

# Cultural Resources Technical Report

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Rice Canyon Reservoir Access Road and New Conduit Project,  
City of Lake Elsinore, Riverside County, California

**September 2022**

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# Executive Summary

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South Environmental was retained to complete a cultural resources technical report for the Elsinore Valley Municipal Water District (EVMWD, the District) Rice Canyon Reservoir Access Road and New Conduit Project (proposed project) located in the City of Lake Elsinore, Riverside County, California. This study includes the results of a California Historical Resources Information Center (CHRIS) records search of the project site and a one-mile radius with the Eastern Information Center (EIC); a California Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) Sacred Lands File search and informational scoping letters to local tribes; a paleontological resources records search; and an intensive pedestrian survey of the project site by a qualified archaeologist and Native American monitor. This study was completed in compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) and its implementing regulation Title 36 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 800; and the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), including Public Resources Code (PRC) Section 5024.1, Title 14 California Code of Regulations (CCR) Section 15064.5 of the CEQA Guidelines, and PRC Sections 21083.2 and 21084.1.

The EIC records search results indicate that two previously conducted cultural resources studies (RI-03323 and RI-03328) overlap the project's Area of Potential Effects (APE). An additional 19 studies were identified outside the APE within the one-mile records search radius. No previously recorded cultural resources overlap the project APE. Fourteen previously recorded cultural resources were identified within the one-mile records search radius (see Section 2.1).

Native American coordination included completion of a Sacred Lands File Search with the NAHC, which was negative, and sending scoping letters to a list of tribes provided by the NAHC. No archaeological, historical, or tribal cultural resources were identified as a result of South Environmental's coordination with tribes, however two tribes identified the project site as being located within their ancestral territory and have identified Lake Elsinore and the surrounding area as culturally sensitive/significant (see Section 2.2).

No archaeological or historical resources were identified within the project APE as a result of the CHRIS records search, NAHC Sacred Lands File search, Native American coordination, or pedestrian survey by a qualified archaeologist. Further, significant portions of the APE have been disturbed by construction of the existing access road and reservoir tank area to the west. Therefore, the project site is unlikely to contain intact buried archaeological deposits. Still, it is always possible to encounter resources during ground disturbance. Standard unanticipated discovery measures for archaeological resources and human remains have been provided in Section 6.1.2, Recommendations.

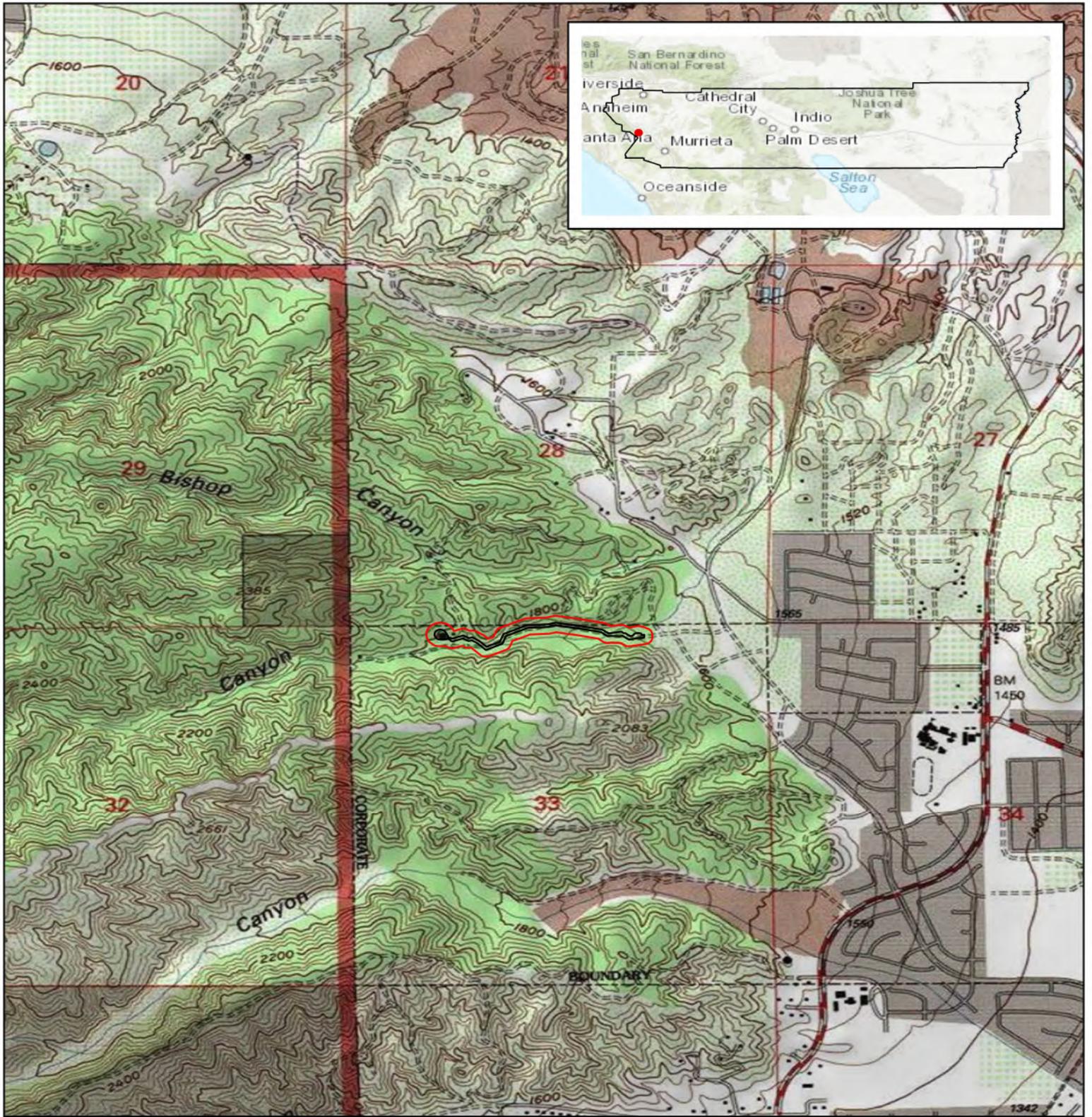
# 1 Introduction

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South Environmental was retained to complete a cultural resources technical report for the Elsinore Valley Municipal Water District (EVMWD, the District) Rice Canyon Reservoir Access Road and New Conduit Project (proposed project) located in the City of Lake Elsinore, Riverside County, California. This study includes the results of a California Historical Resources Information Center (CHRIS) records search of the project site and a one-mile radius; a California Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) Sacred Lands File search and informational letters to local tribes; a paleontological resources records search; and an intensive pedestrian survey of the project site by a qualified archaeologist and Native American monitor. This study was completed in compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) and its implementing regulation Title 36 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 800; and the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), including Public Resources Code (PRC) Section 5024.1, Title 14 California Code of Regulations (CCR) Section 15064.5 of the CEQA Guidelines, and PRC Sections 21083.2 and 21084.1.

## 1.1 Project Location

The proposed project site is located in the City of Lake Elsinore in Rice Canyon, directly west of the intersection of Dale Court and Lincoln Street. The project site falls within Sections 28 and 33 of Township 05 South, Range 05 West, on the United States Geological Survey (USGS) *Alberhill*, California 7.5-Minute Quadrangle Map. Assessor Parcel Numbers 394-140-001, -003, -004, 394-150-001, and -011 (Figure 1, Project Location Map).



Source: ESRI USA Topo Maps and World Topo Map 2022

EVMWD Rice Canyon Project

# Figure 1. Project Location

- Project Site
- 100-Foot Project Site Buffer

Project Site is within the City of Lake Elsinore, California, in Riverside County on the USGS Alberhill 7.5-minute quadrangle map in Sections 28 and 33 of Township 05 South and Range 05 West

Center Coordinate (Decimal Degrees):  
 Latitude: 33.698366N, Longitude: -117.407709W



0 1,000 2,000 Feet  
 Scale: 1:24,000



## 1.2 Project Description

The Rice Canyon Reservoir (Reservoir) was constructed in 1992 and is located approximately a half mile back into the Canyon from the terminus of Dale Court which is directly across from Rice Canyon Elementary School.

In 2018, the area surrounding the Rice Canyon Reservoir sustained fire damage from the Holy Fire. The Holy Fire burned more than 23,000 acres in Riverside and Orange Counties. The Holy Fire burned native vegetation which intensified flooding and debris flow during the winter storms of 2018/2019 (Winter Storms). The impacts from the Winter Storms resulted in the State of California declaring a state of emergency.

The intensified flooding within Rice Canyon (Canyon) damaged the District's access road and electrical conduit serving the Reservoir. The Winter Storm damaged all three (3) concrete Arizona crossings located within the Canyon which made the access road to the reservoir inaccessible by vehicles. Interim repairs to the access road were completed in 2019, however, subsequent rain events have damaged the access road again. All costs associated with the interim repair activities were fully reimbursed by FEMA as part of the emergency authorization.

The District needs to complete permanent repairs to the access road and repair the electrical connection to the Reservoir. The project consists of the following components:

- Replace the existing electrical conduit with a new conduit and pull boxes within the District's existing access road from Dale Court to the District's 1.5 million gallon Rice Canyon potable water tank (Reservoir) using open trench methods for a length of approximately 2,600 linear feet. Depth of excavation will be a minimum of 24-inches, and deeper where the conduit crosses Rice Creek.
- Replace the three existing concrete low water crossings (A, B, and C) that are each approximately 15 feet wide and 35 feet long with two concrete low water crossings (A+B and C). Crossing A+B will be 12 feet wide and 487 feet long and Crossing C will be 12 feet wide and 266 feet long. Each crossing will have buried upstream and downstream sloped cut-off walls. Crossing C will also require slope stabilization in the form of 1/4-ton riprap on the downstream slope over an area of 1,227 square feet. Outside of the low water crossings, the access road will be earthen and also 12-feet wide.
- Perform ongoing maintenance of the access road in perpetuity. Maintenance of the access road will include grading portions of the access road at a minimum once per year, or as needed to maintain vehicular access to the reservoir. Ongoing maintenance may also include vegetation clearing within the Project limits.

- Perform interior and exterior maintenance repairs on the Rice Canyon reservoir.

## 1.3 Project Area of Potential Effects

In accordance with Section 106 of the NHPA, the Area of Potential Effects (APE) is the geographic area or areas within which an undertaking may directly or indirectly cause changes in the character or use of historic properties, if any such properties exist. Determination of the APE is influenced by a project's setting, the scale and nature of the undertaking, and the different kinds of effects that may result from the undertaking (36 CFR 800.16(d)).

The APE encompasses all areas where ground disturbance is expected to occur as a result of demolition and new construction, including the interior work proposed on the Rice Canyon reservoir at the western end of the project site, and the proposed staging area located at the eastern end of the project site near Dale Court (Figure 2). The horizontal extent of the APE for the proposed project includes the entirety of the project site. The vertical extent of the APE for the proposed project is defined as the depth of soils disturbed during construction that have the potential to contain intact cultural deposits. The amount of disturbed soils varies according to the topography and construction needs but is anticipated to be a maximum depth of 8 feet below grade at the stream crossings, and a maximum depth of 4 feet below grade in all other areas.

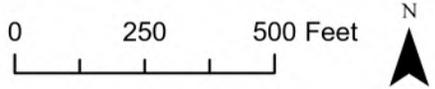
As shown on Figure 2, the cultural resources survey area included the APE and a 100-foot buffer. This survey buffer was not extended around the reservoir, as only interior work is proposed on the tank.



Source: BING Aerial Basemap June 2022

EVMWD Rice Canyon Project

### Figure 2. Project Area of Potential Effects Map



-  100-Foot Project Impacts Buffer
-  Project Site/APE



## 1.4 Regulatory Setting

### 1.4.1 Federal

#### **Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act**

The NHPA established the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) and the President's Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP), and provided that states may establish State Historic Preservation Officers (SHPOs) to carry out some of the functions of the NHPA. Most significantly for federal agencies responsible for managing cultural resources, Section 106 of the NHPA directs that

[t]he head of any Federal agency having direct or indirect jurisdiction over a proposed Federal or federally assisted undertaking in any State and the head of any Federal department or independent agency having authority to license any undertaking shall, prior to the approval of the expenditure of any Federal funds on the undertaking or prior to the issuance of any license, as the case may be, take into account the effect of the undertaking on any district, site, building, structure, or object that is included in or eligible for inclusion in the NRHP.

Section 106 also affords the ACHP a reasonable opportunity to comment on the undertaking (16 U.S.C. 470f). 36 Code of Federal Regulations, Part 800 (36 CFR 800) implements Section 106 of the NHPA. It defines the steps necessary to identify historic properties (those cultural resources listed in or eligible for listing in the NRHP), including consultation with federally recognized Native American tribes to identify resources with important cultural values; to determine whether or not they may be adversely affected by a proposed undertaking; and the process for eliminating, reducing, or mitigating the adverse effects.

The content of 36 CFR 60.4 defines criteria for determining eligibility for listing in the NRHP. The significance of cultural resources identified during an inventory must be formally evaluated for historic significance in consultation with the ACHP and the California SHPO to determine if the resources are eligible for inclusion in the NRHP. Cultural resources may be considered eligible for listing if they possess integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association.

#### **National Register of Historic Places**

The NRHP is the United States' official list of districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects worthy of preservation. Overseen by the National Park Service, under the U.S. Department of the Interior, the NRHP was authorized under Section 106 of the NHPA, as amended. Its listings

encompass all National Historic Landmarks, as well as historic areas administered by the National Park Service.

NRHP guidelines for the evaluation of historic significance were developed to be flexible and to recognize the accomplishments of all who have made significant contributions to the nation's history and heritage. Its criteria are designed to guide state and local governments, federal agencies, and others in evaluating potential entries in the NRHP. For a property to be listed in or determined eligible for listing, it must be demonstrated to possess integrity and to meet at least one of the following criteria:

The quality of significance in American history, architecture, archaeology, engineering, and culture is present in districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects that possess integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association, and:

- A. That are associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history; or
- B. That are associated with the lives of persons significant in our past; or
- C. That embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, or that represent the work of a master, or that possess high artistic values, or that represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction; or
- D. That have yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Integrity is defined in NRHP guidance, "How to Apply the National Register Criteria," as "the ability of a property to convey its significance. To be listed in the NRHP, a property must not only be shown to be significant under the NRHP criteria, but it also must have integrity" (NPS 1990). NRHP guidance further asserts that properties be completed at least 50 years ago to be considered for eligibility. Properties completed fewer than 50 years before evaluation must be proven to be "exceptionally important" (criteria consideration to be considered for listing).

## 1.4.2 State

### **California Register of Historical Resources**

In California, the term "historical resource" includes but is not limited to "any object, building, structure, site, area, place, record, or manuscript which is historically or archaeologically significant, or is significant in the architectural, engineering, scientific, economic, agricultural, educational, social, political, military, or cultural annals of California" (California PRC Section 5020.1(j)). In 1992, the California legislature established the California Register of Historical

Resources (CRHR) “to be used by state and local agencies, private groups, and citizens to identify the state’s historical resources and to indicate what properties are to be protected, to the extent prudent and feasible, from substantial adverse change” (California PRC Section 5024.1(a)). The criteria for listing resources on the CRHR were expressly developed to be in accordance with previously established criteria developed for listing in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP), enumerated below. According to California PRC Section 5024.1(c)(1–4), a resource is considered historically significant if it (i) retains “substantial integrity,” and (ii) meets at least one of the following criteria:

- (1) Is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of California’s history and cultural heritage.
- (2) Is associated with the lives of persons important in our past.
- (3) Embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, region, or method of construction, or represents the work of an important creative individual, or possesses high artistic values.
- (4) Has yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

In order to understand the historic importance of a resource, sufficient time must have passed to obtain a scholarly perspective on the events or individuals associated with the resource. A resource less than 50 years old may be considered for listing in the CRHR if it can be demonstrated that sufficient time has passed to understand its historical importance (see 14 CCR 4852(d)(2)).

The CRHR protects cultural resources by requiring evaluations of the significance of prehistoric and historic resources. The criteria for the CRHR are nearly identical to those for the NRHP, and properties listed or formally designated as eligible for listing in the NRHP are automatically listed in the CRHR, as are the state landmarks and points of interest. The CRHR also includes properties designated under local ordinances or identified through local historical resource surveys.

## **California Environmental Quality Act**

As described further below, the following CEQA statutes and CEQA Guidelines are of relevance to the analysis of archaeological, historic, and tribal cultural resources:

- California PRC Section 21083.2(g) defines “unique archaeological resource.”
- California PRC Section 21084.1 and CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5(a) define “historical resources.” In addition, CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5(b) defines the phrase “substantial adverse change in the significance of an historical resource.” It also defines the circumstances when a project would materially impair the significance of an historical resource.

- California PRC Section 21074(a) defines “tribal cultural resources.”
- California PRC Section 5097.98 and CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5(e) set forth standards and steps to be employed following the accidental discovery of human remains in any location other than a dedicated ceremony.
- California PRC Sections 21083.2(b)-(c) and CEQA Guidelines Section 15126.4 provide information regarding the mitigation framework for archaeological and historic resources, including examples of preservation-in-place mitigation measures; preservation-in-place is the preferred manner of mitigating impacts to significant archaeological sites because it maintains the relationship between artifacts and the archaeological context and may also help avoid conflict with religious or cultural values of groups associated with the archaeological site(s).

More specifically, under CEQA, a project may have a significant effect on the environment if it may cause “a substantial adverse change in the significance of an historical resource” (California PRC Section 21084.1; CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5(b).) If a site is either listed or eligible for listing in the CRHR, or if it is included in a local register of historic resources or identified as significant in a historical resources survey (meeting the requirements of California PRC Section 5024.1(q)), it is a “historical resource” and is presumed to be historically or culturally significant for purposes of CEQA (California PRC Section 21084.1; CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5(a)). The lead agency is not precluded from determining that a resource is a historical resource even if it does not fall within this presumption (California PRC Section 21084.1; CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5(a)).

A “substantial adverse change in the significance of an historical resource” reflecting a significant effect under CEQA means “physical demolition, destruction, relocation, or alteration of the resource or its immediate surroundings such that the significance of an historical resource would be materially impaired” (CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5(b)(1); California PRC Section 5020.1(q)). In turn, CEQA Guidelines section 15064.5(b)(2) states the significance of an historical resource is materially impaired when a project:

1. Demolishes or materially alters in an adverse manner those physical characteristics of an historical resource that convey its historical significance and that justify its inclusion in, or eligibility for, inclusion in the California Register of Historical Resources; or
2. Demolishes or materially alters in an adverse manner those physical characteristics that account for its inclusion in a local register of historical resources pursuant to section 5020.1(k) of the PRC or its identification in an historical resources survey meeting the requirements of section 5024.1(g) of the PRC, unless the public agency reviewing the effects of the project establishes by a preponderance of evidence that the resource is not historically or culturally significant; or

3. Demolishes or materially alters in an adverse manner those physical characteristics of a historical resource that convey its historical significance and that justify its eligibility for inclusion in the California Register of Historical Resources as determined by a lead agency for purposes of CEQA.

Pursuant to these sections, the CEQA inquiry begins with evaluating whether a project site contains any "historical resources," then evaluates whether that project will cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource such that the resource's historical significance is materially impaired.

If it can be demonstrated that a project will cause damage to a unique archaeological resource, the lead agency may require reasonable efforts be made to permit any or all of these resources to be preserved in place or left in an undisturbed state. To the extent that they cannot be left undisturbed, mitigation measures are required (California PRC Section 21083.2[a], [b], and [c]).

California PRC Section 21083.2(g) defines a unique archaeological resource as an archaeological artifact, object, or site about which it can be clearly demonstrated that without merely adding to the current body of knowledge, there is a high probability that it meets any of the following criteria:

1. Contains information needed to answer important scientific research questions and that there is a demonstrable public interest in that information.
2. Has a special and particular quality such as being the oldest of its type or the best available example of its type.
3. Is directly associated with a scientifically recognized important prehistoric or historic event or person.

Impacts to non-unique archaeological resources are generally not considered a significant environmental impact (California PRC section 21083.2(a); CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5(c)(4)). However, if a non-unique archaeological resource qualifies as tribal cultural resource (California PRC Section 21074(c), 21083.2(h)), further consideration of significant impacts is required. CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5 assigns special importance to human remains and specifies procedures to be used when Native American remains are discovered. As described below, these procedures are detailed in California PRC Section 5097.98.

### **California State Assembly Bill 52 (AB 52)**

AB 52 amended PRC Section 5097.94 and added PRC Sections 21073, 21074, 21080.3.1, 21080.3.2, 21082.3, 21083.09, 21084.2, and 21084.3. Section 4 of AB 52 adds Sections 21074(a) and (b) to the

PRC, which address tribal cultural resources and cultural landscapes. Section 21074(a) defines tribal cultural resources as one of the following:

(1) Sites, features, places, cultural landscapes, sacred places, and objects with cultural value to a California Native American tribe that are either of the following:

- (A) Included or determined to be eligible for inclusion in the California Register of Historical Resources.
- (B) Included in a local register of historical resources as defined in subdivision (k) of Section 5020.1.

(2) A resource determined by the lead agency, in its discretion and supported by substantial evidence, to be significant pursuant to criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Section 5024.1. In applying the criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Section 5024.1 for the purposes of this paragraph, the lead agency shall consider the significance of the resource to a California Native American tribe.

Section 1(a)(9) of AB 52 establishes that “a substantial adverse change to a tribal cultural resource has a significant effect on the environment.” Effects on tribal cultural resources should be considered under CEQA. Section 6 of AB 52 adds Section 21080.3.2 to the PRC, which states that parties may propose mitigation measures “capable of avoiding or substantially lessening potential significant impacts to a tribal cultural resource or alternatives that would avoid significant impacts to a tribal cultural resource.”

