

***PROPOSED INITIAL STUDY/
MITIGATED NEGATIVE
DECLARATION
FOR***

WELL NO. 17

LAKE HEMET MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT

Prepared by
PZL, Inc.

December 1, 2014

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PROJECT DESCRIPTION

A. General Project Description

Lake Hemet Municipal Water District (LHMWD or District) is proposing to install one (1) new domestic water well on a 0.28 acre parcel for integration within the District's existing water system. In addition, a water pipeline(s) would be installed to connect to the existing water pipeline system at the intersection of Park Avenue and Hewitt Avenue and a blow-off pipe installed from the site to existing underground storm drain system at Commonwealth Avenue and Hewitt Street intersection.

The purpose of the new water well is to achieve the following:

- Pump approximately 1,500 to 2,000 gallons per minute (gpm) into the District's Valley water system to provide additional domestic/potable water.
- Provide increased service reliability for system users by ensuring adequate water availability during periods of fluctuating demand.
- Reduce the need to import water from sources outside the San Jacinto Valley.
- Replace the pumping capacity lost due to the closure of Well No. 8, which was pumping approximately 1,000 gpm.
- Create additional pumping capacity that was lost when the intended installation of another well (also identified as Well No. 17 and previously planned south of Mayberry Avenue) was terminated when the adjoining property owner to the east also installed a well to irrigate his citrus trees.

The proposed project is located within the geographically boundaries of the City of San Jacinto and the northerly portion of the District's San Jacinto Valley service area. The District provides water to both the San Jacinto Valley for citizens and businesses in the Cities of San Jacinto and Hemet and the unincorporated area of the County of Riverside, along with users in Garner Valley in the San Jacinto Mountains. The subject parcel is owned by the District. As part of the evaluation of this facility a pilot hole will be drilled, but not developed as a test well. Once this is completed the District will install the well, well motor, chlorinator and housing, and motor control panel. An electrical transformer will be installed by Southern California Edison. The balance of the property around the structure will be used for vehicle maneuvering during the construction and operational phases of the project. Concrete would be placed around the chlorinator housing and well motor area, with the balance of the land cleared of vegetation and decomposed granite provided.

The typical desired parcel size desired by the District is approximately 100' x 100' or about 10,000 square feet. While not square in configuration, the parcel is approximately 12,320 square feet in size, based upon the Record of Survey recorded at the County Assessor's Office. Access to the property is available from Hewitt Street, which is a paved two (2) lane roadway.

The new well will connect with an existing 12-inch water line located at the intersection of Park Avenue and Hewitt Street. Electricity to the site is available from the existing electrical service along Hewitt Street, adjacent to the site. The District's intent is to provide a facility similar to that which exists at Well No. 16, which is located on the westerly side of Fairview Avenue, between Palm Avenue and Olive Avenue. Well No. 16 currently provides the following visible features:

- A small structure or housing, less than 10 feet high, enclosing the chlorinator, which connects directly to the piping system and provides storage for chlorine tablets in five (5) gallon buckets. Generally, several buckets are within the structure at any one time.
- An exposed pump motor erected on a pedestal over the well hole, about the same height as the chlorinator housing.
- A motor control panel, which has the appearance of a large metal cabinet and about the same height as the chlorinator housing, which operates the well motor.
- A separate transformer facility, operated by Southern California Edison, which is about half the size of the motor control panel.
- A portion of the water piping system is visible above ground that conveys the groundwater into the District's water system near the chlorinator.
- Based upon the ultimate needs of the site, it is possible several other above ground facilities/fixtures would be provided, including:
 - ✓ A structure or housing over the well motor, if necessary to reduce noise levels.
 - ✓ A desanding/deaeration tank.

B. Site Characteristics

The site is generally flat and cleared of vegetation, with only a small tree stump in the southeast corner of the property. As such, it will require minimal site work and no grading is proposed. Based upon aerial photography, the site slopes generally to the west. The specific location for the placement of the well and pump equipment has not been determined as yet. Hewitt Street is located at the westerly edge of the property and consists of a two (2) lane paved roadway, with curb and gutter installed adjacent to the property. The property is not within a designated 100 or 500-year flood plain.

According to Mike Gow, Assistant General Manager/Chief Engineer of the District, the District is authorized to utilize up to a total of 11,000 acre/feet per year from the groundwater basins. The District is currently charged a fee for the use of this water. If the District exceeds their allotment they would be billed a supplemental fee by the Water Master, who has been established by the participating agencies/cities, to manage the basin.

E. Surrounding Land Use and Setting

The land uses for the subject property and surrounding properties are listed below.

Property Location	General Plan Designation	Zoning	Description
Subject Property	Low Density Residential ¹	RL (Residential, Low Density)	Vacant, sparse vegetation
Land to the North	Low Density Residential	RL (Residential, Low Density)	Vacant, sparse vegetation
Land to the South	Low Density Residential	RL (Residential, Low Density)	Single family residential
Land to the East	Low Density Residential	RL (Residential, Low Density)	Single family residential
Land to the West	Medium Density Residential ²	RM (Residential, Medium Density)	Vacant, farmed periodically

¹ Residential density 2.1 to 5.0 dwelling units per acre.

² Residential density 5.1 to 10.0 dwelling units per acre.

F. Land Use Limitations on Water Related Facilities

The *California Government Code* Section 53091(d) provides that "Building ordinances of a county or city shall not apply to the location or construction of facilities for the production, generation, storage, or transmission of water, wastewater, or electrical energy by a local agency." In addition, Section 53091(e) provides that "Zoning ordinances of a county or city shall not apply to the location or construction of facilities for the production, generation, storage, or transmission of water, or for the production or generation of electrical energy..." Therefore, building and zoning provisions that identify City development restrictions are not applicable to the proposed project, based upon the *California Government Code*.

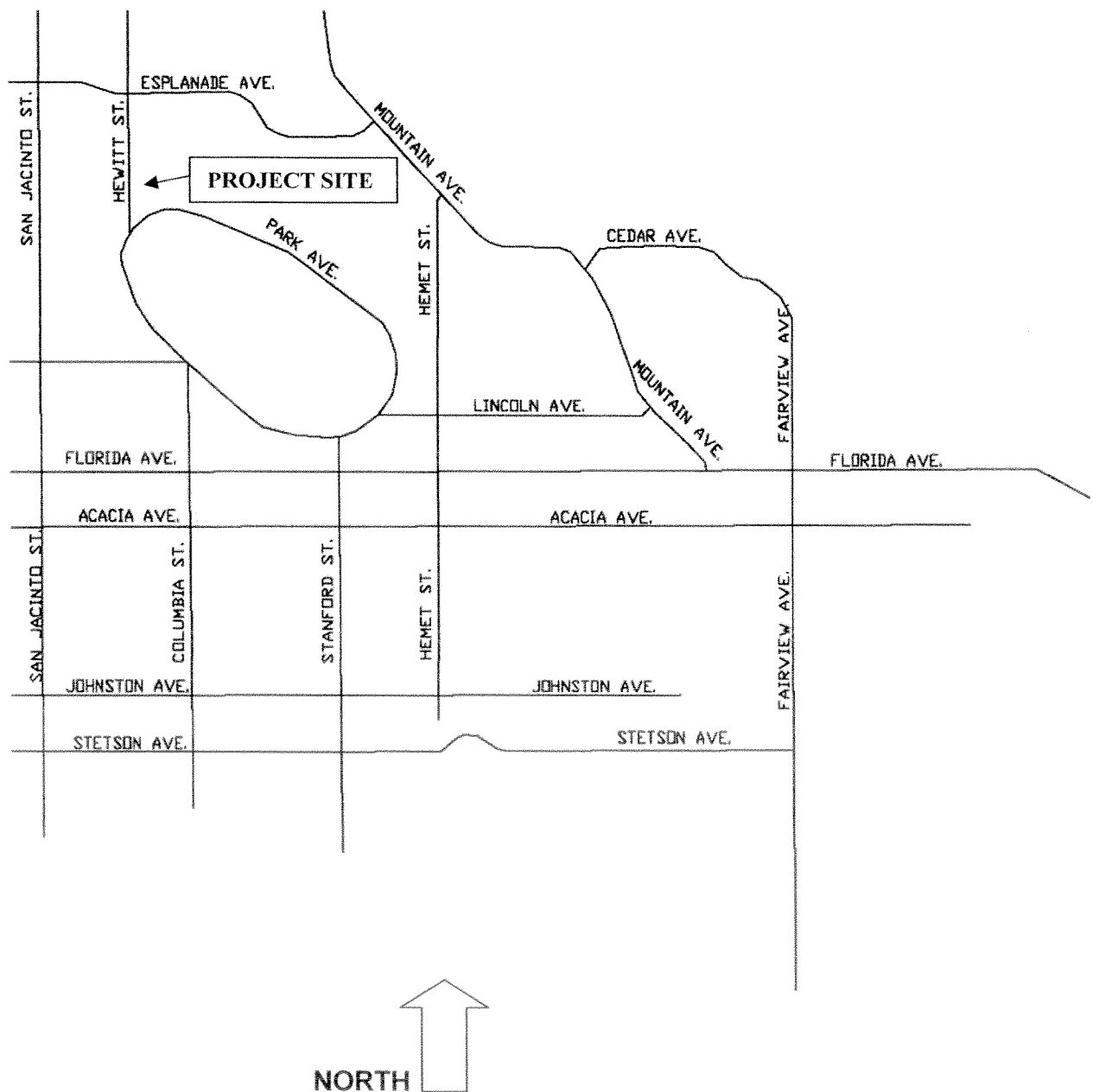


Figure I-2
Vicinity Map

Fire and Resource Assessment Program (FRAP) Mapping, prepared by the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection.

General Biological Assessment, prepared by Natural Resources Assessment, October 23, 2014

General Plan Final Program Environmental Impact Report, Volume I, Riverside County Integrated Project, Riverside County.

GeoTracker, www.swcrb.ca.gov, prepared by the California State Water Resources Control Board.

Historical/Archaeological Resources Survey, Lake Hemet Water Well No. 17, prepared by CRM TECH, October 8, 2014.

John Deere Construction Equipment Specifications, www.deere.com.

Off-Road – Model Mobile Source Emission Factors, South Coast Air Quality Management District

San Jacinto, CA, Quadrangle U.S.G.S. Map, dated 1996.

SCAQMD Air Quality Significance Thresholds, South Coast Air Quality Management District, revised March 2009.

South Coast Air Quality Management District, www.aqmd.gov.

Soil Survey, Western Riverside Area, California, Department of the Interior.

Toxic Release Inventory, <http://www2.epa.gov/toxics-release-inventory-tri-program>.

West Riverside County, Natural Hazard Disclosure (Fire) Map, State of California, Stephen P. Teale, January 6, 2000.

Urban Water Management Plan 2010, Lake Hemet Municipal Water District.

2012 Air Quality Management Plan, prepared by the South Coast Air Quality Management District.

Document Preparation

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Environmental Determination: (To be completed by the Lead Agency)

On the basis of this initial evaluation:

- ☐ I find that the proposed project COULD NOT have a significant effect on the environment and a NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.
- ☒ I find that although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, there will not be a significant effect in this case because revisions in the project have been made by or agreed to by the project proponent. A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.
- ☐ I find that the proposed project MAY have a significant effect on the environment and an ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required.
- ☐ I find that the proposed project MAY have a "potentially significant impact" or "potentially significant unless mitigated" impact on the environment, but at least one effect 1) has been adequately analyzed on an earlier document pursuant to applicable legal standards, and 2) has been addressed by mitigation measures based on the earlier analysis as described on attached sheets. An ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required, but it must analyze only the affects that remain to be addressed.
- ☐ I find that although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, because all potentially significant effects (a) have been analyzed adequately in an earlier EIR or NEGATIVE DECLARATION pursuant to applicable standards, and (b) have been avoided or mitigated pursuant to that earlier EIR or NEGATIVE DECLARATION, including revisions or mitigation measures that are imposed upon the proposed project, nothing further is required.

Signature

Date

Printed Name

For

- Resource Management Goal 3: Prevent incompatible development in areas that should be preserved for scenic, historic, conservation, mineral extraction, or public safety purposes.
- Policy 3.1: Ensure incompatible development is avoided in those areas that are designated for scenic, historic, conservation, mineral extraction, or public safety purposes.

The City also adopted mitigation measures as part of the *General Plan Environmental Impact Report* (EIR) related to aesthetic issues. Other than referencing the City's Hillside Development Guidelines as part of Mitigation Measure A-1, Mitigation Measure A-2 provides "The City shall designate local scenic routes and vistas and develop guidelines for development visible from these scenic routes to minimize impacts to scenic vistas." Based upon a review of the City's Development Code and a phone conversation with Mike Hasapes, Assistant Planner, City of San Jacinto Planning Department, the City has not adopted additional development guidelines or criteria that would implement the goal, policy, and mitigation measure listed above.

The proposed well and pipeline(s) connecting to the District's water system would be located underground and unseen. The vegetation on the site is proposed to be removed and gravel will be used around the site for vehicle access. The District could enclose the chlorinator with a small structure approximately 10 feet in height. The City's Zoning Ordinance allows single family residential structures up to 35 feet in height. As such, the proposed structure and other site improvements will be substantially less than the allowed building height in the zoning district and would not obscure panoramic vistas from surrounding residents.

b) *No Impact*. According to the Caltrans Web site (www.dot.gov) no portion of the proposed project improvements are located along a designated scenic highway. The closest scenic highway is a portion of Highway 74, which runs between the westerly boundary of the San Bernardino National Forest and Route 111 in Palm Desert.

c) *No Impact*. The proposed project site is approximately 77 feet in width, which provides minimal visibility to the public, and no longer contains trees, as evidenced by the stump of one recently cut tree. As such, the planned improvements would not significantly affect the visual character or quality of the site.

d) *Less Than Significant Impact*. Exterior lighting is proposed to be installed and will include a manual switch, photo sensor, and operation indicator. Lighting will be low-sodium and shielded to prevent illumination on adjoining properties.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
II. AGRICULTURE AND FOREST RESOURCES: In determining whether impacts to agricultural resources are significant environmental effects, lead agencies may refer to the California Agricultural Land Evaluation and Site Assessment Model (1997) prepared by the California Department of Conservation as an optional model to use in assessing impacts on agriculture and farmland. In determining whether impacts to forest resources, including timberland, are significant environmental effects, lead agencies may refer to information compiled by the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection regarding the state's inventory of forest land, including the Forest Legacy Assessment project; and forest carbon measurement methodology provided in Forest Protocols adopted by the California Air Resources Board. -- Would the project:				
a) Convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance (Farmland), as shown on the maps prepared pursuant to the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program of the California Resources Agency, to non-agricultural use?				■
b) Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or a Williamson Act contract?				■

b) *No Impact.* Properties around the project site are zoned either RL (Residential, Low Density) to the east of Hewitt Street or RM (Residential, Medium Density, to the west of Hewitt Street. Figure RM-5, Agricultural Resources, contained in the *City of San Jacinto General Plan Resource Management Element*, graphically displays agricultural land, including those properties within a designated agricultural preserve. Agriculturally designated lands near the project site are not designated agricultural preserve. The closest designated agricultural preserve is located west of Cawston Avenue, north of Fruitvale Avenue, approximately 3.75 miles to the west of the project site. As such, the proposed change in land use from vacant to a water well would not conflict with the use of agricultural land in the area.

c) *No Impact.* The proposed project area is located within the relatively flat valley floor and is a mixture of residential and agricultural land. The proposed project area is not within a timber production area or timber zoned area.

d) *No Impact.* See response to number c) above.

e) *No Impact.* None of the proposed improvements are within an agricultural preserve, as noted in response to number b) above. Due to the type of use proposed and the general urbanization of the area, it is very unlikely that farmland in the area would convert to other uses due to the proposed project.

Standard Conditions/Measures of Approval

No typical design standards or conditions are employed by the District related to this topical issue.

Mitigation Measures

No impacts have been identified that require the adoption of mitigation measures.

