

April 22, 2021

Kimberly Cooke, Associate Planner

**Town of Mammoth Lakes**

P.O. Box 1609

437 Old Mammoth Road, Suite R (FedEx, UPS, and courier)

Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546

**RE: CONFIDENTIAL: CULTURAL RESOURCES IDENTIFICATION REPORT FOR THE MAMMOTH DISPOSAL WASTE TRANSFER STATION PROJECT, MAMMOTH LAKES, MONO COUNTY, CALIFORNIA**

Dear Ms. Cooke:

In support of the Mammoth Disposal Waste Transfer Station Project (project), Michael Baker International completed an Eastern Information Center (EIC) records search, literature and historical map review, Southern Mono Historical Society consultation, and archaeological field survey of Assessor Parcel Numbers (APNs) 037-200-049 -050 and -061 to determine whether the project could result in a significant adverse change to historical resources in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). Methods, results, and recommendations are summarized below.

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

The project proposes to expand the existing transfer station at the 59 Commerce Drive site, relocate the buy-back/recycling center to the 264 Commerce Drive site, and relocate the maintenance operations facility to the 59 Commerce Drive site. The proposed improvements to the 59 Commerce Drive site include the construction of a 9,600-square-foot transfer station building and the replacement of the guard/attendant shed with a premanufactured scale house. Other facilities to be installed include truck scales near the proposed premanufactured scale booth, an 2,250 -square-foot metal canopy structure over the proposed truck scales and scale house, and a new approximately 1,855-square-foot office building. These constructions will require the demolition of the existing 1,200-square-foot office building, and the repurposing of the existing 3,050-square-foot buy-back/recycling center building with the relocated fleet maintenance facility from the 264 Commerce Drive site.

**PROJECT AREAS**

The project areas are identified as those with project activities associated with demolition, site preparation, and construction within the boundaries of APNs 037-200-049, 037-200-050, and 037-200-061. This includes the maximum extent of ground disturbance associated with these

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activities. The depth of ground disturbance is anticipated to be at least five feet for the construction of footings (see **Attachment 1**).

## CULTURAL RESOURCES IDENTIFICATION METHODS

The results of the EIC records search, literature and historical map review, archaeological field survey, and historical society consultation are presented below.

### EASTERN INFORMATION CENTER

Michael Baker International conducted a records search (ST-MNO-5884) on February 8, 2021. The EIC, as part of the California Historical Resources Information System, California State University, Riverside, an affiliate of the California Office of Historic Preservation (OHP), is the official state repository of cultural resources records and reports for Mono County. As part of the records search, the following federal and California inventories were reviewed:

- California Inventory of Historic Resources (OHP 1976).
- California Points of Historical Interest (OHP 1992 and updates).
- California Historical Landmarks (OHP 1996).
- Archaeological Determinations of Eligibility (OHP 2012).
- Built Environmental Resource Database (OHP 2021). The directory includes resources evaluated for listing and listed in the National Register of Historic Places (National Register), National Historic Landmarks, California Register of Historical Resources (California Register), California Historical Landmarks, and California Points of Historical Interest for Mono County.

## Results

Five cultural resources were identified within the quarter-mile search area of the project areas, one of which is immediately adjacent (P-26-001654/CA-MNO-1654). None except for one have been evaluated for the California or National Registers. P-26-001654/CA-MNO-1654 had previous test excavation and was found ineligible for the National Register (Weaver, Bouscaren, and Wilke 1984:ii). No cultural resources have been previously recorded within the project areas.

<b>Cultural Resource Proximity Table</b>			
<b>Resource Name/#</b>	<b>Type</b>	<b>Dist./Direction from 264 Commerce Drive</b>	<b>Dist./Direction from 59 Commerce Drive</b>
P-26-000888 / CA-MNO-888	AP2. Lithic scatter	260 m/NW	600 m/NW
P-26-001654 / CA-MNO-1654	AP2. Lithic scatter	250 m/SW	0 m/W
P-26-001655 / CA-MNO-1655	AP2. Lithic scatter	300 m/W	435 m/NW

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<b>Cultural Resource Proximity Table</b>			
<b>Resource Name/#</b>	<b>Type</b>	<b>Dist./Direction from 264 Commerce Drive</b>	<b>Dist./Direction from 59 Commerce Drive</b>
P-26-002776 / CA-MNO-2776	AP2. Lithic scatter	990 m/SE	680 m/S
P-26-006642	AP2. Lithic scatter	570 m/SE	320 m/S

A total of 20 cultural resources studies were previously completed within the quarter-mile search radius, of which 3 reports are within the project areas. The project areas have been completely surveyed.

<b>Authors</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>In Project Area?</b>
Kuhn, Clyde and Beth Jersey	1976	<i>Archaeological/Cultural Resources Survey, Known Geothermal Resources Area Inyo National Forest and Benton Planning Unit, Mono County, California</i>	Yes
Witters, Randy	1977	<i>Archaeological Reconnaissance Report - Coyote Flat/Corporation Yard</i>	Yes
Bettinger, Robert L.	1978	<i>A Probabilistic Surface Survey of the Sawmill Timber Compartment, Mono County, California</i>	No
Taylor, William	1981	<i>Archaeological Reconnaissance Report Meridian Boulevard Exchange</i>	No
Burton, Jeff	1982	<i>Archaeological Reconnaissance Report – Mammoth County Water District</i>	No
Burton, Jeff	1982	<i>Archaeological Reconnaissance Report – Mammoth Mountain RV Park, Revelle/Tanner Exchange (SEC 36) and Remainder of the Corporation Yard</i>	No
Bouscaren, Stephen	1983	<i>Archaeological Test Excavations of Site Camno-1654 (FS # 05-04-52-90), Near Mammoth Lakes, Mono County, California</i>	No
White, David R.M.	1983	<i>An Inventory and Assessment of Cultural Resources Potentially Affected by Relocation of the Ski 33 KV and Hurley 12 KV Electrical Distribution Lines, Mammoth Lake Vicinity, Mono County, California</i>	No
Adams, Cynthia	1984	<i>Negative Archaeological Survey Report Addendum – Route 203, P.M. 5.8/8.6</i>	No
Levulett, Valerie A.	1984	<i>Negative Archaeological Survey Report – Route 203, P.M. 5.9/8.5</i>	No

