

APPENDIX D: CULTURAL RESOURCES ASSESSMENT



Ion Exchange Treatment Plant 7991 Replacement Project

Cultural Resources Assessment

prepared for

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Executive Summary

On behalf of the Coachella Valley Water District (CVWD), Woodard & Curran retained Rincon Consultants, Inc. (Rincon) to conduct a cultural resources assessment for the Ion Exchange Treatment Plant (IXTP) 7991 Project (proposed project), in the unincorporated Riverside County community of Mecca. The proposed project consists of the demolition of the existing IXTP, located at CVWD's IXTP 7991 Site, and its replacement with a new 1,800 to 2,000 gallon-per-minute adsorption treatment system. The proposed project would also construct new sulfuric acid and caustic soda systems and associated infrastructure, such as backwash pumps and piping, pre-filters, and a backwash tank on the IXTP 7991 Site.

The proposed project is subject to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) with the CVWD acting as the lead agency. It would be funded partially by a grant from the United States Department of Agriculture. The project is therefore considered a federal undertaking and is subject to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (Section 106). The purpose of this study is to identify historic properties with the potential to be affected, and/or historical resources with the potential to be impacted by the proposed undertaking. It includes the delineation of an Area of Potential Effects (APE), searches of the California Historic Resources Information System (CHRIS) and the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) Sacred Lands File (SLF), Native American and local interested party outreach, background research, a field survey of the APE and the preparation of this report.

The APE delineated for the undertaking encompasses all demolition and construction activities included as part of the proposed project. The parcel on which the undertaking would occur is surrounded by agricultural properties that include no built environment features in the vicinity of the IXTP 7991 Site. Therefore, the APE is limited to the one-acre Riverside County Assessor's Parcel on which the undertaking would occur (Assessor's Parcel Number [APN] 727-272-008) and the Hammond Road right-of-way (ROW) located adjacent, to the south of APN 727-272-008.

The CHRIS search identified 25 previously conducted cultural resources studies within a one-mile radius of the APE. One of these studies (RI-09081) includes a portion of the current APE and did not result in the identification of any cultural resources. The CHRIS search also identified 29 previously recorded cultural resources within a 1.0-mile radius of the APE. These resources include 27 historic period resources (sites, buildings, and structures) and two prehistoric isolates (pottery sherds), none of which are within the current APE. The results of the NAHC SLF search were negative. Outreach to 23 Native American tribal contacts and three local interested parties did not indicate the presence of cultural resources in the APE.

The background research conducted for this study indicated the built environment features located in the APE were constructed after 1996 and the field survey confirmed they are contemporary buildings and structures. Due to their recent construction, a formal historical evaluation was not completed. Furthermore, as ubiquitous utilitarian structures, none of the built features in the APE appear to qualify for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criteria Consideration G. The field survey conducted for this study did not identify any cultural resources in the APE.

Based on the information summarized above, Rincon recommends a finding of ***no impact to historical and archaeological resources*** under CEQA, and ***no effect to historic properties*** under Section 106.

Rincon presents the following recommendation in case of unanticipated discovery of cultural resources during project development. The project is also required to adhere to regulations regarding the unanticipated discovery of human remains, detailed below.

Unanticipated Discovery of Cultural Resources

If cultural resources are encountered during ground-disturbing activities, work in the immediate area must halt and an archaeologist meeting the Secretary of the Interior's Professional Qualifications Standards for archaeology (National Park Service 1983) should be contacted immediately to evaluate the find. If the discovery proves to be eligible for the California Register of Historical Resources and/or National Register of Historic Places, additional work such as data recovery excavation and Native American consultation and archaeological monitoring may be warranted to mitigate any significant impacts.

Unanticipated Discovery of Human Remains

If human remains are found, existing regulations outlined in the State of California Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5 state that no further disturbance shall occur until the County Coroner has made a determination of origin and disposition pursuant to Public Resources Code Section 5097.98. In the event of an unanticipated discovery of human remains, the County Coroner must be notified immediately. If the human remains are determined to be prehistoric, the Coroner will notify the NAHC, which will determine and notify a most likely descendant, who shall complete the inspection of the site within 48 hours of being granted access and provide recommendations as to the treatment of the remains to the landowner.

1 Introduction

On behalf of the Coachella Valley Water District (CVWD), Woodard & Curran retained Rincon Consultants, Inc. (Rincon) to conduct a cultural resources assessment for the Ion Exchange Treatment Plant (IXTP) 7991 Project (proposed project), located in the unincorporated Riverside County community of Mecca. The proposed project consists of the demolition of the existing IXTP located at CVWD's IXTP 7991 Site and its replacement with a new 1,800 to 2,000 gallon per minute (gpm) adsorption treatment system. The project would additionally construct new sulfuric acid and caustic soda systems, and associated infrastructure such as backwash pumps and piping, pre-filters, and a backwash tank on the IXTP 7991 Site. The proposed project is subject to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (Section 106).

1.1 Project Location and Description

The proposed project site is in the Coachella Valley of Riverside County, in the United States Geological Survey (USGS) Mecca, California 7.5-minute topographic quadrangle. The project site is east of State Route 111 and approximately 0.5 mile south of the unincorporated community of Mecca (Figure 1). It encompasses the one-acre Riverside County Assessor's parcel that comprises CVWD's IXTP 7991 Site and the Hammond Road right-of-way (ROW) adjacent to the parcel. Regional land uses surrounding the project site primarily consist of uncultivated and cultivated agricultural parcels. The IXTP 7991 Site serves the southeastern portion of the CVWD service area, including the unincorporated community of Mecca and the Area 23 pressure zone via a single 18-inch pipeline.

CVWD operates an IXTP at its IXTP 7991 Site to treat high arsenic levels in the groundwater. In addition to the IXTP, existing facilities at the IXTP 7991 Site include a well pump, bypass and pressure reducing station, and retention basin constructed on the site following 1996. Many of the components of the existing treatment system are in poor condition and in need of replacement, except for the sodium hypochlorite chemical feed system. IXTP 7991 is in poor condition, resulting in poor water supply reliability for Mecca and Area 23. To provide adequate water supply and fire flows, IXTP 7991 must be replaced. The proposed project consists of the demolition of the existing IXTP 7991 and its replacement with a new 1,800 to 2,000 gpm adsorption treatment system, new sulfuric acid and caustic soda systems, and associated infrastructure, such as backwash pumps and piping, pre-filters, and a backwash tank.

Project construction would occur within the IXTP 7991 Site and within the adjacent Hammond Road ROW and would involve excavation to a depth of approximately 15 feet for booster suction cans. Construction schedule depends upon funding availability but is currently anticipated to begin in June 2021 and last for approximately eight months.

1.2 Area of Potential Effects

36 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Section 800.16(d) defines a project APE as the “geographic area or areas within which a project may directly or indirectly cause changes in the character or use of historic properties if any such property exists.” The APE generally encompasses all areas where activities associated with an undertaking would occur and includes all construction staging areas.

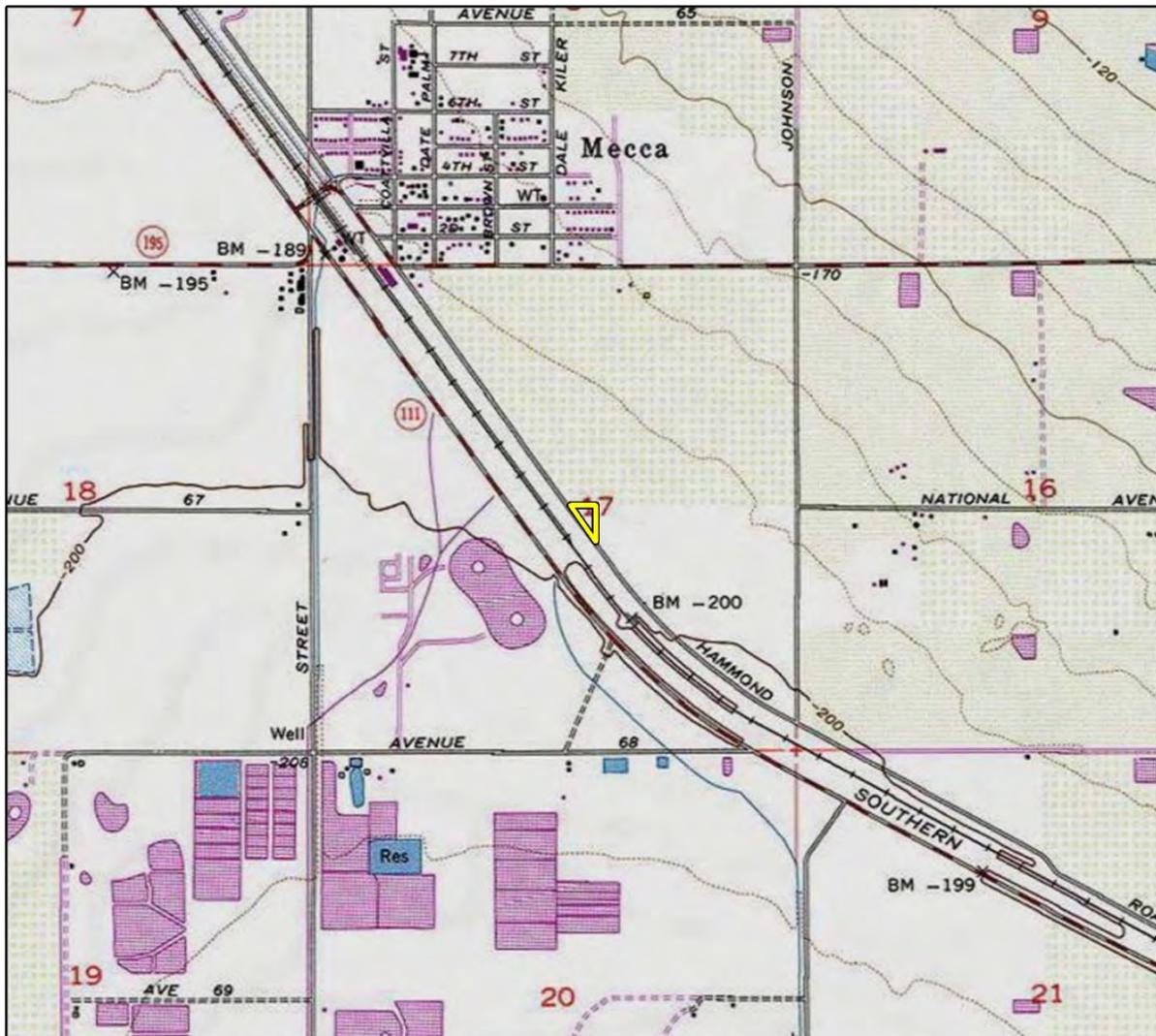
All construction associated with the proposed undertaking would occur on CVWD’s IXTP 7991 Site and within the adjacent Hammond Road ROW. None of the properties surrounding the IXTP 7991 Site feature buildings in the immediate vicinity of the site. Therefore, the APE for the current undertaking was limited to the one-acre Riverside County Assessor’s parcel that makes up the IXTP 7991 Site (Assessor’s Parcel Number [APN] 727-272-008) and the Hammond Road ROW located adjacent to APN 727-272-008 (Figure 2).

The APE must additionally be considered a three-dimensional space. The undertaking may include excavation of up to 15 feet to account for the placement of booster suction cans. Any buildings and structures constructed as part of the undertaking would be comparable in size, scale, and massing to those already on site and are not anticipated to be over 18 feet in height. Therefore, the vertical limits of the APE extend from 15 feet below grade to 18 feet above grade.

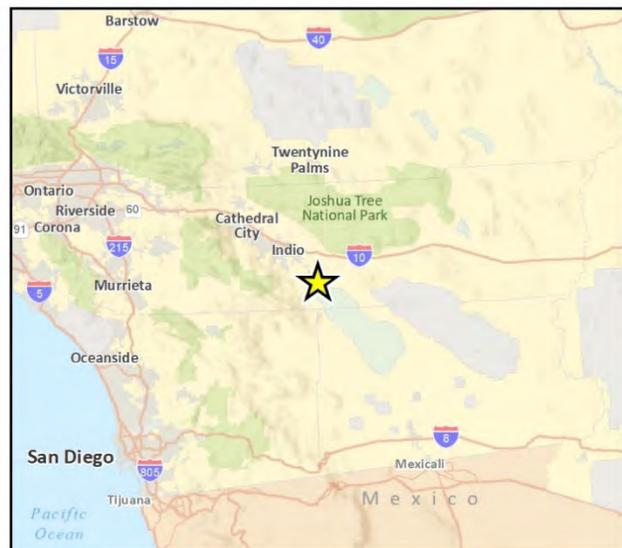
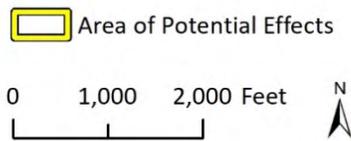
1.3 Personnel

Rincon Archaeologist, Hannah Haas, MA, Registered Professional Archaeologist (RPA), managed this cultural resources assessment. Ms. Haas meets the Secretary of the Interior’s Professional Qualifications Standards for prehistoric and historic archaeology (National Park Service 1983). Architectural Historian, Rachel Perzel, MA, conducted the Native American and local interested party outreach and co-authored this report. Archaeologist, Mark Strother, MA, RPA, completed the field survey and co-authored this report. Staff at the Eastern Information Center (EIC) completed the California Historical Resources Information System (CHRIS) records search. The Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) conducted the Sacred Lands File (SLF) search. Geographic Information Systems Analyst Doug Carreiro prepared the figures found in this report. Principal Jennifer Haddow, PhD reviewed this report for quality control.

Figure 1 Project Vicinity



Imagery provided by National Geographic Society, Esri and its licensors © 2020. Mecca Quadrangle. T07S R09E S17. The topographic representation depicted in this map may not portray all of the features currently found in the vicinity today and/or features depicted in this map may have changed since the original topographic map was assembled.



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Figure 2 Area of Potential Effects



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2 Regulatory Setting

This section includes a discussion of the applicable federal, state and local laws, ordinances, regulations, and standards governing cultural resources to which the project should adhere before and during implementation.

2.1 Federal Regulations

2.1.1 National Historic Preservation Act

The proposed project is assumed to be subject to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) of 1966 (as amended). The definition of a federal undertaking in 36 CFR 800.16(y) includes projects requiring a federal permit, license, or approval. Cultural resources are considered during federal undertakings chiefly under Section 106 of the NHPA through one of its implementing regulations, 36 CFR 800 (Protection of Historic Properties), as well as the National Environmental Policy Act. Properties of traditional, religious, and cultural importance to Native Americans are considered under both Section 101 (d)(6)(A) and Section 106 36 CFR 800.3-800.10 of the NHPA. Other federal laws include the Archaeological Data Preservation Act of 1974, the American Indian Religious Freedom Act of 1978, the Archaeological Resources Protection Act of 1979, and the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act of 1989, among others.

Section 106 of the NHPA (16 United States Code 470f) requires federal agencies to take into account the effects of their undertakings on any district, site, building, structure, or object that is included in or eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) and to afford the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation a reasonable opportunity to comment on such undertakings (36 CFR 800.1). Under Section 106, the significance of any adversely affected historic property is assessed and mitigation measures are proposed to reduce any impacts to an acceptable level. Historic properties are those significant cultural resources that are listed in or are eligible for listing in the NRHP per the criteria listed below (36 CFR 60.4):

The quality of significance in American, state, and local 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 meet one or more of the following criteria:

- a. Are associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history
- b. Are associated with the lives of persons significant in our past
- c. Embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of installation, 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
- d. Have yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history

2.2 State Regulations

2.2.1 California Environmental Quality Act

CEQA requires a lead agency to determine whether a project may have a significant effect on historical resources (Public Resources Code [PRC], Section 21084.1) or tribal cultural resources (PRC Section 21074[a][1][A]-[B]). A historical resource is a resource listed, or determined to be eligible for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources (CRHR); a resource included in a local register of historical resources; or an object, building, structure, site, area, place, record, or manuscript that a lead agency determines to be *historically significant* (State CEQA Guidelines, Section 15064.5[a][1-3]).

