

APPENDIX D.1

Cultural Resources Investigation



**Cultural Resource Assessment for the
County Line Recharge Basin and Turnout Project
City of Calimesa, Riverside and San Bernardino Counties
California**

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April 2024

USGS Yucaipa 7.5-minute topographic quadrangle
Sections 7 and 18, T2S/R1W; and Sections 11-14, T2S/R2W, SBBM
Level of Investigation: CEQA Phase I
Keywords: San Gorgonio Pass Water Agency; ~6.9 acres surveyed

MANAGEMENT SUMMARY

The San Gorgonio Pass Water Agency (SGPWA) proposes the construction of new water conveyance pipelines, a turnout, and a groundwater recharge basin to the existing pipeline for the County Line Recharge Basin and Turnout project (Project), in the city of Calimesa, Riverside County, and in San Bernardino County. Under contract to the Albert A. Webb Associates, Applied EarthWorks, Inc. (Æ) conducted a cultural resource study of the Project in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The SGPWA is the lead agency for compliance with CEQA. As this Project may receive federal funding, this report also complies with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act.

This report summarizes the methods and results of the cultural resource study, including a records search and literature review, communication with Native American Tribal representatives, and an archaeological survey of the Project area. The purpose of the investigation was to determine the potential for the proposed Project to impact historical resources eligible for or listed in the California Register of Historical Resources.

The literature and records search at the Eastern Information Center and the South Central Coastal Information Center of the California Historical Resource Information System indicated four cultural resources have been documented within a 0.5-mile radius of the Project area. None of these previously identified cultural resources is within the Project area.

Results of the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) Sacred Lands File search was negative for Native American cultural resources within the Project area. Per the NAHC's request, Æ contacted 14 Native American individuals and organizations to elicit information on Native American resources within the Project area and received responses from representatives of three tribes—Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians, the Cahuilla Band of Indians, and the San Manuel Band of Mission Indians.

Æ archaeologist Andrew DeLeon completed an intensive pedestrian archaeological survey of the Project area on February 28, 2024. No cultural resources were encountered within the Project area during the survey.

The unpaved portion of the Project area is highly disturbed, with evidence of tilling. Ground visibility was generally poor due to extensive pinweed growth, and sparse patches of modern refuse were observed on the south side of the open field. As a result, there is a low likelihood that archaeological deposits or features will be discovered during construction and Æ recommends a finding of No Historic Properties Affected for the Project. Consequently, no further cultural resource studies are recommended within the Project area.

Field notes documenting the current investigation are on file at Æ's Hemet office. A copy of this report will also be submitted to the Eastern Information Center.

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INTRODUCTION

The San Geronio Pass Water Agency (SGPWA) proposes the construction of new water conveyance pipelines, a turnout, and a groundwater recharge basin to the existing pipeline for the County Line Recharge Basin and Turnout project (Project). The Project involves development within Assessor's Parcel Number 411-150-027 (approximately 6.9 acres) south of County Line Road and west of 4th Street, plus an additional approximately 956 linear feet of new pipeline along 4th Street to connect the recharge basin to the existing pipeline within County Line Road. The Project also involves construction of a new turnout to connect the existing pipeline within County Line Road to the existing pipeline within Bryant Street (approximately 160 linear feet). Under contract to the Albert A. Webb Associates, Applied EarthWorks, Inc. (Æ) conducted a cultural resource study of the Project in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The SGPWA is the lead agency for compliance with CEQA. In anticipation of federal funding, this report also complies with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA).

Æ Principal Investigator Joan George (B.S., Registered Archaeologist 28093) was responsible for overall quality control for the Project and served as project manager. The report was compiled and written by Jessica Cochran (B.A.). Fieldwork was conducted by Æ Senior Archaeologist Andrew DeLeon (M.A., Registered Professional Archaeologist 17087).

For the purposes of this study, the Project area (CEQA terminology) encompasses the Area of Potential Effects (NHPA terminology). Consequently, "Project area" is utilized throughout the remainder of this report.

1.1 PROJECT LOCATION AND DESCRIPTION

The Project is within the western portion of the city of Calimesa in Riverside County (Figure 1-1). Specifically, the Project is within Sections 7, and 18, Township 2 South, Range 1 West; and Sections 11, 12, 13, and 14, Township 2 South, Range 2 West, as depicted on the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) Yucaipa 7.5-minute topographic quadrangle map (Figure 1-2). The elevation is approximately 3,293 feet above mean sea level.

The Project involves the construction of new water conveyance pipelines and a groundwater recharge basin in the Calimesa Management Area of the Yucaipa Groundwater Basin. The new pipeline will be approximately 956 linear feet along 4th Street to connect the recharge basin to the existing pipeline within County Line Road. Additionally, the construction of the new turnout will connect the pipeline within County Line Road to the existing pipeline within Bryant Street (approximately 160 linear feet). The Project consists of several components, including constructing a turnout facility at the East Branch Extension (EBX) pipeline. The 16-inch-diameter turnout nozzle on the 54-inch-diameter EBX pipeline will be connected to the basin conveyance pipeline.

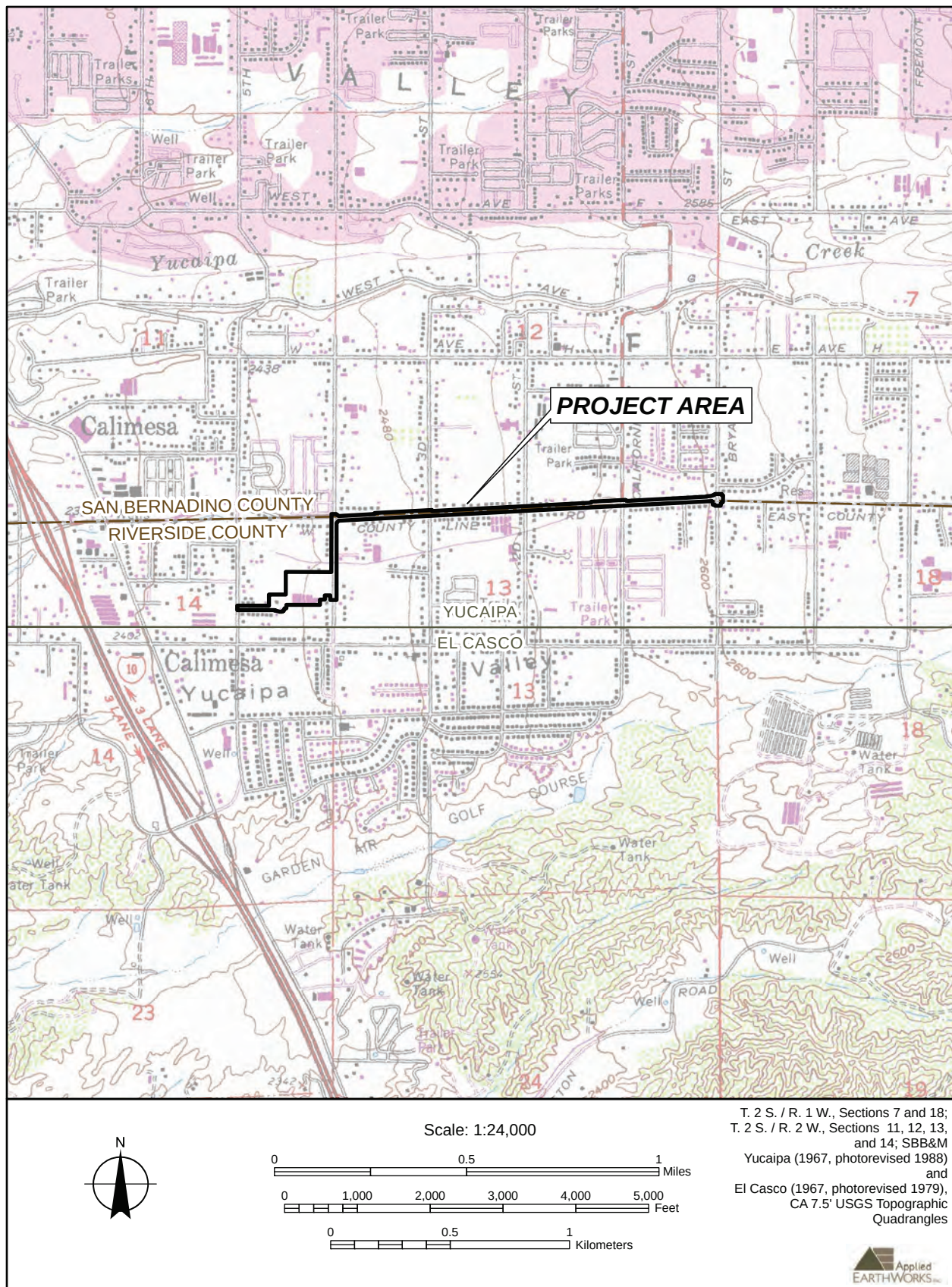


Figure 1-2 Project location on USGS Yucaipa 7.5-minute topographic quadrangle.

Additionally, an existing 14-inch potable pipeline will be converted to nonpotable use for approximately 5,300 linear feet. A new segment of a 14-inch diameter nonpotable pipeline will be constructed along 4th Street. An existing 8-inch potable pipeline will be redirected, and a new 8-inch diameter potable water line will be constructed. A recharge basin and an elevation control basin will be constructed. The recharge basin will have a maximum excavation depth of approximately 25 feet and an approximate storage capacity of 16.8 acre-feet. The elevation control basin will have a maximum ponding depth of 5 feet and a storage capacity of 1.7 acre-feet. The maximum depth of ground disturbance during Project construction is not expected to exceed 25 feet.

1.2 REGULATORY CONTEXT

1.2.1 California Environmental Quality Act

The Project requires discretionary approval from the SGPWA and is therefore subject to the requirements of CEQA. The CEQA Statute and Guidelines directs lead agencies to determine whether a project will have a significant impact on historical resources. A cultural resource considered “historically significant” is considered a “historical resource,” if it is more than 50 years of age and is included in a local register of historical resources or is listed in or determined eligible for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources under any one of the following criteria (California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Section 15064.5 [14 CCR 15064.5]):

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.

