

### **Appendix C**

Cultural Resources Assessment, Stoddard Wells Industrial Park Victorville, San Bernardino County, California,

**BCR Consulting** 

February 18,2022

#### CULTURAL RESOURCES ASSESSMENT

## Stoddard Wells Industrial Park Victorville, San Bernardino County, California

#### Prepared for:

Robert A. Martinez, AIA, CASp, CASI Martinez + Okamoto Architects, Inc. Robert.martinez@moa.archi 760-954-9758

#### Prepared by:

David Brunzell, M.A., RPA BCR Consulting LLC 505 W. 8<sup>th</sup> Street Claremont, California 91711 Project No. MOA2101

#### **Data Base Information:**

Type of Study: Reconnaissance Survey Resources Recorded: MOA2101-H-1 USGS Quadrangle: 7.5-minute Victorville, California (1993)



February 18, 2022

#### MANAGEMENT SUMMARY

BCR Consulting LLC (BCR Consulting) is under contract to Martinez + Okamoto Architects, Inc. to complete a Cultural Resources Assessment of the Stoddard Wells Industrial Park Project (the project) in the City of Victorville, San Bernardino County, California. A cultural resources records search, intensive-level pedestrian field survey, paleontological resources overview, and Sacred Lands File Search with the Native American Heritage Commission were conducted for the project in partial fulfillment of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The records search revealed that 17 cultural resource studies have taken place resulting in the recording of two cultural resources within one half-mile of the project site. The project site has been subject to one previous cultural resource assessment (Tang et al. 2010) and no cultural resources have been previously identified within its boundaries.

During the field survey, BCR Consulting archaeologists identified a historic-period well site and associated irrigation pipes and a utility tower within the project site boundaries. This site has been temporarily designated MOA2101-H-1. It is not eligible for the California Register of Historical Resources and is not considered a historical resource (i.e. is not significant) under CEQA. Therefore, no significant impacts related to archaeological or historical resources is anticipated and no further investigations are recommended for the proposed project unless:

- the proposed project is changed to include areas not subject to this study;
- the proposed project is changed to include the construction of additional facilities;
- cultural materials are encountered during project activities.

Although the current study has not indicated sensitivity for cultural resources within the project boundaries, ground disturbing activities always have the potential to reveal buried deposits not observed on the surface during previous surveys. Prior to the initiation of ground-disturbing activities, field personnel should be alerted to the possibility of buried prehistoric or historic cultural deposits. In the event that field personnel encounter buried cultural materials, work in the immediate vicinity of the find should cease and a qualified archaeologist should be retained to assess the significance of the find. The qualified archaeologist shall have the authority to stop or divert construction excavation as necessary. If the qualified archaeologist finds that any cultural resources present meet eligibility requirements for listing on the California Register or the National Register, plans for the treatment, evaluation, and mitigation of impacts to the find will need to be developed. Prehistoric or historic cultural materials that may be encountered during ground-disturbing activities include:

- historic artifacts such as glass bottles and fragments, cans, nails, ceramic and pottery fragments, and other metal objects;
- historic structural or building foundations, walkways, cisterns, pipes, privies, and other structural elements;
- prehistoric flaked-stone artifacts and debitage (waste material), consisting of obsidian, basalt, and or cryptocrystalline silicates;
- groundstone artifacts, including mortars, pestles, and grinding slabs;

• dark, greasy soil that may be associated with charcoal, ash, bone, shell, flaked stone, groundstone, and fire affected rocks.

If human remains are encountered, State Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5 states 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. The County Coroner must be notified of the find immediately. If the remains are determined to be prehistoric, the Coroner will notify the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC), which will determine and notify a Most Likely Descendant (MLD). With the permission of the landowner or his/her authorized representative, the MLD may inspect the site of the discovery. The MLD shall complete the inspection within 48 hours of notification by the NAHC.

