

July 26, 2019

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

**Harlan Way Culvert Replacement Project
ECM PIN CW-860006; WDID 1B190099WNHU**

Humboldt County

On July 10, 2019, the North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Water Board) received an application from Brett Vivyan from GHD, Inc. on behalf of the City of Fortuna (applicant), requesting Federal Clean Water Act, section 401, Water Quality Certification (certification) for activities related to the proposed Harlan Way Culvert Replacement Project.

Project Location

The Project is located at 115 Harlan Way, Fortuna, California, at latitude 40.60092°N and longitude 124.1644°W. The proposed project would cause disturbances to the Russian River, within the Lower Russian River Hydrologic Area (114.20).

Project Description

The purpose of this project is to replace a failed 36-inch diameter culvert, crossing Harlan Way, located on an unnamed intermittent stream. Multiple repairs have been completed in the past with little to no effect. The bottom of the 36-inch diameter corrugated metal pipe (CMP) that conveys drainage under Harlan Way has corroded away, allowing drainage to flow through the surrounding roadway sub-grade, carrying away sediment, creating voids and causing roadway failures in the form of sinkholes.

The project would replace the existing 36-inch diameter corrugated metal pipe (CMP) under Harlan Way, restore the roadway, implement rock slope protection and energy dissipation at the outlet, and mitigate project impacts to the stream channel and associated riparian area at a 2:1 ratio. Project activities include:

Trenching, shoring, and excavation. Excavation limits will be approximately 1 foot north of the existing outlet and 5 feet south of the existing outlet (to accommodate relocating outlet to better align with the downstream channel alignment) and tapering to 1 foot on either side of the culvert. Excavation will be a maximum of 1 foot below the existing culvert (approximately 150 cubic yards within the existing roadway prism);

Removal and disposal of existing culvert and concrete block headwall at the outlet;

Place up to 12-inches of aggregate base subgrade and compact;

Place approximately 107 feet of 36-inch diameter HDPE pipe along approximate existing alignment and install one manhole/junction box. The culvert outlet location will be moved approximately 3 feet south to better align with the downstream channel;

Grout new HDPE into existing headwall;

Backfill with aggregate base, compact trench, and pave roadway;

Place rock slope protection along 9 feet of roadway prism/stream bank at outlet, down the 7-foot slope;

Place 3 foot by 3-foot area of rock slope protection, at grade, within the channel; and

Re-vegetate disturbed streambank/roadway prism

Construction Timing

The project is expected to be completed in one construction season, between September 1, 2019, and September 30, 2019. No work will occur during the wet season (October 15 through May 15).

Impacts

The Project will result in 3 linear feet of temporary impacts to stream channel as a result of headwall replacement and energy dissipation at the culvert outlet. The Project will also result in 7 linear feet of permanent impacts to riparian areas as a result of rock slope project placed within and adjacent to the roadway prism. Additionally, the project will also have 107 linear feet of temporary stream channel impacts as a result of culvert replacement.

Mitigation for Project Impacts

Mitigation of project impacts will include invasive species removal and willow staking/bioengineering along six feet of the stream channel and removal of invasive species and native riparian planting along the roadway prism totaling 112 square feet. Mitigation will achieve a 2:1 ratio of impacts to mitigation.

Post-Construction Storm Water Treatment

The Project will not replace or increase impervious surface larger than one acre. Post-construction storm water treatment is not required for this project.

Total Maximum Daily Load

The Eel River is identified as impaired for sediment and temperature under Clean Water Act Section 303(d). Bank erosion is identified as a source contributing to the sediment impairment. Removal of riparian vegetation is identified as a source contributing to temperature impairment. Activities that will be authorized by this Order are designed to reduce removal of riparian vegetation and reduce sediment discharges from bank erosion. Accordingly, this Order is consistent with, and implements, BMPs that would attenuate sediment and temperature adverse impacts.

Other Agency Permits

The applicant has applied to the United States Army Corps of Engineers for Nationwide Permit No. 3 (Non-Reporting), pursuant to section 404 of the Clean Water Act. The applicant has also submitted a section 1600 Notification of Lake or Streambed

Alteration to the California Department of Fish and Wildlife. The applicant has also applied for a City of Fortuna Building Permit.

CEQA

As lead California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) agency, the North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board (NCRWQCB) has determined that the project qualifies for a Categorical Exemption 15301 Existing Facilities (c) and (d). The NCRWQCB will file a Notice of Exemption with the State Clearinghouse concurrent with issuance of the 401 Water Quality Certification, pursuant to CEQA guidelines.

Public Comments

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 within 21 days of the posting of this notice.

The information contained in this public notice is only a summary of the applicant'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.