



CULTURAL RESOURCE INVESTIGATION IN SUPPORT OF THE PALMDALE LOGISTICS PARK PROJECT, CITY OF PALMDALE, LOS ANGELES COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

June 1, 2022



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Prepared by:

Kyle Knabb, Ph.D., RPA
Gena Granger, M.A., RPA

Prepared for:

T&B Planning

Technical Report No.: 22-210

PaleoWest, LLC

517 South Ivy Avenue
Monrovia, California 91016
(626) 408-8006

June 1, 2022

Keywords: CEQA; Palmdale; 75-acre survey, Antelope Valley; Los Angeles County

MANAGEMENT SUMMARY

PaleoWest, LLC (PaleoWest) was contracted by T&B Planning to conduct a Phase I cultural resource assessment for the proposed Palmdale Logistics Park Project (Project). The proposed Project involves the development of the Project area for industrial/commercial purposes in Los Angeles County, California. The Project requires compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and the City of Palmdale (City) is the Lead Agency for the purposes of the CEQA.

This report summarizes the methods and results of the cultural resource investigation of the Project area. The investigation included background research, communication with the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) and local Native American groups, a cultural resource survey of the Project area, and resource documentation and evaluation. The purpose of the investigation was to determine the potential for the Project to impact archaeological and historical resources under CEQA.

A cultural resource records search and literature review was completed at the South Central Coastal Information Center (SCCIC) of the California Historical Resource Information System (CHRIS) housed at University of California, Riverside. The records search indicated that 27 previous cultural resource studies have been conducted within one-half-mile of the Project area, resulting in the documentation of three cultural resources: two Historic Period resources (one refuse scatter and one water conveyance system) and a Prehistoric Period resource (one milling and lithic reduction site). None of the previously recorded cultural resources were documented within the Project area.

As part of the cultural resource assessment of the Project area, PaleoWest also requested a search of the Sacred Lands File (SLF) from the NAHC. Results of the SLF search indicate that there are no known Native American cultural resources within the immediate Project area. The NAHC suggested contacting nine individuals representing six local Native American groups to determine if they have any additional information about sensitive Native American resources in the Project area. Outreach letters were sent to the recommended tribal contacts. To date, four responses have been received.

PaleoWest completed a pedestrian survey of the Project area on March 28 and 29, 2022. One Historic Period archaeological resource (22-0100-01H) was identified during the survey. No prehistoric or historic built-environment resources were documented within the Project area. An evaluation of significance indicates that none of the resources meet the criteria for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources (CRHR). Based on the paucity of substantial prehistoric archaeological remains in the Project vicinity, a review of the underlying geology, the Project's location adjacent to Amargosa Creek, and the results of the survey, the Project area appears to have a low to moderate sensitivity for buried archaeological sites.

Based on these findings, PaleoWest does not recommend any additional cultural resource management for the proposed Project. In the unlikely event that cultural resources are encountered during construction activities associated with the Project, a qualified archaeologist shall be obtained to assess the significance of the find in accordance with the criteria set forth in the CRHR. In addition, Health and Safety Code 7050.5, CEQA 15064.5(e), and Public Resources Code 5097.98 mandate the process to be followed in the unlikely event of an accidental discovery of any human remains in a location other than a dedicated cemetery.

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1 INTRODUCTION

PaleoWest, LLC (PaleoWest) was contracted by T&B Planning to conduct a Phase I cultural resource assessment for the proposed Palmdale Logistics Park Project (Project), in the city of Palmdale, Los Angeles County, California. The Project requires compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The City of Palmdale (City) is the Lead Agency for the purposes of the CEQA.

1.1 PROJECT LOCATION AND DESCRIPTION

The Project area is within the city of Palmdale along Colombia Way (Avenue M), northwest of the Palmdale Regional Airport and west of the Southern Pacific Railroad and Sierra Highway (Figure 1-1). The Project area totals approximately 75 acres. The Project is within Section 3, Township 6 North, Range 12 West, San Bernardino Baseline and Meridian (SBBM), as depicted on the Lancaster West, CA 7.5' U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) topographic quadrangle map (Figure 1-2). The elevation of the Project area ranges between 2525 and 2545 feet (ft) above mean sea level (amsl). Although the Project is still in the planning phases, it is anticipated that the Project will consist of the development of the Project area for industrial/commercial purposes.

1.2 REPORT ORGANIZATION

This report documents the results of a cultural resource investigation completed for the proposed Project. Section 1 introduced the Project location and description. Section 2 states the regulatory context that should be considered for the Project. Section 3 synthesizes the natural and cultural setting of the Project area and surrounding region. The results of the existing cultural resource data literature and resource record review, the Sacred Lands File (SLF) search, and a summary of the Native American communications is presented in Section 4. Section 5 presents the research design for the investigation. The field methods employed during this investigation and findings are outlined in Section 6 with management recommendation provided in Section 7. This is followed by bibliographic references and appendices.



Figure 1-1. Project vicinity map.

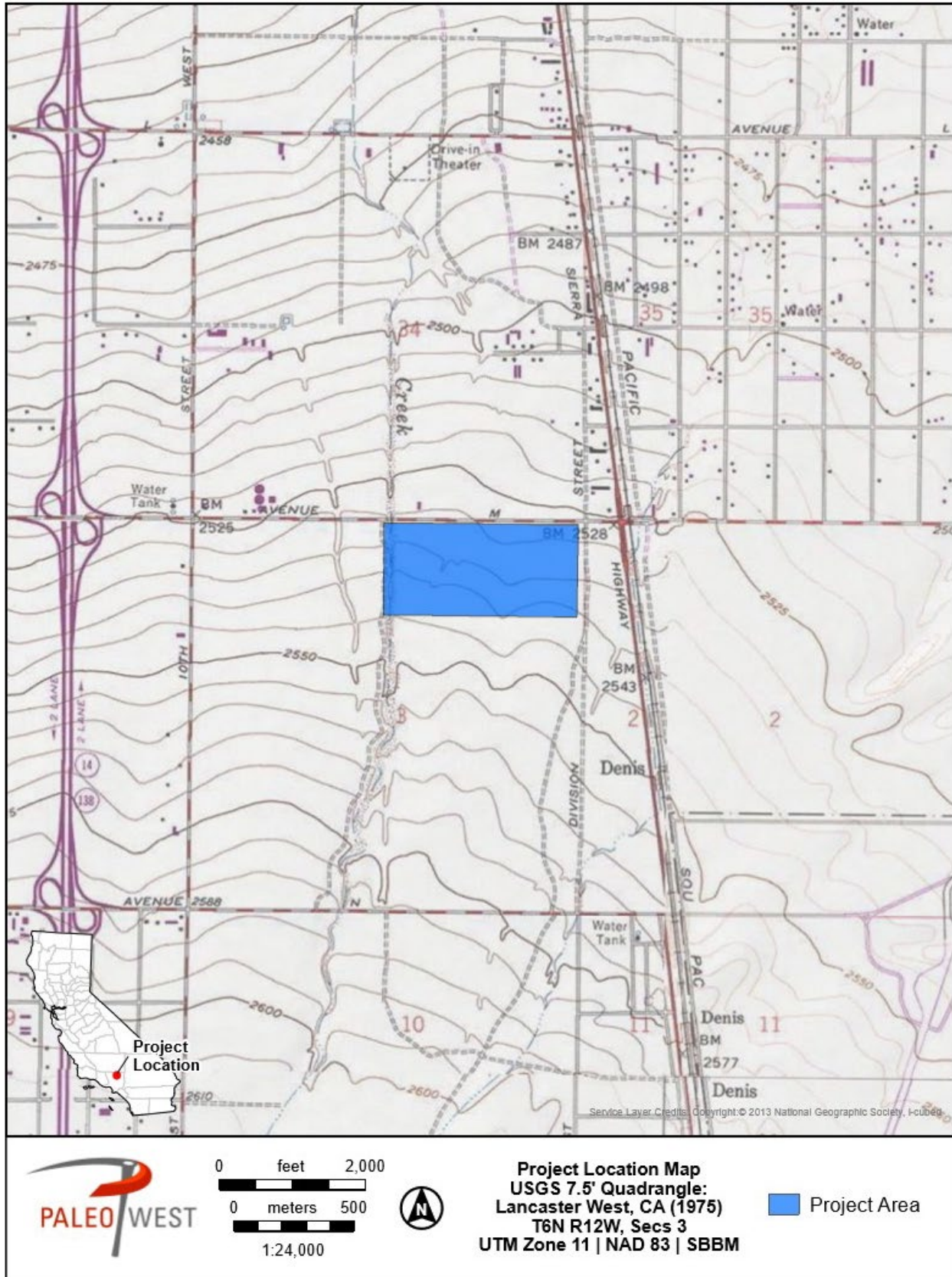


Figure 1-2. Project location map.

2 REGULATORY CONTEXT

2.1 STATE

2.1.1 California Environmental Quality Act

The proposed Project is subject to compliance with CEQA, as amended. Compliance with CEQA statutes and guidelines requires both public and private projects with financing or approval from a public agency to assess the project's impact on cultural resources (Public Resources Code Section 21082, 21083.2, and 21084 and California Code of Regulations 10564.5). The first step in the process is to identify cultural resources that may be impacted by the project and then determine whether the resources are "historically significant" resources.

CEQA defines historically significant resources as "resources listed or eligible for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources (CRHR)" (Public Resources Code Section 5024.1). A cultural resource may be considered historically significant if the resource is 45 years old or older, possesses integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association.¹ In addition, it must meet at least one of the following criteria for listing on the CRHR:

1. Is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of California's history and cultural heritage;
2. Is associated with the lives of persons important in our past;
3. Embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, region, or method of construction, or represents the work of an important creative individual, or possesses high artistic values; or,
4. Has yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history (Public Resources Code Section 5024.1).

Cultural resources are buildings, sites, humanly modified landscapes, traditional cultural properties, structures, or objects that may have historical, architectural, cultural, or scientific importance. CEQA states that if a project will have a significant impact on important cultural resources, deemed "historically significant," then project alternatives and mitigation measures must be considered.

2.1.2 California Assembly Bill 52

Signed into law in September 2014, California Assembly Bill 52 (AB 52) created a new class of resources (tribal cultural resources [TCRs]) for consideration under CEQA. TCRs may include sites, features, places, cultural landscapes, sacred places, or objects with cultural value to California Native American tribes that are listed or determined to be eligible for listing in the CRHR, included in a local register of historical resources, or a resource determined by the lead CEQA agency, in its discretion and supported by substantial evidence, to be significant and

¹ The Office of Historic Preservation (OHP) guidelines recognize a 45-year-old criteria threshold for documenting and evaluating cultural resources (assumes a 5-year lag between resource identification and the date that planning decisions are made) (OHP 1995:2). The age threshold is an operational guideline and not specific to CEQA statutory or regulatory codes.

eligible for listing on the CRHR. AB 52 requires that the lead CEQA agency consult with California Native American tribes that have requested consultation for projects that may affect tribal cultural resources. The lead CEQA agency shall begin consultation with participating Native American tribes prior to the release of a negative declaration, mitigated negative declaration, or environmental impact report. Under AB 52, a project that has potential to cause a substantial adverse change to a tribal cultural resource constitutes a significant effect on the environment unless mitigation reduces such effects to a less than significant level.

2.2 LOCAL

2.2.1 City of Palmdale General Plan

The General Plan's Environmental Resources Element includes one goal to protect cultural resources. The goal and its associated objectives and policies are as follows:

GOAL ER7: Protect historical and culturally significant resources which contribute to the community's sense of history.

Objective ER7.1: Promote the identification and preservation of historic structures, historic sites, archaeological sites, and paleontological resources in the City.

- **Policy ER7.1.1:** Identify and recognize historic landmarks from Palmdale's past.
- **Policy ER7.1.2:** Promote maintenance, rehabilitation, and appropriate reuse of identified landmarks where feasible.
- **Policy ER7.1.3:** Require that new development protect significant historic, paleontological, or archaeological resources, or provide for other appropriate mitigation.
- **Policy ER7.1.4:** Develop and maintain a cultural sensitivity map. Require special studies/surveys to be prepared for any development proposals in areas reasonably suspected of containing cultural resources, or as indicated on the sensitivity map.
Policy
- **Policy ER7.1.5:** When human remains, suspected to be of Native American origin are discovered, cooperate with the Native American Heritage Commission and any local Native American groups to determine the most appropriate disposition of the human remains and any associated grave goods.
- **Policy ER7.1.6:** Cooperate with private and public entities whose goals are to protect and preserve historic landmarks and important cultural resources.

3 SETTING

This section of the report summarizes information regarding the physical and cultural setting of the Project area, including the Prehistoric, Ethnographic, and Historic contexts of the general area. Several factors—including topography, available water sources, and biological resources—affect the nature and distribution of Prehistoric, Ethnographic, and Historic Period human activities in an area. This background provides a context for understanding the nature of the cultural resources that may be identified within the region.

3.1 ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING

The Project area is within the Antelope Valley in the western Mojave Desert. The Mojave Desert is bounded on the west by the Sierra Nevada Mountains, on the south by the Transverse and Peninsular ranges, on the southeast and east by the Yuma and Colorado deserts, and on the north by the Great Basin. The western Mojave Desert comprises several valleys, including the Antelope Valley, Fremont Valley, Victor Valley, Lucerne Valley, along with the Mojave River and the Barstow area.

Geologically, the Mojave Desert region is a wedge-shaped fault block, which has been termed the “Mojave Block” (Dibblee 1967:4). It is bounded by the San Andreas and Garlock fault zones on the southwest and north, respectively. Rocks within the western Mojave Desert region can be grouped into three main divisions that include crystalline rocks of pre-Tertiary age; sedimentary and volcanic rock of Tertiary age; and sediments and local basalt flows of Quaternary age. Units of the pre-Tertiary crystalline rocks and Quaternary sediments and basalt are widespread with Tertiary volcanic and sedimentary rocks more limited in their areal distribution (Dibblee 1967).

The Mojave is a warm-temperature desert between the subtropical Sonoran Desert to the south and the cold-temperature Great Basin to the north. The arid Mojave Desert is characterized by sparse rainfall, ranging from 5–25 centimeters (cm) (2–10 inches [in]) per year. Some areas receive as little as 2.5 cm (1 in) of annual precipitation, while others receive more than 25 cm (10 in) (Warren 1984:342). The Palmdale area receives approximately 9 in of precipitation annually. The present day climate and concomitant vegetation within the Mojave Desert was substantially different during the so-called Wisconsin Glacial Stage (60,000–10,500 years Before Present [B.P.]), where the climate was influenced by the massive continental ice sheets that resulted in cooler summer and warmer winter temperatures than at present (Bupp et al. 1998, as cited in Basgall and Overly 2004).

The Joshua tree is often used as the common vegetative marker of the Mojave Desert (Sutton 1996:223), although the creosote bush is considered to be the dominant plant of both the Mojave and Colorado deserts (Grayson 1993; Warren 1984:342). Lower elevations of the Mojave Desert are dominated by creosote bush with higher elevations giving way to yuccas and agaves and piñon-juniper habitats. Other vegetation may include catclaw acacia, white brittlebush, white bursage, barrel and hedgehog cactus, littleleaf krameria, ocotillo, desert sand verbena, branched pencil and teddybear cholla, coastal bladderpod, desert agave, Douglas and rubber rabbit brush, Mojave yucca, beavertail, prickly pear, jojoba, desert senna, and Anderson’s wolfberry. Various forbs and grasses also vary but can be found throughout desert scrub habitats (Mayer and Laudenslayer 1988:88).

Large game animals are rare in the Mojave Desert, as seen by deer (*Odocoileus hemionus*) and black bear (*Ursus americanus*), which make infrequent treks from the nearby Sierra Nevada slopes. More common to the desert floor are various reptiles and rodents, such as Couch’s spadefoot toad (*Scaphiopus couchii*), desert tortoise (*Xerobates [Gopherus] agassizii*), chuckwalla (*Sauromalus obesus*), leopard lizard (*Crotaphytus wislizenii*), horned lizard (*Prynosoma platyrhinos*), Mojave rattlesnake (*Crotalus scutulatus*), whitetail antelope squirrel (*Ammospermophilus leucurus*), and kangaroo rats (*Dipodomys spp.*). Other species found in the Mojave include blacktail jackrabbit (*Lepus californicus*), desert cottontail (*Sylvilagus audubonii*), kit fox (*Vulpes macrotis*) coyote (*Canis latrans*), and bobcat (*Lynx rufus*) (Laudenslayer and

Boggs 1988:114; Martyn and Moore 1996). More than 300 species of birds are known to inhabit the northern Mojave Desert.