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#### INTRODUCTION

BCR Consulting LLC (BCR Consulting) is under contract to Martinez + Okamoto Architects, Inc. to complete a Cultural Resources Assessment of the Stoddard Wells Industrial Park Project (the project) in the City of Victorville (City), San Bernardino County, California. A cultural resources records search, intensive-level pedestrian field survey, paleontological overview, and Sacred Lands File Search with the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) were conducted for the project in partial fulfillment of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The project is located in the southeast quarter of Section 34, Township 6 North, Range 4 West, San Bernardino Baseline and Meridian. It is depicted on the United States Geological Survey (USGS) *Victorville* (1993), *California* 7.5-minute topographic quadrangle (Figure 1).

#### **NATURAL SETTING**

#### Geology

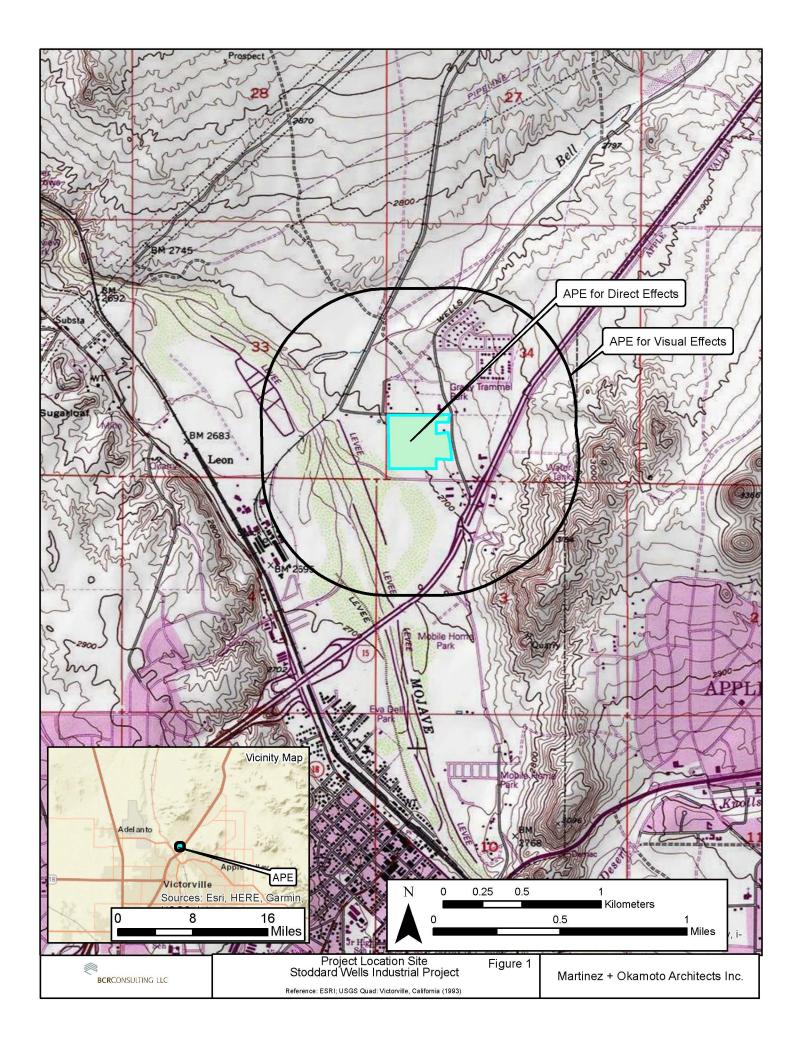
The project is located in the southwestern Mojave Desert. Sediments within the project boundaries include a geologic unit composed of young alluvial-fan deposits formed during the late Pleistocene and Holocene Epochs of the Quaternary Period (Miller and Matti 2006, Lambert 1994:17). The unit is composed of "slightly consolidated, undissected to slightly dissected deposits of poorly sorted sand and silt containing scattered subangular pebbles" (Miller and Matti 2006). Field observations during the current study are basically consistent with these descriptions, and are elaborated in the Field Survey Results section, below.

