

MINUTE ITEM

This Calendar Item No. C8.  
was approved as Minute Item  
8 by the State Lands  
Commission by a vote of 2  
to 0 at its 2-29-80  
meeting.

CALENDAR ITEM  
C8.

2/80  
W 22068  
Chatfield  
PRC 5798.2

GRAZING LEASE

APPLICANT: Robert M. and Margie Ashurst  
P.O. Box 650  
Nevada City, California 95959

AREA, TYPE LAND AND LOCATION:  
Approximately 800 acres of School lands  
in Lassen County.

LAND USE: Experimental Range Improvement, including  
fencing and seeding of various forage species.

TERMS OF PROPOSED LEASE:  
Initial Period: 10 years from February 1,  
1980.

Public liability insurance: Combined single  
limit coverage of \$50,000.

Special: No grazing for two years  
to permit re-establishment  
of forage.

CONSIDERATION: \$51.03 per annum with the State reserving  
the right to fix a different rental on  
each fifth anniversary of the lease.

BASIS FOR CONSIDERATION:  
Other comparable grazing fees on adjacent  
federal land.

PREREQUISITE TERMS, FEES AND EXPENSES:  
Filing fee has been received.

STATUTORY AND OTHER REFERENCES:  
A. P.R.C.: Div. 6, Parts 1 & 2.  
B. Cal. Adm. Code: Title 2, Div. 3.

OTHER PERTINENT INFORMATION:  
1. A negative declaration was prepared  
by the Commission's staff pursuant  
to CEQA and implementing regulations.

A 1

S 1

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2. This project is situated on school lands not identified as possessing significant environmental values. A staff review of available environmental information indicates no reason to identify the subject school land parcel as having such values at this time.
3. The parcel is presently unfenced and over grazed by free-roaming cattle. Applicant will, at his own expense, fence the parcel to exclude grazing, and seed with various species of forage, letting it lie ungrazed for two years to allow re-establishment of forage. Thereafter, grazing will be limited to the extent necessary to maintain its forage productivity. The rental will be adjusted at the five-year rent review to reflect the improved condition expected by the applicant.

EXHIBITS:           A. Legal Description.       B. Location Map.  
                      C. Negative Declaration.

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE COMMISSION:

1. DETERMINE THAT AN EIR HAS NOT BEEN PREPARED FOR THIS PROJECT BUT THAT A NEGATIVE DECLARATION HAS BEEN PREPARED BY THE COMMISSION'S STAFF.
2. CERTIFY THAT THE NEGATIVE DECLARATION NO. 247 HAS BEEN COMPLETED IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE CEQA OF 1970, AS AMENDED, AND THE STATE EIR GUIDELINES, AND THAT THE COMMISSION HAS REVIEWED AND CONSIDERED THE INFORMATION CONTAINED THEREIN.
3. DETERMINE THAT THE PROJECT WILL NOT HAVE A SIGNIFICANT EFFECT ON THE ENVIRONMENT.
4. AUTHORIZE ISSUANCE TO ROBERT M. AND MARGIE ASHURST OF A 10-YEAR GRAZING LEASE AND EXPERIMENTAL RANGE IMPROVEMENT PROJECT FROM FEBRUARY 1, 1980; IN CONSIDERATION OF ANNUAL RENT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$51.03, WITH THE STATE RESERVING THE RIGHT TO FIX A DIFFERENT RENTAL ON EACH FIFTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE LEASE; PROVISION OF PUBLIC LIABILITY INSURANCE FOR COMBINED SINGLE LIMIT COVERAGE OF \$50,000. NO GRAZING FOR TWO YEARS TO ALLOW RE-ESTABLISH-

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MENT OF FORAGE: THEREAFTER, GRAZING NO MORE THAN CARRYING CAPACITY FOR EXPERIMENTAL RANGE IMPROVEMENT INCLUDING FENCING AND SEEDING OF VARIOUS FORAGE SPECIES ON THE LAND DESCRIBED ON EXHIBIT "A" ATTACHED AND BY REFERENCE MADE A PART HEREOF.

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EXHIBIT "A"

W 22068

Those State-owned lieu lands in the vicinity of Honey Lake, Lassen County, California, described as follows:

All of Section 22 and the NW 1/4 of Section 23, T27N, R17E,  
MDM.