### **California Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5**

California law protects Native American burials, skeletal remains, and associated grave goods, regardless of their antiquity, and provides for the sensitive treatment and disposition of those remains. California Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5 requires that if human remains are discovered in any place other than a dedicated cemetery, no further disturbance or excavation of the site or nearby area reasonably suspected to contain human remains can occur until the county coroner has examined the remains (Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5(b)). PRC Section 5097.98 also outlines the process to be followed in the event that remains are discovered. If the coroner determines or has reason to believe the remains are those of a Native American, the coroner must contact the NAHC within 24 hours (Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5(c)). The NAHC will notify the “most likely descendant.” With the permission of the landowner, the most likely descendant may inspect the site of discovery. The inspection must be completed within 48 hours of notification of the most likely descendant by the NAHC. The most likely descendant may recommend means of treating or disposing of, with appropriate dignity, the human remains and items associated with Native Americans.

## 1.4.3 Local

### **City of Lake Elsinore General Plan**

#### Chapter 4.0 - Resource Protection and Preservation

##### *4.6.8 Cultural and Paleontological Resources Goals, Policies and Implementation Programs*

- **Goal 6:** Preserve, protect, and promote the cultural heritage of the City and surrounding region for the education and enjoyment of all City residents and visitors, as well as for the advancement of historical and archeological knowledge.

#### Policies

- 6.1 Encourage the preservation of significant archeological, historical, and other cultural resources located within the City.
- 6.2 The City shall consult with the appropriate Native American tribes for projects identified under SB 18 (Traditional Tribal Cultural Places).
- 6.3 When significant cultural/archeological sites or artifacts are discovered on a site, coordination with professional archeologists, relevant state and, if applicable, federal agencies, and the appropriate Native American tribes regarding preservation of sites or professional retrieval and preservation of artifacts or by other means of protection, prior to development of the site shall be required. Because ceremonial items and items of cultural patrimony reflect traditional religious beliefs and practices, developers shall waive any and all claims to ownership and agree to return all Native American ceremonial items and items of cultural patrimony that may be found on a project site to the appropriate tribe for treatment. It is understood by all parties that unless otherwise required by law, the site of any reburial of Native American human remains or cultural artifacts shall not be disclosed and shall not be governed by public disclosure requirements of the California Public Records Act.
- 6.4 If archeological excavations are recommended on a project site, the City shall require that all such investigations include Native American consultation, which shall occur prior to project approval.

Implementation Program: The City shall encourage owners of local sites to apply for recognition in the State Historic Resources Inventory as Riverside County Landmarks, State

Points of Historic Interest, State Landmarks, and as sites on the National Register of Historic Places.

- **Goal 7:** Support state-of-the-art research designs and analytical approaches to archeological and cultural resource investigations while also acknowledging the traditional knowledge and experience of the Native American tribes regarding Native American culture.

#### Policies

- 7.1 Consult with California Native American tribes prior to decision-making processes for the purpose of preserving cultural places located on land within the City's jurisdiction that may be affected by the proposed plan, in accordance with State or Federal requirements.
- 7.2 Continue to identify, document, evaluate, designate, and preserve the cultural resources in the City.
- 7.3 Continue to update a citywide inventory of cultural resources in conformance with state standards and procedures while maintaining the confidentiality of information as required by law.
- 7.4 Support the permanent curation of archaeological artifact collections by universities or museums or appropriate tribal facilities.
- 7.5 Increase opportunities for cultural heritage tourism by promoting the history of Lake Elsinore to attract cultural heritage travelers while maintaining the confidentiality of Native American sites, places and other information as required by law.

## 2 Background Research

### 2.1 CHRIS Records Search

On March 17, 2022, staff at the Eastern Information Center (EIC) completed a CHRIS records search of the project APE and a one-mile search radius. This search included their collections of mapped prehistoric and historic archaeological resources and historic built-environment resources, State of California Department of Parks and Recreation Site Records (DPR forms), technical reports, archival resources, and ethnographic references. Additional consulted sources include historical maps of the study area, the NRHP, the CRHR, the lists of California State Historical Landmarks, California Points of Historical Interest, and the Archaeological Determinations of Eligibility. The complete results of the records search, as provided by the EIC, are presented in Confidential Appendix A.

#### 2.1.1 Previously Conducted Cultural Resource Studies

The EIC records search results indicate that two previously conducted cultural resources studies (RI-03323 and RI-03328) overlap the project APE. An additional 19 studies were identified outside the project site within the one-mile records search radius. A list of all previously conducted studies identified within the records search radius is provided in Table 1. Summaries of the two studies that intersect the APE are provided following the table.

**Table 1. Previous Cultural Resources Investigations Within 1-Mile of the APE**

<b>EIC Report Number</b>	<b>Author</b>	<b>Year</b>	<b>Report Title</b>	<b>Proximity to APE</b>
RI-00288	James Baldwin and Thomas Holcomb	1978	Environmental Impact Evaluation: Archaeological Assessment of Parcel Map 11016, Alberhill, Riverside County, California	Outside
RI-00695	Roger D. Mason and Roger G. Hatheway	1989	Cultural Resources Survey Report for the Laguna Heights Project Riverside County, California	Outside
RI-01237	Robert J. Wlodarski and John M. Foster	1980	Cultural Resource Overview for The Devers Substation to Serrano Substation Transmission Route Alternatives Corridor Right-of-Way	Outside
RI-02153	Keller, Jean Salpas	1987	An Archaeological Assessment of Tentative Tract Map 21128, Riverside County, California	Outside
RI-02256	Drover, C.E.	1988	An Archaeological Assessment of an Addendum to the Biddle Property/Alberhill Ranch Feasibility Study – Temescal Canyon, Riverside County, California	Outside



**Table 1. Previous Cultural Resources Investigations Within 1-Mile of the APE**

<b>EIC Report Number</b>	<b>Author</b>	<b>Year</b>	<b>Report Title</b>	<b>Proximity to APE</b>
RI-02832	Schmitz, Blanche A.	1990	Cultural Resources Reconnaissance of the Lake Elsinore Hill Property, 40 Acres in Riverside County, California	Outside
RI-03323	Macko, Michael, Roger D. Mason, and Roger G. Hatheway	1989	Cultural Resources Survey Report for the West Lake Elsinore Assessment District, Riverside County, California	<b>Within</b>
RI-03324	Whitney-Desautels, Nancy A. and Frederick A. Sunderberg	1991	Archaeological Monitoring Report, Tentative Tract 24624, Riverside County, California	Outside
RI-03328	Becker, Kenneth M.	1991	A Cultural Resources Reconnaissance of La Laguna Estates Specific Plan Property, Approximately 489 Acres Located in Lake Elsinore, Riverside County, California	<b>Within</b>
RI-03375	Roger D. Mason	1991	Cultural Resources Survey Report for the Golden Castle Project, Riverside County, California	Outside
RI-03872	Brown, Joan C.	1994	Archaeological Literature & Records Review for the Alberhill Country Club Project, Lake Elsinore, Riverside County, California	Outside
RI-04902	Irish, Leslie Nay	2004	Letter Report: An Archaeological Mitigation Monitoring Report for Tract 30788, La Laguna Estates, City of Lake Elsinore, Riverside County, California	Outside
RI-04986	McKenna et al.	2003	A Phase I Cultural Resources Investigation of Tentative Tract No. 31957 in the Lake Elsinore Area of Riverside County, California	Outside
RI-05804	Wlodarski, Robert J.	2005	A Phase I Archaeological Study for 4.7 Acres of Undeveloped Land Located at 28575 Yarabee Street (APN No. 389-290-019) Lake Elsinore, Riverside County, California	Outside
RI-05827	White, Robert S., Laurie S. White, and David M. Van Horn	2003	Cultural Resources Investigation for the Elsinore Advanced Pumped Storage Project, Lake Elsinore, Riverside County	Outside
RI-06866	Lerch, Michael K., Stoll, Anne Q., and Stanton, Patrick B.	2006	Cultural Resource Assessment of the Fogarty Substation, Lake Elsinore Area, Riverside County, California	Outside
RI-07012	White, Robert S. and White, Laura S.	2000	A Cultural Resources Assessment of a 10.5 Acre Parcel As Shown on Tentative Tract Map No. 29637, Lake Elsinore, Riverside County	Outside
RI-07864	Bai "Tom" Tang, Terri Jacquemain, and Thomas Melzer	2008	Historical/Archaeological Resources Survey Report: Lake Street Marketplace, City of Lake Elsinore, Riverside County, California	Outside

**Table 1. Previous Cultural Resources Investigations Within 1-Mile of the APE**

<b>EIC Report Number</b>	<b>Author</b>	<b>Year</b>	<b>Report Title</b>	<b>Proximity to APE</b>
RI-08025	Carla Allred	2009	Letter Report: Proposed Cellular Tower Project(s) in Riverside County, California, Site Number(s)/Name(s): LA3409A/ McVickers Light Pole, TCNS#47100	Outside
RI-08175	David Hogan	2008	Addendum to Historical/Archaeological Resources Survey Report	Outside
RI-09904	Wayne H. Bonner and Marnie Aislin-Kay	2005	Cultural Resource Records Search and Site Visit Results for Cingular Telecommunications Facility Candidate RS-0083-02 (Wheatstone), 28555 Cielito Drive, Lake Elsinore, Riverside County, California	Outside

**RI-03323**

*Cultural Resources Survey Report for the West Lake Elsinore Assessment District, Riverside County, California* (Macko, Mason and Hatheway 1989). This study overlaps much of Rice Canyon and was completed by The Keith Companies for Participating Developers. The study consisted of a records search from the EIC and a pedestrian survey which included the ridgetops and mouths of McVicker and Rice Canyons. No archaeological sites were identified during the survey, although six prehistoric isolates were recorded directly northeast of Rice Canyon outside of the current project APE. The study recommended archaeological monitoring in the vicinity of the identified isolates in case additional materials were identified during clearing and grubbing that might constitute a site. Additionally, it was recommended that the Torn Ranch be evaluated for historical significance. No monitoring was recommended for paleontological resources as the probability of encountering fossils was deemed to be low.

**RI-03328**

*A Cultural Resources Reconnaissance of La Laguna Estates Specific Plan Property, Approximately 489 Acres Located in Lake Elsinore, Riverside County, California* (Becker and Bissell 1991). This study overlaps much of Rice Canyon and was completed by RMW Paleo Associates for Urban Vision. The study consisted of a records search from the EIC and a pedestrian survey. No archaeological sites were identified during the survey, although three of the prehistoric isolates identified as part of study RI-03323 (discussed above) were relocated. The study recommended archaeological monitoring during clearing and grubbing activities occurring within Section 34.

## 2.1.2 Previously Recorded Cultural Resources

The EIC records search results indicate that no previously recorded cultural resources overlap the project APE. Fourteen previously recorded cultural resources were identified within the one-mile records search radius. Of these, eight are prehistoric lithic scatter and/or bedrock milling sites, one is a prehistoric isolate, one is a historic era refuse scatter, and four are historic-era built environment resources. The complete list of previously recorded resources within the one-mile records search radius is provided in Confidential Appendix A.

**Table 2. Previously Recorded Cultural Resources Within 1-Mile of the APE**

Primary Number	Trinomial	Resource Description	Resource Eligibility	Recorded by and Year	Proximity to APE
P-33-001311	CA-RIV-001311	Prehistoric: midden with artifact scatter	Unknown	J. Baldwin 1978	Outside
P-33-003408	CA-RIV-003408	Prehistoric: lithic scatter	Unknown	C.E. Drover and E.A. Jackson, Jr. 1987	Outside
P-33-004664	CA-RIV-004664	Prehistoric: bedrock milling site with lithic scatter	Unknown	N. McManis 1991	Outside
P-33-004665	CA-RIV-004665	Prehistoric: lithic scatter	Unknown	N. McManis 1991	Outside
P-33-004666	CA-RIV-004666	Prehistoric: lithic scatter	Unknown	N. McManis 1991	Outside
P-33-004667	CA-RIV-004667	Prehistoric: lithic scatter	Unknown	N. McManis 1991	Outside
P-33-005306	CA-RIV-005306	Prehistoric: bedrock milling features	Unknown	N. McManis 1991	Outside
P-33-005307	CA-RIV-005307	Prehistoric: bedrock milling feature	Unknown	N. McManis 1991	Outside
P-33-007168	n/a	Historic: Bungalow at 29251 Robb Road (no longer extant)	Eligible	J. Warner 1982	Outside
P-33-007169	n/a	Historic: Barn at 29251 Robb Road (no longer extant)	Eligible	J. Warner 1982	Outside
P-33-007208	n/a	Historic: House at 28993 Robb Road (no longer extant), remains of cisterns	Not eligible	P. Meridith 1982 T. Jacquemain 2008 A. Garrison 2019	Outside
P-33-012335	n/a	Prehistoric Isolate: handstone	Not Eligible	Sundberg 1991	Outside
P-33-012336	n/a	Historic Isolate: refuse	Not Eligible	Sundberg 1991	Outside
P-33-017352	n/a	Historic: House at 28915 Lake Street	Not Eligible	A. Garrison 1991	Outside

## 2.2 Native American Coordination

South Environmental requested a search of the California Native American Heritage Commission's (NAHC) Sacred Lands File on January 5, 2022. The NAHC responded to South Environmental's request on March 7, 2022. The results of the search were negative, but because the NAHC does not maintain an exhaustive list of Native American cultural resources, it was recommended that other sources be contacted for information regarding cultural resources within the project site. The NAHC provided a list of 16 contacts who may have knowledge of cultural resources in the project site and should be contacted for additional information.

On March 10, 2022, South Environmental sent informational outreach letters to all 16 of these contacts. Follow-up emails were sent to all non-responsive contacts on May 23, 2022. As detailed in Table 3, several contacts have responded to the outreach letters to date. No archaeological, historical, or tribal cultural resources were identified as a result of South Environmental's coordination with tribes, however two tribes identified the project site as being located within their ancestral territory and have identified Lake Elsinore and the surrounding area as culturally sensitive/significant (see Table 3 below).

All Native American outreach completed by South Environmental is documented in Appendix B. This outreach was conducted for informational purposes only and does not constitute government-to-government consultation as specified by AB 52.

**Table 3. Summary of Native American Outreach**

Native American Tribal Contact	Method of Notification/Date	Response Received
<p>Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians                      Patricia Garcia-Plotkin, Director                      5401 Dinah Shore Drive                      Palm Springs, CA, 92264                      Email: ACBCI-THPO@aguacaliente.net</p>	<p>Emailed on March 10, 2022</p>	<p>Email read receipt provided on March 10, 2022.</p> <p>On March 10, 2022, Lacy Padilla, Archaeologist, responded via email and stated the following:</p> <p>A records check of the Tribal Historic preservation office’s cultural registry revealed that this project is not located within the Tribe’s Traditional Use Area. Therefore, we defer to the other tribes in the area. This letter shall conclude our consultation efforts.</p> <p>On March 28, 2022, Arysa Gonzalez Romero, Cultural Resources Analyst, responded with a letter via email that stated the following:</p> <p>A records check of the Tribal Historic preservation office’s cultural registry revealed that this project is not located within the Tribe’s Traditional Use Area. Therefore, we defer to the other tribes in the area. This letter shall conclude our consultation efforts.</p>
<p>Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians                      Jeff Grubbe, Chairperson                      5401 Dinah Shore Drive                      Palm Springs, CA, 92264</p>	<p>Sent via U.S. Mail on March 10, 2022</p>	<p>See above response.</p>
<p>Juaneno Band of Mission Indians                      Sonia Johnston, Chairperson                      P.O. Box 25628                      Santa Ana, CA, 92799                      Email: sonia.johnston@sbcglobal.net</p>	<p>Emailed on March 10, 2022</p> <p>Follow-up email sent on May 23, 2022</p>	<p>No response received to date.</p>
<p>Juaneno Band of Mission Indians                      Acjachemen Nation                      Matias Belardes, Chairperson                      32161 Avenida Los Amigos                      San Juan Capistrano, CA, 92675                      Email: kaamalam@gmail.com</p>	<p>Emailed on March 10, 2022</p> <p>Follow-up email sent on May 23, 2022</p>	<p>No response received to date.</p>

**Table 3. Summary of Native American Outreach**

Native American Tribal Contact	Method of Notification/Date	Response Received
Juaneno Band of Mission Indians Acjachemen Nation Heidi Lucero, Chairperson 31411-A La Matanza Street San Juan Capistrano, CA, 92675 Email: hllucero105@gmail.com	Emailed on March 10, 2022  Follow-up email sent on May 23, 2022	No response received to date.
Juaneno Band of Mission Indians Acjachemen Nation Joyce Perry, Tribal Manager 4955 Paseo Segovia Irvine, CA, 92603 Email: kaamalam@gmail.com	Emailed on March 10, 2022  Follow-up email sent on May 23, 2022	No response received to date.
La Jolla Band of Luiseno Indians Norma Contreras, Chairperson 22000 Highway 76 Pauma Valley, CA, 92061	Sent via U.S. Mail on March 10, 2022	No response received to date.
Pala Band of Mission Indians Shasta Gaughen, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer PMB 50, 35008 Pala Temecula Rd. Pala, CA, 92059 Email: sgaughen@palatribe.com	Emailed on March 10, 2022	Email read receipt provided on March 10, 2022.
Pauma Band of Luiseno Indians Temet Aguilar, Chairperson P.O. Box 369 Pauma Valley, CA, 92061 Email: bennaecalac@aol.com	Emailed on March 10, 2022  Follow-up email sent on May 23, 2022	No response received to date.

<p>Pechanga Band of Luiseno Indians                  Paul Macarro, Cultural Resources Coordinator                  P.O. Box 1477                  Temecula, CA, 92593                  Email: pmacarro@pechanga-nsn.gov</p>	<p>Emailed on March 10, 2022</p>	<p>On March 11, 2022, Paul Marcarro, Cultural Resources Coordinator, called Samantha Murray, thanked for the scoping letter, and expressed his interest in the project, noting that he would be following up with a letter.</p> <p>On March 11, 2022, Paul Marcarro, Cultural Resources Coordinator, responded with a letter via email that stated the following key points:</p> <p>After reviewing the provided maps and our internal documents, we have determined that the Project area is not within our Reservation Land's, although it is located in the heart of Our Ancestral Territory. At this time, we are interested in participating in this Project based upon our Ayelkwish/ Traditional Knowledge of the area. Further, because of this Project's placement within our Traditional Cultural Landscape, its immediate adjacency to four distinct Traditional Cultural Properties, this Project's close-proximity to multiple known Ancestral cremations, and considering extensive previously recorded sites within this Project's vicinity the Tribe therefore, is interested in participating in this Project. The Tribe believes that the possibility of recovering subsurface resources during ground-disturbing activities for the Project is extremely high.</p> <p>The Tribe requested the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Notification once the Project begins the entitlement process, if it has not already;</li> <li>2) Copies of all applicable archaeological reports, site records, proposed grading plans and environmental documents (EA/IS/MND/EIR, etc);</li> <li>3) Government-to-government consultation with the Lead Agency; and</li> <li>4) The Tribe believes that monitoring by a Riverside County qualified archaeologist and a professional Pechanga Tribe Monitor may be required during earthmoving activities.</li> </ol>
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**Table 3. Summary of Native American Outreach**

Native American Tribal Contact	Method of Notification/Date	Response Received
		<p>Therefore, the Tribe reserves its right to make additional comments and recommendations once the environmental documents have been received and fully reviewed. Further, in the event that subsurface cultural resources are identified, the Tribe requests consultation with the Project proponent and Lead Agency regarding the treatment and disposition of all artifacts.</p> <p>The Tribe also expressed an interest in participating any cultural resources surveys.</p> <p>On April 11, 2022, Samantha Murray contacted Paul Marcarro about the upcoming archaeological survey on April 19, 2022 and requested coordination of a Native American Monitor to participate in the survey. The monitor was coordinated with Tony Foussat.</p>
<p>Pechanga Band of Luiseno Indians                      Mark Macarro, Chairperson                      P.O. Box 1477                      Temecula, CA, 92593                      Email: epreston@pechanga-nsn.gov</p>	<p>Emailed on March 10, 2022</p>	<p>See responses above.</p>

**Table 3. Summary of Native American Outreach**

Native American Tribal Contact	Method of Notification/Date	Response Received
<p>Rincon Band of Luiseño Indians                      Cheryl Madrigal, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer                      One Government Center Lane                      Valley Center, CA, 92082                      Email: crd@rincon-nsn.gov</p>	<p>Emailed on March 10, 2022</p>	<p>Email read receipt provided on March 11, 2022.</p> <p>On April 13, 2022, Cheryl Madrigal, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer, responded with a letter via email that stated the following key points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The location identified in the transmitted project documents is situated within the Traditional Use Area (TUA) of the Luiseño people. As such, the Rincon Band is traditionally and culturally affiliated to the project area. Embedded in the Luiseño TUA are Rincon’s history, culture and identity. The City of Lake Elsinore is considered a Traditional Cultural Place (TCP) and Landscape (TCL) by the Rincon Band, as it is associated with the Luiseño Creation and contains numerous recorded cultural places and other Tribal Cultural Resources (TCR).</li> <li>• Rincon has no knowledge of cultural resources within the project area. However, that does not mean that none exist. Additionally, previously recorded archaeological resources have been recorded within close proximity to the project site. We recommend that an archaeological record search be conducted and ask that a copy of the results and a copy of the Cultural Resources Assessment be provided to the Rincon Band.</li> </ul> <p>On June 2, 2022, a virtual meeting was held between the District and the tribe as part of the AB 52 consultation process.</p>

**Table 3. Summary of Native American Outreach**

Native American Tribal Contact	Method of Notification/Date	Response Received
Rincon Band of Luiseño Indians Bo Mazzetti, Chairperson One Government Center Lane Valley Center, CA, 92082 Email: bomazzetti@aol.com	Emailed on March 10, 2022	See above response.
Santa Rosa Band of Cahuilla Indians Lovina Redner, Tribal Chair P.O. Box 391820 Anza, CA, 92539 Email: Isaul@santarosa-nsn.gov	Emailed on March 10, 2022	Email read receipt provided on March 11, 2022.
Soboba Band of Luiseno Indians Isaiah Vivanco, Chairperson P. O. Box 487 San Jacinto, CA, 92581 Email: ivivanco@soboba-nsn.gov	Emailed on March 10, 2022	Email read receipt provided on April 17, 2022.
Soboba Band of Luiseno Indians Joseph Ontiveros, Cultural Resource Department P.O. BOX 487 San Jacinto, CA, 92581 Email: jontiveros@soboba-nsn.gov	Emailed on March 10, 2022  Follow-up email sent on May 23, 2022	No response received to date.