A resource shall be considered *historically significant* 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 to our past
- 3) Embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, region, or method of construction, or represents the work of an important creative individual, or possesses high artistic values
- 4) Has yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history

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

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

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

3 Natural and Cultural Setting

3.1 Natural Setting

The APE is in the Coachella Valley, within the Colorado Desert region of the Lower Sonoran Desert. Elevations in this region exceed 4,000 feet above mean sea level in the Jacumba Mountains and dip to 287 feet below mean sea level at the base of the Salton Trough. The elevation of the APE is approximately 187 feet below mean sea level. The Salton Trough is the central feature within this desert region and is part of the seismically active Gulf of California Rift Zone. Fresh water and marine events of inundation and drying have occurred for millennia resulting in the accumulation of some 20,000 feet of marine and non-marine sediments (Chandler et al. 2003). Prehistorically, flood waters reaching the Salton Trough would persist until approximately 42 feet above mean sea level whereby the water would crest the Cerro Prieto Delta, ultimately discharging into the Gulf of California.

The current climate is characterized by dry conditions, unpredictable rainfall, and excessive summer temperatures. Plant communities vary depending on elevation, with creosote plants dominating the valley floors that transition to riparian zones near dependable water sources. Land uses in the vicinity of the APE are predominantly agricultural and residential. The entire fenced project site within the APE is developed, consisting of structures, tanks, compacted open areas for vehicle access, and a water blow off basin.

3.2 Cultural Setting

The cultural setting for the project vicinity is broadly presented in three overviews: Prehistoric, Ethnographic, and Historic. The Prehistoric and Historic overviews describe human occupation before and after European contact, while the Ethnographic Overview provides a synchronic “snapshot” of traditional Native American lifeways as described by European observers prior to assimilative actions.

3.2.1 Prehistoric Setting

California prehistory for the project area is commonly divided into four broad temporal periods. These include the Paleo-Indian Period (ca. 10,000–6000 BC), Early Archaic Period (6000–2000 BC), Late Archaic Period (2000 BC–AD 500), and Late Prehistoric Period (AD 500–Historic Contact). The Late Prehistoric Period is further divided into the Patayan I (ca. AD 800 – 1050), Patayan II (ca. AD 950 – 1500), and Patayan III (AD 1500 to European contact).

The project lies in what generally is described as the Colorado Desert region (Schaefer and Laylander 2007:247). Though it shares similarities with the adjacent Mojave and Sonoran deserts, the Colorado Desert possesses a unique and distinct natural and cultural history. The Colorado Desert is bordered on the west by the Peninsular Range and the Pacific Coastal Plain, the Colorado River to the east, the Mojave Desert to the north, and the Gulf of California to the south. This part of the Colorado Desert is the Salton Trough, which lies primarily within today’s Imperial, Riverside, and San Diego counties.

Although now an arid region, a series of lakes collectively referred to as Lake Cahuilla (also known as Lake LeConte and Blake's Sea) occupied much of the Salton Trough throughout the Holocene. Lake Cahuilla was formed by the western diversion of the Colorado River into the Salton Trough when natural sediment barriers blocked the river's flow south to the Gulf of California. Lake Cahuilla's maximum shoreline is marked by extensive beach formations at 42 feet (13 meters) above mean sea level (Schaefer n.d.). Radiocarbon dates from archaeological sites and marsh deposits indicate at least three episodes of infilling and recession occurred between AD 1200 and the late 1600s (Buckles and Krantz 2005; Laylander 1995; Schaefer and Laylander 2007; Waters 1983). An infilling occurred in the 1200s followed by a recession in the late 1300s or early 1400s. Another complete infilling took place in the 1400s, which receded in the late 1400s or early 1500s. A final infilling appears to have occurred in the 1600s, followed by the last recession ending after AD 1700. It is possible that additional infillings occurred prior to AD 1200.

The lake experienced many partial infillings and fluctuations in level over time (Laylander 2006; Schaefer n.d.; Laylander 2006). When the lake was present, freshwater fish, shellfish, migratory birds, and riparian flora and fauna associated with the lake and shoreline may have been important factors in human subsistence and settlement patterns during most of the Prehistoric Period. Some scholars argue that the desiccation of the lake caused permanent shoreline populations to move out of the valley and into the mountains to the west and the Colorado River to the east. Others argue that the valley was seasonally inhabited by small mobile groups due to unstable seasonal fluctuations in lake levels. Once the lake dried up, these groups would have altered their seasonal rounds to exclude Lake Cahuilla or to focus on newly exposed resources on the lakebed (Schaefer n.d.).

Increased salinity levels would have accompanied the recession of Lake Cahuilla. This would have impoverished and eliminated the freshwater fauna and flora living in and around the lake. It is possible, however, that the lake could have continued to be exploitable by humans at least as low as 180 feet below mean sea level (Laylander 2006).

Paleo-Indian Period (ca. 10,000 – 6000 BC)

In contrast to the dry climate of today, California's desert regions during the late Pleistocene and the early Holocene contained a series of large, pluvial lakes. Archaeological evidence suggests that early Holocene hunter-gathers of the desert region were well adapted to the wetland environments supported by these lakes. Sites were typically located on or near the shores of former pluvial lakes and marshes and have artifact assemblages marked by their diversity of flaked-stone artifacts. Such sites, however, have not been documented for the Colorado Desert region, including for the nearly 10,000-year-old pluvial shoreline of Lake Cahuilla (Moratto 1984:96; Schaefer and Laylander 2007:247).

The San Dieguito Complex is a well-defined expression or cultural pattern of the Paleo-Indian Period in the California desert region. Originally named for the cultural sequence in western San Diego County (Rogers 1929), the complex now incorporates additional local patterns within the Colorado and Mojave Deserts and the western Great Basin (Rogers 1966; Warren 1967). Leaf-shaped points and knives, crescents, and scrapers characterize the artifact assemblages throughout the region. Moratto (1984:92) subsumed the numerous local patterns (including the Lake Mojave Period of Warren 1967) under the overarching Western Pluvial Lakes Tradition, first defined by Bedwell (1970). Current studies regarding the Colorado Desert, however, typically reference the Paleo-Indian Period or San Dieguito Complex, rather than the Western Pluvial Lakes Tradition (c.f., Schaefer and Laylander 2007).

Early Archaic Period (6000–2000 BC)

As the pluvial conditions of the Pleistocene transitioned to the more arid Holocene climate, many of the lakes and wetlands present during the Paleo-Indian Period began to dry up. By the Early Archaic Period, many of the wetlands throughout the three deserts had disappeared (though brief periods of moister conditions do appear later as discussed below). Desert populations appear to have adapted to these more arid conditions by withdrawing to the margins of the desert or concentrating around the few oases still present within it (Warren 1984:413-414). A brief period of moister conditions may have led to a temporary reoccupation of the desert region between 4500 and 3500 BC, but evidence from the Mojave Desert and western Great Basin sites suggests that most Early Archaic sites were temporary, seasonal camps of small, highly mobile groups. Slab metates and hand stones (used to process hard seeds), shaped scrapers, and the Pinto-style projectile point characterize the artifact assemblages of the Pinto Basin Complex. In the Colorado Desert, the Indian Hill rockshelter is recognized as one of the best understood Archaic Period sites, with occupation extending back more than 4,000 years (Schaefer and Laylander 2007:247).

Late Archaic Period (2000 BC–AD 500)

The onset of the Late Archaic coincides with the beginning of the Little Pluvial, a brief period of moister climatic conditions. By the second half of the Late Archaic, arid conditions returned. Desert peoples appear to have been well adapted to these conditions by this time, however, and no notable decrease in population appeared to have occurred. Late Archaic sites are characterized by a wider range of diagnostic projectile points, such as the Gypsum and Elko types, as well as split-twig figurines, the latter typically preserved in caves (Warren 1984:416–417). Hand stones and metates continued to be employed but were supplemented by the introduction of mortars and pestles during this period. Based on ethnographic analogy and site location, Warren (1984:419) suggests that mortars and pestles were used to process mesquite pods. The bow and arrow also appear to have been introduced near the end of this period. In addition, this period is marked by an increased presence of exotic trade goods, including shell ornaments from the Pacific coast.

Several large Late Archaic Period sites in the Colorado Desert indicate increased sedentism, particularly in the northern Coachella Valley (Love and Dahdul 2002; Schaefer and Laylander 2007). Late Archaic sites near the maximum shoreline of Lake Cahuilla indicate rabbits supplemented lacustrine food sources such as fish, shellfish, and migratory waterfowl (Schaefer and Laylander 2007). Long-distance trade is evidenced in these assemblages by the presence of obsidian from the Coso volcanic field in Inyo County and shell beads from the Gulf of California.

Late Prehistoric Period (AD 500–Historic Contact)

The period from the end of the Archaic Period to European contact was a time of complex and ongoing change in material culture, burial practices, and subsistence focus. These changes most likely reflect both cultural influences from outside the region and in situ cultural adaptations in response to shifts in environmental conditions. The Late Prehistoric, commonly called the Patayan Period in the Colorado Desert, is identified by the introduction of pottery and marked by stronger regional differentiation. While the artifact assemblages are similar to those of the Late Archaic, notable differences exist. In addition to ceramics, cremation first appears in the archaeological record in the Colorado Desert at this time. In general, projectile points are smaller and triangular. Regional differentiation in the distribution of projectile point and pottery types was due, in part, to trade and influences of neighboring cultures in the Lower Colorado River and Great Basin. Such influence includes the major migration into southern California of Takiic-speaking people (Uto-

Aztecan language group) from the Great Basin region (Nevada, Utah, and eastern California) (Warren 1968).

The Patayan sequence cultural pattern within the Colorado Desert region is divided into three periods with different pottery types and regional site distributions. Cottonwood Triangular and Desert-Side Notched projectile points, the change from extended inhumations to cremations, the introduction of pottery, networks of trail systems (with pot-drops and trail-side shrines), and the late introduction of small-scale agriculture characterize the Patayan period in general. Pottery is increasingly common throughout the period, including brown wares manufactured from upland clay sources (e.g., Tizon Brown Ware) and buff wares made from lowland sedimentary clays (e.g., Colorado Buff Ware). Material culture also included clay figurines and pipes, bedrock grinding slicks and mortars, worked bone tools, and rock art with an increasing progression toward distinctive Patayan symbolism (Schaefer and Laylander 2007:249). Interregional exchange goods include shell beads from the coast and Gulf of California; wonderstone from Rainbow Rock near today's Imperial City; and obsidian from Obsidian Butte near the southern end of today's Salton Sea, which at various times in the past was covered by the waters of Holocene Lake Cahuilla. The cyclical filling and desiccation of Lake Cahuilla appears to have dictated the settlement patterns in the Salton Trough and Coachella Valley during this period.

During Patayan I (ca. AD 800 – 1050), mobile groups settled seasonally along the Lower Colorado River, practicing a mixed hunter-gatherer and horticultural economy. Their tool kit included pottery and Cottonwood Triangular and Desert-Side Notched projectile points. The agricultural-based Hohokam on the upper Gila River likely influenced this cultural pattern. Patayan II (ca. AD 950 – 1500) is characterized by the spread of these cultural traits from the Colorado River into the Colorado and Mojave Deserts. It also coincides with the infilling of Lake Cahuilla, as well as locally manufactured new ceramic types, such as Tizon Brown Ware. Patayan III (AD 1500 to European contact) is marked by the ultimate recession of Lake Cahuilla, the occurrence of specific pottery types (Colorado Buff Ware and painted pottery), and the practice of small-scale agriculture.

3.3 Ethnographic Overview

3.3.1 Cahuilla

The APE is situated in a region historically occupied by a Native American group known as the Cahuilla (Bean 1978, Kroeber 1925). The term Cahuilla likely derived from the native word *káwiya*, meaning “master” or “boss” (Bean 1978:575). Traditional Cahuilla ethnographic territory extended west to east from the present-day city of Riverside to the central portion of the Salton Sea in the Colorado Desert, and south to north from the San Jacinto Valley to the San Bernardino Mountains.

The Cahuilla, like their neighbors to west, the Luiseño and Juaneño, and the Cupeño to the south, are speakers of a Cupan language. Cupan languages are part of the Takic linguistic subfamily of the Uto-Aztecan language family. It is thought that the Cahuilla migrated to southern California approximately 2,000 to 3,000 years ago, most likely from the southern Sierra Nevada mountain ranges of east-central California with other Takic speaking social groups (Moratto 1984:559).

Cahuilla social organization was hierarchical and contained three primary levels (Bean 1978:580). The highest level was the cultural nationality, encompassing everyone speaking a common language. The next level included the two patrimoieties of the Wildcats (*tuktum*) and the Coyotes (*'istam*). Every clan of the Cahuilla fell into one or the other of these moieties. The lowest level

consisted of the numerous political-ritual-corporate units called sibs, or a patrilineal clan (Bean 1978:580).

Cahuilla villages were usually located in canyons or on alluvial fans near a source of accessible water. Each lineage group maintained their own houses (kish) and granaries, and constructed ramadas for work and cooking. Sweat houses and song houses (for non-religious music) were also often present. Each community also had a separate house for the lineage or clan leader. A ceremonial house, or *kiš ʔámnawet*, associated with the clan leader was where major religious ceremonies were held. Houses and ancillary structures were often spaced apart, and a “village” could extend over a mile or two. Each lineage had ownership rights to various resource collecting locations, “including food collecting, hunting, and other areas. Individuals also owned specific areas or resources, e.g., plant foods, hunting areas, mineral collecting places, or sacred spots used only by shamans, healers and the like” (Bean 1990:2).

The Cahuilla hunted a variety of game, including mountain sheep, cottontail, jackrabbit, mice, and wood rats, as well as predators such as mountain lion, coyote, wolf, bobcat, and fox. Various birds were also consumed, including quail, duck, and dove, plus various types of reptiles, amphibians, and insects. The Cahuilla employed a wide variety of tools and implements to gather and collect food resources. For the hunt, these included the bow and arrow, traps, nets, slings and blinds for hunting land mammals and birds, and nets for fishing. Rabbits and hares were commonly brought down by the throwing stick, but when communal hunts were organized for these animals, the Cahuilla often utilized clubs and large nets.

Foodstuffs were processed using a variety of tools, including portable stone mortars, bedrock mortars and pestles, basket hopper mortars, manos and metates, bedrock grinding slicks, hammerstones and anvils, and many others. Food was consumed from woven and carved wood vessels and pottery vessels. The ground meal and unprocessed hard seeds were stored in large finely woven baskets, and the unprocessed mesquite beans were stored in large granaries woven of willow branches and raised off the ground on platforms to keep them from vermin. Pottery vessels were made by the Cahuilla and traded from the Yuman-speaking groups across the Colorado River and to the south.

The Cahuilla had adopted limited agricultural practices by the time Euro-Americans traveled into their territory. Bean (1978:578) has suggested that their “proto-agricultural techniques and a marginal agriculture” consisting of beans, squash and corn may have been adopted from the Colorado River groups to the east. By the time of the first Romero Expedition in 1823-24, they were observed growing corn, pumpkins, and beans in small gardens localized around springs in the Thermal area of the Coachella Valley (Bean and Mason 1962:104). The introduction of European plants such as barley and other grain crops suggest an interaction with the missions or local Mexican *rancheros*. Despite the increasing use and diversity of crops, no evidence indicates that this small-scale agriculture was anything more than a supplement to Cahuilla subsistence, and it apparently did not alter social organization.

By 1819, several Spanish mission outposts, known as *asistencias*, were established near Cahuilla territory at San Bernardino and San Jacinto. Cahuilla interaction with Europeans at this time was not as intense as it was for native groups living along the coast. This was likely due to the local topography and lack of water, which made the area less attractive to colonists. By the 1820s, European interaction increased as mission ranchos were established in the region and local Cahuilla were employed to work on them.

