

Emergency Repairs, Grasshopper Creek Bridge project, Grasshopper Creek adjacent to Soda Springs Road, Emergency Repair Distribution list

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NOTICE OF INTENT TO ISSUE EMERGENCY PERMIT TO Steve Campell (Grasshopper Creek Bridge Project)

The Lyell Doll acting as the agent for Steve Campell issued an advance notice of mobilization for emergency repairs/replacement of an existing bridge over Grasshopper Creek. The project involves the installation of a new 60' long span that is 12' in width. New concrete footings and abutments will be constructed while the existing bridge is in place to allow equipment to creek channel during construction of the abutments. Following the abutment construction the old span will be removed. The bridge was overtopped during a storm in February 2019 causing the western footing to fail. The bridge is currently sagging, resting on the stream bed, and is in imminent risk of failure. The applicant has requested authorization from the Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) to replace the existing bridge to preclude failure of the structure and maintain safety access for residents in the Mendosomo subdivision as well as access for Cal Fire and ATT that use the bridge to access the Oak Ridge Fire Lookout and a cell tower. The Corps proposes to authorize the structural repairs pursuant to Regional General Permit (RGP) 5 for emergency response actions. Repairs could occur as early as Wednesday, May 13. The applicant has proposed to complete emergency repairs (pursuant to the attached work plan) to restore the structural integrity of the bridge spanning Grasshopper Creek, along Soda Springs Road, Sonoma County, California.

The existing bridge will be used for work access on the westerly side of the crossing and work would be conducted by excavator, crane and hand tools, while heavy equipment work from the top of bank. The replacement would temporarily affect 60 lineal feet upstream and downstream of the bridge where grading and bank restoration would occur. Approximately 340 cubic yards of rock riprap would be installed within 0.09 acre around the abutments and along both stream banks to provide erosion protection.

General Condition 9 of RGP 5 stipulates that project authorization does not allow for the incidental take of any federally-listed species in the absence of a biological opinion with incidental take provisions. As the principal federal lead agency for this project, the Corps is conducting emergency consultation with the National Marine Fisheries Service and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (via email)

to address potential project related impacts to federally listed fish, mammal, and bird species, pursuant to Section 7(a) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. Section 1531 et seq.). The Corps database indicates that the project falls within an area designated as EFH for Pacific Salmon.

This e-mail serves as notification of the intent to authorize the Emergency Grasshopper Creek Bridge Project under Regional General Permit 5 for emergency authorization for this proposed action. If you have substantive, site specific comments regarding the proposed project please email, telephone (Keith.d.hess@usace.army.mil, (707-443-0855), or facsimile transmit (415-503-6690) comments to the Corps by COB May 13, 2020. If you have questions or need further information, do not hesitate to call. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

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