3.2 PREHISTORIC SETTING

Over the past century, archaeologists have generally divided the prehistory of the Western Mojave Desert into five distinct periods or sequences distinguished by specific material (i.e., technological) or cultural traits. Early cultural chronologies were proposed by Amsden (1937), Campbell and Campbell (1937), and Rogers (1939), that were later adapted by Warren and Crabtree (1986) and further detailed by Warren in 1984. Alternative sequences have since emerged (e.g., Bettinger and Taylor 1974) proposing new nomenclature (e.g., Newberry Period vs. Rose Spring Period vs. Saratoga Springs), slightly adjusted cultural chronologies, or attempting to link the Great Basin chronological framework to the Mojave Desert.

Recently, Sutton et al. (2007:233) proposed a cultural-ecological chronological framework based on climatic periods (e.g., Early Holocene) “to specify spans of calendric time and cultural complexes (e.g., Lake Mojave Complex) to denote specific archaeological manifestations that existed during (and across) those periods.” In this scheme, the cultural history for the area is divided into the Late Pleistocene (10,000–8000 calibrated [cal] B.P.), the Early Holocene (8000–6000 cal B.P.), the Middle Holocene (7000–3000 cal B.P.), and the Late Holocene (2000 cal B.P. to Contact). The new sequence draws heavily from Warren and Crabtree (1986) and Warren (1984), as well as from the vast body of recent archaeological research conducted in the region.

3.2.1 Pleistocene (ca. 10,000–8000 cal B.P.)

The earliest cultural complex recognized in the Mojave Desert is Clovis, aptly named for the fluted projectiles often associated with Pleistocene megafaunal remains. Arguments for pre-Clovis Paleoindian human occupation in the Mojave Desert rely on relatively sparse evidence and unpublished data, although in light of the growing body of evidence suggesting a pre-Clovis occupation of the Americas, the argument cannot simply be ruled out. Paleoindian culture is poorly understood in the region due to a relative dearth of evidence stemming from a handful of isolated fluted point discoveries and one presumed occupation site on the shore of China Lake. Archaeologists tend to interpret the available data as evidence of a highly mobile, sparsely populated hunting society that occupied temporary camps near permanent Pleistocene water sources.

3.2.2 Early Holocene (ca. 8000–6000 cal B.P.)

Two archaeological patterns are recognized during the Early Holocene: the Lake Mojave Complex (sometimes referred to as the Western Pluvial Lakes Tradition) and the Pinto Complex. The Lake Mojave Complex is characterized by stemmed projectile points of the Great Basin Series, abundant bifaces, steep-edged unifaces, and crescents. Archaeologists have also identified, in less frequency, cobble-core tools and ground stone implements. The Pinto Complex, on the other hand, is distinguished primarily by the presence of Pinto-style projectile points. Although evidence suggests some temporal overlap, the inception of the Pinto Complex is assigned to the latter part of the Early Holocene and is generally considered a Middle Holocene cultural complex.

During this period, the Lake Mojave cultural complex used more extensive foraging ranges, as indicated by an increased frequency of extra-local materials. Spheres of influence expanded, as potential long-distance trade networks were established between desert and coastal peoples. Groups were still highly mobile but practiced a more forager-like settlement-subsistence strategy. Residential sites indicate more extensive periods of occupation and recurrent use. In addition, residential and temporary sites also indicated a diverse social economy, characterized by discrete workshops and special-use camps (e.g., hunting camps). Diet also appears to have diversified, with a shift away from dependence upon lacustrine environments such as lakeside marshes, to the exploitation of multiple environments containing rich resource patches (Sutton et al. 2007).

3.2.3 Middle Holocene (ca. 7000–3000 cal B.P.)

The Pinto Complex is the primary cultural complex in the Mojave Desert during the Middle Holocene. Once thought to have neatly succeeded the Lake Mojave Complex, a growing corpus of radiocarbon dates associated with Pinto Complex artifacts suggest that its inception could date as far back as into latter part of the Early Holocene. Extensive use of tool stone other than obsidian and high levels of tool blade reworking were characteristic of this complex and the earlier Lake Mojave Complex. A reduction in tool stone source material variability suggests a contraction of foraging ranges that had expanded during the Early Holocene. Conversely, long distance trade with coastal peoples continued uninterrupted, as indicated by the presence of *Olivella* shell beads.

The most distinguishing characteristic of the Pinto Complex is the prevalence of ground stone tools, which are abundant in nearly all identified Pinto Complex sites. The emphasis on milling tools indicates greater diversification of the subsistence economy during the Middle Holocene. Groups increased reliance on plant processing while continuing to supplement their diet with protein from small and large game animals.

Recent archaeological research in the Mojave Desert suggests there was a greater degree of regional cultural diversity during the Middle Holocene than once previously thought. Sutton et al. (2007) have proposed a new Middle Holocene cultural complex associated with sites exclusively at Twentynine Palms in the southeastern Mojave Desert. Artifacts recovered from Deadman Lake Complex sites, such as *Olivella dama* shell from the Sea of Cortez, and contracting-stem and lozenge-shaped projectiles similar to those recovered from Ventana Cave in Arizona, may suggest closer cultural contact with Southwest Archaic cultures than Pinto cultures to the north and west. However, it is also possible that the proposed complex simply reflects a technologically distinct segment of the Pinto, rather than a distinct culture.

3.2.4 Late Holocene (ca. 2000 cal B.P. to Contact)

The Late Holocene in the greater Southern California region is characterized by increases in population, higher degrees of sedentism, expanding spheres of influence, and greater degrees of cultural complexity. In the Mojave Desert, the Late Holocene is divided into several cultural complexes; namely the Gypsum Complex (2000 cal B.C.–cal A.D. 200), the Rose Spring Complex (cal A.D. 200–1100), and the Late Prehistoric Complexes (cal A.D. 1100–Contact).

The Gypsum Complex is defined by the presence of side-notched (Elko series), concave-based (Humboldt series), and well-shouldered contracting stem (Gypsum series) projectile points. Other indicative artifacts include quartz crystals, paint, rock art, and twig figures, which are

generally associated with ritual activities. Warren (1984) considers the appearance of these artifact types at Gypsum Complex sites as evidence of the Southwest's expanding influence in the region. Conversely, Sutton et al. (2007) opt to associate Gypsum sites, which tend to cluster in the northern Mojave Desert, with temporal sequences modeled for the adjacent Great Basin. It is most likely that the Gypsum Complex was exposed to various cultural influences stemming from long-distance exchange and social interaction networks that linked groups occupying the Mojave Desert to those on the Pacific Coast, and in the American Southwest and the Great Basin.

The Rose Spring Complex can also be defined by the presence of distinct projectile points (i.e., Rose Spring and Eastgate series) and artifacts, including stone knives, drills, pipes, bone awls, milling implements, marine shell ornaments, and large quantities of obsidian. Of greater significance are the characteristic advancements in technology, settlement strategies, and evidence for expanding and diverging trade networks.

The Rose Spring Complex marks the introduction of the bow and arrow weapon system to the Mojave Desert, likely from neighboring groups to the north and east. As populations increased, groups began to consolidate into larger, more sedentary residential settlements as indicated by the presence of well-developed midden and architecture. West and north of the Mojave River, increased trade activity along existing exchange networks ushered in a period of relative material wealth, exhibited by increased frequencies of marine shell ornaments and toolstone, procured almost exclusively from the Coso obsidian source. East and south of the Mojave River, archaeological evidence suggests there was a greater influence from Southwest and Colorado River cultures (i.e., Hakataya and Patayan).

Between approximately A.D. 1100 and contact, several cultural complexes emerged that archaeologists believe may represent prehistoric correlates of known ethnographic groups. During the Late Prehistoric Cultural Complex, material distinctions between groups was more apparent, as displayed by the distribution of projectile point styles (e.g., Cottonwood vs. Desert Side-notched), ceramics, and lithic materials. Long-distance trade continued, benefiting those occupying "middleman" village sites along the Mojave River where abundant shell beads and ornaments, and lithic tools were recovered from archaeological contexts (Rector et al. 1983). Later, trade in Coso obsidian was significantly reduced as groups shifted focus to the procurement of local silicate stone.

The Late Prehistoric Cultural Complex was also a time of increasing regional influence and territorial expansion. Warren (1984) noted "strong regional developments" in the Mojave Desert that included Ancestral Puebloan interest in turquoise in the Mojave Trough, Hakatayan (Patayan) influence from the Colorado River, and the expansion of Numic Paiute and Shoshonean culture eastward. These developments led Sutton (1989) to propose that several interaction spheres were operating in the Mojave Desert during the Late Prehistoric. Sutton (1989) delineated interaction spheres based on the distribution of projectile point styles, ceramics, and obsidian and argued that the spheres broke along geographical lines that reflected the territorial boundaries of known ethnohistoric groups.

3.3 ETHNOHISTORIC SETTING

Four groups consider the Antelope Valley to be part of their traditional use area: the Serrano, Vanyume, Tataviam and Kitanemuk. Ethnographic information on each of these groups is provided below.

3.3.1 Serrano

The Serrano territory included the San Bernardino Mountains, east of Cajon Pass, as well as the desert area that lies immediately south of Victorville, extending east as far as Twentynine Palms and south as far as Yucaipa Valley.

The Serrano were primarily hunters and gatherers. Vegetal staples varied with village locality: acorns and piñon nuts in the foothills, and mesquite, yucca roots, cacti fruits, and piñon nuts in or near the desert regions. Diets were supplemented with other roots, bulbs, shoots, and seeds (Bean and Smith 1978:571). An increased yield of herbaceous plants was created by periodic burning. Communal gathering expeditions, involving several lineages under one leader's authority, were not uncommon (Bean and Smith 1978:571; Benedict 1924:391–392; Drucker 1937). Deer, mountain sheep, antelope, rabbits, and other small rodents were among the principal animals hunted. Various game birds were also hunted—quail being the most important. The bow-and-arrow was used for large game, while smaller game and birds were killed with curved throwing sticks, traps, and snares. Occasionally game was hunted communally, especially during annual mourning ceremonies (Bean and Smith 1978:571; Benedict 1924:391–392; Drucker 1937).

Individual family dwellings were occupied by a husband, wife, their unmarried female children, sometimes the husband's parents, and occasionally a widowed aunt or uncle. The Serrano lived in circular, domed structures that were constructed of willow frames and covered with tule thatch. These structures were used primarily as sleeping and storage areas, with most Serrano activities taking place outside or under a shade structure consisting simply of four posts and a roof. On occasion, an individual would erect a separate house for private use (Benedict 1924; Drucker 1937; Kroeber 1925).

Technologically, the Serrano were quite accomplished and produced a vast array of articles. Their manufactured goods included baskets, pottery, rabbit-skin blankets, awls, arrow straighteners, sinew-backed bows, arrows, fire drills, stone pipes, musical instruments (rattles, rasps, whistles, bull-roarers, and flutes), feathered costumes, mats, bags, storage pouches, and nets (Bean and Smith 1978:571). Food acquisition and processing required the manufacture of additional items such as knives, stone or bone scrapers, pottery trays and bowls, bone or horn spoons, and stirrers. Mortars, made of either stone or wood, and metates were also manufactured (Benedict 1924; Drucker 1937; Strong 1929).

The Serrano were organized into exogamous clans. Each of these, in turn, was affiliated with one of two exogamous moieties (Strong 1929). Although the exact nature of these clans, including their structure, function, and number is unknown, Strong (1929) determined that the clan was the largest autonomous political and landholding unit of the Serrano. The clan was patrilineal: all the male members recognized descent from a common male ancestor. The descendants and wives of these men were also regarded as clan members. When women married, however, they retained their own lineage names and participated in ceremonies of their natal lineage (Strong 1929:17).

Every clan had a headman or chief that was a hereditary position passed from father to son. Under unusual circumstances this could pass to the wife of the previous headman (Strong 1929; Gifford 1918). Duties of the head of the clan included determining when and where to collect or hunt, as well as conducting religious and other ceremonies. An assistant (also a hereditary post passing from father to son) assisted the head or chief in these ceremonies. The

assistant's duties included taking charge of the sacred bundle (a kit of ceremonial paraphernalia), notification of the time and location of the ceremonies, carrying shell money between groups for ceremonial purposes, and attending to the division of shell money and food at ceremonies (Bean and Smith 1978:572).

Like other California Indian groups, the Serrano had a shaman who acquired his various powers through datura-enhanced dreaming (Strong 1929). Shamans were mainly curers, who healed their patients through administering herbal remedies and sucking out disease-causing agents (Benedict 1924).

3.3.2 Vanyume

The Vanyume inhabited the Mojave River. Unlike their neighbors, the Serrano, the Vanyume maintained friendly relations with the Chemehuevi and Mojave peoples. The Vanyume had a small population, which dwindled rapidly following Spanish settlement of California. No Vanyume speaking members survived into the twentieth century, so there is not much known about this group (Bean and Smith 1978:570; Kroeber 1970:614).

3.3.3 Tataviam

The Tataviam are a Native American group that resided in and around the area encompassing the Project area. They belong to the family of Serrano people who migrated down into the Antelope, Santa Clarita, and San Fernando valleys some time before 1550 B.P. They settled into the Santa Clara River drainage system, east of Piru Creek, but also marginally inhabited the upper San Fernando Valley. Their territory also may have extended over the Sawmill Mountains to include at least the southwestern fringes of the Antelope Valley, which they apparently shared with the Kitanemuk, who occupied the greater portion of the Antelope Valley.

The Tataviam were hunters and gatherers who prepared their foodstuffs in much the same way as their neighbors. Their primary foods included yucca, acorns, juniper berries, sage seeds, deer, the occasional antelope, and smaller game such as rabbits and ground squirrels. There is no information regarding Tataviam social organization, though information from neighboring groups shows similarities among Tataviam, Chumash, and Gabrielino ritual practices. At first contact with the Spanish in the late eighteenth century, the population of this group was estimated at less than 1000 persons. However, this ethnographic estimate of the entire population is unlikely to be accurate, since it is based only on one small village complex and cannot necessarily be indicative of the entire population of Tataviam. Given the archaeological evidence at various Tataviam sites, as well as the numbers incorporated into the Spanish Missions, Pre-Contact population and early contact population easily exceeded 1000 persons (Blackburn 1962; Johnston 1962).

The Tataviam lived in small villages and were semi-nomadic when food was scarce. Labor was divided between the sexes. Men carried out most of the heavy but short-term labor, such as hunting and fishing, conducted most trading ventures, and had as their central concerns the well-being of the village and the family. Women were involved in collecting and processing most of the plant materials and basket production. The elderly of both sexes taught children and cared for the young.

3.3.4 Kitanemuk

The Kitanemuk belonged to the northern section of the people known as the “Serrano.” The name, “Serrano,” however, is only a generic term meaning “mountaineers” or “those of the Sierras.” Ethnographers group the Kitanemuk with the Serrano based on linguistic similarities though the Kitanemuk did not identify themselves as Serrano. They lived on the upper Tejon and Paso creeks and also held the streams on the rear side of the Tehachapi Mountains, the small creeks draining the rear slope of the Liebre and Sawmill Range, with Antelope Valley and the westernmost part of the Mojave Desert. The extent of their territorial claims in the desert region is not certain.

The Kitanemuk lived in permanent winter villages of 50–80 people or more. During the late spring, summer, and fall months they dispersed into smaller, highly-mobile gathering groups. They followed a seasonal round, visiting different environmental regions as the important food producing plants became ready for harvest. Some staple foods important to the Kitanemuk include acorns, piñon pine nuts, yucca, elderberries, and mesquite beans were available as well (Duff 2004).

The Kitanemuk shared some elements of culture with the rest of the Serrano groups, who lived to the east in parts of the Antelope Valley, the upper Mojave River area, and the San Bernardino Mountains (Blackburn and Bean 1978). Some customs, however, such as rituals and practices to honor the dead, may have been different. The Kitanemuk appear to have buried their dead, while the Serrano cremated them. The population of the Kitanemuk has been placed in the 500–1000 range at the time of the arrival of the Spanish (Antelope Valley Indian Museum 2006).