The Bradshaw Trail was established in 1862 and was the first major east-west stage and freight route through the Coachella Valley. Traversing the San Gorgonio Pass, the trail connected gold mines on the Colorado River with the coast. Bradshaw based his trail on the Cocomaricopa Trail, with maps and guidance provided by local Native Americans. Journals by early travelers along the Bradshaw Trail told of encountering Cahuilla villages and walk-in wells during their journey through the Coachella Valley. The continued influx of immigrants into the region introduced the Cahuilla to European diseases. The single worst recorded event was a smallpox epidemic in 1862-63. By 1891, only 1,160 Cahuilla remained within what was left of their territory, reduced from an estimated aboriginal population of 6,000–10,000 (Bean 1978:583-584). By 1974, approximately 900 people claimed Cahuilla descent, most of whom resided on reservations.

Between 1875 and 1891, the United States established ten reservations for the Cahuilla within their traditional territory. These reservations include Agua Caliente, Augustine, Cabazon, Cahuilla, Los Coyotes, Morongo, Ramona, Santa Rosa, Soboba, and Torres-Martinez (Bean 1978:585). Four of the reservations are shared with other groups, including the Chemehuevi, Cupeño, and Serrano.

3.4 History

The post-contact history of California is generally divided into three timespans: the Spanish period (1769–1822), the Mexican period (1822–1848), and the American period (1848–present). Each of these periods is briefly described below.

3.4.1 Spanish Period (1769–1822)

Spanish exploration of California began when Juan Rodríguez Cabrillo led the first European expedition into the region in 1542. For more than 200 years after his initial expedition, Spanish, Portuguese, British, and Russian explorers sailed the California coast and made limited inland expeditions, but they did not establish permanent settlements (Bean 1968; Rolle 2003). Spanish entry into what was to become Riverside County did not occur until 1774 when Juan Bautista de Anza led an expedition from Sonora, Mexico to Monterey in northern California (Lech 1998).

In 1769, Gaspar de Portolá and Franciscan Father Junípero Serra established the first Spanish settlement in what was then known as Alta (upper) California at Mission San Diego de Alcalá. This was the first of 21 missions erected by the Spanish between 1769 and 1823. The establishment of the missions marks the first sustained occupation of Alta California by the Spanish. In addition to the missions, four presidios and three pueblos (towns) were established throughout the state (State Lands Commission 1982).

During this period, Spain also granted ranchos to prominent citizens and soldiers, though very few in comparison to the subsequent Mexican Period. To manage and expand their herds of cattle on these large ranchos, colonists enlisted the labor of the surrounding Native American population, sometimes forcibly (Engelhardt 1927a; Reséndez 2017). The missions were responsible for administrating the local Indians and converting the population to Christianity (Engelhardt 1927b). The influx of European settlers brought the local Native American population in contact with European diseases, against which they had no immunity, resulting in catastrophic reduction in native populations throughout the state (McCawley 1996).

3.4.2 Mexican Period (1822–1848)

The Mexican Period commenced when news of the success of the Mexican War of Independence (1810-1821) against the Spanish crown reached California in 1822. This period saw the privatization of mission lands in California with the passage of the Secularization Act of 1833. This Act federalized mission lands and enabled Mexican governors in California to distribute former mission lands to individuals in the form of land grants. Successive Mexican governors made approximately 700 land grants between 1833 and 1846, putting most of the state's lands into private ownership for the first time (Shumway 2007). About 15 land grants (ranchos) were in Riverside County, though none of those were in the vicinity of Mecca (Shumway 2007).

3.4.3 American Period (1848–Present)

The American Period officially began with the signing of the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo in 1848, in which the United States agreed to pay Mexico \$15 million for conquered territory including California, Nevada, Utah, and parts of Colorado, Arizona, New Mexico, and Wyoming. Settlement of southern California increased dramatically in the early American Period. Many ranchos were sold or otherwise acquired by Americans, and most were subdivided into agricultural parcels or towns.

The discovery of gold in northern California in 1848 led to the California Gold Rush, though the first California gold found by settlers was discovered in Placerita Canyon in 1842 (Workman 1936; Guinn 1977). Southern California remained dominated by cattle ranches in the early American period, though droughts and increasing population resulted in farming and more urban professions supplanting ranching through the late nineteenth century. In 1850, California was admitted into the United States and by 1853, the population of California exceeded 300,000. Thousands of settlers and immigrants continued to move into the state, particularly after completion of the transcontinental railroad in 1869. Homesteading in the Coachella Valley began in the 1880s after the Desert Land Law opened public land for settlement in 1877 and non-railroad lands were opened to homesteaders in 1885. Agriculture and tourism increased in the valley due to deep well drilling, which began about 1894 (City of La Quinta 2011).

Near the Salton Trough, numerous natural materials have been extracted, including profitable ones such as gypsum. Though no gold exists in the Coachella Valley, gold discovered near the Colorado River spurred development of the Bradshaw Trail linking the San Geronio Pass and greater Los Angeles area with Arizona (Chandler et al. 2003). Two salt mining operations, the New Liverpool Salt Company and the Standard Company Salt, profitably mined the accumulation of salt from the Salton Trough (later the Salton Sea) in the 1890s but were inundated by the flood of 1905.

3.4.4 Local History

Nineteenth century proposals to irrigate the Colorado Desert for agricultural and residential development began in 1891 with the formation of the Colorado River Irrigation Company, which was then superseded in 1896 by the California Development Company. Funding was provided through a contract signed by George Chaffey in 1900 (Chandler et al. 2003). Using portions of the Alamo River, construction of the Imperial Canal commenced in spring of 1900, bringing irrigation into the Imperial Valley by 1902. Excessive precipitation during the winter of 1904-1905 resulted in discharge into the Colorado River that exceeded the canal intake. Diversion attempts to control the overwhelming flood waters proved unsuccessful. This allowed the entire flow of the Colorado River to fill the Salton Basin, creating the contemporary Salton Sea (Chandler et al. 2003). A branch of the Southern Pacific Railroad brought in rock and worked to construct levees and dams that ultimately

sealed the compromised canal on February 10, 1907. Precipitation, irrigation runoff, and inflow from the Alamo and New rivers prevent the current Salton Sea from evaporating entirely.

CVWD was organized in 1918 with the task of protecting local water sources in the Coachella Valley (CVWD 1968). To fulfill that aim, CVWD's first task was to acquire the water rights to the Whitewater River. It later established the Coachella Branch of the All-American Canal to supplement natural water supply to the valley. The work of CVWD provided the water necessary to establish the valley's numerous golf courses and resorts.

As America's military became involved in World War II, the War Plan Division of the United States War Department General Staff recognized the importance of providing military training for air and ground forces under environmental conditions similar to those anticipated in the North African campaign. After a survey of the Mojave Desert, General George S. Patton Jr., United States Army, selected the site of the Desert Training Center (DTC) in late March 1942 in an area that extended from Phoenix, Arizona in the east, to Pomona, California in the west, and from Boulder City, Nevada in the north to Yuma, Arizona in the south. The DTC exceeded 10,000 square miles of government-owned and private land. General Patton made his headquarters at Camp Young, near Shavers Summit (now Chiriaco Summit) approximately 40 miles east of the project area. Ten additional camps were established in the DTC, including Camp Coxcomb, Camp Iron Mountain, Camp Granite, Camp Essex, Camp Ibis, Camp Hyder, Camp Horn, Camp Laguna, Camp Pilot Knob, and Camp Bouse. In October 1943, the DTC was changed to the California-Arizona Maneuver Area (CAMA) to reflect the growing scale and purpose of the training facility. At that time, CAMA was the world's largest military installation in both size and population, where nearly one million American servicemen and women were trained. Army divisions trained near the Salton Sea, throughout the Coachella Valley, and the Mojave Desert (Chandler et al. 2003). On April 30, 1944, two years after its inception, the Army closed CAMA and the camps were abandoned.

Mecca

Mecca is an approximately 6.96-square mile census-designated place in an unincorporated part of the eastern Coachella Valley of Riverside County, California, on the north shore of the Salton Sea. 2010 population estimates for the community record Mecca's population at 8,577 (United States Census Bureau 2020).

4 Background Research

4.1 Cultural Resources Records Search

On May 4, 2020, a CHRIS database search was conducted by in-house staff at the EIC, at the University of California, Riverside. The purpose of the search was to identify previously completed cultural resources studies, and previously recorded cultural resources in the project APE and a one-mile radius surrounding it. Rincon additionally reviewed the NRHP, the CRHR, the California Historical Landmarks and Points of Historical Interest lists, and the Built Environment Resources Directory for Riverside County to confirm the presence of known cultural resources in the vicinity of the APE. A summary of the CHRIS search results is included in Appendix A and described below.

4.2 Previously Conducted Cultural Resources Studies

The CHRIS search identified 25 previously conducted cultural resources studies within a 1.0-mile radius of the APE. Of the 25 studies, one includes a portion of the current APE (RI-09081). A summary of the cultural resources studies that have been previously conducted within a 1.0-mile radius of the current APE can be found in Table 1, followed by details related to report RI-09081.

Table 1 Previously Conducted Cultural Resources Studies

Report Number	Author(s)	Year	Title	Relationship to APE
RI-03245	Van Horn, David M., Laurie S. White, and Robert S. White	1990	<i>Cultural Resources Sensitivity Overview for the Coachella Valley Enterprise Zone</i>	Outside
RI-03415	Rosen, Martin	1991	<i>Negative Archaeological Survey Report: Fourth Addendum, 11-RIV-86, PM R2.9-R22.0, 11208, 179800; Vicinity of Avenue 81 to Vicinity of Dillon Road</i>	Outside
RI-03953	Brock, James	1996	<i>A Cultural Resources Assessment of Lots 5 and 6, Block 25 of the Amended Map of the Mecca Townsite, County of Riverside, California</i>	Outside
RI-04312	Brock, James	1999	<i>Phase I Cultural Resources Assessment for the 13-acre Self Help Housing Project, Mecca, Riverside County, California</i>	Outside
RI-04423	Brock, James	2000	<i>Phase I Cultural Resources Assessment for the Proposed Villas Oscar Romero Project, Mecca, Riverside County, California</i>	Outside
RI-04680	Brock, James	2003	<i>Phase I Cultural Resources Assessment for Tentative Tract Map No. 31027, Mecca Area of Unincorporated Riverside County, California (APNs 727-112-003 and -10; Paseo de las Palmas Project)</i>	Outside

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Report Number	Author(s)	Year	Title	Relationship to APE
RI-04772	Brock, James	2004	<i>Phase I Cultural Resources Assessment for APN-727-112-015, Mecca Area of Unincorporated Riverside County, California (Paseo de los Heroes II Project)</i>	Outside
RI-05152	Hudlow, Scott M.	2005	<i>A Phase I Cultural Resources Survey for Global Premiere, Mecca, Riverside County, California</i>	Outside
RI-05154	Hudlow, Scott M.	2004	<i>A Phase I Cultural Resources Survey for Global Premiere, Mecca, Riverside County, California</i>	Outside
RI-06711	Brock, James	2006	<i>Phase I Cultural Resources Assessment for Tentative Tract Map No. 34120, Mecca Area of Unincorporated Riverside County, California</i>	Outside
RI-07586	Denniston, Elizabeth L., Vanessa Mirro, and David D. Earle	2008	<i>Phase I Cultural Resources Assessment of Approximately 4 miles for the Mecca Sewer Force Main Project Near the Community of Mecca, Unincorporated Riverside County, California</i>	Outside
RI-07793	Encarnacion, Dierdre, Daniel Ballester, and Laura H. Shaker	2008	<i>Phase I Archaeological Assessment: San Cristobal Migrant Agricultural Workers Housing, Assessor's Parcel No. 729-050-002, near the Community of Mecca, Riverside County, California</i>	Outside
RI-07930	CRM TECH	2008	<i>Phase I Historical/Archeological Assessment: Mecca Master Plan (SP377), near the Community of Mecca, Riverside County, California</i>	Outside
RI-08194	George, Joan, David Earle, and Vanessa Mirro	2009	<i>Phase I Cultural Resources Assessment for the LA Pena Housing Facility Water Supply Project Near Mecca, Riverside County, California</i>	Outside
RI-08201	Encarnacion, Dieder, Daniel Ballester, and Laura H. Shaker	2009	<i>Identification and Evaluation of Historical Properties: Plaza La Esperanza Project</i>	Outside
RI-08386	George, Joan and Vanessa Mirro	2010	<i>Phase I Cultural Resources Assessment for the Lower Valley Irrigation System Expansion Project Near Mecca, Riverside County, California</i>	Outside
RI-08434	Smallwood, Josh	2010	<i>Letter Report: Cultural Resources Monitoring at Site CA-RIV-3438H (Historical Walters/Mecca Railroad Station) for Construction of the Mecca Sewer Force Main Project near Mecca, Riverside County, California</i>	Outside
RI-09081	Tang, Bai "Tom", Mariam Dahdul, Harry M. Quinn, and Daniel Ballester	2014	<i>Identification and Evaluation of Historic Properties: Desert Alliance for Community Empowerment, Sanitary Sewer and Agricultural Drainage Pipe and Domestic Pipe Improvement Project, near the Community of Mecca, Riverside County California</i>	Partially Within

Report Number	Author(s)	Year	Title	Relationship to APE
RI-09111	Tang, Bai "Tom", Deirdre Encarnacion, Harry M. Quinn, and Daniel Ballester	2014	<i>Identification and Evaluation of Historic Properties: San Antonio del Desierto Disadvantaged Communities Sewer Extension, near the Community of Mecca, Riverside County, California</i>	Outside
RI-09137	Segovia, Frances	2014	<i>Addendum to Cultural Resources Survey Results for the Mobile Home Park Paving Project in the Coachella Valley in Unincorporated Areas of Riverside County: Project Location #1 (LSA Project No. RCT1306A)</i>	Outside
RI-09139	Segovia, Frances	2014	<i>Cultural Resource Survey Results for the Mobile Home Parks Paving Project in the Coachella Valley in Unincorporated Areas of Riverside County, California (LSA Project No. RCT1306)</i>	Outside
RI-09766	Dunay, Amy	2015	<i>Supplemental Historic Property Survey Report for the Avenue 66 Grade Separation Project</i>	Outside
RI-09768	Love, Bruce and Bai "Tom" Tang	2000	<i>Cultural Resource Element City of La Quinta General Plan</i>	Outside
RI-10373	George, Joan and Kholood Abdo-Hintzman	2018	<i>Phase I Cultural Resource Assessment for the Dale Kiler Road Water Main Replacement Project, Community of Mecca, Riverside County, California</i>	Outside
RI-10451	Mirro, Michael	2010	<i>Cultural Resources Records Search for Shot Points Located on Private Land for the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) Salton Seismic Imaging Project (SSIP)</i>	Outside

Source: EIC 2020

APN = Assessor's Parcel Number

4.2.1 RI-09081

RI-09081 (*Identification and Evaluation of Historic Properties Desert Alliance for Community Empowerment Sanitary Sewer and Agricultural Drainage Pipe and Domestic Pipe Improvement Project Near the Community of Mecca, Riverside County, California*) is a report authored by CRM Tech for the United States Department of Agriculture, Rural Development, and CVWD in 2014. The APE delineated for the study includes the Hammond Road ROW, a portion of which is within the current APE. The study included a CHRIS search, background research, Native American outreach, and a field survey of the APE. The study did not result in the identification of any cultural resources in the APE.

4.3 Previously Recorded Cultural Resources

The CHRIS search identified 29 previously recorded cultural resources within a 1.0-mile radius of the APE. These resources include 27 historic period resources (sites, buildings, and structures) and two prehistoric isolates (pottery sherds). These previously recorded resources, none of which are located within the current APE, are listed in Table 2.

