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Phase One Cultural Assessment for the Moreno Valley Farm 139-Unit Residential Bureau Project

Tentative Tract Map 38955 (PEN24-0058)
Plot Plan (PEN24-0059)

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1.Project Description:

The proposed development consists of the subdivision of approximately 9.33 acres into residential homes located at 21150 & 21160 Box Springs Road, Moreno Valley, Riverside County, California. The project area is partially developed with two commercial structures (constructed circa 1968) and features bedrock boulders in the northwest portion of the property. The project proposes full buildout with associated infrastructure improvements.

APNs:

- 256-200-002
- 256-200-003
- 256-200-004

Project expansion:

An updated site expansion has been proposed on the northeast corner of the property for a large DWR easement. While no construction is proposed for this area, it has been included in the Project area per City requirements. Cultural and paleontological resources included within the tract boundaries and have been updated accordingly. The Project area as seen on Riverside East USGS Quadrangle map (**Appendix A**) currently includes the area of proposed project expansion and the 1-mile buffer zone around the project. Therefore, all paleontological and cultural resources found in the area account for this area update.

Legal Framework:

The project will be subject to compliance with the following environmental and cultural resource legal frameworks:

- California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)
- National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) Section 106 (if any federal nexus is triggered)
- Assembly Bill 52 (AB 52): Tribal Consultation under CEQA

No federal nexus (e.g., funding, permits) is indicated at this time, so NEPA is not currently applicable.

2. Area of Potential Effects (APE)

Direct APE:

The direct APE consists of the entire 9.33-acre project boundary at 21150 & 21160 Box Springs Road. It includes all ground-disturbing activities associated with residential lot grading, infrastructure installation, and future construction.

Justification for APE:

The direct APE encompasses the full limits of grading, excavation, and construction.

Discussion of Vertical and Horizontal Extent of Potential Impacts

- Horizontal Extent: The full 9.33-acre parcel boundary.
- Vertical Extent:
  - Typical residential grading depth is anticipated to range from 3–6 feet below ground surface for utility trenching, foundation preparation, and road grading.
  - Deeper excavation (up to 15 feet or more) may occur for utility installation (e.g., storm drains, sewer laterals).
- **Potential Impacts:**
  - Impacts to native soils and Pleistocene-age alluvial fan deposits, which have high paleontological sensitivity.
  - Potential disturbance of prehistoric cultural deposits associated with the bedrock milling features nearby**.**

3. Environmental and Cultural Setting

Natural Environment

3.1 Geology and Soils

The project site at 21150 & 21160 Box Springs Road is located within the Box Springs Mountains region of northwestern Moreno Valley, Riverside County, California. This area is part of the northern Peninsular Ranges Geomorphic Province, specifically within the Perris Block, a tectonically stable structural block bounded by major fault systems and composed primarily of Cretaceous-age granitic rocks (Morton and Matti 1993).

3.1.1 Geologic Setting

The Perris Block is a significant geologic feature within Southern California, bounded by the San Jacinto Fault Zone to the northeast, the Elsinore Fault Zone to the west, and the San Bernardino Mountains to the north. It is characterized by relatively minimal tectonic deformation compared to adjacent fault blocks, although it remains within an active seismic zone (Morton and Matti 1993; California Geological Survey [CGS] 2002).

The Box Springs Mountains, where the project area is situated, are underlain primarily by Cretaceous granitic rocks—notably tonalite, quartz diorite, and granodiorite—which are intrusive components of the Peninsular Ranges Batholith (Jennings et al. 2010). These rocks are exposed at the surface in the form of large, weathered boulders and form the rugged mountainous topography characteristic of the region.

Seismically, the area is influenced by the nearby San Jacinto Fault, one of the most active fault systems in California. Though the fault does not traverse the project site directly, its proximity necessitates that any future development accounts for seismic hazards such as strong ground shaking and secondary impacts like landslides or rockfall in steeper terrain (CGS 2008).

3.1.2 Soils and Geomorphology

According to the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Web Soil Survey, the project parcel is predominantly mapped as part of the Cieneba-Fallbrook-Rock Outcrop complex, typically found on 15 to 75 percent slopes. These soils formed in residuum and colluvium derived from granitic bedrock and are characterized by loamy sand textures, rapid permeability, and low water holding capacity, which makes them highly susceptible to erosion—particularly during heavy rain events or when vegetation cover is disturbed (USDA NRCS 2024).

Cieneba series soils are somewhat excessively drained, shallow, and often intermixed with exposed bedrock. They support only sparse vegetation under natural conditions and are considered to have low to moderate productivity for agriculture or intensive development without substantial grading and erosion control measures (NRCS 2024; Riverside County 2015). Field observations from this assessment confirm these characteristics, with visible rock outcrops, granite cobble fragments, and sandy-loam sediment consistent with the mapped units.

Given the steep slopes and erosive soil nature, the area possesses a moderate to high erosion hazard rating, particularly in disturbed or unvegetated conditions. Any proposed land disturbance should incorporate best management practices (BMPs) for erosion control and stormwater runoff.

3.1.3 Summary and Implications for Archaeological Sensitivity

The site's geology and soil composition play a role in determining archaeological sensitivity. The granitic bedrock and colluvial deposits of the region may not be as conducive to deep stratified archaeological deposits as alluvial fan systems or floodplains; however, ridge tops and foothill benches in similar granitic contexts have been known to contain prehistoric artifacts, including grinding slicks and rock features associated with traditional Native American land use. The presence of nearby recorded cultural sites (e.g., 33-015914 and 33-015917) in similar terrain supports the need for careful archaeological reconnaissance, particularly on relatively level areas near rock outcrops.

3.2 Paleontological Setting

3.2.1 Regional Geologic and Paleontological Context

The project area at 21150 & **21160 Box Springs Road**, located in the Box Springs Mountains of Moreno Valley, is underlain by **Cretaceous-age granitic bedrock** associated with the **Peninsular Ranges Batholith**. These intrusive igneous rocks, including tonalite and granodiorite, formed during the Mesozoic Era and are considered **non-fossiliferous** due to their high crystallization temperatures and lack of sedimentary depositional environments (Morton and Matti 1993; Jennings et al. 2010). As such, the **bedrock geology of the site is assigned a low paleontological sensitivity**.

However, **Quaternary surficial deposits** may also be present, particularly within drainages or alluvial fans near the base of the mountains. These include **older alluvial terrace deposits**, colluvium, and slope wash sediments. When undisturbed and buried beneath surface layers, these **Pleistocene-aged deposits** may retain significant paleontological resources. Throughout the broader Inland Empire region, similar deposits have yielded vertebrate fossils including *Equus occidentalis* (extinct horse), *Camelops hesternus* (extinct camel), and *Mammuthus columbi* (Columbian mammoth) (Jefferson 1991; McLeod 2024).

3.2.2 Local Depositional Potential

Although surface geology within the project footprint is dominated by granitic exposures and colluvial slope deposits, **older Quaternary deposits may be encountered at greater subsurface depths**, particularly in flatter terrain or where historic erosional activity has led to sediment accumulation. These **Pleistocene alluvial fan or fluvial sediments**, if present, are considered to have **high paleontological sensitivity** (Society of Vertebrate Paleontology [SVP] 2010).

According to data from the **Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County**, fossil vertebrates have been recovered from Pleistocene deposits elsewhere in western Riverside County, often found **below 3–5 feet of overburden** (McLeod 2024). These findings suggest that deeper excavations—such as for utilities, drainage, or deep foundations—could intersect **fossiliferous strata**, even in areas with surficial granitic terrain.

3.2.3 Sensitivity Rating and Recommendations

Based on the **geologic and stratigraphic profile**, the site is evaluated as follows under SVP's (2010) guidelines:

Low Sensitivity: Cretaceous granitic bedrock (non-fossiliferous)

Low to Undetermined Sensitivity: Recent Holocene colluvium and disturbed surface deposits

High Sensitivity: Older Quaternary (Pleistocene) terrace or alluvial fan deposits, if present at depth

Recommendations

No paleontological monitoring is recommended for **shallow grading (0–3 feet)** in colluvial/granitic terrain.

If **excavation exceeds 3–5 feet** in depth, particularly into undisturbed sediments, **retention of a qualified paleontologist** is recommended to develop and implement a **Paleontological Resource Monitoring and Recovery Plan (PRMRP)**.

In the event of an **inadvertent discovery of fossils**, construction should cease in the immediate vicinity, and a paleontologist should evaluate and salvage any scientifically significant materials in accordance with SVP (2010) and CEQA Guidelines Appendix G.

3.3 Environmental Setting

The project area at 21150 & **21160 Box Springs Road**, located on the eastern slope of the Box Springs Mountains in western Riverside County, lies within the **California Floristic Province**—a recognized biodiversity hotspot due to its high species richness and endemism (Myers et al. 2000). The region is ecologically diverse, supporting a mosaic of native plant communities, wildlife habitats, and functioning as a regional habitat linkage between the San Bernardino Mountains and the Temescal and Peninsular Ranges (CDFW 2024).