There were no permanent communities on the valley floor. Instead, the Antelope Valley provided an Indian trade route from Arizona and New Mexico to the California coast. The Indian population of California was estimated to be 133,000 in 1770, just before the Mission Period. But by 1910, they numbered about 16,350. The Indian population of the Antelope Valley consisted of just a few families in 1910 (Antelope Valley Indian Museum 2006).

3.4 HISTORICAL SETTING

3.4.1 Mojave Desert Region

European exploration of the Mojave Desert began in the sixteenth century, but sustained Euro-American settlement of the region did not occur until the mid-nineteenth century. This extended period of exploration without expansion creates a long protohistoric period in the region, when Europeans and local Native American groups knew of one another but interacted very little. This period is discussed above from the point of view of Native American history. Below, the Euro-American expansion into the region and subsequent historical developments are described.

The European Period in the Mojave Desert began when Spanish missionaries and explorers entered the area in the eighteenth century. Among the first Europeans in the area was Pedro Fages, who led an expedition into the western Mojave in 1772 in pursuit of Spanish soldiers who had deserted (Pourade 1960). Later forays into the Mojave were undertaken in 1776 by Franciscan missionary Francisco Garces. Garces was tasked with exploring overland routes between Santa Fe, New Mexico, and Southern California. During his expedition, he stayed in what is today the town of Mojave (Coues 1900; Sutton 1991). The establishment of trade

routes between Santa Fe and Los Angeles and the establishment of missions in the Mojave Desert were difficult in the eighteenth century because the native Mohave people hindered Spanish expansion beyond the coastal areas of California (Bean and Bourgeault 1989). The Old Spanish Trail, which passes through the Mojave Desert, was not firmly established as a travel route until the 1830s (Norris and Carrico 1978).

The Mexican War of Independence from Spain began in 1810. The Mexicans were victorious in 1821 and declared the Republic of Mexico in 1823. California was made a territory of the Republic in 1825. During Mexican rule from 1825–1847, the rancheros became wealthy from trade in hides, tallow, wine, and brandy. The missions' properties were redistributed between 1834–1836, making the rancheros even wealthier. American traders, drawn by low prices for cowhides and other raw materials, made contacts with the Californios. Some married the daughters of the rancheros, started business enterprises, and became increasingly influential in the finance and commerce of the region (Los Angeles Cultural Heritage Masterplan 2000:15).

During the Mexican American War, on August 13, 1846, Captain John Fremont entered the pueblo of Los Angeles and declared it an American territory. The Treaty of Cahuenga ended the conflict in California in 1847. The Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo officially ended the war in 1848 (Los Angeles Cultural Heritage Masterplan 2000:15).

American exploration into the Mojave Desert began in the nineteenth century. Jedediah Smith was the first American to enter the Mojave in 1826 and 1827. Little is known about Smith's time in the Mojave since his notes were lost in a fire (Pourade 1961). Smith followed the Old Spanish Trail, which runs south and east of the current Project area, and ultimately reached the Pacific Ocean where Spanish authorities prevented him from continuing farther and temporarily imprisoned him (Beck and Haase 1974; Norris and Carrico 1978). In 1844, John C. Fremont traveled through the Mojave from the north and eventually met up with the Old Spanish Trail (Beck and Haase 1974; Fremont 1845). Fremont was named "The Great Pathfinder" because his explorations helped open the West for Americans to move into California in the middle and late nineteenth century (Barnard 1977).

By the 1850s, the Old Spanish Trail was established as a reliable overland route to California, and it became easier for people to move into the area. Once California was ceded to the U.S., the land was open for settlement and development. With the discovery of gold in the Sierra Nevada Mountains, California's population boomed. Most of the early mining in California took place in the north, near Sacramento and San Francisco. Mining led to the creation of roads throughout the state. Later, these mining roads would be used to establish railroads that operated in the region.

In the Mojave, scientific exploration was undertaken in conjunction with investigations into proposed railroads from the east (Sherer 1994). An expedition led by Lt. Amiel Weeks Whipple in 1854 sought to survey a railroad route leading from Arkansas to Los Angeles along the 35th Parallel, passing near Fremont Valley. The proposed railroad was meant to tie into lines that originated in both the north and the south (Barnard 1977). Whipple's expedition included scientists who recorded information about the geology, climatology, and biology of the region (Sherer 1994). A later expedition undertaken by Edward Beale in 1857 tested the feasibility of using camels for transport across the desert and established an early wagon road through the area (Norris and Carrico 1978; Sherer 1994).

Construction of the Southern Pacific Railroad (SPRR), linking San Francisco to Los Angeles via the Mojave Desert, was completed in 1876. Large numbers of Chinese workers were employed in the construction of the railroad, and following its completion, many became involved in placer mining in the upper Santa Clarita River area (Earle 2003). The SPRR Mojave line also included a 20-day (round trip) rail route that extended over 165 miles (mi) of mountains and desert, running from the Harmony Borax Works in Death Valley (Inyo County) to the railroad loading dock in Mojave (Kyle 1990:129).

With the construction of the railroad, historic development of Antelope Valley increased. Lancaster, to the northwest of Palmdale, was first settled in 1876 with the completion of the SPRR. Promotional literature espousing the charms of the new township location attracted settlers. In the early 1880s, Moses Langley Wicks founded a Scottish agricultural colony of around 150 people near present-day Lancaster. In 1884, Wicks purchased and platted the town site, which he named Lancaster after his Pennsylvania hometown. In the late 1880s, Lancaster was sold to James P. Ward, and the first land boom occurred in Antelope Valley. Ample rain during this period led to bumper wheat and barley harvests. The subsequent 10-year drought that affected nearby Palmdale so badly had the same consequences for farmers in Lancaster. Lancaster again became a boom town in the early 1900s, housing large numbers of workers constructing the Los Angeles Aqueduct. The town experienced a period of growth in the 1930s following construction of the Muroc Air Force Base (County of Los Angeles Public Library 2007).

3.4.2 Antelope Valley

The Antelope Valley is on the west end of the Mojave Desert, in the northern extent of Los Angeles County and extends into southern Kern County. A number of non-native expeditions transversed through the Antelope Valley starting with Friar Francisco Garces in 1776, but the first non-native settlements did not occur until the 1850s through a combination of factors. Discovery of gold in Kern County and Silver in Inyo County in the early 1850s established new wagon routes, followed by the Butterfield mail stagecoach mail route in 1858, and the Los-Angeles Havilah Stage Line in 1864. Establishment of Fort Tejon in 1854 on the west end of the valley created a safe outpost for travelers, and a telegraph line that connected San Francisco to Los Angeles was completed in 1860. Construction of the Southern Pacific Railroad through this section of the Antelope Valley was completed in 1876 as part of the connecting route between San Francisco and Los Angeles. The alignment passed through the newly established railroad towns of Rosamond and Lancaster, approximately seven miles west and south from the Project area (County of Los Angeles Public Library 2021; Lien 2021).

3.4.3 City of Palmdale

The present city of Palmdale originated as two small communities called Palmenthal and Harold. Palmenthal was settled in 1886 by 50–60 families of Swiss and German settlers. The families, venturing west primarily from Illinois and Nebraska, were informed that once they saw palm trees they would be very near to the coast. Mistaking the Joshua trees for palm trees, they settled in the Antelope Valley, calling the township Palmenthal. Shortly thereafter an irrigation ditch was excavated by the Palmdale Irrigation Company to divert water from Littlerock Creek to Palmdale. In 1890, the ditch was described as seven miles in length, having cost \$16,000 to build. The principal crops the water supported were alfalfa, corn, potatoes,

vegetables, fruit trees and vineyards (Newell 1890:60). In 1896, the California State Mining Bureau described the ditch as 8 mi long, 8 ft wide at the top, 5 ft wide at the bottom, and 3 ft deep, with a grade of 7.5 ft per mile (California State Mining Bureau 1896:538). In 1894, drought hit the area, and an increased supply of water was needed. An earthen dam, forming Harold Reservoir (now Palmdale Lake), was constructed by the Antelope Valley Irrigation Company in 1895, and another earthen ditch, linking Littlerock Creek to Harold Reservoir, was excavated alongside the earlier ditch. A flume and wooden trestle were incorporated into this design (Palmdale Water District 2004). The settlers prospered temporarily growing grain and fruit. An extended period of drought in the 1890s brought the boom to an end, and Palmenthal was largely abandoned. Palmdale Water District was formed in 1918 by a vote of the people and is the successor to the private company formed in 1886.

The community of Harold was also known as Alpine Station and Trejo Post Office. It was established at the crossroads of the Southern Pacific Railroad and Fort Tejon Road (now Barrel Springs Road). It was essentially abandoned when the railroad moved the site of its booster engine station to another location north of Harold (County of Los Angeles Public Library 2007; Palmdale City Library 2006).

Mining in the Mojave Desert led to increased settlement during the latter half of the nineteenth century. Gold was discovered in the southwestern portion of Antelope Valley in 1842 in what is today known as Placerita Canyon. Gold seekers flocked to the canyon and an estimated \$100,000 of gold was mined there. Some of the miners settled permanently in the southwest Antelope Valley in the 1850s and 1860s, while others headed north to continue their search for wealth. Gold, silver, and copper were also mined from the Soledad Canyon region during the Civil War period (County of Los Angeles Public Library 2007; Earle 2003). The town of Mojave was the rail terminus for the 20-mule-team borax wagons that operated from Death Valley between the years 1884 and 1889 (Kyle 1990:129). The United States Borax and Chemical Company (formerly the Pacific Coast Borax Company) developed sodium borate mining at Boron, about 30 mi north of Victorville. Gold was discovered at Standard Hill in 1894, and the Cactus Queen Mine produced the largest quantity of silver ore in California until World War II (Kyle 1990:130). By 1896, the Alpine Plaster Company had established a gypsum quarry one mile south of Palmdale, and the Fire Pulp Plaster Company also worked Palmdale's gypsum deposits (California State Mining Bureau 1896:504; Hess 1910:29). All of this activity rejuvenated the development of Antelope Valley.

The town of Palmdale was established in 1899 when settlers who remained at Palmenthal and Harold relocated closer to the Southern Pacific Railroad station and the San Francisco to New Orleans stagecoach line. In 1905, following the end of the drought, irrigation systems using pumps powered by gasoline, and later electricity, replaced the previous reliance on artesian wells. This more reliable source of water revived the agricultural industry in the Antelope Valley (County of Los Angeles Public Library 2007). Completion of the Los Angeles Aqueduct in 1914 (to the west of Palmdale) further prompted development of the Palmdale area. That year, the Southern California Panama Expositions Commission (McGroarty 1914:78) described Palmdale as "a new town on the railroad with considerable improvement going on including the planting of a large acreage to young fruit trees." Palmdale's population began to steadily increase. Irrigated lands in the Valley increased from 5000 acres in 1910, to 11,900 in 1919. The township apparently failed to impress at least one author who described it as "a lonely little town marking the terminus of the railroad", although he saw fit to comment on the "frequent cultivated fields which showed the fertility of this barren desert when irrigated" (Murphy

1921:306). Alfalfa, pears, and apples became staple crops in the area. Agriculture remained the primary industry of the Antelope Valley, with Palmdale serving as the “trading center of poultry and cattle ranchers and fruit growers” (Workers of the Writers’ Program of the Work Projects Administration in Southern California [Writers’ Program] 1941:397), until World War II. After World War II, Palmdale grew as a center for aerospace and defense industries with the establishment of Edwards Air Force Base in Kern County and U.S. Air Force Plant 42 in Palmdale (Palmdale City Library 2006).

When Palmdale incorporated in 1962, its land area measured 2.1 mi². By 1965, the city limits contained 22.4 mi², and by 1983, Palmdale had grown to 45 mi² and had 130 additional square miles in its planning area. Palmdale was the fastest growing city in the state during the 1980s, climbing 573 percent from a population of 12,227 in 1980 to 68,842 in 1990. Most of Palmdale's land is vacant (approximately 75%), providing space for continued growth and development in the future.

Palmdale’s growth in recent decades is not so much related to industrial growth as it is to the availability of affordable housing. Palmdale has become a ‘bedroom’ community, with many residents commuting to the Los Angeles area to work.

Although the aerospace industry remains the area’s largest source of employment, both Palmdale and Lancaster are trying to entice industry and jobs into the area. Increased population in the last decade provides a large labor force available to employers, and is expected to attract more companies, thus broadening the area’s economic base (Oxford Enterprises 2008).

4 CULTURAL RESOURCES INVENTORY

PaleoWest completed a literature review and records search at the SCCIC, housed at California, State University, Fullerton, on March 11, 2022. This inventory effort included the Project area and a 0.5-mi-radius around the Project area, collectively termed the Project study area. The objective of this records search was to identify prehistoric or historical cultural resources previously recorded within the study area during prior cultural resource investigations.

As part of the cultural resources inventory, PaleoWest staff also examined historical maps and aerial images to characterize the developmental history of the Project study area and vicinity. A summary of the results of the record search and background research are provided below.

4.1 PREVIOUS CULTURAL RESOURCES INVESTIGATIONS

The records search results indicate that 27 previous cultural resource investigations have been completed within the Project study area since 1988 (Table 4-1). Five of these studies include or intersect the Project area (LA-00162, LA-01717, LA-02323, LA-02476, LA-02494). As a result, it appears that approximately 100% of the Project area has been previously inventoried for cultural resources between 1988 and 1991.

Table 4-1. Previous Cultural Investigations within the Project Study Area

Report No.	Year	Author(s)	Title
LA-00116	1988	Love, Bruce	Archaeology Report for Amargosa Drainage North of Avenue M in the City of Lancaster, California
<i>LA-00162</i>	<i>1988</i>	<i>Love, Bruce</i>	<i>Archaeology Report for Avenue M Right-of-way and Amargosa Culvert Project</i>
<i>LA-01717</i>	<i>1988</i>	<i>Blodgett, Leslie M.</i>	<i>Report of Archival Search and Field Inspection of Approximately 4.5 Linear Miles and Proposed Detention Basin Along Amargosa Creek in Palmdale, California</i>
LA-01831	1989	Norwood, Richard H.	Cultural Resource Survey for Antelope Valley Business Park, 50 Acre Parcel, Palmdale, California
LA-02102	1989	Love, Bruce	Cultural Resource Assessment Tt 44769, A.V. Business Park.10th West and Avenue M, Palmdale, Los Angeles County
<i>LA-02323</i>	<i>1990</i>	<i>Robinson, R. W.</i>	<i>A Cultural Resources Investigation of a Portion of the Amargosa Drainage System Within the City of Palmdale, Los Angeles County, California</i>
<i>LA-02476</i>	<i>1991</i>	<i>Drover, Christopher E.</i>	<i>Environmental Impact Evaluation: an Archaeological Assessment of the Industry Trade Center Specific Plan Palmdale, California</i>
<i>LA-02494</i>	<i>1991</i>	<i>Wade, Sue</i>	<i>Draft Environmental Impact Report for Antelope Valley Business Park EIR 90-3</i>
LA-02634	1992	Becker, Kenneth M.	Cultural Resources Reconnaissance of Antelope Valley Courts Facility, City of Lancaster, Los Angeles County, California
LA-02837	1993	McKenna, Jeanette A.	Archaeological, Historical and Paleontological Investigations of the Proposed Business Park Center Specific Plan Project Area, City of Palmdale, County of Los Angeles, California
LA-03017	1994	Gibson, Robert O.	Results of Archaeological Records Check for the Mojave Alternatives of the Pacific Pipeline Project Los Angeles County, California
LA-04008	1996	Unknown	Cultural Resources Investigation Pacific Pipeline Emidio Route
LA-04392	1998	King, Chester	Archaeological Reconnaissance for the 10th Street West Transmission Main Lancaster, Los Angeles County, California.
LA-04393	1998	Singer, Clay A.	Cultural Resources Survey and Impact Assessment for a Commercial Property at the Intersection of Avenue M and Sierra Highway in the City of Lancaster, Los Angeles County, California.
LA-05316	2000	Love, Bruce	Identification and Evaluation of Historic Properties Antelope Valley Transit Authority Transportation Facility: City of Lancaster Los Angeles County, California
LA-07967	2006	Hudlow, Scott M.	A Phase I Cultural Resource Survey for Property on Avenue M, APN 3128-013-015 and -016 City of Palmdale, California
LA-07991	2006	Tang, Bai "Tom", Michael Hogan, and Josh Smallwood	Cultural Resources Technical Report City of Lancaster General Plan Update