## 2.3 Paleontological Records Search

On January 20, 2022, the Western Science Center (WSC) in Hemet responded to South Environmental’s request for a paleontological records search of the project site. The records search did not identify fossil localities within the project site or surrounding one-mile radius, as described below and in the letter from WSC provided in Appendix C:

The geologic unit underlying the project area is mapped primarily as alluvial fan deposits dating from the Late Pleistocene to Holocene epoch with segments of granitic rock dating to the Cretaceous along the western project area (Morton & Miller, 2006). Cretaceous granite is of low paleontological sensitivity however, Pleistocene alluvial units are considered to be of high paleontological sensitivity. The Western Science Center does not have localities within the project area or a one-mile radius, but does have numerous localities throughout the region in similarly mapped sediments. Southern California Pleistocene units are well known to produce fossil localities and specimen including those associated with mammoth (*Mammuthus columbi*), mastodon (*Mammut pacificus*) sabertooth cats

(*Smilodon fatalis*), ancient horse (*Equus sp.*) and many other Pleistocene megafauna and microfauna.

Any fossils recovered from the EVMWD Rice Canyon Project would be scientifically significant. Excavation activity associated with development of the area has the potential to impact the paleontologically sensitive Pleistocene units and it is the recommendation of the Western Science Center that a paleontological resource mitigation plan be put in place to monitor, salvage, and curate any recovered fossils associated with the current study area.

## 3 Environmental Setting

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The project site is within a relatively flat canyon area with steep slopes to the north and south. At the base of the canyon is an ephemeral riverine streambed that is the remnant of a geologic feature that has created Rice Canyon. The project site is at an elevation of 1,785-feet near the western end and 1,650-feet near the eastern end. Climate in the region is hot and dry, with average summer high temperatures in the mid-90s and average winter lows in the low-40s. Average yearly rainfall is 2.63-inches, and the wettest months are December – March, and almost no precipitation between June-September.

The geologic units underlying the project site is mapped primarily as alluvial fan deposits dating from the Late Pleistocene to Holocene epoch with segments of granitic rock dating to the Cretaceous along the western project area. Soil types within the project APE include:

- Hanford coarse sandy loam, 2 to 8 percent slopes occurs in the western part of the project site. This is an alluvial fan soil and is well drained.
- Riverwash occurs in the western part and eastern part of the project site. This is an alluvial fan soil and is well drained.
- Tujunga loamy sand, channeled, 0 to 8 percent slopes occurs in the central part of the project site. This is an alluvial fan and flood plain soil and is excessively drained.
- Cieneba sandy loam, 30 to 75 percent slopes, eroded occurs in the central part and western part of the project site. This is a residuum soil that is found on the side slope and backslope of hills and is somewhat excessively drained.
- Soboba cobbly loamy sand, 2 to 25 percent slopes occurs in the eastern part of the project site. This is an alluvial fan soil and is excessively drained.

Plant communities within the APE include coast live oak woodland, riparian forest, Riversidean alluvial fan sage scrub, Riversidean sage scrub, and chaparral. Disturbed and developed areas within the APE include the existing access road, damaged Arizona Crossings, and reservoir tank area.

## 4 Cultural Context

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### 4.1 Prehistoric Context

While many chronological sequences have been developed to describe cultural changes in Southern California, the following builds on Wallace (1955, 1978), who developed a prehistoric chronology for the Southern California coastal region that is still widely used today. Four periods are presented in this sequence: Early Man, Milling Stone, Intermediate, and Late Prehistoric. The summary of prehistoric chronological sequences for Southern California coastal and near-coastal areas presented below is a combination of Wallace (1955) and Warren (1968) as well as more recent studies.

#### 4.1.1 Early Man Horizon (ca. 10,000 – 6,000 B.C.)

Numerous pre-8,000 B.C. sites have been identified along the mainland coast and Channel Islands of Southern California (Moratto 1984; Erlandson 1991; Rick et al. 2001; Johnson et al. 2002; Jones and Klar 2007). The Arlington Springs site on Santa Rosa Island produced human femurs dated to approximately 13,000 years ago (Johnson et al. 2002). The most widely accepted dates for archaeological sites on the southern California coast are from two of the northern Channel Islands, located off the coast of Santa Barbara. On San Miguel Island, Daisy Cave clearly establishes the presence of people in this area about 10,000 years ago (Erlandson 1991:105). Known sites dating to the Early Man period are rare in western Riverside County. One known exception is the Elsinore site (CA-RIV-2798-B), which has deposits dating as early as 6630 calibrated B.C. (Grenda 1997:260).

Early Man Horizon sites are generally associated with a greater emphasis on hunting than later horizons. Recent data indicate that the Early Man economy was a diverse mixture of hunting and gathering, including a significant focus on aquatic resources in coastal areas and on inland Pleistocene lakeshores (Moratto 1984).

#### 4.1.2 Milling Stone Horizon (6,000 – 3,000 B.C.)

The Milling Stone Horizon of Wallace (1955, 1978) and Encinitas Tradition of Warren (1968) (6000–3000 B.C.) are characterized by subsistence strategies centered on collecting plant foods and small animals. Extensive seed processing is evident in the dominance of stone grinding implements in contemporary archaeological assemblages; namely, milling stones (metates) and handstones (manos). The mortar and pestle, associated with acorns or other foods processed through pounding, were first used during the Milling Stone Horizon and increased dramatically in later periods (Wallace 1955, 1978; Warren 1968). Other food resources including small and large terrestrial mammals, sea mammals, birds, shellfish and other littoral and estuarine species, near-

shore fishes, yucca, agave, and seeds and other plant products (Kowta 1969). Depending on the environmental setting (coastal or inland), food procurement strategies are found to be highly variable (Byrd and Raab 2007:220).

Milling Stone Horizon sites are common in the Southern California coastal region between Santa Barbara and San Diego, and at many inland locations, including the Prado Basin in western Riverside County and the Pauma Valley in northeastern San Diego County (e.g., Herring 1968; Langenwalter and Brock 1985; Sawyer and Brock 1999; Sutton 1993; True 1958).

### 4.1.3 Intermediate Horizon (3,000 B.C. – A.D. 500)

The Intermediate Horizon is characterized by a shift toward a hunting and maritime subsistence strategy, as well as greater use of plant foods. During the Intermediate Horizon, a noticeable trend occurred towards a greater adaptation to local resources including a broad variety of fish, land mammals, and sea mammals along the coast. This diversity was reflected in tool kits for hunting, fishing, and processing food and materials, with flake scrapers, drills, various projectile points, and shell fishhooks being manufactured. Mortars and pestles became more common during this period, gradually replacing manos and metates as the dominant milling tool. This change in milling stone technology indicates a transition from the processing and consumption of hard seed resources to the increased reliance on acorns (Glassow et al. 1988; True 1993).

### 4.1.4 Late Prehistoric Horizon (A.D. 500 – Historic Contact)

The Late Prehistoric Horizon is characterized by an increased diversity of plant food resources and land and sea mammal hunting. Material culture became more complex as demonstrated through more diverse classes of artifacts. During this period, the northern Channel Islands populations further developed craft specializations, including shell bead manufacture, that sustained trade with mainland settlements and with further trading partners to the east, creating a regional economy. Steatite quarried on Santa Catalina Island was used to make stone bowls, pipes, comals, sucking tubes, pendants, beads, and effigies. The lack of pottery in coastal and near-coastal sites implies that ceramic technology was not widely used, or that ceramics were obtained by trade with neighboring groups to the south and east. The lack of widespread pottery manufacture may also be due to the utility of tightly woven and watertight basketry that functioned in much the same way as ceramic vessels.

Another feature typical of Late Prehistoric period occupation is an increase in the frequency of obsidian imported from the Obsidian Butte source in Imperial County, California. Obsidian Butte was exploited after ca. A.D. 1000 when it was exposed by the receding waters of Holocene Lake Cahuilla (Wilke 1978). A Late Prehistoric period component of the Elsinore site (CA-RIV-2798-A) produced two flakes that originated from Obsidian Butte (Grenda 1997:255; Towner et al.

1997:224–225). Although about 16 percent of the debitage at the Peppertree site (CA-RIV-463) at Perris Reservoir is obsidian, no sourcing study was done (Wilke 1974:61). The site contains a late Intermediate to Late Prehistoric period component, and it is assumed that most of the obsidian originated from Obsidian Butte. In the earlier Milling Stone and Intermediate periods, most of the obsidian found at sites within Riverside County came from northern sources, primarily the Coso volcanic field. This appears to be the case within Prado Basin and other interior sites that have yielded obsidian (e.g., Grenda 1995:59; Taşkıran 1997:46).

## 4.2 Ethnographic Context

The project APE is located within the ancestral territory of the Luiseño, a Takic-speaking, Southern California Native American social group (Kroeber 1925; Bean and Shipek 1978). The Luiseño language is derived from the Cupan segment of the Takic language branch, a part of the Uto-Aztecan linguistic family (Mithun 2001:539-540; Golla 2007).

Luiseño ancestral territory is situated in the northern half of San Diego County and the western edge of Riverside County. Their lands encompassed the southern Santa Margarita Mountains and the Palomar Mountains, and the foothills to the Pacific Ocean, extending eastward into the San Jacinto Valley and the western foothills of the San Jacinto Mountains. The Luiseño shared boundaries with the Gabrielino/Tongva and Serrano to the west and northwest, the Cahuilla from the deserts to the east, the Cupeño to the southeast, and the Kumeyaay to the south (Ipai-Tipai) (Bean and Shipek 1978).

The Luiseño resided in permanent villages and associated seasonal camps. Village population ranged from 50–400 with social structure was based on lineages and clans. A single lineage was generally represented in smaller villages, while multiple lineages and a dominant clan presided in larger villages (Boscana 1934:32). Each clan/village owned a resource territory and was politically independent, yet maintained ties to others through economic, religious, and social networks in the immediate region. Place names were given to each territory, often associated with local animals, plants, physical landmarks, or cosmological elements that were known to be linked with a specific location (Sparkman 1908; Kroeber 1925).

Luiseño families resided in dome-shaped dwellings made of willow poles covered with interlaced tule reeds. The clan chief (*nó t̄*) residence was generally larger in order to accommodate his large family, ceremonial regalia, and ceremonial food processing. Other village structures included a centrally located ceremonial enclosure (*wámkiš*) and a round semi-subterranean sweat lodge. The ceremonial enclosure and the chief's home were generally located in the center of the village. The *nó t* was responsible for combining and controlling religious, economic, and warfare powers (Bean and Shipek 1978). The center of the Luiseño religious beliefs and rituals is *Chinigchinich*, the last

of a series of heroic mythological figures. Complex rituals included puberty initiation rites and mourning ceremonies.

Like other indigenous California groups, the primary food staple of the Luiseño was the acorn (Bean and Shipek 1978:552), supplemented by other plant resources, fish, shellfish, waterfowl, and marine and terrestrial mammals. Villages were situated near reliable sources of water, needed for the daily leaching of milled acorn flour. Acorn mush (*wíiwish*) was prepared in various ways and was eaten almost daily, along with a variety of fruits, vegetables, and seeds including pine nuts and the seeds from grass, manzanita, sunflower, sage, chia, lemonade berry, wild rose, holly-leaf cherry, prickly pear, lamb's-quarter. Greens included thistle, white sage, and clover, among many others. Meat and seafood were also part of the daily diet, including deer, duck, goose, ground squirrel, quail, rabbit, bird, and woodrat. Fish and marine resources provided some portion of many tribal communities, though most notably those nearest the coast and included abalone, clams, mussels, lobster, and trout (Pechanga Band of Luiseño Indians 2022a). Shellfish would have been procured and transported inland from three primary environments, including the sandy open coast, bay and lagoon, and rocky open coast.

## 4.3 Historic Context

Post-Contact history for the state of California is generally divided into three periods: the Spanish Period (1769–1822), Mexican Period (1822–1848), and American Period (1848–present).

### 4.3.1 Spanish Period (1769–1822)

In search of the legendary Northwest Passage, Spanish explorer Juan Rodríguez Cabrillo stopped in 1542 at present-day San Diego Bay. Cabrillo explored the shorelines of present-day Catalina Island as well as San Pedro and Santa Monica Bays. Much of the present California and Oregon coastline was mapped and recorded in the next half-century by Spanish naval officer Sebastián Vizcaíno. Spain laid claim to California based on the surveys conducted by Cabrillo and Vizcaíno (Bancroft 1885:96–99; Gumprecht 2001:35).

The 1769 overland expedition by Captain Gaspar de Portolá marks the start of California's Historic period. With a band of 64 soldiers, missionaries, Baja (lower) California Native Americans, and Mexican civilians, Portolá established the Presidio of San Diego, a fortified military outpost, as the first Spanish settlement in Alta California. In July of 1769, while Portolá was exploring southern California, Franciscan Fr. Junípero Serra founded Mission San Diego de Alcalá at Presidio Hill, the first of the 21 missions that would be established in Alta California by the Spanish and the Franciscan Order between 1769 and 1823.

The Portolá expedition first reached the present-day boundaries of Los Angeles in August 1769, thereby becoming the first Europeans to visit the area. Father Juan Crespí, a member of the expedition, named “the campsite by the river Nuestra Señora la Reina de los Angeles de la Porciúncula” or “Our Lady the Queen of the Angeles of the Porciúncula.” Two years later, Friar Junípero Serra returned to the valley to establish a Catholic mission, the Mission San Gabriel Arcángel, on September 8, 1771 (Kyle 2002:151).

A major emphasis during the Spanish Period in California was the construction of missions and associated presidios to integrate the Native American population into Christianity and communal enterprise. Incentives were also provided to bring settlers to pueblos or towns, but just three pueblos were established during the Spanish Period, only two of which were successful and remain as California cities (San José and Los Angeles).

### 4.3.2 Mexican Period (1822–1848)

After more than a decade of intermittent rebellion and warfare, New Spain (Mexico and the California territory) won independence from Spain in 1821. In 1822, the Mexican legislative body in California ended isolationist policies designed to protect the Spanish monopoly on trade, and decreed California ports open to foreign merchants (Dallas 1955:14).

Extensive land grants were established in the interior during the Mexican Period, in part to increase the population inland from the more settled coastal areas where the Spanish had first concentrated their colonization efforts. The secularization of the missions following Mexico’s independence from Spain resulted in the subdivision of former mission lands and establishment of many additional ranchos. During the supremacy of the ranchos (1834–1848), landowners largely focused on the cattle industry and devoted large tracts to grazing. Cattle hides became a primary southern California export, providing a commodity to trade for goods from the east and other areas in the United States and Mexico. The number of nonnative inhabitants increased during this period because of the influx of explorers, trappers, and ranchers associated with the land grants. The rising California population contributed to the introduction and rise of diseases foreign to the Native American population, who had no associated immunities.

War in 1846 between Mexico and the United States precipitated the Battle of Chino, a clash between resident Californios and Americans in the San Bernardino area.

### 4.3.3 American Period (1848–Present)

The Mexican–American War ended with the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo in 1848, ushering California into its American Period. California officially became a state with the Compromise of 1850, which also designated Utah and New Mexico (with present-day Arizona) as U.S. Territories.

The Gold Rush began in 1848, and with the influx of people seeking gold, cattle were no longer desired mainly for their hides but also as a source of meat and other goods. During the 1850s cattle boom, rancho vaqueros drove large herds from southern to northern California to feed that region's burgeoning mining and commercial boom. The cattle boom ended for southern California as neighbor states and territories drove herds to northern California at reduced prices. Operation of the huge ranchos became increasingly difficult, and droughts severely reduced their productivity (Cleland 2005:102–103).

On January 5, 1852, leaders of the Cahuilla, Cupeño, Luiseño, and Serrano signed the Treaty of Temecula. Between March 1851 and January 1852, 18 treaties were produced with at least 139 tribes. "Treaties were conducted with tribes under false pretense. It was not for peace as written, but instead to acquire title to the land by extinguishing the Aboriginal title" (Milanovich 2021:ix). In July 1852, the U.S. Senate rejected all treaties, and the land was never returned to the tribes. By 1875, the U.S. government allowed reservations to be established by the Luiseño in the region. However, that same year, the District Court of San Francisco ordered the eviction of the Temecula Indians from their ancestral village on the Little Temecula Rancho, displacing hundreds of people and stripping them of their homes and possessions. In 1882, an Executive Order signed by President MacArthur set aside land for the Pechanga Reservation after author Helen Hunt Jackson reported horrific living conditions to the U.S. Government, forcing Congress to act (Pechanga Band of Luiseño Indians 2022b).

# 5 Cultural Resources Survey

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## 5.1 Methods

South Environmental Senior Archaeologist Kevin Hunt conducted an intensive pedestrian survey of the project site on April 19, 2022. Mr. Hunt was accompanied on the survey by Pechanga Band of Luiseno Indians Cultural Monitor Santee Marruffo.

During the survey, the archaeologist and Native American monitor examined the ground surface for the presence of prehistoric artifacts (e.g., flaked stone tools, tool-making debris, stone milling tools), historical artifacts (e.g., metal, glass, ceramics), sediment discolorations that might indicate the presence of a cultural midden, depressions, and other features that might indicate the former presence of structures or buildings (e.g., post holes, foundations). Portions of the project site containing boulder outcrops were carefully examined for evidence of bedrock milling features (e.g., mortars, cupules, grinding slicks).

All portions of the project site were subject to an intensive-level pedestrian survey which consisted of walking parallel transects spaced no more than 10 meters apart. Steep slopes with dense vegetation primarily along the north side of the 100-foot project buffer in the central portion of the project site were largely inaccessible, making examination of the ground surface impossible in most of these areas. Where gaps in the vegetation allowed, Mr. Hunt and Mr. Marruffo spot-checked the ground surface.

## 5.2 Results

Ground surface visibility throughout the proposed project site was moderate to good (approximately 50–70%) because much of the project site consists of a dirt road with little vegetation (Photographs 1, 4-5). The Rice Canyon stream channel was also within portions of the project site or 100-foot buffer and generally had low to moderate vegetation density. Adjacent to the access road and within the 100-foot buffer were some areas of moderate and dense vegetation, as well as areas of steep slope (Photographs 4-7). Numerous plant communities were identified throughout the APE and surrounding area, including Riversidean sage scrub, chaparral, coast live oak woodlands, Riversidean alluvial fan sage scrub, and riparian forest. Evidence of past wildfire burns was observed, including partially burned oak trees and patches of dark brown to black sediments. Sediments observed in the proposed project site primarily ranged from tan-gray silty sand with gravel and cobbles in the streambed to medium to dark brown silt in flat areas off the access road. Paved areas were limited to the asphalt around the water tank and concrete slabs at the stream crossings (Photographs 2-3, 7-8). No archaeological resources were identified within the proposed project site as a result of the pedestrian survey.



**Photograph 1. East end of project alignment, view to west**



**Photograph 2. Crossing C, view to southwest**



**Photograph 3. Detail of Crossing C, view to northwest**



**Photograph 4. Central portion of project site, view to east**



**Photograph 5. View of waterline access in central portion of project site, view to west**



**Photograph 6. View of vegetation in central portion of project alignment, view to north**



**Photograph 7. Crossing A in western portion of project site, view to southeast**



**Photograph 8. View of water tank at west end of project site, view to west**

# 6 Findings and Recommendations

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## 6.1.1 Findings

No archaeological, historical, or tribal cultural resources were identified within the project APE as a result of the CHRIS records search, NAHC Sacred Lands File search, Native American scoping letters, or pedestrian survey by a qualified archaeologist and Native American monitor. Further, significant portions of the APE have been disturbed by construction of the existing access road and reservoir tank area to the west. Therefore, the project site is unlikely to contain intact buried archaeological deposits. Still, it is always possible to encounter resources during ground disturbance. Standard unanticipated discovery measures for archaeological resources and human remains have been provided below.

## 6.1.2 Recommendations

### **Unanticipated Discovery of Cultural Resources**

Should archaeological resources (sites, features, or artifacts) be exposed during construction activities for the proposed project, all construction work occurring within 100 feet of the find shall immediately stop until a qualified archaeologist, meeting the Secretary of the Interior's Professional Qualification Standards, can evaluate the significance of the find and determine whether or not additional study is warranted. Depending upon the significance of the find, the archaeologist may simply record the find and allow work to continue. If the discovery proves significant under CEQA or Section 106 of the NHPA, additional work such as preparation of an archaeological treatment plan, testing, or data recovery may be warranted.

### **Unanticipated Discovery of Human Remains**

In accordance with Section 7050.5 of the California Health and Safety Code, if human remains are found, the County Coroner shall be notified within 24 hours of the discovery. No further excavation or disturbance of the site or any nearby area reasonably suspected to overlie adjacent remains shall occur until the County Coroner has determined, within two working days of notification of the discovery, the appropriate treatment and disposition of the human remains. If the remains are determined to be Native American, the Coroner shall notify the NAHC in Sacramento within 24 hours. In accordance with California PRC, Section 5097.98, the NAHC must immediately notify those persons it believes to be the Most Likely Descendant (MLD) from the deceased Native American. The MLD shall complete their inspection within 48 hours of being granted access to the site. The MLD would then determine, in consultation with the property owner, the disposition of the human remains.

## **Paleontological Resource Mitigation Plan**

It is recommended that a qualified paleontologist be consulted to develop a paleontological resource mitigation plan for any fossils that may be encountered during ground disturbing activities within the project site, in accordance with the recommendations provided by the Western Science Center:

Any fossils recovered from the EVMWD Rice Canyon Project would be scientifically significant. Excavation activity associated with development of the area has the potential to impact the paleontologically sensitive Pleistocene units and it is the recommendation of the Western Science Center that a paleontological resource mitigation plan be put in place to monitor, salvage, and curate any recovered fossils associated with the current study area.

