CALENDAR ITEM

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12/10/10 W 26418 D. Oetzel

DREDGING LEASE

APPLICANT:

Contra Costa Water District P.O. Box H20 Concord, California 94524

AREA, LAND TYPE, AND LOCATION:

Sovereign land located within Mallard Slough, Contra Costa County.

AUTHORIZED USE:

Maintenance dredge a maximum of 3,188 cubic yards of material over the term of the lease to maintain a depth necessary for the clearance of a water intake channel and the proper functioning of a water pump station. Dredged material will be disposed of at the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' designated disposal site SF-9 (Carquinez), and/or other U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' approved sites.

LEASE TERM:

10 years, beginning December 10, 2010.

CONSIDERATION:

No monetary consideration will be charged as the project will result in a public benefit. The dredged material may not be sold.

OTHER PERTINENT INFORMATION:

- 1. The project is needed to dredge sediments along the length of the Contra Costa Water District (CCWD) Mallard Slough Pump Station intake channel to prevent water quality from being negatively impacted and to maintain current pump station capacity.
- 2 The CCWD delivers water to approximately 550,000 people in central and eastern Contra Costa County. The source of CCWD's water is the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta. The Mallard Slough Pump Station is a CCWD water source primarily during winter and spring months, and when necessary, it provides an emergency water supply. The Project is part of

CALENDAR ITEM NO. C28 (CONT'D)

a larger dredging project (41,560 cubic yards) within the CCWD Pump Station intake channel. Commission authorization is not required for the dredging of the other 38,372 cubic yards because it will occur on an artificial portion of the Channel that is outside of the State's sovereign ownership.

 Pursuant to the Commission's delegation of authority and the State CEQA Guidelines (Title 14, California Code of Regulations, section 15061), staff has determined this activity is exempt from the requirements of CEQA as a categorically exempt project. The project is exempt under Class 4, Minor Alterations to Land; Title 14, California Code of Regulations, section 15304(g).

Authority: Public Resources Code section 21084 and Title 14, California Code of Regulations, section 15300.

4. This activity involves lands identified as possessing significant environmental values pursuant to Public Resources Code sections 6370, et seq. Based upon the staff's consultation with the persons nominating such lands and through the CEQA review process, it is staff's opinion that the project, as proposed, is consistent with its use classification.

APPROVALS REQUIRED:

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board

EXHIBIT:

A. Location and Site Map

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

It is recommended that the Commission:

CEQA FINDING:

Find that the activity is exempt from the requirements of CEQA pursuant to Title 14, California Code of Regulations, section 15061 as a categorically exempt project, Class 4, Minor Alterations to Land; Title 14, California Code of Regulations, section 15304(g).

SIGNIFICANT LANDS INVENTORY FINDING:

Find that this activity is consistent with the use classification designated by the Commission for the land pursuant to Public Resources Code sections 6370, et seq.

CALENDAR ITEM NO. C28 (CONT'D)

AUTHORIZATION:

Authorize the issuance of a 10 year dredging lease to Contra Costa Water District, beginning December 10, 2010, to dredge a maximum of 3,188 cubic yards of material during the lease term within the CCWD Mallard Slough Pump Station intake channel as shown on Exhibit A attached and by this reference made a part hereof. Dredged material will be disposed of at the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' designated disposal site SF-9 (Carquinez) and/or other U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' approved sites. Such permitted activity is contingent upon the applicant's compliance with applicable permits, recommendations, or limitations issued by federal, State, and local governments. No monetary consideration will be charged as the dredging project will result in a public benefit. The dredged material may not be sold.

