

# Appendix C

---

## Phase 1 Cultural Resources Assessment

# Cultural Resources Assessment for the Rainbow IX Water Banking Project, Tulare County, California

Consuelo Y. Sauls



Prepared By

**Taylor Archaeology**  
6083 N. Figarden Dr., Ste 616  
Fresno, CA 93722

Prepared For  
**4Creeks, Inc.**  
324 S. Santa Fe St., Suite A  
Visalia, CA 93292

July 2020

USGS Porterville 7.5' topographic quadrangle;  
140 total project acres; 140 acres surveyed  
**Keywords:** Negative findings

## MANAGEMENT SUMMARY

Taylorred Archaeology performed a cultural resources assessment for the Rainbow IX Water Banking Project. The Porterville Irrigation District (PID) proposes to develop a water banking system within the Project boundary. The Project will establish new recharge basins totaling 55.44 acres, add new gravity fed outlets, and an overflow monitoring and alarm system. In addition, the Project will incorporate 17.3 acres of existing recharge basins, an existing turnout from the Friant Kern Canal, existing 15” and 30” pipelines, and five existing wells. The Project does not include any modification to the FKC.

To assist PID in meeting California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) compliance requirements, Taylorred Archaeology, under contract to 4Creeks, Inc., conducted a cultural resource assessment to determine whether cultural resources are present within the Project area. The investigation included a records search through the Southern San Joaquin Valley Information Center (SSJVIC) to identify previously recorded cultural resources and prior studies in the project vicinity, a request to the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) to review its Sacred Lands File for known resources, outreach with individuals and tribal representatives who may have information about the Project area, and a pedestrian survey of the proposed Project area.

The SSJVIC has no record of previously recorded cultural resources in the Project area; however, there were four previous investigations conducted within the Project area. Additionally, the search identified 10 prior cultural studies and six previously recorded cultural resource within a 0.5-mile radius of the Project area. A search of the NAHC’s Sacred Lands File and outreach to local tribal representatives did not result in the identification of sacred or important tribal cultural sites within the area, and no archaeological cultural resources were identified during Taylorred Archaeology’s pedestrian survey of the Project area.

Consistent with state statues, Taylorred Archaeology advises that in the event archaeological remains are encountered during the Project development or ground-disturbing activities in the Project area, all work should be halted until a qualified archaeologist can identify the discovery and assess its significance. In addition, if human remains are uncovered during construction, the local County Coroner is to be notified to arrange their proper treatment and disposition. If the remains are identified on the basis of archaeological context, age, cultural associations, or biological traits to be those of a Native American, California Health and Safety Code 7050.5 and PRC 5097.98 require that the coroner notify the NAHC within 24 hours of discovery. The NAHC will then identify the Most Likely Descendent who will be afforded an opportunity to make recommendations regarding the treatment and disposition of the remains.



## CONTENTS

<b>1</b>	<b>INTRODUCTION.....</b>	<b>1</b>
1.1	PROJECT LOCATION AND DESCRIPTION.....	1
1.2	PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS.....	1
1.3	REPORT STRUCTURE.....	5
<b>2</b>	<b>PROJECT SETTING.....</b>	<b>6</b>
2.1	NATURAL ENVIRONMENT.....	6
2.2	PREHISTORIC SETTING.....	6
2.3	ETHNOGRAPHY.....	8
2.4	HISTORIC SETTING.....	8
<b>3</b>	<b>METHODS.....</b>	<b>10</b>
3.1	RECORDS SEARCH.....	10
3.2	NATIVE AMERICAN OUTREACH.....	10
3.3	PEDESTRIAN SURVEY.....	10
<b>4</b>	<b>FINDINGS.....</b>	<b>11</b>
4.1	RECORDS SEARCH.....	11
4.2	NATIVE AMERICAN OUTREACH.....	12
4.3	PEDESTRIAN SURVEY RESULTS.....	12
<b>5</b>	<b>SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATION.....</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>6</b>	<b>REFERENCES.....</b>	<b>17</b>

## APPENDICIES

- A Personnel Qualifications**
- B Records Search Results**
- C Native American Outreach**

## FIGURES

Figure 1-1	Project vicinity in Tulare County, California.....	2
Figure 1-2	Project location on the USGS Porterville, CA 7.5 minute topo quad.....	3
Figure 1-3	Aerial view of the Project boundary showing survey coverage.....	4
Figure 4-1	Soil consistency on Rainbow IX property.....	13
Figure 4-2	Central portion of Rainbow IX property, facing south.....	14
Figure 4-3	Furrows on southern portion of Borba Property, facing north.....	14
Figure 4-4	Central portion of Borba property, facing west.....	15
Figure 4-5	Basin in northern portion of Borba property, facing northwest.....	15

**TABLES**

Table 4-1 Previously Recorded Cultural Resources within 0.5 mile of the Rainbow IX Water Bank Project ..... 11



# 1 INTRODUCTION

Porterville Irrigation District (PID) proposes to bank water that is periodically available above current needs from the Friant Division of the Central Valley Project and to make that water available to lawful recipients during times when it is needed. 4Creeks, Inc. as the prime contractor to PID for environmental compliance services retained Taylored Archaeology to conduct a Phase I cultural resource assessment of the Rainbow IX Water Bank Project (Project) for compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

## 1.1 PROJECT LOCATION AND DESCRIPTION

The Project site is in the south-west portion of Tulare County within the PID boundary, approximately 1 mile west of the City of Porterville (Figure 1-1). The proposed Project is comprised of two separate locations, the Rainbow IX Property and the Borba Property. The Rainbow IX Property is bounded by Highway 190 to the north, Friant-Kern Canal (FKC) to the east, and Rockford Road to the west. The Rainbow IX Property consists of approximately 68 acres within Assessor Parcel Numbers (APNs) 302-510-006 and 302-060-035. The Borba Property is located 0.25 miles west of the Rainbow IX Property, and is bounded by West Scranton Avenue to the south, and the Tule River Intertie to the west. The Borba Property consists of approximately 72 acres on APN 302-060-014.

The proposed Project would involve development on at least 55.44 acres within the Project boundary (Figure 1-2). PID plans to establish new recharge basins totaling 55.44 acres, add new gravity fed outlets, and an overflow monitoring and alarm system. In addition, the Project will incorporate 17.3 acres of existing recharge basins, an existing turnout from the Friant Kern Canal, existing 15” and 30” pipelines, and five existing wells. The Project does not include any modification to the FKC.

## 1.2 PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS

Principal Investigator/Archaeologist Consuelo Y. Sauls (M.A.), a Registered Professional Archaeologist (RPA 41591505), served as project manager, providing technical and administrative oversight for all cultural resource tasks conducted, and report author for the Project study. Ms. Sauls meets the Secretary of the Interior’s Standards for Professional Qualifications in Archaeology. Statement of Qualifications for key personnel is provided in Appendix A.



