Cultural Resources Investigation For The Victorville Fleet Service Center Project in the City of Victorville San Bernardino County, California

Submitted to:

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Special Districts Department
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U.S. Geological Survey 7.5-minute Quadrangles:
Hesperia, California 1956, Photorevised 1968

Cultural Resources Identified:
None

Keywords: Cultural Resources Survey, Ethnohistory, Prehistory, History, Victorville

MANAGEMENT SUMMARY

In April 2017, ECORP Consulting, Inc. (ECORP) conducted a cultural resources investigation in support of the County of San Bernardino Special District's proposed Victorville Fleet Service Center project located on a 5.05-acre parcel in the City of Victorville, California. The cultural resources study consisted of a records search, Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) Sacred Lands File search, field survey of the 5.05-acre parcel, and preparation of this technical report documenting the methods and results of the study. The project was completed in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

The records search results show that four previously recorded archaeological resources are located within a one-mile radius of the project area. Of these four resources, two are historic-period road alignments, one is a historic-period refuse deposit, and one is a historic-period residence. None are located within the project area. No prehistoric or historic-period sites or isolates were identified within the project area during the field survey.

Procedures for the inadvertent discovery of archaeological material or human remains are provided as are mitigation measures provided by the County of San Bernardino following their Assembly Bill (AB) 52 consultation.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1.0 INTRODUCTION 1

2.0 LOCATION AND SETTING 1

3.0 CULTURAL SETTING 4
3.1 Prehistory 4
3.2 Ethnohistory 8
3.3 History 10

4.0 METHODS 12
4.1 Records Search Methods 12
4.2 Sacred Lands File Search Methods 12
4.3 Field Survey Methods 12

5.0 RESULTS 13
5.1 Record Search Results 13
5.2 Sacred Lands File Search Results 16
5.3 Field Survey Results 17

6.0 SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATIONS 17
6.1 Mitigation Measures from AB 52 Consultation 17

7.0 REFERENCES 19

8.0 REPORT AND FIELD PERSONNEL 22
8.1 Report Preparers 22
8.2 Field Personnel 22

LIST OF TABLES

Table 1. Cultural Sequences for the Mojave Desert Region 4
Table 2. Temporal Periods and Cultural Sequences for the Mojave Desert 5
Table 3. Previous Investigations within 1.0 Mile of the Project Area 13
Table 4. Previously Recorded Cultural Resources within 1.0 Mile of the Project Area 16

LIST OF FIGURES

Figure 1. Project Vicinity Map 2
Figure 2. Project Location Map 3
Figure 3. Overview of the Project Area (Photograph) 4

APPENDIX

Appendix A Native American Heritage Commission Correspondence

1.0 INTRODUCTION

ECORP Consulting, Inc. (ECORP) conducted a cultural resources investigation in support of the County of San Bernardino Special District's proposed Victorville Fleet Service Center project located on a 5.05-acre parcel in the City of Victorville, California (Figure 1). The cultural resources study consisted of a records search, Native American Heritage Commission Sacred Lands File search, field survey of the 5.05-acre parcel, and preparation of this technical report documenting the methods and results of the study. The project was completed in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The project area is located in the City of Victorville, a community of approximately 122,225 residents in the southern Mojave Desert (United States Census Bureau 2016). This report presents the methods and results of the records search, Sacred Lands File Search, and field survey, along with management recommendations.

2.0 LOCATION AND SETTING

The project area is located east of Interstate 15, north of Bear Valley Road, west of Locust Avenue, and south of Nisqualli Road in the City of Victorville, San Bernardino County, California. As shown on the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) 7.5-minute Hesperia, California topographic quadrangle map, the parcel lies in the southwestern quarter of the southeastern quarter of Section 31, Township 5 North, Range 4 West of the San Bernardino Base and Meridian (Figure 2).

The elevation of the project area is approximately 3,115 feet above mean sea level, with the entire parcel consisting of level ground. A small north-south trending unimproved natural drainage bisects the project area and various two-track modern dirt roads intersect the project area. The surrounding setting is retail and light industrial, with both residential and commercial developments in the near vicinity of the property. An off-ramp for Interstate 15 is located approximately 1,350 feet west of the western property boundary.

Vegetation within the property consists primarily of creosote, low-lying annual grasses, and shrubs (Figure 3). The soil within the project area consists of coarse alluvial sand and gravel. The nearest major natural source of water is Oro Grande Wash, a natural drainage located approximately 0.5 mile to the northwest of the project area. Numerous deposits of modern refuse were noted throughout the project area.

Location: N:\2014\2014-132.004 SB Special Districts Victorville\MAPS\Cultural_Resources\CRM_Location_Vicinity\CR_Vicinity20170404.mxd (AMyers)-mapping_guest 4/4/2017