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<b>Authors</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>In Project Area?</b>
Weaver, Richard A., Stephen Bouscaren, and Philip J. Wilke	1984	<i>Test Excavation and Comparative Analysis of Site CA-MNO-1654 Near Mammoth Lakes, Mono County, California</i>	Immediately Adjacent
Richard A. Weaver and M.C. Hall	1984	<i>The Archaeology of Obsidian Stoneworking Camps in the Western Great Basin</i>	No
Burton, Jeffery F., Thomas M. Origer, and Richard E. Hughes	1991	<i>Archaeological Testing and Survey for the Proposed Mammoth Creek Park and Trail System, Mammoth Lakes</i>	Yes
Faust, Nicholas	1991	<i>Cultural Resources Report. Contel Mammoth Phone Lines</i>	No
McCartney, Mally	1992	<i>Cultural Resources Report, Mammoth Helipad, Contel Line Burial</i>	No
Burton, Jeffery F.	1993	<i>An Archaeological Survey of the Proposed South Gateway Land Exchange, Mammoth Lakes, California</i>	No
Burton, Jeffery F.	2006	<i>Archaeological Survey for the MCWD Recycled Water System Mammoth Lakes, California</i>	No
Leach-Palm, Laura, et al.	2010	<i>Cultural Resources Inventory of Caltrans District 9 Rural Conventional Highways in Inyo, Eastern Kern, Mono</i>	No
Hauer, A. Craig and Sarah Branch	2011	<i>A Class III Cultural Resources Inventory for The Basalt Canyon Project, Mono County, California</i>	No
Jeffery F. Burton	2006	<i>Archaeological Survey for the MCWD Recycled Water System Mammoth Lakes, California</i>	No

**LITERATURE AND HISTORICAL MAP REVIEW**

Michael Baker International reviewed various sources of information about the project areas and the vicinity. Below is a list of maps, aerial photographs and online resources reviewed, followed by a narrative description of the results for the project areas.

- Mt. Morrison, Calif. 1:125,000 scale topographic quadrangle (USGS 1914)
- Mt. Morrison, Calif. 1:62,500 scale topographic quadrangle (USGS 1953)
- Old Mammoth, Calif. 1:24,000 scale topographic quadrangle (USGS 1983)
- Old Mammoth, Calif. 1:24,000 scale topographic quadrangle (USGS 1994)
- Single-frame aerial photograph: C-9135 (UCSB 1944)
- Single-frame aerial photograph: CAS-2866 (UCSB 1970)
- Single-frame aerial photograph: TG-77V-31 (UCSB 1977)

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- Single-frame aerial photograph: NAPP (UCSB 1987)
- Town of Mammoth Lakes General Plan Update (Town of Mammoth Lakes 2007:352-360)
- Historicaerials.com (Historicaerials.com 2021)

#### **Prehistoric Overview**

The following is a summary from the Town of Mammoth Lakes General Plan Update (2007:353-354) and the references therein. The earliest human occupation of the Long Valley and Mono Basin areas is believed to have occurred at least by 7500 Before Present (BP). During this time, stone tools and the locations of these tools suggest strategies of hunting large game and small game, along with lacustrine and marsh plants for food. Assemblages are characterized by crescents, large bifaces, choppers, steep-edged scrapers, perforators, graters, and multiple-function flaked tools. Few Great Basin Concave-base series and numerous Great Basin Stemmed series projectile points have been recorded and are used to define the Early Holocene or Mojave Phase in the region. In the Mammoth Lakes area, Pre-Archaic sites are associated most strongly with the Mono Basin, and the southern Owens Lake shore.

The Archaic period is sparsely represented by sites in the Mammoth area. The Archaic period dates from around 7500 BP to the historic era around 1830. This period represents a shift to different human adaptations environmentally. Pinto and Little Lake projectile points define the Little Lake Phase during which the early Holocene's wetter and cooler climate was waning and becoming drier. As a result, plant and animal communities were changing in response to the shrinking water sources. Many pluvial lakes, marshes, and megafauna disappeared during the early Archaic. The few residential sites found in Long and Owens Valleys for this period are often located in topographic low areas close to waterbodies with temporary locations and field camps at a higher terrain within desert scrub zones. Hunting of big game continued and more intensive use of plants especially of seeds was indicated by the increased prevalence of ground stone food-processing tools.

The Middle Archaic or the Newberry Phase (3150 to 1350 BP) is characterized by Elko series and Humboldt series dart points. Archaeological deposits from Mammoth Creek Cave and from Hot Creek Shelters allow inferences that large game hunting, intensive seed gathering, and processing activities continued to dominate aboriginal resource procurement strategies. An environmental shift occurs during this time to cooler and wetter conditions compared to the Early Archaic; the Middle Archaic shows sites and resource areas at higher elevations like the Casa Diablo area and Long Valley Caldera, suggesting increasing importance of multiple ecozones and their resources.

