

**CULTURAL AND PALEONTOLOGICAL RESOURCES INVENTORY
FOR THE
SOBOBA COMMERCIAL PROJECT,
CITY OF SAN JACINTO, RIVERSIDE COUNTY, CALIFORNIA**

Prepared For:

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USGS 7.5-Minute Quadrangle: San Jacinto 1996

Cultural and Paleontological Resources Survey; negative; City of San Jacinto; Riverside County

October 19, 2017

Archaeological and other heritage resources can be damaged or destroyed through uncontrolled public disclosure of information regarding their location. This document contains sensitive information regarding the nature and location of archaeological sites that should not be disclosed to the general public or unauthorized persons.

Information regarding the location, character, or ownership of a cultural resource is exempt from the California Public Records Act under Government Code Section 6254.10.

ABSTRACT

Purpose and Scope: Natural Investigations Company, Inc. was retained by Environmental Data Systems to provide cultural resources services for the Soboba Commercial Project in the City of San Jacinto (City) in west-central Riverside County, California. The Soboba Band of Luiseño Indians (Tribe) is applying to the City to rezone eight, vacant, fee-owned parcels to develop a specialty retail center on the western half of the proposed 13-acre Project area.

The cultural resources services by Natural Investigations include literature, Sacred Lands File, and paleontological records searches; pedestrian survey of the proposed Project area for cultural and paleontological resources; and this report. This study was completed in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act. The City is the State Lead Agency for the Project.

Dates of Investigation: The literature search was completed by the Eastern Information Center on September 26, 2017, a Sacred Lands File search by the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) on September 25, 2017, and a search by Natural Investigations of the University of California Museum of Paleontology and San Bernardino County Museum databases on October 16, 2017. The NAHC indicated their search failed to indicate the presence of Native American sacred lands within the immediate Project vicinity. Natural Investigations conducted a pedestrian survey of the proposed Project area on October 5, 2017.

Investigation Constraints: There were no constraints to ground visibility in the presently undeveloped Project area.

Findings of the Investigation: Prior cultural work includes four surveys completed within a 0.25-mile search radius, one of which covered a fraction of the Project area. No cultural resources have been previously recorded the Project area, while two historic-era archaeological sites are mapped within the search radius. No archaeological or built environment resources were recorded during the current survey of the Project area, which has been previously disturbed by planting of row crops, roadway construction, adjacent development, and disking for fire prevention, and has a low sensitivity for discovery of buried archaeological deposits.

The paleontological resource records indicate no fossils are known from the proposed Project area, which is mapped as Holocene alluvial deposits overlying older Pleistocene alluvium that is considered to have a high potential to contain significant paleontological resources that may be impacted during construction activities at or below 4 feet. No fossils, no unique geologic features, and no alluvial deposits attributable to older Pleistocene sediments were observed during the survey.

Recommendations: Construction monitoring of ground-disturbing activity is not recommended for cultural resources, but is recommended for paleontological resources during earthmoving at depths at or below 4 feet. In the event resources are discovered during Project activities, work within 50 feet of the find must be halted/redirected and a qualified specialist (archaeologist or paleontologist) notified, who will then evaluate the resource and consult with the City, the Tribe, and any other relevant regulatory agency, as appropriate.

Disposition of Data: This report will be filed with Environmental Data Systems; Eastern Information Center, University of California, Riverside; and Natural Investigations Company, Sacramento, California. All field notes and other documentation related to the study are on file at the Sacramento office of Natural Investigations.

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INTRODUCTION

Natural Investigations Company, Inc. (Natural Investigations) was retained by Environmental Data Systems to provide cultural resources services for the Soboba Commercial Project in the City of San Jacinto (City) in west-central Riverside County, California. The Soboba Band of Luiseño Indians (Tribe) is applying to the City to rezone eight, vacant, fee-owned parcels to develop a specialty retail center on the western half of the proposed 13-acre Project area.

The cultural resources services by Natural Investigations include literature, Sacred Lands File, and paleontological records searches; pedestrian survey of the proposed Project area for cultural and paleontological resources; and this report. This study was completed in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The City is the State Lead Agency for the Project.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND LOCATION

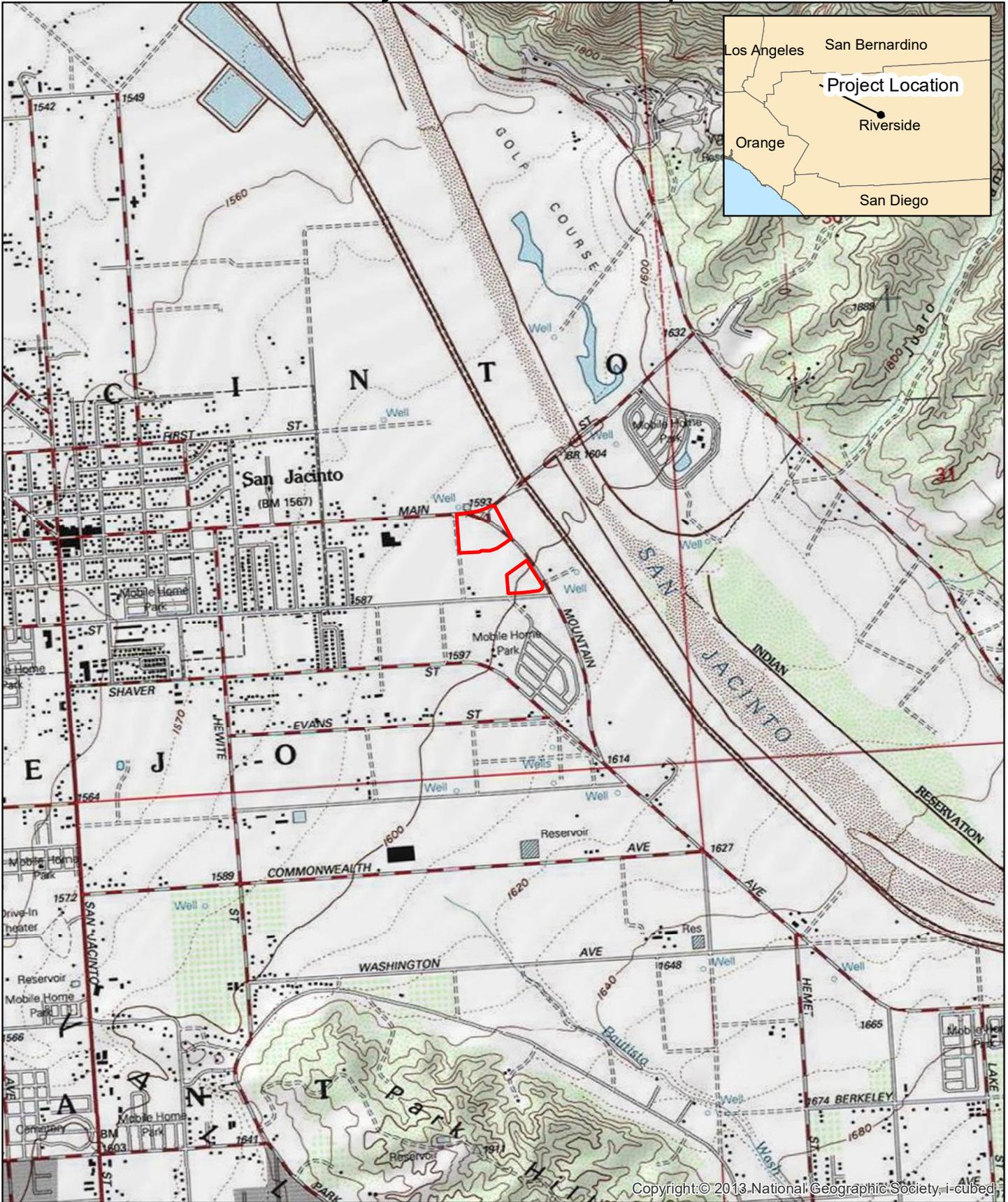
The Soboba Band of Luiseño Indians (Tribe) is applying to the City of San Jacinto to rezone eight fee-owned parcels, totaling 13.03 acres within the City, from Neighborhood Commercial (NC) to General Commercial (GC). Regional access to the proposed Project would be provided via State Route 79 and State Route 74, while local access would be via Main Street/Lake Park Drive (east/west access) and Ramona Expressway (north/south access). Donna Way and East 7th Street also provide local access to the Project area.

The land comprising the eight parcels is presently vacant. The Tribe proposes construction of a specialty retail center and associated surface off-street parking on the western half of the Project area. Access to the specialty retail center would be via Main Street, Ramona Expressway, and Donna Way. At this time, the Tribe is not requesting approval of permits to construct on the eastern half of the Project acreage, but is considering future development of a service station with convenience market and carwash, and drive-through restaurant. Direct access to the service station complex, should it be constructed, would be via Main Street and Ramona Expressway. Direct access to the fast-food drive-through restaurant, should it be constructed, would occur via Donna Way and Ramona Expressway.