Map Date: 4/4/2017

Service Layer Credits: Sources: Esri, USGS, NOAA

Figure 1. Project Vicinity

2014-132.004 SB Special Districts Victorville

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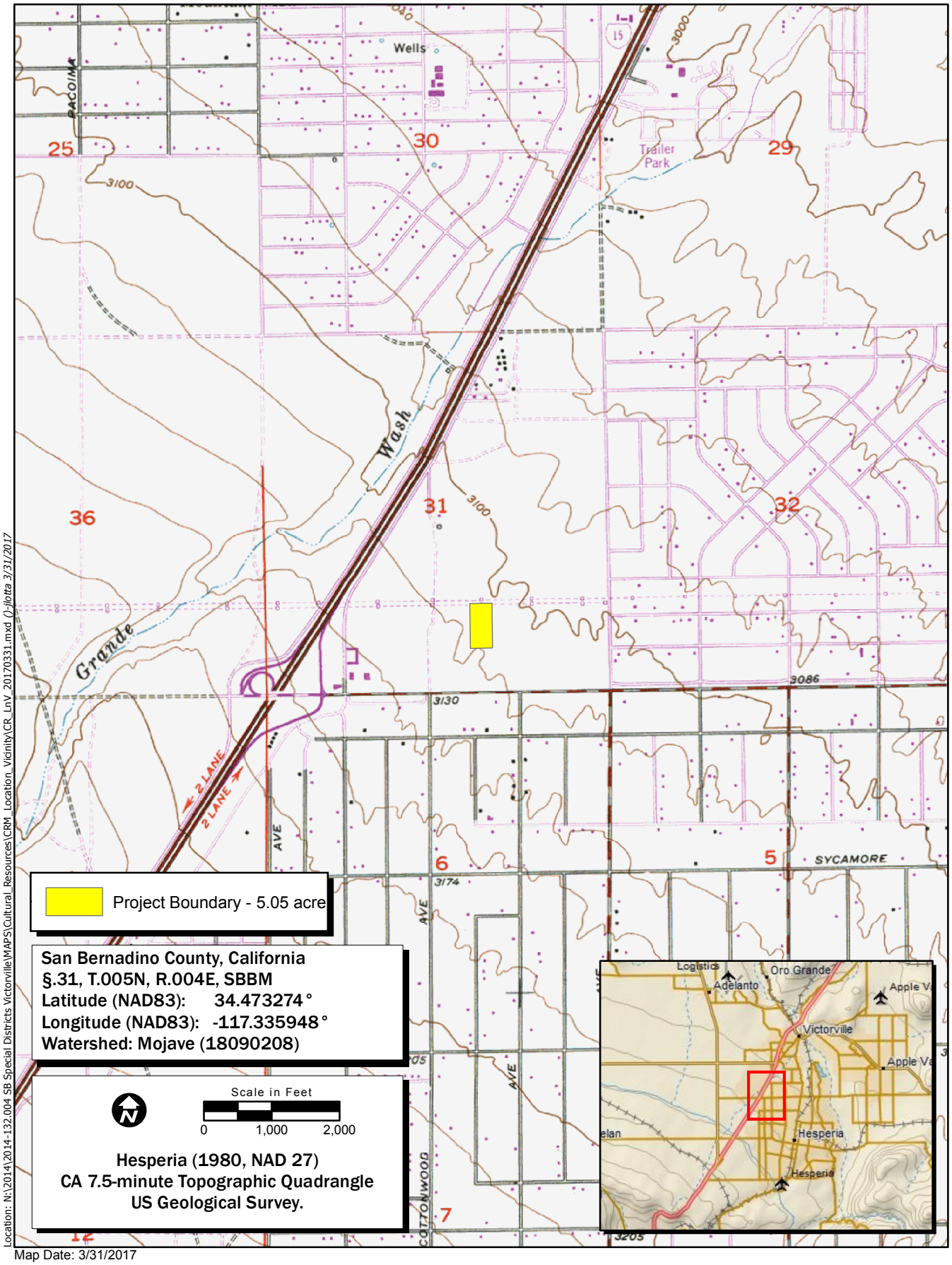

Location: N:\2014\2014-132.004 SB Special Districts Victorville\MAPS\Cultural_Resources\CRM_Location_Vicinity\CR_LnV_20170331.mxd *(-)lotta 3/31/2017*

Map Date: 3/31/2017

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Figure 2. Project Location

2014-132.004 SB Special Districts Victorville

Figure 3. Overview of Project Area, View to Southwest, 4/5/2017, Photo No. 516.

3.0 CULTURAL SETTING

3.1 Prehistory

Two significant volumes on the prehistory of California, *The Archaeology of California* by Joseph and Kerry Chartkoff, and *California Archaeology* by Michael Moratto, were published in 1984. At that time, Warren (1984, in Moratto 1984) provided a modified version of his earlier (1980) Mojave Desert chronology. The 1984 version included six cultural periods marked primarily by projectile point types (Table 1).

Table 1
Cultural Sequences for the Mojave Desert Region, California

Cultural Complex	Approximate Time Period in Years Before Present (B.P.) and Calendar Years A.D.	Characteristic Artifacts
Fluted Point, or Pleistocene Period	12,000 – 10,000 B.P.	Fluted points (Clovis)
Lake Mojave Period	10,000 – 7,000 B.P.	Stemmed points (Lake Mojave, Silver Lake)
Pinto Period	7,000 – 4,000 B.P.	Pinto and leaf-shaped points
Gypsum Period	4,000 B.P. – A.D. 500	Gypsum and Elko series points
Saratoga Spring Period	A.D. 500 – 1200	Rose Spring, Eastgate, Saratoga Spring points
Late Prehistoric, or Shoshonean Period	A.D. 1200 – Contact with European explorers ca. 1770	Desert Series points, ceramics

Adapted from Warren 1980, 1984

New research has led to refinements of the prehistoric chronology of the Mojave Desert region since the early 1980s, including new applications of radiocarbon dating on marine shell and organic materials in sediments, improved understanding of obsidian hydration rates, and more detailed flaked stone technology profiles. This ongoing research has contributed new information that has enhanced understanding of the prehistoric chronology of the Mojave Desert region, a chronology that will most likely continue to be refined in the future. Sutton et al. (2007) discuss these refinements in depth, and present a slightly modified chronological sequence, which is, nonetheless, very similar to that of Warren (1984). Sutton et al. (2007) place their chronology in the context of climatic periods (Pleistocene, early Holocene, middle Holocene, and late Holocene) separated further by cultural complexes based upon technological advances. In addition to the cultural complexes, Sutton et al. (2007) include a hypothetical Pre-Clovis complex pre-dating 12,000 years before present (B.P.), for which there is little or no solid archaeological evidence in the Mojave Desert. They also propose a Deadman Lake complex roughly contemporaneous with the Pinto Period, based on artifact assemblages they contend are unique to the Twentynine Palms area. A brief discussion of the different cultural complexes is presented below in Table 2.

Table 2
Temporal Periods and Cultural Sequences for the Mojave Desert Region, California

Temporal Period	Cultural Complex	Approximate Dating	Characteristic Artifacts
Pleistocene	Pre-Clovis (hypothetical)	Pre-12,000 B.P.	Unclear
	Fluted Point, or Pleistocene Period	12,000 – 10,000 B.P.	Fluted points (Clovis)
Early Holocene	Lake Mojave Period	10,000 – 8,000 B.P.	Stemmed points (Lake Mojave, Silver Lake)
Middle Holocene	Pinto Period	9,000 – 5,000 B.P.	Pinto and leaf-shaped points
	Deadman Lake (Provisional)		Contracting-stem and leaf-shaped points
	Possible population hiatus	*5,000 – 4,000 B.P.*	*Few sites or artifacts*
Late Holocene	Gypsum Period	4,000 B.P. – A.D. 200	Gypsum and Elko series points
	Saratoga Spring, or Rose Spring Period	A.D. 200 – 1100	Rose Spring, Eastgate, Saratoga Spring points
	Late Prehistoric, or Shoshonean Period	A.D. 1100 – Contact	Desert Series points, ceramics

Adapted from Sutton et al. 2007

Fluted Point or Late Pleistocene Period – 12,000 to 10,000 B.P. The presence of humans in the Mojave Desert prior to 12,000 B.P. cannot be discounted, in the face of growing evidence of earlier occupation of other regions of North America. The oldest well-identified cultural complex in the Mojave Desert, however, is Clovis (ca. 12,000-10,000 B.P.), characterized by the long, fluted Clovis projectile point and Clovis-like points known as Great Basin Concave Base points (Basgall and Overly 2004). Reliable radiocarbon dates for organic material associated with fluted points in the Mojave Desert are lacking, but obsidian hydration has established that they have older relative ages than stemmed points from the same region. Only one possible Clovis occupation site has been found, at China Lake, while other fluted points have been recorded as isolated finds. Very little can be inferred about the people who created these fluted points, except that they most likely lived in highly mobile small groups and camped near reliable sources of water. Fluted point finds are concentrated in the China Lake and Lake Thompson (predecessor of Rosamond, Rogers, and Buckhorn lakes) areas, which are known to have had significant stream runoff and to have been good water sources during the Pleistocene/Holocene Transition, continuing during the early Holocene (Sutton et al. 2007).

