

Cultural Resources Survey and Study Letter Report for the Sunset Reservoir Expansion Project

City of Redlands

CHAMBERS
GROUP

September 22, 2023
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(21413)

Veronica Medina
City of Redlands
City Municipal Utilities and Engineering Department
35 Cajon Street
Redlands, CA 92373

Subject: Cultural Resources Survey and Study Letter Report for the Sunset Reservoir Expansion Project, San Bernardino County, California.

Dear Ms. Medina,

Chambers Group provides this Cultural Resources Letter Report to the City of Redlands (City) in support of the proposed Sunset Reservoir Expansion Project (Project) in San Bernardino County, California. This assessment includes the results of a cultural resources survey of the Project site, and a cultural resources records search and literature review of a surrounding half-mile radius (study area) (Figure 1). The purpose of the study is to gather and analyze information needed to assess the potential for impacts to cultural resources within the Project site.

Project Description and Location

The City, acting as Lead Agency, is proposing to construct two new reservoir tanks adjacent to the existing reservoir tank located on Helen Court, near East Sunset Drive in the City of Redlands. The existing reservoir is located west of Helen Court, to the southwest of the Project site. The proposed two new reservoir tanks will be located to the east of the existing reservoir on parcel 0300-451-25 and 0300-451-14. Further Project description details are available within the associated Environmental Document prepared for the Project.

The Project site is located within City property south of Helen Drive, Redlands, San Bernardino County, California 92373, and consists of an approximately 22-acre tract of generally vacant and undeveloped, densely vegetated land. The Project is located in a residential neighborhood within assessor parcel numbers (APNs): 0300-451-13, 0300-451-14, 0300-451-24, and 0300-451-25. The Project is depicted on the United States Geological Survey (USGS) 7.5-minute *Redlands*, California Quadrangle, Township 2 South, Range 2 West, Section 7 (Figure 1). Parcels to the north and northeast of the Project site are developed as residential; land to the south, east, and west are undeveloped aside from the reservoir tank directly to the southwest of the Project site and minimally maintained various access roads.

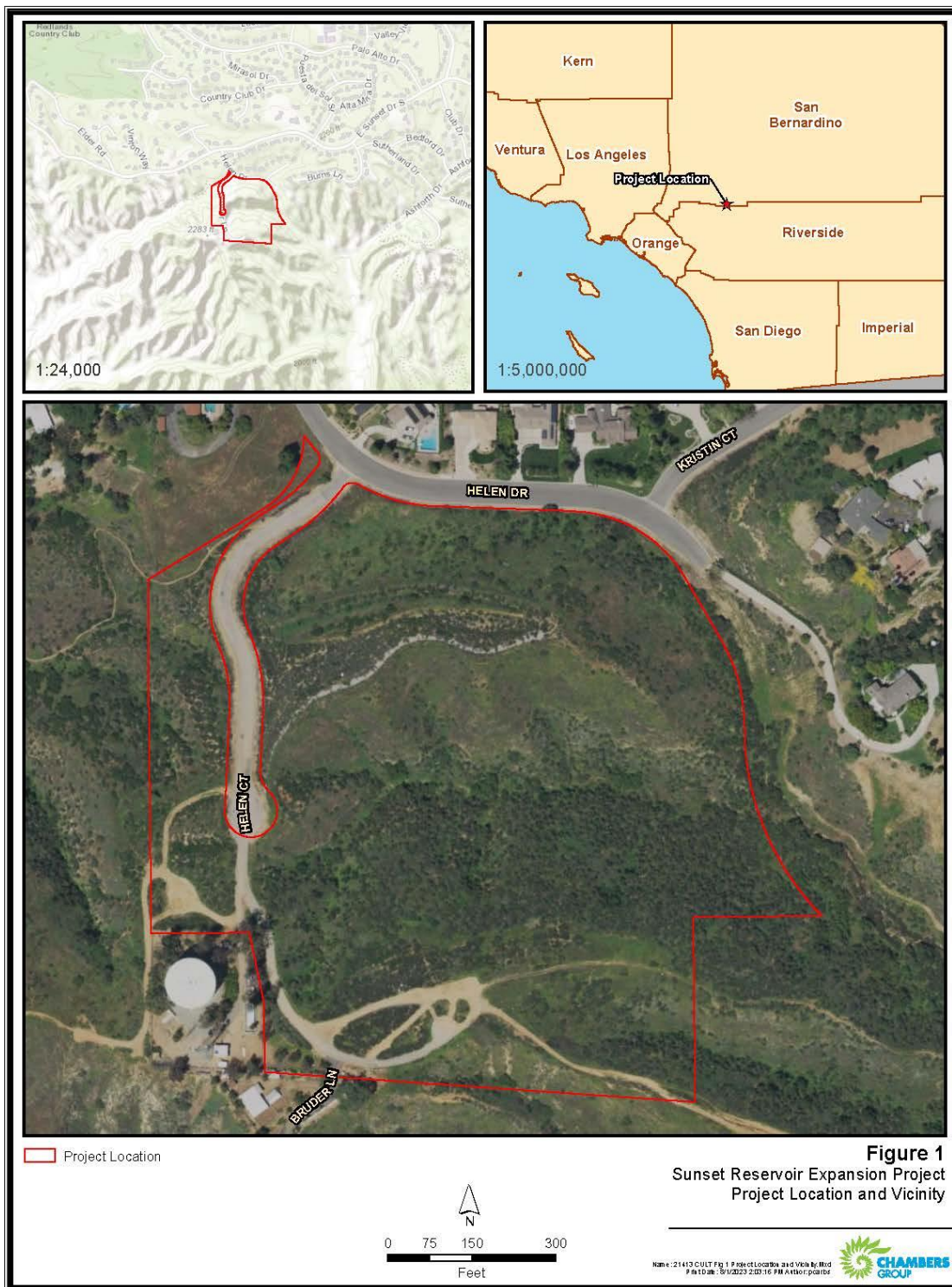


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Figure 1: Project Location



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Regulatory Context

As the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) lead agency for the Project, the City must determine whether a project may have a significant effect on historical resources (Public Resources Code [PRC] Section 21084.1). In addition to State of California (State) and county regulations, projects in the City are also subject to several local regulations relating to cultural resources. Chapter 2 of the City of Redlands' General Plan pertains specifically to the identification and protection of cultural, historical, archaeological, and paleontological resources within the City. The regulatory framework as it pertains to cultural resources under CEQA is detailed below.

