

**MINUTE ITEM**

This Calendar Item No. C15  
was approved as Minute Item  
No. C15 by the State Lands  
Commission by a vote of 2  
0 at its 11/7/1990  
meeting.

**CALENDAR ITEM**

**C 1 5**

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01/17/90  
W 24261 PRC 7373  
Townsend

**GENERAL PERMIT - PUBLIC AGENCY USE**

**APPLICANT:** California Department of Fish and Game  
Attn: John Grant  
330 Golden Shore, #50  
Long Beach, California 90802

**AREA, TYPE LAND AND LOCATION:**  
A 1.148-acre parcel of tide and submerged land  
in the Pacific Ocean offshore Point Vicente,  
Los Angeles County.

**LAND USE:** Installation and maintenance of a sunken vessel  
as an artificial fishing reef.

**TERMS OF PROPOSED PERMIT:**  
Initial period: Twenty (20) years beginning  
February 1, 1990.

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

**BASIS FOR CONSIDERATION:**  
Pursuant to 2 Cal. Code Regs. 2003.

**PREREQUISITE CONDITIONS, FEES AND EXPENSES:**  
Filing fee and processing costs have been  
received.

**STATUTORY AND OTHER REFERENCES:**  
A. P.R.C.: Div. 6, Parts 1 and 2; Div. 13.  
B. Cal. Code Regs.: Title 2, Div. 3;  
Title 14, Div. 6.

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AB 884: 05/03/90.

OTHER PERTINENT INFORMATION:

1. The California Department of Fish and Game (Department) has filed an application with staff of the Commission for a General Permit - Public Agency Use, to develop an artificial fishing reef. The project involves the sinking of a surplus vessel in approximately 100 feet of water on sandy substrate, near Point Vicente off Palos Verdes. The project would use a vessel of up to 500 feet in length. The vessel will be selected on an as available basis, upon completion of the permit process. Any vessel that is used will be subject to Coast Guard/Environmental Protection Agency certification as to cleanliness and as to whether it is oil free. It will also be made safe to minimize potential hazards for divers with the cooperation and involvement of the Greater Los Angeles Area Council of Divers.

The proposed lease to the Department provides that construction shall occur between February 1, 1990 and January 31, 1991. In addition, the proposed lease provides for the following:

- A. Prior to commencement of the construction or placement of the authorized improvements, the Department agrees to provide to the staff of the Commission, for its review and approval, a description of the vessel to be placed, including the name and registry of the ship, if a ship is to be sunk, and a plan of installation, including a description of the equipment to be used for installation, method of installation, timing for installation and time required to install the reef.

- B. The Department shall submit to the Commission, within six months of the date of this lease, a Monitoring Plan that will describe the following:
1. the purpose(s) and objective(s) for the reef;
  2. how the reef is designed to meet the purposes and objectives described in (1);
  3. how this reef differs from other reefs installed by the Department;
  4. how the Department will monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of the reef in meeting the purposes and objectives described in (1); and
  5. a time schedule for monitoring, evaluating, and reporting on the effectiveness of the reef.  
The Department shall submit all formal reports to the Commission. The Commission shall be advised of and have access to, on demand, to all field notes, survey data, and any other information collected for the above Monitoring Plan or during the administration of the Department's Artificial Reef Program.
- C. The Department agrees to provide an "as-built" survey of the artificial reef to the staff of the Commission upon completion of construction and shall include the depth from the highest point of the reef at the lowest low water.
2. The annual rental value of the site is estimated to be \$93,300.
  3. This activity involves lands identified as possessing significant environmental values pursuant to P.R.C. 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.

4. A Negative Declaration was prepared and adopted for this project by the California Department of Fish and Game. The State Lands Commission's staff has reviewed such document and believes that it complies with the requirements of the CEQA.

APPROVALS OBTAINED:

California Coastal Commission.

FURTHER APPROVALS REQUIRED:

United States Army Corps of Engineers and  
Regional Water Quality Control Board.

EXHIBITS:

- A. Land Description.
- B. Location Map.
- C. Negative Declaration.

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE COMMISSION:

1. 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.
2. DETERMINE THAT THE PROJECT, AS APPROVED, WILL NOT HAVE A SIGNIFICANT EFFECT ON THE ENVIRONMENT.
3. AUTHORIZE ISSUANCE TO THE CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME OF A 20-YEAR GENERAL PERMIT - PUBLIC AGENCY USE, BEGINNING FEBRUARY 1, 1990; IN CONSIDERATION OF THE PUBLIC USE AND BENEFIT, WITH THE STATE RESERVING THE RIGHT AT ANY TIME TO SET A MONETARY RENTAL IF THE COMMISSION FINDS SUCH ACTION TO BE IN THE STATE'S BEST INTEREST; AND WITH CONSTRUCTION TO OCCUR BETWEEN FEBRUARY 1, 1990 AND JANUARY 31, 1991, FOR INSTALLATION AND MAINTENANCE OF AN ARTIFICIAL FISHING REEF CONSTRUCTED OF ONE SUNKEN VESSEL ON THE LAND DESCRIBED ON EXHIBIT "A" ATTACHED AND BY REFERENCE MADE A PART HEREOF.

**EXHIBIT "A"**

**W 24261**

**LAND DESCRIPTION**

A parcel of submerged land 500 feet in length x 100 feet in width lying in the Pacific Ocean, located approximately two kilometers from Point Vicente, Los Angeles, County, State of California, and located at Latitude 33°45' 03" and Longitude 118°25' 18".

