

November 9, 2015

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

**Centerville Road PM 2.50 Roadway Restoration Project
WDID No. 1B15073WNHU**

Humboldt County

On July 22, 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 Centerville Road PM 2.50 Roadway Restoration Project (Project). The proposed Project will cause disturbances to waters of the United States associated with Russ Creek within the Eel River Hydrologic Unit No. 111.11. The Project is located on the north side of Centerville Road at Post Mile (PM) 2.50, Ferndale, Humboldt County, at latitude 40.582172°N, and longitude 124.316258°W. Permanent impacts to waters of the U.S. include approximately 48 linear feet of creek bed and bank. No temporary impacts are proposed for this Project.

The primary purpose of the Project is to stabilize an eroding bank along the existing roadway. The proposed Project would include work within the creek when water is present. Fish exclusion will be conducted prior to construction along with installation of sediment control devices to ensure no sediment is discharged into the creek during construction. The Project includes plans to use a vibratory hammer to install sheet piles to retain sediment along 48 linear feet of the creek bed and bank. The Project also includes plans to place and secure gabion rock baskets on top of the sheet pile wall to meet or exceed 100-year flood elevations. No riparian vegetation is proposed to be removed.

The proposed Project includes a plan to revegetate disturbed areas and plant additional willows and alders on the bank and top of bank to enhance the riparian area. Plantings are proposed outside of road safety maintenance areas and spanning approximately 75 linear feet of the creek. The Applicant 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 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 at (707) 576-2830 or Stephen Bargsten stephen.bargsten@waterboards.ca.gov at (707) 576-2653 within 21 days of the posting of this notice.