Under the provisions of CEQA, including the CEQA Statutes (PRC §§ 21083.2 and 21084.1), CEQA Guidelines (Title 14 California Code of Regulations [CCR] § 15064.5), and PRC § 5024.1 (Title 14 CCR § 4850 et seq.), properties expected to be directly or indirectly affected by a proposed project must be evaluated for eligibility for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources (CRHR).

California Register of Historical Resources

The purpose of the CRHR is to maintain listings of the State's historical resources and to indicate which properties are to be protected, to the extent prudent and feasible, from material impairment and substantial adverse change. The term *historical resources* include a resource listed in or determined to be eligible for listing in the CRHR; a resource included in a local register of historical resources; and any object, building, structure, site, area, place, record, or manuscript that a lead agency determines to be historically significant (CCR § 15064.5[a]). The criteria for listing properties in the CRHR were expressly developed in accordance with previously established criteria developed for listing in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). The California Office of Historic Preservation (OHP 1995:2) regards "any physical evidence of human activities over 45 years old" as meriting recordation and evaluation.

A cultural resource is considered "historically significant" under CEQA if the resource meets one or more of the criteria for listing in the CRHR. The CRHR was designed to be used by State and local agencies, private groups, and citizens to identify existing cultural resources within the State and to indicate which of those resources should be protected, to the extent prudent and feasible, from substantial adverse change. The following criteria have been established for the CRHR. A resource is considered significant if it:

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; or
4. has yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

In addition to meeting one or more of the above criteria, historical resources eligible for listing in the CRHR must retain enough of their historic character or appearance to be able to convey the reasons for their significance. Such integrity is evaluated in regard to the retention of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association.

Under CEQA, if an archeological site is not a historical resource but meets the definition of a "unique archeological resource" as defined in PRC § 21083.2, then it should be treated in accordance with the provisions of that section. A *unique archeological resource* is defined as follows:

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:

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



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Resources that neither meet any of these criteria for listing in the CRHR nor qualify as a “unique archaeological resource” under CEQA PRC § 21083.2 are viewed as not significant. Under CEQA, “A non-unique archaeological resource need be given no further consideration, other than the simple recording of its existence by the lead agency if it so elects” (PRC § 21083.2[h]).

Impacts that adversely alter the significance of a resource listed in or eligible for listing in the CRHR are considered a significant effect on the environment. Impacts to historical resources from a proposed project are thus considered significant if the project:

1. physically destroys or damages all or part of a resource;
2. changes the character of the use of the resource or physical feature within the setting of the resource, which contributes to its significance; or
3. introduces visual, atmospheric, or audible elements that diminish the integrity of significant features of the resource.

Assembly Bill 52

Assembly Bill (AB) 52 was enacted in 2015 and expands CEQA by defining a new resource category: tribal cultural resources (TCR). AB 52 establishes that “a project with an effect that may cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a TCR is a project that may have a significant effect on the environment” (PRC Section 21084.2). AB 52 also establishes a formal consultation process for California tribes regarding those resources. The consultation process must be completed before a CEQA document can be certified. AB 52 requires that lead agencies “begin consultation with a California Native American tribe that is traditionally and culturally affiliated with the geographic area of the proposed project.” Native American tribes to be included in the process are those that have requested notice of projects proposed in the jurisdiction of the lead agency. It further states that the lead agency shall establish measures to avoid impacts that would alter the significant characteristics of a TCR, when feasible (PRC Section 21084.3). PRC Section 21074 (a)(1)(A) and (B) define TCRs as “sites, features, places, cultural landscapes, sacred places, and objects with cultural value to a California Native American tribe” which meet either of the following criteria:

- Listed or eligible for listing in the CRHR, or in a local register of historical resources as defined in PRC Section 5020.1(k)
- 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 PRC Section 5024.1 (in applying the criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of PRC Section 5024.1, the lead agency shall consider the significance of the resource to a California Native American tribe)

Local

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In addition to State and County regulations, projects built in the City are also subject to several local regulations relating to cultural and paleontological resources. Chapter 2, *Distinctive City*, of the City of Redlands 2035 General Plan outlines principles and actions to protect and preserve Redlands’ cultural, historical, archaeological, and paleontological resources within the City (City of Redlands, 2017). Per Chapter 2, Section 2.2, Cultural Resources, of the City of Redlands General Plan, the following sections outline its principles and actions as follows:

Cultural Resources

Principle 2-P.8 Identify, maintain, protect, and enhance Redlands’ cultural, historic, social, economic, architectural, agricultural, archaeological, and scenic heritage. In so doing, Redlands will preserve its unique character and beauty, foster community pride, conserve the character and architecture of its neighborhoods and commercial and rural areas, enable citizens and visitors to enjoy and learn about local history, and provide a framework for making appropriate physical changes.



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Principle 2-P.9 Provide incentives to protect, preserve, and maintain the city's heritage.

Principle 2-P.10 Foster an understanding and appreciation of history and architecture.

Principle 2-P.11 Encourage retention of the character of existing historic structures and urban design elements that define the built environment of the city's older neighborhoods.