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Table 2 Previously Recorded Resources Within 1-Mile of the APE

Primary Number	Trinomial	Resource Type/Description	Recorder(s) and Year(s)	Relationship to APE
P-33-003438	CA-RIV-003438	Historic Site	1988 (R.M. Apple, T. Wahoff, K. Norwood, Dames & Moore); 1990 (D. Van Horn, Archaeological Associates Ltd.); 1999 (S. Ashkar, M. Avina, J. Doty, E. Prendergast); 2008 (C. Bouscaren, J. Coats, Applied EarthWorks, Inc.); 2012 (Scott Kremkau, Statistical Research, Inc.)	Outside
P-33-005696	N/A	Historic Building	1983 (Cecelia Foulkes, Riverside County Historical Commission)	Outside
P-33-005697	N/A	Historic Building	1983 (Cecelia Foulkes, Riverside County Historical Commission)	Outside
P-33-005698	N/A	Historic Building	1983 (Cecelia Foulkes, Riverside County Historical Commission)	Outside
P-33-005699	N/A	Historic Site	1973 (Point of Historical Interest Form, Sacramento, CA); 1983 (Cecelia Foulkes, Riverside County Historical Commission, Riverside, CA); 2009 (Joan George, Applied Earthworks, Hemet, CA)	Outside
P-33-005700	N/A	Historic Building	1983 (Cecelia Foulkes, Riverside County Historical Commission)	Outside
P-33-005701	N/A	Historic Building	1983 (Cecelia Foulkes, Riverside County Historical Commission)	Outside
P-33-005702	N/A	Historic Building	1983 (Cecelia Foulkes, Riverside County Historical Commission)	Outside
P-33-005703	N/A	Historic Building	1983 (Cecelia Foulkes, Riverside County Historical Commission)	Outside
P-33-005704	N/A	Historic Building	1983 (Cecelia Foulkes, Riverside County Historical Commission)	Outside
P-33-005706	N/A	Historic Building	1983 (Cecelia Foulkes, Riverside County Historical Commission); 2012 (Scott Kremkau, Statistical Research, Inc.)	Outside
P-33-005709	N/A	Historic Building	1982 (Cecelia Foulkes, Riverside County Historical Commission)	Outside

Primary Number	Trinomial	Resource Type/Description	Recorder(s) and Year(s)	Relationship to APE
P-33-009498	N/A	Historic Structure	1966 (S. Ashkar, Jones & Stokes); 2003 (Carrie Chasteen, Myra L. Frank & Associates); 2005 (Christeen Taniguchi, Galvin & Associates); 2009 (S. Wilson and K. Chimel, ICF Jones & Stokes); 2012 (Scott Kremkau, Statistical Research, Inc.); 2015 (T. Baurley and J.M. Sanka, L&L Environmental, Inc.); 2016 (Daneil Leonard, HDR); 2017 (P. Moloney, R. Elder, W. Blodgett, Applied EarthWorks, Inc.)	Outside
P-33-012491	N/A	Prehistoric Isolate (pottery sherd)	2003 (Djuana Patterson and James Brock)	Outside
P-33-012492	N/A	Prehistoric Isolate (pottery sherd)	2003 (Djuana Patterson and James Brock)	Outside
P-33-017255	N/A	Historic Building	2008 (Daniel Ballester, CRM TECH)	Outside
P-33-020839	CA-RIV-010763	Historic Site	2012 (Patrick Stanton, Statistical Research, Inc.)	Outside
P-33-020900	CA-RIV-010824	Historic Structure	2012 (Patrick Stanton, Statistical Research, Inc.)	Outside
P-33-020901	CA-RIV-010825	Historic Site	2012 (Patrick Stanton, Statistical Research, Inc.)	Outside
P-33-020919	CA-RIV-010844	Historic Site	2012 (Patrick Stanton, Statistical Research, Inc.)	Outside
P-33-020920	CA-RIV-010845	Historic Site	2012 (Patrick Stanton, Statistical Research, Inc.)	Outside
P-33-023896	N/A	Historic Site and Building	2014 (Riordan Goodwin, Casey Tibbet, LSA Associates, Inc.)	Outside
P-33-023987	N/A	Historic Structure	2014 (Jenna Kavhour, GPA Consulting)	Outside
P-33-023988	N/A	Historic Structure	2014 (Jenna Kavhour, GPA Consulting)	Outside
P-33-026685	CA-RIV-012576	Historic Site	2016 (Amy Dunay, Dokken Engineering)	Outside
P-33-028086	N/A	Historic Structure	2014 (Evan Mills, Applied EarthWorks)	Outside
P-33-028087	N/A	Historic Structure	2014 (Evan Mills, Applied EarthWorks)	Outside
P-33-028088	N/A	Historic Structure	2014 (Evan Mills, Applied EarthWorks)	Outside
P-33-028820	CA-RIV-012930	Historic Site	2019 (Jillian L. Hahnen, Brian F. Smith & Associates, Inc.)	Outside

4.4 Native American Outreach

Rincon contacted the NAHC on April 24, 2020 to request a search of the SLF for the APE. As part of the request, Rincon asked the NAHC to provide a list of Native American groups and/or individuals culturally affiliated with the area who may have knowledge of cultural resources in the APE or within its vicinity. The NAHC responded on April 29, 2020 stating that the results of the SLF search were negative. As requested, the NAHC provided a list of 23 Native American contacts who may have knowledge of cultural resources in the vicinity of the project area. Rincon prepared letters to each of the NAHC-listed contacts, requesting they contact Rincon if they have knowledge of any Native American cultural resources within or immediately adjacent to the project area. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic and statewide closure of offices, the letters were sent via email on May 8, 2020. Follow-up outreach attempts (by phone or email) were made to each contact throughout May and June 2020 (Appendix B).

To date, Rincon has received responses via a combination of telephone and email from the following tribes in response to the emailed letters: Jamul Indian Village, La Posta Band of Diegueño Mission Indians, Quechan Tribe of the Fort Yuma Reservation, Ramona Band of Cahuilla, Santa Rosa Band of Cahuilla Indians, and Viejas Band of Kumeyaay Indians. None of the tribes requested to formally consult on the project, nor did they offer any information regarding cultural resources in the vicinity of the project provided. Documentation of the consultation effort is included in Appendix B.

4.5 Local Interested Party Consultation

As part of Section 106 consultation, Rincon prepared and emailed letters to local interested parties on May 8, 2020 to request information pertaining to potential historic or other cultural resources located in or near the APE. Local parties included the County of Riverside Planning Department, the Coachella Valley Historical Society, Inc. and the Historical Society of Palm Desert. Due to COVID-19 considerations, no hard copy letters were mailed. Rincon received responses from all three parties in response to this outreach effort, summarized below.

Rincon received a response from the Historical Society of Palm Desert on May 10, 2020 stating that the undertaking is within a shallow aquifer area and noted it understood the undertaking may not require major excavation. The Historical Society of Palm Desert assigned the undertaking a low priority regarding potential cultural resource concerns because little new area may be disturbed. Rincon received a response from Coachella Valley Historical Society on May 11, 2020 stating the proposed undertaking is of no concern to the organization. In a telephone conversation conducted on May 15, 2020, the Riverside County Planning Department stated it is unaware of any potential cultural resource concerns associated with the proposed undertaking. Documentation of the outreach effort as described above, is included in Appendix C.

4.6 Historical Imagery Review

Rincon reviewed available historical aerial photographs to determine past land uses within the APE (NETRonline 1953-2016). Aerial imagery from 1953, 1972 and 1996 depict the APE as undeveloped. Aerial imagery from 2005 through 2016 depict the APE as it is today, developed with structures, tanks, compacted open areas for vehicle access, and a water blow off basin.

5 Field Survey

5.1 Methods

Rincon Archaeologist, Mark Strother, MA, RPA, conducted a pedestrian survey of the APE on April 30, 2020 by walking transects spaced no more than 10 meters apart. All exposed ground surfaces were visibly inspected for artifacts (e.g., flaked stone tools, tool-making debris, stone milling tools, fire-affected rock), ecofacts (marine shell and bone), soil discoloration that might indicate the presence of a cultural midden, soil depressions and features indicative of the former presence of structures or buildings (e.g., standing exterior walls, postholes, foundations) or historic debris (e.g., metal, glass, ceramics). Mr. Strother photographed all built environment features located in the APE and took notes describing their physical characteristics and construction to confirm that they do not date from the historic period.

5.2 Results

The APE is developed and contains structures, tanks, compacted gravel areas, a paved road and a water blow off basin (Figure 3 and Figure 4). Ground surface visibility throughout the APE ranged from 0 to 50 percent. Exposed soils consist of medium brown sandy loam, intermixed with gravel. No cultural resources were identified during the survey. As all built features in the APE were constructed after 1996, they were not formally evaluated as part of the current study.

Figure 3 North-Facing View of the APE



Figure 4 South-Facing View of the APE



6 Findings and Recommendations

Rincon prepared this cultural resources assessment to identify historic properties with the potential to be affected and/or historical resources with the potential to be impacted by the proposed IXTP 7991 Project, subject to CEQA and Section 106 of the NHPA. The assessment includes the delineation of the APE, searches of the CHRIS and NAHC SLF, Native American and local interested party outreach, background research, a field survey of the APE, and the preparation of this report.

The CHRIS search identified 25 previously conducted cultural resources studies within a 1.0-mile radius of the APE. Although one of these studies (RI-09081) includes a portion of the current APE, RI-09081 did not result in the identification of any cultural resources. The CHRIS search also identified 29 previously recorded cultural resources within a 1.0-mile radius of the APE. These resources include 27 historic period resources (sites, buildings, and structures) and two prehistoric isolates (pottery sherds), none of which are located within the current APE. The results of the NAHC SLF search requested by Rincon were negative. Additionally, outreach to 23 Native American tribal contacts and three local interested parties did not indicate the presence of cultural resources in the APE.

The background research conducted for this study indicated the built environment features in the APE were constructed after 1996 and the field survey confirmed they are contemporary buildings and structures. Due to their recent construction, a formal historical evaluation of these features was not completed, and as ubiquitous utilitarian structures, none of the built features in the APE appear to qualify for listing in the NRHP under Criteria Consideration G. The field survey conducted for this study did not identify any cultural resources in the APE.

Based on the results of this cultural resources assessment, no cultural resources were identified in the project's APE that will be impacted or adversely affected by the project. Therefore, Rincon recommends a finding of ***no impact to historical and archaeological resources*** under CEQA, and ***no effect to historic properties*** under Section 106 of the NHPA.

Rincon presents the following recommendation in case of unanticipated discovery of cultural resources during project development. The project is also required to adhere to regulations regarding the unanticipated discovery of human remains, detailed below.

6.1 Unanticipated Discovery of Cultural Resources

If cultural resources are encountered during ground-disturbing activities, work in the immediate area must halt and an archaeologist meeting the Secretary of the Interior's Professional Qualifications Standards for archaeology (National Park Service 1983) should be contacted immediately to evaluate the find. If the discovery proves to be eligible for the CRHR and/or NRHP, additional work such as data recovery excavation and Native American consultation and archaeological monitoring may be warranted to mitigate any significant impacts.

6.2 Unanticipated Discovery of Human Remains

If human remains are found, existing regulations outlined in the State of California Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5 state that no further disturbance shall occur until the County Coroner has made a determination of origin and disposition pursuant to PRC Section 5097.98. In the event of an

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unanticipated discovery of human remains, the County Coroner must be notified immediately. If the human remains are determined to be prehistoric, the Coroner will notify the NAHC, which will determine and notify a most likely descendant, who shall complete the inspection of the site within 48 hours of being granted access and provide recommendations as to the treatment of the remains to the landowner.

7 References

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Appendix A

CHRIS Search Summary Sheets

Report List

Report No.	Other IDs	Year	Author(s)	Title	Affiliation	Resources
RI-03245	NADB-R - 1083836; Voided - MF-3477	1990	David M. Van Horn, Laurie S. White, and Robert S. White	Cultural Resources Sensitivity Overview for the Coachella Valley Enterprise Zone	Achaeological Associates, Ltd.	33-000135, 33-000148, 33-000676, 33-000795, 33-001634, 33-001637, 33-002982, 33-002983, 33-002984, 33-002985, 33-002986, 33-002987, 33-003438
RI-03415	NADB-R - 1084078; Voided - MF-3673	1991	ROSEN, MARTIN	NEGATIVE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY REPORT: FOURTH ADDENDUM, 11-RIV-86, PM R2.9-R22.0, 11208, 179800; VICINITY OF AVENUE 81 TO VICINITY OF DILLON ROAD	CALTRANS DISTRICT 11, RIVERSIDE	
RI-03953	NADB-R - 1084910; Other - TR 28216; Voided - MF-4324	1996	BROCK, JAMES	A CULTURAL RESOURCES ASSESSMENT OF LOTS 5 AND 6, BLOCK 25 OF THE AMENDED MAP OF THE MECCA TOWNSITE, COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE, CALIFORNIA	ARCHAEOLOGICAL ADVISORY GROUP	
RI-04312	NADB-R - 1085580; Voided - MF-4795	1999	BROCK, JAMES	PHASE 1 CULTURAL RESOURCES ASSESSMENT FOR THE 13-ACRE SELF HELP HOUSING PROJECT, MECCA, RIVERSIDE COUNTY, CALIFORNIA.	ARCHAEOLOGICAL ADVISORY GROUP	
RI-04423	NADB-R - 1085771; Submitter - 001021; Voided - MF-4932	2000	BROCK, JAMES	PHASE I CULTURAL RESOURCES ASSESSMENT FOR THE PROPOSED VILLAS OSCAR ROMERO PROJECT, MECCA, RIVERSIDE COUNTY, CALIFORNIA	ARCHAEOLOGICAL ADVISORY GROUP	
RI-04680	NADB-R - 1086042; Submitter - AAG Job No: 030305	2003	BROCK, JAMES	PHASE I CULTURAL RESOURCES ASSESSMENT FOR TENTATIVE TRACT MAP NO. 31027, MECCA AREA OF UNINCORPORATED RIVERSIDE COUNTY, CALIFORNIA (APN'S 727-112-003, AND -10; PASEO DE LAS PALMAS PROJECT)	ARCHAEOLOGICAL ADVISORY GROUP	33-012491, 33-012492
RI-04772	NADB-R - 1086134; Submitter - AAG Job No. 041026	2004	BROCK, JAMES	PHASE I CULTURAL RESOURCES ASSESSMENT FOR APN-727-112-015, MECCA AREA OF UNINCORPORATED RIVERSIDE COUNTY, CALIFORNIA (PASEO DE LOS HEROES II PROJECT)	ARCHAEOLOGICAL ADVISORY GROUP, Pioneertown, CA	
RI-05152	NADB-R - 1086515	2005	HUDLOW, SCOTT M.	A PHASE I CULTURAL RESOURCE SURVEY FOR GLOBAL PREMIERE, MECCA, RIVERSIDE COUNTY, CALIFORNIA	HUDLOW CULTURAL RESOURCE ASSOCIATES	
RI-05154	NADB-R - 1086517	2004	HUDLOW, SCOTT	A PHASE I CULTURAL RESOURCE SURVEY FOR GLOBAL PREMIERE, MECCA, RIVERSIDE COUNTY, CALIFORNIA	HUDLOW CULTURAL RESOURCE ASSOCIATES	

Report List

Report No.	Other IDs	Year	Author(s)	Title	Affiliation	Resources
RI-06711	NADB-R - 1088078; Submitter - JOB NO. 060410	2006	BROCK, JAMES	PHASE I CULTURAL RESOURCES ASSESSMENT FOR TENTATIVE TRACT MAP NO. 34120, MECCA AREA OF UNINCORPORATED RIVERSIDE COUNTY, CALIFORNIA	ARCHAEOLOGICAL ADVISORY GROUP	
RI-07586		2008	Denniston, Elizabeth L., Vanessa Mirro, and David D. Earle	Phase I Cultural Resources Assessment of Approximately 4 miles for the Mecca Sewer Force Main Project Near the Community of Mecca, Unincorporated Riverside County, California	Applied EarthWorks, Inc. and Earle and Associates	33-003438, 33-009498
RI-07793	Submitter - Contract No. 2223	2008	Encarnacion, Dierdre, Daniel Ballester, and Laura H. Shaker	PHASE I ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT: SAN CRISTOBAL MIGRANT AGRICULTURAL WORKERS HOUSING, ASSESSORS PARCEL NO. 729-050-002, NEAR THE COMMUNITY OF MECCA, RIVERSIDE COUNTY, CALIFORNIA	CRM TECH	
RI-07930	Submitter - CRM TECH Contract No. 2246A	2008	CRM TECH	Phase I Historical/Archeological Assessment: Mecca Master Plan (SP377), near the Community of Mecca, Riverside County, California	CRM TECH	33-017254, 33-017255, 33-017256
RI-08194		2009	Joan George, David Earle, and Vanessa Mirro	Phase I Cultural Resources Assessment for the LA Pena Housing Facility Water Supply Project Near Mecca, Riverside County, California	Applied Earthworks, Inc., Hemet, CA	33-005699
RI-08201		2009	Diedre Encarnacion, Daniel Ballester, and Laura H. Shaker	Identification and Evaluation of Historical Properties: Plaza La Esperanza Project	CRM TECH, Colton, CA	
RI-08386		2010	Joan George and Vanessa Mirro	Phase I Cultural Resources Assessment for the Lower Valley Irrigation System Expansion Project Near Mecca, Riverside County, California.	Applied EarthWorks, Inc.	33-005707
RI-08434		2010	Josh Smallwood	Letter Report: Cultural Resources Monitoring at Site CA-RIV-3438H (Historical Walters/Mecca Railroad Station) for Construction of the Mecca Sewer Force Main Project near Mecca, Riverside County, California.	Applied EarthWorks, Inc.	33-003438
RI-09081		2014	Bai "Tom Tang, Mariam Dahdul, Harry M. Quinn, and Daniel Ballester	Identification and Evaluation of Historic Properties: Desert Alliance for Community Empowerment, Sanitary Sewer and Agricultural Drainage Pipe and Domestic Pipe Improvement Project, near the Community of Mecca, Riverside County California	CRM TECH	