## 7 Bibliography

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## Pechanga Band of Luiseño Indians

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Appendix A:  
**CONFIDENTIAL Cultural Resources  
Records Search Results**

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\*Not for public distribution\*

## Appendix B: Native American Coordination

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# Sacred Lands File & Native American Contacts 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)

*Information Below is Required for a Sacred Lands File Search*

**Date of Request:** 1/5/2022

**Project:** EVMWD Rice Canyon Project

**County:** Riverside

**USGS Quadrangle Name:** Alberhill, CA

**Township:** 05 S      **Range:** 05 W      **Section(s):** 28 and 33

**Company/Firm/Agency:** South Environmental

**Street Address:** 1443 E. Washington Boulevard #288

**City:** Pasadena      **Zip:** 91104

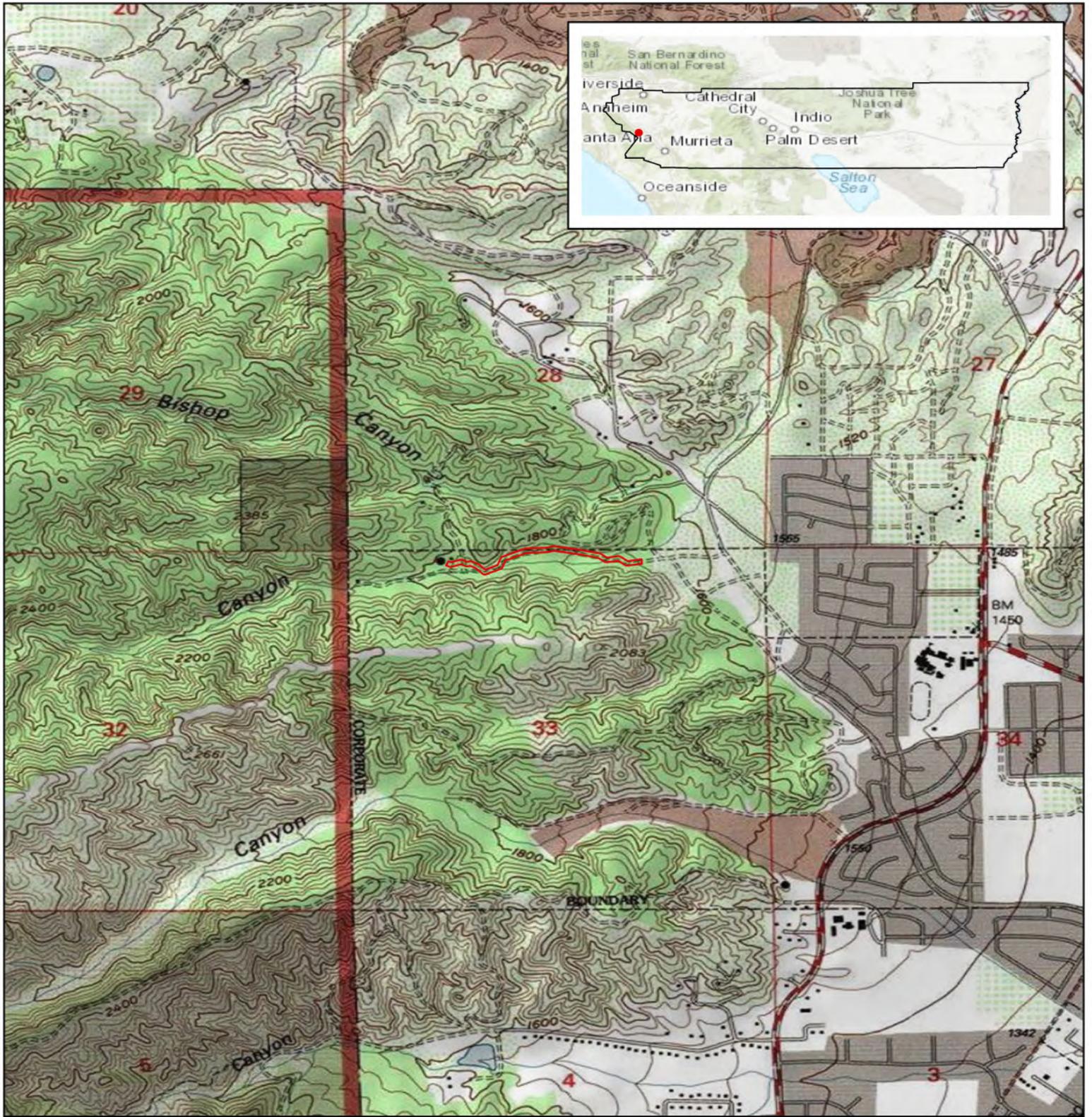
**Phone:** (818) 458-1162

**Fax:** n/a

**Email:** smurray@southenvironmental.com

### Project Description:

The Elsinore Valley Municipal Water District (EVMWD) proposes repairs related to the Rice Canyon Reservoir Access Road and Conduit following damages caused by fire and flooding. The project site is located within the City of Lake Elsinore in Riverside County (see attached Figure 1. Project Location Map).



Source: ESRI USA Topo Maps and World Topo Map 2022

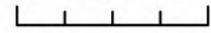
EVMWD Rice Canyon Project

# Figure 1. Project Location Map

Project Site



0 1,000 2,000 Feet



Scale: 1:24,000



Project Site is within the City of Lake Elsinore, California, in Riverside County on the USGS Albershill 7.5-minute quadrangle map in Sections 28 and 33 of Township 05 South and Range 05 West

Center Coordinate (Decimal Degrees):  
 Latitude: 33.698366N, Longitude: -117.407709W



## NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE COMMISSION

March 7, 2022

Samantha Murray  
South Environmental

Via Email to: [smurray@southenvironmental.com](mailto:smurray@southenvironmental.com)

### Re: EVMWD Rice Canyon Project, Riverside County

Dear Ms. Murray:

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: [Andrew.Green@nahc.ca.gov](mailto:Andrew.Green@nahc.ca.gov).

Sincerely,

Andrew Green  
Cultural Resources Analyst

Attachment



CHAIRPERSON  
**Laura Miranda**  
Luiseño

VICE CHAIRPERSON  
**Reginald Pagaling**  
Chumash

PARLIAMENTARIAN  
**Russell Attebery**  
Karuk

SECRETARY  
**Sara Dutschke**  
Miwok

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

COMMISSIONER  
**Isaac Bojorquez**  
Ohlone-Costanoan

COMMISSIONER  
**Buffy McQuillen**  
Yokayo Pomo, Yuki,  
Nomlaki

COMMISSIONER  
**Wayne Nelson**  
Luiseño

COMMISSIONER  
**Stanley Rodriguez**  
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EXECUTIVE SECRETARY  
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Pomo

**NAHC HEADQUARTERS**  
1550 Harbor Boulevard  
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[NAHC.ca.gov](http://NAHC.ca.gov)

**Native American Heritage Commission  
Native American Contact List  
Riverside County  
3/7/2022**

**Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla  
Indians**

Jeff Grubbe, Chairperson  
5401 Dinah Shore Drive Cahuilla  
Palm Springs, CA, 92264  
Phone: (760) 699 - 6800  
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**La Jolla Band of Luiseno  
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Norma Contreras, Chairperson  
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**Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla  
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**Pala Band of Mission Indians**

Shasta Gaughen, Tribal Historic  
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**Juaneno Band of Mission  
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**Pauma Band of Luiseno Indians**

Temet Aguilar, Chairperson  
P.O. Box 369 Luiseno  
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Phone: (760) 742 - 1289  
Fax: (760) 742-3422  
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**Juaneno Band of Mission  
Indians Acjachemen Nation -  
Belardes**

Matias Belardes, Chairperson  
32161 Avenida Los Amigos Juaneno  
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Phone: (949) 293 - 8522  
kaamalam@gmail.com

**Pechanga Band of Indians**

Paul Macarro, Cultural Resources  
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P.O. Box 1477 Luiseno  
Temecula, CA, 92593  
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**Juaneno Band of Mission  
Indians Acjachemen Nation -  
Belardes**

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**Pechanga Band of Indians**

Mark Macarro, Chairperson  
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Phone: (951) 770 - 6000  
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**Juaneno Band of Mission  
Indians Acjachemen Nation 84A**

Heidi Lucero, Chairperson  
31411-A La Matanza Street Juaneno  
San Juan Capistrano, CA, 92675  
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hllucero105@gmail.com

**Rincon Band of Luiseno Indians**

Bo Mazzetti, Chairperson  
One Government Center Lane Luiseno  
Valley Center, CA, 92082  
Phone: (760) 749 - 1051  
Fax: (760) 749-5144  
bomazzetti@aol.com

This list is current only as of the date of this document. 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 Resource Section 5097.98 of the Public Resources Code.

This list is only applicable for contacting local Native Americans with regard to cultural resources assessment for the proposed EVMWD Rice Canyon Project, Riverside County.

**Native American Heritage Commission  
Native American Contact List  
Riverside County  
3/7/2022**

***Rincon Band of Luiseno Indians***

Cheryl Madrigal, Tribal Historic  
Preservation Officer  
One Government Center Lane Luiseno  
Valley Center, CA, 92082  
Phone: (760) 297 - 2635  
crd@rincon-nsn.gov

***Santa Rosa Band of Cahuilla  
Indians***

Lovina Redner, Tribal Chair  
P.O. Box 391820 Cahuilla  
Anza, CA, 92539  
Phone: (951) 659 - 2700  
Fax: (951) 659-2228  
lsaul@santarosa-nsn.gov

***Soboba Band of Luiseno  
Indians***

Joseph Ontiveros, Cultural  
Resource Department  
P.O. BOX 487 Cahuilla  
San Jacinto, CA, 92581 Luiseno  
Phone: (951) 663 - 5279  
Fax: (951) 654-4198  
jontiveros@soboba-nsn.gov

***Soboba Band of Luiseno  
Indians***

Isaiah Vivanco, Chairperson  
P. O. Box 487 Cahuilla  
San Jacinto, CA, 92581 Luiseno  
Phone: (951) 654 - 5544  
Fax: (951) 654-4198  
ivivanco@soboba-nsn.gov

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This list is only applicable for contacting local Native Americans with regard to cultural resources assessment for the proposed EVMWD Rice Canyon Project, Riverside County.

March 10, 2022

Pauma Band of Luiseno Indians  
Temet Aguilar, Chairperson  
P.O. Box 369  
Pauma Valley, CA, 92061  
Email: [bennaecalac@aol.com](mailto:bennaecalac@aol.com)

**RE: Elsinore Valley Municipal Water District (EVMWD, District) Rice Canyon Reservoir Access Road and New Conduit Project, City of Lake Elsinore, Riverside County, California**

Dear Chairperson Aguilar:

South Environmental was retained to conduct a cultural resources inventory in support of the proposed Rice Canyon Reservoir Access Road and New Conduit Project (proposed project). The District proposes to complete various repairs to address damage incurred after flood events that followed the 2018 Holy Fire and will restore full power and electronic connection to the reservoir. The proposed project site is located in the City of Lake Elsinore in Rice Canyon, directly west of the intersection of Dale Court and Lincoln Street. The project site falls within Sections 28 and 33 of Township 5 South, Range 5 West, on the United States Geological Survey *Alberhill*, California 7.5-Minute Quadrangle Map. Assessor Parcel Numbers 394-140-001, -003, -004, 394-150-001, and -011 (see enclosed Project Location Map).

A California Historical Resources Information System records search is currently underway with the Eastern Information Center. A Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) Sacred Lands File search was requested on January 5, 2022. The NAHC responded to the request on March 7, 2022 and reported negative results, but recommended that we contact you regarding your knowledge of the presence of cultural resources that may be impacted by the proposed project. If you have any knowledge of cultural resources that may exist within or near the project site, please contact me directly either by phone at (818) 458-1162, by email at [smurray@southenvironmental.com](mailto:smurray@southenvironmental.com), or by mail at the address above within 2 weeks of receipt of this letter. If we do not receive a response within this timeframe, we will follow-up to ensure receipt of this information.

Please note that the request herein is for informational purposes only and does not constitute Assembly Bill 52 notification or initiation of consultation.

Thank you for assistance with this information request.

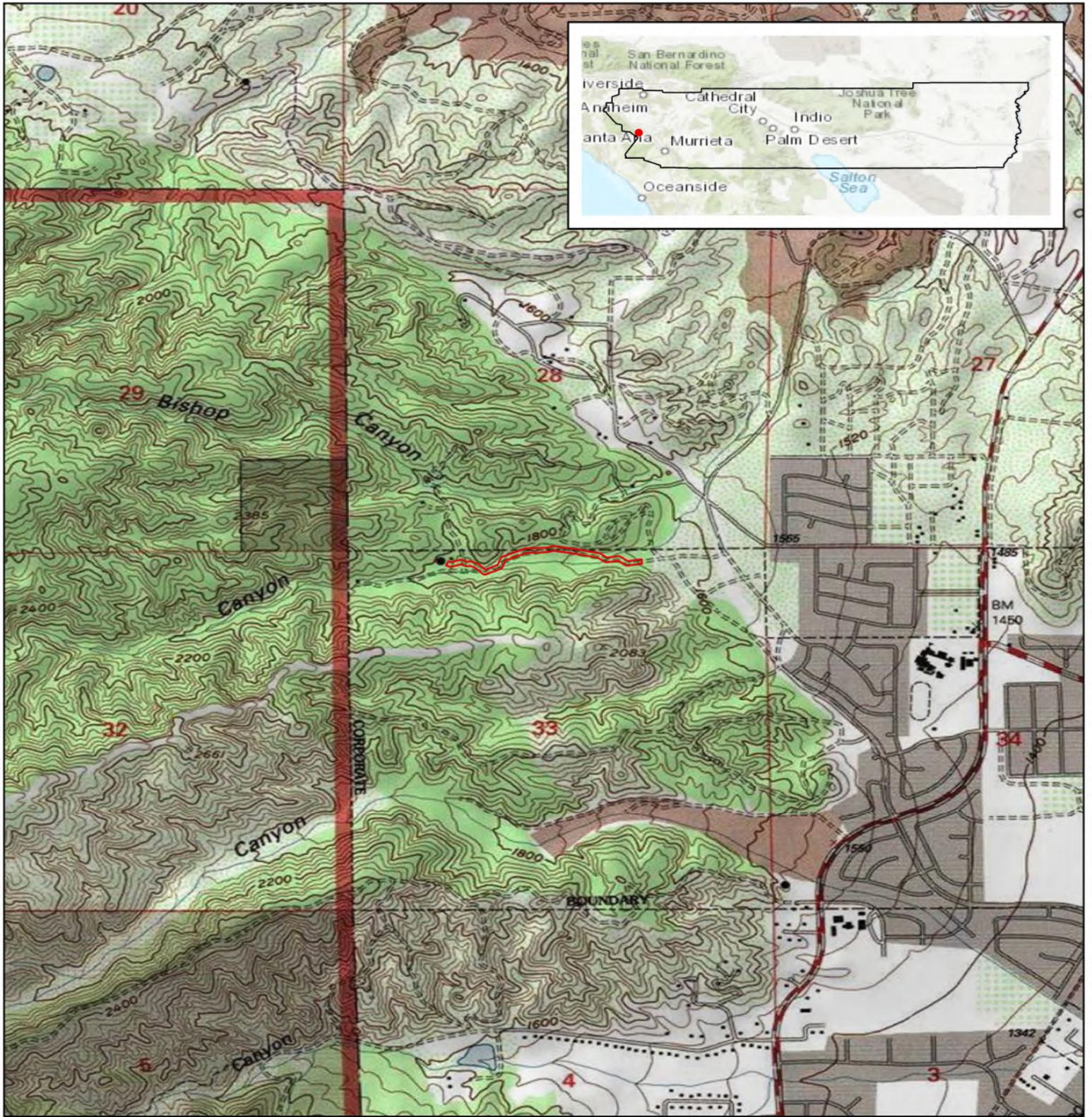
Respectfully Submitted,



Samantha Murray, MA, RPA  
Cultural Resources Director

Attachment: Figure 1. Project Location Map





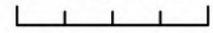
Source: ESRI USA Topo Maps and World Topo Map 2022

EVMWD Rice Canyon Project

## Figure 1. Project Location Map

 Project Site

0 1,000 2,000 Feet



Scale: 1:24,000



Project Site is within the City of Lake Elsinore, California, in Riverside County on the USGS Alberhill 7.5-minute quadrangle map in Sections 28 and 33 of Township 05 South and Range 05 West

Center Coordinate (Decimal Degrees):  
Latitude: 33.698366N, Longitude: -117.407709W



March 10, 2022

Juaneno Band of Mission Indians Acjachemen Nation

Matias Belardes, Chairperson

32161 Avenida Los Amigos

San Juan Capistrano, CA, 92675

Email: [kaamalam@gmail.com](mailto:kaamalam@gmail.com)

**RE: Elsinore Valley Municipal Water District (EVMWD, District) Rice Canyon Reservoir Access Road and New Conduit Project, City of Lake Elsinore, Riverside County, California**

Dear Chairperson Belardes:

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Thank you for assistance with this information request.

Respectfully Submitted,

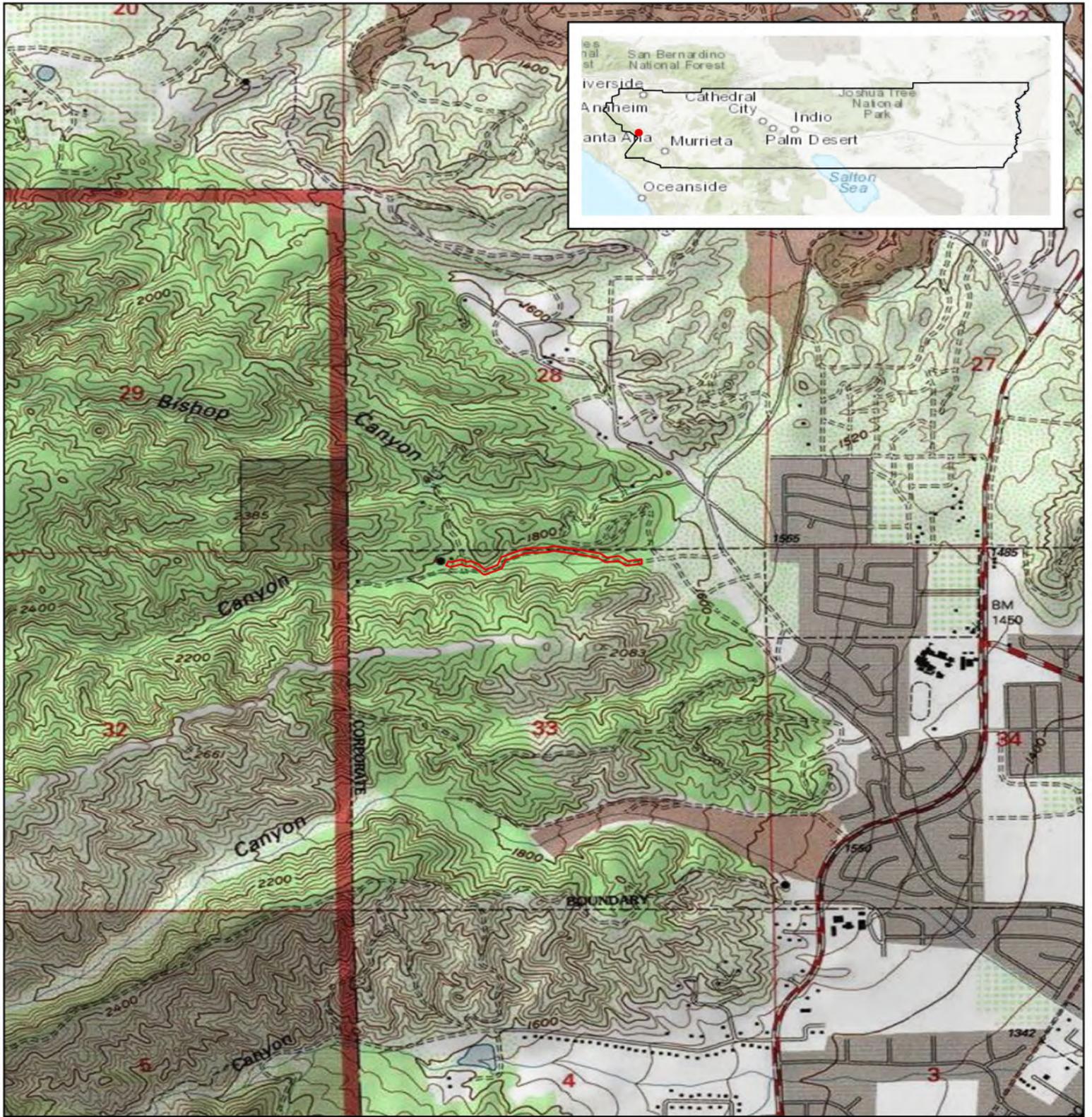


Samantha Murray, MA, RPA

Cultural Resources Director

Attachment: Figure 1. Project Location Map





Source: ESRI USA Topo Maps and World Topo Map 2022

EVMWD Rice Canyon Project

## Figure 1. Project Location Map

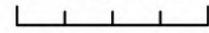
 Project Site

Project Site is within the City of Lake Elsinore, California, in Riverside County on the USGS Alberhill 7.5-minute quadrangle map in Sections 28 and 33 of Township 05 South and Range 05 West

Center Coordinate (Decimal Degrees):  
Latitude: 33.698366N, Longitude: -117.407709W



0 1,000 2,000 Feet



Scale: 1:24,000



March 10, 2022

La Jolla Band of Luiseno Indians  
Norma Contreras, Chairperson  
22000 Highway 76  
Pauma Valley, CA, 92061

**RE: Elsinore Valley Municipal Water District (EVMWD, District) Rice Canyon Reservoir Access Road and New Conduit Project, City of Lake Elsinore, Riverside County, California**

Dear Chairperson Contreras:

South Environmental was retained to conduct a cultural resources inventory in support of the proposed Rice Canyon Reservoir Access Road and New Conduit Project (proposed project). The District proposes to complete various repairs to address damage incurred after flood events that followed the 2018 Holy Fire and will restore full power and electronic connection to the reservoir. The proposed project site is located in the City of Lake Elsinore in Rice Canyon, directly west of the intersection of Dale Court and Lincoln Street. The project site falls within Sections 28 and 33 of Township 5 South, Range 5 West, on the United States Geological Survey *Alberhill*, California 7.5-Minute Quadrangle Map. Assessor Parcel Numbers 394-140-001, -003, -004, 394-150-001, and -011 (see enclosed Project Location Map).