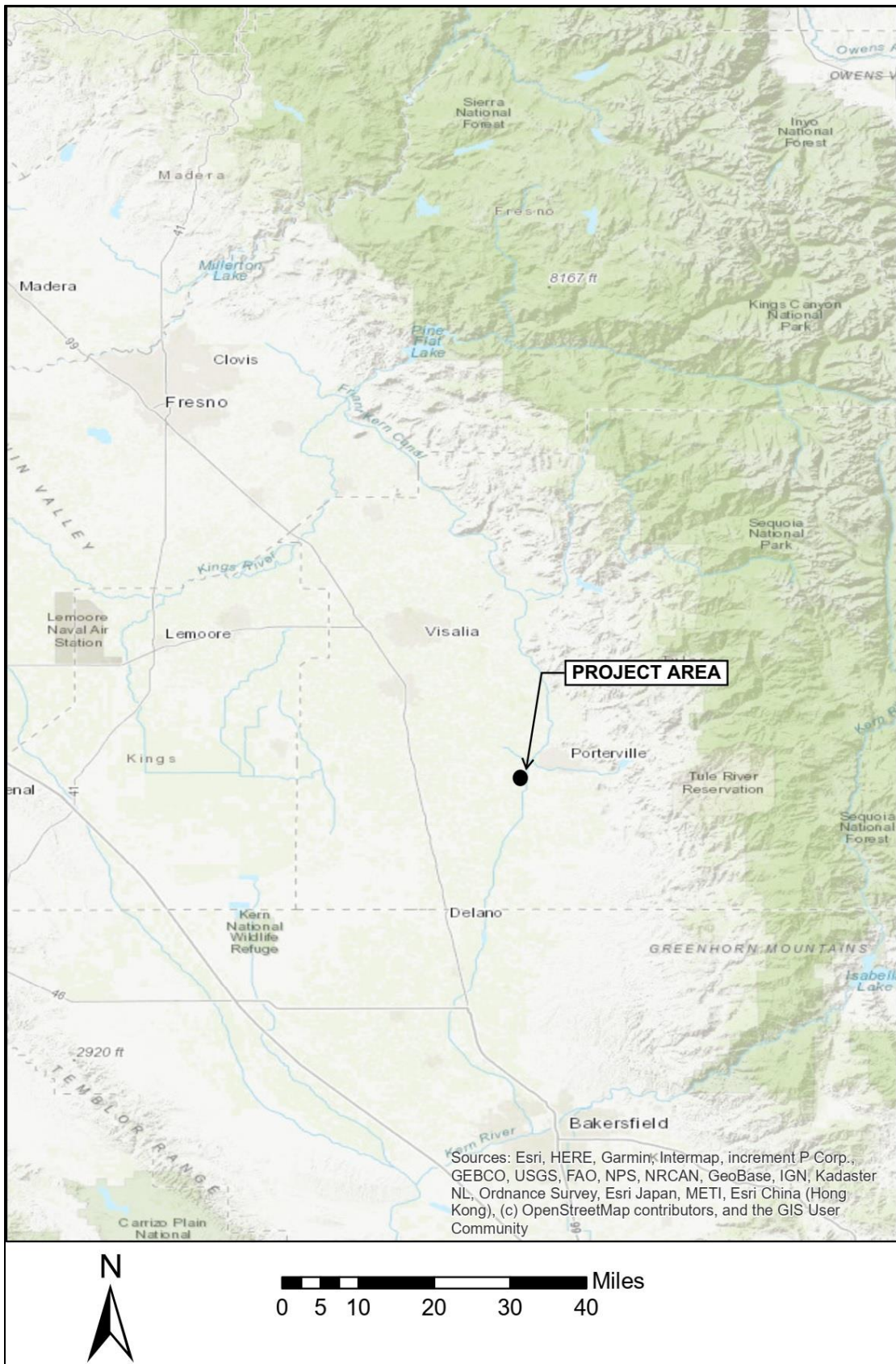


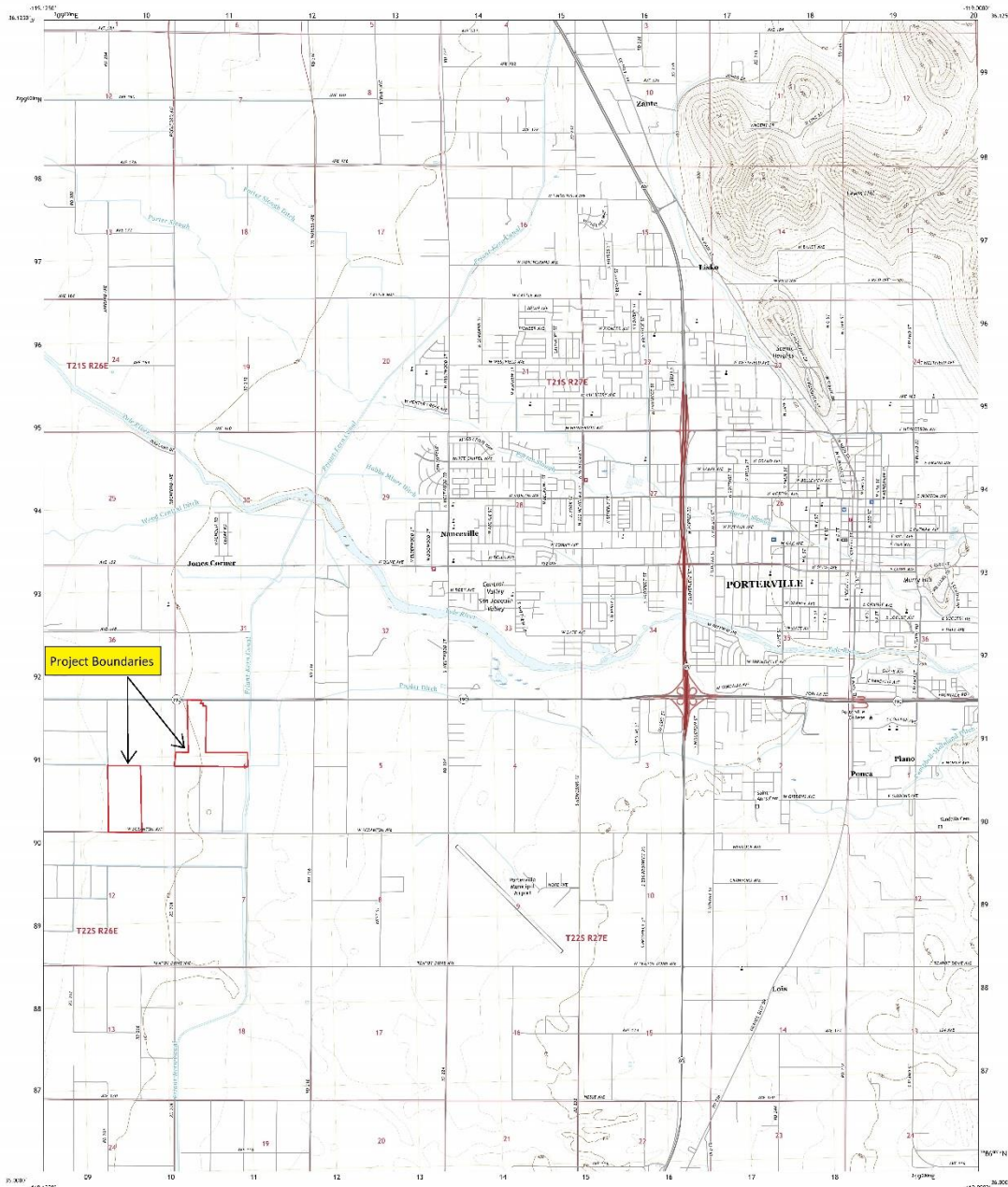
Figure 1-1 Project vicinity in Tulare County, California.