Report List

Report No.	Other IDs	Year	Author(s)	Title	Affiliation	Resources
RI-09111		2014	Bai "Tom" Tang, Deirdre Encarnacion, Harry M. Quinn, and Daniel Ballester	Identification and Evaluation of Historic Properties: San Antonio del Desierto Disadvantaged Communities Sewer Extension, near the Community of Mecca, Riverside County, California	CRM TECH	
RI-09137		2014	Frances Segovia	Addendum to Cultural Resources Survey Results for the Moblie Home Park Paving Project in the Coachella Valley in Unincorporated Areas of Riverside County: Project Location #1 (LSA Project No. RCT1306A)	LSA Associates	
RI-09139		2014	Frances Segovia	Cultural Resource Suevey Results for the Mobile Home Parks Paving Project in the Coachella Valley in Unincorporated Areas of Riverside County, California (LSA Project No. RCT1306)	LSA Associates Inc	33-023894, 33-023896
RI-09766		2015	Amy Dunay	Supplemental Historic Property Survey Report for the Avenue 66 Grade Separation Project	Dokken Engineering	
RI-09768	CRM Tech Contract # 538	2000	Bruce Love and Bai "Tom" Tang	Cultural Resource Element City of La Quinta General Plan	CRM Tech	
RI-10373		2018	Joan George and Kholood Abdo-Hintzman	PHASE I CULTURAL RESOURCE ASSESSMENT FOR THE DALE KILER ROAD WATER MAIN REPLACEMENT PROJECT, COMMUNITY OF MECCA, RIVERSIDE COUNTY, CALIFORNIA	Applied Earth Works, Inc.	
RI-10451		2010	Michael Mirro	Cultural Resources Records Search for Shot Points Located on Private Land for the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) Salton Seismic Imaging Project (SSIP)	Applied EarthWorks, Inc.	33-000056, 33-001117, 33-011637

Resource List

Primary No.	Trinomial	Other IDs	Type	Age	Attribute codes	Recorded by	Reports
P-33-003438	CA-RIV-003438	Other - SRI-14188; Other - Mecca Station; Other - MCI Site #1	Site	Historic	AH02; AH03; AH04; AH05; AH07	1988 (Apple, R.M., T. Wahoff, K. Norwood, Dames & Moore); 1990 (Van Horn, D., Archaeological Associates Ltd.); 1999 (Ashkar, S., M. Avina, J. Doty, E. Prendergast); 2008 (Bouscaren, C., J. Coats, Applied EarthWorks, Inc.); 2012 (Scott Kremkau, SRI)	RI-02350, RI-03245, RI-04430, RI-07586, RI-08434
P-33-005696		Other - Mecca Elementary School	Building	Historic	HP14; HP15	1983 (Cecelia Foulkes, Riverside County Historical Commission)	
P-33-005697		Other - La Conchita Café	Building	Historic	HP06	1983 (Cecelia Foulkes, Riv Co Historical Comm)	
P-33-005698		Other - Dr. Johnson's Office; Other - Randall Ranch	Building	Historic	HP39	1983 (Cecelia Foulkes, Riv. Co. Historical Commission)	
P-33-005699		Other - Date Industry Birthplace; PHI - Riv-043; Other - U.S. Experimental Date Station; Other - Ser. No. 33-2254-4	Site	Historic	HP30	1973 (Point of Historical Interest Form, Sacramento, CA); 1983 (Cecelia Foulkes, Riverside County Historical Commission, Riverside, CA); 2009 (Joan George, Applied Earthworks, Hemet, CA)	RI-08194
P-33-005700		Other - Holtby Myer's Home; Other - Ser. No. 33-2254-5	Building	Historic	HP02	1983 (Cecelia Foulkes, Riv. Co. Historical Commission)	
P-33-005701		Other - Low Chaparral; Other - Helen Bell's Home; Other - Ser. No. 33-2254-6	Building	Historic	HP02	1983 (Cecelia Foulkes, Riv. Co. Historical Comm.)	
P-33-005702		Other - Wes McGrath House; Other - Ser. No. 33-2254-7	Building	Historic	HP02	1983 (Cecelia Foulkes, Riv. Co. Historical Comm)	
P-33-005703		Other - Frank's Market; Other - Hill's Hay Barn	Building	Historic	HP39	1983 (Cecelia Foulkes, Riv. Co. Historical Commission)	
P-33-005704		Other - Reed's Home	Building	Historic	HP02	1983 (Cecelia Foulkes, Riv Co Historical Comm)	
P-33-005706		Other - Old Southern Pacific Water Tank; Other - Southern Pacific Water Tank; Other - SRI-14186	Building	Historic	HP39	1983 (C. Foulkes, Riverside County Historical Commission); 2012 (Scott Kremkau, SRI)	

Resource List

Primary No.	Trinomial	Other IDs	Type	Age	Attribute codes	Recorded by	Reports
P-33-005709		Other - Mecca Park	Building	Historic	HP39	1982 (C. Faulkes, Riverside County Historical Commission)	
P-33-009498	CA-RIV-006381	Other - Union Pacific Railroad, Southern Pacific Railroad; Other - C-Los Angeles-A-1; Other - UPRR, segment near Dillon Road and Grapefruit Blvd.; Other - SRI-5670; Other - S.P., L.A. and Salt Lake Railroad; Other - CA-IMP-3424H	Structure	Historic	HP39	1966 (Ashkar, S., Jones & Stokes); 2003 (Carrie Chasteen, Myra L. Frank & Associates); 2005 (Taniguchi, Christeen, Galvin & Associates); 2009 (Wilson, S. and K. Chimel, ICF Jones & Stokes); 2012 (Scott Kremkau, SRI); 2015 (T. Baurley and J.M. Sanka, L&L Environmental, Inc.); 2016 (Daneil Leonard, HDR); 2017 (P. Moloney, R. Elder, W. Blodgett, Applied EarthWorks, Inc.)	RI-04427, RI-04430, RI-04771, RI-05452, RI-06258, RI-06259, RI-06583, RI-06615, RI-06707, RI-07288, RI-07586, RI-07770, RI-07802, RI-07970, RI-08012, RI-08374, RI-08491, RI-08538, RI-08581, RI-08844, RI-08861, RI-09151, RI-09167, RI-09734, RI-10040, RI-10374, RI-10435, RI-10652, RI-10798, RI-10806
P-33-012491		Other - AAG Job No. 030305-Iso 1	Other	Prehistoric	AP03	2003 (Djuana Patterson and James Brock, n/a)	RI-04680
P-33-012492		Other - AAG Job No. 030305-Iso 2	Other	Prehistoric	AP03	2003 (Djuana Patterson, James Brock, N/A)	RI-04680
P-33-017255		Other - 91-748 Avenue 66; Other - CRM TECH 2246-2	Building	Historic	HP03	2008 (Ballester, Daniel, CRM TECH)	RI-07930
P-33-020839	CA-RIV-010763	Other - SRI-12483	Site	Historic	AH07; HP37	2012 (Patrick Stanton, Statistical Research, Inc.)	
P-33-020900	CA-RIV-010824	Other - SRI-12452		Historic		2012 (Patrick Stanton, Statistical Research, Inc.)	
P-33-020901	CA-RIV-010825	Other - SRI-12454	Site	Historic	AH07; HP37	2012 (Patrick Stanton, Statistical Research, Inc.)	
P-33-020919	CA-RIV-010844	Other - SRI-14191	Site	Historic	AH16; HP39	2012 (Patrick Stanton, Statistical Research, Inc.)	
P-33-020920	CA-RIV-010845	Other - SRI-14192	Site	Historic	AH07; HP37	2012 (Patrick Stanton, Statistical Research, Inc.)	
P-33-023896		Other - U.S. Experimental Data Station/ Holtby Myer's Home	Building, Site	Historic	HP02; HP33	2014 (Riordan Goodwin, Casey Tibbet, LSA Associates, Inc.)	RI-09139
P-33-023987		Other - SR 195; Other - Grapefruit Boulevard; Other - Avenue 66 west of SR 111	Structure	Historic	HP37	2014 (Jenna Kavhour, GPA Consulting)	

Resource List

Primary No.	Trinomial	Other IDs	Type	Age	Attribute codes	Recorded by	Reports
P-33-023988		Other - SR 111; Other - Grapefruit Boulevard near SR 195; Other - Avenue 66; Other - APE Map Reference No. 2	Structure	Historic	HP37	2014 (Jenna Kachour, GPA Consulting)	
P-33-026685	CA-RIV-012576	Other - Edna Cast Date Farm Complex; Other - Palc Hands of Shali-Mart; Other - Garden of the Setting Sun Date Farm	Site	Historic	AH02; AH03	2016 (Amy Dunay, Dokken Engineering)	
P-33-028086		Other - Segment of 7th Street	Structure	Historic	HP37	2014 (Evan Mills, Applied EarthWorks)	
P-33-028087		Other - Segment of 6th Street	Structure	Historic	HP37	2014 (Evan Mills, Applied EarthWorks)	
P-33-028088		Other - Segment of Dale Kiler Road	Structure	Historic	HP37	2014 (Evan Mills, Applied EarthWorks)	
P-33-028820	CA-RIV-012930	Other - Family Dollar Mecca Temp-1	Site	Historic	AH04	2019 (Jillian L. Hahnlen, Brian F. Smith & Associates, Inc.)	

Appendix B

SLF Search Results and Native American Outreach Documentation

NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE COMMISSION

April 29, 2020

Rachel Perzel
Rincon Consultants, Inc.

Via Email to: rperzel@rinconconsultants.com

Re: Native American Tribal Consultation, Pursuant to the Assembly Bill 52 (AB 52), Amendments to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) (Chapter 532, Statutes of 2014), Public Resources Code Sections 5097.94 (m), 21073, 21074, 21080.3.1, 21080.3.2, 21082.3, 21083.09, 21084.2 and 21084.3, Coachella Valley Water District Ion Exchange Treatment Plant 7991 Construction Project, Riverside County

Dear Ms. Perzel:

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

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

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

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

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

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



CHAIRPERSON
Laura Miranda
Luiseño

VICE CHAIRPERSON
Reginald Pagaling
Chumash

SECRETARY
Merri Lopez-Keifer
Luiseño

PARLIAMENTARIAN
Russell Attebery
Karuk

COMMISSIONER
Marshall McKay
Wintun

COMMISSIONER
William Mungary
Paiute/White Mountain
Apache

COMMISSIONER
[Vacant]

COMMISSIONER
Julie Tumamait-Stenslie
Chumash

COMMISSIONER
[Vacant]

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY
Christina Snider
Pomo

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

- 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 any Sacred Lands File (SLF) check conducted through the Native American Heritage Commission was negative.

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.

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

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

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

Sincerely,



Andrew Green
Cultural Resources Analyst

Attachment

**Native American Heritage Commission
Tribal Consultation List
Riverside County
4/29/2020**

**Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla
Indians**

Jeff Grubbe, Chairperson
5401 Dinah Shore Drive
Palm Springs, CA, 92264
Phone: (760) 699 - 6800
Fax: (760) 699-6919
Cahuilla

**Ewiaapaayp Band of Kumeyaay
Indians**

Michael Garcia, Vice Chairperson
4054 Willows Road
Alpine, CA, 91901
Phone: (619) 445 - 6315
Fax: (619) 445-9126
michaelg@leaningrock.net
Diegueno

**Augustine Band of Cahuilla
Mission Indians**

Amanda Vance, Chairperson
P.O. Box 846
Coachella, CA, 92236
Phone: (760) 398 - 4722
Fax: (760) 369-7161
hhaines@augustinetribe.com
Cahuilla

**Ewiaapaayp Band of Kumeyaay
Indians**

Robert Pinto, Chairperson
4054 Willows Road
Alpine, CA, 91901
Phone: (619) 445 - 6315
Fax: (619) 445-9126
wmicklin@leaningrock.net
Diegueno

**Cabazon Band of Mission
Indians**

Doug Welmas, Chairperson
84-245 Indio Springs Parkway
Indio, CA, 92203
Phone: (760) 342 - 2593
Fax: (760) 347-7880
jstapp@cabazonindians-nsn.gov
Cahuilla

Jamul Indian Village

Lisa Cumper, Tribal Historic
Preservation Officer
P.O. Box 612
Jamul, CA, 91935
Phone: (619) 669 - 4855
lcumper@jiv-nsn.gov
Diegueno

Cahuilla Band of Indians

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

Jamul Indian Village

Erica Pinto, Chairperson
P.O. Box 612
Jamul, CA, 91935
Phone: (619) 669 - 4785
Fax: (619) 669-4817
epinto@jiv-nsn.gov
Diegueno

**Campo Band of Diegueno
Mission Indians**

Ralph Goff, Chairperson
36190 Church Road, Suite 1
Campo, CA, 91906
Phone: (619) 478 - 9046
Fax: (619) 478-5818
rgoff@campo-nsn.gov
Diegueno

**La Posta Band of Diegueno
Mission Indians**

Gwendolyn Parada, Chairperson
8 Crestwood Road
Boulevard, CA, 91905
Phone: (619) 478 - 2113
Fax: (619) 478-2125
LP13boots@aol.com
Diegueno

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.

This list is only applicable for consultation with Native American tribes under Public Resources Code Sections 21080.3.1 for the proposed Coachella Valley Water District Ion Exchange Treatment Plant 7991 Construction Project, Riverside County.

**Native American Heritage Commission
Tribal Consultation List
Riverside County
4/29/2020**

**La Posta Band of Diegueno
Mission Indians**

Javaughn Miller, Tribal
Administrator
8 Crestwood Road Diegueno
Boulevard, CA, 91905
Phone: (619) 478 - 2113
Fax: (619) 478-2125
jmiller@LPtribe.net

**Quechan Tribe of the Fort Yuma
Reservation**

Jill McCormick, Historic
Preservation Officer
P.O. Box 1899 Quechan
Yuma, AZ, 85366
Phone: (760) 572 - 2423
historicpreservation@quechantribe.com

**Los Coyotes Band of Cahuilla
and Cupeño Indians**

Shane Chapparosa, Chairperson
P.O. Box 189 Cahuilla
Warner Springs, CA, 92086-0189
Phone: (760) 782 - 0711
Fax: (760) 782-0712

Ramona Band of Cahuilla

Joseph Hamilton, Chairperson
P.O. Box 391670 Cahuilla
Anza, CA, 92539
Phone: (951) 763 - 4105
Fax: (951) 763-4325
admin@ramona-nsn.gov

**Manzanita Band of Kumeyaay
Nation**

Angela Elliott Santos, Chairperson
P.O. Box 1302 Diegueno
Boulevard, CA, 91905
Phone: (619) 766 - 4930
Fax: (619) 766-4957

**Santa Rosa Band of Cahuilla
Indians**

Steven Estrada, Chairperson
P.O. Box 391820 Cahuilla
Anza, CA, 92539
Phone: (951) 659 - 2700
Fax: (951) 659-2228
mflaxbeard@santarosacahuilla-nsn.gov

**Mesa Grande Band of Diegueno
Mission Indians**

Michael Linton, Chairperson
P.O. Box 270 Diegueno
Santa Ysabel, CA, 92070
Phone: (760) 782 - 3818
Fax: (760) 782-9092
mesagrandeband@msn.com

**Soboba Band of Luiseno
Indians**

Scott Cozart, Chairperson
P. O. Box 487 Cahuilla
San Jacinto, CA, 92583 Luiseno
Phone: (951) 654 - 2765
Fax: (951) 654-4198
jontiveros@soboba-nsn.gov

**Morongo Band of Mission
Indians**

Robert Martin, Chairperson
12700 Pumarra Road Cahuilla
Banning, CA, 92220 Serrano
Phone: (951) 849 - 8807
Fax: (951) 922-8146
dtorres@morongo-nsn.gov

**Sycuan Band of the Kumeyaay
Nation**

Cody Martinez, Chairperson
1 Kwaaypaay Court Kumeyaay
El Cajon, CA, 92019
Phone: (619) 445 - 2613
Fax: (619) 445-1927
ssilva@sycuan-nsn.gov

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.