The Late Archaic in the region can be thought of in two phases: the Haiwee Phase (1350 to 650 BP) and the Marana Phase (650 BP to contact). Rosegate projectile points highlight the transition to bows and arrows, typical of the Haiwee Phase; small Desert Side-notched and Cottonwood projectiles (arrow) points, and brownware pottery define the Marana. This time frame also holds warming and more arid conditions; significant human population growth occurs too. There is

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greater diversity of plant and animal resources exploited, broadening of ecozones utilized, and changes in several technologies, including use of small projectile points (for small game) and abandonment of large dart points (for big game), introduction of pottery and of steatite disc beads, a decrease in biface production by increase in simple flake tools, and an increase in types and numbers of grinding stones for processing plant foods. Flat slab schist milling stones, milling slicks, and bedrock mortars become prevalent during the Late Archaic.

#### **ETHNOGRAPHIC OVERVIEW**

The following is a summary from the Town of Mammoth Lakes General Plan Update (2007:354-357) and the references therein. Traditionally, groups of Owens Valley Paiute have occupied an area of Mammoth Lakes. The Owens Valley Paiute spoke a dialect of the Western Numic languages. The Owens Valley Paiute had many semi-sedentary settlements close to major rivers and streams. Ethnographic information from the 1800s to the 1970s supports that this cultural complex of Paiutes, Manche, and Miwok (Utian language family) traded, fished, trapped and hunted through Mammoth Pass to the San Joaquin River valley year round. Food resource exploitation by the local inhabitants includes plant, seed, nut, insect, and animals. Trade was also far reaching, utilizing the same passes mentioned above, and also was a form of social and political organization. The redistribution of resources through feasting and trade events was likely a major component of the areas' larger social sphere politically. Leadership was hereditarily defined. However, political leaders were also chosen based on skill/task at hand. The complexity of several different native groups in a region was likely stabilized in part due to a system of inter- and extra-group marriage. Ethnographically, Mammoth Mountain is a sacred place, standing on the border between the Monache (western Mono) and the Owens Valley Paiute (eastern Mono), and is a place of origin for Mono-speaking aboriginal oral history.

#### **Project Areas' Development History**

The project areas are first depicted as vacant on maps dating to 1914 and remained so until as late as 1984 when the 59 Commerce Drive project area has a small, rectangular structure located on the northeast corner of the parcel. That same year, the 264 Commerce Drive project area shows as graded but doesn't have any further development. By 1985, the small, rectangular structure is no longer depicted on 59 Commerce Drive. By 1993, 59 Commerce Drive has a small, rectangular structure on the southeast corner of the parcel; 264 Commerce Drive is still depicted as vacant yet graded (UCSB 1944, 1970, 1977; USGS 1914, 1953, 1983; Historicaerials.com 2021).

By 1998, 264 Commerce Drive is as it is today with one large, rectangular structure located on the north side of the parcel and a surface parking just south of the structure. That same year, 59 Commerce Drive displays the two extant rectangular structures on the northeast and northwest corners of the parcel. By 2005, 59 Commerce Drive is in its extant form with the two rectangular structures on the northern corners and one square structure in the center of the parcel (UCSB 1944, 1970, 1977; USGS 1914, 1953, 1983; Historicaerials.com 2021).

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**PEDESTRIAN SURVEY**

An intensive survey of the project areas was conducted on February 9, 2021, by Marcel Young, Archaeologist. Pedestrian transects were spaced at 10 meters. Photographs were taken of the project areas and the parcel's modern buildings. Location information for each photograph was recorded. The project areas were snow-covered and were landscaped cement or gravel parking lots. Soils were rarely exposed with less than 5 percent surface visibility in the project areas overall. All observed soil and gravel was fill. No cultural resources were observed during the survey.

**BURIED SITE SENSITIVITY ANALYSIS**

Buried site sensitivity for cultural (archaeological) resources is high within the project areas. Previous archaeological research immediately adjacent to the project areas at P-26-001654/CA-MNO-1654 found that cultural deposits were disturbed in the upper 30 centimeters of the site but that cultural deposits extended to as deep as 100 centimeters beneath the surface. Deposits retained their physical integrity between 30 and 100 centimeters beneath the surface. The site was argued to be a common site type in the area, as obsidian flake-stone tool reduction sites are common in the area due to the natural obsidian deposits. Furthermore, it was determined that the site was not eligible for the National Register (Weaver, Bouscaren, and Wilke 1984:ii).

The 1984 evaluation was based upon a limited sample of one excavation unit and did not fully define the boundaries of the site. Record search information locate the site immediately adjacent to the project areas at 264 Commerce Drive. Additionally, test pit data from geotechnical examination of the soils for the current project show intact soil profiles (SGS 2020). Consequently, there is still the potential for the discovery of unknown archaeological deposits during earth-moving activities and there is still the potential for significant impacts to cultural deposits, if discovered. This impact could be considered potentially significant impact to site P-26-001654/CA-MNO-1654.

Furthermore, an additional four prehistoric sites have been previously recorded within proximity of the project area. Both project areas have sensitivity for buried archaeological resources.

**HISTORICAL SOCIETY CONSULTATION**

On February 8, 2021, Michael Baker International sent a letter with figures depicting the project areas via email to the Southern Mono Historical Society. The letter requested any information or concerns regarding historic properties within the project areas. No response was received. See **Attachment 2**.

