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CITY OF COLTON
INITIAL STUDY AND
DRAFT MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION
FOR
3.0 MG LA LOMA NO. 2 RESERVOIR PROJECT

SEPTEMBER 2026

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- *Protocol Presence/Absence Survey Results for Coastal California Gnatcatcher at La Loma No. 2 Reservoir Project, City of Colton, San Bernardino County, California (LSA Project No. 20242003), Letter Report by LSA, November 8, 2024*

C. CULTURAL RESOURCES ASSESSMENTS

- *Letter Report Re: Extended Phase I Archaeological Probing Program, La Loma No. 2 Reservoir Project, City of Colton, San Bernardino County, California*; by CRM TECH, March 31, 2026
- *Identification and Evaluation of Historic Properties La Loma No. 2 Reservoir Project, City of Colton, San Bernardino County, California*; by CRM TECH, September 21, 2025
- *Historical/Archaeological Resources Survey Report La Loma No. 2 Reservoir Project, City of Colton, San Bernardino County, California*; by CRM TECH, October 27, 2016

D. AIR QUALITY CALCULATIONS

3.0 MG La Loma No. 2 Reservoir Summary Report, dated May 13, 2025, generated in CalEEMod, Version 2022.1

PART 1
PROJECT INFORMATION

PART 1 - PROJECT INFORMATION

A. CITY OF COLTON

The City of Colton ("Colton" or "the City") was incorporated in 1947 and is the principal supplier of water service for domestic consumption, fire protection, and irrigation application for consumers within the City of Colton in San Bernardino County, California.

Currently, Colton provides water service to a population of approximately 54,000 over a 15 square mile service area. Colton's source of supply consists of groundwater produced from three adjudicated groundwater basins: Bunker Hill (part of the San Bernardino Basin), Rialto-Colton, and Riverside North, using seven groundwater production wells. In addition to the groundwater wells, the City's water system currently includes six water storage reservoirs, four main booster pumping plants, two pressure reducing stations, and greater than 120 miles of transmission and distribution pipelines. Additionally, Colton has emergency water system connections with the City of San Bernardino, City of Riverside, Riverside Highland Water Company, and West Valley Water District.

B. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

1. Proposed Project

The 3.0 MG La Loma No. 2 Reservoir Project (the Project) includes constructing and operating one new 3.0 million-gallon (MG) welded steel potable water storage tank (La Loma No. 2 Reservoir) at the site of the existing La Loma No. 1 Reservoir, which will remain in operation. The Project also includes resurfacing an existing access road, constructing an onsite stormwater retention basin, and constructing or installing various related site improvements and appurtenances.

The Project is further described below and is depicted on **Figures 1 through 3** herein.

Project construction is expected to include the following:

- Site grading improvements, as necessary, are expected to consist of approximately 40,000 cubic yards of site grading, of which approximately 35,000 cubic yards

would be exported and stockpiled offsite at a location selected by the construction contractor

- Construction of a tank foundation consisting of a concrete ringwall with asphalt sand over crushed rock
- Construction of a 3.0 million gallon (MG) welded steel reservoir (La Loma No. 2 Reservoir) with a diameter of approximately 130 feet, a total height of approximately 37 feet, and a high water level of 31 feet
- Construction or installation of the following appurtenances at the La Loma No. 2 Reservoir
    - Exterior, abovegrade inlet/outlet piping with flexible fitting and altitude valve;
    - Exterior stair with handrail;
    - Interior ladder with harness-type safety device;
    - Roof access hatch with platform and handrail;
    - Roof ventilation;
    - Side manway;
    - Bolted flush cleanout;
    - Epoxy interior/exterior coating system;
    - Sample ports;
    - Overflow piping;
    - Flush drain outlet; and
    - Telemetry sensors
- Installation of approximately 140 linear feet (LF) of 24-inch diameter concrete mortar lined and coated (CML&C) welded steel inlet/outlet pipeline, approximately 75 LF of 12-inch diameter CML&C welded steel water pipeline, approximately 270 LF of corrugated metal pipe (CMP) overflow pipeline, and approximately 960 LF of high-density polyethylene storm drain pipeline.
- Installation of approximately 10,434 square feet of new asphalt pavement and class 2 base in the areas surrounding the new tank, resurfacing approximately 12,660 square feet of existing utility access road with new pavement over existing base, and resurfacing approximately 8,320 of existing utility access road with new porous pavement.
- Installation of approximately 440 LF of security fencing
- Relocation of existing electrical service and replacement of control panel

- Construction of a 1,900 cubic foot retention basin adjacent to the reservoirs and an additional 2,500 cubic feet of retention basin under the porous pavement on the access road.

Project operation consists of operating the La Loma No. 2 Reservoir in tandem with the existing La Loma No. 1 Reservoir. Additionally, it is estimated that Project operation will include continuation with approximately one daily vehicle trip to the Project site for routine operation and maintenance.

2. Project Purpose

Construction of the La Loma No. 2 Reservoir is intended to increase storage capacity and improve water service reliability in the Central Pressure Zone of Colton's water system.

C. ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING

1. Location

The Project is located at the site of the existing La Loma No. 1 Reservoir and along the access road to same (the Project site). The Project site is located in the La Loma Hills in the southeasterly portion of the City, south of Interstate 10 and the Santa Ana River, as depicted on **Figures 1 through 3** herein.

2. Climate

Climate in Colton is characterized by low humidity, high summer temperatures, and mild dry winters. Summer high temperatures often exceed 90 degrees Fahrenheit (°F). The area normally receives an average annual rainfall of approximately 10 inches, most of which occurs during December through March.

3. Land Use

The Project site is a City-owned property that contains the existing La Loma No. 1 Reservoir (a 3.0 MG welded steel water storage tank), a 24-inch diameter inlet/outlet pipeline, a 24-

inch diameter overflow pipeline, an access road, and associated appurtenances. The Project site is generally surrounded by open space and commercial land uses, with industrial and residential uses also in the vicinity. The Project site has a General Plan Land Use designation of Public/Institution and is zoned as Public/Institutional by the City of Colton.

D. COMPLIANCE WITH CEQA AND CEQA-PLUS

This document has been prepared in compliance with the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act, codified in California Public Resources Code, Division 13, Section 21000 *et seq* (CEQA) and the State CEQA Guidelines (California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Section 15000 *et seq*). Pursuant to CEQA and the State CEQA Guidelines, this Initial Study has been prepared to determine whether the Project may have a significant effect on the environment. This Initial Study has been prepared by Krieger & Stewart under contract with the City to comply with the provisions of CEQA.

In addition, the Project may receive funding under the Safe Drinking Water State Revolving Fund, a state program that includes a federal funding component. Therefore, to assist in compliance with federal environmental requirements for the funding program, this document includes analysis pertinent to several federal cross-cutting regulations (also referred to as federal cross-cutters or CEQA-Plus). The following is a list of the federal cross-cutters, as listed in the document, *State Environmental Review Process for the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund*, by the State of California State Water Resources Control Board Division of Financial Assistance, dated June 2025. Each item is accompanied by a notation of where, if applicable, the item is discussed in this Initial Study. Discussions of federal cross-cutters herein are intended to assist the funding agency and any federal lead agency with environmental compliance.

1. Archeological and Historic Preservation Act [**Issue V**]
2. Clean Air Act [**Issue III**]
3. Coastal Barriers Resources Act [Not Applicable]
4. Coastal Zone Management Act [Not Applicable]
5. Endangered Species Act [**Issue IV**]
6. Floodplain Management [Not Applicable]
7. Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation Management Act [Not Applicable]
8. National Historic Preservation Act [**Issue V**]

9. Sole Source Aquifer Protection, Safe Drinking Water Act [Not Applicable]
10. Wetlands Protection [Not Applicable]
11. Wild and Scenic Rivers Act [Not Applicable]
12. Any other applicable federal requirements [None Anticipated]

E. LEAD AGENCY

City of Colton is lead agency for the Project, as it is the public agency with the primary responsibility for preparing CEQA documents and for approving, constructing, and operating the Project. Since the City is responsible for the Project, it must comply with the requirements of CEQA and the State CEQA Guidelines.

City of Colton routinely constructs new facilities, maintains them, and replaces them as necessary to maintain adequate, reliable, and safe domestic water service to its customers. The Project described herein is a continuation of the authority that the City has exercised in the past.

F. PUBLIC INFORMATION DOCUMENT

This is a public information document prepared in accordance with CEQA and the State CEQA Guidelines. The purposes of this Initial Study are to provide the City of Colton with information to use as a basis for identifying the potential environmental impacts of the Project, for determining the appropriate CEQA document to prepare for the Project, to facilitate environmental assessment of the Project, and to provide documentation of the factual basis for the finding in the Project's CEQA document. Additionally, this document identifies mitigation measures intended to avoid or reduce any adverse environmental impacts of the Project.

PART 2
ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS AND CHECKLIST

PART 2 - ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS AND CHECKLIST

A. PROJECT INFORMATION

1. Project Title:

3.0 MG La Loma No. 2 Reservoir Project

2. Lead Agency Name and Address:

City of Colton
650 North La Cadena Drive
Colton, CA 92324

3. Contact Person and Phone Number:

Jess Sotto, Utilities Engineer
City of Colton
(909) 370-5551
jsotto@coltonca.gov

4. Project Location:

Refer to **Part 1.C(1)** on **Page 3** herein. Refer also to **Figures 1 through 3** herein.

5. Project Sponsor's Name and Address:

City of Colton
650 North La Cadena Drive
Colton, CA 92324

6. General Plan Designation:

Public/Institution

7. Zoning:

P-I – Public/Institutional Zone

8. Description of Project:

Refer to **Part 1.B**, beginning on **Page 1** herein.

9. Surrounding Land Uses and Setting:

Refer to **Part 1.C(2)** and **Part 1.C(3)**, beginning on **Page 3** herein.

10. Other public agencies whose approval may be required (e.g., permits, financing approval, or participation agreement):

- State Water Resources Control Board, Division of Drinking Water (Domestic Water Supply Permit Amendment)

- State Water Resources Control Board, Division of Financial Assistance (Approval of Safe Drinking Water State Revolving Fund financing)
- United States Fish and Wildlife Service (Incidental Take Permit for Coastal California Gnatcatchers)

11. Have California Native American tribes traditionally and culturally affiliated with the project area requested consultation pursuant to Public Resources Code Section 21080.3.1? If so, is there a plan for consultation that includes, for example, the determination of significance of impacts to tribal cultural resources, procedures regarding confidentiality, etc.?

The City sent formal notification letters to numerous local tribes to notify the tribes of the Project. In response to the City's notification letter, the Gabrieleño Band of Mission Indians—Kizh Nation (Kizh) requested formal government-to-government consultation with the City. City staff consulted with Kizh, the City and Kizh agreed upon Kizh's proposed mitigation measures for the Project, and said measures are set forth in the Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program attached to the Mitigated Negative Declaration in **Appendix A** herein. Discussion pertaining to the Project's potential to impact tribal cultural resources is included in **Issue XVIII** herein.

B. ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS POTENTIALLY AFFECTED

The environmental factors checked below would be potentially affected by this project, involving at least one impact that is a "Potentially Significant Impact" as indicated by the checklist on the following pages.

- ☐ Aesthetics
- ☐ Agriculture/Forestry Resources
- ☐ Air Quality
- ☐ Biological Resources
- ☐ Cultural Resources
- ☐ Energy
- ☐ Geology/Soils
- ☐ Greenhouse Gas Emissions
- ☐ Hazards & Hazardous Materials
- ☐ Hydrology/Water Quality
- ☐ Land Use/Planning
- ☐ Mineral Resources
- ☐ Noise
- ☐ Population/Housing
- ☐ Public Services
- ☐ Recreation
- ☐ Transportation
- ☐ Tribal Cultural Resources
- ☐ Utilities/Service Systems
- ☐ Wildfire
- ☐ Mandatory Findings of Significance
- ☒ None

C. DETERMINATION (To be completed by the Lead Agency):

On the basis of this initial evaluation:

☐ I find that the proposed project COULD NOT have a significant effect on the environment, and a NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.

☒ I find that although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, there will not be a significant effect in this case because revisions in the project have been made by or agreed to by the project proponent. A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.

☐ I find that the proposed project MAY have a significant effect on the environment, and an ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required.

☐ I find that the proposed project MAY have a "potentially significant" or "potentially significant unless mitigated" impact on the environment, but at least one effect 1) has been adequately analyzed in an earlier document pursuant to applicable legal standards, and 2) has been addressed by mitigation measures based on the earlier analysis as described on attached sheets. An ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required, but it must analyze only the effects that remain to be addressed.

☐ I find that although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, because all potentially significant effects (a) have been analyzed adequately in an earlier EIR or NEGATIVE DECLARATION pursuant to applicable standards, and (b) have been avoided or mitigated pursuant to that earlier EIR or NEGATIVE DECLARATION, including revisions or mitigation measures that are imposed upon the proposed project, nothing further is required.

William G. Huffman
KRIEGER & STEWART, INCORPORATED
Project Engineer
CITY OF COLTON

September 24, 2026
Date

D. EVALUATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

1. A brief explanation is required for all answers except "No Impact" answers that are adequately supported by the information sources a lead agency cites in the parentheses following each question. A "No Impact" answer is adequately supported if the referenced information sources show that the impact simply does not apply to projects like the one involved (e.g. the project falls outside a fault rupture zone). A "No Impact" answer should be explained where it is based on project-specific factors as well as general standards (e.g. the project will not expose sensitive receptors to pollutants, based on a project-specific screening analysis).

2. All answers must take account of the whole action involved, including off-site as well as on-site, cumulative as well as project-level, indirect as well as direct, and construction as well as operational impacts.

3. Once the lead agency has determined that a particular physical impact may occur, then the checklist answers must indicate whether the impact is potentially significant, less than significant with mitigation, or less than significant. "Potentially Significant Impact" is appropriate if there is substantial evidence that an effect is significant. If there are one or more "Potentially Significant Impact" entries when the determination is made, an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) is required.

4. "Negative Declaration: Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated" applies where the incorporation of mitigation measures has reduced an effect from "Potentially Significant Impact" to a "Less than Significant Impact." The lead agency must describe the mitigation measures, and briefly explain how they reduce the effect to a less than significant level (mitigation measures from "Earlier Analyses", as described in (5) below, may be cross-referenced).

5. Earlier analyses may be used where, pursuant to the tiering, program EIR, or other CEQA process, an effect has been adequately analyzed in an earlier EIR or negative declaration. Section 15063(c)(3)(D). In this case, a brief discussion should identify the following:

   a. Earlier Analyses Used. Identify and state where they are available for review.

b. Impacts Adequately Addressed. Identify which effects from the above checklist were within the scope of and adequately analyzed in an earlier document pursuant to applicable legal standards, and state whether such effects were addressed by mitigation measures based on the earlier analysis.

c. Mitigation Measures. For effects that are "Less than Significant with Mitigation Measures Incorporated," describe the mitigation measures which were incorporated or refined from the earlier document and the extent to which they address site-specific conditions for the project.

6. Lead agencies are encouraged to incorporate into the checklist references to information sources for potential impacts (e.g. general plans, zoning ordinances). Reference to a previously prepared or outside document should, where appropriate, include a reference to the page or pages where the statement is substantiated.

7. Supporting Information Sources. A source list should be attached, and other sources used or individuals contacted should be cited in the discussion.

8. This is only a suggested form, and lead agencies are free to use different formats; however, lead agencies should normally address the questions from this checklist that are relevant to a project's environmental effects in whatever format is selected.

9. The explanation of each issue should identify:

a. The significance criteria or threshold, if any, used to evaluate each question; and

b. The mitigation measure identified, if any, to reduce the impact to less than significant.

E. ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST

Issue I. Aesthetics

Except as provided in Public Resources Code Section 21099, would the Project:

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista?	☐	☐	☐	☒

Project facilities will be located on the existing La Loma No. 1 Reservoir site (which currently contains the La Loma No. 1 Reservoir and associated appurtenances) and adjoining areas to the west. The proposed 3.0 MG La Loma No. 2 Reservoir will have a total height of approximately 37 feet, which, due to current sloshing requirements, is slightly taller than the existing reservoir onsite; however, the Project is not located within a designated scenic vista and will not obstruct views of any scenic vistas. The Project would not have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
b) Substantially damage scenic resources, including, but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a state scenic highway?	☐	☐	☐	☒

The Project is not located on or in the vicinity of an "Officially Designated State Scenic Highway". State Highways 330 and 38 are identified by the California Department of Transportation's California Scenic Highway Mapping System as "Eligible State Scenic Highway - Not Officially Designated". The nearest portions of these highways are located approximately eight miles easterly of the Project site. The Project would not result in adverse impacts to the views from Highways 330 or 38. For these reasons, the Project would not substantially damage scenic resources, including, but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a state scenic highway. Refer also to ***Issue I(a)*** *herein.*

Issue I. Aesthetics (continued)

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
c) In non-urbanized areas, substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of public views of the site and its surroundings? (Public views are those that are experienced from a publicly accessible vantage point.) If the project is in an urbanized area, would the project conflict with applicable zoning and other regulations governing scenic quality?	☐	☐	☒	☐

The Project site is generally surrounded by open space and commercial land uses, with industrial and residential uses also in the vicinity. The Project site contains the existing La Loma No. 1 Reservoir. The proposed facilities are consistent with the existing site facilities and would not substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of the site or its surroundings.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
d) Would the project create a new source of substantial light or glare which would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area?	☐	☐	☒	☐

The Project includes lighting for safety and security at the site. Said lighting is minimal and directed downward. For these reasons, the Project will not create a new source of substantial light or glare which would adversely affect daytime or nighttime views in the area.

Issue II. Agriculture and Forest Resources

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

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Would the project convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance (Farmland), as shown on the maps prepared pursuant to the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program of the California Resources Agency, to non-agricultural use?	☐	☐	☐	☒

Based on maps available from the State of California Department of Conservation, Division of Land Resources Protection, Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program, online at https://maps.conservation.ca.gov/DLRP/CIFF, the Project site is located within an area of land categorized as "Grazing Land". The Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program states that "Grazing Land is land on which the existing vegetation is suited to the grazing of livestock."

There is no land categorized as Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance (collectively, Farmland) located on or adjacent to the Project site. For these reasons, construction and operation of the Project would not convert Farmland to non-agricultural use.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
b) Would the project conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or a Williamson Act contract?	☐	☐	☐	☒

The Project site is zoned as "Public/Institutional" and is not on or adjacent to land zoned for agricultural use. Further, based on maps available on the California Williamson Act Enrollment Finder, available from the California Department of Conservation online at https://maps.conservation.ca.gov/dlrp/WilliamsonAct/, there are no Williamson Act contracts in effect on or adjacent to the Project site. For these reasons, the Project will not conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use or with a Williamson Act Contract.

Issue II. Agriculture and Forest Resources (continued)

c) Would the project conflict with existing zoning for, or cause rezoning of, forest land (as defined in Public Resources Code Section 12220(g)), timberland (as defined by Public Resources Code Section 4526), or timberland zoned Timberland Production (as defined by Government Code Section 51104(g))?	Potentially Significant Impact ☐	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated ☐	Less Than Significant Impact ☐	No Impact ☒

The Project site does not contain, and is not located near, any land zoned as forest land or timberland. Therefore, construction and operation of the Project would not conflict with existing zoning for, or cause rezoning of, forest land, timberland, or timberland zoned Timberland Production.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
d) Would the project result in the loss of forest land or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?	☐	☐	☐	☒

The Project site does not contain nor adjoin any forest land. Therefore, construction and operation of the Project will not result in the loss of forest land or conversion of forest land to non-forest use. Refer also to ***Issue II(c)*** *above.*

e) Would the project involve other changes in the existing environment which, due to their location or nature, could result in conversion of Farmland to non-agricultural use or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?	Potentially Significant Impact ☐	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated ☐	Less Than Significant Impact ☐	No Impact ☒

The Project does not involve changes in the existing environment that could result in conversion of Farmland to non-agricultural use or conversion of forest land to non-forest use, as these resources are not located on or adjacent to the Project site. Refer also to ***Issues II(a) through II(d)****, above.*

Issue III. Air Quality

Where available, the significance criteria established by the applicable air quality management district or air pollution control district may be relied upon to make the following determinations.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Would the project conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan?	☐	☐	☐	☒

The Project is located within the South Coast Air Basin (SCAB), which encompasses all of Orange County and the non-desert portions of Los Angeles, San Bernardino, and Riverside Counties. Air quality conditions within the SCAB are under the jurisdiction of the South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD).

A project is considered to conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan if it would result in population or employment growth that would exceed the estimates for such growth that are set forth in the applicable air quality plan.

The Project includes construction and operation of a new water storage reservoir and associated site improvements and does not have the potential to result in population or employment growth in the area beyond temporary employment for construction of Project facilities. For these reasons, the Project would not conflict with or obstruct any applicable air quality plan.

*Potential impacts related to greenhouse gases are described in **Issue VIII** herein.*

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
b) Would the project result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is non-attainment under an applicable federal or state ambient air quality threshold?	☐	☐	☒	☐

*As described in **Issue III(a)** above, the Project is located within the South Coast Air Basin (SCAB). Air quality conditions in the SCAB are under the jurisdiction of the South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD).*

State and federal designations based on the California Ambient Air Quality Standards (CAAQS) and the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) for the project area are listed below. "Attainment" is the category given to an area that has had no CAAQS or NAAQS violations in the past

3 years. "Non-Attainment" is the category given to an area that has had one or more such violations in the past 3 years. An area is considered "Unclassified" when there is insufficient data.

Under the CAAQS, the Project area is classified as Non-Attainment for ozone (O_3), for particulate matter measuring 2.5 microns or less in diameter ($PM_{2.5}$), and for particulate matter measuring greater than 2.5 microns and up to 10 microns in diameter (PM_{10}). The Project area is classified as Attainment for carbon monoxide (CO), nitrogen dioxide (NO_2), sulfur dioxide (SO_2), sulfates (SO_4), and lead. The Project area is unclassified for hydrogen sulfide (H_2S) and visibility reducing particles. Additional information about each of these pollutants and the CAAQS is available at the California Air Resources Board website at www.arb.ca.gov/resources/california-ambient-air-quality-standards.

Under the NAAQS, the Project area is classified as Non-Attainment (Extreme) for O_3, Non-Attainment (Serious) for $PM_{2.5}$, Attainment for PM_{10}, and as Unclassified/Attainment for CO, NO_2, SO_2, and lead. Additional information about these pollutants and the NAAQS is available on the United States Environmental Protection Agency's website at www.epa.gov/criteria-air-pollutants.

Project construction air pollutant emissions were estimated using the California Emissions Estimator Model (CalEEMod, 2022.1). A copy of the CalEEMod summary report for the Project is included in ***Appendix D*** *herein. Peak day air pollutant emissions estimated to be generated during construction are set forth in* ***Table 1*** *below.*

Table 1
Estimated Peak Day Construction Equipment Exhaust Emissions for Construction of 3.0 MG La Loma No. 2 Reservoir Project

	Pollutants (pounds/day[1])					
	VOC	NO_X	CO	SO_x	PM_{10}	$PM_{2.5}$
Project Construction Emissions	**46.5**	**32.9**	**38.0**	**0.06**	**15.3**	**7.84**
SCAQMD Significance Thresholds[2]	**75**	**100**	**550**	**150**	**150**	**55**

(1) Peak day

(2) Mass Daily Thresholds for Construction (SCAQMD, March 2023)

Construction activities will result in a temporary increase in quantities of air pollutants in the Project area, including airborne dust, resulting from operation of construction vehicles and equipment and workers' vehicles commuting to and from the Project site. Dust will be mitigated to the extent possible using dust palliatives (such as water) and best management practices (BMPs) specified in the construction contract documents for the Project. Air pollutant emissions resulting from Project construction are well below the significance thresholds established by SCAQMD and will be short-term.

Ongoing operation of the Project will generate small quantities of air pollutant emissions resulting from daily vehicle trips to the Project site for routine operation and maintenance; however, said daily vehicle trips are already taking place as part of operation and maintenance of the existing La Loma No. 1 Reservoir. Therefore, Project operation would not result in an increase in air pollutant emissions over existing conditions.

For the reasons described above, air pollutant emissions generated by construction and operation of the Project will be less than significant and will not result in an increase in O_3, PM_{10}, or $PM_{2.5}$, for which the Project area is designated Non-Attainment under the CAAQS and/or the NAAQS.

The General Conformity regulations established by the federal Clean Air Act are set forth in 40 CFR Part 93, Subpart B and are intended to improve air quality to protect public health and the environment. A conformity determination is required for federal actions, including actions subject to federal cross-cutting authorities, that exceed the de minimis levels set forth in 40 CFR 93.193. The de minimis *levels applicable to the Project are listed in Table 2, along with the estimated quantities of project emissions. Based on these estimates, the Project's emissions are considered* de minimis*, and a conformity determination is not required.*

Table 2
Maximum Annual Construction Emissions for Construction of
3.0 MG La Loma No. 2 Reservoir Project
And Federal *De Minimis* Levels

	Pollutants (tons/year[1])				
	VOC+NOx	**CO**	**SO_x**	**PM_{10}**	**$PM_{2.5}$ [2]**
Project Construction Emissions	**9.89**	**4.73**	**0.01**	**15.3**	**10.72**
Project Operation Emissions[3]	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**
***De Minimis* Levels[4]**	**10**	**100**	**100**	**100**	**70**

(1) Based on 249 workdays per year. Emissions will only be generated during construction activities.

(2) Total of $PM_{2.5}$ direct emissions, SO_x, and VOC

(3) Based on increase over existing conditions

(4) As set forth in 40 CFR 93.153(b)(1)

Issue III. Air Quality (continued)

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
c) Would the project expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations?	☐	☐	☒	☐

Sensitive receptors nearest the Project site are a residence located just easterly of the existing access road and approximately 400 feet south of Tropica Rancho Road, and a residential neighborhood located approximately 800 feet south of the Project site. Quantities of air pollutant emissions, including dust, will temporarily increase during Project construction; however, as described in ***Issue III(b)*** *herein, said increases will be less than significant and short-term. Ongoing operation of the Project will not result in an increase in air pollutant emissions over current conditions. For these reasons, construction and operation of the Project will not expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations.*

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
d) Would the project result in other emissions (such as those leading to odors) adversely affecting a substantial number of people?	☐	☐	☒	☐

Project construction will not result in emissions other than those described above, and the Project will not result in odors adversely affecting a substantial number of people. Some odors are expected to be generated during construction while placing asphalt paving on the site. These odors would be less than significant and short-term, and are not expected to be detectable at the residences located approximately 800 feet south of the Project site. For these reasons, the Project will not result in other emissions, such as those leading to odors, adversely affecting a substantial number of people.

Issue IV. Biological Resources

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Would the project have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?	☐	☒	☐	☐

Certain species of plants and animals have low populations, limited distributions, or both. Such species are vulnerable to further declines in population and distribution and may be subject to extirpation as

the human population grows and the habitats these species occupy are converted to urban or other uses. State and federal laws, particularly the Federal Endangered Species Act (FESA) and the California Endangered Species Act (CESA) provide the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) and the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) with mechanisms for conserving and protecting native plant and animal species. Many plants and animals have been formally listed as "Threatened" or "Endangered" under FESA, CESA, or both, while many others have been designated as candidates for such listing. Additionally, others have been designated as "Species of Special Concern" by CDFW, as "Species of Concern" by USFWS, or are on lists of rare, threatened or endangered plants developed by the California Native Plant Society (CNPS). Collectively, all of these listed and designated species are referred to as "special status species".

The Federal Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA), codified in 50 CFR Section 10.13, makes it unlawful to "take" (i.e. harass, harm, pursue, hunt, shoot, wound, kill, trap, capture, or collect) migratory birds or their nests, eggs, feathers, or any part thereof. With few exceptions, all native bird species are protected by the MBTA. Birds protected under the MBTA are also referred to as "special status species".

*LSA Associates, Inc. (LSA) performed a biological resources assessment of the Project site, the methods, findings, and recommendations of which are set forth in a letter report dated December 8, 2015. LSA later performed a focused survey for coastal California gnatcatcher (*Polioptila californica californica*) in 2024 and another general biological resources assessment in 2025 (due to the age of the prior assessment). The methods, findings, and recommendations of the most recent biological resources assessment are set forth in the report titled, Biological Resources Assessment, 3.0 MG La Loma No. 2 Reservoir Project, Colton, San Bernardino County, California, prepared by LSA, dated November 2025, a copy of which is included in* ***Appendix B*** *herein and includes a copy of the results of the gnatcatcher focused survey. The following assessment is based on the reports prepared by LSA.*

- ***Coastal California Gnatcatcher***

  The Project site is located within federally designated critical habitat for the coastal California gnatcatcher (gnatcatcher). The gnatcatcher is federally listed as Threatened and is designated as a California Species of Special Concern. Brittle bush scrub and adjacent habitats on the Project site provide suitable habitat for the gnatcatcher. In 2024, the City contracted with LSA to conduct focused surveys for the gnatcatcher in accordance with the 1997 USFWS gnatcatcher survey guidelines for non-breeding season surveys. During the first site visit for the focused surveys, LSA observed multiple gnatcatchers active on the Project site; therefore, gnatcatchers were determined to be present onsite and no additional focused survey visits were needed.

Due to the presence of gnatcatchers onsite, the Project requires an Incidental Take Permit (ITP) from the USFWS. As part of the process for obtaining the ITP, the City will engage in consultation with USFWS in accordance with Section 7 of the federal Endangered Species Act (Section 7 consultation). It is anticipated that the USFWS will require that certain measures be taken to avoid or reduce adverse impacts to gnatcatchers as a condition of the ITP, and the City will comply with the required measures, as set forth in Mitigation Measure BIO-1, which is summarized below and is set forth in the Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program attached to the Mitigated Negative Declaration in ***Appendix A*** *herein.*

- ***Crotch's Bumble Bee***

  *Crotch's bumble bee (*Bombus crotchii*) is a State candidate for listing as endangered and has a low to moderate potential to occur within the brittle bush scrub and ruderal/nonnative grasslands on the Project site. A focused survey is required to determine the presence or absence of the bumble bee onsite. In order to avoid or reduce potential impacts on Crotch's bumble bee, Mitigation Measure BIO-2 is incorporated into the Project. Mitigation Measure BIO-2 is summarized below and is set forth in the Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program attached to the Mitigated Negative Declaration in* ***Appendix A*** *herein.*

- ***Nesting Birds***

  Vegetation present on the Project site may provide suitable nesting habitat for nesting birds protected by the Migratory Bird Treaty Act, the California Fish and Game Code, or both. In order to avoid or reduce potential impacts to nesting birds, Mitigation Measure BIO-3 is included in the Project. Mitigation Measure BIO-3 is summarized below and is set forth in the Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program attached to the Mitigated Negative Declaration included in ***Appendix A*** *herein.*

With incorporation of Mitigation Measures BIO-1, BIO-2, and BIO-3, the Project will not have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special status species.

Mitigation Measure BIO-1: Coastal California Gnatcatcher

Prior to commencement of construction or other ground-disturbing activities onsite, an Incidental Take Permit for coastal California gnatcatchers will be sought and obtained from the United States Fish and Wildlife Service. Project activities will comply with mitigation

measures and conditions required by the Incidental Take Permit to avoid or reduce impacts to the coastal California gnatcatcher.

Mitigation Measure BIO-2: Crotch's Bumble Bee

Prior to commencement of construction or other ground-disturbing activities onsite, a focused survey will be performed to determine the presence or absence of Crotch's bumble bee on the Project site.

If the focused survey determines that Crotch's bumble bee is absent from the Project site, then Project construction may proceed. If the focused survey determines that Crotch's bumble bee is present at the Project site, then an Incidental Take Permit from California Department of Fish and Wildlife, in compliance with Fish and Game Code §2081, will be sought and, if applicable, obtained prior to commencement of construction activities. Project activities will comply with the mitigation measures and conditions required by the Incidental Take Permit to avoid or reduce impacts to Crotch's bumble bee.

Mitigation Measure BIO-3: Nesting Birds

The Project site contains suitable habitat for nesting bird species. To avoid potential effects to nesting birds, a preconstruction nesting bird survey will be conducted by a qualified biologist no less than 3 days and not more than 7 days prior to any construction activities at the Project site, including vegetation removal. If no nesting birds are found during the preconstruction survey, then construction may commence within 7 days of completion of the preconstruction survey.

If nesting birds are found during the preconstruction survey, the qualified biologist will establish an exclusionary buffer or buffers around the nests. The buffer(s) will be clearly marked in the field by construction personnel under guidance of the qualified biologist. No construction activities are allowed within the exclusionary buffer until the qualified biologist determines that the young have fledged or the nest is no longer active.

Whether or not any nesting birds were identified during the preconstruction survey, if more than 7 days have lapsed since the preconstruction survey and construction or vegetation removal have not yet commenced, then another preconstruction nesting bird survey will be conducted to determine whether any nesting birds have since moved onto the site.

Issue IV. Biological Resources (continued)

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
b) Would the project have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, regulations or by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?	☐	☐	☒	☐

*Based on the LSA report cited in **Issue IV(a)**, there is no riparian habitat present on the Project site. Open space areas of the Project site are primarily occupied by brittle bush scrub, which provides suitable habitat for coastal California gnatcatcher and potentially suitable habitat for Crotch's bumble bee. Additionally, the Project site is located within federally designated critical habitat for the coastal California gnatcatcher. Potential impacts on the gnatcatcher and its designated critical habitat and on Crotch's bumble bee are discussed in **Issue IV(a)** herein. The Project would not have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community.*

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
c) Would the project have a substantial adverse effect on state or federally protected wetlands (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means?	☐	☐	☐	☒

*Based on the LSA report cited in **Issue IV(a)** above, there are no waters subject to state or federal jurisdiction located on the Project site. Therefore, construction and operation of the Project will not have a substantial adverse effect on state or federally protected wetlands.*

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
d) Would the project interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites?	☐	☐	☒	☐

*Based on the LSA report cited in **Issue IV(a)** above, the Project site is not located within a designated regional wildlife movement corridor. And, although the Project will result in an incremental loss (approximately 1.12 acres) of habitat for wildlife movement, the Project is not anticipated to result in a substantial effect on regional wildlife movement due to the Project's small footprint, implementation of mitigation measures BIO-1 through BIO-3 (described in **Issue IV(a)** herein), and compliance with the State and federal endangered species acts. Additionally, no nursery sites occur on the Project site. For these reasons, the Project would not interfere with the movement of any native resident or migratory*

fish or wildlife species, with any established wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites.

Issue IV. Biological Resources (continued)

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
e) Would the project conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance?	☐	☐	☐	☒

The Project would not conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
f) Would the project conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan?	☐	☐	☐	☒

The Project site is not located within an area covered by an adopted habitat conservation plan, and the Project would not conflict with the provisions of an adopted habitat conservation plan, natural community conservation plan, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan.

Issue V. Cultural Resources

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Would the project cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource pursuant to §15064.5?	☐	☒	☐	☐

CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5(a)(3) states, in part, that "Generally, a resource shall be considered by the lead agency to be "historically significant" if the resource meets the criteria for listing on the California Register of Historical Resources (Pub. Res. Code § 5024.1, Title 14 CCR, Section 4852), including the following:

"(A) Is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of California's history and cultural heritage;

(B) Is associated with the lives of persons important in our past;

(C) Embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, region, or method of construction, or represents the work of an important creative individual, or possesses high artistic values; or

(D) Has yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history".

Further, California Public Resources Code Section 5020.1(j) states that "a '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."

CRM TECH performed historical and archaeological resources studies of the Project site in 2016 and 2025. To meet the requirements for anticipated Project funding from the Safe Drinking Water State Revolving Fund administered by the State Water Resources Control Board, the study conducted in 2025 includes the additional components required for compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. For this reason, and because the 2025 study is essentially an update to the 2016 study, the analysis included herein is based on the most recent study, as described in the report titled, Identification and Evaluation of Historic Properties, La Loma No. 2 Reservoir Project, City of Colton, San Bernardino County, California*, dated September 21, 2025 (CRM TECH Report). Copies of the CRM TECH report and the earlier 2016 report are included in* ***Appendix C*** *herein.*

In performance of its study, CRM TECH conducted a historical/archaeological records search and a Sacred Lands File search, contacted Native American representatives, pursued historical and geoarchaeological background research, and carried out a systematic field survey.

Based on the records search, there were no cultural resources found within the Project site; however, there are a number of resources recorded within a one-mile radius of the Project site, the closest of which is a prehistoric site located approximately 100 feet easterly of the Project site, representing the remnants of Native American resource processing and habitation during the prehistoric period. The proximity of this site to the Project site increases the likelihood of potential archaeological sensitivity at the Project site. Additionally, alluvial sediments in the southern and eastern portions of the Project site have a moderate sensitivity for subsurface archaeological deposits.

A search of the Sacred Lands File identified unspecified Native American cultural resources in the general vicinity of the Project site, and based on this, the Native American Heritage Commission recommended contacting local Native American groups for additional information about potential

cultural resources in the area. CRM TECH contacted 21 Native American groups that were included in a contact list provided by the Native American Heritage Commission.

The Yuhaaviatam of San Manuel Nation (San Manuel) responded to CRM TECH's outreach and stated that the Project site is located within the footprint of a known Serrano village site and is near sites with rock art. It is likely that the Serrano village site cited by San Manuel is related to the nearby prehistoric site identified during the records search. The location of the prehistoric site is currently occupied by a large industrial building, storage facilities, roads, and parking areas.

Based on the considerations summarized above, CRM TECH observed that the Project site appears to be potentially sensitive for subsurface cultural deposits associated with prehistoric activities and recommended that a subsurface archaeological exploration program, referred to as an Extended Phase I study, be implemented in order to determine the condition and archaeological sensitivity of the subsurface soils at the Project site.

The fieldwork for the Extended Phase I study was conducted on February 10, 2026, and the methods and findings of the study are set forth in the letter report, Extended Phase I Archaeological Probing Program, La Loma No. 2 Reservoir Project, City of Colton, San Bernardino County, California, by CRM TECH, dated March 31, 2026, a copy of which is included in ***Appendix C*** *herein. The Extended Phase I study included a systematic, reconnaissance-level survey of the Project site, followed by the excavation of seven (7) shovel test pits and four (4) backhoe trenches. While some historic period refuse was identified onsite, it represented common, minor domestic refuse, and none of the items are considered potential "historic properties" or "historical resources". Based on the Extended Phase I study, CRM TECH concluded that the subsurface sediments at the Project site do not appear to be sensitive for archaeological remains from the prehistoric, protohistoric, or early historic periods, and no further cultural resources investigation is recommended.*

Due to the potential archaeological sensitivity of the site, mitigation will be implemented to avoid or reduce potential impacts to any previously-undiscovered historical/archaeological resources or tribal cultural resources that may be encountered during ground disturbance at the Project site. Mitigation Measure CUL-1 is summarized below and is set forth in the Project's Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program attached to the Mitigated Negative Declaration in ***Appendix A*** *herein. With incorporation of Mitigation Measure CUL-1, the Project would not cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical or archaeological resource pursuant to §15064.5 of the State CEQA Guidelines. The potential for Project impacts on tribal cultural resources is discussed in* ***Issue XVIII*** *herein.*

Mitigation Measure CUL-1: Cultural Resources

In the event that cultural resources are discovered during Project construction activities, all work in the immediate vicinity of the find (within a 60-foot radius buffer area) shall cease, and an archaeologist meeting the Secretary of the Interior's professional qualification standards in archaeology will be hired to assess the find. Work on the other portions of the Project outside of the buffer area may continue during the assessment of the find. If significant pre-contact and/or historic era cultural resources, as defined by CEQA, are discovered and avoidance cannot be ensured, the archaeologist will develop a Monitoring and Treatment Plan, the draft of which will be provided to the Gabrieleño Band of Mission Indians—Kizh Nation for review and comment. Further, if any significant pre-contact and/or historic era cultural resource is discovered, a qualified archaeologist will monitor the remainder of construction ground-disturbing activities and will implement the Monitoring and Treatment Plan accordingly.

Issue V. Cultural Resources (Continued)

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
b) Would the project cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to §15064.5?	☐	☒	☐	☐

As set forth in the CRM TECH Report, no archaeological resources have been identified on or in the vicinity of the Project site; however, the site is within the proximity of a recorded prehistoric site and is considered potentially sensitive to archaeological resources, as described in ***Issue V(a)*** *above. Mitigation Measure CUL-1 is incorporated into the Project to ensure that Project construction will not result in a significant adverse impact on any previously-undiscovered historical or archaeological resources that may be present within subsurface soil deposits at the Project site. With incorporation of Mitigation Measure CUL-1, described in* ***Issue V(a)*** *above, the Project would not cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5. Potential impacts upon tribal cultural resources are described in* ***Issue XVIII*** *herein.*

Issue V. Cultural Resources (Continued)

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
c) Would the project disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of dedicated cemeteries?	☐	☒	☐	☐

There are no known cemeteries or burial grounds located on or adjacent to the Project site. To avoid or reduce potential impacts upon any human remains that may be inadvertently encountered during Project construction, Mitigation Measure CUL-2 is incorporated into the Project. Mitigation Measure CUL-2 is summarized below and is set forth in the Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program for the Project, attached to the Mitigated Negative Declaration in ***Appendix A*** *herein. Additionally, the Project will comply with the provisions of Section 15064.5 of the State CEQA Guidelines.*

Mitigation Measure CUL-2: Human Remains

In the event that any human remains, or suspected human remains, are uncovered or encountered during Project construction, the construction contractor will halt or divert all work within a 100-foot buffer of the find and will immediately notify the San Bernardino County Coroner's office via telephone. After notifying the County Coroner, the contractor will also notify the City of Colton via telephone. If the remains are determined to be of forensic significance, the County Coroner will take possession of the remains and arrange to have the remains removed from the Project site. If the remains are determined to be human and of Native American origin, the County Coroner will notify the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC), and the NAHC will identify the Most Likely Descendent (MLD). The disposition of the remains will be determined through consultation between the MLD and the City. Additionally, Mitigation Measure TCR-3: "Unanticipated Discovery of Human Remains and Associated Funerary or Ceremonial Objects" will apply and be implemented in the event that Native American human remains or grave goods are discovered on the Project site. Construction activities will not resume in the area of the find until the City notifies the construction contractor to resume construction activities. California Health and Safety Code §7050.5 will be enforced for the duration of the Project.

Issue VI. Energy

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Would the project result in potentially significant environmental impact due to wasteful, inefficient, or unnecessary consumption of energy resources, during project construction or operation?	☐	☐	☐	☒

The primary energy resource that will be consumed during construction of the Project is fuel needed by the construction contractor for operating construction vehicles and equipment. Operation of the Project will require fuel for travel of one City vehicle trip to the Project site daily; however, this vehicle trip is already taking place for operation of the existing reservoir onsite. Additionally, electricity will be used to operate the telemetry system and any site lighting. This energy use is needed for construction and operation of the La Loma No. 2 Reservoir as part of the City's water system and would not result in a potentially significant environmental impact due to wasteful, inefficient, or unnecessary consumption of energy resources.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
b) Would the project conflict with or obstruct a state or local plan for renewable energy or energy efficiency?	☐	☐	☐	☒

Construction and operation of the Project will not conflict with or obstruct a state or local plan for renewable energy or energy efficiency. Refer also to ***Issue VI(a)*** *above.*

Issue VII. Geology and Soils

a) Would the project directly or indirectly cause potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
i) Rupture of a known earthquake fault, as delineated on the most recent Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Map issued by the State Geologist for the area or based on other substantial evidence of a known fault? Refer to Division of Mines and Geology Special Publication 42.	☐	☐	☐	☒
ii) Strong seismic ground shaking?	☐	☐	☒	☐
iii) Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction?	☐	☐	☐	☒
iv) Landslides?	☐	☐	☒	☐

i) A geotechnical study of the Project site was conducted by Leighton Consulting, Inc., the findings, conclusions, and recommendations of which are set forth in the report, Geotechnical Design Report City of Colton Public Works Department, Water Division Proposed 3 or 4 MG Potable Water Tank La Loma Hillside Site 250± West Tropica(na) Ranch Road Colton, California, dated October 9, 2015 (Leighton Report). Based on the Leighton Report, the Project Site is not located within a currently designated Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zone, and no known active surface faults are known to cross the Project site. For these reasons, construction and operation of the Project would not directly or indirectly cause potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving rupture of a known earthquake fault.

*ii) Being located in seismically-active southern California, the Project site is subject to strong seismic ground shaking. Based on the Leighton Report cited in **Issue VII(a)(i)** above, there are several active and potentially active faults in the region that could produce significant ground shaking at the Project site. These include the San Jacinto Fault Zone located approximately 1.5 miles to the northeast and the San Andreas Fault Zone located approximately 8 miles to the northeast. The Project does not include any structures intended for human occupancy, and Project facilities will be designed and constructed in accordance with the recommendations provided in the Leighton Report, or subsequent recommendations made during Project design. For these reasons, construction and operation of the Project is not expected to directly or indirectly cause potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving strong seismic ground shaking.*

iii) *Based on the Leighton Report cited in **Issue VII(a)(i)** above, the potential for liquefaction to occur at the Project site is extremely remote, due to the absence of shallow groundwater and the site being underlain by bedrock. The Project does not include facilities intended for human occupation, and Project facilities will be designed and constructed in accordance with the recommendations provided in the Leighton Report or subsequent recommendations made during Project design. Additionally, the Leighton report states that seismically induced differential settlement is expected to be negligible. For these reasons, the Project would not expose people or structures to potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving seismic-related ground failure, such as liquefaction.*

iv) *According to the Leighton Report cited in **Issue VII(a)(i)** above, the Project site is located within a landslide hazard zone. The Leighton Report further states that soils on the Project site consist of thin layers of undocumented fill and colluvium underlain by granitic rock and that existing and proposed slopes are anticipated to be stable, provided there are no adverse geological discontinuities. The Project will be designed and constructed in accordance with the recommendations provided in the Leighton Report or subsequent recommendations made during Project design. Further, Project facilities do not include structures intended for human habitation. For these reasons, the Project would not directly or indirectly cause potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving landslides.*

Issue VII. Geology and Soils (Continued)

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
b) Would the project result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil?	☐	☐	☒	☐

Site grading is included as part of the Project; therefore, the Project is expected to result in the loss of topsoil where grading takes place. Soil erosion may result during Project construction as a result of disturbed soils or stockpiles that may occur during construction. Soil erosion will be mitigated to the extent practicable by implementation of best management practices (BMPs) in accordance with the California Regional Water Quality Control Board Santa Ana Region Order No. R8-2010-0036, NPDES No. CAS6180036, National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit and Waste Discharge Requirements for the San Bernardino County Flood Control District, the County of San Bernardino, and the Incorporated Cities of San Bernardino County Within the Santa Ana Region, Area-Wide Urban Storm Water Runoff Management Program (MS4 Permit) and the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) General Permit for Storm Water Discharges Associated with Construction and Land Disturbance Activities Order No. 2022-0057-DWQ NPDES No. CAS000002 (Construction General Permit), as currently revised and as applicable.

Disturbed ground surfaces will be paved or returned to near-preconstruction conditions after Project construction. Standard erosion control practices will be incorporated into Project design and construction, and no erosion related to the Project is expected to occur after completion of construction and final site stabilization.

For the reasons stated above, the Project would not result in substantial soil erosion or substantial impacts related to the loss of topsoil.

Issue VII. Geology and Soils (Continued)

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
c) Would the project be located on a geologic unit or soil that is unstable, or that would become unstable as a result of the project, and potentially result in on- or off-site landslide, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction or collapse?	☐	☐	☒	☐

*According to the Leighton Report cited in **Issue VII(a)(i)** above, the Project site is located within a landslide hazard zone. The Project site is not located on soils that are conducive to lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction, or collapse. With implementation of standard seismic design parameters and incorporation of recommendations set forth in the Leighton Report, any potential risks of adverse impacts resulting from landslide at the Project site would be reduced to less than significant. For these reasons, any impacts related to unstable soils would be less than significant.*

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
d) Would the project be located on expansive soil, as defined in Table 18-1-B of the Uniform Building Code (1994), creating substantial direct or indirect risks to life or property?	☐	☐	☐	☒

*Based on the Leighton Report cited in **Issue VII(a)(i)**, soils at the Project site consist of thin layers of undocumented fill and colluvium underlain by granitic rock. These soils are not considered expansive; therefore, the Project would not create substantial direct or indirect risks to life or property related to expansive soil.*

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
e) Would the project have soils incapable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative waste water disposal systems where sewers are not available for the disposal of waste water?	☐	☐	☐	☒

The Project does not include septic tanks or alternative wastewater disposal systems.

Issue VII. Geology and Soils (Continued)

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
f) Would the project directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature?	☐	☐	☐	☒

Federal, state, and local regulations and policies provide protection for paleontological resources. These include, but are not limited to, the federal Paleontological Resources Preservation Act of 2009 (Public Law 111-011, Title VI, Subtitle D) and California Public Resources Code Section 30244.

There are no known paleontological resources present at the Project site, and, due to the rocky soils present on the site, the probability that paleontological resources are present is less than significant. Additionally, the Project site does not contain any known unique geologic features. For these reasons, the Project would not directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or a unique geologic feature.

Issue VIII. Greenhouse Gas Emissions

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Would the project generate greenhouse gas emissions, either directly or indirectly, that may have a significant impact on the environment?	☐	☐	☒	☐

Gases that trap heat in the Earth's atmosphere are referred to as greenhouse gases (GHGs). GHGs that are emitted due to human activities, primarily from the combustion of fossil fuels (e.g. gasoline in motor vehicles), are carbon dioxide (CO_2), methane (CH_4), and nitrous oxide (N_2O). The most common GHG that results from human activities is CO_2, followed by CH_4 and N_2O, respectively.

To quantify and combine these three GHGs into a single figure, each gas is converted to "carbon dioxide equivalent" (CO_2e) units. CO_2e is defined by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) as, "A metric measure used to compare the emissions from various greenhouse gases based upon their global warming potential (GWP)…The carbon dioxide equivalent for a gas is derived by multiplying the tons of the gas by the associated GWP." The GWPs for carbon dioxide, methane, and nitrous oxide are 1, 25, and 298, respectively.

The City adopted the City of Colton 2023 Climate Action Plan Update on December 5, 2023. The City of Colton Greenhouse Gas Emissions Screening Tables Implementing Performance Standards that is a part of the City's Climate Action Plan, describes two approaches for development review: (1) Use screening tables, or (2) Project Specific Quantification. For Project Specific Quantification, GHG emission impacts are considered less than significant if 2030 GHG emissions will be reduced by 40%. The Project is expected to result in GHG emissions only during construction; therefore, provided construction has been completed by 2030, the Project will not generate any additional GHG emissions in 2030 and beyond, as Project facilities will not emit GHGs.