END OF DESCRIPTION

PREPARED 2/7/80 BY TECHNICAL SERVICES UNIT, ROY MINNICK, SUPERVISOR.

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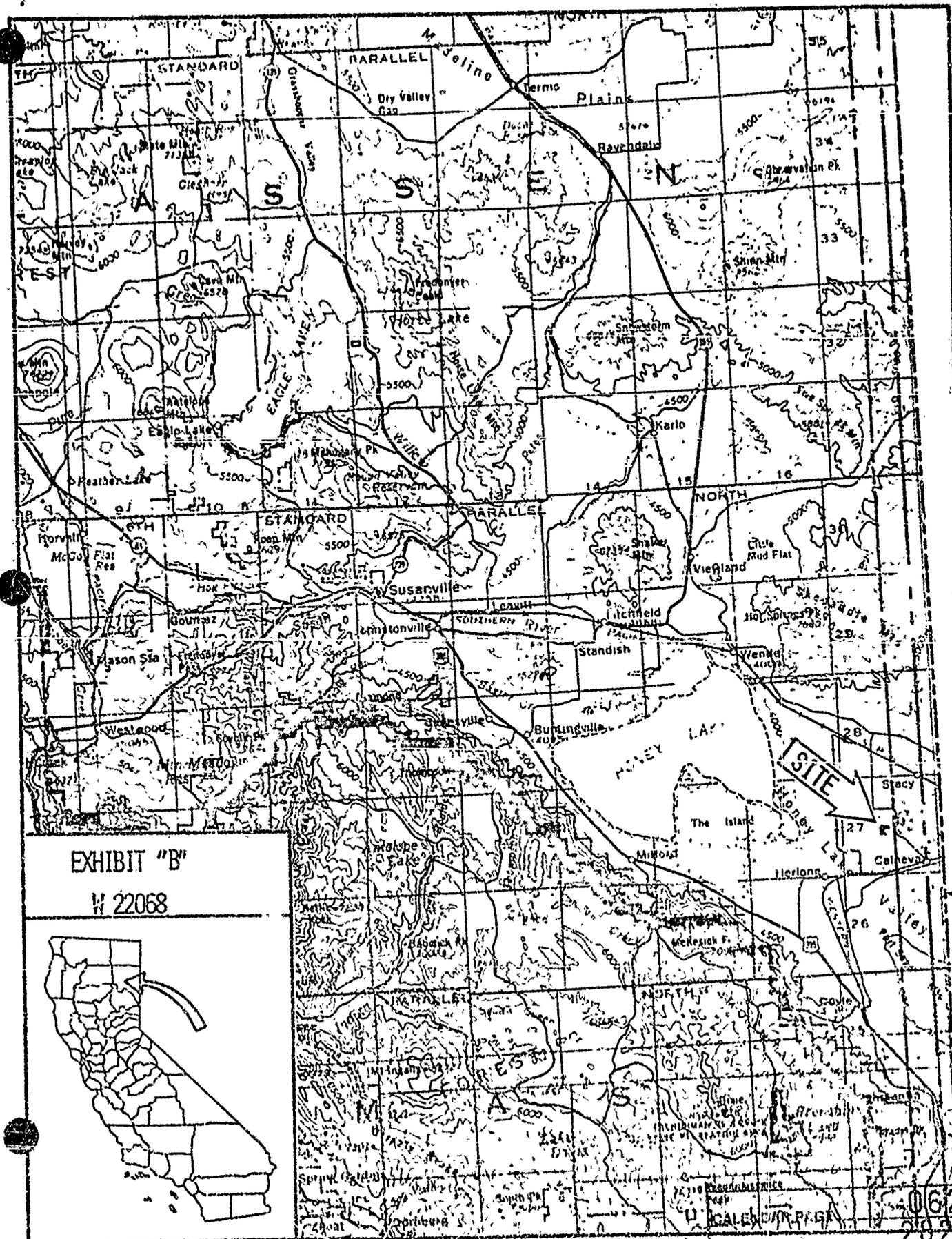


EXHIBIT "B"

W 22068



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## STATE LANDS COMMISSION

KENNETH CORY, Controller  
MIKE CURB, Lieutenant Governor  
RICHARD T. SILBERMAN, Director of Finance

EXECUTIVE OFFICE  
1807 - 13th Street  
Sacramento, California 95814

WILLIAM F. NORTHROP  
Executive Officer



EIR ND 247

File Ref.: W 22068

NEGATIVE DECLARATION

**Project Applicant:** Robert Ashurst  
P. O. Box 650  
Nevada City, CA 95959

**Project Location:** Section 22, T 27 N, R 17 E, MDM. Ten miles north of Doyle and four miles northeast of Herlong, Lassen County.