Report No.	Year	Author(s)	Title
LA-08043	2005	Hudlow, Scott M.	A Phase I Cultural Resource Survey for Property on Avenue M, APN 3128-020-003, City of Palmdale, California
LA-08427	2007	Cooley, Theodore G.	Archaeological Survey Report for Southern California Edison Company 66kv Antelope Bus Split Project Los Angeles County, California
LA-09679	2008	Loftus, Shannon L. and Robin D. Turner	Cultural Resource And Paleontological Assessment, North Los Angeles / Kern County, Regional Recycled Water Master Plan, Los Angeles / East Kern Counties, California.
LA-10642	2010	Tang, Bai "Tom"	Preliminary Historical/Archaeological Resources Study, Antelope Valley line Positive Train Control (PTC) Project Southern California Regional Rail Authority, Lancaster to Glendale, Los Angeles County, California
LA-10813	2011	Lajoie, Glenn and Starla Barker	Expansion Area Amendment to the Redevelopment Plans for the Merged Project Area
LA-11034	2009	Magness, Thomas	Final Environmental Assessment (FEA) North Valley Regional Water Infrastructure Section Recycled Water 1 (RW1) Pipeline Project, City of Lancaster, Los Angeles County, California
LA-11035	2010	Unknown	Continued Consultation Regarding the North Valley Regional Water Infrastructure Recycled Water 1 Pipeline (RW1) Project, Lancaster, Los Angeles County, California
LA-11453	2011	Orfila, Rebecca	Archaeological Survey for the Southern California Edison Company: Nineteen deteriorated power poles on the Petan 12kv, Forage 12kv, Hangar 12kv, Lupine 12kv Assembly 12kv, Force 12kv, Moonglow 12kv, and Highes Lake 12kv circuits in Los Angeles County, CA
LA-12670	2014	Brunzell, Dave	Cultural Resources Assessment for the Emsierra Project, Lancaster, Los Angeles County, California (BCR Consulting Project No. TRF1415)
LA-12745	2014	Wills, Carrie and Bonner, Diane	Cultural Resources Records Search and Site Visit Results for Verizon Wireless Candidate Emten (SCE Planning Office) 42060 10th Street West, Lancaster, Los Angeles County, California EBI Project No 611413378

* *Italicized* Cultural Resources Studies lie within or intersect the Project area

4.2 CULTURAL RESOURCES REPORTED WITHIN ONE-HALF MILE OF THE PROJECT AREA

The records search indicated that three cultural resources were previously documented within the Project study area (Table 4-2). Two resources are historic period resources (one refuse scatter and one water conveyance system) and one resource is a prehistoric period resource (a mining and lithic reduction site). None of the previously recorded cultural resources were documented within the Project area.

Table 4-2. Previously Recorded Cultural Resource within the Project Study Area

Primary No.	Trinomial	Age	Type	Description
P-19-001999	CA-LAN-001999	Prehistoric	Site	Prehistoric milling and lithic reduction site
P-19-003709	-	Historic	Site	Historic concrete irrigation standpipe structure and irrigation conveyance structures
P-19-004791	CA-LAN-004791H	Historic	Site	Historic refuse scatter comprised of 100+ cans, 50-60 broken bottles, ceramic mugs and plates

4.3 ADDITIONAL SOURCES

Additional sources consulted during the cultural resource literature and data review include the National Register of Historic Places, the Office of Historic Preservation Archaeological Determinations of Eligibility, and the Office of Historic Preservation Built Environment Resources Directory (BERD). There are no listed cultural resources recorded within the Project area or within one-half mile of the Project area.

Historical maps and aerial images were also consulted as part of the background research. Maps that were examined as part of this effort include Elizabeth Lake, CA 30-minute (1915, 1917), Lancaster, CA 7.5-minute (1930, 1933), Lancaster West, CA 7.5-minute (1958), and Los Angeles, CA 1 degree by 2 degree (1959, 1966, 1975) USGS series maps (TopoView 2022). Historical aerial images were available on NETROnline dating to 1948, 1953, 1956, 1965, 1971, 1974, and 1994 (NetROnline 2022).

Development in present in the vicinity of the Project area in the 1910s include the road which later became known as Sierra Highway and SPRR. Aerial imagery indicates that since 1948 the Project area was undeveloped except for two unnamed dirt roads that were constructed in the area by 1948. No historic period built environment structures were documented within the Project area on any of the aerial photographs or topographic maps reviewed. Bureau of Land Management (BLM) General Land Office records (GLO) consulted indicate that the only land patents pertaining to the area are for the Southern Pacific Railroad Company in 1914 and 1915 for the Southern Pacific Rail line that lies east, outside of the Project area (BLM 2022).

Finally, a buried site sensitivity analysis was conducted of the Project site to determine the potential for encountering subsurface cultural materials during construction activities. The Project area lacks many of the natural resources (e.g., springs or permanent water sources) that were exploited by prehistoric inhabitants of the region. The Project area is adjacent to Amargosa Creek and a small ephemeral drainage that passes near the southeastern corner of the project area (TopoView 2022). No other hydrological features are present near the Project area. Rosamond and Rogers Dry Lake are located approximately 11 miles to the north and Littlerock Wash is located 7 miles to the east. Today, the Project study area is rural consisting of undeveloped parcels where the original landform surface may still be observed.

The underlying geology consists of Holocene quaternary alluvium comprising the unconsolidated fill of the Antelope Valley and has an estimated thickness of 100 ft or more (Dibblee 1960). These deposits consist of unconsolidated to weakly consolidated fine to medium sand with fine gravel. Gravels are primarily from granitic sources with many sub-angular fine gravel quartz clasts. Much of the sediment deposition that occurred in this portion of the Antelope Valley was the result of flash flood driven debris flows. This depositional

environment is generally not conducive to the preservation of buried cultural deposits due to the high energy involved in the transportation of sand and gravel. In some cases, these debris flows were catastrophic, eroding the existing surface destroying site features and picking up artifacts as material spreads out across the fan. However, low to moderate energy deposits may exist in portions of the alluvial landscape that have a higher potential for site preservation. Given the environmental and geological setting, and the paucity of substantial prehistoric archaeological remains documented in the records search, the Project area appears to have a low to moderate sensitivity for preservation of buried archaeological resources.

4.4 NATIVE AMERICAN COORDINATION

PaleoWest contacted the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) on February 17, 2022, for a review of the SLF. The objective of the SLF search was to determine if the NAHC had any knowledge of Native American cultural resources (e.g., traditional use or gathering area, place of religious or sacred activity, etc.) within the immediate vicinity of the Project area. The NAHC responded on April 11, 2022, stating that the SLF was completed with negative results. The NAHC suggested that nine individuals representing six local Native American groups be contacted to elicit information regarding tribal cultural resources in the proposed Project area (Appendix A). PaleoWest sent outreach letters to the nine individuals on April 18, 2022 with follow up phone calls conducted on April 26, 2022.

To date, three responses have been received:

- Jairo F. Avila of the Fernandeno Tataviam Band of Mission Indians responded via email on April 19, 2022 and stated that the tribe will provide information to the lead agency during the AB52 consultation process.
- Jill McCormick of the Quechan Tribe of the Fort Yuma Reservation responded via email on April 21, 2022 and stated that the tribe has no comments on the Project, that they defer to more local tribes, and support their decisions on the Project.
- Donna Yocum of the San Fernando Band of Mission Indians responded via telephone on April 26, 2022 and stated that the Project is located in an area that is sensitive for cultural resources. She requested that the tribe be notified when ground disturbance will take place and requested that a tribal monitor be present for ground disturbing construction activities.
- Ryan Nordness of the San Manuel Band of Mission Indians responded via email on May 25, 2022 and stated that the Project is of great concern to the tribe and they would like to consult with the lead agency during the AB52 process.

5 RESEARCH DESIGN

A research design is an explicit statement of the theoretical and methodological approaches to be followed in a cultural resources study (OHP 1990). Inventory studies, such as this one, rely on data from archaeological and historical resources visible on or above the ground surface with supplemental information provided by archival research and literature review (OHP 1991). In such studies, the focus of the research design is to ensure the adequacy of the identification effort. Should any identified resources within the Project area have sufficient age and integrity

to warrant consideration for CRHR eligibility, then relevant research questions and data requirements may be posed to evaluate the significance of the resource and make recommendations regarding determinations of eligibility.

For the purposes of this study, one relevant research domain was identified – settlement of the western Antelope Valley. Use of the valley was, at first, associated with homesteading and transportation. Due to the remoteness and limited accessibility of resources, permanent settlements were few and far between. The following questions may be considered when examining the nature and extent of early settlements within the Project area.

- What evidence of Historic Period agriculture, ranching, and homesteading is present in the Project area?
- What specific activities were performed at these sites? Did these activities change over time?
- What is the age of these sites? How long were these settlements occupied and when were they abandoned?
- How do agriculture, ranching, and homesteading sites in the Project area reflect or diverge from regional or national trends?

Data Requirements (among the data needed to address the research questions posed above are):

- Chronological data from temporally diagnostic artifacts that can be used to assess the age of the sites;
- Artifact assemblages and features to identify the types of activities that were associated with each site;
- Artifacts (e.g., culinary artifacts, food preparation items, food containers and remains, clothing/grooming, personal hygiene, and medicinal items), that may be used to examine the social, ethnic, or economic background of the residents of the sites; and
- Documentary information in the form of U.S. Geological Survey historical maps, BLM GLO township plat maps, BLM land patent records, master title plat maps, and County assessor records to address questions of land ownership.

6 FIELD INVESTIGATION

6.1 FIELD METHODS

A cultural resources survey of the Project area was completed by PaleoWest Archaeologist Evan Mills, M.A., RPA on March 28 and 29, 2022. The survey methods followed standard archaeological methods consisting of parallel pedestrian transects spaced at 10- to 15-meter (m) (33- to 49-ft) intervals when allowed by terrain and vegetation. Crew members also opportunistically examined any subsurface exposures, including rodent burrows and cut banks. Survey crews navigated the transects using georeferenced maps on iPad tablets and handheld global position system (GPS) units. Field iPads included all Project maps and relevant site forms. Identified resources were documented with an iSX-Blue data collector GPS unit with

sub-meter accuracy that was compatible with iPad-based ESRI Fieldmaps for ArcGIS web application via Bluetooth.

The Project area was documented with digital photographs that included general views of the topography and vegetation density, and other images. A photograph log was maintained to include photograph number, date, orientation, photograph description, and comments. The surveyors carefully inspected all areas likely to contain or exhibit sensitive cultural resources to ensure discovery and documentation of and visible, potentially significant cultural resources located within the project area. In particular, the survey crews carefully inspected rocky outcroppings, creek banks, clearings, and other habitable flat spots.

The Project area lies on the broad Antelope Valley floor. The area is characterized by a near level to gently sloping topography that is transected by numerous southwest-to-northeast running ephemeral desert washes. Vegetation in the area consisted primarily of open desert scrub that consists of largely scattered creosote bushes and desert landscapes.

All cultural materials and features of an eligible age were recorded during the surveys in accordance with OHP guidelines (OHP 1995). Materials and features that could not be accurately dated in the field were also recorded. Historic period indicators include standing buildings, objects, structures such as sheds, or concentrations of materials at least 45 years in age, such as domestic refuse (e.g., glass bottles, ceramics, toys, buttons, and leather shoes), refuse from other pursuits such as agriculture (e.g., metal tanks, farm machinery parts, and horse shoes) or structural materials (e.g., nails, glass window panes, corrugated metal, wood posts or planks, metal pipes and fittings, and railroad spurs). Prehistoric site indicators include areas of darker soil with concentrations of ash, charcoal, animal bone (burned or unburned), shell, flaked stone, ground-stone, pottery, or even human bone.

When artifacts were found during the surveys, site boundaries were defined by surveying out in widening concentric circles until artifacts were no longer encountered. Artifacts or features that were within 30 m of each other, or that were clearly related, were combined into the same isolate or site. All resources were digitally recorded in the field directly into a FileMaker database on iPad.

6.2 RESULTS AND CRHR ELIGIBILITY RECOMMENDATION

The Project area is comprised of relatively flat, undeveloped land consisting of a broad, alluviated plain (Figure 6-1 and Figure 6-2). The soils are fine- to medium-grained silts and sands with subangular gravels made of quartz and granitic material. Vegetation within the Project area consists of moderately distributed Creosote Bush Scrub with creosote bush (*Larrea tridentata*), cheesebush (*Ambrosia salsola*), white bursage (*Ambrosia dumosa*), fourwing saltbush (*Atriplex canescens*), Joshua trees (*Yucca brevifolia*), and other herbaceous plants and grasses.

Ground visibility in Project area was good to excellent (70-80 percent). The west side of the Project area slopes into Amargosa Creek, a seasonal drainage that is filled with secondary deposits of historic period refuse. Additionally, there is a series of small washes that run north/south through the Project area that also contain sparse deposits of secondary refuse. A small temporary encampment with tents and multiple vehicles was observed on the east side of the Project area. In addition to the encampment, other noted disturbances in the Project area included modern trash and vehicular use.



Figure 6-1. Overview of the Project area, facing southeast.



Figure 6-2. Overview of the Project area, facing southwest.

One historic archaeological resource (22-0100-01H) was identified and recorded within the Project area during the survey. No prehistoric remains were identified as a result of the pedestrian survey. A description and significance evaluation of the newly identified cultural resource is provided below. The location of this resource is shown in Figure 6-3 and a Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) 523 form is provided in Appendix B.

6.2.1 Site 22-0100-01H

Site 22-0100-01H is a historic refuse scatter that measures 425 feet by 328 feet. The site consists of three discrete can dumps, two highly concentrated glass dumps, and extensive scatter of secondary deposits of refuse items (cans) that have been moved out of context due to erosion (Figure 6-4). Cans at the site include sanitary cans, gas cans, hole-in-top cans, and flat top beverage cans with church key openings. Glass at the site includes broken shards from brown, clear, green, and aqua bottles, and Owen's Illinois Glass Company and Hazel Atlas Bottle Company maker's marks dating to the 1950s.

The assemblage, while not particularly diagnostic, dates to the early- to mid-20th century and consists primarily of domestic refuse. An examination of historic maps indicates that there is no settlement within the vicinity of the Site 21-0100-01H during this time period. Given the proximity of the site to the SPRR, Sierra Highway, and West Avenue M, it is likely that the site represents several episodes of opportunistic roadside dumping by local residents or travelers. The site appears to be largely surficial, with no evidence found to suggest there are substantial buried deposits. Site 22-0100-01H is in poor condition with modern refuse found across the site's boundary.

CRHR Eligibility

Site 22-0100-01H consists of a scatter of domestic refuse that was likely deposited by local residents or travelers during the early part of the twentieth century. The site contains no evidence to indicate that the historic refuse is linked to early settlement-related activities that made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history. Furthermore, it cannot be associated or linked to any important persons in California's history. As such, the site is not recommended eligible for listing on the CRHR under Criterion 1 or 2. The artifacts do not embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, or represent the work of a master, or possess high artistic values, or represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction; therefore, the site is not significant under Criterion 3. Finally, because the refuse scatter exhibits no clear temporal or historically significant association, it cannot produce information that would answer directed research questions presented in section 5 and has very limited data potential. As a result, the site is not significant under Criterion 4.

PaleoWest recommends Site 22-0100-01H be considered not eligible for inclusion on the CRHR.



Figure 6-3. Overview of 22-0100-01H, facing east.



Figure 6-4. Overview of refuse concentration within 22-0100-01H, facing east

7 MANAGEMENT RECOMMENDATIONS

The cultural resource assessment included a records search, background and archival research, and a pedestrian survey of the Project area. As a result of these efforts, one historic period archaeological site was identified in the Project area. This site was not recommended eligible for listing in the CRHR. Geological information reviewed for the project appears to indicate that the buried site sensitivity for the Project area is low to moderate.

Based on these findings, PaleoWest does not recommend any additional cultural resource management for the proposed Project. In the unlikely event that potentially significant archaeological materials are encountered during Project-related ground-disturbing activities, all work should be halted in the vicinity of the archaeological discovery until a qualified archaeologist can visit the site of discovery and assess the significance of the archaeological resource. In addition, Health and Safety Code 7050.5, CEQA 15064.5(e), and Public Resources Code 5097.98 mandate the process to be followed in the unlikely event of an accidental discovery of any human remains in a location other than a dedicated cemetery. Finally, should additional actions be proposed outside the currently defined Project area that have the potential for additional subsurface disturbance, further cultural resource management may be required.