Principle 2-P.12 Encourage retention of historic structures in their original use or reconversion to their original use where feasible. Encourage sensitive, adaptive reuse where the original use is no longer feasible.

Principle 2-P.13 Encourage preservation of and public access to defined and established significant scenic vistas, viewpoints, and view corridors.

Principle 2-P.14 Coordinate preservation of historic resources with policies designed to preserve neighborhoods and support the affordability of housing in historical structures.

Principle 2-P.15 Balance the preservation of historic resources with the desire of property owners of historic structures to adopt energy efficient strategies.

Principle 2-P.17 Protect archaeological and paleontological resources for their aesthetic, scientific, educational, and cultural values.

Action 2-A.71 Using an annually updated Archaeological Resource Sensitivity Map, review proposed development projects to determine whether a site contains known prehistoric or historic cultural resources and/or to determine the potential for discovery of additional cultural resources.

Action 2-A.72 Require that applicants for projects identified by the South Coastal Information Center as potentially affecting sensitive resource sites hire a consulting archaeologist to develop an archaeological resource mitigation plan and to monitor the project to ensure that mitigation measures are implemented.

Action 2-A.73 Require that areas found during construction to contain significant historic or prehistoric archaeological artifacts be examined by a qualified consulting archaeologist (RPA certified) or historian for appropriate protection and preservation.

Action 2-A.74 Proactively coordinate with the area's native tribes in the review and protection of any tribal cultural resources discovered at development sites.

Paleontological Resources

Principle 2-P.16 Work with local paleontologists to identify significant non-renewable paleontological resources.

Principle 2-P.17 Protect archaeological and paleontological resources for their aesthetic, scientific, educational, and cultural values.

Action 2-A.75 Require, as a standard condition of approval, that project applicants provide an assessment as to whether grading for the Proposed Project would impact underlying soil units or geologic formations that have a moderate to high potential to yield fossiliferous materials, prior to issuance of a grading permit. If the potential for fossil discovery is moderate to high, require applicants to provide a paleontological monitor during rough grading of the project.

Action 2-A.76 Establish a procedure for the management of paleontological materials found onsite during a development, including the following provisions:

- If materials are found on-site during grading, require that work be halted until a qualified professional evaluates the find to determine if it represents a significant paleontological resource.
- If the resource is determined to be significant, the paleontologist shall supervise removal of the material and determine the most appropriate archival storage of the material.
- Appropriate materials shall be prepared, catalogued, and archived at the applicant's expense and shall be retained within San Bernardino County if feasible.



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Environmental Setting

The City of Redlands is situated at the base of the San Bernardino Mountains, located in southwest San Bernardino County in Southern California. The city is situated between the northern margin of the Peninsular Range Geomorphic Province and the Transverse Ranges Geomorphic Province and lies within the broad alluvial flood plain derived from Santa Ana River deposits and eroding mountain hillsides (Morton and Miller 2006). The topography of the Project site is characterized as predominately hilly, with slopes up to 42 degrees, and has an elevation averaging approximately 2,200 feet above mean sea level (AMSL).

The Project site is underlain by older surficial sediments (Qoa) that are weakly indurated alluvial fan deposits derived from local terrains of plutonic rocks. These alluvial fan deposits consist of sand and minor gravel of the Pleistocene age (Dibblee and Minch 2003). The Davis SoilWeb database (2023) describes the soil classification as the San Bernardino County Southwestern Part (CA677) and as Saugus sandy loam (ShF) with 30 to 50 percent slopes.

The Project site is currently vacant, undeveloped land, and is densely vegetated by plant species from the chaparral community. Common native plants typically include oak and scrub oak, sycamore, chamise, cacti, agave, yucca, species of sage, chía, and various grasses (Munz and Keck 1968). The nearest water source is Yucaipa Creek, in Live Oak Canyon, approximately 0.75 miles south of the Project site.

Cultural Setting

Prehistoric Overview

During the twentieth century, many archaeologists developed chronological sequences to explain prehistoric cultural changes within all or portions of Southern California (Moratto 1984; Jones and Klar 2007). A prehistoric chronology was devised for the Southern California coastal region based on early studies and focused on data synthesis that included four horizons: Early Man, Milling Stone, Intermediate, and Late Prehistoric (Wallace 1955, 1978). Although initially lacking the chronological precision of absolute dates (Moratto 1984:159), Wallace's 1955 synthesis has been modified and improved using thousands of radiocarbon dates obtained by Southern California researchers over recent decades (Byrd and Raab 2007:217; Koerper and Drover 1983; Koerper et al. 2002). The prehistoric chronological sequence for Southern California presented below is a composite based on Wallace (1955) and Warren (1968) as well as later studies, including Koerper and Drover (1983).

It is generally believed that human occupation of Southern California began at least 10,000 years before present (BP). The archaeological record indicates that between approximately 10,000- and 6,000-years BP, a predominantly hunting and gathering economy existed, characterized by archaeological sites containing numerous projectile points and butchered large animal bones. The most heavily exploited species were likely those species still alive today. Bones of extinct species have been found but cannot definitively be associated with human artifacts in California, unlike other regions of the continent. Although small animal bones and plant grinding tools are rarely found within archaeological sites of this period, small game and vegetal foods were likely exploited. A lack of deep cultural deposits from this period has been interpreted by some researchers as indicative that the region was occupied by small groups that practiced high residential mobility during this period (Wallace 1978).

