

August 23, 2016

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

**Noyo Harbor District Boat Launch & Parking Facility Project  
WDID No. 1B16245WNME**

**Mendocino County**

On March 21, 2016, the North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Water Board) received an application from the Noyo Harbor District (Applicant), requesting Federal Clean Water Act, section 401, Water Quality Certification for activities associated with the Noyo Harbor District Boat Launch & Parking Facility Project (Project). The proposed Project will cause disturbances to waters of the United States associated with Noyo River and wetlands within the Mendocino Coast Hydrologic Unit No. 113.20. The Project is located at the Noyo inner harbor boat launch facility on the Noyo River Estuary, Fort Bragg, Mendocino County, at latitude 39.423185°N, and longitude 123.803117°W. Permanent impacts to waters of the U.S. include approximately 377 square feet (0.008 acres) of tidal estuary mudflat. Temporary impacts to waters of the U.S. include approximately 1,866 square feet (0.04 acres) of tidal estuary wetland.

The primary purpose of the Project is to replace Noyo Harbor District's existing degraded boat launch ramp and wooden floating dock, repave and stripe the associated parking lot with low impact development pervious pavement and add ADA-compliant restrooms and pathway.

The proposed Project would include demolishing the existing ramp and dock materials and installation of a new ramp, dock facility and rock slope protection that would disturb a total area of approximately 2,243 square feet (0.05 acres) of jurisdictional area below the high tide line. During replacement of the facility design plans have incorporated measures to avoid direct impacts to adjacent eelgrass beds.

The proposed Project includes pre- and post-project monitoring of adjacent eelgrass beds to verify these wetlands are not impacted. The applicant will also remove existing debris from nearby tidal mudflats to offset the permanent impacts of the project. In the unlikely event of impacts to eelgrass the applicant shall develop a plan for mitigation at a pre-approved site and shall comply with the California Eelgrass Mitigation Policy and completely mitigate impacts to eelgrass. The applicant proposes to install pervious pavement in the parking lot area and part of the launch area in order to satisfy storm water low impact development requirements. The Project proposes to employ best management practices (BMPs) to prevent or reduce any discharges during and after construction. Specific project BMPs to avoid and minimize turbidity discharges and impacts to eelgrass include full-depth turbidity screen and in-water diver coordinated demolition.

The Project is planned to begin in the summer of 2017 through the fall of 2017 with construction work planned to last approximately 90 days (work window July 15 – October 15).

If the project experiences funding or permitting delays the project may take place in 2018 on the same work window.

The Applicant has received authorization from the United States Army Corps of Engineers for a Clean Water Act, section 404 Nationwide Permit No. 3 for Maintenance and the Rivers and Harbors Act section 10. Army Corps file Number is 2016-00099N. The Applicant has applied to the California Department of Fish and Wildlife to obtain a Streambed Alteration Agreement and the California Coastal Commission for a Coastal Development Permit.

The North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board, as lead California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) agency, has determined that the project currently qualifies for a Categorical Exemption, 15301 (c)(d) 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.