**Project Description:** The applicant is proposing to (1) fence the perimeter of the parcel with two-strand, 4 ft. high wire; (2) plant rye, oat, buffalo grass and canary grass seed by scattering it over the parcel during the rainy season; and (3) eventually (approximately two years after seeding) the parcel will be used for small scale grazing (less than 25 head).

This NEGATIVE DECLARATION is prepared pursuant to the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (Section 21000 et. seq. of the Public Resources Code), the State EIR Guidelines (Title 14, Section 15000 et. seq. of California Administrative Code), and the State Lands Commission regulations (Section 2901 et. seq. of California Administrative Code).

Based upon the attached Initial Study, it has been found that:

the project will not have a significant effect on the environment.

the mitigation measures included in the project will avoid potentially significant effects.

**Contact Person:** Ted Fukushima  
State Lands Commission  
1807-13th Street  
Sacramento, CA 95814  
Telephone: (916) 322-7813

### DETERMINATION

An initial study has been prepared and it is determined that the proposed project will not have a significant effect upon the environment.

1. There will be no significant growth inducing impacts, inefficient energy consumption, air, water or noise pollution, or solid waste problems created as a result of implementation of this project.
2. There will be minimal impacts upon fish and wildlife.
3. No park lands, recreational areas, or historic and archaeological sites will be affected by the proposal.
4. No public services or utilities will be significantly affected by the proposal.
5. The proposed project will not narrow the range of beneficial uses of the environment or pose long-term risks to public health or safety.

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## STATE LANDS COMMISSION

KENNETH CORY, Controller  
 MIKE CURD, Lieutenant Governor  
 RICHARD T. SILBERMAN, Director of Finance



EXECUTIVE OFFICE  
 1809 J 13th Street  
 Sacramento, California 95814

WILLIAM F. NORTHROP  
 Executive Officer

File Ref.: W 22068INITIAL STUDY CHECKLISTI. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- A. Applicant: Robert Ashurst  
P. O. Box 650  
Nevada City CA 95959
- D. Checklist Date: 7 / 16 / 79
- G. Contact Person: Linda Martinez  
 Telephone: (916) 322-7803
- F. Purpose: Planting of grazing grasses and eventually small scale  
cattle grazing.
- E. Location: Section 22, T 27 N, R 17 E, MDM. The parcel, which is in  
Lassen County, is approximately ten miles north of Doyle and 4 miles  
northeast of Herlong.
- F. Description: The applicant is proposing to fence, plant and eventually  
utilize the parcel of state-owned land for cattle grazing. The project,  
as proposed, will include:  
-- Barbed wire fencing of the entire parcel perimeter with two-strand,

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F. Description (cont.)

4 ft. high wire fencing. Two gates will be included in the fencing. One gate will cross Duck Lake Rd. and the other gate will provide access between the state-owned parcel and the adjacent land owned by the applicant. Rye, oat, buffalo grass and canary grass seed will be scattered over the parcel during the rainy season. Existing vegetation, which is sparse, will not be removed, and the parcel will not be plowed or irrigated. Since it is estimated that two years will be required to allow the grass to reach a stage capable of supporting cattle grazing, the fencing is required to restrict free roaming cattle from over-grazing the parcel and destroying the newly planted seed. A representative of the Department of Fish and Game has indicated the fencing will not significantly adversely affect deer known to inhabit the area.

-- Cattle owned by the applicant will be permitted to graze the parcel once the grasses are capable of supporting such activity (approximately two years after seeding). Herd size is not likely to exceed 25 head. The cattle will graze the parcel approximately six months out of the year, during which time water will be available on the applicant's adjoining parcel.