Impact Evaluation

The responses provided below are based upon the *Final 2012 Air Quality Management Plan* (AQMP) adopted by the South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD), February 2013; *CEQA Air Quality Handbook*, April 1993, and; South Coast Air Quality Management District Web site, <http://www.aqmd.ca.gov>.

a) *Less Than Significant Impact*. The Air Quality Management Plan (AQMP) prepared by the South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD) for the South Coast Air Basin sets forth a comprehensive program that would lead the Basin into compliance with all federal and state air quality standards. The AQMP control measures and related emission reduction estimates are based upon emissions projections for a future development scenario derived from land use, population, and employment characteristics defined in consultation with local governments. A significant impact could occur if the proposed project conflicts with or obstructs the implementation of the South Coast Air Basin 2012 *Air Quality Management Plan* (AQMP), which was adopted February 2013. Conflicts and obstructions that hinder implementation of the AQMP can delay efforts to meet attainment deadlines for criteria pollutants and maintaining existing compliance with applicable air quality standards. Based upon information contained in the 1993 SCAQMD *CEQA Air Quality Handbook*, consistency with the AQMP is based upon the following description provided in Chapter 12 of that document: "1) Whether the project will not result in an increase in the frequency or severity of existing air quality violations or cause or contribute to new violations, or delay timely attainment of air quality standards or the interim emission reductions specified in the AQMP..." and, "2) Whether the project will exceed the assumptions in the AQMP in 2010 or increments based on the year of project build-out and phase (Table 12-2)."

In response to number 1 above, the project would result in short-term construction and long-term pollutant emissions that are less than the CEQA significance thresholds established by the SCAQMD, with mitigation incorporated, as provided in section b) of this analysis. In response to Number 2 above, the existing General Plans for San Jacinto (adopted May 2006 and updated October 2012), Hemet (January 2012), and Riverside County (adopted 2003 and updated in 2008) cover a geographic area served by the District. The land use assumptions contained within those existing General Plans have been presumed to be incorporated as part of future growth projections used within the 2012 AQMP due to the need to complete projections early within the planning process.

Table No. 1
Estimated Drill Rig Emission Levels

Emission Factors	ROG 0.1118	CO 0.5511	NOx 0.7692	SO2 0.0031	PM 0.0236	CO2 311
Daily Pounds	2.68	13.22	18.46	0.07	0.56	7,664

Utilizing information for John Deere backhoe/excavators equipment (Model 75G, 56.9 hp) and crawler dozer (Model 700K, 125 hp) contained on the John Deere Website, if in use during an eight (8) hour period, would result in the information provided in Table No. 2:

Table No. 2
Estimated Backhoe and Dozer Emission Levels

Backhoe Emission Factors¹	ROG 0.0912	CO 0.5102	NOx 0.5787	SO2 0.0009	PM 0.0455	CO2 73.6
Daily Pounds	0.729	4.08	4.62	0.007	0.36	588.80
Tractor Emission Factors²	ROG 0.0854	CO 0.5853	NOx 0.6331	SO2 0.0011	PM 0.0335	CO2 101
Daily Pounds	0.683	4.68	5.06	0.008	0.268	808

¹ Utilized a 120-horsepower factor from the table, since the example backhoe was 56.9 horsepower and the next lowest size was 50-horsepower.

² Utilized a 175-horsepower factor from the table, since the example dozer selected was a 125-horsepower and the next lowest size was 120-horsepower.

Localize Significance Thresholds

The information in Table No. 1 was compared to the Localize Significance Thresholds established by the SCAQMD. According to the District's Website, "Localized significance thresholds (LST's) were developed in response to Governing Board's Environmental Justice Enhancement Initiative I-4." The same SCAQMD Website further stipulated that "LST's represent the maximum emissions from a project that are not expected to cause or contribute to an exceedance of the most stringent applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard, and are developed based on the ambient concentrations of that pollutant for each source receptor area and distance to the nearest sensitive receptor."

Greenhouse Gas Emissions

The Governor of California signed AB 32 in September 2006 requiring the California Air Resources Board to establish a statewide greenhouse gas emissions cap for 2020, based upon 1990 emission levels. According to the District's Website the State "Attorney General's Office has been aggressively reviewing CEQA documents...and submitting comments to the lead agencies if the documents have not evaluated GHG emission impacts from their projects." However, the State has not yet established thresholds for GHG, other than suggested significance screening levels of 10,000 metric tons (MT)³ per year CO₂ equivalents for industrial projects and 3,000 metric tons per year CO₂ equivalents for commercial/residential projects. Based upon the estimated emissions levels for the proposed project, even if on-site grading were to occur, would be substantially less than the proposed significance thresholds.

c) *Less Than Significant Impact.* The impacts associated with the proposed project are predominately construction related and, therefore, short-term in nature. As noted in section a) above, the operational impacts have been incorporated into the AQMP as part of the land use plans for those jurisdictions with land use authority in the District's service area.

d) *Less Than Significant Impact.* The SCAQMD CEQA Air Quality Handbook identifies various sensitive receptors, including residences. The proposed project would involve construction adjacent to a residential structure. The LST information displayed in Table No. 3 assists in evaluating the potential effect of the proposed project upon sensitive receptors. Due to the type of project proposed, the amount of equipment used during construction, its location, and limited operational impacts, the proposed project would not result in concentrated pollution levels.

e) *Less Than Significant Impact.* The proposed project would involve the use of either a welded or bolted connection to attach the new pipes to the proposed booster stations. In addition, street re-paving is expected to result in some short-term odors. However, due to the limited amount of re-paving and limited welding that would occur, the proposed project could not cause substantial pollution concentrations or objectionable odors.

Standard Conditions/Measures of Approval

No typical design standards or conditions are employed by the District related to this topical issue.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
IV. BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES -- Would the project:				
a) Have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through modifications, on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Game or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?		■		
b) Have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, regulations or by the California Department of Fish and Game or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?				■
c) Have a substantial adverse effect on federally protected wetlands as defined by Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means?				■
d) Interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites?				■
e) Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance?				■

The *Biological Assessment* states that while “Most of the available habitat is heavily impacted, making it unlikely, but not impossible, that birds [burrowing owls] will nest in suitable habitat on site. Burrowing owls may re-colonize a site after only a few days. The CDFW [California Department of Fish and Wildlife], states that, ‘Time lapses between project activities trigger subsequent take avoidance surveys including but not limited to a final survey conducted within 24 hours prior to ground disturbances. (California Department of Fish and Game 2012a).” Due to this potential a Take Avoidance Survey is recommended no less than 14 day prior to initiating ground activities utilizing CDFW protocol.

b) *No Impact*. The proposed project site is not traversed by any drainage courses or habitat areas that are under the jurisdiction of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, California Department of Fish and Wildlife or Regional Water Quality Control Board. Also refer to item a) above for additional information.

c) *No Impact*. The proposed project primarily involves the installation of a water well on District owned land and the extension of a water pipeline(s) within paved roadways. As noted previously, no wetlands, vernal pools or marshes were identified during the preparation of the *Biological Assessment*.

d) *No Impact*. As noted above in the Existing Setting section, suitable nesting habitat exists on surrounding properties. The Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) of 1918 prohibits the killing, take, possession or sale of any migratory bird or bird parts, except as permitted by regulation. The *Biological Assessment* found that although the surrounding trees may provide nesting habitat for raptors or migratory birds, the area is heavily affected by traffic noise and human activity. Due to the small size of the project site, surrounding urban development, and active farming, particularly to the west, the *Biological Assessment* found that habitat fragmentation has already occurred. Use of the project site for a well would not change that condition.

e) *No Impact*. The District has not adopted policies or ordinances to preserve local biological resources. The *City of San Jacinto General Plan Resource Management Element* contains policies related to the preservation of natural resources. These policies are listed below.

- Policy 1.3 Conserve and protect important plant communities and wildlife habitats, such as riparian areas, wetlands, vernal pools, oak woodlands and other significant tree stands, and rare and endangered species.
- Policy 2.8 Conserve and protect wetlands.

The City’s adopted policies are inapplicable to the proposed project due to the project site’s general lack of vegetation, soil types, and tributary drainage areas.

f) *No Impact*. The proposed project is not within an adopted Natural Community Conservation Plan. The proposed project is within the boundaries of an adopted MSHCP.

Standard Conditions/Measures of Approval

No typical design standards or conditions are employed by the District related to this topical issue.

Mitigation Measure

To reduce the potential level of impact to less than significant, the following mitigation measure is recommended:

- A Take Avoidance Survey is recommended no less than 14 day prior to initiating ground activities, utilizing California Department of Fish and Wildlife protocol.

The records search found 19 cultural resource studies had been conducted within a one-mile radius of the project site, but none on the project site. Within the one-mile radius of the project area 12 historical/archaeological sites were identified that “consist mainly of historic-period buildings and associated features such as reservoirs and a garage. None of these previously recorded resources was located in the immediate vicinity of the project area, and thus none of them requires further consideration during this study.” (p. 7)

Although the sources consulted as part of the cultural study identified human activity in the area for the last 150 years, the only notable historic features were the forerunner of current Hewitt Street and Washington Avenue. No development seemed to have occurred on the project site as part of the records search. The field survey found the site clear of virtually all vegetation and no evidence of buildings, structures, objects, features or artifacts exist on-site. Based upon the completion of the records and field survey it was concluded that “no historical resources exist within or adjacent to the project area.” (p. 11) The potential pipeline alignment(s) is located within the radius of the records search and within paved public roadways.

b) *Less Than Significant Impact.* As discussed above, no archaeological resources were identified through either a records search of the project area or field survey of the proposed well site.

e) *Less Than Significant Impact.* Exhibit OS-8, Paleontological Sensitivity, *County of Riverside General Plan*, identifies the project area as within the “High B” category for paleontological sensitivity. Due to the minimal portion of the site to be disturbed and its small size, it is not expected that paleontological resources would be found.

f) *No Impact.* Based upon the completion of an historical/archaeological study referenced above, the proposed project site is not known to be located within an Indian burial site.

Standard Conditions/Measures of Approval

The following standard measure from CEQA is applicable to the proposed project:

- Should the accidental discovery of human remains occur measures shall be undertaken consistent with Section 15064.5 of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)

Mitigation Measures

No impacts have been identified that require the adoption of mitigation measures.

Existing Setting

The proposed project area is located in the flat portion of the San Jacinto Valley. The San Jacinto Valley is traversed by a number of known faults, including the San Jacinto Fault, Casa Loma Fault, and the Claremont Fault. These faults generally trend northwest to southeast through the Valley, with the most active faults traversing through the project area around Park Hill, which is an isolated and notable rise, located between the City of Hemet and City of San Jacinto.

Explanation of Checklist Responses

Some of the documentation used for this section is based upon material from the San Jacinto U.S.G.S. Quadrangle Map; *City of San Jacinto General Plan*, and; *Soil Survey, Western Riverside Area, California*.

a.i) *No Impact*. The closest designated fault zone is the Casa Loma Fault Zone located approximately 0.25 miles southwest of the project site, as displayed in Figure PS-1 Geologic and Seismic Hazards, *City of San Jacinto General Plan*, Public Safety Element. This fault trends in a northwest/southeast alignment along the south side of Park Hill.

a.ii) *Less Than Significant Impact*. Due to the relatively close proximity of faults to the project area, the proposed project would expect to receive strong ground shaking. However, seismic events of this nature will not adversely affect the operation of a proposed well. In a worst-case condition, a seismic event could buckle the well casing and cause dirt to fill in part of the well. However, if severe buckling of the well casing does occur, the well can be repaired and continue to function.

a.iii) *No Impact*. A "Fact Sheet" prepared by the California Department of Conservation California Geological Survey states that "Liquefaction occurs when loose, water-saturated sediments lose strength and fail during strong ground shaking. Liquefaction is defined as the transformation of granular material from a solid state into a liquefied state as a consequence of increased pore-water pressure." (www.conservation.ca.gov) The project area has the potential for liquefaction due to shallow groundwater levels and sediments caused by the area's proximity to the San Jacinto River, as displayed on Figure 12, San Jacinto Valley Area Plan, *County of Riverside General Plan*. Due to the lack of habitable structures or significant structural bearing loads on project site soils, these site conditions will not adversely affect the placement and development of the proposed well.

Standard Conditions/Measures of Approval

No typical design standards or conditions are employed by the District related to this topical issue.

Mitigation Measures

No impacts have been identified that require the adoption of mitigation measures.

b) *No Impact*. Legislation was adopted to regulate greenhouse gas emissions as part of AB 32, signed by the Governor in September 2006. According to information available on the South Coast Air Quality Management District Web site, entitled *Greenhouse Gases (GHG) CEQA Significance Thresholds*, the legislation “requires the California Air Resources Board (CARB) to establish, by January 1, 2008, a statewide GHG emissions cap for 2020, based on 1990 emissions, adopt mandatory reporting rules for significant sources of GHG emissions by January 1, 2008, etc.” The same Website also includes the following: “To provide guidance to local lead agencies on determining significance for GHG emission in their CEQA documents, the SCAQMD staff is convening an ongoing GHG CEQA Significance Threshold Working Group.” The meetings are still ongoing.

Standard Conditions/Measures of Approval

No typical design standards or conditions are employed by the District related to this topical issue.

Mitigation Measures

No impacts have been identified that require the adoption of mitigation measures.

h) Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving wildland fires, including where wildlands are adjacent to urbanized areas or where residences are intermixed with wildlands?			■	
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Existing Setting

The land use adjacent to the proposed project site, including pipelines within existing streets is residential, agricultural, and vacant. No improvements are proposed adjacent to or near existing public schools.

Impact Evaluation

Some of the documentation used for this section is based upon material from the California Environmental Protection Agency Website; Toxic Release Inventory (TRI), prepared by the Environmental Protection Agency; Envirostor, prepared by the California Department of Substances Control; GeoTracker, prepared by the State Water Resources Control Board, and; Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zones Map, prepared by the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection as part of their Fire and Resource Assessment Program (FRAP) Mapping.

a) *Less Than Significant Impact.* The construction and well installation process would not involve the use of hazardous materials. The transport and installation of the required materials to the various project locations would involve the use of trucks and equipment that could leak oil or fuel. However, the minimal amount of equipment involved, their location on paved roadways, and limited construction duration would minimize the potential for significant effects. Also refer to Section **IX HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY**.

Several five (5) gallon buckets of dry chlorine would be stored at the well site. Chlorine will be utilized in pre-measured dry tablet form, similar to the type used in swimming pools, and inserted into the system to disinfect potential bacteria from the water. The dry chlorine would be transported by truck to the site as necessary for use within the system. The chlorine tablets would be stored in sealed plastic containers and are only hazardous if ingested directly. The well site would be fenced for security purposes and to protect public health.

c) *Less Than Significant Impact.* The use of construction equipment and associated materials has the potential to accidentally release oils, grease, and solvents into the groundwater. However, the small size of the project site and associated construction activity area would reduce potential impacts.

If road closures were necessary, the grid-like roadway system existing within the Valley floor would provide a variety of optional vehicle routing. The roadway width within the affected streets, including Hewitt Street and Washington Avenue, is adequate to accommodate continued vehicular movement during pipeline installation.

h) *Less than significant impact.* The flatter portions of the San Jacinto Valley floor are not located within a fire hazard zone or category. The closest Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone, Local Responsibility Area, is within Park Hill to the south of the project site, as displayed on the Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zones Map, prepared by the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection. The *Riverside County General Plan*, San Jacinto Valley Area Plan, Wildfire Susceptibility, Figure 11, designates Park Hill as Low.

Regardless of the discrepancy in the designations on Park Hill the project site is not within a designate fire hazard area. Pipeline installation within the roadways would not cause a fire hazard. The connection linking the proposed pipelines would be either welded or bolted. Typically, the District has bolted the connecting pipeline. Should welding occur it would be within a trench below ground. Due to the limited nature of the welding process, the potential for fire is less than significant.

Standard Conditions/Measures of Approval

No typical design standards or conditions are employed by the District related to this topical issue.

Mitigation Measures

No impacts have been identified that require the adoption of mitigation measures.

g) Place housing within a 100-year flood hazard area as mapped on a federal Flood Hazard Boundary or Flood Insurance Rate Map or other flood hazard delineation map?				■
h) Place within a 100-year flood hazard area structures which would impede or redirect flood flows?				■
i) Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving flooding, including flooding as a result of the failure of a levee or dam?				■
j) Inundation by seiche, tsunami, or mudflow?				■

Existing Conditions

The proposed project improvement area is currently provided domestic water and sewer conveyance services by Lake Hemet Municipal Water District. The District boundaries include a portion of the Cities of San Jacinto and Hemet, adjacent unincorporated areas east of Hemet, and the Garner Valley area of the San Jacinto Mountains. The District obtains water from the following three (3) sources:

- Locally pumped groundwater.
- Surface water diversions from the San Jacinto River system.
- Water purchases from Eastern Municipal Water District (EMWD).

