

**MINUTE ITEM**

This Calendar Item No. C77 was approved as Minute Item No. 77 by the California State Lands Commission by a vote of 3 to 0 at its 9-17-01 meeting.

**CALENDAR ITEM**

**C77**

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PRC 8344

09/17/01  
W 6005.88  
A. Nitsche

**CONSIDER APPROVAL OF A NON-EXCLUSIVE GEOPHYSICAL SURVEY PERMIT ON TIDE AND SUBMERGED LANDS UNDER THE JURISDICTION OF THE CALIFORNIA STATE LANDS COMMISSION**

**APPLICANT:**

Venoco, Inc.  
Attn.: Mr. Patrick T. Moran  
5464 Carpinteria Avenue, Suite J  
Carpinteria, CA 93013

**AREA, LAND TYPE AND LOCATION:**

The project area (see Exhibit A, attached hereto) includes privately owned lands and publicly owned lands. Publicly owned lands within the project area include wildlife refuges located on portions of Grizzly Island and Joice Island. The project also includes both uplands and Delta islands. Portions of Grizzly, Hammond, Wheeler, Simmons, Van Sickle, Joice, Chippis, and Dutton Islands are located within the project area. The survey also extends into parts of Kirby Hills and Montezuma Hills areas. Primary waterways within the project area include portions of Montezuma and Nurse Sloughs, and smaller secondary waterways include Roaring River, Spoonbill Creek, Tree, Cross, Noyce, Cutoff, Volani, and Suisun Sloughs.

**BACKGROUND:**

A three dimensional (3D) Seismic Survey of approximately 65 square miles is planned for early summer of 2001. During the survey phase, surveyors will establish a temporary grid of receiver lines and energy source lines within the project area. Typical survey operations would consist of approximately four to six, two to three person crews. The survey crews will use a global positioning system (GPS) to accurately place pin flags and/or wooden laths temporarily at predetermined points. The project proponent is considering various designs for placement of receiver and source points to maximize data quality, while minimizing environmental impact. The orientation of lines will be approximately east/west for receiver lines and southwest/northeast for source lines.

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Passive receiver (geophone) points will be placed 140 feet apart along approximately 50 parallel receiver lines spaced approximately 990 feet apart. Source points (explosive charge buried in a 30-foot hole) will be placed 140 feet apart along approximately 95 parallel source lines spaced approximately 700 feet apart. The estimated number of source points for this option is 13,072, and the estimated number of receiver points for this option is 13,162. The project as proposed would include approximately 349 linear miles of receiver lines and 347 linear miles of source lines. Survey work will be accomplished primarily on foot. However, all-terrain vehicles (ATV's) and a helicopter will be used as necessary for accessing the project area. Lightweight four-wheel drive trucks will be used along existing roads and two track trails.

No shot holes will be drilled in State waterways under this Geophysical Survey Permit and the Permittee is not authorized to utilize cables or geophones in Montezuma or Frost Sloughs or on or within certain other areas which were identified during development of the mitigated negative declaration prepared by Solano County for the survey.

**TERMS OF PROPOSED PERMIT:**

Beginning June 1, 2001, through October 15, 2002.

**PREREQUISITE CONDITIONS, FEES AND EXPENSES:**

Required fees, expense deposit, and other security have been received. The applicant has been notified that the California Department of Fish and Game fee of \$1,250 is due pursuant to Section 711.4 of the Fish and Game Code.

**STATUTORY AND OTHER REFERENCES:**

- A. Public Resources Code section 6826
- B. Public Resources Code section 21080(c)
- C. Public Resources Code section 6870
- D. California Code of Regulations, section Title 2, Article 2.9, 2100
- E. California Code of Regulations, section Title 2, 2905(e)(3)
- F. California Code of Regulations, section Title 14, 15074

**OTHER PERTINENT INFORMATION:**

1. A Mitigated Negative Declaration and Mitigation Monitoring Program was prepared and adopted for this project by Solano County. The California State Lands Commission's staff has reviewed such document.

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2. This activity involves lands identified as possessing significant environmental values pursuant to Public Resources Code sections 6370, et seq.
3. 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.

**EXHIBITS:**

- A. Location Map and Project Area
- B. Survey Area

**PERMIT STREAMLINING ACT DEADLINE:**

N/A

**RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE COMMISSION:

**CEQA FINDINGS:**

1. FIND THAT A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION AND A MITIGATION MONITORING PROGRAM WERE PREPARED AND ADOPTED FOR THIS PROJECT BY SOLANO COUNTY AND THAT THE COMMISSION HAS REVIEWED AND CONSIDERED THE INFORMATION CONTAINED THEREIN.
2. ADOPT THE MITIGATION MONITORING PROGRAM ON FILE IN THE OFFICE OF THE CALIFORNIA STATE LANDS COMMISSION.