#### Hydrology

The project elevation ranges from approximately 2680 to 2720 feet above mean sea level (AMSL). Sheetwashing occurs from northeast to southwest, and water flowing across the project site eventually empties into the Mojave River which is adajacent to the project site to the west. To the south, the peaks of the San Bernardino Mountains rise above 10,000 feet and are often capped with snow until late spring or early summer. The area currently exhibits a relatively arid climate, with dry, hot summers and cool winters. Rainfall ranges from five to 15 inches annually (Jaeger and Smith 1971:36-37). Precipitation usually occurs in the form of winter and spring rain or snow at high elevations, with occasional warm monsoonal showers in late summer.

#### Biology

The mild climate of the late Pleistocene allowed piñon-juniper woodland to thrive throughout most of the Mojave (Van Devender et al. 1987). The vegetation and climate during this epoch attracted significant numbers of Rancholabrean fauna, including dire wolf, saber toothed cat, short-faced bear, horse, camel, antelope, mammoth, as well as birds which included pelican, goose, duck, cormorant, and eagle (Reynolds 1988). The drier climate of the middle Holocene resulted in the local development of complementary flora and fauna, which remain largely intact to this day. Common native plants include creosote, cacti, rabbit bush, interior golden bush, cheese bush, species of sage, buckwheat at higher elevations and near drainages, Joshua tree, and various grasses. Common native animals include



coyotes, cottontail and jackrabbits, rats, mice, desert tortoises, roadrunners, raptors, turkey vultures, and other bird species (see Williams et al. 2008).

#### **CULTURAL SETTING**

#### **Prehistoric Context**

The prehistoric cultural setting of the Mojave Desert has been organized into many chronological frameworks (see Warren and Crabtree 1986; Bettinger and Taylor 1974; Lanning 1963; Hunt 1960; Wallace 1958, 1962, 1977; Wallace and Taylor 1978; Campbell and Campbell 1935), although there is no definitive sequence for the region. The difficulties in establishing cultural chronologies for the Mojave are a function of its enormous size and the small amount of archaeological excavations conducted there. Moreover, throughout prehistory many groups have occupied the Mojave and their territories often overlap spatially and chronologically resulting in mixed artifact deposits. Due to dry climate and capricious geological processes, these artifacts rarely become integrated in-situ. Lacking a milieu hospitable to the preservation of cultural midden, Mojave chronologies have relied upon temporally diagnostic artifacts, such as projectile points, or upon the presence/absence of other temporal indicators, such as groundstone. Such methods are instructive, but can be limited by prehistoric occupants' concurrent use of different artifact styles, or by artifact re-use or re-sharpening, as well as researchers' mistaken diagnosis, and other factors (see Flenniken 1985; Flenniken and Raymond 1986; Flenniken and Wilke 1989). Recognizing the shortcomings of comparative temporal indicators, this study recommends the findings of Warren and Crabree (1986), who have drawn upon this method to produce a commonly cited and relatively comprehensive chronology.

#### **Ethnography**

The Uto-Aztecan "Serrano" people occupied the western Mojave Desert periphery. Kroeber (1925) applied the generic term "Serrano" to four groups, each with distinct territories: the Kitanemuk, Tataviam, Vanyume, and Serrano. Only one group, in the San Bernardino Mountains and West-Central Mojave Desert, ethnically claims the term Serrano. Bean and Smith (1978) indicate that the Vanyume, an obscure Takic population, was found along the Mojave River near Apple Valley at the time of Spanish contact. The Kitanemuk lived to the north and west, while the Tataviam lived to the west. The Serrano lived mainly to the south (Bean and Smith 1978). All may have used the western Mojave area seasonally. Historical records are unclear concerning precise territory and village locations. It is doubtful that any group, except the Vanyume, actually lived in the region for several seasons yearly.