**END OF DESCRIPTION**

**PREPARED SEPTEMBER , 1989 BY BIU 1.**

NUMBER OF PAGES	72.4
COPY NO.	86

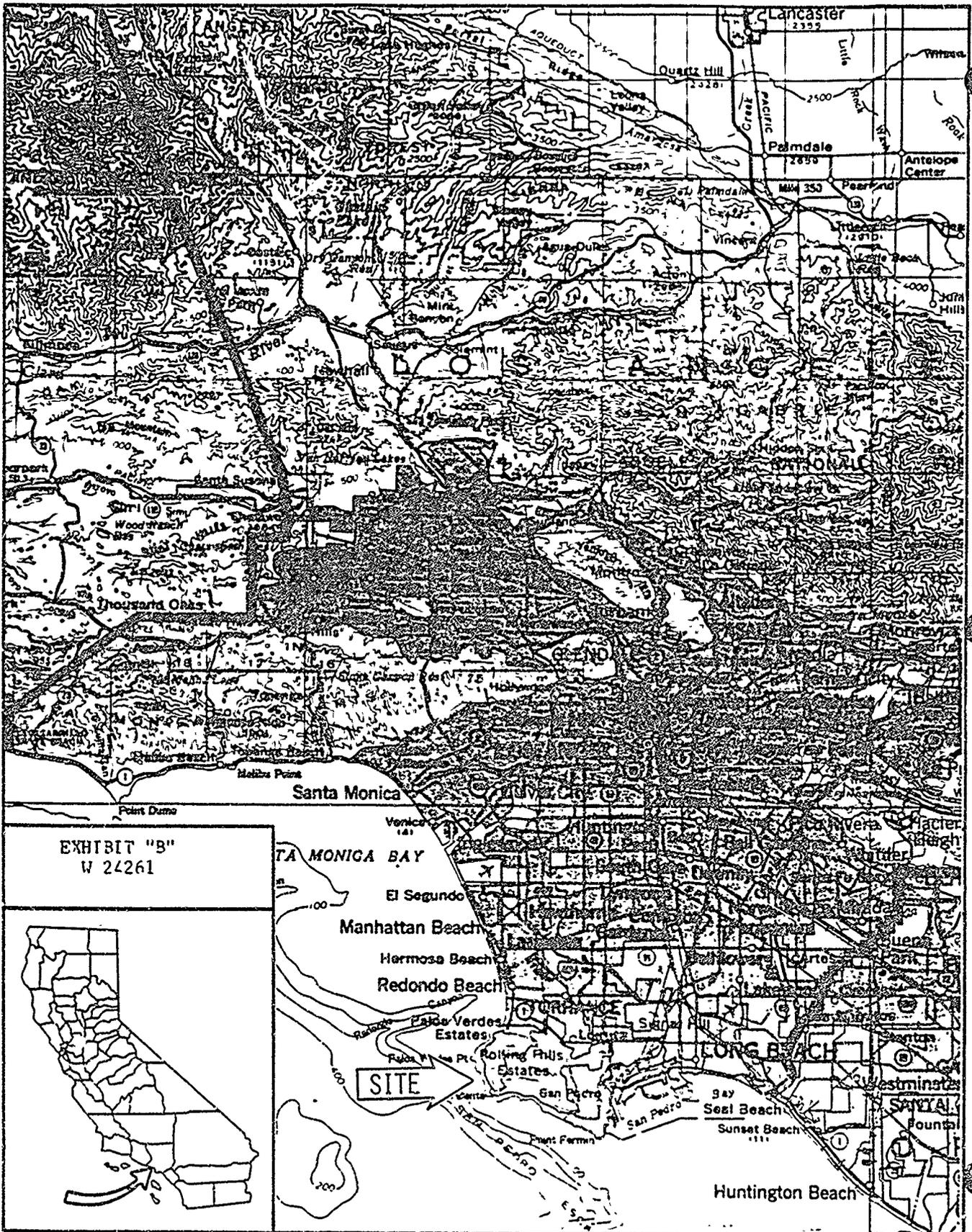


EXHIBIT "B"  
W 24261



SITE

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87

EXHIBIT "C"

APPENDIX D

NOTICE OF DETERMINATION

TO: Office of Planning and Research  
1400 Tenth Street, Room 121  
Sacramento, CA 95814

FROM: (Public Agency) \_\_\_\_\_  
Calif. Dept. of Fish & Game  
MRD-Long Beach

County Clerk  
County of \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

SUBJECT: Filing of Notice of Determination in compliance with Section 21108 or 21152 of the Public Resources Code.  
Palos Verdes Wreck Reef

Project title  
89083008 John J. Grant (213) 590-5180  
State Clearinghouse Number Contact Person Area Code/Number/Extension  
(If Submitted to Clearinghouse)  
Offshore Palos Verdes Peninsula at Golden Cove  
Project Location

Construct artificial reef-fisheries aggregating device by sinking of cleaned vessel.  
Project Description

This is to advise that the Dept. of Fish and Game  
(Lead Agency or Responsible Agency)  
has approved the above described project on 12-5-89 and has made the follow-  
(Date)

ing determinations regarding the above described project:

1. The project will, X will not have a significant effect on the environment.
2.      An Environmental Impact Report was prepared for this project pursuant to the provisions of CEQA.  
  X   A Negative Declaration was prepared for this project pursuant to the provisions of CEQA.
3. Mitigation measures      were,   X   were not made a condition of the approval of the project.
4. A statement of Overriding Considerations      was,      was not adopted for this project.

