INITIAL STUDY CHECKLIST

1. Project title: Well No. 6 Improvements Project

2. Lead agency: Ivanhoe Public Utility District

15989 Azalea Avenue Ivanhoe, CA 93235

3. Contact person: Dennis R. Keller

Dennis R. Keller Consulting Civil Engineer, Inc.

(559) 732-7938

4. Project location: Unincorporated Community of Ivanhoe (Figure 1,

Appendix A)

Northeast corner of Road 156 and Avenue 330, Tulare

County

Section 1, T18S, R25E, Mount Diablo Base and Meridian

5. Latitude, Longitude: 36°23'21" N, 119°13'28" W

6. General plan designation: Low Density Residential/Mixed Use (MU)

Zoning: Rural Residential (R-A); Residential Zones (R-1/R-2);

General Commercial/Mixed Use (C-2/MU)

8. Description of project:

The Ivanhoe Public Utility District (District) provides water for domestic water and fire flow purposes. The Proposed Project addresses 1,2,3-TCP contamination of groundwater extracted by Well No. 6. The Proposed

Project consists of the construction and operation of a granular activated carbon (GAC) treatment system for the well. Construction includes the installation of two (2) 12-foot diameter treatment vessels, a 50,000 gallon above-ground storage tank, booster pump and associated piping and appurtenances. The Proposed Project will be constructed on District-owned land adjacent to public roads and residences. Construction

activities includes earthwork, concrete placement, pipe and equipment installation, start-up, electrical

connections and surface restoration.

9. Surrounding land uses and setting:

Unincorporated area on the valley floor along the east side of the Central Valley near the lower foothills. Surrounding land uses include residential, agricultural, light commercial, roadways and railroad within one-quarter mile of the Proposed Project.

10. Other public agencies whose approval is required

County of Tulare; State Water Resources Control Board, Division of Drinking Water

ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS POTENTIALLY AFFECTED:

	vironmental factors checked be st and subsequent discussion on		affected by this project, as indicated by the		
Acs	thetics	Agriculture & Foresti	y 🔲 Air Quality		
⊠ Bio	logical Resources	Cultural Resources	☐ Energy		
☐ Geo	ology/Soils	Greenhouse Gas Emissions	☐ Hazards & Hazardous Materials		
☐ Hyo	drology/Water Quality	☐ Land Use/Planning	Mineral Resources		
☐ Noi	ise	Population/Housing	Public Services		
Rec	reation	☐ Transportation/Traff	ic Tribal Cultural Resources		
☐ Util	ities/Service Systems	☐ Wildfire	Mandatory Findings of Significance		
DETE	RMINATION: (To be complete	ed by the Lead Agency)			
On the	basis of this initial evaluation:				
	I find that the proposed proje NEGATIVE DECLARATIO		significant effect on the environment, and a		
	will not be a significant effect	in this case because revi	significant effect on the environment, there sions in the project have been made by or D NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be		
	I find that the proposed pr ENVIRONMENTAL IMPAC		ficant effect on the environment, and an		
	I find that the proposed project MAY have a "potentially significant impact" or "potentially significant unless mitigated" impact on the environment, but at least one effect 1) has been adequately analyzed in an earlier document pursuant to applicable legal standards, and 2) has been addressed by mitigation measures based on the earlier analysis as described on attached sheets. An ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required, but it must analyze only the effects that remain to be addressed.				
	I find that although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, because all potentially significant effects (a) have been analyzed adequately in an earlier EIR or NEGATIVE DECLARATION pursuant to applicable standards, and (b) have been avoided or mitigated pursuant to that earlier EIR or NEGATIVE DECLARATION, including revisions or mitigation measures that are imposed upon the proposed project, nothing further is required.				
Signatu	Domis R. Kella	Date	03 Relamory 2025		
	R. Keller, Consulting Civil Eng		oo Bublio Hellim District		
Printed		For	pe Public Utility District		

Less than

Issues:

	AESTHETICS ould the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Significant With Mirigation Incorporation	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
a)	Have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista?				\boxtimes
b)	Substantially damage scenic resources, including, but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a state scenic highway?				\boxtimes
c)	In nonurbanized areas, substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of public views of the site and its surroundings? (Public views are those that are experienced from publicly accessible vantage point). If the project is in an urbanized area, would the project conflict with applicable zoning and other regulations governing scenic quality?				
d)	Create a new source of substantial light or glare which would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area?				

- a. No Impact. The Proposed Project does not result in a change in the scenic characteristics of the site and its surroundings. The Proposed Project would occur on District owned land, of which a portion is used for a domestic water well and hydropneumatic tank. The remainder of the site is undeveloped. The Proposed Project site is bounded by residential land use on two adjoining sides having wood privacy fencing. The remaining sides lie next to roadways. The well site has been in use since 1984.
- b. **No Impact.** There are no scenic resources on or near the Proposed Project. The Project is not located adjacent to or near a state scenic highway.
- c. Less than Significant Impact. The Proposed Project installs vertical tanks that are consistent will the visual character of the well site. The proposed improvements and associated perimeter fencing installed for the Proposed Project will not substantially degrade the existing usual character. The Proposed Project is consistent with applicable zoning (Mixed Use).
- d. Less than Significant Impact. The Proposed Project would not create a new source of substantial light or glare. New facilities will require some additional lighting for operational, maintenance and security purposes. The new lighting will be minimal and take advantage of equipment locations to reduce offsite impacts. A street light currently exists at the corner of the Proposed Project site.

II. AGRICULTURE & FORESTRY RESOURCES

Potentially Significant

Impact

Significant With Mitigation Incorporation

Less than

Less than Significant Impact

No Impact

In determining whether impacts to agricultural resources are significant environmental effects, lead agencies may refer to the California Agricultural Land Evaluation and Site Assessment Model (1997) prepared by the California Dept. of Conservation as an optional model to use in assessing impacts on agriculture and farmland. In determining whether impacts to forest resources, including timberland, are significant environmental effects, lead agencies may refer to information compiled by the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection regarding the state's inventory of forest land, including the Forest and Range Assessment Project and the Forest Legacy Assessment Project; and forest carbon measurement methodology provided in Forest Protocols adopted by the California Air Resources Board. Would the project:

	Farmland of Statewide Importance (Farmland), as shown on the maps prepared pursuant to the				∇ 1
	Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program of the California Resources Agency, to non- agricultural use?	Ш	Ш	Ш	
b)	Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or a Williamson Act contract?				\boxtimes
c)	Conflict with existing zoning for, or cause rezoning of, forest land (as defined in Public Resources Code section 12220(g)), timberland (as defined in				
	Public Resources Code section 4526), or timberland zoned Timberland Production (as defined by Government Code section 51104(g))?				
d)	Result in the loss of forest land or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?				\boxtimes
e)	Involve other changes in the existing environment which, due to their location or nature, could result in conversion of Farmland, to non-agricultural use or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?				
Dis	cussion				

- a. No Impact. The Proposed Project will be constructed on District owned land and will not remove any land from agricultural production.
- No impact. The Proposed Project area is currently zoned R-2 (Two Family Residential) and MU (Mixed Use).
- c. No Impact. There are no forest lands within the limits of the Proposed Project.
- d. No Impact. There are no forest lands within the limits of the Proposed Project.
- e. No Impact. See previous responses to Items (a) through (d).

Ш	. AIR QUAL <u>ITY</u>	Potentially Significant Impact	Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
con	ere available, the significance criteria established by the a strol district may be relied upon to make the following de suld the project:	applicable ai terminations	r quality manaş s.	gement or ai	r pollution
a)	Conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan?				\boxtimes
b)	Result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is non-attainment under an applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard (including releasing emissions which exceed quantitative thresholds for ozone precursors)?				
c)	Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations?				\boxtimes
d)	Result in other emissions (such as those leading to odors) adversely affecting a substantial number of people.				\boxtimes
The acti Esti	cussion e air quality impacts from the construction activities an ivities from the operation of the Proposed Project have imator Model (CalEEMod). The results have been comparing Valley Air Pollution Control District and are estimated emissions estimates is attached for reference.	e been evalu pared again:	uated using the st thresholds e	e California established l	Emissions by the San
a.	No Impact. The Proposed Project would not conflict construction, however, the District and the selected the San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District's	contractors	would be requ		
b.	No Impact. Air emissions estimates for construction increase for any non-attainment pollutant.	and operati	ons do not ind	licate a signi	ificant
С.	No Impact. See response to Items (a) and (b).				
d.	No impact. The adjacent areas will not be exposed to consist of self-contained vessels for water treatment		ible odors. The	proposed f	facilities

<u>IV</u>	Z. BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES	Potentially	Less than Significant With	Less than	
Would the project:		Significant Impact	Mitigation Incorporation	Significant Impact	No Impact
a)	Have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?		\boxtimes		
b)	Have a substantial adverse effect on any ripatian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?				
c)	Have a substantial adverse effect on federally protected wetlands (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means?				\boxtimes
d)	Interfere substantially with the movement of any oative resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites?				\boxtimes
e)	Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance?				\boxtimes
f)	Conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan?				

IV. BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES (continued)

Discussion

A Biological Evaluation Report was completed on October 25, 2024, that included a field survey completed in October 16, 2024. Identification of special status species included a search of the California Department of Fish and Wildlife's (CDFW) California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDB) and California Native Plant Society (CNPS) Online Inventory of Rare and Endangered Vascular Plants of California. The Report has been attached for reference.

a. Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporation. The Report established that the potential exists for construction-related mortality and/or disturbances of nesting migratory birds. The Report determined that the magnitude of the potential impacts could be reduced to a less than significant level through the incorporation of the following mitigation practices: scheduling of construction during low risk times of year (i.e., construction timing), preconstruction surveys and avoidance of active nests. The Report also recommended the establishment of construction buffers around active nests. Preventive measures will be incorporated into construction documents to avoid potential impacts.

Based upon the biological field survey, the Report concluded that less than significant impacts would occur to special status plants and special status animal species within the Proposed Project's vicinity and subsequent Mitigation Measures are not required.

- No Impact. The biological survey did not establish the presence of sensitive natural communities or designated critical habitat. The Project site contains no aquatic features for riparian considerations.
- c. No Impact. The biological field survey conducted in October, 2024, did not identify any wetlands on the Proposed Project site.
- No Impact. The biological field survey established that the Project site "does not contain or adjoin any geographic features that could function as a wildlife movement corridor." The Proposed Project does not result in features that impedes movement of common native wildlife.
- e. No Impact. The Proposed Project does conflict with the General Plan Policies of Tulare County (2023). The Proposed Project Site does not present a change in the designated land uses for the Project area and the Ivanhoe Community Plan (2019). Trees do not exist on the Proposed Project site. See response to Item (b).
- f. **No Impact.** No Habitat Conservation Plan has been identified for, or that includes, the Proposed Project area. Since the Proposed Project does not result in any change to existing land use and associated conditions, it not expected to conflict with any local, regional or state conservation plans.

<u>v. (</u>	CULTURAL RESOURCES	Potentially	Significant With	Less than	
	uld the project:	Significant Impact	Mitigation Incorporation	Significant Impact	No Impact
a)	Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource as defined in §15064.5?				
b)	Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to §15064.5?				\boxtimes
c)	Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries?				\boxtimes

Discussion

A Class III Inventory/Phase I Survey (Survey Report) was completed for the Proposed Project site on December 10, 2024, that included field surveys, record surveys and tribal contacts. A field survey was conducted on October 18, 2024. No cultural resources were identified within the surveyed area that warranted consideration for the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) or the California Register of Historical Resources (CRHR). The Report is attached for reference.

- a. No Impact. The Survey report did not identify the presence of a historical resource within the Proposed Project area. The Proposed Project area consists of actively maintained roadways and agricultural land areas. The elements of the Proposed Project will be constructed within the actively maintained lands.
- b. No Impact. The Proposed Project site consists of a developed location for a groundwater well and actively maintained roadways and agricultural land areas. The elements of the Proposed Project will be constructed within the actively maintained land. The Survey report did not identify presence of any archaeological resources within or adjacent to the Proposed Project site.
- No Impact. The Proposed Project area consists of actively maintained and undeveloped land areas. The elements of the Proposed Project will be constructed within the actively maintained lands. The Survey Report did not identify the presence of any tribal or associated resources. No formal cemetery is located within the Proposed Project area. Measures shall be implemented during construction to address discovery of human remains or other archaeological resources.

VI. ENERGY Would the project:	Potentially Significant	Less than Significant With Mitigation	Less than Significant	NT- I
a) Result in potentially significant environment impact due to wasteful, inefficient, or unnecessa consumption of energy resources, during proje construction or operation?	ry 🗀	Incorporation	Іілрасt	No Impact
b) Conflict with or obstruct a state or local plan for renewable energy or energy efficiency?				\boxtimes

- a. **No Impact.** The Proposed Project consists of the installation of new treatment equipment for an existing groundwater well. The new facilities will not require significant additional energy resources.
- b. **No Impact.** The Proposed Project does not include elements that would be associated with state or local energy efficiency plans.

	I. GEOLOGY AND SOILS Duld the project: Expose people or structures to potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
	i) Rupture of a known earthquake fault, as delineated on the most recent Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Map issued by the State Geologist for the area or based on other substantial evidence of a known fault? Refer to Division of Mines and Geology Special Publication 42.				
	ii) Strong seismic ground shaking?				\boxtimes
	iii) Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction?				\boxtimes
	iv) Landslides?				\boxtimes
b)	Result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil?				\boxtimes
c)	Be located on a geologic unit or soil that is unstable, or that would become unstable as a result of the project, and potentially result in onor off-site landslide, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction or collapse?				\boxtimes
d)	Be located on expansive soil, as defined in Table 18-1-B of the most recently adopted Uniform Building Code creating substantial risks to life or property?				
e)	Have soils incapable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative waste water disposal systems where sewers are not available for the disposal of waste water?				

VII. GEOLOGY AND SOILS (continued)

- a. **No Impact.** The Proposed Project location is not shown in an area designated to be affected by active earthquake fault zones or landslide and liquefaction zones as reviewed through the California Geological Survey Information Warehouse web-based regulatory mapping tool.
- b. **No Impact.** Proposed Project locations consist of concrete surfacing for equipment and graded areas. The Proposed Construction specifications for the Proposed Project will require compaction of all disturbed areas which will minimize the potential for erosion.
- c. No Impact. According to the National Resource Conservation Service (Soil Conservation Service), the Proposed Project area consists of Exeter Loam. The soil summary does not list any geologic hazards such as soil instability or subsidence. See response to Item (a).
- d. **No Impact.** The Proposed Project does not include the construction of permanent dwelling buildings.
- e. **No Impact.** Criteria does not apply. The Proposed Project does not include installation of septic tanks or alternative wastewater disposal systems.

<u>VIII. GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS</u>			Less than Significant		
W	ould the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	With Mitigation Incorporation	Less than Significant Impact	No Impac
a)	Generate greenhouse gas emissions, either directly or indirectly, that may have a significant impact on the environment?				
b)	Conflict with an applicable plan, policy or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases?				\boxtimes

- a. Less than Significant Impact. Estimates of greenhouse gases resulting from the construction activities and the annual operation and maintenance activities from the operation of the Proposed Project have been determined using the California Emissions Estimator Model (CalEEMod). The San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District does not have an annual greenhouse emissions standard. The results are estimated to be below the interim threshold of 10,000 metric tons (MT) established by the California Air Resources Board. A summary of the emissions estimates is attached for reference.
- b. No Impact. The Proposed Project would not conflict with any applicable plan, policy or regulation adopted for reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases.

<u>IX</u>	. HAZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS	Potentially	Less than Significant With	Less than	
W	ould the project:	Significant Impact	Mitigation Incorporation	Significant Impact	No Impact
a)	Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials?			\boxtimes	
b)	Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment?			\boxtimes	
c)	Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school?				
d)	Be located on a site which is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5 and, as a result, would it create a significant hazard to the public or the environment?				\boxtimes
e)	For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area?				\boxtimes
f)	Impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?				
g)	Expose people or structures, either directly or indirectly to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving wildland fires.				

IX. HAZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS (continued)

- a. Less than Significant Impact. Construction will require small amounts of hazardous materials such as paints/coatings, solvents and welding supplies. The operation of the Proposed Project will require periodic transport of the treatment materials (granular activated carbon), chemicals used for water treatment and disinfection (liquid sodium hypochlorite) and grounds maintenance (herbicides, etc.). The quantities of the materials and chemicals will not represent a significant hazard. The transport, use and storage of fuel will be in accordance with regulatory requirements.
- b. Less than Significant Impact. The operation of the Proposed Project will require fuel used for equipment operation. The quantity of fuel will not represent a significant hazard. The site for the proposed standby generator lies behind security fencing and locked gates.
- c. No Impact. The Proposed Project is not located within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school.
- d. No Impact. The Proposed Project will not be constructed on a hazardous materials site. The Proposed Project site is not on the Cortese List.
- e. **No Impact.** The Proposed Project site is not located within an airport land use plan. The nearest public airstrip (Sequoia Field) is approximately 6.5 miles away.
- f. **No Impact.** The Proposed Project site is not located near a private airstrip. The nearest private airstrip (Eckert Field) is approximately six (6) miles away.
- g. No Impact. There are no emergency response plans which involve the Proposed Project site.
- h. **No Impact.** Wildlands are not considered present within the Project area. The Proposed Project area consists of leveled residential and agricultural land and roadways. No changes in adjacent land uses are proposed.

X. HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements or otherwise substantially degrade surface or groundwater quality?				\boxtimes
b) Substantially deplete groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that the project may impede sustainable groundwater management of the basin?				
c) Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, in a manner which would.				
 result in substantial erosion or siltation on- or off-site; 				\boxtimes
 substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner which would result in flooding on- or off-site; 				\boxtimes
iii) create or contribute runoff water which would exceed the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems or provide substantial additional sources of polluted runoff; or				\boxtimes
iv) impede or redirect flood flows?				\boxtimes
d) In flood hazard, tsunami, or seiche zones, risk release of pollutants due to project inundation?				
e) Conflict with or obstruct implementation of a water quality control plan or sustainable groundwater management plan?				\boxtimes

IX. HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY (continued)

Discussion

- a. No Impact. The Proposed Project consists of improvements to existing groundwater extraction facilities. The improvements will remove 1,2,3-TCP from extracted groundwater to meet water quality standards. Construction requirements such as a Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) will be utilized to prevent water quality impacts during construction of the improvements.
- b. **No Impact.** The Proposed Project consists of improvements to existing groundwater extraction facilities. The Proposed Project utilizes existing facilities and will not result in community growth that would increase groundwater use.
- c(i). No Impact. The Proposed Project area consists of leveled land. Elements of the Proposed Project will be constructed at existing grades. No changes to existing grades on or adjacent to the Project site are proposed. The Proposed Project would not substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the area.
- c(ii). **No Impact.** The Proposed Project site consists of leveled land. The Proposed Project includes additional concrete equipment pads and paving. The increase in impervious area would not substantially alter the existing drainage quantity of the area.
- c(iii). **No Impact.** The Proposed Project area is served by a stormwater drainage system site. The amount of additional impervious surface resulting from the Proposed Project is very small when compared to the area served by drainage system. See response to Item (d).
- c(iv). **No Impact.** The Proposed Project is not located within the 100-year flood plain. Consequently, Project elements will not impede or redirect flood flows. National Flood Hazard Layer Firmette maps are attached for reference.
- d. No Impact. The Proposed Project site is located approximately 115 miles from the Pacific Ocean and separated by the coastal mountain ranges (elevation of approximately 3,000 ft). Consequently, the Proposed Project site is not subject to inundation by tsunami. The Proposed Project site is not located adjacent to an enclosed body of water that could be subject to a seiche. The Proposed Project site is not located in an area where mud flows occur.
- e. **No Impact.** The Proposed Project, whether during construction or following completion, would not degrade water quality. The Proposed Project will remove 1,2,3-TCP from extracted groundwater, consequently improving water quality. See response to Item (a).

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	. LAND USE AND PLANNING buld the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact	
a)	Physically divide an established community?				\boxtimes	
b)	Cause a significant environmental impact due to a conflict with any land use plan, policy, or regulation adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigation an environmental effect?					
Dis a. b.	community of Ivanhoe on existing parcels.					
	I. MINERAL RESOURCES ould the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact	
a)	Result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource that would be of value to the region and the residents of the state?				\boxtimes	
b)	Result in the loss of availability of a locally important mineral resource recovery site delineated on a local general plan, specific plan or other land use plan?				\boxtimes	
<u>Dis</u>	cussion No Impact. The Proposed Project is primarily located	l adiacont t	o ovictina nubl	ic road righ		

No Impact. The Proposed Project is located within existing parcels zoned for residential/mixed use

and does not impact any resource recovery site.

XIII, NOISE Would the project in:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Generation of a substantial temporary or permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the vicinity of the project in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance, or applicable standards of other agencies?			\boxtimes	
b) Generation of excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels?			\boxtimes	
c) For a project located within the vicinity of a private airstrip or an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?				\boxtimes

XII. NOISE (continued)

Discussion

- a. Less than Significant Impact. During construction, the potential exists for noise to occur in excess of the Tulare County's General Plan standards. The Project's construction specifications will require construction activities to follow all applicable laws and limit noise generation. Due to the rural location and agricultural nature of the Proposed Project area, any noise created by construction would be consistent with agricultural equipment and would not adversely impact adjacent residents. Upon completion, the Proposed Project will not cause an increase in existing noise levels.
- b. Less than Significant Impact. The potential for construction-related vibrations exists. Due to the rural location, proximity to Avenue 330 and San Joaquin Valley Railroad (0.25 mile) and agricultural nature of the Proposed Project area, vibration resulting from construction would be consistent with that from existing vehicular traffic and agricultural equipment and would not adversely impact adjacent residents. The Proposed Project's construction specifications will require construction activities to follow all applicable laws to limit vibration. Upon completion, the Proposed Project will not cause an increase in existing vibration levels.
- c. **No Impact.** The Proposed Project site is not located within an airport land use plan. The nearest public airstrip is approximately 6.5 miles west of the Proposed Project.

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XIV. POPULATION AND HOUSING Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Induce substantial unplanned population growth in an area, either directly (for example, by proposing new homes and businesses) or indirectly (for example, through extension of roads or other infrastructure)?				\boxtimes
b) Displace substantial numbers of people or housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?				\boxtimes

- a. No Impact. The scope of the Proposed Project consists of improvements that will improve water supply reliability and maintain existing water supplies. The Proposed Project does not provide water supply to support population growth. The potential exists that additional building (housing) could occur on parcels within the Urban Development Boundary (UDB) of the community based upon available water supply capacity. The current available water capacity limits population growth.
- b. No Impact. The Proposed Project is primarily located on District owned land that does not include housing elements. The Proposed Project does not displace populations or otherwise affect existing housing. The Proposed Project will not necessitate the construction of replacement housing.

XV. PUBLIC SERVICES Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered governmental facilities, need for new or physically altered governmental facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times or other performance objectives for any of the public services:				
Fire protection?				\boxtimes
Police protection?				\boxtimes
Schools?				\boxtimes
Parks?				\boxtimes
Other public facilities?			\boxtimes	

Discussion

No Impact. Construction will occur for a well that is not in service and will not result in any adverse impacts. No changes to service ratios, service times or other public service performance objectives will occur. Construction sequencing of the improvements will also be used to minimize any potential impacts during construction.

XVI. RECREATION	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Would the project increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility would occur or be accelerated?				Ø
b) Does the project include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities which might have an adverse physical effect on the environment?				\boxtimes

- a. No Impact. See response to Item XIII(a) Population and Housing.
- b. **No Impact.** The Proposed Project does not include or require expansion of any recreational facilities.

XVII. TRANSPORTATION/TRAFFIC Would the project:		Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
a)	Conflict with a program, plan, ordinance or policy addressing the circulation system, including transit, roadway, bicycle and pedestrian facilities?				\boxtimes
b)	Conflict or be inconsistent with CEQA Guidelines § 15064.3, subdivision (b) (Criteria for Analyzing Transportation Impacts).				\boxtimes
c)	Substantially increase hazards due to a geometric design feature (e.g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses (e.g., farm equipment)?				\boxtimes
d)	Result in inadequate emergency access?				\boxtimes

- a. No Impact. The Proposed Project elements are located on District-owned land with the exception of underground pipelines that connect to pipelines that connect to pipelines within County rights-of-way. All construction activities will be performed on District owned lands. A County encroachment permit will establish requirements to maintain effectiveness of streets at locations of pipeline installations.
- b. No Impact. The Proposed Project does not conflict with § 15064.3 (b). The Proposed Project does not represent a Land Use or Transportation Project. The construction of the Proposed Project can be accomplished by local contractors which will minimize the vehicle miles traveled.
- c. No Impact. The Proposed Project elements are located on District-owned land with the exception of underground pipelines that connect to pipelines within county rights-of-way.
- No Impact. The Proposed Project will not result in the alteration of the present access to the Proposed Project site. Therefore, existing emergency access would be maintained.

