

# **Cultural Resources Assessment**

## **(Phase 1)**

**ADELANTO, CALIFORNIA**  
**(APN 3132-081-04, 05, 06, & 09)**  
**Tentative Tract Map No. 20083**

*Prepared for:*

**Ocean Blue Management for TKP FLP**

*Prepared by:*

**Ms. Alina Landa, Archaeologist**  
**BS, Cal Poly Pomona**  
**RCA Associates, Inc.**  
**15555 Main Street, #D4-235**  
**Hesperia, CA 92345**  
**Randall C. Arnold, Jr.**  
**Principal Investigator: Ms. Alina Landa**

**Report prepared by: Ms. Alina Landa**  
**Project #2017-5**

## **SUMMARY**

RCA Associates, Inc. (RCA Associates) is under contract to Ocean Blue Management for TKP FLP to conduct a Cultural Resources Assessment of the project site located on a portion of the Southeast ¼ of Section 18, Township 5 North, Range 5 West, San Bernardino Meridian in the City of Adelanto, San Bernardino County, California, on which as single-family residential development will be constructed. This study is being performed pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). A cultural resources records search, field survey and Native American consultation were conducted for the project. The records search revealed that no archaeological resources have been previously recorded within the project site boundaries. The results of the Native American consultation are provided in Appendix B.

During the field survey, RCA Associates' archaeologist (Ms. Alina Landa, BS, Archaeology, Cal Poly Pomona) did not discover any cultural resources, including historic or prehistoric archaeological sites or historic buildings within the project site. As a result, the proposed project is not expected to have any impact on any historic, prehistoric artifacts or historic buildings as per CEQA. No additional cultural resource surveys are recommended, and no monitoring is necessary during proposed activities associated with the development of the proposed project. If previously undocumented cultural resources are identified during earthmoving activities, a qualified archaeologist should be contacted to assess the nature and significance of the find, diverting construction excavation if necessary.

If human remains are encountered during the undertaking, State Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5 states that no further disturbance shall occur until the County Coroner has made a determination of origin and disposition pursuant to Public Resources Code Section 5097.98. The County Coroner must be notified of the find immediately. If the remains are determined to be prehistoric, the Coroner will notify the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC), which will determine and notify a Most Likely Descendant (MLD). With the permission of the landowner or his/her authorized representative, the MLD may inspect the site of the discovery. The MLD shall complete the inspection within 48 hours of notification by the NAHC.

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

SUMMARY.....	2
INTRODUCTION .....	4
NATURAL SETTING.....	4
Biology and Current Conditions.....	4
CULTURAL SETTING.....	5
Prehistory.....	5
Ethnography.....	5
History.....	5
PERSONNEL.....	6
METHODS.....	6
Research.....	6
Field Survey.....	7
RESULTS.....	7
Research.....	7
Field Survey.....	8
RECOMMENDATIONS.....	8
REFERENCES.....	10
Appendix A- Figures	
1. Tentative Tract Map	
Appendix B- Native American Consultation	

## **INTRODUCTION**

RCA Associates, Inc. (RCA Associates) is under contract to conduct a Phase 1 Cultural Resources Assessment of the proposed project site in Adelanto, California. This study is being performed pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The project site is located on a portion of the Southeast ¼ of Section 18, Township 5 North, Range 5 West, San Bernardino Meridian in the City of Adelanto, San Bernardino County, California. It is depicted on the United States Geological Survey (USGS) *Adelanto, California* (2017) 7.5-minute topographic quadrangle (Figure 1).

## **NATURAL SETTING**

### **Biology and Current Conditions**

The property is approximately 20 acres in size and is located north of Seneca Road and east of Calendula Street in the City of Adelanto, California (T5N, R5W, Section 18, USGS Adelanto, California Quadrangle), see Figure 1. The site is bordered on the south by Seneca Road and on the north and west by vacant lands. An existing single-family home development borders the site on the east. The site supports very limited vegetation due to past shrub clearing which was cleared of vegetation within recent years. Only a few creosote bushes (*Larrea tridentate*), matchweed (*Gutierrezia sarothamne*), Russian thistle (*Salsola tragus*) and rabbitbrush (*Chrysothamnus depressus*). The Mojave ground squirrel, burrowing owl, and desert tortoise have been documented in the area. Numerous signs of past human disturbance, such as walking trails, off-road vehicle tracks, and trash piles were also noted.