GHG emissions anticipated during construction would result from operating construction vehicles and equipment and from workers' vehicles commuting to and from the Project Site. Estimated quantities of GHGs that would be generated during Project construction total approximately 7,096 metric tons of CO_2e, as calculated using the California Emissions Estimator Model (CalEEMod, Version 2022.1). A copy of the CalEEMod output summary report for the Project is included in ***Appendix D*** *herein.*

GHGs emitted during ongoing operation and maintenance would result from daily vehicle trips to and from the Project site; however, since these vehicle trips are already taking place for operation of the existing La Loma No. 1 Reservoir on the Project site, the Project would not result in an increase in vehicle trips for ongoing operation and maintenance above existing conditions.

SCAQMD has not established a significance threshold for GHGs emitted from water system facilities or other municipal facilities; however, it has established a significance threshold of 10,000 metric tons of CO_2e per year for industrial facilities. Considering this threshold, and that Project GHG emissions are temporary and will not continue beyond construction, the GHGs emitted during construction would not result in a significant environmental impact.

For the reasons described above, the Project will not generate GHG emissions that would, either directly or indirectly, have a significant impact on the environment.

Issue VIII. Greenhouse Gas Emissions (Continued)

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
b) Would the project conflict with an applicable plan, policy, or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing the emission of greenhouse gases?	☐	☐	☒	☐

The City of Colton 2023 Climate Action Plan Update, adopted by the City on December 5, 2023, identifies the City's goal to reduce its community GHG emissions to a level that is 46% below its 2008 GHG emissions by 2030. As described in ***Issue VIII(a)*** *above, construction of the Project would generate insignificant quantities of GHGs, while operation of the Project would not result in an increase in GHG emissions over existing conditions. For these reasons, construction and operation of the Project will not conflict with the City of Colton 2023 Climate Action Plan Update or with any plan, policy, or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing GHG emissions.*

Issue IX. Hazards and Hazardous Materials

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Would the project create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials?	☐	☐	☒	☐

Small quantities of fuel, lubricants, adhesives, paint, and coatings will be used during construction of the Project. Said use will be short-term and strictly controlled, and waste materials will be properly disposed of. Such materials will not be allowed to enter any drainage. Further, operation of the Project does not involve the generation, transport, use, storage, or disposal of any hazardous materials beyond fuel and lubricants contained within City vehicles traveling to the site. Therefore, construction and operation of the Project will not create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials.

Issue IX. Hazards and Hazardous Materials (Continued)

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
b) Would the project create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment?	☐	☐	☒	☐

*The Project includes constructing and operating a potable water storage reservoir, and Project operation would not involve transporting, using, storing, or disposal of any significant quantities of hazardous materials. As described in **Issue IX(a)** above, the Project is expected to use small quantities of lubricants, fuel, paint, and adhesives during construction and to use fuel and lubricants in vehicles travelling to the Project site during ongoing operation. The quantities and use of such materials would not create a substantial hazard. For these reasons, the Project does not have the potential to create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment. Refer also to **Issue IX(a)** above.*

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
c) Would the project emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school?	☐	☐	☐	☒

There are no schools located within one-quarter mile of the Project site. The nearest schools are Woodrow Wilson Elementary School (approximately one mile northeasterly of the Project site) and Grand Terrace Elementary School (approximately one mile southeasterly of the Project site). Project construction and operation will take place within the Project site and associated utility access roads. For these reasons, the Project would not emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school.

Issue IX. Hazards and Hazardous Materials (Continued)

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
d) Would the project be located on a site which is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5 and, as a result, would it create a significant hazard to the public or the environment?	☐	☐	☐	☒

The Project site is not included on the list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5, as maintained by the California Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) and listed on DTSC's publicly-accessible Envirostor database located online at http://www.envirostor.dtsc.ca.gov/public). Based on information obtained from the Envirostor database, the nearest such site is the former Griffin Wheel Dump (Griffin) site, which is located approximately a half-mile northeasterly of the Project site and northerly of the Santa Ana River. The Griffin site previously contained a foundry that manufactured steel wheels for the railroad industry. The Project's proximity to the Griffin site would not create a significant hazard to the public or the environment.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
e) For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project result in a safety hazard or excessive noise for people residing or working in the project area?	☐	☐	☐	☒

The airports nearest the Project site are the Flabob Airport and the San Bernardino International Airport. The Flabob Airport is a public-use general aviation airport and is located approximately 5.25 miles southwesterly of the Project site. The San Bernardino International Airport is a public airport located approximately 5.20 miles northeasterly of the Project site. The Project site is not within the noise contours or airport influence areas of either airport. The Project would not result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the Project area.

Issue IX. Hazards and Hazardous Materials (Continued)

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
f) Would the project impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?	☐	☐	☒	☐

Transportation corridors will remain open during Project construction. Construction contract documents will require the construction contractor to implement safe and effective traffic control measures, as applicable. For these reasons, construction and operation of the Project will not impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
g) Would the project expose people or structures, either directly or indirectly, to a significant risk of loss, injury, or death involving wildland fires?	☐	☐	☒	☐

The Project site contains the existing La Loma No. 1 Reservoir, an access road, and open space. The Project vicinity includes open space; residential, commercial, and industrial development; the Santa Ana River; and a surface mining operation. According to "Figure S-8: Wildfire Hazard Zones" of the City of Colton General Plan 2018 Safety Element, the Project is located within an area mapped as "Very High" for wildfire hazards. There is a slight risk of a fire occurring during Project construction; however, the risk is less than significant and short-term. Additionally, construction contract documents for the Project will require construction contractors to comply with safety standards specified in Title 8 of the California Code of Regulations and that any equipment or machinery that poses a risk of emitting sparks or flame be equipped with an arrestor, thereby further limiting potential impacts. Project operation does not pose an additional risk of fire above that of the existing La Loma No. 1 Reservoir onsite, which does not have any significant fire risk. For these reasons, impacts would be less than significant and construction and operation of the Project would not expose people or structures, either directly or indirectly, to a significant risk of loss, injury, or death involving wildland fires.

Issue X. Hydrology and Water Quality

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Would the project violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements or otherwise substantially degrade surface or groundwater quality?	☐	☐	☐	☒

The Project includes constructing and operating a welded steel potable water storage reservoir. Project facilities do not have a waste stream and would not violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements or otherwise substantially degrade surface or groundwater quality.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
b) Would the project substantially decrease groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that the project may impede sustainable groundwater management of the basin?	☐	☐	☐	☒

The Project does not have a water demand beyond that required during construction. Project facilities will be used for storage of potable water as part of the City's existing water distribution system. The Project would not substantially decrease groundwater supplies, interfere substantially with groundwater recharge, or impede sustainable groundwater management of the basin.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
c) Would the project substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, or through the addition of impervious surfaces, in a manner which would:				
i) Result in substantial erosion or siltation on- or off-site?	☐	☐	☒	☐
ii) Substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner which would result in flooding on- or offsite?	☐	☐	☒	☐
iii) Create or contribute runoff water which would exceed the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems or provide substantial additional sources of polluted runoff?	☐	☐	☐	☒
iv) Impede or redirect flood flows?	☐	☐	☐	☒

i) Project construction includes site grading and paving, which will alter existing drainage patterns on the site. Impacts to drainage patterns will be addressed by the measures included in the Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) and the Project-Specific Water Quality

Management Plan (WQMP). Therefore, drainage flow and pattern changes will be less than significant and will not result in substantial erosion or siltation on- or off-site.

ii) *The new 3.0 MG La Loma No. 2 Reservoir, as well as additional paved areas surrounding the tank, will increase the impervious area on the Project site. The increase in the impervious area onsite is mitigated by the use of porous pavement to pave a portion of the access road (as shown on* ***Figure 3*** *herein) and by inclusion of an onsite stormwater retention basin. With inclusion of these design measures, the Project is not expected to substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner that would result in flooding on- or offsite. Refer also to* ***Issue X(c)(i)*** *above.*

iii) *The Project would not create or contribute any runoff water or result in stormwater runoff that would exceed the capacity of existing or planned drainage systems or provide substantial additional sources of polluted runoff. Refer also to* ***Issues X(c)(i)*** *and* ***X(c)(ii)*** *above.*

iv) *Project facilities do not have the potential to impede or redirect flood flows. Refer also to* ***Issues X(c)(i)*** *through* ***X(c)(iii)*** *above.*

Issue X. <u>Hydrology and Water Quality</u> (Continued)

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
d) In flood hazard, tsunami, or seiche zones, would the project risk release of pollutants due to project inundation?	☐	☐	☐	☒

Based on the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Flood Insurance Rate Map No. 06071C8687J, effective 09/02/2016 and revised to reflect a Letter of Map Revision (LOMR) effective 08/25/2023, the Project site is located within an area mapped as an "Area of Minimal Flood Hazard" (Zone X). Based on the California Official Tsunami Inundation Maps available on the California Department of Conservation website at https://www.conservation.ca.gov/cgs/tsunami/maps, there are no tsunami inundation areas mapped within San Bernardino County. There are no water bodies of sufficient size located near the Project site that would put the site at risk of a seiche. For these reasons, th

e Project is not located in a flood hazard, tsunami, or seiche zone and would not risk release of pollutants due to inundation.

Issue X. Hydrology and Water Quality (Continued)

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
e) Would the project conflict with or obstruct implementation of a water quality control plan or sustainable groundwater management plan?	☐	☐	☐	☒

The water quality control plan applicable to the Project area is the Water Quality Control Plan for the Santa Ana River Basin Region, adopted in 1995 and amended numerous times since, with the most recent amendments made in 2022. The Project does not include features that will conflict with or obstruct water quality policies or objectives, and will not conflict with or obstruct implementation of the water quality control plan cited above. The Project site is not located within the boundaries of a sustainable groundwater management plan. For these reasons, the Project will not conflict with or obstruct implementation of a water quality control plan or sustainable groundwater management plan.

The Project site is not located within a designated Sole Source Aquifer (SSA) area, based on a search of the Interactive Map of Sole Source Aquifers, provided by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) online at www.epa.gov/dwssa/map-sole-source-aquifer-locations.

Issue XI. Land Use and Planning

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Would the project physically divide an established community?	☐	☐	☐	☒

The Project is located on the existing La Loma No. 1 Reservoir site and associated access road and does not have the potential to divide an established community.

Issue XI. Land Use and Planning (Continued)

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
b) Would the project cause a significant environmental impact due to a conflict with any land use plan, policy, or regulation adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect?	☐	☐	☐	☒

The Project is being constructed on the existing La Loma No. 1 Reservoir site and associated access road. Project construction and operation will take place within the bounds of the existing City-owned property and access road easement. The Project will not conflict with any land use plan, policy, or regulation adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect.

Issue XII. Mineral Resources

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Would the project result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource that would be of value to the region and the residents of the state?	☐	☐	☐	☒

Project facilities will be located within the City's existing La Loma Reservoir No. 1 site and associated access road, which are not known to contain any mineral resources that would be of value to the region or to the residents of the state. The Project would not impact the availability of any known mineral resources or mineral resource recovery sites. For these reasons, the Project would not result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource that would be of value to the region and the residents of the state.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
b) Result in the loss of availability of a locally-important mineral resource recovery site delineated on a local general plan, specific plan, or other land use plan?	☐	☐	☐	☒

The Project will not result in the loss of availability of a locally-important mineral resource recovery site delineated on a local general plan, specific plan, or other land use plan. Refer also to ***Issue XII(a)*** *above.*

Issue XIII. Noise

		Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a)	Would the project result in generation of a substantial temporary or permanent increase in ambient noise levels in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance, or applicable standards of other agencies?	☐	☐	☒	☐

The Project will generate increased noise levels in the area temporarily during construction as a result of construction vehicles and equipment operating onsite. The City does not have regulations pertaining to construction noise; therefore, the County of San Bernardino's noise regulations apply to this Project. County of San Bernardino Municipal Code Section 24.0707(e) exempts "[N]oise sources associated with construction, maintenance, and repair operations conducted by public agencies and/or utility companies or their contractors which are deemed necessary to serve the best interest of the public and to protect the public health, welfare, and safety…". The sensitive receptor nearest the Project site is a residence located just easterly of the existing access road and approximately 400 feet southerly of Tropica Rancho Road. Additional residences are located approximately 800 feet to the south of the Project site. While some construction noise is anticipated, it will take place during daylight hours and is expected to be less than significant and short-term.

Ongoing operation and maintenance of the Project is not expected to result in an increase in noise over existing conditions because the operation and maintenance will be conducted in conjunction with the operation and maintenance of existing facilities on the Project site, namely the La Loma No. 1 Reservoir. Project facilities are not anticipated to generate noise during operation. The number of vehicle trips to the Project site (approximately one trip daily) are currently taking place, are periodic in nature, and the resulting roadway noise from said trips blends with existing traffic noise in the area. Therefore, noise expected to result from operation and maintenance of the Project is less than significant.

For the reasons described above, the Project will not result in generation of a substantial temporary or permanent increase in ambient noise levels in excess of standards established for the area.

Issue XIII. Noise (Continued)

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
b) Would the project result in generation of excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels?	☐	☐	☒	☐

The Project is not expected to result in excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise during Project construction or operation. Any groundborne vibration or groundborne noise generated during Project construction would be perceptible at the nearest residence located easterly of the access road; although, it is anticipated to be less than significant and short-term. Such groundborne vibration and groundborne noise are not expected to be perceptible at the residences located approximately 800 feet southerly of the Project site. Ongoing Project operation will not generate groundborne vibration or groundborne noise. For these reasons, the Project will not result in the generation of excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels. Refer also to ***Issue XIII(a)*** *above.*

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
c) For a project located within the vicinity of a private airstrip or an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?	☐	☐	☐	☒

The airports nearest the Project site are the Flabob Airport and the San Bernardino International Airport. The Flabob Airport is a public-use general aviation airport and is located approximately 5.25 miles southwesterly of the Project site. The San Bernardino International Airport is a public airport located approximately 5.20 miles northeasterly of the Project site. The Project site is not within

the noise contours or airport influence areas of either airport. For these reasons, the Project will not expose people residing or working in the Project area to excessive noise levels related to airports.

Issue XIV. Population and Housing

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Would the project induce substantial unplanned population growth in an area, either directly (for example, by proposing new homes and businesses) or indirectly (for example, through extension of road or other infrastructure)?	☐	☐	☐	☒

The Project will provide additional potable water storage capacity for the City's water system. The additional storage capacity does not provide an additional water supply for residential or commercial use. Further, the Project would not result in a need for the City to hire additional employees. The Project is not a growth-inducing project and there are no components of the Project that would induce population growth in the area, either directly or indirectly.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
b) Would the project displace substantial numbers of existing people or housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?	☐	☐	☐	☒

The Project is located on the City's existing La Loma No. 1 Reservoir site and associated access road, does not include any existing housing, and does not have the potential to displace any existing people or housing.

Issue XV. Public Services

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Would the project result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered governmental facilities, need for new or physically altered governmental facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times, or other performance objectives for any of the public services:				
i) Fire protection?	☐	☐	☐	☒
ii) Police protection?	☐	☐	☐	☒
iii) Schools?	☐	☐	☐	☒
iv) Parks?	☐	☐	☐	☒
v) Other public facilities?	☐	☐	☐	☒

i) The Project does not include any features or facilities that would require additional or unusual fire protection resources.

ii) The Project does not include any features or facilities that would require enhanced levels of police protection.

iii) The Project does not have the potential to increase or decrease the area's population and would therefore not result in a greater or lesser demand for schools. The Project will not adversely impact any school.

iv) The Project does not have the potential to increase or decrease the area's population, and therefore will not result in a greater or lesser demand for parks. The Project will not adversely impact any park.

v) The Project will not adversely affect other public facilities.

Issue XVI. Recreation

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Would the project increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility would occur or be accelerated?	☐	☐	☐	☒

Construction and operation of the Project do not have the potential to increase or decrease the area's population, and would therefore not result in increased or decreased use of parks or other recreational facilities. Refer also to ***Issue XIV(a)*** *herein.*

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
b) Does the project include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities which might have an adverse physical effect on the environment?	☐	☐	☐	☒

The Project does not include recreational facilities and will not require the construction or expansion of any recreational facilities.

Issue XVII. Transportation

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Would the project conflict with a program, plan, ordinance, or policy addressing the circulation system, including transit, roadway, bicycle, and pedestrian facilities?	☐	☐	☒	☐

Minor, temporary impacts to traffic are expected to occur during construction of the Project due to workers' vehicles and construction vehicles and equipment traveling to the Project site; however, said impacts will be less than significant and short-term. Operation of the Project will not increase vehicle trips in the area above existing conditions because City staff already visits the site approximately once daily for operation of the existing La Loma No. 1 Reservoir. For these reasons, construction and operation of the Project will not conflict with a program, plan, ordinance, or policy addressing the circulation system.

Issue XVII. Transportation (Continued)

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
b) Would the project conflict or be inconsistent with CEQA Guidelines section 15064.3, subdivision (b)?	☐	☐	☒	☐

CEQA Guidelines §15064.3(b) sets forth criteria for analyzing transportation impacts. Construction of the Project is expected to result in approximately ten worker vehicles traveling to and from the Project site per day. For the purposes of this analysis, we have assumed that workers will commute a total of 40 miles per day each, round-trip, which results in a total of 400 vehicle miles traveled (VMT) per day during construction. This amount of daily VMT will only occur during Project construction and is not significant considering the existing traffic levels in the area and the short-term nature of construction. Operation of the Project is expected to require approximately one daily City vehicle trip to and from Project site daily; however, these trips are an existing ongoing activity that is already taking place for operation of the City's existing water system facilities on the site. Therefore, no increase in VMT over existing conditions will result from operation of the Project. For these reasons, construction and operation of the Project will not conflict or be inconsistent with CEQA Guidelines section 15064.3(b).

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
c) Would the project substantially increase hazards due to a geometric design feature (e.g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses (e.g., farm equipment)?	☐	☐	☐	☒

The Project will be constructed on the City's existing La Loma No. 1 Reservoir site and associated access road. The Project will have no impact on public street design and would not substantially increase hazards due to design features or incompatible uses.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
d) Would the project result in inadequate emergency access?	☐	☐	☒	☐

Besides the work involving resurfacing the reservoir access road, there will be no road or lane closures necessary for construction or operation of the Project. The work on the access road will be short-term, and would not result in inadequate emergency access for residents or businesses in the area. For these

reasons, the Project will not result in inadequate emergency access at the Project site or in the local vicinity.

Issue XVIII. Tribal Cultural Resources

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Would the project cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a tribal cultural resource, defined in Public Resources Code section 21074 as either a site, feature, place, cultural landscape that is geographically defined in terms of the size and scope of the landscape, sacred place, or object with cultural value to a California Native American tribe, and that is:				
i) Listed or eligible for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources, or in a local register of historical resources as defined in Public Resources Code section 5020.1(k), or	☐	☒	☐	☐
ii) A resource determined by the lead agency, in its discretion and supported by substantial evidence, to be significant pursuant to criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resources Code section 5024.1? In applying the criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resources Code section 5024.1, the lead agency shall consider the significance of the resource to a California Native American tribe.	☐	☒	☐	☐

i) *Based on the cultural resources report prepared by CRM TECH (2025), cited in **Issue V(a)** herein and included in **Appendix C**, there are no known tribal cultural resources or other known cultural resources on the Project site; however, due to its proximity to a recorded prehistoric site and other known nearby resources, the Project site is potentially sensitive for tribal cultural resources that may be eligible for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources or in a local register of historical resources as defined in Public Resources Code Section 5020.1(k). To avoid or reduce potential impacts upon any previously-undiscovered tribal cultural resources that may be present in subsurface deposits onsite, the City has incorporated Mitigation Measures TCR-1 through TCR-3 into the Project. Mitigation Measures TCR-1 through TCR-3 are summarized in **Issue XVIII(a)(ii)** below and are set forth in the Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program attached to the Mitigated Negative Declaration in **Appendix A** herein. With incorporation of these mitigation measures, the Project would not cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a tribal cultural resource, defined in Public Resources Code §21074 as either a site, feature, place, cultural landscape that is geographically defined in terms of the size and scope of the landscape, sacred place, or object*

with cultural value to a California Native American tribe, and that is listed or eligible for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources or in a local register of historical resources as defined in Public Resources Code §5020.1(k).

ii) *The City sent formal notification letters to numerous local Native American tribes to notify tribes of the Project, in accordance with the provisions of CEQA. In response to the City's notification letter, the Gabrieleño Band of Mission Indians—Kizh Nation (Kizh) requested formal consultation with the City on the Project. During consultation, Kizh proposed specific mitigation measures intended to avoid or minimize potential impacts to tribal cultural resources, and the City has incorporated those measures into the Project. Mitigation Measures TCR-1 through TCR-3 are summarized below and are set forth in the Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program attached to the Mitigated Negative Declaration in* ***Appendix A*** *herein. With implementation of Mitigation Measures TCR-1 through TCR-3, the Project would not cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a tribal cultural resource that is determined by the City, in its discretion and supported by substantial evidence, to be significant pursuant to criteria set forth in Public Resources Code section 5024.1(c).*

Mitigation Measure TCR-1: Retain a Native American Monitor Prior to Commencement of Ground-Disturbing Activities

A. *The City shall retain a Native American Monitor from or approved by the Gabrieleño Band of Mission Indians—Kizh Nation (the Kizh). The monitor shall be retained prior to the commencement of any "ground-disturbing activity" for the subject project at all project locations (i.e., both on-site and any off-site locations that are included in the project description/definition and/or required in connection with the project, such as public improvement work). "Ground-disturbing activity" includes, but is not limited to, demolition, pavement removal, potholing, auguring, grubbing, tree removal, boring, grading, excavation, drilling, and trenching.*
B. *A copy of the executed monitoring agreement shall be submitted to the City prior to the earlier of the commencement of any ground-disturbing activity or the issuance of any permit necessary to commence a ground-disturbing activity.*
C. *The monitor will complete daily monitoring logs that will provide descriptions of the relevant ground-disturbing activities, soil types, cultural-related materials, and any other facts, conditions, materials, or discoveries of significance to the Kizh. Monitor logs will identify and describe any discovered tribal cultural resources, including but not limited to, Native American cultural and historical artifacts, remains, places of significance, etc.*

(collectively, tribal cultural resources, or "TCR"), as well as any discovered Native American (ancestral) human remains and burial goods. Copies of monitor logs will be provided to the City upon written request to the Kizh.

D. *On-site tribal monitoring shall conclude upon the latter of the following: (1) written confirmation to the Kizh from a designated point of contact for the City that all ground-disturbing activities and phases that may involve ground-disturbing activities on the project site or in connection with the project are complete; or (2) a determination and written notification by the Kizh to the City that no future, planned construction activity and/or development/construction phase at the project site possesses the potential to impact Kizh TCR.*

Mitigation Measure TCR-2: Unanticipated Discovery of Tribal Cultural Resource Objects (Non-Funerary/Non-Ceremonial)

Upon discovery of any tribal cultural resources (TCR), all construction activities in the immediate vicinity of the discovery shall cease (i.e., not less than the surrounding 50 feet) and shall not resume until the discovered TCR has been fully assessed by the Kizh monitor and/or Kizh archaeologist. The Kizh will recover and retain all discovered TCR in the form and/or manner the tribe deems appropriate, in the tribe's sole discretion, and for any purpose the tribe deems appropriate, including for education, cultural, and/or historic purposes.

Mitigation Measure TCR-3: Unanticipated Discovery of Human Remains and Associated Funerary or Ceremonial Objects

A. *Native American human remains are defined in California Public Resources Code (PRC) Section 5097.98(d)(1) as an inhumation or cremation, and in any state of decomposition or skeletal completeness. Funerary objects, called associated grave goods in PRC Section 5097.98, are also to be treated according to this statute.*

B. *If Native American human remains and/or grave goods are discovered or recognized on the Project site, then PRC Section 5097.9 as well as Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5 shall be followed.*

C. *Human remains and grave/burial goods shall be treated alike per PRC Section 5097.98(d)(1) and (2).*

D. *Preservation in place (i.e., avoidance) is the preferred manner of treatment for discovered human remains and/or burial goods.*

E. Any discovery of human remains/burial goods shall be kept confidential to prevent further disturbance.

Issue XIX. Utilities and Service Systems

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Would the project require or result in the relocation or construction of new or expanded water, wastewater treatment, or storm water drainage, electric power, natural gas, or telecommunications facilities, the relocation or construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?	☐	☐	☐	☒

*The Project includes construction and operation of a new potable water storage reservoir, as described in **Part 1(B)** herein. Project facilities include onsite stormwater drainage facilities, including an onsite retention basin. The Project would not require or result in the relocation or construction of any new or expanded facilities outside the Project site. For these reasons, the Project would not require or result in the relocation or construction of any such facilities that would cause significant environmental effects.*

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
b) Would the project have sufficient water supplies available to serve the project and reasonably foreseeable future development during normal, dry, and multiple dry years?	☐	☐	☐	☒

Water needed during construction, such as for dust control, will be available from the City's existing water supplies, and construction water demand will be less than significant and short-term. Operation of the Project facilities does not have a water demand. For these reasons, the Project has sufficient water supplies available to serve the Project and reasonably foreseeable future development during normal, dry, and multiple dry years.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
c) Would the project result in a determination by the wastewater treatment provider which serves or may serve the project that it has adequate capacity to serve the project's projected demand in addition to the provider's existing commitments?	☐	☐	☐	☒

The Project will not generate sanitary wastewater.

Issue XIX. Utilities and Service Systems (Continued)

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
d) Would the project generate solid waste in excess of state or local standards, or in excess of the capacity of local infrastructure, or otherwise impair the attainment of solid waste reduction goals?	☐	☐	☒	☐

Project operation will not generate solid waste. Small quantities of solid waste may be generated during Project construction; however, said quantities of solid waste would be minimal and would be recycled or accommodated by a local landfill. For these reasons, the project will not generate solid waste in excess of state or local standards or in excess of the capacity of local infrastructure. Further, the Project will not otherwise impair the attainment of solid waste reduction goals.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
e) Would the project comply with federal, state, and local management and reduction statutes and regulations related to solid waste?	☐	☐	☐	☒

The Project will comply with all federal, state, and local management and reduction statutes and regulations related to solid waste. Refer also to ***Issue XIX(d)*** *above.*

Issue XX. Wildfire

If the Project is located in or near state responsibility areas or lands classified as very high fire hazard severity zones:

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Would the project substantially impair an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?	☐	☐	☒	☐

Based on maps available on the California Board of Forestry and Fire Protection State Responsibility Area Viewer, the Project Site is not located within a state responsibility area (SRA). According to "Figure S-8: Wildfire Hazard Zones" of the City of Colton General Plan 2018 Safety Element, the Project is located within an area mapped as "Very High" for wildfire hazards. There is a slight risk of a fire occurring during Project construction; however, the risk is less than significant and short-term. Additionally, construction contract documents for the Project will require construction contractors to

comply with safety standards specified in Title 8 of the California Code of Regulations and that any equipment or machinery that poses a risk of emitting sparks or flame be equipped with an arrestor, thereby further limiting potential impacts. Project operation does not pose an additional risk of fire above that of the existing La Loma No. 1 Reservoir onsite, which does not have any significant fire risk. Further, Project construction and operation will not require any road closures. For these reasons, the Project would not substantially impair an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan.

Issue XX. Wildfire (Continued)

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
b) Due to slope, prevailing winds, or other factors, would the project exacerbate wildfire risks and thereby expose project occupants to pollutant concentrations from a wildfire or the uncontrolled spread of a wildfire?	☐	☐	☐	☒

The Project does not include habitable structures, and there would be no project occupants except for City employees who are anticipated to visit the site daily for operation and maintenance purposes. Further, construction and operation of the Project will not exacerbate wildfire risks. Refer also to ***Issue XX(a)*** *above.*

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
c) Would the project require the installation or maintenance of associated infrastructure (such as roads, fuel breaks, emergency water sources, power lines, or other utilities) that may exacerbate fire risk or that may result in temporary or ongoing impacts to the environment?	☐	☐	☐	☒

The access road included in the Project is existing and is being resurfaced as part of the Project. The Project does not include any new roads, fuel breaks, emergency water sources, power lines, or other utilities besides the 3.0 MG La Loma Reservoir No. 2. The Project does not require the installation or maintenance of associated infrastructure that will exacerbate fire risk or result in temporary or ongoing impacts to the environment related to fire risk. Refer also to ***Issue XX(a)*** *above.*

Issue XX. Wildfire (Continued)

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
d) Would the project expose people or structures to significant risks, including downslope or downstream flooding or landslide, as a result of runoff, post-fire slope instability, or drainage changes?	☐	☐	☒	☐

Changes in drainage and runoff at the Project site have been addressed by Project design, including use of porous pavement on a portion of the access road and inclusion of an onsite stormwater retention basin. All disturbed surfaces will be paved or restored to preconstruction conditions. Construction and operation of the Project will not expose people or structures to significant risks as a result of runoff, post-fire slope instability, or drainage changes.

Issue XXI. Mandatory Findings of Significance

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Does the project have the potential to substantially degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, substantially reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal, or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory?	☐	☒	☐	☐

- ***Biological Resources***

  *As described in **Issue IV** herein, the Project site is located within an area mapped as designated critical habitat for coastal California gnatcatcher, and the site also contains suitable habitat for other nesting birds and Crotch's bumble bee. Potential Project impacts to coastal California gnatcatcher, Crotch's bumble bee, and nesting birds will not be significant with incorporation of Mitigation Measures BIO-1, BIO-2, and BIO-3 which are set forth in the Project's Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program, attached to the Mitigated Negative Declaration included in **Appendix A** herein.*

- ***Archaeological and Historical Resources***

  *As described in **Issue V** herein, historical/archaeological resources assessments were conducted at the Project site. Based on the assessments, there are no known resources present on the Project site that meet the criteria for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources or qualify as a historical or archaeological resource under CEQA; however, due to the Project's proximity to known prehistoric resources and potential tribal cultural resources, mitigation has been*

*incorporated into the Project to avoid or reduce impacts to previously-undiscovered significant historical or archaeological resources or tribal cultural resources that may be present in subsurface deposits on the Project site. Said mitigation is summarized in **Issue V** herein and is set forth in the Project's Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program attached to the Mitigated Negative Declaration included in **Appendix A** herein. With incorporation of the mitigation, construction and operation of the Project is not expected to eliminate known important examples of major periods of California history or prehistory.*

- ***Paleontological Resources***

  *As described in **Issue VII(f)** herein, there are no known paleontological resources present at the Project site, and, due to the rocky soils present on the site, the probability that paleontological resources are present is less than significant. Therefore, the Project would not directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or eliminate important examples of California history or prehistory.*

Issue XXI. Mandatory Findings of Significance (Continued)

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
b) Does the project have impacts that are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable? ("Cumulatively considerable" means that the incremental effects of a project are considerable when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, the effects of other current projects, and the effects of probable future projects.)	☐	☒	☐	☐

*Project construction would contribute to the incremental loss of brittle bush scrub and ruderal/nonnative grasslands in the region, which includes potential habitat for special-status species. This could potentially result in cumulative impacts including habitat fragmentation, increased edge effects, reduced habitat quality, and increased wildlife mortality. Based on the LSA report cited in **Issue IV(a)** and included in **Appendix B**, cumulative impacts are not considered substantial with the implementation of the mitigation measures identified therein and compliance with the State and federal endangered species acts. With incorporation of the mitigation measures described in **Issue IV(a)** and set forth in the Project's Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program attached to the Mitigated Negative Declaration in **Appendix A**, the Project would not result in impacts that are individually limited but cumulatively considerable.*

Issue XXI. Mandatory Findings of Significance (Continued)

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
c) Does the project have environmental effects which will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?	☐	☐	☐	☒

As described herein, none of the environmental effects of the Project will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly.

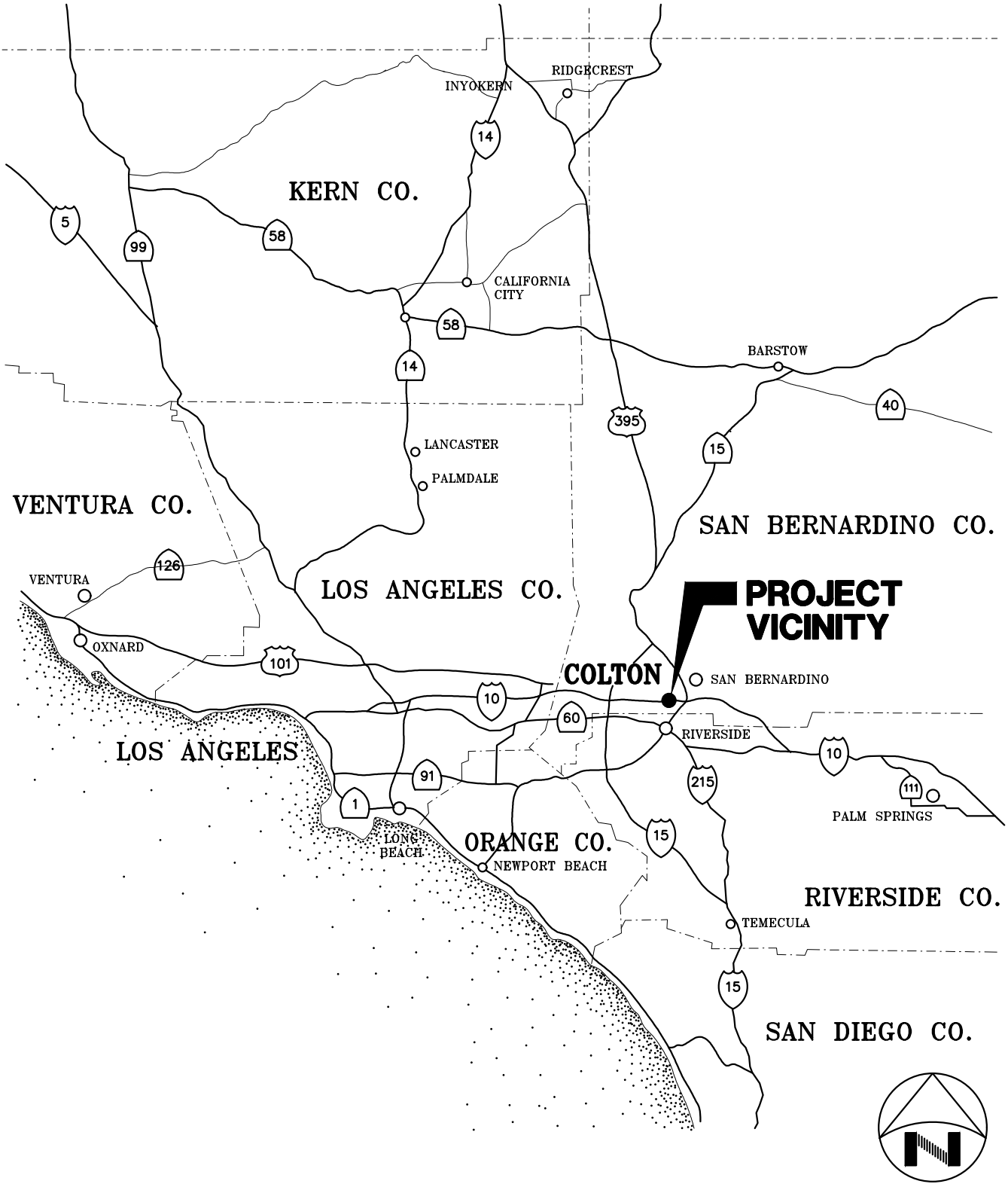
PART 3
REFERENCES AND SOURCES

PART 3 - REFERENCES AND SOURCES

- California Air Resources Board Website for State and Federal Area Designations, www.arb.ca.gov/our-work/programs/state-and-federal-area-designations
- California Board of Forestry and Fire Protection State Responsibility Area Viewer, bof.fire.ca.gov/projects-and-programs/state-responsibility-area-five-year-review
- California Department of Conservation, Division of Land Resources Protection, Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program, https://maps.conservation.ca.gov/DLRP/FMMP
- California Department of Conservation, Division of Land Resources Protection, California Important Farmland Finder, https://maps.conservation.ca.gov/DLRP/CIFF
- California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Division 6, Chapter 3; Guidelines for Implementation of the California Environmental Quality Act, Section 15000 *et seq;* as amended December 28, 2018
- California Department of Conservation Tsunami Program Website, www.conservation.ca.gov/cgs/tsunami/maps
- California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, Fire and Resource Assessment Program website, www.fire.ca.gov/what-we-do/fire-resource-assessment-program
- California Department of Toxic Substances Control Website, EnviroStor Database, www.envirostor.dtsc.ca.gov/public
- California Department of Transportation California Scenic Highway Mapping System Website, www.dot.ca.gov/programs/design/lap-landscape-architecture-and-community-livability/lap-liv-i-scenic-highways
- California Emissions Estimator Model® (CalEEMod) Software, Version 2022.1, accessed online at caleemod.com
- City of Colton 2023 Climate Action Plan Update, City of Colton, December 5, 2023
- City of Colton General Plan, access online at www.coltonca.gov/778/Planning-Documents
- Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Map Service Center Website, www.msc.fema.gov
- Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Flood Insurance Rate Map, San Bernardino County, California and Incorporated Areas, Map Number 06071C8687J, Fema National Flood Insurance Program, Map Effective September 2, 2016
- Fire Hazard Severity Zone Viewer, Fire Resource and Assessment Program, California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, https://frap.fire.ca.gov
- Google Earth Pro, Version 7.3.6.10201
- Office of the State Fire Marshal Website, osfm.fire.ca.gov
- Riverside County Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan (Volume 1) Policy Document, Chapter 3 (FL), Riverside County Airport Land Use Commission, October 2007
- Riverside County Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan Background Data, Volume 2, Chapter W3, Flabob Airport and Environs, Riverside County Airport Land Use Commission, December 2004

- South Coast Air Quality Management District Website, www.aqmd.gov
- Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) Groundwater Management Website, water.ca.gov/Programs/Groundwater-Management/SGMA-Groundwater-Management
- United States Environmental Protection Agency Interactive Map of Sole Source Aquifers, www.epa.gov/dwssa/map-sole-source-aquifer-locations
- United States Environmental Protection Agency Website for National Ambient Air Quality Standards, www.epa.gov/criteria-air-pollutants

FIGURES



KRIEGER & STEWART
Engineering Consultants
3602 University Avenue • Riverside, CA 92501
www.kriegerandstewart.com • 951 • 684 • 6900

CITY OF COLTON

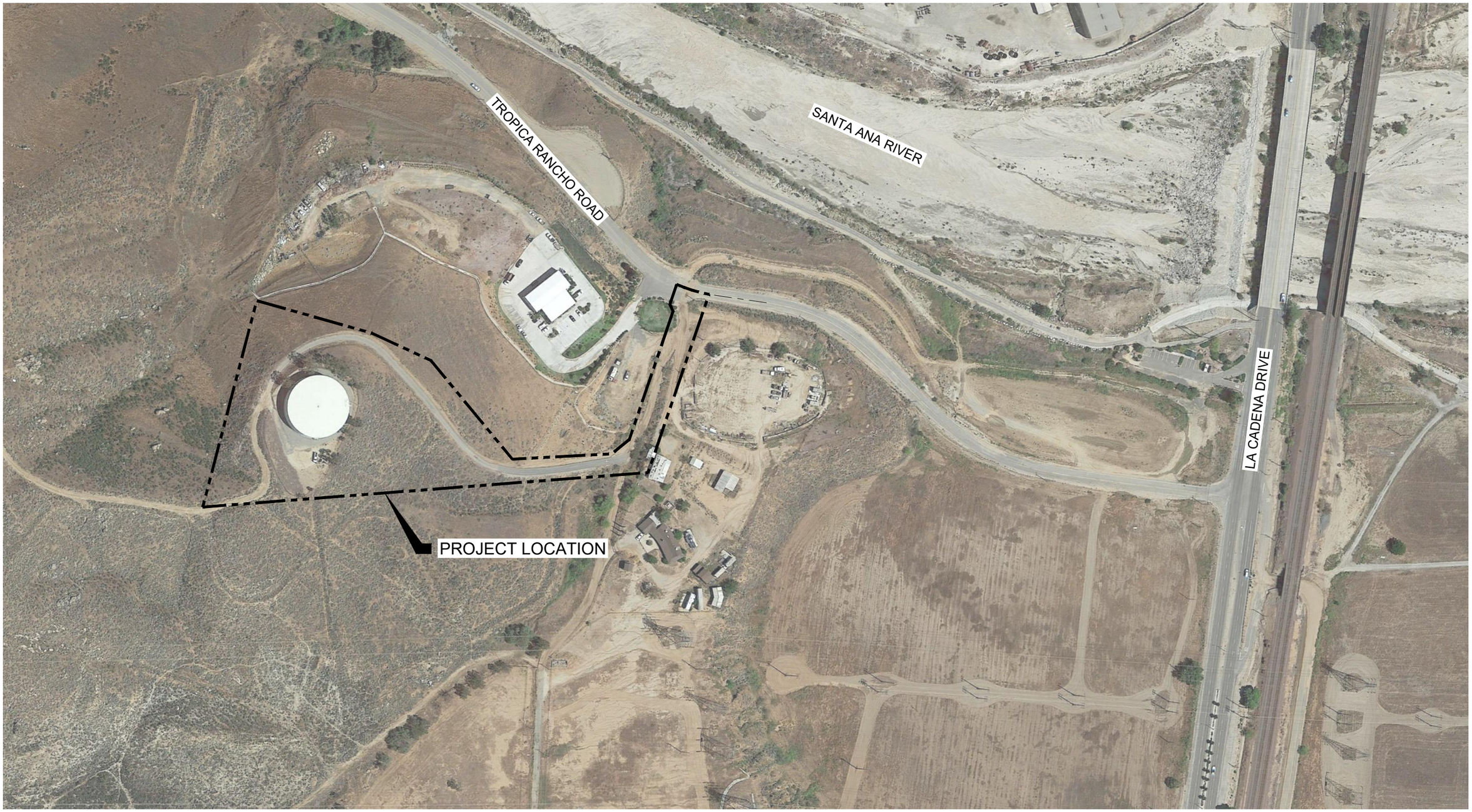
3.0 MG LA LOMA No.2 RESERVOIR

PROJECT VICINITY

FIGURE 1 OF 3

SCALE: N.T.S. DATE: 05/07/25 DRAWN BY: TMW CHECKED BY: VEM W.O.: 312-70.11

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312-70P11_ISF2.DWG

VERIFY SCALES
BAR IS ONE INCH ON ORIGINAL DRAWING
0 1"
IF NOT ONE INCH ON THIS SHEET, ADJUST SCALES ACCORDINGLY

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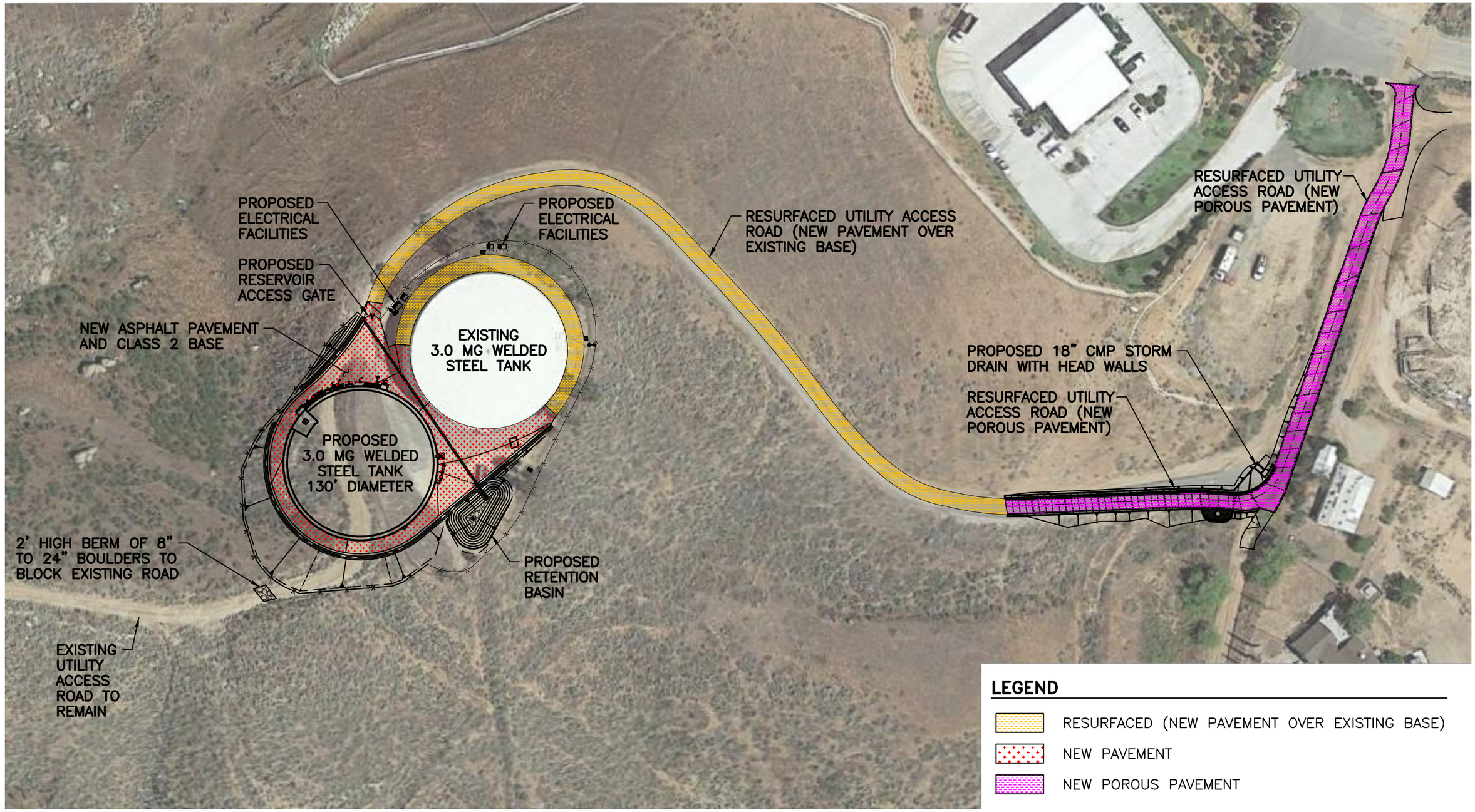
CITY OF COLTON

3.0 MG LA LOMA No.2 RESERVOIR

PROJECT LOCATION

SCALE: 1"=200'± DATE: 05/07/25 DRAWN BY: TMW CHECKED BY: VEM W.O.: 312-70.11

FIGURE 2 OF 3



312-70P11_ISF3.DWG

VERIFY SCALES
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IF NOT ONE INCH ON THIS SHEET, ADJUST SCALES ACCORDINGLY

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CITY OF COLTON

3.0 MG LA LOMA No.2 RESERVOIR

PRELIMINARY SITE PLAN

FIGURE 3 OF 3

SCALE: 1"=80'± DATE: 05/07/25 DRAWN BY: TMW CHECKED BY: VEM W.O.: 312-70.11

APPENDIX A

DRAFT MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION
AND
MITIGATION MONITORING AND REPORTING PROGRAM

DRAFT MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION

1. Name or description of project:	The 3.0 MG La Loma No. 2 Reservoir Project (the Project) includes constructing and operating one new 3.0 million gallon (MG) welded steel potable water storage tank at the site of the existing La Loma No. 1 Reservoir, which will remain in operation. The Project also includes resurfacing an existing access road, constructing an onsite stormwater retention basin, and constructing or installing various related site improvements and appurtenances.
2. Project Location – Identify street address and cross streets or attach a map showing project site (preferably a USGS 15' or 7 1/2' topographical map identified by quadrangle name):	The Project is located at the site of the existing La Loma No. 1 Reservoir and along the access road to same, in the La Loma Hills in the southeasterly portion of the City of Colton, south of Interstate 10 and the Santa Ana River, in San Bernardino County, California. The location of the Project site is depicted on Figures 1 through 3 included in the Initial Study for the Project, a copy of which is available from the City of Colton at the address shown below.
3. Entity or Person undertaking project:	City of Colton 650 North La Cadena Drive Colton, CA 92324

The City, as Lead Agency, having reviewed the Initial Study of this proposed project, having reviewed the written comments received prior to the public meeting of the Lead Agency, and having reviewed the recommendation of the Lead Agency's Staff, does hereby find and declare that the proposed project will not have a significant effect on the environment. A brief statement of the reasons supporting the Lead Agency's findings are as follows:

With incorporation of mitigation measures, construction and operation of the Project will not result in significant adverse impacts upon any threatened or endangered species of plants or animals, nor will it result in damage to or destruction of any significant examples of California history or prehistory. Potential impacts upon nesting birds, coastal California gnatcatcher, Crotch's bumble bee, and habitat for said species, as well as any archaeological and historical resources and tribal cultural resources will be avoided or reduced by adhering to the terms of a Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program (see Exhibit A, attached, which is incorporated herein by reference) prior to and during construction of the Project.

The Lead Agency hereby finds that the Mitigated Negative Declaration reflects its independent judgment. A copy of the Initial Study may be viewed at the offices of City of Colton at the address listed below.

The location and custodian of the documents and any other material which constitute the record of proceedings upon which the Lead Agency based its decision to adopt this Mitigated Negative Declaration are as follows:

City of Colton
650 North La Cadena Drive
Colton, CA 92324
(909) 370-5079

_____
Date

_____
Chad Blais
Public Works and Utility Services Director
CITY OF COLTON

DRAFT MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION

EXHIBIT A

CITY OF COLTON
LA LOMA NO. 2 RESERVOIR PROJECT
MITIGATION MONITORING AND REPORTING PROGRAM (MMRP)

Project Phases	No.	Task and Description	Party Responsible for Monitoring	Completed		Remarks
				Initials	Date	
BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES						
• Prior to commencement of ground-disturbing activities • During construction	BIO-1	Coastal California Gnatcatcher: Prior to commencement of construction or other ground-disturbing activities, an Incidental Take Permit for coastal California gnatcatchers will be sought and obtained from the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS). Project activities will comply with mitigation measures and conditions required by the Incidental Take Permit to avoid or reduce impacts to the coastal California gnatcatcher.				
• Prior to commencement of ground-disturbing activities • During construction	BIO-2	Crotch's Bumble Bee: Prior to commencement of construction or other ground-disturbing activities, a focused survey will be performed to determine the presence or absence of Crotch's bumble bee on the Project site. If the focused survey determines that Crotch's bumble bee is absent from the Project site, then Project construction may proceed. If the focused survey determines that Crotch's bumble bee is present at the Project site, then an Incidental Take Permit from California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW), in compliance with California Fish and Game Code §2081, will be sought and, if applicable, obtained prior to commencement of construction activities. Project activities will comply with the mitigation measures and conditions required by the Incidental Take Permit to avoid or reduce impacts to Crotch's bumble bee.				

