
Cultural Resources Desktop Assessment for the 92 kV “CS” Transmission Line Project, Indio and La Quinta, Riverside County, California

Prepared for:

Ericsson-Grant Inc.
315 South Coast Highway 101, Suite U277
Encinitas California 92024

Prepared by:

Sherri Andrews, M.A., RPA
ASM Affiliates
20 N. Raymond Av., Ste. 220
Pasadena, California 91103

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Imperial Irrigation Department (IID) proposes the 92 kV “CS” Line upgrade project, which will consist of upgrading approximately 6.5 circuit miles of a combination of single and double circuit wood and steel structures from the Avenue 58 substation to Avenue 48. The existing configuration of the line includes approximately 4.3 miles of double circuit, “CS” and “CD” with distribution underbuilt, and 2.2 miles of single circuit “CS” Line with distribution underbuilt, including static wire. The proposed upgrade will require the replacement of the current 795 thousands of circular mils (kcmil) AAC with single 900 kcmil “canary” ACSS/TW/HS285 conductor and 48-fiber optical ground wire (OPGW) in the static position. The upgrade will increase the rating of the line from 132/145MVA normal/emergency rating to 250/300MVA normal/emergency, with a MOT of 240°C. The preliminary determination is that all wood poles will be redesigned and rebuilt, including the addition of necessary steel poles as required from the preliminary design.

The purpose of this cultural resources desktop assessment is to identify any previously documented significant cultural resources within the project area that may be impacted by the project and provide recommendations for future work, if needed.

1.2 PROJECT LOCATION

The proposed project is located in unincorporated Riverside County, immediately west of the City of Indio in Riverside County, California. The alignment is shown on the USGS Indio, California and La Quinta, California 7.5-minute topographic quadrangles, in Section 34 of Township 5S, Range 7E, and in Sections 03, 04, 10, 11, 15, 14, and 22 of Township 6S, Range 7E, San Bernadino Base and Meridian (Figures 1-3). The project is linear, and runs from the Avenue 48 substation, south onto Hjorth Street, west onto Avenue 50, south onto Madison Street, west onto Avenue 52nd, south onto Monroe Street, west onto Airport Boulevard, south down Mountain View, and terminates at the Avenue 58 substation in La Quinta, California.

1.3 REPORT STRUCTURE

This report is divided into five sections: following this introduction, Section 2 presents the natural and cultural context of the project area; Section 3 provides a regulatory framework; Section 4 describes the background research conducted for the project area; and Section 5 provides a summary of the study. The results of the California Native American Heritage Commission’s Sacred Lands File search are provided as Appendix A.

Legend

Project Area

0 2 4 8 Miles

0 2 4 8 Kilometers

N

ASM
AFFILIATES

Map by: C Ferriola

2

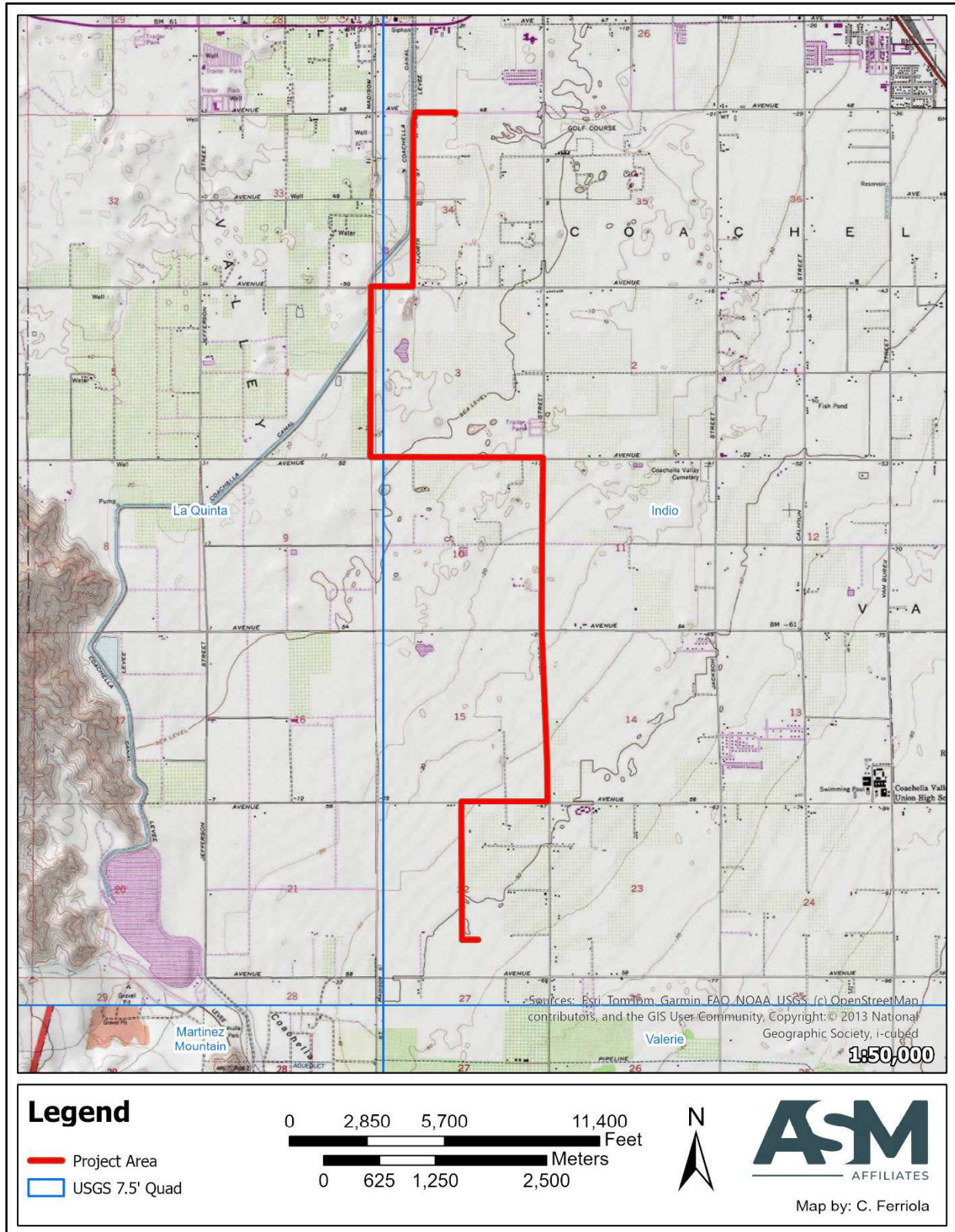


Figure 2. Project alignment shown on the USGS Indio, California and La Quinta, California 7.5-minute topographic quadrangles.

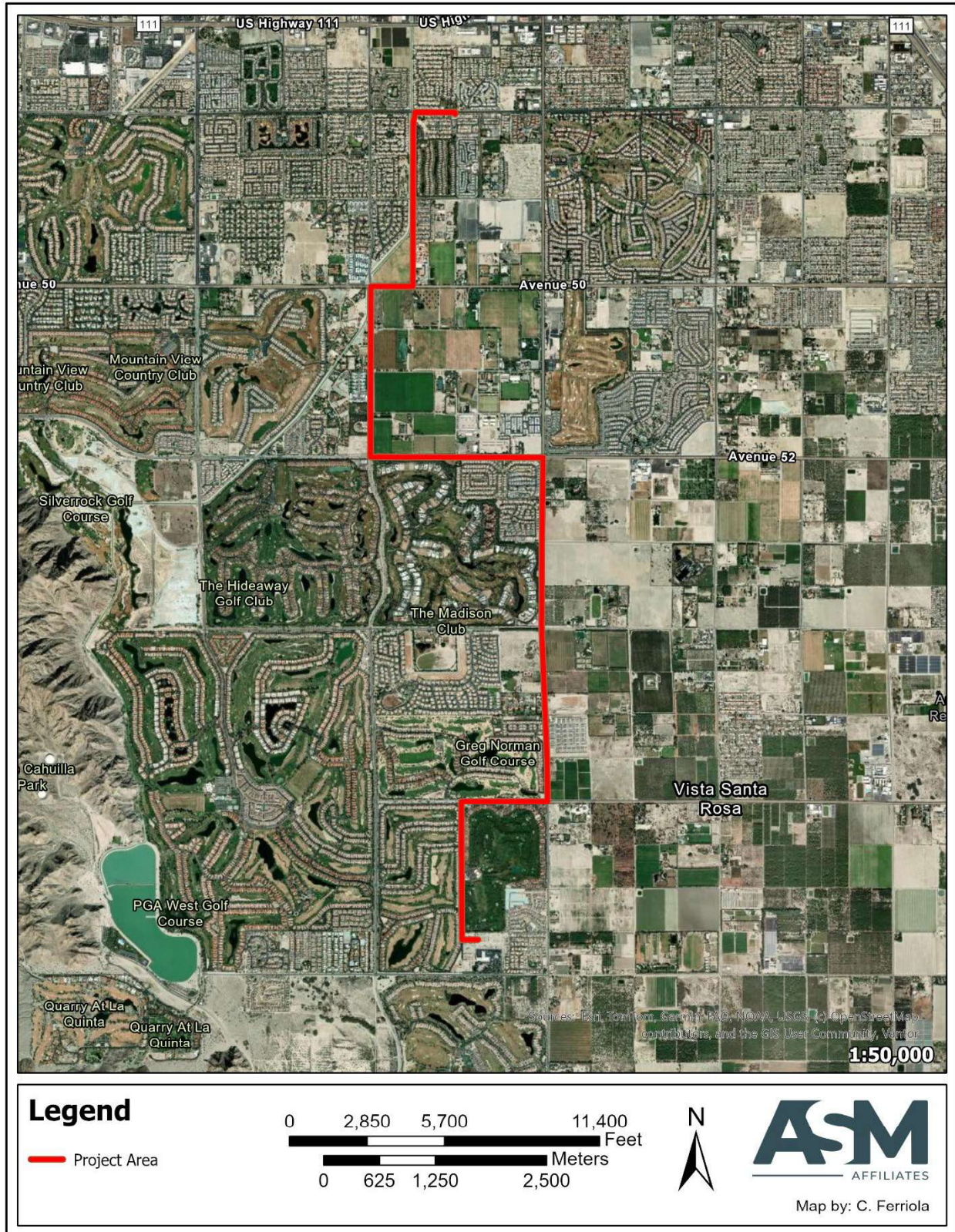


Figure 3. Project alignment shown on aerial imagery.