Lake Mojave Period (Early Holocene) – 10,000 to 8,000 B.P. The best-documented cultural complex in the region during the early Holocene is the Lake Mojave period, characterized by Great Basin Stemmed (Lake Mojave and Silver Lake) points, numerous bifaces including crescents, unifaces, and sometimes ground stone artifacts. Non-local lithic materials and shell beads in Lake Mojave assemblages indicate long foraging trips and/or trade with other regions. The small number of ground stone implements, and the lack of extensive wear on them, suggests that vegetal resources were not used heavily. As with the Fluted Point Period, social groups of the Lake Mojave Period appear to have been small, highly mobile, and attracted to a variety of environments where water was available. Interestingly, archaeofaunal data indicate a reliance on small game like rabbits, hares, rodents, and reptiles, rather than bigger game implied by the large projectile points. Lake Mojave Period artifacts have been mostly surface finds, making absolute dating by radiocarbon methods difficult (Sutton et al. 2007). Numerous Lake Mojave Period artifacts have been documented at Rosamond Lake (Edwards Air Force Base), ancient Lake Mojave (Silver and Soda dry lakes), and on neighboring military installations such as Fort Irwin, China Lake Naval Air Weapons Station (NAWS), and the Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center at Twentynine Palms.

Pinto Period (Early to Middle Holocene) – 9,000 to 5,000 B.P. Previous investigators (e.g., Moratto 1984) defined the Pinto Period as a response to Mid-Holocene climatic warming and desiccation in the Great Basin, including the Mojave Desert. In this scenario, the Pinto Period began after the Lake Mojave Period at about 7,000 B.P., corresponding roughly with the Holocene Maximum warming trend. At first, groups of hunter-gatherers adapted to the drying, warming conditions, possibly by abandoning the desert floor and occupying the higher, wetter margins for a thousand years or more. As the climate cooled again, the desert was repopulated as springs, streams, and shallow lakes reappeared (Moratto 1984). Information gathered during the past two decades suggests that the Pinto Period began during the early Holocene and overlapped the Lake Mojave Period. Recently obtained radiocarbon dates from Pinto Basin, Little Lake, Fort Irwin, and Twentynine Palms indicate ages of at least 9,000 years for some Pinto sites (Sutton et al. 2007). Although there is still some debate about the inception of the Pinto complex, it is clear that it is probably older than had been previously thought.

Pinto artifact assemblages have less diversity of lithic materials than their Lake Mojave predecessors, suggesting a reduced range. At the same time, the presence of *Olivella* shell beads suggests that there was trade with coastal groups. Ground stone milling tools are much more prevalent than in Lake Mojave assemblages, indicating that extensive plant food processing began at the end of the early Holocene, before the beginning of the dry, warm conditions that affected the desert floor during the middle Holocene (Sutton et al. 2007).

Gypsum Period (Late Holocene) – 4,000 B.P. to A.D. 200. Near the end of the middle Holocene, harsh climatic conditions associated with the Holocene Maximum warming trend (also known as the Altithermal) may have resulted in very low population densities, and even temporary abandonment, of large expanses of the Mojave Desert. Very few sites have been dated to a time span between about 5,000 and 4,000 B.P. that separates the Pinto and Gypsum complexes. The appearance of corner-notched (Elko), concave-base (Humboldt), and contracting-stemmed (Gypsum) projectile points in late Holocene sites of the western and northern Mojave signals the beginning of the Gypsum Period, as temperatures began to ameliorate during the First Neoglacial episode at the beginning of the late Holocene (Moratto 1984; Sutton et al. 2007).

In addition to the characteristic projectile point types, Gypsum assemblages include leaf-shaped points, stone knives, flake scrapers, T-shaped drills, choppers, hammer stones, shaft smoothers, ornamental items, split-twig animal figures, and paint. Some of these items, along with the presence of rock art, suggest ritual activities. Manos, metates, mortars, and pestles are also found (Moratto 1984; Sutton et al. 2007). Gypsum sites are generally smaller and more numerous than earlier components, and are spread over a wider variety of environments. Socio-economic contact with the California coast is indicated by the presence of shell beads. Gypsum Period sites show evidence of exploitation of split-hoofed animals, rabbits, hares, and rodents, as well as hard seeds and mesquite. Better technology and somewhat more complex social organization (compared to the previous Pinto population) probably helped peoples of the Gypsum complex adapt to the warming and drying conditions that began again after about 2,000 years ago. A more successful adaptation to the warm dry conditions is indicated because another population hiatus did not occur in the Mojave Desert during this period (Moratto 1984; Sutton et al. 2007). By around 3,000 B.P., the Northern Uto-Aztecan peoples who had probably come from northern Mexico around the end of the Pinto Period had separated into Tubatulabalic, Hopic, Numic, and Takic language groups (Sutton et al. 2007).

Saratoga Spring or Rose Spring Period (Late Holocene) – A.D. 200 to 1100. Although the climate was warmer at the beginning of the Saratoga Spring Period than it had been during the First Neoglacial episode, conditions were sufficiently mesic to support springs and streams in the Mojave Desert, and possibly even shallow perennial lake stands at some of the desert playas (Sutton et al. 2007). Archaeological data suggest a significant increase in population, especially in the western Mojave. Projectile points indicate that the bow and arrow were introduced to the Mojave Desert during the Saratoga Spring Period. While they probably do not indicate a major cultural change in the region (Moratto 1984), they were a technological advance that may have improved hunting efficiency and increased the carrying capacity of the land, resulting in a rise in population (Sutton et al. 2007).

Saratoga Spring sites in the southern Mojave Desert reflect the influence of Hakataya culture from the lower Colorado River by the inclusion of buffware and brownware pottery sherds and

Desert Side-Notched and Cottonwood points. Hakataya intrusion or influence probably extended as far north and west as the east side of Antelope Valley (Moratto 1984). Anasazi pottery and turquoise mining sites indicate the presence and influence of Pueblo peoples in the eastern Mojave during the Saratoga Spring Period (Moratto 1984). In the western Mojave, particularly Antelope Valley, the effects of Hakataya and Anasazi contact or intrusion appear to have been minimal. Large village sites with cemeteries and well-developed middens, indicating long-term occupations, have been documented there. Among the artifacts found in Saratoga Spring sites of the Antelope Valley are steatite items and large numbers of shell beads, probably indicating trade with coastal groups (Moratto 1984; Sutton et al. 2007).