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Appendix A. Native American Coordination

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Sacred Lands File & Native American Contacts List Request

NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE COMMISSION

1550 Harbor Blvd, Suite 100
West Sacramento, CA 95501
(916) 373-3710
(916) 373-5471 – Fax
nahc@nahc.ca.gov

Information Below is Required for a Sacred Lands File Search

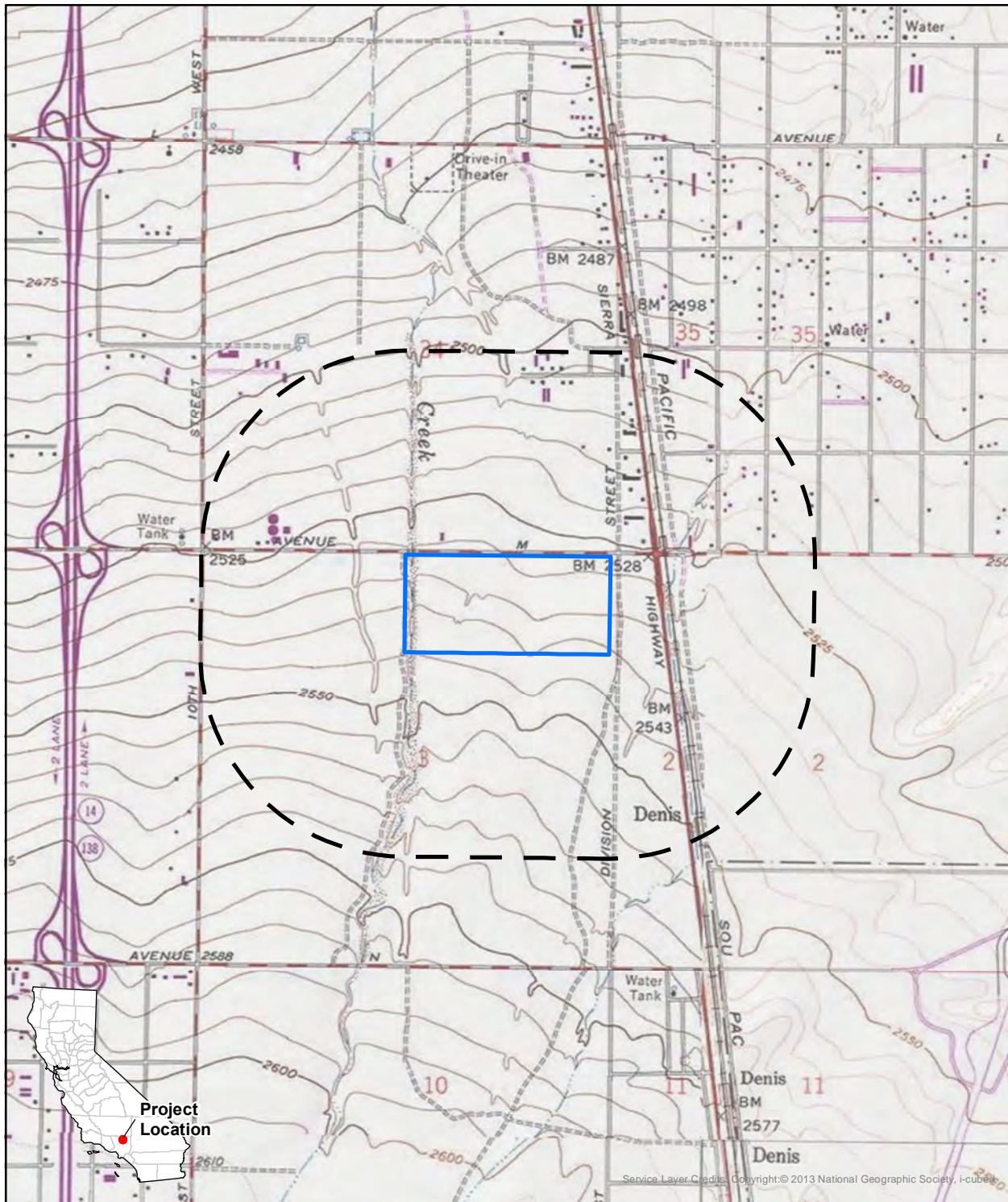
Project: Palmdale Logistics Park Project
County: Los Angeles

USGS Quadrangle
Name: see map
Township: _____ Range: _____ Section(s): _____

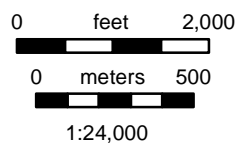
Company/Firm/Agency: _____
Contact Person: Kyle Knabb
Street Address: 517 S. Ivy Avenue
City: Monrovia Zip: 91016
Phone: 626-376-6729 Extension: _____
Fax: _____
Email: kknabb@paleowest.com

Project Description:



___ Project Location Map is attached



Service Layer Credits: Copyright © 2013 National Geographic Society, i-cubed



USGS 7.5' Quadrangle:
Lancaster West, Ca (1975) &
Lancaster East, Ca (1976)
T7N R12W, Secs 33-35 & T6N
R12W, Secs 2-4
UTM Zone 11 | NAD 83 | SBBM

 Project Area
 Half Mile Buffer

NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE COMMISSION

April 11, 2022

Kyle Knabb
PaleoWest ArchaeologyVia Email to: kknabb@paleowest.com

Re: Palmdale Logistics Park Project, Los Angeles County

Dear Mr. Knabb:

A record search of the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) Sacred Lands File (SLF) was completed for the information you have submitted for the above referenced project. The results were negative. However, the absence of specific site information in the SLF does not indicate the absence of cultural resources in any project area. Other sources of cultural resources should also be contacted for information regarding known and recorded sites.

Attached is a list of Native American tribes who may also have knowledge of cultural resources in the project area. This list should provide a starting place in locating areas of potential adverse impact within the proposed project area. I suggest you contact all of those indicated; if they cannot supply information, they might recommend others with specific knowledge. By contacting all those listed, your organization will be better able to respond to claims of failure to consult with the appropriate tribe. If a response has not been received within two weeks of notification, the Commission requests that you follow-up with a telephone call or email to ensure that the project information has been received.

If you receive notification of change of addresses and phone numbers from tribes, please notify me. With your assistance, we can assure that our lists contain current information.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact me at my email address: Andrew.Green@nahc.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

Andrew Green
Cultural Resources Analyst

Attachment

CHAIRPERSON
Laura Miranda
LuiseñoVICE CHAIRPERSON
Reginald Pagaling
ChumashPARLIAMENTARIAN
Russell Attebery
KarukSECRETARY
Sara Dutschke
MiwokCOMMISSIONER
William Hungary
Paiute/White Mountain
ApacheCOMMISSIONER
Isaac Bojorquez
Ohlone-CostanoanCOMMISSIONER
Buffy McQuillen
Yokayo Pomo, Yuki,
NomlakiCOMMISSIONER
Wayne Nelson
LuiseñoCOMMISSIONER
Stanley Rodriguez
KumeyaayEXECUTIVE SECRETARY
Raymond C.
Hitchcock
Miwok/NisenanNAHC HEADQUARTERS
1550 Harbor Boulevard
Suite 100
West Sacramento,
California 95691
(916) 373-3710
nahc@nahc.ca.gov
NAHC.ca.gov

**Native American Heritage Commission
Native American Contact List
Los Angeles County
4/11/2022**

Fernandeno Tataviam Band of Mission Indians

Jairo Avila, Tribal Historic and Cultural Preservation Officer
1019 Second Street, Suite 1
San Fernando, CA, 91340
Phone: (818) 837 - 0794
Fax: (818) 837-0796
jairo.avila@tataviam-nsn.us

Tataviam

Morongo Band of Mission Indians

Ann Brierty, THPO
12700 Pumarra Road
Banning, CA, 92220
Phone: (951) 755 - 5259
Fax: (951) 572-6004
abrierty@morongo-nsn.gov

Cahuilla
Serrano

Morongo Band of Mission Indians

Robert Martin, Chairperson
12700 Pumarra Road
Banning, CA, 92220
Phone: (951) 755 - 5110
Fax: (951) 755-5177
abrierty@morongo-nsn.gov

Cahuilla
Serrano

Quechan Tribe of the Fort Yuma Reservation

Jill McCormick, Historic Preservation Officer
P.O. Box 1899
Yuma, AZ, 85366
Phone: (760) 572 - 2423
historicpreservation@quechantribe.com

Quechan

Quechan Tribe of the Fort Yuma Reservation

Manfred Scott, Acting Chairman
Kw'ts'an Cultural Committee
P.O. Box 1899
Yuma, AZ, 85366
Phone: (928) 750 - 2516
scottmanfred@yahoo.com

Quechan

San Fernando Band of Mission Indians

Donna Yocum, Chairperson
P.O. Box 221838
Newhall, CA, 91322
Phone: (503) 539 - 0933
Fax: (503) 574-3308
ddyocum@comcast.net

Kitanemuk
Vanyume
Tataviam

San Manuel Band of Mission Indians

Jessica Mauck, Director of Cultural Resources
26569 Community Center Drive
Highland, CA, 92346
Phone: (909) 864 - 8933
Jessica.Mauck@sanmanuel-nsn.gov

Serrano

Serrano Nation of Mission Indians

Mark Cochrane, Co-Chairperson
P. O. Box 343
Patton, CA, 92369
Phone: (909) 528 - 9032
serranonation1@gmail.com

Serrano

Serrano Nation of Mission Indians

Wayne Walker, Co-Chairperson
P. O. Box 343
Patton, CA, 92369
Phone: (253) 370 - 0167
serranonation1@gmail.com

Serrano

This list is current only as of the date of this document. Distribution of this list does not relieve any person of statutory responsibility as defined in Section 7050.5 of the Health and Safety Code, Section 5097.94 of the Public Resource Section 5097.98 of the Public Resources Code.

This list is only applicable for contacting local Native Americans with regard to cultural resources assessment for the proposed Palmdale Logistics Park Project, Los Angeles County.

Groups Contacted	Date of Correspondence	Tribal Response
<p>Fernandeno Tataviam Band of Mission Indians Jairo Avila, Tribal Historic and Cultural Preservation Officer 1019 Second Street, Suite 1 San Fernando, CA, 91340 Phone: (818) 837 - 0794 Fax: (818) 837-0796 jairo.avila@tataviam-nsn.us</p>	<p>4/18/2022 via email</p>	<p>Email response received 4/19/2022 from Mr. Jairo F. Avila, the Tribal Historic and Cultural Preservation Officer for the Fernandeno Tataviam Band of Mission Indians, stating that the Tribe will provide information to the lead agency during the AB52 consultation process.</p>
<p>Morongo Band of Mission Indians Robert Martin, Chairperson 12700 Pumarra Road Banning, CA, 92220 Phone: (951) 755 - 5110 Fax: (951) 755-5177 abrierty@morongo-nsn.gov</p>	<p>4/18/2022 via email; 4/26/2022 via telephone</p>	<p>No response</p>
<p>Morongo Band of Mission Indians Ann Brierty, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer 12700 Pumarra Road Banning, CA, 92220 Phone: (951) 755 - 5259 Fax: (951) 572-6004 abrierty@morongo-nsn.gov</p>	<p>4/18/2022 via email; 4/26/2022 via telephone</p>	<p>No response</p>
<p>Quechan Tribe of the Fort Yuma Reservation Manfred Scott, Acting Chairman Kw'ts'an Cultural Committee P.O. Box 1899 Yuma, AZ, 85366 Phone: (928) 750 - 2516 scottmanfred@yahoo.com</p>	<p>4/18/2022 via email</p>	<p>See below</p>
<p>Quechan Tribe of the Fort Yuma Reservation Jill McCormick, Historic Preservation Officer P.O. Box 1899 Yuma, AZ, 85366 Phone: (760) 572 – 2423 historicpreservation@quechantribe.com</p>	<p>4/18/2022 via email</p>	<p>Email response received 4/21/2022 from Quechan Historic Preservation Officer stating that the Tribe has no comments on the Project and that they defer to the more local Tribes and support their decisions on the Project.</p>

Groups Contacted	Date of Correspondence	Tribal Response
<p>San Fernando Band of Mission Indians Donna Yocum, Chairperson P.O. Box 221838 Newhall, CA, 91322 Phone: (503) 539 - 0933 Fax: (503) 574-3308 ddyocum@comcast.net</p>	<p>4/18/2022 via email; 4/26/2022 via telephone</p>	<p>Ms. Yocum responded via telephone on 4/26/2022 and stated that the Project area is located in an area sensitive for cultural resources. Ms. Yocum requested that the Tribe be notified when ground disturbance will take place as they would like to make a Native American monitor available to monitor construction activities.</p>
<p>San Manuel Band of Mission Indians Jessica Mauck, Director of Cultural Resources 26569 Community Center Drive Highland, CA, 92346 Phone: (909) 864 - 8933 Jessica.Mauck@sanmanuel-nsn.Gov</p>	<p>4/18/2022 via email; 5/28/2022 via email</p>	<p>Mr. Ryan Nordness responded via email on 5/28/2022 and stated that the project area is considered very sensitive for tribal cultural resources and the tribe wishes to consult with the lead agency for AB52.</p>
<p>Serrano Nation of Mission Indians Wayne Walker, Co-Chairperson P. O. Box 343 Patton, CA, 92369 Phone: (253) 370 - 0167 serranonation1@gmail.com</p>	<p>4/18/2022 via email; 4/26/2022 via telephone</p>	<p>No response</p>
<p>Serrano Nation of Mission Indians Mark Cochrane, Co-Chairperson P. O. Box 343 Patton, CA, 92369 Phone: (909) 528 - 9032 serranonation1@gmail.com</p>	<p>4/18/2022 via email; 4/26/2022 via telephone</p>	<p>No response</p>



T: 626.408.8006
info@paleowest.com

LOS ANGELES COUNTY
517 S. Ivy Avenue
Monrovia, CA 91016

April 18, 2022

Jairo Avila, Tribal Historic and Cultural Preservation Officer
Fernandeno Tataviam Band of Mission Indians
1019 Second Street, Suite 1
San Fernando, CA, 91340
Transmitted via email to jairo.avila@tataviam-nsn.us

RE: Cultural Resource Investigation for the Palmdale Logistic Park Project, City of Palmdale, Los Angeles County, California

Dear Mr. Avila,

PaleoWest, LLC (PaleoWest) is conducting a cultural resource investigation for the Palmdale Logistic Park Project (Project) in the city of Palmdale, Los Angeles County, California. The Project area is within Section 3, Township 6 North, Range 12 West, San Bernardino Baseline and Meridian (SBBM), as depicted on the Lancaster West, CA 7.5' U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) topographic quadrangle maps (see attached map). The Project is subject to the California Environmental Quality Act and the City of Palmdale is the Lead agency.

