

Appendix D

Cultural Report

Phase I Cultural Resources Technical Report

Menifee Boardwalk Project, City of Menifee,
Riverside County, California

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Executive Summary

South Environmental was retained to complete a Phase I cultural resources technical report for the Menifee Boardwalk Project (project) located in the City of Menifee in Riverside County, California. This study includes the results of a California Historical Resources Information Center (CHRIS) records search of the project site and a 0.5-mile radius; background research from available sources; a California Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) Sacred Lands File (SLF) search; and an intensive pedestrian survey of the project site by a qualified archaeologist. This study was completed in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), including Public Resources Code (PRC) Section 5024.1, Title 14 California Code of Regulations (CCR) Section 15064.5 of the CEQA Guidelines, and PRC Sections 21083.2 and 21084.1.

No cultural resources were identified within the project site as a result of the CHRIS records search or pedestrian survey by a qualified archaeologist. Additionally, the only resource recorded within 0.5-mile was associated with historic period agriculture. Based on a review of historic aerial photographs and historic maps, the project site has never been developed, indicating that the site has low sensitivity for historical resources. The NAHC responded with a positive SLF search result and the Pechanga Band of Mission Indians has stated that the project site is within their traditional territory and therefore within a culturally sensitive area.

Based on the absence of recorded prehistoric or historic archaeological resources within 0.5-mile of the project site as well as the negative findings of the survey, the project site is considered to possess low sensitivity for subsurface cultural resources. Implementation of the recommendations provided in Section 7.2 will reduce impacts to archaeological and historical resources to less than significant.

1 Introduction

South Environmental was retained to complete a Phase I cultural resources technical report for the Menifee Boardwalk Project (project) located in the City of Menifee in Riverside County, California. This study includes the results of a California Historical Resources Information Center (CHRIS) records search of the project site and a 0.5-mile radius; background research from available sources; a California Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) Sacred Lands File (SLF) search; and an intensive pedestrian survey of the project site by a qualified archaeologist. This study was completed in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), including Public Resources Code (PRC) Section 5024.1, Title 14 California Code of Regulations (CCR) Section 15064.5 of the CEQA Guidelines, and PRC Sections 21083.2 and 21084.1.

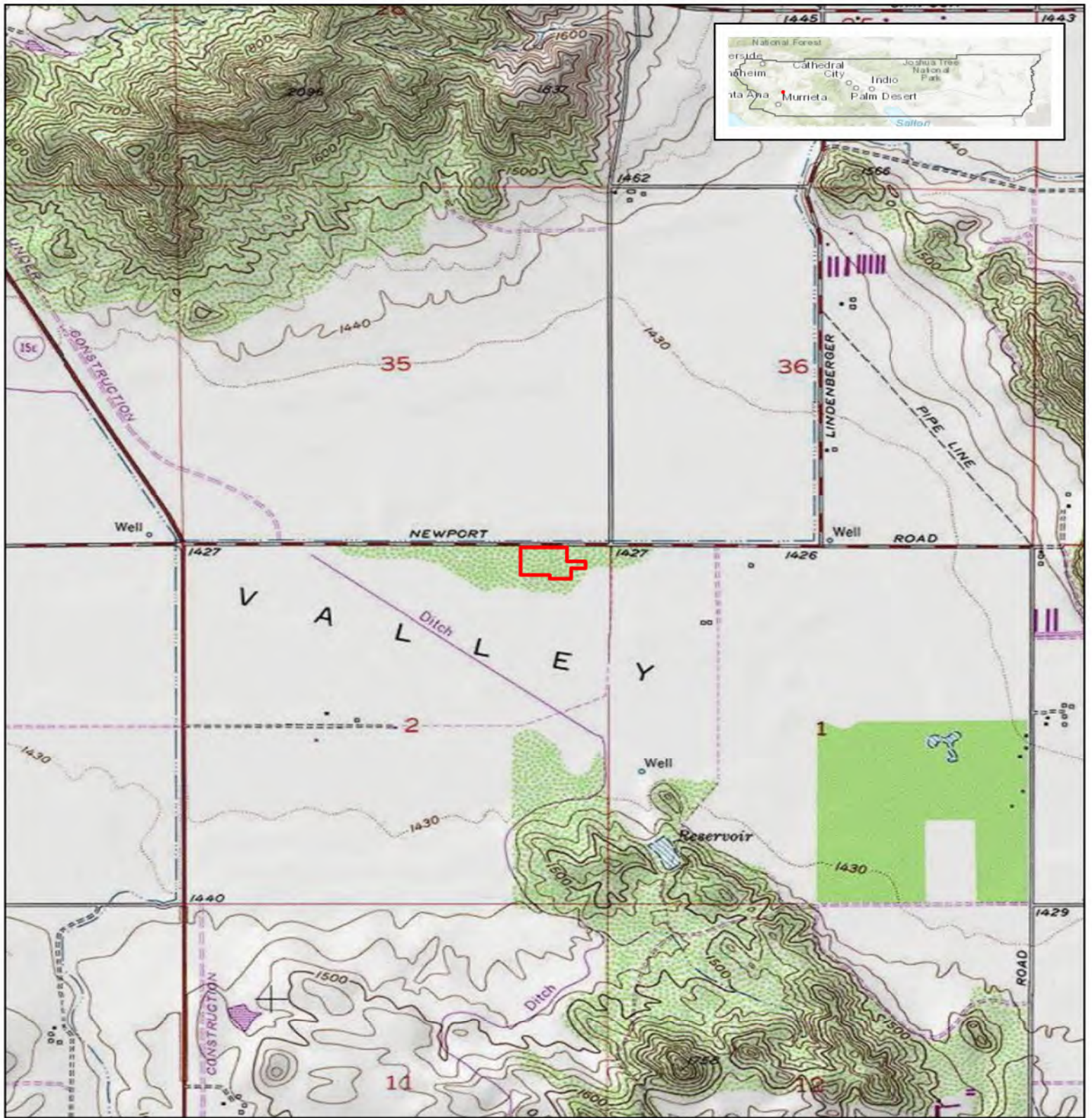
This report was prepared by South Environmental Archaeologist Samantha Jovanovic MA, MS, Principal Archaeologist Kevin Hunt, BA, and Archaeological Principal Investigator Samantha Murray, MA, RPA, who meets the Secretary of the Interior's Professional Qualification Standards for Archaeology.

1.1 Project Location

The project site is located south of Newport Road, east of Menifee Road, and west of Calle Pompeii in the City of Menifee in Riverside County, California. The approximately 5.8-acre project site occupies Accessors Parcel Number 364-030-016. The project site is depicted on the United States Geological Survey (USGS) *Romoland, California* 7.5-minute Quadrangle Map, San Bernardino Base and Meridian, within Section 02 of Township 06 South and Range 03 West (Figure 1). The project site is depicted on an aerial photograph background in Figure 2.

1.2 Project Description

The project proposes to develop the vacant lot into a commercial center with five buildings that will house various retail, food, medical, and childcare service businesses including one drive-thru restaurant, along with associated parking and trash enclosures. The buildings will occupy approximately 38,650 square feet and there will be an estimated 273 parking spaces.



Source: ESRI USA Topo Maps and World Topo Map 2025

Menifee Boardwalk Project

Figure 1. Project Location Map

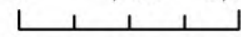
Project Site

Project Site is within Menifee, California, in Riverside County on the USGS Romoland 7.5-minute quadrangle map in Section 02 of Township 06 South and Range 03 West

Center Coordinate (Decimal Degrees):
 Latitude: 33.6843653N Longitude: -117.1563420W



0 1,150 2,300 Feet



Scale: 1:24,000



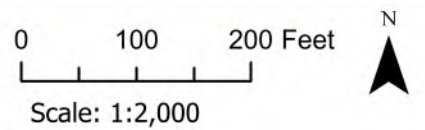


Source: ESRI Aerial Map 2025

Menifee Boardwalk Project

Figure 2. Project Site Detail

Project Site



2 Regulatory Setting

2.1 State

2.1.1 California Register of Historical Resources

In California, the term “historical resource” includes but is not limited to “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 Section 5020.1(j)). In 1992, the California legislature established the 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 Section 5024.1(a)). The criteria for listing resources on the CRHR were expressly developed to be in accordance with previously established criteria developed for listing in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP), enumerated below. According to California PRC Section 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 construction, 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.

In order 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 (see 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 NRHP, and properties listed or formally designated as eligible for listing in the NRHP are automatically listed in the CRHR, as are the state landmarks and points of interest. The CRHR also includes properties designated under local ordinances or identified through local historical resource surveys.

2.1.2 California Environmental Quality Act

As described further below, the following CEQA statutes and CEQA Guidelines are of relevance to the analysis of archaeological, historic, and tribal cultural resources:

- California PRC Section 21083.2(g) defines “unique archaeological resource.”
- California PRC Section 21084.1 and CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5(a) define “historical resources.” In addition, CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5(b) defines the phrase “substantial adverse change in the significance of an historical resource.” It also defines the circumstances when a project would materially impair the significance of an historical resource.
- California PRC Section 21074(a) defines “tribal cultural resources.”
- California PRC Section 5097.98 and CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5(e) set forth standards and steps to be employed following the accidental discovery of human remains in any location other than a dedicated ceremony.
- California PRC Sections 21083.2(b)-(c) and CEQA Guidelines Section 15126.4 provide information regarding the mitigation framework for archaeological and historic resources, including examples of preservation-in-place mitigation measures; preservation-in-place is the preferred manner of mitigating impacts to significant archaeological sites because it maintains the relationship between artifacts and the archaeological context and may also help avoid conflict with religious or cultural values of groups associated with the archaeological site(s).

More specifically, under CEQA, a project may have a significant effect on the environment if it may cause “a substantial adverse change in the significance of an historical resource” (California PRC Section 21084.1; CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5(b).) If a site is either listed or eligible for listing in the CRHR, or if it is included in a local register of historic resources or identified as significant in a historical resources survey (meeting the requirements of California PRC Section 5024.1(q)), it is a “historical resource” and is presumed to be historically or culturally significant for purposes of CEQA (California PRC Section 21084.1; CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5(a)). The lead agency is not precluded from determining that a resource is a historical resource even if it does not fall within this presumption (California PRC Section 21084.1; CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5(a)).

