

April 29, 2015

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

**City of Santa Rosa, Bayer Neighborhood Park and Gardens  
WDID 1B13157WNSO**

**Sonoma County**

On December 20, 2013, the North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Water Board) received an application from Jennifer Philips, City of Santa Rosa (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 City of Santa Rosa, Bayer Neighborhood Park and Gardens Project (project). The application was deemed complete on April 22, 2015. The proposed project would cause disturbances to waters of the United States and the state associated with an unnamed wetland within the Laguna hydrologic sub-area of the Middle Russian River (114.21). The project is located at 1550 and 1632 West Avenue in Santa Rosa, at latitude 38.421494°N and longitude 122.726967°W. Permanent impacts to waters of the United States and state would be approximately 0.002 acres.

The purpose of the project is to construct a new neighborhood park. The project will involve constructing a community garden, gathering areas, a barn and animal enclosure, turf areas, play zones, an amphitheater, picnic areas, a wetland treatment area, orchards, a plaza and courtyard, ovens, restrooms and a kitchen pavilion. Of the total 0.01 acre of jurisdictional wetland on site (approximately 358 linear feet), 0.002 acre (62 linear feet), will be permanently impacted by the installation of three crossings. Two driveways and one pedestrian crossing will traverse the jurisdictional wetland ditch.

Compensatory mitigation for permanent impacts to jurisdictional waters consists of the purchase of 0.05 acre of wetland credits from an approved area wetland mitigation bank. Bills of sale for purchase of the credits were received on April 15, 2015. The project will also employ best management practices to prevent or reduce any discharges during and after construction. The project is expected to commence this summer.

The applicant has received Clean Water Act Section 404 authorization from the United States Army Corps of Engineers (File Number 2009-00325N).

On March 12, 2014, the City of Santa Rosa approved a Mitigated Negative Declaration (SCH 2011012008) for the project in order to comply with CEQA. The Regional Water Board has considered the environmental document, BMPs, and any proposed changes incorporated into the project or required as a condition of approval to avoid significant effects to the environment.

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 notice 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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