

MINUTE ITEM

This Calendar Item No. C17.
was approved as Minute Item
No. 17 by the State Lands
Commission by a vote of 3
0 at its 3-19-80
meeting.

CALENDAR ITEM

C17.

3/80
W 22216
Chatfield

APPROVAL OF NEGATIVE DECLARATION
JOJOBA PLANTATION

APPLICANT: Arne Belsby
Route 4, Box 303
Valley Center, California 92082

AREA, TYPE LAND AND LOCATION:
40 acres of vacant school lands near Desert
Center, Riverside County.

LAND USE: Cultivation of Jojoba.

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. 1.

OTHER PERTINENT INFORMATION:

1. A Negative Declaration was prepared by the Commission's staff.
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. No adverse comments have been received in CEQA circulation. This is for approval of the Negative Declaration only; lease terms are being investigated.

EXHIBITS:

- A. Land Description.
- B. Location Map.
- C. Negative Declaration No. 254

A 75

S 38

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CALENDAR ITEM NO. C17.(CONTD)

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. 254 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.

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LAND DESCRIPTION

The NE 1/4 of the NW 1/4 of Section 16, T5S, R16E, SBM, as shown on the official Township Plat approved by the Surveyor General on July 12, 1856.

END OF DESCRIPTION

Exhibit "A"

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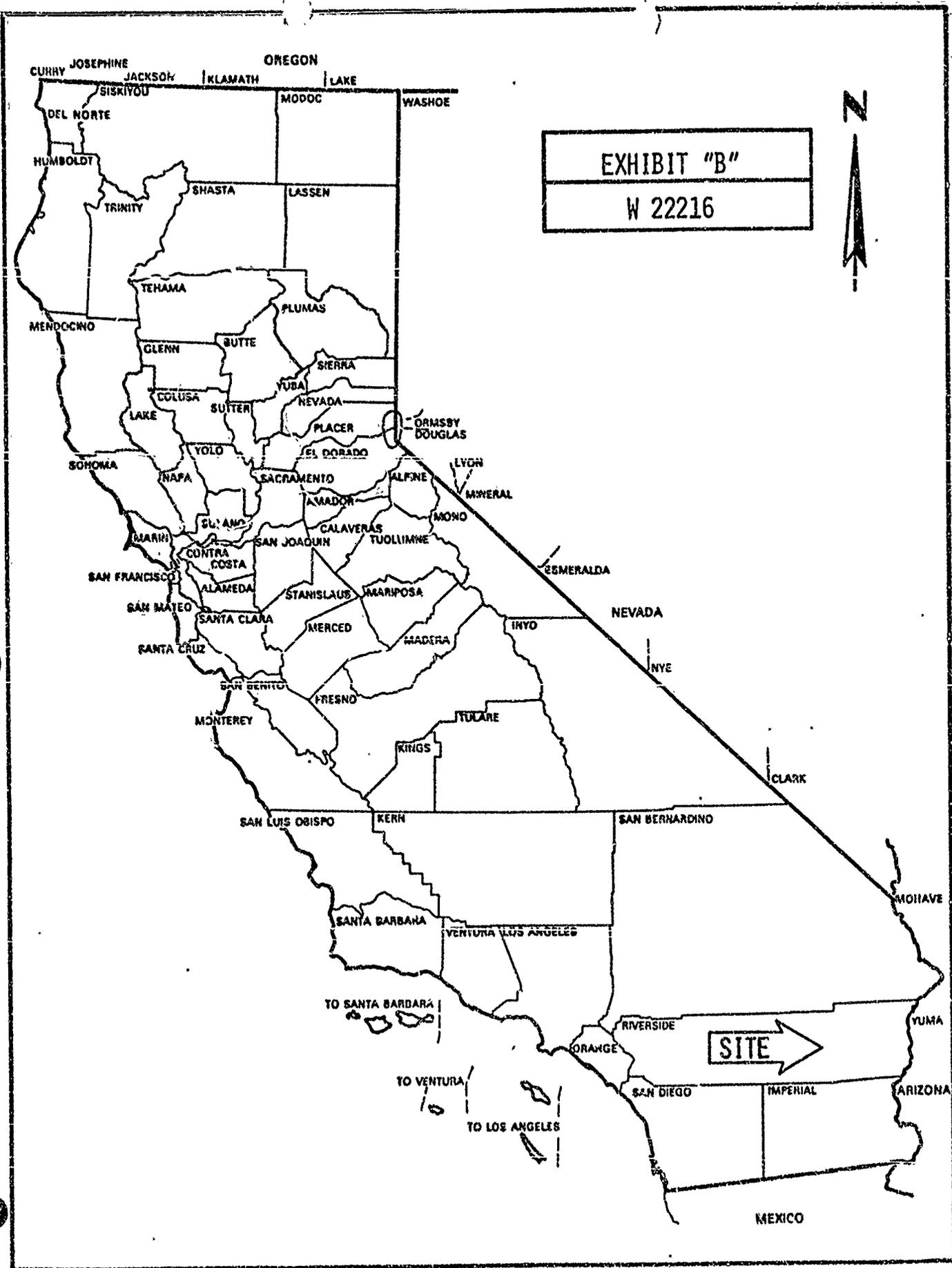