Less than

XVIII. TRIBAL CULTURAL RESOURCES Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a tribal cultural resource, defined in Public Resources Code § 21074 as either a site, feature, place, cultural landscape that is geographically defined in terms of the size and scope of the landscape, sacred place, or object with cultural value to a California Native American tribe, and that is:				
i) listed or eligible for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources, or in a local register of historical resources as defined in Public Resources Code section 5020.1(k), or				\boxtimes
ii) a resource determined by the lead agency, in its discretion and supported by substantial evidence, to be significant pursuant to criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resource Code § 5024.1, the lead agency shall consider the significance of the resource to a California Native American tribe.				⊠

- a(i). **No Impact.** The cultural resources survey completed for the Proposed Project (Item V) did not identify a listed or eligible for listing tribal cultural resource within the Project area.
- a(ii). **No Impact.** The cultural resources survey completed for the Proposed Project (Item V) did not identify any tribal cultural resource having significance with the Project area.

	X. UTILITIES AND SERVICE SYSTEMS ould the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
a)	Require or result in the relocation or construction of new or expanded water, wastewater treatment or storm water drainage, electric power, natural gas, or telecommunications facilities, the construction or relocation of which could cause significant environmental effects?			\boxtimes	
b)	Have sufficient water supplies available to serve the project and reasonably forseeable future development during normal, dry and multiple dry years.				
c)	Result in a determination by the wastewater treatment provider, which serves or may serve the project that it has adequate capacity to serve the project's projected demand in addition to the provider's existing commitments?				\boxtimes
d)	Generare solid waste in excess of state or local standards, or in excess of the capacity of local infrastructure, or otherwise impair the attainment of solid waste reduction goals?			\boxtimes	
e)	Comply with federal, state, and local management and reduction statutes and regulations to solid waste?			\boxtimes	

XIX. UTILITIES AND SERVICE SYSTEMS (continued) Discussion

- a. Less than Significant Impact. The Proposed Project consists of constructing new water treatment process equipment for an existing well. The improvements will occur on vacant, District owned land. The Proposed Project will not change the conditions of the Project area.
- b. No Impact. The elements of the Proposed Project add treatment process units to an existing well. The Proposed Project will allow the District to resume using a groundwater supply that has been unavailable due to contamination.
- c. **No Impact.** The Proposed Project addresses existing drinking water delivery capabilities. The Proposed Project does not result in additional wastewater flows (demands).
- d. Less than Significant Impact. The Proposed Project does not result in a change in the solid waste generation or disposal of the existing facilities. Spent Granular Activated Carbon (GAC) is removed from the treatment vessels and regenerated, enabling it to be reused in other installations, thereby minimizing waste. The construction phase of the Proposed Project will generate additional solid waste on a temporary basis. Specifications will require proper handling and disposal of construction-related materials. In general, the construction-related materials (i.e., concrete, soil, etc.) can be recycled by existing landfill facilities.
- e. Less than Significant Impact. Spent Granular Activated Carbon (GAC) is removed from the treatment vessels and regenerated, enabling it to be reused in other installations, thereby minimizing waste. Specifications will require proper handling and disposal of construction-related materials.

XX. WILDFIRE Less than Significant If located in or near state responsibility areas or Potentially With Less than lands classified as very high fire hazard severity Significant Mitigation Significant zones, would the project: Impact Incorporation Impact No Impact a) Substantially impair an adopted emergency П П П \boxtimes response plan or emergency evacuation plan? b) Due to slope, prevailing winds, and other factors, exacerbate wildfire risks, and thereby expose project occupants to pollutant concentrations П Ø П from a wildfire or the uncontrolled spread of a wildfire? c) Require the installation or maintenance of associated infrastructure (such as roads, fuel breaks, emergency water sources, powerlines or П П П \boxtimes other utilities) that may exacerbate fire risk or that may result in temporary or ongoing impacts to the environment? d) Expose people or structures to significant risks, including downslope or downstream flooding or П П \boxtimes landslides, as a result of runoff, post-fire slope instability, or drainage changes?

Discussion

The Proposed Project is not located within a State Responsibility Area or high fire hazard severity zone.

- a. **No Impact.** The Proposed Project is located on District owned land adjacent to existing roadways and will not impair any emergency or evacuation plans.
- No Impact. The Proposed Project is located in a residential area. The Proposed Project is located on District owned land adjacent to existing roadways and will not exacerbate wildfire risks.
- c. **No Impact.** The Proposed Project consists of the installation of treatment units for an existing well. The new facilities will not require additional infrastructure that may exacerbate fire risk.
- d. No Impact. The Project site consists of level graded areas. Construction specifications for the Proposed Project will require compaction of all disturbed areas which will minimize erosion. See responses to Item VII.

XXI. MANDATORY FINDINGS OF SIGNIFICANCE		Datasticlla	Less than Significant	T 1	
W	ould the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	With Mitigation Incorporation	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
a)	Does the project have the potential to degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory?			\boxtimes	
b)	Does the project have impacts that are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable? ("Cumulatively considerable" means that the incremental effects of a project are considerable when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, the effects of other current projects, and the effects of probable future projects)?				
c)	Does the project have environmental effects which will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?				×

- Less Than Significant Impact. As described in the previous sections, the Proposed Project will not result in any significant adverse impacts. Short-term related impacts that might occur during construction will be mitigated to a less than significant level based on Proposed Project design and/or construction specification requirements.
- b. No Impact. The Proposed Project is not part of a past or future project. No projects or associated elements have been identified that rely on the completion of the Proposed Project. Therefore, the individual considerations of the Proposed Project and their described potential impacts do not have related impacts that need to be collectively analyzed as part of other projects.
- c. No Impact. No direct or indirect adverse effects on the human population have been identified through the completion of this Initial Study.

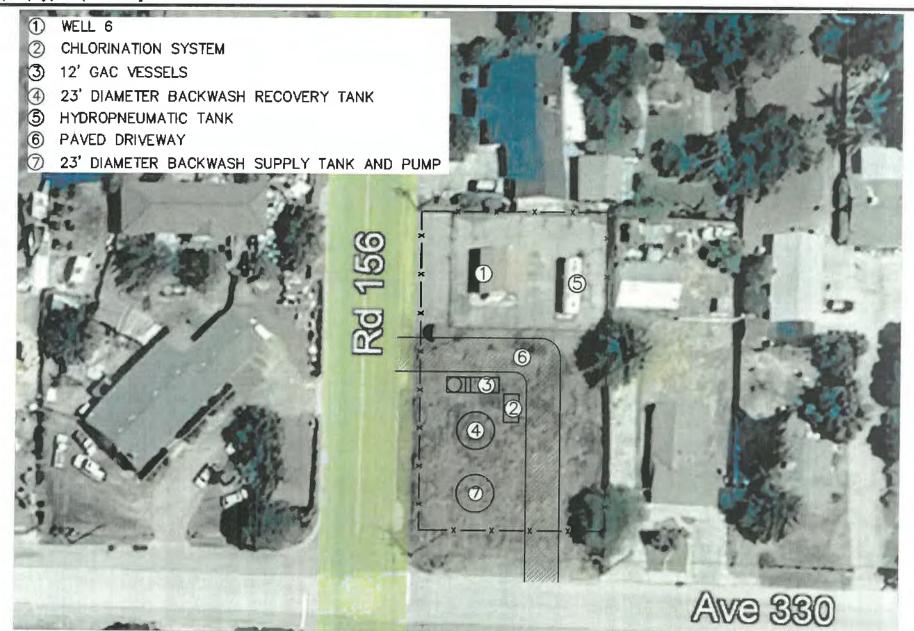
APPENDIX A
INITIAL STUDY – CEQA
PROPOSED PROJECT LOCATION MAPS
WELL NO. 6 IMPROVEMENTS
PROJECT
IVANHOE PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT



PROJECT AREA
WELL NO. 6 IMPROVEMENTS
IVANHOE PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT



PROJECT LOCATION
WELL NO. 6 IMPROVEMENTS
IVANHOE PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT





SCALE: 1"50"

PROPOSED PROJECT
WELL NO. 6 IMPROVEMENTS
IVANHOE PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT

APPENDIX B
INITIAL STUDY – CEQA
AIR EMISSIONS/GREENHOUSE GASES
ESTIMATES
WELL NO. 6 IMPROVEMENTS
PROJECT
IVANHOE PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT

ESTIMATED EMISSIONS WELL NO. 6 IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT IVANHOE PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT

The estimated Project construction and operational air emissions are summarized below. The emission estimates were generated using the California Emissions Estimator Model (CalEEMod) version 2016.3.2. based upon the installation of a GAC treatment system consisting of two 12-foot diameter pressure vessels, interconnecting piping, 40,000 gallon backwash water recovery storage tank, pump, pipeline and connections to the existing system over a 365 day construction schedule. The full CalEEMod emissions estimate report is available for review at the District office.

Pollutant	Federal Status (Attainment, Nonattainment or Unclassified)	Nonattainment Rates (Marginal, Moderate, Serious, Severe or Extreme)	Threshold of Significance for the Area (if applicable (Tons/Year) (1)	Construction Emissions (Tons/Year)	Operations Emissions (Tons/Year) (2)
Carbon Monoxide (CO)	Attainment	NA	100	1.6	0.05
Ozone (O ₃)	Nonattainment	Extreme	10 (EPA De Minimis)	Unknown (Note 3)	Unknown (Note 3)
Oxides of Nitrogen (NO _x)	Unknown	-	10	1.5	0.03
Particulate Matter (PM ₁₀)	Attainment	NA	15	0.12	3.8
Reactive Organic Gases (ROG)	Unknown	-	10	0.2	0.02
Sulfur Dioxide (SO ₂)	Attainment	NA	100 (EPA De Minimis)	0.004	0.0002
Volatile Organic Compounds (VOC)	Unknown	-	50 (EPA De Minimis)	Unknown (Note 3)	Unknown (Note 3)
Particulate Matter (PM 2.5)	Nonattainment	Serious	15	0.08	0.38
CO2e (Greenhouse Effect)	Does not apply	-	10,000 Metric Tons (California Air Resources Board)	303	19
Lead (Pb)	Attainment	NA	25 (EPA De Minimis)	Unknown (Note 3)	Unknown (Note 3)

Notes:

- 1. San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District adopted thresholds, unless otherwise noted.
- 2. Results reflect CalEEMod light industrial land use. The Project consists of water pipelines, manually operated gate valves and residential water services and will not result in significant changes to existing operations. The Project does include the installation of an 80 kw diesel fueled standby engine generator for emergency operation of the water system's surface treatment plant.
- 3. Not calculated by CalEEMod.

APPENDIX C
INITIAL STUDY – CEQA
BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES REPORT
WELL NO. 6 IMPROVEMENTS
PROJECT
IVANHOE PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT



October 25, 2024

Dennis Keller, District Engineer Ivanhoe Public Utility District 15859 Azalea Avenue Ivanhoe, CA 93235

RE: Biological Evaluation Letter, Ivanhoe Public Utility District Well No. 6 Improvements, Ivanhoe, CA

Dear Mr. Keller,

This letter report summarizes a biological evaluation conducted by Live Oak Associates, Inc. (LOA) for an approximately 0.3-acre site ("project site") proposed for the Ivanhoe Public Utility District Well No. 6 Improvements Project ("project"). The project site is located in Tulare County, in the urban center of the community of Ivanhoe at the northeast corner of Avenue 330 and Road 156 (Figure 1). It can be found on the *Ivanhoe* U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) 7.5-minute quadrangle within Section 01 of Township 18 South, Range 25 East (Figure 2).

On October 16, 2024, LOA biologist Jeff Gurule surveyed the site for its habitat values, flora and fauna, and potential to support special status species and other sensitive biological resources. As follows is a brief description of the proposed project and project site, a discussion of potential impacts to biological resources that may result from site development, and recommended mitigations for biological impacts that would be considered significant under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

Project Description

The project is the development of a water treatment facility adjacent to existing Ivanhoe Public Utility District Well No. 6. The project will consist of a chlorination system, 12' GAC vessels, 23' diameter backwash recovery tank, 23' diameter backwash supply tank, paved driveway, and chain link perimeter fence.

Site Description and Conditions

The project site is a vacant lot within a residential area of Ivanhoe adjacent to Ivanhoe Public Utility District Well No. 6. Based on aerial imagery, the lot contained a residential home until around 2013. By 2014 the home had been razed and the lot was fenced and utilized for equipment, material, and vehicle storage. By 2021 the lot was vacated. At the time of LOA's field survey the site was still vacant. Photos of the site are presented in Attachment 1.

The site has level topography and sits at an elevation of around 362 feet above sea level. It contains one soil mapping unit: Exeter loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes. This soil mapping unit is not considered a hydric soil, meaning the soil would not be prone to wetland development. Soils of the site have been historically disturbed from past uses of the site.

OARHURST

P.O. Box 2697 | 39930 Sierra Way #B Oakhurst, CA 93644

P: (559) 642-4880 | F: (559) 642-4683

SAN JOSE

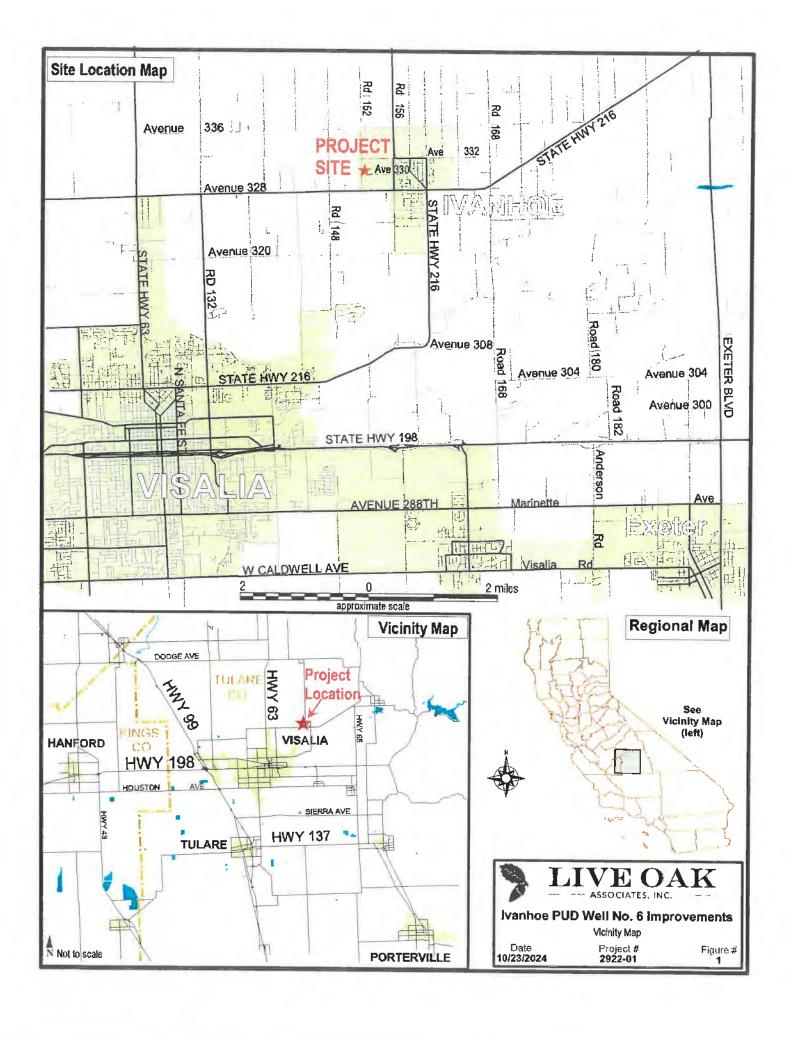
6840 Via Del Oro, Suite 220 Sen Jose, CA 95119

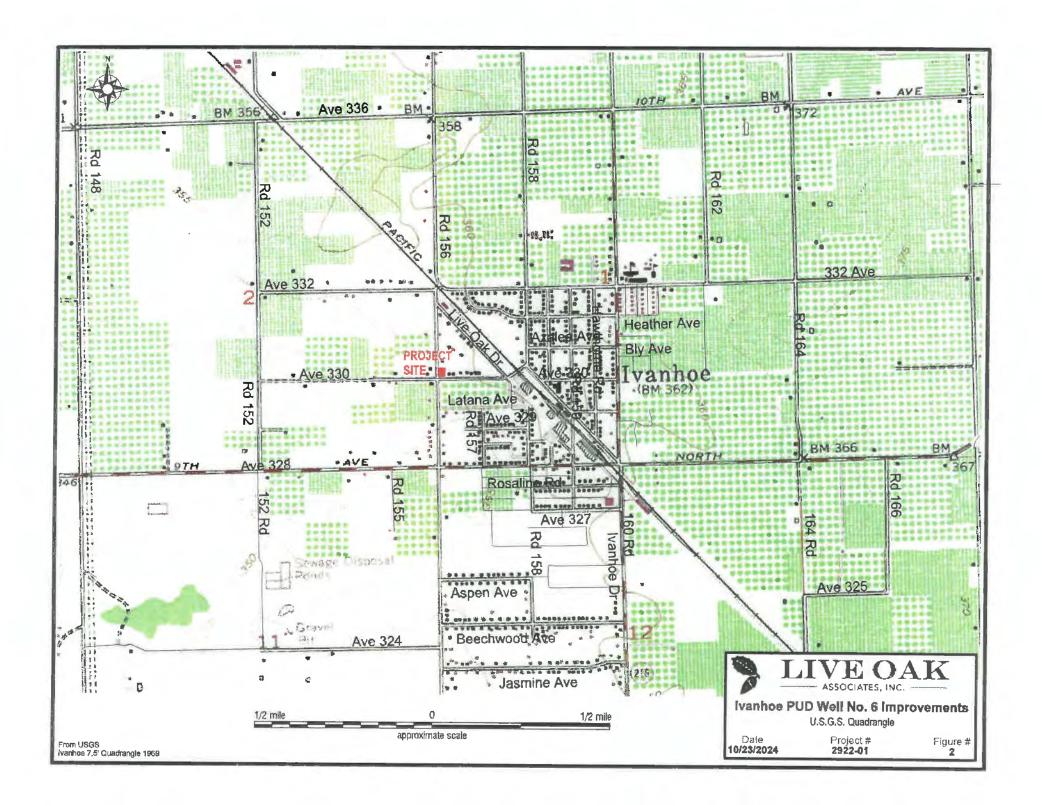
(408) 224-8300

SOUTH LAKE TAHOE

P.O. Box 7314 South Lake Tahos, CA 96158

(408) 281-5885







One habitat/land use type, categorized as ruderal, was identified on the project site at the time of the field survey, as seen on the aerial photo in Figure 3. At this time the site consisted of a compacted dirt lot supporting non-native weedy vegetation. Observed vegetation included grasses such as ripgut brome (Bromus diandrus), foxtail barley (Hordeum murinum), Bermuda grass (Cynodon dactylon), and forbs such as puncturevine (Tribulus terrestris), redroot amaranth (Amaranthus retroflexus), and Russian thistle (Salsola tragus), among others. Vines and shrubs on the site included trumpet creeper (Campsis radicans) and Mexican fan palm (Washingtonia robusta). Ornamental tree species on or overhanging the site included chinaberrytree (Melia azedarach), white mulberry (Morus alba), and Mexican palo verde (Parkinsonia aculeata).

The project site has little value for wildlife; however, common disturbance tolerant species are expected to utilize the site. Reptiles on the site would likely be limited to western fence lizards (Sceloporus occidentalis). Birds likely to occur on the site include the Eurasian collared dove (Streptopelia decaocto), Brewer's blackbirds (Euphagus cyanocephalus), northern mockingbird (Mimus polyglottos), California scrub jay (Aphelocoma californica), and European starling (Sturnus vulgaris). Small mammals such as California ground squirrels (Otospermophilus beecheyi) and Botta's pocket gophers (Thomomys bottae) could also utilize the project site. Mammalian predators such as raccoons (Procyon lotor) may occasionally forage or pass through the site.

Special Status Species

Many species of plants and animals within the state of California have low populations, limited distributions, or both. Such species may be considered "rare" and are vulnerable to extirpation as the state's human population grows and the habitats these species occupy are converted to agricultural and residential uses. State and federal laws have provided the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) with a mechanism for conserving and protecting the diversity of plant and animal species native to the state. A sizable number of native plants and animals have been formally designated as threatened or endangered under state and federal endangered species legislation. Others have been designated as "candidates" for such listing. Still others have been designated as "species of special concern" by the CDFW. The California Native Plant Society (CNPS) has developed its own set of lists (i.e., California Rare Plant Ranks, or CRPR) of native plants considered rare, threatened, or endangered (CNPS 2024). Collectively, these plants and animals are referred to as "special status species."

The California Natural Diversity Data Base (CNDDB; CDFW 2024) was used to query special status species occurrences in the *Ivanhoe* U.S. Geological Survey 7.5-minute quadrangle, in which the site is situated. The CNDDB species list is presented in Attachment 2.

Jurisdictional Waters

Jurisdictional waters are those rivers, creeks, drainages, lakes, ponds reservoirs, and wetlands that are subject to the authority of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), CDFW, and/or the Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB). In general, the USACE regulates navigable waters, tributaries to navigable waters, and wetlands with a continuous surface connection to these waters, where wetlands are defined by the presence of hydric soils, hydrophytic vegetation, and wetland hydrology. All waters under USACE jurisdiction are also regulated by the RWQCB as waters of the State. Additionally, the RWQCB asserts jurisdiction over certain isolated features outside the jurisdiction of the USACE. The CDFW has jurisdiction over waters that have a defined bed and bank.

Aquatic features, including any potentially jurisdictional waters or wetlands, are absent from the project site.





Sensitive Habitats and Designated Critical Habitat

California contains a wide range of natural communities, or unique assemblages of plants and animals. These communities have largely been classified and mapped by CDFW as part of their Vegetation Classification and Mapping Program (VegCAMP). Natural communities are assigned state and global ranks according to their rarity and the magnitude and trend of the threats they face. Any natural community with a state rank of 3 or lower (on a 1 to 5 scale) is considered "sensitive" and must be considered in CEQA review.

Sensitive natural communities are absent from the project site.

Wildlife Movement Corridors

Wildlife movement corridors are routes that animals regularly and predictably follow during seasonal migration, dispersal from native ranges, daily travel within home ranges, and inter-population movements. Movement corridors in California are typically associated with valleys, ridgelines, and rivers and creeks supporting riparian vegetation.

Wildlife movement corridors are absent from the project site.

Local Policies and Ordinances

In compliance with CEQA, the lead agency must consider project conformance with applicable goals and policies of the General Plan of the County of Tulare. The General Plan of the County of Tulare was adopted in August 2012 and has a planning horizon that extends through 2030. Relevant biological policies are as follows:

- Preserve and enhance scenic landscapes of Tulare County;
- Ensure that development occurs in a manner that limits impacts to natural and cultural resources and avoid developing in naturally and culturally sensitive areas when possible;
- Support continued preservation of natural lands;
- Protect environmental waters:
- Preserve and protect sensitive significant habitats, enhance biodiversity, and promote healthy ecosystems;
- Protect rare and endangered species;
- Protect and preserve wetland and riparian habitats;
- · Plant native trees, shrubs, and grasslands to provide suitable habitat for native wildlife;
- Conserve and manage oak woodland communities;
- Require that projects be surveyed by a biologist for special status species.

The project does not appear to be in conflict with these policies.

Habitat Conservation Plans and Natural Community Conservation Plans

Section 10 of the federal Endangered Species Act establishes a process by which non-federal projects can obtain authorization to incidentally take listed species, provided take is minimized and thoroughly mitigated. A Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP), developed by the project applicant in collaboration with the USFWS and/or NMFS, ensures that such minimization and mitigation will occur, and is a prerequisite to the issuance of a federal incidental take permit. Similarly, a Natural Community Conservation Plan



(NCCP), developed by the project applicant in collaboration with CDFW, provides for the conservation of biodiversity within a project area, and permits limited incidental take of state-listed species.

No HCPs or NCCPs are in effect for the project vicinity.

Potentially Significant Project Impacts/Mitigation

Nesting Migratory Birds

Impact: The project site contains possible nesting habitat for a few avian species. Nearly all avian species are protected under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act and related state laws. Avian species potentially nesting on or immediately adjacent to the site include the Brewer's blackbird, California scrub jay, and northern mockingbird, among others. If birds were to nest on or immediately adjacent to the project site at the time of construction, project-related activities could result in the destruction or abandonment of active nests. Construction activities that adversely affect the nesting success of birds or result in the mortality of individual birds may violate state and federal laws and would be considered a significant impact under CEQA.

Mitigation: In order to avoid impacts to nesting birds, construction will occur, where possible, outside the nesting season, which is considered February 1 – August 31. If construction must occur during the nesting season, a qualified biologist will conduct preconstruction surveys for active raptor and migratory bird nests within 7 days of the onset of these activities. Nest surveys will include all areas on and within 250 feet of the project site, where accessible. Should any active nests be discovered in or near proposed construction zones, the biologist will identify a suitable construction-free buffer around the nest. This buffer will be identified on the ground by flagging or fencing and will be maintained until a qualified biologist has determined that the young have fledged.

Compliance with the above mitigation measures would reduce impacts to nesting birds to a less than significant level under CEQA and facilitate compliance with state and federal laws.

Less Than Significant Project Impacts

Special Status Plants: Decades of human use and disturbance of the project site have resulted in unsuitable habitat conditions for special status plants. The project is not expected to affect individuals or regional populations of special status plants because they have no potential to occur on site. Impacts to special status plants are considered less than significant under CEQA and mitigation is not warranted.

