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CALENDAR ITEM

009

11/21/85 PRC 6916
W 23707
Miller, D.

INTERAGENCY AGREEMENT FOR PRESCRIBED BURNING

APPLICANT: California Department
of Forestry
Lake-Napa Ranger Unit
1572 Railroad Avenue
St. Helena, California 94574

AREA, TYPE LAND AND LOCATION:
Approximately 160 acres of school lands in the
vicinity of the Geysers, Lake County will be
treated.

LAND USE: Vegetation Management for fuel hazard
reduction, wildlife habitat improvement and
increased water yield using prescribed burning.

TERMS OF PROPOSED AGREEMENT:

Initial period: Ten months beginning
September 1, 1985.

Liability: The California Department of
Forestry assumes all
responsibilities and
liabilities for the
initiation and completion of
this project.

APPLICANT STATUS:

Applicant is lead agency of cooperative
Vegetation Management Program.

STATUTORY AND OTHER REFERENCES:

- A. P.R.C.: Div. 6, Parts 1 and 2; Div. 13.
- B. Cal. Adm. Code: Title 2, Div. 3; Title 14,
Div. 6.

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AB 884:

N/A.

OTHER PERTINENT INFORMATION:

1. The Camelback Unit of the Kelseyville - Middletown Coordinated Resource Project has been designated as a prescribed burn area for the California Department of Forestry's Lake-Napa Ranger Unit's Vegetation Management Program. The State Lands Commission has three school land parcels within the Camelback Unit totalling approximately 780 acres. It is estimated that about 20 percent or 160 acres are scheduled for prescribed burning in a mosaic pattern to enhance wildlife habitat, reduce fire hazard, and increase water yield to local streams and reservoirs. This is a cooperative effort because the school land's productivity and environment will be improved and California Department of Forestry's costs on this project will be reduced because they will not have to construct additional fire lines to exclude the school lands from this project.
2. The California Department of Forestry assumes all responsibility and liability in connection with this project. There will be no cost or expenses charged to the State Lands Commission concerning this project.
3. In December, 1982, the Executive Officer of the State Lands Commission signed the Memorandum of Understanding for Coordinated Resource Management Planning in California. This document encourages the State Lands Commission to enter into the Vegetation Management Program with the California Department of Forestry.
4. A Program Environmental Impact Report (EIR) was prepared and adopted for this project by the California Department of Forestry. This Program Environmental Impact Report and an environmental evaluation of each proposed project consisting of an Application, Environmental Checklist, Land Management Plan, Prescription, Smoke

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Management Plan, Insurance Policy and Contract will be used to comply with the CEQA. The Environmental Checklist, Land Management Plan, Prescription and Smoke Management Plan are designed to mitigate the environmental effects identified in the EIR and will also indicate what, if any, additional CEQA documentation will be required. The Lake-Napa Ranger Unit has prepared the above-mentioned supplemental documents for the particular area that is subject of this Calendar Item. The approved environmental checklist, Land Management Plan, Prescription, and Smoke Management Plan have identified potential significant impacts and have provided mitigation measures and do not indicate any additional CEQA documentation is required. The State Lands Commission staff has reviewed such documentation and believes it complies with the requirements of CEQA and, based upon the information provided in such documentation, believes this activity will not have a significant effect on the environment.

5. On file with the State Lands Commission are copies of the following documents:
 - a. Memorandum of Understanding for Coordinated Resource Management Planning in California.
 - b. Chaparral Management Program The Resources Agency, California Department of Forestry Final Environmental Impact Report SCH 80100262
 - c. CDF, Lake-Napa Ranger Unit prescribed burn agreement package.
 - (1) Project Agreement for Prescribed Burning.
 - (2) Contract No. 13-002-85 UMP prescribed burn plan for County of Lake and Smoke Dispersal Plan
 - (3) Pelseyville-Middletown Coordinated Resource Project, Camelback Unit Management Plan Lake-Napa Ranger Unit - Lakeport Ranger District
 - (4) Environmental Checklist for County of Lake

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EXHIBITS: A. Land Description.
 B. Location Map.
 C. CEQA Findings.