3.3.1 Vegetation and Plant Communities

The property and surrounding foothills are dominated by **Riversidean sage scrub**, with patches of **southern mixed chaparral** and **non-native grassland** in disturbed areas. These communities are characteristic of the **semi-arid Mediterranean climate zone** of inland Southern California and are adapted to seasonal drought, periodic fire, and poor nutrient soils (Hanes 1977; Sawyer et al. 2009).

Riversidean Sage Scrub
This is the dominant native plant community within the project area and is a subtype of coastal sage scrub adapted to **hot, dry inland environments**. It typically occurs on **rocky slopes and alluvial fans** and supports many drought-deciduous shrubs (Hanes 1977).

Key species include:
Artemisia californica (California sagebrush)
Salvia apiana (white sage)
Eriogonum fasciculatum (California buckwheat)
Encelia farinosa (brittlebush)
Riversidean sage scrub is considered **sensitive** by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW 2024) and is a declining habitat type due to urbanization.

Southern Mixed Chaparral
Occurring at **higher elevations and steeper slopes**, this plant community consists of **evergreen sclerophyllous shrubs** such as *Adenostoma fasciculatum* (chamise), *Ceanothus crassifolius* (hoaryleaf ceanothus), and *Quercus berberidifolia* (scrub oak). These species are fire-adapted and often regenerate through seedbanks or basal resprouting after wildfire events (Keeley 2005).

Disturbed Grassland and Ruderal Vegetation
In areas previously impacted by human activity (e.g., roadsides, utility easements), vegetation is dominated by **non-native annual grasses** and weeds. These include *Bromus diandrus* (ripgut brome), *Brassica nigra* (black mustard), and *Avena fatua* (wild oats), which can **outcompete native vegetation and increase fire frequency** (Keeley 2005).

3.3.2 Wildlife and Habitat Resources

The Box Springs Mountains support a variety of **native wildlife**, facilitated by the area's varied topography, vegetation types, and relative continuity with nearby **conservation lands**. Wildlife commonly found in this region includes:

Mammals: Mule Deer (*Odocoileus hemionus), bobcat* (*Lynx rufus)*, gray fox (*Urocyon cinereoargenteus)*, and woodrat (*Neotoma spp.)*.

Birds: Golden eagle (*Aquila chrysaetos)*, red-tailed hawk (*Buteo jamaicensis*), Anna's hummingbird (*Calypte anna)*, and migratory passerines. The **California gnatcatcher (*Polioptila californica californica*)**, a federally threatened species, has been documented in sage scrub habitats within the greater region, although not specifically within the project parcel (USFWS 2023).

Reptiles: Western fence lizard (*Sceloporus occidentalis)*, southern Pacific rattlesnake (*Crotalus oreganus helleri)*.

Amphibians: Western toad (*Anaxyrus boreas)* in moist microhabitats.

3.3.3 Wildlife Movement and Habitat Corridors

The Box Springs Mountains form part of a **critical habitat linkage** within the western Riverside County wildlife corridor network. The region serves as a **movement corridor for large mammals**, including coyotes and bobcats, allowing connectivity between the **Santa Ana Mountains**, **San Jacinto foothills**, and **San Bernardino Mountains** (Riverside County 2015).

The site itself, located on the lower eastern slopes, may act as a **local dispersal route** or as foraging habitat, especially if it is undeveloped or only lightly disturbed. **Habitat fragmentation** caused by roads, fencing, or development could impede such movement and reduce genetic flow across the landscape.

3.3.4 Climate

The climate in the Moreno Valley and Box Springs Mountains region is classified as **hot-summer Mediterranean (Csa)**, characterized by **hot, dry summers** and **mild, wetter winters**. Average annual precipitation is approximately **10–14 inches**, falling mainly between **November and March**, with summer months often experiencing extended drought conditions (WRCC 2024).

Temperature extremes range from average **highs of 94–100°F in July and August** to **lows of 40–45°F in December and January**. These climatic conditions heavily influence vegetation phenology, fire risk, and water availability for wildlife.

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4. Cultural Setting

Paleoindian Period in the Moreno Valley Region (ca. 12,000–10,000 B.P.)

The Paleoindian period marks the earliest widespread evidence of human occupation in California and is generally dated to between 12,000 and 10,000 years before present (B.P.). This period coincides with the terminal Pleistocene and is characterized by significant environmental change, including glacial retreat, megafaunal extinctions, and the gradual emergence of Holocene ecosystems. In inland southern California, including the Moreno Valley area, the archaeological visibility of Paleoindian groups is low, yet regionally consistent patterns support their inferred presence.

Paleoindian populations are commonly associated with the Clovis technological tradition, particularly the manufacture of fluted projectile points. These artifacts, found in various parts of southern California – including the Mojave Desert and Tulare Lake region – suggest a shared lithic technology and hunting strategy centered on the exploitation of now-extinct megafauna such as mammoth, camel, and bison (Moratto 1984:82–83; Erlandson et al. 1999). Clovis-style fluted points have been recovered from several isolated inland contexts, typically near relict lake margins or ancient alluvial fans, reinforcing the model of high residential mobility and strategic use of hydrologically stable zones.

In the broader Great Basin and southwestern deserts, the so-called Western Pluvial Lakes Tradition (Bedwell 1973; Davis et al. 2012) provides a useful analog. This tradition describes a subsistence system based on generalized foraging, with hunting of medium and large game complemented by opportunistic plant gathering, a pattern likely applicable to inland California populations of the time. While direct evidence in the Moreno Valley itself remains elusive, the regional environmental context – an interface between the Perris Block, foothill catchments, and interior drainages – would have provided a mosaic of ecological niches suitable for early foraging and intercept hunting.

Lithic toolkits from this period elsewhere in the region include bifacial knives, stemmed projectile points, large percussion-flaked scrapers, and gravers, with a notable absence of milling equipment, indicating a subsistence focus that preceded the intensive plant processing of later periods (Wallace 1955; Warren and Crabtree 1986). These materials are typically found in surface scatters or eroding contexts, though deeply buried sites are increasingly being recognized through geoarchaeological testing, especially in late Pleistocene alluvial formations. Geological and soil profiles in Moreno Valley, dominated by weathered granite-derived sands and coarse alluvium, may have protected Paleoindian-aged deposits in buried contexts, as they have in nearby areas such as Diamond and Perris Valleys (Goldberg 2001; O'Connell et al. 1974). This raises the possibility that intact early sites remain undiscovered beneath Holocene sediments.

In sum, while direct Paleoindian sites are not yet documented within Moreno Valley proper, the presence of diagnostic materials in adjacent subregions and the suitability of the local environment strongly support the inclusion of the area within early human land-use systems. Paleoindian groups in the region likely practiced a highly mobile settlement strategy, tracking water sources and large game across an open landscape undergoing profound ecological transformation.

Archaic Period (ca. 9,000–1,300 B.P.)

The Archaic Period marks a significant shift in prehistoric lifeways across inland southern California, as populations adapted to the stabilization of Holocene environments following the extinction of megafauna. In contrast to the highly mobile Paleoindian foragers of the late Pleistocene, Archaic groups in the Moreno Valley region likely adopted a more sedentary or seasonally residential pattern of settlement, centered on diverse foraging strategies.

Archaeologically, this period is defined by the emergence of groundstone tool technologies – including manos and basin metates – used for processing wild seeds and geophytes, particularly in the absence of widespread agriculture. Projectile points from this period tend to be stemmed or notched forms such as Pinto, Gypsum, and Elko series, reflecting changes in hunting tools compatible with the introduction of the atlatl and dart (Wallace 1955; Warren 1968; Heizer 1978).

Environmental reconstructions suggest that inland valleys such as Moreno Valley, situated at the transitional edge of coastal and desert ecozones, offered a favorable patchwork of resources: grasslands and riparian woodlands for seed harvesting, as well as upland zones for game procurement. Middle Holocene deposits from nearby regions, such as Lake Elsinore and Perris Valley, reveal site features including hearths, light midden scatters, and artifact caches – indicative of longer-term use of particular locales, though not yet fully sedentary occupation (O'Connell et al. 1974; Grenda 1997). The local lithic record is dominated by expedient flake tools and shaped core technologies, with an emphasis on local stone types, suggesting that mobility remained high, but perhaps within more restricted seasonal rounds. Shell beads, while not abundant, begin to appear in some Middle and Late Archaic contexts, hinting at the early formation of low-intensity trade networks with coastal groups (Koerper and Drover 1983).