#### **History**

Historic-era California is generally divided into three periods: the Spanish or Mission Period (1769 to 1821), the Mexican or Rancho Period (1821 to 1848), and the American Period (1848 to present).

**Spanish Period.** The first European to pass through the project area is thought to be a Spaniard called Father Francisco Garces. Having become familiar with the area, Garces acted as a guide to Juan Bautista de Anza, who had been commissioned to lead a group across the desert from a Spanish outpost in Arizona to set up quarters at the Mission San

Gabriel in 1771 near what today is Pasadena (Beck and Haase 1974). This is the first recorded group crossing of the Mojave Desert and, according to Father Garces' journal, they camped at the headwaters of the Mojave River, one night less than a day's march from the mountains. Today, this is estimated to have been approximately 11 miles southeast of Victorville (Marenczuk 1962). Garces was followed by Alta California Governor Pedro Fages, who briefly explored the western Mojave region in 1772. Searching for San Diego Presidio deserters, Fages had traveled north through Riverside to San Bernardino, crossed over the mountains into the Mojave Desert, and then journeyed westward to the San Joaquin Valley (Beck and Haase 1974).

**Mexican Period.** In 1821, Mexico overthrew Spanish rule and the missions began to decline. By 1833, the Mexican government passed the Secularization Act, and the missions, reorganized as parish churches, lost their vast land holdings, and released their neophytes (Beattie and Beattie 1974).

American Period. The American Period, 1848–Present, began with the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo. In 1850, California was accepted into the Union of the United States primarily due to the population increase created by the Gold Rush of 1849. The cattle industry reached its greatest prosperity during the first years of the American Period. Mexican Period land grants had created large pastoral estates in California, and demand for beef during the Gold Rush led to a cattle boom that lasted from 1849–1855. However, beginning about 1855, the demand for beef began to decline due to imports of sheep from New Mexico and cattle from the Mississippi and Missouri Valleys. When the beef market collapsed, many California ranchers lost their ranchos through foreclosure. A series of disastrous floods in 1861–1862, followed by a significant drought diminished the economic impact of local ranching. This decline combined with ubiquitous agricultural and real estate developments of the late 19th century, set the stage for diversified economic pursuits that have continued to proliferate to this day (Beattie and Beattie 1974; Cleland 1941).

#### **PERSONNEL**

David Brunzell, M.A., RPA acted as the Project Manager and Principal Investigator for the current study. He also completed the cultural resources records search at the South Central Coastal Information Center (SCCIC), compiled the technical report, and provided project oversight. BCR Consulting Archaeological Field Director Joseph Orozco, M.A., RPA and Staff Archaeologist Fabian Reyes-Martinez, B.A. completed the pedestrian field survey.

#### **METHODS**

#### Research

Prior to fieldwork, a records search was conducted at the SCCIC. This archival research reviewed the status of all recorded historic and prehistoric cultural resources, and survey and excavation reports completed within one half-mile of the project site. Additional resources reviewed included the National Register of Historic Places (National Register), the California Register of Historical Resources (California Register), and documents and inventories published by the California Office of Historic Preservation. These include the lists

of California Historical Landmarks, California Points of Historical Interest, Listing of National Register Properties, and the Inventory of Historic Structures.

#### **Field Survey**

An archaeological field survey of the project site was conducted on January 12, 2021. The survey was conducted by walking parallel transects spaced approximately 15 meters apart across 100 percent of the project site. All soil exposures were carefully inspected for evidence of cultural resources.

#### **RESULTS**

#### Research

Research completed through the SCCIC revealed that 17 cultural resources studies have taken place resulting in the recording of two cultural resources within one half-mile of the project site. The project site has been subject to one previous cultural resource assessment (Tang et al. 2010) and no cultural resources have been previously identified within its boundaries. A summary of the records search results is included below.

