June 26, 2020

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

164 Buck Cert Project

ECM PIN CW-860279; WDID 1B190110WNHU

Humboldt County

On August 2, 2019, the North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Water Board) received an application from Mr. Joel Monschke (Agent), on behalf of Mr. James Greenfield (Applicant), requesting Federal Clean Water Act, section 401, Water Quality Certification (certification) for activities related to the proposed 164 Buck Cert Project (Project).

Project Location

The Project would occur at 40000 Mattole Road, in the town of Honeydew. The Project is located within the Matolle River hydrologic unit 112.30. Project locations would occur at approximately latitude 40.2493 and longitude -124.1836 in Humboldt County.

Project Description

The purpose of the Project is to resolve a Notice of Violation issued by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife by upgrading stream crossings, decommissioning a road segment, and conducting remediation work at a historic cannabis cultivation site in order to decrease sediment delivery to tributaries of Saunders Creek, a tributary of the Mattole River.

Work would occur at six different locations located in jurisdictional waters. These Project activities include the following:

<u>Site C1 (CR1)</u>

- An undersized, 24-inch diameter HDPE culvert would be replaced with a 36-inch corrugated metal pipe (CMP) culvert, appropriately sized for 100-year flows.
- 10 linear feet of rock armor would be installed at the culvert outlet.

<u>Site C2 (CR2)</u>

- A fill crossing on a small natural drainage swale that has been causing stormwater runoff to divert down the road would be excavated to the channel's natural gradient.
- No rock armor would be necessary due to expected minimal flows even during the largest storm events.

<u>Site C3 (CR3)</u>

- An undersized, 18-inch diameter HDPE pipe would be replaced with a 24-inch diameter CMP culvert, appropriately sized for 100-year flows.
- Five linear feet of rock armor would be installed at the culvert outlet.

Site C4 (CR4)
- A fill crossing on a small drainage swale would be armored with 10 cubic yards of 6-12-inch diameter rock armor.

Site C5 (CR5)
- A fill crossing on a small drainage swale would be armored with 10 cubic yards of 6-12-inch diameter rock armor.

Site C6 (CR6)
- A fill crossing on a small drainage swale would be armored with 10 cubic yards of 6-12-inch diameter rock armor.

Additional work on the property that would reduce stormwater runoff and sediment transport to waters of the United States or waters of the state includes:

Site R1
- An historic cultivation site would be decommissioned.
- The area would be returned to its natural grade and would be revegetated.
- A pile of used cultivation soil would be removed and disposed of at a licensed waste management facility.

Access Road between C1 and R1
- The road segment would be decommissioned.
- The road would be recontoured to the natural grade.
- Drainage swales would be installed to prevent runoff concentrating along the road.

Access Road to Site R2
- This road segment, which has extensive gullying and leads to a second, historic cultivation site, would be decommissioned.
- The road would be recontoured to the natural hillslope and large waterbars would be constructed.

Sites RD1-RD4
- Rolling dips at sites RD1-RD4 would be installed.

Additional general road surface treatments would be conducted across the road network including typical yearly maintenance activities such as minor road surface reshaping and installation of additional rolling dips.

Construction Timing
Project construction would require approximately 20 days and would occur between September 1, 2020 and September 30, 2020. The Project does not propose any work within jurisdictional waters during the wet season (October 15 through May 15). Any

work within jurisdictional waters during the wet season would require approval from the Regional Water Board.

Impacts
The Project would result in 25 linear feet (0.015 acres) and 65 cubic yards of permanent impacts to stream beds as a result of culvert replacement and rock armor.

Mitigation for Project Impacts
The purpose of the project is to mitigate for unauthorized fill to jurisdictional water features. Additional mitigation is not required for this Project.

Post-Construction Storm Water Treatment
Post-construction storm water treatment is not required for this Project.

Other Agency Permits
The Applicant has applied to the United States Army Corps of Engineers for Nationwide Permit No. 14 (Reporting) pursuant to section 404 of the Clean Water Act. The Applicant has also applied for a 1600 Lake or Streambed Alteration Agreement from the California Department of Fish and Wildlife.

CEQA
The North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board has determined that the following California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Categorical Exemptions apply, 15301 (d)(i) 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.

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. 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 at the Regional Water Board office, 5550 Skylane Blvd, Suite A, Santa Rosa, CA. Appointments are recommended for document review and can be made by calling (707) 576-2220.

If you have any questions, please contact staff member Shannon Strong at Shannon.Strong@waterboards.ca.gov within 21 days of the posting of this notice.

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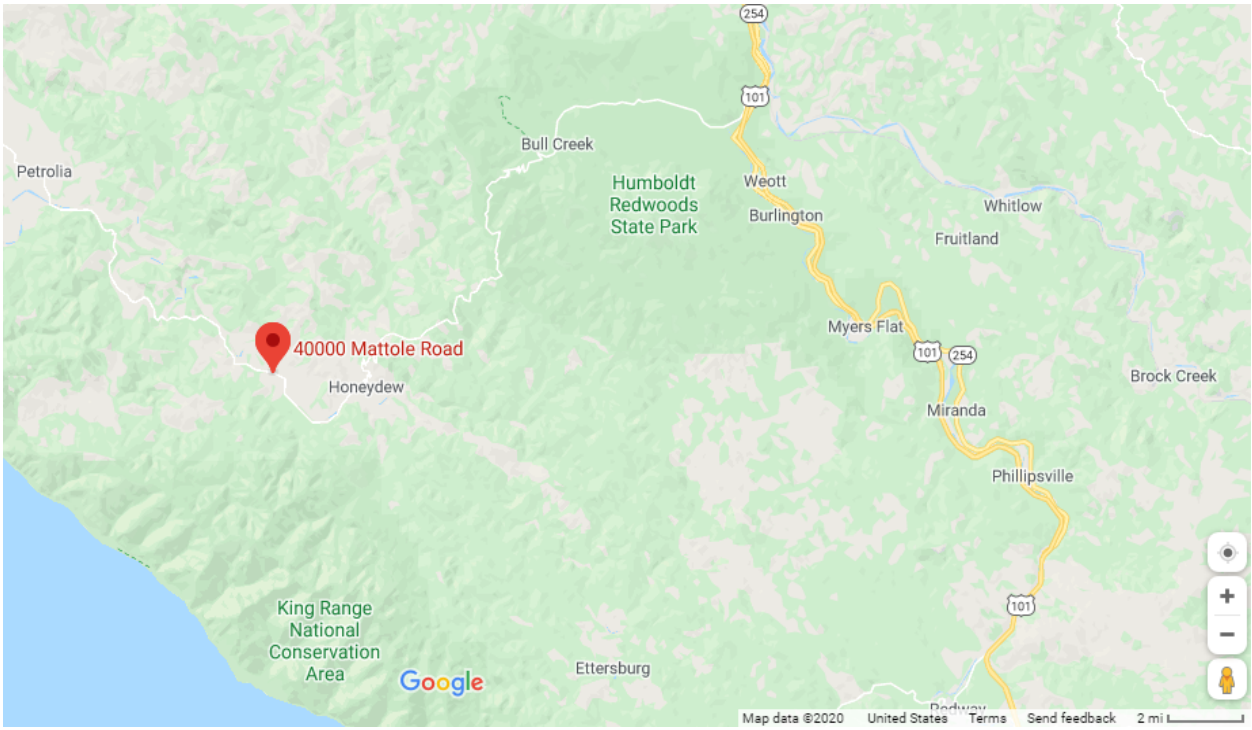
Project Location Map