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY



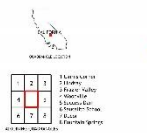
PORTERVILLE QUADRANGLE  
CALIFORNIA - TULARE COUNTY  
7.5-MINUTE SERIES



Produced by the United States Geological Survey  
This map was derived from the National Wetlands Inventory (NWI) data for the Porterville, CA area. The NWI data was collected from 1985 to 1990. The NWI data was derived from aerial photography and field surveys. The NWI data was processed using the National Wetlands Inventory (NWI) software. The NWI data was then overlaid on the USGS Topographic Map. The NWI data was then processed using the National Wetlands Inventory (NWI) software. The NWI data was then overlaid on the USGS Topographic Map.



SCALE 1:24,000  
PORTERVILLE, CALIFORNIA  
NATIONAL WETLANDS INVENTORY  
This map was produced as part of the National Wetlands Inventory (NWI) project. The NWI project is a nationwide effort to identify and map wetlands in the United States. The NWI project is a joint effort of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. The NWI project is a joint effort of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.



WETLAND CLASSIFICATION  
Shrub Wetland  
Emergent Wetland  
Forested Wetland  
Wetland of Unclassified Type  
Water Body  
Nonwetland

PORTERVILLE, CA  
2018

Figure 1-2 Project location on the USGS Porterville, CA 7.5-minute quadrangle.



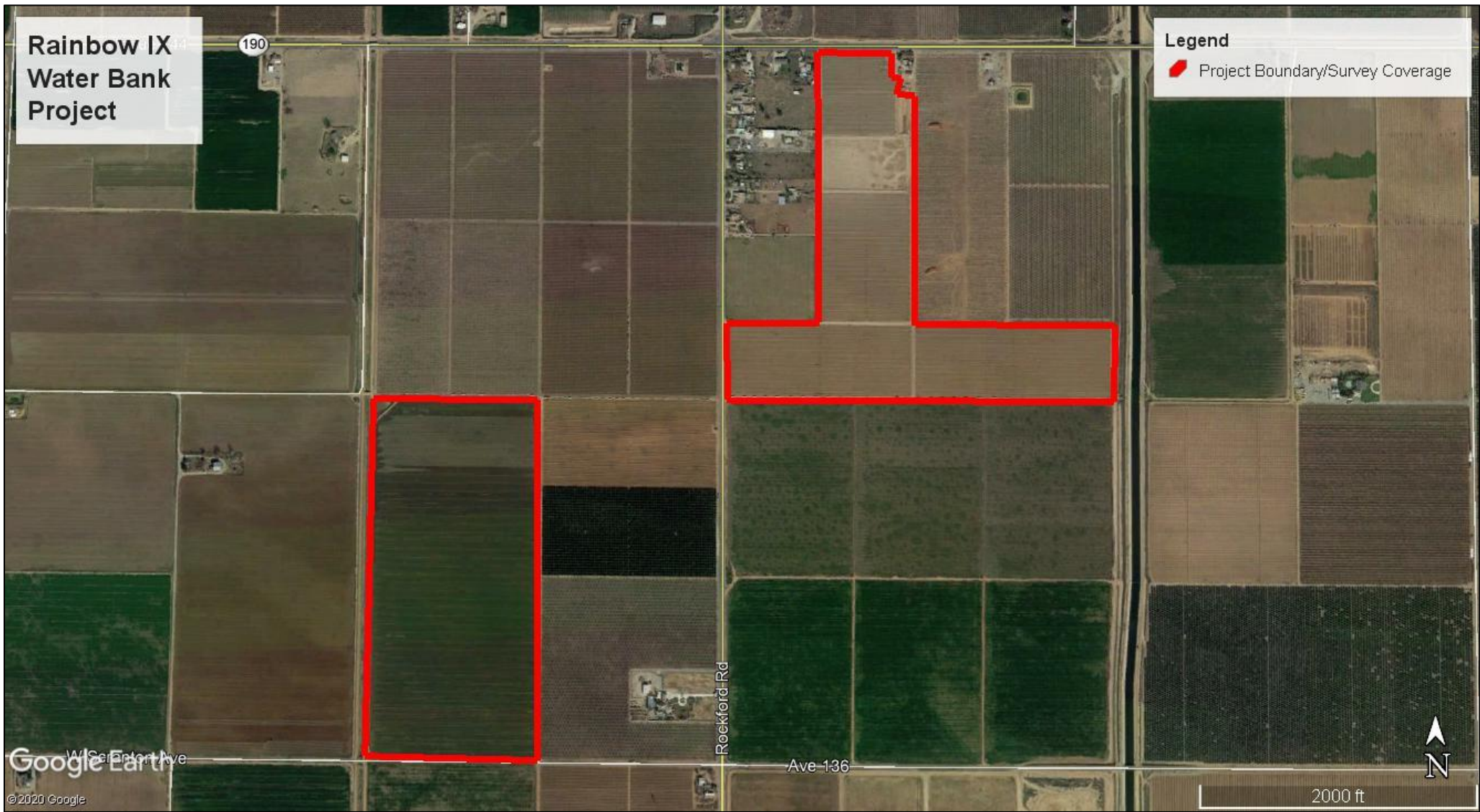


Figure 1-3 Aerial view of the Project boundary showing survey coverage.

### **1.3 REPORT STRUCTURE**

In order to comply with California regulations for CEQA, the following specific tasks were completed: (1) requesting a records search from the Southern San Joaquin Information Center (SSJVIC) of the California Historical Resources Information System (CHRIS), at California State University, Bakersfield; (2) requesting a Sacred Lands File Search and list of interested parties from the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) and initiating outreach to local Native American individuals and tribal representatives; (3) conducting an archaeological pedestrian survey, and (4) preparing this technical report.

Taylorred Archaeology prepared this report following the California Office of Historic Preservation standards in the 1990 Archaeological Resources Management Report Recommended Contents and Format. Chapter 1 includes the Project description, the Project boundary, and identifies the key personnel involved in this report. Chapter 2 presents the Project setting, including the natural, prehistoric, historic, and ethnohistoric background for the Project area. Chapters 3 and 4 describe the methods and findings of the archival studies, Native American outreach, and pedestrian survey. Chapter 5 summarizes the Project findings and offers management recommendations. Chapter 6 is a bibliography of references cited within this report. The report also contains the following appendices: Qualifications of key personnel (Appendix A), the CHRIS records search results (Appendix B), and Taylorred Archaeology's nongovernmental Native American outreach (Appendix C).

## PROJECT SETTING

### 2.1 NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

The Project area is located at approximately 400 feet above sea level on the open flat plains of the Southern San Joaquin Valley. The San Joaquin Valley is a comprised of structural trough created approximately 65 million years ago, and is filled with nearly 6 miles of sediment (Bull 1964). The San Joaquin can be split between the San Joaquin River hydrologic area and the Tulare Lake Drainage Basin. Tulare County is located within the latter of the two hydrologic units. The Kaweah, Tule, Kern, and Kings rivers flowed into large inland lakes with no outflow except in high flood events, in which the lakes would flow from through the Fresno Slough into the San Joaquin River. The largest of these inland lakes was the Tulare Lake, which occupied a vast area of Tulare and Kings Counties.

The Project is located two miles south of the of the south branch of the Tule River. The Tulare river is perennial only upstream of Porterville, and occurs with seasonal flow in drainages west of Porterville near the Project area. Before the appearance of agriculture in the nineteenth century, the Project location would have been comprised of prairie grasslands with scatter oak tree savannas near the foothills, and along the various streams and drainages (Preston 1981). Riparian environments would also have been present along various waterways, including drainages and marshes. Native vegetation likely would have consisted of needle grasses and other perennial bunchgrasses before the introduction of non-native species in the 1800s.