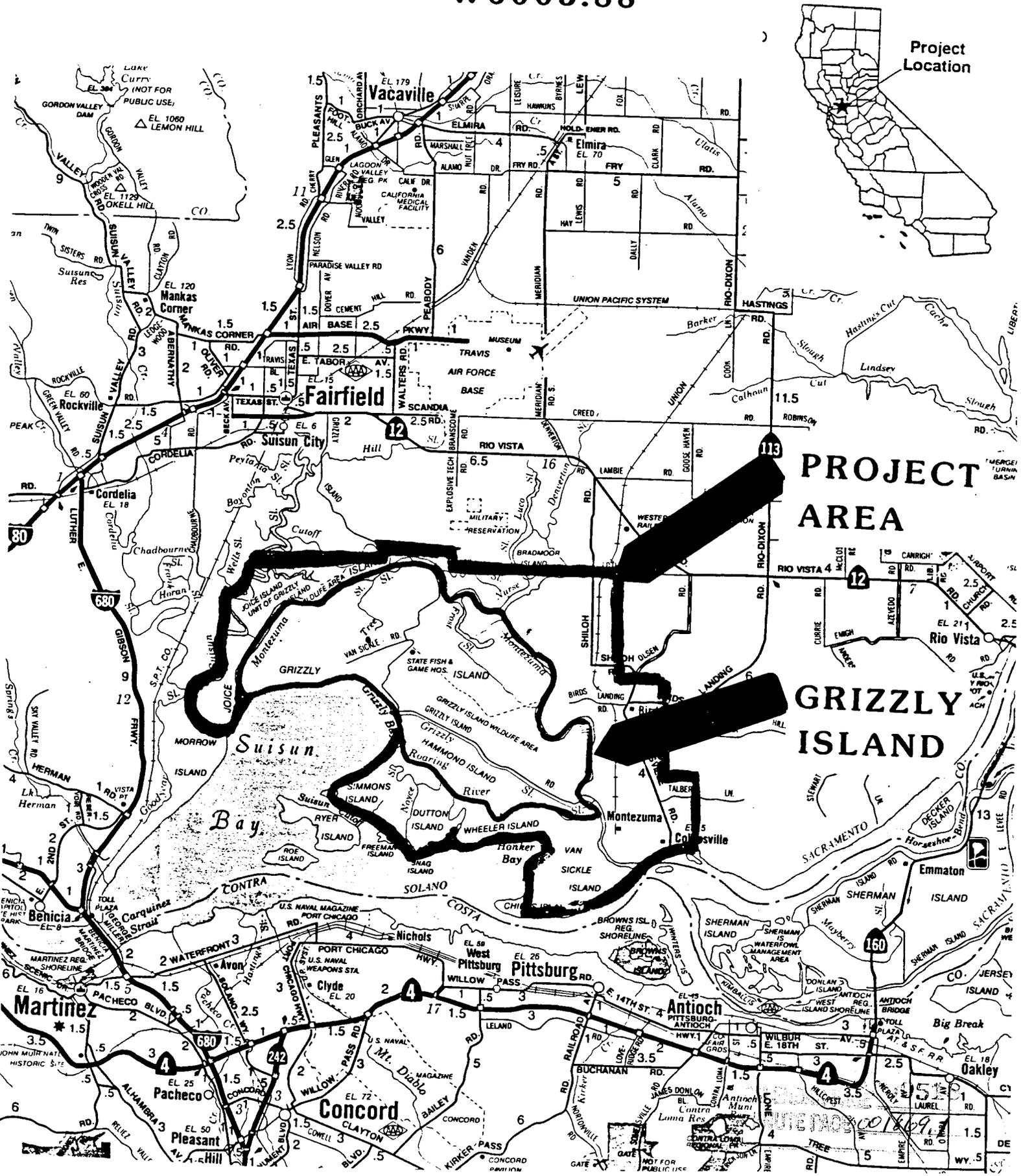
**AUTHORIZATION:**

AUTHORIZE ISSUANCE TO VENOCO, INC., OF A NON-EXCLUSIVE GENERAL PERMIT TO CONDUCT GEOPHYSICAL SURVEYS ON STATE WATERWAYS FOR THE PERIOD JUNE 1, 2001, THROUGH OCTOBER 15, 2002, WITHIN THE SURVEY AREA DESIGNATED ON EXHIBIT A, ATTACHED HERETO.