Table A. Cultural Resources and Studies within One Half-Mile of the Project Site

USGS 7.5 Min. Quad	Cultural Resources	Cultural Resource Reports
Victorville, California (1993)	P-36-6304: Prehistoric Hearth (One Half-Mile NW) P-36-14120: Historic-Period Structure (One Half-Mile SW)	SB-106-0612, 0778, 1271, 1789, 1820, 1954, 2556, 3168, 3169, 3295, 3795, 4445, 4448, 6003, 6859*, 7156, 7734

<sup>\*</sup>Previously assessed the project site for cultural resources

#### Field Survey

The project site exhibited approximately 90 percent surface visibility. Artificial disturbances were severe and have resulted from mechanical grading associated with construction and demolition of former residences, recent off-road vehicle activity, and refuse and sediment dumping. The project site has been subject to sheetwashing and aeolian deflation. It exhibits a southwesterly aspect and runoff flows towards the Mojave River which is located adjacent to the project site to the southwest. Soils include sandy silt, and vegetation includes creosote scrub and mixed seasonal grasses. One historic-period well site and associated irrigation pipes and a utility tower were identified within the project site boundaries. This site has been temporarily designated MOA2101-H-1.This resource has been recorded in detail on Department of Park and Recreation (DPR) 523 forms (Appendix B). No well equipment or machinery was identified, and recordation has indicated that the site does not have any data potential. It is not eligible for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources (California Register) and as such is not considered a historical resource (i.e. is not significant) under CEQA.

#### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

During the field survey, BCR Consulting archaeologists identified a well site and associated irrigation pipes and a utility tower within the project site boundaries. This site has been temporarily designated MOA2101-H-1. The wall is not eligible for the California Register of Historical Resources and is not considered a historical resource (i.e. is not significant) under CEQA. Therefore, no significant impacts related to archaeological or historical resources is anticipated and no further investigations are recommended for the proposed project unless:

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#### REFERENCES

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## APPENDIX A PHOTOGRAPHS



Photo 1: Project Overview (View SW)



Photo 2: Project Overview (View SE)



Photo 3: Project Overview (View E)



Photo 4: Project Overview (View SE)



Photo 5: Project Overview (View S)



Photo 6: Project Overview (View NE)

## APPENDIX B DEPARTMENT OF PARK AND RECREATION 523 FORMS

State of California — The Resources Agency DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION

#### PRIMARY RECORD

Primary # HRI # Trinomial NRHP Status Code

Other Listings Review Code

Reviewer

Page 1 of 2

\*Resource Name or #: MOA2101-H-1

Date

P1. Other Identifier: N/A

\*P2. Location: ☑ Not for Publication ☐ Unrestricted

a. Count

\*a. County: San Bernardino

and (P2b and P2c or P2d. Attach a Location Map as necessary.)

\*b. USGS 7.5' Quad: Victorville, California Date: 1993 T 6 N; R 4 W; Section 34; SBBM

c. Address: N/A City: Victorville Zip: 92394

d. UTM: Zone: 11S; 473295 mE/ 3824225 mN (G.P.S.; NAD83) Elevation: 2,732 Feet AMSL

e. Other Locational Data: From Interstate 15 exit Stoddard Wells Road and northwest for one-half a mile, turn west onto Abbey Ln. Park at Abbey Ln and Stoddard Wells Rd. From here, use UTMs to locate the resource on foot, about 158 meters SW.

\*P3a. Description: (Describe resource and its major elements: design, materials, condition, alterations, size, setting, boundaries) This historic-period site consists of a 12" diameter steel well pipe encased in a 3' x 3' x 3' poured concrete pad. Additional features associated with this site include a 7' 11" x 1' 5" concrete foundation, 12" diameter curved steel pipe embedded in the ground, and various other smaller diameter steel pipes used as standpipes and electrical conduit. One utility pole is present adjacent to the site and contains inspection tags from 1945 and 1954. An additional steel standpipe is located 47 meters southwest of the datum. This site is likely related to water conveyance for former residences that were located at the subject property between 1952 and 1969, and removed between 1994 and 2005 (United States Department of Agriculture 1952, 1969, 1994, 2005). Local natural and artificial disturbances include sheetwashing, rilling, vegetation growth, residential development and demolition, grading, vehicular off-road use, and modern refuse dumping. The vegetation community is chaparral and local sediments are dominated by sandy silt mixed with granitic gravel and cobbles.