A “substantial adverse change in the significance of an historical resource” reflecting a significant effect under CEQA means “physical demolition, destruction, relocation, or alteration of the resource or its immediate surroundings such that the significance of an historical resource would be materially impaired” (CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5(b)(1); California PRC Section 5020.1(q)). In turn, CEQA Guidelines section 15064.5(b)(2) states the significance of an historical resource is materially impaired when a project:

1. Demolishes or materially alters in an adverse manner those physical characteristics of an historical resource that convey its historical significance and that justify its inclusion in, or eligibility for, inclusion in the California Register of Historical Resources; or
2. Demolishes or materially alters in an adverse manner those physical characteristics that account for its inclusion in a local register of historical resources pursuant to section 5020.1(k) of the PRC or its identification in an historical resources survey meeting the requirements of section 5024.1(g) of the PRC, unless the public agency reviewing the effects of the project establishes by a preponderance of evidence that the resource is not historically or culturally significant; or
3. Demolishes or materially alters in an adverse manner those physical characteristics of a historical resource that convey its historical significance and that justify its eligibility for inclusion in the California Register of Historical Resources as determined by a lead agency for purposes of CEQA.

Pursuant to these sections, the CEQA inquiry begins with evaluating whether a project site contains any “historical resources,” then evaluates whether that project will cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource such that the resource’s historical significance is materially impaired.

If it can be demonstrated that a project will cause damage to a unique archaeological resource, the lead agency may require reasonable efforts be made to permit any or all of these resources to be preserved in place or left in an undisturbed state. To the extent that they cannot be left undisturbed, mitigation measures are required (California PRC Section 21083.2[a], [b], and [c]).

California PRC Section 21083.2(g) defines a unique archaeological resource as an archaeological artifact, object, or site about which it can be clearly demonstrated that without merely adding to the current body of knowledge, there is a high probability that it meets any of the following criteria:

1. Contains information needed to answer important scientific research questions and that there is a demonstrable public interest in that information.
2. Has a special and particular quality such as being the oldest of its type or the best available example of its type.
3. Is directly associated with a scientifically recognized important prehistoric or historic event or person.

Impacts to non-unique archaeological resources are generally not considered a significant environmental impact (California PRC section 21083.2(a); CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5(c)(4)). However, if a non-unique archaeological resource qualifies as tribal cultural resource (California PRC Section 21074(c), 21083.2(h)), further consideration of significant impacts is required. CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5 assigns special importance to human remains and specifies procedures to be used

when Native American remains are discovered. As described below, these procedures are detailed in California PRC Section 5097.98.

2.1.3 California State Assembly Bill (AB) 52 of 2014

AB 52 amended PRC Section 5097.94 and added PRC Sections 21073, 21074, 21080.3.1, 21080.3.2, 21082.3, 21083.09, 21084.2, and 21084.3. Section 4 of AB 52 adds Sections 21074(a) and (b) to the PRC, which address tribal cultural resources and cultural landscapes. Section 21074(a) defines tribal cultural resources as one 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 Section 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 Section 5024.1. In applying the criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Section 5024.1 for the purposes of this paragraph, the lead agency shall consider the significance of the resource to a California Native American tribe.

Section 1(a)(9) of AB 52 establishes that "a substantial adverse change to a tribal cultural resource has a significant effect on the environment." Effects on tribal cultural resources should be considered under CEQA. Section 6 of AB 52 adds Section 21080.3.2 to the 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."

2.1.4 California Health and Safety Code Section 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 Section 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 (Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5(b)). PRC Section 5097.98 also outlines the process to be followed in the event that remains are discovered. If the coroner determines or has reason to believe the remains are those of a Native American, the coroner must contact the NAHC within 24 hours (Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5(c)). 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.

2.2 Local

2.2.1 City of Murrieta

Menifee General Plan: Open Space and Conservation Element

OCS-5: Paleontological & Cultural Resources (City of Menifee 2013)

Goal: Archaeological, historical, and cultural resources are protected and integrated into the city's built environment.

Policies

OCS-5.1: Preserve and protect archaeological and historic resources and cultural sites, places, districts, structures, landforms, objects and native burial sites, traditional cultural landscapes and other features, consistent with state law and any laws, regulations or policies which may be adopted by the city to implement this goal and associated policies.

OCS-5.3: Preserve sacred sites identified in consultation with the appropriate Native American tribes whose ancestral territories are within the city, such as Native American burial locations, by avoiding activities that would negatively impact the sites, while maintaining the confidentiality of the location and nature of the sacred site.

OCS-5.4: Establish clear and responsible policies and best practices to identify, evaluate, and protect previously unknown archaeological, historic, and cultural resources, following applicable CEQA and NEPA procedures and in consultation with the appropriate Native American tribes who have ancestral lands within the city.

OCS-5.5: Develop clear policies regarding the preservation and avoidance of cultural resources located within the city, in consultation with the appropriate Native American tribes who have ancestral lands within the city

OCS-5.6: Develop strong government-to-government relationships and consultation protocols with the appropriate Native American tribes with ancestral territories within the city in order to ensure better identification, protection and preservation of cultural resources, while also developing appropriate educational programs, with tribal participation, for Menifee residents.

Menifee Municipal Code

Per the City of Menifee Municipal Code 4.2020, a **historic structure** is any structure that is:

1. Listed individually in the National Register of Historic Places (a listing maintained by the Department of Interior) or preliminarily determined by the Secretary of the Interior as meeting the requirements for individual listing on the National Register;
2. Certified or preliminarily determined by the Secretary of the Interior as contributing to the historical significance of a registered historic district or a district preliminarily determined by the Secretary to qualify as a registered historic district;
3. Individually listed on a state inventory of historic places in states with historic preservation programs which have been approved by the Secretary of Interior; or
4. Individually listed on a local inventory of historic places in communities with historic preservation programs that have been certified either by an approved state program as determined by the Secretary of the Interior or directly by the Secretary of the Interior in states without approved programs.

The City of Menifee has adopted the **Riverside County Ordinance Number 578** pertaining to **Historic Preservation Districts** for use within the city.

3 Environmental Setting

The approximately 5.8-acre project site is located south of Newport Road, west of Menifee Road, and east of Calle Pompeii in the City of Menifee in Riverside County, California. More broadly, the project site is approximately 0.8-mile east of Interstate 215, approximately 0.25-mile north of Menifee Lakes, 0.3-mile south of Salt Creek, and approximately five miles west of Diamond Valley Lake. The project site is situated in the Menifee Valley south of the Perris Plains amongst low lying granitic and metamorphic outcroppings.

The project site is generally flat at an elevation of approximately 1,400 feet above mean sea level (National Geologic Map Database Project 2025). The region's climate is characterized by hot and dry conditions, with mild winters. Rain is highly seasonal, with most of the average annual precipitation (approximately 14 inches) occurring between December and March, with occasional summer storms (National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration 2025).

The project site is located within the northern region of the Peninsular Ranges Geomorphic Province, a region characterized by northwest-southeast trending granitic and metamorphic mountain ranges and valleys formed by Mesozoic arc plutonism and subsequent uplift (Baird and Miesch 1984; Norris and Webb 1990; Morton and Miller 2006; Kennedy and Tan 2008). The Peninsular Ranges intersect with the Transverse Ranges in the Los Angeles Basin to the north and continue southwards to the tip of Baja California. The Peninsular Ranges Geomorphic Province is heavily influenced by complex tectonic activity along the San Andreas Fault Zone with multiple northwest striking faults that break the region into blocks. The project site is located on the Elsinore Block with the Elsinore Fault to the southwest and the San Jacinto Fault to the northeast (Baird and Miesch 1984; Morton and Miller 2006).

The project site is located on old alluvial fan deposits from the Pleistocene (2.58 million years ago to 11,700 years ago) (Morton and Miller 2006; Jennings et al. 2010). The alluvium is moderately to well consolidated sand and silt often observed on valley floors and was deposited sometime during the Middle to Late Pleistocene (Morton and Miller 2006; Jennings et al. 2010; The Planning Center and DC&E 2013).

The soil in the project site is predominately composed of the Waukena Soil series (University of California, Davis and Natural Resources Conservation Service 2025). The Waukena soil series is fine-grained sandy loam found in valley plains that tend to slow permeability and runoff (National Cooperative Soil Survey 1997)

4 Cultural Context

4.1 Prehistoric Context

The cultural prehistory of inland Southern California reflects a long sequence of adaptations and cultural changes shaped by environmental transformations and shifting regional interactions. The following is built on the chronological framework established by Jones and Klar (2007:299-302) with contributions of culturally and regionally specific chronology from multiple researchers. The geographic emphasis present in various cultural chronologies developed by different researchers often results in considerable temporal overlaps among phase designations (Wallace 1955; Warren 1967; True and Waugh 1982; Moratto 1984; Sutton and Garder 2010; Sutton 2015).

4.1.1 Pleistocene Period (ca. Pre-12,000 to 10,000 cal B.P.)

The earliest confirmed human occupation of Southern California, frequently referred to as the Paleoindian (or Paleo-Indian) Period (ca. 13,000 to 10,000 Before Present [B.P.]), dates to the terminal Pleistocene approximately 13,000 years ago. Archaeological evidence suggests that indigenous populations migrated from northern regions into California via both coastal and inland routes. Coastal migration routes correlate with the development of advanced maritime technologies. Archaeological evidence from sites such as Daisy Cave on San Miguel Island (ca. 10,400 cal B.P.) and Arlington Springs on Santa Rosa Island (ca. 11,000 cal B.P.) demonstrates early coastal settlement and marine resource use (Erlandson 1991; Johnson et al. 2002; Erlandson et al. 2007; Sutton et al. 2010; Sutton and Gardner 2010). Sites in the Mojave provide evidence for inland Paleoindian lifeways, as indicated by fluted points and early bifaces, which suggest high mobility, hunting-based economies, and generalized toolkits (Basgall 2005). Evidence of fluted points—such as Clovis or other basally thinned concave-base forms—suggests human activity in the broader desert interior during this period (Moratto et al. 2018). Pleistocene megafaunal extinctions and climatic instability may have constrained the suitability of the inland valleys for sustained habitation (Stine 1994; Lamb 1965).

4.1.2 Early Holocene (ca. 10,000 to 8,000 cal B.P.)

The transition of the Pleistocene into the Early Holocene is marked by extreme environmental change. Warming temperatures led to the retreat of glaciers which resulted in vast expanses of shallow pluvial lakes surrounded by wetlands, a shift in tree lines and biotic zones to higher elevations, and a transformation of the ecological landscape. Additionally, megafaunas such as American Mastodons, giant ground sloths, dire wolves, and Saber-tooth cats that flourished in colder, more forested environments gradually died out (Stock 1992; Jones and Klar 2007:30). The shift in temperatures precipitated shifts in flora and fauna available to human inhabitants, necessitating the evolution of tools required to hunt, collect, and process food sources. Archaeological findings from adjacent areas—such as the Mojave Desert and the Eastern Transverse Ranges—suggest these zones served as

refugia for Early Holocene populations (Allen et al. 2022). Assemblages include bifaces, stemmed projectile points, and other tools adapted to highly mobile hunting and gathering strategies (Justice 2002).

