

MINUTE ITEM
This Calendar Item No. 42
was approved as Minute Item
No. 42 by the State Lands
Commission by a vote of 3
to 0 of its 715 91
meeting.

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CALENDAR ITEM

- 42

07/15/91
W 23256
Dugal
Pelkofer
Hadley

AUTHORIZATION FOR LITIGATION
FOR EJECTMENT AND DAMAGES
FOR UNAUTHORIZED OCCUPATION
OF STATE-OWNED LAND

PARTY:
State Lands Commission
1807 - 13th Street
Sacramento, California 95814

AREA, TYPE LAND AND LOCATION:

A 640-acre parcel of State school land (Sec. 36, T10S R14E, SBM) located in Imperial County, approximately three miles east of the town of Niland. The Chocolate Mountain Aerial Gunnery Range lies immediately adjacent to northeast. The parcel had a number of improvements, including a road system (paved and dirt), water tanks, and sewage pond. The Coachella Canal (USBR authorized right-of-way) crosses the northeast quarter of the section.

BACKGROUND:

Numerous individuals with a variety of trailers and campers are occupying a parcel of State school land, commonly referred to as "Slab City", located in the California desert in Imperial County. The site was taken over by the Federal Government during World War II for defense purposes and subsequently relinquished back to the State in 1961. Buildings were removed from the site but their "slabs" remain. In recent years, the site has become a popular gathering place for numerous temporary winter residents, as well as an estimated core of current permanent residents (50 to 100), according to the Niland Sheriff's Office.

CURRENT SITUATION:

Staff received approval from the Commission to offer the property for sale via the competitive bid process. Bidding took place in April of this year, and no qualifying bids were received.

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(ADDED pgs. 129 - 129.2)

CALENDAR PAGE 239
MINUTE PAGE 2198

Staff believes that the lack of qualifying bids was not due to a lack of interest in the property, but due at least in part, to the trespass problem. Staff believes that the property should be cleared of all unauthorized occupants before the property is again offered for sale by competitive bid.

AB 884:
N/A.

EXHIBIT:
A. Site Map.

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE COMMISSION:

1. FIND THAT THE ACTIVITY IS EXEMPT FROM THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE CEQA PURSUANT TO 14 CAL. CODE REGS. 15061 BECAUSE THE ACTIVITY IS NOT A PROJECT AS DEFINED BY P.R.C. 21065 AND 14 CAL. CODE REGS. 15378.
2. AUTHORIZE STAFF COUNSEL AND/OR THE OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL TO TAKE ALL STEPS NECESSARY, INCLUDING LITIGATION, TO TERMINATE THE CONTINUING UNAUTHORIZED OCCUPATION OF STATE-OWNED SCHOOL LAND IN IMPERIAL COUNTY (SECTION 36, T10S R14E, SBM).

CALENDAR PAGE	889 . 1
MINUTE PAGE	2197

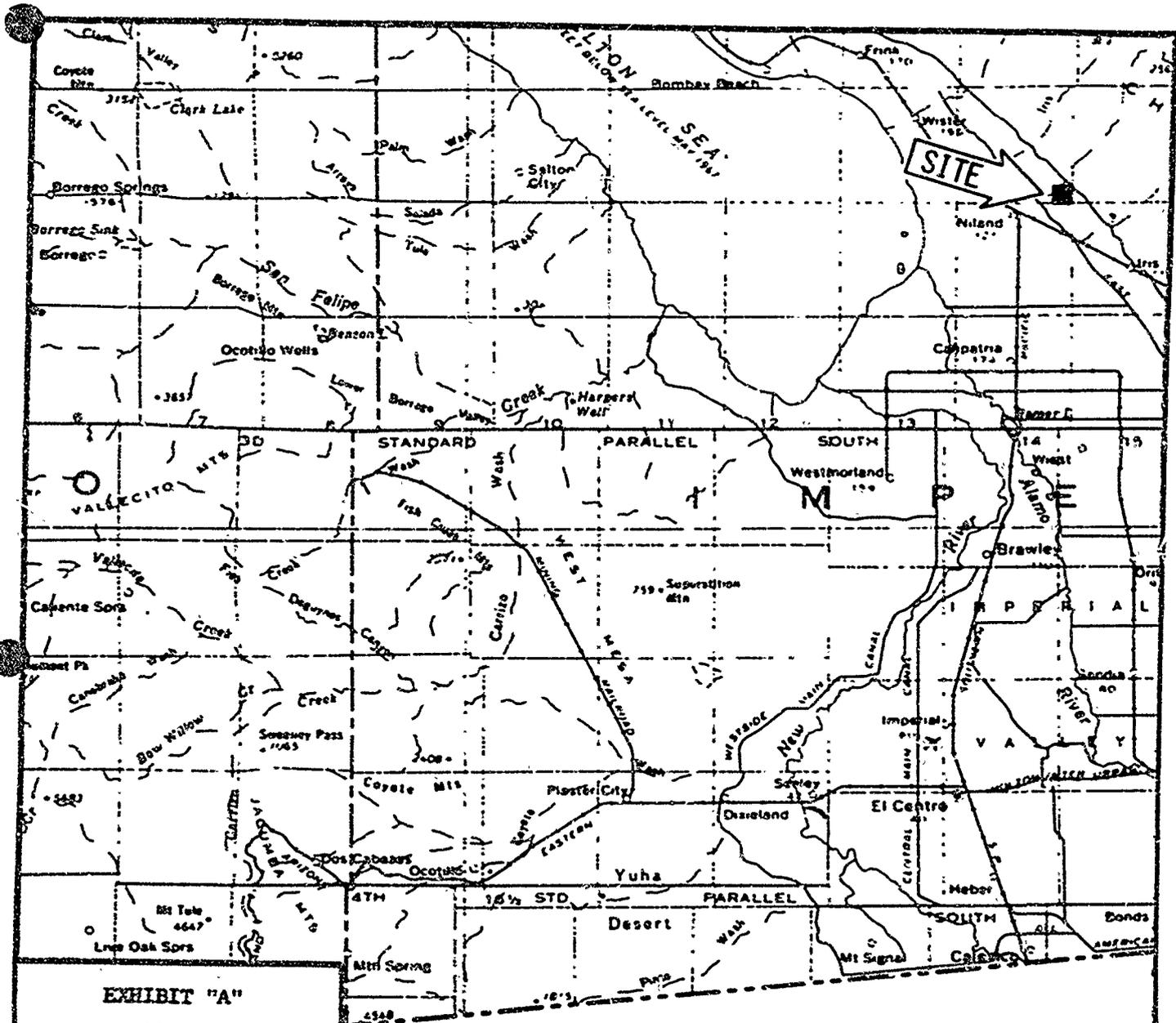


EXHIBIT "A"
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CALENDAR PAGE 219
MINUTE PAGE 219