Compliance with CEQA’s cultural resource provisions typically involves several steps. Briefly, archival research and field surveys are needed, and identified cultural resources are inventoried and evaluated in prescribed ways. Prehistoric and historical archaeological sites, as well as standing structures, buildings, and objects deemed historically significant and sufficiently intact (i.e., historical resources), must be considered in project planning and development.

A project with an effect that may cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource is a project that may have a significant effect on the environment (14 CCR 15064.5[b]), and the lead agency is responsible for identifying potentially feasible measures to mitigate significant adverse changes in the significance of a historical resource (14 CCR 15064.5[b]4).

1.2.2 National Historic Preservation Act

Section 106 of the NHPA requires federal agencies to take into account the effects of their undertakings on historic properties. Undertakings include any federally funded, licensed, or permitted project (36 CFR 800.16[y]). A historic property as defined in 36 CFR 800.16(l)(1) means any prehistoric or historic district, site, building, structure, or object included in, or eligible for inclusion in, the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). Historic properties illustrate the quality of significance in American history, architecture, archaeology, and culture present in districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects of state and local importance that possess integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, association.

In the context of a federally permitted undertaking, such as this Project, the significance of cultural resources is measured against the NRHP criteria for evaluation (36 CFR 60.4):

- A) that are associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history; or
- B) that are associated with the lives of persons significant in our past; or
- C) that embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, or that represent the work of a master, or that possess high artistic values, or that represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction; or
- D) that have yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

A property must meet one or more of these specific criteria and retain sufficient integrity to qualify as a good representative of a significant historical theme or pattern. Unless a site is of exceptional importance, it is not eligible for listing in the NRHP until it is 50 years of age.

1.3 REPORT ORGANIZATION

This report documents the results of a cultural resource investigation of the proposed Project area. Chapter 1 has described the Project and its location, defined the scope of the cultural resource investigation, and stated the regulatory context. Chapter 2 summarizes the natural and cultural setting of the Project area and surrounding region. Chapter 3 presents the results of the archaeological literature and records search. Chapter 4 summarizes the Sacred Lands File (SLF) search with the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) and Native American communications. The field survey methods and results are discussed in Chapter 5. Cultural resource management recommendations are provided in Chapter 6, and references cited are listed in Chapter 7. Results of the SLF search and correspondence with Native American groups are included as Appendix A.

2 SETTING

This chapter describes the prehistoric, ethnographic, and historic cultural setting of the Project to provide a context for understanding the type, nature, and significance of cultural resources identified within the region. Precontact, ethnographically, and historically, the nature and distribution of human activities in the region have been affected by such factors as topography and the availability of water and natural resources. Therefore, prior to a discussion of the cultural setting, the environmental setting of the area is summarized below.

2.1 ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING

The Project is within the Southern California's Inland Valley at the western edge of the San Gorgonio Pass between San Bernardino and Palm Springs. The Project area is located in a narrow alluvial valley between the foothills of the San Gorgonio and San Jacinto mountains near the northern end of the Peninsular Ranges Geomorphic Province of Southern California. The province is a seismically active region characterized by a series of northwest-trending strike-slip faults. The most prominent of the nearby fault zones include the San Andreas, San Jacinto, and Elsinore fault zones, all of which have been known to be active during Quaternary time. The elevation of the Project area is approximately 3,293 feet above mean sea level (amsl).

Water resources within the Project area consist of three intermittently flowing unnamed creeks. Two of the creeks converge within the center of the Project area where Cherry Valley Boulevard and Interstate 10 (I-10) intersect. The third creek is located in the western portion of the Project area. All three flow westward into San Timoteo Creek, which eventually joins the Santa Ana River at the southern edge of the City of San Bernardino.

The climate of the Project area is Mediterranean, with hot, dry summers and cool, moist winters. It has a semi-arid precipitation regime with significant changes in temperature and moisture based on elevation and exposure, particularly in the nearby mountains. Annual precipitation in the area ranges from 13 to 17 inches. Situated approximately 0.5 mile south of the foothills of the San Bernardino National Forest, the Project area is located within the Inland Valley subregion of the Southern California/Northern Baja Coast Ecoregion (Griffith et al. 2016). Vegetation includes Riversidian coastal sage scrub typical species, California coastal sagebrush (*Artemisia californica*), California sunflower (*Encelia californica*), brittlebush (*E. farinose*), flat-top buckwheat (*Eriogonum fasciculatum*), and various species of white sage (*Salvia*, *S. apiana*), purple sage (*S. leucophylla*), and black sage (*S. mellifera*) (Beyers and Wirtz 1997) in addition to valley grasslands, and some riparian woodlands. The ecoregion now is heavily urbanized with a few areas of pasture or cropland.

2.2 PRECONTACT SETTING

The data presented herein regarding the sequence of precontact use, adaptation, and occupation of the interior valleys and mountains of Southern California are summarized from a synthesis of more than 10 years of archaeological research conducted at Diamond Valley Lake, approximately 23 miles south of the Project area, as part of the Eastside Reservoir Project (ESRP) (Goldberg et al. 2001; McDougall 1995). For the most part, the prehistory of the inland

valleys of Southern California has been less thoroughly understood than that of the nearby desert and coastal regions. Prior to the ESRP cultural resources studies, no comprehensive synthesis had been developed specifically for the interior valley and mountain localities of cismontane (“this side of the mountain” west of the Sierra Nevada) Southern California. The following has been adapted from Horne and McDougall (2008).

For purposes of this report, Native American occupation of the region can be divided into six periods: Early Archaic (circa 9500–7000 before present [B.P.]); Middle Archaic (circa 7000–4000 B.P.); Late Archaic (circa 4000–1500 B.P.); Saratoga Springs (circa 1500–750 B.P.); Late Prehistoric (circa 750–410 B.P.); and Protohistoric (circa 410–180 B.P.), which ended in the ethnographic period.

2.2.1 Early Archaic Period (9500–7000 B.P.)

During this period, the environment of the interior deserts was less arid and possessed an abundance of water sources and was therefore more favorable for human occupation than the cismontane valleys of Southern California, where the Project is located. Populations exploiting the interior valleys would have been tethered to the few reliable, drought-resistant water sources such as Lake Elsinore, Mystic Lake, and possibly the Cajalco Basin. In general, small, highly mobile groups traveled widely, utilizing highly portable tool kits to procure and process critical resources, with brief and anticipated intervals of seasonal sedentism near predictable water locations. Due to isolated locations where the conditions for occupation were met, Early Archaic sites are rare compared to later periods of prehistory (Goldberg et al. 2001; Horne and McDougall 2008; McDougall 1995).

2.2.2 Middle Archaic Period (7000–4000 B.P.)

The Middle Archaic Period saw a reversal of the weather patterns that had prevailed throughout much of cismontane Southern California for several millennia. By about 6000 B.P., local environmental conditions ameliorated while conditions in the deserts deteriorated, reaching the maximum aridity of the postglacial period (Antevs 1952; Hall 1985; Haynes 1967; Mehringer and Warren 1976; Spaulding 1991, 1995). Middle Archaic sites are associated with the margins of pluvial lakes and now-extinct springs. Pinto-series projectile points are a distinctive artifact type of this period (Justice 2002), though other artifacts include leaf-shaped bifacial knives; split cobble choppers and scrapers; scraper-planes; and small milling slabs and manos. Most sites from this interval are small surface deposits of lithic artifacts, suggesting temporary and perhaps seasonal occupation by small groups of people.

2.2.3 Late Archaic Period (4000–1500 B.P.)

The Late Archaic Period was one of cultural intensification coinciding with the Little Pluvial, a period when increased moisture allowed for more extensive occupation of the region. Sedentism likely increased during this period, with large occupation sites located adjacent to permanent water sources such as perennial springs and streams. Chronologically diagnostic projectile points of this period include Humboldt, Gypsum, and Elko-series dart points (Warren 1984), though Rose Spring arrow points appeared late within this period in the deserts. The mortar and pestle, used for processing acorns and hard seeds, also first appeared. A warming and drying trend

began around 2100 B.P., leading to intensification of use of certain resources (Goldberg et al. 2001).

2.2.4 Saratoga Springs Period (1500–750 B.P.)

Occupants of the region continued to adapt to the arid environment in the deserts (Warren 1984). Lake Cahuilla likely refilled the Coachella Valley around 1450 B.P. and was the focus of exploitation of fish and wetland resources. Occupation around Lake Elsinore and other large local water sources declined as these dried, however, and people became tethered to springs (Goldberg et al. 2001). Cultural trends continued from the Late Archaic Period, as Saratoga Springs projectile points, also associated with early use of the bow and arrow, appeared. The sparse assemblages found within the region, however, obscure the timing of local adaptation to bow and arrow (Goldberg et al. 2001). Shoshonean language speakers likely moved into Southern California at this time. Brown and buffware pottery first appeared on the lower Colorado River at about 1200 B.P. and started to diffuse across the California deserts by about 1100 B.P. (Moratto 1984). The warmer and drier Medieval Warm Period set in throughout the Southwest by about 1060 B.P. (Stine 1994; Warren 1984) and led to the withdrawal of Native American populations from marginal desert areas.

2.2.5 Late Prehistoric Period (750–400 B.P.)

A period of lower temperatures and increased precipitation known as the Little Ice Age resulted in increased resource productivity in the region and subsequent population increase. Cottonwood Triangular points appeared in inland assemblages and Obsidian Butte obsidian became much more common (Goldberg et al. 2001). Lake Cahuilla began to recede (Waters 1983) and the large Patayan populations occupying its shores moved westward to areas including the San Jacinto Plain (Wilke 1976). The final recession of Lake Cahuilla, which had occurred by approximately 400 B.P., resulted in a population shift away from the lakebed into the Peninsular Ranges to the west and the Colorado River regions to the east.