Project Phases	No.	Task and Description	Party Responsible for Monitoring	Completed		Remarks
				Initials	Date	
• Prior to commencement of ground-disturbing activities • During construction	BIO-3	Nesting Birds: A preconstruction nesting bird survey will be conducted by a qualified biologist no less than three days and not more than seven days prior to any construction activities, including vegetation removal, at the Project site. If no nesting birds are found during the preconstruction survey, then construction may commence within seven days of completion of the preconstruction survey. If nesting birds are found during the preconstruction survey, the qualified biologist will establish an exclusionary buffer or buffers around the nests. The buffer(s) will be clearly marked in the field by construction personnel under guidance of the qualified biologist. No construction activities are allowed within the exclusionary buffer(s) until the qualified biologist determines that the young have fledged or the nest is no longer active. Whether or not any nesting birds were identified during the preconstruction survey, if more than seven days have lapsed since the preconstruction survey and construction or vegetation removal have not yet commenced, then another preconstruction nesting bird survey will be conducted to determine whether any nesting birds have since moved onto the site.				
CULTURAL RESOURCES						
• Throughout ground-disturbing activities	CUL-1	Cultural Resources: In the event that cultural resources are discovered during Project construction activities, all work in the immediate vicinity of the find (within a 60-foot radius buffer area) shall cease, and an archaeologist meeting the Secretary of the Interior's professional qualification standards in archaeology will be hired to assess the find. Work on the other portions of the Project outside of the buffer area may continue during the assessment of the find. If significant pre-contact and/or historic era cultural resources, as defined by CEQA, are discovered and avoidance cannot be ensured, the archaeologist will develop a Monitoring and Treatment Plan, the draft of which will be provided to the Gabrieleño Band of Mission Indians—Kizh Nation for review and comment. Further, if any significant pre-contact and/or historic era cultural resource is				

Project Phases	No.	Task and Description	Party Responsible for Monitoring	Completed		Remarks
				Initials	Date	
		discovered, a qualified archaeologist will monitor the remainder of construction ground-disturbing activities and will implement the Monitoring and Treatment Plan accordingly.				
• Throughout ground-disturbing activities	CUL-2	Human Remains: In the event that any human remains, or suspected human remains, are uncovered or encountered during Project construction, the construction contractor will halt or divert work within a 100-foot buffer of the find and will immediately notify the San Bernardino County Coroner's office via telephone. After notifying the County Coroner, the contractor will also notify the City of Colton via telephone. If the remains are determined to be of forensic significance, the County Coroner will take possession of the remains and arrange to have the remains removed from the Project site. If the remains are determined to be human and of Native American origin, the County Coroner will notify the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC), and the NAHC will identify the Most Likely Descendent (MLD). The disposition of the remains will be determined through consultation between the MLD and the City. Additionally, Mitigation Measure TCR-3: *Unanticipated Discovery of Human Remains and Associated Funerary or Ceremonial Objects* will apply and will be implemented. Construction activities will not resume in the area of the find until the City notifies the construction contractor to resume construction activities. California Health and Safety Code §7050.5 will be enforced for the duration of the Project.				
TRIBAL CULTURAL RESOURCES						
• Prior to commencement of ground-disturbing activities • Throughout ground-disturbing activities	TCR-1	Retain a Native American Monitor Prior to Commencement of Ground-Disturbing Activities: A. The City shall retain a Native American Monitor from or approved by the Gabrieleño Band of Mission Indians—Kizh Nation (the Kizh). The monitor shall be retained prior to the commencement of any "ground-disturbing activity" for the subject project at all project locations (i.e., both on-site and any off-site locations that are included in the project description/definition				

Project Phases	No.	Task and Description	Party Responsible for Monitoring	Completed		Remarks
				Initials	Date	
		and/or required in connection with the project, such as public improvement work). "Ground-disturbing activity" includes, but is not limited to, demolition, pavement removal, potholing, auguring, grubbing, tree removal, boring, grading, excavation, drilling, and trenching. B. A copy of the executed monitoring agreement shall be submitted to the City prior to the earlier of the commencement of any ground-disturbing activity or the issuance of any permit necessary to commence a ground-disturbing activity. C. The monitor will complete daily monitoring logs that will provide descriptions of the relevant ground-disturbing activities, soil types, cultural-related materials, and any other facts, conditions, materials, or discoveries of significance to the Kizh. Monitor logs will identify and describe any discovered tribal cultural resources, including but not limited to, Native American cultural and historical artifacts, remains, places of significance, etc. (collectively, tribal cultural resources, or "TCR"), as well as any discovered Native American (ancestral) human remains and burial goods. Copies of monitor logs will be provided to the City upon written request to the Kizh. D. On-site tribal monitoring shall conclude upon the latter of the following: (1) written confirmation to the Kizh from a designated point of contact for the City that all ground-disturbing activities and phases that may involve ground-disturbing activities on the project site or in connection with the project are complete; or (2) a determination and written notification by the Kizh to the City that no future, planned construction activity and/or development/construction phase at the project site possesses the potential to impact Kizh TCR.				

Project Phases	No.	Task and Description	Party Responsible for Monitoring	Completed		Remarks
				Initials	Date	
• Throughout ground-disturbing activities	TCR-2	Unanticipated Discovery of Tribal Cultural Resource Objects (Non-Funerary/Non-Ceremonial): Upon discovery of any tribal cultural resources (TCR), all construction activities in the immediate vicinity (i.e., not less than the surrounding 50 feet) of the discovery shall cease and shall not resume until the discovered TCR has been fully assessed by the Kizh monitor and/or Kizh archaeologist. The Kizh will recover and retain all discovered TCR in the form and/or manner the tribe deems appropriate, in the tribe's sole discretion, and for any purpose the tribe deems appropriate, including for education, cultural, and/or historic purposes.				
• Throughout ground-disturbing activities	TCR-3	Unanticipated Discovery of Human Remains and Associated Funerary or Ceremonial Objects: A. Native American human remains are defined in California Public Resources Code (PRC) Section 5097.98(d)(1) as an inhumation or cremation, and in any state of decomposition or skeletal completeness. Funerary objects, called associated grave goods in PRC Section 5097.98, are also to be treated according to this statute. B. If Native American human remains and/or grave goods are discovered or recognized on the Project site, then PRC Section 5097.9 as well as Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5 shall be followed. C. Human remains and grave/burial goods shall be treated alike per PRC Section 5097.98(d)(1) and (2). D. Preservation in place (i.e., avoidance) is the preferred manner of treatment for discovered human remains and/or burial goods. E. Any discovery of human remains/burial goods shall be kept confidential to prevent further disturbance.				

APPENDIX B

BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES ASSESSMENT

Biological Resources Assessment
3.0 MG La Loma No. 2 Reservoir Project
Colton, San Bernardino County, California
November 2025

BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES ASSESSMENT

3.0 MG LA LOMA NO. 2 RESERVOIR PROJECT

COLTON, SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

LSA

November 2025

BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES ASSESSMENT

3.0 MG LA LOMA NO. 2 RESERVOIR PROJECT

COLTON, SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

Prepared for:

Krieger & Stewart, Incorporated
3890 Orange Street, Suite 1509
Riverside, California 92502

Prepared by:

LSA Associates, Inc.
1500 Iowa Avenue, Suite 200
Riverside, California 92507
(951) 781-9310

LSA Project No. 20252504

November 2025

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Krieger & Stewart, Incorporated retained LSA to prepare a Biological Resources Assessment for the 3.0 MG La Loma No. 2 Reservoir Project (project) in Colton, San Bernardino County, California. This report has been prepared for compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act.

The project site contains habitat for two federally/State listed species, the coastal California gnatcatcher (*Polioptila californica californica*) and Crotch's bumble bee (*Bombus crotchii*). In addition, the project site is within United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) designated critical habitat for the coastal California gnatcatcher. A USFWS Section 7 consultation is necessary for project effects to the coastal California gnatcatcher and its designated critical habitat. A focused survey is required for the Crotch's bumble bee to determine its presence/absence and any necessary mitigation measures.

The project is not anticipated to have substantial effects on non-listed special-status species.

The project site provides habitat for nesting birds. To avoid potential effects to nesting birds, prior to construction activities, a preconstruction nesting bird survey will be conducted by a qualified biologist no less than 3 days and not more than 7 days prior to any construction activities and vegetation removal.

No jurisdictional waters subject to the regulatory authority of the United States Army Corps of Engineers, the California Department of Fish and Wildlife, or the Regional Water Quality Control Board are present on the project site.

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B: SPECIAL-STATUS SPECIES SUMMARY
C: COASTAL CALIFORNIA GNATCATCHER SURVEY RESULTS

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

CDFW	California Department of Fish and Wildlife
CEQA	California Environmental Quality Act
CESA	California Endangered Species Act
CNPS	California Native Plant Society
CWA	federal Clean Water Act
FESA	Federal Endangered Species Act
MG	million-gallon
project	3.0 MG La Loma No. 2 Reservoir Project
RWQCB	Regional Water Quality Control Board
USACE	United States Army Corps of Engineers
USFWS	United States Fish and Wildlife Service
USGS	United States Geological Survey

INTRODUCTION

Krieger & Stewart, Incorporated retained LSA to prepare a Biological Resources Assessment for the 3.0 MG La Loma No. 2 Reservoir Project (project). The 5.10-acre project site consists of Assessor's Parcel Number 0163-351-23-000 (4.22 acres) and a utility access road (0.88 acre). The project site is located 0.4 mile southeasterly of the intersection of La Cadena Drive and West Tropica Ranch Road in Colton, San Bernardino County, California. Figure 1 shows the project location on the United States Geological Survey (USGS) *San Bernardino South, California* 7.5-minute topographic quadrangle within Section 31, Township 1 South and Range 4 West.

The project includes constructing and operating one new 3.0 million-gallon (MG) welded steel potable water storage tank (La Loma No. 2 Reservoir) at the site of the existing La Loma No. 1 Reservoir, which will remain in operation. The project also includes resurfacing an existing access road, constructing an on-site stormwater retention basin, and constructing or installing various related site improvements and appurtenances. Figure 2 shows the site plan.

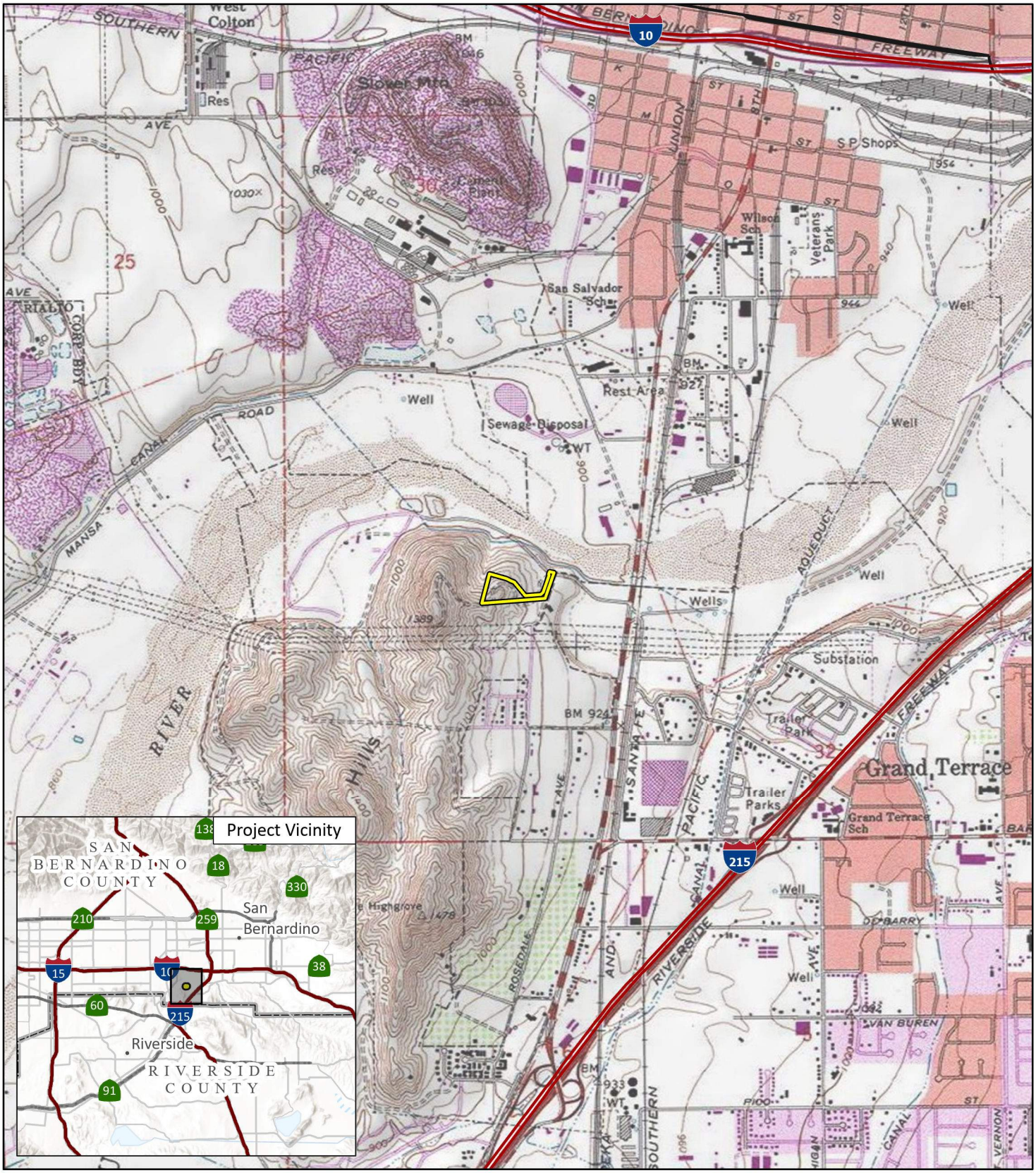


FIGURE 1

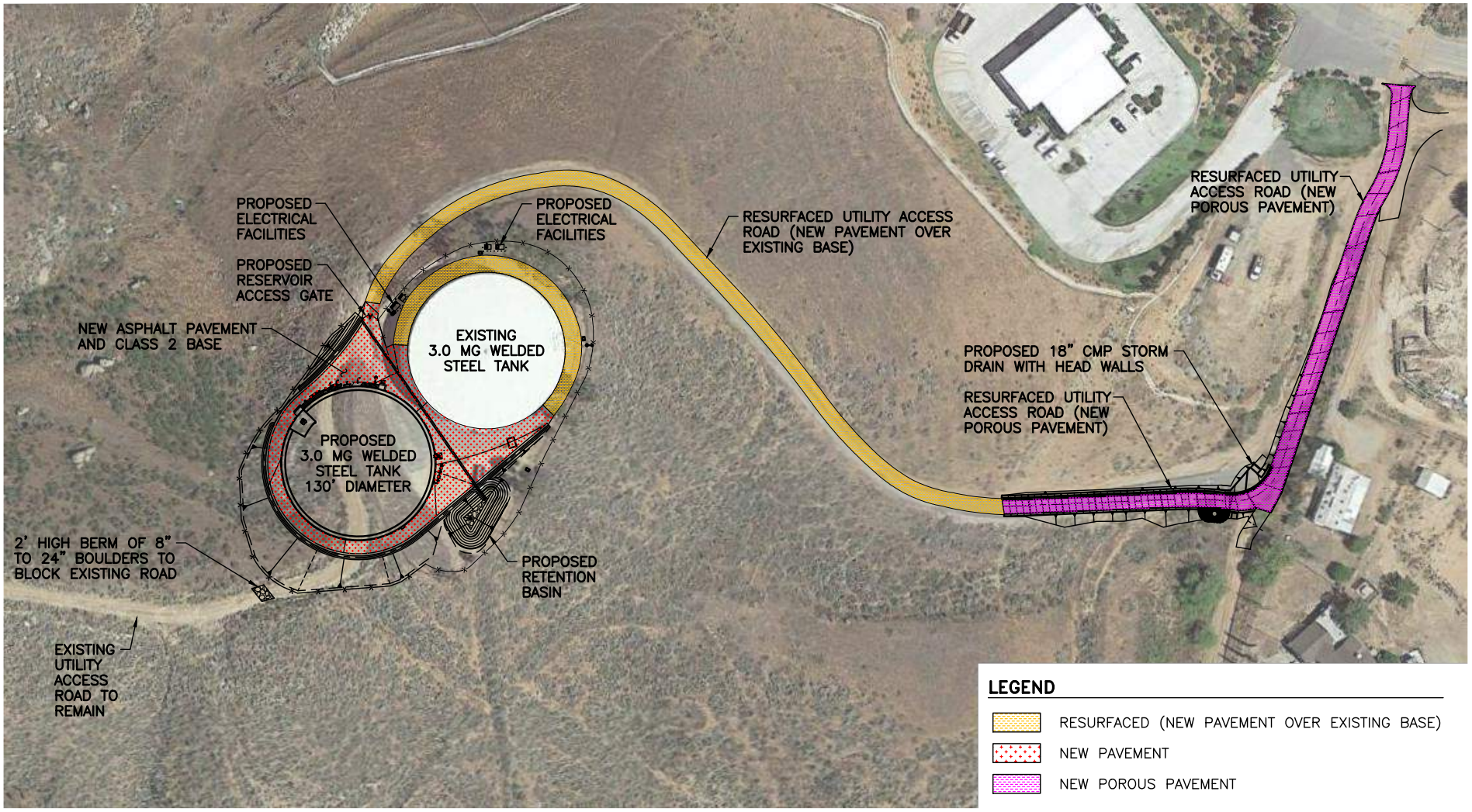
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SOURCE: USGS 7.5' Quad - *San Bernardino South (1980)*, CA

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La Loma No. 2 Reservoir Project

Project Location



LSA

FIGURE 2

La Loma No. 2 Reservoir Project

Preliminary Site Plan

SOURCE: Krieger and Stewart Engineering

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METHODS

LITERATURE REVIEW

LSA conducted a literature review to assist in determining the existence or potential occurrence of special-interest plant and animal species within the project site and in the project vicinity. A record search of the *Fontana, Riverside East, Riverside West, San Bernardino South, and Sunnymead California* USGS 7.5-minute quadrangles was conducted on August 12, 2025 using Rarefind 5 (California Department of Fish and Wildlife [CDFW] 2025). Current and historical aerial photographs were also reviewed using Google Earth (Google Earth Pro 2025). The United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) Critical Habitat Mapper and National Wetland Inventory were also queried (USFWS 2025a, 2025b). Soil types were determined using the WebSoil Survey (Natural Resources Conservation Service Web Soil Survey version 3.4.0 [NRCS n.d.]). Previous studies conducted on the project site were also reviewed including a biological resources assessment (LSA 2015) and presence/absence survey for the coastal California gnatcatcher (*Polioptila californica californica*) (LSA 2024).

FIELD SURVEY

Reconnaissance Field Survey

LSA Biologist Denise Woodard conducted a general reconnaissance level field survey of the project site on August 13, 2025, between 7:50 a.m. and 9:30 p.m. Weather conditions during the survey consisted of cloudy skies (100 percent), a temperature ranging from 66 to 72 degrees Fahrenheit, and winds ranging from 1 to 3 miles per hour. She surveyed the entire project site on foot and took notes on general site conditions, vegetation, and suitability of habitat for various special-interest elements. All plant and animal species observed or otherwise detected during this field survey were noted. Species observed are listed in Appendix A.

Coastal California Gnatcatcher Focused Survey

LSA Biologist Denise Woodard conducted the protocol survey under LSA Federal 10(a)(1)(A) Permit TE-777965 and CDFW Scientific Collecting Permit 220190001-22105-001. The survey consisted of one field survey on October 4, 2024, following the 1997 United States Fish and Wildlife Service California gnatcatcher survey guidelines for non-breeding season surveys. The remaining eight protocol field surveys were not completed based on positive findings of the coastal California gnatcatcher during the initial field survey.

RESULTS

EXISTING SITE CONDITIONS

The project site is located in the La Loma Hills and is currently developed by an existing 3.0 MG water tank and associated access route and infrastructure. The undeveloped portions of the project site are vegetated by brittle bush scrub and nonnative grasslands as detailed below. Surrounding land uses include commercial, residential, and vacant lands on the north and east, and vacant lands on the south and west.

Topography and Soils

The project site is located on the east-facing slope of the La Loma Hills, and the elevation of the site ranges from approximately 940 to 1,140 feet above mean sea level.

The predominant soil on the project site consists of Vista rock outcrop complex. Monserate sandy loam (2 to 9 percent slopes) occurs along the main utility access road along the easterly edge of the project site.

Vegetation

The dominant vegetation on the project site is best described as brittle bush scrub (CNPS 2025) and consists of 2.80 acres. Other vegetation present includes ruderal/nonnative grasslands (0.59 acre) and ornamental (0.08 acre). The dominant plant species identified within the brittle bush scrub include brittle bush (*Enceliea farinosa*) and California sagebrush (*Artemisia californica*). Nonnative grassland species primarily occur on the northerly portion of the project site. Dominant nonnative grassland species identified include shortpod mustard (*Hirschfeldia incana*), stinknet (*Oncosiphon pilulifer*), and brome grass (*Bromus* sp.). Ornamental trees and shrubs occur along the utility access road and around the existing 3.0 MG water tank. Dominant ornamental plant species identified are eucalyptus (*Eucalyptus* sp.) and Mexican palo verde (*Parkinsonia aculeata*). A small patch (0.01 acre) of mulefat (*Baccharis salicifolia*) also occurs along the utility access road.

Figure 3 shows vegetation, land use, and photograph locations, and Figure 4 shows site photographs. A complete list of plant species observed is provided in Appendix A, and wildlife species are discussed below.

Wildlife

Wildlife species observed within the project site are consistent with the existing setting and include Common side-blotched lizard (*Uta stansburiana*), mourning dove (*Zenaida macroura*), Bewick's wren (*Thryomanes bewickii*), California towhee (*Melozone crissalis*), and California ground squirrel (*Spermophilus beecheyi*). A complete list of animals observed is provided in Appendix A.



LSA

Project Location

Photo Points

Vegetation and Land Use

- Brittle bush scrub (2.80 acres)
- Developed/Disturbed (1.62 acres)
- Mule fat (0.01 acre)
- Ruderal/nonnative grasslands (0.59 acre)
- Ornamental (0.08 acre)

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SOURCE: Nearmap (5/8/2025)

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FIGURE 3

La Loma No. 2 Reservoir Project

Vegetation, Land Cover and Photograph Locations



Photo 1: View of asphalt utility access road for the existing reservoir.



Photo 2: View of dirt utility access road.



Photo 3: View of non-native grasslands and brittle bush scrub.



Photo 4: View of existing reservoir and eucalyptus trees.

FIGURE 4

La Loma No. 2 Reservoir Project
Representative Site Photographs



Photo 5: View of access to existing reservoir.



Photo 6: View of brittle bush scrub, dirt utility access road and existing reservoir.



Photo 7: View of existing site conditions.

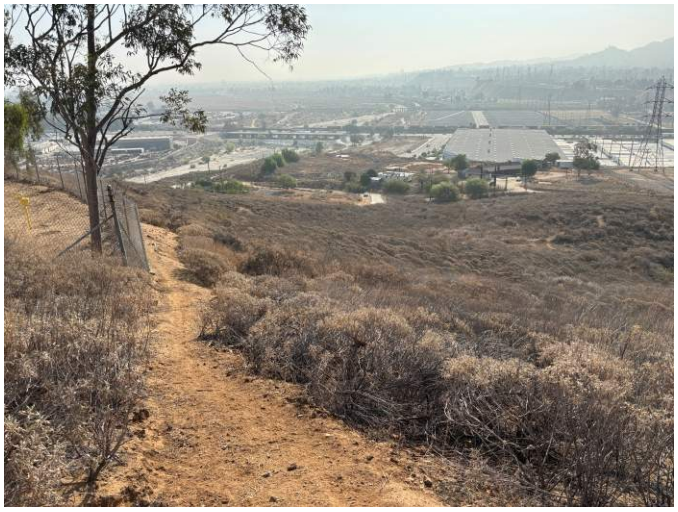


Photo 8: View of brittle bush scrub.

FIGURE 4

La Loma No. 2 Reservoir Project
Representative Site Photographs

SPECIAL-STATUS SPECIES

This section discusses special-status species observed or potentially occurring within the limits of the project site. Legal protection for special-interest species varies widely, from the comprehensive protection extended to listed threatened/endangered species to no legal interest at present. The CDFW, the USFWS, local agencies, and special-interest groups such as the California Native Plant Society (CNPS) publish watch lists of declining species. Species on watch lists can be included as part of the special-interest species assessment. The special-interest species list includes species that are candidates for State and/or federal listing and species on watch lists. Inclusion of species described in the special-interest species analysis is based on the following criteria:

- Direct observation of the species or its sign within the project site or immediate vicinity during previous biological studies;
- Sighting by other qualified observers;
- Records reported by the California Natural Diversity Database, published by the CDFW;
- Presence or location information for specific species provided by private groups (e.g., CNPS); and/or
- Project site lies within known distribution of a given species and contains appropriate habitat.

The special-interest species analysis revealed 93 special-interest species that are known to occur in the project area. Appendix B lists these species with a data summary and determination of the likelihood of each species occurring on the project site.

Threatened/Endangered Species

Under provisions of Section 7(a)(2) of the Federal Endangered Species Act (FESA), a federal agency that permits, licenses, funds, or otherwise authorizes a project activity must consult with the USFWS to ensure that its actions would not jeopardize the continued existence of any listed threatened or endangered species or destroy or adversely modify critical habitat. The USFWS designates as threatened or endangered, species that are at risk of extinction and may also adopt recovery plans that identify specific areas that are essential to the conservation of a listed species. Critical habitat areas that may require special management considerations or protections can also be designated.

The California Endangered Species Act (CESA) is administered by the CDFW and prohibits the "take" of plant and animal species identified as either threatened or endangered in the State of California by the Fish and Game Commission (Fish and Game Code Sections 2050 to 2097). "Take" is defined as hunt, pursue, catch, capture, or kill. Sections 2091 and 2081 of the CESA allow the CDFW to authorize exceptions to the prohibition of "take" of State-listed threatened or endangered plant and animal species for purposes such as public and private development. The CDFW requires formal consultation to ensure that a proposed project's actions would not jeopardize the continued existence of any listed species or destroy or adversely affect listed species' habitats.

As identified in Appendix B, there are 25 federally/State listed species, including species proposed for listing and Candidate species, with potential to occur on the project site. Of these 25 species, two species, Crotch's bumble bee (*Bombus crotchii*) and coastal California gnatcatcher, have potential to occur on the project site as detailed below.

Crotch's Bumble Bee

The Crotch's bumble bee is a State Candidate for listing as endangered. This species has a low to moderate potential to occur within the brittle bush scrub and ruderal/nonnative grasslands within the project limits.

Coastal California Gnatcatcher

The coastal California gnatcatcher is federally listed as threatened (USFWS 1993) and is a State species of special concern. A focused survey conducted for this species in October 2024 determined this species to be present on the project site (Figure 5). The brittle bush scrub and adjacent habitats on the project site provide suitable habitat for the coastal California gnatcatcher. The detailed results of the focused survey are provided in Appendix C.

Non-Listed Special-Interest Species

Of the 68 non-listed special-interest species identified in Appendix B, 51 are considered absent based on lack of suitable habitat. Species with probability to occur include 11 species with a low probability of occurrence, 3 species with a moderate probability of occurrence, and 3 species with a high probability of occurrence. The species with a moderate to high probability to occur are identified below:

- Orangethroat whiptail (*Aspidoscelis hyperythra*)
- Coastal western whiptail (*Aspidoscelis tigris stejnegeri*)
- San Diego banded gecko (*Coleonyx variegatus abbotti*)
- Red diamond rattlesnake (*Crotalus ruber*)
- Southern California rufous-crowned sparrow (*Aimophila ruficeps canescens*)
- Bell's sage sparrow (*Artemisiospiza belli belli*)

CRITICAL HABITAT

The project site is within federally designated critical habitat for the coastal California gnatcatcher (USFWS 2000) (Figure 5). The primary constituent elements, within designated critical habitat, for the gnatcatcher are those habitat components that are essential for the primary biological needs of foraging, nesting, rearing of young, intra-specific communication, roosting, dispersal, genetic exchange, or sheltering. According to the USFWS (USFWS 2000), primary constituent elements include, but are not limited to, the following plant communities in their natural state or those that have been recently disturbed (e.g., fire or grubbing): Venturan coastal sage scrub, Diegan coastal sage scrub, maritime succulent scrub, Riversidean sage scrub, Riversidean alluvial fan scrub, southern coastal bluff scrub, and coastal sage chaparral scrub (Holland 1986).



LSA

FIGURE 5

La Loma No. 2 Reservoir Project

Coastal California Gnatcatcher Observations and Critical Habitat

SOURCE: Google Maps (2024); USFWS (2025)

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Brittle bush scrub is a *A Manual of California Vegetation* (CNPS 2025) series, which is a further broken down component of the Holland 1986 classification for Riversidean sage scrub; therefore, brittle bush scrub is considered a primary constituent element for the gnatcatcher.

Other critical habitats in proximity to the project site occur along the Santa Ana River for the Santa Ana sucker (*Catostomus santaanae*) (USFWS 2010) and Southwestern willow flycatcher (*Empidonax traillii extimus*) (USFWS 2013).

NESTING BIRDS

The project site provides suitable nesting habitat for a special-status nesting bird species as identified above, and other non-special-status bird species. Nesting bird species with potential to occur within the project site are protected by California Fish and Game Code Sections 3503, 3503.5, and 3800, and by the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (16 United States Code 703–711). These laws regulate the take, possession, or destruction of the nest or eggs of any migratory bird or bird of prey.

JURISDICTIONAL WATERS

The United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) regulates discharges of dredged or fill material into waters of the United States. These waters include wetlands and non-wetland bodies of water that meet specific criteria, including a direct or indirect connection to interstate commerce. The USACE regulatory jurisdiction pursuant to Section 404 of the federal Clean Water Act (CWA) is founded on a connection, or nexus, between the water body in question and interstate commerce. This connection may be direct (through a tributary system linking a stream channel with traditional navigable waters used in interstate or foreign commerce), or it may be indirect (through a nexus identified in the USACE regulations). To be considered a jurisdictional wetland under Section 404, an area must possess three wetland characteristics, each with its unique set of mandatory wetland criteria: hydrophytic vegetation, hydric soils, and wetland hydrology.

The CDFW, under Sections 1600 through 1616 of the California Fish and Game Code, regulates alterations to lakes, rivers, and streams (defined by the presence of a channel bed and banks, and at least an intermittent flow of water) where fish or wildlife resources may be adversely affected.

The Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB) is responsible for the administration of Section 401 of the CWA. Typically, the areas subject to jurisdiction of the RWQCB coincide with those of the USACE (i.e., waters of the United States, including any wetlands). The RWQCB may also assert authority over “waters of the State” under waste discharge requirements pursuant to the California Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act.

No jurisdictional waters subject to the regulatory authority of the USACE, the CDFW, or the RWQCB are present on the project site.

IMPACTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The following is a discussion of potential disturbances and recommendations for avoidance, minimization, and mitigation measures per applicable local, State, and federal policy. Project impacts to vegetation and land use are shown on Figure 6.

THREATENED AND ENDANGERED SPECIES

Crotch's Bumble Bee

Suitable habitat is present on the project site for the Crotch's bumble bee, a State Candidate for listing as endangered. A focused survey is required to determine the presence/absence of this species on the project site and any mitigation measures. If the species is determined to be present, an incidental take permit from the CDFW, in compliance with Fish and Game Code Section 2081, would be required.

Coastal California Gnatcatcher

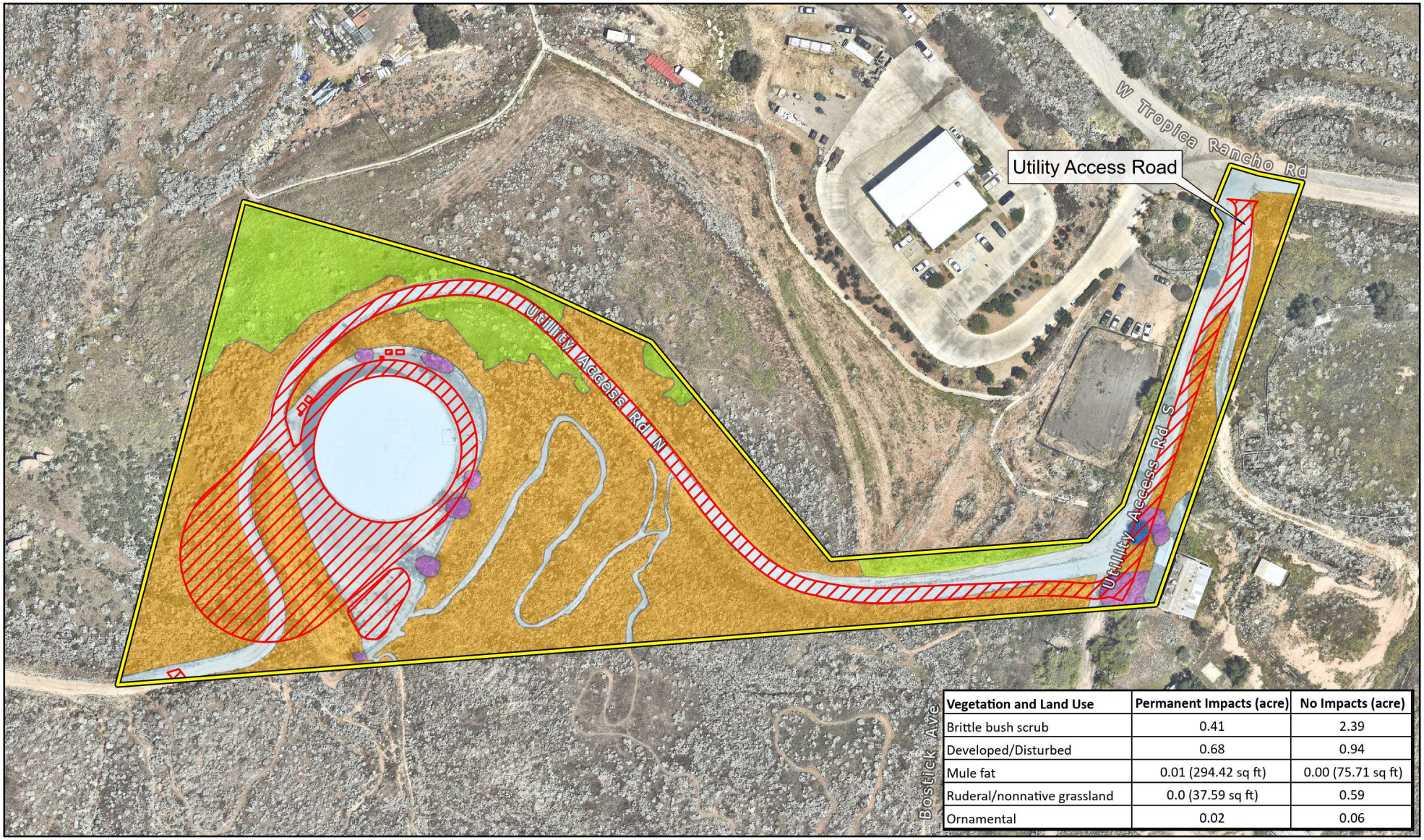
The coastal California gnatcatcher, a federally listed as threatened species, is present on the project site. The project site is also within federally designated critical habitat for this species. The project will permanently affect 0.41 acre of suitable habitat (brittle bush scrub)/critical habitat for the coastal California gnatcatcher. A Section 7 consultation with the USFWS is required for "take" allocation where there is a federal nexus (e.g., federal funding). A Section 7 incidental take permit will be required for project-related effects to the coastal California gnatcatcher and its designated critical habitat.

CRITICAL HABITAT

As identified above, federally designated critical habitat for the coastal California gnatcatcher is present within the project site; thus, a Section 7 consultation with the USFWS is required. No other designated critical habitats occur on the project site.

NON-LISTED SPECIAL-INTEREST SPECIES

Seventeen non-listed special-status species were identified with probability for occurrence on the project site. These species have a limited population distribution in Southern California, and development is further reducing their ranges and numbers. These species have no official State or federal protection status but require consideration under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). Because of the relatively small project footprint (1.12 acres), the project is not anticipated to have substantial effects on non-listed special-status species.



Vegetation and Land Use	Permanent Impacts (acre)	No Impacts (acre)
Brittle bush scrub	0.41	2.39
Developed/Disturbed	0.68	0.94
Mule fat	0.01 (294.42 sq ft)	0.00 (75.71 sq ft)
Ruderal/nonnative grassland	0.0 (37.59 sq ft)	0.59
Ornamental	0.02	0.06

LSA

Project Location

Permanent Impact

Vegetation and Land Use

Brittle bush scrub (2.80 acres)

Developed/Disturbed (1.62 acres)

Mule fat (0.01 acre)

Ruderal/nonnative grasslands (0.59 acre)

Ornamental (0.08 acre)

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SOURCE: Nearmap (5/8/2025)

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FIGURE 6

La Loma No. 2 Reservoir Project

Project Impacts

NESTING BIRDS

The project site contains suitable habitat for nesting bird species. To avoid potential effects to nesting birds, implementation of the following measure would be required:

- Prior to construction activities, including vegetation removal, a preconstruction nesting bird survey will be conducted by a qualified biologist no less than 3 days and not more than 7 days prior to any construction activities and vegetation removal. Should nesting birds be found, an exclusionary buffer will be established by the qualified biologist. The buffer will be clearly marked in the field by construction personnel under guidance of the qualified biologist. No construction activities will be allowed within this zone until the qualified biologist determines that the young have fledged or the nest is no longer active.

JURISDICTIONAL WATERS

No jurisdictional waters subject to the regulatory authority of the USACE, the CDFW, or the RWQCB are present on the project site. Therefore, the project will have no effects on jurisdictional waters.

WILDLIFE MOVEMENT, CORRIDORS, AND NURSERY SITES

Wildlife movement includes seasonal migration along corridors and daily movements for foraging. Migration corridors may include areas of unobstructed movement of deer, riparian corridors providing cover for migrating birds, routes between breeding waters and upland habitat for amphibians, and areas between roosting and feeding areas for birds.

The project site is not within a designated regional wildlife movement corridor. Although the project will result in an incremental loss (1.12 acres) of habitat for wildlife movement, the proposed project is not anticipated to result in a substantial effect on regional wildlife movement due to the project's small footprint and with implementation of mitigation measures identified in this document and compliance with State/federal endangered species acts.

No nursery sites occur on the project site. Therefore, the project will have no effects on nursery sites.

NATURAL COMMUNITIES OF CONCERN

No natural communities of concern are present. Therefore, the project would have no effects on natural communities of concern.

LOCAL POLICIES AND ORDINANCES

The project will not conflict with any local policies or ordinances.

ADOPTED HABITAT CONSERVATION PLAN

The project is not within an adopted habitat conservation plan. Therefore, the project will have no effects on adopted habitat conservation plans.

CUMULATIVE IMPACTS

According to Section 15130 of the *State CEQA Guidelines*, "cumulative impacts" refers to incremental effects of an individual project when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, current projects, and probable future projects. Project construction would contribute to the incremental loss of brittle bush scrub and ruderal/nonnative grasslands in the region, including potential habitat for special-status species. Cumulative impacts potentially include habitat fragmentation, increased edge effects, reduced habitat quality, and increased wildlife mortality. Cumulative impacts are not considered substantial with the implementation of mitigation measures identified in this document and compliance with State/federal endangered species acts.

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APPENDIX A

PLANT AND ANIMAL SPECIES OBSERVED

Scientific Name	Common Name
EUDICOT FLOWERING PLANTS	
Asteraceae	**Sunflower family**
Artemisia californica	California sagebrush
Baccharis salicifolia	Mulefat
*Dittrichia graveolens**	Stinkwort
Encelia farinosa	Brittle bush
*Oncosiphon pilulifer**	Stinknet
Boraginaceae	**Borage family**
Amsinckia sp.	Fiddleneck
Brassicaceae	**Mustard family**
*Hirschfeldia incana**	Shortpod mustard
Cactaceae	**Cactus family**
Cylindropuntia bernardina	Valley cholla
Euphorbiaceae	**Spurge family**
*Ricinus communis**	Castor bean
Fabaceae	**Pea family**
*Parkinsonia aculeata**	Mexican palo verde
Lamiaceae	**Mint family**
*Marrubium vulgare**	Horehound
Myrtaceae	**Myrtle family**
Eucalyptus sp.*	Eucalyptus
Polygonaceae	**Buckwheat family**
Eriogonum fasciculatum	California buckwheat
Solanaceae	**Nightshade family**
*Nicotiana glauca**	Tree tobacco
MONOCOT FLOWERING PLANTS	
Poaceae	**Grass family**
Bromus sp.	Brome
REPTILES	
Phrynosomatidae	**Phrynosomatid Lizards**
Uta stansburiana	Common side-blotched lizard
BIRDS	
Columbidae	**Pigeons and Doves**
Zenaida macroura	Mourning dove
Tyrannidae	**Tyrant Flycatchers**
Sayornis nigricans	Black phoebe
Corvidae	**Crows and Ravens**
Corvus corax	Common raven
Troglodytidae	**Wrens**
Thryomanes bewickii	Bewick's wren

Scientific Name	Common Name
Fringillidae	**Finches**
Haemorhous mexicanus	House finch
Passerellidae	**New World Sparrows**
Melozone crissalis	California towhee
Trochilidae	**Hummingbirds**
Calypte anna	Anna's hummingbird
MAMMALS	
Sciuridae	**Squirrels**
Spermophilus beecheyi	California ground squirrel

* = nonnative species

APPENDIX B

SPECIAL-STATUS SPECIES SUMMARY

Special-Status Species Summary

Species	Status	Habitat and Distribution	Activity Period	Occurrence Probability
Plants				
Ambrosia pumila **San Diego ambrosia**	US: FE CA: 1B	Open, seasonally wet, generally low areas in floodplains or at edges of vernal pools or playas, usually in sandy loam or on clay (including upland clay slopes), at 20 to 487 meters (70 to 1,600 feet) elevation. Known from western Riverside and western San Diego Counties. Also occurs in Mexico.	Generally non-flowering (perennial herb)	**Not Expected:** Suitable habitat (floodplains, vernal pools and playas) is not present within the project site.
Arenaria paludicola **Marsh sandwort**	US: FE CA: SE/1B	Boggy areas in freshwater marshes and swamps below 170 meters (560 feet) elevation (formerly higher). Known to presently occur only in San Luis Obispo County (at Oso Flaco Lake and Morro Bay). Believed extirpated from Los Angeles, San Francisco, Santa Cruz, Riverside, and San Bernardino Counties, and from the State of Washington. The last known record of this species in Riverside, San Bernardino, or Los Angeles Counties is from 1900.	Blooms May through August (perennial herb)	**Not Expected:** This species does not presently occur in San Bernardino County.
Artemisia palmeri **San Diego sagewort**	US: – CA: 4	Sandy drainages and riparian areas in chaparral, coastal scrub, and riparian communities at 50 to 3,000 feet (15 to 915 meters) elevation. In California, known only from San Diego County. Also occurs in Baja California, Mexico.	Blooms generally May through September (perennial deciduous shrub)	**Not Expected:** This species is not known to occur in San Bernardino County.
Asplenium vespertinum **Western spleenwort**	US: – CA: 4	Rocky sites in chaparral, cismontane woodland, and coastal scrub at 180 to 1,000 meters (600 to 3,300 feet) elevation. In California, known only from Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Diego, and Ventura Counties. Also occurs in Mexico.	Blooms February through June (perennial herb)	**Low:** Riversidean sage scrub habitat is present within the project site.
Astragalus hornii var. *hornii* **Horn's milk-vetch**	US: – CA: 1B	Alkaline playas and lake margins from 60 to 850 meters (200 to 2,800 feet) elevation. In California, known only from Inyo and Kern Counties. Believed extirpated from San Bernardino County. Also occurs in Nevada.	Blooms May through October (annual herb)	**Not Expected:** This species is considered extirpated in San Bernardino County.
Berberis nevinii **Nevin's barberry**	US: FE CA: SE/1B	Gravelly wash margins in alluvial scrub or coarse soils and rocky slopes in chaparral at 70 to 825 meters (220 to 2,700 feet) elevation. Known occurrences at higher elevations are planted (not natural). Known only from Los Angeles, San Bernardino, Riverside, and San Diego Counties, California.	Blooms March through June (evergreen shrub, survey year-round)	**Not Expected:** Suitable habitat (gravelly wash margins in alluvial scrub and rocky slopes in chaparral) is not present within the project site.

Special-Status Species Summary

Species	Status	Habitat and Distribution	Activity Period	Occurrence Probability
Calochortus plummerae **Plummer's mariposa-lily**	US: – CA: 4	Rocky sites of granitic or alluvial material in valley and foothill grassland, coastal scrub, chaparral, cismontane woodland, and lower montane coniferous forest, at 100 to 1,700 meters (300 to 5,600 feet) elevation. Known from Riverside, San Bernardino, Orange, Los Angeles, and Ventura Counties, California. In the western Riverside County area, this species is known from the foothills of the San Bernardino Mountains, northeastern Santa Ana Mountains, Box Springs Mountains, and from the Lake Skinner area (*The Vascular Plants of Western Riverside County*, California. F.M. Roberts et al., 2004). Appears to intergrade with *Calochortus weedii* var. *intermedius,* which is mostly from Santa Ana Mountains eastward.	Blooms May through July (perennial herb)	**Low:** Riversidean sage scrub (brittle bush scrub) and rocky sites are present within the project site. However, there are no records of this species in the La Loma Hills.
Carex comosa **Bristly sedge**	US: – CA: 2B	Bogs and fens, freshwater marshes and swamps, and lake margins below 425 meters (1,400 feet). Known from Lake, Santa Cruz, San Francisco, Shasta, San Joaquin, and Sonoma Counties; and Idaho, Oregon, and Washington. Believed extirpated from San Bernardino County (last known occurrence was in 1882).	Blooms May through September (perennial rhizomatous herb)	**Not Expected:** Suitable habitat (bogs, fens, freshwater marshes and swamps) is not present within the project site.
Caulanthus simulans **Payson's jewel-flower**	US: – CA: 4.2	Recently burned areas or disturbed sites such as streambeds in chaparral, coastal sage scrub, riparian areas, and grassland at 60 to 2,200 meters (200 to 7,200 feet) elevation. Known from San Diego County (Collections in western Riverside County misidentified, are *C. heterophyllus* var. *pseudosimulans*).	Blooms (February) March through May (June) (annual herb)	**Not Expected:** This species is only known from San Diego County.
Centromadia pungens ssp. *laevis* **Smooth tarplant**	US: – CA: 1B	Generally alkaline areas in chenopod scrub, meadows, playas, riparian woodland, valley and foothill grassland below 480 meters (1,600 feet) elevation. Known from Riverside and San Bernardino Counties, extirpated from San Diego County.	Blooms April through November (annual herb)	**Not Expected:** Suitable habitat (alkaline areas in chenopod scrub, meadows, playas, riparian woodland, valley and foothill grassland) is not present within the project site.

Special-Status Species Summary

Species	Status	Habitat and Distribution	Activity Period	Occurrence Probability
Chloropyron maritimum spp. *maritimum* **Salt marsh bird's-beak**	US: FE CA: SE/1B	Coastal dunes and salt marshes. In California, known from Los Angeles, Orange, Santa Barbara, San Bernardino, San Diego, San Luis Obispo, and Ventura Counties. Historical collections referred to this taxon from alkaline meadow in vicinity of San Bernardino Valley and from interior San Diego County are intermediate to *C. maritimus* ssp. *canescens*. Also occurs in Mexico.	Blooms May through October (annual herb)	**Not Expected:** Suitable habitat (coastal dunes and salt marshes) is not present within the project site.
Chorizanthe leptotheca **Peninsular spineflower**	US: – CA: 4.2	Chaparral, coastal scrub, lower montane coniferous forest. On granitic soils, in alluvial fans. 300–1,900 meters (980–6,240 feet). In California, known from Riverside, San Bernardino, and San Diego Counties. Also known from Baja California.	Blooms May through August (annual herb)	**Not Expected:** Although coastal sage scrub is present, granitic soils and alluvial fans are absent.
Chorizanthe parryi var. *parryi* **Parry's spineflower**	US: – CA: 1B	Sandy or rocky soils in chaparral, coastal scrub, oak woodlands, and grassland at 40 to 1,705 meters (100 to 5,600 feet) elevation. Known only from Los Angeles, Riverside, and San Bernardino Counties.	Blooms April through June (annual herb)	**Low:** Coastal sage scrub (brittle bush scrub) and rocky soils are present within the project site.
Convolvulus simulans **Small-flowered morning-glory**	US: – CA: 4	Clay and serpentinite seeps in grassland, coastal scrub, and openings in chaparral at 30 to 700 meters (100 to 2,300 feet) elevation. Occurs in many counties in non-desert areas of California. Also occurs in Mexico.	Blooms March through July (annual herb)	**Not Expected:** Suitable habitat (clay and serpentinite seeps) is not present within the project site.
Cuscuta obtusifolia var. *glandulosa* **Peruvian dodder**	US: – CA: 2B	May be extirpated in California. Formerly found sporadically in freshwater marsh on herbs including *Alternanthera*, *Dalea, Lythrum, Polygonum,* and *Xanthium* below about 500 meters (1,600 feet). Believed extirpated from California. Reported historically from Los Angeles, San Bernardino, Sonoma, Sutter, Butte, Sacramento, and Merced Counties. Also known from eastern and southern US, West Indies, and Mexico.	Blooms July through October (annual parasitic vine)	**Not Expected:** Suitable habitat (freshwater marshes) is not present within the project site. In addition, this species may be extirpated from California.
Deinandra paniculata **Paniculate tarplant**	US: – CA: 4	Vernally mesic soils in coastal scrub and grassland at 25 to 940 meters (80 to 3,100 feet) elevation. In California, known only from Orange, Riverside, Santa Barbara, San Bernardino, San Diego, and San Luis Obispo Counties. Also occurs in Mexico.	Blooms April through November (annual herb)	**Not Expected:** Suitable habitat (vernally mesic soils) is not present within the project site.

