

**CALENDAR ITEM**

**C89**

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09/20/13

W 26670

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R. Collins

**GENERAL LEASE –  
RECREATIONAL AND PROTECTIVE STRUCTURE USE**

**APPLICANT:**

Todd Seidner, Trustee of the Seidner Family Trust dated June 14, 2001

**AREA, LAND TYPE, AND LOCATION:**

Sovereign land in the Colorado River, adjacent to 1228 Beach Drive, city of Needles, San Bernardino County.

**AUTHORIZED USE:**

Construction, use, and maintenance of a stairway with railing, landing with railing, gangway with railing, floating walkway, floating boat dock; and use and maintenance of an existing riprap bankline.

**LEASE TERM:**

10 years, beginning August 23, 2013.

**CONSIDERATION:**

**Landing with Railing, Gangway with Railing, Floating Walkway, and Floating Boat Dock:** Annual rent in the amount of \$420 per year, with the State reserving the right to fix a different rent periodically during the term of the lease, as provided in the lease.

**Stairway with Railing and Riprap Bankline:** Public use and benefit, with the State reserving the right to set a monetary consideration if it is determined to be in the best interest of the State.

**SPECIFIC LEASE PROVISIONS:**

**Insurance:** Liability insurance in an amount no less than \$1,000,000 per occurrence.

**Other:** Applicant acknowledges that the Public Pedestrian Access Easement shall remain open to the public and that no structures or improvements shall be erected and no personal property placed so as to obstruct or prevent public

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access in and along the Easement. Such improvements include, but are not limited to, fences, walls, railings, or landscaping. Applicant further acknowledges that they shall not place signs or advocate in any other manner in such a way as to prevent or discourage public use of the Public Pedestrian Access Easement.

**OTHER PERTINENT INFORMATION:**

1. Applicant owns the upland adjoining the lease premises.
2. The State of California had its fee ownership of the sovereign land located in the Colorado River at this location confirmed in 1991 as a result of a Boundary Line Agreement and Compromise Settlement entered into between the Commission and Kahala Needles Partners, Ltd., a Nevada Limited Partnership, recorded as AD 134 dated January 1, 1991, and recorded on August 11, 1992, document No. 92-333250, Official Records, San Bernardino County, California. Projects, including new development or maintenance of existing facilities, extending waterward of the Ordinary High Water Mark (OHWM) fixed in the abovementioned Agreement (AD 134) require a lease from the Commission pursuant to Public Resources Code section 6501.1. The Applicant's upland property is located along the Colorado River adjacent to the fixed OHWM.
3. Pursuant to AD 134, the State of California was granted a Public Pedestrian Access Easement running parallel to the fixed OHWM. The Easement is intended to provide public access to and along the bank of the Colorado River. The Easement affects lots 1-40 of the Rio Buena Vista residential subdivision, one of which is the Applicant's property. Public access to the Easement is from the northern or southern end of the subdivision, or from the Colorado River.
4. The United States Department of the Interior, Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation), Yuma Area Office conducted a review by boat of the riprap bankline on March 27, 2002, and also conducted a site visit on April 10, 2002. The inspection revealed that the bankline had been cleared of vegetation and that the federally-applied riprap and federally-constructed jetties were undisturbed and in good condition. By letter dated April 23, 2002, Reclamation acknowledged their capacity to apply additional riprap to the bankline location in the future was compromised due to the pending development of the upland residences and subsequently declared that Reclamation would not provide additional riprap to the bankline location in the future. Consequently, Reclamation decreed that the upland homeowner (Applicant) would be responsible for maintaining protection of

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their own banklines in the future, subject to the homeowners seeking approval and permitting of their riprap or bankline construction work from the United States Army Corps of Engineers under Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899.