Social complexity during the Archaic period appears limited, although some evidence of emerging ritual and territorial behaviors exists in later millennia. Burials from this era, when preserved, often involve flexed inhumations and simple grave goods. In coastal southern California, these are typically associated with the Encinitas Tradition; the Pauma Complex represents a likely inland correlate, applied to sites found in areas such as western Riverside and San Diego counties (True 1980). While the Moreno Valley region has yielded few deeply stratified Archaic sites, the geomorphic potential for preservation remains strong, especially in low-lying alluvial basins and near ancient drainages. Cumulatively, the Archaic period reflects increasing regional differentiation in lifeways, driven by the diversification of ecological niches, shifts in climate, and the gradual establishment of enduring cultural patterns that would later define Late Prehistoric societies.

Late Prehistoric Period (ca. 1,300–150 B.P.)

The Late Prehistoric Period in inland southern California, generally beginning around 1,300 years before present (B.P.), reflects profound shifts in technological systems, social organization, and regional interaction. One of the most salient markers of this period is the widespread adoption of the bow and arrow, as evidenced by the appearance of small, finely manufactured projectile points such as Desert Side-notched and Cottonwood Triangular forms (Sutton 2010; Justice 2002). These new point types replaced the atlatl and dart technologies of earlier periods and likely reflect more efficient hunting techniques focused on small to medium game. The introduction of paddle-and-anvil pottery – typically plain brown wares – also characterizes this period, suggesting new food preparation and storage strategies and possibly a more sedentary lifestyle (Moratto 1984; Koerper and Drover 1983).

In the Moreno Valley region, these developments coincide with increasing reliance on acorn processing, as evidenced by the proliferation of bedrock mortars and portable milling equipment in upland zones. Ethnographic records and archaeological data suggest the emergence of highly organized seasonal rounds, in which groups from permanent or semi-permanent base villages traveled to oak groves in fall and to inland marshes, grasslands, and higher elevations in other seasons for fishing, seed collecting, and hunting (Bean and Shipek 1978; McCarthy 1986). Sites from this period in western Riverside County tend to show

increased residential stability, larger middens, and more intensive use of local lithic resources. Moreover, cremation becomes a more common burial practice in some areas, especially among Takic-speaking populations such as the Cahuilla and Luiseño, signaling potential shifts in ritual and social frameworks (Meighan 1954; Sutton and Gardner 2010).

Another hallmark of the Late Prehistoric in this region is growing social and economic complexity. Long-distance trade intensified, especially with coastal and desert groups, as demonstrated by the appearance of exotic materials such as shell beads from the Pacific and obsidian from sources in the Coso Range and the Salton Trough. The widespread use of Olivella shell beads, particularly Type G and L forms, serves as both chronological markers and indicators of participation in broader exchange systems (Arnold and Walsh 2010; Koerper et al. 2002). The culmination of the Late Prehistoric period overlaps with the Protohistoric interval, during which indigenous communities in the region began to experience indirect influences from Spanish colonial activities, long before direct missionization. These influences likely included disruptions to trade routes, shifts in settlement patterning, and early epidemics. By the late 1700s, the introduction of the mission system would transform native political and ceremonial life across southern California.

Protohistoric Period (ca. A.D. 1800–1900)

The Protohistoric Period in inland southern California refers to the time of indirect or early contact between Indigenous communities and Euro-American systems, particularly the Spanish colonial regime, before full missionization and settlement took hold in the interior. This period begins roughly in the late 18th to early 19th century (ca. A.D. 1800) and is marked by accelerating cultural changes among Native Californian groups, including the Cahuilla, Luiseño, Serrano, and Gabrielino/Tongva. While the Moreno Valley area was not directly missionized, its communities fell within the spheres of influence of Mission San Luis Rey and Mission San Gabriel Arcángel. These institutions, and the settler economies they enabled, began to disrupt longstanding trade routes, seasonal migration corridors, and intertribal alliances (Bean and Shipek 1978; McCawley 1996).

During this time, the introduction of Old World domesticates, metal tools, and new social structures gradually influenced native lifeways, even in areas not immediately adjacent to Spanish outposts. The construction of overland trails, the expansion of Spanish ranchos, and the increasing use of Indigenous labor in mission-related economies brought new pressures to bear on traditional settlement and subsistence systems. In some areas, Native Californians withdrew further inland or into mountainous terrain to avoid conscription or exposure to introduced diseases. In others, Native groups adapted by integrating foreign materials into existing cultural frameworks. For example, iron and glass objects have been found in late archaeological contexts, often reworked into traditional tool forms or included as grave goods (Lightfoot and Parrish 2009; Meighan 1954). This demonstrates a complex process of syncretism, not simple cultural replacement.

Inland valley communities such as those in the Moreno Valley region likely maintained some degree of autonomy during the early 1800s. However, the pressures of the Spanish-Mexican land grant system and mission expansion steadily eroded traditional governance and land tenure systems. By the mid-1800s, the influx of Euro-American settlers following Mexican secularization (1833–1834) and the eventual annexation of California by the United States (1848) had irrevocably altered the cultural and physical landscape. However, oral traditions and ethnographic accounts gathered in the late 19th and early 20th centuries indicate continuity in ceremonial practices, language use, and territorial identity among surviving Cahuilla and Luiseño communities, many of whom maintained spiritual and genealogical ties to pre-contact village sites now obscured by urban development (Strong 1929; Kroeber 1925). These continuities form a critical link between the archaeological record and present-day tribal nations.

Land Use Through Time in the Moreno Valley Region

Land use in the Moreno Valley area evolved in direct response to ecological opportunity, shifting climatic regimes, and sociopolitical developments over more than 12,000 years. During the Paleoindian and Archaic periods, Indigenous populations employed highly mobile or semi-sedentary subsistence strategies, selecting locations near springs, ephemeral drainages, and ecotonal zones that offered access to diverse plant and animal resources. Early occupation was likely ephemeral and focused on hunting and broad-spectrum foraging, with little investment in permanent structures. Over time, as populations increased and plant processing technologies expanded, Late Prehistoric communities developed more structured seasonal rounds. These included fall acorn-harvesting trips to the foothills, exploitation of riparian habitats for small game and basketry materials, and seed gathering across the valley floor. Archaeological evidence, such as groundstone tools, bedrock milling features, and shell bead exchange items, suggests increasingly patterned land use linked to extended family groups and lineages maintaining rights over key resource patches (Bean and Shipek 1978; True 1980; Moratto 1984).

The Protohistoric and Historic periods witnessed substantial disruption and transformation of Indigenous land use, first through Spanish mission expansion and then through Mexican and American colonization. The early 19th century saw the establishment of ranchos and the appropriation of Indigenous lands for cattle grazing and agricultural development, often repurposing former village sites and resource zones. With the creation of Mission San Luis Rey and later Mission San Gabriel, traditional settlement patterns collapsed, and surviving Native populations were drawn into the mission system or displaced to marginal zones. Following secularization and the advent of U.S. governance in the mid-19th century, land use intensified under new regimes of property ownership and extractive agriculture. Cattle ranching, grain farming, and infrastructure development replaced Indigenous foraging and ceremonial landscapes. Nevertheless, ethnographic records and contemporary tribal knowledge preserve memory of traditional gathering areas, trail networks, and ceremonial locales, highlighting a long continuum of land-based knowledge and ancestral presence across the valley (Strong 1929; Kroeber 1925; Lightfoot and Parrish 2009).

Known Cultural Resources and Tribal Areas of Concern in the Vicinity

Although no cultural resources were identified within the boundaries of the current project area, a substantial number of previously recorded archaeological sites are located within a one-mile radius, indicating long-term and varied use of the surrounding landscape by Indigenous populations. The South-Central Information Center (SCIC) records list over 40 documented cultural resources in the immediate vicinity. Many of these resources are classified as prehistoric and include lithic scatters, groundstone features, and sites associated with milling and food processing activities. Notably, resources such as CA-RIV-1203, -1206, and -2436 are among the earliest documented, and consistently reflect Indigenous habitation or use areas in the alluvial plains and foothills of the region. Several sites recorded as part of the MV-series (e.g., MV-19 through MV-24, MV-116 through MV-121) were documented during intensive survey efforts by the Archaeological Research Unit at UC Riverside in the late 1980s, demonstrating a concentration of culturally sensitive locations within the Moreno Valley area.

In addition to prehistoric sites, multiple historic-period resources have also been identified, including features associated with early 20th-century ranching, railroad infrastructure, and agricultural development. Resources such as CA-RIV-817, -4182, and -8245 include both structural remnants and artifact scatters linked to Euro-American settlement and land conversion. Of particular note are the Soboba and Pechanga Sycamore Hills Traditional Cultural Properties (CA-RIV-13300 and CA-RIV-13301), recorded in 2021, which underscore the enduring significance of the region to local tribal communities. These cultural landscapes are associated with the broader ethnogeographic territory of the Luiseño and Cahuilla peoples and may encompass ceremonial, gathering, or habitation areas with deep cultural ties. Given the regional density of archaeological resources and the acknowledged tribal presence, the area remains highly sensitive for both buried and undocumented cultural resources. While no tribal cultural resources (TCRs) were directly identified within the project area, consultation with tribes traditionally affiliated with the region remains an essential component of responsible cultural resource management under CEQA and Assembly Bill 52.