Special-Status Species Summary

Species	Status	Habitat and Distribution	Activity Period	Occurrence Probability
Dodecahema leptoceras **Slender-horned spineflower**	US: FE CA: SE/1B	In the Vail Lake area, occurs in gravel soils of Temecula arkose deposits in openings in chamise chaparral. In other areas, occurs in sandy cobbly riverbed alluvium in alluvial fan sage scrub (usually late seral stage), on floodplain terraces and benches that receive infrequent overbank deposits from generally large washes or rivers, where it is most often found in shallow silty depressions dominated by leather spineflower (*Lastarriaea coriacea*) and other native annual species, and is often associated with cryptogamic soil crusts composed of bryophytes, algae, and/or lichens. Occurs at 200 to 760 meters (600 to 2,500 feet) elevation. Known only from Los Angeles, Riverside, and San Bernardino Counties, California.	Blooms April through June (annual herb)	**Not Expected:** Suitable habitat (sandy cobbly riverbed alluvium and floodplains and terraces) is not present within the project site.
Eriastrum densifolium ssp. *sanctorum* **Santa Ana River woollystar**	US: FE CA: SE/1B	Riversidean alluvial fan sage scrub and chaparral in sandy or gravelly soils of floodplains and terraced fluvial deposits of the Santa Ana River and larger tributaries (Lytle and Cajon Creeks, lower portions of City and Mill Creeks) at 90 to 625 meters (300 to 2,100 feet) elevation in San Bernardino and Riverside Counties. Presumed extirpated from Orange County.	Blooms April through September (perennial herb)	**Not Expected:** Suitable habitat (floodplains and terraces) is not present within the project site.
Galium californicum ssp. *primum* **Alvin meadow bedstraw**	US: – CA: 1B	Granitic soils in chaparral and lower montane coniferous forest; 1,350 to 1,700 meters (4,400 to 5,600 feet) elevation. Known from Riverside and San Bernardino Counties.	Blooms May through July (perennial herb)	**Not Expected:** Suitable habitat (montane coniferous forest) is not present within the project site.
Helianthus nuttallii ssp. *parishii* **Los Angeles sunflower**	US: – CA: 1A	Marshes and swamps (coastal salt and freshwater) at 10 to 500 meters (30 to 1,600 feet) elevation. This species is historically known from Los Angeles, Orange, and San Bernardino Counties, California. Last seen in 1937. Presumed extinct. Plants found in 2002 at Castaic Spring along the Santa Clara River in Los Angeles County were initially reported as possibly this taxon, but instead appear to be hybrids or evolutionary intermediates between *H. nuttallii* and *H. californicus*, based on chromosome counts and pollen morphology (*A Quantitative Analysis of Pollen Variation in Two Southern California Perennial Helianthus (Heliantheae: Asteraceae)*, J.M. Porter and N. Fraga, 2004).	Blooms August through October (perennial herb)	**Not Expected:** Suitable habitat (marshes and swamps) is not present within the project site.

Special-Status Species Summary

Species	Status	Habitat and Distribution	Activity Period	Occurrence Probability
Hordeum intercedens **Vernal barley**	US: – CA: 3.2	Vernal pools and saline flats and depressions below 1,000 meters (3,300 feet) elevation. Known from many California Counties. Also occurs in Mexico.	Blooms March through June (annual herb)	**Not Expected:** Suitable habitat (vernal pools and flats) is not present within the project site.
Horkelia cuneata ssp. *puberula* **Mesa horkelia**	US: – CA: 1B	Sandy or gravelly soils in chaparral, or rarely in cismontane woodland or coastal scrub at 70 to 825 meters (200 to 2,700 feet) elevation. Known only from San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, Ventura, Los Angeles, Orange, and San Bernardino Counties, California. Believed extirpated from Riverside and San Diego Counties.	Blooms February through July (sometimes to September) (perennial herb)	**Not Expected:** Although coastal sage scrub (brittle bush scrub) is present, suitable sandy or gravelly soils are absent.
Imperata brevifolia **California satintail**	US: – CA: 2B	Springs, meadows, streambanks, moist canyons, canals, alkaline sinks, and similar wet areas below 1,220 meters (4,000 feet) elevation. Known from Butte, Fresno, Imperial, Inyo, Kern, Lake, Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, Tehama, Tulare, and Ventura Counties, though many collections are old and the populations likely extirpated. Also occurs in other areas of the western US and Mexico.	Blooms September through May (perennial grass)	**Not Expected:** Suitable habitat (wet areas) is not present within the project site.
Juglans californica **Southern California black walnut**	US: – CA: 4	Primarily alluvial areas in chaparral, coastal sage scrub, and cismontane woodland at 50 to 900 meters (160 to 3,000 feet) elevation. In California, known only from Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, Santa Barbara, San Bernardino, San Diego, and Ventura Counties.	Blooms March through August (deciduous tree)	**Not Expected:** This species was not observed during the August 2025 field survey.
Lasthenia glabrata ssp. *coulteri* **Coulter's goldfields**	US: – CA: 1B	Vernal pools and alkaline soils in marshes, playas, and similar habitats below 1,220 meters (4,000 feet) elevation. Known from Colusa, Merced, Tulare, Orange, Riverside, Santa Barbara, San Diego, San Luis Obispo, Tehama, Ventura, and Yolo Counties. Believed extirpated from Kern, Los Angeles, and San Bernardino Counties, and possibly also from Tulare County. Also occurs in Mexico.	Blooms February through June (annual herb)	**Not Expected:** Suitable habitat (vernal pools and marshes) is not present within the project site.
Lepidium virginicum var. *robinsonii* **Robinson's pepper-grass**	US: – CA: 4	Dry soils in coastal sage scrub and chaparral below 885 meters (2,900 feet) elevation. In California, known only from Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, Santa Barbara, San Bernardino, and San Diego Counties, and Santa Cruz Island. Also occurs in Mexico.	Blooms January through July (annual herb)	**Low:** Suitable habitat, dry soils in coastal sage scrub (brittle bush scrub), is present within the project site.

Special-Status Species Summary

Species	Status	Habitat and Distribution	Activity Period	Occurrence Probability
Lycium parishii **Parish's desert-thorn**	US: – CA: 2B	Coastal scrub and Sonoran desert scrub at 135 to 1,000 meters (440 to 3,300 feet) elevation. In California, known from Imperial and San Diego Counties. Report from Riverside County is based on a misidentification. Known only historically from San Bernardino County (benches and/or foothills north of San Bernardino).	Blooms March through April (deciduous shrub)	**Not Expected:** Although coastal sage scrub is present, this species is not currently known from San Bernardino County.
Malacothamnus parishii **Parish's bush mallow**	US: – CA: 1A	Known only from one occurrence in 1895, in chaparral and coastal sage scrub at 490 meters (1,600 feet) elevation in vicinity of San Bernardino. Presumed extinct.	Blooms June through July (deciduous shrub)	**Not Expected:** This species is considered extinct in San Bernardino County.
Monardella pringlei **Pringle's monardella**	US: – CA: 1A	Sandy hills in coastal sage scrub at 300 to 400 meters (980 to 1,300 feet) elevation. Known only from two occurrences west of Colton. Last seen in 1941. Habitat lost to urbanization. Presumed extinct.	Blooms May through June (annual herb)	**Not Expected:** This species is presumed extinct in San Bernardino County.
Nasturtium (Rorippa) gambelii **Gambel's watercress**	US: FE CA: ST/1B	Marshes from 5 to 330 meters (20 to 1,100 feet) elevation. Currently believed to occur in California only in Santa Barbara and San Luis Obispo Counties. There are historical records from Los Angeles, Orange, and San Bernardino Counties. A historical report from San Diego County likely constitutes a misidentification. Also occurs in Baja California.	Blooms April through September (perennial herb)	**Not Expected:** Suitable habitat (marshes) is not present within the project site. In addition, this species is not currently known from San Bernardino County.
Phacelia stellaris **Brand's star phacelia**	US: – CA: 1B	Dunes and sandy openings in coastal scrub communities at 5 to 400 meters (20 to 1,300 feet) elevation. In western Riverside County, this species appears to be restricted to sandy washes and benches in alluvial floodplains. Known only from Los Angeles (believed extirpated), Riverside, and San Diego Counties, California. The most recent record of this species from Los Angeles County was in 1943.	Blooms March through June (annual herb)	**Not Expected:** This species is not known from San Bernardino County.
Ribes divericatum var. *parishii* **Parish's gooseberry**	US: – CA: 1A	Deciduous shrub of willow swales in riparian habitats at 60 to 300 meters (200 to 1,000 feet) elevation. Believed to be extinct. Historical collections from Los Angeles and San Bernardino Counties.	Blooms February through April	**Not Expected:** Suitable habitat (riparian and willow swales) is not present within the project site. In addition, this species is not currently known from San Bernardino County.

Special-Status Species Summary

Species	Status	Habitat and Distribution	Activity Period	Occurrence Probability
Romneya coulteri **Coulter's Matilija poppy**	US: – CA: 4	Dry washes, banks near washes, canyons, and steep northern slopes in coastal sage scrub and chaparral away from the immediate coast, below 1,220 meters (4,000 feet) elevation. Known only from Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, and San Diego Counties.	Blooms May through July	**Not Expected:** This species is not known from San Bernardino County.
Senecio aphanactis **Chaparral ragwort**	US: – CA: 2B	Openings (especially alkaline flats) in cismontane woodland, coastal sage scrub, and chaparral at 15 to 800 meters (50 to 2,600 feet) elevation. Known in California from Alameda, Contra Costa, Fresno, Los Angeles, Merced, Monterey, Orange, Riverside, Santa Barbara, Santa Clara, San Diego, San Luis Obispo, Solano, and Ventura Counties. Also occurs in Baja California.	Blooms January through April (annual herb)	**Not Expected:** This species is not known from San Bernardino County.
Sidalcea neomexicana **Salt Spring checkerbloom**	US: – CA: 2B	Alkaline springs and brackish marshes below 1,530 meters (5,000 feet) elevation. In California, known only from Kern, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Diego, and Ventura Counties. Believed extirpated from Los Angeles County. Also known from Arizona, New Mexico, Nevada, Utah, and Mexico.	Blooms March through June (perennial herb)	**Not Expected:** Suitable habitat (springs and marshes) is not present within the project site.
Sphenopholis obtusata **Prairie wedge grass**	US: – CA: 2B	Wet meadows, stream banks, and ponds at 300 to 2,000 meters (1,000 to 6,600 feet) elevation. Widely distributed. In Southern California, known only from San Bernardino, Riverside (Santa Ana River), and perhaps San Diego Counties.	Blooms April through July (perennial herb)	**Not Expected:** Suitable habitat (ponds, meadows and stream banks) is not present within the project site.
Symphyotrichum defoliatum **San Bernardino aster**	US: – CA: 1B	Vernally wet sites (such as ditches, streams, and springs) in many plant communities below 2,040 meters (6,700 feet) elevation. In California, known from Ventura, Kern, San Bernardino, Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, and San Diego Counties. May also occur in San Luis Obispo County. In the western Riverside County area, this species is scarce, and documented only from Temescal and San Timoteo Canyons (*The Vascular Plants of Western Riverside County, California*. F.M. Roberts et al., 2004).	Blooms July through November (perennial herb)	**Not Expected:** Suitable habitat (vernally wet sites) is not present within the project site.

Special-Status Species Summary

Species	Status	Habitat and Distribution	Activity Period	Occurrence Probability
Invertebrates				
Bombus crotchii **Crotch's bumble bee**	US: – CA: SCE	Inhabits open scrub and grassland from coastal California to crest of Sierra-Cascade and in desert edge areas, south into Mexico. Primarily nests underground. Suitable bumble bee habitat requires the continuous availability of flowers on which to forage throughout the duration of the colony (spring through fall), colony nest sites, and overwintering sites for the queens.	Spring and summer	**Low to Moderate:** Dense brittle bush scrub and grasslands are present within the project site.
Carolella busckana **Busck's gallmoth**	US: – CA: SA	Larval host reported as *Encelia californica* (*HOSTS - a Database of the World's Lepidopteran Host plants*. The Natural History Museum, London, 2007). Other habitat requirements unknown. Species is known only from historical reports.	Unknown	**Not Expected:** Habitat is unknown for the species due to the species being poorly documented.
Cicindela tranquebarica viridissima **Greenest tiger beetle**	US: – CA: SA	Inhabits the woodlands adjacent to the Santa Ana River Basin. Usually found in open spots between trees.	March, October through November	**Not Expected:** Suitable habitat (woodlands) is not present within the project site.
Danaus plexippus (wintering sites) **Monarch butterfly**	US: FPE CA: SA	Winter roosts are located in wind-protected tree groves (eucalyptus, Monterey pine, cypress) with nectar and water sources nearby.	September through March	**Not Expected:** Although individual large trees, such as eucalyptus, are present, no protected tree groves suitable for roosting occur.
Euphydryas editha quino **Quino checkerspot butterfly**	US: FE CA: SA	Meadows or openings within coastal sage scrub or chaparral below about 5,000 feet where food plants (*Plantago erecta* and/or *Orthocarpus purpurascens*) are present. Historically known from Santa Monica Mountains to northwest Baja California; currently known only from southwestern Riverside County, southern San Diego County, and northern Baja California.	January through late April	**Not Expected:** Although coastal sage scrub (brittlebush scrub) is present, this species is not known to occur in San Bernardino County.
Rhaphiomidas terminatus abdominalis **Delhi Sands flower-loving fly**	US: FE CA: SA	Restricted to Delhi series sands in western Riverside and San Bernardino Counties.	Above ground emergence August and September; not visible during the rest of the year	**Not Expected:** Suitable Delhi soils are not present within the project site.

Special-Status Species Summary

Species	Status	Habitat and Distribution	Activity Period	Occurrence Probability
Streptocephalus woottoni **Riverside fairy shrimp**	US: FE CA: SA	Warm-water vernal pools (i.e., large, deep pools that retain water into the warm season) with low to moderate dissolved solids, in annual grassland areas interspersed through chaparral or coastal sage scrub vegetation. Suitable habitat includes some artificially created or enhanced pools, such as some stock ponds, that have vernal pool like hydrology and vegetation. Known from areas within about 50 miles of the coast from Ventura County south to San Diego County and Baja California.	Seasonally following rains; typically January through April	**Not Expected:** Suitable habitat (vernal pools) is not present within the project site.
Ceratochrysis longimala **Desert Cuckoo wasp**	US: – CA: SA	Habitat requirements unknown. Known from the Gorman area (Los Angeles County), where it is presumed to persist. Also known from a historical record (1915, old part of Riverside) from Riverside County.	Unknown	**Not Expected:** Habitat is unknown for the species due to the species being poorly documented. In addition, this species is not known from San Bernardino County.
Fish				
Catostomus santaanae **Santa Ana sucker**	US: FT CA: SSC	The Santa Ana sucker's historical range includes the Los Angeles, San Gabriel, and Santa Ana River drainage systems located in Southern California. An introduced population also occurs in the Santa Clara River drainage system in Southern California. Found in shallow, cool, running water.	Year-round	**Not Expected:** Designated critical habitat and suitable habitat are absent. Designated critical habitat is known from the Santa Ana River north and west of the project site.
Gila orcuttii **Arroyo chub**	US: – CA: SSC	Perennial streams or intermittent streams with permanent pools; slow water sections of streams with mud or sand substrates; spawning occurs in pools. Native to Los Angeles, San Gabriel, San Luis Rey, Santa Ana, and Santa Margarita River systems; introduced in Santa Ynez, Santa Maria, Cuyama, and Mojave River systems and smaller coastal streams.	Year-round	**Not Expected:** Suitable habitat (perennial streams and intermittent streams) is not present within the project site.
Oncorhynchus mykiss irideus **Southern steelhead - Southern California**	US: FE CA: SA	Federal listing refers to runs in coastal basins from the Santa Maria River, south to the southern extent of the range (presently considered to be Malibu Creek). Proposed rulemaking 12/19/2000 to extend southern portion of the range to San Mateo.	Year-round	**Not Expected:** Suitable habitat is not present within the project site.

Special-Status Species Summary

Species	Status	Habitat and Distribution	Activity Period	Occurrence Probability
Rhinichthys osculus ssp. 3 **Santa Ana speckled dace**	US: – CA: SSC	Found in the headwaters of the Santa Ana and San Gabriel River drainages. Found in riffles in small streams and shore areas with abundant gravel and rock.	Year-round	**Not Expected:** Suitable habitat (streams and river drainages) is not present within the project site.
Amphibians				
Rana muscosa **Southern mountain yellow-legged frog**	US: FE CA: SE	Ponds, lakes, and streams at moderate to high elevation; appears to prefer bodies of water with open margins and gently sloping bottom. Transverse Ranges in Southern California from 370 to 2,290 meters (1,200 to 7,500 feet) elevation. Restricted to streams in ponderosa pine, montane hardwood-conifer, and montane riparian habitats.	March through June	**Not Expected:** Suitable habitat (streams, lakes, and ponds) is not present within the project site.
Spea hammondii **Western spadefoot**	US: – CA: SSC	Grasslands and occasionally hardwood woodlands; largely terrestrial but requires rain pools or other ponded water persisting at least 3 weeks for breeding; burrows in loose soils during dry season. Occurs in the Central Valley and adjacent foothills, the non-desert areas of Southern California, and Baja California.	October through April (following onset of winter rains)	**Not Expected:** Suitable habitat (pools and ponded water) is not present within the project site.
Reptiles				
Anniella stebbinsi **Southern California legless lizard**	US: – CA: SSC	Inhabits sandy or loose loamy soils with high moisture content under sparse vegetation in Southern California.	Nearly year-round, at least in southern areas	**Not Expected:** Suitable habitat (sandy, loose soils) is not present within the project site.
Arizona elegans occidentalis **California glossy snake**	US: – CA: SSC	Scrub and grassland habitats, often with loose or sandy soils. Patchily distributed from the eastern portion of San Francisco Bay to southern San Joaquin Valley and in non-desert areas of Southern California. Also occurs in Baja California, Mexico.	Most active March through June (nocturnal)	**Not Expected:** Although coastal sage scrub (brittle bush scrub) and grassland habitats occur, loose sandy soils are absent.
Aspidoscelis hyperythra **Orangethroat whiptail**	US: – CA: SA	Prefers washes and other sandy areas with patches of brush and rocks, in chaparral, coastal sage scrub, juniper woodland, and oak woodland from sea level to 915 meters (3,000 feet) elevation. Perennial plants required. Occurs in Riverside, Orange, and San Diego Counties west of the crest of the Peninsular Ranges, in extreme southern San Bernardino County near Colton, and in Baja California.	March through July with reduced activity August through October	**High:** This species was observed on site by LSA in 2015 (LSA 2015). There are also CNDDB records for this species south of the project site in the La Loma Hills.

Special-Status Species Summary

Species	Status	Habitat and Distribution	Activity Period	Occurrence Probability
Aspidoscelis tigris stejnegeri **Coastal western whiptail**	US: – CA: SSC	Woodlands, riparian areas, and sparsely vegetated areas in a wide variety of habitats including coastal sage scrub and sparse grassland. Occurs in valleys and foothills from Ventura County to Baja California.	April through August	**Moderate:** Coastal sage scrub (brittlebush scrub) and grasslands are present within the project site.
Coleonyx variegatus abbotti **San Diego banded gecko**	US: – CA: SSC	Often associated with rocks. Coastal sage scrub and chaparral, most often on granite or rocky outcrops in these habitats. Interior Ventura County south.	Nocturnal April through October	**Moderate:** Coastal sage scrub (brittlebush scrub) is present within the project site. There are CNDDB records for this species south of the project site in the La Loma Hills.
Crotalus ruber **Red diamond rattlesnake**	US: – CA: SSC	Desert scrub, thornscrub, open chaparral and woodland; occasional in grassland and cultivated areas. Prefers rocky areas and dense vegetation. Morongo Valley in San Bernardino and Riverside Counties to the west and south into Mexico.	Mid-spring through mid-fall	**Moderate:** Dense scrub (brittlebush scrub) is present within the project site.
Phrynosoma blainvillii (coronatum) **Coast horned lizard**	US: – CA: SSC	Primarily in sandy soil in open areas, especially washes and floodplains, in many plant communities. Requires open areas for sunning, bushes for cover, patches of loose soil for burial, and an abundant supply of ants or other insects. Occurs west of the deserts from northern Baja California north to Shasta County below 2,400 meters (8,000 feet) elevation.	April through July with reduced activity August through October	**Not Expected:** Suitable habitat (sandy soils, washes and floodplains) is not present within the project site.
Salvadora hexalepis virgultea **Coast patch-nosed snake**	US: – CA: SSC	Coastal chaparral, washes, sandy flats, and rocky areas. Widely distributed throughout lowlands, up to 2,130 meters (7,000 feet) elevation, of Southern California from coast to the eastern border.	Active diurnally throughout most of the year	**Not Expected:** Suitable habitat (chaparral, sandy flats, and washes) is not present within the project site.
Thamnophis hammondii **Two-striped garter snake**	US: – CA: SSC	Highly aquatic. Only in or near permanent sources of water. Streams with rocky beds supporting willows or other riparian vegetation. From Monterey County to northwest Baja California.	Diurnal year-round	**Not Expected:** Suitable habitat (permanent water sources and riparian areas) is not present within the project site.
Actinemys pallida **Southwestern pond turtle**	US: FPT CA: SSC	Freshwater habitats such as rivers, streams, ponds, and wetlands.	Year-round	**Not Expected:** Suitable habitat (rivers, ponds, wetlands, and streams) is not present within the project site.

Special-Status Species Summary

Species	Status	Habitat and Distribution	Activity Period	Occurrence Probability
Thamnophis sirtalis **South coast gartersnake**	US: – CA: SSC	Occurs in marsh, upland habitats near permanent water sources that have riparian vegetation.	Early spring to late fall	**Not Expected:** Suitable habitat (marshes and riparian vegetation) is not present within the project site.
Birds				
Accipiter cooperii (nesting) **Cooper's hawk**	US: – CA: SA	Forages in a wide range of habitats, but primarily in forests and woodlands. These include natural areas as well as human-created habitats such as plantations and ornamental trees in urban landscapes. Usually nests in tall trees (20 to 60 feet) in extensive forested areas (generally woodlots of 4 to 8 hectares with canopy closure of greater than 60 percent). Occasionally nests in isolated trees in more open areas.	Year-round	**Not Expected:** Suitable nesting habitat (tall trees and forested areas with canopy closure) are not present within the project site, although this species may use the project site during foraging activities.
Agelaius tricolor (nesting colony) **Tricolored blackbird**	US: – CA: ST/SSC (breeding)	Open country. Forages in grassland and cropland habitats. Nests in large groups near freshwater, preferably in emergent wetland with tall, dense cattails or tules, but also in thickets of willow, blackberry, wild rose, or tall herbs. Seeks cover for roosting in emergent wetland vegetation, especially cattails and tules, and also in trees and shrubs. Occurs in western Oregon, California, and northwestern Baja California.	Year-round	**Not Expected:** Suitable habitat (freshwater, wetland and vegetation) is not present within the project site.
Aimophila ruficeps canescens **Southern California rufous-crowned sparrow**	US: – CA: SA	Steep, rocky coastal sage scrub and open chaparral habitats, particularly scrubby areas mixed with grasslands. From Santa Barbara County to northwestern Baja California.	Year-round; diurnal activity	**High:** Coastal sage scrub (brittle bush scrub) and grasslands are present within the project site. There are CNDDB records for this species south of the project site in the La Loma Hills.
Artemisiospiza belli belli **Bell's sage sparrow**	US: – CA: SA	Occupies chaparral and coastal sage scrub from west central California to northwestern Baja California.	Year-round; diurnal activity	**High:** Coastal sage scrub (brittle bush scrub) and grasslands are present within the project area. There are CNDDB records for this species south of the project site in the La Loma Hills.

Special-Status Species Summary

Species	Status	Habitat and Distribution	Activity Period	Occurrence Probability
Athene cunicularia (burrow sites) **Burrowing owl**	US: – CA: SSC (breeding)	Open country in much of North and South America. Usually occupies ground squirrel burrows in open, dry grasslands, agricultural and range lands, railroad rights-of-way, and margins of highways, golf courses, and airports. Often utilizes man-made structures, such as earthen berms, cement culverts, cement, asphalt, rock, or wood debris piles. They avoid thick, tall vegetation, brush, and trees, but may occur in areas where brush or tree cover is less than 30 percent.	Year-round	**Not Expected:** Habitat (dense brittle bush scrub/grassland and rocky soils) within the project site is not considered suitable habitat for the burrowing owl.
Buteo regalis (wintering) **Ferruginous hawk**	US: – CA: SA	Forages in open fields, grasslands and agricultural areas, sagebrush flats, desert scrub, fringes of pinyon-juniper habitats, and other open country in western North America. Not known to breed in California.	Mid-September through mid-April	**Low:** Habitat (brittle bush scrub and grasslands) within the project site may be suitable for foraging.
Buteo swainsoni (nesting) **Swainson's hawk**	US: – CA: ST	Open desert, grassland, or cropland containing scattered, large trees or small groves. Breeds in stands with few trees in juniper-sage flats, riparian areas, and in oak savannah in the Central Valley. Forages in adjacent grasslands or suitable grain or alfalfa fields, or livestock pastures. Breeds and nests in western North America; winters in South America. Uncommon breeding resident and migrant in the Central Valley, Klamath Basin, Northeastern Plateau, Lassen County, and Mojave Desert. Very limited breeding reported from Lanfair Valley, Owens Valley, Fish Lake Valley, and Antelope Valley. In Southern California, now mostly limited to spring and fall transient. Formerly abundant in California with wider breeding range.	Spring and fall (in migration)	**Not Expected:** Suitable nesting habitat (trees in juniper-sage flats, riparian areas, and oak savannah) does not occur within the project site for nesting. May use the project site for foraging during migration in the spring and fall.
Coccyzus americanus occidentalis (nesting) **Western yellow-billed cuckoo**	US: FT CA: SE	Breeds and nests in extensive stands of dense cottonwood/willow riparian forest along broad, lower flood bottoms of larger river systems at scattered locales in western North America; winters in South America.	June through September	**Not Expected:** Suitable habitat (riparian) is not present within the project site.
Coturnicops noveboracensis **Yellow rail**	US: – CA: SSC	Inhabits freshwater marshes, as a very local breeder in the northeastern interior of California and as a winter visitor (early October to mid-April) on the coast and in the Suisun Marsh region.	Year-round	**Not Expected:** Suitable habitat (freshwater marshes) is not present within the project site.

Special-Status Species Summary

Species	Status	Habitat and Distribution	Activity Period	Occurrence Probability
Empidonax traillii extimus **Southwestern willow flycatcher**	US: FE CA: SE	Rare and local breeder in extensive riparian areas of dense willows or (rarely) tamarisk, usually with standing water, in the southwestern US and possibly extreme northwestern Mexico. Winters in Central and South America. Below 6,000 feet elevation.	May through September	**Not Expected:** Suitable habitat (riparian areas) is not present within the project site.
Eremophila alpestris actia **California horned lark**	US: – CA: SA	Open grasslands and fields, agricultural areas, open montane grasslands. This subspecies is resident from northern Baja California northward throughout non-desert areas to Humboldt County, including the San Joaquin Valley and the western foothills of the Sierra Nevada (north to Calaveras County). Prefers bare ground such as plowed or fall-planted fields for nesting, but may also nest in marshy soil. During the breeding season, this is the only subspecies of horned lark in non-desert Southern California; however, from September through April or early May, other subspecies visit the area.	Year-round interior (inland areas)	**Low:** Grasslands within the project site are considered marginal habitat for this species.
Falco columbarius (wintering) **Merlin**	US: – CA: SA (wintering)	Open country; breeds in the Holarctic Region and winters south to the tropics. Rare fall migrant and winter visitor to southwestern California.	September through April	**Low:** May use the project area for foraging during migration.
Icteria virens (nesting) **Yellow-breasted chat**	US: – CA: SSC (breeding)	Riparian thickets of willow, brushy tangles near watercourses. Nests in riparian woodland throughout much of western North America. Winters in Central America.	April through September	**Not Expected:** Suitable habitat (riparian woodland/thickets) is not present within the project site.
Lanius ludovicianus (nesting) **Loggerhead shrike**	US: – CA: SSC (breeding)	Prefers open habitats with scattered small trees and with fences, utility lines, or other perches. Inhabits open country with short vegetation, pastures, old orchards, cemeteries, golf courses, riparian areas, and open woodlands. Highest density occurs in open-canopied valley foothill hardwood, valley foothill hardwood-conifer, valley foothill riparian, pinyon-juniper, juniper, desert riparian, and Joshua tree habitats. Occurs only rarely in heavily urbanized areas, but often found in open cropland. Found in open country in much of North America.	Year-round	**Not Expected:** Suitable habitat (open habitats) is not present within the project site.

Special-Status Species Summary

Species	Status	Habitat and Distribution	Activity Period	Occurrence Probability
Laterallus jamaicensis coturniculus **California black rail**	US: – CA: ST/CFP	Requires shallow water in salt marshes, freshwater marshes, wet meadows, or flooded grassy vegetation. Prefers areas of moist soil vegetated by fine-stemmed emergent plants, rushes, grasses, or sedges, with scattered small pools. Known from coastal California, northwestern Baja California, the lower Imperial Valley, and the lower Colorado River of Arizona and California. Now extirpated from virtually all of coastal Southern California.	Year-round	**Not Expected:** Suitable habitat (marshes, flooded grassy vegetation, and pools) is not present within the project site.
Polioptila californica californica **Coastal California gnatcatcher**	US: FT CA: SSC	Inhabits coastal sage scrub in low-lying foothills and valleys up to about 500 meters (1,640 feet) elevation in cismontane southwestern California and Baja California.	Year-round	**Present:** This species was observed on the project site during a focused survey in October 2024 (LSA 2024, Appendix C).
Setophagia petechia (nesting) **Yellow warbler**	US: – CA: SSC (breeding)	Riparian woodland while nesting in the western US and northwestern Baja California; more widespread in brushy areas and woodlands during migration. Occurs from western Mexico to northern South America in winter. Migrants are widespread and common. Three subspecies breed in California: *morcomi, brewsteri,* and *sonorana.* (Sonoran yellow warbler nests along the Colorado River.)	Summer, winter, or year-round, depending on locale	**Not Expected:** Suitable habitat (riparian) is not present within the project site.
Spinus lawrencei (=*Carduelis l.*) (nesting) **Lawrence's goldfinch**	US: – CA: SA	Usually inhabits oak woodlands, but also uses chaparral, riparian woodlands, coastal scrub, forests, pinyon-juniper woodlands, plantings of cypress, cedars, or junipers, and tall weedy and adjacent rural residential areas. A water source such as a stream, small lake, or farm pond within 0.5 kilometer is probably required. Nests throughout much of the non-desert portion of California and Baja California.	Fairly common April through August; otherwise uncommon	**Low:** Coastal scrub (brittle bush scrub) habitat is present within the project site.
Vireo bellii pusillus **Least Bell's vireo**	US: FE CA: SE	Riparian forests and willow thickets. The most critical structural component of least Bell's vireo habitat in California is a dense shrub layer 2 to 10 feet (0.6–3.0 meters) above ground. Willows usually dominant. Nests from central California to northern Baja California. Winters in southern Baja California.	April through September	**Not Expected:** Suitable habitat (riparian) is not present within the project site.

Special-Status Species Summary

Species	Status	Habitat and Distribution	Activity Period	Occurrence Probability
Mammals				
Antrozous pallidus **Pallid bat**	US: – CA: SSC	Most common in open, dry habitats with rocky areas for roosting. Day roosts in caves, crevices, rocky outcrops, tree hollows or crevices, mines, and occasionally buildings, culverts, and bridges. Night roosts may be more open sites, such as porches and open buildings. Grasslands, shrublands, woodlands, and forest in western North America.	Year-round; nocturnal	**Low:** Suitable roosting habitat is considered marginal. This species may use habitats on site during foraging activities.
Eumops perotis californicus **Western mastiff bat**	US: – CA: SSC	Occurs in many open, semi-arid to arid habitats, including conifer and deciduous woodlands, coastal scrub, grasslands, chaparral, etc.; roosts in crevices in vertical cliff faces, high buildings, and tunnels, and travels widely when foraging.	Year-round; nocturnal	**Low:** Suitable roosting habitat (vertical cliff faces, high buildings, and tunnels) is absent. This species may use habitats on site during foraging activities.
Lasiurus xanthinus **Western yellow bat**	US: – CA: SSC	Found mostly in desert and desert riparian areas of the southwest US, but also expanding its range with the increased usage of native and nonnative ornamental palms in landscaping. Individuals typically roost amid dead fronds of palms in desert oases but have also been documented roosting in cottonwood trees. Forages over many habitats.	Year-round; nocturnal	**Low:** Suitable roosting habitat (riparian areas and ornamental palms) is absent. This species may use habitats on site during foraging activities.
Nyctinomops femorosaccus **Pocketed free-tailed bat**	US: – CA: SSC	Usually associated with cliffs, rock outcrops, or slopes. May roost in buildings (including roof tiles) or caves. Rare in California, where it is found in Riverside, San Diego, Imperial, and possibly Los Angeles Counties. More common in Mexico.	Year-round; nocturnal	**Not Expected:** This species is rare in California and is not known from San Bernardino County.
Lepus californicus bennettii **San Diego black-tailed jackrabbit**	US: – CA: –	Variety of habitats including herbaceous and desert scrub areas, early stages of open forest and chaparral. Most common in relatively open habitats. Restricted to the cismontane areas of Southern California, extending from the coast to the Santa Monica, San Gabriel, San Bernardino, and Santa Rosa Mountain ranges.	Year-round; diurnal and crepuscular activity	**Low:** Relatively open habitat is minimal within the project site.
Chaetodipus fallax fallax **Northwestern San Diego pocket mouse**	US: – CA: SSC	Found in sandy herbaceous areas, usually associated with rocks or coarse gravel in coastal scrub, chaparral, grasslands, and sagebrush, from Los Angeles County through southwestern San Bernardino, western Riverside, and San Diego Counties to northern Baja California.	Year-round	**Not Expected:** Although coastal sage scrub (brittle bush scrub) habitat is present, sandy herbaceous areas are absent from the project site.

Special-Status Species Summary

Species	Status	Habitat and Distribution	Activity Period	Occurrence Probability
Dipodomys merriami parvus **San Bernardino kangaroo rat**	US: FE CA: SE	Gravelly and sandy soils of alluvial fans, braided river channels, active channels and terraces; San Bernardino Valley (San Bernardino County) and San Jacinto Valley (Riverside County). In San Bernardino County, this species occurs primarily in the Santa Ana River and its tributaries north of Interstate 10, with small remnant populations in the Etiwanda alluvial fan, the northern portion of the Jurupa Mountains in the south Bloomington area, and in Reche Canyon. In Riverside County, this species occurs along the San Jacinto River east of approximately Sanderson Avenue, and along Bautista Creek. Remnant populations may also occur within Riverside County in Reche Canyon, San Timoteo Canyon, Laborde Canyon, the Jurupa Mountains, and the Santa Ana River Wash north of State Route 60.	Nocturnal; active year-round	**Not Expected:** Suitable habitat (gravelly and sandy soils of alluvial fans, braided river channels, active channels and terraces) is not present within the project site.
Dipodomys stephensi **Stephens' kangaroo rat**	US: FT CA: ST	Found in plant communities transitional between grassland and coastal sage scrub, with perennial vegetation cover of less than 50%. Most commonly associated with *Artemisia tridentata, Eriogonum fasciculatum,* and *Erodium.* Requires well-drained soils with compaction characteristics suitable for burrow construction (neither sandy nor too hard). Not found in soils that are highly rocky or sandy, less than 20 inches deep, or heavily alkaline or clay, or in areas exceeding 25% slope. Occurs only in western Riverside County, northern San Diego County, and extreme southern San Bernardino County, below 915 meters (3,000 feet) elevation. In northwestern Riverside County, known only from east of Interstate 15. Reaches its northwest limit in south Norco, southeast Riverside, and in the Reche Canyon area of Riverside and extreme southern San Bernardino Counties.	Year-round; nocturnal	**Not Expected:** The project site is outside the known range of this species.
Neotoma lepida intermedia **San Diego desert woodrat**	US: – CA: SSC	Found in desert scrub and coastal sage scrub habitat, especially in association with cactus patches. Builds stick nests around cacti, or on rocky crevices. Occurs along the Pacific slope from San Luis Obispo County to northwest Baja California.	Year-round; mainly nocturnal, occasionally crepuscular and diurnal	**Low:** Coastal sage scrub (brittle bush scrub) habitat and scattered individual cactus are present within the project site.

Special-Status Species Summary

Species	Status	Habitat and Distribution	Activity Period	Occurrence Probability
Onychomys torridus ramona **Southern grasshopper mouse**	US: – CA: SSC	Believed to inhabit sandy or gravelly valley floor habitats with friable soils in open and semi-open scrub, including coastal sage scrub, mixed chaparral, low sagebrush, riparian scrub, and annual grassland with scattered shrubs, preferring low to moderate shrub cover. More susceptible to small- and large-scale habitat loss and fragmentation than most other rodents, due to its low fecundity, low population density, and large home range size. Arid portions of southwestern California and northwestern Baja California.	Nocturnal; active year-round	**Not Expected:** Although suitable coastal sage scrub (brittle bush scrub) is present, suitable soils (sandy or gravelly valley floor) are absent from the project site.
Perognathus longimembris brevinasus **Los Angeles pocket mouse**	US: – CA: SSC	Prefers sandy soil for burrowing but has been found on gravel washes and stony soils. Found in coastal sage scrub in Los Angeles, Riverside, and San Bernardino Counties.	Nocturnal; active late spring to early fall	**Not Expected:** Although suitable coastal sage scrub (brittle bush scrub) is present, suitable soils (sandy soil) are absent from the project site.
Taxidea taxus **American badger**	US: – CA: SSC	Primary habitat requirements seem to be sufficient food and friable soils in relatively open uncultivated ground in grasslands, woodlands, and desert. Widely distributed in North America.	Year-round	**Not Expected:** Suitable habitat (friable soils in relatively open uncultivated ground) does not occur within the project site.

Source: California Natural Diversity Database (CDFW 2025).
CDFW = California Department of Fish and Wildlife
CNNDB = California Natural Diversity Database
US = United States

STATUS LEGEND

US: Federal Classifications

FE Listed as Endangered.
FT Listed as Threatened.
FPE Proposed for listing as Endangered.
FPT Proposed for listing as Threatened.

CA: State Classifications

SE State-listed as Endangered.
ST State-listed as Threatened.
SCE Candidate for State-listing as Threatened or Endangered.
SSC Species of Special Concern. Refers to animals with vulnerable or seriously declining populations.
CFP California Fully Protected. Refers to animals protected from take under Fish and Game Code Sections 3511, 4700, 5050, and 5515.
SA Special Animal. Refers to any other animal monitored by the California Natural Diversity Database, regardless of its legal or rarity status.
1A California Rare Plant Rank 1A – presumed extinct in California.
1B California Rare Plant Rank 1B – rare, threatened, or endangered in California and elsewhere.
2B California Rare Plant Rank 2B – rare, threatened, or endangered in California, but more common elsewhere.

3 California Rare Plant Rank 3 – a review list of plants about which more information is needed.
3.2 California Rare Plant Rank 3.2 – a review list of plants about which more information is needed; moderately threatened in California — 20-80% of occurrences threatened/moderate degree and immediacy of threat.
4 California Rare Plant Rank 4 – a watch list of plants of limited distribution.
4.2 California Rare Plant Rank 4.2 – a watch list of plants of limited distribution; moderately threatened in California — 20-80% of occurrences threatened/moderate degree and immediacy of threat.

APPENDIX C

COASTAL CALIFORNIA GNATCATCHER SURVEY RESULTS

CARLSBAD
CLOVIS
IRVINE
LOS ANGELES
PALM SPRINGS
POINT RICHMOND
RIVERSIDE
ROSEVILLE
SAN LUIS OBISPO

November 12, 2024

Stacey Love
United States Fish and Wildlife
Service 2177 Salk Avenue, Suite 250
Carlsbad, CA 92008

Justin Garcia
Nongame Wildlife Program
California Department of Fish and
Wildlife 1812 Ninth Street
Sacramento, CA 95811

Subject: Protocol Presence/Absence Survey Results for Coastal California Gnatcatcher at La Loma No. 2 Reservoir Project, City of Colton, San Bernardino County, California (LSA Project No. 20242003)

Dear Ms. Love and Mr. Garcia:

This letter report documents the results of a protocol coastal California gnatcatcher (*Polioptila californica californica*) survey LSA conducted at the La Loma No. 2 Reservoir project site (Assessor's Parcel Number 0163-351-23-0000). The 4.22-acre project site located 0.4 mile southeasterly of the intersection of La Cadena Drive and West Tropica Ranch Road in Colton, San Bernardino County, California. Figure 1 (all figures attached) shows the project location on United States Geological Survey (USGS) *San Bernardino South, California* 7.5-minute topographic quadrangle within Section 31, Township 1 South and Range 4 west.

Coastal California gnatcatchers were observed during the initial nonbreeding season protocol survey. Based on this initial field survey, it was determined that all suitable habitat on and adjacent to the project site is considered occupied by coastal California gnatcatcher. Therefore, the remaining eight protocol field surveys were not completed.

SURVEY AREA

Elevation at the project site ranges from approximately 940 to 1,140 feet above mean sea level. Land cover on the site consists of developed/disturbed areas and associated ornamental trees, and coastal sage scrub vegetation. The developed and disturbed areas consist of the existing 3 million-gallon (MG) water tank and access route. Ornamental vegetation in developed/disturbed areas consisted predominantly of Eucalyptus trees (*Eucalyptus sp*.). The Dominant species in the coastal sage scrub was brittlebush (*Encelia californica*). California sagebrush (*Artemisia californica*), valley cholla (*Cylindropuntia californica var. parryi*) and non-native grassland species [i.e., brome grass (*Bromus sp*.) and shortpod mustard (*Hirschfeldia incana*)] were also noted.

METHODS

LSA biologist Woodard conducted the protocol survey under LSA Federal 10(a)(1)(A) Permit TE-777965 and California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) Scientific Collecting Permit 220190001-22105-001. The survey consisted of one field survey on October 4, 2024, following the 1997 United States Fish and Wildlife Service California gnatcatcher survey guidelines for non-breeding season surveys. The remaining eight protocol field surveys were not completed based on positive findings of the coastal California gnatcatcher during the initial field survey. The field survey was conducted by walking throughout the survey area listening and watching for coastal California gnatcatchers. A taped recording was played at intervals of about 15 minutes. The survey was conducted between the hours of 7:30 a.m. and 9:00 a.m. and the weather during the survey consisted of partly cloudy skies, temperatures ranging from 67 to 73 degrees Fahrenheit and calm winds.

RESULTS

Up to five individual coastal California gnatcatchers (Figure 2) were observed during the survey. A group of 3 (including at least one male and one female) were visually observed foraging on the westerly end of the project site, an individual male was visually observed foraging near the existing access route along the northern site boundary, and one individual was observed vocalizing offsite. This offsite observation is on private property and is not shown on Figure 2, or on the attached California Native Species Field Survey Form. Based on these observations, suitable habitat on and adjacent to the project site is considered occupied by the coastal California gnatcatcher.

Other bird species observed during the survey include Anna's hummingbird (*Calypte anna*), red-shouldered hawk (*Buteo lineatus*), bushtit (*Psaltriparus minimus*), Bewick's wren (*Thryomanes bewickii*), blue-gray gnatcatcher (*Polioptila caerulea*), house finch (*Haemorhous mexicanus*), lesser goldfinch (*Spinus psaltria*), California towhee (*Melozone crissalis*), and white-crowned sparrow (*Zonotrichia leucophrys*).

Please contact me at (951) 403-1701 if you require any additional information.

Sincerely,

LSA Associates, Inc.

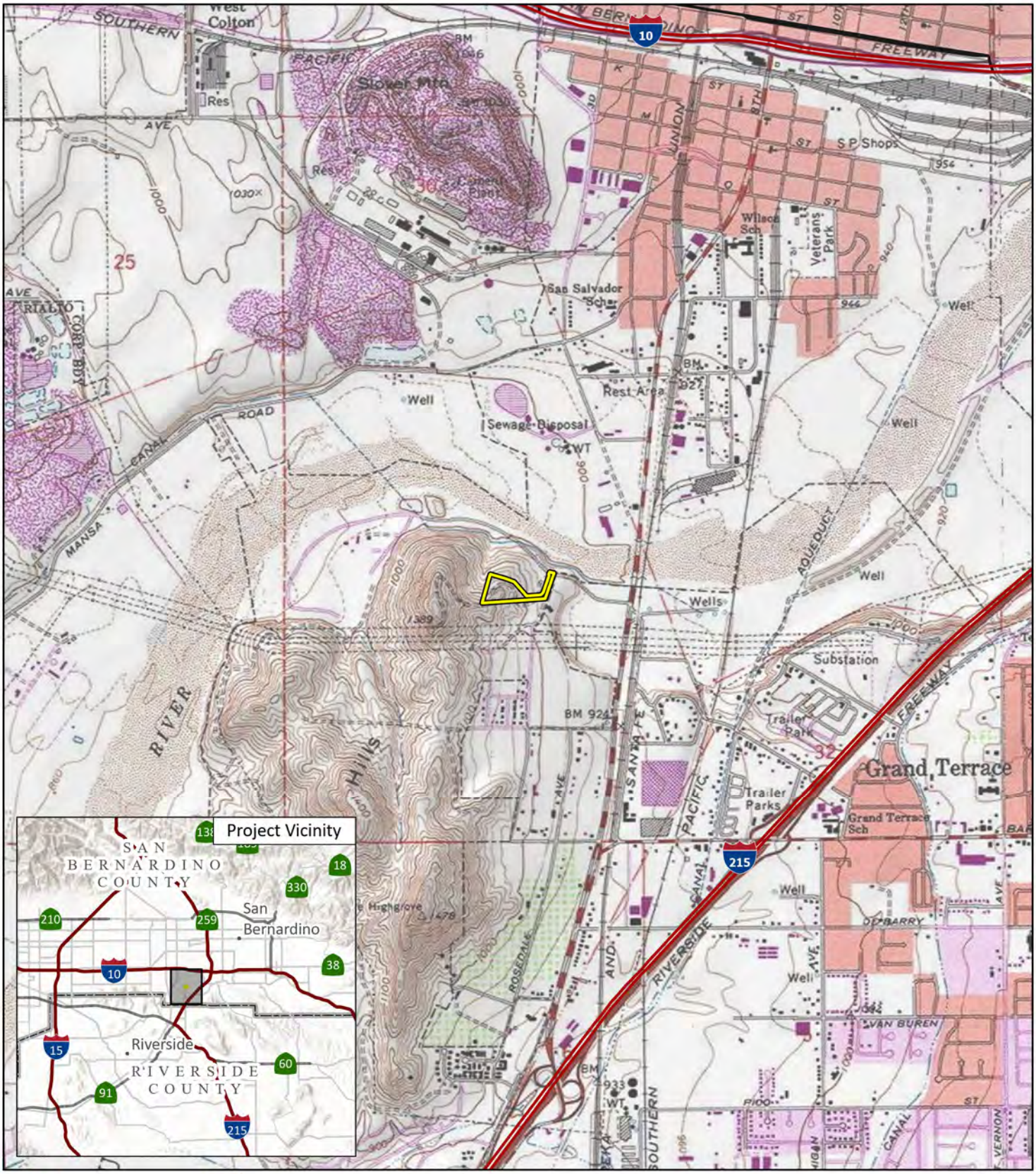


Denise Woodard
Associate/Senior Biologist

Attachments: Figure 1. Project Location
Figure 2. Coastal California Gnatcatcher Survey Results
California Native Species Field Survey Form

I CERTIFY THAT THE INFORMATION IN THIS SURVEY REPORT AND ATTACHED EXHIBITS FULLY AND ACCURATELY REPRESENTS MY WORK:

SURVEYOR:	PERMIT NUMBER:	DATE:
	TE-777965	November 12, 2024
Denise D. Woodard		



LSA

FIGURE 1

0 1000 2000
FEET

La Loma No. 2 Reservoir Project

Project Location

SOURCE: USGS 7.5' Quad - *San Bernardino South (1980)*, CA

I:\2024\20242003\GIS\Pro\La Loma No. 2 Reservoir Project\La Loma No. 2 Reservoir Project.aprx (10/31/2024)



LSA

LEGEND

Project Location

California Gnatcatcher - 3 Individuals

California Gnatcatcher

0 140 280

FEET

SOURCE: City of Colton, Google Earth 2024

I:\2024\20242003\G\Gnatcatcher_Survey.ai (11/7/2024)

FIGURE 2

La Loma No. 2 Reservoir Project

Coastal California Gnatcatcher Survey Results

Mail to:
California Natural Diversity Database
California Dept. of Fish & Wildlife
P.O. Box 944209
Sacramento, CA 94244-2090
CNDDB@wildlife.ca.gov

Date of Field Work (mm/dd/yyyy): 10/24/2024

For Office Use Only
Source Code: _____ Quad Code: _____
Elm Code: _____ Occ No.: _____
EO Index: _____ Map Index: _____

Clear Form

California Native Species Field Survey Form

Print Form

Scientific Name: *Polioptila californica californica*

Common Name: Coastal California Gnatcatcher

Species Found? (●) Yes ( ) No _____ If not found, why?

Total No. Individuals: 4 Subsequent Visit? ( ) Yes (●) No

Is this an existing NDDB occurrence? _____ Yes, Occ. # ☐ No ☒ Unk.

Collection? If yes: _____ Number _____ Museum / Herbarium

Reporter: Denise Woodard
Address: 1500 Iowa Ave, Suite 200, Riverside, CA 92507
E-mail Address: denise.woodard@lsa.net
Phone: 951-781-9310

Plant Information

Phenology:

_____ % vegetative _____ % flowering _____ % fruiting

Animal Information

4 # adults _____ # juveniles _____ # larvae _____ # egg masses _____ # unknown

☒ wintering ☐ breeding ☐ nesting ☐ rookery ☐ burrow site ☐ lek ☐ other

Location Description *(please attach map AND/OR fill out your choice of coordinates, below)*

See attached Figure 2.