Although site visibility in Riverside County for this period remains limited, nearby data from Emerson Lake (Byerly et al. 2022) and Silver Lake (Schneider et al. 2017) imply consistent occupation of arid basins and upland regions of the San Bernardino Mountains. The San Dieguito Complex, often characterized by large bifaces and a paucity of milling tools, is generally associated with this period in Southern California (Warren 1967; Sutton et al. 2010).

The San Dieguito Complex (ca. 10,000 to 7,500 B.P.), first established by Rogers in 1966 and later refined by others (Weide 1976; Warren 1984), marks the earliest well-defined inland cultural manifestation of the Early Holocene. The period was characterized by post-Pleistocene warming, the extinction of megafauna, and the desiccation of pluvial lakes. San Dieguito sites—often near ancient lakebeds or marshlands—feature flaked stone tools such as crescentics, foliate knives, leaf-shaped points, choppers, and scrapers. Ground stone tools are absent, indicating a continued emphasis on hunting and limited plant processing. Assemblage variability appears tied more to environmental setting than cultural difference (Warren 1967; Moriarty 1967; Moratto 1984; Koerper et al. 1991; Wallace 1955; Sutton and Gardner 2010).

4.1.3 Middle Holocene (ca. 9,000 to 4,000 cal B.P.)

Continued warming of the climate precipitated the desiccation of pluvial lakes and the emergence of modern arid landscapes. The Middle Holocene was marked by a prolonged period of aridity known as the Altithermal, which likely constrained regional population densities. Even so, archaeological evidence shows continuity and even adaptation to increasingly xeric conditions. In Riverside County and surrounding areas, the introduction or increased use of ground stone tools, more diversified lithic assemblages, and semi-sedentary occupations are noted (Koerper et al. 1991).

Cultural traditions such as the Milling Stone Horizon (8,000 to 5,000 B.P.) reflect increasing reliance on plant processing, evidenced by the proliferation of manos and metates. This is demonstrated “by extensive use of milling stones and mullers, a general lack of well-made projectile points, and burials with rock cairns” (Wallace 1955:219). The dominance of such artifact types indicates a subsistence strategy oriented around collecting plant foods and small animals. The eastern deserts, though harsh, may have been seasonally occupied or used as part of wider mobility strategies (Sutton 2011).

4.1.4 Late Holocene (ca. 4,000 cal B.P. to 1769)

The Late Holocene is marked by numerous distinctive regional and cultural phases. During this time subsistence strategies shift toward hunting and marine fishing. The Intermediate Horizon (5,000 B.P. to 1,500 B.P.) a noticeable trend occurred toward greater adaptation to local resources including a broad

variety of fish, land mammal, and sea mammal remains along the coast. Tool kits for hunting, fishing, and processing food and materials reflect this increased diversity, with flake scrapers, drills, various projectile points, and shell fishhooks being manufactured.

The Palomar Tradition (ca. 1,250–150 cal B.P.) represents a substantial cultural shift in southern interior California and is associated with the Takic-speaking groups who displaced or strongly influenced Encinitas-related populations. This tradition is recognized by new technologies (e.g., bow and arrow, ceramics), altered exchange networks (e.g., use of Obsidian Butte sources), and changing social and settlement patterns (Sutton 2011, 2015). Other researchers (e.g., Lamb 1965; Stine 1994; Jones et al. 1999; True and Waugh 1982) divide this period into the San Luis Rey Pattern Phase I (ca. 1,000–500 cal B.P.) and Phase II (ca. 500–150 cal B.P.). San Luis Rey Pattern Phase I is characterized by proto-Cupan cultural elements, including Cottonwood triangular points, steatite shaft straighteners, and increasing use of bedrock milling features. Sites show intensified inland settlement possibly due to drought-related pressure during the Medieval Climatic Anomaly (Lamb 1965; Stine 1994; Jones et al. 1999). San Luis Rey Pattern Phase II shows increased village permanence, emergence of ceramics (Tizon Brown Ware), intensified acorn processing, and changes in mortuary behavior including cremation practices. Rock art transitions to the San Luis Rey style, and European contact is reflected by the appearance of domestic animal remains and introduced material culture (True and Waugh 1982; Sutton 2011, 2015).

4.2 Ethnographic Context

The project site lies within the Luiseño ancestral territory. The Luiseño is a Takic-speaking, Southern California Native American social group (Kroeber 1925; Bean and Shipek 1978). The Luiseño language is derived from the Cupan segment of the Takic language branch, a part of the Uto-Aztecan linguistic family (Mithun 2001:539-540; Golla 2007).

Luiseño ancestral territory is situated in the northern half of San Diego County and the western edge of Riverside County. Their lands encompassed the southern Santa Margarita Mountains, the Palomar Mountains, and the foothills to the Pacific Ocean, extending eastward into the San Jacinto Valley and the western foothills of the San Jacinto Mountains. The Luiseño shared boundaries with the Juaneño to the west and northwest, the Cahuilla to the north and east, the Cupeño to the southeast, and the Kumeyaay to the south (Ipai-Tipai) (Bean and Shipek 1978).

The Luiseño occupied permanent villages and associated seasonal camps. Village populations ranged from 50 to 400, with a social structure based on lineages and clans. A single lineage was generally represented in smaller villages. In contrast, multiple lineages with a dominant clan presided over larger villages (Boscana 1934:32). Each clan or village owned a resource territory and was politically independent while maintaining ties with others through economic, religious, and social networks in the immediate region. Territories were given place names usually associated with local animals, plants, physical landmarks, or cosmological elements linked to a specific location (Sparkman 1908; Kroeber 1925).

Luißeño families resided in dome-shaped dwellings made of willow poles covered with interlaced tule reeds. The clan chief's (*nó t*) residence was generally larger to accommodate his large family, ceremonial regalia, and ceremonial food processing. Other village structures included a centrally located ceremonial enclosure (*wámkiš*) and a round semi-subterranean sweat lodge. The ceremonial enclosure and the chief's home were generally located in the center of the village. The *nó t* consolidated and controlled religious, economic, and warfare powers (Bean and Shipek 1978). The center of the Luißeño religious beliefs and rituals is *Chinigchinich*, the last of a series of heroic mythological figures. Complex rituals included puberty initiation rites and mourning ceremonies.

Like other indigenous California groups, the Luißeño's daily life revolved around their primary food staple, the acorn (Bean and Shipek 1978:552). The acorn was supplemented by other plant resources, fish, shellfish, waterfowl, and marine and terrestrial mammals. Villages were strategically situated near reliable water sources, crucial for the daily leaching of milled acorn flour. Acorn mush (*wíiwish*) was prepared in various ways and eaten almost daily, along with various fruits, vegetables, and seeds. Meat and seafood were also part of the daily diet, including deer, duck, goose, ground squirrels, quail, rabbit, bird, and woodrat. Fish and marine resources provided a significant portion of the diet for many tribal communities, most notably those nearest the coast, which included abalone, clams, mussels, lobster, and trout (Pechanga Band of Luißeño Indians 2022a). Shellfish would have been procured and transported inland from three primary environments: the sandy open coast, bay and lagoon, and rocky open coast.

Village locations were selected based on access to fresh water, food availability, climate suitability, and dependability. Suitable shelters were usually found in caves, canyons, or hillsides near streams (Bean and Shipek 1978:551). Based on Kroeber (1925: Plate 57), the closest Luißeño villages to the project site include *Temeku* near Temecula to the south, *Meha* in the Santa Margarita Mountains to the southwest, and *Paiahche* (also spelled *Pajaqtsh*) near Lake Elsinore to the west, and *Sovovo* in the foothills of the San Jacinto Mountains to the northeast.

4.3 Historic Context

Post-Contact history for the state of California is generally divided into three periods: the Spanish Period (1769–1822), Mexican Period (1822–1848), and American Period (1848–present).

4.3.1 Spanish Period (1769–1822)

In 1542, searching for the legendary Northwest Passage, Spanish explorer Juan Rodríguez Cabrillo stopped at present-day San Diego Bay. Cabrillo also explored the shorelines of present-day Santa Catalina Island, San Pedro, and Santa Monica Bays. Much of the present California and Oregon coastline was mapped and recorded in the subsequent half-century by Spanish naval officer Sebastián Vizcaíno. Spain laid claim to California based on the surveys conducted by Cabrillo and Vizcaíno (Bancroft 1885:96–99; Gumprecht 2001:35).

The 1769 overland expedition by Captain Gaspar de Portolá marks the start of California's Historic period. With a band of 64 soldiers, missionaries, Baja (lower) California Native Americans, and Mexican civilians, Portolá established the fortified military outpost of Presidio of San Diego as the first Spanish settlement in Alta California. In July of 1769, while Portolá was exploring southern California, Franciscan Friar Junípero Serra founded Mission San Diego de Alcalá at Presidio Hill, the first of the 21 missions that would be established in Alta California by the Spanish and the Franciscan Order between 1769 and 1823 (Carrico 1977).

In 1774, Juan Bautista de Anza led an overland expedition northward from Sonora, Mexico, to explore the inland areas of California and find an acceptable passage to Monterey in Alta California (National Park Service [NPS] 1996). In late 1775, de Anza led a group of 240 immigrants along the same 1,200-mile route, traversing the San Jacinto Valley several miles east of Menifee and camping southeast of modern-day Hemet in late December. They then crossed the Santa Ana River near the modern City of Riverside before continuing to Mission San Gabriel (Anza Trail Foundation 2025). The group successfully reached Monterey in April 1776 with only one fatality. Some continued to San Francisco to establish the presidio and mission on the peninsula (NPS 1996).

In a race against England and Russia to claim as much of the Americas as possible, Spain started colonizing Alta California in the late 18th century. Spain's goal was to establish self-sustaining colonies; they did this with a three-pronged approach that focused on religion, commerce, and military (Kimbrow and Costello 2009:13). The Missions presided over religious and agricultural affairs; the pueblos provided residences and commercial base for trade; and the presidios housed soldiers that kept regional peace and provided military defense against attack (Kimbrow and Costello 2009:13). The project site is at the far reaches of the influence of Mission San Juan Capistrano in San Juan Capistrano and Mission San Luis Rey de Francia in present-day Oceanside.

4.3.2 Mexican Period (1822–1848)

Following a tumultuous period of rebellion and warfare, New Spain (comprising most of modern day southwestern United States and Central America, spanning from Oregon to Costa Rica) achieved independence from Spain in 1821. A pivotal moment in this transition occurred in 1822, when the Mexican legislative body in California, in a significant departure from the past, abolished the isolationist policies that had safeguarded the Spanish trade monopoly. This opened California's ports to foreign merchants, heralding a new era of trade and commerce (Dallas 1955:14).

