

MINUTE ITEM

This Calendar Item No. C70 was approved as Minute Item No. 70 by the State Land Commission by a vote of 3 to 0 at its 7/6/95 meeting.

CALENDAR ITEM
C70

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Pelkofer

07/06/95

SCIENTIFIC EXPLORATORY PERMIT - INFORMATION COLLECTION

APPLICANT:

Los Angeles Maritime Museum
Project Coordinator: Sheli O. Smith, Ph.D.
Institutional Affiliation : Los Angeles Maritime Museum
Address: Berth 84, San Pedro, California 90731

AREA, LAND TYPE AND LOCATION:

Tide and submerged land in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta.

LAND USE:

Non-intrusive Marine Remote Underwater and Sub-surface Survey of Steamboat Slough, Sacramento River.

TERMS OF PROPOSED PERMIT:

Permit period: July and August 1995
Project period: July 15, 1995 to August 6, 1995

CONSIDERATION:

The public benefit.

BASIS FOR CONSIDERATION:

Pursuant to 2. Cal. Code Regs. 2003(a) (4) (A).

STATUTORY AND OTHER REFERENCES:

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

AB 884: N/A

OTHER PERTINENT INFORMATION:

- 1. In anticipation of the sesquicentennial of the California Gold Rush in 1998, the Los Angeles Maritime Museum is taking the lead in a multi-institutional collaboration to

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explore and interpret for the public the interrelated social, economic and technological aspects of the California Gold Rush era Delta transport systems and communities that linked San Francisco to the gold camps of the Sierras. The Delta Project is a multi-year undertaking with various components representing the collaboration of a number of state institutions and a variety of disciplines.

2. The field study will focus on one of the historically significant maritime highways of the Sacramento River delta, Steamboat Slough. During the height of the Gold Rush, Steamboat Slough provided mariners with a seven mile shortcut. During the two week field school students and the general public will be invited to participate in the study through several different venues, including a remote sensing survey, underwater survey of suspected anomalies, and public lectures. The information generated by the survey will be analyzed and synthesized to form the base of a museum photographic exhibit and an interactive multi-media program on CD.
3. The field school will cover the underwater archaeology topics: remote sensing, global positioning, archaeological survey, recognition of specific cultural types, and landscape archaeology. The remote sensing portion of the project will use the following equipment for instruction and survey:
 - Geometrics Magnetometer 866
 - Geometrics Beta Test Siezium Magnetometer
 - Klein Side Scan Sonar 500 kHz
 - Trimble differential Global Positioning system with pseudolite stations.

The specification for the survey line widths and boat speeds will be in keeping with general survey standards. The underwater survey portion of the project and field school will introduce several surveying techniques including; jack stay search patterns, compass bearing

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patterns, circle searches, and probing searches with thin poles. All diving activities will adhere to AAUS scientific diving safety standards. Dive flags will be flown off dive boats in keeping with US Coast Guard regulations and a dive master will be present at all times.

Removal of artifacts will be avoided. However, if any artifacts are removed from the brackish water of the slough for identification each item will be rinsed in fresh water and slow dried. The pieces will be fully recorded in situ and individually. A report containing a description of the artifacts as well as a photograph of each will be provided the State Lands Commission. After stabilization the pieces will be placed with the Rio Vista Historical Society for display. Subsequent transfer of title and possession will be requested by the Rio Vista Historical Society if appropriate.

4. The impact on the submerged environment will be minimal. The remote sensing activity will not disturb the sub-surface or any marine life. The river bed will remain undisturbed with the exception of the recovery of an artifact for identificaiton.
5. Pursuant to the Commission's delegation of authority and the State CEQA Guidelines (14 Cal. Code Regs. 15061), the staff has determined that this activity is exempt from the requirements of the CEQA as a categorically exempt project. The project is exempt under Class 6, Information Collection, 14 Cal. Code Regs. 15106 and 2 Cal. Code Regs. 2905(e) (3).

Authority: P.R.C. 21084 and 14. Cal. Code Regs. 15300 and 2 Cal. Code Regs. 2905.

6. This activity involves lands identified as possessing significant environmental values pursuant to P.R.C. 6370, et seq. Bases upon the staff's consultation with the persons nominating such lands and through the CEQA review

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process, it is the staff's opinion that the project, as proposed, is consistent with its use classification.

