

MINUTE ITEM

6/27/74
HAM

30. STAFF RECOMMENDATION TO DECLARE A MORATORIUM AS TO ALL FURTHER CABIN SITE USE IN SECTION 16, T 1 N, R 10 W, SBM, AFTER OCTOBER 31, 1977 (FISH CANYON, LOS ANGELES COUNTY) - WP 2974, WP 2975.

After consideration of Calendar Item 29 attached, and upon motion duly made and carried, the following resolution was adopted:

THE COMMISSION FINDS THAT IT IS IN THE INTEREST OF PUBLIC SAFETY TO PROHIBIT FURTHER CABIN USES IN SECTION 16, TOWNSHIP 1 NORTH, RANGE 10 WEST, SAN BERNARDINO BASE AND MERIDIAN BEYOND OCTOBER 31, 1977.

Attachment:

Calendar Item 29 (1 page)

CALENDAR ITEM

6/74

HAM

29.

WP 2974

WP 2975

STAFF RECOMMENDATION TO DECLARE A MORATORIUM AS TO ALL FURTHER CABIN SITE USE IN SECTION 16, TOWNSHIP 1, NORTH, RANGE 10 WEST, SAN BERNARDINO MERIDIAN, AFTER OCTOBER 31, 1977. (FISH CANYON - LOS ANGELES COUNTY).

Fish Canyon is a primitive and isolated area, a portion of which is within the subject State-owned Section 16, located in the San Gabriel Mountain foothills, approximately 25 miles north of Los Angeles Civic Center.

At the present time, the Commission has two holdover lessees, Willis H. Polley (P.R.C. 2974) and Judd Shannon (P.R.C. 2975). Both lessees have requested lease renewal for their individual cabin sites in Fish Canyon.

The land surrounding Section 16 is owned and managed by the U.S. Forest Service. There are only two cabins remaining on State land in the Fish Canyon area. The Division is informed the Forest Service has determined that Fish Canyon is not a suitable location for long term cabin sites and the remaining leases on Federal land are being phased out so that no cabin use will be allowed after October 1977.

In September of 1972, the Division received a communication from Mr. A. Lewis, U.S. Forest Service District Ranger. Mr. Lewis has indicated that the major impediments to habitation of the area include poor access, fire danger, flood danger, lack of facilities for water, power, sanitation and trash disposal, and frequent vandalism. Since the Canyon is in a cul-de-sac, fire is especially dangerous because interior entrapment in the Canyon makes escape extremely difficult.

Another significant aspect of Fish Canyon is that it serves as an important watershed and has a high value from the standpoint of protecting the downstream urban areas from flood damage. Protection and maintenance of the vegetable cover on this watershed is important to the nearby valley floor communities. Fish Canyon is closed to public use during the fire season. The use of cabins in this area during the fire season is not compatible with this objective.

Under the given circumstances, it is considered reasonable and necessary to adopt a phase-out of cabin sites in Fish Canyon to coincide with the phase-out program previously adopted by the U.S. Forest Service.

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE COMMISSION FIND THAT:

1. IT IS IN THE INTEREST OF PUBLIC SAFETY TO PROHIBIT FURTHER CABIN USES IN SECTION 16, TOWNSHIP 1 NORTH, RANGE 10 WEST, SAN BERNARDINO BASE AND MERIDIAN BEYOND OCTOBER 31, 1977.