

June 24, 2015

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

**Orchard Avenue Flucke Streambank Protection Project
WDID 1B15043WNSO**

Sonoma County

On April 30, 2015, the North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Water Board) received an application from Michael and Gail Flucke (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 Orchard Avenue Flucke Streambank Protection Project (project). The proposed project would cause disturbances to waters of the United States and the state associated with the Lower Russian River (114.11). The project is located at 17734 Orchard Avenue in Guerneville, at latitude 38.485278°N and longitude 123.011944°W. Permanent impacts to waters of the United States and state would be approximately 45 linear feet.

The purpose of the project is to restore and protect approximately forty-five linear feet of stream bank along the east side of the Russian River. The stream bank is slumping and eroding, threatening the home and property. The impounded summer water elevation (ISWE) is approximately four feet higher than the ordinary high water mark (OHWM) elevation. The proposed project design incorporates a combination of rip-rap erosion protection below the ISWE, with live willow coir lifts (coir lifts) above the ISWE. The project will have a total disturbed area of 1,060 square feet, 0.025 acres.

The project incorporates restoration and bioengineering to mitigate for permanent impacts. The project will employ best management practices to prevent or reduce any discharges during and after construction. The project is expected to commence this summer and is expected to take approximately 45 days.

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 a Lake and Streambed Alteration Agreement from the California Department of Fish and Wildlife.

The North Coast Regional Water Board, as lead California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) agency, has determined that the project qualifies for a Categorical Exemption, 15304: Minor Alterations to Land, 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. 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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