EXHIBIT:

A. Location 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 AS A CATEGORICALLY EXEMPT PROJECT, CLASS 6, INFORMATION COLLECTION, 14 CAL. CODE REGS. 15106, 2 CAL. CODER REGS. 2905 (e) (3).
2. AUTHORIZE STAFF TO ISSUE A SCIENTIFIC EXPLORATORY PERMIT INFORMATION COLLECTION, COMMENCING ON THE JULY 1, 1995 FOR A PERIOD OF 60 DAYS, IN CONSIDERATION OF THE PUBLIC BENEFIT, FOR A NON-INTRUSIVE MARINE REMOTE UNDERWATER AND SUB-SURFACE SURVEY OF STEAMBOAT SLOUGH IN THE SACRAMENTO RIVER.

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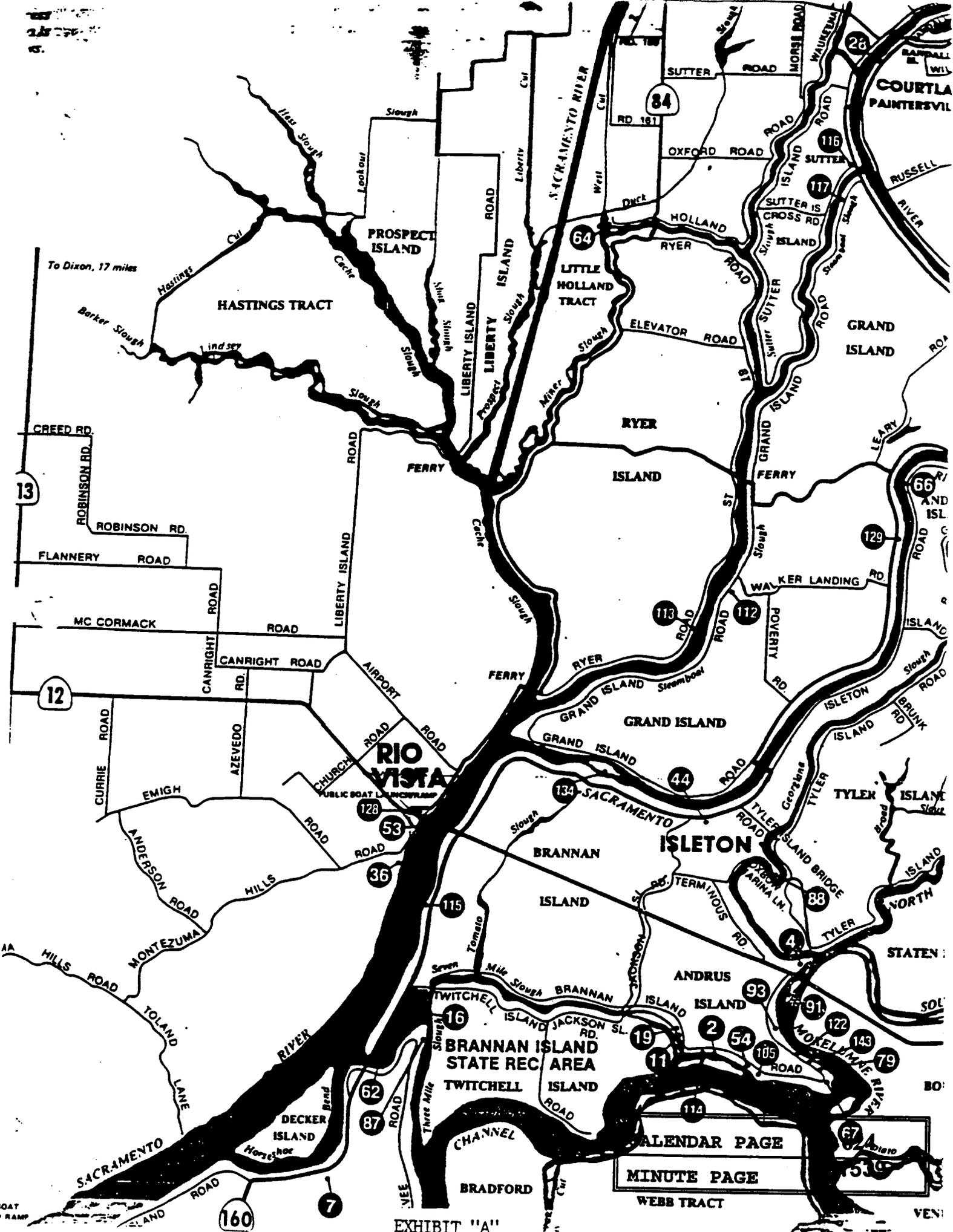


EXHIBIT "A"