The three major periods of prehistory for the greater Los Angeles Basin region have been refined by recent research using radiocarbon dates from archaeological sites in coastal Southern California (Koerper and Drover 1983; Mason and Peterson 1994):

- Millingstone Period (6,000 –1,000 BP, or about 8,000–3,000 years ago)
- Intermediate Period (1,000 BC – AD 650, or 3,000–1,350 years ago)
- Late Prehistoric Period (AD 650 – about AD 1800, or 1,350–200 years ago)

Around 6,000 years BP, a shift in focus from hunting toward a greater reliance on vegetal resources occurred. Archaeological evidence of this trend consists of a much greater number of milling tools (e.g., metates and manos) for processing seeds and other vegetable matter (Wallace 1978). This period, termed by archaeologists as the Millingstone



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Period, was a long cultural phase characterized by small, mobile groups that likely relied on a seasonal round of settlements that included both inland and coastal residential bases. Seeds from sage and grasses, rather than acorns, provided calories and carbohydrates. Faunal remains from sites dating to this period indicate that similar animals to those in the prior period were hunted. Inland Millingstone sites are characterized by numerous manos, metates, and hammerstones. Shell middens are common at coastal Millingstone sites. Coarse-grained lithic materials, such as quartzite and rhyolite, are more common than fine-grained materials in flaked stone tools from this time. Projectile points are found in archaeological sites from this period, but they are far fewer in number than from sites dating to before 6,000 years BP. An increase in the size of groups and the stability of settlements is indicated by deep, extensive middens at some sites from this period (Wallace 1978).

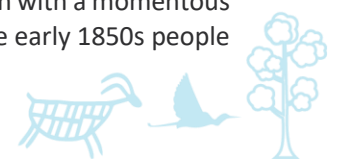
In sites post-dating roughly 3,000 years BP, archaeological evidence indicates the reliance on both plant gathering and hunting continued but was more specialized and locally adapted to particular environments. Mortars and pestles were added to metates and manos for grinding seeds and other vegetable material. Chipped-stone tools became more refined and specialized, and bone tools appear to be more common. During this period, peoples from the Great Basin began entering Southern California. These immigrants, who spoke a language of the Uto-Aztecan linguistic stock, seem to have displaced or absorbed the earlier population of Hokan-speaking peoples. The exact time of their entry into the region is not known; however, they were present in Southern California during the final phase of prehistory. During this period, population densities were higher than before; and settlement became concentrated in villages and communities along the coast and interior valleys (Erlandson 1994; McCawley 1996). During the Intermediate Period, mortars and pestles appeared, indicating the beginning of acorn exploitation. Use of the acorn – a high-calorie, storable food source – probably facilitated greater sedentism and increased social organization. Large projectile points from archaeological sites of this period indicate that the bow and arrow, a hallmark of the Late Prehistoric Period, had not yet been introduced, and hunting was likely accomplished using the atlatl (spear thrower) instead. Settlement patterns during this time are not well understood. The semi-sedentary settlement pattern characteristic of the Late Prehistoric Period may have begun during the Intermediate Period, although territoriality may not yet have developed because of lower population densities. Regional subcultures also started to develop, each with its own geographical territory and language or dialect (Kroeber 1925; McCawley 1996; Moratto 1984). These were most likely the basis for the groups encountered by the first Europeans during the eighteenth century (Wallace 1978). Despite the regional differences, many material culture traits were shared among groups, indicating a great deal of interaction (Erlandson 1994). The Late Prehistoric Period is better understood than earlier periods largely through ethnographic analogy made possible by ethnographic and anthropological research of the descendants of these groups in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries.

Ethnographic Overview

The Project site lies within an area known to be transitionally occupied by the Gabrielino, whose villages stretched from the Pacific coast to the San Bernardino Mountains to the east. The Cahuilla's traditional use area ranged over the entire San Bernardino basin, the San Jacinto Mountains, the Coachella Valley, and portions of the southern Mojave. The Serrano territory included the entire San Bernardino range of mountains, west into the San Gabriel Mountains, south across the San Bernardino Valley, and eastward to near Twentynine Palms.

Historic Overview

Post-European contact history for the state of California is generally divided into three periods: the Spanish Period (1769–1822), the Mexican Period (1822–1848), and the American Period (1848 – present). Briefly, and in very general terms, the Spanish Period encompassed the earliest historic-period explorations of the West, colonization, missionization and proselytization across the western frontier, the establishment of major centers such as Los Angeles and Monterey and a line of missions and presidios with attendant satellite communities, minor prospecting, and a foundational economic structure based on the rancho system. The Mexican Period initiated with a continuation of the same structures; however, commensurate with the political changes that led to the establishment of the Mexican state, the missions and presidios were secularized, the lands parceled, and Indian laborers released. Increased global trade introduced both foreign and American actors into the Mexican economic and political sphere, both coincidentally, and purposefully, smoothing the transition to the American Period. The American Period was ushered in with a momentous influx of people seeking fortune in the Sierra foothills where gold was “discovered” in 1848. By the early 1850s people



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from all over the globe had made their way to California. Expansive industries were required to supply the early mining operations, such as forestry products and food networks. Grains, poultry, cattle, and water systems, which were initiated in the early Mexican Period, were intensified into a broad system of ranches and supply networks. Additionally, this period witnessed the development and expansion of port cities to supply hard goods and clothes, animals, and people transported along improved trail and road networks throughout the interior regions of the state. California cycled through boom and bust for several decades until World War I, when the Department of the Navy began porting war ships along the west coast. Subsequently, California has grown and contracted, predominantly around military policy along the west coast and the Pacific Ocean. Following the industrial expansion related to World War II and the Cold War, technology and systems associated have come to fore as economic drivers.