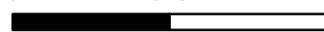
The eight parcels that comprise the Project area are discontinuous, with seven contiguous parcels between Main Street on the north and Donna Way on the south, and one parcel between Donna Way to the north and East 7th Street on the south. Assessor Parcel Numbers [APNs] for the seven northern parcels, totaling 9.23 acres, are: 433-160-024, 433-160-027, 433-106-028, 433-106-029, 433-106-032, 433-106-033, and 433-106-034. The APN for the eighth, separate, southern parcel of 3.80 acres is 433-160-039.

The proposed approximately 13.03-acre discontinuous Project area is located in an unsectioned portion of Township 4 South, Range 1 West, as depicted on the San Jacinto 1996 USGS 7.5-minute quadrangle (San Bernardino Base and Meridian) (Figure 1).

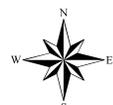
Project Location Map



 Project Location

0 0.5 1
 Kilometers

0 0.5 1
 Miles



1:24,000

Soboba Commercial Project
 Figure 1 - Project Location



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REGULATORY SETTING

The current study was completed under the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). CEQA is the principal regulatory control addressing whether a project will have a significant effect on the environment, including impacts on historical resources, unique archaeological resources, tribal cultural resources, human remains, and paleontological resources in California.

Cultural Resources

Section 21083.2 of the statute and Section 15064.5 of the CEQA Guidelines provide instructions for a lead agency to consider the effects of projects on historical resources and cultural resources. A *historical resource* is a resource listed in, or determined to be eligible for listing in, the California Register of Historical Resources (CRHR) (Public Resources Code [PRC] Section 21084.1), a resource included in a local register of historical resources (PRC Section 15064.5[a][2]), or any object, building, structure, site, area, place, record, or manuscript which a lead agency determines to be historically significant (PRC Section 15064.5[a][3]).

PRC Section 5024.1 requires evaluation of historical resources to determine their eligibility for listing in the CRHR. The purpose of the register is to maintain listings of the State's historical resources and to indicate which properties are to be protected from substantial adverse change. The criteria for listing resources in the CRHR were expressly developed to be in accordance with previously established federal criteria for listing in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP).

According to PRC Section 5024.1(c)(1–4), as well as Section 15064.5(a)(3)(A–D) of the revised CEQA guidelines, a resource is considered historically significant if it meets at least one of the following criteria:

1. It is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of California's history and cultural heritage;
2. It is associated with the lives of persons important in our past;
3. It embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, region, or method of construction, or represents the work of an important creative individual, or possesses high artistic values; or
4. It has yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

In order to be listed in the CRHR, historical resources must meet at least one of the significance criteria. Resources that do not meet any of these criteria are viewed as not significant. In addition to meeting at least one of the significance criteria, historical resources must possess the quality of *integrity* (location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association). Historic resources must retain enough of their historic character or appearance to be recognizable as historical resources and to convey the reasons for their significance.

Impacts to significant cultural resources from a proposed project are considered significant if the project physically destroys or damages all or part of a resource, changes the character of the use of the resource or physical feature within the setting of the resource that contribute to its significance, or introduces visual, atmospheric, or audible elements that diminish the integrity of significant features of the resource.

Under CEQA, if an archaeological site is not a historical resource but meets the definition of a *unique archaeological resource* as defined in PRC Section 21083.2, then it should be treated in accordance with the provisions of that section. PRC Section 21083.2(g) defines a unique archeological resource to mean an archaeological artifact, object, or site about which it can be clearly demonstrated that, without merely

adding to the current body of knowledge, there is a high probability that it meets any of the following criteria:

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

Should a site qualify as a unique archaeological resource, it is protected under CEQA. If it can be demonstrated that a project will cause damage to a unique archaeological resource, the lead agency may require reasonable efforts be made to permit any or all of these resources to be preserved in place or left in an undisturbed state. To the extent that they cannot be left undisturbed, mitigation measures are required (PRC Sections 21083.2[a], [b], and [c]). If the agency determines the site does not qualify, then the site merits no further consideration.

A “historical resource” as defined in PRC Section 21084.1, a “unique archaeological resource” as defined in PRC Section 21083.2(g), or a “nonunique archaeological resource” as defined in PRC Section 21083.2(h) may also be a *tribal cultural resource* (TCR). As defined under PRC Section 21074, TCRs are “sites, features, places, cultural landscapes, sacred places, and objects with cultural value to a California Native American Tribe” that are either: (1) included or determined to be eligible for inclusion in the CRHR; included in a local register of historical resources as defined in PRC Section 5020.1(k); or (2) determined by the lead agency to be significant pursuant to the criteria for inclusion in the CRHR set forth in PRC Section 5024.1(c), if supported by substantial evidence and taking into account the significance of the resource to a California Native American tribe. TCRs were established by Assembly Bill 52, effective July 1, 2015, as a new category of resource under CEQA.

Paleontological Resources

Paleontological resources are limited, non-renewable resources of scientific, cultural, and educational value that are explicitly afforded protection by CEQA, specifically Appendix G, Section V(c) of Appendix G addresses the potential for adverse impacts to unique paleontological resources, sites, or geological features, and requires that impacts to such resources must be considered in the project review process. While CEQA does not precisely define unique paleontological resources, the treatment of paleontological resources on non-federal lands is usually conducted in accordance with guidance from the criteria established by the Society for Vertebrate Paleontology (SVP 2010). Treatment usually consists of identification, assessment, and mitigation for potential impacts to significant paleontological resources.

PRC Section 5097.5 states that no person shall “knowingly and willfully” excavate upon, or remove, destroy, injure or deface any historic or prehistoric ruins, burial grounds, archaeological or vertebrate paleontological site, including fossilized footprints, inscriptions made by human agency, or any other archaeological, paleontological or historical feature, situated on public lands, except with the express permission of the public agency having jurisdiction over such lands. Public lands includes those “owned by, or under the jurisdiction of, the state, or any city, county, district, authority, or public corporation, or any agency thereof.” If paleontological resources are identified within a given project area, the lead agency must take those resources into consideration when evaluating project impacts. The level of consideration may vary with the importance of the resource in question.

In accordance with guidelines established by the SVP (2010), assessments of the scientific significance of fossilized remains are based on whether they can provide data on the taxonomy and phylogeny of ancient

organisms, the paleoecology and nature of paleoenvironments in the geologic past, or the stratigraphy and age of geologic units. Because most vertebrate fossils are rare, they are considered important paleontological resources. Conversely, marine invertebrates are generally common, the fossil record is well developed and well documented, and they would generally not be considered an important paleontological resource. Substantial damage to or destruction of significant paleontological resources as defined by the SVP (2010) would represent a significant impact.

REPORT PREPARATION

Nancy E. Sikes, Ph.D. was the Principal Investigator for this cultural resources project and co-authored this report with Cindy Arrington, M.S. Dr. Sikes and Ms. Arrington each have more than 20 years of archaeological experience in California and exceed all requirements of the *Secretary of Interior's Qualifications Standards* (36 CFR Part 61; National Park Service 1983). Richard Herrmann, who performed the pedestrian survey, has over 15 years of experience in California archaeology and is also cross-trained in paleontology, with over five years of experience.

The format of this report follows the *Archaeological Resource Management Reports: Recommended Contents and Format* by the Office of Historic Preservation (1990).

ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING

GEOLOGY, HYDROLOGY, AND SOILS

The Project area is located at an elevation averaging 1,600 feet (488 meters) above mean sea level in the Peninsular Ranges Geomorphic Province. The geomorphic province is comprised of a series of ranges that are separated by northwest trending valleys. The Peninsular Ranges extend into lower California, including Riverside County, and are bound on the east by the Colorado Desert (California Geological Survey 2002). The San Jacinto Mountains, which separate the San Jacinto River Basin from the Coachella Valley to the east, rise east of the Project area.

The Project area is located within the alluvial plain known as the San Jacinto Valley, immediately west of the San Jacinto River. Review of geologic mapping indicates the Project is underlain by the unconsolidated, Holocene alluvial deposits (Qa) of the San Jacinto River floodplain (Dibblee 2003; Morton and Miller 2006; Rogers 1965). To the east are the alluvial sand and gravel deposits of the San Jacinto River (Qg).