The secularization of the missions following Mexico's independence from Spain was a monumental shift that resulted in the subdivision of former mission lands and the establishment of many additional ranchos. Extensive land grants were established in the interior during the Mexican Period, in part to increase the population and lure people inland from the more settled coastal areas where the Spanish had first concentrated their colonization efforts (Robinson 1948). During this period the Mexican government in California issued about 700 land grants to Mexican citizens and foreign immigrants

(Shumway 2007). Approximately 15 ranchos were established in what is now Riverside County, including Rancho Temecula, Rancho Santa Rosa, and Rancho San Jacinto. One of the initial goals of the ranchos was to give land to the neophytes who had been working it; however, this rarely came to fruition. Instead, land went to private Euro-American landowner and native populations were increasing dispossessed of land and forced to work on the ranchos as vaqueros, herders, and laborers (Castillo 1978).

The end of the mission system significantly altered the landscape and demographics of California. During the dominance of the rancho system (1834–1848), landowners largely focused on the cattle industry and devoted large tracts to grazing. Cattle hides became a primary Southern California export, providing a commodity to trade for goods from the east and other areas in the United States and Mexico (Cleland 2005). The number of non-native inhabitants increased during this period because of the influx of explorers, trappers, and ranchers associated with the land grants. The rising California population contributed to the introduction and rise of diseases foreign to the Native American population, who had no associated immunities (Castillo 1978:102).

4.3.3 American Period (1848–Present)

The Mexican–American War ended with the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo in 1848, ushering California into its American Period (U.S. National Archive and Records 2022, Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo). California officially became a state with the Compromise of 1850, which also designated Utah and New Mexico (with present-day Arizona) as U.S. Territories (Library of Congress 2019).

The early American period is marked by the discovery of gold at Sutter’s Mill in 1848, resulting in a gold rush that saw a massive influx of settlers from other parts of the United States and around the world, greatly impacting California’s native population. In 1869, the transcontinental railroad was completed linking California with the rest of the United States. The Gold Rush and the establishment of the railroad played major roles in the development of California into a national and worldwide leader in agricultural and industrial production (Burgess and Burgess 2006). With an influx of people seeking gold, cattle were no longer desired mainly for their hides but also as a source of meat and other goods. During the 1850s cattle boom, rancho vaqueros drove large herds from southern to northern California to feed the region’s burgeoning mining and commercial boom. The cattle boom ended in Southern California as neighboring states and territories drove herds to northern California at reduced prices. During the 1860s, operation of the massive ranchos became increasingly difficult, and droughts severely reduced their productivity (Cleland 2005:102–103).

Between 1851 and 1852, the U.S. negotiated 18 unratified treaties with over 100 tribes in California, including the Treaty of Temecula, signed by Cahuilla, Cupeño, Luiseño, and Serrano leaders. The U.S. Senate refused to ratify these treaties, leaving tribes landless and vulnerable (Milanovich 2021:ix). By 1875, the U.S. government allowed the establishment of reservations by the Luiseño in the region. However, that same year, the District Court of San Francisco ordered the eviction of the Temecula

Indians from their ancestral village on the Little Temecula Rancho, displacing hundreds of people and stripping them of their homes and possessions. In 1882, an Executive Order signed by U.S. President Chester Arthur set aside land for the Pechanga Reservation after author Helen Hunt Jackson reported horrific living conditions to the U.S. Government, forcing Congress to act (Pechanga Band of Luiseño Indians 2022b).

Historical Overview of the City of Menifee

In the late eighteenth century, the first Europeans to explore the areas around the Perris Plains, San Jacinto Plains, Temecula Valley, and Lake Elsinore included Spanish explorers and missionaries. While Juan Bautista de Anza traveled east of Menifee through Hemet and San Jacinto in 1774 (NPS 1996), and the Butterfield Overland Trail was established west of Menifee in 1858, running roughly along the modern route of Interstate 15, few trails traveled through Menifee (Lech 2004:76; Murrieta Valley Historical Society 2025). Menifee was also not part of any rancho land grants after Mexican independence (Padon 2010). For most of the nineteenth century, the Menifee Valley remained unclaimed and was only used sporadically for sheep grazing (Padon 2010).

After the discovery of gold in Northern California, prospectors explored the length and breadth of the state, including Menifee, looking for gold and other precious minerals. Luther Menifee Wilson is the first recorded successful prospector, opening several quartz gold mines in the hills (Lech 2004:155). An immigrant from Kentucky, Wilson arrived in the Menifee Valley in the 1880s to prospect for minerals. He discovered the Menifee Quartz Lode near modern-day Murrieta Road and Holland Road, which became known as the Menifee Mining District (Lech 2004:155; Padon 2010). News of the Menifee Quartz Lode triggered more prospecting in the area.

Shortly after prospectors arrived, people began cultivating large swaths of grains that required minimal water (Lech 2004). The method of cultivating low-water crops was referred to as 'dry farming'; however, it still required farmers to dig wells, and many farmers failed in the rugged landscape of the Menifee Valley (Lech 2004). The first families to settle in the Menifee Valley included the Newports, Kirkpatricks, McCalls, Christensens, and others (Menifee History Museum 2025). Many of these names now grace the streets of Menifee.

The project site is located near the northern border of what was formerly the Kirkpatrick Ranch. Robert Kirkpatrick and Elizabeth Thompson of Tennessee had nine children and were financially ruined by the Civil War. Reverend Elgin C. Knott (of Knott's Berry Farm) encouraged the Kirkpatricks to move to California. In 1874, Robert, along with four of his sons, John, William, Claudius, and Amos, moved to Garden Grove (Menifee History Museum 2021a). The family eventually moved to Menifee Valley in 1882 under the Homestead Act, claiming a total of 640 acres for a homestead near the modern-day intersection of Antelope Road and Holland Road (Lech 2004:156). The elementary school adjacent to the project site is named for Callie Kirkpatrick, the wife of William Kirkpatrick. The family would eventually expand its holdings to over 3,000 acres, which were worked until 1956 when they were sold

(Lech 2004:156; Menifee History Museum 2021a). In the 1980s, a portion of the land was sold for the development of the Menifee Lakes neighborhood south of Newport Road.

The McCall Ranch began as a 1,000-acre ranch located just north of Newport Road, directly across the street from the project site. Fred McCall relocated his family from Cortez, Colorado, to California in 1923, initially settling in Lancaster and subsequently moving to the Menifee Valley a year later (Menifee History Museum 2024). The McCall family drilled 13 water wells to cultivate various types of grains. The family also collaborated with the Department of Agriculture to develop drought-tolerant corn, watermelon, and mustard seeds, among others. Throughout the twentieth century, the McCall family was actively involved in the community, both in business and politics. In the early 1980s, the McCall ranch was purchased by The Lusk Company and developed into the Menifee Lakes neighborhood and country club (Menifee History Museum 2024).

One of the most extensive farming operations in the area was run by the Newport family. William Newport came from a farming family and emigrated from Chester, England, to Los Angeles in 1876, where he farmed for nine years (Menifee History Museum 2021b). Newport moved to the Menifee Valley in 1885 with “twelve wagons...loaded with provisions, lumber, implements, and other necessities” including a cookhouse on wheels, as well as cattle, mules, and horses (Lech 2004:156; Menifee History Museum 2021b). Newport began with 2,000 acres along modern-day Newport Road, between Bradley Road and Murrieta Road. Upon arrival, Newport and his team immediately built everything necessary to run the large enterprise, including a ranch house, barns, a bunkhouse, corrals, a blacksmith shop, a harness shop, and water wells. The Newport Ranch would eventually expand to more than 21,000 acres, with approximately 15,000 acres leased from other owners (Lech 2004; Menifee History Museum 2021b). In 1902, Menifee’s main east-west throughfare was named after William Newport (Menifee History Museum 2021b). The 6,000 acres owned by the Newport family were sold in the 1950s for development (Menifee History Museum 2021b).

Despite the slow population increase, no city center manifested in the Menifee area, even around the one general store established in the mid-1880s near Newport Road and Bradley Road. This lack of centralization is attributed to the large size of the farms and the widespread distribution of people (Lech 2004:157). A post office was added to the general store in 1887, and a school was established in March of 1890 (Lech 2004). The post office did not last long, however, as the store burned down in 1893, forcing the post office to move to a small shanty shack, which eventually closed in 1896. The post office was briefly reopened in 1900 but shuttered the same year (Padon 2010). Efforts were made to start a townsite northeast of the intersection of Newport Road and Interstate 215, but these also failed (Lech 2004:157).

In 1888, a line of the California Southern Railroad was routed through Perris, Menifee, Winchester, and Hemet. This rail line facilitated the efficient import and export of goods throughout the valley, encouraging more people to settle in the area (Padon 2010). Highway 395 was established in 1956 and eventually widened, ultimately becoming part of Interstate 215 in this region (Murrieta Valley Historical

Society 2025). While other areas experienced population and economic booms when the railroad and highways arrived, Menifee was less affected and remained a rural agricultural community for most of the twentieth century. The modern development of Menifee began in the 1960s with the construction of Sun City, a retirement community developed by Del Webb (City of Menifee 2025). Growth was encouraged with the development of the Menifee Lakes community in the 1980s. Residents decided to incorporate as the City of Menifee in 2008 (City of Menifee 2025).

5 Background Research

5.1 CHRIS Records Search

On August 20, 2025, South Environmental requested a cultural resources records search of the project site and a 0.5-mile search radius from the South Coastal Information Center (SCIC), which houses cultural resources records for Riverside County. This search included their collections of mapped prehistoric and historic archaeological resources and historic built-environment resources, State of California Department of Parks and Recreation Series 523 forms (DPR forms), technical reports, archival resources, and ethnographic references. Additional consulted sources include historical maps of the study area, the NRHP, the CRHR, the lists of California State Historical Landmarks, California Points of Historical Interest, and the Archaeological Resources Directory list. A summary of the records search results is presented in Appendix A.

5.1.1 Previously Conducted Cultural Resource Studies

The SCIC records search results indicate that one previously conducted cultural resource study intersects the project site (RI-01171), and one is adjacent (RI-04375). An additional 11 studies were identified outside the project site within the 0.5-mile records search radius. A list of all previously conducted studies identified within the records search radius is provided in Table 1.