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5. Records Search

- CHRIS/SCIC records search was conducted by Jamie Lennox of the Southern California Information Center for the City of Moreno Project. This search was conducted utilizing a 1-mile radius surrounding the project APE. No previously recorded Archaeological resources are located within the direct project APE. The following summaries are all located within a 1-mile radius of the city of Moreno project.
- **33-012118**: Site CA-RIV-6943/H consolidates 19 archaeological features, many of which were previously recorded individually. The prehistoric components include bedrock milling features spread across numerous boulders with slicks of various sizes, reflecting intensive food processing activity. The historic-era features consist of a house foundation, shed, rock retaining walls, trash scatters, and remnants of an old road—all

likely associated with the late 19th-century Webbe homestead. Together, these features represent long-term occupation and multiphase land use within the Box Springs Canyon area.

- **33-015937**: This multi-component site includes eight bedrock milling features with 14 grinding slicks and two manos. The historic component includes structural features such as a rock-lined cellar, foundations, a cistern, and a dirt road. Artifacts include ceramic sherds, glass, and an ink bottle. A prehistoric metate used in construction reflects a transition between cultural periods, indicating long-term use and adaptive reuse across generations.
- **33-016715**: A single grinding slick was identified on a large boulder during survey. While lightly used and likely the result of a brief occupation, its form and setting align with patterns of transient foraging behavior. The site is not considered eligible for listing due to limited data potential.
- **33-004181**: Four polished slicks are situated on a granite boulder within a decomposed granite alluvial fan. With proximity to intermittent drainages and native vegetation, this site demonstrates consistent spatial patterning of milling features on low-slope landforms. No artifacts or other features were observed, but integrity was rated as good.
- **33-015938**: Two boulders with three milling slicks were identified adjacent to the Box Springs Mountains. Their size, wear, and location near springs suggest regular seasonal use by overlapping cultural groups including the Serrano, Luiseño, and Gabrielino. Further investigation would be required to determine historical significance.
- **33-013608**: Three 19th-century coins—a Mexican peso (1844), Swedish 2 Öre (1872), and Canadian penny (1882)—were found on a ridgeline. Their distribution suggests limited historical use, possibly by travelers or settlers. No additional artifacts or features were recorded, but the site may reflect international movement or early settlement activity.
- **33-004195**: This site contains four slicks on separate granite boulders within an eroded creekside area. Slicks are partially worn due to decomposing granite. Despite limited data, the site exemplifies the distribution of milling features in Box Springs Canyon and contributes to our understanding of milling practices.
- **33-004186**: This site contains a single metate on a granite boulder. The feature is deeply worn and unexfoliated, indicating long-term use. The boulder rests in decomposed granitic soils, and nearby vegetation and terrain suggest high potential for additional buried resources.
- **33-015743**: A recorded segment of the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railway includes rails, bolts, and couplings dated to the early 20th century. Although confined to a narrow right-of-way, the feature retains integrity and offers insight into the historical development of transportation infrastructure in Romoland.
- **33-004182**: The remains of a historic homestead were found on an alluvial fan at the base of Box Springs Mountains. Dry-laid rock walls, a foundation, and access roads define a 650-foot compound. Although no artifacts were noted, the structural layout suggests domestic use in the late 19th or early 20th century.

- **33-028018**: Historic insulators, possibly associated with early 20th-century telecommunication along the Santa Fe Railroad.
- **33-015967**: Isolated groundstone mano/pestle, indicative of prehistoric activity.
- **33-015917**: Grinding slicks on a large boulder near Box Springs Creek.
- **33-015914**: A significant concentration of 13 milling features and artifacts within Box Springs Canyon.
- **33-013608**: Historic coins (Mexican peso, Swedish öre, Canadian penny), potentially evidence of ephemeral use.
- **33-013607**: Granitic mano fragment found on an alluvial fan.
- **33-029890**: Pechanga Sycamore Hills Traditional Cultural Property (TCP), encompassing spiritual and ancestral use areas.
- **33-029889**: Soboba Sycamore Hills Traditional Cultural Landscape (TCL), culturally significant as Q'axall'pah.
- **33-028019**: Mid-century historic refuse deposit with domestic artifacts.
- **33-024845**: Box Springs Garden nursery ruins, including concrete pads and a dam.
- **33-024053**: Historic bottle and ceramic scatter recovered from a buried arroyo.
- **33-016715 (CA-RIV-8752)**: Prehistoric milling slick preserved after construction.
- **33-016714 (CA-RIV-8751)**: Two polished grinding slicks, relocated for preservation.
- **33-016713 (CA-RIV-8750)**: Two boulders with four grinding slicks.
- **33-015938 (CA-RIV-8275)**: Two boulders with three prehistoric slicks near springs.
- **33-015937 (CA-RIV-8274/H)**: Multicomponent site with both prehistoric milling and historic homestead ruins.
- **33-015743 (CA-RIV-8196H)**: Historic Santa Fe Railway segments with associated spur elements.
- **33-012118 (CA-RIV-6943/H)**: Webbe's House and 19 associated milling features; includes both prehistoric and historic materials.
- **33-004195**: Four grinding slicks near a seasonal stream.
- **33-004187**: Single grinding slick near Box Springs Mountain.
- **33-004188 (CA-RIV-4188)**: Three slicks on one boulder, now Feature 10 of CA-RIV-6943/H.
- **33-004189**: Single slick on a granite outcrop, now Feature 12 of CA-RIV-6943/H.
- **33-004182 (CA-RIV-4182H)**: Rock foundation and walls; merged as Features 1–9b in CA-RIV-6943/H.
- **33-004183 (CA-RIV-4183)**: One slick, now Feature 11 of CA-RIV-6943/H.
- **33-004184 (CA-RIV-4184)**: Mortar on a boulder, now Feature 15.
- **33-004185 (CA-RIV-4185)**: Three slicks on one boulder, now Feature 14.
- **33-004186 (CA-RIV-4186)**: Basin metate on exposed bedrock near Box Springs.
- **33-004181 (CA-RIV-4181)**: Four slicks on one boulder near an intermittent drainage.
- **33-003817**: Concrete slabs from a former AT&SF Railway siding.
- **33-003815 (CA-RIV-3815)**: Single winding slick on a boulder, updated during Caltrans I-215 widening.
- **33-003816**: Five slicks across three boulders near Box Springs Canyon.
- **33-003269 (CA-RIV-3269)**: Single grinding slick on a ridge.
- **33-003272 (CA-RIV-3272H)**: Two concrete military target bunkers with bullet scatters.

- **33-003264 (CA-RIV-3264)**: One polished slick on a granite boulder near a drainage.
- **33-003265 (CA-RIV-3265)**: Five milling slicks on a single granite outcrop.
- **33-003266 (CA-RIV-3266)**: Four slicks on two boulders; partially landscaped surroundings.
- **33-003267 (CA-RIV-3267)**: Rock shelter with midden, slicks, lithics, and burned bone; shows cultural complexity and partial disturbance.
- **33-003268 (CA-RIV-3268)**: Boulder with 10 cupules, possibly ceremonial.
- **33-003246 through 33-003245** (CA-RIV-3241 through CA-RIV-3246, MV-19 through MV-24)**: Series of isolated or grouped milling slicks on granite outcrops across foot slopes, terraces, and fields—some integrated into CA-RIV-6943/H.
- **33-002869 (Site 19835-B)**: Two grinding slicks on a granite outcrop, possibly related to nearby site 20010-A.
- **33-001206 (CA-RIV-1206)**: Single milling slick on a low boulder; partially displaced.
- **33-001203 (CA-RIV-1203)**: Two milling surfaces on one large boulder in a cultivated field.

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6. Native American Coordination

- Pax Environmental Recommends the city of Moreno contact the appropriate tribal bands representing the Luiseño and Cahuilla peoples
- A request for a Sacred Lands File (SLF) search of the project area and 1-mile buffer has been submitted to the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC).
- A response from the NAHC was received on May 13, 2025, with negative findings.
- A list of the Native American tribes to contact is provided by the NAHC who may have knowledge of the cultural resources within the project area.
- **NAHC Sacred Lands File search- Appendix C**
- **NAHC Response Letter and Native American Contact List- Appendix D**
- Communication logs with tribal representatives- When applicable

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7. Paleontology

- The Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County (NHMLA) was contacted on May 5, 2025, with a request for a paleontological records search of the project area and 1-mile buffer. The response from the NHMLA was received on May 19, 2025, indicating that no paleontological resources lie directly within the proposed project area nor the 1-mile buffer. However, the NHMLA does note fossil localities nearby that lie within the same sedimentary deposits that may occur in the proposed project area either at surface or at depth. The project area lies within Qoa and Qts

sedimentary layers and is bordered by qdi to the north based on the findings of a National Geologic Database Search (Dibblee and Minch 2003).