EXHIBIT "B"
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STATE LANDS COMMISSION

KENNETH COHY, *Controller*
 MIKE CURR, *Lieutenant Governor*
~~XXXXXXXXXXXXX~~ *Director of Finance*
 ANN GRAVES



EXECUTIVE OFFICE
 1807 - 13th Street
 Sacramento, California 95814

WILLIAM F. NORTHROP
 Executive Officer

EIR ND 254

File Ref.: W22216

NEGATIVE DECLARATION

Project Applicant: Arne Belsby
 Route 4, Box 303
 Valley Center, CA 92082

Project Location: T5S, R16E, Section 16, SBM; Northeast of
 Desert Center, Riverside County

Project Description: The NE $\frac{1}{4}$ of the NW $\frac{1}{4}$ of the section will be used for growing and harvesting Jojoba plants. A 12" deep trench will be made, irrigation biwall placed, trench recovered, and seed planted (3/4" depth) in one operation. Water source is an existing well on adjacent property.

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 (Section 15000 et. seq., Title 14, of the 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 attached mitigation measures will avoid potentially significant effects.

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

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INITIAL STUDY CHECKLIST

File Ref.: W 22216

I. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

A. Applicant: Arne Belsby
Rt. 4, Box 303
Valley Center, CA 92082

B. Checklist Date: 11 / 2 / 79

C. Contact Person: Dan Cohen, Environmental Reviewer
 Telephone: (916) 322-7805

D. Purpose: Jojoba Plantation

E. Location: T5S, R16E, Section 16; Near Desert Center, Riverside County.

F. Description: The NE 1/4 OF THE NW 1/4 of the Section will be used for growing and harvesting Jojoba plants. A 12" deep trench will be made, irrigation biwall placed, trench recovered, and seed planted (3/4" Depth) in one operation. Water Source

G. Persons Contacted: is an existing well on adjacent property.

Dave Leonard, Riverside County Planning Department; John Gustafson, Bob Vannoy;
John Brode, Brendt Cronk, Department of Fish and Game; Dimitrios Yamanos,
Riverside County Agriculture Commission/ U. C. Riverside; Clyde Arnold,
Department of Water Resources; W. C. Ponder, Palm Desert - Colorado River
Basin Regional Water Quality Control Board; Nick Del Cioppo, Office of
Historic Preservation; Dr. Phil Wylke, U. C. Riverside.

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

	Yes	Maybe	No
A. Earth. 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 all 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"/>