A California Historical Resources Information System records search is currently underway with the Eastern Information Center. A Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) Sacred Lands File search was requested on January 5, 2022. The NAHC responded to the request on March 7, 2022 and reported negative results, but recommended that we contact you regarding your knowledge of the presence of cultural resources that may be impacted by the proposed project. If you have any knowledge of cultural resources that may exist within or near the project site, please contact me directly either by phone at (818) 458-1162, by email at [smurray@southenvironmental.com](mailto:smurray@southenvironmental.com), or by mail at the address above within 2 weeks of receipt of this letter. If we do not receive a response within this timeframe, we will follow-up to ensure receipt of this information.

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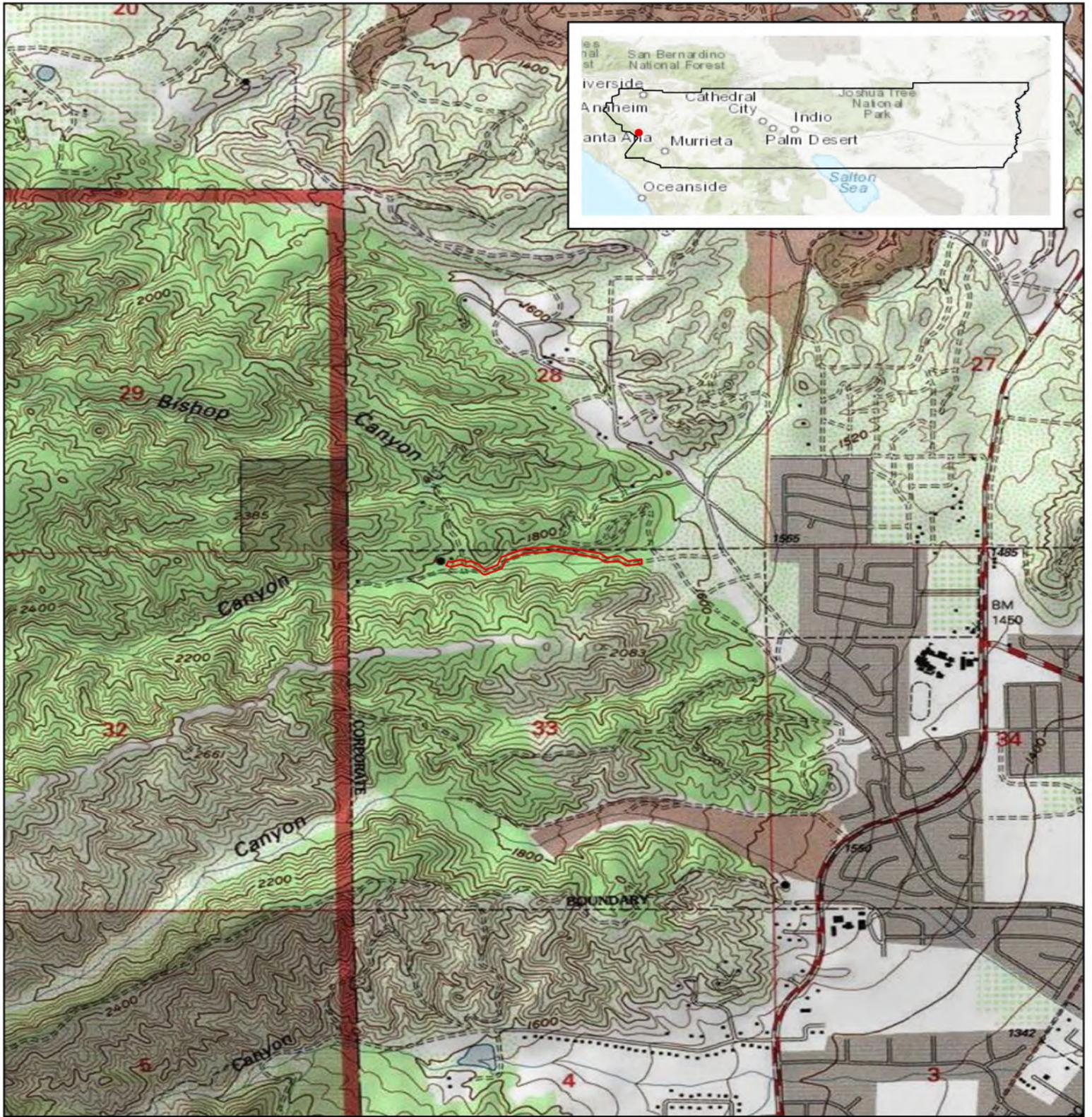
Thank you for assistance with this information request.

Respectfully Submitted,



Samantha Murray, MA, RPA  
Cultural Resources Director

Attachment: Figure 1. Project Location Map



Source: ESRI USA Topo Maps and World Topo Map 2022

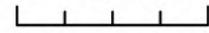
EVMWD Rice Canyon Project

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March 10, 2022

Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians  
Patricia Garcia-Plotkin, Director  
5401 Dinah Shore Drive  
Palm Springs, CA, 92264  
Email: [ACBCI-THPO@aguacaliente.net](mailto:ACBCI-THPO@aguacaliente.net)

**RE: Elsinore Valley Municipal Water District (EVMWD, District) Rice Canyon Reservoir Access Road and New Conduit Project, City of Lake Elsinore, Riverside County, California**

Dear Director Garcia-Plotkin:

South Environmental was retained to conduct a cultural resources inventory in support of the proposed Rice Canyon Reservoir Access Road and New Conduit Project (proposed project). The District proposes to complete various repairs to address damage incurred after flood events that followed the 2018 Holy Fire and will restore full power and electronic connection to the reservoir. The proposed project site is located in the City of Lake Elsinore in Rice Canyon, directly west of the intersection of Dale Court and Lincoln Street. The project site falls within Sections 28 and 33 of Township 5 South, Range 5 West, on the United States Geological Survey *Alberhill*, California 7.5-Minute Quadrangle Map. Assessor Parcel Numbers 394-140-001, -003, -004, 394-150-001, and -011 (see enclosed Project Location Map).

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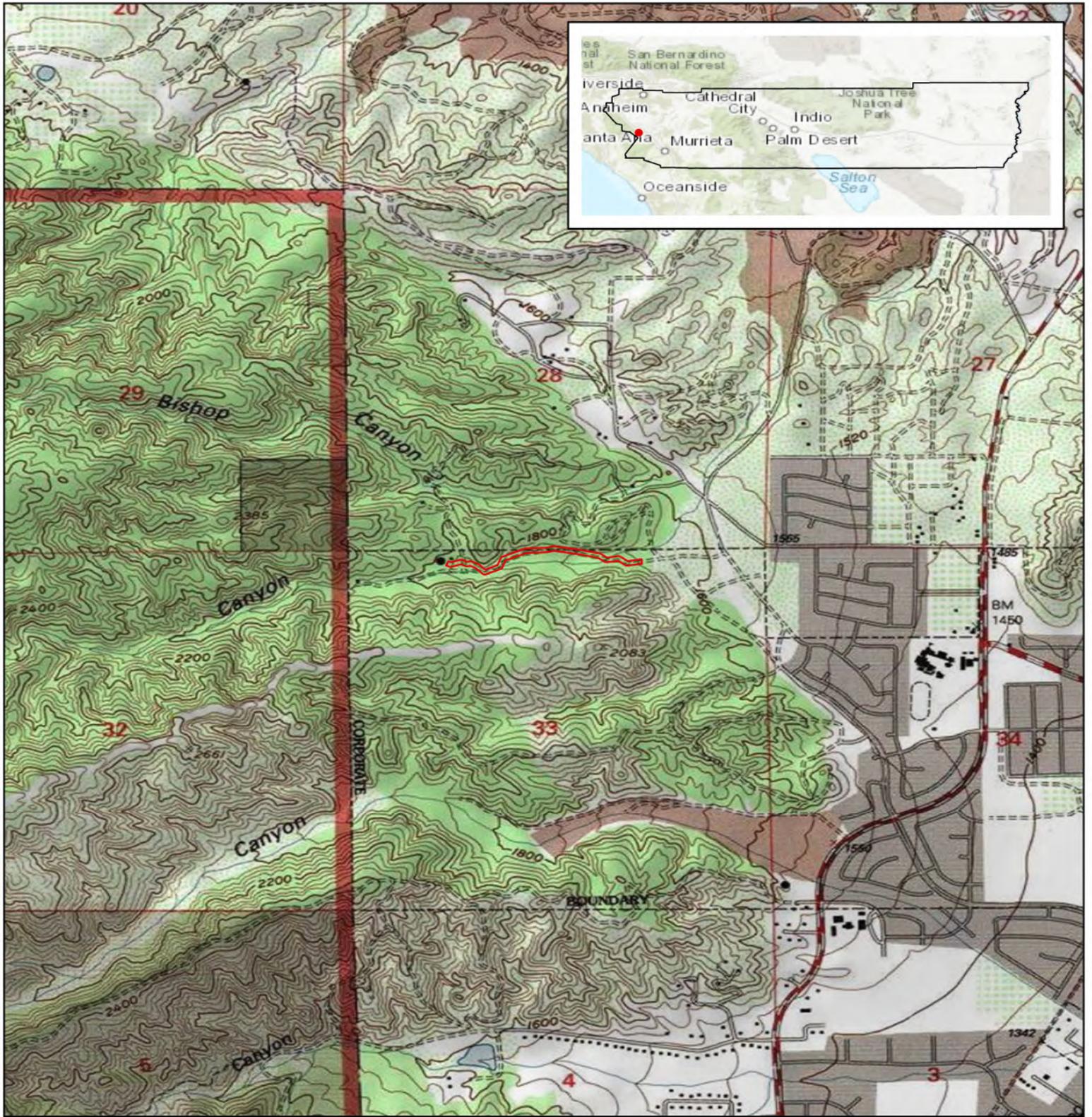
Respectfully Submitted,



Samantha Murray, MA, RPA  
Cultural Resources Director

Attachment: Figure 1. Project Location Map





Source: ESRI USA Topo Maps and World Topo Map 2022

EVMWD Rice Canyon Project

## Figure 1. Project Location Map

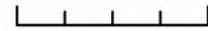
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Center Coordinate (Decimal Degrees):  
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0 1,000 2,000 Feet



Scale: 1:24,000



## Samantha Murray

---

**From:** THPO Consulting <ACBCI-THPO@aguacaliente.net>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 10, 2022 4:41 PM  
**To:** Samantha Murray  
**Subject:** RE: EVMWD Rice Canyon Project, Lake Elsinore

Greetings,

A records check of the Tribal Historic preservation office's cultural registry revealed that this project is not located within the Tribe's Traditional Use Area. Therefore, we defer to the other tribes in the area. This letter shall conclude our consultation efforts.

Thank you,

**Lacy Padilla**  
Archaeologist  
Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians  
5401 Dinah Shore Drive Palm Springs, CA 92264  
D: 760-699-6956 | C: 760-333-5222

---

**From:** Samantha Murray <smurray@southernenvironmental.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 10, 2022 4:02 PM  
**To:** THPO Consulting <ACBCI-THPO@aguacaliente.net>  
**Subject:** EVMWD Rice Canyon Project, Lake Elsinore

Dear Director Garcia-Plotkin:

Attached, please find an informational outreach letter for the Elsinore Valley Municipal Water District (EVMWD) Rice Canyon Reservoir Access Road and New Conduit Project located in the City of Lake Elsinore in Riverside County. Please feel free to contact me with any information/questions you may have.

Respectfully,

Samantha Murray, MA, RPA  
Cultural Resources Director



Mobile: 818.458.1162

[www.southernenvironmental.com](http://www.southernenvironmental.com)

*This email has been scanned by Inbound Shield™.*

## Samantha Murray

---

**From:** Gonzalez Romero, Arysa (TRBL) <aromero@aguacaliente.net>  
**Sent:** Monday, March 28, 2022 1:39 PM  
**To:** Samantha Murray  
**Subject:** EVMWD Rice Canyon Reservoir Access Road and New Conduit Project

Greetings,

A records check of the Tribal Historic preservation office's cultural registry revealed that this project is not located within the Tribe's Traditional Use Area. Therefore, we defer to the other tribes in the area. This letter shall conclude our consultation efforts.

Thank you,

**Arysa Gonzalez Romero, M.S., RPA.**

**Cultural Resources Analyst**

Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians

Tribal Historic Preservation Office

**Phone:** (760)-831-2484

**Email:** aromero@aguacaliente.net



March 10, 2022

Pala Band of Mission Indians  
Shasta Gaughen, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer  
PMB 50, 35008 Pala Temecula Rd.  
Pala, CA, 92059  
Email: [sgaughen@palatribe.com](mailto:sgaughen@palatribe.com)

**RE: Elsinore Valley Municipal Water District (EVMWD, District) Rice Canyon Reservoir Access Road and New Conduit Project, City of Lake Elsinore, Riverside County, California**

Dear THPO Gaughen:

South Environmental was retained to conduct a cultural resources inventory in support of the proposed Rice Canyon Reservoir Access Road and New Conduit Project (proposed project). The District proposes to complete various repairs to address damage incurred after flood events that followed the 2018 Holy Fire and will restore full power and electronic connection to the reservoir. The proposed project site is located in the City of Lake Elsinore in Rice Canyon, directly west of the intersection of Dale Court and Lincoln Street. The project site falls within Sections 28 and 33 of Township 5 South, Range 5 West, on the United States Geological Survey *Alberhill*, California 7.5-Minute Quadrangle Map. Assessor Parcel Numbers 394-140-001, -003, -004, 394-150-001, and -011 (see enclosed Project Location Map).

A California Historical Resources Information System records search is currently underway with the Eastern Information Center. A Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) Sacred Lands File search was requested on January 5, 2022. The NAHC responded to the request on March 7, 2022 and reported negative results, but recommended that we contact you regarding your knowledge of the presence of cultural resources that may be impacted by the proposed project. If you have any knowledge of cultural resources that may exist within or near the project site, please contact me directly either by phone at (818) 458-1162, by email at [smurray@southenvironmental.com](mailto:smurray@southenvironmental.com), or by mail at the address above within 2 weeks of receipt of this letter. If we do not receive a response within this timeframe, we will follow-up to ensure receipt of this information.

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Thank you for assistance with this information request.

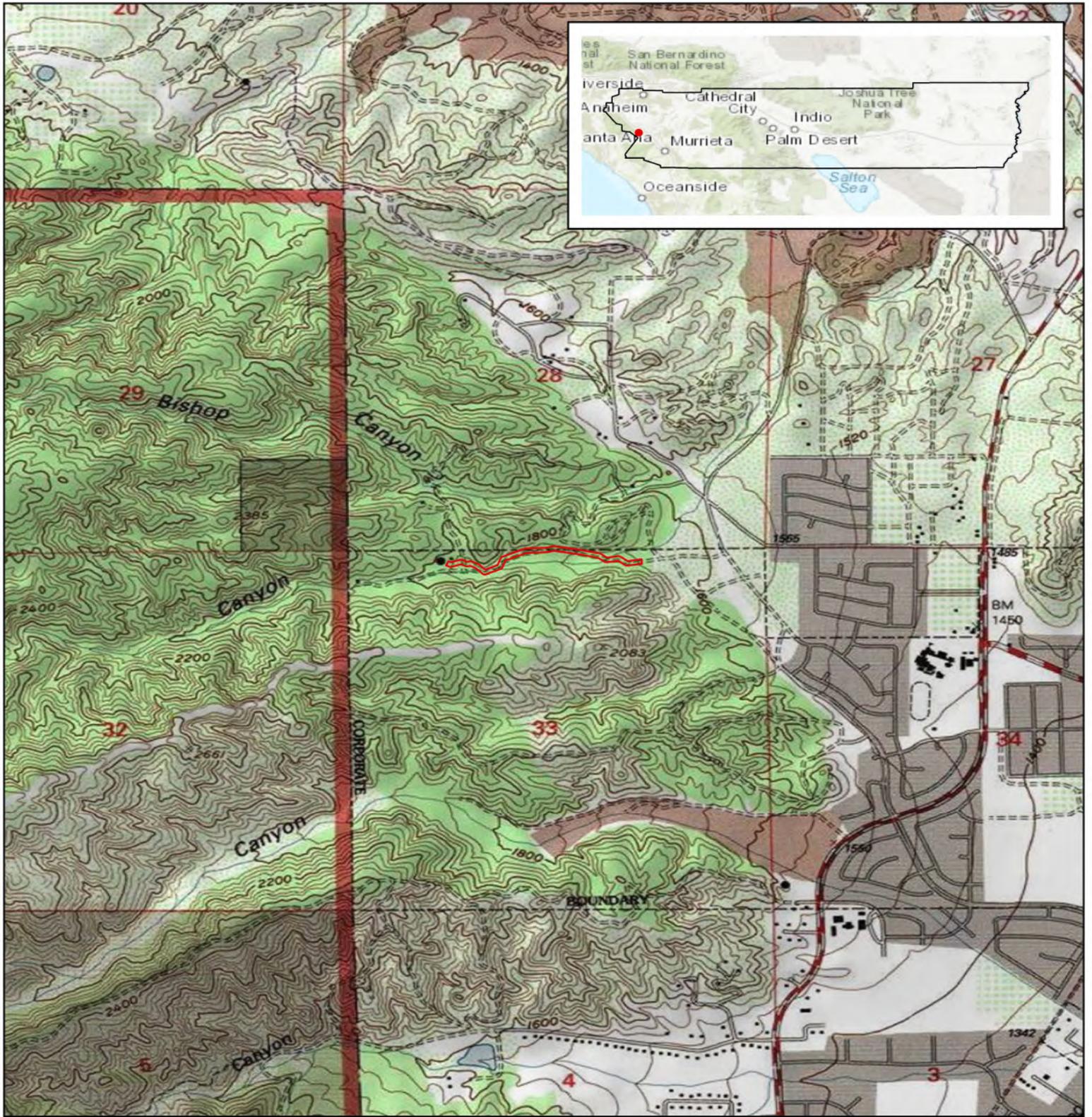
Respectfully Submitted,



Samantha Murray, MA, RPA  
Cultural Resources Director

Attachment: Figure 1. Project Location Map





Source: ESRI USA Topo Maps and World Topo Map 2022

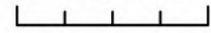
EVMWD Rice Canyon Project

# Figure 1. Project Location Map

Project Site



0 1,000 2,000 Feet



Scale: 1:24,000



Project Site is within the City of Lake Elsinore, California, in Riverside County on the USGS Albershill 7.5-minute quadrangle map in Sections 28 and 33 of Township 05 South and Range 05 West

Center Coordinate (Decimal Degrees):  
 Latitude: 33.698366N, Longitude: -117.407709W



## Samantha Murray

---

**From:** Shasta Gaughen <sgaughen@palatribe.com>  
**To:** Samantha Murray  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 10, 2022 4:14 PM  
**Subject:** Read: EVMWD Rice Canyon Project, Lake Elsinore

Your message

To: Shasta Gaughen  
Subject: EVMWD Rice Canyon Project, Lake Elsinore  
Sent: Thursday, March 10, 2022 4:11:06 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)

was read on Thursday, March 10, 2022 4:13:53 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada).

March 10, 2022

Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians  
Jeff Grubbe, Chairperson  
5401 Dinah Shore Drive  
Palm Springs, CA, 92264

**RE: Elsinore Valley Municipal Water District (EVMWD, District) Rice Canyon Reservoir Access Road and New Conduit Project, City of Lake Elsinore, Riverside County, California**

Dear Chairperson Grubbe:

South Environmental was retained to conduct a cultural resources inventory in support of the proposed Rice Canyon Reservoir Access Road and New Conduit Project (proposed project). The District proposes to complete various repairs to address damage incurred after flood events that followed the 2018 Holy Fire and will restore full power and electronic connection to the reservoir. The proposed project site is located in the City of Lake Elsinore in Rice Canyon, directly west of the intersection of Dale Court and Lincoln Street. The project site falls within Sections 28 and 33 of Township 5 South, Range 5 West, on the United States Geological Survey *Alberhill*, California 7.5-Minute Quadrangle Map. Assessor Parcel Numbers 394-140-001, -003, -004, 394-150-001, and -011 (see enclosed Project Location Map).

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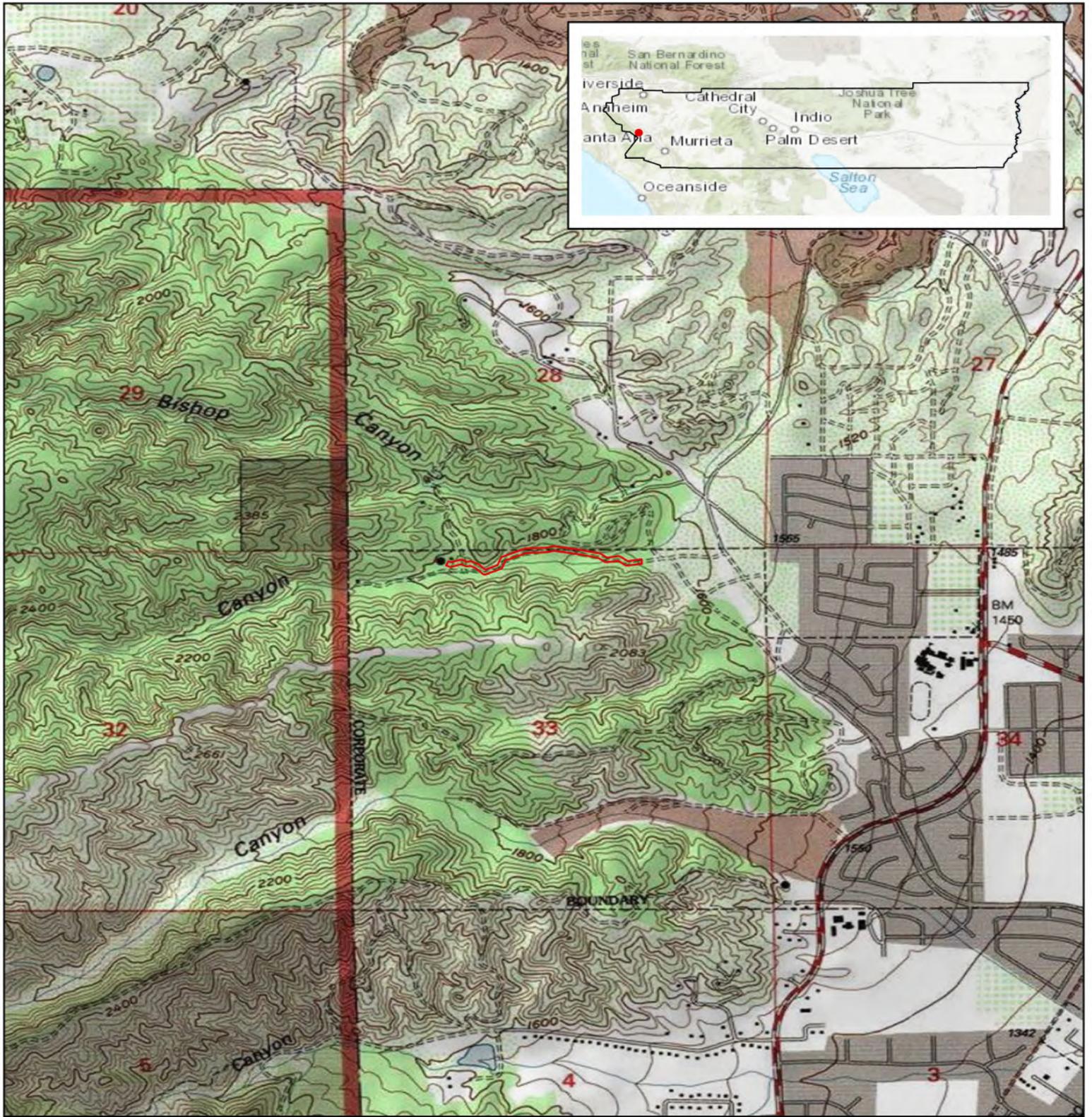
Respectfully Submitted,



Samantha Murray, MA, RPA  
Cultural Resources Director

Attachment: Figure 1. Project Location Map





Source: ESRI USA Topo Maps and World Topo Map 2022

EVMWD Rice Canyon Project

## Figure 1. Project Location Map

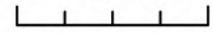
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Center Coordinate (Decimal Degrees):  
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0 1,000 2,000 Feet



Scale: 1:24,000



March 10, 2022

Juaneno Band of Mission Indians  
Sonia Johnston, Chairperson  
P.O. Box 25628  
Santa Ana, CA, 92799  
Email: [sonia.johnston@sbcglobal.net](mailto:sonia.johnston@sbcglobal.net)

**RE: Elsinore Valley Municipal Water District (EVMWD, District) Rice Canyon Reservoir Access Road and New Conduit Project, City of Lake Elsinore, Riverside County, California**

Dear Chairperson Johnston:

South Environmental was retained to conduct a cultural resources inventory in support of the proposed Rice Canyon Reservoir Access Road and New Conduit Project (proposed project). The District proposes to complete various repairs to address damage incurred after flood events that followed the 2018 Holy Fire and will restore full power and electronic connection to the reservoir. The proposed project site is located in the City of Lake Elsinore in Rice Canyon, directly west of the intersection of Dale Court and Lincoln Street. The project site falls within Sections 28 and 33 of Township 5 South, Range 5 West, on the United States Geological Survey *Alberhill*, California 7.5-Minute Quadrangle Map. Assessor Parcel Numbers 394-140-001, -003, -004, 394-150-001, and -011 (see enclosed Project Location Map).

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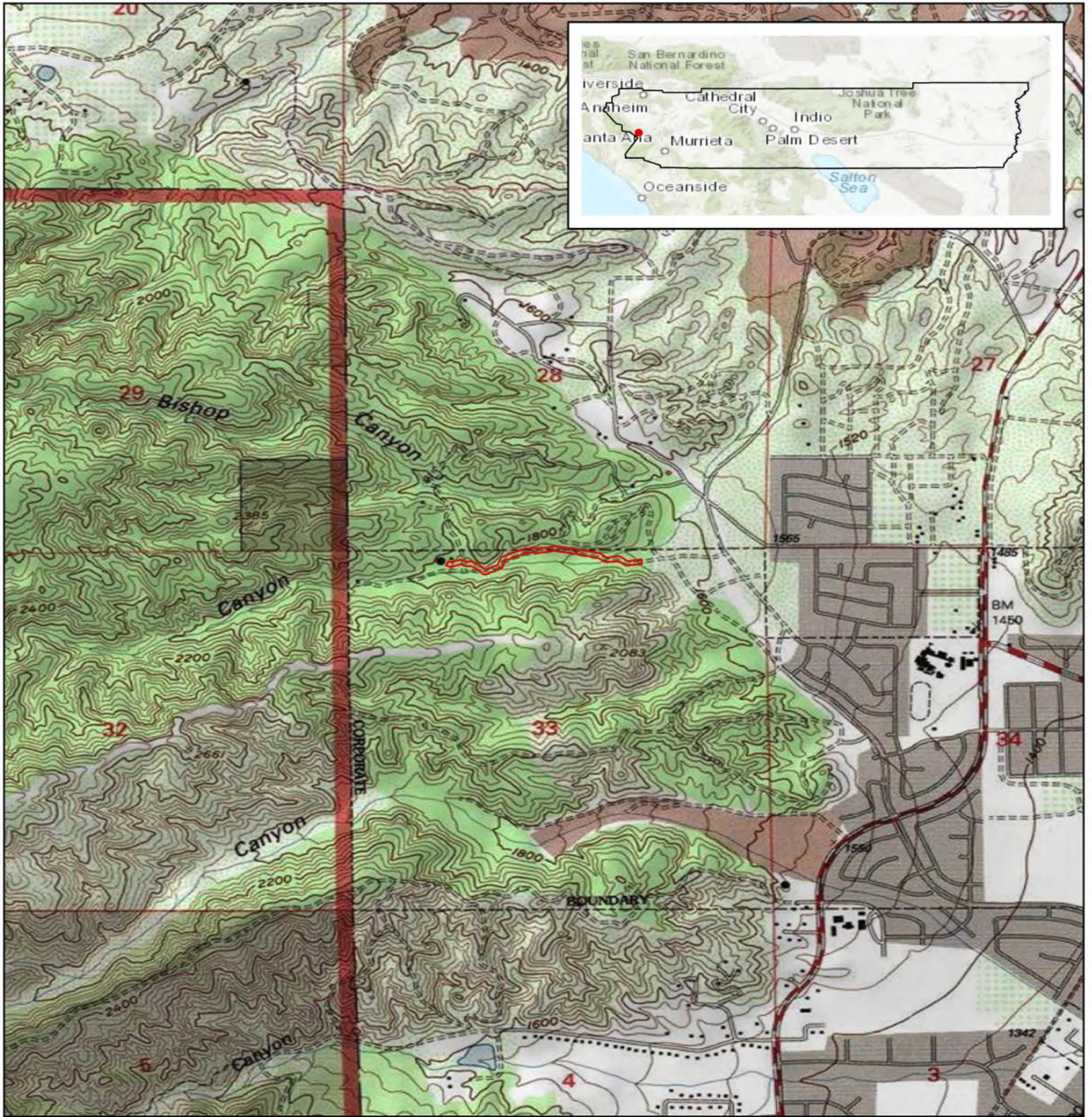
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Samantha Murray, MA, RPA  
Cultural Resources Director

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Source: ESRI USA Topo Maps and World Topo Map 2022

EVMWD Rice Canyon Project

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 Scale: 1:24,000



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March 10, 2022

Juaneno Band of Mission Indians Acjachemen Nation  
Heidi Lucero, Chairperson  
31411-A La Matanza Street  
San Juan Capistrano, CA, 92675  
Email: [hlucero105@gmail.com](mailto:hlucero105@gmail.com)

**RE: Elsinore Valley Municipal Water District (EVMWD, District) Rice Canyon Reservoir Access Road and New Conduit Project, City of Lake Elsinore, Riverside County, California**

Dear Chairperson Lucero:

South Environmental was retained to conduct a cultural resources inventory in support of the proposed Rice Canyon Reservoir Access Road and New Conduit Project (proposed project). The District proposes to complete various repairs to address damage incurred after flood events that followed the 2018 Holy Fire and will restore full power and electronic connection to the reservoir. The proposed project site is located in the City of Lake Elsinore in Rice Canyon, directly west of the intersection of Dale Court and Lincoln Street. The project site falls within Sections 28 and 33 of Township 5 South, Range 5 West, on the United States Geological Survey *Alberhill*, California 7.5-Minute Quadrangle Map. Assessor Parcel Numbers 394-140-001, -003, -004, 394-150-001, and -011 (see enclosed Project Location Map).

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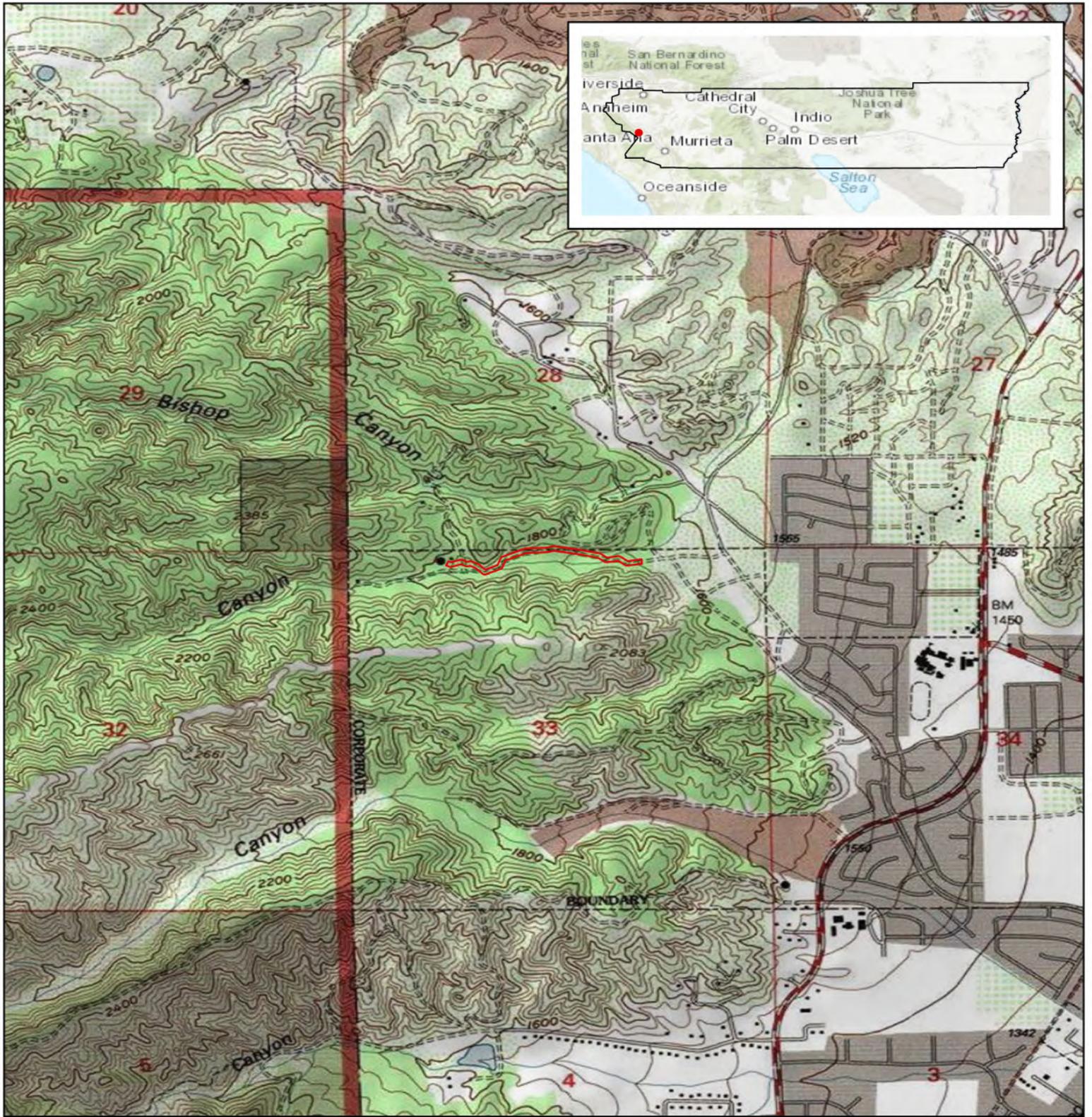
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Cultural Resources Director

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EVMWD Rice Canyon Project

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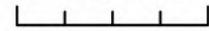
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Scale: 1:24,000



March 10, 2022

Pechanga Band of Indians  
Paul Macarro, Cultural Resources Coordinator  
P.O. Box 1477  
Temecula, CA, 92593  
Email: [pmacarro@pechanga-nsn.gov](mailto:pmacarro@pechanga-nsn.gov)

**RE: Elsinore Valley Municipal Water District (EVMWD, District) Rice Canyon Reservoir Access Road and New Conduit Project, City of Lake Elsinore, Riverside County, California**

Dear Coordinator Macarro:

South Environmental was retained to conduct a cultural resources inventory in support of the proposed Rice Canyon Reservoir Access Road and New Conduit Project (proposed project). The District proposes to complete various repairs to address damage incurred after flood events that followed the 2018 Holy Fire and will restore full power and electronic connection to the reservoir. The proposed project site is located in the City of Lake Elsinore in Rice Canyon, directly west of the intersection of Dale Court and Lincoln Street. The project site falls within Sections 28 and 33 of Township 5 South, Range 5 West, on the United States Geological Survey *Alberhill*, California 7.5-Minute Quadrangle Map. Assessor Parcel Numbers 394-140-001, -003, -004, 394-150-001, and -011 (see enclosed Project Location Map).

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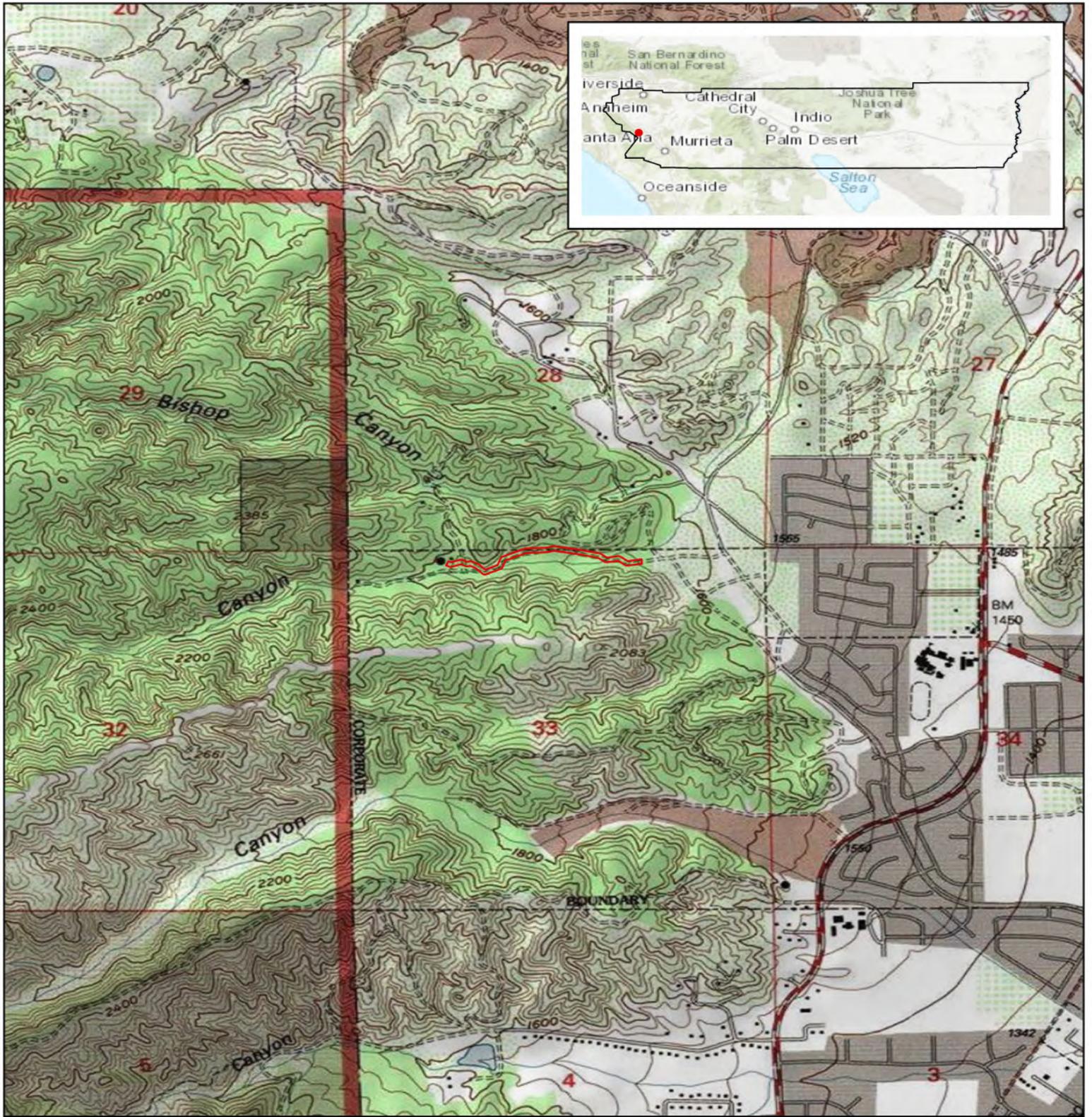
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Samantha Murray, MA, RPA  
Cultural Resources Director

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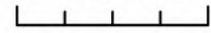
EVMWD Rice Canyon Project

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Center Coordinate (Decimal Degrees):  
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## Samantha Murray

---

**From:** Paul Macarro <pmacarro@pechanga-nsn.gov>  
**Sent:** Friday, March 11, 2022 3:46 PM  
**To:** Samantha Murray  
**Cc:** Ebru Ozdil; Molly Earp; Juan Ochoa  
**Subject:** Pechanga Tribe Scoping Response to EVMWD Rice Canyon Reservoir Project  
**Attachments:** Pechanga Tribe Scoping Response to EVMWD Rice Canyon Reservoir Project.pdf

Míiyu Ms. Murray,

Thanks so much for your helpful call today. We appreciate the opportunity to respond to your Notice. Have a great weekend.

Lóoviqap,  
Paul E. Macarro  
Cultural Coordinator  
Pechanga Reservation  
951-770-6306



**PECHANGA CULTURAL RESOURCES**  
*Temecula Band of Luiseño Mission Indians*

Post Office, Box 2183 • Temecula, CA 92593  
Telephone (951) 770-6300 • Fax (951) 506-9491

March 11, 2022

**VIA E-Mail and USPS**

Samantha Murray, MA, RPA  
Cultural Resources Director  
South Environmental  
1443 E. Washington Blvd  
#288 Pasadena, CA. 91104

**RE: Request for the Proposed Elsinore Valley Municipal Water District (EVMWD) Rice Canyon Reservoir Access Road and New Conduit Project, City of Lake Elsinore, Riverside County, California**

Dear Ms. Murray,

The Pechanga Band of Indians ("the Tribe") appreciates your request for information regarding the above referenced Project. After reviewing the provided maps and our internal documents, we have determined that the Project area is not within our Reservation Land's, although it is located in the heart of Our Ancestral Territory. At this time, we are interested in participating in this Project based upon our 'Ayélkwish/Traditional Knowledge of the area. Further, because of this Project's placement within our Traditional Cultural Landscape, its immediate adjacency to four distinct Traditional Cultural Properties, this Project's close-proximity to multiple known Ancestral-cremations, and considering extensive previously recorded sites within this Project's vicinity the Tribe therefore, is interested in participating in this Project. The Tribe believes that the possibility of recovering subsurface resources during ground-disturbing activities for the Project is extremely high.

The Tribe is dedicated to providing comprehensive cultural information to you and your firm for inclusion in the archaeological study as well as to the Lead Agency for CEQA review. At this time, the Tribe requests the following so we may continue the consultation process and to provide adequate and appropriate recommendations for the Project:

- 1) Notification once the Project begins the entitlement process, if it has not already;
- 2) Copies of all applicable archaeological reports, site records, proposed grading plans and environmental documents (EA/IS/MND/EIR, etc);
- 3) Government-to-government consultation with the Lead Agency; and
- 4) The Tribe believes that monitoring by a Riverside County qualified archaeologist and a professional Pechanga Tribe Monitor may be required during earthmoving activities. Therefore, the Tribe reserves its right to make additional comments and

Chairperson:  
Neal Ibanez

Vice Chairperson:  
Bridgett Barcello

Committee Members:  
Darlene Miranda  
Richard B. Scearce, III  
Robert Villalobos  
Shevon Torres  
Juan Rodriguez

Director:  
Gary DuBois

Coordinator:  
Paul Macarro

Cultural Analyst:  
Tuba Ebru Ozdil

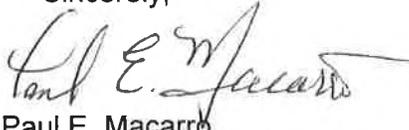
Planning Specialist:  
Molly Escobar

recommendations once the environmental documents have been received and fully reviewed. Further, in the event that subsurface cultural resources are identified, the Tribe requests consultation with the Project proponent and Lead Agency regarding the treatment and disposition of all artifacts.

As a Sovereign governmental entity, the Tribe is entitled to appropriate and adequate government-to-government consultation regarding the proposed Project. We would like you and your client to know that the Tribe does not consider initial inquiry letters from project consultants to constitute appropriate government-to-government consultation, but rather tools to obtain further information about the Project area. Therefore, the Tribe reserves its rights to participate in the formal environmental review process, including government-to-government consultation with the Lead Agency, and requests to be included in all correspondence regarding this Project.

Please note that we are interested in participating in surveys within the Luiseño Ancestral Territory. Prior to conducting any surveys, please contact the Cultural Department to schedule specifics. If you have any additional questions or comments, please contact me at [pmacarro@pechanga-nsn.gov](mailto:pmacarro@pechanga-nsn.gov) or 951-770-6306.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Paul E. Macarro", written in a cursive style.

Paul E. Macarro  
Cultural Coordinator  
Pechanga Reservation

March 10, 2022

Rincon Band of Luiseno Indians  
Cheryl Madrigal, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer  
One Government Center Lane  
Valley Center, CA, 92082  
Email: [crd@rincon-nsn.gov](mailto:crd@rincon-nsn.gov)

**RE: Elsinore Valley Municipal Water District (EVMWD, District) Rice Canyon Reservoir Access Road and New Conduit Project, City of Lake Elsinore, Riverside County, California**

Dear THPO Madrigal:

South Environmental was retained to conduct a cultural resources inventory in support of the proposed Rice Canyon Reservoir Access Road and New Conduit Project (proposed project). The District proposes to complete various repairs to address damage incurred after flood events that followed the 2018 Holy Fire and will restore full power and electronic connection to the reservoir. The proposed project site is located in the City of Lake Elsinore in Rice Canyon, directly west of the intersection of Dale Court and Lincoln Street. The project site falls within Sections 28 and 33 of Township 5 South, Range 5 West, on the United States Geological Survey *Alberhill*, California 7.5-Minute Quadrangle Map. Assessor Parcel Numbers 394-140-001, -003, -004, 394-150-001, and -011 (see enclosed Project Location Map).

A California Historical Resources Information System records search is currently underway with the Eastern Information Center. A Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) Sacred Lands File search was requested on January 5, 2022. The NAHC responded to the request on March 7, 2022 and reported negative results, but recommended that we contact you regarding your knowledge of the presence of cultural resources that may be impacted by the proposed project. If you have any knowledge of cultural resources that may exist within or near the project site, please contact me directly either by phone at (818) 458-1162, by email at [smurray@southenvironmental.com](mailto:smurray@southenvironmental.com), or by mail at the address above within 2 weeks of receipt of this letter. If we do not receive a response within this timeframe, we will follow-up to ensure receipt of this information.

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Thank you for assistance with this information request.

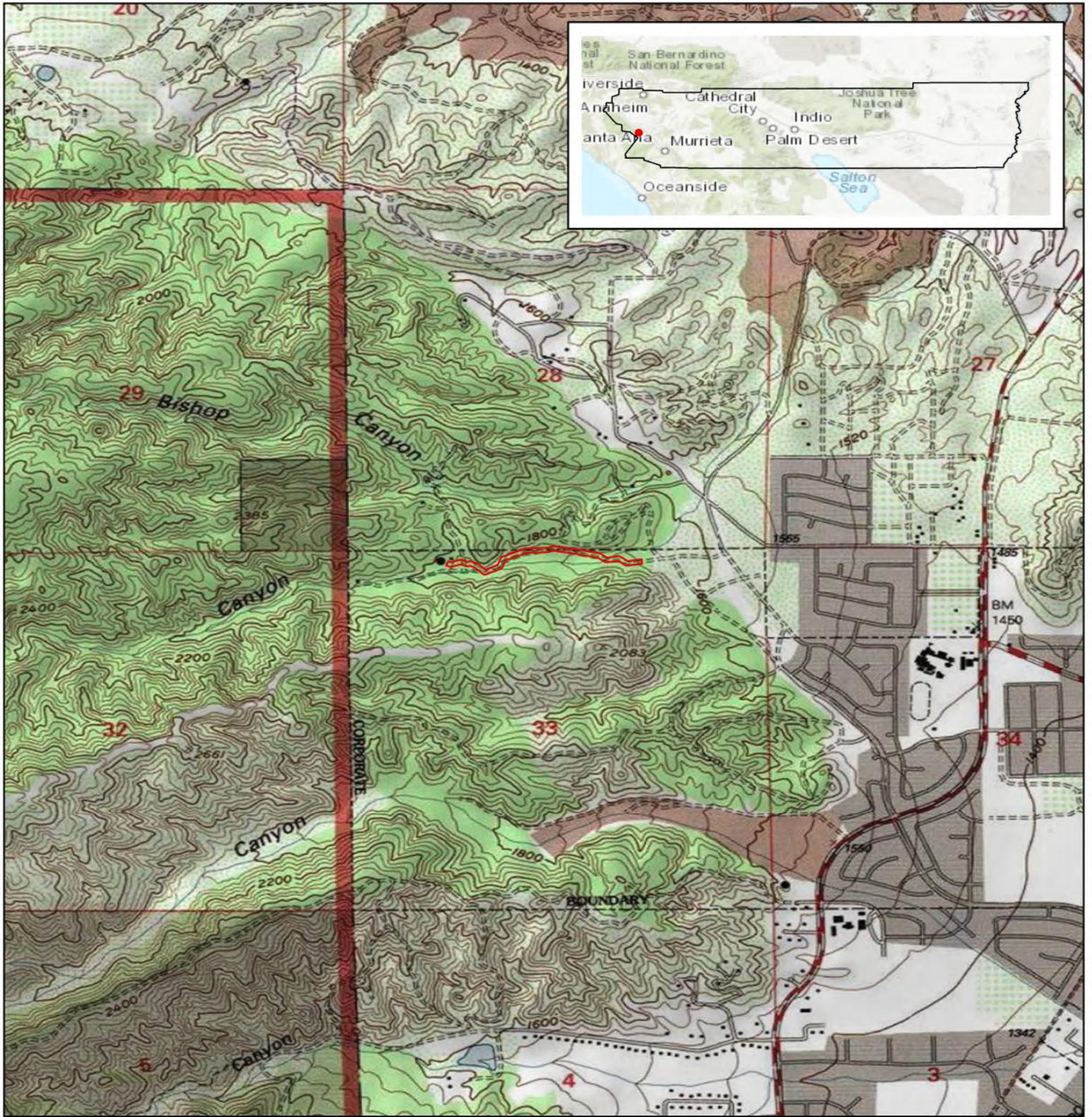
Respectfully Submitted,



Samantha Murray, MA, RPA  
Cultural Resources Director

Attachment: Figure 1. Project Location Map





Source: ESRI USA Topo Maps and World Topo Map 2022

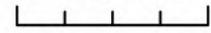
EVMWD Rice Canyon Project

# Figure 1. Project Location Map

Project Site



0 1,000 2,000 Feet



Scale: 1:24,000



Project Site is within the City of Lake Elsinore, California, in Riverside County on the USGS Albershill 7.5-minute quadrangle map in Sections 28 and 33 of Township 05 South and Range 05 West

Center Coordinate (Decimal Degrees):  
 Latitude: 33.698366N, Longitude: -117.407709W



## Samantha Murray

---

**From:** Cheryl Madrigal <CMadrigal@rincon-nsn.gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 13, 2022 9:47 AM  
**To:** Samantha Murray  
**Cc:** Deneen Pelton  
**Subject:** Rice Canyon reservoir Access Road  
**Attachments:** Rice Canyon Reservoir EVMWD.pdf

Samantha,

Please see attached response letter to above mentioned project. If you have any questions or comments, please contact us.

Thank you for the opportunity to protect our cultural assets.

*Cheryl*

**Cheryl Madrigal**

Cultural Resources Manager

Tribal Historic Preservation Officer

Cultural Resources Department

**Rincon Band of Luiseño Indians**

1 West Tribal Road | Valley Center, CA 92082

Office: (760) 749 1092 ext. 323 | Cell: 760-648-3000

Fax: 760-749-8901

Email: [cmadrigal@rincon-nsn.gov](mailto:cmadrigal@rincon-nsn.gov)



This message is intended only for the use of the individual or entity to which it is addressed. If the reader of this message is not the intended recipient, or the employee or agent responsible for delivering the message to the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any dissemination, distribution or copying of this message is strictly prohibited. If you have received this communication in error, please notify us immediately by replying to the sender of this E-Mail by return E-Mail or by telephone. In accordance with Internal Revenue Service Circular 230, we advise you that if this email contains any tax advice, such tax advice was not intended or written to be used, and it cannot be used, by any taxpayer for the purpose of avoiding penalties that may be imposed on the taxpayer.

# Rincon Band of Luiseño Indians

## CULTURAL RESOURCES DEPARTMENT

---

One Government Center Lane | Valley Center | CA 92082  
(760) 749-1092 | Fax: (760) 749-8901 | rincon-nsn.gov



April 13, 2022

**Sent via email: [smurray@southernenvironmental.com](mailto:smurray@southernenvironmental.com)**

South Environmental

Samantha Murray

1443 E. Washington Blvd., #288

Pasadena, CA 91104

**Re: Elsinore Valley Municipal Water District Rice Canyon Reservoir Access Road and New Conduit Project, City of Lake Elsinore, Riverside County, California**

Dear Ms. Murray,

This letter is written on behalf of the Rincon Band of Luiseño Indians (“Rincon Band” or “Tribe”), a federally recognized Indian Tribe and sovereign government. We have received your notification regarding the above referenced project and we thank you for the opportunity to provide information pertaining to cultural resources. The location identified in the transmitted project documents is situated within the Traditional Use Area (TUA) of the Luiseño people. As such, the Rincon Band is traditionally and culturally affiliated to the project area.

Embedded in the Luiseño TUA are Rincon’s history, culture and identity. The City of Lake Elsinore is considered a Traditional Cultural Place (TCP) and Landscape (TCL) by the Rincon Band, as it is associated with the Luiseño Creation and contains numerous recorded cultural places and other Tribal Cultural Resources (TCR). Rincon has no knowledge of cultural resources within the project area. However, that does not mean that none exist. Additionally, previously recorded archaeological resources have been recorded within close proximity to the project site. We recommend that an archaeological record search be conducted and ask that a copy of the results and a copy of the Cultural Resources Assessment be provided to the Rincon Band.

If you have additional questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact our office at your convenience at (760) 749 1092 ext. 323 or via electronic mail at [cmadrigan@rincon-nsn.gov](mailto:cmadrigan@rincon-nsn.gov). We look forward to working together to protect and preserve our cultural assets.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Cheryl Madrigal", is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Cheryl Madrigal

Tribal Historic Preservation Officer

Cultural Resources Manager

---

Bo Mazzetti  
Chairman

Tishmall Turner  
Vice Chair

Laurie E. Gonzalez  
Council Member

John Constantino  
Council Member

Joseph Linton  
Council Member

March 10, 2022

Rincon Band of Luiseno Indians  
Bo Mazzetti, Chairperson  
One Government Center Lane  
Valley Center, CA, 92082  
Email: [bomazzetti@aol.com](mailto:bomazzetti@aol.com)

**RE: Elsinore Valley Municipal Water District (EVMWD, District) Rice Canyon Reservoir Access Road and New Conduit Project, City of Lake Elsinore, Riverside County, California**

Dear Chairperson Mazzetti:

South Environmental was retained to conduct a cultural resources inventory in support of the proposed Rice Canyon Reservoir Access Road and New Conduit Project (proposed project). The District proposes to complete various repairs to address damage incurred after flood events that followed the 2018 Holy Fire and will restore full power and electronic connection to the reservoir. The proposed project site is located in the City of Lake Elsinore in Rice Canyon, directly west of the intersection of Dale Court and Lincoln Street. The project site falls within Sections 28 and 33 of Township 5 South, Range 5 West, on the United States Geological Survey *Alberhill*, California 7.5-Minute Quadrangle Map. Assessor Parcel Numbers 394-140-001, -003, -004, 394-150-001, and -011 (see enclosed Project Location Map).

A California Historical Resources Information System records search is currently underway with the Eastern Information Center. A Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) Sacred Lands File search was requested on January 5, 2022. The NAHC responded to the request on March 7, 2022 and reported negative results, but recommended that we contact you regarding your knowledge of the presence of cultural resources that may be impacted by the proposed project. If you have any knowledge of cultural resources that may exist within or near the project site, please contact me directly either by phone at (818) 458-1162, by email at [smurray@southenvironmental.com](mailto:smurray@southenvironmental.com), or by mail at the address above within 2 weeks of receipt of this letter. If we do not receive a response within this timeframe, we will follow-up to ensure receipt of this information.

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Thank you for assistance with this information request.

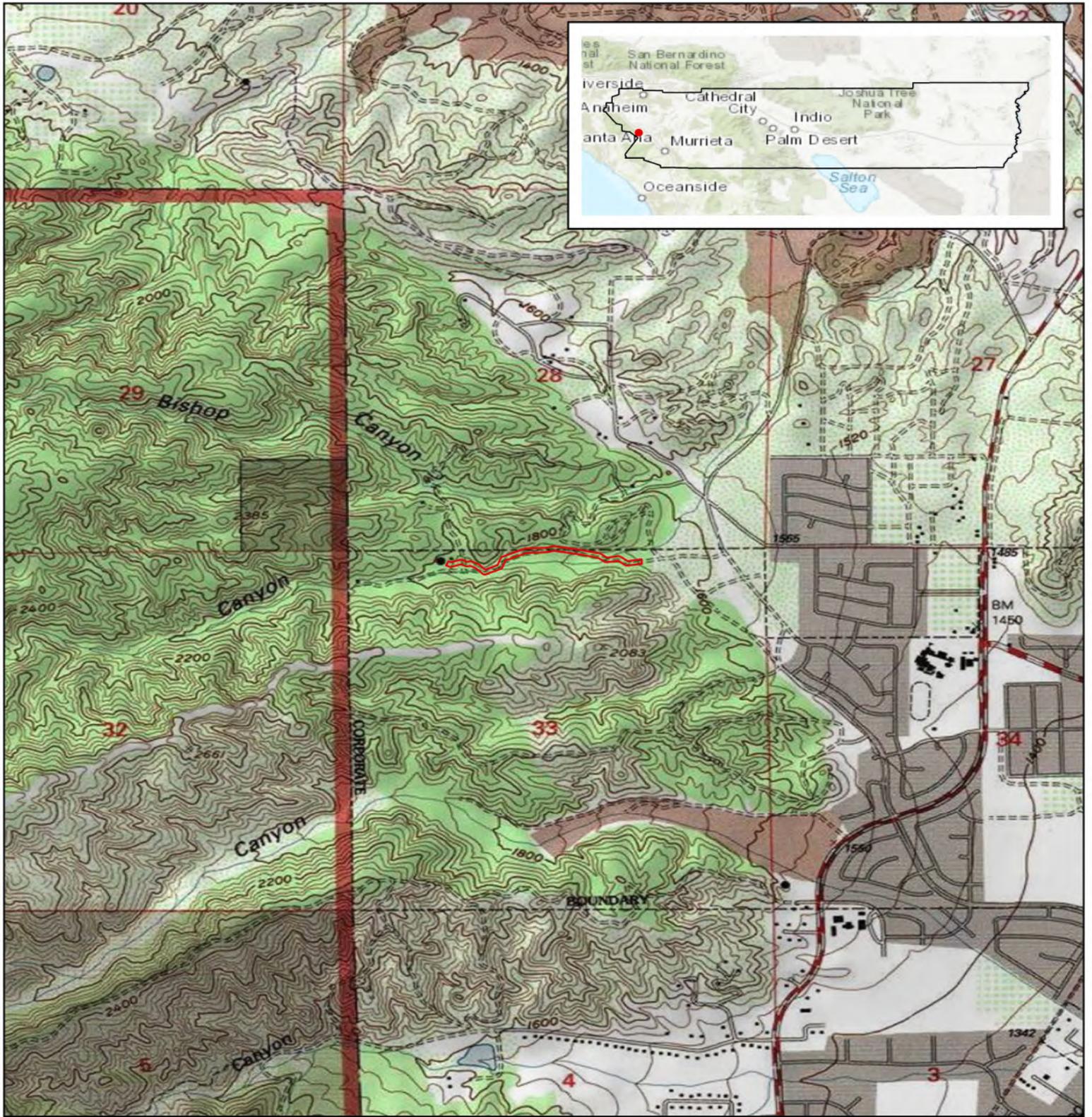
Respectfully Submitted,



Samantha Murray, MA, RPA  
Cultural Resources Director

Attachment: Figure 1. Project Location Map





Source: ESRI USA Topo Maps and World Topo Map 2022

EVMWD Rice Canyon Project

## Figure 1. Project Location Map

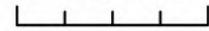
 Project Site

Project Site is within the City of Lake Elsinore, California, in Riverside County on the USGS Alberhill 7.5-minute quadrangle map in Sections 28 and 33 of Township 05 South and Range 05 West

Center Coordinate (Decimal Degrees):  
Latitude: 33.698366N, Longitude: -117.407709W



0 1,000 2,000 Feet



Scale: 1:24,000



March 10, 2022

Soboba Band of Luiseno Indians  
Joseph Ontiveros, Cultural Resource Department  
P.O. BOX 487  
San Jacinto, CA 92581  
Email: [jontiveros@soboba-nsn.gov](mailto:jontiveros@soboba-nsn.gov)

**RE: Elsinore Valley Municipal Water District (EVMWD, District) Rice Canyon Reservoir Access Road and New Conduit Project, City of Lake Elsinore, Riverside County, California**

Dear Mr. Ontiveros:

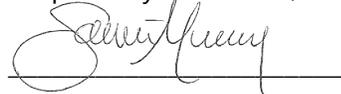
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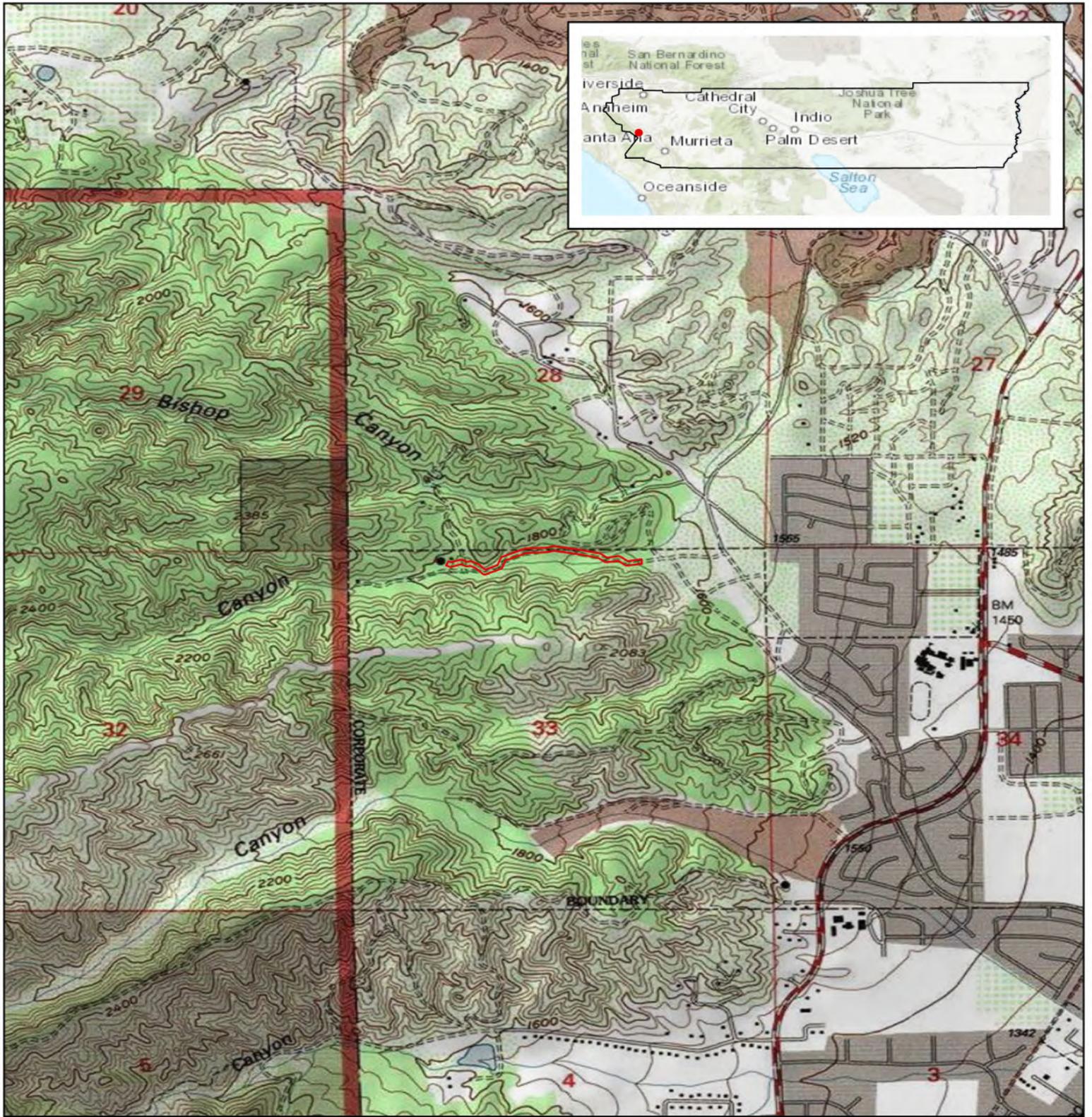
Respectfully Submitted,



Samantha Murray, MA, RPA  
Cultural Resources Director

Attachment: Figure 1. Project Location Map





Source: ESRI USA Topo Maps and World Topo Map 2022

EVMWD Rice Canyon Project

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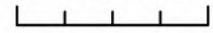
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0 1,000 2,000 Feet



Scale: 1:24,000



March 10, 2022

Juaneno Band of Mission Indians Acjachemen Nation  
Joyce Perry, Tribal Manager  
4955 Paseo Segovia  
Irvine, CA, 92603  
Email: [kaamalam@gmail.com](mailto:kaamalam@gmail.com)

**RE: Elsinore Valley Municipal Water District (EVMWD, District) Rice Canyon Reservoir Access Road and New Conduit Project, City of Lake Elsinore, Riverside County, California**

Dear Tribal Manager Perry:

South Environmental was retained to conduct a cultural resources inventory in support of the proposed Rice Canyon Reservoir Access Road and New Conduit Project (proposed project). The District proposes to complete various repairs to address damage incurred after flood events that followed the 2018 Holy Fire and will restore full power and electronic connection to the reservoir. The proposed project site is located in the City of Lake Elsinore in Rice Canyon, directly west of the intersection of Dale Court and Lincoln Street. The project site falls within Sections 28 and 33 of Township 5 South, Range 5 West, on the United States Geological Survey *Alberhill*, California 7.5-Minute Quadrangle Map. Assessor Parcel Numbers 394-140-001, -003, -004, 394-150-001, and -011 (see enclosed Project Location Map).

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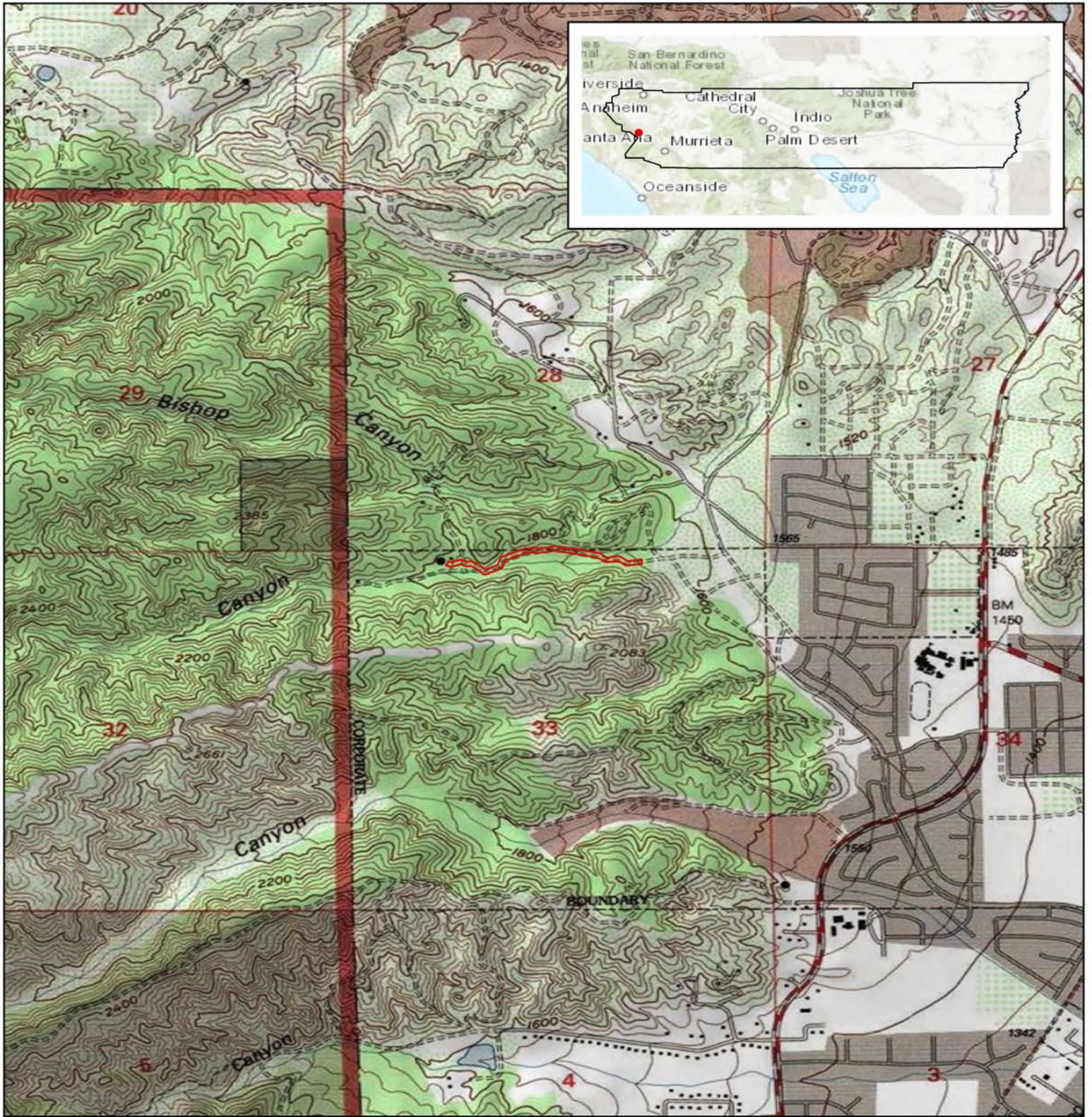
Respectfully Submitted,



Samantha Murray, MA, RPA  
Cultural Resources Director

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Source: ESRI USA Topo Maps and World Topo Map 2022

EVMWD Rice Canyon Project

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Scale: 1:24,000



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March 10, 2022

Santa Rosa Band of Cahuilla Indians  
Lovina Redner, Tribal Chair  
P.O. Box 391820  
Anza, CA, 92539  
Email: [Isaul@santarosa-nsn.gov](mailto:Isaul@santarosa-nsn.gov)

**RE: Elsinore Valley Municipal Water District (EVMWD, District) Rice Canyon Reservoir Access Road and New Conduit Project, City of Lake Elsinore, Riverside County, California**

Dear Chair Redner:

South Environmental was retained to conduct a cultural resources inventory in support of the proposed Rice Canyon Reservoir Access Road and New Conduit Project (proposed project). The District proposes to complete various repairs to address damage incurred after flood events that followed the 2018 Holy Fire and will restore full power and electronic connection to the reservoir. The proposed project site is located in the City of Lake Elsinore in Rice Canyon, directly west of the intersection of Dale Court and Lincoln Street. The project site falls within Sections 28 and 33 of Township 5 South, Range 5 West, on the United States Geological Survey *Alberhill*, California 7.5-Minute Quadrangle Map. Assessor Parcel Numbers 394-140-001, -003, -004, 394-150-001, and -011 (see enclosed Project Location Map).

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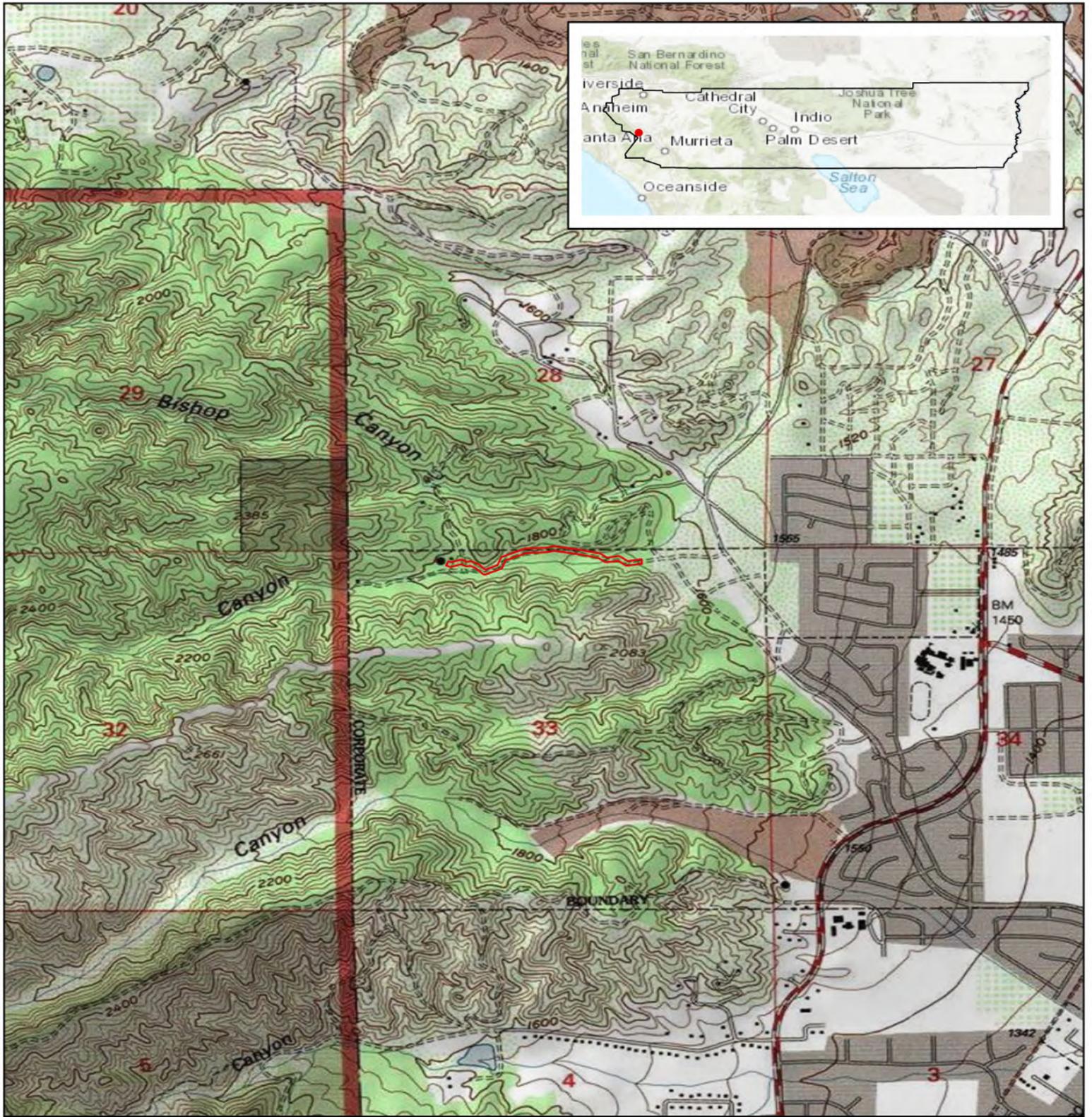
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Samantha Murray, MA, RPA  
Cultural Resources Director

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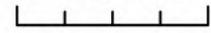
EVMWD Rice Canyon Project

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Center Coordinate (Decimal Degrees):  
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## Samantha Murray

---

**From:** Lovina Saul <lsaul@santarosa-nsn.gov>  
**To:** Samantha Murray  
**Sent:** Friday, March 11, 2022 10:51 AM  
**Subject:** Read: EVMWD Rice Canyon Project, Lake Elsinore

Your message

To: Lovina Saul  
Subject: EVMWD Rice Canyon Project, Lake Elsinore  
Sent: Thursday, March 10, 2022 4:20:10 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)

was read on Friday, March 11, 2022 10:50:57 AM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada).

Soboba Band of Luiseno Indians

Isaiah Vivanco, Chairperson

P. O. Box 487

San Jacinto, CA, 92581

[ivivanco@soboba-nsn.gov](mailto:ivivanco@soboba-nsn.gov)

**RE: Elsinore Valley Municipal Water District (EVMWD, District) Rice Canyon Reservoir Access Road and New Conduit Project, City of Lake Elsinore, Riverside County, California**

Dear Chairperson Vivanco:

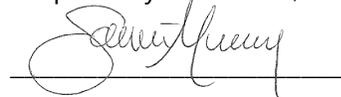
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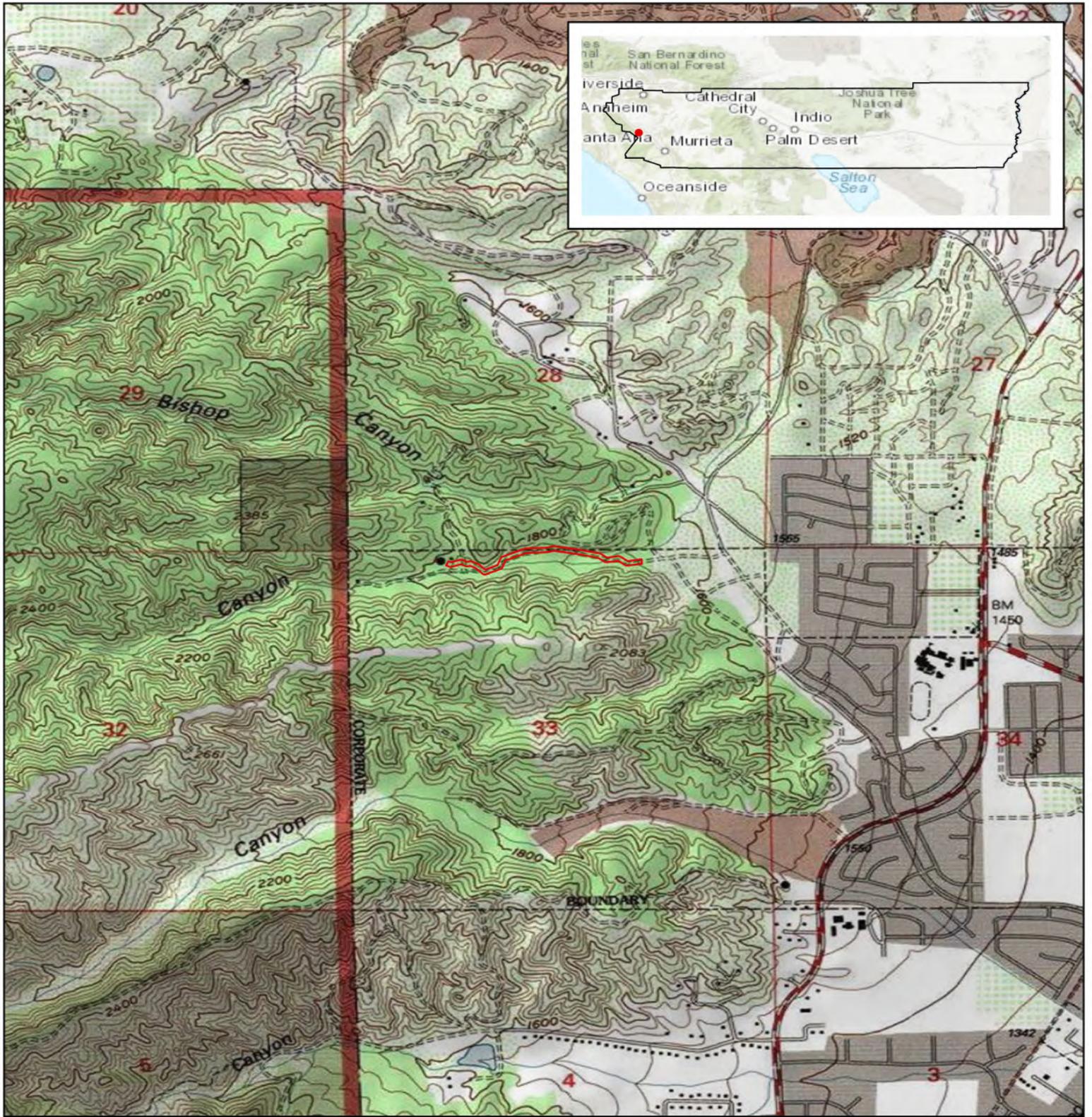
Respectfully Submitted,



Samantha Murray, MA, RPA

Cultural Resources Director

Attachment: Figure 1. Project Location Map



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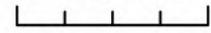
EVMWD Rice Canyon Project

# Figure 1. Project Location Map

Project Site



0 1,000 2,000 Feet



Scale: 1:24,000



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Center Coordinate (Decimal Degrees):  
 Latitude: 33.698366N, Longitude: -117.407709W



## Samantha Murray

---

**From:** Isaiah Vivanco <ivivanco@soboba-nsn.gov>  
**To:** Samantha Murray  
**Sent:** Sunday, April 17, 2022 10:33 AM  
**Subject:** Read: EVMWD Rice Canyon Project, Lake Elsinore

Your message

To: Isaiah Vivanco  
Subject: EVMWD Rice Canyon Project, Lake Elsinore  
Sent: Thursday, March 10, 2022 4:22:33 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)

was read on Sunday, April 17, 2022 10:33:17 AM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada).

Appendix C:  
Paleontological Resources Records  
Search Results

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The Western Science Center requires the following information in order to perform a paleontological record search for upcoming mitigation projects. Please provide the following as well as a .kml file, .kmz file, or detailed map of the project location. Western Science Center record searches will be returned within two weeks of the date this form is received, and will contain a map and letter indicating paleontological sensitivity and any known Western Science Center fossil localities within the proposed project area. The fee for standard paleontological record searches is \$150 and the Western Science Center reserves the right to increase fees for large or extensive requests.

Date: 1/5/2022

**Contact Information:**

Name: Samantha Murray Email: smurray@southenvironmental.com

Company & address: South Environmental LLC

1443 E Washington Blvd #288, Pasadena, CA 91104

Phone: (818) 458-1162

Invoice should be sent to: Email address or company address above

**Project Information:**

Project name and number: EVMWD Rice Canyon Project (#21-021)

Project location (include City, County, Township, Range, and Sections to the level known):

City of Lake Elsinore in Riverside County

Alberhill, CA USGS Quadrangle Township 05 South, Range 05 West, Sections 28 and 33

(See attached Project Location Map)

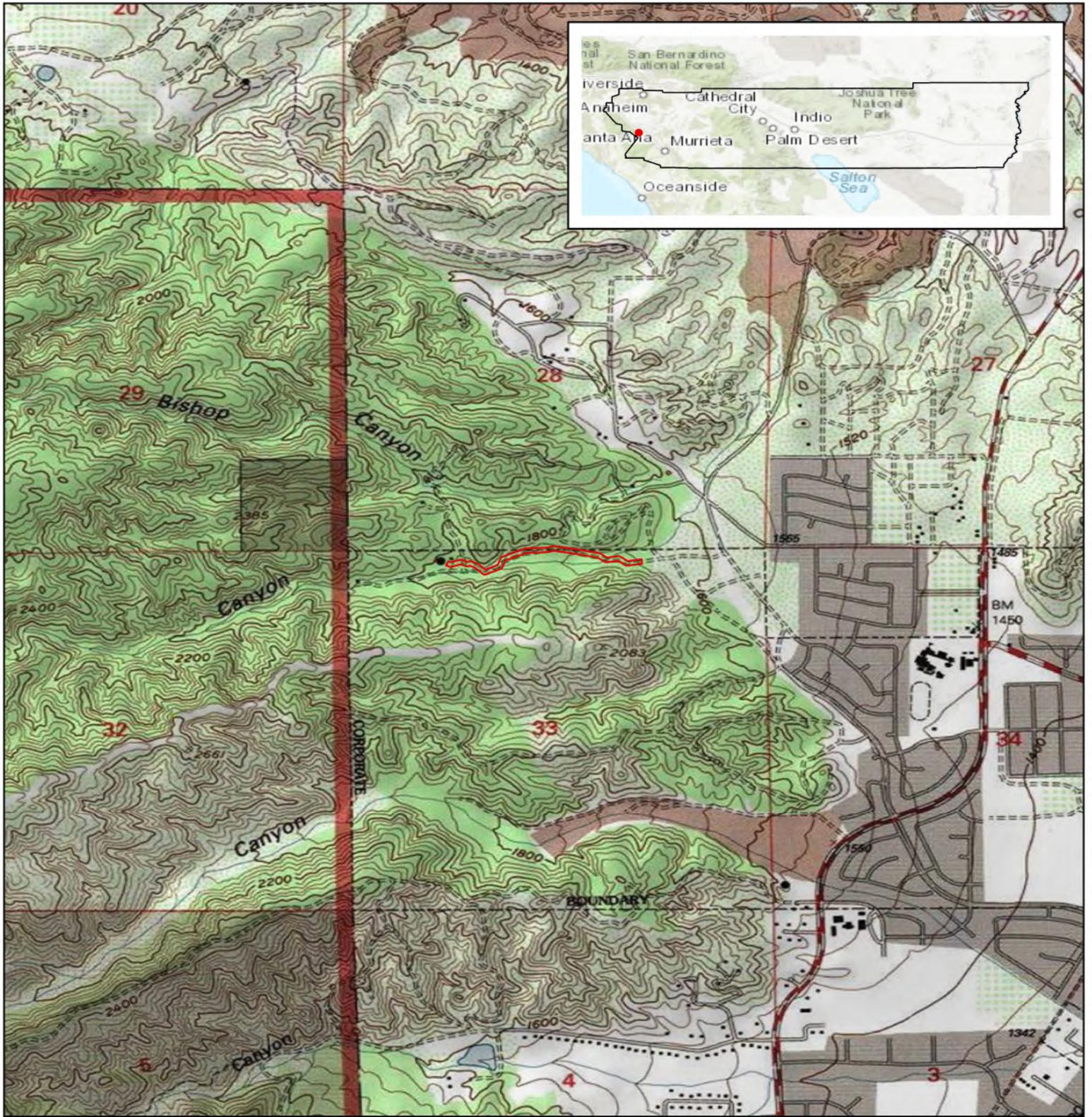
Map type included:

.KML File

.KMZ File

Detailed Map

Please send this form and project map to Western Science Center Collections Manager Darla Radford at [dradford@westerncentermuseum.org](mailto:dradford@westerncentermuseum.org)



Source: ESRI USA Topo Maps and World Topo Map 2022

EVMWD Rice Canyon Project

## Figure 1. Project Location Map

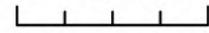
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Scale: 1:24,000





South Environmental LLC  
Samantha Murray  
1443 E Washington Blvd, #288  
Pasadena, CA 91104

January 20, 2022

Dear Ms. Murray,

This letter presents the results of a record search conducted for the EVMWD Rice Canyon Project in the city of Lake Elsinore, Riverside County, California. The project site is located directly west of Dale Court in Sections 28 and 33 of Township 5 South and Range 5 West on the *Alberhill, CA* USGS 7.5-minute topographic quadrangles.

The geologic unit underlying the project area is mapped primarily as alluvial fan deposits dating from the Late Pleistocene to Holocene epoch with segments of granitic rock dating to the Cretaceous along the western project area (Morton & Miller, 2006). Cretaceous granite is of low paleontological sensitivity however, Pleistocene alluvial units are considered to be of high paleontological sensitivity. The Western Science Center does not have localities within the project area or a one-mile radius, but does have numerous localities throughout the region in similarly mapped sediments. Southern California Pleistocene units are well known to produce fossil localities and specimen including those associated with mammoth (*Mammuthus columbi*), mastodon (*Mammut pacificus*) sabertooth cats (*Smilodon fatalis*), ancient horse (*Equus sp.*) and many other Pleistocene megafauna and microfauna.

Any fossils recovered from the EVMWD Rice Canyon Project would be scientifically significant. Excavation activity associated with development of the area has the potential to impact the paleontologically sensitive Pleistocene units and it is the recommendation of the Western Science Center that a paleontological resource mitigation plan be put in place to monitor, salvage, and curate any recovered fossils associated with the current study area.

If you have any questions, or would like further information, please feel free to contact me at [dradford@westerncentermuseum.org](mailto:dradford@westerncentermuseum.org)

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Darla Radford', written in a cursive style.

Darla Radford  
Collections Manager