The valley floor of the region was largely dominated by marshlands, lakes, and annual grasslands. These habitats provided a lush environment for large animals, including various migratory birds and other waterfowl, grizzly bear (*Ursus arctos californicus*), tule elk (*Cervus* sp.), pronghorn (*Antilocapra americana*), mule deer (*Odocoileus hemionus*), black bear (*Ursus americanus*), and mountain lion (*Puma concolor*) (Preston 1981). Native trees and plants observed in the Project vicinity include various blue, live, and white oaks (*Quercus* sp.), cottonwood (*Populus aegiros*), and willow (*Salix* sp.). The introduction of agriculture to region resulted in large animals being forced out of their habitat. Common land mammals now include valley coyote (*Canis latrans*), bobcat (*Lynx rufus*), gray fox, kit fox (*Vulpes macrotis*), and rabbits (Leporidae). Rivers and lakes throughout the valley provide habitat for freshwater fish, including rainbow trout (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*), Sacramento sucker (*Catostomidae* sp.), and Sacramento perch (*Archoplites interruptus*), (Preston 1981).

### 2.2 PREHISTORIC SETTING

To better understand the past, archaeologists develop models of prehistoric resource chronologies and description of lifestyles based on data collected at the archaeological sites they investigate. Models of prehistoric life patterns are developed from both archaeological and ethnographic research. Within archaeology, models of prehistoric lifestyles are based on data collected from archaeological sites. The Southern San Joaquin Valley is of one of the least understood areas within California (Rosenthal et al. 2007). This is largely due to the valley floor being filled with thick alluvial deposits, and from human activity largely disturbing much of the valley floor due to a century and a half of agricultural use (Dillon 2002; Siefken 1999). Much of the early to middle

Holocene archaeological sites may have been as deep as 10 meters due to millennia of erosion and alluvial deposits from the western Sierras (Moratto 1984).

Agricultural activities have heavily disturbed and changed the landscape of the Southern San Joaquin Valley, from the draining of marshes and the vanishing of the extensive Tulare Lake, to grading nearly the entire valley for agricultural operations (Garone 2011). These activities have impacted or scattered much of the shallow surface deposits and mounds throughout the valley (Rosenthal et al 2007). Riddell suggested that potentially as much as 90 percent of all Central California archaeological sites have been destroyed (Riddell 2002).

The cultural traits and chronologies which are summarized below are largely based upon information discussed in multiple sources, including Bennyhoff and Fredrickson (Fredrickson 1973, 1974), Garfinkel (2015), McGuire and Garfinkel (1980), Moratto (1984), and Rosenthal et al. (2007).

The Paleo-Indian Period (13,500-10,600 cal B.P.) was largely represented by ephemeral lake sites which were characterized by atlatl and spear projectile points. Around 14,000 years ago, California was largely a cooler and wetter place, but with the retreat of continental Pleistocene glaciers, California largely experienced a warming and drying trend. Lakes filled with glacial meltwater were located in the valley floor and used by populations of now extinct large game animals. A few prehistoric sites were discovered near the southwestern shore of Tulare Lake, but none were located near the Project Area (Garfinkel 2015). Foragers appear to have operated in small groups which migrated on a regular basis.

During the Lower Archaic Period (10,500-7450 cal B.P.), climate change created a largely different environment which led to the creation of larger alluvial fans and flood plains. Most of the archaeological records of the prior period wound up being buried by geological processes. During this time, cultural patterns appear to have emerged between the foothill and valley populations of the local people. The foothill sites were often categorized by dense flaked and ground stone assemblages, while the valley sites were instead characterized by a predominance of crescents and stemmed projectile points. Variations in consumption patterns emerged as well, with the valley sites more marked by consumption of waterfowl, mussels, and freshwater fish, while the foothills sites saw an increase in nuts, seeds, and a more narrowly focused diet than the valley sites.

The Middle Archaic (7450-2500 cal B.P.) saw an increase in semi-permanent villages along river and creek settings, with more permanent sites located along lakes with a more stable supply of water and wildlife. Due to the warmer and drier weather of this period, many lakes within the valley dramatically reduced in size, while some vanished completely (Garone 2011). Cultural patterns during this time saw an increase in stone tools, while a growth in shell beads, ornaments, and obsidian evidence an extensive and ever-growing long-distance trade network. Little is known of cultural patterns in the valley during the Upper Archaic (2500-850), but large village structures appeared to be more common around local rivers. An overall reduction of projectile point size suggests changing bow and arrow technologies. Finally, the Emergent Period (850 cal B.P.-Historic Era) was generally marked by an ever-increasing specialization in tools, and the bow and arrow generally replaced the dominance of the dart and atlatl. Cultural traditions ancestral to those recorded during ethnographic research in the early 1900s are identifiable.

## 2.3 ETHNOGRAPHY

While the prehistoric record of the San Joaquin Valley has not been extensively studied, the ethnography of the region has been intensively researched. The Project area is located within the ethnographic territory of the Penutian-speaking Yokuts tribal groups, who occupied the southern San Joaquin Valley and the surrounding Sierra Nevada. The Yokuts are a sub-group of the Penutian language that covers much of coastal and central California and Oregon (Callaghan 1958). The Yokuts language contained multiple dialects spoken throughout the region, though many of them were mutually understandable (Merriam 1904). The Yokuts were generally divided into three major groups, the Northern Valley Yokuts, the Southern Valley Yokuts, and the Foothill Yokuts.

The Yokuts have been extensively researched and recorded by ethnographers, including Powers (1877), Kroeber (1925), Gifford and Schenck (1926, 1929), Gayton (1930, 1945), Driver (1937), Harrington (1957), Latta (1977), and Wallace (1978). Much of the research from these ethnographers focuses on the central Yokuts tribes due to the northernmost tribes being impacted by Euro-Americans during the California Gold Rush of the mid 1800s, and by the southernmost tribes often being removed and relocated by the Spanish to various Bay Area or coastal missions. The central Yokuts tribes, and especially the western Sierra Nevada foothill tribes, were the most intact at the time of ethnographic study.

Based upon Kroeber's map of Southern and Central Yokuts (1925: Plate 47), the Project area is likely within the Koyote Yokuts territory. The main village for this area *Chokowisho*, which was located on the northern bank of the Tule River, east of Porterville (Kroeber 1925: 47, Latta 1977). Primary Yokuts villages were typically located along lakeshores and major stream courses, with scattered secondary or temporary camps and settlements located near gathering areas in the foothills. Yokuts were organized into groups originally designated as tribelets by Kroeber, with one or more linked villages and smaller settlements within a territory (Kroeber 1925). Designation of these units as 'tribelets' is often viewed as pejorative by many Native Americans, and for the remainder of this report will be referred to as 'local tribes' instead. Each local tribe was a land-owning group that was organized around a central village, and shared common territory and ancestry. Most local tribe populations ranged from 150 to 500 people (Kroeber 1925). These local tribes were often led by a chief, who was often advised by a variety of assistants including the winatum, who served as a messenger and assistant chief (Gayton 1930).