No identified drainage courses traverse the project site nor are any identified on the San Jacinto, CA U.S.G.S Map. According to the Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) Number 06065C1490G, effective August 28, 2008, the site is not within a 100 or 500-year flood plain.

Impact Evaluation

Some of the documentation used for this section is based upon material from the *City of San Jacinto General Plan*, Lake Hemet Municipal Water District *Urban Water Management Plan 2010*, National Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRM) for a portion of the City of San Jacinto, and the Hemet, California U.S.G.S. Quadrangle Map.

"Currently, the District is involved in a basin-wide water management effort with EMWD and the cities of Hemet and San Jacinto, in collaboration with the Department of Water Resources. The District is committed to the on-going effort of developing and implementing the WMP [Water Management Plan], which includes the operation of the San Jacinto and Hemet Groundwater Basins on a 'safe-yield' or 'perennial yield' basis. This means operating the groundwater basins so that long-term total groundwater extractions would not result in overdraft of the groundwater basins. As an acknowledgement of the current state of overdraft in the San Jacinto and Hemet Basins, the WMP principles propose to limit basin users to some mutually agreed upon historic extraction quantity, consistent with the estimated perennial yield of the basins. (p. 30, *Urban Water Management Plan 2010*, Lake Hemet Municipal Water District)

"The mutually agreed upon available water would be subject to a nominal extraction fee to help pay for the importation and groundwater storage of supplement water supplies (as part of an aggressive conjunctive use strategy), to artificially recharge the basins and help alleviate the existing overdraft condition. Pumping in excess of the mutually agreed upon quantity would be subject to increased replenishment fees, however would not be limited in quantity. The replenishment fees would fund water that would recharge the aquifer." (p. 31, *Urban Water Management Plan 2010*, Lake Hemet Municipal Water District)

Although the proposed project is not intended to increase the use of groundwater supplies to existing customers, it is possible that system operation could result in the District exceeding their maximum allocation. According to information from Mike Gow, the Assistant General Manager/Chief Engineer, LHMWD, the District is allocated up to 11,000 acre/feet per year. Should the District exceed its allocation it would be required to pay a set fee for an equal amount of water imported, as quoted above. Pumping beyond the allocated amount could occur and would further reduce groundwater supplies. Should this situation occur the fees paid by the District would be used to help pay for supplemental water supplies that would artificially recharge the basins and help alleviate the existing overdraft condition. Based upon the purpose of the new well and existing established process described above, the proposed project would not substantially deplete groundwater supplies.

c) *No Impact.* The proposed project would install a groundwater well and underground water pipeline(s). The pipeline(s) would be installed in paved roadways. Trenches excavated for the installation of the water pipelines would be approximately two (2) feet in width. As noted in Section **VI GEOLOGY AND SOILS** no blue line streams, as displayed on the Hemet USGS Map, or notable drainage courses traverse the proposed project site. The project site is relatively flat, without a notable change in elevation.

Standard Conditions/Measures of Approval

As a standard District during the well drilling process, the District would require the collection, temporary storage, and off-site removal of sediment extracted from the drill hole to ensure it is not contaminated.

Mitigation Measures

No impacts have been identified that require the adoption of mitigation measures.

b) *No Impact.* The proposed project is intended to improve water availability for the District and does not represent an expansion of service area or an ability to serve, since it would replace both a previously active well site and a proposed well site, and would not change service boundaries. The property is currently owned by the District and existing land use and development regulations for the property would not change.

As noted within the Project Description, the *California Government Code* Section 53091 provides that “Building ordinances of a county or city shall not apply to the location or construction of facilities for the production, generation, storage, or transmission of water, wastewater, or electrical energy by a local agency.” In addition, the same code section provides that “Zoning ordinances of a county or city shall not apply to the location or construction of facilities for the production, generation, storage, or transmission of water, or for the production or generation of electrical energy...” As such, the building and zoning restrictions contained within the development regulations of the City of Hemet and County of Riverside are not applicable to the proposed project. Although the site is within the boundaries of the Multi-Species Habitat Conservation Plan (MSHCP), it is not within a designated cell site identified for special evaluation or preservation.

c) *No Impact.* The proposed project area is located within the boundaries of the Western Riverside Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan (WRMSHCP), as depicted in Figure 3-1, MSHCP Plan Map, Volume 1 – The Plan. However, the proposed project site and pipeline(s) is not within a designated cell area, as displayed on Figure 3-26 and described in Table 3-14, Criteria For San Jacinto Valley Area Plan, Subunit 3 - Upper San Jacinto River/Bautista Creek of the MSHCP. The proposed project area is also not located within a natural community conservation plan.

Standard Conditions/Measures of Approval

No typical design standards or conditions are employed by the District related to this topical issue.

Mitigation Measures

No impacts have been identified that require the adoption of mitigation measures.

While some minerals may be found near the project area the proposed project would not affect access to these potential resources. Due to the improved nature of the general area, small size of the parcel, and close proximity of existing residential uses it is unlikely that the areas adjoining the proposed project would ever be used for mining.

b) *No Impact*. Refer to the above response.

Standard Conditions/Measures of Approval

No typical design standards or conditions are employed by the District related to this topical issue.

Mitigation Measures

No impacts have been identified that require the adoption of mitigation measures.

Impact Evaluation

Some of the documentation used for this section is based upon material from the *San Jacinto Municipal Code* and *City of San Jacinto General Plan*.

a) *Less Than Significant Impact.* The *San Jacinto General Plan* Noise Element stipulates that "The City also requires all construction activity to comply with the limits (maximum noise levels, hours and days of allowed activity) established in the City noise regulations (Title 24 California Code of Regulations, Noise Ordinance)" (p. N-9, Noise Element). The City's Noise Ordinance is contained in Section 8.40 of the *San Jacinto Municipal Code*. Section 8.40.090D2 of the *San Jacinto Municipal Code* exempts public agencies from the city construction requirements stipulated in Section 8.40.090, which includes provisions in Section A related to weekdays in which "No person, while engaged in construction, remodeling, digging, grading, demolition or any other related building activity, shall operate any tool, equipment or machine in a manner that produces loud noise that disturbs a person of normal sensitivity who works or resides in the vicinity, or a peace officer, on any weekday except between the hours of seven-thirty a.m. and six p.m." and activities conducted on weekends, as provided in Section B.

Section 8.40.090D also exempts construction noise, if operated within the limits specified in Sections 8.40.040 and 050. Section 8.40.040 relates to exterior noise standards while 8.40.050 applies to interior noise standards. The noise levels are based upon the type of land use, such as single-family residential. Section 8.40.040A allows an exterior noise equivalent level L_{eq} of 65 dBA from 7:00 am to 10:00 pm and 45 dBA from 10:00 pm to 7:00 am for single-family residential, which is the applicable land use zone.

The proposed project would result in construction noise due to motor noise from the well drilling operation, trench excavation for pipeline installation, and installation of pumping related improvements. Some of the affects of construction noise upon surrounding uses can be reduced by limiting the hours of construction, although they are not required by ordinance. No significant changes in ambient noise levels are expected during the operation of the systems, since the pipelines would not generate noise and the motor operating the groundwater pump is relatively quiet. Should operational noise from the well motor need to be further reduced a housing over the well head can be installed.

b) *Less Than Significant Impact.* Excavation and other construction activities involved in the installation of the proposed project should not create groundborne vibration due to the type of equipment utilized and the extent of excavation or grading activities.

c) *Less Than Significant Impact.* Please refer to a) above.

Mitigation Measures

To reduce the potential level of impact to a level that is less than significant, the following mitigation measure is recommended:

- Noise levels during well drilling operations could be adverse, although they are exempted by City ordinance. To reduce noise to a level compatible with residential land uses the following mitigation measure is proposed:
 - ✓ Install a temporary noise attenuation wall along the south and east property lines to reduce levels to 65 dBA at the property line.
 - ✓ The selection of the type of barrier, such as ½-inch plywood, sound absorption/attenuation blankets or other applicable structure/device, is acceptable provided a noise acoustical analysis is prepared demonstrating it would reduce noise levels to the required level.

The proposed improvement is intended to upgrade the level of service to existing land uses by increasing water availability and reliability for existing land uses. The District has lost some available water supplies due to the closure of Well No. 8 and was unable to establish a previously proposed and environmentally approved well (Well No. 17 near Mayberry Avenue) due to the establishment of a private well on an adjoining property. The District's service area will not change as part of this proposal and they will continue to be responsible to meet those land uses planned by other responsible agencies (Cities of San Jacinto and Hemet, and the County of Riverside).

b) *No Impact.* The proposed well site and associated pipeline(s) and would be located either on District property or within the public street near existing residences. No housing would be affected by their installation.

c) *No Impact.* As noted in number b) above, no housing would be affected. As such, no people would be displaced.

Standard Conditions/Measures of Approval

No typical design standards or conditions are employed by the District related to this topical issue.

Mitigation Measures

No impacts have been identified that require the adoption of mitigation measures.

Fire Protection – Evaluation

Finding: *No Impact*. The closest fire station to the project site is Station No. 25 on South San Jacinto Street. At present, the District has the ability to provide adequate water for fire fighting capability. The proposed improvements would upgrade the amount of water available and ensure adequate pumping capacity to meet system needs. The installation of the proposed well and pipeline(s) would not require a change in fire or medical services due to their location, the nature of their construction, and the fact no persons would utilize the project site except for daily inspection of the system.

Police Protection?

Existing Conditions

The City of San Jacinto provides law enforcement services through a contract with the County of Riverside Sheriff's Department.

Documentation/Information

Some of the documentation used in this section is based upon previous contact with the City of Hemet Police Department and County Sheriff's Department.

Police Protection – Evaluation

Finding: *No impact*. The City of San Jacinto provides response to calls type service within the City. The project site would be secured through the use of chain-link fencing and various types of lighting, including a photo sensor. As noted in the Fire section above, the installation of the proposed well and pipeline(s) would not require a change in law enforcement services due to their location, the nature of their construction, and the fact no persons would utilize the project site except for daily inspection of the system.

Schools?

Existing Conditions

The proposed project area is located within the boundaries of the San Jacinto Unified School District. None of the proposed improvements are located adjacent to or near an existing public school.

Documentation/Information

Some of the documentation used for this section is based upon material obtained from the San Jacinto Unified School District Web site.

Other Public Facilities - Evaluation

Finding: *No Impact*. It is the District's intent to connect the new well to the existing water distribution system. Installation of water line connections in public streets would be required along Hewitt Street and Washington Street. As such, the proposed project would not affect other public services, beyond the beneficial result of protecting private property and aiding emergency service responders.

Standard Conditions/Measures of Approval

No typical design standards or conditions are employed by the District related to this topical issue.

Mitigation Measures

No impacts have been identified that require the adoption of mitigation measures.

Mitigation Measures

No impacts have been identified that require the adoption of mitigation measures.

f) Conflict with adopted policies, plans, or programs regarding public transit, bicycle, or pedestrian facilities, or otherwise decrease the performance or safety of such facilities?				
--	--	--	--	--

Existing Setting

The proposed water well would be located on a parcel owned by the District. The connecting water pipelines would be located within Hewitt Street or Washington Avenue, both of which are paved street rights of way in the City of San Jacinto.

Impact Evaluation

Some of the documentation used for this section is based upon a windshield survey of the proposed project area.

a) *Less Than Significant Impact.* The installation of the proposed water well would involve some short-term construction activities on District property and additional improvements in City streets. The installation of pipelines within paved streets could result in some delays in the movement of vehicles and pedestrians along those routes for limited periods. However, these would be short-term inconveniences and are not expected to affect the intended purpose of a particular roadway segment. The District requires the preparation of a Traffic Plan that is reviewed by the District and submitted to the City of San Jacinto for approval. The implementation of this document would ensure the continuous and safe movement of vehicles and pedestrians in the affected area. No long-term effects would result from the installation of the new well due to the need for only periodic site visits for maintenance and inspection.

b) *No Impact.* In the San Jacinto Valley only Highways 74 (Florida Avenue) and 79 (San Jacinto Street) are listed as being part of the County's adopted Congestion Management Plan. The proposed project is not intended to meet the demands of new development proposals. As such, it would not result in an increased number of vehicle trips that could affect roadway operational capacity.

c) *No Impact.* As noted in response to Section **VIII, HAZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS**, the proposed project area is over 4.0 miles from the Hemet-Ryan Airport. Due to the distance from that facility and the type of project proposed airport operations would not be affected.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
XVII. UTILITIES AND SERVICE SYSTEMS -- Would the project:				
a) Exceed wastewater treatment requirements of the applicable Regional Water Quality Control Board?				■
b) Require or result in the construction of new water or wastewater treatment facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?				■
c) Require or result in the construction of new storm water drainage facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?			■	
d) Have sufficient water supplies available to serve the project from existing entitlements and resources, or are new or expanded entitlements needed?			■	
e) Result in a determination by the wastewater treatment provider which serves or may serve the project that it has adequate capacity to serve the project's projected demand in addition to the provider's existing commitments?				■
f) Be served by a landfill with sufficient permitted capacity to accommodate the project's solid waste disposal needs?				■
g) Comply with federal, state, and local statutes and regulations related to solid waste?				■

As noted in Section **IX HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY**, the District, EMWD, and Cities of Hemet and San Jacinto, implemented a cooperative groundwater recharge program to respond to deteriorating groundwater levels. As part of that agreement the District is authorized to utilize up to a total of 11,000 acre/feet per year from the groundwater basins. If the District exceeded their allotment they would be billed by the Water Master, who was established by the participating agencies/cities, to manage the basin.

e) *No Impact*. Please see response to a) above.

f) *No Impact*. The proposed project could generate small amounts of solid waste during its installation, but none during its operational phase. Due to the small amount of solid waste that might be generated and its one-time need for disposal, adequate landfill capacity is available to meet this limited need.

g) *No Impact*. Compliance with solid waste regulations is the responsibility of the City of San Jacinto through their selected waste hauler and the County's operation of their landfills. Solid waste generation is only expected as part of on-site construction. As noted previously, the amount of solid waste generated is expected to be minor.

Standard Conditions/Measures of Approval

No typical design standards or conditions are employed by the District related to this topical issue.

Mitigation Measures

No impacts have been identified that require the adoption of mitigation measures.

An *Historical/Archaeological Resources Survey* was also completed for the project site and did not identify potential historical or archaeological resources. Prior evaluations noted the existing of some resources within the surrounding area. However, the proposed project is not in close proximity to those sites.

b) *Less Than Significant Impact.* The proposed project is not intended to provide expanded water system capability, but rather meet the needs of existing land uses. Air emissions generated by construction equipment would primarily be limited to the construction period and are not projected to exceed daily threshold levels. It is not expected that this level of emissions in combination with other future and unknown construction activities would result in a cumulatively considerable increase. Additional water use, if necessary for grading, would be limited to minimizing fugitive dust emissions during construction related operations. The incremental increase in stormwater runoff would be negligible due to the small size of the water well site and minimal impervious surfaces. The operational phase of the project would have a very minimal increase in energy due to the limited size of the motor.

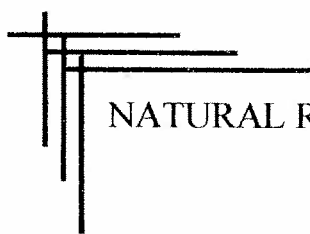
c) *Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated.* The proposed project could require the extensive use of drilling equipment resulting in considerable noise levels that could adversely affect the adjoining residential property. Although the City of San Jacinto noise ordinance does not regulate construction activities by public agencies, except through specified days of operation and times of the day, the District intends to erect noise barriers to reduce noise levels to 65 Ldn at the edge of the property. This provision has been listed as a mitigation measure.

Air quality impacts would primarily occur during the limited duration of construction activities. Air emission calculations prepared for the proposed project found that constituent factors, such as NO_x do not exceed daily thresholds. Although thresholds for Greenhouse Gases have not been established by the South Coast Air Quality Management District, the proposed project is less than proposed threshold levels.