**SUMMARY OF FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

The EIC records search, literature and historical map review, Southern Mono Historical Society consultation, and archaeological field survey identified no historical resources, as defined by CEQA Section 15064.5(a), within the project areas. The buried site sensitivity analysis conducted for the project concluded that the project areas have a high sensitivity for prehistoric period

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archaeological resources. As a result of this heightened sensitivity, a Cultural Resources Monitoring Program is recommended. A Cultural Resource Monitoring Program shall be conducted to provide for the identification, evaluation, treatment, and protection of any cultural resources that are affected by or may be discovered during the construction of the proposed project. The monitoring shall consist of the full-time presence of a qualified archaeologist; also, a traditionally and culturally affiliated Native American monitor shall be retained to monitor all ground-disturbing activities associated with project construction, including vegetation removal, clearing, grading, trenching, excavation, or other activities that may disturb native soils that have the potential to contain cultural resources.

## **PREPARER QUALIFICATIONS**

This memo was prepared by Michael Baker International Archaeologist Marcel Young, Architectural Historian Chris Wendt, and Senior Archaeologist Nicholas F. Hearth, MA, RPA. It was reviewed by Senior Cultural Resources Manager Margo Nayyar.

Marcel Young, Archaeologist/Archaeological Field Technician, has worked in various capacities in cultural resource management since 2013. He is experienced in surveying and conducting evaluations of historic archaeological sites in California. Mr. Young is versed in conducting fieldwork within frameworks of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), and CEQA. He has participated in projects in several phases of archaeology: Phase I pedestrian and shovel test surveys, buried site testing, Phase III data recovery, and Phase IV monitoring. His project highlights include archaeological surveying to update and verify built environment structures and features, many of which have included prehistoric components as well. His other project responsibilities include implementing strategic work patterns, delineating best access routes and conducting post impact assessments, and reporting to the National Park Service, National Forest Service, private clients, Southern California Edison, and CalRecycle.

Mr. Wendt conducts National Register, California Register, and various local register evaluations for projects subject to CEQA and Section 106 of the NHPA. For these evaluations, he conducts a variety of tasks, including field survey and photographic documentation of historic-era resources, property research, writing architectural descriptions, and developing historic statements. He is deeply entrenched in issues of local history and has taught history at the secondary and college levels both domestically and abroad. He has served as the visitor services and volunteer coordinator for the Los Angeles Museum of the Holocaust and Museum of Sonoma County. He also worked with the Petaluma Historical Museum and Library and Cotati Museum and Historical Society where he conducted archival research and aided in the identification of historical resources. He is a Secretary of the Interior Professionally Qualified historian and architectural historian.

Mr. Hearth has worked as an archaeologist in cultural resource management since 2002. He meets the Secretary of the Interior's Professional Qualifications Standards for prehistoric archaeology.



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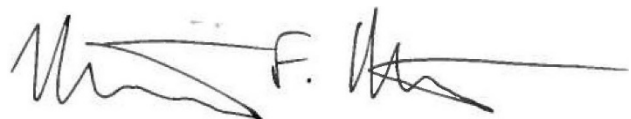
He received his BA in anthropology in 2003 from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst, and his MA in anthropology in 2006 from the University of California, Riverside. Mr. Hearth has worked in California, Utah, Nevada, Arizona, New Mexico, and multiple states both in the Midwest and New England. Mr. Hearth is well versed in applying Section 106 of the NHPA, CEQA, and NEPA on a variety of projects across many market sectors. He has completed projects in all phases of archaeology: Phase I pedestrian and shovel test surveys, extended Phase I survey, buried site testing, archaeological sensitivity assessments, Phase II testing and evaluations, Phase III data recovery, and Phase IV monitoring. His project responsibilities include overseeing archaeological, historical, and paleontological studies, directing all phases of archaeological field and laboratory work, and ensuring that the quality of analysis and reporting meets or exceeds appropriate local, state, and federal standards.

Ms. Nayyar is a senior architectural historian with 11 years of cultural management experience in California. Her experience includes built environment surveys, evaluation of historic-era resources using guidelines outlined in the National Register and the California Register, and preparation of cultural resources technical studies pursuant to CEQA and Section 106 of the NHPA, including identification studies, finding of effect documents, memorandum of agreements, programmatic agreements, and Historic American Buildings Survey/Historic American Engineering Record/Historic American Landscapes Survey mitigation documentation. She prepares cultural resources sections for CEQA environmental documents, including infill checklists, initial studies, and environmental impact reports, as well as NEPA environmental documents, including environmental impact statements and environmental assessments. She also specializes in municipal preservation planning, historic preservation ordinance updates, Native American consultation, and provision of Certified Local Government training to interested local governments. She develops Survey 123 and Esri Collector applications for large-scale historic resources surveys, and authors National Register nomination packets. Ms. Nayyar meets the Secretary of the Interior's Professional Qualification Standards for history and architectural history.