2.0 NATURAL AND CULTURAL CONTEXT

2.1 ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS

The project is located at within the Coachella Valley portion of the Colorado subregion of the Sonoran Desert, at various elevations between 16 meters (m) below mean sea level to 9 m above mean sea level. The surrounding area is heavily developed for private residences, golf courses, and associated utilities and paved roads. Local geology consists of Quaternary alluvium derived from the former shoreline and basin deposits of Pleistocene Lake Cahuilla (Jennings et al. 1977). Soil in the project area is mapped as primarily containing Myoma fine sand, Gilman loamy fine sand, and Indio fine sandy loam (Soil Survey Staff n.d.).

The site lies within the Imperial Valley/Lower Coachella Valley Level IV Ecoregion (Griffith et al. 2016), characterized by fertile agricultural soils formed from Lake Cahuilla sediments and extensive water-delivery infrastructure supporting regional agriculture. Due to the developed and industrial nature of the immediate surroundings (see Figure 3), vegetation within and adjacent to the project area consists primarily of nonnative grasses, ornamental palms, and other landscaping species.

2.2 PREHISTORIC PERIOD

Archaeological research in Riverside County and throughout southern California has documented a wide range of prehistoric occupations extending from the terminal Pleistocene through European contact (Koerper and Drover 1983; Mason 1984; McKenna 1986; Wallace 1955; Warren 1968). To describe this diversity, investigators have proposed numerous chronological frameworks and cultural classifications—periods, horizons, stages, phases, traditions, industries, complexes, and patterns—often with overlapping or inconsistently applied terminology. Despite this variation, southern California prehistory is most commonly divided into four broad periods: the Paleoindian period (prior to 6000 BP); the Milling Stone Horizon or Middle/Late Holocene period (6000–1200 BP); the Late Prehistoric period (1200 BP to AD 1750); and the Ethnohistoric period (after AD 1750).

2.2.1 Paleoindian Period (pre ca. 12,000 BP–6000 BP)

Paleoindian assemblages are characterized by large-stemmed projectile points, high proportions of formal flaked tools, bifacial reduction strategies, and comparatively low frequencies of ground stone implements. These technological patterns indicate a subsistence emphasis on hunting rather than plant processing. Overall, hunting-related tools dominate Paleoindian assemblages and decline in relative abundance during the early Holocene as ground stone and other processing tools become more common (Basgall and Hall 1990).

2.2.2 Milling Stone Horizon, Late/Middle Holocene (6000 BP–1200 BP)

The Milling Stone Horizon is marked by the widespread use of hand stones, milling stones, choppers, and scrapers, tool types associated primarily with seed-gathering and processing and limited hunting activities. Assemblages from this period reflect a major shift in resource exploitation, with adaptations emphasizing the intensive harvesting of hard plant seeds alongside small-game hunting. Distinctive features of this period include extensive coastal shell middens, portable ground-stone metates and manos, crudely flaked cobble tools, occasional large expanding-stemmed projectile points (such as Pinto and Elko forms), and flexed human burials. Researchers have noted the technological and cultural stability that characterizes this long interval, contrasting it with the more rapidly changing patterns observed elsewhere in coastal southern California.

2.2.3 Late Prehistoric Period (800 BP–AD 1750)

The Late Prehistoric period is defined by three major technological and cultural innovations: the appearance of small projectile points—such as Desert side-notched, Cottonwood triangular, and Dos Cabezas forms—reflecting the adoption of the bow and arrow in place of the atlatl; the introduction of brownware pottery, which likely supplemented continued use of basketry and other perishable containers; and a shift from inhumation to cremation as the dominant mortuary practice. Additional common artifacts include steatite containers, asphaltum-coated items, mortars and pestles, and bedrock mortars. Traits associated with this period include increased reliance on acorns as a high-yield but labor-intensive food resource, expanded hunting of both large and small game (particularly deer and rabbits), greater interregional exchange evidenced by more frequent use of obsidian, and heightened elaboration of nonutilitarian cultural expressions such as shell beads, decorated ceramics, and rock art. Settlement patterns may also have become more sedentary compared to earlier periods, reflecting growing population densities and more intensive resource use.

2.3 ETHNOHISTORIC PERIOD (POST A.D. 1750)

The project area lies within the ethnohistoric territory of the Cahuilla (Kroeber 1925). Linguistic evidence places both the Cahuilla and Luiseño within the Uto-Aztecan language family (Golla 2007; Laylander 2010). Internal branching within this family likely reflects successive territorial expansions or migrations, beginning from a still-debated Uto-Aztecan homeland, moving to a northern Uto-Aztecan base in western North America, and ultimately southward into their ethnohistoric territories. Proposed linguistic splits include the emergence of the Takic (Southern California Shoshonean) branch around 3000 BP, the divergence of Luiseño from Cahuilla-Cupeño around 2000 BP, and the separation of Cahuilla and Cupeño around 1000 BP.

Although Cahuilla cultural patterns documented after European contact cannot be equated directly with Late Prehistoric lifeways, they provide essential insights into cultural elements that are difficult to reconstruct from archaeology alone. Early ethnohistoric information comes from Franciscan missionaries and other observers (Harrington 1933, 1985; Laylander 2000), supplemented by extensive ethnographic accounts recorded during the early and mid-twentieth century (Bean 1972, 1978; Bean and Shipek 1978; Bean and Smith 1978; Drucker 1937; Gifford 1918; Hicks 1963; Hooper 1920; Kroeber 1908, 1925; Laylander 2004; Sparkman 1908; Strong 1929; White 1953, 1957, 1963).

The Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains and the Coachella Valley formed the core of Cahuilla territory. The region was divided among a dozen or more autonomous, land-holding clans, each controlling territory that typically extended from the valley floor into the mountains and encompassed multiple biotic zones. Clans consisted of one or more patrilineages, each with its own community area within the larger clan territory. Oral traditions describe the replacement of clans through conflict, the fissioning of lineages to form new clans, and the resettlement of the desert floor by mountain groups following the desiccation of Lake Cahuilla. By 1850, at least 17 rancherías were documented in the Coachella Valley, most associated with hand-dug wells, springs, or palm oases. Reservoirs, irrigation ditches, and agricultural fields were present by the early nineteenth century (Wilke and Lawton 1975:21, 30ff).

Resource ownership varied by type. Critical resources such as mesquite or agave were owned by clans or lineages, whose members cooperated in defending them. Labor-intensive activities, such as communal rabbit drives, also involved coordinated clan participation. Hunting grounds between lineage territories were generally open to all clan members. Oak groves were typically owned by individual families, while pinyon groves were shared among several clans during the fall harvest. Fish traps along the shoreline of Lake Cahuilla were clan-owned (Strong 1929:87).

Bean (1972:86–90) described Cahuilla clans as inherently segmental, with lineages capable of splitting when resources became scarce, populations grew, or social tensions arose. Such segmentation allowed flexible adaptation to changing ecological conditions. Lineages sharing descent could also unite for communal labor or defense. The origin story of the Séwahilem clan—arising from a dispute over fish along the receding Lake Cahuilla shoreline—illustrates this process (Strong 1929:86–87).

Although villages were occupied year-round, large portions of the population moved seasonally to exploit ripening resources in different environmental zones. Temporary camps were established for processing agave in late winter and early spring, harvesting mesquite beans in late spring, and gathering pinyon nuts and acorns in the fall. Additional seasonal resources included yucca, wild onion, cactus fruits, goosefoot, grass seeds, berries, and various desert and mountain plants. Game hunting, including bighorn sheep and deer, often coincided with the pinyon harvest, while rabbits were hunted throughout the year.

Bean and Saubel (1972:20) estimated that no Cahuilla village was more than 26 kilometers from all major food-gathering areas within its territory, and that roughly 80 percent of food resources were accessible within an 8-kilometer foraging radius. This efficiency was made possible by the steep ecological gradient along the eastern slopes of the San Jacinto and Santa Rosa Mountains.

Clan populations typically numbered at least 100 individuals. Communities were situated near reliable water and food sources and were spaced several kilometers apart. Within each community, houses and associated structures—storage facilities, work areas, and processing spaces—were dispersed over one to three kilometers. Each clan had a hereditary leader (the net), as well as other ceremonial specialists such as the paxa, shamans, singers, and diviners. A ceremonial house served as the locus for major religious events, particularly funerary rites. Additional structures included granaries, sweat houses, and song houses.

Beyond the main villages, numerous locations throughout the territory served as seasonal camps, ritual sites, inter-clan meeting places, and storage areas for sacred materials. Caves and rock shelters—often in hilly or rocky terrain—were used for temporary camping, food storage, shamanic fasting, and hunting blinds.

Cahuilla contact with Europeans began as early as 1797, when residents of western Cahuilla areas were baptized and worked among the Spanish. Runaway neophytes also sought refuge among desert groups. More direct influence followed the establishment of the San Bernardino estancia in 1819 and a cattle ranch at San Gorgonio. By the time of the Romero Expedition in 1823–1824, the Cahuilla were familiar with Hispanic practices, including cattle herding, and were cultivating crops such as corn and melons (Bean and Mason 1962). Political leadership became increasingly centralized during the Spanish and Mexican periods as Europeans recognized prominent clan leaders—such as Juan Antonio among the Mountain Cahuilla and Chief Cabazon in the desert—as regional authorities (Strong 1929:149). Juan Antonio’s group played a significant role during the Mexican-American War, siding with Mexican forces against the Luiseño, who supported the American invasion (Phillips 1975).