This is to certify that the final Negative Declaration with comments and responses and record of project approval is available to the General Public at:

Department of Fish and Game, 330 Golden Shore, Suite 50, Long Beach, CA 90802

Date Received for Filing and Posting at OPR \_\_\_\_\_

[Signature]  
Signature (Public Agency)

Chief Deputy Director  
Title

FILED AND POSTED BY  
Revised March 1986

DEC - 5 1989

72.6  
88

California Department of Fish and Game  
Proposed Negative Declaration  
for  
Palos Verdes Wreck Reef (PAVFAD)

August, 1989



72.7  
89

Box 1172 Station  
 State # \_\_\_\_\_

1. Project Title: Palos Verdes Wreck Reef  
 2. Lead Agency: Dept. of Fish and Game  
 3. Street Address: 330 Golden Shore, Suite 50 3. Contact Person: John J. Grant  
 4. County: Los Angeles 4a. City: Long Beach  
 5. Zip: 90802 5a. Phone: (213) 590-5180  
 6. Agency: Los Angeles 6a. City/Community: offshore Palos Verdes Peninsula at Golden Cove  
 7. Assessor's Parcel No.: N/A 7c. Section: \_\_\_\_\_ 7d. Range: \_\_\_\_\_  
 8. Cross Streets: N/A 8a. For Rural, Unincor. Community: \_\_\_\_\_

- |   |                      |   |   |               |
|---|----------------------|---|---|---------------|
| 6. Mitigation 2 sales:                                | a. State             | b. Air-ports  | c. Rail-ways                                  | d. Water-ways |
| 7. <u>NOA</u>   |                      | 8. <u>LAND ACTION TYPE</u>  | 9. <u>GENERAL TYPE</u>                        |               |
| 01. <u>NOI</u>  | 05. <u>DOE</u>       | 01. <u>General Plan Update</u>                                    | 01. <u>Residential: Units</u> _____           | Acres _____   |
| 02. <u>Early Conc</u>                                 | 07. <u>DOC</u>       | 02. <u>New Element</u>  | 02. <u>Office: Sq. Ft.</u> _____              | Acres _____   |
| 03. <u>Imp Dec</u>                                    | 09. <u>DOO</u>       | 03. <u>General Plan Amendment</u>                                 | 03. <u>Shopping/Commercial: Sq. Ft.</u> _____ | Acres _____   |
| 04. <u>Draft EIR</u>                                  |                      | 04. <u>Master Plan</u>  | 04. <u>Industrial: Sq. Ft.</u> _____          | Acres _____   |
| 05. <u>Supplement/ Subsequent EIR (Prior EIR No.:</u> |                      | 05. <u>Amendment</u>  | 05. <u>Power: Type</u> _____                  | Hours _____   |
|   |                      | 06. <u>Specific Plan</u>  | 06. <u>Waste Treatment: Type</u> _____        |               |
|   |                      | 07. <u>Community Plan</u>   | 07. <u>Transportation: Type</u> _____         |               |
|   |                      | 08. <u>Redevelopment</u>  | 08. <u>Mining: Mineral</u> _____              |               |
|   |                      | 09. <u>General</u>  | 09. <u>Power: Type</u> _____                  | Hours _____   |
| 09. <u>NOI</u>  | 11. <u>Draft EIS</u> | 10. <u>Land Division (Exclusion, Parcel Rep, Tract Rep, etc.)</u> | 10. <u>Waste Treatment: Type</u> _____        |               |
| 10. <u>FOUR</u>                                       | 12. <u>EA</u>        | 11. <u>Use Permit</u>   | 11. <u>Other: Artificial Reef</u>             |               |
|   |                      | 12. <u>Waste Mgmt Plan</u>  |   |               |
|   |                      | 13. <u>Critical Ag Preserve</u>                                   |   |               |
|   |                      | 14. <u>Other</u>  |   |               |

10. NOA ACTION
- |   |                                |
|---|--------------------------------|
| 12. <u>PROJECT AREA CHARACTERISTICS</u>               | 13. <u>NOA TYPE CATEGORY</u>   |
| 01. <u>Anthropic/Manal</u>                            | 15. <u>Recreation</u>          |
| 02. <u>Agricultural Land</u>                          | 16. <u>Water Capacity</u>      |
| 03. <u>Air Quality</u>                                | 17. <u>Canal</u>               |
| 04. <u>Archaeological/Historical</u>                  | 18. <u>Soil Erosion</u>        |
| 05. <u>Cultural Site</u>                              | 19. <u>Soil Waste</u>          |
| 06. <u>Economic</u>                                   | 20. <u>Soil/Seismicity</u>     |
| 07. <u>Fire Hazard</u>                                | 21. <u>Traffic/Circulation</u> |
| 08. <u>Energy (typical) Federal &amp; State &amp;</u> | 22. <u>Vegetation</u>          |
| 09. <u>Exposed Land Use and Zoning</u>                | 23. <u>Water Quality</u>       |
|   | 24. <u>Water Supply</u>        |
|   | 25. <u>Waste/Disposal</u>      |
|   | 26. <u>Wildlife</u>            |
|   | 27. <u>Other</u>               |

RECEIVED  
 AUB 30 1989  
 STATE RELATIVE EFFECTS  
 CLEARINGHOUSE

15. PROJECT DESCRIPTION:  
 Construction of artificial reef by sinking of vessel of up to 500' in waters near Pt. Vicente. To increase local sportfishing success.

16. SIGNATURE OF LEAD AGENCY REPRESENTATIVE: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: 8/30/89  
 NOTE: Clearinghouse will assign identification numbers for all new projects. If a SCH number already exists for a project (e.g. from a Notice of Preparation or previous draft document) please fill it in.