APPENDIX

GENERAL BIOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT

Natural Resources Assessment, Inc.



NATURAL RESOURCES ASSESSMENT, INC.

General Biological Assessment
Lake Hemet Municipal Water District Well
Assessor's Parcel Number 439-190-008
San Jacinto, California

Prepared for:

Jim Morrissey, AICP
PZL, Inc.
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Prepared by:

Natural Resources Assessment, Inc.
3415 Valencia Hill Drive
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951 686 4483

October 23, 2014

Project Number: PZL14-102

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CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that the statements furnished above and in the attached exhibits present data and information required for this biological evaluation, and that the facts, statements, and information presented are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.


Karen Kirtland
Natural Resources Assessment, Inc.

October 23, 2014
Date

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Appendices

Appendix A - Plants and Animals Observed

Appendix B - Definitions of Species Status Classification

Executive Summary

Natural Resources Assessment, Inc. (NRAI) was contacted by Mr. Jim Morrissey of PZL, Inc. to conduct a general biological assessment for a proposed Lake Hemet Municipal Water District Well site development project located in San Jacinto, California.

NRAI conducted a data review conducted to obtain information on plant and wildlife species known occurrences within the vicinity, including a review of the Western Riverside County Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan.

NRAI surveyed the site and evaluated the habitats present, and conducted a jurisdictional waters evaluation. Binoculars were used to aid in the identification of wildlife. All species identified by sight, call or sign (burrows, scat, tracks, etc.) were recorded. Site photographs were taken with a cell phone camera.

No burrowing owl were seen during the survey, but this site supports suitable habitat for the burrowing owl. NRAI recommends a Take Avoidance survey be conducted no less than 14 days prior to initiating ground activities. The survey should follow using the recommended methods described in the burrowing owl staff report prepared by the CDFW (California Department of Fish and Game 2012a).

There are no impacts to other sensitive resources.

There are no jurisdictional waters that will be impacted by project development.

The project will not have direct or indirect construction-related impacts to raptor and migratory bird use of the site.

There will be no increase in habitat fragmentation or loss of wildlife corridors as a result of project construction.

1.0 Introduction

Natural Resources Assessment, Inc. (NRAI) was contacted by Mr. Jim Morrissey of PZL, Inc. to conduct a general biological assessment for a proposed well site development project located in San Jacinto, California. The purpose of the survey was to document the biological resources present onsite and to assess the potential for sensitive resources to occur on the property.

2.0 Site Location and Project Description

The project is on a 0.28 acre lot located in the City of San Jacinto. It lies just north of Washington Avenue and east of Hewitt Street (Figure 1 and 2).

The project is located in Section 2, Township 5 south, Range 1 west, on the San Jacinto 7.5' U. S. Geological Survey (USGS) topographic quadrangle, San Bernardino base and meridian (Figure 1).

The proposed project is the development of a water well site by the Lake Hemet Municipal Water District.

3.0 Methods

3.1 Data Review

A data search was conducted to provide information on plant and wildlife species known occurrences within the vicinity. This review included biological texts on general and specific biological resources, and those resources considered to be sensitive by various wildlife agencies, local governmental agencies and interest groups. The documents reviewed include:

- Information provided by the Western Riverside County Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan (MSHCP) for the project study area, Assessor's Parcel Number (116-320-010 and 116-320-011
- U.S. Army Corps 404 requirements, State Water Resources Control Board requirements, California Department of Fish and Wildlife 1602 requirements, and the Riparian/Riverine and Vernal Pool requirements outlined in the MSHCP.
- General texts and other documents identifying potential resources on the property

We used the information to focus our survey efforts in the field.

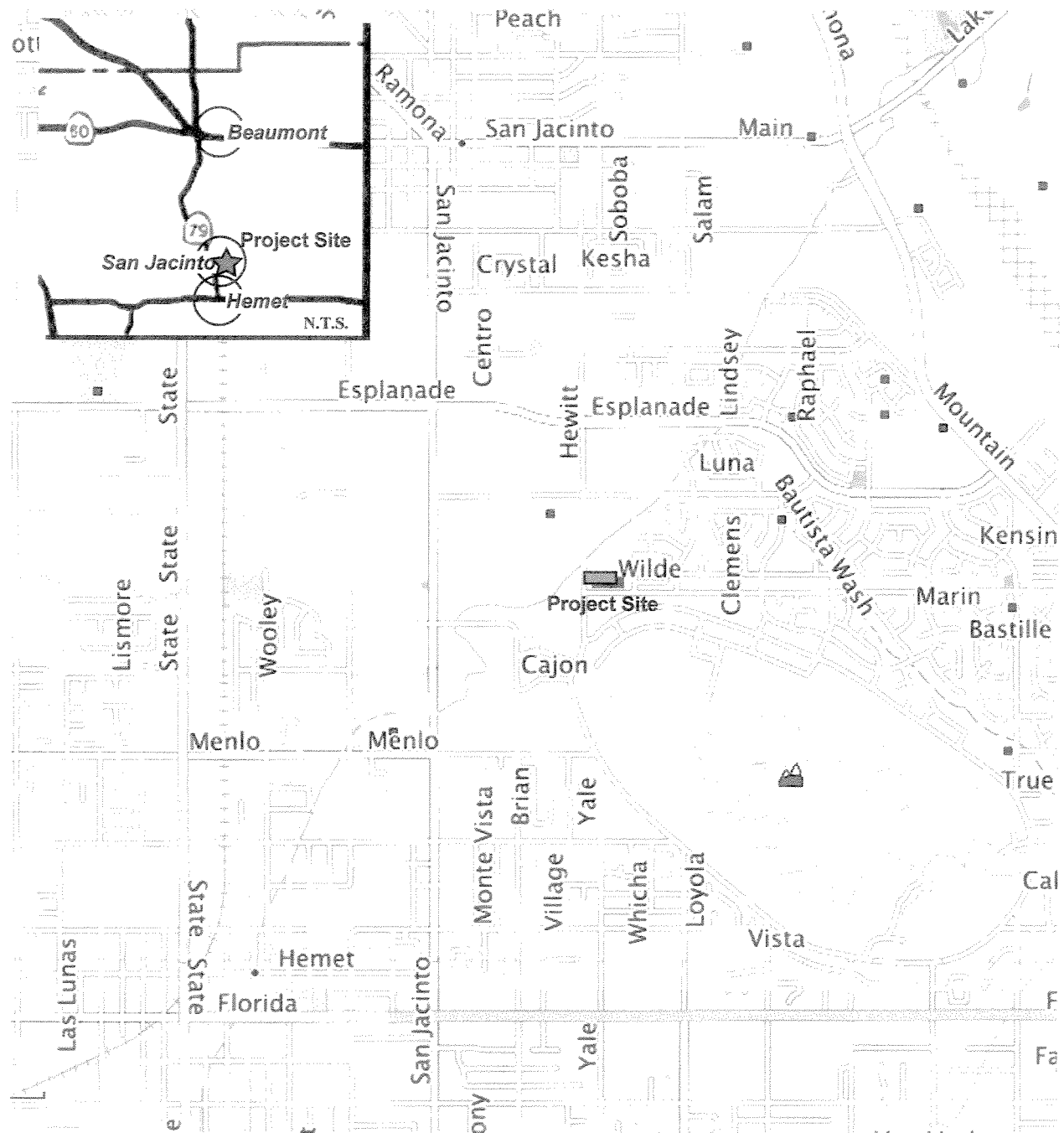
The existing conditions within the site were recorded, paying specific attention to habitats that may potentially support sensitive species identified by the MSHCP.

3.2 Field Surveys

Ms. Karen Kirtland of NRAI conducted field surveys on August 26, 2014. Ms. Kirtland surveyed 100 percent of the project area to document biological resources and to record habitat condition, as well as a 150 meters (approximately 500 feet) boundary to the north (Photo 1). Properties to the east and south were not legally accessible, and the property to the west was in active dryland cultivation at the time of the survey (Photo 2).

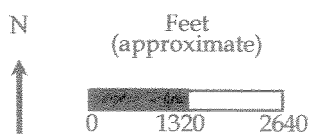
Ms. Kirtland focused her field survey on sensitive biological resources, and she included observations of potential habitat for sensitive species. During the survey, she made notes on the plant and animal species observed, the surface characteristics and topography of the project study area, and the suitability of the habitat for sensitive species.

She used binoculars to aid in the identification of wildlife. All species identified by sight, call or sign (burrows, scat, tracks, etc.) were recorded by Ms. Kirtland. Site photographs were taken with a digital phone camera.



Map Base: San Jacinto (date unknown) 7.5'
USGS topographic quadrangle

Figure 1. Project Location and Site Vicinity

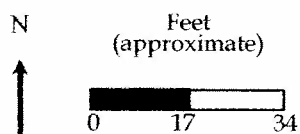


Well Site Development
Lake Hemet Municipal Water District
San Jacinto, California



Map source: Google Earth 2014

Figure 2. Project Aerial



Well Site Development
Lake Hemet Municipal Water District
San Jacinto, California



Photo 1. Active cultivation of the property west of the project site.



Photo 2. Habitat conditions on the property to the north.

3.3 Drainages and Wetlands

Ms. Kirtland conducted a jurisdictional evaluation of the project area to determine whether there were wetlands and waters subject to jurisdiction by the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act, California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) under Sections 1600 et seq. of the California Fish and Game Code, and the State Water Resources Control Board regulations. She also surveyed for Riparian/Riverine Areas, Vernal Pools, and fairy shrimp habitat per the requirements of the MSHCP.

4.0 Results

4.1 Weather Conditions, Topography, and Soils

Weather at the beginning of the survey was partly cloudy skies, temperatures in mid low sixties (degrees Fahrenheit), and no wind. At the end of the survey, the skies were partly cloudy, temperatures were in the low seventies (degrees Fahrenheit) and no wind.

The overall topography is flat, draining very slightly to the northwest.

San Emigdio fine sand loam is the only soil found onsite (Soil Survey Staff 2014). This soil occurs on alluvial fans, and is made up of residuum weathered from sedimentary rock. It develops on zero to two percent slopes and is defined as a well-drained soil.

4.2 Disturbances

The site was probably originally in dryland farming, and has since been left fallow as adjacent properties were developed. At the time of the survey, the site had been disked very recently, possibly within the last few months. Very little vegetation remained (Photo 3).

4.3 Plant Communities

The dominant plant community on site is ruderal (weedy plants) composed of native and non-native weeds. Because of the recent diskings, possibly for weed control, the site is mostly bare ground (Photo 3). There were remnant plants such as ripgut brome (*Bromus diandrus*), white tumbleweed (*Amaranthus albus*), and Bermuda grass (*Cynodon dactylon*) (Photo 4).

4.4 Wildlife

The only observation of wildlife onsite belonged to Botta's pocket gopher (*Thomomys bottae*). Species observed in adjacent properties include Beechey ground squirrel (*Spermophilus beecheyi*), Anna's hummingbird (*Calyptrorhynchus anna*) and Nuttall's woodpecker (*Picoides nuttallii*).

4.5 Sensitive Biological Resources

The MSHCP identified the project study area has potentially having habitat for the burrowing owl (*Athene cunicularia*). In addition, the MSHCP requires an assessment for jurisdictional waters, riverine and riparian habitats, as well as vernal pools and the potential for fairy shrimp habitat on the property. The following discussion addresses these resources, their status, and whether they are present on site. Appendix B provides the definitions of listing status for species.

4.5.1 Burrowing Owl

The burrowing owl (*Athene cunicularia hypogaea*) is a resident species in lowland areas of southern California (Garrett & Dunn 1980). It prefers open areas for foraging and burrowing, and is found widely scattered in open desert scrub. This species is scarce in coastal areas, being found mainly in agricultural



Photo 3. Disking on site as of August 26, 2014.



Photo 4. Remnant ruderal plants.

and grassland habitats. The largest remaining numbers are in the Imperial Valley, where it is common in suitable habitat adjacent to the agricultural fields.

The burrowing owl prefers large flat open areas for nesting and hunting (Garrett & Dunn 1981). This species generally occupies burrows or burrow-like structures built by other species (including humans) on the ground in grassy or sparse shrubby habitat. It forages low over the ground surface for insect prey, and seldom flies very high in the air.

As a result of coastal development, the burrowing owl is declining in coastal habitats. The CDFW has designated the burrowing owl as a California Species of Special Concern (SSC). These species are so designated because "declining population levels, limited ranges and/or continuing threats have made them vulnerable to extinction." (California Department of Fish and Game 2012a).

Project Findings

No owls or occupied burrows were seen, but there is habitat present for burrowing owls, and Beechey ground squirrel burrows were found nearby on the property to the north. Animals from offsite could recolonize the site if it is allowed to remain fallow.

4.5.2 Vernal Pool Fairy Shrimp

Vernal pool fairy shrimp (*Branchinecta lynchi*) is found in grasslands in ponded areas such as vernal pools, cattle watering holes, basins, etc. Fairy shrimp are confined to temporary pools that fill in spring and evaporate by late spring to early summer.

In southern California, this species is found primarily in the interior of western Riverside County, central Santa Barbara County, eastern Orange County, and more recently in Los Angeles County.

Since most pools preferred by fairy shrimp are found in flat areas, many have been lost to agricultural activities and residential development. The limited extent of available habitat, plus the ongoing loss has resulted in the vernal pool fairy shrimp being listed as threatened by the USFWS.

Project Findings

There is no vernal pool fairy shrimp habitat on the property. The soil is a well-drained fine sandy loam, and water retention is very short. There are no clay or similar hard-packed surface soils that might retain water long enough to support fairy shrimp. No vernal pool fairy shrimp habitat was observed and none is expected to be present.

4.5.3 Riverside Fairy Shrimp

Riverside fairy shrimp (*Streptocephalus woottoni*) are known only from ephemeral pools in farmlands and similar open, flat terrain. Fairy shrimp are confined to temporary pools that fill in spring and evaporate by late spring to early summer.

The Riverside fairy shrimp is known only from southern Orange and western Riverside and San Diego Counties. Ongoing farming and development in these areas has resulted in the loss and degradation of these habitats. Therefore, the USFWS has listed the Riverside fairy shrimp as endangered.

Project Findings

There is no Riverside pool fairy shrimp habitat on the property. There are no grasslands on site. The soils are all well-drained fine sandy loam and water retention is very short. There are no clay or similar hard-packed surface soils that might retain water long enough to support fairy shrimp. No Riverside pool fairy shrimp habitat was observed and none is expected to be present.

4.6 Jurisdictional Waters

4.6.1 Army Corps of Engineers

The Corps regulates discharges of dredged or fill material into waters of the United States. These watersheds include wetlands and non-wetland bodies of water that meet specific criteria. The lateral limit of Corps jurisdiction extends to the Ordinary High Water Mark (OHWM) and to any wetland areas extending beyond the OHWM; thus, the maximum jurisdictional area is represented by the OHWM or wetland limit, whichever is greater.

Corps regulatory jurisdiction pursuant to Section 404 of the Clean Water Act is founded on a connection or nexus between the water body in question and interstate (waterway) commerce. This connection may be direct, through a tributary system linking a stream channel with traditional navigable waters used in interstate or foreign commerce, or may be indirect, through a nexus identified in the Corps regulations and subsequent legal decisions.

Project Findings

There are no drainages, streams or other waterways on site, and no wetland habitat is present that would come under the jurisdiction of the Corps.

4.6.2 Regional Water Quality Control Board

The Corps has delegated the authority for use of 404 permits to each individual state. The use of a 404 permit in California is regulated by the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) under Section 401 of the Clean Water Act regulations. The SWRCB has authority to issue a 401 permit that allows the use of a 404 permit in the state, with the authority in the state being vested in regional water quality control boards (RWQCB).

Under the Porter-Cologne Act of 2003, (Act) the SWRCB has extended its responsibilities to include impacts to water quality from non-point source pollution.

In addition, the SWRCB has the responsibility to require that projects address ground water and water quality issues, which would be evaluated as part of the geotechnical and hydrology studies. Their authority extends to all waters of the State (of California).

