

BATE STEVEN

Form 4

December 19, 2017

**FORM 4****UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
Washington, D.C. 20549**

Check this box  
if no longer  
subject to  
Section 16.  
Form 4 or  
Form 5  
obligations  
may continue.  
See Instruction  
1(b).

**STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF  
SECURITIES**

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934,  
Section 17(a) of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 or Section  
30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

## OMB APPROVAL

OMB  
Number: 3235-0287  
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2005  
Estimated average  
burden hours per  
response... 0.5

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person \*  
BATE STEVEN

(Last) (First) (Middle)

2105 CITYWEST  
BOULEVARD, SUITE 100

(Street)

HOUSTON, TX 77042-2855

(City) (State) (Zip)

2. Issuer Name **and** Ticker or Trading  
Symbol

ION GEOPHYSICAL CORP [IO]

3. Date of Earliest Transaction  
(Month/Day/Year)

12/15/2017

4. If Amendment, Date Original  
Filed(Month/Day/Year)

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to  
Issuer

(Check all applicable)

\_\_\_\_ Director \_\_\_\_ 10% Owner  
\_\_\_\_X\_\_\_\_ Officer (give title \_\_\_\_ Other (specify  
below) below)

EVP &amp; CFO

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check  
Applicable Line)  
\_\_\_\_X\_\_\_\_ Form filed by One Reporting Person  
\_\_\_\_ Form filed by More than One Reporting  
Person

**Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned**

1. Title of Security (Instr. 3)	2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	3. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)	4. Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5)		5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
			Code	V	Amount	(A) or (D) Price		
Common Stock	12/15/2017		P		27,000	A \$ 13.6768 <sup>(1)</sup>	113,595	D
Common Stock	12/15/2017		M <sup>(2)</sup>		100,000	A \$ 3.1	213,595	D
Common Stock	12/15/2017		D <sup>(2)</sup>		100,000	D \$ 13.05	113,595	D

Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly.

**Persons who respond to the collection of  
information contained in this form are not  
required to respond unless the form**

SEC 1474  
(9-02)

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displays a currently valid OMB control number.

**Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned**  
(e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)

1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 3)	2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	4. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)	5. Number of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)	6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)	7. Title and Underlying Security (Instr. 3 and 4)	
				Code	V (A) (D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title
Stock Appreciation Right	\$ 3.1	12/15/2017		M <sup>(2)</sup>	100,000	03/01/2017 <sup>(3)</sup>	03/01/2026	Common Stock

## Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
BATE STEVEN 2105 CITYWEST BOULEVARD SUITE 100 HOUSTON, TX 77042-2855			EVP & CFO	

## Signatures

Rebecca F. Sacco,  
attorney-in-fact  
12/19/2017

\_\_Signature of Reporting Person

Date

## Explanation of Responses:

\* If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, see Instruction 4(b)(v).

\*\* Intentional misstatements or omissions of facts constitute Federal Criminal Violations. See 18 U.S.C. 1001 and 15 U.S.C. 78ff(a).

This transaction was executed in multiple trades at prices ranging from \$13.60 to \$13.75, inclusive. The price set forth above reflects the weighted-average price per share. The reporting person hereby undertakes to provide upon request to the SEC staff, the issuer or a security holder of the issuer full information regarding the number of shares and prices at which the transactions were effected.

Exercise of cash-settled SARs. In accordance with the rules for filing Form 4, the exercise of cash-settled SARs is treated as the simultaneous purchase of the number of shares for which SARs are exercised and the sale of the same number of shares. No shares actually changed hands.

(3) Compensation Committee approved acceleration of the vesting of the second tranche on 12/13/2017. Final tranche to vest as scheduled on 03/01/2019.

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, see Instruction 6 for procedure.

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