FORM REVISED 4/84 - REPLACE CALLS

MAX ELIMINATION OF REDUNDANT  
 72.8  
 90

**DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME**

Marine Resources Division  
330 Golden Shore, Suite 500  
Long Beach, CA 90802

**CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT  
NEGATIVE DECLARATION**

CEQA Guidelines

**AGENCY**  
California Department of Fish and Game

**PROJECT TITLE**  
Palos Verdes Wreck Reef

**PROJECT LOCATION**  
Ocean bottom (100') at location defined by Lat/Long. coordinates: 33° 45' 03" N  
118° 25' 18" W

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION:**  
Sinking of vessel to form artificial reef (Fish Aggregating Device)

**NAME AND ADDRESS OF APPLICANT**  
Department of Fish and Game  
Attn: John Grant  
330 Golden Shore, Long Beach, CA 90802

**FINDING:**  
No significant negative impact.

▶ SEE ATTACHED SHEET(S) FOR ANY MITIGATION MEASURES IMPOSED.

THE INITIAL STUDY PREPARED FOR THIS PROJECT IS ATTACHED.

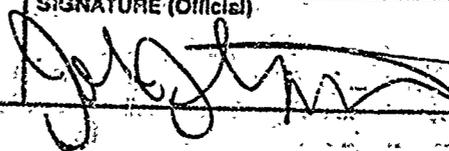
**NAME OF PERSON PREPARING THIS FORM**  
John Grant

**TITLE**  
Marine Habitat Development  
Coordination

**TELEPHONE NUMBER**  
(213) 590-5180

**ADDRESS**  
330 Golden Shore, #50  
Long Beach, CA 90802

**SIGNATURE (Official)**



**DATE**

7-21-89

APPENDIX H

ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION FORM  
(To Be Completed By Applicant)

Date Filed 6-16-89

General Information

1. Name and address of developer or project sponsor: California Dept. of Fish and Game, 330 Golden Shore, Suite 50, Long Beach, CA 90802
2. Address of project: ocean bottom off Palos Verdes, CA in 100-ft at Lat/Long, 33°45'03" x Assessor's Block and Lot Number: 118°25'18"
3. Name, address, and telephone number of person to be contacted concerning this project: John J. Grant, 330 Golden Shore, #50, Long Beach CA 90802 (213) 590-5180
4. Indicate number of the permit application for the project to which this form pertains: one
5. List and describe any other related permits and other public approvals required for this project, including those required by city, regional, state and federal agencies: Calif. Coastal Commission, Corps of Engineers, State Lands Commission, Water Resources Control Board
6. Existing zoning district: N/A
7. Proposed use of site (Project for which this form is filed): Recreational fishery enhancement

Project Description - Artificial reef constructed of one sunken vessel not greater than 500' in length.

8. Site size. 500' x 100'
9. Square footage. 50 000'
10. Number of floors of construction. None
11. Amount of off-street parking provided. None
12. Attach plans. See attached figures
13. Proposed scheduling. As soon as permit process allows us to begin.
14. Associated project. None
15. Anticipated incremental development. None
16. If residential, include the number of units, schedule of unit sizes, range of sale prices or rents, and type of household size expected.

17. If commercial, indicate the type, whether neighborhood, city or regionally oriented, square footage of sales area, and loading facilities.
18. If industrial, indicate type, estimated employment per shift, and loading facilities.
19. If institutional, indicate the major function, estimated employment per shift, estimated occupancy, loading facilities, and community benefits to be derived from the project.
20. If the project involves a variance, conditional use or rezoning application, state this and indicate clearly why the application is required.

Are the following items applicable to the project or its effects? Discuss below all items checked yes (attach additional sheets as necessary).

	Yes	No
21. Change in existing features of any bays, tidelands, beaches, or hills, or substantial alteration of ground contours.	X	—
22. Change in scenic views or vistas from existing residential areas or public lands or roads. (see below)	—	X
23. Change in pattern, scale or character of general area of project.	—	X
24. Significant amounts of solid waste or litter.	—	X
25. Change in dust, ash, smoke, fumes or odors in vicinity.	—	X
26. Change in ocean, bay, lake, stream or ground water quality or quantity, or alteration of existing drainage patterns.	—	X
27. Substantial change in existing noise or vibration levels in the vicinity.	—	X
28. Site on filled land or on slope of 10 percent or more.	—	X
29. Use of disposal of potentially hazardous materials, such as toxic substances, flammables or explosives.	—	X
30. Substantial change in demand for municipal services (police, fire, water, sewage, etc.).	—	X
31. Substantially increase fossil fuel consumption (electricity, oil, natural gas, etc.).	—	X
32. Relationship to a larger project or series of projects.	—	X

#### Environmental Setting

33. Describe the project site as it exists before the project, including information on topography, soil stability, plants and animals, and any cultural, historical or scenic aspects. Describe any existing structures on the

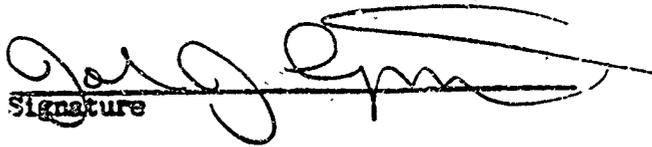
site, and the use of the structures. Attach photographs of the site. Snapshots or polaroid photos will be accepted.

34. Describe the surrounding properties, including information on plants and animals and any cultural, historical, or scenic aspects. Indicate the type of land use (residential, commercial, etc.), intensity of land use (one-family, apartment houses, shops, department stores, etc.), and scale of development (height, frontage, set-back, rear yard, etc.). Attach photographs of the vicinity. Snapshots or polaroid photos will be accepted.