2.2.6 Protohistoric Period (circa 400 to 150 B.P.)

Sedentism intensified during the Protohistoric Period. Increased hunting with bow and arrow and widespread exploitation of acorns, other hard nuts, and berries (indicated by the abundance of mortars and pestles) provided reliable and storable food resources. Reliable food sources likely prompted the establishment of small, completely sedentary villages with resource catchment areas around them (True 1966, 1970). Ceramic technology first appeared in the region around 350 B.P. Cottonwood Triangular points were supplemented by Desert Side-notched points. This period ended in 1769 A.D. when Spanish settlement began in Upper California (aka Alta California).

2.3 ETHNOGRAPHIC SETTING

Based on reliable information passed down from Tribal elders, published academic works in the areas of anthropology, history, and ethnohistory, and through recorded ethnographic and linguistic accounts (Kroeber 1976; Smith and Freers 1994; Strong 1929; Vane 2000), the Project lies within the ancestral cultural territory of the Luiseño Native American cultural group, the Cahuilla Native American cultural group, and the Serrano Native American cultural group. The

three tribes speak languages of the Cupan branch of the Northern Uto-Aztecan family, part of the larger Uto-Aztecan language family (Golla 2011; Hill 2011; Shaul 2014). Their lifeways were organized around hunting, collecting, and harvesting as well as an understanding of the universe in terms of power, sentient and willful, as the causative agent for all natural phenomena.

2.3.1 Luiseño Native Americans and the Cahuilla Native Americans

Ethnographically, Cahuilla territory spanned from the summit of the San Bernardino Mountains in the north to Borrego Springs and the Chocolate Mountains in the south, a portion of the Colorado Desert west of Orocopia Mountain to the east, the San Jacinto Plain near Riverside and the eastern slopes of Palomar Mountain to the west (Bean 1978). Strong (1929:150) stated that several clans of the Mountain Cahuilla, under the leadership of Juan Antonio, moved from their mountain homes first to “pulatana” in the vicinity of Riverside, then called Jurupa. Later their village was moved to a village known as Sahatapa in the San Timoteo Canyon area near El Casco, immediately south of the Project area.

Luiseño territory in ethnographic times encompassed a stretch of the California coast and included most of the drainage of the San Luis Rey and Santa Margarita rivers. Inland, Luiseño territory extended south from Santiago Peak, including the Elsinore and Temecula valleys, and extended farther south to Mount Palomar and the San Jose Valley, then west to the coast at Agua Hedionda Creek. The coastal territory of the Luiseño extended north to near San Mateo Creek in Orange County (Bean 1978).

Prior to the Mission Period (prior to 1769), the Cahuilla and Luiseño organized themselves into patrilineal clans composed of 3 to 10 lineages, distinctly different, named, and claiming a common genitor, with one lineage recognized as the founding lineage (Bean 1978; Bean and Vane 2001). Clans owned a large territory in which each lineage owned a village site and specific resource areas. Clan lineages cooperated in large communal subsistence activities including animal drives, hunts, and controlled brush burning, and in performing rituals.

The Cahuilla and Luiseño were, for the most part, hunters, collectors, and harvesters. Clans were apt to own land in valley, foothill, and mountain areas, providing them with the resources of many different ecological niches. Individual lineages or families owned specific resource areas within the clan territory. Although any given village had access to only some of the necessary resources, briskly flourishing systems of trade and exchange gave them access to neighboring and distant resources. Rules that forbade marriage to anyone related within five generations or belonging to the same moiety ensured that everyone had relatives living in many ecozones; this was an important arrangement because relatives were invited to ceremonies where the gift exchanges provided a way for drought-stricken groups to get food in exchange for treasure goods.

The Cahuilla and Luiseño, like other California Indians, understand the universe in terms of power. They assume power to be the principal causative agent for all phenomena. Power is believed to be sentient and to have will. Unusual natural phenomena are viewed as especially sacred, being the repositories of concentrations of power. Mountain tops, and especially particular mountain tops, are held sacred, as are unusual rock formations, springs, and streams. Rock art sites are sacred, having been the sites of ceremonies. Burial and cremation sites are also sacred, as are many other places of residual power. Various birds, especially eagles, condors,

hawks, and other birds of prey are revered as sacred beings of great power and sometimes were killed ritually and mourned in mortuary ceremonies similar to those for important individuals. For this reason, bird cremation sites are sacred.

Because of these strong beliefs, rituals were (and remain) a constant factor in the life of every Native American individual. Some rituals were scheduled and routine (e.g., birth, puberty, death, mourning, and the eagle ritual and first rites), while others were sporadic and situationally performed (e.g., deer ceremony, bird dance, enemy songs, and rain ritual) (Bean and Vane 2001: VII.A-3-10).

2.3.2 Serrano Native Americans

The Serrano, or “mountaineers” in Spanish, occupied the territory of the San Bernardino Mountains east to Mount San Gorgonio, the San Gabriel Mountains west to Mount San Antonio, and portions of the desert to the north and the fringe of the San Bernardino Valley to the south (Kroeber 1976:615–616). Numbering no more than perhaps 1,500 people, the Serrano were scattered over a rugged, expansive landscape. The Serrano were Shoshonean peoples, speakers of languages in the Takic sub-family of the larger Uto-Aztecan language family (Kroeber 1976:578–579). Their most intensive cultural contacts were with the Pass Cahuilla, who occupied the territory to the southeast, and the Gabrielino, who occupied the lands westward to the Pacific coast.

There were numerous clans of Serrano people located across the Mojave Desert and the San Bernardino Mountains. The Serrano subgroup, known as the Yuhaaviatam clan, occupied the portions of the San Bernardino Mountains and Valley that encompass the Project area, and thus this term refers here to the smaller cultural unit.

Serrano clans were politically autonomous and both patrilineal and exogamous. A moiety structure conditioned Serrano social life, all clans belonging to either the Coyote or Wildcat moiety. These moieties were exogamous. Each Serrano clan had a hereditary leader, or kika, and an assistant who was a ceremonial leader, or paha (Strong 1929:17–18). These individuals were central to the ritual life of the Serrano, providing leadership during yearly ceremonial periods. Kroeber (1976:617) indicates that villages were generally located where streams emerged from the foothills. Bean et al. (1981:85–86) indicate groups of lineages lived in villages at the valley margins in the winter and in smaller encampments at higher elevations in the summer. Proximity to water sources and adequate arrays of resources predictably dictated settlement location choices. Bean et al. (1981:85) note also that individual homes were quite scattered across the landscape in order to ensure privacy, to the extent that some “villages” covered up to five square miles. These cultural factors have important implications for archaeological interpretations of occupation sites.

Subsistence during winter months consisted mostly of reliance on stored foods (e.g., acorns, pinyon nuts, mesquite beans) and some fresh meats and greens. In the spring, agave, cacti, greens, and a mix of game provided the bulk of the food resources. Many fruits and seeds became available during the summer months, but perhaps the richest season was autumn, when major harvests of acorns, pinyon nuts, mesquite beans, and screwbeans occurred, and when communal rabbit hunts took place in the context of much feasting and ritual activity (Bean et al. 1981:86–87). In addition to occupation sites and food procurement sites, rock cairns (“offerings”

places along trails), cupule petroglyph sites, hot springs (sacred areas), sources of lithic materials suitable for the production of stone tools and other artifacts, and trails represent important land uses by the Serrano.

2.4 HISTORICAL SETTING

The Spanish occupation of Alta California and the founding of the San Diego de Alcalá mission in San Diego occurred in 1769, resulting in the availability of written records. The following historic context of California was taken primarily from Clark and Smallwood (2015).

Exploration of the California coast in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries was the basis for the Spanish claim to the region. In the eighteenth century, Spain recognized that to strengthen its claim, it would have to settle Alta California to preclude encroachment by the Russians and British traders. Therefore, in the latter half of the eighteenth century, Spain and the Franciscan Order founded a series of presidios, or military camps, and 21 missions along the California coast, beginning at San Diego in 1769. The Spanish also carried out exploratory expeditions into the interior regions, including the Mojave Desert, to identify travel routes to the coast and to establish interior agricultural settlements.

With the signing of the Treaty of Guadalupe-Hidalgo on February 2, 1848, California formally became an American territory, and two years later, on September 9, 1850, California became the thirty-first state in the Union. Between those two years came a large influx of eastern immigrants seeking their fortunes; the catalyst for this influx was James Marshall's 1848 discovery of gold at Sutter's Mill (Starr 2005). The population and wealth in the early statehood years were concentrated in the northern part of the state. Ranching was the main occupation in the southern counties, providing meat and supplies to the north. The floods and drought of the 1860s brought that era to a close, and the completion of the transcontinental railroad in 1869 opened California to agricultural settlement.

Southern California was promoted as an ideal agricultural area, with fertile soil and a mild climate. Contemporary reviews of California painted beautiful pictures that appealed to both Americans and Europeans alike. There were three land booms tied to railroad expansion: (1) after the transcontinental railroad was completed, enabling easy travel to California; (2) late 1870s after the Southern Pacific Railroad (SPRR) was completed; and (3) 1886–1888, when the Santa Fe transcontinental line was completed. Competition between these lines incited a rate war, and both tourists and potential settlers took advantage of the low fares to come to California (Lech 2004:222).