Sincerely,



Marcel Young, BA  
Archaeologist



Nicholas F. Hearth, MA, RPA  
Senior Archaeologist

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Attachments:

**Attachment 1** – Figures

**Attachment 2** – Historical Society Consultation

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**REFERENCES**

- Historicaerials.com. 2021. Historic and contemporary aerial photo views of the project area. Electronic resource, <https://www.historicaerials.com/>, accessed multiple.
- OHP (California Office of Historic Preservation). 1976. California Inventory of Historic Resources. Sacramento: California Department of Parks and Recreation.
- . 1992. California Points of Historical Interest. Sacramento: California Department of Parks and Recreation.
- . 1996. California Historical Landmarks. Sacramento: California Department of Parks and Recreation.
- . 2012. Archaeological Determinations of Eligibility for Los Angeles County. Sacramento: California Department of Parks and Recreation.
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- SGS (Sierra Geotechnical Services Inc. 2020. Updated Geotechnical Investigation. Manuscript on file, Michael Baker International, Santa Ana, California.
- Town of Mammoth Lakes. 2007. General Plan Update. Mammoth Lakes, CA: Town of Mammoth Lakes.
- UCSB (University of California Santa Barbara). 1944. Aerial photograph C-9135. Electronic resource, accessed multiple.
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- . 1977. Aerial photograph TG-77V-31. Electronic resource, [https://mil.library.ucsb.edu/apcatalog/report/report.php?filed\\_by=TG-77V-31](https://mil.library.ucsb.edu/apcatalog/report/report.php?filed_by=TG-77V-31), accessed multiple.
- . 1987. Aerial photograph NAPP. Electronic resource, [https://mil.library.ucsb.edu/apcatalog/report/report.php?filed\\_by=NAPP](https://mil.library.ucsb.edu/apcatalog/report/report.php?filed_by=NAPP), accessed multiple.
- USGS (US Geological Survey). 1914. Mt. Morrison Calif. 1:125,000 scale topographic quadrangle.
- . 1953. Mt. Morrison, Calif. 1:62,500 scale topographic quadrangle.

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\_\_\_\_\_. 1983. Old Mammoth, Calif. 1:24,000 scale topographic quadrangle.

\_\_\_\_\_. 1994. Old Mammoth, Calif. 1:24,000 scale topographic quadrangle.

Weaver, Richard A., Stephen Bouscaren, and Philip J. Wilke. 1984. Test Excavation and Comparative Analysis of Site CA-MNO-1654 Near Mammoth Lakes, Mono County, California. Report available from the Eastern Information Center, Riverside, California.

