Cultural Resource Investigation in Support of the Coachella Airport Business Park Project, Riverside County, California

Submitted to:

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Technical Report 20-247

May 1, 2020

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CULTURAL RESOURCE INVESTIGATION IN SUPPORT OF THE COACHELLA AIRPORT BUSINESS PARK PROJECT, RIVERSIDE COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

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Technical Report No. 20-247

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May 1, 2020

Keywords: CEQA; Coachella Valley; Riverside County; Coachella Valley Stormwater Channel/Whitewater Stormwater Channel (33-017259)

CONTENTS

TABLES

MANAGEMENT SUMMARY

The proposed Coachella Airport Business Park Project (Project) would include construction of a mixed-use business park with a primary focus on warehouse/commercial cannabis, small business-, and service station-related land uses in the city of Coachella in Riverside County, California. The proposed Project would include a large warehouse sector, small warehouse sector, small business sector, brick yard, self-storage, and retail businesses comprised of a service station/mini mart and drive-thru coffee shop. PaleoWest Archaeology (PaleoWest) was contracted by The Altum Group to conduct a Phase I cultural resource assessment of the Project area in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The City of Coachella (City) is the Lead Agency for the purposes of the CEQA.

This report summarizes the methods and results of the cultural resource investigation of the Project area. This investigation included background research, communication with the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) and interested Native American tribal groups, and an intensive pedestrian survey of the Project area. The purpose of the investigation was to determine the potential for the Project to impact historic resources under CEQA.

As a result of the current closure of the Eastern Information Center due to the COVID-19 situation, PaleoWest conducted an internal literature review as well as a review of previously acquired resource data. This internal data review included the Project area and a one mile buffer. The internal data review indicated that no fewer than 15 previous studies have been conducted within one mile of the Project area. The data review indicated that at least 22 cultural resources have been previously documented within one mile of the Project area. One historic-period built-environment resource, the Whitewater Stormwater Channel (33-017259), is located immediately adjacent to the Project area; however, none of these resources were identified within the Project area.

As part of the cultural resource assessment of the Project area, PaleoWest also requested a search of the Sacred Lands File (SLF) from the NAHC. Results of the SLF search indicate that there are no known Native American cultural resources within the immediate Project area but suggested contacting 19 individuals representing 12 Native American tribal groups to find out if they have additional information about the Project area. The 12 recommended tribal groups were contacted. The Quechan Tribe of the Fort Yuma Reservation and Santa Rosa Band of Cahuilla Indians stated the tribes do not have any comments for the Project. The Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians stated that the Project area is within their Traditional Use Area and made some request for information as well as monitoring during ground disturbance. The Torres-Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians indicated that the area is sensitive for cultural resources and, as such, they will provide information regarding the sensitivity of the area during the official Assembly Bill (AB) 52 consultation process. The Soboba Band of Luiseno Indians deferred to the Torres-Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians. To date, five responses were received.

PaleoWest conducted a pedestrian cultural resource survey of the proposed Project area on March 30, 2020. No prehistoric or historic-period archaeological resources were identified as a result of the Phase I survey. In addition, no built-environment resources were identified within the survey area; however, a built-environment resource is located immediately adjacent to the Project area. The Whitewater Stormwater Channel (33-017259) is not eligible for listing on the California Register of Historical Resources (CRHR). The Project area does not appear to be sensitive for cultural resources. As such, PaleoWest does not recommend any additional cultural resource management for the proposed Project.

In the unlikely event that cultural resources are encountered during construction activities associated with the Project, a qualified archaeologist shall be obtained to assess the significance of the find in accordance with the criteria set forth in the CRHR. In addition, Health and Safety Code 7050.5, CEQA 15064.5(e), and Public Resources Code 5097.98 mandate the process to be followed in the unlikely event of an accidental discovery of any human remains in a location other than a dedicated cemetery.

1.0 INTRODUCTION

The proposed Coachella Airport Business Park Project (Project) would include construction of a mixed-use business park with a primary focus on warehouse/commercial cannabis, small business-, and service station-related land uses in the city of Coachella in Riverside County, California. The proposed Project would include a large warehouse sector, small warehouse sector, small business sector, brick yard, self-storage, and retail businesses comprised of a service station/mini mart and drive-thru coffee shop. PaleoWest Archaeology (PaleoWest) was contracted by The Altum Group to conduct a Phase I cultural resource assessment of the Project area in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The City of Coachella (City) is the Lead Agency for the purposes of the CEQA.

1.1 PROJECT LOCATION AND DESCRIPTION

The proposed Project is located at the northwest corner of State Route (SR) 86 and Airport Boulevard and is comprised of three parcels totaling approximately 43 acres in size. The Assessor's Parcel Numbers (APNs) of the Project area are 763-330-013, 763-330-017, and 763-330-018. The Project area is bordered to the north by a vacant, undeveloped property; to the west, the Project area is bordered by the Whitewater River Storm Channel; to the east, bordered by State Route 86; and to the south, by Airport Boulevard (Figure 1-1). The Project area is situated within Section 15, Township 6 South, Range 18 East, San Bernardino Baseline and Meridian (SBBM), as depicted on the Indio, CA 7.5' U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) topographic quadrangle (Figure 1-2). The elevation of the Project area ranges between 110 and 120 feet below mean sea level (bmsl).

The service station/mini mart and drive-thru coffee shop are proposed to be developed at the southern end of the Project area near the Project's two primary access points along Airport Boulevard within close proximity to the SR 86 off ramp. North of these two retail buildings will be the small business sector that will be comprised of 18 leasable buildings for office and/or warehouse uses. Beyond the small business sector to the north will be the brick yard sector of the business park that will contain a total of four hangar type buildings with a centralized courtyard-type green space. The brick yard sector will be designed for storage of automobile models and motorsport vehicles. The self-storage sector will be located within the western portion of the center of the Project area and be comprised of 16 buildings ranging in size. The small warehouse sector will be located within the eastern portion of the center of the Project area and will consist of four warehouse buildings. The large warehouse sector will be located within the northern portion of the Project area and will consist of four to six warehouses. Both the large and small warehouse sectors will be built to accommodate both logistical/distribution-related uses (i.e., fulfillment centers) and for cannabis-related uses (i.e., cultivation, manufacturing, and distribution).

1.2 REPORT ORGANIZATION

This report documents the results of a cultural resource investigation conducted for the proposed Project. Chapter 1 has introduced the project location and description. Chapter 2 states the regulatory context that should be considered for the Project. Chapter 3 synthesizes the natural and cultural setting of the Project area and surrounding region. The results of the existing cultural resource data literature and resource record review and the Sacred Lands File (SLF) search, and a summary of the Native American communications is presented in Chapter 4. The field methods employed during this investigation and findings are outlined in Chapter 5 with management recommendation provided in Chapter 6. This is followed by bibliographic references and appendices.

Figure 1-1 Project Vicinity Map

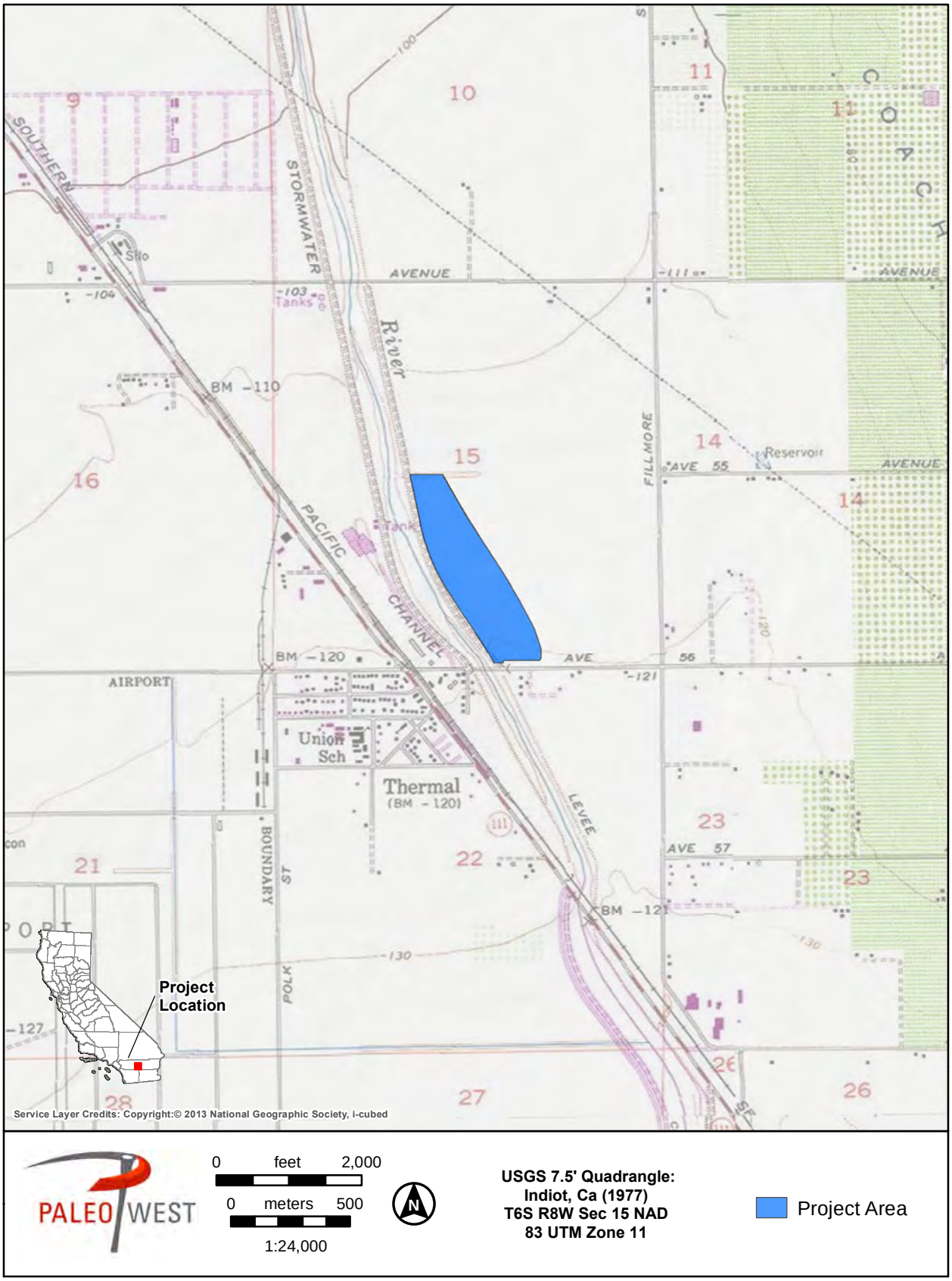

Figure 1-2 Project Location Map

2.0 REGULATORY CONTEXT

2.1 CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT

The proposed Project is subject to compliance with CEQA, as amended. Compliance with CEQA statutes and guidelines requires both public and private projects with financing or approval from a public agency to assess the project's impact on cultural resources (Public Resources Code Section 21082, 21083.2 and 21084 and California Code of Regulations 10564.5). The first step in the process is to identify cultural resources that may be impacted by the project and then determine whether the resources are "historically significant" resources.

CEQA defines historically significant resources as "resources listed or eligible for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources (CRHR)" (Public Resources Code Section 5024.1). A cultural resource may be considered historically significant if the resource is 45 years old or older, possesses integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association, and meets any of the following criteria for listing on the CRHR:

1. Is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of California's history and cultural heritage;
2. Is associated with the lives of persons important in our past;
3. Embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, region, or method of construction, or represents the work of an important creative individual, or possesses high artistic values; or,
4. Has yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history (Public Resources Code Section 5024.1).

Cultural resources are buildings, sites, humanly modified landscapes, traditional cultural properties, structures, or objects that may have historical, architectural, cultural, or scientific importance. CEQA states that if a project will have a significant impact on important cultural resources, deemed "historically significant," then project alternatives and mitigation measures must be considered.

2.2 CALIFORNIA ASSEMBLY BILL 52

Signed into law in September 2014, California Assembly Bill 52 (AB 52) created a new class of resources – tribal cultural resources (TCRs) – for consideration under CEQA. TCRs may include sites, features, places, cultural landscapes, sacred places, or objects with cultural value to a California Native American tribe that are listed or determined to be eligible for listing in the CRHR, included in a local register of historical resources, or a resource determined by the lead CEQA agency, in its discretion and supported by substantial evidence, to be significant and eligible for listing on the CRHR. AB 52 requires that the lead CEQA agency consult with California Native American tribes that have requested consultation for projects that may affect tribal cultural resources. The lead CEQA agency shall begin consultation with participating Native American tribes prior to the release of a negative declaration, mitigated negative declaration, or environmental impact report. Under AB 52, a project that has potential to cause a substantial adverse change to a tribal cultural resource constitutes a significant effect on the environment unless mitigation reduces such effects to a less than significant level.

2.3 CITY OF COACHELLA GENERAL PLAN (2035)

The City of Coachella General Plan (2035) covers seven elements, one of which includes Sustainability and the Natural Environment. This element includes one goal and several associated policies related to cultural resources. These include:

Goal 12. Cultural Resources and Sites. Preserved and protected cultural resources that provide the community with significant cultural, scientific, or educational value.

Policy 12.1 Disturbance of human remains. In areas where there is a high chance that human remains may be present (areas along the Whitewater Rivers/CVSC, on Tribal lands, on areas with previously undisturbed soil, in the washes and canyons found in the eastern areas of the Planning Area, and areas of historic settlement), require proposed projects to conduct survey to establish occurrence of human remains, if any. If human remains are discovered on proposed project sites, the project must implement mitigation measures to prevent impacts to human remains in order to receive permit approval.

Policy 12.2 Tribal coordination. Require notification of California Native American tribes and organizations of proposed projects that have the potential to adversely impact cultural resources.

Policy 12.3 Protected sites. Require sites with significant cultural resources to be protected.

Policy 12.4 Preservation of historic resources. Where practical, encourage the preservation of historic resources.

Policy 12.5 Document historic resources. When it is not practical to preserve a historic resource, require the architectural details and design elements of historic structures to be preserved during renovations and remodels.

Policy 12.6 Discovery of human remains. Require that any human remains discovered during implementation of public and private projects within the City be treated with respect and dignity and fully comply with the California Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act and other appropriate laws.

Policy 12.7 Paleontological resources. Require any paleontological artifacts found within the City or Sphere of Influence be reported to the City and temporarily loaned to local museums like the Western Science Center for Archaeology and Paleontology, in Hemet, CA.

Policy 12.8 Disturbance of human remains. In areas where there is a high chance that human remains may be present (areas along the Whitewater Rivers/CVSC, on Tribal lands, on areas with previously undisturbed soil, in the washes and canyons found in the eastern areas of the Planning Area, and areas of historic settlement), require proposed projects to conduct survey to establish occurrence of human remains, if any. If human remains are discovered on proposed project sites, the project must implement mitigation measures to prevent impacts to human remains in order to receive permit approval.

3.0 SETTING

This section of the report summarizes information regarding the physical and cultural setting of the Project area, including the prehistoric, ethnographic, and historic contexts of the general area. Several factors, including topography, available water sources, and biological resources, affect the nature and distribution of prehistoric, ethnographic, and historic-period human activities in an area. This background provides a context for understanding the nature of the cultural resources that may be identified within the region.

3.1 ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING

The Project area is situated east of the Peninsular Ranges in the southern extent of the Coachella Valley at the western edge of the Colorado Desert. The Coachella Valley is bordered by the San Jacinto and Santa Rosa mountains (part of the Peninsular Ranges) to the southwest and by the low, rolling Indio and Mecca hills to the northeast. From the steep slopes of the San Jacinto Mountains, the desert floor descends suddenly at less than 3 kilometers (2 miles) eastward to sea level at the city of Indio, some 10.5 kilometers (6.5 miles) northeast of where the Project area is located.

South of the Project area, elevations gradually drop to 90 meters (300 feet) bmsl at the Salton Sea Basin. This basin has filled periodically throughout the Pleistocene and Holocene when the Colorado River shifted its course near its mouth at the Gulf of California, flowing north into the basin, and forming a large freshwater lake commonly known as Lake Cahuilla. A major water source flowing through the central valley is the Whitewater River. The river drained the southern slope of the San Bernardino Mountains for thousands of years (Laflin 2001), prior to the development of the Coachella Valley, flowing in a generally south-southeast direction 80.5 kilometers (50 miles) toward the Salton Sea. The Whitewater River was likely the largest perennial stream that entered the Salton Basin during prehistoric times, replenishing the underground aquifer during nonlacustrine intervals. The Whitewater River Storm Channel runs along the western boundary of the Project area.