- The Dibblee and Minch (2003) Geological Map of the Riverside East/South of San Bernardino South Quadrangles define Qoa as older surficial sediments or alluvial fan deposits of sand. Therefore, this sedimentary layer which can be sensitive for Pleistocene fossil material and triggers paleontological monitoring.
- QTs is another sedimentary layer that may be fossil bearing and sensitive to late Cenozoic fossil material.
- Finally, qdi is described as a complex of medium grained holocrystalline plutonic rocks which are not known to be fossil bearing.
- A list of nearby fossil localities is provided in Appendix F of this report.

- **NHMLA request- Appendix E**
- **NHMLA Response- Appendix F**

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8. Field Survey

The surveyed parcel consisted of an undeveloped lot situated within the City of Moreno Valley. The lot featured mild topographical variation, with slopes ranging from 0 to 5 degrees. Vegetative cover was moderate, primarily comprising native and non-native species such as fiddleneck (Amsinckia spp.), wild mustard (Brassica spp.), and common lantana (Lantana camara). Mature trees observed within the area included Peruvian pepper (Schinus molle), eucalyptus (Eucalyptus spp.), Mexican fan palm (Washingtonia robusta), Mexican palo verde (Parkinsonia aculeata), and various ash trees (Fraxinus spp.).
The property displayed clear evidence of prior disturbance, particularly mechanical tilling activities, indicated by symmetrical tilling marks visible across the parcel.

Survey Methods

A systematic pedestrian survey was conducted utilizing transects spaced at 5-meter intervals. The survey commenced at the southwest corner of the property, proceeding in a north-south orientation. Transects continued systematically across the lot from west to east to ensure full coverage. Soil visibility varied moderately due to vegetation but was generally sufficient for effective survey conditions.

Environmental Observations

Soil within the project area was classified using the Munsell Soil Color Chart as 10YR 6/4 (light yellowish brown). The soil matrix contained abundant micro-roots and scattered small granite

pebbles. Additionally, several piles of large granite boulders were observed, likely displaced during past grading or construction-related activities.

Findings

No prehistoric or historic cultural resources were identified during the course of the survey. However, a heavily rusted and weathered metal pipe was observed near the center of the parcel (Coordinates: 33.94737, -117.29362). The pipe measured approximately 8 5/16 inches in diameter, 3/16 inches in wall thickness, and protruded 9 7/16 inches above the ground surface. The artifact exhibited significant corrosion, weathering, and mechanical damage (visible cut marks near the top).
Upon evaluation, the metal pipe does not meet the criteria for historic significance. The pipe appears to be a remnant of relatively recent activities, likely associated with prior land use or construction disturbance in the area. It lacks diagnostic features or contextual associations that would suggest historical value under CEQA, NHPA, or other regulatory frameworks.

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9. Results

Analysis of Resource Integrity and Significance

The pedestrian survey of the 9.33-acre parcel in Moreno Valley yielded a negative result for cultural resources. No archaeological features, artifacts, or midden soil indicative of prehistoric or historic occupation were observed during systematic transect coverage at 5-meter intervals. A single metal pipe was identified near the center of the parcel (33.94737, -117.29362), measuring 8 5/16 inches in diameter and rising 9 7/16 inches above ground surface. While the pipe exhibited surface weathering and rust consistent with long-term exposure, it lacked diagnostic characteristics, such as manufacturer's marks, fittings, or construction context, that would suggest historic significance under CEQA or NRHP criteria. Based on its condition, dimensions, and lack of associated features or stratigraphy, the pipe is interpreted as a remnant of relatively modern infrastructure, possibly related to post-1970s land development or agricultural irrigation. It is not considered a historical resource.

Evaluation of Site Potential for Further Investigation

Despite the negative findings, the broader landscape exhibits moderate-to-high archaeological sensitivity based on proximity to previously recorded sites within one mile. From an environmental context, the valley-bottom parcel has gently sloping terrain, granitic soil matrix, and former drainage influence. Notably, the presence of granitic boulders and mature non-native trees, such as Peruvian pepper (*Schinus molle*) and eucalyptus (*Eucalyptus sp.*) suggests previous land modifications, including mechanical grading and tilling, which could have obscured or displaced subsurface materials. The potential for buried intact deposits cannot be fully discounted. Given this uncertainty, especially in a region with a dense distribution of

prehistoric resources and traditional tribal use areas, the parcel retains low-to-moderate potential for encountering archaeological materials during future ground disturbance.

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10. Management Recommendations

The following recommendations are made in accordance with the findings of the pedestrian survey conducted at the project area, and take into account regional archaeological sensitivity, previous land use disturbance, and the broader ethno-geographic setting. While no cultural resources were identified within the project area, best practices in cultural resource management call for a precautionary approach given the potential for buried materials.

- No cultural resources meeting the criteria for historical or archaeological significance were identified during the Phase I pedestrian survey.
- A Phase II evaluation is not recommended at this time because no discrete archaeological resources were found that would require subsurface testing or formal site boundary delineation.
- Due to the regional sensitivity and geomorphic potential for buried deposits in Moreno Valley, archaeological monitoring is recommended during ground-disturbing activities, particularly during mass grading, trenching, or excavation below the current plow zone or mechanically disturbed layers.
- Due to the potential for fossil bearing layers on/near the project, it is recommended that paleontological monitoring occur during ground disturbing activities.
- Although no tribal cultural resources (TCRs) were observed, the project lies within the traditional territory of the Luiseño and Cahuilla peoples. Given this ethno-geographic context, tribal monitoring by a representative of an affiliated tribal nation (e.g., Pechanga, Soboba, or Morongo) is strongly recommended during initial ground disturbance, in coordination with the archaeological monitor.

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11. Conclusion

A Phase I cultural resources survey was conducted for the proposed project area, encompassing systematic pedestrian coverage and review of the existing environmental and cultural context. The results of the survey were negative: no prehistoric or historic-era cultural materials, features, or structures were identified within the APE.

The proposed project area has also been expanded to include a large DWR easement on the northeast corner of the property. No construction is proposed for this area; however, the area is still included to reflect these changes and boundaries updated. The current project area, which is as seen on Riverside East Quadrangle USGS map, includes the proposed boundary expansion plus a 1-mile buffer zone. This USGS map was used as part of the paleontological and

cultural records search request and should therefore include all resources within the expanded boundary.

Although no cultural resources are presently known within the project footprint, the APE lies within a region of demonstrated archaeological sensitivity, with multiple previously recorded prehistoric use areas, including isolated bedrock milling features and lithic scatters, documented in the immediate vicinity.

Given these regional patterns and in recognition of the potential for subsurface or obscured archaeological deposits, it is recommended that a qualified archaeological monitor with training be present during ground-disturbing activities, particularly during initial grubbing, trenching, and excavation into native soil horizons. This approach provides an appropriate level of protection for potentially buried cultural materials and is consistent with CEQA guidance and best practices for cultural resource management in inland Southern California.

- If previously unidentified cultural resources are encountered during ground-disturbing activities, all work within a 100-foot radius of the discovery shall be halted immediately. A qualified archaeologist shall be notified to assess the significance of the find and develop appropriate treatment measures in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines §15064.5.
- If human remains are discovered during any phase of construction, work must be stopped in the vicinity of the discovery and the County Coroner shall be notified immediately, pursuant to California Health and Safety Code §7050.5. If the remains are determined to be of Native American origin, the Coroner will notify the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC), as required by California Public Resources Code §5097.98. The NAHC will identify the Most Likely Descendant (MLD), who will work with the project archaeologist and the project proponent to determine a respectful and appropriate means of treatment and disposition of the remains.
- Work may not resume within the designated halt area until the appropriate treatment has been completed, and authorization has been granted by the lead agency in consultation with the archaeologist and, if applicable, the MLD.

