

July 27, 2016

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

**GP Fort Bragg OU-E Soil & Sediment Removal Action Project
WDID No. 1B16655WNME**

Mendocino County

On June 16, 2016, the North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Water Board) received an application from the Georgia-Pacific, LLC, David Massengill (Applicant), requesting Federal Clean Water Act, section 401, Water Quality Certification for activities associated with GP Fort Bragg OU-E Soil & Sediment Removal Action Project (Project). The proposed Project will cause disturbances to waters of the United States associated with wetlands and an unnamed tributary to Maple Creek within the Mendocino Coast Hydrologic Unit No. 113.20. The Project is located at 90 West Redwood Avenue, Fort Bragg, Mendocino County, at latitude 39.44225°N, and longitude 123.81113°W. No permanent impacts to waters of the U.S. are proposed. Temporary impacts to waters of the U.S. include approximately 0.44 acres of herbaceous wetland, pond habitats and approximately 372 square feet (60 Linear Feet) of steam bed and bank. Temporary impacts to waters of the state include approximately 0.02 acres of riparian vegetation clearing.

The primary purpose of the Project is for soil and sediment remediation removal activities on the former wood products facility owned by the Applicant in order to comply with Department of Toxic Substances Control Investigation and Remediation Order Docket No. HAS-RAO_06-07-150. Proposed excavation activities within the waters of the U.S. and State are identified within Operable Unit (OU-E) at the facility.

The proposed Project would include the excavation of approximately 2,263 cubic yards of soil and sediment currently in jurisdictional waters of the U.S. and State with a total disturbance area of approximately 20,605 square feet (0.47 acres). Impacts to areas assumed to be waters of the U.S. include approximately 0.44 acres of herbaceous wetland, pond habitats and approximately 372 square feet (60 Linear Feet) of steam bed and bank will be temporarily impacted during the construction process. Approximately 872 square feet (0.02 acres) of riparian habitat, waters of the state, will be temporarily impacted to allow access during excavation activities in the Riparian Area.

The proposed Project includes a draft plan to mitigate impacts to waters of the State. Plans include revegetation and restoration of disturbed or remediated areas, including approximately 0.45 acres of waters of the state and 0.02 acres of riparian area. The plan also includes creation of approximately 0.55 acres of wetland areas adjacent to existing waters. The Project includes, where applicable, the use of approved fill material to restore waters impacted by sediment removal. 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 2016 through fall of 2016 with construction work planned to last approximately 20 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 applied to the California Department of Fish and Wildlife to obtain a Streambed Alteration Agreement.

On January 12, 2015, the City of Fort Bragg, as lead California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) agency, certified an Environmental Impact Report and filed with the State Clearinghouse (SCH No. 201402014), and filed an addendum on May 11, 2016, with Department of Toxic Substances as responsible CEQA agency incorporating activities anticipated as a result of implementation of a draft interim Removal Action Workplan (RAW) for Operating Unit (OU-E), 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.