County: San Bernardino Landowner / Mgr: City of Colton

Quad Name: _____ Elevation: _____

T___ R___ Sec___, ___¼ of ___¼, Meridian: H( ) M( ) S( ) Source of Coordinates (GPS, topo. map & type): _____

T___ R___ Sec___, ___¼ of ___¼, Meridian: H( ) M( ) S( ) GPS Make & Model: _____

DATUM: **NAD27** ( ) **NAD83** ( ) **WGS84** (●) Horizontal Accuracy: _____ meters/feet

Coordinate System: UTM Zone 10 ( ) UTM Zone 11 ( ) ***OR*** Geographic (Latitude & Longitude) (●)

Coordinates: 34.043626N/-117.338413W and 34.044318N/-117.337521W

Habitat Description (plants & animals) *plant communities, dominants, associates, substrates/soils, aspects/slope:*
Animal Behavior *(Describe observed behavior, such as territoriality, foraging, singing, calling, copulating, perching, roosting, etc., especially for avifauna):*

The survey area (see attached Figure 2) is on a easterly facing slope and is vegetated by coastal sage scrub dominataed by brittlebush (Encelia californica). A portion of the surveya area is developed by an exising 3 million-gallon water tank and access route. The coastal California gnatcatchers were observed foraging on and adjacent to the project site.

Please fill out separate form for other rare taxa seen at this site.

Site Information

Overall site/occurrence quality/viability (site + population): (●) Excellent ( ) Good ( ) Fair ( ) Poor

Immediate AND surrounding land use: 3 million-gallon water tank and access route, residential and commercial developement.

Visible disturbances: Existing 3 million-gallon water tank and access route

Threats: Encroaching developement

Comments:

Determination: *(check one or more, and fill in blanks)*

☐ Keyed (cite reference): _____
☐ Compared with specimen housed at: _____
☐ Compared with photo / drawing in: _____
☐ By another person (name): _____
☐ Other: _____

Photographs: *(check one or more)*

	Slide	Print	Digital
Plant / animal	☐	☐	☐
Habitat	☐	☐	☐
Diagnostic feature	☐	☐	☐

May we obtain duplicates at our expense? ( ) yes ( ) no

Letter Report: Protocol Presence/Absence Survey Results
for Coastal California Gnatcatcher at
La Loma No. 2 Reservoir Project
City of Colton, San Bernardino County, California
(LSA Project No. 20242003)
November 8, 2024

CARLSBAD
CLOVIS
IRVINE
LOS ANGELES
PALM SPRINGS
POINT RICHMOND
RIVERSIDE
ROSEVILLE
SAN LUIS OBISPO

November 8, 2024

Stacey Love
United States Fish and Wildlife Service
2177 Salk Avenue, Suite 250
Carlsbad, CA 92008

Esther Burkett
Nongame Wildlife Program
California Department of Fish and Wildlife
1812 Ninth Street
Sacramento, CA 95811

Subject: Protocol Presence/Absence Survey Results for Coastal California Gnatcatcher at La Loma No. 2 Reservoir Project, City of Colton, San Bernardino County, California (LSA Project No. 20242003)

Dear Ms. Love and Ms. Burkett:

This letter report documents the results of a protocol coastal California gnatcatcher (*Polioptila californica californica*) survey LSA conducted at the La Loma No. 2 Reservoir project site (Assessor's Parcel Number 0163-351-23-0000). The 4.22-acre project site located 0.4 mile southeasterly of the intersection of La Cadena Drive and West Tropica Ranch Road in Colton, San Bernardino County, California. Figure 1 (all figures attached) shows the project location on United States Geological Survey (USGS) *San Bernardino South, California* 7.5-minute topographic quadrangle within Section 31, Township 1 South and Range 4 west.

Coastal California gnatcatchers were observed during the initial nonbreeding season protocol survey. Based on this initial field survey, it was determined that all suitable habitat on and adjacent to the project site is considered occupied by coastal California gnatcatcher. Therefore, the remaining eight protocol field surveys were not completed.

SURVEY AREA

Elevation at the project site ranges from approximately 940 to 1,140 feet above mean sea level. Land cover on the site consists of developed/disturbed areas and associated ornamental trees, and coastal sage scrub vegetation. The developed and disturbed areas consist of the existing 3 million-gallon (MG) water tank and access route. Ornamental vegetation in developed/disturbed areas consisted predominantly of Eucalyptus trees (*Eucalyptus sp*.). The Dominant species in the coastal sage scrub was brittlebush (*Encelia californica*). California sagebrush (*Artemisia californica*), valley cholla (*Cylindropuntia californica var. parryi*) and non-native grassland species [i.e., brome grass (*Bromus sp*.) and shortpod mustard (*Hirschfeldia incana*)] were also noted.

METHODS

LSA biologist Woodard conducted the protocol survey under LSA Federal 10(a)(1)(A) Permit TE-777965 and California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) Scientific Collecting Permit 220190001-22105-001. The survey consisted of one field survey on October 4, 2024, following the 1997 United States Fish and Wildlife Service California gnatcatcher survey guidelines for non-breeding season surveys. The remaining eight protocol field surveys were not completed based on positive findings of the coastal California gnatcatcher during the initial field survey. The field survey was conducted by walking throughout the survey area listening and watching for coastal California gnatcatchers. A taped recording was played at intervals of about 15 minutes. The survey was conducted between the hours of 7:30 a.m. and 9:00 a.m. and the weather during the survey consisted of partly cloudy skies, temperatures ranging from 67 to 73 degrees Fahrenheit and calm winds.

RESULTS

Up to five individual coastal California gnatcatchers (Figure 2) were observed during the survey. A group of 3 (including at least one male and one female) were visually observed foraging on the westerly end of the project site, an individual male was visually observed foraging near the existing access route along the northern site boundary, and one individual was observed vocalizing offsite. This offsite observation is on private property and is not shown on Figure 2. Based on these observations, suitable habitat on and adjacent to the project site is considered occupied by the coastal California gnatcatcher.

Other bird species observed during the survey include Anna's hummingbird (*Calypte anna*), red-shouldered hawk (*Buteo lineatus*), bushtit (*Psaltriparus minimus*), Bewick's wren (*Thryomanes bewickii*), blue-gray gnatcatcher (*Polioptila caerulea*), house finch (*Haemorhous mexicanus*), lesser goldfinch (*Spinus psaltria*), California towhee (*Melozone crissalis*), and white-crowned sparrow (*Zonotrichia leucophrys*).

Please contact me at (951) 403-1701 if you require any additional information.

Sincerely,

LSA Associates, Inc.

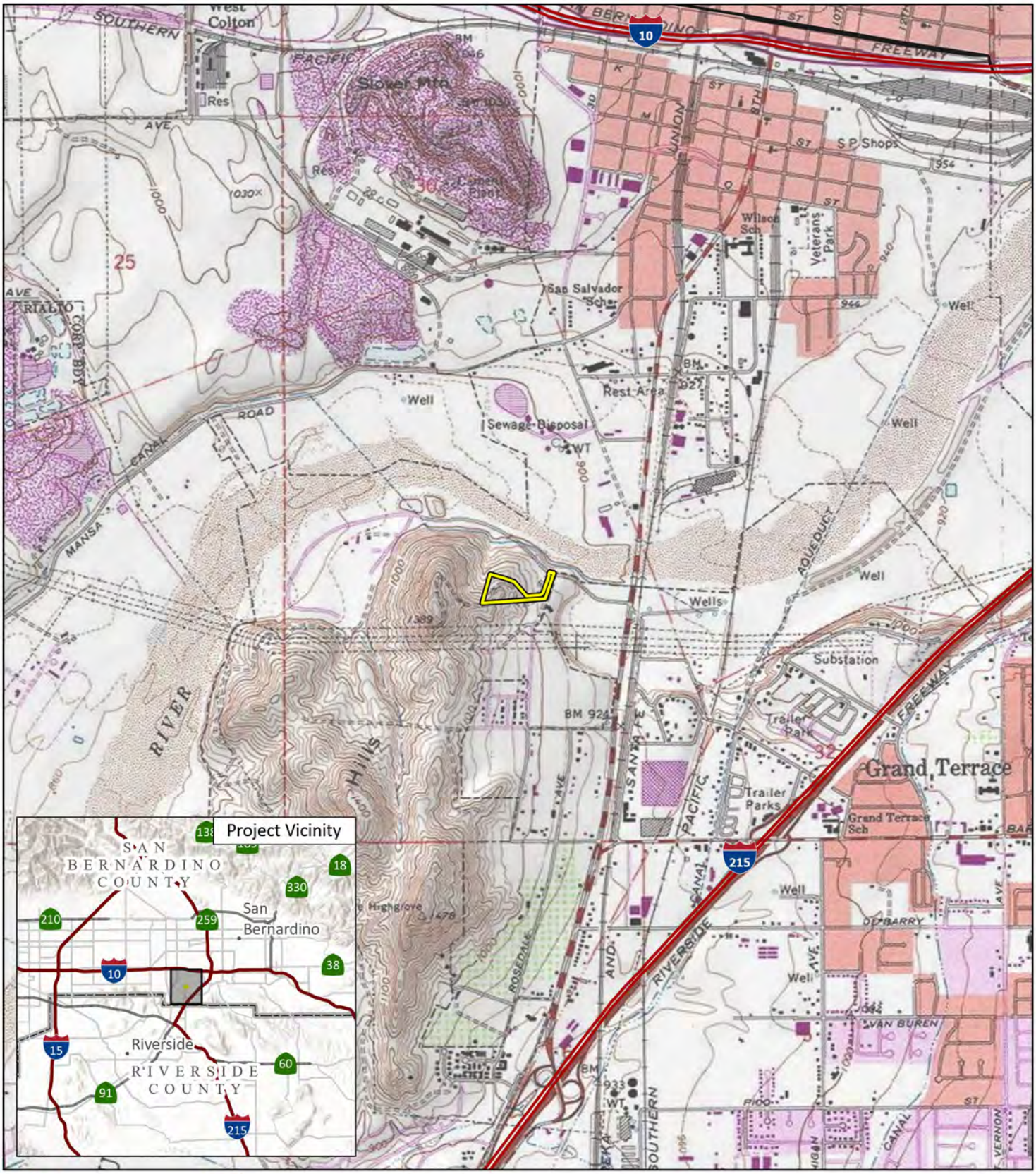


Denise Woodard
Associate/Senior Biologist

Attachments: Figure 1. Project Location
Figure 2. Coastal California Gnatcatcher Survey Results

I CERTIFY THAT THE INFORMATION IN THIS SURVEY REPORT AND ATTACHED EXHIBITS FULLY AND ACCURATELY REPRESENTS MY WORK:

SURVEYOR:	PERMIT NUMBER:	DATE:
	TE-777965	November 8, 2024
Denise D. Woodard		



LSA

FIGURE 1

0 1000 2000
FEET

La Loma No. 2 Reservoir Project

Project Location

SOURCE: USGS 7.5' Quad - *San Bernardino South (1980)*, CA

I:\2024\20242003\GIS\Pro\La Loma No. 2 Reservoir Project\La Loma No. 2 Reservoir Project.aprx (10/31/2024)



LSA

LEGEND

Project Location

California Gnatcatcher - 3 Individuals

California Gnatcatcher

0 140 280

FEET

SOURCE: City of Colton, Google Earth 2024

I:\2024\20242003\G\Gnatcatcher_Survey.ai (11/7/2024)

FIGURE 2

La Loma No. 2 Reservoir Project

Coastal California Gnatcatcher Survey Results

APPENDIX C

CULTURAL RESOURCES ASSESSMENT

Letter Report: Extended Phase I Archaeological Probing Program
La Loma No. 2 Reservoir Project
City of Colton, San Bernardino County, California
March 31, 2026

25CRM TECH
1016 E. Cooley Drive, Suite A/B
Colton, CA 92324

March 31, 2026

Victoria Morrell
Krieger & Stewart, Incorporated
3830 Orange Street, #1509
Riverside, CA 92502

Re: Extended Phase I Archaeological Probing Program
La Loma No. 2 Reservoir Project
City of Colton, San Bernardino County, California
CRM TECH Contract No. 4372

Dear Ms. Morrell:

At your request, CRM TECH has completed an Extended Phase I archaeological probing program as a follow-up to the previously completed Phase I cultural resources survey for the undertaking referenced above, which entails the construction of a three-million-gallon water reservoir next to an existing reservoir. The Area of Potential Effect (APE) for the undertaking consists of Assessor's Parcel Nos. (APN) 0163-351-23 and a portion of APN 0163-351-38, located on and around a hill near the northern end of Bostick Avenue and to the south of Tropica Rancho Road (Figures 1, 2). As a part of the environmental review process for the proposed undertaking, the study was designed and implemented in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) as well as Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA).

The Phase I cultural resources survey on the APE was completed by CRM TECH in September 2025. The survey identified no "historic properties," as defined by Section 106, or "historical resources," as defined by CEQA, within the APE, but the project location was considered to be potentially sensitive for subsurface cultural deposits of prehistoric origin despite the lack of surface manifestation (Encarnación et al. 2025:18-19). Therefore, CRM TECH recommended the Extended Phase I program to assess the sensitivity (*ibid.*). The recommendation was adopted and implemented in February 2026. This letter presents a brief summary of the field procedures carried out during the study, the findings, and the conclusion on the subsurface archaeological sensitivity of the APE.

The Extended Phase I program began with a systematic resurvey of the APE at a reconnaissance level, followed by the excavation of seven shovel test pits (STPs) and four backhoe trenches. The fieldwork was carried out on February 10, 2026, under the direct supervision of CRM TECH principal investigator Daniel Ballester, M.S., with field director Hunter O'Donnell, B.A., and project archaeologists Melissa Portilla, B.A., Mikayla Mobley, A.A., Preston Itie, B.A., Christopher Godiez, B.A., and Jayson Bonilla, B.A., serving as crew members. As with the earlier survey during the Phase I study, no archaeological features or artifacts were encountered on the ground surface during the resurvey.

The STPs (Fig. 3) were excavated on the hill in the western portion of the APE, which is difficult for the backhoe to access. They measured 50 x 50 centimeters (cm) in size and were hand-dug in 10-cm

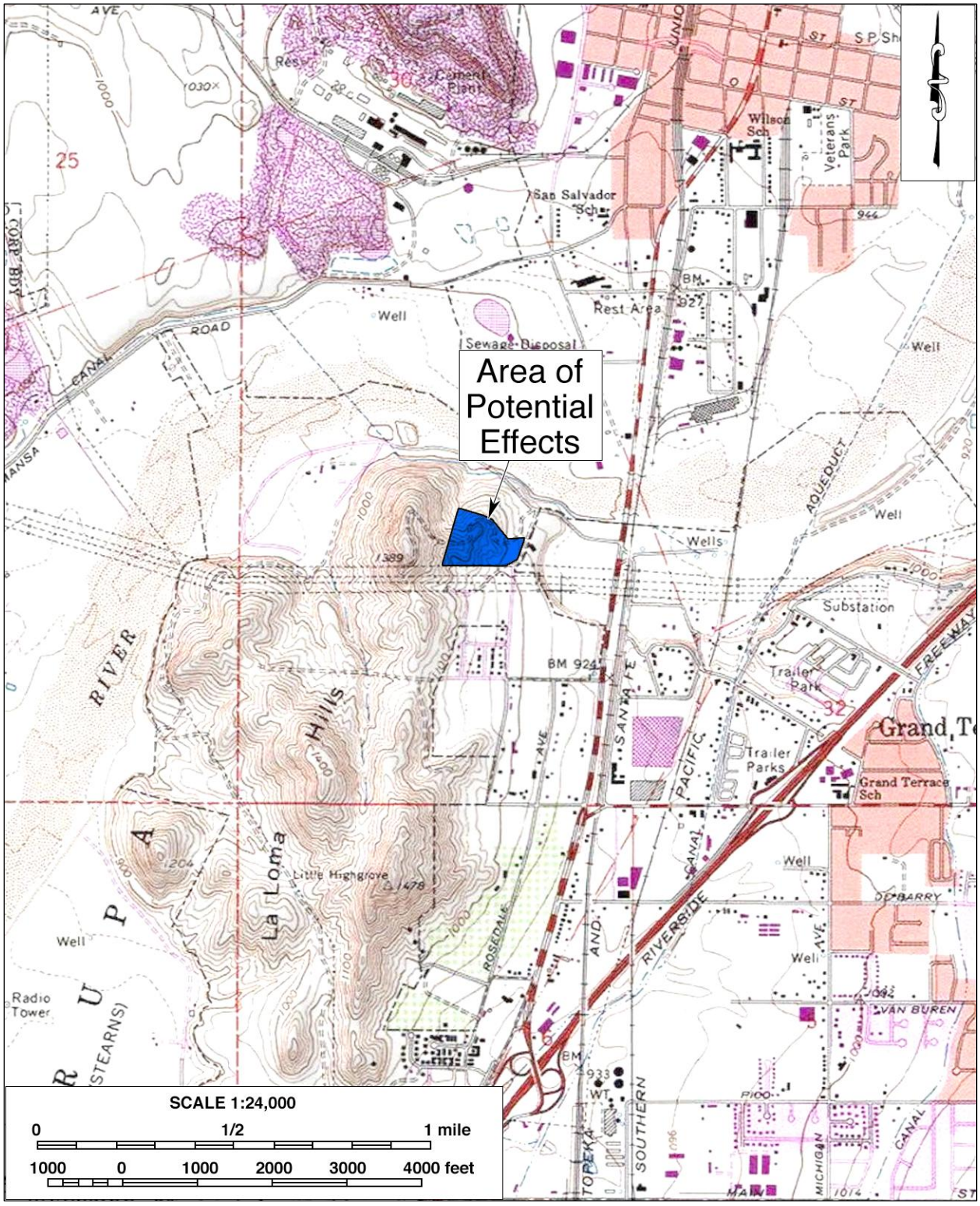


Figure 1. Area of Potential Effects (based on the USGS San Bernardino South, Calif., 7.5' quadrangles, 1980 edition).

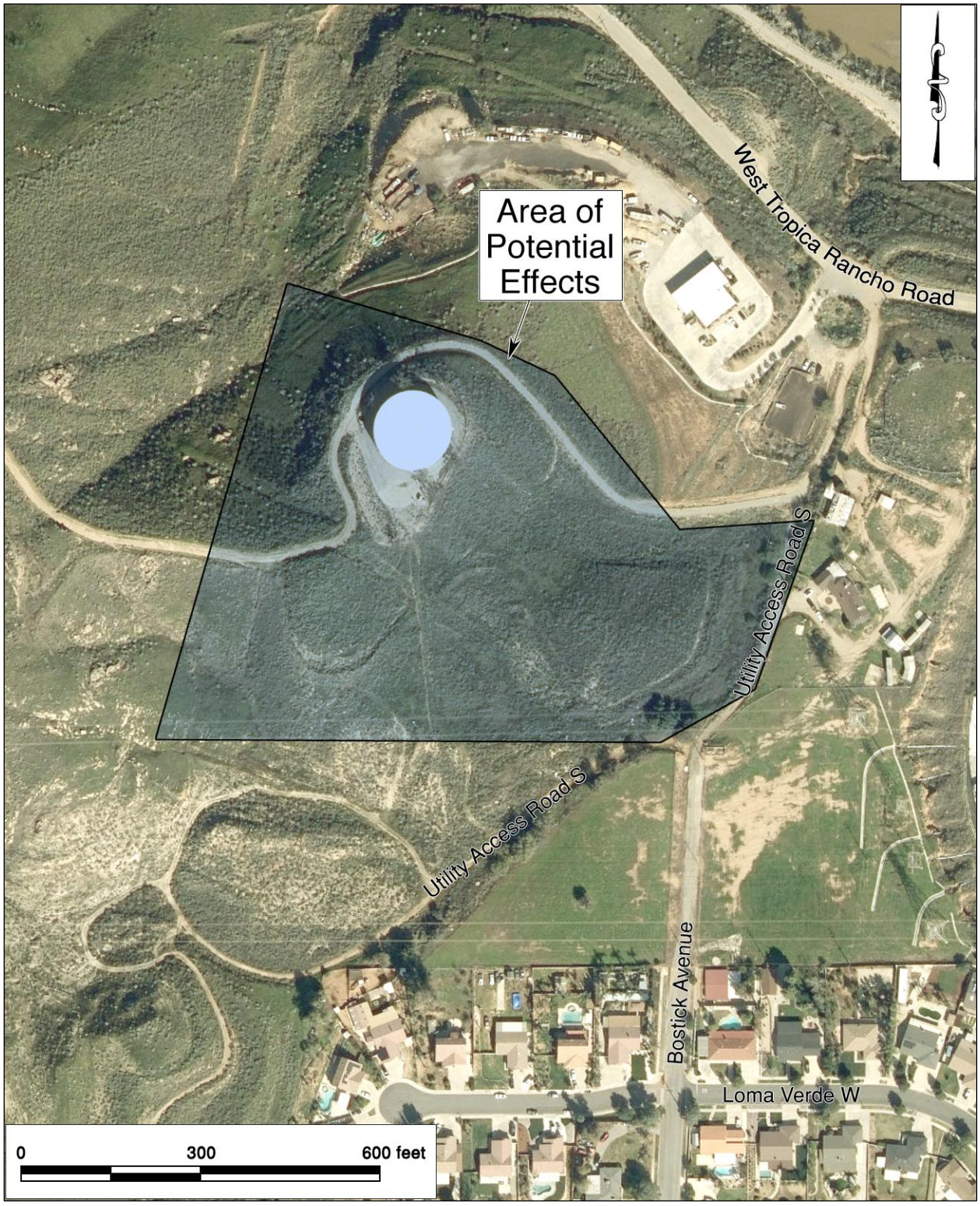


Figure 2. Recent satellite image of the APE (based on Google Earth imagery).



Figure 3. Typical STP excavated during the Extended Phase I archaeological exploration program (STP 2).

levels before being terminated at the maximum depth of 50 cm or upon reaching decomposing granite and/or bedrock. STP-1 and STP-2 were excavated to the depth of 20 cm, STP-3 to 50 cm, STP-4 to 20 cm, STP-5 to 40 cm, and STP-6 to 50 cm. STP-7 encountered bedrock at the depth of 30 cm. Except for STP-3 and STP-7, all of the STPs encountered decomposing granite. The soil in the STPs consisted of moist silty clay loam mixed with sand. There were noted inclusions of vegetation roots and modern refuse, including fragmenting plastic, but no artifacts of prehistoric or historical origin were observed.

The backhoe trenches (Fig. 4), each measuring approximately 10 meters in length and one meter in width, were excavated in five-meter segments and 50-cm levels to the depths of 1.5-2.0 meters. They were oriented either north-south or east-west. The excavated soils and sidewalls were closely inspected at all times for evidence of cultural material. The backhoe operator was instructed to spread the soil from each bucket in a thin layer, thereby increasing the ability to inspect all the soil. Selected samples of the soil were screened through half-inch, one-quarter-inch, and/or one-eighth-inch hardwire mesh to look more closely for cultural material. A section of the sidewall in Trench 1 was profiled and photographed to document the changing stratigraphy in the sediment.



Figure 4. Typical trench excavated during the Extended Phase I archaeological exploration program (Trench 2).

The excavations encountered very little evidence of subsurface archaeological remains from either the prehistoric or the historic period. Fragments of green and milk white glass identified as a Ponds cold cream jar were identified in Trench 1. Fragments of clear glass dating to the 1940s were noted in the spoils from Trench 2. Spoils from Trench 3 yielded ceramic floor tiles, 10-foot-long scrap metal pieces, and amber, aqua and clear glass fragments. Trench 4 spoils revealed modern trash, green glass shards, and roof tiles fragments. None of these items, however, is of any historical/ archaeological interest, since all of the items known to be historical in age represented common, minor domestic refuse that is virtually ubiquitous. No prehistoric artifacts or features were found throughout the Extended Phase I program.

Based on trench sidewall profiles, soil stratigraphy in the APE appears to be relatively uniform, with the soil consisting of clay at depths between 1.5 and 1.75 meters, followed by a reddish-tan-colored silt/clay mixture with minimal granitic gravel inclusions to the maximum depth of the trenches. Some invasive freshwater mollusk shells were noted in a few of the trenches. Non-cultural bird and mammal bones were also found in Trench 3.

In summary, this Extended Phase I archaeological exploration program yielded little archaeological finding on or below the ground surface and no artifacts from the prehistoric or protohistoric period.

The minor discovery of historic period refuse holds little promise for any archaeological data. As such, they are not considered potential "historic properties"/"historical resources" and require no further study. Based on these findings, CRM TECH concludes that the subsurface sediments in the APE do not appear to be sensitive for archaeological remains from the prehistoric, protohistoric, or early historic period.

Pursuant to 36 CFR 800.4(d)(1) and Calif. PRC §21084.1, CRM TECH recommends to the State Water Resources Control Board and the City of Colton, as the lead public agencies for Section 106 and CEQA compliance, respectively, a tentative conclusion that no known "historic properties" or "historical resources" will be affected by the proposed undertaking, pending completion of government-to-government consultations with pertinent local Native American tribes, particularly the Yuhaaviatam of San Manuel Nation, to address concerns that they raised during the Phase I study (Encarnación et al. 2025:13). No other cultural resources investigation is recommended for the undertaking unless project plans undergo such changes as to include areas not covered by this study. However, if buried cultural materials are encountered during any earth-moving operations associated with the undertaking, all work in the immediate area should be halted or diverted until a qualified archaeologist can evaluate the nature and significance of the finds.

Thank you for this opportunity to be of service. If you have any questions or need further information regarding the research results presented above, please do not hesitate to contact our office.

Sincerely,

Bai "Tom" Tang, M.A.
Principal, CRM TECH

Reference Cited:

Deirdre Encarnación, Daniel Ballester, and Eulices Lopez
2025 Identification and Evaluation of Historic Properties: La Loma No. 2 Reservoir Project, City of Colton, San Bernardino County, California. Report prepared by CRM TECH for Krieger & Stewart, Incorporated.

Identification and Evaluation of Historic Properties
La Loma No. 2 Reservoir Project
City of Colton, San Bernardino County, California
September 21, 2025

IDENTIFICATION AND EVALUATION OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES

LA LOMA NO. 2 RESERVOIR PROJECT

City of Colton
San Bernardino County, California

For Submittal to:

City of Colton
Public Works Department
160 South 10th Street
Colton CA 92324
and
State Water Resources Control Board
1001 I Street/P.O. Box 100
Sacramento, CA 95812

Prepared for:

Krieger & Stewart, Incorporated
3602 University Avenue
Riverside, CA 92502

Prepared by:

CRM TECH
1016 East Cooley Drive, Suite A/B
Colton, CA 92324

Bai "Tom" Tang, Principal Investigator
Michael Hogan, Principal Investigator

September 21, 2025
CRM TECH Contract No. 4305

Title: Identification and Evaluation of Historic Properties: La Loma No. 2 Reservoir Project, City of Colton, San Bernardino County, California

Author(s): Deirdre Encarnación, Archaeologist/Report Writer
Daniel Ballester, Archaeologist/Field Director
Eulices Lopez, Archaeologist/Native American Liaison

Consulting Firm: CRM TECH
1016 East Cooley Drive, Suite A/B
Colton, CA 92324
(909) 824-6400

Date: September 21, 2025

For Submittal to: City of Colton
Public Works Department
160 South 10th Street
Colton CA 92324
(909) 370-5065
and
State Water Resources Control Board
1001 I Street/P.O. Box 100
Sacramento, CA 95812
(916) 341-5057

Prepared for: Victoria Morrell
Krieger & Stewart, Incorporated
3602 University Avenue
Riverside, CA 92502
(951) 684-6900

USGS Quadrangle: San Bernardino South, Calif., 7.5' quadrangle; Rancho Jurupa (Stearns) land grant; T1S R4W, San Bernardino Baseline and Meridian

Project Size: Approximately 12.6 acres

Keywords: Eastern San Bernardino Valley; Phase I historical/archaeological resources survey; Assessor's Parcel Numbers 0163-351-23 and -38; Extended Phase I exploration recommended due to subsurface archaeological sensitivity

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Between July and September 2025, at the request of Krieger & Stewart, Incorporated, CRM TECH performed a Phase I cultural resources survey on the Area of Potential Effects (APE) for the proposed La Loma No. 2 Reservoir Project in the City of Colton, San Bernardino County, California. The APE consists of Assessor's Parcel Number (APN) 0163-351-23 and a portion of APN 0163-351-38, located on and around a hill near the northern end of Bostick Avenue and to the south of Tropica Rancho Road. It consists of a portion of the Rancho Jurupa (Stearns) land grant lying within Township 1 South, Range 4 West, San Bernardino Baseline and Meridian, as depicted in the United States Geological Survey San Bernardino South, California, 7.5' quadrangle. The vertical extent of the APE, represented by the maximum depth of excavation required for the undertaking, is estimated to vary from two feet at the base of the hill to 22 feet into the bedrock at the hilltop.

This study is a part of the environmental review process for the proposed construction of a three-million-gallon water reservoir next to an existing reservoir on the property. The City of Colton, as the lead agency for the project, required the study pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). Because the project will be partially funded by a federal grant administered by the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB), the study was conducted in accordance with the provisions of both CEQA and Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), in a process known as CEQA-Plus. The purpose of the study is to provide the City and the SWRCB with the necessary information and analysis to determine whether the undertaking would have an adverse effect on any "historic properties," as defined by 36 CFR 800.16(l), or "historical resources," as defined by California PRC §5020.1(j), that may exist in or adjacent to the APE. To accomplish this objective, CRM TECH conducted a historical/archaeological resources records search and a Sacred Lands File search, contacted Native American representatives, pursued historical and geoarchaeological background research, and carried out a systematic field survey.

Throughout the courses of these research procedures, no "historic properties" or "historical resources" were encountered within or adjacent to the APE. Accordingly, CRM TECH recommends to the City of Colton and the SWRCB a finding that no known "historic properties" or "historical resources" will be affected by the proposed undertaking. However, the Sacred Lands File results indicate the presence of unspecified Native American cultural resource(s) in the general vicinity of the APE. During ensuing correspondence, the Yuhaaviatam of San Manuel Nation stated that the APE lay within the footprint of a Serrano village site and was potentially sensitive for cultural resources. Meanwhile, the records search results indicate the presence of a previously recorded archaeological site near the eastern boundary of the APE, representing the remnants of Native American resource processing and habitation during the prehistoric period, while the alluvial sediments in the southern and eastern portions of the APE have a moderate potential for subsurface archaeological deposits.

Based on these considerations, the APE appears to be potentially sensitive for subsurface cultural deposits associated with prehistoric activities despite the lack of surface manifestation. Therefore, CRM TECH further recommends that a subsurface archaeological exploration program, commonly known as an Extended Phase I study, be implemented in the APE through the excavation of backhoe trenches and/or shovel test pits prior to the commencement of the undertaking to ascertain the condition and archaeological sensitivity of the soils within the vertical APE. If potentially significant cultural deposits are unearthed during the exploration program, systematic archaeological test excavations, known as a Phase II study, will become necessary at and near the locations of such finds. Otherwise, the proposed undertaking may be cleared to proceed under the provisions of Section 106 and CEQA. If buried cultural materials are discovered in future earth-moving operations associated with the undertaking, all work in the immediate area should be halted or diverted until a qualified archaeologist can evaluate the nature and significance of the finds.

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INTRODUCTION

Between July and September 2025, at the request of Krieger & Stewart, Incorporated, CRM TECH performed a Phase I cultural resources survey on the Area of Potential Effects (APE) for the proposed La Loma No. 2 Reservoir Project in the City of Colton, San Bernardino County, California (Fig. 1). The APE consists of Assessor's Parcel Number (APN) 0163-351-23 and a portion of APN 0163-351-38, located on and around a hill near the northern end of Bostick Avenue and to the south of Tropica Rancho Road. It consists of a portion of the Rancho Jurupa (Stearns) land grant lying within Township 1 South, Range 4 West, San Bernardino Baseline and Meridian, as depicted in the United States Geological Survey (USGS) San Bernardino South, California, 7.5' quadrangle (Figs. 2, 3). The vertical extent of the APE, represented by the maximum depth of excavation required for the undertaking, is estimated to vary from two feet at the base of the hill to 22 feet into the bedrock at the hilltop.

This study is a part of the environmental review process for the proposed construction of a three-million-gallon water reservoir next to an existing reservoir on the property. The City of Colton, as the lead agency for the project, required the study pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). Because the project will be partially funded by a federal grant administered by the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB), the study was conducted in accordance with the provisions of both CEQA and Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), in a process known as CEQA-Plus. The purpose of the study is to provide the City and the SWRCB with the necessary information and analysis to determine whether the undertaking would have an adverse effect on any "historic properties," as defined by 36 CFR 800.16(l), or "historical resources," as defined by California PRC §5020.1(j), that may exist in or adjacent to the APE.

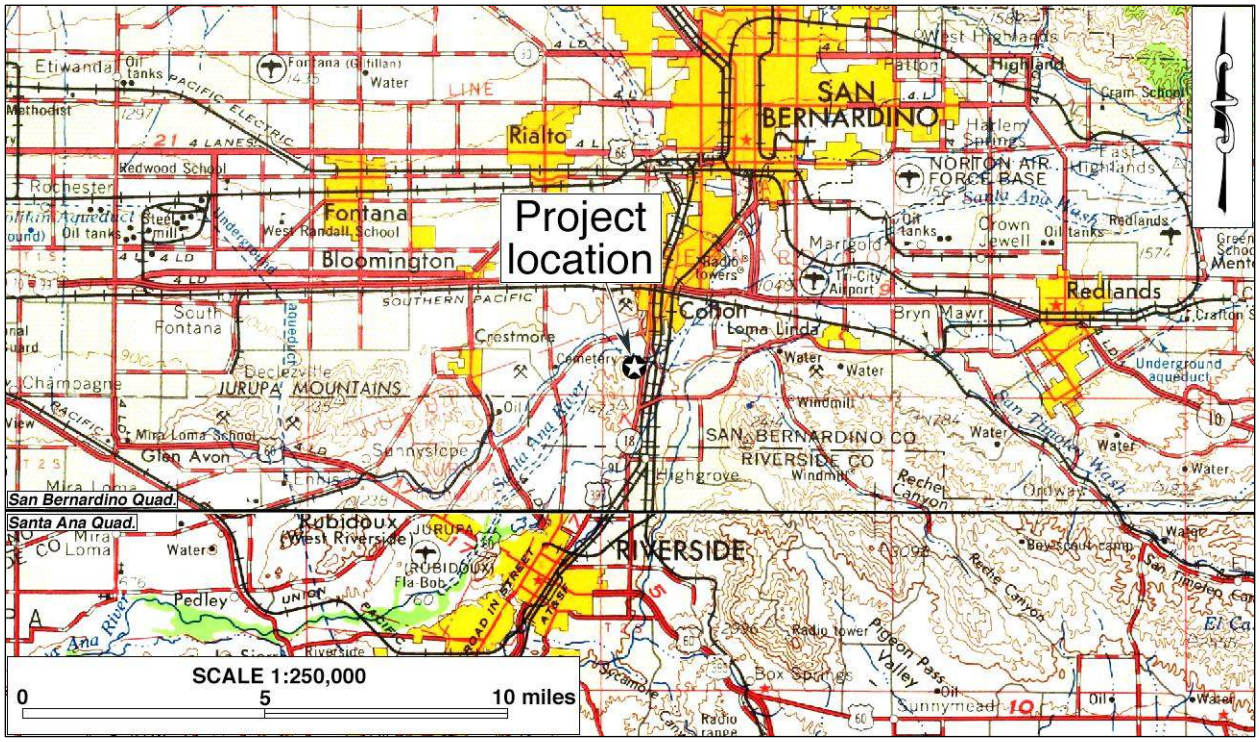


Figure 1. Project vicinity. (Based on San Bernardino and Santa Ana, Calif., 120'x60' quadrangles [USGS 1969; 1979])

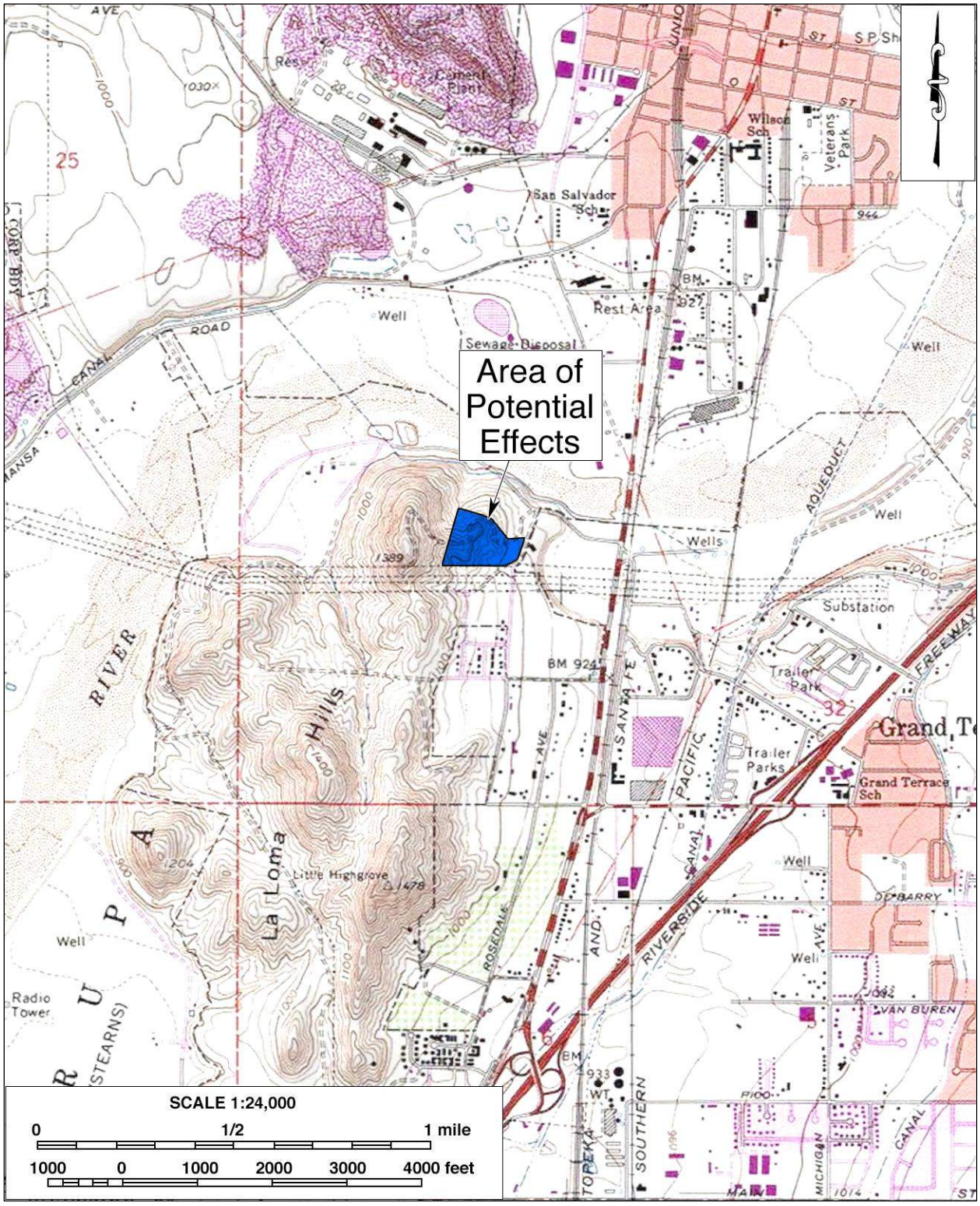


Figure 2. Project location. (Based on USGS San Bernardino South, Calif., 7.5' quadrangle [USGS 1980])

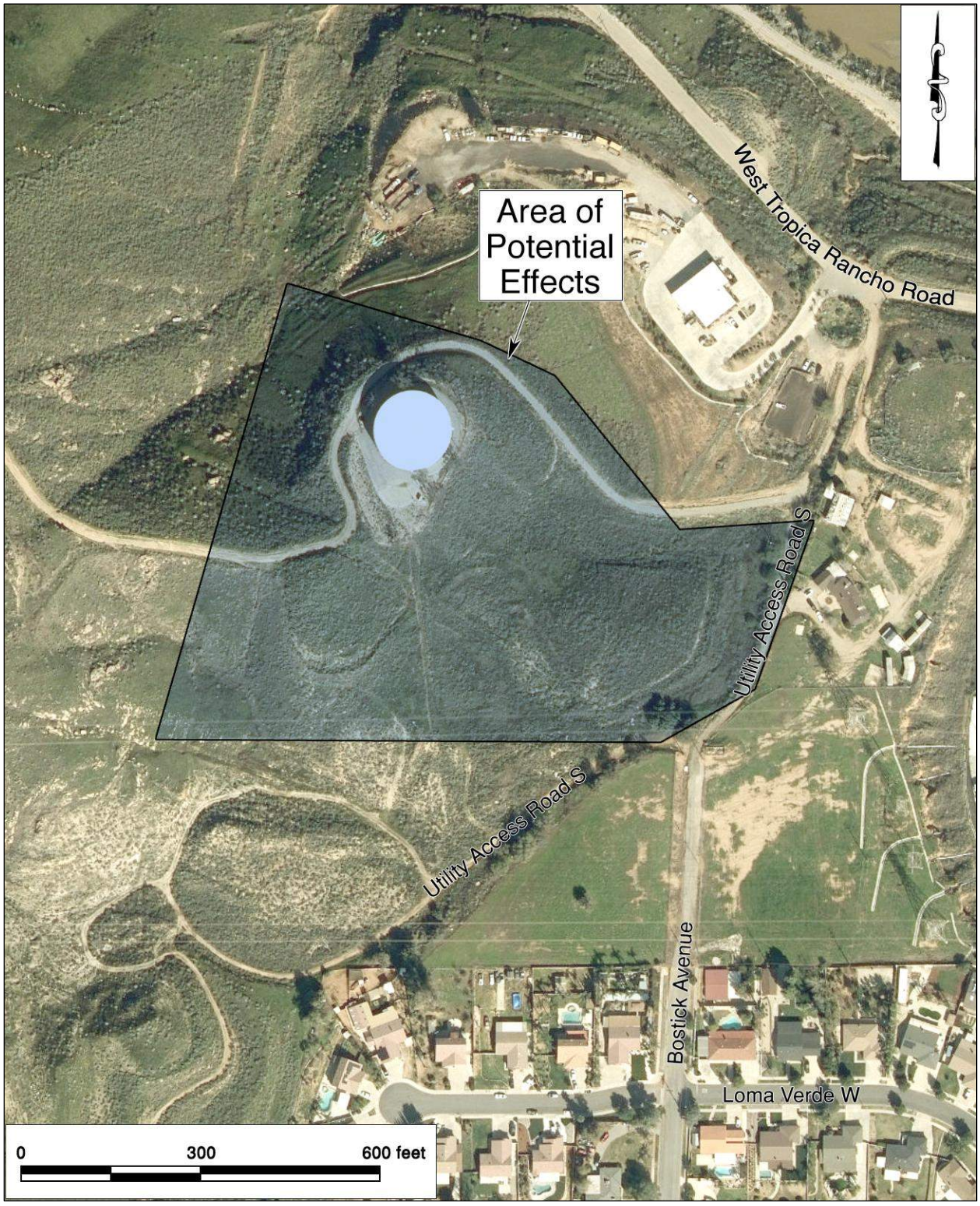


Figure 3. Recent satellite image of the project location. (Based on Google Earth imagery)

To accomplish this objective, CRM TECH conducted a historical/archaeological resources records search and a Sacred Lands File search, contacted Native American representatives, pursued historical and geoarchaeological background research, and carried out a systematic field survey. The following report is a complete account of the methods, results, and conclusion of the study. Personnel who participated in the study are named in the appropriate sections below, and their qualifications are provided in Appendix 1.

SETTING

CURRENT NATURAL SETTING

The City of Colton is situated in the eastern portion of the San Bernardino Valley, a broad inland valley defined by the San Gabriel and San Bernardino Mountain Ranges on the north and a series of low rocky hills on the south. The natural environment of the region is characterized by its temperate Mediterranean climate, featuring hot, dry summers and mild, wet winters, with the average maximum temperature in July reaching over 90 degrees Fahrenheit (ºF) and the average minimum temperature in January hovering around 35ºF. Typical annual rainfall in the area is approximately 13-16 inches, most of which occurs between November and March.

The APE lies at the northeastern end of La Loma Hills, a granitic knoll on the southern bank of the Santa Ana River, which is the main natural waterway in the San Bernardino Valley. The terrain features rolling hillsides with finger ridges and saddles (Fig. 4), and elevations vary between approximately 970 feet and 1,145 feet above mean sea level. The existing La Loma Reservoir is located in the northern portion of the APE, on a relatively level hilltop. An asphalt-paved road leads west from a dirt access road near the eastern APE boundary up the hill towards the tank, where it continues, unpaved, westward up into the hills beyond the APE.

The ground surface in the northern portion of the APE has been disturbed by past earth-moving activities, including the construction of the access road and the existing water tank. Vegetation observed on the property includes fiddlenecks, tumbleweeds, foxtails, wild mustard, datura, buckwheat, prickly pear cactus, and other small grasses and shrubs. The surface soil consists of light yellowish-brown, fine-to-coarse sands with some granitic bedrock outcrops and decomposing granite (Fig. 4).

CULTURAL SETTING

Prehistoric Context

The earliest evidence of human occupation in inland southern California, or the Inland Empire region, was discovered below the surface of an alluvial fan in the northern portion of the Lakeview Mountains, overlooking the San Jacinto Valley, with radiocarbon dates clustering around 9,500 B.P. (Horne and McDougall 2008). Another site found near the shoreline of Lake Elsinore, close to the confluence of Temescal Wash and the San Jacinto River, yielded radiocarbon dates between 8,000 and 9,000 B.P. (Grenda 1997). Additional sites with isolated Archaic dart points, bifaces, and other associated lithic artifacts from the same age range have been found in the Cajon Pass area, typically



Figure 4. Typical landscape in the APE. (Photograph taken on September 4, 2025; view to the south)

atop knolls with good viewsheds (Basgall and True 1985; Goodman and McDonald 2001; Goodman 2002; Milburn et al. 2008).

The prehistory of southern California has been summarized into numerous chronologies, including those developed by Chartkoff and Chartkoff (1984), Warren (1984), and others. Specifically, the prehistory of the Inland Empire region has been addressed by O'Connell et al. (1974), McDonald et al. (1987), Keller and McCarthy (1989), Grenda (1993), Goldberg (2001), and Horne and McDougall (2008). Although the beginning and ending dates of different cultural horizons vary regionally, the general framework of regional prehistory can be broken into three primary periods:

- Paleoindian Period (ca. 18,000-9,000 B.P.): Native peoples of this period created fluted spearhead bases designed to be hafted to wooden shafts. The distinctive method of thinning bifaces and spearhead preforms by removing long, linear flakes leaves diagnostic Paleoindian markers at tool-making sites. Other artifacts associated with the Paleoindian toolkit include choppers, cutting tools, retouched flakes, and perforators. Sites from this period are very sparse across the landscape and most are deeply buried.
- Archaic Period (ca. 9,000-1,500 B.P.): Archaic sites are characterized by abundant lithic scatters of considerable size with many biface thinning flakes, bifacial preforms broken during manufacture, and well-made groundstone bowls and basin metates. As a consequence of making dart points, many biface thinning waste flakes were generated at individual production stations, which is a diagnostic feature of Archaic sites.

- Late Prehistoric Period (ca. 1,500 B.P.-contact): Sites from this period typically contain small lithic scatters from the manufacture of small arrow points, expedient groundstone tools such as tabular metates and unshaped manos, wooden mortars with stone pestles, acorn or mesquite bean granaries, ceramic vessels, shell beads suggestive of extensive trading networks, and steatite implements such as pipes and arrow shaft straighteners.

Ethnohistoric Context

At the arrival of the Spanish explorers in the 1770s, the foothills and valleys surrounding the APE were occupied and used by both Gabrielino and Serrano Indians. The traditional territory of the Gabrielinos, the most populous, wealthiest, and therefore most powerful ethnic nationality in aboriginal southern California, was centered in the Los Angeles Basin, reaching from San Clemente Island to the present-day San Bernardino-Riverside area and south into southern Orange County, but their influence spread as far as the San Joaquin Valley, the Colorado River, and Baja California (Bean and Smith 1978a:538). Several Gabrielino villages are known to have existed in the San Bernardino Valley. The homeland of the Serranos was the San Bernardino Mountains and Cajon Pass area, including the slopes and lowlands on the flanks of the mountains and extending eastward as far as present-day Twentynine Palms (Bean and Smith 1978b).

Depending on the natural environment in which they were located, different groups of the Gabrielino adopted different types of subsistence economy, although they were all based on gathering, cultivating, hunting, and/or fishing. In the inland areas, the predominant food sources included acorns, pine nuts, a variety of bulbs, greens, and berries, deer, and various small animals. There is evidence indicating that a moiety system, in which various clans belong to one or the other of two main social/cultural divisions, existed in Gabrielino society. It also seems that Gabrielino society had at least three hierarchically ordered social classes, topped with an elite consisting of the chiefs, their immediate families, and the very rich. Some individuals owned land, and property boundaries were marked by the owner's personalized symbol.

Villages were politically autonomous, composed of nonlocalized lineages, each with its own leader, a position passed through the male line. Gabrielino material culture reflected an elaborately developed artisanship that was rivaled by few other groups in southern California.
The Gabrielino came into contact with the Spanish as early as 1542, during the historic expedition of Juan Rodríguez Cabrillo. However, it was not until 1769 that the Spaniards took steps to colonize Gabrielino territory (Bean and Smith 1978a:540). Shortly afterwards, most of the Gabrielino people were incorporated into Mission San Gabriel and other missions in southern California. Due to introduced diseases, dietary deficiencies, and forceful reduction, Gabrielino population dwindled rapidly. By 1900, they had almost ceased to exist as a culturally identifiable group (*ibid*.). In recent decades, however, there has been a renaissance of Native American activism and cultural revitalization among a number of groups of Gabrielino descendants.

Prior to European contact, Serrano subsistence was defined by the surrounding landscape and primarily based on the gathering of wild and cultivated foods and hunting, exploiting nearly all of the resources available. Their long-term settlements were located mostly on elevated terraces, hills, and finger ridges near reliable sources of water, especially in foothills and along major rivers. Loosely organized into exogamous clans led by hereditary heads, the clans were in turn affiliated

with one of two exogamous moieties, the Wildcat (*Tukutam*) or the Coyote (*Wahiiam*). The exact nature of the clans, their structure, function, and number are not known, except that each clan was the largest autonomous political and landholding unit. The core of the unit was the patrilineage, although women retained their own lineage names after marriage. There was no pan-tribal political union among the clans.

