

MINUTE ITEM

This Calendar Item No. 21
was approved as Minute Item
No. 21 by the State Lands
Commission by a vote of 3
to 0 at its 9/29/77 CALENDAR ITEM
meeting.

21.

9/77
W 20997
Moory

CONSIDERATION OF CONSOLIDATING
STATE SCHOOL LANDS

At the direction of the State Lands Commission, the State Lands Division, in 1970, began to inventory the scope of its remaining ownership of State school lands and its holding of mineral reservations. Subsequent to this inventory, the Division began a study to determine if there existed a more efficient means for the State Lands Commission to manage these State lands. That study is now complete.

The study reviews the many problems associated with the present land ownership situation. By far the greatest problem is the direct and de facto management of State school lands by the largest land administrator in the State; i.e., the Federal Government. The study further found that California has not received all lands due the State upon entering the Union and that California received proportionately less of its total area from the Federal Government than did Eastern states and those Western states admitted to the Union after California.

The Division proposes four alternative means of State land management. The four alternatives are: (1) the Commission retains its existing ownership and acquires as a single block 147,000 acres of land still due the State from the Federal Government; (2) the Commission sells all remaining school lands and retains the mineral reservations in such lands; (3) the Commission exchanges lands with the Bureau of Land Management whereby the State would consolidate its 1.6 million acres of scattered land into cohesive management units; and (4) the Commission consolidates the State's school lands into cohesive units by exchanging its lands for blocked Federal lands and further requests additional land grants of Federal land which would increase total State ownership from 1.6 million acres to three to five million acres.

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE COMMISSION TAKE THE DRAFT LAND CONSOLIDATION REPORT UNDER CONSIDERATION AND AUTHORIZE THE STAFF TO DISSEMINATE COPIES TO CONCERNED AGENCIES AND THE PUBLIC FOR COMMENT.