#### References

United States Department of Agriculture. 1952, 1969, 1994, 2005. Aerial Photos of San Bernardino County. Electronic Document: historicaerials.com. Accessed 2/15/2022.

\*P3b. Resource Attributes: AH5 (wells/cisterns) AH6 (water conveyance system)



**P5b.** Description of Photo: (View, date, accession #) overview, view E, 01/12/2022, photo 14

\*P6. Date Built; Age and Source: ☑Historic (historicaerials.com) ☐Prehistoric ☐Both

\*P7. Owner and Address:

\*P8. Recorded by: J. Orozco, F. Martinez BCR Consulting LLC Claremont, CA 91711

\*P9. Date: 02/18/2022

\*P10. Survey Type: Intensive.

\*P11. Report Citation:
Cultural Resources
Assessment of the
Stoddard Wells Industrial
Park Project, San
Bernardino County,
California. BCR Consulting.

\*Attachments: 

NONE 

Location Map 
Sketch Map 
Continuation Sheet 
Building, Structure, and Object Record 
Archaeological Record 
District Record 
Linear Feature Record 
Milling Station Record 
Record 
Artifact Record 
Other (List):

DPR 523A (1/95) \*Required information

State	of Califo	rnia - The	e Resou	ırces Age	ncy
DEPA	RTMENT	OF PAR	KS AND	RECREA	MOITA
LOC	ATION I	MAP			

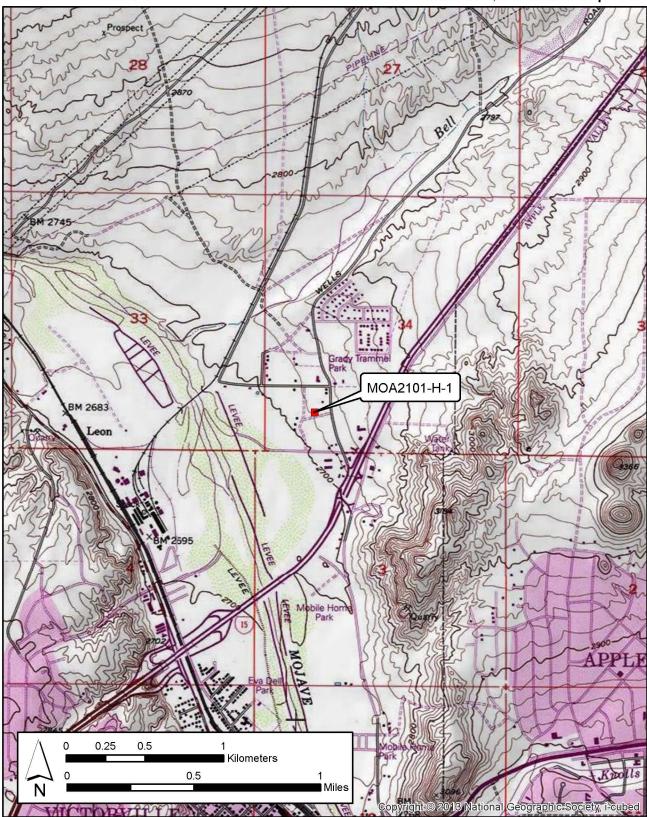
Primary # HRI# Trinomial

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\*Resource Name or#: MOA2101-H-1

\*Map Name: Victorville, CA

\*Scale:1:24,000 \*Date of Map:1993



## APPENDIX C NAHC SACRED LANDS FILE SEARCH



#### NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE COMMISSION

December 21, 2021

David Brunzell BCR Consulting LLC

Via Email to: <a href="mailto:BCRLLC2008@gmail.com">BCRLLC2008@gmail.com</a>

**Laura Miranda** Luiseño

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VICE CHAIRPERSON Reginald Pagaling Chumash