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE COMMISSION:

1. FIND THAT AN EIR HAS BEEN PREPARED AND ADOPTED FOR THIS PROJECT BY THE CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY AND THAT THE COMMISSION HAS REVIEWED AND CONSIDERED THE INFORMATION CONTAINED THEREIN.
2. ADOPT THE FINDINGS MADE PURSUANT TO SECTION 15091 OF THE STATE EIR GUIDELINES AS CONTAINED IN EXHIBIT "C".
3. DETERMINE THAT THE PROJECT, AS APPROVED, WILL NOT HAVE A SIGNIFICANT EFFECT ON THE ENVIRONMENT.
4. AUTHORIZE THE EXECUTION OF THE INTERAGENCY AGREEMENT FOR PRESCRIBED BURNING ON STATE SCHOOL LANDS WITH CDF, TO PROVIDE FOR VEGETATION MANAGEMENT PROGRAM ON THE LAND DESCRIBED ON EXHIBIT "A" ATTACHED AND BY REFERENCE MADE A PART HEREOF, FOR A PERIOD OF TEN MONTHS BEGINNING SEPTEMBER 1, 1985.

EXHIBIT "A"

LAND DESCRIPTION

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Those parcels of California State lieu lands in Lake County, California,
described as follows:

Lots 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17 & 18 of Section 2,
T12N, R9W, MDM.

NE $\frac{1}{2}$ of SE $\frac{1}{2}$ of Section 3, T12N, R9W, MDM.

Lot 9 and the E $\frac{1}{2}$ of Section 11, T12N, R9W, MDM.

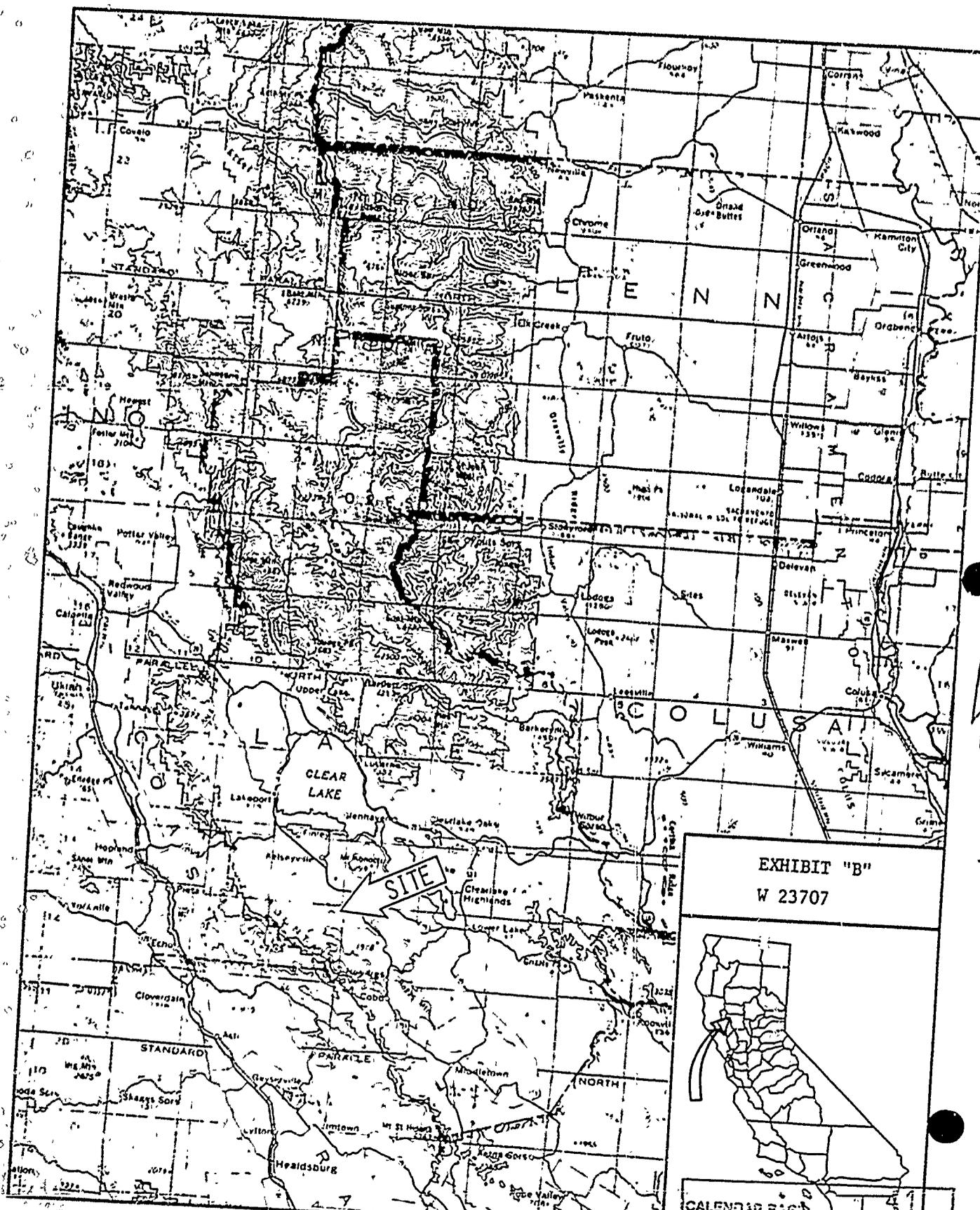
Lots 1, 2, 3 and the S $\frac{1}{2}$ of SW $\frac{1}{2}$ of Section 12, T12N, R9W, MDM.

EXCEPTING THEREFROM any portion thereof lying southerly of Sweetwater Creek.

END OF DESCRIPTION

PREPARED OCTOBER 16, 1985, BY BOUNDARY SERVICES UNIT, M. L. SHAFER, SUPERVISOR.

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To Santa Rosa 15 Miles

EXHIBIT "B"
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EXHIBIT "C"

CEQA Findings

The following findings relate to each of the potential significant effects identified in the environmental impact report prepared for the project:

Water Quality

Impact: Potential degradation of water quality in the project area from both site preparation and prescribed burn operations. These impacts include turbidity, higher bio-oxygen demand, and sedimentation caused by erosion and increased water temperatures caused by removal of streamside shading.

Finding: (a) Changes or alterations have been required in, or incorporated into, the project which mitigate or avoid the significant environmental effects thereof as identified in the final EIR and site specific assessment.

(b) Such changes or alterations are within the responsibility and jurisdiction of another public agency and not the agency making the finding (California Department of Forestry (CDF) - Lake-Napa Ranger Unit). Such changes have been adopted by such other agency, or can and should be adopted by such agency.

Facts Supporting Finding

Prescribed burning in the proposed agreement area could result in several water quality impacts to the environment from the site preparation (i.e., use of heavy equipment) and the prescribed burn itself (i.e., not burning in appropriate season; burning too large an area; use of high-intensity fires; etc.).

Pursuant to Division 4 of the Public Resources Code, CDF has jurisdiction and responsibility over management of the Chaparral Management Program. Section 4476 of Division 4 provides for the identification of an officer of such department as the fire boss with final authority to approve and amend the plan and formula applicable to the prescribed burning operation.

The proposed Interagency Agreement provides that a: "...Prescribed Burn Plan for the County of Lake Prescribed Burn Project, prepared by CDF on May 29, 1985, establishes the standards to be met and will govern project execution...". The plan provides for specific measures designed to avoid or significantly lessen the above-mentioned water quality impacts.

Soil and Nutrients

Impact: Potential effects on soil and nutrients from prescribed burn operations.

Finding: (a) Changes or alterations have been required in, or incorporated into, the project which mitigate or avoid the significant environmental effects thereof as identified in the final EIR and site specific assessment.

(b) Such changes or alterations are within the responsibility and jurisdiction of another public agency and not the agency making the finding (CDF - Lake-Napa Ranger Unit). Such changes have been adopted by such other agency, or can and should be adopted by such agency.

Facts Supporting Finding

Prescribed burning in the proposed agreement area could result in significant environmental impacts to the soils.

Pursuant to Division 4 of the P.R.C., CDF has jurisdiction and responsibility over management of the Chaparral Management Program. Section 4276 of Division 4 provides for the identification of an officer of such department as the fire boss with final authority to approve and amend the plan and formula applicable to the prescribed burning operation.

The proposed Interagency Agreement provides that:
"...Prescribed Burn Plan for the County of Lake Prescribed Burn Project, prepared by CDF on May 29, 1985, establishes the standards to be met and will govern project execution...". The plan provides for specific measures designed to avoid or significantly lessen the above-mentioned environmental impacts.

Air Quality

Impact: Potential impacts on air quality from the proposed prescribed burn operation.

Finding: (a) Changes or alterations have been required in, or incorporated into, the project which mitigate or avoid the significant environmental effects thereof as identified in the final EIR and site specific assessment.

(b) Such changes or alterations are within the responsibility and jurisdiction of another public agency and not the agency making the finding (Lake County Air Pollution Control District and the California Air Resources Board). Such changes have been adopted by such other agency, or can and should be adopted by such other agency.

Facts Supporting Finding

The prescribed burn operation could have potential significant impacts on air quality by the emission of pollutants into the atmosphere.

Jurisdiction and regulatory authority over air quality in the proposed agreement area resides with the Lake County Air Pollution Control District and the Air Resources Board. The District has and enforces rules and regulation applicable to controlled emissions into the atmosphere. In order to assure compliance with the air quality regulations, CDF has developed a Smoke Management Plan in close coordination with the Lake County Air Pollution Control District. Such Smoke Management Plan is attached to, and is part of, the Prescribed Burn Plan.

Some of the mitigation measures included in such Smoke Management Plan are: when the burn should occur, i.e., time of day; time of year; wind direction; humidity; etc. These provisions will serve to mitigate potential air quality impacts.

Wildlife

Impact: Potential significant impacts could occur to the biota in the project area from both site preparation and prescribed burn operation. Some of these impacts are: loss of escape cover and loss of riparian habitat.

Finding: (a) Changes or alterations have been required in, or incorporated into, the project which mitigate or avoid the significant environmental effects thereof as identified in the final EIR and site specific assessment.

(b) Such changes or alterations are within the responsibility and jurisdiction of another public agency and not the agency making the finding (CDF - Lake-Napa Ranger Unit). Such changes have been adopted by such other agency, or can and should be adopted by such agency.

Facts Supporting Finding

Prescribed burning in the proposed agreement area could result in several significant environmental impacts to the biota from the site preparation (i.e., use of heavy equipment; providing too large an area for the burn; etc.) and the prescribed burn itself (i.e., burning too large an area; loss of riparian vegetation; loss of rare or endangered species habitat; etc.).

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Pursuant to Division 4 of the P.R.C., CDF has jurisdiction and responsibility over management of the Chaparral Management Program. Section 4476 of Division 4 provides for the identification of an officer of such department as the fire boss with final authority to approve and amend the plan and formula applicable to the prescribed burning operation.

The proposed Interagency Agreement provides that:
" ..Prescribed Burn Plan for the County of Lake Prescribed Burn Project, prepared by CDF on May 29, 1985, establishes the standards to be met and will govern project execution...". The plan provides for specific measures designed to avoid or significantly lessen the identified environmental impacts. This is a cooperative effort because the school land's productivity and environment will be improved and CDF's costs on this project will be reduced because they will not have to construct additional fire lines to exclude the school lands from this project.

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