2.4.1 Local History

2.4.1.1 The San Gorgonio Pass (SGP)

The SGP is a gap on the rim of the Colorado Desert between the San Bernardino Mountains to the north and the San Jacinto Mountains to the south created by the San Andreas Fault. The pass essentially covers the area between the mountain ranges to the north and south and from San Timoteo Canyon in the west to the town of Whitewater in the east. Today, it is the route that carries I-10 and the Union Pacific Railroad between the Los Angeles basin to the west and the Coachella Valley and beyond, to the east. The SGP region is the homeland of the Pass Cahuilla Indians and the Serrano people (Holmes 1912:174–217; Holtzclaw and San Gorgonio Pass

Historical Society 2006:7–8) Prior to European contact, there was a large Native population in the SGP, with numerous Cahuilla villages reported in the area (Holmes 1912:174–217; Holtzclaw and San Gorgonio Pass Historical Society 2006:7–8). By the 1860s, the local Native population was greatly reduced due to disease, forced removal, and relocation. The reservations were officially established beginning in the 1870s. Native Americans of the SGP are mostly affiliated with the Morongo Band of Mission Indian reservation, which is composed of both Cahuilla and Serrano people (Bean 1974).

With the intervention of Europeans in Southern California, trails and roads tied Spanish missions together for communication and as supply routes. The Spanish missions conducted reconnaissance into the desert interior of Southern California from 1769 to 1846 to obtain information on topography and Native American population densities. These explorations often followed Native American trails across the landscape (Forbes 1964:99; Warren and Roske 1981:ii). Although very little is known about historic developments in the SGP before 1820, what is documented is that in 1821, a party of Coccomaricopa Native Americans had traveled to the San Gabriel Mission and told the Spanish padres of a trail that only took six days to reach the Colorado River. The Spanish were very interested in this inland trail that could connect them with Mexico through the Southwest, and this route later would become the Bradshaw Trail. These Native trails were used so frequently by European explorers that the Yuma Indians forced the closure of the Yuma Trail between 1783 and 1824 (Forbes 1964:105; Warren and Roske 1981:2). In about 1824, the friars of the San Gabriel Mission established a mission outpost in the SGP named in honor of St. Gorgonious. The area was known as Rancho San Gorgonio, one of the 24 principal cattle ranches under the control of the San Gabriel Mission.

At the close of the Mexican American War in 1848, the southwest territories came under control of the United States. The gold rush started soon after, which brought thousands of new settlers and immigrants to California (Holmes 1912; Warren and Roske 1981:1). Non-Indian settlement in the SGP was slow to expand due to its remoteness and limited water sources. However, after gold was discovered in Arizona in the 1860s, travel through the pass increased as miners needed passage across the desert, and new wagon roads, like the Bradshaw Trail, were developed to carry people and the mail. In the 1870s and 1880s, settlement expanded in the SGP near the stations built by the new SPRR line (Holmes 1912; Warren and Roske 1981:1).

2.4.1.2 Cherry Valley

Cherry Valley is located in the SGP north of Beaumont and adjacent to the Project area to the east. It is one of the three main towns in the SGP. The second, Banning, was laid out during the second land boom in the 1870s, as a result of the construction of the SPRR. The third and last boom period saw the development of the third major city in the area, Beaumont, with nearby Cherry Valley.

George Egan, who owned a store in Banning, purchased land east of that town and founded another, named San Gorgonio, in 1883 (Lech 2004:260). The town grew slowly, with most settlers doing dryland farming because of lack of water for irrigation (Lech 2004:261). In 1886, the beginning of the third land boom, Egan sold his property to the Southern California Investment Company, founded by H. C. Sigler, “a new syndicate ... looking for property that could be subdivided and put on the ever-expanding market of those boom times” (Lech 2004:262). Sigler changed the name of the town to Beaumont.

In 1885, Los Angeles investors had formed the Cherry Valley Land and Water Company, bought land north of San Geronio, and laid out Cherry Valley on 845 acres (Lech 2004:267). The first cherry tree orchards were planted in that year (Cherry Acres 2008). However, just one year later Sigler purchased this ultimately unsuccessful venture for \$29,575 and merged it with his Beaumont lands (Lech 2004:269).

Even though prospective buyers were brought in by excursion train, “. . . by 1889, the Southern California Investment Company, and Beaumont itself, were in dire straits” and “would languish for many years to come” (Lech 2004:263–264). Because there was no reliable water system, dry farming was the most viable farming method for those settlers that had purchased land around Beaumont and Cherry Valley (Lech 2004:264).

In 1907, C. B. Eyer and K. B. Smoot purchased Beaumont and surrounding lands; their first order of business was to develop a steady source of water for the area. Subsequently, more people came into the area to farm, planting orchards of cherries, apples, and other fruits. “The greater part of this new acreage lies in the valley north of Beaumont, toward the foothills, in Cherry and Apple valleys” (Holmes 1912:211). In 1909, a rural school was constructed in Cherry Valley, indicating that there was sufficient settlement in the area to need a school (Holmes 1912:208). The population of Beaumont grew to 1,100 in 1910 (Holmes 1912:211). In addition to agriculture, resorts contributed to the growth of the area. Highland Springs is in the eastern part of Cherry Valley; originally the home of an early settler, Isaac Smith, it became a resort in the 1880s (Lech 2005).

In 1930, Cherry Valley celebrated its namesake crop by hosting the first Japanese cherry blossom festival in the United States in Bogart Park, north of Cherry Valley. Approximately 32,000 people attended the festival (Holtzclaw and San Geronio Pass Historical Society 2006:65). A 1938 aerial photo of Cherry Valley lands depicts small parcels of orchards interspersed with larger fields of hay and grain fields. A 1949 aerial of the same area shows few changes from 1938.

During World War II, a shortage of workers led to the development of U-Pick-Your-Own-Cherries, which continues to the present (Cherry Acres 2008). Cherry Valley is now a census designated place within Riverside County, with a population of approximately 6,400 in 2010.

2.4.1.3 Calimesa

Like Cherry Valley, Calimesa began as a small, rural town with single-family housing and small-scale farms and ranches. The formalization of U.S. Route 70/99 through the Project area in the 1920s–1930s brought growth and a separate identity from its larger neighbor to the north, Yucaipa. In 1929, residents applied for a post office, choosing its name through a contest. The winner, Calimesa, was a combination of California and Mesa, and the town worked to create a separate sense of community. Toward this end, the residents formed the Calimesa Improvement Association in approximately 1939, and they constructed a community center through local fund-raising efforts. In 1962, this association became the Calimesa Chamber of Commerce. In 1990, the City of Calimesa was incorporated (San Geronio Pass Historical Society (SGPHS) 2020).

CULTURAL LITERATURE AND RECORDS SEARCH

On January 4, 2024, prior to the field survey of the Project area, AEC conducted a literature and records search at the Eastern Information Center (EIC) of the California Historical Resource Information System (CHRIS), housed at the University of California, Riverside. Because the records search limits extend into San Bernardino County, AEC also requested a literature and records search at the South Central Coastal Information Center of the CHRIS, housed at California State University, Fullerton. The objective of these records searches was to determine whether any precontact or historical cultural resources had been recorded previously within the Project area and a 0.5-mile search radius of the proposed Project.

3.1 CULTURAL LITERATURE AND RECORD SEARCH RESULTS

Results of the records search indicated 22 cultural resource studies have been conducted previously within the 0.5-mile search radius (Table 3-1). Six of the previous studies involved the Project area. As a result, 80 percent of the Project area has been investigated previously.

Table 3-1
Previous Cultural Resource Studies in the 0.5-Mile Search Radius

IC Report No.	Authors(s)	Date	Title
RI-02819 ^a	Drover, Christopher E.	1990	<i>An Archaeological Assessment of Perisits Ranch Project, Riverside County, Calimesa, California</i>
RI-03196 ^a	Keller, Jean	1991	<i>An Archaeological Assessment of Public Use Permit 718: 4.35 Acres of Land in Calimesa, Riverside County, California, USGS El Casco, California Quadrangle, 7.5' Series</i>
RI-03720	De Munck, Victor C., and Mark Swanson	1989	<i>An Archaeological Assessment of an 82 Acre Tract of Land Referred to as The Country Club Estates in The City of Calimesa, Riverside County, California</i>
RI-06263	Ahmet, Koral, and Evelyn Chandler	2005	<i>Cultural Resources Survey of A 10-Acre Parcel Located North of Sandalwood Drive On 7th Street in Calimesa, Riverside County, California</i>
RI-07585	Sanka, Jennifer M.	2006	<i>Phase I Cultural Resources Assessment and Paleontological Records Review, Mesa Verde Estates Access Road Project, Calimesa, Riverside County, California</i>
RI-07740	Hogan, Michael	2007	<i>Letter Report: Archaeological Monitoring Program Perisits Farms; Tentative Tract Nos. 26925, 30386, And 30387; City of Calimesa, Riverside County, California</i>
RI-09242 ^a	Don C. Perez	2014	<i>California-line / Ensite #17468</i>
RI-09785	Kraft, Jennifer R., and Brian F. Smith	2015	<i>A Class III Historic Resource Study for the Mesa Verde Estates Project for Section 106 Compliance</i>