The Act identifies beneficial uses of waters of the state that the SRCB use to evaluate jurisdiction. These beneficial uses (BUs) include: Warm Freshwater Habitat (WARM), Wildlife Habitat (WILD), Groundwater Recharge (GWR), Agricultural Supply (AGR), and Non-Contact Water Recreation (REC2) (which is limited by fencing), beneficial use of "rare, threatened or endangered species habitat", Municipal and Domestic Supply (MUN), Agricultural Supply (AGR), Industrial Service Supply (IND), and Industrial Process Supply (PROC).

Project Findings

There are no streams, creeks or similar waterways on site that would come under the jurisdiction of the SWRCB.

4.6.3 California Department of Fish and Wildlife

The CDFW, through provisions of the State of California Administrative Code, is empowered to issue agreements for any alteration of a river, stream or lake where fish or wildlife resources may adversely be affected. Streams (and rivers) are defined by the presence of a channel bed and banks, and at least an intermittent flow of water. Lateral limits of jurisdiction are not clearly defined, but generally include any riparian resources associated with a stream or lake, CDFW regulates wetland areas only if those wetlands are part of a river, stream or lake as defined by CDFW.

Project Findings

There are no streams, creeks, washes, or similar waterways or riparian habitat that would come under the jurisdiction of the CDFW.

4.7 Riverine, Riparian, and Vernal Pool Habitats

The MSHCP requires an evaluation of the site for riverine, riparian and vernal pool habitats. These habitats include waters under the jurisdiction of the Corps, CDFW and local RWQCB, but also include waters that may not fall under the jurisdiction of these agencies, such as vernal pools.

Project Findings

The project site does not have any riverine, riparian or vernal pools. The soil is a fine sandy loam that drains water and the site conditions are unsuitable for the formation of riverine, riparian or vernal pools.

4.8 Raptors, Migratory Birds, and Habitat

Most of the raptor species (eagles, hawks, falcons and owls) are experiencing population declines as a result of habitat loss. Some, such as the peregrine falcon, have also experienced population losses as a result of environmental toxins affecting reproductive success, animals destroyed as pests or collected for falconry, and other direct impacts on individuals. Only a few species, such as the red-tailed hawk and barn owl, have expanded their range in spite of or a result of human modifications to the environment. As a group, raptors are of concern to state and federal agencies.

Raptors and all migratory bird species, whether listed or not, also receive protection under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) of 1918 and its amendments. The MBTA prohibits individuals to kill, take, possess or sell any migratory bird, bird parts (including nests and eggs) except according to regulations prescribed by the Secretary of the Interior Department (16 U. S. Code 703).

Additional protection is provided to all bald and golden eagles under the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act of 1940, as amended. State protection is extended to all birds of prey by the California Department Fish and Game Code, Section 2503.5. No take is allowed under these provision except through the approval of the agencies or their designated representatives.

Project Findings

The project provides no shrub habitat for nesting species. No large trees or substantial groves exist on site. No nesting of raptors or migratory bird species was observed during the survey. Ground cover is minimal and of very low quality for ground-nesting species.

The surrounding properties support trees that may provide nesting habitat for raptors (Photos 2, 5 and 6). However, the site is located in an area already heavily impacted by traffic noise and human activity.

4.9 Habitat Fragmentation and Wildlife Movement

Wildlife movement and the fragmentation of wildlife habitat are recognized as important issues that must be considered in assessing impacts to wildlife. In summary, habitat fragmentation is the division or breaking up of larger habitat areas into smaller areas that may or may not be capable of independently sustaining wildlife and plant populations. Wildlife movement (more properly recognized as species movement) is the temporal movement of species along various types of corridors. Wildlife corridors are especially important for connecting fragmented wildlife habitat areas.



Photo 5. Western section of the project site, looking at the trees on the property to the north.



Photo 6. Northern border of the project, looking south toward trees on the southern boundary.

The project is a small open area surrounded by rural residential neighborhoods, and farmlands. In the regional sense, it is located in a well-developed area of San Jacinto. Habitat fragmentation has already occurred

The location within existing development area has eliminated substantial wildlife movement through this area.

5.0 Discussion

5.1 General Biological Resources

Impacts to general biological resources is minimal and no mitigation is required.

5.2 Burrowing Owl

Most of the available habitat is heavily impacted, making it unlikely, but not impossible, that birds will nest in suitable habitat on site. Burrowing owls may re-colonize a site after only a few days. The CDFW, states that, "Time lapses between project activities trigger subsequent take avoidance surveys including but not limited to a final survey conducted within 24 hours prior to ground disturbance." (California Department of Fish and Game 2012a).

Based on these considerations, we recommend that a Take Avoidance Survey be conducted no less than 14 days prior to initiating ground activities using the recommended methods described in the burrowing owl staff report prepared by the CDFW (California Department of Fish and Game 2012a). Implementation of avoidance and minimization measures would be triggered by positive owl presence on the site where project activities will occur. The development of avoidance and minimization approaches would be informed by monitoring the burrowing owls.

5.3 Vernal Pool Fairy Shrimp and Riverside Fairy Shrimp

No impacts to shrimp habitat exists will occur and no mitigation is required.

5.4 Jurisdictional Waters

There are no jurisdictional waters present on site, and no further action is required.

5.5 Riverine/Riparian, and Vernal Pools

The project will not impact riparian or vernal pool habitats, and no mitigation is required.

5.6 Raptor and Migratory Bird Species

No nests were observed. Given the location of the property is mostly ruderal habitat and in a largely developed area, there will be no significant impacts to nesting birds.

5.7 Habitat Fragmentation and Wildlife Corridors

The project will not significantly add to habitat fragmentation or impact wildlife corridors.

6.0 References

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Appendix A - Plants and Animals Observed

Plants

*indicates non-native plant species

ANGIOSPERMAE: DICOTYLEDONES

DICOT FLOWERING PLANTS

Amaranthaceae

Amaranthus family

*Amaranthus albus

White tumbleweed

Chenopodiaceae

Saltbush family

*Salsola tragus

Russian thistle

Ulmaceae

Elm family

*Ulmus parvifolia

Chinese elm (remnants of cut-down trees)

ANGIOSPERMAE: MONOCOTYLEDONAE

MONOCOT FLOWERING PLANTS

Poaceae

Grass family

*Bromus diandrus

Ripgut brome

*Cynodon dactylon

Bermuda grass

Taxonomy and nomenclature follow Hickman 1993 and Munz 1974.

Animals

AVES

BIRDS

Trochilidae

Hummingbirds

Calypte anna

Anna's hummingbird

Picidae

Woodpeckers

Picoides nuttallii

Nuttall's woodpecker

Fringillidae

Finches

Carpodacus neomexicanus

House finch

Passeridae

Old World sparrows

Passer domesticus

House sparrow

MAMMALIA

MAMMALS

Sciuridae

Squirrels, chipmunks and marmots

Spermophilus beecheyi

Beechey ground squirrel

Geomyidae

Pocket gophers

Thomomys bottae

Botta's pocket gopher

Nomenclature follows Hall 1981, Grenfell et al., and Stebbins 1966.

Appendix B - Definitions of Species Status Classification

Federal Classifications

END	Taxa listed as endangered
THR	Taxa listed as threatened
PE	Taxa proposed to be listed as endangered
PT	Taxa proposed to be listed as threatened
C2*	The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) revised its classifications of candidate taxa (species, subspecies, and other taxonomic designations). The former designation of "Category 2 Candidate for listing" has been discontinued. The USFWS will continue to assess the need for protection of these taxa and may, in the future, designate such taxa as Candidates. NRAI has noted the change in species status by marking with an asterisk (*) those C2 candidates that were removed from the list.
C	Candidate for listing. Refers to taxa for which the USFWS has sufficient information to support a proposal to list as Endangered or Threatened and issuance of the proposal is anticipated but precluded at this time.
ND	Not designated as a sensitive species

State Classifications

END	Taxa listed as endangered
THR	Taxa listed as threatened
CE	Candidate for endangered listing
CT	Candidate for threatened listing
CFP	California Fully Protected. Species legally protected under special legislation enacted prior to the California Endangered Species Act.
SSC	California Species of Special Concern. Taxa with populations declining seriously or that are otherwise highly vulnerable to human development.
SA	Special Animal. Taxa of concern to the California Natural Diversity Data Base regardless of their current legal or protected status.
ND	Not designated as a sensitive species

HISTORICAL/ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESOURCES SURVEY REPORT

CRM TECH

HISTORICAL/ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESOURCES SURVEY REPORT

LAKE HEMET WATER WELL NO. 17

**City of San Jacinto
Riverside County, California**

For Submittal to:

Lake Hemet Municipal Water District
26385 Fairview Avenue
Hemet, CA 92544

Prepared for:

Jim Morrissey
PZL, Inc.
41738 Fulton Avenue
Hemet, CA 92544

Prepared by:

CRM TECH
1016 E. Cooley Drive, Suite A/B
Colton, CA 92324

Bai "Tom" Tang, Principal Investigator
Michael Hogan, Principal Investigator

October 8, 2014
CRM TECH Contract No. 2838

Title: Historical/Archaeological Resources Survey Report: Lake Hemet Water Well Site No. 17, City of San Jacinto, Riverside County, California

Author(s): Deirdre Encarnación, Archaeologist/Report Writer
Daniel Ballester, Archaeologist/Field Director
Nina Gallardo, Archaeologist/Native American Liaison

Consulting Firm: CRM TECH
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Date: October 8, 2014

For Submittal to: Lake Hemet Municipal Water District
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Hemet, CA 92544
(951) 658-3241

Prepared for: Jim Morrissey
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USGS Quadrangle: San Jacinto, Calif., 7.5' quadrangle; T5S R1W, San Bernardino Baseline and Meridian, within the Rancho San Jacinto Viejo land grant,

Project Size: Approximately 0.25 acre

Keywords: San Jacinto Valley area, Riverside County; Phase I historical/archaeological resources survey; Assessor's Parcel No. 439-190-008; no "historical resources" under CEQA

MANAGEMENT SUMMARY

Between August and October 2014, at the request of PZL, Inc., CRM TECH performed a cultural resources study on an approximately 0.25-acre parcel of vacant land in the City of San Jacinto, Riverside County, California. The subject property of the study, Assessor's Parcel No. 439-190-008, is located on the east side of Hewitt Street and to the north of Washington Avenue, in a portion of the Rancho San Jacinto Viejo land grant lying within T5S R1W, San Bernardino Baseline and Meridian. The study is part of the environmental review process for the proposed construction of the Lake Hemet Municipal Water District (LHMWD) potable water well No. 17 on the property. The LHMWD, as the project proponent and the lead agency, required the study in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

The purpose of the study is to provide the LHMWD with the necessary information and analysis to determine whether the proposed project would cause substantial adverse changes to any "historical resources," as defined by CEQA, that may exist in or around the project area. In order to identify and evaluate such resources, CRM TECH conducted a historical/archaeological resources records search, pursued historical background research, contacted Native American representatives, and carried out an intensive-level field survey.

Through the various avenues of research, this study did not encounter any "historical resources" within or adjacent to the project area. Therefore, CRM TECH recommends to the LHMWD a finding of *No Impact* regarding cultural resources. No further cultural resources investigation is recommended for the project unless construction plans undergo such changes as to include areas not covered by this study. However, if buried cultural materials are encountered during any earth-moving operations associated with the project, all work in that area should be halted or diverted until a qualified archaeologist can evaluate the nature and significance of the finds.

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INTRODUCTION

Between August and October 2014, at the request of PZL, Inc., CRM TECH performed a cultural resources study on an approximately 0.25-acre parcel of vacant land in the City of San Jacinto, Riverside County, California (Fig. 1). The subject property of the study, Assessor's Parcel No. 439-190-008, is located on the east side of Hewitt Street and to the north of Washington Avenue, in a portion of the Rancho San Jacinto Viejo land grant lying within T5S R1W, San Bernardino Baseline and Meridian (Fig. 2). The study is part of the environmental review process for the proposed construction of the Lake Hemet Municipal Water District (LHMWD) potable water well No. 17 on the property. The LHMWD, as the project proponent and the lead agency, required the study in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA; PRC §21000, et seq.).

The purpose of the study is to provide the LHMWD with the necessary information and analysis to determine whether the proposed project would cause substantial adverse changes to any "historical resources," as defined by CEQA, that may exist in or around the project area. In order to identify and evaluate such resources, CRM TECH conducted a historical/archaeological resources records search, pursued historical background research, contacted Native American representatives, and carried out an intensive-level field survey. The following report is a complete account of the methods, results, and final conclusion of the study.

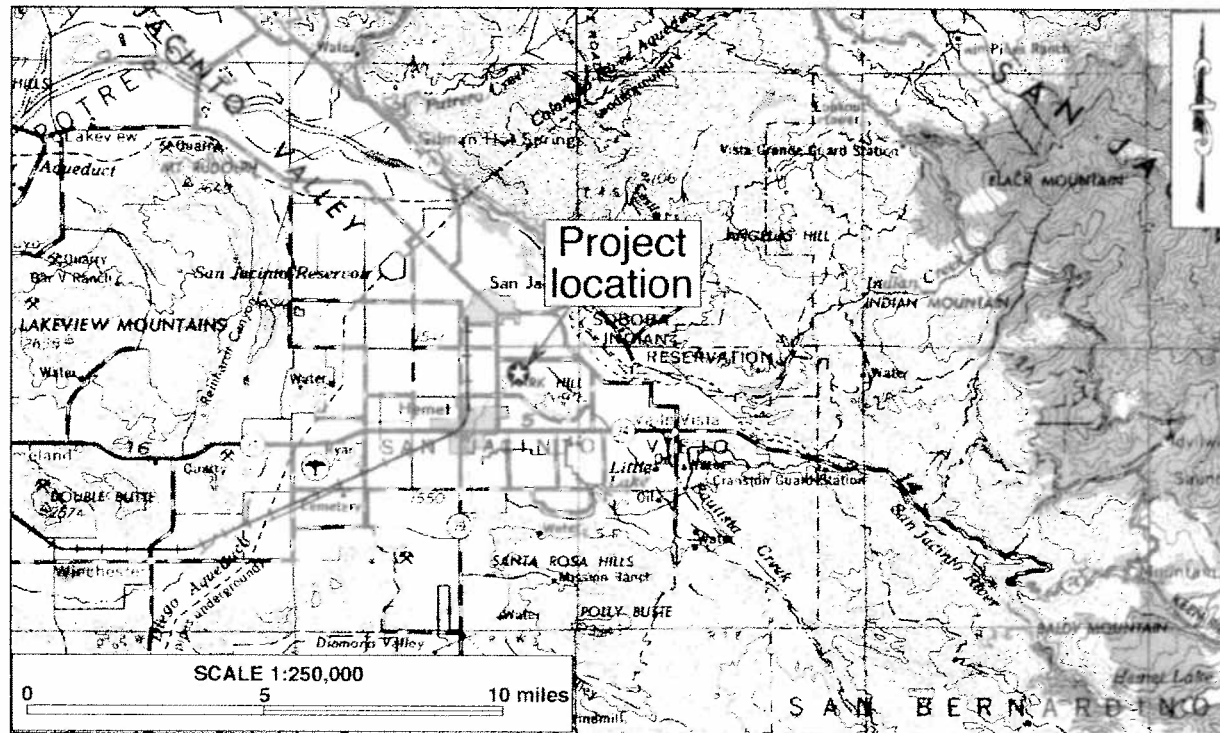


Figure 1. Project vicinity. (Based on USGS San Bernardino and Santa Ana, Calif., 1:250,000 quadrangles [USGS 1969; 1979])