# **Attachment 1**

## **Figures**

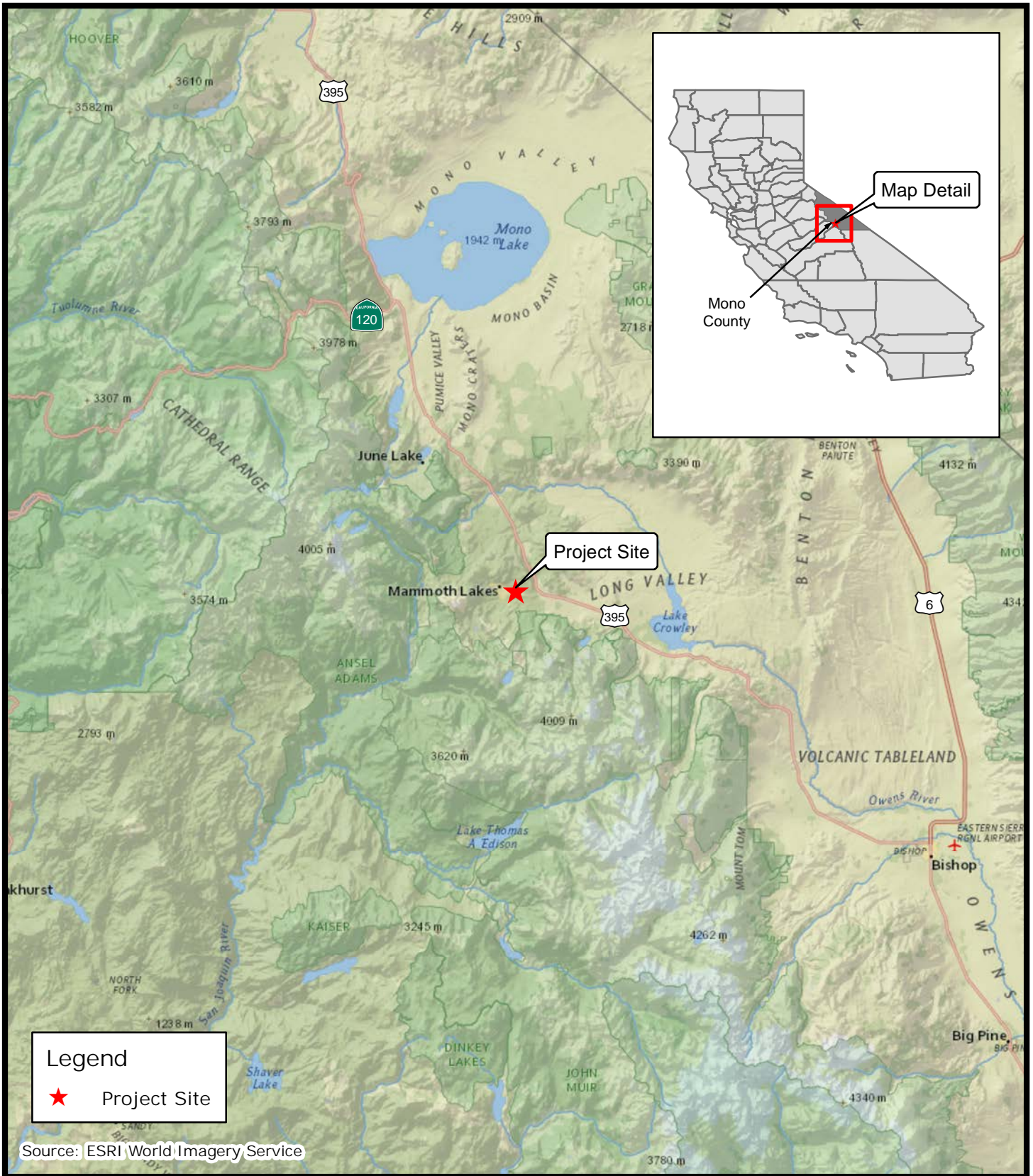


FIGURE 1  
Regional Location Map

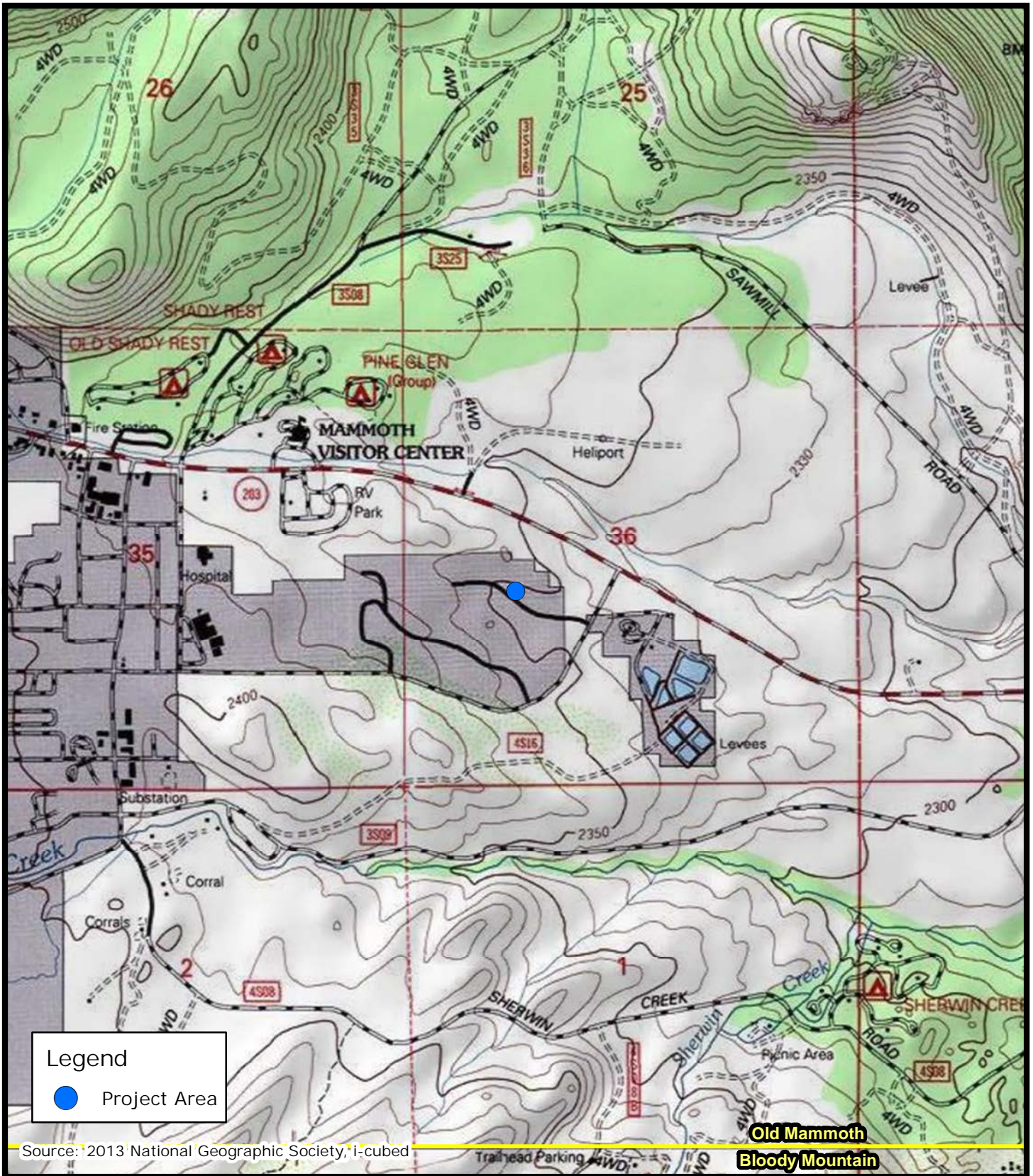
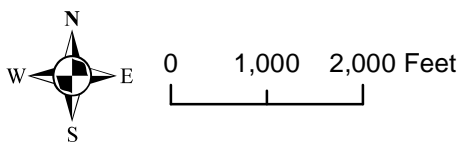


FIGURE 2  
Project Location Map





Source: San Diego 2017 9-inch Imagery

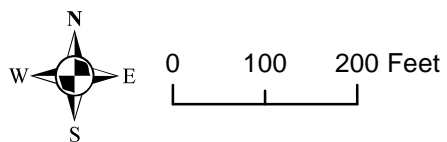


FIGURE 3  
Project Area



# **Attachment 2**

## **Historical Society Consultation**

**From:** [Wendt, Chris](#)  
**To:** [info@mammothmuseum.org](mailto:info@mammothmuseum.org)  
**Cc:** [Nayyar, Margo](#); [Hearth, Nicholas](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Mammoth Disposal Transfer Station Expansion Project consultation  
**Date:** Monday, February 8, 2021 1:05:00 PM  
**Attachments:** [Southern Mono HS consultation letter.pdf](#)

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To whom it may concern,

Michael Baker International is conducting a cultural resources investigation for the Mammoth Disposal Transfer Station Expansion Project in Mammoth Lakes; see the attached file for a project location and description. Please notify us if your organization has any information or concerns about historic properties in the area of potential effect. This is not a request for research; it is solely a request for public input related to any concerns that the Historical Society may have. If you have any questions, please contact me at your earliest convenience at [chris.wendt@mbakerintl.com](mailto:chris.wendt@mbakerintl.com) or (925) 949-2461.