Table 3-1
Previous Cultural Resource Studies in the 0.5-Mile Search Radius

IC Report No.	Authors(s)	Date	Title
RI-09909 ^a	Bonner, Wayne H., and Arabesque Said	2009	<i>Cultural Resource Records Search and Site Visit Results for Tower CO II, LLC Candidate CA2646 (Bryant), 1086 Calimesa Boulevard, Calimesa, Riverside County, California</i>
RI-10799 ^a	George, Joan, Dicken Everson, and Andrew Walters	2019	<i>Archaeological Survey Report for the Interstate 10 Eastbound Truck Climbing Lane Improvement Project, City of Yucaipa, San Bernardino County and City of Calimesa, Riverside County, California</i>
RI-10815	George, Joan	2017	<i>Historic Property Survey Report</i>
SB-00576	Hearn, Joseph E.	1977	<i>Archaeological - Historical Resources Assessment of California Street, Avenue H To Wildwood Creek Road, Yucaipa Area</i>
SB-00577	Hearn, Joseph E.	1978	<i>Archaeological - Historical Resources Assessment of California Street, Avenue H To Avenue F, Yucaipa Area</i>
SB -01594	Swope, Karen K.	1986	<i>Environmental Impact Evaluation: An Archaeological Assessment of Tentative Tract 13438, Yucaipa Valley Area of San Bernardino County, California</i>
SB -02868	Scientific Resource Surveys, Inc.	1993	<i>Cultural Resource Assessment of The San Gorgonio Pass Water Agency Water Importation Project, Riverside and San Bernardino Counties, California</i>
SB-03613	Bonner, Wayne H.	1998	<i>Cultural Resource Record Search & Survey Report for a Pacific Bell Mobile Services Telecommunications Facility: CM 220-01, City of Yucaipa, CA.</i>
SB-04113	White, Laurie S.	2001	<i>Records Search Results for Sprint Pcs Facility Sb37xc910f (Arnett's Trucking), City of Yucaipa, San Bernardino County, Ca.</i>
SB-04117	Cotterman, Cary D., and Roger D. Mason	2001	<i>Cultural Resources Records Search & Literature Review for An American Tower Corporation Telecommunication Facility No. Bc-377-N1 Bryant, In the City of Yucaipa, San Bernardino County, Ca.</i>
SB-04456 ^a	Becker, Kenneth M.	2004	<i>Archaeological Monitoring for Yucaipa Mini Storage Facility (APN: 0319-431-10, -11), Yucaipa San Bernardino County, California</i>
SB-05680	Martinez, Al	2005	<i>Cultural Resource Records Search Results for Cingular Telecommunications Facility Candidate LSA8041, 13456 Bryant Street, Yucaipa, San Bernardino County, California.</i>
SB-06075	Bonner, Wayne H.	2008	<i>Cultural Resource Records Search and Site Visit Results for American Tower Corporation Facility Candidate 41869 (Bryant St Baptist), 13456 Bryant Street, Yucaipa, San Bernardino County, California.</i>
SB-07677	Cotterman, Cary D., and Evelyn N. Chandler	2009	<i>Cultural Resources Inventory of Five Proposed Pole Replacements in Yucaipa, Calimesa and Cherry Valley, San Bernardino and Riverside Counties, California.</i>

a - Study overlaps with the Project area.

The records search resulted in the identification of four previously recorded cultural resources within the 0.5-mile search radius. The archaeological resources are historical: an electrical utility line and two amethyst bottle finishes. In addition, two built-environment resources were identified within the 0.5-mile search radius (Table 3-2). None of the previously recorded cultural resources are documented within the Project area.

Table 3-2
Previously Recorded Cultural Resources in the 0.5-Mile Search Radius

Primary No.	Trinomial	Description
Historic Resources		
33-015299	—	Two glass bottle fragments
33-015300	—	Electrical utility line
Built-Environment Resources		
33-016792	—	1929 Single-family residence
33-023900	—	1930 Storm Drain

3.2 HISTORICAL MAP REVIEW

A series of historic maps were consulted to assess land use and development in the study area. Several USGS topographic quadrangle maps were consulted: 1899 and 1901 Redlands 1:125,000, 1954 and 1967 Yucaipa 1:24,000, and 1967 San Bernardino 1:125,000.

The 1954 Yucaipa map west of the Project area displays County Line Road, agricultural land, and structures in alignment with modern-day 4th Street and County Line Road. Agricultural operations on the land appear to be active until 1968, while the structures remained visible until 1995. Aerial photographs taken between 1954 and 1968 provide documentation of the agricultural land, and photographs from 1954 to 1995 capture the presence of the structures, available online (historicaerials.com/viewer). It is important to note that the structures in the southwestern corner of the Project area are not visible in the 1995 imagery, indicating their likely demolition. No other buildings, structures, or features of interest are shown in the Project area on any historical maps or photographs examined.

NATIVE AMERICAN COMMUNICATIONS

Æ contacted the NAHC on January 16, 2024, for a review of their SLF to determine if any known Native American cultural properties (e.g., traditional use or gathering areas, places of religious or sacred activity) are present within or adjacent to the Project area. The NAHC responded on March 6, 2024, stating the SLF search was completed with negative results. The NAHC requested Æ contact Native American individuals and organizations to elicit information regarding cultural resource issues related to the proposed Project.

Upon review of the Native American contact list and after removing redundancies, Æ narrowed the list to 14 individuals and organizations traditionally and culturally affiliated with the geographic region of the Project area. Æ sent out Project scoping letters via email and U.S. Postal Service on March 8, 2024, describing the Project and asking these individuals and organizations for their input. Copies of the letters, the list of contacts, and received responses are included in Appendix A. Æ sent follow-up email correspondence on March 22, 2024, to the organizations who had not responded to the initial request on March 8, 2024.

Individuals/organizations contacted include:

- Lacy Padilla, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer and Operations Manager for the Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians
- Amanda Augustine, Chairwoman of the Augustine Band of Cahuilla Indians
- Doug Welmas, Chairperson of the Cabazon Band of Mission Indians
- Erica Schenk, Chairwoman of the Cahuilla Band of Indians
- Andrew Salas, Chairperson of the Gabrieleno Band of Mission Indians—Kizh Nation
- Ray Chapparosa, Chairperson of the Los Coyotes Band of Cahuilla and Cupeño Indians
- Robert Martin, Chairperson of the Morongo Band of Mission Indians
- Jordan Joaquin, President of the Quechan Tribe of the Fort Yuma Reservation
- Danae Hamilton Vega, Chairwoman of the Ramona Band of Cahuilla
- Alexandra McCleary, Senior Manager of Cultural Resources Management for the San Manuel Band of Mission Indians
- Lovina Redner, Tribal Chair for the Santa Rosa Band of Cahuilla Indians
- March Cochrane and Wayne Walker, Co-Chairpersons for the Serrano Nation of Mission Indians

- Isaiah Vivanco, Chairperson of the Soboba Band of Luiseño Indians
- Doug Welmas, Chairperson of the Torres-Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians

As of March 26, 2024, AECOM has received three responses.

- The Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians stated that the Project is not located within the boundaries of the Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians' Reservation. However, the Project does fall within their Traditional Use Area. For this reason, the Tribe requests a copy of the records search, survey reports, site records from the EIC, copies of any cultural resource documentation generated from the current Project, and shapefiles of the Project area.
- The Cahuilla Band of Indians stated that they desire to consult on the Project. Their people inhabited this area and established villages, camps, food processing areas, resource areas, and other areas. They request to be advised of the Project's progress and any cultural findings. Subsurface cultural resources are always possible, and they would ask that their Native American monitors be present for the work.
- The San Manuel Band of Mission Indians stated that the Project area may be considered sensitive for subsurface cultural resources due to their proximity to previously recorded sites of a highly sensitive nature. As the area is of concern, the Tribe wishes to engage in government-to-government consultation pursuant to Assembly Bill 52 (AB 52) with the Lead Agency for the Project.

Complete responses from each Tribe are attached in Appendix A.

5

CULTURAL RESOURCE SURVEY METHODS AND RESULTS

This chapter details the methods and results of the intensive pedestrian survey of the Project area. The entire Project area was accessible during the survey which was completed by Æ archaeologist Andrew DeLeon on February 28, 2024.

5.1 SURVEY METHODS

DeLeon began surveying the western portion of the Project area and proceeded south. The survey was conducted in 15-meter transects oriented east–west, moving southward through the Project area. While surveying, DeLeon photographed the Project area at various locations to document its current condition. Any newly identified resources were to be photographed and mapped with an Arrow 100 Global Navigation Satellite System receiving unit and iPad.

5.2 SURVEY RESULTS

The unpaved portion of the Project area is heavily disturbed with evidence of tilling. DeLeon began the survey in the large open field on the west side of the Project area. Transects were oriented east to west, moving southward with 15-meter spacing. Ground visibility was generally poor, approximately 35 percent, due to extensive pinweed growth (Figure 5-1). Sparse patches of modern refuse were observed on the south side of the open field. The sediments appear to be a brown loam. Moving eastward, DeLeon covered a long stretch of County Line Road, which is entirely paved and developed (Figure 5-2). No cultural resources were encountered within the Project area during the survey.



Figure 5-1 Overview from the southwest corner of the Project area, facing east.



Figure 5-2 The northwest corner of 4th Street and County Line Road, facing southeast.

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MANAGEMENT RECOMMENDATIONS

Æ did not encounter any cultural resources within the Project area during the intensive pedestrian survey. The entire Project area is highly disturbed, with evidence of tilling. Ground visibility was generally poor at approximately 35 percent due to extensive pinweed growth. Sparse patches of modern refuse were observed on the south side of the open field. As a result, there is a low likelihood that archaeological deposits or features will be found during construction and Æ recommends a finding of No Historic Properties Affected for the Project. Consequently, no further cultural resource management within the Project area is recommended.

It should be noted that the Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians stated that the Project is not located within the boundaries of the Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians' Reservation. However, the Project does fall within their Traditional Use Area. For this reason, the Tribe requests a copy of the records search, survey reports, site records from the EIC, copies of any cultural resource documentation generated from the current Project, and shapefiles of the Project area. The Cahuilla Band of Indians said they desire to consult on the Project. Their people inhabited this area and established villages, camps, food processing areas, resource areas, and other areas. They request to be advised of the Project's progress and any cultural findings. Subsurface cultural resources are always possible, and they would ask that their Native American monitors be present for the work. The San Manuel Band of Mission Indians stated that the Project area may be considered sensitive for subsurface cultural resources due to their proximity to previously recorded sites of a highly sensitive nature. As the area of concern, the Tribe wishes to engage in government-to-government consultation pursuant to AB 52 with the Lead Agency for the Project. No further comments were received from the tribes after follow-up communication.

Finally, if the Project area is expanded to include areas not covered by this survey or other recent cultural resource studies, additional cultural resource studies may be required.