Prior to the mid-1900s, the climate of the Project region was characterized by low relative humidity, very low rainfall, high summer temperatures of up to 52° C (125° F), and mild winters. Since the 1950s, the relative humidity in the area has risen gradually as more and more golf courses have been built and maintained in the Coachella Valley. High winds are common and are accompanied by blowing sand and dust during the spring and late fall. Within the desert areas surrounding the Project area, the average annual rainfall is as sparse as 6 centimeters (2.5 inches) per year and occurs primarily during the winter months. The Project area is situated within an area identified by Bean and Saubel (1972) as a Lower Sonoran life zone. The Lower Sonoran life zone is characterized by low rainfall, fine-textured alluvial to sandy soils, and xerophytic plant communities.

3.1.1 Lake Cahuilla

Arguably the most important environmental change in the Colorado Desert in the past 2,000 years was the formation of Lake Cahuilla. In response to the western diversion of the Colorado River in the Salton Trough, Lake Cahuilla filled and shrank numerous times throughout the Pleistocene and Holocene. The lake would fill until the water reached an altitude of 12 m (40 feet), the minimum crest of the delta at Cerro Prieto, where overflow would spill into the Gulf of California (Waters 1983:374). Wilke (1976) calculated that it would take roughly 12 to 20 years of receiving the entire flow of the Colorado River to fill Lake Cahuilla to an altitude of 12 m (40 feet). Alternatively, Wilke (1976) also determined that

approximately 60 years would be required to completely dry out the lake without input from the Colorado River.

Utilizing radiocarbon assays, historical accounts and evidence, and cross dating of artifacts found along the former Lake Cahuilla shoreline, researchers have posited five lacustrine intervals in the Salton Basin representing an unknown number of stands of Lake Cahuilla during the past 2,000 years (Wilke 1976, Waters 1983, Cleland 1998, Laylander 1994, and Schaefer 1986). The first and earliest of these events has been dated to A.D. 700–890, followed by a gradual, but complete, drought of the lake at about A.D. 950. The second interval began shortly after A.D. 950, peaking at approximately A.D. 965–1150; followed by another gradual, but complete, desiccation of the lake at A.D. 1210. The third interval began shortly after A.D. 1210, peaking between A.D. 1225 and 1360. The third interval was followed by a gradual, but not complete desiccation of the lake by A.D. 1450; the lake remained approximately 50 m (165 feet) deep at this time. The fourth interval lasted between A.D. 1450–1520, desiccating again by A.D. 1580. The fifth, more recent lacustrine interval of Lake Cahuilla occurred during the Spanish explorations of the region between 1540 and 1775 (Cleland 1998:13).

Recent paleoclimatic research indicates that a Medieval Warm climatic anomaly was registered throughout Far West North American between circa 1,060 and 575 cal B.P. (Graumlich 1993; Spaulding 2001; Stine 1994). Researchers believe the Medieval Warm would have restricted prehistoric occupation in the Southern California deserts to a few suitable water sources such as the Colorado River and Lake Cahuilla. High stands of Lake Cahuilla, whose source is not directly affected by climatic conditions, are in fact registered during the Medieval Warm, suggesting that the area was likely highly favorable for prehistoric occupation.

3.2 PREHISTORIC SETTING

Native American occupation of the Colorado Desert is typically divided into five cultural periods: San Dieguito (ca. 12,000–7,000 years B.P.; Pinto (ca. 7,000–4,000 B.P.); Amargosa (ca. 4,000–1,200 B.P.); and, the Late Prehistoric Period (ca. 1,200–200 B.P.). These cultural periods exclude the controversial "Early Man" pre-projectile point materials from Calico. The prehistoric cultural setting discussed below begins at the Late Prehistoric period based on the archival research conducted for the study area.

3.2.1 Late Prehistoric Period

The Late Prehistoric period in the Colorado Desert is marked by the introduction of new artifact types and technological innovations of the previous Amargosa Period of the Late Archaic and defined as the Patayan Pattern (Cleland 1998; CSRI 1986; Schaefer 1994, 1995). This period is characterized by the introduction of ceramics, including Tizon Brown Ware from the Peninsular Ranges, Colorado Buff Wares from the Colorado River region, and the Salton Buff Ware from the Lake Cahuilla shoreline (Schaefer 1995; Waters 1982). New projectile point types, including Desert Side-notched and Cottonwood Triangular points, signify the introduction of the bow and arrow hunting technology, marking a pre-ceramic phase of the expansion of the earlier Amargosa assemblages perhaps as early as 1,500 B.P. Techniques of floodplain horticulture were also introduced to the inhabitants along the Colorado River at the same time as ceramics. Additionally, burial practices changed from extended inhumations to cremated remains, sometimes buried in ceramic vessels. Typical of the Hohokam culture from southern Arizona, these traits were introduced to the Colorado River inhabitants and gradually spread west to the Peninsular Ranges and Coastal Plains of Southern California.

The Patayan Pattern is typified by several differing settlement and subsistence systems (Schaefer 1995). Dispersed seasonal settlements, known as rancherias, were found along the Colorado River. These settlements were composed of *jacal* (i.e., adobe style) structures, semi-subterranean pit houses, *ramadas*, or brush huts, depending on the season and types of settlement. Larger rancherias would disperse to upper terraces of the Colorado River and to special collection areas during the summer months, coinciding with the flood phase of the river, returning to the lower terraces for plant harvesting. At the eastern base of the Peninsular Ranges, the settlement pattern was typified by dispersed rancherias or villages situated at the mouths of canyons supporting perennial streams, at the base of alluvial fans near springs, or down on the valley floor where a shallow water table allowed wells to be dug (e.g., at Indian Wells). In addition to these sites, specialized sites were located in all of the micro-environmental zones that were exploited seasonally. Archaeologically, these specialized sites can range in characteristics from bedrock milling features and pot-drops along trails; to chipping stations and quarries; to temporary camps containing bone, shell, ceramics, flaked and ground stone tools; and ornamental items such as beads and pendants, as well as other occupational debris.

3.3 ETHNOGRAHIC SETTING

The Cahuilla have been studied extensively by Dr. Lowell Bean and much of the following discussion is derived from Bean's description of the Cahuilla in Volume 8 of the *Handbook of North American Indians* (Bean 1978:575–587).

The Cahuilla belong to nonpolitical, nonterritorial patrimoieties that governed marriage patterns as well as patrilineal clans and lineages. Each clan, "political-ritual-corporate units" composed of 3 to 10 lineages, owned a large territory in which each lineage owned a village site with specific resource areas. Clan lineages cooperated in defense, in large communal subsistence activities, and in performing rituals. Clans were apt to own land in the valley, foothill, and mountain areas, providing them with the resources of many different ecological niches.

In prehistoric times Cahuilla shelters are believed to have been dome shaped; after contact they tended to be rectangular in shape. Cahuilla shelters were often made of brush, palm fronds, or arrowweed. Most of the Cahuilla domestic activities were performed outside the shelters within the shade of large, expansive *ramadas*.

The Cahuilla were, for the most part, hunting, collecting, harvesting, and protoagricultural peoples. As in most of California, acorns were a major staple, but the roots, leaves, seeds, and fruit of many other plants also were used. Fish, birds, insects, and large and small mammals were also available.

To gather and prepare these food resources, the Cahuilla had an extensive inventory of equipment including bows and arrows, traps, nets, disguises, blinds, spears, hooks and lines, poles for shaking down pine nuts and acorns, cactus pickers, seed beaters, digging sticks and weights, and pry bars. In addition, the Cahuilla also had an extensive inventory of food processing equipment including hammers and anvils, mortars and pestles, manos and metates, winnowing shells and baskets, strainers, leaching baskets and bowls, knives (made of stone, bone, wood, and carrizo cane), bone saws, and drying racks made of wooden poles to dry fish.

Mountain tops, unusual rock formations, springs, and streams are held sacred to the Cahuilla as are rock art sites and burial and cremation sites. In addition, various birds are revered as sacred beings of great power and sometimes were killed ritually and mourned in mortuary ceremonies similar to those for important individuals. As such, bird cremation sites are considered sacred by the Cahuilla.

3.4 HISTORICAL SETTING

The history of the California desert region has been reviewed in detail by von Till Warren and others (1981:85–105). A very brief summary of historic events in the Coachella Valley is provided below.

Prior to 1820, very little is known about historic developments in the Coachella Valley. In the early 1850s, the Maricopa-Bradshaw route was established to serve the mining camps developing near La Paz, Arizona (von Till Warren et al. 1981:85). The Maricopa-Bradshaw route paralleled the old Cocomaricopa Trail, an Indian trail that began east of Blythe and roughly followed the present route of Interstate 10 across the Chuckwalla Valley, traversing the Mecca-Indio area and Coachella Valley to the San Gorgonio Pass. During this time, the U.S. Government was strongly promoting the establishment of a railroad route to connect the east and west coasts; however, it was not until 1877 that the Southern Pacific Railroad transected the western Colorado Desert. This railroad route connected the San Gorgonio Pass to the town of Yuma, Arizona via the eastern shore of the Salton Sea.

Additionally, in the 19850s, the U.S. Government sent Indian Commissioners into the deserts of Southern California. Although not authorized, the Commissioners illegally set aside large tracts of land for reservations (von Till Warren et al. 1981:94). Despite this effort, most of these areas were never fully developed as reservations; however, the Torres Martinez and Agua Caliente (Palm Springs) reservations were eventually set aside from the larger reserves delineated by the Indian Commission. After the Indian population was restricted to the reservations, the remaining land was made available for mining, ranching, and other uses.

3.4.1 Water Infrastructure

The following section draws heavily from the Phase I Cultural Resources Assessment for the Coachella Valley Water District's Stormwater Channel Project Report prepared by Applied EarthWorks, Inc. (George and Mirro 2009).

The Coachella Valley Stormwater District was initially organized in 1915 by settlers of the Coachella Valley with the objective of controlling floodwater flows and constructing flood channels and levees (Coachella Valley County Water District 1978:18–19). An objective of the District was to replace individual ad hoc levee-building by individuals, which often worked at cross-purposes, with one property owner doing damage to another in times of flood. Destructive flooding overwhelmed Indio, Coachella, Thermal, and Mecca, in 1916 stressing the importance of flood control for local farmers. The Stormwater District's first major effort to control flood flows was carried out in the vicinity of Indio (Coachella Valley County Water District 1978:19). A plan had existed before the 1916 flood to channelize the river around to the east and southeast of Indio, and a mile of levees had been built before the flood struck. A former protective ditch system installed at Indio had been removed by 1919, and a new channel was improved by that date (Coachella Valley County Water District 1978:55). Efforts to channelize the Whitewater River below Indio were made, with an emphasis on levee construction and remodeling. Another major flood occurred in 1927, and the Whitewater Channel, as it was called at the time, was downcut in places by several feet. The Whitewater Channel improvements had included a system of levees which were affected by the storm in the vicinity of Indio, Thermal, and Mecca (Coachella Valley County Water District 1978:20, 99).

In November of 1936, preliminary discussions were held about the merging of the Coachella Valley Stormwater District and the Coachella Valley County Water District and, by the fall of 1937, the districts were subsequently merged (Coachella Valley County Water District 1978:11, 81). Another major storm

in 1938 caused downcutting to the channel and levee damage which resulted in rebuilding and improvements to the channel. Some changes in stormwater channel easements were made to accommodate the improvements to the channel. And in the late 1960s and early 1970s, the channel was again rebuilt with some of the funds coming from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Coachella Valley County Water District 1978:101).

Because of the scarcity of water in many areas of the Colorado Desert agricultural development only succeeded when water could be imported in significant quantities which discouraged farming in large part. However, the agricultural industry began to develop in the Coachella Valley prior to the importation of water because the relatively high-water table in the valley allowed for the drilling of artesian wells. Beginning early in the twentieth century, farmers planted extensive date, fig, and grape acreage and, as a result of the agricultural growth towns including Thermal, Mecca, Indio, and Coachella began to develop. However, due to the extensive farming efforts, the water table in the Coachella Valley was seriously depleted which brought about the formation of the Coachella Valley Water District (CVWD) to promote conservation and replenish the groundwater basin. With the passage of the Boulder Canyon Project Act of 1928, the waters of the Colorado River were utilized for the development of agriculture in Imperial and Coachella Valleys. The CVWD cooperated with the Imperial Irrigation District to develop the All-American Canal and the Coachella Valley extension. Branching off from the All-American Canal, the Old Coachella Canal extends 199 kilometers (123.5 miles) north to the northern Coachella Valley, bringing the first imported irrigation water to the valley in 1949 (Norland 1978).

3.4.2 Coachella

The history of Coachella dates back to 1877 with the construction of the Southern Pacific Railroad across the “Coahuila” Valley, as it was then known, from Los Angeles to Yuma (Nordland 1978:112). By 1898, a business entrepreneur by the name of Jason L. Rector, known as the town’s founder, arrived in the Coachella Valley. Rector took control of the mesquite wood business at Woodspur, a spur along the Southern Pacific Railroad three miles southeast from Indian Wells, and operated a thriving business for a couple of years (City of Coachella 2020). Rector began drilling a well and after 8 months, Rector and his brother Lon B. Rector, tapped a good flow of artesian water at a depth of 550 feet. The Rector brothers completed the well in November 1900, and a town site was laid out by January 1901 (City of Coachella 2020).

In order to promote land sales, Rector formed the Coachella Land & Water Company. He built an adobe house along Front Street where he conducted business locating available lots for settlers at a cost of $10 per filing. In 1902, he established and became president and manager of the Coachella Valley Produce Association and began shipping produce from the valley to Los Angeles by train. In 1904, he organized the Coachella Valley Refrigerating Company, built a pre-cooling plant and started manufacturing ice (City of Coachella 2020). A weekly newspaper called the *Coachella Valley Submarine* was started by Randolph R. Freeman on November 27, 1901 (Nordland 1978:114). That year, the Valley’s population claimed to total 250 whites and about 600 Indians. A post office was established in Coachella on November 30, 1901, with George C. Huntington, postmaster.

Rector maintained an active interest in the town as its unofficial mayor and held properties throughout the valley until his death at his Los Angeles home on September 24, 1919. The town of Coachella remained a small farming community through the 1920s and 1930s and was eventually incorporated as a city on December 13, 1946. The City Hall and City Hall Park were dedicated on October 29, 1949 (City of Coachella 2020).

4.0 CULTURAL RESOURCES INVENTORY

As a result of the current closure of the Eastern Information Center due to the COVID-19 stay at home orders, PaleoWest conducted an internal literature review as well as a review of previously acquired resource data housed in PaleoWest archives. PaleoWest has extensive past experience conducting cultural resource assessments in the Project vicinity and has accumulated enough data to adequately assess the resource potential of the Project area. The "in-house" data review included a comprehensive review of technical reports, historic aerials, USGS maps, and the PaleoWest GIS resource databases. This inventory effort included the Project area and a one-mile radius around the Project area, collectively termed the Project study area. The objective of this data review was to identify prehistoric or historical cultural resources that have been previously recorded within the study area during prior cultural resource investigations.

4.1 PREVIOUS CULTURAL RESOURCE INVESTIGATIONS

The data review indicates that no fewer than 15 previous investigations have been conducted and documented within the Project study area since 1974 (Table 4-1). At least six of these studies appear to include portions of the Project area. As a result, approximately 25 percent of the Project area has been previously investigated by these studies.

