

May 26, 2015

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

**Tomina Hutters Drainage Restoration Project
WDID No. 1B15033WNME**

Mendocino County

On April 1, 2015, the North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Water Board) received an application from Tomina Hutters (Applicant), requesting Federal Clean Water Act, section 401, Water Quality Certification for activities associated with the Tomina Hutters Drainage Restoration Project (Project). The proposed Project will cause disturbances to waters of the United States and the State associated with two unnamed tributaries to Wilson Creek within the Eel River Hydrologic Unit No. 111.33. The Project is located at 1285 Woodman Creek Road, Laytonville, Mendocino County, at latitude 39.725884°N, and longitude 123.488112°W. No permanent impacts to waters of the U.S. and the State are proposed. Temporary impacts to waters of the U.S. and the State include approximately 180 linear feet of creek bed, bank and channel.

The primary purpose of the Project is to remove two unpermitted in-stream dams and impoundments as well as associated culverts and roadways. The proposed actions are to remedy a Notice of Violation issued by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife on November 13, 2013, as well as possible violations of the Clear Water Act section 401. The proposed Project would include removal of dam structures, corrugated pipes, riprap, culverts, and debris. The Project will include grading and reestablishing bed, bank, and channel to previous contour conditions. An existing dirt access road will also be decommissioned following remediation activities.

The proposed Project includes an engineering plan submitted by SHN Consulting Engineers & Geologists, Inc. on behalf of the Applicant to recontour the bed, bank, and channel; stabilize the site; and ensure appropriate sediment and erosion control measures and treatments are in place. Monitoring and Reporting is also proposed to ensure remediation treatments to recontour and stabilize the channels perform as designed through the hydrologic annual cycle. 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 of 2015 with construction work planned to last approximately two months. The Project is proposed to be completed in 2015.

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 applied to the California Department of Fish and Wildlife to obtain a Streambed Alteration Agreement.

The North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board, as lead California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) agency, has determined that the project qualifies for a Categorical Exemption, 15321 Enforcement Actions by Regulatory Agencies, and will file a Notice of Exemption with the State Clearinghouse concurrent with issuance of the 401 Water Quality Certification, 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 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 Gil Falcone at (707) 576-2830 or Stephen Bargsten at (707) 576-2653 within 21 days of the posting of this notice.