The rise in temperature and return to xeric conditions and occasional severe droughts associated with the Medieval Climatic Anomaly affected roughly the second half of the Saratoga Spring Period, beginning around A.D. 700. Deteriorating climatic conditions in the Mojave Desert led to a population decline, and may have been partially responsible for bringing the Saratoga Spring complex to an end around A.D. 1100 (Sutton et al. 2007).

Late Prehistoric Period (Late Holocene) – A.D. 1100 to Contact (ca. 1770). The several tribes occupying the Mojave Desert at the time of contact with Europeans are believed to have had their genesis in the separate cultural complexes that developed during the Late Prehistoric Period (Moratto 1984; Sutton et al. 2007). Toward the end of the Medieval Climatic Anomaly, the population of the Mojave continued a decline that had begun during the Saratoga Spring Period. Hakataya and Anasazi cultural influences remained in the southern and eastern parts of the region, respectively. By around A.D. 1000, the Numic speakers of the western Mojave Desert had differentiated into distinct language groups, one of which was the Southern Paiute, which spread eastward and occupied an area north of the Mojave River. The Chemehuevi branch of the Southern Paiute later moved south along the west side of the Colorado River as far as the Chuckwalla Valley. The Shoshone moved into territory even farther north. South of the Mojave River, and in much of southern California, Takic-speaking groups were predominant (Sutton et al. 2007).

Late Prehistoric sites are abundant in the Mojave Desert, and include lithic scatters, temporary campsites, and large villages with middens and cemeteries. Artifacts include Desert series projectile points, ground stone milling tools, shell beads, incised stones and pendants, and brownware and buffware ceramics. Obsidian was not used as frequently as during earlier periods. Faunal remains at archaeological sites indicate that deer, rabbits, hares, rodents, and reptiles were eaten, along with a wide variety of vegetal foods, indicated by ground stone grinding implements (Sutton et al. 2007). Trade, especially along the Mojave River and in the Antelope Valley, appears to have enabled the transport of resources over long distances, possibly mitigating against shortages and making a more sedentary, village-oriented existence possible during the Late Prehistoric Period (Moratto 1984).

3.2 Ethnohistory

The project area is located within the territory known to have been occupied by the Serrano Native American group prior to contact with Europeans, as well as the Vanyume group of Native Americans. The Chemehuevi, whose main territory was in the eastern Mojave Desert and around the Colorado River, were occasional enemies or allies of the Serrano, and were

sometimes found in Lucerne Valley and northern reaches of the San Bernardino Mountains during the early historic period. All three groups are discussed below.

Serrano

The project area is located within the territory known to have been occupied by the Serrano group of Native Americans at the time of contact with Europeans, around A.D. 1769. The Serrano occupied an area in and around the San Bernardino Mountains and northward into the Mojave Desert. Their territory also extended west along the north slope of the San Gabriel Mountains, east as far as Twentynine Palms, north into the Victorville and Lucerne Valley areas, and south to the Yucaipa Valley and San Jacinto Valley (Cultural Systems Research 2005). The Serrano speakers in the Mojave Desert who lived along the Mojave River were known as Vanyume. Serrano is a language within the Takic family of the Uto-Aztecan language stock.

The Serrano were mainly hunters and gatherers who occasionally fished. Game that was hunted included mountain sheep, deer, antelope, rabbits, small rodents, and various birds, particularly quail. Vegetable staples consisted of acorns, pinyon nuts, bulbs and tubers, shoots and roots, juniper berries, mesquite, barrel cacti, and Joshua tree (Bean and Smith 1978).

A variety of materials were used for hunting, gathering, and processing food, as well as for shelter, clothing, and luxury items. Shells, wood, bone, stone, plant materials, and animal skins and feathers were used for making baskets, pottery, blankets, mats, nets, bags and pouches, cordage, awls, bows, arrows, drills, stone pipes, musical instruments, and clothing (Bean and Smith 1978).

Settlement locations were determined by water availability, and most Serranos lived in villages near water sources. Houses and ramadas were round and constructed of poles covered with bark and tule mats (Kroeber 1925). Most Serrano villages also had a ceremonial house used as a religious center. Other structures within the village might include granaries and sweathouses (Bean and Smith 1978).

Serrano social and political units were clans, patrilineal exogamous territorial groups. Each clan was led by a chief who had both political and ceremonial roles. The chief lived in a principal village within the clan's territory. The clans were part of a moiety system such that each clan was either a wildcat or coyote clan and marriages could only occur between members of opposite moieties (Earle 2004). On the north side of the San Bernardino Mountains, clan villages were located along the desert-mountain interface on Deep Creek, on the upper Mojave River, in Summit Valley, and in Cajon Pass. The principal plant food available near these villages was juniper berries. These villages also had access to mountain resources, such as acorns and pinyon nuts.

Partly due to their mountainous and desert inland territory, contact between Serrano and European-Americans was minimal prior to the early 1800s. In 1819, an *asistencia* (mission outpost) was established near present-day Redlands and was used to help relocate many Serrano to Mission San Gabriel. However, small groups of Serrano remained in the area northeast of the San Gorgonio Pass and were able to preserve some of their native culture. Today, most Serrano live either on the Morongo or San Manuel reservations (Bean and Smith 1978).

Vanyume

The Vanyume were a small, sparse, and relatively poor population situated along the Mojave River, just north of the Serrano and south of the Kitanemuk. The southwestern extent of their territory seems to have included the Cajon Pass and portions of Hesperia. It is unknown if the Vanyume spoke a dialect of Serrano or a separate Takic language (Bean and Smith 1978). However, it is believed that a major portion of the Antelope Valley at one time was occupied by Vanyume and Kitanemuk speakers (King and Blackburn 1978). Unlike the Serrano, the Vanyume maintained friendly social relations with the Mohave and Chemehuevi, their neighbors to the east and northeast, respectively (Kroeber 1925). The Vanyume population dwindled drastically between 1820 and 1834 as they, along with other California Indians, were forced onto the Spanish missions and *asistencias*. By 1900, the Vanyume were extinct, leaving behind little knowledge about themselves (Bean and Smith 1978).

Chemehuevi

The Chemehuevi are one of 16 identified Southern Paiute groups that at one time occupied a wide strip of territory extending across southern Utah and southern Nevada and following the Colorado River into California. The main territory occupied by the Chemehuevi group was west of the Colorado River, extending approximately from present-day Blythe to just north of Needles, and into California halfway to Twentynine Palms (Kelly and Fowler 1986; Earle 1997).