## **CULTURAL SETTING**

### **Prehistory**

California's prehistory is punctuated by major environmental shifts which caused an influence of change in subsistence and settlement patterns for the Native Americans of the high desert region. During the late, glaciation, caused by an influx of cool and moist temperatures, led to the creation of pluvial lakes (Antevs 1953). Regional changes in subsistence and settlement patterns during this time of rapid change are defined by cultural periods. These periods are: Lake Mojave, Pinto, Gypsum, Saratoga Springs, and Protohistoric Periods (Warren 1984).

### **Ethnography**

The project site is located on Serrano ancestral territory, which includes the groups of the Alliklik, Vanyume, Mohave, and Chemehuevi Indians (Kroeber 1925). The name, "Serrano" describes the tribes who lived in the general region of the San Bernardino Mountains (Kroeber 1925). The Serrano were hunter-gatherers who created tools that allowed them to process acorns, pinon nuts, mesquite, and cacti fruits. Evidence of their settlement here shows that the Serrano use points, scrapers, knives, cores, and some milling stones to process foods (Moratto 1984). They also manufactured baskets, pottery, rabbit-skin blankets, arrows and arrow straighteners, stone pipes, and musical instruments (Bean and Smith 1978:571). The project is located in an area that is very close to a natural water source. It is also near the Mojave River, which was a significant place for travel, trade and settlement.

## **HISTORY**

**Historic Period:** The Historic era of California is divided into the Mission or Spanish Period (1769 to 1831), the Mexican or Rancho Period (1821 to 1848), and the American Period (1848 to present).

**Spanish Period:** The first explorers to come into this region were led by a Spanish priest named Francisco Garces, who guided Juan Bautista de Anza through the area. In 1771, De Anza led a group from Arizona to create a headquarters at the Mission San Gabriel near what is now known

as the City of Pasadena. The Mojave Trail was established in 1776 as a route across the Mojave Desert to the San Gabriel Mission (Beck and Haase 1974).

**Mexican Period:** Spanish rule was overthrown by Mexico in 1791, and missions lost their land holdings as the Mexican government passed the Secularization Act in 1833 (Beattie and Beattie 1974). The notable Old Spanish Trail was established between southern California and Sante Fe, New Mexico in the 1830s (Beck and Haase 1974).

**American Period:** After the Mexican-American War in 1848 and the discovery of gold in California, the Old Spanish Road was founded as a widely-used trade route for the shipment of goods and Mexican mules and horses. This allowed travelers from Salt Lake City to Las Vegas through the Cajon Pass to reach the San Bernardino and Los Angeles areas (Bean and Vane, Young et al 1981). In the 1870s and afterward, small towns in the high desert region and near the Calico Mountains were established as railway stops on the Sante Fe Railroad (Kyle 1990). A silver strike in the Calico Mountains brought upon a great mining boom in 1881 (Schuiling 1984:95).

## **PERSONNEL**

RCA Associates cultural resource personnel, Alina Landa, BS, Archaeology Cal Poly Pomona, requested the staff at South Central Coastal Information Center (SCCIC) to conduct the cultural resource records search. Ms. Landa conducted field investigations on the site on February 9, 2017, and following receipt of the background data from SCCIC, Ms. Landa prepared the technical report.

## **METHODS**

### **Research**

An archaeological records search was conducted by the South Central Coastal Information Center (SCCIC) on April 19, 2017. The results of the records search are summarized in this report. The Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) completed a Sacred Lands File Search for the proposed project area. Native American Tribes associated with the area were contacted via letter for correspondence.

## **Field Survey**

A comprehensive archaeological field survey (100 percent coverage) was conducted on February 9, 2017. The survey was conducted by walking parallel north- south transects spaced approximately 15 meters apart. During the field investigations, any potential cultural resource was evaluated.

## **RESULTS**

### **Research**

The NAHC completed a Sacred Lands File Search for the proposed project area and replied on February 22, 2017 with negative results. The NAHC also recommended a list of potentially interested Native American Tribes to consult. These contacts include: The Kern Valley Indian Council, Morongo Band of Mission Indians, San Fernando Band of Mission Indians, San Manuel Band of Mission Indians, Serrano Nation of Mission Indians, and Colorado River Indian Tribe. None of these groups responded to the letters for correspondence within a 30-day period.