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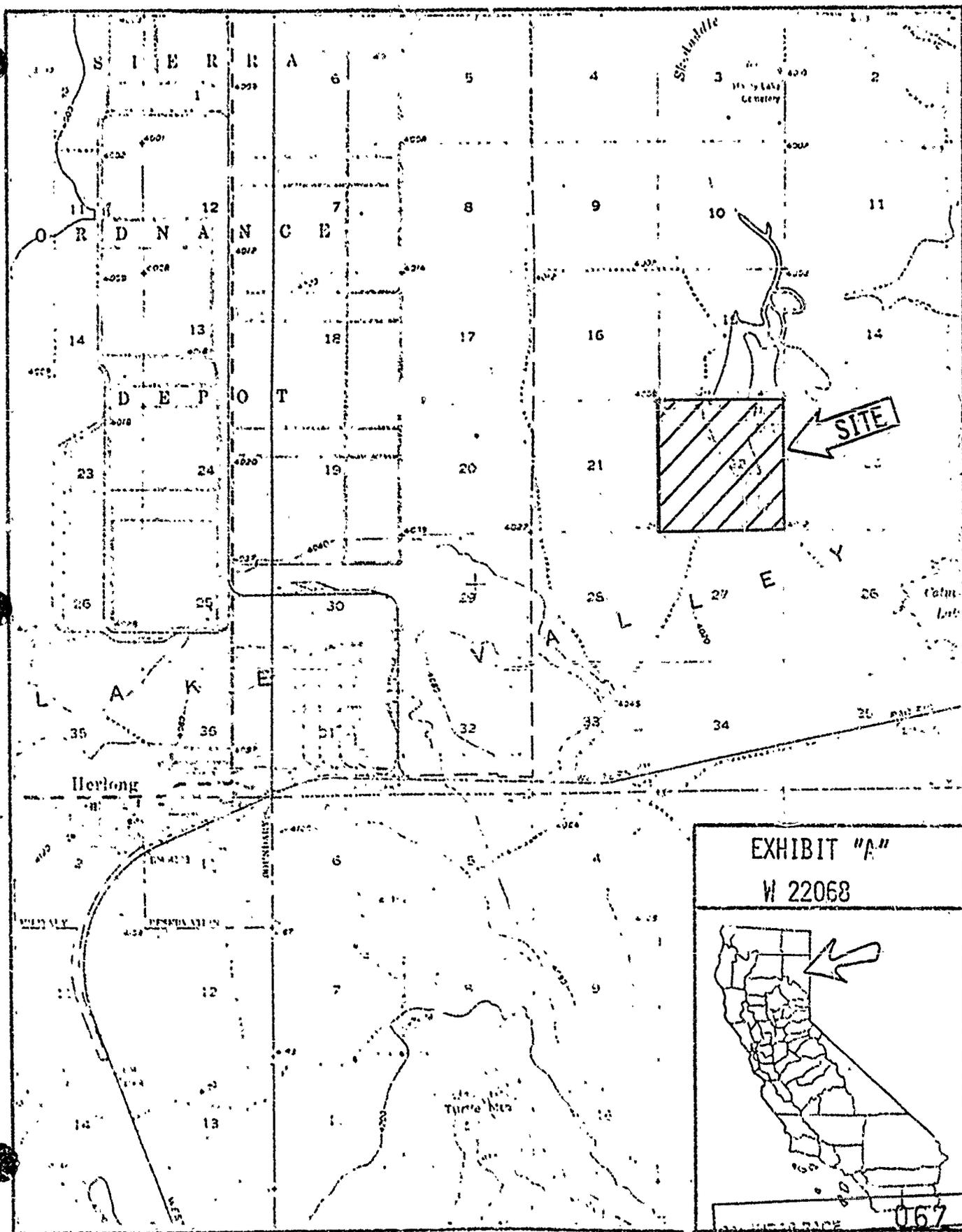


EXHIBIT "A"  
W 22068



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G. Persons Contacted: R. Sherwood, Lassen County Planning Commission,

Courthouse Annex, Susanville CA 96130; John Hayes, Department of Fish  
and Game, P. O. Box 1480, Redding, CA 96001; Ken Conrad, Department of  
Fish and Game, 1405 North Street, Susanville CA 96130; Carl Rimby,  
Agricultural Adviser, Memorial Building, Susanville CA 96130; Dick  
Eckhardt, University of Nevada, Renewable Resources Department,  
Reno, Nevada 89107.

II. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS  
(Explain all "yes" and "maybe" answers)

	<u>Yes</u>	<u>Maybe</u>	<u>No</u>
A. <u>Earth.</u> Will the proposal result in:			
1. Unstable earth conditions or in changes in geologic substructures?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
2. Disruptions, displacements, compaction, or overcovering of the soil?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Change in topography or ground surface relief features?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
4. The destruction, covering, or modification of any unique geologic or physical features?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
5. Any increase in wind or water erosion of soils, either on or off the site?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
6. Changes in deposition or erosion of beach sands, or changes in siltation, deposition or erosion which may modify the channel of a river or stream or the bed of the ocean or any bay, inlet, or lake?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
7. Exposure of people or property to geologic hazards such as earthquakes, landslides, mudslides, ground failure, or similar hazards?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
B. <u>Air.</u> Will the proposal result in:			
8. Substantial air omissions or deterioration of ambient air quality?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

	YES	NO	NO
9. The creation of objectionable ocers?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
10. Alteration of air movement, moisture or temperature, or any change in climate, either locally or regionally?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>C. <u>Water.</u> Will the proposal result in:</b>			
11. Changes in the currents, or the course or direction of water movements, in either marine or fresh waters?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
12. Changes in absorption rates, drainage patterns, or the rate and amount of surface water runoff?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
13. Alterations to the course or flow of flood waters?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
14. Change in the amount of surface water in any water body?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
15. Discharge into surface waters, or in any alteration of surface water quality, including but not limited to temperature, dissolved oxygen or turbidity?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
16. Alteration of the direction or rate of flow of ground waters?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
17. Change in the quantity of ground waters, either through direct additions or withdrawals, or through interception of an aquifer by cuts or excavations?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
18. Substantial reduction in the amount of water otherwise available for public water supplies?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
19. Exposure of people or property to water related hazards such as flooding or tidal waves?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>D. <u>Plant Life.</u> Will the proposal result in:</b>			
20. Change in the diversity of species, or number of any species of plants (including trees, shrubs, grass, crops, and aquatic plants) ?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
21. Reduction of the numbers of any unique, rare or endangered species of plants?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
22. Introduction of new species of plants into an area, or in a barrier to the normal replenishment of existing species?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

- |   | <u>Yes</u>               | <u>Maybe</u>                        | <u>No</u>                           |
|---|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 23. Reduction in acreage of any agricultural crop?  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| <b>E. <u>Animal Life.</u> Will the proposal result in:</b>  |                          |                                     |                                     |
| 24. Change in the diversity of species, or numbers of any species of animals (birds, land animals including reptiles, fish and shellfish, benthic organisms, or insects)?                                       | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| 25. Reduction of the numbers of any unique, rare or endangered species of animals?  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 26. Introduction of new species of animals into an area, or result in a barrier to the migration or movement of animals?  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 27. Deterioration to existing fish or wildlife habitat?   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| <b>F. <u>Noise.</u> Will the proposal result in:</b>  |                          |                                     |                                     |
| 28. Increase in existing noise levels   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 29. Exposure of people to severe noise levels?  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| <b>G. <u>Light and Glare.</u> Will the proposal result in:</b>  |                          |                                     |                                     |
| 30. The production of new light or glare?   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| <b>H. <u>Land Use.</u> Will the proposal result in:</b>   |                          |                                     |                                     |
| 31. A substantial alteration of the present or planned land use of an area?   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| <b>I. <u>Natural Resources.</u> Will the proposal result in:</b>  |                          |                                     |                                     |
| 32. Increase in the rate of use of any natural resources?   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 33. Substantial depletion of any nonrenewable resources?  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| <b>J. <u>Risk of Upset.</u> Will the proposal result in:</b>  |                          |                                     |                                     |
| 34. The involvement of a risk of an explosion or the release of hazardous substances (including, but not limited to, oil, pesticides, chemicals, or radiation) in the event of an accident or upset conditions? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| <b>K. <u>Population.</u> Will the proposal result in:</b>   |                          |                                     |                                     |
| 35. The alteration, distribution, density, or or growth rate of the human population of the area?   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

