

MINUTE ITEM

This Calendar Item No. 32.
was approved as Minute Item
No. 32. by the State Lands
Commission by a vote of 3
to 0 at its 6-27-79
meeting.

CALENDAR ITEM

32.

WATERSHED AND FOREST REHABILITATION

6/79
W21621
Chatfield

BACKGROUND:

In late October, 1977 State Lands Commission's staff applied to the Employment Development Department (EDD) for Title II, Round 2 funds for watershed and forest rehabilitation. The concept was approved by EDD with the stipulation that "labor for reforestation will be furnished by California Conservation Corps (CCC) under the supervision of the Department of Forestry (CDF) and the State Lands Commission".

On November 18, 1977, EDD and the Department of Finance approved \$500,172 for an 18-month period which commenced January 1, 1978. In late December of 1977, the "Section 28" application was approved by the Legislature. The contracts for the first 6 months (expiring June 30, 1978), were approved by the Commission on January, 1978 (Minute Item No. 38).

The Commission authorized the execution of interagency agreements with EDD, CDF and CCC for project funding, supervision and implementation; execution of access and road maintenance agreements; commencement of bid procedures for site preparation contracts; and all other measures except commencing of actual work at the June 22, 1978 meeting (Minute Item #12). Then at the August 1978 meeting (Minute Item #31), the Commission authorized the awarding of contracts and the commencement of actual work for Fiscal Year 1978-1979.

EDD staff has recently advised State Lands Commission staff that this program has tentatively been scheduled to be extended for one fiscal year, (to June 30, 1980). However, no new funding is involved. State Lands Commission staff estimates that approx. \$150,000 to \$170,000 remain unencumbered and is available for the program. In order to maximize the funds available the contract

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with CDF for a full time forester will not be renewed. A Service Forester will be used on occasion. Also, CCC has expressed the desire, for the extension period, to treat State Lands Commission as it does other state agency project sponsors; that is, to not charge for crew labor but only for transportation and per diem expenses. It is anticipated that approximately 400 acres will be planted in the 1979-80 Fiscal Year.

During the current Fiscal Year approximately 118,150 trees on 9 sites (involving 280 acres) were planted. In the spring of 1978 approximately 44,000 seedlings on 3 sites (involving 110 acres) were planted.

ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION:

An EIR was prepared for this entire project as a 3½ year project. It was circulated pursuant to CEQA and the State EIR Guidelines, and was approved by the Commission at the August 1978 meeting. It is identified by Clearinghouse #78062048. This proposal to continue the project is covered by that EIR, and no further documentation is necessary.

Some of the candidate parcels for the continuation of the project contain significant environmental values under P.R.C. 6370 et seq. The staff has determined that the reforestation envisaged will not endanger these values; the prescription for these sites will include protection of the identified values.

EXHIBIT: A. Proposed Planting Sites.

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE COMMISSION:

1. DETERMINE THAT A SEPARATE EIR HAS NOT BEEN PREPARED FOR THIS ACTIVITY AS SUCH REPORT IS NOT REQUIRED UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF P.R.C. 21166, AND 14 CAL. ADM. CODE 15068, BECAUSE FINAL EIR NO. 221 APPROVED BY COMMISSION AT ITS AUGUST 1978, MEETING ADEQUATELY ADDRESSES THE IMPACT OF THIS PROJECT.

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2. AUTHORIZE EXECUTION OF CONTRACT EXTENSION WITH EDD FOR THE 1979-1980 FISCAL YEAR AND SUBSEQUENT INDIVIDUAL PROJECT AGREEMENTS WITH CCC.
3. AUTHORIZE THE COMMENCEMENT OF BIDDING PROCEDURES, SITE PREPARATION, PLANTING AND OTHER MEASURES RELATED TO THE PROJECT FOR FISCAL YEAR 1979-1980.
4. APPROVE THE CONTINUATION OF THE DELEGATION OF AUTHORITY TO THE DEPUTY CHIEF, DIVISION OF LAND MANAGEMENT AND CONSERVATION TO ACT IN THE CAPACITY OF PROJECT FORESTER AND TO TAKE SUCH OTHER MEASURES AS MAY BE NECESSARY IN FURTHERANCE OF SAID PROJECT.

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