

53. (APPLICATION TO CONSTRUCT DRAINAGE FACILITIES, PETALUMA CREEK, MARIN COUNTY, MARIN COUNTY MOSQUITO ABATEMENT DISTRICT - W.O. 1151, P.R.C. 649.)

UPON MOTION DILY MADE AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED, A RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTIVE OFFICER TO ISSUE TO THE MARIN COUNTY MOSQUITO ABATEMENT DISTRICT A PERMIT TO EXCAVATE A DRAINAGE DITCH AND CONSTRUCT A LEVEE WITH DRAINAGE CULVERT AND TIDE GATE ON TIDE LANDS IN PETALUMA CREEK, MARIN COUNTY, FOR THE PURPOSE OF DRAINING AN AREA ONLY OCCASIONALLY COVERED BY WATER, AND REDUCING THE MOSQUITO INFESTATION, NO FEES AND NO RENTAL TO BE REQUIRED, THE CONSIDERATION BEING THAT THE PROJECT IS IN THE INTEREST OF THE PUBLIC.

The area it is proposed to drain is accreted tide lands overgrown with swamp plants and retaining water after high tides. It is considered by Marin County that the proposed project will effectively reduce the mosquito count.

54. (OWENS LAKE LITTORAL LANDS - GENERAL DATA.) The Commission was requested to consider the filing of a protest with the Bureau of Land Management against the proposed exchange between the City of Los Angeles and the Bureau of Land Management, Department of the Interior, wherein eight (8) acres of land adjacent to Bishop, belonging to the City of Los Angeles, are to be exchanged for some 6,500 acres of public domain now withdrawn for the benefit of the City of Los Angeles, pursuant to provisions of the Taylor Grazing Act.

It was suggested that should a protest of the State not be allowed, the exchange be made conditioned upon giving to the public a perpetual right of way through the lands adjacent to Owens Lake that would be required by the City of Los Angeles.

The Commission has received a communication from Senator Charles Brown, and another from the Inyo County Assessor, Stewart B. Cox, advising that the City of Los Angeles' proposed exchange includes certain land adjacent to the meander line of Owens Lake and others in the vicinity of Baines Reservoir. When this matter was heard before the Inyo County officials on July 20, 1961, Senator Brown informed the Bureau of Land Management and the City of Los Angeles that Inyo County and the State were opposed to the proposed exchange, and further that the matter would be brought to the attention of the State Lands Commission.

The City of Los Angeles has for a number of years been attempting to acquire a considerable area of Federal lands in Inyo and Mono Counties, but no far Federal legislation to permit this acquisition has been enacted. Also, a great deal of the public domain in Inyo and Mono Counties has been withdrawn from public entry by the Bureau of Land Management for the benefit of the City of Los Angeles pursuant to an act approved March 4, 1961. The State Senate at one time passed a resolution against the land acquisition by Los Angeles, and later agreed to a modified bill which did not affect the rights of the State, mining interests, and grazing rights. This bill did not get through Congress.

This proposed exchange is apparently for the purpose of acquiring lands adjacent to Owens Lake to prevent possible further and increased liability to State leases and the state through flooding of Owens Lake. This may be accomplished by restoring access to the lake and use of contiguous land for plant sites. The City has been defeated in the several court cases over