#### Certification

I hereby certify that the statements furnished above and in the attached exhibits present the data and information required for this initial evaluation to the best of my ability, and that the facts, statements, and information presented are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

9-11-89  
Date

  
Signature

~~XXXX~~ John J. Grant

(Note: This is only a suggested form. Public agencies are free to devise their own format for initial studies.)

21. Experience with similar projects suggests that there could be some major scouring of the sand substrate around the immediate edge of the vessel. There may be up to one meter (3 ft) of sand moved all around the perimeter.
33. The site is flat sand-covered ocean bottom with no visible topographic features except very small (<2 cm high) ripple marks.
34. There are no known cultural or historical aspects of the site. The project will have no impact on scenic aspects or land use. There may be an increase in the amount of small boat traffic due to the fishing activity. There will be an immediate, localized, mortality of the very few sand-dwelling organisms covered by the vessel when it impacts the substrate. There will also be a long-term impact on fish populations. Artificial reefs, such as described in this proposal, are, in reality, fish aggregating devices (FADS). They function to attract fish by virtue of the shelter they provide and the thigmotropic behavior of fish. This causes the fish to be more vulnerable to catch by recreational anglers. The primary species present on such wrecks in the area are barred sand bass (Paralabrax nebulifer), and various surf perches. Populations of these fish can support increased harvest; one of the primary goals of this project is increasing sportfishing success for these species, particularly barred sand bass.

APPENDIX I

ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST FORM  
(To Be Completed By Lead Agency)

I. Background

1. Name of Proponent Department of Fish and Game (John J. Grant)
2. Address and Phone Number of Proponent 330 Golden Shore, #50  
Long Beach, California 90802
3. Date of Checklist Submitted 6-16-89
4. Agency Requiring Checklist California Department of Fish and Game
5. Name of Proposal, if applicable Palos Verdes Wreck Reef

II. Environmental Impacts

(Explanations of all "yes" and "maybe" answers are required on attached sheets.)

	<u>Yes</u>	<u>Maybe</u>	<u>No</u>
1. Earth. Will the proposal result in:			
a. Unstable earth conditions or in changes in geologic substructures?	---	---	x
b. Disruptions, displacements, compaction or overcovering of the soil?	---	---	x
c. Change in topography or ground surface relief features?	---	---	x
d. The destruction, covering or modification of any unique geologic or physical features?	---	---	x
e. Any increase in wind or water erosion of soils, either on or off the site?	---	---	x
f. 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?	---	---	x
g. Exposure of people or property to geologic hazards such as earthquakes, landslides, mudslides, ground failure, or similar hazards?	---	---	x

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2. Air. Will the proposal result in:

- |  |       |       |          |
|--|-------|-------|----------|
| a. Substantial air emissions or deterioration of ambient air quality?  | _____ | _____ | <u>X</u> |
| b. The creation of objectionable odors?  | _____ | _____ | <u>X</u> |
| c. Alteration of air movement, moisture, or temperature, or any change in climate, either locally or regionally? | _____ | _____ | <u>X</u> |

3. Water. Will the proposal result in:

- |  |          |       |          |
|--|----------|-------|----------|
| a. Changes in currents, or the course or direction of water movements, in either marine or fresh waters? Minor changes in currents within 1 or 2 meters of the vessel. | <u>X</u> | _____ | _____    |
| b. Changes in absorption rates, drainage patterns, or the rate and amount of surface runoff?   | _____    | _____ | <u>X</u> |
| c. Alterations to the course or low of flood waters?   | _____    | _____ | <u>X</u> |
| d. Change in the amount of surface water in any water body?  | _____    | _____ | <u>X</u> |
| e. Discharge into surface waters, or in any alteration of surface water quality, including but not limited to temperature, dissolved oxygen or turbidity?              | _____    | _____ | <u>X</u> |
| f. Alteration of the direction or rate of flow of ground waters?   | _____    | _____ | <u>X</u> |
| g. Change in the quantity of ground waters, either through direct additions or withdrawals, or through interception of an aquifer by cuts or excavations?              | _____    | _____ | <u>X</u> |
| h. Substantial reduction in the amount of water otherwise available for public water supplies?   | _____    | _____ | <u>X</u> |
| i. Exposure of people or property to water related hazards such as flooding or tidal waves?  | _____    | _____ | <u>X</u> |

4. Plant Life. Will the proposal result in:

- |  |          |       |       |
|--|----------|-------|-------|
| a. Change in the diversity of species, or number of any species of plants (including trees, shrubs, grass, crops, and aquatic plants)? | <u>X</u> | _____ | _____ |
|--|----------|-------|-------|

There is no algal growth in the vicinity at this time, since the water is too deep for requisite light penetration. The positioning of the vessel could provide for Macrocystis (giant kelp) growth. There will probably be growth of small foliose red algae and lower-stor  
 289  
 brown algae on the vessel.