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The City of Redlands, also known in 1900 as “The City of Millionaires” and later as “The City of Beautiful Homes,” was founded in 1881 and became incorporated in 1888. Redlands is characterized as the quintessential “big town” with a “small town” feel. For much of its history Redlands was the “Washington Navel Orange Growing Capital of the World” with the citrus industry as the main focus of its economy. Some of the City’s most renowned buildings and landmarks are the A.K. Smiley Public Library, a Moorish-style library built in 1898, the University of Redlands, founded in 1907, and the Redlands Bowl, built in 1930 and home of the oldest continuously free outdoor concert series in California (City of Redlands 2023). The City of Redlands boasts a rich historical background and is the home of a variety of historic resources valued by the community. Redlands’ early period of growth remains strongly visible in the community today, in the form of mature street trees, citrus groves, and exquisitely detailed historic buildings (City of Redlands 2017).

Study Methods

Chambers Group requested a records search from the California Historical Resources Information System (CHRIS) South-Central Coastal Information Center (SCCIC) at California State University, Fullerton, on March 3, 2023. A records search of the Project site and surrounding study area was requested to provide context and additional information regarding types and extent of resources recorded within the Study area. These data provide the greater basis for this review. The SCCIC returned the records search results on April 11, 2023, providing information on all documented cultural resources and previous archaeological investigations within the study area. Resources consulted during the records search conducted by the SCCIC included the NRHP, California Historical Landmarks (CHL), California Points of Historical Interest (CPHI), California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) Historic Highway Bridge Inventory, the California State Historic Resources Inventory, local registries of historic properties, and a review of available Sanborn Fire Insurance maps as well as historical photographs, maps, and aerial imagery. The task also included a search for potential prehistoric and/or historic burials (human remains) evident in previous site records and/or historical maps. In addition, Chambers Group submitted a request to the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) for a review of the Sacred Land Files (SLF) for the Project site and surrounding vicinity. Results of the NACH SLF records search and additional outreach are detailed below and included in Attachment A. The results of the SCCIC records search are also detailed below and included in confidential Attachment B.

Chambers Group also requested a paleontological records search from the Western Science Center (WCS) on April 27, 2023. This information was requested with the intent to provide further context related to the paleontological sensitivity of the area based on known fossil locations identified within the Project site and study area. The paleontological records provide insight into what associated geological formations are most likely to contain fossils as well as the associated depths and placement of the known fossil locals relative to the geological formations in the area. On May 3, 2023, Chambers Group received the results of the paleontological records search. These results are detailed below.

Additionally, a survey of the Project site was conducted on July 31, 2023. The pedestrian survey consisted of a systematic surface inspection of the areas of the Project site that were safely accessible and visible. The Project site was transected at 10-meter intervals to ensure that any evidence of surface-exposed cultural materials and/or evidence of paleontological resources could be identified.



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Chambers Group Cultural Resources Department Lead Lucas Tutschulte managed the Project tasks related to cultural resources. Chambers Group cultural resources specialist Edevijes Davis-Mullens completed the pedestrian survey. Cultural resources specialist Kellie Kandybowicz conducted background research and authored the report. Richard Shultz, MA, RPA, served as Principal Investigator for cultural resources and performed quality control for the report.

Results

Previous Cultural Resources Reports

Based on the records on-file with the SCCIC, nine cultural resource studies have previously been completed within the study area. Table 1 provides further details of these nine studies. Of these nine reports, two bisect the Project site. These projects are bolded in the Table. A map (Figure 2) of the record search results is included in confidential Attachment B.

Table 1: Previous Cultural Resources Studies within a Half-Mile Radius of the Project Site

Report Number	Year	Author	Title	Within Project Site?
SB-00440	1976	Hearn, Joseph E.	Archaeological - Historical Resources Assessment of Tentative Tract 9178, Redlands Area	No
SB-00685	1978	Hearn, Joseph E.	Archaeological - Historical - Paleontological Resources Assessment of Tract 9932	Yes
SB-03004	1993	Anthony, Chet	Sunset Canyons	No
SB-04056	2002	Bonner, Wayne and Don Lewis	Cultural Resource Assessment: CM 365-11; Redlands Water Tank, 9 Helen Dr, Redlands, CA 13pp	No
SB-04601	2004	White, Robert S. and Laura S. White	A Cultural Resources Assessment of the 284.28 Acre Sector 8 Specific Plan Located in the Southeast Portion of the City of Redlands, San Bernardino County, California.	Yes
SB-04825	2005	Aislin-Kay, Marnie	Cultural Resource Records Search and Site Visit Results for Cingular Telecommunications Facility Candidate CM-365-02 (ES-022-02) City of Redlands Water Tank, 31280 "B" Helen Court, Redlands, San Bernardino County, California	No
SB-06741	2010	Sander, Jay K.	Cultural Resources Records Search and Site Visit for T-Mobile USA Inc., 1E04365A / CM365 Redlands Water District, 31280 Helen Court, Redlands, San Bernardino County, California 92373	No
SB-06841	2011	Bonner, Wayne H and Kathleen A. Crawford	Direct APE Historic Architectural Assessment for T-Mobile USA Candidate IE25507-A (Redlands Country Club), 1749 Garden Street, Redlands, and Frederich and Mary Jane Auerbachet Residence, 121 Sierra Vista, Redlands, San Bernardino County, California	No
SB-07569	2003	McDougall, Dennis P., and Jill A. Onken	Inland Feeder Pipeline Project: Final Synthetic Report of Archaeological Findings, San Bernardino County, California	Yes



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Previously Recorded Cultural Resources

Based upon the records search conducted by the SCCIC, two previously recorded cultural resources are recorded within the study area (Table 2). None are located within the Project site. A map (Figure 2) displaying the record search results is included in confidential Attachment B.