5. At its August 14, 2012 meeting, the Commission directed staff to suspend leasing for boat docks in the Rio Buena Vista (RBV) community for no longer than six months while staff conducted an investigation and report back to the Commission on the public trust needs in the area. On October 11, 2012, staff conducted a public meeting in nearby Laughlin, Nevada, to discuss the current conditions at the RBV community and to take comments from residents and interested parties. More than 50 people attended the public meeting and provided comment. Representatives from the U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Army Corps) were also in attendance to provide information on their areas of jurisdiction and to respond to questions. Commission staff also met onsite at the RBV community with Reclamation and Army Corps staff, as well as with RBV residents.

At its December 5, 2012 Commission meeting, the Commission directed staff to resume its processing of applications within the RBV community in Needles, California and to analyze all applications, including those for boat docks on a case-by-case basis and make recommendations to the Commission consistent with the staff report, the Commission's practices on leasing on inland waterways, and the public trust needs in the area.

6. The Applicant has applied for a General Lease – Recreational and Protective Structure Use for existing riprap bankline and to construct a stairway with railing, landing with railing, gangway with railing, floating walkway, and floating boat dock. The stairway to be constructed by the Applicant will be maintained by the Applicant and available to both the Applicant and the public for access to the water. The proposed floating walkway and floating boat dock will be located directly off the riprap bankline and there will be no direct impact to the use of the beach by the public in the immediate area. The riprap bankline mutually benefits both the public and the Applicant, and will be maintained by the Applicant at no cost to the public.
7. Construction of the improvements will begin by September 15, 2013, and will be completed by September 15, 2014.

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8. **New Construction of Stairway with Railing, Landing with Railing, Gangway with Railing, Floating Walkway, and Floating Boat Dock:**

The staff recommends that the Commission find that this activity is exempt from the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) as a categorically exempt project. The project is exempt under Class 3, New Construction or Conversion of Small Structures; California Code of Regulations, Title 14, section 15303.

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

9. **Existing Riprap:**

The staff recommends that the Commission find that this activity is exempt from the requirements of the CEQA as a categorically exempt project. The project is exempt under Class 1, Existing Facilities; California Code of Regulations, Title 2, section 2905, subdivision (a)(2).

Authority: Public Resources Code section 21084 and California Code of Regulations, Title 14, section 15300 and California Code of Regulations, Title 2, section 2905.

10. This activity involves lands identified as possessing significant environmental values pursuant to Public Resources Code section 6370 et seq., but such activity will not affect those significant lands. 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.

**APPROVALS OBTAINED:**

None

**FURTHER APPROVALS REQUIRED:**

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
U.S. Bureau of Reclamation  
California Department of Fish and Wildlife

**EXHIBITS:**

- A. Land Description
- B. Site and Location Map

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**RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

It is recommended that the Commission:

**CEQA FINDING:**

**New Construction of Stairway with Railing, Landing with Railing, Gangway with Railing, Floating Walkway, and Floating Boat Dock:**

Find that the activity is exempt from the requirements of CEQA pursuant to California Code of Regulations, Title 14, section 15061 as a categorically exempt project, Class 3, New Construction or Conversion of Small Structures; California Code of Regulations, Title 14, section 15303.

**Existing Riprap:**

Find that the activity is exempt from the requirements of CEQA pursuant to California Code of Regulations, Title 14, section 15061 as a categorically exempt project, Class 1, Existing Facilities; California Code of Regulations, Title 2, section 2905, subdivision (a)(2).

**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 section 6370 et seq.

**AUTHORIZATION:**

Authorize issuance of a General Lease – Recreational and Protective Structure Use to Todd Seidner, Trustee of the Seidner Family Trust dated June 14, 2001 beginning August 23, 2013, for a term of 10 years, for construction, use, and maintenance of a stairway with railing, landing with railing, gangway with railing, floating walkway, floating boat dock, and an existing riprap bankline as described in Exhibit A and shown on Exhibit B (for reference purposes only) attached and by this reference made a part hereof; consideration for the landing with railing, gangway with railing, floating walkway, and floating boat dock to be \$420 per year; consideration for stairway with railing and riprap bankline to be the public use and benefit with the State reserving the right to set a monetary consideration if it is determined to be in the best interest of the State; liability insurance in an amount no less than \$1,000,000 per occurrence.

## **EXHIBIT A**

**W 26670**

### **LAND DESCRIPTION**

Two parcels of State owned land adjacent to Lot 6 of Tract No. 15640 as shown on Tract Map recorded in Book 261, Pages 88 through 94, inclusive of Maps, in the Office of the County Recorder of San Bernardino County, lying in the bed of the Colorado River, County of San Bernardino, State of California, more particularly described as follows:

#### **PARCEL 1**

BEGINNING at the easterly corner of said Lot 6; thence northwesterly along the northeasterly line of said lot, said line also being the Agreed Boundary Line as described in Exhibit A of Document Number 92-333250, recorded on August 11, 1992, Official Records of said County, N 60° 42' 46" W 43.63 feet to the northerly corner of said lot; thence leaving said northeasterly line and said Agreed Boundary Line, along the northeasterly prolongation of the northwesterly line of said lot N 29° 00' 17" E 40.00 feet; thence S 60° 42' 14" E 43.07 feet to the intersection with the northeasterly prolongation of the southeasterly line of said lot; thence southwesterly along said northeasterly prolongation S 28° 12' 18" W 40.00 feet to the POINT OF BEGINNING.

EXCEPTING THEREFROM any portion lying waterward of the toe of revetment adjacent to said Lot 6.

#### **PARCEL 2**

BEGINNING at a point on the northeasterly line of said Lot 6, said line also being the Agreed Boundary Line as described in Exhibit A of Document Number 92-333250, recorded on August 11, 1992, Official Records of said County, said point bears N 60° 42' 46" W 4.88 feet from the easterly corner of said Lot; thence along said northeasterly line and said Agreed Boundary Line N 60° 42' 46" W 30.01 feet; thence leaving said northeasterly line and said Agreed Boundary Line N 27° 31' 51" E 89.90 feet; thence S 62° 28' 09" E 30.00 feet; thence S 27° 31' 51" W 90.82 feet to the POINT OF BEGINNING.

EXCEPTING THEREFROM any portion lying within above described PARCEL 1.

This description is based on Applicant provided design drawings for a proposed floating dock, floating walkway, gangway, landing and two stairways together with any and all appurtenances pertaining thereto, to build at a later date within the Lease time frame. This description is to be updated once as-built plans are submitted.

**END OF DESCRIPTION**

Prepared 07/15/13 by the California State Lands Commission Boundary Unit



NO SCALE

## SITE

COLORADO  
RIVER

### **LEASE PARCEL 2**

(PROPOSED FLOATING DOCK  
WITH 10' IMPACT AREA,  
FLOATING WALKWAY,  
GANGWAY WITH RAILING  
AND STAIRWAY WITH RAILING)

### **LEASE PARCEL 1**

(EXISTING RIPRAP BANK LINE,  
PROPOSED GANGWAY WITH  
RAILING, STAIRWAYS WITH RAILING  
AND LANDING WITH RAILING)

APPROXIMATE  
TOE OF REVETMENT

APPROXIMATE  
TOP OF REVETMENT

APPROXIMATE  
TOP OF REVETMENT

AGREED BOUNDARY LINE

PUBLIC PEDESTRIAN  
ACCESS EASEMENT

APN 0186-273-06

1228 BEACH DRIVE, NEEDLES

NO SCALE

## LOCATION



MAP SOURCE: USGS QUAD

This Exhibit is solely for purposes of generally defining the lease premises, is based on unverified information provided by the Lessee or other parties and is not intended to be, nor shall it be construed as, a waiver or limitation of any State interest in the subject or any other property.

## **Exhibit B**

W 26670

TODD SEIDNER TRUSTEE

APN 0186-273-06

GENERAL LEASE -  
RECREATIONAL AND  
PROTECTIVE STRUCTURE USE  
SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY



TS 07/15/13