Table 4-1
Previous Cultural Studies within the Study Area

Report No.	Date	Author(s)	Title
RI-1831*	1984	Woodward, Jim, and Kathleen Davis	Cultural Resources Assessment of Four Potential Sites for a New State Prison, Riverside County, California
RI-1919*	1974	Von Werhhof, Jay	A Cultural Impact Survey, Phase I
RI-1922*	1985	Dominici, Debra	Report of an Archaeological Survey for the Proposed 86 Expressway in Riverside County
RI-1925	1992	Dominici, Debra	Negative Archaeological Survey Report - Seventh Addendum, Riverside 86 Expressway Project
RI-6259	2006	Chambers Group, Inc.	Cultural Resources Survey Report, Union Pacific Railroad, Fingal-Thermal Phase III Expansion, Riverside County, California
RI-6528*	2006	Tang, Bai, Michael Hogan, Deirdre Encarnacion, and Daniel Ballester	Historical/Archaeological Resources Survey Report, Maravilla Specific Plan EIR, in and near the City of Coachella, Riverside County, California
RI-6531*	2006	Tang, Bai, Michael Hogan, Deirdre Encarnacion, and Daniel Ballester	Historical/Archaeological Resources Survey Report, Maravilla Specific Plan EIR, in and near the City of Coachella, Riverside County, California
RI-6615	2006	Tang, Bai, Michael Hogan, Deirdre Encarnacion, and Daniel Ballester	Historical/Archaeological Resources Survey Report: Thermal Street, Water, and Sewer Improvements, Near the Community of Thermal, Riverside County, California
RI-6962	2006	Everson, Dicken	Archaeological Survey Report for the State Route 86S at Airport Boulevard (Avenue 56) Interchange Project, City of Coachella, Riverside County, California
RI-6963	2007	Figueroa, Earnest	State Route 86S at Airport Boulevard New Interchange: Draft Initial Study with Proposal Negative Declaration, Volume 1 of 2

Table 4-1
Previous Cultural Studies within the Study Area

Report No.	Date	Author(s)	Title
RI-7770	2007	Formica, Tracy H.	Class III Cultural Resources Survey of the Airport Boulevard Water Transmission Pipeline Project Corridor for the Coachella Valley Water District, Thermal, Riverside County, California (ARPA Permit No. LC-CA-07-11P)
RI-7853	2008	Tang, B. Tom	Letter Report: Addendum to Historical/Archaeological/Paleontological Resources Survey Report Thermal Street, Water, and Sewer Improvements in and near the Community of Thermal, Riverside County, California
RI-7929	2008	Tang, Bai and Quinn Harry	Letter Report: RE: Historical/Archaeological/Paleontological Resources Survey of Whitewater Channel Thermal 551 Brookfield Project near the Community of Thermal, Riverside County, California
RI-8503	2010	Everson, Dicken, Billy Silva, and John Eddy	Extended Phase I (XPI) Proposal for the State Route 86S & Airport Boulevard New Interchange Project, Riverside County, California
RI-8719*	2011	McDougall, Dennis, and Vanessa Mirro	Cultural Resources Monitoring of the Coachella Valley Water District's Airport Boulevard Agricultural Drainline Project

* Indicates portions of the Project area were included in this study

4.2 CULTURAL RESOURCES REPORTED WITHIN THE STUDY AREA

The data review indicated that no fewer than 22 cultural resources have been previously documented within one mile of the Project area. These resources include 2 historic-period archaeological sites and 20 historic-period built-environment resources. None of the identified resources are prehistoric and none of them have been identified within the Project area. These resources are listed in Table 4-2. The Coachella Valley Stormwater Channel (33-017259) borders the Project area and is described in more detail, below.

Table 4-2
Cultural Resources Recorded within 1-Mile of the Project Area

Primary No.	Trinomial	Type	Age	Description
33-005637		Built	Historical	Single family residence
33-005638		Built	Historical	Single family residence
33-005639		Built	Historical	Single family residence
33-005640		Built	Historical	Single family residence
33-005641		Built	Historical	Single family residence
33-005642		Built	Historical	Single family residence
33-005643		Built	Historical	Single family residence
33-005646		Built	Historical	Single family residence
33-005684		Built	Historical	Single family residence
33-009498	CA-RIV-6381H	Built	Historical	Union Pacific Railroad
33-011223		Built	Historical	Single family residence
33-014812		Built	Historical	Single family residence
33-017259	CA-RIV-10847	Built	Historical	Coachella Valley Stormwater Channel
33-017913	CA-RIV-9456H	Built	Historical	Durbrow Drain
33-019859	CA-RIV-10106H	Site	Historical	Ash lined refuse pit
33-019860		Site	Historical	Former roadbed, Avenue 56
33-020750	CA-RIV-010672	Built	Historical	Segment of Fillmore Road, asphalt-paved road
33-020764	CA-RIV-010686	Built	Historical	Transmission lines

Table 4-2
Cultural Resources Recorded within 1-Mile of the Project Area

Primary No.	Trinomial	Type	Age	Description
33-020921	CA-RIV-10846	Built	Historical	Aspahlt-paved private driveway
33-020926	CA-RIV-10852	Built	Historical	Kokell Avenue, asphalt-paved road
33-020927	CA-RIV-10853	Built	Historical	Main Street, asphalt-paved road
33-020928	CA-RIV-10854	Built	Historical	Church Street, asphalt-paved road
33-020989	CA-RIV-10869H	Built	Historical	property boundary from 1942 As-built
33-024105		Built	Historical	Segment of Avenue 58

4.2.1 33-017259

33-017259 is a segment of the Coachella Valley Stormwater Channel, an earthen and partially concrete-lined channel constructed between 1915 and the early 1940s by the Coachella Valley Water District to control floodwater flows (Ballester 2008). The Coachella Valley Stormwater Channel, also known as the Whitewater Stormwater Channel is not located within the Project area but is located immediately adjacent to the Project along the western border.

In 2008 a segment of the Coachella Valley Stormwater Channel was recorded and evaluated by Tom Tang and Terri Jacquemain of CRM Tech and recommended as ineligible for listing on the California Register of Historical Resources (CRHR) and the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) (Tang and Jacquemain 2008). In subsequent years the Coachella Valley Stormwater Channel has been evaluated several times for historical significance (George and Mirro 2009; McDougall 2017; Smallwood 2012) and each time has been recommended as not eligible for the CRHR or the NRHP.

4.3 ADDITIONAL SOURCES

Additional sources consulted during the cultural resource literature and data review include the National Register of Historic Places, the Office of Historic Preservation Archaeological Determinations of Eligibility, and the Office of Historic Preservation Directory of Properties in the Historic Property Data File. There are no listed archaeological resources recorded within the Project area or within one mile of the Project area.

Historical maps consulted include Santa Ana, CA (1947, 1959, and 1965) 60-minute, Indio, CA (1904) 30-minute, Coachella, CA (1943 and 1956) 15-minute, and Indio, CA (1956 and 1972) 7.5-minute USGS quadrangles. Historical aerials from NETROnline dated 1953, 1972, and 1996 were also reviewed. None of the historical topographic quadrangles or aerial images show any historical structures or buildings within the Project area; however, the historic aerials appear to suggest that a portion of the Project was once used for agricultural purposes. Additionally, the stormwater channel appears as early as 1943 on the USGS quadrangles.

Finally, an archaeological sensitivity model for the Whitewater River Stormwater Channel prepared by Applied EarthWorks in 2012 was consulted. This model indicated that this general area in the vicinity of the Whitewater River Stormwater Channel is Holocene valley fill, consisting of sands and clays, fluvial and lacustrine sediments (Mirro 2012). This combination of sediments suggests former pathways of the Whitewater River as a migrating wash through the valley interfingering with lake sediments. Few archaeological resources have been documented in this portion of the valley, especially at elevations lower than 150 ft below sea level. The model suggests that this may be because the former native vegetation was not of interest to Native inhabitants due to the abundance of alkali water making this area

unappealing (Mirro 2012). Alternatively, filling of the lake may have resulted in the deep deposition of resource evidence with each generation of the lake.

The sensitivity model concluded that the potential for discovering surface cultural resources in this area, including historical and prehistoric resources, is low while the potential for buried cultural resources is unknown (Mirro 2012). No previous studies have demonstrated either a presence or absence of buried cultural resources. However, the model did identify research that suggests the location of a village may be in the general vicinity and if present, it is possibly buried by muds deposited during the most recent filling of the Salton Sea (Mirro 2012). Thus, the sensitivity of this area is low for surface prehistoric and historical archaeology and unknown for buried resources.

4.4 NATIVE AMERICAN COORDINATION

PaleoWest contacted the NAHC, as part of the cultural resource assessment, on March 18, 2020, for a review of the SLF. The objective of the SLF search was to determine if the NAHC had any knowledge of Native American cultural resources (e.g., traditional use or gathering area, place of religious or sacred activity, etc.) within the immediate vicinity of the Project area. The NAHC responded on March 28, 2020, stating that the SLF was completed with negative results; however, the NAHC requested that 19 individuals representing 12 Native American tribal groups be contacted to elicit information regarding cultural resource issues related to the proposed Project (Appendix A). PaleoWest sent outreach letters to the 12 recommended tribal groups on April 3 and April 6, 2020. These letters will be followed up by phone calls on April 30, 2020.

The Quechan Tribe of the Fort Yuma Reservation responded saying the Tribe does not have any comments for the Project. The Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians (ACBCI) responded stating that while the Project area is outside the Tribe's reservation it is within their Traditional Use Area (TUA). As such, the ACBCI made the following requests: a copy of the records search, the cultural resource inventory for the Project, copies of cultural resource documentation, and the presence of an ACBCI cultural resource monitor during ground disturbance for the Project. Additionally, the ACBCI provided a monitoring information request form which has been included in Appendix A. The Torres-Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians responded indicating that a review of the Tribe's records indicates the area is sensitive for cultural resources as at least three village sites are in the vicinity of the Project area. The Tribe stated they will provide additional information regarding the sensitivity of the area during the official AB 52 consultation process. At this time the Tribe is requesting the following: copies of all cultural reports, formal government-to-government consultation, and tribal monitoring of initial ground disturbing activity associated with the Project. The Santa Rosa Band of Cahuilla Indians stated that the Tribe does not have any comments as the Coachella Valley is out of their TUA. And finally, the Soboba Band of Luiseno Indians deferred to the Torres-Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians. No other responses were received prior to the submittal of this report.

5.0 FIELD INVESTIGATION

5.1 FIELD METHODS

A Phase I intensive pedestrian survey of the Project area was conducted by PaleoWest archaeologist, Roberta Thomas, on March 30, 2020. The survey was conducted by walking parallel transects across the entirety of the Project area spaced at 10- to 15-meter (33- to 50-feet) intervals, when possible. The Project area was recorded with digital photographs for use in the report. Photographs included general views of the topography and vegetation density, and other relevant images. A photo log was maintained to include, at a minimum, photo number, date, orientation, photo description, and comments. The surveyor carefully inspected all areas likely to contain or exhibit sensitive cultural resources to ensure discovery and documentation of and visible, potentially significant cultural resources located within the Project area.

Historical site indicators may include fence lines, ditches, standing buildings, objects or structures such as sheds, or concentrations of materials at least 45 years in age, such as domestic refuse (e.g., glass bottles, ceramics, toys, buttons or leather shoes), refuse from other pursuits such as agriculture (e.g., metal tanks, farm machinery parts, horse shoes) or structural materials (e.g., nails, glass window panes, corrugated metal, wood posts or planks, metal pipes and fittings, railroad spurs, etc.). Prehistoric site indicators may include areas of darker soil with concentrations of ash, charcoal, bits of animal bone (burned or unburned), shell, flaked stone, ground stone, or even human bone.

5.2 FIELD RESULTS

The Project area is relatively flat and densely vegetated with short and tall grasses, trees, and shrubs (Figures 5-1 and 5-2). The Project area is an overgrown, vacant property that has been used for refuse dumping and off-road vehicle use; disperse modern refuse noted throughout the Project area and along SR 86. Ground visibility varied from 0 percent to 80 percent depending upon the density of vegetation. The central part of the Project area is highly visible as it is largely devoid of any vegetation; however, the majority of the eastern edge of the Project area had no visibility due to the dense grasses and trees (Figure 5-3). Sediments mostly consisted of tan/yellowish brown silty sand with small inclusions (15%). The Project area appears to be within a relatively active alluvial plain as the sediments appear to have recently been shifted. As previously stated, disperse modern refuse and roadside toss as well as evidence of off-road vehicle use were noted throughout the Project area. Additional disturbances noted included rodent burrowing.

No prehistoric or historic-period archaeological resources were identified in the Project area during the survey effort; however, he Whitewater Stormwater Channel/Coachella Valley Stormwater Channel (33-017259) runs along the western border of the Project (Figure 5-4). As previously stated, the stormwater channel has been previously evaluated and not recommended eligible for listing on the CRHR. During the field survey no indications that the previous eligibility recommendations should be altered were identified. As such, PaleoWest concurs with the previous recommendation that the Coachella Valley Stormwater Channel is not eligible for listing on the CRHR (Castells 2020).

Figure 5-1 Overview from southern edge of survey area, view to the north/northwest

Figure 5-2 Overview from northwestern edge of survey area, view to the southeast

Figure 5-3 Dense vegetation on the eastern side of the survey area, view to the north

Figure 5-4 Overview of the stormwater channel from the survey area, view to the northwest

6.0 MANAGEMENT RECOMMENDATIONS

As a result of the cultural resource records search and survey, no archaeological resources were identified within the Project area. The Project area is relatively disturbed and is located within a relatively active alluvial plain. As such, the likelihood of identify archaeological resources in original context is considered low. PaleoWest does not recommend any further cultural resource management for the current Project.

In the event that potentially significant archaeological materials are encountered during Project-related ground-disturbing activities, all work should be halted in the vicinity of the archaeological discovery until a qualified archaeologist can visit the site of discovery and assess the significance of the archaeological resource. In addition, Health and Safety Code 7050.5, CEQA 15064.5(e), and Public Resources Code 5097.98 mandate the process to be followed in the unlikely event of an accidental discovery of any human remains in a location other than a dedicated cemetery. Finally, should additional actions be proposed outside the currently defined Project area that have the potential for additional subsurface disturbance, further cultural resource management may be required.

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1956 Coachella, CA. 15-minute (1:62,500 scale) topographic quadrangle.

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1959 Santa Ana, CA. 60-minute (1:250,000 scale) topographic quadrangle.

1965 Santa Ana, CA. 60-minute (1:250,000 scale) topographic quadrangle.

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Appendix A.
Native American Coordination

NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE COMMISSION

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

March 25, 2020

Roberta Thomas
PaleoWest Archaeology

Via Email to: rthomas@paleowest.com

Re: Coachella Airport Business Park Project, Riverside County

Dear Ms. Thomas:

A record search of the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) Sacred Lands File (SLF) was completed for the information you have submitted for the above referenced project. The results were negative. However, the absence of specific site information in the SLF does not indicate the absence of cultural resources in any project area. Other sources of cultural resources should also be contacted for information regarding known and recorded sites.

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

If you receive notification of change of addresses and phone numbers from tribes, please notify me. With your assistance, we can assure that our lists contain current information.

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

Sincerely,

Andrew Green

Andrew Green
Cultural Resources Analyst

Attachment

Native American Heritage Commission
Native American Contact List
Riverside County
3/25/2020

Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians
Jeff Grubbe, Chairperson
5401 Dinah Shore Drive — Cahuilla
Palm Springs, CA, 92264
Phone: (760) 699 - 6800
Fax: (760) 699-6919

Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians
Patricia Garcia-Plotkin, Director
5401 Dinah Shore Drive — Cahuilla
Palm Springs, CA, 92264
Phone: (760) 699 - 6907
Fax: (760) 699-6924
ACBCI-THPO@aguacaliente.net

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

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

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

Los Coyotes Band of Cahuilla and Cupeño Indians
Shane Chapparosa, Chairperson
P.O. Box 189 — Cahuilla
Warner Springs, CA, 92086-0189
Phone: (760) 782 - 0711
Fax: (760) 782-0712

Morongo Band of Mission Indians
Robert Martin, Chairperson
12700 Pumarra Rroad — Cahuilla
Banning, CA, 92220 — Serrano
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Fax: (951) 922-8146
dtorres@morongo-nsn.gov

Morongo Band of Mission Indians
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12700 Pumarra Rroad — Cahuilla
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dtorres@morongo-nsn.gov

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

Quechan Tribe of the Fort Yuma Reservation
Manfred Scott, Acting Chairman
Kw'ts'an Cultural Committee
P.O. Box 1899 — Quechan
Yuma, AZ, 85366
Phone: (928) 750 - 2516
scottmanfred@yahoo.com

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 Coachella Airport Business Park Project, Riverside County.

Native American Heritage Commission
Native American Contact List
Riverside County
3/25/2020

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

Ramona Band of Cahuilla
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jgomez@ramona-nsn.gov

Santa Rosa Band of Cahuilla Indians
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Phone: (951) 659 - 2700
Fax: (951) 659-2228
mercedes.estrada@santarosacahuilla-nsn.gov

Santa Rosa Band of Cahuilla Indians
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Fax: (951) 659-2228
mflaxbeard@santarosacahuilla-nsn.gov

Soboba Band of Luiseno Indians
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San Jacinto, CA, 92583 Luiseno
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Fax: (951) 654-4198
jontiveros@soboba-nsn.gov

Soboba Band of Luiseno Indians
Joseph Ontiveros, Cultural Resource Department
P.O. BOX 487 Cahuilla
San Jacinto, CA, 92581 Luiseno
Phone: (951) 663 - 5279
Fax: (951) 654-4198
jontiveros@soboba-nsn.gov

Torres-Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians
Michael Mirelez, Cultural Resource Coordinator
P.O. Box 1160 Cahuilla
Thermal, CA, 92274
Phone: (760) 399 - 0022
Fax: (760) 397-8146
mmirelez@tmdci.org

Twenty-Nine Palms Band of Mission Indians
Anthony Madrigal, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer
46-200 Harrison Place Chemehuevi
Coachella, CA, 92236
Phone: (760) 775 - 3259
amadrigal@29palmsbomi-nsn.gov

Twenty-Nine Palms Band of Mission Indians
Darrell Mike, Chairperson
46-200 Harrison Place Chemehuevi
Coachella, CA, 92236
Phone: (760) 863 - 2444
Fax: (760) 863-2449
29chairman@29palmsbomi-nsn.gov

This list is current only as of the date of this document. Distribution of this list does not relieve any person of statutory responsibility as defined in Section 7050.5 of the Health and Safety Code, Section 5097.94 of the Public 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 Coachella Airport Business Park Project, Riverside County.

