



NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE COMMISSION

June 23, 2026

Mark Hamilton
County of Merced

CHAIRPERSON
Reginald Pagaling
Chumash

Via Email to: mark.hamilton@countyofmerced.com

VICE-CHAIRPERSON
Buffy McQuillen
Yokayo Pomo, Yuki,
Nomlaki

Re: 2026060896, Double Diamond Dairy Expansion Project, Merced County

SECRETARY
Isaac Bojorquez
Ohlone-Costanoan

To Whom It May Concern:

PARLIAMENTARIAN
Wayne Nelson
Luiseño

The Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) has received the Notice of Preparation of a Draft Environmental Impact Report for the project referenced above. The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) includes a separate category of cultural resources, "tribal cultural resources" and provides that a project with an effect that may cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a tribal cultural resource is a project that may have a significant effect on the environment. Public agencies shall, when feasible, avoid damaging effects to any tribal cultural resource. To determine whether a project will cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a tribal cultural resource, a lead agency will need to determine whether there are tribal cultural resources within the project area.

COMMISSIONER
Sara Dutschke
Miwok

Consultation with California Native American Tribes that are traditionally and culturally affiliated with the geographic area of your proposed project should occur as early as possible. Early consultation will assist in developing a plan for protecting tribal cultural resources and avoiding inadvertent discoveries of Native American human remains.

COMMISSIONER
Stanley Rodriguez
Kumeyaay

For a list of tribes that are traditionally and culturally affiliated with your project area, or for any questions or additional information regarding tribal consultation, please contact me at joshua.nowakowski@nahc.ca.gov

COMMISSIONER
Bennae Calac
Pauma-Yuima Band of
Luiseño Indians

Sincerely,

COMMISSIONER
Vacant

Joshua Nowakowski

COMMISSIONER
Vacant

Joshua Nowakowski
Cultural Resources Analyst

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY
Andrew Alejandre
Paskenta Band of
Nomlaki Indians

cc: State Clearinghouse

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