Table 2: Previously Recorded Cultural Resources within a Half-Mile Radius of the Project Site

Primary No.	Trinomial	Resource Name	Site Description	Within Project Site?
P-36-007835	CA-SBR-007835H	Alphonso Edwards Redland Hermit	AH02. Foundation/structure pad; AH03. Landscaping/orchard; AH04. Privy/dump/trash scatter; AH05. Well/cistern; AH16. Other	No
P-36-022622		Redlands Country Club Golf Course; 1749 Garden St, Redlands	HP39. Country Club and Golf Course	No

Additional Background Research Results

In addition to the records search review, Chambers Group archaeologists completed background research to determine if any additional historic properties, landmarks, bridges, or other potentially significant or listed properties are located within the Project site or within the study area. This background research included, but was not limited to, the NRHP, California State Historic Property Data Files, California State Historical Landmarks, California Points of Historical Interest, Office of Historic Preservation Archaeological Determinations of Eligibility, historic aerial imagery accessed via NETR Online, Historic U.S. Geological Survey topographic maps, Built Environment Resource Directory (BERD), and Caltrans, and State and local bridge surveys. Additionally, Chambers Group archaeologists reviewed the San Bernardino County Historical Landmarks inventory designated by the County of San Bernardino Cultural Heritage Board as well as the San Bernardino Historical Society and local historical newspaper clippings via Newspapers.com, ProQuest Historical Newspapers.com, and the California Digital Newspaper Collection.

As a result of the records search review and archival research, no previously recorded resources or other listed or potentially significant properties are recorded within the Project site. Based on the review of available historic maps and imagery, the Project site was bisected by a dirt road by at least 1901, as illustrated on the 1901 *Redlands* USGS topographic map. By the mid-1930s, an access route to a water tank to the southwest of the Project site had already been established, as shown in the 1938 aerial photograph and housing development and construction began in the immediate vicinity during the 1960s (NETROnline 2023). The Project site was also partially cleared by 1980 for use during the development of the surrounding housing tracts to the north (NETROnline 2023).

NAHC SLF Search Results

Chambers Group submitted a request for a search of the Sacred Lands Files housed at the California NAHC on March 10, 2023. The results of the search were returned on March 29, 2023, and were negative, stating that the absence of specific site information in the SLF does not indicate the absence of cultural resources in the Project site that still may be impacted by Project development.



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Additional consultation with the tribes, as indicated in the NAHC SLF letter (Attachment A), would be required to determine the nature of any existing resources located during ground-disturbing activities. PRC Section 21074 defines a resource as a TCR if it meets either of the following criteria:

1. Listed or eligible for listing in the CRHR, or in a local register of historical resources as defined in PRC Section 5020.1(k)
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 PRC Section 5024.1 (in applying the criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of PRC Section 5024.1, the lead agency shall consider the significance of the resource to a California Native American tribe)

The NAHC response provided contact information for 25 Native American tribal contacts that may have information on cultural resources on the Project site (Attachment A). The associated Native American contact list provided contacts from the Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians, Augustine Band of Cahuilla Mission Indians, Cabazon Band of Mission Indians, Cahuilla Band of Indians, Gabrieleno Band of Mission Indians – Kizh Nation, Los Coyotes Band of Cahuilla and Cupeño Indians, Morongo Band of Mission Indians, Pala Band of Mission Indians, Pechanga Band of Luiseño Indians, Quechan Tribe of the Fort Yuma Reservation, Ramona Band of Cahuilla, Rincon Band of Luiseño Indians, Santa Rosa Band of Cahuilla Indians, Serrano Nation of Mission Indians, Soboba Band of Luiseno Indians, Torres–Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians, and Yuhaaviatam of San Manuel Nation (formerly the San Manuel Band of Mission Indians).

AB 52 Notification and Tribal Consultation

At this time, Chambers Group assumes the City, as Lead Agency, is conducting AB 52 tribal consultation as necessary for the Project. As such, no details of consultation are included in this document.

Paleontological Resources

On May 3, 2023, Chambers Group received the results of the paleontological records search from the WSC. The results show that no fossil localities are documented directly within the Project site, but there are recorded fossil localities from the same sedimentary deposit that underlays the Project site.

Potential fossil-bearing units are present within the Project site, as stated in the WSC record search results. Based on the records search results, which covered only the records of the WSC, the paleontological sensitivity of the Project site could be considered moderate due to the previously recorded and known fossil localities in the same sedimentary deposits as mapped in the Project site and within the study area (Stoneburg 2023).

The geologic mapping of the region by Dibblee and Minch (2003) indicates the entire Project site is underlain by quaternary alluvial fan deposits of sand and gravel from the Pleistocene epoch. These Pleistocene period deposits are composed of older surficial sediments (Qoa) that are weakly indurated dissected alluvial fan deposits derived from local terrains of plutonic rocks. Pleistocene alluvial units are considered highly sensitive for paleontological resources. The Davis SoilWeb database (2023) describes soils associated with the Project site as Saugus sandy loam (ShF) with 30 to 50 percent slopes, which are part of the San Bernardino County Southwestern Part (CA677) classification. Based on the records search results and review of publicly available geologic mapping, the Project site's underlying sedimentary deposits have potential to yield previously undocumented fossil localities during construction.

Field Survey Results

Chambers Group cultural resources specialist Eduvijes Davis-Mullens conducted the pedestrian survey on July 31, 2023. All areas within the Project site that were safely accessible were surveyed, including proposed construction equipment access and staging areas for the proposed locations for the two new tanks. The western and mid-section areas of the Project site show evidence of disturbance related to previous construction for the existing water tank reservoir access roads, dating to as early as 1938. Additionally, surrounding housing development activity began in the 1960s adding to disturbances along East Sunset Drive South (NETROnline 2023).