PALEOWEST

T: 626.408.8006
info@paleowest.com

LOS ANGELES COUNTY
517 S. Ivy Avenue
Monrovia, CA 91016

April 3, 2020

Patricia Garcia-Plotkin, Director
Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians
5401 Dinah Shore Drive
Palm Springs, CA 92264
Transmitted via email to ACBCI-THPO@aguacaliente.net

RE: Cultural Resource Investigation for the Coachella Airport Business Park Project in Coachella, Riverside County, California

Dear Ms. Garcia-Plotkin,

On behalf of The Altum Group, PaleoWest Archaeology (PaleoWest) is conducting a cultural resource investigation in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act for the Coachella Airport Business Park Project (Project) in Coachella, Riverside County, California. The proposed Project would include development of a mixed use business park with a primary focus on warehouse/commercial cannabis, small business-, and service station-related land uses. The Project area is located on the Indio, Calif. 7.5' USGS quadrangle map, within Section 15 in T6S/R8E (see attached map).

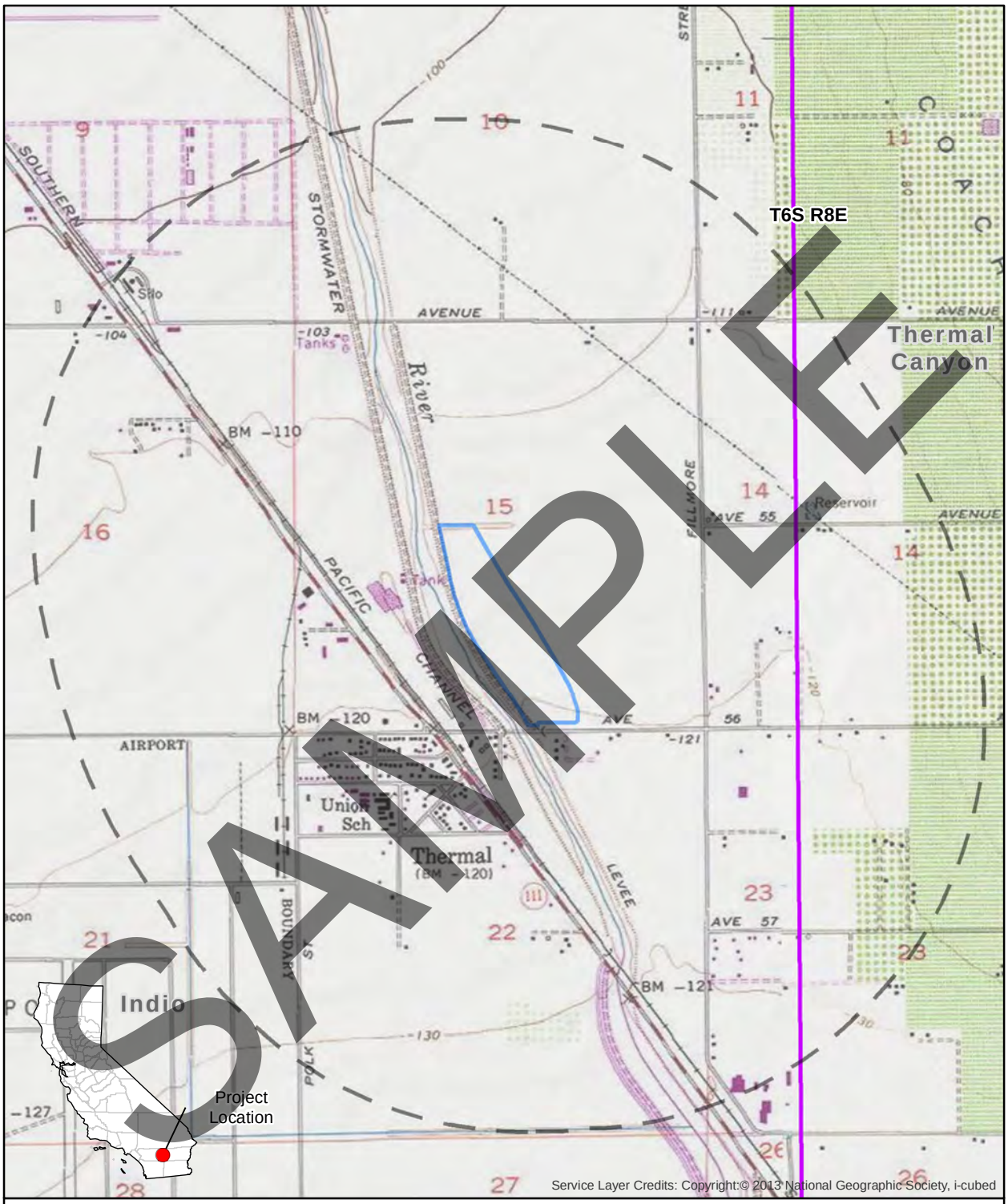
A review of previous cultural resource literature reviews and records search data from the area was conducted. This review of existing data indicates that no less than 16 cultural resource studies have been conducted within a one-mile radius of the Project area; four of these studies appear to intersect the Project area. The existing data review indicated that 25 cultural resources have been previously documented within one mile of the Project area; however, none of these resources are located within or immediately adjacent to the Project area. These are largely made up of historic-period built-environment single family residences.

As part of the cultural resource investigation of the Project area, PaleoWest requested a search of the Native American Heritage Commission's (NAHC's) *Sacred Lands File* on March 18, 2020. The NAHC responded on March 25, 2020 indicating that that no Native American cultural resources were identified within the Project area. However, should your records show that cultural properties exist within or near the Project area (see enclosed map), please contact me at (626) 408-8006 or rthomas@paleowest.com. I will follow-up in two weeks with a phone call or email if I do not hear from you.

Your comments are very important to us, and to the successful completion of this Project. I look forward to hearing from you in the near future. Thank you, in advance, for taking the time to review this request.

Sincerely,

Roberta Thomas, M.A., RPA
Senior Archaeologist
PaleoWest



PALEO WEST

0 feet 2,000

0 meters 500

1:24,000

Record Search Map
USGS 7.5' Quadrangle:
Indio, Ca (1977)
T6S, R8E; Sec 15
NAD 83 UTM Zone 11

Project Area

One Mile RS Buffer

Native American Contact/Response Matrix			
Recommended Contacts (Name and Tribal Affiliation)	**Initial Contact**	**Follow up Attempts**	**Comments/Notes**
Patricia Garcia-Plotkin, Director, Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians	Letter/email dated April 3, 2020		Ms. Garcia-Plotkin responded on April 24 stating that while the Project area is outside the Tribe's reservation it is within their Traditional Use Area. As such the ACBCI made the following requests: a copy of the records search, the cultural resource inventory for the project, copies of cultural resource documentation, and the presence of an ACBCI cultural resource monitor during ground disturbance for the Project.
Amanda Vance, Chairperson, Augustine Band of Cahuilla Mission Indians	Letter/email dated April 3, 2020	Phone call, April 30, 2020	Left a message.
Doug Welmas, Chairperson, Cabazon Band of Mission Indians	Letter/email dated April 3, 2020	Phone call, April 30, 2020	Left a message.
Daniel Salgado, Chairperson, Cahuilla Band of Indians	Letter/email dated April 3, 2020	Phone call, April 30, 2020	No voicemail available; no message left.
Shane Chapparosa Chairman, Los Coyotes Band of Cahuilla and Cupeño Indians	Letter/email dated April 3, 2020	Phone call, April 30, 2020	Provided with new Chairperson's email address; email sent to new Ray Chapparosa, Chairperson, on April 30.
Denisa Torres, Cultural Resources Manager, Morongo Band of Mission Indians	Letter/email dated April 3, 2020	Phone call, April 30, 2020	Number provided by NAHC "not in service"; follow email was sent
Jill McCormick, Historic Preservation Officer, Quechan Tribe of the Fort Yuma Reservation	Letter/email dated April 3, 2020		Emailed on on April 14 indicating the Tribe has no comments for the Project.
John Gomez, Environmental Coordinator, Ramona Band of Cahuilla	Letter/email dated April 3, 2020	Phone call, April 30, 2020	Left a message.
Steven Estrada, Chairman, Santa Rosa Band of Cahuilla Indians	Letter/email dated April 3, 2020	Phone call, April 30, 2020	Mariana indicated that the Tribe would not have a response as the Coachella Valley is out of their area.
Joseph Ontiveros, Cultural Resources Department, Soboba Band of Luiseno Indians	Letter/email dated April 3, 2020	Phone call, April 30, 2020	Mr. Ontiveros deferred to the Torres-Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians

Native American Contact/Response Matrix			
Recommended Contacts (Name and Tribal Affiliation)	**Initial Contact**	**Follow up Attempts**	**Comments/Notes**
Michael Mirelez, Cultural Resource Coordinator, Torres-Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians	Letter/email dated April 3, 2020		Mr. Mirelez responded on April 28 indicating that a review of the Tribe's records indicates the area is sensitive for cultural reosurces as at least 3 village sites are in the vicinity. The Tribe will provide additional information regarding the sensitivity of the area during official AB 52 consultation. At this time the Tribe is requesting the following: copies of all cultural reports, formal government-to-government consultation, and tribal monitoring of initial ground disturbing activitiy associated with the Project.
Anthony Madrigal, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer, Twenty-Nine Palms Band of Mission Indians	Letter/email dated April 3, 2020	Phone call, April 30, 2020	Left a message.

Robbie Thomas

From: Quechan Historic Preservation <historicpreservation@quechantribe.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 14, 2020 11:29 AM
To: Robbie Thomas
Subject: Coachella Airport Business Park Project in Coachella, Riverside County, California

This email serves to inform you that we wish to make no comments on this project.

H. Jill McCormick, M.A.
Historic Preservation Officer
Ft. Yuma Quechan Tribe
350 Picacho Road
Yuma, AZ 85366
Office: 760-572-2423
Cell: 928-261-0254

AGUA CALIENTE BAND OF CAHUILLA INDIANS

TRIBAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION

03-017-2020-001

April 24, 2020

[VIA EMAIL TO:rthomas@paleowest.com]
PaleoWest Archaeology
Ms. Roberta Thomas
517 S. Ivy Avenue
Monrovia, CA 91016

Re: Coachella Airport Business Park Project (20-221)

Dear Ms. Roberta Thomas,

The Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians (ACBCI) appreciates your efforts to include the Tribal Historic Preservation Office (THPO) in the Coachella Airport Business Park (20-221) project. The project area is not located within the boundaries of the ACBCI Reservation. However, it is within the Tribe's Traditional Use Area. For this reason, the ACBCI THPO requests the following:

*A copy of the records search with associated survey reports and site records from the information center.

*A cultural resources inventory of the project area by a qualified archaeologist prior to any development activities in this area.

*Copies of any cultural resource documentation (report and site records) generated in connection with this project.

*The presence of an approved Agua Caliente Native American Cultural Resource Monitor(s) during any ground disturbing activities (including archaeological testing and surveys). Should buried cultural deposits be encountered, the Monitor may request that destructive construction halt and the Monitor shall notify a Qualified Archaeologist (Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines) to investigate and, if necessary, prepare a mitigation plan for submission to the State Historic Preservation Officer and the Agua Caliente Tribal Historic Preservation Office.

Again, the Agua Caliente appreciates your interest in our cultural heritage. If you have questions or require additional information, please call me at (760)699-6907. You may also email me at ACBCI-THPO@aguacaliente.net.

Cordially,

Patricia Garcia-Plotkin

5401 DINAH SHORE DRIVE, PALM SPRINGS, CA 92264
T 760/699/6800 F 760/699/6924 WWW.AGUACALIENTE-NSN.GOV

AGUA CALIENTE BAND OF CAHUILLA INDIANS

TRIBAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION

Pattie Garcia-Plotkin
Director
Tribal Historic Preservation Office
AGUA CALIENTE BAND
OF CAHUILLA INDIANS

5401 DINAH SHORE DRIVE, PALM SPRINGS, CA 92264
T 760/699/6800 F 760/699/6924 WWW.AGUACALIENTE-NSN.GOV

TRIBAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE
5401 Dinah Shore Drive
PALM SPRINGS, CA 92264
(760) 699-6800
FAX (760) 669-6924

Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians
Tribal Historic Preservation Office
Monitoring Request Form

Please fill out the information below. Once the Tribal Historic Preservation Office receives the request we will complete a draft contract for your review. Upon your approval our team will provide legal review and finalize the contract for signatures.

1. What is the name of the project?

2. What is the address of the project?

3. What is the name of the land owner? Please provide the owner's address, phone number, fax number, email and President and/or owner's name.

4. Please provide a brief description of your project. Include a description of ground disturbing activities.

5. What date will construction begin?

6. How many days grubbing?

7. How many days grading and pad preparation?

8. How many days utility installation?

9. Does your project have conditions of approval? Please provide our office with a copy.

10. Please provide contact information for authorized signatory. Include name, title, address, phone number and email address.

11. Include a map of your project and return form and supporting documents to:

Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians
Tribal Historic Preservation Office
ACBCI-THPO@aguacaliente.net
(760) 699-6800.

TORRES MARTINEZ DESERT CAHUILLA INDIANS
P.O. Box 1160
Thermal, CA 92274
(760) 397-0300 – FAX (760) 397-8146

MAU - WAL - MAH
SU-KUTT MENYIL

April 28, 2020

Attn: **Roberta Thomas** - Senior Archaeologist
PaleoWest
Los Angeles County Office
517 S. Ivy Avenue
Monrovia, CA, 91016

Re: Airport Business Park Project in Coachella, California.

Torres Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians appreciates your concern for cultural resource preservation in your project. We have reviewed the information that you have submitted. According to our records your project is within what the Tribe considers a sensitive Tribal Culture Resource supported by at least 3 different Village sites, those being Palsetamul, Palsetahut, Kelewut kwiikwiinut. These are known Village sites which makes it a strong possibility to disturb Cremation and Cultural artifacts that are of importance to the Tribe.

The Tribe understands that your company is not a part of the AB52 process. Rather that this is an inquiry to collect information pertaining to the area the project is located on to assess the sensitivity of the area. However the Tribe is only willing to share the details of that information with the project proponents and lead agency. The Tribe is requesting that you list its response in your report so that the wishes of the Tribe are documented.
Although the project is located outside the existing reservation, the location does fall within our Tribal Traditional Use Area. Therefore the concern for inadvertent discoveries is high for the Torres Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians. As a result, we are requesting the following:

Torres Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians is requesting the following:

- Copies of all Cultural reports
- Formal Government to Government Consultation.
- Tribal Monitoring for all initial ground disturbing activities by a designated tribal monitor from the Torres Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians. The monitor shall be present during any ground disturbing proceedings including surveys and archaeological testing.

Please feel free contact me at your earliest convenience either by email or phone in order to make arrangements.

Respectfully,

Michael Mirelez
Cultural Resource Coordinator
Torres-Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians
Office: 760-397-0300 Ext: 1213
Cell:760-399-0022
Email: mmirelez@tmdci.org

Appendix B.
DPR Form Update

In 2008 a segment of the Coachella Valley Stormwater Channel was recorded and evaluated by Tom Tang and Terri Jacquemain of CRM Tech and recommended as ineligible for listing on the California Register of Historical Resources (CRHR) and the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) (Tang and Jacquemain 2008). In subsequent years the Coachella Valley Stormwater Channel has been evaluated several times for historical significance (George and Mirro 2009; Smallwood 2012, McDougall 2017) and each time has been recommended as not eligible for the CRHR or the NRHP.

On March 30, 2020 PaleoWest, LLC completed a field survey which included the Coachella Valley Stormwater Channel and found no indications that the previous eligibility recommendations should be altered. PaleoWest, LLC concurs with the previous recommendation that the Coachella Valley Stormwater Channel is not eligible for the CRHR or the NRHP. The segment of the Coachella Valley Stormwater Channel assessed during the current study extends from Airport Boulevard to approximately 0.5 mile north of Airport Boulevard in Coachella, CA.

Coachella Valley Stormwater Channel, facing northwest, March 30, 2020

References

George, Joan and Vanessa Mirro
2009 Phase I Cultural Resources Assessment for the Coachella Valley Water District's Stormwater Channel Project, Riverside County, California. On file, Eastern Information Center, University of California, Riverside.

McDougall, Dennis
2017 DPR recording forms, P-33-017913 (Coachella Valley Stormwater Channel). On file, Eastern Information Center, University of California, Riverside

Smallwood, Josh
2012 DPR recording forms, P-33-017913 (Coachella Valley Stormwater Channel). On file, Eastern Information Center, University of California, Riverside.