The SCCIC conducted an archaeological resources records search on April 19, 2017. The records search included the property and ½ mile radius surrounding the property. The search included a review of all recorded archaeological and built-environment resources and a review of cultural resource reports on file. In addition, The California Points of Historical Interest (SPHI), the California Historical Landmarks (SHL), the California Register of Historical Resources (CAL REG), the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP), and the California State Historic Properties Directory (HPD) listings were all reviewed for the project site.

Data from the SCCIC revealed that no archaeological resources have been previously recorded within the project area. Two archaeological resources have been recorded within ½ mile radius of the project. One study has previously been conducted within the project area, and five studies have been conducted within ½ mile radius of the project. The historic map review indicated that the Victorville, CA (1956) 1:62,500 scale historic maps show that in 1956 there was one intermittent stream located within the project area. Pearblossom Highway was also located within the search radius.

**Table 1. SCCIC Records Search Results**

<b>Archaeological Resources</b>	Within project area: 0 Within project radius: 2
<b>Built-Environment Resources</b>	Within project area: 0 Within project radius: 0
<b>Reports and Studies</b>	Within project area: 1 Within project radius: 5
<b>OHP Historic Properties Directory (HPD)</b>	Within project area: 0 Within 1-mile radius: 0
<b>California Points of Historical Interest (SPHI)</b>	Within project area: 0 Within 1-mile radius: 0
<b>California Historical Landmarks (SHL)</b>	Within project area: 0 Within 1-mile radius: 0
<b>California Register of Historical Resources (CAL REG)</b>	Within project area: 0 Within 1-mile radius: 0
<b>National Register of Historic Places (NRHP)</b>	Within project area: 0 Within project radius: 0
<b>Archaeological Determinations of Eligibility (ADOE):</b>	Within project area: 0 Within project radius: 0

**Field Survey**

During the field survey, Ms. Landa carefully inspected the project site for the presence of any cultural resources, including prehistoric, or historical buildings. No cultural resources were identified within the boundaries of the site. The property is heavily disturbed along Seneca Road, showing signs of vehicle and foot tracks. Throughout the property there are some signs of minor but frequent human disturbances, such as left-behind garbage. One hundred percent of the project site was inspected during the field investigations.

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

This cultural study was completed pursuant to CEQA. The records search and field survey did not identify any cultural resources, including historic and prehistoric sites or historic-period buildings within the project site boundaries. Research results, combined with surface conditions have failed to indicate sensitivity for buried cultural resources. No additional cultural resources work or monitoring is necessary during proposed activities associated with the development of the earthmoving activities. If previously undocumented cultural resources are identified during

earthmoving activities, a qualified archaeologist should be contacted to assess the nature and significance of the find, diverting construction excavation if necessary.

If human remains are encountered during the undertaking, State Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5 states that no further disturbance shall occur until the County Coroner has made a determination of origin and disposition pursuant to Public Resources Code Section 5097.98. The County Coroner must be notified of the find immediately. If the remains are determined to be prehistoric, the Coroner will notify the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC), which will determine and notify a Most Likely Descendant (MLD). With the permission of the landowner or his/her authorized representative, the MLD may inspect the site of the discovery. The MLD shall complete the inspection within 48 hours of notification by the NAHC.

## REFERENCES

Antevs, E.

- 1953 On Division of the Last 20,000 Years. *University of California Archaeological Survey Reports* 22: 5-8. Berkeley.

Bean, L. J., and C.R. Smith

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Kyle, D.E.

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Moratto, M.J.

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Schuiling, Walter C.