Prior to Euro-American contact, the Yokuts were one of the densest populations of Native Americans in western North America due to the substantial natural resources surrounding Tulare Lake (Cook 1955). Six Native American tribal groups are currently associated with the Project area, including the Tubatulabals of Kern Valley, Wukasache Indian Tribe/Eshom Valley Band, the Kern Valley Indian Community, the Kern Valley Indian Community, the Santa Rosa Rancheria Tachi Yokut Tribe, and the Tule River Indian Tribe.

## 2.4 HISTORIC SETTING

While the California coast saw European contact as early as the 1500s, the San Joaquin valley did not experience contact until the early 1800s (Starr 2007). The initial excursions to the valley were for exploration such as those led by Lieutenant Bariel Moraga in 1806, but also to find sites for suitable missions and to track down Native Americans fleeing the coastal missions (Cook 1960).

Subsequent expeditions were also sent to pursue outlaws from the coast who would often flee to the valley for safety. The first Euro-Americans to set foot in what would become modern-day Tulare County were Jedediah and Pegleg Smith (Menefee and Dodge 1913). As the valley was still relatively lawless in the 1830s, those drawn to it were often either trappers like Jedediah Smith or horse thieves like Pegleg Smith (Clough and Secret 1984). In fact, horse and other livestock theft was so rampant that ranching operations on the Rancho Laguna de Tache by the Kings River and Rancho del San Joaquin Rancho along the San Joaquin River could not be properly established (Cook 1962). With the end of the Mexican-American War and the beginning of the gold rush in 1848, the San Joaquin Valley became more populated with ranchers and prospectors. By 1850, California became a state and Tulare County was established in 1853.

The town of Porterville, located east of the Project area, was founded in 1854, and initially served as the Tule River Station stop for the Butterfield Overland Mail state route as it traveled north from Los Angeles to Stockton (Helmich 2008; OHP 2019). The location eventually became known in Porterville in 1864 named after Royal Porter Putnam who purchased 40 acres to start the town after the Tule River permanently changed course after flooding in 1862 (Holloway 2011). The Southern Pacific Railroad was extended from Fresno into Tulare County in the early 1870s and brought a population boom with it, with Porterville as a regional stop (ESA 2010). With it, the rail line brought an increased in agriculture and farms that clashed with existing ranching operations in the local area. Escalating conflicts and livestock disputes between ranchers and farmers lead to the “No Fence Law” in 1874, which forced ranchers to pay for crop and property damage caused by their cattle (Ludeke 1980). With the passage of this law and the expansion of irrigation systems, predominant land use in the 1870s switched from grazing to farming (Mitchell 1976). This led to the beginning of the vast change of the San Joaquin Valley from native vegetation and grasslands to irrigated crops (Varner and Stuart 1975).

Water conveyance systems were developed throughout the region in order to minimize flooding and to divert water to the dryer areas (PID 2012). One such system was the Poplar Ditch, located immediately north of the Project site. The Poplar Ditch was constructed in 1875 to divert water from the Tule River to farmland south of the river. The original ditch was 11 miles long, and ended near the present day community of Poplar near the Project site (Grunsky 1898; Hall 1885). As farming expanded in the region, additional canals and ditches were constructed to divert surface water from the Tule River, Porter Slough, and other surface creeks.

Surface waters and local wells were only able to satisfy the water demands of the valley for so long, and in 1911 California created the State Reclamation Board to solve water issues in the valley. Various reports were commissioned and 12 years later the California State Water Plan was proposed (Stene 2015). The Central Valley Project was approved in 1933, but funds were stalled until funded by the Rivers and Harbors Act in 1937. Construction on the Central Valley Project began soon after, and continued until the mid-1950s (Stene 2015). One cornerstone of this project was the Friant-Kern Canal (FKC), located immediately east of the study area. The FKC, built between 1945 and 1951, is over 150 miles long and represents one of the largest lined canals in the western US (Hundley 2001). Creation of the FKC brought new opportunities for irrigation to the region, and led to the creation of new irrigation districts, such as the Porterville Irrigation District which was established in August 1949 (PID 2012). The FKC and Poplar Ditch are still used for irrigation throughout the region to this day.



## **3 METHODS**

### **3.1 RECORDS SEARCH**

Consuelo Sauls requested a records search from the SSJVIC of the CHRIS at California State University in Bakersfield, California on June 15, 2020. The records search encompassed the Project area and all the land within a 0.5-mile radius of the Project. Sources consulted included archaeological site and survey base maps, historical USGS topographic maps, reports of previous investigations, cultural resource records (DPR forms) as well as listings of the Historic Properties Directory of the Office of Historic Preservation, General Land Office Maps, Archaeological Determinations of Eligibility, and the California Inventory of Historic Resources (Appendix B). The objectives of this records search were twofold: (1) to identify prior cultural resource investigations completed in or near the Project area, and (2) to identify prehistoric or historical cultural resources that were previously recorded within the Project area.

### **3.2 NATIVE AMERICAN OUTREACH**

On June 16, 2020, Consuelo Sauls sent an e-mail to the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) requesting a search of its Sacred Lands File and the contact information for local Native American tribal representatives who may have an interest in sharing information about the Project area and surrounding area. The NAHC responded on June 17, 2020, with its search findings and attached a list of Native American tribes and individuals culturally affiliated with the Project area. Consuelo Sauls sent a letter describing the Project to each tribal representative and asking for input regarding cultural resources or tribal cultural resources in the Project area. The letters were sent to the individuals listed in Appendix C via USPS on June 22, 2020. Sending letters and recording responses received are part of the standard tribal outreach best practices for cultural resources reports, and is not intended to serve the purpose of satisfying Assembly Bill (AB) 52 government-to-government Native American tribal consultation. A record of all correspondence with the NAHC and tribal contacts is included in Appendix C.

### **3.3 PEDESTRIAN SURVEY**

On June 28, 2020, Principal Investigator and Archaeologist Consuelo Sauls conducted an archaeological survey of the 140-acre Project site using parallel transects spaced no more than 15-20 meters apart. Visible landmarks, plan maps and Locus Map application were used for navigation and GPS to locate and survey the Project area. Ms. Sauls photographed the survey area using an LGV20 digital camera and recorded location data using the Locus Map application. Ms. Sauls recorded her observations on a Survey Field Record and compiled a Photographic Record. Copies of photographs and field notes are on file at Taylored Archaeology's office in Fresno, California.

## 4 FINDINGS

### 4.1 RECORDS SEARCH

The SSJVIC provided the results of the records search in an email dated June 22, 2020 (Records Search File No. 20-239; Appendix B). The results indicated that there were four investigations that have been conducted within the Project area and there have been 10 investigations within a 0.5-mile radius of the Project area. The SSJVIC also reported that there are no previously recorded resources in the Project area, but there are six known resources within a 0.5-mile radius of the Project area (Table 4-1). These consist of historic structures and buildings.

**Table 4-1  
Previously Recorded Cultural Resources within 0.5 mile of the  
Rainbow IX Water Bank Project**

Identifier	Date(s) Recorded	Temporal Association	Resource Type
P-54-002208	2016	Historic	Structure, canal or ditch, Poplar Ditch
P-54-003534	2000	Historic	Building; site; farm/ ranch
P-54-003993	1997	Historic	Building; structure; an ancillary building
P-54-003994	1997	Historic	Building; structure
P-54-004614	2018	Historic	Structure; canal (aqueduct), Friant-Kern Canal
P-54-005026	2016	Historic	Structure; canal (aqueduct)

The Project area is located immediately west of P-54-004614, the Friant-Kern Canal, which was built in 1951. The Friant-Kern Canal was nominated by the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation in 2006 as eligible for the National Register of Historic Places (Azpitarte 2018). Based upon the Project description, the Project does not have the potential to impact this resource because the Project will tie into an existing turnout from the Friant-Kern Canal, and not construct any additional turnouts.