The Project site terrain is composed primarily of undeveloped land, with steep slopes averaging a 40-degree angle with dense vegetation. Thus, much of the site was not surveyed intensively due to the safety concerns and the understanding



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that there is less potential to encounter intact cultural resources on the surface of steep slopes. The dense vegetation observed on site is mainly composed of chaparral vegetation community species and tall grasses, and further limited access and ground surface visibility. Due to the dense vegetation, much of the Project site was observed with an average of 5 to 10 percent ground surface visibility (Photographs 1, 4, 5). Due to these safety and visibility constraints, approximately 8 acres (roughly 36 percent) of the approximately 22-acre Project site was surveyed intensively with 10-meter transects. Additionally, the maintained access roads and cleared areas within the Project site were observed with 97 to 100 percent visibility (Photographs 2 & 3). These access roads and cleared areas were subject to intensive survey for possible associated historic age items and features as they largely match previous historic age road alignments, leading to the extant reservoir tank adjacent to the southwest corner of the Project site, which can be observed as early as 1938 in historic aerial imagery (NETROnline 2023). Only a sparse collection of modern trash and furniture was observed at the south end of the Project site near Bruner Lane (Photograph 6).

No evidence of cultural or paleontological resources was observed during the field survey.



Photograph 1: Overview of current conditions at Sunset Reservoir Expansion Proposed Project location showing dense vegetation and steep slopes. View to the northeast.



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Photograph 2: Access Road leading to reservoir tank to the southwest of the Project site. View to the southwest.



Photograph 3: Overview of current conditions at Sunset Reservoir Expansion Proposed Project location showing vegetation overgrowth on road. View to the east.



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Photograph 4: Overview of current conditions at Sunset Reservoir Expansion Proposed Project location showing dense vegetation. View to the north.



Photograph 5: Overview of current conditions at Sunset Reservoir Expansion Proposed Project location showing dense vegetation and steep slopes. View to the southwest.



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Photograph 6: Overview of current conditions at Sunset Reservoir Expansion Proposed Project location showing modern debris and disturbance. View to the east.

Discussion

As detailed above, Chambers Group conducted a Project site-specific study that included cultural resources records searches, literature review, and a pedestrian survey for the proposed Project in accordance CEQA, as well as the City's goals and policies regarding the protection of archaeological, tribal, historical, and paleontological resources (City of Redlands 2017). City of Redlands' Chapter 2, Section 2.2 - Cultural Resources policies and actions, which protect the archaeological, paleontological, and historical resources within the City, will be applicable if resources are encountered during the Project.

An archival records search through the CHRIS database at the SCCIC, background research of the Project site, and a field survey were conducted as part of this study. A paleontological records search was also conducted by the WSC. In addition, Chambers Group requested a SLF search from the NAHC to determine the presence or absence of data regarding any known tribal cultural resources reported within the Project site or its study area.

The SCCIC records search identified two previous cultural resources studies that included the Project site; no cultural resources have been recorded within the Project site. The paleontological record search resulted in no documented fossil localities within the Project site. However, the results also indicated fossils localities have been recorded within the study area in the same sedimentary deposits as those mapped underlying the Project site. The NAHC SLF search was negative for documented resources important to the local Tribal groups in the Project site and/or surrounding area.

Additionally, based on the review of available historic maps and imagery, Chambers Group archaeologists observed that the Project site was bisected by a dirt road by the early 1900s, as shown in the 1901 *Redlands* topographic map, and by 1938, as shown in the aerial imagery, slightly rerouted westward for access to a water tank reservoir southwest of the current Proposed Project site. The Project site was also partially cleared by 1980 for use during the development of the surrounding housing tracts to the north (NETROnline 2023).

During the field survey, no evidence of cultural or paleontological resources was observed. While there are no previously recorded cultural or paleontological resources in the Project site, there remains potential to uncover archaeological deposits during construction due to the nature of soil deposition and dense vegetation overgrowth



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within areas of the Project site which appear to be previously undisturbed. Due to the mapped geologic formations underlying the Project site known to bear paleontological resources and the known fossil localities provided in the surrounding study area, there remains potential that new fossils could be exposed during the Project.

In summary, Chambers Group found no physical or archival evidence of cultural or paleontological resources within the Project site. While no surficial evidence of prehistoric or historic archaeological resources was observed, the ground surface visibility was limited due to dense vegetation and steep slopes in much of the Project site. While no evidence of paleontological resources was observed during the survey, background research and WSC records indicate moderate sensitivity for fossil localities within the Project site and its study area. Additionally, WSC noted the existence of similar fossil-bearing geologic units mapped underlying the Project site. Finally, although the Project site has evidence of past disturbance and while the potential for encountering intact resources within the upper sediments is low, the possibility of buried resources being identified below surface disturbances is not diminished. Research indicates geologic units known to be fossil-bearing underlay the Project site and could be encountered during Project-related ground-disturbing construction activities. Additionally, due to the surface nature of the previous disturbance and limited surface visibility during survey, there is potential that intact native soil formations, which have been known to bear cultural resources, underly the Project site. Thus, there remains potential that buried cultural and paleontological resources could be encountered during the Project.

Recommendations

Per CEQA Guidelines, the Project should be designed to avoid impacts to cultural resources within the Project site whenever feasible. While Chambers Group did not identify any cultural resources through background research or through survey of the Project site, Chambers Group recommends the following mitigation measures be implemented as part of Project approval to ensure that potential impacts to cultural and paleontological resources are less than significant.

MM CUL-1 The City shall retain the services of a Qualified Archaeologist, meeting the Secretary of the Interior Standards, or County requirements, whichever is the greater. The Qualified Archaeologist shall remain on-call throughout the Project. Upon approval or request by the City, a cultural resources mitigation plan (CRMP) outlining procedures for cultural resources monitoring, mitigation, treatment, and data recovery of any unanticipated discovery shall be prepared for the Project and submitted to the City for review and approval. The development and implementation of the CRMP shall include consultations with the City as well as a requirement that the curation of any significant cultural resources recovered under any scenario shall be through an appropriate repository agreed upon by the City. If the City accepts ownership, the curation location may be revised.