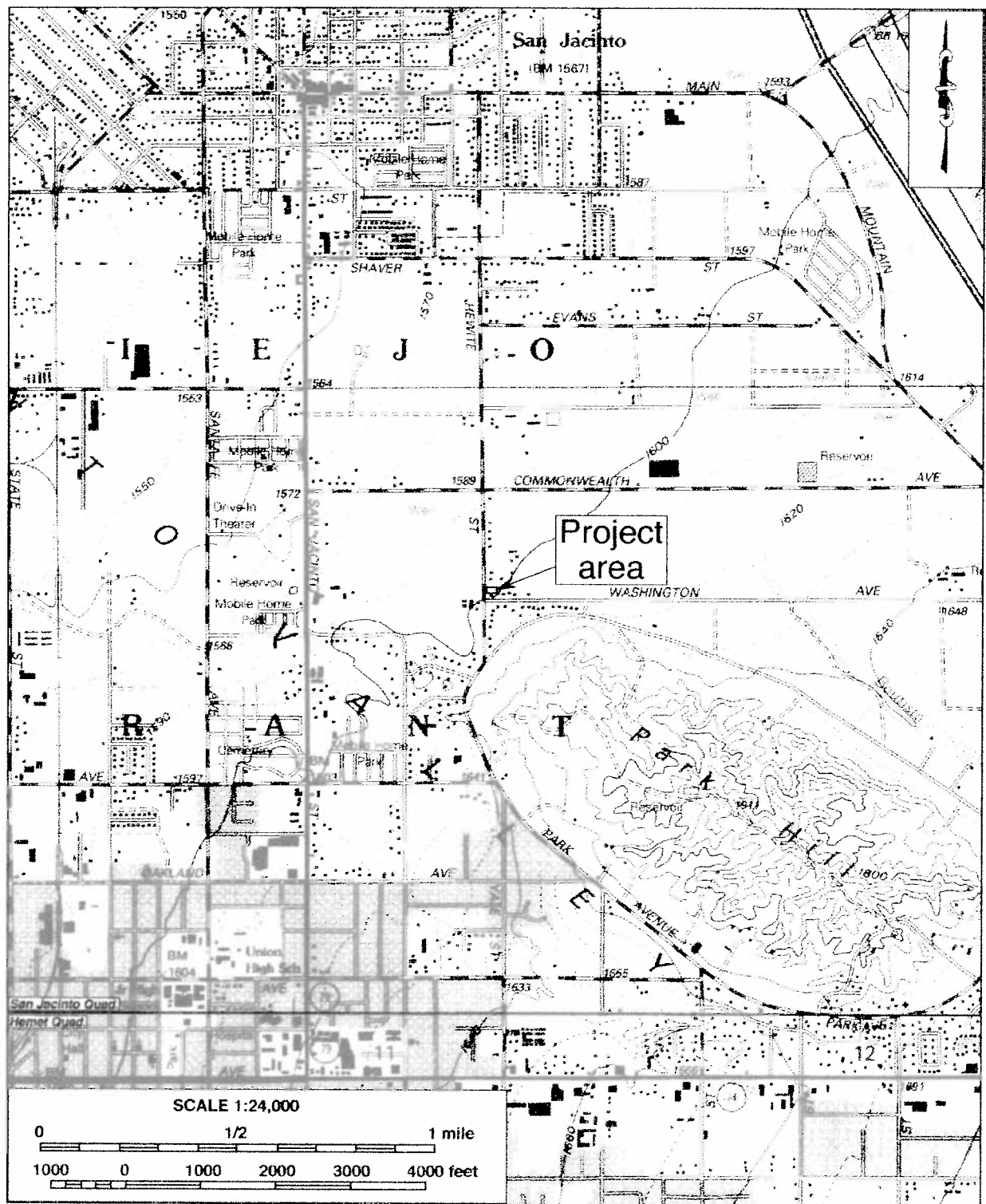


Figure 2. Project area. (Based on USGS Hemet and San Jacinto, Calif., 1:24,000 quadrangles [USGS 1996a; 1996b])

SETTING

CURRENT NATURAL SETTING

The project area is situated in the San Jacinto Valley, a northwest-southeast trending inland valley centered along the San Jacinto River and bounded by the Lakeview Mountains on the southwest and the San Jacinto Mountains on the northeast. More specifically, it lies on the southeastern edge of the City of San Jacinto, in a semi-rural area between the urban cores of San Jacinto and the neighboring City of Hemet. The natural environment of the region is typical of inland southern California, characterized by a Mediterranean climate with hot, dry summers and mild, wet winters. Temperatures reach well over 100 degrees Fahrenheit in summer, and dip to near freezing in winter. The average annual rainfall is less than 12 inches.

The project area is currently undeveloped, and is surrounded by vacant land on the north, agricultural fields on the west across Hewitt Street, and rural residential properties on the south and the east, with a suburban residential neighborhood of recent vintage further to the east. The terrain in the project area is level, and the elevation is approximately 1,600 feet above mean sea level. The ground surface has been cleared of vegetation, leaving only a few non-native trees near the southeast corner and some scattered growth of small shrubs (Fig. 3).

CULTURAL SETTING

Prehistoric Context

It is widely acknowledged that human occupation in what is now the State of California began 8,000-12,000 years ago. In attempting to describe and understand the cultural processes that occurred in



Figure 3. Overview of the current natural setting of the project area. (Photo taken on August 26, 2014; view of the east)

the ensuing years, archaeologists have developed a number of chronological frameworks that endeavor to correlate the technological and cultural changes that are observable in archaeological records to distinct time periods. Unfortunately, none of these chronological frameworks has been widely accepted, and none has been developed specifically for the so-called Inland Empire, the nearest ones being for the Colorado Desert and Peninsular Ranges area (Warren 1984) and for the Mojave Desert (Warren and Crabtree 1986).

The development of an overall chronological framework for the region is hindered by the lack of distinct stratigraphic layers of cultural sequences that could be dated by absolute dating methods to provide concrete dates. Since results from archaeological investigations in this region have yet to be synthesized into an overall chronological framework, most archaeologists tend to follow a chronology adapted from a scheme developed by William J. Wallace in 1955 and modified by others (Wallace 1955; 1978; Warren 1968; Chartkoff and Chartkoff 1984; Moratto 1984). Although the beginning and ending dates of the different horizons or periods may vary, the general framework of prehistory in this region under this chronology consists of the following four periods:

- Early Hunting Stage (ca. 10000-6000 B.C.), which was characterized by human reliance on big game animals, as evidenced by large, archaic-style projectile points and the relative lack of plant-processing artifacts;
- Millingstone Horizon (ca. 6000 B.C.-1000 A.D.), when plant foods and small game animals came to the forefront of subsistence strategy, and from which a large number of millingstones, especially well-made, deep-basin metates, were left;
- Late Prehistoric Period (ca. 1000-1500 A.D.), during which a more complex social organization, a more diversified subsistence base—as evidenced by smaller projectile points, expedient millingstones and, later, pottery—and regional cultures and tribal territories began to develop;
- Protohistoric Period (ca. 1500-1700s A.D.), which ushered in long-distance contact with Europeans, and thereby led to the Historic Period.

Ethnohistoric Context

The project area lies in an area where the traditional territories of two Native American groups, the Luiseño and the Cahuilla, overlapped. Together, the homelands of these two Takic-speaking peoples extend from the Coachella Valley in the northeast to present-day Oceanside in the southwest, encompassing most of the western and central portions of what is now Riverside County. In modern anthropological literature, the leading sources on Luiseño and Cahuilla culture and history include Kroeber (1925), Strong (1929), Bean (1978), and Bean and Shipek (1978).

Despite their differences in the linguistic affiliation and environmental setting, Native Americans who lived in the vicinity of the project area exhibited similar social organization and resource procurement strategies. The traditional societies of both the Luiseño and the Cahuilla were structured around villages based on clan or lineage groups. Archaeologically, the village sites are usually marked by midden deposits and habitation debris, and may include bedrock milling features. The various clans, and the two groups in general, interacted with one another through trade, intermarriage, ceremonies, and occasionally tribal warfare. During the seasonal rounds to exploit plant resources, small groups often ranged some distances from the villages in search of specific

plants and animals. Their gathering strategies often left behind signs of special use sites, such as boulder slicks and metates at certain resource locations.

Since at least the early 1800s, the foothills east of present-day San Jacinto has been the site of the Luiseño village of Soboba, the name of which has also been recorded by Spanish missionaries, early U.S. surveyors, and modern ethnographers as Saboba, Savabo, Sovovo, and Sevobe, among a host of other versions (Gunther 1984:502-503). During the historic period, the village was home to five Luiseño clans, *Litcic*, *Pokhat*, *Amurax*, *Tcipmal*, and *Tulotcuwat*, who were collectively known as *Sovovoyam* (Kroeber 1907:146; Strong 1929:276). Situated on the northeastern frontier of Luiseño territory, the *Sovovoyam* maintained ceremonial exchange with neighboring Mountain Cahuilla, Gabrielino, and Serrano groups (Strong 1929:13, 98). Today, the Soboba Indian Reservation, formally established in 1913, is home to a mixed population of both Luiseño and Cahuilla heritage.

Historic Context

In California, the so-called “historic period” began in 1769, when an expedition sent by the Spanish authorities in Mexico founded Mission San Diego, the first European outpost in Alta California. For several decades after that, Spanish colonization activities were largely confined to the coastal regions, and left little impact on the arid hinterland of the territory. Although the first explorers, including Pedro Fages and Juan Bautista de Anza, traveled through the San Jacinto Valley as early as 1772-1774, no Europeans were known to have settled in the vicinity until the beginning of the 19th century.

Throughout much of the Spanish and Mexican Periods in California history, the San Jacinto Valley was nominally under the control of Mission San Luis Rey, which was established near present-day Oceanside in 1798. By 1821, it had become a part of the loosely defined Rancho San Jacinto, a vast cattle ranch for that mission (Gunther 1984:467). The rancho was headquartered on a small hill near the Lakeview Mountains, where an adobe house for the *mayordomo*, known in later years as Casa Loma, was built sometime before 1827 (*ibid.*:102).

In the 1840s, after secularization of the mission system, three large land grants were created on the former mission rancho of San Jacinto. Among these was Rancho San Jacinto Viejo, which was granted in 1842 to José Antonio Estudillo, then the *mayordomo* of Mission San Luis Rey. As elsewhere in southern California, cattle ranching was the most prevalent economic activity on these and other nearby ranchos, until the influx of American settlers eventually brought an end to this much-romanticized lifestyle in the second half of the 19th century.

After the American annexation of Alta California in 1848, the first Euroamerican settlers arrived in the San Jacinto Valley in the late 1860s, and settled mostly around the old town of San Jacinto, the earliest non-Indian community in the area. During the great southern California land boom of the 1880s, the new town of San Jacinto was founded in 1883, and soon overtook the old town as the nucleus of the community. In 1888, San Jacinto became the terminus of the newly completed San Jacinto Valley Railway, a Santa Fe subsidiary, and the City of San Jacinto was incorporated in the same year.

For almost a century after its birth, San Jacinto remained a small rural town serving one of Riverside County's most important agricultural regions. During the recent decades, however, with residential and commercial development increasingly becoming the driving force in regional growth, the forces of urbanization/suburbanization has begun to transform greatly the socioeconomic landscape of the city. Today, with an estimated population of more than 30,000, San Jacinto has increasingly become a typical "bedroom" community characteristic of the cities and towns throughout the Inland Empire region.

RESEARCH METHODS

RECORDS SEARCH

On August 15, 2014, CRM TECH archaeologist Nina Gallardo (see App. 1 for qualifications) conducted the historical/archaeological resources records search at the Eastern Information Center (EIC), University of California, Riverside. During the records search, Gallardo examined maps and records on file at the EIC for previously identified cultural resources in or near the project area and existing cultural resources reports pertaining to the vicinity. Previously identified cultural resources include properties designated as California Historical Landmarks, Points of Historical Interest, or Riverside County Landmarks, as well as those listed in the National Register of Historic Places, the California Register of Historical Resources, or the California Historical Resources Inventory.

HISTORICAL RESEARCH

Historical background research for this study was conducted by CRM TECH historian Bai "Tom" Tang (see App. 1 for qualifications) on the basis of published literature in local and regional history and historic maps of the San Jacinto area. Among maps consulted for this study were the U.S. General Land Office's (GLO) land survey plat maps dated 1867 and the U.S. Geological Survey's (USGS) topographic maps dated 1901-1953. These maps are collected at the Science Library of the University of California, Riverside, and the California Desert District of the U.S. Bureau of Land Management, located in Moreno Valley.

NATIVE AMERICAN PARTICIPATION

On August 8, 2014, CRM TECH submitted a written request to the State of California's Native American Heritage Commission for a records search in the commission's sacred lands file. In the meantime, CRM TECH contacted the nearby Soboba Band of Luiseño Indians to inform the tribe of the upcoming field survey and to inquire about Native American cultural resources in the project area. On August 19, based on the Native American Heritage Commission's recommendations, CRM TECH further contacted a total of 12 tribal representatives in the region in writing to solicit local Native American input regarding any possible cultural resources concerns over the proposed project. The correspondences between CRM TECH and the Native American representatives are attached to this report in Appendix 2.

FIELD SURVEY

On August 26, 2014, CRM TECH archaeologist Daniel Ballester (see App. 1 for qualifications) carried out the intensive-level, on-foot field survey of the project area. During the survey, Ballester walked parallel east-west transects spaced five meters (approx. 15 feet) apart. In this way, the ground surface in the entire project area was systematically and carefully examined for any evidence of human activities dating to the prehistoric or historic period (i.e., 50 years ago or older). Ground visibility was excellent (95%) due to the recent clearing of vegetation.

RESULTS AND FINDINGS

RECORDS SEARCH

According to EIC records, the project area had not been surveyed for cultural resources prior to this study, and no cultural resources had been recorded on or adjacent to the property. Outside the project boundaries but within a one-mile radius, EIC records show at least 19 previous cultural resources studies covering various tracts of land and linear features (Fig. 4). As a result of these and other similar studies in the vicinity, 12 historical/archaeological sites were previously recorded within the scope of the records search, as listed in Table 1. The sites consist mainly of historic-period buildings and associated features such as reservoirs and a garage. None of these previously recorded resources was located in the immediate vicinity of the project area, and thus none of them requires further consideration during this study.

Table 1. Previously Recorded Cultural Resources within the Scope of the Records Search		
Site No.	Recorded by/Date	Description
33-006269	Poetsch 1982	Craftsman-style house, ca. 1940
33-006351	Swift 1982	Vernacular wood-frame house, ca. 1924
33-006369	Swift 1982	Lloyd Wright House, 1908
33-007302	Swift 1982	E.L. Mayberry House, 1925
33-007326	Summers 1982; Jenkins 2005	Soboba Ranch de San Jacinto, 1924
33-007357	Stuart 1982	Craftsman bungalow, 1925
33-014281	White 2005	Wood-framed liberty-style house, 1946
33-014282	White 2005	Structural remains of Bothin Villa, 1907
33-014317	White 2005	Bothin large reservoir, 1909
33-014318	White 2005	Bothin small reservoir, 1907
33-014319	White 2005	Bothin garage, 1908
33-016028	Hoover 2007	Shaver Street House, ca. 1915

HISTORICAL RESEARCH

While sources consulted for this study show evidence of human activities in the general vicinity throughout the past 150 years, the project area appears to be relatively low in sensitivity for cultural resources from the historic period. In the 1850s-1860s, a road was observed running less than a half-mile to the west of the project area, but no other man-made features were noted nearby (Fig. 5). By the 1890s, after the establishment of the towns of San Jacinto and Hemet, the area between these two settlements exhibited a typical rural settlement pattern, with widely scattered buildings among a grid