# EXHIBIT A

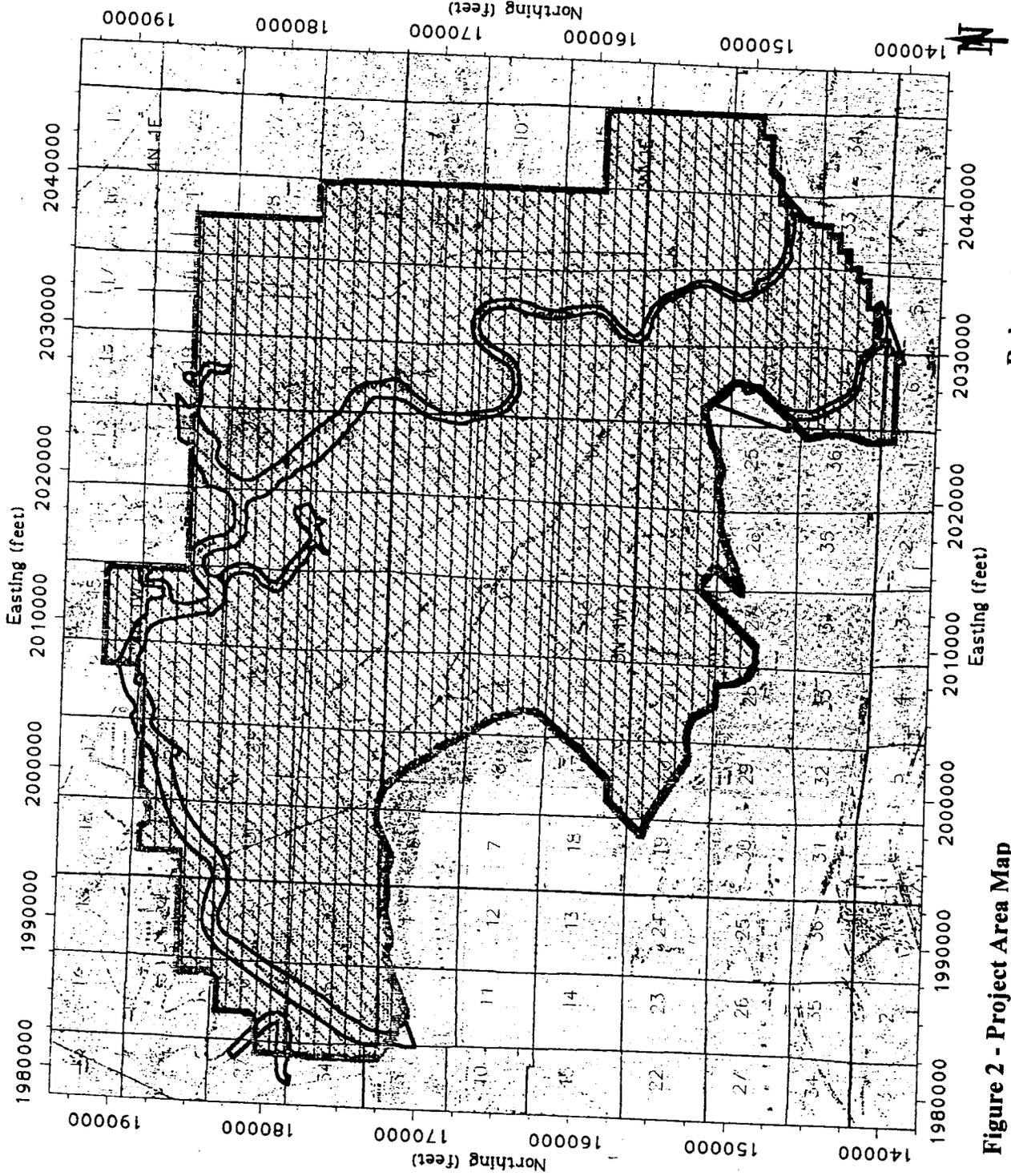
## Venoco, Inc. - Grizzly Island 3D Geophysical Survey

### W6005.88



# EXHIBIT B

## Venoco, Inc. - Grizzly Island 3D Geophysical Survey



Robert A. Booher Consulting

Figure 2 - Project Area Map

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