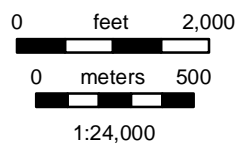
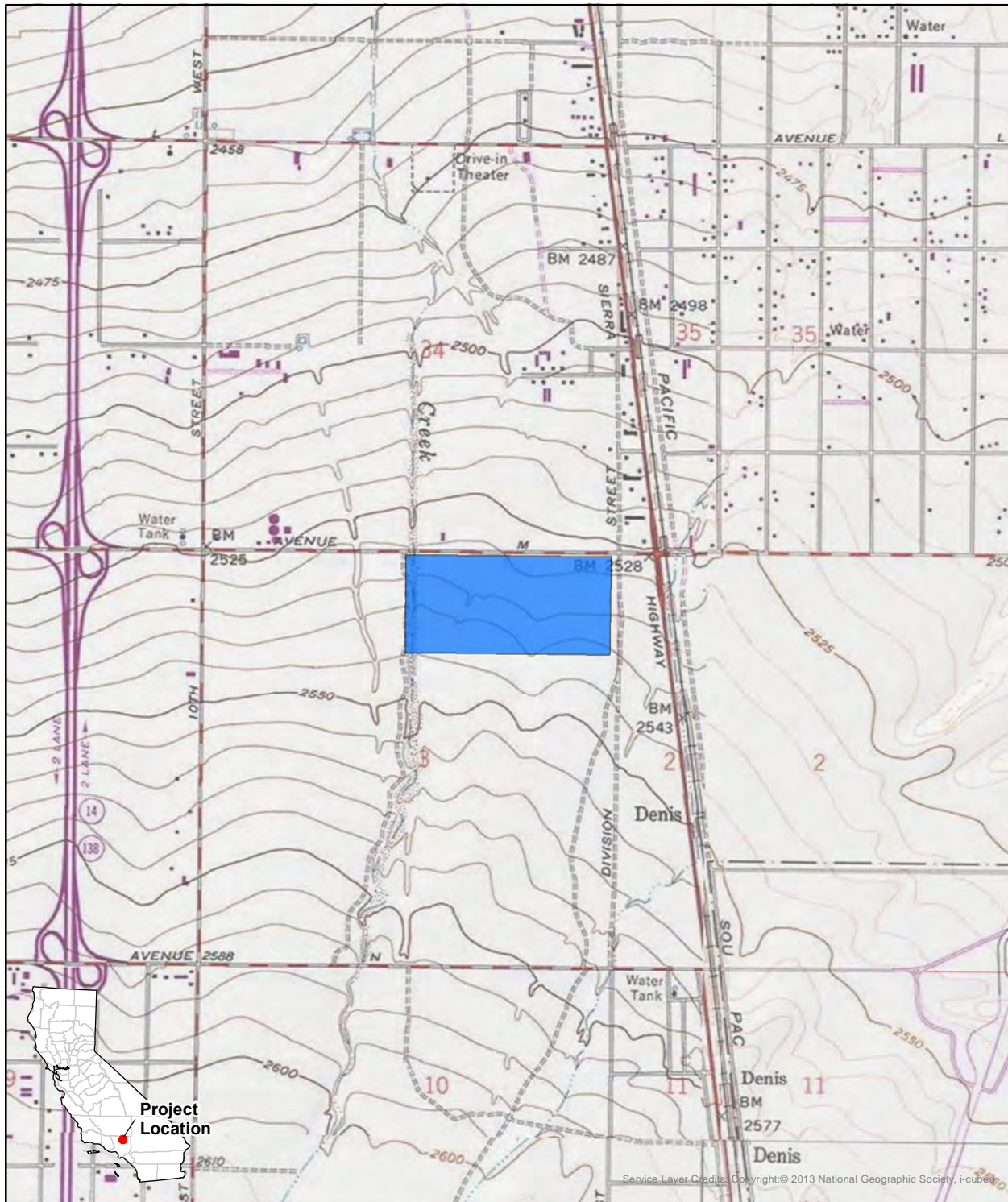
A cultural resource records search and literature review was completed at the South-Central Coastal Information Center (SCCIC) of the California Historical Resource Information System housed at California State University, Fullerton. The records search indicated that three cultural resources were identified within one-half-mile of the Project area. Of the three resources, two are historic-period resources comprised of one refuse scatter and one water conveyance system; the third resource is a prehistoric period resource consisting of one hand-sized ground stone and two quartzite cores. None of the cultural resources were previously documented within the Project area.

As part of the cultural resource investigation of the Project area, PaleoWest requested a search of the Native American Heritage Commission's (NAHC's) *Sacred Lands File* on February 17, 2022. The NAHC responded on April 11, 2022 indicating that that no Native American cultural resources were identified within the Project area. However, should your records show that cultural properties exist within or near the Project area (see enclosed map), please contact me at (626) 376-6729 or kknabb@paleowest.com.


Your comments are very important to us, and to the successful completion of this Project. I look forward to hearing from you in the near future. Thank you, in advance, for taking the time to review this request.

Sincerely,

Kyle Knabb, Ph.D., RPA
Senior Archaeologist
PaleoWest



Project Location Map
USGS 7.5' Quadrangle:
Lancaster West, CA (1975)
T6N R12W, Secs 3
UTM Zone 11 | NAD 83 | SBBM

 Project Area

Service Layer Credits: Copyright © 2013 National Geographic Society, I-cubed



T: 626.408.8006
info@paleowest.com

LOS ANGELES COUNTY
517 S. Ivy Avenue
Monrovia, CA 91016

April 18, 2022

Ann Brierty, THPO
Morongo Band of Mission Indians
12700 Pumarra Road
Banning, CA, 92220
Transmitted via email to abrierty@morongo-nsn.gov

RE: Cultural Resource Investigation for the Palmdale Logistic Park Project, City of Palmdale, Los Angeles County, California

Dear Ms. Brierty,

PaleoWest, LLC (PaleoWest) is conducting a cultural resource investigation for the Palmdale Logistic Park Project (Project) in the city of Palmdale, Los Angeles County, California. The Project area is within Section 3, Township 6 North, Range 12 West, San Bernardino Baseline and Meridian (SBBM), as depicted on the Lancaster West, CA 7.5' U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) topographic quadrangle maps (see attached map). The Project is subject to the California Environmental Quality Act and the City of Palmdale is the Lead agency.

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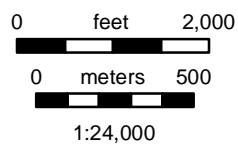
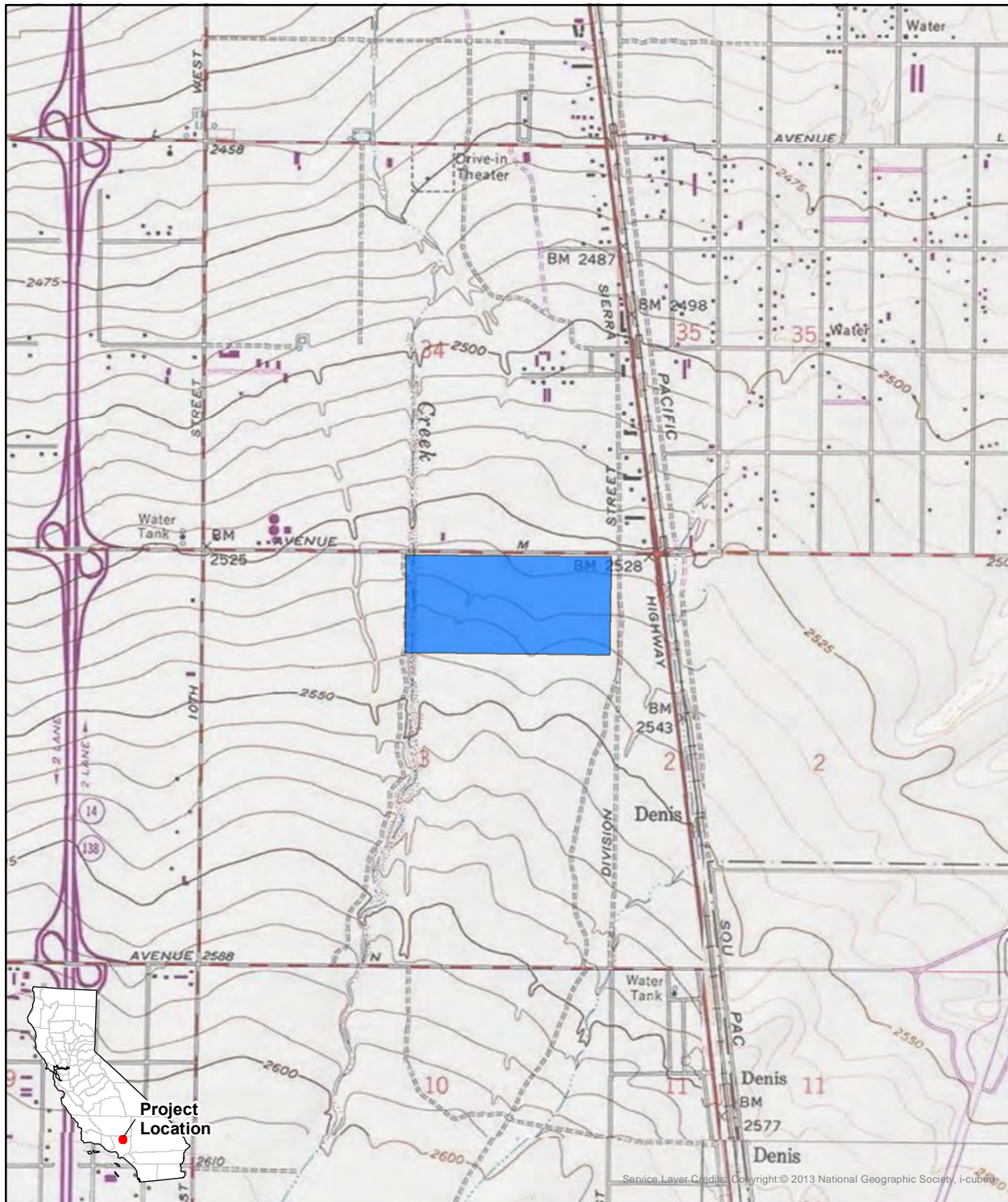
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Your comments are very important to us, and to the successful completion of this Project. I look forward to hearing from you in the near future. Thank you, in advance, for taking the time to review this request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kyle A. Knabb". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Kyle Knabb, Ph.D., RPA
Senior Archaeologist
PaleoWest



Project Location Map
USGS 7.5' Quadrangle:
Lancaster West, CA (1975)
T6N R12W, Secs 3
UTM Zone 11 | NAD 83 | SBBM

 Project Area

Service Layer Credits: Copyright © 2013 National Geographic Society, I-cube



T: 626.408.8006
info@paleowest.com

LOS ANGELES COUNTY
517 S. Ivy Avenue
Monrovia, CA 91016

April 18, 2022

Mark Cochrane, Co-Chairperson
Serrano Nation of Mission Indians
P. O. Box 343
Patton, CA, 92369
Transmitted via email to serranonation1@gmail.com

RE: Cultural Resource Investigation for the Palmdale Logistic Park Project, City of Palmdale, Los Angeles County, California

Dear Mr. Cochrane,

PaleoWest, LLC (PaleoWest) is conducting a cultural resource investigation for the Palmdale Logistic Park Project (Project) in the city of Palmdale, Los Angeles County, California. The Project area is within Section 3, Township 6 North, Range 12 West, San Bernardino Baseline and Meridian (SBBM), as depicted on the Lancaster West, CA 7.5' U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) topographic quadrangle maps (see attached map). The Project is subject to the California Environmental Quality Act and the City of Palmdale is the Lead agency.

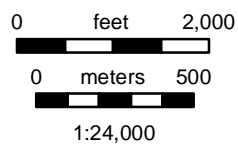
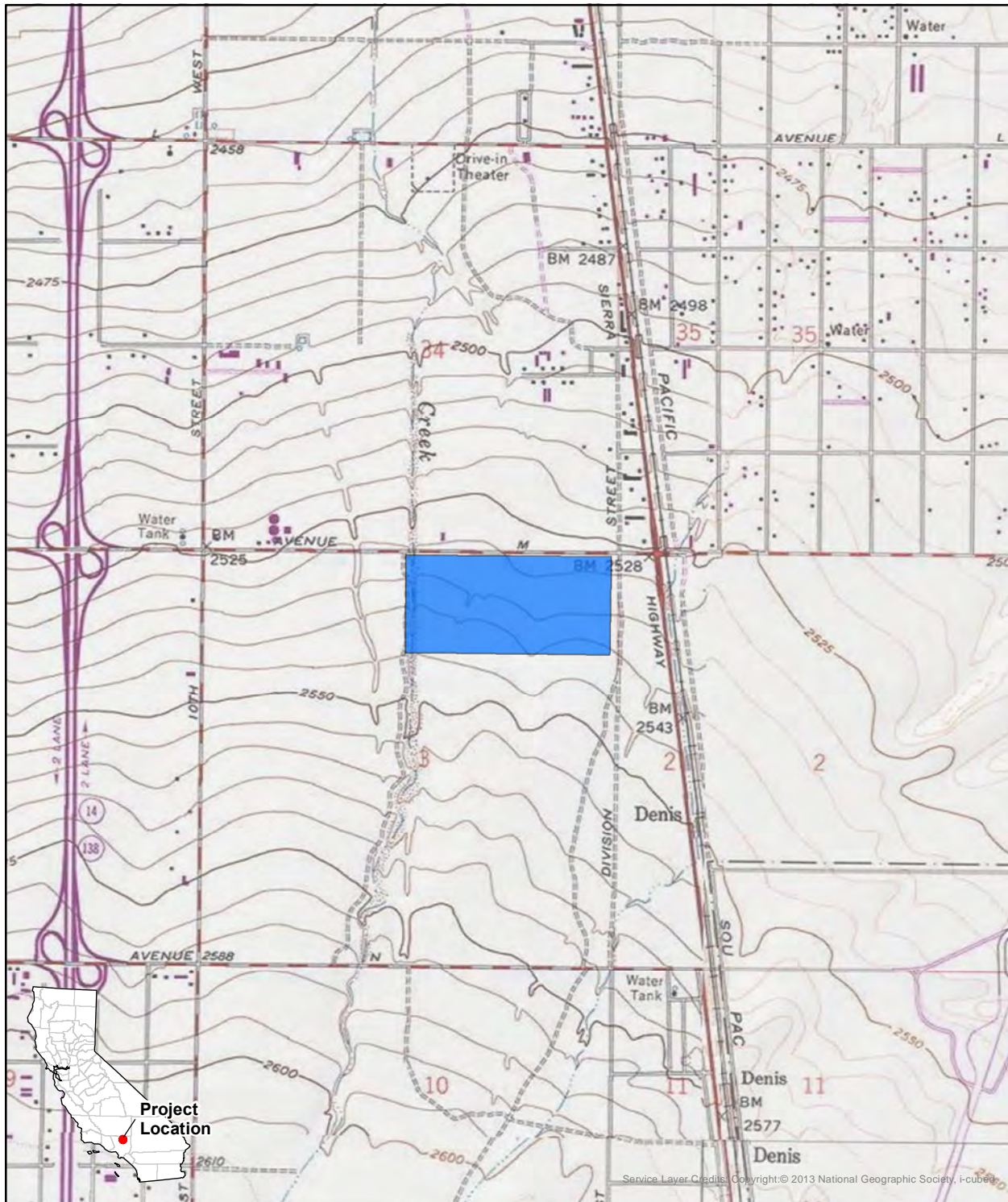
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Sincerely,

Kyle Knabb, Ph.D., RPA
Senior Archaeologist
PaleoWest



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T6N R12W, Secs 3
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 Project Area

Service Layer Credits: Copyright © 2013 National Geographic Society, I-cube



T: 626.408.8006
info@paleowest.com

LOS ANGELES COUNTY
517 S. Ivy Avenue
Monrovia, CA 91016

April 18, 2022

Robert Martin, Chairperson
Morongo Band of Mission Indians
12700 Pumarra Road
Banning, CA, 92220
Transmitted via email to abrierty@morongo-nsn.gov

RE: Cultural Resource Investigation for the Palmdale Logistic Park Project, City of Palmdale, Los Angeles County, California

Dear Mr. Martin,

PaleoWest, LLC (PaleoWest) is conducting a cultural resource investigation for the Palmdale Logistic Park Project (Project) in the city of Palmdale, Los Angeles County, California. The Project area is within Section 3, Township 6 North, Range 12 West, San Bernardino Baseline and Meridian (SBBM), as depicted on the Lancaster West, CA 7.5' U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) topographic quadrangle maps (see attached map). The Project is subject to the California Environmental Quality Act and the City of Palmdale is the Lead agency.

