

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT AND FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT PROPOSED TRUST ACQUISITION OF VOLKS PROPERTY

Notice is hereby given that the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) has prepared an Environmental Assessment (EA), dated June 2021, which analyzes the environmental impacts of the proposed trust acquisition of two parcels encompassing a total of approximately 0.51 acres (the site), by the United States for the Santa Ynez Band of Chumash Indians (Tribe). This proposed federal action would result in the demolition of the existing structure on the site and development of that site into a parking lot to serve the adjoining Chumash Museum and Cultural Center. The site is located north of State Route 246, west of Edison Street, and south of Numancia Street at the entrance of downtown Santa Ynez in Santa Barbara County. The purpose of the proposed action is to provide additional parking to adequately serve the neighboring project, the Chumash Museum and Cultural Center, and thereby allowing the project to operate efficiently.

Based on the analysis and impacts in the EA, any input received during this public review period, and the entire administrative record, the BIA will decide whether to reach a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI), direct further work on the EA, or initiate the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement. A draft, unsigned FONSI has been prepared and is available for review along with the EA.

The EA and unsigned FONSI are available for review on the internet at ChumashVolksEA.com and on the BIA NEPA Tracker website: <https://bianepatracker2.doi.gov/> (Search: Volks). Copies of the EA and unsigned FONSI are also available for public review at the Solvang Library, which is currently open to the public, and located at 1745 Mission Drive in Solvang, CA 93463. No further action will be taken on the environmental process for at least 30 days after the publication of this notice. For more information, please contact Chad Broussard, Environmental Protection Specialist, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Pacific Regional Office, 2800 Cottage Way, Sacramento, CA 95825, telephone (916) 978-6165, email chad.broussard@bia.gov. Written comments should be mailed to Amy Dutschke, Regional Director, at the above address or to chad.broussard@bia.gov no later than July 19, 2021.