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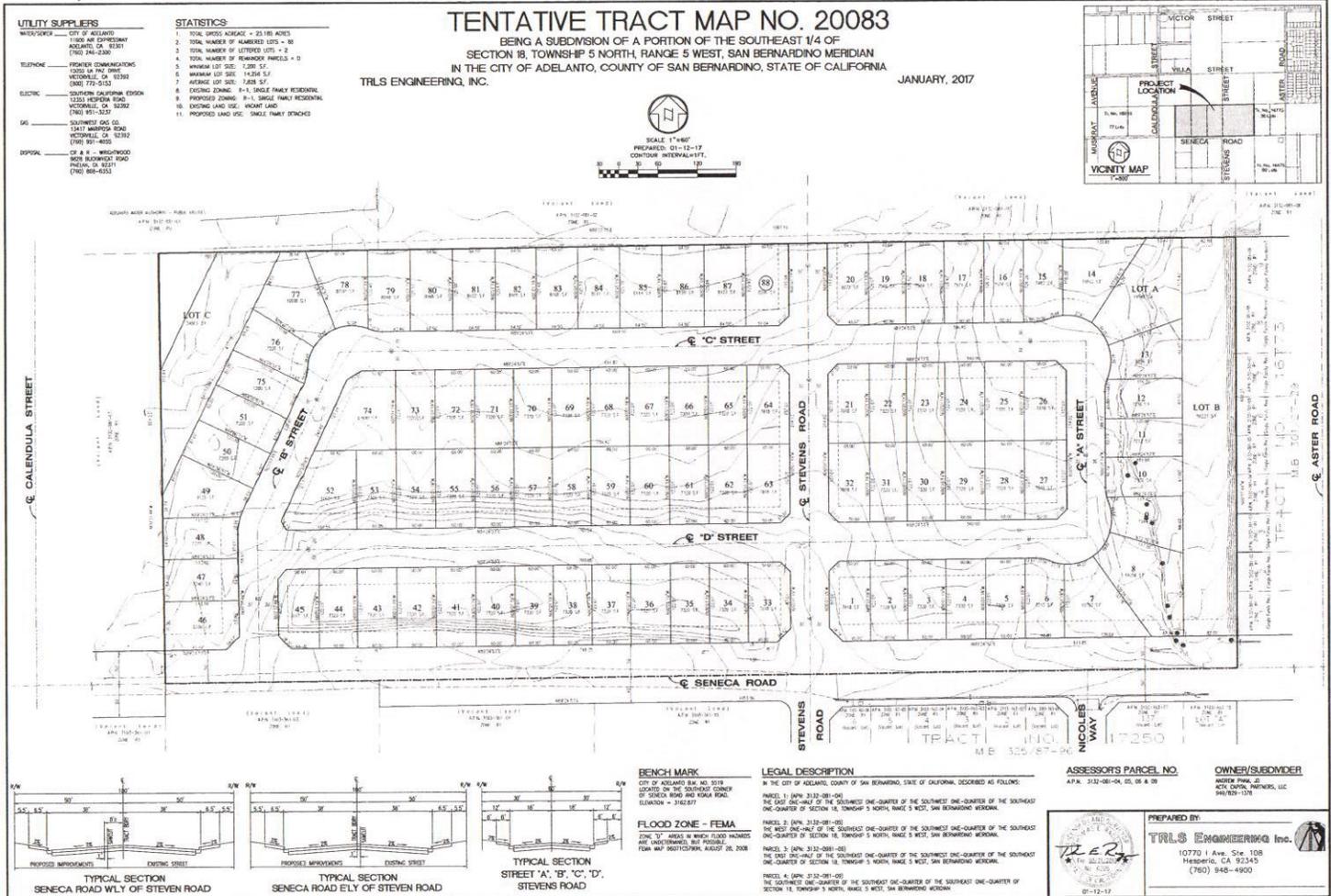
Warren, Claude N.

- 1984 The Desert Region. In *California Archaeology*, by M. Moratto, contributions by D.A. Fredrickson, C. Raven, and C.N. Warren, pp. 339-430. Academic Press, Orlando, Florida.

# **APPENDIX A**

## **Figures**

**Figure 1. Tentative Tract Map No. 20083 (T5N, R5W, Section 18, USGS Adelanto, California Quadrangle)**



**APPENDIX B**  
**Native American Consultation**

**Local Government Tribal Consultation List Request**

**Native American Heritage Commission**

1550 Harbor Blvd, Suite 100  
West Sacramento, CA 95691  
916-373-3710  
916-373-5471 – Fax  
[nahc@nahc.ca.gov](mailto:nahc@nahc.ca.gov)

Type of List Requested

CEQA Tribal Consultation List (AB 52) – Per Public Resources Code § 21080.3.1, subs. (b), (d), (e) and 21080.3.2

General Plan (SB 18) - Per Government Code § 65352.3.