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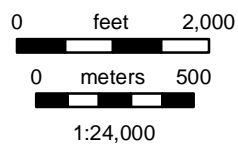
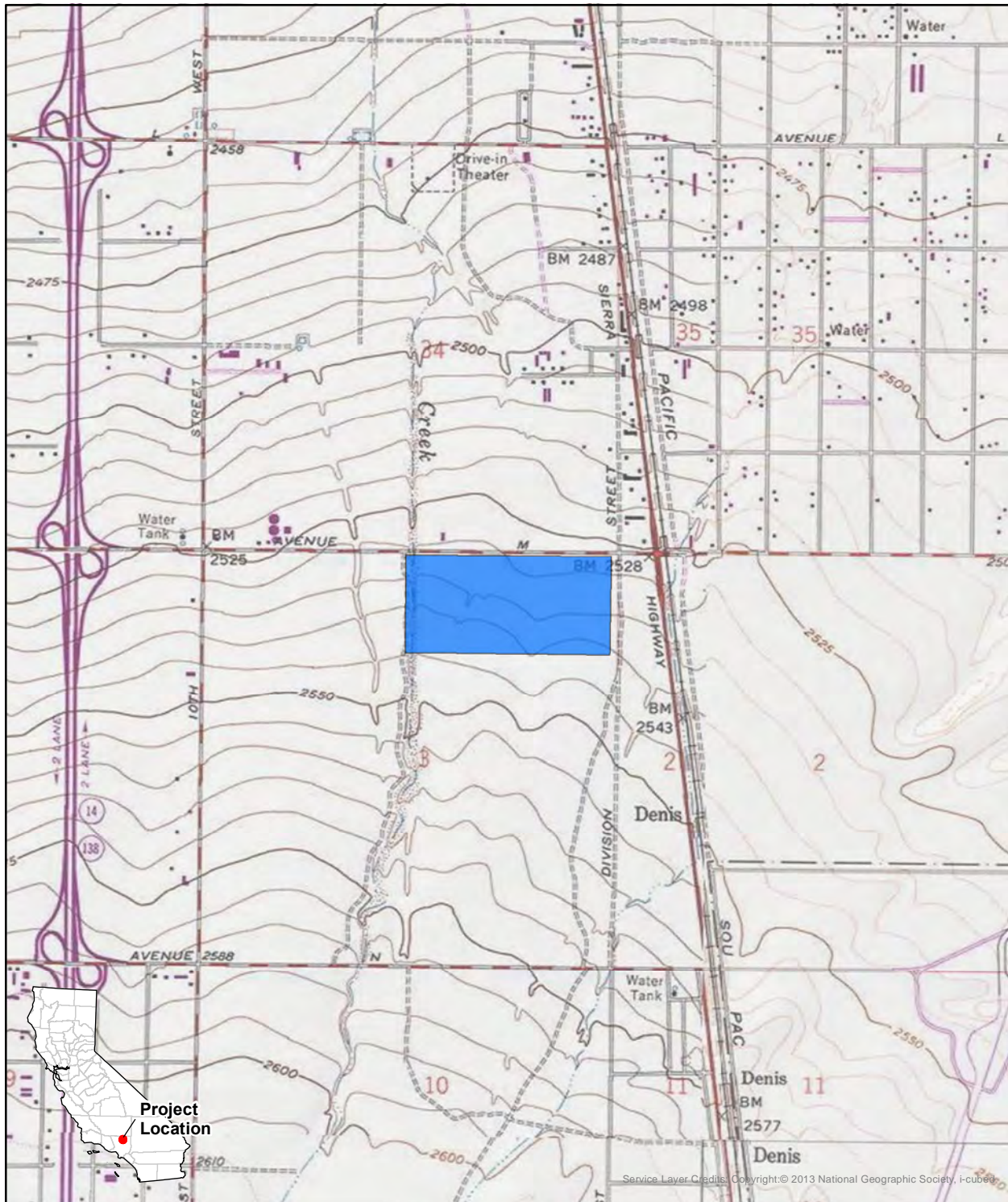
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Sincerely,

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Kyle Knabb, Ph.D., RPA
Senior Archaeologist
PaleoWest



Project Location Map
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T6N R12W, Secs 3
UTM Zone 11 | NAD 83 | SBBM

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Service Layer Credits: Copyright © 2013 National Geographic Society, I-cubed



T: 626.408.8006
info@paleowest.com

LOS ANGELES COUNTY
517 S. Ivy Avenue
Monrovia, CA 91016

April 18, 2022

Jessica Mauck, Director of Cultural Resources
San Manuel Band of Mission Indians
26569 Community Center Drive
Highland, CA, 92346
Transmitted via email to Jessica.Mauck@sanmanuelnsn.gov

RE: Cultural Resource Investigation for the Palmdale Logistic Park Project, City of Palmdale, Los Angeles County, California

Dear Ms. Mauck,

PaleoWest, LLC (PaleoWest) is conducting a cultural resource investigation for the Palmdale Logistic Park Project (Project) in the city of Palmdale, Los Angeles County, California. The Project area is within Section 3, Township 6 North, Range 12 West, San Bernardino Baseline and Meridian (SBBM), as depicted on the Lancaster West, CA 7.5' U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) topographic quadrangle maps (see attached map). The Project is subject to the California Environmental Quality Act and the City of Palmdale is the Lead agency.

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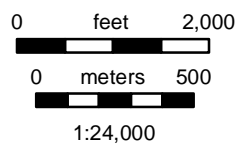
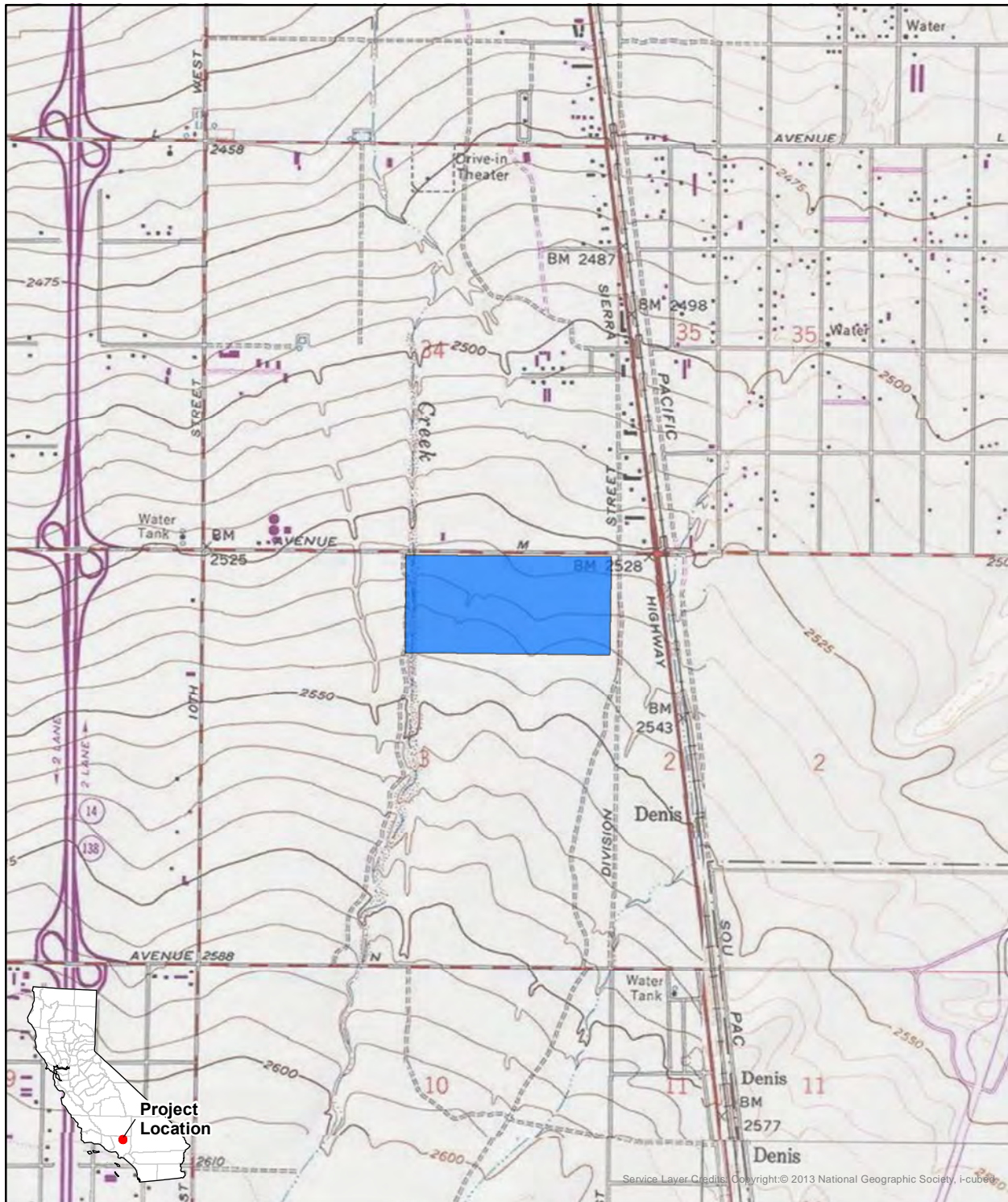
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Sincerely,

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Kyle Knabb, Ph.D., RPA
Senior Archaeologist
PaleoWest



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Service Layer Credits: Copyright © 2013 National Geographic Society, I-cube



T: 626.408.8006
info@paleowest.com

LOS ANGELES COUNTY
517 S. Ivy Avenue
Monrovia, CA 91016

April 18, 2022

Jill McCormick, Historic Preservation Officer
Quechan Tribe of the Fort Yuma Reservation
P.O. Box 1899
Yuma, AZ, 85366
Transmitted via email to historicpreservation@quechantribe.com

RE: Cultural Resource Investigation for the Palmdale Logistic Park Project, City of Palmdale, Los Angeles County, California

Dear Ms. McCormick,

PaleoWest, LLC (PaleoWest) is conducting a cultural resource investigation for the Palmdale Logistic Park Project (Project) in the city of Palmdale, Los Angeles County, California. The Project area is within Section 3, Township 6 North, Range 12 West, San Bernardino Baseline and Meridian (SBBM), as depicted on the Lancaster West, CA 7.5' U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) topographic quadrangle maps (see attached map). The Project is subject to the California Environmental Quality Act and the City of Palmdale is the Lead agency.

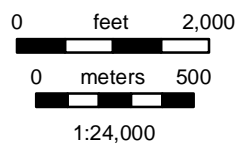
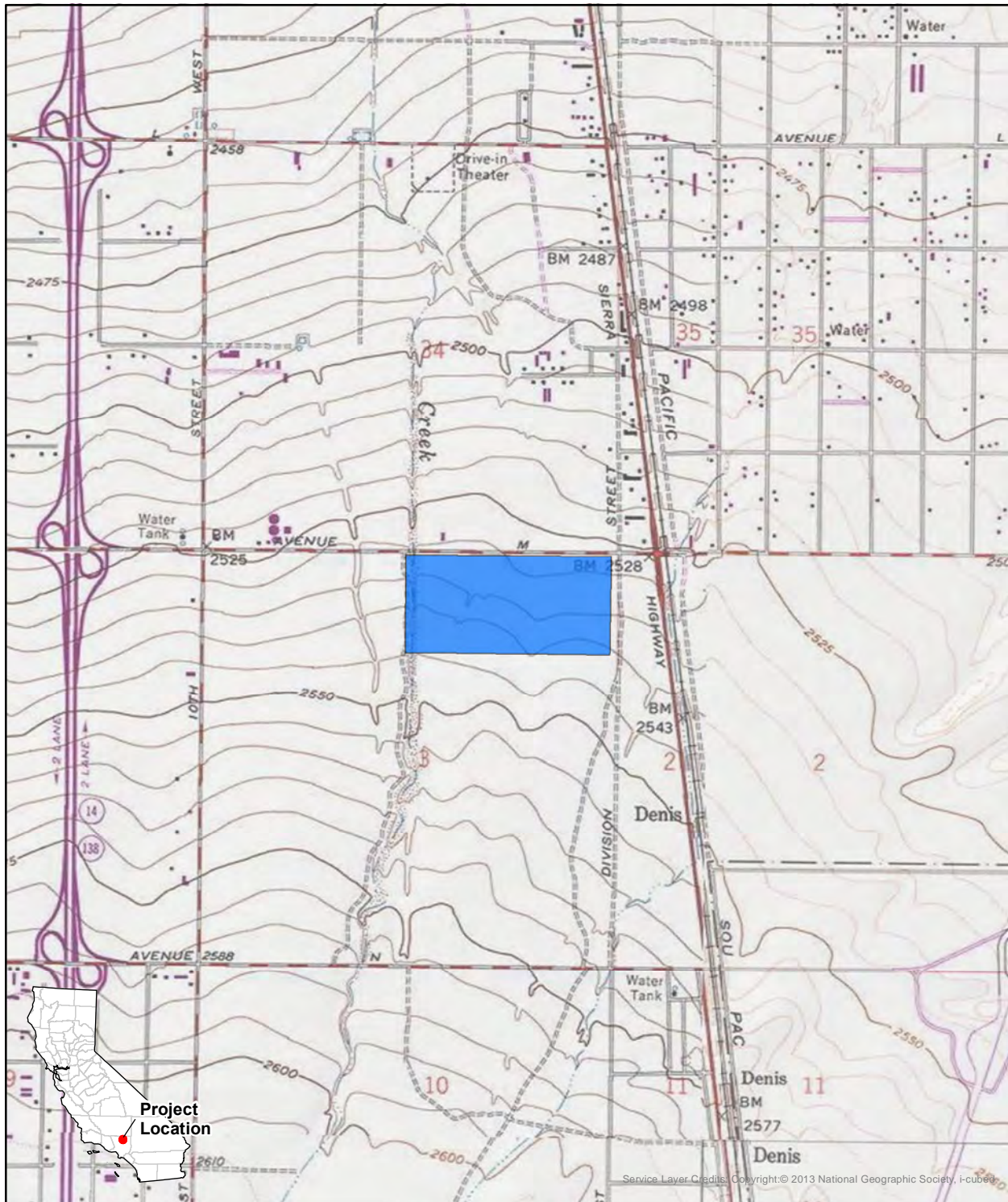
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Kyle Knabb, Ph.D., RPA
Senior Archaeologist
PaleoWest



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UTM Zone 11 | NAD 83 | SBBM

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Service Layer Credits: Copyright © 2013 National Geographic Society, I-cubed



T: 626.408.8006
info@paleowest.com

LOS ANGELES COUNTY
517 S. Ivy Avenue
Monrovia, CA 91016

April 18, 2022

Manfred Scott, Acting Chairman Kw'ts'an Cultural Committee
Quechan Tribe of the Fort Yuma Reservation
P.O. Box 1899
Yuma, AZ, 85366
Transmitted via email to scottmanfred@yahoo.com

RE: Cultural Resource Investigation for the Palmdale Logistic Park Project, City of Palmdale, Los Angeles County, California

Dear Mr. Scott,

PaleoWest, LLC (PaleoWest) is conducting a cultural resource investigation for the Palmdale Logistic Park Project (Project) in the city of Palmdale, Los Angeles County, California. The Project area is within Section 3, Township 6 North, Range 12 West, San Bernardino Baseline and Meridian (SBBM), as depicted on the Lancaster West, CA 7.5' U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) topographic quadrangle maps (see attached map). The Project is subject to the California Environmental Quality Act and the City of Palmdale is the Lead agency.

