MINUTE ITEM This Calendar Item No. 24 was approved as Minute Item No. 24 by the California State Lands Commission by a vote of 3 to 2 at its

# CALENDAR ITEM

- A 4, 25
- S 1, 12

PRC7980

08/26/97 W 25406 D. Jones

# **GENERAL LEASE - PUBLIC AGENCY USE**

### LESSEE:

California Department of Fish and Game 1234 E. Shaw Avenue Fresno, California 93710

# AREA, LAND TYPE, AND LOCATION:

0.57 acre, more or less, of submerged lands in the Stanislaus River, near Knights Ferry, Calaveras and Tuolumne counties.

### **AUTHORIZED USE:**

Salmon, steelhead and native rainbow trout spawning habitat restoration project.

### LEASE TERM:

25 years, beginning August 1, 1997.

### **CONSIDERATION:**

The public use and benefit, with the State reserving the right at any time to set a monetary rent if the Commission finds such action to be in the State's best interest.

## **OTHER PERTINENT INFORMATION:**

- 1. Applicant has a right to use of the uplands adjoining the lease premises.
- 2. The lower Stanislaus River supports populations of fall-run chinook salmon, steelhead and wild rainbow trout. Water storage projects on the Stanislaus have reduced much of the historic salmonid spawning and rearing habitat. Altered hydrologic patterns and the amplitude of channel forming flows have decreased gravel recruitment, increased vegetative encroachment and added to the overall deterioration of these habitats. Combined with low water flow, various water diversions and adjacent land use, the cumulative effect increases mortality for various salmonid life stages.

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# CALENDAR ITEM NO. C24 (CONT'D)

California Department of Fish and Game biologists report very limited chinook salmon spawning activity in the Stanislaus River from Goodwin Dam downstream to Two Mile Bar. A small but viable steelhead trout population remains in the Stanislaus River below Goodwin Dam. A wild rainbow trout population is well documented in the lower Stanislaus River with a portion of the river managed for this wild population.

The objective of this project is to increase and improve chinook salmon, steel and native rainbow trout spawning habitat. The project will add a total of 2,000 tons of gravel to several locations along a reach of Goodwin Canyon of the Stanislaus River.

- 3. A Negative Declaration was prepared and adopted for this project by the California Department of Fish and Game. The California State Lands Commission staff has reviewed such document.
- 4. This activity involves lands identified as possessing significant environmental values pursuant to Public Resources Code sections 6370, et seq. Based upon the staff's consultation with the persons nominating such lands and through the CEQA review process, it is the staff's opinion that the project, as proposed, is consistent with its use classification.

### FURTHER APPROVALS REQUIRED:

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, California Department of Fish and Game, State Reclamation Board.

## **EXHIBITS:**

- A-1. Site Map.
- A-2. Site Map.
- B. Location Map.

#### PERMIT STREAMLINING ACT DEADLINE:

January 2, 1998.

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### **RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE COMMISSION:

### **CEQA FINDING:**

FIND THAT A NEGATIVE DECLARATION WAS PREPARED AND ADOPTED FOR THIS PROJECT BY THE CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME AND THAT THE COMMISSION HAS REVIEWED AND CONSIDERED THE INFORMATION CONTAINED THEREIN.

### SIGNIFICANT LANDS INVENTORY FINDING:

FIND THAT THIS ACTIVITY IS CONSISTENT WITH THE USE CLASSIFICATION DESIGNATED BY THE COMMISSION FOR THE LAND PURSUANT TO PUBLIC RESOURCES CODE SECTIONS 6370, ET SEQ.

### **AUTHORIZATION:**

AUTHORIZE ISSUANCE TO THE CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME OF A GENERAL LEASE - PUBLIC AGENCY USE, BEGINNING AUGUST 1, 1997, FOR A TERM OF 25 YEARS, FOR A SALMON, STEELHEAD, AND NATIVE RAINBOW TROUT SPAWNING HABITAT RESTORATION PROJECT ON THE LAND SHOWN ON EXHIBIT A ATTACHED AND BY THIS REFERENCE MADE A PART HEREOF; CONSIDERATION: THE PUBLIC USE AND BENEFIT, WITH THE STATE RESERVING THE RIGHT AT ANY TIME TO SET A MONETARY RENT IF THE COMMISSION FINDS SUCH ACTION TO BE IN THE STATE'S BEST INTEREST.

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