Tang, Tom, and Terri Jacquemain
2008 DPR recording forms, P-33-017259 (Coachella Valley Stormwater Channel). On file, Eastern Information Center, University of California, Riverside.

State of California — The Resources Agency	Primary #	P-33-017913 (Update)
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION	HRI #	
PRIMARY RECORD	Trinomial	CA-RIV-10847 (Update)
	NRHP Status Code	
Other Listings		
Review Code	Reviewer	Date

Resource Name or #: Coachella Valley Stormwater Channel

P1. Other Identifier:

P2. Location: a. County Riverside, CA ☐ Not for Publication ☒ Unrestricted

b. USGS 7.5′ Quad Cathedral City, CA **Date** 1958; photorevised 1981

T 4 S; **R** 5 E; Portions **of Sections** 28, 33, and 34; **S.B.B.M.**

c. Address: None **City** Cathedral City, CA **Zip**

d. Zone 11, NAD 83

NW corner of segment (UTM A): 548551 **mE/** 3740253 **mN**

NE corner of segment (UTM B): 548797 **mE/** 3740256 **mN**

SW corner of segment (UTM C): 551409 **mE/** 3737078 **mN**

SE corner of segment (UTM D): 551749 **mE/** 3737080 **mN**

e. Other Locational Data: The segment of the Coachella Valley Stormwater Channel documented by this record is located north of State Route (Highway 111) between Frank Sinatra Drive (south end) and Dinah Shore Drive (north end) in Cathedral City.

P3a. Description: This recorded segment of the Coachella Valley Stormwater Channel (CVSC) located between Frank Sinatra Drive (south end) and Dinah Shore Drive (north end) in Cathedral City, measures approximately 2.72 miles (14,375 ft or 4,380 m) long, and averages 643 ft (196 m) wide. The approximate southern two-thirds of this segment of the CVSC from its southern end at Frank Sinatra Drive north to Cathedral Canyon Drive consists of a channelized segment of the Whitewater River bordered along each side by cement-lined slopes. The northern part of the segment measuring approximately 0.88 miles (4,644 ft or 1,415 m) long from Cathedral Canyon Drive north to Dinah Shore Drive appears less channelized and more like the natural course of the Whitewater River drainage—the sides along this segment of the CVSC outside of the main drainage channel are not cement-lined, but landscaped and groomed gradual slopes that form portions of a golf course. Within the channelized portions with cement-lined side-slopes, the sides of the channel angle down at a 10 to12 degree slope to the relatively flat bottom of the channel approximately 20 ft below street grade.

P3b. Resource Attributes: HP11: Engineering structure

P4. Resources Present: ☐ Building ☒ Structure ☐ Object ☐ Site ☐ District ☐ Element of District

P5. Photograph or Drawing: See attached Continuation Sheets for photographs.

P6. Date Constructed/Age and Source: ☐ Prehistoric ☒ Historic ☐ Both

P7. Owner and Address: Unknown

P8. Recorded by: Dennis McDougall, Applied EarthWorks, Inc., 3550 E. Florida Ave., Suite H, Hemet, CA 92544

P9. Date Recorded: January 12, 2017.

P10. Type of Survey: ☒ Intensive ☐ Reconnaissance ☐ Other

Describe: Maximum of 15-m pedestrian transects.

P11. Report Citation: *Cultural Resource Assessment for the Coachella Valley Water District's Whitewater River Stormwater Channel Bureau of Indian Affairs Easement Renewal Project, City of Rancho Mirage, Riverside County, California*. Report prepared for the Coachella Valley Water District by Applied EarthWorks, Inc., Hemet, California.

Attachments: ☐ None ☒ Location Map ☒ Sketch Map ☒ Continuation Sheet ☒ Building, Structure, and Object Record ☐ Archaeological Record ☐ District Record ☐ Linear Feature Record ☐ Milling Station Record ☐ Rock Art Record ☐ Artifact Record ☐ Photograph Record Other:

B1. Historic Name: Coachella Valley Stormwater Channel **B2. Common Name:** Same

B3. Original Use: Flood control **B4. Present Use:** Flood control

B5. Architectural Style: This segment of the CVSC is an earthen and cement-lined channel bordered by large earthen levees.

B6. Construction History: The Coachella Valley Stormwater District was initially organized in 1915 by settlers of the Coachella Valley with the objective of controlling floodwater flows and constructing flood channels and levees. Prior to their formation the Whitewater River periodically flooded its banks and damaged farm lands. An objective of the District was to replace individual ad hoc levee-building by individuals who often worked against each other, with one property-owner inadvertently causing damage to another in times of flood. The Coachella Valley Stormwater District and the Coachella Valley County Water District merged in 1937. After a March 1938 storm, the District repaired, relocated, and reconstructed the segment of channel between Indio and the Salton Sea (Nordland 1978:81). The channel was rebuilt again in the late 1960s and early 1970s. The channel is depicted on the USGS Coachella quadrangle edition of 1941 (USGS 1941).

B7. Moved? ☒ No ☐ Yes ☐ Unknown **Date:** **Original Location:**

B8. Related Features: None

B9. a. Architect: Coachella Valley Stormwater District
b. Builder: Coachella Valley Stormwater District/Coachella Valley County Water District

B10. Significance: Theme: Flood Control Systems
Area: Riverside County
Period of Significance: 1915–present
Property Type: Stormwater channel **Applicable Criteria:** None apply

The Coachella Valley Stormwater District was initially organized in 1915 by settlers of the Coachella Valley with the intention of controlling floodwater flows and constructing flood channels and levees (Nordland 1978:18–19). Dropping groundwater levels and plans to export Coachella Valley groundwater to Imperial Valley led local farmers to create the Coachella Valley County Water District (CVCWD) in 1918. An objective of the CVCWD was to replace individual ad hoc levee-building, which often worked at cross-purposes, with one property owner doing damage to another in times of flood. Devastating flooding in 1919 inundated Indio, Coachella, Thermal, and Mecca, underscoring the urgency for building appropriate flood control devices. Flooding had been a problem that predated settlement and development of the Coachella Valley, with major floods recorded as early as 1862 and nearly every decade since (Nordland 1978:18–20, 99–102).

The Stormwater District began building flood control levees in 1915 (i.e., the Coachella Valley Stormwater Channel [CVSC]), beginning with the Indio Levee, and continued efforts throughout the Coachella Valley during the 1920s and 1930s. The Whitewater River, the principal drainage in the Coachella Valley, would flood every few years. Prior to channelization of the Whitewater River between Palm Springs and the Salton Sea, its course of meandering flows was one of constant change. One of the greatest flood episodes occurred in January 1916, culminating from the combination of heavy rainfall in the valley and snow melt from the mountains. During the rain storm, 11 mi of Southern Pacific Railroad track and bed were washed out between Whitewater and Thousand Palms, with numerous other breaks along the line below Indio. Indio itself was covered with a sheet of water two feet deep and one mile wide. The river's channel had become a narrow, 50-ft-deep gorge in many areas. Another major flood occurred in 1927, and the Whitewater Channel was again deeply cut in many places. Improvements carried out to improve the Whitewater Channel at that time had included rebuilding a system of levees which were affected by the storm in the vicinity of Indio, Thermal, and Mecca. The Stormwater District and the CVCWD merged in 1937.

In March of 1938, another major storm occurred, which again caused deep gouging in the channel and levee damage. In the aftermath of this storm, rebuilding and improvement of the channel took place. The CVCWD applied to the State of California for $80,000 in emergency funds "to repair, relocate and reconstruct the channel from Indio to the

[Salton] sea" (Nordland 1978:81). The channel was again rebuilt in the late 1960s and early 1970s, partly with funds from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Nordland 1978:101). It was estimated in the 1970s that nearly $16,000,000 had been spent on protective works constructed on the Whitewater River Channel alone, and that $34 million would be needed to provide the remaining protective works within the District (Nordland 1978:20).

Portions of the CVSC were initially constructed by the Coachella Valley Stormwater District as early as 1915 and through the 1930s to control floodwater flows in the valley, although it is unclear what the extent of their flood control channel, its design, and exact alignment were. The segment of the CVSC that extends from Indio to the Salton Sea was constructed as an earthen channel bordered by large earthen levees after the 1938 storm, and completed by at least 1941.

Other segments of the CVSC have been evaluated for historical significance and do not appear eligible for listing in the NRHP or CRHR (Tang and Jacquemain 2008:2–4; George and Mirro 2009:24; Smallwood 2012:2). The segment of the CVSC recorded during this study also does not appear eligible for the NRHP or CRHR. While it is associated with a trend of events that allowed for the improvement of agricultural lands during the mid-twentieth century, and development of the area into an urban center during the late twentieth century, the channel itself is not directly responsible for these developments, and did not play a significant role in the growth and development of the region. Rather, it is one of many factors in the overall scheme of Coachella Valley historical development. The stormwater channel is not directly associated with any historical events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history (Criterion A/1). The stormwater channel is not directly associated with the productive life of any persons significant in our past (Criterion B/2). This earthen and cement-lined channel is relatively plain in appearance and utilitarian in nature, and its construction does not represent any innovative design or building technique. Therefore, it does not exhibit any distinctive architectural characteristics or engineering merits that would suggest it is significant under Criterion C/3. Finally, the channel does not have the potential to yield any information important to the study of twentieth century channel construction through intensive study of its design, materials, or construction methods (Criterion D/4).

B11. Additional Resource Attributes: None

B12. References:

George, Joan and Vanessa Mirro
2009 Phase I Cultural Resources Assessment for the Coachella Valley Water District's Stormwater Channel Project, Riverside County, California. On file, Eastern Information Center, University of California, Riverside.

Nordland, Ole J.
1978 *Coachella Valley's Golden Years*. Revised edition. Desert Printing Co., Inc., Indio, California.

Smallwood, Josh
2012 DPR recording forms, P-33-017913 (Coachella Valley Stormwater Channel). On file, Eastern Information Center, University of California, Riverside.

Tang, Tom, and Terri Jacquemain
2008 DPR recording forms, P-33-017259 (Coachella Valley Stormwater Channel). On file, Eastern Information Center, University of California, Riverside.

USGS (U.S. Geological Survey, Washington D.C.)
1941 Coachella, Calif. (15-minute/1:62,500 scale). Aerial photographs taken 1941.

B13. Remarks: None

B14. Evaluator: Applied EarthWorks, Inc., 3550 E. Florida Ave., Suite I, Hemet, CA 92544
Date of Evaluation: January 2017

Channelized segment of the CVSC with cement-lined slopes between Frank Sinatra Drive and Cathedral Canyon Drive (view to the northwest; photograph taken January 10, 2017).

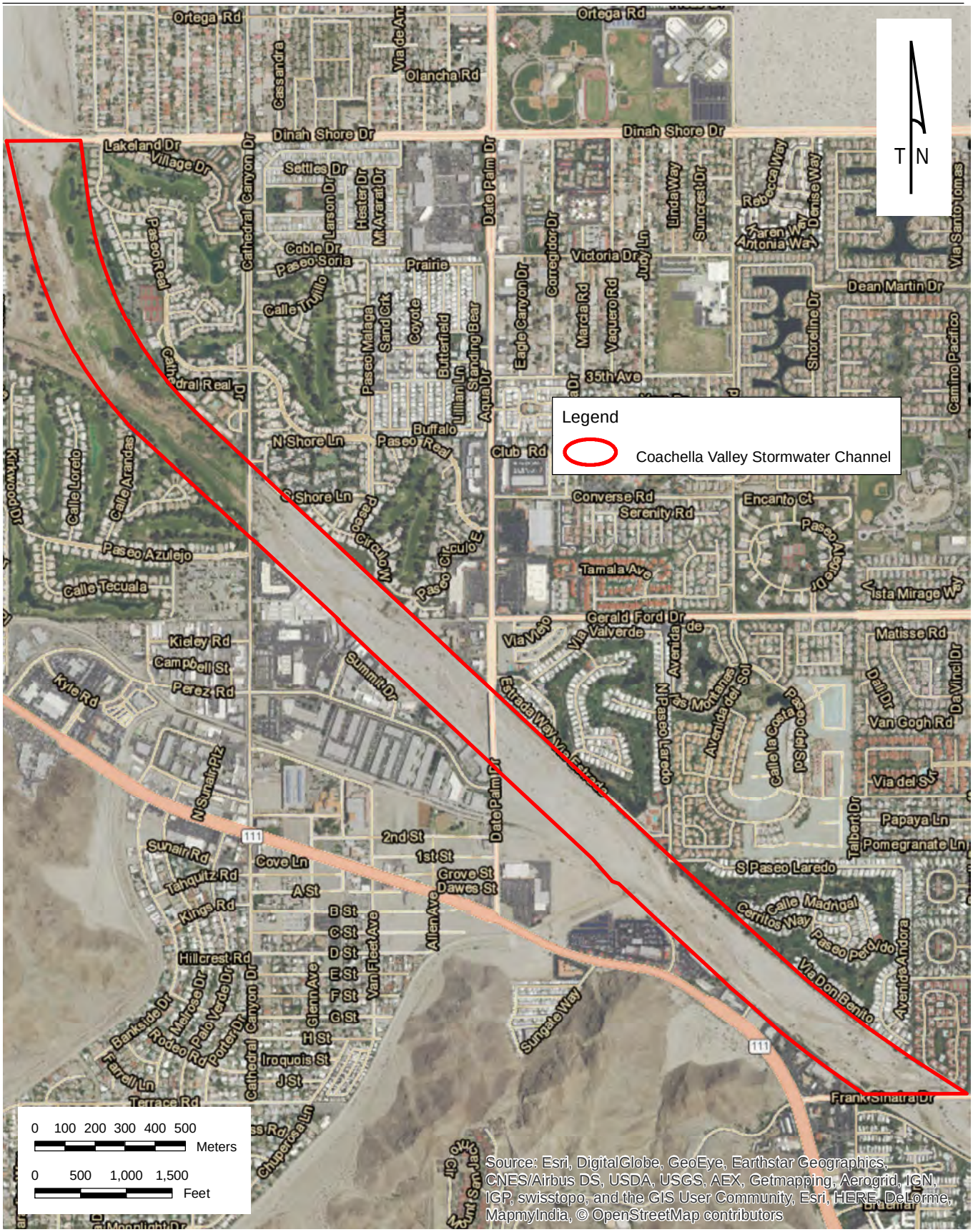
State of California — The Resources Agency
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION

SKETCH MAP

Primary # 33-017259 (Update)
HRI#
Trinomial CA-RIV-10847H (Update)

Page 5 **of** 6 ***Resource Name or #:** (Assigned by recorder) Coachella Valley Stormwater Channel

***Drawn by:** D. McDougall ***Scale:** 1 inch equals 1,500 feet ***Date of map:** January 2017

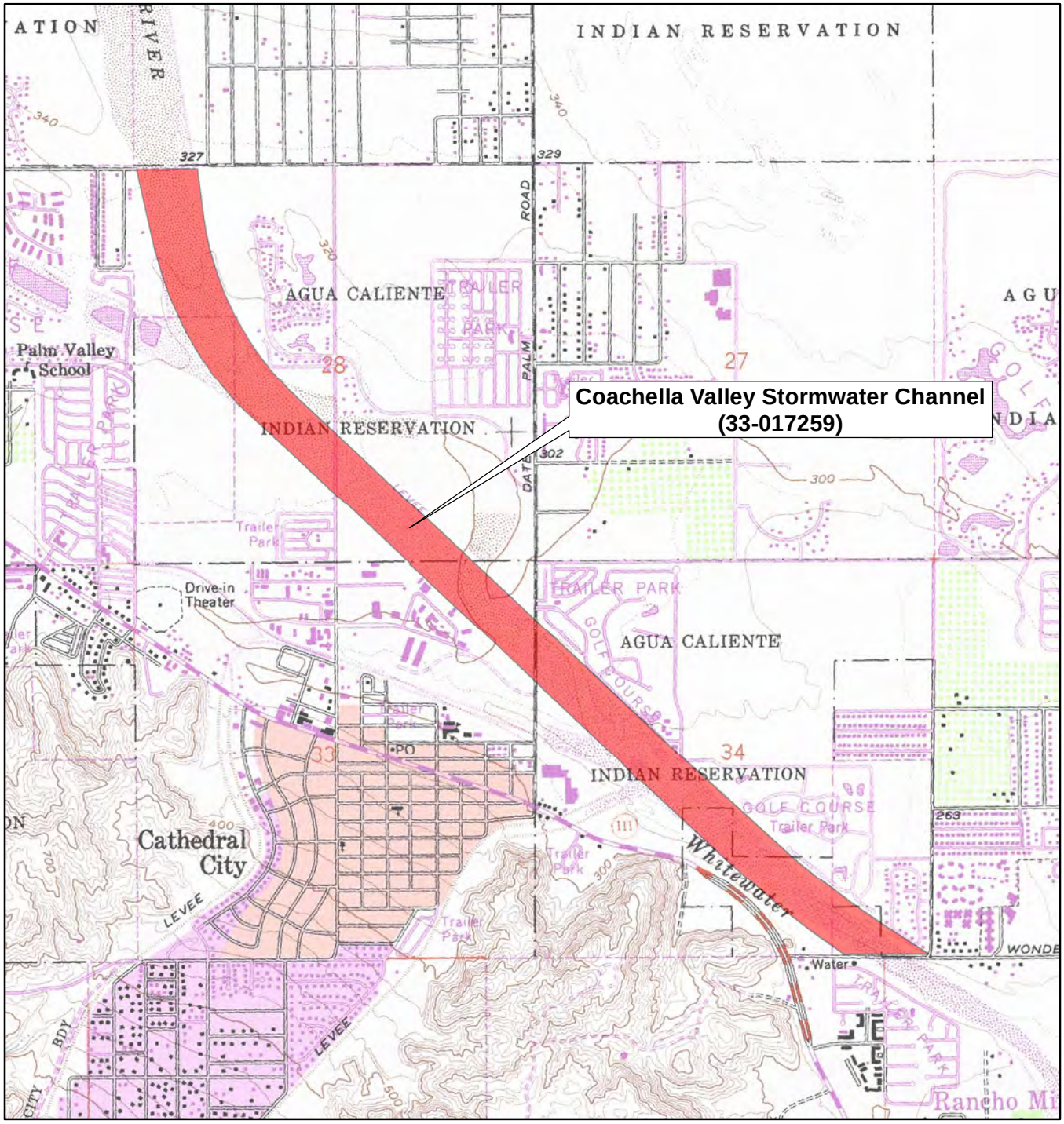


State of California — The Resources Agency
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION
LOCATION MAP