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- |   | <u>Yes</u> | <u>Maybe</u> | <u>No</u> |
|---|------------|--------------|-----------|
| b. Reduction of the numbers of any unique, rare or endangered species of plants?  | ---        | ---          | x         |
| c. Introduction of new species of plants into an area, or in a barrier to the normal replenishment of existing species?   | ---        | ---          | x         |
| d. Reduction in acreage of any agricultural crop?   | ---        | ---          | x         |
| <b>5. Animal Life. Will the proposal result in:</b>   |            |              |           |
| a. 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)? Loss of a few sand associated species, large increase in numbers of hard bottom associated species. | x          | ---          | ---       |
| b. Reduction of the numbers of any unique, rare or endangered species of animals?   | ---        | ---          | x         |
| c. Introduction of new species of animals into an area, or result in a barrier to the migration or movement of animals?   | ---        | ---          | x         |
| d. Deterioration to existing fish or wildlife habitat? There will be a change directly under the vessel from sand bottom to hard bottom benthos.  | ---        | ---          | x         |
| <b>6. Noise. Will the proposal result in:</b>   |            |              |           |
| a. Increases in existing noise levels?  | ---        | ---          | x         |
| b. Exposure of people to severe noise levels?   | ---        | ---          | x         |
| <b>7. Light and Glare. Will the proposal produce new light or glare?</b>  |            |              |           |
|   | ---        | ---          | x         |
| <b>8. Land Use. Will the proposal result in a substantial alteration of the present or planned land use of an area?</b>   |            |              |           |
|   | ---        | ---          | x         |
| <b>9. Natural Resources. Will the proposal result in:</b>   |            |              |           |
| a. Increase in the rate of use of any natural resources? Increase in fishing pressure and sportfish harvest.  | ---        | x            | ---       |
| <b>10. Risk of Upset. Will the proposal involve:</b>  |            |              |           |
| a. 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?  | ---        | ---          | ---       |

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	Yes	Maybe	No
b. Possible interference with an emergency response plan or an emergency evacuation plan?	—	—	X
11. Population. Will the proposal alter the location, distribution, density, or growth rate of the human population of an area?	—	—	X
12. Housing. Will the proposal affect existing housing, or create a demand for additional housing?	—	—	X
13. Transportation/Circulation. Will the proposal result in:			
a. Generation of substantial additional vehicular movement?	—	—	X
b. Effects on existing parking facilities, or demand for new parking?	—	—	X
c. Substantial impact upon existing transportation systems?	—	—	X
d. Alterations to present patterns of circulation or movement of people and/or goods?	—	—	X
e. Alterations to waterborne, rail or air traffic? Increase in skiff and other small boat traffic.	—	X	—
f. Increase in traffic hazards to motor vehicles, bicyclists or pedestrians?	—	—	X
14. 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:			
a. Fire protection?	—	—	X
b. Police protection?	—	—	X
c. Schools?	—	—	X
d. Parks or other recreational facilities?	—	—	X
e. Maintenance of public facilities, including roads?	—	—	X
f. Other governmental services?	—	—	X
15. Energy. Will the proposal result in:			
a. Use of substantial amounts of fuel or energy?	—	—	X

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	<u>Yes</u>	<u>Maybe</u>	<u>No</u>
b. Substantial increase in demand upon existing sources or energy, or require the development of new sources of energy?	---	---	X
16. Utilities. Will the proposal result in a need for new systems, or substantial alterations to the following utilities:	---	---	X
17. Human Health. Will the proposal result in:			
a. Creation of any health hazard or potential health hazard (excluding mental health)?	---	---	X
b. Exposure of people to potential health hazards?	---	---	X
18. Aesthetics. Will the proposal result in 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?	---	---	X
19. Recreation. Will the proposal result in an impact upon the quality or quantity of existing recreational opportunities?	X	---	---
20. Cultural Resources.			
a. Will the proposal result in the alteration of or the destruction of a prehistoric or historic archaeological site?	---	---	X
b. Will the proposal result in adverse physical or aesthetic effects to a prehistoric or historic building, structure, or object?	---	---	X
c. Does the proposal have the potential to cause a physical change which would affect unique ethnic cultural values?	---	---	X
d. Will the proposal restrict existing religious or sacred uses within the potential impact area?	---	---	X
21. Mandatory Findings of Significance.			
a. Does the project have the potential to degrade the quality of the environment, substantially 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	---	---	X

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	<u>Yes</u>	<u>Maybe</u>	<u>No</u>
important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory?	---	---	X
b. Does the project have the potential to achieve short-term, to the disadvantage of long-term, environmental goals? (A short-term impact on the environment is one which occurs in a relatively brief, definitive period of time while long-term impacts will endure well into the future.)	---	---	X
c. Does the project have impacts which are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable? (A project may impact on two or more separate resources where the impact on each resource is relatively small, but where the effect of the total of those impacts on the environment is significant.)	---	---	X
d. Does the project have environmental effects which will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?	---	---	X

III. Discussion of Environmental Evaluation  
 (Narrative description of environmental impacts.)  
 See attached

IV. Determination  
 (To be completed by the Lead Agency.)

On the basis of this initial evaluation:

I find that 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.