As with the Gabrielino, the Serrano had a variety of technological skills that they used to acquire food, shelter, and clothing as well as to create ornaments and decorations. Common tools included manos and metates, mortars and pestles, hammerstones, fire drills, awls, arrow straighteners, and stone knives and scrapers. These lithic tools were made from locally sourced material as well as materials procured through trade or travel. They also used wood, horn, and bone spoons and stirrers; baskets for winnowing, leaching, grinding, transporting, parching, storing, and cooking; and pottery vessels for carrying water, storage, cooking, and serving food and drink. Much of this material cultural, elaborately decorated, does not survive in the archaeological record. As usual, the main items found archaeologically relate to subsistence activities.

Although contact with Europeans may have occurred as early as 1771 or 1772, Spanish influence on Serrano lifeways was minimal until the 1810s, when a mission *asistencia* was established on the southern edge of Serrano territory. Between then and the end of the mission era in 1834, most of the Serrano in the western portion of their traditional territory were removed to the nearby missions. In the eastern portion, a series of punitive expeditions in 1866-1870 resulted in the death or displacement of almost all remaining Serrano population in the San Bernardino Mountains. Today, most Serrano descendants are affiliated with the Yuhaaviatam of San Manuel Nation (also known as the San Manuel Band of Mission Indians), the Morongo Band of Mission Indians, or the Serrano Nation of Indians.

Historic Context

The San Bernardino Valley, along with the rest of Alta California, was claimed by Spain in the late 18th century, and the first European explorers traveled through the area as early as 1772, only three years after the beginning of Spanish colonization (Schuiling 1984:23). For nearly four decades afterwards, however, the arid inland valley received little attention from the colonizers, who concentrated their efforts along the Pacific coast. Following the establishment of Mission San Gabriel in 1771, the San Bernardino Valley became a part of the mission's vast land holdings. The name "San Bernardino" was bestowed on the region in the 1810s, when the asistencia and an associated mission rancho were established under that name in the eastern end of the valley (*ibid*.:26).

After Mexico gained independence from Spain in 1821, the new authorities in Alta California began to dismantle the mission system in 1834 through the process of secularization. During the next 12 years, former mission ranchos throughout Alta California were surrendered to the Mexican government and subsequently divided and granted to various prominent citizens of the province. In 1842, the former mission rancho of San Bernardino was granted to members of a prominent Los Angeles family, the Lugos (Schuiling 1984:34). After the American annexation of Alta California in 1848, the Lugos sold the entire land grant in 1851 to a group of Mormon settlers, who promptly founded the town of San Bernardino a few miles to the north of the project location (*ibid*.:45).

Two decades later, in 1873, the Slover Mountain Colony Association bought 2,000 acres of land south of San Bernardino from William Conn (Richards 1996). The following year, the Southern Pacific Railway Company, then in a virtual monopoly on modern transportation in California, entered into an agreement with the association in response to San Bernardino's resistance to its extortion attempts. Pursuant to the agreement, the Southern Pacific established its regional headquarters on land provided by the association, thus creating a new town named after David D. Colton, a railroad official. With the backing of the powerful railroad giant, Colton grew rapidly, and was incorporated as a city in 1887. As the principal transportation hub in the San Bernardino Valley, Colton soon earned the nickname of "the Hub City" (Garrett 1992:16).

Although the railroad clearly played a crucial role in the development and early success of the town, the booming citrus industry that began in nearby Riverside in the mid-1870s also had a major impact. In 1889, the City of Colton claimed to be the leading citrus shipping point in California, with 581 carloads of fruits carried by the Southern Pacific and over 800 carloads in 1890 (Schuiling 1984:91). Since the end of WWII, however, as in numerous other formerly rural towns in southern California, residential and commercial development has been the driving force in the city's growth. Today, Colton has a population of nearly 55,000 and, thanks to the revitalized railroad operations and its location at the junction of the Interstate 10 and 215 freeways, continues to live up to its reputation as "the Hub City."

RESEARCH METHODS

RECORDS SEARCH

On July 30, 2025, CRM TECH archaeologist Nina Gallardo conducted the historical/ archaeological resources records search at the South Central Coastal Information Center (SCCIC). Located on the campus of California State University, Fullerton, the SCCIC is the State of California's official cultural resource records repository for the County of San Bernardino. The records search entailed a systematic examination of the SCCIC's digital maps, records, and databases for previously identified cultural resources and existing cultural resources reports within a one-mile radius of the APE. Previously identified cultural resources include properties designated as California Historical Landmarks, Points of Historical Interest, or San Bernardino County Historical Landmarks, as well as those listed in the National Register of Historic Places, the California Register of Historical Resources, or the California Historical Resources Inventory.

NATIVE AMERICAN PARTICIPATION

On July 22, 2025, CRM TECH submitted a written request to the State of California Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) for a record search in the commission's Sacred Lands File. Following the NAHC's recommendations and previously established consultation protocol, on August 1, 2025, CRM TECH further contacted 21 local Native American representatives in the region in writing, with follow-up telephone solicitations carried out on August 20 and 27, 2025. Responses from the Native American representatives are summarized in the section below and attached to the report in Appendix 2.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND RESEARCH

Historical background research for this study was conducted by CRM TECH principal investigator/ historian Bai "Tom" Tang. Sources consulted during the research included published literature in local and regional history, historical maps of the San Bernardino-Colton area, and aerial/satellite photographs of the project vicinity. Among the maps consulted for this study were the U.S. General Land Office (GLO) land survey plat maps dated 1873-1878 and the USGS topographic maps dated 1901-1980, which are accessible at the websites of the U.S. Bureau of Land Management and the USGS. The aerial/satellite photographs, taken between 1938 and 2025, are available at the Nationwide Environmental Title Research (NETR) Online website and through the Google Earth software.

GEOARCHAEOLOGICAL ANALYSIS

As a part of the research procedures, CRM TECH archaeologist/report writer Deirdre Encarnación pursued geoarchaeological analysis to assess the APE's potential for the deposition and preservation of subsurface cultural deposits from the prehistoric period, which cannot be detected through a standard surface archaeological survey. Sources consulted for this purpose included primarily topographic and geologic maps of the San Bernardino Valley region, published geologic literature pertaining to the project location, online geological databases, aerial and satellite photographs, and relevant materials in the CRM TECH library, including unpublished reports produced during similar surveys in the vicinity. Findings from these sources were used to develop a geomorphologic history of the APE and address geoarchaeological sensitivity of the vertical APE.

FIELD SURVEY

The field survey of the APE was carried out on September 4, 2025, by CRM TECH field director Daniel Ballester and project archaeologist Eulices Lopez. The survey was conducted on foot by walking a series of parallel transects oriented north-south or east-west and spaced five meters (approximately 15 feet) apart where regular transects were possible. In areas where regular transects were impractical due to terrain or vegetation, the survey route followed as close to the original courses of the transects as possible. In this way, the ground surface in the entire APE was systematically and carefully examined for any evidence of human activities dating to the prehistoric or historic period (i.e., 50 years or older). Ground visibility ranged from poor to fair (60 to 75%) depending on the density of vegetation.

RESULTS AND FINDINGS

RECORDS SEARCH

According to SCCIC records, two previous cultural resources surveys completed in 2008 and 2016 covered the APE in its entirety (Dietler and Ramirez 2008; Tang et al. 2016), while a small portion of the APE along the northern boundary may have also overlapped another survey that was completed in 2006 (Sanka 2006; Fig. 5). The 2016 survey, conducted by CRM TECH, was for an earlier version of the same project and was prepared under the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act. The present study is essentially an update to that survey for Section 106

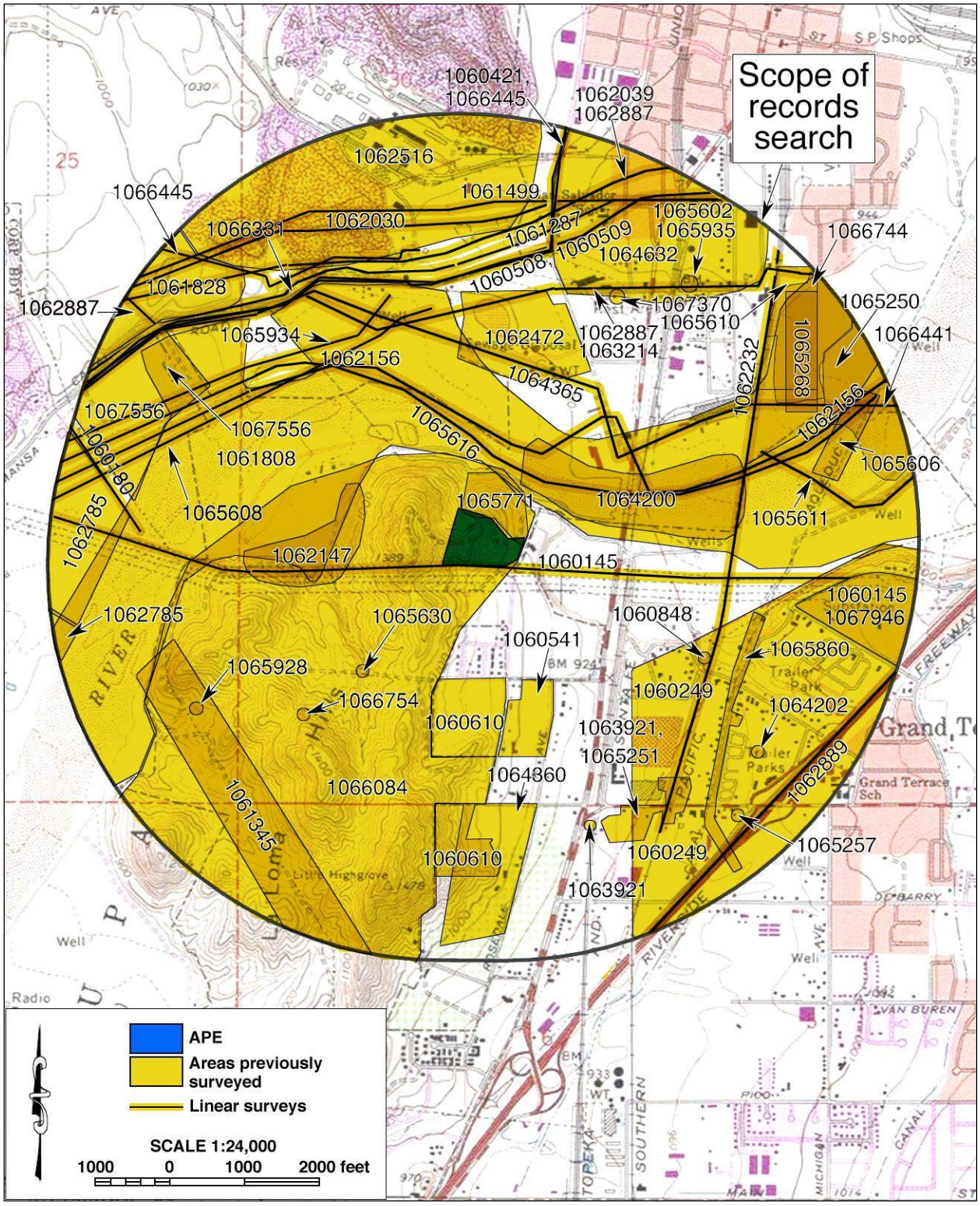


Figure 5. Previous cultural resources studies in the vicinity of the APE, listed by SCCIC file number. Locations of historical/archaeological resources are not shown as a protective measure.

compliance. The other two surveys are now nearly 20 years old and are therefore completely out-of-date for consideration in the statutory compliance process.

SCCIC record further indicate that no cultural resources were previously recorded within the APE. Outside the APE but within the one-mile scope of the records search, SCCIC records show nearly 60 other previous cultural resources studies on various tracts of land and linear features (Fig. 5). In all, more than 80 percent of the land within the scope of the records search has been surveyed, which has resulted in the identification of 54 recorded historical/archaeological sites and 13 pending sites within the one-mile radius, as listed in Table 1.

Twenty of the recorded sites were of prehistoric—i.e., Native American—origin, consisting of bedrock milling features, rock shelters, habitation sites, and yoni features. These sites were mostly concentrated among granitic boulder outcrops on the western and southern edges of the La Loma Hills, to the west and the south of the APE, but the nearest prehistoric site among them was found roughly 100 feet to the east of the APE location. Site 36-001577 (CA-SBR-1577) was recorded in 1940, described as a "large camp site on the southern bank of the Santa Ana River" (Smith 1940).

Site 36-001577 included more than a hundred pieces of groundstone, three dozen hammerstones, choppers, and points among other artifacts. Most notably, three "cogstones" were recorded which suggest occupation and use of the area for over a thousand years. At the time of recordation, the possibility of destruction was noted as "imminent" as the land was being graded, and disturbances to the site were observed as signs of "extensive" looting were evident (Smith 1940). While none of the prehistoric sites were recorded immediately adjacent to the APE boundaries, the close proximity of Site 36-001577 heightens the potential archaeological sensitivity of the APE location.

The other 34 recorded sites dated to the historic period and included buildings, bridges, canals, refuse scatters, roads, railroads, power transmission lines, and the South Colton Neighborhood Historic District. The pending sites also dated to the historic period and consisted mainly of irrigation ditches and other water conveyance systems. Since none of these sites was found within the APE, none of them requires further consideration during this study.

Table 1. Previously Recorded Cultural Resources within the Scope of the Records Search

Primary No.	Description
36-000144	Pictographs
36-000792	Food-processing site
36-001004	Bedrock milling feature
36-001575	San Salvador School Adobe and lithic scatter
36-001576	Large habitation site with surface concentrations of artifacts
36-001577	Large camp site with manos, metates, cogstones, hammerstones, and scrapers
36-002998	Bedrock milling feature
36-004314	Slover Mountain quarry
36-005108	Bedrock milling feature
36-005109	Bedrock milling feature
36-005110	Bedrock milling feature
36-006085	Historic-period foundations
36-006101	Union Pacific Railroad segment
36-006102	Atchison, Topeka, and Santa Fe Railroad bridge
36-006847	Kite-shaped Track of the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railway

36-006859	Historic-period refuse dump
36-007169	Riverside-Warm Creek Canal
36-007172	Riverside Lower Canal
36-007976	Portland Cement Plant
36-012875	Single-family residence
36-012876	Single-family residence
36-013627	Southern Sierras Powerline
36-014273	Commercial building
36-015221	Site of Agua Mansa settlement
36-015223	South Colton Neighborhood Historic District
36-016417	San Bernardino to Sonora Road
36-019807	Bedrock milling feature
36-019811	Bedrock milling feature and lithic scatter
36-019812	Bedrock milling feature
36-019813	Bedrock milling feature
36-021694	Historic-period refuse scatter
36-021705	Single-family residence
36-021706	Single-family residence
36-021707	Single-family residence
36-021708	Single-family residence
36-025600	Sewage treatment plant
36-025601	Single-family residence
36-025602	Single-family residence
36-026050	Devers-Vista 220kV Transmission Line
36-026221	Vista Substation
36-027692	Power transmission lines
36-029032	Rock shelter and stacked rock feature
36-029033	Bedrock milling feature
36-029034	Yoni feature
36-029035	Rock shelter
36-029036	Rock shelter
36-029037	Yoni feature
36-029038	Rock shelter
36-031378	Manuel Soares property/ranch with structural remains and refuse scatters
36-031715	Portion of the Agua Mansa Ditch
36-031826	Lion’s Club Community Center
36-033118	Historic-period refuse scatter
36-034685	Single-family residence
36-034686	Single-family residence
P1074-32H	San Salvador store
P1074-82H	Adobe of Juan Dojil
P1074-88H	Rancheria Ditch
P1074-104H	Meeks/Daley Ditch, ca. 1859
P1074-105H	Meeks/Daley Ditch, ca. 1887
P1074-106H	Agua Mansa Ditch, ca. 1862
P1074-107H	Agua Mansa Ditch, ca. 1887
P1074-109H	Parks Connection, ca. 1892
P1074-110H	San Salvador Ditch
P1074-111H	Jaramillo Ditch
P1074-113H	Trujillo Ditch
P1074-114H	Belarde/Salazar Ditch
P1074-120H	Vivienda Avenue Bridge

NATIVE AMERICAN PARTICIPATION

The NAHC responded to CRM TECH's inquiry in a letter dated July 30, 2025, stating that the results of the Sacred Lands File search identified unspecified Native American cultural resource(s) in the general vicinity of the APE (see App. 2). The NAHC recommended that the Yuhaaviatam of San Manuel Nation and other local Native American groups be consulted for more information and provided a referral list of 43 potential contacts in the region representing 21 tribal organizations who may have knowledge of cultural resources in the project vicinity. Upon receiving the NAHC's reply, CRM TECH solicited comments from all 21 Native American groups on the referral list (see App. 2). For some of the tribes, the designated spokespersons on cultural resources issues were contacted in lieu of the tribal political leaders on the referral list, as recommended in the past by the tribal government staff. The 21 tribal representatives contacted during this study are listed below:

- Lacy Padilla, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer, (THPO) Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians;
- Tribal Operations, Augustine Band of Cahuilla Mission Indians;
- Doug Welams, Chairperson, Cabazon Band of Mission Indians;
- BobbyRay Esparza, Cultural Director, Cahuilla Band of Indians;
- Andrew Salas, Chairperson, Gabrieleno Band of Mission Indians-Kizh Nation;
- Anthony Morales, Chairperson, Gabrieleno/Tongva San Gabriel Band of Mission Indians;
- Sandonne Goad, Chairperson, Gabrielino/Tongva Nation;
- Christina Conley, Cultural Resource Administrator, Gabrieleno Tongva Indians of California Tribal Council;
- Sam Dunlap, Cultural Resources Director, Gabrielino-Tongva Tribe;
- Ray Chapparosa, Chairperson, Los Coyotes Band of Cahuilla and Cupeño Indians;
- Ann Brierty, THPO, Morongo Band of Mission Indians;
- Shasta Gaughen, THPO, Pala Band of Mission Indians;
- Tuba Ebru Ozdil, Cultural Analyst, Pechanga Band of Indians;
- Jill McCormick, Historic Preservation Officer, Quechan Tribe of the Fort Yuma Reservation;
- John Gomez, Jr., Environmental Coordinator, Ramona Band of Cahuilla;
- Cheryl Madrigal, Cultural Resources Manager/THPO, Rincon Band of Luiseño Indians;
- Vanessa Minott, Tribal Administrator, Santa Rosa Band of Cahuilla Indians;
- Wayne Walker, Co-Chairperson, Serrano Nation of Mission Indians;
- Jessica Valdez, Cultural Resources Specialist, Soboba Band of Luiseño Indians;
- Abraham Beccera, Cultural Coordinator, Torres Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians;
- Alexandra McCleary, Director of Cultural Resources, Yuhaaviatam of San Manuel Nation.

As of this time, 10 of the tribes have responded to the inquiry (see App. 2). Six of them, namely Agua Caliente, Pala, Quechan, Santa Rosa, Soboba, and Torres Martinez, deferred to other tribes in closer proximity. Among them, Santa Rosa deferred specifically to Soboba while Soboba and Torres Martinez deferred to the Yuhaaviatam. In their response, the Yuhaaviatam notes that the APE, located in the footprint of a known Serrano village site and near sites with rock art, is potentially sensitive for cultural resources. The Yuhaaviatam would therefore seek to participate in government-to-government consultations regarding this undertaking. The Serrano village site was likely related to Site 36-001577 discussed above, which was recorded roughly 100 feet east of the APE.

The Gabrieleno/Tongva San Gabriel Band also found the APE to be sensitive for cultural resources and requested archaeological and Native American monitoring as well as notifications of project progress. The Augustine Band were not aware of any specific cultural resources within the APE and therefore declined to engage in further consultation for this undertaking but requested that the NAHC be contacted if any cultural resources are discovered. The Rincon Band had no additional information to provide and recommending that tribes in closer proximity to the APE be contacted.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND RESEARCH

Historical sources consulted for this study suggest that the APE appears to be relatively low in sensitivity for cultural resources from the historic period. As Figures 6-10 illustrate, the entire APE evidently remained unsettled and undeveloped throughout the 1850s-1950s era. In the 1930s, a winding dirt road along the eastern edge of the property was the only notable human-made feature present within the APE boundaries (NETR Online 1938; Fig. 8). By 1948, the hilltop where the existing water tank sits had been leveled, apparently in anticipation of further development, and the access road to the hilltop was also in place (NETR Online 1948). However, the hilltop pad remained unoccupied until the existing water tank was constructed between 1978 and 1980 (Figs.9, 10; NETR Online 1948-1980). The rest of the APE, meanwhile, has remained undeveloped open land to the present time (NETR Online 1980-2022; Google Earth 1995-2025).

GEOARCHAEOLOGICAL ANALYSIS

The surface geology in the APE was mapped by Rogers (1967) as predominantly *gr* with some possible *Qc* and *Qal*. *gr* is defined as Mesozoic granitic rocks including granite and adamellite, granodiorite, tonalite, and diorite, while *Qc* sediments are Pleistocene nonmarine and *Qal* are recent alluvium (Rogers 1967). More recently, Morton and Miller (2006; Fig. 11) mapped the surface geology in the APE as predominantly *Kbgt* (heterogeneous granodiorite and tonalite) with some *Kbft* (biotite-hornblende tonalite) on the western edge. Also present in the APE is a minor variable combination of alluvial fan deposits of late to middle Pleistocene age (Qof_3) and of middle to early Pleistocene age (*Qvof*). According to Miller (1979), alluvium filling the San Bernardino Valley may be in part derived from erosion of other alluvial units that range from boulder-bearing alluvium at the base of the San Bernardino Mountains to finer-grained sediments progressing away.

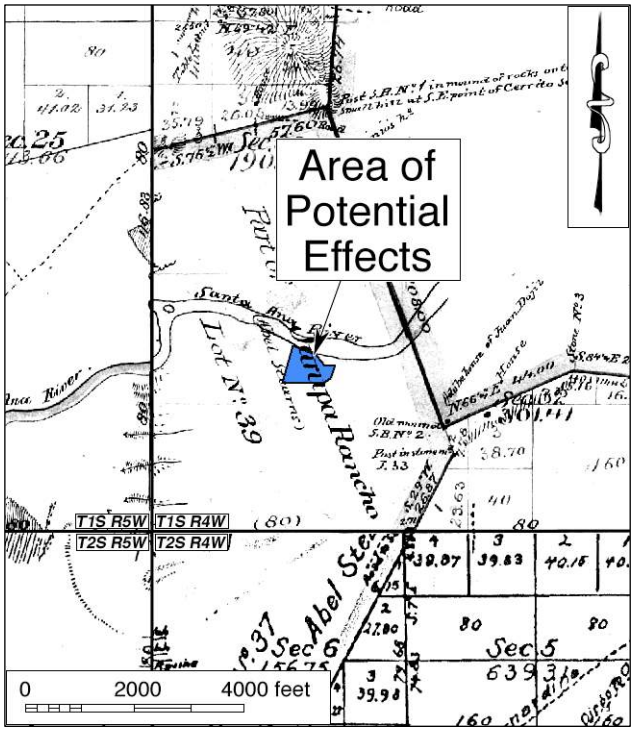


Figure 6. The APE and vicinity in 1852-1878. (Source: GLO 1873-1878)

Although the majority of the soils within the APE are likely not temporally appropriate to contain deeply buried cultural deposits, alluvial soils and movement such as that present in the easternmost portion of the APE have been

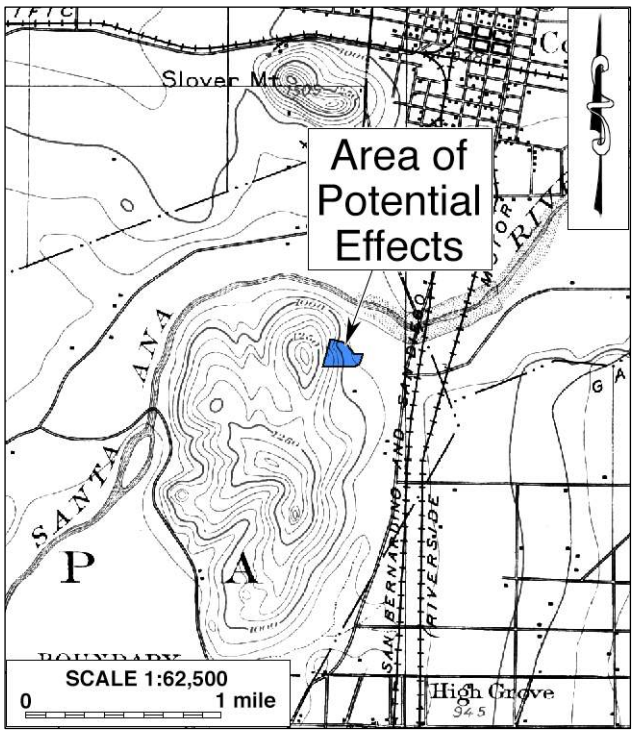


Figure 7. The APE and vicinity in 1893-1894. (Source: USGS 1901)

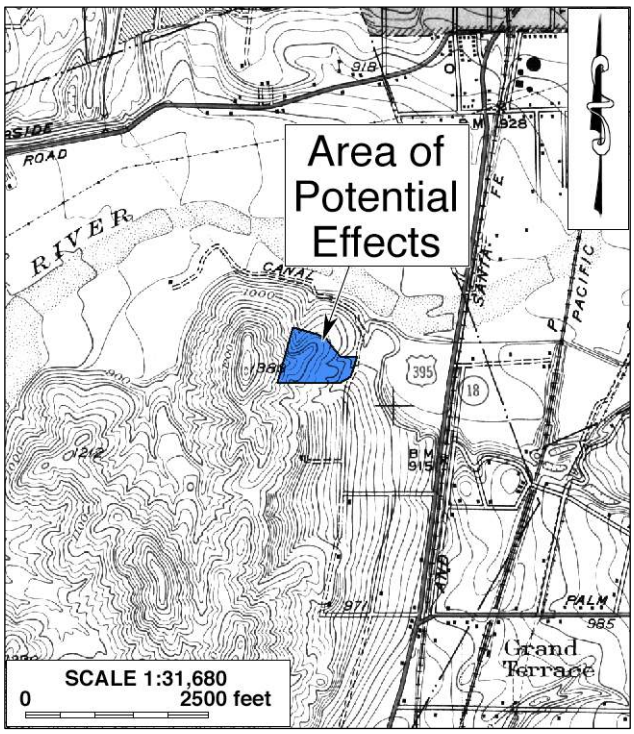


Figure 8. The APE and vicinity in 1936-1938. (Source: USGS 1943)

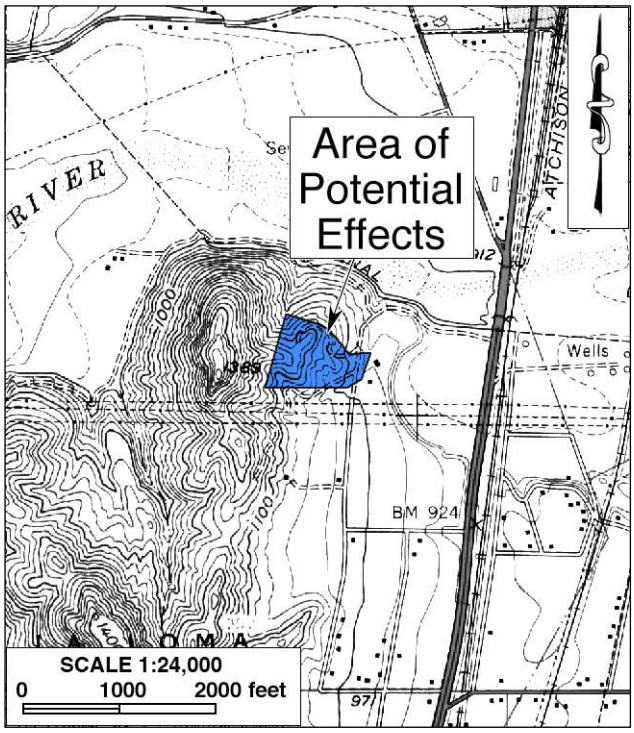


Figure 9. The APE and vicinity in 1952-1954. (Source: USGS 1954)

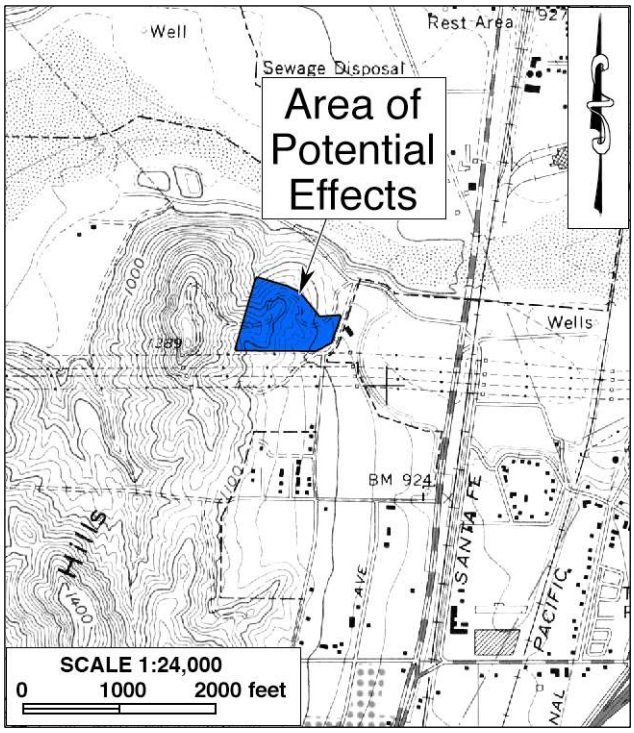


Figure 10. The APE and vicinity in 1966-1967. (Source: USGS 1967)

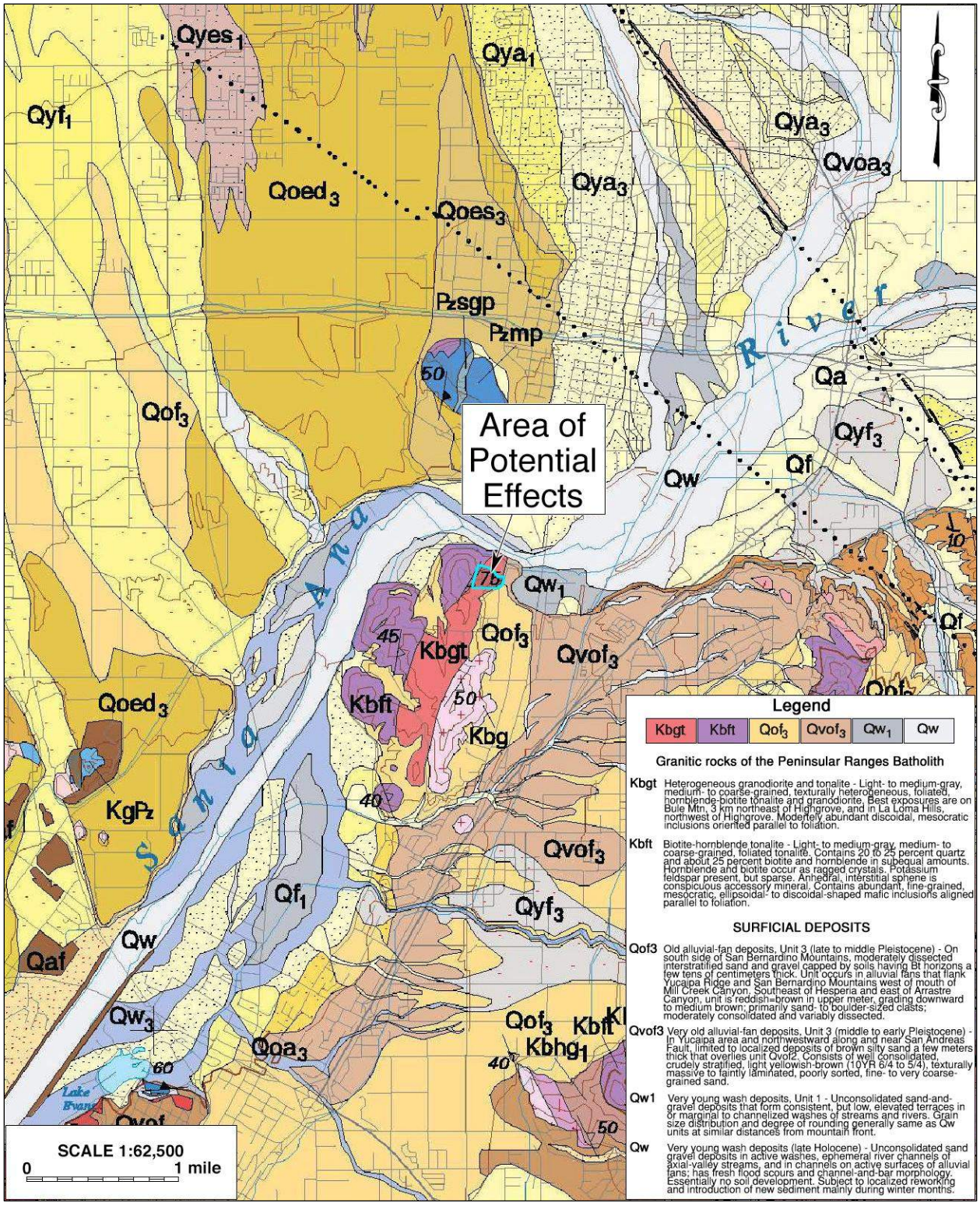


Figure 11. Surface sediments in and around the APE. (Source: Morton and Miller 2006)

known to conceal archaeological features and artifacts over time. The level valley floor near the Santa Ana River, which would have meandered prehistorically, would not have been ideal for long-term habitation, but the nearby finger ridges and foothills such as the locations of the existing water tank and nearby Site 36-001577 would have provided a more preferred setting (Bean and and Smith 1978a; 1978b). Although the northern portion of the APE has been extensively disturbed by the construction and maintenance of the existing tank and access roads, the subsurface component of the southern and eastern portions of the APE appears to have a moderate potential for buried archaeological deposits of prehistoric origin.

FIELD SURVEY

The field survey produced negative results for potential "historic properties" or "historical resources." Scattered modern refuse, mostly household discards and automobile parts, was observed over much of the APE, but none of them is of any historical or archaeological interest. During the 2016 survey, two segments of riveted metal pipes were noted on the ground surface, but the current field survey was unable to relocate either segment. The existing water tank in the APE, a utilitarian structure of standard design and construction, is modern in origin, dating only to the 1978-1980 era, as discussed above, and is not considered a potential "historic property" or "historical resource." The location of Site 36-001577 to the east of the APE is currently occupied by a large industrial building, storage facilities, roads, and parking areas, all cut and graded into the tip of the hill (Fig. 3).

MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS

APPLICABLE STATUTORY/REGULATORY FRAMEWORKS

Section 106 of the NHPA mandates that federal agencies take into account the effects of their undertakings on "historic properties" and seek ways to avoid, minimize, or mitigate any adverse effects on such properties (36 CFR 800.1(a)). Similarly, CEQA establishes that "a project that may cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource is a project that may have a significant effect on the environment" (PRC §21084.1). "Substantial adverse change," according to PRC §5020.1(q), "means demolition, destruction, relocation, or alteration such that the significance of an historical resource would be impaired."

As defined by the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, "historic properties" include "any prehistoric or historic district, site, building, structure, or object included in, or eligible for inclusion in, the National Register of Historic Places maintained by the Secretary of the Interior" (36 CFR 800.16(l)). The eligibility for inclusion in the National Register is determined by applying the following criteria, developed by the National Park Service as per provision of the National Historic Preservation Act:

> The quality of significance in American history, architecture, archaeology, engineering, and culture is present in districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects that possess integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association and
> (a) that are associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history; or
> (b) that are associated with the lives of persons significant in our past; or

(c) that embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, or that represent the work of a master, or that possess high artistic values, or that represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction; or
(d) that have yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history. (36 CFR 60.4)

For CEQA-compliance considerations, the State of California's Public Resources Code (PRC) establishes the definitions and criteria for "historical resources," which require similar protection to what NHPA Section 106 mandates for historic properties. "Historical resources," according to PRC §5020.1(j), "includes, but is not limited to, any object, building, 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."

More specifically, CEQA guidelines state that the term "historical resources" applies to any such resources listed in or determined to be eligible for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources, included in a local register of historical resources, or determined to be historically significant by the lead agency (Title 14 CCR §15064.5(a)(1)-(3)). Regarding the proper criteria of historical significance, CEQA guidelines mandate that "generally a resource shall be considered by the lead agency to be 'historically significant' if the resource meets the criteria for listing on the California Register of Historical Resources" (Title 14 CCR §15064.5(a)(3)). A resource may be listed in the California Register if it meets any 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. (PRC §5024.1(c))

CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act mandates that federal agencies take into account the effects of their undertakings on historic properties and seek ways to avoid, minimize, or mitigate any adverse effects on such properties (36 CFR 800.1(a)). Similarly, CEQA establishes that a project that may cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a "historical resource" is a project that may have a significant effect on the environment (PRC §21084.1-2). "Substantial adverse change," according to PRC §5020.1(q), "means demolition, destruction, relocation, or alteration such that the significance of an historical resource would be impaired."

In summary of the research results outlined in this report, no cultural resources were previously recorded within the APE, and none was identified during this study. Accordingly, CRM TECH recommends to the City of Colton and the SWRCB a finding that no known "historic properties" or "historical resources" will be affected by the proposed undertaking. However, the Sacred Lands File results indicate the presence of unspecified Native American cultural resource(s) in the general vicinity of the APE. During ensuing correspondence, the Yuhaaviatam of San Manuel Nation stated

that the APE lay within the footprint of a Serrano village site and was potentially sensitive for cultural resources. Meanwhile, the records search results indicate the presence of a previously recorded archaeological site near the eastern boundary of the APE, representing the remnants of Native American resource processing and habitation during the prehistoric period, while the alluvial sediments in the southern and eastern portions of the APE have a moderate sensitivity for subsurface archaeological deposits.

Based on these considerations, the APE appears to be potentially sensitive for subsurface cultural deposits associated with prehistoric activities despite the lack of surface manifestation. Therefore, CRM TECH further recommends that a subsurface archaeological exploration program, commonly known as an Extended Phase I study, be implemented in the APE through the excavation of backhoe trenches and/or shovel test pits prior to the commencement of the undertaking to ascertain the condition and archaeological sensitivity of the soils within the vertical APE. If potentially significant cultural deposits are unearthed during the exploration program, systematic archaeological test excavations, known as a Phase II study, will become necessary at and near the locations of such finds. Otherwise, the proposed undertaking may be cleared to proceed under the provisions of Section 106 and CEQA. If buried cultural materials are discovered in future earth-moving operations associated with the undertaking, all work in the immediate area should be halted or diverted until a qualified archaeologist can evaluate the nature and significance of the finds.

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1969 Map: San Bernardino, Calif. (120'x60', 1:250,000); 1958 edition revised.
1979 Map: Santa Ana, Calif. (120'x60', 1:250,000); 1959 edition revised.
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APPENDIX 1:
PERSONNEL QUALIFICATIONS

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR/HISTORIAN
Bai "Tom" Tang, M.A.

Education

1988-1993	Graduate Program in Public History/Historic Preservation, University of California, Riverside.
1987	M.A., American History, Yale University, New Haven, Connecticut.
1982	B.A., History, Northwestern University, Xi'an, China.
2000	"Introduction to Section 106 Review," presented by the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation and the University of Nevada, Reno.
1994	"Assessing the Significance of Historic Archaeological Sites," presented by the Historic Preservation Program, University of Nevada, Reno.

Professional Experience

2002-	Principal Investigator, CRM TECH, Riverside/Colton, California.
1993-2002	Project Historian/Architectural Historian, CRM TECH, Riverside, California.
1993-1997	Project Historian, Greenwood and Associates, Pacific Palisades, California.
1991-1993	Project Historian, Archaeological Research Unit, University of California, Riverside.
1990	Intern Researcher, California State Office of Historic Preservation, Sacramento.
1990-1992	Teaching Assistant, History of Modern World, University of California, Riverside.
1988-1993	Research Assistant, American Social History, University of California, Riverside.
1985-1988	Research Assistant, Modern Chinese History, Yale University.
1985-1986	Teaching Assistant, Modern Chinese History, Yale University.
1982-1985	Lecturer, History, Xi'an Foreign Languages Institute, Xi'an, China.

Cultural Resources Management Reports

Preliminary Analyses and Recommendations Regarding California's Cultural Resources Inventory System (with Special Reference to Condition 14 of NPS 1990 Program Review Report). California State Office of Historic Preservation working paper, Sacramento, September 1990.

Numerous cultural resources management reports with the Archaeological Research Unit, Greenwood and Associates, and CRM TECH, since October 1991.

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR/ARCHAEOLOGIST
Michael Hogan, Ph.D., RPA (Registered Professional Archaeologist)

Education

1991	Ph.D., Anthropology, University of California, Riverside.
1981	B.S., Anthropology, University of California, Riverside; with honors.
2025	"Introductory Sedimentology for Archaeology," SAA Online Semina by Ervan Garrison.
2021	"An Introduction to Geoarchaeology: How Understanding Basic Soils, Sediments, and Landforms Can Make You a Better Archaeologist," SAA Online Seminar.
2002	"Section 106—National Historic Preservation Act: Federal Law at the Local Level," UCLA Extension Course #888.
2002	"Recognizing Historic Artifacts," workshop by Richard Norwood, Historical Archaeologist.
2002	"Wending Your Way through the Regulatory Maze," symposium by the Association of Environmental Professionals.
1992	"Southern California Ceramics Workshop," presented by Jerry Schaefer.
1992	"Historic Artifact Workshop," presented by Anne Duffield-Stoll.

Professional Experience

2002-	Principal Investigator, CRM TECH, Riverside/Colton, California.
1999-2002	Project Archaeologist/Field Director, CRM TECH, Riverside, California.
1996-1998	Project Director and Ethnographer, Statistical Research, Inc., Redlands, California.
1992-1998	Assistant Research Anthropologist, University of California, Riverside.
1992-1995	Project Director, Archaeological Research Unit, University of California Riverside.
1991-1992	Crew Chief, Archaeological Research Unit, University of California Riverside.
1984-1998	Project Director, Field Director, Crew Chief, and Archaeological Technician for various southern California cultural resources management firms.

Research Interests

Cultural Resource Management, Southern Californian Archaeology, Settlement and Exchange Patterns, Specialization and Stratification, Culture Change, Native American Culture, Cultural Diversity.

Cultural Resources Management Reports

Principal investigator for, author or co-author of, and contributor to numerous cultural resources management study reports since 1986.

Memberships

Society for American Archaeology; Society for California Archaeology; Pacific Coast Archaeological Society.

PROJECT ARCHAEOLOGIST/REPORT WRITER
Deirdre Encarnación, M.A.

Education

2003	M.A., Anthropology, San Diego State University, California.
2000	B.A., Anthropology, minor in Biology, San Diego State University, California; with honors.
2021	Certificate of Specialization, Kumeyaay Studies, Cuyamaca College, California.
2001	Archaeological Field School, San Diego State University.
2000	Archaeological Field School, San Diego State University.

Professional Experience

2016-	Archaeological Consultant, Friends of Maha'ulepu, Koloa, Hawai'i.
2004-	Project Archaeologist/Report Writer, CRM TECH, Riverside/Colton, California.
2001-2003	Part-time Lecturer, San Diego State University, California.
2001	Research Assistant for Dr. Lynn Gamble, San Diego State University.
2001	Archaeological Collection Catalog, San Diego State University Foundation.

Presentations

2023	"The Kumeyaay-Critical Awareness, Critical Activation," Salaam, San Diego College of Continuing Education.
2023	"A Look at the Three Wise Men and Their Global Celebrations," The Epiphany Project.
2022	"Voices: A Latina Advocate Shares about Life, Stereotypes, & Rising Above," Salaam online event.
2022	"The Original Beach Town: San Diego's Coastal Heritage," San Diego Archaeological Center Living Room Lecture.

PROJECT ARCHAEOLOGIST/FIELD DIRECTOR
Daniel Ballester, M.S., RPA (Registered Professional Archaeologist)

Education

2013	M.S., Geographic Information System (GIS), University of Redlands, California.
1998	B.A., Anthropology, California State University, San Bernardino.
1997	Archaeological Field School, University of Las Vegas and University of California, Riverside.
1994	University of Puerto Rico, Rio Piedras, Puerto Rico.
2021	An Introduction to Geoarchaeology: How Understanding Basic Soils, Sediments, and Landforms Can Make You a Better Archaeologist; Society for American Archaeology online seminar.
2007	Certificate in Geographic Information Systems (GIS), California State University, San Bernardino.
2002	Historic Archaeology Workshop; presented by Richard Norwood, Base Archaeologist, Edwards Air Force Base, at CRM TECH, Riverside, California.

Professional Experience

2002-	Field Director/GIS Specialist, CRM TECH, Riverside/Colton, California.
2011-2012	GIS Specialist for Caltrans District 8 Project, Garcia and Associates, San Anselmo, California.
2009-2010	Field Crew Chief, Garcia and Associates, San Anselmo, California.
2009-2010	Field Crew, ECorp, Redlands.
1999-2002	Project Archaeologist, CRM TECH, Riverside, California.
1998-1999	Field Crew, K.E.A. Environmental, San Diego, California.
1998	Field Crew, A.S.M. Affiliates, Encinitas, California.
1998	Field Crew, Archaeological Research Unit, University of California, Riverside.

Cultural Resources Management Reports

Field Director, co-author, and contributor to numerous cultural management reports since 2002.

Memberships

Society for American Archaeology; Society for California Archaeology

PROJECT ARCHAEOLOGIST/NATIVE AMERICAN LIAISON
Nina Gallardo, B.A.

Education

2004 B.A., Anthropology/Law and Society, University of California, Riverside.

Professional Experience

2004- Project Archaeologist, CRM TECH, Riverside/Colton, California.

Cultural Resources Management Reports

Co-author of and contributor to numerous cultural resources management reports since 2004.

PROJECT ARCHAEOLOGIST/NATIVE AMERICAN LIAISON
Eulices Lopez, B.S.

Education

2015	B.S., Anthropology, University of California, Riverside.
2013	A.A., Anthropology, East Los Angeles College, Monterey Park, California.

Professional Experience

2024-	Project Archaeologist/Native American Liaison, CRM TECH, Colton, California.
2017-2024	Deputy Coordinator, Eastern Information Center, University of California, Riverside.
2017-2024	Director Assistant, Archaeological Research Unit, University of California, Riverside.
2017-2024	Curator Facilitator, Archaeological Curation Unit, University of California, Riverside.
2014-2015	Information Officer, Eastern Information Center, University of California, Riverside.
2013	Lithic Analyst Assistant, Anthropology Department, East Los Angeles College, Monterey Park, California.
2012	Hominid Cast Fossils Cataloger, Anthropology Department, East Los Angeles College, Monterey Park, California.

APPENDIX 2

CORRESPONDENCE WITH NATIVE AMERICAN REPRESENTATIVES*

* Twenty-one local Native American representatives were contacted; a sample letter is included in this appendix.

SACRED LANDS FILE & NATIVE AMERICAN CONTACTS LIST REQUEST

NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE COMMISSION
1550 Harbor Boulevard, Suite 100
West Sacramento, CA 95691
(916)373-3710
(916)373-5471 (Fax)
nahc@nahc.ca.gov

Project: Proposed La Loma No. 2 Reservoir Project; APNs 0163-351-23 and -38 (CRM TECH No. 4305)

County: San Bernardino

USGS Quadrangle Name: San Bernardino South, Calif.

Township 1 South **Range** 4 West SB **BM; Section(s)**: Rancho Jurupa (Stearns) land grant

Company/Firm/Agency: CRM TECH

Contact Person: Nina Gallardo

Street Address: 1016 E. Cooley Drive, Suite A/B

City: Colton, CA **Zip:** 92324

Phone: (909) 824-6400 **Fax:** (909) 824-6405

Email: ngallardo@crmtech.us

Project Description: The primary undertaking of the project is to construct a four-million-gallon water reservoir, known as the La Loma No. 2 Reservoir, on approximately 12.6 acres of land located near the northern end of Bostik Avenue and to the south of Tropica Rancho Road (APNs 0163-351-23 and -38), in the City of Colton, San Bernardino County, California.

July 22, 2025

NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE COMMISSION

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

July 30, 2025

Nina Gallardo
CRM TECH

Via Email to: ngallardo@crmtech.us

Re: Proposed La Loma No. 2 Reservoir Project, San Bernardino County

To Whom It May Concern:

As requested, a search of the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) Sacred Lands File (SLF) was completed based on information submitted for the above referenced project. The results were positive. Please contact the Yuhaaviatam of San Manuel Nation 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.

Attached is a list of Native American tribes that are traditionally and culturally affiliated with the 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.

If within two weeks of notification, a response has not been received, the Commission requests that you follow up with a telephone call or email to ensure that the project information was received.

If you receive notification of a change of address or phone number from a tribe, please inform the NAHC so that we can assure that our lists contain current information.

In addition to engaging in tribal consultation, you should consult the appropriate regional California Historical Research Information System (CHRIS) information center to determine whether it has information regarding the presence of recorded archaeological sites within the project area.

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

Sincerely,

Andrew Green

Andrew Green
Cultural Resources Analyst

Attachment

Native American Heritage Commission
Native American Contact List
San Bernardino County
7/30/2025

Tribe Name	Fed (F) Non-Fed (N)	Contact Person	Contact Address	Phone #	Fax #	Email Address	Cultural Affiliation	Counties
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
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
Cabazon Band of Cahuilla Indians	F	Doug Welmas, Chairperson	84-245 Indio Springs Parkway Indio, CA, 92203	(760) 342-2593	(760) 347-7880	jstapp@cabazonindians-nsn.gov	Cahuilla	Imperial, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Diego
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
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
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
Gabrieleno Band of Mission Indians - Kizh Nation	N	Andrew Salas, Chairperson	P.O. Box 393 Covina, CA, 91723	(844) 390-0787		admin@gabrielenoindians.org	Gabrieleno	Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, Santa Barbara, Ventura
Gabrieleno Band of Mission Indians - Kizh Nation	N	Christina Swindall Martinez, Secretary	P.O. Box 393 Covina, CA, 91723	(844) 390-0787		admin@gabrielenoindians.org	Gabrieleno	Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, Santa Barbara, Ventura
Gabrieleno/Tongva San Gabriel Band of Mission Indians	N	Anthony Morales, Chairperson	P.O. Box 693 San Gabriel, CA, 91778	(626) 483-3564	(626) 286-1262	GTTribalcouncil@aol.com	Gabrieleno	Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, Santa Barbara, Ventura
Gabrielino Tongva Indians of California Tribal Council	N	Christina Conley, Cultural Resource Administrator	P.O. Box 941078 Simi Valley, CA, 93094	(626) 407-8761		christina.marsden@alumni.usc.edu	Gabrielino	Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, Santa Barbara, Ventura
Gabrielino Tongva Indians of California Tribal Council	N	Robert Dorame, Chairperson	P.O. Box 490 Bellflower, CA, 90707	(562) 761-6417	(562) 761-6417	gtongva@gmail.com	Gabrielino	Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, Santa Barbara, Ventura
Gabrielino/Tongva Nation	N	Sandonne Goad, Chairperson	106 1/2 Judge John Aiso St., #231 Los Angeles, CA, 90012	(951) 807-0479		sgoad@gabrielino-tongva.com	Gabrielino	Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, Santa Barbara, Ventura
Gabrielino-Tongva Tribe	N	Charles Alvarez, Chairperson	23454 Vanowen Street West Hills, CA, 91307	(310) 403-6048		Chavez1956metro@gmail.com	Gabrielino	Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, Santa Barbara, Ventura
Gabrielino-Tongva Tribe	N	Sam Dunlap, Cultural Resource Director	P.O. Box 3919 Seal Beach, CA, 90740	(909) 262-9351		tongvatcr@gmail.com	Gabrielino	Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, Santa Barbara, Ventura
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 Cupeno	Imperial, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Diego
Morongo Band of Mission Indians	F	Robert Martin, Chairperson	12700 Pumarra Road Banning, CA, 92220	(951) 755-5110	(951) 755-5177	abrierty@morongo-nsn.gov	Cahuilla Serrano	Imperial, Kern, Los Angeles, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Diego
Morongo Band of Mission Indians	F	Ann Brierty, THPO	12700 Pumarra Road Banning, CA, 92220	(951) 755-5259	(951) 572-6004	abrierty@morongo-nsn.gov	Cahuilla Serrano	Imperial, Kern, Los Angeles, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Diego
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 Luiseno	Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Diego
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 Luiseno	Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Diego
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 Luiseno	Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Diego
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	Luiseno	Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Diego, Santa Barbara, Ventura
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	Luiseno	Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Diego, Santa Barbara, Ventura

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
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
Ramona Band of Cahuilla	F	John Gomez, Environmental Coordinator	P. O. Box 391670 Anza, CA, 92539	(951) 763-4105	(951) 763-4325	jgomez@ramona-nsn.gov	Cahuilla	Imperial, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Diego
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 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
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
Rincon Band of Luiseno 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	Luiseno	Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Diego, Santa Barbara, Ventura
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
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
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
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
Serrano Nation of Mission Indians	N	Mark Cochrane, Co-Chairperson	P. O. Box 343 Patton, CA, 92369	(909) 578-2598		serranonation1@gmail.com	Serrano	Kern, Los Angeles, Riverside, San Bernardino
Serrano Nation of Mission Indians	N	Wayne Walker, Co-Chairperson	P. O. Box 343 Patton, CA, 92369	(253) 370-0167		serranonation1@gmail.com	Serrano	Kern, Los Angeles, Riverside, San Bernardino
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
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
Torres-Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians	F	Thomas Tortez, 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
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
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
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
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
Yuhaaviatam of San Manuel Nation	F	Alexandra McCleary, Director of Cultural Resources	26569 Community Center Drive Highland, CA, 92346	(909) 633-0054		alexandra.mccleary@sanmanuel-nsn.gov	Serrano	Kern, Los Angeles, Riverside, San Bernardino

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

This list is only applicable for contacting local Native Americans with regard to cultural resources assessment for the proposed La Loma No. 2 Reservoir Project, San Bernardino County.

Record: PROJ-2025-004200
Report Type: List of Tribes
Counties: San Bernardino
NAHC Group: All

August 1, 2025

Alexandra McCleary
Director of Cultural Resources
26569 Community Center Drive
Highland, CA 92346

RE: Proposed La Loma No. 2 Reservoir Project
On Assessor's Parcel Numbers 0163-351-23 and -28
In the City of Colton, San Bernardino, California
CRM TECH Contract # 4305

Dear Alexandra McCleary:

I am writing to bring your attention to an ongoing Section 106/CEQA-compliance study for the project referenced above. The Area of Potential Effects (APE) for the undertaking lies within approximately 12.6 acres of land, constructing a four-million-gallon water reservoir, known as the La Loma No. 2 Reservoir, on Assessor's Parcel Numbers 0163-351-23 and -38, in the City of Colton, San Bernardino County, California. The accompanying map, based on the USGS San Bernardino South, Calif., 7.5'quadrangle, depicts the location of the APE within the Rancho Jurupa (Sterns) land grant, T1S R4W, SBBM.

The Native American Heritage Commission reports in a letter dated July 30, 2025, that Sacred Lands File search was positive for tribal cultural resources in the vicinity, therefore the NAHC recommended that the Yuhaaviatam of San Manuel Nation must be contacted along with other local Native American groups who may have any information (see attached). Therefore, as part of the cultural resources study for this project, I am writing to request your input on potential Native American cultural resources in or near the APE, and/or any other information to consider during the cultural resources investigations. Any information or concerns may be forwarded to CRM TECH by telephone, e-mail, facsimile, or standard mail. Requests for documentation or information we cannot provide will be forwarded to our client and/or the lead agencies for the project, namely the City of Colton and State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB).

We would also like to clarify that, as the cultural resources consultant for the project, CRM TECH is not involved in the AB 52-compliance process or in government-to-government consultations. The purpose of this letter is to seek any information that you may have to help us determine if there are cultural resources within and/ or near the APE area that we should be aware of and to help us assess the sensitivity of the APE. Thank you for your time and effort in addressing this important matter.

Respectfully,

Nina Gallardo
Project Archaeologist/Native American Liaison
Email: ngallardo@crmtech.us

Encl.: NAHC response letter and project location map

August 1, 2025

RE: Proposed La Loma No. 2 Reservoir Project
On Assessor's Parcel Numbers 0163-351-23 and -28
In the City of Colton, San Bernardino, California
CRM TECH Contract # 4305

Dear Tribal Representative:

I am writing to bring your attention to an ongoing Section 106/CEQA-compliance study for the project referenced above. The Area of Potential Effects (APE) for the undertaking lies within approximately 12.6 acres of land, constructing a four-million-gallon water reservoir, known as the La Loma No. 2 Reservoir, on Assessor's Parcel Numbers 0163-351-23 and -38, in the City of Colton, San Bernardino County, California. The accompanying map, based on the USGS San Bernardino South, Calif., 7.5'quadrangle, depicts the location of the APE within the Rancho Jurupa (Sterns) land grant, T1S R4W, SBBM.

The Native American Heritage Commission reports in a letter dated July 30, 2025, that Sacred Lands File search was positive for tribal cultural resources in the vicinity, therefore the NAHC recommended that the Yuhaaviatam of San Manuel Nation must be contacted along with other local Native American groups who may have any information (see attached). Therefore, as part of the cultural resources study for this project, I am writing to request your input on potential Native American cultural resources in or near the APE, and/or any other information to consider during the cultural resources investigations. Any information or concerns may be forwarded to CRM TECH by telephone, e-mail, facsimile, or standard mail. Requests for documentation or information we cannot provide will be forwarded to our client and/or the lead agencies for the project, namely the City of Colton and State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB).

We would also like to clarify that, as the cultural resources consultant for the project, CRM TECH is not involved in the AB 52-compliance process or in government-to-government consultations. The purpose of this letter is to seek any information that you may have to help us determine if there are cultural resources within and/ or near the APE area that we should be aware of and to help us assess the sensitivity of the APE. Thank you for your time and effort in addressing this important matter.

Respectfully,

Nina Gallardo
Project Archaeologist/Native American Liaison
Email: ngallardo@crmtech.us

Encl.: NAHC response letter and project location map

AUGUSTINE BAND OF CAHUILLA INDIANS
84-001 AVENUE 54 COACHELLA, CA 92236 | T: 760-398-4722 F: 760-369-7161
TRIBAL CHAIRPERSON: AMANDA AUGUSTINE TRIBAL TREASURER: WILLIAM VANCE

Date: 08/4/2025

Nina Gallardo
Project Archaeologist/Native American Liaison
1016 E. Cooley Drive, Suite A/B
Colton, CA 92324

SUBJECT: Proposed La Loma No. 2. Reservoir Project Assessor's Parcel Number 0163-351-23 and -28 In the City of Colton, San Bernardino, CA CRM Tech Contract #4305

Thank you for contacting Augustine Band of Cahuilla Indians about the proposed **aforementioned project.** We appreciate your consideration of the cultural resources in the project area.

At this time, we are not aware of any specific cultural resources within the project area that would be affected by the proposed development. Therefore, we do not believe that formal consultation is necessary at this stage.

If any cultural resources are discovered during the project, we ask that you contact the California Native American Heritage Commission immediately to take appropriate steps to evaluate and protect them.

Thank you once again for your attention to this important matter.

Very truly yours,

Analise Perez

Analise Perez , Tribal Executive Assistant
Augustine Band of Cahuilla Indians



From: Jill Mccormick <historicpreservation@quechantribe.com>
Sent: Monday, August 4, 2025 at 07:58 AM
To: Eulices Lopez <elopez@crmtech.us>, Ngallardo <ngallardo@crmtech.us>
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL]: NA Scoping Letter for the Proposed La Loma No. 2 Reservoir Project in the City of Colton, San Bernardino County (CRM TECH #4305)

Good morning,

This email is to inform you that the Historic Preservation Office of the Ft. Yuma Quechan Tribe does not wish to comment on this project. We defer to the local Tribes and support their determinations on this matter.

Jill

H. Jill McCormick, M.A.
Historic Preservation Office
Ft. Yuma Quechan Indian Tribe
P.O. Box 1899
Yuma, AZ 85366-1899
Office: 760-919-3631
Cell: 928-920-6521

From: THPO Consulting <ACBCI-THPO@aguacaliente.net>
Sent: Monday, August 4, 2025 at 10:37 AM
To: 'Eulices Lopez' <elopez@crmtech.us>
Subject: RE: NA Scoping Letter for the Proposed La Loma No. 2 Reservoir Project in the City of Colton, San Bernardino County (CRM TECH #4305)

Greetings,

A records check of the Tribal Historic Preservation Office's cultural registry revealed that this project is not located within the Tribe's Traditional Use Area. Therefore, we defer to the other tribes in the area. This letter shall conclude our consultation efforts.

Thank you,

Anthony Kline
Admin Coordinator THPO
akline@aguacaliente.net
C: (760) 413-5836 | D: (760) 883-1139
5401 Dinah Shore Drive, Palm Springs

THPO
Pala Band of Mission Indians

TRIBAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE
PALA BAND OF MISSION INDIANS
PMB 50, 35008 Pala Temecula Road | Pala, CA 92059
Phone 760-891-3510 | www.palatribe.com

August 6, 2025

Nina Gallardo
Project Archaeologist/Native American Liaison
Email: ngallardo@crmtech.us

Re: Proposed La Loma No. 2 Reservoir Project
On Assessor's Parcel Numbers 0163-351-23 and -28
In the City of Colton, San Bernardino, California
CRM TECH Contract # 4305

Dear Nina Gallardo:

The Pala Band of Mission Indians Tribal Historic Preservation Office has received your notification of the project referenced above. This letter constitutes our response on behalf of Robert Smith, Tribal Chairman.

We have consulted our maps and determined that the project as described is not within the boundaries of the recognized Pala Indian Reservation. The project is also beyond the boundaries of the territory that the tribe considers its Traditional Use Area (TUA). It is, however, situated in close proximity to the Reservation and information generated would likely be useful in better understanding regional culture and history. Therefore, we request as a courtesy to be kept in the information loop as the project progresses and would appreciate being maintained on the receiving list for project updates. Further, if the project boundaries are modified to extend beyond the currently proposed limits, we do request updated information and the opportunity to respond to your changes. We defer to the wishes of the Tribes who are in closer proximity to the project area.

We appreciate involvement with your initiative and look forward to working with you on future efforts. Pala is now offering tribal monitoring services. If you have questions or need additional information, please do not hesitate to contact the THPO office by e-mail at THPO@palatribe.com.

Sincerely,

Shasta C. Gaughen, PhD
Tribal Historic Preservation Officer
Pala Band of Mission Indians

ATTENTION: THE PALA TRIBAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE IS RESPONSIBLE FOR ALL REQUESTS FOR CONSULTATION. PLEASE ADDRESS CORRESPONDENCE TO SHASTA C. GAUGHEN AT THE ABOVE ADDRESS. IT IS NOT NECESSARY TO ALSO SEND NOTICES TO PALA TRIBAL CHAIRMAN ROBERT SMITH.

From: Kristen Tuosto <Kristen.Tuosto@sanmanuel-nsn.gov>
Sent: Thursday, August 7, 2025 at 03:58 PM
To: elopez@crmtech.us <elopez@crmtech.us>
Cc: 'Nina Gallardo' <ngallardo@crmtech.us>
Subject: FW: Information for the Positive SLF Response for the Proposed La Loma No. 2 Reservoir Project in the City of Colton, San Bernardino County (CRM TECH #4305)

Hello Eulices,

Thank you for contacting the Yuhaaviatam of San Manuel Nation (YSMN, also known as the San Manuel Band of Mission Indians) concerning the above-mentioned proposed APE. San Manuel appreciates the opportunity to review the project documentation received by the Cultural Resources Management Department on August 1, 2025. Based on our current knowledge, the proposed project site is considered highly culturally sensitive by the Tribe. The project location is within the footprint of a known Serrano village site, and near sites with rock art.

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

Thank you again for your correspondence, if you have any additional questions or comments, please reach out to me at your earliest convenience, as I will be your Point
of Contact (POC) for YSMN with respect to this project.

Best,

Kristen

From: Jennifer Pahua <jpahua@rincon-nsn.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, August 27,2025 at 03:28 PM
To: elopez@crmtech.us <elopez@crmtech.us>
Cc: Cheryl Madrigal <CMadrigal@rincon-nsn.gov>; Shuuluk Linton <slinton@rincon-nsn.gov>
Subject: NA Scoping Letter for the Proposed La Loma No. 2 Reservoir Project in the City of Colton, San Bernardino County (CRM TECH #4305)

Greetings,

This email is written on behalf of Rincon Band of Luiseño Indians, ("Rincon Band" or "Band"), a federally recognized Indian Tribe and sovereign government.

The Band has received the notification for the above referenced project. The location identified within project documents is not within the Band's specific Area of Historic Interest (AHI).

At this time, we have no additional information to provide. We recommend that you directly contact a Tribe that is closer to the project and may have pertinent information.

Thank you for submitting this project for Tribal review. If you have additional questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact our office at your convenience at (760) 749-1092 or via electronic mail at crd@rincon-nsn.gov.

Thank you for the opportunity to protect and preserve our cultural assets.

Jennifer Pahua
Cultural Resources Department Coordinator
Cultural Resources Department
Rincon Band of Luiseño Indians
1 West Tribal Road | Valley Center, CA 92082
Office: (760) 749 1092 ext. 322 |Cell: 760-638-9932
Fax: 760-888-2016
Email: jpahua@rincon-nsn.gov

TELEPHONE LOG

Name	Tribe/Affiliation	Telephone Contacts	Note
Lacy Padilla, Director of Historic Preservation/THPO	Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians	None	Anthony Kline, Admin Coordinator of THPO for the Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians, responded on behalf of the Tribe by email on August 4, 2025 (copy attached).
Tribal Operations	Augustine Band of Cahuilla Indians	None	Analise Perez, Tribal Executive Assistant, responded on behalf of the Tribe in a letter dated August 4, 2025 (copy attached).
Doug Welmas, Chairperson	Cabazon Band of Cahuilla Indians	10:36 am, August 20, 2025 2:56 pm, August 27, 2025	Left messages; no response to date.
BobbyRay Esparza, Cultural Director	Cahuilla Band of Indians	10:40 am, August 20, 2025 2: 59 pm, August 27, 2025	Left messages; no response to date.
Andrew Salas, Chairperson	Gabrieleno Band of Mission Indians-Kizh Nation	10:45 am, August 20, 2025 3:02 pm, August 27, 2025	Left messages; no response to date.
Anthony Morales, Chairperson	Gabrieleno/Tongva San Gabriel Band of Mission Indians	10:58 am, August 20, 2025	Mr. Morales stated that the APE was located in a culturally sensitive area. Therefore, he requested Native American and archaeological monitoring during ground-disturbing activities. Mr. Morales further stated that the Tribe wished to participate in Native American monitoring and requested notification if any cultural resources were discovered during the project.
Christina Conley, Cultural Resource Administrator	Gabrielino Tongva Indians of California Tribal Council	11:00 am, August 20, 2025 3:05 pm, August 27, 2025	Left messages; no response to date.
Sandonne Goad, Chairperson	Gabrielino/Tongva Nation	11:02 am, August 20, 2025 3:06 pm, August 27, 2025	Left messages; no response to date.
Sam Dunlap, Cultural Resource Director	Gabrielino-Tongva Tribe	11:05 am, August 20, 2025 3:08 pm, August 27, 2025	Left messages; no response to date.
Ray Chapparosa, Chairperson	Los Coyotes Band of Cahuilla and Cupeño Indians	11:19 am, August 20, 2025 3:10 pm, August 27, 2025	Left messages; no response to date.
Ann Brierty, THPO	Morongo Band of Mission Indians	11:21 am, August 20, 2025 3:13 pm, August 27, 2025	Left messages; no response to date.
Shasta Gaughen, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer	Pala Band of Mission Indians	None	Ms. Gaughen responded in a letter dated August 6, 2025 (copy attached).

Tuba Ebru Ozdil, Pechanga Cultural Analyst	Pechanga Band of Indians	11:23 am, August 20, 2025 3:15 pm, August 27, 2025	Left messages; no response to date.
Jill McCormick, Historic Preservation Officer	Quechan Indian Tribe of the Fort Yuma Reservation	None	Ms. McCormick responded by email on August 4, 2025 (copy attached).
John Gomez, Environmental Coordinator	Ramona Band of Cahuilla	11:26 am, August 20, 2025 3:18 pm, August 27, 2025	Left messages; no response to date.
Cheryl Madrigal, Cultural Resources Manager/Tribal Historic Preservation Officer	Rincon Band of Luiseno Indians	11:31 am, August 20, 2025 3:20 pm, August 27, 2025	Jennifer Pahua, Cultural Resources Department Coordinator, responded on behalf of the Tribe by email on August 27, 2025 (copy attached).
Vanessa Minott, Tribal Administrator	Santa Rosa Band of Cahuilla Indians	11:34 am, August 20, 2025 3:24 pm, August 27, 2025	Vanessa Minott stated that the Tribe had no comment and would defer to the Soboba Band of Luiseño Indians.
Wayne Walker, Co-Chairperson	Serrano Nation of Mission Indians	11:36 am, August 20, 2025 3:26 pm, August 27, 2025	Left messages; no response to date.
Jessica Valdez, Cultural Resource Specialist	Soboba Band of Luiseno Indians	11:38 am, August 20, 2025	Ms. Valdez stated that the Tribe would defer to the Yuhaaviatam of San Manuel Nation.
Abraham Becerra, Cultural Coordinator	Torres-Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians	11:40 am, August 20, 2025	Mr. Becerra stated that the Tribe would defer to the Yuhaaviatam of San Manuel Nation.
Alexandra McCleary, Director of Cultural Resources	Yuhaaviatam of San Manuel Nation	None	Kristen Tuosto, Tribal Archaeologist, responded on behalf of the Tribe by email on August 7, 2025 (copy attached).

Historical/Archaeological Resources Survey Report
La Loma No. 2 Reservoir Project
City of Colton, San Bernardino County, California
October 27, 2016

HISTORICAL/ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESOURCES SURVEY REPORT

LA LOMA NO. 2 RESERVOIR PROJECT

City of Colton
San Bernardino County, California

Prepared for:

City of Colton
Public Works Department
160 South 10th Street
Colton CA 92324

Prepared by:

CRM TECH
1016 East Cooley Drive, Suite A/B
Colton, CA 92324

Bai "Tom" Tang, Principal Investigator
Michael Hogan, Principal Investigator

October 27, 2016
CRM TECH Contract No. 3122

Title: Historical/Archaeological Resources Survey Report: La Loma No. 2 Reservoir Project, City of Colton, San Bernardino County, California

Author(s): Bai "Tom" Tang, Principal Investigator/Historian
Ben Kerridge, Archaeologist/Report Writer
Daniel Ballester, Archaeologist/Field Director
Nina Gallardo, Archaeologist/Native American Liaison

Consulting Firm: CRM TECH
1016 East Cooley Drive, Suite A/B
Colton, CA 92324
(909) 824-6400

Date: October 27, 2016

Prepared for: City of Colton
Public Works Department
160 South 10th Street
Colton CA 92324
(909) 514-4210

USGS Quadrangle: San Bernardino South, Calif., 7.5' quadrangle; Rancho Jurupa (Stearns) land grant; T1S R4W, San Bernardino Baseline and Meridian

Project Size: Approximately 12.6 acres

Keywords: Eastern San Bernardino Valley; Phase I cultural resources survey; Assessor's Parcel Numbers 0163-351-23 and -28; no "historical resources" under CEQA

MANAGEMENT SUMMARY

In September and October 2016, at the request of City of Colton Public Works Department, CRM TECH performed a cultural resources study on approximately 12.6 acres of partially developed rural land in southwestern portion of the City of Colton, San Bernardino County, California. The subject property of the study consists of Assessor's Parcel Number 0163-351-23 and a portion of Assessor's Parcel Number 0163-351-28, located near the northern end of Bostick Avenue and to the south of Tropica Rancho Road, in a portion of the Rancho Jurupa (Stearns) land grant lying within T1S R4W, San Bernardino Baseline and Meridian.

The study is part of the environmental review process for the proposed construction of a four-million-gallon water reservoir, known as La Loma No. 2 Reservoir, next to an existing reservoir on the property. The City of Colton, as the lead agency for the project, required the study in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The purpose of the study is to provide the City with the necessary information and analysis to determine whether the proposed project would cause substantial adverse changes to any "historical resources," as defined by CEQA, that may exist in or around the project area.

In order to identify such resources, CRM TECH conducted a historical/archaeological resources records search, pursued historical background research, contacted Native American representatives, and carried out an intensive-level field survey. Through the various avenues of research, this study did not encounter any "historical resources" within the project area. Therefore, CRM TECH recommends to the City of Colton a determination of *No Impact* regarding cultural resources.

No further cultural resources investigation is recommended for the project unless construction plans undergo such changes as to include areas not covered by this study. However, if buried cultural materials are discovered during earth-moving operations associated with the project, all work in that area should be halted or diverted until a qualified archaeologist can evaluate the nature and significance of the finds.

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INTRODUCTION

In September and October 2016, at the request of City of Colton Public Works Department, CRM TECH performed a cultural resources study on approximately 12.6 acres of partially developed rural land in southwestern portion of the City of Colton, San Bernardino County, California (Figure 1). The subject property of the study consists of Assessor's Parcel Number 0163-351-23 and a portion of Assessor's Parcel Number 0163-351-28, located near the northern end of Bostick Avenue and to the south of Tropica Rancho Road, in a portion of the Rancho Jurupa (Stearns) land grant lying within T1S R4W, San Bernardino Baseline and Meridian (Figure 2).

The study is part of the environmental review process for the proposed construction of a four-million-gallon water reservoir, known as La Loma No. 2 Reservoir, next to an existing reservoir on the property. The City of Colton, as the lead agency for the project, required the study in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA; PRC §21000, et seq.). The purpose of the study is to provide the City with the necessary information and analysis to determine whether the proposed project would cause substantial adverse changes to any "historical resources," as defined by CEQA, that may exist in or around the project area.

In order to identify and evaluate such resources, CRM TECH conducted a historical/archaeological resources records search, pursued historical background research, contacted Native American representatives, and carried out an intensive-level field survey. This report is a complete account of the methods, results, and final conclusion of the study. Personnel who participated in the study are named in the appropriate sections below, and their qualifications are provided in Appendix 1.

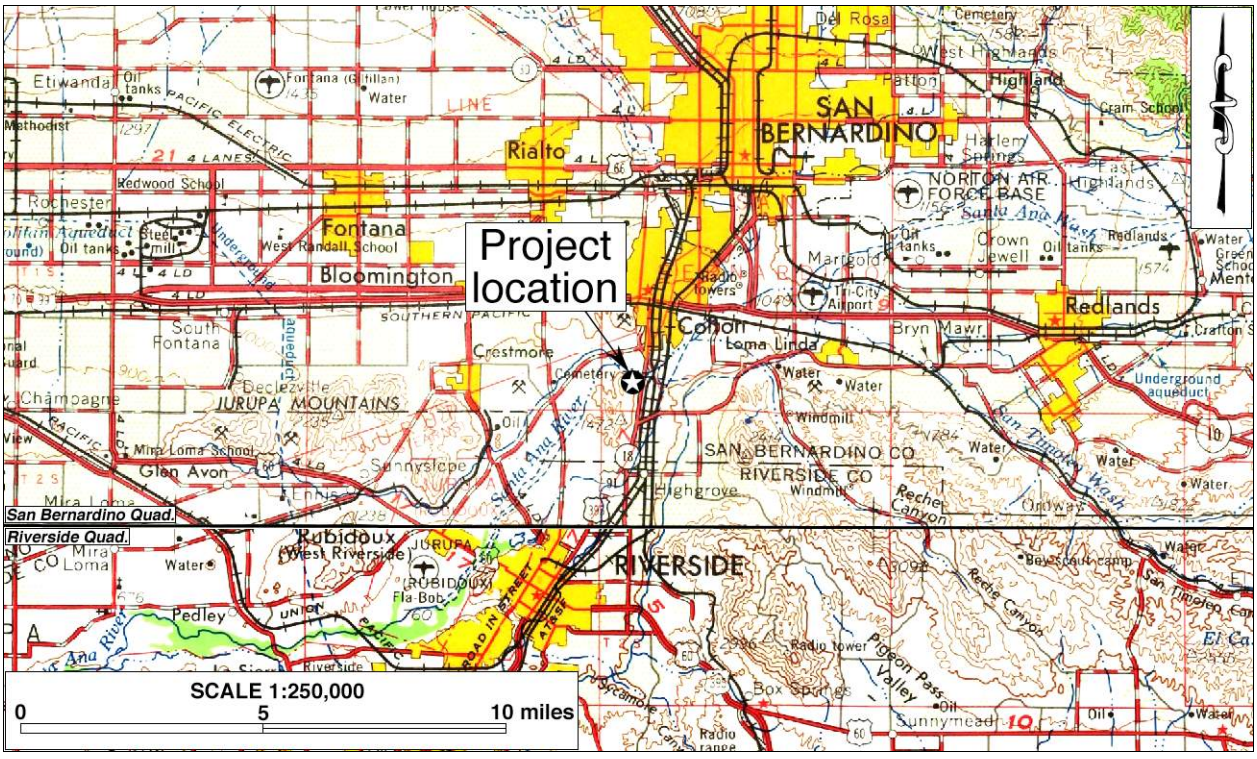


Figure 1. Project vicinity. (Based on USGS San Bernardino and Santa Ana, Calif., 1:250,000 quadrangles [USGS 1969; 1979])

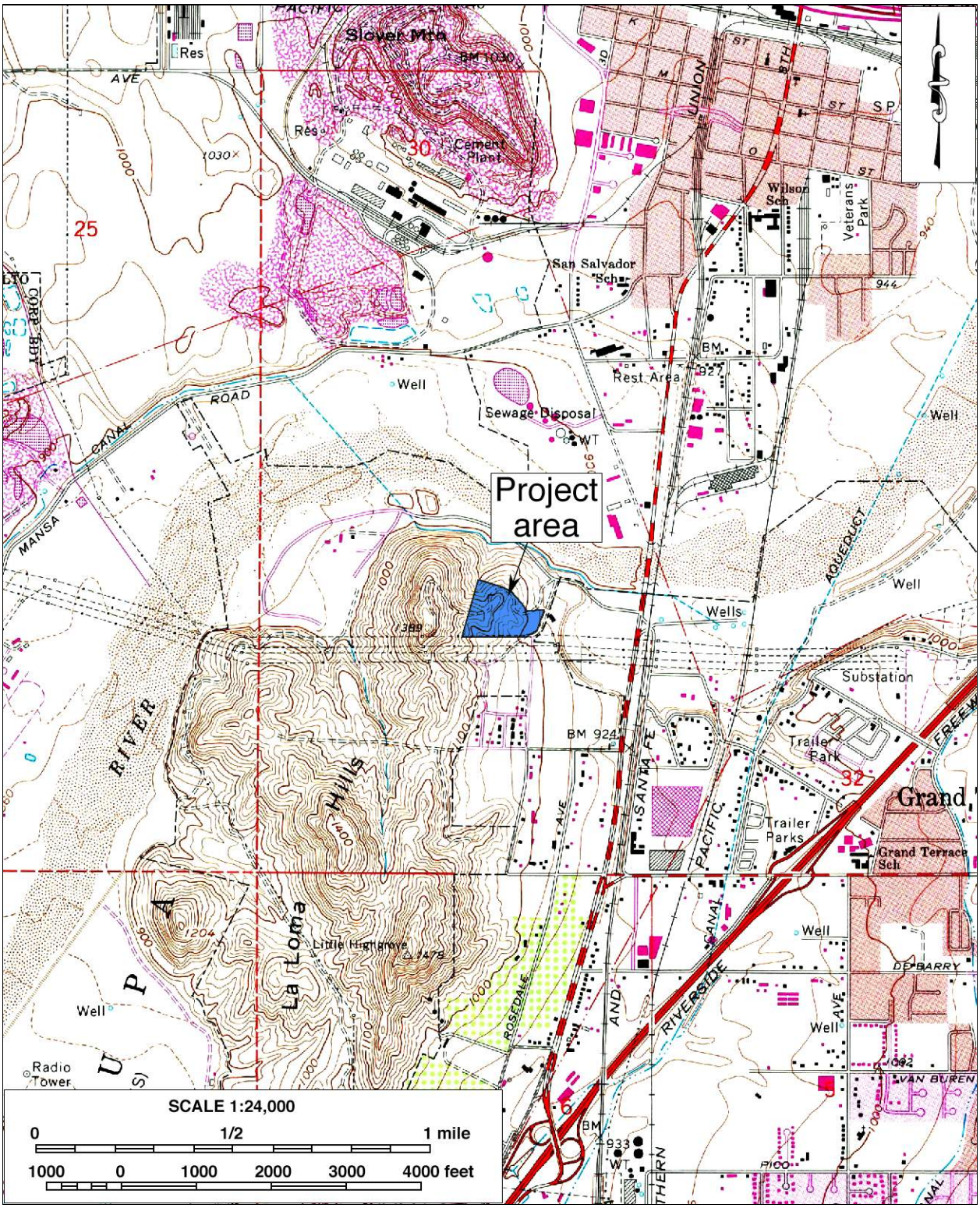


Figure 2. Project area. (Based on USGS San Bernardino South, Calif., 1:24,000 quadrangle [USGS 1980])

SETTING

CURRENT NATURAL SETTING

The City of Colton is situated in the eastern portion of the San Bernardino Valley, a broad inland valley extending south from the foothills of the San Bernardino and San Gabriel Mountains. The natural environment of the region is dictated by the prevailing Mediterranean climate, featuring hot, dry summers and mild, wet winters. The average maximum temperature in July reaches nearly 100°F, while the average minimum temperature in January dips to around 30°F. Annual rainfall is typically less than 20 inches.

The project area lies at the northeastern end of La Loma Hills, a granitic knoll on the southern bank of the Santa Ana River, which is the main natural waterway in the San Bernardino Valley. The terrain features rolling hillsides with finger ridges and saddles (Figure 3), and elevations vary between approximately 970 feet and 1,145 feet above mean sea level. The existing La Loma Reservoir is located in the northern portion of the project area, on a relatively level hilltop. An asphalt-paved road leads west from a dirt access road near the eastern project boundary up the hill towards the tank. Where it reaches the tank, the road continues, unpaved, westward up into the hills beyond the project area.

The ground surface in the project area appears to have been extensively disturbed by past earth-moving activities, including the construction of the access road and the existing water tank. The slopes to the east and southeast of the reservoir, in particular, show clear evidence of disturbances by bulldozers. Vegetation observed on the property includes fiddlenecks, tumbleweeds, foxtails, wild mustard, datura, buckwheat, pickle pear cactus, and other small grasses and shrubs. The surface soil consists of light yellowish-brown, fine-to-coarse sands with some granitic bedrock outcrops and decomposing granite.



Figure 3. Overview of the current natural setting of the project area, view to the northwest. (Photograph taken on September 30, 2016).

CULTURAL SETTING

Prehistoric Context

It is widely acknowledged that human occupation in what is now the State of California began 8,000-12,000 years ago. In order to understand Native American cultures before European contact, archaeologists have devised chronological frameworks that endeavor to correlate the observable technological and cultural changes in the archaeological record to distinct periods. Unfortunately, none of these have been widely accepted, and none has been developed specifically for the so-called Inland Empire region of southern California, the nearest ones being for the Colorado Desert and Peninsular Ranges area (Warren 1984) and for the Mojave Desert (Warren and Crabtree 1986).

The development of an overall chronological framework for the region is hindered by the lack of distinct stratigraphic layers of cultural sequences that could be dated by absolute dating methods. Since results from archaeological investigations in this region have yet to be synthesized into an overall chronological framework, most archaeologists tend to follow a chronology adapted from a scheme developed by William J. Wallace in 1955 and modified by others (Wallace 1955; 1978; Warren 1968; Chartkoff and Chartkoff 1984; Moratto 1984). Although the beginning and ending dates of the different horizons or periods may vary, the general framework of prehistory in this region under this chronology consists of the following four periods:

- Early Hunting Stage (ca. 10000-6000 B.C.), characterized by human reliance on big game animals, as evidenced by large, archaic-style projectile points and the relative lack of plant-processing artifacts;
- Millingstone Horizon (ca. 6000 B.C.-1000 A.D.), when plant foods and small game animals came to the forefront of subsistence strategies, and from which a large number of millingstones, especially heavily used, deep-basin metates, were left;
- Late Prehistoric Period (ca. 1000-1500 A.D.), during which a more complex social organization, a more diversified subsistence base—as evidenced by smaller projectile points, expedient milling stones and, later, pottery—and regional cultures and tribal territories began to develop;
- Protohistoric Period (ca. 1500-1700s A.D.), which ushered in long-distance contact with Europeans and led to the historic period.

Ethnohistoric Context

At the arrival of the Spanish explorers in the 1770s, the foothills and valleys surrounding the project area were occupied and used by both Gabrielino and Serrano Indians. The traditional territory of the Gabrielinos, the most populous, wealthiest, and therefore most powerful ethnic nationality in aboriginal southern California, was centered in the Los Angeles Basin, reaching from San Clemente Island to the present-day San Bernardino-Riverside area and south into southern Orange County, but their influence spread as far as the San Joaquin Valley, the Colorado River, and Baja California (Bean and Smith 1978a:538). Several Gabrielino villages are known to have existed in the San Bernardino Valley. The homeland of the Serranos was the San Bernardino Mountains and Cajon Pass area, including the slopes and lowlands on the flanks of the mountains and extending eastward as far as present-day Twentynine Palms (Bean and Smith 1978b).

Depending on the natural environment in which they were located, different groups of the Gabrielino adopted different types of subsistence economy, although they were all based on gathering, hunting, and/or fishing. In the inland areas, the predominant food sources were acorns, sage, deer, and various small animals, including birds. There is evidence indicating that a moiety system, in which various clans belong to one or the other of two main social/cultural divisions, existed in Gabrielino society. It also seems that Gabrielino society had at least three hierarchically ordered social classes, topped with an elite consisting of the chiefs, their immediate families, and the very rich. Some individuals owned land, and property boundaries were marked by the owner's personalized symbol. Villages were politically autonomous, composed of nonlocalized lineages, each with its own leader, a position passed through the male line. Gabrielino material culture reflected an elaborately developed artisanship that was rivaled by few other groups in southern California.

The Gabrielino came into contact with the Spanish as early as 1542, during the historic expedition of Juan Rodríguez Cabrillo. However, it was not until 1769 that the Spaniards took steps to colonize Gabrielino territory (Bean and Smith 1978a:540). Shortly afterwards, most of the Gabrielino people were incorporated into Mission San Gabriel and other missions in southern California. Due to introduced diseases, dietary deficiencies, and forceful reduction, Gabrielino population dwindled rapidly. By 1900, they had almost ceased to exist as a culturally identifiable group (*ibid.*). In recent decades, however, there has been a renaissance of Native American activism and cultural revitalization among a number of groups of Gabrielino descendants.

Prior to European contact, the Serranos were primarily gatherers and hunters, and occasional fishers, who settled mostly where flowing water emerged from the mountains. Bands or groups of Serrano Indians "owned" a creek and neighboring tracts of land, and members of a group would move about their territory to take advantage of different resources at different times. Bands were loosely organized into autonomous lineage-based exogamous clans, led by hereditary heads, and the clans in turn were affiliated with one of two exogamous moieties. The exact nature of the clans, their structure, function, and number are not known, except that each clan was the largest autonomous political and landholding unit, the core of which was the patrilineage. There was no pan-tribal political union among the clans.

Although contact with Europeans may have occurred as early as 1771 or 1772, Spanish influence on Serrano lifeways was negligible until the 1810s, when a mission *asistencia* was established on the southern edge of Serrano territory. Between then and the end of the mission era in 1834, most of the Serranos in the San Bernardino Mountains were moved to the nearby missions. At present, most Serrano descendants are found on the San Manuel and Morongo Indian Reservations, where they participate in ceremonial and political affairs with other Native American groups on a pan-reservation basis.

Historic Context

The San Bernardino Valley, along with the rest of Alta California, was claimed by Spain in the late 18th century, and the first European explorers traveled through the area as early as 1772, only three years after the beginning of Spanish colonization (Schuiling 1984:23). For nearly four decades afterwards, however, the arid inland valley received little attention from the colonizers, who concentrated their efforts along the Pacific coast. Following the establishment of Mission San

Gabriel in 1771, the San Bernardino Valley became a part of the mission's vast land holdings. The name "San Bernardino" was bestowed on the region in the 1810s, when the *asistencia* and an associated mission rancho were established under that name in the eastern end of the valley (*ibid.*:26).

After Mexico gained independence from Spain in 1821, the new authorities in Alta California began to dismantle the mission system in 1834 through the process of secularization. During the next 12 years, former mission ranchos throughout Alta California were surrendered to the Mexican government, and subsequently divided and granted to various prominent citizens of the province. In 1842, the former mission rancho of San Bernardino was granted to members of a prominent Los Angeles family, the Lugos (Schuiling 1984:34). After the American annexation of Alta California in 1848, the Lugos sold the entire land grant in 1851 to a group of Mormon settlers, who promptly founded the town of San Bernardino a few miles to the north of the project location (*ibid.*:45).

Two decades later, in 1873, the Slover Mountain Colony Association bought 2,000 acres of land south of San Bernardino from William Conn (Richards 1996). The following year, the Southern Pacific Railway Company, then in a virtual monopoly on modern transportation in California, entered into an agreement with the association in response to San Bernardino's resistance to its extortion attempts. Pursuant to the agreement, the Southern Pacific established its regional headquarters on land provided by the association, thus creating a new town named after David D. Colton, a railroad official. With the backing of the powerful railroad giant, Colton grew rapidly, and was incorporated as a city in 1887. As the principal transportation hub in the San Bernardino Valley, Colton soon earned the nickname of "the Hub City" (Garrett 1992:16).

Although the railroad clearly played a crucial role in the development and early success of the town, the booming citrus industry that began in nearby Riverside in the mid-1870s also had a major impact. In 1889, the City of Colton claimed to be the leading citrus shipping point in California, with 581 carloads of fruits carried by the Southern Pacific and over 800 carloads in 1890 (Schuiling 1984:91). Since the end of WWII, however, as in numerous other formerly rural towns in southern California, residential and commercial development has been the driving force in the city's growth. Today, Colton has a population of nearly 55,000 and, thanks to the revitalized railroad operations and its location at the junction of the Interstate 10 and 215 freeways, continues to live up to its reputation as "the Hub City."

RESEARCH METHODS

RECORDS SEARCH

On September 7, 2016, CRM TECH archaeologist Nina Gallardo conducted the historical/ archaeological resources records search at the South Central Coastal Information Center (SCCIC) on the campus of California State University, Fullerton. During the records search, Gallardo examined maps and records on file at the SCCIC for previously identified cultural resources in or near the project area and existing cultural resources reports pertaining to the vicinity. Previously identified cultural resources include properties designated as California Historical Landmarks, Points of Historical Interest, or San Bernardino County Landmarks, as well as those listed in the National

Register of Historic Places, the California Register of Historical Resources, or the California Historical Resources Inventory.

NATIVE AMERICAN PARTICIPATION

On September 6, 2016, CRM TECH submitted a written request to the State of California's Native American Heritage Commission for a records search in the commission's sacred lands file. Following the commission's recommendations and previously established consultation protocol, CRM TECH further contacted a total of 41 Native American representatives in the region in writing on September 27 to solicit additional information on potential Native American cultural resources in the project vicinity. The correspondence between CRM TECH and the Native American representatives is attached to this report as Appendix 2.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND RESEARCH

Historical background research for this study was conducted by CRM TECH principal investigator/ historian Bai "Tom" Tang. In addition to published literature in local and regional history, sources consulted during the research included the U.S. General Land Office (GLO) land survey plat maps dated 1873-1878, USGS topographic maps dated 1901-1979, and aerial photographs taken in 1938-2016. The historic maps are collected at the Science Library of the University of California, Riverside, and the California Desert District of the U.S. Bureau of Land Management, located in Moreno Valley. The aerial images are available at the NETR Online website and through the Google Earth software.

FIELD SURVEY

On September 30, 2016, CRM TECH field director Daniel Ballester and project archaeologist Ben Kerridge carried out the intensive-level field survey of the project area. The survey was conducted on foot by walking a series of parallel north-south and east-west transects spaced 15 meters (approximately 50 feet) apart where regular transects are possible. In areas where regular transects are impracticable due to the terrain or vegetation growth, the survey was conducted as close to the original courses of the transects as possible. In this way, the ground surface in the entire project area was systematically and carefully examined for any evidence of human activities dating to the prehistoric or historic period (i.e., 50 years or older). Ground visibility was poor to fair (20 to 70 percent) depending on the density of vegetation growth.

RESULTS AND FINDINGS

RECORDS SEARCH

According to SCCIC records, the project area was covered in its entirety by a previous cultural resources survey completed in 2008 by SWCA Environmental Consultants (Dietler and Ramirez 2008), while a small portion of the project area along the northern boundary may have also overlapped another survey conducted in by Michael Brandman Associates in 2006 (Sanka 2006; Figure 4). Since both of these studies are now more than five years old, the City of Colton required a new survey to be conducted for this project.

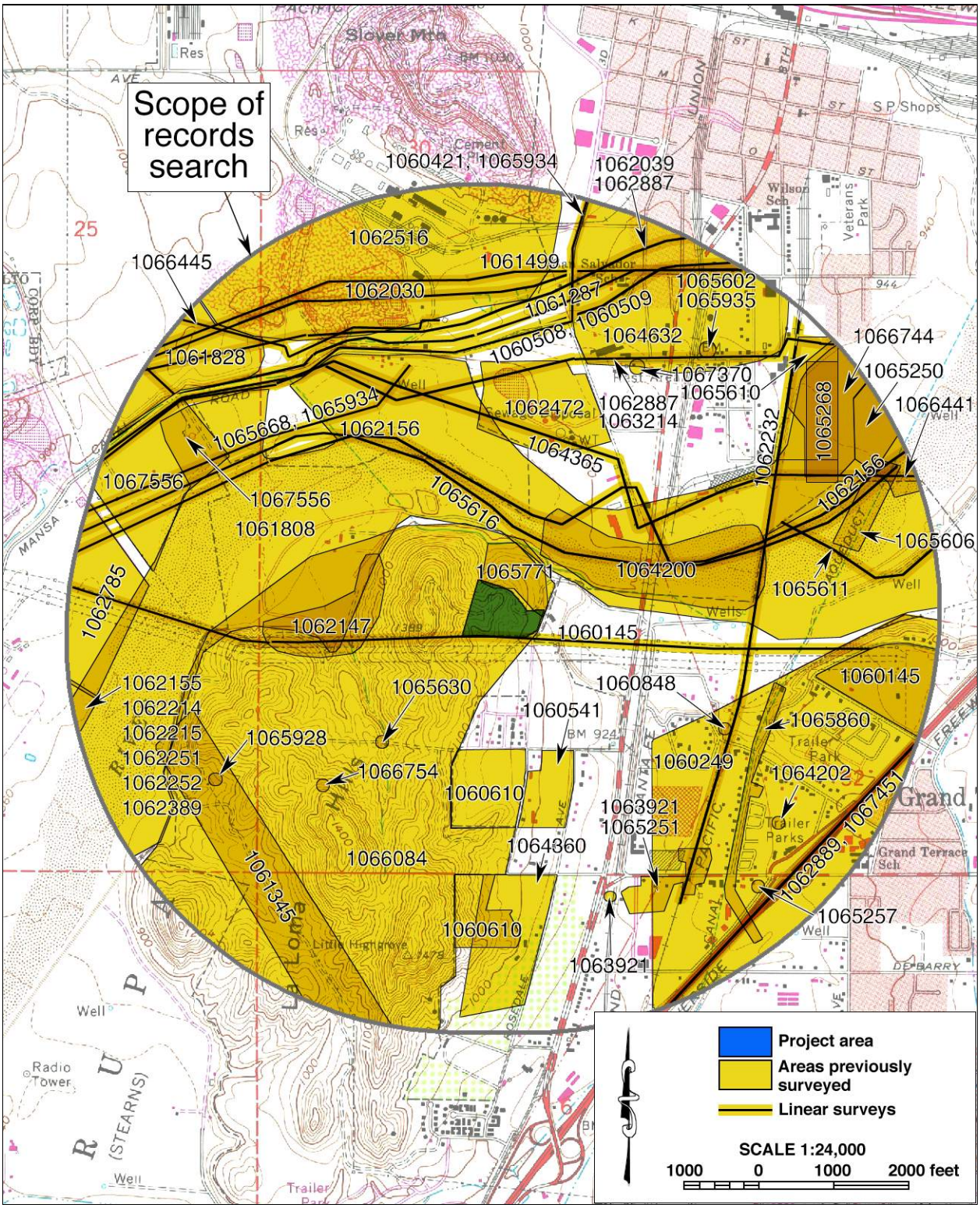


Figure 4. Previous cultural resources studies in the vicinity of the project area, listed by SCCIC file number. Locations of historical/archaeological sites are not shown as a protective measure.

Despite the past survey efforts, no cultural resources were previously recorded within the project area. Outside the project boundaries but within a one-mile radius, SCCIC records show nearly 60 other previous cultural resources studies on various tracts of land and linear features (Figure 4). In all, over 80 percent of the land within the scope of the records search has been surveyed, which resulted in the identification of 46 recorded historical/archaeological sites and 13 pending sites within the one-mile radius (Table 1).

Table 1. Previously Identified Cultural Resources within the Scope of the Records Search

Site No.	Description
36-000144	Pictographs
36-000792	Food-processing site
36-001004	Bedrock milling feature
36-001575	San Salvador School Adobe and lithic scatter
36-001576	Habitation site
36-001577	Camp site
36-002998	Bedrock milling feature
36-004314	Slover Mountain quarry
36-005108	Bedrock milling feature
36-005109	Bedrock milling feature
36-005110	Bedrock milling feature
36-006085	Historic-period foundations
36-006101	Union Pacific Railroad segment
36-006102	Atchison, Topeka, and Santa Fe Railroad bridge
36-006847	Kite-shaped Track of the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railway
36-006859	Historic-period refuse dump
36-007169	Riverside-Warm Creek Canal
36-007172	Riverside Lower Canal
36-007976	Portland Cement Plant
36-012875	Single-family residence
36-012876	Single-family residence
36-013627	Southern Sierras Powerline
36-014273	Commercial building
36-015221	Site of Agua Mansa settlement
36-015223	South Colton Neighborhood Historic District
36-016417	San Bernardino to Sonora Road
36-019807	Bedrock milling feature
36-019811	Bedrock milling feature and lithic scatter
36-019812	Bedrock milling feature
36-019813	Bedrock milling feature
36-021694	Historic-period refuse scatter
36-021706	Single-family residence
36-025600	Sewage treatment plant
36-025601	Single-family residence
36-025602	Single-family residence
36-026050	Devers-Vista 220kV Transmission Line
36-026221	Vista Substation
36-027692	Etiwanda-San Bernardino 220kV Transmission Power Line/Southern California Edison West of Devers (WOD) 230kV Transmission Line
36-027693	Mira Loma-Vista 230kV Transmission Line
36-029032	Rock shelter and stacked rock feature
36-029033	Bedrock milling feature
36-029034	Yoni feature
36-029035	Rock shelter

Table 1. Previously Identified Cultural Resources within the Scope of the Records Search	
Site No.	**Description**
36-029036	Rock shelter
36-029037	Yoni feature
36-029038	Rock shelter
P1074-32H	San Salvador store
P1074-82H	Adobe of Juan Dojil
P1074-88H	Rancheria Ditch
P1074-104H	Meeks/Daley Ditch, ca. 1859
P1074-105H	Meeks/Daley Ditch, ca. 1887
P1074-106H	Agua Mansa Ditch, ca. 1862
P1074-107H	Agua Mansa Ditch, ca. 1887
P1074-109H	Parks Connection, ca. 1892
P1074-110H	San Salvador Ditch
P1074-111H	Jaramillo Ditch
P1074-113H	Trujillo Ditch
P1074-114H	Belarde/Salazar Ditch
P1074-120H	Vivienda Avenue Bridge

Twenty of recorded sites were of prehistoric—i.e., Native American—origin, consisting of bedrock milling features, rock shelters, a few habitation sites, and yoni features. These sites were mostly concentrated among granitic boulder outcrops on the western and southern edges of the La Loma Hills, to the west and the south of the project area, but the nearest prehistoric site, described as a large camp site on the southern bank of the Santa Ana River, was found about 80 feet to the east of the project location. The other 26 recorded sites dated to the historic period and included buildings, bridges, canals, refuse scatters, roads, railroads, power transmission lines, and the South Colton Neighborhood Historic District. The pending sites also dated to the historic period and consisted mainly of irrigation ditches and other water conveyance systems. Since none of these sites was found within the project area, none of them requires further consideration during this study.

