

July 11, 2014

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

**Scott River Bioengineered Streambank Restoration Project Merlo / Mills Property
WDID No. 1A14049WNSI**

Siskiyou County

On May 21, 2014, the North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Water Board) received an application from the Siskiyou Resource Conservation District on behalf of Anita Merlo and Arabella Mills (Applicant), requesting Federal Clean Water Act, section 401, Water Quality Certification for activities associated with Scott River Bioengineered Streambank Restoration Project Merlo / Mills Property (Project). The proposed Project will cause disturbances to waters of the United States and the State associated with Scott River within the Klamath River Hydrologic Unit No. 105.42. The Project is on the Scott River near Etna, Siskiyou County, at latitude 41.380144°N, and longitude 122.828325°W. Permanent impacts to waters of the U.S. and State include approximately 650 linear feet or 5,160 square feet of river bed and bank. No Temporary impacts to waters of the U.S. or state are proposed.

The primary purpose of the Project is to install bioengineered water quality protection improvements and along 650 linear feet of eroding river bank as well as habitat improvements within the reach. The project proposes to integrate native willow siltation baffles, willow walls and mattresses as well as deep planted live willow clusters in order to strengthen the design and restore lost riparian vegetation.

The proposed Project would include placing rock and live willow creating bioengineered structures along the dry channel banks during the low flows. Additionally, where work would take place in the wetted channel, water will be diverted to minimize impacts to aquatic life. During construction of the project approximately 650 linear feet of streambed and bank will be permanently impacted, no temporary impacts are proposed.

The proposed Project includes a plan to revegetate disturbed areas, including planting native willow trees within the slope stability structures. The Project proposes to employ best management practices to prevent or reduce any discharges during and after construction.

The Project is planned to begin in the summer and fall of 2014 with construction work planned to last approximately one month.

The Applicant has applied for authorization from the United States Army Corps of Engineers for a Clean Water Act, section 404 permit. The Applicant has also applied to the California Department of Fish and Wildlife to obtain a Streambed Alteration Agreement.

On May 20, 2014, the Siskiyou Resource Conservation District, as lead California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) agency, has produced an Initial Study and proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration and filed with the State Clearinghouse (SCH No. 2014052061), 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.