MM CUL-2 In the event of the discovery of previously unidentified and/or potential cultural resources, the City, and/or its Contractor, shall immediately cease all work activities within an area of not less than 50 feet of the discovery. The City or its Contractor shall immediately contact the City and the City-retained on-call Qualified Archaeologist. Except in the case of cultural items that fall within the scope of the California Health and Safety Code 7050.5, CEQA Section 15064.5, or California PRC Section 5097.98, the discovery of any cultural resource within the Project site shall not be grounds for a project-wide "stop work" notice or otherwise interfere with the Project's continuation except as set forth in this mitigation measure. Additionally, any consulting Native American Tribal groups that requested notification of any unanticipated discovery of cultural resources on the Project shall be notified and included in subsequent consultation appropriately. In the event of an unanticipated discovery of cultural resources during construction, the City-retained Qualified Archaeologist shall be contacted to evaluate the significance of the materials prior to resuming any construction-related activities in the vicinity of the find. If a CRMP is prepared for the Project, the protocols for mitigation or treatment of cultural resources will be implemented. If the Qualified Archaeologist determines that the discovery constitutes a significant resource under CEQA and it cannot be avoided, the City shall implement an archaeological data recovery program.



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MM-CUL-3 If cultural resources are encountered during the Project, the Qualified Archaeologist shall prepare a report summarizing any and all prehistoric or historic archaeological finds as well as providing follow-up reports of any finds to the SCCIC, as required.

MM PAL-1 Prior to issuance of a grading permit, the City shall be required to obtain the services of a Qualified Project Paleontologist to remain on call for the duration of the proposed ground-disturbing construction activity. The paleontologist selected must be approved by the City. Upon approval or request by the City, a paleontological mitigation plan (PMP) outlining procedures for paleontological data recovery shall be prepared for the Project and submitted to the City for review and approval. The development and implementation of the PMP shall include consultations with the District's Engineering Geologist as well as a requirement that the curation of all specimens recovered under any scenario shall be through an appropriate repository agreed upon by the City. If the District accepts ownership, the curation location may be revised. The PMP shall include developing a multilevel ranking system, or Potential Fossil Yield Classification (PFYC), as a tool to demonstrate the potential yield of fossils within a given stratigraphic unit. The PMP shall outline the monitoring and salvage protocols to address paleontological resources encountered during Project-related ground-disturbing activities, as well as the appropriate recording, collection, and processing protocols to appropriately address any resources discovered.

MM-PAL-2 At the completion of all ground-disturbing activities, the Project Paleontologist shall prepare a final paleontological mitigation report summarizing all monitoring efforts and observations, as performed in line with the PMP, and all paleontological resources encountered, if any, as well as providing follow-up reports of any specific discovery, if necessary.

HUMAN REMAINS – LEGAL REQUIREMENTS In the event that human remains are discovered during ground-disturbing activities, then the proposed Project would be subject to California Health and Safety Code 7050.5, CEQA Section 15064.5, and California PRC Section 5097.98. If human remains are found during ground-disturbing activities, State of California Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5 states that no further disturbance shall occur until the County Coroner has made a determination of origin and disposition pursuant to PRC Section 5097.98. In the event of an unanticipated discovery of human remains, the County Coroner shall be notified immediately. If the human remains are determined to be prehistoric, the County Coroner shall notify the NAHC, which shall notify a most likely descendant (MLD). The MLD shall complete the inspection of the site within 48 hours of notification and may recommend scientific removal and nondestructive analysis of human remains and items associated with Native American burials (National Park Service 1983).

Chambers Group is available to assist with any further support or document preparation related to Cultural Resources, including tribal consultation. Please contact the cultural resources staff at the contact information below if you have any questions or comments regarding this report.

Sincerely,

CHAMBERS GROUP, INC.



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Cultural Resources Survey and Study Letter Report for the Sunset Reservoir Expansion Project

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Attachments

Attachment A: NAHC SLF Records Search Results Letter

Attachment B (Confidential): Record Search Results

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ATTACHMENT A – NAHC SLF RECORDS SEARCH RESULTS LETTER



Attachment A: NAHC SLF Records Search Results Letter



STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Gavin Newsom, Governor

NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE COMMISSION

March 29, 2023

Kellie Kandybowicz
The Chambers Group, Inc.

Via Email to: kkandybowicz@chambersgroupinc.com

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COMMISSIONER
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NAHC.ca.gov

Re: Redlands Sunset Reservoir Project (21413) Project, San Bernardino County

Dear Ms. Kandybowicz:

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: Cameron.vela@nahc.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

Cameron Vela

Cameron Vela
Cultural Resources Analyst

Attachment

**Native American Heritage Commission
Native American Contact List
San Bernardino County
3/29/2023**

**Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla
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**Los Coyotes Band of Cahuilla
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Warner Springs, CA, 92086-0189
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**Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla
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**Morongo Band of Mission
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**Augustine Band of Cahuilla
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Cahuilla Band of Indians

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Pala Band of Mission Indians

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**Gabrieleno Band of Mission
Indians - Kizh Nation**

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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 Redlands Sunset Reservoir Project (21413) Project, San Bernardino County.

**Native American Heritage Commission
Native American Contact List
San Bernardino County
3/29/2023**

Pechanga Band of Indians

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Ramona Band of Cahuilla

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Rincon Band of Luiseno Indians

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***Quechan Tribe of the Fort Yuma
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***Serrano Nation of Mission
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This list is only applicable for contacting local Native Americans with regard to cultural resources assessment for the proposed Redlands Sunset Reservoir Project (21413) Project, San Bernardino County.

ATTACHMENT B – CONFIDENTIAL RECORD SEARCH RESULTS