The proposed Project is located in the 780-square mile San Jacinto Watershed. The San Jacinto River, which is approximately a quarter mile east of the Project area, runs along the toe of the San Jacinto Mountains in a northwest-southwest direction. The river and its tributaries, such as Bautista Creek, Poppet Creek, Potrero Creek, and Salt Creek, drain the San Jacinto, Perris, Moreno, and Menifee valleys in western Riverside County.

The San Jacinto River flows intermittently, but is typically dry for most of the year. If any flow occurs, it is predominantly in response to rainfall events and spring snow melt from the upper watershed and occurs from December through June. The Project area is protected from flooding by a levee along the western bank of the river through the City of San Jacinto, which was rebuilt by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to 250-year flood standards after a 1980 flood (Bureau of Indian Affairs 2013:3.14-3.19).

Soils in the Project area are mapped by the Natural Resources Conservation Service as Metz series fine sandy loam that formed in alluvial material from mixed, but dominantly sedimentary rocks (California Soil

Resource Lab 2017; Soil Survey Staff 2017). Metz soils are very deep and somewhat excessively drained. The series generally has a thin, disturbed, brownish gray Ap horizon (0–12 inches) overlying three, thin, light brownish gray to dark grayish brown, fine sand to sand C horizons, averaging 12 inches deep, with an abrupt boundary to a fourth C horizon (52–118 inches).

CLIMATE, CURRENT LAND USES, AND FLORA/FAUNA

The Project area is characterized by hot, dry summers and moderate winters. Precipitation in this region averages 12 inches a year, falling mainly in the winter months as rain. Low winter temperatures are approximately 48 degrees Fahrenheit, and summer temperature highs are around 80 degrees Fahrenheit. The current Mediterranean climate is dryer and hotter than the conditions present at the time of California's initial occupation (Major 1988). Fossil plants found during excavation of Diamond Valley Lake approximately 7 miles southwest of the Project area, for example, include the remains of ponderosa pine and manzanita that indicate the region was more wooded or forested than today (Springer et al. 2010).

The undeveloped Project area is located within the City east of an existing residential development, and to either side (north/south) of the Soboba Health Clinic. The Project area is bounded on the east by Ramona Expressway, an east-south route that parallels the San Jacinto River. The 7,000-acre Soboba Indian Reservation parallels the east side of the river. Main Street/Lake Park Drive is the main east/west access from the reservation west to the City center and State Route 79, the chief north-south roadway through the San Jacinto Valley. It is also the main access route south to the City of Hemet and State Route 74, the main east-west roadway through the center of the valley.

The Project area is located in the Southern California Lower Montane Shrub and Woodland level IV ecoregion of California within the Southern California Mountains ecoregion (Griffith et al. 2016). The Southern California Mountains ecoregion stretches along the Peninsular Ranges from the Santa Barbara to San Diego counties. The chaparral-dominated landscape of the Southern California Lower Montane Shrub and Woodland also contains patches of mixed evergreen woodland consisting mostly of Douglas fir and canyon live oak, typically in deep canyons and on steep north-facing slopes. The mosaic of land cover and vegetation communities is complex, with some chaparral shrubs, such as California buckwheat, ubiquitous while other shrubs, such as mission manzanita and red shank, having a limited range in southern California. Southern willow scrub is commonly found along the waterways, including the San Jacinto River. Historically, the mosaic of ecological communities within the ecoregion would have provided a very productive environment. Based on ethnographic descriptions of the Native American groups who historically occupied this region, their hunting-gathering economy was supported by a variety of large and small mammals, edible plant species, fish, and birds (Bean and Shipek 1978; Kroeber 1925).

CULTURAL SETTING

PREHISTORIC OVERVIEW

The prehistory of coastal and inland southern California records occupations extending from at least 12,000 years ago to historic contact. Numerous chronological sequences have been devised to assess cultural changes within various areas of southern California in the past 75 years or more (e.g., Rogers 1939, 1945; Wallace 1955, 1978; Warren 1968; also see Moratto 1984). The framework used here is divided into three major time periods: Paleoindian Period (ca. 12,000–9000 before present [B.P.]), Milling Stone Period (9400–1000 B.P.), and Late Prehistoric Period (1000 B.P.–Historic Contact). Within these lengthy periods, there are overarching cultural expressions, termed the San Dieguito during the Paleoindian Period, Encinitas Tradition during the Milling Stone, and Palomar Tradition during the Late Prehistoric. A series of cultural

patterns and phases have also been identified in the archaeological record as regional expressions of the Encinitas and Palomar traditions in inland southern California, including western Riverside County (Sutton 2011, 2015; Sutton and Gardner 2010), which are incorporated in this discussion of southern California prehistory specific to the Project region.

Paleoindian Period/ San Dieguito Complex (12,000–9000 B.P.)

Although occupation in California began as early as 9,000 to 12,000 years ago, evidence for the presence of humans prior to about 8,000 years ago is relatively sparse and scattered throughout the state. The earliest accepted dates for human occupation of southern California come from sites along the coast, particularly from two of the Northern Channel Islands that are situated off the coast from Santa Barbara, and form part of a Paleo-Coastal Tradition dependent on marine resources (e.g., Jones 1991; Jones et al. 2002). Away from the coast in California were Western Pluvial Lakes Tradition (WPLT) Paleoindians who practiced a diverse mixture of hunting and gathering, but who were not dependent on large Pleistocene megafauna as in other parts of North America at the time (Bedwell 1970; also see Moratto 1984:90–92). A major occupational emphasis by WPLT peoples was on Pleistocene lakeshores in the now arid areas of southern California, the western Great Basin, and along the Cascade-Sierra Nevada uplift that forms California's eastern border.

Numerous local California cultural patterns, including the San Dieguito Complex of coastal southern California, were subsumed under the overarching WPLT by Moratto (1984:92), but the literature on California prehistory typically references the Paleoindian Period or San Dieguito Complex, rather than the WPLT. The type site for the San Dieguito complex (CA-SDI-149) is located on the San Dieguito River. Artifacts recovered from the San Dieguito component and thought to typify San Dieguito sites (Warren 1968) include ovoid bifaces that may be knife blanks, two forms of leaf-shaped knives, a crescent, leaf-shaped points, short-bladed shouldered points, gravers, choppers, core and pebble hammerstones, cores, and a variety of scrapers. Occupation at the site occurred between 9500 and 8000 B.P.

Known sites dating to the San Dieguito complex or WPLT are rare in western Riverside County. One exception is the Elsinore site (CA-RIV-2798-B), which has deposits dating as early as 8,500 years ago (Grenda 1997:260). There is also one isolated fluted point found on the surface of a site in the Pinto Basin in the central part of the county (Campbell and Campbell 1935; Dillon 2002:113).

Milling Stone Period/ Encinitas Tradition (9400–1000 B.P.)

Subsistence patterns shifted by 8,000 years ago coincident with the gradual desiccation associated with the onset of the Altithermal, a warm and dry period that lasted about 3,000 years (Antevs 1955). Greater emphasis was placed on plant foods and smaller animals during this time and into the subsequent Late Prehistoric Period. Compared with the preceding Paleoindian Period, subsistence practices were more diversified but focused on gathering activities in interior ecological areas, with a continued emphasis on a maritime economy in coastal areas (Erlandson 1997:4).

Generally referred to as the Milling Stone Period or the Encinitas Tradition (Wallace 1955; Warren 1968), sites have been identified in the southern California coastal region between Santa Barbara and San Diego, and at many near-coastal and inland locations. The period is characterized by an ecological adaptation to collecting. This resulted in an increased frequency of ground stone implements like milling stones (metates, slabs) and handstones (manos, mullers) for grinding edible resources like seeds. Milling stones occur in large numbers for the first time during this period, and become even more numerous near the end of this period. Faunal remains vary by location but include shellfish, land animals, marine mammals, and fish (Sutton and Gardner 2010:7). The toolkit includes crudely made core and flake tools, bone tools, shell

ornaments and very few projectile points with the subsistence base focused on collecting (plants, shellfish, etc.).

Various regional expressions of the Encinitas Tradition have been identified in the archaeological record, including the La Jolla Pattern along coastal San Diego County, the Pauma Pattern in the interior of San Diego County, and the Topanga Pattern in coastal Los Angeles and Orange counties. Recently, the Greven Knoll Pattern has been described for inland southern California, including Riverside, Orange, Los Angeles, and San Bernardino counties (Sutton and Gardner 2010).

Greven Knoll sites tend to be located in the inland valley areas characteristic of the Project region (Sutton and Gardner 2010:25-37). These inland people apparently did not switch from the use of manos and metates to the use of pestles and mortars, as evidenced in coastal sites dating to approximately 5,000 years ago, possibly reflecting their closer relationship with desert cultural peoples who did not exploit acorns. The Greven Knoll toolkit is dominated by manos and metates throughout its 7,500-year range. Limited contact with the coast is also suggested by a general lack of shell beads in Greven Knoll sites.

