

October 5, 2015

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

**Kneeland Road PM 5.02 Roadway Restoration Project  
WDID No. 1B150954WNHU**

**Humboldt County**

On July 20, 2015, the North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Water Board) received an application from the Humboldt County Department of Public Works (Applicant), requesting Federal Clean Water Act, section 401, Water Quality Certification for activities associated with the Kneeland Road PM 5.02 Roadway Restoration Project (Project). The proposed Project will cause disturbances to waters of the State associated with an unnamed tributary to Coyote Creek within the Eel River Hydrologic Unit No. 111.22. The Project is located on Kneeland Road at Post Mile (PM) 5.02, Bridgeville, Humboldt County, at latitude 40.519819°N, and longitude 123.826447°W. No permanent impacts to waters of the U.S. are proposed. Temporary impacts to waters of the State include approximately 6.6 linear feet of creek bed and bank.

The primary purpose of the Project is to repair storm damage to Kneeland road at PM 5.02. The proposed Project would include construction of a geogrid-reinforced embankment, trench and vertical drain system with underdrain. The cross drain will be replaced with an 18" HDPA pipe cross drain. During roadway repair construction no riparian vegetation is proposed to be disturbed. Temporary impacts to waters of the State will be due to placement of 6.6 linear feet of rock slope protection into the bed and bank of the creek as an energy dissipater to maintain integrity of the channel.

The proposed Project includes a plan to revegetate disturbed areas to avoid sediment discharge at the site. The Project proposes to employ best management practices to prevent or reduce any discharges during and after construction.

The Project is planned to begin between 2016 and 2018 (between July 15 and October 31<sup>st</sup> each year) with construction work planned to last approximately 30 days. The Project start date is dependent on Federal Highway Administration funding.

The Applicant has applied for authorization from the United States Army Corps of Engineers for a Clean Water Act, section 404, Nationwide Permit No. 3. 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, 15301 (c) Existing Facilities, 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 [gil.falcone@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:gil.falcone@waterboards.ca.gov) at (707) 576-2830 or Stephen Bargsten [stephen.bargsten@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:stephen.bargsten@waterboards.ca.gov) at (707) 576-2653 within 21 days of the posting of this notice.

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