The Project area is also located 20 meters south of P-54-002208, the Poplar Ditch, which was originally constructed in 1875. Considering this resource’s location on the opposite (north) side of Highway 190 from the Project and their spatial separation, the Project does not appear to have the potential to impact this resource.

## 4.2 NATIVE AMERICAN OUTREACH

In a June 17, 2020 response to Taylored Archaeology's request for information, the NAHC stated that a search of the Sacred Lands File did not indicate the presence of resources in the immediate Project area or surrounding 0.5-mile radius (see Appendix C). The NAHC supplied a list of tribal representatives and recommended that Taylored Archaeology contact the following representatives for information regarding Native American cultural resources in the study locale:

- Secretary Julie Turner of Kern Valley Indian Community;
- Chairperson Robert Robinson of the Kern Valley Indian Community;
- Brandy Kendricks of the Kern Valley Indian Community;
- Chairperson Leo Sisco of the Santa Rosa Rancheria Tachi Yokut Tribe;
- Tribal Chairperson Robert L. Gomez, Jr. of the Tubatulabals of Kern Valley;
- Chairperson Neil Peyron of the Tule River Indian Tribe; and
- Chairperson Kenneth Woodrow of the Wuksache Indian Tribe/Eshom Valley Band.

On June 22, 2020, Consuelo Sauls sent a letter describing the Project to each of the individuals identified in the NAHC response letter. Follow-up contact by e-mail was completed on June 29, 2020 and telephone calls were placed on July 3, 2020 to confirm receipt of the letter and gather any information tribal representatives may want to share about resources in the Project area or general vicinity.

No responses were received.

## 4.3 PEDESTRIAN SURVEY RESULTS

On June 28, 2020, Taylored Archaeology conducted an intensive pedestrian survey of the 140-acre Project site on the Rainbow IX and Borba properties using parallel 15 meters transects. Field recording and photo documentation of features and the Project area was completed. A series of overview photographs was taken to document the current conditions. Soils consisted of dark brown loam, slightly friable and light brown silty sand and gray tilled sand (Figure 4-1). Landscape on the Rainbow IX property consists of a pistachio orchard, with scattered pistachio shells used as fertilizer, and as gravel for the bordering roads. The site ground was bare with 100 percent ground visibility (Figure 4-2). Spoils from rodent burrows and natural or artificial erosion exposures were inspected for evidence of buried cultural deposits. No artifacts were identified or collected during the survey.

The Borba property landscape was heavily disturbed and completely bare with no vegetation. Portions on the site was plowed with furrows are between 2 to 3 feet deep with 100 percent ground visibility (Figure 4-3). The ground surface in the middle portion was completely covered in an unconfirmed oily substance, potentially road tar, that reduced ground visibility to less 100 percent (Figure 4-4). The northern third of the property was consisted of a basin with 100 percent ground visibility (Figure 4-5). The soil in all three portions was light brown loam. No cultural resources (e.g. isolated artifacts, features, archaeological sites, or historic-era built environment properties) were found during the survey.





**Figure 4-1 Soil consistency on Rainbow IX property.**





**Figure 4-2** Central portion of Rainbow IX property, facing south.



**Figure 4-3** Furrows on southern portion of Borba Property, facing north.





**Figure 4-4** Central portion of Borba property, facing west.



**Figure 4-5** Basin in northern portion of Borba property, facing northwest.

## 5

### SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATION

Taylored Archaeology conducted a cultural resource study for the Rainbow IX Water Bank Project. The District will construct new recharge basins, new gravity fed outlets, and an overflow monitoring and alarm system on the Project site. As a subconsultant to 4Creeks, Inc., Taylored Archaeology conducted a cultural resource assessment of the Project area to determine if cultural resources are present that could be affected by the proposed Project. Accordingly, Taylored Archaeology performed background research, obtained a records search from the SSJVIC of the CHRIS, completed a search of the NAHC Sacred Lands File, contacted local tribal representatives, and conducted an intensive pedestrian survey of the Project area.

The SSJVIC records search identified four previous investigations, but no recorded cultural resources, within in the Project area. The search identified 10 prior cultural resource studies and six previously recorded resources within a 0.5-mile radius of the Project area (Appendix B). The recorded resources were historical in age. No cultural or tribal resources were identified in the Project area as a result of the NAHC Sacred Lands File search, archival research, or pedestrian survey.

Consistent with state statutes and regulations, Taylored Archaeology recommends that in the event of accidental discovery of unidentified archaeological remains during development or ground-moving activities in the Project area, all work should be halted until a qualified archaeologist can identify the discovery and assess its significance.

If human remains are uncovered during construction, the Tulare County Coroner is to be notified to investigate the remains and arrange proper treatment and disposition. If the remains are identified on the basis of archaeological context, age, cultural associations, or biological traits to be those of a Native American, California Health and Safety Code 7050.5 and PRC 5097.98 require that the coroner notify the NAHC within 24 hours of discovery. The NAHC will then identify the Most Likely Descendent who will be afforded an opportunity to make recommendations regarding the treatment and disposition of the remains.

## 6 REFERENCES

Azpitarte, R.

- 2018 Site Record 54004614, Friant-Kern Canal Update, Department of Parks and Recreation. On file, Southern San Joaquin Information Center, Bakersfield, California.

Bull, William B.

- 1964 Geomorphology of Segmented Alluvial Fans in Western Fresno County, California. *Geological Survey Professional Paper 352-E*. United States Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C.

Callaghan, Catherine A.

- 1958 California Penutian: History and Bibliography. *International Journal of American Linguistics*. 24(3):189-194.

Cook, Sherburne F.

- 1955 *The Aboriginal Population of the San Joaquin Valley, California*. Anthropological Records 16:31–80. University of California, Berkeley.

Dillon, Brian D.

- 2002 California Paleo-Indians: Lack of Evidence, or Evidence of a Lack? In *Essays in California Archaeology: A Memorial to Franklin Fenenga*, edited by William J. Wallace and Francis A. Riddell, pp. 110–128. Contributions of the University of California Archaeological Research Facility No. 60. Berkeley.

Driver, Harold E.

- 1937 Cultural Elements Distribution: VI, Southern Sierra Nevada. *University of California Anthropological Records* 1(2):53–154.

Fredrickson, David A.

- 1973 Early Cultures of the North Coast Ranges, California. Ph.D. dissertation. Department of Anthropology, University of California, Davis.

- 1974 Cultural Diversity in Early Central California: A View from the North Coast Ranges. *Journal of California Anthropology* 1(1):41-54.

Garfinkel, Alan P.

- 2015 Archaeological Background and Cultural Sequence for The San Joaquin, Central California. Electronic document, <https://www.academia.edu/14721089/ArchaeologicalBackgroundfortheSanJoaquinValleyCentralCalifornia>, accessed July 13, 2020. Academia.edu

Garone, Philip



2011 *The Fall and Rise of the Wetlands of California's Great Central Valley*. University of the Press, Berkeley.

Gayton, Anna H.