The Greven Knoll Pattern includes three phases, based on changes in cultural traits (Sutton and Gardner 2010:25-37). In Greven Knoll Phase I, typical characteristics are Pinto dart points for atlatls or spears, with no mortars or pestles, as well as few charmstones or cogged stones, and an absence of shell artifacts. In western Riverside County, Greven Knoll Phase I components have been found at sites in the Lake Perris area (CA-RIV-5045 and CA-RIV-5086), with obsidian sourced to the Coso Volcanic Field in Inyo County (McDougall 2001a, 2001b). Another site southeast of Lake Perris has an early component Phase I dated as early as 9,000/8,000 years ago (CA-RIV-6069) (Horne and McDougall 2008). Figurine and vessel fragments from that layer are the earliest known ceramics for southern California (Sutton 2010:28). A typical Greven Knoll I site was also excavated at Lake Elsinore (CA-RIV-2798) (Grenda 1997).

Greven Knoll Phase II sites are characterized by the introduction of Elko dart points plus an increase in manos accompanied by a decrease in points and bone tools (Sutton and Gardner 2010:29-31). The increase in manos, presumably used for processing small seeds or small animals, suggests an increased reliance on plant resources. Pinto points continue as part of the Phase II toolkit after the addition of Elko points. This phase is not well represented in the archaeological record.

In Greven Knoll Phase III, manos and metates continue to be abundant in the archaeological record, with a few mortars and pestles (Sutton and Gardner 2010:31-37). The toolkit is also characterized Elko points, choppers, and hammerstones, with scraper planes as a major marker trait. Northern obsidian from the Coso Volcanic Field continued in use during this phase. Phase III also represents the Sayles Complex as initially defined by Kowta (1969), who has argued that the abundance of scraper planes are indicative of processing yucca. The archaeological record also indicates there is also a dietary of reliance on seeds, and that animal bones have been heavily processed to extract the nutritious marrow.

Late Prehistoric Period/ Palomar Tradition (1000 B.P.–Historic Contact)

About 1,000 years ago, Greven Knoll III Pattern groups in the northern portion of the interior of southern California adopted new cultural traits that are referenced as the San Luis Rey Pattern, which is subsumed under the Palomar Tradition (Sutton 2011, 2015). In addition to the San Luis Rey Pattern in the southern California coastal area, the Palomar Tradition is defined by Sutton (2011; also see Sutton 2015) as also including the Peninsular Pattern in the inland areas of the northern Peninsular Ranges (e.g., San Jacinto and Santa Rosa Mountains) and the northern Coachella Valley. Palomar Tradition characteristics include bow and arrow technology, new rock art styles, new settlement and subsistence systems, and Tatic languages. The Palomar Tradition is named after the Palomar Mountains area where the San Luis Rey Complex was

first identified (Meighan 1954; True et al. 1974). The name is reinforced by Tizon Brownware pottery (initially called Palomar Brown) found at many San Luis Rey sites.

The San Luis Rey Pattern in the inland area includes two phases that are based on changes in cultural traits (Sutton 2011; also see Sutton 2015 for discussion of a third, earlier San Luis Rey phase in the southern California coastal area). San Luis Rey Phase I is characterized by late coastal California material cultural; namely, the appearance of bow and arrow technology (e.g., Cottonwood points), bone awls, stone ornaments, (e.g., pendants), and shell ornaments (e.g., *Olivella* beads) (Sutton 2011:10-16). There is also an increase during San Luis Rey I in the use of mortars and pestles accompanied by a decrease in the use of scrapers. A majority of obsidian found at sites dating to this phase is sourced to Obsidian Butte in Imperial County. Notable is the absence of pottery and ceramic figurines. The settlement/ subsistence system mainly continued to be forager-based, similar to the seasonal rounds practiced during the earlier Encinitas Tradition, but with an indication of more permanent settlements (villages).

The start of San Luis Rey Phase II is marked in the archaeological record by a change material culture, mortuary practices, settlement/subsistence systems, and the appearance of rock art (Sutton 2011:16-20). Most notable is the presence of Tizon Brown pottery. Straight ceramic pipes (as used ethnographically by the Luiseño) are definitely present, as are ceramic figurines as well as indicators of Euro-American material culture such as glass beads and metal tools. The settlement pattern during San Luis Rey II shifted from forager-like to more sedentary, although the large villages appear to have consolidated closer to the missions or Euro-American settlements. Use of acorns appears to have intensified. Subsistence patterns were also affected by the proximity of non-native settlements, and incorporated the use of plants and animals domesticated by Euro-Americans. San Luis Rey II also appears to be associated with the adoption of the *Chinigchinich* religion (reported ethnographically among the Luiseño), as well as a specific style of rock art. Linguistically, the proposed correlates for San Luis Rey II are with the modern Takic-speaking groups in the region, the Luiseño, Juaneño, and Cupeño, who are descendants of the Uto-Aztecan, Takic-speaking populations that settled along the southern California coast during this period or perhaps somewhat earlier during San Luis Rey I in inland northern San Diego County.

ETHNOGRAPHIC OVERVIEW

The Project is located within the traditional territory of the Luiseño (Bean and Shipek 1978; Kroeber 1925). Luiseño, or San Luiseño, is a term derived for the Native Americans administered by the Mission San Luis Rey de Francia. At the time of European contact, Luiseño territory included the northern half of San Diego County, eastern Orange County, and most of southwestern Riverside County. Along the coast, their territory extended from Agua Hedionda Creek northward to Aliso Creek, and inland to the Palomar Mountains at the south and east of Santiago Peak toward the north. In total, the Luiseño territory extended more than 1,500 square miles encompassing coastline, estuary, coastal chaparral, riparian, grassland and oak woodland habitats.

Linguistically, the Luiseño are a part of the Takic language family of Uto-Aztecan stock (Mithun 2001:539-540). Specifically, the Luiseño speak a form of Cupan, a variant of which is also spoken by neighboring groups, including the Cahuilla on the east, Cupeño on the southeast, and Gabrielino on the north (Bean and Shipek 1978: 550).

The Luiseño inhabited permanent villages with 50 to 400 people, and also resided in seasonal camps that included many fewer people. Village social structure revolved around lineages and clans (Bean and Shipek 1978). Smaller villages generally included a single lineage, whereas larger villages were clan-centered with people from multiple lineages. Each clan/village owned a resource territory that was politically independent, but maintained ties to other nearby clans through economic, religious, and social networks.

Village structures included a ceremonial enclosure, a semi-subterranean sweat lodge, and menstrual huts. Luiseño nuclear families resided in dome-shaped dwellings made of willow poles covered with interlaced tule reeds. The chief's residence was generally larger than the others to accommodate his large family, ceremonial regalia, and ceremonial food-processing activities. The chief's home and the ceremonial enclosure were generally located in the center of the village. During acorn harvest season, people stayed in simple lean-tos that were constructed in the upper foothills.

Socio-political structure among the Luiseño was similar to the neighboring Takic-speaking groups. There were three hierarchical social classes: an elite class that included chiefly families, lineage heads, and other ceremonial specialists; a "middle class" of established and successful families; and a third class composed of disconnected families and war captives (Bean 1976:109-111, 1978:677-681; Bean and Shipek 1978:555-556; Boscana 1933; Kroeber 1925). Leadership focused on the clan chief who conducted community rites and regulated ceremonial life along with a council of elders. Luiseño politics were dominated by intra- and inter-lineage maneuvering both within and between villages.

At historic contact, the Luiseño-Cahuilla village of *Savabo*, or Soboba, was located approximately 2 miles southeast of the Project area, east of the San Jacinto River and west of Poppet Creek. The village of *Savabo*, being only one of 19 Luiseño villages in 1856 and one of only 10 by 1873, would have played an important role in the lives of the Luiseño people (Bean and Shipek 1978:558; Hogan et al. 2004:4).

Luiseño religious, ceremonial, and mortuary practices were very similar to those of the neighboring groups. *Chinigchinich* was the center of Luiseño religion, and religious observations were performed in a brush-enclosed *wamkech*. Like that of their neighbors, Luiseño mortuary practices included cremation and burial of the dead (Kroeber 1925:641-643, 675-677). Specific individuals were tasked with managing the cremations and compensated for their services. The death of high rank individuals, and perhaps less influential individuals, was commemorated on the first anniversary.