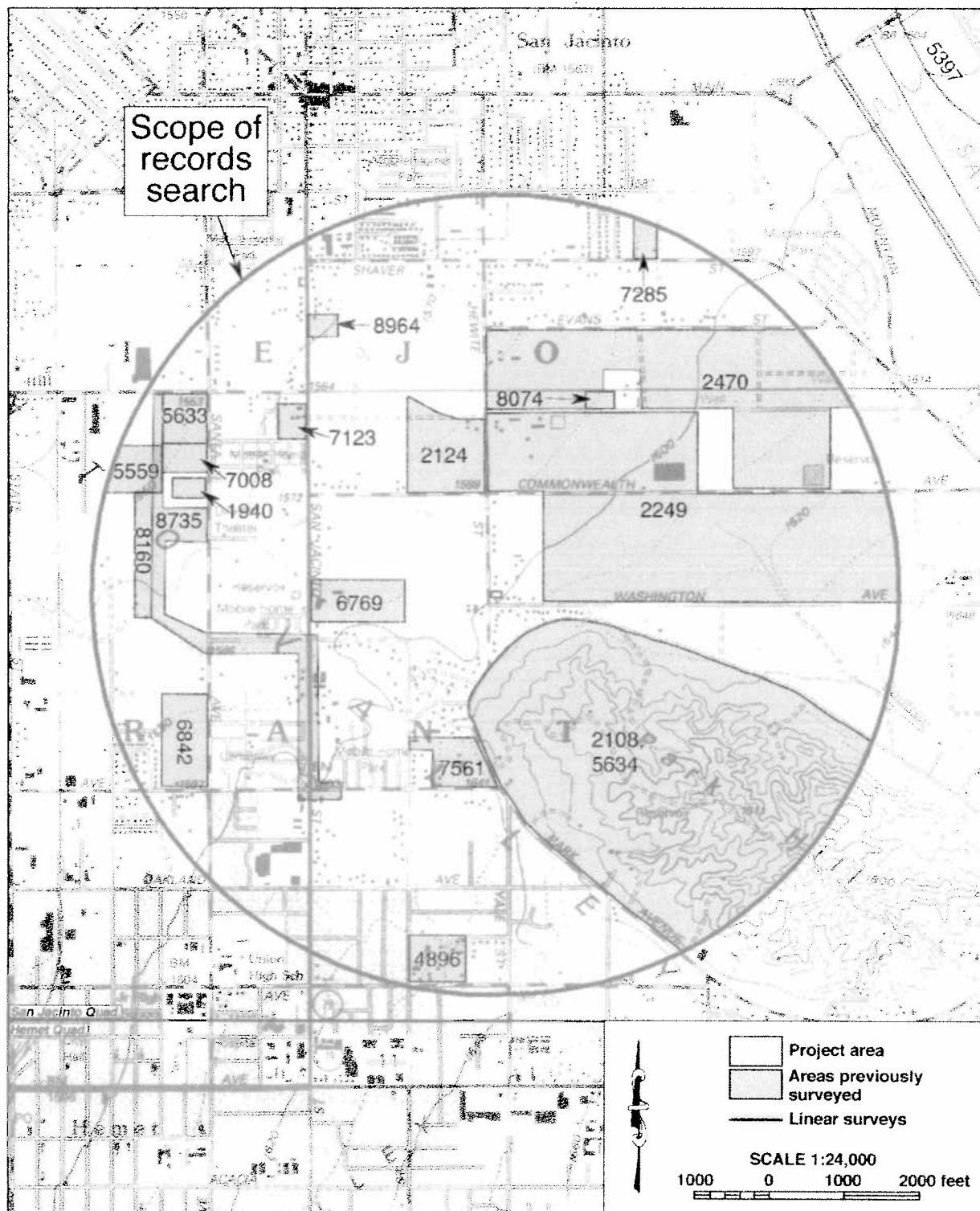


Figure 4. Previous cultural resources studies in the vicinity of the project area, listed by EIC file number. Locations of historical/archaeological sites are not shown as a protective measure.

of crisscrossing roads (Fig. 6). Near the project location, however, the only notable features were the forerunners of today's Hewitt Street and Washington Avenue (Fig. 6).

During the 20th century, growth in the San Jacinto Valley greatly accelerated, bringing more buildings, roads, and other man-made features to the vicinity of the project area (Fig. 7). By 1949, a building had appeared on the adjacent property to the south (Fig. 7). Despite these developments nearby, the project area itself evidently remained vacant and undeveloped, except perhaps as farmland, throughout the historic period and to the present time (Figs. 2, 5-7).

NATIVE AMERICAN PARTICIPATION

In response to CRM TECH's inquiry, the Native American Heritage Commission reported that the sacred lands record search did indicate the presence of Native American cultural resources

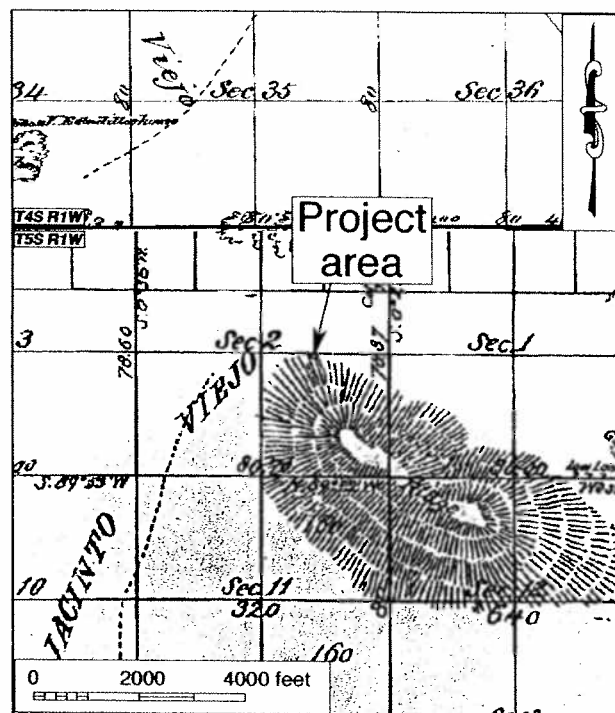


Figure 5. The project area and vicinity in 1852-1867. (Source: GLO 1867a; 1867b)

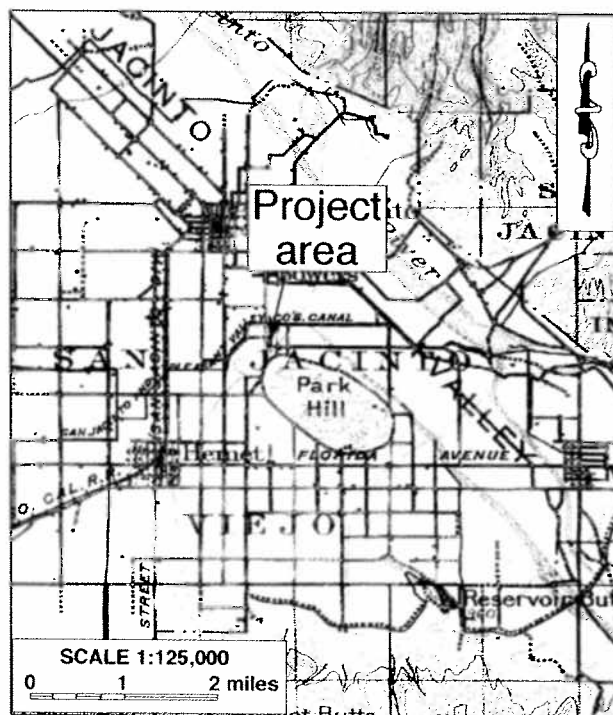


Figure 6. The project area and vicinity in 1897-1898. (Source: USGS 1901)

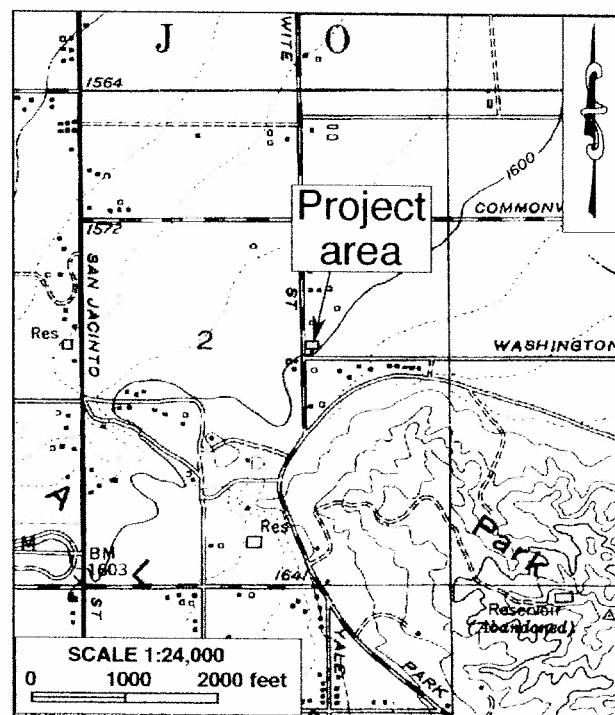


Figure 7. The project area and vicinity in 1949. (Source: USGS 1953)

in the immediate vicinity of the project area. The commission recommended that local Native American groups be contacted for further information, and provided a list of potential contacts in the region (see App. 2). Upon receiving the commission's response, CRM TECH sent written requests for consultation to all 10 individuals on the referral list and the organizations they represent on August 19 (see App. 2). In addition, as referred by these tribal representatives or the tribal government staff, the following individuals were also contacted:

- Yvonne Markle, Environmental Office Manager for the Cahuilla Band of Indians;
- Gabriella Rubalcava, Environmental Director for the Santa Rosa Band of Cahuilla Indians.

As of this time, two written responses have been received (see App. 2). In a letter dated August 25, 2014, Katie Eskew, an archaeologist with the Agua Caliente Tribal Historic Preservation Office, states that the tribe has no specific concerns regarding this project and wishes to defer to the Soboba Band of Luiseño Indians. Mary Ann Green, Chairperson of the Augustine Band of Cahuilla Indians, responded in a letter dated August 27, 2014. In the letter, she indicates that the Augustine Band is not aware of any cultural resources in the project area, and suggests that CRM TECH contact other tribes or individuals in closer proximity to the project location. Meanwhile, she recommends Native American monitoring during ground-disturbing activities associated with the project, and requests immediate notification of the discovery of any cultural resources.

FIELD SURVEY

The intensive-level field survey produced completely negative results for potential cultural resources. The entire project area was closely inspected for any evidence of human activities dating to the prehistoric or historic period, but none was found. No buildings, structures, objects, sites, features, or artifacts more than 50 years of age were encountered during the field survey.

DISCUSSION

The purpose of this study is to identify any cultural resources within or adjacent to the project area, and to assist the LHMWD in determining whether such resources meet the official definition of "historical resources," as provided in the California Public Resources Code, in particular CEQA. According to PRC §5020.1(j), "'historical resource' includes, but is not limited to, any object, building, site, area, place, record, or manuscript which is historically or archaeologically significant, or is significant in the architectural, engineering, scientific, economic, agricultural, educational, social, political, military, or cultural annals of California."

More specifically, CEQA guidelines state that the term "historical resources" applies to any such resources listed in or determined to be eligible for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources, included in a local register of historical resources, or determined to be historically significant by the Lead Agency (Title 14 CCR §15064.5(a)(1)-(3)). Regarding the proper criteria for the evaluation of historical significance, CEQA guidelines mandate that "a resource shall be considered by the lead agency to be 'historically significant' if the resource meets the criteria for

listing on the California Register of Historical Resources” (Title 14 CCR §15064.5(a)(3)). A resource may be listed in the California Register if it meets any of the following criteria:

- (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.
- (4) Has yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history. (PRC §5024.1(c))

As discussed above, all research procedures conducted during this study have produced negative results, and no potential “historical resources” were encountered throughout the course of the study. Based on these findings, and in light of the criteria listed above, the present report concludes that *no historical resources exist within or adjacent to the project area.*

CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

CEQA establishes that “a project that may cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource is a project that may have a significant effect on the environment” (PRC §21084.1). “Substantial adverse change,” according to PRC §5020.1(q), “means demolition, destruction, relocation, or alteration such that the significance of a historical resource would be impaired.”

In summary of the research results outlined above, throughout the course of this study, no “historical resources,” as defined by CEQA, were identified within or adjacent to the project area. Therefore, CRM TECH presents the following recommendations to the LHMWD:

- The project as currently proposed will not cause a substantial adverse change to any known historical resources.
- No further cultural resources investigation is necessary for the proposed project unless construction plans undergo such changes as to include areas not covered by this study.
- If buried cultural materials are discovered during any earth-moving operations associated with the project, all work in that area should be halted or diverted until a qualified archaeologist can evaluate the nature and significance of the finds.

REFERENCES

Bean, Lowell John

- 1978 Cahuilla. In Robert F. Heizer (ed.): *Handbook of North American Indians*, Vol. 8: *California*; pp. 575-587. Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C.

Bean, Lowell John, and Florence C. Shippek

- 1978 Luiseño. In Robert F. Heizer (ed.): *Handbook of North American Indians*, Vol. 8, *California*; pp. 550-563. Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C.

Chartkoff, Joseph L., and Kerry Kona Chartkoff

- 1984 *The Archaeology of California*. Stanford University Press, Stanford, California.

GLO (General Land Office, U.S. Department of the Interior)

- 1867a Plat Map: Township No. 4 South Range No. 1 West, San Bernardino Meridian; surveyed in 1853-1867.
1867b Plat Map: Township No. 5 South Range No. 1 West, San Bernardino Meridian; surveyed in 1852-1867.

Gunther, Jane Davies

- 1984 *Riverside County, California, Place Names: Their Origins and Their Stories*. J. D. Gunther, Riverside.

Kroeber, Alfred L.

- 1925 *Handbook of the Indians of California*. Bureau of American Ethnology Bulletin 78. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C.

Moratto, Michael J. (ed.)

- 1984 *California Archaeology*. Academic Press, Orlando, Florida.

Strong, William Duncan

- 1929 *Aboriginal Society in Southern California*. University of California Publications in American Archaeology and Ethnology, Vol. 26. Reprinted by Malki Museum Press, Banning, California, 1972.

USGS (United States Geological Survey, U.S. Department of the Interior)

- 1901 Map: San Jacinto, Calif. (30', 1:125,000); surveyed in 1897-1898.
1953 Map: San Jacinto, Calif. (7.5', 1:24,000); aerial photographs taken in 1949.
1969 Map: San Bernardino, Calif. (1:250,000); 1958 edition revised.
1979 Map: Santa Ana, Calif. (1:250,000); 1959 edition revised.
1996a Map: Hemet, Calif. (7.5', 1:24,000); 1953 edition, photorevised in 1976.
1996b Map: San Jacinto, Calif. (7.5', 1:24,000); 1953 edition photorevised in 1994.

Wallace, William J.

1955 A Suggested Chronology for Southern California Coastal Archaeology. *Southwestern Journal of Archaeology* 11(3):214-230.

1978 Post-Pleistocene Archeology, 9,000 to 2,000 BC. In Robert F. Heizer (ed.): *Handbook of North American Indians*; Vol. 8, *California*; pp. 25-36. Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C.

Warren, Claude N.

1968 Cultural Traditions and Ecological Adaptations on the Southern California Coast. In Cynthia Irwin-Williams (ed.): *Archaic Prehistory in Western United States*; pp. 1-14. Eastern New Mexico University Contributions in Anthropology 1(3). Portales, New Mexico.

1984 The Desert Region. In Michael J. Moratto (ed.): *California Archaeology*; pp. 339-430. Academic Press, Orlando, Florida.

Warren, Claude N., and Robert H. Crabtree

1986 Prehistory of the Southwestern Area. In Warren L. D'Azevedo (ed.): *Handbook of North American Indians*, Vol. 11: *Great Basin*; pp. 183-193. Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C.

APPENDIX 1: PERSONNEL QUALIFICATIONS

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR/HISTORIAN Bai "Tom" Tang, M.A.

Education

- 1988-1993 Graduate Program in Public History/Historic Preservation, UC Riverside.
1987 M.A., American History, Yale University, New Haven, Connecticut.
1982 B.A., History, Northwestern University, Xi'an, China.
- 2000 "Introduction to Section 106 Review," presented by the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation and the University of Nevada, Reno.
1994 "Assessing the Significance of Historic Archaeological Sites," presented by the Historic Preservation Program, University of Nevada, Reno.

Professional Experience

- 2002- Principal Investigator, CRM TECH, Riverside/Colton, California.
1993-2002 Project Historian/Architectural Historian, CRM TECH, Riverside, California.
1993-1997 Project Historian, Greenwood and Associates, Pacific Palisades, California.
1991-1993 Project Historian, Archaeological Research Unit, UC Riverside.
1990 Intern Researcher, California State Office of Historic Preservation, Sacramento.
1990-1992 Teaching Assistant, History of Modern World, UC Riverside.
1988-1993 Research Assistant, American Social History, UC Riverside.
1985-1988 Research Assistant, Modern Chinese History, Yale University.
1985-1986 Teaching Assistant, Modern Chinese History, Yale University.
1982-1985 Lecturer, History, Xi'an Foreign Languages Institute, Xi'an, China.

Honors and Awards

- 1988-1990 University of California Graduate Fellowship, UC Riverside.
1985-1987 Yale University Fellowship, Yale University Graduate School.
1980, 1981 President's Honor List, Northwestern University, Xi'an, China.