Local Action Type:

General Plan  General Plan Element  General Plan Amendment

Specific Plan  Specific Plan Amendment  Pre-planning Outreach Activity

Required Information

Project Title: 2017-5

Local Government/Lead Agency: City of Adelanto

Contact Person: Alina Landa

Street Address: 15490 Civic Dr. Suite 204

City: Victorville Zip: 92395

Phone: (760) 596-0017 Fax: (760) 244-0791

Email: alinalanda@gmail.com

Specific Area Subject to Proposed Action

County: San Bernardino City/Community: Adelanto

Project Description:

Additional Request

Sacred Lands File Search - Required Information:

USGS Quadrangle Name(s): Tentative Tract map NO. 20083  
(APN 3132-081-04, 05, 06 & 09) 2017

Township: 5 North Range: 5 West Section(s): 18

**NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE COMMISSION**

1650 Harbor Blvd., Suite 100  
West Sacramento, CA 95691  
(916) 373-3710  
(916) 373-5471 FAX



February 22, 2017

Alina Landa  
City of Victorville

Sent by E-mail: alinalanda@ymail.com

RE: Proposed 2017-5 Project, near the Community of Adelanto; Adelanto USGS Quadrangle, San Bernardino County, California

Dear Ms. Landa:

Attached is a consultation list of tribes with traditional lands or cultural places located within the boundaries of the above referenced counties. Please note that the intent of the reference codes below is to avoid or mitigate impacts to tribal cultural resources, as defined, for California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) projects under AB-52.

As of July 1, 2015, Public Resources Code Sections 21080.3.1 and 21080.3.2 **require public agencies** to consult with California Native American tribes identified by the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) for the purpose mitigating impacts to tribal cultural resources:

**Within 14 days** of determining that an application for a project is complete or a decision by a public agency to undertake a project, the lead agency shall provide formal notification to the designated contact of, or a tribal representative of, traditionally and culturally affiliated California Native American tribes that have requested notice, which shall be accomplished by means of at least one written notification that includes a brief description of the proposed project and its location, the lead agency contact information, and a notification that the California Native American tribe has 30 days to request consultation pursuant to this section. (Public Resources Code Section 21080.3.1(d))

The law does not preclude agencies from initiating consultation with the tribes that are culturally and traditionally affiliated with their jurisdictions. The NAHC believes that in fact that this is the best practice to ensure that tribes are consulted commensurate with the intent of the law.

In accordance with Public Resources Code Section 21080.3.1(d), formal notification must include a brief description of the proposed project and its location, the lead agency contact information, and a notification that the California Native American tribe has 30 days to request consultation. The NAHC believes that agencies should also include with their notification letters information regarding any cultural resources assessment that has been completed on the APE, such as:

1. The results of any record search that may have been conducted at an Information Center of the California Historical Resources Information System (CHRIS), including, but not limited to:
  - A listing of any and all known cultural resources have already been recorded on or adjacent to the APE;
  - Copies of any and all cultural resource records and study reports that may have been provided by the information Center as part of the records search response;
  - If the probability is low, moderate, or high that cultural resources are located in the APE.
  - Whether the records search indicates a low, moderate or high probability that unrecorded cultural resources are located in the potential APE; and
  - If a survey is recommended by the Information Center to determine whether previously unrecorded cultural resources are present.

2. The results of any archaeological inventory survey that was conducted, including:
  - Any report that may contain site forms, site significance, and suggested mitigation measures.  
  
All information regarding site locations, Native American human remains, and associated funerary objects should be in a separate confidential addendum, and not be made available for public disclosure in accordance with Government Code Section 6254.10.
3. The results of any Sacred Lands File (SFL) check conducted through Native American Heritage Commission. A search of the SFL was completed for the project with negative results.
4. Any ethnographic studies conducted for any area including all or part of the potential APE; and
5. Any geotechnical reports regarding all or part of the potential APE.

Lead agencies should be aware that records maintained by the NAHC and CHRIS is not exhaustive, and a negative response to these searches does not preclude the existence of a cultural place. A tribe may be the only source of information regarding the existence of a tribal cultural resource.

This information will aid tribes in determining whether to request formal consultation. In the case that they do, having the information beforehand will help to facilitate the consultation process.

If you receive notification of change of addresses and phone numbers from tribes, please notify me. With your assistance we are able to assure that our consultation list contains current information.

If you have any questions, please contact me at my email address: [gayle.totton@nahc.ca.gov](mailto:gayle.totton@nahc.ca.gov).

Sincerely,



for Gayle Totton, M.A., PhD.  
Associate Governmental Program Analyst



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www.rcaassociatesllc.com

February 2, 2017

John Valenzuela, Chairperson  
San Fernando Band of Mission Indians  
P.O. Box 221838  
Newhall, CA 91322

Dear Mr. Valenzuela:

I am writing you to bring to your attention an ongoing proposed project in compliance with CEQA The project is on Tentative Tract Map 20083 (APN 3132-081-04, 05, 06, & 09) in Adelanto, California. This study is to be done at the request of the city of Adelanto.