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APPENDIX A

Native American Communications

LIST OF NATIVE AMERICAN CONTACTS AND RECORD OF RESPONSES

Name	Date & Time of Calls	Responses
Lacy Padilla Tribal Historic Preservation Officer and Operations Manager Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians	March 8, 2024 March 20, 2024	Scoping letter sent via email. Æ received a response from Cultural Resource Analyst Xitlaly Madrigal on 3/25/2024. The Project is not located within the boundaries of the Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians' Reservation. However, the Project does fall within their Traditional Use Area. For this reason, the Tribe requests a copy of the records search, survey reports, site records from the EIC, copies of any cultural resource documentation generated from the current Project, and shapefiles of the Project area.
Amanda Augustine Chairwoman Augustine Band of Cahuilla Indians	March 8, 2024 March 20, 2024	Scoping letter sent via email. Follow-up sent via email. No response received
Doug Welmas Chairperson Cabazon Band of Mission Indians	March 8, 2024 March 20, 2024	Scoping letter sent via email. Follow-up sent via email. No response received.
Erica Schenk Chairwoman Cahuilla Band of Indians	March 8, 2024	Scoping letter sent via email. Æ received a response from Tribal Historic Preservation Officer Anthony Madrigal on 03/12/2024 stating the Cahuilla band of Indians desires to consult on the Project. Their people inhabited this area and established villages, camps, food processing areas, resource areas, and other areas. They request to be advised of the Project's progress and any cultural findings. There is always the possibility of subsurface cultural resources, and they would ask that their Native American monitors be present for the work.
Andrew Salas Chairperson Gabrieleno Band of Mission Indians - Kizh Nation	March 8, 2024 March 20, 2024	Scoping letter sent via email. Follow-up sent via email. No response received
Ray Chapparosa Chairperson Los Coyotes Band of Cahuilla and Cupeño Indians	March 8, 2024 March 20, 2024	Scoping letter sent via post. Follow-up phone call made to the contact number listed for Ray Chapparosa on the NAHC contact list. A voicemail was left briefly describing the Project and contact number, should the Tribe have any comments.

Name	Date & Time of Calls	Responses
Robert Martin Chairperson Morongo Band of Mission Indians	March 8, 2024 March 20, 2024	Scoping letter sent via email. Follow-up sent via email. No response received.
Jordan Joaquin President Quechan Tribe of the Fort Yuma Reservation	March 8, 2024 March 20, 2024	Scoping letter sent via email. Follow-up sent via email. No response received.
Danae Hamilton Vega Chairwoman Ramona Band of Cahuilla	March 8, 2024 March 20, 2024	Scoping letter sent via email. Follow-up sent via email. No response received
Alexandra McCleary Senior Manager of Cultural Resources Management San Manuel Band of Mission Indians	March 8, 2024	Scoping letter sent via email. Æ received a response from Cultural Resources Technician Raylene Borrego on 03/11/2024 stating that based on the San Manuel Band of Mission Indian's current knowledge, the proposed project area may be considered sensitive for subsurface cultural resources due to their proximity to previously recorded sites of a highly sensitive nature. As the area of concern, the Tribe wishes to engage in government-to-government consultation pursuant to AB 52 with the Lead Agency for the Project.
Lovina Redner Tribal Chair Santa Rosa Band of Cahuilla Indians	March 8, 2024 March 20, 2024	Scoping letter sent via email. Follow-up sent via email. No response received
March Cochrane and Wayne Walker Co-Chairpersons Serrano Nation of Mission Indians	March 8, 2024 March 20, 2024	Scoping letter sent via email. Follow-up sent via email. No response received
Isaiah Vivanco Chairperson Soboba Band of Luiseno Indians	March 8, 2024 March 20, 2024	Scoping letter sent via email. Follow-up sent via email. No response received
Doug Welmas Chairperson Torres-Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians	March 8, 2024 March 20, 2024	Scoping letter sent via email. Follow-up sent via email. No response received



NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE COMMISSION

March 6, 2024

Andrew DeLeon
Applied EarthWorks Inc

Via Email to: adeleon@appliedearthworks.com

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Chumash

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EXECUTIVE SECRETARY
**Raymond C.
Hitchcock**
Miwok, Nisenan

NAHC HEADQUARTERS
1550 Harbor Boulevard
Suite 100
West Sacramento,
California 95691
(916) 373-3710
nahc@nahc.ca.gov
NAHC.ca.gov

Re: Webb County Line Recharge Project AE#4564 Project, Riverside and San Bernardino County

To Whom It May Concern:

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: Murphy.Donahue@NAHC.ca.gov

Sincerely,

Murphy Donahue

Murphy Donahue
Cultural Resources Analyst

Attachment



3550 E. Florida Ave., Suite H
Hemet, CA 92544-4937
O: (951) 766-2000 | F: (951) 766-0020
www.appliedearthworks.com

March 8, 2024

Lacy Padilla
THPO Operations Manager
Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians
5401 Dinah Shore Drive
Palm Springs, CA, 92264

Re: Cultural Resource Assessment for the County Line Recharge Basin and Turnout Project, City of Calimesa, Riverside County, California

Dear Ms. Lacy Padilla:

On behalf of Albert A. Webb Associates., Applied EarthWorks, Inc. (Æ) is conducting a cultural resource study for the proposed construction of a recharge basin, a new pipeline, and a turnout to connect the existing pipeline for the County Line Recharge Basin and Turnout Project (Project). The Project involves an approximate 6.9-acre development of the recharge basin, a new pipeline, and a turnout. The Project is subject to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), and Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA). The San Geronio Pass Water Agency is the lead agency for compliance with CEQA and Section 106 of the NHPA. Sections 7, and 18 Township 2 South, Range 1 West, and Sections 11, 12, 13, and 14 Township 2 South, Range 2 West. Specifically, the Project area is located west of the intersection of County Line Road and 4th street.

Æ conducted a literature and records search review with Eastern Information Center of the California Historical Resources Information System Record Search (EIC) and the South Coastal Information Center of the California Historical Resource Information System Record Search (SCIC). The results indicated four previously recorded cultural resources within the 0.5-mile search radius of the Project area, no cultural resources land within the Project area. Æ was contracted to perform an archaeological survey of the Project area, which was completed on February 28, 2024. The project area is highly disturbed, with fully developed and landscaped areas. No cultural resources were identified within the Project area.

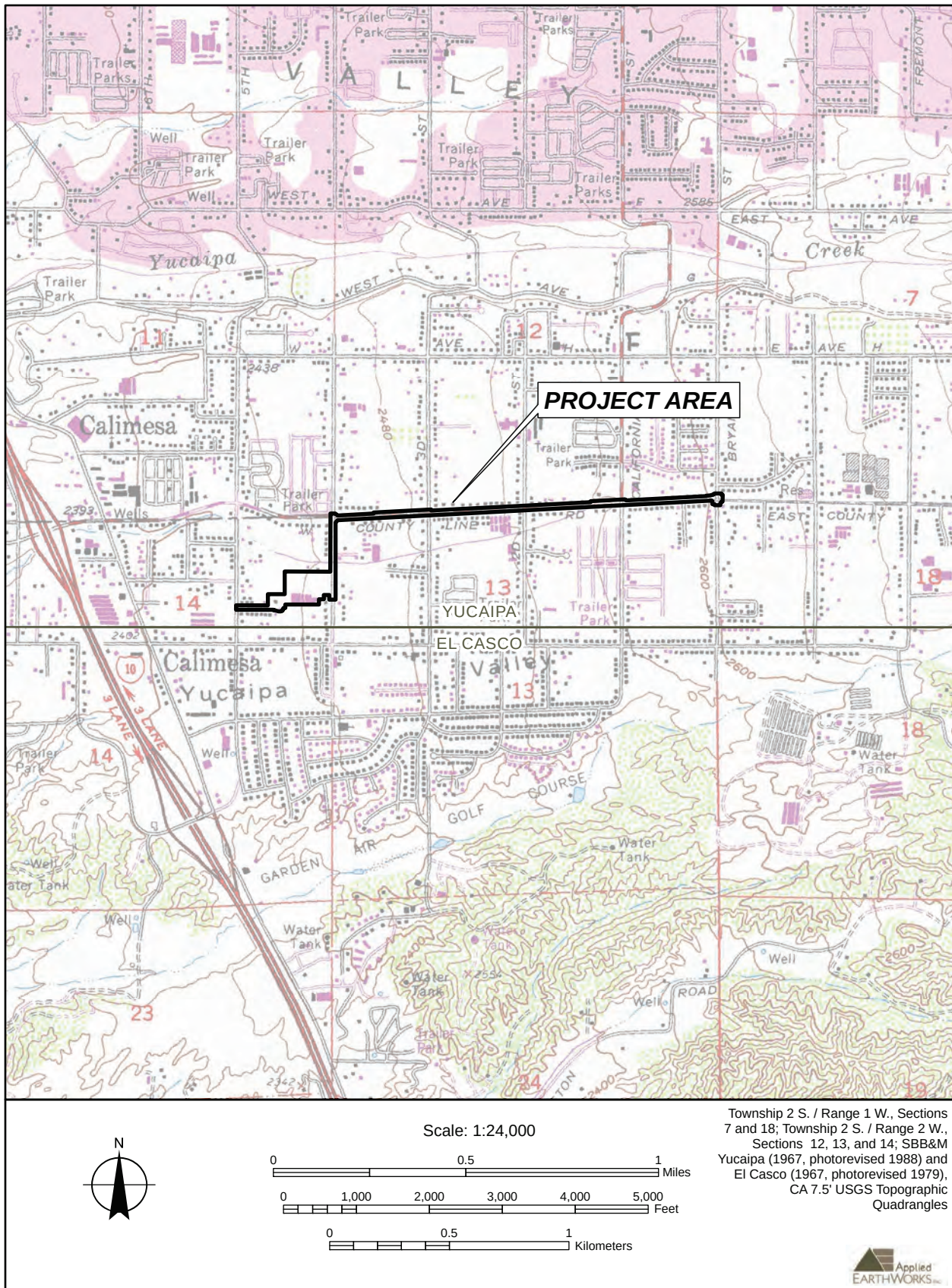
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Please be aware that your comments and concerns are very important to us, as well as to the successful completion of this Project. I look forward to hearing from you in the near future. Thank you, in advance, for taking the time to review this request.

Respectfully yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jessica", written over a horizontal line.

Jessica Cochrane
Staff Archaeologist
Applied EarthWorks, Inc.



Project location on USGS Yucaipa and El Casco 7.5-minute topographic quadrangles.



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www.appliedearthworks.com

March 8, 2024

Amanda Augustine
Chairwoman
Augustine Band of Cahuilla Indians
84-001 Avenue 54
Coachella, CA, 92236

Re: Cultural Resource Assessment for the County Line Recharge Basin and Turnout Project, City of Calimesa, Riverside County, California

Dear Ms. Amanda Augustine:

On behalf of Albert A. Webb Associates., Applied EarthWorks, Inc. (Æ) is conducting a cultural resource study for the proposed construction of a recharge basin, a new pipeline, and a turnout to connect the existing pipeline for the County Line Recharge Basin and Turnout Project (Project). The Project involves an approximate 6.9-acre development of the recharge basin, a new pipeline, and a turnout. The Project is subject to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), and Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA). The San Geronio Pass Water Agency is the lead agency for compliance with CEQA and Section 106 of the NHPA. Sections 7, and 18 Township 2 South, Range 1 West, and Sections 11, 12, 13, and 14 Township 2 South, Range 2 West. Specifically, the Project area is located west of the intersection of County Line Road and 4th street.

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Jessica Cochrane
Staff Archaeologist
Applied EarthWorks, Inc.



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March 8, 2024

Doug Welmas
Chairperson
Cabazon Band of Mission Indians
84-245 Indio Springs Parkway
Indio, CA, 92203

Re: Cultural Resource Assessment for the County Line Recharge Basin and Turnout Project, City of Calimesa, Riverside County, California

Dear Mr. Doug Welmas:

On behalf of Albert A. Webb Associates., Applied EarthWorks, Inc. (Æ) is conducting a cultural resource study for the proposed construction of a recharge basin, a new pipeline, and a turnout to connect the existing pipeline for the County Line Recharge Basin and Turnout Project (Project). The Project involves an approximate 6.9-acre development of the recharge basin, a new pipeline, and a turnout. The Project is subject to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), and Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA). The San Geronio Pass Water Agency is the lead agency for compliance with CEQA and Section 106 of the NHPA. Sections 7, and 18 Township 2 South, Range 1 West, and Sections 11, 12, 13, and 14 Township 2 South, Range 2 West. Specifically, the Project area is located west of the intersection of County Line Road and 4th street.

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Respectfully yours,

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Jessica Cochrane
Staff Archaeologist
Applied EarthWorks, Inc.



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March 8, 2024

Erica Schenk
Chairwoman
Cahuilla Band of Indians
52701 CA Highway 371
Anza, CA, 92539

Re: Cultural Resource Assessment for the County Line Recharge Basin and Turnout Project, City of Calimesa, Riverside County, California

Dear Ms. Erica Schenk:

On behalf of Albert A. Webb Associates., Applied EarthWorks, Inc. (Æ) is conducting a cultural resource study for the proposed construction of a recharge basin, a new pipeline, and a turnout to connect the existing pipeline for the County Line Recharge Basin and Turnout Project (Project). The Project involves an approximate 6.9-acre development of the recharge basin, a new pipeline, and a turnout. The Project is subject to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), and Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA). The San Geronio Pass Water Agency is the lead agency for compliance with CEQA and Section 106 of the NHPA. Sections 7, and 18 Township 2 South, Range 1 West, and Sections 11, 12, 13, and 14 Township 2 South, Range 2 West. Specifically, the Project area is located west of the intersection of County Line Road and 4th street.

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Jessica Cochrane
Staff Archaeologist
Applied EarthWorks, Inc.



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March 8, 2024

Andrew Salas
Chairperson
Gabrielino Band of Mission Indians - Kizh Nation
P.O. Box 393
Covina, CA, 91723

Re: Cultural Resource Assessment for the County Line Recharge Basin and Turnout Project, City of Calimesa, Riverside County, California

Dear Mr. Andrew Salas:

On behalf of Albert A. Webb Associates., Applied EarthWorks, Inc. (Æ) is conducting a cultural resource study for the proposed construction of a recharge basin, a new pipeline, and a turnout to connect the existing pipeline for the County Line Recharge Basin and Turnout Project (Project). The Project involves an approximate 6.9-acre development of the recharge basin, a new pipeline, and a turnout. The Project is subject to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), and Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA). The San Geronio Pass Water Agency is the lead agency for compliance with CEQA and Section 106 of the NHPA. Sections 7, and 18 Township 2 South, Range 1 West, and Sections 11, 12, 13, and 14 Township 2 South, Range 2 West. Specifically, the Project area is located west of the intersection of County Line Road and 4th street.

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Applied EarthWorks, Inc.



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March 8, 2024

Ray Chapparosa
Chairperson
Los Coyotes Band of Cahuilla and Cupeño Indians
P.O. Box 189
Warner Springs, CA, 92086-0189

Re: Cultural Resource Assessment for the County Line Recharge Basin and Turnout Project, City of Calimesa, Riverside County, California

Dear Mr. Ray Chapparosa:

On behalf of Albert A. Webb Associates., Applied EarthWorks, Inc. (Æ) is conducting a cultural resource study for the proposed construction of a recharge basin, a new pipeline, and a turnout to connect the existing pipeline for the County Line Recharge Basin and Turnout Project (Project). The Project involves an approximate 6.9-acre development of the recharge basin, a new pipeline, and a turnout. The Project is subject to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), and Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA). The San Geronio Pass Water Agency is the lead agency for compliance with CEQA and Section 106 of the NHPA. Sections 7, and 18 Township 2 South, Range 1 West, and Sections 11, 12, 13, and 14 Township 2 South, Range 2 West. Specifically, the Project area is located west of the intersection of County Line Road and 4th street.

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Jessica Cochrane
Staff Archaeologist
Applied EarthWorks, Inc.



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March 8, 2024

Robert Martin
Chairperson
Morongo Band of Mission Indians
12700 Pumarra Road
Banning, CA, 92220

Re: Cultural Resource Assessment for the County Line Recharge Basin and Turnout Project, City of Calimesa, Riverside County, California

Dear Mr. Robert Martin:

On behalf of Albert A. Webb Associates., Applied EarthWorks, Inc. (Æ) is conducting a cultural resource study for the proposed construction of a recharge basin, a new pipeline, and a turnout to connect the existing pipeline for the County Line Recharge Basin and Turnout Project (Project). The Project involves an approximate 6.9-acre development of the recharge basin, a new pipeline, and a turnout. The Project is subject to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), and Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA). The San Geronio Pass Water Agency is the lead agency for compliance with CEQA and Section 106 of the NHPA. Sections 7, and 18 Township 2 South, Range 1 West, and Sections 11, 12, 13, and 14 Township 2 South, Range 2 West. Specifically, the Project area is located west of the intersection of County Line Road and 4th street.

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Jessica Cochrane
Staff Archaeologist
Applied EarthWorks, Inc.



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March 8, 2024

Jordan Joaquin
President
Quechan Tribe of the Fort Yuma Reservation
P.O.Box 1899
Yuma, AZ, 85366

Re: Cultural Resource Assessment for the County Line Recharge Basin and Turnout Project, City of Calimesa, Riverside County, California

Dear Mr. Jordan Joaquin:

On behalf of Albert A. Webb Associates., Applied EarthWorks, Inc. (Æ) is conducting a cultural resource study for the proposed construction of a recharge basin, a new pipeline, and a turnout to connect the existing pipeline for the County Line Recharge Basin and Turnout Project (Project). The Project involves an approximate 6.9-acre development of the recharge basin, a new pipeline, and a turnout. The Project is subject to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), and Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA). The San Geronio Pass Water Agency is the lead agency for compliance with CEQA and Section 106 of the NHPA. Sections 7, and 18 Township 2 South, Range 1 West, and Sections 11, 12, 13, and 14 Township 2 South, Range 2 West. Specifically, the Project area is located west of the intersection of County Line Road and 4th street.

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Applied EarthWorks, Inc.



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March 8, 2024

Danae Hamilton Vega
Chairwoman
Ramona Band of Cahuilla
P.O. Box 391670
Anza, CA, 92539

Re: Cultural Resource Assessment for the County Line Recharge Basin and Turnout Project, City of Calimesa, Riverside County, California

Dear Ms. Danae Hamilton Vega:

On behalf of Albert A. Webb Associates., Applied EarthWorks, Inc. (Æ) is conducting a cultural resource study for the proposed construction of a recharge basin, a new pipeline, and a turnout to connect the existing pipeline for the County Line Recharge Basin and Turnout Project (Project). The Project involves an approximate 6.9-acre development of the recharge basin, a new pipeline, and a turnout. The Project is subject to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), and Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA). The San Geronio Pass Water Agency is the lead agency for compliance with CEQA and Section 106 of the NHPA. Sections 7, and 18 Township 2 South, Range 1 West, and Sections 11, 12, 13, and 14 Township 2 South, Range 2 West. Specifically, the Project area is located west of the intersection of County Line Road and 4th street.

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March 8, 2024

Alexandra McCleary
Senior Manager of Cultural Resources Management
San Manuel Band of Mission Indians
26569 Community Center Drive
Highland, CA, 92346

Re: Cultural Resource Assessment for the County Line Recharge Basin and Turnout Project, City of Calimesa, Riverside County, California

Dear Mr. Alexandra McCleary:

On behalf of Albert A. Webb Associates., Applied EarthWorks, Inc. (Æ) is conducting a cultural resource study for the proposed construction of a recharge basin, a new pipeline, and a turnout to connect the existing pipeline for the County Line Recharge Basin and Turnout Project (Project). The Project involves an approximate 6.9-acre development of the recharge basin, a new pipeline, and a turnout. The Project is subject to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), and Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA). The San Geronio Pass Water Agency is the lead agency for compliance with CEQA and Section 106 of the NHPA. Sections 7, and 18 Township 2 South, Range 1 West, and Sections 11, 12, 13, and 14 Township 2 South, Range 2 West. Specifically, the Project area is located west of the intersection of County Line Road and 4th street.

Æ conducted a literature and records search review with Eastern Information Center of the California Historical Resources Information System Record Search (EIC) and the South Coastal Information Center of the California Historical Resource Information System Record Search (SCIC). The results indicated four previously recorded cultural resources within the 0.5-mile search radius of the Project area, no cultural resources land within the Project area. Æ was contracted to perform an archaeological survey of the Project area, which was completed on February 28, 2024. The project area is highly disturbed, with fully developed and landscaped areas. No cultural resources were identified within the Project area.

As part of the cultural resource assessment of the Project area, Æ requested a search of the *Sacred Lands File* by the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) on January 16, 2024. The NAHC responded on March 6, 2024, noting that *Sacred Lands File* search was completed with negative results. Should your records show that cultural properties exist within or near the Project area shown on the enclosed map, or if you have any concerns regarding Native American issues related to the overall Project, please contact me at (951) 766-2000 or via letter expressing your concerns. You may also email me at jcochrane@appliedearthworks.com. If I do not hear from you within the next two weeks, I will contact you with a follow-up email or phone call.

Please be aware that your comments and concerns are very important to us, as well as 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.

Respectfully yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jessica", written over a horizontal line.

Jessica Cochrane
Staff Archaeologist
Applied EarthWorks, Inc.



3550 E. Florida Ave., Suite H
Hemet, CA 92544-4937
O: (951) 766-2000 | F: (951) 766-0020
www.appliedearthworks.com

March 8, 2024

Lovina Redner
Tribal Chair
Santa Rosa Band of Cahuilla Indians
P.O. Box 391820
Anza, CA, 92539

Re: Cultural Resource Assessment for the County Line Recharge Basin and Turnout Project, City of Calimesa, Riverside County, California

Dear Ms. Lovina Redner:

On behalf of Albert A. Webb Associates., Applied EarthWorks, Inc. (Æ) is conducting a cultural resource study for the proposed construction of a recharge basin, a new pipeline, and a turnout to connect the existing pipeline for the County Line Recharge Basin and Turnout Project (Project). The Project involves an approximate 6.9-acre development of the recharge basin, a new pipeline, and a turnout. The Project is subject to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), and Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA). The San Geronimo Pass Water Agency is the lead agency for compliance with CEQA and Section 106 of the NHPA. Sections 7, and 18 Township 2 South, Range 1 West, and Sections 11, 12, 13, and 14 Township 2 South, Range 2 West. Specifically, the Project area is located west of the intersection of County Line Road and 4th street.

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Applied EarthWorks, Inc.



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March 8, 2024

Mark Cochrane and Wayne Walker
Co-Chairperson's
Serrano Nation of Mission Indians
P. O. Box 343
Patton, CA, 92369

Re: Cultural Resource Assessment for the County Line Recharge Basin and Turnout Project, City of Calimesa, Riverside County, California

Dear Mark Cochrane and Wayne Walker

On behalf of Albert A. Webb Associates., Applied EarthWorks, Inc. (Æ) is conducting a cultural resource study for the proposed construction of a recharge basin, a new pipeline, and a turnout to connect the existing pipeline for the County Line Recharge Basin and Turnout Project (Project). The Project involves an approximate 6.9-acre development of the recharge basin, a new pipeline, and a turnout. The Project is subject to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), and Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA). The San Geronio Pass Water Agency is the lead agency for compliance with CEQA and Section 106 of the NHPA. Sections 7, and 18 Township 2 South, Range 1 West, and Sections 11, 12, 13, and 14 Township 2 South, Range 2 West. Specifically, the Project area is located west of the intersection of County Line Road and 4th street.

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Jessica Cochrane
Staff Archaeologist
Applied EarthWorks, Inc.



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March 8, 2024

Isaiah Vivanco
Chairperson
Soboba Band of Luiseno Indians
P.O. Box 487
San Jacinto, CA, 92581

Re: Cultural Resource Assessment for the County Line Recharge Basin and Turnout Project, City of Calimesa, Riverside County, California

Dear Mr. Isaiah Vivanco:

On behalf of Albert A. Webb Associates., Applied EarthWorks, Inc. (Æ) is conducting a cultural resource study for the proposed construction of a recharge basin, a new pipeline, and a turnout to connect the existing pipeline for the County Line Recharge Basin and Turnout Project (Project). The Project involves an approximate 6.9-acre development of the recharge basin, a new pipeline, and a turnout. The Project is subject to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), and Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA). The San Geronio Pass Water Agency is the lead agency for compliance with CEQA and Section 106 of the NHPA. Sections 7, and 18 Township 2 South, Range 1 West, and Sections 11, 12, 13, and 14 Township 2 South, Range 2 West. Specifically, the Project area is located west of the intersection of County Line Road and 4th street.

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Jessica Cochrane
Staff Archaeologist
Applied EarthWorks, Inc.



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www.appliedearthworks.com

March 8, 2024

Thomas Torte
Chairperson
Torres-Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians
P.O. Box 1160
Thermal, CA, 92274

Re: Cultural Resource Assessment for the County Line Recharge Basin and Turnout Project, City of Calimesa, Riverside County, California

Dear Mr. Thomas Torte:

On behalf of Albert A. Webb Associates., Applied EarthWorks, Inc. (Æ) is conducting a cultural resource study for the proposed construction of a recharge basin, a new pipeline, and a turnout to connect the existing pipeline for the County Line Recharge Basin and Turnout Project (Project). The Project involves an approximate 6.9-acre development of the recharge basin, a new pipeline, and a turnout. The Project is subject to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), and Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA). The San Geronio Pass Water Agency is the lead agency for compliance with CEQA and Section 106 of the NHPA. Sections 7, and 18 Township 2 South, Range 1 West, and Sections 11, 12, 13, and 14 Township 2 South, Range 2 West. Specifically, the Project area is located west of the intersection of County Line Road and 4th street.

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Jessica Cochrane
Staff Archaeologist
Applied EarthWorks, Inc.

AGUA CALIENTE BAND OF CAHUILLA INDIANS

TRIBAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION



03-106-2024-001

March 25, 2024

[VIA EMAIL TO:jcochrane@appliedearthworks.com]

Applied Earthworks

Jessica Cochrane

3550 E. Florida Ave

Hemet, CA 92544

Re: County Line Recharge Basin and Turnout

Dear Jessica Cochrane,

The Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians (ACBCI) appreciates your efforts to include the Tribal Historic Preservation Office (THPO) in the County Line Recharge Basin and Turnout project. The project area is not located within the boundaries of the ACBCI Reservation. However, it is within the Tribe's Traditional Use Area. For this reason, the ACBCI THPO requests the following:

*Copies of any cultural resource documentation (report and site records) generated in connection with this project.

*A copy of the records search with associated survey reports and site records from the information center.

Again, the Agua Caliente appreciates your interest in our cultural heritage. If you have questions or require additional information, please call me at (760) 423-3485. You may also email me at ACBCI-THPO@aguacaliente.net.

Cordially,

Xitlaly Madrigal

Cultural Resources Analyst

Tribal Historic Preservation Office

AGUA CALIENTE BAND

OF CAHUILLA INDIANS

5401 DINAH SHORE DRIVE, PALM SPRINGS, CA 92264

T 760/699/6800 F 760/699/6924 WWW.AGUACALIENTE-NSN.GOV



Jessica Cochrane <jcochrane@appliedearthworks.com>

Cultural Resource Assessment for the County Line Recharge Basin and Turnout Project, City of Calimesa, Riverside County, California

anthony madrigal <anthonymad2002@gmail.com>

Tue, Mar 12, 2024 at 11:16 AM

To: Jessica Cochrane <jcochrane@appliedearthworks.com>, BobbyRay Esparza <besparza@cahuilla-nsn.gov>, Lgregory@cahuilla-nsn.gov

Thank you for the cultural information on the county line recharge basin in Calimesa. The Cahuilla band of Indians desires to consult on this project. Our people inhabited this area and established villages, camps, food processing areas, resource areas and other areas. Please keep us advised of the progress of th project and any cultural finds. There is always the possibility of subsurface cultural resources and we would request that our Native American monitors be present for the work.

Thank you

Anthony Madrigal
Cahuilla THPO

[Quoted text hidden]

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CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE: The contents of this **email** message and any attachments are intended solely for the addressee(s) and may contain **confidential** and/or privileged information and may be legally protected from disclosure.

Anthony Madrigal Sr.



Jessica Cochrane <jcochrane@appliedearthworks.com>

Response to Information Request: County Line Recharge Basin and Turnout Project, City of Calimesa, Riverside County, California

1 message

Raylene Borrego <Raylene.Borrego@sanmanuel-nsn.gov>

Mon, Mar 11, 2024 at 9:31 AM

To: "jcochrane@appliedearthworks.com" <jcochrane@appliedearthworks.com>

Dear Jessica,

Thank you for contacting the San Manuel Band of Mission Indians concerning the proposed project area. San Manuel appreciates the opportunity to review the project documentation received by the Cultural Resources Management Department on March 8th, 2024. Based on our current knowledge, the proposed project area may be considered sensitive for subsurface cultural resources due to their proximity to previously recorded sites of a highly sensitive nature.

As the area is of concern, the Tribe will wish to engage in government-to-government consultation pursuant to AB 52 with the Lead Agency for the project.

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

Regards,

Raylene Borrego

Cultural Resources Technician

Raylene.Borrego@sanmanuel-nsn.gov

O:(909) 864-8933 x 50-2035

M:(909) 737-3349

[26569 Community Center Dr Highland, California 92346](#)