Parliamentarian Russell Attebery Karuk

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William Mungary
Paiute/White Mountain
Apache

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Ohlone-Costanoan

COMMISSIONER **Sara Dutschke** *Miwok* 

COMMISSIONER **Buffy McQuillen**Yokayo Pomo, Yuki,
Nomlaki

COMMISSIONER Wayne Nelson Luiseño

COMMISSIONER **Stanley Rodriguez** *Kumeyaay* 

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

Christina Snider

Pomo

NAHC HEADQUARTERS 1550 Harbor Boulevard Suite 100 West Sacramento,

(916) 373-3710 nahc@nahc.ca.gov NAHC.ca.gov

California 95691

Re: Stoddard Wells Industrial Project, San Bernardino County

Dear Mr. Brunzell:

A record search of the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) Sacred Lands File (SLF) was completed for the information submitted for the above referenced project. The results were <u>positive</u>. Please contact the Chemehuevi Indian Tribe on the attached list for information. Please note that tribes do not always record their sacred sites in the SLF, nor are they required to do so. A SLF search is not a substitute for consultation with tribes that are traditionally and culturally affiliated with a project's geographic area. Other sources of cultural resources should also be contacted for information regarding known and recorded sites, such as the appropriate regional California Historical Research Information System (CHRIS) archaeological Information Center for the presence of recorded archaeological sites.

Attached is a list of Native American tribes who may also have knowledge of cultural resources in the project area. This list should provide a starting place in locating areas of potential adverse impact within the proposed project area. Please contact all of those listed; if they cannot supply information, they may recommend others with specific knowledge. By contacting all those listed, your organization will be better able to respond to claims of failure to consult with the appropriate tribe. If a response has not been received within two weeks of notification, the Commission requests that you follow-up with a telephone call or email to ensure that the project information has been received.

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 lists contain current information.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact me at my email address: <a href="mailto:Andrew.Green@nahc.ca.gov">Andrew.Green@nahc.ca.gov</a>.

Sincerely,

Andrew Green

Cultural Resources Analyst

Indrew Green

**Attachment** 

#### Native American Heritage Commission Native American Contact List San Bernardino County 12/21/2021

#### Chemehuevi Indian Tribe

Sierra Pencille, Chairperson

P.O. Box 1976 1990 Palo Verde Chemehuevi

Drive

Havasu Lake, CA, 92363 Phone: (760) 858 - 4219 Fax: (760) 858-5400 chairman@cit-nsn.gov

#### Kern Valley Indian Community

Robert Robinson, Chairperson

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bbutterbredt@gmail.com

#### Kern Valley Indian Community

Julie Turner, Secretary

P.O. Box 1010 Kawaiisu Lake Isabella, CA, 93240 Tubatulabal Phone: (661) 340 - 0032 Koso

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Brandy Kendricks,
30741 Foxridge Court
Tehachapi, CA, 93561
Phone: (661) 821 - 1733
Krazykendricks@hotmail.com

Kawaiisu
Tubatulabal
Koso

#### Morongo Band of Mission Indians

Ann Brierty, THPO
12700 Pumarra Road Cahuilla
Banning, CA, 92220 Serrano
Phone: (951) 755 - 5259

Phone: (951) 755 - 5259 Fax: (951) 572-6004 abrierty@morongo-nsn.gov

#### Morongo Band of Mission Indians

Robert Martin, Chairperson 12700 Pumarra Road Banning, CA, 92220 Phone: (951) 755 - 5110

Fax: (951) 755-5177 abrierty@morongo-nsn.gov

Phone: (951) 755 - 5110 Fax: (951) 755-5177

## Quechan Tribe of the Fort Yuma Reservation

Manfred Scott, Acting Chairman Kw'ts'an Cultural Committee P.O. Box 1899

Yuma, AZ, 85366

Phone: (928) 750 - 2516 scottmanfred@yahoo.com

### Quechan Tribe of the Fort Yuma Reservation

Jill McCormick, Historic Preservation Officer

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Quechan

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#### San Fernando Band of Mission Indians