The Chemehuevi hunted large game, but small animals were the chief source of protein and included rabbits, wood rats, mice, gophers, squirrels, chipmunks, and birds. Plant foods included piñon nuts, roots agave, seed, and berries. Some horticulture was being practiced at the time of Spanish contact in the 1770s (Earle 1997). Settlement was mobile and scattered, with recurrent residence in specific locations. Individual households grouped together with others and traveled as units on hunting and gathering trips (Kelly and Fowler 1986). Structures varied according to the season. During the winter, the Chemehuevi lived in earth-covered dwellings or caves. In warmer months, many lived under trees, sometimes with extra brush added for denser shade (Kelly and Fowler 1986).

As early as the end of the eighteenth century, Southern Paiute-Chemehuevis were being enslaved or baptized in the Spanish settlements. In response, some Chemehuevi raided travelers along the Old Spanish Trail from the 1850s to the early 1870s. During that time, efforts were made to settle the Chemehuevi on the Colorado River Reservation, but many did not agree to move there until the twentieth century. The early 1900s saw the establishment of a number of small reservations in Utah for the Southern Paiute. In 1980, the Southern Paiute-Chemehuevi numbered approximately 124 (Kelly and Fowler 1986).

3.3 History

The first significant European settlement of California began during the Spanish Period (1769 to 1821) when 21 missions and four presidios were established between San Diego and Sonoma. Although located primarily along the coast and having little, if any influence over the Mojave Desert, the missions dominated economic and political life over the majority of the settled areas of California during this period. Their purpose was mainly to provide economic support to the

presidios, to assimilate Native Americans into Hispanic society, and to convert the Indians to Spanish Catholicism (Castillo 1978; Cleland 1941).

The first known European visitors to the Mojave Desert via the Cajon Pass were Lieutenant Pedro Fages and a small party of soldiers, who traversed the pass and skirted along the north side of the San Gabriel Mountains towards the west in 1769. In 1776, while exploring a route across the Mojave Desert from Mission San Gabriel, Father Francisco Garces, accompanying the expedition of Juan Bautista de Anza, passed through what is now the Victorville area. The expedition party is believed to have camped approximately 1.5 miles (2.4 kilometers) southeast of present-day Hesperia. In 1826, Jedediah Smith pioneered a section of the Mormon Trail from Needles to Mission San Gabriel through the Victorville/Hesperia area. General John Fremont and Kit Carson followed this route during a U.S. Army expedition to explore the Mojave Desert in 1842. In the following years, hundreds of settlers used the trail to come to California (California Historic Route 66 Association 1996; City of Hesperia 2002).

Just west of Apple Valley, and a few miles southeast of what would later become Adelanto, a freight road junction settlement called Huntington Station was established near the site of Mormon Crossing, a camp on the banks of the Mojave River that flourished from around 1878 to 1885. By the latter date, the camp had grown into a small railroad depot town, and had been renamed Victor in honor of Jacob Nash Victor, the California Southern Railroad construction superintendent responsible for completing the second transcontinental railroad route, which passed through the community in 1885. The town's name was changed again, to Victorville, by the U.S. Post Office in 1901, to avoid confusion with Victor, Colorado (California Historic Route 66 Association 1996; Richards 1966).

During the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, real estate developers, first among them the Southern Pacific and the Atchison, Topeka, & Santa Fe (AT&SF) railways (the latter owning a controlling interest in the California Southern Railroad), sold thousands of acres, promoting the Columbia Valley (as Victor Valley was then known), Hesperia, and Apple Valley as a healthy agricultural paradise. Homesteaders, taking advantage of free federal land, contributed to the population growth of the area in the early 1900s. From around 1917, when the United States entered World War I, to the mid-1940s, a combination of factors slowed the growth of the region. Many of the young men who had attempted farming left during the First World War to enter military service. Attacks of orchard fungus, the rise of the cost of electricity to run irrigation pumps, and improvements in refrigerated rail car shipping that made importation of fruits from out of state more economical, devastated local agriculture (California Historic Route 66 Association 1996; Town of Apple Valley 2011).

Modern highways contributed to the growth of the region in the early twentieth century. In 1911, the Southern Sierras Power Company graded an unpaved road through and northwest of Adelanto during the construction of a transmission line on steel towers between Bishop and San Bernardino. In 1913, San Bernardino County took over and improved the road. In 1933, it was incorporated into State Route 95 by the California Division of Highways, and additional improvements were made. Two years later, it was re-designated U.S. Route 395. Additional widening, repaving, and realignment of some segments were carried out in the 1950s (AARoads.com 2011; Kaiser 2008). In 1926, U.S. Route 66 of the new National Highway System was established, connecting Chicago with Los Angeles. Passing through Victorville, the highway brought additional trade and tourism to all of the settlements in the region (California Historic

Route 66 Association 1996). State Route 18, which consolidated existing paved and unpaved roads, connected San Bernardino, Big Bear, and Victorville via Lucerne Valley and Apple Valley in the 1930s (California Highways 2011).

In the mid-1940s, a three-year onslaught of severe summer heat, winter frosts, and pounding hail storms nearly put an end to what was left of the orchard industry in the Victorville, Lucerne Valley, Apple Valley, and Adelanto areas. As a result, little was left to sell but firewood from acres of bulldozed fruit trees (California Historic Route 66 Association 1996). At the same time, however, while World War I had taken many young men from the area, World War II had the opposite effect on the population and the economy. In early 1941, Victorville Army Airfield was established as a flight training school. After the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor on December 7, hundreds of military aircraft were moved to the Victorville field to distance them from potential aircraft carrier-based raids near the coast. Thousands of men were stationed at the desert facility, which boosted the local economy. Some of these men enjoyed the desert climate and scenery, and returned with their families after the war to become permanent residents. In 1947, with the designation of the Air Force as a separate service, Victorville Army Airfield was renamed Victorville Air Force Base. In 1950, in honor of Brigadier General Harold H. George, the name was changed to George Air Force Base. Before its decommissioning in 1992, George Air Force Base employed more than 7,000 Air Force and civilian personnel, and was one of the greatest contributors to the local economy (California Historic Route 66 Association 1996; Mann n.d.).

4.0 METHODS

4.1 Records Search Methods

A cultural resources records search was conducted by an ECORP archaeologist in March of 2017, using the California Historical Resources Information System, at the South Central Coastal Information Center at California State University, Fullerton. The purpose of the records search was to determine the extent and location of previous surveys, previously identified prehistoric or historic archaeological site locations, architectural resources, historic properties, cultural landscapes, or ethnic resources within a one-mile (1,600-meter) radius of the project area. Materials reviewed included survey and evaluation reports, archaeological site records, historic maps, and listings of resources on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP), California Register of Historical Resources (CRHR), California Points of Historical Interest, California Historical Landmarks, and National Historic Landmarks.

4.2 Sacred Lands File Search Methods

A search of the Sacred Lands File was conducted by the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) in Sacramento, California in March of 2017. This search was requested to determine whether there are sensitive or sacred Native American resources in the vicinity of the project area that could be affected by the proposed project.

4.3 Field Survey Methods

Fieldwork was conducted on April 5, 2017. Field survey methods consisted of an intensive systematic pedestrian survey of the property by an ECORP archaeologist. Parallel transects were walked using 15-meter intervals between each transect. If any artifacts or features of

archaeological significance (i.e. 50 years or older) were encountered, they were photographed, recorded and mapped using a sub-meter GNSS receiver. Department of Parks and Recreation forms would be prepared for any features or artifacts documented during the archaeological survey.

5.0 RESULTS

5.1 Records Search Results

The records search indicated that the one cultural resources study was conducted within the project area as part of the *Baldy Mesa Water Lines, Cultural Resources Assessment* in 1980 by Robert E. Reynolds. A total of 35 cultural resources investigations were conducted within the one-mile records search radius between 1967 and 2012. As noted above, one of these studies took place within the boundaries of the project area. Details of all 35 investigations are presented below in Table 3.

Table 3
Previous Cultural Resources Studies within 1.0 Mile of the Project Area (35)

Report Number	Author(s)	Report Title	Year	Overlap Project Area
00078	Walker, Clifford	*Life and Adventure Along the Mojave River Trail*	1967	No
00612	San Bernardino County Museum Association	*An Archaeological – Historical Assessment for the Proposed System Improvements for a Water System Master Plan for Victor Valley County Water District*	1978	No
00623	Smith, Gerald A.	*An Archaeological – Historical Assessment for the Amendment to the General Plan for Land Use in the Hesperia-Baldy Mesa Area*	1978	No
00709	Hearn, Joseph E.	*Bear Valley Cutoff from Mariposa to Bornite Avenue HO 7035 Cultural Resources Assessment*	1978	No
00719	Coombs, Gary B.	*The Archaeology of the Western Mohave(Class II Cultural Resources Inventory of the Calico, Kramer, Stoddard, Johnson, Morongo and 29 Palms Planning Units)*	1979	No
00878	Bean, Lowell John	*Allen-Warner Valley Energy System: Western Transmission System Ethnographic and Historical Resources*	1979	No
00891	Stickel, E. Gary	*An overview of the Cultural Resources of the Western Mojave Desert*	1980	No
00986	Robert E. Reynolds	*Baldy Mesa Water Lines, Cultural Resources Assessment*	1980	Yes
00995	Smith, Gerald A.	*Cultural Resources Assessment: Bear Valley Cutoff From Mariposa to Bornite Avenue*	1980	No

Report Number	Author(s)	Report Title	Year	Overlap Project Area
01219	Hall, Matthew C.	*An Archaeological Survey of the Proposed Southern California Edison Ivanpah Generating Station, Plant Site, and Related Rail, Coal Slurry, Water and Transmission Line Corridors, San Bernardino County, California and Clark County Nevada*	1981	No
01220	Bean, Lowell John	*The Ivanpah Generating Station Project: Ethnographic (Native American) Resources*	1981	No
01439	Scientific Resource Surveys, Inc.	*An Archaeological Survey of a Parcel of Land in the City of Victorville, San Bernardino County, California*	1984	No
01734	Shackley, M. Steven	*Cultural and Paleontological Resource Survey: US Sprint Fiber, Rialto California to Las Vegas, Nevada*	1987	No
01820	Peak & Associates Inc.	*Cultural Resource Survey and Clearance for Re-Routed Portions of the Proposed American Telephone and Telegraph Las Vegas to San Bernardino Fiber Optics Communication Route*	1988	No
02044	Schneider, Joan S.	*The Mojave River and Archaeology: Desert and River in the Mojave*	1989	No
02164	Bean, Lowell John	*Lucerne Valley Project: Ethnographic and Historical Resources*	1979	No
02207	Quinn, Harry M.	*[Cultural History of Hesperia]*	1990	No
02577	Rhodes, L.E.	*Draft Historic Property Survey Report, City of Victorville, La Mesa/Nisqually Road Overpass at Interstate 15, San Bernardino County, (08-SBR-15 P.M. 38.43/39.17)*	1991	No
02694	Torres, John	*Cultural Resources Sensitivity Study of the Mojave River Corridor, San Bernardino County, California*	1992	No
02737	Macko, Michael E.	*An Archaeological and Paleontological Assessment of the Proposed Home Depot Site, Victorville, CA*	1992	No
02795	Hampson, R. Paul	*Cultural Resource Investigation: Cajon Pipeline Project*	1991	No
03438	Love, Bruce	*Lowe's Home Improvement Warehouse Project .6PP*	2000	No
03822	McKenna, Jeanette A.	*Historic Architectural Evaluation: The Cale Cabin, Big Bear Tract, SBNF, San Bernardino County, CA 104PP*	2003	No
03958	Kielusiak, Carol	*Archaeological and Historical Resource Survey and Evaluation: City of Victorville's Bear Valley Road Improvement Project – Two Park and Ride Facility Site Options 16PP*	2004	No

Report Number	Author(s)	Report Title	Year	Overlap Project Area
03974	Lewis, Don	*Cultural Resource Assessment: Cingular Wireless SB 213-01 Rancho Mariposa, 12463 Mariposa Road, Victorville, CA 15PP*	2002	No
03975	Budinger, Fred	*Verizon Bear Valley Site, Hesperia, CA 12PP*	2001	No
03979	Hogan, Michael	*Archaeological/Paleontological Monitoring of Earth-Moving Activities, Armagosa Rd, Pads 6 &7 for the Dunia Plaza Development Project, City of Victorville, San Bernardino County, CA. 3PP*	2003	No
04234	Earle, David D.	*Ethnohistorical & Ethnographic Overview & Cultural Affiliation Study of the Fort Irwin Region & Central Mojave Desert. 199PP*	2004	No
04794	Malan, Christy	*Cultural Resources Assessment for Tentative for Tentative Tract No. 16900, City of Victorville, San Bernardino County, California*	2006	No
04973	Weatherbee, Matthew	*Identification and Evaluation of Historic Properties: Victor Valley Water District*	2005	No
05217	Malan, Christy	*Cultural Resources Assessment for APN 3093-141-01 City of Victorville, San Bernardino County, California*	2004	No
06508	McKenna, Jeanette	*Results of a Phase I Cultural Resources Investigation for the Proposed Sun Country Corporate Center in the City of Victorville, San Bernardino County, California*	2008	No
07156	Tang, Bai	*Historical/Archaeological Resources Survey Report: Water Supply System Improvements Projects, Fiscal Years 2010/2011 – 2014/2015, Victorville Water District, San Bernardino County, California*	2011	No
07495	Gust, Sherri	*Cultural Resources Assessment for the Mojave Water Agency Groundwater Regional Recharge and Recovery (R3) Project, San Bernardino County, California*	2011	No
07496	Gust, Sherri	*Monitoring Compliance Report for Construction of the Mojave Water Agency Regional Recharge and Recovery (R3) Project, San Bernardino County, California*	2012	No

No prehistoric or historic-period archaeological resources were identified within the project area as a result of previous investigations.

The records search results show that four cultural resources have been previously recorded within 1-mile of the project area. Of these four cultural resources, two are historic-period road alignments, one is a historic-period refuse deposit, and one is a historic-period residence. None of the these resources are located in the project area. Details of previously recorded resources within the records search radius are presented below in Table 4.

Table 4
Previously Recorded Resources within 1.0 Mile of the Project Area (4)

Resource Designation	Recorder and Year	Age/Period	Description	Location in Relation to Project Area
CA-SBR-4269H/ P36-004269	Reynolds, Roger, 1980	Historic	Oro Grande Wash Road	Located west of the project area
CA-SBR-6821H/ P36-006821	Rhodes, L. and L. Lilburn, 1991	Historic	Refuse deposit	Located north of the project area
CA-SBR-7061H/ P36-007061	McKenna, Jeanette, 1991	Historic	Bear Valley Road/Big Bear Cutoff	Located south of the project area
CA-SBR-12127H/ P36-012126	Unknown, 1991	Historic	Historic-period residence	Located north of the project area

The Historic Property Data File for San Bernardino County indicated that there are no resources listed on the NRHP, CRHR, and there are no California Points of Historical Interest, California Historical Landmarks, or National Historic Landmarks within the one-mile (1,600 meter) record search radius.

5.2 Sacred Lands File Search Results

A search of the Sacred Lands File was conducted with the NAHC in Sacramento, California. The search was requested to determine if there are sensitive or sacred Native American resources in the vicinity of the project area that could be affected by the proposed project. The search of the Sacred Lands File by the NAHC did not indicate the presence of any Native American cultural resources within one mile of the project area. The NAHC did, however, provide contact information for five tribes culturally affiliated with the project area. A copy of the correspondence between ECORP and the NAHC is provided in Appendix A.

5.3 Field Survey Results

No cultural resources were identified during the field survey. Ground cover was sparse and visibility ranged from 80 to 90 percent overall. An east-west trending power line is located adjacent to the northern boundary of the project area. Numerous deposits of modern refuse were noted throughout the project area. Temporary homeless encampments constructed of nearby refuse were also noted in the project area. The entirety of the project area has been highly disturbed due to off-highway vehicle activity, temporary homeless encampments, and various modern human activities.

6.0 SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATIONS

A cultural resources investigation was conducted for a 5.05-acre parcel located in the City of Victorville, San Bernardino County, California. The records search results show that four previously recorded archaeological resources are located within a one-mile radius of the project area. Of these four resources, two are historic-period road alignments, one is a historic-period refuse deposit, and one is a historic-period residence. None are located within the project area. No prehistoric or historic-period sites or isolated finds were identified within the project area during the field survey.

Due to the lack of evidence of any prehistoric or historic-period occupation of the project area, the archaeological sensitivity of the project area is believed to be low. However, in the event that any archaeological materials are encountered during future development activities, all activities must be suspended in the vicinity of the find until the deposits are recorded and evaluated by a qualified archaeologist. If evaluated as eligible for the CRHR and if impacts to the resource cannot be avoided, mitigation would be necessary. In addition, if significant subsurface prehistoric resources are encountered that will be subject to impacts from the project, Tribes with historic and cultural ties to the area shall be contacted.

If human remains of any kind are found during construction, the requirements of CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5(e) and AB 2641 shall be followed. According to these requirements, all construction activities must cease immediately and the San Bernardino County Coroner and a qualified archaeologist must be notified. The Coroner will examine the remains and determine the next appropriate action based on his or her findings. If the coroner determines the remains to be of Native American origin, he or she will notify the NAHC. The NAHC will then identify the most likely descendants (MLD) to be consulted regarding treatment and/or reburial of the remains. If an MLD cannot be identified, or the MLD fails to make a recommendation regarding the treatment of the remains within 48 hours after gaining access to the remains, the property owner shall rebury the Native American human remains and associated grave goods with appropriate dignity on the property in a location not subject to further subsurface disturbance.

6.1 Mitigation Measures from AB 52 Consultation

As a result of the County's AB 52 consultation with Tribes, the following mitigation measures have been developed:

1. If human remains or funerary objects are encountered during any activities associated with the project, work in the immediate vicinity (within a 100-foot buffer of the find) shall cease and the County Coroner shall be contacted pursuant to State Health and Safety Code §7050.5 and that code enforced for the duration of the project.
2. In the event that Native American cultural resources are discovered during project activities, all work in the immediate vicinity of the find (within a 60-foot buffer) shall cease and a qualified archaeologist meeting Secretary of Interior standards shall be hired to assess the find. Work on the other portions of the project outside of the buffered area may continue during this assessment period. Additionally, San Manuel Band of Mission Indians and the Serrano Nation of Mission Indians will be contacted if any such find occurs and be provided information and permitted/invited to perform

a site visit when the archaeologist makes his/her assessment, so as to provide Tribal input.

3. If significant Native American historical resources, as defined by CEQA (as amended, 2015), are discovered and avoidance cannot be ensured, an SOI-qualified archaeologist shall be retained to develop an cultural resources Treatment Plan, as well as a Discovery and Monitoring Plan, the drafts of which shall be provided to San Manuel Band of Mission Indians and Serrano Nation of Mission Indians for review and comment.
    a. All in-field investigations, assessments, and/or data recovery enacted pursuant to the finalized Treatment Plan shall be monitored by a San Manuel Band of Mission Indians and Serrano Nation of Mission Indians Tribal Participant(s).
    b. The Lead Agency and/or applicant shall, in good faith, consult with San Manuel Band of Mission Indians and the Serrano Nation of Mission Indians on the disposition and treatment of any artifacts or other cultural materials encountered during the project.

These mitigation measures have been included in the current cultural resources technical report at the County's request.

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8.0 REPORT AND FIELD PERSONNEL

8.1 Report Preparers

Andrew M. Myers, Primary Author

2011 B.A., Sociology, University of California, Santa Barbara
Years of experience: 5

Evelyn Chandler, Principal Investigator/Contributing Author

1989 B.A., Anthropology, University of Redlands, Redlands, California
1989 B.A., Political Science, University of Redlands, Redlands, California
2011 M.A. Archaeology and Heritage, University of Leicester, UK
Years of experience: 24

8.2 Field Personnel

Andrew M. Myers

2011 B.A., Sociology, University of California, Santa Barbara
Years of experience: 5

APPENDIX A Native American Heritage Commission Correspondence

Sacred Lands File & Native American Contacts List Request

Native American Heritage Commission
1550 Harbor Blvd, Suite 100
West Sacramento, CA 95691
916-373-3710
916-373-5471 – Fax
nahc@nahc.ca.gov

Information Below is Required for a Sacred Lands File Search

Project: Victorville Fleet Service Center

County: San Bernardino County

USGS Quadrangle Name: Hesperia (1980)

Township: 05N **Range:** 04E **Section(s):** 31

Company/Firm/Agency: ECORP Consulting, Inc.