Primary # 33-017259 (Update)
HRI#
Trinomial CA-RIV-10847H (Update)

Page 6 **of** 6 **Resource Name or #:** Coachella Valley Stormwater Channel **Scale:** 1:24,000

Map Name: Cathedral City (1958, photorevised 1981), CA 7.5' USGS Quadrangle **Date:** 2017



SCALE 1:24,000

1 0.5 0 1 Miles

1,000 0 1,000 2,000 3,000 4,000 5,000 6,000 7,000 Feet

1 0.5 0 1 Kilometers

TRUE NORTH

33-17259

CA-RIV-10847

ALSO SEE

33-20750

CA-RIV-10672

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

PRIMARY RECORD

Primary # P-33-017259
HRI #
Trinomial CA-RIV-10847
NRHP Status Code
Other Listings
Review Code _____ Reviewer _____ Date _____

*Resource Name or #: SRI-14202 (UPDATE)

RECEIVED IN
JUN 08 2012
EIC

P1. Other Identifier: SRI-14202

*P2. Location: ☑ Not for Publication ☐ Unrestricted *a. County: Riverside

*b. USGS Quad: 7.5' MECCA (2009); T 7S R 8E, NE¼ of NW¼ of Sec. 13; SBBM

c. Address:

d. UTM: Zone 11; 582819 mE/ 3714563 mN NAD27 GPS

e. Other Locational Data:

The site crosses Highway 111 southeast of Thermal, between postmiles 23.7 and 23.9. The site also crosses Highway 195 between postmiles 5.6 and 5.7, west of Mecca.

*P3a. Description:

This site consists is the Coachella Valley Stormwater Channel (P-33-17259), which crosses Highway 111, southeast of the town of Thermal and Highway 195, west of Mecca. The main channel consists of a wide expanse of land covered in various riparian species of plants and trees with the channelized Whitewater River located centrally. This channel is bound by wide earthern levees. Located atop these levees are graded access roads that covered with crushed granite.

At the interection with Highway 195, the channelized river passes through a concrete beneath the highway. The banks of the channel are fortified with concrete and boulders to reduce erosion. Like the segment crossing Highway 111, the channel is flanked by levees with access roads located on top of the levees. The roads are oriented northwest to southeast on both sides of Highway 195 and are covered with crushed granite. Access to these roads, as well as those associated with the levees on Highway 111, is blocked by large meal swinging gates. No cultural materials were observed.The site boundary is determined in part by the right-of-way established by Caltrans. The right-of-way extends 15 m from the edge of the highway. The site continues beyond the right-of-way, but these portions were not recorded.

*P3b. Resource Attributes: HP20 Canal; AH6 water conveyence system; AH7 Historical-period road, HP37 Historical-period road

*P4. Resources Present: ☐ Building ☐ Structure ☐ Object ☑ Site ☐ District ☐ Element of District ☐ Other (Isolates, etc.)

*P5b. Description of Photo:
Facing NW; 3/7/2012; eastern north road overview

*P6. Date Constructed/Age & Sources:
☑ Historic ☐ Prehistoric ☐ Both

*P7. Owner and Address:
PRIVATE PROPERTY, ADDRESS UNKNOWN

*P8. Recorded by:
Patrick Stanton

*P9. Date Recorded: 2/22/2012

*P10. Survey Type:
Reconnaissance survey of highway right-of-way

*P11. Citation: Report forthcoming

*Attachments: ☐ None ☑ Location Map ☑ Sketch Map ☑ Continuation Sheet ☐ Building, Structure, and Object Record
☑ Archaeological Record ☐ District Record ☑ Linear Feature Record ☐ Milling Station Record ☐ Rock Art Record
☐ Artifact Record ☑ Photograph Record ☐ Other:

*Required Information

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

ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITE RECORD

Primary # P-33-017259
Trinomial CA-RIV-10647

*Resource Name or #: SRI-14202 (UPDATE)

*A1. Dimensions: a. Length 259 m (E/W) x b. Width 56 m (N/S)
Method of Measurement: ☐ Paced ☐ Taped ☐ Visual estimate ☑ GPS ☐ Other:
Method of Determination: ☐ Artifacts ☑ Features ☐ Soil ☐ Vegetation ☐ Topography ☐ Cut bank ☐ Animal burrow ☐ Excavation ☐ Property boundary ☑ Other: The site boundary is determined in part by the right-of-way established ...
Reliability of determination: ☑ High ☐ Medium ☐ Low
Explain: Because the site is bounded by two large, easily distinguished levees, the site boundaries are ...
Limitations: ☐ Restricted access ☐ Paved/built over ☑ Site limits incompletely defined ☐ Disturbances ☐ Vegetation ☐ Other:

A2. Depth: None ☑ None ☐ Unknown Method of determination: None

*A3. Human Remains: ☐ Present ☑ Absent ☐ Possible ☐ Unknown

*A4. Features:

This site consists is the Coachella Valley Stormwater Channel (P-33-17259), which crosses Highway 111, southeast of the town of Thermal and Highway 195, west of Mecca. The main channel (Feature 16216) consists of a wide expanse of land covered in various riparian species of plants and trees with the channelized Whitewater River located centrally. This channel is bound by wide earthern levees (Feature 16136-northwest and 16137-southeast). Located atop these levees are graded access roads that covered with crushed granite.

At the interection with Highway 195, the channelized river (Feature 16216) passes through a concrete beneath the highway. The banks of the channel are fortified with concrete and boulders to reduce erosion. Like the segment crossing Highway 111, the channel is flanked by levees with access roads located on top of the levees. The roads (Features 16217-west road and 16218-east road) are oriented northwest to southeast on both sides of Highway 195 and are covered with crushed granite. Access to these roads, as well as those associated with the levees on Highway 111, is blocked by large meal swinging gates. No cultural materials were observe. The site boundary is determined in part by the right-of-way established by Caltrans. The right-of-way extends 15 m from the edge of the highway. The site continues beyond the right-of-way, but these portions were not recorded. The site was identified on the Coachella (1941, 1956) 15-minute and the Mecca (1955) 7.5-minute USGS topographic quads.

*A5. Cultural Constituents:

No cultural materials were observed.

*A6. Were Specimens Collected? ☑ No ☐ Yes

*A7. Site Condition ☑ Good ☐ Fair ☐ Poor

Because access roads run along the tops of the levees, the levees are covered with tire tracks and ruts.

*A8. Nearest Water: The channelized Whitewater River flows through the center of the canal.

*A9. Elevation: -57 m amsl

A10. Environmental Setting:

The site is located in the Coachella Valley. Vegetation associated with the levees is sparse and consists of scattered brush and grasses. In the channel, vegetation gets much denser with tall grasses, brush, and the occasional tree. The surrounding sediment is a fine silty sand with some smaller gravel deposits.

A11. Historical Information:

According to previous site records, after the Whitewater River's course was changed after torrential rains in 1916, the river was channelized and became "the 'backbone' of the Coachella Valley Stormwater Channel" (Ballester 2008). The site was identified on the Coachella (1941, 1956) 15-minute and the Mecca (1955) 7.5-minute USGS topographic quads.

*A12. Age: ☐ Prehistoric ☐ Protohistoric ☐ 1542-1769 ☐ 1769-1848 ☐ 1848-1880 ☑ 1880-1914 ☑ 1914-1945 ☑ Post-1945 ☐ Undetermined

A13. Interpretations:

None

A14. Remarks:

There have been no chnges since the previous site record was written in 2008.

A15. References:

Balllester, Daniel

2008 Archaeological Site Record for P-33-017259. On file at the Eastern Information Center. University of California, Riverside.

A16. Photographs: See photograph record
Original Media/Negatives Kept At: 21 W. Stuart Ave, Redlands, CA 92373

*A17. Form Prepared By: Patrick Stanton **Date:** 2/22/2012
Affiliation and Address: Statistical Research, Inc., 21 W. Stuart Ave, Redlands, CA 92373

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

LINEAR FEATURE RECORD

Primary # P-33-017259
HRI #
Trinomial CA-RIV-10847

 *Resource Name or #: SRI-14202 (UPDATE)

L1. Historic and/or Common Name: None

L2a. Portion Described: ☐ Entire Resource ☑ Segment ☐ Point Observation **Designation:** Feature 16136

L2b. Location of Point or Segment:

Zone 11; 582704 mE/ 3714582 mN NAD27 GPS
Zone 11; 582731 mE/ 3714544 mN NAD27 GPS
Zone 11; 582904 mE/ 3714585 mN NAD27 GPS
Zone 11; 582935 mE/ 3714546 mN NAD27 GPS

L3. Description:

This site consists is the Coachella Valley Stormwater Channel (P-33-17259), which crosses Highway 111, southeast of the town of Thermal and Highway 195, west of Mecca. The main channel (Feature 16216) consists of a wide expanse of land covered in various riparian species of plants and trees with the channelized Whitewater River located centrally. This channel is bound by wide earthern levees (Feature 16136-northwest and 16137-southeast). Located atop these levees are graded access roads that covered with crushed granite.

At the interection with Highway 195, the channelized river (Feature 16216) passes through a concrete beneath the highway. The

L4. Dimensions:

a. Top Width: 100.00 m
b. Bottom Width: N/A
c. Height or Depth: None
d. Length of Segment: 45.00 m

L5. Associated Resources:

None

L4e. Sketch of Cross-Section: **Facing:**

L6. Setting:

The site is located in the Coachella Valley. Vegetation associated with the levees is sparse and consists of scattered brush and grasses. In the channel, vegetation gets much denser with tall grasses, brush, and the occasional tree. The surrounding sediment is a fine silty sand with some smaller gravel deposits.

L7. Integrity Considerations:

Because access roads run along the tops of the levees, the levees are covered with tire tracks and ruts.

L8b. Description of Photo, Map, or Drawing

See sketch map

L9. Remarks:

There have been no chnges since the previous site record was written in 2008.

L10. Form Prepared By:

Patrick Stanton

L11. Date: 2/22/2012

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

LINEAR FEATURE RECORD

Primary # P-33-017259
HRI #
Trinomial CA-RIV-10647

*Resource Name or #: SRI-14202 (UPDATE)

L1. Historic and/or Common Name: None

L2a. Portion Described: ☐ Entire Resource ☑ Segment ☐ Point Observation **Designation:** Feature 16137

L2b. Location of Point or Segment:

Zone 11; 582704 mE/ 3714582 mN NAD27 GPS
Zone 11; 582731 mE/ 3714544 mN NAD27 GPS
Zone 11; 582904 mE/ 3714585 mN NAD27 GPS
Zone 11; 582935 mE/ 3714546 mN NAD27 GPS

L3. Description:

This site consists is the Coachella Valley Stormwater Channel (P-33-17259), which crosses Highway 111, southeast of the town of Thermal and Highway 195, west of Mecca. The main channel (Feature 16216) consists of a wide expanse of land covered in various riparian species of plants and trees with the channelized Whitewater River located centrally. This channel is bound by wide earthern levees (Feature 16136-northwest and 16137-southeast). Located atop these levees are graded access roads that covered with crushed granite.

L4. Dimensions:

a. Top Width: 100.00 m
b. Bottom Width: N/A
c. Height or Depth: None
d. Length of Segment: 100.00 m

L5. Associated Resources:

None

L4e. Sketch of Cross-Section: **Facing:**

L6. Setting:

The site is located in the Coachella Valley. Vegetation associated with the levees is sparse and consists of scattered brush and grasses. In the channel, vegetation gets much denser with tall grasses, brush, and the occasional tree. The surrounding sediment is a fine silty sand with some smaller gravel deposits.

L7. Integrity Considerations:

Because access roads run along the tops of the levees, the levees are covered with tire tracks and ruts.

L8b. Description of Photo, Map, or Drawing

See sketch map

L9. Remarks:

There have been no chnges since the previous site record was written in 2008.

L10. Form Prepared By:

Patrick Stanton

L11. Date: 2/22/2012

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

LINEAR FEATURE RECORD

Primary # P-33-017259
HRI #
Trinomial CA-RIV-10847

*Resource Name or #: SRI-14202 (UPDATE)

L1. Historic and/or Common Name: None

L2a. Portion Described: ☐ Entire Resource ☑ Segment ☐ Point Observation **Designation:** Feature 16216

L2b. Location of Point or Segment:
Zone 11; 582704 mE/ 3714582 mN NAD27 GPS
Zone 11; 582731 mE/ 3714544 mN NAD27 GPS
Zone 11; 582904 mE/ 3714585 mN NAD27 GPS
Zone 11; 582935 mE/ 3714546 mN NAD27 GPS

L3. Description:
This site consists is the Coachella Valley Stormwater Channel (P-33-17259), which crosses Highway 111, southeast of the town of Thermal and Highway 195, west of Mecca. The main channel (Feature 16216) consists of a wide expanse of land covered in various riparian species of plants and trees with the channelized Whitewater River located centrally. This channel is bound by wide earthern levees (Feature 16136-northwest and 16137-southeast). Located atop these levees are graded access roads that covered with crushed granite.

L4. Dimensions:
- **a. Top Width:** 12.00 m
- **b. Bottom Width:** N/A
- **c. Height or Depth:** None
- **d. Length of Segment:** 15.00 m

L5. Associated Resources:
None

L4e. Sketch of Cross-Section: **Facing:**

L6. Setting:
The site is located in the Coachella Valley. Vegetation associated with the levees is sparse and consists of scattered brush and grasses. In the channel, vegetation gets much denser with tall grasses, brush, and the occasional tree. The surrounding sediment is a fine silty sand with some smaller gravel deposits.

L7. Integrity Considerations:
Because access roads run along the tops of the levees, the levees are covered with tire tracks and ruts.

L8b. Description of Photo, Map, or Drawing
See sketch map

L9. Remarks:
There have been no chnges since the previous site record was written in 2008.

L10. Form Prepared By:
Patrick Stanton

L11. Date: 2/22/2012

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

LINEAR FEATURE RECORD

Primary # P-33-017259
HRI #
Trinomial CA-RIV-10947

*Resource Name or #: SRI-14202 (UPDATE)

L1. Historic and/or Common Name: None

L2a. Portion Described: ☐ Entire Resource ☑ Segment ☐ Point Observation **Designation:** Feature 16217

L2b. Location of Point or Segment:

Zone 11; 582704 mE/ 3714582 mN NAD27 GPS
Zone 11; 582731 mE/ 3714544 mN NAD27 GPS
Zone 11; 582904 mE/ 3714585 mN NAD27 GPS
Zone 11; 582935 mE/ 3714546 mN NAD27 GPS

L3. Description:

At the interection with Highway 195, the channelized river (Feature 16216) passes through a concrete beneath the highway. The banks of the channel are fortified with concrete and boulders to reduce erosion. Like the segment crossing Highway 111, the channel is flanked by levees with access roads located on top of the levees. The roads (Features 16217-west road and 16218-east road) are oriented northwest to southeast on both sides of Highway 195 and are covered with crushed granite. Access to these roads, as well as those associated with the levees on Highway 111, is blocked by large meal swinging gates.