2.4 HISTORIC PERIOD

The historic period in California began in the mid-1500s with Spain’s claim over Alta California, followed by Mexican governance after 1821, and eventual incorporation into the United States in 1850. Although these broad periods shaped the state as a whole, the Coachella Valley—situated far from the coastal mission system and early population centers—experienced historic-period developments on a delayed and distinct trajectory. The following subsections summarize these periods with emphasis on their relevance to the eastern Colorado Desert.

2.4.1 Spanish Period

Spanish presence in California began with Juan Rodríguez Cabrillo's arrival in 1542, but no Spanish settlement or mission activity occurred in the Coachella Valley during this period. Mission San Gabriel Arcángel (established in 1771) and its asistencia in present-day Redlands represented the easternmost extent of the coastal mission system, these installations were located far to the west and had no permanent presence or agricultural outposts in the Coachella Valley. The valley lay well outside the mission corridor and remained largely unvisited by Spanish expeditions until the 1770s, when Father Francisco Garcés traveled through the Colorado Desert while attempting to establish overland routes between the lower Colorado River and the California missions (Walker 1986). These crossings were brief and exploratory; no missions, presidios, or asistencias were established in the Coachella Valley, and the region remained occupied exclusively by Indigenous groups, including the Cahuilla.

2.4.2 Mexican Period

Following Mexican independence in 1821, mission lands were secularized and large ranchos were granted throughout coastal and inland Southern California. Numerous ranchos were established across what is now Riverside County, most devoted to cattle ranching. Although some grants were issued to Indigenous individuals, the majority went to military officers and merchants. This system of large land grants—rooted in both Spanish and Mexican governance—resulted in more than 500 ranchos being issued between 1833 and 1846, primarily along the coast from San Francisco to San Diego. These grants were documented through hand-drawn *diseños* with often imprecise boundaries, within which dons and doñas constructed adobe residences, cultivated land, and grazed cattle with the assistance of vaqueros. In the years leading up to the Mexican-American War (1846–1848), Governor Pío Pico issued many of the final grants in an effort to secure Mexican land titles before the anticipated U.S. annexation (Christenson and Sweet 2008:7; Robinson 1948:23–72).

The eastern Coachella Valley was not included in any Mexican land grants. Its arid conditions, distance from established settlements, and limited water sources made it unsuitable for the ranching economy that drove land distribution elsewhere. While ranchos proliferated in western Riverside County, the desert portion of the county—including the project vicinity—saw little to no permanent Mexican-period settlement. Although travel through the region increased modestly due to trade routes linking Sonora, the Colorado River, and coastal California, no sustained occupation or development occurred in the Coachella Valley prior to the American Period.

2.4.3 American Period

The project area was not a population center during the Spanish or Mexican periods, and its remote desert setting contributed to a comparatively delayed pattern of development that continued into the American Period. Significant growth in the Coachella Valley did not occur until the late 1870s, when the arrival of the Southern Pacific Railroad opened the region to sustained settlement and agriculture. The Southern Pacific line, originally conceived in 1865 to connect San Francisco and San Diego, reached Los Angeles by 1876 and continued eastward, ultimately extending to New Orleans by 1883.

Because trains required water between Yuma and Los Angeles, Indio—located roughly halfway—became a critical stop, and the Southern Pacific depot and hotel became the first permanent structures in the area. The railroad's presence enabled large-scale agricultural development by providing efficient access to markets in Los Angeles and other western cities; cotton, grapes, citrus, and dates soon became dominant crops. Coachella, Indio and other Coachella Valley towns also emerged as popular winter destinations for tourists and seasonal residents from colder regions. During World War II, the establishment of the Desert Training Center brought additional activity and population to the area. Although Indio was the valley's largest town at the turn of the twentieth century, it was surpassed by Coachella and Thermal by the

mid-twentieth century. Agriculture and tourism remain the region's primary economic drivers (Baffin 2008; Nordland 1978; Soltys 2005; Ward 2014).

3.0 REGULATORY CONTEXT

3.1 APPLICABLE REGULATIONS AND GUIDELINES FOR DETERMINING SIGNIFICANCE

3.1.1 California Environmental Quality Act

CEQA Section 15064.5 *Determining the Significance of Impacts to Archeological and Historical Resources* requires that all private and public activities not specifically exempted be evaluated against the potential for environmental damage, including effects to historical resources. Historical resources are recognized as part of the environment under CEQA. It defines historical resources as “any object, building, structure, site, area, place, record, or manuscript which a lead agency determines to be historically significant or significant in the architectural, engineering, scientific, economic, agricultural, educational, social, political, military, or cultural annals of California.”

Lead agencies have a responsibility to evaluate historical resources against the CRHR criteria prior to making a finding as to a proposed project’s impacts to historical resources. Mitigation of adverse impacts is required if the proposed project will cause substantial adverse change to a historical resource. Substantial adverse change includes demolition, destruction, relocation, or alteration such that the significance of an historical resource would be impaired. While demolition and destruction are fairly obvious significant impacts, it is more difficult to assess when change, alteration, or relocation crosses the threshold of substantial adverse change. The CEQA Guidelines provide that a project that demolishes or alters those physical characteristics of a historical resource that conveys its historical significance (i.e., its character-defining features) can be considered to materially impair the resource’s significance.

The CRHR is used in the consideration of historical resources relative to significance for purposes of CEQA. The CRHR includes resources listed in, or formally determined eligible for listing in, the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP), as well as some California State Landmarks and Points of Historical Interest. Properties of local significance that have been designated under a local preservation ordinance (local landmarks or landmark districts), or that have been identified in a local historical resources inventory, may be eligible for listing in the CRHR and are presumed to be significant resources for purposes of CEQA unless a preponderance of evidence indicates otherwise.

Generally, a resource shall be considered by the lead agency to be a “historical resource” if it:

1. Is listed in, or determined to be eligible by the State Historical Resources Commission, for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources (Public Resources Code [PRC] Section 5024.1, Title 14 CCR, Section 4850 et seq.).
2. Is included in a local register of historical resources, or is identified as significant in a historical resource survey meeting the requirements Section 5024.1(g) of the PRC.
3. Is a building or structure determined to be historically significant or significant in the architectural, engineering, scientific, economic, agricultural, educational, social, political, military, or cultural annals of California.

3.1.2 California Register of Historical Resources

The CRHR program encourages public recognition and protection of resources of architectural, historical, archaeological, and cultural significance; identifies historical resources for state and local planning purposes; determines eligibility for state historic preservation grant funding; and affords certain protections

under CEQA. The criteria established for eligibility for the CRHR are directly comparable to the national criteria established for the NRHP.

In order to be eligible for listing in the CRHR, an archaeological site, building, object, or structure must satisfy at least one of the following four criteria:

- 1) It is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of local or regional history or the cultural heritage of California or the U.S.
- 2) It is associated with the lives of persons important to local, California, or national history.
- 3) It embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, region, or method of construction, or represents the work of a master or possesses high artistic values.
- 4) It has yielded, or has the potential to yield, information important to the prehistory or history of the local area, California, or the nation.

Historical resources eligible for listing in the CRHR must also retain enough of their historic character or appearance to be recognizable as historical resources and to convey the reasons for their significance. For the purposes of eligibility for the CRHR, integrity is defined as “the authenticity of an historical resource’s physical identity evidenced by the survival of characteristics that existed during the resource’s period of significance” (California Office of Historic Preservation 2001). This general definition is generally strengthened by the more specific definition offered by the NRHP—the criteria and guidelines upon which the CRHR criteria and guidelines are based.

3.2 RESEARCH CONTEXT

3.2.1 Prehistoric Site Research Topics

The significance, or scientific importance, of archaeological sites is evaluated in terms of their potential to contribute meaningful information to regional research questions relevant to southwestern California. Key considerations include the extent and integrity of cultural deposits, the age and probable cultural affiliation of the materials, site function and associated subsistence strategies, and the degree to which a site can inform broader patterns of settlement organization. Assessments also consider whether a site contains artifacts, features, or remains with particular Native American heritage value.

3.2.1.1 Prehistoric Chronology and Dating

Although the basic framework of Southern California’s prehistoric occupation is well established, substantial chronological gaps remain. Current research focuses on long-term continuity of occupation and the nature of cultural change between periods. Addressing these questions requires the recovery of materials suitable for both absolute and relative dating. These include radiocarbon samples for absolute dating (e.g., charcoal—including very small samples appropriate for accelerator mass spectrometry—and shell), obsidian from known geological sources for hydration analysis, and temporally diagnostic artifacts such as ceramics and projectile points for seriation studies.

3.2.1.2 Prehistoric Subsistence-Settlement Organization and Site Function

At present, the dynamics of prehistoric settlement organization in the southern California desert are not well understood, largely due to the nature of previous investigations and the fragmentary archaeological record. Early periods of occupation in the region appear to have been characterized by a foraging settlement strategy (Moratto 1984). By the Late Prehistoric period, residential bases may have taken the form of sedentary villages or heavily used seasonal settlements (True 1970). These larger residential nodes were supported by a range of specialized site types, including field camps and caches. With access to storable resources such as acorns, Late Prehistoric groups may have exploited inland oak groves during the fall and

winter months and shifted toward coastal resources during other seasons (Bean and Shipek 1978; Craib 1982; Rice and Cottrell 1976).

Subsistence-oriented research questions are closely intertwined with broader issues of settlement organization. Key questions include: Which specific resources were the primary targets of exploitation? To what extent were subsistence systems oriented toward marine versus terrestrial resources? Can shifts in subsistence emphasis be identified over time? Are storable resources—such as grass seeds or acorns—present within site assemblages? Finally, can changes in resource use be linked to corresponding shifts in settlement organization, extractive technologies, or the availability of local resources resulting from environmental change?

3.2.2 Historic Site Research Topics

The Coachella Valley's historic-period development is closely tied to the expansion of the Southern Pacific Railroad, the growth of irrigated agriculture, and the rise of tourism. Previously unrecorded cultural resources within the project area may therefore relate to one or more of these themes, including early railroad infrastructure, agricultural development and water-management systems, or features associated with the region's long-standing tourism economy.

3.2.2.1 Southern Pacific Railroad

The Southern Pacific Railroad played a central role in the development of Indio and the broader Coachella Valley. Although the project area was originally platted by the railroad, there is no evidence that the rail alignment itself ever crossed the project footprint. Nonetheless, artifacts or features associated with railroad activity may be present. Historic refuse linked to railroad workers, if encountered, could inform research questions related to worker social status, access to prestige goods, ethnicity, trade networks, and technological practices.

3.2.2.2 Agriculture

Cultivation of crops such as dates, citrus, and mixed farm products occurred throughout the Coachella Valley with varying degrees of success. Although available evidence does not indicate that the project area itself was used for agriculture, the potential remains for identifying agriculture-related artifacts or features. Such materials could address research questions concerning the adoption of technological innovations in farming practices. Likewise, historic refuse associated with agricultural activity could provide insight into the ethnicity and lived experiences of field workers.

3.2.2.3 Tourism

Tourism has been a defining component of the Coachella Valley's economy since the mid-twentieth century. Historic refuse associated with tourism, if present, could address research questions related to the social status of visitors, access to prestige goods, patterns of consumption, ethnicity, trade networks, and the nature of social interactions between tourists and local residents.

4.0 BACKGROUND RESEARCH

4.1 RECORDS SEARCH RESULTS

ASM performed a records search at the South Coastal Information Center (SCIC) at San Diego State University (SDSU), San Diego, part of the California Historical Resources Information System (CHRIS), for the proposed project location and a 0.5-mile radius surrounding the proposed project alignment. The search included all records and documents on file with the SCIC, as well as the Office of Historic Preservation (OHP) Historic Properties Directory. A total of 41 previous reports were identified as a result of the records search within 0.5 mile of the project area (Table 1). The majority of the project alignment has been subject to prior study, either directly or as part of larger-scale studies in the area.

Table 1. Previous Cultural Resources Reports within Records Search Radius

Report No. (RI-)	Year	Author(s)/Affiliation	Title
00997	1980	Swenson, James D. / Archaeological Research Unit, UC Riverside	An Environmental Impact Evaluation: An Archaeological Assessment of Silver Sands, Coachella Valley, Riverside County, California (Change of Zone #3218)
01713	1983	Padon, Beth / LSA Associates	Cultural Resource Assessment - Oak Tree West Project, Riverside County, California
01882	1984	Yohe, Robert M. II / Archaeological Research Unit, UC Riverside	An Archaeological Assessment of TT 19836, La Quinta, Riverside County, California
01883	1990	Drover, Christopher E.	Letter Report: The Grove Project, La Quinta, California
02016	1985	Keller, Jean Salpas	An Archaeological Assessment of Tract 21176, Riverside County, California
02276	1990	Gallegos, Dennis, Roxana Phillips, and Carolyn Kyle / WESTEC Services	Cultural Resource Inventory for Rancho La Quinta
02671	1989	White, Robert S. / Archaeological Associates, Ltd.	An Archaeological Assessment of the Embly Ranch Nuevo, Riverside County
02674	1989	Van Horn, David, and Robert S. White / Archaeological Associates, Ltd.	Archaeological Test-Level Investigations on the Citrus Course II-The Grove Property near La Quinta, Riverside County, California
02844	1990	Goodman, John D. / Archaeological Research Unit	An Archaeological Assessment of Tentative Tract 24774, Located East of La Quinta in Central Riverside County, California
03091	1990	Love, Bruce. and Kevin B. Hallaran / Archaeological Research Unit, UC Riverside	A Cultural Resources Assessment of Approximately 225 Acres of Land Designated The La Quinta Shores Project
03092	1991	Goodman, John, Kevin Hallaran, and John Torres / Archaeological Research Unit	Cultural Resources Assessment: Phase I Survey and Phase II Test Excavations: La Quinta Shores Project, Coachella Valley, Riverside County
03100	1990	Macko, Michael E. / Macko Archaeological Consulting	Archaeological Resource Assessment of the Proposed Vista Santa Rosa Planned Community, City of La Quinta, Riverside County, California
03489	1992	Love, Bruce, Joan S. Schneider, Gwyn Alcock, Dawn Reid, Kevin Hallaran, and Tom Tang / Archaeological Research Unit	Cultural Resources: La Quinta General Plan EIR
03609	1993	Keller, Jean A.	A Phase I Archaeological Assessment of Tentative Tract Map 27617

4.0 Background Research

Report No. (RI-)	Year	Author(s)/Affiliation	Title
04283	1999	McKenna, Jeanette A. / McKenna et al.	A Phase I Cultural Resource Investigation of the Country Club of the Desert Project Area Located within the City of La Quinta and the County of Riverside, California
04261	1999	Smith, David M. / The Keith Companies	Phase I Cultural Resources Inventory For The 211-Acre Outdoor Resorts Project, City Of Indio, Riverside County, California
04723	2001	Goodwin, Riordan L. / LSA Associates	Cultural Resource Assessment: The Grove/Mountain View Country Club in Central Riverside County, California
04734	2001	McKenna, Jeanette A. / McKenna et al.	Results of Initial Archaeological Monitoring Program at the Country Club of the Desert Project Area, City of La Quinta, Riverside County, California
04908	2004	Hoover, Anna M., Hugh Wagner, and Kristie R. Blevins / LSA Associates	A Phase I Archaeological and Paleontological Survey Report on Tract 31852, +8-Acres, APN 772-270-016, City of La Quinta, County of Riverside, California
05569	2003	White, Robert S., and Laura S. White / Archaeological Associates	A Cultural Resources Assessment of Tentative Tract No. 30965, A 20.7-Acre Parcel Located North of Avenue 49 and Immediately West of Shields Road, City of Indio, Riverside County, CA
05801	2001	Love, Bruce, Bai "Tom" Tang, Mariam Dahdul, and Daniel Ballester / CRM TECH	Historical/Archaeological Resources Survey Report, Tentative Tract Map No. 16457, Parcels 1 and 2, APNs 772-270-011 and -012, City of La Quinta, Riverside County, California
05832	2001	Love, Bruce, Bai Tang, Harry Quinn, and Mariam Dahdul / CRM TECH	Cultural Resources Report, Archaeological Survey and Testing at Marbella Cove (TTM NO. 29998), City of Indio, Riverside County, CA
05913	2002	Love, Bruce, Bai Tang, Harry Quinn, and Mariam Dahdul / CRM TECH	Cultural Resources Report, Archaeological Survey and Testing at Tentative Tract Map No. 30544, City of Indio, Riverside County, CA
05917	2002	Love, Bruce, Bai Tang, Daniel Ballester, and Mariam Dahdul / CRM TECH	Historical/Archaeological Resources Survey Report, Madison Ranch Development, APNs 649-270-007, and -008, City of Indio, Riverside County, CA
05941	2003	Hogan, Michael, Bai Tang, Josh Smallwood, and Harry Quinn / CRM TECH	Historical/Archaeological Resources Survey Report, Sun West Homes: APN 649-280-012, in the City of Indio, Riverside County, CA
06225	2004	Hogan, Michael / CRM TECH	Letter Report: Archaeological/Paleontological Monitoring of Earth-Moving Activities, The Orchard Project, TTM 31684, APN 649-280-012, City of Indio, Riverside County, California
06351	2004	Hogan, Michael, Bai Tang, Josh Smallwood, and Harry Quinn / CRM TECH	Archaeological Monitoring Report: Hideaway Phase 2, Amended Tract No. 29894-2, City of La Quinta, Riverside County, California
06353	2004	Hogan, Michael / CRM TECH	Letter Report: Archaeology Monitoring of Grading Activities, Tentative Parcel Map No. 14367; APN 772-270-010, In City of La Quinta, Riverside
06620	2005	Hogan, Michael, Bai "Tom" Tang, Ayse Taskiran-Johnson, Harry M. Quinn, and Adrian Sanchez Moreno / CRM TECH	Archaeological Monitoring Report: Tentative Tract No. 30956 in the City of Indio, Riverside, County, California
06805	2004	Goodman, John D. II, and Leslie J. Mouriquand / The Keith Companies	Phase I Cultural Resources Investigation of 100 Acres Located North of Avenue 50 at the Southern Terminus of Madison Street Within Sections 33 and 34, City of Indio, Riverside County, California

Report No. (RI-)	Year	Author(s)/Affiliation	Title
06806	2006	Nixon, Rachael A. / Stantec	Archaeological and Paleontological Resource Monitoring Report for Stonefield Development Project Located in the City of Indio, Riverside County, California
07465	2007	Crull, Scott, and Anna M. Hoover / L&L Environmental	An Archaeological and Paleontological Mitigation-Monitoring Report for Tract 31852, APN 772-270-016, The Polo Estates Project, City of La Quinta, County of Riverside, California
07910	2008	Dahdul, Mariam, Harry M. Quinn, and Juliana Gay / CRM TECH	Final Report on Archaeological Monitoring of Earth-Moving Activities at Tentative Tract No. 33076, City of La Quinta, Riverside County, California
08105	2006	Tang, Bai "Tom," and Michael Hogan / CRM TECH	Summary of Findings, Citywide Historic Resources Survey Update, City of La Quinta, Riverside County, California
08322	2003	Dahdul, Mariam, and Daniel Ballester / CRM TECH	Historical/Archaeological Resources Survey Report Tentative Tract No. 30956 City of Indio, Riverside County, California
08743	2012	Tang, Bai "Tom," Michael Hogan, Daniel M. Perez, and Daniel Ballester / CRM TECH	Phase I Archaeological Assessment Madison Street Improvement Project Avenue 50 to Avenue 52 Cities of Indio and La Quinta County of Riverside, California
09434	2015	Thomas, Robert / Applied EarthWorks	Cultural Resource Monitoring Report for the Cypress at Madison Development Project (Tentative Tract No. 36679), City of Indio, Riverside County, California
09768	2000	Love, Bruce, and Bai "Tom" Tang / CRM TECH	Cultural Resource Element City of La Quinta General Plan
10299	2015	Tang, Bai "Tom," Michael Hogan, Ben Kerridge, Daniel Ballester, and Nina Gallardo / CRM TECH	Identification and Evaluation of Historic Properties Chromium-6 Water Treatment Facilities Project, Coachella Valley, Riverside County, California
10342	2010	Bai "Tom" Tang and Deirdre Encarnacion / CRM TECH	Cultural Resources Technical Report City of La Quinta General Plan (2010 Update)
10352	2014	Ballester, Daniel / CRM TECH	Addendum to Historical/Archaeological Resources Report: The Orchard Project; Tentative Tract Map No. 36279 Formerly TTM 30378) Assessor's Parcel Nos. 777-030-001 and -002 City of La Quinta, Riverside County, California CRM TECH Contract Nos. 812/2448A/2856 A

A total of 98 previously recorded resources were identified within the 0.5-mile records search radius (Table 2). Of these, 78 are prehistoric sites or isolates, 17 are historic in age, two have both prehistoric and historic elements, and one is of unknown age and description. Prehistoric resources are dominated by ceramic scatters of various sizes or densities, while historic resources largely reflect the area's agricultural past. Only one known resource, P-33-005705, the Coachella Canal, intersects the northern portion of the project alignment. Only four other resources, all prehistoric isolates, have been previously identified within 75 m of the alignment. Two of these, P-33-010996 and P-33-010997, were isolated shell fragments that had been found west of the northern portion of the alignment, north of the Coachella Canal, and within an area that has since become a housing development. The other two, P-33-009044 and P-33-009045, were isolated lithic flake tools found west of the southern portion of the alignment within what is now the Greg Norman Golf Course. Based on review of the prior documentation provided by the records search, a number of the other previously recorded sites and isolates have also been lost to development and over time.

Table 2. Previously Recorded Cultural Resources within Records Search Radius

Primary # (P-33-)	Trinomial (CA-RIV-)	Date (Recorded by)	Era (P/H/M)	Description	Attribute Codes*
000142	-	1951 (Eberhart)	-	-	-
002975	2975	1984 (R. Yohe)	P	Possible camp, ceramic scatter, fish bone, ground stone (GS) fragment	AP15
02976	2976	1984 (R. Yohe)	P	Possible camp, fire-affected rock (FAR), ceramic, debitage, bone	AP15
05212	5212	1987 (D. Gallegos et al., WESTEC Services); 1998 (B. Love and T. Tang, CRM TECH); 2003 (D. Ballester, CRM TECH)	P	Over 40-acre habitation area	AP2, AP3, AP11, AP15
005705	12999	1983 (C. Folkes, Riverside County Historical Comm.); 2003 (S. Ní Ghabhláin, ASM Affiliates); 2007 (S. Ní Ghabhláin and S. Stringer-Bowsher, Applied EarthWorks); 2013 (R. Jones and D. Broockmann, n/a); 2013 (J. Smallwood, Applied EarthWorks); 2013 (J. Smallwood and S Schafer, Applied EarthWorks and HAER Photographer); 2015 (T. Baurley and J.M. Sanka, L&L Environmental); 2015 (J. Smallwood, Applied EarthWorks); 2016 (J. George, Applied EarthWorks); 2017 (J. Castells, Applied EarthWorks); 2019 (J. Orozco, BCR Consulting); 2022 (Statistical Research)	H	Coachella Canal and distribution system from Siphon 32 to Lake Cahuilla	AH6; HP20
006854	-	1995 (J. Brock, Archaeological Advisory Group)	P	Isolate: 9 buffware sherds	AP16
006874	5777	2000 (K. Bouscaren, CRM TECH); 1995 (S. Moffitt and L. Moffitt)	P	Ceramics, shell	AP3
008129	-	1996 (B. Love, CRM TECH)	H	Rows of date palms, part of 1935 date farm	AH3
008322	-	1984 (M. Starratt, Riverside County Historical Commission)	H	Bungalow at 44-899 Oasis, Indio	HP2
008682	6185	1999 (A. Schroth, LSA Associates)	P	Human remains, ceramics	AP3; AH12
008683	6186	1999 (A. Schroth, LSA Associates)	P	Quartz cores (2), GS fragments (2)	AP2
008684	6187H	1999 (A. Schroth, LSA Associates)	H	Historic glass, metal, and ceramic scatter	AH4
008690	6188H	1999 (A. Schroth, LSA Associates)	H	Historic glass, metal, and ceramic scatter	AH4
009044	-	1999 (I. Strudwick and K. Buffington, LSA Associates)	P	Isolate: flake tool	AP2

Primary # (P-33-)	Trinomial (CA-RIV-)	Date (Recorded by)	Era (P/H/M)	Description	Attribute Codes*
009045	-	1999 (I. Strudwick and K. Buffington, LSA Associates)	P	Isolate: flake tool	AP2
009180	6364	1999 (D. Smith and K. Drover, The Keith Companies)	P	Sparse ceramic scatter	AP3
009181	6365	1999 (D. Smith and K. Drover, The Keith Companies)	P	Sparse lithic scatter	AP2
009563	-	1999 (J. McKenna et al.)	P	Ceramic scatter	AP3
009564	-	1999 (J. McKenna et al.)	P	Ceramic scatter	AP3
009576	-	1999 (J. McKenna et al.)	P	Isolate: ceramic sherd	AP3; AP16
009591	-	1999 (J. McKenna et al.)	P	Isolate: 2 ceramic sherds	AP3; AP16
009592	-	1999 (J. McKenna et al.)	P	Isolate: ceramic sherd	AP3; AP16
009594	-	1999 (J. McKenna et al.)	P	Isolate: 11 ceramic sherds	AP3; AP16
009595	-	1999 (J. McKenna et al.)	P	Isolate: ceramic rim sherd	AP3; AP16
009596	-	1999 (J. McKenna et al.)	P	Isolate: ceramic sherd	AP3; AP16
009597	-	1999 (J. McKenna et al.)	P	Isolate: ceramic sherd	AP3; AP16
009598	-	1999 (J. McKenna et al.)	P	Isolate: 5 ceramic sherds	AP3; AP16
009752	6498	2000 (N. Johnson, CRM TECH)	P	Ceramic and shell scatter	AP3; AP15
010975	6635	2001 (H. Quinn, CRM TECH)	P	Sparse ceramic scatter (3 sherds)	AP3
010976	6636	2001 (H. Quinn, CRM TECH)	P	Sparse ceramic scatter (6 sherds)	AP3
010977	6637	2001 (H. Quinn, CRM TECH)	P	Ceramic scatter with GS, bone, FAR	AP3
010996	-	2001 (H. Quinn, CRM TECH)	P	Isolate: clam shell fragment	AP16
010997	-	2001 (H. Quinn, CRM TECH)	P	Isolate: pecten shell fragment	AP16
010998	-	2001 (H. Quinn, CRM TECH)	P	Isolate: chione shell fragment	AP16
010999	-	2001 (H. Quinn, CRM TECH)	P	Isolate: ceramic sherd	AP16
011000	-	2001 (H. Quinn, CRM TECH)	P	Isolate: pecten shell fragment	AP16
011001	-	2001 (H. Quinn, CRM TECH)	P	Isolate: ceramic sherd	AP16
011002	-	2001 (H. Quinn, CRM TECH)	P	Isolate: ceramic sherd	AP16
011007	6647	2001 (J. Brock, Archaeological Advisory Group)	H	Tenant farm house site remains	AH4; AH5
011114	6680	2001 (D. Ballester, CRM TECH)	P	Ceramic and lithic scatter with GS, bone, FAR	AP2; AP3; AP16
011118	6684	2001 (D. Ballester, CRM TECH)	P	Ceramic and lithic scatter with FAR	AP2; AP3; AP16
011119	6685	2001 (M. Lozano, CRM TECH)	P	Ceramic and burned clay scatter	AP3; AP16
011210	-	1984 (R. Yohe, UC Riverside)	P	Isolate: 8 ceramic sherds	AP3; AP16
011211	-	1984 (R. Yohe, UC Riverside)	P	Isolate: 4 ceramic sherds	AP3; AP16
011212	-	1984 (R. Yohe, UC Riverside)	P	Isolate: 4 ceramic sherds	AP3; AP16
011213	-	1984 (R. Yohe, UC Riverside)	P	Isolate: 3 ceramic sherds	AP3; AP16
011214	-	1984 (R. Yohe, UC Riverside)	P	Isolate: 6 ceramic sherds	AP3; AP16
011271	-	2001 (J. Simon, W&S Consultants)	P	Sparse ceramic and lithic scatter with FAR	AP3; AP15
011272	6767	2002 (H. Quinn, CRM TECH)	P	Artifact scatter with rock features and human remains	AP9; AP15
011273	-	2001 (J. Simon, W&S Consultants)	P	FAR clusters and flake tool	AP15
011356	6765	2002 (H. Quinn, CRM TECH)	P	Sparse ceramic and lithic scatter with FAR	AP3; AP15
011362	6766	2002 (H. Quinn, CRM TECH)	P	Temporary camp	AP15
011377	6783	2001 (R. Goodwin, LSA Associates)	P	Ceramic scatter	AP3
011378	6784	2001 (R. Goodwin, LSA Associates)	P	Ceramic scatter	AP3
011379	-	2001 (R. Goodwin, LSA Associates)	P	Isolate: ceramic sherd	AP16

4.0 Background Research

Primary # (P-33-)	Trinomial (CA-RIV-)	Date (Recorded by)	Era (P/H/M)	Description	Attribute Codes*
011380	-	2001 (R. Goodwin, LSA Associates)	H	Isolate: amethyst glass fragment	AP16
011382	-	2001 (R. Goodwin, LSA Associates)	H	Isolate: amethyst glass fragment	AP16
011392	6782H	2002 (J. Brock, Archaeological Advisory Group)	H	1930s refuse	AH4
011413	6800/H	2002 (D. Ballester, CRM TECH)	M	Ceramic scatter with GS fragment and 2 amethyst glass fragments	AP3; AP16; AH16
011414	6801/H	2002 (D. Ballester, CRM TECH)	M	Ceramic and lithic scatter and amethyst glass fragments	AP3; AP16; AH16
011594	-	2002 (D. Ballester, CRM TECH)	P	Isolate: ceramic sherd	AP3
012188	-	2002 (V. Avalos, CRM TECH)	P	Isolate: 4 ceramic sherds	AP3
012283	7014	2003 (D. Ballester, CRM TECH)	P	Ceramic scatter	AP3
012284	7015	2003 (D. Ballester, CRM TECH)	P	Ceramic scatter	AP3
012298	7021	1999 (D. Smith et al., The Keith Companies)	P	Ceramic and artifact scatter with FAR	AP2; AP3
012300	7023	2003 (M. Dahdul, CRM TECH); 1999 (D. Smith et al., The Keith Companies)	P	Ceramic scatter with FAR	AP2; AP3
012301	7024	1999 (D. Smith et al., The Keith Companies)	P	Ceramic scatter with FAR	AP2; AP3
012680	-	1990 (M. Macko, Macko Archaeological Consulting)	P	Isolate: ceramic sherd	AP16
012702	-	1990 (M. Macko, Macko Archaeological Consulting)	P	Isolate: ceramic sherd	AP16
012703	-	1990 (M. Macko, Macko Archaeological Consulting)	P	Isolate: 2 ceramic sherds and core fragment	AP16
012952	7201	2003 (D. Ballester, CRM TECH)	P	Ceramic and artifact scatter	AP2; AP3
012953	7202	2003 (D. Ballester, CRM TECH)	P	Ceramic scatter	AP3
012954	7203	2003 (D. Ballester, CRM TECH)	P	Ceramic and lithic scatter	AP2; AP3
012955	7204	2003 (D. Ballester, CRM TECH)	P	Ceramic and lithic scatter	AP2; AP3
013108	7306	2004 (D. Ballester, CRM TECH)	P	Ceramic and artifact scatter	AP2; AP3; AP16
013337	-	2004 (A. Hoover and K. Blevins, L&L Environmental)	P	Isolate: ceramic sherd	AP16
013461	7475	2003 (D. Ballester, CRM TECH)	P	Ceramic scatter	AP3
013636	7505	2004 (J. Goodman and L. Mouriquand, The Keith Companies)	P	Ceramic scatter	AP3
013637	7506	2004 (J. Goodman and L. Mouriquand, The Keith Companies)	P	Ceramic scatter	AP3
013638	7507	2004 (J. Goodman and L. Mouriquand, The Keith Companies)	P	Ceramic scatter	AP3
013639	-	2004 (J. Goodman and L. Mouriquand, The Keith Companies)	P	Isolate: GS fragment	AP16
013926	7623	2001 (T. Tuttle and C. Hardacker, LSA Associates)	H	Refuse scatter	AH4
013975	-	2004 (B. Tang, CRM TECH)	H	81301 Avenue 52, La Quinta	HP2
014364	-	2004 (D. Ballester, CRM TECH)	P	Isolate: wonderstone core	AP16
015328	8095	2005 (T. Melzer, CRM TECH)	P	Ceramic and faunal scatter with FAR	AP3; AP16
015433	-	2006 (I. Mirelez, Stantec)	P	Isolate: GS fragment	AP16
015451	-	2006 (I. Mirelez, Stantec)	P	Isolate: projectile point fragment	AP16

Primary # (P-33-)	Trinomial (CA-RIV-)	Date (Recorded by)	Era (P/H/M)	Description	Attribute Codes*
015451	-	2006 (I. Mirelez, Stantec)	P	Isolate: projectile point fragment	AP16
015452	-	2006 (I. Mirelez, Stantec)	P	Isolate: ceramic sherd	AP16
015997	8292	2006 (S. Gust, Cogstone Resource Management)	H	Private cemetery	AH12
022298	-	2012 (J. Smallwood, Applied EarthWorks)	H	Irrigation features	AH6
022300	-	2012, 2013 (J. Smallwood, Applied EarthWorks)	P	Isolate: ceramic sherd	AP16
028312	12842	2018 (D. Ballester, CRM TECH)	H	Refuse scatter	AH4
028501	12843	2018 (D. Ballester, CRM TECH)	P	Ceramic scatter	AP3
028566	-	2015 (C. Chasteen, Applied EarthWorks)	H	81425 Highway 111, Indio (APN 616-130-004)	HP6
028567	-	2015 (C. Chasteen, Applied EarthWorks)	H	Highway 111	HP37
028583	12876	2016 (W. Blumel and H. Hook, ECORP Consulting)	H	Dwelling site remains	AH2; AH4; AH5; AH6; AH11
028909	12949	2019 (D. Ballester, CRM TECH)	P	Ceramic scatter	AP3

* AP2. Lithic scatter; AP3. Ceramic scatter; AP4. Bedrock milling feature; AP11. Hearths/pits; AP15. Habitation debris; AP16. Other; AH2. Foundations; AH3. Landscaping; AH4. Privies/dumps/trash scatters; AH5. Well/cistern; AH6. Water conveyance system; AH11. Wall/fence; AH12. Grave/cemetery; AH16. Other; HP2. Single family property; HP6. 1-3 story commercial building; HP20. Canal/aqueduct; HP37. Highway/trail

4.2 HISTORIC IMAGERY REVIEW

A review of historical aerial photographs of the project area was conducted as part of this study. The earliest available photographs date to 1953 and show that the area was already developed for ranching by that time; several paved and unpaved roads, and canal systems between agricultural plots are visible (NETR 2026a). Minor road alignments are visible on the 1965 and 1972 photographs (NETR 2026a). Mass grading and development for private residences is visible within the project area on the 1996 aerial photograph (NETR 2026a). Development of the plots surrounding the project alignment continues on the 2002 and 2005 photographs (NETR 2026a). The project area is currently in use as public roads and is surrounded by private residences and golf courses.

The project area is partially visible on a 1944 topographic map which shows that several roads and ranches had already been constructed in its northern portion, while the southern portion was largely undeveloped (NETR 2026b). More significant development is apparent on a 1957 topographic map, which shows an increasing number of roads and ranches in the area; this aligns with the development visible in the aerial photographs from this approximate area (NETR 2026b). This trend remains visible on the 1968, 1971, and 1991 maps. The 2012 topographic map shows that the many ranches surrounding the project area were developed for private residences and golf courses (NETR 2026b).

4.3 NAHC SACRED LANDS FILE SEARCH

ASM requested a review of the Sacred Lands File (SLF) held by the California Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC). The NAHC responded on August 7, 2026, indicating that the results of the search were positive and suggesting that the Augustine Band of Cahuilla Indians and the Cabazon Band of Cahuilla Indians be contacted. A total of 25 additional tribal contacts representing 10 other tribal entities who may have knowledge of or interest in the area were also provided. The NAHC response is included as Appendix A.

5.0 SUMMARY

The project alignment itself and immediately adjacent parcels comprise developed agricultural, residential, and recreational areas, as well as road and utility corridors. While much of the project area has been subject to archaeological survey in the past, only five resources have been identified in near proximity (within 75 m) to the alignment. Four were single isolated artifacts that have since been removed by subsequent development. Isolated artifacts are considered de facto not eligible for the NRHP or CRHR. The fifth previously documented resource is the NRHP-eligible Coachella Canal, which will not be directly impacted by the proposed project.

The topography of the project area is relatively homogeneous, leading to a similar level of potential archaeological sensitivity along the whole of the alignment. It is unclear based on records search maps whether the entirety of the alignment has been specifically subject to previous archaeological survey and all prior projects identified in the records search took place over 10 years ago. As such, while there appears to be a low likelihood that previously undocumented resources would remain within the alignment or in its immediate proximity due to the developed nature of the overall project area, a pedestrian archaeological survey of the alignment, with a focus on locations that will be subject to direct impact, is recommended prior to construction given the large number of resources previously recorded within the records search buffer. Such a survey will assist in verifying that no potentially significant resources exist that may be impacted by the proposed project.

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- 1975 Early Observations on the Cultural Geography of the Coachella Valley. In *The Cahuilla Indians of the Colorado Desert: Ethnohistory and Prehistory*, pp. 9-43. Ballena Press, Ramona, California.

APPENDIX A
NAHC Response



July 17, 2026

California Native American Heritage Commission
1550 Harbor Boulevard, Suite 100
West Sacramento, California 95691
Via email: nahc@nahc.ca.gov

Re: Sacred Lands File Search Request for the 92 kV "CS" Transmission Line Conductor Upgrade From Ave 58th Substation to Ave 48th Substation Project, Indio and La Quinta, Riverside County, California

To whom it may concern,

ASM Affiliates (ASM) is conducting a desktop review for the 92 kV "CS" Transmission Line Conductor Upgrade from Ave 58th Substation to Ave 48th Substation Project (Project), Indio and La Quinta, Riverside County, California. The proposed Project is depicted on the USGS Indio, California and La Quinta, California 7.5-minute topographic quadrangles (see attached). This study is being undertaken in compliance with CEQA.

A records search has been requested from the South Coastal Information Center. I am writing to request a search of your Sacred Lands File and to inquire if you have registered any cultural resources, traditional cultural properties, or areas of heritage sensitivity within this proposed project area. Please send the results of this search to me at our Pasadena office, listed below, and feel free to call, write, fax (626) 793-2008, or e-mail (sandrews@asmaffiliates.com) if you have any questions. We appreciate any information you can provide on this project.

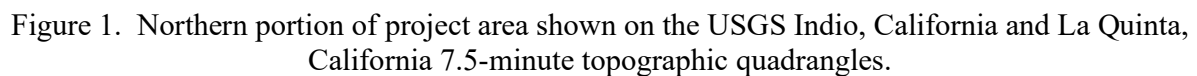
Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sherri Andrews', is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Sherri Andrews, M.A.
ASM Affiliates
Senior Archaeologist

Attachments:

Figures 1-3. Project area shown on the USGS Indio, California and La Quinta, California 7.5-minute topographic quadrangles.



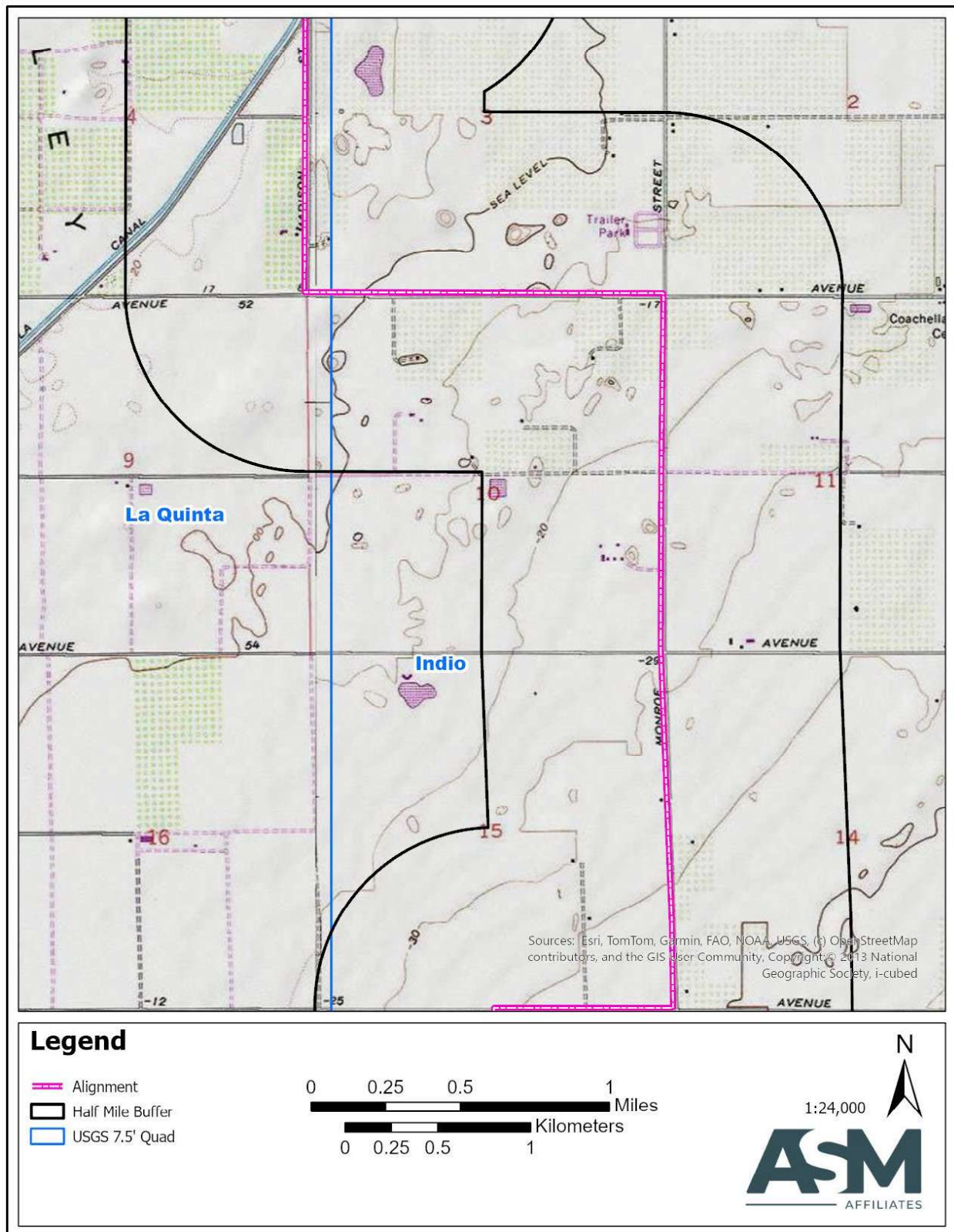


Figure 2. Central portion of project area shown on the USGS Indio, California and La Quinta, California 7.5-minute topographic quadrangles.

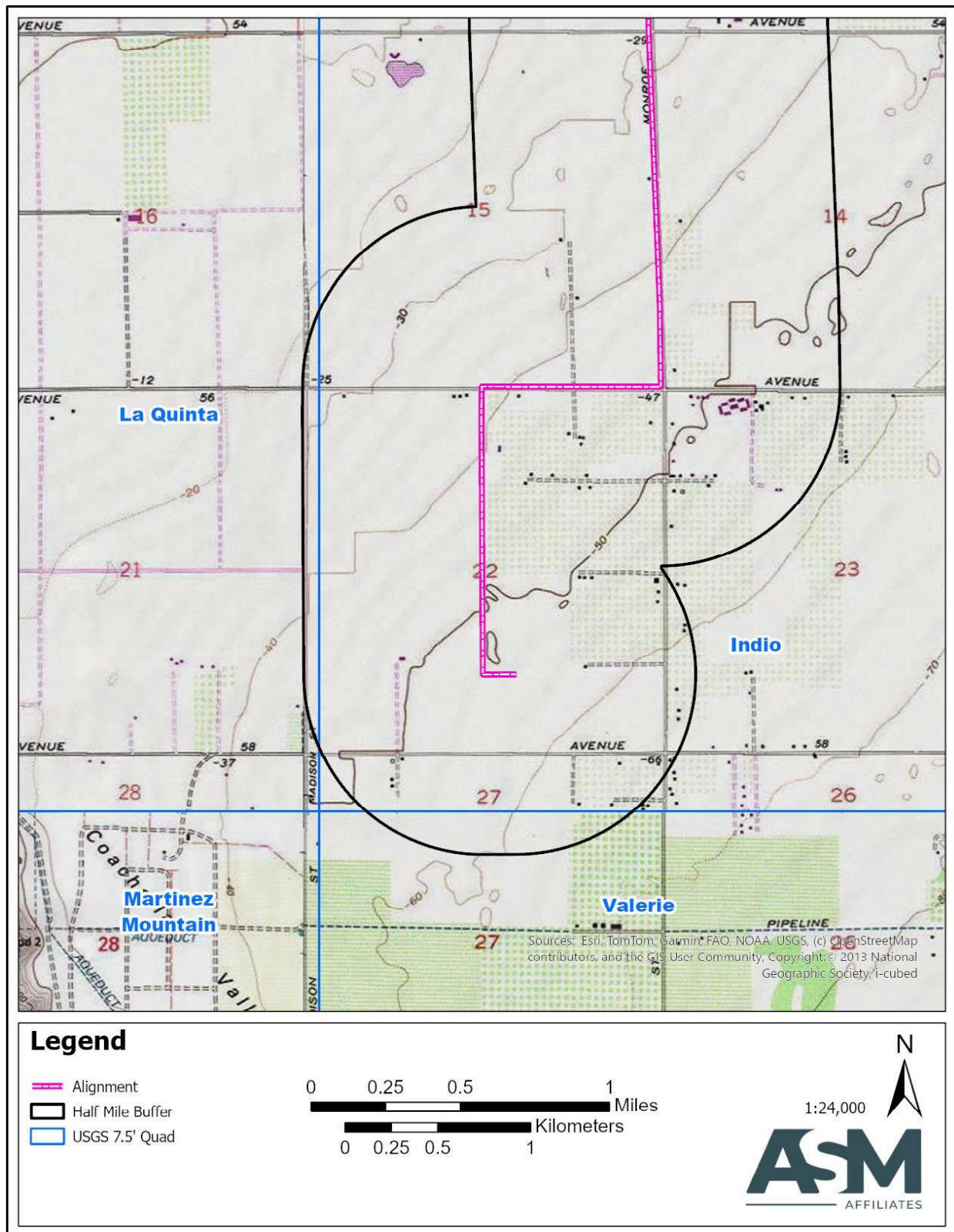


Figure 1. Southern portion of project area shown on the USGS USGS Indio, California 7.5-minute topographic quadrangle.

**NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE COMMISSION**

August 7, 2026

Sherri Andrews
ASM AffiliatesVia Email to: sandrews@asmaffiliates.comCHAIRPERSON
Reginald Pagaling
ChumashVICE-CHAIRPERSON
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Bennae Calac
Pauma-Yuima Band of
Luiseño IndiansCOMMISSIONER
VacantCOMMISSIONER
VacantEXECUTIVE SECRETARY
Andrew Alejandro
Paskenta Band of
Nomlaki Indians**NAHC HEADQUARTERS**
1550 Harbor Boulevard
Suite 100
West Sacramento,
California 95691
(916) 373-3710
nahc@nahc.ca.gov**Re: Tribal Consultation Under CEQA, 92 kV "CS" Transmission Line Conductor Upgrade From Ave 58th Substation to Ave 48th Substation Project, Riverside County**

To Whom It May Concern:

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

Additionally, the NAHC recommends that agencies include with their notification letters, information regarding any cultural resources assessment that has been completed on the Area of Potential Effect (APE), such as:

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

- A listing of any and all known cultural resources that have already been recorded on or adjacent to the APE, such as known archaeological sites;
- Copies of any and all cultural resource records and study reports that may have been provided by the Information Center as part of the records search response;
- Whether the records search indicates a low, moderate, or high probability that unrecorded cultural resources are located in the APE; and
- If a survey is recommended by the Information Center to determine whether previously unrecorded cultural resources are present.

2. The results of any archaeological inventory survey that was conducted, including:

- Any report that may contain site forms, site significance, and suggested mitigation measures.

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

3. The result of the Sacred Lands File check conducted through the Native American Heritage Commission.
4. Any ethnographic studies conducted for any area including all or part of the APE; and
5. Any geotechnical reports regarding all or part of the APE.

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

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

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

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

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Andrew Green". The script is cursive and fluid, with the first letters of each word being capitalized and prominent.

Andrew Green
Cultural Resources Analyst

Attachment

Native American Heritage Commission
Native American Contact List
Riverside County
8/7/2026

Tribe Name	Fed (F) Non-Fed (N)	Contact Person	Contact Address	Phone #	Fax #	Email Address	Cultural Affiliation	Counties	Last Updated
Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians	F	Lacy Padilla, Director of Historic Preservation/THPO	5401 Dinah Shore Drive Palm Springs, CA, 92264	(760) 333-5222	(760) 699-6919	ACBCI-THPO@aguacaliente.net	Cahuilla	Imperial,Riverside,San Bernardino,San Diego	6/19/2026
Augustine Band of Cahuilla Indians	F	Tribal Operations,	84-001 Avenue 54 Coachella, CA, 92236	(760) 398-4722		info@augustinetribe-nsn.gov	Cahuilla	Imperial,Riverside,San Bernardino,San Diego	4/18/2024
Cabazon Band of Cahuilla Indians	F	Doug Welmas, Chairperson	84-245 Indio Springs Parkway Indio, CA, 92203	(760) 342-2593	(760) 347-7880	jstapp@cabazonindians-nsn.gov	Cahuilla	Imperial,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	2/1/2024
Cahuilla Band of Indians	F	BobbyRay Esparza, Cultural Director	52701 CA Highway 371 Anza, CA, 92539	(951) 763-5549		besparza@cahuilla-nsn.gov	Cahuilla	Imperial,Los Angeles,Orange,Riverside,San Bernardino,San Diego	6/28/2023
Cahuilla Band of Indians	F	Anthony Madrigal, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer	52701 CA Highway 371 Anza, CA, 92539	(951) 763-5549		anthonymad2002@gmail.com	Cahuilla	Imperial,Los Angeles,Orange,Riverside,San Bernardino,San Diego	6/28/2023
Fort Yuma Quechan Indian Tribe	F	Jonathan Koteen, President	P.O.Box 1899 Yuma, AZ, 85365	(760) 919-3600		executivesecretary@quechantribe.com	Quechan	Imperial,Kern,Los Angeles,Riverside,San Bernardino,San Diego	10/29/2025
Fort Yuma Quechan Indian Tribe	F	Jill McCormick, Historic Preservation Officer	P.O. Box 1899 Yuma, AZ, 85365	(760) 919-3631		historicpreservation@quechantribe.com	Quechan	Imperial,Kern,Los Angeles,Riverside,San Bernardino,San Diego	10/29/2025
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	Charles Martin, MBMI Chairman	12700 Pumarra Road Banning, CA, 92220	(951) 755-5110		chairman@morongo-nsn.gov	Cahuilla Serrano	Imperial,Kern,Los Angeles,Orange,Riverside,San Bernardino,San Diego,Ventura	11/21/2025
Morongo Band of Mission Indians	F	Lena Broderick, Executive Assistant to Tribal Chairman	12700 Pumarra Road Banning, CA, 92220	(951) 755-5110		lbroderick@morongo-nsn.gov	Cahuilla Serrano	Imperial,Kern,Los Angeles,Orange,Riverside,San Bernardino,San Diego,Ventura	11/21/2025

**Native American Heritage Commission
Native American Contact List
Riverside County
8/7/2026**

Morongo Band of Mission Indians	F	Bernadette Ann Brierty, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer	12700 Pumarra Road Banning, CA, 92220	(951) 663-2842		abrierty@morongo-nsn.gov	Cahuilla Serrano	Imperial,Kern,Los Angeles,Orange,Riverside,San Bernardino,San Diego,Ventura	11/21/2025
Ramona Band of Cahuilla	F	Joseph Hamilton, Chairperson	P.O. Box 391670 Anza, CA, 92539	(951) 763-4105	(951) 763-4325	admin@ramona-nsn.gov	Cahuilla	Imperial,Riverside,San Bernardino,San Diego	
Santa Rosa Band of Cahuilla Indians	F	Steven Estrada, Tribal Chairman	P.O. Box 391820 Anza, CA, 92539	(951) 659-2700	(951) 659-2228	sestrada@santarosa-nsn.gov	Cahuilla	Imperial,Los Angeles,Orange,Riverside,San Bernardino,San Diego	4/8/2024
Santa Rosa Band of Cahuilla Indians	F	Mercedes Estrada, Cultural Director	P.O. Box 391820 Anza, CA, 92539	(951) 659-2700	(951) 659-2228	mestrada@santarosa-nsn.gov	Cahuilla	Imperial,Los Angeles,Orange,Riverside,San Bernardino,San Diego	5/21/2025
Santa Rosa Band of Cahuilla Indians	F	Vanessa Minott, Tribal Administrator	P.O. Box 391820 Anza, CA, 92539	(951) 659-2700	(951) 659-2228	vminott@santarosa-nsn.gov	Cahuilla	Imperial,Los Angeles,Orange,Riverside,San Bernardino,San Diego	4/8/2024
Soboba Band of Luiseno Indians	F	Joseph Ontiveros, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer	P.O. Box 487 San Jacinto, CA, 92581	(951) 663-5279	(951) 654-4198	jontiveros@soboba-nsn.gov	Cahuilla Luiseno	Imperial,Los Angeles,Orange,Riverside,San Bernardino,San Diego	7/14/2023
Soboba Band of Luiseno Indians	F	Jessica Valdez, Cultural Resource Specialist	P.O. Box 487 San Jacinto, CA, 92581	(951) 663-6261	(951) 654-4198	jvaldez@soboba-nsn.gov	Cahuilla Luiseno	Imperial,Los Angeles,Orange,Riverside,San Bernardino,San Diego	7/14/2023
Torres-Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians	F	Abraham Becerra, Cultural Coordinator	P.O. Box 1160 Thermal, CA, 92274	(760) 397-0300		abecerra@tmdci.org	Cahuilla	Imperial,Riverside,San Bernardino,San Diego	10/30/2023
Torres-Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians	F	Gary Resvaloso, TM MLD	P.O. Box 1160 Thermal, CA, 92274	(760) 777-0365		grestmtm@gmail.com	Cahuilla	Imperial,Riverside,San Bernardino,San Diego	10/30/2023
Torres-Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians	F	Mary Belardo, Cultural Committee Vice Chair	P.O. Box 1160 Thermal, CA, 92274	(760) 397-0300		belardom@gmail.com	Cahuilla	Imperial,Riverside,San Bernardino,San Diego	10/30/2023
Torres-Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians	F	Alesia Reed, Cultural Committee Chairwoman	P.O. Box 1160 Thermal, CA, 92274	(760) 397-0300		lisareed990@gmail.com	Cahuilla	Imperial,Riverside,San Bernardino,San Diego	10/30/2023
Torres-Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians	F	Thomas Torte, Chairperson	P.O. Box 1160 Thermal, CA, 92274	(760) 397-0300	(760) 397-8146	thomas.tortez@tmdci.org	Cahuilla	Imperial,Riverside,San Bernardino,San Diego	10/30/2023

**Native American Heritage Commission
Native American Contact List
Riverside County
8/7/2026**

Twenty-Nine Palms Band of Mission Indians	F	Christopher Nicosia, Cultural Resources Manager/THPO Manager	46-200 Harrison Place Coachella, CA, 92236	(760) 863-3972		christopher.nicosia@29palmsbomi-nsn.gov	Chemehuevi	Imperial,Inyo,Riverside,San Bernardino	11/15/2023
Twenty-Nine Palms Band of Mission Indians	F	Nicolas Garza, Cultural Resources Specialist	46-200 Harrison Place Coachella, CA, 92236	(760) 863-2486		nicolas.garza@29palmsbomi-nsn.gov	Chemehuevi	Imperial,Inyo,Riverside,San Bernardino	11/15/2023
Twenty-Nine Palms Band of Mission Indians	F	Sarah O'Brien, Tribal Archivist	46-200 Harrison Place Coachella, CA, 92236	(760) 863-2460		sobrien@29palmsbomi-nsn.gov	Chemehuevi	Imperial,Inyo,Riverside,San Bernardino	11/15/2023

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

Record: PROJ-2026-004045
Report Type: AB52 GIS
Counties: Riverside
NAHC Group: All

This list is only applicable for consultation with Native American tribes under Public Resources Code Sections 21080.3.1 for the proposed 92 kV "CS" Transmission Line Conductor Upgrade From Ave 58th Substation to Ave 48th Substation