Street Address: 215 North Fifth Street

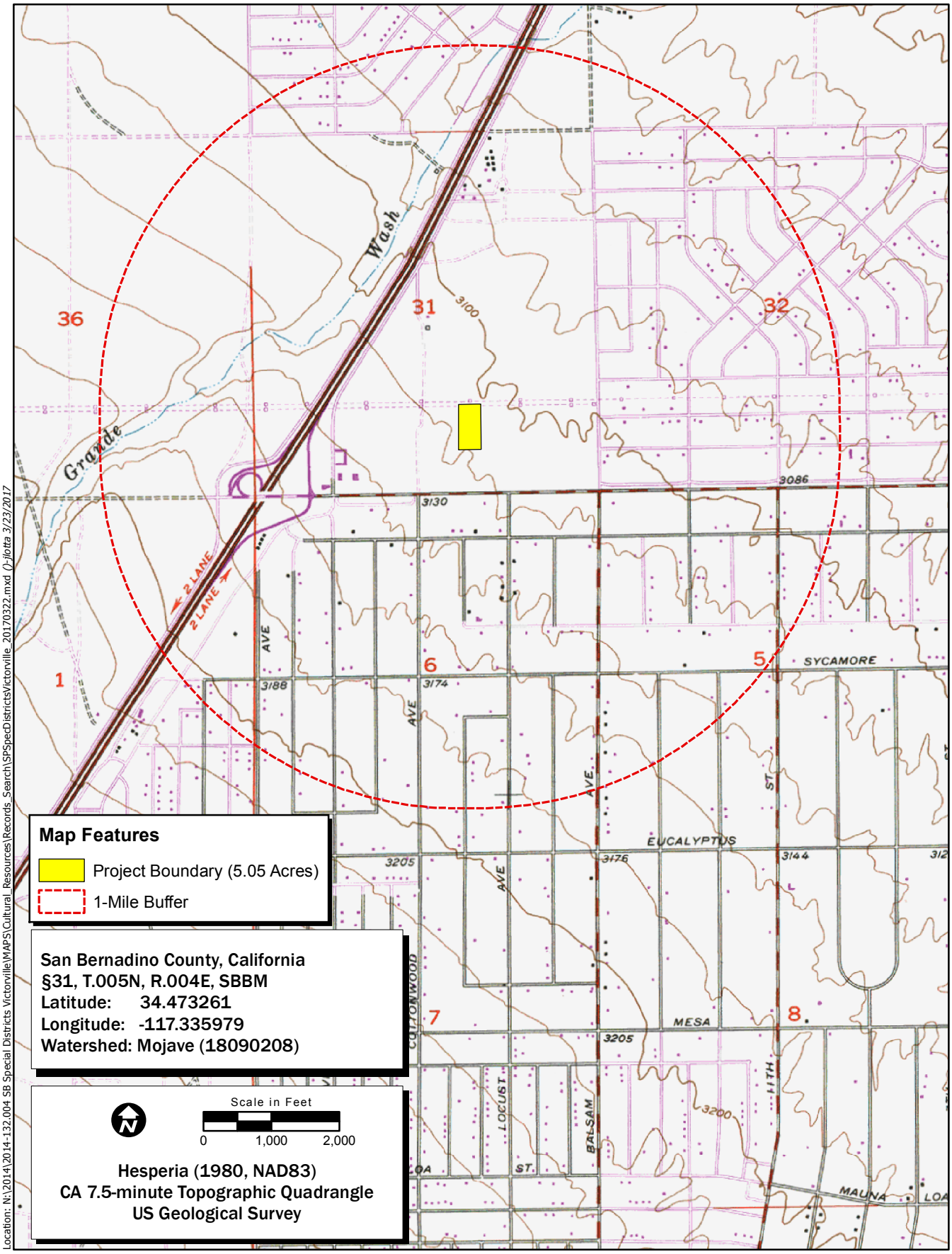
City: Redlands **Zip:** 92374

Phone: (909) 307-0046

Fax: (909) 307-0056

Email: wblumel@ecorpconsulting.com

Project Description: The County of San Bernardino requested that ECORP conduct a cultural resources study for the proposed Project Area in the City of Victorville, San Bernardino County. The study will be used in support of San Bernardino County Special Districts' Initial Study for the Victorville Fleet Service Center.



Location: N:\2014\2014-132.004 SB Special Districts Victorville\MAPS\Cultural Resources\Records_Search\SPSpecDistrictsVictorville_20170322.mxd (-)-lotta 3/23/2017

Map Date: 3/23/2017

ECORP Consulting, Inc.
ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTANTS

DRAFT

Records Search

2014-132.004 SB Special Districts Victorville

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

April 4, 2017

Wendy Blumel
ECORP Consulting, Inc.

Sent by E-mail: wblumel@ecorpconsulting.com

RE: Proposed Victorville Fleet Service Center Project, City of Victorville; Hesperia USGS Quadrangle, San Bernardino County, California

Dear Ms. Blumel:

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. 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,

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

Native American Heritage Commission
Native American Contact List
San Bernardino County
4/4/2017

Morongo Band of Mission Indians
Denisa Torres, Cultural Resources Manager
12700 Pumarra Rroad — Cahuilla
Banning, CA, 92220 — Serrano
Phone: (951) 849 - 8807
Fax: (951) 922-8146
dtorres@morongo-nsn.gov

Morongo Band of Mission Indians
Robert Martin, Chairperson
12700 Pumarra Rroad — Cahuilla
Banning, CA, 92220 — Serrano
Phone: (951)849-8807
Fax: (951)922-8146

San Fernando Band of Mission Indians
John Valenzuela, Chairperson
P.O. Box 221838 — Kitanemuk
Newhall, CA, 91322 — Serrano
Phone: (760) 885 - 0955 — Tataviam
tsen2u@hotmail.com

San Manuel Band of Mission Indians
Lee Clauss, Director of Cultural Resources
26569 Community Center Drive — Serrano
Highland, CA, 92346
Phone: (909) 864 - 8933
Fax: (909) 864-3370
lclauss@sanmanuel-nsn.gov

Serrano Nation of Mission Indians
Goldie Walker, Chairperson
P.O. Box 343 — Serrano
Patton, CA, 92369
Phone: (909)528-9027

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 Victorville Fleet Sevice Center Project, San Bernardino County.