

June 20, 2016

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

**Folded Hills Pond Restoration and Wetland Enhancement Project  
WDID No. 1B16189WNSO**

**Mendocino County**

On May 20, 2016, the North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Water Board) received an application from Gary Galeazzi (applicant), requesting Federal Clean Water Act, section 401, Water Quality Certification for activities associated with the Folded Hills Pond Restoration and Wetland Enhancement Project (Project). The Project is located approximately 3 miles southeast of Yorkville, CA at 31608 Highway 128. The Project center is located at approximately latitude 38.8612°N and longitude 123.1596°W.

The primary purpose of the Project is to re-establish the original area and volume of a man-made, in-stream recreational and stock-watering pond that was constructed in 1959. To achieve the goal of the Project, the applicant proposes to de-water the pond, excavate accumulated sediment, and remove all exotic plant species from the adjacent stream channel and wetlands. All excavated material from the pond would be relocated and stabilized at an upland location that has been approved by all responsible resource agencies. Up to 33,000 cubic yards of sediment may be excavated from the pond.

The proposed Project would cause disturbances to waters of the United States and the state associated with wetlands, an ephemeral creek, and a man-made pond within the Middle Russian River Hydrologic Unit, North Coast Hydrologic Basin Planning Area No. 114.24.

Approximately 0.34 acres of seasonal wetlands would be permanently impacted due to conversion to a pond. Approximately 1.8 acres of a man-made pond would be temporarily impacted due to temporary draining and excavation. Approximately 1.75 acres of seasonal wetlands would be temporarily impacted due to enhancement activities.

To mitigate for Project impacts, the applicant proposes to enhance approximately 1.75 acres of wetlands and approximately 950 linear feet of ephemeral stream. Enhancements would include the relocation of an ATV trail, invasive plant species removal, and native plantings with native of riparian species. The applicant proposed to monitor the success of the enhancement areas for five years.

The Project is planned to begin July 2016, with construction work planned to last approximately 40 days.

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

We anticipate that, as lead California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) agency, the Regional Water Board will file a Notice of Exemption with the State Clearinghouse for a Categorical Exemption, 15304 (g) Minor Alterations to Land.

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 Jake Shannon at (707) 576-2673 or Stephen Bargsten at (707) 576-2653 within 21 days of the posting of this notice.