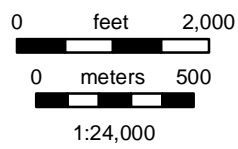
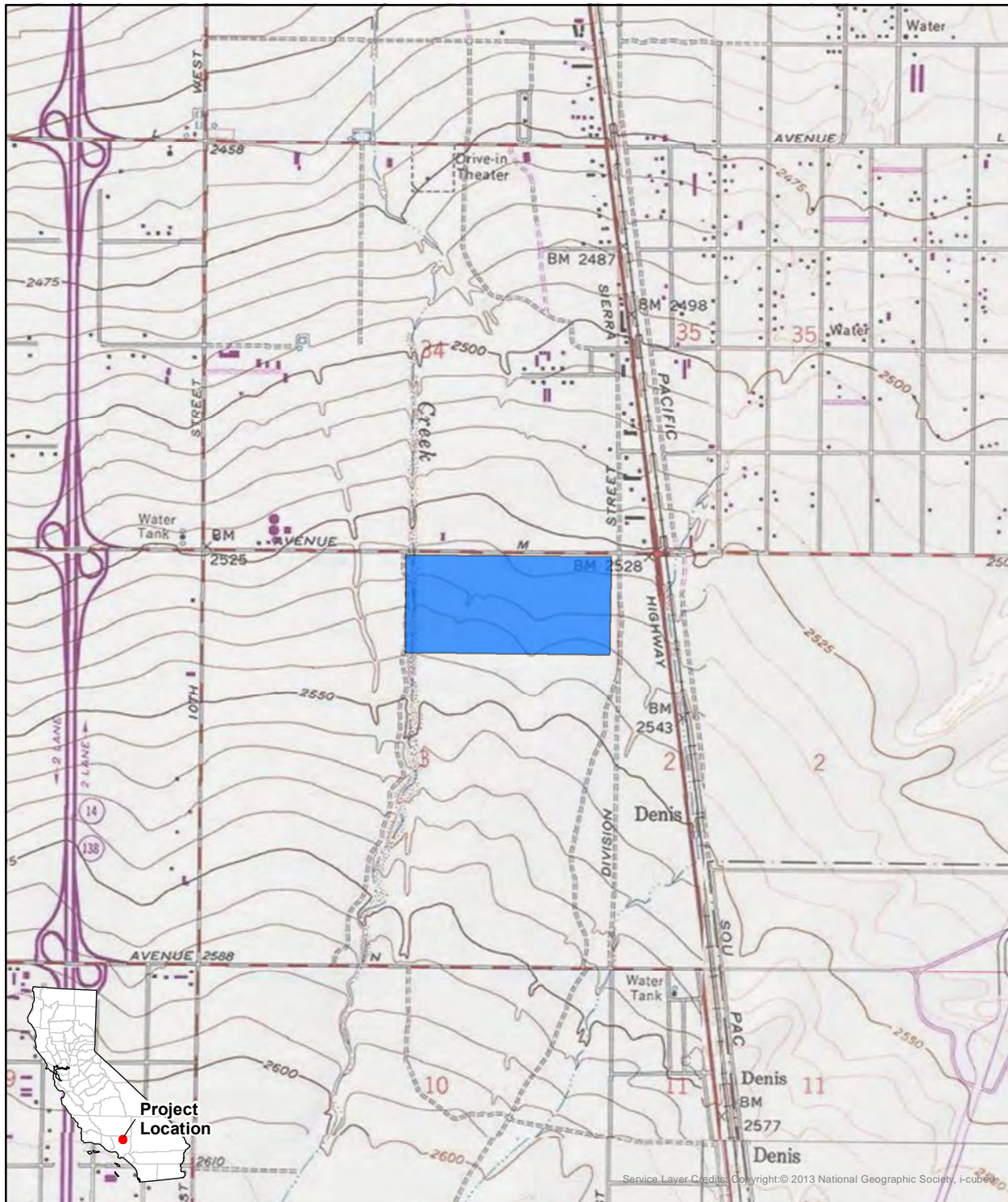
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Kyle Knabb, Ph.D., RPA
Senior Archaeologist
PaleoWest



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Service Layer Credits: Copyright © 2013 National Geographic Society, I-cubed



T: 626.408.8006
info@paleowest.com

LOS ANGELES COUNTY
517 S. Ivy Avenue
Monrovia, CA 91016

April 18, 2022

Wayne Walker, Co-Chairperson
Serrano Nation of Mission Indians
P. O. Box 343
Patton, CA, 92369
Transmitted via email to serranonation1@gmail.com

RE: Cultural Resource Investigation for the Palmdale Logistic Park Project, City of Palmdale, Los Angeles County, California

Dear Mr. Walker,

PaleoWest, LLC (PaleoWest) is conducting a cultural resource investigation for the Palmdale Logistic Park Project (Project) in the city of Palmdale, Los Angeles County, California. The Project area is within Section 3, Township 6 North, Range 12 West, San Bernardino Baseline and Meridian (SBBM), as depicted on the Lancaster West, CA 7.5' U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) topographic quadrangle maps (see attached map). The Project is subject to the California Environmental Quality Act and the City of Palmdale is the Lead agency.

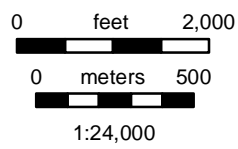
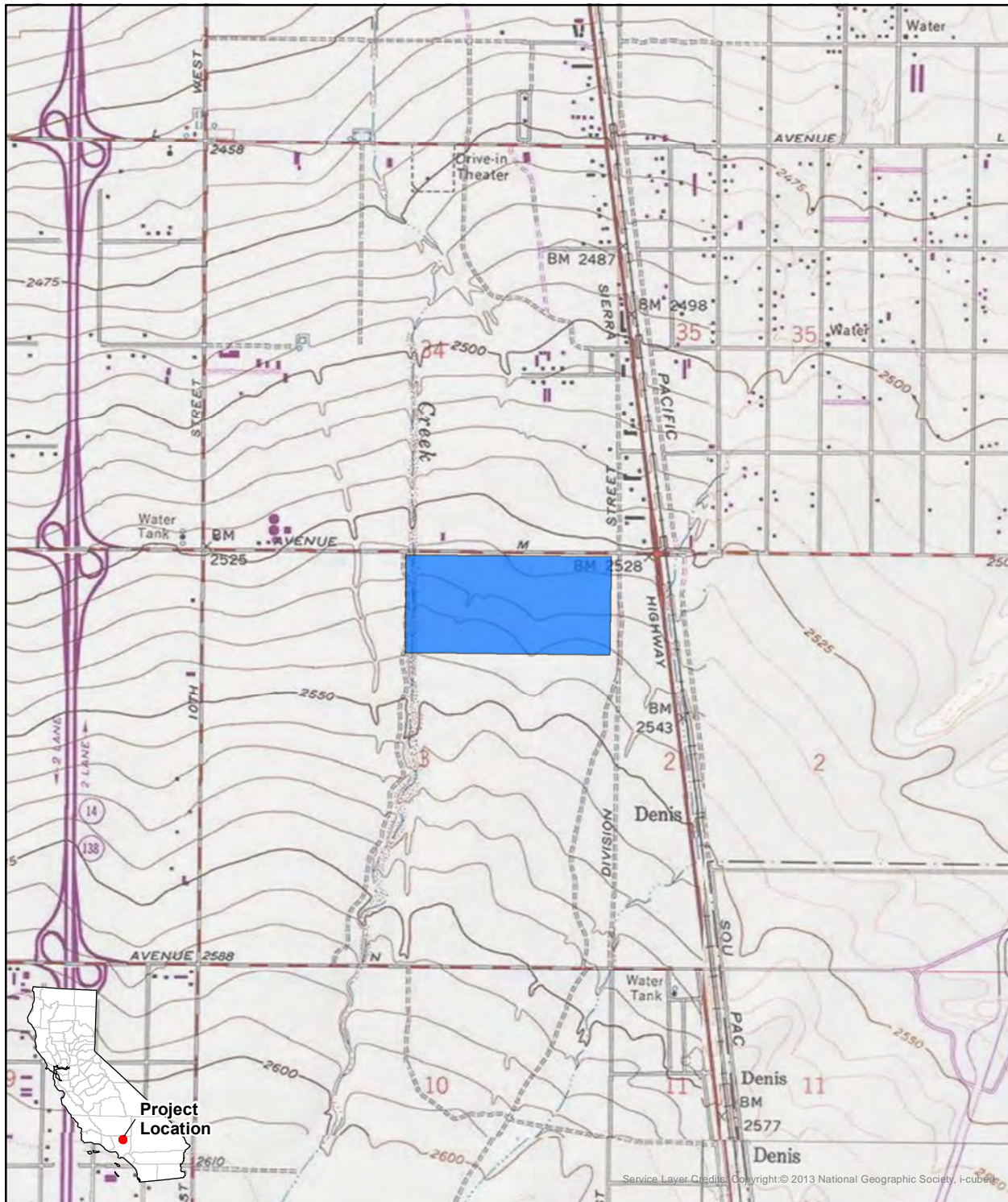
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Senior Archaeologist
PaleoWest



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T: 626.408.8006
info@paleowest.com

LOS ANGELES COUNTY
517 S. Ivy Avenue
Monrovia, CA 91016

April 18, 2022

Donna Yocum, Chairperson
San Fernando Band of Mission Indians
P.O. Box 221838
Newhall, CA, 91322
Transmitted via email to ddyocum@comcast.net

RE: Cultural Resource Investigation for the Palmdale Logistic Park Project, City of Palmdale, Los Angeles County, California

Dear Ms. Yocum,

PaleoWest, LLC (PaleoWest) is conducting a cultural resource investigation for the Palmdale Logistic Park Project (Project) in the city of Palmdale, Los Angeles County, California. The Project area is within Section 3, Township 6 North, Range 12 West, San Bernardino Baseline and Meridian (SBBM), as depicted on the Lancaster West, CA 7.5' U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) topographic quadrangle maps (see attached map). The Project is subject to the California Environmental Quality Act and the City of Palmdale is the Lead agency.

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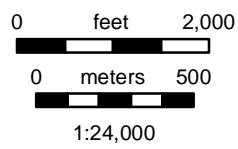
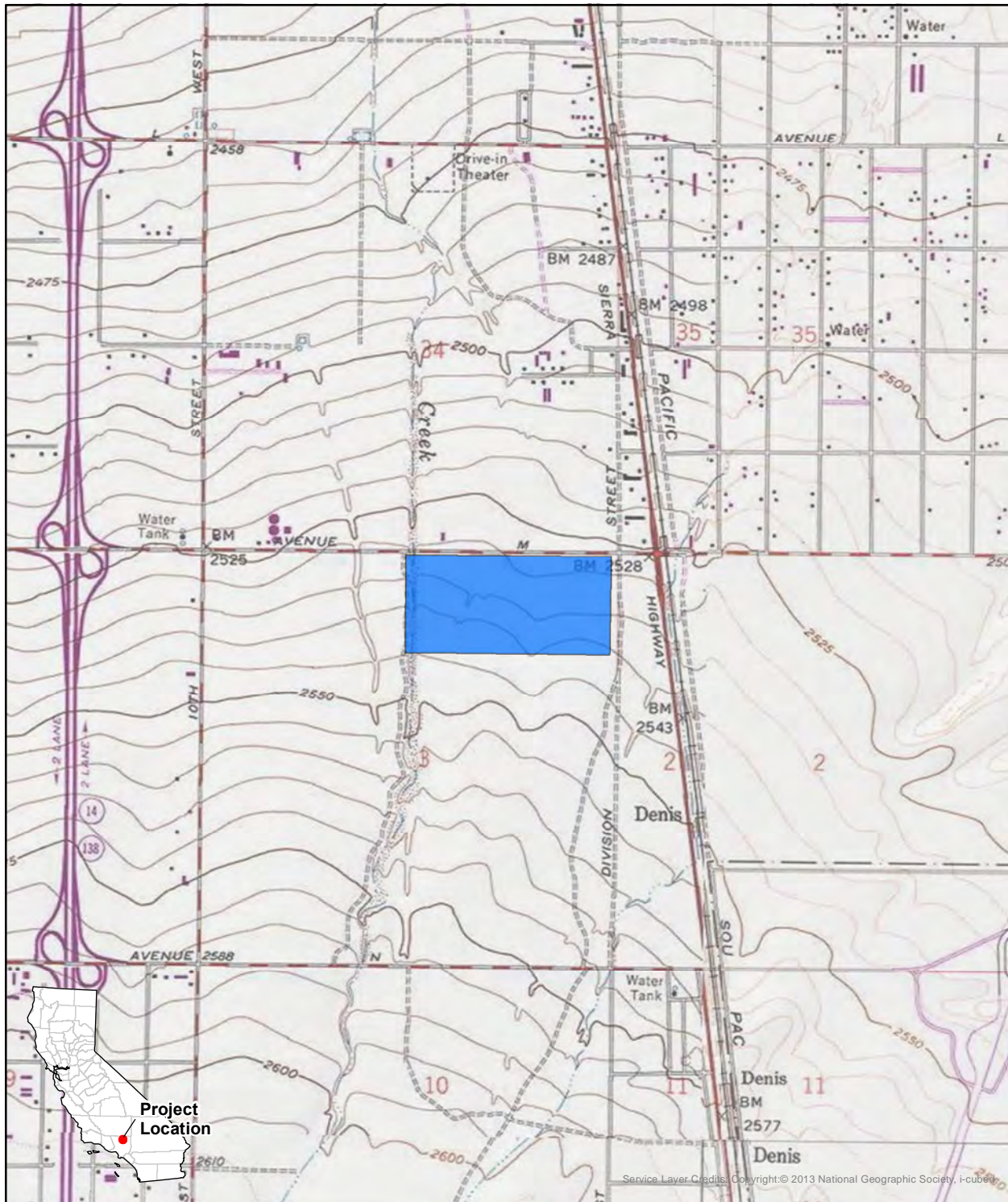
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Kyle Knabb, Ph.D., RPA
Senior Archaeologist
PaleoWest



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 Project Area

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From: [Jairo Avila](#)
To: [Gena Granger](#)
Cc: [Kyle Knabb](#)
Subject: Re: Cultural Resource Investigation for the Palmdale Logistic Park Project, City of Palmdale, Los Angeles County, California
Date: Tuesday, April 19, 2022 8:03:03 AM
Attachments: [image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)
[image004.png](#)
[image005.png](#)

Dear Gena Granger,

Thank you for the email and attached letter. The Cultural Resource Management Division of the Fernandefio Tataviam will provide tribal information to the lead agency during the AB52 consultation process.

Best,

Jairo F. Avila, M.A., RPA.

Tribal Historic and Cultural Preservation Officer

Cultural Resources Management Division

Tribal Historic and Cultural Preservation Department

Fernandefio Tataviam Band of Mission Indians

1019 Second Street, Suite 1

San Fernando, California 91340

Office: (818) 837-0794

Website: <http://www.tataviam-nsn.us>

From: Gena Granger <GGranger@paleowest.com>

Sent: Monday, April 18, 2022 5:48 PM

To: Jairo Avila <jairo.avila@tataviam-nsn.us>

Cc: Kyle Knabb <kknabb@paleowest.com>

Subject: Cultural Resource Investigation for the Palmdale Logistic Park Project, City of Palmdale, Los Angeles County, California

[CAUTION] EXTERNAL Email. Exercise caution.

Please see the attached letter and map for the Palmdale Logistic Park Project, City of Palmdale, Los Angeles County, California.

Best,



Gena Granger, MA, RPA | Associate Archaeologist

PaleoWest

ggranger@paleowest.com

mobile: 562-310-0153

www.paleowest.com

Los Angeles, California

517 S. Ivy Avenue

Monrovia, CA 91016



From: [Quechan Historic Preservation Officer](#)
To: [Gena Granger](#)
Cc: [Kyle Knabb](#)
Subject: RE: Cultural Resource Investigation for the Palmdale Logistic Park Project, City of Palmdale, Los Angeles County, California
Date: Thursday, April 21, 2022 2:54:05 PM
Attachments: [image006.png](#)
[image008.png](#)
[image010.png](#)
[image012.png](#)

This email is to inform you that we have no comments on this project. We defer to the more local Tribes and support their decisions on the projects.

From: Gena Granger [mailto:GGranger@paleowest.com]
Sent: Monday, April 18, 2022 5:51 PM
To: Quechan Historic Preservation Officer
Cc: Kyle Knabb
Subject: Cultural Resource Investigation for the Palmdale Logistic Park Project, City of Palmdale, Los Angeles County, California

Please see the attached letter and map for the Palmdale Logistic Park Project, City of Palmdale, Los Angeles County, California.

Best,



Gena Granger, MA, RPA | Associate Archaeologist
PaleoWest
ggranger@paleowest.com
mobile: 562-310-0153
www.paleowest.com

Los Angeles, California
517 S. Ivy Avenue
Monrovia, CA 91016



Virus-free. www.avast.com

From: [Ryan Nordness](#)
To: [Gena Granger](#)
Subject: Cultural Resource Investigation for the Palmdale Logistic Park Project, City of Palmdale, Los Angeles County, California
Date: Wednesday, May 25, 2022 11:44:11 AM



IRONSCALES couldn't recognize this email as this is the first time you received an email from this sender Ryan.Nordness@sanmanuel-nsn.gov

Hey Gena,

Thank you for reaching out to the Yuhaaviatam of San Manuel Nation (formerly known as the San Manuel Band of Mission Indians) concerning the proposed project area. YSMN appreciates the opportunity to review the project documentation received by the Cultural Resources Management Department on April 18th 2022. The proposed project is located near a known archaeological site to the south. The area is of great concern to YSMN and are very interested to consult whenever this project moves into AB52/CEQA territory.

Thank you again for your correspondence, if you have any additional questions or comments please reach out to me at your earliest convenience.

Respectfully,

Ryan Nordness

Ryan Nordness

Cultural Resource Analyst

Ryan.Nordness@sanmanuel-nsn.gov

O:(909) 864-8933 Ext 50-2022

M:(909) 838-4053

26569 Community Center Dr Highland, California 92346