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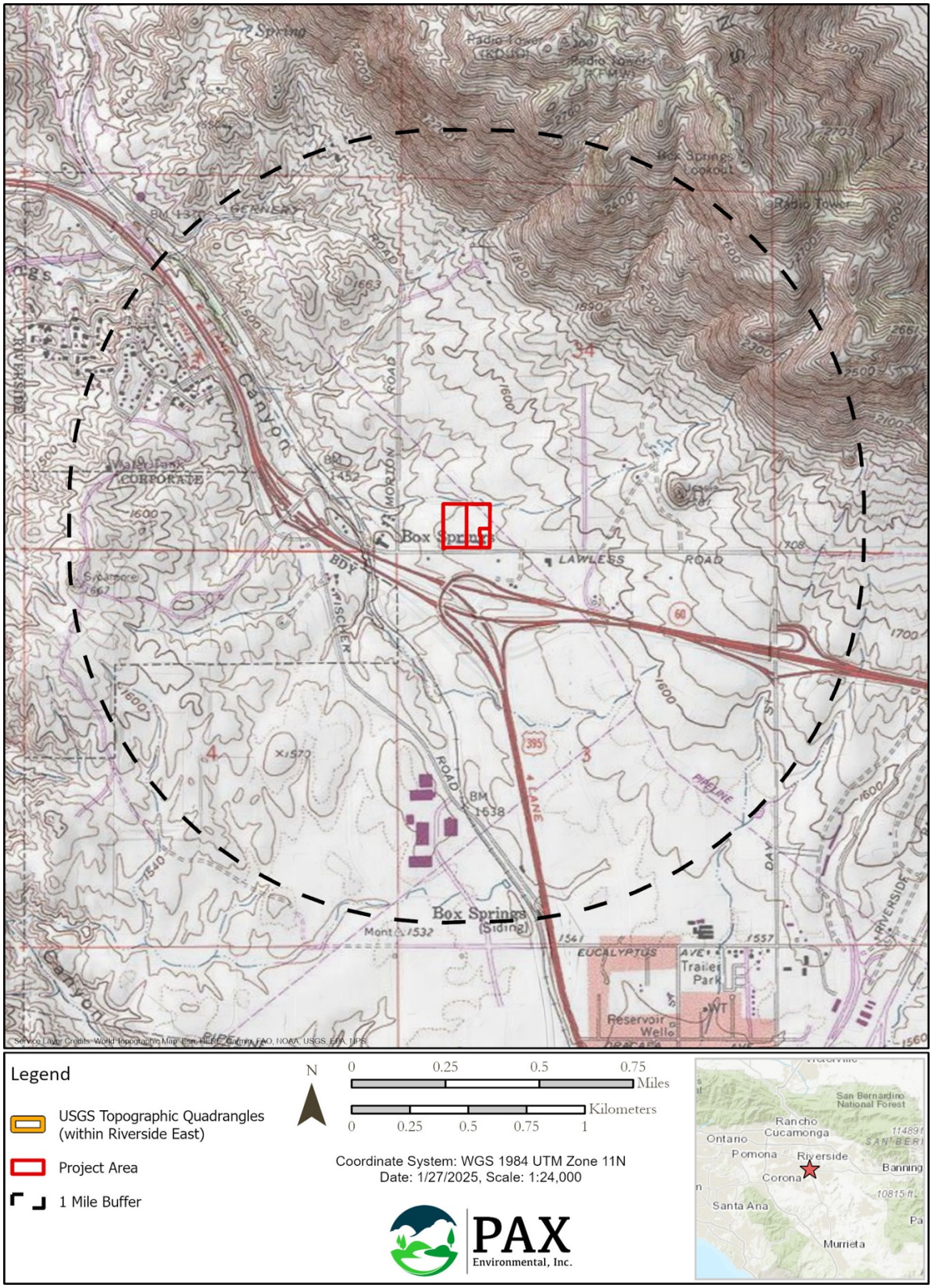
APPENDIX A


Box Springs
LAWLEES ROAD
Box Springs (Siding)
Reservoir
Trailer Park
EUCALYPTUS
Legend
USGS Topographic Quadrangles (within Riverside East)
Project Area
1 Mile Buffer
N
0 0.25 0.5 0.75 Miles
0 0.25 0.5 0.75 1 Kilometers
Coordinate System: WGS 1984 UTM Zone 11N
Date: 1/27/2025, Scale: 1:24,000
PAX Environmental, Inc.
San Bernardino National Forest
Rancho Cucamonga
Ontario
Pomona
Riverside
Corona
Banning
Santa Ana
Murrieta

APPENDIX B

PROJECT PHOTOGRAPHS

Photo 1. North-facing view of the survey area from the Southwest corner

Photo 2. South-facing view of the survey area from the middle section of the western extent of the survey area

Photo 3. East-facing view of the survey area from the middle section of the western extent of the survey area

Photo 4. North-facing view of the survey area from the middle section of the western extent of the survey area

Photo 5. South-facing view of the survey area from the Northwestern corner

Photo 6. East-facing view of the survey area from the Northwestern corner

Photo 7. West-facing view of the Northwestern corner of the survey area

Photo 8. South-facing view of the survey area from the northern extent

Photo 9. West-facing view of the survey area nearest to the road

Photo 10. North-facing view of the survey area nearest to the existing building

Photo 11. Northwest-facing view of trees within the survey area near the existing building

Photo 12. North-facing view of the survey area from the western half of the lot

Photo 13. East-facing view of the survey area from the western half of the lot

Photo 14. Plan view photo of soil from the western extent of the survey area

Photo 15. Detailed view of soil from the western extent of the survey area

Photo 16. North-facing view of the survey area from the western half of the lot

Photo 17. South-facing view of the survey area from the western half of the lot

Photo 18. North-facing view of the survey area from the western half of the lot

Photo 19. East-facing view of the survey area from the western half of the lot

Photo 20. South-facing view of the survey area from the northern extent of the western half of the lot

Photo 21. West-facing view of the survey area from the northern extent of the western half of the lot

Photo 22. South-facing view of the survey area from the northern extent of the center of the lot

Photo 23. East-facing view of the survey area from the northern extent of the center of the lot