L4. Dimensions:

a. Top Width: 5.00 m
b. Bottom Width: N/A
c. Height or Depth: None
d. Length of Segment: 51.00 m

L5. Associated Resources:

None

L4e. Sketch of Cross-Section: **Facing:**

L6. Setting:

The site is located in the Coachella Valley. Vegetation associated with the levees is sparse and consists of scattered brush and grasses. In the channel, vegetation gets much denser with tall grasses, brush, and the occasional tree. The surrounding sediment is a fine silty sand with some smaller gravel deposits.

L7. Integrity Considerations:

Because access roads run along the tops of the levees, the levees are covered with tire tracks and ruts.

L8b. Description of Photo, Map, or Drawing

See sketch map

L9. Remarks:

There have been no chnges since the previous site record was written in 2008.

L10. Form Prepared By:

Patrick Stanton

L11. Date: 2/22/2012

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

LINEAR FEATURE RECORD

Primary # P-33-017259
HRI #
Trinomial CA-RIV-10847

*Resource Name or #: SRI-14202 (UPDATE)

L1. Historic and/or Common Name: None

L2a. Portion Described: ☐ Entire Resource ☑ Segment ☐ Point Observation **Designation:** Feature 16218

L2b. Location of Point or Segment:

Zone 11; 582704 mE/ 3714582 mN NAD27 GPS
Zone 11; 582731 mE/ 3714544 mN NAD27 GPS
Zone 11; 582904 mE/ 3714585 mN NAD27 GPS
Zone 11; 582935 mE/ 3714546 mN NAD27 GPS

L3. Description:

At the interection with Highway 195, the channelized river (Feature 16216) passes through a concrete beneath the highway. The banks of the channel are fortified with concrete and boulders to reduce erosion. Like the segment crossing Highway 111, the channel is flanked by levees with access roads located on top of the levees. The roads (Features 16217-west road and 16218-east road) are oriented northwest to southeast on both sides of Highway 195 and are covered with crushed granite. Access to these roads, as well as those associated with the levees on Highway 111, is blocked by large meal swinging gates.

L4. Dimensions:

- **a. Top Width:** 5.00 m
- **b. Bottom Width:** N/A
- **c. Height or Depth:** None
- **d. Length of Segment:** 92.00 m

L5. Associated Resources:

None

L4e. Sketch of Cross-Section: **Facing:**

L6. Setting:

The site is located in the Coachella Valley. Vegetation associated with the levees is sparse and consists of scattered brush and grasses. In the channel, vegetation gets much denser with tall grasses, brush, and the occasional tree. The surrounding sediment is a fine silty sand with some smaller gravel deposits.

L7. Integrity Considerations:

Because access roads run along the tops of the levees, the levees are covered with tire tracks and ruts.

L8b. Description of Photo, Map, or Drawing

See sketch map

L9. Remarks:

There have been no chnges since the previous site record was written in 2008.

L10. Form Prepared By:

Patrick Stanton

L11. Date: 2/22/2012

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

PHOTOGRAPH RECORD

Primary # P-33-017259
HRI #
Trinomial CA-RIV-10847

***Resource Name or #:** SRI-14202 (UPDATE)

Camera Format:
Lens Size:
Film Type and Speed: Digital
Negatives Kept At: 21 W. Stuart Ave, Redlands, CA 92373

Date	Time	Exp/ Frame	Subject/Description	View Toward	Accession #
3/7/2012		5253	eastern north road overview	NW	
3/7/2012		5252	southern channel overview	S	
3/12/2012		5222	canal overview	NW	
3/7/2012		5251	overview	E	

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

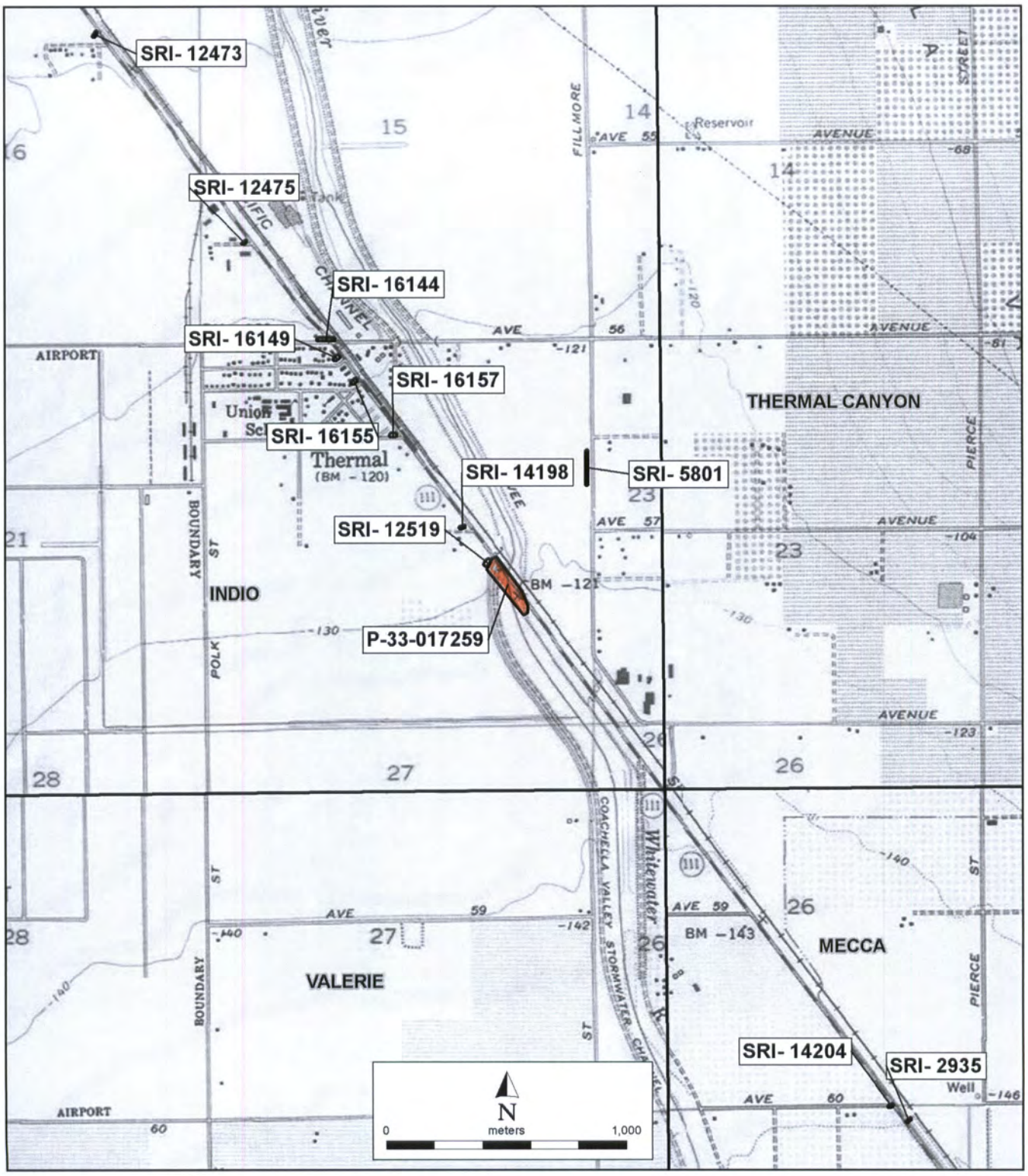
LOCATION MAP

Primary # P-33-017259
HRI #
Trinomial CA-RIV-10847

*Resource Name or #: SRI-14202 (UPDATE)

*Map Name: 7.5' MECCA USGS Topographic Quad Scale: 1:24,000

*Year: 2009



*Required Information

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

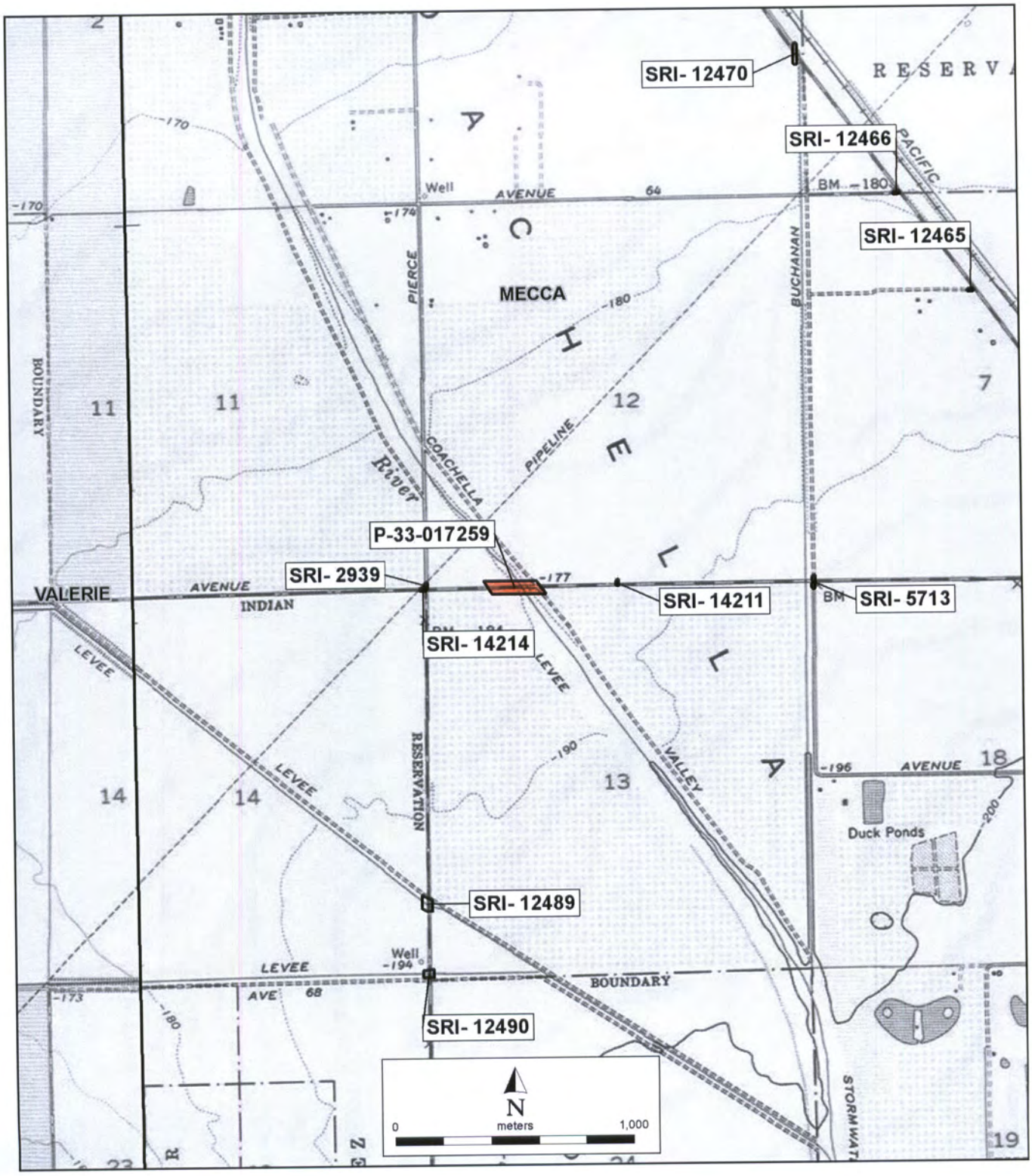
LOCATION MAP

Primary # P-33-017259
HRI #
Trinomial CA-RIV-10847

*Resource Name or #: SRI-14202 (UPDATE)

*Map Name: 7.5' MECCA USGS Topographic Quad Scale: 1:24,000

*Year: 2009



*Required Information

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

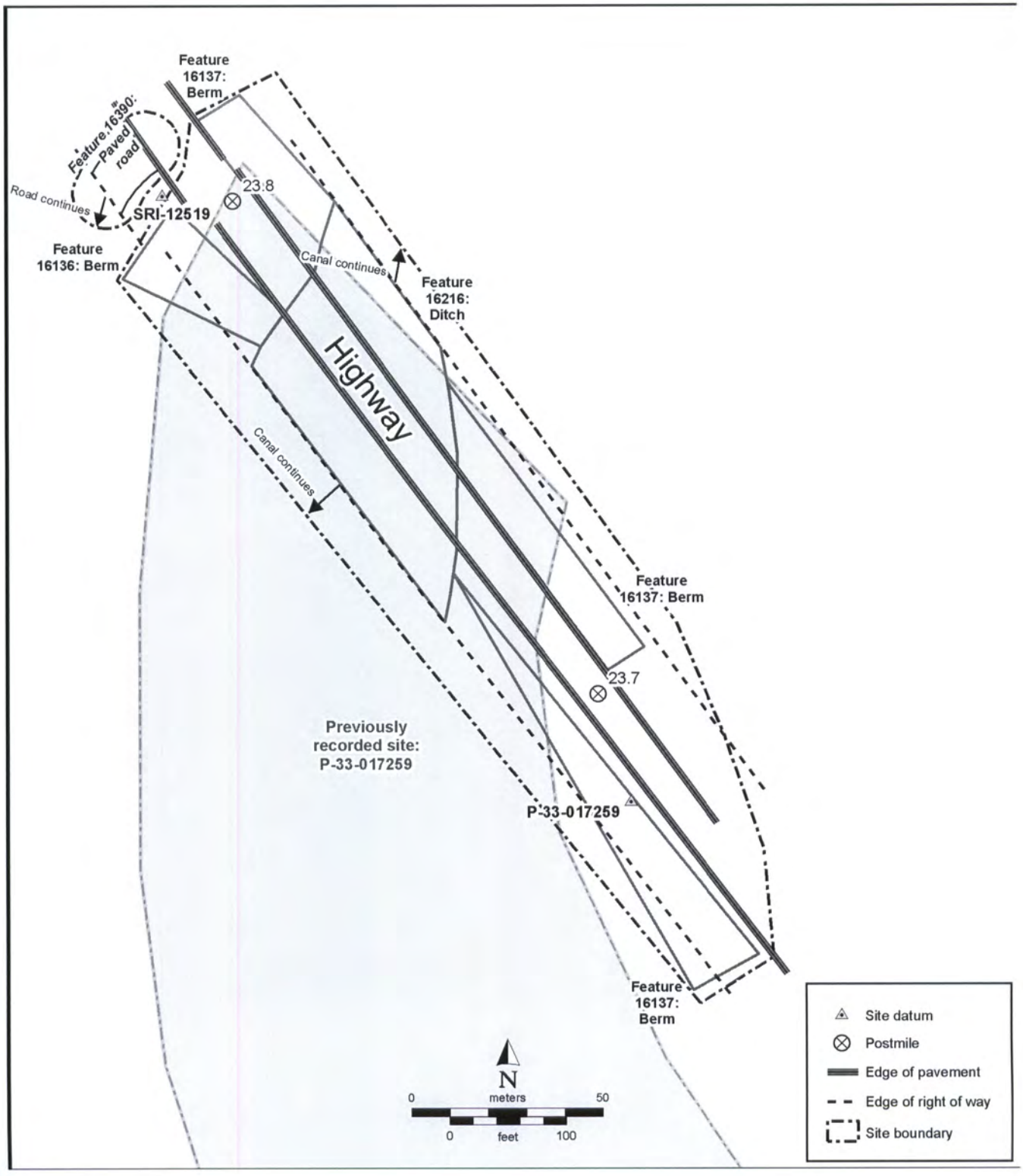
SKETCH MAP

Primary # P-33-017259
HRI #
Trinomial CA-RIV-10847

*Resource Name or #: SRI-14202 (UPDATE)

*Drawn By: Patrick Stanton

*Date: 02/22/2012



*Required Information

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

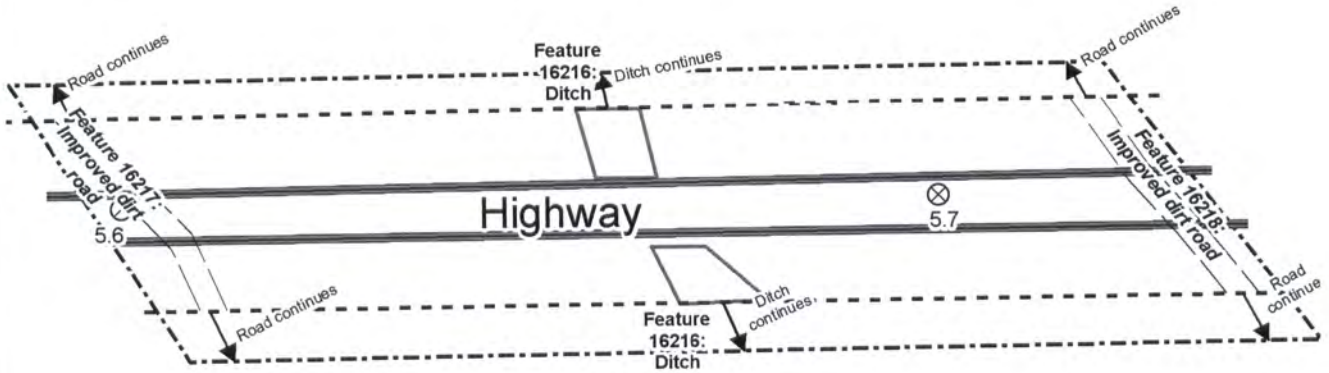
SKETCH MAP

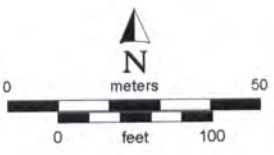
Primary # P-33-017259
HRI #
Trinomial CA-RIV-10847

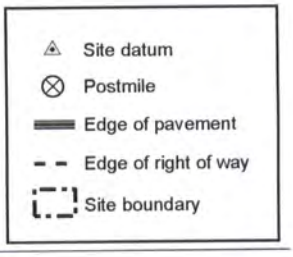
*Resource Name or #: SRI-14202 (UPDATE)

*Drawn By: Patrick Stanton

*Date: 02/22/2012







*Required Information

P2b. Legal description
T 7S R 8E; NW¼ of NW¼ of Sec 13; SBBM
T 7S R 8E; SE¼ of SW¼ of Sec 12; SBBM
T 7S R 8E; SW¼ of SW¼ of Sec 12; SBBM

P2d. UTM
Zone 11; 582731 mE/ 3714544 mN NAD27 GPS
Zone 11; 582904 mE/ 3714585 mN NAD27 GPS
Zone 11; 582935 mE/ 3714546 mN NAD27 GPS

P4. Resources Present
[X] Other (linear)

A1. Method of determination
by Caltrans. The right-of-way extends 15 m from the edge of the highway. The site continues beyond the right-of-way, but these portions were not recorded. The site was identified on the Coachella (1941, 1956) 15-minute and the Mecca (1955) 7.5-minute USGS topographic quads.

A1. Reliability of determination
readily apparent.

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

PRIMARY RECORD

Primary # 33-17259
HRI #
Trinomial
NRHP Status Code 6Z
Other Listings
Review Code Reviewer Date

Page 1 of 5 *Resource Name or # (Assigned by recorder) CRM TECH 2265-1

P1. Other Identifier: Coachella Valley Stormwater Channel/Whitewater River

*P2. Location: ___ Not for Publication √ Unrestricted *a. County Riverside

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

*b. USGS 7.5' Quad Indio, Valerie and Mecca, Calif. Date 1972
T6S; R8E; Sec 22, 23, 26 and 27 ; S.B. B.M.;
Elevation: Approximately -130 to -150 feet below mean sea level

c. Address N/A City Thermal Zip 92274

d. UTM: (Give more than one for large and/or linear resources) Zone 11; A 580440 mE/ 3721700 mN
B 581200 mE/ 3719400 mN

UTM Derivation: √ USGS Quad ___ GPS

e. Other Locational Data: (e.g., parcel #, directions to resource, etc., as appropriate) An approximately 1.5-mile-long segment of the Coachella Valley Stormwater Channel located southwest of Grapefruit Boulevard (SR 111) and north of Avenue 60.

*P3a. Description: (Describe resource and its major elements. Include design, materials, condition, alterations, size, setting, and boundaries) The segment of the channel is defined by two parallel earthen levees, each topped by a dirt access road that run the entire length of the segment and beyond. The interior sides of the levees slope gently at approximately 18-20 degrees to the bottom of the riverbed, about 25-30 feet
(Continued on p. 4)

*P3b. Resource Attributes: (List attributes and codes) AH6: Water conveyance system

*P4. Resources Present: ___ Building √ Structure ___ Object ___ Site ___ District ___ Element of District
Other (isolates, etc.)

P5a. Photograph or Drawing (Photograph required for buildings, structures, and objects.)

P5b. Description of Photo: (view, date, accession #) Photo taken on August 11, 2008; view to the east

*P6. Date Constructed/Age of Sources:
√ Historic ___ Prehistoric ___ Both
Ca. 1910s-1950s (see Items B6 and B12 for details)

*P7. Owner and Address: Unknown

*P8. Recorded by (Name, affiliation, and address): Daniel Ballester, CRM TECH, 1016 East Cooley Drive, Suite A/B, Colton, CA 92324

*P9. Date Recorded: August 2008

*P10. Survey Type: Intensive-level survey for CEQA-compliance purposes

*P11. Report Citation: (Cite survey report and other sources, or enter "none.") Bai "Tom" Tang and Harry M. Quinn (2008): Historical/Archaeological/Paleontological Survey of Whitewater River Channel, Thermal 551 Brookfield Project, near the Community of Thermal, Riverside County, California. On file, Eastern Information Center, University of California, Riverside.

*Attachments: ___ None √ Location Map √ Continuation Sheet √ Building, Structure, and Object Record
___ Archaeological Record ___ District Record √ Linear Resource Record ___ Milling Station Record
___ Rock Art Record ___ Artifact Record ___ Photograph Record ___ Other (List):

DPR 523A (1/95) *Required information

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

Primary # 33-17259
HRI #

BUILDING, STRUCTURE, AND OBJECT RECORD

*NRHP Status Code 6Z
*Resource Name or # (Assigned by recorder) CRM TECH 2265-1

B1. Historic Name: Coachella Valley Stormwater Channel B2. Common Name: Same
B3. Original Use: Flood control B4. Present Use: Same
*B5. **Architectural Style:** N/A
*B6. **Construction History:** (Construction date, alterations, and date of alterations) After torrential flooding changed the course of the Whitewater River between Cathedral City and Point Happy in January 1916, the newly altered riverbed became the "backbone" of the Coachella Valley Stormwater Channel, which carries the runoff to the Salton Sea. The segment of the riverbed from Point Happy to *(Continued on p. 4)*
*B7. **Moved?** √ No ___Yes ___Unknown **Date:**____ **Original Location:**
*B8. **Related Features:** See Item P3a.
B9a. Architect: Unknown b. Builder: Coachella Valley Stormwater District
*B10. **Significance:** **Theme** Flood protection/public works
Area Coachella Valley **Period of Significance** 1910s-1950s
Property Type Stormwater channel **Applicable Criteria** N/A
(Discuss importance in terms of historical or architectural context as defined by theme, period, and geographic scope. Also address integrity.) This segment of the stormwater channel follows the natural course of the Whitewater River, but was "channelized" as a flood-control facility prior to the 1930s, possibly as early as the late 1910s. As such, *(Continued on p. 4)*
B11. Additional Resource Attributes: (List attributes and codes) AH6: Water conveyance system
*B12. **References:** Coachella Valley Water District: Water and the Coachella Valley, http://www.cvwd.org/about/waterandcv; Patricia B. Laflin: *Coachella Valley, California: A Pictorial History* (The Donning Company Publishers, Virginia Beach, Virginia, 1998); Dennis Mahr (Director of Communications and Legislation, Coachella Valley Water District), telephone interview on August 12, 2008; U.S. Bureau of Reclamation: Boulder Dam Project, All-American Canal System, Calif. (topographic maps, Sheets C-2N-182, -239, and -241, 1938); USGS topographic maps, 1941 and 1956 (Coachella quadrangle, 15', 1:62,500).
B13. Remarks:
*B14. **Evaluator:** Bai "Tom" Tang and Terri Jacquemain
***Date of Evaluation:** August 2008

(Sketch Map with north arrow required.)

(See p. 5)

(This space reserved for official comments.)

*Required information

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

LINEAR FEATURE RECORD

Primary # 33-17259
HRI #
Trinomial

*Resource Name or # (Assigned by recorder) CRM TECH 2265-1

L1. **Historic and/or Common Name:** Coachella Valley Stormwater Channel

L2a. **Portion Described:** ___ Entire Resource √ Segment ___ Point Observation **Designation:**

b. **Location of Point or Segment:** (Provide UTM coordinates, legal description, and any other useful locational data. Show the area that has been field inspected on a Location Map.) See p. 1

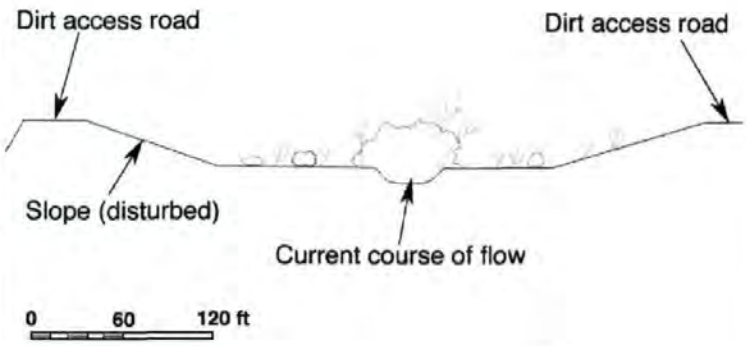
L3. **Description:** (Describe construction details, materials, and artifacts found at this segment/point. Provide plans/ sections as appropriate.) The segment of the channel is defined by two parallel earthen levees, each topped by a dirt access road that run the entire length of the segment and beyond. The interior sides of the levees slope gently at approximately 18-20 degrees to the bottom of the riverbed, about 25-30 feet below the top of the levees. The slopes are mostly clear of vegetation, while dense vegetation grows near the narrow flow at the river bottom, including cottonwoods, arrow weeds, tumbleweeds, tamarisks, and small desert shrubs and grasses. The channel and the levees are well maintained, but do not demonstrate any notable characteristics in terms of design and engineering.

L4. **Dimensions:** (In feet for historic features and meters for pre-historic features)

a. **Top Width** 411-500 feet
b. **Bottom Width** 220 feet
c. **Height or Depth** 25-30 feet
d. **Length of Segment** 1.5 miles

L5. **Associated Resources:**

L4e. **Sketch of Cross-Section** (Include scale)
Facing: North



L6. **Setting** (Describe natural features, landscape characteristics, slope, etc. as appropriate) At this location, the earthen levees are located along the original course of the Whitewater River, which is the main natural waterway across the arid Coachella Valley. The surrounding land use is mostly agricultural.

L7. **Integrity Considerations:** The historic integrity of the features are uncertain but questionable due to repeated repairs and constant maintenance over the years.

L8a. **Photograph, Map or Drawing**

(See p. 1 and p. 5)

L8b. **Description of Photo, Map, or Drawing** (View, scale, etc.)

L9. **Remarks:**

L10. **Form Prepared by:** (Name, affiliation and address) Daniel Ballester and Terri Jacquemain, CRM TECH, 1016 East Cooley Drive, Suite A/B, Colton, CA 92324

L11. **Date:** August 20, 2008

*Required information

***P3a. Description** (continued): below the top of the levees. The slopes are mostly clear of vegetation, while dense vegetation grows near the narrow flow at the river bottom, including cottonwoods, arrow weeds, tumbleweeds, tamarisks, and small desert shrubs and grasses. The channel and the levees are well maintained, but do not demonstrate any notable characteristics in terms of design and engineering.

***B6. Construction History** (continued): the Salton Sea has also evolved into a man-made channel bent to skirt communities and provide flood-control protection through devices like the earthen levees in this segment. By the 1930s-1950s, the presence of levees and dykes along the course of the former Whitewater River wash was well documented in historic maps. Over the years, the channel and levees have undergone periodic repairs and routine maintenance to insure that the banks are stable and that the brush does not become overgrown.

***B10. Significance:** it could be argued that the channel played an important part in the accelerated growth of the Coachella Valley since the early 20th century, which was certainly a pattern of events that made significant contributions to regional history. The development of the desert valley, by necessity, was contingent on not only the control but also the supply and distribution of water, in which the Whitewater River/Coachella Valley Stormwater Channel and the Coachella Canal served in similar capacities, if not with equal importance.

Unlike the Coachella Canal, however, the stormwater channel is based on a natural waterway with only limited human alterations, at least at this location, and does not demonstrate any notable design or engineering qualities. Furthermore, as an element of the historic-period infrastructure that remains in use today, the channel and its largely nondescript components do not retain any features that are particularly historic in appearance. Therefore, the channel's association with the pattern of events in its history and its potential period of significance is compromised considerably by the lack of any specifically historical characteristics and the questionable historic integrity.

For the same reasons, the existing stormwater channel does not represent an important example of its property type or method of construction. It is not recognized as a structure of high artistic or aesthetic value, nor is it known to be the work of a prominent designer, builder, or engineer. Despite extensive research, no persons or specific events of known historic significance have been identified in close association with the segment of stormwater channel at this location, or with the stormwater channel in general. Meanwhile, as a common infrastructure element that required only limited construction work to create, the channel retains little data potential for the study of regional history or the history of engineering

Based on these considerations, the present study concludes that this segment of the Coachella Valley Stormwater Channel does not appear eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places or the California Register of Historical Resources.

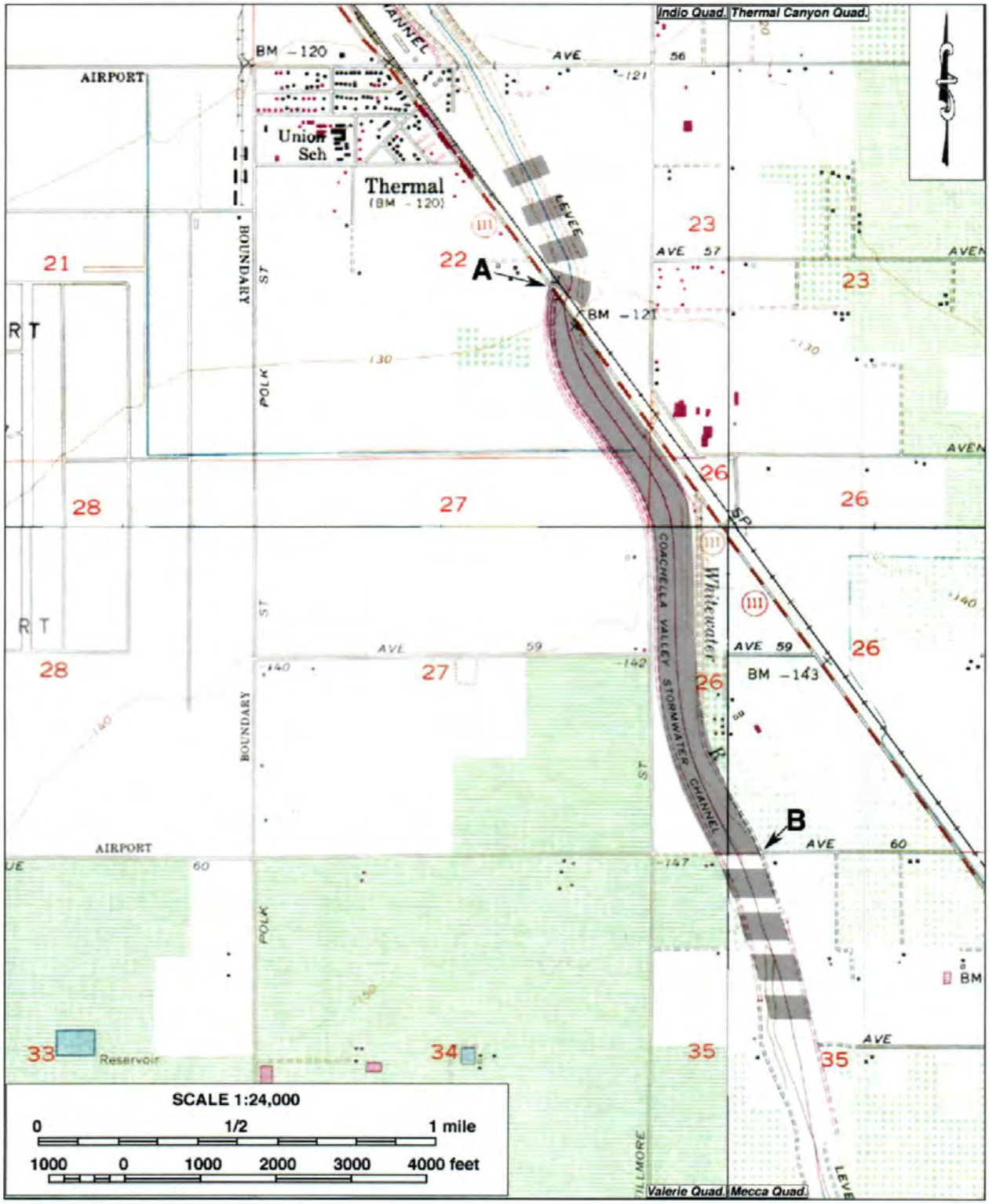
State of California--The Resources Agency
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION

LOCATION MAP

Primary # 33-17259
HRI #
Trinomial

Page 5 of 5 *Resource Name or # (Assigned by recorder) CRM TECH 2265-1

*Map Names: (see labels in map) *Scale: 1:24,000 *Date of Maps: 1972



DPR 523J (1/95)

*Required information