 7, 2014, the North Coast Regional water Quality Control Board (Regional Water Board) received an application from Marilyn Ponton, City of Rohnert Park (applicant), requesting Federal Clean Water Act, section 401, Water Quality Certification (certification) and/or Waste Discharge Requirements (Dredge/Fill Projects) for activities associated with the Rohnert Park Dowdell Avenue Extension Project (project). The proposed project would cause disturbances to waters of the United States and the state associated with wetlands in the Middle Russian River watershed (114.21). The project is located in a vacant lot immediately south of Business Park Drive in Rohnert Park, at latitude 38.356531°N and longitude 122.718064°W. Permanent impacts to waters of the United States and state would be approximately 0.06 acres.

The purpose of the project is to extend a 2-lane roadway from the intersection with Business Park Drive by 760 feet to the south, ending at the southern property boundary. Dowdell Drive will be a two-lane roadway with a two-way center left turn lane with a 68-foot right of way. The road will connect with the southerly portion of Dowdell Avenue, which is being constructed as part of the adjoining Fiori Estates Apartments project. The curb-to-curb width of the road is 48 feet, with a 4.5-foot planter strip and 5-foot concrete sidewalk on both sides of the street. Storm drain, water and sewer, dry utilities, storm runoff treatment swales, streetlighting, and landscaping will also be constructed. Several seasonal wetlands on the site, totaling approximately 0.06 acres, will be filled or impacted.

Wetlands impacted as part of the project will be mitigated at a ratio of 1.5:1 with the purchase of 0.09 acres of wetland mitigation bank credits. The project will employ best management practices to prevent or reduce any discharges during and after construction. Construction is expected to occur during a 3-4 month period beginning in the 2014 construction season.

The applicant has applied for Clean Water Act Section 404 authorization from the United States Army Corps of Engineers. The applicant has also applied for an Incidental Take Permit from the California Department of Fish and Wildlife.

The City of Rohnert Park, acting as lead California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) agency, filed a Notice of Determination with the state clearinghouse approving an Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration (SCH 2014012020) for the project. The project was also evaluated as part of the Stadium Area Master Plan Environmental Impact Report (SCH 2005042111).

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. 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 Kaete King at (707) 576-2848 or Stephen Bargsten at (707) 576-2653.

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