Sincerely,

**Chris Wendt** | Architectural Historian  
2729 Prospect Park Dr. Suite 220 | Rancho Cordova, CA 95670 | [O] 925-949-2461  
[chris.wendt@mbakerintl.com](mailto:chris.wendt@mbakerintl.com) | [www.mbakintl.com](http://www.mbakintl.com)



February 8, 2021

**SOUTHERN MONO HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
P.O. BOX 65  
MAMMOTH LAKES, CA 93546**

**RE: MAMMOTH DISPOSAL TRANSFER STATION EXPANSION PROJECT, TOWN OF  
MAMMOTH LAKES, MONO COUNTY, CALIFORNIA**

To Whom It May Concern:

Michael Baker International is conducting a cultural resources investigation for the Town of Mammoth Lakes– Mammoth Disposal Transfer Station Expansion Project (project). The project is located at 59 and 264 Commerce Drive in the Town of Mammoth Lakes, as depicted on the accompanying figures (see attachment).

The project proposes to: 1) expand the existing transfer station at the 59 Commerce Drive Site, 2) relocate the buy-back/recycling center (currently at the 59 Commerce Drive Site) to the 264 Commerce Drive Site, and 3) relocate the maintenance operations facility (currently at the 264 Commerce Drive Site) to the 59 Commerce Drive Site. The proposed improvements to the 59 Commerce Drive Site include: construction of a 9,600-square foot transfer station building, the replacement of the guard/attendant shed with a pre-manufactured 35-foot scale house, the installation of truck scales near the proposed scale house, the installation of a 1,800-square foot metal canopy structure over the proposed truck scales and scale house, the construction of a new approximately 1,748-square foot office building and demolition of the existing 1,200-square foot office building, and the repurposing of the existing 3,050-square foot buy-back/recycling center building with the relocated fleet maintenance facility from the 264 Commerce Drive Site. The proposed project is subject to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and a cultural resources investigation of the project area will occur.

Please notify us if your organization has any information or concerns about historical resources on the project site. This is not a request for research; it is solely a request for public input related to any concerns that the Southern Mono Historical Society may have. If you have any questions, please contact me at your earliest convenience at [chris.wendt@mbakerintl.com](mailto:chris.wendt@mbakerintl.com) or (925) 949-2461.

Sincerely,

Chris Wendt, MA  
Architectural Historian

Attachments:

**Attachment 1** - Figures

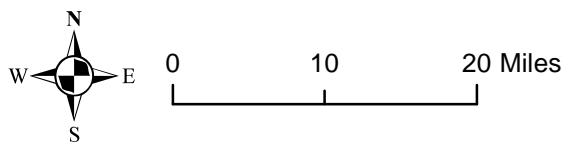
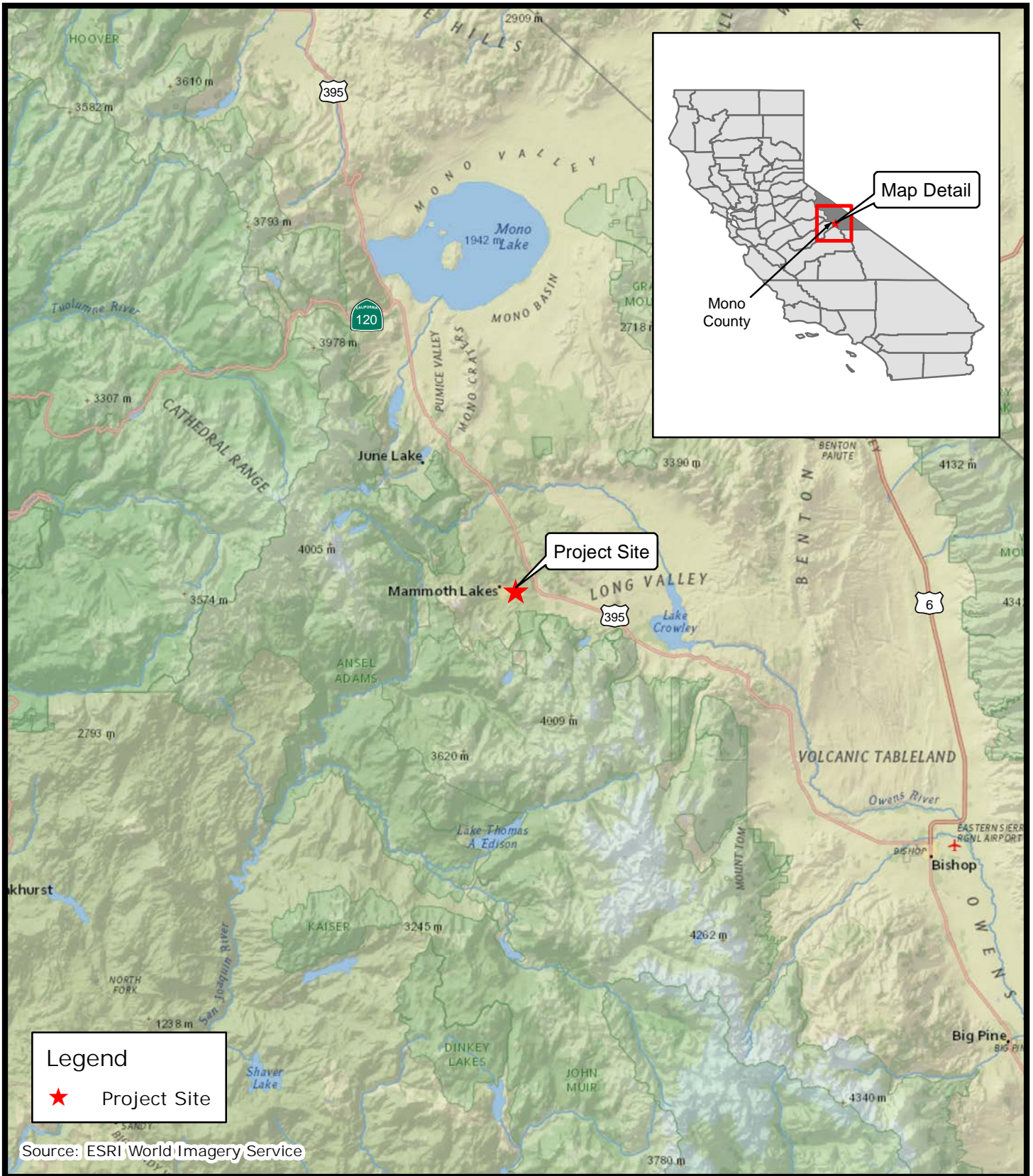