Special Status Animal Species. Decades of human use and disturbance of the project site and surrounding lands have resulted in unsuitable habitat conditions for regionally occurring special status animal species. The project is not expected to affect individuals or regional populations of special status animals because they have no appreciable potential to occur on the site. Impacts to special status animals are considered less than significant under CEQA and mitigation is not warranted.

Waters of the U.S. and State. Hydrologic features are absent from the project site. As a result, project impacts to waters of the U.S. and State are considered less than significant under CEQA and mitigation is not warranted.

Wildlife Movement Corridors. The project site does not contain any geographical features that could function as a wildlife movement corridor. Project impacts to wildlife movement corridors are considered less than significant under CEQA and mitigation is not warranted.



Consistency with Local Policies and Ordinances. The project appears consistent with the General Plan of the County of Tulare and other local policies and ordinances related to biological resources. No mitigations are warranted.

Consistency with Habitat Conservation Plans and Natural Community Conservation Plans. There are no known HCPs or NCCPs in effect for the project area. No mitigations are warranted.

Conclusion

Based on LOA's field survey and subsequent analysis, the Ivanhoe Public Utility District Well No. 6 Improvements Project has the potential to impact nesting birds, which would be a potentially significant impact under CEQA. This potential impact can be mitigated to a less than significant level by conducting preconstruction surveys and maintaining construction-free buffers around active nests. Potential project impacts to all other biological resources are considered less than significant under CEQA.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at jgurule@loainc.com or (559) 760-6842.

Sincerely,

Jeff Gurule

Senior Project Manager

Jef Jameli.



ATTACHMENT 1: PHOTOGRAPHS OF THE PROJECT SITE





Photo 1: Looking north at the project site.



Photo 2: Looking east at the project site.



ATTACHMENT 2: CNDDB SPECIES LIST

-11



Selected Elements by Scientific Name

California Department of Fish and Wildlife California Natural Diversity Database



Query Criteria:

Quad IS ((vanhoe (3611942))

Species	Element Code	Federal Status	State Status	Global Rank	State Rank	Rare Plant Rank/CDFW SSC or FP
Species Ambystoma californiense pop. 1	AAAAA01181	Threatened	Threatened	G2G3T3	S3	WL WL
California tiger salamander - central California DPS	7000001101	riffeateried	meatoned	020013	OD .	***
Athene cunicularla	ABNSB10010	None	None	G4	S2	SSC
burrowing owl						
Atriplex cordulata var. erecticaulis	PDCHE042V0	None	None	G3T1	S1	1B.2
Earlimart orache						
Atriplex minuscula	PDCHE042M0	None	None	G2	S2	18.1
lesser saltscale						
Atriplex persistens	PDCHE042P0	Nane	None	G2	S2	1B.2
vernal pool smallscale						
Branchinecta lynchi	ICBRA03030	Threatened	None	G3	S3	
vernal pool fairy shrimp						
Delphinium recurvatum	PDRAN0B1J0	None	None	G2?	S2	1B.2
recurved larkspur						
Eryngium spinosepalum	PDAPI0Z0Y0	None	None	G2	S 2	1B.2
spiny-sepaled button-celery						
Euphorbia hooverl	PDEUP0D150	Threatened	None	G1	S1	1B.2
Hoover's spurge						
Hellanthus winteri	PDAST4N260	None	None	G2?	\$2?	1B.2
Winter's sunflower						
Lasthenia glabrata ssp. coulteri	PDAST5L0A1	None	None	G4T2	S2	1B.1
Coulter's goldfields						
Lepidurus packardi	ICBRA10010	Endangered	None	G3	S3	
vernal pool tadpole shrimp						
Linderiella occidentalis	ICBRA06010	None	None	G2G3	S2S3	
California linderiella						
Northern Hardpan Vernal Pool	CTT44110CA	None	None	G3	\$3.1	
Northern Hardpan Vernal Pool						
Orcuttia inaequalis	PMPOA4G060	Threatened	Endangered	G1	S1	1B.1
San Joaquin Valley Orcutt grass						
Sagittaria sanfordii	PMALI040Q0	None	None	G3	S3	1B.2
Sanford's arrowhead						
Spea hammondli	AAABF02020	Proposed Threatened	None	G2G3	\$3\$4	SSC
western spadefoot	II ADADDES		Name	0000	0202	
Talanites moodyae	ILARA98020	None	None	G2G3	S2S3	
Moody's gnaphosid spider	AMA (A00044	Endonessed	Theoret	CATO	62	
Vulpes macrofis mutica	AMAJA03041	Endangered	Threatened	G4T2	S3	
San Joaquin kit fox					Perced Cour	4.40

Record Count: 19

APPENDIX D
INITIAL STUDY – CEQA
CULTURAL RESOURCES REPORT
WELL NO. 6 IMPROVEMENTS
PROJECT
IVANHOE PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT



Phase I Cultural Resources Assessment IPUD Well No. 6 Improvement Project, Ivanhoe, CA 93235 Assessor Parcel Numbers 107-030-047 & 048 Tulare, County, California

Prepared for



15859 Azalea Avenue Ivanhoe, CA 92235



Heather Froshour, M.A., R.P.A., Senior Archaeologist

February 3, 2025



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Soar Environmental Consulting, Inc. (Soar Environmental) has been retained by the Ivanhoe Public Utility District (the District) to prepare a Phase 1 Cultural Resources Assessment (Phase 1 CRA) for a Well Improvement Project (Project) in census designated Ivanhoe (Ivanhoe), California, in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) prior to implementation of the proposed Project. The proposed project is to install above ground treatment processes and storage tanks adjacent to Well No. 6 within approximately 0.45-acres on Assessor Parcel Numbers (APNs) 107-030-047 & 048. The purpose of the CRA is to provide an inventory of the known and potentially significant cultural resources within the Project area through a California Historical Records Information search (CHRIS) using the Southern San Joaquin Valley Information Center (SSJVIC), a Sacred Lands File & Native American Contacts List Request through the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC), and a Phase I pedestrian survey.

The results of the records search indicate one (1) cultural resource recorded within 0.50-mile of the Project area. The records searches indicate no recorded resources within the Project area. The pedestrian survey identified no existing resources within the Project area. No site testing or mitigation measures are required, unless previously undiscovered cultural resources are detected during quarry operations.



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1.0 Introduction

This report details the results of a Phase 1 Cultural Resources Assessment in support of the proposed well improvements on 0.45 acres in census-designated Ivanhoe, California, on Assessor Parcel Numbers (APNs) 107-030-047 & 048 (Figures 1-2). This Phase 1 report is prepared pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), PRC Sections 21082, 21083.2, and 21084.1, and California Code of Regulations 15064.5.

Heather Froshour completed the archival review, field survey, the Native American consultation, and prepared this Phase 1 report. Ms. Froshour is Soar Environmental's Senior Archaeologist who meets the professional standards of the U.S. Secretary of the Interior for Archaeology (36 CFR 61) and is certified by the Register of Professional Archaeologists.

Soar Environmental requested a records search from the Southern San Joaquin Valley Information Center (SSJVIC) for the Project area as well as a 0.50-mile buffer. The archival research for this Phase 1 report was negative for archaeological sites or historical resources within the Project area. The archival record search reported one (1) recorded resource within a 0.5-mile radius of the Project area. The records search revealed no previous cultural resources surveys had been conducted in the Project area. A total of three (3) additional cultural resource survey reports have been completed within a 0.50-mile radius of the Project area.

As part of the background research, Soar Environmental also requested a search of the Sacred Lands File (SLF) from the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC). The results of the records review and SLF search were negative. The NAHC suggested contacting twelve (12) individuals representing five (5) Native American tribal groups to find out if they have additional information about the Project area. Soar Environmental sent outreach letters to all twelve (12) recommended tribal individuals. No response was received.

Soar Environmental conducted an intensive pedestrian survey of the project on October 18, 2024. This field survey was negative for surface archaeological resources within the Project area. As currently designed, the proposed project will not impact any known in situ archaeological sites or historical resources.

It is recommended, however, in the event that cultural resources are encountered during ground-disturbing 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 CEQA Guidelines 15064.5(f). 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.



1.1 Project Description

The Project proposes the installation of above-ground treatment processes and storage tanks adjacent to Well No. 6 in the census-designated community of Ivanhoe in Tulare County (Figures 1-2). The proposed Project lies within the combined 0.45-acre parcels on APNs 107-030-047 & 048 (Figure 2).

The work will consist of installing above ground treatment processes and storage tanks on a parcel adjacent to Well No. 6. Some underground work will be required for pipeline connections. An existing utility structure and storage tank is present on APN 107-030-047, with APN 107-030-048 currently vacant, both parcels are owned by the District. All construction will occur on the parcel and the adjacent roadways.

1.2 Existing Condition

The Project area is located on two parcels of 0.45 acres combined located approximately 894-meters northwest of California State Route 216, Ivanhoe, California, at Assessor Parcel Numbers (APNs) 107-030-047 & 048 (Figures 1-3). The Project area is approximately 3.97 kilometers north of St. John's River and 11.54 kilometers southwest of Bravo Lake. The Project area is located in Tulare County within Section 1, Township 18S, Range 25E, Mount Diablo Base Meridian, as depicted on the Ivanhoe, CA 7.5' U. S Geological Survey (USGS) topographical quadrangle (Figure 1). The property is approximately 0.3 acres of level open vacant land, with 0.15 acres containing a fenced-in utility structure.

The elevation of the Project area is fairly level and ranges from 110-112 feet (ft) above mean sea level. The property is vacant and has flat terrain, patchy grasses, and sparse valley shrubs. It is bounded by fenced residential lots to the north and east, Road 156 to the west, and Avenue 330 to the south.

2.0 REGULATORY SETTING

Federal, State, and local governments have developed laws and regulations designed to protect significant cultural resources that may be affected by actions that they undertake or regulate. The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), and the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) are the basic federal and state laws governing preservation of historic and archaeological resources of national, regional, State, and local significance.

2.1 Federal

Federal regulations for cultural resources are governed primarily by Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) of 1966. Section 106 of NHPA requires Federal agencies to take into account the effects of their undertakings on historic properties and affords the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation a reasonable opportunity to comment on such undertakings.



The Council's implementing regulations, "Protection of Historic Properties" are found in 36 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 800. The goal of the Section 106 review process is to offer a measure of protection to sites which are determined eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places. The criteria for determining National Register eligibility are found in 36 CFR Part 60. Amendments to the NHPA (1986 and 1992) and subsequent revisions to the implementing regulations have, among other things, strengthened the provisions for Native American consultation and participation in the Section 106 review process. While federal agencies must follow federal regulations, most projects by private developers and landowners do not require this level of compliance. Federal regulations only come into play in the private sector if a project requires a federal permit or if it uses federal money.

2.2 State of California

California Register of Historical Resources

In California, the term "historical resource" includes "any object, building, structure, site, area, place, record, or manuscript which is historically or archaeologically significant, or is significant in the architectural, engineering, scientific, economic, agricultural, educational, social, political, military, or cultural annals of California" (California PRC § 5020.1[j])(State of California 2021). In 1992, the California legislature established the California Register of Historical Resources (CRHR) "to be used by state and local agencies, private groups, and citizens to identify the state's historical resources and to indicate what properties are to be protected, to the extent prudent and feasible, from substantial adverse change" (California PRC § 5024.1(a)). The criteria for listing resources on the CRHR, enumerated in the following text, were developed to be in accordance with previously established criteria developed for listing in the NRHP. According to California PRC § 5024.1(c) (1–4), a resource is considered historically significant if it (i) retains "substantial integrity," and (ii) meets at least one of the following criteria:

- 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 operations, or represents the work of an important creative individual, or possesses high artistic values.
- 4) Has yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history

To understand the historic importance of a resource, sufficient time must have passed to obtain a scholarly perspective on the events or individuals associated with the resource. A resource less than 50 years old may be considered for listing in the CRHR if it can be demonstrated that sufficient time has passed to understand its historical importance (14 CCR 4852[d][2]).



The CRHR protects cultural resources by requiring evaluations of the significance of prehistoric and historic resources. The criteria for the CRHR are nearly identical to those for the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP), and properties listed or formally designated as eligible for listing in the NRHP are automatically listed in the CRHR, as are state landmarks and points of interest. The CRHR also includes properties designated under local ordinances or identified through local historical resource surveys.

California Health and Safety Code, §7050.5

California law protects Native American burials, skeletal remains, and associated grave goods, regardless of their antiquity, and provides for the sensitive treatment and disposition of those remains. California Health and Safety Code, §7050.5, requires that if human remains are discovered in any place other than a dedicated cemetery, no further disturbance or excavation of the site or nearby area reasonably suspected to contain human remains can occur until the County Coroner has examined the remains (California Health and Safety Code, §7050.5b). California PRC §5097.98, also outlines the process to be followed in the event that remains are discovered. If the County Coroner determines or has reason to believe the remains are those of a Native American, the County Coroner must contact the California NAHC within 24 hours (California Health and Safety Code, §7050.5c)(State of California 2021). The NAHC will notify the most likely descendant. With the permission of the landowner, the most likely descendant may inspect the site of discovery. The inspection must be completed within 48 hours of notification of the most likely descendant by the NAHC. The most likely descendant may recommend means of treating or disposing of, with appropriate dignity, the human remains, and items associated with Native Americans.

California State Assembly Bill 52

Assembly Bill (AB) 52 of 2014 amended California PRC § 5097.94, and added California PRC §21073, 21074, 21080.3.1, 21080.3.2, 21082.3, 21083.09, 21084.2, and 21084.3. AB 52 established that tribal cultural resources must be considered under CEQA and also provided for additional Native American consultation requirements for the lead agency. California PRC §21074, defines tribal cultural resources as follows:

- (a) Section 21074 of the Public Resources Code states that "tribal cultural resources" are either of the following:
 - (1) Sites, features, places, cultural landscapes, sacred places, and objects with cultural value to a California Native American tribe that are either of the following:
 - (A) Included or determined to be eligible for inclusion in the California Register of Historical Resources.
 - (B) Included in a local register of historical resources as defined in subdivision (k) of §5020.1.



- (2) A resource determined by the lead agency, in its discretion and supported by substantial evidence, to be significant pursuant to criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of §5024.1. In applying the criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of §5024.1 for the purposes of this paragraph, the lead agency shall consider the significance of the resource to a California Native American tribe. A cultural landscape that meets the criteria of subdivision:
 - (a) is a tribal cultural resource to the extent that the landscape is geographically defined in terms of the size and scope of the landscape.
 - (b) A historical resource described in §21084.1, a unique archaeological resource as defined in subdivision (g) of §21083.2, or a "nonunique archaeological resource" as defined in subdivision (h) of §21083.2 may also be a tribal cultural resource if it conforms with the criteria of subdivision (a).

AB 52 formalizes the lead agency—tribal consultation process, requiring the lead agency to initiate consultation with California Native American tribes located on the contact list maintained by the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC). This includes California Native American groups that are traditionally and culturally affiliated with the project, including tribes that may not be federally recognized. Lead agencies are required to begin consultation prior to the release of a negative declaration, mitigated negative declaration, or environmental impact report (EIR).

Section 9 of AB 52 establishes that "a project with an effect that may cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a tribal cultural resource is a project that may have a significant effect on the environment." Section 6 of AB 52 added §21080.3.2 to the California PRC, which states that parties may propose mitigation measures "capable of avoiding or substantially lessening potential significant impacts to a tribal cultural resource or alternatives that would avoid significant impacts to a tribal cultural resource." Further, if a California Native American tribe requests consultation regarding Project alternatives, mitigation measures, or significant effects to tribal cultural resources, the consultation shall include those topics (California PRC §21080.3.2[a]). The environmental document and the mitigation monitoring and reporting program (where applicable) shall include any mitigation measures that are adopted (California PRC §21082.3[a]).

In accordance with the Tribal Consultation Guidelines and SB 18, government to government consultation between local governments and Native American tribes prior to the adoption or amendment of a general plan is required. Additionally, California PRC § 5024 requires consultation with the Office of Historic Preservation (OHP) when a project may impact historical resources located on State-owned land. California State law (SB 18) requires cities and counties to notify and consult with California Native American Tribes about proposed local land use planning decisions for the purpose of protecting Traditional Tribal Cultural Places ("cultural places").



Native American Human Remains

State law (California PRC §5097 et seq.) addresses the disposition of Native American burials in archaeological sites and protects such remains from disturbance, vandalism, or inadvertent destruction; establishes procedures to be implemented if Native American skeletal remains are discovered during construction of a project; and established the NAHC.

In the event that Native American human remains, or related cultural material are encountered, §15064.5(e) of the CEQA Guidelines (as incorporated from PRC §5097.98) and California Health and Safety Code, §7050.5, defines the subsequent protocol. In the event of the accidental discovery or recognition of any human remains, excavation or other disturbances shall be suspended on the site, or any nearby area reasonably suspected to overlie adjacent human remains or related material. Protocol requires that the County Coroner or County-approved Coroner represented be contacted in order to determine if the remains are of Native American origin. Should the coroner determine the remains to be Native American, the coroner must contact the NAHC within 24 hours. The most likely descendant may make recommendations to the landowner or the person responsible for the excavation work for means of treating, with appropriate dignity, the human remains, and any associated grave goods as provided in California PRC §5097.98 (14 CCR 15064.5(e))(State of California 2021).

2.3 Local

Tulare County

Chapter 8.6 of the Tularc County General Plan of 2012 promotes the preservation of cultural and historic resources through managing and protecting sites of cultural and archeological importance for the benefit of present and future generations (County of Tulare 2012).

The following policies are outlined for the preservation of cultural resources:

ERM-6.1 Evaluation of Cultural and Archaeological Resources

The County shall participate in and support efforts to identify its significant cultural and archaeological resources using appropriate State and Federal standards.

ERM-6.2 Protection of Resources with Potential State or Federal Designations

The County shall protect cultural and archaeological sites with demonstrated potential for placement on the National Register of Historic Places and/or inclusion in the California State Office of Historic Preservation's California Points of Interest and California Inventory of Historic Resources. Such sites may be of Statewide or local significance and have anthropological, cultural, military, political, architectural, economic, scientific, religious, or other values as determined by a qualified archaeological professional.

ERM-6.3 Alteration of Sites with Identified Cultural Resources

When planning any development or alteration of a site with identified cultural or



archaeological resources, consideration should be given to ways of protecting the resources. Development can be permitted in these areas only after a site specific investigation has been conducted pursuant to CEQA to define the extent and value of resource, and mitigation measures proposed for any impacts the development may have on the resource.

ERM-6.4 Mitigation

If preservation of cultural resources is not feasible, every effort shall be made to mitigate impacts, including relocation of structures, adaptive reuse, preservation of facades, and thorough documentation and archival of records.

ERM-6.5 Cultural Resources Education Programs

The County should support local, State, and national education programs on cultural and archaeological resources.

ERM-6.6 Historic Structures and Sites

The County shall support public and private efforts to preserve, rehabilitate, and continue the use of historic structures, sites, and parks. Where applicable, preservation efforts shall conform to the current Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties and Guidelines for Preserving, Rehabilitating, Restoring, and Reconstructing Historic Buildings.

ERM-6.7 Cooperation of Property Owners

The County should encourage the cooperation of property owners to treat cultural resources as assets rather than liabilities, and encourage public support for the preservation of these resources.

ERM-6.8 Solicit Input from Local Native Americans

The County shall continue to solicit input from the local Native American communities in cases where development may result in disturbance to sites containing evidence of Native American activity and/or to sites of cultural importance.

ERM-6.9 Confidentiality of Archaeological Sites

The County shall, within its power, maintain confidentiality regarding the locations of archaeological sites in order to preserve and protect these resources from vandalism and the unauthorized removal of artifacts.

ERM-6.10 Grading Cultural Resources Sites

The County shall ensure all grading activities conform to the County's Grading Ordinance and California Code of Regulations, Title 20, § 2501 et. seq..

3.0 SETTING

This section of the report summarizes information regarding the physical and cultural setting of



the Project area, including prehistoric, ethnographic, and historic contents of the general area. Several factors; including topography, biological resources, and available water sources; affect the nature and distribution of the cultural periods of activity of an area. This background provides a context for understanding the nature of the cultural resources that may be identified within the region of the project.

3.1 Environmental Setting

The Project area is located in northwest Tulare County, approximately 4.45 kilometers northeast of the city of Visalia, California, within the east side of the San Joaquin Valley and west edge of the Siera Nevada Mountains. The San Joaquin Valley is a long, narrow, northwest-trending, alluvial valley that lies between the Sierra Nevada Range to the east and the Coast Ranges to the west (Wagner, 2002).

Surface soils consist of the Exeter soil series within the whole of the Project area (Figure 3). The Exeter soil series is typically moderately deep down to duripan, moderately well-drained, and formed in alluvium, comprised mainly of granitic sources. This soil is made up of brown loam at surface with reddish brown sandy clay loam below (United States Department of Agriculture, 2024).

The Project area is best characterized historically as a rural ranching and agricultural region with large populations of both large and small mammals. Prehistorically, the larger mammals inhabiting the Project area would have included mule deer (Odocoileus hemionus californicus), black-tailed deer (O. hemionus columbianus), tule elk (Cervus elaphus nannoides), pronghorn antelope (Antilocarpa Americana), mountain lion (Felis concolor), and black bear (Ursus americanus) (Jameson and Peeters 1988). The small mammals that historically inhabited the Project area included rabbit (Sylvilagus sp.), black-tailed jackrabbit (Lepus californicus), western gray squirrel (Sciurus griseus), coyote (Canis latrans), and gray fox (Urocyon cinereoargenteus).

3.2 Cultural Setting

Cultural resources include prehistoric-era archaeological sites, historic-era archaeological sites, Native American traditional cultural properties, sites of religious and cultural significance, and historical buildings, structures, objects, and sites. The importance of any single cultural resource is defined by the context in which it was first created, current public opinion, and modern yet evolving analysis. From the analytical perspective, temporal and geographic considerations help to define the historical context of the Project area. The importance or significance of a cultural resource is in part described by the context in which it originated or developed. National Park Service Bulletin 16a (1997) describes a historic context as "information about historic trends and properties grouped by an important theme in prehistory or history of a community, state, or the nation during a particular period of time." A context links an existing property to important historic trends, and this allows a framework for determining the significance of a property. Given this, a major goal of the historian is to determine accurate themes of analysis, a task that can only be undertaken by a thorough review of previous researchers' thoughts and ideas, as well as



reviewing the literature of the resources.

In California, historians have divided the past into broad categories based on climate models, archaeological dating and written histories. Paleontologists divide time into much larger segments, with defined and named periods of time shortening in timespan as the modern era is reached. For the purposes of this analysis, these periods in history have been summarized below.

3.2.1 Prehistoric Setting

During the Early Holocene epoch (9700 to 4000 B.C.), large game hunting societies populated the area. Culturally significant surface finds in the Tulare Basin have yielded some projectile points similar to particular Paleoindian varieties (i.e., Western Clovis), suggesting an initial occupation pre-dating approximately 11,300 years before present (B.P.). The Middle Holocene epoch (4000 to 1000 B.C.) is characterized by Pinto-like points and groundstone tools, although the association between the epoch and specific societies is not certain.

Olsen and Payen (1968) developed a chronology of four temporally distinct complexes for sites found within the southern San Joaquin Valley. The first complex, the Positas Complex, ranges from 3300 to 2600 B.C. and is characterized by small, shaped mortars, short cylindrical pestles, milling stones, perforated flat cobbles, and sea snail shell beads. The second complex is the Pacheco Complex which ranges from approximately 2600 B.C. to 300 A.D. This complex is divided into Phase B and Phase A. Phase B ranges from 2600 B.C. to 1600 B.C. and is characterized by biface arrow points, abalone shell ornaments, and sea snail shell beads. Phase A ranges from 1600 B.C. to 300 A.D. and is represented by more variation in shell bead types, perforated canine teeth, bone awl, whistles, grass saws, large stemmed and side-notched points, and an abundance of milling stones, mortars, and pestles.

The third complex, the Gonzaga Complex, ranges from 300 to 1000 A.D. and is characterized by extended burials, bowl mortars, shaped pestles, squared and tapered stem projectile points, bone awls, grass saws, and a shell industry composed of distinctive shell ornaments and beads.

Lastly, the Panoche Complex ranges from 1500 A.D. to European contact (mid to late 1700 A.D.) and is characterized by the presence of fewer milling stones, varied mortars and pestles, small side-notched arrow points, clamshell disc beads, bone awls, whistles, saws, and tubes.

3.2.2 Ethnographic Setting

Penutian-speaking Yokuts tribal groups occupied the southern San Joaquin Valley region and much of the nearby Sierra Nevada. Ethnographic information about the Yokuts was collected primarily by Powers (1971, 1976 [originally 1877]), Kroeber (1925), Gayton (1930, 1948), Driver (1937), Latta (1977) and Harrington (n.d.). For a variety of historical reasons, existing research information emphasizes the central Yokuts tribes who occupied both the valley and particularly the foothills of the Sierra. The northernmost tribes suffered from the influx of Euro-Americans during the Gold Rush and their populations were in substantial decline by the time



ethnographic studies began in the early twentieth century. In contrast, the southernmost tribes were partially removed by the Spanish to missions and eventually absorbed into multi-tribal communities on the Sebastian Indian Reservation (on Tejon Ranch), and later the Tule River Reservation and Santa Rosa Rancheria to the north. The result is an unfortunate scarcity of ethnographic detail on southern Valley tribes, especially in relation to the rich information collected from the central foothills tribes where native speakers of the Yokuts dialects are still found. Regardless, the general details of indigenous lifeways were similar across the broad expanse of Yokuts territory, particularly in terms of environmentally influenced subsistence and adaptation and with regard to religion and belief, which were similar everywhere.

This scarcity of specific detail is particularly apparent in terms of southern valley tribal group distribution. The San Joaquin Valley floor, and thus the study area, was occupied by these southern Valley Yokuts speakers, themselves divided into a series of autonomous "tribelets," the boundaries of which are not well defined. The Yauelmani Yokuts lived from the Kern River area, in modern Bakersfield, to the southeast corner of the valley, on the Tejon Ranch, thus likely including the study area. The Hometwali were centered around Kern Lake, while the Tulamni occupied the west side of Buena Vista Lake and the foothills of the Temblors, at least to McKittrick. The Tuhohi resided from the Kern River delta north to the Goose Lake area and west to the sloughs near Buttonwillow. Yokuts villages apparently extended up to, but not into, the mouths of the canyons on the northern and western fronts of the Tehachapi Mountains, well into the foothills and lower elevations of the Sierra Nevada on the east, and to the crest of the Temblor Range on the west. The Yokuts are Penutian speakers and are linguistically related to northern occupants of the San Joaquin Valley.

The Yokuts settlement pattern was largely consistent, regardless of specific tribe involved. Winter villages were typically located along lakeshores and major stream courses (as these existed circa AD 1800), with dispersal phase family camps located at elevated spots on the valley floor and near gathering areas in the foothills.

Most Yokuts groups, again regardless of specific tribal affiliation, were organized as a recognized and distinct tribelet; a circumstance that almost certainly pertained to the tribal groups noted above. Tribelets were land-owning groups organized around a central village and linked by shared territory and descent from a common ancestor. The population of most tribelets ranged from about 150 to 500 peoples (Kroeber 1925).

Each tribelet was headed by a chief who was assisted by a variety of assistants, the most important of whom was the winatum, a herald or messenger and assistant chief. A shaman also served as religious officer. While shamans did not have any direct political authority, as Gayton (1930) has illustrated, they maintained substantial influence within their tribelet.

Shamanism is a religious system common to most Native American tribes. It involves a direct and personal relationship between the individual and the supernatural world enacted by entering a trance or hallucinatory state (usually based on the ingestion of psychotropic plants, such as jimsonweed or more typically native tobacco). Shamans were considered individuals with an unusual degree of supernatural power, serving as healers or curers, diviners, and controllers of



natural phenomena (such as rain or thunder). Shamans also produced the rock art of this region, depicting the visions they experienced in vision quests believed to represent their spirit helpers and events in the supernatural realm (Whitley 1992, 2000).

The centrality of shamanism to the religious and spiritual life of the Yokuts was demonstrated by the role of shamans in the yearly ceremonial round. The ritual round performed the same each year, started in the spring with the jimsonweed ceremony, followed by rattlesnake dance and (where appropriate) first salmon ceremony. After returning from seed camps, fall rituals began in the late summer with the mourning ceremony, followed by first seed and acom rites and then bear dance (Gayton 1930:379). In each case, shamans served as ceremonial officials responsible for specific dances involving a display of their supernatural powers (Kroeber 1925).

Subsistence practices varied from tribelet to tribelet based on the environment of residence. Throughout Native California, and Yokuts territory in general, the acorn was a primary dietary component, along with a variety of gathered seeds. Valley tribes augmented this resource with lacustrine and riverine foods, especially fish and wildfowl. As with many Native California tribes, the settlement and subsistence rounds included the winter aggregation into a few large villages, where stored resources (like acorns) served as staples, followed by dispersal into smaller camps, often occupied by extended families, where seasonally available resources would be gathered and consumed.

Although population estimates vary and population size was greatly affected by the introduction of Euro-American diseases and social disruption, the Yokuts were one of the largest, most successful groups in Native California. Cook (1978) estimates that the Yokuts region contained 27 percent of the Aboriginal population in the state at the time of contact; other estimates are even higher. Many Yokuts people continue to reside in the southern San Joaquin Valley today.

3.2.3 Historic Setting

In California, the historic era is divided into three general periods: the Spanish or Mission Period (1769 to 1821), the Mexican or Rancho Period (1821 to 1848), and the American Period (1848 to present). The mission system, which ultimately established 21 missions between 1796 and 1822, consisted of missions, presidios, and pueblos, and was designed to convert the indigenous peoples of California to Christianity and assimilate them under Spanish rule (Gudde 1998). The Spaniards were the first non-Indians to enter the San Joaquin Valley. Pedro Fages led a group of soldiers through Tejon Pass into the San Joaquin Valley in 1772 (Wallace 1978:459). In 1776, Spanish missionaries visited the area now known as Bakersfield; the event was documented by Franciscan friar Francisco Garcés. Father Garcés described the Kern River, which he named Rio de San Felipe, and visited the Yokuts community of Woilu, a village situated on the land modern Bakersfield would later occupy. While visiting Woilu, Father Garcés performed the first European baptism in the San Joaquin Valley. The Franciscans returned to their base at Mission San Gabriel following a route through the Tehachapi Mountains that functioned as the primary road until 1876, when the Southern Pacific Railroad created an alternate route.



Lieutenant Gabriel Moraga led a group of Spanish explorers into the San Joaquin Valley in 1806 (Clough and Secrest 1984:25–27). Moraga's party intended to locate new lands for missions, find and return runaway Indians, and relocate stolen livestock. Moraga is credited with naming both the Kings and San Joaquin rivers. By the early 1820s, the expansion of missions in California ceased as a result of Mexico's independence from Spain (Clough and Secrest 1984:26). In 1827, the 17-man expedition led by Jedediah Smith entered the region and signaled the earliest American presence in the Kern County area (Clark 1998). Smith's adventures included friendly encounters with the Southern Yokuts near the Kings River and trapping and camping along the San Joaquin River (Clough and Secrest 1984:27). After Smith's visit, other trappers followed until about 1837, by which time fur-bearing animals had been nearly exterminated from the valley.

Tulare County historically dates to 1770. The first settlers to visit the San Joaquin Valley came after 1800. The first settlement in Tulare County was where the old Indian trail crossed the Kaweah River, about ten miles east of the city of Visalia. The county is named for Tulare Lake, once the largest freshwater lake west of the Great Lakes. Drained for agricultural development, the site is now in Kings County, which was created in 1893 from the western portion of the formerly larger Tulare County.

The name Tulare is derived from the giant sedge plant called tule (too-lee), schoenoplectus acutus, in the plant family Cyperaceae, native to freshwater marshes that once lined the shores of Tulare Lake. These native grasses are ecologically important as they help buffer against weather forces and help reduce erosion which allows for the propagation of other plant species.

There were many marsh areas in Tulare County before land speculators drained Tulare Lake in the 20th century and settlers began cultivating the land. What was formerly Tulare Lake is dry and the agriculturally rich soil is used for farming, the total gross production value of which in 2019 was \$7,505,352,100 (County of Tulare California, 2024).

In 1888, the town of Ivanhoe, originally named Klink after George Klink, auditor of the Southern Pacific Railroad in the region, began as an agricultural center. By 1912, the Venice Hills Land Company was established and began selling small parcels of land in the region. Despite attempts by the Company to rebrand the town as Venice Hills, the name change was unsuccessful. Although the local school, founded in 1886, was named the Ivanhoe School after Sir Walter Scott's book of the same name, it was not until 1924 that the town was renamed Ivanhoe. Known for its production of citrus and deciduous fruits, and early on for a variety of vegetables, the community is also home to packing houses and cold storage plants (Mitchell 1987). As of the Decennial Census of 2020 and the 2022 American Community Survey, Ivanhoe had a population of 4,468, with 1,279 households and 1,243 families (US Census 2022).

4.0 ARCHIVAL RECORDS SEARCH

The record search area included the Project area along with a 0.5-mile radius surrounding the buffer. As part of this study, the following resources were reviewed: the California



Archaeological Inventory Records, National Register of Historic Places, California Historic Landmark Registry, California Points of Historical Interest, and the Inventory of Historic Structures. Additionally, all relevant historic maps, an in-house review of historic aerial photographs, previously recorded archaeological site records, and previously conducted surveys for past projects were reviewed.

4.1 Southern San Joaquin Valley Information Center

The Project area is located in the USGS Ivanhoe 7.5' Series Quadrangle (USGS 2021). On October 16, 2024, Soar submitted a records search request to the Southern San Joaquin Valley Information Center (SSJVIC) located at the California State University, Bakersfield (Appendix A). The records search included a 0.5-mile buffer around the Project area. The results from the records search indicate no cultural resources studies have been conducted within the Project area. According to the information on file, there are no known resources within the Project area.

There were three (3) reports identified within a 0.5-mile radius of the Project area (Table 1). There is one (1) recorded resource within the 0.5-mile record search radius (Table 2).

Table 1. Survey Reports within 0.5 Mile of the Project area

Report No.	Year	Author(s)/ Affiliation	Title

Table 2. Resources within 0.5 Mile of the Project area

Primary #	Туре	Description	

There are no recorded cultural resources within the Project area or radius that are listed in the National Register of Historic Places, the California Register of Historical Resources, the



California Points of Historical Interest, California Inventory of Historic Resources, or the California State Historic Landmarks.

4.2 Sacred Lands File & Native American Contacts List Request

The California Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) was contacted on October 16, 2024, to conduct a Sacred Lands File (SLF) search and to obtain a list of tribes culturally and geographically affiliated with the Project area (Appendix B). On November 1, 2024, the NAHC indicated there are no Native American traditional cultural places or sacred sites within or near the Project area. The NAHC provided a list of twelve (12) Tulare County Native American groups and individuals affiliated with the local tribes. On December 10, 2024, Ms. Froshour sent letters to all individuals describing the location, and the nature of the Project. In each letter, Ms. Froshour included a request for information regarding prehistoric, historic, ethnographic land use, as well as contemporary Native American values.

On January 9, 2025, Ms. Froshour received a letter response from Robert Pennell, the Cultural Resources Director of the Table Mountain Rancheria Tribal Government Office. This response was to inform Ms. Froshour that the Project site is beyond their area of interest.

On January 13, 2025, Ms. Froshour received a letter response from Samantha McCarty, the Cultural Resources Specialist of the Santa Rosa Rancheria Tachi-Yakut Tribe. This response was to inform Ms. Froshour that the Santa Rosa Rancheria Tachi-Yakut Tribe wished be retained to provide a Cultural presentation for all construction staff and crew members that will be working on the Project. The Santa Rosa Rancheria Tachi-Yakut Tribe also requested to receive a copy of this CRA, in addition to the CHRIS results provided by the SSJVIC. The Santa Rosa Rancheria Tachi-Yakut Tribe would like to be notified of any discoveries made in relation to this Project.

4.3 Historic Aerial Image Review

A review of the historic aerial imagery reveals that the southern half of the Project area at APN 107-030-048 has been vacant since 2014. Before 2014, as far back as 1956, what appears to be a residential dwelling was present on the now vacant lot. An additional structure on APN 107-030-047, where the current Well No.6 utility building and tank reside, appears on aerials as early as 1984. Both Road 156 and Avenue 330 are visible on historic aerials as early as 1956, and on topographic maps as early as 1926 (Nationwide Environmental Title Research, LLC 2020).

5.0 PREVIOUS DISTURBANCES IN THE PROJECT AREA

The Project area is located within an area that has undergone moderate anthropogenic modifications, primarily from activities related to residential and public utility uses. Likewise, the surface of the Project area has undergone surface grading and intense subsurface disturbance from previous residential and public utility construction. In some cases, the graded surface could exceed 24 inches (60 centimeters).



In summary, the following previous disturbances have occurred within or immediately adjacent to the Project area:

- Surface grading and maintenance of current and historic roads
- Surface grading and subsurface disturbance for residential construction.
- Surface grading and subsurface disturbance for utility structure construction.

6.0 FIELD SURVEY METHODS AND RESULTS

The basic criteria for determining the presence of prehistoric and historic cultural resources in local urban and rural settings generally include:

- Presence of flaking debris derived from stone tool manufacturing
- · Presence of marine shell and/or other faunal remains
- · Occurrence of material culture artifacts
- Surface expressions of cultural features
- Bedrock mortars and related milling features/components
- Soil discolorations or atypical soil manifestations
- Stone/adobe features associated with structural remains
- Diagnostic ceramics derived from Spanish, Mexican, or later periods
- · Historic iron and glassware, cans, privy pits, domestic occupational debris

This investigation included the following tasks:

- Review of regional history and previous cultural resource sites and studies within the Project area and the vicinity.
- Examination of archival topographic maps and aerial photographs for the Project area and the general vicinity.
- Request of a California Historical Resources Information System data request of the Project area and 0.50-mile radius through the Southern San Joaquin Valley Information Center.



- Request of a NAHC Sacred Lands File Search for the Project area and 0.50-mile radius. Contact with Tribal groups and individuals as named by the NAHC.
- Evaluate the potential for the proposed Project to result in significant impacts to cultural resources including the potential to impact buried cultural resources with no surface expression.
- Intensive Phase 1 pedestrian survey with transect intervals of 5-10 feet (1-3 meters) of the Project area.
- Develop recommendations associated with impacts to cultural resources following the guidelines as outlined in the Regulatory Setting.

Ms. Froshour conducted the field survey of the Project area on October 18, 2024. The Project area was examined by systematic pedestrian inspection of the ground surface. Transect intervals varied from 5-10 feet (1-3 meters). Disturbances immediately adjacent to the Project area were also examined for primary and secondary surface archaeological indicators.

The approximately 0.45-acre Project area consists mostly of undeveloped historic agricultural fields, currently zoned as a vacant residential lot (Figures 4-7). The surface visibility of the Project area, defined as the approximate percentage of native soils visible during field survey of a given project component, was estimated at 75-85% within the Project area. The ground surface was covered by approximately 0.3-acres of patchy non-native grasses with scattered shrubs towards the central-southern section, with visible two track u-shaped section having been used as a likely turn around spot.

In summary, no *in situ* cultural resources, or isolate materials potentially derived from primary or secondary archaeological contexts, were observed on the surface of the Project area.

7.0 RECOMMENDED ACTIONS AND MITIGATION MEASURES

There appears to be a low possibility for subsurface cultural resources in the Project area, based on the results of the archival research, and the fact that no known resources have been detected during previous disturbances within the Project area. There are no recorded cultural resources within the 0.5-mile buffer radius that are listed in the National Register of Historic Places, the California Register of Historical Resources, the California Points of Historical Interest, California Inventory of Historic Resources, or the California State Historic Landmarks. No site testing or mitigation measures are recommended or required, unless previously undiscovered cultural resources are detected during construction.

A potential always exists to encounter previously undetected cultural resources. If cultural materials (prehistoric and/or historic artifacts) are detected during the course of ground disturbances associated with this project, all work in the immediate area of the find shall be halted until a qualified archaeologist can inventory and assess the significance of the find(s). At that point, the resources shall be evaluated in accordance with the procedures set forth in the



California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) 21083.2, sections 15064.5 and 15126.4, and the criteria regarding resource eligibility to the California Register of Historic Resources (CRHR).

If a resource cannot be avoided, then the resource must be examined vis-à-vis the provisions in the County Guidelines, and CEQA Sections 15064.5 and 15126.4 and the eligibility criteria as an "important" or "unique archaeological resource," as appropriate. In many cases, determination of a resource's eligibility can only be made through extensive research and archaeological testing. Human remains are addressed by State of California Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5. This code section states that no further disturbance shall occur until the County Coroner has made a determination of the origin and disposition of the remains, pursuant to Public Resources Code Section 5097.98. The County Coroner must be notified of the find immediately. If the human remains are determined to be prehistoric/ethnohistoric Native American remains, the Coroner will notify the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC), which will determine and notify a Most Likely Descendent (MLD). The MLD shall complete the inspection of the site within 24 hours of notification, and may potentially recommend scientific removal, reburial, nondestructive analysis of human remains, and/or specific treatment of associated burial goods.



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FIGURES



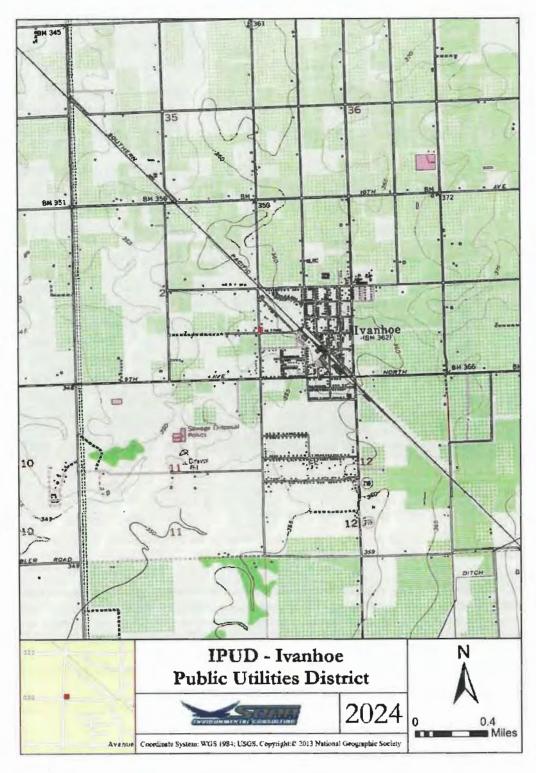


Figure 1—Project Location, adapted from USGS 7.5' series Ivanhoe, California, 1950



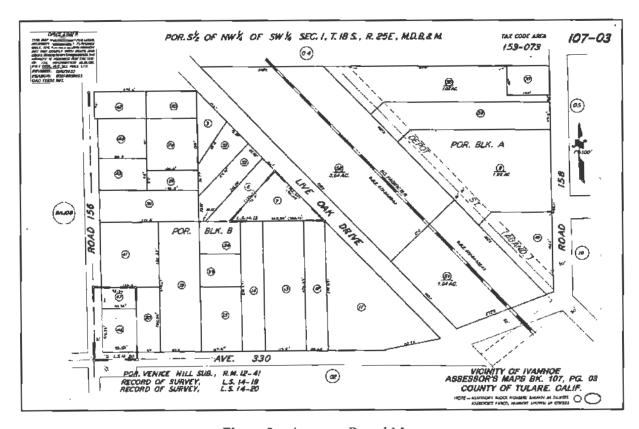


Figure 2—Assessor Parcel Map

(Source: Tulare County, 2024. Electronic Reference: https://tularecounty.ca.gov/assessor/property-information/parcelquest/. Accessed: December 4, 2024)





Marp Unit Symbol	Map Unit Name	Acres in AOI	Percent of AOI
194	Exeter loam, 0 to 2 percent shapes	0.5	100.0%
Totals for Area of Interest		0.5	100.0%

Figure 3— Soil Types Occurring in the Project area
(Source: United States Department of Agriculture (USDA). 2024. Soil Survey of Tulare County, Western Portion, California. Soil Conservation Service and Forest Service. In cooperation with University of California Agricultural Experiment Station)



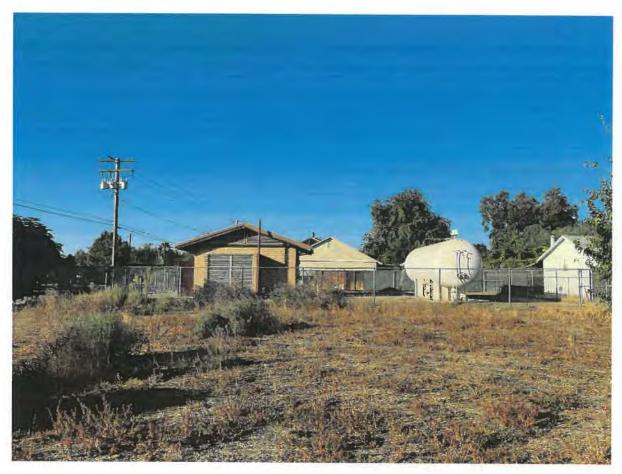


Figure 4— Overview of Project area from center, facing northwest



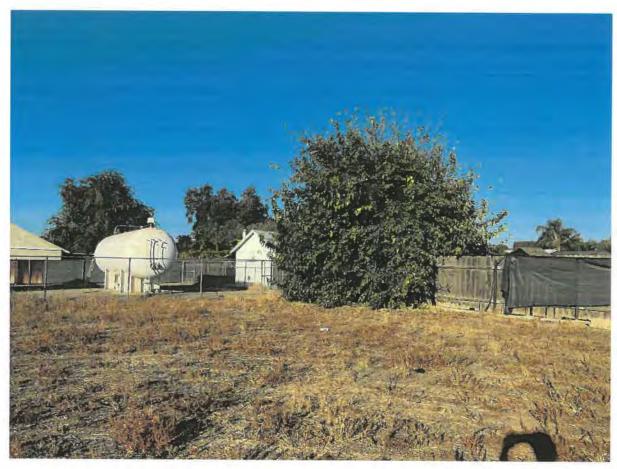


Figure 5- Overview of Project area from center, facing north





Figure 6— Overview of Project area from center, facing south



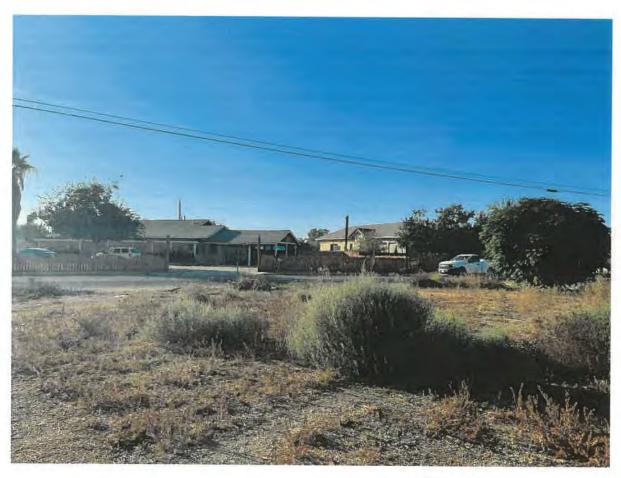


Figure 7— Overview of Project area from center, facing west





Figure 8-Front of current water utility building on APN 107-030-047, facing east



APPENDIX A

Southern San Joaquin Valley Information Center Records Search

CONFIDENTIAL - REDACTED



APPENDIX B

Sacred Lands File & Native American Contacts List Request



Sacred Lands File & Native American Contacts List Request

Wednesday, October 16, 2024

Native American Heritage Commission 1550 Harbor Blvd., Suite 100 West Sacramento, CA 95691 Tel: 916.373.3710

Fax: 916.373.5471

RE: Ivanhoe Public Utilities District CEQA Cultural Resource Assessment for proposed well improvement located at 15608 Ave 330 in Tulare County, Ivanhoe, CA 93235. APNs 107-030-047 & 048.

Dear Sir/Madam,

Please find attached one project location map, Sacred Lands File NA Contact Form, and Local Government Tribal Consultation List Request for the proposed well improvement project in Ivanhoe, California. The proposed project is situated on the Ivanhoe, California (2021), USGS 7.5' Series Quadrangle, T 18S, R 25E, S 1. The 0.45-acre project area is located on APNs 107-030-047 & 048 and is located at 15608 Ave 330, Ivanhoe, California. The project is for a proposed commercial development with a center at approximately 36.3889813, -119.2245270.

This letter is intended to inform you of the project and to help ensure compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). As part of the Cultural Resources Study for the project, we are requesting your insights on potential Native American cultural properties and resources in and/or near the project.

Please respond at your earliest convenience if you have any information to consider for this study.

Also, we would greatly appreciate if you could review the attached map and indicate to us if there are any concerns you might have or input regarding potentially sensitive cultural heritage values in the project area and vicinity.

Feel free to contact me by email at hfroshour@soarhere.com or phone at 207,232.8912.

Most Sincerely,

Heather Froshour, M.A., R.P.A.

Sr. Archaeologist

Soar Environmental Consulting, Inc.

207.232.8912

Sacred Lands File & Native American Contacts List Request

Native American Heritage Commission

1550 Harbor Blvd, Suite 100 West Sacramento, CA 95691 916-373-3710 916-373-5471 - Fax nahc@nahc.ca.gov

Information Below is Required for a Sacred Lands File Search

Project: Ivanhoe Public Utilities D	istrict CEQA CRA
County: Tulare	
USGS Quadrangle Name: Ivanhoe (202	21) 7.5' Series Quad
Township: 18S Range: 25E S	ection(s): 1
Company/Firm/Agency: Soar Environ	mental Consulting Inc.
Street Address: 1322 East Shaw Av	re. Suite 400
City: Fresno	93710
Phone: (559) 547-8884	
Fax:	
Email: hfroshour@soarhere.com	1

Project Description:

The proposed project is situated on the Ivanhoe, California (2021), USGS 7.5' Series Quadrangle, T 18S, R 25E, S 1. The 0.45-acre project area is located on APNs 107-030-047 & 048 and is located at 15608 Ave 330, Ivanhoe, California. The project is for a proposed commercial development with a center at approximately 36.3889813, -119.2245270.