- |  | <u>Yes</u>               | <u>Maybe</u>             | <u>No</u>                           |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| <b>L. <u>Housing.</u> Will the proposal result in:</b>   |                          |                          |                                     |
| 36. Affecting existing housing, or create a demand for additional housing?   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| <b>M. <u>Transportation/Circulation.</u> Will the proposal result in:</b>  |                          |                          |                                     |
| 37. Generation of substantial additional vehicular movement?   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 38. Affecting existing parking facilities, or create a demand for new parking?   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 39. Substantial impact upon existing transportation systems?   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 40. Alterations to present patterns of circulation or movement of people and/or goods?   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 41. Alterations to waterborne, rail, or air traffic?   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 42. Increase in traffic hazards to motor vehicles, bicyclists, or pedestrians?   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| <b>N. <u>Public Services.</u> Will the proposal have an effect upon, or result in a need for new or altered governmental services in any of the following areas:</b> |                          |                          |                                     |
| 43. Fire protection?   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 44. Police protection?   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 45. Schools?   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 46. Parks and other recreational facilities?   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 47. Maintenance of public facilities, including roads?   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 48. Other governmental services?   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| <b>O. <u>Energy.</u> Will the proposal result in:</b>  |                          |                          |                                     |
| 49. Use of substantial amounts of fuel or energy?  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 50. Substantial increase in demand upon existing sources of energy, or require the development of new sources of energy?   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

Yes      Maybe      No

P. Utilities. Will the proposal result in a need for new systems, or substantial alterations to the following utilities:

- 51. Power or natural gas?
- 52. Communication systems?
- 53. Water?
- 54. Sewer or septic tanks?
- 55. Storm water drainage?
- 56. Solid waste and disposal?

Q. Human Health. Will the proposal result in:

- 57. Creation of any health hazard or potential health hazard (excluding mental health)?
- 58. Exposure of people to potential health hazards?

R. Aesthetics. Will the proposal result in:

- 59. The obstruction of any scenic vista or view open to the public, or will the proposal result in the creation of an aesthetically offensive site open to public view?

S. Recreation. Will the proposal result in:

- 60. An impact upon the quality or quantity of existing recreational opportunities?

T. Archeological/Historical. Will the proposal result in:

- 61. An alteration of a significant archeological or historical site, structure, object, or building?

U. Mandatory Findings of Significance.

- 62. Does the project have the potential to degrade the quality of the environment reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory?

- |  | <u>Yes</u>               | <u>Maybe</u>             | <u>No</u>                           |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 63. Does the project have the potential to achieve short-term, to the disadvantage of long-term, environmental goals?                        | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 64. Does the project have impacts which are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable?   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 65. Does the project have environmental effects which will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

### III. DISCUSSION OF ENVIRONMENTAL EVALUATION

- 2. Construction of the fence will require minor displacement of soil for placement of the fence posts.
- 20. Rye, oats, buffalo grass, and canary grass will be introduced through seeding.
- 22. Existing vegetation, which is sparse, will not be removed.
- 24. Introduction of the grasses at the parcel may attract wildlife. It is anticipated that deer, in particular, will find the habitat inviting.
- 59. Although the fence could be a visual obstruction, the location of the parcel makes it unlikely that public viewing of the area will be adversely affected.

The applicant's reason for planting the parcel is not solely for cattle grazing; the attraction and support of wildlife in the area is of equal importance. Through minor landscaping of his own parcel (adjacent to the subject site) the applicant has encouraged improved wildlife habitat and has witnessed several animals in the area as a result, particularly deer. It is anticipated the proposed project will further enhance wildlife habitat in the area.

IV. DETERMINATION

On the basis of this initial evaluation:

- I find the proposed project COULD NOT have a significant effect on the environment, and a NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.
- I find that although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, there will not be a significant effect in this case because the mitigation measures described on an attached sheet have been added to the project. A NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.
- I find the proposed project MAY have a significant effect on the environment, and an ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required.

Date: 8/20/79

Martine A. Martine

For The State Lands Commission

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