

October 5, 2016

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

**California Department of Transportation  
State Route 101 Jack & Bore Culvert Project  
39.97411, -123.79948<sup>1</sup>  
WDID No. 1B161083WNME, ECM PIN CW-827353  
Caltrans EA No. 01-48400, EFIS No. 01-1300-0106**

**Mendocino County**

On August 11, 2016, the North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Water Board) received an application from the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), requesting Federal Clean Water Act, section 401, Water Quality Certification (certification) for activities related to the proposed State Route 101 Jack & Bore Culvert Project (Project).

**Project Description**

The purpose of the proposed project is to address a failing culvert that is running through a fill section located on State Route 101, Post Mile (PM) 104.46, in Mendocino County. This project proposes to replace and abandon an existing 48-in x 550-ft corrugated steel pipe (CSP) culvert by jacking a new 48-in x 370-ft welded steel pipe (WSP) through the existing fill prism of Route-101. An access road will be constructed to both the inlet and outlet within the Caltrans right of way along with a jacking and receiving pit. A 15-ft x 30-ft area within the channel at the inlet will need to be prepared for the jacking pit and a 12-ft x 20-ft area will be excavated into the fill slope for the receiving pit. A new concrete headwall will be constructed at the inlet and a rock-lined ditch from the outlet to the existing 48-inch corrugated steel pipe (CSP) outlet as well.

**Impacts**

The proposed Project would result in approximately 60 linear feet (0.014 acres) of temporary impacts to the bed, bank and channel of an unnamed ephemeral drainage as a result of excavation for the jacking pit and construction access. The proposed Project would result in no permanent impacts to wetlands, riparian areas, or stream channels.

**Proposed Mitigation**

To mitigate for temporary impacts associated with the jacking pit, Caltrans is proposing to revegetate all disturbed areas with site-specific vegetation, restoring post-construction habitat conditions to pre-project conditions.

**Post-Construction Storm Water Treatment**

Post-construction storm water treatment is not required because this project will not increase the area of impervious surface at the project location.

**Construction Timing**

The Project is expected to require 122 days of construction. The Project is proposed to begin on the June 15, 2017, and be completed on October 15, 2017.

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<sup>1</sup> WGS84 datum

**Disturbed Ground Area**

Project implementation will result in less than one acre of disturbed soil area. Caltrans shall utilize appropriate erosion control, sediment control, and site management Best Management Practices to prevent discharge of pollutants during construction.

**Total Maximum Daily Load and Water Impairment**

The Eel River watershed is listed on the Clean Water Act section 303(d) list as impaired for sediment and temperature. In 1999, the U.S. EPA established sediment and temperature total maximum daily loads (TMDLs) for the South Fork Eel River Watershed. Roads are a significant source of sediment in the watershed (directly, from surface erosion, and, indirectly, by triggering landslides). In addition, activities that impact the riparian zone and reduce riparian vegetation are identified as sources contributing to increased stream temperatures. A focus on measures to reduce sediment discharges to surface waters from roads in the watershed, and measures to avoid, minimize, and mitigate impacts on riparian zones is essential for achieving TMDL, Basin Plan, and CEQA compliance.

**Other Agency Permits**

Caltrans has applied for coverage under a non-reporting U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Reporting Nationwide Permit No. 3, *Maintenance*, pursuant to section 404 of the Clean Water Act. Caltrans has applied for a Section 1602 Streambed Alteration Agreement from the California Department of Fish and Wildlife.

**CEQA Compliance**

The Regional Water Board may file a categorical exemption for the Project, if deemed appropriate.

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 phone calls and comments submitted in writing and received within 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 or comments, please contact staff member Brandon Stevens at (707) 576-2377 or [Brandon.Stevens@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:Brandon.Stevens@waterboards.ca.gov) within 21 days of the posting of this notice.

The information contained in this public notice is only a summary of Caltrans's proposed activities. The Regional Water Board's Project file includes the application for certification and additional details of the proposed Project, including maps and design drawings. Project documents and any comments received are on file and may be reviewed or copied at the Regional Water Board office, 5550 Skylane Boulevard, Suite A, Santa Rosa, California. Appointments are recommended for document review. Appointments can be made by calling (707) 576-2220.