Cultural Resources Management Reports

Preliminary Analyses and Recommendations Regarding California's Cultural Resources Inventory System (With Special Reference to Condition 14 of NPS 1990 Program Review Report). California State Office of Historic Preservation working paper, Sacramento, September 1990.

Numerous cultural resources management reports with the Archaeological Research Unit, Greenwood and Associates, and CRM TECH, since October 1991.

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR/ARCHAEOLOGIST

Michael Hogan, Ph.D., RPA*

Education

- 1991 Ph.D., Anthropology, University of California, Riverside.
- 1981 B.S., Anthropology, University of California, Riverside; with honors.
- 1980-1981 Education Abroad Program, Lima, Peru.

- 2002 Section 106—National Historic Preservation Act: Federal Law at the Local Level. UCLA Extension Course #888.
- 2002 “Recognizing Historic Artifacts,” workshop presented by Richard Norwood, Historical Archaeologist.
- 2002 “Wending Your Way through the Regulatory Maze,” symposium presented by the Association of Environmental Professionals.
- 1992 “Southern California Ceramics Workshop,” presented by Jerry Schaefer.
- 1992 “Historic Artifact Workshop,” presented by Anne Duffield-Stoll.

Professional Experience

- 2002- Principal Investigator, CRM TECH, Riverside/Colton, California.
- 1999-2002 Project Archaeologist/Field Director, CRM TECH, Riverside.
- 1996-1998 Project Director and Ethnographer, Statistical Research, Inc., Redlands.
- 1992-1998 Assistant Research Anthropologist, University of California, Riverside
- 1992-1995 Project Director, Archaeological Research Unit, U. C. Riverside.
- 1993-1994 Adjunct Professor, Riverside Community College, Mt. San Jacinto College, U.C. Riverside, Chapman University, and San Bernardino Valley College.
- 1991-1992 Crew Chief, Archaeological Research Unit, U. C. Riverside.
- 1984-1998 Archaeological Technician, Field Director, and Project Director for various southern California cultural resources management firms.

Research Interests

Cultural Resource Management, Southern Californian Archaeology, Settlement and Exchange Patterns, Specialization and Stratification, Culture Change, Native American Culture, Cultural Diversity.

Cultural Resources Management Reports

Author and co-author of, contributor to, and principal investigator for numerous cultural resources management study reports since 1986.

Memberships

* Register of Professional Archaeologists; Society for American Archaeology; Society for California Archaeology; Pacific Coast Archaeological Society; Coachella Valley Archaeological Society.

PROJECT ARCHAEOLOGIST/REPORT WRITER
Deirdre Encarnación, M.A.

Education

- 2003 M.A., Anthropology, San Diego State University, California.
2000 B.A., Anthropology, minor in Biology, with honors; San Diego State University, California.
1993 A.A., Communications, Nassau Community College, Garden City, N.Y.
2001 Archaeological Field School, San Diego State University.
2000 Archaeological Field School, San Diego State University.

Professional Experience

- 2004- Project Archaeologist/Report Writer, CRM TECH, Riverside/Colton, California.
2001-2003 Part-time Lecturer, San Diego State University, California.
2001 Research Assistant for Dr. Lynn Gamble, San Diego State University.
2001 Archaeological Collection Catalog, SDSU Foundation.

PROJECT ARCHAEOLOGIST
Nina Gallardo, B.A.

Education

- 2004 B.A., Anthropology/Law and Society, University of California, Riverside.

Professional Experience

- 2004- Project Archaeologist, CRM TECH, Riverside/Colton, California.
• Surveys, excavations, mapping, and records searches.

Honors and Awards

- 2000-2002 Dean's Honors List, University of California, Riverside.

PROJECT ARCHAEOLOGIST/FIELD DIRECTOR/GIS SPECIALIST

Daniel Ballester, M.S.

Education

- 2013 M.S., Geographic Information System (GIS), University of Redlands, California.
1998 B.A., Anthropology, California State University, San Bernardino.
1997 Archaeological Field School, University of Las Vegas and University of California, Riverside.
1994 University of Puerto Rico, Rio Piedras, Puerto Rico.
- 2007 Certificate in Geographic Information Systems (GIS), California State University, San Bernardino.
2002 “Historic Archaeology Workshop,” presented by Richard Norwood, Base Archaeologist, Edwards Air Force Base; presented at CRM TECH, Riverside, California.

Professional Experience

- 2002- Field Director/GIS Specialist, CRM TECH, Riverside/Colton, California.
• Report writing, site record preparation, and supervisory responsibilities over all aspects of fieldwork and field crew.
- 1999-2002 Project Archaeologist, CRM TECH, Riverside, California.
• Survey, testing, data recovery, monitoring, and mapping.
- 1998-1999 Field Crew, K.E.A. Environmental, San Diego, California.
• Two and a half months of excavations on Topomai village site, Marine Corp Air Station, Camp Pendleton.
- 1998 Field Crew, A.S.M. Affiliates, Encinitas, California.
• Two weeks of excavations on a site on Red Beach, Camp Pendleton, and two weeks of survey in Camp Pendleton, Otay Mesa, and Encinitas.
- 1998 Field Crew, Archaeological Research Unit, University of California, Riverside.
• Two weeks of survey in Anza Borrego Desert State Park and Eureka Valley, Death Valley National Park.

APPENDIX 2

**CORRESPONDENCE WITH
NATIVE AMERICAN REPRESENTATIVES***

* A total of 12 local Native American representatives were contacted; a sample letter is included in this report.

SACRED LANDS FILE & NATIVE AMERICAN CONTACTS LIST REQUEST

NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE COMMISSION

915 Capitol Mall, RM 364
Sacramento, CA 95814
(916) 653-4082
(916) 657-5390 – Fax
nahc@pacbell.net

Project: Lake Hemet Water Well No. 17 (CRM TECH Contract No. 2838)

County: Riverside

USGS Quadrangle Name: Hemet & San Jacinto, Calif.

Township 5 South **Range** 1 West **SB BM; Section(s)** (San Jacinto Viejo land grant)

Company/Firm/Agency: CRM TECH

Contact Person: Nina Gallardo

Street Address: 1016 E. Cooley Drive, Suite A/B

City: Colton, CA

Zip: 92324

Phone: (909) 824-6400

Fax: (909) 824-6405

Email: ngallardo@crmtech.us

Project Description: The primary component of the project is to construct a new well on 0.25 acre of land located along the eastside of S. Hewitt Street, just north of E. Washington Avenue, in the City of San Jacinto, Riverside County, California.

August 8, 2014

From: Nina Gallardo <ngallardo@crmtech.us>
Sent: Friday, August 8, 2014 9:09 AM
To: Joseph Ontiveros <jontiveros@soboba-nsn.gov>
Subject: 2838 Hewitt Well

Hello, Mr. Ontiveros,

We are conducting a cultural resources study for 2838 Hewitt Well. I have emailed Gayle Totton (NAHC) with our project information and map. As part of the cultural resources study for this project, I am writing to see if the tribe has any specific knowledge or concerns regarding the project area and/or the vicinity, and to inquire if the tribe would like to participate on the field survey. I'm attaching the project area map; see below for project information.

Name of project:
Lake Hemet Water Well No. 17
CRM TECH Contract No. 2838

Project size:
0.25 acre

Location:
In the City of San Jacinto
Riverside County

USGS 7.5' quad sheet data:
Hemet & San Jacinto, Calif.
San Jacinto Viejo land grant, T5S R1W

If the tribe would like to have a monitor present during the survey, please contact Daniel Ballester at (909) 376-7842 for additional details. Thanks for your time and input on this project.

Nina Gallardo
(909) 824-6400 Phone
(909) 824-6405 Fax
CRM TECH
1016 E. Cooley Drive, Ste. A/B
Colton, CA 92324

STATE OF CALIFORNIAEdmund G. Brown, Jr., Governor**NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE COMMISSION**

1550 Harbor Blvd., ROOM 100
West SACRAMENTO, CA 95691
(916) 373-3710
Fax (916) 373-5471



August 12, 2014

Nina Gallardo
CRM Tech
1016 E. Cooley Drive, Suite A/B
Colton, CA 92324

Sent by Fax: (909) 824-6405
Number of Pages: 2

Re: Lake Hemet Water Well No. 17, (CRM TECH Contract No. 2838), Riverside County.

Dear Ms. Gallardo,

A record search of the sacred land file has failed to indicate the presence of Native American cultural resources in the immediate project area. The absence of specific site information in the sacred lands file 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.

Enclosed is a list of Native Americans individuals/organizations who may have knowledge of cultural resources in the project area. The Commission makes no recommendation or preference of a single individual, or group over another. 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 or group. If a response has not been received within two weeks of notification, the Commission requests that you follow-up with a telephone call to ensure that the project information has been received.

If you receive notification of change of addresses and phone numbers from any of these individuals or groups, please notify me. With your assistance we are able to assure that our lists contain current information. If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact me at (916) 373-3712.

Sincerely,

Katy Sanchez
Associate Government Program Analyst

Native American Contact List

Riverside County

August 11, 2014

Ramona Band of Cahuilla Mission Indians
Joseph Hamilton, Chairman

P.O. Box 391670 Cahuilla

Anza, CA 92539

admin@ramonatribe.com

(951) 763-4105

(951) 763-4325 Fax

Santa Rosa Band of Mission Indians
Terry Hughes, Tribal Administrator

P.O. Box 609 Cahuilla

Hemet, CA 92546

tkentucky@aol.com

(951) 658-5311

(951) 658-6733 Fax

Santa Rosa Band of Mission Indians
John Marcus, Chairman

P.O. Box 391820 Cahuilla

Anza, CA 92539

(951) 659-2700

(951) 659-2228 Fax

Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians
Jeff Grubbe, Chairperson

5401 Dinah Shore Drive Cahuilla

Palm Springs, CA 92262

lfreogoz@aguacaliente-nsn.gov

(760) 325-3400

(760) 325-0593 Fax

Augustine Band of Cahuilla Mission Indians
Mary Ann Green, Chairperson

P.O. Box 846 Cahuilla

Coachella, CA 92236

(760) 398-4722

(760) 369-7161 Fax

Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians THPO
Patricia Garcia, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer

5401 Dinah Shore Drive Cahuilla

Palm Springs, CA 92264

ptuck@augacaliente-nsn.gov

(760) 699-6907

(760) 699-6924 Fax

Ramona Band of Cahuilla Indians
Manuel Hamilton, Vice Chairperson

P.O. Box 391670 Cahuilla

Anza, CA 92539

admin@ramonatribe.com

(951) 763-4105

(951) 763-4325 Fax

Augustine Band of Cahuilla Mission Indians
Karen Kupcha

P.O. Box 849 Cahuilla

Coachella, CA 92236

(760) 398-4722

(916) 369-7161 Fax

Ramona Band of Mission Indians
John Gomez, Environmental Coordinator

P.O. Box 391670 Cahuilla

Anza, CA 92539

Jgomez@ramonatribe.com

(951) 763-4105

(951) 763-4325 Fax

Cahuilla Band of Indians
Luther Salgado, Chairperson

P.O. Box 391760 Cahuilla

Anza, CA 92539

Chairman@cahuilla.net

(760) 763-5549

(760) 763-2631 Tribal EPA

This list is current only as of the date of this document.

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

This list is only applicable for contacting local Native Americans with regard to the proposed Lake Hemet Water Well No. 17 (CRM Tech Contract No. 2838), Riverside County.

August 19, 2014

John Gomez, Jr., Cultural Resource Coordinator
Ramona Band of Cahuilla Mission Indians
P.O. Box 391372
Anza, CA 92539

RE: Lake Hemet Water Well No. 17 Project
City of San Jacinto, Riverside County, California
CRM TECH Contract #2838

Dear Mr. Gomez:

PZL, Inc. will be conducting environmental studies under CEQA for the Lake Hemet Water Well No. 17 Project in the City of San Jacinto, Riverside County, California. The project area encompasses approximately 0.25 acre of land located along the east side of S. Hewitt Street, just north of E. Washington Avenue (APN 439-190-008), where a new well will be constructed. The accompanying map, based on the USGS Hemet and San Jacinto, Calif., 7.5' quadrangles, depicts the location of the project area in San Jacinto Viejo land grant, T5S R1W, SBBM. CRM TECH has been hired to conduct a cultural resource study, including the Native American scoping, for this project.

In a letter dated August 12, 2014, the Native American Heritage Commission reports that the sacred lands record search identified no Native American cultural resources within the project area, but recommends that local Native American groups be contacted for further information. Therefore, as part of the cultural resources study for this project, I am writing to request your input on potential Native American cultural resources in or near the project area.

According to records on file at the Eastern Information Center, there are no known historical/archaeological sites within the boundaries of the project area. Within a one-mile radius, 12 historic-period sites have been recorded, consisting mainly of single-family residences with a few reservoirs. No prehistoric sites have been recorded within the one-mile radius of the project area.

Please respond at your earliest convenience if you have any specific knowledge of sacred/religious sites or other sites of Native American traditional cultural value within or near the project area that need to be taken into consideration as part of the cultural resources investigation. Any information or concerns may be forwarded to CRM TECH by telephone, e-mail, facsimile, or standard mail. Requests for documentation or information we cannot provide will be forwarded to our client and/or the lead agency, which is the Lake Hemet Municipal Water District for CEQA-compliance purposes. We would also like to clarify that CRM TECH, as the cultural resources consultant for the project, is not the appropriate entity to initiate government-to-government consultations. Thank you for the time and effort in addressing this important matter.

Respectfully,

Nina Gallardo
CRM TECH
Email: ngallardo@crmtech.us

AGUA CALIENTE BAND OF CAHUILLA INDIANS



August 25, 2014

03-055-2014-001

[VIA EMAIL TO:ngallardo@crmtech.us]
CRM TECH
Ms. Nina Gallardo
1016 E. Cooley Drive, Suite A/B
Colton, CA 92324

Re: Lake Hemet Water Well No. 17

Dear Ms. Nina Gallardo,

The Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians (ACBCI) appreciates your efforts to include the Tribal Historic Preservation Office (THPO) in the Lake Hemet Water Well No. 17 project. The project area is not located within the boundaries of the ACBCI Reservation. However, it is within the Tribe's Traditional Use Area (TUA). For this reason, the ACBCI THPO requests the following:

*At this time ACBCI has no concerns and defers to Soboba. This letter shall conclude our consultation efforts.

Again, the Agua Caliente appreciates your interest in our cultural heritage. If you have questions or require additional information, please call me at (760)699-6829. You may also email me at keskew@aguacaliente.net.

Cordially,

Katie Eskew
Archaeologist
Tribal Historic Preservation Office
AGUA CALIENTE BAND
OF CAHUILLA INDIANS



AUGUSTINE BAND OF CAHUILLA INDIANS
P.O. Box 846 • Coachella, CA 92236 • (760) 398-4722 • Fax (760) 398-4252
Tribal Chairperson: MaryAnn Green

August 27, 2014

Nina Gallardo
CRM Tech
1016 E. Cooley Drive, Suite A/B
Colton, CA 92324

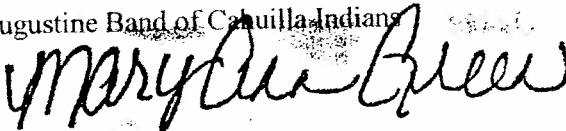
RE: Lake Hemet Water Well No. 17 Project (San Jacinto, CA)

Dear Ms. Gallardo:

Thank you for the opportunity to offer input concerning the development of the above-identified project. We appreciate your sensitivity to the cultural resources that may be impacted by your project, and the importance of these cultural resources to the Native American peoples that have occupied the land surrounding the area of your project for thousands of years. Unfortunately, increased development and lack of sensitivity to cultural resources has resulted in many significant cultural resources being destroyed or substantially altered and impacted. Your invitation to consult on this project is greatly appreciated.

At this time we are unaware of specific cultural resources that may be affected by the proposed project. We encourage you to contact other Native American Tribes and individuals within the immediate vicinity of the project site that may have specific information concerning cultural resources that may be located in the area. We also encourage you to contract with a monitor who is qualified in Native American cultural resources identification and who is able to be present on-site full-time during the pre-construction and construction phase of the project. Please notify us immediately should you discover any cultural resources during the development of this project.

Very truly yours,

Augustine Band of Cahuilla Indians


Mary Ann Green
Tribal Chairperson

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BY: