

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY
ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT AND FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT
FOR THE
PECHANGA BAND OF LUISENO INDIANS
PROPOSED 20-ACRE WOLF VALLEY FEE-TO-TRUST PROJECT
CITY OF TEMECULA, RIVERSIDE COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

Notice is hereby given that the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA), Pacific Regional Office, has prepared an Environmental Assessment (EA), dated March 2022, for the transfer of two parcels (APN 962-020-026 and APN 962-010-007) comprised of approximately 20 acres of tribally owned land into federal trust status for the Pechanga Band of Luiseno Indians (Tribe) for development of commercial uses at a future time (Proposed Action). The proposed fee-to-trust properties are within the incorporated City of Temecula, Riverside County, California at the intersection of Wolf Valley Road and Pala Road (Pechanga Parkway). The site shares its southwestern border with the Tribe's Reservation. The purpose of the Proposed Action is to facilitate Tribal self-sufficiency, self-determination, and economic development, thus satisfying the U.S. Department of the Interior's land acquisition policy as articulated in the Department of the Interior's trust land regulations at 25 CFR Part 151. Future development of the parcels would increase tribal revenue and offer important economic development opportunities that would support the Tribe's pursuit of self-determination. The Proposed Action and the No Action Alternative were evaluated in the EA.

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 on the Tribe's website at www.pechanga-nsn.gov. Copies of the EA and unsigned FONSI are also available for public review at the Temecula Public Library, 30600 Pauba Rd, Temecula, CA 92592. 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. Written comments should be mailed to Amy Dutschke, Regional Director, at the above address for the Bureau of Indian Affairs.