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Yes Maybe No

- B. Air. Will the proposal result in:
 - 8. Substantial air emissions or deterioration of ambient air quality? Yes Maybe No
 - 9. The creation of objectionable odors? Yes Maybe No
 - 10. Alteration of air movement, moisture or temperature, or any change in climate, either locally or regionally? Yes Maybe No
- C. Water. Will the proposal result in:
 - 11. Changes in the currents, or the course or direction of water movements, in either marine or fresh waters? Yes Maybe No
 - 12. Changes in absorption rates, drainage patterns, or the rate and amount of surface water runoff? Yes Maybe No
 - 13. Alterations to the course or flow of flood waters? Yes Maybe No
 - 14. Change in the amount of surface water in any water body? Yes Maybe No
 - 15. Discharge into surface waters, or in any alteration of surface water quality, including but not limited to temperature, dissolved oxygen or turbidity? Yes Maybe No
 - 16. Alteration of the direction or rate of flow of ground waters? Yes Maybe No
 - 17. Change in the quantity of ground waters, either through direct additions or withdrawals, or through interception of an aquifer by cuts or excavations? Yes Maybe No
 - 18. Substantial reduction in the amount of water otherwise available for public water supplies? Yes Maybe No
 - 19. Exposure of people or property to water related hazards such as flooding or tidal waves? Yes Maybe No
- D. Plant Life. Will the proposal result in:
 - 20. Change in the diversity of species, or number of any species of plants (including trees, shrubs, grass, crops, and aquatic plants)? Yes Maybe No
 - 21. Reduction of the numbers of any unique, rare or endangered species of plants? Yes Maybe No
 - 22. Introduction of new species of plants into an area, or in a barrier to the normal replenishment of existing species? Yes Maybe No
 - 23. Reduction in acreage of any agricultural crop? Yes Maybe No
- E. Animal Life. Will the proposal result in:
 - 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)? Yes Maybe No
 - 25. Reduction of the numbers of any unique, rare or endangered species of animals? Yes Maybe No
 - 26. Introduction of new species of animals into an area, or result in a barrier to the migration or movement of animals? Yes Maybe No
 - 27. Deterioration to existing fish or wildlife habitat? Yes Maybe No
- F. Noise. Will the proposal result in:
 - 28. Increase in existing noise levels? Yes Maybe No
 - 29. Exposure of people to severe noise levels? Yes Maybe No
- G. Light and Glare. Will the proposal result in:
 - 30. The production of new light or glare? Yes Maybe No
- H. Land Use. Will the proposal result in:
 - 31. A substantial alteration of the present or planned land use of an area? Yes Maybe No
- I. Natural Resources. Will the proposal result in:
 - 32. Increase in the rate of use of any natural resources? Yes Maybe No
 - 33. Substantial depletion of any nonrenewable resources? Yes Maybe No

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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?

K. Population. Will the proposal result in:

35. The alteration, distribution, density, or growth rate of the human population of the area?

L. Housing. Will the proposal result in:

36. Affecting existing housing, or create a demand for additional housing?

M. Transportation/Circulation. Will the proposal result in:

37. Generation of substantial additional vehicular movement?

38. Affecting existing parking facilities, or create a demand for new parking?

39. Substantial impact upon existing transportation systems?

40. Alterations to present patterns of circulation or movement of people and/or goods?

41. Alterations to waterborne, rail, or air traffic?

42. Increase in traffic hazards to motor vehicles, bicyclists, or pedestrians?

N. Public Services. Will the proposal have an effect upon, or result in a need for new or altered governmental services in any of the following areas:

43. Fire protection?

44. Police protection?

45. Schools?

46. Parks and other recreational facilities?

47. Maintenance of public facilities, including roads?

48. Other governmental services?

O. Energy. Will the proposal result in:

49. Use of substantial amounts of fuel or energy?

50. Substantial increase in demand upon existing sources of energy, or require the development of new sources?

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?

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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?
- 63. Does the project have the potential to achieve short-term, to the disadvantage of long-term, environmental goals?
- 64. Does the project have impacts which are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable?
- 65. Does the project have environmental effects which will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?

III. **DISCUSSION OF ENVIRONMENTAL EVALUATION**

- A.2. A 12" deep trench will be made, irrigation biwall placed, and the trench will be recovered. Jojoba seeds will be drilled into the soil at a 3/4" depth. There is an existing well on adjacent property which will be used for irrigation purposes.
- C.12. The drainage pattern of surface water runoff may be altered due to placement of Jojoba plants; Department of Water Resources Staff has indicated, however, that such a pattern change will not significantly impact water sources.
- C.16., C.17. Groundwater resources will be utilized for irrigation purposes. The drip irrigation method proposed is the most efficient crop watering technique used in agriculture today; moisture is applied directly to roots, alleviating waste due to surface evaporation.
- D.20. Existing shrub cover will be cut. Jojoba plants will be introduced to the site.
- D.22. Jojoba plants will be introduced to the site.
- E.24. Animal species common to the area may be influenced by the introduction of a new plant species to the site.
- E.25. The Desert Tortoise may inhabit the site. John Brode of the Department of Fish and Game has been requested to consider the possible impacts this project could have on the Desert Tortoise.
- I.32, 0.49, 0.50. Although harvesting and irrigation will require increased fuel and energy use it is not anticipated an agricultural operation of this size will pose a significant burden on existing available resources.