FIGURE 1  
Regional Location Map

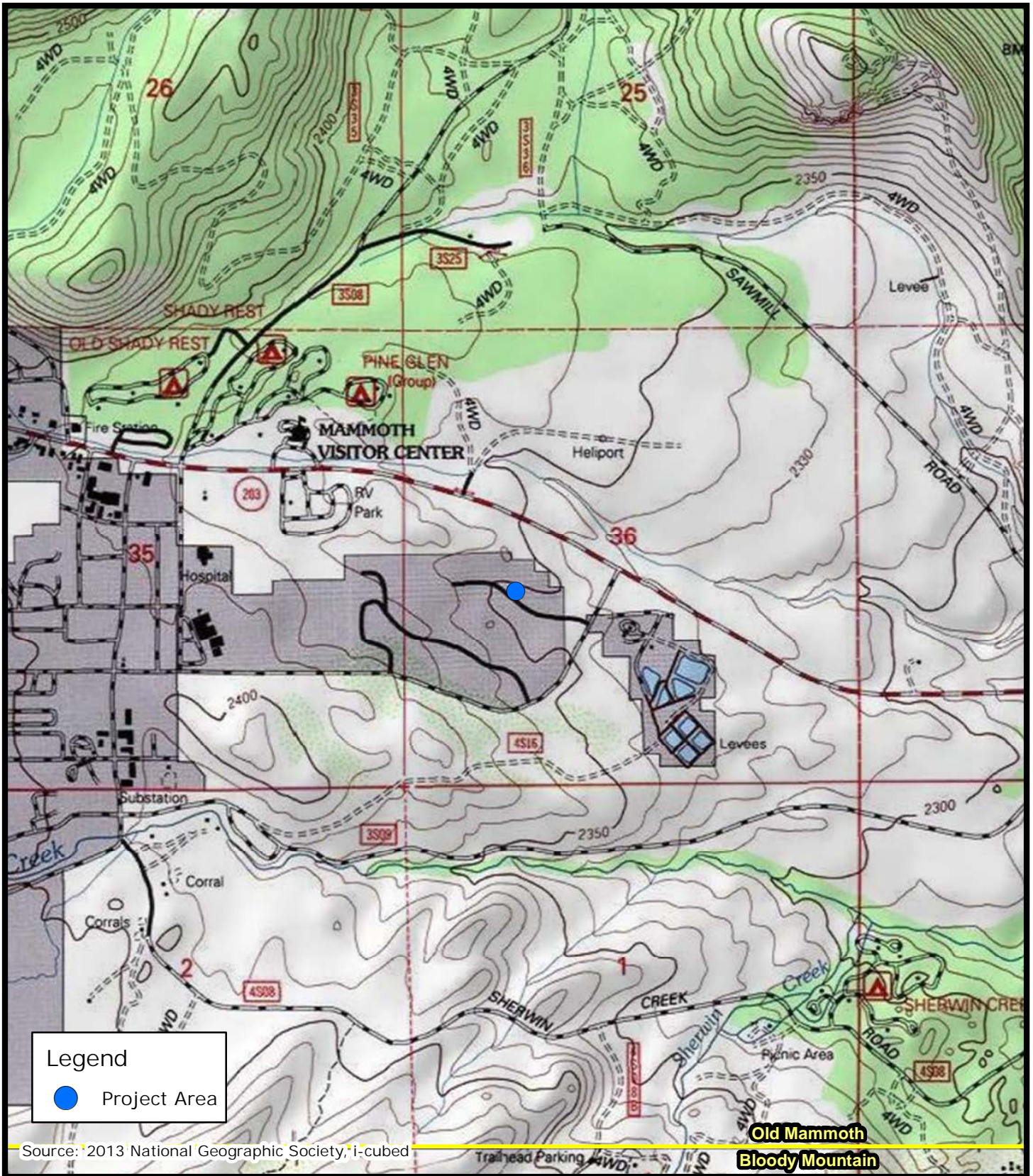


FIGURE 2  
Project Location Map