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Fax: (503) 574-3308

ddyocum@comcast.net

Kitanemuk
Vanyume
Tataviam
Tataviam

#### San Manuel Band of Mission Indians

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Highland, CA, 92346
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Jessica.Mauck@sanmanuelnsn.gov

#### Serrano Nation of Mission Indians

serranonation1@gmail.com

Mark Cochrane, Co-Chairperson
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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 Stoddard Wells Industrial Project, San Bernardino County.

Cahuilla

Serrano

#### Native American Heritage Commission Native American Contact List San Bernardino County 12/21/2021

#### Serrano Nation of Mission Indians

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Serrano

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### Twenty-Nine Palms Band of Mission Indians

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Chemehuevi

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### Twenty-Nine Palms Band of Mission Indians

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PROJ-2021-005969

#### BCR Consulting Positive SLF Results for Victorville Project

From: David Brunzell (david.brunzell@yahoo.com)

To: chairman@cit-nsn.gov

Date: Tuesday, January 11, 2022, 01:01 PM PST

Dear Chairperson Pencille,

We are working on a cultural resources assessment for a proposed industrial project located at the southwest corner of Abbey Lane and Stoddard Wells Road in Victorville. A map is attached. The records search and field survey are not yet complete, but we received a positive response to a Sacred Lands File search request from the Native American Heritage Commission. They recommended contacting Chemehuevi Indian Tribe. Can you review the map and let me know if you have questions or concerns, or additional information that you can share regarding the subject property? I'm available by email or at the below phone number. Please note that this email is for information purposes only. It is not intended as official government to government consultation, which we expect to be initiated by the City of Victorville.

Sincerely,

David Brunzell Principal Investigator/Archaeologist

#### **BCR Consulting LLC**

U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) Member 505 West 8th Street Claremont, California 91711 909-525-7078

www.bcrconsulting.net



2021-10-15-AERIAL.pdf 628.2kB

NO RESPONSE RECEIVED AS OF FEBRUARY 18, 2022.

1 of 1 1/11/2022, 1:01 PM

# APPENDIX D PALEONTOLOGICAL OVERVIEW



BCR Consulting LLC David Brunzell 505 West 8<sup>th</sup> Street Claremont, CA 91711 November 23, 2021

Dear Mr. Brunzell,

This letter presents the results of a record search conducted for the Stoddard Wells Industrial Project in the city of Victorville, San Bernardino County, California. The project site is located south of Interstate 10 and west of CA State Route 78 in Section 34, Township 6 North, Range 4 West on the *Victorville, CA* USGS 7.5-minute quadrangle.

The geologic units underlying the project area are mapped entirely as alluvial silt, sand and gravel deposits dating from the Pleistocene to Holocene epoch (Dibblee & Minch, 2008). Pleistocene alluvial units are considered to be of high paleontological sensitivity, and while the Western Science Center does not have localities within the project area or a one-mile radius, we do have multiple localities in similarly mapped units throughout the region. Pleistocene alluvial units are known to produce fossil specimens including those associated with mastodon (Mammut pacificus), mammoth (Mammuthus columbi), ancient horse (Equus sp.), camel (Camelops hesternus), sabertooth cats (Smilodon fatalis) and many more.

Any fossil specimens recovered from the Stoddard Wells Industrial Project would be scientifically significant. Excavation activity associated with the development of the project area would impact the paleontologically sensitive Pleistocene units, and it is the recommendation of the Western Science Center that a paleontological resource mitigation program be put in place to monitor, salvage, and curate any recovered fossils from the study area.

If you have any questions, or would like further information, please feel free to contact me at dradford@westerncentermuseum.org

Sincerely,

Darla Radford Collections Manager