NATIVE AMERICAN PARTICIPATION

In response to CRM TECH's inquiry, the Native American Heritage Commission reported in a letter dated September 9, 2016, that the sacred lands record search identified no Native American traditional cultural places in the project area, but recommended that local Native American groups be contacted for further information. For that purpose, the commission provided a list of potential contacts in the region (see Appendix 2). Upon receiving the commission's response, CRM TECH sent written requests for comments to all 32 individuals on the referral list and the organizations they represent (see Appendix 2). In addition, as referred by the appropriate tribal government staff, the following designated spokespersons for the tribes were also contacted:

- David L. Saldivar, Tribal Government Affairs Manager, Augustine Band of Cahuilla Indians
- Judy Stapp, Director of Cultural Affairs, Cabazon Band of Mission Indians
- Andreas Heredia, Cultural Director, Cahuilla Band of Indians
- Sam Dunlap, Cultural Resources Director, Gabrielino Tongva Nation
- Rob Roy, Environmental Director, La Jolla Band of Luiseño Indians
- Raymond Huaute, Cultural Resource Specialist, Morongo Band of Mission Indians
- Chris Devers, Vice-Chairman and Cultural Committee member, Pauma Band of Luiseño Indians

- Vincent Whipple, Culture Resources Manager, Rincon Band of Luiseño Indians
- Gabriella Rubalcava, Environmental Director, Santa Rosa Band of Cahuilla Indians

As of this time, seven tribal representatives have responded in writing (see Appendix 2). Among them, Judy Stapp of the Cabazon Band wrote that the tribe had no specific information on any sites of Native American traditional cultural value in the project area. Leslie Mouriquand, consultant for the San Manuel Band of Mission Indians, recommended that a systematic field survey be conducted in light of the number of previously recorded prehistoric sites within the one-mile radius and requested a copy of this report for tribal review.

Chris Devers of the Pauma Band stated that the project location was outside the tribe's traditional area but requested to be notified of any archaeological findings representing Luiseño culture. The other four tribal representatives, namely Vincent Whipple of the Rincon Band, Katie Croft, Archaeologist with the Tribal Historic Preservation Office of the Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians, Shasta Gaughen, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer for the Pala Band of Mission Indians, and Steven Estrada, Chairman of the Santa Rosa Band of Cahuilla Indians, indicated that they would defer to other tribes in closer proximity to the project location.

HISTORICAL RESEARCH

Historical sources consulted for this study suggest that the project area appears to be relatively low in sensitivity for cultural resources from the historic period. As Figures 5-8 illustrate, the entire project evidently remained unsettled and undeveloped throughout the 1850s-1950s era. In the

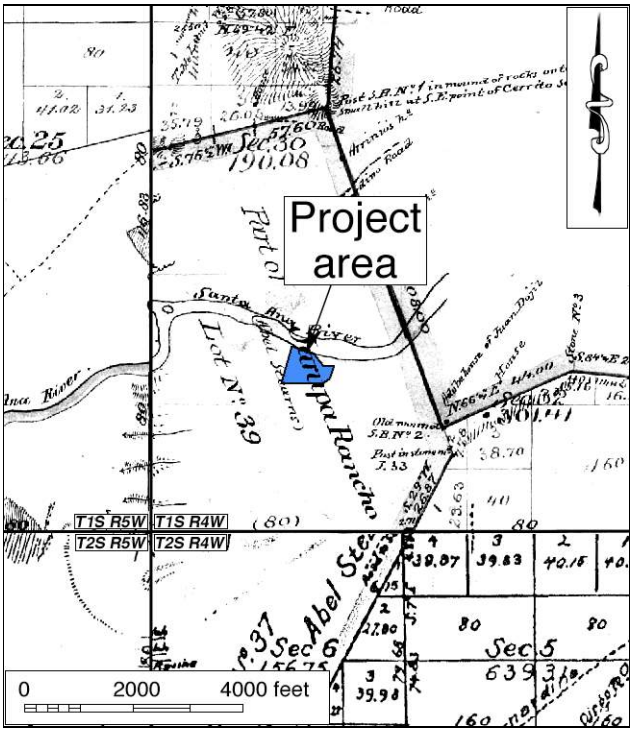


Figure 5. The project area and vicinity in 1852-1878. (Source: GLO 1873; 1876; 1877; 1878)

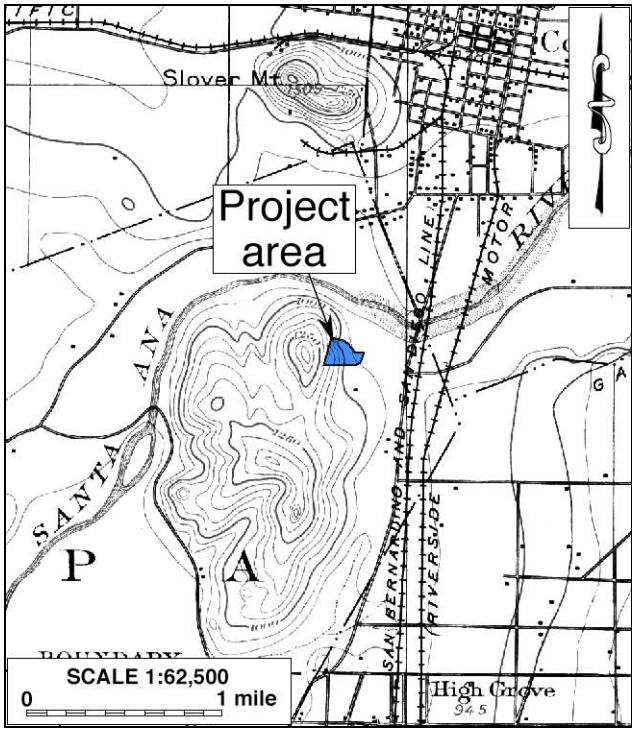


Figure 6. The project area and vicinity in 1893-1894. (Source: USGS 1901)

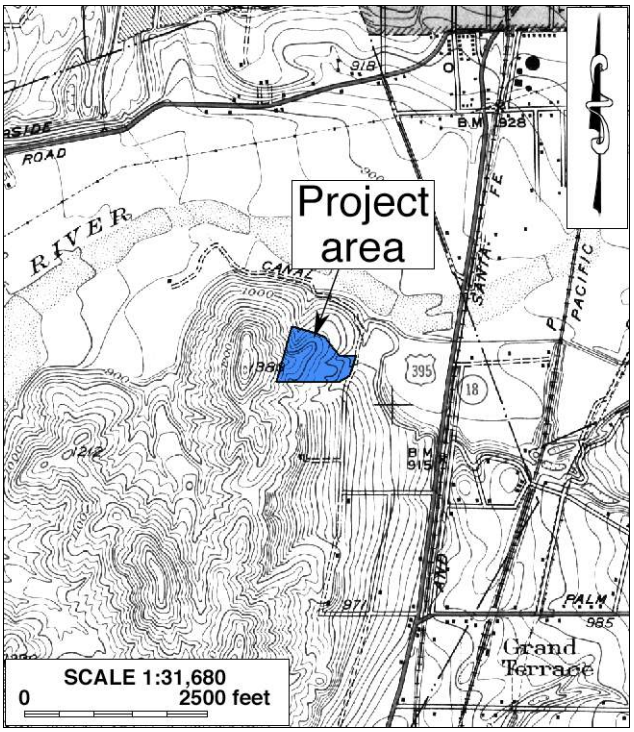


Figure 7. The project area and vicinity in 1936-1938. (Source: USGS 1943)

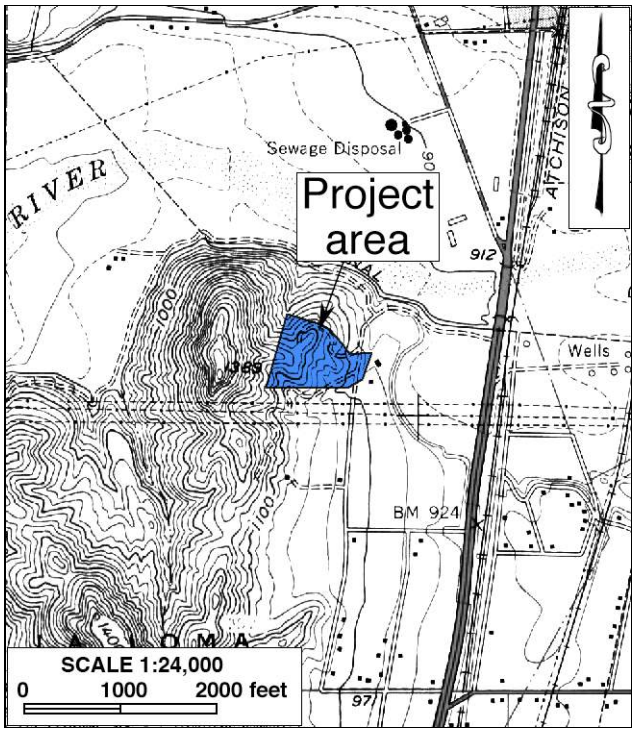


Figure 8. The project area and vicinity in 1952-1954. (Source: USGS 1954)

1930s, a winding dirt road along the eastern edge of the property was the only notable man-made feature present within the project boundaries (NETR Online 1938; Figure 7). By 1948, the hilltop where the existing water tank sits had been leveled, apparently in anticipation of further development, and the access road to the hilltop was also in place (NETR Online 1948). However, the hilltop pad remained unoccupied until the existing water tank was constructed between 1978 and 1980 (NETR Online 1948-1980). The rest of the project area, meanwhile, has remained undeveloped open land to the present time (NETR Online 1980-2012; Google Earth 1995-2016).

FIELD SURVEY

The field survey produced negative results for potential "historical resources." As mentioned above, the ground surface in the project area has been extensively disturbed in the past. Scattered modern refuse items, mostly household discards and automobile parts, were observed over much of the project area, but none of them is of any historical/archaeological interest.

Two segments of riveted metal pipes, measuring four inches in diameter and 86¾ inches and 67 inches in length, respectively, were noted on the ground surface during the field survey. Such isolated and ubiquitous artifacts demonstrate no potential for important historic association or archaeological data, and require no further consideration under CEQA provisions. The existing water tank in the project area, a utilitarian structure of standard design and construction, is modern in origin, dating only to the 1978-1980 era, as discussed above. None of these is considered a potential "historical resource," and thus none of them was recorded as such during the survey.

DISCUSSION

The purpose of this study is to identify any cultural resources within the project area and to assist the City of Colton in determining whether such resources meet the official definition of "historical resources," as provided in the California Public Resources Code, in particular CEQA. According to PRC §5020.1(j), "'historical resource' includes, but is not limited to, any object, building, 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."

More specifically, CEQA guidelines state that the term "historical resources" applies to any such resources listed in or determined to be eligible for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources, included in a local register of historical resources, or determined to be historically significant by the lead agency (Title 14 CCR §15064.5(a)(1)-(3)). Regarding the proper criteria for the evaluation of historical significance, CEQA guidelines mandate that "generally a resource shall be considered by the lead agency to be 'historically significant' if the resource meets the criteria for listing on the California Register of Historical Resources" (Title 14 CCR §15064.5(a)(3)). A resource may be listed in the California Register if it meets any 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. (PRC §5024.1(c))

As discussed above, no potential "historical resources" were previously identified within the project area, and none was found during the present survey. The two segments of metal pipes found during the survey are of unknown age, but appear to date to the historic period. However, such isolated common artifacts, occurring out of depositional context, retain no potential for any important historic association or archaeological data. The existing water tank in the project area is modern in origin and demonstrates no special qualities in terms of architecture, engineering, construction, or aesthetics. Therefore, none of them is considered a potential "historical resource," as defined above. Based on these findings, the present report concludes that no historical resources exist within the project area.

CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

CEQA establishes that "a project that may cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource is a project that may have a significant effect on the environment" (PRC §21084.1). "Substantial adverse change," according to PRC §5020.1(q), "means demolition, destruction, relocation, or alteration such that the significance of a historical resource would be impaired."

In summary of the research results outlined above, no "historical resources," as defined by CEQA, were encountered throughout the course of this study. Therefore, CRM TECH presents the following recommendations to the City of Colton:

- No "historical resources" exist within the project area, and thus the project as currently proposed will not cause a substantial adverse change to any known "historical resources."
- No further cultural resources investigation is necessary for the proposed project unless construction plans undergo such changes as to include areas not covered by this study.
- If buried cultural materials are discovered during any earth-moving operations associated with the project, all work in that area should be halted or diverted until a qualified archaeologist can evaluate the nature and significance of the finds.

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1878 Plat Map: Township No. 2 South Range No. 5 West, San Bernardino Meridian; surveyed in 1853-1878.

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APPENDIX 1:
PERSONNEL QUALIFICATIONS

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR/HISTORIAN
Bai "Tom" Tang, M.A.

Education

1988-1993	Graduate Program in Public History/Historic Preservation, UC Riverside.
1987	M.A., American History, Yale University, New Haven, Connecticut.
1982	B.A., History, Northwestern University, Xi'an, China.
2000	"Introduction to Section 106 Review," presented by the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation and the University of Nevada, Reno.
1994	"Assessing the Significance of Historic Archaeological Sites," presented by the Historic Preservation Program, University of Nevada, Reno.

Professional Experience

2002-	Principal Investigator, CRM TECH, Riverside/Colton, California.
1993-2002	Project Historian/Architectural Historian, CRM TECH, Riverside, California.
1993-1997	Project Historian, Greenwood and Associates, Pacific Palisades, California.
1991-1993	Project Historian, Archaeological Research Unit, UC Riverside.
1990	Intern Researcher, California State Office of Historic Preservation, Sacramento.
1990-1992	Teaching Assistant, History of Modern World, UC Riverside.
1988-1993	Research Assistant, American Social History, UC Riverside.
1985-1988	Research Assistant, Modern Chinese History, Yale University.
1985-1986	Teaching Assistant, Modern Chinese History, Yale University.
1982-1985	Lecturer, History, Xi'an Foreign Languages Institute, Xi'an, China.

Honors and Awards

1988-1990	University of California Graduate Fellowship, UC Riverside.
1985-1987	Yale University Fellowship, Yale University Graduate School.
1980, 1981	President's Honor List, Northwestern University, Xi'an, China.

Cultural Resources Management Reports

Preliminary Analyses and Recommendations Regarding California's Cultural Resources Inventory System (with Special Reference to Condition 14 of NPS 1990 Program Review Report). California State Office of Historic Preservation working paper, Sacramento, September 1990.

Numerous cultural resources management reports with the Archaeological Research Unit, Greenwood and Associates, and CRM TECH, since October 1991.

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR/ARCHAEOLOGIST
Michael Hogan, Ph.D., RPA*

Education

1991	Ph.D., Anthropology, University of California, Riverside.
1981	B.S., Anthropology, University of California, Riverside; with honors.
1980-1981	Education Abroad Program, Lima, Peru.
2002	Section 106—National Historic Preservation Act: Federal Law at the Local Level. UCLA Extension Course #888.
2002	"Recognizing Historic Artifacts," workshop presented by Richard Norwood, Historical Archaeologist.
2002	"Wending Your Way through the Regulatory Maze," symposium presented by the Association of Environmental Professionals.
1992	"Southern California Ceramics Workshop," presented by Jerry Schaefer.
1992	"Historic Artifact Workshop," presented by Anne Duffield-Stoll.

Professional Experience

2002-	Principal Investigator, CRM TECH, Riverside/Colton, California.
1999-2002	Project Archaeologist/Field Director, CRM TECH, Riverside.
1996-1998	Project Director and Ethnographer, Statistical Research, Inc., Redlands.
1992-1998	Assistant Research Anthropologist, University of California, Riverside
1992-1995	Project Director, Archaeological Research Unit, U. C. Riverside.
1993-1994	Adjunct Professor, Riverside Community College, Mt. San Jacinto College, U.C. Riverside, Chapman University, and San Bernardino Valley College.
1991-1992	Crew Chief, Archaeological Research Unit, U. C. Riverside.
1984-1998	Archaeological Technician, Field Director, and Project Director for various southern California cultural resources management firms.

Research Interests

Cultural Resource Management, Southern Californian Archaeology, Settlement and Exchange Patterns, Specialization and Stratification, Culture Change, Native American Culture, Cultural Diversity.

Cultural Resources Management Reports

Author and co-author of, contributor to, and principal investigator for numerous cultural resources management study reports since 1986.

Memberships

* Register of Professional Archaeologists; Society for American Archaeology; Society for California Archaeology; Pacific Coast Archaeological Society; Coachella Valley Archaeological Society.

PROJECT ARCHAEOLOGIST/FIELD DIRECTOR
Daniel Ballester, M.S.

Education

2013	M.S., Geographic Information System (GIS), University of Redlands, California.
1998	B.A., Anthropology, California State University, San Bernardino.
1997	Archaeological Field School, University of Las Vegas and University of California, Riverside.
1994	University of Puerto Rico, Rio Piedras, Puerto Rico.
2007	Certificate in Geographic Information Systems (GIS), California State University, San Bernardino.
2002	"Historic Archaeology Workshop," presented by Richard Norwood, Base Archaeologist, Edwards Air Force Base; presented at CRM TECH, Riverside, California.

Professional Experience

2002-	Field Director/GIS Specialist, CRM TECH, Riverside/Colton, California.
1999-2002	Project Archaeologist, CRM TECH, Riverside, California.
1998-1999	Field Crew, K.E.A. Environmental, San Diego, California.
1998	Field Crew, A.S.M. Affiliates, Encinitas, California.
1998	Field Crew, Archaeological Research Unit, University of California, Riverside.

PROJECT ARCHAEOLOGIST
Nina Gallardo, B.A.

Education

2004	B.A., Anthropology/Law and Society, University of California, Riverside.

Honors and Awards

2000	Dean's Honors List, University of California, Riverside.

Professional Experience

2004-	Project Archaeologist, CRM TECH, Riverside/Colton, California.

PROJECT ARCHAEOLOGIST/REPORT WRITER
Ben Kerridge, M.A.

Education

2014 Archaeological Field School, Institute for Field Research, Kephallenia, Greece.
2010 M.A., Anthropology, California State University, Fullerton.
2009 Project Management Training, Project Management Institute/CH2M HILL.
2004 B.A., Anthropology, California State University, Fullerton.

Professional Experience

2015- Project Archaeologist/Report Writer, CRM TECH, Colton, California.
2015 Teaching Assistant, Institute for Field Research, Kephallenia, Greece.
2009-2014 Publications Delivery Manager, CH2M HILL, Santa Ana, California.
2010- Naturalist, Newport Bay Conservancy, Newport Beach, California.

Cultural Resources Management Reports

Co-author and contributor to numerous cultural resources management reports since 2013.

Memberships

Society for California Archaeology; Pacific Coast Archaeological Society

APPENDIX 2

CORRESPONDENCE WITH NATIVE AMERICAN REPRESENTATIVES*

* 41 local Native American representatives were contacted; a sample letter is included in this report.

SACRED LANDS FILE & NATIVE AMERICAN CONTACTS LIST REQUEST
NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE COMMISSION

1550 Harbor Blvd., Suite 100
West Sacramento, CA 95691
(916)373-3710
(916)373-5471 Fax
nahc@pacbell.net

Project: Proposed 4 MG Water Reservoir Project (CRM TECH Contract No. 3122)

County: San Bernardino

USGS Quadrangle Name: San Bernardino South, Calif.

Township 1 South **Range** 4 West SB **BM; Section(s)** Rancho Jurupa (Stearns) land grant

Company/Firm/Agency: CRM TECH

Contact Person: Nina Gallardo

Street Address: 1016 E. Cooley Drive, Suite A/B

City: Colton, CA **Zip:** 92324

Phone: (909) 824-6400 **Fax:** (909) 824-6405

Email: ngallardo@crmtech.us

Project Description: The primary component of the project is to construct a 4 MG water reservoir in the La Loma Hills area in the southwest portion of the City of Colton, San Bernardino County, California.

September 6, 2016

STATE OF CALIFORNIA Edmund G. Brown, Jr., Governor

NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE COMMISSION
1550 Harbor Blvd., Suite 100
West Sacramento, CA 95691
(916) 373-3710
(916) 373-5471 FAX

September 9, 2016

Nina Gallardo
CRM TECH

Sent by E-mail: ngallardo@crmtech.us

RE: Proposed 4 MG Water Reservoir Project (CRM TECH Contract No. 3122), City of Colton; San Bernardino South USGS Quadrangle, San Bernardino County, California

Dear Ms. Gallardo:

Attached is a contact list of tribes with traditional lands or cultural places located within the boundaries of the above referenced counties. A search of the SFL was completed for the USGS quadrangle information provided with negative results.

Our records indicate that the lead agency for this project has not requested a Native American Consultation List for the purposes of formal consultation. Lists for cultural resource assessments are different than consultation lists. Please note that the intent of the referenced codes below is to avoid or mitigate impacts to tribal cultural resources, as defined, for California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) projects under AB-52.

As of July 1, 2015, Public Resources Code Sections 21080.3.1 and 21080.3.2 **require public agencies** to consult with California Native American tribes identified by the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) for the purpose mitigating impacts to tribal cultural resources:

> **Within 14 days** of determining that an application for a project is complete or a decision by a public agency to undertake a project, the lead agency shall provide formal notification to the designated contact of, or a tribal representative of, traditionally and culturally affiliated California Native American tribes that have requested notice, which shall be accomplished by means of at least one written notification that includes a brief description of the proposed project and its location, the lead agency contact information, and a notification that the California Native American tribe has 30 days to request consultation pursuant to this section. (Public Resources Code Section 21080.3.1(d))

The law does not preclude agencies from initiating consultation with the tribes that are culturally and traditionally affiliated with their jurisdictions. The NAHC believes that in fact that this is the best practice to ensure that tribes are consulted commensurate with the intent of the law.

In accordance with Public Resources Code Section 21080.3.1(d), formal notification must include a brief description of the proposed project and its location, the lead agency contact information, and a notification that the California Native American tribe has 30 days to request consultation. The NAHC believes that agencies should also include with their notification letters information regarding any cultural resources assessment that has been completed on the 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 have already been recorded on or adjacent to the APE;
   - 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;
   - If the probability is low, moderate, or high that cultural resources are located in the APE.

- Whether the records search indicates a low, moderate or high probability that unrecorded cultural resources are located in the potential 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 measurers.
   - 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 pubic disclosure in accordance with Government Code Section 6254.10.

3. The results of any Sacred Lands File (SFL) check conducted through Native American Heritage Commission.

4. Any ethnographic studies conducted for any area including all or part of the potential APE; and

5. Any geotechnical reports regarding all or part of the potential APE.

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

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

The results of these searches and surveys should be included in the "Tribal Cultural Resources" subsection of the Cultural Resources section of the environmental document submitted for review.

If you receive notification of change of addresses and phone numbers from tribes, please notify me. With your assistance we are able to assure that our consultation list contains current information.

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

Sincerely,

Gayle Totton, M.A., PhD.
Associate Governmental Program Analyst

Native American Heritage Commission
Native American Contact List
San Bernardino County
9/9/2016

Gabrieleno Band of Mission Indians - Kizh Nation
Andrew Salas, Chairperson
P.O. Box 393
Covina, CA, 91723
Phone: (626)926-4131
gabrielenoindians@yahoo.com

duplicate

Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians
Patricia Garcia-Plotkin, Director
5401 Dinah Shore Drive — Cahuilla
Palm Springs, CA, 92264 — Luiseno
Phone: (760) 699 - 6907
Fax: (760) 699-6924
ACBCI-THPO@aguacaliente.net

Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians
Jeff Grubbe, Chairperson
5401 Dinah Shore Drive — Cahuilla
Palm Springs, CA, 92264 — Luiseno
Phone: (760) 699 - 6800
Fax: (760) 699-6919

Augustine Band of Cahuilla Mission Indians
Amanda Vance, Chairperson
P.O. Box 846 — Cahuilla
Coachella, CA, 92236
Phone: (760)398-4722
Fax: (760)369-7161

Cabazon Band of Mission Indians
Doug Welmas, Chairperson
84-245 Indio Springs Parkway — Cahuilla
Indio, CA, 92203
Phone: (760)342-2593
Fax: (760)347-7880

Cahuilla Band of Indians
Luther Salgado, Chairperson
52701 U.S. Highway 371 — Cahuilla
Anza, CA, 92539
Phone: (951) 763 - 5549
Fax: (951) 763-2808
Chairman@cahuilla.net

Gabrieleno Band of Mission Indians - Kizh Nation
Andrew Salas, Chairperson
P.O. Box 393 — Gabrielino
Covina, CA, 91723
Phone: (626)926-4131
gabrielenoindians@yahoo.com

Gabrieleno/Tongva San Gabriel Band of Mission Indians
Anthony Morales, Chairperson
P.O. Box 693 — Gabrielino
San Gabriel, CA, 91778
Phone: (626) 483 - 3564
Fax: (626)286-1262
GTTribalcouncil@aol.com

Gabrielino /Tongva Nation
Sandonne Goad, Chairperson
106 1/2 Judge John Aiso St., #231 — Gabrielino
Los Angeles, CA, 90012
Phone: (951)807-0479
sgoad@gabrielino-tongva.com

Gabrielino Tongva Indians of California Tribal Council
Robert F. Dorame, Chairperson
P.O. Box 490 — Gabrielino
Bellflower, CA, 90707
Phone: (562)761-6417
Fax: (562)761-6417
gtongva@verizon.net

Gabrielino-Tongva Tribe
Linda Candelaria, Co-Chairperson
1999 Avenue of the Stars, Suite 1100 — Gabrielino
Los Angeles, CA, 90067
Phone: (626) 676 - 1184

La Jolla Band of Luiseno Indians
Thomas Rodriguez, Chairperson
22000 Highway 76 — Luiseno
Pauma Valley, CA, 92061
Phone: (760)742-3771

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

This list is only applicable for contacting local Native Americans with regard to cultural resources assessment for the proposed 4 MG Water Reservoir Project (CRM TECH Contract No. 3122), San Bernardino County.

Native American Heritage Commission
Native American Contact List
San Bernardino County
9/9/2016

Los Coyotes Band of Mission Indians
Shane Chapparosa, Chairperson
P.O. Box 189 — Cahuilla
Warner Springs, CA, 92086-0189
Phone: (760)782-0711
Fax: (760)782-0712
Chapparosa@msn.com

Los Coyotes Band of Mission Indians
John Perada, Environmental Director
P. O. Box 189 — Cahuilla
Warner Springs, CA, 92086
Phone: (760) 782 - 0712
Fax: (760) 782-2730

Morongo Band of Mission Indians
Robert Martin, Chairperson
12700 Pumarra Rroad — Cahuilla
Banning, CA, 92220 — Serrano
Phone: (951)849-8807
Fax: (951)922-8146

Pala Band of Mission Indians
Shasta Gaughen, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer
PMB 50, 35008 Pala Temecula Rd. — Cupeno, Luiseno
Pala, CA, 92059
Phone: (760) 891 - 3515
Fax: (760) 742-3189
sgaughen@palatribe.com

Pauma Band of Luiseno Indians - Pauma & Yuima Reservation
Temet Aguilar, Chairperson
P.O. Box 369, Ext. 303 — Luiseno
Pauma Valley, CA, 92061
Phone: (760)742-1289
Fax: (760)742-3422

Pechanga Band of Mission Indians
Anna Hoover, Cultural Analyst
P. O. Box 2183 — Luiseno
Temecula, CA, 92593
Phone: (951) 770 - 8104
Fax: (951) 694-0446
ahoover@pechanga-nsn.gov

Pechanga Band of Mission Indians
Mark Macarro, Chairperson
P.O. Box 1477 — Luiseno
Temecula, CA, 92593
Phone: (951) 770 - 6000
Fax: (951) 695-1778
striplett@pechanga-nsn.gov

Pechanga Band of Mission Indians
Paul Macarro, Cultural Resources Manager
P.O. Box 1477 — Luiseno
Temecula, CA, 92593
Phone: (951) 770 - 8100
Fax: (951) 506-9491
pmacarro@pechanga-nsn.gov

Ramona Band of Cahuilla Mission Indians
Joseph Hamilton, Chairperson
P.O. Box 391670 — Cahuilla
Anza, CA, 92539
Phone: (951)763-4105
Fax: (951)763-4325
admin@ramonatribe.com

Ramona Band of Cahuilla Mission Indians
John Gomez, Environmental Coordinator
P. O. Box 391670 — Cahuilla
Anza, CA, 92539
Phone: (951) 763 - 4105
Fax: (951) 763-4325
jgomez@ramonatribe.com

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This list is only applicable for contacting local Native Americans with regard to cultural resources assessment for the proposed 4 MG Water Reservoir Project (CRM TECH Contract No. 3122), San Bernardino County.

Native American Heritage Commission
Native American Contact List
San Bernardino County
9/9/2016

Rincon Band of Mission Indians
Jim McPherson, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer
1 West Tribal Road — Luiseno
Valley Center, CA, 92082
Phone: (760)749-1051
Fax: (760)749-5144
vwhipple@rincontribe.org

Rincon Band of Mission Indians
Bo Mazzetti, Chairperson
1 West Tribal Road — Luiseno
Valley Center, CA, 92082
Phone: (760)749-1051
Fax: (760)749-5144
bomazzetti@aol.com

San Fernando Band of Mission Indians
John Valenzuela, Chairperson
P.O. Box 221838 — Kitanemuk
Newhall, CA, 91322 — Serrano
Phone: (760) 885 - 0955 — Tataviam
tsen2u@hotmail.com

San Luis Rey Band of Mission Indians
1889 Sunset Drive — Luiseno
Vista, CA, 92081
Phone: (760) 724 - 8505
Fax: (760) 724-2172
cjmojado@slrmissionindians.org

San Luis Rey Band of Mission Indians
San Luis Rey, Tribal Council
1889 Sunset Drive — Luiseno
Vista, CA, 92081
Phone: (760)724-8505
Fax: (760)724-2172
cjmojado@slrmissionindians.org

San Manuel Band of Mission Indians
Lee Clauss, Director of Cultural Resources
26569 Community Center Drive — Serrano
Highland, CA, 92346
Phone: (909) 864 - 8933
Fax: (909) 864-3370
lclauss@sanmanuel-nsn.gov

Santa Rosa Band of Mission Indians
Steven Estrada, Chairperson
P.O. Box 391820 — Cahuilla
Anza, CA, 92539
Phone: (951)659-2700
Fax: (951)659-2228

Serrano Nation of Mission Indians
Goldie Walker, Chairperson
P.O. Box 343 — Serrano
Patton, CA, 92369
Phone: (909)528-9027

Soboba Band of Luiseno Indians
Joseph Ontiveros, Cultural Resource Department
P.O. BOX 487 — Cahuilla
San Jacinto, CA, 92581 — Luiseno
Phone: (951)663-5279
Fax: (951)654-4198
jontiveros@soboba-nsn.gov

Soboba Band of Luiseno Indians
Carrie Garcia, Cultural Resources Manager
P. O. Box 487 — Cahuilla
San Jacinto, CA, 92583 — Luiseno
Phone: (951)654-2765
Fax: (951)654-4198
carrieg@soboba-nsn.gov

Torres-Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians
Michael Mirelez, Cultural Resource Coordinator
P.O. Box 1160 — Cahuilla
Thermal, CA, 92274
Phone: (760)399-0022,Ext.1213
Fax: (760)397-8146
mmirelez@tmdci.org

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

This list is only applicable for contacting local Native Americans with regard to cultural resources assessment for the proposed 4 MG Water Reservoir Project (CRM TECH Contract No. 3122), San Bernardino County.

Native American Heritage Commission
Native American Contact List
San Bernardino County
9/9/2016

Torres-Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians
Mary Resvaloso, Chairperson
P.O. Box 1160 Cahuilla
Thermal, CA, 92274
Phone: (760)397-0300
Fax: (760)397-8146
tmchair@torresmartinez.org

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

This list is only applicable for contacting local Native Americans with regard to cultural resources assessment for the proposed 4 MG Water Reservoir Project (CRM TECH Contract No. 3122), San Bernardino County.

September 27, 2016

Jeff Grubbe, Chairperson
Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians
5401 Dinah Shore Drive
Palm Springs, CA 92264

RE: 4 MG Water Reservoir Project; APNs 0163-351-23, and -28
12.6 Acres in the La Loma Hills Area of the City of Colton
San Bernardino County, California
CRM TECH Contract #3122

Dear Mr. Grubbe:

I am writing to bring to your attention an ongoing CEQA-compliance study for the proposed project referenced above. The project entails the construction of a 4-million-gallon water reservoir/tank next to an existing tank on approximately 12.6 acres located near Bostick Avenue and Tropica Rancho Road, in the La Loma Hills area in the southwest portion of the City of Colton. The accompanying map, based on the USGS San Bernardino South, Calif., 7.5' quadrangle, depicts the location of the project area lying within the Rancho Jurupa (Stearns) land grant, T1S R4W, SBBM.

According to records on file at the South Central Coastal Information Center (SCCIC), there are no known historical/archaeological sites within the boundaries of the project area. Outside the project boundaries but within a one-mile radius, SCCIC records show 46 historical/archaeological sites and 13 pending sites were previously identified. About 20 of the recorded sites were of prehistoric—i.e., Native American—origin, consisting of bedrock milling features, rock shelters, a few habitation sites, and yoni features. These sites were concentrated among granitic boulder outcrops in the La Loma Hills and along the Santa Ana River, to the southwest of the project area. Nearest among them to the project area was a large camp site recorded along the Santa Ana River, about 80 feet to the east. The other 26 recorded sites dated to the historic period and included buildings, bridges, canals, refuse scatters, roads, power transmission lines, the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railroad, and South Colton Neighborhood Historic District. The pending sites also dated to the historic period and consisted mainly of irrigation ditches and other water conveyance systems.

In a letter dated September 9, 2016, the Native American Heritage Commission reports that the sacred lands record search identified no Native American cultural resources within the project area, but recommends that local Native American groups be contacted for further information (see attached). Therefore, as part of the cultural resources study for this project, I am writing to request your input on potential Native American cultural resources in or near the project area.

Please respond at your earliest convenience if you have any specific knowledge of sacred/religious sites or other sites of Native American traditional cultural value in or near the project area to consider as part of the cultural resources investigation. Any information or concerns may be forwarded to CRM TECH by telephone, e-mail, facsimile, or standard mail. Requests for documentation or information we cannot provide will be forwarded to our client and/or the lead agency, namely the City of Colton. We would also like to clarify that CRM TECH, as the cultural

resources consultant for the project, is not the appropriate entity to initiate government-to-government consultations or the AB 52-compliance process. Thank you for your time and effort in addressing this important matter.

Respectfully,

Nina Gallardo
Project Archaeologist/Native American liaison
CRM TECH
Email: ngallardo@crmtech.us

Encl.: NAHC response letter and project location map

From: Steven Estrada <SEstrada@santarosacahuilla-nsn.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, September 28, 2016 9:24 PM
To: Nina Gallardo
Subject: Re: NA Scoping Letter for the 4 MG Water Reservoir Project; APNs 0163-351-23, and -28 in the La Loma Hills Area of the City of Colton, San Bernardino County (CRM TECH #3122)

Hello Nina,

Thank you for your consultation efforts. At this time, the Santa Rosa Band of Cahuilla Indians defers further consultation to the Soboba Band of Luiseño Indians and their Cultural Resources Department.

Steven Estrada

From: SMConsultation <SMConsultation@sanmanuel-nsn.gov>
Sent: Thursday, September 29, 2016 3:58 PM
To: Nina Gallardo
Subject: RE: NA Scoping Letter for the 4 MG Water Reservoir Project; APNs 0163-351-23, and -28 in the La Loma Hills Area of the City of Colton, San Bernardino County (CRM TECH #3122)

Nina,

Is your office doing a field survey of this project? Given that there are recorded prehistoric site within the one-mile radius, I recommend that a field survey e done. Please forward a copy of the report and records search results to this office for our information.

Thank you,
Leslie Mouriquand MA, RPA
Consultant

From: THPO Consulting <ACBCI-THPO@aguacaliente.net>
Sent: Friday, September 30, 2016 8:28 AM

To: 'Nina Gallardo'; THPO Consulting; dlsaldivar@augustinetribe.com; jstapp@cabazonindians-nsn.gov; chairman@cahuilla.net; cultural@cahuilla.net; gabrielinoindians@yahoo.com; GTTribalcouncil@aol.com; samdunlap@earthlink.net; gtongva@verizon.net; thomas.rodrigues@lajolla-nsn.gov; rob.roy@lajolla-nsn.gov; Chapprosa@msn.com; Rhuaute@morongo-nsn.gov; rmartin@morongo-nsn.gov; Shasta Gaughen; sgoad@gabrielino-tongva.com; Cultural; ahoover@pechanga-nsn.gov; pmacarro@pechanga-nsn.gov; admin@ramonatribe.com; jgomez@ramonatribe.com; bomazzetti@aol. com; vwhipple@rincontribe.org; tsen2u@hotmail.com; cjmorado@slrmissionindians.org; Leslie Mouriquand; grubalcava@santarosacahuilla-nsn.gov; sestrada@santarosacahuilla-nsn.gov; 'Joseph Ontiveros'; 'Jessica Valdez'; Michael Mirelez; Mary Resvaloso
Subject: RE: NA Scoping Letter for the 4 MG Water Reservoir Project; APNs 0163-351-23, and -28 in the La Loma Hills Area of the City of Colton, San Bernardino County (CRM TECH #3122)

Greetings,

A records check of the ACBCI cultural registry revealed that this project is not located within the Tribe's Traditional Use Area (TUA). Therefore, we defer to the other tribes in the area. This letter shall conclude our consultation efforts.

Thank you,

Katie Croft
Archaeologist
Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians

From: Cultural <Cultural@pauma-nsn.gov>
Sent: Monday, October 3, 2016 10:45 AM
To: Nina Gallardo
Cc: Dixon, Patti; Jeremy Zagarella
Subject: RE: NA Scoping Letter for the 4 MG Water Reservoir Project; APNs 0163-351-23, and -28 in the La Loma Hills Area of the City of Colton, San Bernardino County (CRM TECH #3122)

Ms. Gallardo,

Thank you for the notice. This project is outside of Pauma's traditional area. If there are any findings that represent our Luiseno culture please lets us know.

Thank you,

Mr. Chris Devers
Vice Chairman
Pauma Band of Luiseno Indians

October 4, 2016

Nina Gallardo
CRM TECH
1016 E. Cooley Drive, Suite A/B
Colton, CA 92324

Re.: 4MG Water Reservoir Project; APNs 0163-351-23, and -28
12.6 Acres in the La Loma Hills Area of the City of Colton
San Bernardino County, California
CRM TECH Contract #3122

Dear Ms. Gallardo:

Thank you for contacting the Cabazon Band of Mission Indians concerning cultural resource information relative to the above referenced project.

The project is located outside of the Tribe's current reservation boundaries. The Tribe has no specific archival information on the site indicating that it may be a sacred/religious site or other site of Native American traditional cultural value within the project area.

We look forward to continued collaboration in the preservation of cultural resources or areas of traditional cultural importance.

Best regards,

Judy Stapp
Director of Cultural Affairs

OCT 06 2016

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PALA TRIBAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE

PMB 50, 35008 Pala Temecula Road
Pala, CA 92059
760-891-3510 Office | 760-742-3189 Fax

PALA THPO

October 4, 2016

Nina Gallardo
CRM Tech
1016 E. Cooley Drive, Suite A/B
Colton, CA 92324

Re: 4 MG Water Reservoir Project- CRM Tech Contract #3122

Dear Mrs. Gallardo:

The Pala Band of Mission Indians Tribal Historic Preservation Office has received your notification of the project referenced above. This letter constitutes our response on behalf of Robert Smith, Tribal Chairman.

We have consulted our maps and determined that the project as described is not within the boundaries of the recognized Pala Indian Reservation. The project is also beyond the boundaries of the territory that the tribe considers its Traditional Use Area (TUA). Therefore, we have no objection to the continuation of project activities as currently planned and we defer to the wishes of Tribes in closer proximity to the project area.

We appreciate involvement with your initiative and look forward to working with you on future efforts. If you have questions or need additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me by telephone at 760-891-3515 or by e-mail at sgaughen@palatribe.com.

Sincerely,

Shasta C. Gaughen, PhD
Tribal Historic Preservation Officer
Pala Band of Mission Indians

ATTENTION: THE PALA TRIBAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE IS RESPONSIBLE FOR ALL REQUESTS FOR CONSULTATION. PLEASE ADDRESS CORRESPONDENCE TO **SHASTA C. GAUGHEN** AT THE ABOVE ADDRESS. IT IS NOT NECESSARY TO ALSO SEND NOTICES TO PALA TRIBAL CHAIRMAN ROBERT SMITH.

RINCON BAND OF LUISEÑO INDIANS

Cultural Resources Department

1 W. Tribal Road · Valley Center, California 92082 ·
(760) 297-2635 Fax:(760) 749-2639

October 6, 2016

Nina Gallardo
CRM Tech
1016 E. Cooley Drive, Suite A/B
Colton, CA 92324

Re: 4MG Water Reservoir Project No. 3122

Dear Ms. Gallardo:

This letter is written on behalf of Rincon Band of Luiseño Indians. We have received your notification regarding the 4MG Water Reservoir Project No. 3122 and we thank you for the consultation notification. The location you have identified is within the Territory of the Luiseño people.

Embedded in the Luiseño Territory are Rincon's history, culture and identity. The project is within the Luiseño Aboriginal Territory of the Luiseño people however, it is not within Rincon's Historic Boundaries. We do not have any additional information regarding this project but, we defer this project to the Pechanga Band of Luiseño Indians or Soboba Band of Luiseño Indians who are located closer to your project area.

Thank you for the opportunity to protect and preserve our cultural assets.

Sincerely,

Vincent Whipple
Manager
Rincon Cultural Resources Department

OCT 21 2016

Bo Mazzetti, Tribal Chairman | Stephanie Spencer, Vice Chairwoman | Steve Stallings, Council Member | Laurie E. Gonzalez, Council Member | Alfonso Kolb, Council Member

APPENDIX D

AIR QUALITY CALCULATIONS

3.0 MG La Loma No. 2 Reservoir Summary Report

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1. Basic Project Information

1.1. Basic Project Information

Data Field	Value
Project Name	3.0 MG La Loma No. 2 Reservoir
Construction Start Date	9/2/2026
Operational Year	2027
Lead Agency	—
Land Use Scale	Project/site
Analysis Level for Defaults	County
Windspeed (m/s)	2.20
Precipitation (days)	14.2
Location	34.04385908848714, -117.33826121482855
County	San Bernardino-South Coast
City	Colton
Air District	South Coast AQMD
Air Basin	South Coast
TAZ	5343
EDFZ	10
Electric Utility	Colton Electric Utility Department
Gas Utility	Southern California Gas
App Version	2022.1.1.29

1.2. Land Use Types

Land Use Subtype	Size	Unit	Lot Acreage	Building Area (sq ft)	Landscape Area (sq ft)	Special Landscape Area (sq ft)	Population	Description
General Light Industry	50.0	1000sqft	1.15	50,000	0.00	—	—	—

1.3. User-Selected Emission Reduction Measures by Emissions Sector

Sector	#	Measure Title
Construction	C-3	Use Local Construction Contractors
Construction	C-10-B	Water Active Demolition Sites
Construction	C-11	Limit Vehicle Speeds on Unpaved Roads

2. Emissions Summary

2.1. Construction Emissions Compared Against Thresholds

Criteria Pollutants (lb/day for daily, ton/yr for annual) and GHGs (lb/day for daily, MT/yr for annual)

Un/Mit.	TOG	ROG	NOx	CO	SO2	PM10E	PM10D	PM10T	PM2.5E	PM2.5D	PM2.5T	BCO2	NBCO2	CO2T	CH4	N2O	R	CO2e
Daily, Summer (Max)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Unmit.	46.5	46.5	13.0	15.5	0.02	0.51	0.34	0.67	0.47	0.08	0.51	—	2,666	2,666	0.11	0.06	1.48	2,678
Mit.	46.5	46.5	13.0	15.5	0.02	0.51	0.34	0.67	0.47	0.08	0.50	—	2,662	2,662	0.11	0.06	1.45	2,673
% Reduced	—	—	< 0.5%	< 0.5%	—	—	2%	1%	—	2%	< 0.5%	—	< 0.5%	< 0.5%	—	—	2%	< 0.5%
Daily, Winter (Max)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Unmit.	4.58	3.83	32.9	38.0	0.06	1.38	13.9	15.3	1.27	6.57	7.84	—	7,057	7,057	0.28	0.11	0.06	7,096
Mit.	4.58	3.83	32.9	37.9	0.06	1.38	13.9	15.3	1.27	6.56	7.83	—	7,044	7,044	0.28	0.11	0.06	7,083
% Reduced	< 0.5%	—	< 0.5%	< 0.5%	—	—	< 0.5%	< 0.5%	—	< 0.5%	< 0.5%	—	< 0.5%	< 0.5%	—	—	2%	< 0.5%
Average Daily (Max)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Unmit.	1.79	1.70	3.48	4.56	0.01	0.12	0.84	0.96	0.11	0.39	0.50	—	931	931	0.04	0.02	0.26	940
Mit.	1.79	1.70	3.48	4.55	0.01	0.12	0.84	0.96	0.11	0.39	0.50	—	928	928	0.04	0.02	0.25	937

% Reduced	—	—	—	< 0.5%	—	—	< 0.5%	< 0.5%	—	—	—	—	< 0.5%	< 0.5%	—	—	2%	< 0.5%
Annual (Max)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Unmit.	0.33	0.31	0.64	0.83	< 0.005	0.02	0.15	0.18	0.02	0.07	0.09	—	154	154	0.01	< 0.005	0.04	156
Mit.	0.33	0.31	0.63	0.83	< 0.005	0.02	0.15	0.18	0.02	0.07	0.09	—	154	154	0.01	< 0.005	0.04	155
% Reduced	< 0.5%	< 0.5%	< 0.5%	< 0.5%	—	—	< 0.5%	< 0.5%	—	< 0.5%	< 0.5%	—	< 0.5%	< 0.5%	—	< 0.5%	2%	< 0.5%

2.4. Operations Emissions Compared Against Thresholds

Criteria Pollutants (lb/day for daily, ton/yr for annual) and GHGs (lb/day for daily, MT/yr for annual)

Un/Mit.	TOG	ROG	NOx	CO	SO2	PM10E	PM10D	PM10T	PM2.5E	PM2.5D	PM2.5T	BCO2	NBCO2	CO2T	CH4	N2O	R	CO2e
Daily, Summer (Max)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Unmit.	2.76	2.57	1.67	13.4	0.03	0.07	2.54	2.61	0.06	0.65	0.71	55.6	4,302	4,358	5.84	0.19	22.1	4,582
Daily, Winter (Max)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Unmit.	2.31	2.15	1.73	9.27	0.03	0.06	2.54	2.60	0.06	0.65	0.71	55.6	4,111	4,166	5.84	0.19	13.3	4,382
Average Daily (Max)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Unmit.	2.47	2.31	1.66	10.3	0.03	0.06	2.29	2.35	0.06	0.58	0.64	55.6	3,892	3,947	5.83	0.18	16.6	4,163
Annual (Max)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Unmit.	0.45	0.42	0.30	1.87	0.01	0.01	0.42	0.43	0.01	0.11	0.12	9.20	644	654	0.97	0.03	2.75	689

6. Climate Risk Detailed Report

6.2. Initial Climate Risk Scores

Climate Hazard	Exposure Score	Sensitivity Score	Adaptive Capacity Score	Vulnerability Score
Temperature and Extreme Heat	3	0	0	N/A
Extreme Precipitation	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Sea Level Rise	1	0	0	N/A
Wildfire	1	0	0	N/A
Flooding	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Drought	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Snowpack Reduction	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Air Quality Degradation	0	0	0	N/A

The sensitivity score reflects the extent to which a project would be adversely affected by exposure to a climate hazard. Exposure is rated on a scale of 1 to 5, with a score of 5 representing the greatest exposure.
The adaptive capacity of a project refers to its ability to manage and reduce vulnerabilities from projected climate hazards. Adaptive capacity is rated on a scale of 1 to 5, with a score of 5 representing the greatest ability to adapt.
The overall vulnerability scores are calculated based on the potential impacts and adaptive capacity assessments for each hazard. Scores do not include implementation of climate risk reduction measures.

6.3. Adjusted Climate Risk Scores

Climate Hazard	Exposure Score	Sensitivity Score	Adaptive Capacity Score	Vulnerability Score
Temperature and Extreme Heat	3	1	1	3
Extreme Precipitation	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Sea Level Rise	1	1	1	2
Wildfire	1	1	1	2
Flooding	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Drought	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Snowpack Reduction	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Air Quality Degradation	1	1	1	2

The sensitivity score reflects the extent to which a project would be adversely affected by exposure to a climate hazard. Exposure is rated on a scale of 1 to 5, with a score of 5 representing the greatest exposure.
The adaptive capacity of a project refers to its ability to manage and reduce vulnerabilities from projected climate hazards. Adaptive capacity is rated on a scale of 1 to 5, with a score of 5 representing the greatest ability to adapt.

The overall vulnerability scores are calculated based on the potential impacts and adaptive capacity assessments for each hazard. Scores include implementation of climate risk reduction measures.

7. Health and Equity Details

7.3. Overall Health & Equity Scores

Metric	Result for Project Census Tract
CalEnviroScreen 4.0 Score for Project Location (a)	96.0
Healthy Places Index Score for Project Location (b)	25.0
Project Located in a Designated Disadvantaged Community (Senate Bill 535)	Yes
Project Located in a Low-Income Community (Assembly Bill 1550)	Yes
Project Located in a Community Air Protection Program Community (Assembly Bill 617)	No

a: The maximum CalEnviroScreen score is 100. A high score (i.e., greater than 50) reflects a higher pollution burden compared to other census tracts in the state.
b: The maximum Health Places Index score is 100. A high score (i.e., greater than 50) reflects healthier community conditions compared to other census tracts in the state.

7.5. Evaluation Scorecard

Health & Equity Evaluation Scorecard not completed.