1930 Yokuts-Mono Chiefs and Shamans. *University of California Publications in American Archaeology and Ethnology* 24(8):361–420.

1945 Yokuts and Western Mono Social Organization. *American Anthropologist* 47(3):409–426.

Gifford, E.W., ad W. Egbert Schenck

1926 Archaeology of the Southern San Joaquin Valley, California. *Publications in American Archaeology and Ethnology* 23(1).

1929 Archaeology of the Northern San Joaquin Valley. *Publications in American Archaeology and Ethnology* 25(4).

Kroeber, Alfred L.

1925 *Handbook of California Indians*. Bureau of American Ethnology Bulletin 78, Washington, D.C.

Latta, Frank F.

1977 *Handbook of Yokuts Indians*. Bear State Books, Santa Cruz, California.

Merriam, Hart C.

1904 Distribution of Indian Tribes in the Southern Sierra and Adjacent Parts of the San Joaquin Valley, California. *Science* 19(494):912-917.

Powers, Stephen

1877 *Tribes of California*. Washington Press, Washington, D.C.

Preston, William L.

1981 *Vanishing Landscapes: Land and Life in the Tulare Lake Basin*. Olympic Marketing Corp, Hopkins.

Riddell, Francis A.

2002 *The Status of San Joaquin Valley Archaeological*. In *Essays in California Archaeology: A Memorial to Franklin Fenenga* edited by William J. Wallace and Francis A. Riddell, pp. 55-61. University of California Archaeological Research Facility, Contribution Number 60. Berkeley.

Rosenthal, Jeffrey S., Gregory G. White, and Mark Q. Sutton

2007 The Central Valley: A View from the Catbirds's Seat. In *California Prehistory: Colonization, Cultural, and Complexity*, edited by Terry L. Jones and Kathryn A. Klar. AltaMira Press, Lanham, Maryland.

Siefken, Nelson.

1999 Archaeology of the Redfeldt Mound (CA-KIN-66), Tulare Basin, California. M.A. Thesis, Department of Anthropology, California State University, Bakersfield.

U.S. Geological Survey (USGS)

2018 *Porterville, California, Quadrangle Map*. 7.5-minute series. U.S. Geological Survey, Denver, Colorado.

Wallace, William J.

1978 Southern Valley Yokuts. In *Handbook of North American Indians, Vol. 8, California*. Ed. Robert F. Heizer, pp. 448-461. Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C.

# **APPENDIX A**

## **Personnel Qualifications**

---

### Areas of Expertise

- Prehistoric archaeology
- Rock art recordation and analysis
- Laboratory management

### Years of Experience

- 12

### Education

- M.A., Archaeology, University of Durham, 2014
- B.A., Anthropology, California State University, Fresno, 2009

### Registrations/Certifications

- Registered Professional Archaeologist 41591505

### Professional Affiliations

- Association of Environmental Professionals
- California Rock Art Foundation
- Society for American Archaeology
- Society for California Archaeology

### Professional Experience

2019-2020	Principal Investigator, Taylored Archaeology
2018–2019	Staff Archaeologist, Applied EarthWorks, Inc., Fresno, California
2016–2018	Principal Investigator, Soar Environmental Consulting, Inc., Fresno, California
2015	Archivist/Database Technician, Development and Conservation Management, Inc., Laguna Beach, California
2013	Laboratory Research Assistant, Durham University Archaeology Department and Archaeology Museum, Durham, England, UK
2011–2012	Laboratory Technician (volunteer), University of Pennsylvania Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
2008–2009	Laboratory Technician (intern), California State University, Fresno
2008	Field School, California State University, Fresno

### Technical Qualifications

Ms. Sauls meets the Secretary of the Interior's Professional Qualification Standards as an archaeologist. She has conducted pedestrian surveys, supervised Extended Phase I survey, authored technical reports, and completed the Section 106 process with the State Historic Preservation Officer and Tribal Historic Preservation Officer. Her experience includes data recovery excavation at Western Mono sites and processing recovered artifacts in the laboratory as well as conducting archival research about prehistory and ethnography of Central California. Ms. Sauls has authored and contributed to technical and letter reports in compliance with of the National Historical Preservation Act (NHPA) Section 106 and the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). She also has supported NHPA tribal consultation and responded to Assembly Bill 52 tribal comments. Ms. Sauls also has an extensive background supervising laboratory processing, cataloging, and conservation of prehistoric and historical archaeological collections. In addition, she worked with the Rock Art Heritage Group in the management, preservation, and presentation of rock art in museums throughout England, including a thorough analysis of the British Museum's rock art collections. At Durham University Archaeology Museum, Ms. Sauls processed the excavated skeletal remains of 30 individuals from the seventeenth century

## **APPENDIX B**

### **Records Search Results**



6/22/2020

Consuelo Sauls  
Independent Consultant  
6083 N. Figarden Drive, Suite 616  
Fresno, CA 93722

Re: Porterville Irrigation District Water Banking Project  
Records Search File No.: 20-239

The Southern San Joaquin Valley Information Center received your record search request for the project area referenced above, located on the Porterville USGS 7.5' quad. The following reflects the results of the records search for the project area and the 0.5 mile radius:

As indicated on the data request form, the locations of resources and reports are provided in the following format:  custom GIS maps  shapefiles

Resources within project area:	None
Resources within 0.5 mile radius:	P-54-002208, 003534, 003993, 003994, 004614, 005026
Reports within project area:	KE-01132, TU-01442, 01568, 01860
Reports within 0.5 mile radius:	TU-00445, 00751, 00759, 00952, 00953, 01135, 01136, 01169, 01498, 01827

**Resource Database Printout (list):**  enclosed  not requested  nothing listed

**Resource Database Printout (details):**  enclosed  not requested  nothing listed

**Resource Digital Database Records:**  enclosed  not requested  nothing listed

**Report Database Printout (list):**  enclosed  not requested  nothing listed

**Report Database Printout (details):**  enclosed  not requested  nothing listed

**Report Digital Database Records:**  enclosed  not requested  nothing listed

**Resource Record Copies:**  enclosed  not requested  nothing listed

**Report Copies:**  enclosed  not requested  nothing listed

**OHP Built Environment Resources Directory:**  enclosed  not requested  nothing listed

**Archaeological Determinations of Eligibility:**  enclosed  not requested  nothing listed

**CA Inventory of Historic Resources (1976):**  enclosed  not requested  nothing listed

**Caltrans Bridge Survey:** Not available at SSJVIC; please see

<http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/structur/strmaint/historic.htm>

**Ethnographic Information:** Not available at SSJVIC

**Historical Literature:** Not available at SSJVIC

**Historical Maps:** Not available at SSJVIC; please see

<http://historicalmaps.arcgis.com/usgs/>

**Local Inventories:** Not available at SSJVIC

**GLO and/or Rancho Plat Maps:** Not available at SSJVIC; please see

<http://www.glorerecords.blm.gov/search/default.aspx#searchTabIndex=0&searchByTypeIndex=1> and/or

<http://www.oac.cdlib.org/view?docId=hb8489p15p;developer=local;style=oac4;doc.view=items>

**Shipwreck Inventory:** Not available at SSJVIC; please see

<http://www.slc.ca.gov/Info/Shipwrecks.html>

**Soil Survey Maps:** Not available at SSJVIC; please see

<http://websoilsurvey.nrcs.usda.gov/app/WebSoilSurvey.aspx>

Please forward a copy of any resulting reports from this project to the office as soon as possible. Due to the sensitive nature of archaeological site location data, we ask that you do not include resource location maps and resource location descriptions in your report if the report is for public distribution. If you have any questions regarding the results presented herein, please contact the office at the phone number listed above.