This list is only applicable for consultation with Native American tribes under Public Resources Code Sections 21080.3.1 for the proposed Coachella Valley Water District Ion Exchange Treatment Plant 7991 Construction Project, Riverside County.

IXTP 7991 Project: Native Americans Consulted

Tribal Contact	Rincon Outreach Efforts	Response to Outreach Efforts
<p><i>Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians</i> Jeff Grubbe, Chairperson 5401 Dinah Shore Drive Palm Springs, CA, 92264 Phone: (760) 699 - 6800 Fax: (760) 699-6919 laviles@aguacaliente.net</p>	<p>05/08/20: Emailed outreach letter</p> <p>1/4/20: Performed follow-up telephone call; left message requesting call back.</p>	<p>No response received</p>
<p><i>Augustine Band of Cahuilla Mission Indians</i> Amanda Vance, Chairperson P.O. Box 846 Coachella, CA, 92236 Phone: (760) 398 - 4722 Fax: (760) 369-7161 hhaines@augustinetribe.com</p>	<p>05/08/20: Emailed outreach letter</p> <p>6/12/20: Performed follow-up telephone call; left message requesting call back.</p>	<p>No response received</p>
<p><i>Cabazon Band of Mission Indians</i> Doug Welmas, Chairperson 84-245 Indio Springs Parkway Indio, CA, 92203 Phone: (760) 342 - 2593 Fax: (760) 347-7880 jstapp@cabazonindians-nsn.gov</p>	<p>05/08/20: Emailed outreach letter</p> <p>6/12/20: Performed follow-up telephone call; left message requesting call back.</p>	<p>No response received</p>
<p><i>Cahuilla Band of Indians</i> Daniel Salgado, Chairperson 52701 U.S. Highway 371 Anza, CA, 92539 Phone: (951) 763 - 5549 Fax: (951) 763-2808 Chairman@cahuilla.net</p>	<p>05/08/20: Emailed outreach letter</p> <p>6/12/20: Performed follow-up telephone call; left message requesting call back.</p>	<p>No response received</p>
<p><i>Campo Band of Diegueno Mission Indians</i> Ralph Goff, Chairperson 36190 Church Road, Suite 1 Campo, CA, 91906 Phone: (619) 478 - 9046 Fax: (619) 478-5818 rgoff@campo-nsn.gov</p>	<p>05/08/20: Emailed outreach letter</p> <p>6/12/20: Performed follow-up telephone call; left message requesting call back.</p>	<p>No response received</p>

Tribal Contact	Rincon Outreach Efforts	Response to Outreach Efforts
<p><i>Ewiiaapaayp Band of Kumeyaay Indians</i> Michael Garcia, Vice Chairperson 4054 Willows Road Alpine, CA, 91901 Phone: (619) 445 - 6315 Fax: (619) 445-9126 michaelg@leaningrock.net</p>	<p>05/08/20: Emailed outreach letter</p> <p>6/12/20: Performed follow-up telephone call; mailbox not set up and was unable to leave a message.</p>	<p>No response received</p>
<p><i>Ewiiaapaayp Band of Kumeyaay Indians</i> Robert Pinto, Chairperson 4054 Willows Road Alpine, CA, 91901 Phone: (619) 445 - 6315 Fax: (619) 445-9126 wmicklin@leaningrock.net</p>	<p>05/08/20: Emailed outreach letter</p> <p>6/12/20: Performed follow-up telephone call; mailbox not set up and was unable to leave a message.</p>	<p>No response received</p>
<p><i>Jamul Indian Village</i> Lisa Cumper, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer P.O. Box 612 Jamul, CA, 91935 Phone: (619) 669 - 4855 lcumper@jiv-nsn.gov</p>	<p>05/08/20: Emailed outreach letter</p>	<p>05/08/20: Erica M. Pinto responded to Rincon via email stating: "...we kindly defer to Cabazon, Agua Caliente, Morongo, 29 Palms Band, and other Tribes in the location."</p>
<p><i>Jamul Indian Village</i> Erica Pinto, Chairperson P.O. Box 612 Jamul, CA, 91935 Phone: (619) 669 - 4785 Fax: (619) 669-4817 epinto@jiv-nsn.gov</p>	<p>05/08/20: Emailed outreach letter</p>	<p>05/08/20: Erica M. Pinto responded to Rincon via email stating: "...we kindly defer to Cabazon, Agua Caliente, Morongo, 29 Palms Band, and other Tribes in the location."</p>
<p><i>La Posta Band of Diegueno Mission Indians</i> Gwendolyn Parada, Chairperson 8 Crestwood Road Boulevard, CA, 91905 Phone: (619) 478 - 2113 Fax: (619) 478-2125 LP13boots@aol.com</p>	<p>05/08/20: Emailed outreach letter</p>	<p>6/12/2020: Tribal office responded via email and stated that responses would come from Ms. Parada if there was comment on the project.</p> <p>No further response received</p>
<p><i>La Posta Band of Diegueno Mission Indians</i> Javaughn Miller, Tribal Administrator 8 Crestwood Road Boulevard, CA, 91905 Phone: (619) 478 - 2113 Fax: (619) 478-2125 jmiller@LPtribe.net</p>	<p>05/08/20: Emailed outreach letter</p> <p>6/12/20: Conducted follow-up telephone call; tribal office stated that Javaughn Miller was no longer the tribal administrator; requested future notification letters be sent to Gwendolyn Parada; stated that response would come from Ms. Parada.</p>	<p>No response received</p>

Tribal Contact	Rincon Outreach Efforts	Response to Outreach Efforts
<p>Los Coyotes Band of Cahuilla and Cupeño Indians Shane Chapparosa, Chairperson P.O. Box 189 Warner Springs, CA, 92086-0189 Phone: (760) 782 - 0711 Fax: (760) 782-0712</p>	<p>05/08/20: Emailed outreach letter; email was returned undeliverable. Received kickback,</p> <p>06/11/20: Performed follow-up call and spoke to receptionist; she requested that letter be sent to Jacob Norte, Director at jnorte2@gmail.com.</p> <p>06/11/20: Sent email to Jacob Norte as requested.</p>	<p>No response received</p>
<p>Manzanita Band of Kumeyaay Nation Angela Elliott Santos, Chairperson P.O. Box 1302 Boulevard, CA, 91905 Phone: (619) 766 - 4930 Fax: (619) 766-4957</p>	<p>05/08/20: Email was not included on NAHC- provided list; conducted telephone call to obtain email address; call did not go through.</p> <p>06/11/20: Same as above.</p>	<p>No response received</p>
<p>Mesa Grande Band of Diegueno Mission Indians Michael Linton, Chairperson P.O Box 270 Santa Ysabel, CA, 92070 Phone: (760) 782 - 3818 Fax: (760) 782-9092 mesagrandeband@msn.com</p>	<p>05/08/20: Emailed outreach letter</p> <p>06/11/20: Conducted follow-up telephone call; left message with Jamie requesting a call back.</p>	<p>No response received</p>
<p>Morongo Band of Mission Indians Robert Martin, Chairperson 12700 Pumarra Road Banning, CA, 92220 Phone: (951) 849 - 8807 Fax: (951) 922-8146 dtorres@morongo-nsn.gov</p>	<p>05/08/20: Emailed outreach letter</p> <p>06/12/20: Conducted follow-up telephone call; phone number provided changed or disconnected</p>	<p>No response received</p>
<p>Quechan Tribe of the Fort Yuma Reservation Jill McCormick, Historic Preservation Officer P.O. Box 1899 Yuma, AZ, 85366 Phone: (760) 572 - 2423 historicpreservation@quechantribe.com</p>	<p>05/08/20: Emailed outreach letter</p>	<p>5/11/20: Rincon received email response stating that the tribe did not wish to comment and that they defer to local tribes, supporting their determinations regarding the project.</p>

Tribal Contact	Rincon Outreach Efforts	Response to Outreach Efforts
<p>Ramona Band of Cahuilla Joseph Hamilton, Chairperson P.O. Box 391670 Anza, CA, 92539 Phone: (951) 763 - 4105 Fax: (951) 763-4325 admin@ramona-nsn.gov</p>	<p>05/08/20: Emailed outreach letter</p> <p>6/12/20: Emailed outreach letter to John Gomez, as requested.</p>	<p>6/12/2020: Rincon received an email from Susan Becker stating that outreach should be sent to John Gomez (jgomez@ramona-nsn.gov). She stated that offices are still closed due to executive order; however, the tribe is teleworking and the best way to contact is by email.</p> <p>No further response received.</p>
<p>Santa Rosa Band of Cahuilla Indians Steven Estrada, Chairperson P.O. Box 391820 Anza, CA, 92539 Phone: (951) 659 - 2700 Fax: (951) 659-2228 adminassist@santarosacahuilla-nsn.gov</p>	<p>05/08/20: Emailed outreach letter</p> <p>6/12/20: Conducted follow-up telephone call.</p>	<p>6/12/20: Spoke to Jamie; she stated that if there was no response to the letters/email then there is no response and the tribe has no comment on the project.</p>
<p>Soboba Band of Luiseno Indians Scott Cozart, Chairperson P. O. Box 487 San Jacinto, CA, 92583 Phone: (951) 654 - 2765 Fax: (951) 654-4198 jontiveros@soboba-nsn.gov</p>	<p>05/08/20: Emailed outreach letter</p> <p>6/12/20: Conducted follow-up telephone call; no answer, no ability to leave message.</p>	<p>No response received</p>
<p>Sycuan Band of the Kumeyaay Nation Cody Martinez, Chairperson 1 Kwaaypaay Court El Cajon, CA, 92019 Phone: (619) 445 - 2613 Fax: (619) 445-1927 ssilva@sycuan-nsn.gov</p>	<p>05/08/20: Emailed outreach letter</p> <p>6/12/20: Performed follow-up telephone call; left message requesting call back.</p>	<p>No response received</p>
<p>Torres-Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians Thomas TorteZ, Chairperson P.O. Box 1160 Thermal, CA, 92274 Phone: (760) 397 - 0300 Fax: (760) 397-8146 tmchair@torresmartinez.org</p>	<p>05/08/20: Emailed outreach letter</p> <p>6/12/20: Conducted follow-up telephone call; no answer, no ability to leave message.</p>	<p>No response received</p>

Tribal Contact	Rincon Outreach Efforts	Response to Outreach Efforts
<p><i>Twenty-Nine Palms Band of Mission Indians</i> Darrell Mike, Chairperson 46-200 Harrison Place Coachella, CA, 92236 Phone: (760) 863 - 2444 Fax: (760) 863-2449 29chairman@29palmsbominsn.gov</p>	<p>05/08/20: Emailed outreach letter</p> <p>6/12/20: Conducted follow-up telephone call; spoke with Sara Bliss who stated that she would check on review status and send a follow up email.</p>	<p>No response received</p>
<p><i>Viejas Band of Kumeyaay Indians</i> John Christman, Chairperson 1 Viejas Grade Road Alpine, CA, 91901 Phone: (619) 445 - 3810 Fax: (619) 445-5337 jchristman@viejas-nsn.gov</p>	<p>05/08/20: Emailed outreach letter</p> <p>6/12/20: Conducted follow-up telephone call; no answer, left message requesting call back.</p>	<p>6/12/20: Rincon received a telephone call from Rich who stated that he would review the letters and be in contact if they have comment(s) on the project.</p> <p>No further response received</p>



SAMPLE LETTER

Rincon Consultants, Inc.

301 9th Street, Suite 109
Redlands, California 92374

909 253 0705 OFFICE AND FAX

info@rinconconsultants.com

www.rinconconsultants.com

May 8, 2020

Viejas Band of Kumeyaay Indians
John Christman, Chairperson
1 Viejas Grade Road
Alpine, California 91901
Via email: jchristman@viejas-nsn.gov

**Subject: Cultural Resources Study for Ion Exchange Treatment Plant 7991 Construction Project,
Unincorporated Riverside County, California**

Dear Chairperson Christman:

Rincon Consultants, Inc. (Rincon) was retained by Woodard & Curran on behalf of the Coachella Valley Water District to conduct a cultural resources study for the Ion Exchange Treatment Plant (IXTP) 7991 Construction Project (proposed undertaking), located in the unincorporated community of Mecca in Riverside County. The proposed undertaking will replace the existing IXTP 7991 with a new 1,800 to 2,000 gallon per minute adsorption treatment system, new sulfuric acid and caustic soda systems within new buildings on site, backwash pumps and piping, pre-filters, backwash tank, and demolition of the existing IXTP. Ground disturbance is anticipated to reach a maximum depth of 15 feet for booster suction cans. The attached map depicts the Area of Potential Effect (APE) that has been defined for the undertaking.

The purpose of this letter is to inquire about your knowledge of potential cultural resources within the vicinity that may be impacted by implementation of the proposed undertaking. On April 24, 2020, Rincon contacted the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) to request a Sacred Lands File (SLF) search of the area of the undertaking. Rincon received a response from the NAHC on May 1, 2020 stating the results of the SLF search were negative. Additionally, a California Historical Resources Information System records search at the Eastern Information Center and a cultural resource survey did not identify any Native American cultural resources within the project APE; although, two prehistoric isolates are located within a one-mile search radius.

If you or your organization has any knowledge or specific concerns regarding cultural resources in the project area, please respond by telephone at (213) 788-4842 x3011, or by email at kknabb@rinconconsultants.com. Please note, due to the circumstances surrounding COVID-19, we are submitting this letter digitally and will not be sending hard copies via U.S. mail. Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

Rincon Consultants, Inc.