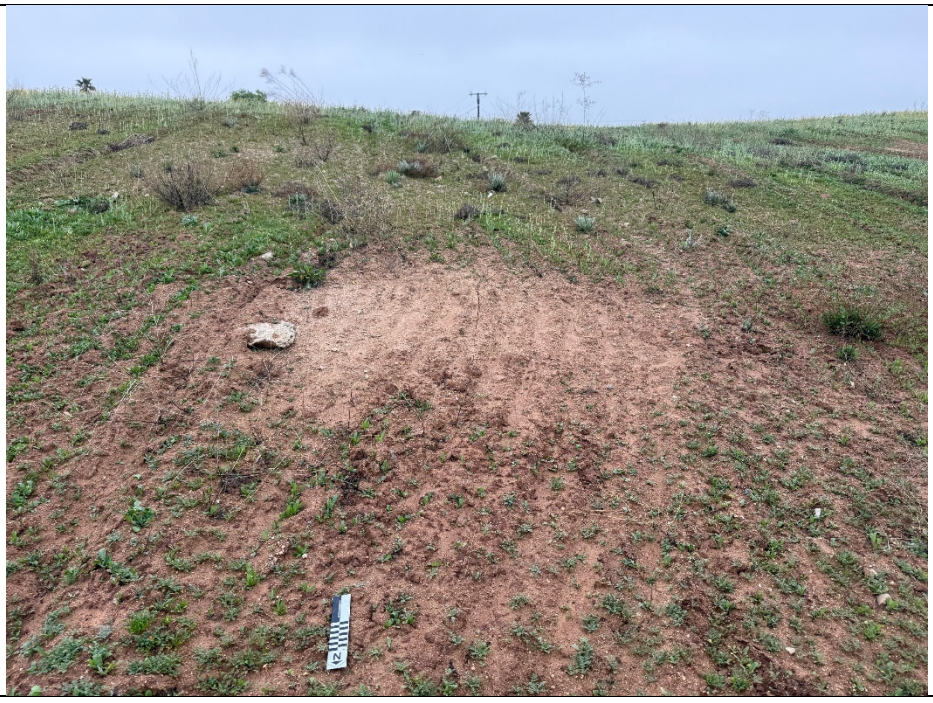


Photo 24. A plan view example photo of soil from the survey area

Photo 25. North-facing view of the survey area from the center of the lot

Photo 26. South-facing view of the survey area from the center of the lot

Photo 27. North-facing view of the survey area from the center of the lot

Photo 28. Detailed view of the metal pipe observed within the survey area

Photo 29. Side profile view of the metal pipe observed within the survey area

Photo 30. Side profile view of the soil cut observed within the survey area

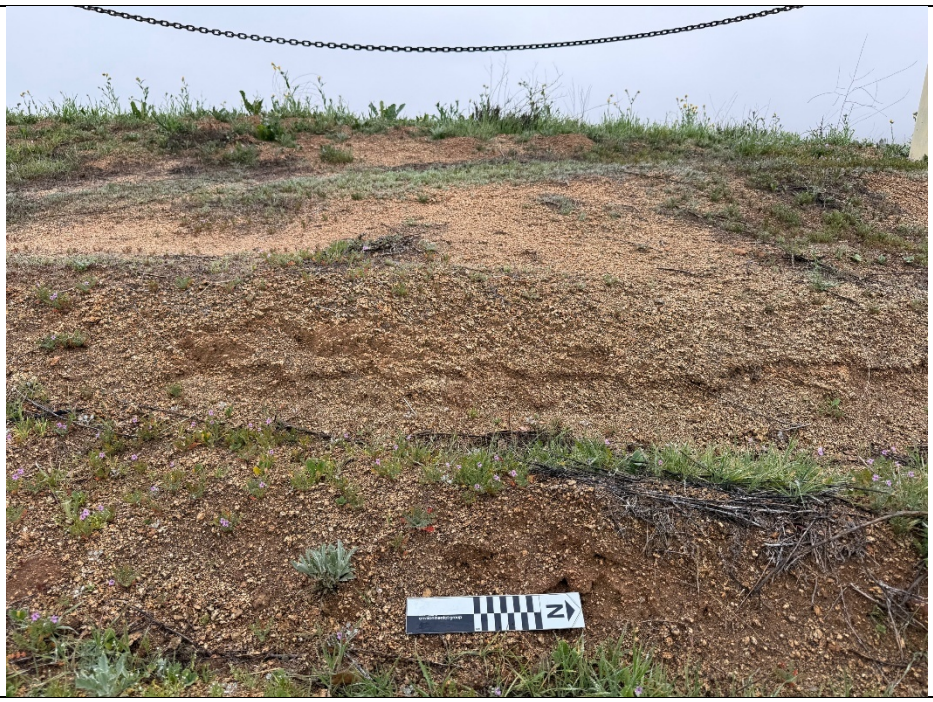


Photo 31. North-facing detail view of soil cut observed within the survey area

Photo 32. North-facing detail view of soil cut observed within the survey area

Photo 33. East-facing detail view of soil cut observed within the survey area

Photo 34. South-facing view of the survey area from the eastern half of the lot

Photo 35. West-facing view of the survey area from the eastern half of the lot

Photo 36. East-facing view of the survey area from the eastern half of the lot

Photo 37. East-facing view of the survey area behind the existing building

Photo 38. West-facing view of the survey area behind the existing building

Photo 39. North-facing view of the survey area behind the existing building

Photo 40. East-facing view of the southeast corner of the survey area

Photo 41. North-facing view of the eastern extent of the survey area

Photo 42. South-facing view of the eastern extent of the survey area

Photo 43. West-facing view from the eastern extent of the survey area

Photo 44. Detailed side view of a metal pipe

Photo 45. Detailed plain view of the metal pipe

Photo 46. Detailed side view of a metal pipe

Photo 47. North-facing view of the metal pipe

Photo 48. West-facing view of the metal pipe

Photo 49. South-facing view of the metal pipe

Photo 50. East-facing view of the metal pipe

APPENDIX C

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: Moreno Valley Farm Bureau Project (TTM 38955)

County: Riverside

USGS Quadrangle Name: Riverside East

Township: 2S **Range:** 4W **Section(s):** 34

Company/Firm/Agency: Pax Enviornmental

Street Address: 530 West Ojai Ave STE 204, 206 & 207

City: Ojai **Zip:** 93023

Phone: (805) 633-9218

Fax:

Email: marcela.barron@paxenviro.com

Project Description:

The proposed development consists of the subdivision of approximately 9.33 acres into residential homes lcated at 21150&21160 Box Springs Road, Moreno Valley, Riverside County, California

APPENDIX D

CHAIRPERSON
Reginald Pagaling
Chumash

VICE-CHAIRPERSON
Buffy McQuillen
Yokayo Pomo, Yuki, Nomlaki

SECRETARY
Sara Dutschke
Miwok

PARLIAMENTARIAN
Wayne Nelson
Luiseño

COMMISSIONER
Isaac Bojorquez
Ohlone-Costanoan

COMMISSIONER
Stanley Rodriguez
Kumeyaay

COMMISSIONER
Reid Milanovich
Cahuilla

COMMISSIONER
Bennae Calac
Pauma-Yuima Band of Luiseño Indians

COMMISSIONER
Vacant

ACTING EXECUTIVE SECRETARY
Steven Quinn

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

STATE OF CALIFORNIA — **Gavin Newsom, *Governor***

NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE COMMISSION

May 13, 2025

Marcela Barron
Pax Environmental

Via Email to: marcela.barron@paxenviro.com

Re: Moreno Valley Farm Bureau Project, Riverside County

To Whom It May Concern:

As requested, a record search of the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) Sacred Lands File (SLF) was completed based on information submitted for the above referenced project. The results were negative. Please note that tribes do not always record their sacred sites in the SLF, nor are they required to do so. As such, a SLF search is not a substitute for consultation with all tribes that are traditionally and culturally affiliated with a project's geographic area.

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. If within two weeks of notification, a response has not been received, the Commission requests that you follow-up with a telephone call or email to ensure that the project information was received.

If you receive notification of a change of address or phone number from a tribe, please notify the NAHC so that we can assure that our lists contain current information.

In addition to engaging in tribal consultation, you should consult the appropriate regional California Historical Research Information System (CHRIS) archaeological Information Center to determine whether it has information regarding the presence of recorded archaeological sites within the project area.

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

Sincerely,

Andrew Green

Andrew Green
Cultural Resources Analyst

Attachment

Native American Heritage Commission
Native American Contact List
Riverside County
5/13/2025

Tribe Name	Fed (F) Non-Fed (N)	Contact Person	Contact Address	Phone #	Fax #	Email Address	Cultural Affiliation	Counties	Last Updated
Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians	F	Lacy Padilla, Director of Historic Preservation/THPO	5401 Dinah Shore Drive Palm Springs, CA, 92264	(760) 333-5222	(760) 699-6919	ACBCI-THPO@aguacaliente.net	Cahuilla	Imperial, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Diego	1/11/2024
Augustine Band of Cahuilla Indians	F	Tribal Operations,	84-001 Avenue 54 Coachella, CA, 92236	(760) 398-4722		info@augustinetribe-nsn.gov	Cahuilla	Imperial, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Diego	4/18/2024
Cabazon Band of Cahuilla Indians	F	Doug Welmas, Chairperson	84-245 Indio Springs Parkway Indio, CA, 92203	(760) 342-2593	(760) 347-7880	jstapp@cabazonindians-nsn.gov	Cahuilla	Imperial, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Diego	
Cahuilla Band of Indians	F	Anthony Madrigal, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer	52701 CA Highway 371 Anza, CA, 92539	(951) 763-5549		anthonymad2002@gmail.com	Cahuilla	Imperial, Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Diego	6/28/2023
Cahuilla Band of Indians	F	BobbyRay Esparza, Cultural Director	52701 CA Highway 371 Anza, CA, 92539	(951) 763-5549		besparza@cahuilla-nsn.gov	Cahuilla	Imperial, Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Diego	6/28/2023
Cahuilla Band of Indians	F	Erica Schenk, Chairperson	52701 CA Highway 371 Anza, CA, 92539	(951) 590-0942	(951) 763-2808	chair@cahuilla-nsn.gov	Cahuilla	Imperial, Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Diego	2/1/2024
Los Coyotes Band of Cahuilla and Cupeño Indians	F	Ray Chapparosa, Chairperson	P.O. Box 189 Warner Springs, CA, 92086-0189	(760) 782-0711	(760) 782-0712		Cahuilla Cupeno	Imperial, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Diego	

Morongo Band of Mission Indians	F	Robert Martin, Chairperson	12700 Pumarra Road Banning, CA, 92220	(951) 755-5110	(951) 755-5177	abrierty@morongo-nsn.gov	Cahuilla Serrano	Imperial, Kern, Los Angeles, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Diego	
Morongo Band of Mission Indians	F	Ann Brierty, THPO	12700 Pumarra Road Banning, CA, 92220	(951) 755-5259	(951) 572-6004	abrierty@morongo-nsn.gov	Cahuilla Serrano	Imperial, Kern, Los Angeles, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Diego	
Pala Band of Mission Indians	F	Christopher Nejo, Legal Analyst/Researcher	PMB 50, 35008 Pala Temecula Road Pala, CA, 92059	(760) 891-3564		cnejo@palatribe.com	Cupeno Luiseno	Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Diego	11/27/2023
Pala Band of Mission Indians	F	Shasta Gaughen, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer	PMB 50, 35008 Pala Temecula Road Pala, CA, 92059	(760) 891-3515		sgaughen@palatribe.com	Cupeno Luiseno	Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Diego	11/27/2023
Pala Band of Mission Indians	F	Alexis Wallick, Assistant THPO	PMB 50, 35008 Pala Temecula Road Pala, CA, 92059	(760) 891-3537		awallick@palatribe.com	CupenoLuiseno	Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Diego	11/27/2023
Pechanga Band of Indians	F	Steve Bodmer, General Counsel for Pechanga Band of Indians	P.O. Box 1477 Temecula, CA, 92593	(951) 770-6171	(951) 695-1778	sbodmer@pechanga-nsn.gov	Luiseno	Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Diego, Santa Barbara, Ventura	8/2/2023
Pechanga Band of Indians	F	Tuba Ebru Ozdil, Pechanga Cultural Analyst	P.O. Box 2183 Temecula, CA, 92593	(951) 770-6313	(951) 695-1778	eozdil@pechanga-nsn.gov	Luiseno	Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Diego, Santa Barbara, Ventura	8/2/2023
Quechan Indian Tribe of the Fort Yuma Reservation	F	Jordan Joaquin, President, Quechan Tribal Council	P.O. Box 1899 Yuma, AZ, 85366-1899	(760) 919-3600		executivesecretary@quechantribe.com	Quechan	Imperial, Kern, Los Angeles, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Diego	1/31/2025
Quechan Indian Tribe of the Fort Yuma Reservation	F	Jill McCormick, Historic Preservation Officer	P.O. Box 1899 Yuma, AZ, 85366-1899	(928) 261-0254		historicpreservation@quechantribe.com	Quechan	Imperial, Kern, Los Angeles, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Diego	1/31/2025