As part of the cultural resources study for the project, I am requesting your insight on potential Native American cultural properties and resources in or near the area of potential effect. Please respond at your earliest convenience if you have any information to consider for this study.  
Thank you.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Alina Landa".

Alina Landa  
Project Archaeologist  
RCA Associates, LLC  
Email: alinalanda@ymail.com



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February 2, 2017

Robert Martin, Chairperson  
Morongo Band of Mission Indians  
12700 Pumarra Road  
Banning, CA 92220

Dear Mr. Martin:

I am writing you to bring to your attention an ongoing proposed project in compliance with CEQA. The project is on Tentative Tract Map 20083 (APN 3132-081-04, 05, 06, & 09) in Adelanto, California. This study is to be done at the request of the city of Adelanto.

As part of the cultural resources study for the project, I am requesting your insight on potential Native American cultural properties and resources in or near the area of potential effect. Please respond at your earliest convenience if you have any information to consider for this study.  
Thank you.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Alina Landa".

Alina Landa  
Project Archaeologist  
RCA Associates, LLC  
Email: alinalanda@ymail.com



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February 2, 2017

Ms. Lynn Valbuena, Chairwoman  
San Manuel Band of Mission Indians  
26569 Community Center  
Highland, CA 92346

Dear Ms. Valbuena:

I am writing you to bring to your attention an ongoing proposed project in compliance with CEQA The project is on Tentative Tract Map 20083 (APN 3132-081-04, 05, 06, & 09) in Adelanto, California. This study is to be done at the request of the city of Adelanto.

As part of the cultural resources study for the project, I am requesting your insight on potential Native American cultural properties and resources in or near the area of potential effect. Please respond at your earliest convenience if you have any information to consider for this study.  
Thank you.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Alina Landa".

Alina Landa  
Project Archaeologist  
RCA Associates, LLC  
Email: alinalanda@ymail.com



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February 2, 2017

Dennis Patch, Chairman  
Colorado River Indian Tribe  
26600 Mojave Road  
Parker, AZ 85344

Dear Mr. Patch:

I am writing you to bring to your attention an ongoing proposed project in compliance with CEQA. The project is on Tentative Tract Map 20083 (APN 3132-081-04, 05, 06, & 09) in Adelanto, California. This study is to be done at the request of the city of Adelanto.

As part of the cultural resources study for the project, I am requesting your insight on potential Native American cultural properties and resources in or near the area of potential effect. Please respond at your earliest convenience if you have any information to consider for this study.  
Thank you.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Alina Landa".

Alina Landa  
Project Archaeologist  
RCA Associates, LLC  
Email: alinalanda@ymail.com



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February 2, 2017

Goldie Walker, Chairperson  
Serrano Nation of Mission Indians  
P.O. Box 343  
Patton, CA 92369

Dear Ms. Walker,

I am writing you to bring to your attention an ongoing proposed project in compliance with CEQA. The project is on Tentative Tract Map 20083 (APN 3132-081-04, 05, 06, & 09) in Adelanto, California. This study is to be done at the request of the city of Adelanto.

As part of the cultural resources study for the project, I am requesting your insight on potential Native American cultural properties and resources in or near the area of potential effect. Please respond at your earliest convenience if you have any information to consider for this study.  
Thank you.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Alina Landa".

Alina Landa  
Project Archaeologist  
RCA Associates, LLC  
Email: alinalanda@ymail.com

**Table 1. Native American Tribes contacted for consultation**

<b>Groups Contacted</b>	<b>Letter Date</b>	<b>Response from Tribes</b>
<b>Robert Martin, Chairperson Morongo Band of Mission Indians</b>	February 2, 2017	March 2, 2017 No response
<b>Dennis Patch, Chairperson Colorado River Indian Tribe</b>	February 2, 2017	March 2, 2017 No response
<b>Goldie Walker, Chairperson Serrano Nation of Mission Indians</b>	February 2, 2017	March 2, 2017 No response
<b>Lynn Valbuena, Chairperson San Manuel Band of Mission Indians</b>	February 2, 2017	March 2, 2017 No response
<b>John Valenzuela, Chairperson San Fernando Band of Mission Indians</b>	February 2, 2017	March 2, 2017 No response