The provision of CHRIS Data via this records search response does not in any way constitute public disclosure of records otherwise exempt from disclosure under the California Public Records Act or any other law, including, but not limited to, records related to archeological site information maintained by or on behalf of, or in the possession of, the State of California, Department of Parks and Recreation, State Historic Preservation Officer, Office of Historic Preservation, or the State Historical Resources Commission.

Due to processing delays and other factors, not all of the historical resource reports and resource records that have been submitted to the Office of Historic Preservation are available via this records search. Additional information may be available through the federal, state, and local agencies that produced or paid for historical resource management work in the search area. Additionally, Native American tribes have historical resource information not in the CHRIS Inventory, and you should contact the California Native American Heritage Commission for information on local/regional tribal contacts.

Should you require any additional information for the above referenced project, reference the record search number listed above when making inquiries. Invoices for Information Center services will be sent under separate cover from the California State University, Bakersfield Accounting Office.

Thank you for using the California Historical Resources Information System (CHRIS).

Sincerely,

Celeste M. Thomson  
Coordinator

## **APPENDIX C**

### **Native American Outreach**



### Native American Outreach Log

Rainbow IX Water Bank Project, Tulare County, California

Organization	Name	Position	Address	Phone Number	Email Address	Letter	E-Mail	Phone	Summary of Contact
Native American Heritage Commission							6/16/2020		In a letter dated June 17, 2020, the NAHC stated that the results were negative, there are no known resources within the project area. The NAHC also sent a list of 7 Native American contacts.
Kern Valley Indian Community	Julie Turner	Secretary	P.O. Box 1010 Lake Isabella, CA 93240	661-340-0032	no email	6/22/2020		7/3/2020	Called and left a message.
Kern Valley Indian Community	Robert Robinson	Chairperson	P.O. Box 1010 Lake Isabella, CA 93240	760-378-2915	<a href="mailto:bbutterbredt@gmail.com">bbutterbredt@gmail.com</a>	6/22/2020	6/29/2020	7/3/2020	Called and left a message.
Kern Valley Indian Community	Brandy Kendricks		30741 Foxridge Court Techachapi, CA 93560	661-821-1733 661-972-0445	<a href="mailto:krazykendricks@hotmail.com">krazykendricks@hotmail.com</a>	6/22/2020	6/29/2020	7/3/2020	Called and left message.
Santa Rosa Rancheria Tachi Yokut Tribe	Leo Sisco	Chairperson	P.O. Box 8 Lemoore, CA 93240	<a href="tel:559-924-1278">559-924-1278</a> <a href="tel:559-924-3583">559-924-3583</a>		6/22/2020		7/3/2020	No answer and no answering machine/voicemail.
Tubatulabals of Kern Valley	Robert L. Gomez, Jr.	Tribal Chairperson	P.O. Box 226 Lake Isabella, CA 93240	760-379-4590 760-379-4592		6/22/2020		7/3/2020	Unable to reach anyone by email and phone number disconnected.
Tule River Indian Tribe	Neil Peyron	Chairperson	P.O. Box 589 Porterville, CA 93258	559-781-4271 559-781-4610	<a href="mailto:neil.peyron@tulerivertribe-nsn.gov">neil.peyron@tulerivertribe-nsn.gov</a>	6/22/2020	6/29/2020	7/3/2020	Called and no answer. No voicemail to leave message.
Wuksache Indian Tribe/ Eshom Valley Band	Kenneth Woodrow	Chairperson	1179 Rock Haven Ct. Salinas, CA 93906	831-443-9702	<a href="mailto:kwood8934@aol.com">kwood8934@aol.com</a>	6/22/2020	6/29/2020	7/3/2020	Called and left message.

## NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE COMMISSION

June 17, 2020

Conselo Sauls

Independent Archaeology Consultant

Via Email to: csaulsarchaeo@gmail.com

### Re: Porterville Irrigation District Water Banking Project, Tulare County

Dear Ms. Sauls:

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

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

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

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact me at my email address: [Nancy.Gonzalez-Lopez@nahc.ca.gov](mailto:Nancy.Gonzalez-Lopez@nahc.ca.gov).

Sincerely,



Nancy Gonzalez-Lopez  
Cultural Resources Analyst

Attachment



CHAIRPERSON  
**Laura Miranda**  
Luiseño

VICE CHAIRPERSON  
**Reginald Pagaling**  
Chumash

SECRETARY  
**Merri Lopez-Keifer**  
Luiseño

PARLIAMENTARIAN  
**Russell Attebery**  
Karuk

COMMISSIONER  
**Marshall McKay**  
Wintun

COMMISSIONER  
**William Mungary**  
Paiute/White Mountain  
Apache

COMMISSIONER  
**Julie Tumamait-Stenslie**  
Chumash

COMMISSIONER  
[Vacant]

COMMISSIONER  
[Vacant]

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY  
**Christina Snider**  
Pomo

**NAHC HEADQUARTERS**  
1550 Harbor Boulevard  
Suite 100  
West Sacramento,  
California 95691  
(916) 373-3710  
[nahc@nahc.ca.gov](mailto:nahc@nahc.ca.gov)  
[NAHC.ca.gov](http://NAHC.ca.gov)

**Native American Heritage Commission  
Native American Contacts List  
June 17, 2020**

Kern Valley Indian Community  
Julie Turner, Secretary  
P.O. Box 1010  
Lake Isabella CA 93240  
(661) 340-0032 Cell

Kawaiisu  
Tubatulabal

Tule River Indian Tribe  
Neil Peyron, Chairperson  
P.O. Box 589  
Porterville CA 93258  
neil.peyron@tulerivertribe-nsn.gov  
(559) 781-4271  
(559) 781-4610 Fax

Yokuts

Kern Valley Indian Community  
Robert Robinson, Chairperson  
P.O. Box 1010  
Lake Isabella CA 93240  
bbutterbredt@gmail.com  
(760) 378-2915 Cell

Tubatulabal  
Kawaiisu

Wuksache Indian Tribe/Eshom Valley Band  
Kenneth Woodrow, Chairperson  
1179 Rock Haven Ct.  
Salinas CA 93906  
kwood8934@aol.com  
(831) 443-9702

Foothill Yokuts  
Mono  
Wuksache

Kern Valley Indian Community  
Brandy Kendricks  
30741 Foxridge Court  
Tehachapi CA 93561  
krazykendricks@hotmail.com  
(661) 821-1733  
(661) 972-0445

Kawaiisu  
Tubatulabal

Santa Rosa Rancheria Tachi Yokut Tribe  
Leo Sisco, Chairperson  
P.O. Box 8  
Lemoore CA 93245  
(559) 924-1278  
(559) 924-3583 Fax

Tache  
Tachi  
Yokut

Tubatulabals of Kern Valley  
Robert L. Gomez, Jr., Tribal Chairperson  
P.O. Box 226  
Lake Isabella CA 93240  
(760) 379-4590  
(760) 379-4592 Fax

Tubatulabal

**This list is current as of the date of this document and is based on the information available to the Commission on the date it was produced.**

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

**This list is only applicable for contacting local Native Americans Tribes for the proposed:  
Porterville Irrigation District Water Banking Project, Tulare County.**