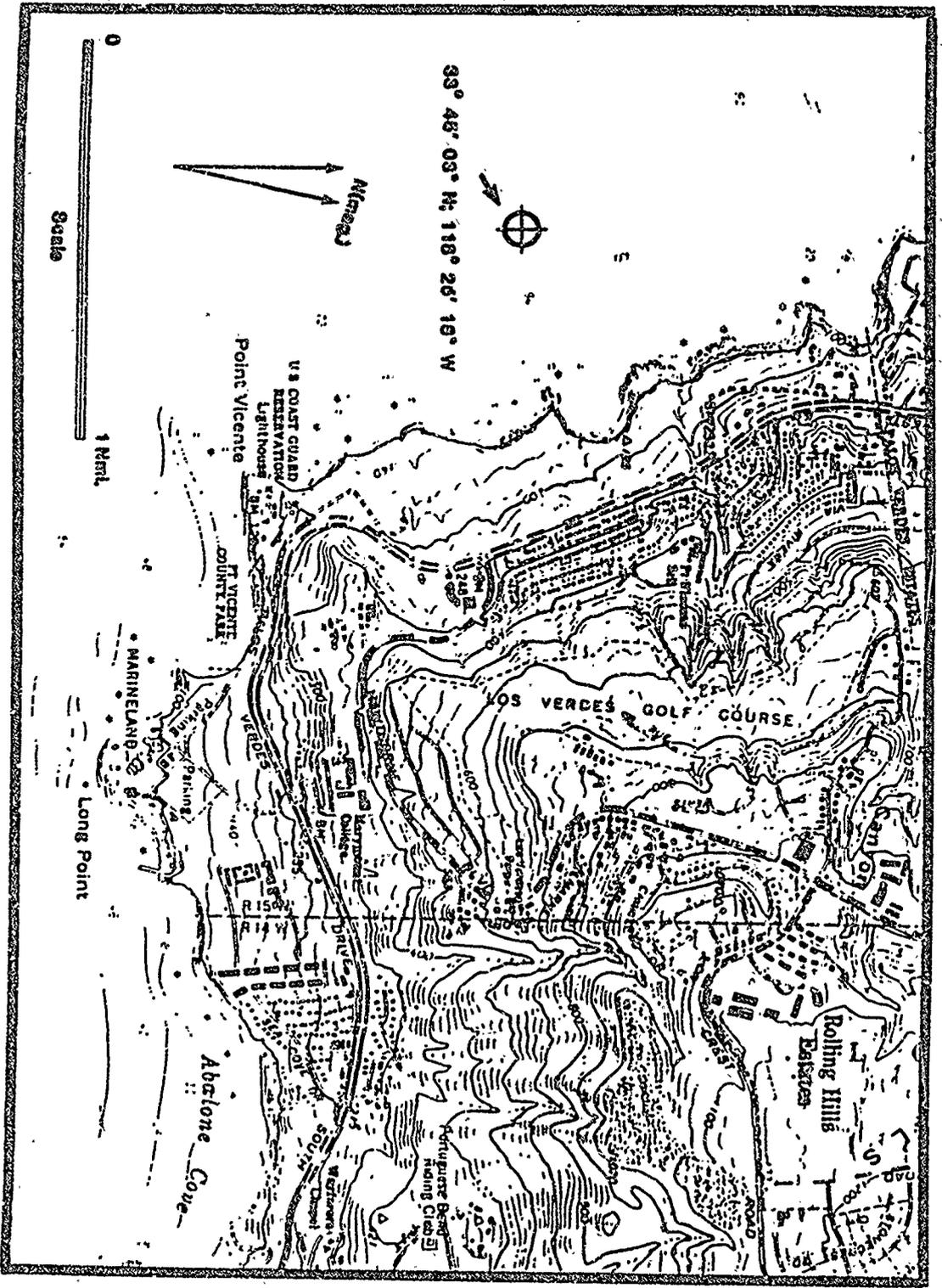
Date 8/25/07

Signature *[Signature]*  
 For Michael D. McCollum, Chief Deputy Director  
Department of Fish and Game

(Note: This is only a suggested form. Public agencies are free to devise their own format for initial studies.)

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Figure 1. Proposed Palos Verdes Sunken Vessel Fish Aggregating Device



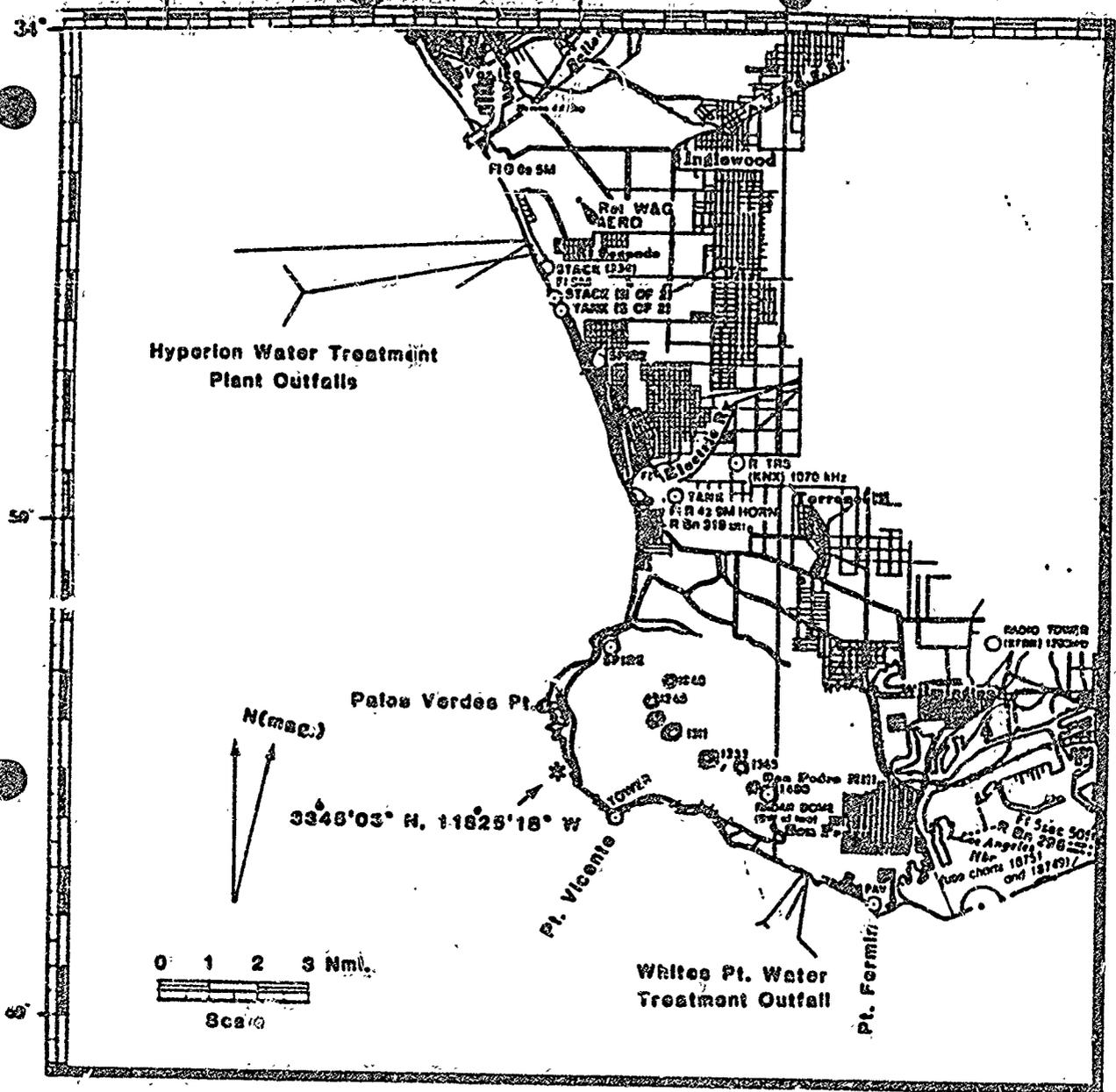


Figure 1. Proposed Palos Verdes Sunken Vessel Fish Aggregating Device in Relation to Outfall Areas

## Palos Verdes Wreck Reef

- I. The project involves the sinking of a surplus vessel in approximately 100 feet of water on sandy substrate near Pt. Vicente off Palos Verdes, California. Similar projects, notably the "Wreck Alley" project off Mission Beach near San Diego and the PALUAN in Santa Monica Bay, are very popular. Diving and fishing trips to the "Wreck Alley" project are particularly successful with individuals traveling from many areas of California to enjoy the recreational opportunities provided.

This project would involve a vessel of up to 500 feet in length, such as the PALUAN. We would like to get a surplus Liberty ship if possible, but we may have to settle for something smaller, depending upon availability. The vessel will not be decided on until the permit process is completed. Any vessel that is used will be subject to Coast Guard/Environmental Protection Agency certification for cleanliness and be certified as oil free. It will also be made safe for divers. Both of these requirements were met for the wrecks we have placed in San Diego's "Wreck Alley". Diver safety requires cutting line-of-sight holes through the hull and compartments in all directions and removing or welding open any hatches.

The diver-safety preparations will be made with the cooperation and involvement of the Greater Los Angeles Area Council of Divers (GLACD) and will minimize any potential hazard to divers. No diver hazards or vessel-caused diver injuries have ever occurred on any of the wrecks we have similarly prepared and placed. The depth of water over the vessel (at least 30 feet - per Coast Guard requirements) eliminates any potential hazard to rod- and reel-anglers.

## II. Environmental Impacts

### 3. Water

- a. Minor changes in currents will occur within 1 or 2 meters of the vessel. This is due to the slight increase in water velocity that occurs immediately proximal to the vessel as the prevailing surge moves water against the hull. We have observed the result of this action on every wreck and rubble reef we have constructed. It is limited to the immediate 1 or 2 meters of the vessels' perimeter and causes a slight depression around the hull.

### 5. Animal Life

- a. Change in the diversity of species, etc. The area selected for wreck placement currently supports a relatively depauperate sand community. During siting surveys, Department diver/biologists observed a few individuals of the following species:

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<u>Stylatula elongata</u>	white sea pen
<u>Renilla renilla</u>	sea pansy
<u>Astropecter amatus</u>	sand star
<u>Diopatsu ornata</u>	ornate tube worm

The sinking of the vessel will cause the loss of the individuals directly underneath. However, there will be a very significant increase in the numbers of hard substrate dwelling organisms as they recruit to, and develop on, the vessel's surfaces. Observations of other, similar, wreck reefs suggest that the populations of sand-dwelling organisms that were displaced eventually increase in density around the reef site, possibly in response to increased food availability in the form of plankton from the biota recruited to the vessel.

9. Natural Resources

- a. Increase in the rate of use of any natural resources. There will be an increase in the catch of sport fish. Improved recreational fishing is one of the primary goals of the project. Barred sand bass and kelp (or Calico) bass are the target species.

13. Transportation

- e. Alterations to waterborne traffic. The project will tend to localize sport fishing vessel activity to the proximity of the reef. It is probable that there will be no measurable increase in overall fishing boat traffic, but it is possible that, at least initially, there will be a redirection of boating activity to the project site.

19. Recreation

Will the project result in an impact upon the quality or quantity of recreational opportunities? There will be an immediate and long-term positive impact on the quality and quantity of recreational fishing and diving opportunities. This is one of the primary goals and objectives of the project.

III. Discussion of Environmental Evaluation

The project is designed to provide enhanced recreational opportunities for sport fishing and diving. Similar projects in Santa Monica Bay and off San Diego have proven immensely popular with those groups. There is the potential added benefit of the recruitment of giant kelp (Macrocystis) to the vessel's upper surfaces. This would significantly increase the productivity of the area.

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There would be an increased harvest of some sport fish species and an increased number of species of hard bottom dwelling organisms. The site selected is currently a sand plain with little extant biota. The "footprint" of the vessel on the site will be relatively small in relation to the very large sandy areas along that section of coast. No significant negative environmental impacts have been observed on any of the 5-wreck reefs we have placed to date.

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