Table 1. Previous Cultural Resources Investigations Within 0.5-Mile of the Project Site

SCIC Report Number	Author	Year	Report Title	Proximity to Project Site
RI-01171	Desautels, Roger J.	1980	Archaeological/Historical/Paleontological Report on the Salt Creek Property Located in the Sun City Area of the County of Riverside	WITHIN
RI-02104	Peter, Kevin J. and William Gilmour	1987	Cultural and Paleontological Resources Investigation of the Hamra Property, Riverside County, California	Outside Approx. 0.1 mi east
RI-04224	Love, Bruce and Bai "Tom" Tang	1999	Historical/Archaeological Resources Survey Report: La Piedra Waterline Project, Eastern Municipal Water District, Riverside County, California	Outside Approx. 0.3 mi SE
RI-04375	White, Robert S. and Laurie S. White	1999	An Archaeological Assessment of the Eastern Municipal Water District Menifee Desalter Project, Sun City and Menifee, Riverside County	Adjacent to the north
RI-04731	Robinson, Mark C., David Earle, and Carrie Chasteen	2002	Archaeological and Architectural Survey Report: Newport Road Extension Project, from Winchester Road to Menifee Road, Riverside County, California	Outside Approx. 0.1 mi east
RI-05235	White, Laura	2000	Records Search Results for Sprint PCS Facility RV54XC457D (Menifee Fire Station), Menifee, Riverside County, CA	Outside Approx. 0.15 mi NE

Table 1. Previous Cultural Resources Investigations Within 0.5-Mile of the Project Site

SCIC Report Number	Author	Year	Report Title	Proximity to Project Site
RI-05875	Love, Bruce and Bai Tang	2002	Historical/Archaeological Resources Survey Report, Tentative Tract Map No. 30422, Menifee East Specific Plan, Menifee Valley, Riverside County, Ca	Outside Approx. 0.1 mi east
RI-06739	Goodwin, Riordan L.	2006	Archaeological Monitoring Program: Lakeridge Project, Community of Menifee, Riverside County, California	Outside Approx. 0.1 mi east
RI-09061	McKenna, Jeanette A.	2013	A Phase I Cultural Resources Investigation of the Proposed Stater Bros. Site on Newport Road in the City of Menifee, Riverside Co., California	Outside Approx. 0.1 mi east
RI-09290	Keller, Jean A.	2013	A Phase I Cultural Resources Assessment of Public Use Permit 2013-183 APN 340-040-020	Outside Approx. 0.15 mi NE
RI-09705	Kerridge, Ben and Nina Gallardo	2016	Identification and Evaluation of Historic Properties. Wheatfield Park Extension Project, City of Menifee, Riverside County, California	Outside Approx. 0.5 mi south
RI-10701	Loftus, Shannon L.	2015	Cultural Resource Records Search and Site Survey SBA Site CA45912-A (RV54XC457) Menifee Fire Station 29950 Menifee Road, Menifee, Riverside County, California 92584	Outside Approx. 0.15 mi NE
RI-11174	Courtney, Michelle, Justin Lev-Tov, and Sherri Gust	2017	Cultural Resources Monitoring Report Shoppes at the Lakes, Menifee, Riverside County, California	Outside Approx. 0.1 mi east

RI-01171 (Desautels 1980)

The *Archaeological/Historical/Paleontological Report on the Salt Creek Property Located in the Sun City Area of the County of Riverside* was prepared by Scientific Resource Surveys, Inc. in 1980. This report summarizes an archaeological, historical, and paleontological resources study for a proposed development on approximately 1,800 acres of land in the City of Murrieta, Riverside County, California. The cultural resources portion of the study included an archaeological records search from the Archaeological Research Unit at the University of California at Riverside (UCR), archival research of historical properties including national, state, and local listings, Native American coordination, inspection of archaeological and historical sites, and a systematic field survey on mules.

The records search identified six previously recorded archaeological sites within the study area, three of which were no longer extant at the time of the study. An additional 12 resources were recorded within a one-mile radius. None of these resources were identified within the current project site. The resources included prehistoric village sites, campsites, bedrock mortars and slicks, manos, petroglyphs, points, and flakes. The survey identified no new archaeological resources. Archival research identified seven previously recorded historical resources and added four more historical resources during the field survey. The resources included historical buildings, trash pits, a rock wall, ranch complexes, and a reservoir.

Mitigation recommendations were correlated to specific recorded resources. None of the archaeological or historical resources identified during the study (1980) are located within the current project site .

RI-04375 (White and White 1999)

The *An Archaeological Assessment of the Eastern Municipal Water District Menifee Desalter Project, Sun City and Menifee, Riverside County* was prepared by Robert S. White and Laurie S. White of L&L Environmental in 1999. This report summarizes a cultural resources study conducted along 12.25 linear miles in Sun City and Menifee, Riverside County, California. The study included a records search at the Eastern Information Center at UCR and a reconnaissance-level field survey. The records search identified one previously recorded resource within the study area and six within a 0.5-mile radius. The resources consisted of an 1890s ranch house, bedrock milling stations, lithic scatters, and a ground stone scatter. None of the archaeological or historical resources identified as part of the 1999 study are located within the current project site. No new resources were identified during the field survey. Due to the lack of resources identified during the study, no further investigations or mitigation measures were recommended.

5.1.2 Previously Recorded Cultural Resources

The SCIC records search results indicate that no previously recorded resources overlap the project site. One previously recorded historic-age cultural resource was identified within the 0.5-mile records search area. The previously recorded resource identified within the records search radius is listed below in Table 2.

Table 2. Previously Recorded Cultural Resources Within 0.5-Mile of the Project Site

Primary Number	Trinomial	Resource Description	Resource Eligibility	Recorded by and Year	Proximity to Project Site
P-33-029119	N/A	Historic structures: two concrete well pump platforms/ foundations	6Z: ineligible for NR, CR or local designation	2019 (Jean A. Keller, Jean A. Keller, Ph.D. Cultural Resources Consultant)	Outside Approx. 0.2 mi NE

5.2 Historical Map and Aerial Photograph Review

A review of historical topographic maps and aerial photographs was conducted to better understand the project site's history and any past disturbances. Maps available from the United State Geological Survey's (USGS) Historical Topographic Map Collection (HTMC) include the 1901 *Elsinore, California* map (1:125,000 scale); 1901 and 1904 versions of the *Southern California Sheet No. 1, California* map (1:250,000 scale); the 1942 and 1943 versions of the *Murrieta, California* map (1:62,500 scale); the 1947,

1949, 1956, 1959, 1960, and 1965, versions of the *Santa Ana, California* map (1:250,000 scale); 1983 version of the *Santa Ana, California* map (1:100,000 scale); and the 1953, 2012, 2015, 2018, 2022 and 2023 versions of the *Romoland, California* map (1:24,000 scale). These maps were utilized in developing the discussion below.

The earliest maps from 1901 through 1943 depict major roads in the area including Newport and Menifee Roads, but no details within the project site. Closer scale maps from the 1950s indicate the presence of a blue line intermittent stream paralleling the northern side of Newport Road. The 2012 *Romoland, California* (1:24,000) map is the first to depict streets other than Newport Road and Menifee Road, however, there are no structures depicted within the project site. The 2015 *Romoland, California* map marks a school directly southwest of the project site as the closest structure to the project site. The 2018 *Romoland, California* map includes the unnamed lakes north and south of the project site amongst the Menifee Lakes residential community.

Aerial photographs are available from Historic Aerials for the following years: 1961, 1967, 1978, 1985, 1996, 2002, 2005, 2009, 2010, 2012, 2014, 2016, 2018, 2020, and 2022 (Nationwide Environmental Title Research 2025). Additional images are available from Frame Finder for the following years: 1938, 1953, 1962, 1967, 1994, and 2003 (University of California, Santa Barbara [UCSB] 2025).

Between 1938 and 1961, the project site is northeast of a homestead but does not appear to be cultivated. From 1967 to 1985, the project site appears to be used for agricultural purposes with Newport Road to the north and Murrieta Road to the east. In 1996, the Menifee Lakes residential community is under development and Newport Road appears to have been widened with a center median. In 2005, cement pads are laid in the southwest corner of Newport and Murrieta Road. In 2016 the retail development immediately east of the project site is under construction and is complete by 2018. No changes appear within the project site between 2016 and 2022. No developments occur within the project site from 1938 to the present.

5.3 Native American Coordination

5.3.1 Sacred Lands File Search

A Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) Sacred Lands File search was requested by South Environmental on August 20, 2025. The NAHC responded to the request on August 26, 2025, and reported positive results. The NAHC also provided a list of Native American tribes to contact for additional information or knowledge they may have regarding the presence of cultural resources that may be impacted by the proposed project. This list is provided in Appendix B. South Environmental did not conduct further outreach.

5.3.2 AB 52 Consultation

Separately, the City of Menifee conducted government-to-government tribal consultation per Assembly Bill 52 of 2014 (as amended; AB 52). The Pechanga Band of Indians responded requesting further consultation on the plan stating that the project site is within “the Tribe’s aboriginal territory,” which the Tribe considers a culturally sensitive area. The City’s AB 52 letter and the Pechanga response are included in Appendix B.

6 Archaeological Survey

6.1 Methods and Results

On August 29, 2025, South Environmental Archaeologist Greg Vasquez, BA, conducted an intensive-level cultural resources survey of the project site. Fieldwork included taking field notes, photography, and examination of close-scale field maps. Photographs were taken with an iPhone 15 camera and the Solocator Photography application. The project site was surveyed in east-west oriented transects approximately 10 to 15 meters apart starting in the northeastern corner of the project site.

During the survey, all exposed ground surface and boulder outcrops were examined for the presence of prehistoric artifacts (e.g., flaked stone tools, tool-making debris, ground stone artifacts, etc.), historic artifacts (e.g., metal, glass, ceramics, building foundations), sediment discolorations that might indicate the presence of a cultural midden, depressions, and other features that might indicate the former presence of structures or buildings (e.g., post holes, foundations).

Ground visibility was good (approximately 70-90 percent) throughout most of the project site, with dry, patchy grasses covering approximately 10 percent of the soil throughout the project site. The project site is generally flat with no elevation changes or mounds (Photographs 1-4). The observed vegetation included dried grasses, sunflowers, flaxleaf fleabane, and salt cedar throughout the project, and palm trees along the southern edge. Recently deposited animal bones were observed in the northern area. Soil throughout the project area was light brown and sandy with pebbles (Photograph 5).

A portion of the project site on the eastern side is a paved asphalt parking lot. This portion was spot checked for areas with exposed soils. No buildings, foundations, or utilities were observed during the survey other than the recently asphalted parking lot.

No prehistoric or historic archaeological resources were identified within the proposed project site as a result of the pedestrian survey.



Photograph 1. Overview of project site from northeast corner facing west along northern project boundary.



Photograph 2. Overview of project site from northeast corner facing south along eastern project boundary.



Photograph 3. Overview of project site facing north from southwest corner along western boundary.



Photograph 4. Overview of project site facing east from southwest corner along southern boundary.



Photograph 5. Overview of soil found throughout project area.

7 Findings and Recommendations

7.1 Findings

No cultural resources were identified within the project site as a result of the CHRIS records search or pedestrian survey by a qualified archaeologist. Ground visibility was good (70-90 percent) during the survey. Additionally, the only resource recorded within 0.5-mile was associated with historic period agriculture. Based on a review of historic aerial photographs and historic maps, most of the project site has never been developed. The NAHC responded with a positive SLF search and the Pechanga Band of Mission Indians stated that the project site is within their traditional territory and therefore within a culturally sensitive area.

Based on the absence of recorded prehistoric or historic archaeological resources within 0.5-mile of the project site as well as the negative findings of the survey, the project site is considered to possess low sensitivity for subsurface cultural resources. Implementation of the recommendations provided below in Section 7.2 will reduce impacts to archaeological and historical resources to less than significant.

7.2 Recommendations

The following standard conditions shall be implemented in the event of an unanticipated discovery of cultural resources or human remains during project construction.

7.2.1 Unanticipated Discovery of Cultural Resources

Should archaeological resources (sites, features, or artifacts) be exposed during construction activities for the proposed project, a qualified archaeologist shall be retained to assess the find. Depending on the significance of the find, the archaeologist may simply record the find and allow work to continue. In the event that an identified cultural resource is of Native American origin, the qualified archaeologist will consult with the project applicant and the City of Menifee to implement Native American consultation procedures. If the discovery proves significant under CEQA, additional work such as preparation of an archaeological treatment plan, testing, or data recovery may be warranted.

7.2.2 Unanticipated Discovery of Human Remains

In accordance with Section 7050.5 of the California Health and Safety Code, if human remains are found, the County Coroner shall be notified within 24 hours of the discovery. No further excavation or disturbance of the site or any nearby area reasonably suspected to overlie adjacent remains shall occur until the County Coroner has determined, within two working days of notification of the discovery, the appropriate treatment and disposition of the human remains. If the remains are determined to be Native American, the Coroner shall notify the NAHC in Sacramento within 24 hours. In accordance with

California PRC, Section 5097.98, the NAHC must immediately notify those persons it believes to be the Most Likely Descendant (MLD) from the deceased Native American. The MLD shall complete their inspection within 48 hours of being granted access to the site. The MLD would then determine, in consultation with the property owner, the disposition of the human remains.

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Appendix A: Records Search Summary



South Coastal Information Center
San Diego State University
5500 Campanile Drive
San Diego, CA 92182-5320
Office: (619) 594-5682
<https://scic.sdsu.edu/>

CALIFORNIA HISTORICAL RESOURCES INFORMATION SYSTEM RECORDS SEARCH

Company: South Environmental

Company Representative: Samantha Jovanovic

Date Processed: 9/18/2025

Project Identification: Menifee Boardwalk, 25-111

Search Radius: 0.5 mile, Riverside

Historical Resources: JB

Trinomial and Primary site maps have been reviewed. All sites within the project boundaries and the specified radius of the project area have been plotted. Copies of the site record forms have been included for all recorded sites.

Previous Survey Report Boundaries: JB

Project boundary maps have been reviewed. National Archaeological Database (NADB) citations for reports within the project boundaries and within the specified radius of the project area have been included.

Summary of SHRC Approved CHRIS IC Records Search Elements
RSID: 4059 RUSH: No Hours: 1 Digital Database Records: 14 Quads: 1 PDF Pages: 52

This is not an invoice. Please pay from the monthly billing statement

Report List

Report No.	Other IDs	Year	Author(s)	Title	Affiliation	Resources
RI-02104	NADB-R - 1082530; Voided - MF-2296	1987	PETER, KEVIN J. and WILLIAM GILMOUR	CULTURAL AND PALEONTOLOGICAL RESOURCES INVESTIGATION OF THE HAMRA PROPERTY, RIVERSIDE COUNTY, CALIFORNIA	SCIENTIFIC RESOURCE SURVEYS, INC.	
RI-04224	NADB-R - 1085431; Submitter - CRM TECH Contract #404; Voided - MF-4696	1999	LOVE, BRUCE and BAI "TOM" TANG	HISTORICAL/ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESOURCES SURVEY REPORT: LA PIEDRA WATERLINE PROJECT, EASTERN MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT, RIVERSIDE COUNTY, CALIFORNIA.	CRM TECH, Riverside, CA	33-008853, 33-008854, 33-008855, 33-008856, 33-008857, 33-008858
RI-04375	NADB-R - 1085687; Voided - MF-4872	1999	WHITE, ROBERT S. and LAURIE S. WHITE	AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT OF THE EASTERN MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT MENIFEE DESALTER PROJECT, SUN CITY AND MENIFEE, RIVERSIDE COUNTY.	L & L ENVIRONMENTAL, INC., Corona, CA	33-001029
RI-04731	NADB-R - 1084255	2002	ROBINSON, MARK C., DAVID EARLE, and CARRIE CHASTEEN	ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND ARCHITECTURAL SURVEY REPORT: NEWPORT ROAD EXTENSION PROJECT, FROM WINCHESTER ROAD TO MENIFEE ROAD, RIVERSIDE COUNTY, CALIFORNIA	APPLIED EARTHWORKS, INC. AND MYRA L. FRANK & ASSOCIATES	33-001164, 33-001356, 33-001357, 33-002222, 33-003392, 33-003900, 33-003991, 33-003999, 33-004000, 33-005202, 33-007271, 33-011261, 33-011262, 33-011263, 33-011449, 33-011450, 33-011451, 33-011452, 33-011453, 33-011454, 33-011455, 33-011456, 33-011591, 33-011593, 33-011594, 33-011596
RI-05235	NADB-R - 1086598	2000	WHITE, LAURA	RECORDS SEARCH RESULTS FOR SPRINT PCS FACILITY RV54XC457D (MENIFEE FIRE STATION), MENIFEE, RIVERSIDE COUNTY, CA	MICHAEL BRANDMAN ASSOCIATES	
RI-05875	NADB-R - 1087238; Submitter - CRM TECH Contract #793	2002	LOVE, BRUCE and BAI TANG	HISTORICAL/ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESOURCES SURVEY REPORT, TENTATIVE TRACT MAP NO. 30422, MENIFEE EAST SPECIFIC PLAN, MENIFEE VALLEY, RIVERSIDE COUNTY, CA	CRM TECH, Riverside, CA	
RI-06739	NADB-R - 1088106; Submitter - LSA PROJECT NO. CHO532	2006	GOODWIN, RIORDAN L.	ARCHAEOLOGICAL MONITORING PROGRAM: LAKERIDGE PROJECT, COMMUNITY OF MENIFEE, RIVERSIDE COUNTY, CALIFORNIA	LSA ASSOCIATES, INC., Riverside, CA	33-015340, 33-015341, 33-015342
RI-09061		2013	Jeanette A. McKenna	A PHASE I CULTURAL RESOURCES INVESTIGATION OF THE PROPOSED STATER BROS. SITE ON NEWPORT ROAD IN THE CITY OF MENIFEE, RIVERSIDE CO., CALIFORNIA	McKENNA et al.	

Report List

Report No.	Other IDs	Year	Author(s)	Title	Affiliation	Resources
RI-09290		2013	Jean A. Keller	A Phase I Cultural Resrouces Assessment of Public Use Permit 2013-183 APN 340-040-020	Jean A. Keller	
RI-09705		2016	Ben Kerridge and Nina Gallardo	Identification and Evaluation of Historic Properties. Wheatfield Park Extension Project, City of Menifee, Riverside County, California	CRM Tech	
RI-10701	Other - CA45912-A; Other - Menifee Fire Station; Other - RV54XC457	2015	Shannon L. Loftus	Cultural Resource Records Search and Site Survey SBA SITE CA45912-A (RV54XC457) Menifee Fire Station 29950 Menifee Road, Menifee, Riverside County, California 92584	ACE Environmental, LLC	
RI-11174	Other - Project No. 3838	2017	Michelle Courtney, Justin Lev-Tov, and Sherri Gust	Cultural Resources Monitoring Report Shoppes at the Lakes, Menifee, Riverside County, California	Cogstone	

Report List

Report No.	Other IDs	Year	Author(s)	Title	Affiliation	Resources
RI-01171	NADB-R - 1081281; Voided - MF-1117	1980	Roger J. Desautels	Archaeological/Historical/Paleontological Report on the Salt Creek Property Located in the Sun City Area of the County of Riverside	Scientific Resource Surveys, Inc., Santa Ana, CA	33-001164, 33-001165, 33-002221, 33-002222, 33-002223, 33-002224

Resource List

Primary No.	Trinomial	Other IDs	Type	Age	Attribute codes	Recorded by	Reports
P-33-029119		Other - DB-1	Object	Historic	AH02; AH06	2019 (Jean A. Keller, Jean A. Keller, Ph.D. Cultural Resources Consultant)	

Appendix B: Native American Scoping

Local Government Tribal Consultation 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

Type of List Requested

CEQA Tribal Consultation List (AB 52) – *Per Public Resources Code § 21080.3.1, subs. (b), (d), (e) and 21080.3.2*

General Plan (SB 18) - *Per Government Code § 65352.3.*

Local Action Type:

___ General Plan ___ General Plan Element ___ General Plan Amendment

___ Specific Plan ___ Specific Plan Amendment ___ Pre-planning Outreach Activity

Required Information

Project Title: _____

Local Government/Lead Agency: _____

Contact Person: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____

Email: _____

Specific Area Subject to Proposed Action

County: _____ City/Community: _____

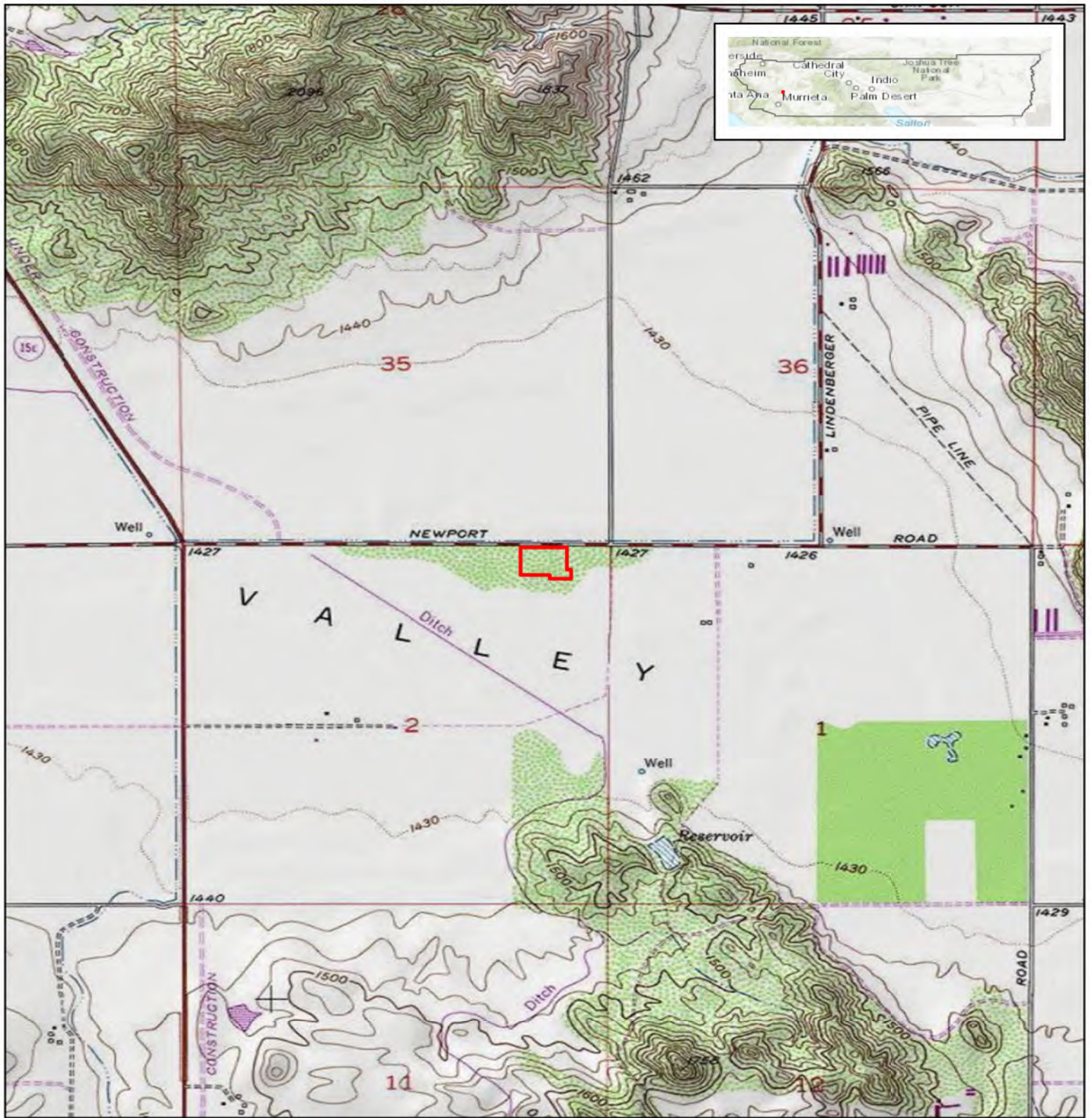
Project Description:

Additional Request

Sacred Lands File Search - *Required Information:*

USGS Quadrangle Name(s): _____

Township: _____ Range: _____ Section(s): _____



Source: ESRI USA Topo Maps and World Topo Map 2025

Menifee Boardwalk Project

Figure 1. Project Location Map

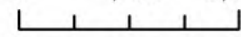
Project Site

Project Site is within Menifee, California, in Riverside County on the USGS Romoland 7.5-minute quadrangle map in Section 02 of Township 06 South and Range 03 West

Center Coordinate (Decimal Degrees):
 Latitude: 33.6843653N Longitude: -117.1563420W



0 1,150 2,300 Feet



Scale: 1:24,000



NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE COMMISSION

August 26, 2025

Samantha Jovanovic
South Environmental

Via Email to: sjovanovic@southenvironmental.com

Re: Tribal Consultation Under CEQA, Menifee Boardwalk Project, Riverside County

To Whom It May Concern:

Pursuant to your request, attached is a consultation list of tribes that are traditionally and culturally affiliated with the geographic area of the above-listed project. Additionally, a search of the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) Sacred Lands File (SLF) was completed based on the information submitted for the above referenced project. The results were positive. Please contact the Pechanga Band of Indians on the attached list for more information. Be aware that tribes do not always record their sacred sites in the SLF, nor are they required to do so. As such, an SLF search is not a substitute for consultation with all tribes that are traditionally and culturally affiliated with a project's geographic area. Please contact all of the listed tribes as they may have information about sacred sites within the project area that is not listed with the NAHC.

Additionally, the NAHC recommends that agencies 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.

2. 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 check conducted through the Native American Heritage Commission.



CHAIRPERSON
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Chumash

VICE-CHAIRPERSON
Buffy McQuillen
Yokayo Pomo, Yuki,
Nomlaki

SECRETARY
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Ohlone-Costanoan

PARLIAMENTARIAN
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Luiseño

COMMISSIONER
Sara Dutschke
Miwok

COMMISSIONER
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Kumeyaay

COMMISSIONER
Bennae Calac
Pauma-Yuima Band of
Luiseño Indians

COMMISSIONER
Vacant

COMMISSIONER
Vacant

ACTING EXECUTIVE
SECRETARY
Michelle Carr

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

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 records 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, which is why consultation is vital.

This information will aid tribes in determining whether to request formal consultation. If consultation is requested, having the information beforehand will help to facilitate the process.

If you receive notification of a change of address or phone number from a tribe, please inform the NAHC. With your assistance, we can assure that our consultation list remains current.

If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact me at Andrew.Green@nahc.ca.gov.

Sincerely,



Andrew Green
Cultural Resources Analyst

Attachment

Native American Heritage Commission
Native American Contact List
Riverside County
8/26/2025

Tribe Name	Fed (F) Non-Fed (N)	Contact Person	Contact Address	Phone #	Fax #	Email Address	Cultural Affiliation	Counties	Last Updated
Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians	F	Lacy Padilla, Director of Historic Preservation/THPO	5401 Dinah Shore Drive Palm Springs, CA, 92264	(760) 333-5222	(760) 699-6919	ACBCI-THPO@aguacaliente.net	Cahuilla	Imperial,Riverside,San Bernardino,San Diego	1/11/2024
Augustine Band of Cahuilla Indians	F	Tribal Operations,	84-001 Avenue 54 Coachella, CA, 92236	(760) 398-4722		info@augustinetribe-nsn.gov	Cahuilla	Imperial,Riverside,San Bernardino,San Diego	4/18/2024
Cabazon Band of Cahuilla Indians	F	Doug Welmas, Chairperson	84-245 Indio Springs Parkway Indio, CA, 92203	(760) 342-2593	(760) 347-7880	lstapp@cabazonindians-nsn.gov	Cahuilla	Imperial,Riverside,San Bernardino,San Diego	
Cahuilla Band of Indians	F	Anthony Madrigal, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer	52701 CA Highway 371 Anza, CA, 92539	(951) 763-5549		anthonymad2002@gmail.com	Cahuilla	Imperial,Los Angeles,Orange,Riverside,San Bernardino,San Diego	6/28/2023
Cahuilla Band of Indians	F	Erica Schenk, Chairperson	52701 CA Highway 371 Anza, CA, 92539	(951) 590-0942	(951) 763-2808	chair@cahuilla-nsn.gov	Cahuilla	Imperial,Los Angeles,Orange,Riverside,San Bernardino,San Diego	2/1/2024
Cahuilla Band of Indians	F	BobbyRay Esparza, Cultural Director	52701 CA Highway 371 Anza, CA, 92539	(951) 763-5549		besparza@cahuilla-nsn.gov	Cahuilla	Imperial,Los Angeles,Orange,Riverside,San Bernardino,San Diego	6/28/2023
Los Coyotes Band of Cahuilla and Cupeño Indians	F	Ray Chapparosa, Chairperson	P.O. Box 189 Warner Springs, CA, 92086-0189	(760) 782-0711	(760) 782-0712		Cahuilla Cupeño	Imperial,Riverside,San Bernardino,San Diego	
Morongo Band of Mission Indians	F	Charles Martin, MBMI Chairman	12700 Pumarra Road Banning, CA, 92220	(951) 755-5110		chairman@morongo-nsn.gov	Cahuilla Serrano	Imperial,Kern,Los Angeles,Riverside,San Bernardino,San Diego	8/25/2025
Morongo Band of Mission Indians	F	Bernadette Ann Brierty, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer	12700 Pumarra Road Banning, CA, 92220	(951) 663-2842		abrierty@morongo-nsn.gov	Cahuilla Serrano	Imperial,Kern,Los Angeles,Riverside,San Bernardino,San Diego	8/25/2025
Morongo Band of Mission Indians	F	Lena Broderick, Executive Assistant to Tribal Chairman	12700 Pumarra Road Banning, CA, 92220	(951) 755-5110		lbroderick@morongo-nsn.gov	Cahuilla Serrano	Imperial,Kern,Los Angeles,Riverside,San Bernardino,San Diego	8/25/2025
Pala Band of Mission Indians	F	Alexis Wallick, Assistant THPO	PMB 50, 35008 Pala Temecula Road Pala, CA, 92059	(760) 891-3537		awallick@palatribe.com	Cupeno Luiseño	Orange,Riverside,San Bernardino,San Diego	11/27/2023
Pala Band of Mission Indians	F	Christopher Nejo, Legal Analyst/Researcher	PMB 50, 35008 Pala Temecula Road Pala, CA, 92059	(760) 891-3564		cnejo@palatribe.com	Cupeno Luiseño	Orange,Riverside,San Bernardino,San Diego	11/27/2023
Pala Band of Mission Indians	F	Shasta Gaughen, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer	PMB 50, 35008 Pala Temecula Road Pala, CA, 92059	(760) 891-3515		sgaughen@palatribe.com	Cupeno Luiseño	Orange,Riverside,San Bernardino,San Diego	11/27/2023
Pauma Band of Luiseño Indians	F	Lucia Majel, Pauma Cultural Resource Project Manager	P.O. Box 369 Pauma Valley, CA, 92061	(760) 742-1289		crm@Pauma-nsn.gov	Luiseño	Los Angeles,Orange,Riverside,San Bernardino,San Diego,Ventura	8/1/2025
Pechanga Band of Indians	F	Tuba Ebru Ozdil, Pechanga Cultural Analyst	P.O. Box 2183 Temecula, CA, 92593	(951) 770-6313	(951) 695-1778	eozdil@pechanga-nsn.gov	Luiseño	Los Angeles,Orange,Riverside,San Bernardino,San Diego,Santa Barbara,Ventura	8/2/2023
Pechanga Band of Indians	F	Steve Bodmer, General Counsel for Pechanga Band of Indians	P.O. Box 1477 Temecula, CA, 92593	(951) 770-6171	(951) 695-1778	sbodmer@pechanga-nsn.gov	Luiseño	Los Angeles,Orange,Riverside,San Bernardino,San Diego,Santa Barbara,Ventura	8/2/2023
Quechan Indian Tribe of the Fort Yuma Reservation	F	Jill McCormick, Historic Preservation Officer	P.O. Box 1899 Yuma, AZ, 85366-1899	(928) 261-0254		historicpreservation@quechantribe.com	Quechan	Imperial,Kern,Los Angeles,Riverside,San Bernardino,San Diego	1/31/2025
Quechan Indian Tribe of the Fort Yuma Reservation	F	Jonathan Koteen, President, Quechan Tribal Council	P.O.Box 1899 Yuma, AZ, 85366-1899	(760) 919-3600		executivesecretary@quechantribe.com	Quechan	Imperial,Kern,Los Angeles,Riverside,San Bernardino,San Diego	6/4/2025
Ramona Band of Cahuilla	F	Joseph Hamilton, Chairperson	P.O. Box 391670 Anza, CA, 92539	(951) 763-4105	(951) 763-4325	admin@ramona-nsn.gov	Cahuilla	Imperial,Riverside,San Bernardino,San Diego	
Rincon Band of Luiseño Indians	F	Cheryl Madrigal, Cultural Resources Manager/Tribal Historic Preservation Officer	One Government Center Lane Valley Center, CA, 92082	(760) 648-3000		cmadrigal@rincon-nsn.gov	Luiseño	Los Angeles,Orange,Riverside,San Bernardino,San Diego,Santa Barbara,Ventura	5/31/2023

**Native American Heritage Commission
Native American Contact List
Riverside County
8/26/2025**

Tribe Name	Fed (F) Non-Fed (N)	Contact Person	Contact Address	Phone #	Fax #	Email Address	Cultural Affiliation	Counties	Last Updated
Rincon Band of Luiseno Indians	F	Laurie Gonzalez, Tribal Council/Culture Committee Member	One Government Center Lane Valley Center, CA, 92082	(760) 484-4835		lgonzalez@rincon-nsn.gov	Luiseno	Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Diego, Santa Barbara, Ventura	5/31/2023
Rincon Band of Luiseno Indians	F	Joseph Linton, Tribal Council/Culture Committee Member	One Government Center Lane Valley Center, CA, 92082	(760) 803-3548		jlinton@rincon-nsn.gov	Luiseno	Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Diego, Santa Barbara, Ventura	5/31/2023
Rincon Band of Luiseno Indians	F	Denise Turner Walsh, Attorney General	One Government Center Lane Valley Center, CA, 92082	(760) 689-5727		dwalsh@rincon-nsn.gov	Luiseno	Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Diego, Santa Barbara, Ventura	7/7/2023
Santa Rosa Band of Cahuilla Indians	F	Steven Estrada, Tribal Chairman	P.O. Box 391820 Anza, CA, 92539	(951) 659-2700	(951) 659-2228	sestrada@santarosa-nsn.gov	Cahuilla	Imperial, Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Diego	4/8/2024
Santa Rosa Band of Cahuilla Indians	F	Mercedes Estrada, Cultural Director	P.O. Box 391820 Anza, CA, 92539	(951) 659-2700	(951) 659-2228	mestrada@santarosa-nsn.gov	Cahuilla	Imperial, Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Diego	5/21/2025
Santa Rosa Band of Cahuilla Indians	F	Vanessa Minott, Tribal Administrator	P.O. Box 391820 Anza, CA, 92539	(951) 659-2700	(951) 659-2228	vminott@santarosa-nsn.gov	Cahuilla	Imperial, Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Diego	4/8/2024
Soboba Band of Luiseno Indians	F	Jessica Valdez, Cultural Resource Specialist	P.O. Box 487 San Jacinto, CA, 92581	(951) 663-6261	(951) 654-4198	jvaldez@soboba-nsn.gov	Cahuilla Luiseno	Imperial, Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Diego	7/14/2023
Soboba Band of Luiseno Indians	F	Joseph Ontiveros, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer	P.O. Box 487 San Jacinto, CA, 92581	(951) 663-5279	(951) 654-4198	jontiveros@soboba-nsn.gov	Cahuilla Luiseno	Imperial, Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Diego	7/14/2023
Torres-Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians	F	Alesia Reed, Cultural Committee Chairwoman	P.O. Box 1160 Thermal, CA, 92274	(760) 397-0300		lisareed990@gmail.com	Cahuilla	Imperial, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Diego	10/30/2023
Torres-Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians	F	Mary Belardo, Cultural Committee Vice Chair	P.O. Box 1160 Thermal, CA, 92274	(760) 397-0300		belardom@gmail.com	Cahuilla	Imperial, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Diego	10/30/2023
Torres-Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians	F	Abraham Becerra, Cultural Coordinator	P.O. Box 1160 Thermal, CA, 92274	(760) 397-0300		abecerra@tmdci.org	Cahuilla	Imperial, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Diego	10/30/2023
Torres-Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians	F	Thomas Torte, Chairperson	P.O. Box 1160 Thermal, CA, 92274	(760) 397-0300	(760) 397-8146	thomas.tortez@tmdci.org	Cahuilla	Imperial, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Diego	10/30/2023
Torres-Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians	F	Gary Resvaloso, TM MLD	P.O. Box 1160 Thermal, CA, 92274	(760) 777-0365		grestmtm@gmail.com	Cahuilla	Imperial, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Diego	10/30/2023

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

Record: PROJ-2025-004779
Report Type: AB52 GIS
Counties: Riverside
NAHC Group: All

This list is only applicable for consultation with Native American tribes under Public Resources Code Sections 21080.3.1 for the proposed Menifee Boardwalk Project, Riverside County.

DATE: May 7, 2025

RE: AB-52 Tribal Consultation for Planning Application for a Major Plot Plan No. PLN24-0118, Tentative Parcel Map 39000, and Sign Program (TR39000) – “Menifee Boardwalk” - PLAN CHECK 3 (Menifee Village Specific Plan PA2-11)

TO:

- Pechanga Band of Mission Indians
mearp@pechanga.nsn.gov
jochoa@pechanga.nsn.gov
- Soboba Band of Luiseno Indians
jontiveros@soboba-nsn.gov
jvaldez@soboba-nsn.gov

FROM: Desiree McGriff, Associate Planner

Attached please find a City of Menifee Planning Application for Major Plot Plan No. PLN24-0118 (Tentative Tract Map 39000) APN: 364-030-016

Request for 30-day Tribal Consultation

We have had a kick-off meeting with Eco Tierra consultants for the preparation of the IS/MND for Menifee Boardwalk (PLN24-0118), on May 7, 2025. We would like to open the 30-day Tribal Consultation process for the below detailed project.

Project Description: Major Plot Plan No. PLN24-0118 (Tentative Map 39000) The following proposed project is for a mixed-use development on approximately 5.8 acres and proposes to develop five buildings with 273 parking stalls including 18 ADA compliant spaces. The proposed building square footages and parking counts are as follows:

- **Building 1** – was proposing an auto parts retail store, now proposing multi-tenant food with a building area of 6,000 sf. Including 63 parking spaces.
- **Building 2** - is a multi-tenant mixed-use building with a building area of 10,850 sf with a drive-thru for the end-cap tenant, including 87 parking spaces.
- **Building 3** is a drive-thru coffee shop with a building area of 1,000 sf., including 11 parking spaces.
- **Building 4** is also a multi-tenant mixed use with a building area of 10,800 sf, no drive-thru proposed, but includes 67 parking spaces, and;
- **Building 5** is a proposed childcare facility and play yard (12,500sq) with a building area of 10,000 sf. including 45 parking spaces.
- **Tentative Parcel Map 39000:** Additionally, the project proposes to commercially subdivide 6.02 acres into 5 lots ranging in size from 0.47 – 1.62 acres.
- Parcel 1: 1.15 ac.

- Parcel 2: 1.59 ac.
- Parcel 3: 0.48 ac.
- Parcel 4: 1.23 ac.
- Parcel 5: 1.57 ac.

General Plan Land Use – Menifee Valley Specific Plan PA2-11
Zoning Classification – Specific Plan Zone

Project Location: The site is located south of Newport Road, west Menifee Road, and east of Calle Pompeii (APN: 364-030-016).

Please have a comprehensive list of comments to the Community Development Department by noon, Monday, May 19, 2025. **If your department has no comments, please start preparing your Conditions of Approval.**

Desiree McGriff
951-723-3770
dmcgriff@cityofmenifee.us

From: Juan Ochoa <jochoa@pechanga-nsn.gov>
Sent: Friday, May 30, 2025 1:51 PM
To: Desiree McGriff <dmcgriff@cityofmenifee.us>
Cc: Ebru Ozdil <eozdil@pechanga-nsn.gov>; Molly Earp <mearp@pechanga-nsn.gov>; Paul Macarro <pmacarro@pechanga-nsn.gov>; Tina Thompson Mendoza <tmendoza@pechanga-nsn.gov>
Subject: Pechanga Tribe's AB52 Request for Consultation on PLN 24-0118 TPM 39000 Menifee Boardwalk

[CAUTION]: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Desiree McGriff,

This email is written on behalf of the Pechanga Band of Indians (hereinafter, "the Tribe") a federally recognized Indian tribe and sovereign government in response to the AB 52 notice provided by the City of Menifee (City).

This email serves as the Tribe's formal request to begin consultation under AB 52 for this Project. Per AB 52, we intend to assist the City in determining the type of environmental document that should be prepared for this Project (i.e. EIR, MND, ND); with identifying potential tribal cultural resources (TCRs); determining whether potential substantial adverse effects will occur to them; and to develop appropriate preservation, avoidance and/or mitigation measures, as appropriate. CEQA, as amended by AB 52, requires the City to avoid damaging effects to the significance of a tribal cultural resource. As such, the preferred TCR mitigation is complete avoidance and the Tribe requests that all efforts to preserve sensitive TCRs be made as early in the development process as possible.

Please add the Tribe to your distribution list(s) for public notices and circulation of all documents, including environmental review

documents, archaeological reports, development plans, conceptual grading plans (if available), and all other applicable documents pertaining to this Project. The Tribe further requests to be directly notified of all public hearings and scheduled approvals concerning this Project, and that these comments be incorporated into the record of approval for this Project.

The Pechanga Tribe asserts that the Undertaking is a part of 'Atáaxum (Luiseño) territory, and therefore the Tribe's aboriginal territory as evidenced by the existence of cultural features associated with religious practice and an extensive artifact record in the vicinity of the Project. This culturally sensitive area is affiliated with the Pechanga Band of Indians because of the Tribe's cultural ties to this area as well as our extensive history with the City and other projects within the area.

As you know, the AB 52 consultation process is ongoing and continues until appropriate mitigation has been agreed upon for the TCRs that may be impacted by the Project. As such, under both AB 52 and CEQA, we look forward to working closely with the City on ensuring that a full, comprehensive environmental review of the Project's impacts is completed.

In addition to those rights granted to the Tribe under AB 52, the Tribe reserves the right to fully participate in the environmental review process, as well as to provide further comment on the Project's impacts to cultural resources and potential mitigation for such impacts.

The Pechanga Tribe looks forward to working together with the City of Menifee in protecting the invaluable Pechanga cultural resources found in the Project area. The formal contact person for this Project will be Ebru Ozdil. Please contact her at 951-770-6313 or at eozdil@pechanga-nsn.gov within 30 days of receiving this consultation request so that we can begin the consultation process. Thank you.

Juan Ochoa, MLIS
Assistant Tribal Historic Preservation Officer
Pechanga Cultural Resources Department
P.O. Box 2183
Temecula, CA 92593
Office:(951)-770-6308
jochoa@pechanga-nsn.gov

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