Similar to other California indigenous groups, the acorn was the primary Luiseño dietary staple (Bean and Shipek 1978:552). Other plant resources (e.g., pine nuts, seeds, berries, greens, prickly pear, fruits, yucca, tubers, and mushrooms), fish, shellfish, waterfowl, and terrestrial and marine mammals supplemented the diet. Villages were situated near reliable water sources to facilitate daily leaching of milled acorn flour and to provide potable water. Large and small game included deer, antelope, jackrabbit, rabbit, ground squirrel, mice, and wood rat. Waterfowl and birds included quail and duck; trout and salmon were obtained from rivers and creeks. Marine resources (e.g., sea mammals, fish, crustaceans, and shellfish) were a major source of dietary protein for the Luiseño who lived near the coast.

A variety of tools were used for hunting (bow and arrow, snares, nets) and fishing (nets and shell and bone hooks) (Bean and Shipek 1978:552-553). Traps and pits were also used for hunting, and deer-head decoys employed during community deer drives. Woven implements used for harvesting plants included seed beaters, carrying baskets, and storage baskets. Mortars (made of stone or hard wood) and pestles were used for grinding acorns, while hard seeds were ground using handstones and millingslabs. Clay pots were used for storage as well as for cooking.

Initial contact with the Luiseño by Spanish explorers occurred in July 1769 with the arrival in San Diego of the expedition led by Gaspar de Portolá. During the ensuing six years, eight missions and forts were founded north and south of Luiseño territory. When Mission San Luis Rey was established in 1798 within Luiseño territory, proselytizing began in earnest (Engelhardt 1922:8). Unlike many other indigenous groups in California, the Luiseño were not forced to live at the mission. Consequently, change in their traditional lifeways was less disruptive until secularization occurred and large ranches developed, although their population reduction from introduced diseases was still substantial (Bean and Shipek 1978:558).

HISTORIC OVERVIEW

Spanish, Mexican, and American Periods

Post-contact history for the State of California generally is divided into three specific periods: the Spanish Period (1769–1822), the Mexican Period (1822–1848), and the American Period (1848–present). Although there were brief visits by Spanish, Russian, and British explorers from 1529 to 1769, the beginning of Spanish settlement in California occurred in 1769 at San Diego. Between 1769 and 1823, 21 missions were established by the Spanish and the Franciscan Order along the coast between San Diego and San Francisco.

Mission San Juan Capistrano was founded in 1776 near the Luiseño, and Mission San Luis Rey de Francia established in 1798 within Luiseño territory near present-day Oceanside in San Diego County. In 1816 and 1823, two inland substations, Asistencia de San Antonio de Pala and Los Flores Estancia were established by the powerful and populous Mission San Luis Rey. Asistencia de San Antonio de Pala was founded at the Luiseño village known as Pala 20 miles inland from San Luis Rey. The second substation, the Los Flores Estancia, was constructed between Missions San Luis Rey and San Juan Capistrano on the San Pedro Rancho, later called Rancho Santa Margarita y Los Flores, and now Marine Corps Base (MCB) Camp Pendleton in northern San Diego County.

After the end of the Mexican Revolution (1810–1821) against the Spanish crown, the Mexican Period is marked by an extensive era of land grants, most of which were in the interior of the state, as well as by exploration by American fur trappers west of the Sierra Nevada Mountains. Most of the land grants to Mexican citizens in California (*Californios*) were in the interior since the Mexican Republic sought to increase the population away from the more settled coastal areas where the Spanish settlements had been concentrated. At the same time, the influence of the California missions waned in the late 1820s through the early 1830s. Following adoption of the Secularization Act of 1833, the Mexican government privatized most Franciscan lands, including holdings of their California missions.

The American Period was initiated in 1848 with the signing of the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo, which ended the Mexican–American War (1846–1848), and California became a territory of the United States. Gold was discovered at Sutter’s Mill on the American River in Coloma the same year, and by 1849, nearly 90,000 people had journeyed to the gold fields. In 1850, largely as a result of the Gold Rush, California became the thirty-first state.

Local History

The de Anza Expedition of 1774-75 passed through the San Jacinto Valley, traveling from the Colorado River en route to Mission San Gabriel Arcángel, which was founded in 1771 in present-day Los Angeles County. Accounts of the expedition provide the first recorded sighting of the Soboba Indians. With the establishment of Mission San Juan Capistrano in 1776 and Mission San Luis Rey de Francia in 1798, influence by non-indigenous peoples of the Soboba began and increased as additional missions and the two inland Mission San Luis Rey substations were established (Harvey 1978).

Mission San Luis Rey was one of the largest of the missions, covering almost 950,400 acres from the San Jacinto Mountains to present-day Corona in far northwestern Riverside County, including its surrounding agricultural lands plus the two substations (Young and Levick 1988:18). Cattle were also raised on the land within the San Jacinto Valley that was under control of the mission and named for Saint Hyacinth (City of San Jacinto 2006:5-5.1). After the Mexican government secularized the mission system, the 35,503-acre Rancho San Jacinto Viejo was awarded in 1842 by Mexican Governor Pro-tem Manuel Jimeno to José Antonio Estudillo. The rancho lands, part of the former lands controlled by Mission San Luis Rey, encompassed most of the San Jacinto Valley, including the cities of San Jacinto and Hemet and the current

Project area (Beck and Haase 1974; Robinson 1997:143-161). In 1840, Estudillo had been appointed administrator and major domo at Mission San Luis Rey. His daughter and son-in-law also received former Mission San Luis Rey lands, Rancho San Jacinto Sobrante and Rancho San Jacinto Nuevo y Potrero, both in 1846.

Rancho San Jacinto Viejo was awarded to Estudillo with a stipulation that the new land owner “shall not in any manner prejudice the Indians who are established on said land” (Soboba Band of Luiseño Indians n.d.). Estudillo and his son respected the rights and well-being of Soboba Indians, but in 1868 the family heirs began selling portions of the rancho. By 1880 most of the rancho lands had been sold and the Soboba people were left with no legal claim to their land or water. While the community of Mexican ranchers who had been operating the ranch in the San Jacinto Valley dispersed, Americans began arriving from points east and purchased portions of the dwindling Rancho San Jacinto Viejo or applied for land under the Homestead Act (Tapper and Lolmaugh 1971:188).

Between April 1851 and August 1852, the U.S. government negotiated over 100 treaties with Indian groups in California (Homstad and Gallacher 1997). It was not until June 19, 1883, however, that the Soboba Indian Reservation was established by an Executive Order. The order set aside 3,172 acres of land for the tribe’s permanent occupation and use (Soboba Band of Luiseño Indians n.d.). The reservation is located in the foothills of the San Jacinto Mountains, with the southwest border along the San Jacinto River. Today the reservation encompasses nearly 7,000 acres, 400 of which are devoted to residential use. The Soboba Band of Luiseño Indians is one of seven bands of Luiseño Indians, the other six being Pechanga, Pala, Pauma, Rincon, La Jolla and San Luis Rey.

Three periods of railroad development in southern California provided access to the region for settlers and also offered increased markets for agricultural products and natural resources from the region (Lech 2004:222). The transcontinental railroad was built in the northern part of the state in the 1860s, and in the 1870s, the Southern Pacific Railroad constructed a transcontinental line that traversed the southern part of the state, through Riverside County and east to Texas. In 1885, the Santa Fe Railroad completed a line to southern California that created competition for the Southern Pacific, offering service between San Diego and San Bernardino through Temecula and Riverside. The Santa Fe line spurred the development of communities in numerous areas, including within the San Jacinto Valley (Robinson 1957:29).

By 1870, there were approximately 125 people, including Native Americans, in the area of the present-day City of San Jacinto, and the first post office had been established. In the 1880s, a formal town site was established and efforts to promote the development of the area began (Lech 2004). With a flair for promoting the local community, the 1893 directory for Riverside County reported that:

San Jacinto is the trading point for the farmers for miles around in every direction. The stores are large and stocked with fresh goods, many of the merchants buying direct from the wholesale houses in San Francisco, Chicago and New York. The valley is one of the largest of any in Southern California, and is planted chiefly to hay and grain, although a large irrigation district, backed by great wealth, has lately put in a fine irrigation system. (Historical Commission Press 1992 [1893]:82).

With the development of irrigation companies in the 1890s, the area’s agricultural industry prospered (Hemet-San Jacinto Genealogical Society 1998:5). Agricultural products in the San Jacinto Valley expanded to include olives, apricots, peaches, walnuts, and oranges. The combination of easy access to railroad transportation, dry and sunny weather, and accessible water supplies soon transformed the agricultural landscape of the valley. In the early 1900s, visitors and new residents were attracted to the valley by the local hot springs along the north side of the valley and to the mild climate (City of San Jacinto 2006:5-5.1).

The City of San Jacinto was incorporated in 1888, making San Jacinto the oldest incorporated city in Riverside County. In 1893, the County of Riverside was created by the California Legislature by taking land from both San Bernardino and San Diego Counties (City of San Jacinto 2006:5-5.1; Hoover et al. 2002).

Historic Maps and Aerial Photographs

The 1867, 1885, and 1901 General Land Office (GLO) plats for Township 4 South, Range 1 West show the “Dry Bed of San Jacinto River” and the Project area within Rancho San Jacinto Viejo. The rancho is labeled as Lot No. 37 on the 1867 map, and as Rancho San Jacinto Estudillo on the 1885 and 1901 plats. The 1901 GLO plat also shows the initial grid, including “Main Street” for the City of San Jacinto. The grid for the City of San Jacinto, as well as for Hemet are depicted on the 1901 San Jacinto USGS 1:250,000 quadrangle. The San Jacinto Indian Reservation is labeled east of the river. The map also shows development of the railroad via Hemet to San Jacinto, and the San Jacinto and Pleasant Valley Co’s Canal.

Continued development of the center City grid is shown on the 1953 San Jacinto USGS 7.5-minute quadrangle, with agricultural plots to the south and east along the river adjacent to the current Project area. By production of the 1979 photo-revision of the 1953 San Jacinto USGS 7.5-minute quadrangle, City development has spread outward at the expense of agricultural fields. Few agricultural fields are shown in the region on the 1996 San Jacinto USGS 7.5-minute quadrangle. The 1953 San Jacinto quad also clearly shows the route through the northeast portion of the northern block of the former Mountain Avenue and its intersection with Main Street. Improvements to the Ramona Expressway eliminated this section of the roadway.

The series of aerial photographs also show the decrease over time in agricultural use within and near the Project area. Other than planting of row crops and Mountain Avenue, none of the historic maps or aerial photographs reviewed for this report show any development within the discontinuous Project area. The aeriels suggest the Project area was last planted with row crops in the 1980s; later aeriels indicate the land remained fallow. An unimproved road between Main and Seventh Streets, first shown on the 1953 San Jacinto USGS 7.5-minute quadrangle along the western edge of the Project area, was replaced by a sound wall and drainage ditch when the residential subdivision was developed in 2004. The Soboba Health Clinic off Donna Way was built circa 1995.

PRE-FIELD RESEARCH

EASTERN INFORMATION CENTER

A cultural resources literature search was accomplished on September 26, 2017 by the Eastern Information Center (EIC) of the California Historical Resources Information System at University of California, Riverside (EIC #ST-RIV-4316) (Appendix A). The search was conducted to determine if prehistoric or historic cultural resources were previously recorded within the Project area, the extent to which the Project area had been previously surveyed, and the number and type of cultural resources within a 0.25-mile radius of the Project area. The archival search of the archaeological and historical records, national and state databases, and historic maps included:

- National Register of Historic Places: listed properties
- California Register of Historical Resources: listed resources
- Historic Property Data File (HPDF) and Archaeological Determinations of Eligibility (ADOE) for Riverside County

- California Inventory of Historic Resources (1976)
- California Historical Landmarks (1996 and updates)
- California Points of Historical Interest (1992 and updates)

Prior Studies

The records search by the EIC indicates four prior studies have been completed within the 0.25-mile search radius (Table 1). The four investigations were completed between 1998 and 2015. As indicated in Table 1, the prior study for replacement of the Main Street Bridge (EIC # RI-06910) included part of the Project area, specifically the northeast corner.

EIC Report No.	Report Title	Author	Year	Within Project Area?
RI-06885	Cultural Resources Survey for the Ramona Expressway Widening Project: State Street to Lake Park Drive, San Jacinto, Riverside County, California	Hunt and Wesson	2005	No
RI-06910	Negative Historic Properties Survey Report: Main Street Bridge, City of San Jacinto	McLean and Schroth	1998	Partially
RI-09326	Cultural Resources Monitoring Program, Ramona Expressway Widening Phase II, City of San Jacinto, Riverside County, California	Goodwin	2015	No
RI-09587	Cultural Resources Assessment Ramona Expressway Widening Project, Sanderson Avenue to Main Street City of San Jacinto, Riverside County, California	Goodwin and Wilson	2011	No

Previously Recorded Resources

The records search by the EIC indicates no cultural resources have been previously recorded within the Project area, while two historic-era archaeological sites have been recorded within the 0.25-mile search radius (Table 2). Both of the sites are comprised of historic-era refuse mixed with modern debris. No prehistoric or ethnographic resources have been mapped by the EIC as being within the 0.25-mile search radius.

Primary No.	Trinomial	Brief Description	Recorded by and year	Within Project Area?
P-33-003971	CA-RIV-003971	Historic: 1880s-1920s refuse mixed with modern debris, disturbed, secondary dump site	(no name) 1985	No
P-33-024874	CA-RIV-012330	Historic: water tank, pump house ruins, concrete water basin, historic refuse mixed with modern trash	Garrison and Sugimoto 2016	No

OTHER SOURCES FOR CULTURAL RESOURCES

In addition to the material provided by the EIC, Natural Investigations staff reviewed historic maps and aerials, listed below. The results of our review of historic maps and aerials are incorporated in the Local History section.

- 1867, 1885, and 1901 GLO plats for Township 4 South, Range 1 West

- 1901 San Jacinto USGS 1:250,000 quadrangle
- 1953, 1953-photorevised 1979, and 1996 San Jacinto USGS 7.5-minute quadrangles
- Aerial photographs for 1966, 1967, 1972, 1978, 1996, 2002, 2005, 2009, 2010, and 2012

NATIVE AMERICAN SACRED LANDS FILE

Natural Investigations contacted the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC), requesting a search of their Sacred Lands File for traditional cultural resources within or near the Project area. The reply from the NAHC, dated September 25, 2017, states that the search failed to indicate the presence of sacred lands in the immediate vicinity of the Project area, but that the area is considered sensitive for cultural resources. The NAHC reply is included in Appendix B.

PALEONTOLOGICAL RECORDS SEARCH AND SENSITIVITY

A search of the paleontological records maintained by the University of California Museum of Paleontology (UCMP) and the San Bernardino County Museum (SBCM) was conducted on October 16, 2017. The UCMP database indicates 209 fossil localities have been recorded within Riverside County (UCMP 2017). Of the 209 localities listed in the UCMP database, 74 localities contain records of vertebrate fossils. No localities are recorded within the City of San Jacinto, including none within the Project vicinity (UCMP 2017; SBCM 2017).

As discussed in the Environmental Setting section, surficial sediments underlying the Project area are unconsolidated, Holocene alluvial deposits of the San Jacinto River floodplain (Dibblee 2003; Morton and Miller 2006; Rogers 1965). Holocene-age sediments (less than 11,700 years old) have a low potential to contain significant paleontological resources. Since the fossilization processes take place over millions of years, such geologically immature deposits are unlikely to have fossilized the remains of organisms.

These younger sediments, however, overlie older Pleistocene rock units that are considered to have a high potential to contain significant paleontological resources. Elsewhere in Riverside County and in San Bernardino County, older Pleistocene alluvial sediments have yielded significant Ice Age plant and extinct vertebrate fossils. In the greater Project region, for example, extinct mastodons, mammoth, camels, horses, ground sloths, wolves, saber-tooth cats, short-faced bears, and long-horned bison were recovered during the excavation of Diamond Valley Lake approximately 7 miles southwest of the Project area (Springer et al. 2009, 2010). Additionally, a variety of extinct Ice Age mammals (e.g., mammoths, mastodons, ground sloths, large horses), as well as an extinct giant bird from the Pliocene, have been recovered in the Elsinore Fault Zone near Murrieta approximately 20 miles southwest of the Project area (Campbell et al. 1999; SBCM 2007).

Considering the extensive record of fossil life in Riverside County, which begins 150 million years ago and continues into the Ice Age until approximately 10,000 years ago, in preparation of a General Plan amendment the County has been divided into paleontological sensitivity zones. The Project area is mapped as a “High Sensitivity B” zone (County of Riverside 2015: Figure 4.9.3). This classification is “based on the occurrence of fossils at a specified depth below the surface. This category indicates fossils that are likely to be encountered at or below 4 feet of depth and may be impacted during construction activities” (County of Riverside 2015:4.9-11).

While there is no record of fossils and no unique geologic features known to exist within the discontinuous Project area, considering the vertebrate fossil sensitivity of the underlying older sediments, the field survey included inspection for geologic outcrops that may contain paleontological resources.

FIELD METHODS

An intensive-level pedestrian survey within the proposed Project area was conducted by Natural Investigations archaeologist and cross-trained paleontologist, Richard Herrmann, on October 5, 2017. Mr. Herrmann was accompanied by Jesse Sanchez, the Native American Monitor for the Soboba Band of Luiseño Indians. Survey transects were spaced apart at intervals no greater than 15 meters. The entirety of the two parcels was covered by the survey and carefully examined for the presence of cultural resources and geologic outcrops that may contain paleontological resources.

During the pedestrian survey, all visible ground surface within the discontinuous Project area was carefully examined for paleontological resources and cultural material (e.g., flaked stone tools, tool-making debris, stone milling tools, or fire-affected rock), 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., postholes, foundations), or historic-era debris (e.g., metal, glass, ceramics). Ground disturbances (e.g., animal burrows) were visually inspected. A Galaxy 6 camera-phone was used to take photographs of the proposed Project area, showing ground surface visibility and items of interest. A handheld Garmin global positioning system (GPS) unit was used to record locational data.

FINDINGS

SUMMARY

No prehistoric or ethnographic archaeological sites or historic-era built environment resources were identified during the survey of the discontinuous Project area. As discussed under the section on Pre-field Research, the records maintained by the EIC indicate no cultural resources have been previously recorded within the Project area. A light scatter of highly fragmented, historic-era glass and ceramics was identified during survey of the northern block of seven contiguous parcels. As detailed below, the scatter has been extensively disturbed and has no defined concentration or boundary. Lacking integrity, the scatter does not merit recordation, evaluation, or protection under CEQA.

No fossils, no unique geologic features, and no alluvial deposits attributable to older Pleistocene sediments were observed during the survey.

SURVEY DETAILS

The two separate, northern and southern blocks of parcels comprising the discontinuous Project area are presently vacant, undeveloped land west of the Ramona Expressway and east of a residential development. The topography of the two separate blocks is flat. Both areas appear to have been recently disked, to assist with weed control and fire prevention. Both areas also appear to have been tilled for agriculture in the past, as confirmed by the series of aerial photographs dating from 1966 that show the presence of row crops, and by surrounding agricultural land use depicted on historic maps. A sound wall and a cement drainage ditch along the edge of the residential development border the parcel block north of Donna Way on the west. A vacant lot on the west borders the parcel south of Donna Way.

Ground visibility was excellent (approximately 95%) throughout both the northern and southern parcels (Photographs 1–3). Vegetation cover in the northern block of seven parcels was 50% non-native grasses and 50% native vegetation, comprised mostly of sand verbena, Mormon tea, and desert primrose. Unlike the northern block, vegetation cover was 100% non-native grasses in the single, southern parcel.

A light scatter of highly fragmented, historic-era glass and ceramics was spread over approximately half of the northern parcels, mainly in the center of the contiguous block (Photograph 4). Due to the fragmentary condition of the historic material, there are very few diagnostics, a few of which appear to date to the 1940s or earlier. There is no defined boundary or concentration of artifacts. It is clear that the vacant parcels were not used as a community refuse dump, nor is there any indication of subsurface features, such as privies or wells. The scatter has been extensively disturbed. It appears that the fragmented material has been further fragmented over time by agricultural tilling for planting of row crops and disking activities for weed control and fire prevention. Considering the scatter does not appear to contain information important in history and lacks integrity, it was not recorded.

Modern trash and cement chunks were scattered along the edges of the northern block of parcels. Soils in the entire Project area are consistent with the Metz series sandy loam, formed in alluvial deposits on the San Jacinto River floodplain. No unique geologic features, fossils, or alluvial deposits attributable to older Pleistocene sediments were observed during the survey.



Photograph 1. Overview of northern block of parcels showing vegetation cover and western soundwall (view north)



Photograph 2. Overview from center of northern block of parcels showing disturbance and area of historic artifact scatter (view north)



Photograph 3. Overview of southern parcel showing vegetation cover and west property line (view north)



Photograph 4. Example of fragmented historic-era material (plan view)

CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

CULTURAL RESOURCES

No archaeological, ethnographic, or built environment resources were identified or recorded during the survey. Thus, the proposed Project does not have the potential to cause a significant impact on any resource that currently qualifies as a historical resource under CEQA, or that has been recommended eligible for listing in the NRHP or CRHR.

Based on the results of the records search, cultural context, review of archival maps and photographs, areal geology and soils, field survey, and assessment of potential direct or indirect Project impacts, no additional cultural resources work is recommended at this time. The potential for the discovery of buried archaeological materials within the alluvial sediments underlying the proposed Project area is considered to be low. The presence of buried archaeological deposits in older Pleistocene alluvium is extremely unlikely since the sediments are older than evidence of human habitation in southern California beginning some 12,000 years ago. Additionally, the potential for buried sites versus the probability of locating a buried site depends on a number site-specific variables (e.g., distance to watercourses, former sloughs or springs; stability of landscape features; geomorphic context of known buried archaeological deposits). Although during the prehistoric, protohistoric, and historic periods Native Americans established temporary resource gathering or processing camps or permanent settlements near reliable fresh water sources, the lack of known prehistoric or ethnographic sites near the Project area on the west side of the river, plus the mapped location of the Luiseño-Cahuilla village of *Savabo* (Soboba) on the east of the river at the mouth of Poppet Creek, indicates Native American occupation occurred adjacent to the foothills east of the river and above the floodplain.

Additionally, the presently undeveloped Project area has been disturbed by former use as agricultural fields, by grading and construction of the former route of Mountain Avenue and its intersection with Main Street through the northeast portion of the northern block and of the series of existing surrounding roadways (Main Street/Lake Park Drive, Ramona Expressway, Donna Way, and East 7th Street), by residential development on the west, and by disking for weed control and fire prevention. Historic flooding of the San Jacinto River along the western bank may have also impacted the Project area. Construction monitoring of ground-disturbing activity for archaeological resources is thus not recommended.

Should cultural/ archaeological resources be encountered during ground disturbing activities for the Project, however, work must be halted in that area within 50 feet of the find and a qualified archaeologist (36 CFR Part 61) notified immediately to assess the significance of the find. Construction activities could continue in other areas. If the discovery proves to be significant, additional work, such as data recovery excavation, may be warranted and would be discussed in consultation with the property owner, the City of San Jacinto, or any other relevant regulatory agency, as appropriate.

Although unlikely, the discovery of human remains is always a possibility. State of California Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5 covers these findings, except on tribal and federal lands. This code section states that no further disturbance shall occur until the County Coroner has made a determination of origin and disposition pursuant to PRC Section 5097.98. The County Coroner must be notified of the find immediately. If the human remains are determined to be of Native American origin, the Coroner will notify the NAHC, which will determine and notify a Most Likely Descendent (MLD). The MLD shall complete the inspection of the site within 48 hours of notification and may recommend scientific removal and nondestructive analysis of human remains and items associated with Native American burials.

PALEONTOLOGICAL RESOURCES

The older Pleistocene sediments underlying the Project are considered to have a high paleontological sensitivity at depths at or below 4 feet, with a low sensitivity in Holocene alluvial deposits at shallower depths. All earthmoving during Project implementation at or below 4 feet requires full-time paleontological monitoring, as follows:

1. A qualified paleontologist (graduate degree and more than one year of professional experience as a principal investigator) will be retained to provide paleontological services. The principal paleontologist will be responsible to implement and oversee monitoring and to maintain professional standards of work. The principal paleontologist will report all mitigation and monitoring activities, or related actions of the paleontological resources team to the City and the Tribe, as appropriate, including discussing a reduction in monitoring from full- to part-time after monitoring is initiated and no fossils have been identified.
2. A qualified paleontological monitor will perform monitoring of construction grading and excavations that take place in the older Pleistocene sediments at depths of 4 feet or more. The monitor will have authority to divert grading away from exposed fossils temporarily in order to recover the fossil specimens. Cooperation and assistance from on-site personnel will greatly assist timely resumption of work in the area of the fossil discovery.
3. Discovery of fossil producing localities requires documentation including measured stratigraphic columns and geologic samples for analysis. Any fossils recovered that meet significance criteria will be prepared, identified, and cataloged before donation to an appropriate repository. The Western Science Center in Hemet, California is recommended as an appropriate repository.
4. The principal paleontologist retained will prepare a final report. The report will include a list of specimens recovered, documentation of each locality, interpretation of fossils recovered, and will include all specialists' reports as appendices.

Should paleontological resources be discovered during ground disturbing activities for the Project when a paleontological monitor is not present, work must be halted in that area within 50 feet of the find and a qualified paleontologist notified immediately to evaluate the find. Construction activities could continue in other areas. If the discovery proves to be significant under SVP criteria, additional work, such as fossil recovery excavation, may be warranted and would be discussed in consultation with the City of San Jacinto, the property owner, or any other relevant regulatory agency, as appropriate.

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APPENDIX A:
Records Search (EIC #ST-RIV-4316)

EASTERN INFORMATION CENTER

California Historical Resources Information System
Department of Anthropology, University of California, Riverside, CA 92521-0418
(951) 827-5745 - eickw@ucr.edu
Inyo, Mono, and Riverside Counties

September 26, 2017
CHRIS Access and Use Agreement No.: 255
ST-RIV-4316

Cindy Arrington
Natural Investigations Company, Inc.
3104 O street, #221
Sacramento CA, 95816

Re: Cultural Resources Records Search for the Soboba Commercial Project, #478

Dear Ms. Arrington:

We received your request on 20 September 2017, for a cultural resources records search for the Soboba Commercial Project, #478 located in the city of San Jacinto in Riverside County. We have reviewed our site records, maps, and manuscripts against the location map you provided.

Our records indicate that four cultural resources studies have been conducted within a quarter-mile radius of your project area. One of these studies involved the project area. PDF copies of these reports are included for your reference. All of these reports are listed on the attachment entitled "Eastern Information Center Report Detail".

Our records indicate that two cultural resources properties have been recorded within a quarter-mile radius of your project area. None of these properties involved the project area. PDF copies of the records are included for your reference. All of these resources are listed on the attachment entitled "Eastern Information Center Resource Listing".

The above information is reflected on the enclosed maps. Areas that have been surveyed are highlighted in yellow. Numbers marked in blue ink refer to the report number (RI #). Cultural resources properties are marked in red; numbers in black refer to Trinomial designations, those in green to Primary Number designations. National Register properties are indicated in light blue.

Additional sources of information consulted are identified below.

National Register of Historic Places: no listed properties are located within the boundaries of the project area.

Office of Historic Preservation (OHP), Archaeological Determinations of Eligibility (ADOE): no listed properties are located within the boundaries of the project area.

Office of Historic Preservation (OHP), Historic Property Directory (HPD): no listed properties are located within the boundaries of the project area.

Note: not all properties in the California Historical Resources Information System are listed in the OHP ADOE and HPD; the ADOE and HPD comprise lists of properties submitted to the OHP for review.

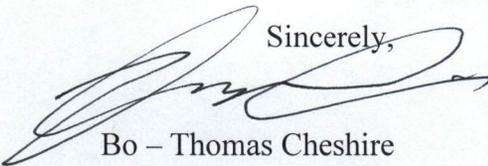
There are no historic reference maps of this area on file.

As the Information Center for Riverside County, it is necessary that we receive a copy of all cultural resources reports and site information pertaining to this county in order to maintain our map and manuscript files. Confidential information provided with this records search regarding the location of cultural resources outside the boundaries of your project area should not be included in reports addressing the project area.

Due to processing delays and other factors, not all of the historical resource reports and resource records that have been submitted to the Office of Historic Preservation are available via this records search. Additional information may be available through the federal, state, and local agencies that produced or paid for historical resource management work in the search area. Additionally, Native American tribes have historical resource information not in the California Historical Resources Information System (CHRIS) Inventory, and you should contact the California Native American Heritage Commission for information on local/regional tribal contacts.

The California Office of Historic Preservation (OHP) contracts with the California Historical Resources Information System's (CHRIS) regional Information Centers (ICs) to maintain information in the CHRIS inventory and make it available to local, state, and federal agencies, cultural resource professionals, Native American tribes, researchers, and the public. Recommendations made by the IC coordinators or their staff regarding the interpretation and application of this information are advisory only. Such recommendations do not necessarily represent the evaluation or opinion of the State Historic Preservation Officer in carrying out the OHP's regulatory authority under federal and state law.

Sincerely,



Bo – Thomas Cheshire
Information Officer

Enclosures

APPENDIX B:
Native American Sacred Lands Search

NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE COMMISSION

Environmental and Cultural Department
1550 Harbor Blvd., Suite 100
West Sacramento, CA 95691
(916) 373-3710



September 25, 2017

Cindy Arrington
Natural Investigations Company

Sent by E-mail: cindy@naturalinvestigations.com

RE: Proposed Soboba Commercial (#478) Project, City of San Jacinto; San Jacinto
Quadrangle, Riverside County, California

Dear Ms. Arrington:

A record search of the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) *Sacred Lands File* was completed for the area of potential project effect (APE) referenced above with negative results however the area is sensitive for cultural resources. Please note that the absence of specific site information in the *Sacred Lands File* does not indicate the absence of Native American cultural resources in any APE.

Attached is a list of tribes culturally affiliated to the project area. I suggest you contact all of the listed Tribes. If they cannot supply information, they might recommend others with specific knowledge. The list should provide a starting place to locate areas of potential adverse impact within the APE. By contacting all those on the list, your organization will be better able to respond to claims of failure to consult. If a response has not been received within two weeks of notification, the NAHC requests that you follow-up with a telephone call to ensure that the project information has been received.

If you receive notification of change of addresses and phone numbers from any of these individuals or groups, please notify me. With your assistance we are able to assure that our lists contain current information. If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact via email: gayle.totton@nahc.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Gayle Totton".

Gayle Totton, M.A., PhD.
Associate Governmental Program Analyst
(916) 373-3714

CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE: This communication with its contents may contain confidential and/or legally privileged information. It is solely for the use of the intended recipient(s). Unauthorized interception, review, use or disclosure is prohibited and may violate applicable laws including the Electronic Communications Privacy Act. If you are not the intended recipient, please contact the sender and destroy all copies of the communication.

**Native American Heritage Commission
Native American Contact List
Riverside County
9/25/2017**

**Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla
Indians**

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Palm Springs, CA, 92264 Luiseno
Phone: (760) 699 - 6800
Fax: (760) 699-6919

Ewiiapaayp Tribal Office

Michael Garcia, Vice Chairperson
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Phone: (619) 445 - 6315
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michaelg@leaningrock.net

**Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla
Indians**

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Ewiiapaayp Tribal Office

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**Augustine Band of Cahuilla
Mission Indians**

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Fax: (760) 369-7161

Jamul Indian Village

Erica Pinto, Chairperson
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Fax: (619) 669-4817

**Cabazon Band of Mission
Indians**

Doug Welmas, Chairperson
84-245 Indio Springs Parkway Cahuilla
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Phone: (760) 342 - 2593
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**La Jolla Band of Luiseno
Indians**

Thomas Rodriguez, Chairperson
22000 Highway 76 Luiseno
Pauma Valley, CA, 92061
Phone: (760) 742 - 3771

Cahuilla Band of Indians

Daniel Salgado, Chairperson
52701 U.S. Highway 371 Cahuilla
Anza, CA, 92539
Phone: (951) 763 - 5549
Fax: (951) 763-2808
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**La Posta Band of Mission
Indians**

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Campo Band of Mission Indians

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**La Posta Band of Mission
Indians**

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jmiller@LPtribe.net

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

This list is only applicable for contacting local Native Americans with regard to cultural resources assessment for the proposed Soboba Commercial Project, Riverside County.

**Native American Heritage Commission
Native American Contact List
Riverside County
9/25/2017**

**Los Coyotes Band of Mission
Indians**

John Perada, Environmental
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Warner Springs, CA, 92086
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Cahuilla

**Morongo Band of Mission
Indians**

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Cahuilla
Serrano

**Los Coyotes Band of Mission
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Cahuilla

Pala Band of Mission Indians

Shasta Gaughen, Tribal Historic
Preservation Officer
PMB 50, 35008 Pala Temecula
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Pala, CA, 92059
Phone: (760) 891 - 3515
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sgaughen@palatribe.com

Cupeno
Luiseno

**Manzanita Band of Kumeyaay
Nation**

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P. O. Box 1302
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Kumeyaay

**Pauma Band of Luiseno Indians
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Luiseno

**Manzanita Band of Kumeyaay
Nation**

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Kumeyaay

**Pechanga Band of Mission
Indians**

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Luiseno

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Cahuilla
Serrano

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Luiseno

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**Native American Heritage Commission
Native American Contact List
Riverside County
9/25/2017**

**Ramona Band of Cahuilla
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Cahuilla

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Cahuilla

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Luiseno

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Luiseno

**San Fernando Band of Mission
Indians**

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tsen2u@hotmail.com
Kitanemuk
Serrano
Tataviam

**San Manuel Band of Mission
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Serrano

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Kumeyaay

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Indians**

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Cahuilla

**Serrano Nation of Mission
Indians**

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Serrano

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**Native American Heritage Commission
Native American Contact List
Riverside County
9/25/2017**

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Cahuilla
Luiseno

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Kumeyaay

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

This list is only applicable for contacting local Native Americans with regard to cultural resources assessment for the proposed Soboba Commercial Project, Riverside County.