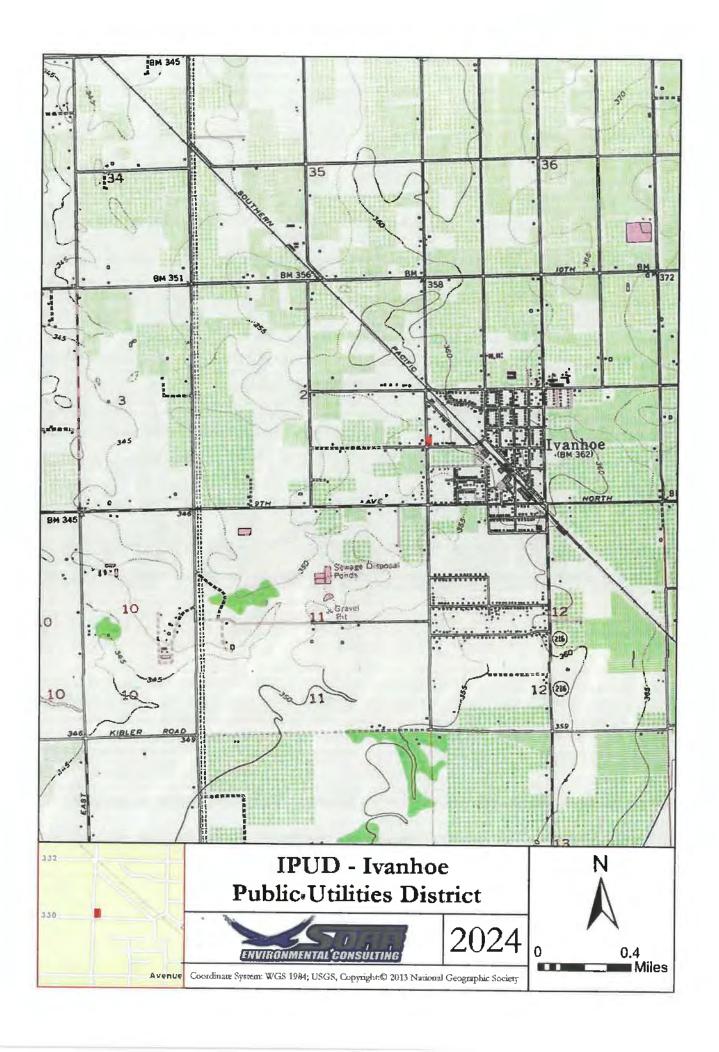
Local Government Tribal Consultation List Request

Native American Heritage Commission 1550 Harbor Blvd, Suite 100

1550 Harbor Blvd, Suite 100 West Sacramento, CA 95691 916-373-3710 916-373-5471 – Fax nahe@nahc.ea.gov

Type	of List	Requ	uested

CEQA Tribal Consultation Lis	st (AB 52) - Per Public Resources (Code § 21080.3.1, subs. (b), (d), (e) and 21080.3.2						
General Plan (SB 18) - Per Gover	rnment Code § 653 52.3 .							
Local Action Type: General Plan	General Plan Element	General Plan Amendment						
= =	_	Pre-planning Outreach Activity						
Required Information								
Project Title: Ivanhoe Publi	c Utilities District Cl	EQA CRA						
Local Government/Lead Agency:	Soar Environmenta	Consulting Inc.						
Contact Person: Heather Froshour								
Street Address: 1322 East Shaw Ave. Suite 400								
City: Fresno		zip: 93710						
Phone: (559) 547-8884								
	Email: hfroshour@soarhere.com							
Specific Area Subject to Proposed A	Action							
County: Tulare	City/Coп	nmunity: Ivanhoe						
Project Description:								
The proposed project is situated on the Ivanhoe, California (2021), USGS 7.5' Series Quadrangle, T 18S, R 25E, S 1. The 0.45-acre project area is located on APNs 107-030-047 & 048 and is located at 15608 Ave 330, Ivanhoe, California. The project is for a proposed commercial development with a center at approximately 36.3889813, -119.2245270.								
Additional Request								
Sacred Lands File Search - Re		(0004) 7 5 0 - 1 - 0 - 1						
USGS Quadrangle Name(s)	: <u>Ivanhoe, California</u>	a (2021) 7.5' Series Quad						
Township: 18S	Range: 25E	Section(s):						





CHAIRPERSON

Reginald Pagaling

Chumash

Vice-Chairperson **Buffy McQuillen** Yokayo Pomo, Yuki, Nomloki

SECRETARY
Sara Dutschke
Miwok

Parliamentarian **Wayne Nelson** Luiseño

COMMISSIONER
Isaac Bojorquez
Ohlone-Castonoan

COMMISSIONER
Stanley Rodriguez
Kumeyaay

Commissioner Laurena Boiden Serrano

COMMISSIONER
Reid Milanovich
Cahuilla

COMMISSIONER

Bennae Calac

Paumo-Yuima Band of
Luiseño Indians

ACTING EXECUTIVE SECRETARY
STEVEN QUINN

NAHC HEADQUARTERS 1550 Harbor Boulevard Suite 100 West Sacramento, California 95691 (914) 373-3710 nahc@nahc.ca.gov

NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE COMMISSION

November 1, 2024

Heather Froshour Soar Environmental Consulting, Inc.

Via Email ta: hfroshour@soarhere.com

Re: Native American Tribal Consultation, Pursuant to the Assembly Bill 52 (AB 52), Amendments to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) (Chapter 532, Statutes of 2014), Public Resources Code Sections 5097.94 (m), 21073, 21074, 21080.3.1, 21080.3.2, 21082.3, 21083.09, 21084.2 and 21084.3, Ivanhoe Public Utilities District Proposed Well Project, Tulare County

To Whom it May Concern:

Pursuant to Public Resources Code section 21080.3.1 (c), attached is a consultation list of tribes that are traditionally and culturally affiliated with the geographic area of the above-listed project. Please note that the intent of the AB 52 amendments to CEQA is to avoid and/or mitigate impacts to tribal cultural resources, (Pub. Resources Code §21084.3 (a)) ("Public agencies shall, when feasible, avoid damaging effects to any tribal cultural resource.")

Public Resources Code sections 21080.3.1 and 21084.3(c) require CEQA lead agencies to consult with Californio Native American tribes that have requested notice from such agencies of proposed projects in the geographic area that are traditionally and culturally affiliated with the tribes on projects for which a Notice of Preparation or Notice of Negative Declaration or Mitigated Negative Declaration has been filed on or after July 1, 2015. Specifically, Public Resources Code section 21080.3.1 (d) provides:

Within 14 days of determining that an application for a project is complete or a decision by a public agency to undertake a project, the lead agency shall provide formal notification to the designated contact of, or a tribal representative of, traditionally and culturally affiliated California Native American tribes that have requested notice, which shall be accomplished by means of at least one written notification that includes a brief description of the proposed project and its location, the lead agency contact information, and a notification that the California Native American tribe has 30 days to request consultation pursuant to this section.

The AB 52 amendments to CEQA law does not preclude initiating consultation with the tribes that are culturally and traditionally affiliated within your jurisdiction prior to receiving requests for notification of projects in the tribe's areas of traditional and cultural affiliation. The Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) recommends, but does not require, early consultation as a best practice to ensure that lead agencies receive sufficient information about cultural resources in a project area to avoid damaging effects to tribal cultural resources.

The NAHC also recommends, but does not require that agencies should also include with their notification letters, information regarding any cultural resources assessment that has been completed on the area of potential effect (APE), such as:

1. The results of any record search that may have been conducted at an Information Center of the California Historical Resources Information System (CHRIS), including, but not limited to:

- A listing of any and all known cultural resources that have already been recorded on or adjacent to the APE, such as known archaeological sites;
- Copies of any and all cultural resource records and study reports that may have been provided by the Information Center as part of the records search response;
- Whether the records search indicates a low, moderate, or high probability that unrecorded cultural resources are located in the APE; and
- If a survey is recommended by the Information Center to determine whether previously unrecorded cultural resources are present.
- The results of any archaeological inventory survey that was conducted, including:
 - Any report that may contain site forms, site significance, and suggested mitigation measures.

All information regarding site locations, Native American human remains, and associated funerary objects should be in a separate confidential addendum, and not be made available for public disclosure in accordance with Government Code section 6254.10.

- 3. The result of the Sacred Lands File (SLF) check conducted through the Native American Heritage Commission was <u>negative</u>.
- 4. Any ethnographic studies conducted for any area including all or part of the APE; and
- 5. Any geotechnical reports regarding all or part of the APE.

Lead agencies should be aware that recards maintained by the NAHC and CHRIS are not exhaustive and a negative response to these searches does not preclude the existence of a tribal cultural resource. A tribe may be the only source of information regarding the existence of a tribal cultural resource.

This information will aid tribes in determining whether to request formal consultation. In the event that they do, having the information beforehand will help to facilitate the consultation process.

If you receive notification of change of addresses and phone numbers from tribes, please notify the NAHC. With your assistance, we can assure that our consultation list remains current.

If you have any questions, please contact me at my email address: Mathew.Lin@nahc.ca.gov

Sincerely,

Mathew Lin

Cultural Resources Analyst

Mathew Lin

Attachment

Mattive American Herifage Commission Native American Contact List Tolers County

County	Tribe Name	Fed (F) Non-Fed (N)	Comact Person	Contact Address	Phone #	Fax#	Email Address	Cultural Affiliation	Countles	Last Updated
ulere	Dumna Wo-Wah Tribel Coversment	N	Robert Ledger, Chaliperson	2191 West Pice Ave. Fresho, CA, 93705	(559) 540-6345		Інфического Шургені І. форт	Foothfill Yellout Margo	Freeno, Kern, Madera, Tularo	
	Otaparyuk 8 Yowkunna Tejon Indians	N	Dalle Dominguas, Champerson	115 Ratio Street Bakerafield, CA, \$6305	(GZE) 339-8765		244440mingumz@gmad.com	Killenemuk Sauthern Verbey Yokul	Fresno, Kern, Kings, Los. Angeles, Madess, Monteney, San Benito, San Luis-Chiego, Tulara	
	Sente Rosa Ranoherte Teichi Yokut Tribe	•	Share Powers, THPO	P.O. Box 8 Lametre, CA, 93245	(559) 423-3900		spawers@lachi-yolul-ren.gov	Southern Valley Yelc.4	Freeno, Karn, Kings, Marcad, Monteroy, San Bonzo, San Luje Objepo, Tulero	10/3/202
	Banta Rose Rancheria Techi Yokut Trise	F	Nichola Eszalon, Cultural Spaciolist (P.O. Box 5 Lamoure, CA, 93245	(554) 524-1276		Macaloco (Bacer-yelpal-nyn, III)	Southern Valley Yokut	Franco, Kern, Kings, Merced, Morderey, San Bersto, Sen Luis Otispo, Tuture	10/3/202
	Santa Resa Runcherie Techi Yokut Tribe	F	Semenths McCarty, Cultural Specialist II	P.O. Box & Lemoore, CA, 93245	(559) 633-3440		smoonty@techi-yokul-men.gov	Southern Valley Yekut	Freend, Kern, Kings, Morced, Monterey Sep. Benito, Sep. Luis Obiepo, Tulare	10/0/202
	Teble Motertain Rancharia	F	Bob Pennall, Cultural Recourse Director	P.O. Bex 410 Frient, CA, 83676	(550) 325-0351	(555) 325-0394	tpenrali@enr.org	Yeinst	Frenzo, Kern, Kinge Madere, Nordarey Sen Benito, San Luis Ocinpo, Tulare	
	Table Mountain Rencheda	F	Michelle Heredie-Cordova, Chair person	P.O. Box 410 Frient, CA, 93826	(558) 822-2567	(559) 822-2683	micodova@imr.org	Yokut	Fresno,Kern,Kings,Maders,Monterey,San Bonho,San Luis Oblopo,Tulare	12/21/202
	Traditional Chainurmá Tribe	N	David Ahraraz, Chuleperson	2415 E. Houtton Avenue Freezio, CA, 93720	(559) 217-0595	(555) 252-5057	devoulve rozgljistog lobe), rejl	Foothil Yokut	Fractio, Kern, Madeia, Tulere	
	Tulo River haden Tribe	F	Josy Berfield, Tribal Archaeologist	P. O. Box 599 Perfentille, CA, 93258	(559) 783-6852	(550) 785-8032	jesy, partistifficule new bise- men, gov	Yeaput	Alameda Armdor, Calaveras, Contra. Costa, Fragno, Irryo Kern, Kinga Madera, Mari	7/22/201
	Tule River Inclan Tribe	F	Noil Paycon, Chatranson	P.O. 30x 569 Porterville, CA, 93256	(559) 781-4271	(559) 781-4310	nož poyran@biedveddike-	Yolad	e Merced Monterey Sacramento, San Alemeda Amedo: Galeveras Contra Goeta, Freeno, Inyo, Kara Kinga Madera Meripos	
	Tule Rever Incters Tribe	Ė	Kerri Vers, Environmental Department	P. O. Box 500 Portenille, CA, 83258	(559) 783-5892	(562) 783-8932	kara vera Etuler merinba-nen gav	·Yokut	a, Merced Monterey, Secramente, Sen Alamoda, Amodor, Calaveres, Contra Coste Fresno, Inye, Kern, Kinga, Madera, Maripos	7/22/201
	Wuksechi Inden Tribe/Esham Velley Bend	i N	Kenneth Wacdrove, Chairpercon	1179 Rock Hater: Ct. Salinas, CA, 83906	(631) 443-9702		kvocd9634@ucl.com	Feethill Yoldal Mond	a,Merced,Menterey,Sacramento,San Alameda,Celaveree Contre Costa,Freeno,Inyo,Kings,Medere Marin,Meripe as.Marced,Monp.Morterey,San Bentio San	6/18/2D25

This fall is current only as of the date of this document. Distribution of this fact case, not relieve any person of eleberatory responsibility as defined in Section 7650.5 of the Health and Selection 5697,94 of the Public Resources Code and Section 5697,93 of the Public Resources Code.

ord: PROJ-1024-005584 port Type: List of Tripup Counties: Tulere NAMC Group: 48

This list is only applicable for contacting local Notice Americans with regard to outural resources sessioned from the proposed transport Public Utilises District Proposed Maintenance Public Utilises Distri

Tuesday, December 10, 2024

Dumna Wo-Wah Tribal Government 2191 West Pico Ave. Fresno, CA, 93705 Phone: (559) 540-6346 ledgerrobert@ymail.com

RE: Ivanhoe Public Utilities District CEQA Cultural Resource Assessment for proposed well improvement located at 15608 Ave 330 in Tulare County, Ivanhoe, CA 93235. APNs 107-030-047 & 048.

Dear Robert Ledger, Chairperson,

Below, please find a description of the proposed project, a map showing the project location, and the name of our project point of contact, pursuant to Public Resources Code (PRC) § 21080.3.1 (d).

The proposed project is situated on the Ivanhoe, California (2021), USGS 7.5' Series Quadrangle, T 18S, R 25E, S 1. The 0.45-acre project area is located on APNs 107-030-047 & 048 and is located at 15608 Ave 330, Ivanhoe, California. The project is for a proposed commercial development with a center at approximately 36.3889813, -119.2245270.

The Ivanhoe Public Utility District has requested a Phase 1 Archaeological Resource Assessment (Phase 1) to determine the potential for cultural resources prior to development, pursuant to state and local laws, including the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and Tulare County guidelines. Soar Environmental Consulting Inc. (Soar Environmental) proposes to complete the Phase 1 study for the present project.

An important element of a Phase I study is to identify sites, resources, or locations of cultural importance to the local Native American community. As part of the process, Soar Environmental contacted the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) on October 16, 2024. On November 1, 2024, Soar received a response letter from the NAHC indicating **negative results** of the Sacred Lands File search. Furthermore, the NAHC identified your organization as a point of contact regarding potentially known recorded sites or cultural resources within Tulare County.

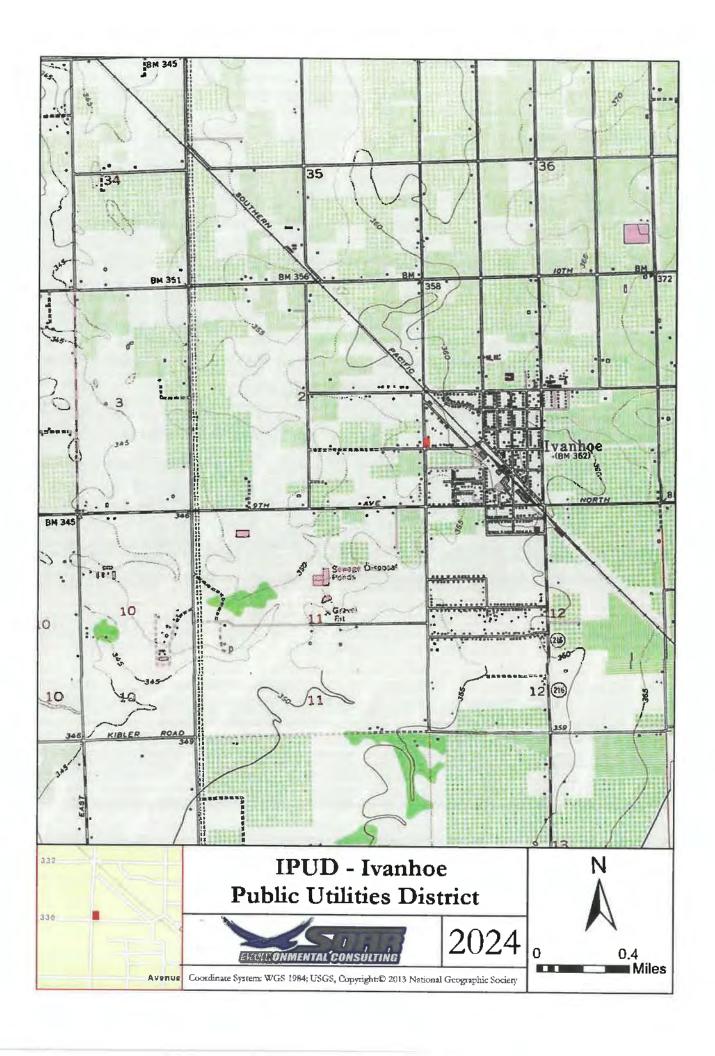
Soar contacted the Southern San Joaquin Valley Information Center (SSJVIC) of the California Historical Resources Information System on October 16, 2024. On October 28, 2024, SSJVIC results reported no historic cultural resources within the project area. No archaeological sites are known within the project area. No previous surveys have been conducted within the project area. One (1) historic cultural resource was identified within the ½-mile search radius of the project area. No historic properties on federal, state, or local inventories have been evaluated within the project area. Three (3) previous surveys have been conducted within a ½-mile radius of the project area. On October 18, 2024, Soar conducted an archeological pedestrian field survey of the project area. No cultural resources were identified during the field survey.

Soar is contacting you to determine if you have any concerns regarding the proposed development. Pursuant to PRC § 21080.3.1 (d), you have 30 days from the receipt of this letter to request consultation, in writing, with Soar. Should you have any concerns or knowledge of cultural resources in the specific project area, please contact me at https://doi.org/10.2016/j.com/html/soarhere.com or at (207) 232-8912 at your earliest convenience. If Soar does not hear from you within this time, we shall assume that you have no comments regarding this project.

Respectfully,

Heather Froshour, M.A., R.P.A.

Sr. Archaeologist



Tuesday, December 10, 2024

Kitanemuk & Yowlumne Tejon Indians 115 Radio Street Bakersfield, CA, 93305 Phone: (626) 339-6785 2deedominguez@gmail.com

RE: Ivanhoe Public Utilities District CEQA Cultural Resource Assessment for proposed well improvement located at 15608 Ave 330 in Tulare County, Ivanhoe, CA 93235. APNs 107-030-047 & 048.

Dear Delia Dominguez, Chairperson,

Below, please find a description of the proposed project, a map showing the project location, and the name of our project point of contact, pursuant to Public Resources Code (PRC) § 21080.3.1 (d).

The proposed project is situated on the Ivanhoe, California (2021), USGS 7.5' Series Quadrangle, T 18S, R 25E, S 1. The 0.45-acre project area is located on APNs 107-030-047 & 048 and is located at 15608 Ave 330, Ivanhoe, California. The project is for a proposed commercial development with a center at approximately 36.3889813, -119.2245270.

The Ivanhoc Public Utility District has requested a Phase 1 Archaeological Resource Assessment (Phase 1) to determine the potential for cultural resources prior to development, pursuant to state and local laws, including the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and Tulare County guidelines. Soar Environmental Consulting Inc. (Soar Environmental) proposes to complete the Phase 1 study for the present project.

An important element of a Phase 1 study is to identify sites, resources, or locations of cultural importance to the local Native American community. As part of the process, Soar Environmental contacted the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) on October 16, 2024. On November 1, 2024, Soar received a response letter from the NAHC indicating **negative results** of the Sacred Lands File search. Furthermore, the NAHC identified your organization as a point of contact regarding potentially known recorded sites or cultural resources within Tulare County.

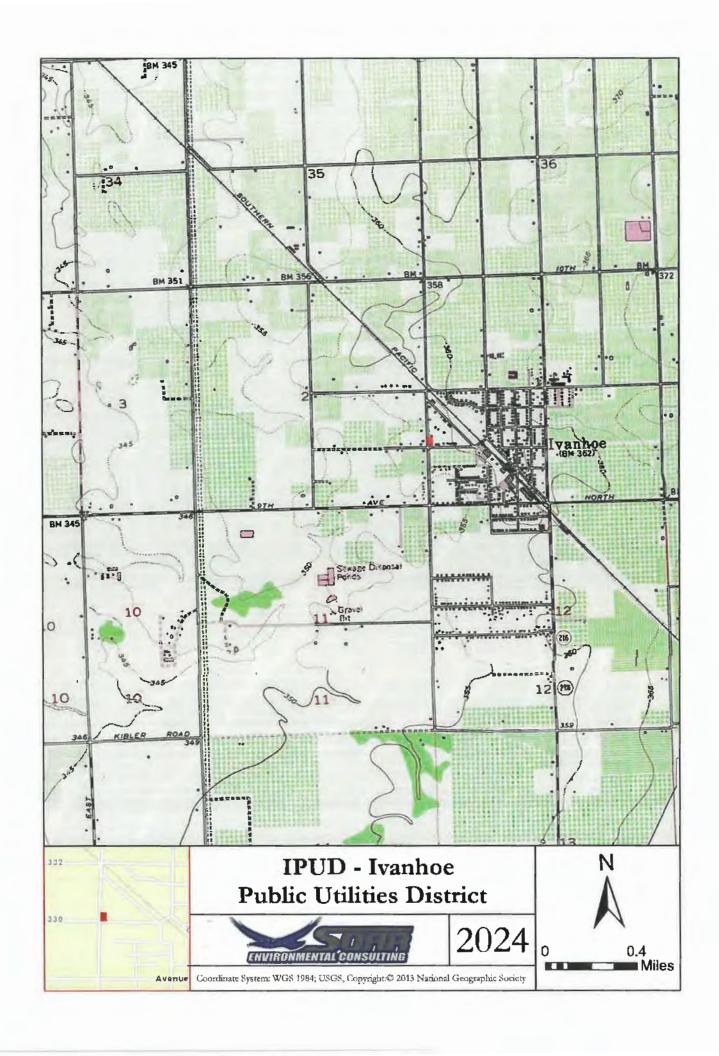
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Respectfully,

Heather Froshour, M.A., R.P.A.

Sr. Archaeologist



Tuesday, December 10, 2024

Santa Rosa Rancheria Tachi Yokut Tribe P.O. Box 8 Lemoore, CA, 93245 Phone: (559) 924-1278 nescalone@tachi-yokut-nsn.gov

RE: Ivanhoe Public Utilities District CEQA Cultural Resource Assessment for proposed well improvement located at 15608 Ave 330 in Tulare County, Ivanhoe, CA 93235. APNs 107-030-047 & 048.

Dear Nichole Escalon, Cultural Specialist 1,

Below, please find a description of the proposed project, a map showing the project location, and the name of our project point of contact, pursuant to Public Resources Code (PRC) § 21080.3.1 (d).

The proposed project is situated on the Ivanhoe, California (2021), USGS 7.5' Series Quadrangle, T 18S, R 25E, S 1. The 0.45-acre project area is located on APNs 107-030-047 & 048 and is located at 15608 Ave 330, Ivanhoe, California. The project is for a proposed commercial development with a center at approximately 36.3889813, -119.2245270.

The Ivanhoe Public Utility District has requested a Phase 1 Archaeological Resource Assessment (Phase 1) to determine the potential for cultural resources prior to development, pursuant to state and local laws, including the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and Tulare County guidelines. Soar Environmental Consulting Inc. (Soar Environmental) proposes to complete the Phase 1 study for the present project.

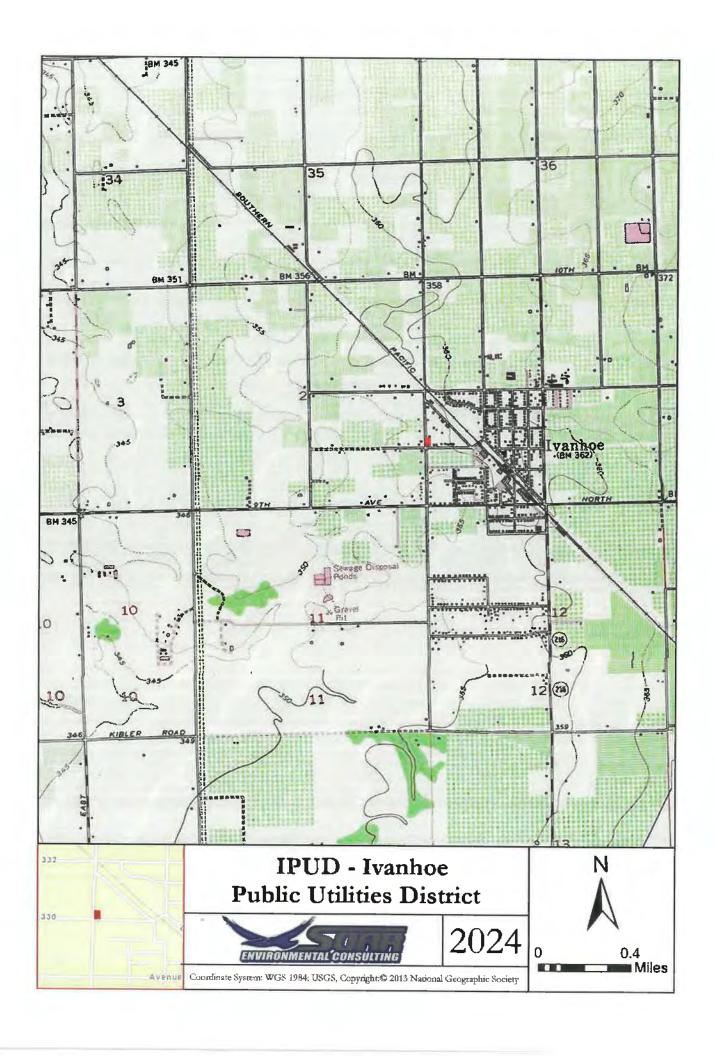
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Soar contacted the Southern San Joaquin Valley Information Center (SSJVIC) of the California Historical Resources Information System on October 16, 2024. On October 28, 2024, SSJVIC results reported no historic cultural resources within the project area. No archaeological sites are known within the project area. No previous surveys have been conducted within the project area. One (1) historic cultural resource was identified within the ½-mile search radius of the project area. No historic properties on federal, state, or local inventories have been evaluated within the project area. Three (3) previous surveys have been conducted within a ½-mile radius of the project area. On October 18, 2024, Soar conducted an archeological pedestrian field survey of the project area. No cultural resources were identified during the field survey.

Respectfully.

Heather Froshour, M.A., R.P.A.

Sr. Archaeologist



Tuesday, December 10, 2024

Santa Rosa Rancheria Tachi Yokut Tribe P.O. Box 8 Lemoore, CA, 93245 Phone: (559) 633-3440 smccarty@tachi-yokut-nsn.gov

RE: Ivanhoe Public Utilities District CEQA Cultural Resource Assessment for proposed well improvement located at 15608 Ave 330 in Tulare County, Ivanhoe, CA 93235. APNs 107-030-047 & 048.

Dear Samantha McCarty, Cultural Specialist II,

Below, please find a description of the proposed project, a map showing the project location, and the name of our project point of contact, pursuant to Public Resources Code (PRC) § 21080.3.1 (d).

The proposed project is situated on the Ivanhoe, California (2021), USGS 7.5' Series Quadrangle, T 18S, R 25E, S 1. The 0.45-acre project area is located on APNs 107-030-047 & 048 and is located at 15608 Ave 330, Ivanhoe, California. The project is for a proposed commercial development with a center at approximately 36.3889813, -119.2245270.

The Ivanhoe Public Utility District has requested a Phase 1 Archaeological Resource Assessment (Phase 1) to determine the potential for cultural resources prior to development, pursuant to state and local laws, including the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and Tulare County guidelines. Soar Environmental Consulting Inc. (Soar Environmental) proposes to complete the Phase 1 study for the present project.

An important element of a Phase 1 study is to identify sites, resources, or locations of cultural importance to the local Native American community. As part of the process, Soar Environmental contacted the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) on October 16, 2024. On November 1, 2024, Soar received a response letter from the NAHC indicating **negative results** of the Sacred Lands File search. Furthermore, the NAHC identified your organization as a point of contact regarding potentially known recorded sites or cultural resources within Tulare County.

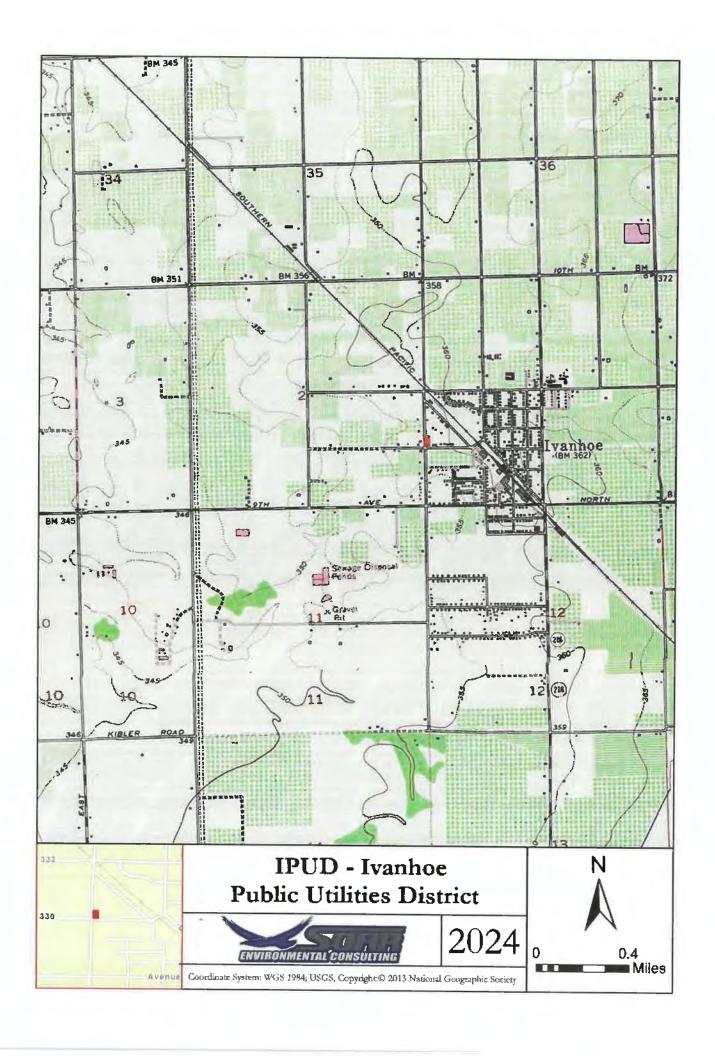
Soar contacted the Southern San Joaquin Valley Information Center (SSJVIC) of the California Historical Resources Information System on October 16, 2024. On October 28, 2024, SSJVIC results reported no historic cultural resources within the project area. No archaeological sites are known within the project area. No previous surveys have been conducted within the project area. One (1) historic cultural resource was identified within the ½-mile scarch radius of the project area. No historic properties on federal, state, or local inventories have been evaluated within the project area. Three (3) previous surveys have been conducted within a ½-mile radius of the project area. On October 18, 2024, Soar conducted an archeological pedestrian field survey of the project area. No cultural resources were identified during the field survey.

Soar is contacting you to determine if you have any concerns regarding the proposed development. Pursuant to PRC § 21080.3.1 (d), you have 30 days from the receipt of this letter to request consultation, in writing, with Soar. Should you have any concerns or knowledge of cultural resources in the specific project area, please contact me at https://doi.org/10.2016/j.com/hr/4 are to request consultation, in writing, with Soar. Should you have any concerns or knowledge of cultural resources in the specific project area, please contact me at https://doi.org/10.2016/j.com/hr/4 are to request consultation, in writing, with Soar Should you have any concerns or knowledge of cultural resources in the specific project area, please contact me at <a href="https://doi.org/10.2016/j.com/hr/4 are to request consultation, in writing, with Soar of the specific project area, please contact me at <a href="https://doi.org/10.2016/j.com/hr/4 are to request consultation, in writing, with Soar of the specific project area, please contact me at <a href="https://doi.org/10.2016/j.com/hr/4 are to request consultation, in writing, with Soar of the specific project area, please contact me at <a href="https://doi.org/10.2016/j.com/hr/4 are to request a specific project area, please contact me at <a href="https://doi.org/10.2016/j.com/hr/4.

Respectfully,

Heather Froshour, M.A., R.P.A.

Sr. Archaeologist





Tuesday, December 10, 2024

Santa Rosa Rancheria Tachi Yokut Tribe P.O. Box 8 Lemoore, CA, 93245 Phone: (559) 423-3900 spowers@tachi-yokut-nsn.gov

RE: Ivanhoe Public Utilities District CEQA Cultural Resource Assessment for proposed well improvement located at 15608 Ave 330 in Tulare County, Ivanhoe, CA 93235, APNs 107-030-047 & 048.

Dear Shana Powers, THPO,

Below, please find a description of the proposed project, a map showing the project location, and the name of our project point of contact, pursuant to Public Resources Code (PRC) § 21080.3.1 (d).

The proposed project is situated on the Ivanhoe, California (2021), USGS 7.5' Scries Quadrangle, T 18S, R 25E, S 1. The 0.45-acre project area is located on APNs 107-030-047 & 048 and is located at 15608 Ave 330, Ivanhoe, California. The project is for a proposed commercial development with a center at approximately 36.3889813, -119.2245270.

The Ivanhoe Public Utility District has requested a Phase 1 Archaeological Resource Assessment (Phase 1) to determine the potential for cultural resources prior to development, pursuant to state and local laws, including the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and Tulare County guidelines. Soar Environmental Consulting Inc. (Soar Environmental) proposes to complete the Phase 1 study for the present project.

An important element of a Phase 1 study is to identify sites, resources, or locations of cultural importance to the local Native American community. As part of the process, Soar Environmental contacted the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) on October 16, 2024. On November 1, 2024, Soar received a response letter from the NAHC indicating negative results of the Sacred Lands File search. Furthermore, the NAHC identified your organization as a point of contact regarding potentially known recorded sites or cultural resources within Tulare County.

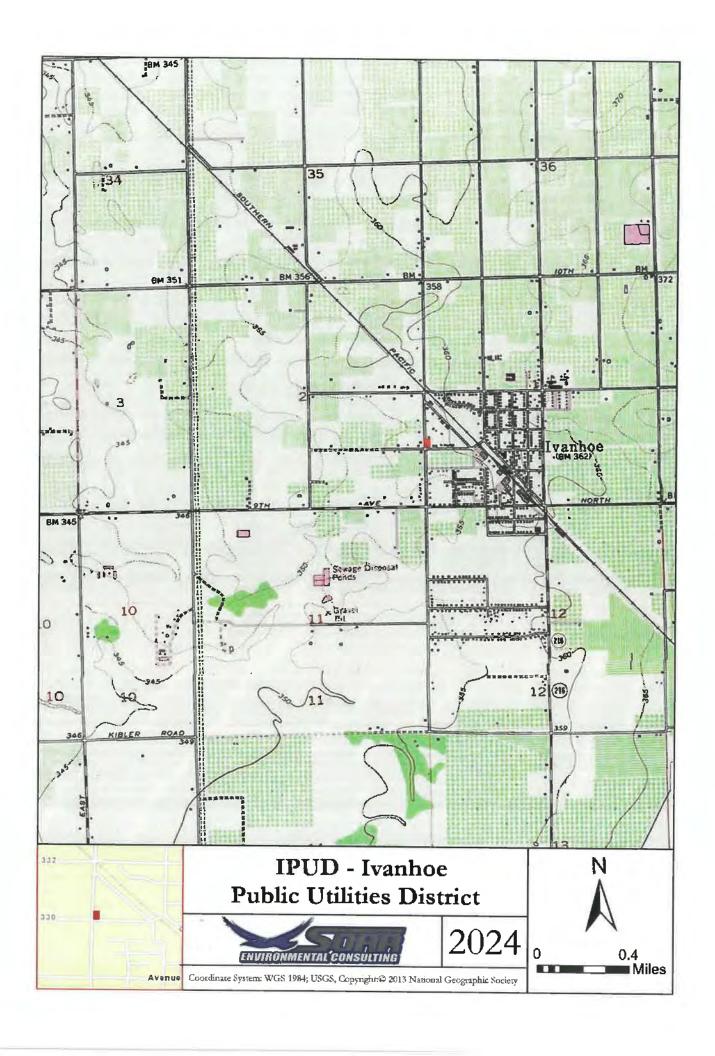
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Soar is contacting you to determine if you have any concerns regarding the proposed development. Pursuant to PRC § 21080.3.1 (d), you have **30 days** from the receipt of this letter to request consultation, in writing, with Soar. Should you have any concerns or knowledge of cultural resources in the specific project area, please contact me at https://doi.org/10.1007/project.

Respectfully,

Heather Froshour, M.A., R.P.A.

Sr. Archaeologist



Tuesday, December 10, 2024

Table Mountain Rancheria P.O. Box 410 Friant, CA, 93626 Phone: (559) 325-0351 rpennell@tmr.org

RE: Ivanhoe Public Utilities District CEQA Cultural Resource Assessment for proposed well improvement located at 15608 Ave 330 in Tulare County, Ivaohoe, CA 93235. APNs 107-030-047 & 048.

Dear Bob Pennell, Cultural Resource Director,

Below, please find a description of the proposed project, a map showing the project location, and the name of our project point of contact, pursuant to Public Resources Code (PRC) § 21080.3.1 (d).

The proposed project is situated on the Ivanhoe, California (2021), USGS 7.5' Series Quadrangle, T 18S, R 25E, S 1. The 0.45-acre project area is located on APNs 107-030-047 & 048 and is located at 15608 Ave 330, Ivanhoe, California. The project is for a proposed commercial development with a center at approximately 36.3889813, -119.2245270.

The Ivanhoe Public Utility District has requested a Phase 1 Archaeological Resource Assessment (Phase 1) to determine the potential for cultural resources prior to development, pursuant to state and local laws, including the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and Tulare County guidelines. Soar Environmental Consulting Inc. (Soar Environmental) proposes to complete the Phase 1 study for the present project.

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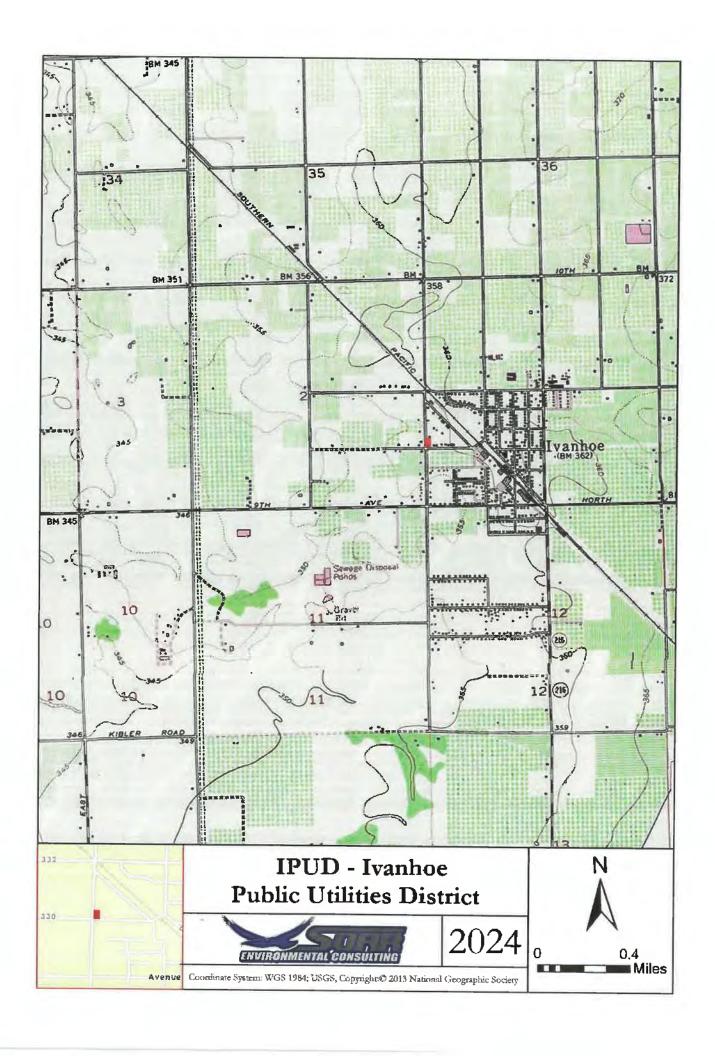
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Respectfully,

Heather Froshour, M.A., R.P.A.

Sr. Archaeologist



Tuesday, December 10, 2024

Table Mountain Rancheria P.O. Box 410 Friant, CA, 93626 Phone: (559) 822-2587 mhcordova@tmr.org

RE: Ivanhoe Public Utilities District CEQA Cultural Resource Assessment for proposed well improvement located at 15608 Ave 330 in Tulare County, Ivanhoe, CA 93235. APNs 107-030-047 & 048.

Dear Michelle Heredia-Cordova, Chairperson,

Below, please find a description of the proposed project, a map showing the project location, and the name of our project point of contact, pursuant to Public Resources Code (PRC) § 21080.3.1 (d).

The proposed project is situated on the Ivanhoe, California (2021), USGS 7.5' Scries Quadrangle, T 18S, R 25E, S 1. The 0.45-acre project area is located on APNs 107-030-047 & 048 and is located at 15608 Ave 330, Ivanhoe, California. The project is for a proposed commercial development with a center at approximately 36.3889813, -119.2245270.

The Ivanhoe Public Utility District has requested a Phase 1 Archaeological Resource Assessment (Phase 1) to determine the potential for cultural resources prior to development, pursuant to state and local laws, including the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and Tulare County guidelines. Soar Environmental Consulting Inc. (Soar Environmental) proposes to complete the Phase 1 study for the present project.

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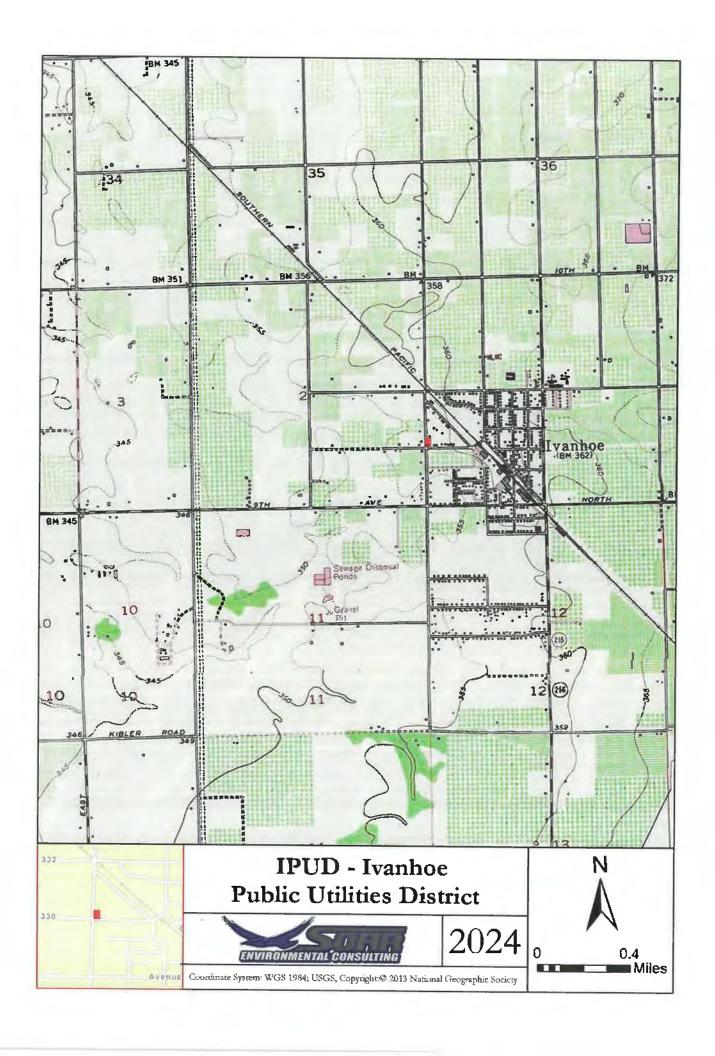
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Respectfully,

Heather Froshour, M.A., R.P.A.

Sr. Archaeologist



Statewide in Sacramento, Pasadena, Bakersfield, and Corporate Headquarters: 1322 E. Shaw Avenue #400, Fresno, California 93710

Tuesday, December 10, 2024

Traditional Choinumni Tribe 2415 E. Houston Avenue Fresno, CA, 93720 Phone: (559) 217-0396 davealvarez@sbcglobal.net

RE: Ivanhoe Public Utilities District CEQA Cultural Resource Assessment for proposed well improvement located at 15608 Ave 330 in Tulare County, Ivanhoe, CA 93235. APNs 107-030-047 & 048.

Dear David Alvarez, Chairperson,

Below, please find a description of the proposed project, a map showing the project location, and the name of our project point of contact, pursuant to Public Resources Code (PRC) § 21080.3.1 (d).

The proposed project is situated on the Ivanhoe, California (2021), USGS 7.5' Scries Quadrangle, T 18S, R 25E, S 1. The 0.45-acre project area is located on APNs 107-030-047 & 048 and is located at 15608 Ave 330, Ivanhoe, California. The project is for a proposed commercial development with a center at approximately 36.3889813, -119.2245270.

The Ivanhoe Public Utility District has requested a Phase 1 Archaeological Resource Assessment (Phase 1) to determine the potential for cultural resources prior to development, pursuant to state and local laws, including the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and Tulare County guidelines. Soar Environmental Consulting Inc. (Soar Environmental) proposes to complete the Phase 1 study for the present project.

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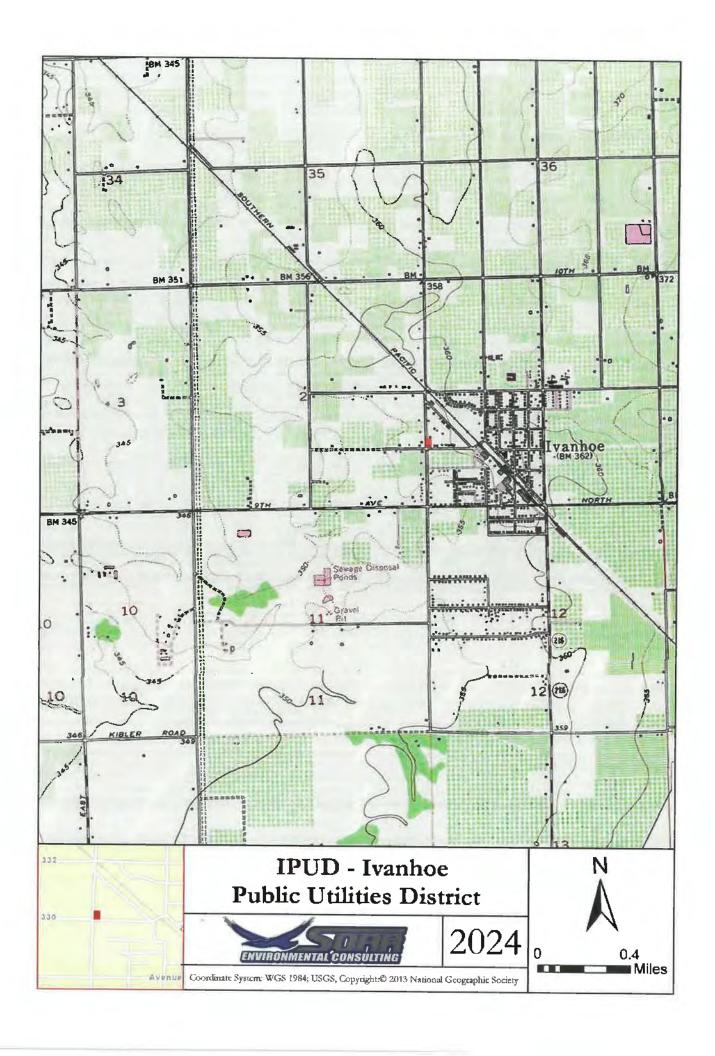
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Respectfully,

Heather Froshour, M.A., R.P.A.

Sr. Archaeologist



Statewide in Sacramento, Pasadena, Bakersfield, and Corporate Headquarters: 1322 E. Shaw Avenue #400, Fresno, California 93710

Tuesday, December 10, 2024

Traditional Choinumni Tribe P. O. Box 589 Porterville, CA, 93258 Phone: (559) 783-8892 joey.garfield@tulerivertribe-nsn.gov

RE: Ivanhoe Public Utilities District CEQA Cultural Resource Assessment for proposed well improvement located at 15608 Ave 330 in Tulare County, Ivanhoe, CA 93235. APNs 107-030-047 & 048.

Dear Joey Garfield, Tribal Archaeologist,

Below, please find a description of the proposed project, a map showing the project location, and the name of our project point of contact, pursuant to Public Resources Code (PRC) § 21080.3.1 (d).

The proposed project is situated on the Ivanhoe, California (2021), USGS 7.5' Series Quadrangle, T 18S, R 25E, S 1. The 0.45-acre project area is located on APNs 107-030-047 & 048 and is located at 15608 Ave 330, Ivanhoe, California. The project is for a proposed commercial development with a center at approximately 36.3889813, -119.2245270.

The Ivanhoe Public Utility District has requested a Phase 1 Archaeological Resource Assessment (Phase 1) to determine the potential for cultural resources prior to development, pursuant to state and local laws, including the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and Tulare County guidelines. Soar Environmental Consulting Inc. (Soar Environmental) proposes to complete the Phase 1 study for the present project.

An important element of a Phase 1 study is to identify sites, resources, or locations of cultural importance to the local Native American community. As part of the process, Soar Environmental contacted the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) on October 16, 2024. On November 1, 2024, Soar received a response letter from the NAHC indicating **negative results** of the Sacred Lands File search. Furthermore, the NAHC identified your organization as a point of contact regarding potentially known recorded sites or cultural resources within Tulare County.

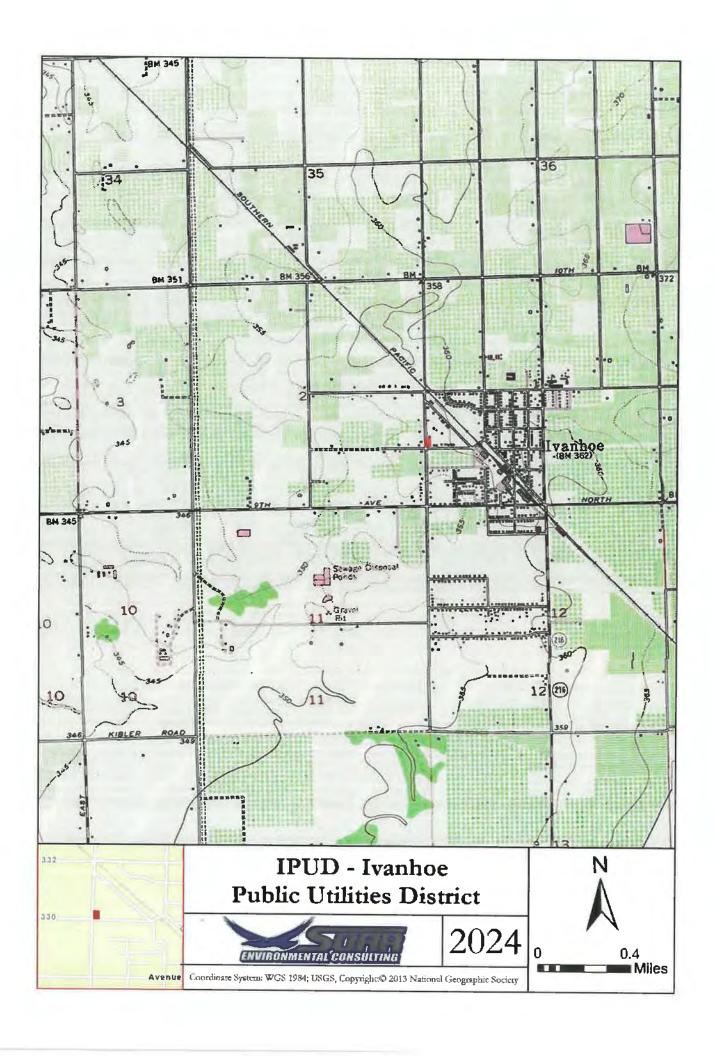
Soar contacted the Southern San Joaquin Valley Information Center (SSJVIC) of the California Historical Resources Information System on October 16, 2024. On October 28, 2024, SSJVIC results reported no historic cultural resources within the project area. No archaeological sites are known within the project area. No previous surveys have been conducted within the project area. One (1) historic cultural resource was identified within the ½-mile search radius of the project area. No historic properties on federal, state, or local inventories have been evaluated within the project area. Three (3) previous surveys have been conducted within a ½-mile radius of the project area. On October 18, 2024, Soar conducted an areheological pedestrian field survey of the project area. No cultural resources were identified during the field survey.

Soar is contacting you to determine if you have any concerns regarding the proposed development. Pursuant to PRC § 21080.3.1 (d), you have 30 days from the receipt of this letter to request consultation, in writing, with Soar. Should you have any concerns or knowledge of cultural resources in the specific project area, please contact me at https://disoarhere.com or at (207) 232-8912 at your earliest convenience. If Soar does not hear from you within this time, we shall assume that you have no comments regarding this project.

Respectfully,

Heather Froshour, M.A., R.P.A.

Sr. Archaeologist



Statewide in Sacramento, Pasadena, Bakersfield, and Corporate Headquarters: 1322 E. Shaw Avenue #400, Fresno, California 93710

Tuesday, December 10, 2024

Traditional Choinumni Tribe P. O. Box 589 Porterville, CA, 93258 Phone: (559) 783-8892 kerri.vera@tuleriyertribe-nsn.gov

RE: Ivanhoe Public Utilities District CEQA Cultural Resource Assessment for proposed well improvement located at 15608 Ave 330 in Tulare County, Ivaohoe, CA 93235. APNs 107-030-047 & 048.

Dear Kerri Vera, Environmental Department,

Below, please find a description of the proposed project, a map showing the project location, and the name of our project point of contact, pursuant to Public Resources Code (PRC) § 21080.3.1 (d).

The proposed project is situated on the Ivanhoe, California (2021), USGS 7.5' Series Quadrangle, T 18S, R 25E, S 1. The 0.45-acre project area is located on APNs 107-030-047 & 048 and is located at 15608 Ave 330, Ivanhoe, California. The project is for a proposed commercial development with a center at approximately 36.3889813, -119.2245270.

The Ivanhoc Public Utility District has requested a Phase 1 Archaeological Resource Assessment (Phase 1) to determine the potential for cultural resources prior to development, pursuant to state and local laws, including the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and Tulare County guidelines. Soar Environmental Consulting Inc. (Soar Environmental) proposes to complete the Phase 1 study for the present project.

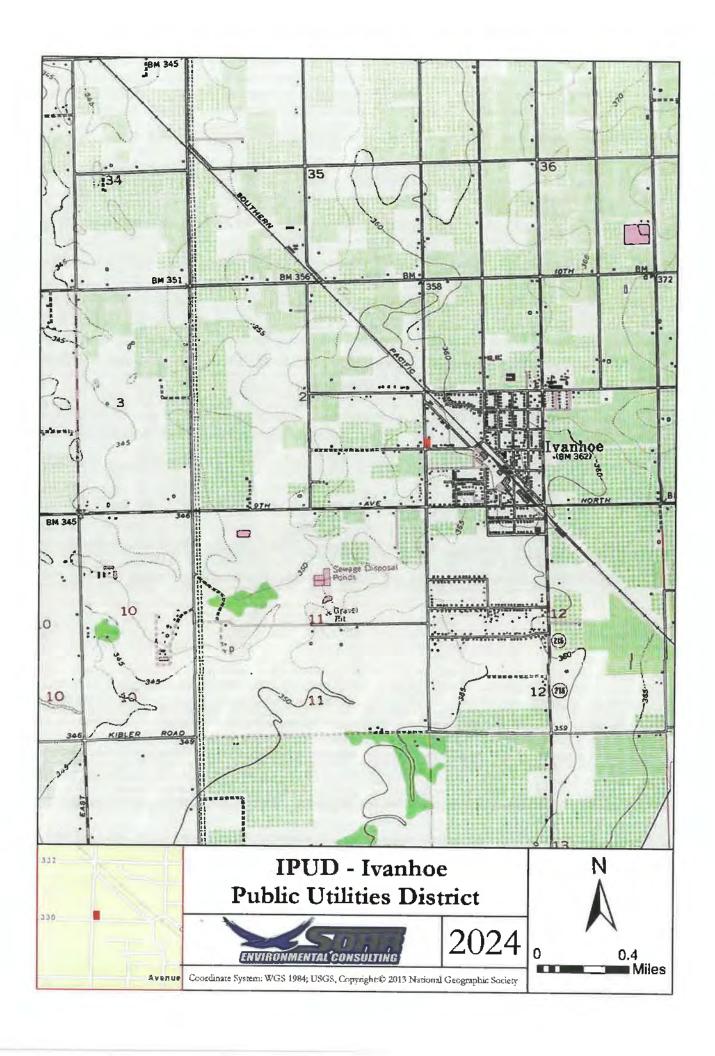
An important element of a Phase 1 study is to identify sites, resources, or locations of cultural importance to the local Native American community. As part of the process, Soar Environmental contacted the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) on October 16, 2024. On November 1, 2024, Soar received a response letter from the NAHC indicating **negative results** of the Sacred Lands File search. Furthermore, the NAHC identified your organization as a point of contact regarding potentially known recorded sites or cultural resources within Tulare County.

Soar contacted the Southern San Joaquin Valley Information Center (SSJVIC) of the California Historical Resources Information System on October 16, 2024. On October 28, 2024, SSJVIC results reported no historic cultural resources within the project area. No archaeological sites are known within the project area. No previous surveys have been conducted within the project area. One (1) historic cultural resource was identified within the ½-mile search radius of the project area. No historic properties on federal, state, or local inventories have been evaluated within the project area. Three (3) previous surveys have been conducted within a ½-mile radius of the project area. On October 18, 2024, Soar conducted an archeological pedestrian field survey of the project area. No cultural resources were identified during the field survey.

Respectfully,

Heather Froshour, M.A., R.P.A.

Sr. Archaeologist



Statewide in Sacramento, Pasadena, Bakersfield, and Corporate Headquarters: 1322 E. Shaw Avenue #400, Fresno, California 93710

Tuesday, December 10, 2024

Traditional Chomumni Tribe
P. O. Box 589
Porterville, CA, 93258
Phone: (559) 781-4271
neil.peyron@tulerivertribe-nsn.gov

RE: Ivanhoe Public Utilities District CEQA Cultural Resource Assessment for proposed well improvement located at 15608 Ave 330 in Tulare County, Ivanhoe, CA 93235. APNs 107-030-047 & 048.

Dear Neil Peyron, Chairperson,

Below, please find a description of the proposed project, a map showing the project location, and the name of our project point of contact, pursuant to Public Resources Code (PRC) § 21080.3.1 (d).

The proposed project is situated on the Ivanhoe, California (2021), USGS 7.5' Series Quadrangle, T 18S, R 25E, S 1. The 0.45-acre project area is located on APNs 107-030-047 & 048 and is located at 15608 Ave 330, Ivanhoe, California. The project is for a proposed commercial development with a center at approximately 36.3889813, -119.2245270.

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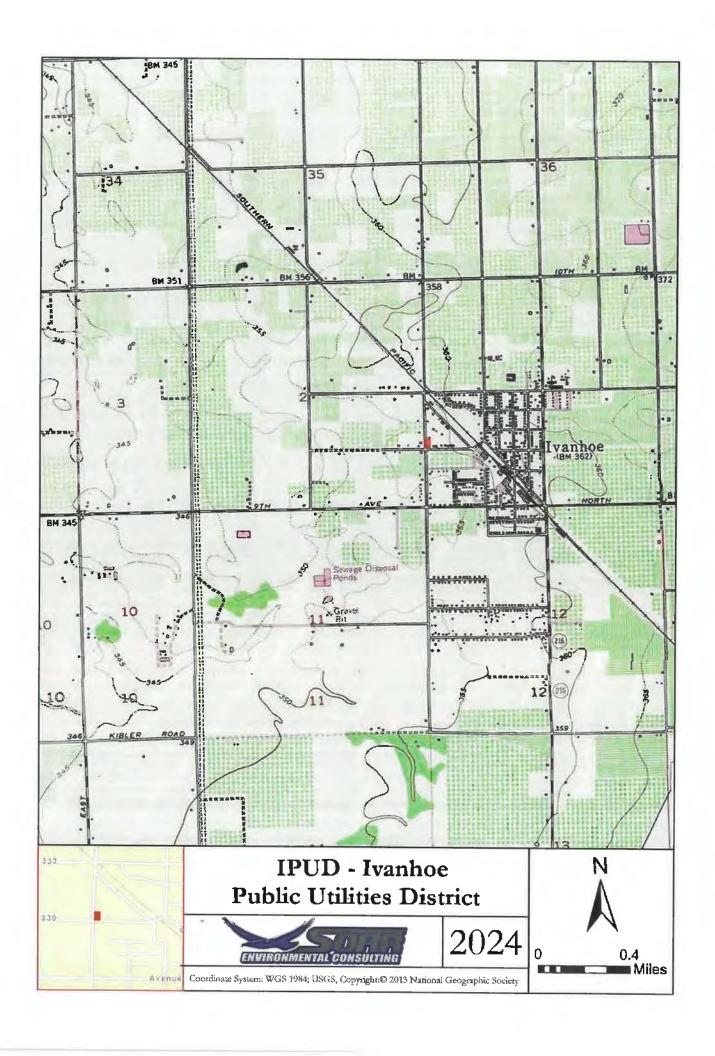
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Respectfully,

Heather Froshour, M.A., R.P.A.

Sr. Archaeologist



Statewide in Sacramento, Pasadena, Bakersfield, and Corporate Headquarters: 1322 E. Shaw Avenue #400, Fresno, California 93710

Tuesday, December 10, 2024

Wuksachi Indian Tribe/Eshom Valley Band 1179 Rock Haven Ct. Salinas, CA, 93906 Phone: (831) 443-9702 kwood8934@aol.com

RE: Ivanhoe Public Utilities District CEQA Cultural Resource Assessment for proposed well improvement located at 15608 Ave 330 in Tulare County, Ivanhoe, CA 93235. APNs 107-030-047 & 048.

Dear Kenneth Woodrow, Chairperson,

Below, please find a description of the proposed project, a map showing the project location, and the name of our project point of contact, pursuant to Public Resources Code (PRC) § 21080.3.1 (d).

The proposed project is situated on the Ivanhoc, California (2021), USGS 7.5' Series Quadrangle, T 18S, R 25E, S 1. The 0.45-acre project area is located on APNs 107-030-047 & 048 and is located at 15608 Ave 330, Ivanhoe, California. The project is for a proposed commercial development with a center at approximately 36.3889813, -119.2245270.

The Ivanhoe Public Utility District has requested a Phase 1 Archaeological Resource Assessment (Phase 1) to determine the potential for cultural resources prior to development, pursuant to state and local laws, including the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and Tulare County guidelines. Soar Environmental Consulting Inc. (Soar Environmental) proposes to complete the Phase 1 study for the present project.

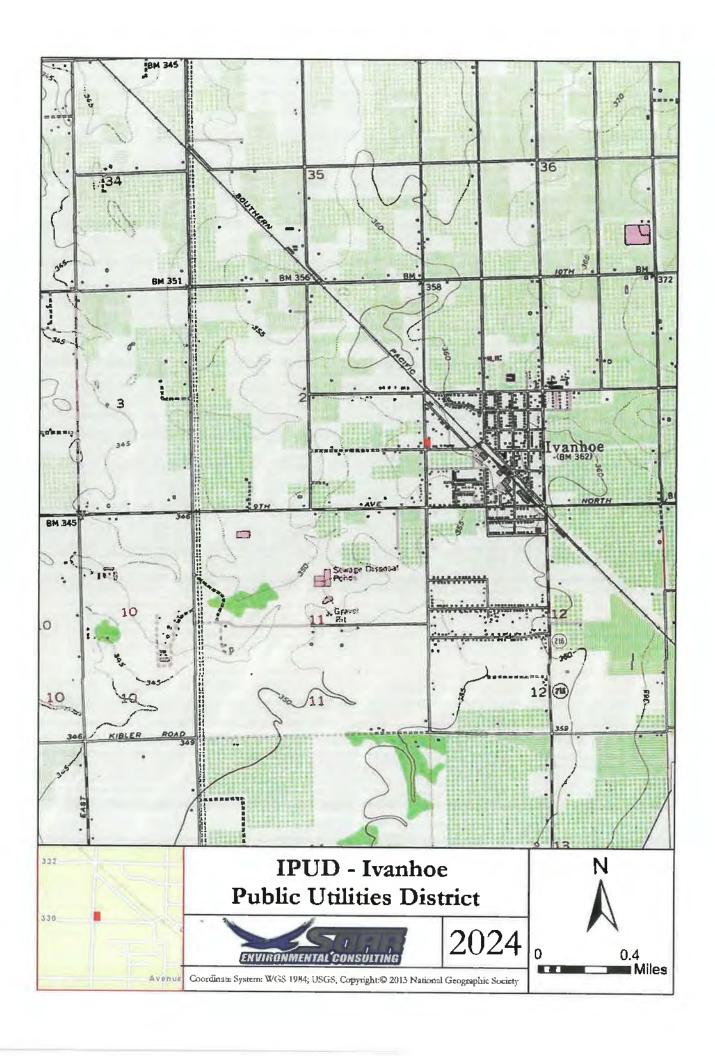
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Respectfully,

Heather Froshour, M.A., R.P.A.

Sr. Archaeologist



From Heather Froshour hfroshour@soarhere.com>

Date Fri 1/3/2025 3:34 PM

To ledgerrobert@ymail.com <ledgerrobert@ymail.com>

2 attachments (860 KB)

IPUD Ivanhoe Project Location Map.pdf, IPUD Phase 1 CRA Consultation Cover Letter - Dumna Wo-Wah Tribal Government.docc

Good afternoon,

I would like to formally submit a Consultation Request for a Phase 1 CEQA Cultural Resources Evaluation to take place at 15608 Ave 330 in Tulare County, Ivanhoe, CA 93235. APNs 107-030-047 & 048.

Attached files include:

- IPUD Ivanhoe Phase 1 CRA Consultation Cover Letter
- IPUD Ivanhoe Project Location Map

Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

Thank you,

Heather Froshour - Senior Archaeologist, M.A., RPA

Soar Environmental Consulting, Inc.

SB - PW/DVBE #1786933 CADIR/SDVOSB

Statewide with locations in Fresno 559.547.8884 - Sacramento 916.936.8287 - Pasadena 626-742-0282 - Bakersfield 661.904.0733 Ext. 1

From Heather Froshour hfroshour@soarhere.com>

Date Fri 1/3/2025 3:35 PM

To 2deedominguez@gmail.com <2deedominguez@gmail.com>

2 attachments (860 KB)

IPUD Phase 1 CRA Consultation Cover Letter - Kitanemuk & Yowlumne Tejon Indians.docx; IPUD Ivanhoe Project Location Map.pdf;

Good afternoon,

I would like to formally submit a Consultation Request for a Phase 1 CEQA Cultural Resources Evaluation to take place at 15608 Ave 330 in Tulare County, Ivanhoe, CA 93235. APNs 107-030-047 & 048.

Attached files include:

- IPUD Ivanhoe Phase 1 CRA Consultation Cover Letter
- IPUD Ivanhoe Project Location Map

Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

Thank you,

Heather Froshour - Senior Archaeologist, M.A., RPA

Soar Environmental Consulting, Inc.

SB - PW/DVBE #1786933 CADIR/SDVOSB

Statewide with locations in Fresno 559.547.8884 - Sacramento 916.936.8287 — Pasadena 626-742-0282 - Bakersfield 661.904.0733 Ext. 1

From Heather Froshour hfroshour@soarhere.com>

Date Frì 1/3/2025 3:36 PM

To nescalone@tachi-yokut-nsn.gov <nescalone@tachi-yokut-nsn.gov>

1 2 attachments (860 KB)

IPUD Phase 1 CRA Consultation Cover Letter - Santa Rosa Rancheria Tachi Yokut Tribe - NE.docx; IPUD Ivanhoe Project Location Map.pdf;

Good afternoon,

I would like to formally submit a Consultation Request for a Phase 1 CEQA Cultural Resources Assessment to take place at 15608 Ave 330 in Tulare County, Ivanhoe, CA 93235. APNs 107-030-047 & 048.

Attached files include:

- IPUD Ivanhoe Phase 1 CRA Consultation Cover Letter
- IPUD Ivanhoe Project Location Map

Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

Thank you,

Heather Froshour - Senior Archaeologist, M.A., RPA

Soar Environmental Consulting, Inc.

SB - PW/DVBE #1786933 CADIR/SDVOSB

Statewide with locations in Fresno 559.547.8884 - Sacramento 916.936.8287 - Pasadena 626-742-0282 - Bakersfield 661.904.0733 Ext. 1

From Heather Froshour hfroshour@soarhere.com

Date Fri 1/3/2025 3:37 PM

To Samantha McCarty <SMcCarty@tachi-yokut-nsn.gov>

2 attachments (860 KB)

IPUD Phase 1 CRA Consultation Cover Letter - Santa Rosa Rancheria Tachi Yokut Tribe - SM.docx; iPUD Ivanhoe Project Location Map.pdf;

Good afternoon,

I would like to formally submit a Consultation Request for a Phase 1 CEQA Cultural Resources Assessment to take place at 15608 Ave 330 in Tulare County, Ivanhoe, CA 93235. APNs 107-030-047 & 048.

Attached files include:

- IPUD Ivanhoe Phase 1 CRA Consultation Cover Letter
- IPUD Ivanhoe Project Location Map

Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

Thank you,

Heather Froshour - Senior Archaeologist, M.A., RPA

Soar Environmental Consulting, Inc.

SB - PW/DVBE #1786933 CADIR/SDVOSB

Statewide with locations in Fresno 559.547.8884 - Sacramento 916.936.8287 - Pasadena 626-742-0282 - Bakersfield 661.904.0733 Ext. 1

From Heather Froshour <hfroshour@soarhere.com>

Date Fri 1/3/2025 3:37 PM

To Shana Powers <SPowers@tachi-yokut-nsn.gov>

2 attachments (860 KB)

IPUD Phase 1 CRA Consultation Cover Letter - Santa Rosa Rancheria Tachi Yokut Tribe - SP.docx; IPUD Ivanhoe Project Location Map.pdf;

Good afternoon,

I would like to formally submit a Consultation Request for a Phase 1 CEQA Cultural Resources
Assessment to take place at 15608 Ave 330 in Tulare County, Ivanhoe, CA 93235. APNs 107-030-047 & 048.

Attached files include:

- IPUD Ivanhoe Phase 1 CRA Consultation Cover Letter
- IPUD Ivanhoe Project Location Map

Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

Thank you,

Heather Froshour - Senior Archaeologist, M.A., RPA

Soar Environmental Consulting, Inc.

SB - PW/DVBE #1786933 CADIR/SDVOSB

Statewide with locations in Fresno 559.547.8884 - Sacramento 916.936.8287 — Pasadena 626-742-0282 - Bakersfield 661.904.0733 Ext. 1

From Heather Froshour hfroshour@soarhere.com

Date Fri 1/3/2025 3:38 PM

To rpennell@tmr.org <rpennell@tmr.org>

2 attachments (860 KB)

IPUD Phase 1 CRA Consultation Cover Letter - Table Mountain Rancheria - BP.docx; IPUD Ivanhoe Project Location Map.pdf;

Good afternoon,

I would like to formally submit a Consultation Request for a Phase 1 CEQA Cultural Resources Assessment to take place at 15608 Ave 330 in Tulare County, Ivanhoe, CA 93235. APNs 107-030-047 & 048.

Attached files include:

- IPUD Ivanhoe Phase 1 CRA Consultation Cover Letter.
- IPUD Ivanhoe Project Location Map

Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

Thank you,

Heather Froshour - Senior Archaeologist, M.A., RPA

Soar Environmental Consulting, Inc.

SB - PW/DVBE #1786933 CADIR/SDVOSB

Statewide with locations in Fresno 559.547.8884 - Sacramento 916.936.8287 — Pasadena 626-742-0282 - Bakersfield 661.904.0733 Ext. 1

From Heather Froshour https://www.nearhere.com Date Fri 1/3/2025 3:39 PM

To mhcordova@tmr.org <mhcordova@tmr.org>

2 attachments (860 KB)

IPUD Ivanhoe Project Location Map.pdf; IPUD Phase 1 CRA Consultation Cover Letter - Table Mountain Rancheria - MHC.docx;

Good afternoon,

I would like to formally submit a Consultation Request for a Phase 1 CEQA Cultural Resources Assessment to take place at 15608 Ave 330 in Tulare County, Ivanhoe, CA 93235. APNs 107-030-047 & 048.

Attached files include:

- IPUD Ivanhoe Phase 1 CRA Consultation Cover Letter
- IPUD Ivanhoe Project Location Map

Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

Thank you,

Heather Froshour - Senior Archaeologist, M.A., RPA

Soar Environmental Consulting, Inc.

SB - PW/DVBE #1786933 CADIR/SDVOSB

Statewide with locations in Fresno 559.547.8884 - Sacramento 916.936.8287 - Pasadena 626-742-0282 - Bakersfield 661.904.0733 Ext. 1

From Heather Froshour hfroshour@soarhere.com

Date Fri 1/3/2025 3:39 PM

To davealvarez@sbcglobal.net <davealvarez@sbcglobal.net>

2 attachments (860 KB)

IPUD Ivanhoe Project Location Map.pdf; IPUD Phase 1 CRA Consultation Cover Letter - Traditional Choinumni Tribe.doc;

Good afternoon,

I would like to formally submit a Consultation Request for a Phase 1 CEQA Cultural Resources
Assessment to take place at 15608 Ave 330 in Tulare County, Ivanhoe, CA 93235. APNs 107-030-047 & 048.

