



Public Notice

US Army Corps
of Engineers
Sacramento District
1325 J Street
Sacramento, CA 95814-2922

Public Notice Number: 200000700
Date: August 13, 2001
Comments Due: September 12, 2001

In reply, please refer to the Public Notice Number

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

SUBJECT: Application for a Department of the Army permit under authority of Section 404 of the Clean Water Act to place fill material in Dutch Ravine as part of the Vista del Valle Subdivision project, as shown in the attached drawings.

APPLICANT: Hans Beekwilder
2687 Townsend Ct.
Sacramento, CA 95864

LOCATION: The project is located in Section 21, Township 12 North, Range 8 East, MDB&M, City of Auburn, Placer County, California.

PURPOSE: Residential development

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The applicant proposes to place fill in wetlands adjacent to Dutch Ravine in order to extend Sage Way and provide access to 10 lots proposed as Phase III of the Vista del Valle subdivision. Approximately 0.32 acre of emergent wetland would be filled by the proposed road extension. To compensate for the loss of 0.32 acre of wetland the applicant proposes to create 0.10 acre of wetland on the property by excavating an upland area adjacent to existing wetlands.

AREA DESCRIPTION: The approximately 6.6-acre project site is located in the foothills of the Sierra Nevada. Dutch Ravine, a tributary of Auburn Ravine and the Sacramento River, runs to the East through the project site. Approximately 3.5 acres of wetlands exist adjacent to Dutch Ravine within the project boundary. The Phase III project site is bordered to the South by the Oakview Estates subdivision, to the West by the Auburn Indian Rancheria subdivision and a portion of the Vista del Valle subdivision designated as open space, to the North by the Vista del Valle Phase I subdivision, and to the East by Auburn-Folsom Road and the Vista del Valle Phase II subdivision. Approximately 1.26 acres of wetlands have previously been filled during earlier phases of the Vista del Valle subdivision. Total cumulative fill for the Vista del Valle subdivision, including fill during earlier phases and the proposed Phase III fill, is approximately 1.58 acres.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: A records search of the project site was conducted by the North Central Information Center of the California Historical Resources Information System. The records search

identified a known cultural resource site within the project boundary which may be impacted by the proposed work. Additionally, based on their findings and the local topography, they believe the project site to be of high sensitivity for both, as yet unidentified, historic and prehistoric cultural resources, and they recommend that an archeological field survey be conducted to adequately assess possible project related impacts to cultural resources. The applicant has not provided results of any cultural resource surveys to the Corps.

Federally listed species which may occur within the project area include the threatened California red-legged frog (*Rana aurora draytonii*) and the valley elderberry longhorn beetle (*Desmocerus californicus dimorphus*). No surveys to determine the existence or absence of Federally listed threatened or endangered species have been conducted by the applicant.

The District Engineer has made these determinations based on information provided by the applicant and on the Corps' preliminary investigation.

Interested parties are invited to submit written comments on or before **September 12, 2001**. Any person may request, in writing, within the comment period specified in this notice that a public hearing be held to consider this application. Requests for public hearings shall state, with particularity, the reasons for holding a public hearing.

The decision whether to issue a permit will be based on an evaluation of the probable impact including cumulative impacts of the proposed activity on the public interest. That decision will reflect the national concern for both protection and utilization of important resources. The benefit which reasonably may be expected to accrue from the proposal must be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. All factors which may be relevant to the proposal will be considered including the cumulative effects thereof; among those are conservation, economics, aesthetics, general environmental concerns, wetlands, cultural values, fish and wildlife values, flood hazards, flood plain values, land use, navigation, shoreline erosion and accretion, recreation, water supply and conservation, water quality, energy needs, safety, food and fiber production, mineral needs, consideration of property ownership, and in general, the needs and welfare of the people.

The Corps of Engineers is soliciting comments from the public; Federal, state, and local agencies and officials; Indian Tribes; and other interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of this proposed activity. Any comments received will be considered by the Corps of Engineers to determine whether to issue, modify, condition or deny a permit for this proposal. To make this decision, comments are used to assess impacts on endangered species, historic properties, water quality, general environmental effects, and the other public interest factors listed above. Comments are used in the preparation of an Environmental Assessment and/or an Environmental Impact Statement pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act. Comments are also used to determine the need for a public hearing and to determine the overall public interest of the proposed activity.

If additional information is required, please contact Hans Beekwilder, telephone (916)489-9355, or Mr. William Ness, at the letterhead address, telephone (916) 557-5268.

Michael J. Conrad, Jr.
Colonel, Corps of Engineers
District Engineer

Enclosures: 3 Drawings