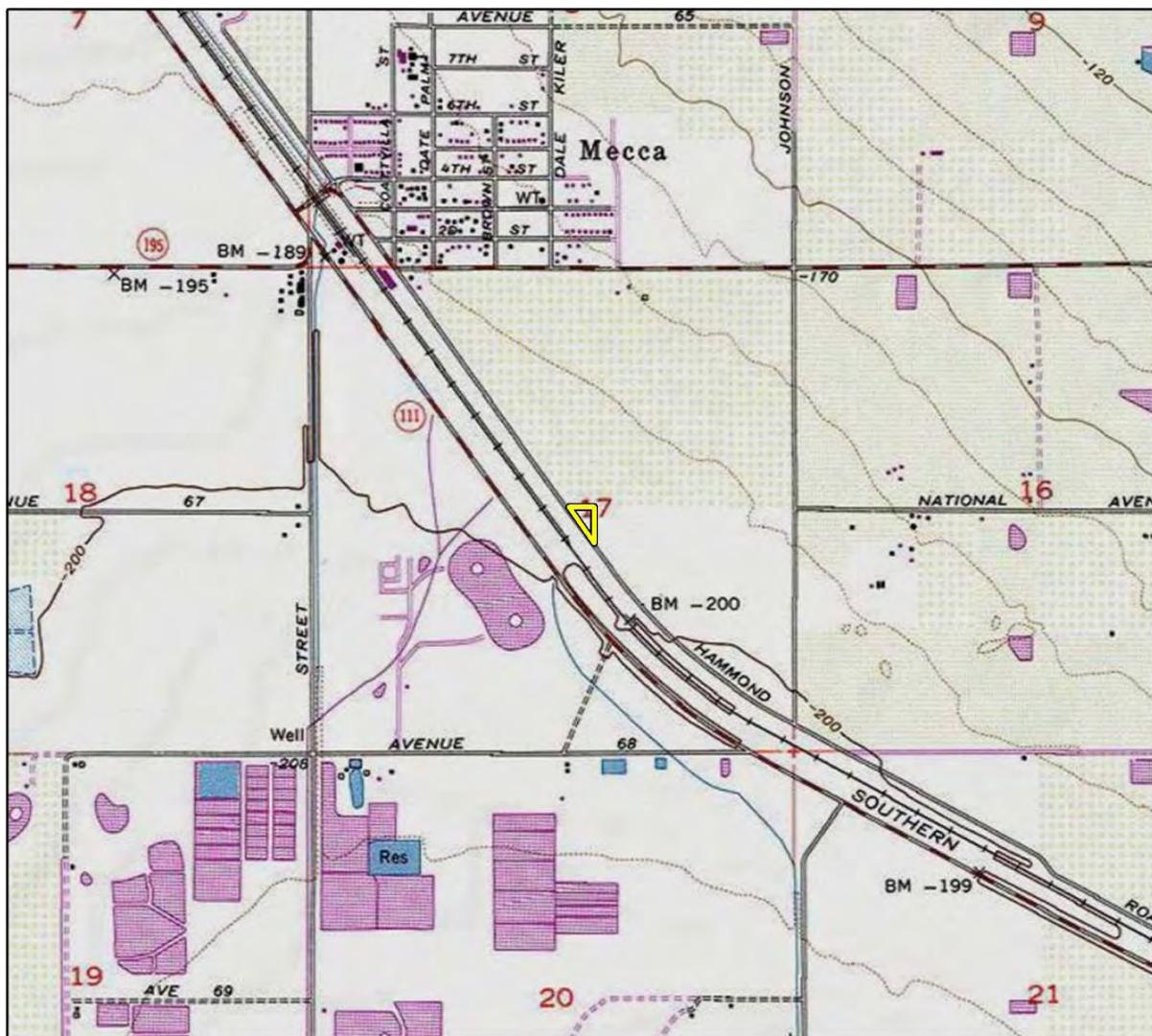
A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kyle A. Knabb".

Kyle Knabb, PhD, RPA
Senior Archaeologist

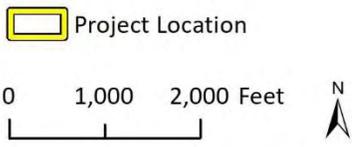
Attached: Project Area of Potential Effects Map



Ion Exchange Treatment Plant 7991 Construction Project



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Courtney Montgomery

From: Erica M. Pinto <epinto@jiv-nsn.gov>
Sent: Friday, May 8, 2020 7:25 PM
To: Courtney Montgomery
Cc: Hannah Haas; Lisa Cumper; Carlene Chamberlain; Frances Amado; Stephen Rosene
Subject: [EXT] Re: Rincon Consultants Projects

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of Rincon Consultants. Be cautious before clicking on any links, or opening any attachments, until you are confident that the content is safe .

Dear Courtney,

Thank you for the email. I have included my Tribal Historic Preservation Officer in the email. After carefully reviewing the location of the proposed project we kindly defer to Cabazon, Agua Caliente, Morongo, 29 Palms Band, and other Tribes in the location.

Thank you.
EMP

On Fri, May 8, 2020 at 7:18 PM Courtney Montgomery <cmontgomery@rinconconsultants.com> wrote:

Dear Chairperson Pinto,

Please find Rincon Consultants' Section 106 outreach letters attached. Due to COVID-19 we are submitting these letters digitally and will not be sending hard copies via U.S. Mail.

Courtney Montgomery, Archaeologist

Rincon Consultants, Inc.

Environmental Scientists | Planners | Engineers

805-644-4455 x3005

559-558-5875 Direct

rinconconsultants.com

Note on COVID-19: I'm available and working remotely to employ social distancing. Additionally, our work systems remain operational and we continue to perform work for our clients. Feel free to e-mail me or reach me directly at 209-662-3807.

Rachel Perzel

From: Quechan Historic Preservation <historicpreservation@quechantribe.com>
Sent: Monday, May 11, 2020 10:26 AM
To: Courtney Montgomery; Kyle Knabb
Cc: Hannah Haas
Subject: [EXT] RE: Rincon Consultants Projects - Ion Treatment Plant 7991 Construction Project

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of Rincon Consultants. Be cautious before clicking on any links, or opening any attachments, until you are confident that the content is safe .

We do not wish to provide comments on this project. We defer to the more local Tribe(s) and support their determinations on the project.

From: Courtney Montgomery [mailto:cmontgomery@rinconconsultants.com]
Sent: Friday, May 8, 2020 7:14 PM
To: historicpreservation@quechantribe.com
Cc: Hannah Haas
Subject: Rincon Consultants Projects

Dear Historic Preservation Office McCormick,

Please find Rincon Consultants' Section 106 outreach letters attached. Due to COVID-19 we are submitting these letters digitally and will not be sending hard copies via U.S. Mail.

Courtney Montgomery, Archaeologist

Rincon Consultants, Inc.
Environmental Scientists | Planners | Engineers
805-644-4455 x3005
559-558-5875 Direct
rinconconsultants.com

Note on COVID-19: I'm available and working remotely to employ social distancing. Additionally, our work systems remain operational and we continue to perform work for our clients. Feel free to e-mail me or reach me directly at 209-662-3807.



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Appendix C

Local Interested Party Outreach Documentation

Table 1 Interested Parties Consulted

Local Group/ Government Contact	Rincon Coordination Efforts	Response to Coordination Efforts
<p>County of Riverside Planning Department Valentina Lopez 4080 Lemon Street, 12th Floor Riverside, CA 92501 (951) 955-8632 vslopez@rivco.org</p>	<p>5/8/20: Letter sent via email (due to COVID-19 response effort). 5/15/2020: Rincon conducted followed-up call to Ms. Lopez.</p>	<p>5/15/2020: Ms. Lopez stated that the County received the emailed letter and that the letter and project information were reviewed by County staff. She stated that the County had no cultural resource concerns regarding the proposed undertaking.</p>
<p>Coachella Valley Historical Society, Inc. (CVHS) Attn: President of the Board 82616 Miles Avenue Indio CA, 92201 (760) 342-6651 info@cvhm.org</p>	<p>5/8/20: Letter sent via email (due to COVID-19 response effort).</p>	<p>5/10/2020: Received email response from CVHS stating: <i>"This is a replacement of an ion exchange Treatment Facility. It ranges between -190' and -200', is well within the shallow aquafer area. However, this project may not require major excavation, though a few pipeline trenches may be needed. This project id given a low priority because little new area may be disturbed, however, if a monitor is in the area, they should give it a look."</i></p>
<p>Historical Society of Palm Desert (HSPD) P.O. Box 77 Att: Brett Romer, Past President Palm Desert CA, 92261-0077 (760) 346-6588 Info.hspd@verizon.net Cc: hmquinn@hotmail.com</p>	<p>5/8/20: Letter sent via email (due to COVID-19 response effort).</p>	<p>5/11/2020: Received email response from HSPD stating that the proposed undertaking is of no concern to the organization.</p>



Rincon Consultants, Inc.

301 9th Street, Suite 109
Redlands, California 92374

909 253 0705 OFFICE AND FAX

info@rinconconsultants.com
www.rinconconsultants.com

May 8, 2020

Rincon Project No: 20-09339

County of Riverside Planning Department

Att: Valentina Lopez

4080 Lemon Street, 12th Floor

Riverside, CA 92501

Via email: vslopez@rivco.org

Subject: Interested Party Consultation for the Ion Exchange Treatment Plant 7991 Construction Project, Unincorporated Riverside County, California

Dear Ms. Lopez:

Rincon Consultants, Inc. (Rincon) was retained by Woodard & Curran on behalf of the Coachella Valley Water District to perform a Cultural Resources Study for the Coachella Valley Water District's Ion Exchange Treatment Plant 7991 Construction Project, located on an approximately 1-acre site south of the unincorporated Riverside County community of Mecca, California (proposed undertaking). The proposed undertaking involves the demolition of the site's existing 1,100-gallon per minute (gpm) ion exchange treatment system and its replacement with an 1,800- to 2,000-gpm treatment system. The undertaking will additionally consist of the reuse of the existing sodium hypochlorite system and the replacement of sulfuric acid and caustic soda systems with new systems in new buildings/enclosures on site.

As a component of the Cultural Resources Study, in compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (Section 106), Rincon is consulting interested parties to request input on potential or known historic resources or other cultural resources in the vicinity of the undertaking. In conformance with Section 106, we are in the initial phase, "identify[ing] historic properties potentially affected by the undertaking"¹ and are writing to provide you with an opportunity to be involved in the Section 106 process as a consulting party. A project location map is enclosed with this letter for your reference. Note, due to the circumstances surrounding COVID-19, we are submitting this letter digitally and will not be sending hard copies via U.S. mail. If you or your organization/agency has any knowledge of, or specific concerns regarding cultural resources in the area of the undertaking, please respond by telephone at 805-644-4455 ext. 138 or by email to rperzel@rinconconsultants.com. Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

Rincon Consultants, Inc.

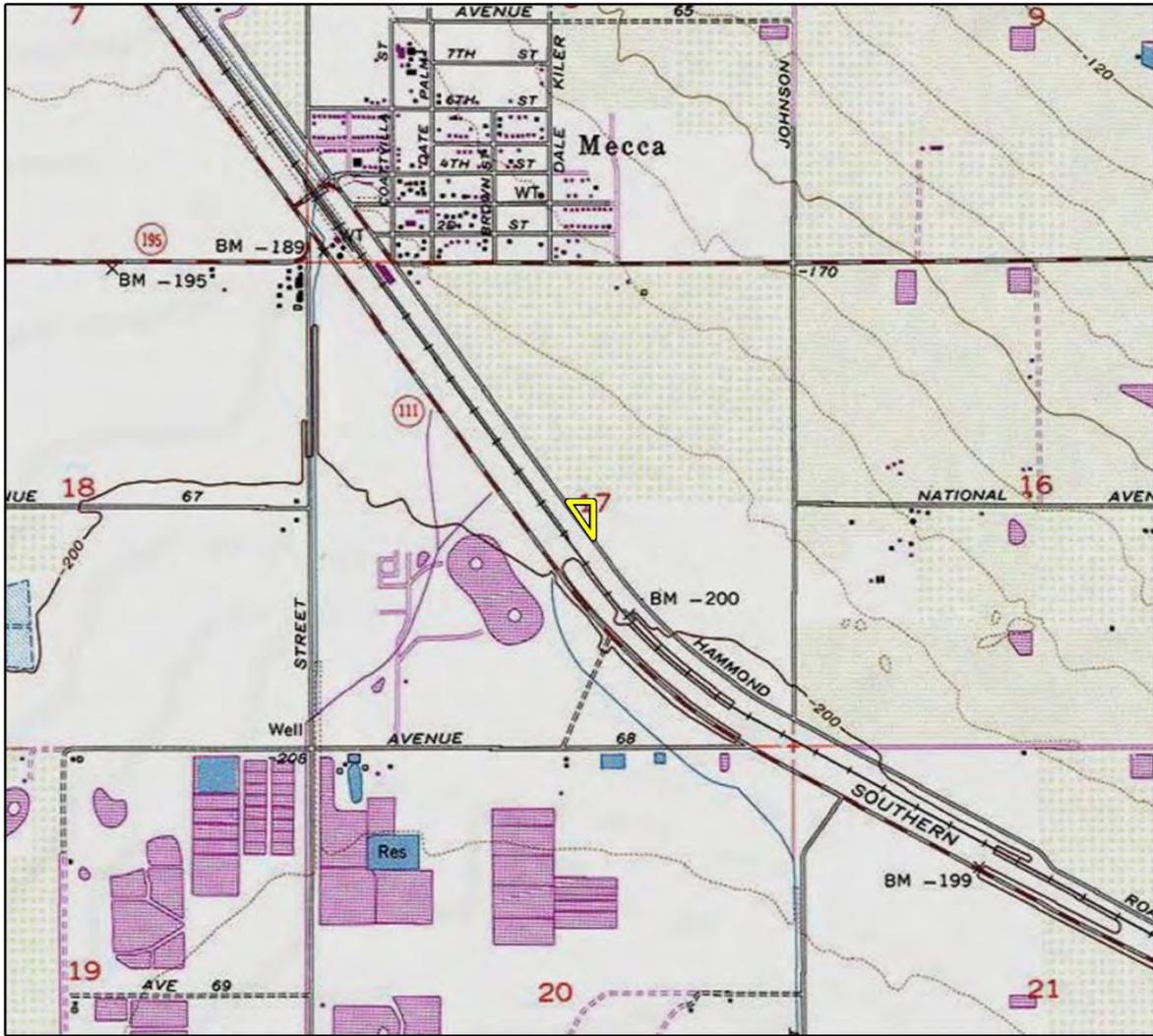
A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rachel Perzel". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Rachel Perzel, MA

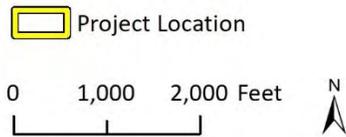
Architectural Historian

Enclosure: Project Location Map

¹ 36 Code of Federal Regulations Part 880.1 a



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301 9th Street, Suite 109
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909 253 0705 OFFICE AND FAX

info@rinconconsultants.com
www.rinconconsultants.com

May 8, 2020

Rincon Project No: 20-09339

Coachella Valley Historical Society, Inc.

Attn: President of the Board

82616 Miles Avenue

Indio CA, 92201

Via email: info@cvhm.org

Subject: Interested Party Consultation for the Ion Exchange Treatment Plant 7991 Construction Project, Unincorporated Riverside County, California

Dear President of the Board:

Rincon Consultants, Inc. (Rincon) was retained by Woodard & Curran on behalf of the Coachella Valley Water District to perform a Cultural Resources Study for the Coachella Valley Water District's Ion Exchange Treatment Plant 7991 Construction Project, located on an approximately 1-acre site south of the unincorporated Riverside County community of Mecca, California (proposed undertaking). The proposed undertaking involves the demolition of the site's existing 1,100-gallon per minute (gpm) ion exchange treatment system and its replacement with an 1,800- to 2,000-gpm treatment system. The undertaking will additionally consist of the reuse of the existing sodium hypochlorite system and the replacement of sulfuric acid and caustic soda systems with new systems in new buildings/enclosures on site.

As a component of the Cultural Resources Study, in compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (Section 106), Rincon is consulting interested parties to request input on potential or known historic resources or other cultural resources in the vicinity of the undertaking. In conformance with Section 106, we are in the initial phase, "identify[ing] historic properties potentially affected by the undertaking"¹ and are writing to provide you with an opportunity to be involved in the Section 106 process as a consulting party. A project location map is enclosed with this letter for your reference. Note, due to the circumstances surrounding COVID-19, we are submitting this letter digitally and will not be sending hard copies via U.S. mail. If you or your organization/agency has any knowledge of, or specific concerns regarding cultural resources in the area of the undertaking, please respond by telephone at 805-644-4455 ext. 138 or by email to rperzel@rinconconsultants.com. Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

Rincon Consultants, Inc.