Attached files include:

- IPUD Ivanhoe Phase 1 CRA Consultation Cover Letter
- IPUD Ivanhoe Project Location Map

Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

Thank you,

Heather Froshour - Senior Archaeologist, M.A., RPA

Soar Environmental Consulting, Inc.

SB - PW/DVBE #1786933 CADIR/SDVOSB

Statewide with locations in Fresno 559.547.8884 - Sacramento 916.936.8287 — Pasadena 626-742-0282 - Bakersfield 661.904.0733 Ext. 1

From Heather Froshour hfroshour@soarhere.com>

Date Fri 1/3/2025 3:40 PM

To joey.garfield@tulerivertribe-nsn.gov <joey.garfield@tulerivertribe-nsn.gov>

2 attachments (860 KB)

IPUD Phase 1 CRA Consultation Cover Letter - Tule River Indian Tribe - JG.docx; IPUD Ivanhoe Project Location Map.pdf;

Good afternoon,

I would like to formally submit a Consultation Request for a Phase 1 CEQA Cultural Resources Assessment to take place at 15608 Ave 330 in Tulare County, Ivanhoe, CA 93235. APNs 107-030-047 & 048.

Attached files include:

- IPUD Ivanhoe Phase 1 CRA Consultation Cover Letter
- IPUD Ivanhoe Project Location Map

Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

Thank you,

Heather Froshour - Senior Archaeologist, M.A., RPA

Soar Environmental Consulting, Inc.

SB - PW/DVBE #1786933 CADIR/SDVOSB

Statewide with locations in Fresno 559.547.8884 - Sacramento 916.936.8287 — Pasadena 626-742-0282 - Bakersfield 661.904.0733 Ext. 1

From Heather Froshour < hfroshour@soarhere.com>

Date Fri 1/3/2025 3:41 PM

To kerri.vera@tulerivertribe-nsn.gov < kerri.vera@tulerivertribe-nsn.gov >

1 2 attachments (860 KB)

IPUD Ivanhoe Project Location Map.pdf, IPUD Phase 1 CRA Consultation Cover Letter - Tule River Indian Tribe - KV.docx;

Good afternoon,

I would like to formally submit a Consultation Request for a Phase 1 CEQA Cultural Resources
Assessment to take place at 15608 Ave 330 in Tulare County, Ivanhoe, CA 93235. APNs 107-030-047 & 048.

Attached files include:

- IPUD (vanhoe Phase 1 CRA Consultation Cover Letter)
- IPUD Ivanhoe Project Location Map

Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

Thank you,

Heather Froshour - Senior Archaeologist, M.A., RPA

Soar Environmental Consulting, Inc.

SB - PW/DVBE #1786933 CADIR/SDVOSB

Statewide with locations in Fresno 559.547.8884 - Sacramento 916.936.8287 — Pasadena 626-742-0282 - Bakersfield 661.904.0733 Ext. 1

From Heather Froshour hfroshour@soarhere.com>

Date Fri 1/3/2025 3:42 PM

To neil.peyron@tulerivertribe-nsn.gov <neil.peyron@tulerivertribe-nsn.gov>

2 attachments (860 KB)

IPUD Ivanhoe Project Location Map.pdf; IPUD Phase 1 CRA Consultation Cover Letter - Tule River Indian Tribe - NP.docx;

Good afternoon.

I would like to formally submit a Consultation Request for a Phase 1 CEQA Cultural Resources Assessment to take place at 15608 Ave 330 in Tulare County, Ivanhoe, CA 93235. APNs 107-030-047 & 048.

Attached files include:

- IPUD Ivanhoe Phase 1 CRA Consultation Cover Letter
- IPUD Ivanhoe Project Location Map

Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

Thank you,

Heather Froshour - Senior Archaeologist, M.A., RPA

Soar Environmental Consulting, Inc.

SB - PW/DVBE #1786933 CADIR/SDVOSB

Statewide with locations in Fresno 559.547.8884 - Sacramento 916.936.8287 - Pasadena 626-742-0282 - Bakersfield 661.904.0733 Ext. 1

From Heather Froshour https://www.soarhere.com Date Fri 1/3/2025 3:42 PM

To kwood8934@aol.com <kwood8934@aol.com>

2 attachments (860 KB)

IPUD Ivanhoe Project Location Map.pdf; IPUD Phase 1 CRA Consultation Cover Letter - Wuksachi Indian Tribe.docx;

Good afternoon,

I would like to formally submit a Consultation Request for a Phase 1 CEQA Cultural Resources Assessment to take place at 15608 Ave 330 in Tulare County, Ivanhoe, CA 93235. APNs 107-030-047 & 048.

Attached files include:

- IPUD Ivanhoe Phase 1 CRA Consultation Cover Letter
- IPUD Ivanhoe Project Location Map

Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

Thank you,

Heather Froshour - Senior Archaeologist, M.A., RPA

Soar Environmental Consulting, Inc.

SB - PW/DVBE #1786933 CADIR/SDVOSB

Statewide with locations in Fresno 559.547.8884 - Sacramento 916.936.8287 - Pasadena 626-742-0282 - Bakersfield 661.904.0733 Ext. 1





TABLE MOUNTAIN RANCHERIA TRIBAL GOVERNMENT OFFICE

January 9, 2025

Heather Froshour, M.A., R.P.A. Sr. Archaeologist Soar Environmental Consulting, Inc. 1322 E. Shaw Avenue #400 Fresno, CA 93710

Michelle Heredia-Cordova Tribal Chairperson

Richard L. Jones
Tribal Vice-Chairperson

Jenna Gosselaar Tribal Secretary/Treasurer

Samantha Toles-Rodriguez
Tribal Council Member-At-Large

Mark Martinez
Tribal Council Member-At-Large

RE: Ivanhoe Cultural Resource Assessment for Proposed Well Improvement, 15608 Ave 330, Tulare County, Ivanhoe, California

To: Heather Froshour,

This is in response to your letter dated, January 4, 2025, regarding, Ivanhoe Cultural Resource Assessment for Proposed Well Improvement, 15608 Ave 330, Tulare County, Ivanhoe, California.

We appreciate receiving notice; however, this project site is beyond our area of interest.

Sincerely,

Robert Pennell

Cultural Resources Director

23736

Sky Harbour Road

Post Office

Box 410

Friant

California

93626

(559) 822-2587

Fax

(559) 822-2693

Ivanhoe Public Utilities District CEQA Cultural Resources Assessment for Proposed Well Improvment at 15608 Ave 330 in Ivanhoe, Tulare County, CA 93235

From Samantha McCarty <SMcCarty@tachi-yokut-nsn.gov>

Date Mon 1/13/2025 1:35 PM

To Heather Froshour <hfroshour@soarhere.com>

Cc Nichole Escalon <nescalon@tachi-yokut-nsn.goy>

Dear Heather.

Thank you for contacting the Santa Rosa Rancheria Tachi-Yokut Tribe regarding the Proposed Well Improvement at 15608 Ave 330 in Ivanhoe, Tulare County. The Tribe is requesting the following:

- To have the archaeological survey report shared with us
- To have the archaeological record search results shared with us (including the archaeological records, etc.)
- To be retained to provide a Cultural Presentation for all construction staff and crew members that will be working on this project
- To be notified of any discoveries made in relation to this project.

If you have any questions, comments, and or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact Nichole or myself. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Samantha McCarty

Santa Rosa Rancheria Tachi-Yokut Tribe

Cultural Specialist II

SMcCarty@tachi-yokut-nsn.gov

Cell: (5S9) 633-6640

Direct Line: (559) 925-2591 Office: (559) 924-1278 x 4091

PLEASE KEEP ALL CULTURAL STAFF IN EMAILS UNLESS STATED OTHERWISE



APPENDIX D

Staff Resume



Heather Froshour Senior Archaeologist

12 Years of Relevant Experience

Biography

Ms. Froshour's background emphasises archaeology, anthropology, and cultural resources monitoring.

Education

- M.A. in Historical Archaeology, November 2014. University of Leicester, Leicester, UK.
- B.A. in Anthropology/Geography, June 2010.
 University of Southern Maine,
 Gorham/Portland, ME.

<u>Professional Development</u>

- 8 hr training in Wilderness Firest Aid (Sierra Rescue International)
- Adult, Child, Infant CPR & First Aid Training
- Driver/Operator

Professional Affiliations

- Register of Professional Archaeologists
- CHRIS Qualified Archaeologist
- Society of American Archaeology SAA
- Society of Historical Archaeology SHA
- Society of California Archaeology SCA

Technical Expertise

- Lithic Analysis
- · Technical Report Writing
- Lab analysis
- Cultural Monitoring
- Site Surveying Phases 1-3
- Excavation
- Metal Detection
- Auguring
- Research
- MS Office and Excel
- Collector and Survey 123 for ArchGIS



Practical Experience

Ms. Froshour is a registered professional archaeologist and cultural resources specialist with extensive experience in field and technical work. This experience including cultural resources monitoring, site survey, phase 1-3 excavations, and anthropology on various projects throughout the United States. She has a combined 8 years of experience in academic, consulting, museum, and public archaeology, and has worked in CRM since 2013 throughout various regions of the United States. Primary states of focus have included Maine, Massachusetts, Louisiana, Georgia, Virginia, Arizona, and California. She routinely assesses cultural resources for project related effects and their significance, provides cultural resource mitigation services, directs archaeological surveys of both excavation and pedestrian methods, and prepares documents for Section 106 of the NHPA, CEQA, and NRHP. Ms. Froshour also has experience working alongside trial monitors through survey within the Colorado River and Mendocino National Forest regions. She has worked alongside the USDA Forest Service to provide post-fire monitoring and mitigation recommendations.

Ms. Froshour is certified by the Register for Professional Archeologists (Registrant ID: 5457).

Highlighted Projects

California High-Speed Rail Authority Construction Package 1, Fresno and Madera Counties, Cultural Resources Support, March 2023-Present

Heather is the Cultural Resources Support for this construction package. As such, she oversees staff archaeologist cultural reporting, monitoring, and artifact processing on the 33-mile right of way between Madera and Fresno.

SOAR Environmental Consulting, Senior Archaeologist, January 2023-Present Senior Archaeologist, Phase I Cultural Resources Assessments, CDFW, Various California Locations in Butte, Lassen, Orange, Plumas, Sacramento, San Diego, and Sierra Counties, California

Provided desktop research, supervised site pedestrian surveys, co-wrote full Phase 1 reports, and tribal consultation for 8 separate mitigation management projects throughout California.

Senior Archaeologist, Phase I Cultural Resources Assessment, Ivanhoe, Tulare County, California

Provided desktop research, supervised site pedestrian survey, full Phase 1 report, and tribal consultation for well replacement project.

Senior Archaeologist, Phase I Cultural Resources Assessment, Terra Bella, Tulare County, California

Provided desktop research, supervised site pedestrian survey, full Phase 1 report, and tribal consultation for aggregate quarry construction project.

Senior Archaeologist, Phase I Cultural Resources Assessment, Dixon, Solano County, California

Provided desktop research, site pedestrian survey, cultural resources portion of full Environmental Assessment, and tribal consultation for ranch subdivision.



Senior Archaeologist, Phase I Cultural Resources Assessment, Lone Pine, Inyo and Mono Counties, California

Provided desktop research, site pedestrian survey, full Phase 1 report/ cultural resources section of full Initial Study report, and tribal consultation for broadband fiber optic project.

Senior Archaeologist, Phase I Cultural Resources Assessment, Lindsay, Tulare County, California

Provided desktop research, supervised the 2-person crew site pedestrian survey, full Phase 1 report, and tribal consultation for highline pipeline replacement project.

Senior Archaeologist, Phase I Cultural Resources Assessment/Evaluation, Farmersville, Tulare County, California

Provided desktop research, supervised the 2-person crew site pedestrian survey, full Phase 1 report, and tribal consultation, Cultural Resources Initial Study/Environmental Assessment for roundabout and road extension construction project.

Senior Archaeologist, Phase I Cultural Resources Assessment, Wildomar, Riverside County, California

Provided desktop research, site pedestrian survey, full Phase 1 report, and tribal consultation for two small retail construction projects.

Senior Archaeologist, Phase I Cultural Resources Assessment, Visalia, Tulare County, California

Provided desktop research, supervised the 2-person crew site pedestrian survey, full Phase 1 report, and tribal consultation, Cultural Resources Initial Study for two rezoning and housing subdivision construction projects.

Senior Archaeologist, Phase I Cultural Resources Evaluation, Yokuts Valley, Fresno County, California

Provided desktop research, tribal consultation, and full Phase 1 report for the construction a new saber transmission tower to accompany existing USACE and CAL FIRE structures on a 100 square feet area on top of Bear Mountain.

Senior Archaeologist, Phase I Cultural Resources Evaluation, Shirley Meadows, Kern County, California

Provided desktop research, tribal consultation, and full Phase 1 report with DPR forms for the construction a new saber transmission tower, and concrete masonry shelter enclosed in an 8 foot tall wire fence on a 100 square feet area on top of Shirley Peak.

Senior Archaeologist, Phase I Cultural Resources Evaluation, Mountain Ranch, Calaveras County, California

Provided desktop research, tribal consultation, and full Phase 1 report with DPR forms for the construction a new saber transmission tower, and propane tank enclosed in an 8 foot tall wire fence on a 100 square feet area on top of Quiggs Mountain.

Senior Archaeologist, Phase I Cultural Resources Assessment, Glennville, Kern County, California

Provided desktop research, site pedestrian survey, tribal consultation, and full Phase 1 report for the construction a new saber transmission tower, CMU block shelter, and parking lot enclosed in a wire fence on a 100 square feet area on top of Mount Pheasant.



Senior Archaeologist, Phase I Cultural Resources Assessment, Bakersfield, Kern County, California

Provided desktop research, site pedestrian survey, and full Phase 1 report for rezoning project and multiple family residence construction project located in downtown Bakersfield.

Senior Archaeologist, Phase I Cultural Resources Assessment, Fresno, Fresno County, California

Provided desktop research, site pedestrian survey, and full Phase 1 Historic Resources Identification Report for mobile home park wastewater collection and disposal project located in downtown Fresno.

Senior Archaeologist, Phase I Cultural Resources Assessment, Joshua Tree, California

Provided desktop research, site pedestrian survey, and full Phase 1 report for upscale yurt campground construction project located in San Bernadino County.

Post Fire Fuels and Priority Heritage Asset Assessment Surveys, Grindstone Region, Tehama & Glenn Counties, CA (June 2022-December 2022). The Great Basin Institute, Archaeological Crew Lead.

Phase I pedestrian surveys and site recording on post-wildfire burned landscapes within the Mendocino National Forest. Overseeing a small crew in the field survey, site recording, and completion of extensive USDA Forest Service site reports and mapping of cultural resources in the area. Ensured that all pertinent data is documented and reported to Forest Services standards with specific attention to current field conditions, disturbances, vegetation, terrain, and geospatial data of cultural resources. Provided day to day support of the crew and worked as a liaison between the Great Basin Institute and Mendocino National Forest personnel. Conducted Section 106 and Section 110 Priority Heritage Asset assessments of archaeological resources throughout the eastern region of the Mendocino. Assisted in final Phase 1 survey report writing.

2021-2022

Various Cultural Resource Management Survey Projects, GA & NC (June 2021- April 2022). TerraXplorations, Inc., Archaeology Field Director.

Phase I shovel testing in various locations throughout Georgia, in addition to a single project just outside of Raleigh, NC. These projects include road, bridge, and culvert improvement surveys as well as solar tract, farm, and generator surveys. All projects were conducted in 30m intervals along transect within the ESB of the survey area. All positive shovel tests were then delineated in 15m interval cruciform to determine site boundaries. Several projects required the use of metal detection grids in order to thoroughly survey areas of known Civil War activity. A number of projects for the Georgia Department of Transportation also required the probing of areas within the project ESB that were located within 1km from a known cemetery, with potential anomalies delineated and all results fully recorded. Duties include overseeing and directing field crews in locating, collecting, recording, and interpreting data from the survey. The supervision of personnel, including aiding in hiring and firing, performance reviews, training, work allocation, and problem resolution. Ensuring safe work practices and directing morning safety meetings to address potential hazards and safety concerns in the areas scheduled for fieldwork that day. Participation in field and office meetings with PIs and company owners to address scheduling and management procedures based on client needs as well as those of state and federal regulations and requirements.



Cultural Resource Management Survey Project, VAM-1 and Glasgow Pipeline Replacement, VA (May 2021-June 2021). TerraXplorations, Inc., Archaeology Crew Chief.

Phase I shovel test excavations from the replacement of the VAM-1 and Glasgow natural gas pipelines in the Blue Ridge Mountains, near the Appalachian Trail. Evaluated and conducted field work in various conditions in primarily mountainous terrain. Under direct supervision helped to manage and organize field crew in order to complete the project in a timely and efficient manner. Maintained field equipment and assisted in the writing and compilation of all field paperwork. Personally in charge of the majority of all mappings of and oversight of field crew for sites throughout the project area.

Various Cultural Resource Management Survey Projects, LA & MS (August 2020-May 2021). TerraXplorations, Inc., Archaeology Field Technician.

Phase I shovel test excavations for bank mitigation in Northeastern Mississippi along the Buttahatchee River. Phase III survey of two projects; the historic St. Amelia Plantation in Welcome, Louisiana and an unnamed prehistoric village in Plaquemine, Louisiana. The phase III projects both required excavating the foundations of various structures, and in the case of the prehistoric site excavating and mapping postholes within pits. The projects also required drawing plan views, and stratigraphic profiles, as well as feature and level write-ups. Unit excavations included 1mx1m to 3mx3m units, with a few requiring the extension of existing units to chase out observed features and artifact clusters.

Various Cultural Resource Management Survey Projects, ID & WI (June 2020 - July 2020). Tetra Tech, Inc., Archaeology Field Technician.

Phase I pedestrian surveying of various wind and solar farm projects throughout corn and soybean fields.

Cultural Resource Management Survey, Acadiana to Gillis, LA (January 2020-March 2020). BGE, Inc., Archaeology Field Technician.

Phase I shovel test excavations of proposed natural gas pipeline between Acadian and Gillis, Louisiana. This project entailed the excavation of 30mx30m units with distance varying based on HPA and LPA guidelines (a spacing of 30m to 50m respectively). A requirement of the survey was to maintain daily investigation point forms for individual shovel test units. In addition to this, it was required to aid in recording artifacts and photos of sites found throughout the project.

Various Cultural Resource Management Survey Projects, MN & IA (November 2019-December 2019). In Situ Archeological Consulting LLC, Archaeology Field Technician. Phase I pedestrian surveying of various natural gas and cellular tower projects, as well as Phase II field work entailing the excavation of 45cmX45cm test units and GPS data collection. The projects also occasionally required the writing of site forms, and research for future projects at the Minnesota SHPO collections.

Cultural Resource Management Survey, Ten West Link Project, CA & AZ (August 2019-October 2019). POWER Engineers Inc., Archaeology Field Technician.

Phase I pedestrian survey of the proposed 500 kV transmission line connecting electrical substations in Tonopah, Arizona and Blythe, California. This project entailed working in one of five teams, and often included 1-2 tribal monitors from the Colorado River Indian Tribes. The right of way crews used a 400ft buffer for the corridor, with each team using a 15m spread to survey the proposed transmission line. This survey required the use of a Trimble GPS system to navigate the corridor and plot both isolate and site locations for GIS and recording crew use. As part of the recording crew later in the survey, it was also required to conduct thorough site



analysis and recordation via site forms and Trimble points of each observed artifact and feature, both historic and prehistoric.

Authored Publications

- 2024 Froshour, Heather. "Phase I Cultural Resources Assessment: Well No. 6 Replacement Project, Ivanhoe, California."
- 2024 Froshour, Heather, and Jamie Neitenbach. "Phase I Cultural Resources Assessment: Terra Bella Aggregate Quarry Construction Project, Terra Bella, California."
- 2024 Froshour, Heather. "Phase I Cultural Resources Assessment: Realized Dreams Ranch Subdivision Project, Dixon, California."
- 2024 Froshour, Heather, and Rowland, Kevin. "Phase I Cultural Resources Assessment: Lindsay-Strathmore Irrigation District Highline Pipeline Replacement Project, Lindsay, California."
- 2024 Froshour, Heather, and Rowland, Kevin. "Phase I Cultural Resources Assessment/ Evaluation: Rd 168 & E Walnut Ave Roundabout Project, Farmersville, California."
- 2024 Froshour, Heather, and Rowland, Kevin. "Phase I Cultural Resources Assessment: Cameron Ranch Housing Subdivision Project, Visalia, California."
- 2024 Froshour, Heather. "Phase I Cultural Resources Assessment Cake House Cannabis Small Retail Centers, Wildomar, California."
- 2024 Froshour, Heather. "Phase I Cultural Resources Assessment: Lagomarsinio Housing Subdivision Project, Tulare, California."
- 2024 Froshour, Heather. "Phase I Cultural Resources Assessment: Elliot Housing Subdivision Project, Visalia, California."
- 2023 Froshour, Heather. "Phase I Cultural Resources Evaluation: 30811 Bear Mountain Rd., Yokuts Valley, California."
- 2023 Froshour, Heather. "Phase I Cultural Resources Evaluation: Shirley Peak, Rd. 622, Kern County, California."
- 2023 Froshour, Heather. "Phase I Cultural Resources Evaluation: Sierra Vista Lookout., Quiggs Mountain, Mountain Ranch, California."
- 2023 Froshour, Heather. "Phase I Cultural Resources Evaluation: Granite Rd., Mount Pheasant, Glennville, California."
- 2023 Froshour, Heather. "Phase 1 Cultural Resources Assessment: 4415 Wilson Rd., Bakersfield, California."
- 2023 Froshour, Heather. "Cultural Resources Desktop Assessment: 1941 N. Golden State Blvd., Fresno, California."
- 2023 Froshour, Heather. "Phase I Cultural Resources Assessment: 3174 Bonair Ave., Joshua Tree, California."
- 2023 Froshour, Heather. "Cultural Resources Desktop Assessment: 3200 Rio Linda Blvd., Sacramento, California."
- 2023 Hawley, Maria and Froshour, Heather. "Cultural Resources Assessment, 18644 16th Ave., Stratford, California."
- 2022 Lashway, Nick, Hovis, Chad, and Froshour, Heather. "Upper Thomes Forestwide Fuels Phase I Report: U.S.D.A. Forest Service Mendocino National Forest Covelo and Grindstone Ranger Districts, California."

Academic Publications

2024 Harvey, Amanda R., Atherton, Heather, MacKinnon, Amy, Rushing, Brett, Zimmer, Paul, Froshour, Heather D., & Kubal, Kathleen. "Over a Decade of Design-Build Archaeology on the California High-Speed Rail, Construction Package 1 from Madera to Fresno, California."





- 2013 Hamilton, Nathan D. and Froshour, Heather D (presenter). "Explore 5,000 Years of History in Danvers, Massachusetts."
- 2013 Froshour, Heather D. "Preserving the Past: Public and Historical Archaeology at the Rebecca Nurse Homestead, Danvers, Massachusetts."
- 2012 Froshour, Heather D (presenter). "17th-18th Century Occupations in Danvers, Massachusetts."

APPENDIX E
INITIAL STUDY – CEQA
FLOOD HAZARD MAPS
WELL NO. 6 IMPROVEMENTS
PROJECT
IVANHOE PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT

National Flood Hazard Layer FIRMette

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Legend

SEE FIS REPORT FOR DETAILED LEGEND AND INDEX MAP FOR FIRM PANEL LAYOUT Without Base Flood Elevation (BFE) With BFE or Depth Zone AE, AO, AH, VE, AR SPECIAL FLOOD HAZARD AREAS Regulatory Floodway 0.2% Annual Chance Flood Hazard, Area of 1% annual chance flood with average depth less than one foot or with drainage areas of less than one square mile Zone) **Future Conditions 1% Annual** Chance Flood Hazard Zone X Area with Reduced Flood Risk due to Levee, See Notes, Zona X OTHER AREAS OF Area with Flood Risk due to Levee Zono D FLOOD HAZARD No screen Area of Minimal Flood Hazard Zone X **Effective LOMRs** OTHER AREAS Area of Undetermined Flood Hazard Zone - - - Channel, Culvert, or Storm Sewer STRUCTURES | | | | | Levee, Dike, or Floodwall 20.1 Cross Sections with 1% Annual Chance 17.4 Water Surface Elevation Coastal Transect - 53 --- Base Flood Elevation Line (BFE) Limit of Study Jurisdiction Boundary -- -- Coastal Transect Baseline OTHER Profile Baseline **FEATURES** Hydrographic Feature Digital Data Available No Digital Data Available MAP PANELS Unmapped

This map compiles with FEMA's standards for the use of digital flood maps if it is not void as described below. The basemap shown complies with FEMA's basemap accuracy standards

The pin displayed on the map is an approximate point selected by the user and does not represe

an authoritative property location.

The flood hazard information is derived directly from the authoritative NFHL web services provided by FEMA. This map was exported on 12/12/2024 at 12:05 AM and does not reflect changes or amendments subsequent to this date and time. The NFHL and effective information may change or become superseded by new data over time.

This map image is void if the one or more of the following map elements do not appear: basemap imagery, flood zone labels, legend, scale bar, map creation date, community identifiers, FIRM panel number, and FIRM effective date. Map images for unmapped and unmodernized areas cannot be used for regulatory purposes.

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