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: 11.6.79

[Signature]
 Dan Cohen, Environmental Reviewer
 For the State Lands Commission
 STANDARD PAGE 107
 MINUTE PAGE Form 1235 (4/79)

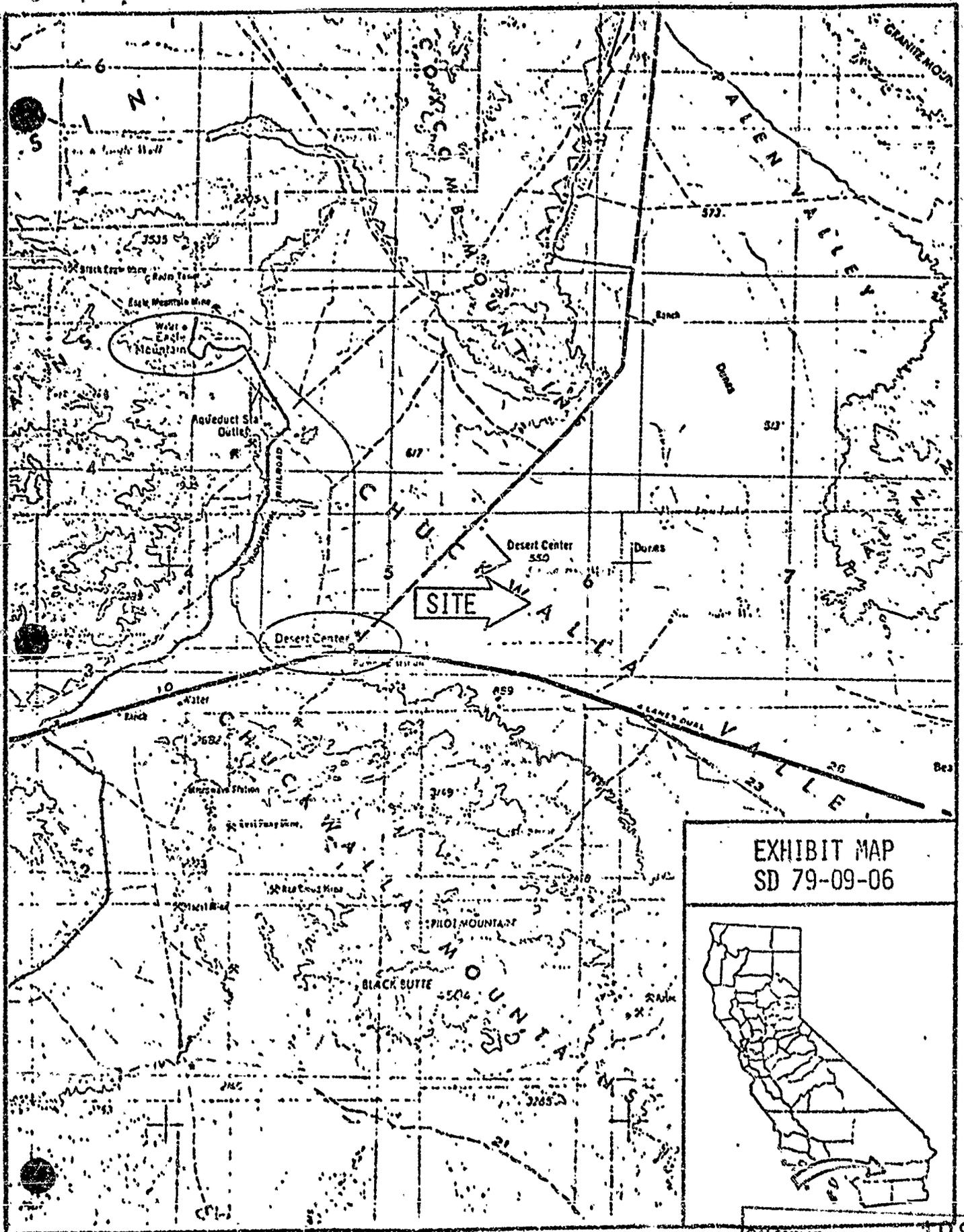


EXHIBIT MAP
SD 79-09-06



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