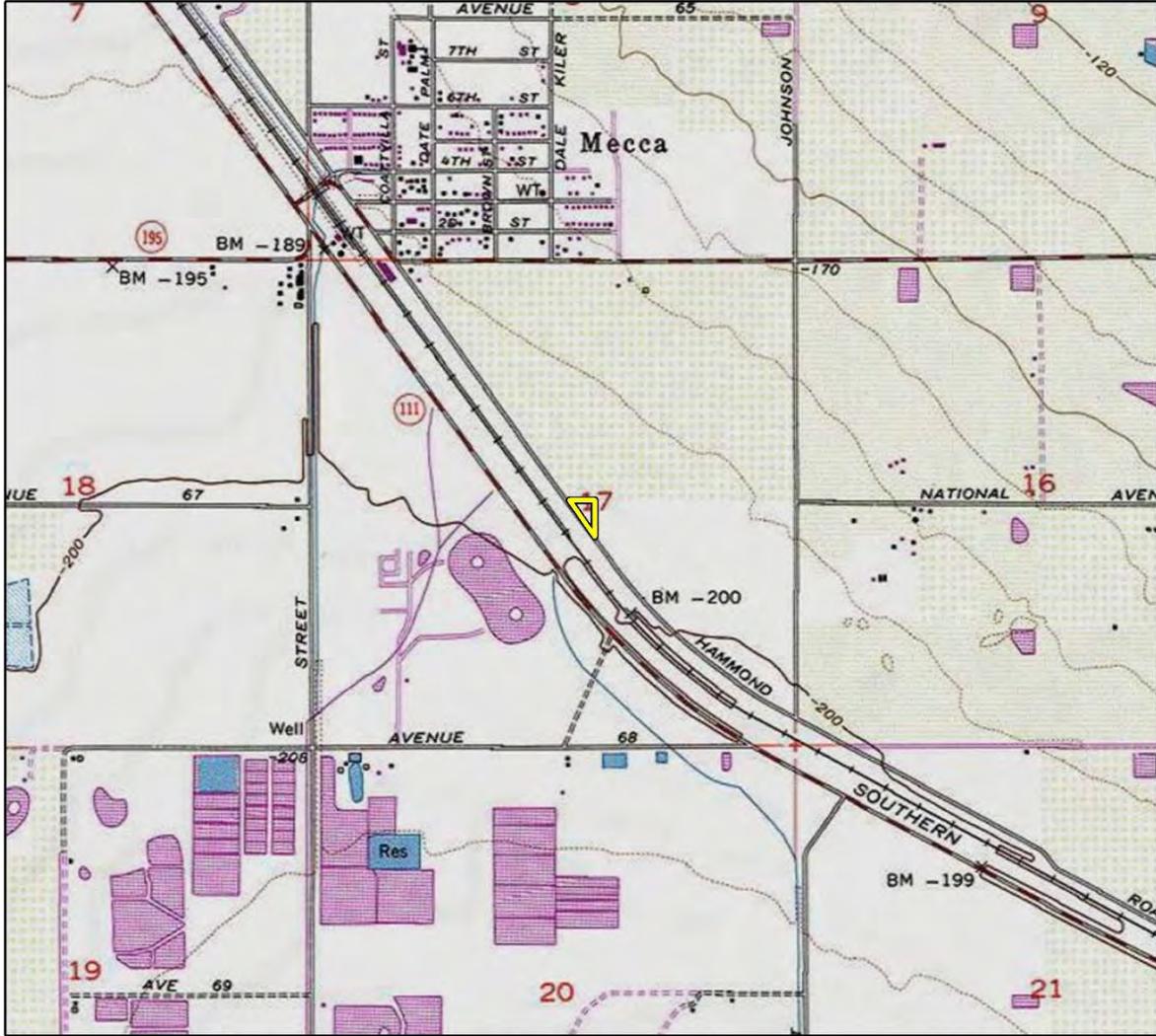
A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rachel Perzel".

Rachel Perzel, MA

Architectural Historian

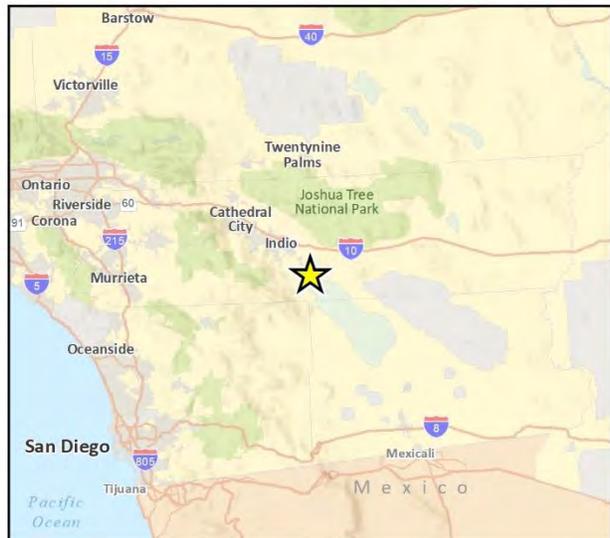
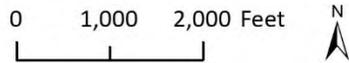
Enclosure: Project Location Map

¹ 36 Code of Federal Regulations Part 880.1 a



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Project Location



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Rincon Consultants, Inc.

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May 8, 2020

Rincon Project No: 20-09339

Historical Society of Palm Desert

P.O. Box 77

Att: Brett Romer, Past President

Palm Desert CA, 92261-0077

Via email: Info.hspd@verizon.net Cc: hmquinn@hotmail.com

Subject: Interested Party Consultation for the Ion Exchange Treatment Plant 7991 Construction Project, Unincorporated Riverside County, California

Dear Mr. Romer:

Rincon Consultants, Inc. (Rincon) was retained by Woodard & Curran on behalf of the Coachella Valley Water District to perform a Cultural Resources Study for the Coachella Valley Water District's Ion Exchange Treatment Plant 7991 Construction Project, located on an approximately 1-acre site south of the unincorporated Riverside County community of Mecca, California (proposed undertaking). The proposed undertaking involves the demolition of the site's existing 1,100-gallon per minute (gpm) ion exchange treatment system and its replacement with an 1,800- to 2,000-gpm treatment system. The undertaking will additionally consist of the reuse of the existing sodium hypochlorite system and the replacement of sulfuric acid and caustic soda systems with new systems in new buildings/enclosures on site.

As a component of the Cultural Resources Study, in compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (Section 106), Rincon is consulting interested parties to request input on potential or known historic resources or other cultural resources in the vicinity of the undertaking. In conformance with Section 106, we are in the initial phase, "identify[ing] historic properties potentially affected by the undertaking"¹ and are writing to provide you with an opportunity to be involved in the Section 106 process as a consulting party. A project location map is enclosed with this letter for your reference. Note, due to the circumstances surrounding COVID-19, we are submitting this letter digitally and will not be sending hard copies via U.S. mail. If you or your organization/agency has any knowledge of, or specific concerns regarding cultural resources in the area of the undertaking, please respond by telephone at 805-644-4455 ext. 138 or by email to rperzel@rinconconsultants.com. Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

Rincon Consultants, Inc.

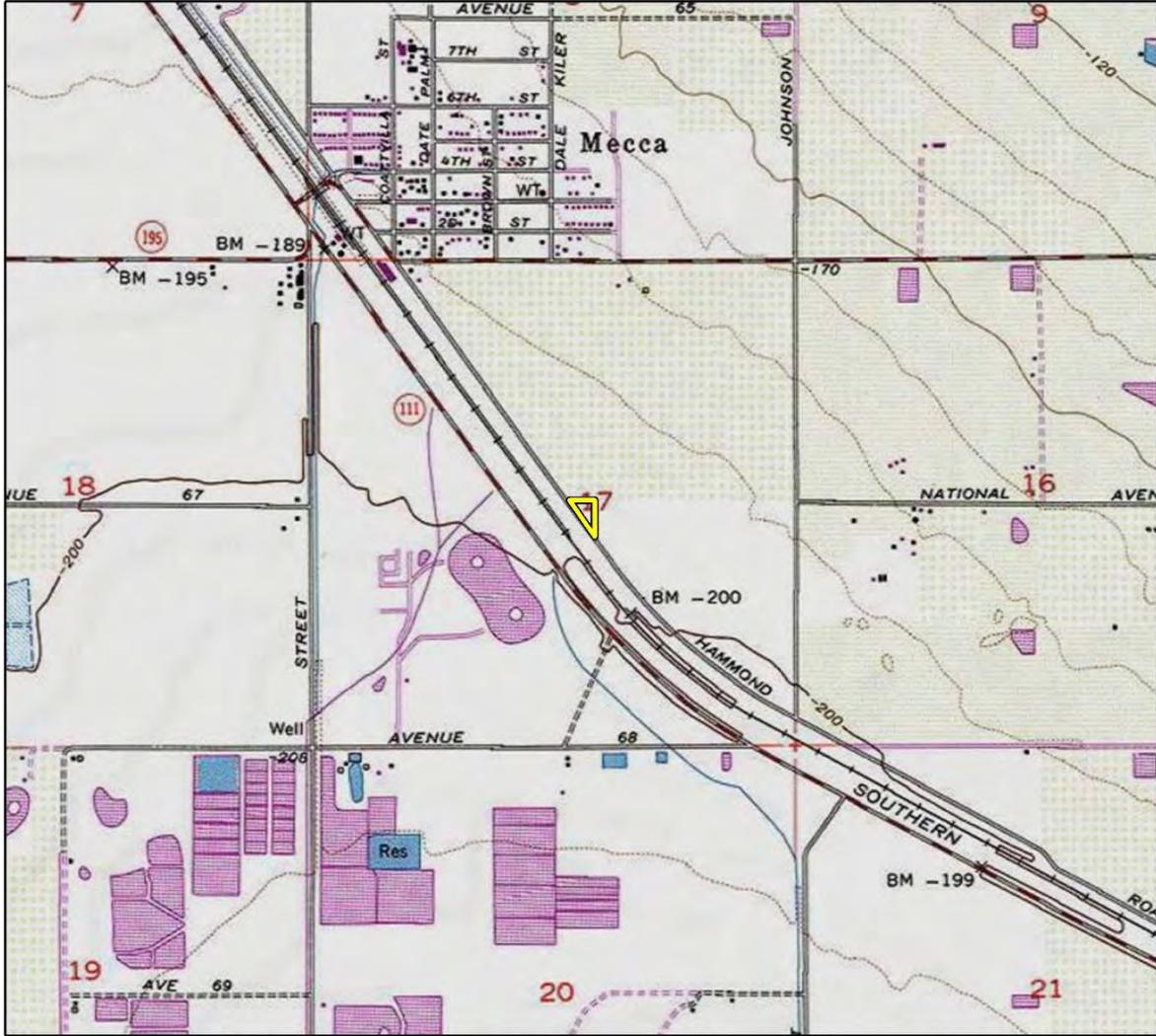
A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rachel Perzel". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Rachel Perzel, MA

Architectural Historian

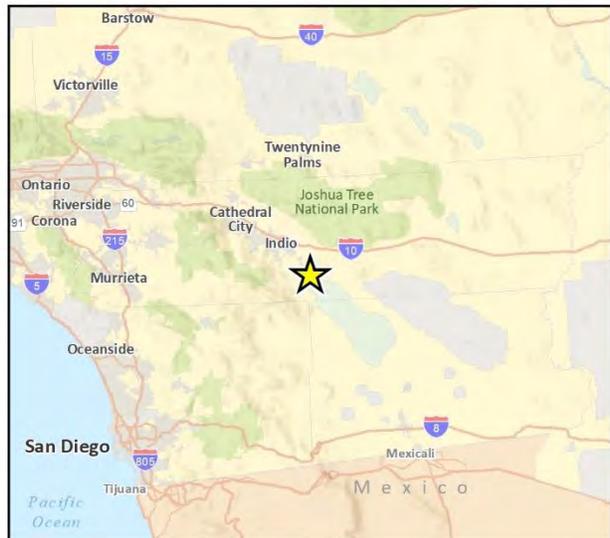
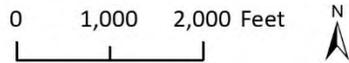
Enclosure: Project Location Map

¹ 36 Code of Federal Regulations Part 880.1 a



Imagery provided by National Geographic Society, Esri and its licensors © 2020. Mecca Quadrangle. T07S R09E S17. The topographic representation depicted in this map may not portray all of the features currently found in the vicinity today and/or features depicted in this map may have changed since the original topographic map was assembled.

Project Location



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Rachel Perzel

From: Janice <janice@cvhm.org>
Sent: Monday, May 11, 2020 11:43 AM
To: Rachel Perzel
Subject: [EXT] RE: Dale Kiler Phase 1 and 2 Project

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of Rincon Consultants. Be cautious before clicking on any links, or opening any attachments, until you are confident that the content is safe .

Hi Rachel,

I forwarded your emails to our Board President and she responded that none of these areas (4 emails) concern us in any way. Thanks for checking!

Regards,

*Janice Woodside
CVHM Office Manager
760-342-6651*

From: Rachel Perzel <rperzel@rinconconsultants.com>
Sent: Friday, May 8, 2020 6:13 PM
To: info@cvhm.org
Subject: FW: Dale Kiler Phase 1 and 2 Project

Good Afternoon,

Please see the attached outreach letter regarding the Dale Kiler Phase 1 and 2 Project, in Riverside County.

If you are aware of any potential cultural resource concerns that you would like to discuss in relation to the proposed project, please feel free to reach out any time.

Thank you and have a nice weekend.

Rachel Beth Perzel, Architectural Historian

Rincon Consultants, Inc.

Environmental Scientists | Planners | Engineers

805-644-4455 x 138

732-233-3997 Mobile

rinconconsultants.com

Note on COVID-19: I'm available and working remotely to employ social distancing.

Additionally, our work systems remain operational and we continue to perform work for our clients.

Feel free to e-mail me or reach me directly at 805-947-4817.

**SITE REVIEWS
FOR
RINCON CONSULTANTS, INC.**

**By
Harry M. Quinn
For
The Historical Society of Palm Desert (HSPD)**

One of the most important things controlling the location and size of a Desert Cahuilla village was a usable water source. Water sources appear to have been limited to three types, lake water when Holocene Lake Cahuilla was present and still fresh, springs both when the lake was present and after the lake dried up, and hand dug wells excavated into the lake bed after the lake had dried up. The hand dug wells were mainly located within the old lakebed region after the lake had dried up and most were probably charged by lake waters, the well at Kavinish (Pozo Hondo) being one of the few exceptions.

Miller (1957, p. 248) shows when full, Ancient Lake Cahuilla had a height of about 40-feet above sea level. Based on this elevation, all four of the projects are within the old lakebed. The Cahuilla living along the lakes shore followed it down as it evaporated until it became too saline for domestic use. At any lake stand some people may have been camping along the shoreline.

By some process, fresh water was stored in some of the subsurface sand lenses and the Cahuilla were able to dig wells into these sand aquifers after the lake had receded to develop villages within the lower portion of the valley. The villages of Torres and Martinez were developed in this manner.

PROJECTS

All four of these projects are replacement/expansion projects, which means that most of the areas involved have already been disturbed. However, these earlier projects were probably done before Environmental Monitoring was required. If so, these areas have not been properly monitored/surveyed.

1. Dale Kiler__Rincon.

This is a pipeline replacement within the community of Mecca. It is well down in the old lakebed, ranging from -150' to -190' so may be within the shallow aquifer area. The new trenching may not be a perfect match to the old one so some new areas may be exposed. This area is considered to have a chance to contain unknown archaeological sites and periodic monitoring is recommended.

2. North Shore Project.

This is another pipeline replacement, connecting to the above project. It runs from +10' to -200'. Only the extreme west end of this project is within the central portion of the basin. Again,

this new trenching may not follow the old exactly so some new areas may be exposed. The western end of this project is considered to have a chance to contain unknown archaeological sites and periodic monitoring is recommended.

3. Outreach – IXTP 7991 Project.

This is a replacement of an ion exchange Treatment Facility. It ranges between -190' and -200', is well within the shallow aquifer area. However, this project may not require major excavation, though a few pipeline trenches may be needed. This project is given a low priority because little new area may be disturbed, however, if a monitor is in the area, they should give it a look.

4. Tank 7102-2 Project.

This is the replacement of an existing Water Tank Facility. It ranges between 0' to +10'. This is well out of the lower valley area and is given a low priority. Again, if a monitor is in the area, they could give it a look.

PALEONTOLOGY

While none of the excavations should pass through the lake beds, the Ancient Lake Cahuilla Lake beds are not old enough to be considered as fossil beds. However, some interesting freshwater remains may be encountered, both invertebrate and vertebrate.

REFERENCES

Miller, William J, 1957, CALIFORNIA THROUGH THE AGES, THE GEOLOGIC STORY OF A GREAT STATE., WESTERNLORE PRESS, LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA.