

**CALENDAR ITEM  
C66**

A 10, 14, 15

08/15/14

W 6005.145

S 2, 3, 9

R. B. Greenwood

**CONSIDER APPLICATION FOR A NON-EXCLUSIVE  
GEOPHYSICAL SURVEY PERMIT ON TIDE AND SUBMERGED LANDS  
IN SAN PABLO BAY UNDER THE JURISDICTION OF THE  
CALIFORNIA STATE LANDS COMMISSION**

**APPLICANT:**

United States Geological Survey  
Pacific Coastal and Marine Science Center  
Attn.: Dr. George Tate  
400 Natural Bridges Drive  
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

**BACKGROUND:**

The United States Geological Survey has applied for a low-energy inland waterway Geophysical Permit. These permits are issued to qualified companies to perform geophysical surveys of bays and rivers for purposes such as geotechnical investigation of seismic hazards, sand erosion and deposition studies, optic cable routes, oil and gas pipeline routes, harbor facility bathymetric changes, submerged hazards and debris, and/or location of sunken boats and airplanes. These low-energy surveys typically use equipment such as side-scan sonar and magnetometers. Air guns and other sources of high energy are expressly prohibited in the permit. Upon request, the California State Lands Commission (Commission) will receive copies of all data derived from any and all surveys under the permit.

**TERMS OF PROPOSED PERMIT:**

One (1) week, beginning October 5, 2014, through October 11, 2014.

**PREREQUISITE CONDITIONS, FEES AND EXPENSES:**

Required fees, expense deposit, and other security have been received.

CALENDAR ITEM NO. **C66** (CONT'D)

**STATUTORY AND OTHER REFERENCES:**

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

**OTHER PERTINENT INFORMATION:**

- 1. 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 6, Information Collection; California Code of Regulations, Title 14, section 15306.

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

- 2. 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.

**EXHIBIT:**

- A. Location Map

**RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

It is recommended that the Commission:

**CEQA FINDINGS:**

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 6, Information Collection; California Code of Regulations, Title 14, section 15306.

**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.

CALENDAR ITEM NO. **C66** (CONT'D)

**AUTHORIZATION:**

Authorize issuance of a Non-Exclusive Geophysical Survey Permit to the United States Geological Survey for the purpose of conducting low-energy geophysical surveys from October 5, 2014, through October 11, 2014, within the area of San Pablo bay as designated on Exhibit A, attached hereto.

# EXHIBIT A