Ramona Band of Cahuilla	F	John Gomez, Environmental Coordinator	P. O. Box 391670 Anza, CA, 92539	(951) 763-4105	(951) 763-4325	jgomez@ramona-nsn.gov	Cahuilla	Imperial, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Diego	8/16/2016
Ramona Band of Cahuilla	F	Joseph Hamilton, Chairperson	P.O. Box 391670 Anza, CA, 92539	(951) 763-4105	(951) 763-4325	admin@ramona-nsn.gov	Cahuilla	Imperial, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Diego	
Rincon Band of Luiseno Indians	F	Laurie Gonzalez, Tribal Council/Culture Committee Member	One Government Center Lane Valley Center, CA, 92082	(760) 484-4835		lgonzalez@rincon-nsn.gov	Luiseno	Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Diego, Santa Barbara, Ventura	5/31/2023
Rincon Band of Luiseno Indians	F	Denise Turner Walsh, Attorney General	One Government Center Lane Valley Center, CA, 92082	(760) 689-5727		dwalsh@rincon-nsn.gov	Luiseno	Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Diego, Santa Barbara, Ventura	7/7/2023
Rincon Band of Luiseno Indians	F	Joseph Linton, Tribal Council/Culture Committee Member	One Government Center Lane Valley Center, CA, 92082	(760) 803-3548		jlinton@rincon-nsn.gov	Luiseno	Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Diego, Santa Barbara, Ventura	5/31/2023
Rincon Band of Luiseno Indians	F	Cheryl Madrigal, Cultural Resources Manager/Tribal Historic Preservation Officer	One Government Center Lane Valley Center, CA, 92082	(760) 648-3000		cmadrigal@rincon-nsn.gov	Luiseno	Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Diego, Santa Barbara, Ventura	5/31/2023
San Manuel Band of Mission Indians	F	Alexandra McCleary, Senior Manager of Cultural Resources Management	26569 Community Center Drive Highland, CA, 92346	(909) 633-0054		alexandra.mcclearry@sanmanuel-nsn.gov	Serrano	Kern, Los Angeles, Riverside, San Bernardino	1/16/2024
Santa Rosa Band of Cahuilla Indians	F	Steven Estrada, Tribal Chairman	P.O. Box 391820 Anza, CA, 92539	(951) 659-2700	(951) 659-2228	sestrada@santarosa-nsn.gov	Cahuilla	Imperial, Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Diego	4/8/2024

Santa Rosa Band of Cahuilla Indians	F	Vanessa Minott, Tribal Administrator	P.O. Box 391820 Anza, CA, 92539	(951) 659-2700	(951) 659-2228	vminott@santarosa-nsn.gov	Cahuilla	Imperial, Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Diego	4/8/2024
Serrano Nation of Mission Indians	N	Mark Cochrane, Co-Chairperson	P. O. Box 343 Patton, CA, 92369	(909) 578-2598		serranonation1@gmail.com	Serrano	Kern, Los Angeles, Riverside, San Bernardino	10/10/2023
Serrano Nation of Mission Indians	N	Wayne Walker, Co-Chairperson	P. O. Box 343 Patton, CA, 92369	(253) 370-0167		serranonation1@gmail.com	Serrano	Kern, Los Angeles, Riverside, San Bernardino	10/10/2023
Soboba Band of Luiseno Indians	F	Jessica Valdez, Cultural Resource Specialist	P.O. Box 487 San Jacinto, CA, 92581	(951) 663-6261	(951) 654-4198	jvaldez@soboba-nsn.gov	Cahuilla Luiseno	Imperial, Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Diego	7/14/2023
Soboba Band of Luiseno Indians	F	Joseph Ontiveros, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer	P.O. Box 487 San Jacinto, CA, 92581	(951) 663-5279	(951) 654-4198	jontiveros@soboba-nsn.gov	Cahuilla Luiseno	Imperial, Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Diego	7/14/2023
Torres-Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians	F	Mary Belardo, Cultural Committee Vice Chair	P.O. Box 1160 Thermal, CA, 92274	(760) 397-0300		belardom@gmail.com	Cahuilla	Imperial, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Diego	10/30/2023
Torres-Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians	F	Thomas Tortez, Chairperson	P.O. Box 1160 Thermal, CA, 92274	(760) 397-0300	(760) 397-8146	thomas.tortez@tmdci.org	Cahuilla	Imperial, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Diego	10/30/2023
Torres-Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians	F	Abraham Becerra, Cultural Coordinator	P.O. Box 1160 Thermal, CA, 92274	(760) 397-0300		abecerra@tmdci.org	Cahuilla	Imperial, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Diego	10/30/2023
Torres-Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians	F	Alesia Reed, Cultural Committee Chairwoman	P.O. Box 1160 Thermal, CA, 92274	(760) 397-0300		lisareed990@gmail.com	Cahuilla	Imperial, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Diego	10/30/2023
Torres-Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians	F	Gary Resvaloso, TM MLD	P.O. Box 1160 Thermal, CA, 92274	(760) 777-0365		grestmtm@gmail.com	Cahuilla	Imperial, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Diego	10/30/2023

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

This list is only applicable for contacting local Native Americans with regard to cultural resources assessment for the proposed Moreno Valley Farm Bureau Project, Riverside County.

Record: PROJ-2025-002606
Report Type: List of Tribes
Counties: Riverside
NAHC Group: All

APPENDIX E

May 5, 2025

Natural History Museum of Los Angeles
900 Exposition Blvd.
Los Angeles, CA 90007

To Whom It May Concern:

Marcela Barron on behalf of Pax Environmental is requesting a record search for a Phase One Cultural Assessment for the Moreno Valley Farm Bureau Project (TTM 38955) located in Riverside County. The project proposes to develop approximately 9.33 acres into residential homes located at 21150 & 21160 Box Springs Road, Moreno Valley.

The request includes a records search of Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County (NHMLAC) database for paleontological resources/sensitivity for the Project Area and surrounding area (within 1 mile of the Project APE) as well as a map/listing of all paleontological resources previously identified within the attached Project site and 1-mile buffer. Shape files and 1:24,000 USGS map of the project area are also included.

Locational data for the project is as follows:

United States Geological Survey 7.5' Quadrangles: Riverside East
County: Riverside

Please reach out to Marcela (marcela.barron@paxenviro.com) or the Pax team if you have any questions regarding this request.

Sincerely,
Marcela Barron

APPENDIX F

Natural History Museum
of Los Angeles County
900 Exposition Boulevard
Los Angeles, CA 90007

tel 213.763.DINO
www.nhm.org

Research & Collections

e-mail: paleorecords@nhm.org

May 18, 2025

Pax Environmental
Attn: Marcela Barron

re: Paleontological resources records search for the Moreno Valley Farm Bureau Project (TTM 38955)

Dear Marcela:

I have conducted a thorough search of our paleontology collection records for the locality and specimen data for proposed development at the Moreno Valley Farm Bureau Project area as outlined on the portion of the Riverside East USGS topographic quadrangle map that you sent to me via e-mail on May 5, 2025. We do not have any fossil localities that lie directly within the proposed project area, but we do have fossil localities nearby from the same sedimentary deposits that may occur in the proposed project area, either at the surface or at depth.

The following table shows the closest known localities in the collection of the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County (NHMLA).

Locality Number	Location	Formation	Taxa	Depth
LACM VP 4540	Vicinity of Jackrabbit Trail & Gilman Springs Road; San Jacinto Valley	Unnamed formation (Pleistocene, gravel pit)	Horse Family (Equidae)	Unknown
LACM VP 4619	Wineville Ave, Eastvale, CA	Unknown Formation (Pleistocene)	Mammoth (*Mammuthus*)	100 feet bgs
LACM VP 7811	W of Orchard Park, Chino Valley	Unknown formation (eolian, tan silt; Pleistocene)	Whip snake (*Masticophis*)	9-11 feet bgs
LACM VP 1207	Hill on east side of sewage disposal plant; 1 mile N-NW of Corona	Unknown formation (Pleistocene)	Bovidae	Unknown

VP, Vertebrate Paleontology; IP, Invertebrate Paleontology; bgs, below ground surface

This records search covers only the records of the NHMLA. It is not intended as a paleontological assessment of the project area for the purposes of CEQA or NEPA. Potentially fossil-bearing units are present in the project area, either at the surface or in the subsurface. As such, NHMLA recommends that a full paleontological assessment of the project area be conducted by a paleontologist meeting Federal (43 Code of Federal Regulations Part 49.110) or Society of Vertebrate Paleontology standards.